



WITH  
ILLUSTRATIONS

















HISTORY  
OF THE  
CITY OF BUFFALO  
AND  
ERIE COUNTY,

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF  
SOME OF ITS PROMINENT MEN AND PIONEERS.

---

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

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EDITED BY  
H. PERRY SMITH.

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SYRACUSE, N. Y.:  
D. MASON & CO., PUBLISHERS,  
1884.



SYRACUSE, N. Y.:  
SMITH & BRUCE,  
Printers and Binders.

1884.



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# HISTORY OF BUFFALO.

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## CHAPTER I.

### BUFFALO BEFORE THE WAR OF 1812.

The First Settler — The Site of the City — Wm. Johnston — Martin Middaugh's Arrival — A French Nobleman's Description of Buffalo in 1795 — The First Inn-Keeper — James Brisbane's Notes on Buffalo in 1798 — The First Mechanic — Mrs. Ransom's Heroism — The First Birth in Buffalo — Joseph Ellicott and the Survey — A Prospective City — Wm. Peacock Describes Buffalo in 1799 — Application for School Lot — The Name "Buffalo," vs. "New Amsterdam," — Dr. Cyrenius Chapin — The First Preacher — The First Murder — Survey of the Village — Street Names — The First Blacksmith — His Quarrel with "Young King" — A Politician's Arrival — Outer and Inner Lot Maps — Lots Sold in 1804 — Prices of Lots — The First Carriage in Erie County — An Indian Thief and his Punishment — Arrival of Wm. Hodge — Louis Stephen Le Couteux de Caumont — The First Post Route — Rev. Timothy Dwight's Description of Buffalo — The Contractors Store — Judge Samuel Tupper — Other Early Settlers — Buffalo in 1811 — Early Merchants — A Reform Society — The First Newspaper — Extracts from Early Numbers — The Approaching Conflict — Black Rock Before the War of 1812 — Boundaries of the Proposed Villages of Upper and Lower Black Rock — The Old Ferry and its Lessees — The "Rock" and its Uses — The Firm of Porter, Barton & Co. — Prices of Salt in Early Years — The First Rivalry between Black Rock and Buffalo.

**A** HUNDRED years ago, the site of the city of Buffalo was a wilderness wherein a representative of the race that now constitutes her population had not set his foot in permanent settlement. Where now extend miles of broad and beautiful thoroughfares, lined with the imposing edifices that characterize the most prominent cities of America, the Indian then followed the war path or the hunt through the thick forest and over the open plain, and here made his primitive home. Seventy years ago the site of the present proud city was a burned and blackened waste far more desolate of aspect than it was before the hand of civilization had left its impress there. The growth of Buffalo in that comparatively short period of time to its present proud position in the great sisterhood of American cities, speaks eloquently of the almost

unrivalled energy and strong practical vigor of her people and fulfills the ardent prophecies of her founders and early settlers. The reader of the first volume of this work is now familiar with the first known Indian settlement made on the banks of Buffalo Creek in the winter of 1779-'80; with the important proceedings of the Buffalo Creek Council of July 5, 1788, with other events of that period, and with the transfer in 1792-'93 of a large tract of land embracing the site of the present city of Buffalo, by Robert Morris, the financier of Revolutionary days, to representatives of what is known as "the Holland Land Company." At this point the history of the city of Buffalo as distinct from that of the county and towns given in the preceding volume, may properly begin.

The derivation of the title to the lands on which Buffalo stands has been explained by excellent authority as follows:—

"The territory now constituting the city, formed a part of the region granted to the Council of Plymouth by Charles the First in 1620, and by Charles the Second to the Duke of York in 1664. It was claimed by both New York and Massachusetts under these conflicting charters until in December, 1786, by what may be termed an amicable partition, the title or rather the preemption of the exclusive right to purchase the lands of the Indians was vested in Massachusetts, with the exception of a strip one mile wide, extending northerly from Lake Erie along the Niagara River, the preemption of which was vested in New York. The Indian title was gradually extinguished by treaties in 1797, 1838 and 1842. In 1791, Massachusetts conveyed its interest to Robert Morris, who, in 1792, conveyed it in trust for certain gentlemen residing in Holland, who being aliens, were unable to hold the legal title. This disability was removed by an act of the Legislature passed in 1798, and the lands were conveyed to the members of what has since been known as the Holland Land Company. Thus the present title to the territory in Buffalo embraced in the mile strip is derived from the State of New York, and to the remainder, from individuals composing the Holland Land Company."

The city of Buffalo is situated in longitude  $2^{\circ} 6' 37''$  west from Washington, 446 miles from New York city and 296 miles from Albany. Of its climate Mr. S. Ball wrote in 1825:—

"The climate is more pleasant than any situation in an equally northern latitude in our country and equally healthy. The summers and autumns are peculiarly fine; the lake affords a gentle breeze during those seasons, much resembling a sea breeze, but of more elasticity and sweetness. The winters are less uniform than in most other parts of the country; the snow rarely falls to a greater depth than six inches; the cold is not so severe as in other places in the same latitude situated remote from the lake, yet in winter, when the waters are covered with ice the winds are often cold and piercing."

The first building known to have been erected by civilized man on the site of the present city of Buffalo, was a small log house, which was built by Cornelius Winney, (or Winne) as early as 1789. One authority

gives the date of his arrival as 1783 or 1784.\* The building stood near the foot of a small hill which descended southward from the present site of the Mansion House, and not far from the corner of Washington and Quay streets. Winney was a Dutchman from the Hudson River country, and came into the wilderness to establish a post for trading with the Indians. If this unlettered pioneer cared aught for the surroundings of his primitive home, from any other than a business point of view, he must have been favorably impressed. Although from his house southward and towards the lake, Winney beheld only a tract of low, swampy, uninviting lands, to the northward the prospect was much more attractive. From the crown of the little ascent near his dwelling, there stretched away northward, high, rolling lands that sloped gracefully westward to Lake Erie and rose into lofty bluffs along Niagara river, falling away more gradually to the level country that reached for miles to the eastward, mostly forest-covered and unmarred by the hand of man. If Cornelius Winney possessed the keen business foresight that is indicated by his pushing thus far into the wilderness to traffic with the Indians, he may have realized the peculiar adaptability and superior advantages of the locality for a great city; or, if a proper appreciation of the beauties of Nature's handiwork animated his soul, (which is less probable) he may have felt a thrill of admiration for the varied favorable aspects of the scene.

Early in the winter of 1780-'81, Captain Powell (afterwards Colonel) and Lieutenant Johnston, well known to all the early settlers as Captain William Johnston, came first to the Indian settlement on Buffalo Creek. They were British officers and half-brothers. Captain Powell afterwards secured an interest in Winney's store; he died at an advanced age a few miles from Fort Erie. Winney is said to have left the locality soon after 1796. Mr. Ketchum expressed the opinion in his work, "Buffalo and the Senecas," that Winney left in 1798, "as Mr. Eggleston, one of the surveyors of Mr. Ellicott, writes to him at Schlosser, from Buffalo Creek, that he (Ellicott) had better bring some boards to make a mapping table, as there were none to be had in their new location, Mr. Winney having carried off those that were in the partition." This is probably correct.

Unlettered denizen of the wilderness that he was, Winney's position as the first and for a time the only white settler on Buffalo Creek, gave him sufficient prominence to render him of value to the government officials, who occasionally sought information from him. The following

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\*William Ketchum in his "Buffalo and the Senecas," gives Winney's arrival as in 1783 or 1784. This is improbable, as Winney was said to be a Hudson River man, who was on the American side in the Revolutionary war, yet came here from Canada. He could hardly have gone to Canada and come back here after peace was declared, at so early a date as that given. There are, moreover, no statements in existence regarding Winney until about 1791, though there were several visitors here between that date and 1784.



letter to General Chapin, then Superintendent of Indian Affairs, is quoted as a specimen of Winney's correspondence:—

"BUFFALO CREEK, 23d Aug., 1792.

"I inform Gen. Chapin that about seventy-nine of the Canadian Indians is gone to Detroit. They seem to be for warr, and a number of Indians to go up. I further inform you that the Indians of this place are to go up in the first King's vessel that comes down. Prince Edward \* is arrived at Fort Niagara. Should I hear anything worth while to write, I shall let you know.

C. WINNEY."

William Johnston married a wife from the Senecas soon after his arrival, and afterwards wielded a powerful influence over the destiny of Buffalo. In the year 1794, he built a small block house near Winney's store, and there took up his permanent abode. This house stood, according to Mr. Ketchum, "north of Exchange street and east of Washington street." Johnston had early acquired a strong influence over the Indians, who gave him two square miles of land, which embraced within its limits the site of the present city of Buffalo. Johnston afterwards agreed with the agent of the Holland Land Company, to use his influence with the Indians to get this tract included in the Company's purchase, and to surrender his own claim to it, in consideration of the Company's conveying to him by deed six hundred and forty acres lying about six miles from the mouth of the creek and including a certain mill-site and adjacent timber lands, with forty-five and one-half acres embracing the improvements then owned by Johnston. Four acres of this latter named tract were on the "Point." This agreement was afterwards consummated. The smaller tract which thus passed into Johnston's hands, was bounded on the north by Seneca street, west by Washington street, south by Little Buffalo creek, and east by a line that would include the requisite number of acres. The four-acre tract was bounded east by Main street, southwesterly by Buffalo creek, and northwesterly by Little Buffalo creek.

"William Johnston may be considered the first land owner in Buffalo. He had been employed in the British service in what was termed the Indian Department, from the first breaking out of the Revolutionary war. Upon the surrender of Fort Niagara to the Americans in 1796, and consequent extinguishment of British rule over the Indians, instead of withdrawing with the rest of the British officers, he chose to remain with the Indians, with whom he had become identified by the strongest of ties known to our nature. He was, in fact, the leading man at Buffalo Creek at the time of the survey and settlement of Buffalo. He was respected by the early white inhabitants, as well as by the Indians, and died in 1807, at the age of about sixty-five years. His son John, or "Jack," as he was familiarly called, survived him and inherited his property here, and incumbered it by a mortgage to Joseph Parrish, as agent and trustee for the Cayuga Indians. John Johnston married Ruth Barker, daughter of Judge Zenas Barker, in 1808 or 1809; he lived but

\* This "Prince Edward" was, doubtless, Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, father of Queen Victoria.

a short time after and died, leaving no children, willing his property to his wife, who afterwards married Elisha Foster. John Johnston had much pains taken with his education, pursuing his studies for a time at Yale College. He was a young man of fine acquirements and address, and after his return from school was employed by Captain Pratt, in his store, and at the time of his marriage with Miss Barker, was considered one of the most accomplished young men in the place.\*

About the year in question (1794), or a little later, Johnston gave consent to Martin Middaugh, who, like Winney, was a Hudson River Dutchman, to build a log house near Johnston's block house. Middaugh had come over from Canada with his son-in-law, Ezekiel Lane,† and was a cooper—the first mechanic in Buffalo. At a later date, Middaugh left his first location and “squatted” on the south side of Buffalo creek, where he died without children, in 1825. Ezekiel Lane died in Buffalo in 1865, leaving children. A claim was made by Lane or his descendants, to the land upon which Middaugh ‡ lived. The courts decided adversely to their claims.

In 1795, a French nobleman, Duke De la Rochefoucauld Liaincourt, paid a visit to the little settlement, and said of it:—

“At the post on Lake Erie, there was a small collection of houses.”§

There was at that time some kind of a public house kept where travelers were entertained; but its larder must have rivaled the famous one of Mother Hubbard, for the French visitor writes of it:—

“There was literally nothing in the house, neither furniture, rum, candles nor milk.”

The public house in those days without rum was in a destitute condition indeed.

Following is the distinguished Frenchman's further description of Buffalo as he then found it:—

“We at length arrived at the post on Lake Erie, which is a small collection of four or five houses, built about a quarter of a mile from the lake. We met some Indians on the road, and two or three companies of whites. This encounter gave us great pleasure. In this vast wilderness a fire still burning, the vestiges of a camp, the remains of some utensil that has served a traveler, excite sensations truly agreeable, and which arise only in these immense solitudes.

“We arrived late at the inn, and after a very indifferent supper, we were obliged to lie upon the floor in our clothes. There was literally nothing in the house; neither furniture, rum, candles nor milk. After much trouble the milk was procured from the neighbors, who were not as

\* Ketchum's “Buffalo and the Senecas.”

† In a paper now in the archives of the Young Men's Association, Judge Augustus Porter states that he passed through Buffalo in 1795, and that there then were living there “a man by the name of Johnstone, the British interpreter; also, a Dutchman and his family, named Middaugh, and an Indian trader, named Winne.”

‡ Middaugh and Lane's double house was sold to Judge Barker, in 1807 or 1808.

§ Mr. Ketchum says, in referring to the year 1796, “It is quite certain there was no other house (than Johnston's, Middaugh's and Winne's) here till sometime after this.”

accommodating in the way of rum and candles. At length, some arriving from the other side of the river (Fort Erie), we seasoned our supper with an appetite that seldom fails, and, after passing a very comfortable evening, slept as soundly as we had done in the woods.

"Everything at Lake Erie,—by which this collection of houses is called—is dearer than at any other place we visited, for the simple reason that there is no direct communication with any other point. Some were sick with fever in almost every house."

The public house or tavern referred to is supposed to have been kept by a man named Skinner, as he is mentioned as a landlord there at a little later date. Mr. Ketchum, however, infers that John Palmer who, "according to Liaincourt, built his house here before 1795," was the landlord with whom the French visitor found such meagre accommodations. Ketchum says, "Palmer was undoubtedly the first inn-keeper in Buffalo." This point cannot, probably, be any more definitely settled.\*

Sometime in the year 1796, probably towards the close, the little settlement on Buffalo Creek received an addition to its population by the arrival of Asa Ransom, a silversmith, who came from Geneva, with a delicate young wife and an infant daughter named Portia. Ransom erected a log house near the liberty pole, corner of Main street and the Terrace, and there began the manufacture of silver trinkets for the Indians. Ransom and his family are credited with being the first to bring into Buffalo the simplest refinements of civilized life.

At this date (1796) a negro who was known as "Black Joe," or Joseph Hodge, lived in a cabin a little west of Winney's. He had an Indian wife who bore him children. He understood the Seneca language and was often employed as an interpreter. He was supposed to be a runaway slave, and died at an advanced age, on the Cattaraugus Reservation.

It was not very long after the arrival of Mr. Ransom at the little settlement that an incident occurred which is worthy of narration. Mr. Ransom and the other few men in the settlement had gone over to Canada to mill, with the exception of Winney and "Black Joe." During their absence several Indians came and demanded rum of Mrs. Ransom. They were told that she had none, which they disputed. Upon her persisting in her statement, one of the Indians suddenly seized her little girl, then two years old, and raised his tomahawk threatening the child's life. Although frightened almost beyond expression, Mrs. Ransom's presence of mind enabled her to immediately promise the Indians the rum as best she could by signs and the few words she knew, and then asked them to allow her to go up stairs after the liquor. They assented,

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\* Palmer remained in Buffalo until 1802, about which time he removed to near Fort Erie, where he died. His first wife was a daughter of Lewis Maybee, brother of Sylvanus Maybee, who is mentioned elsewhere as one of the early settlers. Lewis Maybee lived a few miles below Black Rock, on the Canada side. While Palmer was living in Buffalo, his first wife died and he afterwards married her sister.



but insisted on retaining the little girl as a hostage. Mrs. Ransom then took her niece, a brave girl of twelve years, and together they went up stairs. Once there she quickly tied together a pair of sheets from the bed and with them lowered the girl from the window to the ground, directing her to hasten to Mr. Winney, hoping that his influence with the savages would be sufficient to turn them from their purpose.

Then the mother waited in a wild fever of anxiety, fearing every moment that she would hear the screams of her only child below. Finally her fears were increased by the Indians who began pounding on the door with their tomahawks; but before they had beaten it down, Winney arrived and induced them to leave the house. The little heroine of this event afterwards became Mrs. Christopher M. Harvey.

In 1797, the "Lake Erie" settlement was further increased by the advent of a little daughter in the Ransom family. She was the first white child born in Buffalo, or in Erie county. She afterwards became Mrs. Frederick B. Merrill, who was long a respected citizen and attorney of Buffalo, and was one of the early clerks of Niagara county.

James Brisbane, one of the pioneers of Batavia, first saw Buffalo in October, 1798. He afterwards wrote of it as follows:—

"There was then the log-house of Middaugh and Lane—a double log-house—about two squares from Main street, a little north of the present line of Exchange street. Captain Johnston's half log and half framed house stood a little east of the main building of the present Mansion House, near Washington street. There was a two-story hewed log-house, owned by Captain Johnston, about where Exchange street now is, from six to eight rods west of Main street, where a tavern was kept by John Palmer. This was the first tavern in Buffalo. Palmer afterwards moved over to Canada, and kept a tavern there. Asa Ransom lived in a log-house west of the Western Hotel. Winne had a log house on the bank of Little Buffalo, south of the Mansion House. A Mr. Maybee, who afterwards went to Cattaraugus, kept a little Indian store in a log building on the west side of Main street, about twenty rods north of Exchange street. There was also a log house occupied by a man by the name of Robbins. The flats were open grounds; a portion of them had been cultivated. Such was Buffalo—and all of Buffalo—in 1798."

Asa Ransom left the little settlement in 1799, and went to live at what is now Clarence Hollow, where he became a prominent citizen, being four times sheriff of Niagara county. He died in 1837, aged 70 years. Mrs. Catharine Stevens and Mrs. Mary R. Turney, daughters of Asa Ransom, are now living in Buffalo. In the year 1797, or 1798, Sylvanus Maybee came to the embryo city, and established himself as an Indian trader, probably in a log building on the west side of Main street, about twenty rods north of Exchange street. In 1804, he bought inner lot 35.\* Maybee came from Canada, and originally from the Mohawk valley. In 1807,

\* The terms "inner" and "outer" lots were applied in the original survey of the village, to designate their location with respect to the village boundaries. These terms, and the numbers given here, will be used hereafter in this work, and will be understood by reference to the maps herein.



he, being then a Major of Militia, challenged his superior officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Ransom, to fight a duel. For this he was cashiered, and not long afterwards removed to Cattaraugus Creek, and his lot passed into the hands of James McMahan.

During the years 1797 and 1798, Joseph Ellicott, with a small army of assistants, was engaged in surveying the Holland Land Company's tract, as detailed in the preceding volume. He was a brother of Andrew A. Ellicott, the first Surveyor-General of the United States. When Joseph Ellicott reached the locality where now stands the proud city of Buffalo, it is clear that he saw with almost prophetic vision, the future importance of the spot, and realized its numerous advantages as the site for a great commercial city. To the day of his death, he never relinquished the faith that was undoubtedly born within him at that time; he certainly had little cause to do so. During the surveying campaign of 1798, Ellicott made his headquarters at Buffalo Creek. The surveys were pushed forward through the year 1799, and the belief that there would sometime be a great city on his favorite location, grew stronger and stronger in Ellicott's mind.

William Robbins established himself as a blacksmith in Buffalo, probably, as early as 1798. He appears as the purchaser of a lot in "New Amsterdam," in 1804. He had a shop on the west side of Main street, in 1806.

In a letter from the late William Peacock to Mr. William Ketchum, he refers to his horseback ride through Buffalo in 1794, as follows:—

"In passing along the Indian path (now Main street) to the Terrace, the land was covered with a very thick underbrush, small timber and some large old oak trees \* \* \* There was a little cleared spot on the Terrace bank on which is now erected the Western Hotel.\* That little spot was covered with a green sward on which the Indians on a fine day would lie and look off from the high Terrace upon Lake Erie; and I must say that to me it was one of the most beautiful views I ever put my eyes upon. Coming out of the woods it burst on my vision—the large and beautiful sheet of pure water, Lake Erie. \* \* \* It made an impression on me that will always remain, with most devout and religious remembrance."

In 1801, Joseph R. Palmer, a younger brother of John Palmer, the inn-keeper, resided with the latter. At this time he wrote the following, letter, which is self-explanatory:—

BUFFALO, 11th Aug., 1801.

"*Sir*—The inhabitants of this place would take it as a particular favor if you would grant them the liberty of raising a school house on a lot in any part of the town, as the New York Missionary Society have been so good as to furnish them with a school master clear of any expense, except boarding and finding him a school house—if you will be

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\* The Western Hotel stood on what was once rather low ground; there was once quite a considerable and abrupt slope, from about the center of the Terrace, down to the line of the front of the hotel. What used to appear as quite a hill, has been leveled, as far to the northwest as Eagle Street.

so good as to grant them this favor, which they will take as a particular mark of esteem. By request of the inhabitants.

JOS. R. PALMER.

JOS. ELLICOTT, Esq.

"N. B.—Your answer to this would be very acceptable, as they have the timber ready to hew out."\*

That this very reasonable request was promptly granted is shown by the following entry which appears in Ellicott's diary under date of August 14, 1801:—

"Went to Buffalo, alias New Amsterdam, to lay off a lot for a school house, the inhabitants offering to erect one at their own expense."

The school house was built on Pearl street near No. 104, but it was not finished till 1809.

When Joseph Palmer wrote the above quoted letter to Ellicott, he dated it "Buffalo," instead of New Amsterdam, the name that Ellicott's principals gave the settlement, and he did so in spite of the fact that he was soliciting a favor. This indicates quite clearly that the settlers even as early as that, preferred the name, "Buffalo," and that "Buffalo" it was to be. This brings us to the vexed question of the origin of the name—a question that has commanded the attention and investigation of some of the ablest minds in the county, and yet is unsettled. As far as the city itself is concerned, the matter may be dismissed by the simple statement that it received its name from the adjacent creek: but who named the stream and why it was called after the monarch of the prairies, seem, unfortunately, to be questions that must go back into the past without satisfactory or conclusive answers. The principal arguments of the ablest writers on the subject, in favor of the different theories that have been advanced, have already received proper attention in the preceding volume, and hence need not be further referred to. It will suffice to state that from about the beginning of the century the little village in the wilderness gradually became more and more widely known as Buffalo, and in a few years "New Amsterdam," and "Lake Erie," as applied to the village, were heard no more.†

Down to about the date under consideration (1801), the principal and almost the only source of supplies for the settlers on Buffalo creek,

\* Joseph Richard Palmer, it is said, taught school for the garrison children at Fort Erie, before he located at Buffalo. He died in Buffalo in 1813.

† While this work was going through the press, the editor received a letter signed "An Old Settler," the substance of which is, that Buffalo received its name from the Creek, which stream was named "Tusawa," or Buffalo, from the fact that droves of that animal once came to the mouth of the Creek to drink. "Old Settler," says, "I had a cousin who traveled on horseback through Buffalo and other places, following the lakes, when there was nothing but a foot-path and no inhabitants but the Indians. I have heard him tell of seeing the Buffalo herds and just where their hard-beaten path lay; but that I have lost track of." This is given merely as another contribution upon the vexed question, and may or may not be of value.

was Fort Erie. The western shore of the river from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario was largely cleared, settled and cultivated, while on this side the forest was almost unbroken. In going to Fort Erie for supplies the settlers at Buffalo usually passed directly from the mouth of Buffalo Creek across to the Fort.

From the eastward an Indian trail came in to Buffalo creek nearly on the present line of Main street. A branch diverged not far above the present junction of North street, passed near the site of the Catholic church, on York street, and over or very near the site of the reservoir, and thence down to the river. In the spring of 1798, the main trail was improved and made a tolerable wagon road, under direction of Joseph Ellicott. Then, or a little later, a road was cut out so as to be passable for trains near the line of the branch trail just mentioned, and a dugway was made near where the street railroad buildings are located, on Niagara street. This was known as the Guide-Board road, from the guide-board on Main street, pointing the way to the ferry. In going from the ferry to the Buffalo settlement, the travel was at that time mostly under the bluff of the lake shore, and then along the hard, sandy beach of the lake, to the Terrace. After Niagara street was surveyed and cut out, it was for a long time almost impassable, on account of the swampy character of the ground; its course was also crossed by numerous small brooks having steep banks; it was afterwards improved by making it a corduroy road. Another trail, diverging from the main road at what was then called Four-Mile creek, (the Scajaquada,) followed nearly the line of Bouck avenue, to the river.

Dr. Cyrenius Chapin, a man who was destined to wield a great deal of influence upon the early history of Buffalo, came from Oneida county, in 1801, on a prospecting tour. He was evidently well pleased with what he saw, for after his return home, he wrote Mr. Ellicott that he and a few of his friends purposed to purchase a whole township at the mouth of Buffalo creek. He added:—

“Forty respectable citizens that are men of good property, have signed articles of agreement to take a township, if it can be purchased, and will pay the ten per cent. when we receive the article.”

Joseph Ellicott entertained brighter anticipations for that locality; the land was not yet surveyed, and Dr. Chapin's proposition was rejected. It is supposed that Zerah Phelps and John Crow, were parties to this proposed agreement. Crow came to Buffalo, from Oneida county, in 1801, or 1802. He occupied a house on inner lot number 1, near the corner of Washington and Crow, (now Exchange streets.) The original house was of logs, to which Crow built a frame addition. He was an inn-keeper, and remained in Buffalo until 1806; he died in 1830, in Pennsylvania. Zerah Phelps left Buffalo not long after 1804, removing to near Batavia.



The journal of Mr. Ellicott indicates that Henry Chapin was living in Buffalo, as early as 1801. The journal says, under date of January 5, of that year:—

“\* \* In the evening, rode out with Mr. H. Chapin. He overset, and I unfortunately fell with my side on a sharp stump, and much bruised and injured my ribs.”

This journal also notes what was doubtless the first church service in Buffalo. He says:—

“\* \* This day, (January 11th,) Rev. Elkanah Holmes, an anabaptist preacher and missionary among the Indians, preached for the inhabitants of New Amsterdam. His sermons were well adapted to the situation and the capacity of the people he preached to. Appears to be a good man—worthy of the charge entrusted to him.”

Another missionary, named Palmer, is also mentioned by Mr. Ellicott, in his journal. Palmer was sent out to the Indians about this time, by the Dutch Reformed church; but Mr. Holmes is undoubtedly entitled to the distinction of being the first preacher in Buffalo. He labored among the Indians until 1812. He was a Calvinistic Baptist. A son of Mr. Holmes married a daughter of Dr. Chapin.

It was in January, 1801, that Joseph Ellicott entered upon the duties of local agent for the Holland Land Company, in which capacity he visited Buffalo. He removed to Ransomville (Clarence Hollow,) on the 21st of the same month. As an indication that the tide of emigration was already setting strongly westward, Mr. Ellicott recorded in his journal, on February 26th:—

“Last night lodged at this house (Ransom’s), upwards of forty people—men, women and children—moving principally to New Connecticut and Presque Isle,” (Erie.)

In July, 1801, an event occurred in Buffalo, which for a time created intense excitement. John Palmer was sitting on a bench in front of his inn, with William Ward and another man; it was in the evening. Suddenly a young Seneca warrior, called by the whites “Stiff-armed George,” rushed up and made a desperate effort to stab Palmer, without any known provocation. The inn-keeper avoided the blow, upon which the enraged Indian turned upon Ward, and stabbed him in the neck. An alarm was raised, the whites hurried to the spot, and the Indian was finally secured, but not until he had fatally stabbed a man named John Hewitt. The culprit, as near as can be learned, was sent away at once to Fort Niagara, and placed in charge of Major Moses Porter, then in command there. The next day, a body of Indian warriors numbering fifty or sixty, appeared in the village, armed and painted, and threatened that if the culprit was executed, they would massacre all the whites. A pow-wow was then held over some blood that had flowed from a wound inflicted on “Stiff-armed George,” and the howlings and flourishings of weapons by the warriors, frightened the people beyond expression; many



left the settlement for safety. Benjamin Barton, Jr., was then Sheriff of the county. He soon arrived at the village, and proposed to take the assassin and remove him to the jail at Canandaigua. This course was fiercely opposed by the Indians, who argued that when the crime was committed, their brother was drunk, and, therefore, was excusable; the whites insisted that the culprit was sober, when he did the deed, and that it made little difference whether he was or not.

Finally, Sheriff Barton, accompanied by some of the Chiefs, went to Fort Niagara, and held a consultation with Major Porter. It was finally agreed that "Stiff-armed George" should be allowed to go at large, the Chiefs pledging themselves that he should be forthcoming on the day set for the trial, which pledge was fulfilled. The trial was held at the Canandaigua Court of Oyer and Terminer, in the following February. Red Jacket addressed the jury with his accustomed power and eloquence, citing the numerous murders of Indians by the whites, which had been followed by no punishment, as grounds for acquitting the prisoner; but the Indian was convicted. He was, however, afterwards pardoned by the governor,\* on condition of his leaving the State—undoubtedly an act of wisdom at that time. The above are the most reliable details to be obtained of an event that might easily have resulted in a bloody massacre. The killing of John Hewitt, was the first recorded murder in Buffalo. So strong was the influence of this event upon the minds of the whites, that a petition was immediately prepared and forwarded, asking for "a small garrison of troops at the village of Buffalo Creek, *alias* New Amsterdam."

Down to May, 1802, Ellicott's anxiety as to the future growth and importance of the village and city which he had pictured in his mind upon his favorite site, must have increased somewhat, for in that month he wrote Paul Busti, the general agent of the Holland Company, as follows:—

"While speaking on the subject of taking things in their proper time, I cannot refrain from mentioning that the Company delaying in opening their lands for sale in New Amsterdam, and the lands adjoining thereto, I fear the nick of time will pass by, at least for making a town of New Amsterdam."

This expression was undoubtedly called out in part by Mr. Ellicott's forebodings of the rivalry of Black Rock, to which he referred in the same letter as "equally or more advantageous for a town than Buffalo." That was only eighty-one years ago—little more than a man's allotted lifetime—and an ordinance was then in force, offering a bounty of five dollars each for wolf scalps, "whelps half price," and half a dollar each for foxes and wildcats.

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\* The original pardon granted in this case by Governor Clinton, is now in the rooms of the Buffalo Historical Society.

Joseph Wells settled at Buffalo creek, in 1802, coming over from Canada. He had passed by Buffalo creek in 1800, on his way to Canada with his brother. His son, Aldrich Wells, was born in August, 1802, and was the first white male child born in Buffalo. Joseph Wells occupied a fifty-acre tract of land on the east side of Main street, just south of High street; there the venerable William Wells was born, who is now the oldest native resident of Buffalo. Joseph Wells afterwards removed to Niagara street, where the First Congregational church now stands. He was engaged in brick-making, about 1819, where the Bennett elevator is now located. He raised and commanded a company of light infantry, which took part in the war of 1812. Chandler J. Wells, Esq., is another son of Joseph Wells.\*

In 1803, the village was partially surveyed by William Peacock,† under the general direction of Ellicott, and was finished by Ellicott in person, in 1804. The streets were laid out substantially as they exist to-day, as far as they were then defined. In referring to this labor by Mr. Ellicott, the Rev. George W. Hosmer, D. D., said in his very interesting paper read before the Buffalo Historical Society, January 13, 1864:—

“We should like another picture of him (Ellicott), standing by his compass in what is now Main street, in front of the churches; so confident is he that commerce must come and pour out her horn of plenty, that he has resolved to lay out a city; so delighted is he with the grandeur of the situation, that he thinks he will make his home here; he selects for himself a noble manor, one hundred acres of land, between Eagle and Swan streets, and from Main nearly to Jefferson street—almost enough for a principality in Germany—and determines to build upon the western front, looking towards the lake. So here, upon what is to be the site of his house, he stands by his compass, indicating the lines which now are our streets. \* \* \* Mr. Ellicott, in laying out our city, had large ideas, and worked upon a magnificent scale.‡ He did not bring a map of New York, or Boston, or Albany, and lay it down here; he wrought upon the inspiration of a magnificent hope, and we are greatly indebted to him for the open, handsome face of our city.”

In an early letter to Theophilus Cazenove, the first general agent of the Holland Company, Mr. Ellicott thus describes the spot he had selected for the future city:—

“The building spot is situated about sixty perches from the lake, on a beautiful elevated bank, about twenty-five feet perpendicular height above the surface of the water in the lake, from the foot of which, with but little labor, may be made the most beautiful meadows, extending to the lake and up Buffalo creek to the Indian line. From the top of the

\* See biographic sketch of C. J. Wells, in subsequent pages.

† William Peacock married a niece of Joseph Ellicott. He was a man of prominence, and was conspicuous in connection with Mr. Ellicott and others, in the explorations and surveys for the Erie canal. Mr. Peacock's later life was spent in Mayville, Chautauqua county, N. Y.

‡ From the fact that Joseph Ellicott assisted his brother Andrew in the survey of the city of Washington, it is supposed that he adopted the similar plan of radiating streets in Buffalo, from the one used in the former city.

bank there are few more beautiful prospects. Here the eye wanders over the inland sea to the southwest, until the sight is lost in the horizon. On the northwest are seen the progressing settlements in Upper Canada, and southwesterly, with the pruning of some trees out of the way, may be seen the Company's land for the distance of forty miles, gradually ascending, variegated with valleys and gentle rising hills, until the sight passes their summit, at the sources of the waters of the Mississippi.\*

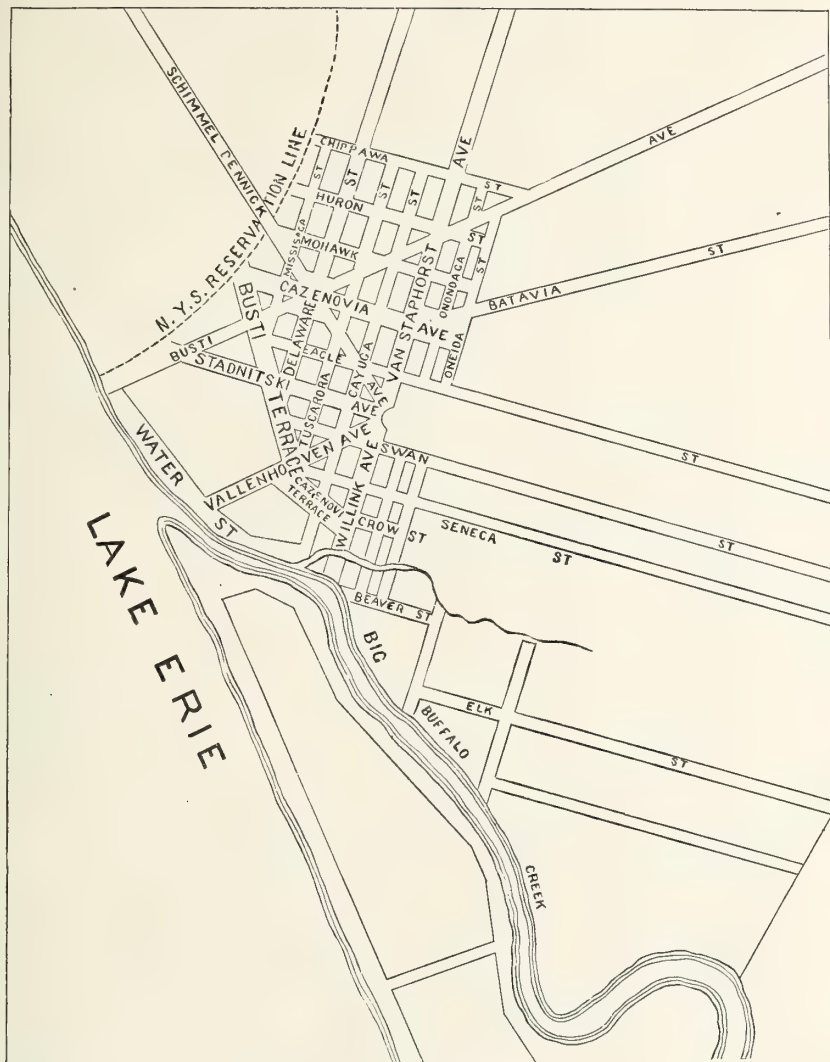
The accompanying map of the village, as first surveyed, shows its boundaries and extent quite clearly.

In naming the streets of Buffalo, Ellicott, or his superiors, honored the names of the Hollanders who formed the company owning the lands, and those of well-known Indian tribes. A reference to the map of 1804, will show that Main street as far up as Church, was called Willink avenue, while above Church street it was called Van Staphorst avenue. Niagara street was Schimmelpennick avenue; Erie street was Vallenhoven avenue; Court street was Cazenove avenue; Church street was Stadnitski avenue; Genesee street was Busti avenue. Busti and Cazenove were further honored by having the name of the former attached to the Terrace above Erie street, while below that street the latter's name was applied. In the use of Indian names, Ellicott street was called Oneida street; Washington street was Onondaga; Pearl street was Cayuga; Franklin street was Tuscarora, and Niagara street was Missisauga. Delaware, Huron, Mokawk, Eagle, Swan and Seneca were given their present names, and Exchange street was called Crow, in honor of John Crow. North and South Division streets were not laid out on the original map, for reasons that will presently appear. The changes in street names, as noted, were made in the year 1825-'26.

When Ellicott laid out the streets of the village and reserved intact the hundred acre "outer lot 104," he undoubtedly intended to build thereon a home for his declining years. As may be seen on the map of 1804, he included in the boundaries of his lot a semi-circular piece of ground on its front, around which he curved what is now Main street. This curve was directly in front of "the churches," and from it a grand and unobstructed view was obtained down Main street north and south, Niagara street, Church street and Erie street. If this curve in Main street was not a wise provision from a commercial point of view, it certainly improved what would have made one of the most eligible and sagaciously planned sites in the country for a palatial residence. It is said that Mr. Ellicott had expressed his intention of bequeathing his grounds and their improvements to the city at his death, for a permanent museum and park. But he was destined to never build on his favorite site, although he went so far as to gather more or less materials for that purpose, some of which afterwards went into the construction of the first

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\* Mr. Ellicott is reported to have said after he went to Batavia to live—"God has made Buffalo, and I must try and make Batavia."



——— *Map of the* ———  
**Village of New Amsterdam**  
 ——— (*now the City of Buffalo*) ———  
*Made for the Holland Land Company*  
 ——— *by* ———  
**JOSEPH ELLICOTT, Surveyor.**

**1804**



jail—a less noble purpose than that for which they were intended. In the year 1809, the Highway Commissioners decided to straighten Main street, thus cutting off the semi-circular front of Mr. Ellicott's lot. This action Mr. Ellicott held to be illegal, but he did not actively oppose it; it has been claimed with some degree of authority, that the interference with his plans through this change in the street, led Mr. Ellicott to abandon his intention of making Buffalo his home, and to remain in Batavia.

Joseph Ellicott was born in Buck's county, Pa., on the first day of November, 1760. His early education was acquired in common schools, but was afterwards broadened and deepened by extensive reading and well-directed observation. In early life, while assisting his father on the farm and in the mills of the latter, he began the study of surveying, which he soon mastered; he was then often called by his older brother to assist him in that profession. Joseph Ellicott surveyed the disputed line between South Carolina and Georgia, during which task he was attacked by fever and for a time his life was despaired of. After being the chief surveyor of the Holland Purchase, he was for years the trusted local agent of the Holland Land Company, a position of great responsibility.\* About the year 1824, his health became much impaired, his mind was seriously affected, and he finally settled into hopeless hypochondria. By advice of his physicians, he entered the Bloomingdale asylum at New York, but his malady increased, and on the 19th of August, 1826, Joseph Ellicott, the founder † of the city of Buffalo, ended his life by his own hand. He was never married.

In the year 1803, we find recorded the arrival in Buffalo of David Reese, blacksmith. He came in the employ of the government for the benefit of the Indians. He was the first blacksmith in Buffalo. In 1806, Mr. Reese bought outer lot 176, on Seneca street, and built a frame shop on the corner of Washington and Seneca streets. This little shop was one of the two wooden buildings left standing after the burning of Buffalo in 1813. Mr. Reese's ‡ dwelling was erected on the opposite corner of

\* He was also an active promoter of the Erie canal, and was one of the first commissioners appointed by the Legislature.

† Mr. Ellicott's right to the title is disputed by some excellent authorities, who insist that, while he evidently saw all the possibilities of the locality as a site for a large commercial city, and surveyed it, yet the Company for which he was agent never contributed in any way, either to the founding or the after-growth of Buffalo; but it is certain that he personally selected the site of the city, urged the Company to secure it, induced the Indians to leave it out of the reservation, and designed the plan of the future city.

‡ David Reese had an unfortunate quarrel with a Seneca chief named "Young King," in 1815. A dispute arose between Reese and an Indian over work that the blacksmith was to do for the latter, and Reese knocked the Indian down. At this juncture Young King rode up and took part in the quarrel, condemning Reese for what he had done. In response to this, Reese threatened to serve the chief in the same manner. Young King then dismounted and struck the blacksmith with a club, upon which Reese seized a scythe and with it nearly severed one of the Indian's arms; it was amputated the next day. Soon after John Jemison, a half-breed son of the celebrated "White Woman," a man of fierce passions, came on from the Genesee at the head of a party of Indians for the purpose of killing Reese. The blacksmith was, however, either secreted by his friends or hid himself away, and the matter was finally settled by referring it to Judge Porter, Joshua Gillett and Jonas Williams, both parties signing an agreement to abide by the decision of these arbitrators. Reese probably paid the Indian a sum of money in settlement of the affair.

Seneca street, on a part of Johnston's lot. He carried on the business in the old shop until about 1823.

Dr. Cyrenius Chapin, to whom we have before referred, returned to Buffalo from the East, and made it his permanent residence in 1803. No house being then obtainable, Dr. Chapin went with his family to Fort Erie, where they remained nearly two years. In the meantime he purchased inner lot 40, on Swan street, where he built, and in 1805, installed his family. Dr. Chapin was a remarkable man, as the reader of the preceding volume has learned, and his wonderful activity and energy, though sometimes erratic, perhaps, were for years instrumental in advancing the best interests of the place. Mr. William C. Bryant read a very interesting paper before the Buffalo Historical Society in April, 1877, upon Orlando Allen, in which he thus pleasantly refers to Dr. Chapin:—

“ Doctor Chapin was, in truth, the most considerable person in the village at this era. His gallant achievements and sacrifices in the second struggle for independence, when he had exchanged his perilous drugs for the still deadlier implements of war, are fresh in every memory; and his brusque but honest ways, practical benevolence and sturdy character, won for him a place in the hearts of the pioneers of this region. \* \* \* His professional services were sought throughout a vast region, lapping far over into the heart of Canada, and extending as far south as Erie. When it is remembered that these visits were accomplished on horseback, and that there were no macadam or plank roads in those days, the arduous nature of the Doctor's professional duties will be easier comprehended.”

At the time of the British assault on Buffalo, and its destruction by fire, Dr. Chapin was taken prisoner and confined in Canada more than a year. He died in February, 1838, and was followed to the grave by a large concourse of his former friends and fellow citizens. Mrs. Thaddeus M. Weed is a daughter of Dr. Chapin. She was born in 1803, and still resides in the city.\*

Erastus Granger was another important accession to Buffalo, in 1803. Mr. Ketchum says, in his history of Buffalo and the Senecas:—

“ Previous to the election of Mr. Jefferson, the Grangers, then young men, had been engaged in the examination, and perhaps survey of Virginia lands. \* \* \* During their sojourn in Virginia, they became acquainted with Mr. Jefferson, and on his becoming a candidate for the presidency, the Grangers warmly espoused his cause, and after his election, he offered to do anything in his power for them. \* \* \* Mr. Erastus Granger was sent to Buffalo, to exert his political influence in favor of the party which had elevated Mr. Jefferson to power. \* \* \* Mr. Granger had been quite recently married, and his wife had died before he came to Buffalo. He located himself at John Crow's tavern, as a boarder, it being the only place where he could obtain even

\*“ The precedence over the male sex of Mrs. Merrill, Mrs. Weed, and Mrs. Burt, in respect of birth and residence in our city, was prophetic of the leading position of the women of Buffalo, in all good ways and works. Our climate has always been favorable to the longevity, as well as the beauty of our women.”—*E. C. Sprague's Semi-Centennial Address.*

the scanty accommodations afforded him. He was appointed Superintendent of Indian affairs, was the first postmaster, and, on the organization of the district of Buffalo Creek, he was appointed Collector of Customs for that district. \* \* Mr. Granger became the leader of the Democratic party in Western New York."

The first purchase of land by Mr. Granger, is recorded as inner lot 31, corner of Pearl street and the Terrace, in July, 1805. He afterwards took up a large tract of land now partly embraced in Forest Lawn Cemetery and the park. Mr. Granger was first married March 21, 1813, and married a second wife in the person of a daughter of Nathaniel Sanborn, of Canandaigua, an estimable and accomplished woman. Mr. Granger was afterwards honored with the office of Judge, and he filled the different positions of trust in which he was placed, with distinguished ability. He resided until his death at "Flint Hill," (Main street,) a little west of the stone house erected by his son, Warren Granger, now a citizen of Buffalo. Judge Granger died December 26, 1826.

As we have said, the survey of the village was completed in 1804, and the lots placed in market for the first; this action gave an impetus to the growth of the settlement. The following lots were sold during that year, being the first regular conveyances of land in the village plot: Nathan W. Sever, outer lots 55 and 56, sixty-three and one-half acres, \$115; Zerah Phelps, June 1, inner lot 1, for \$112; Sylvanus Maybee, August 6, inner lot 35, \$135; Samuel McConiell, outer lot 84, May 19, \$191.50. The preceding maps show the location of these lots.

Following is a list of owners of land located in Buffalo, in 1804, as given in Turner's History of the Holland Purchase: "William Robbins, Henry Chapin, Sylvanus Maybee, Asa Ransom, Thomas Stewart, Samuel Pratt, William Johnston, John Crow, Joseph Landon, Erastus Granger, Jonas Williams, Erastus Keane, Vincent Grant, Louis Le Couteulx." These purchasers had not all yet become residents, several of them having improved their property under pre-emption arrangements.

The reader will be interested in learning some of the prices that were paid for lots in Buffalo, in early days. In 1804 lot 1, the site of the Mansion House, brought \$140. In 1805, Thomas Sidwell paid \$35 and \$45 respectively for lots 75 and 76, on Pearl street. In 1806, David Mather paid for lot 38, on Main Street, \$120.25 in advance. Soon after the close of the war of 1812, Smith H. Salisbury paid for lot 183, on Main street, \$480.80, and agreed to erect a house twenty feet square. In 1817, Frederick B. Merrill paid for lots 87 and 88, \$580, and agreed to erect a house twenty by twenty-four. In 1818, there were no sales, and but one in 1819, of outer lot 115, at \$20 per acre, and for parts of inner lots 87 and 88, (thirty-five feet,) \$175. In 1821, Roswell Chapin paid for inner lot 133, \$250. Gilman Folsom bought lot 198, for \$150, agreeing to have a frame house built within one year. In the year 1822, under the



more liberal policy of the new local agent, Mr. Otto, and the prospect of the canal soon being built, sales largely increased, and the entire remainder of the original plat of New Amsterdam was sold. It is explained in Turner's History of the Holland Purchase, that Mr. Ellicott's policy of insisting of settlers building on their lots, was more to secure actual settlements, than to increase the value of lots sold.

Outer lot 93 was deeded to William Johnston, October 27, 1804. Ketchum's "Buffalo and the Senecas," states it as probable that an arrangement was made with Johnston whereby he relinquished his claim to a part of the land on the flat bottom between the Big and Little Buffalo creeks, west of Main street (see maps,) as only "outer lot 85 was conveyed to him in 1804, but inner lots 3, 30 and 32 were conveyed to him at the same time; whereas outer lot 86, the remaining portion of the land in the triangle, was conveyed to Isaac Davis, June 29, 1814."

Samuel Pratt, a man of commanding influence, became a resident of Buffalo in 1804. He had made a trip through this region in 1802, on a fur-buying expedition, when he became convinced of the future greatness of Buffalo. Mr. Pratt located himself upon inner lot No. 1, on one corner of which the Mansion House now stands.\* On the Holland Company's map this lot appears as inner lot 2, but on later maps it is designated as number 1. He afterwards purchased several other lots. Mr. Pratt and his family made the long journey from his former home in New England in an old fashioned coach which he had had built for the purpose. This removal into the wilderness brought down upon him the ridicule of all his eastern friends; but "Captain" Pratt was not of the material that is turned from a settled purpose by ridicule.

One day in September of that year (1804,) the dwellers in Buffalo were astonished at beholding a coach, followed by one or two open wagons, loaded with furniture, coming jolting and swaying down Willink avenue (Main street) dodging the stumps and other obstacles as best they might. This coach was the first carriage that was ever seen in Erie county, and it contained, with the other wagons, the family and outfit of Mr. Pratt. No other event, perhaps, that had yet occurred in the little village caused more surprise of an agreeable character than the arrival of this unpretentious retinue. The vehicles stopped in front of John Crow's tavern, where the inmates were met by Erastus Granger, who greeted them warmly and generously placed at their disposal his

\* As an indication of the interest displayed by Mr. Pratt in the advancement of his adopted home, we quote the following letter, written but a few months after his arrival at Buffalo:—

NEW AMSTERDAM, December 2, 1804.

SIR:—Mr. Spicer has requested me to write to you, to inform you that he wishes to purchase Lot No. 15, in the back street. This Mr. Spicer is a carpenter by trade. He has been in my employ and has behaved himself like a very sober man. His work is much wanted here, and I should be very glad to have him accommodated. Your advance money will be paid when you give him a "refusal" of the lot.

With sentiments of esteem, I remain your friend,  
JOSEPH ELLICOTT, ESQ.

SAMUEL PRATT.



own room in the tavern. While Mr. Pratt was expressing his warmest thanks for Mr. Granger's generosity, Mrs. Pratt inspected the apartment which was for a time to be her home. It may be conceived that her heart failed when she saw a room perhaps twelve feet square, the walls of rough logs and the floor of split logs, with a bedstead made of poles in one corner. It is little wonder that one of the Pratt children, as it is related, could not refrain from laughter over the enthusiastic expressions of gratitude made by her father for Mr. Granger's kindness in giving up this primitive parlor, and the no less earnest declarations of the latter that he felt honored in thus giving up his room.

Soon after Mr. Pratt's arrival he built a frame house, the first one of considerable size in the place, and a store in which he began trading with the settlers and Indians. He also built a large barn on the corner of Seneca and Ellicott streets. The frame, it is said, was made of green timber and consequently stood through the fire of 1813, the rest of the structure being destroyed, and was afterwards covered and used as a stable for the Franklin House. Mr. Pratt had a large family of children, the youngest of whom, Mrs. Orlando Allen, still lives in Buffalo. One of his sons, Hon. Hiram Pratt, was twice elected Mayor of Buffalo, and was extensively engaged in commercial enterprises. Captain Pratt is remembered as a man of great energy and business activity, and one who displayed commendable public spirit in whatever related to the improvement of the village. His store was for years the principal rendezvous of the Indians and where they did a large share of their trading. Capt. Pratt enjoyed the Indian title of "Negurriyu," or "honest dealer;" or, as Mr. Letchworth's history of the Pratt family gives the name, "Hodani-doah," or "merciful man."\*

An incident is related of Captain Pratt's intercourse with the Indians that reflects still less credit upon the latter and came very near resulting in a serious trouble. It occurred while Captain Pratt was building his house; Mrs. Pratt had put some meat boiling out of doors, when an Indian named or known as "Peter Gimlet," probably overcome by the appetizing smell, suddenly snatched the largest piece of meat from the pot and started for the reservation. Little Esther Pratt saw the theft, ran to the store and told her father that "Peter Gimlet" had stolen their meat. Captain Pratt sent his son Asa after the thief, and he was soon brought back. When Peter's blanket was opened and the meat discovered, the Captain took his horsewhip and laid it vigorously about the Indian's legs.

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\* Some of the Indians in those days exhibited capacity for sharp business practice that would seem more adapted to these later times. All furs were then bought by weight and the Indians sometimes brought in beaver skins with the claws filled with lead. In order to not make his discovery of this species of fraud in a public way, which would have mortally offended the delinquent, Capt. Pratt would cut off the loaded claws with a hatchet, with a remark that he would allow for them in the weight. If the Indian demurred to this, Mr. Pratt would offer to weigh the claws separately; as this would certainly result in exposure, the tricky customer would have to submit to Capt. Pratt's method of weighing the furs.



*Wm. A. Wood*





Peter endured the punishment for a moment and then bounded away toward his home, yelling with pain.

Not long after, a large number of Indians began to arrive in front of Captain Pratt's store, where they seated themselves on the ground in their customary attitude. Then followed squaws, then chiefs and more Indians of all stations who squatted down in front of the store in a circle. By two o'clock in the afternoon two or three hundred Indians had arrived. At this juncture Captain Pratt was sent for and the proceedings began. "Farmer's Brother," the noted Chief, addressed Captain Pratt and narrated the story as told by "Peter Gimlet," to the effect that he had been ignominiously whipped without cause, and closed by demanding redress. Captain Pratt then gave a statement of the case as it had actually occurred and called his little daughter to corroborate him.

After an impressive consultation by the Chiefs, Farmer's Brother arose with all his native dignity and delivered the judgment, which was in substance that Peter Gimlet (giving him his Indian name) had stolen Negurriyu's meat and Negurriyu had inflicted only deserved punishment, and if he desired, Negurriyu might whip him again. The offender was also banished from the reservation and was not seen there for two or three years. Captain Pratt then rolled out a barrel of salt from which the Indians helped themselves until it was all gone. This proceeding undoubtedly had its effect on the jury!

On another occasion Esther Pratt\* had carried her infant sister into the store where she seated her on the counter. A Seneca squaw suddenly entered the store, caught up the child and fled away towards the forest. She was soon caught and the child rescued. The squaw gave as her motive for the act, that she had lately lost her own child and wanted another to take its place.

A still more startling incident occurred in the Pratt family at another time. The family were at the dinner table, when one of the boys, Benjamin, rushed into the house, closely pursued by an Indian warrior who was generally known as "The Devil's Ramrod;" the Indian was brandishing his knife and threatening to kill the boy. After the Indian had been with some difficulty appeased, it was learned that the boy had been annoying him until he had become enraged. The Indian finally thrust his knife savagely into the door-post and strode away exclaiming, "Me no kill Hodanidóah's boy."

In Buffalo business circles the name of Pratt has always been conspicuous, and descendants of Captain Pratt are now prominently connected with the manufactures and trade of the city. Captain Pratt died August 31, 1812.†

\* Esther Pratt, the young participant in these incidents, became the wife of Mr. Augustus C. Fox, and lived most of her life in Buffalo. She died in Springfield, Ill., in 1882.

† See biographical sketches of P. P. Pratt and Samuel F. Pratt, in subsequent pages.

William Hodge came to Buffalo in 1804, having the year previous taken up the farm lot that embraced within its boundaries the premises now occupied by his son, the venerable William Hodge, on Hodge avenue; the latter was six months old when his father came to Buffalo. William Hodge came from Otsego county and early engaged in the planting of a nursery, which business has been perpetuated by his son, down to the present time. In 1811, Mr. Hodge built a large brick hotel on what is now the corner of Main and Utica streets. This was the first brick building in the county and became widely known as "The Brick Tavern on the Hill." It was the last building destroyed when the village was burned two years later. After Buffalo was burned, Mr. Hodge was one of the first to return to the desolate ruins, and he did not wait a single day before beginning the reconstruction of his home. There was something of a strife between Mr. Hodge and Ralph M. Pomeroy as to who should succeed in getting a building up first; Mr. Pomeroy was a day or two ahead of his neighbor in the undertaking.

Louis Stephen Le Couteulx de Caumont, a French gentleman of excellent family, arrived in Buffalo in 1804 and became one of her most prominent citizens. He built a frame house on Crow (Exchange) street, opposite Crow's tavern, on the site of what was afterwards known as the "Le Couteulx Block;" in a part of this building he established the first drug store in the county. He was soon after appointed local agent for the sale of Buffalo lands, by the Holland Land Company. He is represented as having been a "gentle, genial spirit—a gentleman of the old school—and a Frenchman in his manners and address." He was the founder of the St. Louis Catholic church, the lot for which was donated by him. Mr. Le Couteulx died October 16, 1839, at the age of eighty-four, regretted by all who were capable of appreciating his good qualities. As a private citizen no one was more worthy of the general esteem and consideration in which he was held. \* \* In the discharge of his public duties he was distinguished for his integrity, his zeal and his affability.

Zerah Phelps has been mentioned as the purchaser of inner lot No. 1, (just east of the Mansion House,) in June, 1804. As an evidence that the Holland Land Company appreciated the fact that the immediate improvement of the lots sold by them was the surest road to other sales, it is said that Mr. Phelps was compelled to agree that he would "build a house twenty-four feet square and clear off half an acre of land." Similar agreements are said to have been entered into by other purchasers. As has been shown, however, the prices of lots were not exorbitant.

The year 1804 was made further notable by the establishment of a post route from Buffalo. A law was passed in the spring establishing a route from Canandaigua to Fort Niagara, by way of Buffalo creek. This route was put in operation the following September, with Erastus Gran-

ger as postmaster. "Once a week a solitary horseman came from Canandaigua with a pair of saddlebags containing a few letters and a few diminutive newspapers scarcely larger than the letters, and once a week he returned to Fort Niagara with a still smaller literary freight."\* The first mail carrier was Ezra Metcalf.

The Rev. Timothy Dwight, a former president of Yale College, visited Buffalo in 1804, and remarked thus of its general appearance at that time:—

"Buffalo Creek, otherwise New Amsterdam, is built on the north-east border of a considerable mill stream which bears the same name.

\* \* The southwestern bank is here a peninsula, covered with a handsome grove. Through it several vistas might be cut with advantage, as they would open fine views of the lake—a beautiful object.

\* \* The village is built half a mile from the mouth of the creek, and consists of about twenty indifferent houses. \* \* The streets are straight and cross each other at right-angles, but are only forty feet wide. What could have induced this wretched limitation, in a mere wilderness, I am unable to conceive. The spot is unhealthy, though of sufficient elevation and, so far as I have been informed, free from the vicinity of stagnant waters. \* \*

The inhabitants are a casual collection of adventurers, and have the usual character of such adventurers thus collected, when remote from regular society, retaining but little sense of government or religion. \* \*

We saw about as many Indians in the village as white people. The prospect presented at Buffalo is most attractive. Directly opposite, at the distance of two miles, but in full view, stands Fort Erie, a block-house, accompanied by a suit of barracks and a hamlet. This collection of houses is built on a beautiful shore, wears less the appearance of a recent settlement, and exhibits a much greater degree of improvement than anything which we saw west of Genesee river. Beyond this hamlet, a handsome point stretches to the southwest and furnishes an imperfect shelter for the vessels employed in the commerce of the lake. Seven of these vessels (five schooners, a sloop and a pettiaugre) lay in the harbor at this time, and presented to us an image of business and activity, which, distant as we were from the ocean, was scarcely less impressive than that presented by the harbor of New York, when crowded with almost as many hundreds. Behind this point another much more remote stretches out in the same direction, exhibiting a form of finished elegance, and seeming an exactly suitable limit for the sheet of water which fills the fine scope between these arms. Still further southward the lake opens in boundless view and presents in a perfect manner the blending of unlimited waters with the sky. Over these points, assembled as if to feast our eyes at the commencement of the evening after our arrival, was one of the most beautiful collections of clouds ever seen by the votary of nature. They were of elegant form and of hues intense and refulgent. The richest crimson fading into the tinges of pink and the rose, adorned them on the one side, and gold burnished into the brightest brilliancy on the other. \* \*

Towards the southwest and the northeast, two long ranges of leaden colored clouds, with fleeces of mist hanging beneath them, reached round two-thirds of the horizon. \* \* The sky above of that pure, bright aspect

\* Johnson's History of Erie County.



which succeeds a storm, when it becomes clear with a soft serenity, was varied from a glowing yellow, a brilliant straw color and a willow green into a light and finally into a dark azure, the beautiful blue of autumn. Beneath all this glory, the lake, a boundless field of polished glass, glittered alternately with the variegated splendor of the clouds and hues of the sky, softening the brilliancy of both with inimitable delicacy, and leaving on the mind the impression of enchantment rather than reality.  
\* \* A lively imagination would easily have fancied that a paradise might be found beyond this charming expanse."

If the Rev. Mr. Dwight erred in his estimate of the width of the streets laid out by Joseph Ellicott, he certainly viewed the scene with the eye and appreciation of an artist, and many residents of Buffalo in these many years later will sympathize with his ardent description of its natural beauties. Mr. William Hall, then of Cleveland, O., who visited Buffalo in 1804, wrote of the place, in 1863, in a more practical vein, as follows:—

"At Buffalo there were perhaps twenty houses, of which only three or four were frame, one of which was occupied by a Mr. Pratt, who kept a small store. He had his aged parents with him, whom I saw. Some streets were partially laid out, but the whole were full of stumps, and no fences. We rode up the creek some mile or two and crossed to see a Mr. Leech, who was from Connecticut. \* \* Leaving Buffalo, we went to Black Rock through woods—a small pathway trodden mostly by Indians, with some appearance of wagons having passed that way."\*

The first baker in Buffalo, was John Despar, a Frenchman, who established his business on Johnston's lot, a little north of Reese's dwelling house, on Washington street, between Seneca and Exchange streets. In 1807, Despar purchased outer lot 31. He continued his business until after the war of 1812. In 1820, he removed to a lot on what is now High street, where he soon after died.†

As far as may be judged by recorded events, the year 1805 opened auspiciously for the village of Buffalo. The town of Erie, which included the village, had been erected by the legislature the preceding year, and the first town-meeting was held that year at Crow's tavern, but the record was burned in 1813, with nearly all other similar ones. A little memorandum book, inscribed, "Erie Town Book," now in possession of the Buffalo Historical Society, shows that Joshua Gillett was granted a license to sell liquor in the village, and one was also granted to "The Contractors, by S. Tupper." Others were probably granted, as we may presume that landlord Crow had one. The price of the licenses was five dollars each.

"The Contractors Store," which was opened in 1804, or spring of 1805, became quite a noted establishment. It was conducted by the men

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\* This was probably on or near the line of Niagara street.

† It is said that Despar sold his land to William Smith, who first supplied milk to the village. Smith was to pay Despar \$200 annually as long as the latter and his wife lived; they were both dead before the second payment became due.

who had contracts for supplying the military posts of the west. Samuel Tupper, whose name is mentioned above as taking out the license, first had charge of this store. He came to Buffalo probably as early as 1804, and bought inner lot 7, in 1805, and took up outer lot 17, in 1808, where he built a house on the corner of Tupper and Main streets. He was appointed an Associate Judge of the Common Pleas in the fall of 1805, and was the first person in Erie county who had a right to that title. Judge Tupper died in December, 1817, without children. An adopted daughter of his afterwards married Manly Colton, and they occupied the old homestead for many years.

Vincent Grant, as we have already recorded, bought a lot in Buffalo in 1804, but he probably did not settle upon it until 1805. He was at one time in charge of the contractors store. He purchased inner lot No. 8, in 1808, on which he built a store. After the war he put up a cheap building on the southeast corner of Main and Seneca streets, where he traded until 1820, or later. He died not long after that date.

Judge Zenas Barker settled in Buffalo, as early as 1804 or 1805, and began keeping tavern on the Terrace very soon after, near where John Palmer had been located in the same business. At the fall term (1805,) of the Court of Common Pleas, Mr. Barker and John Crow were licensed to run ferries across Buffalo creek, the former at the mouth of the stream, and the latter at what was known as Pratt's ferry. Mr. Barker's dwelling was on the corner of the Terrace and Main street. Judge Barker married Margaret Sydnor, May 10, 1814, reared a large family of children, (among whom was Jacob A. Barker, who became one of the leading business men of Buffalo,) was county clerk for some years, and was prominently connected with the commerce of the lakes. He died June 2, 1859. A grand-daughter of Judge Barker became the wife of the late O. G. Steele.

In the year 1806, Joseph Landon bought John Crow's tavern, refitted and made a more commodious hotel of it, thus founding the Mansion House. Landon's tavern acquired a high reputation for its general hospitality and good cheer. In July, 1807, Mr. Landon purchased outer lot 81. He married first Mrs. Marvin, the mother of Ebenezer Walden, mentioned hereafter; afterwards he married Mrs. West, widow of Dr. West, who was for a long time stationed at Fort Niagara. Mr. Landon finally removed to Lockport.

In September, 1806, Ebenezer Walden brought the following letter of introduction to Erastus Granger:—

“BATAVIA, Sept. 23, 1806.

“*Dear Sir*—Permit me to recommend to your particular attention the bearer of this—a young gentleman with whom I have long been acquainted—a correct scholar, liberally educated, an attorney in the Supreme Court, and a gentleman who will be quite an accession to your society

at Buffalo Creek. He is a stranger in your country; any attentions paid to him will be a favor done to your friend and humble servant,

D. B. BROWN.

“ERASTUS GRANGER, ESQ., Buffalo.”

The bearer of this letter was the first lawyer in Erie county. Mr. Walden immediately entered upon the practice of his profession in the little village, in a small office on Willink avenue, (Main street), between Seneca and Crow (Exchange) streets. In 1810, Mr. Walden purchased inner lots 12 and 13 and afterwards other lots. He married in the year 1812, and was appointed “First Judge” of the Common Pleas in 1823; he was mayor of the city one term (1838) and died in 1857.\*

David Mather established the third blacksmith shop in the village in 1806. Mr. Mather gives the following description of Buffalo as it appeared to him in that year:—

“I settled in Buffalo in 1806. There were then sixteen dwelling houses, principally frame ones; eight of them were scattered along on Main street, three of them were on the Terrace, three of them on Seneca street, and two of them on Cayuga street. There were two stores—one the ‘Contractors’ on the corner of Main and Seneca streets, kept by Vincent Grant, on the east side of Main street. The other was the store of Samuel Pratt, adjoining Crow’s tavern. Mr. LeCouteulx kept a drug store in part of his house on (the north side of) Crow street. David Reese’s Indian blacksmith shop was on Seneca street, and William Robbins had a blacksmith shop on Main street. John Crow kept a tavern where the Mansion House now stands, and Judge Barker kept one on the site of the market. I remember very well the arrival of the first mail that ever reached Buffalo. It was brought on horseback by Ezra Metcalf. He came to my blacksmith shop to get his horse shod. He told me he could carry the contents of his (mail) bag in his two hands.”

Elijah Leech, took up his residence in Buffalo in 1806. He was employed for a time in the store of Captain Pratt, whose daughter he married. Afterwards he joined his brother-in-law, Samuel Pratt, Jr., in mercantile business. He purchased inner lot 46 in 1807, and afterwards outer lots 47, 48, 49 and 50. He built a house on the south side of Buffalo creek and lived there many years. Mr. Leech held several town and county offices and was one of the founders of the Washington street Baptist Church. He finally removed to Clarence Hollow and died there.

Among those who settled in 1806 within the present city limits (then far outside of the village boundaries,) we find the names of Major Noble,

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\* Judge Walden was greatly respected and honored through a long and active life. Perhaps it is not too much to say that no man stood higher in the public estimation, during the whole period of his residence in the city of Buffalo. \* \* \* He has left a record that should satisfy the ambition of any man—that of a gentleman of learning and intelligence, a man of perfect honor and integrity, a true friend fulfilling all the relations of life with fidelity, ever exerting a conservative influence in favor of law, religion and morality.—*Ketchum’s Buffalo and the Senecas.*



James Stewart, Gideon Moshier, Loren and Velorous Hodge and Henry Ketchum. Doubtless there were others.

Amos Callender arrived at Buffalo in 1807 or '08, and afterwards became prominent in church and school affairs, laboring earnestly for the improvement of the morals of the new settlement. He kept books for different merchants for a time and taught school winters, some of the time in his own chambers. He subsequently became deputy postmaster and was appointed surrogate of the county in 1813. He died in 1859.\*

The selection of "Buffalo, or New Amsterdam," as the county seat, in March, 1808, provided the Holland Land Company would erect a suitable court-house and jail and give a half-acre of land on which the buildings should stand, gave an impetus to immigration. The Company agreed to the proposition embodied in the act, and began the erection of a frame court-house on Washington street, directly in front of what is now known as the old court-house, which has been occupied by the Young Men's Christian Association. The building was finished in 1810.† A stone jail was built a little south of the court-house, on inner lots 184, 185. This structure withstood the effects of the flames when the village was burned, and after the war was repaired and used again as the county jail. It was originally surrounded on three sides by a stockade of logs set on end and sharpened at the top. This jail was demolished about 1834. The character of the work on these two buildings may be inferred from the fact that it was only a year from the time when they were accepted by the authorities, when the Board of Supervisors voted to raise \$500 by tax, for the purpose of repairing them.‡

The year 1808 was a favorable one to the growth of Buffalo, and more lots were sold than in any previous year. Following is a list of the sales with the names of their purchasers:—

Jabez Goodell, outer lots 136 and 145; Elisha Ensign, inner lot 60 and farm lot 19; Joseph Wells, inner lot 62; Asa Fox, inner lot 61; Gilman Folsom, inner lot 72; David Mather, outer lot 123; William Hull

\* Deacon Callender was thrice married and had six daughters. \* \* \* It may be truly said that Deacon Callender led an active and useful life. Few men have the opportunity of doing so much good by active labor, by precept and by example. His memory will be cherished with esteem and gratitude. \* \* \* —*Ketchum's Buffalo and the Senecas.*

† An act to divide the county of Genesee into several counties and for other purposes, passed March 11, 1808:—

SECTION III. And be it further enacted, That the court-house and jail, in and for the said county of Niagara, be erected in the village of Buffalo or New Amsterdam, in the said county; provided the Holland Land Company, their agent or agents shall, within three years from the passage of this act, and at their sole expense, erect in the said village a sufficient and suitable building or buildings for a court-house and gaol for the said county, and shall legally convey not less than half an acre of land whereon the same shall be erected, together with the said building or buildings, for the use of said county.

‡ Mrs. Charlotte S. Stevens, now of Williamsville, says that her father, Oziel Smith, came to Buffalo in 1807. He was a carpenter, and worked on the first court-house and jail. He bought the lots on which the Tift House now stands, but removed to Williamsville just before Buffalo was burned; he died in 1836.

and others, inner lot 8; Rowland Cotton, farm lot 75. Of these settlers, nearly or quite all located in or near Buffalo, and participated more or less in its growth. Gilman Folsom was the first regular butcher in the village. Jabez Goodell became a large purchaser of Buffalo real estate, and kept a tavern at a very early date on the corner of Main and Goodell streets. He was conspicuous in the First Presbyterian church society at an early period in its history, and when he died, left the larger portion of his valuable estate to different societies connected with that denomination. He died September 27, 1851, aged seventy-five years.

Henry Ketchum and his brother Zebulon were early settlers in Buffalo; the former purchased outer lot 17 and farm lot 70, in the year 1807, and built his dwelling on the corner of Main and Chippewa streets. When this was swept away in 1813, he fled with his family and never returned here to reside. Zebulon Ketchum spent his life in Buffalo, and descendants of his now reside here. Both of these men were brothers of Jesse Ketchum, once very prominent in educational matters. He came to Buffalo in 1837-'38 and remained until his death.

Dr. Ebenezer Johnson arrived in Buffalo in the latter half of 1809, bearing the following letter of introduction:—

“CHERRY VALLEY, 31st August, 1809.

“ERASTUS GRANGER, ESQ.,

“*Dear Sir* :—The bearer of this letter (Doctor Johnson) is in pursuit of a place in order to settle himself in his professional business. I have directed him to call on you as the most suitable person to advise him of the propriety or impropriety of his settling in Buffalo. Doctor Johnson hath been a student with Judge White before and ever since my partnership with the Judge, and it is but doing my duty to Dr. Johnson to state that he is a young man of unblemished morals, well read in his profession, and justly entitled to the patronage of the public.

“I remain, with respect and esteem,

“Your much obliged friend,

“HEZEKIAH L. GRANGER.”

Although Dr. Johnson practiced his profession until after the war, in which he acted as surgeon, he afterwards became one of the foremost business men of the village. He was associated in business for several years with Judge Samuel Wilkeson, and subsequently became a banker and broker. Dr. Johnson was the first Mayor of Buffalo after its charter was received, and held the office two terms. In the financial revulsion of 1835-'36 Dr. Johnson suffered heavily, almost his entire fortune being swept away, and he found himself compelled to seek a field of labor in another State, where he engaged in working some iron mines which had come into his possession. He died a few years after leaving Buffalo. Dr. Johnson built for himself a stone mansion on Delaware street, which is now used as a residence connected with the Female academy. Mrs. Rev. Dr. Lord is a daughter of Dr. Johnson.

The name of Lovejoy is a historic one in connection with the early days of Buffalo. Joshua Lovejoy came to Buffalo as early, probably, as 1807 or 1808, from Avon, where he had kept a hotel. His wife was brutally murdered at the burning of Buffalo; the details of this deed will appear hereafter. Mr. Lovejoy died in New York in 1824, aged 53 years.

In the year 1807 Mr. Le Couteulx obtained permission from Mr. Ellicott to cut away the timber on "the point" directly opposite the foot of Main street, on a tract as wide as the street, through which a view could be obtained of the lake from Mr. Le Couteulx' house on the corner of Main and Exchange streets. Previous to that time no view of the lake was presented from the village, except towards Fort Erie and Point Abino, through the opening in the forest at the mouth of Buffalo Creek.

Benjamin Caryl came to Buffalo in 1808. He lived at Williamsville when Buffalo was burned, but later in life returned to Buffalo and remained until his death. One of his daughters married Gen. Lucius Storrs; another married Royal Colton, and afterwards Dr. Warner; another married J. H. Coleman, and still another married R. W. Haskins; all of whom at one time resided in Buffalo.

Isaac Davis was one of the early merchants of Buffalo. His store and dwelling were located on the west side of Main, just below Seneca street. Mr. Davis suffered heavy pecuniary loss in the stringent times succeeding the war and died by his own hand in 1818, at Canandaigua.

Juba Storrs, who was one of the most prominent early merchants, came to Buffalo from Mansfield in 1808, with the intention of engaging in the practice of law, for which he had studied. The following extracts from letters written by Mr. Storrs to his father, not long after arriving at Buffalo, are interesting, as descriptive of the place at that period:—

BUFFALO CREEK. July 15, 1808.

"*My Dear Parent*—You will perceive from the date of this that I am farther from home than I contemplated when I left Mansfield. It is a good day's ride from Ontario, where I thought of making a stand; but the information which I received at Geneva and Canandaigua induced me to pursue my route to this place. You will find it on the map by the name of New Amsterdam. It is a considerable village, at the mouth of Buffalo creek, where it empties into Lake Erie, and is a port of entry for Lake Ontario, (Erie) the St. Lawrence river and all the western lakes, and will eventually be the Utica and more than the Utica of this western country."

In a later letter Mr. Storrs wrote:—

"My partner (who was Benjamin Caryl) nor myself have been able to obtain from Ellicott a well situated village lot. Caryl contracted for a lot, with a house sufficient for a store, for five hundred dollars—then the best we could get, for which I suppose we could get six hundred, if we did not think the rise would be something handsome within a short time."

It was as early as 1809 or '10 that Mr. Storrs was associated with Benjamin Caryl and Samuel Pratt, Jr., in mercantile business. The



firm erected a brick store on the northeast corner of Washington and Exchange streets, in 1810. This was, without doubt, the first brick structure built in Buffalo. While engaged in business, Mr. Pratt was appointed sheriff and Mr. Storrs, County Clerk. Mr. Pratt afterwards retired from the firm and Lucius Storrs, brother of Juba, took his place. In 1812 the firm leased mill property at the Eleven Mile Creek (now Williamsville.) After Buffalo was burned the mercantile branch of their business was removed to Canandaigua.

What is now Niagara street was cut through the forest in 1809, but no road was made or traveled there until after the war. Travel then followed the "Gulf" road (Delaware) and Bouck street, and the Guide-Board road and beach. Henry Lovejoy wrote of the site and surroundings of Buffalo in those days, as follows:—

"Save a few houses on Main street, four or five on the lower end of Washington street, and seven or eight on the lower end of Pearl street, one unbroken and primeval forest cast its shadows over and around the whole extent, relieved only by a little ray of light where the entrance to Buffalo creek revealed to the eye a glimpse of the broad expanse of Erie's waters. \* \* The lake shore above and below the mouth of the creek was one continuous arbor of trees covered with the native grape vine and so thickly were they matted together that it was no difficult task to pass from one to another on their tangled surface. This natural arbor continued down the beach some distance below the mouth of the creek, when one came to what were called the Sand Hills; they rose abruptly from the back part of the beach, some of them to a height of forty or fifty feet, and were covered on the back with full-sized forest trees to the summit; in front they were nearly barren. Between the Sand Hills and the Terrace was a dense forest, except a narrow strip called the Cranberry marsh. The Sand Hills continued down to near Fort Porter.

The records of the Holland Land Company show the following purchases of lots in Buffalo in 1810: Wm. Best, Asahel Adkins, Asa Coltrin, Eli Hart, John Mullett, Gamaliel St. John and Nathan Toles. Asa Coltrin was a physician and for a time associated with Dr. Cyrenius Chapin in business. John Mullett was a tailor and a partner of James Sweeney. Their place of business was on inner lot number 10, on Main street. The firm that afterwards did a merchant tailoring business there for years was Sweeney & Efner.

Gamaliel St. John bore a name that must forever be conspicuous in the early history of Buffalo. He purchased inner lot 53 on the 24th of January, 1810. On that lot he built the house that escaped the conflagration on the 30th of December, 1813, through the heroic courage of Mrs. St. John. Gamaliel St. John was drowned early in June, 1813, while crossing the ferry in a scow; the boat drifted in the strong current against the hawser of a vessel and capsized. The following brief account of the accident was printed in the *Buffalo Gazette* of June 8, 1813:—

“On Sunday last a boat upset by running afoul of the United States vessel, *Caledonia*, anchored in the Niagara river at Black Rock. There were nine men in the boat; one got on board the *Caledonia*, three saved themselves by swimming, and the remaining five were drowned, viz.: Gamaliel St. John, (inn-keeper of this village,) Elijah St. John, (son of the above,) Adam Rhoades, of Swift's United States Volunteers, and two regular soldiers.”

Mrs. St. John was a woman of unusual strength of character, energy and fearlessness, and the account of her successful efforts to save her dwelling from the torch of the enemy, is as deeply interesting as the most thrilling incident of fiction, and stands out as an act of womanly heroism that has become historic; particulars of this event appear in subsequent pages. One of the daughters of Mrs. St. John married Judge Samuel Wilkeson, and another (Aurelia), married Asaph S. Bemis, October 3, 1812. Mr. Bemis died December 13, 1823. His widow who escaped with her husband and younger sisters just before the burning of Buffalo, still lives in the city, having attained the great age of ninety years, on the 25th of January, 1883.

Ralph M. Pomeroy about this time (1810), erected his afterwards celebrated hotel on the northeast corner of Main and Seneca streets, where Brown's Buildings now stand. He purchased the lot (inner lot 7) of Samuel Tupper, and opened the hotel in 1811.

Raphael Cook came to Buffalo as early as 1810, rented a building and established a public house on Main street opposite Pomeroy's. “Cook's Tavern” became a celebrated hostelry. Mr Cook returned to Buffalo after the war and opened a tavern on the site of the Tift House, in a building known long after as the “Old Phoenix Hotel.” He died April 15, 1821, aged sixty-five years.

Dr. Daniel Chapin appears to have reached Buffalo at about this period. He afterwards became an energetic rival of Dr. Cyrenius Chapin; their controversies form an interesting topic in the early history of the medical profession.

Eli Hart purchased inner lot 41, corner of Main and Erie streets and built a store on it where he, in connection with his brother-in-law, and later with a Mr. Cunningham, carried on the mercantile business for many years.

Oliver Forward, who was a brother-in-law of Erastus Granger, came to Buffalo probably in 1809, from Ohio. In 1811 he occupied a small one-story wood dwelling on Pearl street in rear of what is now number 102; in an addition made to the building he acted as deputy postmaster and collector of customs for Judge Granger. In 1814, after the destruction of his first residence, Mr. Forward built a double two story brick building (on the site of his former home) which was then considered the finest residence in the village. In the northern half of it the postoffice and collector's office were established. Mr. Forward succeeded Judge Granger

as collector, and was afterwards appointed an Associate Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. Judge Forward was in all respects one of the foremost men of his time and was instrumental in forwarding all important projects looking to the advancement of the village. He died in April, 1832. He has been described as of medium stature, but portly; of grave and dignified presence; one whose imposing appearance would have been marked in any assembly of men.

On the 10th of February, 1810, a law was passed creating the town of Buffalo, which embraced within its boundaries the present city. That was the first instance of the legal application of the name "Buffalo" to a tract of territory with definite boundaries. Buffalo was formed from Clarence, and then included Tonawanda, Grand Island, Amherst, Cheektowaga and a part of West Seneca. Amherst, including Cheektowaga, was taken off in 1818, and Tonawanda in 1836. Buffalo City remained a part of the town until 1840.

Dr. Josiah Trowbridge, a pioneer physician, the events of whose long life in Buffalo stamped him as an eminent man, came to the village in 1811, when he was twenty-six years old. During the succeeding fifty years he occupied a distinguished position, both as a physician and as a citizen. He was mayor of the city in 1837 and filled other positions of trust. Dr. Trowbridge died September 22, 1862. Further reference to his life will be found in a subsequent chapter devoted to the medical profession.

There were two arrivals in Buffalo in the year 1811 that were destined to exert a broad influence upon the near future of the place, especially in a business and commercial sense. These were Charles Townsend (afterwards Judge Townsend) and George Coit, both of whom came from Norwich, Conn., where they had been fellow clerks in a drug store. They came to Buffalo possessed of considerable means, and soon established themselves in the drug business on Main street, which they continued until 1818, when they sold to Dr. John E. Marshall, father of Hon. O. H. Marshall. They then engaged in the storage and forwarding business, at the foot of Commercial street, where they erected large buildings for that purpose.\* The firm subsequently joined with Sheldon Thompson & Co., who removed to Buffalo from Black Rock after the completion of the Erie canal, and an immense business was built up by the consolidated firms, under the name of the Troy and Erie Line, with connections east and west. The firm dissolved in 1844. Mr. Coit lived many years on the corner of Pearl and Swan streets. In the early development of lake and canal commerce, the construction of the harbor and other matters of importance to the growing village, the firm of Townsend & Coit were instrumental. In a paper prepared in the later

\* See biographic sketches of Mr. Townsend, Mr. Coit and O. H. Marshall, in subsequent pages.







years of his life, Judge Townsend gave the following vivid description of Buffalo early in 1811 :—

“In 1811, Buffalo contained less than one hundred dwellings, and a population of some four or five hundred. The only public buildings were the old stone jail on Washington street, and an unfinished wooden court house. A small wooden building put up for a school house, served also for a town hall, a church for all religious denominations and, indeed, for all public purposes. Three taverns were kept, one by Mr. Landon, occupying a part of the site of the Mansion House, another of more moderate pretensions, at the corner of Main and Seneca streets, and a third near the corner of Main and Court streets. The only merchants were Juba Storrs & Co., Grosvenor & Heacock, Eli Hart and Isaac Davis, the first being located on the corner of Washington and Exchange streets, and the others on Main between South Division and Exchange streets. A mail from Albany brought once or twice a week, in a wooden-spring lumber wagon, was opened by Oliver Forward, a justice of the peace. Judge Granger held the office of postmaster and also that of collector of the port; the latter an office rather of honor than of business profit. The commerce of the lakes was small. I think there were only four or five small vessels on our side, and two or three merchantmen, besides two British armed vessels on the other. There was no harbor here. The mouth of Buffalo creek was usually so much obstructed by a sand bar, that small vessels could but rarely enter, and even canoes were sometimes shut out, and footmen walked dry-shod across the mouth. Vessels were loaded and unloaded at a wharf near Bird Island, at Black Rock.”

Abel M. Grosvenor purchased the article for inner lot 38, which had been taken up by David Mather, in 1806. Mr. Grosvenor came to Buffalo in 1811; with him was Mr. Reuben B. Heacock, and they opened a store on Main street, nearly opposite Mr. Grosvenor's purchase, under the firm name of Grosvenor & Heacock. Each of these men married the sister of the other. Mr. Grosvenor went East about the last of 1812 and died soon after. Mr. Heacock continued in business in Buffalo for many years and was a man of influence and high character; he was once elected to the Legislature. He was foremost in organizing the Hydraulic Company that afterwards utilized the waters of Buffalo creek for milling purposes, and stood in the front rank of the active business men of Buffalo for nearly a quarter of a century. He died in 1853. Well known descendants of Mr. Heacock now reside in Buffalo.

Joseph Stocking and Joseph Bull established the first hat manufactory and fur business in Buffalo, in 1811. They bought inner lot 11, corner of Main and Seneca streets, and built a manufactory in the rear on Washington street; this factory was but just finished when the war broke out. After their factory was burned, they removed that part of their business to Canandaigua, supplying their store from there.

Heman B. Potter arrived in Buffalo at this time from Columbia county, and began a distinguished legal career that continued for nearly half a century. He was afterwards well-known as General Potter, and died October 7, 1854.



The active life-work of many of the men whose names have been given, and others who, with their immediate descendants, were prominently instrumental in the early settlement and growth of Buffalo, both before and after the war of 1812, will be often referred to in future chapters upon the different interests and institutions of the place and in biographic sketches.

It was at about this period (1811) that Deacon Callender, in connection with General Elijah Holt, organized a society for the suppression of vice and immorality, of which the latter was president and the former was secretary. The society published the following resolutions in the *Gazette*:—

RESOLUTION OF THE MORAL SOCIETY OF BUFFALO.

“*Resolved*, That after the 23d of November, inst., the laws of the State prohibiting violations of the Sabbath, shall be strictly enforced against all persons who, on that day, shall drive into the village loaded teams, or who shall unload goods, wares and merchandise, or who shall vend goods or keep open stores or shops for the purpose of trading or laboring, or who shall engage in hunting, fishing, etc., etc.; also against all parties of pleasure, riding or walking to Black Rock or elsewhere.

“*Resolved*, That the above resolution be published two weeks in the *Gazette*, published in this village, that strangers as well as villagers may be informed of the same, and govern themselves accordingly.

“By order of the Society,

“A. CALLENDER, Secretary.”

Those resolutions proposed what was undoubtedly the most radical reform movement ever inaugurated in Buffalo! It may be entertaining to meditate upon what the good Deacon and his co-laborers meant to cover by those two comprehensive “etceteras.” It is related of Deacon Callender that when he once saw one of his neighbors carting hay to his barn publicly on the Sabbath, he went to the offender and remonstrated with him; when the Sabbath-breaker insisted upon going on with the work, the Deacon told him he would certainly see that the law was enforced against him. If this incident is a fact, it is not unlikely that the Society really effected an improvement in the morals of the village.

Although a church society was formed in Buffalo in the latter part of the year 1809, by the union of the few Congregationalists and Presbyterians there, under direction of the Rev. Thaddeus Osgood, little appears to have been accomplished in that direction. Down to the time of the war, religious services in the village were irregular, depending chiefly upon the missionaries in the vicinity. It was, possibly, for this reason that Buffalo acquired a reputation for immorality that was, to say the least, unenviable, although it may have been exaggerated. The early files of the *Gazette* show frequent complaints from correspondents upon this topic; these complaints were mainly directed against Sabbath-breaking, “tippling,” and kindred breaches of good morals. On the other hand,

the *Gazette* published a letter in January, 1812, written by a clergyman to "a gentleman in this village," in which he said:—

"From what I had heard I supposed that the people in general were so given to dissipation and vice that the preachers of christianity would find few or no ears to hear; but most agreeably disappointed was I to find my audiences not only respectable in point of numbers, but solemn, decent, devout and which seemed gladly to hear the word."

This paragraph indicates that the village had been misrepresented; but, unfortunately, the "clergyman" did not feel justified in leaving the subject at that point, for he added his regret that there was so "little attention paid by the magistrates in regulating the Sabbath. While the Sabbath is thus neglected, no clergyman of decent character would tarry there but a short time."

Sometime before Nov. 12, 1811, the Washington Benevolent Society was organized, as in the *Gazette* of that date we find a call for a meeting of the society, signed by Heman B. Potter. Leading citizens were for years conspicuous in the proceedings of this organization.

A traveller named John Melish visited Buffalo on the 27th of October, 1811, and afterwards wrote the following description of what he saw:—

"Buffalo is handsomely situated at the east end of Lake Erie, where it commands a beautiful view of the Lake, of Upper Canada, and Fort Erie, and a great distance to the southward, which is terminated by an elevated lofty country. The site of the town extends quite to the lake shore, but is principally built on an eminence of about thirty feet, at a little distance; and to the south along the creek are handsome rich bottom lots, which are at present a little marshy, but will, when drained, be most valuable appendages to this beautiful place. Buffalo was laid out for a town about five years ago, and is regularly disposed in streets and lots. The lots are from sixty to one hundred feet deep, and sell from twenty-five to fifty dollars; and there are out lots of five and ten acres, worth at present from ten to twenty-five dollars per acre. The population was by last census three hundred and sixty-five; it is now computed at five hundred, and is rapidly increasing. The buildings are mostly of wood, painted white; but there is a number of good brick houses, and some few of stone. There are four taverns, eight stores, two schools, and a weekly newspaper has been recently established. The town is as yet too new for the introduction of any manufactures, except those of a domestic kind. The greater part of the people are farmers and mechanics. The settlers are mostly from New England, but the town being on the great thoroughfare to the western country, there is a general mixture. A considerable trade is constantly kept up by the influx and reflux of strangers, and such articles as are necessary for their accommodation are dear. House rent is from two to twenty dollars per week; wood is one dollar per cord; flour is seven dollars per barrel; pork six dollars per cwt; beef four dollars; porter six dollars per dozen. Fish are very plenty and cheap. Boarding is three dollars per week. The situation is quite healthy, and the seasons are much more mild and open than might be expected in this northern latitude. Buffalo creek flows into the lake by

a slow current. It is navigable about four miles, and it is proposed to run a pier into the lake at its outlet, and form a harbor, which would be a most important advantage to this part of the country. Already there is a turnpike road to New York, having the accommodation of a stage three times a week. Upon the whole I think this is likely to become a great settlement."

The writer of the history of Buffalo from the arrival of the first settler down to the latter part of the year 1811, finds himself thwarted at almost every step in his task, by the absence of almost all records other than such as have been made since that date from the memories of old residents; this, as the reader has perceived, necessarily renders the work thus far little more than a personal record of the early settlers, the dates of their arrivals, the lots purchased and similar notes.

When the village was burned in 1812-'13, all records of a public nature (if there were any) and many private papers were destroyed. Fortunately, a file of the Buffalo *Gazette*, from the second number, has been preserved. This was the first newspaper published in the county. The first number was issued October 3, 1811, by two brothers, Smith H. and Hezekiah A. Salisbury, the former being the editor. Thanks to the foresight of those two men and the no less wise care of those who came after them, we now have access to an almost complete file of the *Gazette*, now in the possession of the Buffalo Young Men's Association. Access to it and to the files of succeeding journals will mark a change in the results of the historian's labor.

The prominent features of the village of Buffalo at the period under consideration, the state of its business, new arrivals, and especially the character of early journalism in the county, will be better understood, if we refer briefly to the columns of the early numbers of that rough little yellow-hued sheet.

One or two very brief local items of news, at the most, seemed to satisfy the ambition of the editors of the *Gazette* in those days, and many numbers were issued without a single line referring to local events. This was the general custom among the journals of that day, the editors apparently thinking that local events would become well-known to readers through other mediums than the press.

Mechanical business appears to have been in a flourishing condition in Buffalo in those days, if we may judge by the frequent advertisements for mechanical help. Tallmadge & Mullett called for two or three journeymen tailors; John Tower for a journeyman shoemaker; Daniel Lewis for a "Taylor's" apprentice and a journeyman; Stocking & Bull for three or four journeymen hatters; and Leech & Keep for two or three journeymen blacksmiths, at their shop at Cold Spring, "two miles from the village of Buffalo." The Salisburys kept a bookstore in connection with their printing business, it being the first in the county. Their catalogue of about a hundred and fifty books, contained the names of only eleven novels.



In the *Gazette* of March 11, 1812, appeared the following ominous statement:—

"By a law of Upper Canada, lately passed, the militia of the province are to turn out and drill six days in every month. What does it mean?"

In the same issue the question of approaching war was thus discussed, which was at least a very safe conclusion:—

"We are frequently interrogated, 'Shall we have war?' to which we would say, that for these few years past our country has sustained a most bloodless war of words; now it is a furious combat on paper; but whether we are to have war or peace, or remain as we are, time will unfold."

March 10, 1812, the Western Star Lodge of Free Masons, undoubtedly the first lodge of that order in the village, or county, gave notice that they would install the officers of the lodge.

On the 26th of March, the mechanics of the village organized the Mechanical Society, the first association of that nature in the place. Joseph Bull was elected president; Henry M. Campbell and John Mullett, vice-presidents; and Robert Keene, Asa Stanard, David Reese, Daniel Lewis and Samuel Edsall, as a standing committee.

The last named gentleman advertised his tannery and shoe shop in the *Gazette* as located "on the Black Rock road, near the village of Buffalo." It really stood on what is now the corner of Niagara and Mohawk streets!

The *Gazette* complained in those days of the insecure condition of the jail, saying, "The great majority of felons committed to jail have deserted, and but few are brought to justice."

In his advertisement of earthenware at Cold Spring, Lyman Parsons showed considerable leniency towards his debtors by requesting all those "indebted to him and whose promises have become due, to make payment or fresh promises!" No one could object to compliance with this modest request.

The usual comprehensiveness of the country store prevailed in those of Buffalo at that time. Nathaniel Sill & Co. sold fish and cider at Black Rock. Peter H. Colt, of the same place, dispensed "whisky, gin, buffalo robes and feathers," while Townsend & Coit, of Buffalo, advertised "linseed oil and new goods."

As a possible indication of the rare honesty of the publishers of the *Gazette*, it is noted that they advertise for the owner of "a green cotton umbrella left at their office."

In the issue of November 26, 1811, a meeting of the inhabitants of Buffalo was called to take into consideration the propriety of making an early application to the Legislature, soliciting assistance to "effectually amend and improve the Public Road from this village to the village of Batavia." In the same issue, Joseph Webb advertises his brewery at Black Rock—probably the first of the kind in the vicinity.

Townsend & Coit advertised in the *Gazette* of December 10, 1811, new goods, groceries, medicines, etc., "at the brick store opposite the court house," and M. Daley, located in the drug business "one door south of the printing office."

On the 17th of December, 1811, T. McEuen announced that he had "taken the stand one door north of Mr. Cook's inn," as a shoe maker and dealer in leather.

A meeting was held on the 3d of December, 1811, to take steps towards raising money by a lottery, for the improvement of roads. The call was signed by Archibald S. Clark, Abel M. Grosvenor, Joseph Landon, Frederick Miller, Timothy S. Hopkins and Asa Harris.

Early numbers of the *Gazette* show that in some instances the people still clung to the name of "New Amsterdam." The "Ecclesiastical Society" was announced to meet "at the school house in the village of New Amsterdam," and Grosvenor & Heacock advertised new goods at their store in New Amsterdam.

Down to the latter part of 1811, the name of Buffalo had been almost universally spelled with a final "e;" but from that time the superfluous letter was gradually dropped. The efforts of the editor of the *Gazette* undoubtedly hastened this reform, for he not only refused to make use of the objectionable final letter himself, but unsparingly ridiculed its use by others. In the *Gazette* of Dec. 29, 1811, was printed a satirical report of an alleged lawsuit in the "Court of the People's Bench of Buffalo-e" in which "Ety Mol O Gist" was plaintiff and General Opinion defendant. Following is an extract from the proceedings of the court:—

"This was an action brought before the court for purloining the fifth letter of the alphabet and clapping it on the end of the name, Buffalo. The plaintiff contended that he had both reason and right on his side and that he could not only prove from high authority that the defendant was guilty not only of a gross dereliction in thus adding the silent, superfluous 'e' to the high sounding Buff-a-lo, but that he had in his filchings, taken one of the official functionaries, one of the most important members of the alphabet, one in fact introduced into all circles, parties, societies and even into electioneering caucuses, and placed him where his usefulness would be entirely abridged; where he must raise his final head in silence; where he would be known only in name. The plaintiff now proceeded after some pertinent remarks to the court, in which he pointed out the enormity of the offense of General Opinion, to call his witnesses. Several dictionaries were brought forth and examined, who testified from Dr. Johnson down to Noah Webster. General Use, who was subpoenaed by both parties, was qualified. He said he did not hesitate to state to the court that he had been in the constant practice of dating his notes, receipts and memoranda with 'Buffalo-e,' but that since the establishment of a public paper he should accommodate his conscience to cut it short and dock off the final 'e.'"

Between the methods of journalism prevailing in Buffalo at the time when the early numbers of the *Gazette* were issued, and those of to-day,

the change is more marked than in almost any other business or profession. Columns were devoted to foreign intelligence, much of it of minor interest in this country, to the neglect of important domestic and local news. Otherwise the *Gazette* was ably conducted and for many years was an influential newspaper.

As Black Rock, although at a later date a rival of Buffalo, has since been absorbed by it, some reference to its growth and position before the War of 1812 will be necessary. The fact has already been stated that the State formerly owned what was known as the "mile strip" of land lying along the Niagara river from Lake Erie, commencing near the present foot of Genesee street, to Lake Ontario. This tract was surveyed in 1803-'04, being cut into farm lots of about one hundred and sixty acres each. On the south side of Scajaquada creek, four lots were laid out and adjoining on them a lot of one hundred acres, called the "Ferry lot." The triangle formed by a line running from a point where the south line of the ferry lot struck the mile line, to the river, was to be reserved for military purposes, should it become necessary. The remainder of the mile strip extending on a curve to the village of Buffalo, was to be surveyed into a village plat and called Black Rock; this was afterwards generally known as Upper Black Rock. The four farm lots above mentioned were purchased by Porter, Barton & Co., in connection with a few others and surveyed in 1811, into a village plat and to distinguish it from the State village, it was called Lower Black Rock.\*

The old ferry at the Black Rock had, it appears, been in use nearly or quite as far back as the Revolutionary war. In his interesting paper read before the Historical Society in 1863, Mr. Charles D. Norton says of the ferry:—

"Here [on the Black Rock side] one Con. O'Neil was the ferryman at a very early day, living by the 'black rock' in a hut which was at once his ferry-house and his home. In the year 1800, there was a tolerable road over the site of the present Fort street, leading to the river margin over a flat or plateau of land about two hundred feet in width. Upon the northern extremity of this plateau there was a black rock, in

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\*Horatio Jones and Jasper Parrish, both of whom were Indian captives in early life, were appointed Indian interpreters after their release, which followed the treaty of peace between the United States and the Six Nations. During their captivity and the subsequent period of their service as interpreters, these two men gained the friendship of the Indians to such an extent that in 1798, at a council of the Six Nations, held at Genesee river, it was decreed that a present should be made them. This present comprised two square miles of land which was described in a speech made on that occasion by Farmer's Brother, as follows:—

"Two square miles of land lying on the outlet of Lake Erie, beginning at the mouth of a creek known as Suyguquoydes creek, running one mile from the Niagara river up said creek, thence northerly, as the river runs, two miles, thence westerly one mile to the river, thence up the river, as the river runs, two miles to the place of beginning, so as to contain two square miles."

This speech was intended as a communication to the Legislature of the State, asking its cooperation in making the gift, which request was granted and the title confirmed. The village of Black Rock is situated upon a portion of the Jones and Parrish tract. Horatio Jones died in 1836, aged seventy-five years; Parrish died in the same year, aged sixty-nine.



shape an irregular triangle, projecting into the river; having a breadth of about one hundred feet at the north end, and extending southward and along the river for a distance of three hundred feet, gradually inclining to the southeast until it was lost in the sand. The rock was four or five feet high, and at its southern extremity it was square, so that an eddy was formed there, into which the ferry-boat could be brought, and where it would be beyond the influence of the current. From the rock, teams could be driven into the boat over a connecting lip or bridge. The natural harbor thus formed, was almost perfect and could not have been made by the appliances of art a more complete dock or landing-place for a boat."

A hamlet eventually grew up at and near this point before the war of 1812. It was this locality that Joseph Ellicott referred to in a letter written to Paul Busti in 1802, when he said:—

"There is a situation \* \* equal to or better than that of New Amsterdam for a town: so that if the State offers the land for sale this summer, before New Amsterdam gets into operation, much of time will be lost to the future prosperity of the place."

Major Frederick Miller\* took possession of the Ferry at Black Rock in the year 1806, and retained it until about 1812. The ferry was discontinued at one time during the war of 1812, after the boat had been fired upon by British soldiers, as elsewhere narrated, and the boats were sunk at the mouth of Scajaquada creek, whence they were taken by the British and carried over to Canada. They were afterwards retaken and used by the Americans, and after peace was declared were turned over to Mr. Lester Brace,† who had managed the ferry before the war. At the declaration of peace Mr. Brace opened the tavern at Black Rock and resumed operation of the ferry, continuing there until 1821. In that year Asa Stanard took the ferry, which he managed until the construction of the Erie canal rendered its removal to another point necessary. Asa

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\* Mr. Frederick Miller came to reside at Black Rock at a very early period. His name appears as the first licensed ferryman at Black Rock ferry, when the State first began to exercise jurisdiction over it, in 1805-'06. He kept the ferry and a tavern at the ferry landing until 1810, when he removed to Buffalo. He remained however but a year, when he removed to Cold Spring, where he kept a tavern. During the war, he removed to Williamsville where he remained until his death, which occurred in January, 1836. Mr. Miller served during the war of 1812, in the capacity of Major of artillery; hence his title of "Major" by which he was afterwards known. The Major was an uneducated man, but an energetic and useful officer and much esteemed by the officers of the army. He left a large family of children; Mrs. Gen. H. D. Potter was a daughter, the late Capt. William T. Miller and Capt. Fred S. Miller were his sons.—*Ketchum's History of Buffalo and the Senecas.*

† I have said before that Mr. Lester Brace visited the ferry in 1807. It would be unnecessary to say more of him than that he was a son of Orange Brace, one of the hardy and resolute men who came to western New York from New England in 1790. Mr. Lester Brace left Bennington in what is now Wyoming county, with an ox team and wagon, accompanied by some neighbors, to visit the frontier on business; and crossing the Indian reservation, his party were overtaken in the woods by a severe snow storm which drove them under their wagon for shelter and compelled them to remain there all night. Pursuing their journey, they reached Landon's tavern, now the Mansion House, and turning into Commercial street, they traveled by way of the creek and lake beach down to Major Miller's tavern at the old ferry.—*Chas. D. Norton's paper read before the Historical Society in 1863.*

Stanard was one of the first boat and shipbuilders at Black Rock, having a yard there before 1812. The ferry was removed to the foot of Ferry street, and in 1826 Donald Fraser\* and Lester Brace became its lessees. They placed a horse boat on the ferry, Mr. Brace making the journey to Albany to ascertain what were the merits of the novel invention which the Legislature had required them to adopt; he brought the machinery for the boat. It was nothing more than a wheel upon a nearly horizontal plane, which propelled the boat by means of cogs playing into the main shaft. In 1840 James Haggart leased the ferry and began the use of a steamboat.

“When Mr. Brace first visited the Rock in 1807,” says Mr. Norton, “there were no buildings in the vicinity, except the Porter, Barton & Co., warehouse \* \* at the foot of Breckenridge street; a house which Nathaniel Sill had built on Auburn street, and a log hut on the site of Albany street.”

This firm of Porter, Barton & Co., was a powerful one for those times. The head of the firm was Peter B. Porter, then of Canandaigua, afterwards the distinguished commander whose services during the war of 1812, have been narrated in the preceding volume. In 1810, when he was thirty-seven years old, Mr. Porter removed to Black Rock. He had been an attorney at Canandaigua and is described as “unmarried, a handsome, portly gentleman of the old school, of smooth address, fluent of speech and dignified demeanor.” The other members of the firm were Augustus Porter, the older brother of Peter B., Benjamin Barton, Jr., and Joseph Annin. In the year 1807, this firm began the first regular transportation business over the portage around the falls, and up the river to Black Rock. From there their vessels took the freight out upon the great lakes. The firm was connected with Jonathan Walton & Co., of Schenectady, who forwarded freight from the East by way of the Mohawk, Oneida Lake, Oswego and Lake Ontario. Other important business connections east and west were also formed by Porter, Barton & Co., giving them eventually a large traffic. One of the principal commodities handled in those days, by this firm, was salt from Syracuse, which then commanded enormous prices. An old resident informs us that his father once drew a load of thirty or forty bushels of potatoes nearly twenty miles with an ox team, consuming two days in the round trip, only to exchange the entire load for a barrel of salt!

For a year or two previous to 1811, considerable rivalry existed between Black Rock and Buffalo, the forerunner of other protracted

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\* Major Fraser was a gallant soldier and was aid to General Porter at the siege of Fort Erie during the war of 1812, when his gallantry and soldierly conduct received the most flattering notice in the despatches of the General to the Commander-in-chief. Major Fraser was afterward on the staff of General Brown; subsequently he served at Fort Niagara; and at a later period he acted as secretary to General Porter, while he was engaged as the United States Commissioner in surveying and establishing the northern boundary between the United States and Canada under the treaty of Ghent.

periods of antagonism as to which was entitled to the port of entry. Erastus Granger, as early as 1809, entered a vigorous protest to the government, against locating the port at Black Rock. In that year an odd compromise was made by establishing the port for the district of Buffalo Creek, at Black Rock from April 1st to December 1st of each year. As that period covered almost the entire commercial season, the effect of the order will be readily conceived.

On the 22d of September, 1812, S. Franklin advertised the tavern he then occupied, at Black Rock, to let. It stood nearly opposite the dwelling house of General Porter. Orange Dean announced the opening of a tavern by him, in the building formerly occupied by Nathaniel Sill; he also kept a stock of groceries. Allen Leonard was then a shoemaker there.

Before the breaking out of the war, Porter, Barton & Co. built a large pier just below Bird Island, where all of their vessels loaded and unloaded freight; after the war their docks below the rapids were used. When their vessels were ready for lake voyages and there was not enough wind to sail them up the stream, teams of oxen and horses were utilized to tow them up. This method of navigation became known as the "horn breeze."

At the breaking out of the war considerable additions had been made to the little hamlet of Black Rock; among them were E. D. Efner, who died in 1873, Sylvester Mathews and others.

## CHAPTER II.

### BUFFALO AND BLACK ROCK IN THE WAR.

Destruction of the Two Villages — Their Fortifications — Cannonading of Black Rock — William Dorsheimer's Account of the Burning of the Villages — Incidents — Mrs. Bidwell's Flight — A Late Breakfast — Peace Movements — The Riot at Pomeroy's Hotel — "Hank" Johnson's Heroism — The St. John Family — A Heroic Woman — Massacre of Mrs. Lovejoy — Preservation of Valuables — Alfred Hodge's Escape — Samuel Wilkeson's New Acquaintance — Flight of William Hodge's Family — Job Hoysington's Last Shot — Mr. Keep's Death — The Killed and Captured — General Flight — Treachery under a Flag of Truce.

**T**HE history of Buffalo and Black Rock during the years 1812-'13, in addition to the minor notes already given, is mainly a record of the war and its stirring events in the vicinity. A full, general history of the campaigns of that conflict, the reader has already found in the first volume of this work. It will, therefore, be sufficient for our present purpose to state that at the close of the campaign of 1813, on the 30th



day of December and the 1st day of January, 1814, the village of Buffalo and the smaller settlement at Black Rock were set on fire by the British soldiers and their Indian allies, and swept from the face of the earth, leaving only the smoking ruins to indicate that they had ever been the dwelling place of civilized men and women. David Reese's blacksmith shop, the dwelling of Mrs. Gamaliel St. John just north of the hotel her husband had erected on Main street, and the stone jail, were the only buildings that escaped the torches of the enemy.

The fortifications that had been prepared for the defense of the villages during or before the war were, as far as now known, a "sailor's battery" of three long 32-pounders, located near the mouth of Scajagada creek; a battery of three guns on Niagara street, near the former residence of William A. Bird; Fort Tompkins that stood on the site of the Niagara street railroad stables; a mortar battery with one 18-inch mortar, near the site of the water works; a breastwork on the Terrace, and a 24-pounder on the northerly corner of the Fort Porter grounds.

While the village of Buffalo had not, at the time of its destruction, advanced far toward the fulfillment of the enthusiastic predictions of its founders, still it had through the undaunted energy, untiring industry, and earnest faith of its citizens, become a busy and promising village, as described in the foregoing pages.

On the morning of the 9th of October, 1812, Black Rock suffered a heavy cannonading by the British batteries on the Canadian side, during which some three hundred shots were fired. Mrs. Benjamin Bidwell has furnished some interesting reminiscences to the Historical Society in which she states that this cannonade drove them from their residence early in the morning. As she and her husband were hurrying to her sister's where there was a cellar in which they might secure a refuge, a cannon ball passed so near them that a little girl she was leading was knocked down by the rush of the wind created by the ball. They then fled to the woods where they found several families. Mrs. Bidwell obtained some food, built a fire in the woods and was engaged in cooking breakfast by an improvised fire, when another cannon ball struck directly in the fire and scattered the breakfast in all directions. In a determination to finally get out of range, the family then made their way through the woods to Cold Spring, where Mrs. Bidwell cooked another breakfast which was eaten at four o'clock in the afternoon!

It was the first shot in this cannonade that killed Major William Howe Cuyler, of Palmyra, as he was galloping with orders along the river road, before five o'clock in the morning.

Black Rock was again cannonaded on the 13th of October, 1813, and a good deal of damage was done to the buildings. Two shots passed through Orange Dean's house, in noting which the Buffalo

*Gazette* added the distressing detail that one of them "bilged a barrel of old Pittsburgh whiskey in the cellar, belonging to Peter H. Colt." A 24-pound shot also struck General Porter's house while the family were at dinner, and a bomb "struck the east barracks and destroyed them."

A peace meeting was held on the 15th of October, 1812, in "Pomeroy's Long Room, to take measures having for their object 'the termination of the war and the restoration of peace.'" This meeting was adjourned to the 24th, and that was, probably, the last of the peace movement.

A correspondent wrote for the *Gazette* on the 25th of December, 1812, to the effect that he "was desired yesterday evening, to request you to insert in your paper an invitation to the good people of Niagara county to meet on Friday next at the house of R. Cook, at 10 o'clock, to consult on measures of public safety and, if possible, concert some means to avert the impending dangers which are so visibly threatening our once peaceable and happy homes." As far as we have learned, this meeting did not take place.

But these incidents were unimportant when compared with what soon followed. The burning of Buffalo and Black Rock and the incidents immediately connected with it, was one of the most tragic events in the history of the war of 1812. The following extract from a paper on "Buffalo during the war of 1812," read by William Dorsheimer, before the Buffalo Historical Society, March 13, 1863, gives a vivid general picture of the destruction of the two villages and occurrences immediately preceding:—

"On the nineteenth of December, 1813, an English force, under Colonel Murray, surprised and captured Fort Niagara. The villages from Fort Niagara to the Falls were soon after burned. The disposable American forces were hastily concentrated at Buffalo, under command of Brigadier-General Amos Hall. The whole force was two thousand and eleven men; but the troops were raw, undisciplined, poorly armed, and without a sufficient supply of ammunition.

"On the evening of the twenty-ninth, the British Left, consisting of eight hundred regulars and militia and two hundred Indians, landed below Conjaquadies creek, and took possession of the sailors' battery. General Hall ordered the troops at the Rock to dislodge them. The first fire threw our militia into disorder, and the attack failed. Major Adams and Colonel Chapin were then ordered forward to carry the battery; but, after a short skirmish, their men fled, and were not again embodied. The Ontario command under Colonel Blakeslie were then sent up. But, before the attack had begun, the day broke and revealed the English center crossing to our shore, in the rear of General Porter's house; and about the same time their right landed in small force, near Fort Tompkins. The invaders were commanded by Lieutenant-General Drummond, but were under the immediate direction of Major-General Riall.

"This disposition of the foe compelled General Hall to change his plan. The order to Colonel Blakeslie was countermanded, and he was directed to attack the English center at the water's edge. The enemy's left wing was soon discovered moving from Conjaquadies creek upon

our right; the Indians under Colonel Granger, and the Canadian volunteers under Colonel Mallory, were advanced to meet them, and Colonel McMahon's regiment was held in reserve. Lieutenant Seely opened the engagement with his 6-pounder, and a 20-pounder and two twelves at the battery were soon brought into service. At the same time the batteries on the other side of the river threw a heavy fire of shell, round and hot shot. Colonel Blakeslie held his force in line, and as the enemy landed, poured upon them a most destructive fire. On our right, however, but a feeble resistance was offered. All the corps had been gradually reduced by desertion, which began with the first shot, in the night. Perceiving the danger to his right, General Hall ordered up the reserve under Colonel McMahon, to hold the enemy in check. But this corps disgracefully scattered before it came under fire. The whole right wing of the American force was now driven from the field, and the steadfast militia of Colonel Blakeslie were exposed to a cross-fire. For half an hour, outflanked and outnumbered, the gallant little regiment maintained the unequal contest; but at last, to avoid capture, it was ordered to retire. By this time the greater part of the Americans were flying in all directions, most of them going through the forest to reach the Buffalo and Batavia road. A small number of the bolder spirits, among whom were Colonel Chapin, retired slowly along Niagara street, towards Buffalo. Among these was Lieutenant John Seely, a carpenter and joiner, who lived on the corner of Auburn and Niagara streets, and was lieutenant of a company of artillery at Black Rock. He had fought his piece on the brow of the hill, on what is now Breckinridge street, until he had but seven men and one horse left. Mounting the horse, which was harnessed to the gun, he brought it away with him, firing upon the enemy whenever occasion offered. Near where Mohawk street joins Niagara, was then a slough. Here Seely turned upon his foe. The gun was thrown off from its carriage by the discharge, but was quickly replaced, and taken to the village.

"Meanwhile a sailor named Johnson, E. D. Efner and a few others, went to a vessel, one of Perry's fleet, which lay beached on this side of the creek, near its mouth, and took off an iron 9-pounder, mounted upon a ship's truck, which they placed in Main street, opposite Church, and trained down Niagara street. Besides Johnson and Efner, the following persons assisted in serving this gun: Robert Kane, a mason by trade; Captain Hull, father of Mrs. O. G. Steele, and Absalom Hull, his brother. At the third round, one of the truck wheels broke; but they were loading it again, when Colonel Chapin, who thought resistance hopeless, and wished to give the people time for escape, rushed forward with a handkerchief, or as it is said, with a piece of his shirt, upon the end of his sword, and shouted, 'Don't fire that gun.'

"'I will fire it,' said Kane. 'I'll cleave to the earth the first man who touches it.'

"'I've shown a flag of truce;' replied Chapin, and started forward towards the enemy, who were by this time in the woods, upon what is now called Franklin Square. A parley took place, which resulted in Colonel Chapin surrendering the town, stipulating for the protection of private property; a stipulation by which General Riall refused to be bound, when he learned that Chapin was not in command, and was, therefore, without authority to treat with him.



"It was now ten o'clock. The day was bright, but cold. A heavy snow had fallen early in December, which still lingered in the woods, but the roads were bare. Most of the able-bodied men were with the troops. Through the long, dreary December 'night, the lonely women had heard the rattle of musketry, and at daybreak they gathered in groups, listening with throbbing hearts to the cannonading at the Rock. Presently, tidings of defeat flew through the town; and soon upon every road, leading towards the Indian settlement, were little processions of terrified villagers, fleeing from the savage foe, into the embrace of the wintry forest. Who shall tell what they suffered—those houseless fugitives, ignorant of the fate of father, husband, brother; by day, skulking through the forest, and at night, creeping under the friendly roof of some Indian hut!

"The British Indians had left the main column before it reached the village; and, swarming through the woods, came into Main street, near Tupper. A house, which stood on the northwest corner of Tupper and Delaware streets, was the first burned. A man, named Dill, lived there. Judge Tupper's house, on Main street, near the corner of Tupper, was the next. Opposite, above the residence of Mr. Andrew Rich, lived Samuel Helms; he was slain while attempting to escape, and his house burned. Going down the street, the torch was applied to every building they found. Mrs. Lovejoy was in her house, on the present site of the Phoenix. The night before, her husband had mounted his horse, and taking his trusty rifle, had gone to the Rock, to make such defence of his home as became a brave man. 'Henry,'\* said the bold-hearted woman to her little son, 'you have fought against the British; you must run. They will take you prisoner. I am a woman; they will not harm me.' The lad flew into the woods. His light footfalls had not faded from the mother's ear when a score of Indians, wild with whisky and the rage of battle, rush into the dwelling and commence to sack it. Confident in the great defence of her sacred sex, the careful housewife attempts to save her hard-earned treasures. Poor woman, thy sex is not sacred here! A tomahawk crushes into her brain, and she falls dead upon the floor of her desecrated home. On the other side of the road stands the house of sturdy Mrs. St. John, able to defend her castle against a legion of enemies, whether savage or civilized. What magic she used, or by dint of what prowess, we know not, but the storm of fire passes scathless over her roof. Two-thirds of the village is now in flames. The English, with their cruel allies, weary with the long march and continued fighting, retire to the Rock.

"In the night there is a fall of snow, and by daylight some of the fugitives return, preferring their savage foe to the inhospitable forest. Mrs. St. John receives some of them, and gives them a cup of tea. A few have gathered at Dr. Chapin's house, which is still standing, when the alarm is suddenly sounded, and once more the merciless invaders burst upon the remnant of the devoted village. The work of destruction is soon completed, and many of the returned villagers are captured. But four houses remain—that of Mrs. St. John; the jail; the frame of a barn, which stood where stands Mr. Callender's house, and Rees' blacksmith shop. \* \* \*

"The American General reported his loss—and, I suppose, his state-

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\* Henry Lovejoy was then about twelve years old, and carried a musket, and took part to the best of his ability in the defence of Black Rock on the 11th of July, of that year.

ment is confined to the army—at thirty killed, forty wounded, and sixty-nine taken prisoners. Among the slain were Major William C. Dudley, Adjutant Totman and Lieutenant-Colonel Boughton, who, I think, is the Sergeant Boughton who, the year before, escorted General Hall into the village, at the head of a detachment of the East Bloomfield Horse.

“The new year dawned upon homes desolated by fire, and upon scattered families; but the unflammable Buffalonians soon gave signs of life in the neighboring villages. The *Gazette* is printed in Williams-ville, where it remains until April 4th, 1815. Seth Grosvenor and Eli Hart open their stores, and Walden and Potter their law offices, in Williams-ville. The embers of Pomeroy’s house are not yet cold when he announces that his Eagle hotel is to rise, Phoenix-like, from its ashes. On April 5th, the *Gazette* announces that ‘Buffalo village, which once adorned the shores of Erie, and was prostrated by the enemy, is now rising again.’”

It was near the close of the campaign of 1812, that a riotous assault was made on Pomeroy’s hotel, causing intense excitement and considerable bloodshed. Among the troops assembled in Buffalo and vicinity in the last month of 1812, were six companies called “Federal Volunteers,” including two or three companies of “Irish Greens,” from Albany and New York, and one company of “Baltimore Blues,” from that city. Throughout the war there appears to have been considerable feeling between the soldiers and the citizens. The soldiers, especially those from other localities, claimed that they were ill-treated by those whom they came to defend, while the citizens asserted that the soldiers were unreasonable in their demands. Some difficulty of this nature had arisen between a portion of the soldiers and Mr. Ralph M. Pomeroy, who kept the hotel at the corner of Main and Seneca streets. Pomeroy was an athletic and somewhat rough-spoken man. At the time in question Pomeroy and the Captain of an Albany company became involved in a dispute, which is said to have originated in a demand by the officer or some of his men for liquor and food. The Captain drew his sword and drove the hotel keeper down stairs in his own house. Thereupon Pomeroy expressed the rash wish that the British would kill the whole infernal crowd of them. The few soldiers that were present then started for camp, and ere long an armed mob of “Baltimore Blues” and “Irish Greens” came down Main street. The hotel guests, including several army officers, were at dinner. The first notice they received of the approach of the mob, was when an axe came hurtling through a window, landing directly on the dinner table. The riotous soldiers then rushed into the hotel, drove the inmates out and began the destruction of everything in the house. Liquors were poured down their throats, provisions devoured, windows broken out and tables and chairs smashed. Colonel McClure, the commander of the men composing the mob, was present, but was powerless to control them. He mounted his horse and rode directly through the house, ordering

them to disperse, but all to no purpose. He then ordered out two other companies under his command, and marched them in front of the hotel; but they would make no effort to quell the riot.

Pomeroy ran and concealed himself in his barn. His wife's sister-in-law, who was in the house sick in bed, had to be carried upon it to a neighbor's house.

As the rioters progressed in their work of destruction, they became more and more furious. The bedding was carried into the second story of the house and set on fire; the destruction of the house was only averted by the courage of "Hank" Johnson,\* a white man who lived with the Cattaraugus Indians. He ascended a ladder and, although it was snatched from under him by the mob, managed to climb from it into a window and throw the burning articles into the street. At this juncture, some of the rioters saw Mr. Abel M. Grosvenor, who was a large man and somewhat resembled Pomeroy, passing on the street; the cry was raised, "Kill the d—d tory," and they chased him down the street until he fell; just as they were about to kill him, some of them made the discovery that it was not Pomeroy. The mob then proposed the destruction of the "Federal printing office," as they designated the *Gazette* office, and an era of wholesale destruction seemed about to begin.

But a power was interposed that the furious mob was compelled to recognize. Colonel Moses Porter, a veteran of thirty-six years service, whose command was encamped on Flint Hill, heard of what was occurring in the village. He promptly ordered out a detachment of artillery with a six-pound gun, and hurried them down Main street. The command was halted just above the hotel and the gun brought to bear on the building. The Colonel then sent a lieutenant and a squad of men with drawn swords to clear the house. This was accomplished but not without some resistance on the part of the mob, resulting in several of them being killed and wounded. Some of them jumped from the windows, and others were cut while hanging to the window sills, by the swords of the artilleryists. The conquered mob then started for their encampment swearing vengeance on Porter and his men. The veteran officer stationed his cannon at the junction of Main and Niagara street and for some time awaited their coming; but wiser counsels prevailed and order was restored. That no punishment whatever was inflicted upon these rioters, shows the prevailing lack of discipline at that time;

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\* It was Hank Johnson of whom the following story is told by Lewis F. Allen, to whom it was related by General Porter. After one of the frontier battles, word reached General Porter that the Indians, who were led in the fight by Johnson, were scalping the dead British soldiers. Johnson was brought before the General, who said to him:—

"This will not do, Johnson. It is not right to scalp these dead soldiers; it is hard on the poor fellows, and you must stop it; it is too hard."

Johnson's reply ended the interview. Said he, "Well, General, it may be hard, but I want you to remember that these are d—d hard times!"



that the *Gazette* contained not a word directly relating to the monstrous outrage also shows that the proprietors considered themselves in either a delicate or a dangerous position, or both.

Pomeroy left Buffalo and went to the Seneca village where he remained several days, and then closed his hotel for the winter, "in consequence of transactions too well known to need mentioning," as it was announced in his advertisement. Mr. Grosvenor, who came so near being sacrificed by the mob, went east soon after the event, and died within a few weeks.

A tragic incident occurred at the Black Rock ferry on the Canada side, early in the war. A number of persons from Buffalo went to the ferry at Black Rock, for the purpose of crossing to Canada. In the company were Dr. Josiah Trowbridge and Mr. Pomeroy. Mr. Brace, the ferryman, was averse to crossing on the cold December day, but Dr. Trowbridge's business on the other side was urgent. Although it was deemed somewhat hazardous to visit the other side, Mr. Brace saw a white flag flying there, and he finally consented to allow his brother-in-law, Arden Merrill, to ferry the party over. As the boat approached the Canada shore, two or three sleighs filled with men were seen approaching from below. No sooner had the passengers landed than they were seized as prisoners, with the exception of Dr. Trowbridge and Mr. Pomeroy, who fled to the woods. The boat started to return, when the British fired into it, killing Mr. Merrill; his body was afterwards discovered under a flag of truce, stripped of boots and watch. One of the passengers was never heard of again; one was taken prisoner and afterwards released at Halifax. Dr. Trowbridge and his companion made their way to Baxter's, six miles above the ferry, and there confiscated a boat against the remonstrances of the owner, who was not disposed to assist them in escaping, and arrived safely at Buffalo Creek. If there is any justification for this piece of work, it is difficult to discover it; it is a merciless enemy that does not respect a flag of truce.

The 30th day of December, 1813, was one of dire disaster and dismay to the inhabitants of the village. The campaign that preceded the firing of the place, has been fully described, with the flight of the inhabitants on that bleak winter day. Among the incidents directly connected with the burning of the village, that which resulted in the preservation of the dwelling of Mrs. St. John and the massacre of Mrs. Lovejoy is, perhaps, most conspicuous. Nearly opposite the site of the Tiff House stood the new hotel that Mr. St. John had erected before his unfortunate death, which has already been mentioned. Mrs. St. John had leased this building, but it was not yet occupied. She had moved into a small house just north of it, near the corner of Main and Mohawk streets, which also belonged to her husband's estate. Just opposite was the residence of Asaph S. Bemis, a son-in-law of Mrs. St. John. Near Mr. Bemis' dwell-

ing was the house of Joshua Lovejoy; he was then away from home. Mrs. St. John, believing the enemy would not reach the village, had made no preparations for departure. Mr. Bemis, who was just recovering from sickness, had hitched up his team for the purpose of removing his wife from possible danger. Mrs. St. John requested him to take her six younger children with him, while she with her two older daughters remained to pack up her household goods. Mr. Bemis did so, with the understanding that he should take the children out a mile or two and then return for the three women and the goods. Before this arrangement could be carried out, however, the enemy were in the village. The Indians came down Main street considerably in advance of the troops, which were drawn up near the corner of Morgan, Mohawk and Niagara streets, where Samuel Edsall's tannery then stood. Some of the British officers went ahead and stove in the heads of liquor casks, that the Indians might not become too drunk for their work, or too fiendish in their deeds. John Lay\* and Eli Hart then kept a store on Main street, between Swan and Erie; one of them went into his cellar before the Indians reached it, and smashed in several hogsheads of spirits, to prevent the savages from drinking it. It is apparent, however, that the Indians were licensed to follow their own inclinations in the destruction of the village.

Half a score of Indians now came running toward Mrs. St. John's house. Although she waved a table cloth as a flag of truce, they burst into the house and began plundering the trunks that had been packed. Four squaws in the party immediately secured a looking-glass and, with the instinct usually credited to the sex, stood grinning delightedly at the reflection of their unprepossessing faces. One of the ladies discovered that one Indian took no part in the plundering, and that he could talk a little English. She asked what would be done with them. "We not hurt you," he replied. "You be prisoner to the squaws. Perhaps they take you to the Colonel."

This answer presented a brighter prospect than the ladies had expected, and they immediately acquiesced in it. The Indian spoke to the squaws and they started off with their prisoners, down Mohawk to the corner of Niagara street, where the troops were still stationed. There the prisoners were taken before a British officer, supposed to have been Colonel Elliott, then in command of the Indians. Mrs. St. John informed him of her situation as a widow who had recently lost her husband and eldest son by a sad calamity, with a large family of children depending upon her, and besought his protection.

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\* Mr. Lay was taken prisoner that night and taken to Montreal. The last of the following March he was exchanged with others at Greenbush, opposite Albany. Mr. Lay was long a prominent business man of Buffalo, and traveled quite extensively in Europe after he retired from active life. One of his sons is the inventor of the well-known Lay torpedo boat.

“Well, what can I do for you?” asked the officer; “shall I take you to Canada?”

Mrs. St. John decidedly objected to this, but implored the officer to save her house and not allow it to be burned and plundered. After a little hesitation he assented and ordered two soldiers of the Royal Scots to accompany the ladies home and see that their house was not burned. They did so and remained on guard until the troops left in the afternoon.

Soon after the ladies returned to their home, they saw Mrs. Lovejoy across the street engaged in an altercation with an Indian over a shawl which he was trying to pull from her hands. One of the St. John girls ran out and called to Mrs. Lovejoy to let the Indian have the shawl and come over to their house where she would have the protection of the guard; she did not comply.

The flames soon began to burst from the houses in the main portion of the village in the vicinity of Main and Seneca streets, the torch being applied by a lieutenant and a squad of men.

A little later the St. John ladies were attracted to their windows by another disturbance across the street. Some Indians were again making an effort to enter Mrs. Lovejoy's dwelling, while she stood in the doorway barring their entrance. Suddenly a savage raised his knife, stabbed the woman to the heart and she fell upon the threshold. Her body was dragged into the yard, where it lay until after the departure of the troops in the afternoon, when Ebenezer Walden and the St. John girls carried it into the house and placed it on the bed. When the destruction of the village was completed on the 1st of January, the body of Mrs. Lovejoy was burned in her house.

It was on the “Guide-Board” road (which ran near the present line of North street) that Alfred Hodge was fleeing from the savages; he found himself unable to outstrip his pursuers and jumped over the fence where he was for a moment hid from view by a turn in the road, near the crossing of Delaware street. Hodge laid down behind a log and laid his rifle across it, prepared to sell his life as dearly as possible, if he was discovered. When the Indians came up, two of them stopped in the road but a short distance from him and looked about in every direction for their intended victim; but they failed to discover him. The Indians stood in range at one time and Hodge thought he could disable both at one shot, but they changed their position before he could get his aim. These two and other Indians who were in the vicinity, fired several shots at the crowd of fugitives that filed up Main street early in the day, wounding one or more and causing the throng to redouble their efforts to escape.

Dr. Chapin left for the field in the morning and told his two little girls, one eleven and the other nine years of age, to go to his farm in Hamburg, ten miles distant. Their only protector was to be Hiram



Pratt, son of Samuel Pratt, who was but thirteen years old, then living in Dr. Chapin's family. The three children set out in the snow. When they arrived at the Pratt homestead, Mary Pratt was induced to accompany them. At Smoke's creek the little party was overtaken by the Pratt family in a wagon, and Mary was taken on board; but Hiram Pratt and the two Chapin girls insisted on completing their long and trying journey on foot, and finally reached their destination in safety.\*

Before leaving the village, Captain Hull, the silversmith, packed his small stock of valuables in a pillow case. While waiting for some means of transporting his effects to a place of safety, a man came along on horseback. At Mr. Hull's request he consented to take charge of the valuables; accordingly, the pillow-case was fastened to the horn of the saddle. The stranger took such excellent care of the goods that their owner never saw them again.

The family of Samuel Pratt were equally unfortunate with their silverware, though in a different way. It had been packed up, but when they drove away in their wagon it was forgotten. After going a short distance, a little girl whom Mrs. Pratt was bringing up, proposed going back for the silver. This was forbidden by Mrs. Pratt; nevertheless, the girl climbed out of the rear end of the wagon unobserved, ran back, secured the silver, and was never again seen by the family.

It was during the fighting at Black Rock that Samuel Wilkeson, who was then in the ranks of Colonel McMahan's Chautauqua county regiment, was loading and firing as fast as possible, after the field was nearly deserted by his comrades. While thus busily engaged, his attention was attracted to a "small quiet man" near by, who was apparently endeavoring to load and fire faster than Wilkeson could. The small, quiet man soon looked around and exclaimed, "Why, we are all alone!" Wilkeson looked about him and made the same discovery; all but a very few of their comrades were in full retreat. The man whose acquaintance Mr. Wilkeson thus made for the first, was Ebenezer Walden; they were both subsequently Presiding Judges of Erie county.

While retreating up Main street, Job Hoysington, whose name has passed into history, said to his retreating comrades that he would have

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\* Notwithstanding the depressing gloom of these dark days of trouble, Cupid was busy as ever with his arrows, and on one occasion the altar of Hymen was reared in the hospitable shelter of the old Pratt mansion. It was while the pillage of Buffalo was going on, and in a most unceremonious manner, that Mr. Augustus C. Fox left a British officer in the cellar of Juba Storrs & Co.'s store. Emerging from the building, the young man mounted a horse and, with other belated fugitives, took rapid flight from the village. Overtaking a party encumbered with an extra conveyance, he bought it, with the necessary harness, on the spot. It was a "pung," a simple species of vehicle, extemporized by fastening a crockery crate on a pair of sled runners. Speeding on in this primitive chariot, he overtook the Pratt family and volunteered to relieve them of two individuals who formed part of their load. One of these was Miss Esther Pratt, then a charming young Miss. Young Fox saved his life in the retreat, but lost his heart, and the consequence was a wedding, which peaceful event took place the same day that peace was announced between the warring nations.—*Leitchworth's History of the Pratt Family.*

one more shot at the redskins, and in spite of their warnings, waited for that purpose. Nothing more was seen or heard of Job Hoyington until the snow disappeared in the spring, when his body was found on North street. A bullet had passed through his head and marks of a tomahawk were found on his skull. His empty rifle lay by his side, a silent witness that he had had his last shot at the Indians.

William Hodge, Sr., proprietor of the "brick tavern on the hill," would not entertain the idea that the Americans would be defeated, until he saw the militia hurrying past his house; he then began to realize that it was about time to prepare for removal and ordered his ox team hitched up. After making some final arrangements in the house and waiting impatiently for the arrival of the team at the door, Mr. Hodge came out only to make the discovery that the hired man had concluded that too much valuable time would be lost to him in the work of hitching up the oxen and had left for good by his own more rapid means of locomotion. Self-preservation was a ruling characteristic then, as well as now. Mr. Hodge persuaded the driver of an army-wagon to halt at his door a moment while the household goods were thrown in, with some bedding and provisions, followed by the family, and thus they were sent away. Mr. Hodge then yoked his oxen, piled into the cart as many of the remaining household articles as it would hold and followed after the army wagon. When Mr. Hodge returned the following day, even the liquor in his cellar was undisturbed; but his house was burned to the ground on the second day after.

All day on the 30th the roads leading through Williamsville and the Hamburg road—indeed, every road and pathway leading from the village, were thronged with a hurrying crowd of men, women and children, on foot and in a motley procession of vehicles—squads of soldiers, families in sleighs and wagons, women driving ox carts laden with portions of their household effects, mounted cavalymen, wearied women on foot with children in their arms—all inspired with the one idea of escaping from a merciless foe. "In many instances half-clad children, the wounded, the aged and infirm, were wading through snow, bands of able-bodied men often passing them, pitiless and unobserving, absorbed in deep concern for their own individual and especial safety. Here and there along the road, were feeble attempts to rally and stand; some resolute individuals would propose it and partially succeed; but on would come the idle rumor that the invaders were pushing their conquests, and the feeble barriers would give way, as does the momentary deposit in flood tide, and on, on would sweep the strong current of dismay, rout and flight."\* Mrs. Mather, one of the earliest residents of Buffalo, said that when she and her daughters started from the village on foot a little before daylight, "it was very dark; we could hear from

\* Turner's History of the Holland Purchase.

Black Rock the incessant roar of musketry, and see flashes of light rising above the intervening forest. When daylight came, the Buffalo road presented a sad spectacle of sudden flight, misery and destitution."

While selfishness was the rule in this wild rout, few giving thought to any one beyond their own families, there were some commendable exceptions. A farmer from Hamburg, with a load of cheese, met the fleeing crowd and immediately threw his precious cargo into the road, filled his sleigh with women and children and carried them to his own home. Job Hoysington's wife waited long and patiently at their home, corner of Main and Utica streets, for her husband to return; finally she was compelled to start on foot with her children. Two cavalymen overtook her and lifted two of the children to their saddles and rode away with them towards safety. Weeks afterwards one of them was found in Clarence and one in Genesee county. Families became separated and in some instances, were not united for weeks. It was a smaller "Bull Run," participated in by women and children.

The first house burned stood on the northwest corner of Tupper and Delaware streets; a man named Dill occupied it. Judge Tupper's house on Main street was the next one destroyed.

The following named residents of the village were captured by the enemy: Cyrenius Chapin, John Lay, Charles C. Wells, William Wilber, Rufus Botsford, Joseph D. Hoyt, Robert Keene, Timothy Strong, Benjamin Hodge, Jr., Daniel Baxter and Captain R. Harmon.

During the night of the 31st, after a day of silence and desolation at the ruined village there was a fall of snow and early the next morning a few of the fugitives returned to the ruins of Buffalo; the desolation and possible danger there seeming less inhospitable than the winter forest. Prowling thieves hung about the ruins until driven away by returning families, and carried off whatever they found that was valuable.

Dr. Chapin's house was one of the four dwellings that had thus far escaped the flames. Some of those who returned gathered at the Doctor's house and others found hospitable shelter at Mrs. St. John's dwelling. Suddenly a detachment of the enemy appeared and mercilessly fired the remaining buildings, with the exceptions heretofore noted—Mrs. St. John's cottage, the stone jail, which they could not burn, Reese's blacksmith shop and the frame of a barn. When the officer in command of the squad that completed the work of destruction, approached Mrs. St. John's home, she and her daughters begged him to not destroy the large hotel. The officer thereupon drew from his pocket an order commanding him to burn every building except "the one occupied by an old woman and two girls." The hotel was then fired. It is little wonder that the officer felt impelled to show some higher authority for his acts, than his own inclination.



On the day previous (the 31st) Ebenezer Walden had entered Mrs. Lovejoy's house and laid the murdered woman, attired in the black silk dress in which she was killed, on the bare cords of a bedstead. The presence of death itself made no difference to the invaders, they made a funeral pyre of the dwelling!

As the detachment of the enemy was about to depart, one of the soldiers informed the commandant that public stores were secreted at Hodge's "tavern on the hill." A squad of horsemen were immediately dispatched to burn it. Benjamin Hodge, Sr., was there with Mr. Keep, the blacksmith, at Cold Spring. They both started to run when the horsemen approached, and the sergeant ordered them to halt. Hodge stopped, but Keep continued to run a short distance, when he was shot and killed.

The village merchants had stored quite a large quantity of their goods at the tavern, and when these were discovered by the sergeant, although assured that it was not public property, he ordered the building set on fire. A few moments later, while the officer was filling his canteen from a cask of old Jamaica that he had discovered after the building was fired, the cry was raised, "The Yankees are coming!" The British soldiers hurriedly mounted and rode away. Adjutant Tottman, in command of some mounted Canadian volunteers, rode up. The adjutant galloped ahead to the side of the rearmost of the retreating horsemen, when he was instantly shot. Tottman's men soon after discovered a half-breed Indian setting fire to William Hodge's barn; he was captured, taken to Newstead and killed.

William Hodge returned from Harris Hill just behind Tottman and his men, and saw that his tavern, which he had hoped would be spared the flames, was in ashes. That was the last building burned.\* When the torch was applied to Buffalo, the hamlet at Black Rock was also burned, not a single building being left.

It is difficult at this day to realize the paralyzing effect that such a disaster as we have detailed, must have produced upon the people. In very many cases, nothing whatever was left them but the blackened ground whereon they had made their homes, and, what was still more saddening, from many of those homes some member had gone out to

\* "The Buffalonians slain were Job Hoysington, a carpenter and joiner, who lived on Church street, near Franklin; John Triskett, who cannot be identified; John Roop, father of Henry Roop, a teamster, of Dutch descent, but American birth, who lived on Main street above Tupper, and was shot while trying to escape; Samuel Helms, a German and an old bachelor, who deserves to be remembered by the epicures of Buffalo, as the first market gardener in the place; he raised the first lettuce, which he used to carry in a basket on his head, selling it from door to door; he it was, too, who dug the ditches to drain the morass south of the Terrace. N. D. Keep was killed by a British officer near Cold Spring. James Nesbit and — Myers I can find no trace of. The last was Robert Franklin, an aged negro, very black, who lived in a log hut on Niagara, opposite Jersey street. Whether the old negro died defending his home, I know not. His lifeless body was found near his house, and long remained unburied."—*Extract from William Dorshheimer's Paper.*

defend his hearthstone and would return no more. That under such discouragements those pioneers returned at all to build again the foundations of a city, is sufficient honor for them and their descendants.

Before the smoke had ceased to rise from the ruins of Buffalo, the dead bodies left upon the field were collected and laid out in ghastly array in the blacksmith shop; they were all frozen stiff, most of them had been stripped by the enemy, and scalped. Those belonging in the vicinity were taken away by their friends and the others were laid in one large grave in the old burying ground on Franklin Square.

Less than one week later, on the 6th of January, William Hodge brought his family back; that was the first family to return, and Ralph M. Pomeroy came immediately afterwards. William Hodge immediately rebuilt his dwelling and Mr. Pomeroy his hotel. Soldiers were stationed in the village and a feeling of comparative safety soon settled down upon the frontier. A few other citizens came back and fitted up temporary shelters for themselves and families, but there was no general return until the following spring. Twice during the winter small detachments of the enemy crossed the river, but they were driven back by the soldiers then stationed there, without much fighting. Most of the people who returned had little to live on except what was issued to them from the commissary department of the army. There would have been much suffering, but for the help of about \$50,000 voted by the Legislature and some contributions from other localities; with this and aid from the commissary, those who remained on the frontier passed the remainder of the gloomy winter.

On the 4th of June, 1814, five soldiers were brought into Buffalo to be shot for desertion. The execution took place near what is now the corner of Maryland and Sixth streets, and was long remembered as a strikingly tragic scene. The unfortunate victims of martial law were made to kneel upon the ground, their eyes bandaged and each with his coffin in front and an open grave behind him. Twenty paces in front of them a platoon of men were drawn up as the executioners. The entire army was then formed on three sides of a hollow square to witness the execution. The artillery stood by their guns with lighted matches, to suppress any possible opposing demonstration, and Generals Scott, Brown, and Ripley overlooked the scene from their horses.

When the firing squad had poured the contents of their muskets upon the victims, four of the five men fell beside their coffins, while one, a young man of twenty-one, sprang to his feet, wrenched the cords from his arms and then tore the bandage from his eyes. Two soldiers advanced to fire upon him when he, supposing his last moment on earth had arrived, fell fainting to the ground. He was carried away and his life spared. Whatever was the reason for the action, the muskets of those soldiers who had received orders to fire at him, were loaded with blank cartridges.

Another incident that seems to be worthy of preservation, occurred at Buffalo on the 31st of July, 1814. On that day a Chippewa Indian who claimed to be a deserter, came across the river. His story was not fully credited by the Senecas, but they permitted him to remain among them and invited him to freely share the contents of a bottle of whisky. Under the influence of the liquor, the Senecas began relating their deeds of valor in the war, and boasting of the number of red-coats and British Indians they had slain at the battle of Chippewa. The visitor, heedless of the part he was attempting to play, also began boasting of the number of his victims, and held up his fingers to indicate how many Yankees and Yankee Indians he had killed, mentioning among them the noted chief and friend of Farmer's Brother, "Twenty Canoes." Farmer's Brother was then at the bedside of Captain Worth, of General Scott's staff, who was lying at Landon's tavern recovering from a wound received at Lundy's Lane, and for whom the Indian chief had formed a strong friendship. When the Chippewa Indian boasted that he had killed "Twenty Canoes," the Senecas at once denounced him as a spy. The altercation that followed reached the ears of Farmer's Brother and he came out of the tavern and inquired the cause. When he was informed of the facts, he grasped his war club, walked up to the Chippewa and felled him to the earth. For a moment the Indian lay stunned and then sprang up and bounded away, the blood streaming down his face. The Senecas cried out:—

"Ho, coward! Dare not stay and be punished. Coward!" The Chippewa stopped and then slowly retraced his steps, drew his blanket over his head and laid down beside the wall of a burned building. A rifle was handed to Farmer's Brother, who walked to the side of the spy and said:—

"Here are my rifle, my tomahawk and my scalping knife; by which will you die?"

The Indian chose the rifle. The Chief then asked him where he preferred to be shot. The victim placed his hand on his heart, upon which Farmer's Brother held the muzzle of the rifle at that point and fired. Four young Senecas carried the body to the edge of the wood some distance east of Main street and there left it.\* This account is condensed from "Johnson's History of Erie County"; other versions of the same event have been given by other writers. The execution of the Indian occurred about in front of the site of Barnum, Son & Co.'s store, on Main street.

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\* In an autobiographical sketch by Mr. Orlando Allen, he gives a somewhat different version of this incident, as it was related to him by an eye-witness. He states that the spy was made to lie down, when Farmer's Brother took the loaded gun and proceeded to address the culprit upon the enormity of his offense, after which he said, "You are about to die the death of a dog; I am going to kill you now," and immediately fired, shooting the Indian through the head. Mr. Allen found a skull in the summer of 1820, on a clear grass plat in the woods not far from where Seneca street is crossed by Chicago street, which he thought was that of the Indian spy. It had a bullet hole in it and a cut apparently made by a tomahawk. The skull was examined by a number of old settlers, who concurred in the opinion that it was the remains of the Chippewa spy.



The departure of the enemy from the American shore on the first day of the year 1814, had left a scene of desolation that would have filled with despair any heart less self-reliant and hopeful than those of the pioneers of Erie county. A hundred houses, with numerous other buildings, most of which were scattered along Main street from Goodell street to the site of the Mansion House, had been reduced to ashes, and more than five hundred people left homeless in midwinter. Where before that tragic event stood a thriving village, bearing all the evidences of a promising future, was left a scene of devastation and ruin where not a living thing could be seen.\*

A gentleman writing to his friend in Oneida county gave the following description of the devastated frontier, which was published in the *Buffalo Gazette* of February 1, 1814:—

“I have visited the smoking ruins of the once pleasant, delightful and flourishing village of Buffalo. Black Rock, Manchester, Lewiston and the whole frontier, which were, not long since, enjoyed by hundreds of families, now present a scene of desolation; all swept by the besom of destruction. The wretched tenants of this whole frontier have been driven from their homes in the severity of winter; many, in their haste to snatch their wives and children from the tomahawk and scalping knife, were enabled to preserve but little of their effects from the flames; and many, whose houses were not burned by the enemy, after having abandoned their dwellings to escape the ravages of their foe, returning after the alarm was over, found that their effects were plundered by the villains who prowl about the deserted country, too cowardly to face an enemy of inferior force, and base enough to rob their neighbors of the property the enemy had spared. It would make your heart ache to see the women and children of the country fleeing from their homes and firesides, to encounter the wintry blast, and all the miseries of a deprivation of all the necessaries and comforts of life.” \* \* \*

Harris Hill, or Harris' Tavern, about fourteen miles from Buffalo, near Williamsville, was made a sort of headquarters for the business men who had been burned out. The *Gazette* informs us that Seth Grosvenor had removed from the “former flourishing village of Buffalo, to Harris' Tavern.” H. B. Potter opened his office there. Eli Hart removed his goods to Williamsville, where Ebenezer Walden also opened his office. Root & Boardman also located “one door east of Harris' Tavern, and fourteen miles from the ruins of Buffalo.”

On the 25th of January, under date of “Buffalo Ruins,” J. Root advertised in the *Gazette* as follows:—

“Stolen from the subscriber, two fat shoats, supposed to weigh about seventy pounds each. They were taken from the ruins of the village of Buffalo on the 12th or 13th, by some of the cowardly, light-fingered iron-mongers, or some other savages,” etc.

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\* James Sloan and Samuel Wilkeson came down the lake shore a few days after the village was burned, and “the only living thing they saw between Pratt's Ferry on the creek, and Cold Spring, was a cat roaming disconsolate among the charred ruins.”

R. B. Heacock also announced the loss of twenty or thirty grindstones by the heartless thieves.

It was but a short time after the burning of the village that, in spite of the fact that the war was not yet ended and that it was midwinter, some of the resolute pioneers returned and began the work of rebuilding their ruined homes. On the 6th of January, just a week after the conflagration, as before stated, William Hodge returned, bringing his family with him. About the same time Ralph M. Pomeroy also returned and began immediately the erection of his hotel. In the *Gazette* of February 22d, Pomeroy made the following quaint announcement:—

“BUFFALO PHOENIX.—R. M. Pomeroy begs leave to inform the public, and his old customers in particular, that he is again erecting his tavern among the ruins of Buffalo. He calculates by the first of March to be prepared to receive and wait on company.” [Then follows a call for the payment of what is due him.] “Come on then, men of New York; let not snow or rain deter you; come in companies, half companies, pairs or singly; ride to the place if the distance be too far, and pay me dollars, half-dollars, shillings and sixpennys.”

The latter half of the winter of 1813-'14 was a time of great privation, distress and fear among those who had been rendered homeless. The suffering would have been greatly aggravated but for the timely appropriation of about \$50,000 before referred to, and the liberal contributions from other public and private sources. Rumors of impending night attacks by the enemy were often heard by the settlers who had returned to Buffalo, and several times their goods were packed up for immediate removal.

With the opening of spring, however, Buffalo put on new life. More of the former residents returned, and with the advent of the army in April, a large trade sprang up and a feeling of comparative safety animated the people. In place of the former buildings, many board shanties were erected along Main and Pearl streets. One stood on the site of the First Presbyterian church, and another where St. Paul's now stands. Money was scattered freely by the soldiers, and business flourished; high prices were received for almost all kinds of merchandise and provisions.

Charles Townsend, S. Tupper, Ebenezer Walden, Jonas Harrison, H. B. Potter, S. Grosvenor, Joseph Landon and Ebenezer Johnson were appointed a Committee of Investigation to appraise losses by the war. Sufferers were notified to meet at the house of A. P. Harris, Monday, March 7th, and prove their losses. The *Gazette* of April 5th, said:—

“Buffalo village which once adorned the shores of Erie and was prostrated by the enemy, is now rising again; several buildings are already raised and made habitable; contracts for twenty or thirty more are made and many of them are in considerable forwardness. A brick company has been organized by an association of most enterprising and public-spirited citizens, with sufficient capital for the purpose of

rendering the price of brick so reasonable that the principal streets may be built up of that article. All that is required to re-establish Buffalo in its former prosperity, are ample remuneration from government, and peace; peace, if not obtained by negotiation, must be obtained by a vigorous prosecution of the war. Buffalo has its charms—the situation, the prospect and the general health of the inhabitants, to which we may add the activity and enterprise of the trade, the public spirit of the citizens and the state of society, all conspire to render it a chosen spot for the man of business or pleasure.”

Samuel Wilkeson, who had already done valiant service in the army and was destined to make himself one of the foremost men of the place, returned to Buffalo in April, 1814. He was then but thirty-one years old. He put up a small building one door from the corner of Niagara street on Main street, in which he began business. This dwelling he erected on the north side of Main street.\*

The directors of the first brickyard company, to which reference has been made, were Ebenezer Walden, Charles Townsend, S. Tupper, Benjamin Caryl and S. Grosvenor. In April they called for laborers to work in the yard.

Holden Allen, father of Captain Levi Allen, who now lives in Buffalo, leased the cottage of Mrs. St. John, very soon after the burning. He then erected about two hundred feet of rough shanties, extending along southward from the cottage, without floors and fitted with rude bunks filled with straw. In these temporary quarters, assisted by his wife, he accommodated to the best of his ability, the people who desired to stop on the site of the burned village.

April 25th, Eli Hart had opened near his old stand, and Seth Grosvenor announced that he had “once more established himself in Buffalo in a new house where the printing office of the Salisburys stood,” where he offered dry goods. H. B. Potter came back and located in the house of F. Miller. Dr. Ebenezer Johnson returned in April.

The *Gazette* of May 3d, stated that the “greatest activity and enterprise continues in Buffalo in building up and improving the place.” The county clerk’s office was removed to Miller’s house and the collector’s office brought from Batavia.

May 10th, the *Gazette* announced that the postoffice would be for the present at Judge Granger’s house, but “in a short time it will be removed to the village.”

By the 20th of the month there were twenty-three houses built, most of which were occupied by families; three taverns were in operation, four stores, twelve grocers and other shops, three offices and thirty huts and shanties.

General Scott arrived on the frontier on the 10th of April; and towards the last of May made his headquarters at Buffalo, where a large

\*See biography in subsequent pages.



force of the army gathered and went into camp amid the ruins, giving a still greater impetus to trade.

In the *Gazette* of June 7th, notice was given that the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas had appointed the house of John Brunson as the temporary court house. This building stood where the Academy of Music is now located. It was a wooden tavern and was afterwards known as the Farmer's Hotel.

During the month of June, Andrews & Hopkins established the cabinet-making business at the house of Mrs. Adkins, and Juba Storrs opened his store in the same house. Mrs. Adkins' dwelling must have been either a commodious one, or uncomfortably crowded.

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## CHAPTER III.

### THE SECOND BUFFALO AS A VILLAGE.

Peace—General Rejoicing over the Event—Departure of the Army from Buffalo—The Second Newspaper—Prominent Arrivals—Rebuilding of the Village—Revival of Business—Opening of the Courts—Brickyard Established—A Period of "Hard Times"—The Canal Project—Incorporation of the Village—New Ordinances Passed—Last Relic of Slavery—Population in 1820—The Harbor Project—How the Work was Done—The Terminus of the Canal—Rivalry between Black Rock and Buffalo—Final Settlement of the Question in Favor of Buffalo—Millard Fillmore—Completion of the Canal—The Village in 1825—The Buffalo Hydraulic Company—Jubilee Water Works—A Disastrous Fire—A Young City—List of Purchasers of Lots of the Holland Company.

WITH the restoration of peace, the news of which reached Western New York early in 1815, the history of what may properly be called the second Buffalo should begin, although previous to that time and since the burning of the first village, considerable had been done towards re-building the place.

The brilliant sortie planned and executed by General Porter and his followers, and the consequent fall of Fort Erie on the 17th of September, 1814, virtually ended the war on the Niagara frontier; and when in the following January, the news of the signing of the treaty of Ghent reached Buffalo, a general shout of congratulation and thankfulness went up on all sides. Emigration westward received a new impetus and Buffalo shared largely in the results. The troops that had been stationed in the vicinity were withdrawn, the last of them taking their departure during the night of July 2d, and little was left but the scars of battle and fire to indicate that war with all its terrors and hardships, had so recently

swept over the frontier. A salute was fired at Black Rock upon the restoration of peace, and there was an era of general rejoicing. General Porter, who had borne so conspicuous a part in the war, was banqueted at Canandaigua and Batavia, and enthusiastic compliments were showered upon him by the press and people.\* Buffalo began to rise from its ashes more rapidly.

The second newspaper was established in April, and in the columns of that and the *Gazette* were chronicled many new business enterprises and numerous arrivals of men who afterwards became prominent in business and political life. Dr. John E. Marshall came from Chautauqua county and settled in Buffalo in the spring of 1815. He soon occupied a foremost position in the ranks of her citizens. He first located at the house of Jonas Harrison. In March, Dr. Trowbridge informed the public that he had taken the house formerly occupied by E. Hart. Townsend & Coit removed that month to "their old stand next north of S. & S. K. Grosvenor." Charles D. Eaton opened a general store in April. Underhill & Dann began business opposite the Grosvenors, and Vosburgh & Barron started the saddlery business opposite "the printing office."

The *Gazette* of April 17th, announces that Albert H. Tracy had opened an office over E. Hart & Co.'s brick store.†

Ralph Plumb opened a general store in Buffalo in June, 1815, and in July the first milliner made her appearance in the person of Mrs. Kagle. John Wagstaff opened the first tinware establishment in August, "a few rods east of E. Hart & Co."

In July, 1815, the *Gazette* boasted that there were as many houses erected in Buffalo, or in process of erection, as were burned a year and a half before. Building was also begun with vigor at the future rival of Buffalo—Black Rock.

A pottery was established in 1815, near Cold Spring, by Armond Parsons, and the first tannery was started the same year in that vicinity, by Jacob Morrison.

\* General Porter has been characterized as "the first distinguished leader of American volunteers against a disciplined foe." In recognition of his services he was tendered the position of Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army at the close of the war, by President Madison, but declined. He is certainly entitled to rank as a great military commander, and he was no less honored and successful in civil life. He was twice elected to Congress and was made Secretary of War by President Adams in 1828, the first cabinet officer in Western New York. He was also Secretary of State in 1815, and in 1816 was made one of the Commissioners to determine the boundary between the United States and the British Possessions. General Porter died at his residence at Niagara Falls, on the 20th of March, 1844, at the age of seventy-two years.

† Mr. Tracy was then a young lawyer only twenty-two years old, "tall, straight, vigorous and brilliant in intellect, and thoroughly cultured." He soon became one of the most prominent and successful politicians in the State; was elected to Congress in 1818, by a heavy majority, when he was only twenty-five years old, and was re-elected in 1820. A somewhat celebrated political circle consisted of Mr. Tracy, Dr. Marshall, James Sheldon and a few others, who wielded considerable power and were known as the "Kremlin Junta." Mr. Tracy was elected State Senator in the fall of 1829, by the Anti-Masons; was re-elected in 1833, and retired from public life the following year, at the age of forty-four. He died September 19, 1859.

On the 20th of April the courts were ordered to be held at the house of Gilman Folsom, "at present occupied by Moses Baker & Co., in the village of Buffalo." This house stood on the east side of Main street, between Mohawk and Genesee streets. There all courts were held until the new court house was finished late in the following year. The new structure was erected under an act of Legislature passed on the 17th of April, 1816, by which the State loaned to the county \$5 000; Joseph Landon, Samuel Tupper and Jonas Williams were the commissioners named to superintend the construction of the new edifice. The village authorities resolved to continue Washington street directly through the circle on which the first court house stood; this was done and the county acquired title to the portion of it left on both sides of the street. The new court house was built on the part of the block lying east of Washington street, between Batavia and Clinton streets. In the *Gazette* of September 24, 1816, the following announcement was printed:—

"The walls of the court house, which was commenced in the early part of the season, are erected; we learn that the carpenter and joiner work of the building are progressing. If the house is finished in the style it has commenced, it will be an ornament to the village; uniting elegance with durability, and will be creditable to the judgment and taste of the commissioners."

The summer of 1816 is remembered to this day as "the cold summer." Its effects were seriously felt in Buffalo, through the failure of crops in the surrounding towns. The trade that had fallen off largely with the departure of the army, was now still further reduced, and an era of hard times began that effectually retarded the growth of Buffalo for a period of five years. While money was plenty, many had become involved in debt, which they now found themselves unable to pay. Flour sold in Buffalo at fifteen dollars a barrel and other provisions were comparatively high in price. The *Gazette* of August 20th, stated that there was "not a barrel of breadstuff in the village for sale." Mr. Sheldon Ball wrote in 1825, that "a scene of insolvency ensued, more distressing, if possible, than even the destruction of the village."

But a project was already being revived, which was destined to put new life into the stagnant village—the construction of a "grand canal" across the State from Lake Erie to the Hudson river, with its western terminus at either Buffalo or Black Rock. The first survey for this great waterway was made from Buffalo to the Genesee in the summer of 1816, and the work was thereafter pushed ahead with vigor, as has been detailed in the preceding volume; but it was not till 1820 that Buffalo and Black Rock were very materially affected by the prospect of an early completion of the canal.

The first movement towards the incorporation of the village of Buffalo, was the passage of an act by the Legislature April 2, 1813; but the



exciting events of that year prevented a consummation of the object. The following year another similar attempt was made and with a like result; the trustees named in the act failed to organize. In April, 1816, a third act was passed under which the incorporation of the village was effected. Oliver Forward, Charles Townsend, Heman B. Potter, Ebenezer Walden, Jonas Harrison and Samuel Wilkeson were named as the trustees. In April, 1822, another act of incorporation was passed, extending the powers of the village authorities and repealing all former acts of incorporation. Ordinances were passed about the last of the year 1816, providing for better security against fire, and the village trustees were authorized to ascertain the practicability of procuring a supply of water by means of the water courses, streams and reservoirs. Twenty-five ladders were ordered made within thirty days and all owners of houses were required to provide "one good leathern bucket for each house, store or shop;" to cause their chimneys to be swept and in the future to build all funnels of chimneys large enough for chimney-sweepers to go through them. This action was undoubtedly caused by a fire, as George Badger, in the newspapers of December 17th, publicly thanked the citizens for assistance rendered him at his late fire. Another ordinance was passed about the same time authorizing the raising of a tax of \$1,400. On the 26th of July, 1820, ordinances were passed to prevent the selling of damaged meat in the village; ordering the removal of dead animals beyond the city limits; prohibiting the discharge of fire-arms; abating the production of nuisances of all kinds: ordering slaughter-houses to be kept under the inspection of the trustees; prohibiting the beating of drums and blowing of fifes in the streets; fast driving and leading of horses on the sidewalks. On the 10th of June, 1822, an ordinance was passed to prevent the obstruction of the streets with buildings, lumber, teams, earth, etc.; July 15th, an ordinance was passed prohibiting the selling of liquor to Indians and intoxicated persons. Penalties, usually of small fines, were imposed in all cases of infraction of these village laws. These measures for the government of the village were, of course, followed by many others similar in character, which need not be referred to in detail.

As an indication that the people were laboring under a general depression of business and scarcity of money, we may mention that a meeting was called for the 12th of October, 1819, at Cook's\* inn, (where the Tift House now stands,) to take into consideration the pecuniary embarrassments of the county; whether anything effectual was accomplished at this meeting, does not appear.

Under the law of 1818, by which the gradual abolition of slavery was decreed, and which provided that young slaves might be brought from other States, provided their owners filed an affidavit that such slaves would not be held in bondage beyond the ages of twenty-eight

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\* Raphael Cook, the well known and successful inn-keeper, died in Buffalo, April 15, 1821,

years if males, and twenty-five years if females, General Porter and his southern wife, Mrs. Grayson, daughter of John C. Breckinridge, brought five young slaves to Black Rock in 1820. The affidavits of Mr. and Mrs. Porter appear in the pages of the old town book of Buffalo. As late as July, 1820, a black servant girl was advertised at auction in Buffalo, with other property, by Jonas Harrison—the last flickering embers of slavery in the county. That was only about sixty years ago, and even a year later the wolves were so troublesome not very far from Buffalo, that the bounty on their scalps was raised, while ten years later, William Hodge, as he states, shot deer near the site of the Insane Asylum, and as far south as the Normal School!

Orlando Allen, for many years a prominent and honored citizen of Buffalo, came here in 1819, and entered the office of Dr. Cyrenius Chapin to learn the mysteries of medicine; he was then sixteen years of age.\*

In 1820 the population of the entire township of Buffalo had reached but 2,095, including, of course, Black Rock. Most of the business of Buffalo was then done between Exchange street and the court house park. Among the stores and shops on Main street were many dwellings, and others were scattered along Ellicott, Washington, Pearl and Franklin streets; a few houses also were located on the cross streets. Where is now built up the north-eastern portion of the city, was low ground that had not even been tilled, and the boys and girls of the village went to a place not very far up Genesee street, where there was a log causeway, to pick blackberries. The irregular line of the forest came down to within from forty to a hundred rods of Main street, as far southward as Cold Spring. About this time a spring near Delaware street and just north of Virginia, was made the rendezvous of a squirrel hunting party led by Frederick B. Merrill and Joseph Clary. That spot was selected because there the woods extended as far eastward as Delaware street, affording the party a grateful shade.

As early as November 15, 1816, a meeting was held at Pomeroy's tavern, to "take into consideration the improvement of the harbor." The bar across the mouth of the creek was impassable for vessels of any considerable size, the water at times not being more than two feet deep. The twenty-five or thirty small sloops and schooners then composing the lake marine, were compelled to lay off from the port half a mile or more, or else run down to Black Rock and anchor below the rapids. Most of the lake disasters that occurred in the vicinity were charged directly to the entire lack of harbor improvements. The light-house at the mouth of the creek was finished in July, 1818, and on the 23d of August, the new steamer, *Walk-in-the-Water*, succeeded, with the aid of Captain Sheldon Thompson's "horn breeze," in making her passage up the rapids

\* See biographic sketch in later pages.

and into the lake: this last named event rendered the necessity of a harbor still more apparent.

The citizens of Buffalo now saw that the future growth and importance of the village depended largely upon the immediate construction of a harbor, and various schemes were discussed for the accomplishment of the object—among the plans suggested were a lottery; the formation of an incorporated company; and a petition to the government for aid. This agitation led to the organization of what was known as the Buffalo Harbor Company, in the spring of 1819, comprising originally nine of the foremost men of the village, as follows: Jonas Harrison, Ebenezer Walden, H. B. Potter, J. G. Camp, Oliver Forward, A. H. Tracy, Ebenezer Johnson, E. F. Norton, and Charles Townsend.

These gentlemen applied to the Legislature for the passage of a law (finally passed April 17, 1819,) by the provisions of which the State agreed to loan the Harbor Company \$12,000, provided the amount was secured by individual bonds and mortgages of the members of the company for twice the amount of the loan. If the harbor, when completed, proved acceptable to the State authorities, the bonds were to be canceled; otherwise the company would have to pay the bonds and be reimbursed from future tolls. The managers of the company declined to accept this proposition, with the exception of Charles Townsend, (with whom was associated George Coit) and Oliver Forward.\* They were joined by Samuel Wilkeson towards the last of 1819, the offer of the State was accepted and the bonds were made. Mr. Wilkeson had, for some reason, declined to join the original company.†

The money was received from the State, and in the spring of 1820, the first work on the harbor was commenced. A superintendent was secured at fifty dollars a month; but he was retained but a short time. After looking in vain for a more suitable man than the first, Mr. Wilkeson himself accepted the superintendency, to the neglect of his personal business.

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\* "Finding that none of the original Company excepting Townsend and Forward would join in making the security to the State, and that the appropriation would lapse if much more time was lost, I agreed to join those gentlemen in making the security."—*Judge Wilkeson.*

† After William Peacock had completed his survey of Buffalo Creek, with reference to the construction of a harbor, as described in the accompanying extracts from Judge Wilkeson's writings, he made a favorable report in which he advised the construction of a stone pier extending into the lake nine hundred feet, at a cost of \$12,787; this would give a depth of thirteen feet of water. (It is now claimed by practical men that such a pier would have cost half a million dollars.) In opposition to Mr. Peacock's report and to the Buffalo Harbor scheme as a whole, a correspondent of the *Albany Argus*, of February 19, 1819, writing over the signature "Projector," ridiculed Buffalo Creek as a future harbor. "Two schooners can barely pass each other there," he wrote, and then proceeded to demonstrate the feasibility of constructing a mile wall with a lock of four feet lift at Black Rock, to overcome the current of the rapids. He would have sold lots on Grand Island, (then the property of the State) to secure a return of the investment. A bridge from the island was to connect it with the "City of Erie," which would spring up where Black Rock then stood. This was but one of hundreds of schemes that were advanced by the advocates of a harbor at either village.





GEORGE COIT.



Some years before the death of Judge Wilkeson, he wrote and published a series of eight brief papers giving a detailed history of the construction of the first harbor and the steps that led to it. These papers bear the impress of impartiality upon their face; they are written by the man who, perhaps, was better informed upon the subject than any other person; they are vivid descriptions of an event that, at least at that period; controlled to a great extent the immediate future of Buffalo. These facts give this series of papers a degree of interest that prompt their publication, almost entire, in this work, especially as they are not now easily accessible to the general public. Judge Wilkeson wrote as follows:—

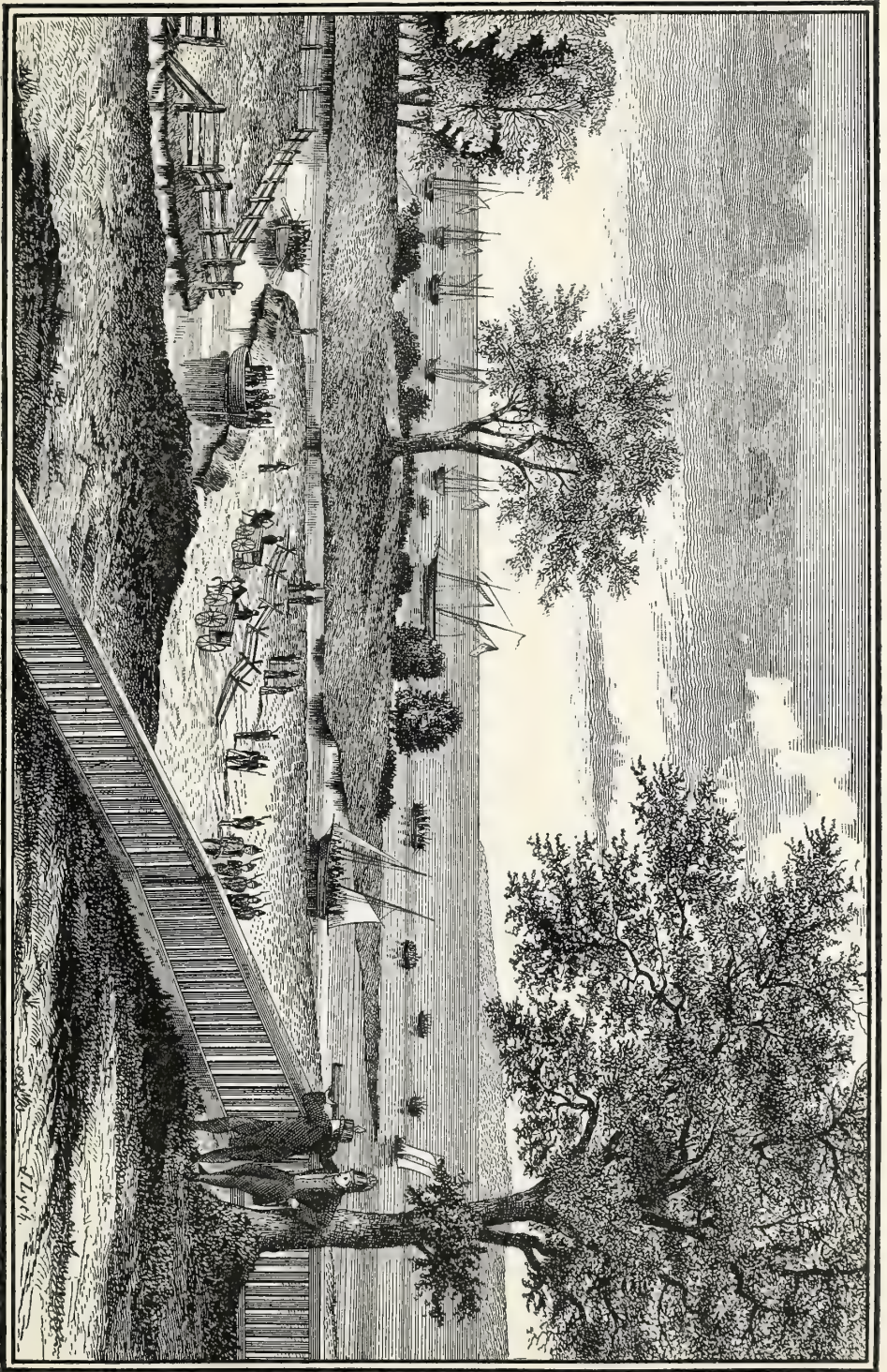
“The war which had swept over our frontier had impoverished the inhabitants of the little place, that has since grown into the City of the Lakes. Their property had been destroyed, they were embarrassed by debts contracted in rebuilding their houses which had been burned by the enemy; they were without capital to prosecute to advantage mechanical or mercantile employments; without a harbor or any means of participating in the lake trade, and were suffering with the country at large, all the evils of a deranged currency. In the midst of these accumulated embarrassments, the construction of the Erie canal was begun and promised help, however distant might be the time of its completion, Buffalo was to be its terminating point;—and when the canal was completed, our village would become a city. But no craft larger than a canoe could enter Buffalo creek. All forwarding business was done at Black Rock, and the three or four small vessels that we owned in Buffalo received and discharged their cargoes at that place. A harbor was then indispensably necessary at the terminus of the canal; and unless one could be constructed at Buffalo before the western section of the canal was located, it might terminate at Black Rock. This was the more to be apprehended, as an opinion prevailed that harbors could not be made on the lakes at the mouths of the rivers. But a harbor we were resolved to have. Application was accordingly made to the Legislature for a survey of the creek, and an act was passed on the 10th of April, 1818, authorizing the survey and directing the Supervisors of the county of Niagara to pay \$3 a day to the surveyor and to assess the amount to the county. The survey was made by the Hon. William Peacock, during the summer of that year, gratuitously. Then came the important question, where to get the money to build this harbor. At that day no one thought of looking to Congress for appropriations, and there was no encouragement to apply to the Legislature of the State; the citizens could not raise the means, however willing they might have been. A public meeting was called and an agent (the Hon. Charles Townsend) was appointed to proceed to Albany and obtain a loan. Jonas Harrison, Ebenezer Walden, H. B. Potter, J. G. Camp, Oliver Forward, A. H. Tracy, Ebenezer Johnson, E. F. Norton and Charles Townsend were the applicants. Judge Townsend, after a protracted effort succeeded, and an act was passed, April 17, 1819, authorizing a loan to the above mentioned persons and their associates of \$12,000, for twelve years, to be secured on bond and mortgage to double that amount, and applied to the construction of a harbor, which the State had reserved the right to take when completed, and to cancel the securities. The year 1819 was



one of general financial embarrassment, and no where was the pressure or want of money more sensibly felt than in the lake country. It had no market, and its produce was of little value. Some of the associates became embarrassed and others discouraged. The summer passed away, and finally all refused to execute the required securities, except Judge Townsend and Judge Forward. Thus matters stood in December, 1819. Unless the condition of the loan should be complied with, the appropriation would be lost, and another might not be easily obtained; for the project of a harbor at Black Rock, and the termination of the canal at that place, was advocated by influential men, and the practicability of making a harbor at the mouth of Buffalo creek was seriously questioned. At this crisis, Judge Wilkeson who had declined being one of the original company, came forward and, with Messrs. Townsend and Forward, agreed to make the necessary securities. This was perfected during the winter of 1820—each individual giving his several bond and mortgage for \$8,000. The money thus loaned was received in the spring. By an arrangement between the parties, it was disbursed by Judge Townsend. An experienced harbor-builder was to be obtained to superintend the work. One was engaged who had acquired reputation in improving the navigation of some river down east. He was to receive \$50 per month. Under his advice, a contract was made for a hundred cords of flint stone from the Plains, at \$5 per cord, and four hundred hemlock piles, from twenty to thirty-six feet long at thirty-one cents each. While the stone and piles were being delivered, the superintendent with several carpenters, was employed in building a pile-driving machine and scow. An agent was dispatched to the nearest furnace (which was in Portage county, Ohio,) to provide the hammer and machinery.

“Mr. Townsend, with much solicitude, continued to watch the movements of the superintendent for a few weeks, making himself fully acquainted with his plans and management. He became satisfied that the superintendent, if not incompetent, was not such an economist as our limited means required, and that if we retained him, the money would be spent without getting a harbor. The Judge was decided that it was better to abandon the work than to pursue it under the then existing arrangements. His associates concurring, the superintendent was discharged; but no substitute could be obtained. West Point engineers were scarce at that time, and if one could have been found, \$12,000 would have been but a small sum in his hands. The situation of the company was embarrassing. Private property had been mortgaged to raise the money, nearly \$1,000 had been spent in preparations to commence a work that neither of the associates knew how to execute, nor could any one be found, experienced in managing men, who would undertake the superintendence. Mr. Townsend was an invalid and consequently unable to perform the duty. Mr. Forward was wanting in the practical experience that was necessary. Mr. Wilkeson had never seen a harbor, and was engaged in a business that required his unremitting attention; but rather than the effort should be abandoned he finally consented to undertake the superintendence.

“Having abandoned his own private business, Mr. Wilkeson called his men out to work the next morning by daylight—without suitable tools, without boats, teams or scows. Neither the plan of the work, nor its precise location were settled. But the harbor was commenced. Two



VIEW OF LAKE ERIE AND THE BAY FROM BUFFALO IN 1816.



plans had been proposed for the work; one, by driving parallel lines of piles, and filling up the intermediate space with brush and stone, and the other by a pier of hewn timber filled with stone. The latter plan was adopted, and the location of the pier having been settled, the number of laborers was increased, and contracts immediately made for suitable timber and stone, to be delivered as fast as they might be required. In the meantime, the timber intended for the piles was used in the construction of cribs, three of which were put down the first day. The first two days after commencing the work, the lake was calm; but the succeeding night a heavy swell set in; the waves acting on the outside of the crib, forced the sand and gravel from under them, sinking the ends of some, the sides of others, and throwing them out of the line—the whole presenting a most discouraging appearance. Fortunately a little brush had been accidentally thrown on the windward side of one of the piers, which became covered with sand, and preserved this pier from the fate of the others. Profiting by this discovery, every crib subsequently put down, was placed on a thick bed of brush extending several feet to the windward of it. But other unforeseen difficulties were soon experienced. The cribs could be put down only when the lake was perfectly smooth. However fine the weather, the swell raised by an ordinary sailing breeze suspended the work in the water. To obviate this difficulty, the cribs, (which after the first week, were formed of large, square timbers,) were put up and completed on shore. The timbers were secured by ties six feet apart, made to fit so tight as to require to be driven home with a sledge, and were bored with a two-inch augur ready for the trunnels, which were two feet long, and made of the best oak or hickory. The timbers were marked and numbered, so that when required for use, could be taken apart, floated out to their place, and put together in an hour, even in ten feet of water, and secured with stone the same day. The manner of constructing the pier is thus particularly described, as it so effectually secured the timbers together, that when the west end of the pier was undermined by the high water of the creek and turned over, so that the sides became the top, not a stick was separated. After the prevalence of a west wind for several days, the water became smooth, but it rained severely and the workmen justly claimed exemption from labor. To be interrupted by swells in fair weather, and by the rains when the lake was smooth, would never answer. Every day's experience admonished the company of the necessity of economizing their means, and it was already feared that the fund provided would prove insufficient for the object to be accomplished. A new contract was, therefore, made with the workmen, by which their wages were raised two dollars a month, in consideration of their working on rainy days; and from that time until the harbor was completed, the work was prosecuted without regard to the weather. \* \* \* \* \* After the pier was extended about thirty rods into the lake, and settled as well as the limited time would allow, a carpenter was employed at one dollar per day, to superintend the raising of the pier from the surface of the water, to its full height. \* \* \* \* \* As the work advanced into deep water, the bases of the cribs were enlarged, and the cost of the work alarmingly increased. It was resolved to suspend operations for that year, on reaching seven and a half feet of water. On the 7th of September, after the timber work was completed, and while the pier was but partially filled with stone, two small vessels came under its lee and made



fast. Towards evening, appearances indicated a storm, and while the superintendent and captains were deliberating whether the vessels might not endanger the pier, and perhaps carry away that part to which they were fastened, the gale commenced, rendering it impossible to remove the vessels otherwise than by casting them loose, and letting them go on the beach. This was proposed by the superintendent, and agreed to by the captains, on condition that the safety of the pier should appear to be endangered by the vessels. Both the pier and the vessels, however, remained uninjured through the storm, which was regarded as no mean test of the utility and permanency of the works. The pier, which at this time extended fifty rods into the lake, was in a few days filled with stone, and the operations upon it suspended for the season.

“It may not be out of place here to name the captains of the two first vessels which found shelter in Buffalo harbor—Austin and Fox. The former was an old Point Judith fisherman who, after spending most of his life on the ocean, removed to the Vermilion river and settled on a farm. But yielding to his yearning for the water, he built a small vessel, of which he was captain and his sons the crew, and engaged in the lake trade. He was a shrewd, observing man, had seen and examined many artificial harbors, and his advice contributed much to the correct location and permanent construction of Buffalo harbor. Fox, long known as a successful captain on the lakes, took a deep interest in the construction of the work, and during the three years that it was in progress, frequently aided by volunteering his own labor and that of his crews. Trifling as this circumstance may appear, it gave at the time no small encouragement and has been gratefully remembered.

“Although the pier had been successfully extended over nine hundred feet and was believed to be sufficiently strong to resist the force of the waves, still it was but an experiment. The situation was the most exposed of any on the lake, and no similar work had been constructed. Should the whole, or any considerable part of the work be destroyed by the gales of wind, or by the ice, the fund remaining would be insufficient to repair the damage, and extend the work to the requisite distance to make a harbor. Should the experiment of the pier prove ever so successful, a most difficult part of the plan for forming a harbor was yet to be executed, and the more difficult because the expense would depend on contingencies which the company could not control. Buffalo creek, in 1820, entered the lake about sixty rods north of its present mouth, running for some distance parallel with the shore. A new channel had to be made across the point of sand which separates the creek from the lake. This point was about twenty rods wide, and elevated about seven feet above the level of the lake. It was proposed to remove the sand by scrapers to the level of low water, dam the mouth of the creek by brush and stone, and trust to the action of the spring flood to form a straight channel in a line with, and near to, the pier. The scraping was commenced in November, by the voluntary labor of several of the citizens; but instead of finding the point composed of fine sand, as had been expected, when a few feet of the top was removed, a heavy, compact body of coarse gravel and small stones was found, which, if removed by the current of the creek, instead of being carried into the deep water of the lake, would be deposited to the leeward of the pier in the very place our channel must be, and from whence there was neither money nor machinery to remove it. The scraping was therefore given up, and the

subject of forming a new channel, proving a very serious one, laid over for further consideration, in the expectation that some plan could be devised to overcome the seemingly insurmountable difficulty. The company had the satisfaction to see the fall gales pass away without doing any damage to the pier, not even removing a single timber, and it was loaded with so great a body of ice that no apprehension was entertained of damage from the breaking up of the lake in the spring.

“Favorable contracts were made for timber during the winter, and ties to complete the pier; and as it was sufficiently extended to protect the pile-driving scow, and as the use of this machine would be important in farther prosecuting the work, it was determined to finish it. A hammer and gearing, however, were wanted. These had been contracted for in Ohio, but, owing to a misunderstanding, had not been received. The iron gearing could be dispensed with, and a good substitute for a hammer was found in a United States mortar, used during the last war, but which had lost one of its trunnions. After breaking off the other, two holes were bored through the ends for the staple by which to hoist it. The ends of the staple projecting into the chamber were bent, and the chamber itself filled with metal. Similar holes were bored on each side, and two bars of iron between two and three inches square, firmly secured, to act as guides. The hollow part being filled with a hard piece of wood, cut off even with the end, it proved to be an excellent hammer of about two thousand pounds weight.\* The machinery to raise the hammer was the cheapest and simplest kind, and worked by a single horse. Before attempting the farther extension of the pier, it was resolved to attempt the formation of a new channel. About the 20th of May, laborers were engaged, and the pile-driver put in operation. Two rows of piles, six feet apart, were driven across the creek, in a line with the right bank of the intended channel, and the space between these rows of piles was filled with fine brush, straw, damaged hay, shavings, etc. This material was pressed down by drift logs, which were hoisted into their places by the use of the pile-driver. On the upper side of the work a body of sand was placed, making a cheap and tolerably tight dam, by which the creek could be raised about three feet. Then by breaking the bank at the west end of the dam, a current was formed sufficiently strong to remove about fifteen feet of the adjoining bank, to the depth of eight feet. The success of the first experiment was most gratifying. The dam was extended across the new made channel, and connected with the bank, with the least possible delay, and every dam full of water let off removed hundreds of yards of gravel, and deposited it not only entirely out of the way, but at the same time filled up the old channel. While this plan was in successful operation, and when the new channel had been pushed to within a few feet of the lake, and the strongest hopes were entertained that, by the same process, the sand and gravel, even under the shoal water of the lake, could be removed and the channel extended to the end of the pier, and the harbor rendered immediately available, the work was arrested by one of the most extraordinary rises of the lake ever witnessed. About seven o'clock in the morning, the lake being entirely calm, the water suddenly rose, and by a single swell swept away the logs that secured the materials in the dam, broke away the dam on the east side, fully destroyed the west end, which was made of plank, and left the whole a total wreck. A more discouraging scene can

\* This old mortar now stands on the sidewalk at the corner of Main and Dayton streets.

scarcely be imagined. The pile-driving scow, without which the damage could not be repaired, narrowly escaped destruction. The blind horse which worked the pile-driver, was thrown from the platform on the scow, and, swimming in his accustomed circle, came near drowning. All the lumber, timber, piles prepared for use, with the boats, scows, and every floating article within the range of the swell, were swept from their places and driven up the creek. It was afterwards ascertained that an extraordinary vein of wind had crossed the lake a few miles above this place, and proceeding eastward, prostrated the timber in its course, and marked its way with fearful destruction. This was supposed to have caused the swell referred to.

“After securing the scows, boats and lumber which had been put afloat, the condition of the dam was examined. About thirty feet of the east end was entirely gone, and the injury to other parts was greater than was at first anticipated. \* \* \* Although a flood had been wished for, to aid in deepening and widening the new channel, yet the disastrous accident which had just occurred destroyed the only means of controlling it and turning it to account. A freshet then, might open the old channel, or perhaps enlarge the new one in a wrong direction and even undermine the pier. It was therefore resolved to repair the damage if possible. The pile driver was put in operation to restore the breach at the east end of the dam, and the men set to work to collect materials; but the rain increasing, and the weather being uncommonly cold, it was soon discovered that without a large additional force the dam could not be so far repaired as to resist the flood, which might be expected within twenty-four hours.

“The recent disaster and the importance of immediate help was communicated to the citizens, a large number of whom, notwithstanding the rain fell in torrents, repaired to the dam. They were distributed in parties, some getting brush, others collecting logs, some placing the materials in the dam, while others aided in working the pile-driver. \* \* \* Without this help of the citizens, it would have been impossible to make the necessary repairs on the dam; with it, and by continuing the labor of the harbor workmen by torch-light until late at night, all was done that human effort could do to prepare for the flood. \* \* \* The rain having continued through the night, in the morning the flood was magnificent. The strong northeast wind which had prevailed for nearly twenty-four hours, had lowered the lake two or three feet and added much to the effect of the water in forming a new channel. The barrier erected had produced the desired effect, the gravel removed out of the new channel was carried down the lake, and in fact the whole operation was so favorable that it seemed as though Providence had directed this flood in aid of the great work of forming a harbor. The breaking up of the dam had disheartened the men, and their extraordinary efforts to repair the damage had exhausted them; but a day's rest and witnessing the triumphant success of the plan for opening a channel, restored them to cheerfulness. The doubts and fears that were entertained of ultimate success in making a harbor were dissipated. When the freshet had subsided, it was found that the average width of the new channel was about ninety feet at the bottom, and for the first twelve rods it was as deep as the creek, and nowhere less than five feet, furnishing a straight channel. From this time, small vessels could enter and depart from Buffalo harbor without interruption.



“Much yet remained to be done. The lines of piles in extension of the dam were continued and filled up with brush and stone, intended to form a permanent margin for the north bank of Buffalo creek. This work was extended forty-six rods from the east bank of the creek, the dam was strengthened, the number of men increased, and preparations made for recommencing the pier. On a careful examination and measurement of the water, it was found that the pier, if extended in the direction of that already built, would require to be carried out much farther than had been anticipated. This discovery was the more embarrassing, as the company had become satisfied that they would be unable, with the fund provided, to complete the pier even to the extent at first contemplated, and it had been resolved to apply to the citizens for aid, which was subsequently done. Scrip was issued entitling the bearer to a *pro rata* interest in the harbor. Over \$1,000 of this scrip was disposed of for a small part of which cash was received, but the greater part was received in goods, etc. For the sums thus advanced no consideration was ever received by the holders of the scrip, and perhaps some of them to whom no explanation has been made, may have felt themselves aggrieved. For the satisfaction of such, it may be well here to state how this business was closed. The act of the Legislature creating the Buffalo Harbor Company and making the loan, provided that if the Legislature did not accept the harbor, it should be and remain the property of the company, and that the canal commissioners should settle the rate of tolls to be paid by all boats and vessels entering it. The issue of the scrip was predicated on this provision; and it was believed that if the State accepted the harbor, they would willingly pay the extra cost of its construction, over and above the loan of \$12,000 (which was to be canceled). This no doubt would have been done but for the provisions of a law passed in the spring of 1822, entitled, ‘An act for encouraging the construction of harbors at Buffalo and Black Rock.’ This act provided to pay the two harbor companies, Buffalo and Black Rock, each \$12,000 on completing their harbors, thus limiting the sum to the amount already loaned to the Buffalo Harbor Company, and cutting off all hope of remuneration from the State for any amount that might be expended beyond that sum. \* \* \* \* \* The company could not retain the harbor as private property and impose tolls on vessels entering it, without driving the business to a rival port. Application was therefore made to the Legislature in the spring of 1825, which passed a resolution to cancel the bonds and mortgages given to secure the loan, but refused to allow the claim for the additional sum expended; which sum included not only the money received for the scrip, but several hundred dollars advanced by Townsend,\* Forward and Wilkeson, beside contributions by other individuals.

“After ascertaining the distance to which it would be necessary to extend the pier, and estimating the cost of completing it, the continuous line was abandoned, and it was resolved to lay down a pier two hundred feet long, several rods south and west of the pier already built, but in the same direction. This pier would form the western termination of the harbor, and was to be connected with the other by two lines of piles eight feet apart. \* \* \* Both pile-driving and pier work

\* In a foot note Mr. Wilkeson offers apology for injustice done to Mr. George Coit in not connecting his name with that of Judge Townsend in the responsibilities assumed and moneys advanced for the construction of the harbor.

were commenced and prosecuted with vigor and economy suited to the scanty funds of the company. \* \* \* \* In attempting to put down the first crib which was to form the eastern end of the block, in about ten feet of water, the current was found so strong that it was found impossible to keep the brush in line on which to place the crib. To obviate this difficulty, piles were driven ten feet apart, on the north line of the proposed pier. This not only secured the brush, but served as a guide in putting down the cribs, which for this block were forty feet long, twenty feet wide at the bottom, and eighteen at the surface of the water. \* \* \* A slight rise in the creek about the middle of July, encouraged a hope that by a temporary contraction of the channel, it might be deepened. About fifty of the citizens volunteered their aid for a day, and a foot of additional depth was gained. \* \* \* Thus was completed the first work of the kind ever constructed on the lakes. It had occupied two hundred and twenty-one working days in building, (the laborers always resting on the Sabbath,) and extended into the lake about eighty rods, to twelve feet of water. It was begun, carried on and completed principally by three private individuals, some of whom mortgaged the whole of their real estate, to raise the means for making an improvement in which they had but a common interest."

On the first day of November, 1821, the steamer *Walk-in-the-Water*, the building and launching of which three years before, is described in another chapter, was driven ashore nearly opposite the foot of Main street, about a mile above the light-house, and wrecked. This led to the building of another steamer, which event had a strong influence in deciding the question of the permanence and efficiency of the Buffalo harbor, and consequently, upon her immediate commercial prospects also. The steamer was the property of New York capitalists, and an agent was sent on at once to make arrangements for the construction of a new craft. His instructions were to build the boat at Buffalo, unless he found the harbor unavailable. He first visited Black Rock, where the people convinced him that the Buffalo harbor would prove a failure, especially as it would remain filled with ice long after the lake was clear in the spring. The agent accordingly decided to have the new boat built at Black Rock, and came on to Buffalo to draw the necessary papers. But there were men in Buffalo, who had the fullest faith in their harbor; at least they saw that the time had come when it must be tested, and they must stand or fall with it, to some extent. Judge Wilkeson was deputed to wait on the agent at his hotel, with the general instructions to secure the building of the steamboat at Buffalo, at all hazards.

The "committee" and the agent discussed the matter briefly, the latter giving as his chief reason for not building the boat at Buffalo, the fear that she would be detained in the harbor in the spring by the ice. Mr. Wilkeson was not long in proposing to the agent such terms as he thought must induce a change of decision. Said he:—

"We will furnish timber at a quarter less than the Black Rock prices, and will give you a bond with ample security, for the payment of

one hundred and fifty dollars a day for every day the boat may be detained in the creek beyond May first."

The offer was accepted, the bond was signed by most of the responsible citizens of the village and the building of the boat begun.

Of the passage of the *Superior* out of the harbor and the incidents connected therewith, and other harbor matters, Mr. Wilkeson's papers continue to speak as follows:—

"Buffalo having completed a harbor and established a ship-yard began to assume new life. Brighter prospects opened and it only remained to secure the termination of the canal at this place, of which there was a fair prospect. David Thomas, an engineer in the employ of the Canal Board, had been occupied the preceding summer in making surveys preparatory to a location of the canal from the lake to the mountain ridge. He had spent some time in examining the Niagara river and Buffalo creek and harbor. He was known to be opposed to the plan of terminating the canal in an artificial basin at the Rock, and it was presumed that he would report decidedly in favor of terminating the canal in Buffalo creek. This encouraged the citizens to send an agent to Albany to represent to the president of the Canal Board, DeWitt Clinton, the fact that a harbor had been completed, and to urge the immediate location of the canal to Buffalo. This subject was considered by the Board and the canal report of that year, (1823) contained their decision in favor of Buffalo.

"Although this decision was not unexpected, it occasioned great rejoicing to the citizens, who, burnt out and impoverished by the war, and disappointed in their just expectations of remuneration from the government, had for years been battling manfully with adversity, cheered on by hopes which were now about to be realized. While congratulating themselves on the prospect of still better times, the expected flood came and removing a large body of sand and gravel, opened a wide and deep channel from the creek to the lake. But, unfortunately, a heavy bank of ice resting on the bottom of the lake and rising several feet above its surface, had been formed during the winter, extending from the west end of the pier to the shore. This ice bank arrested the current of the creek, forming an eddy along side of the pier, into which the sand and gravel removed by the flood were deposited, filling up the channel for the distance of over three hundred feet, and leaving little more than three feet of water where, before the freshet, there was an average of four and a half feet. It was attempted to open a channel through the ice by blasting, but this proved ineffectual; no other means were tried and it was now feared that the predictions of our Black Rock neighbors were about to be realized.

"This obstruction of the harbor produced not only discouragement, but consternation. A judgment bond had been executed, which was a lien upon a large portion of the real estate of the village for the payment of \$150 per day, from and after the first of May, until the channel could be sufficiently opened to let the steamboat pass into the lake. To form a channel even eight rods wide and nine feet deep, would require the removal of not less than six thousand yards of gravel, for which work there was neither an excavator, nor time, skill or money to procure one. The superintendent of the harbor was absent; as soon as the news



of the disaster reached him, he hastened home, and arriving about the middle of March, a meeting of the citizens concerned was called. It was resolved immediately to attempt the opening of the channel, and a subscription was proposed to defray the expenses which were estimated at \$1,600. The subscription went heavily, only about \$300 being obtained, but without waiting to see how the means were to be provided, preparations were made for commencing the work the next morning."

Here follow details of how the work of deepening the channel was performed, by the aid of wooden scrapers drawn through the gravel by means of capstans set up on scows, and then pulled back by ropes in the hands of men on the opposite side. Mr. Wilkeson then continues:—

"The progress made in removing the sand, was most encouraging, and there appeared no doubt that by increasing the scrapers, the channel could be opened before the first of May. Piles were put down, and a raft of timber substituted for scows, on which to erect more capstans. Saturday night came, and the workmen were dismissed until Monday morning. During the night a heavy gale set in and increased in violence until about noon on the Sabbath, when the ice began to break up, and the lake to rise. Soon the ice was in motion, and driving in from the lake, was carried up the creek with such force as to destroy the scows and all the fixtures. The pile-driver, being securely fastened by strong rigging to the piles, it was hoped would remain safe, but the fasts gave way and it was driving towards the shore, where it could scarcely escape destruction. It was saved by the extraordinary exertions of two individuals who, making their way to it by the aid of two boards each, which they pushed forward alternately over the floating ice agitated by the swells, succeeded in fastening it with a hawser to a pile near which it was floating. The scow being secured, the anxious and disheartened citizens and workmen, returned to their homes. Any community less inured to disappointments and adversity, would now have given up in despair. The very elements seemed to have conspired against them. The gale was frightful, and in the afternoon was accompanied by a heavy fall of snow; the water was high, and ice driving with violence on to the flats.

"Monday morning the wind had subsided, but the weather was cold and still stormy. A general meeting of the citizens was convened, to whom the superintendent stated the extent of the damage, the probable time it would take to repair it, the amount of funds requisite to complete the work, and his entire confidence in ultimate success. As the liability to pay a hundred and fifty dollars a day would soon attach, the importance of a united and speedy effort was more sensibly felt. The meeting was fully attended, not only by those who were liable on the bond, but by many young mechanics and others. Dr. Johnson, John G. Camp and Dr. Chapin were chosen a committee to obtain and collect subscriptions."

The list of subscriptions was made up largely of goods and provisions and amounted to \$1,361.25, ranging from two dollars to one hundred and ten dollars, which was given by Dr. Johnson "in goods at cash prices."

"The provisions and goods were paid to the workmen without loss, but on much of the property (which was sold at auction) there was an average loss of about thirty-seven and a half per cent."

After detailing the work of again opening the channel with the scrapers, Mr. Wilkeson concludes as follows:—

“Although the weather became good the latter part of April, and the work was prosecuted with the utmost diligence, yet the first of May came while there were still a few rods of the channel in which only about six and a half feet of water had been gained. As considerable work yet remained to be done on the steamboat, and no loss or inconvenience could accrue to the owners in allowing a few days to deepen the channel, yet no time could be obtained. The boat was put in motion and fortunately the pilot, Captam Miller, having made himself acquainted with what channel there was, ran her out into the lake without difficulty. *The bond was canceled.* The boat was, however, light, and when fully loaded would require much more water. The scraping was therefore continued.

“When the boat was finished, the citizens were invited to take an excursion on the lake. It was feared that if the boat should be deeply loaded with passengers, she would ground in the new made channel. Although this would be a trifling occurrence in itself, yet circumstances had recently occurred which led them to regard the experiment with the deepest anxiety. An act had passed a few days before, authorizing the Canal Board to contract for the construction of a harbor at Black Rock, which, if completed, might secure the termination of the canal at that place, and supercede Buffalo harbor. The subject was to be acted upon by the Canal Board in a few days, and even so trifling an incident as the grounding of a steamboat might influence their decision and deprive Buffalo of the fruits of all her toils and exertions in building a harbor. An effort was therefore made to either postpone the steamboat excursion or limit the number of passengers; but in vain. Neither the captain nor a majority of the citizens could appreciate the solicitude of the few. The whole village crowded on board and the boat grounded. This was the more mortifying, as many of our Black Rock friends were on board, who had always predicted our failure. But after a few minutes delay in landing some of the people on the pier, the boat moved forward, went alongside of the pier, took on the passengers, and proceeded up the lake with bugles sounding and banners flying.”\*

Buffalo harbor was considerably improved in the summer of 1826, under contract with Messrs. Baker & Merrill, and was still further extended in 1829; nearly half the proposed ninety rods of pier being then finished. An appropriation for this work was obtained from Congress. This and some subsequent harbor improvements were executed under the local superintendence of Mr. Isaac S. Smith, then a well known resident of Buffalo.

In July, 1827, a writer in one of the local papers stated that prominent citizens purposed memorializing the Board of Canal Commis-

\* The pier is built of wood and stone, commencing at the extremity of the sandy point, on which the light-house stands, extending in a westerly direction into the lake, eighty-four rods, and averaging eighteen feet in width; it was built in 1819, '20 and '21, for the purpose of preventing the accumulation of sands in the mouth of the creek; and has so far answered the purpose, that there has been an uninterrupted and safe navigation (during the season) for the last three years, for any vessels that have navigated the lake, and in any weather.—*Mr. Ball's Pamphlet, 1825.*

sioners for an independent canal between Black Rock and Buffalo, "past Black Rock harbor;" the writer added, "that work having entirely failed, it is supposed that the Commissioners will not hesitate to go on with this canal," etc. This appears to have been a revival of a subject that had been agitated before.

The Black Rock pier finally gave way in May, 1826, to such an extent that all hopes of a substantial and permanent harbor there, were abandoned.

While these events were occurring, the war of words between Buffalo and Black Rock went on without interruption, and as soon as the canal project began to assume definite shape, the controversy involved the question of the terminus of that work and the rivalry between the two places became more bitter than ever before. Both of the villages had friends in the different Boards of Canal Commissioners and in the engineer corps, and no effort was spared to make the most of their influence. Black Rock had its natural harbor and besieged the State authorities for appropriations to extend it by the construction of piers, in expectation of thus influencing to some extent the Canal Commissioners to make it the terminal point of the new commercial highway. One result of these efforts on the part of Black Rock, was the passage of a resolution by the Commissioners in June, 1822, to the effect that if Peter B. Porter and his associates succeeded in building ten or more rods of pier on their plan between Brace's store and the second angle east of Bird Island "by the first of May or June following," to the satisfaction of the village trustees, then the Canal Commissioners would either contract for the construction of the canal basin desired, or recommend that the State refund the money that had been expended. The Black Rock Harbor Company was thereupon formed, and a large quantity of timber and stone advertised for, which were used in the "Experiment Pier" that was afterwards built. This action inspired the Buffalonians to renewed opposition to their rivals, and assertions were freely made and published that the first run of ice in the river would destroy the proposed improvements; this eventually proved to be the case.

In the summer of 1822, a meeting the proceedings of which were destined to exert a mighty influence upon the future of Buffalo, was held at the Eagle tavern. It was a memorable gathering. DeWitt Clinton, then chairman of the Board of Canal Commissioners, presided at the meeting; his associates were Stephen VanRensselaer, Henry Seymour, Myron Holley and Samuel Young. The momentous question at issue was, Buffalo or Black Rock as the terminus of the canal. The latter village was represented by General Peter B. Porter, and most ably, for the heart of the speaker was in his cause. Samuel Wilkeson, at the head of a number of the leading men of Buffalo, was there to advocate the interests of their village. Mr. Wilkeson, though unaccustomed to oratory, believed



with his whole soul in the justice of his claims; he looked at the matter in its most practical light; he knew he was right and he proved it by advancing many excellent reasons why the canal should come to Buffalo; his success proved his eloquence. The case was summed up by Mr. Clinton, and the Commissioners decided\* in favor of Buffalo.

The events above narrated and their surrounding circumstances contributed to keep the controversy between the factions of Buffalo and Black Rock at fever heat for years. In the spring of 1823, the "Experiment Pier," built by the people of Black Rock the previous summer, withstood the run of ice and high water, which was watched from the river banks for days, by many people from both villages. This fact caused some of the Canal Commissioners to express themselves still further in favor of improvements in that harbor and the war of words broke out with renewed activity. To-day the people of one village would be elated over a supposed victory, through some actual or fancied expression from the Commissioners, while to-morrow, perhaps, the rival village would fire a salute over a rumored triumph for itself. So strong were the influences at work in favor of Black Rock, that as late as the summer of 1823,† the people of Buffalo were caused great anxiety, through fears that their desired consummation would not be reached. One phase of this apprehension is exhibited in the following copy of an old subscription paper, the original of which is now in possession of Jno. Wilkeson, Esq. :—

"WHEREAS, The late decision of the Canal Commissioners, terminating the canal at Black Rock, upon the plan proposed by Peter B. Porter, will be injurious to the commerce of Buffalo and, in a great measure, deprive the inhabitants of the benefits of the canal—in order, therefore, to open an uninterrupted canal navigation upon the margin of Niagara river, on the plan proposed by David Thomas,‡ from the point where the line established by him will intersect Porter's basin, to the point where it is proposed to dam the arm of said river to Squaw Island, the undersigned agree to pay to Henry B. Lyman, the sums annexed to their respective names, to be for that purpose expended under the direction of trustees to be appointed by the subscribers. The sums subscribed to be paid in such monthly installments as the said directors shall think it expedient and proper to direct, not exceeding 30 per cent. per month on the amount subscribed; no part, however, of any subscription is to be called for until the expenditure of the whole shall be authorized by the Canal Commissioners, upon the plans herein proposed.

"Dated, Buffalo, July 2, 1823.

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\* In the subsequent report of the Canal Commissioners, they said :—

"It is important to have at that end a safe harbor, capable, without much expense, of sufficient enlargement for the accommodation of all boats and vessels, that a very extensive trade may hereafter require to enter and exchange their lading there. The waters of Lake Erie are higher at the mouth of the Buffalo creek than they are at Bird Island, or at any point further down the Niagara, and every inch gained in elevation will produce a large saving in the expense of excavation throughout the Lake Erie level "

† According to Mr. Wilkeson's papers, before quoted, the final and formal decision of the Canal Commissioners, that the canal should extend to Buffalo, was not given until their report of 1823.

‡ This plan was substantially the one finally adopted by the Commissioners.

“ Joseph Dart, Jr., \$150; Timothy Page, \$100; Stephen Clarke, \$100; E. Hubbard, \$150; J. A. Lazelle, \$150; Moses Bristol, \$100; R. W. Haskins, \$100; Geo. Stow, \$50; Abner Bryant, \$250; H. R. Seymour, \$250; G. & T. Weed, \$250; Joseph Bull & Co., \$150; Abraham Larzalere, \$200; Hiram Pratt, \$200; J. Sweeney, \$100; N. Darrow,\* \$25; Moses Baker, \$200; B. Fowler, \$25; Robert Bush, \$50; A. Palmer, \$100; James Miller, \$40; S. Matthews, \$100; Erastus Gilbert, \$100; B. I. Staats, \$50; Lucius Gould, \$100; J. E. Marshall, \$100; Johnson & Wilkeson, \$1,500; Townsend & Coit, \$1,000; R. B. Heacock, \$1,000; E. C. Hickox, \$500; Joseph Stocking, \$600; Sheldon Chapin & Co., \$500; Burt & Goodrich, \$500; Ebenzer Walden, \$500; Jonathan Sidway, \$500; Oliver Forward, \$400; Joseph D. Hoyt, \$500; Royal Colton, \$200; Ruxton & Hamilton, \$100; Henry Kip, \$50; S. A. Fobes, \$100; G. B. Webster, \$250; William Mason, \$25; total, \$11,415.”

In addition to the above, Mr. Louis Le Couteux gave one-half acre of land “ bounded on the canal and extending to the highway.” The land subscribed by Mr. Le Couteux was on outer lot No. 1. Most of the money subscribed on this paper was collected and, although it probably did not become necessary as a means of extending the canal to Buffalo, it may have been used in harbor improvements.

In connection with the anxiety in Buffalo, as to their prospects of being benefitted through the terminus of the canal at Buffalo creek, a petition was presented to the Canal Commissioners, July 23, 1823, by the Buffalonians, asking, in substance, that simple justice be done them in the premises, and a long editorial appeared in the *Patriot* about that time, deploring the consequences to Buffalo, if the Commissioners continued to expend money upon the Black Rock harbor, to the neglect of that at the mouth of the creek; the editor concluded, however, with the assurance that Buffalo would surely outstrip its rival, no matter what course was pursued by the Commissioners.

For a year or two previous to the time in question, and during the agitation, Black Rock had grown faster than Buffalo; but it reached the zenith of its prosperity with the construction of its harbor improvements; its pier was gradually destroyed, a large part of it being carried away in May, 1826, and hopes of the place becoming a commercial port of importance died out.†

\* The only person in the list of subscribers who is now living.

† During the speculative period of 1835-'36, a project was developed by a number of citizens of both Black Rock and Buffalo, which they expected would result in building a city at the former place, and in consequent large profits through the sale of lands. One feature of the scheme was the construction of a pier or dam extending from Bird Island to a point near the outer end of the Buffalo pier. It was expected that this extension would make it possible for vessels to go down there at all times, would improve the Black Rock water-power and prevent the then existing basin from filling up with sand and ice. Congress having already granted large appropriations for Black Rock improvements, was to be further petitioned for aid in this work. The matter went so far that surveys and soundings were made in the summer of 1835. Against this scheme Buffalo at large opened a determined opposition, in which Mr. Wilkeson took an active part; a memorial was drawn by him, addressed to Congress, contending that the existing dam at Black Rock had greatly

The following statement shows who constructed the principal canals and basins in the city. The Erie basin was made by the State, a nominal price being paid the owners of the land occupied by it. The Ohio basin was made by the State, as were also the canals leading from the river to it and from it to the Hamburg canal. The Blackwell ship canal was constructed by the city, at the expense of the owners of the lands through which it runs. The Hamburg canal was commenced by the owners of the lands through which it runs; subsequently it was assumed by the State as a portion of the Erie canal.

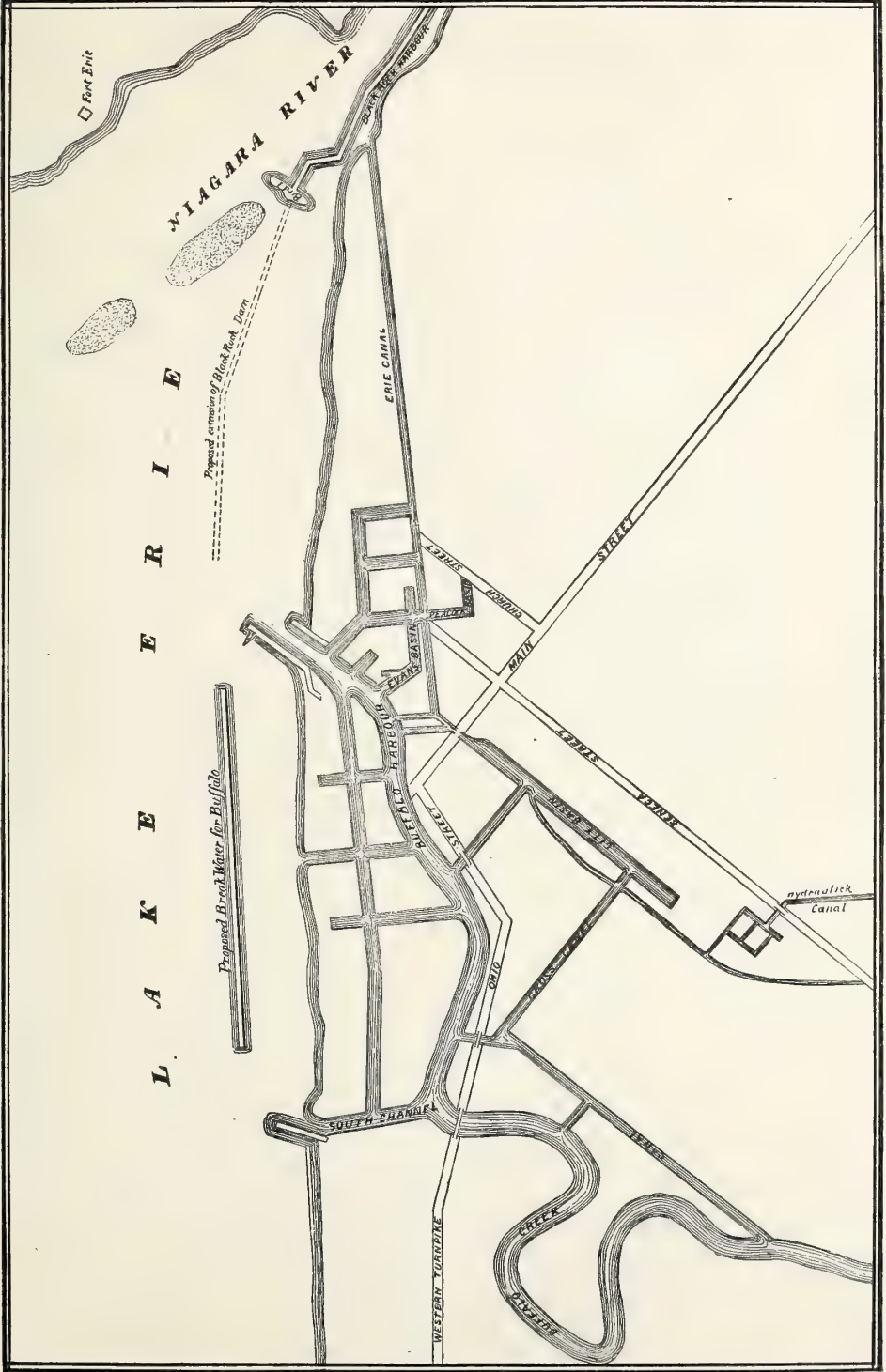
It was in the spring of 1822, that Millard Fillmore first came to Buffalo to reside—a man who arose from obscurity and humble surroundings, to the highest position in the gift of his countrymen. Mr. Fillmore had paid Buffalo a visit as early as 1818, but returned to finish his apprenticeship in the carding and cloth-dressing business at Newhope; this employment gave him opportunity to teach school and study during the winters, which was fully improved. His father removed to Cayuga county, and the following winter placed his son in the law office of Judge Walter Wood. Young Fillmore purchased the last year of his apprenticeship, and in the spring of 1822, began teaching school in Buffalo. He soon entered the law office of Asa Rice and Joseph Clary. In 1823, he was admitted to practice in the Court of Common Pleas. He then opened an office in East Aurora, where he continued in practice till May, 1830, when he formed a partnership with Mr. Clary, in Buffalo. Mr. Fillmore was first elected to the Assembly, in the fall of 1828, having been admitted as attorney in the Supreme Court, the previous year. He was elected to Congress in 1832, when but thirty-two years old, and served there four successive terms. He relinquished law practice January 1,

injured the Buffalo harbor, chiefly by causing a rise in the water level, and that the proposed work would cause still greater injury, besides being a scheme intended to some extent to enrich its projectors. The dam was never built as proposed. At the same time, (January, 1836,) Mr. Wilkeson and his friends procured the making of a map showing the proposed improvements in Buffalo harbor; this map and accompanying address to the citizens of Buffalo, was published as an extra to the *Whig and Journal*. We quote briefly from the address:—

“Since much has been said for the past few weeks of the necessity of extending Buffalo harbor, it may be interesting to some of you to examine the accompanying plan, by which our harbor room can be increased to any desirable extent, by excavating slips and basins on ground now unproductive to the owners, but which, by the earth excavated from the slips, may be raised above the floods and made to furnish valuable sites for docks and warehouses. Should this plan be adopted, it will put at rest forever, all apprehensions of want of room. \* \* \* Those on the south side of Buffalo creek will be particularly adapted to the great Western and Canal business, and perhaps exclusively used for such. The proposed increase of room, by enlarging Clark & Skinner’s canal, and converting the basin on Little Buffalo creek, intended for canal boats, into one for large vessels, will still leave this plan subject to enlargement to any extent which may comport with the interests of the eastern portion of this city.”

The address then reviewed the great benefits to be derived from the proposed improvements, and urged the execution of the work upon the people and the Common Council. A comparison of this map with Mr. Ball’s map of 1825, and of both with the present city maps, gives a clear idea of the condition of the harbor at the respective periods, and also indicates how nearly the proposed improvements were finally carried out. Much of the harbor improvement indicated on the map of 1836, was made about the year 1840. The old maps referred to, accompany this volume.





L A K E E R I E

PROPOSED HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS, 1836.

1848, and assumed the duties of Comptroller of the State. He declined a re-nomination for Congress in 1842, and in 1848 was elected President of the United States by the Whig party; he was defeated for the same office as the candidate of the "National American" party, in 1856. Mr. Fillmore then retired to honorable private life in the city where he had so long enjoyed the confidence of his fellow men; he died March 8, 1874.

With the fact settled that Buffalo would be the terminus of the canal, and the beginning of work on the western section, on the 9th of August, 1823, the village developed and grew with wonderful rapidity. On the 12th of July, the proud boast was made in one of the newspapers, that there were twenty-nine vessels at her wharves at once. Real estate changed hands at advanced prices, new buildings were erected, new vessels added to the lake fleet, and when the opening of the canal was celebrated on the 26th of October, 1825, everything in and near Buffalo betokened all the prosperity she has since realized. We have, fortunately, in a pamphlet published in that year by S. Ball, a comprehensive and clear description of the village as it then existed. It is as follows:—

"There are at present between 400 and 500 buildings, including dwelling houses, stores and mechanics' shops; and according to the census taken in January last, there were 2,412 inhabitants, which is 317 more than the whole township of Buffalo, including the village of Black Rock, contained in the year 1820, according to the census then taken. Black Rock now contains 1,039 inhabitants.

"Among the population there are four clergymen, seventeen attorneys, nine physicians, three printers, who give employment to ten hands, two bookbinders, four do.; four goldsmiths, three do.; three tin and copersmiths, sixteen do.; seven blacksmiths, seventeen do.; two cabinet makers, ten do.; three wheelwrights and coach builders, ten do.; two chair makers, five do.; one cooper, three do.; three hatters, eight do.; two tanners and curriers, nine do.; five boot and shoe makers, thirty-five do.; two painters, five do.; four tailors, twenty do.; one manufacturer of tobacco, two do.; fifty-one carpenters and joiners, nineteen masons and stone cutters, three butchers and one brush maker. \* \* \*

"There are twenty-six dry goods stores, thirty-six groceries, three hat stores, seven clothing do.; four druggist do.; one hardware do.; six shoe do.; one looking glass do.; three jewelry do.; three printing offices, two bookstores and binneries, eleven houses of public entertainment, one rope walk, three tanneries, one brewery, one livery stable, eight store houses, one custom house, one reading room, one post office, one public library, one masonic hall, and one theatre situated on lot No. 15, which has been conducted during the past year with a very considerable degree of ability. The public buildings consist of a brick court house, a very handsome designed building, but remains unfinished, situated upon an eminence on the east side of North Onondaga (Washington) street, fronting Cazenovia Avenue, (Court street) and is on the most commanding ground in the village. A stone Gaol, standing on lot No. 185. A market house situated at the head of Stadnitzka Avenue. The market is well supplied as most country villages. \* \* \* The Niagara bank is a large brick building, situated on North Onondaga, between Swan and Eagle

streets. The Buffalo Insurance Office is a large, well-finished three-story brick building, on lot No. 35, Willink Avenue. An Episcopal church, built of wood, a good sized and well-finished edifice, standing on lot 42. A Presbyterian Meeting House, a very commodious building, situated on lot 43. And a convenient Methodist Chapel, on lot No. 83. There is one Young Ladies' School, one Young Gentlemen's Academy, and four common schools. The lots Nos. 108, 109, 111 and 112, are occupied for a burying ground. The space left blank in the plan is lands owned and reserved by Joseph Ellicott, Esq. There are five religious congregations, one Episcopalian, one Presbyterian, one Methodist, one Baptist and one Universalist. Among the societies and institutions, there are five religious, two Masonic, one Library, one Banking and one Insurance. There are four weekly newspapers, to-wit:—The Buffalo *Patriot*, established in 1811; The Buffalo *Journal*, established in 1815; the *Gospel Advocate*, established in 1823; the Buffalo *Emporium*, established in 1824.”

After a detailed description of the harbor, light house and pier, which it is unnecessary to quote, Mr. Ball continues:—

“The buildings in the village are principally of wood, and not very compact, with the exception of Willink avenue; this street is filled up, and is the most business part of the town. Van Staphorst avenue is built upon much beyond the extent of the map accompanying this work, and is the principle street that is traveled in passing from east to west.

\* \* \* The streets leading along the creeks, (which have not yet been favored even with a Dutch name) may be seen in the summer season, to exhibit a bustle and hurry of business, not unlike a seaport; \* \* \* these streets are well built, with extensive and commodious warehouses, and capacious docks, where the shipping lies undisturbed and in perfect safety.”

Mr. Ball's pamphlet then records, among other evidences of growth and prosperity in the village, the existence of six different mail routes leading to and from the place, with nine regular lines of stages arriving and leaving every day and the best and most ample accommodations for travelers.\*

The view for the accompanying engraving of Buffalo harbor from Mr. Ball's pamphlet was taken from the Terrace. The foreground

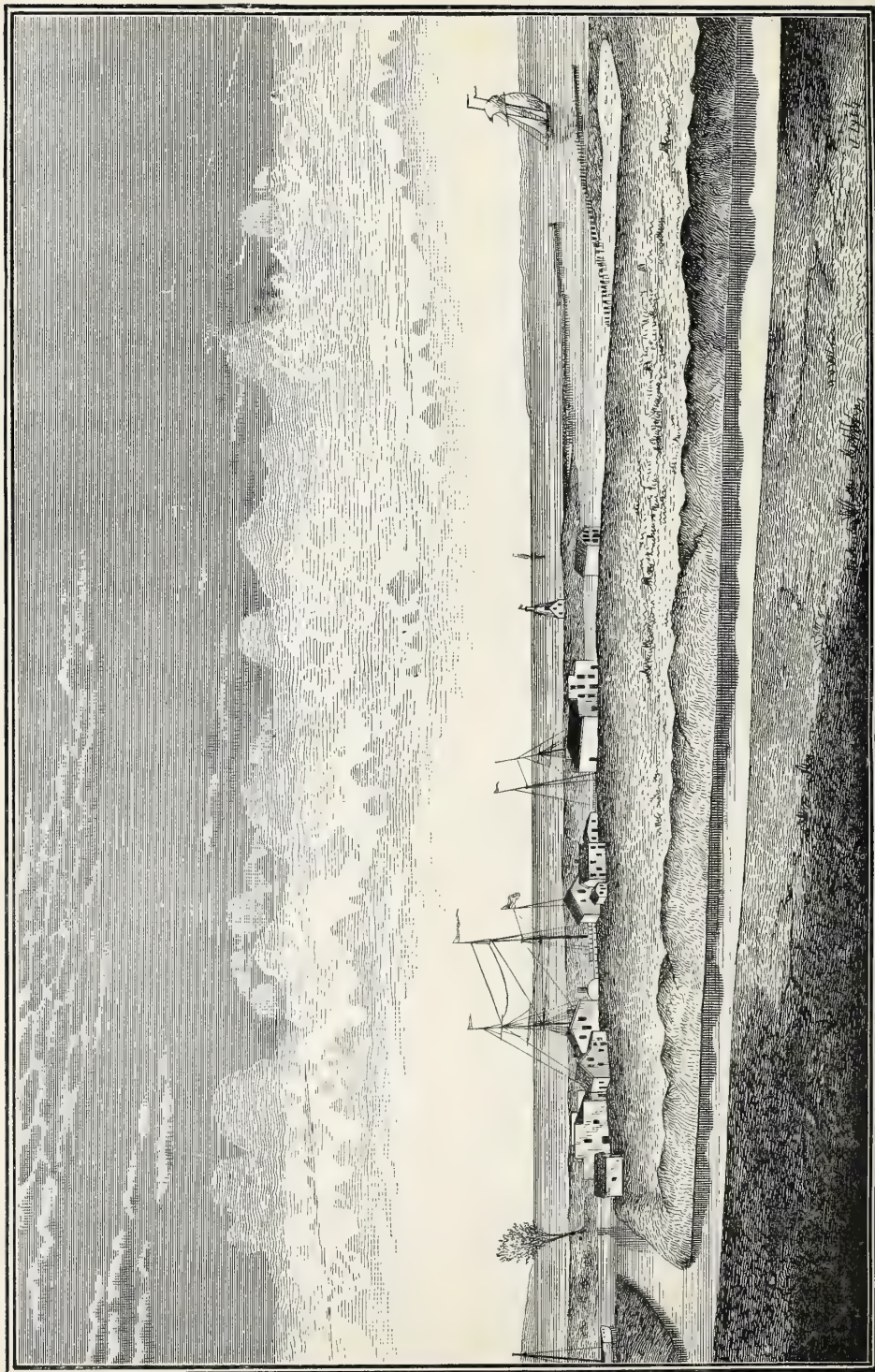
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\* In a letter from Hon. Gideon J. Ball to Mr. O. H. Marshall, written in 1876, is given a brief account of Mr. S. Ball's production of the plates from which the map and the engraving of Buffalo Harbor were printed, as follows:—

“S. Ball was not an engraver—never claimed to be—but with a pencil he sketched well and cleverly. After the completion of his drawings, he corresponded with engravers in the city of New York, and to his surprise found their charges so high and the difficulties of distance so great, that for a time he was disposed to give up his hobby. After reflection, he resolved to do the work himself. Copper was procured; the plates were hammered to firmness, and by infinite rubbing, their surfaces were finished so that they presented polished planes. Mr. Ball then set himself to the work and by persevering effort, succeeded in transferring to the copper the pictures he had drawn.”

The letter then recounts how Mr. Ball then carried his plates to the office of the *Patriot*, expecting to get them printed on an ordinary printing press. When this was found to be impossible, he read up on the subject, learned that the work could be done only on a roller press, and immediately set about making one; a section from a buttonwood tree was procured, two rollers turned and a bed plate of iron provided. Ink suitable for the work then had to be made, and when all was ready the printing was done in a very creditable manner, when the circumstances are considered.





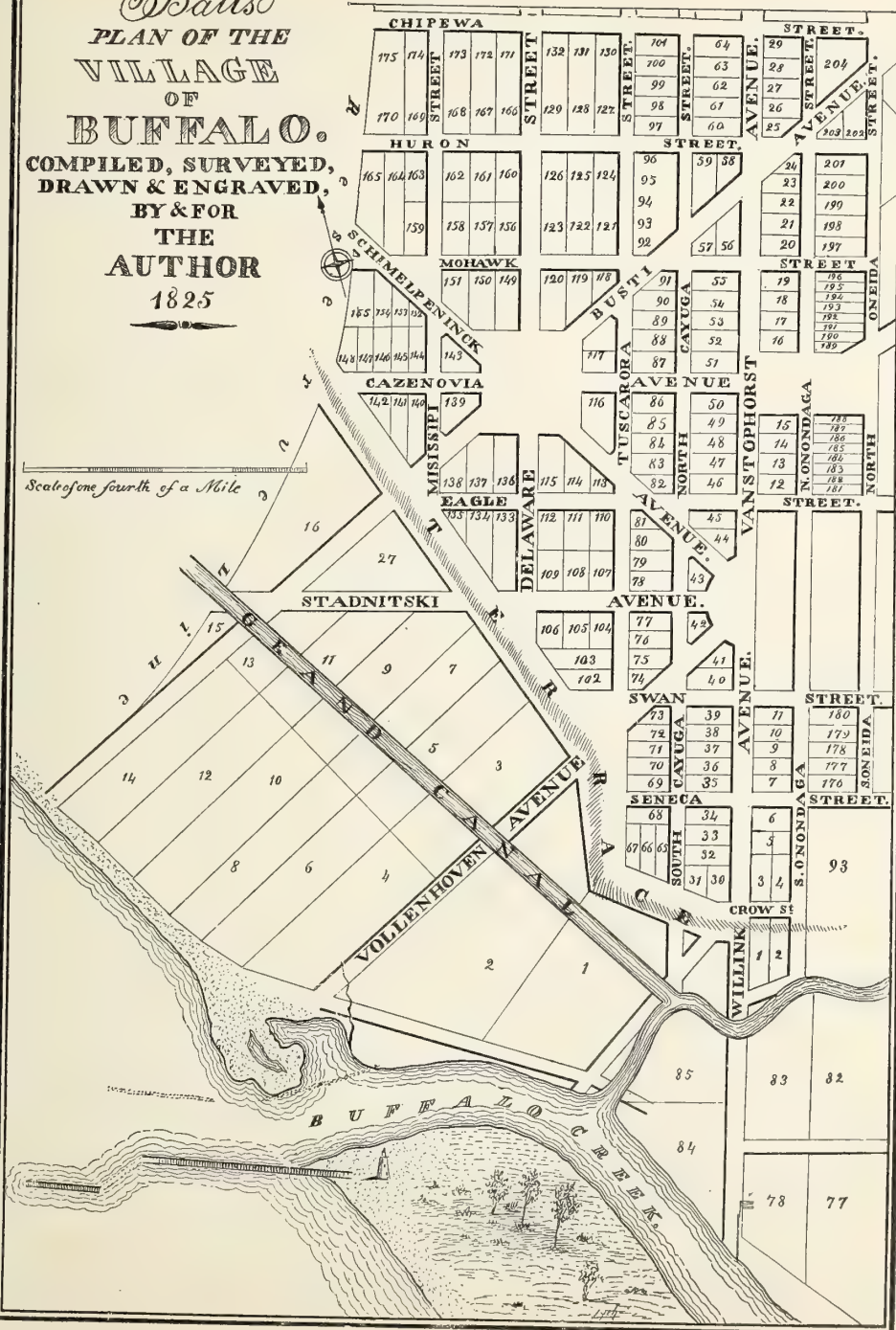
VIEW OF BUFFALO HARBOR—1825.

FROM  
*Ball's*  
**PLAN OF THE  
 VILLAGE  
 OF  
 BUFFALO.**

COMPILED, SURVEYED,  
 DRAWN & ENGRAVED,  
 BY & FOR  
 THE  
**AUTHOR**  
 1825



Scale of one fourth of a Mile





exhibits the Erie canal, then in an unfinished state, from a point near the line of Erie street to near the Little Buffalo creek, above the Commercial street bridge; thence the bed of the Little Buffalo creek to the Big Buffalo creek. At the left is seen the point on which was afterwards erected the warehouse of Joy & Webster. The small building on the extreme left stood in Prime street. The next is the "old red warehouse," which was occupied by Townsend & Coit; and below it two buildings standing in and near the foot of Commercial street. Farther down the harbor is seen a cluster of small buildings, then standing on the Johnson & Wilkeson lot. Next and near the center is the warehouse then occupied by Hiram Pratt and Asa B. Meech. The next and last building on the right, was the small warehouse used by S. Thompson & Co. Between the canal and the buildings is an open field. It seems scarcely credible to the present resident of Buffalo that this is a correct representation of the harbor and its surroundings less than sixty years ago.

Of the period from the year 1825, to the incorporation of Buffalo as a city, in 1832, we have only further to note that it was one of prosperity and gradual advancement. Trade, manufactures, commerce and all material interests were developed, and building in the village was encouragingly extended. The lake and canal fleets were greatly enlarged and were sources of a commerce which added to the general business activity of the place. The Government, after years of vexatious delay, repaid to some extent, the losses occasioned by the war, and a general feeling prevailed that Buffalo had started upon an era of growth that nothing could retard. This feeling was strengthened by a more liberal policy which was adopted at that time by the Holland Land Company in the sale of their lands, and towards those previous purchasers who were indebted to the Company, and were unable to pay. Many such obligations were remitted; for others, wheat, cattle, and other products were taken in liquidation, and easy terms were offered to new purchasers. Previous to the period in question, the Company had done very little for the advancement of Buffalo in any respect.

During the fall of 1826, the subject of a National road between Buffalo and the city of Washington, was agitated, and the leading citizens took a lively interest in the matter. A survey had been previously ordered by the Secretary of War, and a meeting of the citizens of the village was held at the Mansion House, on the 26th of October, at which a resolution was passed that a petition be addressed to Congress, asking that the work be forwarded. The village trustees were made a corresponding committee on the subject.

A company from which much was expected, was incorporated in 1827—the Buffalo Hydraulic Company; its capital was \$25,000. In October of that year the company partially completed and opened their



canal from a branch of Big Buffalo creek, into Little Buffalo creek, near the city limits; this canal was nearly four miles long, and furnished a head of sixteen feet. A saw-mill, grist-mill, woolen factory, hat body factory, last factory, and a brewery, were built, which were operated for some years, and quite a settlement grew up in that vicinity. The spread of the city necessitated the subsequent filling up of the canal. On the occasion of the opening of the canal, November 1, 1827, the company furnished the citizens with a big dinner at "Howard & Shaw's inn; a roasted ox, cider, whisky and other articles in abundance," were enjoyed.

On the fourth of July, 1826, the Jubilee Water Works Company began operations for the purpose of supplying the village with water from the Jubilee Springs, "a fountain of pure water, one and one-half miles from Black Rock." Pump logs were laid from the spring to Black Rock, during that season. In the winter of 1827, the company was incorporated, and contemplated continuing their conduits to Buffalo. This was finally done in 1829, the logs being laid down Main street to the canal basin. The rates charged were seven dollars for families, and five dollars for stores and offices.\*

During the period under consideration the village suffered severely from fires, much loss being entailed through the lack of sufficient extinguishing apparatus. Early in the morning of November 14, 1829, eleven stores were burned on the west side of Main street, causing a loss of over \$25,000. On the 15th of December, 1831, the "Kremlin corner" was burned, with a loss of over \$20,000. November 14, 1832, occurred one of the most disastrous conflagrations in the history of the city, destroying several squares of buildings in the heart of the city, on Main, East and West Seneca, Pearl and Washington streets, and causing a loss of nearly \$200,000.

In September, 1830, a humorously inclined person wrote to the editor of one of the local papers an amusing letter asking that the streets of the village be properly named and numbered. The old Dutch names of the principal streets had been changed in 1825, but they still caused some confusion, while no numbers had yet been used on any of the streets. By a resolution of the village fathers in March, 1831, the numbering, as far as it then extended, was directed to be made on substantially the same plan now in use.

The first directory of the village was published July 1, 1832, by L. P. Crary, an auctioneer in the place; it was printed by Day, Follet & Haskins. The entire book contained less than sixty pages, thirty of which only were filled with names. The colored residents were placed under a separate heading.

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\* This company is still in existence, and further reference to it will be found in a subsequent chapter.

A village census in 1830 showed a population of 8,653, upon which congratulations were exchanged that it had quadrupled in the preceding ten years.

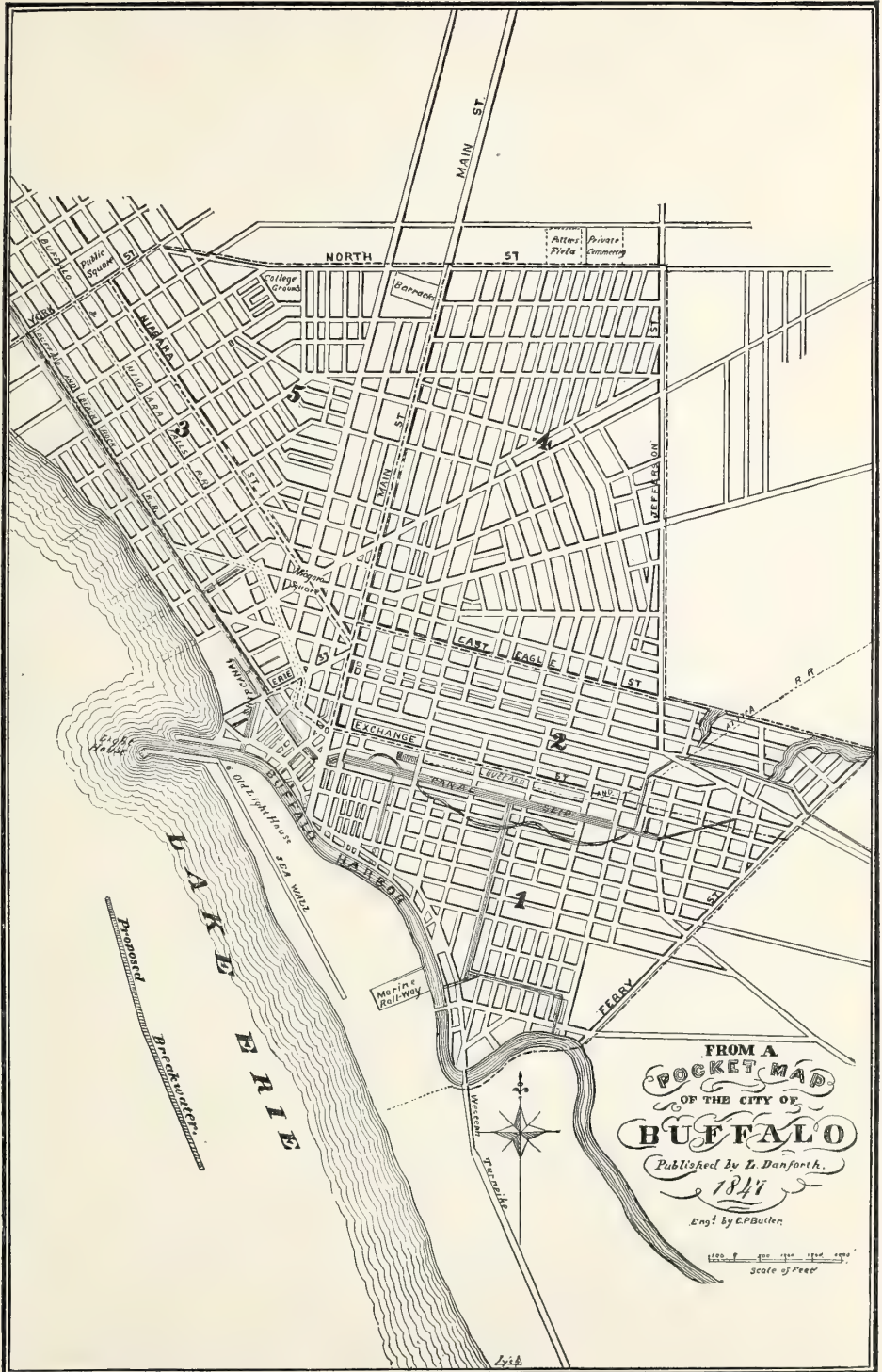
About the 1st of February, 1832, the harbor was further extended by the construction of a ship canal eighty feet wide and thirteen feet deep, from the harbor near the outlet of the creek, across to the Erie canal, about 700 yards; and a smaller canal beginning at Big Buffalo creek and extending to Little Buffalo creek. Five hundred men were employed upon the work.

The growth and general activity of the village at this period is indicated in some measure by the great number of propositions and applications for the opening and extension of streets and improving those already open, that were before the Common Council the 1st of July, 1832. These were in part, as follows:—

“ Extension of Delaware and Franklin streets from their terminations to the northern bounds of the city. Opening Martin street from Big Buffalo creek to Seneca street. Opening Beaver street from Main to Martin street. Lay out and open Washington street from present terminus to Charles Townsend's line. Open and work Crow street. Open an alley from Washington eastward between Crow and Seneca. Grade and gravel the south side of Genesee street from Spruce to Main. Grade Washington from Swan street to the court house. Grade Pearl street from Huron to Chippewa streets. Grade Main and Canal streets from the Terrace to Big Buffalo creek.”

These improvements and extensions were rapidly followed by others at almost every meeting of the Council; but to give the reader a just appreciation of this rapid advancement, it is our duty to record the fact that the enforcement of the ordinance prohibiting the running of cows in the streets of the city was, upon motion of a member of the Council, postponed to January 1, 1833.

Towards the last of the year 1831 the inadequacy of the village charter for the satisfactory government of the growing community, became apparent to the officials, and doubtless to the inhabitants. Agitation of the matter resulted in a meeting which was held about the middle of December of that year, at which was appointed a committee charged with the important work of drawing a new charter or amending the old one. This committee consisted of Charles Townsend, B. D. Coe, Ebenezer Walden, H. White, Millard Fillmore, J. Clary, H. Shumway, R. W. Haskins, P. A. Barker, B. Caryl, G. B. Webster, Samuel Wilkeson, D. Tillinghast, J. Stryker, W. Hollister, J. W. Clark, W. Ketchum and M. Baker. After proper consideration of the subject, the committee unanimously recommended that application be made to the Legislature for an act of incorporation for the City of Buffalo. The act was accordingly drawn, and no opposition being made, it became a law April 20, 1832. The city was then divided into five wards, the boundaries of which are indicated on the accompanying map, and contained about 10,000 population.



FROM A  
**POCKET MAP**  
 OF THE CITY OF  
**BUFFALO**

Published by L. Danforth.

1847

Engd by E.P. Butler

Scale of Feet



We cannot more appropriately or entertainingly close this chapter, than by quoting from the address of E. C. Sprague, Esq., delivered at the semi-centennial of the incorporation of the city, July 3d, 1882, in which he thus pleasantly alluded to the infant city:—

“It was a little city erected upon the substance of things hoped for rather than of things seen. It contained a few scattered brick buildings and perhaps twenty handsome dwellings mostly of wood; but the bulk of the city consisted of frame houses, generally from one to two stories high, even on Main street. The ridge of land running from Exchange, then known as Crow street, northerly, lifted Main, Franklin and Ellicott and the intermediate streets out of the bottomless mud east of Ellicott street, and the miry clay which, west of Franklin street, absorbed in its adhesive depths the wheels of wagons and the boots of pedestrians. Niagara street, crossed and hollowed by running streams, was sometimes impassable to man or beast. Extending from the corner of Main street and the Terrace westerly around to Court street was a high bluff, down which the boys coasted through Main and Commercial streets. The streets were unpaved and the darkness of Main street was made visible by a few oil lamps. But all the people knew each other, even in the dark, and congregated at the Eagle Tavern, the Mansion House, the Buffalo Hotel, and Perry’s Coffee House, and, on pleasant days, in Main street on the various corners from Court to Seneca streets, cracking jokes and discussing politics. \* \* \* The daily street costumes of some of our leading citizens, in 1832, was a black or blue dress coat, with costly gilt buttons, a voluminous white cravat, a ruffled shirt, accompanied by the ‘nice conduct’ of a gold-headed cane. Main street presented a picturesque variety, including elegantly dressed gentlemen and ladies, blanketed and moccasined Indians, and emigrants in the strange costumes of foreign lands. Most of the business was done upon the west side of Main street, between Mohawk and Exchange. Mayor Johnson’s stone cottage, now occupied by the Female Academy, stood in solitary state on Delaware Avenue, which was devoted for the most part to lumber yards and soap factories. The dwellings north of Mohawk street were few and far between. It was considered a long walk to Chippewa street, and a hardship to walk as far as Tupper street.

“It appears by the Directory of 1832 that the city contained six churches, eight ‘institutions,’ including some debating societies, two banks, an insurance company, and a library of ‘nearly 700 volumes.’ I have looked in vain for the record of a single charitable association. There were sixteen public and private schools in the city, but the scholars in them all would not equal those attending one or two of the great schools of the present day. Sixty mails a week during the winter and eighty-eight during the season of navigation were ‘received, made-up and dispatched at the post office.’ Of the amount of property shipped from this port it is stated that no certain information can be obtained, but we are informed that there were ‘ten store-houses for the transaction of lake and canal business.’ Even then, however, the steamboats on the lakes, though few in number, were among the best in the country, and were crowded with passengers, who had arrived from Albany on the canal, and were seeking a home in Ohio and Michigan.

“There were some forty manufacturing establishments in the city, perhaps altogether not equaling in capital and men employed, one of the great establishments of the present day.”

The following list gives the number and date of sale by deed\* of all the lots in the original survey of New Amsterdam, or Buffalo, by the Holland Land Company, with the name of the purchaser of each lot:—

Inner Lot No.	1,	Zerah Phelps,	September 11, 1806.
do	No. 2,	Samuel Pratt,	April 20, 1807.
do	No. 3,	William Johnston,	October 27, 1804.
do	No. 4,	Jane Eliza Lecouteulx,	July 28, 1815.
do	No. 5,	Richard M. Green,	February 1, 1805.
do	No. 6,	Vincent Grant,	July 8, 1808.
do	No. 7,	Samuel Tupper,	August 28, 1805.
do	No. 8,	Oliver Forward,	May 24, 1813.
do	No. 9,	Asahel Adkins,	September 5, 1806.
do	No. 10,	John Mullett,	November 16, 1812.
do	No. 11,	John Landis,	October 10, 1811.
do	No. 12, and 13,	Ebenezer Walden,	September 1, 1810.
do	No. 14, and 15,	James W. Stevens,	September 10, 1810.
do	No. 16,	David E. Evans,	April 2, 1810.
do	No. 17,	Oziel Smith,	December 18, 1809.
do	No. 18,	William Wood,	May 23, 1815.
do	No. 19,	John Gilbert,	February 21, 1816.
do	No. 20,	Joseph Stocking,	August 28, 1826.
do	No. 21,	Aaron Brink,	January 10, 1811.
do	No. 22,	Asa Coltrain,	May 25, 1814.
do	No. 23,	Oliver and Susan White,	May 7, 1829.
do	No. 24,	Moses Baker,	May 8, 1826.
do	No. 25,	Elias Ransom,	April 23, 1813.
do	No. 26,	Moses Baker,	August 23, 1833.
do	No. 27,	Jonathan Sidway,	January 3, 1826.
do	No. 28,	Charles Davis,	April 8, 1830.
do	No. 29,	Silas A. Forbes,	April 16, 1831.
do	No. 30,	William Johnston,	August 15, 1804.
do	No. 31,	Erastus Granger,	July 31, 1805.
do	No. 32,	William Johnston,	October 27, 1804.
do	No. 33,	Birdsey Norton,	October 7, 1807.
do	No. 34,	Nathaniel Norton,	July 15, 1806.
do	No. 35,	James McMahan,	May 17, 1823.
do	No. 36,	Samuel McConnell,	May 19, 1813.
do	No. 37,	John Ellicott,	May 6, 1811.
do	No. 38,	Abel M. Grosvenor,	May 30, 1812.
do	No. 39,	Samuel Pratt, Jr.,	November 17, 1810.
do	No. 40,	Cyrenius Chapin,	January 17, 1810.
do	No. 41,	Eli Hart,	September 1, 1810.
do	No. 42,	St. Paul's Church,	June 14, 1820.
do	No. 43,	First Presbyterian Society,	December 12, 1820.
do	No. 44, and 45,	William Peacock,	June 2, 1810.
do	No. 46,	Elijah Leech,	November 10, 1812.
do	No. 47,	John Haddock,	April 29, 1814.
do	No. 48,	Letitia Ellicott,	May 6, 1811.
do	No. 49,	Juba Storrs,	January 10, 1811.
do	No. 50,	Bennett Stillman,	January 16, 1811.
do	No. 51,	Benjamin Ellicott,	May 6, 1811.

\* From Ketchum's "History of Buffalo and the Senecas."

- Inner Lot No. 52, Joseph Ellicott, May 6, 1811.  
 do No. 53, Gamaliel St. John, January 24, 1810.  
 do No. 54, Otis R. Hopkins, April 22, 1814.  
 do No. 55, James Miller, October 25, 1824.  
 do No. 56, (part of,) William Wood, June 20, 1816.  
 do No. " " Elihu Pease, May 7, 1818.  
 do No. " " Lester Brace, May 8, 1818.  
 do No. " " Seth Grosvenor, April 24, 1818.  
 do No. " " Gilman Folsom, May 28, 1817.  
 do No. 57, David Burt, November 20, 1830, &c., &c.  
 do No. 58, Moses Baker, January 1, 1822.  
 do No. 59, William J. Wood, May 22, 1823.  
 do No. 58, and 59, James Chapin, August 5, 1811.  
 do No. 60, Elias Ransom, June 14, 1811.  
 do No. 61, Asa Fox, December 18, 1813.  
 do No. 62, Reuben B. Heacock, November 13, 1813.  
 do No. 63, Ebenezer Johnson, April 25, 1814.  
 do No. 64, Henry Roop, August 29, 1831.  
 do No. 65, 66, 67 and 68, Benjamin Ellicott, April 2, 1810.  
 do No. 69, Smith H. Salisbury, September 16, 1812.  
 do No. 70, R. B. Heacock, December 27, 1821.  
 do No. 71, Seth Grosvenor, April 21, 1818.  
 do No. 72, Oliver Forward, December 18, 1813.  
 do No. 73, Benjamin Haines, August 19, 1815.  
 do No. 74, Nathan Dudley, March 29, 1815.  
 do No. 75, Gilman Folsom, April 2, 1814.  
 do No. 76, Cyrenius Chapin, March 8, 1811.  
 do No. 77, Walter P. Groesbeck, May 20, 1813.  
 do No. 78, David Burt and G. H. Goodrich, June 24, 1823.  
 do No. 79, Levi Strong, April 16, 1810.  
 do No. 80, George Keith, April 17, 1810.  
 do No. 81, William Baird, May 16, 1814.  
 do No. 82, Nathaniel Vosburgh, October 16, 1824.  
 do No. 83, Trustees M. E. Church, October 15, 1821.  
 do No. 84, Sylvester Mathews, January 20, 1830.  
 do No. 85, and part of 86, S. H. Salisbury, March 20, 1820.  
 do No. 85 and 86, (part of,) P. Bennett, February 6, 1826.  
 do No. 85 and 86, (part of,) Erastus Gilbert, February 5, 1826.  
 do No. 85 and 86, (part of,) Miles P. Squier, July 13, 1825.  
 do No. 87 and 88, A. H. Tracy and John Lay, Jr., Dec. 28, 1829.  
 do No. 89, (part of,) George R. Babcock, November 16, 1830.  
 do No. 89, " Archibald S. Clark, September 20, 1819.  
 do No. 90, " Barent I. Staats, January 5, 1830.  
 do No. 90, " Platt & Clary, September 27, 1829.  
 do No. 91, " Sylvester Chamberlin, April 26, 1826,  
 do No. 91, " Moses Baker, November 17, 1825, and June  
     10, 1835.  
 do No. 92, Thomas C. Love, January 20, 1823.  
 do No. 93, First Baptist Society, January 17, 1822.  
 do No. 94, (part of,) Denison Lathrop, July 2, 1823.  
 do No. 94, (part of,) Walter M. Seymour, January 5, 1827.  
 do No. 95 and 96, Ebenezer Johnson, December 20, 1825.  
 do No. 97, 98 and 99, G. H. Goodrich, June 6, 1829.



- Inner Lot No. 100 and 101, Ebenezer Johnson, August 9, 1824.  
do No. 102 and 103, David E. Evans, April 5, 1811.  
do No. 104, Jesse Bivens, September 25, 1813.  
do No. 105, Gilman Folsom, April 24, 1818.  
do No. 106, Oliver Newbury, December 13, 1825.  
do No. 107, Sally Groosbeck, August 27, 1829.  
do No. 107, (part of,) Charles T. Hicks, January 7, 1825.  
do No. 108 and 109, quit-claim to Trustees Buffalo village, September 20, 1821, and to city, January 2, 1833.  
do No. 110, Amos Callender, December 19, 1816.  
do No. 111 and 112, Trustees Buffalo village, September 20, 1821, city of Buffalo, January 2, 1833.  
do No. 113, (part of,) Stephen K. Grosvenor, April 21, 1818.  
do No. 113, (part of,) George W. Fox, January 20, 1817.  
do No. 114, E. Johnson and S. Wilkeson, January 18, 1825  
do No. 115, (part of,) William Keane, June 8, 1826.  
do No. 115, (part of,) S. G. Austin, January 3, 1828.  
do No. 116, Henry Lake, December 26, 1809.  
do No. 117, R. B. Heacock, May 14, 1814.  
do No. 118, John B. Stone, August 8, 1827.  
do No. 119, E. Johnson and S. Wilkeson, December 20, 1825.  
do No. 120, (part of,) Albert H. Tracy, September 9, 1828.  
do No. 120, (part of,) Daniel Bristol, September 9, 1828.  
do No. 121, Joseph Clary, September 28, 1825.  
do No. 122, George Stow, April 26, 1826.  
do No. 123, James Demarest, February 22, 1830.  
do No. 124, John Lay, Jr., September 1, 1825.  
do No. 125 and 126, Ezekiel Folsom, September 12, 1829.  
do No. 127, Ebenezer Johnson, July 28, 1826.  
do No. 128, Ebenezer Johnson, November 5, 1829.  
do No. 129, Jonathan Sidway, November 11, 1828.  
do Fo. 130, 131 and 132, Thomas C. Love and Henry H. Sizer, July 1, 1828.  
do No. 133, (part of,) William Williams, September 10, 1831.  
do No. 133, (part of,) Roswell Chapin, October 30, 1830.  
do No. 134, 135, 136, 137, and 138, Ebenezer Johnson and Samuel Wilkeson, January 18, 1825.  
do No. 139, Samuel Wilkeson, December 17, 1825.  
do No. 140, (part of,) Moses Ferrin, September 14, 1825.  
do No. 140, (part of,) Samuel Wilkeson, September 14, 1835.  
do No. 141 and 142, Jonathan Sidway, January 3, 1826.  
do No. 143, Guy H. Goodrich, February 22, 1830.  
do No. 144 and 145, Belinda Lathrop, April 16, 1825.  
do No. 146, Elisabeth A. Barnes, August 20, 1830.  
do No. 147 and 148, Christopher and John D. Woolf, March 26, 1826.  
do No. 149, 150 and 151, Emanuel Winter, June 12, 1812.  
do No. 152, 153 and 154, Jeremiah Staats, February 4, 1833.  
do No. 155, Barent I. Staats, March 12, 1829.  
do No. 156 and 157, Myndert M. Dox, January 5, 1825.  
do No. 158, Ontario Insurance Company, June 22, 1825.  
do No. 159, William Keane, September 14, 1827.  
do No. 160 and 161, Jonathan Sidway, November 11, 1828.

- Inner Lot No. 162, Stephen G. Austin, September 13, 1830.  
do No. 163, Walter M. Seymour, January 5, 1827.  
do No. 164 and 165, John C. Lord and Hiram Pratt, October 12, 1829.  
do No. 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174 and 175, Peter Huydekoper, August 8, 1825.  
do No. 176, David Reese, June 21, 1808.  
do No. 177, Joseph D. Hoyt, June 21, 1815.  
do No. 178, Moses Bristol, January 14, 1825.  
do No. 179, (part of,) Theodore Coburn, January 13, 1832.  
do No. 179, (part of,) J. and J. Townsend, January 13, 1830.  
do No. 180, Samuel Bell, December 23, 1819.  
do No. 181, William Keane, July 8, 1815.  
do No. 182, Nathaniel Wilgus, September 1, 1831.  
do No. 183, Ebenezer Walden, December 9, 1830.  
do No. 184 and 185, Supervisors Niagara County, November 21, 1810.  
do No. 186, Horace Griffin, February 27, 1826.  
do No. 187, Noyes Darrow, January 26, 1832.  
do No. 188, H. J. Redfield, March 31, 1843.  
do No. 189 and 190, Jonas Harrison, March 16, 1814.  
do No. 191 and 192, Jonas Harrison, May 11, 1819.  
do No. 193 and 194, Townsend & Coit, December 11, 1816.  
do No. 195 and 196, John E. Marshall, April 12, 1816.  
do No. 197, Seth Grosvenor, November 10, 1818.  
do No. 198, Gilman Folsom, Jr., July 22, 1830.  
do No. 199, Caleb Gillett, August 31, 1825.  
do No. 200, (part of,) Gilman Folsom, Jr., January 22, 1828.  
do No. 200, (part of,) Richard E. Sill, January 22, 1828.  
do No. 201, Denison Lathrop, November 3, 1825.  
do No. 202 and 203, M. A. Andrews, July 26, 1828.  
do No. 204, Elon Galusha, June 21, 1824.  
do No. 203, Henry M. Sizer, July 16, 1833.  
do No. 206, (part of,) Elijah D. Efner, November 2, 1822.  
do No. 206, (part of,) Elias Hubbard, November 2, 1822.  
do No. 207, E. Johnson and S. Wilkeson, January 18, 1825.  
do No. 208, E. Johnson and S. Wilkeson, July 1, 1824.  
do No. 209, John A. Lazell, January 27, 1826.  
do No. 210 and 211, E. Johnson and S. Wilkeson, January 18, 1825.  
do No. 212, Abner Bryant, January 27, 1826.  
do No. 213, Jonathan Sidway, January 31, 1822.  
do No. 214, Elias Hubbard, August 19, 1825.  
do No. 215, Thomas Coatsworth, June 30, 1823.  
do No. 216, Ira A. Blossom, May 16, 1827.
- Water Lot No. 5, Abraham Larzelere, November 18, 1823.  
do No. 6, Samuel Barber, October 13, 1823.  
do No. 7, 8 and 9, (part of,) Charles Townsend and George Coit, September 26, 1823.  
do No. 9, (part of,) Charles Townsend, George Coit, S. Wilkeson and E. Johnson, September 26, 1823.  
do No. 10, S. Wilkeson and E. Johnson, November 1, 1823.  
do No. 11, Jonathan Sidway, April 23, 1824.

- Water Lot No. 13, Hiram Pratt, September 24, 1823.  
do No. 14, Elisha C. Hickox, September 24, 1823.  
do No. 15 and 16, S. Thompson, H. Thompson and J. L. Barton,  
December 2, 1823.  
do No. 17, G. B. Webster, February 18, 1824.  
do No. 18, 19 and 20, Samuel Wilkeson, May 8, 1828.
- Outer Lot No. 1, Louis LeCouteulx, December 6, 1821.  
do No. 2 and 3, Benjamin Ellicott, April 2, 1810.  
do No. 4, Joshua Gillett, September 1, 1810.  
do No. 7, 8, 9 and 10, William Peacock, April 2, 1810.  
do No. 11, David E. Evans and J. Ellicott, Jr., September 21,  
1821.  
do No. 12, Asa Coltrin, May 25, 1814,  
do No. 13, David E. Evans and J. Ellicott, Jr., September 21,  
1821.  
do No. 14, Asa Coltrin, May 25, 1814.  
do No. 15 and 16 David E. Evans and J. Ellicott, Jr., Septem-  
ber 21, 1821.  
do No. 17, Henry Ketchum, June 18, 1812.  
do No. 18, Stephen Stillman, February 15, 1811.  
do No. 19, E. Ensign, July 8, 1813.  
do No. 20, C. R. Sharp, May 10, 1816.  
do No. 21, Samuel Tupper, May 5, 1812.  
do No. 22, " " June 21, 1815.  
do No. 23 and 24, Juba Storrs, January 30, 1811.  
do No. 25, Louis LeCouteulx, November 22, 1815.  
do No. 26, John White, April 7, 1810.  
do No. 27, John B. Ellicott, Jr., and David E. Evans, September  
21, 1821.  
do No. 28, Sylvester Mathews, October 5, 1825.  
do No. 29, Ebenezer Johnson, August 9, 1824.  
do No. 30, " " November 14, 1814.  
do No. 31, John Desparr, April 20, 1807.  
do No. 32, Gilman Folsom, September 28, 1829.  
do No. 33, Jabez Goodell, April 23, 1830.  
do No. 34, Thomas Day, April 23, 1830.  
do No. 35, Louis LeCouteulx, May 11, 1816.  
do No. 36, (part of) Joseph and Benjamin Ellicott, Feb. 29, 1812.  
do No. 36, " United States, September 29, 1819.  
do No. 37, " Joseph and Benjamin Ellicott, Feb. 19, 1812.  
do No. 37, " Horatio J. Stow, July 16, 1844.  
do No. 38, 39, 40, and part of 41, Joseph and Benjamin Ellicott,  
February 29, 1812.  
do No. 41 and 42, (part of,) Letitia M. Bliss, June 14, 1837.  
do No. 42, (part of,) 43, 44, 45 and 46, Joseph and Benjamin Elli-  
cott, February 29, 1812.  
do No. 47, 48, 49 and 50, Elijah Leech, July 19, 1815.  
do No. 52, Jonathan Sidway, November 11, 1828.  
do No. 53, Hiram Pratt, December 1, 1830.  
do No. 54, " " April 11, 1833.  
do No. 55 and 56, Joseph Ellicott, February 28, 1811.  
do No. 57, (part of,) Jonathan Sidway, November 11, 1828.  
do No. " " Sherwood & White, September 29, 1829.



- Outer Lot No. 58, Theodore Coburn, November 27, 1826.  
do No. 59, (part of,) George Stow, December 29, 1825.  
do No. 59, " Heman B. Potter, September 27, 1827.  
do No. 60, 61, 62 and 63, Joseph D. Hoyt, December 26, 1825.  
do No. 64, Elijah D. Efner, December 21, 1821.  
do No. 65, Stephen Clark, March 9, 1832.  
do No. 66 and 67, Thomas Coatsworth, August 25,<sup>m</sup>1830.  
do No. 68, Martin Daley, November 29, 1830.  
do No. 69, C. Tappan and J. Mansfield, November 27, 1829.  
do No. 70, Stephen Champlin, May 23, 1825.  
do No. 71 and 72, Robert Pomeroy, April 6, 1820.  
do No. 73, Hiram Hanchett, June 9, 1810.  
do No. 74, Elijah Leech, December 23, 1808.  
do No. 75, Ebenezer Walden, November 26, 1817.  
do No. 76 and 77, Zenas Barker, August 1, 1814.  
do No. 78, Vincent Grant, July 21, 1807.  
do No. 79 and 80, William Grant, July 8, 1808.  
do No. 81 and 82, J. M. Landon, July 28, 1825.  
do No. 83, Jane E. LeCouteulx, July 28, 1825.  
do No. 84, Isaac Davis, January 29, 1814.  
do No. 85, William Johnston, February 5, 1804.  
do No. 86, Hydraulic Association, November 21, 1827.  
do No. 87, Amasa Ransom, November 20, 1824.  
do No. 88 and 89, Apollos Hitchcock, December 6, 1809.  
do No. 90, 91 and 92, Erastus Granger, December 31, 1809.  
do No. 93, William Johnston, October 27, 1804.  
do No. 94 and 95, R. B. Heacock, December 15, 1826.  
do No. 96, Townsend & Coit, May 31, 1813.  
do No. 97 and 98, Noah Folsom, January 12, 1825.  
do No. 99, 100, 101, 102 and 103, Samuel Pratt, June 7, 1813.  
do No. 104, Joseph Ellicott, October 2, 1810.  
do No. 105, Hiram Pratt, July 21, 1829.  
do No. 106, Silas A. Fobes, April 16, 1831.  
do No. 107, Noyes Barrow, January 13, 1830.  
do No. 108, (part of,) Nathaniel Vosburgh, December 11, 1829.  
do No. 108 and 109, (part of,) John Lay, Jr., July 27, 1827.  
do No. 109, (part of,) Ebenezer Walden, April 4, 1828.  
do No. 110, David E. Evans, September 10, 1821.  
do No. 111, " " April 5, 1811.  
do No. 112, Joseph Stocking and Joseph Dart, September 8, 1829.  
do No. 113 and 114, G. H. Goodrich, October 19, 1830.  
do No. 115, E. A. Bigelow, November 30, 1827.  
do No. 116, James W. Stevens, April 2, 1810.  
do No. 117, Heman B. Potter, May 18, 1815.  
do No. 118, David E. Evans, April 5, 1811.  
do No. 119, Isaac Davis, October 9, 1812.  
do No. 120 and 121, M. A. Andrews, July 28, 1831.  
do No. 122, (part of) Walter M. Seymour, January 5, 1827.  
do No. 122, " Jonas Harrison, May 17, 1814.  
do No. 123, " Ira A. Blossom, June 30th, 1828.  
do No. 123, " Oziel Smith, June 26, 1815.  
do No. 124, Oziel Smith, February 26th, 1813.  
do No. 125, (part of,) William Williams, April 13th, 1830.

Outer Lot	No. 125, (part of,) Ira A. Blossom, June 30th, 1828.
do	No. 126, Isaac Davis, October 9th, 1812.
do	No. 127, 128, 129, and 130, M. A. Andrews, July 28th, 1831.
do	No. 131 and 132, M. A. Andrews, March 19th, 1828.
do	No. 133 and 134, James Rough, October 9th, 1812.
do	No. 135, Jabez Goodell, November 11th, 1834.
do	No. 136, " " June 14th, 1817.
do	No. 137, " " July 22d, 1825.
do	No. 138, Jas. and Henry Campbell, June 22d, 1815.
do	No. 139, Eli Hart, April 1st, 1815.
do	No. 140, Amos Teft, October 23d, 1815.
do	No. 141, Matilda Sharp, July 26th, 1814.
do	No. 142, Philo Andrews, April 16th, 1810.
do	No. 143, Henry Lake, March 16th, 1810.
do	No. 144, Samuel Helm, December 22d, 1809.
do	No. 145, Jabez Goodell, April 8th, 1816.
do	No. 146, " " July 22d, 1825.
do	No. 147, " " December 1st, 1823.
do	No. 148, Silas A. Fobes, November 8th, 1834.
do	No. 149, James Sweeney, August 23d, 1825.
do	No. 150 and 151, Walter M. Seymour, December 1st, 1827.

## CHAPTER IV.

### BUFFALO AS A CITY.

First Election of City Officers — The Cholera Epidemic of 1832 — Incidents of the Scourge — The Board of Health and "the Old Sexton" — First Meeting of the Board of Aldermen — The Panic of 1835-'36 — The City in 1836 — The Patriot War — Death of Dr. Chapin — Reorganization of the School System — Establishment of a Recorder's Court and the Superior Court — The Great Flood of 1844 — The "University of Buffalo" — The Cholera Epidemic of 1849 — Enlargement of the City in 1853 — The Financial Crisis of 1857 — The War of the Rebellion — Comparison of the City of 1862 with that of 1836 — The Park System — City Improvements.

**T**HE preceding chapter finished the history of Buffalo as a village and noted the first step in its existence as a city under the most auspicious prospects. The first election of city officers was held May 28th, 1832, resulting as follows:—

*Mayor*—Ebenezer Johnson.\*

*Clerk*—Dyre Tillinghast.

*Treasurer*—Henry R. Seymour.

*Attorney*—George P. Barker.

*Surveyor*—J. J. Baldwin.

*Street Commissioner*—Edward Baldwin.

*Chief Engineer Fire Department*—Isaac S. Smith.

\* Ebenezer Johnson died at Tellico Plains, Tenn., February 8th, 1840, aged 81 years.

## ALDERMEN.

*First Ward*—Isaac S. Smith, Joseph W. Brown.

*Second Ward*—Jno. G. Camp, Henry Root.

*Third Ward*—David M. Day, Ira A. Blossom.

*Fourth Ward*—Henry White, Major A. Andrews.

*Fifth Ward*—Ebenezer Walden, Thos. C. Love.

The boundaries\* of the five city wards as established by the charter, were as follows:—

“*First Ward*—All that part of the city which lies south and east of the following lines, viz., beginning at a point in said reservation, where a line drawn through the center of Exchange street, would strike said reservation; thence along said line to the center of Exchange street; thence proceeding westwardly along the center of said street to Cazenovia Terrace; thence to the center of Cazenovia Terrace; thence westwardly and northerly along the center of said Terrace to the center of Erie street; thence along the center of Erie street to the center of Erie canal; thence along the center of the canal to the west bounds of York street; thence down the west bounds of York street to Lake Erie; thence due west to the State line.

“*Second Ward*—All that part which lies east of the center of Main street, and north of the center of Exchange street, and north of a line drawn through the center of Exchange street to the said reservation, and south of the center of Eagle street, and south of a line to be drawn in continuation of the north line of Eagle street, to the Buffalo creek reservation.

“*Third Ward*—All that part of the city lying westerly of the center of Main street and northeasterly of the bounds of the First Ward, and southeasterly of the northwesterly bounds of said York street, and southwesterly of the center of Niagara street.

“*Fourth Ward*—All the residue of said city, lying east of the center of Main street, and north of the center of Eagle street.

“*Fifth Ward*—All the residue of said city, lying west of the center of Main street, and northeasterly of the center of Niagara street.”

Early in the summer of 1832 an unwelcome visitor made its appearance in the city, leaving sorrow in its track and producing a marked and depressing effect upon all kinds of business enterprise; this was the terrible and fatal scourge, the Asiatic cholera, which swept over the entire country during that year. Although Buffalo suffered less from the epidemic than many of her sister cities, probably on account of efficient work by her new Board of Health and her healthful surroundings, still the dreaded and mysterious destroyer crossed hundreds of thresholds in the young city leaving mourning and dismay in many households. In midsummer during a portion of July and August, there were one hundred and eight-four cases in Buffalo, eighty of which proved fatal. A brick building on Niagara street was taken for a hospital. In July it was deemed necessary to close the “public burying

\* These boundaries were greatly changed when the corporation was enlarged in 1853, as shown by comparison of the map of the city previous to that date, (printed herein) and the present city map.



ground," (which embraced the present site of the city and county building). This was done, and nine acres purchased near "the northeast bounds of the city," on farm lot No. 30; a portion of this was set apart for the Catholics. Daily bulletins were issued by the Board of Health, showing that during the summer the new cases of the disease daily ranged from one to ten. The Board of Health consisted of Dr. Ebenezer Johnson, (the Mayor), Lewis F. Allen, and Roswell W. Haskins. Dr. Marshall was city physician, and Loren Pierce was city undertaker. Mr. Allen still lives in Buffalo and vividly recollects the general feeling of fear and anxiety which pervaded all classes during that season; the venerable gentleman also relates some ghastly anecdotes of the experiences of himself and his brother officials, while in the discharge of their duties. Mr. Haskins was a nervous man, impulsive and quick in action, while Mr. Pierce was his opposite in temperament, quiet and methodical, doing his gloomy duty by the dead with a grim composure that was admirable, if not almost amusing. One night, Mr. Allen had retired at his home on Main street, worn out with his unusual labors, when a terrific thunderstorm arose. Near midnight he was awakened by a rapping at his window. Going to his door he met Mr. Pierce. The storm was at its height; the lightning flashed across the heavens and thunder rolled almost continuously. The appearance of the undertaker at such an hour on such a night, awakened in Mr. Allen's mind apprehensions of some new calamity.

"For heaven's sake, Pierce," he exclaimed, "what is the matter? Is there any new trouble?"

"No, nothing new," replied the tranquil undertaker; "I have six bodies in the wagon out here, on my way to the grave-yard, and I thought I would call and tell you that everything is all right."

"And have you called me up on such a night as this, only to tell me that you are taking six bodies to the grave-yard in a storm that threatens to drown the city? You don't mean to say that you are alone?"

"O, no," replied Pierce, "Black Tony is out there holding the horses; I guess we can manage it," and off into the storm and darkness went the faithful man, with his solitary assistant, to bury his harvest of the dead. It was, doubtless, an all night task, yet Mr. Pierce\* was at his post in the meeting of the Board at eight o'clock the next morning, placid and deliberate as usual.

But the fatal scourge was conquered at last, (although it appeared again in a less destructive character in 1834,) and with its disappearance men again turned their attention to the business of life, and the young city assumed more than its former activity. The political excitement that attended the Anti-Masonic movement, had passed its zenith, which

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\* Mr. Pierce, the "Old Sexton," died May 24, 1870. It has been said that he had buried 35,000 bodies in Buffalo.

fact also inured to the business prosperity of the community. The great project of a railroad from Buffalo to the Hudson river was beginning to excite discussion, and railroads to other points were suggested; these and kindred projects formed one element in the flood of speculation and inflation that was soon to sweep over the country.

The first meeting of the new Board of Aldermen of the city was held June 4, 1832, at which the Mayor appointed the following standing committees:—

*Finance*—Walden, Blossom, Camp and White.

*Fire and Water*—Smith, Root, Brown and Day.

*Streets, Alleys, Canals and Ferries*—Andrews, Camp, Brown, Blossom and Love.

*Police*—Love, Root, Day, Smith and Andrews.

*Wharves and Public Lands*—White, Walden, Blossom and Love.

John W. Beals and Samuel Jordan were appointed Assistant Engineers, and David M. Day was made City Printer.

The city government being thus established, Buffalo continued upon its brief period of outward prosperity and brilliant expectations. The tide of commerce flowed in from the West, and the products of that rapidly developing section found their way to the Queen City and thence into the Erie canal; the boats that floated down that great commercial highway, laden with grain, came back crowded with emigrants, many of whom settled in and around Buffalo. The fierce rivalry that had formerly existed between the city and Black Rock had become, to a great extent, a thing of the past; on the 29th of October, 1833, grading was begun on a horse railroad to connect the two places; two hundred rods of the road were completed in December, and a car began running; the cost of this road when finished was about \$15,000.\*

During the year 1833, transactions in real estate were numerous and prices somewhat advanced—the first premonition of that marvellous tide of speculation that swept over the land, reaching its climax in 1835-'36, involving almost the entire community in ruin or heavy loss. The city increased in population from 8,653 in 1830, to 15,661 in 1835; this rapid growth, with the inflation of the existing currency and the constantly increasing prices of real estate, combined to turn the heads even of steady-going business men; everybody turned speculator, and a large majority of the numerous real estate transactions were made on credit. The crash came in 1836, with all the disastrous consequences detailed in a subsequent chapter; this portion of the country has never experienced so serious a financial crisis, and Buffalo, from her commercial importance and the eagerness with which her citizens rushed into land speculation, was peculiarly unfitted to meet the shock. All through

\* At the launch of the new steamer, *General Porter*, on Saturday, November 23, 1833, the following toast was given by Dr. Chapin:—

“Buffalo and Black Rock—one and indivisible; may their citizens continue to be united in enterprise and deeds of benevolence as long as Lake Erie bears a wave.”

the year 1837, prices went down lower and lower, while bankruptcy and financial loss generally prevailed on all sides; recovery from this calamity was the slow process of years.

In the year 1836, so rapid had been the march of improvement, there were fifty-two miles of pavement\* laid in the city, and the sewerage system was well inaugurated on some of the prominent streets.

In a paper read before the Historical Society in June, 1880, Rev. George W. Hosmer thus pleasantly referred to the city at this time:—

“So came the Buffalo of 1836! We can see the old signs now along the docks and upon Main street—Joy & Webster, Sheldon, Thompson & Co., Smith & Macy, Wilkeson & Beals, Townsend & Coit, Hollister Brothers, Oliver Forward, Reuben B. Heacock, Judge Love, Dr. Johnson, Pratt & Co., William Williams, S. N. Callender, N. P. Sprague, General Potter, Albert H. Tracy, Millard Fillmore, N. K. Hall, Ira A. Blossom, H. K. Smith, Barker, Hawley & Sill, and physicians and ministers. I should like to call all their names as they come up to me. I have always thought it was a remarkable company of men here in Buffalo in that first period of the city. They had unusual practical force, and there were many among them with uncommon intellectual power. They compare favorably with the builders of other young cities of the West, whom I have known. And there were here in Buffalo, forty years ago, a company of women superior as the men. The new life quickened them and gave spirit and force to the culture and habits they brought with them from older communities.”

Amendments to the act incorporating the city were passed in 1837, in relation to the schools, regulating the grade of the railroad within the city limits, establishing a workhouse and otherwise perfecting the municipal government. In spite of the “hard times” then prevailing, a company was formed, and a charter obtained for building a macadam road from Buffalo to Williamsville; the road was completed a year or two later.

In the winter of 1837-'38, what was known as the “Patriot War” created considerable excitement in Buffalo. This war was the result of Canadian discontent with the English government, finally breaking out in open rebellion. A great deal of sympathy with the “Patriots” was felt here; public meetings were held, which were addressed by prominent citizens, and the United States Marshal appointed thirty deputies from among the leading men of Buffalo, to prevent violations of neutrality between the two countries. The struggle ended about the middle of January, 1838; its history in detail has already been given in the preceding volume.

The winter of 1838-'39, is memorable as one of the mildest ever known along the lake country. In participation in the “Patriot War,” the steamboat *Robert Fulton* went up the lake in January—a sight seldom witnessed.

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\* Mr. Lewis F. Allen states that when he arrived in Buffalo, in 1827, there was not a rod of pavement or sidewalk in the place.



In February, 1839, Dr. Cyrenius Chapin, having just revived his aged spirits sufficiently to express his sympathy with the rebellious Canadian subjects, in public speeches and otherwise, was overtaken by his last sickness. He died, and was buried with military honors on Washington's birthday, his funeral being attended by a vast concourse of people of the city.\*

It was during this period just considered, when a war seemed probable, and the country had not yet escaped from its financial troubles, that the school system of Buffalo was reorganized. The public schools thus far had been ordinary district schools, unsuited to a growing city, and attended principally by children of the poorer classes. But in the financial crash of 1837, many private educational institutions went down and the people were compelled to turn their attention to the neglected public schools. Under a law passed early in 1838, the entire school system of the city was reorganized on a plan similar to that now in force. Oliver G. Steele was appointed superintendent, and much of the work incident upon putting the new system into operation, devolved upon him. The principal features of the reorganized system were large schools, divided into departments, thorough supervision by the superintendent, and substantially free instruction to all children residing in the city. In the summer of 1839, no less than six new school buildings were erected under Mr. Steele's supervision, and competent teachers were employed in all the districts. There was some opposition to this work, mainly on account of the heavy expenditure; but as a whole, the people supported the movement. This subject is fully treated in a subsequent chapter.

By the act of the Legislature passed in 1839, a Recorder's Court was created for the City of Buffalo, and the appointment of the Recorder was vested in the Governor. The term of office was four years, and it was held by Horatio J. Stow from 1840 to 1844; Henry K. Smith from 1844 to 1848. By the constitution adopted in 1846, the office was made elective by the people, under which it was held by Joseph G. Masten from 1848 to 1852; George W. Houghton from 1852 to 1854. An act was passed in 1854 by which this court was reorganized and merged into the present Superior Court, with three Judges, whose term of office was fixed at six years. Provision was also made that the incumbent of the office of Recorder at the time of the reorganization, should serve as one of the Judges of the Superior Court for the remaining portion of the term for which he had been elected. Recorder Houghton was, therefore, under this arrangement, entitled to serve two years as Judge of the new court. At the first election under the new law, George W. Clinton and Isaac A. Verplanck were chosen as the other Judges, and upon

\* Further reference to Dr. Chapin, will be found in the chapter on the Buffalo Medical profession.



*W. W. L. Little*





casting lots for the long and the short terms, Judge Clinton secured the full term of six years, and Judge Verplanck that of four years. The Judges of the reorganized court have been:—

George W. Houghton, 1854 to 1856; I. A. Verplanck, 1854 to 1858; George W. Clinton, 1854 to 1860; Joseph G. Masten, 1856 to 1862; I. A. Verplanck, 1858 to 1864; George W. Clinton, 1860 to 1866; Joseph G. Masten, 1862 to 1868; I. A. Verplanck, 1864 to 1870; George W. Clinton, 1866 to 1872; Joseph G. Masten, 1868 to 1871; James M. Humphrey, 1871 to 1872; James Sheldon, 1872, (now in office;) I. A. Verplanck, 1870 to 1873; James M. Smith, 1873 to 1874; James M. Smith, 1874, (now in office;) George W. Clinton, 1872 to 1878; Charles Beckwith, 1878, (now in office.)

Judge Masten died in the spring of 1871, after serving two terms and a half, or fifteen years, and James M. Humphrey was appointed by Governor Hoffman, to fill the vacancy. At the succeeding election in November, 1871, James Sheldon was elected as the successor of Mr. Humphrey.

Judge Verplanck died in the spring of 1873, after serving two full terms, and two fractional terms, or a little more than eighteen years, and James M. Smith was appointed to the vacancy, by Governor Dix. At the succeeding election in November, 1873, Judge Smith was chosen his own successor.

Judge Clinton was retired under the Constitution, on account of age, on the 31st day of December, 1877, and was succeeded by Judge Beckwith, who was elected at the November election preceding.

By the Constitutional Amendment of 1870, the term of office was extended to fourteen years, and it is also provided that the judges shall be elected for the full term of fourteen years, whether chosen to fill a vacancy, or otherwise.

The clerks of the court have been: M. Cadwallader, 1839 to 1844; Nelson Ford, 1844 to 1846; C. M. Cooper, 1846 to 1848; William Davis, 1848 to 1851; Jared S. Torrance, 1851 to 1856; Dyre Tillinghast,\* 1856 to 1862; Thomas M. Foote, 1862 to 1863; Amos A. Blanchard, 1863 to 1865; John C. Graves, 1875, and now holding the office.

Previous to the year 1840, the Mayors of Buffalo were chosen by the Common Council. In the winter of 1839, a law was passed providing that the Mayors should thereafter be elected by the people. Sheldon Thompson was the first mayor elected under that law, in 1840.

In May, 1842, an agreement was finally consummated, after considerable negotiation, the details of which have been given in the preceding volume, by which the Indians gave up their Buffalo Creek reservation and other lands, to the Ogden Company, and during the years 1843 and 1844, the Buffalo Creek Indians departed from the lands where they

\* Mr. Tillinghast was the first city clerk of Buffalo; he died March 18, 1872, aged sixty-four years.

had dwelt for more than sixty years, and which had been a favorite place of assemblage for the nation for nearly two centuries. From that time to the present, little has been seen in Buffalo of the dusky faces and stately forms of the race that made its site their home long before the ancestors of the city's present proud occupants looked forth upon the blue waters of the great lake. The stern and majestic chiefs, the lithe and graceful young braves, the quaintly dressed squaws and their offspring, once so conspicuous in the streets of Buffalo, are gone—whither; before what is called “the march of civilization,” they have disappeared—a fate that cannot fail to awaken saddening reflections in the earnest and impartial mind, especially must this be true of those older residents of the city, who mingled with the once possessors of the soil and found much to admire in many of their untaught natures.

On Friday, October 18, 1844, the city was visited by a most remarkable and destructive gale, accompanied by an overflow of the lake. During the day a fresh wind had blown from the northeast. About eleven o'clock in the evening it shifted to the southwest and west and soon arose to a terrific gale which continued all night. The waters of the lake, which had been driven back by the northeast wind, were blown down upon the city causing a rise of two feet more than was ever known before or since. The damage to shipping and to the city was immense, and what was still more deplorable, between thirty and forty lives were lost, mostly by drowning. About one-third of the length of the stone pier was washed out; the wharves were badly damaged, and the flats east of Main and south of Seneca street presented a scene of wreck and desolation; stranded scows and canal boats, lumber and other *debris* were scattered in all directions; the brig *Ashland* was thrown upon the south pier; the steamer *G. Dole* was thrown high and dry into Ohio street, while just above her lay the *Bunker Hill*; the *Columbus* lay near Michigan street above high water mark, and the United States steamer *Albert* was high and dry below the pier, and a large number of canal boats were driven up on the land, from the Hydraulics to the bounds of the city. The loss of shipping on the lake was very heavy. Numerous buildings in the city were demolished or badly damaged. The engine-house of the Buffalo & Attica railroad was blown down, as was also the glass factory of H. Hodge & Co.,—while chimneys were demolished, cellars were filled and the shanties and small houses of poor people near the lake were destroyed and washed away. The damage in the city was estimated at as much as two hundred thousand dollars. Two girls were drowned in the basement kitchen of Huff's (now Moeller's) hotel, 95 Main street, and eight persons were drowned near Wilkeson's foundry, which stood near the site of the Wilkeson elevator. The calamity was an appalling one and its disastrous effects were only partially alleviated by the prompt action of the people

of the city in relieving the distress of the sufferers, through liberal subscriptions.

In the year 1845 the population of the city had increased to 29,773, from 18,213 in 1840, and the place had to a great extent recovered from the effects of the financial crisis of ten years before; in the rush of emigration westward and the general development of the country, that event was nearly forgotten by the masses of the people. The great elevator system, which has worked wonders for the commerce of Buffalo, was inaugurated by Joseph Dart in 1843, and was just beginning to bear its legitimate fruits. Fleets of grain-laden vessels, growing more and more numerous with each year, poured their golden cargoes into the boats, bins and elevators of Buffalo harbor, whence they were shipped forward to tide-water, leaving their tithe in the growing city and filling her wharves and streets with thousands of busy men. New streets were laid out and old ones were extended farther into the surrounding country; new buildings of better and more substantial architecture, arose on every hand, while municipal institutions and departments were improved and extended.

It was in this year (1845) that the grand project of the "University of Buffalo" was inaugurated; this institution was intended to rival the greatest universities of the country. The medical department was organized in August, 1846, as the Buffalo Medical College. Under the direction of the eminent physicians who then practiced here, the institution soon took a foremost position, which it has ever since held; but the university project ended with the establishment of the medical college.

The cholera visited Buffalo for the third time in May, 1849, in its most malignant form. On the last of May, one hundred and thirty-four cases had been reported, with fifty-one deaths. From that date down to about September 10, the scourge swept over the city, the number of cases daily averaging from fifteen to nearly one hundred, and the deaths from one to twenty-five. The total number of cases in the city was a little over three thousand, and the deaths nearly 900. In spite of vigorous action on the part of the Board of Health, as well as among the people at large, the career of the fatal disease was an appalling one and spread mourning and anxiety through the entire community. Many left the city for refuge in the purer air of the country, while the inhabitants of the surrounding towns dreaded the approach of residents of Buffalo. The disease carried off many prominent people, both in the city and country.

About the year 1850, the growth of Buffalo had been so rapid and the future of the city looked so promising, the project of enlarging its boundaries began to be discussed. At that time the town of Black Rock hemmed in the city on the landward side, as indicated on the map of the territory embraced in the first city limits. The movement towards



enlargement\* took definite shape in April, 1853, when a new charter was granted under the provisions of which the entire town of Black Rock was absorbed and the enlarged city divided into thirteen wards. The new municipal domain was about nine miles long, north and south, by from three to five miles in width. The first election under the new boundaries was for the year 1854; the mayor, comptroller, treasurer, attorney, surveyor, street commissioner, superintendent of schools, overseer of the poor, were elected for two years and the mayor ceased to be a member of the Common Council, as had previously been the case, the presiding officer of that body being selected from the members. Eli Cook (democratic) was elected mayor for 1854-'55.

The new charter changed the boundaries of the wards substantially to their present location, with the exception of the seventh and twelfth wards, which were extended to their present limits in 1870. A comparison of the map of the city before it was enlarged, (in this volume,) with the present city map, will indicate to the reader the character of the changes in the ward boundaries.

In 1857 the era of prosperity which Buffalo had enjoyed for several years was interrupted. The overdoing of business, speculation and general financial recklessness, with inflation and depreciation of the currency, produced their natural result. While this crisis and panic was not nearly so disastrous as its predecessor of twenty years before, still it caused a great deal of ruin and general "hard times," the effects of which were seriously felt for two or three years after. A subsequent chapter devoted to financial matters treats more fully of this topic.

On the 15th of April, 1861, the Buffalo morning newspapers were ablaze with the tidings of the bombardment of Fort Sumter. The effects of that event, as witnessed in this city, were similar to those in other localities. Business almost ceased. War was the topic on every tongue.

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\*Although the city had shown remarkable development during the few years just preceding 1852, yet that some portions of it fell very far short of their present condition will be inferred from the following extract from the Historical Address of Charles E. West, LL. D., at the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Buffalo Female Academy, in 1875:—

"The older persons of my audience will remember that no improvements had been made in this part of the city, (the vicinity of the Female Academy). Our beautiful Delaware Avenue was not paved—a broken plank sidewalk was all it could boast; no water or gas pipes had been laid—a few miserable oil-lamp lights only served to make the darkness more hideous. The cottage stood with a fine yard of evergreens and two stately willows as sentinels in front—its garden and low, homely sheds in rear; while beyond was an unsightly piece of ground, covered with rubbish, called a park, the common rendezvous of hogs, geese and dirty children. Such was the aspect and condition of things, when the Academy began its work. Everything had to be done. How different the Delaware Avenue of to-day from the Delaware Avenue of twenty-five years ago! Just north of us, on one side, were a lumber yard, a brick yard and a soap factory, while further up on the other, were a lead factory and some dilapidated military barracks. Scarcely a house of any pretension was to be seen—but now how changed! The wand of the fairy magician has wrought its wondrous transformations! Palatial residences, with their beautiful parterres of flowers and evergreens, have sprung up, the admiration of the stranger! Then, the Avenue led nowhere but to the swamps of Scajaquada Creek and the more desolate lands beyond, but now it leads to the beautiful city of the dead and to the lovely Park with its pathways, its serpentine walks, its romantic lake and miniature islands, and its expansive lawns dotted with umbrageous oaks of a century's growth! Such are some of the physical changes which have marked the quarter-century we are contemplating."

The high treason was denounced on every hand. When the first shock of the portentous event had passed away, then the citizens of Buffalo showed themselves as fully imbued with patriotism and liberality as the people of any other city in the Union. The militia put itself in readiness for active duty. The people subscribed \$30,000 to provide for volunteers and their families, to which sum the Common Council added \$50,000. War was imminent and the people began in earnest to prepare for it. Nearly a hundred of the prominent elderly citizens of the city enrolled themselves as a company of "Union Continentals." The old Continental uniform was adopted and ex-President Fillmore was chosen Captain of the company.

Of the part taken in the bloody strife that followed, by the thousands of volunteers from the city of Buffalo and the surrounding towns of Erie county, the reader has been given a detailed history, as far as it is accessible, in the preceding volume. It is sufficient to say here that the sons of the Queen City went forth, many of them never to return, to do their part in the struggle for the permanence of the government, with the same high degree of patriotic devotion that inspired the whole people of the State, and as numerous in proportion to the population of the city, as volunteered from any other similar community in the country.

Just after the breaking out of the war, late in 1861 or early in 1862, the lamented Guy H. Salisbury wrote as follows, in comparing the city at that time with its condition in 1836, twenty-five years before:—

"In 1836 we had less than 16,000 inhabitants. Now we may in round numbers count 100,000. We had then but a single street paved, for one-fifth of a mile in length—now we have fifty-two miles of superior pavement in one hundred and thirty-seven streets or two hundred and fifty-nine times as much as in 1836. Then we had but one mile of imperfectly constructed sewers, in three streets—now we have an extensive and connected system of sewerage, of which fifty-two miles have already been built in the most substantial manner, in one hundred and twenty-four streets, the benefits of which to the public health, cleanliness and comfort will be incalculable. We had then but the dim lamps of the oyster cellars to light the steps of benighted aldermen and drowsy watchmen—now we have one of the best gas works in the Union, whose castellated edifice is a model of graceful architecture, and which has laid down fifty-five miles of street mains, furnishing a beautiful light to over twenty-one hundred street lamps, elevated on a tasteful iron column, whose long lines of flaming cressets are in brilliant contrast with the sombre gloom through which we used to grope our way. Then we obtained the indispensable element of water from public and private wells, often at inconvenient distances; while, for the extinguishment of fires, we had to depend mainly upon reservoirs under the streets in only the central parts of the city, that were filled by a "Water-Jack" affair, drawn to and from the canal by a pair of horses. Now, we have the current of the Niagara river flowing in large iron pipes through every section of the city, supplying numerous hydrants, whence our principal steam fire-engines have always an exhaustless supply for arresting conflagrations; while in our residen-

ces the touch of a child's finger can summon the gushing waters as easily as could the nymphs of Undine, midst their native streams.

"Our harbor was in 1836 of such limited capacity as to present a seeming barrier to the increase of our commercial business. Now, by an enlarged and liberal system of improvement we have in all, some thirteen miles of water front, for lake and canal craft—enough to answer all the wants of our commerce for an indefinite period. This, too, is exclusive of Black Rock harbor, and the new commercial emporium of Tonawanda, which, some years since, neglecting her mullet fisheries, had ambitious aspirations to become an infant rival of Buffalo and a colony of Cleveland. It has been understood that the experiment was not a success.

"In 1836 we had but a single railroad running into Buffalo—that from Niagara Falls—of not less than twenty miles in length, with no connection whatever with any other road. Now, we have the great New York Central, with its vast freight and passenger depots and enormous business—the New York and Erie, the terminus of whose line, is practically here—the Buffalo and State Line, with its interminable western connections—the Buffalo, New York and Erie, and the Buffalo and Lake Huron, connecting with the Great Western and Grand Trunk railways, and altogether with over 2,000 miles of Canadian roads.

"And in the convenience of local travel, within the city limits, the change is great indeed. In 1836 we had but four omnibusses, making hourly trips through a part of Main street, and literally a one-horse railroad that made occasional trips between the terrace market and Black Rock ferry. Now, we have eleven miles of well built double track street railways, through our most important avenues, running sixty elegant passenger cars, not surpassed in any city, that make regular trips every five and ten minutes, greatly facilitating the travel and intercourse between the distant sections of the city, rendering a suburban residence a cheap, accessible and desirable home, and adding more to the permanent value of the property thus benefitted, than all the cost of the roads and their ample equipment."

On the 25th of January, 1865, the American Hotel was burned to the ground, and James H. Sidway, William H. Gillett and George H. Tift, were killed by a falling wall.

As will be seen by a perusal of a subsequent chapter, the manufacturing interests of Buffalo had not developed to a very encouraging degree previous to about 1860. At that time earnest men of the city made a vigorous effort to stimulate interest in the subject, and to attract capital from other points for investment in manufacturing in this city. An "Association for the Encouragement of Manufacturing in Buffalo," was formed, through the efforts of which, combined with a growing conviction that this was a desirable point for the establishment of manufacturing enterprises, an impetus was given in this direction, the effects of which have continued down to the present time. The growth of the city in this respect has been of a healthy and permanent character; few failures of important manufacturing establishments have ever occurred, and the present importance and future supremacy of Buffalo, over most



other cities of its size, in respect to its manufactures, is generally acknowledged. The proper development of these interests cannot but prove a powerful element in the future growth and prosperity of the city.\*

In 1862, a law was passed under the provisions of which the different wards of the city were allowed more than one Supervisor each, as had previously been the case, with the exception of the Thirteenth Ward. The First, Second, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Wards had three Supervisors in the year 1862, and after that year, two each, the same as all the other wards, except the Thirteenth.

The last time that warlike demonstrations were made in the city of Buffalo was during the first half of June, 1866, when the city was made an important rendezvous by the Fenian organization preparatory to its invasion of Canada. During that futile attempt to capture Canada, as a preliminary step to the subjugation of Great Britain, Buffalo was the headquarters of detachments of the Fenians, and a point of departure for Canadian soil, as well as a haven of retreat at the end of the inglorious campaign. The Fenian soldiers began to arrive in the city during the last days of May, and by the first of June there were probably about a thousand of the organization quartered here, although the entire movement, especially at the outset, was generally received with ridicule by all who were not in direct sympathy with it; yet the presence of so many strangers in the city, and the dissemination of numerous wild rumors, caused a good deal of excitement.

Towards midnight of the 31st of May, squads of the invaders were marching through the streets towards Black Rock, and a train of loaded wagons, with munitions of war, went northward to the vicinity of the Pratt rolling-mill, whence they crossed to Canada, on canal boats towed by tugs. The Fenian force here was then under immediate command of General O'Neil. The United States authorities took steps early in the movement, to prevent the transportation of men and arms across the river. The steamer *Michigan* passed down the river and took a position about opposite the Clinton mills, at 6 o'clock A. M., of June 1st, but she was too late to oppose the crossing of the invaders, as above noted. It is supposed that nearly one thousand Fenians crossed the river that night. Two armed tugs were placed in the harbor as a patrol.

When it became known that an aggressive movement had actually been made, the excitement in the city greatly increased. Crowds lined the river bank, and an almost continuous tide of travel turned toward Black Rock during the first day of June. In the evening of that day, a Fenian meeting was held in the Opera House. On the 2d, General Grant arrived in the city, and placed General William F. Barry in command of the frontier, with authority to call out the National Guard, if necessary. A detachment of the regular army were ordered to Fort Porter, from

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\* See subsequent chapter on "Manufactures of Buffalo."

Sackett's Harbor, and prompt measures were adopted to prevent further hostile movements from this side.

Of the brief operations of the Fenian force that crossed the river here, little need be said. An engagement was fought at Limestone Ridge, on Saturday, June 2d, resulting disastrously to the invaders. In the meantime, large numbers of the organization continued to arrive in Buffalo, and an attempt was made to reinforce General O'Neil during Saturday night following the engagement; but the boats were met by orders from the General to return with the reinforcements, and then proceed to Fort Erie, for the purpose of transporting to Buffalo the retreating Fenians. This was attempted; but when the boats were midway in the river, they were met by the propeller *Harrison* and ordered to surrender; they did so, and were taken under the guns of the *Michigan*. Something over five hundred men were captured, but a large number escaped before the final release of the main body.

While this movement practically ended the invasion, it did not stop the excitement in Buffalo. Train loads of Fenians continued to arrive, mass-meetings were held, and boasts were freely made that the invaders would again plant their standard on British soil, within a few days. On the 4th, a detachment of artillery arrived at Fort Porter, from Fort Hamilton. On the 5th, Captain Randall's force of militia captured several wagon loads of arms, which had arrived at the express office here.

The prospect at this time must have been a hopeless one to the Fenians; but this fact did not serve to prevent an enthusiastic mass-meeting in the opera house, on the evening of the 5th, at which City Clerk, C. S. Macomber, presided.

On the 5th, orders were made public in the city, signed by the Attorney General of the United States, for the arrest of all persons supposed to be connected with the Fenians. This action exerted a very depressing influence upon the whole movement; but arrivals of Fenians continued until the 8th. On the 7th the chief Fenian officers who had been captured, to the number of eighteen, gave bail before Judge Clinton and were released; the other prisoners were soon after set free on their own recognizances.

Orders were issued on the 12th, under which the entire Fenian force returned to their homes, General Barry furnishing transportation. On the 14th, the following bulletin was printed in the local newspapers:—

“On behalf of that portion of the Fenian army who rendezvoused in this city but a few days, the undersigned beg to return their most profound gratitude to the citizens of Buffalo. Coming among you as strangers and stigmatized by those in British interests, the courtesy and aid you have so generously extended is, therefore, the more appreciated, and is characteristic of that indomitable love of liberty which is a prominent feature in the American people. Those who have thus shared your hospitality are now compelled to return to their homes without accomplish-

ing the object dearest to their hearts, and for which they were ready to offer up their lives." [After reviewing the causes of their defeat, the bulletin concludes:] "In conclusion, it affords us much pleasure that the conduct of the men has been such as not to disgrace the cause and to meet your general approval.

J. W. FITZGERALD.

"June 14, 1866.

MICHAEL SCANLAN."

In the summer of 1868, Mr. Frederick Law Olmstead, the distinguished landscape architect of New York city, was called to Buffalo by a number of public-spirited citizens, who saw the great need of providing the city with a broad and beneficent system of public parks before it should be too late. The subject had often been earnestly discussed for several years previous to this first public act in that direction. The gentlemen through whose agency Mr. Olmstead's services were first secured, were Messrs. Pascal P. Pratt, Sherman S. Jewett, Richard Flach, Joseph Warren and Wm. Dorsheimer. Hon. Wm. F. Rogers was then mayor of the city and he lent his favor and influence to the movement; it was further advanced by the liberal policy of the Common Council. After a thorough examination of the city with reference to the possibilities of establishing parks, Mr. Olmstead made a full report of such favorable character that action was at once begun under its general recommendations. A Board of Park Commissioners was appointed and an act of the Legislature passed in April, 1869, authorizing the issue of bonds for the prosecution of the work. During the succeeding five or six years, under immediate supervision of Mr. Wm. McMillan, superintendent, work was vigorously pushed on all parts of the park system, resulting finally in the magnificent free public resorts with which the city is now provided. The parks and their construction will be found fully described in a subsequent chapter.

On the 24th of June, 1872, the corner stone of that noble structure, the City and County Building, was laid, with appropriate ceremonies; the building has been described in the preceding volume. It was finished and ready for occupancy early in 1876. On the 28th of February of that year, the Common Council appointed a special committee to make suitable arrangements for the formal occupancy of the new structure. This committee was composed of the president, A. S. Bemis, and Aldermen A. L. Lothridge, Nathan C. Simons, Elijah Ambrose, and Clerk, R. D. Ford. In behalf of the bar of the city, Hon. George W. Clinton prepared and submitted to his professional brethren the following paper:—

"It is announced that on the 13th inst., the new City and County Hall will be open for the reception of all our Courts of Record. It seems to us impossible that the gentlemen of benches and bar can bid farewell to the old court house without a feeling of regret; and we venture to suggest the propriety of their assembling therein at two o'clock P. M., of Saturday next, for the purpose of a free interchange of memories and social intercourse.

"BUFFALO, March 7, 1876."



These were the preliminary steps towards the series of meetings, addresses, congratulations, resolutions, and other ceremonies by the municipal authorities, the bar and the clergy, attendant upon the dedication and occupancy of the new City Hall. The Common Council met for the last time in the old court house, March 6, 1876. The new building was thrown open to the public on the 13th of March, 1876. The exercises by the members of the bench and bar were very interesting, and will be more fully detailed in a subsequent chapter. At a meeting held in the old court house, in Clinton street, many interesting and able addresses were made, most of them of a historical nature and all partaking of the character of a farewell to the old building where so many grand legal triumphs had been won. In the address by Hon. James Sheldon on that occasion, he thus referred to the first court house:—

“At the time the court house was erected (1817) it was the finest and most imposing edifice in the village. Situated upon the highest point of land in the corporation limits, it was visible from every direction and from the cupola or tower, an extensive view was presented of the village and of Lake Erie and the surrounding country. It must be remembered that for many years the adjacent buildings were, with but few exceptions, only two stories in height, so that they offered no obstruction to the view of the splendid scenery which was spread before the observer. Indeed it was the custom of our hospitable people to escort all visitors to the tower, in order to point out for their admiration the broad expanse of Lake Erie, whitened by the sails of commerce, the beautiful river of Niagara and the shores of Canada, where the historic ruins of Fort Erie were already growing gray with the decay of years. The court house bell, which some of us have heard from infancy, not only rang to indicate the hours for the assembling of courts or religious or other public meetings, but pealed forth many an alarm when conflagrations threatened and the villagers all hastened, carrying their leathern buckets from their houses, to aid in preventing the destruction of the homes and property of their neighbors.”

The old court house to which Judge Sheldon referred, was torn down in 1875. All the business of the city government, as well as that of the county, is now transacted in the magnificent new City and County Hall, which is located on the square between Franklin, Delaware, Church and Eagle streets. The total cost of this structure, including its furnishing and the improvement of the grounds, was \$1,450,000.

On the 20th day of May, 1880, an act was passed by the Legislature, creating a Municipal Court in Buffalo. Its purpose was to displace all the Justices' Courts then existing in the city. The law gives the Municipal Court jurisdiction over all cases in the city where \$300 or less, in money, are involved; in matters of accounts where the total sum of the accounts of both parties does not exceed \$600; cases of damage to person or property to the amount of \$300; on confession of judgment, where the amount confessed does not exceed \$500; and in some other



*Sherman S. Rogers.*





classes of cases. There are two judges of this court, who were appointed by the mayor, and confirmed by the Common Council; the term of one of them is six and one-half years, from July 1, 1880, and of the other five and one-half years. At the expiration of the terms of the present judges, the offices will be filled by election. The act provides that the Justices of the Peace holding office at the time of the erection of the new court, should finish their terms. The first Judges of the Municipal Court are George S. Wardwell and George A. Lewis. Otto Volger is Clerk of the Court.

The surface of the land on which the city of Buffalo stands, is of such a character as to afford excellent natural advantages for drainage; but the construction of that portion of the Erie Canal, known as the Main and Hamburg street canal, intercepted the natural line of drainage in the section of the city through which it passes; as a consequence the sewage of that portion of the city has for many years been drained into the canal, creating a dangerous and offensive nuisance that has become more and more a source of trouble and anxiety, as the city has become more thickly settled. This fact has led to repeated efforts on the part of the city government, to devise some means for the abatement of the evil. Unavailing appeals to the State for assistance in the matter have been made, and different plans, such as the extension of the canal up to the Buffalo Creek, near the stone bridge of the Lake Shore Railroad, damming the creek at the sulphur springs, and taking the water through the old hydraulic canal and thence into the Hamburg; placing a water-wheel in the Ohio basin slip, to create a current in the offensive waters of the canal, with many others of less importance, have been tried or discussed, but none of them promised accomplishment of the desired object. Prolonged agitation and discussion of the subject through several years past, finally resulted in a conclusion on the part of the city authorities, that permanent relief could be expected only from an intercepting sewer, which should cut off the sewage from the canal, and extending far enough northward along the Niagara river, to empty its flow into that stream.

In the discussion that arose as to the best method of securing competent supervision of this great work, Mayor Grover Cleveland strenuously advocated the appointment of a commission which should have full charge of the undertaking until finished; in this he was opposed by the Common Council and some other city officials. In a communication submitted to the Council on February 20, 1882, the Mayor said:—

“The construction of this sewer is, I believe, the most extensive work, and will probably involve more expenditure and more care and attention, than any other ever before attempted in this city. It should meet all the necessities of the future and anticipate the needs of the increased growth and progress which awaits us. There should be no

mistake made in locating the sewer; and the manner of its construction should be superintended and constantly watched by the best engineering skill and care. The advantage of having the work commenced and completed under the same management, must be obvious. Your honorable body has quite enough to occupy your time in the ordinary matters of municipal affairs, which from week to week are urged upon your consideration; and our city engineer and his corps of assistants should be constantly employed in the city's current affairs, which necessarily fall to his department. Under these circumstances I beg leave to suggest that the construction of the contemplated sewer be put in the hands of a commission of our citizens, who shall have full charge of the work."

The commission advised by the Mayor was finally agreed upon, when he nominated Messrs. Daniel C. Beard, Jacob Scheu, George Gorham, Michael Nellany and George B. Mathews, who were subsequently confirmed. Before deciding upon the route of the proposed sewer, the services of the distinguished sanitary engineer, George E. Waring, Jr., were secured, who acted in conjunction with the commission in selecting the route, which was made as follows:—

"Beginning at the mill-race sewer in Swan street, following the line of Swan street to the terrace, through the Terrace to Court street, through Court street to Fourth street, as far as Porter Avenue, thence along the slope of the front to the bank of the canal, and along the bank of the canal to a point near Albany street and to the south thereof, and thence under the Erie canal and Black Rock harbor out into the Niagara river."

City bonds for \$150,000 were issued dated November 1, 1882, for the construction of this work. The estimated cost of the sewer is \$764,370. Work was begun about April 1, 1883.

#### SUPERVISORS OF BUFFALO.

Following is a complete list of the Supervisors of the different wards of the city of Buffalo since its enlargement in 1854 to the present time:—

*First Ward*—1854, Patrick Milton; 1855-'58, Thomas Edmonds; 1859, Michael Collins; 1860-'61, John O'Donnell; 1862, Thomas Edmonds, John O'Donnell, James Fleeharty; 1863, James Fleeharty, Thomas M. Knight; 1864, T. M. Knight, Dennis McNamara; 1865, James Fleeharty, Joseph Murphy; 1866, Austin Hanrahan, George Campbell; 1867, A. Hanrahan, Maurice Courtney; 1868, A. Hanrahan, Mathias Ryan; 1869, A. Hanrahan, John Pier; 1870, J. Pier, Edward Mullihan; 1871, J. Pier, John Manning; 1872, Alex Love, G. G. Smith; 1873, G. G. Smith, James Hanrahan; 1874, James McCarthy, Thomas Quinn; 1875-'76, John Norris, James Manahar; 1877, Jeremiah Higgins, James Manahar; 1878, Jeremiah Higgins, Hugh Hogan; 1879, Hugh Hogan, John Hynes; 1880, Hugh Hogan, John Hynes; 1881, Hugh Hogan, James Reardon; 1882, James Reardon, J. McCarthy; 1883, Joseph McCarthy, Dennis Corbett.

*Second Ward*—1854, Charles E. Young; 1855, Nelson K. Hopkins; 1856, Orlando Allen; 1857, '58, '59 and '60, William C. White; 1861, J. K. Tyler; 1862, John M. Scott, Amos Morgan, James S. Lyon; 1863, William M. Scott, James S. Lyon; 1864, J. S. Lyon, Hugh Webster; 1865, Hugh Webster, Walter G. Seeley; 1866, Hugh Webster, W. G. Seeley; 1867, Hugh Webster, Z. Bonney; 1868, Z. Bonney, P. J. Ferris; 1869, H.

Webster Z. Bonney; 1870-'71, H. Webster, Albert Haight; 1872, A. Haight, Daniel Post; 1873-'75, E. R. Saxton, A. L. Lothridge; 1876, E. R. Saxton, J. M. Comstock; 1877, John Comstock, Frederick Kendall; 1878, Frederick Kendall, Phillip Hoenig; 1879, Phillip Hoenig, John Roberts; 1880, John Roberts, Charles A. Butman; 1881, Charles A. Butman, Frederick Kendall; 1882, Frederick Kendall, Charles A. Butman; 1883, Frederick Kendall, Charles A. Butman.

*Third Ward*—1854, N. H. Gardner; 1855-'56, Zadoc G. Allen; 1857, John M. Daniel; 1858, William M. Scott; 1859, Z. G. Allen; 1860, Whitney A. Case; 1861, Joshua Barnes; 1862, James P. Bennett, John Stearn; 1863, George Bymus, John Zier; 1864-'65, John Zier, Matthew O'Brien; 1866, George Gehring, J. Baumgarten; 1867, Milton Wilder, Bernard Knor; 1868, Milton Wilder, N. Seibert; 1869, J. A. Seymour, W. A. Carney; 1870, John Mahoney, J. V. Hayes; 1871, J. V. Hayes, Anselm Haefner; 1872, J. V. Hayes, G. M. Ruhlman; 1873, Frederick Arend, G. H. Kennedy; 1874, J. G. Streich, William Dolan; 1875, W. W. Buffum, J. G. Streich; 1876, W. W. Buffum, E. W. Evans; 1877, E. W. Evans, Louis F. Heimlich; 1878, Louis F. Heimlich, Patrick Corriston; 1879, Patrick Corriston, William Dolan; 1880, William Dolan, W. H. Carney; 1881, W. H. Carney, J. W. Leech; 1882, J. W. Leech, Nicholas Merzig; 1883, J. W. Leech, Nicholas Merzig.

*Fourth Ward*—1854-'55, O. Vaughn; 1856, S. Bettinger; 1857, Harry Slade; 1858, Nicholas Ottenot; 1859, George P. Stevenson; 1860, Richard Flach; 1861, ———; 1862, B. W. Skidmore, Philip G. Lorenz, Frank Fischer; 1863, Frank Fischer, Joseph W. Smith; 1864, Harmon H. Griffin, Jacob Gittere; 1865, M. Leo Ritt, Levi Curtiss; 1866, Thomas Farnham, George M. Kolb; 1867, P. J. Ripont, L. P. Mauer; 1868, A. C. Hudson, F. J. Stephan; 1869, W. S. Ovens, F. C. Fischer; 1870, G. C. Grimard, Ludwig Wilhelm; 1871, Ludwig Wilhelm, F. J. Stephan; 1872, W. W. Lawson, Louis Hesman; 1873, W. W. Lawson, Charles Person; 1874-'75, E. Bertrand, Jr., C. Wagner; 1876, E. Bertrand, C. F. Mensch; 1877, Charles Mensch, Ernst Bamberg; 1878, Ernst Bamberg, Daniel H. Pierson; 1879, Daniel H. Pierson, Ernst Bamberg; 1880, Louis Herman, Daniel H. Person; 1881, Daniel H. Person, George J. Reister; 1882, George J. Reister, Benjamin Killinger; 1883, O. J. Glenn, Julius J. Herbold.

*Fifth Ward*—1854, A. Webster; 1855-'56, Sebastian Diebold; 1857, '58, George Zillig; 1859-'60, Andrew Gross; 1861, Orrin Lockwood, 1862, James S. Irwin, Henry Nauert, George Baldus; 1863, James S. Irwin, George Baldus; 1864-'65, James S. Irwin, George Baldus; 1865, J. S. Irwin, George Baldus; 1867, Henry Fort, John Huels; 1868; C. G. Irish, Charles Sauer; 1869, William Seymour, William Critchley; 1870-'71, William Seymour, Caspar J. Drescher; 1872, William Heinrich, Conrad Sieber; 1873, C. Sieber, P. F. Lawson; 1874-'75, William Seymour, Louis Fritz; 1876, L. Fritz, P. F. Lawson; 1877, Lyman A. Daniels, Fred H. Tuhl; 1878, Lyman A. Daniels, Louis Fritz; 1879, Louis Fritz, Phillip Steingoeter; 1880, Phillip Steingoeter, Ed. A. Forsyth; 1881, Ed. A. Forsyth, Phillip Steingoeter; 1882, Phillip Steingoeter, Charles Kibler; 1883, Phillip Steingoeter, Charles Kibler.

*Sixth Ward*—1854, John Schwartz; 1855, Peter Rechtenwalt; 1856, '57-'58-'60, John Davis; 1859, John Stengel; 1861, Joseph Davis; 1862, Jacob H. Pfohle, John Haller, Felix Bieger; 1863, Jacob H. Pfohle, Felix Bieger; 1864-'65, J. Stengel, Jacob Himmens; 1866-'68, J. Stengel,



J. Himmens; 1867, J. Stengel, J. P. Walter; 1869-'70, Leopold Mullenhoff, Caspar Meyer; 1871, Adam Wick, A. Lenhart; 1872-'73, William Scheier, Ernst Billeb; 1874-'75, Sebastian Elser, Henry Miller; 1876, S. Elser, Michael Loebig; 1877, Michael Loebig, Sebastian Elser; 1878, Sebastian Elser, Peter Koerbel; 1879, Peter Koerbel, Adam Wick; 1880, Adam Wick, William Schier; 1881, William Schier, Adam Wick; 1882, Adam Wick A. J. Mayer; 1883, Louis Lorenz, Alphonzo I. Mayer.

*Seventh Ward*—1854-'56, Samuel Hecox; 1855-'6, Anthony Kraft; 1857-'58, Volney Randall; 1859, Anthony Kraft; 1860-'61, George Reichert; 1862, George Reichert, Adam Weller, Henry Bitz; 1863, Henry Bitz, George Pfeiffer; 1864, Henry Benz, George J. Buchheit; 1865, John Gisel, Louis Fritz; 1866, John Gisel, Louis Fritz; 1867, J. Gisel, Jacob Bangasser; 1868, J. Bangasser, Henry Hitchler; 1869, Conrad Baer, Henry Schermer; 1870-'71, C. Baer, Conrad Branner; 1872, Alfred Lyth, Henry Schermer; 1873-'74, A. Lyth, G. Baer; 1875, G. Baer, M. L. Luke; 1876, G. Baer, Peter Branner; 1877, Peter Branner John H. Ludwig; 1878, John H. Ludwig, Jacob Beier, Jr.; 1879, Jacob Beier, Jr., Frank E. Winter; 1880, Frank E. Winter, Peter Wohlers; 1881, Peter Wohlers, Henry Moest; 1882, Henry Moest, F. A. Menge; 1883, Henry Moest, F. A. Menge.

*Eighth Ward*—1854, David Page; 1855-'56, Thomas O'Dwyer; 1857, James Duffy; 1858, John P. O'Brien; 1859, William Ashman; 1860, John H. Notter; 1861, James Ryan; 1862, Thomas H. Myers Dennis M. Enright; 1863, James McCool, Michael Carroll; 1864, Price A. Matteson, John Hopkins; 1865, George Diebold, Cyrus Harmon; 1866, Michael Carroll, Samuel M. Baker; 1867, George Weber, Michael Keenan; 1868, Michael Keenan, George Gates; 1869, William Fitzgerald, Henry McQuade; 1870, S. McQuade, Daniel Cruice; 1871, B. R. Cole, Robert Wheelan; 1872, Fred Rigger, Thomas Canfield; 1873, John Manning, Henry Brinkman; 1874, Edward Lyon, J. K. Wolf; 1875, Timothy Sweeney, John Ffeil; 1876, Timothy Lyons, James E. Nunan; 1877, Timothy Lyons, James Rogers; 1878, James Rogers, Patrick Connors; 1879, Patrick Connors, John Davey; 1880, John Davey, Charles A. Flanagan; 1881, Charles A. Flanagan, John Hurley; 1882, John Hurley Michael Gorman; 1883, Michael Gorman, Michael Kelley.

*Ninth Ward*—1854-'56, George L. Marvin; 1857, Nelson Randall; 1858, Fayette Rumsey; 1859, George L. Marvin; 1861, Albert Sawin; 1862, George P. Baker, William Ring; 1863, William Ring, W. B. Peck; 1864, William Ring, W. B. Peck; 1865, C. A. VanSlyke, A. J. Buckland; 1866, George Colt, Elias Green; 1867, A. J. Buckland, D. G. Jackson; 1868, A. J. Buckland, T. W. Toye; 1869, T. W. Toye, E. Green; 1870, E. Green, D. W. Burt; 1871, E. Green, Silas Kingsley; 1872, D. W. Burt, T. W. Toye; 1873, T. W. Toye, E. Green; 1874-'75, E. D. Berry, W. R. Crumb; 1876, E. D. Berry, Fred Busch; 1877, Fred Busch, Daniel Mann; 1878, Daniel Mann, John C. Ingram; 1879, John C. Ingram, Daniel Mann; 1880, Daniel Mann, Robert K. Smither; 1881, Robert K. Smither, John Mesmer; 1882, John Mesmer, Robert K. Smither; 1883, Robert K. Smither, William Thurstone.

*Tenth Ward*—1854-'57, Wells Brooks; 1858, O. G. Steele; 1859, Wells Brooks; 1860-'61, Joseph Candee; 1862, Joseph Libby, Joseph Candee; 1863, Charles E. Young, Robert Carmichael; 1864-'65, C. E. Young, Robert Carmichael; 1866, C. E. Young, J. L. Fairchild; 1867, J. L. Fairchild, P. B. Williams; 1868, S. C. Adams, A. J. Davis; 1869

-70, C. E. Young, Philip Miller; 1871, C. E. Young, S. M. Robinson; 1872, C. E. Young, Philip Miller; 1873, J. A. Gittere, L. P. Beyer; 1874, L. P. Beyer, Charles E. Young; 1875-'76, L. P. Beyer, Amos B. Tanner; 1877, Amos B. Tanner, Charles E. Young; 1878, Charles E. Young, Amos B. Tanner; 1879, Amos B. Tanner, Charles E. Young; 1880, Charles E. Young, James S. Murphy; 1881, James S. Murphy, Charles E. Young; 1882, Charles E. Young, Frank W. Hess; 1883, F. W. Hess, Philo D. Beard.

*Eleventh Ward*—1854-'55, Harry Thompson; 1856-'57, James Patterson; 1858-'59, Harry Thompson; 1860, Thomas Stocking; 1861, Thomas R. Stocking; 1862, Thomas R. Stocking, Alfred H. Giddings; 1863, Thomas R. Stocking, William Richardson; 1864-'65, T. R. Stocking, William Richardson; 1866, William Richardson, P. A. Balcom; 1867, P. A. Balcom, James Sheldon; 1868-'69, P. A. Balcom, Dickinson Gazlay; 1870, P. A. Balcom, H. O. Cowing; 1871, A. McLeish, Leonard Hinkley; 1872, A. McLeish, Thomas Thompson; 1873-'74-'75, Thomas Prowett, Christopher Smith; 1876, Thomas Prowett, Dickinson Gazlay; 1877, Dickinson Gazlay, Levi E. Short; 1878, Levi E. Short, George Sheriff; 1879, George Sheriff, Charles Suor; 1880, Charles Suor, Robert C. Leighton; 1881, Robert C. Leighton, O. A. Jenkins; 1882, O. A. Jenkins, Thomas Prowett; 1883, O. A. Jenkins, Christopher Smith.

*Twelfth Ward*—1854, Samuel Ely; 1855, Harmon H. Griffin; 1856-'57, G. W. Hall; 1858, Charles Manly; 1859, Job Gorton; 1860, Elisha Safford; 1861, Jacob Reichert; 1862, Christopher Laible, John A. Smith; 1863, Christopher Laible, Henry Mochel; 1864, Christopher Laible, Henry Mochel; 1865, William Post, Robert Ambrose; 1866, Robert Ambrose, J. A. Chase; 1867, G. J. Woelfley, Samuel Ely; 1868, G. J. Woelfley, Henry Mochel; 1869, E. R. Jewett, F. Haehn; 1870, Frank Forness, Jacob Smith; 1871, Jacob Smith, J. Cantillon; 1872, J. Cantillon, Washington Russell; 1873, James Delaney, John Abel; 1874, James Delaney, Washington Russell; 1875, Leonard Eley, J. S. Estel; 1876, Leonard Eley, Peter Glor; 1877, Peter Glor, Jr., Leonard Eley; 1878, Peter Glor, Jr., Leonard Eley; 1879, Peter Glor, Jr., James Delaney; 1880, James Delaney, John Mang; 1881, John Mang, Michael Cronin; 1882, Michael Cronin, John Mang; 1883, Jacob Streicher, John Mang.

*Thirteenth Ward*—1854, Horace A. Buffum; 1855-'56, Job Taylor; 1857, George Moore; 1858, John Kelly; 1859, William B. Hart; 1860, Aaron Martin; 1861, Aaron Martin; 1862, Daniel M. Joslyn; 1863, George Orr; 1864-'65, George Orr; 1866, T. M. Gibbon; 1867, George Orr; 1868, Frank Puetz; 1869-'70, William Graham; 1871, William Shannon; 1872-'73, J. J. Coates; 1874-'75-'76, Edward Corrison; 1877, Edward Corrison; 1878, John McCarthy; 1879-'82, Emile G. Sirret; 1883, William J. Fisher.

#### THE VILLAGE AND CITY CIVIL LIST.

In the following few pages is given the Civil list of the city, from the date of the first village organization, to the present time, including the officials of the village and city, above the office of collector:—

1816—Trustees, Oliver Forward, Charles Townsend, Heman B. Potter, Ebenezer Walden, Jonas Harrison, Samuel Wilkeson; Clerk, Jonathan E. Chaplin; Treasurer, Josiah Trowbridge; Collector, Moses Baker.

1817.—Trustees, Ebenezer Walden, Jonas Harrison, John G. Camp, Samuel Wilkeson, Elias Ransom ; Clerk, Jonathan E. Chapiin ; Treasurer, Josiah Trowbridge ; Collector, Moses Baker.

1818.—Trustees, Joseph Stocking, Charles Townsend, Heman B. Potter, Oliver Forward, Abraham Larzelere ; Clerk, Stephen K. Grosvenor ; Treasurer, Elijah D. Efner ; Collector, Moses Baker.

1819.—Trustees, Charles Townsend, Samuel Wilkeson, Joseph Stocking, Heman B. Potter, Joseph Landon ; Clerk, Stephen K. Grosvenor ; Treasurer, Elijah D. Efner ; Collector, Leonard P. Crary.

1820.—Trustees, Charles Townsend, Cyrenius Chapin, Samuel Wilkeson, Joseph Stocking, William T. Miller ; Clerk, Stephen K. Grosvenor ; Treasurer, Elijah D. Efner ; Collector, Moses Baker.

1821.—Trustees, Charles Townsend, Samuel Wilkeson, Joseph Stocking, Cyrenius Chapin, Heman B. Potter ; Clerk, Stephen K. Grosvenor ; Treasurer, Elijah D. Efner ; Collector, E. F. Gilbert.

1822.—Trustees, Ebenezer Johnson, Oliver Forward, John B. Hicks, John Scott, Henry M. Campbell ; Clerk, Gorham Chapin ; Treasurer, Henry R. Seymour ; Attorney, Heman B. Potter ; Collector, Moses Baker.

1823.—Trustees, Oliver Forward, Charles Townsend, David Burt, Abner Bryant, Benjamin Caryl ; Clerk, Joseph Clary ; Treasurer, Henry R. Seymour ; Collector, James Higgins.

1824.—Trustees, Heman B. Potter, David Burt, Joseph Stocking, Nathaniel Vosburgh, Oliver Forward ; Clerk, Joseph Clary ; Treasurer, Henry R. Seymour ; Collector, Lorin Pierce.

1825.—Trustees, Oliver Forward, David Burt, Heman B. Potter, Ebenezer Johnson, Nathaniel Vosburgh ; Clerk, Joseph Clary ; Treasurer, Henry R. Seymour ; Collector, James Higgins.

1826.—Trustees, Oliver Forward, Benjamin Rathbun, William Hollister, Joseph D. Hoyt, Major A. Andrews ; Clerk, Henry E. Davies ; Treasurer, Henry R. Seymour ; Collector, James Higgins.

1827.—Trustees, Benjamin Rathbun, Joseph D. Hoyt, William Hollister, Oliver Forward, Major A. Andrews ; Clerk, Henry E. Davies ; Treasurer, Henry R. Seymour ; Collector, Leonard P. Crary.

1828.—Trustees, Bela D. Coe, Anthony Beers, Joseph Clary, Hiram Pratt, Moses Baker ; Clerk, George P. Barker ; Treasurer, Henry R. Seymour ; Collector, James Higgins.

1829.—Trustees, Joseph Clary, Hiram Pratt, Bela D. Coe, Moses Baker, Anthony Beers ; Clerk, George P. Barker ; Treasurer, Henry R. Seymour ; Collector, David E. Merrill.

1830.—Trustees, Moses Baker, Theodore Coburn, John W. Clark, Joseph Clary, William Ketchum ; Clerk, George P. Barker ; Treasurer, Henry R. Seymour ; Collector, David E. Merrill.

1831.—Trustees, Bela D. Coe, Moses Baker, John W. Clark, James Sheldon, Theodore Coburn ; Clerk, Elijah Ford ; Treasurer, Henry R. Seymour ; Collector, David E. Merrill.

1832.—*Village Officers*, Trustees, John W. Clark, William S. Waters, Cyrus Athearn, John D. Hearty, James Sheldon ; Clerk, Elijah Ford ; Treasurer, Henry R. Seymour ; Collector, Gilman Smith.

These officials held only until the organization under the city charter in May.



*City Officers.*—Buffalo was incorporated as a city by act of the Legislature in 1832. The first election under the new charter was on the 28th of May following. Mayor, Ebenezer Johnson; Clerk, Dyre Tillinghast; Treasurer, Henry R. Seymour; Attorney, George P. Barker; Surveyor, J. J. Baldwin; Street Commissioner, Edward Baldwin; *Aldermen*—First Ward, Isaac S. Smith, Joseph W. Brown; Second Ward, John G. Camp, Henry Root; Third Ward, David M. Day, Ira A. Blossom; Fourth Ward, Henry White, Major A. Andrews; Fifth Ward, Ebenezer Walden, Thomas C. Love.

1833.—Mayor, Major A. Andrews. *Aldermen*—First Ward, Stephen Clark, Joseph W. Brown; Second Ward, John G. Camp, James Durick; Third Ward, George B. Webster, Darius Burton; Fourth Ward, Philander Bennett, Moses Baker; Fifth Ward, Sheldon Smith, Sylvester Matthews. *City Officers*—Clerk, E. J. Roberts; Attorney, William A. Moseley; Street Commissioner, Edward Baldwin; Surveyor, James J. Baldwin; Printer, David M. Day; Clerk of Market, Oliver Forward; Constables, William Jones, Dan Bristol, Nelson Adams,

1834.—Mayor, Ebenezer Johnson; *Aldermen*—First Ward, Isaac S. Smith, Stephen Clark; Second Ward, Squire S. Case, Henry Root; Third Ward, Birdsie Wilcox, John T. Hudson; Fourth Ward, Moses Baker, Elijah Ford; Fifth Ward, Sylvester Mathews, James Miller. *City Officers*—Clerk, E. J. Roberts; Surveyor, J. J. Baldwin; Treasurer, Orlando Allen; Health Physician, Henry R. Stagg; Attorney, William A. Moseley; Street Commissioner, Edward Baldwin; Collector, William Jones; Constables, Nelson Adams, Barney Adamy, Dan Bristol, Samuel Fursman, Charles M. Hoople.

1835.—Mayor, Hiram Pratt, (Whig.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, John Prince, John W. Clark; Second Ward, Squire S. Case, Orlando Allen; Third Ward, Ira A. Blossom, William F. P. Taylor; Fourth Ward, Elijah Ford, Noyes Darrow; Fifth Ward, Manly Colton, Nathaniel Vosburgh. *City Officers*—Clerk, Theodotus Burwell; Treasurer, Henry Root; Attorney, Nathan K. Hall; Street Commissioner, Sylvester Mathews; Surveyor, William B. Gilbert; Clerk of Market, Frederick B. Merrill; Chief Engineer Fire Department, Samuel Jordan; Police Constables, John W. Stewart, John Drew; City Collector, William S. Rees; Harbor Master, William T. Pease; Health Physician, Alden S. Sprague.

1836.—Mayor, Samuel Wilkeson, (Whig.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, Aaron Goodrich, John W. Prince; Second Ward, James Durick, Morgan L. Faulkner; Third Ward, Stephen K. Grosvenor, Silas Sawin; Fourth Ward, Nathaniel Wilgus, Harlow French; Fifth Ward, Daniel F. Kimball, Jeremiah Staats. *City Officers*—Clerk, Elbridge G. Spaulding; Treasurer, A. J. Douglass; Attorney, John L. Talcott; Street Commissioner, Alanson Webster; Surveyor, William B. Gilbert; Clerk of Market, William Sparks; Chief Engineer Fire Department, Samuel Jordan; Health Physician, Charles Winne; Police Constables, John W. Stewart, Lewis Tillotson, Joseph Shepard, Elijah Kellogg, Aaron L. Porter; Collector, William Seaman; Printers, Day, Stagg & Cadwallader.

1837.—Mayor, Josiah Trowbridge, (Whig); resigned December 22, 1837; Pierre A. Barker elected to fill vacancy. *Aldermen*—First Ward, William Valteau, William J. Mack; Second Ward, Jacob A. Barker, George E. Hayes; Third Ward, Walter Joy, Edward L. Stevenson; Fourth Ward, Nathaniel Wilgus, Moses Baker; Fifth Ward, Nathan K.

Hall, Pierre A. Barker. *City Officers*—Clerk, Theodore C. Peters; Treasurer, Hamlet D. Scranton; Attorney, Theodore C. Peters; Street Commissioner and Surveyor, William K. Scott; Chief Engineer Fire Department, Jacob A. Barker; Clerks of Markets, Jerry Radcliff, Bartholomew Armstrong; Collectors, William S. Rees, William Wells; Police Justice, James L. Barton; Health Physician, Charles H. Raymond; Board of Health, Daniel F. Kimball, William Evans, Charles Winne; Constables, Robert H. Best, John M. Crosier, Philip Wilbur, Elijah Kellogg, George B. Gates.

1838.—Mayor, Ebenezer Walden, (Whig.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, Daniel F. Kimball, Charles S. Pierce; Second Ward, Squire S. Case, Lucius Storrs; Third Ward, William F. P. Taylor, James McKay; Fourth Ward, Nathaniel Wilgus, Moses Baker; Fifth Ward, Charles Winne, Alonzo Raynor. *City Officers*—Clerk, Theodore C. Peters; Treasurer, Hamlet D. Scranton; Attorney, Theodotus Burwell; Street Commissioner and Surveyor, William K. Scott; Clerks of Markets, Charles Norton, Darius O. Baker; Collectors, William S. Rees, Darius O. Baker; City Engineer Fire Department, Jacob A. Barker; Health Physician, Francis L. Harris; Board of Health, William Evans, George Coit, Moses Bristol; Harbor Master, Samuel Chase; Constables, George B. Gates, Eddy Howard, George W. Smith, Jonathan W. George, Milan Adams; Police Justice, James L. Barton; Superintendent of Schools, Oliver G. Steele.

1839.—Mayor, Hiram Pratt, (Whig.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, For-dyce W. Atkins, Henry Lamb; Second Ward, Lucius Storrs, Thomas R. Stocking; Third Ward, William Hollister, Jr., Edward L. Stevenson; Fourth Ward, Morgan L. Faulkner, Frederick Dellenbaugh; Fifth Ward, Peter Curtiss, Augustine Kimball. *City Officers*—Clerk, Theodore C. Peters; Treasurer, William Moore; Attorney, Harlow S. Love; Street Commissioner and Surveyor, William K. Scott; Clerk of Markets, Charles Norton; Collectors, William Wells, Edwin Hurlburt; Health Physician, Charles Winne; Superintendent of Schools, Oliver G. Steele; Police Justice, James L. Barton; Constables, George W. Smith, George B. Gates, M. W. Bottom, Milan Adams, Henry Judevine, Robert H. Best, Philip Wilbur, John Pierce, Grove A. Hudson, Jonathan W. George.

1840.—Mayor, Sheldon Thompson, (Whig.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, Henry Lamb, Charles A. Comstock; Second Ward, Aaron Rumsey, Noah H. Gardner; Third Ward, George B. Gleason, William Williams; Fourth Ward, Frederick Dellenbaugh, Philander Bennett; Fifth Ward, Isaac R. Harrington, Peter Curtiss. *City Officers*—Clerk, Squire S. Case; Treasurer, John R. Lee; Attorney, Harlow S. Love; Street Commissioner and Surveyor, William K. Scott; Clerk of Markets, John Bush; Collectors, William Wells, Edwin Hurlburt; Superintendent of Schools, Daniel Bowen; Health Physician, Charles H. Raymond.

This year, for the first time, the Mayor was elected by the people. George P. Barker was the opposing candidate on the part of the Democrats. The term still remained one year.

1841.—Mayor, Isaac R. Harrington, (Whig); Ira A. Blossom, opposing candidate. *Aldermen*—First Ward, Henry Lamb, Ephraim S. Havens; Second Ward, Edward Root, Noah H. Gardner; Third Ward, Richard Sears, Elbridge G. Spaulding; Fourth Ward, Philander Bennett, Oliver

G. Steele ; Fifth Ward, John R. Lee, Henry Roop. *City Officers*—Clerk, John T. Lacy ; Treasurer, William Williams ; Attorney, George W. Houghton ; Street Commissioner and Surveyor, Henry Lovejoy ; Superintendent of Schools, Silas Kingsley ; Health Physician, Austin Flint.

1842.—Mayor, George W. Clinton, (Dem.) ; Isaac R. Harrington, opposing candidate. *Aldermen*—First Ward, Ephraim S. Havens, Erasmus D. Robinson ; Second Ward, Noah H. Gardner, Lucius H. Pratt ; Third Ward, Orsamus H. Marshall, John Wilkeson ; Fourth Ward, Oliver G. Steele, Nelson Randall ; Fifth Ward, Asahel Camp ; H. W. Pierce. *City Officers*—Clerk, John T. Lacy ; Treasurer, John R. Lee ; Attorney, Samuel Wilkeson, Jr. ; Street Commissioner and Surveyor, H. Lovejoy ; Superintendent of Schools, Samuel Caldwell ; Health Physician, Austin Flint.

1843.—Mayor, Joseph G. Masten (Dem.) ; Walter Joy, opposing candidate. *Aldermen*—First Ward, John Cummings, Patrick Smith ; Second Ward, Samuel F. Pratt, Francis Ellas ; Third Ward, Daniel Bowen, Hiram Barton ; Fourth Ward, James Delong, Thompson Hersee ; Fifth Ward, Lewis L. Hodges, Samuel G. Walker. *City Officers*—Clerk, John T. Lacy ; Attorney, Asher P. Nichols ; Treasurer, George C. White ; Superintendent of Schools, Samuel Caldwell ; Collectors, William J. Mack, Stephen Albro, George Walker.

1844.—Mayor, William Ketchum ; Oliver G. Steele opposing candidate. *Aldermen*—First Ward, John Cummings, Patrick Smith ; Second Ward, Francis S. Ellas, Samuel F. Pratt ; Third Ward, Daniel Bowen, Hiram Barton ; Fourth Ward, James Delong, Thompson Hersee ; Fifth Ward, Lewis L. Hodges, Samuel G. Walker. *City Officers*—Clerk, John T. Lacy ; Treasurer, Robert Pomeroy ; Attorney, Seth E. Sill ; Surveyor, Henry Lovejoy ; Street Commissioner, Isaac Hathaway ; Superintendent of Schools, Elias S. Hawley ; Health Physician, John S. Trowbridge.

1845.—Mayor, Joseph G. Masten ; (Dem.) Hiram Barton opposing candidate. *Aldermen*—First Ward, Walter S. Stanard, Patrick Smith ; Second Ward, Orlando Allen, Sherman S. Jewett ; Third Ward, Daniel Bowen, C. A. Van Slyck ; Fourth Ward, Thompson Hersee, Charles Esslinger ; Fifth Ward, William Williams, Robert Russell. *City Officers*—Clerk, Joseph Stringham ; Attorney, Eli Cook ; Treasurer, William Lovering ; Superintendent of Schools, Oliver G. Steele ; Street Commissioner, Abram Hemstreet ; Surveyor, Henry Lovejoy ; Health Physician, S. F. Mixer ; Collectors, C. S. Pierce, Columbus Hart.

1846.—Mayor, Solomon G. Haven ; Isaac Sherman opposing candidate. *Aldermen*—First Ward, Patrick Smith, Jacob W. Banta ; Second Ward, Sherman S. Jewett, Samuel T. Atwater ; Third Ward, George R. Babcock, Lester Brace ; Fourth Ward, Nelson Randall, Harlow French ; Fifth Ward, Benoni Thompson, Samuel Haines. *City Officers*—Clerk, M. Cadwallader ; Attorney, James Mullett ; Treasurer, James Crocker ; Superintendent of Schools, Daniel Bowen ; Street Commissioner, Samuel G. Walker ; Surveyor, Henry Lovejoy ; Collectors, James Durick, D. S. Battey.

1847.—Mayor, Elbridge G. Spaulding ; (Whig.) Isaac Sherman opposing candidate. *Aldermen*—First Ward, Patrick Smith, Jacob W. Banta ; Second Ward, Orlando Allen, Latham A. Burrows ; Third Ward, Hiram Barton, Calvin Bishop ; Fourth Ward, Oliver G. Steele, Albert S. Merrill ; Fifth Ward, Luman K. Plimpton, Watkins Williams. *City Officers*—Clerk, M. Cadwallader ; Treasurer, John R. Lee ; Attorney, James



Sheldon; Street Commissioner, Samuel G. Walker; Superintendent of Schools, Elias S. Hawley; Health Physician, John S. Trowbridge.

1848.—Mayor, Orlando Allen; (Whig,) Israel T. Hatch opposing candidate. *Aldermen*—First Ward, Walter W. Stanard, John M. Smith; Second Ward, Daniel Bowen, David M. Vanderpoel; Third Ward, Levi Allen, Paul Roberts; Fourth Ward, Albert S. Merrill, Harry H. Matteson; Fifth Ward, Luman K. Plimpton, Watkins Williams. *City Officers*—Comptroller, M. Cadwallader; Clerk, Jesse Walker; Attorney, John F. Brown; Treasurer, John R. Lee; Street Commissioner, Samuel G. Walker; Surveyor, Henry Lovejoy; Superintendent of Schools, Elias S. Hawley; Health Physician, John S. Trowbridge; Collectors, Silas Sawin, A. W. Wilgus, Isaac T. Hathaway.

1849.—Mayor, Hiram Barton; (Whig,) Elijah Ford opposing candidate. *Aldermen*—First Ward, Warren Lampman, Horace Thomas; Second Ward, Sherman S. Jewett, Myron P. Bush; Third Ward, Charles F. Miller, Samuel A. Bigelow; Fourth Ward, Albert S. Merrill, Harrison Park; Fifth Ward, William K. Scott, Lucius F. Tiffany. *City Officers*—Comptroller, M. Cadwallader; Clerk, Jesse Walker; Attorney, Charles D. Norton; Street Commissioner, Samuel G. Walker; Superintendent of Schools, Daniel Bowen; Surveyor, Henry Lovejoy; Treasurer, John R. Lee; Health Physician, John S. Trowbridge; Collectors, John R. Williams, Rodman Starkweather, William L. Carpenter.

1850.—Mayor, Henry K. Smith; (Dem.) Luman L. Plimpton, opposing candidate. *Aldermen*—First Ward, Jacob W. Banta, John Walsh; Second Ward, Milo W. Hill, Myron P. Bush; Third Ward, Paul Roberts, Miles Perry; Fourth Ward, Harrison Park, Abram S. Swartz; Fifth Ward, Lucius F. Tiffany, George L. Hubbard. *City Officers*—Comptroller, M. Cadwallader; Clerk, Horatio Seymour, Jr.; Attorney, James Wadsworth; Treasurer, Daniel G. Marcy; Street Commissioner, Albert S. Merrill; Surveyor, Henry Lovejoy; Superintendent of Schools, Henry K. Viele; Health Physician, Dr. S. F. Mixer; Collectors, Charles Wormwood, Israel Gillett, Hezekiah A. Salisbury.

1851.—Mayor, James Wadsworth; (Dem.) Sherman S. Jewett opposing candidate. *Aldermen*—First Ward, John Walsh, Charles S. Pierce; Second Ward, Myron P. Bush, Milo W. Hill; Third Ward, Paul Roberts, Alexander McKay; Fourth Ward, Harrison Park, Abram S. Swartz; Fifth Ward, Lucius F. Tiffany, George L. Hubbard. *City Officers*—Comptroller, M. Cadwallader; Clerk, William L. G. Smith; Attorney, Eli Cook; Treasurer, Cyrenius C. Bristol; Street Commissioner, Abram Hemstreet; Surveyor, Henry Lovejoy; Superintendent of Schools, Oliver G. Steele; Collectors, John G. Riley, Israel Gillett, Michael Doll, Patrick Milton; Health Physician, Timothy T. Lockwood.

1852.—Mayor, Hiram Barton; (Whig,) William Williams opposing candidate. *Aldermen*—First Ward, John Walsh, Charles S. Pierce; Second Ward, Milo W. Hill, John R. Evans; Third Ward, Alex. McKay, Asaph S. Bemis; Fourth Ward, Abram S. Swartz, James C. Harrison; Fifth Ward, Albert L. Baker, H. S. Chamberlain. *City Officers*—Comptroller, M. Cadwallader; Clerk, Roswell L. Burrows; Attorney, Cyrus O. Poole; Treasurer, George R. Kibbe; Street Commissioner, James Howells; Surveyors, Henry Lovejoy; Superintendent of Schools, Victor M. Rice; Health Physician, John D. Hill.

1853.—Mayor, Eli Cook, (Dem.); James C. Harrison and Elijah D. Efner opposing candidates. *Aldermen*—First Ward, John Walsh,

Charles S. Pierce; Second Ward, John R. Evans, Chandler J. Wells; Third Ward, Alex McKay, Asaph S. Bemis; Fourth Ward, James C. Harrison, Daniel Devening, Jr.; Fifth Ward, Albert S. Baker, H. S. Chamberlain. *City Officers*—Comptroller, M. Cadwallader; Clerk, Roswell S. Burrows; Attorney, Cyrus Poole; Treasurer, George R. Kibbe; Street Commissioner, James Howells; Surveyor, Henry Lovejoy; Superintendent of Schools, Victor M. Rice; Health Physician, Dr. E. P. Gray.

1854.—Mayor, Eli Cook, (Dem.) Leroy Farnham, opposing candidate. *Aldermen*—First Ward, Charles S. Pierce, John H. Bidwell; Second Ward, Chandler J. Wells, Daniel D. Bidwell; Third Ward, Samuel Slade, G. W. Barker; Fourth Ward, Hiram Chambers, John J. Weber; Fifth Ward, Henry Lamb, Edward Bennett; Sixth Ward, Henry B. Miller, Solomon Scheu; Seventh Ward, Edwin Thayer, A. S. Plumley; Eighth Ward, Zoroaster Bonney, Bartley Logan; Ninth Ward, Charles F. Miller, Asaph S. Bemis; Tenth Ward, Watkins Williams, Michael Clor; Eleventh Ward, James Haggart, Franklin A. Alberger; Twelfth Ward, Stephen W. Howell, Fayette Rumsey; Thirteenth Ward, Joseph A. Bridge, Samuel Twichell, Jr. *City Officers*—Comptroller, William Chard; Deputy-Comptroller, Nathaniel Hall; Clerk, Roswell L. Burrows; Attorney, John Hubbell; Treasurer, John R. Evans; Street Commissioner, Jacob L. Barnes; Surveyor, George Cole; Superintendent of Schools, Ephraim F. Cook; Health Physician, James M. Newman.

This year the city boundaries were enlarged, and the Mayor elected for two years; he ceased to be a member of the Common Council, which has since elected one of its own number as presiding officer, who in absence of the Mayor, discharges his duties. This year the position was bestowed upon Mr. Stephen W. Howell, (Rep.) The politics of the president show the political complexion of the board.

1855.—Mayor, Eli Cook, (Dem.); President of the Council, Charles S. Pierce, (Dem.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, Charles S. Pierce, John H. Bidwell; Second Ward, Chandler J. Wells, Levi J. Waters; Third Ward, Samuel Slade, G. W. Barker; Fourth Ward, Hiram Chambers, John J. Weber; Fifth Ward, Frederick Dellenbaugh, Edward Bennett; Sixth Ward, Henry B. Miller, Solomon Scheu; Seventh Ward, Andrew J. McNett, A. S. Plumley; Eighth Ward, Z. Bonney, George J. Rehm; Ninth Ward, Charles F. Miller, John F. Lockwood; Tenth Ward, Watkins Williams, Dennis Bowen; Eleventh Ward, James Haggart, Frederick P. Stevens; Twelfth Ward, Lewis P. Dayton, Fayette Rumsey; Thirteenth Ward, Joseph A. Bridge, William C. Prescott. *City Officers*—Comptroller, William Ketchum; Clerk, Roswell L. Burrows; Attorney, John Hubbell; Treasurer, John R. Evans; Street Commissioner, Jacob L. Barnes; Surveyor, George Cole; Superintendent of Schools, Ephraim F. Cook; Health Physician, John Root.

1856.—Mayor, Frederick P. Stevens, (Dem.) William A. Bird and Lewis L. Hodges, opposing candidates; President of the Council, Lewis P. Dayton, (Dem.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, Jarvis Davis, John H. Bidwell; Second Ward, Chandler J. Wells, Levi J. Waters; Third Ward, James O'Brian, Norman Hagerman; Fourth Ward, Hiram Chambers, Hiram P. Thayer; Fifth Ward, Fred. Dellenbaugh, Edward Bennett; Sixth Ward, Lorenz Gillig, Peter Recktenwalt; Seventh Ward, William Hellriegel, A. S. Plumley; Eighth Ward, Thomas Merrigan, George J.

Rehm; Ninth Ward, Hunting S. Chamberlain, John F. Lockwood; Tenth Ward, Miles Jones, Dennis Bowen; Eleventh Ward, Henry P. Clinton, Edwin S. Dann; Twelfth Ward, Lewis P. Dayton, John Ambrose; Thirteenth Ward, Joseph A. Bridge, William C. Prescott. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Charles S. Pierce; Clerk, William H. Albro; Attorney, Andrew J. McNett; Treasurer, William L. G. Smith; Street Commissioner, Patrick Smith; Superintendent of Schools, Ephraim F. Cook; Health Physician, Charles L. Dayton.

1857.—Mayor, Frederick P. Stevens, (Dem.) President of the Council, Lewis P. Dayton, (Dem.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, Michael Hagan, John H. Bidwell; Second Ward, Chandler J. Wells, James B. Dubois; Third Ward, James O'Brian, Joshua Barnes; Fourth Ward, H. P. Thayer, Stephen Bettinger; Fifth Ward, Edward Bennett, Edwin Thayer; Sixth Ward, Peter Recktenwalt, Christ. Rodenbach; Seventh Ward, William Hellriegel, Henry A. Goodrich; Eighth Ward, Thomas Merrigan, Thomas O'Grady; Ninth Ward, Hunting S. Chamberlain, S. W. Carpenter; Tenth Ward, Miles Jones, Henry Martin; Eleventh Ward, Henry P. Clinton, Edward S. Dann; Twelfth Ward, John Ambrose, Lewis P. Dayton; Thirteenth Ward, Joseph A. Bridge, Benjamin Dole. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Charles S. Pierce; Clerk, William H. Albro; Attorney, Andrew J. McNett; Treasurer, William L. G. Smith; Street Commissioner, Patrick Smith; Superintendent of Schools, Ephraim F. Cook; Health Physician, Charles L. Dayton.

1858.—Mayor, Timothy T. Lockwood, (Dem.) Frederick P. Stevens, opposing candidate. President of the Council, Daniel Devening, Jr., (Dem.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, Michael Hagan, John H. Bidwell; Second Ward, Chandler J. Wells, James B. Dubois; Third Ward, James O'Brian, Joshua Barnes; Fourth Ward, Stephen Bettinger, Harry Hersee; Fifth Ward, Daniel Devening, Jr., Bela H. Colegrove; Sixth Ward, Christopher Rodenbach, Henry B. Miller; Seventh Ward, George F. Pfeifer, A. S. Plumley; Eighth Ward, Thomas O'Grady, Thomas Truman; Ninth Ward, H. S. Chamberlain, S. W. Carpenter; Tenth Ward, Henry Martin, Alonzo Tanner; Eleventh Ward, Henry P. Clinton, Edward S. Dann; Twelfth Ward, John Ambrose, Lewis P. Dayton; Thirteenth Ward, Benjamin Dole. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Charles S. Pierce; Clerk, William H. Albro; Attorney, Edwin Thayer; Treasurer, C. A. W. Sherman; Street Commissioner, Levi J. Waters; Superintendent of Schools, Joseph Warren; Health Physician, H. D. Garvin.

1859.—Mayor, Timothy T. Lockwood, (Dem.) President of the Council, Alonzo Tanner, (Rep.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, Michael Hagan, Peter Walsh; Second Ward, Chandler J. Wells, James B. Dubois; Third Ward, James O'Brian, James G. Turner; Fourth Ward, Harry Hersee, Jacob Beyer; Fifth Ward, Daniel Devening, J. A. M. Meyer; Sixth Ward, Henry B. Miller, William Messing; Seventh Ward, George F. Pfeifer, F. M. Pratt; Eighth Ward, Thomas Truman, Pliny F. Barton; Ninth Ward, H. S. Chamberlain, F. A. Alberger; Tenth Ward, Alonzo Tanner, Asaph S. Bemis; Eleventh Ward, Henry P. Clinton, A. A. Howard; Twelfth Ward, John Ambrose, Stephen W. Howell; Thirteenth Ward, Thomas Savage, Lewis L. Wilgus. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Charles S. Pierce; Clerk, Charles S. Macomber; Attorney, Edwin Thayer; Treasurer, C. A. W. Sherman; Street Commissioner, Levi J. Waters; Superintendent of Schools, Joseph Warren; Health Physician, P. H. Strong.



1860.—Mayor, Franklin A. Alberger, (Rep.) Henry K. Viele, opposing candidate; President of the Council, Asaph S. Bemis, (Rep.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, John Hanavan, Peter Walsh; Second Ward, Nathaniel Jones, James B. Dubois; Third Ward, Zadock G. Allen, James G. Turner; Fourth Ward, Everard Palmer, Jacob Beyer; Fifth Ward, Charles Beckwith, J. A. M. Meyer; Sixth Ward, Paul Goembel, William Messing; Seventh Ward, J. F. Schwartz, F. M. Pratt; Eighth Ward, Robert Mills, Pliny F. Barton; Ninth Ward, James Adams, Jacob L. Barnes; Tenth Ward, George R. Yaw, Asaph S. Bemis; Eleventh Ward, Jacob Crowder, Austin A. Howard; Twelfth Ward, Washington Russell, Stephen W. Howell; Thirteenth Ward, Thomas Savage, Lewis L. Wilgus. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Alonzo Tanner; Clerk, Charles S. Macomber; Attorney, George Wadsworth; Treasurer, John S. Trowbridge; Street Commissioner, Levi J. Waters; Superintendent of Schools, Sanford B. Hunt; Health Physician, C. C. Wyckoff.

1861.—Mayor, Franklin A. Alberger, (Rep.); President of the Council, Asaph S. Bemis, (Rep.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, John Hanavan, Peter Walsh; Second Ward, Nathaniel Jones, Joel Wheeler; Third Ward, Zadock G. Allen, Alexander Brush; Fourth Ward, Everard Palmer, Edward Storck; Fifth Ward, Charles Beckwith, Andrew Grass; Sixth Ward, Paul Goembel, Jacob Scheu; Seventh Ward, J. F. Schwartz, F. M. Pratt; Eighth Ward, Robert Mills, Charles E. Felton; Ninth Ward, James Adams, Eben P. Dorr; Tenth Ward, George R. Yaw, Asaph S. Bemis; Eleventh Ward, Jacob Crowder, Austin A. Howard; Twelfth Ward, Washington Russell, Stephen W. Howell; Thirteenth Ward, Thomas Savage, Thomas Rutter. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Alonzo Tanner; Clerk, Otis F. Presbrey; Attorney, George Wadsworth; Treasurer, John S. Trowbridge; Street Commissioner, Levi J. Waters; Superintendent of Schools, Sanford B. Hunt; Health Physician, J. Whittaker.

1862.—Mayor, William G. Fargo, (Dem.); James Adams, opposing candidate; President of the Council, Charles Beckwith, (Dem.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, John Hanavan, Patrick Walsh; Second Ward, James B. Dubois, Joel Wheeler; Third Ward, Samuel D. Colie, Alexander Brush; Fourth Ward, Orson C. Hoyt, Edward Storck; Fifth Ward, Charles Beckwith, Andrew Grass; Sixth Ward, Paul Goembel, Jacob Scheu; Seventh Ward, Fred Bangasser, William A. Sutton; Eighth Ward, Robert Mills, Charles E. Felton; Ninth Ward, Edward S. Warren, Eben P. Dorr; Tenth Ward, George R. Yaw, Asaph S. Bemis; Eleventh Ward, Jacob Crowder, Nelson K. Hopkins; Twelfth Ward, Lewis P. Dayton, Peter Burgard; Thirteenth Ward, Rodney M. Taylor, Thomas Rutter. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Peter M. Vosburgh; Clerk, Charles S. Macomber; Attorney, Harmon S. Cutting; Treasurer, Joseph K. Tyler; Street Commissioner, James O'Brian; Surveyor, Francis F. Curry; Superintendent of Schools, John B. Sackett; Health Physician, Sanford Eastman.

1863.—Mayor, William G. Fargo, (Dem.); President of the Council, Charles Beckwith, (Dem.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, John Hanavan, Patrick Walsh; Second Ward, James B. Dubois, George B. Gates; Third Ward, Samuel D. Colie, William P. Moores; Fourth Ward, Orson C. Hoyt, Richard Flach; Fifth Ward, Charles Beckwith, Elijah Ambrose; Sixth Ward, Paul Goembel, Jacob Scheu; Seventh Ward, Frederick Bangasser, William A. Sutton; Eighth Ward, Robert Mills, Henry C. Persch; Ninth Ward, Edward S. Warren, William I. Mills; Tenth Ward, George

R. Yaw, Seth Clark; Eleventh Ward, Jacob Crowder, Nelson K. Hopkins; Twelfth Ward, Lewis P. Dayton, Peter Burgard; Thirteenth Ward, Rodney M. Taylor, Christian Klinck. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Peter M. Vosburgh; Clerk, Charles S. Macomber; Attorney, Harmon S. Cutting; Treasurer, Joseph K. Tyler; Street Commissioner, James O'Brian; Surveyor, Francis F. Curry; Superintendent of Schools, John B. Sackett; Health Physician, Sandford Eastman.

1864.—Mayor, William G. Fargo, (Dem.); Chandler J. Wells, opposing candidate; President of the Council, Lewis P. Dayton, (Dem.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, Daniel Fitzgerald, Patrick Walsh; Second Ward, Phineas S. Marsh, George B. Gates; Third Ward, Alexander Brush, William P. Moores; Fourth Ward, George Fischer, Richard Flach; Fifth Ward, Henry Nauert, Elijah Ambrose; Sixth Ward, Paul Goembel, Jacob Scheu; Seventh Ward, Thomas Clark, J. L. Haberstro; Eighth Ward, George J. Bamler, Henry C. Persch; Ninth Ward, James D. Sawyer, William I. Mills; Tenth Ward, George R. Yaw, Seth Clark; Eleventh Ward, John Auchinvole, Nelson K. Hopkins; Twelfth Ward, Lewis P. Dayton, Peter Burgard; Thirteenth Ward, Angus McPherson, Christian Klinck. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Ralph Courter; Clerk, Charles S. Macomber; Attorney, Charles Beckwith; Treasurer, John Hanavan; Street Commissioner, James O'Brian; Surveyor, Francis F. Curry; Superintendent of Schools, Henry D. Garvin; Health Physician, Sandford Eastman.

1865.—Mayor, William G. Fargo, (Dem.); President of the Council, Nelson K. Hopkins, (Rep.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, Daniel Fitzgerald, James Ryan; Second Ward, Phineas S. Marsh, Jonathan S. Buell; Third Ward, Alexander Brush, William P. Moores; Fourth Ward, George Fischer, Richard Flach; Fifth Ward, Henry Nauert, Elijah Ambrose; Sixth Ward, Paul Goembel, Jacob H. Pfhof; Seventh Ward, Thomas Clark, J. L. Haberstro; Eighth Ward, George J. Bamler, John P. O'Brien; Ninth Ward, James D. Sawyer, William I. Mills; Tenth Ward, George R. Yaw, William C. Bryant; Eleventh Ward, John Auchinvole, Nelson K. Hopkins; Twelfth Ward, Henry A. Swartz, Peter Burgard; Thirteenth Ward, Angus McPherson, J. Kelly, Jr. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Ralph Courter; Clerk, Charles S. Macomber; Attorney, Charles Beckwith; Treasurer, John Hanavan; Street Commissioner, James O'Brian; Surveyor, Francis F. Curry; Superintendent of Schools, Henry D. Garvin; Health Physician, Sandford Eastman.

1866.—Mayor, Chandler J. Wells, (Rep.); William G. Fargo, opposing candidate; President of the Council, Joseph L. Haberstro, (Dem.); *Aldermen*—First Ward, James Ryan, Thomas Whalen; Second Ward, Phineas S. Marsh, Jonathan S. Buell; Third Ward, Alexander Brush, William P. Moores; Fourth Ward, Jacob Beyer, Richard Flach; Fifth Ward, August Hagar, John H. Shepard; Sixth Ward, Solomon Scheu, Jacob Pfhof; Seventh Ward, Joseph L. Haberstro, G. J. Buchheit; Eighth Ward, George J. Bamler, John P. O'Brien; Ninth Ward, Henry Morse, S. S. Guthrie; Tenth Ward, George R. Yaw, William C. Bryant; Eleventh Ward, Nelson K. Hopkins, John Auchinvole; Twelfth Ward, John Glasser, Henry A. Swartz; Thirteenth Ward, Angus McPherson, J. Kelly, Jr. *City Officers*—Comptroller, William F. Rogers; Clerk, Charles S. Macomber; Attorney, George S. Wardwell; Treasurer, Joseph Churchyard; Street Commissioner, Jeremiah Mahony; Surveyor, John A. Ditto; Superintendent of Schools, John S. Fosdick; Health Physician, Sandford Eastman.

1867.—Mayor, Chandler J. Wells, (Rep.); President of the Council, William C. Bryant, (Rep.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, James Ryan, Thomas Whalen; Second Ward, Joel Wheeler, John Pierce; Third Ward, Alexander Brush, John A. B. Campbell; Fourth Ward, Jacob Beyer, Anthony Stettenbenz; Fifth Ward, August Hagar, J. H. Shepard; Sixth Ward, Solomon Scheu, Felix Biegler; Seventh Ward, J. L. Haberstro, G. J. Buchheit; Eighth Ward, George J. Bamler, Edward Madden; Ninth Ward, Henry Morse, S. S. Guthrie; Tenth Ward, John Walls, William C. Bryant; Eleventh Ward, Nathaniel B. Hoyt, John Auchinvole; Twelfth Ward, John Glassar, James W. Parsons; Thirteenth Ward, Angus McPherson, John Kelly, Jr. *City Officers*—Comptroller, William F. Rogers; Clerk, J. D. Hoyt Chamberlain; Attorney, George S. Wardwell; Treasurer, Joseph Churchyard; Street Commissioner, Jeremiah Mahony; Surveyor, John A. Ditto; Superintendent of Schools, John S. Fosdick; Health Physician, C. C. F. Gay.

1868.—Mayor, William F. Rogers, (Dem.); Chandler J. Wells, opposing candidate; President of the Council, Paul Goembel, (Dem.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, Edward Byrns, George Chambers; Second Ward, John Pierce, W. B. Sirret; Third Ward, Z. G. Allen, J. A. B. Campbell; Fourth Ward, Frank Collignon, A. Stettenbenz; Fifth Ward, P. Rechtenwalt, J. H. Shepard; Sixth Ward, Felix Biegler, Paul Goembel; Seventh Ward, G. J. Buchheit, John Gisei; Eighth Ward, Edward Madden, John Sheehan; Ninth Ward, S. S. Guthrie, Henry Morse; Tenth Ward, D. C. Beard, W. C. Bryant; Eleventh Ward, John Auchinvole, N. B. Hoyt; Twelfth Ward, John Ambrose, J. W. Parsons; Thirteenth Ward, John Kelly, Jr., A. McPherson. *City Officers*—Comptroller, R. D. Ford; Clerk, Charles S. Macomber; Attorney, David F. Day; Treasurer, Joseph L. Haberstro; Street Commissioner, Alexander Brush; Surveyor, George VomBerge; Health Physician, Dr. G. C. Mackay.

1869.—Mayor, William F. Rogers, (Dem.); President of the Council, John Sheehan, (Dem.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, Edward Byrns, George Chambers; Second Ward, John Pierce, W. B. Sirret; Third Ward, Zadock G. Allen, George G. Newman; Fourth Ward, F. Collignon, Peter P. Miller; Fifth Ward, Charles Sauer, John Dietzer; Sixth Ward, Paul Goembel, Henry Dilcher; Seventh Ward, John Gisel, Donald Bain; Eighth Ward, John Sheehan, Michael Keenan; Ninth Ward, Henry Morse, James VanBuren; Tenth Ward, D. C. Beard, Robert Carmichael; Eleventh Ward, John Auchinvole, E. S. Hawley; Twelfth Ward, John Ambrose, Elisha Safford; Thirteenth Ward, Angus McPherson, George Orr. *City Officers*—Comptroller, R. D. Ford; Clerk, George S. Wardwell; Attorney, David F. Day; Treasurer, Joseph L. Haberstro; Street Commissioner, Alexander Brush; Surveyor, George VomBerge; Superintendent of Schools, Samuel Slade; Health Physician, Byron H. Daggett.

1870.—Mayor, Alexander Brush, (Rep.); Thomas Clark, opposing candidate; President of the Council, John Pierce, (Rep.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, William B. Smith, George Chambers; Second Ward, John Pierce, John Booth; Third Ward, Samuel G. Peters, George G. Newman; Fourth Ward, Edward Storck, Peter P. Miller; Fifth Ward, Charles Groben, John Dietzer; Sixth Ward, Michael Lang, Henry Dilcher; Seventh Ward, John Werrick, Donald Bain; Eighth Ward, John Shehan, M. Keenan; Ninth Ward, Frank A. Sears, James Van Buren; Tenth Ward, Lewis M. Evans, Robert Carmichael; Eleventh



Ward, Jacob Scheu, Elias S. Hawley; Twelfth Ward, Isaac I. Van Allen, Elisha Safford; Thirteenth Ward, Almus T. Patchin, George Orr. *City Officers*—Comptroller, R. D. Ford; Clerk, George S. Wardwell; Attorney, Benjamin H. Williams; Treasurer, Joseph L. Haberstro; Street Commissioner, George W. Gillespie; Surveyor, John A. Ditto; Superintendent of Schools, Thomas Lothrop; Health Physician, Byron H. Daggett.

1871.—Mayor, Alexander Brush, (Rep.); President of the Council, John Sheehan, (Dem.) *Aldermen*—First Ward, W. B. Smith, Patrick Walsh; Second Ward, John Booth, John Pierce; Third Ward, S. G. Peters, John Kelly, Jr.; Fourth Ward, E. Storck, W. S. Ovens; Fifth Ward, Charles Groben, Joseph Bork; Sixth Ward, M. Lang, J. H. Fischer; Seventh Ward, John Werrick, George Rochevot; Eighth Ward, John Sheehan, Daniel Cruice; Ninth Ward, Frank A. Sears, James Van Buren; Tenth Ward, L. M. Evans, R. Carmichael; Eleventh Ward, J. Scheu, George W. Zink; Twelfth Ward, I. I. Van Allen, C. L. Dayton; Thirteenth Ward, A. T. Patchin, William Dawes. *City Officers*—Comptroller, R. D. Ford; Clerk, Thomas R. Clinton; Treasurer, Joseph L. Haberstro; Attorney, Benjamin H. Williams; Surveyor, John A. Ditto; Street Commissioner, George W. Gillespie; Superintendent of Schools, Thomas Lothrop.

1872.—Mayor, Alexander Brush; President of the Council, Edward Storck. *Aldermen*—First Ward, John Doyle, Patrick Walsh; Second Ward, Benjamin Dickey, John Pierce; Third Ward, J. A. Seymour, John Kelly, Jr.; Fourth Ward, E. Storck, L. P. Reichert; Fifth Ward, Frank Sipp, Joseph Bork; Sixth Ward, Jacob Bott, J. H. Fischer; Seventh Ward, J. P. Einsfeld, George Rochevot; Eighth Ward, M. Keenan, Daniel Cruice; Ninth Ward, F. A. Sears, James Van Buren; Tenth Ward, Joseph Churchyard, R. Carmichael; Eleventh Ward, William Baynes, George W. Zink; Twelfth Ward, John Frank, C. L. Dayton; Thirteenth Ward, A. B. Angus, A. Prenatt. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Lewis M. Evans; Clerk, Walter C. Winship; Attorney, Frank R. Perkins; Treasurer, Joseph Bork; Street Commissioner, James Franklin; Engineer, John A. Ditto; Superintendent of Schools, Josephus N. Larned.

1873.—Mayor, Alexander Brush; President of the Council, Frank A. Sears. *Aldermen*—First Ward, John Doyle, Timothy Cotter; Second Ward, Benjamin Dickey, Ellis Webster; Third Ward, J. A. Seymour, J. W. Dennis; Fourth Ward, Louis Herman, L. P. Reichert; Fifth Ward, Frank Sipp, William Henrich; Sixth Ward, Jacob Bott, J. H. Fischer; Seventh Ward, J. P. Einsfeld, George Reinheimer; Eighth Ward, M. Keenan, Charles Jessemin; Ninth Ward, F. A. Sears, James Van Buren; Tenth Ward, J. Churchyard, R. Carmichael; Eleventh Ward, William Baynes, Archibald McLeish; Twelfth Ward, John Frank, Christopher Laible; Thirteenth Ward, J. J. Weber, A. Prenatt. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Lewis M. Evans; Clerk, Walter C. Winship; Attorney, Frank R. Perkins; Treasurer, Joseph Bork; Street Commissioner, James Franklin; Engineer, John A. Ditto; Superintendent of Schools, Josephus N. Larned.

1874.—Mayor, Lewis P. Dayton; President of the Council, Benjamin Dickey. *Aldermen*—First Ward, Timothy Cotter, John Doyle; Second Ward, Ellis Webster, Benjamin Dickey; Third Ward, J. W. Dennis, J. N. Mileham; Fourth Ward, Louis Hermann, G. F. Zeller;

Fifth Ward, William Henrich, C. P. Drescher; Sixth Ward, J. H. Fischer, Joseph Jerge; Seventh Ward, George Reinheimer, J. P. Einsfeld; Eighth Ward, Charles Jessemin, Joseph Galley; Ninth Ward, James Van Buren, N. C. Simons; Tenth Ward, R. Carmichael, P. J. Ferris; Eleventh Ward, A. McLeish, George W. Zink; Twelfth Ward, Christian Laible, I. I. Van Allen; Thirteenth Ward, A. Prenatt, N. H. Lee. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Thomas R. Clinton; Clerk, Walter C. Winship; Attorney, Frank R. Perkins; Treasurer, Joseph Bork; Street Commissioner, A. Stettenbenz; Engineer, George E. Mann; Superintendent of Education, William S. Rice.

1875.—Mayor, Lewis P. Dayton; President of the Council, Elijah Ambrose. *Aldermen*—First Ward, John Doyle, John Hanavan; Second Ward, Benjamin Dickey, William V. Woods; Third Ward, J. N. Mileham, Michael Danahy; Fourth Ward, G. F. Zeller, Charles Persons; Fifth Ward, C. P. Drescher, E. Ambrose; Sixth Ward, Joseph Jerge, Jacob Hiemenz; Seventh Ward, J. P. Einsfeld, J. C. Weber; Eighth Ward, Joseph Galley, Michael Keenan; Ninth Ward, N. C. Simons, C. D. Simpson; Tenth Ward, P. J. Ferris, M. Nichols; Eleventh Ward, George W. Zink, John Auchinvole; Twelfth Ward, I. I. Van Allen, William Farmer; Thirteenth Ward, N. H. Lee, Charles Dickman. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Thomas R. Clinton; Clerk, R. D. Ford; Attorney, Frank R. Perkins; Treasurer, Joseph Bork; Street Commissioner, A. Stettenbenz; Engineer, George E. Mann; Superintendent of Education, William S. Rice.

1876.—Mayor, Philip Becker, (Rep.); President of the Council, Asaph S. Bemis. *Aldermen*—First Ward, John Hanavan, John White; Second Ward, William V. Woods, A. L. Lothridge; Third Ward, Michael Danahy, Alfred H. Neal; Fourth Ward, Charles Persons, Asaph S. Bemis; Fifth Ward, Elijah Ambrose, Jacob Benzinger; Sixth Ward, Jacob Hiemenz, Henry J. Baker; Seventh Ward, John C. Weber, Donald Bain; Eighth Ward, Michael Keenan, John Pfeil; Ninth Ward, Clarence D. Simpson, N. C. Simons; Tenth Ward, Merritt Nichols, Peter J. Ferris; Eleventh Ward, John Auchinvole, Chris. Smith; Twelfth Ward, William Farmer, Isaac I. Van Allen; Thirteenth Ward, Charles Dickman, M. Shannon. *City Officers*—Comptroller, Lewis M. Evans; Clerk, R. D. Ford; Attorney, John B. Greene; Treasurer, Henry D. Keller; Street Commissioner, Charles Jessemin; Engineer, George E. Mann; Superintendent of Education, William S. Rice.

1877.—Mayor, Philip Becker; Comptroller, Lewis M. Evans; Attorney, John B. Greene; Treasurer, Henry D. Keller; Engineer, George E. Mann; Street Commissioner, Charles Jessemin; Superintendent of Education, William S. Rice; President of Common Council, John Auchinvole.

1878.—Mayor, Hon. Solomon Scheu; Comptroller, John C. Sheehan; Attorney, Price A. Matteson; Treasurer, Eugene Bertrand, Jr.; Engineer, George Vom Berge; Street Commissioner, James V. Hayes; Superintendent of Education, Christopher G. Fox; President of Common Council, John B. Sackett.

1879.—Mayor, Hon. Solomon Scheu; Comptroller, John C. Sheehan; Attorney, Price A. Matteson; Treasurer, Eugene Bertrand, Jr.; Engineer, George Vom Berge; Street Commissioner, James V. Hayes; Superintendent of Education, Christopher G. Fox; President of Common Council, Merritt Nichols.

1880.—Mayor, Hon. Alexander Brush; Comptroller, John C. Sheehan; Attorney, Edward C. Hawks; Treasurer, Joseph Ball; Engineer, Jasper T. Youngs; Street Commissioner, Michael Magher; Superintendent of Education, Christopher G. Fox; President of Common Council, Milton E. Beebe.

1881.—Mayor, Alexander Brush; Comptroller, John C. Sheehan; Attorney, Edward C. Hawks; Treasurer, Joseph Ball; Engineer, Jasper T. Youngs; Street Commissioner, Michael Magher; Superintendent of Education, Christopher G. Fox; President of Common Council, Milton E. Beebe.

1882.—Mayor, Grover Cleveland; Comptroller, Timothy J. Mahoney; Attorney, Giles E. Stilwell; Treasurer, Joseph Ball; Engineer, Thomas J. Rogers; Street Commissioner, John Mahoney; Superintendent of Education, James F. Crooker; President of Common Council, George W. Patridge. *Aldermen*—First Ward, Dennis Hanrahan, John White; Second Ward, R. R. Hefford, Charles B. Doty; Third Ward, Joseph Maycock, George W. Patridge; Fourth Ward, August Beck, John A. Miller; Fifth Ward, Louis Fritz, William C. Brainard; Sixth Ward, Louis Knell, William Schier; Seventh Ward, Henry Rochevot, George Baer; Eighth Ward, James Rogers, John Elliott; Ninth Ward, George E. Matteson, Alexander McMaster; Tenth Ward, H. H. Koch, Henry Montgomery; Eleventh Ward, Marcus M. Drake, Charles A. Rupp; Twelfth Ward, Peter Glor, Jr., John C. Hanbach; Thirteenth Ward, William H. Little, Henry H. Twichell.

1883.—*Mayor's Department*—Mayor, John B. Manning, salary \$2,500; Messenger, Adam Nicken, \$750.

*Comptroller's Department*—Comptroller, Timothy J. Mahoney, salary \$2,500; Deputy, A. A. Vandeburgh, \$1,250; Chief Book-keeper, Joseph R. Williams, \$1,600; Assistant Book-keepers, John F. Malone, \$900, Edward McGuire, \$900, Archie L. Allen, \$900; Statement and Warrant Clerk, James W. Mather, \$1,100; Recording Clerks, Thomas Beasley, \$900, Alexander Kirsch, \$800; Tax Sale Clerks, Frank Short, \$1,500, Charles F. Kleber, \$1,000; Clerk of Arrears, Patrick H. Mahoney, \$1,000; Bond Clerk, Charles McDonough, \$1,000; Auditor, Richard W. English, \$1,200.

*Attorney's Department*—City Attorney, Giles E. Stilwell, \$2,500; Deputy, Edgar B. Perkins, \$1,250; Managing Clerk, James M. Cloak; Clerk, Henry H. Guenther, \$800; Detective, Carl Andersen, \$720.

*Treasurer's Department*—City Treasurer, Joseph Ball, \$2,500; Deputy, James H. Carmichael, \$1,500; Cashier, Charles J. Ball, \$1,200; Book-keeper, A. J. Meyer, \$1,200; Clerks, George E. Hunter, \$800, C. Stockmar, \$800, Joseph H. Kolb, \$800, Henry L. Schnur, \$800, Max F. Gese, \$800, George Feldman, \$800.

*Engineer's Department*—City Engineer, Thomas J. Rogers, \$2,500; Deputy, Daniel H. Sherman, \$1,800; Assistants, Albert Krause, \$1,250, F. L. Bapst, \$1,250, George E. Fell, \$1,250; Clerk, John A. Bodamer, \$1,200; Draughtsman, Hugh Macdiarmid, \$960.

*Street Department*—Street Commissioner, John Mahoney, \$2,000; Assistant, John W. Snyder, \$1,250; Clerk, John S. Bidwell, \$1,050.

*Assessors' Department*—Assessors, John S. Robertson, Chairman; John H. Ludwig, Henry O. Dee, salary, each \$2,000; Draughtsman, H. T. Buttolph, \$900; Clerks, Dirck V. Benedict, \$1,200, Joseph Mayer, \$1,000, George T. Pfeiffer, Michael E. Hogan, Mathew Ludwig, Charles A. Dee, each \$800.



*City Clerk's Department*—City Clerk, William P. Burns, \$2,000; Deputy, William A. Bird, \$1,250; Warrant Clerk, B. F. Bruce, Jr., \$1,000; Index Clerk, John G. Klein, \$1,000.

*Educational Department*—Superintendent, James F. Crooker, \$2,500; Clerk, G. A. Fink, \$1,200; Porter, John Doyle, \$800; Compulsory Educational Examiners, First District, Cortland Lake, per day, \$3.00; Second District, Charles Lipp, per day, \$3.00; Teachers, one, \$2,500; three, each \$1,250; twenty-three, each \$1,450; six, each \$1,400; four, each \$1,100; fifteen, each \$800; six, each \$700; fifty-six, each \$650; two hundred and seventy-six, each \$570; thirty-four, each \$500; twenty, each \$450; ten, each \$400.

*City Poor Relief Department*—Overseer, Henry T. Kraft, \$2,000; Deputy, John Zoll, \$1,200; Clerks, J. J. Aeshbach, \$800; John Arnold, \$800; Jacob Crowder, \$800.

*Judiciary Department*—Superior Court Judges, James Sheldon, C. J., \$6,000; James M. Smith, \$6,000; Charles Beckwith, \$6,000; Stenographer, George Macnoe, \$2,000; Crier, P. D. Ellithorpe, \$1,000; Clerk, John C. Graves, salaries and fees; Deputy, Charles B. Sill, \$1,000; Special Deputy, E. P. Fields, fees; Recording Clerk, John G. Cloak, fees; Messenger, John Flynn, \$750. Municipal Court Judges, George S. Wardwell, \$2,000, George A. Lewis, \$2,000; Clerk, Fred. Greiner, \$1,000; Janitor, Charles Salter, \$240. Police Court Justice, Thomas S. King, \$3,000; Clerk, Butler S. Farrington, \$1,200; Deposition Clerk, Louis Scheu, \$1,000.

*Common Council*—President, Robert R. Hefford, \$500; City Clerk, William P. Burns, \$2,000; Deputy City Clerk, William A. Bird, \$1,250; Sergeant-at-Arms, Norton B. Smith, per session, \$2.00; Messenger, Frank S. M. Heinze, per session, \$1.75.

*Aldermen*—Twenty-six, each \$250. First Ward, John White, Andrew Beasley; Second Ward, Charles B. Doty, R. R. Hefford; Third Ward, George W. Patridge, Michael Callahan; Fourth Ward, John A. Miller, Augustus Beck; Fifth Ward, William C. Brainard, Louis Fritz; Sixth Ward, William Shier, Jacob Hasselbeck; Seventh Ward, George Baer, Alfred Lyth; Eighth Ward, John Elliott, John Davy; Ninth Ward, Alexander McMaster, William Franklin; Tenth Ward, Henry Montgomery, Samuel V. Parsons; Eleventh Ward, Charles A. Rupp, Marcus M. Drake; Twelfth Ward, John C. Hanbach, George Denner; Thirteenth Ward, Henry H. Twitchell, William Summers.

The city of Buffalo now has one hundred and thirteen miles of paved streets, grown from about fifty miles in 1860; it is drained by one hundred and twenty-seven miles of sewerage, to which will soon be added the great trunk sewer referred to heretofore; a fire department equipped with nineteen engines, three hook and ladder companies, a fire alarm telegraph system and all other necessary accessories for the protection of the citizens' property from fire; a police force of about two hundred and thirty who preserve the public peace and safety of property; more than one hundred churches that open their doors to the public for the worship of the Creator; a school system giving educational advantages that can scarcely be excelled; and a press that occupies the field with efficient intelligence. These different departments, institutions and interests, with other special city topics, are treated in succeeding chapters.

The growth of Buffalo in the value of real and personal property, and the amount of taxation from year to year since the enlargement of the city in 1854, is clearly shown in the following table:—

STATEMENT SHOWING THE VALUATION OF REAL AND PERSONAL ESTATE IN THE CITY OF BUFFALO FROM 1855 TO 1883, INCLUSIVE, AND THE AMOUNT OF TAX LEVIED FOR EACH YEAR.

Year.	Valuation of Real Estate.	Valuation of Personal Estate.	Total Valuation of Real and Personal Estate.	Tax.
1855	\$ 28,128,039 00	\$ 7,360,436 00	\$ 35,488,475 00	\$ 301,213 32
1856	29,356,291 00	8,130,770 00	37,487,061 00	317,478 56
1857	29,446,280 00	6,065,720 00	35,512,000 00	345,834 47
1858	27,743,945 00	5,485,080 00	33,229,025 00	364,904 48
1859	24,997,300 00	4,743,080 00	29,740,380 00	304,783 33
1860	24,358,905 00	5,893,470 00	30,252,375 00	302,443 18
1861	24,232,955 00	6,472,175 00	30,705,130 00	283,644 49
1862	24,677,175 00	6,944,180 00	31,621,355 00	284,196 19
1863	25,210,815 00	6,528,045 00	31,738,860 00	334,504 83
1864	25,491,900 00	6,517,510 00	32,009,410 00	403,857 33
1865	25,868,210 00	7,730,030 00	33,598,240 00	504,218 86
1866	26,438,325 00	8,519,375 00	34,957,700 00	485,444 16
1867	28,807,940 00	10,755,175 00	39,563,115 00	640,713 45
1868	29,359,788 00	7,156,475 00	36,516,263 00	648,778 11
1869	30,289,215 00	7,350,835 00	37,640,050 00	657,954 74
1870	30,838,530 00	6,547,575 00	37,386,105 00	864,350 56
1871	31,990,095 00	6,247,775 00	38,237,870 00	867,644 25
1872	32,755,730 00	5,719,405 00	38,475,135 00	1,042,612 62
1873	33,587,040 00	6,129,550 00	39,716,590 00	1,334,975 88
1874	33,943,735 00	6,024,370 00	39,968,105 00	1,442,290 39
1875	34,974,065 00	6,105,000 00	41,079,065 00	1,487,672 19
1876	102,540,095 00	9,455,860 00	111,995,955 00	1,420,778 87
1877	91,130,870 00	8,844,705 00	99,975,575 00	1,545,392 80
1878	80,929,165 00	7,947,380 00	88,876,545 00	1,243,582 89
1879	80,521,930 00	7,634,380 00	88,156,310 00	1,036,501 27
1880	81,713,740 00	7,523,580 00	89,237,320 00	1,264,064 90
1881	84,394,920 00	7,859,545 00	92,254,465 00	1,595,445 11
1882	88,473,285 00	9,623,750 00	98,097,035 00	1,582,665 15
1883	93,167,090 00	8,796,675 00	101,963,765 00	1,659,634 99

The growth of Buffalo in population has been steadily upward since its earliest settlement, and at no period has the future looked more encouraging in this respect than at present. The following figures from the State and United States census reports and the city directories of the past two years, show the increase of population by semi-decades since the year 1810:—

CENSUS.	YEAR.	POPULATION.
United States.....	1810	1,508
State.....	1814	1,060
United States.....	1820	2,095
State.....	1825	5,141
United States.....	1830	8,653

CENSUS.	YEAR.	POPULATION.
State.....	1835	15,661
United States.....	1840	18,213
State.....	1845	29,773
United States.....	1850	42,261
State.....	1855	72,214
United States.....	1860	81,126
State.....	1865	94,210
United States.....	1870	117,714
State.....	1875	134,557
United States.....	1880	155,134
Buffalo City Directory.....	1882	182,511
Buffalo City Directory.....	1883	199,892

In concluding these chapters devoted to the settlement and general growth of the city, it is pleasant to add that every passing year is adding largely to the population, wealth and beauty of the Queen City; that in the years to come, when it has reached the proud position that it may reasonably be expected to attain, its present proportions, grand as they are, may be looked back upon as almost insignificant. And now let us, in imagination, look out upon the good city from the observatory of that grand structure, the City and County Hall, and listen to the words of a gifted orator,\* as they fell from his lips when the corner-stone was laid:—

“We barely glance at the colossal statues of Justice, Industry, Commerce and Art, for we see the very things themselves in the heavens above us and in the landscapes at our feet. Afar off in the south, blue hills end our extremest view and border the rich expanse of plain, dotted with happy villages and towns which curve eastward and far north. The whole country is alive with labor and with the rush of business and of pleasure. The roads radiating from the city in all directions are thronged with vehicles of every kind. On the west, and apparently so near that we can chuck a biscuit into it, sleeps Lake Erie, the first, if not the fairest of the great chain of mountain lakes—an opening to a navigation of thousands of miles, a ready access to a country almost as broad as Europe and richer far. It is whitened by not unfrequent sails, and above its green waters float the frequent trains of smoking propellers hurrying to and fro from our harbor. The fair coast of Canada confronts us smilingly, the mighty Niagara, like molten silver gleams northward till its own curvings hide it, but the stationary cloud beyond betrays its presence and marks the position of the great cataract, and proclaims the fact that commerce by water beyond Buffalo is barred by nature. On every hand, in every direction upon the land, you see long trains of cars impelled by locomotives towards and from us. You notice, too, that commerce, impatient of the least delay, is bridging the wide, deep, rushing river. The harbor, once so contracted, is now capacious, and saucy little tugs are pulling leviathans hither and thither with admirable dexterity and ease. And there, too, packed with long lines of freighted boats, towed by slow-paced horses, is the Erie canal, the populator and best friend of the great West—the author, and so far as we know, the sure conservator of the fortunes of Buffalo.

\* Hon. George W. Clinton.



“In the city at our feet, here and there, quick puffs of steam and great steady columns of smoke indicate the positions of our great furnaces and forges, and work-shops and factories of innumerable kinds. And then the beauty of the city; but I will not dilate on that. We rest content with stating that the main features of this wondrous picture are the growth of less than fifty years, and that no cause of that growth has ceased to act; that each and every cause of it is now acting, and must act for ages with increasing power.”

## CHAPTER V.

### THE GERMANS OF BUFFALO.

Characteristics of the German Element—Proportion of German Population in Buffalo—Whence they Emigrated—The Old Lutherans—Mecklenburgers and Alsations—The First German Settler in Buffalo—“Water John”—Jacob Siebold’s Arrival—The First Brewer, Rudolph Baer—An Early Teacher of Languages—The First Potter in Buffalo—The Oldest German Resident of the City—The German Element in 1828—Arrivals of Settlers in 1831—The German Press—The German Young Men’s Association—Its Objects—First Members—Music Hall and its Projectors—German Musical Societies—Secret Societies—The German Bank of Buffalo—German American Bank—Buffalo German Insurance Company—The German Churches.

**G**ERMAN immigration to America since the beginning of the present century has been a powerful element in the growth and prosperity of the country. From no other foreign land has there come to us a class of people possessed in so great a degree of the characteristics necessary to render them peaceable, loyal and intelligent citizens of a free country. Industry, thrift, economy, patience in the toil necessary to procure for themselves homes, sociability, general temperance and intelligence above the average of our citizens—these are the marked features of the German character that is so numerously represented in all of our large cities; they readily adapt themselves to our form of government, adopt our language, connect themselves with our institutions while perpetuating their own, take an active and intelligent part in our politics, and by the general exercise of the traits of character above noted, soon gain a foothold and occupy a position of prominence wherever they make their homes. Wherever they settle in any considerable numbers, the Germans are prompt in the building of churches, the founding of useful societies and the patronage of schools, while the ratio of their increase in numbers, as compared with any given number of American families, is greatly in their favor.

There are few Northern cities where the German element forms a larger proportion of the population than in Buffalo. In 1880, the

nationality of the parents of all the pupils registered in the public schools of the city, was as follows:—

American.....	4,612
German.....	9,088
Irish.....	2,834
Other Nationalities.....	2,072

In 1882, these proportions stood as follows:—

American.....	5,460
German.....	10,301
Irish.....	2,633
Other Nationalities.....	2,293

At the present time it is probable that the Germans of Buffalo number more than 75,000 (50,000 of whom were born in this country,) little less than one-half of the entire population of the city, while the other figures we have quoted indicate that the German families who send children to our public schools, equal in round numbers, not the American school patrons alone, but all other nationalities combined. Whoever walks the streets of Buffalo, or reads the list of business firms and of the directors of our financial and other institutions, will not fail to be struck with the frequently recurring, well-recognized names of our German citizens; they are numerous, prominent and valuable constituents in the composition of the commercial and business structure of the community.

The early settlers of Teutonic descent in Buffalo came almost entirely from Alsace (then under French rule) and southern Germany. This is accounted for by the fact that those sections of the Fatherland had been devastated by wars and were ruled in despotism and ruinous extravagance, which tended to drive the industrious peasantry to seek homes where their labors would be justly and permanently rewarded. Although northern Germany was at the same time under rigid despotic rule, it was of a vastly more humane and intelligent character. In Prussia especially, the peasantry were made to feel a strong confidence in their government and contentment with their position. As a consequence the settlers of Buffalo who came from northern Germany were later arrivals than their more oppressed southern brethren.

The first considerable body of Prussians who came to Buffalo to settle were the old Lutherans; they reached here in 1839, under care of their persecuted ministers, Johann Andreas, August Grabau and L. F. E. Krause, from Erfurt, province of Saxony, having been driven from their native land on account of their religion.

The Mecklenburgers constitute another important element in the north German emigration. The Seventh ward is largely populated by them, and they form an intelligent and successful class in the community.

Alsace contributed largely to the earlier emigration from southern Germany. The Alsatians have allied themselves, in the broadest sense,

with the great mass of the German population of the city, and were foremost in the establishment of German churches and schools, in organizing societies, and in other ways fostering the welfare of their countrymen.

These different foreign elements, all essentially one people, combining the qualities necessary to success in life to which we have before referred, comprise within their ranks strong representative men—men who have not only been influential in developing resources in trade and manufactures which have paved the way to remunerative employment, and resulting competency and contentment for their less prominent countrymen, but have, at the same time, taken an enviable position in politics, in social affairs, and the general advancement of the city's interests.

The first German settler in Buffalo, was John Kuecherer,\* who came from Pennsylvania in 1821. He became a somewhat noted character, and is now well remembered by old residents as "Water John," a title that was bestowed upon him on account of his business of carrying water for washing and other purposes, to the inhabitants of the village who were not otherwise supplied. Of Kuecherer's early history, and that of his antecedents, little is known. His daughter still lives in the city, but she is unable to throw much light upon the subject. It is supposed that he left Germany in one of the caravans that was driven from their homes to England during the last century, and was thence shipped to America. Kuecherer died in Buffalo, at the age of eighty-eight.

In 1822, Jacob Siebold, the second German settler in Buffalo, arrived. He came from Wurtemberg and afterwards became a successful and prominent business man. He was extensively engaged in the grocery business and had a store on Main street next door to the Hayden building. He was also one of the founders of the Buffalo Board of Trade, and a director in the Buffalo Savings Bank. Few business men in the community have inspired a greater degree of respect than Jacob Siebold. His wife and children still reside in Buffalo.

Following Siebold, Rudolph Baer came from near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and settled in Buffalo in 1826. He was originally from Switzerland and came to America in May, 1814. He engaged in keeping the hotel at Cold Spring, and soon after built a brewery and gave the Buffalonians their first taste of beer made at home. It may not have been a beverage of very high quality, but Baer's brewery was the foundation of a business in Buffalo, that has reached enormous proportions, and is still largely in the hands of Germans. Rudolph Baer died in

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\* The spelling of this pioneer German's name is authorized by Mr. I. S. Ellison, in a paper read by him before the Historical Society; a paper to which we are indebted for many of the facts used in this chapter. The name is spelled many different ways in various publications, but this is undoubtedly correct.







1836, in the house now occupied by his son, Augustus Baer, No. 1503 Main street.

About the time of Baer's arrival here, Philip Meyerhoffer also settled in Buffalo. Little is known of him except that he was a teacher of languages in 1827, and officiated at German divine service in 1828, in a room over 533 Main street.

Godfrey Heiser, who now lives at 209 Seneca street, came to Philadelphia from Germany in 1819 and to Buffalo in 1828. He first engaged in the lime business on Exchange street, when it was "woods nearly all around him." He afterwards began the first pottery business in Buffalo, on the site of his present residence, where his son also conducts a grocery business. At a still later date Mr. Heiser was engaged in brewing at the same location, in connection with his brother. He retired from active business seventeen years ago.

Although the first Buffalo directory, published early in the year 1828, and supposed to contain a record of the names of the inhabitants at that time, gives no other distinctively German name, it is more than probable that others had settled here before that date. Mr. E. G. Grey, who is now the oldest German resident of Buffalo, is positive that when he arrived here in the spring of 1828, there were about seventy Germans in the village. If such was the case, however, there is little now remembered of them; a small body of Germans arrived late in the year 1827. Christian Bronner, who died in April, 1881, was one of them. He has descendants now living in Buffalo.

In the year 1828, German immigration increased rapidly. In that year the venerable E. G. Grey came; he is now the oldest German resident. Mr. Grey has been a successful grocer and a respected citizen in all that the term implies. Jacob Schanzlin also arrived in 1828; he brewed the first lager in Buffalo and kept a "Wirthschaft" on Main street where it is crossed by Scajaquada Creek, which was once a popular resort. Dr. Daniel Devening came to America in 1827, and a year later settled in Buffalo, being then 17 years old. He has enjoyed a successful career as a physician and was the first German elected to the Assembly from Buffalo. He still resides here, an honored representative of his countrymen.

Michael Mesmer emigrated from Alsace in 1829 and settled in Buffalo. He was for thirty years engaged in the grocery, flour and feed business, and later was a member of the well known firm of furniture manufacturers and dealers, Weller, Brown & Mesmer. Other prominent Germans who settled here in 1828-'29 were Jacob Roos, a successful brewer, Philip Beyer, George Goetz, George Metzger, Michael Hoist, George Hoist and Christopher Klump; the last six named were the first Germans who purchased homes of the Holland Land Company. Besides Mr. Mesmer, there arrived from Alsace in 1828-29,



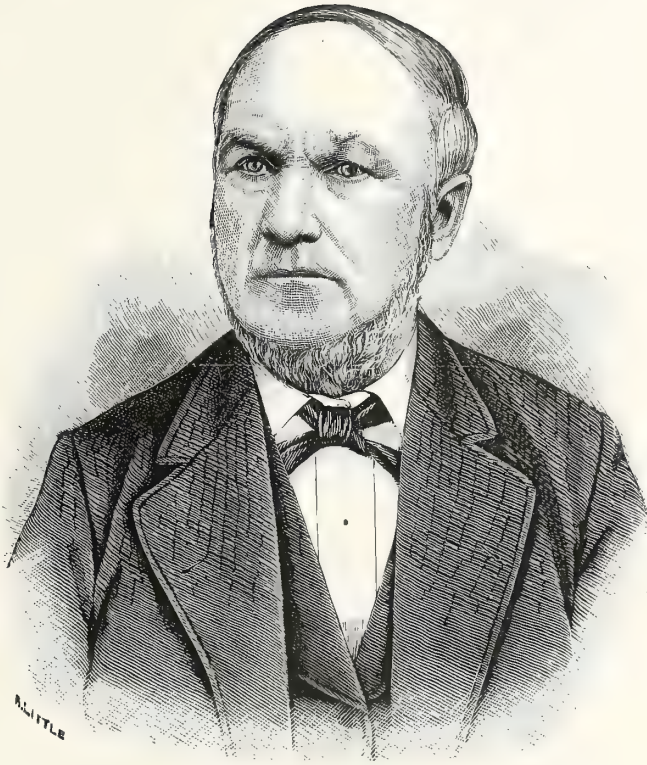
Joseph Haberstro, whose son was afterwards sheriff, Anthony Feldman, George Gass, George Lang, Joseph Suor, Sebastian and Friederich Rusch, George Urban, George Pfeifer and others. Many of these early settlers are dead.

In 1830 Dr. Frederick Dellenbaugh settled in Buffalo, and still lives here. He was honored with a seat in the Aldermanic Board in 1839-'40, the first German city official elected in Buffalo. His career as a physician has been a most successful one, and he is now a hale, well preserved and intelligent gentleman.

Of the Germans who settled in Buffalo in 1831, it may not be out of place to mention the names of Mr. John Greiner, Dr. John Hauenstein, and Dr. F. C. Brunck; while of the old Lutherans before referred to as having immigrated in 1839, Dr. Carl Weiss, who still lives here, Dr. Baethig, deceased, Carl Gruener, who died in Europe, all of whom arrived in Buffalo about 1848-'49, and doubtless others might properly be mentioned as having left the impress of their individuality upon the city. But it will be seen that to follow in detail the tide of German immigration to this city during the past forty years is not only impossible, but undesirable; all the prominent names could not possibly be mentioned, and to select from them would be invidious. It must suffice to state in a general way that the increase in the German population of the city has kept pace with her growth in other respects. Between the years 1850 and 1860, immigration decreased somewhat, and it was further diminished by the War of the Rebellion. In that struggle, as is well known, the Germans of America took a prominent part. In the long roll of honor on which are inscribed the names of those of the heroes of Buffalo who risked or lost their lives to preserve the country as a unit, will be found so large a proportion of Germans, that all of that nationality may look upon it with pride and satisfaction.

The general advancement of German social and business interests in Buffalo has been most effectively promoted by the early establishment and later wide extension and able conduct of the German press—an institution that could not fail to exert a powerful influence, especially during that earlier period before the German element had become so generally familiar with the language of their adopted country. In the columns of the press printed in their own familiar tongue, they read and learned of the government under which they came to dwell; of the growth and prosperity of a country of free institutions; of the character and social and business habits of the people with whom they found themselves associated; the political issues of the time and the laws by which the people were governed, and thus sooner became active, intelligent constituents of the city's living structure, and prosperous, loyal American citizens.

The first German newspaper published in Buffalo was called *Der Weltbuerger*, the initial number of which was issued December 2, 1837.



George Urban





It was published by Mr. George Zahm, who also kept a German bookstore. Its editor was Mr. Stephan St. Molitor. Its brief salutatory, which smacks a trifle of apology for its appearance, contained the following announcement:—

“The number of the German population of Buffalo has increased largely during the last four or five years, and the commercial as well as the political circumstances of this city have become of such great significance for the Germans living here, that the appearance of a newspaper in the German language has long been felt as an urgent need. Its aim is the instruction of the Germans in the politics of this country, and the communication of the most important American and European events. As this instruction will be one of its main purposes, it will advocate no special party, but try to develop independently and impartially those principles which are necessary to the preservation of the Constitution. On the more important political questions both parties will be presented, in order to enable the readers to form their own judgment.”

It is clear that the first German newspaper started out in life upon a broad and independent policy. *Der Weltbuerger* was Democratic in politics and in a leading editorial, counseled its readers to ally themselves with one or the other of the great parties, that they might thus retain their influence as citizens. The paper was a neat appearing sheet for that period, 19 by 25 inches in size and was fairly patronized with advertisements of the business of the village. *Der Weltbuerger* remained under control of George Zahm until the fall of 1844, when he was killed at a hickory-pole raising in Cheektowaga, by the falling of the pole. The paper was then edited by Jacob M. Zahm until the fall of 1845, being published by the administrators of George Zahm's estate. At the latter date it was purchased by Dr. F. C. Brunck and Jacob Domedian, who began its issue as a semi-weekly on a small sheet, at the same time enlarging the weekly. In 1848 the second German weekly was started by Mr. Carl Esslinger, and called the *Demokrat*. When it was a year and a half old, it was purchased by Carl De Haas and Mr. ——— Knapp, who began its publication as a daily—the first in Buffalo in the German language. In 1853 *Der Weltbuerger* and the *Demokrat* were consolidated and Mr. Knapp's interest bought by Mr. Fred Held, the new firm being Brunck, Held & Co. *Der Weltbuerger* was continued as the weekly edition, while the daily still appeared as the *Demokrat*; the same policy is still in force. The entire establishment is at present in the hands of Mr. Held, Carl De Haas having sold his interest in 1859 and Dr. Brunck, June 1, 1875. The *Demokrat* wields a powerful influence among the German population and is one of the leading papers printed in that language in the State.

The next effort at German journalism in Buffalo was not so successful. In 1840 Mr. John M. Meyer issued a campaign paper called the *Volksfreund*; it was started in the Whig interest and its publication abandoned soon after the close of the campaign. January 1st, 1843, the

same gentlemen, with Mr. Alexander Krause, issued the *Freimuethige*, and it, too, died in the summer of 1845. In that year H. B. Miller established the *Telegraph* as a weekly, and in 1854 it was issued as a daily, by Miller & Bender. Philip H. Bender afterwards bought his partner's interest and then sold out to Mr. F. Geib, in whose hands the paper died in 1873. The *Telegraph* was first a Whig and afterwards a Republican organ.

In 1850 Mr. I. Marle began the publication of the *Luegenfeind*, a small sheet devoted to the interests of the Free Christian congregation. It lived about two years. In 1855, its successor was started in the *Lichtfreund*, by Joseph Egenter, but its life was likewise short.

The *Freie Presse* a small sheet, was first issued in 1855, by Fred Reinecke. It lived seventeen years as a weekly, and was transformed into a daily in 1872. Reinecke, Zesch & Baltz followed Fred. Reinecke as its publishers; it is now in the hands of Reinecke & Zesch. The *Freie Presse* is an influential paper, Republican in politics.

*Die Wachende Kirche* is a religious journal which was started in 1856, and was published by Rev. J. J. A. Grabau; it is now issued semi-monthly, by Rev. J. Lange.

In 1857 the Buffalo *Patriot* was started as a daily by Messrs. Young & Vogt; it lived but a few days. The Buffalo *Union*, another Republican daily, started in 1863, by Messrs. Reinecke & Storcke, survived but two days. The Buffalo *Journal*, first issued the same year, by Messrs. Nauert, Hansman & Co., was soon after its establishment, purchased by Dr. Carl De Haas and Fr. Burow and afterwards passed into the hands of Philip Bender; it was subsequently merged with the Buffalo *Telegraph*. The *Journal* was afterwards re-established by a Mr. Nether and lived through one political campaign. In 1868 a paper of a mixed religious-political character, was established by the German Printing Association; it was named the *Volksfreund*, and was devoted to the interests of the Roman Catholic church and Democracy. This journal is still living and is an ably conducted sheet.

On the 16th of October, 1875, the Daily *Republikaner*, was first issued by Mr. I. S. Ellison, as an uncompromising Republican organ. On the 1st of January, 1878, its proprietary rights were transferred to the German Republican Printing Association, Mr. Ellison continuing as its editor until November 11th, 1879; a week later the *Republikaner* was consolidated with the *Freie Presse*.

In 1878 another politico-religious paper was established, to be devoted to political independence and the interests of the Protestant Church; it was called the *Evangelische Gemeindeczeitung*, but its name was soon after changed to *Volksblatt fuer Stadt und Land*. This paper was afterwards converted into a daily, but its success was not sufficient to make it permanent, and it was suspended on the last day of January, 1860.

There are two other German weeklies, both of which are devoted to Roman Catholic literature—the *Aurora*, published by Mr. C. Wieckmann, since 1858, and the *Christliche Woche* conducted by Rev. Joseph Sorg, since February, 1875.

In September, 1875, the first German Sunday paper was established in Buffalo, by Messrs. Haas, Nauert & Klein; it was called the *Sunday Herald*, it lived but a few months. In January, 1876, the second Sunday journal made its appearance in the *Tribune*, it was established by a number of striking printers, and during the fall of 1877, under the influence of the great railroad strikes, it was issued as a daily. Its unpopular policy and incompetent management compelled it to suspend in April, 1878, as a daily. The Sunday issue is still continued by the German Republican Printing Association, and is widely read.

In the summer of 1878, the *Arbeiterstimme am Erie* was started; it advocated communistic principles and quite properly died before the anniversary of its birth.

*Die Laterne* was established February 21, 1880, by Emile C. Erhart. Its name was changed to *Das Banner*, August 14, 1880, and it at the same time passed into the hands of P. Eby and C. Stienke. After the beginning of its second year, it was continued by a stock company, and collapsed February 10, 1883. It was a Greenback organ.

The *Buffalo Wecker*, was started October 30, 1880, by Emile C. Erhart, and continued a precarious existence for seven weeks.

This completes the list of German publications in Buffalo. Those of them that are still in existence are creditable alike to their publishers, editors and the German speaking portion of the community that supports them.

Scarcely less than the influence of the press upon the Germans of Buffalo, has been that of the numerous societies that have been organized among them. Foremost among these is the German Young Men's Association of Buffalo. On the 10th day of May, 1841, nine young men who saw the need of fully acquainting themselves with and preserving the literature of their native land, joined together to found a society for the accomplishment of that laudable object. Their names\* were: F. A. Georger, now president of the German Bank; Dr. John Hauenstein, a prominent German physician; Jacob Beyer, ex-police commissioner; Stephan Bettinger, Karl Neidhardt, George F. Pfeifer, Wilhelm Rudolph, and Adam Schlagder. The object of the society, as set forth in its incorporation act, is:—

“To propagate the knowledge of the treasures of the German literature, and to cause the preservation of the German language, and the growth of the German spirit and self-conscience.”

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\* Of these, one, Mr. Bettinger, was born in Lorraine; two, Messrs. Hauenstein and Rudolph, came from Switzerland; five, Messrs. Beyer, Niedhardt, Georger and Pfeifer, were Alsatians, and only Schlagder, was from Germany proper, the Palatinate.—*Mr. Ellison's Paper.*



The name first adopted by the society, was the "German and English Literary Society." Meetings were held weekly, and the proceedings were made up principally of debates and discourses or declamations given alternately in the German and English languages. The society rapidly increased under its wise counsels and persistent activity, and the nucleus of its present splendid library was soon gathered.

On the 11th of September, 1841, the name of the society was changed to that of "The German Young Men's Association of the City of Buffalo." It employed a librarian, and recording and corresponding secretaries.

At the end of the year 1845, the number of members had increased to one hundred and twenty-two, and the library to four hundred and thirty volumes, and it was resolved to apply for its incorporation, which was effected by act of the Legislature of the State of New York, May 12, 1846. In this act, by which the name of "The German Young Men's Association of the city of Buffalo," was retained, it was said:—

"And by that name (the Association) shall have succession for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a library, museum, reading rooms, literary and scientific lectures, exercises and debates, and other means of promoting moral and intellectual improvement, with power for such purposes," etc.

This worked a complete transformation of the Association. Its object now was:—Improvement in the knowledge of the treasures of German and English literature, co-operation in the cultivation of the mind, and promotion of the arts and sciences. The meetings, which heretofore had been hours of exercises, for which every member had to prepare himself, and in which the one was the teacher of the other, now became literary seances. The principal aim now was to make additions to the library, and by its books and their circulation among the members, prosecute the object of the Association. The restriction as to age of members was done away with, and instead of weekly meetings, monthly business meetings were held, at which every member had a right to be present; and also annual meetings, for the purpose of rendering statements of work performed and the election of officers. Debates, lectures and discourses were now held only from time to time, and non-members, as well as members of the Association, were engaged for lectures and other exercises, and the general public admitted. The use of the German language became more general, and special attention was paid to the increase of German books in the library, while other libraries in this city directed their attention almost exclusively to English literature and contained but few German books.

In 1857, regular monthly meetings were discontinued and the whole management entrusted to the officers of the Association, and a governing committee of ten members. This change caused dissatisfaction among the members, and many gave up their membership; so that, on the 3d of April, 1861, the Association numbered only fifty-four members.



*Wm. H. [unclear]*  
[unclear]





At the general meeting of October 2, 1861, the governing committee was abolished, and the former monthly business meetings for all members restored. The consequence was, that interest in the society and its objects revived, and in the year 1866, the Association numbered two hundred members, while the library had increased to 2,273 volumes.

In that year the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Association was celebrated by orations, a banquet, and a ball, on which occasion \$800 were voluntarily contributed by the members for the purpose of increasing and improving the library. By means of these contributions the library, in the spring of 1869, had increased to 3,123 volumes.

In the year 1870, a system was introduced whereby periodicals of a scientific and literary character, published in Germany, were placed on certain tables in the room of the Association, where they could be read by the members during the hours that the library was kept open. This arrangement having proved a success, has since been continued.

In the same year it was resolved to admit as extraordinary members, (that is, members who were not entitled to vote or hold office,) widows, women, who are of age, self-dependent and unmarried, and on the application of their guardian, those who are under age but grown up.

In April, 1875, the Association had a surplus of \$800 at its disposal, and it was decided to set aside the sum of \$500, the interest of which, and that only, should be expended in the purchase of books for the library.

The membership of the Association has now reached a large number, and the library contains over 7,000 volumes. The difficulty of securing a proper hall for the Saengerfest of 1883, led Messrs. J. F. Schoellkopf and Philip Becker, to purchase the property corner of Main and Edward Streets, with the view of transferring the same to the German Young Men's Association. At the suggestion of these purchasers, and Mr. A. Ziegele, it was resolved to take a deed of the land, and erect a structure suitable for all the uses of the Association as well as for the festival of 1883.

The project was rapidly developed, and in November, 1882, the collection of funds for the proposed building was begun. Messrs. Philip Becker, J. F. Schoellkopf and Albert Ziegele, Sr., each contributed \$1,000 to the object, and many other liberal Germans gave sums nearly as large; each person contributing \$50 or more, becoming a life member. Plans were prepared by architects Esenwein and Deisler, for a building which, with the grounds, cost about \$225,000, and bonds were issued in sums of \$25 and upwards, to run for thirty years, with option of collecting them any time after ten years; these bonds were issued to the amount in gross of \$150,000, at five per cent. interest. In this splendid building, now just completed, the library of the Association occupies a commodious and convenient room on the second floor, 33 by 60 feet in size,

and located on the corner of the two streets upon which the building fronts. The great Saengerfest of 1883 was held in the building, the large hall being calculated to seat about six thousand persons.

The German Lutheran Young Men's Association was organized for the intellectual improvement of its members, chiefly through a medium of a library and reading room, which is kept open every evening. There are now about 3,000 volumes in the library, and the rooms are located at 659 Michigan street.

The Germans are a musical as well as a social people, and their singing societies are found wherever Germans have settled in any considerable numbers. The oldest German singing society in Buffalo is the Liedertafel, which was founded May 9, 1848. Its first officers were: H. Wisner, President; F. Albrecht, Secretary; C. Huis, Treasurer; A. Wunderlin, Librarian. The following named gentlemen have served this society as musical directors: John Dossert, Frederick Hoddick, C. Adam, W. Groscurt, Sig. J. Nuno, C. W. F. Mueller, Frederick Erfling and Joseph Mischka, who is now the efficient incumbent of that position. In 1853 "Das Liederkraenzchen" was organized, and from this society the "Saengerbund" emerged on the 20th of April, 1855, with the following named members: C. W. Braun, H. Duehrfeldt, C. Voss, E. Besser, A. Holzhausen, and nine others. The musical directors of this society were C. W. Braun and Prof. Friedrich Federlein. In 1869, two more singing societies were formed, the "Harugari-Maennerchor," September 19th, and the "Orpheus" October 29th, of that year; the latter society sprang from the Liedertafel, with the following founders: A. Brunn, A. B. Felgemacher, Otto Ulbrich, F. Lautz, A. Lautz, C. Kroll, M. Stark and others. The first musical director was Ernst Schultz, who was succeeded by Carl Adam. Besides these societies there are the "Arion Singing Society," August Goehle, director; the "Germania Singing Society," August Goehle, director; the "Harmonie Singing Society," John Laux, director; "East Buffalo Maennerchor," the "St. Stephens Maennerchor." J. Eitelman, director; the "Helvetia Saenger-Verein," William Lutz, President.

On the 7th of March, 1853, the Buffalo Turnverein was organized in Roth's Hall, on Michigan street. The following twenty gentlemen were its founders: Louis Ailgewaehr, Gustav and Frederic Duehrfeldt, Herman Weber, Heinrich Nauert, Gustav Spitznagel, Martin Riebling, Karl and Gotthard Krech, Ed. Gerstenhauer, Wilhelm Moeser, A. Liesenhopp, John Haffner, Anton Heilman, George Hirsch, Valentine Friedrich, James Von Arx, G. Bachman, G. Berger and A. Kaltenegger. The Turnverein has enjoyed a very prosperous career and now possesses a valuable property on Ellicott street, embracing a commodious Turn Hall.

In the different secret societies the Germans of Buffalo have for many years been conspicuous. As early as 1847 they organized the "Walhalla"

lodge of the order of Odd Fellows, since which time several other lodges have been organized by Germans of this order. In 1849 the first German Free Mason lodge was formed by James Wenz, Dr. Ehrman, Moritz Eschenbach and Jacob Weil; it was called the "Concordia." Since that time several other lodges of this order have been established, which are properly referred to in the chapter on the Masonic order of Buffalo.

The distinctively German order "Harugari," is very strongly represented in Buffalo. The constitution of this order directs the exclusive use of the German language in its proceedings and makes it a duty to do everything possible for the preservation of the language in other ways. The first lodge of this order was founded in Buffalo in 1848 and named the "Columbia Lodge No. 11;" the second was the "Goethe No. 36." Both of these were soon dissolved. Following them "Black Rock Lodge No. 35" was founded in 1853; "Cherusker No. 47" in 1854; "Robert Blum No. 54" in 1855; "Buffalo No. 10" in 1860; "Ludwigs No. 105," "Buffalo Plains No. 111" and "German No. 119" all in 1865; "Erie County No. 165" in 1868; "Goethe No. 222" in 1870; "Loche" in 1875; "Bal dur" in 1876, and "Freundschaft" in the same year. The order is in a very flourishing condition.

In matters relating to finance, the Germans of Buffalo have acquired a position that is enviable. The German Bank of Buffalo was organized May 6, 1871, and opened its doors for business about June 1st, of that year. Its first officers were F. Augustus Georger, president; Philip Becker, vice-president; S. W. Warren, cashier. Its incorporators were F. Augustus Georger, Philip Becker, Philip Houck, J. F. Schoellkopf, Jacob Dold, R. Hoffeld and F. C. Brunck. This institution began business with a capital of \$100,000, in 1876 under the Erie County Savings Bank, corner of Main and Court streets, and removed to its present location in the German Insurance Company's building when it was first occupied. The German Bank has, since its organization, paid an annual dividend of 10 per cent, and has now an accumulated surplus of \$100,000. Its present officers are F. Augustus Georger, president; Philip Houck, vice-president; Eugene A. Georger, cashier. The directors are:—F. Augustus Georger, Philip Houck, J. F. Schoellkopf, Jacob Dold, R. Hoffeld, Albert Ziegler, Sr., Dr. John Hauenstein. This bank is one of the most prosperous financial institutions in the city.

The German American Bank was organized May 10, 1882, and began business at 424 Main street, corner of Court, May 22d, with a capital of \$100,000, which is fully paid in. Its business has rapidly increased and now reaches half a million dollars. The officers of the German American Bank are: Henry Hellriegel, President; Alexander Martin, Vice-President; Henry W. Burt, Cashier. The Directors are Henry Hellriegel, Charles Greiner, John P. Diehl, Alexander Martin, L. L. Lewis, John Schaefer, Francis Handel, Joseph Timmermann, Henry Breitweiser.



As far back as 1867, the Buffalo German Insurance Company was organized, with a capital of \$100,000, which was increased in 1871 to \$200,000. The first officers of the company were: E. G. Grey, President; Philip Becker, Vice-President; Alexander Martin, Secretary. The incorporators were: E. G. Grey, Philip Becker, Julius Fuchs, Michael Mesmer, Solomon Scheu, J. F. Schoellkopf, Philip Houck, Oliver J. Eggert, Albert Ziegele, F. C. Brunck, Stephan Bettinger, F. Augustus Georger, Jacob Beyer, R. Hoffeld, Joseph Timmermann, Henry C. Persch. The first offices of this company were located on the north-east corner of Main and Mohawk streets. In 1869 the following named officers were elected: Philip Becker, President; Julius Fuchs, Vice-President; Alexander Martin, Secretary. In 1874 Mr. Martin resigned as Secretary and Oliver J. Eggert was elected to the vacancy. The present directors of the company are: Louis P. Adolff, Philip Becker, Charles Boller, F. C. Brunck, Adam Cornelius, John P. Diehl, Jacob Dold, Julius Fuchs, F. A. Georger, George Goetz, E. G. Grey, John Hauenstein, William Hellriegel, Jacob Hiemenz, Philip Houck, Michael Mesmer, N. Ottenot, Henry C. Persch, J. F. Schoellkopf, Albert Ziegele.

The German Insurance Company does business in seventeen States as follows: California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and in the District of Columbia.

The following figures show the remarkably successful business that has been done by this company during the past sixteen years:—

DATE.	ASSETS.	NET SURPLUS.	LOSSES PAID.
February 15, 1867,	\$100,000.00		
January 1, 1868,	118,738.88	\$ 4,593.94	\$ 5,275.59
" 1, 1869,	125,220.58	6,033.43	25,705.96
" 1, 1870,	155,090.26	28,828.68	12,624.81
" 1, 1871,	270,080.82	22,104.10	25,317.37
" 1, 1872,	318,337.34	43,099.60	53,265.34
" 1, 1873,	357,160.79	61,571.95	63,206.02
" 1, 1874,	447,273.95	140,852.27	59,979.92
" 1, 1875,	552,601.96	234,197.01	65,267.13
" 1, 1876,	647,460.33	321,256.47	74,962.07
" 1, 1877,	684,799.20	338,068.91	110,280.46
" 1, 1878,	702,074.26	381,796.50	106,126.61
" 1, 1879,	754,406.93	420,025.61	89,618.67
" 1, 1880,	781,062.46	421,022.96	139,494.87
" 1, 1881	825,432.73	444,071.53	144,043.60
" 1, 1882.	900,956.29	457,892.20	171,728.52
" 1, 1883,	936,940.54	494,204.85	190,898.38

\$1,337,795.32

In 1876, this Company erected the substantial and beautiful iron structure fronting on Lafayette Square and Main street, at a cost of \$275,000. In this building are located the convenient and commodious offices of the company. The building is in many respects the finest architectural work in the city.

The Germans are also fully represented in most other lines of business in the city, and especially in manufacturing, as will be learned in succeeding chapters. Each generation is brought up to a clear understanding of some branch of mercantile business, or is instructed in some useful trade, so that all are workers in some direction, and fitted to add in their proper ratio to the wealth and growth of the community.

#### GERMAN CHURCHES.

*St. Louis Church.*—The Germans of Buffalo took an early active interest in religious matters, which has been since continued, and there are now in the city more than thirty church organizations, many of them owning costly edifices, which may be properly classed as German in character. The first of these in point of organization, is what is known as the St. Louis Church, situated on the corner of Main and Edward streets. The first church building that stood on that site, was erected in 1832. In 1828, Rev. Father Baden, the first Catholic priest ordained in the United States, came to Buffalo and was the guest of the distinguished and philanthropic pioneer, Mr. Louis LeCouteulx, for several weeks. During that period and doubtless at his suggestion, Mr. LeCouteulx resolved to donate the site of the St. Louis church to Bishop Dubois. Both Father Baden and Mr. LeCouteulx placed themselves in communication with the Bishop, who came to Buffalo in 1829, and said mass in the old court house. He was surprised to find so large a number of Catholics in the place, and after his return to New York, at his earnest solicitation, Rev. John Nicholas Mertz, who had returned from Europe the second time, consented to become a missionary to Buffalo and the surrounding country. He first held services here in a frame building on Pearl street, in rear of what is now the American Block. In 1832 the first primitive church was erected on the site, a frame building with cross beams of logs; a man named George Schneider, doing the work. As soon as the Catholics in other near localities learned that a church had been established in Buffalo, they came to the village in such numbers that the little church was too small to accommodate them; in consequence the Irish element branched off and built the St. Patrick's church. In 1835, the French and German Catholics erected the present large and handsome St. Louis church. It was built directly over the old church, which after the brick church was finished, was demolished and carried outside. Peter Kraemer had the contract for building the brick church. In 1838 or 1839, Rev. Father Mertz returned to Europe. He had been succeeded

in 1836, by Rev. Alexander Pax, who rendered valuable service for eight years, and was succeeded by Rev. Francis Guth; he also remained eight years. Then came in succession the Rev. Fathers Raffeiner, Weninger, Dieterz, Serge de Scthoulepnikoff and lastly, the present pastor, Rev. Father Sorg, who took charge of the church August 25, 1867. The first Board of Trustees of this church, were Michael Werle, Peter Kraemer, Peter Eslinger, George Zahm, George Bangasser, John Dingens and Peter Zintz. The French portion of the society separated from the parent church about thirty years ago, leaving the congregation distinctively German. The present Board of Trustees are Paul Hausle, Jacob Davis, Francis Spoeri, Joseph Bronner, Mathias Smith, Peter Paul and Frank Deck. A school was established in connection with the church in 1821. It is now in very successful operation with about five hundred and eighty pupils and eight teachers.

*St. Boniface Church.*—In March, 1849, a few German Catholics who lived in the vicinity of Mulberry street, in the midst of what was then more than half a wilderness, resolved to build a church. Accordingly two lots on Mulberry street were bought, each twenty-five feet wide, and to this Mr. A. D. Patchen added by the gift of 100 feet. A frame building was begun and on the 15th of May, 1849, Rev. Father Kunze held the first services in the church. The society then comprised about forty families. A parsonage was built and a school house, which was finished in April, 1850. During the year 1851, the church was enlarged, a tower built and a bell provided. In the spring of 1854, Father Zacharias Kunze was succeeded by Rev. Rudolph Follenius, who served five years. In 1856 the church was again found to be too small to accommodate the growing congregation and the society resolved to erect a new brick structure 55 by 120 feet. The corner stone was laid in November of the same year and the church was consecrated June 15, 1857; its cost was about \$10,000. The same year the society was incorporated under the name of St. Boniface Church. Rev. Follenius died May 27, 1859, and Rev. H. Feldmann was called to the office; he served until January 1st, 1864. During his ministry, the church was refurnished and the property increased by the purchase of two lots. In 1861 a large brick school house was built, and in 1864 a large organ was purchased at a cost of \$2,000. Between January 1, 1864 and March 17, 1866, Rev. Joannes Jowistowsky officiated as pastor; he was succeeded by Rev. Joannes Soemer. During that period another lot was bought. From September 29, 1867, to March 1, 1873, Rev. Nicolaus Sorg officiated in the church. During his ministry the church edifice was much enlarged and a steeple erected at a cost of \$20,000; and in 1870 a chime of four bells was put in, with a tower clock. Two new benevolent associations were also founded and a house and lot secured for a teacher's residence. The school is under the charge of the Sisters of St. Joseph and is largely attended. March 1, 1873, Rev. Mr. Sorg was



recalled by his bishop and was succeeded by Rev. Heinrich Feldmann, who was followed by the present pastor, Rev. Chrysostomus Wagner, December 11, 1880. In 1873 a handsome parsonage was built at a cost of \$6,000. In 1875 the interior of the church was frescoed and the following two years an addition was built to the school house and a beautiful high altar put in the church, to which two side altars were added in 1878. This church is now one of the finest in Buffalo and is valued, with its property, at \$60,000.

A school was organized soon after the construction of the church and now has between four and five hundred scholars, with six teachers. Francis Joseph Schmidt is the principal.

*St. Francis Xavier Church.*—This church was founded in 1849 by the following named gentlemen: Franz Hall, Franz Wamhoff, Henry Niehaus, Henry Rahe, Joseph Spiedl, John Argus, Ignatz Forness, Henry Sander, Ernest Sander, Simon Burkhardt, John Burkhardt, John Bauer, John Hanbach, Jos. Danscher, Jos. Hall and Gerhard Niehaus. The first service was held on the 2d of December, 1849, in a little frame church on Amherst street, where the present edifice stands, by Rev. Franz Guth. In 1852, the congregation had grown so that it was necessary to have a larger church, and a brick building was erected. An addition was made to this building within a few years. In 1866, the Irish members of the congregation withdrew from the church and formed the St. John Baptist church; but the St. Francis Xavier congregation grew rapidly. The following Reverend Fathers have been stationed at this church in the order they are named—Revs. Franz Guth, Aloys Samogyi, Fr. N. Lester, Dominique Geymer, Anton Saeger, Aloys Hatala, John Ignatz Yawistowsky, J. A. Mosball, P. Foertch, S. J., P. Haering, S. J., P. Martens, O. S. M., Henry Feldmann, followed by the present pastor, Rev. F. X. Koffer, under whose direction the congregation grew rapidly. In 1877, a further enlargement of the church was made; the old spire and the front wall were taken down, twenty feet were added to the building and a tower one hundred and twenty-nine feet high erected. Three bells of 1,800, 1,400 and 1,000 pounds respectively, tuned F, G and A, were placed in the tower, and a clock that strikes the quarter hours added. The church was also frescoed, the gas laid and the organ enlarged. A school was originally kept in the little frame church on week days, twenty-five or thirty scholars attending. This number increased so rapidly that in 1871, the Sisters of St. Joseph established a school-house and placed three Sisters in it as permanent teachers. A lay teacher (the church organist) was also kept. In 1874, another Sister was engaged as teacher. The pupils of the parish school now number nearly 350.

*St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church.*—The congregation of St. Michael's was organized early in June, 1851. About nineteen families were then represented in the first religious meeting, which was held in

the basement of St. Peter's French Roman Catholic church, on the corner of Clinton and Washington streets, June 15, 1851. The first pastor of this congregation was Rev. T. L. Caveng, S. J., who served from June, 1851, to January 27, 1862, when he died. His successor, Rev. F. John Blettner, S. J., remained with the congregation but a few months, and was succeeded July 20, 1862, by Rev. F. Vetter, S. J., who filled the office until August 15, 1863. He was then followed by Rev. F. Joseph Durthaller, who left July 26, 1870, and was succeeded by the late Rev. F. E. Reiter, S. J., who remained with the congregation until March 1, 1871. Rev. F. William Becker, S. J., was the next pastor; he filled the office until February 5, 1875, when the present pastor, Rev. Joseph Kreuzsch, S. J., assumed the office. The corner stone of the first church, a brick structure, was laid August 20, 1851, and the edifice was dedicated January 1, 1852, by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Timon. The new St. Michael's church, an imposing stone edifice, on Washington between Chippewa and Tupper streets, was dedicated June 16, 1867, by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Lynch. It is a beautiful church, and is noted for its fine paintings. Its spires are not yet finished; they are being erected at a cost of nearly \$20,000, and will be completed within the ensuing year. A parochial school is attached to the church, with over six hundred pupils, all of whom also attend the Sunday School; the pastor of the church is superintendent of the school.

*St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church.*—This church was organized June 28, 1858. For about a month after its organization it was served from St. Michael's church. July 28th, Father J. Vetter assumed the charge and remained until 1860, when he was succeeded by Father George Fritsch, from 1860 to 1867. From that time until July 26, 1870, Father A. Suter served the church; he remained only until August 22d of the same year, when Father Ignatius Bellwealder came until September 7, 1871. He was succeeded by Father P. Spicher, until July 9, 1872, when Father Bellwealder again occupied the office until September 1, 1875. Following him came Father W. Roether, the present Superior. His assistants are Fathers O. Hogenvorst, A. Suter and F. Seuermann. The building of the church was begun in April, 1858, and it was dedicated June 28, 1858; its cost was between \$8,000 and \$9,000. The school was then held in the second story of the church building; about two years later, the school house was built. When the church was established, there were about one hundred families connected with it. Now there are one thousand two hundred children in the school, and about the same number of families in the parish. The corner stone of the grand structure now in process of construction, was laid in 1877. About \$80,000 have already been expended on this building, and it is estimated that it will cost \$120,000. It is located on Emslie street, corner of Broadway, and is two hundred and twelve feet long, with a front of ninety-three

feet on Broadway. The main spire is on the corner of the two streets named, and is two hundred and twenty-eight feet high; another spire on the other corner is one hundred and eighty feet high; the building material used is Lockport limestone. The church will be finished in about two years. This church society has enjoyed continual growth and prosperity, and the costly and beautiful structure now being erected is entirely free from debt; as the building progresses, everything is paid for, and the people contribute liberally for the work.

*Church of the Seven Dolors.*—This society was established in the year 1871, Father Gundelach being the first pastor. The present house of worship was built during the first year after the organization of the society. After Father Gundelach, came successively Fathers Th. Voss, Gr. Wagner, and then the present pastor, Father A. Heiter. There are now three hundred families in the parish; the church is located on Genesee street, near Fillmore Avenue.

*St. Vincent's Church.*—This church is located at Cold Spring, and was organized in 1864, by about forty families. The first pastor was Rev. J. Sorg, who began his work on the 19th of July, 1864, attending the church from St. Joseph's Cathedral. The succeeding residing pastors were Rev. Hopschneider, Rev. Keck, Rev. Dalez, Rev. Scheffels, and then the present pastor, Rev. M. Philipps. The number of families at present in the congregation is one hundred and twenty. The parochial school is taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph, and contains eighty-two children.

*St. Nicholas' Church.*—This church is located on Glenwood avenue, near Jefferson street, and was organized in 1874, with about fifty members. The first pastor was Rev. V. Velten, who began his work on Easter Sunday, 1874. The succeeding pastors were Rev. Voss and Rev. Philipps, who attends it from St. Vincent's church. The number of families now in the church is about one hundred and three. The parochial school is attended by ninety children.

*St. Mary's Church.*—This church is located at the corner of Broadway and Pine streets. The congregation was organized in 1842, by Rev. Joseph Alig. In 1844 a frame church was erected. Four years later, April 9, 1848, the corner stone of the present edifice was laid. In 1856 the school for boys and girls was built on Broadway; in 1869 a large school house was built on Pine street, and in 1874 another was erected on Broadway; these schools are all numerously attended. The first Superior, who came in 1844, was Rev. Benedict Bayer. His successors and the dates of their coming are as follows:—1848, Rev. Carl Cannemueller; 1849, Rev. Joseph Helmpraecht; 1855, Rev. Anthony Urbanzeck; 1856, Rev. Aloys Schaeffler; 1857, Rev. Joseph Claus; 1858, Rev. Henry Giesen; 1859, Rev. Anthony Schmidt; 1861, Rev. Robert Kleineidam; 1862, Rev. Louis Claessens; 1863, Rev. Adrian Van de Braak; 1868,



Rev. John Hespelein; 1871, Rev. E. F. Schauer; 1877, Rev. George Sniet.

*Church of the Sacred Heart*,— This church was organized in 1875, in which year the building was erected; the corner stone was laid in May. It is located on Seneca street, near Emslie. The church and the grounds cost \$31,000. The original membership comprised about thirty families. The first pastor was the Rev. Chrysostomus Wagner, who assumed the office by order of Bishop Ryan, for about five months; he was succeeded by Father Theodore Voss, who remained a year and nine months, when Father Matthias Gessner came and still remains with the church. The parochial school connected with the church was instituted in June, 1875, with about twenty-five children; the first lay trustees were L. Holzborn and M. Duchman. The school is conducted by the Sisters of St. Francis, and now contains nearly three hundred children. The church congregation now comprises three hundred families. The present lay trustees are Bernard Schmitt and Paul Kreuz.

The German Protestant churches are divided among the Evangelical Lutheran and Old Lutheran, Baptist and Methodist denominations, and the churches of the Evangelical Association. There are no Presbyterian or Episcopalian German churches in Buffalo.

*German Evangelical Lutheran St. John's Church*.—We have already referred to the first German protestant services held in the city; as an outcome of those services, the first German protestant congregation was organized on the 10th day of February, 1832. The vestry consisted of Ludwig Bronner, Sr., George Schneider, Philip Beyer, Sr., Samuel Kriegelstein, Michael Ruch and Michael Goetz. The first trustees were Jacob Siebold, Rudolph Baer, Ernst G. Grey, Christian Bronner, Christian Lapp and Fred. Dellenbaugh. On the 9th day of September, 1835, the corner stone of their church on Hickory street, between Broadway and William streets was laid, and on the 25th of May, 1840, the finished church was dedicated. It was a substantial brick building, 48 by 80 feet and cost \$10,000. In 1874 the congregation numbered about one thousand and three hundred, and a new building 65 by 116 feet, brick, in gothic style was begun. The corner stone was laid September 20, 1874, and the church dedicated September 5, 1875; the structure cost \$42,000. This church is known as the German Evangelical Lutheran St. John's church. The first pastor was the Rev. F. D. Guenther, who filled the office until January, 1857. In May of that year, the present pastor, Rev. Christian Voltz assumed the duties of the office. The society owns a school house, supports its own parochial school, and has a Sunday school that is very prosperous. It also owns a cemetery of eleven acres on Pine Hill, and the Lutheran Orphan Asylum, which was founded March 6, 1864; the asylum was

dedicated May 9, 1865, and incorporated April 14, 1865. A separate asylum for orphan boys was built at Sulphur Springs and dedicated October 11, 1868; the building was destroyed by fire February 23, 1876, but was at once rebuilt; the corner stone of the second building was laid July 16, 1876, and it was dedicated August 15, 1877. The first Board of Managers were, Rev Christian Voltz, Jacob H. Koons, George Kray, Andreas Grass, Daniel Lang, Anton Hasselbach, Jacob Reiman, Carl Sauer, Frederick Wuest. The present Board consists of William Henrich, Michael Ulrich, John Machemer, Jacob Benzing, Anton Degenfelder, Louis Seligman.

*United Evangelical St. Paul's Church.*—Early in the year 1843, a number of the congregation of St. John's (St. Johannes) church, who were dissatisfied with its exclusively Lutheran character, separated from that church and organized on the 16th of July, the United Evangelical St. Paul's church. A lot was bought on Washington, between Genesee and Chippewa streets, and the erection of a church commenced. At the first meeting of the new organization, held August 7, 1843, Dr. F. Dellenbaugh presiding, Messrs. D. Devening, J. Krettner, I. Weber, J. Hellriegel and J. Bodemer were elected trustees. The first pastor was Rev. Mr. Von Linge, who was succeeded in 1844 by Rev. C. F. Soldan, who filled the office nine years. In August, 1854, Rev. Otto Burger became the pastor, where for over seventeen years, he labored most effectively and satisfactorily for the good of the society. In 1873 he was compelled to seek restoration of his impaired health, for which purpose he made a visit to Europe. During his absence Rev. Schornstein, who was acting as Mr. Burger's substitute, with a portion of the congregation, took steps towards separation from St. Paul's and the formation of St. Marcus church; this movement brought Rev. Mr. Burger home, and he again assumed his duties, but his failing health compelled him to resign his pastorate early in 1874. Rev. C. L. Schild succeeded to the office and still retains it. The first steps towards building a new church, were taken in May, 1881. Two lots were bought on the west side of Ellicott street, between Tupper and Goodell streets, for about \$10,000, and ground was broken in October. The corner stone was laid in the following April, and on the 29th of April, 1883, the dedication took place. The cost of the church and ground was about \$62,000. This church is a very prosperous one and is one of the largest in the city. The present trustees are Philip Houck, John Greiner, Fr. Persch, Jacob F. Schoellkopf and P. Lindenbach. Henry Hellriegel is treasurer.

*Evangelical St Stephen's Church.*—From St. Paul's church sprang in March, 1853, the St. Stephen's church. It began with twenty-one families, but now has about eight hundred. Its first pastor was Rev. Karl F. Soldan; he was succeeded in August, 1854, by Rev. F. Schelle,

who is the present incumbent. In 1857 a church was built on the corner of Peckham and Adams streets; an addition was made to the structure in 1875, leaving it as it now stands, with sixty feet front by one hundred and sixteen and one-half feet deep, with a seating capacity of one thousand and four hundred; its cost was about \$25,000. Three chimes, cast by Kimberly & Meneele, of Troy, N. Y., were put in the tower in 1875, at a cost of \$2,600, and a clock costing \$600, built by Rufus L. Howard & Co. Four benevolent societies are connected with the church, and an Evangelical home for Buffalo and vicinity, for aged and indigent persons. This is situated at the junction of Batavia and Genesee streets; the building cost \$10,000, which is all paid. It was dedicated June 16, 1876. There are at present twenty-one inmates in the institution. Forty-two and one half acres are attached to it. An addition of a three-story brick building with an observatory, at an estimated cost of over \$9,000, Henry Schaefer, builder, is now in process of construction. The corner stone was laid in the latter part of August, 1883. The present trustees are, Rev. F. Schelle, president; John H. Peters, secretary; Philip Debus, treasurer; Henry Schaefer and John N. Smith. The trustees of the church are: Louis Fritz, president; William Sinsel, secretary; Peter Pfeil, treasurer; Charles A. Fritzsche, Henry Diet-schler and Henry Roos. The elders are Philip Zoeller, Martin Fritz, Henry Peters, Jacob Knehr and Matthew Koch. A parochial school of brick construction, expenses paid by the church, is connected with the church, with over three hundred and fifty pupils in attendance; the principal is Jacob Eitelman, who is also organist and conductor of the choir. The Sunday school has between five hundred and six hundred scholars. Rev. Mr. Schelle, who is also superintendent of the Sunday school, is one of the two pastors in Buffalo of the longest standing, having been thirty years in this office.

*The German United Evangelical St. Peter's Church.*—In the autumn of 1831, Rev. Joseph Gumbel arrived in Buffalo; he came from Wurtemberg, and immediately began laboring among the few Germans then here, as an Evangelical preacher. In the spring of the following year a German family of five persons, also from Wurtemberg, reached Buffalo; they were John Schwartz and his wife, Katherina; her brother, Konrad Seeger; her step-brother, John George Schiefer, and a nephew of John Schwartz, named Gottlieb Weibert. The Rev. Mr. Gumbel, with this family, organized the United Evangelical St. Peter's Church, holding services for a time in a small frame building on Pearl street, near Niagara street. The society grew, and in 1835, the "English Methodist Society" made their German friends a present of the small frame church building, where the Germans had held their services, and it was removed to their lot on the corner of Genesee and Hickory streets. Rev. Mr. Gumbel soon after resigned his pastorate and returned to the old country.



He was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Lange, and he, in 1838, by Rev. Hollar. Shortly after Rev. William Veil assumed the charge. January 12, 1845, the faith and articles of the constitution of the society were adopted, and the first church council elected, consisting of Wilhelm Messing, Stephen Weisgerber, John Nebe, trustees; John Schoenthal, Johann Schiefer and Henry Schwartz, elders. On the 21st of October, 1848, Rev. G. S. Vogt became the pastor, in which capacity he served faithfully for twenty-seven years. The congregation grew rapidly, and on the 25th of February, 1850, the old St. Paul's Episcopal church was purchased by the society for \$600, and transferred to their lot; in 1852 this building was enlarged. In December, 1875, Rev. Mr. Vogt resigned his pastorate, organized another congregation, and built the St. Jacobus church. The present pastor, Rev. E. Jung, was called to the office in the spring of 1876. April 18, 1877, the society resolved to erect a new church; accordingly the corner stone of the present handsome structure was laid July 22d of that year, and the building was dedicated February 3, 1878. A day school has been connected with this church since early in its existence; it is kept in a brick school house on the rear of the church lot. The society is a member of the German Evangelical Synod of North America, with headquarters at St. Louis.

*The United Evangelical Protestant St. Mathew's Church.*—This congregation is of the United Evangelical denomination, and belongs to the German Evangelical Synod of North America. The St. Mathew's congregation was organized in 1868, and in that and the following year, built a large brick church on Swan street, near its junction with Seneca street. The congregation also owns a school house and lot, and a cemetery on Clinton street, below Buffalo Creek. The first pastor, under whom the congregation was organized and who superintended the building of the church, was Dr. Hugo Kuehne. He resigned in 1870, and was succeeded by Rev. Julius Krummel, who died in 1872. Rev. Gottfried Berner, who succeeded Rev. Krummel, left the congregation and ministry in 1878, in order to devote his time to editing a German newspaper. The vacancy was then filled by the present pastor, Rev. John Bank. The trustees are Frederick Dietrich, William Corbach, Edward Becherer, Friedrich Dold, Frederic Henning. The congregation at present consists of one hundred members entitled to vote, and two hundred and fifty who are simply owners of pews. The parochial school numbers from fifty to one hundred pupils, under direction of Mr. Emil Bandlitz. The Sunday school numbers from one hundred and fifty to two hundred scholars; Mr. Bandlitz is the superintendent, with twenty teachers and other officers. Early in its existence this congregation met with many difficulties, but through the faithfulness and energy of the members, the heavy debt which rested on the church has been reduced to \$6,000.

*German Evangelical St Lucas Church.*—This church is now located on the corner of Richmond avenue and Utica street; it was organized in December, 1870, with Rev. C. Zurnedden as pastor, and the following named trustees:—William Mueller, Peter Hoffman, Philip Folz, Henry Thauer and Andrew Vogt. There were twenty-seven members when the church was organized. The second pastor was Rev. Jacob Schlegel, who accepted the office in April, 1875; he was succeeded in April, 1877, by Rev. Frederick Roesch, who remained until December, 1877. In April, 1878, the present pastor, Rev. George Kottler came, and is under contract until 1886. The present church was built in 1881, at a cost, including the lot, of \$9,500; the old church stood on the same grounds, and was built in 1868 by the Westminster church, for Sunday school purposes. The congregation now numbers one hundred and sixty-three, and the trustees are:—Peter Hoffman, Andrew Vogt, Fred. Kissinger, Louis Brackman and Valentine Funk.

*The Evangelical St. John's Church.*—This church was organized in 1847, there being twenty original members, some of whom are still in the society. Services were first held by the Rev. P. Brumbach; he came once in every three or four weeks from Tonawanda for the purpose, and received for his labors an annual salary of \$100. Previous to 1850 the meetings were held in a public school house. At that time the congregation removed to the English Baptist church on Dearborn street, Rev. Maier having succeeded the first pastor. He was followed just before 1852, by Rev. P. Julius Krummel, who was the first pastor to devote his whole time to the church. During his administration a new brick church was erected on Amherst street, the corner stone of which was laid August 25, 1852; the building was finished the following year. The land on which the church stands was donated by a Mr. Haist and J. Schmidt. The cost of the building was \$3,500; it was enlarged and improved in 1874, making its seating capacity eight hundred. Rev. Mr. Bochart succeeded Rev. Krummel as pastor. Between 1856 and 1858, Rev. P. Kretzschmer occupied the pulpit; he was followed in December, 1858, by the Rev. C. Siebenpfeiffer, who remained three years. He was followed in 1861, by the Rev. E. Runk. In May, 1864, the Rev. P. Julius Krummel was recalled to the church, after an absence of eleven years. From May, 1870, to May, 1873, Rev. A. Grotrian was the pastor; his successor was Rev. H. Zimmer, who remained until May, 1876, when he was succeeded by Rev. P. W. Angelberger. In May, 1878, he was succeeded by Rev. A. Zeller, who remained until the spring of 1883. During the administration of Rev. Krummel, about 1864, a school house was erected, in which a flourishing parochial school is now conducted.

*German Evangelical Friedens Church.*—This church was organized January 26, 1880, with Rev. G. Berner, the present pastor, officiating. Following are the names of the first trustees, who are still in office:—

Hermann C. Grasser, president; J. F. Berner, secretary; John Menz, treasurer; Charles Huenemiller and Ch. Schroeder. The church stands at the foot of Monroe street, on Eagle; it was dedicated August 29, 1880. There are about one hundred and eighty-five families belonging to the church, comprising a union of Lutherans and the Reformed denomination; the church started with but forty-five families; it has a prosperous Sunday school and day school, with about one hundred pupils.

*Evangelical Reformed Zion Church.*—On the 5th day of September, 1845, Rev. John Althaus, Adam Minkel, Sr., J. Adam Guth, Sr., John Kalle, Adolph Meir, Johann Diehl, Johann Fries, Peter Schulz, Christian Hormel, Adam Guth, Jr., Michael Ott, John Riebling, John Wagner, Heinrich Kurtz, Jacob Wurster, Heinrich Kuhn and William Gumbrecht, met for the purpose of forming a German Evangelical Reformed church in Buffalo. The object was promptly carried out and a lot bought on the corner of Cherry and Spring streets, at a cost of \$210; on this lot a frame building 40 by 50 feet was erected. Officers were elected on the 7th of October, 1845, who were installed on the 19th, by Rev. John Althaus. Their names were: J. Adam Guth, John Kalle, Adam Minkel, trustees; Johann Fries, Adam Diehl, elders; Adam Guth, Jr., William Gumbrecht, vestrymen; J. Adam Guth, W. Gumbrecht, clerks. The Rev. Althaus at that time lived in Lockport, whence he came every two weeks to preach. He served the congregation until about the close of 1846. He was succeeded by Rev. George S. Vogt, who remained in the office until late in the year 1848. On the 14th of February, 1849, Frederick William Hesselmann was called; but was afterward excluded from the pulpit on account of his dissipation, and the congregation was without a pastor until May 5th of the same year, when Rev. H. Bielefeld, of New York, was called. On the 20th of May the society joined the German Reformed Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States. October 27th of that year, the church was considerably enlarged, in accordance with a resolution passed at that date. Rev. Bielefeld preached his farewell sermon October 23, 1853, and on the 27th of November, Rev. Lichtenstein was elected pastor; he served until October 8, 1862, when he resigned, and Rev. J. B. Kniest, the present pastor, was elected, entering upon his duties March 18, 1863. In 1854, the congregation had so far increased that it was decided to build a new church, and a lot was purchased on Lemon street for the purpose; there a handsome church was erected, which was dedicated four days after Whitsuntide, in 1856. A parochial school is connected with the church, and held in the basement of the building. A lot was bought and a parsonage erected in 1866.

*Evangelical Reformed Salem's Church.*—This society was organized on the 31st of August, 1873, by the following members and their families: C. Scholpp, H. A. Altenburg, H. Sprenger, H. Weber, G. Salzman, J.



Salzman and C. Roessel. February 4th, 1874, they bought the lot on Sherman street, between Sycamore and Batavia streets, from the Evangelical Reformed Zion's Society; a frame building was on the lot. The first church officers were: H. Sprenger, C. Roessel, H. A. Altenburg and C. Scholpp. Rev. C. Kuss was elected pastor, and entered upon his duties on the 1st of April, 1874; the church was consecrated September 20th, 1874; a parsonage was built on the church premises in 1874. An infant school of sixty pupils, and a school for large scholars, with an attendance of about one hundred and twenty-five are connected with the church.

*German United Evangelical Saint Marcus Church.*—This Society was organized August 5, 1873. The first minister was E. Schornstein, who was succeeded July 4, 1875, by Dr. G. A. Zimmerman; under his administration the beautiful church was built on Oak street, in 1876. Dr. Zimmerman resigned in July, 1878, and was succeeded in September 1878, by Rev. O. H. Kraft, who is the present pastor. A parochial school with fifty pupils, is connected with the church.

*First Church of the Evangelical Association of North America.*—This Church was organized in 1837, by Rev. Joseph Harlacher, a preacher sent to Buffalo by the East Pennsylvania Conference of the Evangelical Association. Its first place of worship was a small frame building on Sycamore street near Spruce. In 1839 the congregation had grown encouragingly and the first church building lot was purchased; it was on Mortimer street, and there a plain church was built. In 1846 the present church lot, corner Spruce and Sycamore streets, was purchased and the frame church removed to it; services were held there till 1854, when the building was sold, and in its place a substantial brick building was erected. In May, 1879, this building was taken down and in its place was built the present handsome gothic edifice, at a cost of \$16,000. The vigorous growth of this Society enabled it in 1857 to establish its first mission church in Buffalo, which is now the prosperous, independent Krettner Street Church of the Evangelical Association, with a handsome edifice and parsonage. In 1873 another mission was established, the St. Paul's Evangelical Association, on Grape street, which now has a church worth \$10,000. The pastors of this association are itinerant; consequently the changes have been numerous. The present pastor of the First Church is Rev. Adolph Lueocher; of the Second, Rev. Frederick E. Hehr, and of the St. Paul's Church, Rev. Martin Yauch. The trustees of the First Church are C. P. Stein, Charles A. Haist, G. F. Hofheins, George Sutter and Charles Boller; of the Second, Kilian Schmidt, August Hof, Michael Kohlert, Leonard Reu and John Wagner; of the St. Paul's, Peter Hering, Jacob Werner, John Petrie, William Hehr, and Gottfried Eiss. A German and English Sunday School, with about three hundred scholars is connected with the church.

*Second Evangelical Association, (Krettner Street Church.)*—The New York Conference of the Evangelical Association of North America held an annual session at Lyons, N. Y., on the 23d of April, 1857, during which the following resolution was adopted:—

“*Resolved*, That a mission shall be located in the southeast part of Buffalo, N. Y., and be called the Buffalo Mission.”

This was the beginning of the above named church. Rev. Augustus Klein was appointed a missionary to build up the church and arrived and took the charge in May of that year. It was decided to build a church at once, and to carry out the purpose, ten members of the First Church honorably withdrew and organized the “Second Society of the Evangelical Association in the City of Buffalo.” A frame church building was erected on the northeast corner of William and Emslie streets, and a parsonage was soon after secured in rear of the church. The church was dedicated August 8, 1857, by Rev. M. Lauer. While the church was located at the place named the following persons successfully ministered in it: from 1857 to 1859, Rev. A. Klein; 1859 to 1861, S. Kropp; 1861 to 1862, P. Alles; 1862 to 1864, C. A. Thomas; 1864 to 1866, M. Lauer; 1866 to 1868, P. J. Miller; 1868 to 1869, L. Herman; 1869 to 1871, D. Fisher; 1871 to 1874, J. Greuzebach. During the latter pastor’s administration, December 25, 1872, while the forenoon Christmas services were in progress, the church caught fire causing much alarm, but the loss was comparatively small. The property was then sold to John Eckhardt, and the Krettner Street lot purchased on which was erected the following summer, a new brick church, the cost of which, aside from the lot, was about \$12,000. The new church was dedicated October 12, 1873, by the the Rev. Rudolph Dubs. In April, 1874, Rev. J. Reuber took the charge, remaining until March, 1877, when he was succeeded by Rev. M. Pfitzinger. During his administration, in the spring of 1878, the parsonage was built on the church lot at a cost of \$1,200. Rev. Pfitzinger was succeeded by the Rev. G. F. Buesch, and he by the present pastor, Rev. Frederick E. Hehr. A flourishing Sunday school is connected with this church, the number of scholars averaging two hundred and fifty; the school has a large library. This society was continued as a mission until March, 1879, when at the annual conference, it was constituted a self-sustaining charge. The present trustees are August Hof, Michael Kohlert, John Wagner, H. Wind, J. H. Thomas.

*First Evangelical Lutheran Trinity Congregation, “Unaltered Augsburg Confession.”*—Lutherans immigrating from Silesia in 1839, organized this church. Their pastor, L. F. E. Krause, made vain efforts to unite his congregation with that of Rev. Grabau, who arrived in Buffalo with his flock. Soon after Rev. Krause left his position in the church, and in October, 1841, this self-depending congregation gave a vocation to Rev. E. M. Buerger, who after investigating the situation of the congregation,

gave up his intended journey to Germany, and accepted the pastorate. The vocation was dated November 28, 1841, and signed by the following members:—Carl G. Faude, Daniel Keller, Ernst Mayer, Ernst Faude, Carl Toy, Ferdinand Langner, Joseph Hanschke, I. Ch. Sieffert, Christian Graeser, Gottfried Grottke, Ignatz Pelzel and Wilhelm Stern. Their place of worship at that time was in a hall in the upper story of Moses Baker's block, corner of Main and Huron streets. In 1842, the congregation bought a lot on the corner of William and Milnor streets, where they soon built a brick church; a part of the building was used for a school, in which the Rev. Mr. Buerger taught during the week. This church was known by the title above given and was incorporated in February, 1844; trustees:—Ferdinand Langner, Heinrich Philippi and I. Th. Chabot. The congregation became a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other States, and has sent their pastor, teacher and a delegate to the sessions of the Synod each year. The congregation worshipped in the church on William street until 1867. From that time the parochial school was held there until 1873; in that year the new two-story school house on Michigan street was completed and the William street property sold. Rev. E. M. Buerger was succeeded by Rev. A. G. G. Franke, from 1851 to 1852, in which year Rev. C. Diehlmann was elected pastor. In May, 1854, Rev. I. H. Pinkepank accepted a vocation as vicar and teacher and succeeded Rev. Diehlmann in 1855; the latter received a call from a Lutheran congregation in Rainham, Canada, in December. Rev. Mr. Pinkepank died in November, 1856. In January following, the congregation elected Rev. L. Dulitz their pastor; he filled the office until July, 1864. In March, 1865, Rev. F. Th. Ruhland accepted the pastorate. In 1867 a separation occurred in the old Lutheran Trinity Church, corner of Goodell and Maple streets, when quite a number of members, with Rev. Chr. Hochstetter, second pastor of the Congregation, united with the First Evangelical Lutheran Trinity congregation, and both pastors served the united congregation. About this time it was resolved to rent the church corner of Tupper and Ellicott streets and meet there until their own church was completed. During this period both of the pastors were called to another field, and Rev. Carl Gross, from Richmond, Va., accepted the pastorate. July 5, 1868, the new church on Michigan street, between Genesee and Sycamore streets, was dedicated. In 1873, the new school-house in the rear of the church lot was erected and a parsonage built near the church, No. 653 Michigan street. In November, 1880, Rev. Carl Gross accepted a call from Fort Wayne, Ind., and was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. Aug. Senne, from Ottawa, Ont., in February, 1881. The present Board of Trustees are as follows:—Fred Brueck, president; Henry Keitsch, secretary; Henry Fischer, cashier; Henry G. Wolter, Christopher Wagner, Daniel Voel-



ker, Henry Poetting. Church Wardens:—Ernest Beyer, Geo. Fritz, C. Becker, Fr. Kamprath, Fr. Braeunlich. Teachers, Paul Theo. Buerger, Geo. W. Frickenscher.

*Lutheran Trinity Church.*—Among the Old Lutheran clergymen who defied the union of the Reformed and Lutheran churches in Prussia by King Frederick William III, and emigrated to America rather than sacrifice their principles, was Rev. J. A. Grabau. He was imprisoned for his defiance of the decree, but was afterwards permitted to emigrate, which he did, with some of his faithful supporters. This movement constituted the Old Lutheran immigration to Buffalo in 1839, which has been before referred to. The party came over in five ships, in the last of which was the devout minister. They landed in New York, September 18th, and reached Buffalo on the 26th, being followed by the Rev. Mr. Grabau on the 5th of October. On that day their first divine service was held in a room on Main street. A church lot was soon after bought on the corner of Goodell and Maple streets, and there the Lutheran Trinity Church was built. On the 2d of December, 1839, the society was incorporated, and June 7, 1840, the new church was consecrated. The elders were, Ernst Krieg, Frederick Luetke, Rudolph Krause, Gottfried Schoenfeld, Christian Rother, Johann Heuer; trustees, Christoph Schmelzer, Heinrich V. Rohr. A school was connected with the church. In the year 1845, Rev. Grabau, with others holding the same theological views, formed the "Synod of Buffalo." He also went to Germany, in company with Rev. Mr. Rohr, to solicit assistance for the building of a college; their errand was successful, resulting in the building of the German Martin Luther College, which was dedicated November 10, 1854, and is now a successful educational institution. On the 2d of February, 1879, Rev. Grabau preached his last sermon; the following day he was attacked by a disease that caused his death on the 2d of June following. Rev. Martin Burk, who has long been connected with the church as a deacon, is the present pastor of this church. A school with two teachers and one hundred and fifty pupils is connected with the church.

*German Evangelical Lutheran St. Andrew's Church.*—In the fall of the year 1858, an Old Lutheran branch church was organized, under the immediate ministration of Rev. J. A. Grabau. The names of the original members of this congregation were, Christian Pohlmann, Jobst Kreinheder, Herman Kreinheder, H. Kinnius, H. Bockstedt, C. Bohle, Fred. Tepe, Christian Tepe, George Kratzat, Fred. Beck, William Rose, John Hauschild, Mr. Woelfel and Mr. Wiesmann. The vestry were, Christian Pohlmann, Jobst Kreinheder and Christian Tepe. Services were at first held in a dwelling house on Peckham street. In December, 1858, the present church premises, corner of Sherman and Peckham streets, were donated by S. V. R. Watson, Esq., and the erection of a church

begun; it was dedicated July 10, 1859, under direction of Rev. J. A. Grabau, Rev. Christian Hochstetter and Rev. Heinrich V. Rohr. The congregation was a part of the Lutheran Buffalo Synod until 1866. The first pastor of the congregation was Rev. W. Grabau, who had been its pastor since dedication; he was succeeded by Rev. O. Wuest. After his departure the congregation re-called Rev. W. Grabau, who resigned because the congregation severed its connection with the Buffalo Synod. Rev. P. Brand succeeded Rev. William Grabau as pastor, in July, 1866. In 1869 he accepted a vocation to Washington, D. C., and was succeeded by Rev. A. Ch. Grossberger, who was pastor until May, 1883. His successor and present pastor is Rev. John Sieck. A school house was built in connection with this church, and dedicated September 3, 1871, which now numbers more than two hundred scholars. The present board of trustees are, Charles Lichtenberger, E. Thiesfeld, H.W. Kreinheder, Louis Waldow, Frank Kinnius, church wardens; Chr. Pohlmann, Friedrich Kruger, Albert Kromphardt and Jobst Kreinheder as honorary member. The first teacher in September, 1871, was Fred. Hoffmeyer, and the present teachers are Joh. O. G. Robert and Henry E. Brauir. A Sunday school was organized July 15, 1883, with two hundred and forty-nine children.

*German (English) Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity.*—This church was organized May 5, 1879, under the ministrations of Rev. L. H. Geshwind, who was called here from Pittsburg for the purpose, by the following named gentlemen:—William Hengerer, Henry Koons, Louis P. Reichert, A. J. Kurtz, E. G. Becker, James Schneider, Jacob Dold, Jr., Louis P. Adolf, Jr., Louis Bergtold and a few others who did not afterwards join the church. Mr. Geshwind began preaching February 1, 1879, on a salary of \$1,000 for the first year, in the same church now occupied by the society; it was built by a French Lutheran congregation, in 1830, which congregation, for a consideration of \$3,000, consolidated with the new church; about \$1,000 was then spent in repairing the church. The society was self-sustaining from the first, and never received any financial assistance whatever from any source outside of the church; its indebtedness is now a very small sum, which will be paid before the close of the present year. There are now about one hundred and forty-five communicants in the church. It is the only English Lutheran church in Buffalo. The present trustees are, William Hengerer, James Schneider and J. C. Rother.

*German Baptist Churches.*—The First German Baptist society was formed in Buffalo by Alexander Von Putkammer, who came to Buffalo in 1848, as an agent of the American Tract Society. He began preaching in a school house on Spruce street, where the commodious First German Baptist church now stands. In 1849 a society with twenty-four members was organized. The founder of the society remained with his

congregation until 1853, since which time Revs. A. Transchel, Siegmund Kuepfer, Fr. Meir, C. Schoemaker, J. C. Grimmell and others have officiated. During the prosperous administration of the latter pastor, from 1864 to 1874, the present church and its mission chapel on Jefferson street were erected. Since 1874 the church has prospered under the ministrations of Rev. Conrad Bodenbender. The second Baptist congregation was organized with about sixty members, in the year 1859, under the direction of Rev. Edward Gruetzner. In 1860 a frame church was erected on Hickory street, between Genesee and Sycamore. Rev. Mr. Gruetzner was succeeded in 1862 by Rev. G. A. Schulte, under whose ministrations the society prospered for eight years. He was succeeded by Revs. R. Otto and J. Senn, the latter serving but two years on account of ill health. Rev. H. W. Nagel was then called in 1878, and is the present officiating pastor. The Third Baptist society was organized March 2, 1875, with ninety-nine members. It holds its services in the mission chapel, corner of High and Mulberry streets, and was first under the ministration of Rev. G. Fetzer. Since September, 1875, Rev. Wm. C. Rabe has officiated as pastor, and the congregation is prosperous.

*German Methodist Episcopal Churches.*—There are two German Methodist Episcopal churches in Buffalo, the first of which was founded in 1846, by John Sauter. In 1847 the first church building was erected on the corner of Sycamore and Ash streets. In 1871, the present church and parsonage were built, under the direction of the Rev. F. Rey. About the year 1852 the first steps were taken towards the formation of the Second Methodist Society, by Rev. John Swahlen, who, while terving the first congregation, preached occasionally at Black Rock. His successors were Revs. Charles Hertel, John G. Lutz and George Abele, who held services in private houses or school houses. From 1858 to 1860, Rev. Julius Seidel was pastor; from 1860 to 1864 Rev. Louis Wallon, ——— Kappale and Jacob Kalb successively filled the office. Rev. F. W. Hoppman, who was the next pastor from 1864 to 1867, noting the necessity for a church building, bought the lot on East street, between Hamilton and Austin. The erection of a building was begun in the fall of 1866, and cost with the grounds \$3,580. It was finished and dedicated on the 18th of August, 1867, and the society was independently organized by the founder of German Methodism, Rev. Dr. Nast, from Cincinnati; a parsonage was built in 1877. The society owns a cemetery on Bird street. The first resident pastor of the Church was Rev. William Schlueter, who filled the office from 1867 to 1870. He was succeeded by Rev. Philip Handiges, who remained until the spring of 1873. Rev. J. Woerz followed and remained until the spring of 1876, and was succeeded by Rev. John Flad. From 1878 to 1880, Rev. Phillip Stahl was the pastor, when the Rev. F. W. Hoppman came, and is the pastor at present. The total membership of the church is 87.



Several of the Churches in the above list have established benevolent societies for the benefit of either men, women or children, through which much good has been accomplished.

## CHAPTER VI.

### COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION.

Commercial Importance of Buffalo — First American Vessel on Lake Erie — Other Early Vessels — Porter, Barton & Co.'s Fleet in 1806 — Augustus Porter's Reminiscences — Pioneer Commanders and their Vessels — Buffalo as a Port of Entry — Entries at the Port August 15th, 1815, — Porter, Barton & Co.'s Warehouse at Black Rock — Early Transportation Firms — Lake Marine of 1816 — Enrollment of Vessels in the District of Buffalo Creek in 1817, 1818 and 1819 — Townsend & Coit — Shipping owned in Buffalo in 1818 — The First Steamer — Her Passage up the River — The Second Steamer — Captain Levi Allen's Reminiscences — Captain Sam Ward's Trip to New York — Captain Daniel Dobbins — Captain Fred. S. Miller and other Early Commanders — Development of Lake Commerce Incident upon the Construction of the Canal — First Shipments of Wheat — Captain A. Walker's Memories of the Early Commercial Men of Buffalo — Shipbuilding — The First Propeller on the Lake — The Tug Fleet — Transportation Companies — The Lumber Interest — Coal Trade of Buffalo — The Live Stock Interest — Canal Commerce.

IN commercial importance Buffalo ranks as second only to one other city in the Empire State. This proud position she has attained by virtue of her advantages as the key of the great lake and canal system of the country and the energy and commercial sagacity of the men who have labored in that field. With a safe and commodious harbor, lined with the most extensive and improved facilities for elevating, storing and transferring grain, chutes and trestles for coal, and with terminal advantages that are unsurpassed, Buffalo now more than fulfills the expectations of the hopeful and far-seeing men who pioneered the commerce of the port. The vast chain of lakes that form an uninterrupted waterway from the inexhaustible and almost boundless territory of the West to the Erie canal and through that to the seaboard, has been aptly termed "The Mediterranean Sea of America."\* Upon their waters floats a commerce which, stupendous as it now is, has only passed its infancy. By far the larger portion of this is wafted directly into and through the port of Buffalo; she holds the key of the situation, in a commercial sense.

\*In a paper written by the late Guy H. Salisbury, comparing Buffalo in 1836 and 1862, he said:—

"This brief retrospect brings us to the period when the elements of growth had given such strength to our business position in 1834-35, that anticipation looked eagerly forward to the coming years when Buffalo should sit at the foot of our own blue Mediterranean like a commercial Constantinople, stretching along the Bosphorus of the broad Niagara and holding the keys of a Dardanelles that could open and shut the gates of trade for the regions east and west.

The first vessel that sailed Lake Erie under the American flag, was the sloop *Detroit*, which was purchased by the government from the British Northwest Company in 1796. She was an old craft of about seventy tons and was soon after condemned. In the same year a small schooner, the *Erie Packet*, was built in Canada, to run between Fort Erie and Presque Isle. She was lost in 1799, having drifted out of Erie harbor. In 1797 the schooner *General Wilkeson* was built at Detroit; she was about eighty tons and was sailed two years by Captain Connelly. In 1810 she was refitted and her name changed to the *Amelia*. She was purchased by the government in 1812 and belonged to Commodore Perry's squadron. The *Good Intent* was built by Captain Wm. Lee in 1799; in 1806 she ran upon Point Abino and was lost with her cargo and crew. The same year, (1799) the brig *Adams* and the schooner *Tracy* were built by the government. The *Adams* was captured by the British during the first year of the war of 1812; she was retaken at Fort Erie, ran upon Squaw Island and burned. The *Tracy* was sold to Porter, Barton & Co. and was afterwards lost on a reef near Fort Erie. In the year 1805 the government directed the commanding officer at Fort Niagara to construct at that point a vessel large enough to transport Indian presents from the Fort to Fort Wayne. The vessel was built at Black Rock and named the *Nancy*; she was about fifty tons. The *Contractor*, a vessel of eighty tons, was built at Black Rock in 1806, by Porter, Barton & Co. She was sold to the government in 1812. The schooner *Catharine* was built at Black Rock in 1808, by Sheldon Thompson & Co. with others. Several small vessels were built at Black Rock and other points before the war, the names of many of which have been lost.

In the year 1806 the firm of Porter, Barton & Co., to the members of which the reader has already been introduced, owned a few small vessels on the lake and began the transportation of freight sent on to them by their eastern connections, transporting it around the portage at the Falls and thence boating it up the river to Black Rock. There a pier was built by the firm, and freight was transferred and stored there as became necessary, or was sent forward on the lake. This was the first regular line of transportation on the great lakes, with headquarters on the American side. When the laden vessels could not ascend the river against the current with the aid of the wind alone, from ten to twenty ox teams were hitched to the prows and they were thus hauled up the stream. Of the incipient commerce of those days, the late Augustus Porter left the following reminiscences:—

“Between the years 1796 and 1800, (I am unable to particularize the year,) the schooner *General Tracy* was built at Detroit, and in August, 1808, purchased by Porter, Barton & Co., and thoroughly repaired, and on her second or third trip was wrecked on the Fort Erie reef, in 1809. The brig *Adams*, a government vessel, was built about the same

time as the *General Tracy*, and was sailed by Captain Brevoort for a number of years. She was built at Detroit. A small vessel called the *Good Intent* was built at Presque Isle, by Captain William Lee and, I believe, was partly and perhaps wholly owned by Rufus S. Reed. She, I think, was built about 1800, and was wrecked near Point Abino, in 1805. In 1802 or 1803, the schooner *General Wilkeson*, of seventy tons, was built at Detroit, and in 1811 was thoroughly repaired and her name changed to the *Amelia*. One-half of her was purchased of Solomon Sibley, by Porter, Barton & Co., in 1811. She was sold to the United States during the war. In the winter of 1802 and 1803, the schooner *Contractor* was built at Black Rock, by the Company having the Government contracts for the supply of the military posts, under the superintendence of Captain William Lee, by whom she was sailed until 1809, and afterwards by Captain James Beard. In 1803-'04, a small sloop called the *Niagara*, of about thirty tons, was built at Cayuga Creek, on the Niagara river, by the Government, but not put in commission. She was purchased by Porter, Barton & Co., in 1806, and her name changed to the *Nancy*, and sailed by Captain Richard O'Neil. In 1806 the schooner *Mary*, of one hundred and five tons, was built at Erie by Thomas Wilson, and purchased, the one-half by James Rough and George Bueshler, and the other half by Porter, Barton & Co., in 1808, and sailed by Captain Rough until the war, and then sold to the United States. In 1808, Porter, Barton & Co., purchased the schooner *Ranger*, of George Wilber, then several years old. She was repaired and sailed by Captain Hathaway. In 1810 the sloop *Erie* was built at Black Rock by Porter, Barton & Co., and sold to the United States in the time of the war. The schooner *Salina*, sailed by Captain Daniel Dobbins, and the schooner *Eleanor*, were built before the war, and sailed the lakes. Messrs. Rufus S. Reed, Bixby & Murray, of Erie, and some others whose names I do not recollect, built and owned vessels on the lakes in those early days. A number of vessels on both lakes, owned and armed during the war by the United States, were afterwards sold and employed in commerce."

Buffalo Creek was made a Port of Entry in the year 1805. The foregoing account will give the reader a general conception of the limited commerce and shipping of this port previous to the war of 1812. On the 16th of March, 1811, Black Rock was made a port of entry, and from that time until as late as 1815,-'16, most of the lake vessels landed there; at that period they were all sloops, schooners and open boats.

One of the principal commodities sent up the lakes at that time was salt, with small quantities of dry goods, groceries, furniture, clothing, etc. Many of the vessels sailed down the lakes in ballast; those so fortunate as to be loaded, carried chiefly furs and fish. During the period in consideration, and for a few years later, many of the vessels were compelled to lay up a month or two in midsummer for want of up-freights. During the week preceding the 15th of August, 1815, the entries at the port were: a boat from Detroit loaded with fish and wool, and a sloop, the *Commodore Perry*, with peltries. The only clearance was the sloop *Fiddler*, of Cuyahoga, with salt and pork. The sloop *Hannah* was the first vessel registered in the Custom House at this port; it is under date



of August, 1816, She was owned by Townsend & Coit, the pioneer forwarders from Buffalo.

In the year 1815, Porter, Barton & Co. built a warehouse at Black Rock, nearly opposite the present site of the Queen City Mills. Black Rock was then the great salt and commercial exchange, where the Pittsburg traders, shippers and boat captains met to talk over the prospects and transact business. In March, 1816, the warehouse built by Porter, Barton & Co., was occupied by the forwarding firm of Sill, Thompson & Co., who carried on their business there until March, 1821, and with their immediate successors, were among the most prominent of the early forwarders from the foot of Lake Erie. The firm was composed of Nathaniel Sill, Sheldon Thompson, and James L. Barton; the firm was connected with Townsend, Bronson & Co., at Oswego, and with Porter, Barton & Co. The one warehouse which has been referred to, served all the purposes of storage for freight going both east and west at that period; while this would not seem to indicate a very enormous traffic, yet the firm was designated as "a monopoly that was not satisfied with doing all the commercial business, but tried to control the politics of the county."\*

The firm of Sill, Thompson & Co. engaged as employees in the year 1817, the now venerable John L. Kimberly and Sheldon Pease, both of whom reside in Buffalo. Mr. Kimberly was largely engaged in the shipping interest for many years. Mr. Pease remained in the employ of Sill, Thompson & Co. at Black Rock for five years, when he went to Oswego, remaining there ten years. He then went to Cleveland, and returned to Buffalo in 1862. As member of the firm of Griffith, Pease & Co. in 1837-'38, Mr. Pease aided in building one of the first regular passenger steamers on Lake Erie, the *Cleveland*. The firm of Pease & Allen was subsequently formed and became prominent in the forwarding business.†

In 1816, the lake marine had reached the proportions represented by the following list:—schooners *Dolphin, Diligence, Erie, Pomfret, Weasel, Widow's Son, Merry Calvin, Firefly, Paulina, Mink, Merchant, Pilot, Rachel, Michigan, Neptune, Hercules, Croghan, Tiger, Aurora, Experiment, Black Snake, Ranger, Fiddler and Champion*; sloops *Venus, American Eagle, Perseverance, Nightingale*, and *Black River Packet*, besides a few open boats.

Of the above list the following named craft, with a few additional vessels, were enrolled and licensed in the district of Buffalo Creek during the years 1817, 1818 and 1819:—

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\* James L. Barton's paper read before the Buffalo Historical Society, March 19, 1866.

† See biographical sketch in following pages.

Enrolled.	Name of Vessel.	Owners' Name.	Master's Name.	When and Where Built.
No. 2, 1817	Brig Huron*	Jonathan Sidway	James Beard	Grand River, O., 1814
No. 1, "	Sloop Hannah	Townsend & Coit	Oliver Coit	Black Rock, 1816
No. 3, "	Schooner Aurora	Samuel Wilkeson	Seth Tucker	Huron, O., 1816
No. 4, "	Schooner Experiment	James Hale	Orlando Keyes	Black Rock, 1813
No. 5, "	Schooner Rachel†	Robert Eaton	Robert Eaton	Sandusky, O., 1815
No. 1, 1818	Brig Union‡	Jonathan Sidway, Elihu Pease	James Beard	Huron, O., 1814
No. 2, "	Schooner Experiment	Thomas Warren	Warren Dinglay	Black Rock, 1813
No. 3, "	" Liberty	Hawley Reed	Hawley Reed	Two Mile Creek, 1818
No. 4, "	" Wasp	John Crane	Francis Hibberd	Huron, O., 1817
No. 5, "	" Packet	Gardner Cady	Gardner Cady	Buffalo, 1817
No. 7, "	" Wasp	Francis Hibberd	Francis Hibberd	Huron, O., 1817
No. 8, "	" Rachel	Robert Eaton	Robert Eaton	Erie Dist. O., 1815
No. 1, 1819	" Wolf	Henry T. Guest	Henry T. Guest	Danbury, O., 1817
No. 2, "	" Aurora	Samuel Wilkeson		
		Sheldon Chapin,	Zephaniah Perkins	Huron, O., 1816
No. 3, "	" Experiment	Wm. A. Lynde and John B. Pells	Simeon Fox	Black Rock, 1813
No. 4, "	Nautilus	Chas. H. Averill	Geo. J. Adkins	Sandusky, O., 1818

Enrollments of the following named vessels are supposed to have been burned :—

1817	Schooner Michigan	Sheldon Thompson
"	" Erie	Walter Norton, Wm. Miller and Sheldon Thompson
1818	" Humbird	H. & E. Thompson
"	" Kingbird	Israel Loomis and Seth Stanley
1819	Steamer Walk-in-the-Water	Josephus B. Stewart and Job Fish
"	Sloop Independence	Wm. Walters
"	" Dolphin	A. Williams.

Total Tonnage, 1,188.54

In the cargoes of these vessels at that period were to be found shipped westward, dry goods, household goods, naval stores, groceries, hardware, salt, fish, spirits, mill machinery, medicines, whisky, farm utensils, etc. Coming down, were shipped furs, grindstones, fish, cider, household goods, building stone, hardware, groceries, pork, etc. From the west furs still formed the principal article of commerce. In the summer of 1817 the schooner *Tigrass* and the sloop *Hannah* brought in the most valuable lot of furs ever shipped from the west at one time. It comprised five hundred and ninety-four packages of beaver, otter, muskrat, bear and buffalo skins and was estimated to be worth more than \$150,000. Three hundred and twenty-two of these packages were consigned to Hart & Lay, and owned by John Jacob Astor; one hundred packages were consigned to Townsend & Coit for different owners.

The firm of Townsend & Coit was composed of Chas. Townsend§ and George Coit; they engaged largely in the storage and forwarding business about 1818 at the foot of Commercial street, where they erected commodious warehouses for the purpose. They were the first firm in Buffalo in this business, and sent the first cargo from here westward, by

\* The *Huron* was first a Schooner and was altered to a Hermaphrodite brig in 1815, and was again rebuilt at Black Rock in 1816.

† Surrendered and enrollment and license granted to J. Sidway and R. B. Heacock, September 11, 1819.

‡ The *Union*, 96 13-95 tons, built in 1814, was the first merchant brig built on the lakes. She was subsequently laid up as being too large for the business.

§ Judge Townsend died September 13, 1847, aged 61 years.

regular bill of lading. At a little latter date John Scott began the forwarding business near the foot of Main street; the firm afterwards became Scott & Barker, Jacob Barker being the new member; still later the firm was Barker & Holt and Holt & Ensign. Soon after the completion of the canal in 1825, Sheldon Thompson & Co., removed from Black Rock to Buffalo, and carried on business as the Troy and Erie Line, with important connections east and west.

About the middle of July, 1817, an open boat called the *Troyer*, came into this port with the first cargo of breadstuffs from the west; she was partially loaded with flour at Cuyahoga. From that insignificant beginning has grown our present great commerce in the grain products of the west.

The Buffalo *Gazette*, of March 17, 1818, gives the following list of shipping then owned in Buffalo:—

Schooner <i>Michigan</i> .....	of	132	tons	burthen.
Brig <i>Union</i> †.....		104	“	“
Schooner <i>Erie</i> .....		77	“	“
Sloop <i>Hannah</i> .....		43	“	“
Schooner <i>General Scott</i> .....		21	“	“

Total, ... .. 377 tons.

In the journal of a western tour kept and published by David Thomas, he gave the number of vessels on the upper lakes in 1818, as fifty, with a gross tonnage of 1,867 tons. But two vessels were of more than one hundred tons; many of them of less than twenty. In the same journal it is stated that there were then on Cayuga lake about thirty vessels, schooners and boats, of from eighteen to fifty tons. In other words, that small lake in 1818 (65 years ago), had floating on its bosom half as much vessel tonnage as all the upper lakes. At that date the fifty vessels on all the upper lakes footed up less than 2,000 tons. Now numerous vessels enter Buffalo harbor that carry 3,000 tons and staunch enough to circumnavigate the globe. These large vessels make the cost of freight transportation for long distances on these lakes the cheapest in the world.

*The First Steamboat.*—The *Niagara Patriot* of August 18, 1818, contained the following important announcement:—

“The new and elegant steamboat, *Walk-in-the-Water*, will be ready for sailing the present week and we learn will take a short excursion previous to her regular trip to Detroit.”

This pioneer lake steamer was built by Adam and Noah Brown, of New York; her boilers were made at Black Rock. John C. Calhoun

† The brig *Union* was built in Ohio and was the first vessel on which the pioneer lake Captain, A. Walker, sailed after his arrival in Buffalo, in 1817; she was owned by Jonathan Sidway, and it is said that it was difficult to get crews for her, on account of a prevailing belief among sailors that she was haunted.



was her first engineer. She was fitted with two masts and sails. Her first license was dated May 7, 1819. She was commanded first by Captain Job Fish, a former North River steamboat captain. The boat was nearly lost during a severe gale in her first season, when Captain Fish proved himself incompetent, and at the request of the passengers and crew, Captain John Davis took command of the steamer and brought her safely into port. In consequence he was given her regular command. The keel of the *Walk-in-the-Water* was laid in November of the previous year, near a little ravine about opposite the head of Squaw Island; she was finished and launched on the 28th of May, 1818, at Black Rock, amid the enthusiastic acclamations of the community.\*

It was not until about the middle of August that she was ready to sail, when steam power, as represented in the new craft, entered the contest against the current of Niagara River. Humiliating as it must have been to the owners and managers of the steamboat, the rapid stream won the day.

Trial after trial was made, the engines were worked to their utmost power, but it was all in vain; the pioneer steamer could not get up the rapids unaided, and finally the assistance of Captain Sheldon Thompson's "horn breeze," as his ox teams were called, was invoked; the ox teams were hitched to the boat and thus assisted, she made her way slowly up the swift stream and into the lake. This event occurred on the 23d of August, on Sunday; a short excursion was tendered the citizens of Black Rock and Buffalo, which was very generally enjoyed. The steamer was a success from the first, financially and otherwise; the fare to Detroit was fixed at \$18.00 for cabin and \$7.00 for steerage passengers. She returned from her first trip on the 1st day of September, and on her next trip she took out one hundred and twenty passengers. The *Walk-in-the-Water* was, however, destined for a short life; she was wrecked off the lighthouse, November 1, 1821. Captain Jedediah Rogers was then in command of her, with Captain William Miller as pilot and sailing master. Her owners immediately began the construction of another steamer, under contracts calling for her completion by May 10th of the following year. She was built at Buffalo, near the foot of Indiana street, under circumstances that have already been detailed, and was launched April 13, 1822; she was named the *Superior*. Before the harbor pier was constructed, all vessels anchoring off Buffalo were unloaded and loaded from and into scows or lighters; this business was largely monopolized by G. W. Fox, with whom arrangements were also made by the owners of the *Superior*, as well as her predecessor, by which passen-

\* The Niagara *Patriot* of June 2, 1818, said:—

"On Thursday last, according to previous arrangement, was launched the elegant steamboat at Black Rock, built by Mr. Brown, of New York, who is one of the proprietors. She left the stocks a few minutes before one, and moved in fine style, without accident, into her destined element, amid the acclamations of the numerous spectators who were highly gratified with the novelty of the scene."

gers were transferred in the same manner. The *Superior* was lost on Lake Michigan, in 1834-'35. Her machinery was afterward put in to the *Charles Townsend*.

The canal was now under process of construction; Samuel Wilkeson and his co-laborers had constructed the first harbor, as detailed in earlier chapters; general prosperity reigned and the young commerce and navigation interests of the port and lakes shared in it. Monday morning, August 5, 1822, fifteen vessels were moored off Buffalo; this was noted as cause for congratulation. On July 12th, the following year, this number had grown to twenty-nine. January 22, 1825, a local paper noted the fact that one steamer, six schooners, one brig, in all forty-two different vessels entered and cleared during the previous season. The gross number of arrivals and clearances was two hundred and eighty-six.

A new steamer, called the *Pioneer*, started on her first trip to Detroit on Wednesday, May 28, 1825. She was built at Black Rock and was the first high pressure boat on the lakes. The *Pioneer* was afterwards commanded by Captain Levi Allen, who now lives in Buffalo and enjoys the distinction of being the oldest lake captain residing in the city. With the possible exception of Captain Harry Whittaker, of Detroit, Captain Allen is probably the oldest of the pioneer lake navigators now living.\* He went on the lakes when he was seventeen years old, with a brother-in-law, aboard a schooner which the latter had bought from the government; she was named the *Commodore Perry*, and was one of that victorious commander's fleet. Mr. Allen was aboard of the ill-fated steamer, *Walk-in-the-Water*, when she was lost in 1821. He also sailed about two years on the second steamer, the *Superior*; she was afterwards ship-rigged, carrying a cloud of sail. In 1834, Captain Allen commanded the *Superior*; that was the last year she sailed. Ten days were then consumed in a trip to Detroit.

Captain Allen's memory is clear regarding a time when he could at certain seasons of the year easily walk across the mouth of Buffalo creek, scarcely wetting his feet; the sand-bar which made this possible, would be carried out into the lake with each spring flood, leaving a channel four or five feet deep. Several little coasters of thirty or forty tons then trafficked along the lake shore and were able to enter the creek at most seasons, while all the larger vessels were compelled to anchor outside or run down to Black Rock. One of these early coasters was called the *Salem Packet*; she was commanded by Captain Sam. Ward in 1816-'17;

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\* Mr. Allen's memory is a mine of reminiscences of lake navigation in early times. His father was Holden Allen, one of the pioneers of Buffalo. He came here in 1808, when Levi Allen was six years old. Holden Allen had been a merchant, and brought here the remnants of a small stock of goods which he placed in market, in a log house that stood not far from the present No. 750 Main street. The next spring he bought out Major Frederick Miller, at the Ferry, where he remained until he was burned out in 1813. He leased Mrs. St. John's cottage immediately after the fire and entertained the public as best he could. He afterwards kept a hotel at Black Rock, and died with cholera in 1832.

he was one of the pioneer navigators of the lakes and his arrival at different points along the coast was eagerly awaited, as he carried provisions and luxuries not otherwise easily obtainable. In 1824, Captain Ward built at Newport, Mich., a small schooner of thirty tons, called the *St. Clair*. He loaded her with skins, furs, potash, and black walnut, and started in June, 1826, for New York city, *via* the recently finished Erie canal. He sailed to Buffalo, where he took the spars from his vessel and towed her to New York with his own team. There he disposed of his cargo to good advantage, partially re-loaded with goods for his Michigan store, filled up with salt at Syracuse, and returned home the same way he went down. The *St. Clair* was the first, and for many years the only vessel of that character to go through the canal.

Charles M. Reed, of Erie, was one the foremost men in the steamboat interest for many years. Captain Levi Allen was in his employ and connected with him for several years. Mr. Reed owned a line of steamboats in 1835, one of which was the *Pennsylvania*, which Captain Allen commanded. In 1838 Captain Allen and Mr. Reed built the *Buffalo*, which the Captain commanded for several years. They afterwards built the *Louisiana*, which was also commanded by Captain Allen. He then took command of the *Niagara* in 1847, and after two years of service on her he retired from the water; for some years after he was connected with the First National Bank of Buffalo and engaged to some extent in business, but has now retired from active life.

Captain Daniel Dobbins was for many years a prominent early lake navigator. He commanded the schooner *Lady Washington*, as early as 1800. When war was declared he entered the navy. The first timber cut for a new vessel for the Lake Erie fleet was under Captain Dobbins' direction, at Erie, where he then lived. Owing to the scarcity of ship carpenters at that time, he was compelled to employ ordinary carpenters and others who were even less skilled in the art. On this account, the work was finally transferred to Black Rock. Captain Dobbins commanded the *Ohio* in Perry's fleet. Superintendent David P. Dobbins, of the Ninth district of the U. S. Life Saving Service (Buffalo), is a son of Captain Dobbins.

The *Clay*, the *Niagara*, (not the steamer on which Captain Allen sailed in 1847,) and the *Daniel Webster* were steamboats of light tonnage that were built by or for Porter, Barton & Co., Sheldon Thompson & Co., or Sill, Thompson & Co., and their connections, as early as 1825. Sheldon Thompson, one of the early leading men here in lake shipping interests, was Mayor of Buffalo in 1840. He died March 13, 1851, aged sixty-six years.\*

About the year 1856, side-wheel steamers reached their climax of popularity on the lakes. The railroads had crippled the passenger traffic and propellers rapidly took the place of the side-wheel boats.

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\* See biography in subsequent pages.





Sheldon Thompson



Captain Frederick S. Miller who now resides in Buffalo at the age of seventy-three years, is one of the oldest lake navigators who have sailed from this port. He has spent nearly his whole life on the lakes, having sailed on his first voyage July 10, 1831, on the schooner *Louise Jenkins*, of which his brother Wells Miller was the Captain. In 1832 Captain Miller helped to fit out the schooner *Austerlitz*, the first double-top-sail schooner on the lakes, and sailed in her that season. In the following three seasons he sailed on the schooners *Huron*, Captain Robert Hart; with Captain Stiles on the schooner *Minerva*, built by Captain Augustus Jones; and on the schooner *Merchant*. In the fall of 1836 Captain Miller volunteered with a few others, to take the *Milwaukee* from Buffalo to Detroit with a load of merchandise. The vessel stranded near Marblehead. From that time down to 1881, Captain Miller was engaged successively as captain of the steamer *Robert Fulton*; mate of the steamer *Thos. Jefferson*; mate of steamer *Michigan*; mate of steamer *Wisconsin*; mate of steamer *Buffalo*, with Captain Levi Allen for five years; captain of steamer *Chautauqua*, owned by Oliver Lee, Cameron and McKay of Buffalo; mate of steamer *Nile*, the *Louisiana*, with Captain Levi Allen, and on the *Niagara*; then successively captain of steamers *Diamond*, the *Ohio*, the propeller *Acme*, in Ensign's Buffalo and Chicago line, the *Arctic*, of the Lake Superior line, the *Cleveland*, the *Traveller*, the *Morning Star*, the *May Queen*, and the *Ontonagon*. In 1866 he commanded the propeller *Oneida*, for the Western Transportation Company, and the next year the steamer *Illinois* of the Lake Superior line. In 1870 Captain Miller entered the employ of the Union Steamboat Company, with whom he remained until 1881, when he retired from the lakes. Captain Miller is the youngest of ten children of Major Frederick Miller, who has been frequently mentioned in this work as one of the pioneers at Black Rock. Two others of Major Miller's sons, Wm. Wells and Charles, were well known lake navigators in early times.

Among other well known early navigators of the lakes, whose success in their calling rendered them conspicuous, may be mentioned Captain Stephen Champlin, who distinguished himself as commander of the schooner *Scorpion* in the battle of Lake Erie, September 10, 1813—he died in Buffalo, February 20, 1870; Captain David Wilkinson, who commanded the *Commodore Perry* in 1836-'37; Captain James Rough; Captain Knapp, many years in command of a Revenue Cutter; Captain Chelsea Blake, who distinguished himself at the battles of Chippewa and Lundy's Lane and afterwards commanded some of the finest lake steamers. Others were Captains Jacob Imson, Walter Norton, Thomas Wilkins, Cliff Belden, Geo. Miles, John White, Wm. T. Pease, James M. Averill,\* Chas. Burnett, Ned Burke, John Burnham, John Stewart, Robert Wagstaff, John Fleeharty, Simeon Fox, Wessel and

\* Died October 13, 1873, aged 66.



Harry Whittaker, Joseph Caskie, Levi and Archibald Allen, William Dickson, G. Appleby, Morris Tyler, Sam Chase, Augustus Walker, John and James Shook, Norman and Alvin Patterson, Charles and Ben. Stanard, Charles Coshaway, Fred Miller, James Beard, E. P. Dorr,\* and others.

These and doubtless many of their co-laborers, were men whose natural ability, strength of character and firmness of purpose placed them in the front ranks of those who devoted much of their lives to the navigation and commerce of the great lakes during a period when the calling was fraught with more danger than it is at the present day.

With the completion and opening of the canal in 1826, lake navigation and commerce of all kinds became still more active; new steamers were built in rapid succession, and the lake fleet of sailing craft was largely increased. In the pamphlet published by Mr. Ball, in 1825, to which reference has before been made, he says of the shipping interests at that time:—

“The shipping which belongs to this port, amounts to upwards of 1,050 tons; among which are one steamboat, one hermaphrodite brig, eight schooners, one sloop and four transportation boats, which average over twenty-five tons each. \* \* \* Besides there are numerous other water craft of smaller dimensions.

“There are upwards of sixty sail of good, substantial and safe vessels owned upon this lake, forty-two of which entered this port last season; and there were two hundred and eighty-six arrivals and an equal number of clearances.”

In referring to the passenger traffic on the lake, Mr. Ball said:—

“There is also the steam brig *Superior*, of three hundred and forty-six tons burden, whose accommodations have not been surpassed, making a trip to Detroit, a distance of nearly three hundred miles, every eight or nine days; and it is rare that a day passes during the season without the arrival or departure of some of the lake vessels, which generally have very good accommodations for passengers, and are well found.”

The *Emporium* newspaper of June 10, 1826, noted the arrival (probably for the previous week) of thirteen schooners and two steamboats in Buffalo harbor. October 26, 1830, there were thirty schooners, six steamboats, two sloops, thirty canal boats and other craft in the harbor at one time. The canal tolls of that year were \$48,923.02, an increase over the previous year of nearly one hundred per cent.

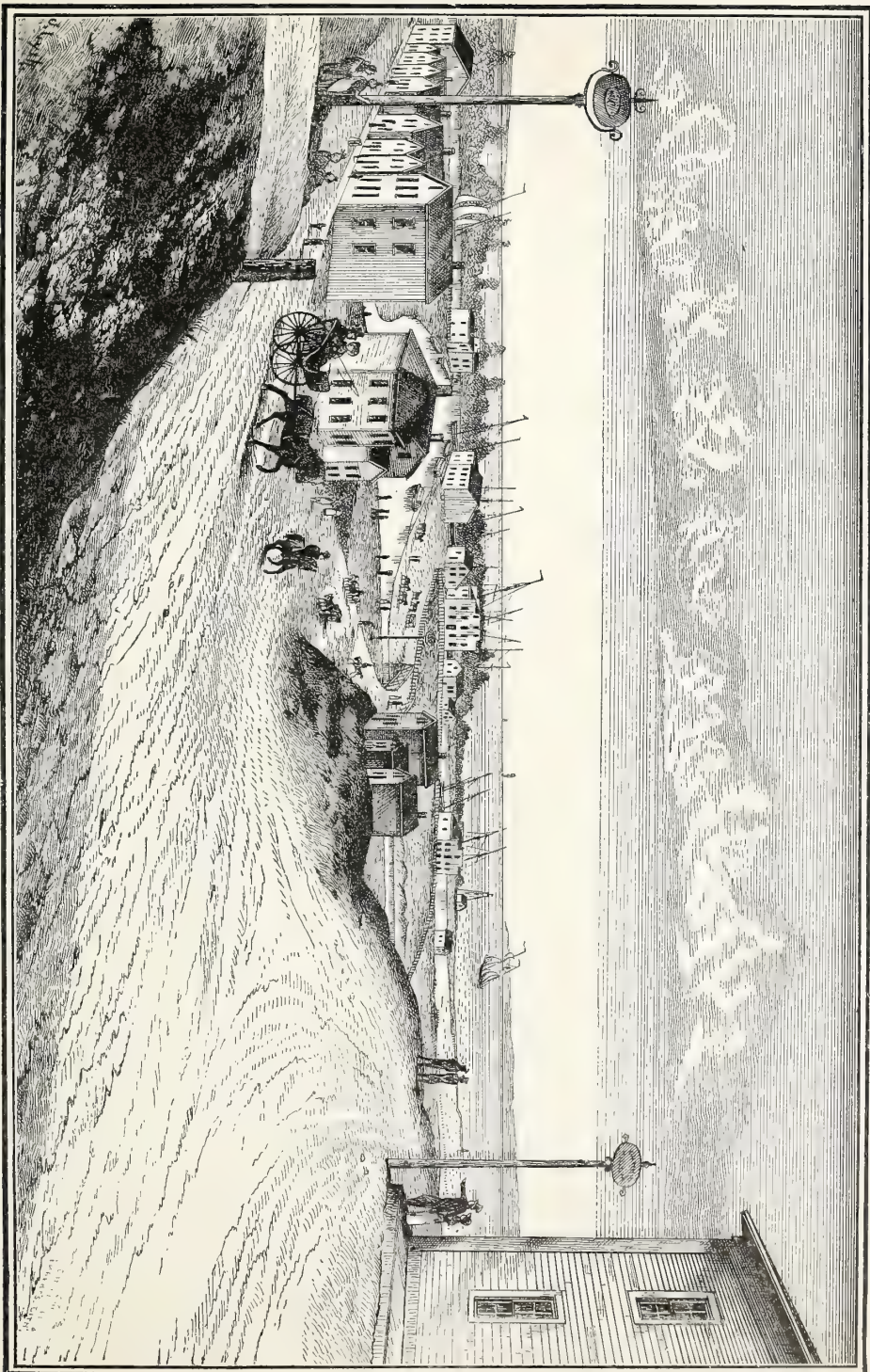
Beginning with the year 1829, the wheat shipped eastward from this port for three years was as follows:—1829, 3,640 bushels; 1830, 149,219 bushels; 1831, 186,148 bushels.

The shipments of flour for the same period were:—1829, 4,335 barrels; 1830, 31,810; 1831, 62,968.

In 1817 there were nineteen merchant vessels on the lake, with gross tonnage of nine hundred and eighty-six tons. The following year the

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\* This list of names is chiefly from a paper left by Captain E. P. Dorr. Captain Dorr died at Aiken, S. C., March 29, 1881.



VIEW OF BUFFALO HARBOR - FROM COLDEN'S MEMOIR, 1826.



number had increased to twenty-eight vessels, 1,586 tons ; in 1832 there were forty-seven vessels, 2,000 tons ; in 1854 the gross tonnage was 132,000 tons ; in 1858, 404,301 tons ; in 1863, 413,026 tons.

In the spring of 1827, as we are informed by Mr. James L. Barton, in his paper read before the Historical Society in 1866, he left Black Rock and came to Buffalo, where he formed a partnership with Samuel Wilkeson in the forwarding business.\* This partnership lasted but two years, after which Mr. Barton carried on the business until the end of the year 1835. They had the agency of a large line of boats on the canal and vessels on the lake ; "yet so scarce was western freight that it was difficult to get a full boat-load, although the boats were then of light tonnage." A few tons were all that could usually be furnished each boat to carry to Albany. This the boats would take on and then fill up at Rochester, which place, being situated in the heart of the grain growing district of New York, furnished much of the down freight for the canal.

About the period of 1832-'33, the forwarding and commission merchants of this port and the lines they represented, were as follows :—

Townsend, Coit & Co. and Thompson & Co., Troy & Erie Line ; Joy & Webster, Pilot Line ; Pratt, Taylor & Co., Washington Line ; Richard Sears, James L. Barton, Western Line ; Smith & Macy, New York & Ohio Line ; Baker & Holt, Merchants' Line ; Norton & Carlisle, Hudson & Erie Line ; Augustus Eaton, Clinton Line.

On the morning of November 19, 1833, Buffalo harbor contained seventy vessels of different kinds, which indicates that the lake and canal commerce and navigation generally kept pace with the growth of the city.†

In the year 1835, all of the wheat, corn, and flour received at this port was equivalent to 543,815 bushels. From that year to 1842, the receipts were as follows :—

Year.	Flour, No. Barrels.	Wheat, No. Bushels.	Corn, No. Bushels.	Oats, No. Bushels.	Barley, No. Bushels.	Rye, No. Bush.
1836	139,178	304,090	204,355	28,640	4,876	1,500
1837	126,805	450,350	94,490	2,553	.....	3,267
1838	277,620	933,117	34,148	6,577	.....	909
1839	294,125	1,117,262	.....	.....	.....	.....
1840	597,142	1,004,561	71,337	.....	.....	.....
1841	730,040	1,635,000	201,031	14,144	.....	2,150
1842	734,408	1,555,420	454,530	.....	4,710	1,268

\* Mr. Barton said of Judge Wilkeson :—"The Judge had been among the foremost in the controversy between Buffalo and Black Rock, and although many hard things had been said about him in our paper (the *Black Rock Gazette*), he remembered with unkindly feelings nothing that had occurred in the season of anger and strife. He had a mind of large grasp, quick perception, indomitable energy ; never sparing time or money so long as a possibility existed of accomplishing any great object he undertook. He may emphatically be numbered with the leading minds that laid the foundation of this city." (See biographical sketch in subsequent pages of this volume.)

† The City Directory of 1836, says there were then fifty-three American vessels on the upper lakes. Nearly or quite all of these entered Buffalo harbor.

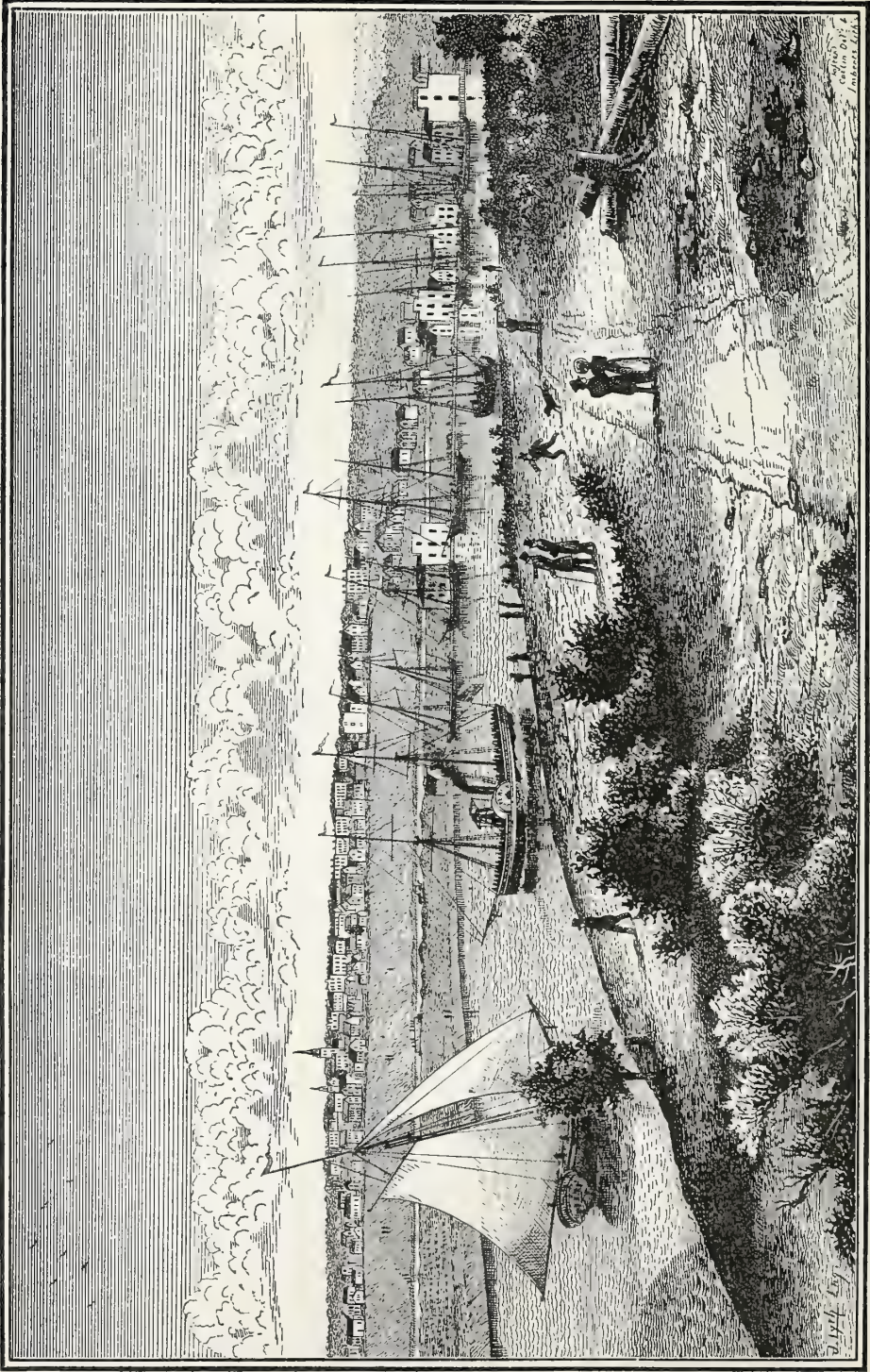


Captain A. Walker has left in the Historical Society the following list of names of men and firms who were in business on the Buffalo docks in 1848-'49, among them being most of those who had taken part in building up the commerce of the harbor from its infancy:—

Israel T. Hatch, Joel Thayer, Seymour & Wells, James G. Gibson, H. W. Millard & Co., Joseph Dart, Jason Parker, S. W. Howell, Russell H. Heywood, J. T. Noye, John R. Evans, Joseph B. Gardner, Evans & Dunbar, B. Spencer, Waldo & Mann, J. Myers & Co., Niles & Whalen, Abell & Gardner, Ressel & Eldridge, William Andrews, Mack & Hall, James D. Sawyer, Holt & Palmer, J. & C. Hitchcock, H. S. Beecher, A. W. Johnson, A. Chester, I. H. Bostwick, H. Williams, William B. Harmon, R. Haskill, A. Morrison & Co., F. R. Townsend, George W. Tifft, R. Farnsworth, Morris Hazard, Monteath & Sherman, William Stimpson, Dean Richmond, W. H. Bement & Co., Hayes & Johnson, William Buckley, O. W. Ranney, H. B. Walbridge & Co., Bement & Ruden, William A. Brown, Ward & Co., M. S. Hawley, Hamilton Rainey, William Foot, Kent & Carley, Richard P. Wilkins, James Murray, P. Durfee & Co., E. Root, Cobb & Co., Isaac S. Smith, Charles Holland, John G. Brown & Co., S. Purdy & Co., H. O. Corwin & Co., Coats & Folger, S. H. Fish, G. S. Hazard, Joseph E. Follett, A. W. Cutler, George W. Allen, Simon Spearman, Henry Daw, Fleeharty & Warren, Robert Allen, Allen W. Norton, J. Nottingham, S. Strong, William Chard, S. Brown, J. M. Smith, Joseph Plumb, Maxwell & Co., Davidson & Co., Robinson & Parsons, P. S. Sternberg & Co., Bemis & Brothers, I. H. Hooker, Joy & Chapin, William Howard & Co., D. N. Barney & Co., H. H. Sizer, Edwin Thomas, Charles C. Hall, H. M. Kinne.\* Many of these names will sound familiar to the older residents of Buffalo, and a few of them are still in business here.

This was a period (1848-49) when the commerce of Buffalo was at a high tide of prosperity, to which it had rapidly grown during the years that had followed the completion of the harbor and its extensions, and the Erie canal. Buffalo was then essentially a maritime city. The harbor, largely extended during the next few years, was safe if not very commodious, and it continually presented during the season of navigation a scene of life and business activity that promised most encouragingly for

\* Mr. Kinne is still in the shipping and commission business on the Central Wharf. He began the commission business in Buffalo in 1840, in company with Dean Richmond, J. M. Peabody and James A. Cowing. In 1846, Mr. Kinne built the third elevator erected in Buffalo, and between the years 1838 and 1865, alone or in connection with others, built fifty-one different lake vessels; among them was the *Wyndham*, the first of the large fore-and-aft schooners on the lakes. Her capacity was 10,000 bushels; the average capacity of lake vessels at that time was about 4,000 bushels, and the launching of the *Wyndham*, with more than double the ordinary capacity, created quite a sensation. Predictions were freely offered that her great size and her enormous spread of canvas would certainly cause her destruction. That was only forty-five years ago; the *Wyndham* sailed the lakes successfully, and now it is not a very uncommon thing to see a lake schooner come into Buffalo harbor, laden with a hundred thousand bushels of grain.



BUFFALO VILLAGE FROM THE LIGHT-HOUSE--FROM COLDEN'S MEMOIR, 1826.



the future. A paper prepared by Sanford B. Hunt about 1865, says of the period in question :—

“Passenger steamboats were in their glory, numerous lines leaving daily, crowded with passengers, advertised with wonderful pertinacity by the class of ‘runners’ very remarkable men in their way, and adding to the seductions of this persuasive system, the charms of music discoursed at all hours from the guards of the steamboats. Elevators were only an experiment then, and a vast number of longshoremen were supported by the labor of handling freight by inconvenient processes. \* \* \* Canal boats were small but numerous, and the result was a business which advertised itself by its own bustle and by the crowd which was constantly maintained in the narrow quarters where it was transacted, and through which every stranger passed on his way East or West.”

Between 1848 and 1857, while the commerce of the port did not retrograde, it made less bustle and outside display. The growth of the elevator business relieved the wharves of the presence of hundreds of laborers; passenger traffic was largely transferred to the railroads; harbor extensions spread the shipping interests over more territory. But none of these changes were especially unhealthful in character; commercial interests grew and the business was profitable to those who engaged in it, until the panic of 1857, which for a time partially paralyzed the general business and commercial prosperity of the port. The succeeding two or three years were, perhaps, the most discouraging that commercial men in Buffalo have ever encountered; but with the completion of the Erie canal enlargement a few years later, backed by all the well known commercial advantages enjoyed by Buffalo, her recovery from the partial prostration was sure and rapid, and its growth in this respect has been steady and healthful down to the present time.

In a recent interview, Washington Bullard, manager of the Union Steamboat Co., a man of thirty years’ active experience in commerce and lake navigation, said of the commercial prospects of Buffalo :—

“The commerce of Buffalo has received new guarantees lately, viz.:—an immense anthracite coal business which is to-day only in its infancy, and a future export bituminous coal business which will undoubtedly be very large; its location with reference to the development of a territory imperial in extent and tributary to the west end of Lake Superior—a development which has never been equalled in this or any other country, the fruits of which must come to Buffalo, for this reason:—this city has been able to do the grain business by lake from Chicago, notwithstanding the distance between that point and this by lake is nine hundred and fifty miles, while the railroad distance is only five hundred and fifty miles; the lake has always been able to compete with railroads, even with these inequalities of distance. In contrast with this, the water route to the west end of Lake Superior and the northwest territory before alluded to, is as short as that of any railroad (perhaps shorter), now in existence or that can be built; this fact guarantees that we shall always bring the products of that region to Buffalo.



Added to this is the Northern Pacific railroad, which will, beyond a doubt, bring a large trans-continental business."

Statistics prepared September 1, 1883, by Wm. Thurstone, Secretary of the Board of Trade, show remarkable improvement in the commerce of the port, over the previous year. He says:—

"The receipts of grain by lake, including flour reduced to its equivalent in wheat, aggregate thus far this year, 40,730,900 bushels, while for the corresponding period of last year they were 33,767,760 bushels, showing the gratifying gain of 6,963,140 bushels for 1883. The coal exports show an excess over 1882 of over 20,000 tons, while the movement of cement, plaster, salt, and railroad iron are about the same as in that year. No returns are made of miscellaneous freights, of which the shipments have been very large. The canal exports thus far this season are 24,555,050 bushels of grain; last year they were 16,635,177 bushels, making an increase this year 7,862,871 bushels. Thirty-one more boats have cleared up to August 31 than did last year, the figures being 3,887 for 1882 and 3,918 for 1883. The quantity of coal exported was 20,306 tons and of flaxseed 5,704 tons. The up-movement has been quite satisfactory. Elevating and storage charges have been steady all the year at last year's figures. The shipments of grain from the elevators by railroad show an increase in favor of 1883 of about 700,000 bushels. August 31, wheat was shipped at 4 1-4 cents and corn at 4 cents from Chicago to Buffalo. The same day last year the rates were only 2 1-4 and 2 cents respectively. Canal freights yesterday hence to New York, were 5 3-4 cents on wheat and 5 1-4 on corn, about 1 1-4 cents higher than on the corresponding day last year. Doubtless the freeing of the canals from tolls has helped the movement of tonnage to and from tide water to a considerable extent."\*

A United States volunteer life boat station was established in Buffalo Harbor in September, 1877, which was made a full station of the United States Life Saving Service in the 1st of July, 1879. The station is under the superintendency of Captain David P. Dobbins, and has been very efficient whenever its service has been needed.

*Ship Building.*—The preceding pages have necessarily included many facts relative to ship building at Buffalo and Black Rock; to these there is little to add. One of the earliest ship builders in this vicinity was Captain Asa Stanard, who had a yard as early as 1810, at Scajaquada Creek. At a little later date he removed to Black Rock, where he was associated with Benjamin Bidwell, as the firm of Stanard & Bidwell. They built the schooner *Erie* at Black Rock; she was owned by Sheldon Thompson & Co., and Captain William Miller. The *Red Jacket* was the last vessel built by Stanard & Bidwell at Black Rock; she was owned by Sill, Thompson & Co., and was built in 1820. The *Peacock* was the

\*In a paper of reminiscences left with the Historical Society by Captain Walker, one of the more prominent early lake navigators, he states that in 1856 the schooner *Dean Richmond* took wheat to Liverpool from Chicago, making quicker passage than many of the ocean vessels. In 1859, thirty or more lake vessels loaded with grain for ocean voyages. These facts are given as evidence that our "fresh-water sailors" are capable of excellent ocean service. The *Dean Richmond* was the first lake vessel to load for a foreign port.

last steamer built by the firm of Stanard & Bidwell. She was built in 1828. The firm was afterwards Bidwell & Davidson, and then Bidwell & Carrick, who finally established themselves at Buffalo. Mr. Bidwell enjoyed the reputation of possessing peculiar genius and ability in his profession; he was the master spirit of the different firms of which he was a member. Jacob Banta was one of the most successful ship-builders of early days, and was a partner of Mr. Bidwell after the removal of the latter to Buffalo. Mr. Banta built the fine steamers *Western Metropolis* and *City of Buffalo*.

Captain Frederick N. Jones and his brother were prominent ship-builders. The former came to Buffalo in 1845, and established himself where the R. Mills & Co., yards are now located; he built there the propeller *Pocahontas*, the schooner *Watts Sherman* and other vessels. He sold the yard in 1866 and removed to Tonawanda, where he built numerous vessels.

About the year 1832 the building of upper-cabin boats was begun; there was a good deal of doubt expressed at first as to their sea-worthiness; other kinds of vessels were built about that time of greater length than formerly.

The growth of the ship-building interest in Buffalo is indicated by the fact that in 1853, for the year ending June 30th, there were built at Buffalo, one brig, twelve steamers and nine schooners, with a gross tonnage of 65,184.25. In 1867 this interest had grown to the building of three ships or barks, sixty-nine sloops and canal boats, seven brigs and fourteen steamers. In 1870 there were built at Buffalo, fourteen propellers, one side-wheel steamer, one barge, two sail vessels and twenty-six canal boats.

The first propeller that ever visited Buffalo harbor was the *Vandalia*, which came up from Lake Ontario in the spring of 1842; she was built the previous year at Oswego. In December, 1840, Josiah T. Marshall, formerly of the firm of Bronson, Marshall & Co., of Oswego, was requested by Mr. Sanderson, of Brockville, Canada, to visit New York city to inspect the new propeller that had just been completed and patented by Captain John Ericson. Mr. Marshall met Captain James Van Cleve, one of the most prominent of the older lake captains, and asked him to also go and inspect the new craft, which he did. These two men reported most favorably of the propeller and an arrangement was made between Captain Ericson and Van Cleve, by which the latter became half owner of the patent on the propeller as far as it applied to the North American lakes, provided he put a propeller afloat on the lakes within one year. The result was the building of the *Vandalia*. When the propeller reached Buffalo, the Hollisters, a firm of ship-builders, then of Perrysburg, evinced much interest in the new steamer and Captain Van Cleve effected a bargain with Robert Hollister, by which he built

two propellers in 1842-'43—the *Hercules* and *Samson*. Sheldon Pease, now of Buffalo, was afterwards interested in the building of propellers at Cleveland, and their numbers then rapidly multiplied.\* It will show the rapid change from steamboats to propellers, to state that in the year 1847 there were in commission on the lakes sixty-four steamboats and only twenty-one propellers; in 1861, fourteen years later, there were seventy-one steamboats and one hundred and eighty-two propellers.

In 1862, E. T. Evans made a contract with David Bell, of Buffalo, for the construction of an iron propeller; accordingly, in the early part of the year, Mr. Bell laid the keel of the first iron steamer constructed west of New York; she was eight hundred and fifty tons; the iron was rolled at the mills of Messrs. Pratt & Co., and almost the entire work was done in Buffalo. She was named the *Merchant*, and successfully navigated the lakes for many years. Mr. Bell has always been, and now is an ardent advocate of iron vessels for the lakes, and he has built many of the finest ones afloat. In 1876 the fleet of iron boats sailing from Buffalo harbor had increased to ten; besides the *Merchant* their names were, the *Philadelphia*, *Alaska*, *India*, *China*, *Japan*, *Cuba*, *Java*, *Russia*, *Scotia*, *Arabia*. Others have since been added.

The ship-building interest at this point is now mainly in the hands of David Bell and Samuel Gibson, builders of iron vessels. R. Mills & Co., Baker & Sons, Carroll Bros., William Hingston & Son, Riley Bros., Union Dry Dock Co., C. L. Dimmers, George H. Notter, William Murphy, Joseph Supple.

*The Tug Fleet*.—In 1851, Sherman Petrie made an effort to get a tug built in Buffalo, but was unsuccessful, for the reason that no one had any confidence in the success of the craft in a pecuniary sense. A few years before that date the *Charter* was built here for service in towing rafts, but she can hardly be classed as a regular tug.†

About the year 1855, the first regular tug was put afloat in Buffalo waters; she was the *Franklin*, and was bought in Albany by William Farrell. She found plenty of business, and the construction of others rapidly followed. Cook Brothers were early tug owners, as was also Mr. ——— Curtiss, who built the *P. F. Barton*, among the first tugs built here, and a number of others. The tug fleet of Buffalo harbor now comprises fourteen large boats, which are controlled by Captain George Hand, the Independent Tug Line, and Thomas Maytham. There are also about twenty small tugs in the port, mostly owned by individuals.

\* Josiah T. Marshall died in Buffalo November 23, 1875, at the age of seventy-two years. Robert Hollister died in Buffalo, September 23, 1877. The *Samson* and the *Hercules* were each about four hundred tons burthen. The *Samson* was burned at Cleveland, November 29, 1875.

† Mr. H. M. Kinne volunteers the statement that if the tug service had been introduced here before the construction of the Blackwell Canal, about 1846, that portion of the harbor system would have been unnecessary, at least at that time, as the tugs could have taken all vessels into the creek.



*Transportation Companies.*—The regular transportation companies which participate largely in the commerce and passenger travel on the lakes, with their headquarters at Buffalo, are:—

The Union Steamboat Company, which was established and incorporated in 1869. The Lake Navigation Company and the American Transportation Company were in existence previous to that time, but had disappeared. The Union Steamboat Company is a combination of the old Erie Railway Steamboat Company with other interests. Its first manager here was S. D. Caldwell, and Jay Gould was the first president. The Company is now the owner of all the stock of the Union Dry Dock Company, which builds all the vessels of the steamboat company. S. S. Guthrie is the present president of the company, and Washington Bullard is manager. This company has built the following named propellers:—

*Jay Gould, B. W. Blanchard, James Fiske, Jr., Newburgh, Dean Richmond, Starucca, Portage, Avon, Nyack, New York, Rochester, H. J. Jewett.*

The gross tonnage of the fleet is twenty-nine thousand tons. The company now runs fifteen steamers and two schooners.

The Lake Superior Transit Company was organized in 1878, and is incorporated under the laws of the State of New York. It is a joint organization, formed by the Western Transportation Company, the Union Steamboat Company and the Anchor Line, for the purpose of giving more efficient and stable transportation to the Lake Superior region. The company runs ten steamers between Buffalo and Duluth, and intermediate points. The boats are the largest on the lakes, and are first-class in all respects. The president is John Allen, Jr.; and E. T. Evans is general manager.

The Western Transportation Company was incorporated in 1855, making it one of the oldest organizations of the kind; it owns thirteen passenger and freight vessels, which run in connection with the New York Central & Hudson River railroad. John Allen, Jr., is president and manager of the company, and John L. Williams, secretary and treasurer.

The Anchor Line has its headquarters at Philadelphia. Its corporate name is the Erie & Western Transportation Company. It runs in connection with the Pennsylvania railroad at Erie, and with the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia railroad at Buffalo.

The Commercial Line of Steamers runs six propellers, doing almost an exclusively freight business.

#### THE LUMBER INTEREST.

The lumber interest of Buffalo has grown from a small beginning to its present enormous proportions chiefly during the past forty years. Down to about the year 1850, the lumber trade here, while sufficient for

the requirements of the place, had not assumed a degree of importance demanding especial attention. At that time the wholesale trade was confined to three or four firms. Among them were J. Thistlewort, who was located at the foot of Genesee street; William Hawkins, on the Ohio Basin; J. S. & J. L. Newton, on Court street. In 1852 S. D. Colie and J. S. Noyes established themselves in the business here, and both still remain in it and are among the heaviest dealers in the city.

Previous to 1850 the lumber supply was near at hand in Canada whence it was shipped across in small schooners, in cargoes of about sixty thousand feet; hemlock was brought in then and for many years after chiefly from the surrounding country on this side. Between the years 1855 and 1860, as the supply of Canada lumber became gradually reduced and the superior excellence of the Michigan pine became better known, shipments from that region increased, vessels bringing it down the lakes. In 1857-'58 John S. Noyes, S. D. Colie, John Leighton, Joseph Van-Vleck, and, perhaps, others attempted to make a success of rafting timber down the lake from Saginaw; but the enterprise was soon abandoned; several rafts were lost and those which came through were a good deal damaged and their value depreciated. Since that time the shipments down the lakes have vastly increased from year to year, and cargoes have swelled in proportion with the increasing tonnage of vessels; two hundred thousand feet have often been shipped on vessels, while the great lumber barges that were introduced about 1862, are loaded with as much as six hundred thousand feet.

About the year 1859, as the supply of hemlock lumber became somewhat reduced in this vicinity, the valuable forests of Pennsylvania were drawn upon for this market. Mr. Colie claims the credit of having first brought hemlock lumber from Pennsylvania by rail; it came over the Erie road. The hemlock from that region is superior in quality and is handled here now in immense quantities.

The supply of black walnut formerly came principally from Ohio and Indiana, but the enormous quantity used in recent years has caused a scarcity and high prices, resulting in the shipment of much of the present supply from the southern states. The hardwood lumber trade of Buffalo is largely in the hands of Taylor & Crats, 269 Elk street, who have been in the business since 1864; and Scatcherd & Son, who have yards on Ohio Basin, Miami and Louisiana streets, and also on the opposite corner.

The wholesale lumber trade of Buffalo is now mainly conducted by the following individuals and firms in addition to those already mentioned:—

E. & B. Holmes, 187 Michigan street; this business was established in 1852, when a small planing mill was put in; it was one of the first in Buffalo. In the manufacture of sash, doors, boxes and other wood work,







and the sale of lumber, this establishment ranks as one of the largest in the State.

C. P. Hazard, established in 1868, has now two yards, one at 92 River street and the other at 343 Louisiana street.

Haines & Co., established in 1861, as E. & G. R. Haines. They were then located on West Genesee street; since on Erie street, Nos. 253 and 255. Alfred Haines became a partner in the business in 1867.

Cooper & Haines, Ohio Basin and Louisiana street, established about 1879. C. P. Hazard, 92 River street, established in 1864. Benson & Lock, Michigan street near Ganson, established 1876. W. W. Tyler, Ganson street, near Michigan. Taylor & Betts, 199 Louisiana street. Mixer & Co., 60 Main street. Lee, Holland & Co., Court, corner of Wilkeson. John Laycock & Son, corner Main and Seneca streets. Hurd & Hauenstein, Elk street, corner of Michigan. W. B. Hazard & Co., Ganson street, and 253, 255 Erie street. Frank H. Goodyear, 62 Pearl street. Joseph Dart, Chicago street, corner Miami. George M. Cole & Co., 58 Main street. W. R. Burt, Ganson street. Adams, Moulton & Co., 257 Washington street. David Whitney, Jr., Ganson street and Blackwell canal.

Besides these representatives of the wholesale lumber trade, there are about forty retailers who distribute the imports to the consumers of Buffalo and vicinity.

#### THE COAL TRADE.\*

Previous to the year 1852, the coal trade of Buffalo was confined to a few thousand tons of soft coal, which went to supply the foundries and shops of the place; only sixty thousand tons of this kind of fuel were brought here in 1852. From this insignificant import the receipts of coal in 1868 advanced to 299,914 tons, while now the total receipts over-run 3,000,000 tons. It was about the year 1860 or 1861, that anthracite coal was brought to this city in any considerable quantity; it is believed to have been first brought here by Jason Parker & Co., who were then located on Norton street. During the season of 1861, it was found difficult to dispose of 25,000 tons in the city. In that year, what was known as the Anthracite Coal Association, was formed, its object being mainly to market coal here at less expense to the producing interest and on a regular basis of prices. It was formed by the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Co., J. Langdon and the Pittston & Elmira Coal Co. The latter company went out of existence, when the other two continued the Association until about 1870, when the Delaware & Hudson Canal Co., was made a member of the organization. In 1879 the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western withdrew, and the association continued as thus left

\* Much of this able review of the Buffalo coal interest is taken from an exhaustive article which was printed in the Buffalo *Express*, in August, 1883.

until May, 1883. J. Langdon, referred to above, was in the coal business here as early as 1858; he is now succeeded by the firm of J. Langdon & Co., which is composed of J. Langdon, J. D. F. Slee and C. M. Underhill.

As manufacturing increased in Buffalo, and the city grew, a lack of transportation facilities from the coal regions was seriously felt; this was especially the case during the five years succeeding 1860. The great bulk of the hard coal then brought to Buffalo, came over the Central railroad; but as the demand increased, other lines were opened, giving more direct communication with the coal districts. The Erie (then called the Buffalo, New York & Erie,) then brought the coal of the Pittston & Elmira Coal Co., to the city. In 1865 the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia railroad was chartered and opened in 1873. It has largely transported soft coal to this market since that time. Coal was first handled by chuets in this city, in 1870, by Langdon & Co. Their trestle was on the Erie Basin, foot of Genesee street.

Regarding the present extent of the consumption of anthracite coal in this city, it has been estimated that 285,000 tons were used here in 1882. Add to this 1,000,000 tons shipped by lake and take this sum from 1,933,000 tons estimated as last year's hard coal receipts and it will give the rail shipments from Buffalo at 648,000 tons, which is probably much below the fact. The receipts of soft coal of all grades is given at 1,100,000 tons taking round numbers. A shipper estimates that 1,000,000 tons of soft coal passes through Buffalo annually without breaking bulk. This leaves but 100,000 tons for city consumption, while at least 400,000 tons are annually used. Putting the soft and hard coal aggregates together and dropping off quite a large fraction for the sake of round numbers the sum is 3,000,000 tons for last year.

Following is given a list of the leading local coal shippers, compiled as carefully as possible. The effort has been made to mention wholesale dealers who are more or less directly interested in the mines. Just where to stop is hard to tell, but the list given below is thought to fairly represent the coal trade of Buffalo, and a noble list it is. Upwards of 4,000,000 tons of hard coal, it is figured, will be handled in Buffalo this year, and over 1,500,000 tons of soft coal. This is an enormous increase over last year as figured above, which is considered low.

It is claimed, and with apparent reason, that the pioneer of the hard coal trade in the West was Jervis Langdon, who founded the house still bearing his name, in 1858. He died fifteen years ago, but lived to see the trade grown from nothing to an already large factor in business. The coal handled by the company is called Shamokin coal, which indicates a district of the anthracite belt. The product of half a dozen collieries in this district is handled by the company, part of which it owns. Of the coal brought to Buffalo and the Niagara bridges, J. Langdon & Co. han



dle about 200,000 tons yearly. The firm's Buffalo shipping wharves are situated at the foot of Genesee Street, and the company also lease wharves on the East side. No changes have been made in the company for some time except the reception of Mr. C. M. Underhill, formerly shipping agent into full membership.

The Butler Colliery Company at first a fixture in Corning and later in Elmira where the office is still kept, has, through an agent, done business in Buffalo since the first opening of its mines. Of these, five are located at Pittston and one at Carbondale. The annual capacity of these mines is about 1,000,000 tons of anthracite coal. They are only worked to half their capacity. This coal comes to Buffalo for re-shipment by lake, over the Erie road, and is handled over that company's extensive trestle on Buffalo Creek. The city agent is Mr. E. S. Hubbell. About 100,000 tons are handled here annually, though a much larger amount is promised soon. As is the case with other hard coal companies, points best reached by lake are supplied by that route and others by rail. The company has been in existence about twenty years.

The advent of the Lackawanna Coal Company to Buffalo dates back to 1861, when an office and a small yard were opened at the foot of Genesee Street. These are still in use by the company though long become too small to meet the wants of the trade. In 1868 the nucleus of the present plant at the foot of Erie street was bought as a sort of blind venture, and was not brought into use until 1876, when the present trestle and office were put up. The first coal was shipped from that point in 1880. Westward shipments were begun in 1861 by canal, though for the past three or four years the coal has come largely by the Central Railroad. With the completion of the company's road last winter it began bringing its own coal. The trestle fronting on the creek has thirty-nine pockets with a capacity of 4,000 tons. The coal comes from Scranton, where the company own a large number of collieries, mining nearly 5,000,000 tons yearly. About 1,500,000 tons of this comes to Buffalo. Besides the large lake trade much is sent West by rail and a large wholesale and retail business is done in the city.

The Lehigh Valley Company, which, with a railroad of its own at its back and ample trestles for shipment by lake, has been able to take a leading part in lake shipments, especially since the establishment of its line of steamers, which now numbers six steam barges of large size. For some time the company had no direct position in Buffalo, but sold its coal to Mr. E. L. Hedstrom. About five years ago, however, an agency was established under Mr. Peter C. Doyle, which remains unchanged. The old trestle, which stood fronting the creek near the Ohio Basin, was last year abandoned and a new one built opposite on the Blackwell. This new trestle has sixty-four pockets, capable of holding 5,000 tons

and having a frontage of seven hundred and fifty feet on the canal. There is no stocking room here, but on the Tiff farm, where extensive canals are being dug by the company, a large area for storage is reserved. The company has mines both in the Wilkes-Barre and Lehigh districts, with an annual out-put of above 1,200,000 tons. The western trade is large. No retail business is done in Buffalo. The Lehigh runs its own trains into the city over the Erie tracks from Waverly and brings here this year about 1,000,000 tons.

The firm generally known as Moser, Hoole & Co., was formed in 1878. Mr. Hoole had formerly been in the same business in connection with E. L. Hedstrom. Since the death of Mr. Moser in April, 1883, the firm name has been A. J. Hoole & Co., though the older name is more often seen. The firm does only a wholesale business, handling its coal over the Erie wharves and shipping by the Erie railroad. The coal handled by the firm is of the Pittston variety of anthracite, and comes from their own mine, known as the Eagle shaft. Upwards of 100,000 tons were handled last year.

The Pennsylvania Coal Company came to Buffalo in March, 1876, and established an office at No. 10 Ohio street. The general western superintendent is Thomas Hodgson, whose headquarters are at Buffalo. The company has about seven hundred feet frontage on the Blackwell canal and three hundred and twenty feet not yet in use. Shipping is made easy and rapid by a trestle containing twenty-five pockets holding one hundred tons each. The Pennsylvania Company's coal is anthracite, coming from Pittston and vicinity, where it has sixteen collieries. These produce, when working full time, at least six thousand tons a day of which from one thousand to one thousand five hundred tons are just now sent to Buffalo and the West daily, mostly by rail. It is estimated that they bring here annually upwards of three hundred thousand tons. The coal is brought to Buffalo by the Erie road, where it is distributed westward.

The Delaware & Hudson Canal Company has done business in hard coal here since 1865, beginning with a general wholesale and retail traffic, but confining its efforts to wholesale alone since March last. The company owns thirty-four mines in the Wyoming Valley of Pennsylvania. The coal is brought westward by the Erie. The company has regular agencies both in Buffalo and Cleveland. The business here is in charge of Mr. J. E. McWilliams, under the official title of "Western sales and shipping agent." The company has wharves and trestles on the Buffalo creek. The company brings to Buffalo about three hundred thousand tons this year.

Three years ago Andrew Langdon, well known as a member of the coal shipping firm of Langdon, Richardson & Co., of Chicago, and also from his business connections in Washington and elsewhere, came to Buffalo and established himself in the same business. Mr. Langdon rep-

resents the coal interests of the Erie in Buffalo, and is the owner of the Enterprise and Grassy Island mines in the Pittston and Wilkes-Barre districts of the Wyoming Valley. In soft coal he handles the Blossburg and Daguscahonda varieties for the Erie company. His sales for last season were a fraction above two hundred and sixty thousand tons, about fifty thousand tons of which was consumed in Buffalo.

The firm name of G. R. Wilson & Co., has descended from the father of the present members Messrs. W. T. and G. R. Wilson, who began business here in 1842. The coal trade was then in its infancy, and much more than now was represented by Blossburg coal. Gradually the company worked into the hard coal trade as the consumption warranted. Blossburg coal comes from the Fall Brook and Morris Run mines to Buffalo by the Erie, and both hard and Blossburg coal are handled at the Erie trestles on the island.

In hard coal G. R. Wilson & Co. handle the product of the mines in the vicinity of Pittston. Their business this year will reach about one hundred thousand tons.

Until its alliance with the New York Central Railroad last year the Philadelphia & Reading Company made no particular effort to ship coal in this direction. For some years the company brought in the neighborhood of seventy-five thousand tons to Buffalo by canal, and this trade is continued. Since the completion of the Pine Creek Cross-cut railroad the coal has been coming in much larger quantities. The authorized agents of the company here are Albright & Co., who have for a long time managed the Reading's Southern trade. Their establishment in Buffalo dates from last year. The canal traffic is in charge of Mr. R. R. Hefford as shipping agent.

Mr. E. L. Hedstrom has been in the coal-shipping business about eighteen years, and deals largely in both hard and soft coal, though he is mostly interested in anthracite. This is of the Scranton variety and comes to the city by the Lackawanna road, over whose trestles it is handled. The soft coal handled by him is from the Falls Creek mines of the Reynoldsville district. His sales for Buffalo consumption will reach seventy-five thousand tons, while Western traffic closely approximates three hundred thousand tons yearly.

The firm of W. H. Davis & Co., was organized in the spring of 1882, though both the members have long been in the business. Mr. Davis was for some time at Suspension Bridge, and came to Buffalo about two years ago where he engaged in business as a middleman. Mr. Howard M. Smith has been identified with the trade for some fourteen years, for the last four years in Buffalo. For a number of years he was connected with the Pennsylvania Company. When the interests of the two were consolidated they became miners and shippers and have already built up a large and prosperous business. They own the Fairmount



colliery at Pittston, which has a capacity of from eighty thousand to one hundred thousand tons. The firm has also a large trade in Lehigh and ships West by both rail and water.

The firm of W. L. Scott & Co., though not miners, handle the out-put of several collieries, which would not, without including them, be reckoned with Buffalo's coal traffic. They are established at Erie and have no office here; still, about two hundred thousand tons of their coal is shipped yearly by lake from the B., N. Y. & P. R. R. trestles on the lake side of the Blackwell. The handling is in charge of William Berryman. The coal is from the Mahanoy district of the Philadelphia & Reading's mines. As the firm buys the whole out-put of several collieries it does not go under the name of Reading coal. The trestle used is a very good one, having thirty-eight pockets. The firm has been doing business in Buffalo about six years.

The product of the Excelsior colliery is turned over by W. L. Scott & Co. to F. H. Goodyear, who handles one hundred thousand tons a year, shipping entirely by rail, and selling to local dealers. His trestle for the city trade, situated at Eagle and Emslie streets, is one of the best of its kind. Besides this amount of hard coal not included in other estimates, Mr. Goodyear buys the whole out-put of the Cameron Coal Company's mine, in Cameron county, Pennsylvania. This is soft coal and amounts to about thirty-five thousand tons, nearly all of which is brought to Buffalo. The business has been in existence about twelve years.

The soft coal interest has been much affected of late by the fast growing importance of the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia Railroad, as an owner of coal land as well as in its capacity as a carrier of the product of outside mines. The recent purchase of the Fairmount Coal Company's mines in Clarion and Jefferson counties, Pennsylvania, brought the road two collieries in operation, and 5,000 acres of undeveloped coal land. The Northwestern Coal & Iron Company, organized in July, 1882, in the interest of the road, has from 2,000 to 3,000 acres under lease in Venango and Butler counties. The road has also bought the Long Run Coal & Iron Company's interest in Clarion county, Pennsylvania, which has one colliery of a daily capacity of forty cars. There is, lastly, the Buffalo Coal Company with 16,000 acres of coal lands in McKean county, Pennsylvania. A glance at these combinations, all of which are composed of stockholders of the B., N. Y. & P. R. R., will be sufficient to indicate the importance and rapid advancement of the road as a factor in the soft coal field. Of this coal the Fairmount is the best, being in great demand by gas companies as well as for steam purposes. Mr. Ensign Bennett, who built the Genesee Valley Canal branch of the road, has now settled down in Buffalo as general agent for the company and general manager of its coal interests. One hundred thousand tons will be brought here this year.

The Rochester mines, owned by Bell, Lewis & Yates, are among the best-known in the Reynoldsville coal district, both in amount of out-put and quality of coal. Of the two hundred coke-ovens in this district, fifty-six belong to this firm. The monthly production is about 35,000 tons. Last year these mines sent 250,000 tons of coal to Buffalo, and 25,000 tons of coke. During the present season the firm has made a contract for furnishing a large amount of its coal to the Canada Pacific Railway at Fort Arthur, on Lake Superior. The shipments are to be made by lake.

The Hamilton Coal Company came to Buffalo five years ago, and is now one of the most important of those represented here. Last season it brought 100,000 tons of soft coal here. Perhaps one-half of this amount is consumed here, while the rest goes eastward and into Canada. The mines are situated at Reynoldsville, Pennsylvania, whence shipments are made by the Erie, and B., N. Y. & P. R. R., with the Rochester & Pittsburg already bidding for a share of the trade. The Company have a transfer dock near the Coatsworth elevator in the Erie Basin. The Buffalo office is under the management of Mr. A. V. Armstrong, general western agent.

The history of the Sandy Lick Coal company goes back to the opening of the old Sandy Lick mine near Dubois, Clearfield county, Pennsylvania, in 1875, which proved a failure. The enterprise was abandoned for a more promising claim near by, which on working developed into the Hildrup mine, which produced one hundred and twenty-five thousand tons last year. The property is owned by the proprietors of the Harrisburg Car Manufacturing company, and the Buffalo office is in charge of Mr. E. M. Ashley, who became the company's agent here about two years and a half ago. At least two-thirds of the coal brought here by the company is sold in the city. Probably one hundred thousand tons for Buffalo would be a fair estimate.

The well-known soft-coal firm of Smith, Cant & Co., was changed into the more representative name of Powers, Brown & Co., in March 1880. The Buffalo interests are managed by Mr. Andrew Cant, while Mr. I. Craig Smith is manager of the mines. These are known as the Sprague and Soldier Run collieries, situated at Reynoldsville, Jefferson county, Pennsylvania. The company is a stock concern, and gets its name from Messrs. Joseph H. Brown, president, and Abram Powers, vice-president, of Youngstown, Ohio. Mr. Cant has spent twenty years in the soft-coal business in Cleveland, but came here in April, 1880. The mines have a capacity of from one thousand two hundred to one thousand four hundred tons a day. The coal reaches here by the Erie (South-western) and B., N. Y., & P. R. R.

Frank Williams & Co., entered the wholesale soft-coal trade in 1873, and are proprietors of the Oak Ridge and Washington mines, beside

part of the Pancoast mine, which are situated in the edge of the Reynoldsville district near Fairmount station on the Allegheny Low Grade Railroad. Last year's trade was a little more than one hundred thousand tons, of which, perhaps, eighty-five thousand tons came to Buffalo.

The Clearfield Coal company derives its name from Clearfield county, Pennsylvania, which is in the Reynoldsville region. Its mines are accessible by the Rochester & Pittsburg lines connected with the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia railroads. Although these mines have but two openings, the company owns a tract of twenty-two thousand acres in connection with them. The Buffalo agent is Mr. H. C. Springer, who also has the agency of the Snowshoe mines, located in Center county. Mr. Springer has been in the business in Buffalo seven years, and handles about sixty thousand tons of soft coal a year. He also sells largely of hard coal, which he buys from the Butler Colliery company.

The firm of G. Elias & Bro. is among the new comers, having begun business here February 15, 1873. The hard coal handled is the Excelsior anthracite, from the Mahanoy field of the Shamokin region, and the soft coal from the Cascade mines of St. Mary's, in Elk County. The business was removed to this city from Cameron, Pa.

The firm of Bright, Dowdell & Co., located in Buffalo in March last and is represented by Mr. Dowdell, Mr. Bright being in the hard coal business in Philadelphia and seldom coming here. The company's supplies are drawn from the Ormsby and Hickory mines at Jackson Centre, Mercer County, Pa., and are shipped over the Lake Shore and the Nickle-plate as well as the B., N. Y. & P. R. R. The two mines now have a capacity of seven hundred and twenty-five tons a day. The firm will have nearly one hundred thousand tons in 1883.

There are seven coal trestles for lake shipment in Buffalo, each having a water frontage of from 600 to 1,000 feet—the Pennsylvania, Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia, Lackawanna, Delaware & Hudson, J. Langdon & Co., Lehigh, and Erie. The sum of \$2,000,000 is a very low estimate of the value of these properties. The Lehigh Company owns six propellers of the largest size. Their names and value as given by Lloyds, are as follows:—*Clyde*, \$90,000; *Fred Murcur*, \$85,000; *Oceanica*, \$95,000; *H. E. Packer*, \$85,000; *R. A. Packer*, \$58,000; *Tacoma* \$119,000. This gives a total of \$532,000 invested by this one company in tonnage. Forty-five other vessels are engaged in carrying coal when any is to be had. Their aggregate value as given by Lloyds is \$1,450,000, giving a total with the Lehigh of nearly \$2,000,000 worth of property engaged in carrying the product of the coal fields from this port. Then there is the rolling stock.

As to the capital invested in the business, each ton of hard coal costs for handling alone, from \$3 to \$5. Taking an even 4,500,000 tons, therefore, as the receipts, \$18,000,000 is expended. Soft coal costs, per-



haps, \$2 a ton on an average, making an outlay for handling the million and a half of \$3,000,000—a total of both hard and soft coal of \$21,000,000.

Below are given two tables showing the estimated number of tons of hard and soft coal handled in Buffalo in the season of 1883:—

HARD COAL.		SOFT COAL.	
J. Langdon & Co.....	200,000	Buffalo, New York, & Philadelphia.....	100,000
Butler Colliery Co.....	100,000	Bell, Lewis & Yates.....	400,000
Lackawanna Coal Co.....	1,500,000	The Hamilton Co.....	150,000
Lehigh Valley Co.....	1,000,000	The Sandy Lick Co.....	100,000
A. J. Hoole & Co.....	100,000	Powers, Brown & Co.....	300,000
Pennsylvania Coal Co.....	300,000	F. Williams & Co.....	100,000
Delaware and Hudson Canal Co.....	300,000	The Clearfield Co.....	60,000
Andrew Langdon.....	100,000	G. Elias & Brother.....	50,000
G. R. Wilson & Co.....	100,000	Bright, Dowdell & Co.....	100,000
Philadelphia & Reading Co.....	75,000		
E. L. Hedstrom.....	375,000	Total.....	1,260,000
W. H. Davis & Co.....	80,000		
W. L. Scott.....	200,000	GRAND TOTAL.	
F. H. Goodyear.....	100,000	Hard coal.....	4,530,000
		Soft coal.....	1,260,000
Total.....	4,530,000	Total.....	5,790,000

The retail coal business of Buffalo is conducted by over a hundred dealers, distributed in different parts of the city.

LIVE STOCK TRADE.

To attempt to give the exact date when Buffalo first became a point where dealers bought and sold live stock, is an impossible task. The "oldest inhabitant" in the live stock trade cannot remember when there was not some traffic in this branch of the city's trade, which has now assumed such proportions that it is an undisputed fact that more actual money transactions are made at the live stock yards, than in any other special branch of Buffalo's business. Such facts as have been accessible from some of the older dealers in the trade are here given.

About the first prominent point in the city used for marketing live stock was what was known as "Joslyn's Yard's," which were opened in the year 1852 at a point nearly a mile below what is known as the "Junction," where Swan and Seneca streets unite. The principal feeder was the old Buffalo & State Line railroad company; a great deal of the stock coming to the city was also brought in by lake, and it was no uncommon sight in those days to see a drove of hogs, cattle and sheep over a mile in length reaching from the foot of Main street out towards the stock pens; many a fine "porker" found his way from these droves under the barns or into the yards of residents along the road and was never claimed by the owner. A shortage of a few head in every drove was in those days not an unusual thing.

Shortly after Joslyn's Yards were started, yards were used for the same purpose at a point where the Lake Shore and Erie railroads exchange freight or at what is known as the Elk Street Junction, by a Mr. Lowry, who was succeeded by Mr. James Metcalfe, who was for

years afterwards president of the First National Bank of Buffalo, and who also for years carried on the business of dealing in hogs at the present yards with Mr. Thomas Cushing, the firm being the well-known one of Metcalfe & Cushing. Mr. Metcalfe at the same time kept the "Drover's Home." The house is still standing and at present is occupied as a family residence. At the same time that "Joslyn's" and "Metcalfe's" were running, Mr. Cushing, the father of Mr. T. W. Cushing, of the firm of Metcalfe & Cushing, and since the death of Mr. Metcalfe, of the firm of Gibbs & Cushing, rented a large tract of land on the lake shore, about two miles outside of the present city limits, where hogs were yarded, fed and dealt in, the growing trade demanding more extensive quarters than the other yards afforded.

About the year 1856, W. V. Woods, then a prominent dealer, opened yards on Seneca street, about a half-mile below "Joslyn's," where quite a traffic was carried on for about two years. There were also smaller yards or pens in different parts of the city on Hamburg street, Seneca street near Kinney's Alley, and Swan street.

In the year 1855, Mr. B. Dickey rented what is known as the Tiffit farm, which became the central point of trade. In 1856, Mr. Scott purchased Mr. Dickey's interest in the business, which he disposed of in 1857 to Mr. Crocker, the father of the present superintendent of the New York Central yards. These were built in the year 1864. Mr. Crocker gave up his Elk Street yards and took the management of the present yards, which he continued up to the time of his death in 1874, when Mr. L. L. Crocker assumed the management. The business shortly after became greatly centralized, and other pens gave way to the march of improvement and to the present extensive yards which are second in size only to the largest in the world—those at Chicago.

The Erie yards, situated opposite the New York Central yards, were built in 1865, by a company composed of Mr. E. Swope, T. L. Kerr and W. V. Woods, under the general supervision of Mr. John Hugbee, of the firm of Swope, Hugbee & Waltz, where, for a time, quite an extensive business was carried on. The greatest drawback to the trade at that time was the condition of the streets, which were not paved.

The business at the yards has steadily increased. Many of the firms doing business there have been long established and are of undoubted standing, and the prospects were never brighter than at the present time, with new roads centering in the city and running through the richest country on the globe. With the added facilities for handling stock, and the great and steady increase of population, Buffalo's live stock trade must make rapid strides in the near future.

The reader who has given the foregoing items even a cursory study, will have gained a good idea of the steady and rapid growth of the commercial and navigation interests of Buffalo. That such growth will con-

tinue with the farther development of the great West and the general increased wealth and prosperity of the country, no observing person can doubt.

It is probable that Mr. Ball little knew what a prophecy he was uttering when he wrote in his pamphlet of 1825:—

“When we contemplate the progress of the settlements in Ohio, the western parts of Pennsylvania and New York, for the last twenty years; when we view the daily increasing current of emigration, the immense prostration of the forests yielding to the industry of the husbandman, the hardihood and intelligence of those who are making the ‘wilderness blossom,’ we can hardly limit the imagination to the extent of the wealth and population which will ultimately be comprehended within those vastly fertile regions. But that their surplus products will be wafted to this place and bartered for other commodities, or re-shipped on board canal boats for an eastern market, there can be no doubt; and there can be as little doubt that upon the extent and profits of this commerce is based the future prosperity and opulence of this village.”

#### BUFFALO BOARD OF TRADE.

Although for many years after the completion of the Erie canal the trade and commerce of Buffalo had given earnest of future greatness and promised that the city was to become an important market, yet there seemed to be no call for the formation of a body which might expedite the labor and afford conveniences for shippers until the year 1844. In the winter of that year the growing need of such a body was felt which led to the incorporation of the Buffalo Board of Trade. It was the seventh society of its kind on the Western continent. R. H. Haywood seemed to be one of the leaders in the movement. In pursuance of his suggestion, and his offer to build a suitable room for the transaction of the business of the proposed Board, a meeting was held on January 16, 1844, in the office of Joy & Webster, then located in the Webster Block, where, after considering the propriety and possibility of organizing a Board of Trade, the gentlemen appointed a committee comprising J. L. Kimberly, S. Purdy, Philo Durfee, R. C. Palmer, William Williams, (druggist), who drew up a constitution and by-laws. These were adopted at the second meeting held on January 30, 1844. At the next meeting on March 11th, R. H. Haywood was honored with the first presidency of the new society. The remaining offices were distributed as follows: George B. Webster, first vice-president; William Williams, second vice-president; Philo Durfee, A. H. Caryl, James Hollister, H. M. Kinne, J. C. Evans, Sidney Shepard, N. Hayden, J. L. Kimberly and George Palmer, directors; John R. Lee, treasurer; Giles K. Coats, secretary. In fulfillment of his promise to furnish a “Change,” Mr. Haywood erected a building between September, 1844, and the following May, on the corner of Hanover and Prime streets, and designated it the Merchant’s Exchange. On the 10th of March, 1845, the first officers



were re-elected. The Board first occupied the new building June 5, 1845. Since that date the following have been the successive presidents-elect:—

March 10, 1846, R. H. Haywood; March 13, 1847, Henry Daw; March 13, 1848, Philo Durfee; March 13, 1849, George B. Walbridge; March 13, 1850, H. E. Howard; March 10, 1851, H. E. Howard; March 8, 1852, S. H. Fish; March 13, 1853, Samuel J. Holley; March 13, 1854, H. Niles; March 12, 1855, G. S. Hazard; May 6, 1856, M. S. Hawley; March 7, 1857, G. S. Hazard; April 12, 1858, J. R. Bentley; April 12, 1859, A. Sherwood; April 12, 1860, C. J. Mann; April 16, 1861, J. Parker; April 14, 1862, G. S. Hazard; April 12, 1863, G. S. Hazard; April 12, 1864, G. S. Hazard; April 11, 1865, S. H. Fish; April 11, 1866, P. S. Marsh; April 9, 1867, P. S. Marsh; April 15, 1868; J. H. Vought; April 13, 1869, S. S. Guthrie; April 13, 1870, Charles G. Curtis; April 13, 1871, James G. Sawyer; April 13, 1872, Alfred P. Wright; April 13, 1873, Charles A. Sweet; April 13, 1874, E. P. Dorr; April 13, 1875, Cyrus Clarke; April 13, 1876, Cyrus Clarke; April 13, 1877, Alonzo Richmond; April 13, 1878, William H. Abell; April 13, 1879, Jewett M. Richmond; April 13, 1880, George Sandrock; April 13, 1881, John B. Manning; April 13, 1882, Jacob F. Schoellkopf.

So far as the records reveal the names of the several secretaries, they are given as follows: In 1844-'45, Giles K. Coats; 1867, J. J. Henderson; 1859, T. C. Boynton, 1860,-'62, H. Wilcox; 1863, William Thurstone. It is much to Mr. Thurstone's credit that from 1863 to the present time, he has been in the office of secretary without interruption, and without any solicitation on his part.

On the 3d of March, 1857, a new charter was obtained and a new constitution and by-laws were adopted in adjustment to the growing business of the city and Board. The Buffalo Board of Trade, though avowedly organized for the promotion of convenience and expedition of business, has been of great benefit to the city in other respects; the increase of business and the making of Buffalo a market for western produce, constantly sought by the members of the Board, could not but result in various advantages to the place. The Board has often been the instrument, and not infrequently the chief or sole cause, of reforms which have been of the greatest importance to Buffalo as a commercial port. The tendency of the railroads seems to have been to reduce rates from Chicago to the east without allowing a proportionate reduction from Buffalo, thus making the latter a mere way station. The Board has steadily resisted this tendency through the medium of municipal legislation and through improvements on the Erie canal.

During the last war the Board was active in furnishing funds for the prosecution of hostilities, providing for the maintenance of troops and the relief of women who had devoted themselves to the cause.

In April, 1870, G. S. Hazard and Alonzo Richmond were commissioned by the Board of Trade to appear before the Canal Board to advocate a reduction in canal tolls in behalf of the State of New York. They succeeded to the extent of reducing the tolls a fraction over three cents a bushel for wheat, within a fraction of one cent on corn, a fraction over six mills on oats, on coal fifty per cent., and a liberal reduction on salt, lumber, staves, iron ore and many other articles. This was the final victory after fifteen years of continual warfare for reduction.

The Board has worked hard for all enlargements and improvements upon this channel of commerce, such as the abolition of tolls, weigh locks, etc. Its exertions in bringing to light facts relative to canal navigation led to discussions of the questions in New York and interior towns, which resulted in large public meetings, the adoption of resolutions, the appointment of committees, etc.; and finally culminated in 1882, in the measures which made the canal free and abolished sinecure offices.

After so honorable a history it is gratifying to record that the prosperity of the Buffalo Board of Trade is becoming more and more manifest. They now own and occupy a new building on Seneca street, corner of Pearl, built by them after the repeated agitations of years. The Up-town Movement, as it was called, assumed definite shape in April, 1880, on the 17th of which month resolutions were adopted favoring the project. Various committees were from time to time appointed, until about May, 1882, when a call was issued for plans, and in July, Milton E. Beebe, of Buffalo, furnished plans in competition with fifteen others, which were accepted. In a few months the building was in process of construction and was ready for occupancy in the fall of 1883. It extends one hundred and thirty-two feet on Seneca street, sixty-two feet on Pearl, and is one hundred feet in height. It consists of seven stories in addition to the basement. The Board occupy the fourth floor and nearly all of the fifth for their own purposes, the rest being used for offices. The building entire cost about \$150,000, besides the cost of the lot, viz: \$100,000.

The active existence of the old organization has now in reality passed away and is succeeded by a society of broader scope, the Merchants' Exchange of Buffalo, which was chartered in the spring of 1882. The object of the Merchants' Exchange is best expressed in the words of the charter:—

“The corporation shall have power, in and by their corporate name, to purchase, lease, hold and mortgage real or lease-hold estate in the city of Buffalo, and to erect thereon a building for the purpose of a Merchants' Exchange and such other purposes as may, in the opinion of the trustees of said corporation, tend to carry out the design of such institution and promote the convenient transaction of the business of dealers in grain, flour, provisions, oil, coal, lumber, iron, and all other kinds of property

in the city of Buffalo; and when said building shall have been obtained or erected they shall have power to lease the same or parts thereof and to receive the rents and profits arising from said rents and apply the same as the board of trustees shall direct."

In the by-laws of the organization the objects are further stated to be to provide and regulate a suitable room or rooms for the Merchants' Exchange in the city of Buffalo; to inculcate just and equitable principles in trade; to establish and maintain uniformity in commercial usages; to acquire, preserve, and disseminate valuable business information; and to adjust controversies and misunderstandings between its members.

On the 2d of July, 1883, the following were elected trustees for the year ending the second Wednesday in January, 1884:—

James N. Scatcherd, Alfred P. Wright, Pascal P. Pratt, Robert P. Adam, Thomas Thornton, William Meadows, J. M. Richmond, Eric L. Hedstrom, Edward B. Smith, Richard H. Lee, Jacob F. Schoellkopf, Richard K. Noye, Charles A. Sweet.

On July 16th, at the first meeting, the following officers were elected:—

James N. Scatcherd, President; Eric L. Hedstrom, Vice-President; Charles A. Sweet, Treasurer; William Thurstone, Secretary.

## CHAPTER VII.

### THE ELEVATORS OF BUFFALO.

The First Steam Grain Elevator in the World — A High Honor for Buffalo — Old Methods of Loading and Unloading Grain — Joseph Dart's Experiment — Its Pronounced Success — The First Vessel Unloaded by Steam — Contrast Between Old and New Methods of Handling Grain — Increase of Grain Receipts Incident upon the Establishment of Elevators — Rapid Building of Elevators — Consequent Competition in Elevator Charges — Organization of the Western Elevating Company — Its Permanence and Success — Record of the Building, Burning and Rebuilding of Buffalo Elevators.

IT is a high honor to the city of Buffalo that on her wharves was erected the first steam storage and transfer elevator in the world. In the light of the intimate connection existing between her present extensive elevator system and her large lake and commercial interests, this fact becomes one of significant importance. When in the year 1841 the shipment of grain through Buffalo from the West had reached nearly 2,000,000 bushels, having quadrupled during the preceding five years, it began to be apparent to observing men who foresaw the immense grain producing capacity of the vast western territory, that even the heavy shipment



of 1841 would prove insignificant beside that of single years in the not distant future. It at the same time became apparent that greatly increased facilities would soon be required at Buffalo for the accommodation of the future grain shipments through the city. The 2,000,000 bushels handled in 1841 was not received and trans-shipped without many delays and other vexations, owing chiefly to the slow methods then employed of lifting grain from the holds of vessels in barrels with a tackle, weighing it with a hopper and scales swung over the hatchways of the craft and then carrying it into the warehouses on men's shoulders. Only ten to fifteen bushels were thus weighed at once and a day's work with a full complement of hands, did not exceed 1,800 to 2,000 bushels; even this small quantity could be handled only in fair weather, while in foul weather the harbor was often filled with numerous craft, awaiting a change in the skies.\*

It was this condition of affairs relative to the storage and trans-shipment of grain in Buffalo that led Joseph Dart, who was then in business in the city, to determine in 1841 on attempting the use of steam power in the work by applying it to the well known elevator and conveyor principle invented by Oliver Evans more than fifty years previous to that time. Mr. Dart, in the face of numerous obstacles and predictions of failure, accordingly began the erection of an elevator building in the autumn of 1842, on the banks of Buffalo creek at its junction with the Evans ship canal, where now stands the imposing Bennett elevator.† Mr. Dart's experiment was a pronounced success from the outset. Within a month from the time his elevator was put in operation, one of the leading forwarders of the port who had previously predicted that forwarders would not pay the high charges demanded for steam elevating, offered Mr. Dart double his regular rates for accommodation in an emergency. The great saving in time that is now so well understood and appreciated, was apparent at once and the consequent benefits could not be disguised. As evidence of the economy in time, even when using Mr. Dart's modest establishment, he relates that the schooner *John B.*

\* Mr. Levi Allen, the oldest lake captain now living in Buffalo, relates that when he commanded the vessel named the *United States*, in 1828-'29, he brought down a cargo of wheat of 6,000 bushels; this was then considered a heavy cargo. It was unloaded by the old method and four or five days were required to do the work. The *United States* was one hundred and thirteen tons and was then looked upon as a large vessel.

† Mahlon Kingman, then a forwarding merchant of Buffalo, attempted a few years earlier than Mr. Dart inaugurated his enterprise to operate an elevator by horse power; but his plans were not successful. The venerable William Wells, who has been identified with the elevator interest since its first inception, was in the employ of Mr. Dart when he built the first elevator. Mr. Kingman told Mr. Wells and Mr. Dart that the steam elevator would not succeed and that "Irishmen's backs were the cheapest elevators." Mr. Lewis F. Allen and a Mr. Lord also built an elevator at Black Rock in 1840, which ran by water power; it had two marine legs, one of which was on the river side and one in the harbor; the machinery in this elevator was designed by Mr. Robert Dunbar, proprietor of the Eagle Iron works, and was made by Jewett & Root.

*Skinner*, loaded with 4,000 bushels of wheat, came into port early one afternoon soon after his elevator was put in operation, was discharged and received ballast of salt, leaving the same evening; she made her trip to Milan, Ohio, brought down a second cargo and discharged it and on her return to Milan she went out in company with vessels which came in with her on her first trip and which had just succeeded in getting their cargoes unloaded by the old methods.

Joseph Dart's elevator when compared with many of the stately and capacious structures of to-day was an insignificant affair; its capacity was only 55,000 bushels, but it was doubled three years after it was built and another marine leg was added; it had a slip under it for boats. The machinery in this elevator was designed by Robert Dunbar, who has done similar work for a large proportion of the elevators of Buffalo; it was made by Jewett & Root. The original Dart Elevator was burned, a fate that has befallen many of its successors. The first vessel unloaded by Mr. Dart's elevator, was the schooner *Philadelphia*, Captain Charles Rogers; she was loaded with 4,515 bushels of wheat consigned to H. M. Kinne and George Davis. The first cargo of corn unloaded by the elevator was from the *South America*, Captain A. Bradley, 3,145 bushels, June 22, 1843. Dart's elevator unloaded during the first year of its existence 229,260 bushels of grain.

In the early years of the steam elevator, it was currently believed that about eight hundred bushels a day was all the grain that could be raised from a vessel and correctly weighed. Mr. Dart's\* elevator was at first built with the buckets holding about two quarts each and set twenty-eight inches apart. With that arrangement he raised 1,000 bushels an hour. A little later he placed his buckets twenty-two inches apart, and still later sixteen inches, until he reached a capacity of 1,800 to 2,000 bushels an hour. But even these latter figures look insignificant when contrasted with those representing the transfer capacity of some of the great elevators of to-day. The interested visitor may now stand beside such a magnificent structure as the Connecting Terminal Railroad Elevator, for example, and see a vessel moored at the wharf loaded with 60,000 bushels of wheat. Her hatchways are opened, the "legs" of the two towers (one of which is movable for a distance of eighteen feet) are dropped upon the great mass of grain in the hold of the vessel, the machinery is started, and the buckets, holding twelve quarts each, dip with marvellous rapidity down into the wheat and rush on upward into the building, each carrying its load, and in from four to five hours the entire cargo is safely stored in the bins—a cargo which, by the old method of "Irishmen's backs," would have required three or four weeks to discharge. Into the capacious bins in such an elevator as the one mentioned, about 1,000,000 bushels of grain can be stored, and over

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\* Joseph Dart died September 27, 1879, aged eighty years.



Wm. H. Abell





19,000 bushels have been elevated into it in one hour, while at the same time two or three canal boats and three trains of cars can be simultaneously loaded. These and accompanying figures show the magnitude of the elevating business in Buffalo, without which the shipment eastward of the immense crops of western grain, would be almost impossible.

The success of elevating grain by steam produced the usual effect of active competition. The grain receipts at the Buffalo port increased with astonishing rapidity, as the reader has already learned, from the time when Joseph Dart unloaded the first vessel by steam. This made busy times and profitable work for elevators and they rapidly multiplied; faster, perhaps, than the immediate prospect warranted. As the number of elevators increased their owners came into direct competition with each other. As far as advantages to the forwarder were concerned, one elevator owner could offer very little over another, for there is nothing in the process of elevating grain that improves the cargo wherein one owner might excel another. As a consequence, the elevator that handled grain at the lowest rates, even by a very small sum on a large shipment, could secure the business. This state of things could not continue; men engaged in the business saw that in spite of the fact that it cost a large sum of money to build an elevator and that therefore their number might not soon exceed the requirements of commerce, still a ruinous competition was almost sure to be the final result. This led to the formation in the year 1859 of the Western Elevating Company, an organization that has existed ever since that time, controlling and directing almost the entire elevating interest of the port with a large measure of success, as well as of satisfaction to elevator owners. The venerable Wm. Wells was the first President of this company,\* which office he held three years; he was succeeded by P. B. Sternberg, and he by James C. Harrison. In the year 1866, William H. Abell was given the office and a year later A. G. Williams took it. He occupied the position two years when Mr. Abell was again made President and has held the office ever since. The harmonious existence of this company during so many years is the best evidence that it has been beneficial to elevator owners.

The entire elevating interest of this port is now substantially in the control of the Western Elevating Company, and such has been the case during its existence; when new elevators have been erected, such arrangements have been made with their owners as to induce them to place their elevating property in the hands of the company. It is but

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\* Mr. Wells is the oldest male resident of Buffalo who was born in the city and has ever since lived here. His father, Joseph Wells, settled in Buffalo in 1802. His first son born here was the late Aldrich Wells, who was the first white male child born in Buffalo; his birth occurred in August, 1802. William Wells was born in 1806. When he was a young man he was in the employ of Joseph Dart and aided in building the first steam elevator. Since that time he has been prominently identified with the business. Chandler J. Wells, who lives in Buffalo at this time, is another son of Joseph Wells and has also long been largely interested in the elevating business.

natural, perhaps, that such a policy, no matter how liberally and impartially carried out, should give rise to charges by those interested that the Western Elevating Company is a monopoly and inimical to shippers and the best interests of the commerce of the city. It has been argued that the storage and trans-shipment of the grain received at the port could be accomplished with a much smaller number of elevators than have been built and consequently at lower rates. This is, on the other hand, disputed, from the fact that on some occasions the receipts vary a million bushels within twenty-four hours and that breaks occur in the canal, preventing eastward shipments and demanding enormous storage capacity. This agitation and controversy\* led to an attempt in the winter of 1882-83, to regulate and control the elevating business by law; the act that was introduced failed of passage in the Senate. As matter of history relative to the present profits of the elevating business, even when skillfully conducted by a powerful company, the following figures are pertinent:—

According to the figures for the year 1882, the receipts of grain were about 52,000,000 bushels; for handling and storing this the elevators received \$560,000, as follows:—

For elevating and five days' storage.....	\$455,000
For steam shoveling.....	65,000
For additional storage.....	40,000
	\$560,000

The expenses were as follows:—

Taxes, certified to by the comptroller.....	\$ 81,500
Insurance.....	60,000
Repairs, labor, fuel, etc.....	270,000
Paid for dredging.....	5,000
	\$416,500

This statement leaves a balance of \$153,500 with which to pay the interest on over \$7,000,000 investment. There are other features of the elevating business that have contributed to this agitation and attempted legislation, but it would be out of place to discuss them here.

The item of \$60,000 charged up to insurance in the above statement indicates that elevator owners are compelled to pay the insurance companies heavy rates. But if this is true, the losses to the companies by the burning of elevator buildings have been enormous.

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\* Much has been said and written against these Buffalo elevators, but the fact that they furnish such excellent facilities to carriers and shippers, insuring quick dispatch and freedom from costly delays, is an advantage that can be scarcely over-estimated. These elevators are owned by private individuals, excepting that the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad corporation owns two of the largest, and the New York & Western Railroad one. Several of these elevators have machinery attached, whereby 60,000 to 70,000 bushels of wet or damaged grain can be dried every twenty-four hours.—*William Thurstone's Pamphlet on the Commerce of Buffalo.*



The grain products of the great west are handled at Buffalo more largely than at any other point on the lakes. In 1880 the Western Elevating Company handled about 99,000,000 bushels; in 1881 about 49,000,000 bushels, and in 1882 50,934,922 bushels. Now, when it is remembered that the fickle winds may any day bring into the harbor a whole fleet of grain-laden craft, or a break in the canal to the eastward may detain large consignments in port for days together, then the inestimable usefulness and paramount necessity of the present vast elevating and storage system becomes apparent. Three and one-half million bushels of grain can be received and transferred in one day, by the combined elevators of Buffalo, at the present time.

The following statement gives the names of all of the elevators that have ever been built in Buffalo, the dates when they were erected, when burned and re-built, and their capacity, as far as it has been possible to obtain them:—

*Dart Elevator*, capacity 50,000 bushels, built 1842-'43; enlarged 1846; first machinery put in by G. W. Schwartz; machinery put in the second leg by Jewett & Root; designed by Robert Dunbar; burned about 1862-'63.

*Evans*, built from old ware-houses in 1847; machinery put in by R. Dunbar; burned in 1863 and rebuilt, the machinery put in by B. Clark; again burned in 1864 and rebuilt, the machinery put in by John Stutz and made at the Eagle Iron Works; now owned by the C. W. Evans and the George W. Tift estate. Storage capacity, 300,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 97,000 bushels.

*Watson*, built in 1862; designed by R. Dunbar, and machinery made at the Eagle Iron Works; owned by Mrs. Watson and Dr. Cary. Storage capacity, 600,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 288,000.

*Merchant's* (tower) built in 1862; designed and machinery put in by R. Dunbar and Brad. Clark; made at the Eagle Iron Works. Storage capacity, 30,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000 bushels.

*Reed*, built in 1847; burned and rebuilt in 1859-'62; machinery designed by R. Dunbar, and made by G. W. Tift & Co. Storage capacity, 200,000; transfer capacity, 96,000. Again burned August 25, 1874.

*Wilkeson*, built in 1861; burned September 9, 1862 and rebuilt in 1863; designed by R. Dunbar and machinery made at the Eagle Iron Works and put in by R. Dunbar and Brad. Clark. Storage capacity, 280,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000 bushels.

*Bennett*, (formerly *Dart*) built in 1864; machinery designed by R. Dunbar and Brad. Clark, made at the Eagle Iron Works and put in by Brad. Clark. Storage capacity, 600,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000 bushels.

*Coburn*, built in 1861; burned September 9, 1862, and rebuilt as the *C. J. Wells*, in 1863; machinery designed and put in by R. Dunbar and

Brad. Clark, and made at the Eagle Iron Works. Storage capacity, 350,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000 bushels.

*Richmond*, built in 1863; designed by R. Dunbar and Brad. Clark, and machinery put in by Clark; made at the Eagle Iron Works. Storage capacity, 280,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000 bushels.

*Hatch*, built in 1848; burned and rebuilt as the *Marine*. Storage capacity, 150,000 bushels.

*Lyon*, built in 1881; machinery made at Eagle Iron Works and put in by Mr. Hamble. Storage capacity, 100,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000 bushels. First built as the Main Street elevator and burned in 1865; rebuilt as the *Hazard* in 1867.

*Excelsior*, designed and built by R. Dunbar and Brad. Clark in 1862. Storage capacity, 30,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000 bushels; burned in 1876.

*Sturges*, built in 1862; burned July 30, 1866 and rebuilt in 1867; designed by R. Dunbar and machinery made at the Eagle Iron Works and put in by R. Dunbar and Brad. Clark. Storage capacity, 300,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 100,000 bushels. *Fulton* (tower) built at the same time by the same parties.

*Marine*, first built as the *Hatch*, by R. Dunbar; burned and afterwards rebuilt in 1881; designed by R. Dunbar, machinery made at the Eagle Iron Works and put in by Paul Kingston. Storage capacity, 150,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000.

*City Elevator*, first built by O. Bugbee in 1846, and machinery put in by R. Dunbar; burned November 8, 1859, and rebuilt; machinery by R. Dunbar and Brad. Clark; again burned in 1863 and rebuilt; machinery made at the Eagle Iron Works and put in by B. Clark. Storage capacity, 600,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 130,000 bushels.

*Swiftsure*, first Kingman's, built about 1840; afterwards Sterling's, built in 1847; rebuilt in 1862; machinery made at the Eagle Iron Works and put in by G. Milsom. Storage capacity, 200,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000 bushels.

*Sternberg* (A) first built by Smith Brothers; machinery put in by R. Dunbar and Brad. Clark in 1847; burned and rebuilt in 1862, by R. Dunbar and Brad. Clark. *Sternberg* (B) built in 1861 by R. Dunbar and Brad. Clark; machinery all made at the Eagle Iron Works. Storage capacity, 350,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000 bushels. Burned in 1883.

*Commercial* built in 1879, machinery put in by John Stutz, and made at the Howard Iron Works; burned February 3, 1882.

*Wheeler*, (formerly Wells) built in 1861; machinery made at the Eagle Iron Works and put in by Brad. Clark. Storage capacity, 200,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 72,000 bushels.

*Niagara* (A) built in 1867; designed by Mr. Johnston; machinery made at the Eagle Iron Works. *Niagara* (B) built in 1881 on the site of

the New York & Erie elevator, which was built in 1862; the machinery made by Tift & Co., and put in by R. Dunbar and Brad. Clark. The machinery of *Niagara* (A) was put in by Brigham Clark and made at the Eagle Iron Works. Storage capacity, (A) 800,000 bushels; of *Niagara* (B) 1,200,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 130,000 bushels each.

*Tift*, (formerly Plympton), designed by Mr. Johnston and built in 1868; machinery made by Tift & Co. Storage capacity, 350,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000 bushels.

*Hollister*, built in 1847; burned May 22, 1858; machinery put in by Abram Schwartz.

*Erie Basin*, machinery put in by Brad. Clark, made at Tift & Company's. Storage capacity, 200,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000 bushels.

*Exchange*, built in 1863; machinery put in by Brad. Clark, and made at the Eagle Iron Works. Storage capacity, 250,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000 bushels.

*Erie*, built in 1879; burned August 23, 1882, and rebuilt in 1883; machinery made at the Howard Iron Works. Storage capacity, 650,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 130,000 bushels.

*Empire*, built in 1861; machinery put in by Brad. Clark, and made at the Eagle Iron Works. Storage capacity was 200,000 bushels, and transfer capacity 96,000 bushels; since burned.

*Ohio Basin*, (Pig's-foot) built in 1863-'64; designed by R. Dunbar, and machinery put in by John Stutz; built by G. W. Tift; burned in 1866-'67.

*Buffalo*, built in 1846, by H. M. Kinne; storage capacity, 125,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000 bushels; burned about 1870.

*Connecting Terminal Railroad Company Elevator*, built in 1882; designed by R. Dunbar, and machinery put in by Brigham Clark; made at the Eagle Iron Works. Storage capacity, 1,000,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 250,000 bushels.

*Union*, machinery put in by Brad. Clark, and made at the Eagle Iron Works. Storage capacity, 90,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 70,000 bushels.

*Coatsworth*, (transfer) built in 1863; machinery made at the Eagle Iron Works, and put in by R. Dunbar and Brad. Clark. Storage capacity, 40,000 bushels; transfer capacity, 96,000 bushels.

In addition to these, there have been burned the Corn Dock elevator, September 17, 1865; the Grain Dock, in 1861; the Wadsworth, June 14, 1878; the Excelsior, (tower) and the Hazard elevator; the Kinne & Wadham, (Buffalo) and the Rust & Co.; the American Giant (float) was destroyed by storm in 1882.

Besides the elevators mentioned in the foregoing list, there are now in operation here the Brown, storage capacity 250,000 bushels; the C.



J. Wells, capacity 350,000 bushels; the National Mills, capacity 100,000 bushels; the William Wells, (formerly Williams) capacity 200,000 bushels; and Schreck's, capacity 100,000 bushels. There are also the following named transfer towers: the Chicago, capacity 20,000 bushels; the Fulton, capacity 30,000 bushels; the Northwest, capacity 40,000 bushels; the Horton, and the Kellogg & McDougall, capacity 70,000 bushels. There are also the following named floaters: the Free Trade, Free Canal, Marquette, Ira Y. Munn, Niagara, and the Buffalo.

Prominent among the men who have been conspicuous in Buffalo in connection with the building of elevators, it will be proper to mention the names of H. M. Kinne, who built the third elevator in the harbor, (the Buffalo) and later built the first Wilkeson and the first Sturges; I. T. Hatch, who built the Hatch and the first Marine; George W. Tiff, builder of the New York & Erie and the Tiff; Dean Richmond, John Wilkeson, D. S. Bennett, William and C. J. Wells, and Captain Hazard.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### FINANCIAL INTERESTS OF BUFFALO.

The First Bank in Buffalo — The Bank of Niagara and its Officers — Its Early Reverses — A Second Bank Projected — The U. S. Bank and its Directors — Opening of Subscription Books for the Bank of Buffalo — An Injunction upon the Project — Its Removal — The First Board of Directors — A Speculative Mania in 1835-'36 — Marvellous transactions in Land — The Final Crash and its Disastrous Effects — The Banks Involved — Injunctions against the Banks — A Panic Meeting — The Era of "Hard Times" — Benjamin Rathbun's Career — The Panics of 1857 and 1873-'74 — History of the Banks of Buffalo — Savings Aid Associations.

IN the Buffalo *Gazette* of November 23, 1815, appeared the announcement that Jonas Harrison, Ebenezer Walden, Augustus Porter, Charles Townsend, S. H. Salisbury, Jonas Williams, Samuel Tupper, Benjamin Caryl and Oliver Forward would apply to the Legislature at its next session, for an act of incorporation of a bank in the village of Buffalo. This bank was organized in July of the following year (1816) and named the Bank of Niagara; it was the first Bank in Erie county. The capital of the bank was fixed at what was then a very large sum—five hundred thousand dollars, but the amount to be paid in on each share of one hundred dollars, was only six dollars and twenty-five cents. The directors were from a wide range of country; they were—Augustus Porter, of Niagara Falls; James Brisbane, of Batavia; A. S. Clarke, of



MOSES SMITH.





Clarence; Jonas Williams and Benjamin Caryl, of Williamsville; Isaac Kibbe, of Hamburg; Martin Prendergast, of Chautauqua county; Samuel Russell and Chauncey Loomis (exact residence unknown), and Ebenezer F. Norton, Jonas Harrison, Ebenezer Walden and John G. Camp, of Buffalo. On Tuesday, July 16, 1816, the directors elected Isaac Kibbe president of the bank, and Isaac Q. Leake, cashier.

This may be said to have been the first financial movement of a public nature that occurred in the village of Buffalo. The Bank of Niagara was chartered for sixteen years; it continued to do a satisfactory business until July, 1818, at which time and during the following month, it suffered "a vexatious run;" but it withstood the onslaught. In January, 1819, Benjamin Ellicott, Jonas Williams and William Peacock, of the Board of Directors elected late in the preceding year, resigned and Charles Townsend, Oliver Forward and S. Wilkeson were elected to fill the vacancies. The Niagara Bank was located in a brick building fronting on Washington street, on the corner of North Division street.

In the Buffalo *Patriot* of March, 23, 1819, was printed an editorial in which the editor expressed himself as "happy to learn that the opposition [to the bank] which has so long existed, has ceased and the directors are adopting measures to resume business." Further reverses also attended the institution during that summer, as indicated by the following notice which appeared in the *Emporium* of August 12, 1826:—

"*Bank of Niagara.*—Notwithstanding the reverses of fortune which this institution has had to encounter, we have ever been its friends. Under such circumstances it is a matter of gratulation to us that its bills are redeemed in specie, 'counted and well told.' We understand that the direction of the bank is to be exclusively in the hands of the president, C. Van Antwerp, late sheriff of Albany, and William Williams, cashier, (late teller of the bank.)"

The lack of support and confidence in the bank, as indicated by the above quotation, was followed by a more prosperous period. Mr. Van Antwerp acquired a majority of the stock, came on to Buffalo and so directed the affairs of the institution as to inspire confidence in it, and it continued in business until the expiration of its charter.

During the last half of the year 1826, the subject of a second bank in Buffalo was discussed and a commission was appointed to ascertain what amount of cash would be necessary to properly facilitate business. A meeting was held on the 16th of December to hear the report of this commission; this consideration of the subject was prompted by a growing desire on the part of the citizens of the place to have a branch of the U. S. Bank established in Buffalo. Nothing came of the agitation, however, until the latter part of 1829; on the 15th of September, of that year, a committee of the directors of the U. S. Bank made a report in favor of the project, which report was confirmed and the following Board of Directors appointed: William B. Rochester, Charles Townsend, R. B. Hea-

cock, Joseph Stocking, Albert H. Tracy, Sheldon Thompson, David Burt, Wm. A. Bird, Augustus Porter, David E. Evans, Wm. Peacock, James Wadsworth and Lyman A. Spalding. Wm. B. Rochester was made president of the bank. The first meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Monday, October 26, 1829, at which John R. Carpenter was appointed cashier, Joseph Salter, teller, and Charles Taintor, clerk. H. B. Potter was soon after added to the Board of Directors. The bank was on the northeast corner of South Division and Main streets.

On the 16th day of May, 1830, subscription books were opened for three days at the Eagle tavern, for the establishment of the Bank of Buffalo. James McKnight, David E. Evans, I. T. Hatch, Benjamin Rathbun, G. H. Goodrich, S. G. Austin and Pierre A. Barker were named as the bank commissioners. The capital of the bank was fixed at \$200,000, and \$1,654,250 were subscribed. The distribution of the shares created some dissatisfaction and opposition, the result of which was the granting of an injunction by Judge Gardner, vice-Chancellor, stopping further proceedings in the matter. This injunction was removed by mutual consent, a few days before it was to have been argued, and the following Board of Directors of the new bank were elected:—Guy H. Goodrich, Hiram Pratt, Benjamin Rathbun, Major A. Andrews, Joseph Stocking, George Burt, William Ketchum, Henry Hamilton, Henry Root, George B. Webster, Noah P. Sprague, Stephen G. Austin, and Russell Haywood. Guy H. Goodrich was elected president; Hiram Pratt, cashier, and S. G. Austin, teller. This bank began business on Tuesday, September 6, 1831.

In the disastrous financial revulsion and panic that swept the entire country in 1835-'36, Buffalo suffered as severely as most places similar in size and character, and much more so than many. The inhabitants had raised themselves and their city to a high financial and speculative altitude, and the fall was proportionately destructive in its effects; the city recovered from the horrors of the cholera epidemic of 1832, and from destructive fire, only to plunge into an abyss of financial ruin.

Early in the year 1836 the speculative fever which had been gaining headway during the two preceding years, rose to its highest pitch. The city had increased in population from 8,653 in 1830, to 15,661 in 1835, which fact aided in strengthening confidence in the minds of citizens, that the rapid advance in prices of real estate and the general inflation in all other directions, was founded upon substantial and permanent groundwork.

It has been estimated that during the period of speculation, more than 25,000 conveyances of land were made here, a large proportion of which were for city property; and that the entire amount involved in the transactions was nearly or quite \$25,000,000; several single purchases amounting to \$100,000 and some to \$200,000. The buildings erected in the city during 1835 and 1836 were estimated to have cost \$2,830,000.

That was a time when "to be sane was seeming madness, when to be mad was common sanity." The year 1836 dawned with prospects of brilliant promise, with dazzling visions of easily-acquired wealth and all the pleasures and blessings that are usually attributed to its influence; it closed under a cloud of almost universal bankruptcy. We need not here attempt to speak of the causes of the great revulsion; they have often been discussed and all persons of intelligence have their own opinion on the subject; it is sufficient to say that they had their origin in the very financial foundation of the government, as developed in the policy of President Jackson and in antagonism to that policy by the United States Bank and its connections. But whatever the cause of that era of splendid anticipations and lamentable disappointments, the tide swept over the land and Buffalo felt its effects to as great a degree, perhaps, as any other section of the country; its position at that time rendered such a result certain. But a few years before she had put on the garb of a city, and she was just beginning to realize the benefits flowing from her growing commerce, as stimulated by the construction of the Erie canal, while her growth during the preceding five years had been rapid. These facts, with the plenitude of an expanded currency, were sufficient to turn Buffalo into a hot-bed of wild speculation and extravagant anticipation. While the tide was rising, banks multiplied and their managers who had thus become able to control large resources in depreciated currency, engaged heavily in real estate and other speculations, bought liberally of luxuries and thus aided in turning the heads of their more conservative neighbors. Prices of lands and goods of all kinds were greatly advanced, money was plenty, easily got and as readily spent. Usurious rates of interest prevailed, money commanding from three to five per cent. a month, with an unusual demand at those figures. This apparent anomaly is explained by the fact that many persons were led into borrowing money at enormous rates of interest, in the hope that with it the same large profits that were being made by their neighbors, might also be realized by them; thus almost the entire community was drawn into the whirlpool. It was a general carnival for the usurers; everybody wanted money and there was little thought of what was to be paid for its use. Broker's offices multiplied and many of the smaller fry conducted a profitable business on the street.

The crash that followed was precipitated by the issue of President Jackson's "specie circular," which required all payments for public lands, which had been eagerly located and absorbed throughout the west, to be made in specie. This circular seemed to suddenly awaken men to their senses; they began to realize that there were some things in the universe, (one of which was the solid ground) that could not be purchased at depreciated prices with a depreciated currency; their extravagant anticipations received a death blow, and the lofty, glittering castles, founded



only upon credit, fell to the ground. Banks contracted around the victims, a general suspension of specie payments followed and general panic prevailed everywhere. All through the year 1837, the general depreciation in value in everything that had a value, inaugurated an era of "hard times" from which recovery was a slow process.\* As the tide of speculation reached its climax in the city of Buffalo, so the reaction here was greatest. Fortunes disappeared more rapidly than they had been acquired; mortgages were foreclosed on all sides, and land that had been eagerly sought at thirty or forty dollars per foot, would scarcely bring as much per acre. Land is known in the city, which sold early in 1835 at \$2 a foot—about \$500 an acre. It was sold and resold in parcels during the excitement, until twelve months after it sold at the rate of \$10,000 an acre. In 1865 the same land was worth but \$18 a foot.

One of the principal moving spirits in the rising tide of speculation in Buffalo in those days, one who for a brief period rode high on the wave of apparent prosperity, only to go down overwhelmed in his own ruin and disgrace, was Benjamin Rathbun. The following account of his career in this city is from Johnson's History of Erie county:—

"Having begun as a hotel-keeper previous to 1825, he had eminently succeeded in that vocation, and had made the name of 'Rathbun's Eagle' synonymous with comfort and good cheer. When the flush times came on he plunged into business and speculation with a boldness and an apparent success which made him the envy of thousands. He built the American hotel. He built and managed a grand store on the east side of Main street. He entered into contracts of every description and gave employment to thousands of workmen. He bought and sold land, not only in Buffalo, but throughout the whole section of the country. His ideas were of the grandest kind. He laid the foundation of an immense hotel and exchange opposite 'the churches,' which was designed to occupy the whole square between Main, North Division, South Division and Washington streets. The rotunda was to be two hundred and sixty feet high.

"Although prices began to drag in the summer of 1836, yet Rathbun still urged forward his gigantic projects. He bought land and laid out a grand city at Niagara Falls, and advertised an auction of lots to come off on the 2d of August, to extend as many days as might be necessary. On the appointed day a great number of bidders from all parts of the compass were present. During the forenoon the bidding was spirited and sales were numerous. At the dinner table Rathbun sat opposite Mr. G. R. Babcock, the junior member of the law firm of Potter & Babcock who, like almost everybody else, combined the land business with that of their regular profession.

"'I observe, Mr. Babcock,' said Rathbun, 'that you made no bids this forenoon.'

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\* With the general crash, prices of Buffalo real estate fell from a figure which they did not again reach in thirty years—in some instances have not reached yet. In 1862 Mr. G. H. Salisbury compared the prices of fifty unimproved lots on thirty-seven different city streets, as they were sold in 1836, with their estimated value in the year first named, and found that the transfer price of 1836 was more than double the value of the same property in 1862.

“‘No,’ replied the young man, ‘the lots were not in what I thought the most desirable locality.’”

“‘Ah, well,’ replied the great speculator, ‘come with me after dinner and show me some lots you would like to buy, and I will have them put up.’”

“Accordingly, after dinner the two strolled out over the ground of the future city, and Rathbun appeared to be in the best of spirits. He chatted, laughed, told stories, discoursed of his plans, and seemed to look forward to a future as prosperous as his past was supposed to have been. As they returned to the hotel, Mr. Babcock observed a carriage at the door. Some one called to Mr. Rathbun to hurry up. He did so, entered the carriage with one or two others and drove off toward Buffalo.

“Yet, while he was thus jesting with his companions and talking of his future achievements, he knew that his forgeries to a large amount had been discovered, that the country was flooded with his forged paper, and that the gentlemen with whom he rode off had got everything arranged for him to make an assignment of all his property. On his arrival at Buffalo he was arrested. The forgeries had been discovered in Philadelphia by David E. Evans, whose name Rathbun had forged as endorser on notes to a large amount, which he had deposited as security in a bank in that city. Returning to Buffalo, Evans confronted Rathbun, who confessed that this was but a tithe of the spurious paper he had set afloat. An assignment was arranged, but in the mean time Rathbun allowed the sale at the Falls to take place, and kept up appearances to the very last.

“The arrest of Rathbun hastened, so far as Buffalo and vicinity was concerned, the financial catastrophe impending over the whole country. Work was stopped on all his numerous enterprises. The workmen clamored for their pay and almost broke out in mob violence. The assignees paid them off, though it required nearly all the assets of the estate. The millionaires of the day turned pale with consternation. If Rathbun had failed who was safe? His forgeries amounted to more than a million dollars. It was found that he had been committing them for several years, taking up the old notes as they became due, with money obtained by means of new notes, also forged.

“His brother, Col. Lyman Rathbun, and his nephew, Rathbun Allen, were implicated with him, and the latter turned State’s evidence. He was the one who actually wrote the forged names, under the direction of his uncle.”

Rathbun’s trial opened at Batavia on the 29th of March, 1837; he was found guilty and sentenced to State prison for a term of five years. After serving his time he tried his old business of hotel keeping in different localities, the last of which was a boarding house in New York city, where he finally died at the age of about eighty years.

The panic did not come upon Buffalo entirely without warning. During the year 1835, or earlier, men of foresight and financial sagacity saw the approaching storm, and fortunate were those whose affairs were so well in hand that they were enabled to safely weather it. On the evening of May 3, 1837, a “panic meeting” was held in the city, of which John Lay was chairman. The meeting was addressed by Millard Fillmore and others and resolutions were adopted, but it does not

appear that any especial good resulted. Another meeting was held on Thursday, March 22, 1837, to get an expression of the citizens for or against a general banking law. A committee of eight was named, comprising P. A. Barker, S. C. Hawley, M. Fillmore, H. R. Smith, Ebenezer Johnson, E. VanBuren, Wm. Ketchum and Moses Baker, to draw a series of resolutions, and the subject was ably and thoroughly discussed; more extended banking facilities were demanded, as the only means for the future successful transaction of business.

The banks of Buffalo had, it appears, caught the general infection to some extent, and their methods and condition was brought to the notice of the State banking authorities. On Saturday, May 6, 1837, the banks were served with injunctions by the Chancellor, at the instance of the Bank Commissioners. This action was looked upon in Buffalo as an act of great injustice, as the banks were considered solvent. Partiality was charged against the Commissioners by many citizens, who anticipated still more serious impairment of credit in the city on account of the action of the Chancellor. To quiet this feeling the Commissioners publicly stated that the banks were not proceeded against on account of fears of their insolvency; the fact was, complaints had been made that the banks had violated their charters in their methods of business. In order to partially restore confidence, the Chancellor issued a circular stating that the notes of the Buffalo banks would be received at the offices of all collectors of State revenues.

The first movement that promised substantial relief in the crisis, was the resumption of specie payments in New York city, which was announced about the middle of May, 1837, and was followed by similar action in this city. In June the injunctions against the banks were removed. In 1838 the banking law was passed, which exerted a powerful influence in restoring confidence and facilitating business.

Following the tardy recovery from the financial crash described above, was inaugurated an era of prosperity for the city of Buffalo, which was not interrupted until 1857. During the twelve or fifteen years preceding that date, the commerce of the growing West poured its profitable business into the city, giving it a wide reputation for prospective growth and thus attracting to its population accessions which insured that growth. The surrounding country had reached a position of tolerable independence; the farming community had in most cases wholly or in large part paid for their lands; plank roads extended from Buffalo and its ready market, directly to the doors of the farms and over them were drawn the products which were turned into money in the city. But, as has so often been the case, this very tide of prosperity brought its own destruction; business of all kinds gradually became excessively overdone; railroads and other great undertakings were recklessly projected in all parts of the country; the banks in many States







inflated the currency beyond necessity or prudence, and another crash followed. The climax was reached in the fall of 1857 and was precipitated by the suspension of specie payments in New York. The money market had become more and more stringent and it is believed by those most competent to judge, that if the New York banks had postponed their suspension a little longer, the failures in Buffalo would have been much more numerous than they were. As it was, two or three banks succumbed and prices of real estate sank to a mere tithe of what they had been. In the language of one of our oldest bankers, "It seemed as if the whole town was not worth a dollar."

But the crash of 1857, serious as it was, was less injurious by far, in its results, and recovery was much more rapid, than was the case in 1836-'7. In the second revulsion, speculation and inflation had not been carried to such an extent as before, and, as the people were generally possessed of more means, and were more firmly established in different branches of trade and manufactures, the city was better able to withstand the effects of the crisis; still, the "hard times" continued through 1858-'9, only to be overwhelmed in the excitement of approaching war.

Since that epoch, financial affairs in Buffalo do not need especial review. There was another dark period in 1873-'74, ending like its predecessors, in a general depreciation of values, failures and stringency in all financial affairs; but compared with the earlier crises referred to, it was unimportant. During the last ten years, nothing has occurred here to obstruct the machinery of business in any of its various details. A good deal of local uneasiness was occasioned in 1875, by the discovery of a loss to the city treasury of about \$150,000, through the malfeasance of a city official; but aside from that, a general feeling of financial security has prevailed and prosperity has reigned.

#### BANKING INTERESTS.

The banking interest of Buffalo is at the present time in a condition that is eminently satisfactory to the business public of the city, giving ample facilities for the financial requirements of the community and inspiring confidence in its stability. The gross amount of capital invested in the banking houses of the city exceeds \$3,000,000.

When the panic of 1836 swept over Buffalo, there were but two banks in existence here; these were the United States Branch Bank, established in 1829, of which William B. Rochester was president, and the Bank of Buffalo, which was established in 1831. The following is a brief sketch of the banks now in existence.

*Bank of Attica.*—Of the banks now doing business in Buffalo, the Bank of Attica is the oldest, dating from its first organization. It was established in 1836, in the village of Attica, N. Y., and was removed to Buffalo six years later, chiefly upon the recommendation of Mr. E. G.



Spaulding, who was the son-in-law of Mr. G. B. Rich, the proprietor of the bank at that time; the institution was first located in Spaulding's Exchange, where it remained until 1861. The bank was reorganized and incorporated under the banking laws of the State in 1850, with a capital of \$160,000; this amount was necessarily increased June 1, 1856, to \$200,000, and, to accommodate a greatly augmented business, was again increased October 24, 1856, to \$250,000, at which time a surplus fund of \$80,000 was created. The first officers of the bank after its incorporation of 1850, were:—Gaius B. Rich, President; Directors, G. B. Rich, Andrew J. Rich, John S. Ganson, Horace White, Hamilton White. The inspectors of this election were E. G. Spaulding, John S. Ganson, Alexander W. Harvey. G. B. Rich resigned the presidency of the bank in 1852, on account of ill health, and his son, the late A. J. Rich, succeeded to the office. The present officers of the bank are:—G. B. Rich, President; F. L. Danforth, Cashier; J. W. Smith, Assistant Cashier. Directors:—E. G. Spaulding, P. P. Pratt, George S. Hazard, F. L. Danforth and G. B. Rich. The latter named gentleman is grandson of the founder of the bank and was made its president in 1880.

*The Manufacturers' and Traders' Bank.*—This is the leading financial institution in Buffalo in point of capital, which is \$900,000. The bank was incorporated under the State laws, on the 24th of March, 1856, and has remained a State bank since. It was opened for business on the 29th of August, 1856, with a capital of 200,000. The bank was organized with the especial purpose of giving the manufacturers and tradesmen of the city more extensive and liberal banking facilities than they had before enjoyed; its success from the outset was extraordinary and the demands made upon its capital were so heavy, that in 1859 it was increased to \$500,000, which was again raised in 1870 to \$900,000, making it the largest bank in the State outside of New York city. The average deposits in this bank amount to \$2,409,545.31, and its earnings \$193,808.57, while its entire resources are \$3,503,353.88. This bank has never suspended specie payments. Its first president was Henry Martin, and its first vice-president was Pascal P. Pratt, both of whom have filled their offices ever since. The first officers were:—Henry Martin, President; Pascal P. Pratt, Vice-President; D. F. Frazell, Cashier. Directors:—G. R. Wilson, Sidney Shepard, M. P. Bush, Stephen V. R. Watson, P. P. Pratt, Bronson C. Rumsey, F. H. Root, Alexander H. Anderson, William H. Glenny, Wells D. Walbridge, George Truscott and John Wilkeson. Mr. Wilkeson resigned May 9, 1856, when Mr. Martin was elected in his place, and at the same time was made president. The bank was first located at No. 2 East Swan street, whence it was moved to 273 Main street, in December, 1856. In 1861 it removed to No. 22 West Seneca street. In April, 1880, it occupied the handsome iron building on the corner of Main and West Seneca streets. The bank holds its elegant







offices under a twenty year's\* lease. The present officers are:—Henry Martin, President; Pascal P. Pratt, Vice-President; James H. Madison, Cashier; Henry Conover, Assistant Cashier. The present Directors are as follows:—Henry Martin, Pascal P. Pratt, Sherman S. Jewett, Francis H. Root, William H. Glenny, Bronson C. Rumsey, Gibson T. Williams, Myron P. Bush, Richard Bullymore, John D. Hill, George B. Hayes, Franklin D. Locke, James H. Madison.

*The Marine Bank of Buffalo.*—This bank was organized on the 8th of July, 1850, by the following named gentlemen:—George Palmer and James M. Ganson, of Buffalo, James S. Wadsworth, of Geneseo, J. P. Beekman, of Kinderhook, John Arnot, of Elmira, John Mayer and Constant Cook, of Bath, and William P. Grimm, of Medina; these gentlemen were the only stockholders and they were all made directors. George Palmer was elected President and James M. Ganson, Cashier. The bank has had six presidents—George Palmer, fourteen years; Everard Palmer, two years; Charles Ensign, one year; Jewett M. Richmond, two years; Myron P. Bush, eleven years, and S. M. Clement, who was elected December 31, 1879. In the year 1853 the capital was increased from \$170,000 to \$255,000, and again in 1854 to \$300,000; in 1859 it was reduced to \$200,000, which it has since remained. Previous to 1855 the bank was located at 79 Main street; it was removed thence to 112 Main street, and then to its present offices, 220 Main street. The present officers are S. M. Clement, President; J. M. Richmond, Vice-President; W. K. Allen, Cashier. Directors—S. M. Clement, J. M. Richmond, Sherman S. Jewett, J. M. Hutchinson, Alonzo Richmond, G. T. Williams, B. C. Rumsey, John W. Bush.

*White's Bank of Buffalo.*—This bank was organized on the 4th of April, 1853, by George C. White and William Williams, who had constituted the private banking firm of White & Williams for many years previous. These two gentlemen were the first board of directors; Mr. White was the first president of the bank and Mr. Williams the first cashier. The capital stock paid in was \$100,000, which was increased to \$200,000 on the 1st of March, 1854. The succeeding board of directors consisted of George C. White, William Williams, John M. Hutchinson, Fred K. Gridley, Mathew Johnson, Dr. Josiah Barnes and James M. Smith. The successive presidents of this bank have been George C. White, Rufus C. Palmer, John B. Griffin, James D. Sawyer, and James D. Warren, the present incumbent. Following are the present officers and directors:—James D. Warren, President; Rufus L. Howard, Vice-President; Elisha T. Smith, Cashier. Directors—James D. Warren, Stephen O. Barnum, Jacob F. Schoellkopf, Rufus L. Howard, Nelson K. Hopkins, Elisha T. Smith, George P. Sawyer. The bank is located at 16 West Seneca street.

*The Third National Bank.*—This institution was organized February 14, 1865, with a cash capital of \$250,000; it began business the following month. The first president was A. T. Blackmar, who was succeeded in 1869 by Abraham Altman and he on August 25, 1881, by the present incumbent, Charles A. Sweet. The first board of directors was composed of A. T. Blackmar, Robert G. Stewart, Thomas Chester, Abraham Altman, Henry Cone, Horace Utley, D. H. Winans, Nathan C. Simons, and Edson G. Shoemaker. The first cashier was Elisha T. Smith; he was succeeded September 1, 1876, by Samuel A. Provoost, Jr.; December 23, 1881, he was succeeded by the present incumbent. The present officials of the bank are as follows:—Charles A. Sweet, President; Jacob F. Schoellkopf, Vice-President; B. B. Hamilton, Cashier. Directors—Jacob F. Schoellkopf, Pascal P. Pratt, Emanuel Levi, L. L. Lewis, Jacob Dold, Charles G. Curtiss, Robert Keating, John D. Hill, Charles A. Sweet. The bank is located at 275 Main street.

*The Farmers' and Mechanics' National Bank.*—This is one of the oldest financial institutions in Buffalo. It was established in Batavia about 1840 and was removed to this city under a special act of the Legislature in 1852, at which time E. G. Spaulding was elected its president. He has filled the office ever since. John S. Ganson was the first president. Previous to May 28, 1864, this was a State bank; on that date it was organized as a National bank, the second in Buffalo. The first board of trustees were E. G. Spaulding, Rufus L. King, John S. Ganson, William R. Gwinn, H. Pompelly. The capital of the bank was \$100,000, which has since been increased to \$200,000. Cornelius R. Ganson was the first cashier of the bank; he was succeeded by Edward Pierson when the institution was made a National bank, in 1864; at that time the trustees were E. G. Spaulding, Samuel F. Pratt, Edward Pierson, S. K. Worthington, Philip Dorsheimer, H. M. Kinne. H. G. Nolton was assistant cashier, and was elected cashier January 10, 1865. On the 8th of January, 1867, Franklin Sidway was made assistant cashier; S. F. Pratt was elected vice-president on the 12th of January, 1869. January 14, 1873, Mr. Sidway was elected vice-president, and S. S. Spaulding was made assistant cashier. June 26, 1873, H. G. Nolton tendered his resignation as cashier, to take effect July 1st. January 13, 1874, at the annual election, E. G. Spaulding was elected president; Franklin Sidway, cashier; S. S. Spaulding, assistant cashier. January 12, 1875, E. R. Spaulding was added to the bank officials as assistant cashier. These gentlemen last named formed the board of directors of the bank and have remained as such until the present time. The institution is located in Spaulding's Exchange; it does a heavy business and enjoys the confidence of the business community.

*The Merchants' Bank of Buffalo.*—This bank was incorporated May 3, 1881, and opened for business on the 9th of the same month, with a cap-







ital of \$300,000. The first officers were—Alfred P. Wright, President; James R. Smith, Vice-President; J. W. Bridgman, Cashier; Henry S. Sprague, Assistant Cashier. Directors—Alfred P. Wright, James R. Smith, John B. Manning, Charles W. McCune, Washington Bullard, J. F. Schoellkopf, Robert B. Adam, William H. Walker, William H. Gratwick, J. Firmenich and J. R. Stewart. This Board still remains, with the exception of Messrs. Firmenich, Stewart and Bullard, who are replaced by George W. Miller and George Urban, Jr. W. H. D. Barr is now Assistant Cashier. This is a State bank; it made its first dividend of four per cent. in January, 1883, and another of the same per cent. in July.

*Bank of Commerce.*—This institution was incorporated under the State laws of 1873, beginning business July 28th the same year, with a capital of \$200,000. The first officers of this bank were—R. G. Stewart, President; Thomas Thornton, Vice-President; H. G. Nolton, Cashier. Directors—George H. Preston, E. T. Evans, N. C. Scoville, James R. Smith, John White, John M. Gilbert and H. G. Nolton. In 1875, Thomas Thornton was elected President; H. G. Nolton, Vice-President; and E. W. Hayes, Cashier. The present Board of Directors are—Thomas Thornton, James R. Smith, W. H. Gratwick, E. L. Hedstrom, N. C. Scoville, John White, H. G. Nolton, E. R. Jewett, E. W. Hayes. This bank has accumulated a large surplus fund and paid dividends of ten per cent. per annum since its organization. It is located at 188 Main street.

*The Bank of Buffalo.*—This institution was incorporated January 25, 1873, and opened for business on the 26th of May following; its capital was \$300,000; it has since remained the same. The first officers were—Sherman S. Jewett, President; George B. Gates, Vice-President; Albert L. Bennett, Cashier. The first Board of Directors comprised Sherman S. Jewett, Francis H. Root, Gibson T. Williams, George B. Gates, P. P. Pratt, Sherman S. Rogers and Edward Stevenson. The present officers of the bank are Sherman S. Jewett, President; Josiah Jewett, Vice-President; William C. Cornwell, Cashier. The Directors remain the same as above given, except the substitution of Josiah Jewett for George B. Gates. The bank is located at 236 and 238 Main street.

*The German Bank of Buffalo.*—This bank was organized under the State laws in May, 1871, with a capital of \$100,000. The incorporators of the bank were F. Augustus Georger, Philip Becker, J. F. Schoellkopf, Jacob Dold, Philip Houck, Rudolph Hoffeld and Francis Brunck. The first cashier was S. W. Warren. The only changes that have taken place in this management are the withdrawal of Philip Becker and Francis Brunck, who were succeeded by John Hauenstein and Albert Ziegele. The present bank officers are F. Augustus Georger, President; Philip Houck, Vice-President; Eugene A. Georger, Cashier. The bank occupies commodious offices in the German Insurance Building, corner of Main and Lafayette streets.

*The German American Bank.*—This institution was organized May 10, 1882, and began business at 424 Main street, corner of Court, on the 22d of the same month, with a capital of \$100,000, which is fully paid in. Its business has rapidly increased and now reaches half a million dollars. The officers of the bank are Henry Hellriegel, President; Alexander Martin, Vice-President; Henry W. Burt, Cashier. Directors—Henry Hellriegel, Charles Greiner, John P. Diehl, Alexander Martin, L. L. Lewis, John Schaefer, Francis Handel, Joseph Timmerman, Henry Breitweiser.

*Erie County Savings Bank.*—This institution was incorporated April 10, 1854, and opened for business September 1, of the same year. It then occupied a small part of a store owned by William C. White, on the corner of North Division and Main streets. The first officers of the bank were William A. Bird, President; Gibson T. Williams, Vice-President; Stephen V. R. Watson, Second Vice-President; Cyrus T. Lee, Secretary and Treasurer. Mr. Bird held the office of president up to the time of his death in August, 1878, at which time James C. Harrison, (then vice-president) was made president; John Allen, Jr., was at the same time made first vice-president and Dexter P. Rumsey, second vice-president. The original trustees were William A. Bird, Gibson T. Williams, Stephen V. R. Watson, Henry Roop, Stephen W. Howell, Richard Bullymore, Jacob Krettner, Michael Danner, William C. Sherwood, William Wilkeson, Augustus Georger, James Wadsworth, Noah P. Sprague, C. J. Wells, Myron P. Bush, James C. Harrison, Noah H. Gardner, William Fiske, John R. Evans, Bradford A. Manchester. In June, 1857, the bank removed to the corner of Main and Erie streets, in what was known as the old Buffalo banking building; at that time the deposits amounted to about \$600,000. In 1865 the site for a new building was secured on the corner of Court and Main streets, and the handsome and substantial stone structure, the first floor of which the bank now occupies, was erected; it was finished and occupied August 1, 1867. The amount of deposits on the first of April, 1883, was \$11,165,166.17. The present officers and trustees are as follows:—Gibson T. Williams, President; John Allen, Jr., Vice-President; Cyrus P. Lee, Secretary and Treasurer. Trustees—John Allen, Jr., Dexter P. Rumsey, Gibson T. Williams, William C. Sherwood, Alexander Brush, Henry M. Kent, George W. Townsend, F. Augustus Georger, Ethan H. Howard, George Howard, Cyrus P. Lee, Alonzo Richmond, David R. Morse, Alfred P. Wright.

*The Buffalo Savings Bank.*—This bank was chartered May 9, 1846 and began business on the 6th of July of the same year, in the stone building on the corner of Main and Erie streets. Following are the names of its first officers and trustees:—Charles Townsend, President; Francis J. Handel, Vice-President; Nathan K. Hall, Attorney; Robert Pomeroy, Secretary. Trustees—Albert H. Tracy, Millard Fillmore,





Yours Truly  
Gibson J. Williams



John L. Kimberly, Noah H. Gardner, Francis J. Handel, Frederick Dellenbaugh, Jacob Seibold, Elijah D. Efner, Russell H. Heywood, Warren Bryant, Daniel Bowen, Isaac Sherman, William Tweedy, Hiram P. Thayer, Benjamin Caryl, Charles Townsend, Francis C. Brunck, and Ernst G. Grey. In July, 1851, a lot twenty-three feet front on Main street, thirty-eight feet south of Court, was purchased and a building erected for the bank; the structure was destroyed by fire in January, 1865, when the lot on the corner of Washington and Lafayette streets was purchased and the building now occupied by the bank erected; it was completed about May 1st, 1867. The succession of presidents of this bank since the death of Charles Townsend, in September, 1847, is as follows:—Russell H. Heywood, Albert H. Tracy, Elijah D. Efner Edward L. Stevenson, E. G. Grey, Warren Bryant. A resolution was passed by the Board of Trustees in February, 1854, limiting accounts in the bank to \$1,000; in July, 1868, this amount was increased to \$3,000. The amount of deposits on the 1st of April, 1883, was \$8,290,184.94. The present officers and trustees are as follows:—Warren Bryant, President, E. G. Grey, First Vice-President; E. L. Stevenson, Second Vice-President; John U. Wayland, Secretary; C. D. Marshall, Attorney. Trustees—Warren Bryant, E. L. Stevenson, J. W. A. Meyer, C. Rodenback, O. H. Marshall, Edward Bennett, John L. Kimberly, Jr., Ernst G. Grey, Silas Kingsley, John D. Hill, Francis H. Root, Henry Hellriegel, John P. Diehl, William H. Glenney, Jr., Edward P. Beals.

*The Western Savings Bank, of Buffalo.*—This institution was incorporated on the 9th of July, 1851, with the following officers and trustees:—Dean Richmond, President; George W. Tift, First Vice-President; James Hollister, Second Vice-President; Heman B. Potter, Attorney. Trustees:—Geo. Palmer, Seth C. Hawley, Elijah Ford, Henry K. Smith, Rufus C. Palmer, John R. Lee, Lucius H. Pratt, Israel T. Hatch, Geo. C. White, Wm. O. Brown, Philip Beyer, F. H. Tows, L. L. Hodges, Henry Martin, Gaius B. Rich, Geo. W. Tift, Nelson K. Hopkins; James L. Barton, Secretary and Treasurer. In 1872, the building now occupied by the bank on the corner of Main and Court streets was erected at a cost of \$120,000; it is owned by the bank. The amount of deposits on the 1st of April, 1883, was \$2,899,690.20. Following are the names of the present officers and trustees:—Joel Wheeler, President; Geo. Urban, First Vice-President; Philip Houck, Second Vice-President; W. H. Beyer, Secretary and Treasurer. Trustees:—Philip Beyer, Geo. Urban, Philip Houck, J. Weppner, Jacob Scheu, Gerhard Lang, N. Ottenot, L. L. Hodges, H. Stillman, Geo. Fisher, M. Mesmer, H. C. Persch, W. C. Bryant, Joel Wheeler, Wm. H. Abell.

*The National Savings Bank.*—This bank was organized in 1867, with the following officials:—Stephen G. Austin, President; Daniel C. Beard, Vice-President; Edward S. Dann, Secretary and Treasurer;



Hon. A. L. Baker, Attorney. Trustees:— Stephen G. Austin, Myron P. Bush, Seth Clark, Erastus Scoville, Peter Rechtenwalt, Laurens Enos, Frederick W. Breed, Peter J. Ferris, Jacob Weppner, Charles E. Young, Joseph Churchyard, John S. Fosdick, William H. H. Newman, Geo. Zimmerman, Geo. W. Tift, Clifford A. Baker, Daniel C. Beard, Geo. Pugeot, Hugh Webster, Peter Emslie, Geo. Jones, Reuben G. Snow, James E. Ford, James D. Sawyer, James Miller, James A. Chase, Michael Lettau, Philo A. Balcom. Mr. Austin died in 1872 and was succeeded in the office of President by Daniel C. Beard, the present incumbent. The deposits in this bank on the 1st of April, 1883, amounted to \$1,079,792.79. The bank is located on the corner of Main and Erie streets. Following are the names of the present officials:— Daniel C. Beard, President; James McCredie, First Vice-President; R. L. Burrows, Second Vice-President; Edward S. Dann, Secretary and Treasurer. Trustees:— Daniel C. Beard, Peter J. Ferris, Hugh Webster, Peter Emslie, Paul Goembel, Jno. C. Harvey, Jas. McCredie, R. L. Burrows, Geo. R. Potter, Robert N. Brown, Jno. Wilkeson, Frederick W. Breed, James F. Trott, Thos. Chester, Geo. T. Enos, Wm. B. Flint, Thos. B. French.

*The Buffalo Loan, Trust and Safe Deposit Company.*— This institution was chartered May 12, 1881, and began active business January 14, 1883. Its paid up capital is \$137,000, which it has authority to increase to \$2,000,000. It is the only trust company in the city, and has on deposit \$318,000. The officers are: R. V. Pierce, President; Geo. Urban, Jr., First Vice-President; James H. DeGraff, Second Vice-President; C. E. Clark, Secretary. Trustees:— Ray V. Pierce, George Urban, Jr., James H. DeGraff, George H. VanVleck, John A. Miller, Thomas Lothrop, Daniel E. Bailey, W. C. Russell, John Esser, James A. Roberts, H. G. Nolton, Joseph Timmerman, August Beck, Jacob Uebelhoer, Louis Pfeiffer, Philip Bachert, Adam J. Benzing.

Since the financial revulsion of 1836, the following list of banking institutions were established in Buffalo, but closed their business after periods varying from one to ten years, about in the order in which they are given:—

Merchants' Exchange Bank, the United States Bank, Erie County Bank of Buffalo, The Bank of America, Bank of Commerce (1839,) Mechanics' Bank of Buffalo, The Western Agency Bank, the Merchants' Bank, Farmers' and Drovers' Bank, Commercial Bank of Buffalo, The State Bank of New York, the Union Bank, the Phoenix Bank, The Patchen Bank, Oliver Lee & Co.'s Bank, The Exchange Bank of Buffalo, The Pratt Bank, The Bank of Lake Erie, Walter Joy's Bank of Buffalo, the Hollister Bank, the Merchants' Bank of Erie County, the Buffalo City Bank, the Sacketts Harbor Bank, the Buffalo Trust Company, the Queen City Bank, the New York and Erie Bank, the International Bank, the Clinton Bank, the Emigrant Savings Bank, E. S. Rich's Bank of

Exchange, the Mechanics' Savings Bank of Buffalo, the Security Savings Bank, the City Bank of Buffalo, the Commercial Bank of Buffalo, the First National Bank.

#### SAVING AND AID ASSOCIATIONS.

About the year 1866 was inaugurated in Buffalo what are known as saving and aid associations. These have rapidly multiplied, until there are now about sixty of them in the city; they are all based on a similar plan, though differing more or less in details. Their principal objects are to assist the poorer class of people in securing homes; this is accomplished by the members paying into the associations a small weekly sum, thus accumulating a fund which is devoted to the purchase of real estate, the erection of buildings and making other improvements; or to aid the members, by the use of the accumulations, in the purchase of homes, and further, to accumulate a fund to be returned to the members who do not desire to make real estate investments. Many of these associations have been converted into Land Associations, of which there are now eight in the city, owning at least three hundred acres of land within the city limits; their general plans and purposes are similar to those of the aid associations. Nearly all of these associations are made up of Germans, and they have accomplished much good.

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### CHAPTER IX.

#### MANUFACTURING AND WHOLESALE INTERESTS OF BUFFALO.

Advantages of Buffalo as a Manufacturing Center — Development of Manufacturing Interests — The “Association for the Encouragement of Manufacturing in the City of Buffalo” — The Iron Industry — Early Iron Works — Review of the Industry — Furniture Manufacturing — The Leather Industry — The Brewing Interest — Malting in Buffalo — The Milling Interest — Manufacture of Boots and Shoes — Miscellaneous Manufactures — The Wholesale Trade of Buffalo — Growth of Trade in the City.

**A**S a location for the rapid and profitable development of general manufacturing interests, the city of Buffalo possesses advantages vastly superior to most cities. Previous to about the year 1855, or less than thirty years ago, Buffalo was essentially a maritime city; the railroad system westward had not then reached a position where it could materially affect the lake commerce, and almost all the products of the growing West were wafted down the waters of the great inland seas and, of necessity, were emptied directly upon the wharves of Buffalo,

or were transferred to the long lines of boats that were continually starting on their slow voyages through the Erie canal to tide-water. The Queen City sat at the foot of the great chain of lakes, secure in her commercial position and at rest in the belief that energy in other directions was almost unnecessary to her future solid growth and permanent prosperity. But the financial revulsion of 1857, with other gradually progressing changes, dispelled this illusion; railroads to the west were built and, by their quicker means of transportation, drew away the lake passenger traffic to a large extent, while they attacked the freight business through their capacity for winter shipment at a time when lake navigation was impossible. These things and their immediate consequences, awakened the people of Buffalo to a realization that there were other material interests to which they not only might, but should direct a portion at least of their energies and capital. Buffalo recovered from her period of partial commercial prostration within the five years following 1857, and assumed a condition of healthful growth and prosperity which yet continues; but a lesson had been learned and its teachings were, fortunately, heeded. Men of means and foresight began to study and then to realize more clearly than they yet had done, the advantages possessed by the city as a manufacturing center; they did not lose faith in her future commercial supremacy, but they saw that the city needed permanent industrial interests that could stand independent of the fluctuations of commercial matters and their regular intermissions in the winter seasons. This conviction in the minds of many of the foremost men of the city, resulted in the organization in 1860 of the "Association for the Encouragement of Manufactures in the City of Buffalo." While this Association did not, perhaps, directly extend the manufactures of the city, it did encourage general manufacturing, chiefly through a system of extensive advertising of Buffalo as a desirable point for the establishment of manufacturing enterprises. The association sent circulars to all parts of the country containing statements that real estate in the city was cheap, living economical, rents low for a city of eighty thousand inhabitants, having fifty-two miles of paved streets, forty-eight miles of sewerage, two hundred and sixty miles of streets, gas everywhere and pure water; that the city was a center for marketing, etc. This thorough advertising by the association gave an impetus to manufacturing in the city, the results of which can scarcely be overestimated and are felt down to the present time.\*

#### IRON MANUFACTURERS.

The iron interest has always been a prominent one in this city and will so continue; ore from the best mines is cheaply transported hither,

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\* In 1879-'80, according to the census reports, Buffalo stood as high as eleventh in the country in the number and rank of her manufacturing establishments. Their number is given as 1,137, and the value of their products \$40,000,000.







while the facilities for obtaining coal are unrivaled. This industry was one of the first to feel the stimulus of 1860 and the few succeeding years, although it reached respectable proportions before that time, and by 1865 the number of iron-working establishments in the city had reached about twenty. Among them were the Union Iron Works, which comprise the establishments originally started by Palmer & Wadsworth and Warren, Thompson and others; Pratt & Co.'s rolling mill and nail works, the Shepard Iron Works, George W. Tift, Sons & Co., the Eagle Iron Works, the Niagara Steam Forge, the Vulcan Works, the Franklin Steam Forge, Farrar, Trefts & Knight, John T. Noye & Co., Jewett & Root, George Jones & Son, J. & N. C. Scoville, and others. David Bell had then just begun locomotive building. Many of these early iron manufacturing establishments are still in existence, and some of them have attained enormous proportions. To them and others that have since been established, further reference may be made.

*George W. Tift, Sons & Co.*—This establishment builds steam engines, boilers, machinery and architectural iron work. The house was founded May 15, 1841, under the name of the Buffalo Steam Engine Works, which title was changed to the present one in 1857. The buildings extend over about two acres of ground and from one hundred and seventy-five to two hundred men are employed. In 1882 Mr. George W. Tift died; the firm is now composed of John V. Tift and Charles L. Whiting.

*The Howard Iron Works.*—These works were established in 1849, by Rufus L. Howard, the present proprietor. The plant covers more than an acre of ground. Two hundred and fifty men are employed and the capital invested is over \$200,000.

*The King Iron Works.*—The King Iron Works were established in 1848, under the name of the Shepard Iron Works, the change to its present form being made in 1871. William J. King, Jr., the present proprietor, at that time bought out the interest of Sidney Shepard. The works now cover an entire block and about two hundred hands are employed. Their special line is marine and stationary engines.

*Eagle Iron Works.*—This establishment was organized in July, 1853, under the name of Eagle Iron Works Company. It was then a joint stock company, the stockholders being Sherman S. Jewett, F. H. Root, O. Follett, J. E. Follett and R. Dunbar. The business was begun in the same building now occupied, on the corner of Mississippi and Perry streets. In February, 1860, Robert Dunbar and S. W. Howell bought the interest of the other stockholders and conducted the business under the firm name of Dunbar & Howell. On the 1st of January, 1875, Mr. Howell left the firm, and Mr. Dunbar took in his son, George H. Dunbar; Dunbar & Son has been the name of the firm since. They are largely engaged in building elevators, manufacturing general machinery, making a speciality of Gardner's Patent Three Cylinder Engine, etc.



*DeLaney Forge and Iron Company.*—This company was established in 1851, by C. D. DeLaney, with a small capital. The works front thirty-five feet on Perry street, and are two hundred and thirty feet deep. There are at present four partners in the company—C. D. DeLaney, C. A. DeLaney, John Slote and Joseph Howard. About one hundred and twenty hands are employed.

*Washington Iron Works.*—These works were established by the present proprietor, Jacob Ginther, on the site now occupied by them, corner of Washington and Chippewa streets. From thirty to forty men are employed. In 1882, Mr. Ginther erected a new building next to the old one, for the accommodation of the growing business.

*J. & N. C. Scoville.*—This establishment is located at 534 Louisiana street, and is known as the Buffalo Car Wheel Works. It has been in operation since 1853. The lot on which the four buildings stand is two hundred by four hundred feet in extent. As indicated above, J. & N. C. Scoville are the proprietors.

*George H. Jones' Sons.*—In 1848 George Jones, grandfather of the present proprietors of these works, established a manufactory on Eagle street, near the site of the present city hall; he subsequently removed to Pearl street, near Eagle, and in 1857, to the present location. The plant covers an area extending one hundred and seventy-two feet front on the Terrace and one hundred and eighty-eight feet in depth. The members of the firm are Henry L. Jones, and Frank R. Jones. Bank vaults, stairs, railings, etc., are the principal products of these works.

*F. Collignon.*—Mr. Collignon established his brass works in 1844 on what was then known as Lake street (now Canal) between Main and Lloyd streets. His beginning was small. In 1850, he bought the lot now occupied by him, and soon after erected the buildings at present standing. They cover an area of ninety-six by one hundred and five feet on the corner of Perry and Washington.

*Bingham & Morgan.*—This establishment is located on Church, Jackson and Genesee streets. In about the year 1848, R. M. Eddy and R. M. Bingham started a small foundry on Church street. During the war Mr. Bingham bought Mr. Eddy's interest in the business and took in his son. This partnership continued until 1870 when R. M. Bingham went out and A. M. Morgan entered into partnership with the son, Charles F. Bingham. They now employ about sixty hands.

*George B. Hayes.*—This business was founded in 1868, under the firm name of Drullard & Hayes, on the present site on Exchange street. The firm was then composed of Frank O. Drullard and George B. Hayes. In about sixteen years, F. O. Drullard died and his father, Solomon Drullard, entered the firm in his place. In February, 1883, he, too, died, and George B. Hayes now has entire control of the business. He employs at present one hundred and fifty men, his specialty being cast iron pipes

for gas and water. The works cover about two hundred and sixty feet square.

*Farrar & Trefts.*—Location 54 to 66 Perry street. From the time of its foundation in 1864, until 1869, this house was known as Farrar, Trefts & Knight. They have sold 5,000 engines of one style in the last ten years. The premises cover nearly an acre on both sides of Perry street. The members of the firm are Chillion M. Farrar and John Trefts. About two hundred and thirty-five men are employed.

*Union Iron Company.*—Two blast furnaces built about 1860, at the foot of Hamburg street, where the Union Iron Company are now established, one by Warren & Thompson, and the other by Palmer & Wadsworth, were the origin of the above works. In 1863 these two companies combined their interests under the name of Palmer & Co., and built a rolling mill. In 1866 a stock company was organized called the Buffalo Iron Works, afterwards changed to the Wadsworth Iron Works. In 1872 the works were purchased by the present proprietors, the Union Iron Company. At present these works are virtually discontinued, the premises being leased to the Central Bridge Company. Their specialty was pig iron, bar iron, plate iron, etc.

*J. W. Ruger & Co., Corner Chicago and Perry streets.*—This firm are manufacturers of bread, cracker and biscuit machinery, etc., and were first established in 1850, in Rochester; they removed to Buffalo in 1860. The capital at first was about \$300; in 1880 about \$80,000; at present, about \$125,000. The main building on Chicago and Perry streets is 125 by 127 feet, three stories high with a basement. About one hundred and thirty-five men are now employed. A fifty horse-power boiler and thirty-five horse-power engine move the machinery. The members of the firm are J. W. Ruger and Augustus Ruger.

*Harris Iron Works.*—These works were established in 1868, in a small way, in the furnace business. In 1875, Mr. Harris occupied the Vulcan Foundry on Water street, in connection with R. R. Cornell, where they remained till 1879. The firm then separated and Mr. Harris rented on his own account, the foundry portion of the King Iron Works. In 1882 he built the present building, covering one hundred and thirty feet front on Perry street, and three hundred and eighty feet deep. The present proprietors of the Harris Iron Works are W. H. Harris and J. B. Parker; the latter gentleman came into the firm in the spring of 1883. About two hundred men are employed.

One of the most important establishments in Buffalo, in connection with the iron industry, is the Niagara Bridge Works, corner of Niagara street and Forest Avenue. These works were established in their present location and by the present proprietors, in 1873; their building covers six hundred by fifty feet, and from one hundred to three hundred men are employed. G. C. Bell and S. J. Fields are the proprietors.

The Central Bridge Works, at the foot of Hamburg street, and the International Bridge Company, 377 Main street, are also extensively engaged in this branch of manufacturing.

While the above list of iron-working establishments does not, of course, embrace every establishment in the city, it gives a record of the prominent works, and enables the reader to form an intelligent idea of the magnitude of the iron industry in Buffalo; an industry that is rapidly extending and destined to be one of vast importance.

#### FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS.

*A. Cutler & Son, Pearl Street.*—The manufacture of furniture is one of the leading industries in Buffalo, and dates back almost to the beginning of manufacturing in this city. The oldest and one of the largest houses in the business in Buffalo, is that of A. Cutler & Son. On the 5th of September, 1824, Abner Cutler came from near Rochester to Black Rock, and began at once to build up a business in cabinet-making. On the 7th of September he made his first sale—a breakfast table of his own make. On the 25th of September, 1829, he removed to Main street, between South Division and Swan streets. After being thrice burned out he again moved in 1857, to Batavia street, and thence shortly after to his present quarters, No. 94 Pearl street. It is said that he has carried on the business longer than any other person in the entire country. He was in the business a short time before he came to Black Rock, in Chittenango, Madison county, N. Y. He now, in company with his son, Fred. H. Cutler, conducts the business; they employ about one hundred hands.

*Edwin Sikes & Co., (Buffalo Chair Works).*—In 1859, S. D. Sikes, brother of the present senior partner in this firm, started a furniture factory on the site now occupied by his successors, (500 Clinton street). In 1861, Edwin Sikes was taken into the business, which was carried on under the style of S. D. Sikes & Brother until February, 1875, when the present form was adopted. About seventy-five men are now employed and the business rests upon an invested capital of about \$40,000. E. Sikes, Mrs. S. D. Sikes and W. F. Sikes constitute the partnership.

*L. Granacher.*—Mr. Granacher began the manufacture of furniture alone in 1853, on the site which he now occupies, (215 Genesee street). His only partnership since that time was formed with Clinton Faust in 1880 and was dissolved in 1882. His works cover an area measuring eighty by one hundred and twenty feet. He employs about forty-five men and has an invested capital of about \$16,000.

*Colie & Son*—This firm began business in 1866, on Seneca street, between Washington and Ellicott. In 1869, they removed to Washington street, corner of Hamburg canal. In the fall of 1873, they removed to their present quarters on Exchange street, opposite the Central depot.





Engr. by H. B. Hall & Sons, No. 7, York.



They had from the beginning until 1874, a factory on Genesee street; then it was removed to Connecticut street, and again in 1879 to Pearl street. They employ about seventy-five hands, and have an invested capital of \$40,000. The individual members of the firm are Mrs. O. S. Colie and George W. Colie.

*Frederick Bensler*, (141 *Seneca Street*.)—The present proprietor of this business, with the assistance of a partner, Andrew Diedrich, founded the establishment in 1868, at 145 Swan street. In about four years, Mr. Bensler took his brother Herman into the firm and Mr. Diedrich retired; the new firm removed to the present place and built the structure now occupied by him. It is five stories in height, covers 8,600 square feet and cost, with the land on which it stands, \$35,000. About fifty men are employed and the invested capital is \$35,000.

*Schlund & Doll*.—This firm began business at their present quarters, No. 472 Main street, in 1871. They have a factory corner of Mohawk and Pearl streets; they employ about twenty-five men and the invested capital is between \$20,000 and \$30,000.

*Hersee & Co.*—In 1872, Hersee & Co. began their business on their present site, Ellicott street, foot of Mohawk. The firm consisted first of Thompson Hersee, Jr., William M. Hersee and Jacob Gramlich, the two former having previously been of the firm of T. Hersee & Sons. Mr. Gramlich was in the employ of the old firm until 1871. T. Hersee, Jr., died in November, 1875; George Coit was admitted to the business in 1878, and is still a member. The building occupied is a six story brick structure, one hundred feet front by forty feet deep, with a four story brick building thirty-two by one hundred feet attached in the rear for a factory. They employ from sixty to one hundred hands, and have an invested capital of about \$75,000.

*Jacob J. Weller*,—The business now carried on at 391 Main Street by Jacob J. Weller, was established by Hersee & Timmerman in 1836. Mr. Weller became a member of the firm about 1863 or 1864. In 1871 Messrs. Weller, Brown & Mesmer bought out the concern, and in 1882, Mr. Weller took it entirely into his own hands.

*Guenther & Faust*.—In about 1858 John Streicher started the works now run by Guenther & Faust. After his death in 1868, the business was conducted by his widow and son until 1878. Then the firm name was changed to the Streicher Furniture Company. In 1880 the present proprietor came into possession. Their factory on Genesee street, is a three story building fifty by one hundred and fifty feet reaching through to Elm street. About thirty men are kept at work. The invested capital is represented as \$12,000. The individual members of the firm are Anthony Guenther and Rudolph Faust.

*The Tift Furniture Company*.—The firm is composed of John V. Tift, C. L. Whiting, M. A. Plimpton and S. A. Gray; a large wholesale business is carried on at 477 and 479 Washington street.



*Sauer & Hanbach*, 18 and 20 Ellicott street.—Adam Sauer came from Rochester to Buffalo in 1865, and founded an establishment on Washington street for the manufacture of cigar boxes, under the name of "The Adam Sauer Furniture Company." John C. Hanbach from Rochester joined Mr. Sauer in 1866. In 1868 a general furniture factory was founded in addition to the cigar box department, and was removed to the present site. The building is brick, four stories high, measuring about thirty-six by one hundred and forty-five feet. From forty to forty-five men are employed. The invested capital is \$25,000.

In this industry there were invested in Buffalo in 1880, \$578,200; the value of the product was \$773,091. A great deal of furniture is manufactured in the city, in connection with the retail trade, which cannot be further referred to here.

#### THE LEATHER INDUSTRY.

Of the early history of tanning in Buffalo there are few available records, and information on this subject is difficult to acquire except through conversation with those pioneers whose memories extend back over a period of over half a century or more.

*Geo. Palmer & Co.*—Probably the first tannery in this city was the one established by Geo. Palmer & Co., some time about the year 1820, or possibly previous to that. In 1837 there were three tanneries in the city—the one just mentioned, the old "City Tannery" (built by Joseph Hoyt and purchased subsequently by Rumsey & Howard), which was located on Exchange street, opposite the present site of the Central Depot, and the Gardiner Tannery in that part of the city known as "the Hydraulics." From that time the trade rapidly developed.

*A. Rumsey & Co.*—One of the oldest, as well as one of the best known tanning firms in the city is that of A. Rumsey & Co. It was founded in the year 1836 by Mr. Aaron Rumsey, now deceased. At that time the firm was Rumsey & Howard, operating the "City Tannery." In 1840 this partnership was dissolved and subsequently Mr. Rumsey's two sons were united with him in the firm of A. Rumsey & Co. In 1844 the tannery near Louisiana street, on the canal, which they now occupy, was built. It has several times been enlarged since then. The firm make hemlock sole leather exclusively. The city tannery has some six hundred vats, and uses slaughter hides; and one at Holland run by the same firm has about six hundred vats, and works on dry hides. The united capacity of the two yards is placed at about 200,000 sides per year.

*Bush & Howard* are also an old firm, their business having been established by Myron P. Bush and Geo. Howard in the year 1844. Besides the original members, the firm is now composed of J. W. Bush and Jas. H. Smith. Their yard in this city tans something like 75,000



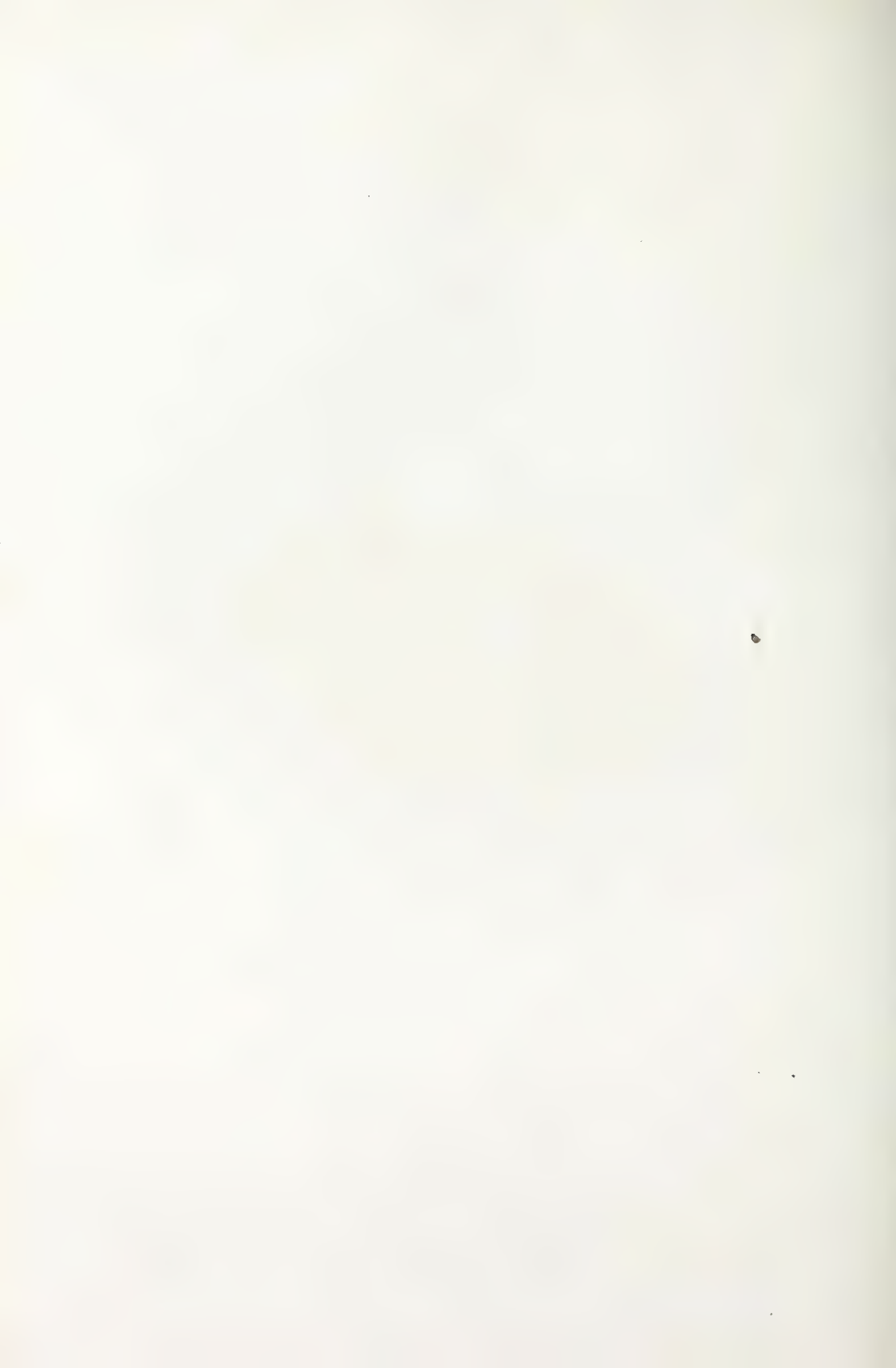


*James Kimball*

1850







sides of hemlock slaughter sole leather per year. All of this is sold in the market west of Buffalo.

*Root & Keating*, although operating no tannery in the city, are among Buffalo's most prominent leather manufacturers, as the entire product of their large tanneries is sold from their warehouse in this city. Their yards are located at Olean, N. Y., and Port Allegheny, Pa., and both tan sole leather. The tannery at Port Allegheny is one of the largest tanning establishments in the country, and has a capacity of seven hundred sides of dry sole per day. That at Olean runs on Texas slaughter hides and tans some three hundred sides per day. The firm have built a warehouse on the corner of Wells and Carroll streets, of brick, one hundred and forty-five by one hundred and seventy-five feet, and five stories high, which they now occupy. The business of the firm of Root & Keating was established in 1864 by Jewett & Shaw. In 1866, Robert Keating was admitted, the firm becoming Jewett, Shaw & Keating and subsequently, January 1, 1878, Francis H. Root entered the firm and the present style of Root & Keating was adopted.

*Martin & Co.*, in their tannery at Smith's Mills, Chautauqua county, tan out from six hundred to nine hundred sides of sole leather per week, which is sold from their warehouse, 103 Main street. They run on dry hides. The firm was established in 1863 by Mr. Martin and his two sons, one of whom is now dead.

*S. L. Mason & Co.*, tan sheepskins and rough and harness leather at 110 Scott Street. They tan about 14,000 sides of rough and harness leather annually, and pull, tan and pickle about two hundred dozens of sheepskins per week. This tannery was originally run by John Bush & Co., and was purchased by S. L. Mason on the death of Mr. Bush, in 1873. In 1875 his brother was admitted to the firm and the present style adopted.

*Moffat Brothers.*—This firm was established in 1869 by James and Henry C. Moffat, and operate two tanneries, one in this city and one at Alden, N. Y. All their products are sold from the warehouse, No. 70 Exchange street. At their yard in Buffalo they tan about 200,000 sheep skins per year, while their Alden yard tans about 50,000 sides of upper and kip.

*J. F. Schoellkopf's Sons*, (Louis, Alfred and John Russ Schoellkopf) operate two large tanneries, one of which is located in this city, corner of Hudson and Efner streets, and one at Sheffield, Pa. The tannery here has a capacity of about 1,300 sides of sole and 1,200 of harness, upper and kip per week from slaughter hides. The business was established about twenty-five years ago by J. F. Schoellkopf. J. F. Schoellkopf & Co., (J. F. and Alfred Schoellkopf,) also run a large sheepskin tannery at the corner of Mississippi and Scott streets, pulling about two hundred dozens sheepskins per day.



*Siegel Brothers* run a tannery at Hamburg, whose products are sold at their warehouse, No. 82 Main Street. They are tanning about 10,000 sides of hemlock, dry and slaughter sole per year.

*Laub & Zeller*.—This firm at 76 Pearl Street, was established in 1865 succeeding in that year to the firm of Laub Brothers. Their tannery in this city contains one hundred and seventy-five liquor vats and runs from six hundred to eight hundred sides per week. They make principally harness leather, with some kip and calf.

*George L. Williams* runs a tannery at Salamanca, and has a warehouse at No. 50 Exchange Street. The business was established in 1863 by the firm of Deming, Curtiss & Williams. This tannery runs on hemlock sole and tans out over 50,000 sides per year.

*M. Strauss* commenced business in Buffalo in 1862. His tannery at 367 Chicago Street, has a capacity of about 200,000 sheepskins per year.

*Hoffeld & Geissler* established a tannery at Lancaster, in 1861, but did not commence business in Buffalo until 1864. They tan out over 50,000 sides of hemlock sole per year, running on both dry and slaughter hides.

*M. Steffan's Sons* (Michael F., George L., and Jacob P. Steffan) run a tannery at Boston, Erie county, and sell its products at their warehouse, 813 Main Street, Buffalo. The business was established in 1851 by M. Steffan.

*Bickford & Curtiss* began the manufacture of belting and hose at 53 and 55 Exchange Street, in 1867, where they have since carried on the business. In 1868 they took into the firm Frederick Deming, who remained with them five or six years, since which time Messrs. Bickford & Curtiss have continued the business. About twenty hands are employed in the establishment; the individual names of the firm are R. H. Bickford and Fred B. Curtiss.

*N. H. Gardner & Co.*, began the manufacture of belting and hose at 127 and 129 Washington Street, about twenty years ago. In 1874 G. D. Barr succeeded that firm in the establishment. In the spring of 1879 the buildings were burned and immediately rebuilt; in 1881 Mr. Barr removed to his present quarters; he employs about thirty hands.

The capital invested in Buffalo in the production of leather in 1880 was \$93,000 in curried, and in tanned leather, \$1,077,000. The total value of the product was a little over \$2,000,000.

#### BREWING AND MALTING INTERESTS.

The business of brewing and malting forms one of the most important interests in Buffalo, as it is also one of the oldest. The reader has already learned something of Mr. Baer, the third German settler in the city, who gave the Buffalonians of 1827 to 1830 their first taste of home-brewed beer. It was only five or six years later when business rivals

sprang up around him at Cold Spring. James McLeisch began brewing there as early as 1836; in the year 1833, the Moffat brewery was established on Mohawk and Morgan streets. Since that time the manufacture of these light beverages, ale, lager, porter, and like drinks, has grown rapidly. Buffalo is a central point in a remarkable barley-growing district, extending far on both the American and the Canadian sides of the lakes, while the large German element in the city and vicinity help to create a heavy demand for the products of the numerous great breweries and malt-houses that are now in existence here; these products have a reputation over a wide extent of territory, of which Buffalo brewers at large may well be proud.

The Moffat & Service brewery, corner of Mohawk and Morgan streets, is the oldest establishment of the kind in the city. It was founded in its present location by James Moffat, in 1833. James Moffat was the father of the present senior partner in the brewery. After the founder's death, the brewery was leased by his executors to Arthur W. Fox, and the business was conducted for a time under the firm name of Fox & Williams. Schumaker & Noble subsequently bought out the effects, but after about a year, they left and for a few months the concern was idle. In 1876 the present proprietors, Henry C. Moffat and William Service, took possession. The works extend about two hundred feet on Mohawk by a little more than three hundred on Morgan street. This is the only brewery in Buffalo that brews ale, porter and stout. The malt-house run in connection with the brewery, has a capacity of about 180,000 bushels; the brewing capacity, as shown by the annual sales, will exceed 10,000 barrels.

McLeisch Brothers, malsters, Main and Ferry streets, (Cold Spring) are proprietors of one of the oldest establishments of this character in the city, if it does not antedate them all. James McLeisch, the father of the present proprietor, started a brewery on a part of the ground now occupied by his sons, in the year 1836. He subsequently added a distillery; from the beginning he made his own malt. In 1857 Mr. McLeisch stopped brewing, and with A. T. Blackman, established a malt-house. They were succeeded in 1865 by Mr. McLeisch's three sons—A. McLeisch, James McLeisch and C. G. McLeisch. The malting capacity of the concern is now about 200,000 bushels annually. The buildings extend one hundred and sixty-five feet on Main street, and three hundred and fifty feet on Ferry street; they employ about fifty men.

Another of the older brewing establishments of Buffalo, is that now conducted by Joseph L. Haberstro, No. 11 High street. Mr. Haberstro came into possession of the brewery in September, 1859, by purchase from his father-in-law, Philip Scheu. The origin of the brewery dates back to 1849. Two years earlier than that Mr. Scheu had conducted a

brewery on Main street, just above St. Louis church. He built the present structure, or a part of it, in 1849, as stated. When Mr. Haberstro took the establishment he added the vaults, ice-houses and a new brewery. The buildings now extend from Washington to Main street, one hundred and sixty-five by one hundred and nineteen feet; eleven men are employed. Jacob Roos, one of the early German settlers, began brewing in the year 1837, on the site now occupied by his son, on Hickory street, near Broadway. He finally conducted an extensive establishment, through repeated additions. The present proprietor, George Roos, came into possession about 1859. The malt-house connected with the brewery, has a capacity of nearly 55,000 bushels annually; the buildings cover three hundred and seventy-one by two hundred and eighty-six feet, and forty-seven men are employed.

The brewing and malting business now conducted by Mr. Gerhard Lang, was founded in 1842, by his father-in-law, Philip Born. After Mr. Born's death, his wife and her brother took the establishment and conducted it until 1863, when Mr. Lang bought it. The malt-house at 581 Genesee street, covers about three acres of ground. The brewery on the corner of Best and Jefferson streets, was built in 1876 and is two hundred and eighty-five by six hundred feet, standing on a lot of thirty-four acres. Mr. Lang employs ten men in the malt-house and fifty in the brewery.

Albert Ziegele & Co., carry on an extensive brewing and malting business at 831 to 841 Main street. The origin of this establishment dates back to the year 1850, when it was founded by Albert Ziegele. The beginning was made in a leased building on Genesee street. In 1855 he had completed his present brewery and moved into it. Besides the brewery and ice house, the firm own a malt house on the east side of Washington street, directly across from the former. Since 1879 Albert Ziegele, Sr., has retired from active business, leaving the charge of the establishment in the hands of Albert Ziegele, Jr., Herman H. Grau and William Ziegele. It is estimated that in 1883 not less than 25,000 bushels of barley will be malted, the capacity having been increased from 40,000 bushels to 80,000. Thirty men are employed.

In 1877, C. G. Voltz and his brother, J. S. Voltz, present proprietors of the International Brewery, entered into partnership and began business as malsters, leasing for a time a building on Georgia and Sixth streets. In 1880 they erected their present buildings, 1710 to 1714 Niagara street. The structure extends sixty by one hundred feet and is six stories high. Its malting capacity is 115,000 bushels. C. G. Voltz was engaged in the malting business fourteen years prior to the establishment of this house.

F. X. Kaltenbach began a brewing business on the corner of Walnut and Lutheran streets in 1852; his malt house still remains there. In 1876



he removed his brewery to its present site 438 Eagle street. The building is one hundred and fifty by three hundred feet, and about twenty-five men are employed.

In 1853 John Schusler started a brewery on Broadway. In 1859 he removed to No. 147 Emslie street, and rebuilt the structure which he purchased. He again repaired and enlarged the building in 1873 and a third time in 1883. The malt-house adjoining the brewery was erected by him in 1873, and his ice-houses in 1875; about twenty-five men are employed in his business.

Magnus Beck first began brewing in 1856, on Oak street near Tupper. About 1867 he removed to his present location, 467 North Division street, and erected a new establishment. Mr. Beck died in May, 1883, since which time the business has been continued in his name by A. J. Benzing, as executor. The works extend from Eagle street nearly to North Division. The brewery proper is now about two hundred and sixty by two hundred and seventy feet, three stories high. The malt-house is fifty by one hundred and eighty feet; the brewing capacity is 40,000 barrels annually, and forty men are employed.

J. M. Luippold conducts a brewery employing eight men, at 298 Emslie street. He began business in 1867, with William Fitch, which partnership was dissolved in 1870; the buildings were erected in 1867 and rebuilt in 1878.

In 1870, Jacob F. Kuhn began the brewing business at his present location, 648 Broadway. He has since enlarged his establishment, adding cellars and ice-houses.

Julius Binz, No. 815 Broadway, began brewing in 1879, and enjoys a growing business.

In the spring of 1880 the Buffalo Co-Operative Brewing Company, a stock organization, was formed, the first president being Jacob Manhard. The old Hoeffler brewery was purchased and used about a year, when the present buildings, corner of Michigan and High streets, were erected; about twenty men are now employed. The present officers of the company are Peter Mergenhagen, president; Celestin Baecher, vice-president; Andrew Kraus, secretary; Charles Kamper, treasurer, and Charles R. Rauch, Charles Hoeffler, John Ebling, Nicholas Meizig, directors.

George Rochevot began brewing in 1856, on the corner of Spring and Cherry streets. In 1871 he built his present brewery at 1033 Jefferson street. His buildings cover about one and one-half acres and their capacity is one hundred barrels daily.

Jacob Scheu established a brewery on Genesee street as early as 1837, whence he removed to his present location, 1088 Niagara street, in August, 1866. His entire establishment covers about four acres of ground and has a capacity of 50,000 barrels annually.

Other breweries in Buffalo are those of Christian Weyand, 703 Main street, established in 1866; The Clinton Co-Operative Brewing Co., 10 to 20 Bennett street, and Charles Gerber, 821 Main street.

Buffalo leads most other similar cities as a malting center. The malting capacity of the city is not less than 4,000,000 bushels. The proximity of the city to the barley fields of Canada and the no less prolific section on this side, and its importance as a receiving and distributing market, with the peculiar adaptability of the climate for the malting process, sufficiently explain the causes of the magnitude which this interest has attained in Buffalo. The largest malting establishment in the city is owned and controlled by John B. Manning, the present Mayor of Buffalo; indeed, he claims an undisputed title to the leadership in this interest over the world. He established his business in 1859, beginning as a commission malster. In 1863, he bought the malt-house on the Terrace, which still remains in his hands; its capacity is 80,000 bushels. In 1873 he built his largest malt house, the "Frontier Canada Malt House," at Black Rock, which he enlarged in 1881. It is situated at the foot of Auburn avenue, next to the canal and river; it covers three hundred and sixty by sixty feet and is nine stories high; it has a capacity of about 920,000 bushels. In connection with the malt-house are two elevators of 175,000 bushels capacity each. About eighty men are employed by Mr. Manning.

Joel Wheeler and his son, A. J. Wheeler, began malting in Buffalo in 1870, in their present location, 283 Perry street, where they put up a building one hundred and sixteen by one hundred and forty-one feet; their malting capacity is about 125,000 bushels. The original proprietors still conduct the establishment.

Schaefer & Brother, 42 and 44 Lloyd street, began dealing in seeds and grains in 1863. In 1871 they first confined their business to handling barley exclusively and assumed control of a heavy malting interest. In 1880 they built a malt house on the corner of Seventh and Jersey streets, upon a novel and improved plan. The floors, which are arched, are composed of two layers of brick separated by several inches of mortar; this plan preserves an even temperature throughout. Steam pipes are also used for the same purpose. The building has a capacity of over 100,000 bushels per season of eight months; it has four malting floors, a cellar and storage floor; an elevator is connected with it. The firm are Gustavus A. and Henry L. Schaefer.

John Kam built a malt-house on Pratt and Genesee streets in 1869, and is now about to become associated with another on Pratt street, which is in course of construction. The total malting capacity of these two houses will be about 100,000 bushels; sixteen men are employed.

Fisher Bros. & Co., are malsters at 285 Genesee street and Fourth street, corner of Carolina. The business was founded in 1862, by George

Fisher, the present senior member of the firm. In 1865 he associated with himself his brother, Jacob P. Fisher, and Philip Houck. The works comprise three brick buildings, covering areas of forty by one hundred and thirty, one hundred by one hundred and forty and one hundred and five by forty feet respectively, with a total capacity of 200,000 bushels. The establishment is known as the "Genesee and City Malt Houses."

The malting house of White & Crafts, corner of Lake View avenue and Jersey street, was founded in 1875, the present proprietors then buying the old malt house of Marvin Cline. In 1882 they built a new house adjacent; the total malting capacity is now 225,000 bushels and thirty-four men are employed. The firm comprises John White and John W. Crafts, the former of whom has been identified with the malting interest of Buffalo for thirty-six years.

Solomon Scheu is proprietor of the Canada malt-house, Hudson, corner of Fourth street, where he began business in 1860. In 1870, he built a brewery in connection with his malt-house; he also has an interest in a malt-house on St. Paul street, and for a number of years has leased the Niagara malt-house on Ohio street; he is also a member of the Lancaster malting firm of Scheu Brothers. The establishment on Hudson street covers about one hundred by two hundred feet; the Niagara house sixty by one hundred and fifty feet, and the one on St. Paul street fifty by one hundred and eighty feet. From sixty to seventy men are employed in the entire business.

Besides the malt-houses already mentioned, there are in Buffalo several others of considerable importance. C. G. Curtiss, 38 Central Wharf, malts from 80,000 to 100,000 bushels annually; Meidenbauer & Co., 992 Michigan street; John O. Meyer, corner of Eagle and Emslie streets; August F. Scheu, 36 St. Paul street; William W. Sloan, corner of Carroll and Van Rensselaer streets; Henry Diehl, 406 Niagara street, are quite largely engaged in the business, with a few others of less importance.

The census reports of 1880 give the amount of capital invested in the production of malt-liquors in Buffalo as \$1,859,975, and the value of products as \$1,636,020.39.

#### THE MILLING INTEREST.

The milling interest of Buffalo, which is now a very important industry, came into existence mainly between 1830 and 1840, at Black Rock, where ample water-power existed in the swift current of the river; that was the natural location for factories of any kind in which water-power could be made available. Probably the first mills built in or near Buffalo, were the old Frontier Mills, which were erected in 1832, by Stephen W. Howells, who is still a resident of Black Rock. Then followed, in 1834 or 1835, the Globe Mills (which originally stood nearer



the canal than at present), and another mill built by Mr. Enos. This latter mill was used first for corn drying purposes, but was subsequently converted into a flouring-mill. These three mills are still standing. The Black Rock mill was built between 1834 and 1837, in which latter year it burned. The Erie Mills were erected in 1838, and about the same time was built the Queen City Mill; this was followed by the erection of the Clinton and the North Buffalo Mills; the latter was erected in 1857. A steam-mill once stood where the city elevator is now located. Mr. O. Bugbee ran it about 1844-'45. The Wadsworth Mill, on Ohio street, the Buffalo City Mill and the Swan Street Mill are of a later date, and the National Mills, of Thornton & Chester, the Urban and the Banner Mills, are of comparatively recent construction.

One of the oldest mills in the county is run by Leonard Dodge and Henry W. Dodge, and is located at Williamsville. The former gentleman has owned the mill since 1864. It has a capacity of one hundred and fifty barrels a day. The city office is at 72 Main street.

The heavy milling firm of Thornton & Chester established their business about 1850, by the purchase of what are now the Globe Mills, from Harry Thompson. They built the National Mills, on Erie street, in 1868, and enlarged them in 1881. The Globe Mills were burned in December, 1878, but the brand is still used by the firm. The National Mills capacity is about seven hundred barrels a day. The members of the firm are Thomas Thornton and Thomas Chester.

In 1856 Jacob F. Schoellkopf began the milling business which is now in his hands. In 1857 he built the North Buffalo Mills at Lower Black Rock. In 1870 he bought the Frontier Mills, at Upper Black Rock. From 1866 to 1875, in association with Thornton & Chester, he ran the North Buffalo Mills, the business being conducted in his name. He joined with his present partner, G. B. Mathews, in 1875, and the firm now run both the above mentioned mills. The total capacity of the two is from 70,000 to 80,000 barrels annually. Schoellkopf & Mathews also own and run a very large mill at Niagara Falls, having a capacity of about 300,000 barrels annually.

The Banner Milling Company began business in 1878, operating the North Buffalo Mills, owned by J. F. Schoellkopf; they gave up that interest in August, 1883, having in the previous year erected the Banner Mills, on Ohio street, opposite the Niagara Elevator. The capacity of these mills is eight hundred barrels per day. The individual members of the firm are J. Esser, H. C. Zimmerman, F. Ogden and H. F. Shuttleworth. Their office is 204 and 206 Main street.

The Buffalo City Flouring Mills were established as early as 1853. They came into possession of H. D. Harvey in 1867, who associated with himself Mr. F. J. Henry in 1870. This firm remodelled the mills, changing them to the "new process" and increasing their capacity from two hundred to six hundred barrels a day.

George Urban & Co., established their mills, 324 and 326 Oak street in 1846, Mr. Urban conducting the business alone for a time. The firm is now composed of G. Urban, G. Urban, Jr., E. G. S. Miller and W. C. Miller.

The Atlas Milling Company, office corner Fourth and Wilkeson streets, succeeded the Farina Milling Company April 15, 1883; the latter company was established about 1858. The company's capacity is one hundred and seventy-five barrels daily. The officers of the company are J. L. Ring, president; Frank Noel, vice-president; George L. Taylor, secretary; W. H. Beyer, treasurer.

The Queen City Milling company, 20 Central Wharf, (formerly the firm of J. B. Griffin & Co.) is a corporation that received its charter in 1880; the present officers had run the mills, the Queen City and the Erie since 1863. The capacity of the two mills is about six hundred and fifty barrels a day. J. B. Griffin is the president of the company, and C. C. McDonald is secretary and treasurer; both mills are located at Black Rock.

The capital invested in the milling interests of the city is nearly 1,000,000, and the products have a value of nearly \$2,500,000.

#### BOOTS AND SHOES.

The five years beginning with 1860, mark the period when the manufacture of boots and shoes in Buffalo, in common with most of the other manufacturing interests, began to assume the dignity of an independent industry. In 1860 there were only three wholesale establishments of this kind west of Buffalo. This city had, however, since 1853, been the home of one factory which lives and prospers to-day, viz:—Forbush & Brown, 103 and 105 Main street. This was the first factory of the kind in Buffalo. They now employ about one hundred and thirty hands. The individual members of the firm are J. G. Forbush and N. Brown.

J. Blocher & Sons were established in 1863, on the present site over 64 to 72 Exchange street, one of the present proprietors, John Blocher, being the projector. His son, Nelson W. Blocher came into the firm in 1870. About two hundred hands are kept at work here.

There are several other boot and shoe manufactories here now, including those of Emsfield & Emig, 50 and 52 Exchange street; Dorschell & Co., 379 Ellicott street; Bommer & Son, corner Swan and Washington; William Kugler, 106 Seneca; Strootman Bros., 293 Washington; John Strootman & Co., 58 and 60 Pearl street; B. Taber & Co., 72 and 74 Lloyd street.

#### THE MANUFACTURE OF CLOTHING.

The manufacture of clothing in Buffalo, to an extent that is worthy of mention, dates from about the year 1854, since which time it has

developed into a large and profitable interest. One of the first establishments here in this business, was that of Leopold Warner, Joseph Warner and John Warner, who began in 1854, at 41 and 43 Main street. In a short time they were forced, by reason of lack of room, to remove to Exchange street. In 1878 they again moved, this time to their present building, on the northwest corner of Pearl and Swan streets. The firm is now composed of John Warner, one of the original members, Lewis E. Warner, John R. Warner, Edward Warner, K. Greenberg and S. Kempner. About one thousand hands are employed by the firm.

*L. Marcus & Son.*—The present managers of this enterprise, established themselves on Exchange street, in 1873, and first occupied the present building, 183 Washington street, in 1878. They employ about one hundred and fifty hands. Leopold Marcus and M. M. Marcus comprise the firm membership.

*Altman & Company.*—The business of manufacturing clothing now conducted under the name of Altman & Company was established on Pearl street in 1856, by Jacob Altman. They removed to Washington street in 1866, and in the fall of 1883, to the present quarters, in Jewett M. Richmond's new building, on the site of the old Franklin House. At his death, in 1881, his three sons and a son-in-law, succeeded him, and are now the proprietors. They employ about eight hundred hands. The firm consists of Isaac Altman, Julius Altman, D. Rosenau and Henry Altman.

The clothing manufacturing business of Brock & Weiner, 64 and 66 Exchange street, was established in 1865, at 188 and 190 Washington street. More than two hundred and fifty employees are now engaged by them. The firm moved to their present location in 1880.

There is a large amount of clothing made in Buffalo, but aside from the establishments mentioned, it is chiefly connected with the retail clothing trade.

#### MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES.

In addition to the large manufacturing interests which we have already described, there are in Buffalo numerous single establishments devoted to special manufactures, some of which are of paramount importance and deserving of notice as forming a portion of the growing industries of the city.

In the year 1849 John C. Jewett began business on what is now 31 Main street, with a store at what is now 271 Main street. In 1864 he erected the building now occupied by himself and sons, as manufacturers of refrigerators, etc., Nos. 323, 325, 327, 329 and 331 Washington street. In 1871 the buildings were extended through to Ellicott street; in 1881 they bought the lot on the corner of North Division and Ellicott streets. The present firm relations date from 1873; the individuals are John C. Jewett and his sons, Edgar B., and Frederick A. Jewett. The products of this industry are known throughout the country.







The glucose manufacture of Buffalo is one of the most important single interests in the city, although its principal development has been within a comparatively short period of time. The business was started in the spring of 1867, by J. Firmenich,\* and Fox & Williams, two separate firms. On the 1st of January, 1874, the Buffalo Grape Sugar Company succeeded Fox & Williams; this was changed to the American Grape Sugar Company in 1878. In the spring of 1883 these were all consolidated as the American Glucose Company, with works at Leavenworth, Kansas; Tippecanoe City, Ohio; Iowa City, Iowa; and Peoria, Illinois, besides the great establishment in this city; the works here are located partly on Scott street, where they occupy an eight-story building, one hundred and sixty by two hundred and ten feet, with two other large structures, one at the foot of Court street, corner Fourth, and one on Jefferson street. About one thousand men are employed in the works in this city. The company's offices are at 19, 21 and 23 West Swan street. The officers of the company are C. J. Hamlin, President; J. Firmenich, First Vice-President; Harry Hamlin, Second Vice-President; William Hamlin, Treasurer; William H. Almy, Secretary.

There are two very large soap manufactories in Buffalo, the earliest one being established by William Lautz in 1853, upon the somewhat limited capital of five dollars. Since that small beginning was made, the business has steadily grown and the present plant on Hanover street, extends one hundred and seventy by one hundred feet; the building is five stories high. There are nine tanks for boiling purposes, each having a capacity of 150,000 pounds and five of the same dimensions for tallow. Two hundred employees and six teams are kept at work. Three branch offices are connected with the business, one in Philadelphia, one in New York and one in Chicago. The individual members of the firm are J. A. Lautz, C. Lautz, F. C. M. Lautz and Mrs. E. Lautz. The other large soap manufactory is that of R. W. Bell & Co., whose business was founded 1865, on State street, succeeding John M. Gilbert. The works were removed to the present location in 1875, when the buildings now used were erected. The building is one hundred and thirty by one hundred and twenty-four feet and five stories high; the capacity is about 1,000 boxes daily; one hundred and fifty hands are employed. In the manufacture of soap; one half a million dollars are invested in Buffalo.

It is an interesting fact in connection with the manufactures of Buffalo, that the first billiard table made in the State west of New York was made here in 1825, by Jeremiah Staats; he was then located on Niagara street near Main, where he was burned out in 1830. He is now located at 32 Staats street. Other billiard table manufacturers here are H. W. Kruse, 187 Main street, Adam Braun, 203 Genesee street, and

\* See biographical sketch in subsequent pages.



John Strycher, 11 Seneca street. The J. M. Brunswick & Balke Co. have an establishment at 597 Main street.

The firm of Pratt & Letchworth, 52 Terrace, is one of the foremost in the country in the manufacture of saddlery hardware. The company was formed in 1850 and is composed of P. P. Pratt and Josiah Letchworth. They are proprietors of the Buffalo Malleable Iron Works on Tonawanda street, where 500 hands are employed, and also manufacture largely in the penitentiary, under contract.

Harvey D. Blakeslee began the same business in 1879, on Washington street, and is now located at 135 and 137 Main street.

The Buffalo Scale Works is an important manufacturing establishment, which was founded in 1860, as an incorporated company and was located where it now is. Edward S. Rich was the first president and John R. Linen the first secretary. The business has grown until now their products are shipped to all parts of the world and their scales are made to weigh accurately the standards of all nations; the Buffalo scales have also been adopted by the United States Government. Fifteen to twenty thousand scales are now made annually. From one hundred and fifty to two hundred hands are employed. The present officers of the company are John R. Linen, President; L. Chestnutwood, Treasurer; A. A. Houghton, Secretary; J. H. Usher, Mechanical Superintendent.

The Niagara Stamping and Tool Company, 147 Elm street, was established in 1879, by the present proprietors, Adam Heinz, Michael J. Stark and George J. Munschauer; they employ about sixty hands and manufacture tools and machinery for making tin cans and canning outfits, and stamp tin and other metals.

On the 1st of September, 1878, the Buffalo Wire Fence Company began business on Hanover Street. Two years later the works passed to the hands of H. B. Scutt & Co., who located the business on the corner of Michigan and Folsom Streets, where it has remained since. When the business was commenced, the capacity of the works was only 2,500 pounds daily; this has been increased to 25,000 pounds. The firm of H. B. Scutt & Co. was dissolved in 1883 and the incorporated company was organized, known as the H. B. Scutt Company. About twenty-five men are employed and the industry is rapidly growing. B. A. Lynde is secretary and treasurer of the company.

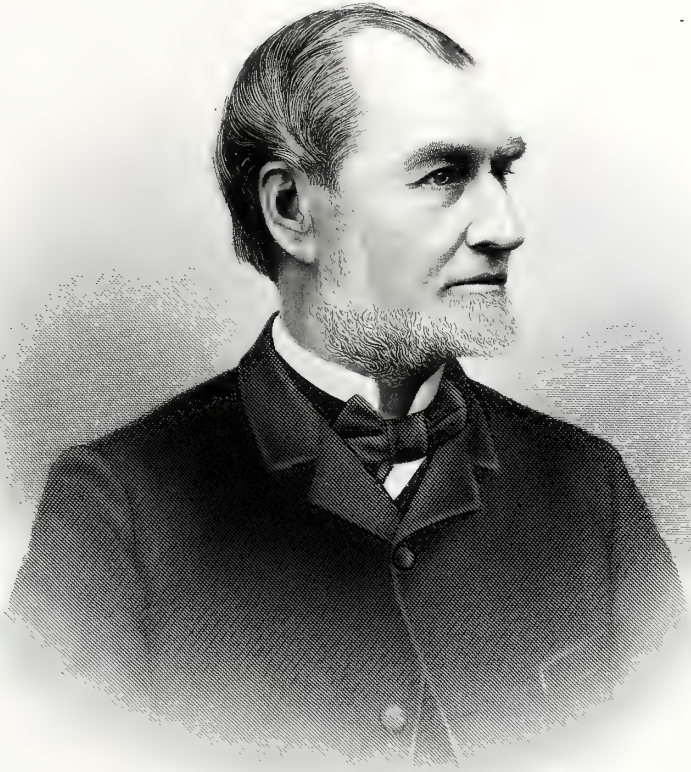
The planing mill and general wood-working industry in Buffalo is one of importance and one of the oldest in the city. The business now conducted on a very large scale by Lee, Holland & Co., on the corner of Court, Wilkeson and Fourth Streets, was established in about the year 1832, by P. L. & L. L. Eaton; it was for years known as the Eaton planing mill. James H. Brown, who had been a silent partner from the beginning, was given a place in the firm name in 1858, the style being





*James H. Helms*





*[Faint, illegible text, possibly a signature or name.]*



Eaton, Brown & Co. In 1868 the name was again changed to Clarke, Holland & Co; in that year Chas. S. Clarke and Henry Montgomery came in. The present firm name was assumed in 1881. The members of the firm are J. H. Lee, Franklin Lee, N. Holland, H. Montgomery. About two hundred men are employed. In the large buildings occupied by the firm are also H. J. Comstock, lounge manufacturers, and Weir Bros., stair manufacturers, employing together sixty to seventy men.

The planing mill plant of E. & B. Holmes is located on Michigan street and the canal. The firm was established in 1852 and the business has grown to vast dimensions, covering the whole field of manufactured lumber for building purposes. The members of the firm are E. Holmes,\* B. Holmes, J. B. Holmes and J. Deitz. The firm of E. & B. Holmes, (composed of E. Holmes, B. Holmes\* and J. B. Holmes,) also conduct a large barrel factory and iron works at 59 Chicago street, from which a product of great value is turned out and shipped to all parts of the world.

Boller & Recktenwalt established a planing mill at their present location in 1862. Nicholas Schreiner, now running a similar establishment on Ash street, was then a member of the firm. Their location is on the corner of Chicago and Carroll streets. The individuals of the firm are C. Boller and N. C. Recktenwalt. Among the other representatives of this interest in Buffalo are Burt & Mead, Ganson street, near South Michigan; Hoeffler Brothers, 151 Elm street; Joseph Churchyard, 650 Clinton street; R. H. Thayer & Co., foot of Church street; J. R. Munroe, 260 Bryant street; Jacob Jaeckle, 915 Genesee street; Jacob Haselbeck, 585 to 591 Jefferson street; Chas. J. Hamilton, Erie street, corner of Terrace; Fisher & Klause, 920 Seneca street; Jacob Uebelhoer, 200 Cherry street, and some others of less importance.

The Clark Manufacturing Company, 418 to 428 Niagara street. The business now conducted under the above name, was begun in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, in 1864, by J. K. Clark and his brother, C. B. Clark, the former gentleman being still at the head of the establishment. In 1868, they came to Buffalo and established themselves in the well-known "Bee Hive" building, on the corner of Niagara and Virginia streets. At this time E. L. Ferguson and H. R. Clark, brother-in-law and brother of the original proprietors, were admitted to the partnership. In 1872 they erected the buildings which they now occupy. In 1880, C. B. Clark, by reason of ill health, retired from the firm. In March, 1882, he died in Philadelphia. The buildings used by this company extend one hundred and thirty-five feet square; about one hundred and fifty hands are employed. They manufacture builders' hardware.

Thomas F. Griffin & Sons manufacture car-wheels, etc., on Forest avenue, near Niagara street. The business was established in March,

\* See biographical sketch in subsequent pages.



1883. The firm is composed of Thomas F. Griffin, Thomas A. Griffin and P. A. Griffin. The building covers about six hundred by seventy feet.

The Pitts Agricultural Works, Fourth street, corner of Carolina, were founded in 1851, on the site still occupied by John A. Pitts, who was at that time proprietor of a similar establishment in Rochester. In 1859, Mr. Pitts died and the business was then conducted under the management of James Brayley and John B. Pitts, son-in-law and son of the first proprietor. After the death of John B. Pitts in 1866, Mr. Brayley remained at the head of the concern until its incorporation in 1877. The incumbent officers are Mrs. M. A. Brayley, president; Carleton Sprague, vice-president; Thomas Sully, secretary and treasurer. Portable and traction farm engines, the apron thresher, vibrating threshers, etc., are the products of this important industry. John A. Pitts was the inventor of the apron thresher, the Pitts mounted horse-power and the vibrating threshers. It is stated that they manufacture about three hundred engines and seven hundred separators annually. The works cover an area in three plats, as follows:—office and factory, three hundred and thirteen by two hundred and ten feet; lumber yard, three hundred and thirteen by one hundred and sixty-four feet; store-house, one hundred by one hundred and sixty-four feet. In July, 1879, the buildings were burned to the ground, but new ones were completed on the old foundations before the following January. About three hundred men, including salesmen and office employees, are kept in pay.

The Shepard Hardware Company are proprietors of an establishment on Forest avenue, Erie canal and Black Rock harbor, that was founded by Mr. John D. Shepard, who also founded the business now known as the King Iron Works, in 1845; the King Iron Works were formerly known as the Shepard Iron Works. The present works of the Shepard Hardware Company were established in 1866, and were first carried on at the corner of Chicago and Miami streets. January 1, 1883, Mr. Shepard's sons and successors moved to their present quarters at the junction of Forest avenue and the Erie canal. The buildings cover about three and one-half acres of ground, the foundry alone being five hundred and fifty feet in length. About two hundred hands are employed. Although for years the business had been conducted chiefly by the sons of the proprietor, viz: Charles G. Shepard and Walter J. Shepard, the father remained the nominal head until January, 1878; since then the sons have been sole proprietors. The products of the establishment are hardware specialties of almost every description.

The firm of J. B. Sweet & Son have been engaged in the manufacture of children's carriages in this city since 1865; it is the only establishment of the kind in the city, and is now located at 297, 299 and 301 Niagara street. J. B. Sweet went into the business in 1866, and the present firm was formed in 1871; they were formerly located on the cor-







ner of Scott and Michigan streets, and have occupied their present location for ten years past; about forty men are employed.

L. & I. J. White are largely engaged in the manufacture of edge-tools and machine knives at 310, 312 and 314 Exchange street; they came here from Munroe, Mich., about 1838, and located first at Black Rock; they removed to Ohio street, where they were burned out, locating immediately after where they now are. It is an important industry.

The manufacture of illuminating and lubricating oils is carried on here on a large scale by F. S. Pease at 65 and 67 Main street, and 82, 84 and 86 Washington street. Mr. Pease founded the business in 1848 and has made it an important industry. The Buffalo Lubricating Oil Company, 55 Main street, is also largely interested in this industry. There are several large refineries of illuminating oils.

There are three or four large starch works in the city. C. Gilbert established himself in the business in 1864, near the present site, at the foot of Hamilton street, where his son now conducts the works. About twenty-five tons are turned out here daily; the works comprise three large buildings, besides commodious out-buildings. Wesp, Lautz Bros., & Co., began starch manufacture at Black Rock in 1877; in the following year they erected their present buildings at the junction of Oneida, Bond, Addison and Lord streets. In this factory about one hundred and fifty hands are employed. The individual members of the firm are, Phillip Wesp, George Wesp, J. Adam Lautz, Fred, C. M. Lautz and Martin F. Lautz. The International Starch Works is another large establishment which was opened for business in 1877, at Black Rock, by the present proprietors. The works comprise several commodious buildings and employ fifty hands. Their capacity is four hundred bushels of corn daily. The same firm also run a barrel heading manufactory at the same location, which turns out 2,000 headings per day.

The Riverview Pickle and Vinegar Works, established in 1868, by John L. Kimberly, Jr., on Hanover street, is now one of the largest concerns of the kind. A few years after it was established, he removed to Chicago street and from there in the fall of 1882, to the present location on Fourth street, near Maryland. About 12,000 barrels of vinegar and 6,000 barrels of pickles are made annually, employing ten to fifteen men.

Carriage and wagon making is extensively carried on in Buffalo, more than fifty men and firms being engaged in it in some of its branches. Wares unsurpassed for style and workmanship are turned out, rendering it one of the important industries of the place.

The wall-paper manufactory of M. H. Birge & Sons, which was established in 1834, is one of the older and more important industries of the city, and the only one of the kind here.

The wire works of Scheeler & Baer, 145 Main street, were established about twenty-five years ago by Mr. Scheeler. They manufacture wire cloth largely, employing twenty to twenty-five hands.

As long ago as 1835, N. Lyman established himself in Buffalo as a type-founder, and the business has been made to prosper ever since ; the foundry is located at No. 36 West Seneca street. About thirty hands are employed ; the members of the firm are W. E., C. B. and P. S. Lyman, sons of the founder of the establishment.

Other manufactures of Buffalo embrace file makers, jewelry manufacturers, trunk makers, pump makers, piano and organ manufacturers, marble workers, harness makers, and many other interests of minor importance.

The general growth of the manufacturing interests of Buffalo will be better understood by the comparison of a few figures from the last census (1880), with others taken from the census of 1860. In 1880 the sum of \$341,500 was invested in the manufacture of agricultural implements in the city alone ; twenty years before but \$132,400 was invested in the same branch in the whole county, and the value of the products in the latter year was only \$379,600, against \$423,500 in 1880. In the last mentioned year \$295,900 were invested in the manufacture of carriages and wagons, in Buffalo, and the product was valued at \$410,631 ; in 1860 the figures representing the same industry were respectively \$126,000 and 199,330. In clothing there were invested in 1860 in the entire county, only \$130,350, turning out stock worth \$336,952 ; this industry increased in the twenty years so that in 1880 the capital in use in the business in the city was \$1,000,000 and the products were valued at nearly \$3,000,000. In 1860, the capital invested in the iron industries of the county was placed at \$387,800, producing wares valued at \$798,605 ; while in 1880 the foundries and machine shops, the iron and steel works and the iron forges of the city employed a capital of over \$5,000,000 and turned out a product worth more than \$4,000,000. The glucose industry has entirely developed since the earlier year under consideration, and turns out an annual product of over \$3,000,000. There are invested now in the manufacture of drugs and chemicals in the city over \$300,000, and in patent medicines and compounds over \$1,000,000. In 1860 the capital invested in the county in printing and publishing was \$144,650, and the product was valued at \$275,241. In 1880 the figures were increased to \$819,000 and the product had a value of \$975,022.53, in the city alone. In the edge-tool manufactories of the city were invested in 1880 a capital of \$98,400, with a production of stock valued at \$115,100. In the manufacture of tobacco, cigars and cigarettes there was invested in the city in 1880 the sum of \$196,929, and the product had a value of \$464,964.66. These figures have an encouraging look for all who seek the welfare of the city.

#### THE WHOLESALE TRADE OF BUFFALO.

Although the city of Buffalo cannot be said to occupy a very prominent position in respect to its wholesale trade, yet it is true that at the

present time this feature of the city's business is in a growing, healthy condition. The wholesale trade of the place was developed in a small way at an early period. For a number of years between the time when the city had reached a stage of growth enabling it to carry on a successful wholesale business in staple goods, down to the date of railroad construction in this vicinity, the trade flourished here and much of the capital and business energy of the community was turned in the direction of wholesaling; between 1830 and 1840, for example, the wholesale business of Buffalo in some lines of goods was greater, it is claimed by good authority, than it is at the present time. During that period the country merchants over a wide extent of territory immediately surrounding the city, as well as the early business men of what was then considered the far west, and of portions of Canada, looked to Buffalo for a large share of their goods. Many of the older business men here to-day will remember when every store on Main street below the canal bridge was a wholesale establishment. Country retail merchants came to the city from long distances with teams, and thus transported their goods home; at the same time shipments of goods to still more distant points by lake were heavy. The building of railroads created a change that was temporarily against the development of the wholesale business of Buffalo; connections were thus formed with other important interior business centers; country merchants who had hitherto purchased their stocks in this city, found themselves enabled to reach New York, a privilege they were not slow to avail themselves of, all of which served to withdraw an important percentage of the wholesale business of Buffalo to other points. The effects of this change continued in some degree for ten or fifteen years, after which a healthy reaction began and wholesale trade has since increased continuously in most lines of goods proportionately with the growth of the city. During the past ten or twelve years, the development in this direction has been most encouraging.

In the foregoing pages devoted to the manufacturing interests of the city, much has been said having a bearing upon the wholesale trade of Buffalo, since the products of many large manufactories must be sold at wholesale by the proprietors who produce them; therefore, what follows should not be accepted as representing the entire wholesale interest of the city; there are, moreover, hundreds of thousands of dollars in goods sold here annually at wholesale, by retailers, which cannot manifestly be noted in this work, the purpose being merely to refer to the inception and growth of some of the leading houses in different lines.

The wholesale trade in drugs and medicines in Buffalo, although not one of the heaviest interests, is still one of the oldest in which a jobbing business was developed here. In the *City Directory* of 1832, we find the advertisement of Williams & Co., dealers in American and imported drugs, medicines, groceries, etc.; their location was "No. 1



Cheapside." This firm undoubtedly sold drugs at wholesale, but not in very large quantities. Williams & Co. had a drug store and sold at wholesale on the southeast corner of Main and Seneca streets, as early as 1829, Robert Hollister being a member of the firm. In 1835, Mr. Hollister went into the business for himself, on the southwest corner of the same streets, Mr. Williams continuing at the old location. In 1840, William Laverack engaged in the business with Mr. Hollister; this firm continued until 1864, when Mr. Hollister retired from it. Since that date the firm has been William Laverack & Co.; it is now composed of William Laverack and George Laverack; their location is 230 Washington street. The senior member of this firm and William Coleman are the oldest druggists now in business in Buffalo. Mr. Coleman has been in the trade for fifty years; he succeeded his father, who had a store on the corner of Main and Swan streets, where the United States Express office is now located; he afterwards moved to the northeast corner. The firm is now Coleman & Chapin, their location being No. 16 Swan street. Powell & Plimpton do an extensive business in jobbing drugs, in connection with their wholesale grocery business; they are located at Nos. 497 to 501 Washington street. Harries & Bullymore began wholesaling drugs and medicines in April, 1882. On September 1, 1883, Mr. Bullymore retired and the business is now conducted by Oscar L. Harries at No. 263 Washington street. Lyman & Jeffrey, 311 Main street, wholesale in connection with their retail establishment, and doubtless other retailers do so to some extent.

The jobbing trade of the city in dry goods (strictly) is almost entirely confined to three or four firms and is generally carried on in connection with a large retail business. It had not reached a very important position until as late as 1866 or 1867; since 1870 it has developed rapidly. The firm of Barnes, Bancroft & Co., 260 to 268 Main street, is one of the largest wholesale houses in the city in dry goods. The firm is descended through several changes from one of the oldest dry goods establishments in Buffalo, and is now composed of J. C. Barnes, William Hengerer, J. K. Bancroft, J. C. Nagel and C. O. Howard. The firm own the splendid building which they occupy, extending from Main to Pearl street; their trade has reached three million dollars a year.

The dry goods house of Adam, Meldrum & Anderson, was founded in 1867, by R. B. Adam and Alexander Meldrum; in 1875 William Anderson became interested in the business. The house does a heavy wholesale trade in connection with their retail business, all reaching \$3,000,000 annually.

J. N. Adam & Co., 292 to 298 Main street, and 16 to 22 Erie street, is composed of J. N. Adam, W. Paterson and W. H. Hotchkiss. They do a large wholesale business, and began here in October, 1881, coming from New Haven, where a branch establishment is still conducted.

While by far the larger portion of the dry goods jobbing trade of the city is in the hands of the three establishments to which we have referred, there are many other firms who wholesale to some extent in lines of goods that might, perhaps, be classed as dry goods, such as furnishing goods and the like.

Closely related to this line of business is the sale of fancy goods and notions. The oldest house in this business and one of the oldest jobbing houses of any kind in the city, is that of S. O. Barnum, Son & Co., 265 and 267 Main street. The house was founded by S. O. Barnum, in the year 1845. Mr. Barnum subsequently took into the firm his son, Theodore D. Barnum and Edward J. Chatfield. The business has developed from a small retail and wholesale trade, until it now embraces the whole field of foreign and domestic fancy goods, and what are termed "notions." The establishment occupies six floors, two hundred by thirty-one feet.

Wahl, Ansteth & Snaith, 332, 334 and 336 Washington street, though established in 1882, occupy a prominent position in jobbing fancy goods and notions. Besides these there are a large number of individuals and firms engaged in this line, most of which depend mainly upon their retail trade, but nearly all of whom wholesale to a limited extent; it is, of course, unnecessary to make further reference to such here.

Some idea of the wholesale iron and hardware trade has already been conveyed in what has been said of the iron manufacturing industries of the city. The wholesale trade in hardware in its many different forms, is distributed through the hands of a large number of dealers, nearly all of whom do a retail business also, and many of whom depend mainly upon that feature of their business. The firm of Pratt & Co., is one of the oldest as well as one of the strongest in Buffalo engaged in the sale of iron and general hardware. It was formed in 1842, being then composed of S. F. Pratt, Pascal P. Pratt and E. P. Beals. The founder of the house was the late S. F. Pratt, who began business here in 1828. After the formation of the firm of Pratt & Co., in 1842, no change occurred in its composition until 1880, when S. F. Pratt died and his interest was absorbed by the remaining partners. The firm was largely engaged in the manufacture of iron until 1879, since which time their energies have been devoted to the sale of merchant iron and general hardware; their business has reached \$1,500,000 in a year.

In the year 1818 a hardware store was kept on the corner of Main and Swan streets, by G. & T. Weed, in the same location now occupied by Weed & Co., of which firm Hobart Weed is the senior. They do a large wholesale trade in general hardware.

Charles E. Walbridge conducts a large jobbing business in hardware and stoves at 317 and 319 Washington street; he established himself in 1869 on Main street below Seneca, and removed to 297, 299 and 301

Washington street. In the spring of 1879 the building now occupied by the business was finished and taken.

In wholesaling iron, E. L. Hedstrom, White Building; G. R. Wilson & Co., 12 Seneca street; Palen & Burns, 229 Washington street; A. J. Packard, 200 Washington street; Kish & Co., 156 Washington street; W. H. H. Newman, 76 Main street; A. Ormsby, 24 West Eagle street, and a few others control the trade in Buffalo.

In a city like Buffalo the wholesale trade in groceries must always be large; there are fourteen or fifteen houses in this branch of trade here which are entitled to the distinction of wholesale establishments, while there are undoubtedly scores more that do something in this direction. One of the oldest wholesale grocery houses in the city is that of the Fuchs Brothers, 502 to 506 Main street, which was established in 1849; they were first located at 250 Genesee street. The firm is composed of A. and J. Fuchs. In addition to their trade in groceries the firm also import liquors and wines which they wholesale, and carry on a large cigar manufactory. Since the establishment of this house, and even earlier than that, the grocery and provision trade of the city has steadily grown to its present important position.

Philip Becker began wholesale trade in groceries at 390 Main street, in 1854; about the year 1858 he took in a partner, Mr. Geo. Goetz, and the firm has since been Philip Becker & Co.; they do a large trade at 468 Main street.

The wholesale grocery house of Miller, Greiner & Co. was founded in 1834, by the present senior member of the firm. This is a prominent establishment; the firm is composed of Chas. Greiner, A. D. A. Miller, A. C. Miller, J. Greiner and C. Greiner. Their location is 341 to 347 Washington street.

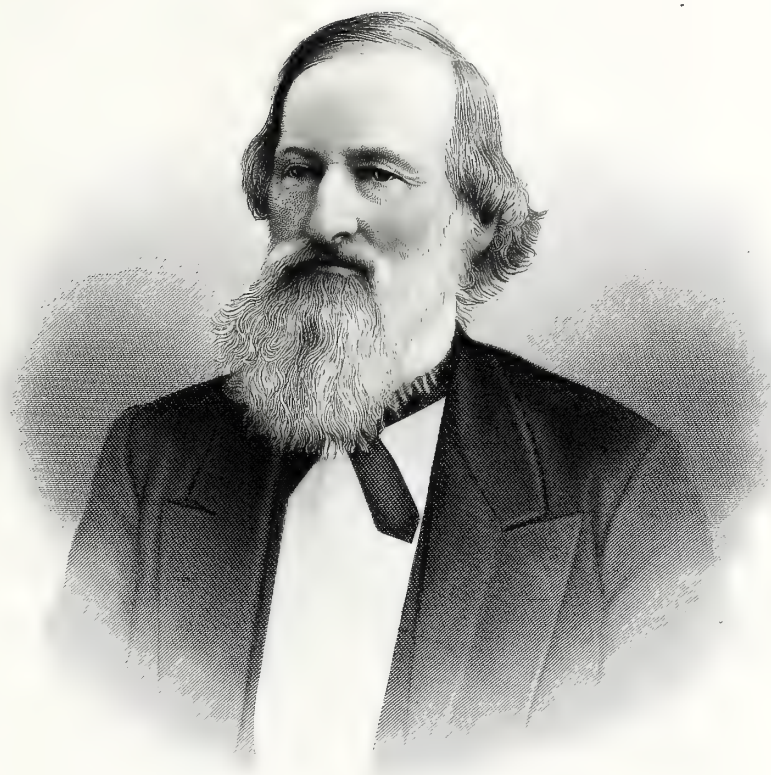
James M. Henderson began the grocery business at wholesale in 1868; he is now located at 102 Seneca street.

The house of Smith & Weber, 96 Seneca street, was established by Smith & Lapham in 1863 at the corner of Seneca & Michigan streets; they remained together until 1880. The firm is now composed of Avery L. Smith and John B. Weber.

Powell & Plimpton do a large wholesale grocery trade at 297 to 301 Washington street; as do Wm. Laverack & Co., 230 Washington street. Other dealers are Keller & Boller, 475 Main street, Granger & Co., 86 Seneca street, John W. Lewis & Co., 321 Washington street, Adam Boeckel, 685 Clinton street, Chas. E. Selkirk, 69 Seneca street. There are, of course, many other grocers who make wholesaling a portion of their business, to all of whom it is impossible to refer in this connection.

The wholesale trade in boots and shoes is principally in the hands of four or five dealers here:—Wm. H. Walker, O. P. Ramsdell, Sweet & Co., Taber, Hogan & Co., Alfred B. Chapin and T. H. & G. W.







Graves. The manufacturers, who sell the products of their own factories at wholesale, have been elsewhere referred to. The firm of O. P. Ramsdell, Sweet & Co., is the successor of the business formerly carried on by Mr. Ramsdell who was first located on Main street, the second door above Weed & Co.'s hardware store. W. H. Walker, who now conducts a very large wholesale trade at Nos. 210 and 212 Main street, was a clerk in Mr. Ramsdell's store, and was afterwards his partner for about twenty-five years. In 1876 the firm dissolved and Mr. Walker began business for himself. The firm of O. P. Ramsdell, Sweet & Co., is now located at Nos. 215 Washington street, and is composed of O. P. Ramsdell, T. T. Ramsdell, Wm. C. Sweet, Geo. W. Sweet, Sidney M. Sweet.

Robert Forsyth, 63 Seneca street, established in 1853, does considerable wholesale trade and Alfred B. Chapin, 47 Exchange street, began jobbing boots and shoes in June, 1883.

The wholesale paper warehouse of Young, Lockwood & Co., was started in 1839 by Francis Young, brother of C. E. Young, whose name appears at the head of the present firm name. In 1840 C. E. Young joined his partner and continued the business until his death in September, 1882. The present proprietorship was begun in 1872, though John A. Lockwood's connection with the business dates back as far as 1859. John C. Adams entered the firm in 1872. The location of the house has always been within a block of the present establishment, 209 Main street, where they have been since 1860.

The Courier Company is also prominent in the wholesale paper trade. This company was organized January 1st., 1869, with the following officers: Joseph Warren, president; James M. Johnson, vice-president; Milo Stevens, secretary and treasurer. The present officers and directors are: Chas. W. M'Cune, president and treasurer; Lucius N. Bangs, vice-president; James Tillinghast, secretary. Directors (in addition to the above) Henry Martin and Geo. Bleistine. The management of the company's affairs is entirely in the hands of Mr. M'Cune. The company is proprietor of the *Daily Courier*, the *Evening Republic*, and the *Weekly Courier*. In addition to this business everything known to the art of printing, except steel engraving, is done by the company, embracing the largest show-printing establishment in the world. Their wholesale trade in paper stock of all kinds is very large. About six hundred men are employed in all departments of the establishment, and three large buildings, all six stories in height, are occupied by the company.

In this connection it is proper to mention the large lithographing, engraving and printing establishments of Gies & Co., 338 and 340 Washington street, Clay & Richmond, 24 Swan street, and Cosack & Co., 206 to 210 Exchange street. These are all houses of National reputation, doing the finest work known in the art.



The wholesale trade in crockery is an important interest in Buffalo though it is confined to a very limited number of establishments. By far the most prominent house in the business here, and one of the largest in the State, is that of W. H. Glenny, Sons & Co., who occupy one of the finest business blocks in Buffalo, Nos. 253, 255 and 257 Main street, and a large warehouse on Pearl street. This house was founded by W. H. Glenny \* in 1840, before which time there was very little wholesale trade in crockery in the city. The firm was changed to its present style in 1865, the individual members being W. H. Glenny, Bryant B. Glenny, John C. Glenny and Irwin R. Brayton. Their Mam and Washington street establishment is one of the most conspicuous and successful business houses in Buffalo.

Matthew O'Neil, 270 and 272 Main street, carries on a large wholesale trade in crockery; his business was established in 1862. George E. Newman, 444 Main street, and E. S. Ferland, 407 Main street, are also engaged in this line.

The wholesale trade of the city in tobacco and cigars is large as is also the manufacture of these goods; but the interest is distributed among so many different hands, especially the manufacture of cigars, that detailed reference to them is impossible. The wholesale trade is largely in the hands of ten or twelve dealers, prominent among whom are Henry Breitweiser & Bro., 454 Seneca street who began the manufacture of cigars in 1862; the firm of Fuchs Brothers, to whom reference has already been made in connection with their other business; Granger & Co., 86 Seneca street; W. E. Geyer, 198 Pearl street; Robbins & Ellicott, 178 Seneca street; Upper & Donovan 92 Commercial street; Frederick Riehl, 166 Seneca street; George McLeod, 75 Seneca street, and others.

The manufacture of and wholesale trade in confectionery is a large interest in Buffalo and dates back to 1845, when James Heth was the only manufacturer of any importance here; he was located on Commercial street, near the liberty pole. John Benson began candy making about 1849 on Main street, opposite the liberty pole. In those days, and for some time after, only the common kinds of confectionery were made here. In Benson's employ at an early day was a young man named Henry Hearne, who, when he had mastered all the details of the business, started for himself in 1864. He first located in the Tiff block; from there he removed to Seneca street, opposite the old Franklin House, and in 1869 built the structure in which he now carries on a large business at 110 Seneca street; he was the first to employ steam in confectionery manufacture in the city.

The firm of Sibley & Holmwood began manufacturing confectionery on a large scale at 117 and 119 Seneca street, in 1873; they employ

\* See biographical sketch of the late W. H. Glenny in subsequent pages.



Truly Yours

W. A. Glenny.



steam. James Luttet and O. Gimmer manufactured confectionery as early as 1856. The firm subsequently dissolved and Mr. Luttet now carries on the business at 301 Main street.

The firm of Barnes & Swift, 78 Seneca street, do a wholesale trade in confectionery. The firm was formerly Menker & Barnes. H. A. Menker withdrew from it and established himself in the same trade at No. 565 Main street. In January, 1883, his brother came into the business, and the firm is now H. A. & J. C. Menker. E. Menker, Son & Co., also carry on the manufacture of confectionery in connection with a jobbing business at 450 Main street. This comprises most of the wholesale business of the city in this line except what is done in a small way by the principal retail dealers.

The wholesale liquor interest of Buffalo is an important one and is mainly the growth of the past twenty years. It is chiefly distributed through the hands of about a dozen leading dealers, though there are more than fifty who sell liquors or wines at wholesale to some extent, many of them in connection with the wholesale grocery or drug trade; some of these have already been mentioned. There is not now very much distilling of spirits in the city outside of the establishment of E. N. Cook & Co., 32 Main street. Their business was begun in the spring of 1876 by Gustav Fleischman, now a member of the firm; the distillery is on Spring street near Broadway. The firm was made E. N. Cook & Co., in 1879 and the Main street store opened. The distillery formerly managed by G. & T. Farthing was purchased, increasing the capacity from four hundred bushels to one thousand two hundred bushels per day. The house makes a specialty of straight rye whiskies and gin. Thomas Clark,\* (deceased,) founded the Red Jacket distillery in 1848 and began the manufacture of alcohol and cologne spirits. The office and rectifying department of this establishment are on the corner of Washington and Perry streets; the distillery, malt-house, store-house, etc., are on Seneca street. In distilling, rectifying and compounding liquors are also engaged Jay Pettibone & Co., 50 Lloyd street; Henry T. Gillett & Sons, 26 Lloyd street, and one or two others. Among the principal wholesalers of liquors are John R. Fero, 7 and 9 Quay street; Charles F. Nagel & Co., 10 Pearl street, established in 1864,—this firm is now composed of Charles F. Nagel, Jacob Dilcher and Louis Nagel; Charles L. Abel, 16 Ohio street, one of the oldest houses in the city in this business; A. T. Kerr & Co., 99 Seneca street, established in 1859; Charles Person, 392 Elm street; E. C. Cochrane, 474 Main street, established in 1863; August Baetzhoid, 567 to 571 Michigan street; John C. Eagan, 81 Seneca street; S. F. Eagan, 133 Seneca street and others.

The wholesale hat, cap and fur trade of Buffalo is in the hands of a half dozen dealers and dates back to 1830 or earlier. We find in the

\* See biographical sketch in later page.



city directory of 1832, the announcement of Tweedy & Ketchum, who have "opened a hat store at No. 177 Main street, three doors below the Buffalo House, where they will offer a general assortment of hats of their own manufacture at wholesale and retail." Mr. Tweedy is still in the same business in the city, at 217 Main street. His partner in the first store was Lewis Ketchum. C. Georger began the business on Genesee street, in 1845; since 1866 this firm has been C. & F. Georger; their location is now 508 Main street. The house of Chase & Comstock is descended from one of the oldest firms in this line of business in the city; the firm is now composed of John L. Chase and George W. Comstock; they are located at 249 Main street. The business of Stafford, Faul & Co., 271 Main street, was established by Sirret & Stafford in 1871 and was changed to its present form in 1878. The firm is now composed of R. Stafford, C. Faul and W. J. Mann. J. E. Bergtold and L. Israel also do some wholesale trade in this line; the former is at 293 Main street, and the latter at 26 Union street.

#### BUFFALO HOTELS.

The business interests of the city would not be adequately described without some reference to the hotels, which are intimately associated with the prosperity of the place. There are about forty hotels of all kinds in the city, among them being several that compare favorably in all respects with the best in the country, in cities the size of Buffalo. Such are the Tiff House, the Genesee, the Mansion House and others. The Tiff House was erected in 1863, by the late George W. Tiff, and has been under the proprietorship of Messrs. E. D. Tuthill & Son since 1873. The Mansion House has often been referred to in this work as the successor of Landon's Tavern, one of the oldest hostelries in the city. It has recently been greatly enlarged and has been under the management of R. F. Stafford and H. P. Whitaker since March 1st, 1882. "The Genesee" was built by Dr. Charles Cary and was finished and opened in the fall of 1882. The proprietors are Harris & Losekam, who also conduct the Clarendon Hotel, at Saratoga Springs. The Genesee is one of the largest and best appointed hotels in Western New York; it is kept on both the European and American plans.

The Continental Hotel was first opened about 1850, under the name of the Wadsworth House. The part known as the Exchange Hotel was burned and rebuilt in the spring of 1867, when it was opened as the Continental. The present proprietor of the house took it in January, 1874.

The Broezel House was built by John Broezel in 1875 who has conducted it, either alone or with his son, John Broezel, Jr., since.

Among the more prominent other public houses are the United States Hotel on the Terrace; the Bonney House, corner of Washington and Carroll streets; the National Hotel, opposite the Central depot; Gruener's Hotel, 20 East Huron street.



*Yours Truly*  
*Geo. M. Tiffit*



## CHAPTER X.

## INSURANCE COMPANIES OF BUFFALO.

Magnitude of the Insurance Business — The First Company in Buffalo — Its Officers and Changes — Some of its First Policies — The “Mutual Insurance Company of Buffalo” — The Second Local Company — The “Western Insurance Company of Buffalo” — Companies Organized in Buffalo and now in Existence — The German Insurance Company — Its Unqualified Success — Its Magnificent Building — The “Union Fire Insurance Company of Buffalo” — The “Erie County Mutual Insurance Company” — The “Buffalo Insurance Company” — General Insurance Interests of the City.

**T**HE business of insurance of property against destruction by the elements, forms one of the most gigantic financial interests in the country. From almost the first settlement of Buffalo, after the burning of the village in 1813-'14, down to the present time, this great interest has been honorably and efficiently represented in the city.

In the year 1819, the Legislature of the State granted a charter to the Western Insurance Company of the village of Buffalo, for fire and marine insurance. Owing to the stringency in all financial matters during that and the few succeeding years, nothing was done under this charter until 1825, when Jacob Barker, of the city of New York, purchased the charter and opened the first insurance office in Buffalo. Isaac S. Smith was the first secretary of the company, and Captain William P. Miller was first president. In April, 1827, Mr. Smith resigned the office of secretary, and Lewis F. Allen,\* who now resides in the city, came on from New York city and accepted the position. In 1828, Captain Miller also resigned the presidency, and Charles Townsend was elected to the office. The capital of this company was \$100,000, and it did a good business during its existence, considering the size of the place. The charter of this company expired in 1830 and its affairs were wound up.

In the legislative session of the winter of 1829-'30, was granted a charter which was prepared by Lewis F. Allen, for The Buffalo Fire and Marine Insurance Company, with a capital of \$100,000. This company was incorporated April 1, 1830. Charles Townsend was made its president. The capital stock was mostly taken by the citizens of Buffalo.

The first policy issued by this company was upon the furniture of William Ruxton, for \$500; its cost to him for one year was \$4.25. Other policies followed to Manly Colton, on a two-story house on Main street; on a barn on the corner of Pearl and Tupper streets, to Wray S. Littlefield; to Seth Grosvenor, on a two-story dwelling occupied by S. K.

\* See biographical sketch in subsequent pages.



Grosvenor, on the west side of Pearl street ; to William Ketchum, on a two-story house on the north side of Seneca street ; to William Ketchum & Co., on a stock of hats and caps in a store on Main street ; to Bryant Burwell, on a two-story house on the west side of Pearl street, "near the Episcopal church ;" to Nathaniel Wilgus, on a two-story dwelling on the east side of Washington street, near the corner of Eagle street ; to Horatio Shumway, Simeon Francis, Guy H. Goodrich, Pierre A. Barker, Russell H. Heywood, on cargoes and vessels.

R. H. Heywood and Horatio Shumway were presidents of this company at different periods, and Lucius Storrs was its secretary for a number of years. A large business was done and its losses were always paid promptly and satisfactorily. In 1844 an effort was made to engraft upon the stock plan the mutual insurance principle ; this effort failed of success and other companies, vigorously and successfully managed, were organized, which came into direct competition with the Buffalo Insurance Company. It closed business in April, 1849, having ceased marine insurance the previous year.

In the year 1842, Lewis F. Allen, who appears to have been chiefly instrumental in the formation of the early insurance companies of the city, obtained a charter for the Mutual Insurance Company of Buffalo. G. B. Rich was made president of the company, and Walter Joy, vice-president ; Oliver Lee was given the office of treasurer, while the secretaryship was tendered to Mr. Allen ; but he declined it and Samuel T. Atwater accepted the position. The trustees were Philo Durfee, Heman B. Potter, Rufus C. Palmer, E. G. Spaulding, James C. Evans, Walter Joy, S. S. Jewett, O. G. Steele, Samuel W. Hawes, Gaius B. Rich, John D. Shepard, S. F. Pratt, Jason Sexton, Thomas J. Dudley, William A. Bird, Ralph Plumb, Henry M. Kinne, George Coit, A. R. Cobb, Robert Hollister, Harry B. Ransom, Harry Thompson, Richard L. Allen and Carlos Emmons.

This company was organized without capital ; the books were to be opened for business and when approved applications for insurance were received to the amount of \$100,000, the organization was to be perfected. Applications on hulls of vessels were promptly made for the stipulated amount, and the company was accordingly organized. The first twelve policies issued were to John Aublett, E. G. Spaulding (2), Gaius B. Rich, Henry Wells, Robert Hatfield, Thomas M. Foote, Philo Durfee, Smedley & Marcy, Baker & Pease, Judson Harmon, O. G. Steele.

Some doubt having been expressed as to the company being able to pay possible losses, eight of the directors loaned their notes for \$5,000 each, secured by bond and mortgage, at five per cent. interest. This indebtedness was cancelled by payment of the notes, with five per cent. interest the first year, and three per cent. the two following years. The company was very successful and enjoyed a high reputation in all of the towns along the lakes for prompt payment and fair dealing.

Mr. Rich resigned the presidency of this company in 1847 and A. A. Eustaphieve took the office. He resigned in the spring of 1863, and was succeeded by J. S. Weatherly. This company changed its character to a stock company and its name to the Buffalo Fire and Marine Insurance Company. It suspended business through heavy losses incurred in the Chicago fire of 1871.

In April, 1842, a charter similar to that of the Mutual Insurance Company of Buffalo, was granted to the Atlantic Mutual Insurance Company of New York City. It is mentioned here from the fact that it immediately solicited business in Buffalo and other interior cities, and was immensely successful. Its career has been referred to by excellent authority as "unparalleled in marine underwriting in the world."

The next local insurance company was the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company of Erie county. This company was incorporated May 14, 1845; Thomas C. Love was the first president, and Richard L. Allen, secretary. The company did a comparatively small, but a safe business.

The Merchants' Mutual Insurance Company was organized under the State law in 1849-'50, beginning business in the latter year. It was prosperous for a short period, but suffered heavy losses and finally suspended.

The Western Insurance Company of Buffalo was organized under the general law in 1862. Its corporators were: John L. Kimberly, Henry Martin, A. J. Rich, Geo. C. White, H. E. Howard, P. L. Sternberg, Wm. O. Brown, Oscar Cobb, John G. Deshler, Jason Parker, Thomas Clark, Dean Richmond, Elijah P. Williams, Wm. G. Fargo, David N. Tuttle and S. V. R. Watson. Dean Richmond was made president of the company, Gibson T. Williams, vice-president, and Joseph Stringham, secretary. The capital of the company was placed at \$150,000, which was subsequently increased to \$200,000 and again to 300,000. This was probably the most successful and strongest insurance company, all things considered, that was ever organized in Buffalo. The premium receipts grew from 50,000 in 1862, to 563,000 in 1868. During its operations of nine years, it received nearly \$4,000,000, while it paid out for losses and expenses about \$3,000,000. It did a very large fire and inland marine business.

The Buffalo City Insurance Company began business on the 1st of May, 1867. The officers of the company were: Wm. G. Fargo, President; A. Reynolds, Vice-President; Henry T. Smith, Secretary, with a board of twenty-eight directors. The capital of the company was \$200,000, which was afterwards increased to \$300,000. The business of this institution seems to have been largely under the control of Mr. Reynolds during the first four years and to have been successfully managed. During that period forty-five per cent. of the capital was paid in dividends and it was then a very prosperous organization. Mr. Rey-

nolds left the company in the spring of 1871; there was then a surplus of about \$100,000. Mr. P. S. Marsh was elected in place of Mr. Reynolds, and in the fall of 1871, owing chiefly to heavy losses in the great Chicago fire, the company suspended. The first policy issued by the Buffalo City Insurance Company, was for \$5,000, on the Central Presbyterian church; it was dated May 1, 1867.

There are four insurance companies now doing business in Buffalo which were organized here, all of which have had successful and honorable careers. The Buffalo German Insurance Company is one of the most successful institutions of the kind in the whole country. It was chartered and incorporated on the 15th of February, 1867, with \$100,000 capital. The first officers of the company were: E. G. Grey, President; Philip Becker, Vice-President; Alexander Martin, Secretary. The first board of directors were Philip Becker, E. G. Grey, F. C. Brunck, Jacob Dold, Julius Fuchs, Solomon Scheu, Andrew Grass, F. A. Georger, John Hauenstein, Wm. Hellriegel, Stephen Bettinger, O. J. Eggert, H. Schanzlin, Paul Goembel, Jacob Hiemez, Philip Houck, Nicholas Ottenot, Henry C. Persch, J. F. Schoellkopf, Albert Ziegele.

This is one of the few companies doing business in the State under what is known as the surplus law. This law gives fire insurance companies the *privilege* of limiting dividends to stockholders to seven per cent. per annum on the capital and earned surplus. The profits in excess of such dividend is divided into two funds known as the guarantee surplus fund and the special reserve fund. The first named fund is liable, with the capital, for the payment of all losses by extraordinary conflagrations, while the special reserve fund would be used for the payment of other policy-holders who might suffer subsequent fire losses, without tedious delay. This plan places the company upon a basis of unquestioned security and has rendered it very popular with property owners.

So great has been the success of the Buffalo German Insurance Company that it found itself in position previous to the year 1876, to erect one of the handsomest and costliest structures in the entire city—the splendid building standing on the corner of Main street and Lafayette Square. It is an iron structure of symmetrical design and elegant in architecture, costing, with the ground on which it stands, \$275,000. In this building are located the offices of the company, the German Bank of Buffalo, and many other offices. The present officers and directors of the company are as follows:—Philip Becker, President; Julius Fuchs, Vice-President; Oliver J. Eggert, Secretary; Frederick C. Haupt, Assistant Secretary; George A. Reinhardt, General Agent; Chas. A. Georger, Special Agent. Directors:—Louis P. Adolff, Philip Becker, F. C. Brunck, Charles Boller, Adam Cornelius, John P. Diehl, Jacob Dold, Julius Fuchs, F. A. Georger, George Goetz, E. G. Grey, John



Hauenstein, William Hellriegel, Jacob Hiemenz, Philip Houck, Michael Mesmer, Nicholas Ottenot, Henry C. Persch, J. F. Schoellkopf, Albert Ziegele.

The Union Fire Insurance Company was incorporated in Buffalo, in 1874, with a capital of \$100,000. The first board of directors were as follows:—Joseph Churchyard, President; Joseph Bork, Vice-President; Simon Bergman, Michael Doll, Joseph A. Dingens, Jacob P. Fisher, Jacob A. Gittere, Henry Garono, Henry Hellriegel, Joseph L. Haberstro, Henry D. Keller, John Kelly, Jr., Pascal P. Pratt, John Henry Smith, George Sandrock, E. G. Spaulding, William Scheu, Joseph W. Smith, Arnold Weppner, George Zeiler, George W. Zink. Alexander Martin has occupied the office of secretary since the incorporation of the company.

The capital of this company was paid in cash and business begun by it as a stock company. It has met with excellent success in all respects. The present officers of the company are:—Joseph Churchyard, President; Henry Hellriegel, Vice-President; Alexander Martin, Secretary. The directors are as follows:—Joseph Churchyard, President; William Cochrane, Jacob P. Fisher, Charles Georger, Henry Garono, H. Hellriegel, Jos. L. Haberstro, Edward Heron, Robert Keating, Alexander Martin, Pascal P. Pratt, Frederick Persch, George Sandrock, Thomas P. Sears, E. G. Spaulding, William Scheu, Henry M. Watson, Arnold Weppner, Dr. William Volker, George Zeiler, G. Frederick Zeller. The offices of this company are located at 426 Main street.

The Erie County Mutual Insurance Company was incorporated March 14, 1874. John P. Einsfield was the first president; John G. Lengner, the first vice-president, and M. Leo Ritt, the first secretary. The capital was \$100,000, with 20 per cent. paid in. The business of the company is fire insurance only. The present officers are:—August Beck, President; Wm. Henrich, Vice-President; Joseph Timmerman, Secretary. Trustees: August Beck, Casper J. Drescher, Louis Freund, Peter Frank, Emil Gentsch, Ambrose Hertkorn, Wm. Henrich, Chas. Hammerschmidt, John A. Miller, Louis Rodenbach, Sebastian Schwabl, Ambrose Spitzmiller, Philip Steingoetter, Frederick Wagner and G. Frederick Zeller.

The Buffalo Insurance Company was organized in July, 1874, and is second in importance and business in the city only to the German Insurance Company. Its first officers were: P. P. Pratt, President; James D. Sawyer, Vice-President; Edward B. Smith, Secretary and Seneca A. Clark, Assistant Secretary. The original board of directors were: James G. Forsyth, Solomon Drullard, A. P. Wright, P. S. Marsh, Edward L. Stevenson, S. K. Worthington, and Henry C. Winslow. The capital of the company was placed at \$200,000, and has remained so since. The capital is invested entirely in United States government



bonds and the balance of its assets consists principally of cash in banks. The amount of premiums received by the company in 1874, the first year of its existence, was \$90,000. In 1882 the amount had increased to \$115,000. The total amount of premiums received is \$1,318,000. Total amount of losses, \$917,700. The company has now about thirty agencies, all located in this country. The present officers of the company are: P. P. Pratt, President; Jewett M. Richmond, Vice-President; Edward B. Smith, Secretary, and Townsend Davis, Assistant Secretary. Office, 200 Main street.

The general insurance interests of Buffalo are well represented by numerous agencies some of which are so extensive in their operations and control the business of such strong companies that they may be briefly referred to as a prominent feature of the business of the city. The handsome offices of Smith & Davis are located at No. 200 Main street. The reader has already learned that Mr. Smith is now and for many years has been prominent in the insurance business of Buffalo. The firm was formed in 1870 and besides doing a very heavy fire insurance business, have also the largest lake business of any agency in the United States.

The insurance firm of Fish & Armstrong, No. 56 Main street, was formed in 1861 and does a very large business which extends from New York to Chicago, on the canal and lakes. The firm has remained as it now is since its first formation, with the exception of a short time in 1873, when it was styled Fish, Armstrong & Co.; the present offices have always been occupied by the firm. The individual members of the firm are S. H. Fish and C. B. Armstrong.

Worthington & Sill, No. 46 Main street, established in 1868, are one of the leading insurance firms in the city; they have offices also at 16 Central Wharf. They occupied their present commodious offices in the spring of 1871, the offices having been fitted up by the Western Insurance Company; they will soon remove to still more elegant quarters on the ground floor of the new Board of Trade Building. The firm do both fire and marine insurance. The firm is composed of Henry S. Sill and C. G. Worthington.

Flint & Dorr are a strong firm which has existed in its present form since 1881; but the business of the agency was formerly in the hands of Captain E. P. Dorr, who died in March, 1881. He was one of the most prominent men in the business here for many years.

There are many other insurance agencies in Buffalo that transact considerable business, and over fifty agencies of all classes. Among those who have been in the business for many years, besides those already referred to, may be mentioned Nathaniel Hall, an insurance agent of more than forty years experience in Buffalo; O. T. Flint, of the firm of Flint & Dorr, has been engaged in the business since 1852, and others.

On the 7th of October, 1856, a local Board of Underwriters was organized in Buffalo for the first time. Its officers were A. A. Eustaphie, President; Edward Brewster, Vice-President; William Lovering, Jr., Secretary and Treasurer. Ten years later, a new board was organized with E. P. Dorr as President; E. B. Smith, Vice-President; D. V. Benedict, Secretary and Treasurer. From that time to the present, except at comparatively brief intervals, a local board has been in existence in the city.

The Buffalo Association of Fire Underwriters, as at present existing, was organized in the fall of 1879. For a period preceding that time, losses by fire had been unusually heavy, not only in this city, but throughout the country, and it became necessary to obtain higher rates for insurance; this organization was the result. The Association was formally incorporated in 1881. The officers are:—C. B. Armstrong, President (since organization); Alexander Martin, Vice-President; C. H. Woodworth, Secretary (since organization); L. T. Kimball, Treasurer.

## CHAPTER XI.

### THE CHURCHES OF BUFFALO.

The First Preacher in Buffalo — Early Missionary Work — The First Buffalo Church Society — The First Church Building — Organization of the First Presbyterian Society — Names of the Members — History of the Church — Other Presbyterian Churches — Their Pastors and Officers — Episcopal Churches of Buffalo — History of St. Paul's — Other societies of this Denomination — The First Baptist Church and its Successors — Separate Church Societies — Catholic Churches — The Israelites and their Religious Societies.

**T**HE first preacher in Buffalo was undoubtedly the Rev. Elkanah Holmes, who was sent to the Seneca Indians by the New York Missionary Society, and "preached to the inhabitants of New Amsterdam." Meetings were held at irregular intervals in private houses and in the school-house, after it was built in 1808-'09. A son of Rev. Mr. Holmes married a daughter of Dr. Cyrenius Chapin, the conspicuous Buffalo pioneer. Other missionaries followed Rev. Mr. Holmes to labor among the Indians, and occasionally preached in Buffalo.

Turner is authority for the statement that a Methodist church society was founded in Buffalo in 1809, under direction of Rev. James Mitchell, but "it had no permanent organization;" it was re-organized in 1818, his "primitive materials being eight persons who 'called themselves Methodists, mostly transient and poor.'" In January, 1819, the society had

erected a small church, twenty-five by thirty-five feet, on Pearl street, nearly opposite the present site of the First Presbyterian church; that was the first church building erected in Buffalo; it was built in forty-eight days and was dedicated January 24, 1819, the Rev. Glezen Fillmore officiating; he was one of the most conspicuous preachers in Buffalo in early days.

The best available authorities give the date of the formation of the first permanent church organization in Buffalo as towards the last of the year 1809; the society was composed of Congregationalists and Presbyterians. The formation of this society is placed by some authorities as late as 1812; but it was undoubtedly earlier, being followed at the latter date by the formation of the First Presbyterian society. The pioneer society was organized by Rev. Thaddeus Osgood, an itinerant minister; the members were Mrs. Landon, Nathaniel Sill and wife, Mrs. Mather, Mrs. Pratt and a young man whose name is not known.

*The First Presbyterian Church Society* was organized on the 2d day of February, 1812. Its original membership numbered twenty-nine. Their names were as follows:—Jabez B. Hyde and his wife Rusha Hyde, Samuel Atkins and his wife Anna Atkins, John J. Seeley and his wife Elizabeth Seeley, Stephen Franklin and his wife Sarah Franklin, Amos Callender (ruling elder) and his wife Rebecca Callender, Comfort Landon, Esther Pratt, Jabez Goodell, (ruling elder), Nancy Hull, Ruth Foster, Keziah Cotton, Nathaniel Sill (ruling elder) and his wife Keziah Sill, Keziah Holt, Nancy Mather, Sally Haddock, Henry Woodworth, Nancy Harvey, Sophia Gillett, Sophia Bull, Mary Holbrook, Betsey Atkins, Lois Curtiss, Sarah Hoisington. For nearly four years from its start, it bore the title of the First Congregational and Presbyterian Church of Buffalo. At the end of that period, however, the name was changed by the unanimous vote of the society to its present form. The infant church suffered even more than others of its kind from the vicissitudes and perils of the war then waging. After the burning of the village in December, 1813, the meetings which had been theretofore held in the old court house were interrupted for nearly three years. May 3, 1816, in a barn on the north-east corner of Main and Genesee street, the Rev. Miles P. Squier, a young man from Vermont and student from Andover, was installed in the pastorate of the first church, with a salary of \$1,000. Here services were held once a week or oftener until May, 1823, when a building was erected on the site of the present structure at a cost of \$874. By 1828 the congregation had outgrown their house and it was sold to the Methodists, who moved it to Niagara street; they, in turn, transferred it to a German congregation by whom it was removed to Genesee street. Its religious usefulness having seemingly died out it was finally made an ice-house for the supply of a brewery and was taken to Walnut street where it remained until 1882. During that year it was burned



to the ground. The Presbyterians soon raised a fund sufficient to build a new house of worship and on the 28th day of March, 1827, a new church edifice was dedicated, it having been constructed at an expense of \$17,500. Mr. Squier relinquished his post January 1, 1824, having increased the membership of the society to 120. Experience had shown that it was impracticable to pay any pastor a salary of \$1,000 at that time, and consequently the second pastor of the church, the Rev. Gilbert Crawford, who succeeded Mr. Squier in May, 1824, was secured for \$600. In February, 1829, the Rev. Sylvester Eaton assumed the pastorate at a salary of \$800. The remaining pastors of the church up to the present time have been as follows:—Asa T. Hopkins, installed February 17, 1836; M. L. R. Thompson, November, 1848; Walter Clarke, D. D., April, 1864; David R. Frasier, 1872; and the present incumbent, Rev. Samuel S. Mitchell, D. D., November 1st, 1880. Rev. Mr. Hopkins and Dr. Clarke both continued their pastorates until they died, the former, November 27, 1847, and the latter May 23, 1872. The building now used by the congregation has undergone no material change since its erection except that during Dr. Clarke's administration the modern style of pulpit was substituted for the high pulpit before used.

*Lafayette Street Presbyterian Church.*—The society of the Lafayette Street Church was organized July 13, 1845, under the name of the Park Church Society, by the election of the following named persons to constitute a board of trustees:—Reuben B. Heacock, George Kibbe, N. B. Palmer, C. A. Van Slyke, Orrin Edgerton, Lovel Kimball, George Howard and T. J. Winslow. The board was organized August 1, 1845, by the election of the first three named respectively as president, clerk and treasurer. This organization was Congregational in its polity. October 1, 1845, application was made through a committee to the presbytery to constitute a church in the place of the Park Church, to be known as the Lafayette Street Church, which was accordingly done on the 16th of the same month. The original members numbered but thirty, although at the first communion following, most of the members of the extinct Park Church joined it by letter. Messrs. Abner Bryant and Dwight Needham were the first elders. On the 19th of October, 1845, the Rev. Grosvenor W. Heacock was installed in the pastorate at a salary of \$600. Services were then, and had been for about six months previously, held in the building known as the Park church. This edifice burned March 11, 1850, but was immediately re-built. The lot fronting thirty-five feet on Washington street was bought in the spring of 1861. The present structure was erected in 1862, at a cost of about \$25,000, five feet having been added to the lot facing Washington street. In February, 1868, a new organ was purchased for \$3,000. June 8, 1870, witnessed the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Dr. Heacock's pastorate. During the twenty months intervening between November, 1872, and May, 1874,



the Rev. C. P. H. Nason filled the vacancy caused by Dr. Heacock's absence in Europe. In November, 1876, after a ministerial career of thirty-one years, devoted entirely to the welfare of the Lafayette Street Church, the Rev. Dr. Heacock relinquished active work. On the 6th day of May, 1877, after a long and painful illness, he died. His life was completely identified with the history of the city. He was born here August 3, 1821; he was the fifth son of Reuben B. and Abby P. Heacock, the latter being the sister of Seth Grosvenor, of New York, the founder of the Grosvenor Library. In 1840, he was graduated from the Western Reserve College, and in 1844 from Auburn Theological Seminary. His first sermon was preached in the old Park church June 8, 1845. On June 13, 1848, he married Miss Nancy Rice Stone, daughter of Jesse Stone, formerly of Brooklyn.

On Sunday, October 7, 1877, the Rev. Henry M. Parsons, of Boston, Mass., having signified his acceptance of a call, began his engagement by officiating in this church at communion service. He was installed November 1, and remained about a year and a half; he was dismissed November 1, 1880. From then until October, 1881, the pulpit was vacant. September 6, 1881, the Rev. Rufus S. Green was called from a pastorate in Morristown, N. J., and having accepted, began his labors October 23, 1881. He was installed November 1st. Before Mr. Green's arrival about \$5,000 was expended in improvements. There are now four hundred and one members in the church and about two hundred and twenty-five in the Sunday school, the latter being superintended by George L. Lewis. The Milnor Street Sunday School, a branch of the work of this church, and undoubtedly the largest Sunday school in the city, has now about one thousand members. The average attendance for 1882 was six hundred and seventy-seven. Its superintendent is John Gowans. The following are the present church officers:—pastor, Rev. Rufus S. Green, D. D.; ruling elders, Charles H. Baker, Charles G. Brundige, James W. Bixby, Samuel N. Lawrence, John Otto, George R. Stern; deacons, George L. Lewis, Leonard B. Perry, Albert W. Shaw, Byron H. Westcott, Edward L. Chichester, Augustus M. Westfall; trustees, Loren L. Lewis, Alexander Brush, Willard W. Brown, Joseph P. Dudley, John Gowans, Cornelius M. Horton, Henry Childs, Alexander Mel-drum, Edwin Sikes.

*The Central Presbyterian Church.*—The Central Presbyterian Church of Buffalo, was organized by the presbytery of Buffalo on the 14th day of November, 1835, under the title of the Pearl Street Presbyterian Church, its charter membership numbering thirty-three. The first officers were Messrs. James I. Baldwin, Reuben H. Heacock, Alden S. Sprague, George Stowe, Daniel R. Hamlin, James Cooper, H. H. Reynolds and W. G. Miller, none of whom are now living. They called to the pastorate Rev. John C. Lord, of Geneseo, who, prior to his study of divin-

ity had been a prominent member of the bar of Buffalo, and had been elected to judicial trusts. In 1836 they completed a church edifice at a cost of \$35,000 on the northwest corner of Pearl and Genesee streets. By a unanimous resolution in 1842, they expressed their adherence to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church of the United States, then designated as the "Old School." In 1848, the society reorganized under the name of the Central Presbyterian Church, and determined to rebuild on the opposite, (northeast) corner; they erected a building with a seating capacity of two thousand. The dedication of the new structure took place in 1852. In 1870 a co-pastorate was added and the Rev. A. L. Benton, of Lima, N. Y., was called. He remained until 1872, when he accepted a call from the Presbyterian church of Fredonia, N. Y. Dr. Lord, after nearly forty years of successful pastoral work, offered his resignation in September, 1873. He was succeeded by the Rev. Charles Wood, of Princeton Seminary, who remained until 1878, when he decided upon making a study of the mission field by a trip around the world. The Rev. James McLeod of Batavia, the present pastor, immediately followed Mr. Wood. The church has always sustained a Sunday school, the present attendance at which is about two hundred and twenty-five.

*The Westminster Presbyterian Church.*—The Westminster Presbyterian Church was organized September 3, 1854. The society was organized April 11, 1853, the following persons constituting the board of trustees:—Jesse Ketchum, Noyes Darrow, Isaac F. Bryant, James M. Ganson, Moses Bristol, Alanson Robinson, William S. Vanduzee, Benjamin Hodge and Horace Parmelee. The chief projector of this church was Jesse Ketchum, for a number of years a prominent member of the First Presbyterian Church. In 1845 Mr. Ketchum bought the lot on which the Westminster church now stands, at a cost of \$1,000. Two or three years later he built a chapel with another thousand. For a considerable period all attempts at organization failed, owing to the scarcity of population in that part of the city. Services were held in the church until after August, 1850, by the Rev. John Germain Porter, stated supply, to whom Mr. Ketchum personally paid a salary of \$800. In August, 1850, also, was organized the Delaware Street Sunday school, with an attendance of six teachers and thirty pupils. On the organization of the society in April, 1852, \$400 was added to the pastor's salary, and the burden of payment removed from Mr. Ketchum's shoulders. The church organization was composed of forty members. On June 7, 1857, Mr. Porter having accepted a call to the Union Presbyterian church of St. Louis, preached his farewell sermon. Rev. James Leonard Corning, of New York, was installed October, 1857, and remained until 1859. A new church edifice erected in 1858-'59 which cost the congregation \$19,200, was dedicated September 22, 1859. The Rev. Dr. Joseph

H. Towne, from Rochester, began duty on a year's engagement as stated supply, June 1, 1860, at a salary of \$1,500. In October, 1861, the Rev. Joel Foote Bingham was installed in the pastorate. His resignation was accepted November 8, 1867. On the evening of Saturday, September 7, 1867, the church sustained an irreparable loss in the death of Mr. Ketchum. The Rev. Albert T. Chester, D. D., filled the pulpit as stated supply from July, 1867, to October, 1868. The next pastor, the Rev. Erskine Norman White, was installed October 28, 1868, and was dismissed September 29, 1879. In 1869 a mission Sunday school was opened on the corner of Utica and Rogers streets (now Richmond Avenue) under the superintendence of F. N. Jones, and a new chapel built at a cost of \$3,000. In 1873 it was turned over to the German Church of St. Lucas and the building sold to them. In 1874, the organ now in use in the church was bought for \$5,505.56. On September 23, 1874, Dr. White sent in his resignation, which was accepted, and he was followed in October, 1875, by the Rev. Isaac Riley, who died October 23, 1878. The present pastor, the Rev. T. Ralston Smith, D. D., was installed July 9, 1879. The trustees are:—George Howard, president; Augustus F. Tripp, vice-president; Burdett A. Lynde, secretary; William Perkins, treasurer; Ralph Plumb, John W. Brush, James B. Holmes, Henry C. French and Alfred Haynes.

*North Presbyterian Church.*—In the year 1847 the population of Buffalo being then 50,000, it was seen that another Presbyterian church was needed to meet the demands of the growing city. On the 25th of March in that year, letters of dismissal were granted to forty-three members of the First Presbyterian Church. These were the projectors and organizers of the North Church. The first pastor of the new church, the Rev. Charles Rich, entered upon the performance of his duties October 3, 1847, though he was not regularly installed pastor until the following January; meantime, December 29th, the church edifice was dedicated. The elders were Messrs. George B. Walbridge, Benjamin Hodge, and Chauncey D. Cowles, all of whom are dead. The Rev. Mr. Rich remained in his office but a year and a month. During the summer of 1849, through the cholera season, the Rev. Joshua Cook filled the pulpit. On December 23, 1849, the Rev. A. T. Chester, D. D., became the regular pastor. An interval of thirteen months occurred between the close of Dr. Chester's pastorate in the fall of 1860, and the opening of that of his successor, the Rev. Henry Smith, D. D., February 4, 1862. No fewer than eleven ministers filled the pulpit during this period. Dr. Smith closed his labors in the church in September, 1865, and was followed in November, 1866, by the Rev. Wolcott Calkins, who continued in the office until February 1, 1880. On the 22d day of February, 1880, the new Johnson organ was first used in worship. The present pastor, the Rev. William S. Hubbell, was installed December 1, 1881. The church has



established two missions, the Harbor mission, in Dr. Pierce's old dispensary, on the Terrace, and the Eighth Ward mission. Its membership now numbers about five hundred persons.

*The Calvary Presbyterian Church.*—On the 22d day of February, 1860, this church was organized with a membership of forty-one. The first elders were Gustavus A. Rogers, M. S. Allen and William R. Allen. The first deacons were Wm. E. Lyman and Lorenzo Sweet. For nearly a year the Rev. Dr. Reed acted as stated supply for the pulpit. Then the Rev. A. T. Chester, D. D., preached for two or three years. The elegant church building now used by the congregation was dedicated on July 8, 1862, both it and the parsonage being a gift of the late George Palmer. April 16, 1862, is the date of the incorporation of the society, under the following named trustees:—John McArthur, James Duthie, John H. Selkirk, for one year; George B. Ketchum, Lorenzo Sweet and Alonzo Tanner, for two years; John B. Skinner, William E. Lyman and Sherman S. Rogers, for three years. During the year 1864 the Rev. H. M. Painter filled the pulpit as stated supply. In April of 1866, however, the Rev. Alexander McLean was installed as the first pastor and remained with the church eight years. Rev. William Reed officiated from June, 1874, until 1881, since which time the church has been without a pastor. There are about one hundred and sixty members in the church at present. The present board of trustees is constituted of the following members:—Hon. Sherman S. Rogers, president; E. J. Hall, secretary; John Walls, John J. McArthur, Alonzo Tanner, David S. Bennett, George N. Prince, Merritt Brooks and Harlow Palmer.

*The Breckenridge Street Presbyterian Church.*—By means of a careful scrutiny of the fragmentary records of this church the following facts have been ascertained: It was organized September 18, 1831, under the name of the First Presbyterian Church of Black Rock, the meeting being held in the building now used for worship. The first ruling elders of the church were: Joseph Sill, James German and William Davis; Joseph Sill also acted as deacon. The names of the Revs. R. G. Murray, Hugh Hamill and Sylvester Eaton, appear in the records as administering the sacraments, etc., in 1832. The Rev. J. D. Moore was stated supply in 1840, and closed his labors in this church on March 19, 1843. The Rev. J. C. Lord occasionally administered the sacrament. The Rev. Smith Sturges was called to the pastorate on December 3, 1845, and was installed within a month. He was dismissed October 17, 1848. The Rev. J. C. Knapp is then mentioned several times as acting as moderator *pro tem*. April 19, 1854, Rev. A. T. Rankin was moderator and continued his relations with the church until July 15, 1859. In the fall of 1861 the Rev. William Hall was installed in the pastorate, but his connection with the work here closed in six months. After Mr. Hall left the Rev. A. T. Rankin was appointed by a committee of the presbytery to act as mod-



erator of the session. An item dated February 9, 1864, states that E. P. Marvin, who had then been preaching to this congregation for about two years, was ordained and installed as pastor. In 1866 Rev. A. T. Rankin is again referred to as pastor. From the early part of 1868 to 1869, the Rev. P. G. Cook held that position. For a brief period in 1870, the Rev. Anson G. Chester was stated supply. Rev. Ansley D. White was elected pastor on October 30, 1870. In the summer of 1871 the property of the church, which had been previously held by a stock company, was transferred to the congregation and the building was repaired at a cost of \$2,000. In 1871 or 1872, the name of the church was changed to the Breckenridge Street Presbyterian Church of Buffalo. On the 11th day of May, 1873, the Rev. William A. Gay, of Winnebago, Illinois, assumed the duties of the pastorate at a salary of \$1,500 a year. In December, 1882, he resigned and went to Tonawanda. The present pastor, the Rev. Giles H. Dunning, of Dryden, N. Y., began his labors here on August 1, 1883. There are now one hundred and seventy-two communicants in the church. The Sunday school, under the superintendence of Russell Weller, has attained a membership of about two hundred and seventy-five pupils.

*The East Presbyterian Church.*—In 1864, under the pastorate of the Rev. Henry Smith, D. D., the North Church employed Rev. Henry Ward, then a student in the Auburn Theological Seminary, as a city missionary. On the 29th of May in that year, a mission Sabbath school was opened on Exchange street near VanRennselaer street. When Mr. Ward returned to the seminary A. R. Ketcham became superintendent of the school and was ably assisted by teachers from the North Church. On the 22d of February, 1865, a commodious chapel was completed and occupied on Seneca street, under the supervision of Mr. Ketcham, of the North Church. Rev. George LeBotilleur, from June to September, 1865; Rev. Mr. Perry, from September to December, 1865; Rev. Robert Proctor, from December, 1863, to December, 1866; and Rev. R. D. McCarthy from January, 1867, to May, 1867, were employed in the mission. In July, 1867, Mr. Ward, upon the invitation of the North Church, again took charge of the work. Up to this time, besides the Sabbath school, a Sabbath evening service and a prayer-meeting in the week had been held. Regular services were now begun and continued. The church was organized by the presbytery of Buffalo on the 21st of July, 1869, with sixty-five members, with Rev. Henry Ward as pastor, and Merritt Brooks and Thomas Olver as elders. The society was organized May 31st, 1871, with Alexander Brush, Joseph N. Mileham and Nicholas Olver as trustees. The lot on South Division street, near Spring, now occupied by the church, was purchased, and in September 1872, work was begun on the building of a church edifice. In 1875, the Seneca street chapel was sold and the building was completed. The present

house was first occupied the 14th of November, 1875, and from January, 1876, the church ceased to be a mission and assumed its own support. In the first year after the present house was occupied one hundred and thirty-nine members were added to this church. The present membership is three hundred and fifty, with about four hundred in the Sabbath school. A. R. Ketcham, Merritt Brooks, Nicholas Olver, Meyers Garrett, D. W. Carney, with John Shaw, who is now in that position, have been superintendents of the Sabbath school. Merritt Brooks, Thomas Olver, Jonathan B. Williams, John Stuart, Duncan Colquhoun, Thomas Shaw, Henry Thomas, Guy C. Martin, Charles E. Porter, David O. Porter, have been elders, and of them the last six with the pastor, now constitute the church session. The trustees of the society have been Alexander Brush, Joseph N. Mileham. Nicholas Olver, Joseph W. Dennis, Henry Thomas, John Stewart, Guy C. Martin, W. W. Buffum, Duncan Colquhoun, C. K. Walrath, J. C. Post, Cyrus Nichols, Theodore R. Henshaw, Frederick Johnson. The last six of these now constitute the board of trustees.

*The West Side Presbyterian Church.*—The West Side Presbyterian Church was organized May 9, 1875, in a frame chapel on the corner of Sixth and Maryland streets, which had been bought several years before by the First Church and used as a mission chapel. The original membership of the chapel was thirty-three. The first pastor was the Rev. G. G. Smith; the first elders were William L. Doyle, Edward J. Hingston, John W. Danforth; first deacons, George Preisch and John A. Bell. The Rev. Herbert G. Lord, the present pastor, was called in the latter part of the year 1877. During the year 1881, the society bought a lot on the corner of Prospect avenue and Jersey street, upon which they subsequently erected a stone edifice worth nearly \$20,000. The building was dedicated Christmas day, 1882. Its present membership is one hundred and fifty.

*Wells Street Chapel.*—The Sunday school from which this body has grown was organized in August, 1865, in a building called the Soldier's Rest, on Exchange street. The first superintendent was the Rev. P. G. Cook, who has up to the present time been the leading spirit in the work. In 1870 the society removed the building in which they held services to the southwest corner of Wells and Carroll streets. The present building, on the northwest corner of Wells and Carroll streets, was erected in 1872. In February, 1874, Mr. Cook received a written request from a number of prominent members of the society, urging the organization of a church, with Mr. Cook as pastor. In March of the same year the church was organized with forty-five members. The chapel and site originally cost about \$22,000, though the rise in the value of real property has increased its worth to \$35,000. The church is in a good part of the city to wield a beneficial influence, and has

unquestionably contributed not a little to the cause of reformation where reformation is much needed.

*The First United Presbyterian Church.*—An organization which might be called the beginning of this church was effected here in 1835, the Rev. M. McFinney being settled as pastor. It was then part of the Associate Reformed Church of America. The society, however, expired in 1840, owing probably to the want of a house of worship. In 1847 measures for a reorganization were set on foot and on February 28, 1848, the Associate Reformed Church was represented in Buffalo. The first ruling elders were David Boyd and James Duthie. There were thirty-six charter members. The pulpit was filled by visiting pastors until May, 1850, when the Rev. Clark Kendall was secured and was installed by the Presbytery of the Lakes, on the 27th of June following. Mr. Kendall continued his pastorate for twenty-two years. In 1850 the property now occupied by the church, previously used by a Dutch Reformed congregation and a Lutheran society was bought for the sum of \$5,000. They immediately removed from the Young Men's Association building into their new quarters. Some time in 1857 the church in connection with the general body united with the Associate Church of America, and was afterwards considered a component unit of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. In 1867 the society was transferred to the care of the presbytery of Caledonia. In 1869 a mission chapel was erected on Hamburg street. The present pastor, the Rev. H. W. Crabbe, began his labors as successor to Mr. Kendall, on the first Sabbath in April, 1873. The Sabbath school is co-eval with the second organization of the Church.

*First Congregational Church.*—The First Congregational Church of Buffalo was organized in May 1880, being composed of a number of the former members of the Lafayette Street Church. The organization took place in McArthur's hall, with about ninety members. The first board of trustees was composed as follows: L. H. Brown, H. D. Demond, W. M. Knight, R. K. Strickland and Mr. Ketchum. Worship was held in this hall until about the middle of October, 1881, at which time the church had increased its membership to about one hundred and fifty. The church edifice on Niagara Square had just previously been bought of the Niagara Square Baptist Society, for \$15,250. The building was also repaired and enlarged at an expense of about \$11,000. The Rev. George B. Stevens, the first pastor, was called about the 1st of June, 1880. He remained until December, 1882. Just before the contemplated dedication of the newly-purchased edifice, it was damaged by fire and the dedication delayed until January, 1882. In January, 1883, the Rev. Frank S. Fitch, the present pastor, was secured at a salary of \$2,250. The corporate society was organized in June, 1880, the first board of trustees being Wm. G. Bancroft, since deceased, Geo. R. Haynes, Hon.









Wm. W. Hammond, Seth L. Mason, Edmund J. Plumley, and Howard Winship. The only change since made in the board was occasioned by the death of Mr. Bancroft, Emmor Haines being chosen to fill the vacancy. The present membership of the Church is about two hundred,

*St. Paul's Church, (Episcopal).—*This, the mother parish in Buffalo, was organized February 10, 1817, the Rev. Samuel Johnston, an Episcopal missionary for the district west of the Genesee river, officiating. The first wardens were Erastus Granger, and Isaac Q. Leake; the first vestrymen, Samuel Tupper, Sheldon Thompson, Elias Ransom, John G. Camp, Henry M. Campbell, John S. Larned, Jonas Harrison and Dr. Josiah Trowbridge. The first missionary of the parish, the Rev. Wm. A. Clark, was here in 1819 and 1820. The Rev. Deodatus Babcock followed in 1820 to 1824, the Rev. Addison Searle from 1824 to 1828, and the Rev. Everard Kearney in 1828. On September 13, 1829, the Rev. Wm. Shelton, the first rector who derived no support from the missionary fund, preached his first sermon. The church edifice had been built in 1819. It was a frame building of gothic architecture, erected at a cost of \$5,000; the lot, a gift of the Holland Land Company, is situated at the junction of Erie, Pearl and Church streets. The Holland Land Company further granted as a gift to the parish, in 1820, one hundred acres of land near Lower Black Rock, the proceeds of the sale of which were used to purchase the lot on Pearl street on which the rectory was built in 1846, at a cost of \$8,000. In 1851, under the administration of the already venerable Dr. Shelton, the frame church building was replaced by the present stone edifice, on the former site. St. Paul's is considered the cathedral church of the diocese and contains the Bishop's chair which faces the nave at the entrance of the chancel. The consecration of this building took place under Bishop DeLancey, October 22, 1851. It was not entirely finished, however, until about 1870. Its cost has been over \$100,000. Dr. Shelton resigned the rectorship, and was made honorary rector on January 11, 1881, having acted as rector for this church over fifty-one years. He was at the time of his death, October 11, 1883, the clergyman of the longest standing of any in the city. He was succeeded by the Rev. John W. Brown, D. D., March 31, 1882, who assumed his labors on May 7th, following. St. Paul's parish is free from debt.

*St James Church, (Episcopal).—*This parish was organized and the church incorporated April 17, 1854. The Rev. J. T. Eaton was chosen rector. Nelson James and John Lewis were the first wardens. Mr. Eaton remained in charge about two years. The Rev. L. S. Stevens was called in July or August of 1856, and continued for about ten years. The Rev. Geo. C. Pennel was called March 1, 1857, and resigned November 28, 1868. The Rev. Theodore M. Bishop was made rector March 1, 1869, and resigned in the early part of 1874. He was succeeded by the Rev. Henry S. Dennis in April, 1874, who resigned Octo-

ber, 1875. The Rev. Chas. H. Smith, the present rector, took charge January 1st, 1876. A new house of worship is now building, on the site of the old church, on the corner of Swan and Spring streets. The cost of the new church will be about \$18,000.

*Trinity Church (Episcopal).*—Trinity church was organized on Wednesday, October 12, 1836. The first wardens were :—Captain Samuel L. Russell, U. S. A., killed in the Seminole war, and Henry Daw. The latter remained warden until his death, in 1864. The first rector was the Rev. Cicero Stevens Hawks. Land on the corner of Washington and Mohawk streets was bought for \$4,750, and what were at that time regarded as modern plans were adopted. A financial crisis delayed the completion of the building, the foundation of which, however, was laid soon. The congregation worshiped first in rented rooms in the second story of the old theatre on the corner of Washington and South Division streets, afterwards in the church on Washington street, rented from the Universalist society. In this building the congregation remained until December, 1842, when the building originally begun was completed in the plainest possible manner. The first rector was succeeded in April, 1844, by the Rev. Edward Ingersoll, D. D. Dr. Ingersoll was connected with Trinity church as rector and rector Emeritus, until the day of his death, in 1883. Between 1845 and 1848 the church edifice was enlarged and a rectory annexed on the lot in the rear of the church facing Mohawk street. In 1874 the Rev. Dr. Ingersoll, having resigned, was succeeded by the present rector, the Rev. L. VanBokkelen, D. D.

*Christ Church (Episcopal).*—On the 4th of July, 1868, St. John's church, Buffalo, was partly destroyed by fire, caused by the falling of a rocket on the roof of the tower. Owing to this accident a part of the congregation determined to leave the old site and erect a new building on Delaware avenue. Three lots were purchased on the avenue between Tupper and Edward streets, at a cost of \$40,000, on which were to be erected a church, a chapel and rectory. The new parish was to be known as Christ church, Buffalo; and the rector of St. John's church, the Rev. O. Witherspoon, was to be its rector. Plans for the edifice were obtained, and preparations were begun for the buildings. The plans, however, did not entirely succeed. The foundation for the church was laid, but the rectory was not even begun. Only the beautiful little building now known as Christ chapel was completed. It was begun in 1869, and, as a circular addressed to the parishioners in 1875 states, it was "substantially completed" in 1871. The new parish went on for a while successfully, but passed out of existence in 1875, in difficulty and in debt. The lots were heavily mortgaged and the parish owed for interest and other liabilities, over \$10,000, while its revenue from pew-rentals was not sufficient to meet the expenses. The chapel with all its

furniture, and the lot on which it stands, was to be sold at a sheriff's sale. At this crisis some faithful women who, by their exertions had accumulated a few hundred dollars for church purposes, stepped in and saved the furniture of the chapel, while the building itself and the lot on which it stands, were rescued by the bishop of the diocese, who bought them in for \$10,000, giving his own bond and mortgage for that sum and taking the title to the property into his own hands. The lot on which the foundation of the church was laid, came into the hands of the late William G. Fargo, and the rectory lot reverted finally to its original owner.

From 1875 to 1879 the chapel was carried on by the bishop, assisted by the Rev. M. C. Hyde, now rector of All Saints' church, Buffalo. It had no vestry and was entirely under the bishop's control. April 14, 1879, with the consent of the bishop, a new parish was organized by the congregation worshipping in the chapel, which was to be known as "Christ Church." The vestry elected was comprised of the following gentlemen:—Hon. A. P. Nichols and Theodore Dennis, wardens; Hon. A. P. Laning, Hon. William G. Fargo, A. S. Bemis, J. C. Forsyth, H. B. Loomis, S. D. Colie, Edwin C. Robbins and C. Valette Kasson, vestrymen. The Rev. A. Sidney Dealey was called to be the first rector of the new parish and began his work on November 30, 1879, the first Sunday in Advent.

On the first of March, 1881, a decided move was made towards paying the mortgage held by the bishop so that the title to the parish might be in the hands of the corporation. This was happily accomplished and February 16, 1882, the church, free from debt, was consecrated.

*St. John's Church (Episcopal).*—This parish was organized on the 19th of February, 1845. The first wardens were: Selan Barnard and Gustavus Denison; the first vestrymen, L. D. Hibbard, Silas Heminway, Carlos Cobb, W. A. Bird, H. Rainey, Charles Pickering, James P. White and E. M. Martin. The first rector was undoubtedly the Rev. M. Schuyler, who administered the rite of the first baptism which took place in the new and hardly completed church edifice on January 30, 1848. Mr. Schuyler's name, however, first appears under date of July 20, 1845. The church building was begun in 1846, and finished in 1848, having cost nearly \$34,000. Mr. Schuyler resigned the rectorship September 1, 1854. The next clergyman was the Rev. D. T. Warren, who officiated from September 3, 1854, to January 1, 1855. On the latter date appears the name of the Rev. Samuel L. Southard, who was rector from that time until December, 26, 1865. On April 19, 1857, the Rev. William Bliss Ashley assumed the rectorship and remained until February 19, 1860. He was succeeded on July 17, 1860, by the Rev. Orlando Witherpoon. Probably the most important event in the history of the parish occurred at 10 o'clock on the night of July 4, 1868. A sky rocket lodged



in the steeple of the church setting fire to it and causing a damage to the building to the amount of \$22,789.40; all this loss was covered by insurance. On the 28th of March, 1869, Bishop Coxe re-opened the church, which had been closed since the fire, the congregation meanwhile worshipping in Kremlin Hall, Trinity church and elsewhere. The Rev. Joseph Cross was rector from June 6, 1869, to May 29, 1870. For nearly a year there was no regular clergyman, excepting that Bishop Coxe officiated from January 13, 1871, until the September following. The Rev. Charles Avery acted as rector from March 31, 1872, until August 19, 1875, followed November 10, 1875, by Rev. William M. Hughes. On April 29, 1883, Mr. Hughes preached his farewell sermon and was succeeded May 6, 1883, by Rev. Samuel Richard Fuller. There are now in the parish three hundred families or seven hundred individuals, four hundred of whom are communicants. The officers are as follows:—wardens, D. B. Waterman, A. Sutherland; vestrymen, James N. Matthews, Hon. Charles Daniels, Henry C. Fiske, C. W. Baldy, (treasurer,) G. D. Barr, E. W. Hayes, Seth G. Cowles, Jonathan Sidway, (clerk,) C. H. Daniels.

*Church of the Ascension, (Episcopal).—*The incorporation of this parish took place on April 9, 1855, Isaac A. Verplanck and George C. Webster being on that day elected wardens, and the following being chosen vestrymen:—Orrin B. Titus, Jacob S. Miller, Dyre Tillinghast, Frederick P. Stevens, James G. Dudley, William Dickson, John Darrow and Hugh VanDeventer. For one year the Rev. Daniel F. Warren was rector and was succeeded by the Rev. Orlando F. Starkey, who acted in that capacity about four years. On April 12, 1860, a call was extended to the Rev. A. C. Patterson. His resignation was accepted April 25, 1861. The present rector, the Rev. John M. Henderson, formerly of Elizabethtown, N. J., received a call from this parish May 30, 1861, and entered at once upon his labors. For several years the parish occupied a wooden building erected as a mission chapel upon the site of the present edifice on the corner of North street and Linwood avenue. In 1867 to meet the demands of the parish, the building was enlarged at an expense of about \$1,700. In the following year the rectory was completed, having cost about \$3,500. In 1870 the parish decided to build a new edifice. The corner stone of the present building was laid by the Right Rev. A. Cleveland Coxe, Bishop of the diocese, May 9, 1872. The first service was held on Easter Sunday, April 13, 1873. The cost of the whole property is about \$60,000. The accumulation of this property has been effected during the last seventeen years and during the administration of the present rector, the Rev. John M. Henderson, now passing his twenty-second year in this parish, which has been his only charge as rector.

*Grace Church, (Episcopal).—*Grace Church was organized August 10, 1824. Services were held at first in a school-house by the Rev. Addison

Searle, from 1825 to 1830; by the Rev. Dr. William Shelton from 1830 to 1840; and by the Rev. George Ogle from 1840 to 1842, the services by the latter being held in the Union meeting-house. From the last date until 1856 no services were held. In 1856 the Rev. R. I. Germain began services. The Rev. Herman G. Wood was rector from April 26, 1859, to November 10, 1863; the Rev. George C. Pennell from March 20, 1864, to March 20, 1867; the Rev. Charles G. Gilliat from May 31, 1867, to December 31, 1870; and the Rev. Louis B. VanDyck from February 15, 1871 to the present time. In 1859 the church edifice was built at a cost of about \$3,500, and additions have from time to time been made. The building was consecrated in 1860. In 1876 a chapel known as St. Mark's chapel was built at a cost of about \$3,000, at lower Black Rock, in connection with Grace church parish.

*St. Mary's-on-the-Hill, (Episcopal).*—At a meeting held April 1, 1872, for the purpose of incorporating a church, the following were elected the first officers:—James M. Smith and A. Porter Thompson, wardens; Charles Gibbons, Edgar A. Pickering, W. Y. Warren, O. K. Judd, Charles E. Bacon, Thomas Lothrop, Claude T. Hamilton and Richard R. Cornell, vestrymen. On the 17th of September, 1872, the Rev. William Baker was elected minister in charge, and Claude T. Hamilton clerk of the vestry. On March 26, 1875, the Rev. Charles S. Hale was asked to take charge of the parish. November 21, 1877, the Rev. C. F. A. Bielby, the present rector, was elected. During the summer and fall of 1882, the church edifice was enlarged and improved by the addition of an aisle, a new organ being purchased at the same time. O. K. Judd and B. B. Hamilton are the present wardens.

*All Saints Church, (Episcopal).*—This church is situated on the corner of Main and Utica streets, and was organized Easter Monday, 1879, as a free church to be supported by the free-will offerings of the congregation. The corner stone of the edifice was laid on All-Saints' day, 1879. From that time until Easter, 1882, the congregation worshiped in the chapel adjoining the present church building. Through the liberality of the church people of Buffalo and by much hard work and self-sacrifice on the part of the rector and many members of the congregation, the prosecution of the business went on until the present results were accomplished. The formal opening of the building was made on Easter Thursday, 1879. The church property is valued at \$20,000. The Rev. M. C. Hyde has been rector of this parish from the first.

*St. Luke's Church, (Episcopal).*—This church was incorporated July 20, 1857. The first rector was the Rev. William White, who began Easter Sunday, April 4, 1858, and resigned December 30, 1861. The Rev. John Kerfoot Lewis was rector from February 16, 1862, until July, 1865; the Rev. Charles C. Edmunds from September 24, 1865, until Easter, April 17, 1870; the Rev. Edwin R. Bishop from October 1, 1870,

until Easter, 1873; the Rev. William F. Morrison, from August 1, 1873, until March 28, 1875. The Rev. Walter North, D. D., the present rector, came on May 16, 1875. The church building now used was built on Maryland street in 1859 and in 1870 removed to its present site on Niagara street. It was then enlarged and somewhat altered.

*St. Philip's Church, (Colored Episcopal).*—The house in which this congregation worship was built in 1853, Dr. J. A. Prime, a Presbyterian clergyman, being authorized to proceed with the work on September 28th of that year. It was used by the Presbyterians until 1863, Dr. Prime and the Rev. E. J. Adams being the respective pastors. In 1863, the building was bought from the Presbyterians and has since been used for the worship of St. Philip's church. The services are devoted entirely to the colored congregation. The names of the several rectors who have officiated in the church successively are as follows:—Revs. O. Witherspoon, S. V. Berry, W. G. McKinney, J. R. Love, and the present incumbent, the Rev. David S. Moir. Mr. Love left in 1878, and was succeeded by Mr. Moir in February, 1879. Under the efforts of the latter gentleman the church will soon be consecrated. The present wardens are L. W. Blount and Mr. Cary. There are now eighty-six communicants in the parish and about fifty-eight pupils in the Sunday school.

*Washington Street Baptist Church.*—The year 1822 witnessed the organization of this church, the earliest of this denomination in Buffalo. Through the efforts of Mr. John A. Lazelle, who came to Buffalo village in 1818, a Baptist society was formed which in 1822, requested the Rev. Elon Galusha, then of Whitesboro, to come among them as a missionary. He came on the 16th of February, 1822. At this time the Presbyterians were worshipping in the old court house, while a school house was opened to whomsoever might need it. The Rev. Miles P. Squier, of the Presbyterian church, offered his Baptist brethren the use of the court house and his offer was accepted. Owing to Mr. Galusha's able endeavors, the Baptist Church of Christ in Buffalo as it was called, was organized April 3, 1822. Mr. Galusha remained only a few months and for some time after his departure, the church was deprived of a regular minister. In July, 1823, Mr. John Newton Brown, a licentiate from the Hamilton seminary, was sent to the church, with which he remained until 1825. For two years afterwards the pulpit was vacant. The Rev. Eli B. Smith was pastor from June, 1827, to June, 1829. During his pastorate the church built its first meeting house on the corner of Seneca and Washington streets, afterwards sold to private parties and used by the government as a post office. After Mr. Smith's resignation the church was more than a year without a pastor. The Rev. Jairus Handy, of Dunkirk, filled the pulpit from July 31, 1830 until May or June, 1831. The Rev. Elisha Tucker, of Fredonia, was called to the pastorate in 1831,



and remained until 1836. In 1832, the name of the church was changed to its present form. The present house of worship was built early in the year 1836, at an expense of about \$24,000. The church took possession on Sunday, June 5, 1836. For a short period before Mr. Tucker's resignation, the Rev. Asabel Chapin, of Ashtabula, Ohio, was employed as a co-laborer with the pastor. Mr. Chapin succeeded in 1836, as pastor-elect, and remained until May, 1837. From this date until February, 1838, there was no pastor. Then came the Rev. John O. Choules, who continued until August, 1840. The church at Black Rock was formed from this church in 1839, and in 1840 the beginning of the Niagara Square Baptist Church was made. The Rev. Levi Tucker, of Cleveland, labored in the pastorate from February, 1843 to December, 1848. A German Baptist church of twenty-three members was organized from this church, on February 14, 1840. The Rev. V. R. Hotchkiss officiated as pastor from April, 1849, to May, 1854. After a vacancy of a year the pulpit was again filled on May 6, 1855; until September, 1859, by the Rev. J. Hyatt Smith, of Cleveland. During his pastorate in 1859, the Cedar Street Baptist Church was formed with forty-nine members, from the Washington Street Baptist Church. For more than seven months after Mr. Smith's removal, the church was again without a pastor. Then the Rev. David Moore, of LeRoy, assumed the pastorate in May, 1860, and stayed four years during which period a large portion of the Niagara Square Baptist Church were received into the membership of this church. Dr. V. R. Hotchkiss followed Mr. Moore in the pastorate, entering on its full duties a second time on May 1, 1865. In 1868 the Prospect Avenue Baptist Church was formed, eighty-seven persons being dismissed by the parent church on June 10, to constitute the congregation of the new church. Dr. Hotchkiss being in poor health, was granted leave of absence for one year on April 28, 1869, which he accepted and departed on a journey through Europe and Palestine. The Rev. H. H. Peabody supplied the pulpit from July 2d until the pastor's return which was in June, 1870. On the 3d of April, 1872, the church celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its organization. Dr. Hotchkiss resigned in May, 1879, and died January 4, 1882. The present pastor, Rev. John Gordon, D. D., began his labors with the church November 1, 1876.

Owing to the rapid growth of the city and a desire to establish new Baptist churches, a number of the members were dismissed in 1882 to organize the Dearborn Street and Delaware Street Churches. The present membership of the church numbers five hundred and of the Sunday school two hundred and fifty.

*Prospect Avenue Baptist Church.*—The Prospect Avenue Baptist Society which owes its existence to the missionary spirit of the Washington Street Baptist Church, was organized after considerable deliberation on the 15th day of May, 1867. The first title of the society was



the Ninth Street Baptist Society of Buffalo. The first trustees were S. H. Fish, W. H. H. Newman and W. A. Dobinson. The name of the society was changed to its present form in 1871. The church was organized June 10, 1868, and was followed by the organization of the Sunday school on February 11, 1868.

The lot now occupied by the church building was bought October 29, 1866, for \$5,500. The building was first occupied February 27, 1868, and was dedicated June 11, of the same year. The cost of its erection and furnishing was about \$20,000. During the early months of the church work the pulpit was filled by supplies. The first regular pastor ordained at the beginning of his pastoral career with this church, was the Rev. Horace F. Barnes, of Charleston, Mass., a graduate of Newton Theological Seminary. He assumed the duties of the pastorate on May 2, 1869, and left in February, 1871. The pulpit was again filled by supplies until November 1, 1872, when the Rev. E. E. Chivers, the present pastor, having accepted a call from the church, entered upon his labors. For five months, including the summer of 1875, he was obliged on account of impaired health and failing sight to suspend his labors. Prof. A. J. Barrett, of Rochester, filled the pulpit in the *interim*. The work of building a new church edifice was begun early in the year 1880. The corner-stone was laid July 12, 1881. The building was dedicated November 28, 1882. It cost, inclusive of organ, furniture, etc., \$50,570. There are about ninety members in communication with the church.

*Hudson Street Baptist Church.*—Meetings were held preliminary to the establishment of this church, beginning in 1850, in the first Young Men's Association hall on the corner of Washington and South Division streets. On the first Sunday in September, 1850, they occupied the church formerly known as Dr. Lord's church, on the corner of Pearl and Genesee streets, and which they had bought for \$5,000. The church proper was organized on April 15, 1851, the Rev. Geo. H. Ball D. D., being the first, only and present pastor. There were at the beginning thirty-five members. The first officers were as follows:—deacons, Silas Sweet, David N. Clark, Almeron Curtis, Eldrid Farewell, Stephen Dudley. In April, 1864, they sold their church edifice to George W. Tift for \$7,000 and on the same day bought the Niagara Square church for \$8,000. This was in turn sold to the Congregationalists May 1, 1882. The present lot on Hudson street was purchased on the same day for \$6,500. The building recently erected, which was dedicated August 20, 1882, cost about \$23,500. There are now two hundred and fifty members in the church. They are the only Free Baptists in the city. A mission is maintained by them on Jefferson street.

*Delaware Avenue Baptist Church.*—This promising young church is an outgrowth of the Olivet Baptist Mission. It was organized on the 8th of December, 1882, with a constituent membership of seventy-five,

forty-seven of whom came from the Washington Street Baptist Church, fourteen from the Cedar Street, three from the Prospect Avenue and eleven were miscellaneous. The church building was dedicated February 15, 1883. The membership of the church on July 1, 1883, was one hundred; that of the Sunday school one hundred and seventy-five. The present pastor is the Rev. R. E. Burton. The trustees are Thos. Chester, Sherman S. Jewett, E. L. Hedstrom, Peter J. Ferris, Robert Z. Mason; deacons—Thomas Chester, E. L. Hedstrom, Peter J. Ferris, F. A. Hodge; clerk, James F. Chard; treasurer, Peter J. Ferris.

*The Cedar Street Baptist Church.*—This church is located on the corner of Cedar and South Division streets and was organized March 25, 1859, being an offshoot of the Washington Street Baptist Church. Its original membership numbered forty-nine. The first pastor, the Rev. B. D. Marshall was installed in January, 1860. He was succeeded by the following pastors:—In January, 1873, by the Rev. J. C. Hurd; in November, 1874, by the Rev. G. M. Peters; in the spring of 1881, by the Rev. George Whitman, the present incumbent. The chapel was dedicated February, 27, 1859, it having cost \$3,400. Subsequent improvements and additions have raised the expenditure on the entire property to \$47,635.31, all of which has been paid. The total church membership is now three hundred and fifty.

*Emanuel Baptist Church.*—This church is the outgrowth of a mission established in the vicinity of Rhode Island street and Fargo avenue, by the Prospect Avenue Baptist Church, March 31, 1871. On the 19th of June following, the lot now in use was bought and the building completed in the latter part of January, 1872. On February 25th the dedication of the structure took place, and the name of "Prospect Chapel" bestowed upon it. E. C. Parker was the first superintendent, and W. A. Dobinson his assistant. The first session of the Sunday school was held March 3, 1871. In April, 1873, the Rev. William Elgin, of Knowlesville, was called to the field as pastor of the mission. He resigned in March, 1876, and was succeeded by the Rev. George C. Pratt, a student of the Rochester Theological Seminary. Mr. Pratt remained one year and resigned by reason of poor health. The Rev. R. H. Colby, of Strykersville, was called to the field in May, 1877, and began his work June 1, 1877. Owing to the growth of the mission under Mr. Colby's administration, the church, under its present name, was organized October 19, 1877. The original membership was eighty-three, fifty-seven of whom came from the Prospect Avenue Church. E. C. Parker and W. H. Case were chosen deacons, and W. H. Case, E. C. Parker, Robert F. Hazell, R. H. Bickford, C. W. Reynolds and Joseph Shaw trustees. Mr. Colby resigned in October, 1881, and the Rev. J. H. Langelle, the present incumbent, succeeded to the pastorate in December of the same year. There are now two hundred and twenty-eight members in the church, and three hundred and forty-five in the Sunday school.

*Dearborn Street Chapel.*—In 1839 a number of the members of the Washington street church formed a society at Black Rock. The first officers were Rev. J. Sharpe and Hector Cutter. In 1844 they erected a chapel, the lot being donated by a Miss Porter, of Niagara Falls. The Rev. George R. Burnside is now the pastor.

*Michigan Street Baptist Church, (Colored.)*—The house in which this congregation worship was built in 1845, the first trustees of the society being William Qualls, John Dandridge, James Thomas and Carr Johnson. The present officers are:—N. Storam, J. S. Granby, Frank S. Fosdick, E. L. Hedstrom, Thomas Chester and Ralph Dickens. Clergymen supplied every Sunday by the Baptist Union, speak to a congregation of twenty to thirty persons. There are about thirty children in the Sunday school, and five teachers.

*The First Methodist Episcopal Church.*—We have already stated in the beginning of this chapter, that the Methodists were among the first of the pioneer religious societies in Buffalo, and that they built the first church ever erected here. It was a small frame building standing on the west side of Pearl street, near where the rink was built. It was afterwards moved up the street to near where Miller's livery stable is located. It was used by the Methodists until 1828. The locally celebrated Rev. Glezen Fillmore, D. D., who officiated at the dedication of this church, also organized the first Methodist Episcopal Sunday school in the city, on the 27th of November, 1827. In the first board of managers are found the familiar names of William Keene, Edward B. Smith, George Miller, Joseph Alexander and Silas Burton. The treasurer, William Sloan, having been sent from Buffalo to Batavia, remembered still the interests of his former home. He set forth to Joseph Ellicott in the land office of the Holland Land Company, the needs of the church in Buffalo. Mr. Ellicott directed his clerk to examine the map of Buffalo for a suitable location for a Methodist church. Mr. Fillmore soon discovered a lot on the north side of Niagara street, extending from Pearl to Franklin, and running back to an alley. The clerk filled out a deed for the lot and thus was secured the site of the Niagara Street Methodist Church. The structure was erected in 1832 and Mr. Fillmore was its pastor in 1834, having been, as far as we have been able to ascertain, the first regular pastor of the church. It was dedicated in 1835, at which time Jonas Dodge was pastor and Michael Segar presiding elder. This church which, as will be seen hereafter, was the parent of several of the other Methodist churches of the city, was sold to Mr. Fargo about 1860, who transferred it to the Jewish society now occupying it. Available records of the work and the government of this old church are very meagre and little can be learned of it more than here given.

*Grace Methodist Episcopal Church.*—This church is a continuation of the old Swan Street Methodist Episcopal Church which was organized on



Friday, October 11, 1844. This was in turn an offshoot from the Niagara Street Methodist Episcopal Church, to which reference has already been made, which had theretofore held services in the building now occupied by the congregation of Temple Beth Zion. The first pastor of the Swan Street Church was the Rev. John Dennis, D. D., who remained until 1846. He was succeeded by the following named pastors:—Revs. Alpha Wright, 1846-'48; James M. Fuller, 1848-'50; S. Seager, D. D., 1850-'52; A. D. Wilbor, D. D., 1852-'54; P. E. Brown, 1854-'55. June 2, 1855, the society moved to the present place of worship; Grace Methodist Episcopal Church was dedicated on the same day by Bishop Simpson. Since that time the following pastors have been appointed:—Revs. W. H. DePuy, D. D., 1855-'57; S. Hunt, D. D., 1857-'59; A. D. Wilbor, D. D., 1859-'61; D. D. Lore, D. D., 1861-'63; S. Seager, D. D., 1863-'64; J. H. Knowles, 1863-'67; George P. Porter, 1867-'70; D. H. Muller, D. D., 1870-'72; G. W. Paddock, 1872-'74; R. C. Houghton, D. D., 1874-'76; D. H. Muller, D. D., 1876-'77; S. N. Lloyd, 1878-'80; R. N. Stratton, D. D., 1881. The present house of worship is valued at \$30,000, the parsonage at \$7,000. The membership of the church has increased to four hundred, and of the Sunday school to two hundred and fifty.

*Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church.*—The old Niagara Street Methodist Episcopal Church was the parent of this as well as of the Swan Street (Grace) Church. The first meeting with a view to the organization of the new church was held in the Niagara Street Church by the trustees thereof on Monday evening, March 22, 1847. The original membership numbered sixty-eight. The lot on the corner of Pearl and Chippewa streets was bought for \$2,700. The first meeting in the new building erected on this site was held June 16, 1848. The Rev. J. H. Waldee was the first presiding officer of the society sent by the conference. Under his auspices a Sunday school was organized. In September, 1848, the Rev. Schuyler Seager, D. D., was appointed the first regular pastor of the infant church. The edifice was dedicated by him on the 23d of the same month. Dr. Seager's successors have been as follows:—Revs. Eleazer Thomas, 1850 to 1852; H. K. Hines and L. Stiles, 1852 to 1854; J. B. Wentworth, D. D., 1854 to 1856; E. E. Chambers, 1856 to 1858; James Fuller, 1858 to 1859; W. H. DePuy, 1859 to 1861; P. R. Stover, 1861 to 1863; D. D. Lore, D. D., 1863 to 1864; J. Allison, 1864 to 1866; Allen Steele and D. H. Muller, 1866 to 1869; A. D. Wilbor, 1869 to 1870; J. B. Wentworth, D. D., 1870 to 1873; W. V. Kelly, 1873 to 1874; George R. Strobridge, 1874 to 1876; C. A. Van Anda, D. D., 1876 to 1877; T. J. Leak, 1877 to 1880; T. M. House, 1880 to 1882; George C. Jones, 1882 to 1883. In 1850, at the beginning of the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Thomas, the name of the church was changed from the Pearl Street Church to Asbury Church, in honor of the Bishop of that



name. At the same time a reorganization took place. In October, 1870, a new church edifice was projected. The new edifice was consecrated December 22, 1872, by Bishop Jones. The cost of the building was \$38,885.64; organ, furniture, etc., \$6,155.37. The membership of the church now numbers over four hundred. The present officers are:—trustees, H. H. Otis, president; Abram Twitchell, treasurer; A. J. Riegel, secretary; William Pooley, W. M. Citterly, Charles Nelson, Isaac Holloway. The Sunday school has an average attendance of one hundred and eighty.

*The Riverside Methodist Episcopal Church, Black Rock.*—This is one of the oldest churches of this denomination in the city. The first Methodist preacher in this vicinity was the Rev. Glezen Fillmore, in 1817. It became a regular appointment with a settled pastor in 1820. Its entire early history is that of a prolonged struggle with poverty and discouragement. It seems to have entered upon a new life in 1858, with Dr. Smith as pastor. The earliest records of the Riverside Quarterly Conference now in existence reach back to the year 1863, when the Rev. J. M. Fuller was presiding elder and the Rev. A. D. Wilbor, pastor. The corner stone of the present elegant and commodious edifice, corner of Bird and West avenues, was laid September 16, 1872, and the dedication services were held on the 12th of April, 1874. The church was erected at a cost of \$33,000 and its property is now valued at \$35,000. It has a membership of over two hundred and twenty-five. The present pastor is Rev. George W. Peck, LL. D. The present officers of the church are as follows:—trustees, W. C. Earle, J. E. Rebstock, B. Woodall, J. S. Carter, M. Tilson, W. A. Searle, George Sheriff, Alfred Barnett, Abner Adams; stewards, J. E. Rebstock, C. W. Armstrong, W. C. Earle, W. A. Searle, George S. Searle, J. F. Sieffert, W. J. Woodall, J. S. Carter, Isaac Morris. The following have been pastors of Riverside Church since 1847:—Revs. L. L. Rogers, B. F. McNeal, W. Barret, W. Leak, S. H. Baker, H. Butlin, W. Luce, S. Parker, G. Smith, L. Welch, E. L. Newman, W. H. DePuy, A. D. Wilbor, W. S. Tuttle, A. P. Ripley, E. T. Green, O. S. Chamberlayne, G. W. Kittinger, J. S. Simkins, E. H. Latimer, S. McGerald, George W. Peck.

*Plymouth Methodist Episcopal Church.*—This church had its origin in a "class" organized in the year 1857 by the Rev. E. E. Chambers. The organization took place in what was known as the "Father Ketchum building," which stood where the Normal school now is. In this place the society continued to worship, without any regular pastor, but with occasional preaching by the pastors of other churches, till May, 1859. Then the meetings were moved to a chapel on North street, where a Sunday school had been held for some time under the management of members of the Niagara and Pearl Street Methodist Episcopal Churches. In 1861 the class was formally organized into a church and named the North Street Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1869 a church was built

under the pastorate of the Rev. R. E. Thomas, on the corner of Plymouth avenue and Jersey streets, and named the Jersey Street Methodist Episcopal Church. January 25, 1873, in the pastorate of the Rev. J. E. Bliss, the church was burned to the ground. On the 12th of July in the same year the corner stone of the present edifice was laid, on the opposite side of Plymouth avenue from the old site. At the same time the name of the society was changed to the Plymouth Methodist Episcopal Church. Between the burning of the old church and the taking possession of the new, the society worshiped in school-house No. 36. The chapel of the new church was dedicated March 1st, 1874, when the Rev. P. R. Stover was pastor. The audience room was not completed till many months after, in the pastorate of the Rev. E. E. Chambers. Plymouth Church is now (in the year 1883) in a very prosperous condition. It has two hundred and thirty members and a Sunday school of three hundred pupils. It has no debt; its congregations are large; its revenues are ample. The list of its regular pastors is as follows:—Revs. W. M. Shaw, 1862; DeBias Worthington, 1863; (no regular pastor from 1863 to 1865;) William Magavern, 1865; R. E. Thomas, 1867; J. E. Bills, 1870; P. R. Stover, 1873; C. C. Wilbor, 1874; E. E. Chambers, 1876; A. N. Fisher, 1879; and C. W. Winchester, 1882.

*St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal Church.*—The St. Mark's church was organized February 24, 1857. The first trustees were:—John A. Ryder, Caleb Coatsworth, John D. Roberts, John H. Bidwell, Joseph McClure, James H. Scatcherd, Barton C. Niles, Oliver Bond and Tobias Faust. Services were for a short time held in a red school house which stood in what is now known as Scatcherd's lumber yard. The Rev. Griffin Smith, the first pastor, came in January, 1857, and the building in which the congregation now worship, was dedicated on the following Thanksgiving day. He was followed in 1859 by the Rev. W. H. DePuy, who remained until 1860. His successors were as follows:—Revs. Hunt, Wilbor and Wentworth, the last of whom remained until October, 1864; Revs. S. Y. Hammond, 1864-'66; J. E. Bills, 1866-'69; S. P. Dickinson, 1869-'71; C. P. Clark, 1871 to spring of 1873; — Hartley, to October 1873; G. W. Kittinger, 1874-'77; J. N. Simpkins, 1877-'80; C. P. Hard, 1880 to summer 1882; Rev. Mr. Cliff filled a three months' vacancy ending October, 1882; T. E. Bell, the present pastor, came in October, 1882.

*Delaware Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church.*—This church is situated on the corner of Delaware avenue and Tupper streets. The lot has a frontage on Delaware avenue of one hundred feet and on Tupper street of one hundred and seventy-five feet. The church is a very substantial edifice, built of brown sandstone. The corner stone of the chapel was laid April 10, 1871, and of the main church May 21, 1874. The church was dedicated September 10, 1876. The society was organized October 18, 1870, and reported at the close of the first conference year one hun-

dred and six members; its present membership is about three hundred and fifty. Its first board of trustees was elected November 22, 1870, and consisted of James N. Scatcherd, John D. Hill, Charles A. Sweet, Francis H. Root, James Howells, John C. Jewett, Edwin A. Swan, Robert Keating and George A. Preston. The Rev. Langford Hunt was the first pastor; the second was the Rev. John G. Adams; third, Rev. Ira G. Bidwell; fourth, Rev. George W. Chandler; fifth and present, Rev. W. S. Studley. Its present board of trustees are James N. Scatcherd, John D. Hill, Charles A. Sweet, Francis H. Root, John C. Jewett, Robert Keating, James Howells, Henry Martin and Samuel B. Parsons.

*Eagle Street Methodist Episcopal Church.*—This congregation owes its origin as a church to the missionary spirit of Grace Church. During the summer of 1871 the lot on which the church building now stands, having been bought through the efforts of the members of the Young Men's Association of the parent church, religious outdoor exercises were held at that place. The present edifice was built during the fall and winter of 1871 and '72. The Rev. D. H. Muller preached the dedicatory sermon. At the conference of 1872 the Rev. A. F. Colburn was appointed to the pastorate of the church. The church proper was organized November 17, 1872, at which time seventeen persons united with it. The first stewards were, Guy C. Martin, district steward; Jabez Harris, recording steward; Benjamin Woodall, John S. Carter, Errick Erickson. Mr. Colburn's successors to the pastorate have been as follows: Rev. L. T. Foote, three years; Rev. C. Millsbaugh, three years and the present pastor, the Rev. S. A. Morse, now (1883) in his second year. The present board of trustees is composed as follows: Homer Sanderson, president; Thomas Dark, Sr., W. H. Brush, George Lewis, John A. Miller, John H. Usher, Monroe Wilder. The present full membership numbers one hundred and fifty-five with about forty probationers. The Sunday-school superintendent is Richard Olivey. The school has a membership of three hundred.

*Glenwood Methodist Episcopal Church.*—October 28, 1875, a meeting of fifteen was called at the residence of G. S. Rice, No. 138 Glenwood avenue, to establish a Methodist society; H. H. Otis presided. Thereafter meetings were held in private houses in the neighborhood, the last one being held on Thanksgiving evening, November 25, 1875. Worship was subsequently conducted in a chapel on Glenwood avenue. For three years there was no regular pastor. Every fourth Sabbath in the month, services were provided by the Ladies' Temperance Union. A Sunday school was organized December 12, 1875, with H. H. Otis as superintendent. In October of 1876, the Rev. A. P. Ripley was appointed pastor by the conference. On May 19, 1878, a meeting was held to close up the society as an independent organization, whereupon it was adopted by the Delaware Avenue Church as a mission. The first "class" was then



formed July 7, 1878, by the Rev. Ira G. Bidwell, and called the Glenwood Avenue Mission class. J. W. Wright was the first leader. In November, 1878, the Rev. V. Copeland became the first resident pastor of the mission and remained until the fall of 1880. The church edifice was formally dedicated on Sunday, September 28, 1879, by the Rev. D. W. C. Huntington, D. D., presiding elder. The present pastor, the Rev. J. W. Johns, was appointed in October, 1880. The church was independently organized in November of the same year. The first trustees were as follows:—A. D. Jackson, John Osborne, A. H. Nye, R. C. Wilson, J. L. Moore and A. H. Tracy. On November 22, 1880, the following named persons were elected stewards:—A. D. Jackson, A. H. Tracy, G. W. Smith, William A. McKay, Mrs. A. H. Nye, Mrs. John Osborne and Mrs. John Beam. The present membership of the church is about seventy-two and of the Sunday school about one hundred and sixty.

*First Free Methodist Church.*—The organization and incorporation of this church took place on November 20, 1860, Rev. B. T. Roberts officiating. There were twenty-four original members. The society bought the old brick theatre on Pearl street near Eagle, and adapted it to the purpose of religious worship at an expense of about \$5,000. The Rev. Loren Stiles, Jr., dedicated the building on the 19th of October, 1860. The following pastors served the church in succession:—Revs. D. M. Sinclair, 1860-'62; Moses M. Downing, 1862-'63; S. R. J. Chesbro, 1863-'64; James Matthews, J. G. White and A. G. Terry, 1864-'66; Epinetus Owen, 1866-'67; occasional supplies, 1867-'68; A. F. Curry, 1868-'70; S. R. J. Chesbro, 1870-'72; W. H. Trevisé, part of 1872-'73; William Gould, 1873-'74; G. W. Coleman, 1874-'76; John T. James, 1876-'77; W. T. Hogg, 1877-'79; William Jackson, 1879-'81; A. H. Bennett, 1881-'83. The old church edifice was sold in 1869 and the present brick building erected on the corner of Virginia and Tenth streets, at a cost of \$10,000. The dedication of this structure was supervised by the Rev. B. T. Roberts. In February, 1861, a Sunday school with about one hundred members was organized in the old Pearl Street Church; Thomas Sully was its superintendent for many years. The present superintendent is George W. Johnston. A mission was begun at Black Rock in 1873, under the pastorate of Rev. William Gould. In a year a chapel, a small wooden structure, was built on Clinton avenue, at an expense of \$2,500. It was dedicated on April 22, 1875, by the Rev. William Gould, assisted by the Rev. B. T. Roberts and others. A Sunday school was started in this chapel on the 2d day of March, 1875, Mr. George W. Johnston being its first superintendent. The mission, though known under the name of the Second Free Methodist Church, is in reality represented by the same officers as the parent society. The present trustees of the society are Rev. B. T. Roberts, George W. Johnston, James Wilcox, M. G. Cottrell, John A. Crane, W. J. Beyers, Thomas



Sully. The present membership of the church is a little over one hundred and twelve.

*The African Methodist Episcopal Church.*—The meetings which resulted in the organization of this church were first held in 1835, in a house on what was then called Tom alley, now Carroll street. The meetings were usually led by Rev. Mr. Walker, of New York. The first trustees were:—Moses Burton, Charles Andrews and a Mr. Smith. Mr. Walker remained about a year, after which the Rev. George Ware was sent by the conference. They removed in 1841-'42 to Clinton street, near Elm, into a house now occupied as a family residence. Here they remained until the fall of 1843. In 1844 the Rev. Mr. Jackson was appointed to the pastorate. The present church was dedicated about July, 1845, having cost in the neighborhood of \$3,000. After the expiration of Mr. Jackson's term the following pastors were sent by the conference:—Revs. Ware, 1845-'46; C. Burch, (father of ex-Senator J. Henry Burch, of Louisiana); J. B. Campbell, (now bishop,) 1847; Mr. Jackson, James Morris Williams, Deacon Darrow, Mr. Pattison, William More, Francis J. Peck, William T. Catto, Abram C. Cripem, J. G. Mowbrey, Abram C. Cripem, Mr. Bailey, J. G. Mowbrey, (rejected by the congregation;) Mr. Dartis and the Rev. J. J. Lewis, the present pastor, now in his second term. In 1882 the church edifice was remodeled and rebuilt at an expense of about \$3,800. The present trustees are:—Joseph Lane, Alfred Keller, William Jackson, Frederick Wilson and John Johnson; stewards, William H. Lloyd and Lewis Smith.

*Church of the Messiah, (Universalist.)*—The First Universalist Church of Buffalo was organized on the 6th day of December, 1831. The first trustees were: Benjamin Caryl, Marvin Webster, Moses Baker, Ebenezer Day, James Durick and A. C. Moore. The first pastor was the Rev. Geo. W. Montgomery. A church structure was built on the east side of Washington street, a little north of Swan street, at an expense of \$10,000. The second pastor, the Rev. William I. Reese, began duty in May, 1883. He was succeeded in October, 1834, by the Rev. Russell Tomlinson, who remained until the spring of 1837. The Rev. David Pickering came in at once and staid one year. On May 1, 1843, the Rev. S. R. Smith became pastor and remained in that capacity until May, 1849. In May, 1849, the Rev. A. G. Laurie, was secured as a pastor. He was succeeded in May, 1854, by the Rev. Richard Eddy, who remained about a year. His successor, the Rev. E. W. Reynolds was pastor from May, 1855, to April, 1858, when he gave place to the Rev. J. H. Hartzell. The corner-stone of a new church was laid August 2, 1864. The edifice was consecrated on July 8, 1866, under the name of the Church of the Messiah. The building cost, with an organ then purchased, about \$70,000. Mr. Hartzell resigned in March, 1870, after a conspicuously successful pastorate. In June of the same year the Rev. L. J. Fletcher assumed the pastoral duties of the church.

On Saturday night, October 29, 1870, the church building was destroyed by fire. By the 24th of the following September, the church was again ready for consecration. Mr. Fletcher left in April, 1879, and Mr. Hartzell returned in May of the same year, remaining two years. On the 4th day of September, 1881, the Rev. William E. Gibbs, the present pastor, came. About one hundred and forty families are connected with the church, and the membership numbers a little over two hundred. The Sunday school, of which the pastor is superintendent, has an attendance of two hundred and twenty-five.

*Church of Christ.*—The Church of Christ in Buffalo, the latest organized of the nine congregations which represent the Disciples in the western district of New York, was established at a meeting held in the French chapel on the corner of Ellicott and Tupper streets on February 20, 1870. There were thirty original members. For about two years the society, though without a regular pastor, held services once a week in the chapel. On April 13, 1872, A. J. Briggs, J. H. Grove and Brightman Taber were elected trustees. The lot on the corner of Cottage and Maryland streets was immediately bought and a chapel costing, with the lot, about 6,000 erected. The dedication took place November 28, 1872. The first pastor, F. M. Kibby of Kentucky, began his ministry in February, 1872, and remained about three years. He was followed by O. G. Hertzog. His pastorate lasted but a year. In June, 1876, G. L. Wharton was called to the pastorate; resigning July 15, 1882, he was succeeded September 1, 1882, by the present pastor, J. M. Tribie. The membership of the church is one hundred and seventy-five.

*The First Unitarian Congregational Society.*—This society was organized in 1831. Religious services were first held in the old court house on Washington street. The First Unitarian Church stood at the corner of Franklin and Eagle streets. Its corner stone was laid August 13, 1833. The Rev. William S. Brown, from Bridgewater, England, was the first pastor of the society from 1832 to 1834. He was succeeded by Rev. A. C. Patterson, who served from 1834 to 1836. The Rev. G. W. Hosmer, D. D., was installed October 16, 1836, and in 1866, resigned his pastorate. Rev. Frederick Frothingham was the next pastor from June, 1867 to 1874, and was succeeded by the Rev. M. K. Schermerhorn, from 1874 to 1876. The present minister, Rev. George W. Cutter, was installed February 4, 1877. In 1845 the first church was enlarged and remodeled. In 1859 it was damaged by fire but was at once refitted and refurnished. The corner-stone of the present handsome house of worship, the Church of Our Father, on Delaware avenue near Huron street, was laid October, 16, 1879. It was dedicated, free of debt, October 13, 1880. The Sunday school was organized in 1835. The society includes about one hundred and fifty families.

*The Friends.*—The first meeting of "Friends" in Buffalo was held in 1865, in the house of Mrs. Martha Ferris, whose hospitality they con-

tinued to accept until 1868. In that year the present meeting house on Allen street was built. The first trustees of the society were:—Elisha Freeman and Andrew Varney. The property is held now by the East Hamburg Friends. The society numbers between thirty and forty members.

*First Reformed Church of Buffalo, (Holland).*—The origin of this church, as nearly as can be ascertained, dates back to the year 1850. The first meetings were held in what is now called the Wood-market, on Genesee street. The first pastor was the Rev. C. C. Wutz, who staid two years and then removed to Rochester. In 1856 the place of worship was removed to a place in Boston alley. Then came the Rev. A. R. Kassen, under whose administration in 1863 the congregation moved again, this time to Milnor street. Some time about May, 1869, they bought a lot on Eagle street, near Cedar street, and built a church thereon. The Rev. H. K. Boer came in 1874 and remained about three years. Between the resignation or dismissal of one pastor and the installment of his successor, there was often a considerable period in which no pastor officiated and the weekly services consisted of the reading of sermons by a layman, the singing of hymns, etc. The incorporation of the Dutch Reformed Church was not consummated until 1869 or 1870. In 1882 the Swedenborgians bought the church property of the Dutch Reformed congregation, since which time the latter has become practically extinct and there is now no church of that sect in the city.

*Cold Spring Union Chapel.*—In 1856 a small Sunday school was opened in the old district school house on the ground now occupied by police station No. 6. The room was furnished by William Tuton the superintendent, William A. Coots and D. R. Morse. Two years later C. B. Hunn became superintendent and was succeeded in 1860 by Robert Johnson. In 1866 a society was organized and incorporated under the name of Cold Spring Sunday School Association. The first trustees and corporators were:—Robert Johnson, Frederick Scott, P. A. Balcom, J. L. Alberger, J. E. Robinson and A. J. Holt. A lot on the corner of Ferry and Michigan streets was deeded to the Association by Charles and Malvina E. Barr, on which Cold Spring Union Chapel was erected in the following year. The chapel was formally dedicated in October, 1867, the Revs. Dr. John C. Lord and Dr. Hotchkiss officiating. Mr. Johnson was succeeded in 1869, by J. L. Alberger, with J. E. Robinson as assistant, who remained in office until 1878, when Mr. Robinson became superintendent with Mr. E. B. Eggert as assistant. This society is the pioneer in religious work in this part of the city. The average attendance is one hundred and fifty.

*Catholic Churches.*—The diocese of Buffalo, established in 1847, comprises the following counties, all in the State of New York:—Erie, Niagara, Genesee, Orleans, Chautauqua, Wyoming, Cattaraugus, Steuben,



Chemung, Tioga, Allegany and Schuyler. Following are the officers of the diocese :—Bishops Right Reverend Stephen B. Ryan, D. D., C. M., consecrated November 6, 1868; Vicar General, the Very Reverend William Gleason; Chancellor and Secretary, Rev. P. Hoelscher, D. D.; Bishop's Counsel, the Very Reverend William Gleason, V. G., the Very Reverend H. Behrens, S. J., Rev. F. N. Sester, Rev. Edward Kelly, Rev. George Sniet, C. SS. R., Rev. P. Kavanagh, C. M. There are in this diocese ninety-nine secular priests; seventy-four priests of religious orders; thirty priests engaged in educational institutions; one hundred and thirty-five churches and chapels; twenty-seven clerical students; eleven male religious houses; thirty-nine female religious houses; four colleges for boys; eight academies for girls; eleven charitable institutions and one hundred thousand catholic population.

*St Joseph's Catholic Church.*—After Buffalo was erected into an Episcopal See in 1847, for three years there was but one English-speaking Catholic church in the city. At the end of three years, or on February 6, 1851, the corner stone of the St. Joseph's Cathedral was laid, the ceremonies being conducted by the Right Rev. John Timon, first Bishop of Buffalo. Through the exertions of Bishop Timon, the cathedral was dedicated to the worship of God, and its altars consecrated on the 6th day of July, 1855. St. Joseph's Cathedral is one of the finest ecclesiastical structures in the United States. It is located on the western side of Franklin street, near Swan. The south tower terminating in a graceful spire, contains the finest chime of bells on the continent. It consists of forty-three bells, from the foundry of M. Ernst Bollee, in Mains, France, which took the prize at the Paris Exposition of 1867, and cost, including duty, freight and expense of putting in place, more than \$20,000. In order to relieve the Catholics of Buffalo of the heavy debt brought upon them by the erection of this cathedral Bishop Timon put forth great efforts to obtain the aid of the brethren throughout this country, Mexico, Cuba and all Europe. He succeeded and on the 30th of August, 1863, he once more gathered in his brother prelates around him for the renewed consecration of the Cathedral. On November 8, 1868, the Right Reverend Stephen Vincent Ryan, C. M., was consecrated and installed as the successor of Bishop Timon. The vicinity of the cathedral has been much altered of late. A large stone Episcopal residence has been built on the site of the old Webster house, adjoining the cathedral on the south. A winter chapel has also been erected in the rear of the cathedral, connected with it and with the Bishop's house, by a covered cloister. These buildings harmonize in material and style with the cathedral, around which cluster St. Joseph's college and parochial school for boys, Miss Nardin's academy and parochial school for girls, the Young Men's Catholic Association building and St. Stephen's hall. The Rector of St. Joseph's is the Rev. Edward Kelly.



*St. Peter's French Catholic Church.*—Efforts were made as far back as 1820 to establish a French church in Buffalo, several clergymen being sent at various times by Bishop Dubois and Bishop Hughes. M. Louis LeCouteulx de Caumont was one of the most zealous of the citizens in this work. The French and Germans united in forming the St. Louis church on the corner of Main and Edward streets, but after 1840 the German membership had attained such a majority that their French brethren determined upon secession and the establishment of a church of their own. To this plan the pastor of St. Louis, Father Guth, lent willing aid and encouragement, and in 1850 he was sent to Europe by Bishop Timon to collect for the diocese. After his departure until 1857, Father Chevalier and Father Morris officiated as pastors. Father Guth, however, never returned and Father Morris was appointed his successor. The act of incorporation of St. Peter's Church is dated January 8, 1857. The first regular pastor of this church after its separate organization was Father Klein, who, moreover, had succeeded Father Morris two years before. He was succeeded in 1850 by Father Sester. In February, 1867, in obedience to the command of Bishop Timon, Father Sester resigned and went to Lancaster, N. Y. His successor, the Rev. Joseph Sorg, remained about a year, and the next pastor, Father LeBreton remained two years. Father Zoegle came immediately after Father LeBreton and stayed until 1871. Father Beckard, who followed, was pastor for six years. In 1877, Father Uhrick came, but being too old to continue his labors, was followed in 1880 by the Rev. John Caumer. The present pastor, the Rev. R. Faure, D. D., succeeded Father Caumer in November, 1882. Since his arrival the new parsonage next to the church has been finished at a cost of \$6,000. The parochial school is under the direction of the ladies of the Immaculate Heart and one secular teacher.

*St. Patrick's (Franciscan Friars.)*—St. Patrick's Church, Seymour street, near Emslie, was organized in January, 1854, with an estimated membership of four hundred families. The following are the names of the successive pastors, with the dates of their arrivals:—Rev. Daniel Moore, December, 1854; Rev. D. D. Deane, December, 1855; Rev. J. A. Early, August 27, 1857; Rev. A. McConnell, December 26, 1857. In 1858 the Franciscan Fathers took charge of the church and have been there ever since. They keep three priests in attendance. The church was built in 1858 at an expense of \$15,000. The present pastors are Father Angelus O'Connor, O. S. F., Father Lewis, O. S. F., Father Jerome, O. S. F. The parish now numbers about six hundred families. A parochial school building and convent were erected in 1862 at a cost of \$20,000. There not being sufficient room in this school house, a new one is now building, which is intended to accommodate eight hundred pupils.

*Church of the Holy Angels.*—This church was organized in October, 1852, in the old house on what is now Porter avenue, near Fargo avenue, formerly used as an asylum for the insane. The church bought of the estate for \$13,000, eighteen acres of land comprising two blocks. On this lot stood then the old poor house and the insane asylum. A day school was held in 1852 in the poor house and the asylum was fitted up for a chapel. This school had been started two years before in the old St. Joseph's cathedral. The first projectors of the church were Fathers Chevalier, Sulliran, Corbett and Maloney. The old college and seminary buildings were torn down in 1856. The present church was begun in the fall of that year, and completed late in 1857. The transept was added six or seven years ago. The adjacent parsonage was built in about 1873. The parochial school was completed in November 1881. It is conducted by the gray nuns. The total cost of these several buildings was about \$81,000. The membership of the congregation has increased from fifty families to four hundred. In about 1868 Father Sulliran returned to France and was followed in 1871 by Father Chevalier. Father Corbett left in 1857. Father Maloney is the only survivor of the pastors originally with the church, although he was absent from 1860 to the fall of 1879. After Father Chevalier, Father Garrin had charge, and he was succeeded by Father Salfas. Father Guillard, the present pastor, has had charge for about ten years.

*St. Stephen's Church.*—The date of the organization of this parish is December, 1875, at which time there were one hundred and fifteen in attendance. The Rev. Father McDermott, the present pastor was the first. The church edifice now used was built at once upon organization, at a cost of \$6,000. At present there are two hundred families in the parish and two hundred and twenty-five children in the parochial school.

*St. John the Baptist.*—The church of St. John the Baptist was organized in the fall of the year 1867, the Rev. William McNab being the first pastor. He was succeeded five or six months after by the Rev. P. Glenman, followed by Rev. P. Mazuret. After a pastorate of a little more than three years, he was succeeded in December, 1871, by the Rev. John O'Donoghue. June 12, 1875, the Right Rev. Bishop Ryan appointed the present pastor, the Rev. Peter Francis Donohue. After much effort the new pastor succeeded in lifting a heavy mortgage which was resting on the place, and in 1883 he erected a school house capable of providing for the needs of two hundred and fifty children. The church is now free from debt.

*St. Bridget's Church.*—This church which is located on Louisiana street, corner of Fulton, was organized late in the year 1852, under Father Mac Mullen, pastor. There were about one hundred families then in the parish. The present church structure was built in 1859, at a cost of not less than \$15,000, by Father O'Connor, who took charge in February,

1858, and died in December, 1870. The present pastor, the Rev. William Gleason, came in January, 1871. There are now about six hundred families in the parish, and a parochial school of nine hundred children.

*Church of Our Lady of Mercy.*—This organization was established near the foot of Michigan street in the year 1874. The following pastors have since officiated:—Revs. Daniel Welch, Dr. Holscher, who was there seven years and William Morrison, the present pastor. The church structure cost \$2,000, and was dedicated by Right Rev. Bishop Ryan in 1875. There are now about one hundred and fifty families connected with the church. The parochial school has nearly one hundred children in attendance, who are taught by the ladies of the Sacred Heart, or Sisters of Miss Nardin's academy.

*Church of the Immaculate Conception.*—The organization of this church was effected in about 1849, under the name of St. Mary's of the Lake. The first pastors were the Revs. Peter Brown and John Fitzpatrick. In about 1856 the present church building was erected by Rev. James M. Early, at a cost of about \$30,000. Rev. M. Purcell followed Father Early and was succeeded by the following:—Revs. Thomas Gleason, Edward Quigley, John O'Meara and the Rev. James Rogers, whose pastorate dates from April, 1877. The school in connection with this church was built and opened September 1, 1882, with about two hundred pupils and three teachers, under the charge of the Sisters of St. Joseph's. The Sunday school in connection has about three hundred and fifty pupils.

*St. Stanislaus, (Polish.)*—The congregation of this church first assembled as a corporate body in June, 1873, with the present pastor, the Rev. John Pitass in office and Joseph I. Kaujwski and John Hordich as the leading lay members. The Rev. Peter Chowvnic was ordained vicar in the fall of 1882. Their first house of worship was erected immediately upon organization, on the corner of Townsend and Peckham streets, at a cost of about \$11,000. The membership of the church has increased from fifty to between three hundred and four hundred families or one thousand five hundred members. A new church building of Lockport limestone is now being built, the value of which, it is estimated, will be not less than \$100,000. The corner stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies on May 27, 1883. The parochial school in connection with the church has an attendance of about seven hundred pupils. On the completion of the new church building, the old one will be used as a school house.

*The Israelites and their Religious Societies.*—The Israelites of Buffalo have exerted an important influence upon the business interests of the city and are a pacific and law-abiding class. The first Israelite who lived in Buffalo was a Mr. Flersheim, an instructor of German from Frankfort-on-the-Main. He was here as early as 1835. Barnard Lichtenstein, the second known Israelite resident here, was in the city from 1838 to 1870, when he left for Waupun, Wisconsin.



The religious organizations of the Israelites, of course, stand alone, unique and peculiar. According to their law and traditions, ten male Israelites above the age of thirteen years, are alone competent to form a congregation which may hold divine liturgical services.

The first public worship by Israelites, known to have been held in Buffalo, took place in Concert Hall, subsequently called Townsend Hall, on the southwest corner of Main and Swan streets, in the spring of 1847, for the celebration of the passover feast. The early Israelites, feeling the need of an incorporated body for the administration of rites in harmony with their religious education and belief, organized on October 3, 1847, into the Jacobsohn Society. There were eleven charter members as follows:—Louis Dahlman, president; Hirsch Sinzheimer, Moritz Weil, Emanuel Strauss, Joseph Mayer, Samuel Held, Jacob Loewenthal, Louis Rindskopf, Samuel Desbecker, Abraham Strass and Joseph Strass. They immediately bought and consecrated for burial purposes, a lot fronting on what is now Fillmore avenue, near Broadway. This, however, was abandoned July 19, 1861, for the present one on Pine Hill. The Jacobsohn Society was in existence about five years.

The old congregation, Beth Zion, was organized by the German Israelites, (in contradistinction to the Polish Israelites of Beth El,) November 27, 1850. There were eleven original members. The first board of officers were:—E. J. Bernheimer, president; Albert Strauss, vice-president and treasurer; Moritz Weil, secretary; Israel Drinker, David Kurtz and Jacob Strauss, trustees.

The Rev. J. M. Slatky, who had been the first Rabbi of the congregation of Beth El, but who had dissociated himself from them, was engaged as minister for Beth Zion, at a salary, from December 1, 1850, of \$5 a month, and from May 1, 1851, of \$100 a year. He was not required to preach or teach, but simply to read the "Thora," or roll of the law, and to attend to the procurement of meat according to the scriptural and dietary laws. The congregation first worshiped in the dwelling house of Mr. Sinzheimer, No. 55 Oak street. On the 18th of November, 1857, long after the dissolution of the Jacobsohn Society, the surviving members of that body deeded their burying ground on Pine Hill, to Beth Zion.

The next minister was Mr. Daniel Shire, who began his labors January 6, 1851. The congregation worshiped in various rented places, the last one before the "Reform" being the house on the northeast corner of South Division and Elm streets.

In September, 1863, in obedience to a desire on the part of many Israelites to conform their mode of worship more with the spirit of modern times and new associations, a number of the leading members of Beth Zion requested the Rev. Dr. Wise, of Cincinnati, to send them a minister to preach before them and others on the high feasts of New Year's day and the day of Atonement. Kremlin Hall was rented for



the ceremonies; this was the beginning of the reform movement—the reform being not a change in creed, but in the mode of worship by the introduction of modern service, choir singing, preaching in a known language, etc. A meeting preliminary to reorganization was held in Kremlin Hall on October 9, 1864. After some discussion and deliberation, a fusion with the old Beth Zion was effected. The new society was named Temple Beth Zion. The first officers were:—Siegmond Levyn, president; Siegmund Hofeller, vice-president; Jacob Altman, treasurer; David Rosenau, secretary; Solomon Biesenthal, Leopold Keiser, Joseph E. Strass and Leopold Strass, trustees. The first minister was the Rev. I. N. Cohen, who was succeeded November 1, 1866, by the present minister, the Rev. S. Falk.

The old Methodist Episcopal Church on Niagara street, just below Eagle, where this congregation now worships, was bought at once from William G. Fargo for \$13,000, of which \$7,000 was raised by immediate subscription. The building was adapted to the religious worship of the Jews and dedicated by the Rev. Dr. Wise on Friday, May 25, 1865. In the fall of 1876, a new organ was procured at a cost of \$2,000, and dedicated by two sacred concerts at the temple. The present officers of the temple are as follows:—S. Bergman, president; Leopold Warner, vice-president; Solomon Rosenau, secretary; Louis Weil, treasurer; Leopold Keiser, Leopold Marcus, Marcus Spiegel, Louis Jellinek, trustees.

On December 23, 1877, an orphan asylum society was started here, comprising Israelites of this and other synagogues. This society, together with similar organizations in Rochester and Syracuse, have formed the Jewish Orphan Asylum Association of Western New York, and have an Orphan's Home in Rochester. They now have an accumulated capital of \$45,000.

The Hebrew Benevolent Society was originated in 1862. In March, 1880, a Young Men's Hebrew Association was organized for literary and social purposes. They hold regular meetings at McArthur's Hall, and are in possession of a valuable library.

In June, 1882, a heavy task devolved upon the Israelites of Buffalo, caused by the arrival here of hundreds of Russian refugees. Funds were at once collected, a suitable habitation was hired and shelter and food were given to the sufferers until employment could be found for them.

*Bethel Synagogue.*—Bethel Synagogue was incorporated on the 13th of June, 1848. The first meetings were held in the Kremlin Block. Subsequently the society worshiped in a building on Pearl street, between Eagle and Court streets. The present synagogue on Elm street, between Eagle and North Division, was dedicated in August, 1874. The several ministers who have officiated at this synagogue are as follows:—The Rev. J. M. Slatky, H. Rosenberg, J. Loewenthal (who came about 1860), I. Werinsky, Philip Bernstein, B. Cohen (who came some time in 1879 and remained until November, 1882), A. Bauer, and the present minister,

the Rev. W. Berger. The present officers are I. N. Cohen, president ; N. Hyman, vice-president ; Henry Brown, treasurer ; Emil Bernstein, secretary ; A. F. Cohen, S. Dismon and J. Weisberg. A. F. Cohen was president of the board for the eight years ending in April, 1883. There are at present about thirty-five voting members of the synagogue, though the general attendance is considerably larger.

*Brith Sholem.*—Brith Sholem, or Berith Shalom, (Covenant of Peace) on Elm street, between Broadway and Clinton streets, was organized about 1865. It is composed of Prussian Israelites. They lost their original charter and were re-incorporated in December, 1882, having in the meantime built and dedicated (August 24, 1873) a frame synagogue costing about \$4,000 ; their entire property is valued at about \$7,000. A parochial school of twenty-six children is connected with the synagogue. The first minister was the Rev. Mr. Sullfort, who was followed by Rev. Mr. Worenski, and he, in 1869, by the Rev. D. W. Jacobson, who remained seven years. Mr. Jacobson returned in May, 1883. During his absence, the Revs. S. Poltoravitz and J. Broody officiated.

*Beth Jacob.*—The congregation Beth Jacob, an offshoot from Brith Sholem, was organized on the first Sunday in October, 1881. The first minister was the Rev. Jacob Meyerberg. A lot was bought on the corner of Clinton and Walnut streets and a synagogue erected thereon at a total cost of \$4,500. The second minister was the Rev. Jacob Saperston, and the next, the Rev. Raphael Josephson, who came in April, 1882. Their burying ground, comprising two acres, is situated on Doat street. About thirty-five families now belong to the congregation.

A complete history of the German Churches of Buffalo will be found in the chapter devoted to the Germans of the city.

## CHAPTER XII.

### EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OF BUFFALO.

The Early Schools—Meagre Facilities for Obtaining Education before the War of 1812—The Literary and Scientific Academy—The First Public School Building—A Quaint Subscription Paper — History of the Old School House — The First Teachers — A School Tax Roll of 1818 — Districts No. 1 and 2 — The “High School Association”—Reorganization of the City Schools — The Work of Oliver G. Steele, as Superintendent — Ward Committees on School Improvement — Success of the Plans Adopted — List of School Superintendents — Description of Schools at the Present Time — The Normal School — Private and Parochial Educational Institutions.

**T**HE wise policy of the American people in the early establishment of ample educational facilities as fast as the country has been settled and children have needed instruction, is acknowledged as one of the strongest elements of her growth and prosperity, as well as the promoter

of a high degree of general intelligence among the masses. There is now in the city of Buffalo, an admirable and ample school system, comprising over a hundred different institutions, public and private, which has grown up with the place under the fostering care and unselfish labors of many of her most public spirited men and women. The inception and growth of this public school system and its contemporary educational institutions we shall endeavor to describe in this chapter.

In the early days of Buffalo the youth of the place depended largely upon private schools for their instruction, which for some years offered better advantages probably than the common public schools; the latter were organized under the then imperfect school laws and received very feeble support outside of local effort and liberality. A brief reference to the private schools that were conducted through periods of varying lengths and with widely differing degrees of success, before the incorporation of Buffalo as a city, will not be uninteresting and is worthy of place here. The greater portion of those private schools were taught by ladies; those which were not were, as a rule, conducted by men who were partially engaged in other business.

Hiram Hanchett probably taught the first school in Buffalo, in the "Middaugh House," in the winter of 1806-'07. In a paper on this subject which was read before the Historical Society January 23, 1863, Mr. Oliver G. Steele stated that he was informed by Mr. Benjamin Hodge that "about 1807, a Scotchman by the name of Sturgeon, born in Ireland, taught school on Main street. The house had but one window and that without glass; plenty of light, however, was admitted through the openings between the logs. A small pine table and three benches made of slabs constituted the whole furniture. Mr. Sturgeon at first taught only reading, but afterwards at the urgent request of parents added spelling. Some twenty scholars attended. George Lyon and Benjamin Hodge, two of the older boys, acted as sub-teachers for the older scholars, while Mr. Sturgeon taught the younger children and did the whipping for the whole school. At that time there were about twelve houses between North street and Granger's creek."

In 1810 or '11, Mr. Asaph Hall, at the request of Mr. Gamaliel St. John, representing a number of the inhabitants, began a grammar school in the court house. It was not continued very long. Miss Irene Leech kept school at an early day in a stone building, corner of Main street and the Terrace.

It is probable that there were other schools similar in character to those mentioned, begun between 1807 and June 1, 1812; but if such was the case no records of them have reached us. On the latter date Asa Minor began a school "in the front chamber of the brick building opposite the court house, for the purpose of instructing the youth in reading, writing, arithmetic, English grammar and the principles of elocution, if



desired." In an advertisement dated May 30, 1815, Miss Mary Kibbe announced that she "proposes to open a school for the instruction of children in the various branches, in the vicinity of the post-office." Monday, October 2, 1815, David Page began a grammar school in the chamber of Mr. Folsom's house, on Genesee street. Deacon Amos Calender taught school winters at this time in rooms in different places in the village, a portion of the time in the chamber of his own house on the east side of Pearl street, between Swan and Seneca streets. Mr. Wyatt Camp also taught a successful private school. He was a man of superior qualifications. Miss A. Page opened a school in the Masonic Hall, which was then located in John Mullett's house, sometime in March, 1820. On the 17th of April, 1820, Miss H. Bennett began a school over N. Bennett's store. Sometime during the year 1821, a Miss Georgen, from Montreal, opened a boarding-school; we find no record of where it was located; it was doubtless the first institution in Buffalo claiming the title of a boarding school. It was also in the year 1821 that a Theological Seminary was projected; the Professors, as we are informed by a local journal, were inaugurated October 10th of that year at the Presbyterian Church.

Early in April, 1823, Rev. J. Bradley rented a part of the theatre which stood opposite the Eagle Tavern, and began an English and classical school there on the second Wednesday of May. Miss Terry began a school in November, 1826, "in the school room recently occupied by Mr. Peabody. Studies and tuition same as formerly." What was probably the first distinctive writing school in Buffalo, was kept by a Mr. Rice in the summer of 1827. N. C. Brace conducted an academical school in 1824-25, the seventh quarter of which closed February 12, of the last named year. The Misses Radcliffe established a Young Ladies' Seminary August 2, 1826. For information, pupils were instructed to call at Mr. Ball's on the corner of Pearl and Court streets. Mr. J. Drew, opened a school in September, 1826, "a few rods south of the Mansion House, in a building erected for the purpose." The Misses Denison conducted a Seminary in 1830, the closing exercises of which were held at the Eagle Tavern; the second term closed April 15, 1832, and it was afterwards conducted for a time by the Misses Lyman. B. B. Stark began an elementary school over the office of Thomas C. Love, Exchange Building, in the spring of 1830, and October 10, 1831, he taught an evening school "in the school house on the Terrace." Miss Conklin kept an infant school in Lyceum Hall, beginning in April, 1832. We find notice in the local press of the founding of a somewhat pretentious "Literary and Scientific Academy" in April, 1832, the prospectus of which was first issued in July, 1829. It was first organized by James McKay and afterwards opened by Silas Kingsley as a boarding and classical school, commencing with one hundred and fifty pupils, then considered a great



success. He continued the school until 1837, when the University of Western New York was opened in which the school was merged. The school was conducted in the brick building which formed a part of the late Sisters of Charity hospital, on the west side of North Pearl street, south of Virginia.

It will be rightly judged by the reader of the foregoing list that Buffalo in her younger days, had little reason to complain of a lack of school advantages, if numbers alone were considered, whatever may have been the general character of the institutions.

*The First School Building.*—The first and the only building devoted to school purposes (although it was undoubtedly often used for other gatherings) erected in Buffalo before the village was burned in 1813, was what was known as the "little red school house;" it stood on the northwest corner of Pearl and Swan streets. This building was the one that was built on the lot solicited from Joseph Ellicott by Joseph R. Palmer, in August 1801, as detailed in the early chapters of this volume. In the archives of the Historical Society is a little, coarse, memorandum book; perhaps the most interesting and valuable local relic in existence) which gives an authentic account of the beginning of the little school house and how the necessary funds were raised with which to carry on the work. Following is a literal copy of the first page of the memorandum:\*

"At a meeting of the inhabitanse of the village of Buffaloe, meet on the 29th day of March, eighteen hundred and seven at Joseph Landon's Inn by a vote of Sd meeting Zenas Barker in the Chair for the purpos to arect a School Hous in Sd Village by a subscription of the Inhabitanse.

"also Voted that Samuel Pratt, Joseph Landon & Joshua Gillett be a committee to See that they are appropriated on the School House above mentioned which subscriptions are to be paid in by the first day of June next or such part of it as Shall be wanted by that time."

Following is a list of the subscribers as they appear in the book, with the amount subscribed by each:—

Sylvanus Maybee.....	\$20.00	Levi Strong.....	\$ 5.00
Zenas Barker.....	10.00	William Hull.....	10.00
Thomas Fourth.....	3.00	Samuel Pratt.....	22.00
Joshua Gillett.....	15.00	Richard Mann.....	5.00
Joseph Wells.....	7.00	Isabel Adkins.....	5.00
John Johnson.....	10.00	Samuel Andrews.....	1.00
Nathaniel W. Sever.....	10.00	Garret Freeland.....	1.00
Isaac H. Bennett.....	3.00	Billa Sherman.....	.87½

In Mr. Steele's paper, before referred to, he said he had heard the names of Dr. Cyrenius Chapin, Gamaliel St. John and Joseph Landon

\* "The memorandum book was presented to the Historical Society in 1866, by Joshua Gillett, of Wyoming county, whom I presume to have been a son of the Joshua Gillett who was one of the committee to raise funds and superintend the building. It was probably lying in a trunk in 1813, and was carried out of town and thus escaped the destruction which involved so many documents of that era."—*Johnson's History of Erie County.*

mentioned as subscribers to the school house fund. It is quite probable that they were so, although for some cause their names do not appear in the memorandum book; they were all men who would have been most likely to contribute to the support of the budding cause of education in the village; moreover in a litigation that occurred in after years, relative to the site of the school house, Dr. Chapin claimed to have been one of the original proprietors. All of the subscriptions in the above list were dated March 30, 1807, the next day after the meeting was held. Each subscriber's name heads a page in the book; below it is his subscription, followed by the credits of cash, labor or materials. The carpenter work was done by Levi Strong and George Kith, whose accounts are also in the book. Their bills for work amounted to \$68.50. The building must have been begun very soon after the subscriptions were made, as the credits for work are mostly given in April. Joshua Gillett was credited with two and a half gallons of whisky April 13th; from this circumstance Mr. Johnson in his history, naturally concludes that the "raising" must have occurred that day. The school house was not shingled until November, 1808, when Mr. Pratt furnished 2,000 shingles for that purpose; whether the building was occupied at all before that date does not appear. Most of the subscribers to the school fund as they appear in the memorandum book paid their subscriptions in full; a few fell short to some extent. The total amount of the subscriptions was one hundred and one dollars. Five hundred dollars were allowed by the commissioners to pay for the building. The first teacher in this first school house was a Presbyterian minister named Samuel Whiting. Following him Amos Callender taught there. A son of "Father" Elkanah Holmes, Hiram Hanchett and Mr. — Tomlinson all taught there previous to the war.

Previous to 1840, the township included Black Rock, and down to about 1836 Tonawanda\* also; the school district organization consequently embraced all that territory. The first district embraced the village with the same boundaries as the city had under the charter of 1832. A tax roll is in existence which shows that a tax was levied in district No. 1, in 1818, by which it appears that it then embraced the whole village; it is dated September 3, 1818. The trustees were Heman B. Potter, Reuben B. Heacock and Elias Ransom. This is supposed to have been the first school tax ever levied in the village. The amount ordered to be raised was \$554.25; the total real and personal property in the whole village is placed at \$275,677.

In an old record book which was presented to O. G. Steele by William Hodge before 1863, which dates back to 1815, the territory about Cold Spring is called district No. 2; after about 1820 it appears as dis-

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\* Buffalo, formed in 1810 from Clarence, included Tonawanda, Grand Island, Amherst, Cheektowaga, and part of West Seneca. Amherst, including Cheektowaga, was taken off in 1836. Buffalo city remained a part of the town of Buffalo until 1840.

trict No. 3, probably on account of the formation of district No. 2 within the village boundaries about that time. This district (at Cold Spring) was organized after considerable struggle in May, 1816. Frederick Miller, William Hodge and Alvin Dodge were the first trustees.

At a meeting in the district a motion was made to appropriate two hundred silver dollars for the purchase of a site for a school house; but this was not agreed to. Another meeting was held at the house of William Hodge, where a motion was made "that the trustees go forward at their own expense and repair the school house, and hire a teacher;" this indicates that a house had been begun and left unfinished. This last meeting "dissolved without adjournment." In the following December an order was made to purchase a lot for sixty dollars, and that the district employ a teacher for another quarter; S. Fuller was employed under this order.

To return to the first district of the village it appears that a school house was built, probably with the proceeds of the tax levied in 1818; but no lot was purchased then and consequently the school house was moved from one location to another; it was located on the Kremlin Block, then on the corner of Erie and Swan streets and afterwards on Pearl street. Amos Callender, a Mr. Pease and Rev. Deodatus Babcock taught in this school house. Among the pupils of the latter now living in Buffalo, is the Hon. O. H. Marshall.

The second district in the village of Buffalo was organized probably in the year 1821, and its school was kept for some time in rooms at different points. In 1822 a school was kept on the west side of Main street, between Mohawk and Genesee; this was the school that Millard Fillmore first taught in the village, afterward teaching in the Cold Spring district. At a little later date district No. 2 through one of its trustees, Mr. Moses Baker, "took up" the lot on the corner of Pearl and Mohawk streets for school purposes and a building was erected there for the joint use of the district and the Universalist Church society the latter occupying the upper story. Peter E. Miles was the first teacher in that school. The building was abandoned as a school about 1833 when a brick building was erected on Franklin alley.

On the 22d of November, 1827, an educational institution was projected in Buffalo from which great results were expected. This was known as the Buffalo High School Association. On the date above mentioned a meeting was held at the Eagle Tavern, to consider the expediency of establishing a "High School on the Monitorial and High School system." After proper discussion a resolution was adopted favoring the project and an act incorporating the Buffalo High School Association was drawn up which authorized a board of trustees to procure subscriptions to stock to the amount of not less than \$10,000, and appointing Nathan Sargeant, Charles Townsend, Peter B. Porter, Wray S. Littlefield,



Millard Fillmore, William Mills, Job Bigelow and Uriel Torrey a committee to prepare and publish an address to the citizens in support of the object. The prospectus, terms, etc., were issued January 8, 1820. The first village directory in enumerating the public institutions of the place, says:—

“The Buffalo High School, incorporated in 1827, capital not to exceed \$25,000, \$10,000 of which is already subscribed and the school commenced, in rooms temporarily fitted for the purpose, in January last. The buildings of this institution are to be erected the coming season.”

A fine building was erected (which now forms a part of the Hospital of the Sisters of Charity on Main street); the institution met with a fair degree of success for some years, but it seemed not to reach the demands of the time and died out. A military school was subsequently established in the building on the system of Captain Partridge, and was very popular for a time; but it was too expensive to reach the body of the people and it, too, was closed.

When the re-organization of the city schools was effected in 1838, there were six district school houses in the place, in which schools were taught as follows:—District No. 2, Franklin street (alley,); district No. 12, Hydraulics; district No. 15, Perry street; district No. 16, Goodell street; district No. 17, South Division street; district No. 19, Louisiana street.\*

In the year 1835 a great University was projected in Buffalo, but it never went farther than the Medical department, which became the basis of the present Medical College.

In the winter of 1836-'37, a law was passed in response to discussion over the general inefficiency of the school system, authorizing the appointment of a city superintendent of schools. Mr. R. W. Haskins was appointed under the act; but the law was so imperfect and so hampered the superintendent that he was unable to accomplish anything satisfactory to himself and he resigned before a year had elapsed. With his resignation Mr. Haskins recommended to the Common Council many needed amendments to the law which were afterwards incorporated in it. Mr. N. B. Sprague succeeded Mr. Haskins as superintendent, but declined the office for the same reasons that induced Mr. Haskins to resign. The Council then appointed Mr. O. G. Steele, who, at the earnest solicitation of Judge Hall, chairman of the committee on schools, accepted the position. This appointment was a most opportune one for the future good of the schools of Buffalo. Mr. Steele immediately made himself thoroughly familiar with the schools as they then existed, and his report of the situation in which he found them reveals clearly their utter inefficiency as educational institutions. After a good deal of patient labor Mr. Steele

\* The numbers were under the old town organization.—*Mr. Steele's Paper read before the Historical Society.*

completed a map which showed the boundaries of the different districts and secured the necessary data upon which to write a report to the Council; this, with the map, was referred to the committee on schools and superintendent, with power to prepare a plan of organization. The preparation of the law under which the organization was effected devolved upon Mr. Steele and Judge Hall. They did not venture to propose an entirely free school system and the form of local organization was retained, with a low rate of tuition. A slight amendment was made to the law in 1839, which made the schools free, with the entire control placed in the hands of the council and superintendent. The re-organization of districts was effected in 1838. The matter attracted a good deal of public attention and a series of meetings was held in the old court-house, the first of which was on the 31st of August. The late Hon. Albert H. Tracy presided and Mr. Horatio H. Shumway was secretary. A committee of four from each ward was appointed, whose duty it was "to inquire into the condition of the schools in Buffalo, both public and private; ascertain the number of children who attend school, the expense of their education, and report the same, together with some plan for the improvement of our schools, at a future meeting to be called for that purpose."

This committee did its work most thoroughly and on the 19th of September made a full report, showing the inefficiency of the existing school system and detailing a plan for the complete organization of the city under an entirely free school system, under the authority of the Common Council; the expense, above the amount received from the State, to be paid by a general tax upon the city property.

After considerable discussion and not a little opposition, with a variation in some of the details, this report was adopted and the following winter the schools were made free by act of the Legislature.

The first school house erected under the new system was that on Church street, district No. 8. That was the district which once embraced the whole village. The lot was already in possession of the district but the inhabitants had not been able for some years to agree upon the erection of a building. A tax was levied and a handsome structure built, which drew out a spirited controversy upon the subject of its magnitude and extravagance. Excellent teachers were employed, the accommodations were good, and the school was very successful, the building being soon filled. It was afterwards enlarged to the full size of the lot.

In the year 1839, houses were built in No. 11, on Vine street; in No. 6 on South Division street; on Washington street No. 13, where Washington market now stands; No. 5 on Seneca street (Hydraulics); No. 12 on Spruce street. The construction of all these new buildings and the increased taxation caused thereby, created a great deal of dissatisfaction, and Mr. Steele intimates in his paper, to which we have so often referred,

that this dissatisfaction resulted, in the spring of 1840, in his failure to be re-appointed as superintendent. His successor was Mr. Daniel Bowen; he was appointed against his desire, and resigned the office after a few months. The vacancy was filled by Mr. Silas Kingsley, who efficiently administered the duties of the office until 1842, in which year Mr. Samuel Caldwell was appointed; he held the office two years, and was succeeded by Mr. Elias S. Hawley. In 1845 Mr. Steele was again appointed, holding the office one year. From 1839 down to 1845, no new buildings had been erected for school purposes. In 1845 a large school house was built in district No. 3, on Erie street. That building was burned in 1852, and the following year the large building on the Terrace, near Genesee street, was erected. The present High School was established in 1852; a high school department was conducted in district No. 7, in 1846, and continued until 1852. Since Mr. Steele's second retirement as superintendent (1846), that office has been filled as follows:—Daniel Bowen, appointed 1846; Elias S. Hawley, appointed 1847; Daniel Bowen, appointed 1849; Henry K. Viele, appointed 1850; O. G. Steele, appointed 1851; Victor M. Rice, appointed 1852; Ephraim Cook,\* elected 1854; Joseph Warren, elected 1858; Sanford B. Hunt, elected 1860; John B. Sackett, elected 1862; Henry D. Garvin, elected 1864; John S. Fosdick, elected 1866; Samuel Slade, elected 1868; Thomas Lothrop, elected 1870; J. N. Larned, elected 1872; William S. Rice, elected 1874; Christopher G. Fox, elected 1878; James F. Crooker, elected 1882-'83.

A large building was erected in district No. 14, on Franklin street, in 1846. In 1847 the house on Delaware street, in No. 10, was built; districts No.'s 9 and 10 had previously been united. In 1848 a colored school was established on Vine street, and a new school house was built for district No. 11, on Elm street north of Eagle. In 1849 commodious school buildings were erected in districts No. 4 and 12, the former on Elk street, and the latter on Spruce street. In 1850 a new house was built on Perry street, district No. 3, and the old house was abandoned the following year. In 1851 the school building on Erie street, was destroyed by fire and the large structure erected on the Terrace near Genesee street, in 1853. That was the last school building erected under the old charter. In 1851 evening schools were first established. In 1854, the new charter went into effect which extended the city government over Black Rock and the free school system was greatly enlarged at the same time.

The growth of the city schools between the years 1838 and 1853 is shown in the fact that the number of scholars enrolled in the former year was one hundred and seventy-nine; in the latter year there were registered January 1, 6,368, while the number of teachers had increased from seven to ninety-four.

\* Mr. Cook was the first superintendent who was *elected* to the office; previous to 1854, the office was filled by appointment by the Common Council. During Mr. Cook's administration, fourteen school houses were erected.



Following is a complete record of the schools in the city as they exist at present, with brief descriptions of the buildings and the dates when most of them were constructed :—

The city is divided into thirty-seven school districts. In each of the districts there are one or more buildings owned by the district or leased at its expense, used for school purposes.

*Central School.*—School lot on the triangle bounded by Franklin, Genesee and Court streets; main building constructed of brick, three stories high, fronting on Franklin street; in good repair. The old building in rear fronting Court street, purchased in 1852, is of brick, three stories high. The basement under both buildings finished and used for janitor's dwelling, wardrobes and other purposes. Valuation of property, \$76,000.

*District No. 1.*—School lot on Seventh street, between Maryland and Hudson streets; house three-story brick, in good condition, built in 1855. Valuation \$13,000; number of sittings, five hundred and twenty-nine.

*District No. 2.*—School lot on Terrace street near Genesee; house three-story brick, in fair condition; rebuilt in 1852. Valuation of property, \$18,000; number of sittings, three hundred and forty-six.

*District No. 3.*—School lot on Perry street, between Illinois and Mississippi streets; three-story brick house, in fair condition, built in 1851. Valuation, \$10,500; number of sittings, three hundred and ninety-four.

*District No. 4.*—School on Elk street, near Louisiana, building constructed of brick, three stories high, in poor condition, built in 1849. Valuation, \$20,000; number of sittings, six hundred and seventy-five.

*District No. 5.*—School lot on Seneca street, near New York Central Railroad crossing; house constructed of brick and three stories high, built in 1839; additions made in 1850 and 1856. Valuation \$10,000; number of sittings, three hundred and sixty-six.

*District No. 6.*—School lot on South Division street, near Chestnut; house constructed of brick, three stories high, with finished basement for wardrobes, closets and janitor's dwelling, originally built in 1839, rebuilt in 1868. Assessed valuation of property, \$22,000; number of sittings, eight hundred.

*District No. 7.*—School lot on South Division street, near Ellicott; house constructed of brick, three stories, built in 1835. Valuation, \$9,000; number of sittings in all departments, three hundred and thirty.

*District No. 8.*—School lot on Church street, opposite City and County Hall; building constructed of brick, two stories, built in 1838. Valuation, \$7,500; number of sittings, one hundred and eighty-five. Condemned by Council in 1883.

*District No. 9.*—Formerly colored school on Vine street, discontinued and territory added to districts eleven and thirteen.

*District No. 10.*—School lot on Delaware street, near Mohawk ; house constructed of brick, three stories, built in 1847. Valuation, \$10,000; number of sittings in all departments, four hundred and sixty-seven.

*District No. 11.*—School lot on Elm street, near Clinton ; house constructed of brick, two stories, built in 1848. Valuation, \$6,000; number of sittings in both departments, two hundred and eighty-two.

*District No. 12.*—Main building on Spruce street, near Broadway ; constructed of brick, three floors, in 1849. Valuation, \$14,000. Primary school situated on Broadway at the corner of Spring street ; house constructed of brick, two stories and finished basement, built in 1869. Valuation, \$16,000 ; number of sittings in both buildings, one thousand two hundred and sixty-four.

*District No. 13.*—School lot on Oak street, between Genesee and Huron ; three-story building constructed of brick in 1856. Valuation \$16,000 ; number of sittings, five hundred and twenty-seven. An addition is being made to this school building, this year (1883).

*District No. 14.*—School lot on Franklin street, between Tupper and Edward, house two stories high, constructed of brick, built in 1866. Valuation \$20,000 ; number of sittings five hundred and fifty.

*District No. 15.*—Main school building situated on Oak street, corner of Burton Alley, constructed of brick, three stories with finished basement, built in 1876. Valuation \$25,000 ; number of sittings, one thousand and sixty. Primary School, lot on Carlton street between Orange and Peach street ; brick building, two stories high, built 1869 ; six hundred and sixty-eight sittings. Valuation \$16,000.

*District No. 16.*—School lot on Delaware avenue, extending to Linwood avenue, near Bryant street ; house built in 1855, of brick ; three stories. Valuation \$18,000 ; number of sittings, four hundred and eighty-five. A lot is purchased in the eastern end of this district and a new building is ordered built.

*District No. 17.*—This district has no school property excepting the furniture in the building rented and occupied for school purposes.

*District No. 18.*—The school lot in this district in on School street, between Fargo and West avenues. There are two brick buildings on the lot. New building, two-story brick, built 1874 ; number of sittings, five hundred and forty-two. Valuation, \$24,000. The first floor of the old building is used as a primary ; number of sittings, two hundred and twenty.

*District No. 19.*—School lot on West avenue, at the junction of Delavan avenue ; house constructed of brick in 1857. Valuation, \$17,000 ; number of sittings, five hundred and eighty-seven.

*District No. 20.*—School lot on Amherst street, corner of East street ; house constructed of brick, three stories, built in 1877 ; number of sittings, nine hundred and six. A two-story brick building is being erected to be used as a primary, located on Military road.

*District No. 21.*—School lot on Bird street, near Delaware avenue; house constructed of wood in 1857. Valuation, \$1,200; number of sittings, forty.

*District No. 22.*—School lot on Main street nearly opposite Bird street; house two-story brick, built 1882. Valuation, \$7,000; number of sittings, one hundred and ninety.

*District No. 23.*—School lot on Delavan avenue near railroad crossing; brick house, one story. Valuation, \$400; number of sittings, forty.

*District No. 24.*—School lot on Fillmore parkway, corner of Best street; house constructed of brick and two stories high; built 1857. Valuation, \$7,000.

*District No. 25.*—School lot on Lewis street near William street; main structure built in 1873, of brick and two stories high. Valuation, \$16,000; number of sittings, three hundred and fourteen. Another building situated on Churchyard farm; one-story wood; city purchased of Mr. Joseph Churchyard in 1882, who built and sustained a school therein for about one year previous to being purchased by the city. Another of one-story wood, Broadway, near Erie Railroad.

*District No. 26.*—School lot on Dole street near Seneca street; brick house, one story high. Valuation, \$1,700; number of sittings, eighty.

*District No. 27.*—School lot on Cazenovia street near the Aurora plank road; house one-story brick structure, built about 1872. Valuation, \$1,000; number of sittings, one hundred and twenty-two.

*District No. 28.*—School at the junction of Triangle street with the Abbott's Corners plank road; one-story wooden house. Valuation of property, \$1,800; number of sittings, eighty-two.

*District No. 29.*—School lot on White's Corners plank road near Marilla street; one-story brick building, built 1874. Valuation, \$500; number of sittings, forty-two.

*District No. 30.*—No school property in this district, and a building has been rented for school purposes.

*District No. 31.*—School lot on Emslie street, between Peckham and William, and running through to Krettner street; two brick buildings on the lot; one of three stories with department and recitation rooms; the other of two stories, built 1872, and a basement finished for janitors' dwelling in good repair. Valuation, \$28,000; number of sittings in both buildings, eight hundred and eighty-eight. Three other buildings in this district are rented for schools.

*District No. 32.*—School lot on Cedar street between William and Clinton streets; two brick buildings on lot; one of three stories. The other built 1872, two stories high with basement finished for janitor's dwelling and other purposes. Valuation of both buildings, \$30,000; number of sittings in both buildings, one thousand one hundred and fifty-four.



*District No. 33.*—School lot on Elk street, near Smith street; house built of brick, two stories high, built 1878. Valuation, \$25,000; number of sittings, six hundred and fourteen.

*District No. 34.*—School lot on Hamburg street, corner of Sandusky street; house two stories high, constructed of brick, built 1864. Valuation, \$35,000; number of sittings, six hundred and fourteen.

*District No. 35.*—School lot on Swan street, near Spring street; house three story brick with wings two stories high, built 1867. Valuation, \$35,000; number of sittings, seven hundred and fifty-nine.

*District No. 36.*—School lot on Norris Place, at the corner of Cottage street; house two stories and constructed of brick; basement finished and used for janitor's dwelling and other purposes; built in 1858. Assessors' valuation, \$20,000; number of sittings, six hundred and fifty-six.

*District No. 37.*—Building Williamsville road, near Genesee street; built 1881, one-story wood.

*School of Practice.*—The School of Practice attached to the State Normal School is maintained for the purpose of training members of the graduating class and fitting them for teachers. It is also a public school with an attendance of about two hundred pupils.

*Buffalo Orphan Asylum School.*—The building used for this school is city property, and is located on the school lot situated on Virginia street, at the point of its divergence towards the lake. The property is in district No. 14; the house is a one-story wooden building,

*St. John's Orphan Asylum School.*—No. 280 Hickory street and Sulphur Springs. The school belonging to this asylum is maintained for the benefit of the orphans cared for by this institution. The school room is a part of the asylum building.

*St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum School.*—Corner Broadway and Elliott street. This school is composed of orphan inmates of the asylum, the school room being furnished for the use of the school by the asylum authorities.

*Best Street R. C. Orphan Asylum.*—Best street near Parade House. The school maintained in this asylum is wholly composed of orphan children, and the school room is furnished by the authorities of the institution.

*Church Charity Foundation School.*—The pupils of this school are inmates of the institution, and the school room is supplied by the trustees of the Foundation.

Important changes for the better were made in the course of study in the graded schools in 1879 and 1880, which have resulted in a degree of general benefit to the pupils.

In the year 1871 the "Jesse Ketchum Memorial Fund" was founded and a deed of trust was executed on the 7th of September of that year, which conveyed to the city of Buffalo the sum of \$10,000, with which to

found a perpetual memorial fund in honor of Jesse Ketchum. During the later years of his life especially, Mr. Ketchum was deeply interested in the public schools. This fund was founded by Mr. B. H. Brennan, a son-in-law of Mr. Ketchum. The basis upon which the fund is founded, is thus expressed in the deed of trust:—

“The system of public instruction has for its grand object and design to make worthy citizens, and this implies the culture of the mind, the morals and the manners, and the object and design of this trust is to promote the threefold culture in just proportions. The medals and other prizes are intended as incentives to diligent study, correct deportment and good behavior. They are intended to promote a faithful application to prescribe studies, a cheerful obedience to all the rules and regulations of the school, a respectful demeanor towards the teachers, a strict attention to the proprieties which distinguish polite intercourse of refined society, and a supreme regard for ‘whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report.’”

Medals, books and other prizes have been distributed under this deed to the reported benefit of the cause of education in the city.

Following are the school officers for the year 1883:—

*Superintendent*—James F. Crooker.

*Clerk*—G. Adolf Finck.

*Teachers of Penmanship*—Charles B. Knowlton and Carl A. Goehle.

*Teachers of Music*—Everett L. Baker and Charles Hager.

*Teacher of Drawing*—Mark M. Maycock.

The nationality and color of the parents of the pupils registered as members of the schools in 1882, are as follows:—

American.....	5,460
German.....	10,301
Irish.....	2,633
Other nationalities.....	2,293
Total.....	20,687
Whites.....	20,574
Colored.....	113
Total.....	20,687

The whole number of pupils registered in the Grammar schools, school of Practice, the Central school, and the schools connected with charitable organizations for the term ending December 22, 1882, was 20,687, and the attendance 15,689.

*The Normal School.*—In September, 1871, a State Normal School was opened in Buffalo; it is located on Jersey street, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets. This school was established under the State law and is under the joint control of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the local Board of Trustees. The Board is composed at the present time of Francis H. Root, Buffalo, President; David Gray, Buffalo,

Secretary ; Stephen M. Clement, Buffalo, Treasurer ; Thomas F. Rochester, Buffalo, Grover Cleveland, Buffalo, Henry Lapp, Clarence.

The first president of the local Board of Trustees was Hon. J. B. Skinner : he died before the school was opened, and was followed in the office by Hon. N. K. Hall. Mr. O. G. Steele next assumed the duties of the position, and he was succeeded by Francis H. Root, the present incumbent. The principal is Professor Henry B. Buckham, A. M., who has most efficiently filled the office since the school was opened. The diplomas of this school are perpetual licenses to teach anywhere in the State. The average number of pupils in attendance in the Normal school is two hundred and twenty.

Connected with the Normal school is a School of Practice which is a part of the public schools of the city, the teachers being paid by the city ; they are nominated by the Normal board and appointed by the city superintendent. Pupils are received upon application of parents to the number of twenty from each of the ten grades in the public schools. The School of Practice is of great benefit to pupils intending to make teaching a profession. The number of graduates from the Normal school is two hundred and sixty-nine.

*Private Educational Institutions.*—In addition to the public schools already enumerated, there are now (1883) in the city the following private educational institutions :—

The Buffalo Female Academy is situated between Johnson Place and Park Place on Delaware avenue. This institution was incorporated in 1851, and has been a very prosperous and successful school. The present Board of Trustees are Thomas Farnham, president ; Albert T. Chester, secretary and treasurer ; Nelson Holland, Josiah Jewett, Charles E. Walbridge, John R. Lee, Pascal P. Pratt, William P. Letchworth, Richard K. Noye, Henry R. Howland, John B. Greene, George P. Sawyer, George B. Hayes, Franklin D. Locke, O. H. Marshall. The present Board of Instruction is composed as follows: Rev. Albert T. Chester, D. D., Principal ; Professor Albert H. Chester, Ph. D., Lecturer on Chemistry ; Professor Carl Adam, Teacher of Instrumental and Vocal Music ; Madame Clemence Bouliau, Teacher of the French Language ; Rev. J. B. Kniest, Teacher of the German Language ; Mrs. I. H. Benson, Teacher of Drawing and Painting ; Miss Mary Lovering, Teacher of Dancing ; Miss E. L. Hilliard, Teacher of Callisthenics ; Miss Jeannie M. Welch, Teacher of Composition and Rhetoric ; Miss Ellen K. Chester, Teacher of Literature and Elocution ; Mrs. Elizabeth A. Forbes, Collegiate Department ; Miss Mary C. Cook, Assistant Collegiate Department ; Miss Harriet S. Kinney, First Academic Department ; Mrs. I. H. Benson, Second Academic Department ; Miss Louise Worthington, Preparatory Department ; Miss Mary Lathrop, Teacher of *Jardin des Enfants* ; Miss Mabel Chester, Assistant of *Jardin*.



The Buffalo Classical School, 335 Franklin street, was established in 1863, by the present Principal, Horace Briggs. The school was founded principally in the interest of the families of Pascal P. Pratt, E. B. Beals, Bronson C. Rumsey, and James Ganson; to these were added Andrew J. Rich and Guilford Wilson. These six gentlemen are named as the founders of the school. The number of pupils was for several years limited to twelve, but was afterwards enlarged to meet the desires of others who wished to avail themselves of its advantages. Nearly fifty students have been prepared in this school for different colleges and universities, and about forty for business pursuits. The faculty now includes, besides the principal, Lewis Rogers, William A. Frick and Mrs. Dora B. North.

The Misses Hill's school for young ladies, located at 435 Delaware avenue, was established in 1847.

Mrs. Williams' school for young ladies, located at 254 Franklin street, was established in 1868. Mrs. Richard Williams is the principal. A school formerly kept by Miss Sheldon, as early as 1855, and afterwards by Misses Woolworth and Bissell, was incorporated in Mrs. Williams' present school. An average of about ninety pupils, children, young boys and young ladies attend the school.

The Bryant & Stratton Business College.—Among the private educational institutions of Buffalo, the Bryant & Stratton Business College occupies a prominent and honorable position. This college was established in 1854, and for twenty-eight years enjoyed a successful career in rooms in Brown's Buildings, on the corner of Main and Seneca streets. On the 1st of January, 1883, to accommodate the regularly increasing attendance and to furnish more perfect facilities, the proprietors secured and occupied elegant and commodious rooms in the German Insurance Company's building, the entire third floor being leased for the purposes of the college.

Heathcote School, for boys, was established in 1865; it is now located at 310 Pearl street. This school affords its patrons facilities for acquiring a thorough academic education. It is unsectarian in character, but is under the protection of the Episcopalian Church, the Right Rev. A. Cleveland Coxe, D. D., LL. D., acting as president of the Board of Trustees. Lester Wheeler, A. M., is the present head master and master of the department of ancient and modern languages. Charles H. Gould is master of the scientific department.

The Kindergarten and Training School, located at 623 Delaware avenue, was established in May 1876, by the present principal, Mrs. Amanda H. Hoffman. The course of instruction runs from the kindergarten to full academic. Miss Alice E. Hoffman is principal of the young ladies' department, and Miss Mary W. Hoffman, teacher of the preparatory department.

St. Mary's Academy and Industrial School, Franklin street, near Church.—This institution was incorporated April 29, 1865. It is devoted to the education of young ladies only. Officers, Miss E. Nardin and Miss E. Smyth. There are ten lady teachers in the school, which is highly successful.

Williams Academy for Boys.—This institution was established in 1871, and is located in the Hersee Building, corner of Main and Chippewa streets. The school was founded by Mr. Howell C. Williams, who died August 27, 1883. It has been attended by from thirty to forty students.

*Catholic Colleges.*—There are two Catholic colleges in Buffalo, the most important of which is the Canisius College. This institution was opened in September, 1870, and was incorporated in January, 1883, by the Regents of the University of the State, with power to confer degrees and academical honors. It is conducted by the Society of Jesus, and is located on Washington street. Two courses are taught—a classical and a commercial course. Boarding students are accommodated in the institution when desired. The present faculty is as follows: Rev. M. Port, S. J., President and Prefect of Studies; Rev. Fr. X. Delhez, S. J., Prefect of Discipline for the boarders—Teacher of French; Rev. Herm. Kerckhoff, S. J., Prefect of Discipline for the day-scholars—Professor of Mathematics: Rev. Guil. Truemper, S. J., Professor of Rhetoric; Rev. M. Bischoff, S. J., Professor of Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry; Rev. Aem. Perrig, S. J., Class of Poetry; Rev. Ant. Guggenberger, S. J., Professor of History and German; Rev. P. Mueller, S. J., Class of Humanities; Rev. Th. Van Rossum, S. J., Class of Syntax; Rev. T. Gächter, S. J., Second Grammar Class; Rev. Hub. Hartmann, S. J., First Grammar Class; Rev. J. Mueller, S. J., Teacher of French and German; Mr. Barth. Gmeiner, S. J., Preparatory Class; Mr. Ch. Flink, S. J., Teacher of Drawing and Arithmetic; Mr. Th. Ashton, Commercial Law and English Literature; Mr. H. Smith, Third Class Commercial Course; Mr. Greg. Kiefer, Second Class Commercial Course; Rev. B. Henke, S. J., Mr. G. Burkard, S. J., Mr. J. Zahm, S. J., Mr. Ch. Gretler, S. J., Assistant Teachers and Prefects of Discipline; Mr. Ch. Mischka, Teacher of Music; Mr. Ch. Buckelmueller, Teacher of Gymnastics.

St. Joseph's College, corner of Delaware avenue and Church street, is under the care of the Christian Brothers. This institution was established in 1861, and has now two hundred and forty pupils. Its different courses embrace, besides the regular English studies, the Greek, Latin, German, Spanish and French languages; chemistry, geology, astronomy and natural philosophy (with adequate apparatus); the higher mathematics, theoretical and analytical geometry, mensuration, plane and spherical trigonometry, surveying, navigation, calculus, etc., logic, metaphysics and ethics, special attention being directed to those branches involving a thorough knowledge of mechanics, book-keeping, commercial law, correspondence, phonography, drawing, and vocal and instrumental music.

*Parochial and Other Church Schools.*—There are in the city twenty-two Catholic parochial schools in connection with the churches to which sufficient reference is made in the chapter on the churches of Buffalo. There are also schools connected with the following German churches. St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran, St. John's German Lutheran, Trinity, St. Marcus Evangelical, Evangelical Friedens, Church of Seven Dolors, St. Mary's, St. Peter's Evangelical. These schools are further described in the records of the German churches in the chapter devoted to the German interests of Buffalo.

*Convents.*—St. Mary's Convent of the Redemptorists.—Pine street, near Broadway.

Sacred Heart Convent of Sisters of St. Francis.—749 Washington, between Tupper and Goodell. Sister Cecilia, Superior. Kindergarten attached.

Convent of St. Clare.—Under care of the Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis. Mother Margaret, Superior. A select and day school.

Convent of the Sisters of Notre Dame.—Broadway, near Pine. Sister Falconeria, Superior.

Mount St. Joseph Convent.—Main street, near Forest avenue. Sisters of St. Joseph.

St. Joseph's Convent of Mercy.—Fulton street near Louisiana. Under the Sisters of Mercy. Sister M. Joseph, Superior.

Boarding School and Academy of the Holy Angels.—Corner Porter and Prospect Avenues. Under the direction of the Gray Nuns.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### JOURNALISM IN BUFFALO.

Influence of the Press — The First Newspaper in Buffalo — Its Legitimate Successor the *Courier* — The Largest Show Printing House in the World — The *Commercial Advertiser* — Details of its Growth — The *Express* — Successive Owners, Editors and Managers — The First Successful Sunday Newspaper in Buffalo — The *Sunday News* — Establishment of the *Daily News* — The *Daily Telegraph* — The *Sunday Times* — Establishment of the *Daily Times* — The *Sunday Truth* — Religious, Medical and Temperance Journals — Literary Papers — The Mortuary Record of Buffalo Newspapers.

It is creditable to the Buffalo of seventy years ago when she could scarcely assume the pretensions of a village, when her population numbered but a few hundreds and when some of the principal streets were still adorned with the stumps of primeval trees, that there were among the inhabitants men possessed of sufficient enterprise and faith in the future of the place, to establish a newspaper, and public spirit in the



community to support it with such a degree of liberality as sufficed to give it permanent life. What Buffalo in its early days owed to the influence of its first newspaper, need not be dwelt upon here ; it is well known that the advancement and growth of all young settlements, depend to a great degree upon their pioneer journals which are seldom slow in making known to the world the merits of their respective localities as desirable points for settlement and holding up to the public their bright prospects.

The press of the city of Buffalo, from the day of the first issue of the *Buffalo Gazette* in 1811, has occupied a conspicuous and honorable position in the history of journalism in the Empire State, and its influence, especially in later years, has been felt in an effective and gratifying manner in political policy and the counsels of the nation. Men have conducted and are conducting the leading newspapers of the city, who have in such capacity and otherwise, won national reputations and left the impress of their personalities upon the events of their time. To-day the newspapers of Buffalo are second to none in the country in cities of similar size.

In making the following historic record of the newspapers of Buffalo, we shall first give an account of these journals that are now in existence, which will also include all that have been consolidated with them ; as far as available, after which will be found a larger number of the papers in the list that have been started only to succumb to that fate which seems to foredoom so many such enterprises to an early demise.

The first number of the first newspaper published in this city was issued on the 3d day of October, 1811. It was called the *Buffalo Gazette* and was published by Smith H. Salisbury and his brother, Hezekiah A. Salisbury. The *Gazette* was then the only newspaper in the State west of Canandaigua, except a small sheet issued at Batavia. The two Salisbury brothers came to Buffalo from Canandaigua, where they had learned the art of printing with James D. Bemis, who then published the *Ontario Repository*. The *Gazette* was an unpretentious sheet when compared with the modern newspaper ; it was only about twenty by twenty-four inches in size, and the paper was coarse and of a sort of bluish-yellow tint. Reference has already been made to portions of the contents of some of the early numbers of this pioneer in the newspaper field. The publishers had bought a small stock of books and stationery, the advertisement of which sufficed to fill a considerable portion of the early issues. In anticipation of an invasion of Buffalo by the British, the *Gazette* establishment was removed to Harris Hill some weeks before the burning of Buffalo in December, 1813, the last number previous to the removal being dated December 14. The first Harris Hill issue being dated January 18. In May, 1813, the *Gazette* establishment was enlarged and the subscription price advanced from the original figure of \$2.00 ; but so many complaints

followed this action that the price was reduced in July of that year. Smith H. Salisbury remained in editorial management of the *Gazette* until January, 1818, when he sold his interest to Mr. William A. Carpenter; he remained in the firm but three months and sold his interest to H. A. Salisbury in April 28, 1818, the latter thus becoming sole owner; he changed the name of the paper to the *Niagara Patriot*. Of the *Gazette* during the first five or six years of its existence, a prominent citizen has written:—

“It was the only chronicler of local events on the frontier. Its weekly arrival in the back settlements was anxiously looked for and seldom has a public journal been more useful and reliable.”

When the county of Erie was erected in 1820, Mr. Salisbury again changed the name of his paper to the *Buffalo Patriot*. In 1826, Mr. Carpenter repurchased an interest in the *Patriot* establishment, which he retained until 1824, acting as assistant editor. Harvey Newcomb edited the paper for about a year, in 1829. In the winter of 1827-'28, Charles Sentell and Billings Haywood started the *Western Advertiser*, a paper which was devoted to the cause of anti-masonry. Oliver Forward and James Sheldon were active and forcible contributors to its columns. After about three months of existence, this journal was merged into the *Patriot*. While Mr. Carpenter was in the editorial chair of the *Patriot*, the columns of his paper were largely given up to the most active support of the anti-masonic movement, which was then sweeping over the State. On the 7th of January, 1834, the *Buffalo Weekly Patriot* was issued as the *Buffalo Patriot and Commercial Advertiser*, published every Tuesday. The first number of the *Daily Commercial Advertiser* was issued January 1, 1835, with H. A. Salisbury as publisher, Guy H. Salisbury as editor and Bradford A. Manchester printer. The office was at that time located at 341 and 343 Main street, with an entrance at 13 Ellicott Square. The *Daily* was enlarged at the end of six months and again at the end of the year, at which time Mr. Manchester bought an interest, the firm becoming Salisbury, Manchester & Co.\* During the succeeding six months the paper was edited by Dr. Thomas M. Foote, except for a short period by Theodore C. Peters. On the first of July of that year H. A. Salisbury† retired from the establishment, when Dr. Foote and Guy H. Salisbury associated themselves with Mr. Manchester and continued the publication until August, 1836, when Almon M. Clapp who was publishing the *Standard* at Aurora, consolidated his paper with the *Weekly Patriot* and became one of the editors of the *Commercial Advertiser* and the *Patriot*. Mr. Manchester‡ left the establish-

\* It was in 1836 that Mr. Manchester introduced the first power printing press into Buffalo. It is recorded that with the assistance of four feeders and a man at the wheel, five hundred impressions per hour were made. It was an “Adams,” press. Mr. Manchester subsequently introduced the first cylinder press here on which the *Pilot* was printed.

† H. A. Salisbury died March 14, 1856.

‡ Died May 3, 1862.







ment at that time or a few weeks later and the remaining members of the firm under the name of Salisbury, Foote & Co., continued the publication until May, 1839, when Mr. Salisbury and Mr. Clapp sold their interests to Dr. Foote and Elam R. Jewett; the latter was then publishing the *Daily Journal*, which he merged in the *Commercial*.

The *Journal* was established in July, 1815, by David M. Day; it was called the *Niagara Journal*, which name was changed to *Buffalo Journal* when Erie county was erected. Mr. Day was assisted in the editorial work on this paper by prominent politicians until about 1822, from which date to 1826 R. W. Haskins was the principal editor. In that year Oran Follett purchased an interest in the *Journal* and took the editorial chair. In 1827 Mr. Haskins became one of the proprietors and continued to do a portion of the editorial labor. In 1830, Messrs. Follett & Haskins retired from the establishment and the business was carried on by Mr. Day until 1834, when it was sold to Elijah J. Roberts; this gentleman began in the summer of that year the issue of a large daily paper, under the name of the *Daily Advertiser*, on which Colonel Morgan assisted in the editorial work; Comfort F. Butler soon after became one of the publishers; this *Daily* continued about six weeks.

In the early part of 1835 the *Journal* was suspended; it had during nearly twenty years enjoyed a large patronage, but its career was shortened by the establishment in the previous winter, by Mr. Day, of the *Buffalo Whig*, a new weekly, of which Mr. R. W. Haskins was editor. Mr. Day's popularity and the excellence of his paper, won him the patronage of his large circle of friends, to the embarrassment of the *Journal*. When the latter paper was suspended, Mr. Day bought its subscription list and title, adding the name *Journal* to his new paper. January 1, 1836, Mitchenor Cadwallader and Dr. Henry R. Stagg became partners with Mr. Day, and in February following began the publication of the *Buffalo Daily Journal*, which was edited by Messrs. Cadwallader and Stagg. In 1837 Mr. Day retired from the establishment and the business was continued by the two remaining partners until the fall of 1838, when the entire establishment was purchased by Elam R. Jewett and Dr. Daniel Lee; J. B. Clarke was made editor. In May, 1839, the *Journal* was merged with the *Commercial Advertiser*, as before stated.

The firm in control of the *Commercial* was now E. R. Jewett & Co., the company being Dr. Foote, who edited the paper with the assistance of Dr. Lee. This arrangement was continued until 1854, when the whole establishment was sold to Calvin F. S. Thomas, Solon H. Lathrop and Jedediah H. Lathrop. Theodore N. Parmelee, who is spoken of as a versatile and able writer and enjoying an extensive acquaintance, was made the editor. April 4, 1857, the establishment again passed into the hands of Mr. Jewett and Dr. Foote, with the latter as editor. Dr. Foote was sent to Bogota in 1849, as *Chargé d' Affaires*; returning the follow-

ing year he was appointed to the same office at the Court of Vienna. He returned in 1853 and resumed his editorial work, which he continued until near his death; that event occurred on the 20th of February, 1858. He was a scholarly and powerful writer and the paper reached an eminent degree of strength and popularity while under his editorial control. Dr. Foote was followed as editor of the *Commercial* by E. Peshine Smith, and he by Prof. Ivory Chamberlain, the latter a very able writer, who afterwards died in the harness while engaged on the *New York Herald*. Dr. Sanford B. Hunt, in late years editor of the Newark, (N. J.) *Advertiser*, was also editor of the *Commercial* after Mr. Chamberlain. April 9, 1861, the establishment was purchased by Rufus Wheeler, Joseph Candee and James D. Warren, the firm being styled R. Wheeler & Co., with Anson G. Chester as editor of the paper. December 8, 1862, the firm dissolved, Mr. Candee retiring; his interest was bought by Mr. Warren and at the same time James N. Matthews was taken into the firm, the style being Wheeler, Matthews & Warren. April 29, 1865, Mr. Wheeler retired from the firm; he died on the 14th of May, 1865. Mr. Matthews acted as editor-in-chief and was assisted by William E. Foster, the present editor. The firm of Matthews & Warren dissolved October 29, 1877, the former gentleman withdrawing; since that date James D. Warren has been the sole proprietor of the *Commercial Advertiser*. In February, 1868, the establishment was removed from Main street to the Adams Block, on Washington street, and on Monday evening, September 28, of that year, it was almost entirely destroyed by fire, the origin of which is a mystery. Through the courtesy of the *Express*, not a number of the paper was missed, though it appeared as a half-sheet until October 7. The counting-room and contents were saved, and the publication office was continued there, while the block was at once rebuilt by Mr. Adams. The establishment remained at that location until April 10, 1882, when it was removed to the new building on the corner of Washington and North Division streets. This structure was begun on the 1st of May, 1881; it was a magnificent building, five stories in height, and most admirably adapted to its purpose. The occupancy of the new building was a source of congratulation to the owner of the establishment, to all connected with it, as well as to the friends of the paper everywhere. In an editorial published in the paper at the time of its removal, we find the following expression:

“After all, what gives at this moment the keenest satisfaction to those identified with its management, is the reflection that it has through all its changes, through all its ups and downs, a firm hold upon the friendship and esteem of the best portion of the community.”

This general feeling of congratulation was destined to be short-lived, for on the 21st of December, of the same year, when the establishment had been settled in its new home but about eight months, a conflagration far more disastrous than the former one, laid the beautiful



structure in ruins. This fire was one of the most destructive and rapid in its work that ever visited Buffalo, and the surrounding circumstances were such that every citizen seemed to feel its consequences as in some sense a personal loss. But the blow to the owner of the building and publisher of the *Commercial Advertiser* was wonderfully mitigated by countless offers of assistance and sincere expressions of sympathy. Through the courtesy of the *Courier* establishment, the *Commercial* was issued from their presses for about ten days, by which time it was again ready with its own resources, located in the large building on the corner of Ellicott and Swan streets. Arrangements were immediately made for rebuilding the splendid printing-house upon the ruins of the burned building and in February, 1883, the work was begun. The new structure is now occupied with one of the finest printing, engraving and publishing establishments in the State. The building itself is a worthy successor of the first one; it is five stories in height and built in the most substantial and attractive style of architecture, of iron, stone and brick; it is fire-proof as far as it was possible to make it so and its interior construction is peculiarly adapted to the necessities of the business. Each floor is sustained by a number of composite, wrought-iron, transverse girders, with the additional support of heavy cast-iron columns under the center of each, wrought-iron rolled "I" beams, corrugated iron arches and concrete filling, with sleepers bedded in concrete, and hard maple floors. This includes the roof, which is of the same construction—iron and concrete. The building is a remarkably strong one. Without any deflection it will support on each of the first three floors five hundred and seven tons; four hundred and forty tons each on the fourth and fifth floors, and one hundred and seventy tons on the roof. The finest French plate glass is used for the windows from the basement to the roof. The building is heated by steam throughout. The counting-room is elegantly finished off in mahogany. A commodious elevator runs from the basement to the top story.

The building is somewhat higher than the former one, the first story being seventeen feet, the second thirteen and one-half feet, the third twelve and one-fourth feet, the fourth fifteen feet, and the fifth thirteen feet. There are iron staircases and wrought-iron fire-escapes, extending from the side-walk to the roof, with balconies at each story, on North Division street front.

James D. Warren, now at the head of the *Commercial Advertiser* establishment, is a native of Bennington, Vt., his father being the late Orsamus B. Warren, who settled in the town of Clarence, in this county, and carried on a successful country store there for a number of years. Before Mr. Warren reached his majority, he made a tour of the South and finished his education by about a year and a half of study in the city of Natchez. After his return to Clarence, his public life began with

his election as supervisor of that town for several terms. In 1854, when he was but thirty-one years old, Mr. Warren was elected county treasurer for Erie county and held the office three years; he was also clerk of the board of supervisors several terms. In April, 1861, he became associated with Rufus Wheeler and Joseph Candee in the purchase of the establishment of which he is now the manager. Mr. Warren has always been active and influential in directing and managing political affairs; has often served as a member of the Republican County Committee and the State Central Committee, and also as a delegate to State and National nominating conventions. He is a successful business man and a far-seeing politician, having made his journal the leading Republican organ of Western New York.

In the spring of 1830, Horace Steele began the publication of a newspaper in Buffalo, which was the first ancestor of the present Buffalo *Courier*. It was called the Buffalo *Bulletin* and was devoted to the interests of the Working Men's party, which had sprung up in the political field and was running Isaac S. Smith as its candidate for Governor. This party did not long survive and the *Bulletin* was then made Democratic in politics. In the early part of 1831, it was purchased by James Faxon, and Mason Brayman was given its editorial control. In July of that year Mr. Faxon issued the first daily newspaper in Buffalo, which he named the *Daily Star*. It was announced as neutral in politics, but in November following entered the Democratic field. In the spring of 1835, the establishment was sold to Charles Faxon, who united the *Bulletin* with the *Weekly Republican* and continued the *Star* as a daily. The Buffalo *Republican* just referred to was started in April, 1828, as a weekly Democratic journal, the first paper in Erie county of that shade of politics. William P. M. Wood was the publisher until September, when the establishment was purchased by Smith H. Salisbury and William S. Snow. In April, 1829, Mr. Snow sold his interest to his partner. In the spring of 1830, the establishment was purchased by Henry L. Ball, who controlled it until early in the following year, when he sold out to Charles Faxon and James Stryker; the latter gentleman had edited the paper under Mr. Ball and he continued in that capacity until October, 1834, when Mr. Faxon bought Mr. Stryker's interest and made Horatio Gates the editor. Between 1831 and 1834, Israel T. Hatch and Henry K. Smith acted as political editors at separate intervals. In the spring of 1835, Charles Faxon bought the *Bulletin* and the *Star* and the consolidation before noted was effected, leaving the *Republican* as the weekly issue and the *Star* as the daily.

In August, 1838, Mr. Gates retired from the editorial chair and was succeeded by William L. Crandall. The establishment was burned in December, 1838, and the paper was suspended until February, 1839, when its publication was resumed by Quartus Graves, Horatio Gates return-







ing to the editorial chair, and being assisted for a short time by J. W. Dwinell. In April, 1840, Mr. Gates again left his editorial position and was succeeded by Stephen Albro, who was assisted for a few months by J. C. Bunner. In April, 1841, Mr. Albro gave place to Samuel Caldwell, who occupied the position but a few weeks. J. C. Bunner then assumed editorial control of the paper which he continued until January, 1842, when Mr. Graves sold out to Theodotus Burwell, who changed the name of the paper to *Mercantile Courier and Democratic Economist*, and placed Henry White in editorial control. On the 1st of October, 1842, Joseph Stringham purchased the establishment and changed the name of the daily issue to *Mercantile Courier*, which he edited in person. July 1, 1846, the *Daily National Pilot* was consolidated with the *Courier*. The *Pilot* was the legitimate successor of the *Daily Gazette*, which was started in August 1842, by Charles Faxon, 2d; a few weeks later the *Old School Jeffersonian* a weekly paper published in support of President Tyler's administration, was issued from the same establishment. This office was on West Seneca street, between Main and Pearl. In February, 1843, these journals were discontinued, when the publication of the *Buffalo Gazette* was begun from the same office, by H. A. Salisbury, B. A. Manchester and James O. Brayman. The *Gazette* was continued two years when Messrs. Manchester and Brayman started the *National Pilot* daily and weekly. R. W. Haskins was associated with Mr. Brayman in the editorial work. The aim of the *Pilot* was to foster the national feeling among Americans and render them "freer from English influence in their literature, their science, their political economy and their views of the political and social condition of the world at large." Mr. Haskins retired from the editorship of the *Pilot* in April, 1846, and in July, it was merged with the *Courier*, as stated above, Messrs. Manchester and Brayman at the same time acquiring an interest in the establishment. This arrangement continued until November, 1846, when Mr. Stringham sold his interest to his partners and Guy H. Salisbury was associated with Mr. Brayman in the editorial management of the paper. At this time weekly and tri-weekly editions were published. In 1849-'50, W. A. Seaver purchased the establishment and became the editor and publisher; the office was then located in Spaulding's Exchange. In 1852 it was removed to West Seneca street. In 1857, James H. Sanford acquired an interest in the establishment and assumed a share in the editorial work, and about this time the office was removed to No. 192 Washington street. In 1858, Joseph Warren began his career in Buffalo journalism, in connection with the *Courier* which lasted for over eighteen years and gave him a prominent position among the leading newspaper men of the country. In the early portion of Mr. Warren's connection with the paper he assisted the editor, Mr. Seaver, but soon took entire editorial control and maintained his position as editor-in-chief until the time of his death in 1876.

In 1860 the firm became Sanford, Warren & Harroun, which change was effected by the purchase of Mr. Seaver's interest by G. K. Harroun. The next change which occurred not long after 1860, resulted in the formation of the firm of Joseph Warren & Co., the members of which were Joseph Warren, Milo Stevens, William C. Horan and David Gray. On the 1st of January, 1869, the firm of Joseph Warren & Co., and Howard & Johnson were consolidated and the proprietors formed a joint stock company under the firm name of the Courier Company, Warren, Johnson & Co., proprietors. The directors of the company for the first year were: Joseph Warren, Ethan H. Howard, James M. Johnson, William C. Horan and Milo Stevens; president, Joseph Warren; vice-president, James M. Johnson; treasurer, Ethan H. Howard; secretary, Milo Stevens. The company at this time were proprietors and publishers of the *Buffalo Daily Courier*, the *Evening Courier and Republic* and the *Weekly Courier*, these papers remaining under the management of Joseph Warren, assisted by David Gray, and the job printing department of the establishment continuing under the superintendence of William C. Horan.

At a meeting of the directors of the Courier Company held March 8, 1875, it was determined that on and after April 1st, of the same year, the business of the firm should be transacted in the name of the Courier Company, instead of Warren, Johnson & Co., as heretofore, and about this time the following named gentlemen were elected officers of the company: president, Joseph Warren; vice-president, William G. Fargo; treasurer, Charles W. McCune. On the 4th of October, 1876, Mr. Fargo was elected president of the company, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Warren.\* March 3, 1880, Charles W. McCune was elected president and is the chief executive officer at this writing, with George B. Bleistein as secretary. Under Mr. McCune's direction the establishment in all its various branches, has already attained a degree of prosperity never before enjoyed by it. The different journals issued from it are conducted with ability and vigor; the engraving and printing departments, embracing the largest show printing establishments in the world, have been given a national reputation, and the general business interests of the entire establishment have felt the control of a master.†

On the 1st of January, 1879, the word "Buffalo" was added to the title of the newspaper, the *Courier*, and so continues. The name of the *Evening Courier and Republic* had previously been changed to the *Evening Republic*. From 1861, when Joseph Warren & Co., came into possession of it, until 1882, this paper had been sold for two cents per copy, but in October, 1882, it was issued at one cent per copy and continues as a one cent paper. The *Republic* was started in 1842, with Quartus

\* See biography of Mr. Warren in later pages.

† For further reference to Mr. McCune, see biography in subsequent pages of this volume.

Graves as publisher. In 1848 Benjamin C. Welch became editor of the paper and the establishment passed into the hands of E. A. Maynard & Co. In 1851, E. A. Maynard was the sole publisher and was associated with Mr. Bristol as proprietor and editor, Mr. Welch retiring. About 1856, Henry W. Faxon, afterwards known as one of the best humorous writers in the country, accepted the city editorship of the paper and held the place until 1860, when he retired from journalism. Mr. Salisbury abandoned journalistic life in 1858, after having been for many years one of the most industrious and influential newspaper writers in the city. Thomas Kean became a contributor to the *Republic* in the fall of 1859 and was soon thereafter tendered a position as editorial writer and critic. At this time the *Republic* had hoisted the name of Stephen A. Douglass for President, and in the preliminary campaign Mr. Kean did good service for the "Little Giant," for whom he had conceived the warmest admiration, and in his efforts he was cordially seconded by the proprietor, Mr. Bristol. The management of the paper devolved upon Mr. Kean during the Lincoln-Douglass campaign in 1860, and in the spring of 1861, Mr. Bristol disposed of his interest to Mr. Kean, and the latter gentleman within a few months sold the *Republic* to Joseph Warren & Co., since which time it has been published as a cheap evening paper, by the *Courier* management.

David Gray, who has already been mentioned, entered the employ of the *Courier* as a reporter in 1860; was promoted to the city editorship soon afterwards and filled that post till the fall of 1861, when he was advanced to the associate editorship, Thomas Kean succeeding him in charge of the city department. Upon the death of Joseph Warren in 1876, Mr. Gray, who had now been managing editor for some years, had devolved upon him the duties of editor-in-chief and met the responsibilities of the position with singular ability and fairness, until failing health compelled him to retire in the fall of 1882. Mr. Gray has long been recognized as one of the most brilliant journalists in the country and his influence in behalf of fair, dignified and manly journalism has been widespread and potent for good. At the date of this publication he is in Europe with his family.

Thomas Kean became city editor and dramatic critic of the *Courier* in the fall of 1861, after having done duty on the *Republic* for nearly two years as editorial writer, critic and managing editor. He retained the chair of the city editor until the summer of 1882, a period of twenty-one years, when he was assigned to an associate position on the staff of the editor-in-chief, still retaining his place as dramatic critic. In the active management of the paper, Mr. Kean was closely associated with Joseph Warren and David Gray, and to his industry, ability and good judgment are due much of the success of the *Courier* and the other publications of the company.



Joseph O'Connor became connected with the *Courier* in 1880. He had been editorially connected with the Rochester *Democrat*, the Indianapolis *Sentinel*, and was for some time one of the editorial writers on the New York *World*. Upon the retirement of Mr. Gray, the editorial management of the *Courier* devolved upon him, and he has maintained the dignity, honesty and influence of the journal entrusted to his charge as but few men could have done. Mr. O'Connor is a ripe scholar, a brilliant writer, and brings to the discharge of his duties a clear and comprehensive knowledge of public affairs. He is a believer in respectable journalism, and his associates, Mr. Kean and O. F. Albing, and the city editor, George Ferris, are in perfect accord with him.

On the morning of the 15th of January, 1845, A. M. Clapp & Company began the publication of the Buffalo *Morning Express*. Daily, weekly and tri-weekly editions were issued. The firm was composed of A. M. Clapp and Rufus Wheeler, and James McKay was associated with the former as editor. In the editor's salutation, printed in the first number of the new journal, he said:—

“In presenting to our friends and the public the *Morning Express*, a becoming ingenuousness, as well as a proper regard for usage, demands from us a brief but frank exposition of the grounds upon which we intend to stand in our new relations, as public journalists and members of the great university of the Press.

“The *Morning Express* is to be a political journal and by no means a neutral one. We regard the strivings and activities of the political parties into which the people are divided, as one of the great instrumentalities by which the national life and civilization are to be developed.  
\* \* \* No institution, no social regulation, no law, no political action can be sound or really permanent, whose roots do not penetrate and take a firm hold on the parties in history, and any Progression, Democratic or other, that has not its beginnings in the national history and character, will most certainly perish in the hour of trial. \* \* \* We believe the elements of a true Democracy and a real Progression to be much more abundantly and clearly manifest in the principles and positions of the Whig party, than in those of the party styling itself Democratic. \* \* \* But more especially do we intend to devote the columns of the *Express* to whatever may tend in any degree to develop the resources or promote the interests of our own young, vigorous and beautiful city. To do all in our power to foster its industry, increase its commerce and manufactures and promote a knowledge of the arts by which its wealth and prosperity are produced, shall be our peculiar care. Nor do we intend to neglect its higher interests, the cultivation of the intellectual and spiritual nature of its people, by all the means which are calculated to liberalize, enlighten and elevate its society. But we will not boast ourselves of the future. We desire and expect success to wait on desert.”

These extracts outline a clearly-defined policy, and it is not, perhaps, too much to say that while the *Express* remained under the editorial control of Mr. Clapp, that policy was consistently adhered to, as far as possible. The office of the *Express* was at first located in the Exchange



Building, Nos. 156 and 158 Main street. Down to the year 1866, the paper, although ably conducted and well received by the public, had not proved a very profitable venture. In that year the Express Printing Company was formed. The new organization was composed of A. M. Clapp, H. H. Clapp, J. N. Larned, G. H. Selkirk and Thomas Kennett, who were equal shareholders in the establishment.

In the editorial of May 23, 1866, announcing the change consequent upon the formation of the Express Printing Company, was published the following interesting historical statements:—

“The senior editor and proprietor of the *Express* desires to say to its numerous readers and patrons that this number appears under the auspices of an association of capital and talent that brings to its management, in part, new names, additional means and fresh energies and enterprises, which will attend its future management. It is also self-evident that it appears in an enlarged form, clothed in new type from the well-known foundry of Messrs. N. Lyman & Co., of this city. With these elements we trust that its future, like its past, will be crowned with popular favor and success.

“In making this announcement it may not be improper to refer briefly to the past of the *Express*. Its first number was issued on the 15th of January, 1846—its history passing through a period of more than twenty years. The original proprietors of the *Express* establishment were A. M. Clapp and Rufus Wheeler—the writer of this article having penned its prospectus and provided the first manuscript for its columns, though James McKay, Esq., furnished its leading editorials. Subsequently William E. Robinson, Esq., was connected with the conduct of the editorial department, Mr. Clapp and Mr. Wheeler devoting themselves to the general management of their business. In 1848 John M. Campbell purchased an interest in the *Express*, but was forced by failing health to retire after a few months. T. N. Parmelee, Esq., succeeded Mr. Robinson as editor-in-chief, which position he occupied with marked ability until 1851, when Hon. Seth C. Hawley became interested in the establishment and took the editorial management of the paper for about a year, when he retired and Mr. Clapp became editor-in-chief, which place he has filled until the present hour. In the meantime Major Anson G. Chester, George W. Haskins, David Wentworth, J. N. Larned, Charles Stow and J. Flay have been in charge of the local and miscellaneous departments of the paper, and during 1853, R. W. Haskins, Esq., was editor-in-chief, while Mr. Clapp represented his district in the State Legislature. In 1860, Mr. Larned assumed the duties of associate political editor, a position which he has filled with proverbial fidelity and ability down to the present moment; and we are constrained by a simple sense of justice to remark here that the later character and success of the *Express* in its editorial conduct, are in a great degree attributable to the sterling ability and untiring industry of this gentleman.

“In 1860 Dr. S. B. Hunt became connected with the editorial management of the *Express*, a position which he filled until he took the field in the service of the United States against rebellion. On the retirement of Mr. Wheeler, in 1860, H. H. Clapp, who has been engaged in the establishment since 1848, in various capacities, became one of the proprietors and has since been identified with its business management.

“ In thus briefly reviewing the past history of the *Express*, we regard its prosperity with feelings of pride and satisfaction. Seldom has a newspaper enterprise met with more steady and certain success, than has followed the efforts of those who have labored for the welfare of this paper, a fact which we attribute as much to its undeviating devotion to the great principles which underlie a free and just government, as to any other cause. We look back through a career of twenty years of political warfare with peculiar satisfaction. Whatever crises and revolutions may have attended the politics and parties of the country during that period, the record of the *Express* shows no variability or shadow of turning from a straightforward advocacy of the principles of freedom, human right, patriotism and philanthropy, relating to the people and government of the United States. \* \* \* \* \*

“ In enlarging our force and bringing fresh abilities and energies to the future of the *Express*, those who have labored so long in the harness take this occasion to thank a generous and indulgent public for the liberal patronage that has heretofore been bestowed upon it, by which its prosperity has been promoted and its enterprise been rendered a satisfactory success. \* \* \* \* \*

“ Politically the *Express* will continue upon the course its has pursued in the past, maintaining those principles of which it has always been the consistent and faithful exponent. But while boldly and unequivocally pronouncing its views upon all public questions, it will not, perhaps, bear as distinctly and prominently as heretofore the character of a political organ, aiming rather to make its distinguishing character that of a newspaper. To the realization of this aim, every energy of those engaged upon the *Journal* will be devoted, with entire confidence that success in their endeavors will be fully appreciated by the public and amply rewarded.

“ We shall rapidly organize systematic arrangements, as yet represented only in their beginning, to secure from original sources all possible intelligence of the day that will interest our readers, by the help of able correspondents in the leading cities and especially employed reporters in all surrounding towns. It is our intention to devote especial attention to all the business interests of Buffalo, determined to make better known abroad the great advantages of the city for the location of manufacturing enterprises, and to stimulate our own citizens to active exertion in every direction which lies open to them for the development, extension and advancement of labor. In the commercial department of the paper more effort will be made and more careful labor expended than hitherto in any of our city journals, as we purpose to represent in our daily market reviews every important element of trade in Buffalo.

“ In procuring and publishing the earliest and fullest details of local news, including as such every matter of interest in the whole region of which Buffalo is the center, no expense or effort will be spared. It is our intention to make the *Express* as immediately interesting to the inhabitants of surrounding towns as to the citizens of Buffalo.”

We give here the copious extracts above for the reason that they embody the history of the *Express* down to the year 1866, in complete form, and also outline the intentions of the new firm who took control of its affairs at that date—intentions that, it is but fair to record, were carried out in all essential particulars. In 1866 the office of the *Express* was located at No. 14 East Swan street.

In the year 1869 or '70, Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain), bought the interest of Thomas Kennett in the *Express*. His connection with the paper lasted but a short time. In the spring of 1869, A. M. Clapp and H. H. Clapp sold their interest in the establishment to the remaining partners, the law prohibiting the public printer from being connected with a private publishing house, and Mr. Clapp having been appointed Public Printer.

In 1869 the *Express* was made the official paper of the city, and about the same time the tri-weekly edition was cut off and an evening edition, called for a time the *Bee and Evening Express*, was issued. This was continued about five years.

Early in 1872 the firm of Matthews & Warren, proprietors of the Buffalo *Commercial Advertiser*, purchased something more than two-thirds of the shares of the Express Printing Company, and J. N. Matthews was made president of the company, J. D. Warren vice-president and George H. Selkirk treasurer. Matthews & Warren sold their shares and retired from the concern in the fall of 1873, and the majority interest was held by a number of prominent Republican politicians. In April, 1877, the establishment passed into the hands of George H. Selkirk and others. This management continued only about nine months, and on the 7th of January, 1878, the first number of the paper was issued under the ownership and editorial control of James N. Matthews. The office was then located on Swan street, but was immediately removed to No 179 Washington street, in the Washington Block, owned by Mr. Matthews, where it now is, with the exception of the editorial rooms, which were removed in August, 1883, to the new building erected by Mr. Matthews as an addition to the Washington Block on Exchange street.

Brief extracts from Mr. Matthews' salutations to his readers in the first number of the *Express*, which he edited, will be interesting, as indicating his contemplated policy.

After stating that the *Express* had been a newspaper success from its earliest days, and that it was formerly devoted to what was known as the "Woolyhead" branch of the Whig party, Mr. Matthews wrote:—

"As soon (however) as the ascendancy of the Republican party was apparently secured beyond any dispute, the *Express* seemed to lose its grip, so to speak. For its founders had separated in the meantime. Other elements of strength then quickly departed, one after another, as honest men undertook to save the paper with means inadequate, until at length it became a mere plaything for journalists and the mouthpiece of a few scheming politicians who had fastened themselves to the Republican party by the cohesive power of public plunder; in which sad predicament, where we but just found it, let us for the moment leave it.

"In a preliminary announcement of the fact, we have given notice that we took possession of the *Express* with a settled purpose that it shall be the neatest and brightest, bravest, best and cheapest newspaper ever published in Buffalo, steadfastly Republican as to political princi-



ples. but absolutely independent in reference to our municipal government—the ‘organ’ of no man, or set of men, but in fact, worthy to be styled ‘The People’s Paper.’ \* \* \* \* \*

“ We do not conceive, however, that political principles have anything whatever to do with municipal affairs; but we do most sincerely believe, on the contrary, that municipal affairs should be absolutely divorced from political manipulation, and that it is just what we purpose doing, so far as the *Express* can effect the separation.”

It is quite clear that Mr. Matthews set up for himself a high ideal for the newspaper which he had purchased, and purposed conducting its editorial department on a plan that was in some of its features, at least, something of an innovation upon past customs—an innovation that is becoming more and more popular with passing years. From the date of the publication of Mr. Matthews’ salutation, the *Express* has enjoyed a career of remarkable success, and its course as then marked out, has been consistently followed. Since that time Mr. Matthews has been sole proprietor and editor-in-chief of the paper, which by his ability and business sagacity has been brought into the very front rank of the best daily newspapers of the State. Its circulation and influence rapidly increased after the establishment came into Mr. Matthews’ hands, until now it is believed that the *Express* has a greater circulation than any other daily Buffalo paper of a large size.

Mr. Matthews came to America from England in 1846, when he was seventeen years of age, and soon after took up his residence in Buffalo. He began to learn the printer’s trade in England and finished his apprenticeship in the office of the *Commercial Advertiser*. He is a master of the practical part of the business in all its details, and as a journalist he occupies a position the eminence of which is demonstrated by the columns of his newspaper from day to day. His style is peculiarly forcible and concise yet he writes fluently and with excellent diction. In sarcastic repartee he is especially happy. Mr. Matthews is a Republican in politics and, while his paper is absolutely independent in its dealings with prominent men and measures, it is yet a powerful influence in the Republican party.

The *Weekly Express* is published in connection with the daily, and is largely circulated throughout Western New York.

Yielding to the demands of the times, a Sunday edition of the *Express* was first issued on the 30th of September, 1883, which is in all respects a credit to its proprietor and editors and is eagerly read by a large constituency.

Mr. F. A. Crandall is now managing editor of the *Express*, with Mr. Jay S. Butler as associate editor. Mr. Thomas J. Mosier is city editor and Mr. Lucien G. Chaffin, dramatic and musical editor.

It is only forty-five years ago since the arrest of boys in New York city was ordered for selling Sunday newspapers in the streets. Public



sentiment has undergone many changes since that period and in no direction, perhaps, is the change more noticeable than in the popular appreciation and consequent multiplication and growth of Sunday newspapers in all parts of the country. Cities of the size of Buffalo are everywhere supplied with two or three firmly established Sunday papers, many of which are most ably conducted, in connection with the best daily journals in the country, or as exclusively Sunday papers; but the road leading to the attainment of this position is strewn with numerous newspaper wrecks, in Buffalo as well as in other cities; the disastrous Sunday newspaper ventures in this city will be noted further on. The first really successful Sunday journal in Buffalo was the *Buffalo Sunday Morning News*.

“Independent journalism and newspaper enterprise seemed to acquire a new impetus in Buffalo about 1873, when this journal was quietly ushered into existence. The Bantling did not meet with a very warm reception from the rings and monopolies which were then sucking the very life-blood of the city. Its manly independence and sympathy for the masses went directly to the hearts of the people. Its circulation increased very largely with each succeeding issue until its rivals in the daily field very wisely concluded that the prosperity which attended it and which created so much comment was by no means ephemeral. The advertising patronage was so great, all the leading Buffalo merchants being patrons of its columns, that after the first year it was no longer necessary to employ a solicitor in the business department, and only with great difficulty and crowding of news matter could room be found at all times to accommodate its patrons. It continued to grow and prosper, was twice enlarged in size, till in 1876 it had a circulation greater than the combined circulation of every daily and weekly paper in the city of Buffalo, and a political influence that both parties conceded strong enough to defeat or elect a candidate. In the political contest of '75 the *Sunday News* presented a ticket composed of good men of both parties and designating it the ‘peoples ticket,’ in opposition to the stated choice of the Republicans and Democrats, elected fourteen of its candidates and further strengthened its hold upon the masses.

“In 1880 Mr. E. H. Butler, proprietor and founder of the *Sunday News*, carried into effect a long cherished project to establish a cheap afternoon paper, and on October 11th the first issue of the *Evening News*, a twenty-four column quarto, price one cent, appeared from the *Sunday News* press. Two editions were issued daily, at 2 and 4 P. M., and afterwards increased to four, covering the entire afternoon from noon to 5 P. M. The expectations that a cheap, independent newspaper would be well received were more than realized. On the first night of issue over 7,000 copies were sold on the streets and the sales increased steadily till they passed 20,000 daily. The *Evening News*, as indicated, is independent politically, and while advocating Republican ideas in National matters, it has disregarded party lines in several notable instances in the selection of candidates. The election of Hon. Jonathan Scoville, a leading Democrat, to Congress in 1880, has been largely attributed to the vigorous support of his candidacy by the *Sunday* and *Evening News*. The *Sunday News* boasts of the honor of first bringing forward Hon. Grover Cleveland as a candidate for Governor in 1880. In other directions the *Sunday* and

*Evening News* have exercised a potent influence on the affairs of this city and many important local and State movements have received impetus through their columns. The *News* is published in its own building, a commodious and elegant newspaper establishment, and is printed on fast Hoe presses adapted to its large and growing circulation. It enjoys excellent news facilities, being the local agent for the United Press Association and having the direct wires of that company in its editorial rooms.

"In 1879, the rapid growth of the northern oil field of Pennsylvania induced the proprietor of the *Sunday News* to branch out in that direction and the Bradford *Sunday News* was established at Bradford, Pa. Like the parent sheet the Bradford *News* has prospered and become an influential, popular paper throughout the oil country and the region lying between the metropolis of the northern petroleum field and Buffalo."\*

The Buffalo *Sunday Times* was established September 7, 1879, by Norman E. Mack, who has owned and published it ever since. There have been no changes in the paper except in its form; it is now an eight-page journal, thirty-seven by fifty inches, is ably conducted and enjoys an extended patronage. The Buffalo *Morning Times* was first issued September 13, 1883, by Mr. Mack, publisher of the Buffalo *Sunday Times*. The *Morning Times* was established to supply the evident necessity for a cheap and independent morning daily in the city. The paper is a handsome six-column sheet, is ably edited and gives ample promise of a long and successful career. The publication office is located at No. 191 Main street.

The *Evening Telegraph* is a daily newspaper, the first number of which was issued October 30, 1880, by the Telegraph Publishing Company. The paper is independent in politics. M. J. Dee was the first managing editor. He was succeeded six months later by Henry Little, who was followed in May, 1880, by Henry A. Griffin. The present managing editor is John A. Creswell, who assumed control May 1, 1883. The present officers of the company are James E. Scripps, president; James A. Randall, vice-president and secretary; George H. Scripps, treasurer. E. J. Fleury is business manager. The price of the paper is one cent per copy.

The *Daily Transcript* was established in 1877, by the McKillop Commercial Agency, and was bought in January, 1882, by Clifton & Webster (Edward Clifton and William G. Webster). On the 1st of February, Webster sold his interest to his partner who in turn sold a half-interest to J. B. VanDuzee in March. September 1st, Mr. Clifton bought back the interest. The publication office is now at 81 and 83 Pearl street. The *Transcript* is devoted to business interests and legal matters, court decisions, real estate transfers, mortgages, judgments, etc. It is a small folio of twelve columns, but ably fulfills the design of the publishers.

The *Sunday Truth* was established in 1882, by the Truth Publishing Company, which was organized on the 6th of August; the first number

\* Contributed.

of the paper was issued one week later. This is now the only exclusively Sunday newspaper in the city. D. M. Payne is president of the company ; H. G. Rappold, treasurer ; F. N. Holzer, secretary, and G. M. Hausauer, business manager. The paper was first edited by C. E. Morse. Since December, 1882, Leslie Thom has occupied the position of managing editor. March 18, 1883 a branch of *Truth* was established in Rochester by consolidation with the *Advertiser and Mail*.

George J. Bryan started the *Daily Queen City* in 1850, with the publication office on Washington street. In 1853 it was changed to the *Evening Post*, with Calvin J. Mills, proprietor, and Mr. Bryan as editor ; the office was then located at No. 7 West Seneca street. In 1854 Mr. Bryan again became proprietor of the paper, which he conducted through various stages of success until 1878, when the name was again changed to the *Queen City*, and the paper was made a weekly. It was suspended but soon revived in the beginning of 1883, and now appears to enjoy a large measure of success.

The Buffalo *Christian Advocate*, a Methodist weekly paper, was established in the Exchange building, January 1, 1850, by John E. Robie, editor and publisher. In 1857 the establishment was removed to No. 4 West Seneca street, and in 1861 to the corner of Pearl and West Seneca. In 1862, Rev. L. S. Church and Rev. W. H. DePuy bought the establishment and conducted the paper until 1864, when Mr. Robie, associated with Albert D. Wilbor, bought the paper and became its editors and publishers ; these gentlemen sold out to Rev. S. Halbert, in 1866. In 1869 Mr. Robie again took the paper and associated with himself Rev. A. P. Ripley. In 1872 Rev. S. A. Morse was admitted to the firm ; he retired in 1875, and Allen P. Ripley, Jr., was admitted to the firm. In 1881, L. C. Miller purchased the establishment and soon afterwards sold an interest to A. W. Ferrin. In 1882 Mr. Miller again took the entire establishment, which he now owns. Rev. S. A. Morse and A. P. Ripley, Jr., are the editors. The practical part of the labor on the *Advocate* has for nearly the whole of its thirty-four years of existence, been managed by C. A. Brosart.

In 1872, the Catholic Publishing Company began the issue of the *Buffalo Catholic Union*, a weekly Catholic journal ; the office was in the Chapin Block, West Swan street. This is an ably-conducted journal, and is widely read by the class to whose interests it is devoted. The publication office is now in the Young Men's Catholic Association building, corner of Franklin and Swan streets.

In November, 1875, W. G. Webster began the publication of the weekly *Buffalo Live Stock Review*. The publication was successfully conducted until May, 1882, when its name was changed to the *Mercantile Review and Live Stock Journal*, reports of mercantile markets were included in its contents and its general policy was otherwise extended. May



7, 1883, the *Journal* was made a daily, which is now published by Webster Brothers; the establishment is located at 13 1-2 Swan street.

The Buffalo *Index* was a temperance organ started in 1875, by Dr. Clayton L. Hill. In December, 1878, its name was changed to the *Royal Templar*; it is now the *Standard and Royal Templar*. Previous to May, 1883, it was published as a weekly, at which time it was sold to Rev. Robert Dick, who changed its name to the *Law and Gospel Tribune*; under this title and management the paper did not succeed and Dr. Hill again took it in hand and continues it as above stated. The office is located at No. 329 Main street.

C. A. Wenborne is publisher of the *Milling World*, started in September, 1879, as a monthly and changed in the fall of 1871 to a weekly; it is devoted to the flour milling interests. Mr. Wenborne also publishes the *Lumber World* and the *American Tanner*, both monthly; the former devoted to the wood-working interests generally and circulating in almost every country on the globe where the English language is spoken, the latter is devoted to the tanning and leather interests. George B. Douglass has edited the three papers during their existence.

The *Fraternal Censor*, an organ of the A. O. U. W. order, was started in January, 1878, by William M. Bennett; it was then called the *United Workman*. In 1881, E. W. Beach bought the establishment and has since conducted the paper. It is published semi-monthly and is devoted to the interests of co-operative insurance. Mr. Beach also edits the *United Friends*, a small monthly which was started in October, 1882, and is devoted to the order of the same name.

Buffalo has had her share of medical publications some of which have been ably conducted, but few of which have found sufficient patronage to give them very long lives. The first medical paper in Buffalo was the *Buffalo Medical Journal and Monthly Review of Medical and Surgical Science*; it was begun on the 1st of June, 1845, by C. F. S. Thomas. Dr. Austin Flint, acted as chief editor, and Dr. F. H. Hamilton, assistant. The publication was an octavo of twenty-four pages. At the end of a year it was enlarged to sixty-four pages. In 1854, Dr. Sanford B. Hunt was associated with Dr. Flint in the editorship and in 1855 he became sole editor and proprietor. In 1858, Austin Flint, Jr., was made editor of the journal and it was removed to New York in 1859-'60. This publication was as the names of its editors would suggest, conducted with much ability and was widely read, It was succeeded here in 1862 by the present *Buffalo Medical and Surgical Journal*, which is now published by the Medical Journal Association, No. 5 West Chippewa street. The *Journal* has passed under the management of Dr. Herman Mynter, (who was assisted by Dr. Brush,) Drs. Lothrop, Davidson, Mynter, Howe and P. W. Van Peyma. In July, 1882, Dr. Howe retired from the publication, which has since been most ably conducted by Drs. Thomas Lothrop, A. R. Davidson and P. W. Van Peyma.



The *Physician's and Surgeon's Investigator* is a monthly medical journal that was started in January, 1880. The editors were then Drs. S. W. Wetmore and S. N. Brayton. Dr. Brayton is now sole editor and publisher of the paper, which is ably conducted.

*Our Record* is the name of a small monthly periodical that has been published since 1871, by the managers of the Home for the Friendless, on Seventh street, corner of Maryland.

The *Bulletin* is a scientific publication which is issued every two months by the Naturalists' Field Club. It was begun in December, 1882, and is edited by a committee from the club, at the head of which is Professor D. S. Kellicott.

The *Modern Age*, a monthly magazine of sixty-four pages, was established in January, 1883, by James S. Metcalfe, editor and proprietor. It is published simultaneously in New York and Buffalo, and is ably conducted.

The *Guard of Honor* is a monthly publication that was started in October, 1872, in the interest of a Bible Class Society, organized for religious work among young men, called the Guard of Honor.

As the village of Black Rock long ago became a part of the city of Buffalo, the early efforts to supply that suburb with newspapers properly belong to this chapter; and we can do no better in that connection than to copy from Mr. Salisbury's paper on the Buffalo press, read before the Historical Society, as follows:—

“The first paper published in our then rival village of Black Rock was the Black Rock *Beacon*, by Lewis G. Hoffman, which came out some time in 1822. The late General Peter B. Porter was an able and liberal contributor to its columns, during the bitter and protracted controversy which at that period was carried on between the leading citizens of Buffalo on the one side, and the ‘Rock’ on the other, in relation to the harbor question. The war bid fair to rival in duration the Punic campaigns of ages ago, until it was pretty satisfactorily demonstrated that Black Rock—with all the artificial aids of the extensive works erected by the State to furnish a capacious basin for the supply of the canal and also to incidentally create a harbor that should attract all the commerce of the lakes to that point—could not successfully compete with the natural advantages of Buffalo. The *Beacon* at length ‘paled its ineffectual fires’ and went out in 1824. In the latter part of the same year Bartemas Ferguson filled the vacancy with the Black Rock *Gazette*, which he continued until August, 1825, when it was sold to Smith H. Salisbury, and published at Black Rock until the fall of 1827, when, the fortunes of that village continuing to decline, the establishment was removed to Buffalo and published under the title of the Buffalo and Black Rock *Gazette* until April, 1828, when the *Gazette* was discontinued and the Buffalo *Republican* issued from the same office by William P. M. Wood.

“No further attempt was made to furnish a paper to the Black Rockers until the speculative era of 1836 opened their eyes to the prospective value of the lands under their feet, and vistas of future opulence

swam before the eyes of the real estate holders, who had been so long 'looking up'—on their backs. Then a paper was in demand, and D. P. Adams issued the *Black Rock Advocate*, in February, 1836, edited by Dr. M. G. Lewis. But the feverish impulses of that precocious period soon subsided, and the reaction changed the prospects of the *Advocate*, which was discontinued at the end of the first year. Black Rock has since looked to the Buffalo press for its news and for the publication of its local items."

Having completed the record of Buffalo newspapers now in existence with those that have from time to time been consolidated with them, it remains to give a brief account of those journals that either began their careers at inopportune times, or were not conducted with a degree of ability sufficient to insure them continued popularity and success, and were consequently cut off in their youth—many of them in their extreme youth. The newspaper death-roll in cities as large as Buffalo, is always a long one; consequently, in referring to the many short-lived journals, only the mere mention of names and dates can be given. As a newspaper that only survives to celebrate its first or second birthday anniversary, cannot have exerted a very powerful influence upon the community at large, extended details will, it is presumed, be considered unnecessary. Dates of publication are given as far as they are available and as nearly correct as possible.

The first newspaper that properly belongs in this category is the Buffalo *Emporium*, a weekly that was first issued in September, 1824, by John A. Lazell and Simeon Francis. The semi-weekly issue of the *Emporium* was the first newspaper in Buffalo published oftener than once a week.

In August, 1835, the *Transcript*, daily and weekly, was started by Henry Faxon, and edited for a time by Henry E. J. Roberts. In December, Edward H. Thompson was made editor. This paper lived but about six months. The same year the *Daily Whig* and the *Daily Enquirer* were also launched, but they were wrecked within a few weeks.

In the winter of 1835-'36, a small, racy weekly sheet called the *Loco-foco*, was published for a few weeks, during which it gained considerable local popularity. Sylvester Chamberlain was considered as the responsible editor. In the winter of the patriot war (1836-'37) an association of printers began the publication of the *Buffalonian*, which was edited by "Mr. Anon." The sheet was spicy and became quite notorious through its satire and invective directed at prominent men, much of which was written by Charles D. Ferris. After a few weeks it was issued as a daily. In the fall of the following year Mr. Thomas L. Nichols started an opposition paper, which he called the *Mercury*. Mr. Nichols bought the first named journal about two months after he had started the *Mercury* and the two were consolidated. In the fall of 1839, N. R. Stimpson took the paper and published it until the next spring.

In the winter of 1838-'39, a small daily and weekly paper was started called the *Sun*, by "Governor" Dinsmore. It lived until about 1860. The Buffalo *Sentinel*, daily and weekly, was started in the spring of 1839-'40, by C. F. S. Thomas and Thomas Newell. It was edited by Thomas L. Nichols, and was discontinued at the end of six months.

The *Morning Tattler* was started in the summer of 1840, by Langdon, Fouchette & Shæfer; it was a daily and was first edited by George W. Bungay, and afterwards for a short time by Thomas L. Nichols. John S. Walker then published it during the last few months of its existence, changing the name to the *Morning Times*. *Honest Industry* was the name of a large weekly paper one number of which only was issued in the summer of 1840, with Dr. Daniel Lee in the editorial chair. In 1840 was issued the first number of the *Phalanx*, daily and weekly; this was the first paper in America devoted to the schemes of social reform and the association of labor, as taught by Fourier. The *Phalanx* was edited by Charles D. Ferris, who conducted the paper with a great deal of ability; it lived six weeks. Thomas Jefferson Sutherland, Patriot General of the Western Division of the Liberating Army of Canada, issued in the winter of 1841-'42 a few numbers of the *Sublime Patriot*. The Buffalo *American*, a weekly sheet for the working classes, was started early in 1842, by Thomas Foster and C. F. Butler, and edited by J. C. Bunner. It lived through one volume only.

In the year 1847, Jewett, Thomas & Co., began the publication of the *Wool Grower and Monthly Review*. T. C. Peters was editor and proprietor of the paper.

The *Youth's Casket* was a monthly publication started in 1853, by Beadle & Brother, in West Seneca street. The publication ceased in 1858-'59. In the year 1856, E. F. Beadle, and the following year Beadle & Adams, published the *Home Monthly*, a literary periodical. In 1859 Gildersleeve & Avery took hold of the paper, but it closed its career about a year later.

The *Live Stock Journal* was started in 1871, by H. C. Springer & Co., and continued until 1876. In 1855, Michael Hagan began the issue of the Buffalo *Sentinel*, at No. 24 East Seneca street. The publication was suspended in 1865. The *City News and Weekly Price Current* were published by the Express Printing Co., for about a year in 1867-'8. Between the years 1862 and 1872, W. T. Horner launched several newspaper craft, which all foundered before they had voyaged far. The first was the *Herald of Truth*, a monthly which lived about five years. This was soon followed by the *Excelsior*, another monthly, which followed its predecessor in about two years. In 1872, Mr. Horner started the Buffalo *Journal and Railway Gazette* monthly, and in 1873, *Horner's Railway and Business Guide*, both of which expired in 1875. In 1866 the same publisher began the issue of *The Ladies' Friend*, which lived less than two years.



*Our Young Men's Paper*, was issued by the Y. M. C. A., first in 1871, and continued about a year; it was again started in 1876.

The *School Journal*, a monthly publication devoted to school interests, was started in 1877, by Alexander Gordon; it was suspended in 1879. The *Kalendar*, an organ of the Episcopal church, was printed by R. M. Evans for about two years, beginning in 1879, after which it was removed to Rochester; it was a weekly paper. The first temperance organ published in the city was *The Young Men's Temperance Herald*, which was started in 1835 and survived one year. It was conducted by Abel M. Grosvenor and Ezra B. French. In 1845, the *Western Cataract*, another devotee of temperance, was issued by Lyman P. Judson; it afterwards passed through several different hands. The *Temperance Standard* was published in 1842, for one year, by H. A. Salisbury and A. M. Clapp.

The first literary publication in Buffalo was the *Literary Enquirer*, which was started by William Verrinder, January 1, 1833; after sustaining it for two years he removed it to Fredonia, Chautauqua county where it was converted into a political newspaper. The *Bethel Flag* was a monthly publication for the promotion of the moral and religious welfare of the lake seamen; it was commenced by the Bethel Society in 1836-'7 and was first called the *Bethel Magazine*. It was successfully conducted until about 1845, when it was removed to New York and united with the *Sailor's Magazine*.

The *Literary Messenger* was started by John S. Chadbourne, in July, 1841. It changed hands several times and suspended in 1857. The *Hygienic Advocate*, a monthly medical publication, was started in 1869, by H. P. Burdick, M. D., as publisher. It lived less than two years. The *Journal of Progressive Medicine*, was begun in 1870 by Drs. Coburn and Freeman, but it survived but about a year. The *Homeopathic Quarterly*, Rollin R. Howard, M. D., publisher, was published during a short period prior to 1871, when it was discontinued.

The Buffalo catalogue of religious and semi-religious publications is quite an extended one and the death-rate among them has been proportionately large. The first paper of this character was started in 1822, by Rev. Thomas Gross, who was both editor and proprietor; the paper was called the *Gospel Advocate* and supported Universalism. At the expiration of the first year it passed into the hands of Simon Burton, who conducted it for the ensuing three years, who then turned it over to Rev. L. S. Everett, Rev. Theophilus Fisk and a gentleman named Tuttle; they published a paper here until 1828, when it was removed to Auburn; it was finally united with the *Evangelical Magazine*, at Utica. In the year 1848, the Rev. Jabez B. Hyde issued a little sheet once in two weeks for a short period. The *Gospel Banner* was a monthly periodical which was issued for a time from this city, by Benjamin Clark, of Alden; the date



of its publication from Buffalo was 1832-'33. In 1831, the Buffalo *Herald* a Presbyterian paper, was started by Rev. Randolph Stone; two numbers only were issued. The Buffalo *Spectator* another Presbyterian publication, was established in 1836, by Messrs T. & M. Butler; it was edited by Rev. Stephen Peet. This paper lived about two years. The *Western Evangelist* was a weekly religious paper that was published for a short time in 1846, commencing in June. L. S. Everett and Stephen Hall were the publishers. When the *Evangelist* was suspended, another publication called the *Ambassador*, was started by the same publishers and continued into the year 1849. In 1841 the Rev. John C. Lord, D. D., began the publication of the *Western Presbyterian*, which was suspended at the end of a year. The *Earnest Christian and Golden Rule*, a monthly, was established in 1863, with B. T. Roberts as publisher; it was continued about a year. In 1866, J. E. Gilbert began the publication of the *Sunday School Standard*, monthly, at No. 185 Main street; it lived less, than two years. The *Western New York Catholic Weekly* was started in 1864 with D. M. Enright as publisher and Rev. D. Moore editor; it lived about three years.

The list of Sunday newspapers that have passed out of existence, and many of them out of memory, in Buffalo is a long one. The first Sunday paper published in the city was the Buffalo *Sunday Bulletin*, which was issued for about a year (1850-'51) by W. F. Rogers. In 1874, the *Sunday Transcript* was issued for about a year, by The George Brothers & Company, at 188 and 190 Main street. J. B. Adams began the publication of the *Sunday Independent Leader* in West Seneca street in 1876; this paper also died in less than two years. In 1877-'78, the same publisher issued for about a year the *Sunday Morning Herald*. The *Sunday Morning Call* was started May 8, 1879, by William R. Lester; it was published from the office of P. Eby, on Main street; it lived less than a year.

In order to complete this newspaper mortuary record, we shall now add the following list of journals that have been started in Buffalo during the past forty years, of almost every possible appearance and character and with almost every possible object and aim, or with no aim at all, all of which passed away in their very early youth. A very few of them reached two years of age and more of them one, while a large number never celebrated a birthday. The list may begin with the *Friend of Youth*, the name of which indicates its character; it was published one year, in 1839, and was edited by Rev. A. T. Hopkins. In 1840, George W. Bungay started the Buffalo *Garland*, a weekly literary publication, which faded in a very short time. *Bannister's Life in Buffalo*, a weekly, edited by N. H. Bannister, was issued a few weeks in 1841. E. W. Spaulding gave the *Impetus* a start in 1845, but it failed after six months. The *Philanthropist*, a monthly publication, was conducted for about a year in 1837-'38, by Nathaniel Potter, Jr. The *School Reader*, a weekly

publication, was started in 1842 by A. W. Wilgus, and edited by R. W. Haskins. It lived but one quarter. The *Buffalo Daily Ledger*, Thomas Richardson, proprietor, and Franklin B. Hubbell, editor, closed its brief accounts in about a year; started in 1852. The same year a daily called *Rough Notes* was started by George Reese & Company, publishers, with M. Cadwallader, editor. It died in its second year. The *United States Mail Monthly*, started in 1852, was conducted for about a year. In that year, also, the *Buffalo Pathfinder*, by Charles Faxon, failed to find the path to success. In 1853, Thomas D. M'Gee began the publication of the *American Celt and Catholic Citizen*, weekly; it lived about a year. The *Library and Garden*, weekly, was started the same year by D. S. Manley & Company, editors and proprietors; a year finished its career of usefulness. In 1854, the Democracy Printing Association was formed and began the publication of the *Democracy*, daily and weekly, at the corner of Main and Hanover streets. It was merged with the *Express* after about a year. The *Buffalo Gazette*, weekly, Swigert & Company, publishers, was started in April, 1867, and lived one year. The *Fenian Volunteer* was started the same year for a very brief career. In 1869, the *United Irishmen*, with Patrick O'Day as publisher, was issued weekly for about a year. In 1859, A. P. Dunlap & Company began the publication of the *Sunbeam*, a weekly, with Dr. E. D. Griswold as editor; its career was brief. *Our Leisure Moments*, a monthly, was started and conducted less than a year by Albert C. Ives and Fred. S. Dellenbaugh in 1870. The *Anti-Monopolist* was a very short-lived journal, started in 1874 by George & Company; it lived thirteen weeks. The *Daily Dispatch* was started in 1875 by Charles Rogers. P. P. Josef was interested in it for a time. The paper was stopped before the end of a year. A French paper called *Des Phar des Lacs* was issued for nearly a year in 1875-'76, by Claude Petit. The year 1876 produced its quota of new publications that found themselves in a cold and uncongenial world. There were *Knowlton's Handbook of Business Education*, a quarterly, issued by C. B. Knowlton, M. D. The *Scientific Commercial*, published by the Scientific Commercial Company, which lived twenty weeks, and the *Globe Magazine*, published by the Globe Company. On the 16th of September, 1876, the *Agitator* was started by George Kittridge, from the office of P. Eby, who bought it after the issue of eleven numbers. It died in June, 1878. The *Farm, Garden and Fireside*, a monthly, ran about a year at that time, under the management of H. P. Hayes & Company. In 1879, the *Buffalo School Journal*, a monthly devoted to school interests, was established and conducted for about a year by R. M. Evans & Company, No. 194 Main street. The *Saturday Sun* was an ephemeral publication that shone for a few months in 1882.

Besides these the *Bohemian* published by Bigelow Brothers, the *Knight of Labor*, by C. E. Morse, *Every Saturday*, by Deshler Welch, and

perhaps other ephemeral publications of which there is scarcely a trace left, have seen the light of brief periods in Buffalo during the past ten or twelve years.

The history of Buffalo journalism would be scarcely complete without the record of the remarkable, though brief career in the city of one, A. Lecras, which is thus given in a paper written by C. F. S. Thomas, which is now in the rooms of the Historical Society:—

“ It was in the year 1838, I think, that a very worthy printer named A Lecras, living on the Isle of Jersey, thinking to enlighten the benighted people of this region, discontinued a very respectable weekly paper he then published, packed up all his presses, old types on which his paper had been printed, and all his printing paraphernalia, brought all to London and there purchased a few additional types and some paper, freighted the whole from London to New York and from there up the Erie canal to Buffalo. Arriving here he rented the building known as the old Niagara Bank and set up his printing house in the basement, his family occupying the main portion of the building as a dwelling. Mr. Lecras was an educated Franco-Englishman with a fair share of the prejudices of the natives of the fast-anchored isle, and could not conceive of its being possible that away out in Buffalo such a thing could be as a printing establishment equal to the one he had brought all the way from Jersey, in Great Britain. He was still more astonished when he found his printing house on Washington street created no sensation; in fact, but few knew of his arrival. So, after remaining about a year, he became disgusted with our want of appreciation, perhaps, and packed up all his old types, presses and printing materials, sent them down the Erie canal to New York, thence to Liverpool and thence back to Jersey, where the material was soon again employed in printing the journal he had left.”

## CHAPTER XIV.

### SECRET SOCIETIES IN ERIE COUNTY.

Freemasonry—Beginning of the Order among the Early Settlers—The First Lodge—History of Western Star Lodge—Its first Officers—Records of Succeeding Lodges—List of District Deputy Grand Masters—History of Chapters, Councils, Commanderies, etc.—Ceremonies in which Masonic Organizations Have Taken Part—Odd Fellows' Lodges—Other Secret Societies of Buffalo.

**F**REEMASONRY was transplanted into Erie county with the advent of the early settlers. It was in the year 1807, when New Amsterdam\* was but a small village, that a sufficient number of Masons had collected in the place who felt the necessity of founding for themselves a Masonic home.

\* Buffalo was called New Amsterdam from the year 1801 to 1811 or 1812.



*Western Star Lodge No. 239.*—A petition dated New Amsterdam, December, 1807, was drawn up and forwarded to the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, asking for a warrant empowering the petitioners to form a lodge, to be known as "Western Star Lodge," and to be located in the village of New Amsterdam, in the town of Clarence, at the house of Brother Zenas Barker. The petitioners stated in their petition that it was extremely difficult for them to attend a lodge, as the nearest one to their home was sixty miles distant.

The petition was endorsed by Genesee Lodge, in the town of Hartford, in the county of Ontario, September, 1808.

Zenas Barker was to be the first Master of the lodge; Cyrenius Chapin,\* S. W. and Frederick Miller,† J. W. In addition to these three names, the following were attached to the petition:—Philo Andrews, Apollos Hitchcock, Erastus Granger,‡ Joseph Landon,§ Benjamin Caryl Edmund Raymond, Rowland Cotton and Benjamin Hodge.||

For unexplained reasons the effort to establish a lodge was not crowned with success. Five years later, however, the attempt was renewed. The second petition was dated New Amsterdam,¶ January 6, 1812. The new lodge was to bear the same name and be located, as the document expresses it, "in the village of New Amsterdam, in the township of Buffaloe, at the house of Brother Joseph Landon." With the exception of Philo Andrews, Edmund Raymond and Rowland Cotton, the names of the signers of the former petition are also attached to the latter, and in addition thereto appear those of Daniel Bristol, Heman B. Potter, Ralph M. Pomeroy, Raphael Cook, James Beard, Asa Standard, Nehemiah Seelye, James Atkins and A. M. Grosvenor.

In the second petition the petitioners stated that there was no lodge within forty miles of their residence.\*\* The petition bears the endorsement of Olive Branch Lodge, held at Batavia at that time; it is dated January 16, 1812, and is signed by Richard Smith, Master and I. Babcock, Secretary.

The illustrious DeWitt Clinton, who was Grand Master of the State of New York for fourteen years, (from 1806 to 1819 inclusive) granted a dispensation for the lodge January 31, 1812, endorsing his consent with the following words:—

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\* Cyrenius Chapin, M. D., one of the earliest settlers and one of the most resolute defenders of Buffalo in the war with England. He was the leading spirit in capturing two vessels near Fort Erie, October 9, 1812.

† Frederick Miller was the father of the late Captain William Miller, who was also a Mason, and grandfather of the late William F. Miller and Charles G. Miller.

‡ Erastus Granger was the first postmaster and the first collector of customs in the collection district of Buffalo; he died December 21, 1826.

§ Joseph Landon kept a tavern on Exchange street, occupying a part of the site on which the Mansion House now stands.

|| Benjamin Hodge was the uncle of Mr. William Hodge, still residing in Buffalo.

¶ It is estimated that the number of inhabitants had at that time increased to about 1,600.

\*\* Batavia.

“The Grand Secretary is requested to make out a dispensation on the above application for two years and to deliver it to Mr. Bassford.”

It was issued February 6. On the same day the Grand Master granted authority to Brother Heman B. Potter to institute the lodge, which duty he performed March 10, 1812,\* by installing Brothers Zenas Barker, Master; Cyrenius Chapin, S. W.; Frederick Miller, J. W.; Abel M. Grosvenor, treasurer; Charles Townsend,† secretary; Nehemiah Seelye and Daniel Bristol, deacons; Raphael Cook and Ralph M. Pomeroy, stewards; Rowland Cotton, tiler.

The petition to the Grand Lodge for a warrant is dated “Village of Buffalo, (late New Amsterdam), 15th day of June, 1813.” It is stated therein that several of the petitioners had sometime in the year 1810 applied for authority to hold a lodge in the village, and had enclosed the usual fee, but that unfortunately the letter and money miscarried and had not since been found; that a dispensation had been granted by the Grand Master on the 6th of February, 1812; that since that time they had assembled at stated periods and conducted the business of Freemasons according to the best of their abilities, etc., and that they now wished to obtain a warrant; that the officers mentioned declining to serve a further term, the following names are proposed in their place: Benjamin Caryl, Master; Heman B. Potter, Senior Warden; Oliver Forward,‡ Junior Warden. The signers of the petition are Frederick Miller, Heman B. Potter, Joshua Lovejoy, Thomas Atkins, Joseph Hershey, Sylvester Clark, Asa P. Harris, Nehemiah Seelye, Benjamin Hodge, Joseph Sill, Charles Townsend, J. Harrison, Josiah Trowbridge, Oliver Forward, Benjamin Enos, Ralph M. Pomeroy, Cornelius Davenport, Z. W. Barker, Joseph Landon, Willard Smith and Asa Coltrin.

The report accompanying the petition states that during the time the lodge had worked under a dispensation, it had conferred the three degrees of Masonry on the following persons: Jonas Harrison, Oliver Forward, Thomas J. Atkins, Guy J. Atkins, Jonathan E. Chapman, Benjamin Enos, Joseph Hershey, William Hodge, Sylvester Clark, Harvey G. Morse, Joshua Lovejoy, Orange Dean, Silas Hopkins, Phipps W. Hewitt, Zenas W. Barker, Joseph Sill, John W. Macomb, Josiah Trowbridge, Adam Hayes, William Pomeroy, Talbot Chambers, John W. Smoot, Rufus Spaulding, Ebenezer Hovey and Thomas B. Randolph. The lodge conferred the third degree on Asa Coltrin, Charles Talmadge, and Robert G. Hite, they having received the preceding degrees in some other lodge. Samuel Pratt, Jr., received the second and third

\* The Buffalo *Gazette* of that date gives it as a news item, that the officers of Western Star Lodge would be installed on the 10th.

† The Charles Townsend mentioned as secretary was better known as Judge Townsend; he was a member of the old firm of Townsend & Coit.

‡ Oliver Forward was one of the foremost men of Buffalo in his time. He was a lawyer by profession, one of the Judges of Niagara county in 1817, collector of the port in 1817, member of the Assembly in 1819, etc., and afterwards State Senator.

degrees. The first and second degrees were conferred on Joseph Johnson and Asa P. Harris, and the first degree only on Elisha Foster, Isaac Davis, John Beach, Daniel Miller, Josiah Hovey, Jr., Robert W. Sever, William C. Johnson, John McCall, and Christopher H. Tappan. The following were admitted to membership:—Daniel McCleary, Erastus Granger, Willard Smith, Elijah Doty, Cornelius Davenport, and Charles Mudge.

The petition for a warrant was laid before the Grand Lodge December 7th, 1814, by the Grand Master, M. W. Brother DeWitt Clinton, who stated that he had been requested by the brethren who had on the 1st of March, 1809, and again on the 4th of March, 1812, applied for a warrant to hold a lodge by the name of Western Star Lodge, in the village of New Amsterdam in the town of Buffalo, (formerly Clarence) in the county of Niagara, to renew their application for a warrant and to pray that their dues under a dispensation, which they have for some time been working under, might be relinquished in consequence of the great losses the members have sustained by the destruction of that place by the enemy during the present war;\* upon which it was unanimously:—

“*Resolved*, That a warrant do issue to the said brethren and that all dues under the dispensation be relinquished.”

The lodge received its warrant which was dated December 24, 1814, and was numbered “239” on the Grand Lodge register. Western Star Lodge, No. 239, was, therefore, the first Masonic Lodge of Buffalo and the county of Erie.

It is to be greatly regretted that all information in regard to this lodge subsequent to the time when it received its warrant is exceedingly limited. Its records were either lost or destroyed during the Anti-Masonic excitement, or fell a prey to the flames, November 15, 1832, with the building corner of Main and Seneca streets, in which the lodge held its communications. We are, therefore, forced, however unwillingly, to content ourselves with such items as we are able to gather from various sources. The following items are taken from the *Gazette*, formerly published in Buffalo:—

“September 9, 1812, Captain William Brown shot himself accidentally in a boat on Buffalo creek and was buried with Masonic honors.”

This was probably the first Masonic funeral that had ever taken place in Erie county. April 21, 1814, the following advertisement appeared in the same paper:—

“Members of Western Star Lodge are requested to meet at the house of Brother Frederick Miller, Cold Springs, at noon on that day.”

March 23, 1815, the *Gazette* publishes a notice that the officers of Western Star Lodge would be installed in the village of Buffalo.

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\* The village of Buffalo was burned by the British and Indians Dec. 30, 1813.



The petition of Blazing Star Lodge No. 294, to be held at Willink, was recommended by Western Star Lodge No. 239, February 5, 1817, at which time Daniel Bristol was its Master; John Mullett, Senior Warden; and John E. Marshall,\* Secretary.

In March, 1820, the *Gazette* reports that Western Star Lodge celebrated the anniversary of St. John and marched in procession from the lodge room to the court house.

February 25, 1826, the *Gazette* has an advertisement that Western Star Lodge was holding regular meetings. A July number of the *Gazette* for 1828, has a notice "that a lodge was holding its meetings at Black Rock." The lodge referred to was Barton Lodge No. 442, an account of which appears on another page.

The *Masonic Record* of May 31, 1828, (printed at Albany, N. Y.) has a notice dated May 19, 1828, stating that Niagara Chapter and Western Star Lodge would celebrate St. John's day June 24th. The committee of arrangements consisted of Benjamin Caryl, Cyrenius Chapin, Bryant Burwell, E. D. Efner, Nathaniel Vosburgh and William Kelly.

June 21, 1826, the lodge petitioned the Hon. Stephen Van Rensselaer to permit the dedication of the new hall of Western Star Lodge.

June 1, 1827, Western Star Lodge petitioned the Grand Lodge to remit its dues to that date, which was granted.

In 1822, Benjamin Caryl was master and John A. Lazell, secretary of Western Star Lodge, and in 1824 Jacob A. Barker filled the office of master.

*West Orb of Light Lodge.*—The next petition for a lodge to be held in Erie county came from the town of Willink, then a part of Niagara county.† The document is without date and is signed by John Carpenter, Seth Abbott, Calvin Clifford, John Strong, John Cole, Eames Merriam, Parmilee Allen and William Warren. The lodge was to be called "West Orb of Light." Isaac Phelps, Jr., was to be its first Master, Benjamin Elms, S. W., and James S. Stevens, J. W. The petition is recommended by Western Star Lodge No. 205, at their lodge room in Sheldon, (Genesee county,) January 20, 1815, of which Fitch Chipman was Master, Benjamin Potter, S. W., James Ward, J. W., and Chauncey Sadd, secretary. From the date of the endorsement it may be assumed that the petition originated during the latter part of 1814. The Grand Lodge granted a warrant to the lodge December 6, 1815, but it never went into operation. From the date of the warrant the lodge would have ranked as the second in Erie county.

*Blazing Star Lodge No. 294.*—The warrant for the Lodge "West Orb of Light," which was to have been located in the town of Willink, being for some reason abandoned after being granted, a new petition for

\* John E. Marshall was the father of the Hon. O. H. Marshall, now residing in Buffalo.

† Erie county formed a part of Niagara county at that time.

a lodge to be located in that town, in the county of Niagara, (now Erie) was drawn up. It bears date, Willink, May 19, 1816, and recommends Isaac Phelps, Jr., as its first Master; Hawxhurst Addington, S. W.; and James M. Stevens, J. W. Among the signers of the petition appear Benjamin McKay, Henry B. Stevens, William A. Burt, William Warren, David Norton and Seth Abbott. Several of the names are identical with those attached to the petition for the lodge, "West Orb of Light." The petition was recommended by Western Star Lodge No. 239, February 5, 1817, at which time Daniel Bristol was its Master, John Mullett, S. W., and John E. Marshall, Secretary.

Blazing Star Lodge received the number 294, and its warrant was dated July 31, 1817. An endorsement on the petition, made by the Grand Secretary, explains why the warrant granted to the Lodge, "West Orb of Light", was not taken out. It reads as follows:—

"This warrant was granted on a former petition on the 6th of December, 1816, but never taken out; \$30 were then received by I. Wells, Esq., who has paid the same to me."

The petition referred to upon which the \$30 fee was paid and endorsed as having been received, is without date. The lodge petitioned for was to be held in the town of Willink, in the county of Niagara, and be known as the Lodge, West Orb of Light.

*Sardinia Lodge No. 342.*—Was located in the town of Sardinia, county of Erie. The Grand Lodge granted a warrant for that lodge March 6, 1822. David Bigelow was its first Master; Elihu Rice, S. W.; Silas Parker, J. W.; Bela H. Colegrove was Master of the Lodge in 1825. No other information of this lodge was attainable.

*Concord Lodge No. 346.*—The Grand Lodge granted a warrant on the 8th of June, 1822, to Comfort Knapp, Master; Ira Hall, S. W., and Archibald Griffiths, J. W, to hold a lodge in the town of Concord, in the county of Erie, to be known by the name and style of Concord Lodge No. 346.

*Centre Lodge No. 356.*—The petition for a dispensation to hold a Lodge at Clarence is dated January 31, 1814. Among the signers of the petition appear the names of Asa P. Harris, William K. Stewart and others, recommending Archibald S. Clark to be the first Master; Jonathan Hastings, S. W.; and James Baldwin, J. W. The petition was recommended by Olive Branch Lodge No. 215, at Batavia. By a misapprehension the Grand Secretary supposed that this petition had been superseded by the warrant issued to Western Star Lodge No. 239, December 24, 1814. Waiting patiently for an answer until May 31, 1817, the petitioners despatched a letter of inquiry, the reply to which, stating the above mentioned supposition, was forwarded to them June 9, 1817, which, however, does not seem to have reached its destination. The petitioners were evidently models of patience and perseverance, for again they waited until October 22, 1822, when another effort was made

by them to ascertain the fate of their petition. An answer to this letter, dated November 1, 1822, advising them to petition anew, finally reached them. On the new petition appeared the names of Benjamin Bevins, Elisha Baldwin, Rhodes Stranahan, Ovid Pinney and others. It was dated Clarence, November 16, 1822, and was recommended by Western Star Lodge No. 239, of which at that time Benjamin Caryl was Master, and John A. Lazell, Secretary.

The lodge, after a lapse of nearly nine years, was granted a warrant at the quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge, March 6, 1823, and was registered as Centre Lodge No. 356, to be located in the town of Clarence, in the county of Erie. Frederick Sheldon, Master; Benjamin Bevins, Senior Warden; and Elisha Baldwin, Junior Warden. Amos Wright was Master of the lodge in 1825, representing it in the Grand Lodge.

*Livingston Lodge, No. 416.*—At the session of the Grand Lodge on the 1st of June, 1825, a warrant was granted to Comfort Knapp, Master; John Brooks, Senior Warden; and Hiram Knapp, Junior Warden, to hold a lodge in the town of Boston, county of Erie, by the name of Livingston Lodge, No. 416.

*Amherst Lodge, No. 429.*—This lodge also received its warrant at the session of the Grand Lodge, June 1, 1825. The names entered in the warrant were Frederick S. Sheldon, Master; Job Beston, Senior Warden; and Ebenezer A. Lester, Junior Warden, who were authorized to hold a lodge in the town of Amherst, county of Erie, to be known as Amherst Lodge, No. 429.

*Hamburg Union Store Lodge, No. 434.*—This lodge also received a warrant at the sessions of the Grand Lodge, June 1, 1825. It was issued to Cushing Swift, Master; Edmund S. Stevens, Senior Warden; and Mason Young, Junior Warden, to hold a lodge in the town of Hamburg, county of Erie, by the name of Hamburg Union Store Lodge, No. 434.

*Porter Lodge.*—A petition for a dispensation to hold a lodge at Black Rock, to be known as Porter Lodge, and dated Black Rock, Erie county, N. Y., November 12, 1823, is on file in the archives of the Grand Lodge. James L. Barton was to be its first Master; Nathaniel K. Olmstead, Senior Warden; and Nathaniel G. Reynolds, Junior Warden. The following names are attached to the petition:—Lewis G. Hoffman, William Burt, John D. Harty, Adam Gray, Ethan Allen and Donald Fraser. The petition is recommended by Western Star Lodge, No. 239, of Buffalo, on the 15th of November, 1823. The Grand Lodge seems to have taken no action on this petition. Comparing the date of this petition with that of Barton Lodge, No. 442, at Black Rock, it will be seen that the petition of the latter antedates it about six months, while the endorsement of Western Star Lodge, No. 239, on the petition of Porter Lodge antedates that of Barton Lodge about the same length of time. The name of James



L. Barton for Master appears on both petitions, and a number of the names of the petitioners are identical.

*Barton Lodge No. 442, Black Rock.*—The petition for a dispensation to form this lodge bears date, Black Rock, May 5, 1823, and recommends James L. Barton to be its first Master; Nathaniel G. Reynolds, S. W., and James McKnight, J. W. The names of the petitioners were L. G. Hoffman, John D. Harty, Ethan Allen, Henry Hanson, Henry Potter, Sheldon Thompson, James Tisdale, D. S. Davison and Nathaniel Fills. The petition was recommended by Western Star Lodge No. 239, Buffalo, May 5, 1824, Jacob A. Barker, Master. A dispensation was issued October 16, 1824, and the Grand Lodge at its session of June 6, 1825, ordered a warrant to issue to Barton Lodge No. 442. Brother Robert McPherson became secretary, and Sheldon Thompson, treasurer of the lodge.

With our well-paved, gas-lighted streets, street railroads, etc., the reason advanced for the petition cannot well be appreciated by the present generation. The petition states that the object in petitioning for a lodge, while one was held at Buffalo, was as follows:—

“We have in this village and vicinity about twenty-five Master-Masons; the major part of them are men of families, and we have the only alternative of either traveling a considerable part of the year on a bad road, at unseasonable hours to our great inconvenience, or be deprived the pleasure of participating in full communion with our brethren.”

The endorsement of Western Star Lodge attached to the petition of Barton Lodge intimates, but does not fully explain the reason why no action was taken by the Grand Lodge on the petition of Porter Lodge, of which mention is made under that head. The following sentence is contained in the recommendation of Western Star Lodge for the lodge at Black Rock, to be called “Barton Lodge, and that all former recommendations for a lodge at that place be recalled.” The first candidate initiated in Barton Lodge was Samuel Everett, farmer, December 22, 1824. In the list of those initiated are also found Benjamin Bidwell, ship carpenter, December 22, 1824; Levi Allen, tavern keeper, February 21, 1826; Daniel Lockwood, lawyer, May 23, 1826; George McKnight, merchant's clerk, May 23, 1826; William T. Pratt, silversmith, May 23, 1826; Abner Cutler, cabinet maker, May 30, 1826. James L. Barton, after whom the lodge was named, was its master for 1825; Roger Jones for 1826, and John D. Harty for 1827, '28 and '29; beyond the last named year, during which Brother George McKnight was secretary, our information does not extend. The lodge succumbed to the anti-masonic blast which swept over the western part of the State of New York, and was not revived again.

The lodges were progressing under favorable conditions. On their rolls of membership were registered a large number of highly respect-

able and intelligent citizens. This growth increased the jealousy and enmity of the anti-Masons. The sudden disappearance, therefore, of the notorious William Morgan on the 12th of September, 1826, who was reported to have been drowned by the Masons in the Niagara river, led to hostile demonstrations. Unfortunately for the Masonic fraternity, nothing definite could be discovered of the fate of this individual. The adversaries of Masonry under control of designing leaders, were not slow in making use of the rumor of his murder to fan the spark into a flame. Anti-Masonry swept over the land like a whirlwind, shaking the institution to its foundation. Manipulated by skillful but unscrupulous politicians, the anti-Masonic faction increased in strength and power and forced many lodges to discontinue their labors. The Masonic fraternity was subjected to every variety of indignity and persecution, and many weak-kneed members were forced to renounce their membership. The progress of Masonry received a check throughout the United States, and it was only in the year 1843, that the anti-Masonic party lost its political power. Anti-Masonry died, but Masonry survived. All efforts to drag it into the dust and to cast suspicion upon its aims, were in vain. It has spread and developed and in the course of time has essentially aided civilization. Founded upon an indellible necessity of human nature, it has and is fulfilling its high mission. It educates the members to practice love and charity, imbues them with moral courage, with a devotion to truth, and enjoins upon them a faithful performance of duty. It offers consolation to the afflicted, restores the erring to the path of virtue, dries the tears of widows and orphans, and creates many institutions for beneficent purposes. An institution resting upon such principles can only receive a temporary check from prejudice and ignorance.

Among the lodges who had ceased their labors during the anti-Masonic ascendancy, were those of Erie county. The revival of Masonry imparted new life to its adherents here also and once more were they permitted to gather around the altars which they had been forced to abandon. The old members, with undiminished love for the institution in their hearts, again met in council. A petition to the Grand Lodge of the State of New York for a dispensation to form a new lodge, was circulated in Buffalo in November, 1844, and eagerly signed. The thirty-two brethren, true and trusty, who attached their signatures to the document were Henry B. Myer, Selah Barnard, Nelson Randall, James Forristall, Horatio G. Gates, Orman Butler, Thomas J. Winslow, John A. Weimer, Robert Russell, Charles S. Pierce, Miles Jones, Nehemiah Case, Abner Cutler, Joseph A. Cameron, Daniel M. Seaver, Charles Radcliffe, John McPherson, Solomon Drullard, Elijah D. Effner, Benjamin H. Austin, Thomas Muller, George Case, Levi Allen, Christian Heistend, Cornelius A. Waldron, Benjamin Bidwell, Isaac W. Newkirk, Merlin Camp, Stephen Powers, David C. Sough, Joseph Dorr and Darius Smith.

Of these good men and true Nehemiah Case, Abner Cutler and Levi Allen are still living at a good old age, honored by all Masons as well as by their friends and neighbors.

The Grand Lodge granted a dispensation on the 31st of January, 1845, for the formation of Hiram Lodge; it was received with joy by the brethren who had been called together to meet on Friday, February 14, 1845. Brother H. B. Myer, who had been named Master of the lodge, presided on the occasion. At the first meeting of the lodge under dispensation, February 28, 1845, a petition for membership was presented from Brother Horatio Warren, who subsequently filled the office of Master of Washington Lodge No. 240. At the same time petitions for initiation were received from Ebenezer B. Putress and John W. Davock. At the communication of the lodge March 7, 1845, the Master, Brother H. B. Myer, reported that Brother Dr. Clark had placed in his hands the jewels of the old lodge (Western Star Lodge No. 239) excepting the square and compass. The latter having been lost, it was ordered that new ones be procured in their place. Some years after that a Brother from Buffalo, visiting a lodge in Detroit, found the two long lost jewels in that city. They were returned to Hiram Lodge as will hereafter appear. The dispensation, which expired by limitation with the session of the Grand Lodge in June, was extended by the Grand Master to October 20, 1845. At the communication of the lodge December 19, 1845, the Master announced that the warrant from the Grand Lodge had been received. It is dated December 5, 1845. The lodge is registered on the rolls of the Grand Lodge as Hiram Lodge No. 105.

*Hiram Lodge No. 105.* — At the communication of the lodge December 26, 1845, the following brethren were elected its officers:— Henry B. Myer, Master; Nelson Randall, S. W.; Charles S. Pierce, J. W.; Robert Russell, treasurer; Stephen Powers secretary. On the 1st of January, 1846, the lodge was constituted and its officers installed by the following brethren, who acted as Grand officers:— Brother Asher Torrance, P. M., of Lockport Lodge No. 73, as G. M., assisted by Brothers Peter P. Murphy, of the same place, as G. M.; W. E. Cooper, Lockport Lodge No. 73, as S. G. W.; B. H. Fletcher, as J. G. W.; Charles French, Hiram Lodge No. 105, as Grand Treasurer; G. Dennison, of the same lodge as G. C.; W. Harrison of Lockport Lodge No. 73, as S. G. D.; A. H. Eastman, of the same lodge, as J. G. D., and A. Brush, of the same lodge, as G. T. In addition to the elected officers, the following appointed officers were duly installed:— Brother Carlos Cobb, S. D.; James McCredie, J. D.; Miles Jones and Charles Pickering, S.; and James A. Forristall, T. The lodge held its meetings on the fourth floor of the building now known as No. 219 Main street. Some of the paper with which the walls of the room were decorated (imitation marble blocks and columns) may still be seen in its place at the present time. The owner of the building seems



to have been a Mr. Dart. The lodge adopted a resolution May 1, 1846, notifying him that it would continue to occupy the room for another year, if properly repaired. The annual rent paid was \$75. Brother E. S. Barnum, of Utica, was appointed proxy to represent the lodge at the June session of the Grand Lodge in 1846. As the membership of the lodge increased, it became evident that more extensive quarters were required and on the 23d of October, 1846, a resolution was adopted to rent the room on the third floor of Brother Case's building, on the corner of Exchange and Washington streets, at \$150.00 per annum. At the communication of the lodge, May 21, 1847, a resolution was adopted that the building committee, together with the tiler, take charge of the removal of the furniture and fixtures of the lodge to the new lodge room. The expense of moving and the preparation of the new hall had entailed a heavy outlay on the young lodge and that, together with frequent calls for charity, kept its finances at a low ebb. At a communication of the lodge August 4, 1848, Brothers James Wenz, Ehrman and others requested the lodge to recommend their petition to the Grand Lodge to give its approval to the formation of a German Lodge in Buffalo, with which the lodge readily complied. Buffalo Chapter No 71, of Royal Arch Masons had become the successor of Niagara Chapter No. 71, which had succumbed to the force of circumstances. It became a tenant of the new hall under Hiram Lodge in 1848.

The spirit of Masonry reviving throughout the western part of the State of New York, a request was presented to the lodge October 22, 1848, from Brother Budlong and others, for a recommendation of their petition to the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, for a dispensation to form Mount Moriah Lodge, at Jamestown, N. Y. The assent was readily given.

The brethren above spoken of, who had petitioned the Grand Lodge for a dispensation to establish a German Lodge, were successful in their application. The members of Hiram Lodge rejoiced with them in their success and adopted a resolution on the 10th of November, 1848, congratulating the new sister lodge, Concordia, on the auspicious event and expressing its good wishes for its welfare and prosperity. Concordia Lodge also became an occupant of the new hall. The two lodges jointly celebrated St. John's day on the 27th of December, 1848, by a supper at Brother Dorsheimer's (Mansion House.)

On the 29th of December, 1848, Brother Nelson Randall, Master, publicly installed the officers elect for the ensuing year, in the lodge room, which was witnessed by a large and highly respectable audience. Brother Horatio Gates delivered an able address on the occasion, which was well received.

On the 27th of April, 1849, Hiram Lodge adopted a resolution to celebrate the approaching St. John's day publicly, provided Concordia

Lodge and Buffalo Chapter approve of the same. Both gave their assent readily; but the 24th day of June falling upon Sunday, the celebration occurred on the 25th.

The following address casting some light upon Masonic affairs at that time, was issued by the fraternity soon after Concordia Lodge and Buffalo Chapter\* had approved the resolution:—

“The members of the Masonic fraternity composing Buffalo Chapter, No. 71, Hiram Lodge, No. 105, and Concordia Lodge, believing the time has now come when the interest of our beloved institution would thereby be best promoted, have resolved to celebrate the next anniversary of our ancient Brother, St. John the Baptist, and have, from their respective bodies, appointed the undersigned a committee of arrangements, to carry such resolutions into effect; with instructions to invite our brethren at a distance to participate with us in the honors of the day. Committee of Buffalo Chapter, No. 71, C. H. Dibble, N. Case, M. Jones, G. W. Allen, B. H. Austin, H. W. Rogers, P. Dorsheimer. Committee of Hiram Lodge, No. 105, C. S. Pierce, F. S. Wheeler, B. Welch, Jr., B. Bidwell, C. Cobb, J. McCredie, C. Pickering. Committee of Concordia Lodge, U. D., J. Wenz, P. Ehrman, J. Weil, F. Atwicker, F. A. Georger, G. Black, B. Weimar.

“This being the first public demonstration in this section, for many years, it is desirable that the procession should be numerous and imposing; so that the unenlightened may see and know that Masonry was ‘not dead but sleeping.’ \* \* \* We rejoice in being able to say that the prejudices which once existed against our order here have nearly passed away, giving good reasons to hope that they will soon be numbered among the things that were.

“The 24th of June being Sunday, the celebration will be on Monday, the 25th. The procession will form precisely at 10 o’clock, at Masonic Hall, on the corner of Washington and Exchange streets, and proceed thence to one of the churches of the city, where an oration will be delivered and other appropriate exercises will take place according to ancient usage.

“Your attendance is hereby cordially and earnestly solicited, either in a body or individually. It is expected that chapters and lodges will bring their jewels, and brothers their regalia.

“Respectfully and fraternally yours,

“O. H. DIBBLE, (P. H. P.) Chairman.

“JAMES MCCREDIE, Secretary.”

Besides the members of the lodges and the chapters a large number of visiting brethren were present. The procession proceeded, according to arrangement, to the Universalist Church on Washington street, where, after appropriate services, the Rev. Brother Dolphus Skinner, from Oneida county, delivered the address in the presence of a large audience.

At the communication of Hiram Lodge, June 1, 1849, a resolution was adopted recommending to the Grand Lodge of the State the petition

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\* We are indebted for a copy of this address, to that ardent veteran Mason, Brother James McCredie, and we take pleasure in acknowledging that he has placed us under obligations for much other valuable information.

of Brother Isaac Bloss and others for the revival of the charter of Hanover Lodge at Forestville, Chautauqua county.

On the 15th of June, 1849, Brother Randall, Master, informed the lodge that the Grand Lodge had remitted one-half of the Grand Lodge dues for the past year, amounting to fifty-six dollars.

On the 21st of December, 1849, the resolution was adopted, "That this lodge recommend the petition of Brothers N. Randall, C. Cobb and others to the Grand Lodge for a new lodge to be held in this city, to be called Erie Lodge."

On the 31st of January, 1851, the lodge appointed Brother Dibble a delegate to attend a meeting of delegates to be held in Albany, N. Y., February 7th, for the purpose of discussing the propriety of building an asylum for indigent Masons, their widows and orphans. And again, on the 3d of May of the same year, the same subject being again before the lodge and its members desiring to testify their desire to carry out practically the greatest and noblest principle of the institution—charity—adopted the resolution, "That our representative W. Brother Benjamin H. Austin, be instructed to attend the convention of delegates to be held in the city of New York June 3d next, for the purpose of erecting a Masonic Asylum, and to support the object intended as far as he may think proper."

On a preceding page of this sketch, it is stated that at the communication of the lodge, March 7, 1845, the jewels of the old lodge (Western Star No. 239) had been presented to Hiram Lodge, except the square and compass, which were missing, but subsequently found in Detroit. The fact coming to the knowledge of the lodge, the preamble and resolutions were offered and adopted June 2, 1852 :—

WHEREAS, We have long cherished as inestimable tokens of remembrance of a distinguished and worthy brother of our order, the Hon. DeWitt Clinton, the jewels presented by him to Western Star Lodge No. 239, now the property of this lodge; and,

WHEREAS, We have learned with the greatest pleasure that of those jewels, the compass and square, which have for a long time been missing, are now in the possession of ——— Lodge No. —, at Detroit, Mich. Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the brethren of ——— Lodge No. —, at Detroit, be respectfully asked to deliver to ——— the compass and square of Western Star Lodge No. 239, of New York, for Hiram Lodge No. 105, of New York.

*Resolved*, That we will regard a compliance with the request contained in the foregoing resolution, as a token of the high consideration which the Freemasons have for their brethren.

*Resolved*, That the secretary of this lodge be directed to send a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions to the secretary of ——— Lodge, No.—, at Detroit, Mich."

The square and compass were surrendered by the lodge at Detroit to Hiram Lodge, in whose possession the whole of the jewels have



remained ever since. They had a very narrow escape from being destroyed at the fire in December, 1882, of which mention will be made hereafter. The square, which still remains discolored from smoke, was shown us a short time ago. It has the following inscription: "Presented by the M. W. Grand Master DeWitt Clinton, to Western Star Lodge No. 239." They are priceless jewels.

Hiram Lodge received an invitation from the building committee of the German Evangelical Church at Lower Black Rock, to participate in laying the corner-stone of said church, on Thursday, August 26, 1852, which was accepted.

At the communication of February 25, 1853, a petition to the Grand Lodge for a new lodge was presented, requesting the recommendation of Hiram Lodge. The lodge was to be known as Parish Lodge, and to be located at Black Rock. The following were the names of the brethren attached to the petition: Brothers Levi Love, Stephen W. Howell, L. P. Dayton, John Rudy, John H. VanBenthusen, Reuben Justin, Alexander McCloud, Hiram B. Lusk and William P. Sheldon. Hiram Lodge recommended the petition.

At the suggestion of Erie Lodge No. 161, a committee was appointed at the meeting of March 4, 1853, to take in consideration the propriety and feasibility of erecting a Masonic Temple in the city of Buffalo.

A number of influential members of the fraternity throughout the State, deeming it desirable that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York should be divided. Hiram Lodge adopted a resolution August 19, 1853, to attend by delegation a convention to be held at Rochester, September 2, to consider the propriety of carrying out the proposition.

The rapid increase of the German population of the city and the favor with which Freemasonry was viewed as its principles became better known and understood by the intelligent classes, brought a large number of applications for admission to the lodges. A second German Lodge became a necessity, and brother James Wenz, in connection with other German Masons, petitioned the Grand Lodge for a dispensation for a new lodge, which was endorsed by Hiram Lodge at its communication of May 12, 1854.

The officers elect of Hiram Lodge for the year 1855, were publicly installed in American Hall, which was filled on the occasion to its utmost capacity. The applications for charity became more frequent and the lodges of Buffalo found it necessary to establish in self-protection, a central Board for that purpose, to which all applications were to be referred. On the 22d of July, 1855, Hiram Lodge appointed a committee to act in conjunction with like committees for that purpose, from Erie, Washington, Queen City and Ancient Landmarks Lodges, who agreed upon "Articles of Association of the Masonic Board of Relief of the City of Buffalo." The first representatives of Hiram Lodge in the

Board were Past Masters James H. Barton and William F. Rogers. The necessary funds for charitable purposes were supplied by an assessment of twelve per cent. on the receipts of the lodges who were associated in the Board. Hiram Lodge, as well as the rest of the Masonic Lodges, Chapters and Commanderies, were invited by the proper authorities to participate in the laying of the corner-stone of the State Arsenal, on Batavia street (now Broadway), in Buffalo. The ceremony was performed by the Grand Lodge on the 5th of May, 1858.

A number of brethren desirous of forming a new lodge, to be called DeMolay Lodge, petitioned the Grand Lodge for a dispensation. Hiram Lodge recommended the petition to the favorable consideration of the Grand Lodge, at its communication of January 20, 1860.

The lodge rooms heretofore occupied by a majority of the Masonic bodies of Buffalo, on the corner of Washington and Exchange streets, having ceased to be convenient for their accommodation, it was determined to move to more suitable quarters. The upper floor of the building on the corner of Main and Swan streets, known as Townsend Hall, was selected and rented from its owners at an annual rent of \$400, and suitably fitted up and furnished by the lodges who had heretofore met at the corner of Washington and Exchange streets.

It was on the 1st of August, 1861, that Hiram Lodge held its first communication in the new hall, which was properly dedicated to the use of Masonry, by the Grand Master of the State, M. W. Brother Finlay M. King, on the 27th of December, of the same year.

On the 22d of January, 1864, Hiram Lodge received a communication from the president and secretary of the great Central Fair which was to be held in Buffalo on the 22d of February, for the benefit of the sick and wounded of the army and navy, to which the lodge responded on the 5th of February by a donation of \$200.

On the 2d of August, 1864, the lodge adopted a resolution to participate in the laying of the corner-stone of the First Universalist Church, in Buffalo, and on the 2d of September, resolved to appropriate \$5 of the amount received with each petition for degrees and membership, for the hall and asylum fund.

The lodge deposited the remains of Brother Daniel D. Bidwell, with masonic ceremonies, on the 30th of October, 1864. Brother Bidwell had during the war attained the rank of Brigadier-General in the volunteer army of the United States, and died a hero's death at the battle of Cedar Creek, West Virginia. With the destruction by fire of the American Hotel and adjoining buildings in Buffalo on the 25th of January, 1865, two Masonic halls fell a prey to the devastating element, making a number of lodges homeless. Hiram Lodge immediately determined to offer to one of the lodges the temporary use of their hall for every alternate Friday, the regular nights of its meeting being on Friday of each week. A reso-

lution was adopted at the same time to confer with the other Masonic bodies to take in consideration the feasibility of erecting a Masonic Hall for the use of the lodges in this city. The lodge at once subscribed \$1,500 to the capital stock of the Masonic Hall Association. The other lodges and individual masons responded liberally to the call and the amount subscribed reached the handsome sum of \$30,000. Unfortunately, however, the unsettled state of the financial affairs of the country interfered with the carrying out of the project and the plan was reluctantly abandoned.

The lodge accepted the invitation extended by the trustees of Forest Lawn Cemetery to assist in the laying of a memorial stone September 26, 1866, and on the 8th of August, 1867, lent its aid in laying the corner-stone of the State Normal School at Fredonia, N. Y.; participated in laying the corner-stone for the State Normal School in Buffalo, April 15, 1869, and of the monument of the Firemen's Benevolent Association in Forest Lawn Cemetery, July 23, 1869; of Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church, July 13, 1871; of the City and County Hall, June 24, 1872; of the asylum for the insane, September 18, 1872; of the Soldier's monument, Forest Lawn, October 21, 1880, and of the corner-stone of the Soldiers' and Sailors' monument, in LaFayette Square, July 4, 1882.

The petition of Brothers Kiene, Juengling, Breitweiser and others in November, 1869, to the Grand Lodge to grant a dispensation for a third German lodge in this city, met the approval of Hiram Lodge. No event of importance has occurred in the lodge for a number of years. In 1871-'72, it contributed liberally to the hall and asylum fund and when in 1873, the financial crisis by which the country was overtaken compelled the Grand Lodge of the State to raise \$100,000, Hiram Lodge advanced \$500 towards it.

On the 10th of December, 1875, Hiram Lodge joined the Masonic Association formed for the purpose of leasing the fourth floor of Miller & Greiner's building, on the northeast corner of Washington and North Division streets at the yearly rent of \$1,500. The hall was fitted up in magnificent style. Hiram Lodge held its last communication in the old hall, corner of Main and Swan streets, on the 12th of March, 1876, and its first communication in the new hall, northeast corner of Washington and North Division streets, on the 24th of June of the same year, it being St. John's day, and set apart for the dedication of the new Masonic Temple. The first regular communication of the lodge in the new hall took place July 14, 1876.

Brother Charles H. Rathbune, Master of Hiram Lodge, died July 28, 1879. Hiram Lodge, joined by a large number of members from other lodges in this city, escorted by Lake Erie and Hugh de Payens Commanderies, accompanied the remains to Forest Lawn, where they were deposited according to ancient Masonic rite.



The last meeting of Hiram Lodge in the new Masonic Hall was held December 8, 1882. For six years had the lodges prospered in the new hall, and nothing had occurred to disturb their peace and harmony, when once more the devastating element deprived them of their Masonic home. On the evening of December 21, 1882, the upper part in which the lodge rooms were situated, were destroyed by fire. Fortunately Hiram Lodge saved its records, although somewhat damaged by water. Its next communication was held January 12, 1883, M. W., Brother Flagler, Grand Master, having granted a dispensation to the lodge who formerly met at the hall corner of Washington and North Division streets, to hold their communications in the hall of the lodge of the Ancient Landmarks, corner of Main and Court streets. The lodge having also been prevented from electing its officers at the time prescribed by the statutes of the Grand Lodge, was authorized to elect and install them on the 12th of January, 1883.

At the date of this publication, the hall having been fully restored and furnished anew, the lodge has resumed its communications in its former quarters. The following is a list of the Masters who have presided over Hiram Lodge up to the present time, the numbers opposite their respective names indicating the years during which each occupied the chair:—

Brothers H. B. Meyers, 1845 and '46; Nelson Randall, 1847 and '48; Charles S. Pierce, 1849; Benjamin H. Austin, 1850, '51 and '52; James H. Barton, 1853, '54, '56, '57, '60 and '61; G. A. Scroggs, 1855; J. K. Tyler, 1858; Riley Hayford, 1859; Andrew S. Mason, 1862, '63 and '68; Hawley Klein, 1864, '65 and '82; Henry Waters, 1866; Chillion M. Farrar, 1867; Henry Smith, 1869, '70 and '73; William F. Rogers, 1871 and '81; Theodore C. Knight, 1872; Solomon Taylor, 1874; George L. Remington, 1875 and '76; John Masters, Jr., 1877 and '78; Charles H. Rathbun, 1879; Burrall Spencer, Jr., 1880; William J. Donaldson, 1883.

On the 1st of May 1883, the lodge numbered two hundred and seventy-six members.

*Concordia Lodge, No. 143.*—The new life infused into Freemasonry in Buffalo by the success of Hiram Lodge, awakened a desire among the brethren speaking the German tongue to establish a German Lodge in the city. For this purpose a number of them applied to the Grand Master of the State for a dispensation which was granted. Upon the receipt of it the petitioners assembled in the lodge room, corner of Washington and Exchange streets, on the 3d of October, for the purpose of organizing Concordia Lodge, that being the name by which the lodge was to be known.

The brethren authorized by the dispensation to act as officers were, James Wenz, Master; Frederick Ehrman, S. W.; and Jacob Weil, J. W. August Miller was appointed secretary. Of the petitioners the follow-

ing were present on the occasion:—Brothers Altwicker, Eschenbach, Black, and a number of visitors from Hiram Lodge, No. 105. The first candidate initiated was Adam Schlagter, October 17, 1848; the second, F. Augustus Georger, October 31, 1848; Philip Scheu and Henry Weisser, November 21, 1848, and John Greiner, December 5, 1848. Of these brethren, two are still living in Buffalo, F. Augustus Georger, who is the president of the German Bank, of Buffalo, and John Greiner, one of its most successful merchants, who still continue to take an active part in Masonry.

Under the dispensation Concordia Lodge continued its labors until June, 1849, when at the session of the Grand Lodge at that time, it received its warrant, bearing date June 13, 1849, in which James Wenz is named as Master; Frederick Ehrman, S. W.; and Jacob Weil, J. W. The lodge was duly constituted and its officers installed on the occasion when Buffalo Chapter, No. 71, Hiram Lodge, No. 105, and Concordia Lodge, U. D., celebrated St. John's day, on the 25th of June, 1849, in the First Universalist Church, on Washington street.

The records of the lodge contain the following on the subject of its installation:—

“The brethren assembled in the lodge room at 11 o'clock A. M., together with the members of Buffalo Chapter, Hiram Lodge, and a number of visiting brethren from abroad. A procession being formed, it proceeded to the First Universalist Church on Washington street. After prayer the Rev. Brother Dolphus Skinner, from Utica, delivered an address. Brother O. H. Dibble, having received authority for that purpose, from the Grand Master, duly constituted Concordia Lodge and installed its officers. At the close of the solemnities, the procession was re-formed and returned to the lodge room.”

The first regular meeting of the lodge under its warrant, took place July 3, 1849. On the 18th of December, of the same year, the following officers were elected: James Wenz, M.; Frederick Ehrman, S. W.; J. G. Ferdinand Muller, J. W.; F. Augustus Georger, Secretary; F. Altwicker, Treasurer; J. Black, S. D.; J. A. Weimer, J. D.; Jacob Weil and Philip Scheu, Masters of Ceremonies; John Greiner and Herman Wende, Stewards; C. F. W. Ebenau, Orator.

On the 29th of August, 1852, the lodge took part in laying the cornerstone of the Protestant Evangelical Church at Black Rock, and subsequently in all public proceedings in which the fraternity of the city participated.

At the communication of the lodge May 9, 1853, the following members applied for dimitts for the purpose of forming the Second German Lodge in Buffalo, viz.: Brothers Greiner, Devening, Koenig, Scherf, Weber, Keller, C. Lange, Drobisch and Birkenstock.

The lodge joined the Masonic Board of Relief of Buffalo in 1858, and aside of that has always contributed liberally to the relief of the needy.

When in December, 1861, Hiram and Erie Lodges, Buffalo Chapter and Lake Erie Commandery determined to abandon the premises occupied by them on the northwest corner of Washington and Exchange streets, and move to the hall prepared for them in the building on the southwest corner of Main and Swan streets, Concordia Lodge joined in the movement.

In 1868, the lodge erected a monument over the grave of Philip Scheu, one of its members, and on the 24th of June, 1869, it assisted Modestia Lodge in unveiling the monument erected by it over the grave of its Master, who lost his life by a railroad accident near Erie, Pennsylvania. In 1869 the following members dimitted from the lodge for the purpose of establishing Harmonie Lodge, it being the third German Lodge in Buffalo :—Brothers S. C. Kiene, Henry Breitweiser, Frederick Traenkel, Henry Keller and Joseph Timmerman.

In the year 1872, one of those pleasant incidents occurred which ought not to go unrecorded. Brother G. Scheffel who for over nineteen years had faithfully served the lodge in the capacity of chaplain, was to celebrate his golden wedding on the 13th of October. The members, therefore, as an evidence of the high esteem in which they held the brother, determined to celebrate the event. A committee consisting of Past Masters Joseph L. Haberstro, George Brost, William Schmidt and Frederick Held were appointed, who were to act with the Master of the Lodge, Brother William C. Zimmerman, to make the necessary arrangements. It was determined to celebrate the event on the anniversary of the wedding day, October 13, by a banquet. Two hundred and twenty-five members of the lodge, and invited brethren from other lodges, with their families participated in the celebration, during which Brother Scheffel was presented with a purse of \$200 in gold. He died in 1880, at the ripe old age of 83.

Concordia Lodge celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary on the 24th of June, 1874. The seven members who in 1849, had applied for a warrant, had, during the quarter of a century, increased to two hundred.

When the Lodges and other Masonic bodies determined in 1876, to leave the hall in which their meetings were held, Concordia Lodge also joined in the movement. It has since that time continued to hold its meetings in the new hall (Miller & Greiner block), on the northeast corner of Washington and North Division streets, up to December 21, 1882, when the upper part of the building containing the hall was almost entirely destroyed by fire. It was fortunate enough to save its records from destruction.

On the 23d of December, 1882, the Grand Master of the State, M. W., Brother Flagler, granted permission to the lodge to meet hereafter in the hall of the Lodge of the Ancient Landmarks, over the Erie County Savings Bank on the southwest corner of Main and Court streets. The



lodge has, in October, 1883, returned to its former quarters, Miller & Greiner block, the building having been fully restored and refurnished.

Concordia Lodge has pursued the even tenor of its way, being neither elated by favorable, nor depressed by adverse circumstances. The lodge may be considered the mother lodge of German Masonry in Buffalo, and has reason to feel proud of its offspring. On the 1st of May, 1883, the lodge numbered two hundred and thirteen members. The following brethren were masters of the lodge for the respective years opposite to their names, viz.: James Wenz, 1848, '49, '50 and '51; J. P. Klein, 1852, '53, '54 and '56; Jacob Weil, 1855; Joseph L. Haberstro, 1857, '58, '59, '60, '61, '62, '64, '66, '77 and '78; Charles H. Rauert, 1865; S. C. Kiene, 1867 and '68; George Brost, 1869 and '70; William C. Zimmerman, 1871 and '72; Frederick Held, 1873 and '74; John F. Haberstro, 1875 and '76; Frank Sipp, 1879 and '80; Nicholas Moersfelder, 1881 and '82; Charles F. Bishop, 1883.

*Erie Lodge No. 161.*—The greatest loss that can befall a lodge is the destruction of its records, for with it the authenticity and details of its previous history disappear to a great extent. Whatever information may be subsequently gathered by the slow and uncertain process of extraction from the recollection of old members and from other sources, lacks after all the authenticity of the original records. That disaster has overtaken Erie Lodge of Buffalo. No records of the lodge, except the list of members, have been saved from the calamitous fire which destroyed the lodge rooms in the building in the northeast corner of Washington and North Division streets, on the evening of December 21, 1882. Sufficient time has scarcely elapsed to collect and put in presentable shape the material necessary for even the bare outline of the history of the lodge, which has existed for a third of a century, and this must be the excuse for the paucity of the matter furnished in the present sketch.

It was on the 21st of December, 1849, that Hiram Lodge adopted a resolution recommending the petition of thirty-two good and true Masons to the favorable consideration of the Grand Master, who thereupon granted his dispensation for the formation of Erie Lodge. The date of the petition we have been unable to ascertain. The following are the names of the brethren who signed the petition: Orange H. Dibble, W. L. G. Smith, William Williams, Erastus Wallis, Nelson Randall, Nehemiah Case, James McCredie, George W. Allen, Richard H. Weller, Harvey M. Mixer, Frederick J. Butler, Carlos Cobb, Samuel D. Flagg, Philip Dorsheimer, Horatio Warren, Henry W. Rogers, Cyrus P. Lee, Cyrenius C. Bristol, Horatio Gates, Eli Williamson, John Douglass, George W. Clinton, Solomon Drullard, Benjamin Welch, Jr., Silas M. Allen, Gordon Bailey, James L. Reynolds, John Hollister, John M. Hughes, Lyman Brown, Benjamin Caryl and John Fleharty. Twenty-five of these brothers have gone to their long rest. The seven surviving brethren are Nehemiah Case, James McCredie, Frederick J. Butler,

Cyrus P. Lee, Cyrenius C. Bristol, Eli Williamson and George W. Clinton. Of these Nehemiah Case and James McCredie continue their membership in the lodge, the latter having been uninterruptedly elected to some office from the time of its formation; certainly a rare occurrence and undoubted evidence of the value of the member.

The first three candidates initiated by the lodge were James H. Lee, January 28, 1850, Samuel C. Greene, February 4, 1850, and F. A. Alberger, March 18, 1850.

At the session of the Grand Lodge in June, 1850, the lodge obtained a warrant and was registered as Erie Lodge No. 161. The date of the warrant is June, 1850, and the brethren named therein as the first officers of the lodge are Nelson Randall, M., Carlos Cobb, S. W., and W. L. G. Smith, J. W. The lodge held its communications in the same rooms in which Hiram Lodge, Concordia Lodge and Buffalo Chapter met. These bodies have since their respective organization, closely adhered to each other and have always occupied the same premises. Erie Lodge has invariably participated in all public demonstrations. On the 26th of August, 1852, it joined with Hiram and Concordia Lodges in laying the corner-stone of the German Evangelical Church at Lower Black Rock. It was Erie Lodge that, at its meeting of March 4, 1853, appointed a committee to take in consideration the propriety and feasibility of erecting a Masonic temple in the city of Buffalo.

In 1855 the lodge approved the "Articles of Association of the Masonic Board of Relief of the city of Buffalo," which it subsequently zealously supported.

On the 5th of May, 1858, the lodge participated in the laying of the corner-stone of the State Arsenal, and in 1861, in company with the masonic bodies that had heretofore met at the corner of Washington and Exchange streets, left its masonic home and moved to the lodge rooms on the southwest corner of Main and Swan streets.

On the 2d of August, 1864, the lodge participated in the laying of the corner-stone of the First Universalist Church and when, on the 25th of January, 1865, the American Hotel, together with the adjacent buildings in which a number of masonic bodies met, were destroyed by fire, it was Erie Lodge that surrendered in a fraternal spirit two nights of their regular monthly communications for the accommodation of the lodges that had become homeless.

The calamity which had fallen upon the fraternity by this conflagration, once more reminded the Masons of Buffalo of the necessity of possessing their own property and as, on a previous occasion, Erie Lodge again became an ardent supporter of the proposition and subscribed a liberal sum for that purpose.

The lodge participated in the laying of the memorial stone in Forest Lawn cemetery, September 26, 1856; in the laying of the corner-stone of the State Normal School at Fredonia, August 8, 1867; in that of the

State Normal School in Buffalo, April 15, 1869; in that of the Fireman's monument in Forest Lawn Cemetery, July 23, 1869; of Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church July 13, 1871; of the City and County Hall June 24, 1872; of the asylum for the insane September 18, 1872; of the soldiers' monument in Forest Lawn Cemetery October 21, 1880; and of the soldiers' and sailors' monument in LaFayette Square, July 4, 1882.

In December, 1875, the lodge joined the Masonic Association formed for the purpose of leasing the lodge rooms on the northeast corner of Washington and North Division streets and moved to the new locality in May, 1876. Here it suffered with the rest of the Masonic bodies by the conflagration of December 21, 1882.

Erie Lodge has liberally contributed to the hall and asylum fund of the Grand Lodge, as well as to all benevolent and charitable purposes at home.

Of the eminent Masons upon whom the Grand Lodge of the State and other Grand bodies have conferred their highest honors, Erie Lodge has furnished a larger number than any other lodge in this district, and it may be safe to say even in the State.

Two members have attained to the exalted dignity of Grand Master of the State—Brothers Nelson Randall and Christopher G. Fox. The former was one of the charter members of the lodge, and the latter was initiated in Erie Lodge, although not a member of it at the time he filled the office of Grand Master. Brother James McCredie occupied the position of Most Puissant Grand Master of the Grand Council of the State. Brother LeRoy Farnham that of Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of the State; and Brother David F. Day that of Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the State. Brother Ellicott Evans was the first District Deputy Grand Master of the Twenty-fifth Masonic District, and for several years Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge. Brother William Gould was one of the Grand Stewards of the Grand Lodge in 1857.

The lodge is again domiciled in its former quarters, northeast corner of Washington and North Division streets. The lodge numbered two hundred and fifty-four members May 1, 1883. The following brothers have occupied the station of Master of the lodge for the periods set opposite their respective names: Brothers Nelson Randall, 1850 and '51; Cyrus P. Lee, 1852 and '53; LeRoy Farnham, 1854; Ellicott Evans, 1855; William Gould, 1856, '57, '58, '60, '61 and '62; James McCredie, 1859; William F. Best, 1863, '64 and '67; David F. Day, 1865; John Briggs, 1866 and '76; S. M. Ratcliffe, 1868, '71, '72, '81 and '83; W. L. G. Smith, 1869; William H. Dee, 1870; Robert Denton, 1873 and '74; Benjamin A. Provoost, 1875; Edward H. Paige, 1877; William Christian, 1878 and '79; Thomas A. Laird, 1880 and '82.

*Washington Lodge No. 240.*—It was in the fall of 1851 that a number of Masons, some of them being at the time members of Hiram and Erie



Lodges, determined to apply for a dispensation to open a new lodge in the city of Buffalo. One of the reasons for this movement was that the city was beginning to assume extensive proportions and some of the brethren were living at too great a distance from the Masonic Hall, corner of Washington and Exchange streets, to make their attendance at the lodge meetings possible or convenient, street railroads being unknown in those days. It was at the last of the preliminary meetings at which the feasibility of establishing a new lodge was discussed, that the following brethren signed a petition to the Grand Lodge for a dispensation: L. Brown, D. H. Wiswell, Harlow Palmer, H. H. Reynolds, M. Pinner, Horatio Warren, Ashley Ball, Charles D. Delaney, Miles Jones, J. M. Punderson, A. S. Schwartz, Eli Williamson, O. B. Evans, Gordon Bailey and George W. Clinton. Of the fifteen brethren, three are still continuing their membership in the lodge, five withdrew, having left the city, and seven have died. The petition for a dispensation received the endorsement of both Hiram and Erie Lodges.

The first regular communication of the lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, corner of Washington and Exchange streets, on the 28th of October, 1851, the following officers occupying their respective stations and places: Lyman Brown, M.; Harlow Palmer, S. W.; J. M. Punderson, J. W.; H. H. Reynolds, secretary; Miles Jones, treasurer; M. Pinner, S. D.; Gordon Bailey, J. D.; Charles D. Delaney and D. H. Wiswell, stewards; and A. S. Schwartz, M. C.

The first petitions for initiation were received from F. P. Stevens and William Sutton. Of these the former never entered the lodge. At this meeting a resolution was unanimously adopted that it was the intention of the members to obtain a hall in the upper part of the city for the use of the lodge.

The first initiation occurred at the communication of the lodge, November 25, 1851, William A. Sutton and Horatio Seymour being the candidates.

The lodge continued its labors under dispensation until December when a warrant was granted to it at the quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge, December 11th, 1851, the names of the first three lodge officers inserted therein being Lyman Brown, M.; Harlow Palmer, S. W., and James M. Punderson, J. W. The first regular communication under the warrant occurred on the 1st of January, 1852, and they continued to be held at the corner of Washington and Exchange streets until June of that year. The hall over the Buffalo Savings Bank, then located on the premises now known as No. 420 Main street, was secured by the lodge for its future meetings, that being the intention of its members. The first meeting in its new location occurred on the 24th of June, 1852.

A severe infliction befell the lodge on the 31st of August, 1852, by the death of the Senior Warden, Brother Harlow Palmer, who was an

earnest and zealous Mason and one of the principal supporters of the young lodge. His memory is still cherished by the few surviving old members from whose recollection time has failed to efface the sterling qualities of the man and Mason. His brother, Everard, was initiated into Masonry in Washington Lodge August 17, 1852, was elected Junior Warden of the lodge at the election of officers December 21st, 1852; he also became a steadfast and liberal supporter of the lodge.

The hall heretofore occupied over the Buffalo Savings Bank was found to be inadequate for the use of the lodge. The members, therefore, determined to rent the more spacious hall in the adjoining buildings, Nos. 326 and 328 Main street (now known as 416 and 418 Main street). It was suitably arranged, fitted and prepared for the use of the lodge, and its first communication was held therein on the 26th of April, 1863. The name of the lodge was also given to the hall and it was known thereafter as Washington Masonic Hall. Modestia Lodge No. 340, Queen City No. 358, Ancient Landmarks, No. 441, Keystone Chapter No. 163 R. A. M., and Keystone Council, No. 20. R. & S. M., subsequently held their communications in the same hall.

In the year 1855, Washington Lodge united with Hiram, Erie, Queen City and Ancient Landmark Lodges to establish a Board of Relief for the city of Buffalo, for the purpose of preventing the bestowal of charity indiscriminately; it has tended to relieve the worthy more effectually, while, at the same time, it protects the lodges against imposition by the searching investigation of the board. Subsequently all the lodges in the city became members of the board, of which particulars will be given in another part of this compilation.

A petition to the Grand Lodge for a dispensation to form a new lodge, to be known as Temple Lodge, was presented to Washington Lodge for endorsement, at its communication of January 14, 1858, and received its approbation. The Grand Master of the State, M. W. Brother John L. Lewis, declined to grant the dispensation, for the reason that a lodge by that name was already existing in this State. The name of the proposed new lodge was thereupon changed to that of "Ancient Landmarks Lodge," when it received the sanction of the Grand Master.

Hiram Lodge being the oldest lodge in the city, and having been called upon by the proper civil authorities to lay the corner-stone of the new State arsenal, invited Washington Lodge, April 15, 1858, to participate in the ceremonies. The invitation was accepted. The question of a change in the representation in the Grand Lodge was brought before the lodge March 20, 1862, and at its communication of May 22, it was resolved that in the opinion of Washington Lodge the Grand Lodge of the State should remain as at present constituted, but that it seemed desirable that it should be removed from the city of New York to some city in the central part of the State. The lodge received and accepted

the invitation of Concordia and Modestia Lodges to celebrate St. John's day at Moffat's Grove on the 26th of June, 1862, at 7:30 P. M. A communication of the lodge was called on the 2d of August, 1864, for the purpose of attending the M. W. Grand Lodge and be present at the laying of the corner-stone of the First Universalist Church, on Main street in this city.

The disastrous fire which destroyed the American Hotel on the evening of Wednesday, January 25, 1865, also swept away the Washington Masonic Hall, it being contiguous thereto. The lodge lost its cherished home, but was fortunate in saving its books, records and jewels, together with a portion of the furniture, for which it is indebted to the energetic action of Brothers Samuel O. Bigelow and William Fleming, assisted by a number of its own members and those of other lodges. At the meeting of the lodge February 2, 1865, which was held in Masonic Hall, corner of Main and Swan streets, a resolution was adopted thanking Erie Lodge No. 161, for its fraternal kindness in surrendering the use of its lodge room for the first and third Thursday evenings of each month, until Washington Lodge would be enabled to provide itself with a room in place of the one destroyed by fire. On the 4th of February, 1865, M. W. Brother Clinton F. Paige, Grand Master, authorized Washington Lodge to meet at the hall corner of Main and Swan streets. Hugh de Payens Commandery having offered to rent its hall over Nos. 326 and 328 Main street—(416 and 418 new numbers) to Washington Lodge, the latter accepted the proposition and held its first communication in said hall December 28, 1865. At this meeting a resolution was adopted thanking all the lodges meeting at the Masonic Hall, corner of Main and Swan streets, but more particularly Erie Lodge, who, in a fraternal spirit had given up two Thursdays in each month, to enable Washington Lodge to hold its communications.

September 6, 1866, an invitation was extended to the lodge to join with the other lodges of the city in laying a memorial stone on the occasion of the consecration of the grounds of Forest Lawn Cemetery Association, which was accepted. July 25, 1867, a committee was appointed by the lodge to confer with like committees from the rest of the city lodges, with reference to laying the corner-stone of the State Normal School, at Fredonia, for which an invitation had been received. The invitation was accepted and the lodges proceeded to Fredonia and performed the ceremony on the 8th of August.

In response to a call issued by R. W. Brother Christopher G. Fox, at that time S. G. W., of the Grand Lodge, the Masters and Wardens of the several lodges in Buffalo assembled at the hall, corner of Main and Swan streets, on the 8th of April, 1869, to take into consideration the acceptance of the invitation of the building committee to lay the corner-stone of the State Normal School, then in course of erection in this city.



The invitation was accepted. Washington Lodge participated in the ceremony on the 15th of April, 1869. Again on the 17th of June, 1869, Washington Lodge was informed that the Fraternity of the city had received an invitation to lay the corner-stone of the firemen's monument in Forest Lawn on the 24th of June. On the 22d of July 1869, the lodge came to the determination to change its place of meeting with the new year, to Masonic Hall corner of Main and Swan streets, where it held its first communication on the 13th of January, 1870.

A number of German brethren having determined to form a new lodge in Buffalo, applied to Washington Lodge for an endorsement of their petition to the Grand lodge. The lodge was to work in the German tongue and be called Harmonie Lodge. The recommendation was granted November 11, 1869.

During the summer of 1870 a plan had been discussed for the establishment of a Masonic library for the joint use of the lodges in Buffalo, and on the 25th of August of that year a committee had been appointed by Washington Lodge, for the purpose of meeting committees from the other lodges to carry the plan into execution. To the regret of the Fraternity generally, the idea failed to become a reality.

On the 26th of May, 1870, the lodge contributed the sum of \$400 to the Hall and Asylum fund of the Grand Lodge, which was increased on the 12th of December, 1872, by \$400 from the funds of the lodge and by \$75 from contributions of its members. The destructive conflagration which laid almost the whole city of Chicago in ashes, called for the immediate relief of the sufferers; \$200 were transmitted October 12th, 1871, to the Grand Master of the State of Illinois for distribution to the needy.

Washington Lodge had joined the association formed for the purpose of renting and suitably fitting up the new Masonic Hall on the northeast corner of Washington and North Division streets, and removed to it immediately after completion. The first communication of the lodge in these elegant rooms occurred July 13, 1876. In September, 1878, the lodge and its members contributed \$142 for the relief of the yellow fever sufferers. On the 22d of September, 1881, the lodge took suitable action on the death of Brother James A. Garfield, President of the United States. On the 14th of December, 1882, the lodge held its last meeting in the hall; on the 21st of the same month it fell a prey to the flames. Fortunately its records were preserved, but unluckily its warrant was destroyed. The Grand Lodge granted a duplicate thereof at its session, in June, 1883. Twice has it now passed through a fiery ordeal; may it be saved from this infliction for all future time.

Washington Lodge found a temporary home in the hall of the Ancient Landmark's Lodge, and elected its officers at its regular communication, December 28, 1882. It is now again domiciled in its former

quarters at Masonic Hall, corner of Washington and North Division streets, the building having been restored to its former condition and the hall beautifully furnished.

The following are the names of the Masters of Washington Lodge, the figures opposite to the respective names indicating the years during which they presided: Lyman Brown, 1851 and '52; Horatio Warren, 1853; Gordon Bailey, 1834; Everard Palmer, 1855; M. Pinner, 1856, '59, '60, '61, '62, '63, '64; Andrew Houlston, 1857; William Fleming, 1858; Samuel O. Bigelow, 1865; A. E. Williams, 1866; John B. Manning, 1867, '68; Isaac O. Crissy, 1869, '70; C. C. Candee, 1871, '72; William B. Flint, 1873, '74; H. B. McCulloch, 1875, '76; Ralph Johnson, 1877; John C. Graves, 1878, '79; John B. Greene, 1880; Joseph E. Ball, 1881; Charles R. Fitzgerald, 1882, '83.

On the 1st of May, 1883, Washington Lodge had two hundred and twenty-one Master Masons on its rolls.

*Tonawanda Lodge No. 247.*—This lodge is located at Tonawanda, Erie county. The date of the dispensation under which the lodge was formed, we have been unable to ascertain. The following brethren signed the petition for a dispensation: Emmanuel Hensler, James C. Bentley, John Shell, E. B. Jacobs, Jacob Kibler, John Sweeney and William Zimmerman. The Grand Lodge granted a warrant to the lodge at its June session, in 1852, and it was registered on the rolls as Tonawanda Lodge No. 247. W. Brother Emmanuel Hensler, was its first Master; Jacob Kibler, Senior Warden; James C. Bentley, Junior Warden.

The following brethren were Masters of the lodge for the respective years opposite to their names: Brothers Emanuel Hensler, 1852; Jesse F. Locke, 1857 and '58; Franklin Warren, 1859, '60; Benjamin F. Betts, 1861, '62, '63 and '67; William Westover, 1864, 65; Clark Ransom, 1866, A. R. White, 1868, '69; G. L. Judd, 1870; Charles D. Kramer, 1871; Calvin P. Clark, 1872, '73; G. F. Williams, 1874, '75; George A. McEwen, 1876, '78; Albert B. Williams, 1877; Augustus H. Crown, 1879; Joshua S. Bliss, 1880, '81; Arlington A. Bellinger, 1882, '83. We have not succeeded in obtaining the names of the brethren who occupied the station of Master during 1853, 1854, 1855 and 1856. On the 1st of May, 1883, the lodge numbered one hundred and twenty-eight members.

*Living Stone Lodge No. 255.*—This lodge is located at Colden, Erie county. One of the oldest members of the lodge furnished the names of the petitioners for a dispensation from memory, no record existing from which they could be ascertained. They are as follows: Brothers Sylvanus O. Gould, Alva Dutton, Oliver Dutton, Asa K. Tyler, Abijah Smith, Thomas Buffum, Comfort Knapp, Asa Gould, John Church, John Brooks, Arnold Holt and Nicholas Holt.

At the June session of the Grand Lodge, in 1852, a warrant was obtained which bears date the 9th of that month. The following breth-

ren are named therein as its officers: Brother Sylvanus O. Gould, Master; Oliver Dutton, S. W.; Asa K. Tyler, J. W. The following brethren have occupied the station of Masters of the Lodge for the period opposite to their respective names: Brother S. O. Gould, 1853, '54 and '55; R. S. Shelly, 1856, '57 and '58; T. Buffum, 1859 and 1863; Ridley Cole, 1860, '61 and '62; C. R. Morrow, 1864, '65, '66 and '67; Robert McClure, 1868; G. W. Nichols, 1869 and 1873; Dexter E. Folsom, 1870, '71 and '72; Mark Whiting, 1874 and '75; Harrison Vanderlip, 1876, '77, '82 and '83; Byron A. Churchill, 1878 and 1881; John P. Underhill, 1879; Orvil C. Strong, 1880. Number of members May 1, 1883, sixty-seven.

We have in the preceding pages furnished a memorandum of Livingston Lodge No. 416, which received a warrant June 1, 1825. We gave all the information we could then obtain of that Lodge. Worthy Brother Vanderlip informs us that the former Livingston Lodge succumbed to the anti-Masonic blast, but that many of its members were petitioners for the present "Living Stone" Lodge. There is no doubt that the last named Lodge is the successor of the former. It will be noticed, however, that the spelling of the name of the present Lodge essentially differs from that of the former, and we venture to suggest that the Lodge warranted in 1825, was named after Robert R. Livingston, who was Grand Master in 1785.

*Evans Lodge No. 261.*\*—This Lodge is now located at Angola, Erie county. It received a dispensation from the Grand Master on the 3d of February, 1852, and was then located at Evans Centre, one mile from what is now Angola. The following are the names of the brethren who applied for the dispensation:—John Fairbanks, Whiting Cash, Orin Catlin, Lambert G. Dingman, John F. Gazlay, Horace Goodrich, Ira Joy, David Fish, Noah Sedgwick, Arthur Sprague.

A warrant was granted to the Lodge at the June communication of the Grand Lodge in 1852. The warrant bears date June 15, 1852, and the following brethren are named therein as the officers:—Brother Heman Daniels, Master; John Fairbanks, Senior Warden; Orin Catlin, Junior Warden.

A resolution was adopted by the Lodge October 4, 1855, to remove to Evans Centre Station (now Angola) where it has been located ever since, passing through periods of depression and prosperity. It held its first regular communication at Evans Centre Station October 18, 1855. The Lodge now occupies a large, handsome hall, finely furnished, on the third floor in the Union Block at Angola. It had at one time one hundred and thirty-five members on its rolls, which, by the chartering of new lodges in its neighborhood, has been reduced to about one-half. The last returns

\* We are under obligations to Brother Roselle U. Blackney, of Angola, for the information contained in this sketch, excepting, however, the list of Masters who successively presided over the Lodge.



to the Grand Lodge, May 1, 1883, show a membership of eighty-six. The following is a list of brethren who have presided over the Lodge for the years set opposite to their respective names: Brothers Heman Daniels, 1852; John Fairbanks, 1853, '54, '55; Orin Catlin, 1856, '57; Warren K. Russell, 1858; James S. Stray, 1859; Levi Aldrich, 1860; Chauncey Stone, 1861, '62; David Cook, 1863, '64; C. F. Goodman, 1865; C. W. Morse, 1866; Thomas Faulks, 1867, '68; C. W. Beckwith, 1869, '70; Leroy M. Winslow, 1871, '72; James M. Beman, 1873, '74; Nathaniel Smith, 1875; Leroy S. Oatman, 1876; Horatio P. Muffit, 1877, '78; J. Mack Newton, 1879, '80; Justin G. Thompson, 1881, '82; Roselle U. Blackney, 1883.

*Parish Lodge, No. 292.*—The steady increase in this number of brethren in that part of Buffalo known as Black Rock, and the distance of the halls in which the Fraternity held its meetings, called for the formation of a lodge in that locality. A petition to the Grand Master was, therefore, prepared in February, 1853, asking for a dispensation to form a lodge at Black Rock, to be known as Parish Lodge. The following are the names of the brethren who attached their names to the petition: Jacob Bellinger, Levi Love, Stephen W. Howell, L. P. Dayton, John Rudy, John H. VanBenthusen, Reuben Justin, Alexander McCloud, Hiram R. Lusk and William P. Sheldon. The petition was recommended by Hiram and other lodges of Buffalo, and the Grand Master issued his dispensation March 29, 1853. At the June communication of the Grand Lodge, in 1853, the lodge received its warrant, nominating Brother Stephen W. Howell, Master; L. P. Dayton, Senior Warden; and Jacob Bellinger, Junior Warden.

The lodge held its meetings at Black Rock, in the building corner of Niagara and Breckinridge streets, subsequently on the corner of Niagara and Amherst streets, but in 1874, determined to change its location to Nos. 416 and 418 Main street, where it held its first communication, May 12, 1874. Subsequently it moved to the Masonic Hall, on the northeast corner of Washington and North Division streets, where it met for the first time, May 1, 1877. On the 1st of May, 1883, the lodge numbered one hundred and nineteen members. The following brethren were Masters of the lodge for the years opposite to their respective names: Brother Stephen W. Howell, 1853, '54; L. P. Dayton, 1855 and '57; D. W. Davis, 1856, '61; J. G. Woelfley, 1858; H. P. Clinton, 1859, '60; George Talbot, 1862; M. A. Hulburt, 1863, '64; Thomas Lothrop, 1865, '66, '67, '68; M. R. Hubbard, 1869, '70; William Vosburgh, 1871, '72; Lewis A. Mattice, 1873, '74, '79, '80, '83; George J. White, 1875, '76; Thomas H. Clough, 1877, '78; Isaac Morris, 1881, '82; George L. Kingston, 1884.

*Modestia Lodge No. 340.*—A number of brethren, a majority of them heretofore members of Concordia Lodge No. 143, determined to form

the second German lodge in Buffalo. Various reasons were assigned for this movement, among which may be mentioned a desire for a more convenient location for a lodge room, and the rapid increase of the body from which the brethren withdrew.

The following are the names of the petitioners who applied for a dispensation to organize the new lodge: Brothers James Wenz, John Greiner, Carl F. Lange, C. Reithart, Daniel Devening, Christian Lang, H. Keller, John G. Scherf, Adolf Birkenstock, B. H. King, J. Jacob Weber and D. Drobish. The petitioners obtained a dispensation in May, 1854, and the first meeting of the lodge was held on the 18th of the same month at the house of Brother C. Reithart, on Michigan street, W. Brother James Wenz, Master, and Carl F. Lange, Secretary. The communications of the lodge continued to be held at Brother Reithart's house, until June 15th, when the lodge moved to the Masonic Hall, on the corner of Washington and Exchange streets. A warrant having been issued at the June session of the Grand Lodge, to Modestia Lodge No. 340, the following brethren were installed its officers on the day previously mentioned: Brother James Wenz, Master; Daniel Devening, Senior Warden; John Greiner, Junior Warden. The first initiations occurred June 17, 1854, when the following candidates received the first degree in Masonry: F. W. Jacobs, Theodore Stover, C. Neidhart, G. Schulz and Solomon Scheu.

Modestia Lodge continued to hold its communications at the Masonic Hall, corner of Washington and Exchange streets, until January 9, 1855, when it changed its location to Washington Masonic Hall, on Main street. The ardent love of Masonry on the part of its members, their unanimity of purpose and intelligence, together with the untiring zeal and activity of the brethren who were at the head, assured the success of the lodge from the first, and as long as its members continue to recognize and practice the virtues of brotherly love and charity inculcated by the Masonic institution, the lodge will continue to occupy the high position it has heretofore enjoyed in the Masonic world.

The lodge, when a warrant was issued to it, received with it the privilege of keeping its minutes and working in the German language. When, therefore, the District Deputy Grand Master required the lodge to keep its minutes in English, a vigorous protest was entered against this proposed innovation of its rights; an appeal was taken to the Grand Lodge in 1857, who decided in favor of the lodge. An effort was made in 1861, by some brethren to effect a union between the two German Lodges of Buffalo, to which, however, Modestia Lodge declined to give its assent.

The disastrous conflagration of the American Hotel and the Masonic Halls contiguous thereto, in January, 1865, forced Modestia Lodge to take refuge in the Masonic Hall, corner of Main and Swan streets. On

the 18th of February of the same year, a terrible blow was inflicted upon the lodge by the violent death of its lamented Master, Brother Gottfried Schultz, who lost his life by a railroad collision near Warren, Pa. The remains were brought to Buffalo and buried by the lodge in Forest Lawn Cemetery, in presence of a large concourse of the fraternity and friends of the deceased. This is the first record we find of a Master of a lodge in this city dying during the term of his office. The lodge subsequently erected a handsome monument over the remains of its former Master, which was unveiled June 24, 1869.

The block of buildings destroyed by fire in 1865, before alluded to, having been rebuilt, Modestia Lodge returned to its former location, No. 328 (old number) Main street, where it held its first meeting January 2, 1866.

On the 24th of June, 1879, the lodge celebrated its quarter-centennial existence by the gathering of its members and their families and a number of invited guests from other lodges, in St. James Hall. A festival lodge was opened and a number of addresses were delivered on the occasion, succeeded by a grand banquet and closed by a ball. The number of persons present was over four hundred.

The lodge has participated in all public demonstrations, assisted in the laying of corner-stones of public edifices, etc. It has ever been ready to extend its helping hand to the needy and is among the foremost to aid the distressed. Among its members originated the plan of providing for the widows and orphans of deceased brethren through the German Masonic Benevolent Association, of which mention is made in another portion of this compilation. The lodge has not neglected to improve the minds of its members, by providing suitable lectures in its hall and by forming the nucleus for a Masonic library, which, there is reason to hope, will in time assume larger proportions, as the necessary means for that purpose can be procured. But while making these efforts to furnish proper Masonic instruction for its members, it has not forgotten to cultivate those social qualities which aid in cementing the ties of brotherly love, by informal meetings after the close of lodge labors. It has annually celebrated St. John's day by excursions to some pleasant spot and on these occasions the families of its members have been participants in the enjoyments of the day. The annual election of the officers of the lodge in December, has been invariably signalized by suitable donations to such widows and families of deceased members who stood in need thereof. The lodge is prospering and had one hundred and forty-five members on its rolls May 1, 1883. The following brethren have been Masters of the lodge for the time opposite their respective names: Brothers James Wenz, 1854, '55; John Greiner, 1856, '57, '58, '60, '67, '70, '71, '77; F. Rickert, 1859, '66; Bernhard H. King, 1861; Richard Flach, 1862, '63; Gottfried Schultz, 1864, '65; George A. Reinhard, 1868, '69; Henry



Sauerwein, 1872, '73, '78, '79; Frank L. Link, 1874, '75; H. F. Holtz, 1876; Frederick Wesch, 1880, '81; Philip Weber, 1882, '83.

*Williamsville Lodge No. 344.*—This Lodge was formerly located at Williamsville, Erie county. Its warrant was dated July 10, 1854, and the brethren named as officers therein were Brother Oliver W. Spellman, Master; Levi J. Ham, S. W., and John Frick, J. W. After an unsuccessful struggle for existence it finally succumbed to adverse circumstances and returned its warrant to the Grand Lodge in 1867. Among the papers surrendered was found the old charter of Amherst Lodge No. 429, of which mention has heretofore been made.

*Springville Lodge No. 351.*—This Lodge, located at Springville, Erie county, received its warrant at the June session of the Grand Lodge in 1855. The following brethren were Masters of the Lodge for the time specified:—Brothers Alvah Dutton, 1856; Joel Cobleigh, 1858, '60, '61, '64, '67; Pliny Smith, 1859; Benjamin F. Fay, 1862; Almon W. Stanbro, 1865, '66, '69; George G. Stanbro, 1868, '72, '75; Harlan P. Spaulding, 1870; Bertrand Chafee, 1873, '74; Frank P. Spaulding, 1876; Henry F. Norris, 1877, '78; James N. Richmond, 1879, '80; Avery D. Jones, 1881, '82; Alonzo E. Hadley, 1883. The names of the brethren who filled the office of Master for 1857, 1863 and 1871 we were unable to obtain. The Lodge had eighty-two members on its register May 1, 1883.

*Queen City Lodge No. 358.*—On the 5th of December, 1854, a number of brethren had assembled at the residence of Brother Cyrus P. Lee, on Washington street in Buffalo, for the purpose of consulting the expediency of forming a new lodge. The names of those present were Brothers Cyrus P. Lee, George Drullard, C. C. Wyckoff, Parker Morse, H. S. Dodge, Charles Leonard, Wells Brooks and W. Marsh Kasson. A full discussion of the project resulted in the determination to present a petition to the Grand Master for a dispensation. The following sixteen brethren appended their names to the petition:—Parker Morse, Henry S. Dodge, James H. Lee, W. Marsh Kasson, Wells Brooks, O. H. P. Champlin, William H. Drew, Cyrus P. Lee, George P. Stevenson, George Drullard, Cornelius C. Wyckoff, Charles J. Leonard, William H. Andrews, Isaac Holloway, Christopher G. Fox and John B. Cooke. The petition submitted the names of Cyrus P. Lee as Master; W. Marsh Kasson as S. W., and Wells Brooks as J. W., which received the approbation of the Grand Master.

Upon the receipt of the dispensation the members assembled in Washington Masonic Hall December 10, 1854, W. Brother Cyrus P. Lee, Master, in the chair. At this first communication it was resolved that the following brethren be received into the lodge upon the same terms as were the original petitioners:—Brother B. Toles, C. B. Morse, D. Wall, H. Cameron, William Hersee, J. R. Blodget, and George C. Rexford. A number of petitions for initiation were presented at the same com-

munication. The first candidate initiated was I. W. Whitney, January 1st, 1855, who was followed by C. N. Willey, January 5. Of the brethren who had signed the petition, twelve had been initiated into Masonry in Erie Lodge No. 161, Buffalo; two in Hiram Lodge No. 105, Buffalo; one in Lockport Lodge No. 73, Lockport, N. Y., and one in St. Paul's Lodge No. 134, Auburn, N. Y. Of the brethren who had been received into the Lodge by resolution, six had received their degrees in Erie Lodge No. 161, and one in Hiram Lodge No. 105. Queen City Lodge may, therefore, justly be termed an offspring of Erie Lodge.

During the five months that the Lodge worked under the dispensation, it had initiated into masonry twenty-five; affiliated eight; and elected one an honorary member; being in all, regular members, thirty-three; original petitioners, sixteen; admitted by resolution, seven; total, fifty-six—an evidence of the zeal and energy on the part of the members of the young Lodge.

At the annual session of the Grand Lodge in June, 1855, the lodge obtained its warrant and was registered as Queen City Lodge No. 358. On the 16th of June, 1855, M. W. Brother Nelson Randall, P. G. M., constituted the lodge and installed the following brethren as its officers: Brother C. P. Lee, M.; W. Marsh Kasson, S. W.; Wells Brooks, J. W.; George Drullard, Treas.; C. N. Willey, Sec'y.; O. H. P. Champlin, S. D.; William Hersee, J. D.; S. W. Lee and B. Toles, S.

The necessity of forming the nucleus of a Masonic library presented itself to the members of the lodge at an early day. In March, 1856, the lodge adopted a resolution to carry the idea practically into execution and since which appropriations were made for that purpose from time to time as far as its means would permit. Of late, however, the lodge perceiving that a desirable and suitable increase of the library was not within its present means, has by a resolution adopted September 1, 1882, transferred the collection thus far made to the care of the board of trustees of the Masonic Hall Association. An opportunity now presents itself to the lodges of Buffalo generally to increase the same by contributions and make it the common stock of and accessible to the members of the fraternity.

A strict adherent to the constitution and to a rigid execution of the law, Queen City Lodge has ever been opposed to all compromises for expediency's sake. And for that reason it adopted resolutions May 5, 1857, expressive of its views in regard to the adjustment of the Masonic differences existing in this State, with an organization of which Mordecai Myers was the head. The lodge declared itself opposed to an adjustment on the basis proposed and instructed its representative to vote in accordance therewith at the session of the Grand Lodge in June of that year.

During the year 1857 the lodges of Buffalo were constantly called upon to relieve sojourners. It became evident that in justice to the ap-

plicants, as well as to the lodges themselves, it was necessary to adopt a systematic plan. It was, therefore, determined that a Masonic Relief Fund should be established, and on the 16th of November, 1857, Queen City Lodge appointed a committee to co-operate with like committees from other lodges, to mature some plan and submit it to the different bodies for consideration. The result was, that Washington Lodge No. 240, Modestia No. 340 and Queen City No. 358, established a fund for the purpose of relieving traveling brethren in need of assistance. This was the first attempt made in Buffalo for a Masonic Relief Association.

At the communication of April 26, 1858, the lodge received and accepted an invitation to participate in the laying of the corner-stone of the new State Arsenal, on Batavia street (now Broadway.)

Although the Masonic Relief Association had to some extent proved to be an improvement on the former mode of granting assistance, it was, nevertheless, evident that it was not as perfect in its operations as it was capable of being made. The co-operation of all the lodges in the city was indispensable. On the 12th of July, 1858, Queen City received a communication from Washington Lodge, that a committee had been appointed by it to confer with like committees from the other lodges in the city; concerning the establishment of a General Relief Association. Queen City approved the proposition and appointed a committee upon whose report the lodge became a member of the "Masonic Board of Relief."

The last meeting held by Queen City Lodge in Washington Masonic Hall, was May 2, 1860, it having determined to change its location to Freemason's Hall, (corner of Main and Court streets.) It held its first regular communications therein, May 14, 1860.

An incident illustrating that even war is incapable of obliterating the feeling of brotherhood which unites Masons in indissoluble bonds, was brought to light at the communication of the lodge February 15, 1864. Brother P. E. Dye presented to the lodge two jewels belonging to Davie Lodge No. 39, Beaufort, N. C., which he had captured from a negro in the act of stealing them from the lodge room in Beaufort; he requested that they might be preserved until the return of peace or until some opportunity should enable the Master to place them again in possession of Davie Lodge.

A resolution was adopted by the lodge December 19, 1864, contributing the sum of \$200 for the purpose of aiding in the erection of a Masonic Hall in the city of New York, and establishing an asylum for the widows and orphans of Masons. The amount was to be raised by an assessment of three dollars on each member of the lodge.

The disastrous fire which laid the American Hotel in ashes January 25, 1865, had also swept away the balance of the block of buildings up to the corner of Main and Court streets. Both Washington and Masonic



Hall (No. 326 and 328 Main street, old number) as well as Freemason's Hall, located in the corner building, were burned to the ground. The officers of the lodges\* which had become homeless by this calamity, met for consultation at Masonic Hall, corner of Main and Swan streets, when an arrangement was entered into with the trustees of that hall for the accommodation of the various bodies; Hiram Lodge No. 105, Concordia No. 143, Erie No. 161, DeMolay No. 498 and Buffalo Council No. 17, fraternally relinquished their alternate nights of meeting. At the same meeting a committee of one from each of the bodies represented was appointed for the purpose of conferring in regard to the feasibility of erecting a Masonic Hall for the accommodation of the fraternity of the city generally. Although considerable progress had been made at one time in obtaining subscriptions for carrying the plan into execution, yet the reaction which occurred soon thereafter in the financial affairs of the nation, failed not to produce its baleful effect on the project which has ever since remained a pious wish of the Fraternity.

The first communication of Queen City Lodge in its new location, Masonic Hall corner, of Main and Swan streets, was held February 3, 1865. On the 2d of June, of the same year, the lodge made the additional contribution of \$200 to the Hall and Asylum fund of the Grand Lodge.

The building known as 326 and 328 Main street (old number) having been rebuilt and fitted up for Masonic purposes by Hugh De Payens Commandery, Queen City Lodge removed to these new quarters where it held its first stated communication December 18, 1865. The new hall was called Masonic Hall. An invitation extended September, 1866, to assist in laying the memorial stone at the consecration of the grounds of the Forest Lawn Cemetery Association, was accepted. The lodge appointed a committee July 15, 1867, to make arrangements to attend the laying of the corner-stone of the State Normal School at Fredonia, August 8.

On Thursday, April 15, 1869, the lodge met at St. James' Hall for the purpose of joining the fraternity in laying the corner-stone of the State Normal School in this city. The lodge likewise participated in laying the corner-stone of the Firemen's monument in Forest Lawn, June 24, 1869.

At the stated meeting of the lodge July 19, 1869, a resolution was offered that the lodge move from 416 and 418 (formerly 326 and 328) Main street, to the hall on the southwest corner of Main and Swan streets, which was adopted at the communication of August 2d, 1869, and the lodge held its first communication therein September 3d of the same year.

Brother Sebastian C. Kiene and associates, desiring to establish a new lodge in Buffalo, to be known as Harmonie Lodge, and to work in

\* Washington No. 240, Modestia No. 340, Queen City No. 358 and Ancient Landmarks No. 441.

the German language, asked the lodge at its communication, November 5, 1869, to endorse their petition to the Grand Master for a dispensation, to which the lodge assented.

On the 3d of June, 1870, the lodge again presented \$500 to the Hall and Asylum fund of the Grand Lodge, the amount having been subscribed by seventy-nine of its members.

The great fires in Chicago in October, 1871, aroused the sympathies of the Fraternity generally. The lodges of Buffalo collected \$882 in aid of the sufferers, of which Queen City Lodge contributed \$200. In December, 1872, the lodge subscribed \$200 as an additional contribution to the Hall and Asylum fund, to which individual members added \$303, and in November, 1873, the lodge contributed \$25 to the fund to be raised for the sufferers by yellow fever in Memphis, to which the members added the sum of \$120.

An invitation having been extended to the Fraternity in this city to lay the corner-stone of the Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church, the lodge participated therein July 13, 1874.

Queen City Lodge joined the Masonic bodies meeting at the corner of Main and Swan streets, in fitting up the magnificent rooms in the Miller & Greiner Block, and held its first communication in this new location July 7, 1876.

The 25th anniversary of the lodge occurred December 5, 1879, but it was determined that the celebration should take place in June following.

R. W. John C. Graves, D. D., Grand Master, being invited by the proper authorities to lay the corner-stone of the Soldiers' monument in Forest Lawn Cemetery, on Thursday, October 21, 1880, called upon the lodges of Buffalo to unite for that purpose. Queen City Lodge accepted the invitation.

The lodge rooms corner of Washington and North Division streets having been destroyed by fire on the evening of December 21, 1882, the lodge held its six hundred and sixty-second stated communication on Friday, January 4, 1883, in the lodge room of Ancient Landmarks Lodge, corner of Main and Court streets, having obtained a dispensation for that purpose from M. W. Brother Benjamin Flagler, Grand Master.

Quarterly as well as annual financial and statistical reports on the condition of the lodge are furnished with commendable regularity by the committee appointed for that purpose. Many of the brethren have become life members of the lodge by commutation which adds greatly to its stability. Liberal in its contributions for charitable purposes, the lodge has also never lost sight of the duty it owes to its deceased members by accompanying them to their final resting place and depositing the remains with fraternal care in the silent grave.

The course pursued in appointing a committee on correspondence, whose duty it is to procure the delivery of lectures on Masonic topics,

deserves great praise; the lodge has cause to congratulate itself that M. W. Brother Fox has consented to act as chairman of the committee. The lectures are delivered at stated times, the greater part of them being furnished by the gifted chairman.

The Masonic Hall (Miller & Greiner Block) having been entirely restored and newly furnished, the Lodge has returned to it and held its first meeting therein August 29th, 1883. The membership of the Lodge May 1st, 1883, was two hundred.

The following brethren have occupied the station of Master of the Lodge for the term set opposite to their respective names:—Brothers Cyrus P. Lee, 1855, '56; Wells Brooks, 1857; George C. Rexford, 1858; C. G. Fox, 1859, '60, '61, '62; John A. Lockwood, 1863, '64, '65; P. A. Matteson, 1866; M. H. Tryon, 1867; William C. Bagley, 1868, '69; Louis S. Morgan, 1870, '71; Darwin E. Morgan, 1872, '73; James G. Bently, 1874, '75; William Hengerer, 1876, '77; Walter C. Winship, 1878; John C. Adams, 1879, '80; Goodrich J. Bowen, 1881, '82; Philo W. Dorris, 1883.

*Lodge of the Ancient Landmarks No. 441.*—Application having been made to the proper officers of the lodge to permit an examination of its records, permission was refused on the ground that "the general public can have no possible interest in the private records of the lodge." Not the slightest desire existing on our part to disturb this privacy, we limit ourselves to state that the lodge is located in the city of Buffalo; that it received its warrant from the Grand Lodge in June, 1858, and that it numbered one hundred and seventy members on the 1st of May, 1883.

*De Molay Lodge No. 498.*—This lodge was also among the sufferers from the fire in the Miller & Greiner Block in December, 1882. Although it was fortunate enough to save its records, yet they are in such a damaged state as to be practically useless until placed in a readable condition again, for which purpose they have been placed in the hands of the binder. To Brother John H. Doyle, its present Master, we are under obligations for information contained in the subjoined sketch.

The dispensation from the Grand Master under which the lodge took form is dated March 1st, 1860. The following brethren were the petitioners for the dispensation:—Brothers William F. Rogers, Alexander Sloan, Arthur Hickman, Samuel Gibson, Edward Hartley, William Dixson, Samuel McCutcheon, Jonathan T. Wilbur, Peter C. Stambach, Charles Armstrong, Hezekiah C. Carey, E. R. P. Shurly, Albert Briggs, Byron D. Vilas, P. B. Hitchcock and Edwin D. Loveridge. In the dispensation W. F. Rogers was named Master; J. T. Wilbur S. W., and P. C. Stambach J. W. The first meeting of the lodge occurred March 4th, 1860, at Masonic Hall on Seneca street. The first candidate initiated in the lodge was Philander B. Locke, March 14, 1860, followed by Alexander H. Brown and John Donaldson, March 21st, and David Donaldson, March 28th, 1860.



Upon the surrender of its dispensation the Grand Lodge, at its June session of 1860, issued a warrant to the lodge which received the number 498, on the register of the Grand Lodge. The warrant is dated June 9, 1860, and contains the names of the brethren who were Masters and Wardens of the lodge whilst working under dispensation as its officers. Upon the receipt of the warrant, the six brethren first named as petitioners, withdrew from the lodge. Up to May, 1861, the lodge continued to meet at the hall on Seneca street, when it moved to Masonic Hall, on the corner of Washington and Exchange streets. Here it remained but a short time, for its last meeting in that hall took place July 20, 1861. In August of the same year it moved with the other Masonic bodies to the corner of Main and Swan streets, and thence in June, 1876, to the hall corner of Washington and North Division streets, where it remained until overtaken by the disastrous fire in December, 1882. The hall having been restored the lodge has resumed its meetings at its former quarters.

The following brethren have occupied the station of Master of the lodge for the term opposite their respective names: Brothers Jonathan T. Wilbur, 1860, '61, '62, '63; P. B. Hitchcock, 1864, '65; Edgar W. Denison, 1866, '67; Walter L. Stephens, 1868; William H. Baker, 1869, '70; Guilford W. McCray, 1871, '72; Albert Jones, 1873, '74; Richmond H. Bickford, 1875, '76; Chauncey Crosby, 1877, '78; Albert H. Adams, 1879, '80; John C. Burns, 1881, '82; John H. Doyle, 1883. On the 1st of May, 1883, the lodge had two hundred and seventy-four members on its register.

*Zion Lodge No. 514.*—This lodge is located at East Hamburg, Erie county. The date of the dispensation under which the lodge was organized is not known; it was probably in the early part of 1861. The following are the names of the brethren who signed the petition for a dispensation: Asa Whittmore, Jonathan Hascall, Stephen V. R. Graves, Amos B. Paxson, Levi Potter, Lansing B. Littlefield, Seth P. Graves, James Johnson, Samuel L. Deuel, Cushing Swift, Obadiah Newton, James Wood, Algeroy LeClear, Orin Lockwood and William Potter.

The Grand Lodge issued its warrant to the lodge at the June session of 1861; it bears date June 20, 1861, and the following brethren are named therein as officers: Brother Asa Whittmore, Master, Jonathan Hascall, Senior Warden, and Stephen V. R. Graves, Junior Warden. The following are the names of the brethren who have been Masters of the lodge for the terms set opposite to their respective names: Brothers Asa Whittmore, 1861; Levi Potter, 1862, '63, '64, '65, '66; S. S. Reed, 1867; Thomas G. Briggs, 1868, '69, '78, '81; Amos C. Webster, 1870, '72, '73, '82, '83; Job Taylor, 1871, '75; Horace G. Stillwell, 1874; George Abbott, 1876, '77; Samuel D. Johnson, 1879, '80. The lodge numbered twenty-two members May 1, 1883.

*Akron Lodge, No. 427.*—M. W. John J. Crane, Grand Master, issued his dispensation in 1863, sanctioning the formation of a lodge in Akron, Erie county; and at the June session of the Grand Lodge, in the same year, the brethren who had heretofore worked under that dispensation received a warrant. The lodge was therefore registered as Akron Lodge No. 527 on the rolls of the Grand Lodge.

Brother Ely S. Parker, an Indian of the Tonawanda reservation, who was its first Master, was in Chicago at the time of the Masonic Convention, held September 13th and 14th, 1859. The convention met for the purpose of discussing the feasibility of forming a General Grand Lodge of the United States. At the banquet given at the close of the convention, Brother Parker was present, and by invitation, responded to the toast, "The universality of Masonry." His remarks were listened to with close attention and when the Brother spoke with sadness of his disappearing race he left a deep impression on his hearers.

The names of the officers contained in the warrant are: Ely S. Parker, Master; W. N. Hoag, Senior Warden, and Stephen G. Hill, Junior Warden. The following are the names of brethren who have occupied the station of Master of the lodge for the term opposite to their respective names: Brothers Ely S. Parker, 1863; W. N. Hoag, 1864, '65, '66, '67, '68, '75; Henry Lapp, 1869, '70 and '76; William L. Paxon, 1871; LeGrand Goslin, 1872; R. S. Tabor, 1873; Jacob Klicker, 1874; William T. Magoffin, 1877, '80, '82, '83; Charles A. Clark, 1878, '79; Wilson P. Hoag, 1881. On the 1st of May, 1883, the lodge numbered sixty-one members.

*Alden Lodge No. 594.*—This lodge is located at Alden, in the county of Erie, and received its warrant at the June session of the Grand Lodge in 1866. The following brethren have occupied the Master's chair:—Brothers Spencer Stone, 1866, '70, '74, '75; William E. Saunders, 1867, '68, '71; Ralph N. Butler, 1869; William Robinson, 1872, '73; Edward R. Hall, 1876, '77; Herschel K. Fullerton, 1878, '79; George I. Patterson, 1880, '81, '82; John P. Edson, 1883. The lodge had forty-eight members on its register May 1st, 1883.

*Fraternal Lodge No. 625.*—This lodge now holds its communications at Hamburg, Erie county. It received its warrant from the Grand Lodge in June, 1867, since which time the following brethren have occupied the Master's chair:—Brothers Charles E. Haviland, 1867, '68; Robert C. Titus, 1869, '70, '71; Harvey C. Spencer, 1872, '73, '74; Horace W. White, 1875, '76, '77; Samuel E. S. H. Nott, 1878; Harvey C. Spencer, 1879, '80; Andrew Stein, 1881, '82, '83. The lodge had eighty-three members May 1, 1883.

*Blazing Star Lodge, No. 694.*—This lodge is located at Aurora, Erie county. A dispensation to organize a lodge was granted February 11, 1868 to the following petitioners:—Brothers William D. Jones, Will-

iam D. Wallis, Robert G. Persons, John T. Bartlett, Joseph B. Dick, George W. Morrow, Byron D. Persons, Edmund S. King, George H. Pattingell, William W. Grace, George C. Towey, DeWitt C. Corbin, Austin S. Cheeseman, Eben Holmes, La Fayette Hill and Lewis H. Bullis.

At the session of the Grand Lodge in June, 1869, the lodge received a warrant bearing date June 7, 1869. The officers named therein are William D. Jones, Master; William D. Wallis, S. W., and Robert G. Persons, J. W. The officers of the lodge for 1883 are Joseph McLaughlin, Master; Dwight M. Spooner, S. W., and Albert H. Hoyt, J. W. The following brethren were Masters of the lodge for the years opposite their respective names:—Brothers William D. Jones, 1869, '70, '71, '72, '78, '79; William D. Wallis, 1873, '74; Robert G. Persons, 1875, '76; William W. Grace, 1877; Adin J. Perry, 1880; Charles N. Brayton, 1881, '82; Joseph McLaughlin, 1883. On the 1st day of May, 1883, the lodge had ninety-nine members on its rolls.

*Harmonie Lodge No. 699.*—This lodge working in the German tongue, is located in Buffalo, and is one of the sufferers by the fire in December, 1882, which destroyed its records. The date of the dispensation permitting the formation of the lodge is dated December 15, 1869. The following brethren signed the petition for that purpose:—Brother Sebastian C. Kiene, Frederick Traenkle, H. Breitweiser, Frank Schaeffer, Jacob Behm, Henry D. Keller, Henry Nauert and Joseph Timmerman, who at the time were all members of Concordia Lodge No. 143; also Brothers Henry F. Juengling, Christian Kurtzman, Henry Kraft, John J. Holser, Adam Cori elius, Robert Hager, Julius Schwarz, and Casper A. Kuster, all members of Modestia Lodge No. 340, and F. H. C. Mey, formerly of California.

The lodge received a warrant at the session of the Grand Lodge in June, 1870, which bears date June 13, 1870. The officers mentioned therein are Sebastian C. Kiene, M.; Henry F. Juengling, S. W.; Henry Breitweiser, J. W.

The first petitions for initiation received by the lodge while working under dispensation, were from Bernhard F. Gentsch, William H. Jaeger, Henry D. Zittel, and Werner Nachbar. Masters of the lodge were Brothers Sebastian C. Kiene, 1870, '71, '72; Henry F. Juengling, 1873; Henry L. Breitweiser, 1874; Henry Kraft, 1875, '76; George Werner, 1877, '78; Frederick Zesch, 1879, '80; Augustus J. Sutor, 1881, '82; Henry Zipp, 1883. On the 1st of May, 1883 the lodge numbered ninety-nine members.

*Occidental Lodge No. 766.*—This lodge is located at Black Rock, was opened by dispensation from the Grand Master December 4, 1875, and received its warrant at the June session of the Grand Lodge in 1876. The promise to permit an examination of its records remained unfulfilled. The following were Masters of the lodge: Brothers Henry Cutting,



1876, '77; Charles O. Rano, 1878, '79; William H. Slacer, 1880; James A. Roberts, 1881; Wallace C. Hill, 1882, '83. Number of members May 1, 1883, was sixty-two.

*Fortune Lodge No. 788.*—This is the youngest chartered lodge in the State, having received its warrant at the session of the Grand Lodge in June, 1883. It is located at North Collins, Erie county. A dispensation to form a lodge was issued in the fall of 1882, to the following brethren:—A. T. Huson, E. W. Sisson, U. H. Baker, Job Southwick, David Sherman, R. D. Reid, Nicholas Keefer, Alexander Sisson, R. W. Stickney, Charles Wood, Syth Huson, H. M. Blasdell, W. H. Estes, J. Q. Tucker and E. F. Partridge.

While working under this dispensation Brother A. T. Huson was M.; Brother E. W. Sisson, S. W.; and Brother U. H. Baker, J. W., of the lodge. The warrant issued to the lodge is dated June 7, 1883, and officers named therein are Brothers A. T. Huson, M.; Brother E. W. Sisson, S. W., and Brother U. H. Baker, J. W.

The lodge was constituted and its officers installed on the 28th of June, 1883, by R. W. Brother William Hengerer, D. D. Grand Master of the Twenty-fifth Masonic District, assisted by M. W. Brother Christopher G. Fox, P. G. M.; R. W. John C. Graves, P. D. D. G. M.; W. Darwin E. Morgan and W. Philo W. Dorris.

Besides the Masters, Senior and Junior Wardens above named, the following brethren filled the offices for which they are named:—Brothers R. D. Reid, Treas.; E. F. Partridge, Sec'y.; W. H. Estes, S. D.; David Sherman, J. D.; Nicholas Keefer, S. M. C.; Enos S. Hibbard; J. M. of C.; Alexander Sisson, T.

On the 15th of September, 1883, the lodge had nineteen members.

*District Deputy Grand Masters.*—In 1855 the Grand Lodge divided the State in Masonic Districts. Each district comprising counties contiguous to each other, was placed under the supervision of a District Deputy Grand Master, appointed by the Grand Master.

In 1855 and 1856, Erie, Niagara and Wyoming counties constituted the Eighth Masonic District, of which Brother Ellicott Evans, of Buffalo, was appointed District Deputy Grand Master.

In 1856 and 1857, Erie and Wyoming counties formed the eighteenth district, Brother Ellicott Evans continuing as D. D. G. M.

In 1857 and 1858, Erie and Niagara counties were united in district number sixteen and Brother Myron L. Burrill, of Lockport received the appointment of D. D. G. M.

In 1858 and 1859, the same two counties constituted the sixteenth district, with Joseph K. Tyler, of Buffalo, as D. D. G. M.

The same two counties continued to form district number sixteen during 1859 and 1860, with Brother Benjamin H. Austin, of Buffalo, as D. D. G. M.

In 1860 and 1861, Erie and Chautauqua counties composed district number nineteen, Brother Benjamin H. Austin continuing as D. D. G. M.

For 1861 and 1862, the same two counties continued to constitute the nineteenth district, with Brother Benjamin H. Austin as D. D. G. M.

In 1862 and 1863 Erie county was set off as district number twenty, of which Brother James McCredie, of Buffalo, became D. D. G. M.

1863 and 1864 found Brother R. N. Brown, of Buffalo, as D. D. G. M., and again in 1864 and '65, Brother James McCredie filled the office occupied by him in 1862 and 1863.

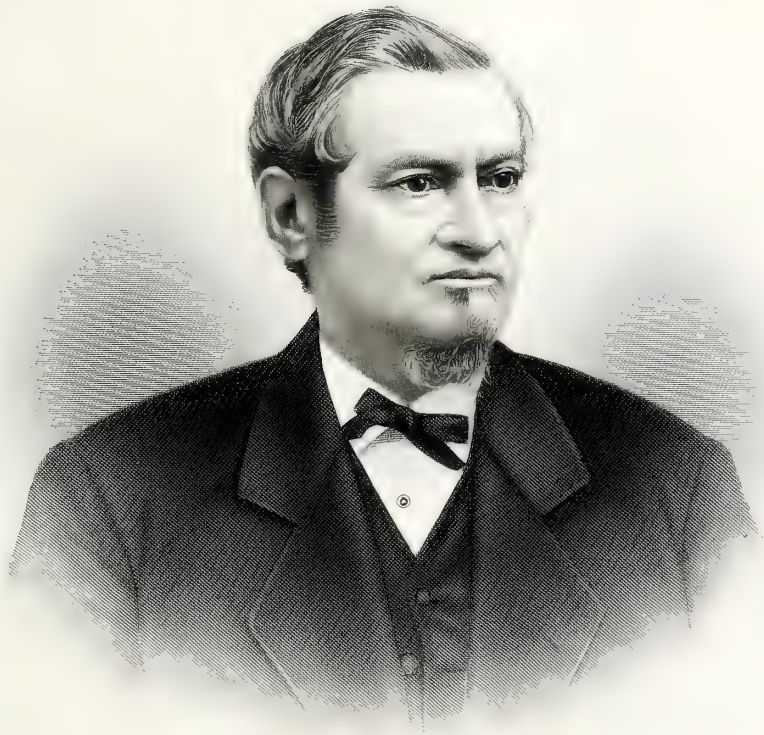
From 1865 to 1873, Erie county formed the twenty-second Masonic district, having the following brethren, all of Buffalo, for D. D. G. M.: 1865,'66,'67, Brother Christopher G. Fox; 1867,'68, Brother David F. Day; 1868,'69, Brother Joseph L. Haberstro; 1869,'70, Brother John B. Sackett; the latter, however, removing from the state soon after receiving the appointment, the Grand Master substituted Brother John A. Lockwood in his place. In 1870,'71, and 1871,'72, Brother John B. Manning occupied the position as D. D. G. M., and in 1872,'73, Brother Lorenzo M. Kenyon.

In 1873 Erie county was set off as district number twenty-five, the District Deputy Grand Masters of which were all from Buffalo, with the exception of one. For 1873,'74, Brother Lorenzo M. Kenyon; 1874,'75, and 1875,'76, Brother Bertrand Chafee, of Springville; 1877,'78, and 1878,'79, Brother Charles E. Young; 1879,'80, and 1880,'81, Brother John C. Graves; 1882,'83, and 1883,'84, Brother William Hengerer.

In closing the part of this compilation referring to the lodges of Erie county, we would state that the whole number of brethren affiliated with its twenty-one lodges, consisted, according to official reports, May 1st, 1883, of two thousand seven hundred and twelve Master Masons. All below that degree are not reported, neither does the above number embrace those who have reached that degree but are not members of lodges. The number of the last two mentioned classes may be set down as three hundred. The total number of Masons in this county may, therefore, be stated as three thousand in round numbers.

The lodges have been given in chronological order and by the numbers they bear. To prevent confusion, however, it may be necessary to state that all of the old lodges, previous to 1845, had become extinct during the anti-Masonic excitement. The first lodge after the revival of Masonry, that received a warrant, was Hiram Lodge of Buffalo, which, under the re-enumeration ordered by the Grand Lodge, received the number 105, which makes it the oldest lodge existing in this county.

The majority of lodges in the district have cheerfully assented to our request to permit an examination of their records, which we gratefully acknowledge. Those who have refused us that privilege are mentioned in their proper place. Springville Lodge, No. 351, Zion No. 514, Akron



*Charles C. Chapman*





No. 527, Alden No. 594 and Fraternal No. 625, have not seen fit even to notice our fraternal request for information, although endorsed by the highest Masonic authority of this district.

#### CAPITULAR MASONRY IN ERIE COUNTY.

To our knowledge no extended or continuous record exists of the early history of Symbolic Masonry in Erie county. It was after a laborious search that we discovered the original documents furnishing information of the initiatory steps taken for the formation of Western Star Lodge No. 289, the first lodge in Erie county, an abstract of which appears in the preceding pages. Of the early history of Capitular Masonry in this county, we have found no trace beyond what the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of the State furnish.

The first mention of Capitular Masonry in Erie county is contained in a resolution presented in the Grand Chapter February 6th, 1812, to the effect that a committee of one Royal Arch Mason, or Mark Master Mason, be appointed in each county in this State, to exert all lawful influence for the purpose of carrying the aforesaid resolution (alluding to the incorporation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter) into effect, etc. Under that resolution Zenas Barker was appointed for Niagara county, which at that time included Erie county as before stated. Zenas Barker then a resident of Buffalo, was the Brother who was to be the first master of Western Star Lodge No. 239, which was to be held at his house.

From the date when the resolution was offered in the Grand Chapter, as above stated, to the year 1822, no trace is discoverable of any attempt to establish a chapter in the territory which is now embraced in Erie county. At the convocation of the Grand Chapter, however, in February, 1822, on the 7th of that month; Niagara Chapter No. 71, to be located at Buffalo, was called into existence.

*Niagara Chapter No. 71.*—A warrant was granted “to Companions Heman B. Potter, Charles Townsend and John A. Lassell, to hold a chapter at Buffalo, county of Erie, by the name of Niagara Chapter No. 71.” No particulars are obtainable at this time of the doings of Niagara Chapter. In 1823, Companion Charles Townsend represented Niagara Chapter in the Grand Chapter, but in 1824, it remained unrepresented. In 1825, Companions Stephen K. Grosvenor and Charles Townsend attended the Grand Chapter as representatives; in 1826, it was John G. Camp; in 1827, '28 and '29, it was Stephen K. Grosvenor again, but beyond that time no mention is made of Niagara Chapter. Niagara Chapter held its convocations in the building on the southeast corner of Main and Seneca streets, which was destroyed at the time of the great “Cheapside” fire, as it was called, embracing the west side of Main, Seneca and Pearl streets, and also the east side of Main street. The fire occurred November 15, 1832; by it the chapter lost all its effects, but its warrant was

saved by the daring of one of its members, the late Companion Miles Jones, who snatched it out of the flames. It was subsequently placed in the custody of Buffalo Chapter No. 71, and was again saved from the conflagration in December, 1882, which destroyed the Masonic Hall, on the northeast corner of Washington and North Division streets.

*Springville Chapter No. 118.*—Four years after a warrant had been obtained for the formation of Niagara Chapter, the Grand Chapter granted February 10, 1826, a charter to Companions Job Bigelow, H. P., Archibald Griffith, K., Jarvis Bloomfield, S., and others, to hold a chapter at Concord, in the county of Erie, by the name of Springville, No. 118.

The chapter was represented in the Grand Chapter by Job Bigelow, during the years 1827, '28, '29, '30, '31 and '32.

At the convocation of the Grand Chapter February 6, 1833, the Grand Council reported "that the certificate presented by Companion Job Bigelow is defective, not having a date, and, in their opinion, does not entitle him to a seat in the Grand Chapter as the representative of Springville Chapter No. 118;" whereupon the following resolution was offered and referred to the committee on charity:—

"*Resolved*, That the sum of forty-eight dollars be allowed Companion Job Bigelow."

The committee on charity reported:—

"That, after duly considering all the circumstances in relation to Companion Bigelow, they are of the opinion that he ought to receive by way of charity the amount he would have received as the representative of Springville Chapter, had his credentials been in conformity with the constitution."

It may be presumed that after that year the chapter had ceased to exist as no further mention is made of it.

*Buffalo Chapter No. 71.*—No steps were taken to revive Niagara Chapter No. 71, after the fire of 1832, neither were there any steps taken to form a new one until the latter part of the year 1847, when a petition was presented to the Grand High Priest for a dispensation to hold a chapter in Buffalo, which was signed by the following Companions: Orange H. Dibble, Solomon Drullard, Benjamin H. Austin, Jabez J. Rogers, Daniel H. Wiswell, Daniel Kinney, Carlos Cobb, James L. Barton, Nehemiah Case, George W. Allen, Miles Jones, Seth Austin, Norman Butler, Charles Radcliff.

The petition was granted and Companion Orange H. Dibble was appointed H. P., Solomon Drullard, K., and Benjamin H. Austin, S., of the chapter.

At the convocation of the Grand Chapter February 1, 1848, the following resolution was adopted:—

"*Resolved*, That Niagara Chapter No. 71, at Buffalo, be revived under the name, style and title of Buffalo Chapter No. 71; that a new



warrant be granted, the old warrant having been consumed by fire;\* that Orange Dibble be High Priest; Solomon Drullard, King, and Benjamin H. Austin, Scribe of said Chapter, under the dispensation granted by the M. E. Grand High Priest, be approved; and that the money deposited except five dollars for the dispensation, be returned."

The officers of the Chapter for 1849 were those named in the warrant; their successors in office were as follows:--

	HIGH PRIESTS.	KINGS.	SCRIBES.
1850.	Orange H. Dibble,	G. W. Allen,	James Wenz.
1851.	Orange H. Dibble,	Nehemiah Case,	Nelson Randall.
1852.	Nehemiah Case,	Jabez J. Rogers,	John Hebard.
1853.	Nehemiah Case,	LeRoy Farnham,	Lyman Brown.
1854.	LeRoy Farnham,	James H. Barton,	Eli Williamson.
1855.	LeRoy Farnham,	James H. Barton,	John Hebard.
1856.	James H. Barton,	Ellicott Evans,	W. H. Drew.
1857.	Ellicott Evans,	Riley Hayford,	James McCredie.
1858.	Ellicott Evans,	Riley Hayford,	James McCredie.
1859.	Riley Hayford,	James McCredie,	James Adams.
1860.	James McCredie,	Darwin Kenyon,	Wm. Allen.
1861.	James McCredie,	Darwin Kenyon,	Wm. Allen.
1862.	James McCredie,	Darwin Kenyon,	Wm. Allen.
1863.	James McCredie,	Wm. Allen,	Wm. Bailey.
1864.	James McCredie,	Wm. Allen,	Wm. F. Rogers.
1865.	Wm. F. Rogers,	Hawley Klein,	P. B. Hitchcock.
1866.	Wm. F. Rogers,	Henry Waters,	P. B. Hitchcock.
1867.	Henry Waters,	Hawley Klein,	Stephen M. Evry.
1868.	Henry Waters,	Hawley Klein,	Stephen M. Evry.
1869.	Hawley Klein,	Stephen M. Evry,	Chillian M. Farrar.
1870.	Hawley Klein,	Stephen M. Evry,	Chillian M. Farrar.
1871.	Hawley Klein,	John Briggs,	John Diller.
1872.	John Briggs,	Theodore C. Knight,	F. A. Colson.
1873.	W. H. Baker,	Theodore C. Knight,	F. A. Colson.
1874.	W. H. Baker,	Henry Smith,	Chas. H. Rathbun.
1875.	Henry Smith,	Chas. H. Rathbun,	Robert P. Gardner.
1876.	Chas. H. Rathbun,	Burrall Spencer, Jr.,	Mark W. Cole.
1877.	Chas. H. Rathbun,	Burrall Spencer, Jr.,	Mark W. Cole.
1878.	Burrall Spencer, Jr.,	Stephen M. Evry,	John Masters, Jr.
1879.	Burrall Spencer, Jr.,	Joseph E. Ball,	Wm. J. Runcie,
1880.	Joseph E. Ball,	Horace A. Noble,	David B. McNish.
1881.	Horace A. Noble,	Albert H. Adams,	Girard McVicar.
1882.	Horace A. Noble,	Albert H. Adams,	Girard McVicar.
1883.	Albert H. Adams,	Henry R. Clark,	Wm. J. Donaldson.

At the close of the year 1882 the Chapter had two hundred and one members. From 1847 to August, 1861, the Chapter occupied the hall on the northwest corner of Washington and Exchange streets, when it moved to the southwest corner of Main and Swan streets. In May, 1876, it took up its quarters in the Miller & Greiner Block, northeast corner of Washington and North Division streets. It was driven out of that place by the fire in December, 1882, but is now again occupying its former quarters.

\* This was supposed to have been the case. The facts have been stated under the head of "Niagara Chapter No. 71." The compiler has again examined the old warrant, a few days ago; it still exists.

*Keystone Chapter No. 163.*—It is to be regretted that this Chapter lost its record at the fire in December, 1882, when the lodge rooms on the northeast corner of Washington and North Division streets were destroyed. Under such circumstances our information must necessarily be of a very limited character.

At the Convocation of the Grand Chapter of the State in February, 1857, a warrant was granted to William H. Drew, H. P.; Everard Palmer, K.; Christopher G. Fox, S.; and others to hold a Chapter in the city of Buffalo, to be known as Keystone Chapter No. 163.

The Chapter held its convocations in Washington Masonic Hall No. 329, (old number) Main street, subsequently moved to the building adjoining north thereof, was driven from its home by the conflagration in January, 1865, found refuge in Masonic Hall, south-west corner of Main and Swan streets, and, finally in May, 1876, moved with the rest of the bodies occupying the Hall to the Miller & Greiner Block, northeast corner of Washington and north Division street. It was driven out of that place by fire in December, 1882, but returned to its former quarters in September, 1883. The following were its officers for the respective years:—

	HIGH PRIESTS.	KINGS.	SCRIBES.
1857.	W. H. Drew,	Everard Palmer,	C. G. Fox.
1858.	C. G. Fox,	M. Pinner,	Wm. H. Mason, Jr.
1859.	M. Pinner,	Gordon Bailey,	Wm. Gould.
1860.	M. Pinner,	R. N. Brown,	David F. Day.
1861.	M. Pinner,	R. N. Brown,	Abram S. Swartz.
1862.	R. N. Brown,	David F. Day,	Abram S. Swartz.
1863.	David F. Day,	Abram S. Swartz,	John A. Lockwood.
1864.	David F. Day,	John A. Lockwood,	Wm. Fleming.
1865.	David F. Day,	John A. Lockwood,	L. M. Kenyon.
1866.	Lorenzo M. Kenyon,	Wm. B. McMaster.	Geo. W. Gleason.
1867.	C. G. Fox,	Edgar W. Denison,	R. P. Hayes.
1868.	C. G. Fox,	R. P. Hayes,	John B. Sackett.
1869.	C. G. Fox,	John B. Sackett,	John B. Manning.
1870.	C. G. Fox,	John A. Lockwood,	John B. Manning.
1871.	C. G. Fox,	John A. Lockwood,	John B. Manning.
1872.	John A. Lockwood,	Jno. B. Manning,	S. M. Ratcliffe.
1873.	John B. Manning,	S. M. Ratcliffe,	Wm. Vosburgh.
1874.	John B. Manning,	S. M. Ratcliffe,	Wm. B. Flint.
1875.	S. M. Ratcliffe,	John C. Graves,	Wm. Hengerer.
1876.	S. M. Ratcliffe,	John C. Graves,	Wm. Hengerer.
1877.	John C. Graves,	Wm. Hengerer,	John L. Brothers.
1878.	Wm. Hengerer,	John L. Brothers,	Benj. A. Provoost.
1879.	Wm. Hengerer,	John L. Brothers,	C. C. Candee.
1880.	Wm. Hengerer,	John L. Brothers,	C. R. Fitzgerald.
1881.	John L. Brothers,	John C. Adams,	Darwin E. Morgan.
1882.	John L. Brothers,	John C. Adams,	Darwin E. Morgan.
1883.	John C. Adams.	Darwin E. Morgan,	Wm. H. Smith.

At the close of the year 1882 the Chapter numbered two hundred and twenty-two members.

*Adytum Chapter No. 235.*—The M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the State issued his dispensation February 5, 1869, to Com-

panions Robert P. Hayes, H. P., Milo A. Whitney, K., and Darwin E. Morgan, S., and others to hold a chapter in Buffalo, to be known as Adytum Chapter. At the convocation of the Grand Chapter in February, 1870, it received its warrant and the number 235. The following were its officers for the respective years:—

HIGH PRIESTS.	KINGS.	SCRIBES.
1869. R. P. Hayes,	Milo A. Whitney,	Darwin E. Morgan.
1870. R. P. Hayes,	Milo A. Whitney,	Darwin E. Morgan.
1871. R. P. Hayes,	Geo. I. White,	Jno. W. Bridgeman.
1872. Geo. I. White,	Jno. W. Bridgeman,	Albert Jones.
1873. Geo. I. White,	Albert Jones,	S. H. Rathbone.
1874. Albert Jones,	Samuel H. Rathbone,	Emory C. Abbey.
1875. Albert Jones,	John Pease, Jr.,	Emory C. Abbey.
1876. John Pease, Jr.,	Guilford W. McCray,	E. H. Hutchinson.
1877. John Pease, Jr.,	Guilford W. McCray.	E. H. Hutchinson.
1878. Guilford W. McCray,	E. Howard Hutchinson,	Wm. H. Kennett.
1879. Guilford W. McCray,	Wm. H. Kennett,	Wm. H. Beyer.
1880. Wm. H. Kennett,	Wm. H. Beyer,	Webster Belden.
1881. Wm. H. Kennett,	E. Howard Hutchinson,	Chas. E. Williams.
1882. Wm. H. Kennett,	Chas. E. Williams,	Thomas C. Burns.
1883. Hobart B. Loomis,	Wm. N. McCredie,	Cheeseman Dodge.

At the close of 1882, the Chapter numbered one hundred and fifty-six members.

*Germania Chapter No. 256.*—A large number of Companions who were also members of the three lodges of Buffalo working in the German tongue, had long been desirous of forming a chapter, which was likewise to use the German language. A petition was drawn up, which was endorsed by Buffalo Chapter No. 71, and presented to the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the State, who, on the 30th of September, 1870, issued his dispensation authorizing Companion Joseph L. Haberstro to act as H. P., Companion Richard Flach to act as K., and Companion Frederick Held to act as S., of a chapter to be holden at Buffalo and to be known as Germania Chapter, and to work in the German language. The following Companions signed the petition:—Joseph L. Haberstro, Richard Flach, Frederick Held, Bernhard H. King, August Speisser, Henry C. Persch, Augustus B. Felgemacher, Richard J. Ball, Christian Kurtzman, Henry D. Keller, John Greiner, Philip A. Wagner, George P. Pfeiffer, Sebastian C. Kiene and Edward H. Meyers.

The chapter was organized under the direction of M. E. Companion David F. Day, October 27, 1870, in the hall No. 416 Main street. The first regular convocation of Germania Chapter occurred November 3, 1870. At the convocation of the Grand Chapter in February, 1871, Germania Chapter received a warrant and the number 256. The warrant bears date February 8, 1871, and appoints Joseph L. Haberstro to be H. P., Richard Flach to be K., and Frederick Held to be S. The chapter was regularly constituted and the officers thereof installed February 23,



1871, by M. E. David F. Day. The chapter is the second one in the State that has received the privilege of working in the German tongue.

In the fall of 1876, the chapter moved to the hall on the corner of Washington and North Division streets, from which it was driven by the fire of December, 1882, but has now returned to it. The following were the three principal officers of the chapter up to the present time:—

	HIGH PRIESTS.	KINGS.	SCRIBES.
1870.	Joseph L. Haberstro,	Richard Flach,	Frederick Held.
1871.	Joseph L. Haberstro,	Richard Flach,	Frederick Held.
1872.	Joseph L. Haberstro,	Richard Flach,	Frederick Held.
1873.	Joseph L. Haberstro,	Richard Flach,	Frederick Held.
1874.	Joseph L. Haberstro,	Richard Flach,	Frederick Held.
1875.	Joseph L. Haberstro,	Frederick Held,	Sebastian C. Kiene.
1876.	Joseph L. Haberstro,	Frederick Held,	Sebastian C. Kiene.
1877.	Sebastian C. Kiene,	Henry Sauerwein,	George Werner.
1878.	Sebastian C. Kiene,	Henry Sauerwein,	George Werner.
1879.	Sebastian C. Kiene,	Henry Sauerwein,	Charles F. Bishop.
1880.	Sebastian C. Kiene,	George F. Pfeiffer,	F. H. C. Mey.
1881.	George F. Pfeiffer,	Henry Sauerwein,	C. W. Ruckdeschel.
1882.	Henry Sauerwein,	F. H. C. Mey,	Augustus J. Sutor.
1883.	F. H. C. Mey,	Augustus J. Sutor,	Richard J. Ball.

At the close of the year 1882, the chapter had one hundred and eleven members.

*Springville Chapter No. 275.*—On the 14th of May, M. E. David F. Day, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, issued his dispensation to Bertrand Chafee, H. P., Ira C. Woodward, K., and John M. Wiley, S., and others, to hold a chapter at Springville, and at the invitation of the latter attended the first convocation June 24, 1879.

The Grand Chapter granted a warrant to the chapter at its convocation February 5, 1880. The following Companions have been officers of the chapter to the present time:—

	HIGH PRIESTS.	KINGS.	SCRIBES.
1879.	Bertrand Chafee,	Ira C. Woodward,	John M. Wiley.
1880.	Bertrand Chafee,	Ira C. Woodward,	John M. Wiley.
1881.	Bertrand Chafee,	Ira C. Woodward,	John M. Wiley.
1882.	George G. Stanbro,	William H. Jackson,	Asa L. Twitchell.
1883.	William H. Jackson,	Avery D. Jones,	John W. Reed.

At the close of 1882, the chapter had forty members.

*Keystone Council No. 20, Royal and Select Masters.*—It was on the 20th of November, 1860, that the Most Puissant Nathan O. Benjamin, Grand Master of the R. and S. Masters in the State of New York, issued his dispensation to the following R. and S. Masters to hold a Council in the city of Buffalo, to be known as Keystone Council:—Ellicott Evans, M. Pinner, William Fleming, Abram S. Swartz, John Walls, Watkins Williams, W. P. Moores, William Allen and James E. Thompson.

The first assembly of the Council U. D., was held in Masonic Hall, Main street, January 7, 1861, Th. Ill. M. Pinner, Master, presiding. At the assembly of January 19, 1861, the degrees of R. and S. M.

were conferred upon Comp. N. W. Kenton; February 11, 1861, on Comp. Benjamin Toles; March 2, 1861, on Comp. B. H. King; April 1, 1861, on Comps. David F. Day and George Peugeot.

At the annual assembly of the Grand Council in June, 1861, a warrant was issued to Th. Ill. Comp. Michael Pinner, to be Master, and R. Ill. Comp. William Fleming to be Deputy Master, and Ill. Comp. Abram S. Swartz to be Pr. Cond. of the works of a Council of Royal and Select Masters, to be known and distinguished as Keystone Council No. 20. Up to April, 1864. Keystone Council held its assemblies at Masonic Hall, Main street, when it moved to the hall corner of Main and Swan streets. In December, 1866, it changed its quarters to Freemasons' Hall, No. 328 (old number), but in November, 1869, it returned to the hall southeast corner of Main and Swan streets. When the rest of the Masonic bodies changed their location to the hall northeast corner of Washington and North Division streets, Keystone Council joined in the movement, and held its first assembly therein July 15, 1876.

One of the members of Keystone Council, Comp. John B. Sackett, has occupied the distinguished position of Grand Master of the Grand Council of R. and S. M., of the State of New York for the year 1877. At the close of his term the Grand Council presented to him an elegant jewel as a testimonial for his long continued, zealous and efficient services in behalf of Cryptic Masonry. The following Companions have filled the offices for the time opposite their respective names:—

T. ILL. MASTER.	DEP. MASTER.	P. C. WORK.
1861. M. Pinner,	William Fleming,	Abram S. Swartz.
1862. M. Pinner,	William Fleming,	Abram S. Swartz.
1863. M. Pinner,	William Fleming,	Watkins Williams.
1864. William Fleming,	M. Pinner,	David F. Day.
1865. William Fleming,	David F. Day,	John Walls.
1866. William Fleming,	David F. Day,	John Walls.
1867. David F. Day,	E. L. Chamberlayne,	S. M. Ratcliffe,
1868. David F. Day.	E. L. Chamberlayne,	S. M. Ratcliffe.
1869. David F. Day,	Stephen M. Ratcliffe,	John B. Sackett.
1870. David F. Day,	Stephen M. Ratcliffe,	John C. Graves.
1871. David F. Day,	Stephen M. Ratcliffe,	William B. Flint.
1872. Stephen M. Ratcliffe,	John B. Sackett,	Isaac O. Crissy.
1873. John B. Sackett,	Isaac O. Crissy,	Wm. H. Vosburgh.
1874. John B. Sackett,	Darwin E. Morgan,	Louis S. Morgan.
1875. Darwin E. Morgan,	John L. Brothers,	Jas. M. Henderson.
1876. Darwin E. Morgan,	John L. Brothers,	Jas. M. Henderson.
1877. John L. Brothers,	James M. Henderson,	Christopher G. Fox.
1878. John L. Brothers,	James M. Henderson,	Christopher G. Fox.
1879. James M. Henderson,	Christopher G. Fox,	Benj. A. Provoost.
1880. John L. Brothers,	Benjamin A. Provoost,	W. A. Woodson.
1881. Warren A. Woodson,	Wm. Hengerer,	E. A. Rockwood.
1882. Warren A. Woodson,	William Hengerer,	William M. Smith.
1883. John L. Brothers,	William Hengerer,	Goodrich L. Bowen.

Number of members one hundred and eighty.

## CRYPTIC MASONRY.

A desire had for some time manifested itself that Cryptic Masonry should find a home in the city of Buffalo. An opportunity presented itself to two Companions\* attending the convocation of the Grand Chapter at Albany in February, 1860, to take the degree of R. and S. M. in Adelpic Council No. 7, of the city of New York, holding a special assembly in Albany, by dispensation from the Grand Master of the Grand Council of the State of New York. Subsequently a number of Companions received the council degrees in Bruce Council No. 15, Lockport, N. Y., and when a sufficient number for the formation of a council had been invested with them, a petition was presented to the Grand Council while in session, for a warrant to constitute:—

*Buffalo Council No. 17, Royal and Select Masters.*—This was granted June 6, 1860, appointing Companions William Gould, T. I. M., James McCredie, D. M., and James Inglis, P. C., of the work. The records of the Buffalo Council having been destroyed by fire in December, 1882, this sketch has been collected from various sources. The following are the names of the petitioners for a warrant: Companions William Gould, James McCredie, James Inglis, Michael Pinner, A. C. Winn, Thomas J. Murphy, H. F. Kenyon, Charles Gardner and Elijah Effner. On the 9th of July, 1860, the degrees of R. and S. M., were conferred upon the following Companions: Benjamin H. Austin, G. A. Scroggs, James H. Barton, James Alderson, C. A. W. Sherman, William Fleming, William Allen, Jay Pettibone and John Walls. The following Companions have filled the offices for the period opposite their respective names:—

	T. ILL. MASTER.	DEP. MASTER.	P. C. OF W.
1860.	William Gould,	James McCredie,	James Inglis.
1861.	William Gould,	James McCredie,	James Inglis.
1862.	William Gould,	James McCredie,	James Inglis.
1863.	James McCredie,	James Inglis.	
1864.	James McCredie,	James Inglis.	
1865.	James McCredie.		
1866.	James McCredie.		
1867.	James McCredie.		
1868.	James McCredie.		
1869.	James McCredie.		
1870.	James McCredie.		
1871.	James McCredie,	John Briggs,	Hawley Klein.
1872.	James McCredie,	John Briggs,	Hawley Klein.
1873.	James McCredie,	John Briggs,	Hawley Klein.
1874.	John Briggs,	Henry Waters,	Hawley Klein.
1875.	John Briggs,	Henry Waters,	Hawley Klein.
1876.	John Briggs,	Henry Waters,	Hawley Klein.
1877.	Henry Waters,	Hawley Klein,	Chas. H. Rathbun.
1878.	Henry Waters,	Chas. H. Rathbun,	B. Spencer, Jr.
1879.	Albert Jones,	Girard McVicar,	E. D. W. Gager.
1880.	Abraham Oppenheimer,	Girard McVicar,	Cyrus K. Porter.
1881.	Abraham Oppenheimer,	Girard McVicar,	John A. Franke.
1882.	Abraham Oppenheimer,	Girard McVicar,	John A. Franke.
1883.	Girard McVicar,	John A. Franke,	Cyrus K. Porter.

\* James McCredie and Michael Pinner.



In December, 1883, Buffalo Council had one hundred and fifty-one members on its rolls.

#### TEMPLAR MASONRY.

*Lake Erie Commandery No. 20.*—The record of this Commandery having been destroyed by the fire of December, 1882, we take the following (abridged) history of that body from the proceedings of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, of the State of New York for 1882. The proceedings state that :—

“To the courtesy of Sirs James McCredie, P. C., and Horace A. Noble, E. C., we are indebted for the items making up the following sketch :

“In the year 1845, a number of Knights Templar in Buffalo determined to form an encampment of Knights Templar. There not being a sufficient number of Sir Knights residing in the city, a number of Companions of Buffalo Chapter No. 71, repaired to Lockport, N. Y., where they received the Order of Knighthood in Genesee Encampment No. 10, that being the nearest encampment to Buffalo. Having now the constitutional number, they applied to the Grand Master for a dispensation to form an Encampment. The petition was signed by Sir Knights LeRoy Farnham, Cyrus P. Lee, Henry S. Mulligan, Charles Gardner, Nehemiah Case, Horatio Warren, John W. Phillips, J. L. Reynolds, James H. Lee, S. O. Gould and A. H. Ball. The dispensation was granted December 2, 1852, and at a conclave of the Grand Encampment at Albany, February 4, 1853, a warrant was granted to LeRoy Farnham, Commander; Cyrus P. Lee, General; and Henry S. Mulligan, Captain-General, as the first officers of Lake Erie Encampment No. 20, at Buffalo. To the zeal and untiring perseverance of LeRoy Farnham, its first Commander, Lake Erie Encampment owes much of its success.”

The first death that occurred among the members of the Encampment was that of Sir Knight William H. Hill, April 1, 1854. His interment was the occasion of the first Templar funeral in Buffalo, and was looked upon by the citizens with curiosity, it being the first public appearance of Templars in uniform. In 1857 the Encampment had the honor of entertaining the Grand Encampment, which held its conclave at Buffalo that year.

The following Sir Knights have filled the office of Commander (of Lake Erie Commandery) for the years named :—LeRoy Farnham, 1853, '57, '58; Nehemiah Case, 1854; Ellicott Evans, 1855; William H. Drew, 1856; Henry K. Viele, 1859; James H. Barton, 1860; James McCredie, 1861 to 1869, inclusive; Thomas J. Murphy, 1870; Hawley Klein, 1871, '72; William S. Bull, 1873, '74, '75; Albert Jones, 1876 to 1880, inclusive; Horace A. Noble, 1881, '82, '83. The Commandery had one hundred and forty members in 1882.

*Hugh de Payens Commandery No. 30., Knights Templar.*—The rapid growth and flourishing condition of Templar Masonry in Buffalo, and a desire for a commandery located further up town, for greater convenience to their residences, induced a number of the members of the

Lake Erie Commandery No. 20 to make an effort for the establishment of a new Commandery.

A meeting of those interested in the project was held at the office of the Mayor of the city, then located on the northwest corner of Franklin and Church streets, on the 27th of January, 1870. There were present at that meeting Sir Knights Franklin A. Alberger, Isaac Holloway, Everard Palmer, James Adams, Lorenzo M. Kenyon, John Boardman, Samuel M. Chamberlain and Christopher G. Fox. Sir Knight Alberger was elected chairman, and Sir Knight Fox, secretary of the meeting. After due consideration a resolution was unanimously adopted declaring that the interest of Templar Masonry required the organization of a new Commandery, and to accomplish the object sought for the proper authorities should be petitioned for a dispensation. A committee was appointed to obtain a suitable place of meeting should a dispensation be granted.

Of those invited to join in the organization of the new Commandery, the following Sir Knights accepted: Robert N. Brown, John D. Elliot, John W. Houghtaling, John L. Alberger, Frank W. Gifford, Charles K. Loomis, Jonathan T. Wilbur, Marcus L. Babcock, of Batavia; Stephen D. Cardwell and Stephen M. Doyle, of Dunkirk; and Suel H. Dickinson, of Fredonia. The signers of the petition were members of Lake Erie Commandery No. 20, excepting Sir Knights Loomis and Wilbur, the former coming from Watertown Commandery No. 11, and the latter from DeMolay Commandery No. 22. at Hornellsville. At the stated conclave of Lake Erie Commandery No. 20, held March 5, 1860, E. Sir Henry K. Viele, Commander, the petition was presented and its recommendation asked for, it being the nearest and only Commandery having jurisdiction in the premises. The request was granted. The petition was then laid before R. E., Charles G. Judd, of Penn Yan, Grand Commander of Knights Templar of the State of New York, who granted a dispensation March 17, 1860, authorizing the formation of Hugh De Payen's Commandery, and naming Sir Franklin A. Alberger as Commander; Sir. Robert N. Brown, Generalissimo, and Sir Jonathan T. Wilbur, Captain-General.

\*The new Commandery secured and fitted up for its use the upper floor of the building on the southwest corner of Main and Court streets, the site now occupied by the Erie County Savings Bank, and named it Freemasons' Hall. The first conclave of the Commandery, U. D., was held at the Mayor's office, March 20, 1860, where its organization was perfected. Subsequent conclaves were held in Washington Masonic Hall, until June 5th, when the Commandery occupied for the first time, its new quarters in the building on the southwest corner of Main and Court streets.

At the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery in the city of Auburn, September 11, 1860, a warrant was granted to Hugh de Payens

Commandery. Its officers were installed September 18th, by Sir William H. Drew, a Past Commander of Lake Erie Commandery, the Rev. Sir John E. Robie acting as Grand Prelate. The first petition for the Orders was received from Amasa C. Winn, who was the first Knight created in Hugh de Payens Commandery. The event occurred October 20, 1860.

The conflagration of January 26, 1865, destroyed Freemasons' Hall, together with the adjoining buildings of the same block, in which was located Washington Masonic Hall. The Masonic bodies meeting on the southwest corner of Main and Swan streets, in a most liberal and fraternal spirit, opened their hall to those who had become home and houseless; the offer was gratefully accepted. The first meeting in that Hall was held February 13, 1865.

A new hall having been finished on the ruins of the former Washington Masonic Hall (No. 326 and 328 Main street), the Commandery furnished it and held its first meeting therein December 11, 1865. The lease of the Hall expiring, the Commandery determined on the 13th of September, 1869, to remove to the hall corner of Main and Swan streets, an arrangement having been completed for that purpose. The next conclave was held there November 8th of that year. When the Masonic bodies occupying the hall corner of Main and Swan streets, determined to change their place of meeting to the northeast corner of Washington and North Division streets, Hugh de Payens Commandery joined in the movement and held the first conclave in the new quarters, July 10, 1876.

On the occasion of the second conclave, August 14, 1876, E. Sir Christopher G. Fox delivered an extended and very able historical address of the Commandery, which we have condensed in the foregoing, with the kind permission of the author.

During all these years, the members of which Hugh de Payens Commandery was composed, had made great proficiency in drill and knightly tactics, under the zealous supervision of its Commanders, and when in October, 1875, the Grand Commandery held its Annual Conclave at Rochester, and Monroe Commandery No. 12, of that city, offered a prize for the best drilled Commandery, it was Hugh de Payen's that entered the lists and carried off the silken banner. It was brought home and carefully preserved in its armory. In letters of gold it proclaims that it was:—

“Presented to Hugh de Payen's Commandery, by Monroe Commandery No. 12, Rochester, October 13, 1875.”

On the reverse side it presented, a Knight's Templar Cross, under and around which is inscribed the legends: “*In hoc Signo Vincis.*” “*Non Nobis Domine! Non Nobis Gloriam. Tuo Da Sed Nomini.*”

The Commandery received an invitation from one of Buffalo's Charity organizations, dated August 11, 1877, signed by prominent citizens, to give a public exhibition drill at the “Rink,” in aid of the organization.



The invitation was accepted. The drill took place on the evening of August 21, 1877, the net proceeds of which, \$557.30 were transmitted to the Buffalo Orphan Asylum.

The general Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States having designated Cleveland, Ohio, as the place of its triennial meeting in August, 1877, Hugh DePayens Commandery determined to proceed to that city and assist in the Grand Escort of that body. Fifty-nine of the Sir Knights repaired to Cleveland August 27, 1877, and participated in the Grand Escort on the day following. On the 29th, Hugh DePayens Commandery participated in a prize drill under the auspices of Oriental Commandery, No. 12, of Cleveland, and although the returning Sir Knights did not succeed in bringing the trophy home with them, as they did in 1875, they nevertheless succeeded in receiving the plaudits of many excellent judges who witnessed the drill.

The Commandery attended the twenty-first triennial conclave of the General Grand Encampment of the United States at Chicago, August 16th, 1880, about fifty of its members being in line. Oriental Commandery No. 12, of Cleveland, Ohio, extended an invitation to the Commandery to unite with it in paying the last tribute of respect to the earthly remains of Sir Knight James A. Garfield, late president of the United States, September 26, 1881. Fifty members repaired to Cleveland for that purpose. At the invitation of Godfrey DeBouillon Preceptory No. 3, Knights Templar, Hamilton, Ont., the Commandery went to that city August 16, 1882, for the purpose of assisting in a grand demonstration of Knights Templar, which proved to be a great success. About fifty members participated on that occasion. Invitations have been received at various times from other Commanderies, a number of which were accepted. It also has on different occasions, entertained with its accustomed hospitality, Commanderies visiting Buffalo.

Hugh DePayens Commandery numbers about one hundred and forty members. The following have been the first three officers of the Commandery from 1860 to 1884:—

	COMMANDER.	GENERALISSIMO.	CAPTAIN-GENERAL.
1860.	Franklin A. Alberger,	Robert N. Brown,	Jonathan T. Wilbur.
1861.	Robert N. Brown,	Jonathan T. Wilbur,	S. D. Caldwell.
1862.	Robert N. Brown,	Jonathan T. Wilbur,	Christopher G. Fox.
1863.	Robert N. Brown,	Jonathan T. Wilbur,	S. H. Dickinson.
1864.	Christopher G. Fox,	S. H. Dickinson,	J. W. Houghtaling.
1865.	Christopher G. Fox,	John W. Houghtaling,	Wm. F. Rogers.
1866.	Christopher G. Fox,	John W. Houghtaling,	Wm. F. Rogers.
1867.	Christopher G. Fox,	John W. Houghtaling,	Wm. F. Rogers.
1868.	Robert N. Brown,	Wm. F. Rogers,	Thomas E. Young.
1869.	Wm. F. Rogers,	Thomas E. Young,	Darwin E. Morgan.
1870.	Wm. F. Rogers,	Darwin E. Morgan,	John C. Graves.
1871.	Wm. F. Rogers,	Darwin E. Morgan,	Wm. S. Sizer.
1872.	Christopher G. Fox,	Darwin E. Morgan,	Wm. S. Sizer.
1873.	Christopher G. Fox,	Darwin E. Morgan,	Wm. B. Flint.

	COMMANDER.	GENERALISSIMO.	CAPTAIN-GENERAL.
1874.	Christopher G. Fox,	Darwin E. Morgan,	Wm. B. Flint.
1875.	Christopher G. Fox,	Darwin E. Morgan,	Wm. B. Flint.
1876.	Christopher G. Fox,	Darwin E. Morgan,	Wm. B. Flint.
1877.	Christopher G. Fox,	Darwin E. Morgan,	Wm. B. Flint.
1878.	Christopher G. Fox,	Darwin E. Morgan,	John L. Brothers.
1879.	Darwin E. Morgan,	John L. Brothers,	Wm. Hengerer.
1880.	Darwin E. Morgan,	John L. Brothers,	Wm. Hengerer.
1881.	John L. Brothers,	Wm. Hengerer,	John C. Adams.
1882.	Wm. Hengerer,	John C. Adams,	John C. Graves.
1883.	Wm. Hengerer,	John C. Adams,	John C. Graves.

#### ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

Of this rite two lodges received their warrants May 19, 1867, but as both were unfortunately sufferers by the fire of December, 1882, where their records, with all other documents, fell a prey to the flames, we are compelled to limit our information to a bare enumeration of the presiding officers during the existence of these two bodies.

*Palmoni Lodge of Perfection, of Buffalo.*—The Rev. Brother George C. Pennell was T. P. G. M. for the years 1867, '68 and '69. His successor in office was Brother James McCredie, who filled it for twelve years, beginning with 1870 and retiring at the close of 1881. He was succeeded by Brother George M. Osgoodby in 1882, while Brother A. Oppenheimer occupies it for the year 1883.

*Palmoni Council of Princes of Jerusalem, at Buffalo.*—The following were the presiding officers of this body for the years opposite to their names: Rev. Brother George C. Pennell, M. E. S. P. G. M., for 1867, '68 and '69; Brother Lorenzo M. Kenyon, 1870, '71 and '72; Brother Henry Waters, 1873 to 1881, inclusive; Brother John C. Graves, 1882; Brother Oren G. Nichols, 1883.

#### MASONIC LIFE INSURANCE.

Two Masonic Associations exist in Buffalo, whose aim it is to provide to a certain extent for the widows and orphans of deceased brethren. On the death of a member of the Association, the survivors are assessed about one dollar each which is paid to the party for whose benefit the insurance has been effected. Of these two Associations the "German Masonic Benevolent Association" is one of the oldest institutions of the kind in the United States. The second is the "Masonic Life Association of Western New York," incorporated December 2, 1872, under the laws of the State of New York. Its annual report, published January 1, 1883, states the number of members to be two thousand one hundred and fourteen. During the year 1882, \$53,359 were paid on death claims; the smallest single amount being \$2,106, and the largest \$2,130.

*Masonic Board of Relief of Buffalo.*—This Board, consisting of three delegates from each lodge in the city, has been in existence for a number

of years. Its object is to furnish relief to sojourning brethren in need thereof. The means necessary for that purpose are obtained by assessing the lodges a certain percentage on their receipts.

In closing our sketch of Masonry in Erie county, we must be permitted to allude to those brethren whose talent, zeal and Masonic learning has, on various occasions, found merited recognition in the Grand Bodies of this as well as other States. The space assigned to us does not admit, however, to enter upon the pleasing task of a biographical sketch of the Masonic career of the distinguished Masons who have been thus honored. We, therefore, limit ourselves to a bare enumeration of the offices filled by them in the different Grand Bodies. The oldest on the list, and as far as our information extends the first Brother holding a prominent office in a Grand Body, was the late Nelson Randall.

Brother Nelson Randall was elected Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of the State in 1849, Senior Grand Warden in 1850, Deputy Grand Master in 1851, and Grand Master in 1852. Although elected in 1853 by an unanimous vote to be his own successor, he declined to the regret of the Fraternity. He died in February, 1864.

Proceeding in chronological order taking the first year of the election or appointment to office as the base, we find that :—

Brother Benjamin H. Austin was Grand Sword Bearer of the Grand Lodge, in 1852; Senior Grand Deacon in 1855; Grand Marshal in 1856 and 1857, and Junior Grand Warden in 1858.

Brother LeRoy Farnham held the following offices in the Grand Commandery of the State of New York: Grand Standard Bearer in 1854; Grand Captain General in 1855; Grand Generalissimo in 1856, and Grand Commander in 1857.

Brother William Gould filled the position of Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge, in 1857 and '58.

Brother Gustavus Adolphus Scroggs held the office of Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge in 1860.

Brother Robert N. Brown—The Grand Commander of Knights Templar of the State of New York, found in this Brother a zealous and capable presiding officer. It was to the regret of the fraternity generally, that a press of business and impaired health necessitated the withdrawal of this gifted brother from active participation in Masonry. Brother Brown acceptably filled the following offices in the Grand Commandery of the State; Grand Captain General in 1863, '67 and '68; Grand Generalissimo in 1869; Deputy Grand Commander in 1870, and Grand Commander in 1871.

Brother James McCredie.—This zealous and respected Mason has devoted years of labor in the interest of the various Masonic Bodies in Buffalo and the Masonic fraternity generally. Ever among the foremost to perform even more than his share of labor, his worth is fully appre-



ciated, which is evidenced by his having filled various positions in subordinate and Grand Bodies, aggregating over one hundred years. His quiet and retiring disposition only has kept him from advancing to the rank to which his worth and abilities entitle him. In Grand Bodies he has filled the following offices: In the Grand Council of the Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, he has occupied the position of Royal Past Deputy Grand Master for the years 1864 to 1869, inclusive, and that of Master Past Grand Master for 1871 and '72. In the Grand Commandery of the State he was Grand Sword Bearer in 1864, and Grand Junior Warden in 1865 and '66. Brother McCredie has occupied the highest position in all the subordinate bodies of which he is a member, and the Fraternity of Buffalo is unwilling to dispense with his wise counsel.

Brother David F. Day.—This learned and profound Mason has filled with signal ability and success every office to which the Fraternity has called him. In the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of New York, he has occupied the following positions: Grand Captain of the Host for the years 1865 to 1868, inclusive; Grand Scribe for 1869 to 1872, inclusive; Grand King for 1873 to 1876, inclusive; Deputy Grand High Priest in 1877, and Grand High Priest in 1878 and '79. At the present time he is the representative of the Grand Chapter of Maine, near the Grand Chapter of New York. He also represented formerly the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, but under the new regulation he has resigned that position. At the triennial session of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, held in Denver, Col., in 1883, he was elected General Grand King, and should his life be spared he will undoubtedly reach the exalted position of General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. In 1873, Brother Day was elected by the lodges composing the Twenty-fifth Masonic District, as delegate to the Convention charged with the revision of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and for a number of years he was an active member of the Committee on Appeals in that Body.

Brother Christopher G. Fox has filled the following stations in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, with distinguished ability: Junior Grand Warden in 1867; Senior Grand Warden in 1868 and '69; Deputy Grand Master in 1870 and '71, and Grand Master in 1872 and '73. Since 1867 this eminent Brother occupies the important and responsible office of Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of New York, and that of General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter of the United States since 1871. Brother Fox formerly represented the Grand Chapters of the District of Columbia and of the State of Arkansas near the Grand Chapter of the State of New York. A rule having been adopted by the latter that no Companion

shall represent more than one Grand Chapter, he elected to return his credentials as representative to the Grand Chapter of Columbia, and continues to represent the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin. Brother Fox also occupies the station of Senior Grand Warden in the Grand Encampment of this State in 1866, and is at this time the representative of the Grand Commandery of Arkansas, near the Grand Commandery of the State of New York.

Brother Charles E. Young, deceased, held the position of S. G. D., in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York for 1869, '70 and '71.

Brother John B. Sackett filled the following offices in the Grand Council of R. and S. M., of the State of New York: Ill. Princ. Con. of W. in 1875, Rt. Ill. Dep. G. M. in 1876, and M. Ill. G. M. in 1877.

Brother John C. Graves.—This active and zealous Mason has very acceptably filled the office of Senior Grand Deacon in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York for the term of 1882 and '83. The fraternity will not assent to the withdrawal of his abilities from the Grand Lodge.

Brother John A. Lockwood.—In recognition of the eminent abilities of the brother, the Grand Lodge of Canada has elected him in 1882, to the distinguished honor of Past Senior Grand Warden.

#### CEREMONIES AT LAYING OF CORNER-STONES, DEDICATIONS, ETC.

The Masonic bodies of Buffalo and surrounding towns of the county have always exhibited a commendable readiness to respond to calls for their services in conducting ceremonies at the laying of corner-stones of public buildings, monuments, dedications and other similar events. Many of these ceremonies have been impressive in the extreme, the details of which were of the most interesting character, particularly so to members of the fraternity; but the limited space allotted to us in this work precludes the possibility of giving more than a bare record of the events. The first of these, of which we have any information, was the laying the corner-stone of the "City of Ararat," on Grand Island. This event occurred on the 2d of September, 1826, and was probably participated in by Western Star Lodge No. 239, and Barton Lodge No. 442, of Black Rock. Colonel H. B. Potter was Grand Marshal.\*

*Laying of the Corner-stone of the German Evangelical Church at Lower Black Rock.*—This ceremony was performed on the 26th of August, 1852, and was the first event of the kind succeeding the re-invigoration of Masonry after the death of the Anti-Masonry movement. The ceremonies were participated in by Hiram, Concordia, Erie and Washington Lodges.

*Laying of the Corner-stone of the State Arsenal.*—This event occurred on the 5th of May, 1858, and the ceremonies were very impressive. The

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\* A fuller account of the event will be found in the history of Grand Island, in the preceding volume.

military was under command of Brigadier-General G. A. Scroggs and the Masonic fraternity under the direction of Brother William H. Drew, a Past Commander of Lake Erie Commandery No. 20; Major-General Nelson A. Randall, Past Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York, acting as Grand Marshal. About eight hundred Masons were in the procession.

*Laying of the Corner-Stone of the Universalist Church, Buffalo.*—This event occurred August 2, 1864, under the Masonic direction of M. W. Clinton F. Paige, G. M. of Masons of the State of New York. The lodges and encampments participating were DeMolay No. 498, Ancient Landmarks No. 441, Queen City No. 358, Modestia No. 340, Parish No. 292, Washington No. 240, Erie No. 161, Concordia No. 143, Hiram No. 105; Knights Templar composed of Lake Erie and Hugh de Payen's Commanderies, escorting the Grand Lodge of the State.

*Laying of the Memorial Stone in Forest Lawn Cemetery.*—This stone was laid with Masonic honors on the 28th of September, 1866, under direction of R. W. Christopher G. Fox, D. D. G. M. The following lodges marched in procession:—Hiram No. 105, Concordia No. 143, Erie No. 161, Washington No. 240, Parish No. 292, Ancient Landmarks No. 441, DeMolay No. 498. The Grand Lodge was escorted by Lake Erie Commandery under command of Eminent James McCredie, and Hugh de Payens Commandery under William F. Rogers, C. G.

*Laying of the Corner-Stone of the State Normal School.*—This event occurred on the 15th of April, 1869. The procession was formed under direction of W. Bro. Amos B. Tanner, as Chief Marshal. The following lodges and commanderies participated. DeMolay No. 498, Ancient Landmarks No. 441, Queen City No. 358, Modestia No. 340, Parish No. 292, Washington No. 240, Erie No. 161, Concordia No. 143, Hiram No. 105; Lake Erie and Hugh de Payen's Commanderies acting as escort to the Grand Lodge. R. W. Christopher G. Fox acted as G. M.

*Laying the Corner-Stone of Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church, Buffalo.*—This event occurred July 13, 1871, and the lodges in attendance were Hiram No. 105, Concordia No. 143, Erie No. 161, Washington No. 240, Parish No. 292, Modestia No. 340, Queen City No. 358, Ancient Landmarks No. 441, DeMolay No. 498, Harmonie No. 698. R. W., C. G. Fox acted as G. M. Lake Erie and Hugh de Payen's Commanderies escorted the Grand Lodge.

*Laying the Corner-Stone of the City and County Hall.*—This cornerstone was laid on the 24th of June, 1872, with Masonic honors, calling out an attendance of nine hundred Master Masons and one hundred and twenty Knights Templars. The "Rink," was required in which to form the procession which marched in two divisions under command of W. Brother W. C. Zimmerman and R. W. Brother J. B. Sackett, respectively. The following Masonic bodies participated in the impressive ceremo-



nies : — Harmonie No. 699, Blazing Star (Aurora) No. 694, Fraternal No. 625 ; Akron No. 527, Zion No. 514, DeMolay No. 498, Ancient Landmarks No. 441, Queen City No. 358 Modestia No. 340, Parish No. 292, Living Stone No. 255, Tonawanda No. 247, Washington No. 240, Concordia No. 142, Hiram No. 105. Hugh de Payen's Commandery and Lake Erie Commandery acted as escort to the Grand Lodge.

*Laying the Corner-Stone of the Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane.*— This event occurred September 18, 1872, and the display made by the military and the Masonic fraternity was very fine. The Grand Lodge was escorted, as usual, by the Knights Templar, and most of the lodges of the city participated in the event. M. W. C. G. Fox, Grand Master of Masons of the State, performed the ceremony of laying the stone.

*Laying of the Corner-Stone of the Monument of the G. A. R., Forest Lawn Cemetery.*— This event occurred October 21, 1880, and was the occasion of most imposing ceremonies. The procession marched in three divisions, the third embracing the Masonic Fraternity, under command of P. G. M., Christopher G. Fox, as Grand Marshal. The following Masonic bodies marched in procession : Harmonie No. 699, Blazing Star No. 694 (East Aurora,) DeMolay No. 498, Ancient Landmarks No. 441, Queen City No. 358, Modestia No. 340, Parish No. 292, Washington No. 240, Erie No. 161, Concordia No. 143, Hiram No. 105, Lake Erie Commandery, Mount Olivet Commandery, (Erie, Pennsylvania,) Hugh DePayens Commandery ; the three commanderies acting as escort to the Grand Lodge.

*Laying the Corner-Stone of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, Buffalo.*— This corner-stone was laid July 4, 1882, the ceremonies being participated in by the following Masonic bodies, under command of M. W. Brother Christopher G. Fox, chief marshal : Occidental Lodge No. 766, Harmonie No. 699, DeMolay No. 498, Ancient Landmarks No. 441, Queen City No. 358, Modestia No. 340, Parish No. 292, Washington 240, Erie No. 161, Concordia No. 143, Hiram No. 105, Hugh DePayen Commandery Knights Templar, and Lake Erie Commandery Knights Templar. The two commanderies escorted the Grand Lodge. The military display on this occasion was magnificent being augmented by the famous Seventh New York regiment. The stone was laid by M. W. Brother Benjamin Flagler.

*Dedication of Masonic Hall, corner of Main and Swan streets, Buffalo.*— This event occurred on the 27th of December, 1861, and the ceremonies attending it were imposing and impressive. The dedication was conducted by M. W. Brother Finlay M. King, Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York. An address was delivered after the dedication ceremonies were concluded by Rev. Brother Forrester.

*Dedication of the new Masonic Hall, corner of Washington and North Division streets, Buffalo.*— This hall was fitted up for the accommodation

of eleven of the Masonic bodies of the city, having been planned and arranged by the architect of the building (the Miller & Greiner Block) Brother M. E. Beebe, at an expense of \$13,492. The hall was dedicated by M. W. Brother James M. Husted, Grand Master of the State of New York. The event occurred on the 24th of June, 1876, and was as brilliant and imposing a demonstration as has ever been witnessed in Buffalo. The procession was divided into three divisions, the first being under command of General Brother William F. Rogers, Grand Marshal; the second under Michael Wiedrich, Assistant Marshal; the third under J. M. McArthur, Assistant Marshal. The following Masonic bodies were in the procession: Monroe Commandery No. 12, (Rochester,) Lake Erie Commandery, Batavia Commandery, No. 34, Cyrene Commandery (Rochester,) Harmonie Lodge No. 699, DeMolay No. 498, Ancient Landmarks No. 441, Queen City No. 358, Modestia No. 340, Parish No. 292, Washington No. 240, Erie No. 161, Concordia No. 143, Hiram No. 105, Tonawanda No. 247, Hugh DePayens Commandery. The hall was richly decorated and the addresses and other ceremonies were of the most imposing and appropriate characters. The festivities closed with a banquet.

#### INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

Of this order there are fourteen subordinate lodges in Erie county, twelve of which are located in the city of Buffalo, one in Lancaster and one in Collins Centre. There are three Encampments, one uniformed degree Camp, two Degree Lodges, one Rebekah Degree Lodge, one Odd Fellows' Benevolent Association and one Odd Fellows' Relief Association. J. R. Tresider is Grand Marshal of the State of New York, with residence in New York city.

Following is a list of the Lodges, Encampments, etc., with the dates of their institution:—

*Erie District Grand Committee* No. 1, composed of all Past Grands of said district and the following lodges, was instituted December 24, 1847, Henry P. Pfeiffer, D. D. G. M., John Hager, Secretary.

*Erie District Grand Committee* No. 2. Instituted October 25, 1877, John Schaeffer, D. D. G. M., Rudolph Witte, Secretary.

*Odd Fellows' Benevolent Association.*—Organized April 6, 1869. George A. Moore, President; Robert Hager, Secretary.

*Odd Fellows' Relief Association.*—Executive Committee, Henry P. Pfeiffer, John Hager and John Kenyon.

*Niagara Lodge* No. 25 was instituted November 6, 1839. Present officers, Isaac T. McRobert, N. G.; Henry Thornton, V. G.; E. L. Brady, Secretary.

*Buffalo Lodge* No. 37 was instituted May 6, 1840. Officers, Frederick Smith, N. G.; Paul P. Orth, V. G.; John Schneider, Secretary.

*Mount Vernon Encampment* No. 8, instituted July 6, 1841. Present officers: Charles A. Henecke, C. P.; John Drexler, S. W.; James S. Irwin, Scribe.

*Walhalla Lodge* No. 91.—Instituted November 17, 1846. John Tremper, N. G.; Charles Lang, Secretary.

*Odin Lodge* No. 178.—Instituted March 7, 1849. William Laux, N. G.; Fredrech Kaepfel, Secretary.

*Friendship Lodge* No. 487, Collins Centre,—Instituted January 23, 1851, and re-instated March 30, 1882. Officers, Milton B. Sherman, N. G.; Wendel J. Morton, V. G.; Chauncey L. Winkham, Secretary.

*Concordia Lodge* No. 189.—Instituted January 1, 1862. Andreas Heppler, N. G.; Gustav Keller, Secretary.

*German Bundes Lodge* No. 190 was instituted May 28, 1867. Officers, Eugene Angstenberger, N. G.; Albert F. Ritschel, V. G.; Emil Schneider, Secretary.

*Oriental Lodge* No. 224.—Instituted November 10, 1869.—Frank Stoerr, N. G.; Joseph Wolfsohn, Secretary.

*Esther Rebekah Degree Lodge* No. 3.—Instituted December 23, 1869. Officers, Frank Bagot, N. G.; Charlotte M. Morris, V. G.; W. C. Smith, Secretary.

*New Era Lodge* No. 410.—Instituted August 11, 1874. Officers, H. D. Fisher, N. G.; W. D. McGill, V. G.; John Buckley, Secretary.

*Red Jacket Lodge* No. 238.—Instituted May 30, 1875. Officers, Wilson E. Skinner, N. G.; William Grasser, V. G.; W. D. Robinson, Secretary.

*Lake Erie Lodge* No. 435.—Instituted August 28, 1875. Henry Herbold, N. G.; Carl Fischer, Secretary.

*Northern Star Lodge* No. 458.—Instituted January 25, 1877. Officers, Daniel Besant, N. G.; Neal Olsen, V. G.; Adam E. Hamm, Secretary.

*Loyal Lodge* No. 480, Lancaster.—Instituted July 2, 1879. Officers, Henry Hummell, N. G.; Philip Guetlich, V. G.; Frederick Hummell, Jr., Secretary.

*King David Encampment*, instituted September 25, 1879. Present officers:—G. W. Fargo, C. P.; Ed. C. Shaefer, S. W.; John Hager, Scribe.

*Erie Degree Lodge* No. 3.—Instituted September 22, 1881. Officers, B. Froggatt, D. M.; Isaac M. Robert, D. D. M.; D. B. Barker, Secretary.

*East Buffalo Lodge*.—No. 355.—Instituted May 10, 1883. Henry W. Schaffner, N. G.; George Suhr, Secretary.

*Stuttgart Encampment* No. 70. Present officers:—George Woesner, Jr., D. P.; John Schaeffer, Scribe.



## KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

Of this order there are in Buffalo six Lodges and two endowments. Samuel H. Thompson is D. D. G. C. Following is the list of the Lodges, dates and places of meeting and the names of their officers:—

*Eagle Lodge No. 69.*—Meets every Friday evening at Modestia Hall, 416 Main. John A. Stein, C. C.; C. A. Stewart, K. of R. and S.

*Triangle Lodge No. 92 (German).*—Meets every Tuesday evening at Benzing Hall, corner Walnut and Genesee. John G. Droegmiller, C. C.; Valentine Hoffman, K. of R. and S.

*Union Lodge No. 139.*—Meets every first, third and fifth Tuesday of each month at hall corner Main and Eagle. Mr. Wolfsohn, C. C.; Emil Riesenfeld, K. of R. and S.

*Custer Lodge No. 145.*—Meets every first and third Tuesday evening at their Castle Hall, corner Broadway and Ellicott. William Kroll, C. C.; Conrad Staffel, K. of R. and S.

*Endowment Rank K. of P.*—Section No. 46.—Meets corner Genesee and Michigan streets, first and third Sunday afternoon of every month. C. Staffel. President; J. H. Magee, Vice-President; A. B. Benedict, Secretary and Treasurer.

*Fidelity Lodge.*—Meets every second and fourth Monday evening at Hesper Parlors. William A. Mann, C. C.; N. Biesenthal, K. of R. and S.

*Endowment Right of K. of P.*—Section No. 491.—Hall, 1859 Niagara.

*International Lodge No. 164.*—Meets every Friday evening at hall, corner Niagara and Amherst. Frederick W. Philippar, C. C.

## OTHER SECRET SOCIETIES.

Other secret societies of Buffalo are the Raymond Du Puy Encampment of the Knights of Malta, No. 25; two lodges and one Encampment of the Ancient Order of Good Fellows; six Groves of Druids, U. A. O. D.; four organizations of the Knights of St. George, etc.

The different Mutual Benefit organizations are well represented here, there being no less than twenty-one Lodges and Legions of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, There are also nine Councils of the American Legion of Honor; fifteen Branches of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association; fourteen Lodges of the Empire Order of Mutual Aid; six Lodges of the Knights of Honor, and three Councils of the Royal Arcanum. These various mutual benefit organizations accomplish excellent work by enabling people of limited means to provide for the payment after their death, of a sum of money to those who would otherwise be left dependent upon charity.

## CHAPTER XV.

## THE MEDICAL PROFESSION OF ERIE COUNTY.\*

The Medical Profession in Early Days — Eminent Names at the Beginning of the Century — Imperfect Medical Education — Attempt to Rescue the Science from Obscurity — Legislative Action — Medical Societies — The Profession in Erie County — The first County Society — Dr. Cyrenius Chapin — An Opposition Society — Dr. Ebenezer Johnson — Sketch of Dr. J. W. Trowbridge — The Buffalo Medical Association — Dr. J. E. Marshall — Other Biographical Sketches.

THE end of the eighteenth and the early part of the nineteenth century may be noted as an epoch of unusual activity in the scientific world, both at home and abroad. In medicine great advances were made. Clinical observation and experimental research with constant recourse to the cadaver, (so often a key to the enigma of disease) were pursued with untiring zeal. In France, Germany and Great Britain were men the lustre of whose names still illumine the pathway of medical science; and Louis and John Hunter may be mentioned as models for all time for the student of medicine.

In this country we find at that time many eminent names in the medical profession. In Philadelphia were Rush, Physic, Chapman, Shippen, James, Wistar, Hodge, Redman, Dewees, B. S. Barton, Parrish, Coxe, Hartshorne, Jackson and others. In New York were Samuel L. Mitchell, John W. Francis, David Hosack, William J. McNeven, Edward Miller, Elihu A. Smith, (so early lost) Alexander H. Stevens, John R. B. Rogers, Nicholas Romaine, who founded the College of Physicians and Surgeons and was its first president, and many more; men of education, zealous in the pursuit of knowledge and eminent in professional attainments. There were various institutions in this country at that period where medical instruction was given; in Philadelphia, at the University of Pennsylvania, and at the College of Physicians; in New York at Columbia College, and (in 1807) the College of Physicians and Surgeons; in New Hampshire at Dartmouth; in Massachusetts at Cambridge; in Maryland at Baltimore; in Kentucky at Lexington.

Medical education until a comparatively recent period had been regarded as incomplete without a course of instruction in Europe, more particularly in the schools of London and Edinburg. In fact, it was still considered as "quite the fashion" for medical students to qualify themselves for practice by a tedious and expensive tour to Europe, and large sums were annually expended abroad upon the education of students of physic and surgery. Remittances at that time were principally made in

\* Prepared by Dr. James B. Samo, of Buffalo, N. Y.

gold and silver, and the scarcity of the precious metals then existing in this country has been attributed to this as one of its causes.\*

A confused and extremely vague idea of the need of medical instruction must have prevailed in this State at the period of which mention is made. An act of the Legislature passed in 1797, empowered the Chancellor, a Judge of the Supreme Court, or of the Common Pleas, or a Master in Chancery, to issue licenses to practice medicine to students who could give satisfactory evidence of having studied two years. A premium thus offered to ignorance and presumption, would naturally tend to degrade the profession. Persons were licensed to practice medicine without preliminary education or that necessary discipline of the faculties without which no great amount of scientific attainment is possible. Attempts to increase the standard of requirements to qualify students for the practice of medicine, were met by the popular objection that so many students would thereby be excluded; an objection that may well be entitled a plea for ignorance. Science was still confined to our populous cities. In most of the counties of our State, with a few honorable exceptions, practitioners were "ignorant, degraded and contemptible." It was no uncommon event, especially in the newly-settled northern and western parts of our State, to find men who, never having read a volume of medicine, but armed with the title of "doctor," were introduced to an extensive practice, and of a reputation of imposing authority. Consultations were generally distinguished by gross controversies at the bedside of the patient, when life and health were often immolated to the ignorance, prejudices or discordant theories of the contending physicians.† Many attempts were made by intelligent and reflecting physicians to rescue the science of medicine from the obscurity to which ignorance had brought it. But the honor of making the first successful move towards this end has been claimed by physicians of Saratoga county, at a meeting held by them in November, 1805, for the purpose "of devising means to improve the practice of medicine." Committees were appointed and a resolution passed to invite the co-operation of the adjoining counties of Washington and Montgomery. This meeting was adjourned to January, 1806, at Ballston, when a memorial to the Legislature was reported, adopted and signed, and a committee of three appointed to carry the same into effect, the committee consisting of Dr. Fitch of Washington county, Dr. Stearns of Saratoga, and Dr. Sheldon of Montgomery. Two of that committee, Dr. Stearns and Dr. Sheldon, attended the ensuing session of the Legislature. Dr. Sheldon was chosen speaker of the House of Assembly that year. The committee appointed for the purpose of procuring a law for the three counties above mentioned, assumed the responsibility of making the law general extending its privileges to every county in the State,

\* Medical Repository, Volume vi. page 434.

† From a paper read before the New York County Medical Society, September, 1827, by Dr. John Stearns.



and with that explanatory view of the subject, the memorial was presented to the Assembly February, 1806, and referred to a committee, a majority of whom were physicians. This committee consisting of William Livingston and Isaac Sargent, of Washington, Gordon Huntley of Otsego, John Ely of Greene and Joel Frost of Westchester, received the plan favorably for a general law to extend the act of incorporation through the State, and after maturing it, reported it to the House. The bill encountered a powerful opposition. The Speaker, the committee and other members gave it an able and vigorous support. But, notwithstanding the exertions and political influence of its friends, the danger to the tranquility of the State from the incorporation of forty distinct associations of physicians was so magnified by the opposition, and the impression thereby made upon the House was so great that but feeble hopes were entertained of its success. At this critical juncture, when a decisive vote against the bill was every moment expected to be taken, the Hon. William P. Van Ness arose, its most eloquent and powerful advocate, and perhaps the power of his great parliamentary eloquence was never exerted with greater effect. He refuted the arguments of the opposition, portrayed the benefits to the profession and to the public in such glowing colors, with such energy and zeal, that the opposition became feeble, the friends to the bill increased and from that moment the successful issue was rendered certain.\*

Three months after the passage of the law, on the first Tuesday in July, 1806, about twenty societies were organized, pursuant to its provisions, and within two years scarcely a county in the State of any considerable population, was without a duly organized medical society.†

At the time of the formation of medical societies in this State, various other States of the Union were already provided with similar organizations. In Connecticut, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina and South Carolina, medical societies were flourishing at the commencement of the century, many of them dating their formation many years before. A State Medical Society was organized in this State in February, 1807, made up of one delegate from each county medical society. The value of medical societies and associations cannot be denied. "The history of all learned professions imperiously proves this fact, that no one of those professions has ever become respectable or extensively useful to mankind, that was not under the restraint of the great body of its own members."‡

The number of medical students in the State of New York in 1808 were estimated at one hundred. Cambridge, Massachusetts, sixty; at Dartmouth, (New Hampshire,) upwards of seventy; at University of Pennsylvania, (Philadelphia) upwards of three hundred.

\* See paper of Dr. Stearns before mentioned.

† Ibid.

‡ Preface to State Medical Society Transactions, 1807.

Erie county, New York, organized in 1821, was previously known as Niagara county from 1808, prior to which, that is from 1802, it formed a part of Genesee. The Medical Society of Erie county at the time of the partition of the latter, in 1821, had a membership of twenty-five physicians, viz:—

Drs. Cyrenius Chapin, Ebenezer Johnson, John E. Marshall, Lucius H. Allen, Daniel Allen, Charles Pringle, Sylvanus S. Stuart, Jonathan Hoyt, Daniel Ingalls, Charles McLowth, Daniel Chapin, Josiah Trowbridge, Benjamin C. Congdon, Elisha Smith, Sylvester Clark, Jonathan Hurlburt, Rufus Smith, Ira G. Watson, Varney Ingalls, William H. Pratt, Dr. William Lucas, ——— Woodward, Dr. John Watson, Thomas B. Clarke.

Some of these had lived in this section for years before Erie county was organized\* and had been members of the medical society of Niagara county. This society had made attempts at an organization so early as 1808, or '09, but owing to dissensions among the physicians and the unsettled state of society in general in this part of the State, caused by financial difficulties and the war with Great Britain, and the subsequent burning of Buffalo and the ravages in this vicinity, no settled organization was effected until 1816. In 1817 the first delegate to the State Medical Society from Niagara county appears in the person of Dr. James H. Richardson.

Of this number there are a few of the earliest who deserve more than a passing notice, and especially he who may be called the pioneer physician.

Dr. Cyrenius Chapin settled in Buffalo, then known as "New Amsterdam," in 1805. Dr. Chapin was of Massachusetts, and took up his residence here when this great city of Buffalo was but a hamlet of a dozen rude dwellings, and became a prominent citizen, taking an active part in public affairs. He became distinguished also as a physician and surgeon. In the war with Great Britain in 1812, he took an active part and his deeds on this frontier may, without exaggeration, be characterized as heroic. His career at that trying period is well depicted in a letter addressed to him in 1836, by an intimate friend and fellow-soldier, a gentleman well and widely known, General Peter B. Porter.†

\* There are doubtless others in this list who had removed here before Erie county was formed, but the records are so sparse and scattered as to be unattainable.

† "I know of no individual who was on all occasions more open and decided in the expression of opinions, approving the justice of the war on our part; none who displayed more patriotic zeal and enthusiasm in encouraging and aiding its efficient prosecution; none who was more ready to embark in every emergency, and who actually did embark in almost uninterrupted succession of enterprises against the enemy, involving imminent personal hazard, as well as great fatigue and privation, none more liberal of his purse and I think I may safely add, measuring the merits by the number and importance of the various commands and commissions which were confided to you, and the limited means furnished for their execution, none who rendered more valuable service to the army and country than yourself."

A military hospital having been established here, Dr. Chapin was appointed its surgeon, whence at the conclusion of his term of service he removed to Geneva.\* Dr. Chapin returned to Buffalo in 1818 and resumed practice. In 1821, upon the organization of the Erie County Medical Society, he was made its first president. In 1836 he was presented with a service of silver plate by the most prominent citizens of Buffalo, as a testimonial of their appreciation of his character as a citizen and soldier. Dr. Chapin died in 1838, at the age of sixty-nine. In the words of his biographer, "the principal part of his long and useful life was devoted mostly to the duties of his profession. His character as a physician and surgeon was deservedly held in the highest esteem, not only by his medical brethren, but by the enlightened community in which he practiced."†

Another of those early settlers, Dr. Daniel Chapin, from Connecticut, came to Buffalo ("New Amsterdam") in 1806 or '07 and settled upon a farm a few miles from the hamlet. This farm (now forming a portion of the park) he cultivated with care and with an eye to its picturesque beauty. "Many of those groups of trees and scattered monarchs of the forest within and upon the borders of our beautiful Park Meadow, we owe to his sentiment and forbearance."‡

In 1821, at the organization of the Erie County Medical Society, Dr. Chapin was made its first president, and re-elected in 1822 and '23. He was made president of the organization known as "The Medical Society of the Village of Buffalo," in 1831, the objects of which society, as set forth in the preamble to the constitution and by-laws, is stated as follows:—

"WHEREAS, Medicine, as a science, is of great extent and difficult of attainment, embracing a knowledge and implying a familiarity with the laws of nature generally, and

"WHEREAS, Much may be done by a free and mutual interchange of medical opinions towards enlightening ourselves and thereby benefitting the community in which we live, and,

"WHEREAS, The practice of our profession, at all times arduous and responsible, may by an honorable and gentlemanly deportment, and a strict observance of professional courtesy, be rendered more agreeable

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\* This removal was necessitated by the burning of Buffalo in 1813, at which time he was made a prisoner of war, after desperate attempts almost unaided and alone, to cover the retreat of the defenseless inhabitants. He was then taken to Montreal and kept a prisoner for nine months. This raid of the enemy (said to be in retaliation for the burning of Newark, in Canada) was made by a force of not more than six hundred and fifty men, British regulars, militia and Indians, to oppose whom we had from two thousand five hundred to three thousand militia, who, with but few exceptions, behaved in the most cowardly manner, running away without firing a musket. See a letter from General Lewis Cass, (who visited Buffalo a few days after it was burned) to the Secretary of War, dated Williamsville, eleven miles east of Buffalo, January 12, 1814.

† Biographic sketch of Dr. Cyrenius Chapin, prepared by Dr. G. F. Pratt, at the request of the Erie County Medical Society, in 1868.

‡ An address read before the Buffalo Historical Society, on "Buffalo Cemeteries," 1870, by William Hodge.



to ourselves, more useful to our friends and more dignified in the eyes of men; therefore, the undersigned practicing physicians and surgeons of the village of Buffalo, do agree to associate for the promotion of the above laudable purpose and to adopt the following constitution and by-laws, by which they will be governed. Signed by Cyrenius Chapin, Judah Bliss, Bryant Burwell, Josiah Trowbridge, Moses Bristol."

Dr. Daniel Chapin was somewhat noted for his antagonism to his namesake, Dr. Cyrenius Chapin. The restraining and harmonizing and *humanizing* influences of that excellent code of ethics published by the National Medical Association, had no existence then; and violent and undignified vituperation and coarsest epithets were hurled against a brother practitioner most unprofessionally and published in the columns of a newspaper.\* Dr. D. Chapin claimed to be president of the infant medical society of Niagara county, which fact was denied most emphatically by Dr. C. Chapin. The latter charged Dr. D. Chapin with having sent out private notifications for the purpose of organizing a medical society, but, owing to improper methods of proceeding, failed to accomplish the object intended. He also at the same time expressed himself as influenced not only by a sense of duty and a *desire of promoting medical knowledge*, but also by anxiety to cultivate harmony and friendship among the medical profession of Niagara county.† Dr. Daniel Chapin died in 1821.‡

Dr. Ebenezer Johnson came to Buffalo in 1809; received a commission as "Surgeon's Mate" in the war of 1812; was an active member of the Niagara County Medical Society until 1821, when he retired from the profession. (For further particulars of Dr. Johnson, see biographical sketch of him in another part of this volume.)

Dr. Josiah Trowbridge, born in Connecticut, came to Buffalo in 1811. Buffalo at that time offering but few inducements, he crossed the river into Canada and took up his residence in Fort Erie. Upon the breaking out of the war with Great Britain in 1812, he returned to Buffalo, where he continued to reside. In 1833 he received from the "Regents of the University" the honorary degree of "Doctor of Medicine." In 1839 he was president of the Erie County Medical Society, and from 1843 to 1853, its librarian. Dr. Trowbridge introduced a resolution in the Erie County Medical Society in 1843 (which was unanimously adopted) for the appointment of a committee to bring before the Legislature of the State and the profession generally the subject of *providing for dissections* by

\* It may here be remarked that there were at the time but two medical journals published in the State of New York, the *Medical Repository*, and the *Medical and Philosophical Register*. As a sample of invective, read address to Niagara County Medical Society, by Daniel Chapin, delivered at Landon's Hotel, February 14, 1812, and published in *Buffalo Gazette*.

† See a notice from Dr. C. Chapin to the "Physicians and Surgeons" of Niagara county in *Buffalo Gazette*, January 2, 1812.

‡ Turner, in his History of the Phelps & Gorham Purchase, says that Daniel Chapin removed to Buffalo in 1805, and died in 1835. It is certain his name does not appear on the records of Erie County Medical Society after 1821.

appropriating unclaimed bodies of persons dying in the public charities of the State. Dr. Trowbridge was the first president of the Buffalo Medical Association, organized in 1845.\* Dr. Trowbridge was associated in the practice of medicine at various periods, with Dr. B. H. Colegrove, Dr. Thomas B. Clark, Dr. John E. Marshall, Dr. Alden S. Sprague, and with Dr. Charles Winne. During his long residence in Buffalo, Dr. Trowbridge was the recipient of many offices of trust from its citizens; a supervisor for several terms; a judge of the Court of Common Pleas; still later elected Mayor of the city. Dr. Trowbridge died in 1862. His reputation as a citizen was that of a gentleman of the highest integrity, and as a physician that of an excellent practitioner.

Dr. John E. Marshall, born in Connecticut, came to Buffalo in 1815. He had practiced medicine at Mayville, and was its earliest physician. He had been the first clerk of the county of Chautauqua, at its organization in 1811. Dr. Marshall was commissioned as surgeon in M'Mahan's regiment in 1812. He was appointed county clerk of Niagara county in 1818, and health physician of Buffalo city in 1832. Dr. Marshall was associated with Dr. Trowbridge, the connection lasting until 1829, at which time he relinquished practice from ill health. The partnership was resumed in 1830, and continued for about a year longer. He was treasurer of the Erie County Medical Society in 1826, '27 and '28; president in 1830. Dr. Marshall died in 1838. His character as a citizen and physician was highly esteemed by his contemporaries.†

Benjamin C. Congdon, treasurer of the Society one year, from 1823 to 1824; continued a member until 1833.

Lucius H. Allen, first treasurer of the society, from 1821 to 1823; first delegate from Erie county to the State Medical Society in 1823.

Sylvester Clark, a member until 1827.

Charles Pringle, a member until 1836, when he retired from practice.

Jonathan Hurlburt, a member until 1822,

Rufus Smith, a member until 1836.

\* At a meeting of the Buffalo Medical Association in 1848, Dr. F. H. Hamilton offered the following preamble and resolutions:—

“As a memorial to ourselves and to our successors, of the first president of this Association, and of one venerable and justly distinguished in the profession, whose excellent counsels and unvarying professional courtesy have long commanded our profoundest respect and admiration:—

*Resolved*, That measures be immediately taken to procure for this Association a faithful portrait of Dr. Josiah Trowbridge.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to wait upon Dr. Trowbridge and ascertain whether he can comply with our wishes, and if so, at what time it will be convenient for him to do it.

*Resolved*, That the committee be further authorized to engage for this purpose a competent artist. Adopted, and the chair appointed Drs. Hamilton, Tretat, Sprague, Conger and Bristol the committee for purposes named. (“History of the Origin and Transactions of the Medical Societies of Buffalo,” by Thomas F. Rochester, M. D., published in the Buffalo *Medical Journal*, September, 1861.

This portrait, painted in 1846, by Wilgus, a young and talented artist of Buffalo, is a most excellent likeness and work of art, and is in the possession of the Buffalo Medical Association.

† See biography in subsequent pages of this volume.



*J. C. Marshall.*





Jonathan Hoyt, a member until 1845; resided at Aurora; vice-president of the Society in 1843; was a judge of the county for several years, a practicing physician in Aurora more than thirty years; died in 1850.\*

Ira G. Watson, brother of Dr. John Watson, settled in South Wales in 1812, where he resided thirty-five years. He was a member of Erie County Medical Society until 1841. He had an extensive practice embracing the township of Wales, Aurora, Holland and Colden. He died in 1847. He was greatly esteemed as a judicious practitioner and an upright, worthy man.

John Watson settled in Aurora in 1811, and was its earliest physician.

Dr. Daniel and Varney Ingalls settled in Springville in 1818. Varney Ingalls a member until 1822.

William H. Pratt, located at Eden; vice-president of the Society in 1835; a member until 1839.

Thomas B. Clarke a member until 1822.

Dr. Bela H. Colegrove, born in Rhode Island, graduated at the "old College of Physicians and Surgeons," settled in Sardinia, the southeast township of Erie county, in 1820, while it was yet a part of Concord, the adjacent township. His place of residence has since been called Colegrove's Corners. His diploma recorded in Erie county clerk's office in 1821 a member of Erie County Medical Society in 1823, and president in 1828. He came to Buffalo for a short time and was associated with Drs. Trowbridge and Marshall. He then returned to Sardinia and continued in practice more than a half century. He had an extensive practice both as physician and surgeon, embracing Erie, Wyoming, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties in this State and some of the northern counties of Pennsylvania. He was a man of great vigor, energetic and industrious. He loved his profession and was proud of the esteem of his fellow practitioners. He died in 1874.

Dr. Moses Bristol, born in Clinton, Oneida county, N. Y., came to Buffalo in 1822, and became a member of Erie county Medical Society in 1823. He was a Censor in 1834, '36, '37, '39, and '40, and president in 1833 and '38. He continued in practice until 1849, when failing health obliged him to relinquish it. He died in 1869. His character may be summed up in the words of one who knew him well, as "one who for half a century, had by precept and example, done much to elevate the character of the profession in the city of Buffalo."

Dr. Orlando Wakelee settled at Clarence, a township on the northern border of the county, and became a member of Erie County Medical Society in 1823; was elected vice-president in 1837 and '44, and president in 1845, and continued membership until 1850.

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\*It is worthy of note that Dr. Hoyt's death announced at the annual meeting of the Erie County Medical Society in 1851, by Dr. Wallis, when appropriate resolutions were passed, was the first death reported in the proceedings of the Society since 1834, although more than one of its prominent members had died in the interim.

Dr. Emmons S. Gould, a member of the Society in 1823.

Henry Rutger Stagg, a member of the Society in 1824; was secretary and librarian in 1828, secretary in 1833 and president in 1834; continued membership until 1836, when he withdrew from the profession and became associate editor of the *Buffalo Journal*, in which he continued until 1838.\*

Dr. Carlos Emmons located at Springville, township of Concord, on the southern border of the county; a member of the Society in 1824; vice-president in 1833, and president in 1834; delegate to the State Medical Society in 1841; was elected a Member of Assembly and State Senator on various occasions. He was a gentleman of marked ability.

Dr. Erastus Wallis, located at Aurora, Erie county, N. Y., a member of the Society in 1824, vice-president in 1839, president in 1840; a censor many times. His membership continued thirty-eight years until the time of his death which occurred in 1862.

Dr. Judas Bliss, a resident of Buffalo, a member of the Medical Society of the county in 1824; continued membership until 1838, when he relinquished practice. He was elected vice-president of the "Village of Buffalo Medical Society" in 1831.

Dr. Michael Martyn, a member of Erie County Medical Society in 1826. Dr. Ira Shedd, a licentiate of the society in 1827.

Dr. Stephen Dean, located at East Hamburg, in Erie county, N. Y.; a member of the Medical Society of the county in 1826. He remained a member until 1842, when he was expelled from the society for practicing quackery, and it was voted that the action of the society on the occasion be published in the daily papers.

Dr. J. S. Trimble, a member of the society in 1828. Dr. John M. Harrington, a licentiate and member of the society in 1830, continued membership until 1840. Dr. D. J. Williams located at Aurora, a member of the society in 1831, continued membership until 1850. Dr. Orson Carey, a member of the society in 1827; a censor in 1830.

A decade of the existence of the Society from its organization in 1821, affords but few facts of interest. The imperfect annals throw but a fitful light, a gleam here and there upon the history of the profession of Erie county. The names of twenty or more members appear but once upon the records and about twenty remain at the end of the decade. Of the original list of 1821, nine remain, viz: Cyrenius Chapin, of Buffalo; Josiah Trowbridge, Buffalo; John E. Marshall, Buffalo; Benjamin C. Congdon, Buffalo; Charles Pringle, Hamburg; Rufus Smith, Jonathan Hoyt, Aurora; Ira G. Watson, Wales; William H. Pratt, Eden.

Besides the names of members already given, there appear upon the Secretary's book during the decade, the names of several who, it would

\*Dr. Stagg was also a member of the first city Medical Society organized in 1831, and one of the signers of its Constitution.



seem, did not complete their membership. The names of these gentlemen are here given: Daniel Allen, Nathaniel R. Olmstead, Isaac Dunning, John Allen, of Springville; Henry Hitchcock, Thaddeus Hubbard, of Springville; Parley B. Spaulding, James M. Smith, of Buffalo; Jonathan Foot, of Buffalo; Daniel H. Orcutt, Israel Congdon, Alvin Cowles, Sydney R. Morris, Marvin Webster, John D. Fisk, Edward J. Durken, W. P. Proudfit, of Buffalo.

Before dismissing the subject of the early practitioners of medicine in Erie county, in order that the few names of the physicians scattered among the histories of the times may be rescued from oblivion and more respectfully preserved (names that do not appear, 'tis true, upon the records of the Erie County Medical Society), a brief mention is here made of them.\*

Dr. John Marsh settled near Eden Valley in 1810.

Dr. Asa Coltrin, a resident of Buffalo in 1810, associated in 1811, with Dr. Cyrenius Chapin, secretary of that wing of the Niagara County Medical Society, presided over by Dr. C. Chapin, and a resident of Buffalo several years, having an office on Main street.

Dr. William Warriner located at "Willink," now Hamburg, in 1811. He was secretary to the other wing of the Niagara County Medical Society, presided over by Dr. Daniel Chapin. Dr. Warriner received a commission as surgeon in the war of 1812, in the regiment commanded by William Warren.†

During this decade questions of vital interest to the village and county absorbed the attention of the people to the exclusion of others. This was particularly the case during the first part of it. Physicians shared in the general interests and questions of scientific or professional interest gave place for the time being to others more material. The population of Buffalo in 1825, was but two thousand four hundred and twelve; (an infant Hercules); in 1830 this number was more than trebled. The county of Erie, exclusive of Buffalo, contained about eight thousand in 1825, which was more than doubled at the end of the decade.

It is evident this was a period (from 1821 to 1831) of embarrassment and privation. The people were impecunious. There was but little capital as yet in Erie county. The practice of medicine under such circumstances must necessarily be difficult if not discouraging. Physi-

\* Turner, in his histories of the western part of New York, omits mention of the physicians very commonly, although he is careful to give the names of most other early settlers, sometimes even to their genealogies. Was not the "doctor" needed in those times? Was there no sickness in those days?

† Dr. Warriner advertises in the "Buffalo Gazette," 1812, which, as it is somewhat characteristic of the time, is here inserted:—

"Practice of Physic and Surgery.—The subscriber having furnished himself with some of the best New York surgical instruments (!) informs his friends and the public that he has removed a few rods south of Capt. J. Bemis' in Willink, where he will attend, etc.

WILLIAM WARRINER.  
Patent Medicines for sale."

Feb. 10, 1812.

cians were often obliged to supplement a scanty income by other pursuits, many relinquishing the practice entirely. Irregular practitioners also, mostly of the "botanic" class, or, as they were afterwards called, "Thompsonians," of steam, lobelia and red pepper notoriety began to be numerous; parasites upon the body politic, who flourished mostly in newly-settled districts remote from larger towns or cities. The Medical Society of the county felt the effects of the times; its treasury admitted only of the most necessary expenses.\* Fees for admission were two dollars, with an annual tax of one dollar. In 1828 the admission fee was raised to five dollars, with a view, doubtless, of recruiting the treasury. This experiment failed, however, as but two additional members are recorded during the three subsequent years of the decade. Fines were imposed for absence and also for failing to deliver the address required at each regular meeting, in addition to the president's annual address; these fines, however, as a rule were difficult of collection.

Dr. Bryant Burwell was born in Herkimer county, N. Y., came to Buffalo in 1824, and became associated in practice with Dr. Cyrenius Chapin. In 1831 Dr. Burwell was "recording secretary" of the new organization known as the "Medical Society of the Village of Buffalo," of which Dr. Chapin was elected president. In 1832 Dr. Burwell was vice-president. He was delegate from Erie County Medical Society to the State Medical Society in 1833; appointed at that session one of a committee of three to examine the medical laws of the State, and to report whether any alterations were, in the opinion of the committee, necessary. He was also one of a committee of three appointed to obtain the opinion of the Attorney-General of the State upon the question of the powers of medical societies as to the admission of members. Dr. Burwell was elected a permanent member of the State Society in 1837. He was the representative of the Buffalo Medical Association in the first and second "National Medical Conventions," in 1846 and 1847, held respectively in New York city and Philadelphia. He was the delegate of the Erie County Medical Society to the first meeting of the "American Medical Association," held at Baltimore in 1848. He was also a delegate from the Buffalo Medical Society to the same meeting, as representing the Eighth Senatorial District; and again in 1850, to the third meeting of the National Association at Cincinnati. He was a censor of the State Medical Society for the "Western District," in 1847, 1848 and 1850, and one of the committee of correspondence of that society for a num-

\* An exception may be noted in 1823, during which period the society incurred an unusual expense. *not strictly* necessary (incurred, most probably, at the annual or semi-annual meeting). The treasurer's book has the following item, "To use of room *and refreshment*, \$1.00."

May not the recent report of the Canal Commissioners be reasonably supposed to have had some agency in this outburst? They had reported favorably on the subject of making Buffalo the western terminus of the Erie canal. Those venerable and ever to be venerated founders of the profession in Erie county may well have seen in this a "bow of promise" spanning the dark clouds of their daily life.







ber of years. He took an active part in the deliberation of the Erie County Medical Society at its yearly meetings, and of which he was a censor for many years and continued to attend until 1854. He was also a member of the "Buffalo Medical Association," organized in 1845, and was elected its president in 1847. He died in 1862. Dr. Burwell was highly respected and beloved by his medical brethren.\*

Dr. Alden S. Sprague, born in New Hampshire, came to Buffalo in 1825; a member of Erie county Medical society in 1826; treasurer of that society from 1829 to 1833, inclusive; president in 1835 and again in 1851 and health physician in 1835. He was an active member until 1852; also treasurer of the "Medical Society of the village of Buffalo" in 1832; vice-president of the "Buffalo Medical Association" at its organization in 1845; president in 1846;† delegate to the State Medical Society from Erie county in 1839 and 1845; permanent member of State Society in 1847. Dr. Sprague died in 1863. He was recognized as a prominent member of the profession of Erie county and was distinguished as a physician and surgeon. Frank and outspoken in the expression of his opinions, his character is summed up by those who knew him well as one whose virtues as a man, whose enterprise as a citizen, energy, excellence and talent as a physician and surgeon, placed him at all times among the first of our citizens and in the front rank of our profession.

Dr. Charles Winne, born at Albany N. Y., graduated in New York city, came to Buffalo in 1833; member of Erie County Medical Society the same year; a delegate to the State Medical Society in 1834; health physician in 1836; treasurer of the County Medical Society in 1836, 1837 and 1838; secretary in 1845 and 1846; associated for some years with Dr. Josiah Trowbridge; later with Dr. Walter Cary. In 1836 at a meeting of the physicians of Buffalo, Dr. Winne moved that a committee of five be appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws for a proposed medical association of the physicians of Buffalo. This was carried and the committee appointed, but ultimately failed to report. More than nine years later, at a meeting of physicians convened for the purpose of forming a city medical society, Dr. Winne moved that such a society be formed, which motion was adopted. He was one of a committee of three appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws. He differed, however, from the other members of the committee and made a verbal minority report, stating that he differed from the views which had originated the report by the majority of the committee. He was elected president of the Erie County Medical Society in 1863. Dr. Winne was surgeon for a number of years, to the Buffalo Hospital of the Sisters of Charity, and was a skilful physician and surgeon. He died in 1877. Dr. Winne was

\* See further biography of Dr. Burwell in later pages of this volume.

† He was one of the leading physicians at whose instance the Buffalo *Medical Journal* was established in 1845, and one of the four who also guaranteed to the publisher the expenses of the first year; the success of the *Journal*, however, relieving him from that responsibility.

accomplished not only in medicine and surgery, but in science generally, as well as in art, literature and politics. His manners, somewhat of the old school, were polite, dignified and slightly reserved.

Dr. Gorham F. Pratt, born in New Hampshire, came to Buffalo in 1830, entering the office of Dr. Cyrenius Chapin, as a student of medicine; took his degree at Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and became a member of Erie County Medical Society in 1833; secretary of the Society in 1834 and continued in that capacity until 1840 when he was elected vice-president, and president in 1841. In 1845 he became a member of the Buffalo Medical Association at its first regular meeting. Dr. Pratt acquired an extensive practice in Buffalo as physician and surgeon; his patients were among our first citizens, whose confidence he possessed to an unusual degree. His character as portrayed by one who knew him well, is set forth as one who loved simplicity, truth, earnestness and devotion to duty, and exemplified these in his life; a citizen who also exemplified those sterner virtues, not too common now, in a republic which depends for its existence upon the industry, virtue and intelligence of its people.

Dr. Orson S. St. John, a member of the society of 1830, also a member of the new City Society; and a signer of its constitution in 1831.

Dr. Lucian W. Caryl, a member of the society in 1830; treasurer in 1834 and 1835. In 1832 he was secretary of the newly-formed medical society of the village of Buffalo.

Dr. Alden Thomas, a member of the society in 1832. Dr. Arba Richards, located at Wales, a member of the society in 1832. Dr. Luther Spaulding, located at Williamsville, a member of the society in 1831. A resident physician of the county in 1821.

Dr. Joseph R. Jones, a member of the society in 1832.

Dr. Horace B. Camp, of Aurora, a member of the society in 1832. Dr. Camp offered a resolution in 1838, after due notice had been given to amend the by-laws of the society so that on a reasonable excuse being given, a member of the society should be exonerated from fine. Dr. Camp was elected vice-president in 1838 and 1841. In 1841 he was chairman of the committee to whom was referred the petition from Monroe county asking the co-operation of the Erie county society to procure a repeal of the law of 1836, which obliged foreign physicians to be examined by the censors of the State Society and made a report adverse to the repeal of the law, but favorable to such a modification of it as was proposed by the Erie County Medical Society in 1837, to the effect that foreign practitioners be allowed the privilege of being examined by county censors, or the censors of the Senatorial district, in which they reside.

Dr. Isaac Parsell, of Concord, a member of the Society in 1844. President in 1847.

Dr. James Edwin Hawley, of Buffalo, a member of the Society in 1832; vice-president in 1836; president in 1837. Dr. Hawley was also a





*Genl. Smith 1821*



member of the City Society in 1832, and was made a permanent member of the State Medical Society in 1848.\*

Dr. Josiah Barnes, born in Connecticut, came to Buffalo in 1832. He was a graduate of Yale and took his medical degree at Jefferson College, Philadelphia. Dr. Barnes became a member of Erie County Medical Society in 1833; was its librarian in 1835, '36 and '37; secretary in 1840 and '41; president in 1842; treasurer from 1847 to 1851, inclusive. He died in 1871. An accomplished and faithful physician, his practice was among the best citizens by whom he was highly esteemed.

Dr. James P. White, born in New York State, took his medical degree from Jefferson College, Philadelphia. He commenced the study of medicine in the office and under the tuition of Dr. Josiah Trowbridge in 1830. After his graduation in March, 1834, he became a member of the Erie County Medical Society in the following June. Dr. White was librarian of the Society in 1840; secretary in 1842, '43 and 44; president in 1855. For ten years after the commencement of his practice he gave much of his attention to surgery. His business in that branch of practice soon became considerable. Upon the establishment of the medical school in Buffalo, in 1846, (largely due to his exertion) and for a time prior to this, he relinquished his practice of general surgery and devoted the powers of his active intellect to that of obstetrics and gynæcology, to which especial branch the time and attention of his remaining life was given; a period of thirty-five years. He was appointed to the Chair of Obstetrics and Gynæcology in the new institution, the Buffalo Medical College in 1846, and commenced his first course in February, 1847, at the opening of the college. He soon acquired distinction as a teacher and a reputation for skill and ability as a practitioner that has never been equaled in the western part of the State. His skill, especially in the surgical part of his specialty, soon procured for him a wide and extended practice. He was called upon by patients from distant places, and traveled hundreds of miles, on many occasions, to perform the most important operations known to gynæcological surgery.

As a teacher Dr. White was "direct, forcible and practical." He early introduced, in connection with didactic teaching, what was intended to be a "new departure;" in the clinical illustration of parturition. This new feature, however, though doubtless popular with the "class," was not received favorably by a large and respectable body of the profession. It was made the subject of a report in the National Medical Association, by a part of the committee on medical education, at the meeting held at Charleston, 1851. This committee, of which Dr. Worthington Hooker, of Norwich, Conn., was chairman, reported in a calm, dispassionate and dignified manner, giving the subject a deliberate investigation, examining into all the advantages claimed for it, and deciding that they were not of sufficient value to offset the grave objections that could be made against

\* By recommendation (it is presumed) of the Erie County Medical Society.



it; also, that as a mode of instruction it was utterly incompetent. This report was unanimously approved and adopted by the Association. Unfortunately, this subject was not confined, as it should have been, to professional criticism in Medical Journals, but was disseminated among the public, through hostility to the originator, and for a short period considerable clamor prevailed. This soon died away, however, and so far from shaking the public confidence in him, it rather seemed only to increase the demand for his services. It is likely that the popularity of the school was not lessened by the circumstance that "demonstrative midwifery" was to be taught there. It was never resumed, however. Dr. White was a delegate the same year from the College to the State Medical Society (in 1850) which Society sent him as one of its delegates to the National Medical Association at Cincinnati. He had been a delegate the preceding year (1849) from the University of Buffalo to the National Medical Association, assembled at Boston, and was elected a permanent member. He was elected a permanent member of the State Medical Society in 1854. He was nominated as a candidate for the presidency of the National Medical Association in 1872, by the New York delegation; elected first vice-president in 1877. He was one of the vice-presidents of the International Congress, held at Philadelphia in 1876; was elected a corresponding member and honorary fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine. He was elected president of the State Medical Society in 1870. He was an active co-operator with Bishop Timon in the founding and establishment of the Buffalo Hospital of the Sisters of Charity, and the Maternity and Foundling Hospital, and of the Providence Insane Asylum. He was also one of the most active founders of the Buffalo City Hospital. The idea of a State Lunatic Asylum, located at Buffalo, had, doubtless, its inception with him, and its localization and erection were due to a large extent to his exertions. From its foundation he was one of its managers, and its president afterward, which position he retained until the state of his health obliged him to resign it. During the late war he, in conjunction with his colleague, Prof. Thomas F. Rochester, was appointed by the Government, a medical inspector of military hospitals, at the west and southwest.

Dr. White contributed many papers to the literature of the profession. The *American Journal of Medical Science*, the transactions of the "American Medical Association;" of the "International Congress of 1876, at Philadelphia;" of the "American Gynaecological Society;" of the "Medical Society of the State of New York;" the *Buffalo Medical Journal*, and the *Buffalo Medical and Surgical Journal*, contain valuable contributions from his pen. He was one of the originators of the Buffalo Medical Association of 1845.\* He was one of four lead-

\* The objects of this Association, as stated by the first president, Dr. Josiah Trowbridge, were first, a "free and mutual interchange of medical opinions;" and second, "to cultivate a friendly intercourse, an honorable and gentlemanly deportment, and strict observance of courtesy toward each other."

ing physicians of Buffalo who, to insure the successful establishment of the *Buffalo Medical Journal*, in 1845, guaranteed to the publishers the expenses of the first year; a guarantee rendered unnecessary, however, by the success of the *Journal*. He was twice president of The Buffalo Medical Association,\* in 1862 and 1874.

Dr. White took a warm interest in everything relating to the welfare and prosperity of Buffalo. To most of its valued institutions, apart from those pertaining to his profession, he contributed much by his efficient aid, in their first formation and in their after growth. The Young Men's Association, the Academy of Fine Arts, the Historical Society and the beautiful Buffalo Park, may be mentioned as instances of this.

Dr. White was a ready debater, a forcible speaker, quick to grasp the strong points of a subject under discussion, he took an active part in the proceedings of the societies and the associations to which he was allied; and his opinions, delivered concisely and forcibly expressed, always commanded attention and respect. In the successful career of a practice, which became, in the latter part of his life, highly lucrative, Dr. White accumulated wealth. He had early formed the resolve, it is said, to acquire a pecuniary independence; † and by the steadiness with which he carried out that resolve, showing the tenacity of purpose which formed so striking a trait of his character. Dr. White early took a prominent position as a physician and surgeon; more especially in the latter capacity. An improvement in the mode of treating a certain class of distressing ailments is claimed by him, and doubtless with justice; and the practicability of reducing inverted uteri of long standing, hitherto considered as incurable, was demonstrated by him. This alone must be considered as a contribution of no small value to the art of medicine. He was consulted as an authority in his specialty by the majority of the profession in this section of the State. The distinguishing traits of his mind were sagacity; a quality in the exercise of which he adapted means to an end with great precision. His reputation as a physician, though brilliant and widespread, will, in all probability, be less durable than as a citizen of Buffalo. Dr. White was an active member of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and president of the Board of Managers of the "Church Charity Foundation," at the time of his death. He died September 28, 1881.

Dr. Harry H. Bissell came from Vermont and located in Clarence in 1828; became a member of the Erie County Medical Society the same year; came afterwards to Cayuga Creek (now Lancaster), where he was associated for a time with Dr. Hyde. Dr. Bissell was elected president

\* The Buffalo Medical Association was re-organized in 1856, as a chartered corporation, with the title of "The Buffalo Medical and Surgical Association."

† In Dr. Flint's admirable memoir of his deceased friend, from which several of the facts relating to him in this sketch are drawn, this resolve is adverted to; and yet it is doubtful if such a resolve should be commended to a graduating class.

of the Society in 1836; was a delegate to the State Medical Society in 1837; a censor of the County Society for many years and continued in active membership until 1857.

Dr. George Sweetland, located at Evans, a member of the society in 1829; continued membership until 1838. Dr. Israel Congdon, a licentiate and member of the society in 1830; commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Jonathan Hoyt, of Aurora, in 1827; continued membership until 1843. Dr. Luther Spaulding, came to Williamsville, in 1811; a member of the County Society in 1829; continued membership until 1838. Dr. John M. Harrington, of Buffalo, a licentiate and member of the Erie County Medical Society in 1830, continued membership until 1840. Dr. Orson St. John, a member of the society in 1831. He was of Buffalo, and began the study of medicine with Dr. S. Trowbridge and Marshall. Dr. Reuben G. Snow, of Buffalo, studied medicine under Dr. B. Burwell; became a member of the society in 1832; in 1838 he was associated with Dr. Burwell; in 1840 quitted the practice of medicine for that of dentistry, which he continued to practice until near the close of life; he died in 1871. Dr. Snow was a gentleman much esteemed and respected. Dr. Eliot Burwell, of Buffalo, a member of the society in 1833. He began the study of medicine in 1830, with Dr. Bryant Burwell; continued membership until 1841, when he left the profession. Dr. Joseph R. Jones, a member of the society in 1833; continued membership until 1836. Dr. Silas Smith, a member of the society in 1834. Dr. J. H. Hopkins, located at Tonawanda, a member of the society in 1834; continued membership until 1838. Dr. N. B. Benedict, a member of the society in 1834. Dr. Francis L. Harris, a member in 1834; a resident of Buffalo. He was a member of the Board of Health in 1836;\* health physician in 1838; vice-president of the society in 1845; president in 1846; a delegate to the State Medical society in 1836 and 1846; a permanent member of the State Society in 1857. Dr. Harris continued membership in the Erie County Medical Society until 1847. Dr. Henry L. Benjamin, a member in 1835; continued membership until 1842; was associated with Dr. Flint in 1841-'42. Dr. Benjamin A. Battey, a member in 1835; continued until 1845. Dr. W. H. Christison, a member in 1835. Dr. Marcius Simons, a member in 1835; continued membership until 1838. Dr. Charles H. Raymond, a member in 1835. In 1837, Dr. Raymond read before the society a thesis on the Stethoscope. He was elected librarian in 1838, '39, '41 and '42; a censor for several years; continued membership until 1844. Dr. Raymond was health physician in 1837 and 1840. Dr. W. H. Turner, a member in 1835. Dr. George Lathrop, located at Buffalo. Dr. Nelson D. Sweetland, of Evans, and Dr. Abraham Miller, of Buffalo, were members in 1836; the latter continuing

\* The Board of Health was composed of Samuel Wilkeson, Mayor; Dr. F. L. Harris, Dr. James E. Hawley and William Evans. The recent epidemics of cholera, in 1832 and 1834, may, perhaps, account for having two physicians instead of one placed upon this vigilance committee.



such until 1838. In 1836 Dr. Miller was associated with Dr. James E. Hawley. Dr. Samuel Salisbury, a member in 1836, associated with Dr. B. Burwell. Dr. Franklin Fitts, a licentiate and member in 1837; continued membership until 1839. Dr. William A. Green, a member in 1836. Dr. Charles A. Hyde, a member in 1837; continued membership until 1840.

Dr. Horatio N. Loomis, born in Connecticut, came to Buffalo in 1836; became a member of the Erie County Medical Society in 1837; was elected treasurer from 1839 to 1846, inclusive; vice president in 1851; delegate to the State Medical society in 1848. In 1843 Dr. Loomis became associated in practice with Dr. Alden S. Sprague, which connection lasted for several years. He acquired an extensive practice and was a highly successful practitioner. Included in his practice were many of the first families of Buffalo. Dr. Loomis, as a physician, ranked high in the profession. His counsel and advice were constantly sought for by his professional friends. A man of great capacity, of marked professional ability, his untiring devotion to the duties of his profession entitled him to all of its honors and emoluments. Dr. Loomis was conscientious and honorable, strong in his convictions, quiet in their utterance; he has left to the profession he loved so well, an example of unostentatious fidelity and usefulness. He died in 1881.

Dr. Benjamin B. Coit, located at Buffalo, a member of the County Medical Society in 1837. Dr. Coit was associated in 1837 with Dr. J. E. Marshall. Dr. Samuel M. Crawford, located at Buffalo, a member of the society in 1837. Dr. Nelson Peck, a member in 1837; continued membership until 1844. Dr. Jesse Merritt, a member of the society in 1837. Dr. Samuel M. Abbott, located at Buffalo, a licentiate of Erie County Medical Society, a member in 1837; continued membership until 1843. Dr. Abbott was a student of Dr. Marshall.

Dr. Morgan L. Lewis, born in the village of Buffalo in 1816, located at Black Rock. In 1836 Dr. Lewis was invited to the editorial chair of a paper established at Black Rock. Dr. Lewis became a member of the Erie County Medical Society in 1838, and continued membership and in the practice of his profession until the year of his death which occurred in 1858. Universally respected and esteemed by all who knew him, a gentleman of quiet and retiring manners, and a conscientious and reliable physician.

Dr. Silas James, a member of the Society in 1838. Dr. Jabez Allen,\* located at Aurora, became a member of the County Society in 1838, vice-president in 1857 and 1872. Since the death of Dr. J. P. White, Dr. Allen is the oldest living member of the Erie County Medical Society. Dr. Grove C. Gage located at Alden; a member in 1839; continued membership until 1842. Dr. James Ives, located at Willink; a member

\* See biographical sketch and portrait in Vol. I.

in 1839: continued membership until 1845. Dr. Joseph Wilder and Dr. James M. Hoyt, members of the Society in 1839. Dr. J. B. Pride, a member in 1840; elected a vice-president in 1842; president in 1843; continued membership until 1851. In 1849 he was appointed keeper and physician of the almshouse, and re-appointed in 1850. Dr. Edmund Brown, a member of the Society in 1840; continued membership until 1845. Dr. George H. Lapham, located at Aurora, became a member of the Society in 1840. He began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. Jonathan Hoyt, at Hamburg, in 1831. Dr. Lapham was appointed a Curator of the Buffalo Medical College in 18—.

Dr. Austin Flint, born in Massachusetts, came to Buffalo in 1836; he became a member of the Society in 1841. In 1841-'42 he associated himself in practice with Dr. Henry L. Benjamin. In 1842 he was Health Physician. In 1844 he was appointed a member of a committee of three by the County Society, with the duty to draw up a report to be read at an adjourned meeting of the Society in response to a communication from the Rensselaer County Society, upon the subject of "Medical Legislation." This report was read at the adjourned meeting of the Society and bears unmistakable marks of its accomplished author.\* A copy was ordered to be transmitted to the public papers, to the Rensselaer County Medical Society, and to the State Medical Society at its next meeting.

The Buffalo *Medical Journal* was established in 1845. This enterprise was begun at the solicitation of several medical gentlemen and became eminently successful. Under Dr. Flint's editorial management it achieved a name and became one of the most popular in the country. The *Journal* was continued under Dr. Flint for eight years. In July, 1853, Dr. Sanford B. Hunt was associated with him. In the spring of 1854, Dr. Flint went to Europe and letters from him there to the editor

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\*It is not unworthy of note that although a copy of this report was transmitted to the State Medical Society at its next session, held in February, 1845, it does not appear in the transactions of that year. The committee in charge of communications from County Societies on this subject, make a report in which Erie is disposed of by simply grouping it with those other counties which were "in favor of retaining the (then) present organization of the County Medical Societies, and to ask no alteration in the laws," etc. But Oneida, Albany and Orange counties, of the same group, are given a large space for their opinions in full, and five other counties for theirs in full. Besides which the Committee of Correspondence, of which N. S. Davis was chairman, and Bryant Burwell member from the Eighth Senatorial district, make a majority and minority report occupying eighteen pages of the Transactions of the State Medical Society for 1845, on the subject of medical education and examination. By comparing the masterly report from Erie (thus ignored) with the conclusions ostensibly drawn from it by this "Committee on Communications from County Societies and Medical Colleges," it may be seen how imperfectly the views of its author are represented. This last named committee consisted of Stephen Hasbrouck, M. H. Cash, C. B. Coventry, Enos Barnes, A. B. Case, N. S. Davis and I. R. Brown. In connection with the foregoing the following resolution of the Erie County Medical Society, of January, 1846, was presented to the State Medical Society by Dr. Harris, the delegate from Erie, in the ensuing February:—

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Society, no application should at the present time be made to the Legislature of the State of New York, on the subject of medical legislation.

of the *Journal* were published in it. In the fall of 1852, he received and accepted a call to the chair of theory and practice in the University of Louisville. In the spring of 1855, Dr. Flint severed his connection with the *Journal*, giving as his reason for retiring from farther editorial labors, simply that they interfered with duties and occupations that claimed precedence. During these ten years he had contributed largely to the *Journal*. A list of the names of the more important of these in the order in which they appeared is here given:—Among the first of his contributions may be premised a paper upon the existence of genuine typhoid fever in this section of the State, published in the July number of the *American Journal of Medical Sciences*, 1845. Dr. Flint was among the first (if not the first) to point out the existence of typhoid fever in Erie county, N. Y. In the first years of the *Journal* are found, “The Pathology of Fever;” “The Distinctive Character of Remittent, Typhoid and Typhus Fevers;” the second year: “On the Diagnosis of Urinary Changes;” “Cases at the Medical Dispensary, Medical Department of the University of Buffalo;” third year: “Remarks on Follicular Entiritis, occurring as a complication of Continued Fever;” fourth year: “Cases of Fever, with remarks;” “Case of common Continued (typhoid) Fever;” “Autopsy;” “On the diagnosis of Pulmo-Tuberculosis;” “Medical Cases at the Buffalo Hospital of the Sisters of Charity;” “Cases at the Medical Dispensary, medical department of the University of Buffalo;” fifth year: “American Medical Association;” “Report on the Diagnosis of Epidemic Cholera;” “Lecture, introductory to the study of the Principles and Practice of Medicine;” “Pleuro-Pneumonia, complicated with Pericarditis, masked by delirium;” “Selected Medical Cases at the Buffalo Hospital of the Sisters of Charity;” “Remarks on Serous Effusion within the Arachnoid Cavity, with cases;” “Report on the Epidemic Cholera at Buffalo, 1849;” “Cases of Persistent Vomiting and Purging, with Suppression of Urine—Sudden Death;” “Granular Degeneration of the Kidneys;” “Hospitals and Pauperism;” sixth year: “Contributions to the Study of the Physical Diagnosis of Diseases of the Chest;” “Report of Clinical Observations on Continued (typhus and typhoid) Fever, based on an Analysis of forty-two Cases;” “Cases illustrative of Effusion within the Arachnoid, as causes of sudden death;” “Case of Obstipation with Stercoraceous Vomiting, etc. ;” seventh year: “Second Clinical Report on Continued Fever, based on an Analysis of forty-eight cases;” “Supplement to Report on Continued Fever;” “Management of Continued Fever;” “Report of Case of Acute Peritonitis, and Remarks;” “Case of Ichthyosis, with plate;” “Cases Illustrating the Localization of Valvular Diseases of the Heart;” eighth year: “Third Clinical Report on Continued Fever, based on an Analysis of sixty-four cases;” “On variation of pitch in Percussion and Respiratory Sounds, and their applica-



tion to Physical Diagnosis;" (prize essay,) "Clinical Report on Chronic Pleurisy, based on an analysis of forty-seven cases;" ninth year: "Clinical Report on Dysentery;" "Cases of Pericarditis, masked by delirium;" "Analysis of twenty-one Cases of Articular Rheumatism;" tenth year: "Cases of Chronic Pleurisy at the Louisville Marine Hospital;" "Letters from Paris;" "Translation of Devergie on Baths." These comprise the most important of Dr. Flint's papers, contributed to the *Journal* during the ten years of his connection with it. Among the editorial articles from his pen in that period a small number are selected at random as "The Study of Physical Diagnosis, without a master;" "Monumental Physicians;" "Treatment of Pneumonitis;" "Quackery;" "Rochester Knockings;"\* "Pathology and Treatment of Dysentery;" "Hats and Baldness;" "Encouragement of American Scientific Labors;" "Anatomical Bill;" "Thoughts on the rationale of symptoms referable to nervous sympathy." In 1855 he gave to the Buffalo *Medical Journal* an article entitled "Reduplication of both sounds of the Heart; case and remarks," published in the May number, Vol. XI. In the same year, also, (in the August number) are given the first of a series of lectures on diseases of the skin; in December, the second lecture upon the same. In the October number, as chairman of a committee appointed by the Buffalo Medical Association, he made a report upon the subject of Pneumonia, its pathology, prognosis and treatment, together with the diagnostic value of the buffy coat, etc. In the February number, 1856, Vol. XI, a letter containing a brief notice of certain strictures on his report to the Buffalo Medical Association on Pneumonia, by Dr. George N. Burwell. In 1856, Blanchard & Lea, of Philadelphia, published his first large work, "Physical Exploration and Diagnosis of diseases affecting the Respiratory Organs." In June, 1856, Vol. XII, of the *Journal*, appeared "Remarks on the Blending of Periodical and Continued Fevers." In 1857 appears "Analysis of twenty-three cases of an Epidemic Fever characterized by mild Erythematic Pharyngitis, with reference to the question of its identity with Scarlatina." In the same year, "Reports of cases treated in the Male Medical Ward of the Buffalo Hospital of the Sisters of Charity, Austin Flint, attending physician, during the College Session of 1856-'57." At the semi-annual meeting of the Erie County Medical Society, 1857, Dr. Flint read an address upon the subject of "Intercostal Neuralgia; Dorso-Intercostal Neuralgia; Pleuralgia."

In December, 1857, the first of five clinical lectures, delivered at the Buffalo Hospital of the Sisters of Charity, upon the disease treated in the Male Medical Ward, were published in the Buffalo Medical Journal.

\* Dr. Flint, while in Paris, communicated to the French Academy of Sciences, through M. Rayer, an account of this remarkable imposition (known in this vicinity as "Rochester Knockings," from the place where it originated, and more widely known as "Spiritual Rappings,") and a translation of his letter to the Academy was published in the Buffalo *Medical Journal*, September, 1854.

These lectures and the reports of cases already alluded to, were given during the College session, extending from October 14, 1857, to February 27, 1858. In June, 1858, Dr. Flint, as retiring president of the Buffalo Medical Association, delivered an address upon "Conservative Medicine" published in the Buffalo *Journal* of that date. In the fall of 1858, he was appointed to the Chair of Clinical Medicine and Auscultation and Percussion, in the New Orleans School of Medicine. In November, 1858, appears in the New Orleans *Medical News and Hospital Gazette*, an article "On the Clinical Study of the Heart Sounds," in an epistolary form addressed to Prof. Fenner, the senior editor of that journal. A second letter upon the same subject appears in the December number. In the February number of the Buffalo *Medical Journal and Monthly Review*, a letter from Dr. Austin Flint, senior, to his son, Dr. Austin Flint, junior, editor of that journal, is published. This is dated New Orleans, December 18, 1858. In May, 1859, is another communication to the same journal, entitled, "Clinical Report on Cases observed at the New Orleans Charity Hospital, 1858-'59." In March, 1859, Dr. Flint returned to Buffalo. In the same year (1859) he removed to New York city where he still resides. During that year the "Treatise on Diseases of the Heart," appeared, an octavo of four hundred and sixty-five pages. These contributions to Medical Science, large as they are, form but a part of the labors of Dr. Flint, during the period of his sojourn in Buffalo. They give the key-note, however, to the success achieved by the Buffalo *Medical Journal*. The foundation of his fame was laid in the pages of the Buffalo *Medical Journal*; but in these brief limits we are unable to give more than a glance at the varied work of his life in Buffalo. The Medical College of the University of Buffalo owes its existence to the labors of Dr. Flint more than to any other individual. A number of citizens in the organization of an academic institution understanding that steps preparatory to an application to the Legislature for a Medical School in Buffalo, had already been taken, suggested that application should be made for a University charter, embracing all departments and providing for their organization successively, as should be deemed expedient. The charter was granted at the session of 1846; the Medical department was fully organized and seven Professorships established, to which the Council of the University made the following appointments: James Hadley, M. D., Chemistry and Pharmacy; (Professor also in Geneva Medical College;) Charles B. Coventry, M. D., Physiology and Medical Jurisprudence; (Professor in Geneva); James Webster, M. D., General and Special Anatomy (of Geneva Medical College); Charles A. Lee, M. D., Pathology and Materia Medica (of Geneva Medical College); Frank H. Hamilton, M. D., Principles and Practice of Surgery and Clinical Surgery, (of Geneva, also); James P. White, M. D., Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Chil-

dren; Austin Flint, M. D., Principles and Practice of Medicine and Clinical Medicine. The first course was begun in February, 1847, and continued the usual period. This plan was adopted for the mutual convenience of Professors of Geneva Medical College and students who might wish to attend the lectures both at Geneva and Buffalo. The first class numbered sixty-five which increased to ninety at the next term.

The Buffalo General Hospital originated in an association of citizens, consisting of thirty-five directors, formed for the establishment of a public Hospital in Buffalo (in 1846), with intention to apply to the next Legislature for an act of incorporation and pecuniary endowment. The following officers were elected by the association: President, Josiah Trowbridge, M. D.; first vice-president, Gen. H. B. Potter; second vice-president, George W. Clinton; secretary, E. S. Baldwin; treasurer, S. N. Callender.

*Executive Committee*:—R. N. Heywood, Bryant Burwell, M. D. and George Jones.

*Committee to make Application to Legislature*:—Henry W. Rogers, George W. Clinton and F. H. Hamilton, M. D.

*Officers for the Hospital for the Ensuing Year*:—Attending surgeon, F. H. Hamilton, M. D.; attending surgeon, Austin Flint, M. D.; counseling physicians and surgeons, Drs. Trowbridge and Burwell.

The charter was obtained from the Legislature in November, 1847.

The Buffalo Hospital of the Sisters of Charity was founded in 1848. In 1849 the Legislature of the State granted it an appropriation of \$9,000, by which generous support the institution was placed upon a permanent basis. At the opening of the hospital the medical board was constituted as follows:—Frank H. Hamilton, M. D., attending surgeon; Austin Flint, M. D., attending physician; Josiah Trowbridge, M. D., consulting physician; James P. White, M. D., consulting surgeon, for six months, viz., from October to April. The faculty of the medical college had charge for the remainder of the year. The following physicians were appointed in 1849:—E. M. Mackay and George N. Burwell, attending physicians; C. H. Austin, M. D., and Josiah Barnes, M. D., consulting physicians; Alden S. Sprague, attending surgeon; J. E. Camp, M. D., consulting surgeon. In 1851 the medical board from April 1 to October 1, was as follows:—Attending physicians, Drs. Mackay and Burwell, as before mentioned; consulting physicians, Dr. G. F. Pratt and Dr. J. Barnes; attending and consulting surgeons as before. From October 1 to April 1, attending physician, Dr. Austin Flint; consulting physician, Dr. E. Wallis; attending surgeon, Dr. Hamilton; consulting surgeon, Dr. White; house students, Sandford Eastman and E. A. Gibbs.

Dr. William Van Pelt was admitted to membership in Erie County Medical Society in 1841. He was located at Williamsville, where he





*W. H. [unclear]*



continued to reside. Dr. Van Pelt was president of the Society in 1856; a delegate to the State Medical Society in 1859, and a permanent member in 1871. He contributed to the Buffalo *Medical Journal* in 1846, an article on "Epidemic Erysipelas in Williamsville;" in 1855 one on "Epithelial Cancer," and one on "Pneumonia." In 1857 an address before the Erie County Medical Society, on the "Character of some of the objections often raised against the science of Medicine."

Nathan Way, a member of Erie County Medical Society in 1841.

John C. House, a member in 1851, located at Springville. Dr. House was president of the society in 1854. In 1846 he contributed to the Buffalo *Medical Journal* an article on erysipelas; in 1851, "Remarks on the third stage of labor;" in 1854, "Carcinoma Uteri, with Pregnancy."

Timothy T. Lockwood became a member in 1842. Dr. Lockwood began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. James P. White, in 1834. He took his degree in Philadelphia and commenced the practice of medicine at White's Corners. After practicing there ten years he removed to Buffalo, where he resided until his death, in 1870. Dr. Lockwood possessed energy, industry and perseverance. During his professional career in the city, he was the recipient of civic honors at the hands of the citizens, having been elected Mayor.

Dr. John Mitchell became a member in 1842. Dr. Sylvester F. Mixer, of this State, became a member in 1842, of the Erie County Medical Society; a graduate in medicine in 1841, at Yale; he took the degree of M. D., from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1847. He was Health Physician in 1850; president of the County Medical Society in 1852; from 1858 to 1874 was one of the attending physicians to the Buffalo General Hospital, and afterward consulting physician, he was also a member of the State Medical Society and of the American Medical Association. Dr. Mixer was a gentleman of imposing appearance and polished manners, courteous and affable.\*

Dr. W. K. Scott became a member of Erie County Medical Society in 1843. He was the first physician licensed to practice medicine by the State Board of Censors in 1808. He was president of County Society in 1844. Dr. Scott died in 1878.

Dr. Silas Hubbard became a member of the County Society in 1843, continued membership until 1855. Dr. Hubbard was a contributor of several original articles to the Buffalo *Medical Journal*. A member of the Buffalo Medical Association of which he was vice-president in 1851; re-elected in 1852.

Dr. Horace M. Conger, a member of the Society in 1843. In 1848 he opened a private medical school in Buffalo for the instruction of students. He was a delegate to the State Medical Society in 1854-'55, a permanent member in 1859; appointed by that society to report as a

\* For a more extended sketch of Dr. Mixer, see later pages of this volume.



member from the Eighth Senatorial District on the subject of epidemics. Dr. Conger was an active member of the County Society until 1875; also of the Buffalo Medical Association, of which he was president in 1863. He was an upright, conscientious physician.

Dr. Charles H. Wilcox became a member of the Medical Society in 1843, president in 1850, treasurer in 1856-'57. Dr. Wilcox had been a student in the office of Dr. James P. White; he was a member of the Buffalo Medical Association at its formation; elected president in 1853. Dr. Wilcox was appointed a physician to the United States Marine Hospital at Buffalo, in 1853, and held that position until 1857. He was one of the attending surgeons of the Buffalo General Hospital in its first year. At the commencement of the war of the rebellion he was appointed surgeon of the Twenty-first regiment; afterwards was made Acting Brigadier-Surgeon and Medical Director. After the battle of Antietam he returned to his home in Buffalo, "on sick leave," where, exhausted and worn out, he died, November, 1862. Dr. Wilcox possessed strong natural powers of intellect, great tact, was an active and efficient member of the profession and highly esteemed.

Dr. William Treat became a member in 1844. He was from Maine; was elected president of the County Society in 1860. Dr. Treat was a contributor to the Buffalo *Medical Journal* from its beginning; one of his contributions of 1846, on the subject of "Medical Quackery," drew forth remarks commendatory from the editor. These are as pertinent to-day as when penned thirty-eight years ago. Another of his contributions entitled, "Old Physic and Young Physic," (published in the *Journal* of 1848) was originally delivered as an address before the Young Men's Association of Buffalo, and was published at the request of several physicians who had listened to it. Dr. Treat was a member of the Buffalo Medical Association from its commencement in 1845; was secretary in 1847; re-elected in 1848 and again in 1860. In this last mentioned year he read a valuable paper on diphtheria before the association, that disease being at the time the special subject for discussion. In the summer of 1861 Dr. Treat went to Washington where, after the battle of "Manassas" or "Bull Run," he assisted in dressing the wounded who were brought into Fort Runyon and afterwards at the city hospital. He returned to Buffalo and at the meeting of the association August 6, detailed his experience while in Washington. He died during the same month (August) 1861. Dr. Treat was an intelligent physician, honorable and conscientious.

Dr. James B. Samo became a member of the Erie County Medical Medical Society in 1844. Born in New Jersey; educated in New York city. Dr. Samo was elected librarian of the society in 1852; president in 1862; he was a member of the Buffalo Medical Association from its commencement in 1845. In 1849 he made a report to the association as

member of a committee appointed for the purpose, upon the uniform and equitable compensation to physicians employed by the public authorities, which was referred to a joint committee of the association and County Society, and adopted after considerable opposition; was appointed one of the United States marine hospital physicians in 1853, for Buffalo, a position held until 1859.

Dr. Isaac Parsells became a member of the society in 1844; was elected president in 1847.

Dr. Samuel S. Prudden became a member of the society in 1844; was from Connecticut. He continued a member of the society until 1847.

Dr. Samuel G. Bailey became a member of the society in 1844; he studied his profession with Dr. James P. White; was elected treasurer of the society in 1852 and re-elected in 1853, '54 and '55. He remained a member of the society until 1856.

Dr. John Hauenstein became a member of the society in 1844; he had been a student in the office of Dr. F. L. Harris, of Buffalo. He was president of the County Society in 1882; he has been an active member of the society and read many valuable papers before it. His practice is extensive, more especially the obstetrical part of it, and his counsel in cases of difficult labors much valued.

The other accessions of 1841, to the Erie County Medical Society were James Allen, located at Hamburg, Gilbert McBeth, William Treat, Samuel G. Bailey.

Dr. Frank H. Hamilton, a member of the Society in 1845.\* He became a large contributor to the Buffalo *Medical Journal* from its commencement, his "Notes of a European Tour," (made in 1844) being accorded the honor of the opening article in the new *Journal*. These notes were continued at intervals through the first two volumes and contributed in no slight degree to the *eclat* won by that periodical. Dr. Hamilton received the appointment to the Chair of Surgery in the Medical School at Buffalo, in 1846. He was Professor of Surgery at Geneva at the same time. Of Dr. Hamilton it remains to be said—he severed his connection with Geneva after the second year of his coming to Buffalo, and devoted his time and attention to the interests connected with his profession here. It was while living here that he published his work, *Deformities after Fractures*. The pages of the Buffalo *Medical Journal* bear the silent testimony to his unceasing labors; for nearly fifteen years this testimony is borne of his great industry and observation, at the College, at the Hospital, and in his private practice. Dr. Hamilton is a graceful and brilliant writer. This is especially witnessed in many of his prepared addresses to mixed audiences, in his "Notes of a European Tour," etc. But space is wanted to enumerate the titles of the many

\*From the year 1845 to the present time the writer finds himself compelled, owing to the necessarily limited space in this work, to content himself with the briefest statistics of the profession, except as regards a few prominent physicians of whom a little more extended records have been given.

productions of his facile pen. To the historian of the near future we trust and doubt not, will be given a lasting record of the labors of his useful life. Dr. Hamilton was president of the State Medical Society in 1856.

Besides Dr. Hamilton, Drs. Caleb H. Austin and ——— Rogers became members of the County Society in 1845.

In the year 1846, Drs. G. E. Stevens, of Amherst, Archibald S. Clark and Daniel Devening became members of the Society.

Dr. James M. Newman, a member of the Society in 1847. He had been a student in the office of Dr. James P. White. Dr. Newman was elected secretary of the Society in 1852, and re-elected until 1859, and his records are models of what the secretary of the Medical Society should make. In 1854 he was appointed Health Physician. He was elected president of Buffalo Medical Association the same year; a contributor to the *Buffalo Medical Journal* of many original articles. In 1858, Dr. Newman read a valuable paper before the Buffalo Medical Association, on "the connection of all Albumenaria with the development of Puerperal Convulsions, and the employment of Chloroform as a remedial measure." This was exhaustive upon the subject. He was an attending physician the first year of the Buffalo General Hospital, 1858. In 1859 he was again elected president of the Association; in the same year he removed from Buffalo. In 1860 he died. No young man a member of the Erie County Medical Society, ever gave promise of greater usefulness than Dr. Newman. The regret for his early death was deep and sincere, and is still felt by his professional friends. There is a parallel in the case of Elihu H. Smith, referred to in the early part of this sketch.

Dr. Phineas H. Strong became a member of the Erie County Medical Society in 1847; elected president in 1853; delegate to State Medical Society in 1855; a permanent member in 1859. Dr. Strong was an early member of the Buffalo Medical Association and its president in 1855, and an active one. He has been a contributor of various original articles to the *Buffalo Medical Journal*. Dr. Strong was appointed Health Physician in 1859.\*

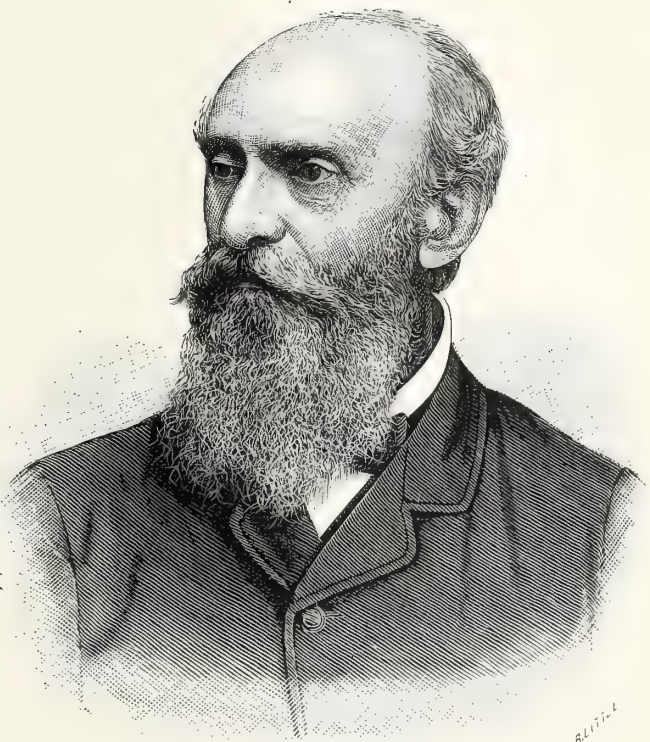
In 1847, (besides Dr. Strong and Dr. Newman), Drs. Joseph Peabody and Ewald Benckendorf were added to the Society.

The yearly accessions to the County Medical Society after 1847, were as follows:—

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\*In connection with this an incident characteristic of him may not be inappropriate here. The "Fee Bill," established a few years before by a joint action of the County Society and City Association, enacted that it "should be deemed dishonorable for any member of either to perform the duties as physician of public offices and appointments at a less rate than that established by the bill. Soon after receiving the appointment, Dr. Strong at the January meeting of the County Society, after stating the circumstances of the case, left it to the decision of the Society to say whether he could honorably retain the office. A glaring contrast to the conduct of certain other members who had resisted the action of the Society and occasioned thereby much unnecessary disturbance, excitement and expense.





C. C. WYCKOFF.



In 1848, Drs. James E. King and Henry W. Barrett.

In 1849, Drs. Charles W. Harvey, Cornelius C. Wyckoff, Edward Mackay, William Ring and J. J. C. Haxsteen.

In 1850, Drs. E. P. Gray, Levi J. Ham, of Williamsville, Patrick Flood, J. E. Camp and George Johnson.

Dr. Sanford Eastman, a member of the county society in 1851, president in 1861; he was appointed Professor of Anatomy in the Buffalo Medical College in 1859, which office he held until 1870; when on his retiring from the chair he was made "Emeritus Professor." He was an attending surgeon of the Buffalo General Hospital and to the Hospital of the Sisters of Charity. He was appointed health physician and re-elected for several years. His character and virtues, both as a man and physician, were of a high order.

In 1851, (besides Dr. Eastman), Drs. P. Barber, of Boston, and William Gould.

In 1852, Drs. John C. Dalton, Hugh McVeaux, M. D. Norton, A. S. Griswold, Charles H. Baker, John Root, Ernest G. Pupikofer, and O. K. Parker, of Clarence.

Dr. John Boardman, was a member of the county society in 1853. Dr. Boardman had been a student in the office of Dr. F. H. Hamilton; he was president of the society in 1868. He was a delegate to the State Medical Society in 1855 and elected a permanent member in 1862. In 1864 was a delegate from the State Medical Society to the National Quarantine and Sanitary Convention. Dr. Boardman was an occasional contributor to the Buffalo *Medical Journal*. He was the author of an article in that journal in 1852, entitled, "Fracture Tables," a supplement to those published by Dr. Hamilton in 1849, a work indicating great industry and research, and other articles that the limits of this work will not admit of mention. He was Demonstrator of Anatomy in the Buffalo Medical College and an attending surgeon at the Hospital of the Sisters of Charity.

In 1853, (besides Dr. Boardman), Drs. E. D. Merriam, Alfred S. Spearman, J. J. Edmunds, Ellery P. Smith, Benajah T. Whitney, John A. Jeyte, E. W. Gale, and Joseph R. Smith.

Dr. Sanford B. Hunt, was a member of the county society in 1854. In the preceding year he had become an associate editor of the Buffalo *Medical Journal*, which position he continued to hold until the retirement of the senior editor in 1855, when he assumed the entire management. He was appointed to the Chair of Anatomy in the Buffalo Medical College, where he continued until 1858, when he accepted the Chair of Physiology. Dr. Hunt was an active member of the Buffalo Medical Association, to which his contributions lent not a little of their interest. He was a frequent contributor to the Buffalo *Medical Journal*. In 1833 an article was published by him in the *Journal*, entitled "An Analysis of



Sixty-seven Cases of Inversio Uteri." In 1855 was published also in the *Journal*, a "Valedictory Address to the Graduating Class of the Session of 1854-'55 of the Medical Department of the University of Buffalo, by S. B. Hunt, Professor of Anatomy," one of the best of its class. Dr. Hunt's contributions to medical literature were many and valuable; he was also prominently connected with journalism in Buffalo in other directions.

Dr. Thomas F. Rochester, of New York, a member of the Erie County Medical Society in 1854. Dr. Rochester came to Buffalo in 1853, to take the Chair of Principles and Practice of Medicine and Clinical Medicine in the Buffalo Medical College, made vacant by the resignation of Dr. Flint. Dr. Rochester was lecturer upon the same branch in the University of New York city, at the time he received this call.\*

Dr. Rochester has been one of the most zealous supporters of the Buffalo Medical Association and taken a strong and earnest interest in its success. His contributions to its discussions have been various and instructive. At its June meeting, 1854, he reported the first case of the approaching epidemic of cholera that had been seen since 1852, by any of the members of the association. He has received many and varied evidences from his professional brethren of their appreciation of his character as "a physician, a scholar and a gentleman." He has filled most of the high offices in the gift of the profession in the city of Buffalo, and some from the State; has been president of the State Society; a delegate from that society to the "International Medical Congress," etc.

In 1854, (besides Drs. Sanford B. Hunt, and Thomas F. Rochester,) Drs. Charles L. Dayton of Black Rock, T. W. Wood, Richard William Nelson, Charles E. F. Gay, Austin W. Nichols, Frederick Gardner, Joel Underhill, William A. Newell, Chauncey B. Hutchins, Charles B. Richard and E. W. Storck.

Dr. Julius F. Miner, a member of the society in 1857; president in 1870. Dr. Miner commenced the publication of the *Buffalo Medical Journal* in August, 1861. In 1867 he was appointed Professor of Ophthalmology and Surgical Anatomy in the Buffalo Medical College; in 1870, Professor of Special and Clinical Surgery; in 1860 he was appointed an attending surgeon to the Buffalo General Hospital; in 1870 to the Sisters of Charity Hospital. Dr. Miner's surgical operations have been bold, varied and extensive, and his reputation as a skilful operator of the highest order.

In 1855, (besides Dr. Julius F. Miner,) Drs. Jeremiah M. Brown, P. P. Tobie, George Abbott.

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\* A paragraph in the *New York Medical Gazette* pays a merited and graceful tribute to the character and abilities of Dr. Rochester on the occasion of his leaving New York. It congratulates him on his early appreciation by so respectable a school as that of Buffalo, and the Faculty upon the acquisition of an associate who is a physician, a scholar and a gentleman. It only regrets that the city (New York) by his removal to Buffalo, will lose one of its most promising young practitioners, who had endeared himself there to many friends.



*J. C. Brown M.D.*





In 1856, Drs. S. O. Almy, James B. Colegrove, David W. Hershey, Benjamin H. Lemon, William Howell, E. L. Holmes, J. A. Jeyte, Jr., George Hadley and Condit Whitehead.

In 1857, Drs. T. F. Hoyer, John Gilmore, G. A. Rogers, Austin Flint, Jr., Sylvester Rankin, Henry Nichell, John P. Cole and Charles P. Fanner.

In 1858, Drs. Augustus Jansen, Jesse J. Richards, J. Fletcher Stevens, William H. Butler and N. S. Lockwood.

Dr. Joshua R. Lothrop, a member of the society in 1859; president in 1867. In the comparative brief time that Dr. Lothrop lived in Buffalo he established an exalted reputation as a gentleman and as a physician and surgeon. His character of mind was of the highest. He returned to Massachusetts, his native State, after a few years, where he died.\*

In 1859, (besides Dr. Lothrop) Drs. J. Henry Rathbone, J. Whitaker, Charles Mead, Charles K. Winne, Samuel D. Flagg, Jr., William H. Mason, and —— Bartlett.

Dr. John A. Cronyn, of Canada, a member of the society in 1860; president in 1865; re-elected in 1866. Dr. Cronyn's interest in the profession is deep and earnest; he is a constant student and, as a member of the Buffalo Medical Association, his power as a debator and his influence in the medical and surgical discussions that arise, is felt and respected. An attending physician at the hospital of the Sisters of Charity, he has also an extensive practice.

In 1860, (besides Dr. Cronyn), Dr. Leon F. Harvey.

In 1861, Drs. Thomas Lothrop, Jr., Charles Edgar Brownell and Elias L. Bissell.

In 1862, Drs. Merrill H. Shaw, Thomas M. Johnson, John McKinnon.

In 1863, Drs. James L. Smith, Joseph Peters, Samuel W. Wetmore. C. H. Collier, H. Tupper, William Robinson.

In 1864, Drs. George Hyer, Joseph C. Green, Andrew J. Houghton, of Tonawanda, O. H. Beckwith, of Evans, U. C. Lynde, P. Goodyear, of Alden, H. B. Horton, H. Vanguysling, E. B. Tift and J. C. Greene.

In 1865, Drs. Jeremiah N. Brown, F. W. Bartlett, —— Little, —— Gleason, and John Cole of Sardinia.

In 1866, Otto Burger, Charles W. Bourne, of Boston, Andrew Kammerling, George W. Nesbitt and H. S. Taft.

In 1867, Drs. Samuel Potter, of Lancaster, M. E. Shaw, Conrad Deihl, Byron H. Daggett, C. S. Nichell, Gustavus E. Mackay, Milton G. Potter.

In 1868, Drs. Henry R. Hopkins, Edwin R. Barnes, A. R. White, of Tonawanda, —— Eddy, P. B. Schuyler, David E. Chace, John Nichols, H. B. Murray, of Tonawanda, N. P. L. Parker, of Akron, and Mathew Willoughby.

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\* It is with regret that the writer is compelled by the paucity of data to dismiss so briefly this physician, whose acquisitions as a scholar and a professional man were never surpassed in this section of the State.

In 1869, Drs. Hiram Taber, of Marilla, W. H. Gail, of Aurora, Jacob Van Peyma, Albert S. Rogers, William O. Taylor, W. S. Talbot, John J. Burke, Henry S. Ellwood, A. W. Williams, and Loren T. Boies, of Griffin's Mills.

In 1870, Drs. N. B. Folwell, E. G. Harding, ——— Wenz, A. H. Crawford, A. Dagenais, E. R. Lockman, Dyer Slocum, George W. Patterson, T. W. Parker, James Sloan and Robert T. Campbell.

1871.—Drs. E. Fuller, J. Q. Harris, Michael Talbot, Dugald McNeil, E. H. Hickey, R. L. Banta, Albert H. Briggs, John G. Bailey, John H. Wheeldon.

1872.—Drs. F. E. L. Brecht, W. A. Wasson, Benjamin F. Lothrop, J. S. Halbert.

1873.—Drs. H. G. Hopkins, E. R. Erdman, G. W. McPherson, F. A. Burghardt, D. H. Bailey, John Dambach, D. C. Hunter, Joseph Fowler, ——— Brooks, Alfred D. Livingstone.

1874.—Drs. William H. Slacer, J. C. Bump, L. A. Long, E. N. Brush, W. W. Miner, Otta Thoma, Bernard Bartow, J. D. Matthews, H. L. Atwood.

1875.—Drs. J. P. Frink, O. C. Shaw, Lucien Howe, Philip Sonnicks, J. N. Wheeler, J. A. Pettit, C. R. Morrow, E. B. Potter, W. C. Earl, A. R. Sutherland.

1876.—Drs. H. Mynter, S. G. Dorr, J. S. Greene, J. I. Mackay, W. J. Packwood, C. H. Wetzel, O. C. Strong, J. R. McCarty, W. V. Miller, F. J. Barker, C. O. Chester, H. M. Werneke, George L. Taylor.

1877.—Drs. Mrs. Mary J. Moody, L. C. Cronyn, Louis Schade, John A. Lanigan, Arthur M. Barker, Charles Cary, Francis W. Gallagher.

1878.—Drs. J. G. Thompson, (Angola), John G. Miller, C. D. Ershein, C. A. Ring, Joseph Haberstro, A. R. Davidson.

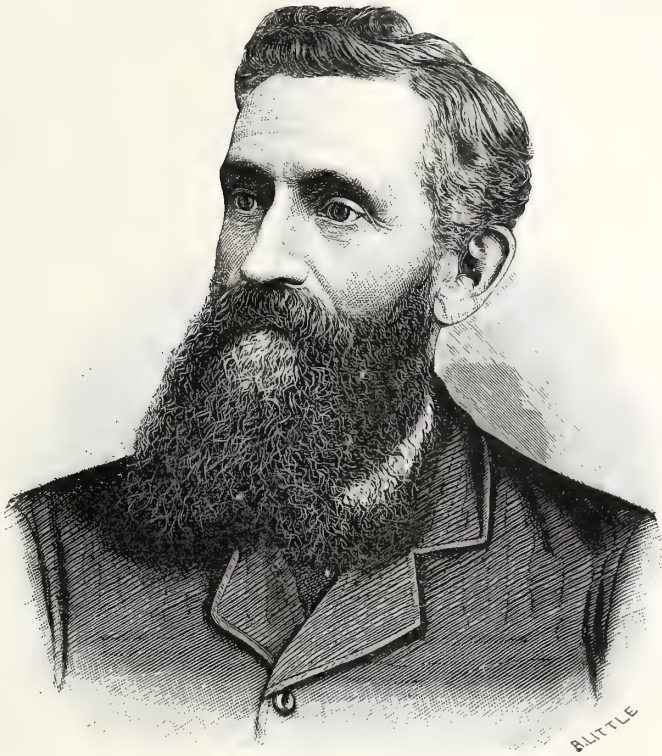
1879.—Drs. Phœbe Willett, H. P. Trull, E. E. Storck, C. A. Wall, J. W. Keene, M. Hartwig, L. L. Banta, W. D. Bideman.

1880.—Drs. William W. Turver, Julius Krug, William C. Barrett, Frank O. Vaughn, Carl H. Guess, Louis C. Volker.

1881.—Drs. E. C. Waldruff, Alexander Stanley Hancock, Frederick Petersen, William H. Jackson, B. H. Grove, Judson B. Andrews, William D. Granger, Samuel H. Warren, J. Stone Armstrong, Franklin Burt, Samuel L. Atwater, J. B. Coakley, J. D. Bonnar, Mary E. Runner, Clayton M. Daniels, Edward Clark, E. H. Ballou, John F. Hoffmeyer, Irving M. Snow, N. T. Kiefer, C. G. Champlain.

1882.—Drs. A. H. Crawford, W. W. Potter, H. D. Ingraham, G. T. Brown, C. C. Frederick, G. W. York, C. A. McBeth, Walter D. Green, Floyd S. Crego, M. D. Mason, C. Weil, J. Frank, George E. Fell, A. Hubbell.

1883.—Drs. F. H. Potter, J. W. Putnam, W. G. Gregory, E. H. Long, J. Wilmot, S. Hunter, J. H. Pryor, Herman Hayd, R. A. Witt-



U. C. LYNDE, M. D.





haus, William Meisburger, W. A. D. Montgomery, Burt P. Hoyer, B. G. Long, C. R. Jewett, William H. Thornton, Claudius J. Meinand, A. G. Gummaer, F. W. Sweetland, Mary Berkes.

The author in his endeavor to rescue from the oblivion that seemed awaiting them, some of the earlier lives of the medical profession of Erie county, finds himself obliged, by "circumstance," that "inspiritual god," to finish this sketch within its present bounds. It was the desire of the author to have given in addition to the preceding sketch, some resume of each decade of the history of the society; but it is hoped that in some future work upon our beloved profession, many whose professional histories are so deserving, shall receive their meed of praise.

#### ERIE COUNTY HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL SOCIETY.\*

Recognizing the force of the old proverb that "in union is strength," fifteen members of the homeopathic profession of the county of Erie came together in response to a call, at Buffalo, December 14, 1859. They then and there formed a society to be known as the Erie County Homeopathic Medical Society, and further perfected their organization by the election of the usual officers. Their object being mutual benefit and the advancement of medical science in general.

In 1861 the call to arms found several of the society ready; accepting their country's call, they went to the front and served with honor to themselves and their society.

In the fall of 1867 the necessity of in some manner relieving the medical wants of the poor, was brought forcibly before the society, resulting in the immediate incorporation and opening of a Free Dispensary. This was supported at first by private subscription, but in 1868 the Legislature, considering it worthy of State aid, appropriated \$500 to its support, and again in 1869 appropriated \$750.00. This dispensary still exists, though the excellent medical service of the city relieves it of the brunt of the work.

About this time the society occupied itself with many interesting discussions as to the feasibility of establishing an asylum for the insane, under homeopathic therapeutical direction. The outcome of this was that the Legislature was petitioned and several members took active steps to carry the scheme to a successful conclusion. In 1870, \$150,000 was appropriated by the State, and upon this basis land was obtained in the village of Middletown, Orange county, and subsequent grants of money have enabled the completion of three large, substantial, fully-equipped buildings, with accommodations for four hundred patients—the first Homeopathic Insane Asylum in the world. The location overlooking the village of Middletown and the beautiful valley of the Wawayanda to the south, the highlands of the Hudson to the east, the Catskills and the

\*Furnished for this work by a committee from the society.

Shawangunk range to the north and west, renders its views and healthfulness unsurpassed.

In the year 1869, through the instrumentality of the member from this district, one of the society was appointed, without his knowledge, examiner for pensions. Dr. Van Aernum, then Commissioner of Pensions, learning that the appointee was a Homeopath, promptly removed him. The point was immediately agitated by the society, whether or not there was a system of "State Medicine." The matter was carried to the American Institute of Homeopathy, then in session at Chicago. Upon presentation to this, the oldest national medical body, a committee on legislation was appointed, with the aggrieved member at its head. The following February, during an interview with Commissioner Van Aernum at Washington, the admission was obtained that the removal was made on account of medical belief and for no other cause. The result of this interview being sent over the land by the Associated Press created an intense public sentiment which was only appeased by the resignation of the Commissioner in the May following; the Government thus showing that it recognized no school.

The need of a hospital where homeopathic physicians could treat patients upon their own principles, was greatly felt, and in 18— a commodious building on Washington street was obtained and put into immediate use. Business soon claimed the location and the trustees purchased the property on the corner of Cottage and Maryland street. The success of this institution has been gratifying and the need for larger quarters became so pressing that, at the present writing, the trustees are in negotiation for the purchase of the Palace Hotel site where a building commensurate with the requirements of the profession will be erected.

Fearing an invasion of cholera in 1860, the society published gratuitously directions for the treatment of those infected, and protesting against the assumption of all places under the municipal government by the other society, offered to furnish reputable physicians to attend such hospitals as the board of health might direct. This was not granted. The society at various times continued to demand the recognition due the system from the city government, but without success, until 1877, when a concerted effort was made and two physicians of the Homœopathic school were by ordinance, added to the staff of Assistant Health Physicians.

The right of supervision, by a County Medical Society, in the selection of its members had been overthrown by the courts in many instances; yet, when in May, 1879, four physicians presented their petition for membership to the Erie County Homeopathic Medical Society and were rejected. Their writ of mandamus compelling the society to show cause why the society should not be compelled to accept them was answered and on August 6th, 1879, Judge Daniels handed down a decision sustaining the action of the society and forming the first precedent of the kind.



There being no recognized standard of qualifications for the practice of medicine, other than the diploma of a medical college, and the strife between the various colleges leading to the lowering of this standard to a painful degree, this society formulated a bill providing for a "State Medical Board," to which was to be relegated the licensing power. This bill, being taken to Albany by a special committee, was introduced into the Assembly and reached the Committee on General Laws. Though it failed to become a law, yet it was the first effort towards legislation for the elevation of the medical profession.

#### THE DENTAL PROFESSION IN BUFFALO.

When the settlement of Buffalo village began, modern American dentistry, as it may be appropriately called, was an unknown science. The founding and first settlement of the former was nearly contemporary with the inception of the latter, and it is worthy of historical record that much of the early advancement of dental science was due to residents of Buffalo, while the profession has ever since been most honorably represented here.

Down to about the end of the first decade of the present century, the teeth of the average American citizen had received very little attention, either from himself or his family physician, who was then the only person supposed to know anything of that portion of the human anatomy. If a tooth became especially troublesome, the possessor immediately rid himself of it, either by some one of the primitive methods in vogue, or by the clumsy pincers of the nearest blacksmith or shoemaker, or, by the old torture-causing instrument called "turn-key," in the hands of the family doctor. Between the years 1800 and 1820, dentistry began to develop itself, but in a very limited and not entirely satisfactory manner. At the date last mentioned, there were about one hundred dentists of all degrees of ability and pretension in the entire county. Most of them were itinerant practitioners, going from place to place, with their meager stock of instruments, setting "pivot" teeth to some extent, doing some filling and in rare instances attempting a piece of plate work. Dr. Greenwood was, perhaps, the most prominent dentist in America before 1820. He came from Europe and located in New York city, where he had the honor of making a set of ivory teeth for George Washington, which were carved out of a solid piece and held in the mouth by springs.

The third decade of the century witnessed considerable advancement in the art. Buffalo was the place of residence of the first resident dentist in Western New York, who came here in 1820. He was, however, preceded by Eleazer Gidney, who visited Buffalo in his profession in 1822 or 1823; he was the first dentist that visited the place. He had read up a little in the profession while he was a young man and formed the determination to follow the same. To carry out his purpose he adopted

the only means then available to perfect himself in his work, visiting Baltimore in 1817, and other points where he could by observation and practice, learn all that was then known of the science. He settled in Utica in 1822 and began practice, whence he visited Buffalo. He subsequently went to Europe and practiced in Edinburgh, London and other cities. He was a man of remarkable perseverance and a good deal of ability. He was followed in Buffalo by Samuel Bigelow, who came in the year 1828, who was also an itinerant.

Between the years 1830 and 1840 dental science made remarkable strides in some directions. It was also in this decade that the first resident dentist began practice in Buffalo, though, as before stated, he settled here in 1829. This was Dr. George E. Hayes, a man of excellent attainments and some remarkable traits of character. He was a thinker and possessed the mechanical genius and perseverance, to put many of his best thoughts into practical use. Dr. Hayes was of Scotch descent and belonged to a family of mechanics and inventors. He was born in Granby, Conn., November, 7, 1804, but his parents soon after settled in Prattsburgh, Steuben Co., N. Y. He afterwards (1821) entered the office of Dr. Pliny Hayes in Canandaigua, as an assistant, where he remained as student, assistant and partner for almost ten years. In 1824 a small apothecary's business had been opened in Canandaigua, by Dr. Hayes, the duties connected with which were shared by the young man. A branch store was afterwards (1829) opened in Buffalo, and Dr. George E. Hayes came here to assume the charge of it. The store was one of a row of small wooden buildings on the west side of Main street, extending from the lower corner of Swan street to the hat store of W. Ketchum & Co. The site of the store is now occupied by the building in which are the offices of the United States Express Company. Dr. Hayes had given a little attention to dentistry before leaving Canandaigua, and like most physicians of that period, had practiced it to some extent. In November, 1829, the drug store of "George E. Hayes & Co." was burned, and it was soon after this event that Dr. Hayes performed his first dental operation in Buffalo. A Mr. Parkinson, an ex-sheriff of London, who was then in Buffalo, had the misfortune to break a tooth and was referred to Dr. Hayes by an old Canandaigua friend of the family, who said "the Hayes's could do anything." The operation seems to have been a success. In the next year he made some gold plate for the late James D. Sheppard, which remained in use and in place until 1881, a period of fifty-one years. From that time on Dr. Hayes paid almost his entire attention to dentistry, abandoning the drug business entirely in 1835. As early as 1832, Dr. Hayes began experimenting on the manufacture of porcelain teeth, and two years later produced good examples of that art. This kind of artificial teeth were then almost unknown in this country, most of those used being imported from France—a very ill-looking and unsatisfactory article. In 1834 Dr.

Hayes made the first whole set of teeth produced in Buffalo, which were worn with satisfaction by a lady for many years. About the end of the decade under consideration, Dr. Hayes was called on by a lady whose gums had become so changed that it was necessary that the teeth for which she applied should be made much longer than in ordinary cases and something was needed to supply the portion of the gums that had disappeared. This case and its treatment led Dr. Hayes to experiment upon porcelain gum-teeth which he finally successfully produced—the first used in Buffalo and probably the first made in this country. Dr. Hayes contributed largely to the dental appliances now in use in the profession, and chief among which are the “Hayes’ Vulcanizing Oven,” the “Hayes’ Mercury Bath,” the “Hayes’ Dental Flask,” “Hayes’ Celluloid Apparatus,” and “Hayes’ Celluloid Articulator.” All of these were patented and are now in use. He also made many other valuable improvements in dental drills, dentist’s chairs, etc. The introduction and manufacture of these improvements together with the Whitney vulcanizer and the Automatic Plugger of Snow & Lewis, resulted in the formation in 1867 of a co-partnership between Drs. B. T. Whitney, G. B. Snow and Theodore G. Lewis, under the name of the “Buffalo Dental Manufacturing Company,” an organization that is still in a prosperous business career in this city. The Whitney and the Hoyt Vulcanizers, the Automatic Plugger and the Saliva Ejector, patented by T. G. Lewis, are all Buffalo inventions, and are known and recognized all over the world as the best and most valuable appliances of the kind in use. They are made solely by the above named company.

Dr. Hayes possessed literary ability of a high order and published numerous pamphlets and papers of value and interest. He died on the 27th of April, 1882.

Richard Corydon came to Buffalo in 1835 and remained for about two years.

Charles W. Harvey came in 1836, and is still a resident of the city, although he retired from the practice of his profession in 1860. He took a high rank soon after his arrival here, as an operative dentist, in whose presence, as a professional man as well as a citizen, the city was most fortunate.

Aaron Gibbs came to Buffalo in 1837, remaining until 1842, and Uriah H. Dunning who remained about four years.

In 1837 was established the “New York Society of Dental Surgeons,” the first society of this character in the country, and two years later appeared the first regular dental periodical publication; it was called the *American Journal of Dental Science*, and published in Baltimore.

During the decade from 1840 to 1850 the following dentists began practice in Buffalo: Reuben G. Snow, formerly practicing physician, began dentistry in 1840; William S. Vanduzee, 1841; Hiram H. Rey-



nolds, 1843; Benoni S. Brown, 1844; William G. Oliver, 1847; John Lewis, 1847; Frederick Oliver, 1848; N. W. Whitcomb, 1848. The two Oliver brothers mentioned were jewelers; artificial teeth at that time were almost entirely set on gold or silver plates, and these jewelers found the new field of making false teeth so much more profitable than their former business that they adopted it. During this decade advancement in the science and practice of dentistry was marked. About 1850, Goodyear's vulcanite as a substitute for gold and silver in plate work, was introduced and rapidly supplanted the metals. Artificial teeth were brought to a good degree of perfection, their manufacture being largely carried on in New York and Philadelphia.

The year 1841 witnessed the founding of the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, and in 1845 the Ohio Dental College was opened in Cincinnati; these institutions added to a limited degree, to the number of dentists, of which Buffalo received her share.

In 1844, the *Dental Intelligencer* was established in Philadelphia, which was followed in 1846, by the New York *Dental Recorder*. The *Dental Register of the West* was started in Cincinnati in 1847. *The Dental News Letter* was founded in the same year in Philadelphia. This completes the list of publications until 1860. These were mostly advertising mediums previously, but published much matter of value to the profession.

Between the years 1850 and 1860, the following named dentists began practice in Buffalo: Isaac H. Giffing, 1851; B. T. Whitney, 1851; Albert B. Robinson, 1856; Chester L. Straight, 1856; Charles B. Phelps, 1857; Gilbert W. Reese, 1857; James H. Waterman, 1857; George F. Foote, 1858; H. Sweet, 1859.

In 1850 the Philadelphia College of Dental Surgery was founded and in 1856, the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery. From these and preceding institutions, many graduates entered the profession. In 1855, the American Dental Convention was established as the successor of the American Society of Dental Surgeons, which had been founded in 1840, but had become disorganized chiefly through a discussion over the use of amalgam. The American Dental Convention enjoyed a career of usefulness until the year 1883, its meetings and discussions going far to advance the profession.

During the decade from 1860 to 1870 the influx of dentists to Buffalo was very large. The city had grown rapidly and acquired a reputation for energy and enterprise, while from the various dental institutions of the country, the number of graduates was yearly increasing. Following are the names of the dentists who began practice here during the period last mentioned: Leon F. Harvey, 1860; Merritt F. Cook, J. T. Grady, Theodore G. Lewis and Milton B. Straight in 1862; Henry McCutcheon, George B. Snow, Alfred P. Southwick, Joseph R. Wetherell





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and S. A. Freeman in 1863; George A. Wilkins in 1864; E. A. Thompson, 1865; Robert J. Adams, James G. Barbour and Garrett C. Daboll, 1867; Theodore H. Palmer, F. E. Reynolds and Charles Dautel, 1868; William J. Barrett, George W. Dunbar, Frederick G. Longnecker and Orlando Luce, 1869; none in 1870.

This decade witnessed the addition to dental literature of the first Buffalo publication the Buffalo *Dental Advertiser*, which is still running as the organ of the Buffalo Dental Manufacturing Company. On the 1st of October, 1862, the Western New York Dental Society was established, with Dr. Charles W. Harvey as president. It was, at least in part, through the medium of this organization that the Dental Law of 1868 was put through the Legislature. This law, which with its amendments, has conferred upon the dental profession inestimable benefits, originated in Buffalo, with Dr. B. T. Whitney as the chief moving spirit. Its principle original provision was the establishment of the State Dental Society, with subordinate district societies, Buffalo being the central point of the Eighth district. The law grew out of the general desire for legislative acknowledgement of dentists as members of a profession that is entitled to protection and regulation in its practice, similar to what is accorded to the medical profession. The society was thus founded, with its board of censors who should make examinations and grant diplomas only. The following year (1869) an amendment was passed authorizing the granting of degrees in connection with diplomas and prohibiting any person from falsely claiming to have a diploma, license or degree. In 1879 another amendment was passed authorizing the registration of the names of all practicing dentists in the county clerk's office. It is now a misdemeanor for a person to practice dentistry without registration and a diploma.

The proceedings of the State Society and those subordinate to it, with the enforcement of this wholesome law, marked a great advancement in the profession of dentistry. No other State in the Union now boasts legislation and organization so complete in these respects, as New York, very much of the credit for which is due to the profession in the city of Buffalo.

On the 27th of May, 1864, the Buffalo Dental Association was founded; this is a local organization, as its name indicates, and is still in the enjoyment of a healthy career, its meetings have been productive of much benefit to the profession.

Following are the names of the dentists who begun practice in Buffalo from 1871 to the present time: George B. Hawley, Angelo C. Lewis and Thomas T. Philips, 1871; William A. Barrows, David S. Brown, Benjamin F. Clark, Lansing B. Cook, William Grinton and John L. Daboll, 1872; Alexander Bain, J. P. Dunn, William H. Kezeler and Charles W. Stainton, 1873; Parker A. Poole, Joseph W. Blandy, Douglas S. Joyce, 1874; George B. Scott, 1875; Charles S. Butler, William C.

Barrett, Joseph Seal and Lucien G. Sibley, 1876; Edward C. Longnecker and Frank S. Teller, 1878; Leverett C. Covey, 1880; C. A. Allen and Franklin E. Howard, 1881; William C. Hayes, 1882.

The *Independent Practitioner*, a dental periodical, was started in Baltimore in 1880, and removed to New York on January 1st, 1881. Dr. W. C. Barrett, of Buffalo, became interested in the publication in 1883, and it is now owned by an association of dentists, a majority of them in New York and Brooklyn, while it is edited by Dr. Barrett and published in this city. It is now the only independent dental publication in the State, and is ably conducted.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### THE BENCH AND BAR OF ERIE COUNTY.\*

Organization of Niagara County—Formation of Erie County—The First Court in Buffalo—The First Judges—The Attorneys of Buffalo Before 1812—Prominent Lawyers of the Next Decade—Riding the Circuit—Compensation of Early Lawyers—The Courts of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace—Their Character—The Recorder's Court of Buffalo—Sketch of Judge Ebenezer Walden—Biographic Notes of Other Deceased Attorneys and Justices—Present Courts and Judges of Erie County—The Present Bar of the County.

**H**ISTORY, truly speaking, is an account of facts, particularly of facts relating to nations or States, while a formal account of the life of individuals is not history, but biography. This chapter will pretend to the dignity of neither, but will endeavor to speak of the men who, since the organization of Erie county, upon the bench and the bar, in the forum of the law and in public and private life, have dignified humanity by their intelligent labors. It will necessarily be confined to the lives of those who have gone before us, leaving to the future annalist the task of narrating an account of those who are now upon the stage of life. This history will be compiled from all sources from which it has been possible to obtain information, particularly from the files of contemporaneous newspapers, and the valuable archives of the Buffalo Historical Society, and will not aspire to originality in thought, matter or expression.

The old county of Niagara, of which Buffalo was the county seat, was organized by an act of the Legislature, passed March 11, 1808. The present county of Erie was not set off from the several counties then embraced in Niagara and organized until 1821. The first court held in Buffalo was in June, 1808, at Mr. Landen's public house, situated on inner lot number

\* This sketch was compiled by Hon. James Sheldon, Chief Judge of the Superior Court of Buffalo.



one, on the south side of Crow (now Exchange) street. No court had before that time been held in Western New York, except at Batavia, and the opening of the first term of court was an event of interest and importance. Augustus Porter, of Niagara Falls, was the First Judge, and Erastus Granger, of Buffalo, one of the *puisne* judges. At that time and before the war of 1812, the only practicing attorneys settled at Buffalo were, Ebenezer Walden, Jonas Harrison, John Root and Heman B. Potter. Jonathan E. Chaplin was here in 1812. Albert H. Tracy, James Sheldon and E. S. Stewart came in 1815; and Thomas C. Love, Ebenezer F. Norton and William A. Moseley, soon after. The situation of Buffalo and its prospective future soon attracted public attention, and in 1821, at the time of the organization of Erie county, the practicing lawyers were John Root, Ebenezer Walden, Jonas Harrison, Heman B. Potter, James Sheldon, Albert H. Tracy, Thomas C. Love, Ebenezer F. Horton, Joseph W. Moulton, Philander Bennett, Jonathan E. Chaplin, Stephen G. Austin and William A. Moseley. By May, 1825, Horatio Shumway, Henry White, Thomas T. Sherwood, Harry Slade, Joseph Clary, Sheldon Smith, Roswell Chapin and Major A. Andrews were added to the bar. These were the men, the pioneers of the profession, who gave it character and dignity and for many years continued in active practice, one by one retiring from active life, their places taken by the able and eloquent lawyers who came afterwards and worthily sustained the high reputation always borne by the Erie county Bar.

The practice of riding the circuit, borrowed from England, prevailed in those early days. Eminent lawyers, especially those reputed successful with juries, accompanied the Circuit Judges of the Supreme Court from county to county, upon the circuit, to assist on the trial of civil cases and the defense of persons charged with crime. In some cases they were retained beforehand, but most frequently, they were employed during the sittings of the circuit, and were obliged to rely upon the preparation which had been made by the attorney who employed them. Before 1825, Root, Potter, Sheldon, Love and Tracy usually attended all the courts in the adjoining counties of Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Genesee and Niagara, to try their own causes and such as might be confided to them. The compensation which able lawyers received at this period will seem meager if not mean, to those who are familiar only with legal charges at the present day. In cases of considerable importance where the preparation for the trial had been made by an attorney, able counsel charged twenty to twenty-five dollars for the trial, and when several days were employed in the preparation and trial, fifty dollars to one hundred dollars was the largest charge for the services, including oftentimes a "summing up" to the jury, more eloquent and exhausting than Westminster Hall could produce once in five years. Although many of them at the present time, realize Daniel Webster's

declaration of a lawyer's fate, "to work hard, live well and die poor," some of our predecessors failed in each of these particulars, as doubtless many of our contemporaries will persist in doing.

Before the adoption of the constitution of 1846, the Court of Common Pleas and the Court of General Sessions of the Peace, were the only courts held in the county, except the circuits of the Supreme Court and the term of the Recorder's Court of Buffalo, which was established in 1839. The Court of Common Pleas was held by the First Judge and any two of the *puisne* Judges. Its practice assimilated both to that of the King's Bench and Common Pleas at Westminster, England, and its errors were corrected by writ of error brought in the Supreme Court. It was the former, where the greater part of the civil business of the county was transacted, and where the bar, if the annals transmitted to our generation are to be credited, engaged in exercises and practices that were not permitted at the circuit; a sort of legal arena where gladiatorial contests occurred that would not be tolerated at the present time. The Court of General Sessions of the Peace was held by the same Judges, but purely for the trial of criminal offenses. The constitution of 1846, abolished both courts and established a county court, with greatly enlarged jurisdiction and powers, and held and presided over by the county judge; and the Court of Sessions for the trial of criminal offenses, held by the county judge and two justices of the sessions. The Recorder's Court of Buffalo was established in 1839, and the appointment of the recorder vested in the Governor. The office was made elective by the people by the constitution 1846, and in 1854, the court was reorganized and merged in the present Superior Court, with three judges. It is now, under the constitution of 1869, a court possessing and exercising within the city, jurisdiction and authority concurrent and co-extensive with the Supreme Court, and each judge of the court possesses the same powers and authority in an action or special proceeding, which a Justice of the Supreme Court possesses in a like action or special proceeding brought in the Supreme Court, and appeals from the decisions of the court at a general term are taken to the Court of Appeals of the State, as the appellate court. The criminal powers and jurisdiction of the court in the city, are the same as those of the Supreme Court at the Oyer and Terminer. The Surrogate's Court was always an important tribunal and the office has generally been filled by learned members of the Bar.

Having thus referred to the various tribunals of the law which have existed since the organization of Erie county, it is proposed to give a brief sketch of the lives of those who, upon the bench and at the bar, have been connected with the administration of the law. Generally, the materials of such lives are few and brief, as are those furnished by the lives of the ablest, the wisest and the best who live and die among

us. Some of them were called upon to fill public offices and acquired State and National fame, but the greater number, knowing that civil office in their country, is not the criterion of merit or dignity, were devoted to the law and satisfied with the honorable position they sustained as counselors of their clients and fellow-citizens; believing that the highest function of the lawyer is to aid in the pure and intelligent administration of justice. Therefore, no extraordinary events happened to them in their careers, yet they were the men who gave tone and character to all public offices and exerted a controlling influence upon public sentiment. As citizens they were advocates of law and order and morality; firm and steadfast in supporting the institutions of the country, and worthily filling their places in all the offices and relations of life.

*Ebenezer Walden.*—Judge Walden was a native of Massachusetts and a graduate of Williams College. After reading law in Oneida county, he was admitted to the bar of this State, and became a resident of Buffalo in 1806, when it was but a mere frontier hamlet. His great sagacity comprehended its position, and he chose it for his home, becoming intimately identified with the fortunes of the place and contributing liberally in means and enterprise in building up its institutions, and promoting its growth and prosperity. He was one of the eight who in 1808 comprised the entire bar of what was then Niagara county. His colleagues before 1812, residing at Buffalo, were Jonas Harrison, John Root and Heman B. Potter, all of whom he survived many years. In 1812 Judge Walden represented in our State Legislature, the district composed of the present counties of Erie, Niagara, Chautauqua and Cattaraugus. During the war of 1812, he remained on the frontier and was present at the burning of Buffalo by the British, when, by his exertions and courage he aided essentially in saving the lives of several citizens. His own dwelling shared the common fate of the village. On the return of peace he resumed the practice of his profession and was distinguished as a safe counselor, a sound lawyer and able advocate. Soon after the organization of Erie county, and in 1823, he was appointed First Judge, the duties of which he discharged for five years with ability and fidelity. Judge Walden was a thorough lawyer and commanded the confidence and respect of the able bar who practiced in his court. In 1828 he was chosen one of the presidential electors and voted for John Quincy Adams. In 1838 he was chosen mayor of the city of Buffalo, and performed the varied and complicated duties of the office with ability and impartiality. During his last years he was withdrawn from the sphere of active life and died November 10, 1857, at the age of eighty years, leaving a reputation for integrity, benevolence and elevated patriotism which will always be associated with his memory.\*

\* For a more extended biography of Judge Walden see page 695, Vol. I.



*Jonas Harrison* settled in Buffalo before the war of 1812, and continued at the Bar until after 1820, when he went to Louisiana. There are no particulars of his history except such as are derived from memory. He sustained the reputation of a sound lawyer, ranking with the foremost of the able men of his time.

*John Root* was one of the earliest lawyers practicing at the Bar of Erie county, and was a learned and able man, but retired from the profession some years before his death, in 1846. His general knowledge of law and equity and jurisprudence, was, perhaps, equal to that of any of his contemporaries. Mr. Root was a man of large and imposing appearance and of particularly jovial and kindly temperament, ready at all times to advise with the younger members of the Bar, and was familiarly known as "Counselor Root." But few are now alive who knew him in his manhood, but many sketches have been compiled concerning him, illustrative of his sparkling wit and readiness at repartee, and the lively fancy that distinguished him and gave life and cheerfulness to the circle and society in which he moved.

*Heman B. Potter*, after receiving a college education, entered the law office of the celebrated Elisha Williams, at Hudson, where he was well trained in the principles and practice of the law. He came to Buffalo in October, 1810, and almost simultaneously established a law office, organized a Washington Benevolent Society, a Federal Club, and joined, if he did not organize, a Masonic lodge. He little thought that the two acts of his earlier life last named would, as they did, form an insuperable bar to political promotion to the end of his days. His appointment as district attorney of the county constituted the only taste of office that he ever enjoyed. He had the kindest of disposition, unimpeachable integrity, great industry, united to order and system in all transactions. He soon acquired what was then considered a large legal business, and tried and argued his own cases with good success. His addresses to courts and juries were pleasing in manner; his statements of law and fact, clear and well arranged, and although he did not rise to the height of eloquence, his forensic efforts could not fail to satisfy a moderate ambition. His administration of the office of district attorney for ten years was all that could be desired. The most celebrated prosecution in which he was engaged was the trial of the "three Thayers," in the summer of 1825, for murder. The case was one to be made out by circumstantial evidence alone, and was prepared by General Potter and all were found guilty and executed. In after years, the late Chancellor Walworth, who presided as a Circuit Judge at the trial, declared that he had never known a case so well prepared and tried. Through his whole life he was one of the most influential and respected citizens of Buffalo, continuing in active business until his death in 1854, and leaving a large fortune to his family and the more enduring memorial of an honorable character.



*Albert H. Tracy*, settled in Buffalo in 1815, and though only twenty-two years of age and just admitted to the bar, was soon recognized as a lawyer of marked ability. He was elected in 1818 to the Sixteenth Congress, and twice re-elected, serving six years and acquiring a National reputation. During this time he continued in active practice, in partnership with James Sheldon, and subsequently with Thomas C. Love. In 1826 he was appointed Circuit Judge by Governor Clinton, in place of William B. Rochester, but declined the office, and in 1829 he again entered political life, and was the candidate of the anti-Masons for the office of State Senator, and was elected. The Senate was then a component part of the Court for the Correction of Errors, the highest judicial tribunal of the State, and as a member of the court Mr. Tracy acquired a just and enduring fame. He was re-elected in 1833 for another term of four years and exhibited great judicial ability during the whole of his Senatorial career, as well as occupying a commanding position in the affairs of State government. He then retired from public life, in the meridian of his fame and intellectual power, and devoted himself principally to his private affairs, and having acquired a large fortune died in 1859.

*James Sheldon*,\* was born at New Hartford, Oneida county, N. Y., and having received a classical education at Fairfield Academy, pursued the study of the law at Onondaga Hollow with Gen. Thaddeus Wood. He came to Buffalo early in the year 1815, and continued in the active practice of his profession until 1832, and was devoted to the law, never seeking office or preferment of any kind. At the meeting of the bar on the 11th of March, 1876, on the occasion of the ceremonies of farewell to the "old court house," Senator Babcock said:—

"James Sheldon is probably little known to most of my hearers, and yet he made a prominent figure in this hall for many years. He was at one time the law partner of Albert H. Tracy, and afterwards of Charles G. Olmstead. Sheldon continued his practice until about 1832. He had a powerful, well-compacted body, an acute intellect and an ardent temperament, and was exceedingly well prepared for his profession, and a thorough-going practitioner. He had a large business in criminal cases, and a fair share of civil practice, and generally attended all the courts in the Eighth district, to act as counsel in the trial of important causes. His speeches to courts and juries were models of conciseness, expressed in terse, forcible words and in a manner that seemed defiant of contradiction. In the legal frays of the Common Pleas, he was foremost, never avoiding an encounter of any description, and seldom coming off without his spurs."

James Sheldon was the father of Hon. James Sheldon, now the Chief Justice of the Superior Court of Buffalo.

*Charles G. Olmstead* will not be remembered in the profession, but he was a scholarly gentleman and possessed superior abilities. He was the

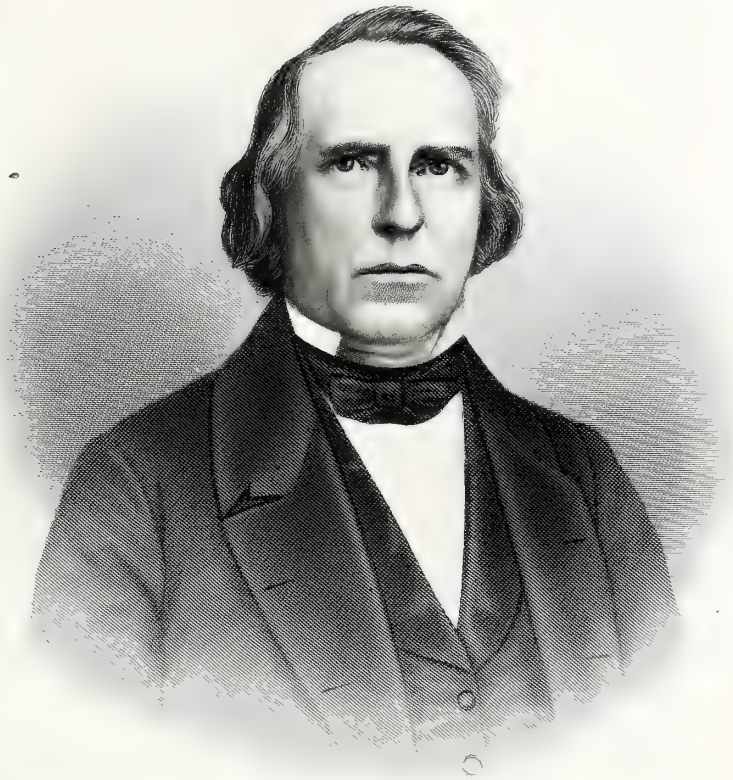
\* This sketch of James Sheldon was prepared by W. C. Bryant, Esq.

first district attorney of Niagara county in 1818, and was succeeded by General Potter in that position, and up to about 1824 was the law partner of James Sheldon. At that time he left Buffalo and went south, but no record of his subsequent life can be found.

*Thomas C. Love* was one of the foremost men of his time in Erie county. In 1812-'13 he served as a volunteer soldier on the northern frontier, and in 1814 was one of the first to respond to the call made upon the patriotic citizens of Western New York, to come to the rescue of our gallant little army pent up in Fort Erie. On the 17th of September, 1814, he was engaged in the memorable sortie from the fort, where, in the front of the battle, he was shot down, taken prisoner and carried ultimately to Quebec. When discharged from imprisonment, at the end of the war, he returned to Batavia, and after a short residence moved to Buffalo. Judge Love was well read in his profession and a man of real intellectual power, and an independent thinker; and while in active life, at the bar, on the bench, or in Congress, he exhibited great force of character, a strong intellect, courageous temperament, and an industry that shunned no labor. Into whatever he undertook, his whole soul was thrown, and as may well be supposed he was largely successful. His addresses to courts and juries made up in clearness and earnest force, whatever was wanting in taste and elegance. Mr. Love accepted the appointment of First Judge of the county in 1828, upon the retirement of Judge Walden, and during a brief term filled the position with great credit and fairness. In 1829 he resigned in order to accept the office of district attorney, discharging its duties with great zeal and integrity until after his election to Congress in 1834. After this time Judge Love rarely appeared at the bar, but in 1841 he was appointed Surrogate of the county, which position was congenial to his judicial habit of mind, and was held by him for four years. He held various minor positions of honor and trust, sustained an enviable reputation through life as a man of integrity and honor as well as patriotic and chivalrous character.

*Ebenezer F. Norton* was at one time a prominent member of the bar, and occupied a creditable position. He settled in Buffalo before 1820, and was distinguished for his learning, but was never devoted to the law or the trial of cases. In 1823, he represented Erie county in the Assembly, and was an earnest advocate of the canal policy, which at the time was a question of great importance. In 1828, he was elected to the Twenty-first Congress, and served with honor. The later years of his life here were passed in retirement and the society of a large and influential circle of friends and relatives.

*William A. Moseley* practiced fourteen years at the bar of Erie county, having commenced in 1820, and retiring upon his election to the Assembly in 1834. He possessed fine ability and acquirements, including a fair knowledge of the law and its practice, and tried and argued his







own cases which were most thoroughly prepared and had good success with them. In the "heavy fights" in the arena of the Common Pleas, he bore himself well, having the ready wit and sarcasm so useful in such encounters. Mr. Moseley was elected to the State Senate in 1838 for the term of four years, and as a senator was a member of the Court for the Correction of Errors, and in 1842, was elected a representative in Congress and re-elected in 1844. It was thought remarkable, that, with such abilities as he possessed, he should have been four years in the Senate and four years in Congress without making a speech in either body; and four years in the Court of Errors without delivering an opinion. This did not arise from inattention to the ordinary duties of the position, for no one exceeded him in punctuality of attendance and a knowledge of what transpired in the bodies of which he was a member. Mr. Moseley was distinguished as a courtly and pleasant gentleman and an ornament to society who deserved and received its confidence.

*Roswell Chapin*, was the first Surrogate of Erie county, being appointed in 1821, and continuing faithfully to discharge the duties of the office for over seven years. He was a lawyer of considerable ability, somewhat celebrated for quaintness of speech and manner as well as for his wit and eccentricities; and at one time possessed fair reputation and influence, but in later years was unfortunate and leaving no family, is not remembered by many of the present day.

*Samuel Wilkeson* is gratefully remembered and more generally known from his identification with the history and prosperity of Buffalo and of Western New York. He settled in Buffalo shortly after the war of 1812, and became prominently interested in every measure that tended to advance its interests. Judge Wilkeson was an extraordinary man, of strong mind, indomitable energy and perseverance, possessing great public spirit and active enterprise, and his fame rests upon his devotion to all the measures and enterprises of the time that conduced to the growth and prosperity of the country. He was not a lawyer by profession or education, but his good judgment and vigorous common sense, enabled him in most cases to form quite correct opinions of the law from the discussions of counsel and their citations of adjudications made by higher courts. His appointment as First Judge of the county was made in 1810, and he continued to hold the position until in 1823. In 1825 he was elected to the Senate of the State and during his term of office was distinguished for his great ability. As Mayor of the city in 1835 and in all public positions, he is remembered for his zeal and impartiality.

*Philander Bennett* graduated at Hamilton College and came to Buffalo in 1817, well prepared to enter upon the duties of his profession. By his ability and learning he acquired public confidence, and in 1829 was appointed First Judge of the county, which position he held with great honor until in 1837. He filled various minor offices and positions

of trust with rare fidelity, and his conduct all through a useful life was marked by integrity, charity for all, and kindness and benevolence to those who looked to him for advice, for sympathy or aid in affliction. For many of his last years he lived in dignified retirement, sometimes engaged in foreign travel, but mostly in horticultural pursuits, and studies and reflections suited to an enlightened, Christian and philosophic mind.

*Stephen G. Austin*, in his time, was one of the leading members of the Bar. He settled in Buffalo in 1820, and by diligence and devotion to his business and fortunate investments, amassed great wealth. In the practice of the profession he was noted as being faithful and painstaking, sound and judicious in his advice to clients, and well versed in the principles of law and equity and the rules of practice. Mr. Austin was engaged in later years in many enterprises that contributed to the prosperity of that city, and at the time of his death, in June, 1872, was president of the National Savings Bank.

*Oliver Forward*.—A memorial of this distinguished man was written a few years since by the compiler of this chapter, for the Buffalo Historical Society, in just recognition of his character and valuable labors as a citizen and in the public life. He was, by birthright, an inheritor of those sterling and manly New England virtues which planted the graces of our civilization and the republicanism of our institutions upon our western frontier. About the year 1809 he settled at Buffalo under the auspices of his brother-in-law, Judge Erastus Granger, at that time the postmaster and collector of customs of that place, and agent for the Indian tribes in Western New York. Judge Forward immediately assumed the practical duties of those positions, and was appointed a justice of the peace, all of which affairs were transacted in a small wooden building, in the rear of what is now No. 102 Pearl street, but which was burned by the British on the 30th of December, 1813. In 1814 he erected a brick dwelling, of which only the northerly portion is now standing, being the same number and which probably is now the oldest house in the city and in which the public business was transacted for many years. The village was incorporated in 1813, and he was nominated in the act as one of the trustees, and in April, 1817, was appointed one of the Judges of Niagara county, a position he held for several years, displaying in an eminent degree the true judicial character of fairness, patience and impartiality. As collector of the port he purchased the land and erected the first lighthouse for this port at the mouth of the harbor, and on the first day of November, 1818, the first light was displayed, the harbinger of the commerce so fabulous in amount and value which has since that day centered at this emporium.

The question of the terminus of the Erie canal was greatly agitating the community in 1819, and Judge Forward was selected as the master



*S. G. Austin*





mind to represent the interests of Buffalo in the Assembly of the State, and then as a Senator in 1820, and the ensuing sessions, in which body he maintained a conspicuous position and accomplished the great object of his mission. He participated in all of the important events occurring at the time, and held many positions of public trust with rare fidelity; always one of the most active and influential men of his day, and contributed as much as any other to the success of the measures which laid the foundation and splendor of our city, and in April, 1833, closed a life which had been almost entirely devoted to public service. On the memorable occasion of the visit of General La Fayette to the United States as our Nation's guest, Judge Forward delivered an address of welcome to the distinguished visitor at Buffalo, on the 4th of June, 1825, which has been well considered as the most happy and dignified that was presented during his sojourn in this country. His brother, Walter Forward, was Secretary of the Treasury during the administration of President Tyler, and another brother, Chauncey Forward, was a distinguished representative in Congress from Pennsylvania.

*Charles Townsend.*—Judge Townsend was one of those pioneers who will ever be remembered as identified with the settlement and progress of Buffalo, and who contributed in an eminent degree to advance its commercial and business interests. He settled here in 1811, participated in the struggles and incidents of the war of 1812 upon the frontier, and in 1817 was appointed one of the Judges of the Common Pleas of Niagara county. His course in judicial life was marked by a kind and considerate regard for the rights and interests of suitors, and for decisions which displayed the qualities of fairness and impartiality, and, although not educated for the bar, his native good sense and judgment, enabled him to maintain the respect of the profession. Judge Townsend was a man of great integrity and held many minor positions of trust, but never sought the honors and labors of public life. In later years he was largely connected with commercial business at this port, and acquired a large fortune, and died in 1847, leaving a most honorable record as a man and a citizen.

*Horatio Shumway* settled in Buffalo in 1824, and having received a good professional education, soon acquired the confidence of the leading business men, and at the bar ranked among the foremost as a sound, legal adviser. He disliked the trial of causes at *nisi prius*, and was devoted to the business of a counselor, in his office, and the management of large trusts and estates. In 1846 Mr. Shumway was persuaded to become a candidate for the Assembly, in which position he originated many public measures and attracted attention by the sound judgment he manifested in the consideration of the questions of the time. In all the duties and relations of life, he was ever found supporting what was right and just, dealing conscientiously and affording to the last a good example

of that integrity which is the most enduring memorial the citizen can leave to society.

*Dyer Tillinghast*, came to Buffalo in 1826, and at once secured a very respectable standing and business. He was an excellent practitioner in all law and equity tribunals and possessed great clerical ability. He was at home in all forums. A justice's court, a board of town officers, an ecclesiastical convocation, a court martial, a trial at the sessions or circuit, a case in chancery or in admiralty, were equally his delight, and in each he acquitted himself with credit. He was a lawyer of great learning, assiduous and painstaking, without ambition, whose integrity and kindness of heart were proverbial. Especially during all his life, did he manifest a remarkable sympathy for the younger members of the bar; extending to all the right hand of welcome, and freely giving of his varied stores of learning. Probably no larger or more dignified meeting of the bar of Erie county was ever held, than the one of March 19, 1862, upon the occasion of the death of Mr. Tillinghast. The proceedings were fully reported in the papers of that day, and were characterized by that genuine sympathy for a friend and brother, which was the best tribute to his character as a man and a lawyer. Faithful to the interests of his clients, honest in his dealings with his fellow-men, filling various posts of usefulness in the community where he had resided for thirty-six years, he departed without leaving an enemy behind. Marked tributes of regard were paid to his character and standing by Judges Clinton, Sheldon, Masten and Skinner, on the sad occasion.

*Harry Slade* graduated at Dartmouth College, and after being admitted to the bar, settled in Buffalo in 1822. For nearly twenty years he served as a justice of the peace, and represented Erie county in the Assembly of 1848. With a mind finely cultivated, a clear, sagacious intellect, firm and honorable in his convictions and life, Mr. Slade might, if he had so chosen, have won a distinguished position in public life; but he was singularly unambitious and found his chief enjoyment in rural sports, of which he was passionately fond, and the social converse of his friends. Tenacious of the old school principles in which he had been brought up, he was in heart gentle and simple as a child. His character was strikingly individualized, and many anecdotes have been related illustrating his peculiarities. While actively engaged at the bar he was considered a safe counselor, and was faithful to his clients' interests, but he did not practice in his later years; devoting himself to the just administration of the law in the court of a justice of the peace, the varied duties of which he performed with singular fairness and equity.

*Joseph Clary*, at one time was ranked among the leading members of the bar of Erie county, although never aspiring to the celebrity of the advocate. He was peculiarly a man of fine social feelings, endowed with strong and well-balanced intellectual powers, and a general sagacity

and good sense, and, while exercising great deliberation in forming his convictions upon all subjects, he was ever firm in asserting them. Mr. Clary held various minor positions of trust and represented Erie county in the Legislature of 1834.

*Henry White*, during the few years at the bar, attained considerable reputation. In many respects he was a remarkable man. He had a subtle and ingenious mind, great industry, entire devotion to his profession, and read much and thought more of his books. His ready ability, genial and attractive manners, gave him influence with juries, while his entire faculties were devoted to every cause in which he was retained. His reputation in Western New York as a *nisi prius* lawyer, had reached a high point and was increasing, when he died suddenly of cholera in 1832. Mr. White never sought or held office, but maintained the high position of an independent and fearless advocate at the bar.

*Sheldon Smith*, at the time of his death, in 1835, was one of the oldest and most reputable counselors of Western New York, no less distinguished for his legal acquirements than for eloquence, urbanity of manner, philanthropy of nature and purity of morals. As an advocate before a jury, he was fluent and graceful, presenting his case with moderation and clearness, in language extremely well chosen and effective. Mr. Smith settled in Buffalo about 1820, and continued in practice until his death at the early age of forty-seven, and during all that time was conspicuous at the bar to the varied duties of which he was devoted. He was a rhetorician of cultivation, didactic, impressive and slow of speech, or ornate and profuse in declamation, as to him seemed most suitable to the occasion. His most celebrated popular effort, but of which only the memory remains, was made on the 26th of October, 1825, when the great concourse of people who had assembled to witness the departure on that day, of the first boat from Buffalo upon the Erie canal for tide-water, moved in procession to the court house, and listened to his magnificent oration. Had Mr. Smith yielded to the wishes of the people, and the allurements of political life, he would have graced the halls of our State and National Legislatures; but he was unambitious and devoted to the law, and sought no distinction beyond that of being an ornament to his profession.

*Major A. Andrews*, will not be remembered particularly as a lawyer although he maintained a respectable standing at the bar when he settled in Buffalo about 1820, he purchased a large real estate which increased in value with the growth of the place, and the management of which diverted him from the practice of his profession. He was the second Mayor of the city chosen in 1833, and gave patient and zealous attention to the interests confided to him. The only other prominent position held by him was that of a member of the electoral college of 1833, in which he cast a vote for Andrew Jackson for President.



*Martin Chittenden*, came from Vermont a young man of distinguished family, highly educated, and attracted at once the popular attention. He was appointed Surrogate of the county in February, 1832, but he held the office only a few months, when he died of cholera, to the great regret of the Bar and of all the community. He had given such marked evidence of the possession of superior abilities and learning, combined with a dignified but genial address, that his untimely death was regarded as a public calamity.

*Absalom Bull*, resided at Black Rock from about 1821 until his death, and was a practitioner of good reputation. At one time he acted as one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas. Judge Bull was an influential delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1846, and was always recognized as an exemplary and honorable citizen.

*George R. Babcock*, came to Buffalo in 1824 and after pursuing the study of law in the office of General Potter, subsequently his father-in-law, was admitted to the Bar in 1829, and was connected with the profession until his death in 1876. During the later years of his life he was withdrawn from the more general business of the law, and devoted himself to the management of a few important trusts. He was well informed in the principles of law and equity and jurisprudence, and often called upon to act as referee in the determination of difficult litigations. Mr. Babcock, without any pretensions to genius, was a man of ability, of a philosophic turn of mind, and his judgments were intuitively correct. Always a student, there were few subjects of interest to the scholar and statesman that had not passed under his critical review. He maintained the respect and confidence of the community through a long life of public and private service, but was without ambition for office and disliked the arts by which men of inferior qualifications were raised into power. His mind was eminently well balanced and conservative in all its tendencies, and with his unspotted integrity and judicial learning and temperament, he would have greatly adorned the bench in the higher courts. In 1843 he represented Erie county in the Assembly and was elected to the State Senate in 1850 and re-elected in 1852, and was recognized as one of the ablest and wisest men in public service.

*Elijah Ford*, received a classical education at Union College and settled in Buffalo in 1828, where he entered the law office of White & Sherwood, and in due time was admitted to the bar. Mr. Ford was an office lawyer and counselor, rather than an advocate, and as a Master in Chancery acquired extended reputation, for his fair and equitable disposition of the important matters referred to him by the court of chancery. The settlement and management of the estate of Hon. Samuel DeVeaux, was entrusted almost entirely to him for eighteen years, and the College near the Suspension Bridge was built under his supervision. Mr. Ford held many positions of trust and was somewhat distinguished in public life,



having represented Erie county in the Assembly in 1850, in which body he was the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means. In 1859 he was the candidate of the Hard-Shell branch of the Democratic party for Lieutenant-Governor, but was defeated. Nothing could have been more absolutely honest than his busy and useful life, through all of which his manly virtues and intellectual attainments were a benefit to society. Mr. Ford was not a learned man, not a great lawyer, nor had he the gift of eloquence, but he was strictly a business lawyer, studious, thorough and conscientious, a wise, impartial and just arbitrator of the affairs of men, and an exemplary and honored member of the community.

*Thomas T. Sherwood* was one of the remarkable lawyers and men of his or of any time. He came to Erie county and practiced law at Springville sometime before he settled in Buffalo, in 1826, at which date he became the law partner of Henry White. Their relation lasted until 1831, but he still continued in active practice, and in 1838, formed a partnership with Mr. William H. Greene, whose beautiful and truthful memorial of the life and character of Mr. Sherwood has preserved the fame of a really great man. In that paper Mr. Greene says: that as a lawyer, Mr. Sherwood was not learned, but he was an able one, far abler than any mere learning could make him. Without a scholastic or thorough study of the law, he had acquired and become familiar with the principles in which our jurisprudence is founded, both those of common law and equity. There was no question of law or of fact to which he was not equal in case it became necessary that he should examine it and master it in connection with a cause actually at hand. But in *banc*, on mere questions of dry law, he did not appear to his own advantage, because he lacked the accuracy which is there indispensable, which nothing but a minute and laborious preparation can secure. Still there was no judge of sufficient intelligence to appreciate such a man, who did not care to hear him and who did not hear him with patience and with benefit. There was no one who could affect, in his presence, judicial indifference, arrogance, indolence or contempt; such was the size, the looks, the heart and the stir, as well as the courage of the man. But Mr. Sherwood had been trained up in his profession far more in the scenes of *nisi prius*. There it was, in the pressure and tumult of a trial before a jury, that his blood and pulse, the faculties of his body as well as of his mind were aroused into action. There he appeared in his best condition and to his own best advantage. He was familiar with the ordinary rules of evidence and their use; and there he felt and acted at his ease like one on a theatre to which he was accustomed. He was far from being an accurate or a graceful speaker, yet if eloquence be judged of by the criterion of carrying a man's point with a jury, he was eloquent. The twelve men before him were the only body of men he ever coaxed or courted. On the judge who presided, he was apt to look as an

obstacle in his way and altogether out of place. He treated the judge just as he did the juror, rather as a man than as a lawyer, for by his own experience and observation he had learned how little law, in truth, is made use of in the administration of the law. He impressed the jury with his theory and ideas of the case, and so impressed it into their minds that they might not be dislodged, and it was in these scenes of the trials of causes that the ability of the man, in the capacity of the lawyer, appeared. Very many might complain, criticise and object, sometimes even venture to ridicule; the victorious answer to the whole swarm of these fault-findings, was the verdict. Mr. Sherwood never allowed himself to be a candidate for public office, for he possessed that stern independence of character which would not allow his views and opinions to be subordinated to those of any man or party. In private life he was truthful and kind-hearted exerting great influence in all matters to which his attention was directed, always exacting obedience to the law and the precepts of morality as the price of his friendship, and lived and died in comparison with the best of his fellow citizens, an upright and honest and just man.

*Millard Fillmore*, the thirteenth President of the United States, moved to Erie county in 1821, and the next spring entered a law office in Buffalo, and was admitted to the Common Pleas in 1823. He then settled in Aurora, and was there admitted to the Supreme Court in 1827, but in 1830 removed to Buffalo, and continued engaged in the practice of the law until his election as Comptroller of the State, in 1847. In the practice of the law, the preparation and trial of causes, Mr. Fillmore was assiduous and painstaking to the last degree; never allowing himself to rely upon the inspirations of the moment, or the mistakes of his adversary. The interests confided to him by clients were thoroughly protected, and on every occasion, before the varied tribunals of law and equity, he was fully prepared upon the law and the facts, to maintain the cause in which he was engaged. He was considered as a safe and reputable counselor and an advocate of superior ability. Mr. Fillmore was not a man of genius or of eloquence. He relied upon the adjudications in the books to support, before the judges, his views of the law, as applicable to the case in hand, and for success in the trial of causes before a jury, upon his plain and candid statements and inferences from the testimony, without any pretense of oratorical power. Always cool, unimpassioned, yet pertinacious, dignified and imposing in appearance, and apparently in earnest in supporting his views and convictions, he possessed in the highest degree the qualities of the successful lawyer. But it was as an office lawyer that Mr. Fillmore acquired distinction and wealth; by the same industry and mastery of details and general accuracy, and the conservative nature of his mind, that gave him prominence in the halls of legislation, and enabled him to manage with real ability, the

varied and important matters in which he was retained. His political career and public life and services are matters of our national history.

*Horatio J. Stow* came here from Lewis county, in this State, where his father, Hon. Silas Stow, resided, and held the position of First Judge of the Common Pleas and represented his district in 1812 and 1813 in Congress. He settled at Lewiston and formed a partnership with Hon. Bates Cooke, afterward Comptroller, and a man of very distinguished standing in the State. Upon moving to Buffalo in 1833, he entered into partnership with Joseph Clary, who at that time was largely engaged in practice and was singularly skilful, judicious and administrative in all the kinds of business belonging to and allied with the law. Judge Stow continued actively engaged in his profession until 1839, when, upon the organization of the Recorder's court, he was appointed the first Recorder of the city, which position he held about four years, but after that he did not appear again at the bar. He administered the office of Recorder promptly, impartially, with dispatch, accuracy and satisfaction. In his own mind, the standard of an accomplished Judge was very high, and he always seemed to aim to live up to its purity and completeness. In 1846 he was chosen from Erie county as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, and in 1857, being then a resident of Niagara county, by the joint suffrages of both political parties, was elected to the State Senate from that district. It was in the debates of the Constitutional Convention that Judge Stow exhibited the qualities of the eloquent and learned statesman and jurist, and acquired that just fame upon which his reputation stands. His speech upon the question of legal reform was of this superiority and intelligence, delivery and effect, and when in the Senate his speech upon the canal question attracted universal attention. Judge Stow was an earnest, sincere and reliable friend, governed by the most generous impulses, and scorning all meanness or hypocrisy. His strict integrity and independence, lifting him above all party ties, were eminently conspicuous and worthy of imitation by the politicians of the present day.

*Frederick P. Stevens* was a member of the bar when he settled in Buffalo in 1833, and well prepared for his profession. He was one of the early Masters in Chancery in Western New York, and also a *puisne* Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for many years, until in January, 1845, he was appointed the First Judge, and in June, 1847, was elected County Judge under the constitution of 1846. Judge Stevens practiced but little at the bar, but was known as a capable and accurate Master in Chancery, a considerate and painstaking judicial officer, at Chambers, and an honest and upright Judge. In 1856 he was elected Mayor of the city and discharged the duties of that place with superior executive ability. He was elected to the Assembly in 1863, and at once took a prominent and useful position, particularly in regard to the interests of Buffalo. Judge Stevens was a kind and genial gentleman, a firm and



true friend, and maintained the respect and consideration of his fellow citizens during his long and busy life.

*Samuel Caldwell* graduated at Cambridge, and practiced law several years in Buffalo, before he was appointed Surrogate of Erie county, in 1836. He was industrious in the practice of his profession, a good and safe counselor, but rather avoided the trial of causes at *nisi prius*. As a Surrogate, and in the performance of the duties of a Supreme Court Commissioner, and Master in Chancery for many years, he evidenced the possession of judicial ability of a high order. Mr. Caldwell was a man of large general information, studious, quiet and unostentatious, but recognized as a faithful and honorable member of the bar, and a citizen of influence and character.

*Solomon G. Haven.*—In the general practice of the law, as a counselor learned in the law, and an advocate before a jury, Mr. Haven was for many years pre-eminent at the Bar of Erie county. After a course of legal studies in the office of the late Governor, John Young, at Geneseo, he came to Buffalo in January, 1835, and entered the law office of Fillmore & Hall. On being admitted to the Bar in May following, he commenced practice alone, but the next year became a member of that firm, who then were largely engaged in business. Judge Hall retired from the firm in May, 1839, but Mr. Fillmore and Mr. Haven continued associated in active practice until the fall of 1847, when the former gentleman was elected Comptroller of the State, but Mr. Haven remained at the Bar until his death, in December, 1861. From the first Mr. Haven was eminently successful in his profession, gaining early a prominent position and ultimately attaining the front rank in the Bar of Western New York as a *nisi prius* lawyer. He brought to the study and the practice of the law a great intellect, most subtle and ingenious powers of investigation, a retentive memory and quick and active perceptions. He was a student and gathered and stored up the learning of his profession in all its various departments, and applied his learning to the actual case with unrivalled skill. His knowledge, his genial temperament, his probity and correct habits, excited universal admiration and were worthy of the emulation of all society. In business, and especially in the practice of the law, he exhibited extraordinary dexterity, shrewdness, vigor and understanding, at once sound, comprehensive and acute, guarded by a true regard for honor and integrity, and a heart constantly disposed to kind and charitable actions. In March, 1842, he was elected Mayor of Buffalo, and in June, 1843, was appointed District Attorney of the county, and discharged the duties of each position with sound discretion and marked ability. In 1850 he consented to become a candidate for election as a representative in Congress, influenced mainly by his desire to render efficient support to the administration of President Fillmore, his former partner. He was re-elected to Congress in 1852, and again in 1854, and was always distin-



guished in his character as a representative, for his honesty, industry and independent course upon all questions, acquiring great influence and reputation.

*James Mullett*, while residing in Chautauqua county was known as one of the ablest members of the Bar in Western New York. Upon moving to Buffalo in 1843, he entered at once into a large practice which he pursued with great success until his election as a Judge of the Supreme Court in 1847. Judge Mullett was a man of superior intellect and a thorough lawyer, and while at the Bar was eminent in his success in the trial of causes. In any case where principle was involved, where he felt that as an advocate he was asserting a right, or endeavoring to redress a wrong, his eloquence was of the highest order, and his arguments convincing, persuasive and unanswerable. He distinguished himself upon the bench by several opinions which will remain in the reports, unexcelled, as examples of judicial learning and logical conclusion. In 1823 and 1824, Judge Mullett represented Chautauqua county in the Assembly and in 1826 was appointed District Attorney of that county; but he had no political aspirations and through the rest of his life was devoted to his profession and to the administration of the law.

*George P. Barker* graduated at Union College in 1827, and the same year commenced the study of the law in the office of Stephen G. Austin, in Buffalo, with whom he became associated in business, upon his admission to the Bar in 1830. Before that time he had attracted public attention by his superior oratorical powers, manifested in the legal contests in the minor courts, and in his active participation in the political contests of the time. Not only had he risen to the front rank at the Bar, but became the acknowledged leader of the Democratic party and in 1831, at the age of twenty-four, was its candidate for the Assembly. In 1832 he was appointed District Attorney of the county, and in the discharge of the duties of the office, laid the foundation for a higher legal position. He was an unsuccessful candidate for Congress in 1834, but in 1835 was elected to the Assembly of the State, notwithstanding the fact that his party were in a large minority in the county. He acquired great legislative reputation and popularity while in the Assembly and took a leading position upon the important questions then exciting the public mind. In 1842 he was elected Attorney-General of the State, and honorably discharged the duties of his high position, and on his retirement was again appointed District Attorney of the county, which position he held until his death in 1848, at the early age of forty-one. Mr. Barker was distinguished by his commanding presence and winning and courteous manner; in personal popularity he was, perhaps, without a rival in the State. He was a ready and eloquent speaker, who felt and made others feel what he asserted, yet he was none the less a well-read lawyer and an able and judicious counselor.

*Nathan K. Hall*, was born in Onondaga county in 1810, but moved to the town of Wales, in Erie county, in 1826, and immediately entered the office of Millerd\* Fillmore, in Aurora, as a law student. When Mr. Fillmore moved to Buffalo, in 1830, Judge Hall came with him, and continued his studies until he was admitted in 1832, and soon after that, formed a partnership with Mr. Fillmore. Probably no man in Erie county held more public positions than Judge Hall, or with more entire satisfaction to the community. In 1839, he was appointed Master in Chancery and in 1841, First Judge of the Common Pleas. In 1845 he was elected Member of Assembly, and in 1847 represented Erie county in Congress. Mr. Fillmore having assumed the Presidential chair, on the death of President Taylor in 1850, Judge Hall was appointed Postmaster-General, and continued to hold that position until 1852, when he received the appointment of Judge of the District Court for the Western district of New York, which place he continued until his death in March, 1874.

During all these years, Judge Hall was intimately connected with the most important institutions of Buffalo; for many years president of the Buffalo Female Academy and one of the trustees of Wells College at Aurora, Cayuga county. He was president of the board of trustees of the Normal School, and also president of the Buffalo Historical Society, and always an active and influential member. The industry, capacity and learning of Judge Hall in every position in which he was placed, were remarkable. His patience, kindness and dignity upon the bench, as a Judge, were proverbial, and in all public positions, and in the walks of private life, his bearing was eminently that of an intelligent, conscientious, just and worthy man.

*Henry K. Smith*, one of the most gifted and eloquent members of the Bar of the State of New York, was born on the Island of Santa Cruz, where his father, an English gentleman, was largely engaged as a planter. At the age of seven years, he was sent to Baltimore for the purpose of being educated, and after remaining many years, concluded to study law at Johnstown in this State, and was admitted to the Bar in 1833. He then settled in Buffalo and by his fine abilities, soon took rank among the most successful lawyers in Western New York. In 1843 he was appointed Recorder of Buffalo and held that judicial position four years. In 1848, unexpectedly to himself, he was appointed Postmaster and in March, 1850, elected Mayor of the city of Buffalo, filling these several stations with fidelity and ability. In all the political contests of the time, Judge Smith took an active and influential part. As an advocate at the Bar and as a public speaker, especially upon the leading topics of the time, he was gifted with an eloquence which was surpassed by that of few speakers in the State or nation. He was self-

\* It is a fact not generally known, perhaps, that Mr. Fillmore in the early years of his life, spelled his given name with an "e."

possessed in a remarkable degree; his mind was richly stored and cultivated; his manner, alike commanding and winning; his carriage, graceful and manly; his eye, beaming with fires of genius and intellect; his voice, clear and sonorous, and his elocution surpassed by few living orators. These were gifts and accomplishments which he possessed in a remarkable degree, and which, if he had so willed, would have secured him any position to which he might have aspired. As a lawyer, he was well versed in the principles of law and equity; a diligent student and commanded the attention and respect of courts and juries. The last few years of his life, he withdrew from active practice and died at Buffalo in September, 1854.

*Israel T. Hatch*, came to Buffalo about 1830, well prepared for the duties of his profession, and soon acquired an honorable position at the Bar. He was appointed Surrogate of the county in January, 1833, the duties of which position he discharged with admirable judicial fairness and ability. Mr. Hatch did not remain long in practice, but was distinguished for his general understanding of all branches of his profession. He engaged in business enterprises, and as a politician and public spirited citizen, attained great reputation and influence. In 1852 he was elected to the Assembly, and at that time and always thereafter, was an ardent supporter of the canal policy of the State of New York. He was elected as a representative in Congress in 1856, and occupied an influential position as regards all matters of national policy. Mr. Hatch was a courteous gentleman, possessing fine literary tastes and well educated, and to the time of his death, exerted a commanding influence in the community.

*Wells Brooks*, practiced law at Springville for many years, and was a life-long resident of Erie county. The later years of his life were passed in Buffalo, in the quiet discharge of the trusts and duties of various public positions. Mr. Brooks was a lawyer of good reputation, faithful to his clients, candid and sincere, and deservedly occupied a good position at the Bar. For many years, he was a leading member of the Board of Supervisors, and looked upon as authority in all affairs of importance to the county. He was elected to the Assembly in 1836 and again in 1843 and exerted considerable influence in the Legislature. In 1849 he was elected county clerk and admirably conducted the affairs connected with that position.

*Edward S. Warren* during a residence in Buffalo of nearly thirty years, maintained a position of high social and business prominence. He graduated at Middlebury College, in 1833, and soon after came to Buffalo and pursued a course of legal studies in the office of Hon. Israel T. Hatch, and upon being admitted to the bar, became the law partner of the Hon. Henry K. Smith. In his professional career, Mr. Warren displayed legal attainments of a high order, and achieved an honorable



standing at the bar. His spirit of practical enterprise, made the dull routine of professional life distasteful to him, and he embarked largely in business affairs, which he conducted with sagacity and success. He was an accomplished gentleman and an intelligent and valued citizen.

*James Crocker*, settled in Buffalo about 1835, and practiced until his death in 1861. He was a quiet and unassuming gentleman, of unblemished character, and an excellent member of society. For several years he was a Master in Chancery, and held various minor offices and positions of trust, and discharged the duties of all positions with fairness and ability. His practice of the law was mainly confined to the routine of his office, as a counsellor, and he rarely appeared before the courts.

*Peter M. Vosburgh*, practiced law at Aurora, several years, and on moving to Buffalo, was engaged in a large business until his appointment as surrogate of Erie county in January, 1845. He was elected to the same position in 1847, serving in all, nearly six years, with great honor and satisfaction to the community. In 1855, he was elected county clerk and showed excellent administrative ability in the discharge of the duties of that position. During a professional life of over thirty years, he was known as a safe counselor, slow and candid in forming opinions and firm in his own convictions of right and justice. He was a citizen of influence and always respected for his integrity and exemplary life.

*James Stryker*, was in active practice in Buffalo for several years before he was appointed First Judge of the Common Pleas in 1837, which position he held until 1841. He was a jurist of superior reputation, and stood high as a lawyer of ability, but he was an ardent politician, and, devoting himself to the political controversies of the day, never acquired in his profession, the place to which otherwise he would have been entitled. When the general government decided upon the plan of removing the Indians of the State, to the northwest territory, President Jackson appointed Judge Stryker, as the commissioner to negotiate a treaty with the Six Nations. He was eminently successful, and the Cayugas and a large part of the Senecas, Oneidas and Onondagas, emigrated to other places. After leaving Buffalo he settled near New York and published the *American Register* for several years, a work of authority and reference.

*Benjamin H. Austin, Sr.*, settled in Buffalo shortly after his admission to the bar in Saratoga county, and continued in a large and active practice until his death in July, 1874. He possessed many remarkable traits of character, and was gifted with that natural logical acumen, intuitive sense of right and justice, calmness and deliberation, and great intellectual vigor, which adapted him to the requirements of his profession. He made the study and practice of the law the arduous business of his life, and achieved success beyond many, if not most of his compeers, by industry, integrity and patience. The practice of the law in his hands, was what





*Henry W. Rogers*



it ever is in the hands of those who are worthy of its privileges; not the instrument of oppression, the trickery of fraud, but the shield against injustice, the protection of the innocent, and the terror of the fraudulent and the criminal. He will be remembered for the zeal, the earnestness, the vigor which it was always his habit to bring to the discharge of his duties, manifesting to every one and in all instances, an unyielding faithfulness and constant courage for his client, and his client's cause. Mr. Austin's life was exemplary. Beneficent and kind to all with whom he was associated, he was also a friend to every good cause, and in his own life afforded the living example of a worthy man and citizen. He was elected district attorney of the county in 1847, and faithfully served his term of office, but held no other public position. His son, Benjamin H. Austin, Jr., after many years of active professional life in Buffalo, removed to the Sandwich Islands, hoping to benefit his health, and is now one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of that kingdom.

*Seth E. Sill* was born in Saratoga county, and having completed his legal education in the office of Thomas T. Sherwood, in Buffalo, was admitted to the Bar in 1836. He subsequently was in partnership with George P. Barker, which relation terminated on Mr. Barker being chosen Attorney-General of the State, and subsequently Mr. Sill continued the practice alone, until he was elected a Judge of the Supreme Court in 1847. He continued on the Bench until his death in September, 1851, at the early age of 42 years. At the Bar, Judge Sill was distinguished as being an able, accurate and conscientious lawyer and attained a deservedly high rank in his profession. In his death, the Bench of the State lost one of its brightest ornaments. Throughout the State he had become known and esteemed as a learned and able jurist, and he left a lasting impression upon the judicial history of the State. If he was distinguished for one quality more than another, it was for his unblemished and unbending integrity as a man and a Judge.

*Asher P. Nichols* acquired a legal education in the office of Hon. George W. Clinton, and was admitted to the Bar in 1837. He continued in active practice until his death in May, 1880. Mr. Nichols was a painstaking, industrious lawyer, well versed in the theory and practice of his profession and of superior ability as an advocate. He had a thorough appreciation of the dignity of his profession and achieved an excellent standing at the Bar. In 1867 he was elected to the Senate of the State, of which body he was an influential member, and in June, 1870, was appointed Comptroller of the State. In both of these positions he exhibited marked administrative ability and that faithful discharge of duty characteristic of him as a lawyer. Mr. Nichols was a gentleman of fine literary tastes, affable and courteous, and recognized as an influential member of society.

*Henry W. Rogers* practiced law with great success at Bath, Steuben county for several years before he moved to Buffalo in 1836, and con-

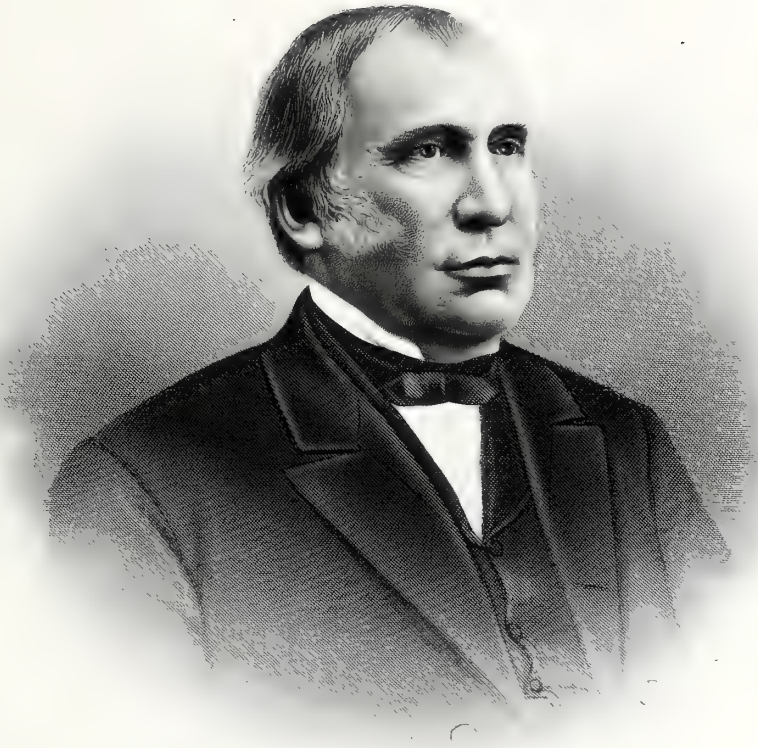
tinued identified with the profession until about 1872. During all this time Mr. Rogers was one of the most prominent members of the Bar in Western New York, and recognized as an able counselor and successful advocate. In 1837 he was appointed District Attorney of Erie county and served in that office with signal ability and faithfulness until 1844. In 1844 he was appointed by President Polk to the position of Collector of Customs of the port of Buffalo, which place he held four years. The later years of his life were spent in foreign travel and the enjoyment of his cultured tastes, and he died at Ann Arbor, Michigan, in March, 1880, having resided there on account of his health for several years. He always exercised a large and good influence in society, and was prominent in the support of all measures designed to enhance the public good. He was one of the founders and a liberal benefactor of the Academy of Fine Arts and of the Buffalo Historical Society; succeeding Mr. Fillmore as president of these institutions.

*Eli Cook.*—During the time he was in active practice, no member of the Bar of Western New York enjoyed a greater reputation than Mr. Cook, especially for his success as a criminal lawyer. He studied law at Utica, and was a partner of the late Judge Denio, but moved to Buffalo in 1838, and at once took a high position, which he maintained as long as health permitted him to practice. His power over the feelings and sympathies of juries was due to natural eloquence rather than to deep and well digested argument, yet he had few superiors in the art of presenting a case clearly and without unnecessary rhetoric. He was a lawyer of the old school, an eloquent advocate, truthful in his statements and a genial, courteous and amiable gentleman. In 1853 he was elected Mayor of Buffalo, and re-elected in 1854 for two years. Previously he had served as City Attorney and his administration of these offices reflects honor upon his memory.

*Horatio Seymour, Jr.*, after receiving a collegiate education at Middlebury College, studied his profession at Syracuse, and was admitted to the bar. He settled in Buffalo in 1836 and secured a considerable practice in his profession, which he carried on until his death in September, 1872. Mr. Seymour held the important office of a Master in Chancery for many years and represented Erie county in the Assembly of 1863 and also in 1864. He acquired reputation and influence as a legislator, and was faithful to the interests of his constituents. In 1867 he was elected Surrogate of Erie county and showed marked judicial ability in that position. Mr. Seymour was an ardent politician, and his strong political feelings as well as his fine talents and oratorical abilities, gave him a decidedly influential position in the community.

*Joseph G. Masten* settled in Buffalo in 1836, having been in practice for some years at Bath, Steuben county, and at once acquired a large and important legal business. In 1848 he was chosen Recorder of the





*Wm. A. Green.*



city, the duties of which judicial office he discharged with great credit, and in 1856 was elected as a Judge of the Superior Court, which position he held until his death, in April, 1871. In 1843 he was elected Mayor of the city and re-elected in 1845. Judge Masten was an influential member of the State Constitutional Convention in 1867, as a delegate at large, and served on the Judiciary Committee. In every position to which he was appointed or called by the people, Judge Masten discharged the duties assumed with an ability and fidelity which commanded the respect of all parties. As a lawyer and a Judge he occupied a high rank and was recognized as a sound and enlightened jurist.

*Isaac A. Verplanck.*—At the time of his death in 1873, he was the Chief Judge of the Superior Court of Buffalo, having been a Judge of that court from its organization in the year 1854. He graduated at Union College, and in 1831 settled at Batavia, in the practice of the law and acquired prominence at the bar before his removal to Buffalo in 1847. At once he took a leading position and carried on a successful business until elected to the bench of the Superior Court. Throughout his judicial life, Judge Verplanck was distinguished as being one of the most enlightened and sagacious Judges who ever presided in *nisi prius* courts. It was there, in the trial of causes, that he manifested the greatest learning and comprehension of the general, well-established principles of law and equity; quick to apply the law to the facts, with intuitively correct perceptions, favoring no one and submitting the whole case fairly and justly to the jury. He was a man of great and comprehensive intellectual powers, naturally a logician, and pre-eminently fitted to occupy a judicial station. In 1838 he was appointed District Attorney of Genesee county, and re-appointed in 1846. In the Constitutional Convention of 1867, as a delegate from Erie county, he exerted a great and conservative influence, not alone out of the natural respect for his ability and conceded integrity, but by reason of those distinguishing amiable and genial traits of character, ever overflowing, which made him always, in whatever circle, a beloved leader of men.

*William H. Greene* was born near Boston, Mass., August 31, 1812, and entered Dartmouth College at the age of fifteen, graduating with the highest honors. He studied law at Skaneateles, N. Y., with the late Vice-Chancellor, Lewis H. Sanford, and after his admission to the Bar came to Buffalo in 1837, and formed a co-partnership with Thomas T. Sherwood, who was at that time conducting a large business of a litigated character. James Sheldon was a partner in the firm in 1843, and continued associated with Mr. Greene until his appointment as County Judge, in 1852. Mr. Greene continued the practice of the law until his death, in April, 1882, having various partners, among whom was Hon. William C. Bryant; but during the last few years of his life the burden of his extensive business was shared by his sons, Messrs. John B., and

Harry B. Greene. For over forty-six years Mr. Greene was extensively engaged in the practice of the law in Buffalo, and during all that time was conspicuously identified with the business interests of the city and the various institutions which are its pride and boast. He was one of the early and liberal friends of the Young Men's Association while struggling in the infancy of its existence, and served as its president in 1843. For many years he was an active member and officer of the Historical Society, and its president in 1872, and also acted as a trustee of the State Normal School; but he never sought political honor or distinction. He was a man of rare endowments, both natural and acquired. As a lawyer he was in an eminent degree scholastic and learned; indefatigable, persistent and courageous; frank and courteous to his opponents; unswervingly loyal to his convictions and gifted with an innate nobleness and elevation of character. He possessed a high sense of honor and a kind heart, which earnestly sympathized with the sorrows and anxieties of his fellow men. Although never an advocate, he was an accomplished and thoroughly equipped counselor, deeply read, not only in the literature of his profession, but in nearly every branch of learning that could add to his power and influence as a lawyer before the courts of last resort. He belonged to the old school of lawyers and always regretted the changes and innovations made in the system of administering the law by the constitution of 1846. During all his life Mr. Greene was a valued and influential citizen and possessed, in person and character, distinctive and marked qualities that impressed him with the stamp of an original, sturdy and gifted man.

*Jesse Walker* graduated at Middlebury College, and after pursuing a course of legal studies at Rochester, N. Y., settled in Buffalo in 1835, where he resided until his death, in September, 1852. For many years he gave an almost undivided attention to the duties of the office of Master in Chancery, but at times was engaged in the active practice of his profession. Judge Walker was a man of fine literary tastes and acquired considerable celebrity as a finished scholar. In 1851 he was elected County Judge, and during the short time he was in office discharged the position to the great satisfaction of the Bar.

*Benoni Thompson* practiced law at Buffalo for many years before his death, in November, 1858. He gave his time almost entirely to office business and the confidential affairs of clients, and had a good reputation as a counselor. In the Assembly of 1849 he creditably represented Erie county, and was considered a safe and judicious member of the Legislature. For many years he acted as assignee in bankruptcy, under the Federal act of 1841, and conducted the varied and important duties of that position with general satisfaction.

*Charles D. Norton* graduated with high honors at Union College, in 1839, and commenced the study of the law with Horatio Shumway.





CHARLES D. NORTON.



Owing to a continuance of ill health, he was not admitted to the Bar until 1843, and entered upon an active practice which continued until his election as Surrogate of Erie county in 1851. While at the Bar Mr. Norton showed great capacity as an advocate, and an intuitive appreciation of the principles of the common law; but his health prevented that entire devotion to the profession which alone can ensure great success. The law is a jealous mistress and demands the undivided attention of those who seek to win her favors. Mr. Norton conducted the affairs of the Surrogate's office with good administration and judicial ability, and afterwards was engaged in various positions of trust and the management of estates. In 1865 he was appointed by President Johnson to the position of Collector of the Port of Buffalo, and continued to discharge the duties of this important office in a highly satisfactory manner until his death in 1867. Mr. Norton was greatly interested in the literary institutions of the city and in all public enterprises to promote the good of society, and will long be remembered as a genial, courteous gentleman, possessing a commanding influence in the community.

*James G. Hoyt* had attained prominence in the practice of his profession in Genesee county, before he was elected a Judge of the Supreme Court in 1847. He was, in every sense of the word, a self-made man, winning his way, step by step, from one position of honor and responsibility to another, and most ably and satisfactorily discharging the duties of all, with eminent professional learning, ability and virtue. His clients felt that no efforts of his would be spared, no exertion omitted, to protect their interests or vindicate their rights. He carried the same devotion to duty on the Bench, and inspired like confidence in the public mind in the discharge of his official duties. As a man, a lawyer and a Judge, he was particularly distinguished for his uniform courtesy, his purity of life, his ability and entire conscientiousness in the discharge of every public and private duty. Judge Hoyt resided in Buffalo and continued to serve as a Judge of the Supreme Court for several years before his death, in October, 1863.

*Albert Sawin* practiced law at Aurora many years, with great success, before he moved to Buffalo. Gifted by nature with a vigorous intellect, quick sympathies, a generous heart and strong physical constitution, he devoted them all to the law. Able and acute before the Bench, eloquent and persuasive before a jury, he was, in his time, one of the most eminent and successful of lawyers. He was elected District Attorney of the county in 1853, and performed the duties of the position with great integrity and zeal; and continued in active practice until his untimely death in January, 1863, in the prime of life and reputation. Mr. Sawin was a remarkable character, learned as a lawyer, influential as a citizen, positive in his convictions, but attached to his profession and particularly devoted to the trial of causes before a jury. Before that tribunal, in the

management of the trial, he had no superior, either in regard to his lucid and pointed expositions of the law to the court, or in the examination of witnesses or the arguments to the jury.

*John Ganson* was one of the most eminent lawyers the State ever produced. From the time he entered upon his profession to the hour of his death, he gave to it with loyal devotion the best energies of his mind and nature. He was not an advocate, but a jurist, whose arguments were listened to by the highest tribunals as being learned expositions of the law. He died September 28, 1874, at the age of fifty-four, being attacked by apoplexy while engaged in the trial of an important cause before the Superior Court. Mr. Ganson represented Erie county in the State Senate, and in 1862, was elected as a representative in Congress, in which position he was known as a War Democrat, supporting the war measures of President Lincoln's administration during the critical session of 1863 and 1864, and gaining for himself a national reputation. He never sought political honors or office, for his tastes seem to be averse to public life, but looked to his profession for his just and enduring fame. Mr. Ganson was a gentleman of the purest personal character, in whose honor, integrity and patriotism, the community reposed the utmost confidence.

*Thomas C. Welch* pursued a course of legal studies in the law office of Hall & Bowen and was admitted to the Bar in 1846. He was diligent and earnest in the practice, acquiring a very respectable position at the Bar, and gave promise of attaining eminence, when his untimely death occurred in 1864. The practice in the Courts of Admiralty engaged his attention to a great degree. Mr. Welch was a gentleman of fine tastes and large literary cultivation, but was devoted to his profession. In the preparation of his cases for trial and the conduct of his law business, he showed great patience and industry and a just appreciation of the principles of law and equity jurisprudence.

*John C. Strong* graduated at Yale College in 1842 and after being admitted to the Bar, settled in Buffalo, in 1850, continuing in practice until his death in July, 1879. Mr. Strong was a man of decided legal ability, and widely read and informed outside of his profession. As a lawyer he was painstaking, devoted to his clients and zealous in their behalf. His character was of the positive order, and if he ever swerved from a conviction, it was in recognition of some reason superior to that he had maintained. In the preparation and trial of cases, he exhibited untiring industry and zeal, fully comprehending the law and facts of the case, and always supported by an array of authorities which he deemed applicable and conclusive.

*Albert P. Laning* was admitted to the Bar in 1845 and practiced for several years in Allegany county, but moved to Buffalo, in 1855, and continued in a large and active practice until his death in September, 1880. Though always engaged in an extensive and lucrative business,



Mr. Laning acquired much reputation in the State as a politician, and represented Erie county in the Assembly in 1858, and was elected a Senator in 1874. In the Legislature he was known for his industry and intelligent interest in the important matters of legislation which were under consideration. At the Bar Mr. Laning was justly recognized as one of the most learned and indefatigable lawyers in the State, especially as an earnest and successful advocate, and no man connected with the profession ever won his success and fame by methods and means so purely intellectual. For many years he was the attorney of the New York Central and other railroads, and was pre-eminent for his knowledge of corporation law, as well as for his general learning in all branches of his profession.

*James M. Willett* studied and practiced law at Batavia, Genesee county, and was admitted to the Bar in 1855. He acquired an excellent reputation in that county and was elected District Attorney in 1859, but soon after the opening of the war of the rebellion took an active part in raising volunteers for the defense of the Union, and in 1862 entered the service and participated in many of the hard-fought battles in which the army of the Potomac was engaged. Colonel Willett was severely wounded at Cold Harbor, receiving injuries of a lasting character; but he again joined his regiment and continued in service until the close of the war. In 1870 he moved to Buffalo and formed a partnership with Hon. A. P. Laning, which continued until his death in June, 1877. Colonel Willett was a splendid combination of moral, intellectual and social qualities; a strong and symmetrical character into which entered all the elements of a true and noble manhood. As a soldier he was brave and fearless in the discharge of duty and made a brilliant record for himself as an officer of the Union army; as a lawyer, both as counsel and advocate, he was the peer of any member of the Bar; as a man of affairs he was an example of energy, industry and uprightness, and as a gentleman he was a model of courtesy. A most brilliant career was before him, when his health failed in the prime of life, and at the early age of forty-five, the profession and community were called upon to mourn his loss.

*Aaron Salisbury* was one of the pioneers of Erie county and resided in the town of Evans. For many years he was one of the Judges of the Common Pleas, and noted for his urbanity and integrity. Judge Salisbury represented the county in the Assembly in 1840, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1846. In public and private life he was recognized as a citizen of intelligence and estimable character.

*Rollin Germain* studied law in Buffalo and was admitted to the Bar about 1833, but was never devoted to his profession. At one time he was engaged in extensive practice and acquired a good reputation as a counselor, but he was better known as a man of affairs and general business. Mr. Germain was highly educated and endowed with great

intellectual taste, which was manifested in many of his lectures and contributions to the papers of the day. He represented Erie county in the Assembly of 1854 and took a prominent part in the questions before the Legislature, giving patient and intelligent consideration to such as demanded his particular attention. He was an upright and influential citizen and a valued member of the community.

*William H. Gurney* studied law in the office of Humphrey & Parsons in Buffalo, and was admitted to the Bar in 1861. He practiced alone until in the fall of 1863, when he became a partner with Henry W. Box, Esq., with whom he was associated about five years in the successful prosecution of an extended legal business. He then formed a partnership with Hon. L. L. Lewis, now one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, which continued until 1879, after which he practiced alone until his death in November, 1881. Mr. Gurney was eminently an upright man, untiring in his industry and devotion to the law, and an intelligent counselor. He knew no such thing as fail, until every honorable means had been exhausted to convince a court and jury that his client's cause was just, and as was often remarked, hardly another attorney in Western New York, obtained such flattering results in the courts of last resort. Few lawyers of his time gave clearer evidence of ability and a general comprehension of the law, or obtained a higher place in public esteem. In private life he was a kind and true friend, sympathizing with all who were in adversity and generous as well as charitable in his judgment of others. Mr. Gurney was president of the Young Men's Association in 1878, and always warmly interested in its success, and also a friend of the other public institutions of the city.

*Dennis Bowen* was born at Aurora, Erie county, February 4, 1820, and having received a common school education, entered the law office of Fillmore, Hall & Haven, as a student, and was admitted to the Bar in 1842. The same year, he formed a partnership with Hon. N. K. Hall, and continued in the active practice of his profession, with different partners, until his death in April, 1877, having for many years the largest personal clientage ever commanded by any member of the legal profession in Buffalo. He rarely appeared in the courts, taking no prominent part before them; yet he was recognized by the Bar as one of the most learned and able counselors. Mr. Bowen, through his whole life was one of the upright, valuable and respected citizens of Buffalo; known to almost every man in the community; the successful legal adviser of a large number of business houses and corporations, and their trusted, faithful friend. He had a generous and loyal regard for the right, and always advised his clients with regard to the equities of the interests involved, rather than to mere legal points, and possessed a happy faculty of reconciling conflicting interests upon terms equitable and honorable to all parties. He was foremost in everything that makes

a good lawyer, a good citizen and a good man, and for over thirty years occupied a prominent position as a man of affairs, honorable to himself and useful to society. Mr. Bowen was a member of the City and County Hall Commission during the erection of that edifice, and also one of the Board of Park Commissioners, and a generous friend of all the public institutions of the city.

*Perry G. Parker* was born in Hamburg, Erie county, and having graduated at Union College in 1841, pursued the study of the law with Messrs. Fillmore & Haven, and was admitted to the Bar in 1844. From that time until shortly before his death in December, 1879, he was in constant, active practice of the law. He was an earnest lover of his profession, well read in the law and practice, and combining in his person many of the best and most successful qualities of the advocate and counselor. Mr. Parker had a wonderful aptitude for business, which was especially manifested in litigations and settlements of estates in the Surrogate's Courts. As a citizen, he was a friend of the institutions that grace and dignify the city, and was recognized as a man of influence and character.

*Hiram Barton* came to Buffalo in 1835 and was for many years in active practice. He rarely appeared in the courts, but was deservedly esteemed as a counselor in the business of his clients. In 1849 he was elected Mayor of Buffalo, and re-elected in 1852, and was regarded as one of the most discreet and upright of the chief magistrates of the city. Mr. Barton filled many minor positions of trust and importance, and was recognized as a man of great influence and standing in the community.

*Charles E. Clarke*, though never prominent at the Bar, was connected with the practice of law in Buffalo for over thirty years. He devoted a large portion of his time and energies to the benevolent and literary institutions of the city, and was mainly instrumental in founding the Female Academy and the General Hospital. To his efforts must be ascribed the conception of the beautiful Forest Lawn and its adaptation to the purposes of a cemetery. In private life he was a most estimable and influential citizen.

*George W. Houghton* was born in Vermont, and settled Buffalo in 1837. The next year he was admitted to the Bar and continued engaged in the practice of his profession until he was elected Recorder in 1852. In 1854 he was placed upon the Bench of the Superior Court by the act organizing that Court, and served for two years. Judge Houghton occupied a conspicuous position at the Bar and socially for many years. He was distinguished for his painstaking accuracy and familiarity with adjudged cases, and ranked as a good counselor in the business of his clients.

*Albert L. Baker* came to Buffalo from Washington county in 1835, and studied law with Stephen G. Austin, and was admitted to the Bar in 1838. He then returned to Washington county and was elected a Judge



of the Common Pleas; and was a delegate from that county to the Constitutional Convention of 1846. In 1848 he returned to Buffalo and continued in active practice to the time of his death in May, 1873. Judge Baker was a man of integrity and learning and possessed of judicial abilities of a high order. In the law of real estate, especially, was he well versed, but he was a thorough scholar in all general principles of jurisprudence. He took an active part in educational matters, and while serving as an alderman in the Council, was the author and promoter of the plan for the founding of the Central School in Buffalo.

*John Hubbell*—No member of the Bar of Erie county was more prominent in his time, or held in higher esteem than Mr. Hubbell. He was born in Canandaigua and studied law in the office of the late Mark H. Sibley, and was admitted to the Bar about 1843. The same year he came to Buffalo and soon secured a large practice and was elected City Attorney for 1854, which was the only political office he ever held. During his professional career he was connected with the most important cases of the time, and was recognized throughout the State as a very able lawyer, well versed in legal principles and always clear, logical and forcible in his arguments. His mind and temperament were eminently judicial, and had he acceded to the wishes of his friends, he would have been elevated to high positions upon the Bench; but as a referee in cases of intricacy and importance, he was a favorite, as the Bar and community reposed great confidence in his integrity, fairness and learning. Mr. Hubbell was a lover of choice literature; a gentleman of fine social qualities, genial and remarkably kind-hearted, and greatly interested in the institutions of the city.

*Austin A. Howard* was at one time the law partner of Heman B. Potter, and largely engaged in law practice and real estate transactions for over twenty years. He was a man of ability and had a general knowledge of affairs, but rarely appeared in the courts. In all questions relating to the law of real estate his opinion was considered as reliable as that of any member of the Bar.

*Reuben Bryant* was born at Templeton, Worcester county, Mass., July 13, 1792. He graduated with honors at Brown University, R. I., about the year 1815. After some time spent in teaching he removed to Livingston county, N. Y., and studied law in the office of the late Judge Smith, in Caledonia. Having been admitted to the Supreme Court, he settled in Holley, Orleans county, where he commenced the practice of his profession and was the pioneer lawyer. In the fall of 1849 he removed to Albion, and in 1855 migrated to Buffalo to aid his only son, William C. Bryant, who had recently opened a law office in that city. He was appointed Master in Chancery by Gov. Wright, an office he held when the Court of Chancery was abolished under the Constitution of 1846. He was a thorough classical scholar and a profound and indefatigable stu-







dent, but his health was always too delicate and precarious to admit often of his entrance into the arena of sharply contested litigation. He was a wise and judicious counselor, and in the best sense a promoter of peace. He died at Buffalo in January, 1863.

*Oscar Folsom*, whose untimely death, resulting from an accident in July, 1875, was most sincerely mourned by the Bar of Erie county, was born in Wyoming county, and graduated at Rochester University. He studied law in Buffalo and was admitted to the Bar in 1861, and continued largely engaged in practice to the time of his death. His mental abilities and accomplishments were of a high order, which, combined with the most frank and genial of natures, rendered him deservedly popular at the Bar and in society. He stood in the front rank with the young men of his profession; no one with brighter prospects or better qualified by natural abilities for success in the practice of the law.

*Francis E. Cornwell* had occupied a high position at the bar in Wayne county before he removed to Buffalo in 1857. He was soon engaged in a large practice, which continued actively until his death, November 2, 1869, on which day thousands of the electors of Western New York were depositing their ballots for him, for the honorable position of a Judge of the Supreme Court. Mr. Cornwell was a sound and painstaking lawyer, a gentleman of culture and refinement, and a quiet, genial friend. He was the author of a valuable digest of the decisions of the courts of last resort in this State.

*John L. Curtenius* resided and practiced law at Lockport, but on his removal to Buffalo, formed a copartnership with Horatio Shumway, and for many years conducted a large business. He was a learned lawyer of the old school; patient and indefatigable; always commanding the attention of the higher courts, and successful in a remarkable degree in maintaining his views of the law. Mr. Curtenius never held a public position, but was devoted to the quiet and intelligent conduct of the business entrusted to his care.

*Lorenzo K. Haddock* carried on the practice of the law for several years, rarely appearing in the courts, but was entrusted by his clients with important and confidential matters. He was a man of industry and accuracy, and outside of the profession, occupied a prominent position in society. The founding of the State Normal School was largely due to his efforts, and he was an active friend of the various literary and benevolent institutions of the city.

*Edwin Thayer* resided in Buffalo and practiced his profession from 1848 to the time of his death in 1877, and at one time occupied a high position at the bar and in society. In 1858 he was elected City Attorney, discharging the duties of the place with ability and discretion. In the practice of law he was energetic, faithful and honorable, a candid counselor and successful advocate.

*Chauncey Tucker* practiced his profession for many years at Fredonia, with great success, and on his removal to Buffalo, entered on a large and extensive business, mainly of a litigated nature. He was truly a learned lawyer, a safe counselor and an energetic man of affairs. At one time he was president of a bank, but his life was mainly given to the law, and until his death in 1874, he maintained a high position before the courts.

*Sylvanus O. Gould*, for over forty years of life and to the time of his death in August, 1882, was connected with the administration of the law. He held various minor offices and positions of trust, with honor and credit, and sustained the character of a good citizen and valued member of society.

*Thomas C. Reyburn* was engaged for several years in active practice. He possessed a good knowledge of the law, with a quick and ready ability, and a fluent, earnest oratory which achieved success with juries. Very few members of the bar, in his time, were gifted with the tact and management displayed by him upon trials of causes; but his early death destroyed the hopes which his friends had cherished for his future.

*George L. Marvin* conducted, alone and with partners, a large law business for many years; but he was not known to the courts upon the trial of causes. In the general management of the confidential affairs of his clients, he was reliable and successful. He filled various minor official positions with credit, and was known as a citizen of character, integrity and benevolence.

The above sketch of the Bench and Bar of Erie county, of the honored and illustrious dead, is necessarily unsatisfactory and incomplete in many particulars. The abridgement required in order that its length should not exceed the assigned limits, has been a restraint upon indulgence in eulogium, or the detail which would be interesting to posterity. It is designed, mainly, to speak of the dead in their character as judges and lawyers. Among them were men who would have been illustrious on any stage of life, who could have ornamented and dignified the Bench of the highest courts of the world, or graced the Senate chamber of the Republic with their eloquence and patriotism. Men of acute and masculine intellect; some scholastic in their profession, and others learned in the literature of all ages; logicians or metaphysicians, statesmen and philanthropists; yet nearly all limited and circumscribed by circumstances and the destiny of life to the narrow sphere of action in the daily drudgery of the practice of the law. To a few favored by fortune, it was granted to arrive at eminence and identify themselves with the history of their country; but the greatest men among them all, sought neither honor nor preferment. Had opportunities and occasions offered for action upon the great theatre of life, amid the struggles of nations for power or existence; the antagonism of liberty and despotism, such men would have achieved enduring fame and accomplished results







so grand and glorious for our humanity that history would have enrolled their names as possessing

“Minds of a massive and gigantic mould,  
Whom we must measure as the Cretan sage,  
Measured the pyramids of ages past;—  
By the far-reaching shadows that they cast.”

The sad task is ended of gathering these brief items of the lives of those who are gone, by one who, personally, well remembers them all, with two exceptions. The annalist of the future who compiles the biographies of those now living, will find the material at his hand in contemporaneous newspapers, but there was no such fountain to draw upon as regards the earlier members of the Bar. But it is a truth and a pleasant reflection that these men who were the influential and leading men of their times, were earnest supporters of law and order and of the constituted authorities of government; interested in all works of charity and benevolence, and in all institutions designed to benefit and ennoble our humanity.

#### THE COURTS.

The following are the Courts in Erie county, as at present constituted:—

*Supreme Court.*—Hons. Charles Daniels, George Barker, Albert Haight, Loran L. Lewis, Thomas Corlett and Henry A. Childs, Judges.

*Superior Court of Buffalo*, (see pages 118–19, this volume), Hon. James Sheldon, Chief Judge; Hon. James M. Smith, Hon. Charles Beckwith.

*Erie County Court.*—Hon. William W. Hammond, Judge.

*Surrogate's Court.*—Hon. Jacob Stern, Surrogate.

*Municipal Court.*—Hon. George S. Wardwell, Hon. George A. Lewis, Justices.

*Police Court.*—Thomas S. King, Justice.

#### THE BAR OF BUFFALO.

Following is a list of the attorneys now (1883–'84), practicing in the city of Buffalo:—

Adams, S. Cary.	Beecher, James C.	Brendel, Henry W.
Allen, Daniel W.	Benedict, Willis J.	Brown, Alan.
Allen, Henry F.	Bell, E. M.	Browne, G. M.
Allen, James A.	Benedict & Sheehan.	Browne, William W.
Andrews, E. W.	Bishop, Albert W.	Brundage, Frank.
Andrus, Leroy.	Bissell, Wilson S.	Bryant, William C.
Avery, Charles H.	Bissell, Sicard & Goodyear.	Buckner, George O. M.
Baker, Lyman M.	Blanchard, A. A.	Burrows, Roswell L.
Baker & Schwartz.	Bonner, John J.	Calkins, Abbott C.
Bartholomew, Abram.	Bowen, Rogers & Locke.	Carr, Joseph P.
Barton, O. F.	Box, Henry W.	Cary, Thomas.
Becker, Tracy C.	Box & Norton.	Chamberlain, Eugene V.
Beckwith, Charles.	Braunlein, Louis.	Chapin, W. O.

- Chester, Carl T.  
 Chipman, John M.  
 Clark, Delavan F.  
 Clark, Martin.  
 Clark, Myron H.  
 Clinton & Clark.  
 Clinton, George.  
 Clinton, Spencer.  
 Cloak, James M.  
 Cloak, John G.  
 Congdon & Jenkins.  
 Cook, Josiah.  
 Cook & Fitzgerald.  
 Corlett, Thomas.  
 Corlett & Hatch.  
 Cottle, Octavius O.  
 Crandall, DeForest.  
 Crowley, Richard.  
 Allen, Movius & Wilcox.  
 Cutler, William H.  
 Cutter, Ammi.  
 Cutter & Stone.  
 Cutting, Charles H.  
 Cutting, Harmon S.  
 Daniels, Charles.  
 Daniels, Charles H.  
 Davis, George A.  
 Davis, Thad. C.  
 Day, David F.  
 Day, Hiram C.  
 Day & Romer.  
 Decker, Arthur W.  
 Delaney, William E.  
 DeWitt, Owen C.  
 Doorty, William G.  
 Douglas, Silas J.  
 Duckwitz, Ferdinand H.  
 Duckwitz & Robinson.  
 Emery, Edward R.  
 Ewell, Joseph E.  
 Fairchild, Joseph L.  
 Falb, Peter J.  
 Farrington, Butler S.  
 Ferguson, Frank C.  
 Field, Edward P.  
 Fillmore, M. P.  
 Fitch, William C.  
 Fitzgerald, Henry D.  
 Fitzgerald, Percy D.  
 Folsom, Benjamin.  
 Ford & Ferguson.  
 Ford James E.  
 Forsyth, Charles.  
 Fullerton, James C.  
 Fullerton & Hazel.  
 Gardner John T.  
 Germain, Charles B.  
 Gibbs, Clinton B.  
 Gibbs, James S.  
 Girvin, Robert,  
 Gluck, James F.  
 Goodyear, Charles W.  
 Gorham, George.  
 Graves, John C.  
 Green, Manly C.  
 Green, Henry B.  
 Greene, John B.  
 Greene, McMillan & Gluck,  
 Green, Samuel B.  
 Greene, J. B. & H. B.  
 Greiner, Fred.  
 Griswold, Edmund A.  
 Haight, Albert.  
 Hamlin, Charles W.  
 Hammond, William W.  
 Harman, H. A.  
 Hatch, E. W.  
 Hawkins, William M.  
 Hawkins & Gibbs.  
 Hawks, Edward C.  
 Hawks, Michael & Quinby.  
 Hazel, John R.  
 Hening, Herman,  
 Hibbard, George B.  
 Hickman, Arthur W.  
 Hill, Charles B.  
 Hinson, Charles W.  
 Hodge, Willard W.  
 Hopkins, Nelson K.  
 Hopkins & White.  
 Howard Frederick.  
 Hubbell John C.  
 Hudson John T.  
 Humphreys, George.  
 Humphrey, James M.  
 Humphrey & Lockwood.  
 Hunter, Charles.  
 Hurlburt, George W.  
 Inglehart, Frederick M.  
 Jackson, David G.  
 Jeutter, Julius A. C.  
 Johnson, Usual S.  
 Jones William L.  
 Kemp Frank C.  
 Kilhoffer, William G. C.  
 Kingston, George L.  
 Kinney, John M. E.  
 Kip, William F.  
 Knowlton, Charles B.  
 Kumpf, Peter.  
 Lansing, Livingston.  
 Laughlin, Frank G.  
 Laughlin, John.  
 Laux, Edward A.  
 Lawler Patrick.  
 LeClear, Lodowick.  
 Lewis George A.  
 Lewis George L.  
 Lewis Loran L.  
 Lewis, Moot & Lewis.  
 Locke, Franklin D.  
 Lockwood Daniel N.  
 Lockwood Stephen.  
 Loomis, Frank M.  
 Looney, John M.  
 Lyman, Carlton M.  
 Lyon, Henry L.  
 Lyon, William W.  
 McComber, C. S.  
 McMichael, Homer N.  
 McIntosh, Daniel.  
 McMillan, Daniel H.  
 McNeal, Norman B.  
 Manning, Franklin R.  
 March, Frederick R.  
 Marshall, Charles D.  
 Marshall, Clinton & Wilson.  
 Marshall, Orsamus H.  
 Marvin, LeGrand.  
 Matteson, Price A.  
 Meads, Willis H.  
 Messer, Louis F.  
 Meinzer, J. C.  
 Michael, Edward.  
 Milburn, John G.  
 Milburn, Joseph A.  
 Miller, Warren F.  
 Moffatt, Mites.  
 Moore, Mark B.  
 Moot, Adelbert.  
 Morey, Norris.  
 Movius, Edward H.  
 Muldoon, James G.  
 Murphy, James.  
 Murray, James A.  
 Nash, Daniel D.  
 Norton, Charles P.  
 Norton, Nathaniel W.  
 Norton, Porter.  
 Olmstead, John B.  
 Osgoodby, George M.  
 Palmer, Edward W.  
 Palmer, John W.  
 Parke, Hudson H.  
 Parke & Manning.  
 Parker, E. Lewellyn.  
 Pattison, Edwin C.  
 Patton, J. K.



Paxton, James.	Sheehan, William F.	Titus, Robert C.
Perkins, Edgar B.	Sheldon James.	Tyler, John.
Perkins, Frank R.	Sheldon, James, Jr.	Van Peyma, Herman B.
Perkins, Lyman P.	Shepard, Charles E.	Vedder, Edmund B.
Phelps, George E.	Shire, Moses.	Viele, Sheldon T.
Plumley, Edmund J.	Sicard, George J.	Volger, O. W.
Pooley, Charles A.	Sigman, Albert J.	Wadsworth, George.
Porter, Stephen B.	Silver, D. M.	Walker, Joel.
Potter, George S.	Simons, Seward A.	Wall & Tillman.
Provoost, John M.	Sizer, Thomas J.	Wardwell, George S.
Putnam, James O.	Smith, James M.	Weaver, Ernest K.
Queenan, James F.	Smith, F. Ralston.	Weaver & Bell.
Quinby, George T.	Smith, Lyman B.	Weisenheimer, Henry J.
Rebadow, Adolph.	Sprague, E. Carlton.	Welch, Samuel M. Jr.
Reilly, Dewitt C.	Sprague, Henry W.	Welch, Theodore F.
Reyburn, P. C.	Sprague, Morey & Sprague.	Wende, Gottfried H.
Ribbel, Charles H.	Stanbro, Almon W.	Wheeler, Charles B.
Robbins, Edward C.	Stern, Jacob.	Wheeler, George W.
Roberts, James A.	Stevens, Robert H.	Whelan, James.
Robinson, George A.	Stilwell, Giles E.	White, Truman C.
Robinson, Charles K.	Stone, Ralph.	Whitney, Milo A.
Rogers, Sherman S.	Stowell, John W.	Wierling, William J.
Romer, John L.	Strong, James C.	Wilcox, Ansley.
Sackett, Marcus.	Strong & Brendel.	Wilhelm & Bonner.
Sanger, Eugene M.	Swift, Zenas M.	Williams, Benjamin H.
Schattner, Joseph P.	Stickney, D. C.	Williams, Frank F.
Schelling, Robert F.	Tanner, Amos B.	Williams & Potter.
Scroggs, Gustavus A.	Tefft, William M.	Wilson, Robert P.
Seaver, Marcy & Stein.	Tabor, Charles F.	Wing, George.
Seymour, Henry H.	Talcott, John L.	Winship, James.
Shaw, Edmund R.	Tanner, Alonzo.	Woodworth, Wayland W.
Sheehan, John C.	Thomas, Charles J.	Worthington, William F.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### THE PARK SYSTEM OF BUFFALO.

Benefits of Public Parks—Their Influence on Communities—A City without a Healthful, Free Resort—First Movement Looking to the Establishment of a Great Park in Buffalo—The Men who Instigated it—Action by the Mayor and Council—Engagement of Frederick Law Olmstead—Extracts from His Report—Adoption of His Plans—Beginning of the Work—First Commissioners' Issue of Bonds—Progress of Work from Year to Year—Present Extent of the Park—Description of its Different Sections.

**I**N compiling a history of the city of Buffalo, no greater pleasure is experienced in the task, than that inspired by a proper reference to the magnificent Park system which has done and is doing so much for the general good of the community. If there are public benefactors who merit the lasting good will and gratitude of their fellows of every degree, they are surely those who are instrumental in establishing in our crowded cities, those physical and moral sanitariums—public parks; and the con-

viction that this is true is growing stronger in the minds of men and women in every city, with the passing years; so, also, is the belief in the beneficent influence exerted upon communities through such institutions as free public parks, so located and planned as to be convenient places of recreation for the masses of the people. In his original report to the Buffalo Committee upon the feasibility of establishing a park in this city, Mr. Frederick Law Olmstead, than whom there is no higher authority, wrote thus:—

“ It must be observed, also, that a really fine, large and convenient park exercises an immediate and very striking educational influence, which soon manifests itself in certain changes of taste and of habits, and consequently in the requirements of the people. To understand the character of these changes and their bearing upon the task we have in hand, it will be necessary to understand what a park is, or rather what it may be if properly designed and administered.

“ The main object we set before us in planning a park, is to establish conditions which will exert the most healthful recreative action upon the people who are expected to resort to it. With the great mass such conditions will be of a character diverse from the ordinary conditions of their lives, in the most radical degree which is consistent with the ease of access, with large assemblages of citizens, with convenience, cheerfulness and good order, and with the necessities of a sound policy of municipal economy. Much must necessarily be seen in any town park which sustains the mental impressions of the town itself, as in the faces, the dresses and the carriages of the people, and in the throngs in which they will at times here and there gather and move together. Inasmuch as there are these limitations to the degree in which a decided, and at the same time a pleasant contrast to the ordinary conditions of town life are possible to be realized in a park, and inasmuch as the town is constituted by the bringing together of artificial objects, the chief study in establishing a park is to present nature in the most attractive manner which may be practicable. This is to be done by first choosing a site in which natural conditions, as opposed to town conditions, shall have every possible advantage, and then by adding to and improving these original natural conditions. If this is skilfully done, if the place possessing the greatest capabilities is taken, and nature is not overlaid, but really aided discreetly by art, it follows as a matter of course that in a few years the citizens resorting to the locality, experience sensations to which they have before been unaccustomed, disused perceptive powers are more and more exercised, dormant tastes come to life, corresponding habits are developed, and a new class of luxuries begins to be sought for, superseding to some extent certain others less favorable to health, to morality and to happiness, if not wholly wasteful and degrading. The demand thus established will, of course, sooner or later, make itself felt in several other ways besides those which pertain to the park.”

These expressions by one of the most eminent landscape architects in the country, may well be studied by the prominent men of every city that has not already provided for itself a park.

Inestimable as are the benefits derived yearly from the beautiful and spacious park that now adorns the city of Buffalo, how insignificant

they appear in contrast with the mighty tide of good that must flow from it through all coming time, increasing year by year, as the population of the city becomes more numerous and the park itself grows in beauty and comprehensiveness. In all those features and conditions that conspire to create both mental and physical healthfulness in a community, to foster a love for the beautiful and good, to create and broaden a proper appreciation of nature's grandeur and loveliness, a public park of such generous proportions and general attractiveness as that which has been wisely provided for the city of Buffalo, should be ranked side by side with her schools and churches.

Previous to the establishment of the Buffalo Park, the city was lamentably deficient in suburban attractions, especially in landward directions, where a walk or drive was too apt to end in an early desire to turn back from the flat and unattractive prospect, and there was absolutely no spot where the great mass of the people could cheaply and quickly resort for innocent, healthful recreation. In a city of the size attained by Buffalo even ten or fifteen years ago, and destitute of attractive places for free public recreation, other than such as might be obtained on the water, it will be readily conceived that there were many thoughtful men who saw the city rapidly spreading out over the surrounding country, steadily and surely absorbing all the available localities where parks might be laid out, and saw it with anxiety and regret; men who, consequently were not slow to speak their convictions to the effect that it was the duty of the city before it was too late, to secure for itself *something* in the nature of a public park. Among those men who are known to have often and forcibly referred to this topic previous to 1868, were Messrs. Dennis Bowen, Pascal P. Pratt, William Dorsheimer, Richard Flach, Joseph Warren, William F. Rogers, Sherman S. Jewett, and doubtless many others who could not have failed to appreciate the importance of the matter. If there were any one, two or three men who were more instrumental than were their co-laborers, in making the park measure a living thing, it would be invidious and unwelcome to them to mention their names in this place with such a degree of prominence.

The first public act that finally led to the establishment of the Buffalo Park, was the application by William Dorsheimer, to Olmstead, Vaux & Co., the distinguished landscape architects, for the requisite investigation by them which would enable them to give an opinion as to the most feasible plans for the park. This action on the part of Mr. Dorsheimer was the direct result of numerous consultations, chiefly between Messrs. Pascal P. Pratt, Sherman S. Jewett, Richard Flach, Joseph Warren and Mr. Dorsheimer, with much discussion of the subject in the city press. Mr. Olmstead came to Buffalo in the summer of 1868 and gave the matter a careful and thorough investigation, upon which was based his report, which was dated October 1st, 1868. The report was trans-



mitted to Hon. William F. Rogers, then Mayor of the city, accompanied by the following letter:—

BUFFALO, Nov. 16, 1868.

*“ To Hon. William F. Rogers, of Buffalo :*

“ SIR:—The undersigned, a committee appointed at a meeting of citizens held at the residence of S. S. Jewett, Esq., on the 25th of August last, herewith transmit to you a communication addressed to one of the undersigned, by Frederick Law Olmstead, of New York.

“ The letter of Mr. Olmstead relates to the establishment of a park in Buffalo. This subject has, of late, been much discussed by the press of the city and even more, we believe, in private circles. It was thought advisable to obtain the opinion of some competent landscape architect upon the various questions involved in the enterprise, but more particularly to ascertain what scheme of improvement could be carried out within the limits of a reasonable expenditure. Mr. Olmstead was the architect in chief of the Central Park in New York; he is now engaged upon the Prospect Park in Brooklyn, and upon similar enterprises in other cities. In view of his large experience, there was no one so likely as he to give the information which was desired. Accordingly, several gentlemen, at their own expense, procured Mr. Olmstead's services. He came to Buffalo and spent several days in a survey of the suburbs of the city, and his views are presented in the accompanying communication.

“ It was the intention of the gentlemen who have interested themselves in this matter, merely to give form to a project which was entirely undefined in the hope that they might excite a thorough discussion of the matter, and that the Common Council and the Legislature might be led to take some definite action towards the accomplishment of a work so important to the citizens of Buffalo.

“ We venture to request that you will transmit Mr. Olmstead's letter to the Honorable, the Common Council, with such recommendations as, in your judgment, the present and future interests of the city may require.

“ Very respectfully, your servants,

PASCAL P. PRATT,  
S. S. JEWETT,  
RICHARD FLACH,  
JOSEPH WARREN,  
WM. DORSHEIMER.”

The subject was brought before the Common Council in the following communication:—

MAYOR'S OFFICE,  
BUFFALO, November 23d, 1868. }

*“ To The Hon. Common Council :*

“ GENTLEMEN:—I have the honor to transmit herewith the accompanying communication from a committee of your fellow citizens who, with a commendable public spirit, invited the well-known and distinguished landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmstead, Esq., to visit the city and present his views in reference to a public park.

“ I took the liberty on a former occasion of directing the attention of your honorable body to this subject, and to urge upon the council the importance of acquiring at an early day the land necessary for securing to our people the benefits to be derived from a public park, proportionate to the wants of a large and steadily-increasing population. The report



of Mr. Olmstead, it will be seen, presents a plan which, in many of its features, corresponds with many of the suggestions then made, and with the ideas on this subject held, I believe, by a large majority of our citizens who have given the subject attention. Its perusal, I feel confident, cannot fail to impress on the public mind the vastness of the benefit which the city now has in its power, by prompt action, to secure to itself. Indeed, few cities enjoy equal advantages with our own of securing a large tract of land so well adapted to park purposes, and at comparatively small cost, if the opportunity now presented is at once taken advantage of.

"I therefore respectfully recommend that a special committee of five members of the council be appointed to co-operate with the citizens' committee for the purpose of securing the enactment of a law clothing the council with authority to acquire, by purchase or otherwise, the land and property necessary to carry out the object in view, and to issue the bonds of the city for the payment and improvement of the same.

"I beg leave also to recommend that the report of Mr. Olmstead be printed in the minutes and referred to such joint committee, with the instructions to report the result of its deliberations to the Council at an early day.

Respectfully submitted.

W. F. ROGERS, Mayor."

It is not considered necessary in order to give a clear idea of the growth of the park scheme, to quote Mr. Olmstead's report in full, but such references to it and extracts from it will be given as will suffice to make its more important recommendations understood, for it was upon them that the park was founded.

The report states relative to the general aspects of the subject as follows:—

"We think it necessary, first of all, to urge that your scheme should be comprehensively conceived and especially that features the desirableness of which are most apparent, should not at the outset be made so important as to cause others, the possible value of which may seem more distant, to be neglected. For this purpose it should be well thought of that a park exercises a very different and much greater influence upon the progress of a city in its general structure than any other ordinary public work, and that after the design for a park has been fully digested, a long series of years must elapse before the ends of the design will begin to be fully realized. Even in the initiatory discussions of a plan for such a work, therefore, it would be unwise to have in view merely the satisfaction of the probable demand of those who will be expected to use it in the immediate future. If a park should prove not adapted to the requirements of those who are to come after us, and even of those who are to come after our immediate successors, the outlay which will be needed for it will be an extravagant one. This caution applies especially to questions of situation, extent, general outlines, approaches and relations with other public ways and places. Minor interior arrangements may be adapted merely to suit immediate and clearly obvious requirements, as the cost of adding to those when found advisable will not necessarily be very formidable, provided the ground first secured shall have been of good shape, wisely located, and the general plan of improving it shall have been a well-balanced one."

After referring to the objections existing against the establishment of a great park near to the business center of the city, the report says:—

“For these reasons we would recommend that in your scheme a large park should not be the sole object in view, but should be regarded simply as the more important member of a general, largely provident, forehanded, comprehensive arrangement for securing refreshment, recreation and health to the people. All of such an arrangement need not be undertaken at once, but the future requirements of all should be so far foreseen and provided for, that when the need for any minor part is felt to be pressing it may not be impossible to obtain the most desirable land for it.

The three sites which presented themselves prominently to the architects for consideration in the Buffalo Park scheme, were the tract on High street near the old Potters Field; the grounds adjoining Fort Porter (now the Front) and the tract to the westward of Forest Lawn Cemetery. These three sites are each referred to at length in the report, concluding with the following relative to the desirability of the present main Park as the chief attraction and the center of the system:—

“We have seen no other situation nearer the center of population in which it would be possible to form a spacious park, even at an expense several times larger than it would be required for one at this point, where it would not very certainly prove a great inconvenience to business and involve large changes in the general plan upon which the building up of the city is otherwise likely to advance. The site which we have in view is now either waste land or is occupied, with the exception of a single unimportant manufacturing establishment, exclusively for agricultural purposes, and for farming land near a large town, can be bought at an extraordinarily low rate. A park would neither interfere with nor be interfered with by any existing or probable line of business communication, the character of the topography of the neighborhood not having encouraged the formation of roads from either side through it. It would be feasible by a slight divergence from the present route to carry the only existing public thoroughfares across it, whenever it shall be found desirable, where, by means of a natural depression of the surface, it would be out of the view from the pleasure routes of the park.”

The report then pays attention to the approaches to the park and the smaller and less important grounds for the convenience of those who have but limited time for recreation, as follows:—

“Grounds need to be provided, therefore, less complete in their opportunities for a variety of forms of recreation, and adapted to accommodate a smaller number of persons at a time, but to which many can resort for a short stroll, airing and diversion, and where they can at once enjoy a decided change of scene from that which is associated with their regular occupation. The sites near Fort Porter and on High street are both suitable for this class of grounds; each would be conveniently accessible from a different quarter of the town, and each of these quarters would have less direct access to the main parks than to any other quarter where vacant land can be found offering any advantages for the formation of pleasure grounds.

“Fortunately the plan of Buffalo is such that the proposed site of the main park is already accessible by the most direct way possible from the very center of population and from the only quarter not proposed to be otherwise provided with a local pleasure ground, by Delaware avenue, an approach of stately proportions. So far as this quarter of the city is concerned, a better solution of the difficulty is thus at once offered than can often be obtained at large expense in other cities. The avenue is susceptible, also, of great improvement at a very moderate outlay.

“For the rest we would suggest that the two ends of the main park on the southeast and west be gradually narrowed and curved toward the town so that the greater part of the ground taken would be included within a crescent-shaped figure; and that strips of ground at least two hundred feet wide, be acquired, extending from them toward the north and west parts of the city on one side, and the south and east parts on the other. Through those strips a series of roads and walks adapted exclusively for pleasure travel should eventually be formed, and outside of them roadways to answer the purpose of ordinary traffic, which could thus be dissociated from the movement to and from the park. So much of these strips as should not be wanted for passage-ways should be occupied by turf, trees, shrubs and flowers; they should follow existing lines of streets as far as practicable so as not to interfere unnecessarily with the present divisions of property, and they should be so laid out as to connect the two subordinate grounds which have been indicated, with the main park.

“Thus, at no great distance from any point of the town, a pleasure ground will have been provided for, suitable for a short stroll, for a playground for children and an airing-ground for invalids and a route of access to the large common park of the whole city of such a character that most of the steps on the way to it would be taken in the midst of a scene of sylvan beauty, and with the sounds and sights of the ordinary town business, if not wholly shut out, removed to some distance and placed in obscurity. The way itself would then be more park-like than town-like.”

A perusal of the above extracts from the report of the eminent architects, shows that the scheme of making a comprehensive park system for Buffalo was the one which, in all its most important features, was finally adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners.

The first Board comprised the following named gentlemen:—

His Honor, the Mayor, *ex-officio*; Pascal P. Pratt, Dexter P. Rumsey, John Greiner, Jr., Lewis P. Dayton, Joseph Warren, Edwin T. Evans, Sherman S. Jewett, Richard Flach, James Mooney, John Cronyn, Dennis Bowen, William Dorsheimer.

From this Board of Commissioners the following committees were appointed:—

*Executive Committee*—Pascal P. Pratt, Joseph Warren, Sherman S. Jewett, James Mooney, William Dorsheimer.

*Auditing Committee*—Alexander Brush, Lewis P. Dayton, Edwin T. Evans, John Greiner, Jr.

*Committee on Grounds*—Dennis Bowen, Dexter P. Rumsey, Richard Flach, John Cronyn.



The report of the landscape architects having been in all essential points a most acceptable one, the next step taken in the matter was the preparation of a law entitled :—

“ An Act to authorize the selection and location of certain grounds for public parks in the city of Buffalo and to provide for the maintenance and embellishment thereof.”

This act was passed April 14, 1869, and conferred the necessary authority for the taking of lands and procuring title to the same, the appointment of Commissioners, provided for the issue of bonds to the amount of \$500,000 for park purposes and other kindred matters.

The act also provided for the future payments of principal and interest of the park fund, through the medium of general city taxation.

The first Board of Commissioners whose names appear above, made selections of the lands for the parks and approaches, a detailed report of which was filed with the city clerk November 1, 1869, setting forth the considerations which governed the board in their action; such action was promptly ratified by the Common Council and the necessary steps were at once taken to acquire the property. For this purpose in January, 1870, Messrs William A Bird, Gibson T. Williams and Albert H. Tracy were appointed by the Superior Court of Buffalo, as commissioners to ascertain and report the just compensation to be paid to the owners of lands chosen. These Commissioners held a meeting February 21, 1870, completed their work and filed their report with the clerk of the Court June 30, 1870; this report was confirmed, upon application of the council on the 4th of August, 1870. The amount of the awards made was as follows :—

For lands.....	\$247,785.66
For buildings.....	46,381.00
	<hr/>
Total for lands and buildings.....	\$294,166.66
Expenses attending the acquisition of title.....	10,991.19
	<hr/>
Gross total.....	\$305,157.85

In anticipation of the favorable action of the Council on the park question which fully decided the issue that Buffalo should have a park appropriate to her other institutions and her increasing population, the commission arranged with Olmstead & Vaux, the landscape architects, in May, 1870, to furnish plans and designs for the park, and a competent engineer, Mr. George Kent Radford, was engaged to make the necessary topographical survey of “ The Park,” “The Front,” and “ The Parade.” Mr. William McMillan, a thoroughly competent horticulturist and landscape gardener, was appointed as Superintendent of the Park, and has ever since held the position and performed its duties to the eminent satisfaction of the different Boards of Commissioners.

Actual work was begun on the park in September, 1870; fences were erected around the Park and the Parade; about two hundred and fifty



acres were ploughed; about fifteen acres were partially graded; nearly two thousand feet of main drains were laid and eleven and one-half acres of the Parade were tile-drained. The excavation of the lake was also well advanced before the close of the season. In the report of the commissioners for January, 1871, they said:—

“It is not the intention of the commissioners to enter into a lavish expenditure of money for improvements that may be safely deferred. It was important that the land should be acquired and dedicated to public use, for a delay in this matter would have trebled its cost a few years hence. This accomplished and improvements made, whereby the public can be admitted for purposes of recreation and amusement, it may be safely left to the future to carry out more complete and elaborate designs of embellishment.”

This expression foreshadowed a policy which, in a general way, has since been followed by the Park Commissioners. The expenditures to January 1, 1871, were \$24,152.61.

The same Commission and Committees were continued through the next year (1871) and the work of improving and beautifying the park and its approaches was vigorously prosecuted. During the year the expenditures amounted to \$169,941.34. The principal work of the year was the building of the piers and abutments of the bridge, for which the woodwork was also made ready for erection the following spring; the excavation of the lake west of Delaware street; the erection of the dam and waste-weir at the west end of the lake; the completion of nearly 3,000 feet of drive, with stone foundation; the grading of the playground at the front; the grading of thirty acres at the parade and laying 51,409 feet of the tile in the grounds; the establishment of three nurseries and other work of a less important nature.

The report of the Commissioners urged upon the Council the consideration of a topic relating to the park finances, which caused considerable discussion, but was finally satisfactorily adjusted. The report says:—

“The Commissioners feel it their duty to call the attention of the Council to the action of the assessors, by which the whole cost of the parks and their improvement has been thrown upon the general fund. The intent of the law is unmistakable. One-half of all taxes to pay the principal and interest of the bonds issued by the city is required ‘to be levied and collected exclusively upon and from the lands deemed to have been benefited by the improvement in this act provided for.’ Such provisions of law are common, and are to be found in every charter which has been granted to the cities of his State. To declare that all the property in the city is benefited, and thus to bring the whole charge upon the general fund, is a plain violation of the law and of the duty which was imposed upon the assessors. At the last session of the Legislature an amendatory act was passed which was designed to carry out the intention of the original act. By that act it is provided that ‘the said assessors shall not deem the lands so benefited to embrace all the lands in said city of Buffalo,’ and that the one-half of the taxes ‘shall be

assessed, apportioned and levied and collected exclusively upon the lands lying in the vicinity of, and which are directly benefited by said improvements.' We recommend the Council to inquire whether further legislation is needed to secure the proper distribution of taxation for park purposes."

In the Commissioners' report of January, 1873, the following are given as members of the Board:—His Honor, the Mayor, *ex-officio*, Pascal P. Pratt, Edward Bennett, Britain Holmes, Cooley S. Chapin, Edwin T. Evans, Patrick Smith, John L. Alberger, Dennis Bowen, John Greiner, Sherman S. Jewett, Michael Mesmer, DeWitt C. Weed.

An act was passed by the Legislature in May, 1872, authorizing the Mayor to appoint, with the advice and consent of the Common Council, fifteen citizens of Buffalo as a Board of Park Commissioners, in place of those appointed under the act of April 14, 1869; the Mayor to be *ex-officio*, a member of the Board. In accordance with this act, the Mayor sent to the Council on the 27th of May, the names of the following gentlemen, to constitute the new Commission:—

For two years:—William H. Peabody, A. Porter Thompson, John Greiner, Patrick Smith and John L. Alberger. For four years:—Michael Mesmer, Abraham Altman, Britain Holmes, Sherman S. Jewett and DeWitt C. Weed. For six years:—Edward Bennett, Cooley S. Chapin, Edwin T. Evans, Dennis Bowen and Pascal P. Pratt.

Five of the above named men were members of the former Board. On the 30th of July the Common Council confirmed the nominations, with the exception of Messrs. Peabody, Thompson and Altman. The Board as confirmed, duly qualified and on the 7th of August organized by re-electing Pascal P. Pratt, president, and William F. Rogers, secretary and treasurer; the latter official still holds the office. The act above referred to, contains the following as section 2:—

"SECTION 2.—For the purpose of laying out, improving and embellishing the Park or parks, approaches thereto, and connecting streets, under the act to which this is an amendment, the bonds of the city of Buffalo to such an amount, not exceeding \$400,000, as shall be necessary, shall be issued by the Mayor and Comptroller of said city, from time to time, as the same shall be required for the purposes aforesaid; provided, however, that such bonds shall not be issued to exceed in amount \$100,000 in any one year, and that they shall not be disposed of or sold at any less than their face or par value."

Under the above section authority was granted on the 8th of July, to the Mayor and Comptroller, by the Council, to issue the bonds of the city for \$100,000. The delay in making this appropriation caused embarrassment and it was late in the season before much work was done in the Parks. The bridge over the lake was finished in August, and a large amount of work was done on the Parkway; a new avenue was opened from Delaware street to the Park, through Chapin Parkway, Soldiers' Place and Lincoln Parkway. During the fall and succeeding winter the

excavation of the lake was nearly completed. Little was done at the Parade. Great interest now began to develop throughout the city relative to the Park; vacant lands in the vicinity were sought for purchase and real estate appreciated in price.

There was no change in the Park management for 1873, except the substitution of Lewis P. Dayton as one of the Auditing Committee, in place of Alexander Brush. In that year the drive, over six miles long, connecting the Front with the Parade, was opened and graded. A fleet of row-boats was put upon the lake, and the number of visitors greatly increased over the previous year. The Council took the necessary action to acquire the land for opening the avenue from the Parade southerly to Seneca street, which now constitutes Fillmore Avenue; the grounds around the lake to the extent of fifty acres, which had been roughly prepared the previous year, were finished and seeded and shrubbery planted, and the iron bridge over the creek was built. One drive of Humboldt Parkway was opened from the Park to the Parade; both the side drives from the Circle to Main street were opened and the double drive from Ferry street to the Parade. One drive in Bidwell Parkway was opened in June, and in August, the Avenue was opened from Bidwell Place to the Circle. At the front all of the grounds that had been roughly graded the previous year were finished, seeded and planted with shrubbery; forty large trees were also set and the foot-paths stoned and graveled. In August, of this year, a special Park Guard of six patrolmen was appointed by the Police Commissioners at the request of the Park Commissioners.

For the year 1874, Joseph L. Fairchild, William Dorsheimer, Daniel D. Harnett, Joseph Bork and Augustus Fuchs were added to the Board of Commissioners, and John Greiner and John L. Alberger retired. Mr. Dorsheimer was placed on the executive committee; Dennis Bowen, C. S. Chapin, Joseph L. Fairchild, Joseph Bork and Augustus Fuchs, committee on grounds; and Patrick Smith, Edward Bennett, Michael Mesmer, Britain Holmes, and Daniel D. Harnett, auditing committee. The officers of the board remained as before. In May of this year, (1874) work was begun on Fillmore Avenue, which had been opened under Chapter 540, Laws of 1873. The avenue was laid out one hundred feet wide and \$100,000 was appropriated for its purchase and improvement. The length of the avenue is a little over two miles. The dike that had marred the appearance of the lake was removed early this year, giving a better view of the entire lake expanse—about forty-six acres—and the grounds about the lake were generally improved. The building of the summer house on the knoll in front of the beach also refectory and boat house, was well advanced. A brick sewer was built from the creek to near the foot of Lincoln Parkway, with a branch leading to the boat house. The city water was also introduced in the fall of this year. A contract was made



in August with Thomas Dark & Sons for the masonry of a stone viaduct to carry the park drive over Delaware street, and it was finished in November. Large advancement was made in stoning and graveling the different drives, and in the planting of shrubbery. Humboldt Parkway was much improved and its drainage perfected. On the Parade a good deal of work was done on the drainage system, and the excavation of the cellar for the refectory was nearly finished. North and East Parade streets, bounding the grounds from Avenue A to Genesee street, were opened in October and Fillmore Avenue was opened from the Parade to William street, over one mile and a quarter, and a plank walk laid along the same. Important improvements were also made on the parkways and avenues. Work on the Circle was begun in May, but was soon suspended until late in August, on account of a change in its plan to its present design, after which the work on it was early finished. Important improvement was made in Porter Avenue as far down as Ninth street; the number of visitors to the parks was much greater than in the previous year.

The report of January, 1876, notes but one change in the Board of Commissioners; this was the substitution of Joseph Warren for William Dorsheimer, the same change applying to the composition of the executive committee. In the report is made the following statement:—

“One hundred thousand dollars per year of the bonds of the city were issued \* \* \* during the years 1872, 1873 and 1874, leaving one hundred thousand to be issued last year. During the winter of 1874-'75, a large portion of our population who depend upon daily labor for daily bread, were unemployed. The office of the park superintendent was daily besieged by this class—coming in crowds in the early dawn of the winter morning, beseeching work in terms which proved the dire necessity which had driven them forth in the hope of obtaining employment. The park was their objective point; it was a public work, and where else could they look for employment with less risk of being denied? Importunity resolved into a demand. The funds at the disposal of the board had been consumed in the previous season's work, and it became a serious question how the demands of the laborers should be met. The Common Council met the question promptly by passing a resolution requesting the park commissioners to continue such work on the parks as would furnish employment to unskilled labor, and early in February of last year authorized the issue of bonds to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars to continue the work. Legislation was also obtained to enable the council to make a further issue of park bonds to the amount of two hundred thousand dollars—one hundred thousand to be issued in the year 1875, and one hundred thousand in 1876.

“In July last, the issue of bonds to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars was authorized. The appropriation of two hundred thousand dollars during the past year has enabled the commissioners to furnish employment to a large number of laborers. The work has been pushed vigorously, of which the improved appearance of the grounds bears the amplest proof. The following statement exhibits the receipts



and expenditures in each year since the work commenced. The sum paid for the lands taken is also included:—

Year.	Receipts.	Expenditures.
1870.....	\$ 350,000 00	\$ 330,778 07
1871.....	159,106 40	169,976 16
1872.....	104,459 83	110,278 96
1873.....	103,620 27	105,354 92
1874.....	128,690 14	127,543 99
1875.....	201,874 00	201,580 70
Total.....	\$1,047,750 64	\$1,045,512 80

“ This financial statement is presented for the information of your honorable body and the citizens of Buffalo whom you represent. The lands originally taken for park purposes, cost the city in the year 1869, \$305,000—an average of about \$600 an acre. The cost of the improvements made during the past six years have averaged about \$1,400 an acre, making the entire cost of the park, excluding Fillmore Avenue, in round numbers, \$2,000 an acre. The lands taken for this approach to the park (Fillmore Avenue) have an area of about eighteen acres and cost the city by appraisal in 1873, \$72,000, an average of about \$4,000 an acre. This fact is stated to illustrate the rapid increase in the valuation of real estate in the vicinity of the park improvements.”

The above extract from the report, gives a clear idea of the park finances at the time mentioned. The more important park work for the year may be briefly summarized thus: Since the excavation of the lake, it had been found impossible to keep the water up to the level given in the plan on account of the backwater overflowing lands in the cemetery and others belonging to Dr. Lord. An arrangement was, therefore, made with the cemetery trustees and Dr. Lord, by which the banks of the lake were raised around the overflowed portions, with material excavated from the swampy lands. The expense was shared by those most interested in the improvement. This work formed an ornamental pond of about three acres, developed many living springs of clear water in the bottom, and filled the lake to the required level. “ Farmstead,” the residence, office and outbuildings of the Superintendent, was begun in August, and the house and foundations of the barn and stables were substantially finished. The boat house was finished; further improvement was made on the different drives and walks and considerable work was done on Porter Avenue. Changes were made in the entrance from Amherst street, made desirable through the opening of the Belt Line of the Central road; stations were established at the Main street crossing and on Colvin and McPherson streets. The Amherst street entrances were closed and a new one opened opposite the head of Colvin street and another on the east boundary, connecting with the Main street station by an approach through the grounds of Mr. E. R. Jewett, called “ Jewett Avenue.” These changes necessitated a corresponding change in the location of “ Farmstead,” and it was moved to the east border of the park, between Amherst and Chapin streets. Planting of shrubbery

was much advanced during the year ; the Refectory at The Parade was enclosed ; West Parade Avenue and Keller street on the west and north boundaries of The Parade, were graded and opened. The drive at The Front and the broad terrace were completed, and the fences and disfiguring shrubs were removed from Prospect Hill Parks and Niagara square.

For the year 1876 the Board of Park Commissioners was changed by the substitution of James R. Smith, Hiram Exstein, Frank Perew, George Urban and James Metcalfe, in place of Joseph Warren, Daniel Harnett, DeWitt C. Weed, Joseph Bork and Britain Holmes. The depressed condition of business at the time, and the fact that the drives of the several Parks were substantially completed and the parkways and avenues opened as good dirt roads, while shrubbery planting and seeding were in a satisfactory state of advancement, caused a suspension of work on the Parks to a large extent. The Superintendent's house and buildings were completed, and the drive encircling "The Meadow," those running to the Farmstead and to the east meadow gate were constructed, while considerable extension of the walks was made. The Parade Refectory, which had been begun under contract with Mr. Joseph Churchyard, was finished and opened on July 4th. Work of a general character was done in different portions of the Park, but which need not be further detailed. The receipts for the year were \$131,094.53 ; there was expended the sum of \$132,426.63.

With the close of the year 1878, Mr. Pascal P. Pratt resigned the office of President of the Board of Park Commissioners—an office which he had filled since the first organization of that body (about ten years) the responsible duties of which he had discharged to the eminent satisfaction of every citizen of Buffalo. Since then the office has been most acceptably filled by Sherman S. Jewett, Esq. It will not be necessary to follow in further detail the work that has been done on the Parks since the year 1876 ; general improvements and the proper maintenance of the system have been carefully attended to each year down to the present time, with as liberal expenditures as the means at the disposal of the Board would allow ; yet the importance of such work, as compared with what has been described above, is insignificant. The work done since 1876, has been chiefly confined to what was necessary for the proper care and keeping of the grounds and structures.

On the night of August 26-'7, 1877, the beautiful Parade House was burned to the ground ; it was rebuilt on a plan of less magnificence in 1878-'79, for which purpose only a portion of the moneys received from the insurance companies was used, leaving over \$30,000 to be expended in the general improvement of avenues and parkways.

On the 27th of July, 1879, the street railway company opened their lines from Cold Spring to the Park. This was, perhaps, the most im-







portant movement that had been made towards popularizing the Park, thus carrying out the hopes of the originators, that it would become a place for the healthful and innocent recreation of the masses. During the month of August, the street cars carried about 10,000 people to the Parks, clearly showing that cheap and regular transportation was an important element in making them a popular resort. The following season the line was put in better order and well equipped; it was still more largely patronized, has been since; during the four months that the road was operated in 1880, over 31,000 were carried over it to the Park.

In 1882, the Lake View House was erected at the Front, adding much to the attractiveness of that resort; its cost was nearly \$10,000.

The following table shows the areas of the Buffalo Parks and Public Places:—

“Gala Water,”  $46\frac{1}{2}$  acres; “The Meadow,” including part of Deer Paddock, 150 acres; “Water Park,” all west of Delaware Avenue, 121 acres; “Meadow Park,” all east of Delaware Avenue, 234 acres; The Park, including Agassiz Place, 355 acres; The Parade, 56 acres; The Front, including “The Bank,” 33 acres; Prospect Place,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  acres; The Circle,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres; Bidwell Place,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  acres; Chapin Place, 5 acres; Soldier’s Place,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  acres; Parks and Places in charge of Park Commission, 475 acres; Niagara Square, 5 acres; Lafayette Square,  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre; Day’s Park,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  acres; Johnson Place Park, 1 acre; Public Places in charge of Common Council, 8 acres; Fort Porter, adjoining the Front, 17 acres. Total, 500 acres. Park approaches in charge of Park Commission, 120 acres.

Of the Buffalo Park System as a whole Mr. Olmstead has said:—

“I am not unreasonable in saying that in the more important qualities of a Park, that of Buffalo, compares favorably with that of New York city.”

Another gentleman, who was characterized as being one of the half dozen best qualified non-professional judges in the country on such a matter, said a few years ago:—

“In respect to the more quiet, tranquilizing and simply wholesome and refreshing forms of recreation—in beauty of water, meadow and woodland, which is the soul of a park—Buffalo has already more and is much faster gaining value than New York.”

In conclusion it is but justice to emphasize the fact that to the men who have done most towards making the Buffalo Park System what it is, the people at large in the city are indebted almost beyond measure. That the expenditure of the large sums devoted to the work and the general management of the system, have been wisely, economically and honestly done, it is acknowledged by all who are conversant with the subject. The important offices of president, secretary and treasurer, and superintendent, have been filled almost without change since 1868—the two latter offices entirely so. In each of these cases, as well as in those of other officials, the most eminent satisfaction has been given.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

## BUFFALO CEMETERIES.\*

The First Burial Place in Buffalo—Its First Occupant—Capt. William Johnston's Burial—The Old Franklin Square Burying Ground—Who Established It—Its First Tenant—Other Prominent Interments—Description of Other City Burying Grounds—The Black Rock Burying Ground—The Matthews & Wilcox Burial Ground—Church Cemeteries—Soldiers' Burial Places—Forest Lawn—Its Beginning, Dedication, etc.—Its Enlargement and Improvement—Value of the Cemetery Property—Dedication Ceremonies.

**A**T the beginning of the present century, as we have before stated in this work, Capt. William Johnston, a British officer, owned a tract of about forty acres of land in the center of what is now the business portion of Buffalo; this tract was bounded on the north by Seneca street; on the west by Washington street; on the south by Little Buffalo Creek and on the east by a line which, with these boundaries, include twenty acres; the line ran parallel with Washington street. On this tract was Captain Johnston's homestead, and there, when the inevitable necessity arose, he laid out a small lot for the burial of the dead, at the corner of what are now Exchange and Washington streets. When the Washington Block was built in 1873-'74, the laborers in the cellar dug up several skeletons.

The first occupant of this primitive cemetery was an infant son of Captain Johnston, and Captain Johnston himself was probably buried there in 1807. Interments continued there until the village burial ground was established on Franklin Square, where the City and County Hall now stands.

As far as known the prime movers in the establishment of this burial place, as they were in most other public village enterprises at that early period, were Captain Samuel Pratt and Dr. Cyrenius Chapin; they went to Batavia in the year 1804 and obtained from the agent of the Holland Land Company a "land contract" for lots 108, 109, 111 and 112. This tract was then a most attractive portion of the Terrace. The first silent tenant of this burial ground was John Cochrane, a Connecticut traveler, who died at Barker's tavern, which stood on the Terrace, near the corner of Main street. This interment was probably made considerably prior to 1804, but after a verbal consent had been obtained from the agent of the Land Company to use the land for that purpose, tradition makes the second occupant of this ground a very tall Indian, whose stature had given him the appellation of "The Infant." In March, 1815, the noble

\* On the 4th of February, 1879, the venerable resident of Buffalo, William Hodge, Esq., read before the Historical Society an interesting paper on the Cemeteries of Buffalo, from which many of the facts in this chapter are taken.

old Indian chief, "Farmer's Brother," was interred there, with military honors. A tablet bearing the chief's initials in brass nails was found when the bodies were removed from this old burial place to Forest Lawn; but it disappeared in some unknown manner. The title to this ground was not secured from the Land Company until 1821; the reason for this delay is, that there was no village corporation at first to hold the gift, and the matter was afterwards neglected upon the theory that after so many years' peaceable possession the property belonged to the village. The lots in this cemetery were not owned by individuals, but were assigned to them by the trustees. Burials were almost entirely discontinued in this ground in 1832; the last one was made in 1836, under special permit, being the body of the wife of Hon. Samuel Wilkeson, a daughter of the pioneer, Gamaliel St. John. This ground was used by families living as far from the village as "the Plains" until 1832, when the cholera epidemic caused its disuse.

*The Cold Spring Burying Ground.*—Some years prior to the war of 1812, there was a small burying ground on farm lot No. 59, now the southwest corner of Delaware and Ferry streets. Mr. Hodge says he remembers being present at burials in that ground, when he was a boy; among them being a child of Mr. Seth Granger, and a child of a Mr. Caskey; those burials were made before the war. There, too, were buried the mutilated remains of poor brave Job Hoysington, who was killed and scalped by the Indians on the morning of December 30, 1813. Hoysington's remains were removed to Forest Lawn in 1850, with those of most of the others who had been buried in the rural cemetery—nearly one hundred in all. This ground was never formally granted for a cemetery, but was used by the consent of the owner. When Ferry street was graded and widened in 1876, a good many bones were unearthed, which were humanely taken by Mr. Hodge and placed in Forest Lawn with the others that had been removed there.

*Delaware and North Street Burial Ground.*—About the year 1830, Hon. Lewis F. Allen bought on his own account of Judge Ebenezer Walden, five acres of land on the southwest corner of Delaware and North street, for the purpose of establishing a cemetery. Through his efforts an association was formed composed of the following named persons: Lewis F. Allen, George B. Webster, Russell H. Heywood, Heman B. Potter and Hiram Pratt, as trustees; the tract was surveyed by Joseph Clary and laid out in lots, a considerable number of which were sold. But the small size of the lot rendered it difficult of suitable improvement, and by the encroachments of dwellings, the tract could not long be used as a cemetery; the bodies were accordingly removed to Forest Lawn in the year 1865. The property now belongs to the Forest Lawn Association, and will, in all probability, soon be occupied with private dwellings.



*The Potters Field.*—In the year 1832 Buffalo was incorporated as a city, and at the same time it was compelled to face the prospect of a visitation of the cholera epidemic that was then sweeping across the country—a prospect that was realized in the loss of many of the inhabitants of the place. To decrease the risks of contagion from the epidemic, burials were prohibited in the Franklin square burying ground and five acres of land were bought of William Hodge, on farm lot No. 30, and lying between North and Best streets, west of Prospect street, for a common burial place, or “Potters Field;” a portion of this tract was set apart for the use of the Roman Catholics, to be consecrated according to their form.

*The Black Rock Burial Ground.*—When the original survey of the village of South Black Rock was made, in 1804 or 1805, lots Nos. 41 and 42 were appropriated by the State for burial purposes; but the land was found to be too low and consequently was not much used, people preferring to carry their dead to the Franklin Square burying ground, or elsewhere. When the village of Black Rock was incorporated, Colonel William A. Bird, in the interest of the corporation, negotiated an exchange of these two lots for one on higher ground; this was lot No. 88 on North street, since known as the Black Rock burying ground. It was bounded by Jersey, Pennsylvania and Fourteenth streets, and the Mile strip, now “The Avenue.” When North street was opened through this burying ground, a small triangle was left on the south side and within the old limits of Buffalo city. By an arrangement with the authorities of Black Rock this small tract was used as a “Potters Field,” for the paupers who died at the poor house, which stood a little to the west of it. The principal part of the lot was used for many years by the inhabitants of Black Rock, but burials were finally discontinued there and the land was donated to the Charity Foundation of the Episcopal Church. Lots in this cemetery were assigned to individuals in the same manner adopted in the Franklin Square ground.\* When Forest

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\* One grave in this spot was that of Captain James Rough, a man of some note in early days, who was buried in 1828. This noble-hearted man was one of the Captains who early sailed on our lakes. \* \* \* A countryman of his, a Scotchman, the eccentric Major Donald Frazer, to express the esteem in which he was held by all, placed a stone at the head of his grave, on which was cut the inscription and quaint epitaph printed below. Captain Rough's remains were removed by our honored townsman, John T. Lacy, April 26, 1860, to the lot in Forest Lawn, where those from the old burying ground of Franklin Square were placed. They now lie near the large monument in the center of this lot, by the side of Captain Dox, an officer in the United States army during the war of 1812. Epitaph:—

“Here lies the body of Captain James Rough, a son of Auld Scotia, who died Dec. 4, 1828, aged 60.

“A Highland man's son placed this stone in remembrance of his friend:—

“Here moored beneath this willow tree,  
Lies Honor, Worth and Integrity,  
More I might add, but 'tis enough;  
'Twas centered all in honest Rough.

“With such as he where'er he be,  
May I be saved or damned.”



Lawn was established, many of the dead were removed from this old burial ground by their friends. Since then the grading of Rogers street and the Circle has exhumed many bones of dead buried there, which have been deposited in Forest Lawn. It is not known just when burials were first made in this old ground, but it was probably as early as 1820.

*The Bidwell Farm Burying Ground.*—What was once known as “The Bidwell Farm,” was situated on the old “Gulf Road,” now Delevan Avenue; on this farm there was a place for the burial of the dead before the Guide Board Road ground was opened. The Gulf road crossed Main street just south of the bridge over the “Conjockety” creek, a little east of which bridge it crossed the creek; to the westward it crossed a deep gulf made by the stream flowing from the Jubilee spring, which fact gave the road its name. Interments were made on this farm from 1811 to 1825.

*The Matthews and Wilcox Burying Grounds.*—In 1833-34 a private cemetery was inaugurated by General Sylvester Matthews and Birdseye Wilcox; it was located on farm lot No. 30, adjoining the five acres before referred to as having been bought by the city in 1832, for a Potters Field, and comprised twelve acres. The land was well adapted for its purpose and it was quite extensively improved; numerous lots were sold to individuals, who devoted considerable effort to their improvement and decoration. When Forest Lawn was established, this cemetery was somewhat neglected for several years; but renewed interest was exhibited in it at a later date. The Hodge family, who had purchased two lots in the grounds, paid for them by planting locust trees around the enclosure and on each side of the carriage ways and walks, which added greatly to the beauty of the place. In 1853 the lot owners became dissatisfied with the manner in which the proprietors managed the cemetery, raised the necessary fund by subscription, for the purchase of the property, and in 1854, the “Buffalo Cemetery Association” was incorporated. This Association paid \$5,000 for the Matthews and Wilcox interest, and since then the cemetery has been improved and properly cared for.

Following are brief records of the various church and miscellaneous burial places that have been established in Buffalo, the greater portion of which are now in use:—

*Cemetery of St John's Church, (German.)*—This enclosure is the property of the German Evangelical Lutherans, and is located on the corner of the Pine Hill and Pine Ridge roads. It contains several acres and was purchased in 1858. The first burial was made there on July 6th, 1859.

*Holy Rest Cemetery, (German Lutheran Trinity.)*—This cemetery is located at Pine Hill and contains but three acres; it was opened in 1859.

*Zion Church Cemetery.*—This cemetery is also located at Pine Hill; it contains four acres and belongs to the German Evangelical Reformed Zion Church. A portion of the enclosure is used by the Salem Evangelical Mission, of Zion Church. The cemetery was opened about the year 1859.

*Concordia Cemetery.*—This burial ground is used in common by the German Evangelical St. Peter's, the German Evangelical St. Stephen's and the First German Lutheran congregations. It is situated on Genesee street between the New York Central and the Erie railway crossings. It comprises fifteen acres, which were purchased in 1858 and were opened in 1859.

*St. Matthew's Church Cemetery* is located on Clinton street, near the Sulphur Springs Orphan Asylum. This cemetery contains ten acres and was opened in 1875; it is handsomely laid out and well kept.

*Black Rock German Methodist Episcopal Church Cemetery.*—This burial place is on Bird street and contains about five and one-quarter acres. It was opened in 1870.

Besides these there are the Mount Hope cemetery, located at Pine Hill, which is private property; the Howard Free cemetery, at Pine Hill, also private property, and used exclusively by people outside of the city; and the Reservation cemetery, the old Indian burying ground, on the continuation of Seneca street, where the remains of Red Jacket were laid, whence they were removed to the Cattaraugus Reservation in 1852.

*Old St. Louis Cemetery.*—There are or have been seven cemeteries under control of the Roman Catholics of Buffalo. Old St. Louis cemetery was located on Edward street, near Main, the ground for which was donated by the benevolent Mr. Louis Le Couteulx. Burials were first made here in 1830. The use of the ground for that purpose was prohibited in 1832, as had been necessary in other cases. The New St. Louis cemetery was then established and the remains were removed from the old grounds and reinterred in the new; the old ground was used as the site of the priest's dwelling.

*The New St. Louis Cemetery.*—Mr. Hodge thus designates the lot originally set off from the Potter's Field; it is located between North and Best streets, with a front of eighty-eight feet on each, and contains perhaps an acre of ground. It was opened in 1832, and closed in 1859.

*Old St. Mary's Cemetery.*—This burial place contains about one and a half acres located on the southeast corner of Johnson and North streets. It was opened in 1845 and closed in 1860. Many of the remains buried there have been removed to the new ground at Pine Hill.

*St. Francis Xavier Cemetery.*—This cemetery is located at North Buffalo (Black Rock) and was opened in 1850; it is still in use. It contains about two acres and is situated near the crossing of Bird street by

the Falls branch of the New York Central road. St. John's church at North Buffalo also has the use of this ground.

*St. Joseph's Cemetery.*—This burial ground is situated near the poor house, on the "Buffalo Plains," about five miles from the center of the city. It contains about six acres and was opened in 1850; it is now in use.

*Holy Cross Cemetery* is located at Limestone Hill. It was opened in 1855 and contains about eighty acres. The title to this ground is in the Bishop, and it is used exclusively for the burial of those of Irish birth; in these respects it differs from all other Catholic cemeteries in Buffalo.

*United German and French Catholic Cemetery.*—This cemetery originally contained fourteen acres which were purchased in 1858, and opened for burials the following year; this original tract is now entirely filled with graves, and in 1870 twenty-eight acres additional were purchased. This cemetery, as its name indicates, is used for the German and French Catholics, it is a corporation under the control of trustees, and into it have been merged all the Roman Catholic cemeteries in the city, except the one at Limestone Hill, referred to above. It is laid out with excellent taste and the grounds have been beautified until it is a very attractive spot.

*Bethel Cemetery.*—Following are the names and records of the burial places used by the Jewish nationality in Buffalo.

The Bethel Society was organized in 1847, and in 1849 purchased ground for a burial-place, fronting on what is now Fillmore avenue, between Batavia and Sycamore streets; the lot contains three and a half acres, only a portion of which were opened to burials. This land was originally owned by Mr. Elias Bernheimer, whose wife was the first person buried there. Of Mr. Bernheimer the Jacobson Society (German) had also obtained permission to make interments on the lot. After Pine Hill became the site of several cemeteries, the Bethel Society purchased about two and a half acres there, and in 1861 opened the burial-ground that is now known by their name. The Jacobson Society was succeeded by the Beth Zion, which also purchased a burying-ground at Pine Hill; the Temple Society afterwards united with the Beth Zion, forming the Temple Beth Zion, the last mentioned ground became the property of the united societies, and is now known as the Temple Beth Zion Cemetery. It has a front of sixty feet and a depth of four hundred and fifty feet. The original cemetery lot on Fillmore street has been sold to private parties with the express understanding that the burial-places shall be permanently kept fenced and protected.

*Soldier's Burial-Places.*—The following account of the different places that have been devoted to the burial of dead soldiers in and around Buffalo, is condensed from Mr. Hodge's interesting paper before referred to:—



"It is in the memory of some yet living that the American bank of Niagara river at Black Rock and the banks of Conjockey creek adjacent, were the grounds of several hard contested battles in which many were killed and afterwards buried on the battle-field. Many also were buried here who died of sickness in the barracks of our Grand Battery and in the barracks on the bank of Conjockey creek. There is no doubt that hundreds of unknown soldiers are buried here, and as these grounds have been plowed over and over again, it is impossible to detect their individual resting places until excavations are made. The remains of many are also scattered along the line of Main street from Flint Hill to the Terrace. Bones of soldiers have been exhumed within the last few years at the junction of Lafayette and Washington streets. They have been found also on the Terrace near St. Joseph's College, on the bank of the river at Black Rock, and in various places on Main street, and have been thrown about as playthings for 'Peterkin and Wilhelmine,' as mentioned by Southey in his poem, 'The Battle of Blenheim.' Time and the march of improvement alone can bring to light the bones of the majority of our dead soldiers, as the government was not so careful of them formerly as now. It would, of course, be impossible to identify all the places in this region where our Nation's dead have been buried; but some of the more important ones may be noted."

*The Terrace.*—During the war of 1812, there were many soldiers, and doubtless some military *attaches* of the army, buried in and about the Terrace. There was a battery erected on the Terrace to defend the water approach by the channel of the creek, near the opening about at the foot of Genesee street. By this approach the wounded in the various contests of 1814 were brought to the hospital on the Terrace, and the dead of the hospital were buried near it. When Church and Delaware streets were graded, many skeletons were dug up during the progress of the work; one was in a coffin and had military trappings on that indicated the wearer to have been a lieutenant in the army.

*Sandy Town.*—In 1814, when our army held Fort Erie, the ferrying place across the river was near Sandy Town, which was quite a noted spot. A number of wooden houses had been built in rear of the beach, behind the immense sand-hills that existed in the early part of the century. Some of them were used as hospitals for the sick and wounded as they were brought from Canada, and the dead were buried in the sand-banks adjacent. Many bodies were washed out into the lake in after years. \* \* \* Human bones have even been tossed carelessly about with laugh and jest by those engaged in carting sand to Buffalo. As late as 1830, it was a common thing for the school boys to go there on a Saturday afternoon and dig for relics, buttons, etc.; and often they exhumed the bones perhaps of those to whom these belonged. But the great storm of 1844 washed away the sand-hills, and then were plainly to be seen the traces of the line of huts, the foundations of the chimneys, officers' quarters, etc.

*Conjockey Creek.*—While our Kentucky riflemen were stationed on the south bank of Conjockey creek, in 1814, there were many graves



made near by for those who sickened and died, and also for those who were killed in the battle that took place there in that year. \* \* Those soldier graves have all since been leveled; no mark is left to designate them.

*Black Rock.*—Many graves were on or near the premises of Colonel William A. Bird, Sr. In the battle of July 11, 1813, at Black Rock, in which Colonel Bishop was killed, and Captain Saunders was wounded and taken prisoner by our men, there were eight British and three American soldiers killed; they were buried on the brow of the river bank, back of Colonel Bird's house. From his residence south as far as Albany street, there were at the close of the war many grave mounds, which since that time have all been leveled.

*The Grave in the "Park Meadow."*—General Smyth's regulars were encamped in the fall and winter of 1812, on Flint Hill. During this time there prevailed among them a typhoid epidemic. Deprived as they were of comfortable hospitals and a sufficient supply of medical agents, it carried off about three hundred of them. They were put into plain pine board coffins, furnished by William Hodge, Sr., and temporarily buried near the south line of the "Chapin Place;" but the rock came so near the surface that their graves could not be more than about a foot in depth. The ensuing spring they were removed some distance to the north side of the farm, where the ground was a sandy loam and easily dug. Leave to bury them there being given by the respective owners of the farms, Capt. Rowland Cotton and Dr. Daniel Chapin, they were deposited directly on the dividing line between these farms, in one common grave. Dr. Chapin planted two yellow willows, one at each end of the grave, which have become large trees, and are yet (1880) growing, the grave itself remaining undisturbed to this day.

*Fort Porter.*—There is a burying ground here for United States soldiers dying while stationed at Buffalo. The first interment was made in 1867.

*Forest Lawn Cemetery.*—We come now to the consideration of Forest Lawn Cemetery, the lovely spot that is now and must be for many future years the resting place of so many of the sons and daughters of this city. We have left the record of this beautiful "city of the dead" for the close of this chapter, as it is the latest as well as the grandest result of the efforts that have been made to provide this great city with a suitable and satisfactory home for her beloved dead—a home of such spacious proportions that its wide-spreading lawns, its shady groves, its green valleys and sloping knolls will not be fully peopled with its silent tenants for many, many years. No one will question the wisdom of providing such a place and all will commend the broad and beneficent plan which underlies the management of this beautiful cemetery.

The original Forest Lawn Cemetery contained about eighty acres of land which were purchased by the late Mr. Charles E. Clark, of the

Rev. James N. Granger and his brother, Warren Granger; the price paid for this land was \$150 an acre. It was a portion of the "Granger Farm," and the tract was situated on the northeast side of the Conjockety creek, between Delaware and Main streets, about two and a half miles from the center of the city. These grounds were made up of about equal areas of forest and lawn, which gave them the name "Forest Lawn." Improvements in the cemetery were begun in 1850 and it was dedicated August 18, of that year, on which occasion a poem was read by Miss Matilda H. Stuart, of Buffalo, followed by Scriptural readings and prayer by Rev. G. W. Hosmer, D. D., and Rev. Dr. Shelton. A poem written by Mr. Asher P. Nichols was then sung by a choir, which was followed by the reading of an ode written for the occasion by the late Guy H. Salisbury. An appropriate address was then delivered by Hon. G. W. Clinton. The ceremonies concluded with a benediction by Rev. Prof. Seager.

Mr. Clarke labored hard and spent both time and money with liberality, to render the new cemetery an attractive spot for the burial of the dead; but strange to say, he met with many obstacles, the principal one being that the grounds were too far away from the city and were too lonely. The people of Buffalo, while they admired the improvements that were gradually transforming the place into a lovely home for the dead, did not purchase lots nor evince a disposition to inter their friends so far away from the homes of the living. But among those who visited the new cemetery and admired not only its beauty, but also its location far away from the tumult of the city, was a man who was destined to be its first tenant. He had already pointed out a spot on a pleasant knoll which he thought "appropriate and pleasant to sleep in when the trials of life should be ended." This person was John Lay, Jr., a respected citizen and former prominent business man of Buffalo. He died on the 10th of July, 1850, at the age of sixty years. After he died Mr. Clarke tendered to the family the lot which Mr. Lay had so admired, and there he was buried on the 12th of July. The funeral was conducted by the late Loring Pierce, who was for many years the "city sexton." The venerable Dr. Shelton, of St. Paul's conducted the service. From that time forward the cemetery seemed to assume a different character in the eyes of the people of Buffalo and inspired in them far different and more fortunate sentiments, resulting in the rapid occupancy of its most attractive portions and the consequent improvement and beautifying of the grounds by the owner.

A most commendable feeling had existed for many years in the minds of some of the foremost men of Buffalo, a feeling that constantly grew in strength down to the year 1864, that a cemetery of sufficient magnitude for a city like Buffalo, should not be held by any private corporation, but should rather be founded upon the broad basis of general

public interest, and its affairs be conducted for the public good and without financial profit to any individual or company. The growth of this feeling led to a meeting on the 19th of November, 1864, in the office of O. H. Marshall, Esq., where the subject of such a city cemetery was considered. The following named gentlemen were present at the meeting: James P. White, Oliver G. Steele, Lewis F. Allen, O. H. Marshall, Elijah Ford, Everard Palmer, Chandler J. Wells, Sidney Shepard, George Truscott, Charles W. Evans, DeWitt C. Weed, Joseph Warren, John D. Shepard, Jabez B. Bull, George L. Newman, James M. Smith, Gibson T. Williams, Walter Cary, Nelson K. Hopkins, and Henry Martin.

After a broad range of discussion, it was unanimously resolved to organize the "Buffalo City Cemetery." The number of trustees was fixed at twelve and the organization was effected by the election of the following named gentlemen as trustees: Dexter P. Rumsey, DeWitt C. Weed, George Truscott, Sidney Shepard, Lewis F. Allen, Oliver G. Steele, Everard Palmer, Henry Martin, O. H. Marshall, Francis H. Root, Russell H. Heywood, and George Howard.

A meeting of the trustees was held at the office of Mr. Marshall on the 21st of November, 1864, when the organization was reported legally complete and the Board elected the following officers: Everard Palmer, president; Oliver G. Steele, vice-president; DeWitt C. Weed, secretary and treasurer.

The Board at once began negotiations which resulted in the purchase of the following property: The Swartz farm, sixty-seven and a half acres; Moffat Grove, twenty-two and a half acres; Watson Tract in Moffat Grove, eleven acres; part of Granger farm, twenty-seven acres; Forest Lawn property, seventy-five acres; total, two hundred and three acres.

The money necessary to secure the purchase of these lands, was raised by the issue of the bonds of the corporation payable in ten years from January 1st, 1865, with annual interest, and being at all times receivable in payment for lots. These bonds were purchased liberally by the citizens of Buffalo, to the amount of about fifty thousand dollars. Other purchases of land—about ten acres from Dr. Lord's estate on the westerly border, and about twenty-five acres from the Dr. Ransom estate, fronting on Main street—make, with all former purchases a tract of two hundred and forty acres. In the report of the cemetery trustees for January 1878, is made the following statement:—

"The enterprise under such auspices (a mutual association without stockholders) was not only a novel but a bold one, created by an urgent necessity for a spacious ornamental burial-ground to accommodate our rapidly increasing city and population. Yet, from the well-known ability of its founders and a careful computation of a successful result, it was presumed that the entire debt, with its accumulating interest, together



with all expenses of improvements, labor, etc., could be paid at the expiration of thirteen years, being at the rate of about \$10,000 per annum. The trustees are gratified in saying that in the lapse of some years less time than above estimated the original debt of \$131,650, including bonds, the residue of mortgages, interest, labor bills, and material for improvement of the grounds and all other indebtedness upon this property, was extinguished, \$40,000 of the debt being paid at the end of two years from its organization."

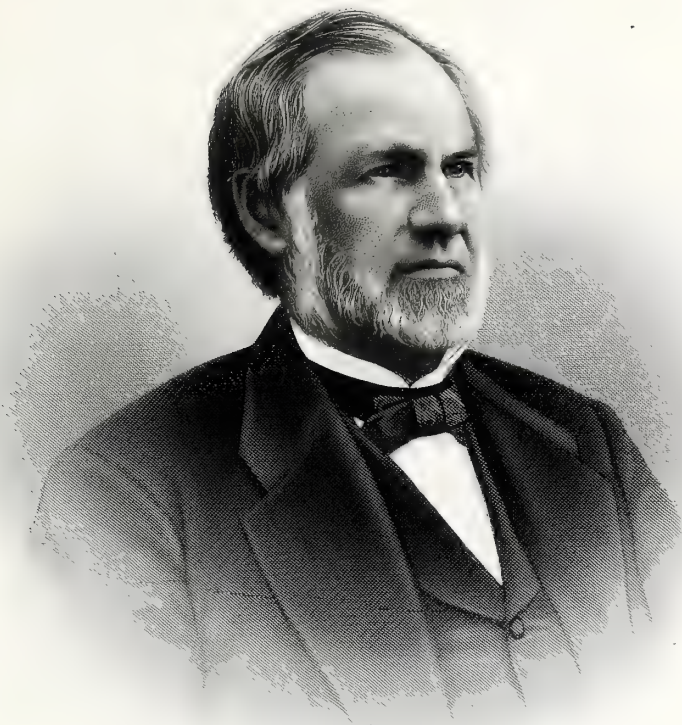
And now, at the end of thirteen years, in which the trustees supposed that the original debt of \$131,650 could be paid, that debt was *not only* extinguished in several years less time, but the additional Lord and Ransom purchases of \$51,630, with their accruing interest, have been paid, and the entire property, consisting of two hundred and forty acres, is without incumbrance, the absolute property of the Association, in which every lot-owner, no matter to how small an extent, and their heirs and descendants, have an unincumbered inalienable title, and not only such title, but a surety that their lots will be perpetually cared for and kept in order by the Association.

To show the importance and the value of the Forest Lawn property, the following estimate is made: The real estate has cost about \$185,000; its improvement in all its features about \$198,531, making the sum of \$383,531. To meet these expenditures there has been received for land and lots sold, commutations and in other ways, about \$373,461, all of which is a permanent investment. The lot owners are more than two thousand five hundred in number. Lots purchased and paid for by individual owners have been sold to the full amount of the permanent investment and assets above stated, and in these lots not only the living purchasers now possess, but their heirs and descendants to an indefinite number, as also the heirs and descendants of deceased purchasers, will hereafter possess for burial purposes an absolute title in perpetuity. The sums of money expended in monuments, tombs and mausolea by the proprietors of lots, amount to more than one million dollars, thus making the whole investment in Forest Lawn nearly or quite two million dollars. These figures and statements are from the report of the trustees of 1878, which concludes as follows:—

"The dedication ceremonies of Forest Lawn Cemetery took place on Friday, September 28, 1866. They were very imposing in their character, and appropriate as the formal inauguration of the beautiful burial place. The clergymen of the city, the Masonic order, the Continental singing society, the Mayor and Common Council of the city and a large concourse of citizens participated in the ceremonies, which were held in the grove on the east bank of the stream."

Since Forest Lawn Cemetery was dedicated, improvement in many directions, guided by excellent taste and supported by ample means, has gone rapidly forward, until there are now no more beautiful and attractive burial places in the country. Its location adjoining the spacious park that







has been so wisely provided by the city government, could scarcely be excelled, while its natural beauties and its adaptability to its purpose are equally pleasing and satisfactory. Many costly and tasteful memorials have been erected to mark the resting places of the city's honored dead, and as the coming years follow each other into the past, each one adding to the silent population of this sanctuary, it will in all respects become a dearer and more attractive spot to the living.

Following are the names of the present officers of the Cemetery : Francis H. Root, president ; George Howard, vice-president ; Henry Martin, treasurer ; Henry E. Perrine, secretary ; Francis H. Root, Bronson C. Rumsey, O. H. Marshall, David R. Morse, Henry Martin, Lewis F. Allen, George Howard, J. F. Schoellkopf, George Truscott, J. M. Richmond, Sherman S. Jewett, John M. Hutchinson, trustees ; George Troup, superintendent ; M. Davey, C. E., engineer.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### CITY DEPARTMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS.

The Buffalo Fire Department—First Organization—The First Fire Company—Construction of Cisterns—List of All Companies and Dates of Organization—The First Chief Engineer—His Successors to the Present Time—Demoralization of the Department—First Board of Fire Commissioners—Fire Alarm Telegraph Introduced—Establishment of a Paid Department—Disastrous Fires—The Fireman's Benevolent Association—Buffalo Police Force—First Chief of Police—Successive Chiefs and Superintendents—Present Force and Precincts—The Health Department—The First Cholera Epidemic—The First Board of Health and Their Labors—List of Health Physicians—Health Department as at Present Constituted—The City Water Works—The First Water Company—Organization of the City Water Works Company—Incorporators—Different Plans—Details of Construction—Magnitude of the Works—Change in Officials—The Postal Service in Buffalo and Black Rock—List of Postmasters—Early Mail Routes—Gas and Electric Light Companies—Street Car Lines.

### THE BUFFALO FIRE DEPARTMENT.\*

THE Fire Department of Buffalo is older than the city itself ; its conception dates back to the very early history of the village. The first record that has been found of anything like an organization to furnish protection from fire, relates to the year 1816. Near the last of that year, the village authorities passed ordinances relative to the subject. The trustees were authorized to ascertain the practicability of procuring a supply of water by means of the water courses, streams and reservoirs. Twenty-five ladders were ordered

\* Much of the data from which the following history of the Fire Department was written, was obtained from the columns of the *Sunday Truth*.

made within thirty days and all house owners were required to provide "one good leathern bucket for each house, store or shop;" to cause their chimneys to be swept and in future to build their chimneys, large enough for sweepers to go through them.

This movement was undoubtedly instigated by a fire in the village as George Badger in the papers of December 17th, that year, thanked the citizens for assistance at his late fire.

On the 18th of June, 1826, the sum of \$100 was ordered levied on the village property, with which to build an engine house. At a little later date, John B. Flagg, Henry Root, Edward Root and A. Beers were appointed to fill vacancies in the fire company. Peter Curtiss, Noah P. Sprague and Isaac S. Smith were afterwards added to the fire wardens then in office. In January, 1830, the membership of the fire company had increased to twenty-seven, among whom was the name of John L. Kimberly.

During the year 1831 action was taken towards enlarging the fire extinguishing facilities of the village. On September 19th, of that year, it was decided to construct four reservoirs, or cisterns, at the intersections of Main with Seneca, Swan, Eagle and Court streets. These reservoirs held about 10,000 gallons each and for many years served their purpose efficiently; other similar reservoirs were afterwards added. In the fall of that year two new fire engines were purchased and additional hose procured.

On the 5th of June, 1822, some further precautions were taken to prevent fires, and on the 2nd of December, 1822, an ordinance was passed defining the duties of the fire wardens, one of which was to examine and clean the chimneys throughout the village once in every month. These measures were followed by others designed to increase the vigilance and efficiency of the wardens, and adding penalties for carelessness on the part of the property-owners.

The first regular fire company was organized in Buffalo on the 16th of December, 1824, and Oliver Forward, then president of the village, officially directed that the following named citizens be appointed members of the company:—George B. Webster, Hiram Johnson, George B. Gleason, Ebenezer Johnson, Henry Fales, Guy H. Goodrich, Barent I. Staats, Nathaniel Wilgus, Richard Wadsworth, Elisha E. Hickox, Thaddeus Weed, Joseph Dart, Jr., Elijah D. Efner, George Coit, Silas Athearn, John Scott, Henry Hamilton, William Hollister, Joseph Anable, Augustin Eaton, Abner Bryant, Theodore Coburn, Martin Daley, Robert Bush and John A. Lazelle. It is quite evident that this company included all the most prominent citizens of the village.

November 2d, 1831, it was decided to organize two more fire companies, one of which was to be a hook and ladder company and one called Engine Company 3, or "Fulton" 3. Among those who joined the department at that time, was Mr. Harlow French.



Following is a list of all the fire companies which have existed in Buffalo, with the dates of their organization:—

- Cataract Engine Company, No. 1, December 16, 1824.
- Live Oak Engine Company, No. 2, August 5, 1832.
- Fillmore, (or Fulton) Engine Company, No. 3, November 2, 1832.
- Buffalo Engine Company, No. 4, November 24, 1832.
- Washington Engine Company, No. 5, December 21, 1832.
- Red Jacket Engine Company, No. 6, January 15, 1836.
- Perry Engine Company, No. 7, January 4, 1837.
- Clinton Engine Company, No. 8, January 18, 1838.
- Hydraulic Engine Company, No. 9, October 18, 1845.
- Defiance Engine Company, No. 10, September 19, 1851.
- Columbia Engine Company, No. 11, August 26, 1852.
- Jefferson Engine Company, No. 12, January 14, 1852.
- Hook and Ladder Company No. 1, January 9, 1836.
- Rescue Hook and Ladder Company, No. 2, March, 1837.
- Taylor Hose Company, No. 1, November 13, 1850.
- Eagle Hose Company, No. 2, May 18, 1852.
- Seneca Hose Company, No. 3, September 21, 1852.
- Excelsior Hose Company, No. 4, December 9, 1852.
- Neptune Hose Company, No. 5, February 9, 1857.
- Hose Company No. 6, June 21, 1862.
- Niagara Hose Company, No. 7, April 7, 1865.

The re-organization of the following companies took place on the dates given:—

Hose Companies Nos. 1, 2, 5, 7, 11, and 9, in 1871, and Liberty Hose Company, No. 1, in 1872.

Hook and Ladder Company No. 1, (formerly No. 2) June 3, 1861; Hook and Ladder No. 2, August 14, 1864; Hook and Ladder No. 3, December 11, 1868; Protection Company, No. 1, September 1, 1868; Pioneer Truck, No. 1, (or Rescue Truck No. 2,) May 25, 1832.

On the 4th of June, 1832, the first Board of Aldermen of the newly organized city, appointed their fellow Alderman of the First ward, Isaac S. Smith, the first chief engineer of the fire department. Subsequently John W. Beals and Samuel Jordan were appointed his assistants. Following is a list of the successive chief engineers from that date to the present time: Isaac S. Smith, June 4, 1832; Samuel Jordan, December, 1834, and March 11, 1836; Jacob A. Barker, *vice* Samuel Jordan, resigned, July 29, 1836; Thomas Kip, October 4, 1838; George Jones, *vice* Thomas Kip, resigned, October 6, 1841; Lyman Knapp, *vice* George Jones, resigned, May 6, 1845; William Taylor, April 9, 1850; George Jones, ————, —; Edwin Hurlburt, April 25, 1853; William Taylor, January 30, 1854; T. T. Bloomer, (temporary) November 10, 1856; John Lorenz, December 8, 1856; William Taylor, May 3, 1857, January 3, 1860, and January 7, 1861; Thomas B. French, February 2, 1863, and January, 1864. In 1866 the office of Chief Engineer was abolished and was superseded by the office of superintendent of the department. In 1866, Edwin Hurlburt was appointed to the new office; Peter C. Doyle,

1868-'69; Thomas B. French, from 1870 to 1873, inclusive; Joseph R. Williams, 1874 and '75; Thomas B. French, 1876 and '77; Peter C Doyle, 1878 (until April 15), when he resigned and James L. Rodgers finished the two years. In 1880, Thomas B. French was given the office again and remained in it until May 3, 1883, when he resigned and was succeeded by Frederick Hornung, the present chief.

In October, 1837, in accordance with a prayer of a petition long before presented to the Common Council by Millard Fillmore and others, a bell was bought and placed on the Terrace Market, to be used for fire alarms and other emergencies.

On the 24th of August, 1852, a special meeting of the Common Council was called to consider the condition of the fire department, it having become demoralized and the several companies having left their engines and hook and ladder trucks on the Terrace. A resolution was adopted, accepting the resignation of every member of the department outside of Taylor Hose No. 1, Eagle Hose No. 2, and Jefferson Engine No. 12. At about this time Colonel Gustavus A. Scroggs tendered the services of the old Sixty-fifth regiment for fire duty; his offer was accepted. Chief Taylor resigned and was followed in the office by George Jones. Efforts were made at the session of August 30th, to reorganize the department, though previous to that effort the city authorities endeavored to recover all the property belonging to the city, including the funds of the Firemen's Benevolent Association. Ex-Chief Taylor having been accused of being the cause of the demoralization in the department, was exonerated on September 17, 1852, by certificate of honorable discharge.

The first Board of Fire Commissioners were appointed April 27, 1857, in the persons of Oliver G. Steele, Francis H. Root, George Jones and Jarvis Davis. On February 3, 1859, the first steam fire engine used in Buffalo was bought, and upon its arrival was placed in the house formerly occupied by Cataract Engine Company, on Washington street, below Seneca.

On the 21st day of November, 1859, Chief Taylor was directed by the Council to apportion the department into districts, which was done.

The Citizens Hook and Ladder Company was organized on October 17, 1864. It disbanded in March, 1880, Frederick Hornung, the present Chief, Robert Carlton, the present assistant chief, and E. O. Van Brocklin, the present secretary, having been numbered among its members.

The fire alarm telegraph system was introduced in 1865.

In 1862, and again in 1872, efforts were made to disband the volunteer department and introduce an entire paid department. Both of these attempts failed and nothing was accomplished in that direction until in the winter of 1879-'80, when the third trial succeeded. The volunteer companies disbanded in March and April, 1880, and three commissioners

were appointed with power to name the Chief Engineer and other officers of the department, who should hold their offices during the pleasure of the commissioners. The first and present commissioners are George R. Potter, chairman; John M. Hutchinson and Nelson K. Hopkins. Eric O. Van Brocklin is the secretary of this Board of Fire Commissioners.

There are now in the department fifteen steamers, five chemical engines, four hook and ladder companies and other accessories, which are located as follows:—

- Engine No. 1—No. 43 South Division street.
- Engine No. 2—Jersey street corner Plymouth Avenue.
- Engine No. 3—Broadway, near Jefferson street.
- Engine No. 4—Genesee, near Spruce street.
- Engine No. 5—Emslie street, corner Bristol.
- Engine No. 6—Seneca street, near Junction.
- Engine No. 7—Lower Terrace, near Evans street.
- Engine No. 8—Chicago, near Elk street.
- Engine No. 9—Washington street, corner Tupper.
- Engine No. 10—Perry street, near Washington.
- Engine No. 11—Niagara street, near Ferry.
- Engine No. 12—Chicago street, corner Folsom.
- Engine No. 13—Staats street, Headquarters.
- Engine No. 14—William street, corner Cassy.
- Engine No. 15—Amherst, near Thompson street.
- Chemical No. 1—Pearl street, near Terrace.
- Chemical No. 2—Chicago street, near Folsom.
- Chemical No. 3—Pearl street, near Tupper.
- Chemical No. 4—William street, corner Cassy.
- Chemical No. 5—Main street, Cold Springs.
- Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1—Washington street, corner Tupper.
- Hook & Ladder Co. No. 2—No. 45 South Division street.
- Hook & Ladder Co. No. 3—William street, corner Hickory.
- Hook & Ladder Co. No. 4—Niagara street, near Ferry.
- Hose Company No. 1—High street, near Michigan.
- Supply Barn—Staats street, Headquarters.
- Hose Tower—Staats street, Headquarters.

Buffalo has had several disastrous fires, some of them attended by fatalities, but the city cannot be said to have suffered in this respect to an unusual degree. On the 14th of November, 1829, a disastrous fire occurred on Main street, between Niagara and Eagle streets, destroying the wooden store and dwelling occupied by Colonel George Stow; the bookstore and bindery of Sargent & Wilgus; the drug store of Dr. George E. Hayes & Co.; the printing establishment of Day, Follett & Haskins, and other property. At this fire General Potter and Henry Lovejoy were seriously injured.

On the 14th day of November, 1832, just three years after the fire above described, one of the most disastrous conflagrations that ever occurred in the city, broke out in the building owned by Marvin & Bennett, on Main street, adjoining the store of Wilkeson, Beals & Co. Sev-



eral squares of buildings in the heart of the city, on Main, East and West Seneca, Pearl and Washington streets, were destroyed, causing a loss of between \$150,000 and \$200,000. It was supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

On the 17th of December, 1880, the wall paper manufactory of M. H. Birge & Sons, on Perry street, near Washington, was entirely destroyed, with the Queen City Malt House, causing a loss of over \$200,000. At this fire ten persons lost their lives, either by jumping from the burning buildings or by falling amid the ruins where they were burned beyond recognition.

The *Commercial Advertiser* fire, which has been elsewhere described, occurred on December 21, 1882, causing a loss of over \$500,000. William C. Smith, a member of Hook and Ladder Co. No. 3, was killed.

The history of the department, if all the exciting or interesting events of its career were detailed, would occupy more space than could reasonably be set apart for it in a work of this nature. If all the brave deeds of its members were recited, if the total value of the property which they have saved from destruction could be computed, and the unfairness of a large portion of the declamations made against them at different times exposed, a volume would have to be devoted to the subject. Examples of their courageous fidelity to the duties devolving upon them can here be only mentioned in the briefest manner, such as were shown at the burning of the Red Jacket Hotel, on Seneca and Elk streets, July 18, 1878, when John D. Mitchell, for twenty years a member of Columbia Hose, No. 11, in obedience to the command of the foreman, entered the burning building and was crushed beneath the falling timbers. The death of Arthur A. Poole is also one of the melancholy incidents of this department. He was thrown from a hose cart July 10, 1878. He was a member of Neptune, No. 5; E. O. Van Brocklin was injured at the same time. Many are the heroic deeds that might be recounted in the records of the Buffalo fire department.

The Firemen's Benevolent Association, of Buffalo, was incorporated by an act of the Legislature on the 23d day of March, 1837. The first officers were Jacob A. Barker, president; Edward Baldwin, vice-president; John L. Kimberly, second vice-president; Joseph H. Smith, secretary; William H. Lacy, treasurer; Thomas Kip, Sidney S. Hosmer, Samuel F. Pratt, Walter Joy, Garrett S. Hollenbeck, Grosvenor Clark, Oliver G. Steele, William J. Mack and Edward Hurlburt, trustees. The purpose of the corporation was for "accumulating a fund for the relief of indigent and disabled firemen and their families; and for that purpose they were invested with the power to purchase, take and hold, transfer and convey, real and personal property to an amount not exceeding \$20,000." It was composed of all such persons as then were or who would thereafter be, engineers of the fire department, or mem-



bers of any fire engine, hook and ladder, or hose company in the city of Buffalo. An election was to be held on the second Wednesday in December of each year. On the 10th of April, 1860, the power to hold property was increased to \$50,000. April 9, 1862, greater latitude was given the association for the admission of members. All persons resident in Buffalo, having served or thereafter to have served, the time required by the city charter to entitle them to exemption from jury and militia duty, were entitled to become members. Eighty-seven persons, widows and children of deceased members of the department, are now supported by the association, which thus accomplishes a work of great beneficence. The present officers of the association are as follows: James S. Murphy, president; Casper J. Drescher, vice-president; W. H. Alport, secretary; W. H. Beyer, treasurer.

## THE BUFFALO POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Exact dates of the early events connected with the Buffalo Police Department are not accessible, as the records prior to 1866 are not to be found either at police headquarters or the City and County Hall. We are therefore obliged to content ourselves with the indefinite information derived from interviews with those citizens who took an active part in the police regulations of Buffalo in early days. From the beginning down to about the year 1855, the organization of the department was somewhat incoherent, consisting only of about four justices of the peace, from four or six to eight or ten police constables, and after 1838, a few policemen. From 1837 to 1845, Mr. Cyrus H. DeForest, still a resident of Buffalo, was one of the justices of the peace. There was one watch house then, situated under the old market on the Terrace near Main street. In 1842-3 John Pierce, the present proprietor of a livery stable on Michigan street, was a constable. In 1855 Samuel Bagnall was appointed the first chief of police. He was succeeded in 1858 by Robert H. Best, still an active citizen of Buffalo, who remained in office until 1861. Mr. Best had previously, in 1857, been one of the police constables here. There were in 1857 eleven police constables in the department. In 1861 Mr. Best resigned and was followed in office by George Drulard. Charles Darcy was his successor and was Chief at the time of the change in 1866. Before the latter date there had been no uniforms worn, the only symbol of office being a star. An act passed by the Legislature April 10, 1866, established what was called the Niagara Frontier Police District, including Buffalo and Tonawanda, in Erie county, and Wheatfield in Niagara county. The new organization was composed of a board of three commissioners, and a force consisting of a superintendent, captains, detectives and over one hundred patrolmen. They assumed their positions at midnight on May 7th. In 1870 the Niagara Frontier District was divided and Buffalo alone constituted a separate district.

Since 1866 the following Police Commissioners have held office :— In 1866, James Adams, Jonathan Buell and Obadiah Green. In 1868, Salmon Shaw took the place of James Adams. By a change in the law in 1870, Robert H. Best, (executive), Harmon S. Cutting, (president), and Ralph Courter, (treasurer), were appointed Commissioners. Another change in 1872, placed in the office John Pierce, Jacob Beyer and Mayor Alexander Brush, *ex-officio*. In 1874, Dr. L. P. Dayton was substituted in place of Brush. In 1876, Mayor Philip Becker took the place of the latter. In 1877, Mr. Pierce's time expired and Frank A. Sears was appointed his successor. The next Mayor, and Commissioner *ex-officio*, was Solomon Scheu—1878. Elijah Ambrose superseded Jacob Beyer in 1879. By a new law in January, 1880, (Mr. Brush being again Mayor), Robert Mills, William J. Wolfe and Mayor Brush were appointed Commissioners. In 1881, Mayor Grover Cleveland superseded Brush. The present Commissioners are Michael Newell, Isaac O. Crissy and Mayor Manning, *ex-officio*.

The successive superintendents of police since 1860, have been as follows: David S. Reynolds, 1866; Peter C. Doyle, 1870; John Byrne, 1872; W. A. Phillips, from May, 1879, to January, 1880; William J. Wolfe, 1880; James M. Shepard, from January to May, 1883; and Thomas S. Curtin, the present incumbent, who entered upon the discharge of his duties May 12th, 1883. There are now in the entire department about two hundred and twenty patrolmen; four captains and six lieutenants, with eight detectives.

This force is divided for the government of the ten precincts into which the city is divided, with station houses, as follows :—

First Precinct—Corner of Pearl and Terrace streets—Police Headquarters Building.

Second Precinct—South side of Seneca street, east of Louisiana street.

Third Precinct—Pearl street near Chippewa street.

Fourth Precinct—Sycamore street corner of Ash street.

Fifth Precinct—East side of Niagara street, between Clinton and Bird avenues.

Sixth Precinct—West side of Main street, South Ferry street, Cold Springs.

Seventh Precinct—Louisiana street, near Elk street.

Eighth Precinct—North side of William street, near Emslie street.

Ninth Precinct—Ganson street, east of Michigan street.

Tenth Precinct—Niagara street, near Jersey street.

The police of Buffalo have been a credit to the city, especially in times of riots, municipal and other emergencies, such as the strike of 1877, when they were the last and most trustworthy resource of the peaceful and law-abiding portion of the community.

## THE BUFFALO HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

The first Board of Health in Buffalo was organized in 1832, the year of the incorporation of the city. The Board was formed at that time in view of the immediate necessity of adopting stringent measures to free the city from danger of invasion by the cholera which had entered the country. The new Board comprised Roswell W. Haskins, Dyer Tillinghast and Lewis F. Allen, over whom presided Mayor Ebenezer Johnson, *ex-officio*. Loring Pierce was then the chief undertaker in the city, was an excellent nurse, sexton of St. Paul's church, and crier in the courts. As a general assistant and undertaker he was employed by the Board, and usually attended its meetings during the ravages of the cholera; he was considered as almost indispensable to the Board. The Health Physician and medical adviser of the Board during that trying season, was Dr. John E. Marshall, of the firm of Trowbridge & Marshall, both of whom were physicians of high attainments.

The leading physicians of those days, aside from Drs. Trowbridge and Marshall, were Dr. Cyrenius Chapin and his medical partner, Dr. Bryant Burwell. Dr. Chapin was an able practitioner, blunt in speech, sometimes abrupt in manner, but with much kindness of heart, abounding in poor patients as well as the patients who had the means to compensate him for his services. But he was oftentimes dictatorial, sometimes obstinate and had a sovereign contempt for the Board of Health as an official body, although on good personal terms with them as private individuals. He would not make his daily reports of cholera cases to them, as required of and responded to by all the other physicians.

"Why should I report my medical cases to a set of ignoramuses who don't know the cholera from the whooping-cough? No, I'll see 'em hanged first."

But Dr. Johnson, the Mayor, made up his mind that Dr. Chapin should make his reports, and after a delightful joust of words, altogether characteristic on the part of Dr. Chapin, the latter made up his mind that discretion was the better part of valor and afterwards made his reports faithfully.

Two of Buffalo's eminent physicians, Gorham F. Pratt and James P. White, were then medical students here. Pratt was with Dr. Chapin, and White was in the office of Trowbridge & Marshall. These young men were active, intelligent, enterprising and gave most valuable aid to the Board, as well as to their medical superiors in their laborious duties. Pratt staid chiefly at home in Dr. Chapin's office to attend pressing calls there, while White was sent to guard the outpost at Lower Black Rock, where the canal-boats from the east and the Canada vessels entered the harbor.



That first Board of health had a terrible experience during the cholera season of 1832, and well and faithfully did they discharge their duties. All the reward they ever received for their three months' labor and the consequent neglect of their private business, was the thanks of the Common Council, except that Mr. Tillinghast was paid \$50.00 for keeping the records, as clerk of the Board. One of the most remarkable facts in connection with the reign of the terrible disease in the city that year, was that neither of the members of the Board of Health, their official associates or attendants, suffered a day from sickness during the period of their labors.

The cholera appeared for the second time in Buffalo in the year 1834, with all of its previous virulence, though a few cases occurred in 1833. Precautionary measures against the assault of the disease were then better understood, the community was less fearful of the scourge and its effects were somewhat less terrible. The young men of the city volunteered as nurses in very many cases, as did also many women.

Another terrible visitation of the cholera reached this city in 1849, to which perhaps, sufficient reference has already been made in a preceding chapter. The Board of Health in that year were Hiram Barton, *ex-officio* (he being Mayor of the city), Dr. Josiah Barnes, C. C. Haddock and Arthur McArthur. It is sufficient to state, that the arduous labors devolving upon the Board at such a time, were faithfully and efficiently performed; and such has been the case in the less trying periods in which the different Boards have served the city.

The Health Department of Buffalo for the year 1883 was constituted as follows:—

Members—Robert R. Hefford, president; Timothy J. Mahoney, comptroller; Thomas J. Rogers, engineer; John Mahoney, street commissioner, executive officer.

Health Physician—William C. Phelps, M. D.

Clerk—George W. Peck.

District Physicians—Rollin L. Banta, First District; Joseph W. Keene, Second District; Eugene C. Waldruff, Third District; Julius F. Krug, Fourth District; Joseph Haberstro, Fifth District; Alexander M. Curtiss, Sixth District; Benjamin L. Lothrop, Seventh District; John A. Hoffmeyer, Eighth District; J. S. Halbert, Ninth District; Louis A. Bull, Tenth District.

Cattle Inspector—George Joslyn.

Pest-house Keeper—John Werrick.

Following is a nearly complete list of the City Physicians since the city was incorporated:—

J. E. Marshall, 1832 to 1835; A. S. Sprague, 1835; Charles H. Winne, 1836; Charles H. Raymond, 1837; F. P. Harris, 1838; Charles Winne, 1839; Charles H. Raymond, 1840; Austin Flint, 1841 to 1843; John S. Trowbridge, 1844 to 1849, inclusive; S. F. Mixer, 1850 and '51; John D. Hill, 1852; E. P. Gray, 1853; James M. Newman, 1854; John Root,



1855; Charles L. Dayton, 1856 and 1857; H. D. Garvin, 1858 and '59; C. C. Wyckoff, 1860; J. Whitaker, 1861; Sanford Eastman, 1862 to 1866, inclusive; C. C. F. Gay, 1867; G. C. Mackay, 1868.

## THE CITY WATER WORKS.

The first water works company in Buffalo was called the Buffalo and Black Rock Jubilee Water Works Company. It was organized sometime in 1826 and incorporated in 1827, with a capital stock of \$20,000. In 1832 this company had laid nearly sixteen miles of wooden water pipes. The water was drawn from the Jubilee Springs, situated near Delaware avenue, about one hundred rods north of Ferry street. No engine or machinery of any kind was ever used, the source of supply being on ground more elevated than any of the localities supplied with water. The pipes were originally laid through the northern portion of the city and to Black Rock by way of the Eleventh ward, but in 1845 a line was laid directly from the springs to what is known as the Parrish tract. The first line of pipes supplying the southern portion of the city were laid directly down Main street.

The officers for this company for the year 1832, (the first records now available,) were as follows: Peter B. Porter, president; Donald Fraser, S. C. Brewster, Peter B. Porter, directors; Absalom Bull, secretary and treasurer; Donald Fraser, superintendent.

The present commissioners are: A. A. Justin, Milton R. Hubbard and Joseph Ailinger. Mr. Justin and Mr. Job Gorton have both been commissioners for twelve years, but in June 1882, Mr. Gorton declined re-appointment and Mr. Justin, who had previously retired, was called to fill his place.

There are now from twelve to fifteen miles of pipes laid by this company.

The Buffalo City Water Works Company was not organized until the Jubilee Company had been in existence twenty-two years. The act incorporating the former was passed March 15, 1849, the incorporators being George Coit, Walter Joy, William A. Bird, Orlando Allen, Horatio Shumway, George R. Babcock, Isaac Sherman, Cyrenius C. Bristol, Oliver G. Steele, Thomas M. Foote, William Bucknell, Jr., Henry W. Rogers, William Coffin and Aaron D. Patchen.

The capital stock of the company was fixed at \$200,000, with power to increase it to \$500,000. The city of Buffalo was empowered to assume control of the works at discretion, any time within twenty years from the date of the charter.

The first meeting for organization was held at the Mayor's office on the 7th of February, 1850. On the 11th of March, 1850, the Common Council, under power granted by the Legislature, adopted a resolution, by the terms of which the city was to become a subscriber to the capital

stock of the company to the amount of \$100,000. The Mayor, however, questioned the prudence of the measure, though he admitted that the then recent disaster caused by the burning of the American Hotel and other buildings, admonished the city of the necessity for a more adequate provision against such losses in the future. After repeated discussions the Common Council, in accordance with the adverse report of a special committee, adopted another resolution in the early part of June, 1850, refusing to subscribe to the capital stock of the company on the ground that the company did not propose to lay a sufficient quantity of pipes on the east side of Main street to meet the just demands of the citizens and tax-payers and, further, that the city could not raise the \$100,000 without issuing bonds encumbering all of the real estate possessed by it. The citizens, moreover, were slow to subscribe to the stock, and it looked for a time as if sufficient funds to enable the company to build the works could not be raised.

At this juncture Joseph Battin, of Newark, N. J., and Charles B. Dungan, of Philadelphia, capitalists and contractors, subscribed an amount sufficient to secure the construction of the works, with the tacit understanding, however, that the contract for such construction should be awarded them.

On May 1, 1850, a committee of three, viz.: George Coit, James McKay and William A. Bird was appointed by the Board of Directors to receive propositions for the construction of the works and negotiate for the purchase of land.

The plans and propositions of Battin, Dungan & Co., were submitted to William J. McAlpine, the distinguished engineer, for his approval or rejection. After a thorough investigation of the subject, he handed in a report to the council on the 29th of May, 1850.

It appears that there was at that time a prevailing belief that the source of supply should be located in the bay southwest of the city. Mr. McAlpine opposed this plan on the ground that the works would be exposed to danger from the storms of the lakes, the expense of protecting the pipes would be largely increased and the length of the pump main to the reservoir would be greatly increased as the reservoir would have to be located on the high ground in the northern part of the city. The engineer favored the other proposed location for the works, in the Niagara river just below Black Rock. To obviate the only objection to this place (that the supply pipes would have to cross the Black Rock harbor and the Erie canal) he suggested the plan of laying the pipes below the beds of those channels.

For the location of the proposed reservoir the following points had been named:—on Delaware street near the then north line of the city; on Michigan street, on the same line, and on Prospect Hill. The latter site was finally recommended by the engineer.

The contract for building the works was subsequently awarded to Battin, Dungan & Co., at \$375,000, with the proviso that they conform to the modifications suggested by Mr. McAlpine in reference to the use of low-pressure and condensing engine. Lots 29 and 30 were at once bought for the location of the pump house, and lot 145 (Prospect Hill) for the reservoir.

Ground was broken for the shaft and tunnel on the 29th of July, 1850; for the reservoir August 12th, and for the pump house, boiler house, etc., September 12th. The work of excavating the shaft and tunnel was relet by the contractors, to Jones & Osborn, of Rochester. The reservoir embankments were erected by Hiram Pierce & Alanson Webster, of Buffalo.

On the 17th of September, 1850, the Common Council granted the Water Works Company permission to lay pipes in the following named streets:—Niagara street, from the reservoir to Main street; Michigan street, from Exchange to Genesee; Swan street, from Main to Pine; Mohawk street, from Niagara to Main; Delaware street, from Niagara to Park Place; Genesee street, from Main to Spruce; Terrace and Exchange street, from Pearl to Michigan; Pearl street, from the Terrace to Tupper; Washington street, from Exchange to Genesee; South Division, from Main to Pine; North Division, from Michigan to Chestnut; East Seneca, from Main to Kinney's alley; Clinton street, from Washington to Union; Eagle street, from Michigan to Union; Carroll street, from Washington to Michigan; West Seneca street, from Main to the Terrace; Franklin street from Tupper to West Swan; Ellicott street, from Eagle to West Seneca; Oak street, from North Division to South Division. The pipes were to be laid under the direction of the Street Committee of the city and all the work on Main street was to be completed by October 15, 1850. The work on Main street was begun at the canal bridge, running thence northerly, on the 30th of September, 1850.

A tariff of rates was adopted November 29, 1850. The reservoirs were completed November 19, 1851. The last pipe on Niagara street connecting the reservoirs with the distributing mains, was laid December 3, 1851. The river connection with the tunnel (connecting the pumps with the river) was finished December 18, 1851; and on December 19th the works were pronounced about completed and steam was raised. On January 2, 1852, the reservoir stops were opened and water let on the city at 11 o'clock A. M. On January 5th, 1852, Mr. A. R. Ketcham was appointed superintendent of the works. On May 1, 1854, there were 1,036 consumers taking water from the company.

In February, 1860, the office was again removed to near the corner of Erie and Pearl streets, in Rogers and Browns Block. On January 1, 1864, the total length of pipe laid was 32 miles and 2,471 feet, there being 2,498 consumers. At present there are two systems in use



by the company, the high service for the elevated portions of the city, and low service for the remainder.

Following are the officers of the Water Company for the years 1850, (the first) 1852 and 1853:—Henry W. Rogers, president; George Coit, vice-president; Oliver G. Steele, secretary; Henry L. Lansing, treasurer; Aaron A. Patchin, C. C. Bristol, James Smith, inspectors; A. R. Ketcham, superintendent.

Following are the changes that were made in the officers of the company from the year 1853 to the present time:—

1854—Same officers as above, except A. R. Ketcham was made secretary and superintendent.

1855—Albert H. Tracy, made president.

1856—A. R. Ketcham, secretary and treasurer.

1857—Office removed to Kremlin Hall.

1860—Henry W. Rogers, president.

1863—Oliver G. Steele, vice-president.

1866—Henry W. Rogers, president and treasurer; A. R. Ketcham, secretary and superintendent.

1869—William F. Rogers, C. J. Wells, James Ryan, water commissioners. Office No. 20 West Swan street.

1870—Alexander Brush, commissioner, *vice* William F. Rogers.

1871—George R. Yaw, *vice* Alexander Brush.

1873—George R. Potter, *vice* Mr. Yaw.

1874—C. J. Wells, George B. Gates and James Ryan, commissioners: George Hosley, superintendent, and Louis H. Knapp, engineer.

1875—George B. Gates, George Truscott and Edwin Hurlburt, commissioners. Office, 96 Pearl street.

1877—George Baltz, commissioner, *vice* Edwin Hurlburt. Office room 1, City and County Hall.

1880—A. R. Ketcham, superintendent, *vice* Mr. Hosley.

1881—James N. Scatcherd, Louis P. Reichert, James Ryan, commissioners.

Mr. Ketcham, superintendent until March 1st, 1882, when Louis H. Knapp was appointed.

#### THE BUFFALO POSTAL SERVICE.

The first postoffice through which passed the insignificant mails for the few inhabitants who had settled upon or near the site of Buffalo, in 1804, was called "Buffalo Creek." Erastus Granger, who was one of the foremost of the very early settlers, came here supported to some extent by the influence and power of the President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson, which influence Mr. Granger had earned by labor in the political arena; he was accordingly made the first postmaster at "Buffalo Creek," and afterwards "Collector of Customs." That was, undoubtedly, the first time that political influence affected the little settlement. Mr. Granger's appointment was made on the 30th of September, 1804. The nearest postoffices to Buffalo Creek, were Batavia on the east, Erie on the west, and Niagara on the north.



The postoffice under the administration of Mr. Granger was located on Main street, near the site of the Academy of Music, and afterwards on the west side of Pearl street, a few doors south of Swan street. Mr. Granger filled the office of postmaster until 1818, since which date the postmasters of Buffalo and the dates of their appointment have been as follows:—

Julius Guiteau, May 6, 1818; Samuel Russell, April 25, 1831; Henry P. Russell, July 26, 1834; Orange H. Dibble, August 28, 1834; Philip Dorsheimer, April 1, 1838; Charles C. Haddock, October 12, 1841; Philip Dorsheimer, April 1, 1845; Henry K. Smith, August 14, 1846; Isaac R. Harrington, May 17, 1849; James O. Putnam, September 1, 1851; James G. Dickie, May 4, 1853; Israel T. Hatch, November 11, 1859; Almon M. Clapp, March 27, 1861; Joseph Candee, 1866, holding the office less than a year; in the spring of 1867, Isaac M. Schermerhorn was appointed and held the office two years. His successor was Thomas Blossom, who also filled the position two years. In 1871 Mr. Schermerhorn was re-appointed, and was succeeded by the present postmaster, John M. Bedford, who was re-appointed in 1883.

Julius Guiteau first located the postoffice on Main street, corner of Mohawk, and afterwards removed it to the west side of Main street, about the middle of the block next south of Erie street. It was again removed to the northeast corner of Ellicott square, (the block between Eagle and South Division streets); the office remained there until a short time after Judge Russell's appointment, when it was removed to the corner of the block above, on Main street. From there it was removed by Mr. Dibble, about 1836, to the old Baptist Church, on the corner of Washington and Seneca streets; it remained there until Mr. Haddock's appointment, when it was removed to the opposite corner (northwest) of Washington and Seneca streets, whence it was removed in the summer of 1858, to the government building.

In April, 1807, John Metcalf, who was the first mail carrier to bring mail to Buffalo, obtained from the Legislature the exclusive right for seven years to run stages from Canandaigua to Buffalo, and a fine of \$500 was imposed for trespass on his right. The passenger fare was not to exceed six cents a mile. Under this arrangement he advertised in 1808 to leave Canandaigua on Mondays and arrive at Buffalo on Thursdays. Those were the halcyon days of stage-coaching, and old residents recount many an interesting and amusing incident that occurred on the road behind a four-in-hand, guided by a skilful driver.

In April, 1814, a post route was established from Sheldon *via* Wilk and Hamburg, to Buffalo. In 1815, a route was opened from Buffalo to Erie, with a weekly mail, leaving Buffalo on Saturdays. In 1816, a mail route to Youngstown was established with a bi-weekly mail. On the 3d of March, 1817, a route was established from Moscow to Buffalo, by way of the "State road."

On March 2, 1823, the route from Buffalo to Olean was opened, and on June, 15, 1832, a route was established from Buffalo through Aurora, Wales, Holland, Sardinia, China, Fredonia, Candia and Belfast to Angelica, Allegany county. Soon after this date railroad connections were opened to distant points and the mails were transferred to them for transportation.

The present assistant postmaster is Mr. Charles H. Dobbins, who has filled the position since June, 1881, and has been in the postoffice since 1865, with the exception of a few months. He was chief clerk of the money order department from 1868 to 1881.

In January, 1817, a postoffice was established at Black Rock. On the 29th of January, James L. Barton was appointed postmaster; he was succeeded by Elisha H. Burnham, July 11, 1828; Morgan G. Lewis, June 29, 1841; George Johnson, July 7, 1853; Daniel Hibbard, June 1, 1861; office discontinued about 1870.

In July, 1854, the postoffice of Black Rock Dam was established, and on February 10, 1857, the name was changed to North Buffalo. The appointments in this office were as follows:—Henry A. Bennett, July 12, 1854; Charles Manly, March 17, 1856; George Argus, May 20, 1859; William D. Davis, July 29, 1861; George Argus, in 1864; Jacob Gerst, Jan 26, 1865; office discontinued March 1, 1870.

Early in the year 1819, the Buffalo postoffice was made a distributing office and has remained so since. The carrier system was introduced on January 1, 1864, with a force of six carriers, which has been increased to forty-three at the present time.

#### GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANIES.

Although the organizations through which the lighting of the city is effected, are private corporations, yet their office in relation to the streets and public buildings is of such a character that they may properly receive attention here. The first gas light company in Buffalo was organized on the 8th of May, 1848, and began the manufacture of gas on the 7th of November following. The first officers of this company were as follows:—Samuel F. Pratt, president; Oliver G. Steele, secretary; William Bucknell, Jr., treasurer. The capital now invested in the works of this company is \$500,000. The present officers of the company are as follows:—E. G. Spaulding, president and treasurer; Joseph Krumholz, secretary. The office and works are situated on the block bounded by Genesee, Jackson and South streets and the Wilkeson slip.

The Buffalo Mutual Gaslight Company was organized in December, 1870, but it did not commence manufacturing until February 1, 1873. The first officers of the company were as follows:—A. Reynolds, president; David Ransom, vice-president; Albert G. Stevens, secretary. The present officers are:—J. M. Richmond, president; J. H. Cowing, vice-presi-

dent and treasurer; C. K. Remington, secretary. The invested capital of this company is \$750,000. The office is in the Bapst building, on the corner of East Seneca and Washington streets.

The Citizens' Gas Company is the successor of the former Buffalo Oxygen and Hydrogen Gas Company, which was organized in the early part of 1871 and began operations in July of that year. The first president of the old company was John B. Griffin; John H. Vought was the first secretary. In 1873 the property of the company was sold under a mortgage and the Citizens' Gas Company was founded on its basis in December, 1873. The first officers of the new company were as follows: J. F. Schoellkopf, president; John H. Vought, vice-president; E. S. Wheeler, secretary; C. Rodenbach, treasurer. The present officers are: J. F. Schoellkopf, president; Charles A. Sweet, vice-president; John McManus, secretary and treasurer. The office is situated at 293 Court street, and the works on Court street, below Fifth. There are now nearly one hundred and fifty miles of gas mains in the city.

The Brush Electric Light Company of Buffalo, was organized May 1, 1881, and began operations in July following. The first and present officers are as follows:—John F. Moulton, president; James Adams, vice-president; the first secretary and treasurer, H. G. Nolton. The superintendent is C. C. Jennings. This is the only electric light company in Buffalo. The present treasurer is J. M. Brinker, and W. F. Frear is secretary. Business was begun by this company with thirteen whole lights in July 13, 1881; this number has been increased to two hundred and eighty-nine. These are divided into three stations; number one is on "the island," Ganson street; number three, corner of Mohawk and Wilkeson streets; number four at the Union iron works. Forty-seven miles of copper wire are now stretched in the city, giving a capacity for one hundred and seventy-five more lights. The company is now about introducing the incandescent system, operated by storage battery. The Edison incandescent lights are in use at the Erie elevator, at Thornton & Chester's and the Urban mills.

#### STREET RAILWAY COMPANIES, ETC.

The system of street car-lines at present in operation in Buffalo, has been built up since 1860, although there was a "one-horse" railway between Buffalo and Black Rock many years previous to that time. Several omnibus lines were in operation before 1860, the first of which was established in 1835. Early in the year 1860, the first street railway company in Buffalo was organized; it was a stock company. Ground was broken on Main street, on the 19th of May, in that year, for the first line of track, and three days later the construction of the Niagara street line was begun. The first car was run over the Main street line on the 11th of June, 1860, and on the 23d of the same month, cars began running on



the Niagara street line. In July, 1860, the Main street line was extended to Cold Spring, cars first being run to that point on the 14th of the same month. Early in July, 1873, the line to East Buffalo was completed, by the east side street railway company, which was organized chiefly through the efforts of the late S. V. R. Watson. The Main street line was extended to the Park in 1879 and cars first ran to that resort on the 26th of July, of that year. The Exchange street line was built in 1874. The system now extends into all the more thickly settled portions of the city. Over forty miles of track are laid, over which run 120 cars, drawn by 730 horses, and 350 men are employed; all the lines are managed in conjunction with each other. Our inability to gain information at the offices of the companies, prevents our giving further particulars on this subject. The officers of the Buffalo street railroad company are Henry M. Watson, president; S. S. Spaulding, secretary and treasurer; Edward Edwards, superintendent. Of the East Side Street Railway, they are S. S. Spaulding, president; Joseph Churchyard, vice-president; H. M. Watson, treasurer; Edward Edwards, superintendent.

## CHAPTER XX.

### LITERARY AND RELIGIOUS ASSOCIATIONS.

The First Literary Association in Buffalo — The "Buffalo Lyceum" — Organization of the "Young Men's Association" — Its First Officers — A Hard Struggle and Final Triumph — Tabular History — Present Management of the Association — The Buffalo Historical Society — Organization and Objects — Constitution — Incorporation — List of Presidents of the Society — The Grosvenor Library — A Beneficent Bequest — A Valuable Library — The Young Men's Christian Association — The Parent "Union" — Change of Name — Financial Struggles — The New Building — List of Presidents and Present Officers — The Young Men's Catholic Association — A Valuable Library — The Mechanics' Institute — Law Library — The Catholic Institute and its Library — Other Associations.

THE first literary association or society established in Buffalo, was the Buffalo Library, which was incorporated in 1816, under the law of 1796. The society was organized at the house of Gaius Kibbe, December 10th, of that year. Mr. Kibbe's house was the old Eagle Tavern. Following are the names of the Board of Trustees:—Charles Townsend, Charles G. Olmstead, Jonas Harrison, Isaac Q. Leake, Miles P. Squier, Smith H. Salisbury and Josiah Trowbridge. Among the original members and stockholders in the society, were many other honorable names, such as James Sheldon, Peter B. Porter, Albert H. Tracy, David M. Day, Samuel Wilkeson, Henry R. Seymour, Pascal P. Pratt, Ebenezer F. Norton, Heman B. Potter, Samuel Tupper, John G. Camp, James Rough,







Stephen K. Grosvenor, Reuben B. Peacock, Barent J. Staats, Ebenezer Walden, Lucius Storrs, and others. To those who are at all familiar with the early history of the city, it will be evident from the above list of names that the first library enlisted the good will of most of the prominent citizens of Buffalo. This was a circulating library and consisted at one time of about 700 volumes; it lost popularity after about sixteen years of usefulness, was finally taken into the hands of a few of the stockholders and in 1838 was transferred by purchase to the Young Men's Association. Joseph Wilcox, a man of mark at that time, was the last librarian.

Following this library the Buffalo Lyceum was organized in 1832 "by a number of gentlemen who felt the importance of having something more definite in the direction of intellectual improvement." The idea was first suggested by Theodotus Burwell, who also prepared the plan, and the institution was for several years a very successful one. Winter lectures were given gratuitously by prominent citizens and public debates held, while in the meantime a library was gradually provided. Nearly all of the more prominent citizens of Buffalo at that time were interested in the Lyceum. Among its more active members were such men as Judges Rochester and Stryker, Dr. Burwell, J. W. Clark, R. W. Haskins, O. Follett, Millard Fillmore, N. K. Hall, J. W. Beats, George E. Hayes, Thomas M. Foote, N. P. Sprague, S. N. Callender, R. H. Heywood, Isaac S. Smith, D. Tillinghast, C. C. Bristol, O. G. Steele and others—a list of honorable names. As the city rapidly increased in size, the literary field was extended to that degree that the Lyceum could not fill it. It was a popular and successful institution as long as it served the wants of the community in that direction; but the time came when its resources were inadequate to further enlarge the library, nor was it able to support a reading room. In 1832, the Lyceum library contained about three hundred volumes.

#### THE YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION.\*

The Young Men's Association of Buffalo, now such a power for good in many ways, was originated in a growing necessity of affording to the young men of the city some healthful and sensible entertainment. The original project is credited to no particular man or small party of men. An attempt was made in 1834 to establish a new literary institution, for the furtherance of which project Rev. Dr. Shelton delivered an address, at the request of some of the gentlemen who felt an interest in the matter. An incipient association was formed, under the name of the Young Men's Association, of which Dr. Shelton was made president;

\* On the 22d of March, 1861, in St. James Hall, was held the celebration of the quarter-century anniversary of the organization of the Young Men's Association of Buffalo. On that occasion Mr. Charles D. Norton read an historical address, from which is gleaned much of the data for the early history of this association.

but it was abandoned upon the organization of the present association. As we have already stated the honor of founding the Association belongs to no particular person ; it was the result of a general movement on the part of the young men of the city. In the *Commercial Advertiser* of Feb. 20, 1836, then edited by Thomas M. Foote, was printed the following notice :—

*“ Young Men’s Association.—*The young men of Buffalo, friendly to the foundation of a Young Men’s Association, for mutual improvement in literature and science, are requested to meet at the court house on Monday, the 22d of February, at the hour of 7 P. M.

This notice was signed by nearly four hundred citizens embracing all classes, and was strongly endorsed by the editor. At a meeting which followed the publication of the notice, Hon. Hiram Pratt presided and R. L. Allen and Isaac W. Skinner, were secretaries. A constitution had been prepared by Seth C. Hawley, based upon the one governing a similar association in Albany, and it was submitted to the meeting by Frederick P. Stevens. After considerable discussion the constitution was adopted and the meeting adjourned to the 29th of the same month. An election of officers was held which resulted in the choice of Seth C. Hawley, for president ; Dr. Charles Winne, Samuel N. Callender and George Brown, vice-presidents ; Frederick P. Stevens, corresponding secretary ; A. G. C. Cochrane, recording secretary ; John R. Lee, treasurer. For a Board of Managers there were chosen—Oliver G. Steele, Henry K. Smith, William H. Lacy, George W. Allen, Charles H. Raymond, Henry R. Williams, George E. Hayes, Halsey R. Wing, Rushmore Poole, Hunting S. Chamberlain. The association was incorporated by act of the Legislature passed March 3d, 1837.

Such an organization would be helpless without funds, and an appeal for public aid was a necessity. A subscription was, therefore, started in the spring of 1836, in an era of what was thought to be general prosperity ; subscribers were numerous and their promises liberal. The lowest amount on the list was twenty-five dollars and the highest five hundred. The book accumulations of the old Buffalo Library and the Buffalo Lyceum were placed in the Association rooms, with an encouraging subscription of \$6,700. The great financial revulsion that soon followed, involved the Association and helped to create a debt that was swelled by a too liberal endowment of the reading room and purchase of valuable books, and which was not wiped out in many years. A library of 2,700 volumes was collected, and during the first year 5,500 volumes were drawn from it, while the reading room was equally well patronized. In the first five years of existence of the Association, the library increased 257 volumes ; in the second five years, 925 volumes ; in the third five years, 1,092 volumes ; in the fourth five years, 4,319 volumes ; from 1857 to 1861, the increase was 2,038 volumes. These figures indicate a steady and encouraging growth during the period covered by them.



The first librarian was Mr. B. W. Jenks ; he was followed by Dr. Raymond, and he by Phineas Sergeant ; Lewis Jenkins came next and he was succeeded in 1852 by the present incumbent, Mr. William Ives, who has now faithfully and successfully filled the office for thirty years. In the year 1857 a library fund was founded, based upon the receipts for life memberships. This fund now amounts to about \$22,000.

In 1864-'5 a movement was inaugurated which resulted in what may be termed the beginning of the era of prosperity which has since continued ; this movement was headed by nine of the prominent men of Buffalo, who subscribed \$3,000 each towards the necessary amount to enable the Association to purchase the property now in its possession. This popular subscription was finally raised by the liberal donations of the people of Buffalo, to something over \$83,000, and the property was bought in 1865, and occupied by the Association in 1866 ; its cost was \$112,500. When the institution was established in its new quarters, it was about \$50,000 in debt ; but by wise management of its property and the successful administration of its general affairs, the entire indebtedness was wiped out in 1876. The names of the nine men who headed the movement which accomplished such magnificent results, were Sherman S. Jewett, Dean Richmond, Charles Ensign, S. V. R. Watson, Thomas Clark, Gibson T. Williams, Myron P. Bush, Rufus L. Howard and James Brayley.

In April, 1877, Mr. J. N. Larned was made superintendent of the library, a position which he has capably filled since. Since his advent into the library he has done an important work in classifying the entire library and cataloguing its contents on the card plan ; other improvements have also been adopted under his administration.

Following are the names of the officers of the association for the year 1883 :—

Executive Committee—Edward B. Smith, president ; George Gorham, first vice-president ; Charles B. Wheeler, second vice-president ; Daniel H. McMillan, corresponding secretary ; Edward H. Rounds, recording secretary ; John L. Williams, treasurer.

Curators—For one year, Thomas Kean, chairman ; two years, Frank M. Hollister ; three years, George J. Sicard.

Directors—For one year, George B. Matthews, George Gorham, George R. Teller, Nathaniel Rochester ; for two years, Albert J. Wright, Dr. Henry R. Hopkins, Charles B. Wheeler, John L. Williams ; for three years, George B. Hayes, Henry C. French, Daniel H. McMillan, Edward H. Rounds.

Real Estate Commissioners—Robert P. Wilson, Wilson S. Bissell, Charles A. Sweet.

Superintendent of the Library, Josephus N. Larned ; librarian, William Ives.

During the latter portion of the year 1883, a subscription fund of nearly \$123,000 was raised, with which to purchase a site and erect a new building particularly adapted to the needs of the Association.

## THE BUFFALO HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Through the medium of the daily press a call was published for a public meeting of the citizens of Buffalo, to be held at the law office of O. H. Marshall, on the 25th of March, 1862.\* The call was signed by the following named gentlemen: George R. Babcock, Henry W. Rogers, O. H. Marshall, William Dorsheimer, Dr. John C. Lord, Dr. Walter Clarke, L. F. Allen. Response to the call was made by the following gentlemen: George W. Clinton, Lewis F. Allen, H. W. Rogers, George R. Babcock, Oliver G. Steele, James P. White, Dr. Walter Clarke, Henry Lovejoy, William Dorsheimer, A. L. Baker, Joseph Warren, David F. Day, O. H. Marshall, Edward S. Rich, John Howcutt and perhaps others. This meeting was the first actual movement towards the founding of the Buffalo Historical Society, although the matter had been the topic of frequent discussion among some of the men whose names appear above, previous to the publication of the call for the meeting. Mr. Lewis F. Allen was appointed chairman of the meeting, and O. H. Marshall, secretary. The subject was discussed at length, after which on motion of Henry W. Rogers, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—

*Resolved*, That it is expedient to organize a Historical Society for the city of Buffalo and County of Erie; and that the Chairman appoint a committee of seven to report a plan of organization.

Messrs. O. H. Marshall, Rev. Dr. Hosmer, Rev. Dr. Clarke, William Dorsheimer, James P. White, George R. Babcock and George W. Clinton were appointed such committee.

This committee met on the 8th of April, 1862, when a draft of a Constitution and By-laws was agreed to and directed to be submitted to a meeting of citizens to be held at the rooms of the Medical Association, No. 7 North Division street, on the 15th of April, 1862. This meeting was thoroughly made known through the press and was well attended by citizens who felt a deep interest in the matter. Organization was affected by the appointment of Hon. Millard Fillmore as chairman, and O. H. Marshall, secretary. The secretary submitted an appropriate constitution and by-laws, which were unanimously adopted; with a few minor changes they have sufficed to properly govern the society since its formation.

A meeting for the election of officers was held on the first Tuesday in May, 1862, and the election resulted as follows:—

President—Hon. Millard Fillmore.

Vice-President—Hon. Lewis F. Allen.

Councillors—George R. Babcock, George W. Clinton, Walter Clarke, Nathan K. Hall, Henry W. Rogers, William Dorsheimer.

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\* The call read as follows:—

“A meeting of those of our citizens disposed to establish a Historical Society for the County of Erie, is requested at the law office of Messrs. Marshall & Harvey, No. 336 Main street, up stairs, on Tuesday next, 25th inst, at 7 o'clock, P. M.”



*O. H. Marshall*





A meeting of the Board of Managers was held at the office of Rogers & Bowen on the 13th of May, 1862, at which Charles D. Norton was appointed recording secretary and treasurer, and Guy H. Salisbury, corresponding secretary and librarian.

On the 10th of January, 1863, the Society was incorporated under the laws of the State, under the name of "The Buffalo Historical Society."

Mr. Dorsheimer placed his office at the disposal of the Society as a place of meeting for the Board of Managers and of deposit for the books and papers of the society; the offer was accepted. At a meeting in the office of Mr. Dorsheimer, held on the 3d of June, 1862, the committee on inaugural addresses reported that they had secured American Hall as the place for its delivery by the president of the society. On the 2d of July 1862, the address was delivered before a large audience. This event gave strength and tone to the young society and since that time its monthly meetings have been sufficiently well attended to give it permanent life.

In September, 1862, Mr. Norton, who had temporarily filled the office of treasurer, resigned and Oliver G. Steele was appointed to the vacancy; he occupied the office until 1870, when Warren Bryant was appointed. The following year Mr. Steele was again appointed; in 1872 George S. Armstrong assumed the office and remained in it until 1879; he was also corresponding secretary and librarian from 1867 to 1879. In 1880, Rev. Albert Bigelow held that office; he was succeeded for the years 1881 and 1882, by Elias O. Salisbury. George G. Barnum now occupies the position.

In the fall of 1862 an arrangement was made for a series of local historical lectures by members of the society, to be delivered without expense and free to the public. This project was successfully carried out and resulted in the accumulation of a large quantity of valuable historical matter, besides creating additional interest in the society.

It soon became evident that some arrangement must be made for securing a fund to meet the expenses of the society; for this purpose and at the suggestion of Mr. Fillmore, it was determined to secure sufficient private subscriptions to pay the necessary expenses of the society for five years. In pursuance of this object, fifty gentlemen bound themselves to pay \$20 a year for five years. This plan was afterwards changed so that each subscriber was allowed to pay \$50 at one time, thus becoming a life member of the society, and paying the remainder of his subscription in annual payments of \$10 each. With this fund as a financial basis, the society has been able to continue its work in an affective and satisfactory manner.

In 1873 the Society was made a party to an arrangement by which it, with other local organizations, occupied the Young Men's Association buildings, on the corner of Main and Eagle streets, until January, 1873.

Before the expiration of this lease, the rapid accumulation of valuable property by the Society made apparent the necessity of obtaining more extensive quarters and such as were fire-proof; accordingly, in January 1873, arrangements were effected for the occupancy of the commodious and safe rooms in the building of the Western Savings Bank, where the Society is now located.

The Historical Society has been generally successful, even beyond the anticipations of its founders, and has accomplished a work that is invaluable. This result is owing to the persistent, though quiet efforts of many of the original members. There are now in the library about six thousand five hundred volumes, besides more than five thousand pamphlets, five hundred volumes of newspapers, manuscripts and historical relics of every description. The entire membership is at present seven hundred and sixty-three, inclusive of life, annual, corresponding and honorary members.

Following are the names of the gentlemen who have presided over the Society since its organization: Hon. Millard Fillmore, 1862 to 1867; Henry W. Rogers, 1868; Rev. Dr. A. T. Chester, 1869; O. H. Marshall, 1870; Hon. N. K. Hall, 1871; William H. Greene, 1872; Orlando Allen, 1873; Oliver G. Steele, 1874; James Sheldon, 1875; William C. Bryant, 1876; Eben P. Dorr, 1877; William P. Letchworth, 1878; William H. H. Newman, 1879; Elias S. Hawley, 1880; James M. Smith, 1881; William Hodge, 1882; Pascal P. Pratt, 1883.

The present officers of the Society are: President, Pascal P. Pratt; vice-president, William D. Fobes; recording secretary, Leon F. Harvey; corresponding secretary, librarian and treasurer, George G. Barnum; councillors, William H. H. Newman, Rev. A. T. Chester, D.D., Hon. James M. Smith, E. S. Hawley, Hon. James Sheldon, O. H. Marshall, William P. Letchworth, William C. Bryant, Thomas B. French, Jared H. Tilden, Emmor Haines, Rev. Samson Falk, Ansley Wilcox, Stephen M. Clement and George W. Townsend.

#### THE GROSVENOR LIBRARY.

In the year 1857, Seth Grosvenor, then a wealthy citizen of New York city, and formerly a resident of Buffalo, made a bequest of \$40,000 for the purpose of establishing a library in this city that should be free to the public. Following are the terms of the bequest:—

“I give to the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the city of Buffalo, in the county of Erie, to be paid in assets in the same way at the risk of collection by said city, and to be paid in two years after my decease, without interest, \$40,000; \$10,000 of which to be appropriated to the purchase of a lot and building thereon (unless the city of Buffalo shall give a lot for the purpose) in which case the whole \$10,000 are to be expended on the building, which is intended for a public library, and the remainder, \$30,000, to be invested forever and its income to be used in the

purchase of books, to be always kept open for the use of the public; the books not to be lent out nor rented, and only used for reading in the building. Books of reference are recommended as useful; and other moral books of such a character as will be useful in reforming the rising generation. I hope and trust my views and wishes may be responded to by those in the public employ, that the general public may reap a benefit."

This bequest was made upon the condition that the city of Buffalo should appropriate a sufficient sum each year for the current expenses of the institution; under this condition the city accepted the bequest and the fund was paid over in 1865, this action was legalized by act of the Legislature passed in 1859. Convenient and commodious rooms were secured where the library is at present located, in the Buffalo Savings Bank building, Washington street corner of Broadway. The occupation of these rooms was begun in 1868 and in 1870 they were thrown open to the public. The first Board of Trustees were O. H. Marshall, George R. Babcock, and Joseph G. Masten. Mr. ——— Shelden was the first librarian; he was succeeded in 1870 by James W. Ward, the present incumbent. Since the library was opened, the Common Council of the city has appropriated \$4,000 a year for its current expenses. By judicious investments and wise oversight, the library fund and property is now worth more than \$100,000. The library contains about 26,000 volumes and is visited by an average of one hundred persons each week day. The present trustees are O. H. Marshall, Josiah Jewett and Warren Bryant.

#### THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

On the 26th of April, 1852, a number of earnest young men of Buffalo, most or all of whom were members of the city churches, met in the old Pearl street (now the Asbury) Methodist Episcopal Church and formed an association, the purpose of which was to improve the spiritual and mental condition of young men. The constitution of the Boston Young Men's Christian Association was adopted and the name, "The Young Men's Christian Union," chosen for the new association.

In August of that year, "Association Hall," which had been in use by the Young Men's Association, was occupied by the Union, and the nucleus of a library was established. By the rapid increase of numbers in the Union, it was found necessary in 1853, to provide more commodious quarters; accordingly, "Odeon Hall" and rooms adjacent to the corner of Main and Mohawk streets, were leased for five years. On the 10th of March, of that year, the Union was incorporated and from that time the membership rapidly increased, the library received many additions, a profitable course of paid lectures was given and courses of study in sacred history were conducted by city pastors.

On the 7th and 8th of June, 1854, the first annual convention of the Young Men's Christian Association of the United States and British prov-



inces, was held in the hall of the Union. On the 25th of June, 1855, to supply the urgent need of more room, the Kremlin Hall was taken; but not long after this a period of retrogression set in which culminated in the most serious financial embarrassment in the crisis of 1859. The Union was obliged to sell off most of its furniture and take less expensive apartments in the Arcade building. But in spite of this untoward state of affairs, the Union did noble work through the war of the Rebellion, in raising and forwarding funds and supplies to the Christian Commission. The Union failed to receive the support to which it was entitled and labored under much embarrassment until about the year 1868, when new life was infused into it, the membership was largely increased, and another removal was made in the following year to rooms over 302 Main street; there the name of the Union was changed to "Young Men's Christian Association." In 1870 the Association again removed to 319 Main street, where (in 1872) the Building Fund was formally established.

In 1874 the financial prospects of the Association were greatly improved by the inauguration of an "Author's Carnival," the profits of which increased the building fund by nearly \$6,000. In 1875 the Association removed for the seventh time, occupying the Association rooms over 345 Main street.

In 1876, at the 24th annual meeting, it was found that in cash on hand and pledges made, there was a fund of \$20,500. Of this amount, in 1878, \$12,500 were used for the purchase of the lot formerly owned by the Grosvenor Library, on the corner of Pearl and Mohawk streets, leaving \$8,000 as the basis of the building fund.

The eighth removal of the Association was made in 1878, to that old temple of justice called "the new court house."

On the 8th of September, 1882, the corner-stone of the magnificent structure which will be the future permanent home of the Association, was laid. The new building is of brick, six stories high, including basement, with mansard roof and sand-stone trimming. Its cost is \$80,000; for the lot \$20,000 was paid, all of which is paid.

The Association now has a membership of 900 and a library of 3,000 volumes, the circulation of which is limited to the members, but which is open to the public for reference; two reading rooms are sustained by the Association, an employment department, boarding-house register, visitations in sickness, meetings at the penitentiary, jail, almshouse, home of the friendless, and during the winter months, educational classes for young men. The officers for 1882-3 were as follows:—

President—N. G. Benedict.

Vice Presidents—R. B. Adam, W. H. Gratwick, A. A. Kendall.

Treasurer—F. A. Board.

Recording Secretary—R. K. Strickland.

General Secretary—John B. Squire.



Board of Managers—(Term of office expiring October, 1883.) S. E. Adams, N. G. Benedict, F. T. Coppins, A. A. Kendall, C. B. Armstrong, F. A. Board, William C. Francis, F. Park Lewis. (Term of office expiring October, 1884.) R. B. Adam, W. H. Gratwick, O. P. Letchworth, George R. Stearns, H. D. Blakeslee, John Humble, M. A. G. Meads, R. K. Strickland.

Executive Officers—John B. Squire, general secretary; D. A. Gordon, assistant secretary.

The names of the past Presidents of the Union and Association are as follows:—

Isaac Tyron, 1852; N. A. Halbert, 1852-'55; Jesse Clement, 1855-'56; S. S. Guthrie, 1856-'57; P. P. Pratt, 1857-'58; E. T. Swan, 1858-'59; J. D. Hill, 1859-'62; E. Bristol, 1862-'63; Frederick Gridley, 1863-'64; Seth Clarke, 1864-'68; P. J. Ferris, 1868-'69; R. K. Noye, 1869-'71; E. L. Hedstrom, 1871-'76; Emmor Haines, 1876-'77; W. W. Brown, 1877-'78; George N. Pierce, 1878-'79; C. B. Armstrong, 1879-'80; N. G. Benedict, 1880.

#### THE YOUNG MEN'S CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION.

This association was organized December 9, 1855, and was incorporated in 1874. The original officers of the association were:—Matthew Malloy, president; John W. Murphy, vice-president; William Byrne, secretary; Sylvester O'Reilly, treasurer. The Association now numbers about two hundred active members, has a library of 1,200 volumes and 400 periodicals; its rooms are in the Young Men's Catholic Association Building, corner of Swan and Franklin streets. The present officers are: James P. Koine, president; James J. Conway, 1st vice-president; Hubert F. Murray, 2d vice-president; Thomas Braden, 3d vice-president; Andrew Cottan, recording secretary; William J. Gordon, financial secretary; John C. Saunders, treasurer; Thomas W. Cleer, librarian.

#### OTHER ASSOCIATIONS, INSTITUTES, ETC.

*The Mechanics' Institute.*—This institution is now quartered in the Fitch Institute Building, corner of Swan and Michigan streets. The Institute was organized February 21, 1865, and was incorporated by act of Legislature on March 20, 1869. The first officers after the incorporation were:—David Bell, president; O. J. Swegles, 1st vice-president; Walter H. Forbush, 2d vice-president; William Moses, 3d vice-president; David B. McNish, secretary; Robert Dunbar, treasurer; Joseph Berry, librarian. The first board of trustees were as follows:—David Bell, Robert Dunbar, D. B. McNish, O. J. Swegles, Thomas S. Ray, Joseph N. Tift, George T. Bentley, F. D. Locke, Josiah Jewett, George T. Boalch, W. H. Forbush, William Moses, S. N. Baker, C. M. Farrar, Thomas C. Knowles. The objects of this Institute, as set forth in the certificate of incorporation, are "the mental improvement and cultivation of its members, the general promotion and advancement of mechan-

ical interests, and the establishment of more intimate relations between employer and employee in the city of Buffalo."

The Institute now has a very valuable library of 8,150 volumes. The present officers are as follows:—Charles A. DeLaney, president; D. Cornell, vice-president; E. C. Hawks, treasurer; Charles Clifton, secretary; Lily B. Warwick, librarian; C. A. Delaney, S. D. Cornell, E. A. Rockwood, N. Rochester, A. B. Jewett, S. M. Welch, Edward Michael, E. C. Hawks, F. H. Duckwitz, W. H. Campbell, Dr. Charles Cary, A. B. Neill, George M. Trefts, Charles Clifton, P. P. Burtis, trustees.

*Law Library, Eighth Judicial District.*—This library was established by act of Legislature in 1863, at which time the sum of \$5,000 was appropriated. The total amount received from the Legislature in support of the library is about \$25,000. There are now about 6,000 volumes in the library. The first trustees were:—Hon. Joseph G. Masten, Hon. George R. Babcock and O. H. Marshall; librarian, A. A. Howell. The present trustees are:—Hon. Charles Daniels, Hon. Albert Haight and Hon. James M. Humphrey; librarian, Francis P. Murray. The library is located in No. 23, City and County Hall.

*The Catholic Institute.*—This Association was originally organized on Oct. 1st, 1866, as the German Catholic Young Men's Association, and was reorganized under its present name and with broader scope, on Dec. 15, 1870; it was incorporated by an act of Legislature passed May 23, 1872. The principal objects of the Institute are to establish a library and reading rooms, to procure lectures and other literary entertainments. The society now has over 400 members, and a library of nearly 3,000 volumes. The Institute is located on the corner of Main and Chippewa streets. The first officers were:—Charles V. Fornes, president; Joseph Krumholz, vice-president; Peter Paul, financial secretary; J. Louis Jacobs, Jr., recording secretary; Jacob A. Gittere, treasurer; Charles V. Fornes, Joseph Krumholz, Peter Paul, J. Louis Jacobs, Jr., Jacob Gittere, Joseph A. Dingens, Frank Weppner, Ferdinand J. Reister, Matthew Byrne, Christian Krause, William H. Bork; Jacob Korzelius, John Devlin and Peter Young, Board of Managers.

The present officers of the Institute are:—Peter Paul, president; John B. Meyer, vice-president; Edward M. Wilhelm, recording secretary; Peter P. Seereiter, treasurer; Frank Stephan, financial secretary; F. A. Keppner, John Strootman, Joseph Krumholz, W. H. Bork, Conrad Schirra, Gregory Strootman, James C. Saisbury, Frederic Gehle, Anthony Fornes and Jacob Mingen, Board of Managers.

*Lutheran Young Men's Association.*—This Association was organized in March, 1873, and incorporated in May, 1878. Its objects are to establish a library, procure lectures and other literary and musical entertainments. The library now contains about 3,000 volumes, and is located at 659 Michigan street. The officers are:—Charles O. Rother, president;

J. Scheuerman, vice-president; Charles Keitsch, recording secretary; B. Hillman, financial secretary; Charles F. Sturm, treasurer; F. Kamprath librarian; George Voelker, assistant librarian; R. Braeunlich, J. P. Brueck, W. Krueger, W. Wagner, W. Goerner, Board of Directors.

*The Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences.*—This Society was organized December 5, 1861, and was incorporated January 28, 1863. Its object is the promotion of the study of natural sciences, the formation of a museum and library, the procurement of lectures, etc. The Society's rooms were first located in the Clarendon Block, and are now in the Young Men's Association Building. The first officers were:—Hon. George W. Clinton, president; Rev. A. T. Chester, 1st vice-president; Charles Winne, M. D., 2d vice-president; Samuel Slade, corresponding secretary; Theodore Howland, recording secretary; Leon F. Harvey, treasurer; Richard K. Noye, librarian. The present officers are:—Lucien Howe, M. D., president; David F. Day, 1st vice-president; W. H. Pitt, M. D., 2d vice-president; Henry A. Richmond, 3d vice-president; Leon F. Harvey, M. D., corresponding secretary; D. S. Kellicott, Ph. D., recording secretary; James Sweeney, treasurer; Fred Mixer, librarian; Julius Pohlman, M. D., director of the museum; W. C. Barrett, M. D., Henry Chandler, John F. Cowell, A. Cleveland Coxe, D. D., Adolf Duschak, E. E. Fish, W. H. Glenny, Henry H. Howland, Charles Linden, F. Park Lewis, M. D., W. McMillan, Henry S. Sprague, Managers.

*The Buffalo Fine Arts Academy.*—This institution is located in the Austin Building, on the corner of Franklin and West Eagle streets. It was organized November 11, 1862; was incorporated December 4, 1862 and opened December 2d, of the same year. The object of this academy is to establish and maintain a permanent gallery in the city of Buffalo, for the exhibition of painting and sculpture, and to advance and promote those arts by all available means. The institution has been successfully conducted, has now a fine collection of art work in its rooms and is a promoter of a love for art in the city at large. Following are the officers of the Academy for 1883:—Thomas F. Rochester, president; George L. Williams, George B. Hayes, George S. Hazard, vice-presidents; L. G. Sellstedt, corresponding secretary; Albert T. Chester, recording secretary; Richard K. Noyes, treasurer. Fund Commissioners—John Allen, Jr., for three years; Josiah Jewett, for one year; William P. Letchworth, for two years. Curators—For two years—William H. Gratwick, Nathaniel Rochester, Ralph H. Plumb, Franklin D. Locke, for one year; William H. Beard, Albert Ziegler, Edwin T. Evans, Josiah Jewett, Henry A. Richmond, William C. Cornwall, Sherman S. Rogers, Henry M. Kent, Leonard H. Chester, Henry W. Sprague, Abraham Altman, John Allen, Jr.



## CHAPTER XXI.

## PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS, CLUBS, ETC., IN BUFFALO.

The First Public Amusements in Buffalo — A Pioneer Caravan — The Egyptian Mummy Show — The First Theatre in Buffalo — Old Time Performances — The First Circus — The Old Eagle Street Theatre — The First Gas Used in Buffalo — The Opening Night in the Eagle Street Theatre — An Old Announcement — Burning of the Theatre — A Complimentary Benefit — The New "Metropolitan Theatre" — Rebuilding of the Eagle Street Theatre — Its Transformation into St. James' Hall — The Academy of Music and its Management — The Buffalo Opera House, now the Adelphi — Wahle's Opera House — The Clubs of Buffalo — The Buffalo Club and its Incorporators — The City Club of Buffalo — The Lotus, Press, Polo and Other Clubs.

WHAT was probably the first public performance given in the village of Buffalo, for the entertainment of the citizens and their families, was a ventriloquil exhibition by a Mr. Charles, which was given in the Court House about the first of September, 1820. This was followed by public entertainments peculiar to that period and of the most varied character. July 21, 1823, a caravan was advertised at Rathbun's Eagle tavern, comprising a lion, an elephant, camel, etc.; while about the same time Stowell & Bishop opened an exhibition of wax figures "for a season, in the new brick building on Cheapside, a few doors north of Dyer's tavern." In the local papers was advertised for July 3, 4, and 5, 1826, an exhibition from the Tower of London, with two "full-grown Emuses, a zebra, monkeys, etc., at Mr. Dyer's inn." In July, 1827, a mummy was exhibited at the Franklin House. The proprietor of this unique show announced in the press that "an opportunity of witnessing a mummy may not soon occur again," and it probably did not.

The first theatre in Buffalo was what was known as the Buffalo Theatre, which was built about 1821-'22; it stood on Main street opposite the Eagle tavern. This theatre was advertised to rent from January, 1822, with four changes of scenery and good accommodations for companies, by S. H. Salisbury. It seems to have been purchased soon after by Walden & Mosely, who offered it for sale in November of that year. It was not much used for public entertainments, which were at that period few and far between, and in April, 1823, Rev. J. Bradley opened an English classical school in the hall. In July, 1826, we find that this theatre was occupied by a theatrical company, which produced Richard III., with a Mr. Maywood as Richard, and an afterpiece called "Tom and Jerry, or Life in London." In August, 1828, a correspondent wrote the editor of a local paper that he had previously seen Mr. McCleary, "who sustained himself through a heavy bill of fare most admirably."



The correspondent also said he "would be gratified if the ladies should think proper to make a display on this occasion." The occasion referred to was the appearance of Mr. McCleary in a theatrical "bill of fare" for a few evenings in the old Buffalo Theatre. This actor established a museum, "accompanied by songs, recitations, etc.," in July, 1829, in the "Exchange" building, Main street. In August, 1830, A. H. Stowell bought out Mr. McCleary, and publicly expressed his determination to "render it a place deserving the patronage of a generous and intelligent community."

On the 10th, 11th and 12th of December, 1831, the Messrs. Waughs announced to the ladies and gentlemen of Buffalo that they had effected an engagement with Mr. Mestayer, the performances to be given in "Philharmonic Hall, over the Museum." This hall was in the building where Dickinson's jewelry store now is, or the one adjoining. A theatre was also in operation for a short time about that period, on the third floor of a building on the south side of Seneca street, between Main and Washington streets; it was in the building now occupied by William N. Barnes as a grocery store.

The old Eagle Street Theatre, which for years was a noted place of amusement, was built for Dean & M'Kinney in 1835, by Albert Brisbane. For nearly twenty years the principal amusement companies that visited the city played in this theatre. The first gas used in the city was introduced in this theatre, being manufactured on the premises. The theatre was opened on the night of July 20, 1835, on which occasion "The Hunchback" and "Katherine and Petruchio" were the attractions offered.

Finally, after a long and varied career, the old Eagle Street Theatre was burned to the ground in June, 1852. The famous woman, Lola Montez, had appeared in the theatre on the evening before the fire, and had met with a cold reception, some of the audience showing their lack of appreciation in hisses, after which she declared she would never appear in the theatre again, and ordered her trunks removed from the house. Before morning the theatre was in ruins and all of the effects of the incensed woman were saved. This circumstance led to a current belief at the time that she was the means of the destruction of the theatre, but this was probably not the case, as the place had been on fire twice before and was only saved by the watchfulness of Thomas Duncan, who is now a trusted attache of the Meech Brothers' Academy of Music. Little precaution seems to have been taken to protect the theatre from fire. The night following the burning of the theatre, the company opened in a place on Washington street directly in rear of the "Gothic" building on Main street, which was fitted up by William Carland. In 1835 Mr. Duffy, who came here from Albany, had a theatre on the corner of Washington and South Division streets. This was called the Buffalo Theatre.

The new Eagle Street Theatre was built immediately after the burning of the former place, and nearly upon the old site, by George and Albert Brisbane, who conducted it for a short time. The old theatre stood nearer the middle of the block than its successor, and had a yard on each side of the building. The second structure was erected on the corner of Washington and Eagle streets. The new theatre was opened under the management of Carr & Warren, on the evening of Sept. 1, 1852, with Miss Estella Potter and a stock company in "Much Ado About Nothing." A complimentary benefit was tendered the managers of the theatre, on account of their loss by the burning of the old theatre, and in appreciation of their successful efforts to please the public. The price of seats in the parquette on this occasion was one dollar. A prize address "written by a citizen of Buffalo and dedicated to the patrons of the Old Eagle Street Theatre," was read by Mrs. Muzzy. The occasion seems to have been an important one in Buffalo theatrical amusements.

In the meantime the new Metropolitan Theatre had been built by Mr. Meech, as hereafter detailed, and it soon became apparent that the city would not support two theatres. An arrangement was therefore entered into by which the proprietors of the Eagle Street Theatre agreed to close their house for theatrical purposes; they did so, but afterwards reopened it as St. James' Hall, giving up the lower floor for business purposes. In 1859, C. G. Flint took the management of St. James' Hall, which he has continued to the present time with the exception of about a year. In January, 1861, the hall was burned, and was immediately rebuilt in its present shape.

In the same year that the new Eagle Street Theatre was built, (1852) H. T. Meech completed the Metropolitan Theatre, which is now the Academy of Music. This house was opened on the evening of the 15th of October, 1852, under lease to C. T. Smith, on which occasion Mrs. Anna Cora Mowatt appeared in "The Honeymoon." An opening address was written by Anson G. Chester and read by Mrs. Mowatt, and there was dancing by the Kendall Sisters, etc.

The following season the theatre was managed by Carr, Warren & Smith. Mr. Smith subsequently went to Rochester, where the firm had a theatre in operation, and Carr & Warren managed the Metropolitan three or four seasons; Carr then bought out his partner's interest. In 1857, Carr having failed to make his theatre a success, Mr. Meech took it into his own hands again, but soon after rented it to Olney & Whitman. Their bad management compelled Mr. Meech to again assume control of the theatre and finish the season. About this time John H. Meech took an interest in the management of the place with his father, which continued until the death of the latter in 1870; since which time it has been in the hands of the Meech Brothers, John H., and Henry L. Meech. In 1875-'76 the theatre was leased to Abbey & Schoeffel, of

New York, who inaugurated its management on a scale much grander evidently than its patronage would warrant. The opening night under their management was given to Lester Wallack, who then made his first appearance in Buffalo in "Rosedale." Abbey & Schoeffel failed to make the theatre pay, and again it came back into the Meech Brothers hands. The house was remodeled and refurnished in the summer of 1882; a new front was also erected and the Academy of Music is now a fair example of the best theatres in the country. The Meech Brothers leased the new Music Hall, of German Young Men's Association, for 1883, and fitted it up for theatrical, operatic and concert purposes. What was at first called the Buffalo Opera House, (now the Adelphi) was built, also by the Messrs. Brisbane and completed in 1861-'62. It was opened by Grau's Italian Opera Company, with Kellogg as the prima donna. Mrs. English then took the house, placed a museum in the lower portion of it and gave dramatic performances on the stage above. This enterprise was not successful and was soon followed by a season as a theatre under the management of the actor, Mr. Charles Thorne. After that season the opera house was idle, except for transient entertainments, until September 6, 1874, when it was leased to Messrs. John Level and T. G. Riggs, who changed its name to "The Adelphi" and opened it as a variety theatre. At that time Dan Shelby was managing a similar place of amusement on the Terrace. The opposition between the two variety halls promised to be disastrous to both, and Shelby finally bought out the lessees of the Adelphi, January 3, 1875. Under his management it was successfully conducted until the season of 1881, when the management passed into the hands of Joe Lang, who still conducts it.

Wahle's Opera House is the latest addition to the places of amusement in the city. It is located on Court street, between Pearl and Franklin, and is 165 by 58 feet in dimensions. The construction of this house was begun on the 20th of April, 1882, and it was opened on the 12th of October of the same year, by the Strakosch Opera Company. The house has two galleries and parquette, and during the summer of 1883 was remodeled on the interior, more descent given to the floors and other changes for the better being made. It is now a convenient and comfortable place of amusement.

There have at various times been other unimportant places of amusement in Buffalo, but as a rule they were short-lived and not of a character entitling them to particular mention in this work.

#### THE CLUBS OF BUFFALO.

Social intercourse, as it relates to the gentlemen of Buffalo, has always been kept up to a healthful and elevating standard, and has developed into the formation of numerous organizations having for their object the promotion of sociability and freedom of friendly intercourse



among their members. The first and most prominent among these organizations is:—

*The Buffalo Club.*—This Club was organized in January, 1867, and incorporated under the laws of the State. The incorporators and first directors of the Club were as follows:—Millard Fillmore, William G. Fargo, Isaac A. Verplanck, William Dorsheimer, Delavan F. Clark, Josiah Jewett, Bronson C. Rumsey, Sherman S. Jewett, Henry L. Lansing, Asher P. Nichols, John M. Hutchinson, Harmon S. Cutting, Jewett M. Richmond, H. C. Winslow, John T. Hudson, E. Carlton Sprague, Dexter P. Rumsey, John B. Williams, S. K. Worthington, Myron P. Bush, Albert H. Tracy, G. Stedman Williams.

The constitution of the Club makes the number of the Board of Directors after the first year, twenty-one. Following is a list of the successive presidents of the Club since its organization:—Millard Fillmore, 1867-'68; William G. Fargo, 1869 to 1873, inclusive; Sherman S. Jewett, 1874; Myron P. Bush, 1875; Rufus L. Howard, 1876 to 1878, inclusive; T. F. Rochester, M. D., 1879; Abraham Altman, 1880; James P. White, M. D., 1881; Josiah Jewett, 1882; Franklin Sidway, 1883.

The number of resident members in this Club is limited to two hundred. Among the present membership are very many of the leading men of the city, and the Buffalo Club is famous for its general high character, its hospitality to distinguished visitors and guests, and the elegance and tone of its style of entertainments. Following are the directors in office at the close of 1882:—

(Term expires January 1, 1883)—Josiah Jewett, Charles Cary, M. D., John C. Glenny, John George Milburn, C. H. Utley, Daniel N. Lockwood, J. M. Horton.

(Term expires January 1, 1884)—Charles W. M'Cune, James N. Matthews, Sheldon T. Viele, Charles A. DeLaney, J. Talman Davis, Franklin Sidway, I. R. Brayton.

(Term expires January 1, 1885)—Jewett M. Richmond, Edward H. Movius, George E. Laverack, Robert P. Hayes, William Meadows, William W. Sloan, George H. VanVleck.

*The City Club of Buffalo.*—This Club was organized March 10, 1877, and incorporated in the following month. Its first officers were:—George S. Wardwell, president; J. L. Fairchild, vice-president; Robert P. Hayes, secretary and treasurer. These gentlemen and Townsend Davis, D. F. Clark, H. T. Smith, J. H. Vought, Grover Cleveland and John S. Noyes were the first board of directors.

In October, 1877, the Club occupied its present club house, at No. 351 Washington street. The present membership consists of 350 resident members and 150 non-resident members. Two commodious additions to the club house have been made, providing public and private rooms, billiard room, reception rooms, etc.



The present officers of the Club are—George Gorham, president; John L. Williams, vice-president; George R. Teller, treasurer; S. M. Welch, Jr., secretary. The directors are George Gorham, George R. Teller, Henry Altman, Charles H. Daniels, John L. Williams, S. M. Welch, Jr., C. G. Warren, Howard H. Baker and Lawrence Budd.

*The Lotus Club.*—This social institution was organized March 15, 1878, and incorporated May 6, 1879. The object of the Club is given as “social and mutual benefit, dramatic and literary purposes,” and for the establishment of a library.

The first officers of this Club were:—William Hertkorn, president; M. I. Smith, vice-president; A. I. Siebold, recording secretary; C. J. Becker, financial secretary; George A. Weber, treasurer.

The present officers are:—Samuel J. Omphalius, president; Anthony Weber, vice-president; A. Mospau, recording secretary; James Hill, financial secretary; A. F. Miller, treasurer. Trustees—William Hertkorn, Ed. Williams. Regular meetings of the Club are held Monday evenings, in room D, 83 Franklin street.

*The Buffalo Polo Club.*—This Club was the outgrowth of a meeting of Buffalo gentlemen interested in horsemanship and kindred out-door sports, which was held at the Buffalo Club House on the 9th of April, 1877. On the 14th of the same month a constitution was adopted. The officers elected for that year were:—L. D. Rumsey, president; W. Hodge, first vice-president; E. H. Mevius, second vice-president; C. H. Williams, treasurer; J. H. Cowing, secretary; Charles Cary, H. A. Lindeman, H. R. Hopkins, C. A. Blake, executive committee.

There were seventeen active and thirty-three honorary members. The object of the Club was to encourage horsemanship, the game of polo and other similar sports. In August, 1877, a match game was played at Newport, R. I., with the only other Polo Club in America, resulting in a victory for the latter. In September, 1878, a return match game was played in Buffalo, resulting in a victory for the Buffalo Club.

The present officers of the Club are:—H. R. Hopkins, M. D., president; J. H. Cowing, vice-president; Thomas Cary, secretary and treasurer; John N. Scatcherd, Charles Cary, M. D., W. H. Heath, M. D., and L. D. Rumsey, executive committee.

*The Falconwood Company.*—This company was incorporated in 1879. At that time the Falconwood, on Grand Island, was the property of D. R. Morse, D. P. Rumsey, C. F. S. Thomas and Dennis Bowen, who purchased it of Hon. Lewis F. Allen. The two gentlemen first named became sole owners of the property and laid the foundation of the Falconwood Club, and about the year 1879, a handsome house was erected at a cost of \$12,000. The grounds were beautifully improved and the Club has been a successful and popular organization. In 1882 the club house was burned to the ground, but was rebuilt on a more extensive plan, the fol-

lowing summer. The Club has now a large membership made up of the heads of many of the leading families of Buffalo, who spend portions of the warm season there. The directors are Messrs. George Howard, (who is president); S. S. Jewett, J. M. Richmond, D. R. Morse, and E. B. Smith, the latter being secretary.

*The Acacia Club.*—What was known as the Knights Templar Club, was organized in Buffalo in April, 1875. The Fraternity Club was organized in June, 1875. These two Clubs were consolidated May 1st, 1880, forming the present Acacia Club, which was incorporated May 17, 1883. The rooms of the Club were burned on December 21, 1882, and re-opened in their present quarters in the Miller & Greiner Building on Washington street, on the 26th of May, 1883. The Club derives its membership solely from the Masonic fraternity of the city and county; its object is purely social intercourse. The rooms comprise an elegant suite of parlors, card, chess, reading, cloak and toilet rooms, and a large billiard parlor. The membership on May 1st, 1880, was fifty-seven; at present it is one hundred and eighty, and increasing steadily; membership is limited to two hundred. The officers for 1883 are as follows:—William H. Baker, president; William C. Barrett, M. D., 1st vice-president; Cassius C. Candee, 2d vice-president; Charles R. FitzGerald, secretary; William H. Smith, treasurer; William J. Runcie, Daniel E. Bailey, directors.

*The Beaver Island Association.*—This Association was incorporated in 1880, and has a club house on Beaver Island. Its chief objects are social intercourse, piscatorial amusement and the enforcement of the laws for the protection of fish. It has a membership of about twenty-five, from the leading men of Buffalo. The officers for 1883 are:—James P. White, president; Robert P. Hayes, 1st vice-president; S. T. Viele, 2d vice-president; C. D. Marshall, secretary and treasurer; E. C. Sprague, S. T. Viele, Robert P. Hayes, C. H. Utley, J. B. White, Jr., Charles D. Marshall, J. H. Cowing, J. G. Milburn and C. B. Germain, directors.

*The Unknown Social Club* was organized April 5, 1878, and was incorporated October 2, 1882. It meets at Scheu's Building, No. 241 Genesee street. The officers are:—E. C. Burgard, president; P. Scheeler, vice-president; Val. Specht, Jr., recording secretary; E. W. Kuhn, financial secretary; Theo. Baetzhold, treasurer.

In addition to the organizations above described, there are in Buffalo ten or twelve other bodies bearing the title of clubs; most of them are organizations formed for the purpose of developing an interest in shooting, rowing, yachting, etc. Prominent among these are the Bay View Rifle Association, with headquarters at 474 Main street; the Audubon Club, with rooms at No. 30 Arcade Building; the Queen City Shooting Club, the East Buffalo Gun Club and the Cold Spring



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Gun Club. There are also the Buffalo Yacht Club, with the following officers: John S. Provoost, commodore; T. P. Frank, vice-commodore; E. P. Field, secretary; C. L. Abel, treasurer; A. H. Allen, measurer. The Queen City Rowing Club, the Buffalo Mutual Rowing Club, the Buffalo Athletic Club and the Fritz Reuter Club.

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## CHAPTER XXII.

### HOSPITALS, ASYLUMS, CHARITIES, ETC.

The Buffalo General Hospital—The First Hospital Meeting—Successive Presidents of the Institution—The Training School for Nurses—Hospital of the Sisters of Charity—The Good Samaritan Eye and Ear Infirmary—The Homeopathic Hospital—Buffalo Eye and Ear Infirmary—Buffalo Surgical Infirmary—The City's Dispensaries—The Charitable Institutions and Asylums of the City.

#### THE BUFFALO GENERAL HOSPITAL.

ON the 21st of November, 1855, a meeting was held with the view of establishing a general hospital in Buffalo. There were present Charles E. Clarke, George S. Hazard, Andrew J. Rich, Bronson C. Rumsey, William T. Wardwell, Roswell L. Burrows, Drs. Phineas H. Strong, Charles H. Wilcox, Thomas F. Rochester, Sanford B. Hunt, William Gould, James M. Newman, John Root, Charles C. F. Gay, James B. Samo, Charles H. Baker and Sanford Eastman. On the 19th of June, 1858, the first medical staff was elected as follows:—Drs. Thomas F. Rochester, James M. Newman, Cornelius C. Wyckoff. Consulting physicians—James P. White, George N. Burwell, P. H. Strong. The surgeons were Charles H. Wilcox, Austin Flint, Jr., and Sanford B. Eastman; consulting surgeons—Frank H. Hamilton, John Root and Charles C. F. Gay.

The hospital was located on High street, near Main, where it now is. On the 6th of July, 1858, A. W. Dewey and wife were engaged as warden and matron, at a salary of \$300 a year for both. The presidents of the hospital have been as follows:—Charles E. Clarke, nine years; George Howard, two years; James Bradley, James D. Sawyer, R. D. Sherman, Hon. John B. Skinner and Jason Sexton, one year each; R. J. Sherman, seven years; James N. S. Scatcherd, from 1879 to the present time. The secretaries have been Roswell L. Burrows, two years; William T. Wardwell, seven years; George S. Wardwell, six years; William F. Miller, 1880, succeeded by the present incumbent, Robert P. Wilson. The present warden is William S. Wheeler, who assumed the position in September, 1880, his wife is matron.

The training school for nurses in connection with the hospital was established in 1877. Miss C. E. Seelye has been the superintendent of nurses since 1880, and the school has been very successful.

The present officers of the hospital are as follows:—J. N. Scatcherd, president; T. F. Rochester, M. D., vice-president; Robert P. Wilson, secretary; Franklin Sidway, treasurer.

*Buffalo Hospital of the Sisters of Charity.*—This hospital is situated on Main street near Delavan avenue. It was established in June, 1848, by the Right Rev. John Timon. The ground was purchased where the buildings now stand, in 1872, and the corner-stone was laid by the Right Rev. S. V. Ryan, August 16, 1875, and the hospital was dedicated November 5, 1876. The total cost of the institution was \$168,368. This hospital is under the charge of thirteen Sisters of Charity. Sister Florence, Sister Servant. Regular attending surgeons, Drs. John Cronyn, W. H. Heath and D. W. Harrington. Attending physicians—T. F. Rochester, G. W. Mackay, A. M. Barker.

In connection with the hospital of the Sisters of Charity is the Good Samaritan Eye and Ear Infirmary, which was organized August 1, 1882, and incorporated November 1, 1882. Its government is as follows:—Trustees—T. V. Dickinson, president; L. C. Miller, vice-president; A. A. Hubbell, treasurer; W. H. Slocum, secretary; George Clinton, Eli S. Hubbell, Luman C. Miller, William H. Tibbs, Thomas V. Dickinson, Alvin A. Hubbell, William H. Slocum. Medical Staff—Charles C. F. Gay, John Cronyn, consulting surgeons; Alvin A. Hubbell, surgeon in charge; William H. Heath, assistant surgeon.

*The Homoeopathic Hospital.*—This institution was established in October, 1872. The first officers were:—Dr. G. C. Daboll, president; Rodney Daniels, vice-president; S. V. Parsons, treasurer; P. G. Cook, Jr., secretary. The above named, in connection with the following, composed the board of trustees:—Charles G. Curtiss, W. H. Gratwick, J. M. Richmond, E. L. Hedstrom, G. W. Miller, Mrs. J. F. Ernst, Mrs. G. W. Cutter, Mrs. S. N. Callender, Mrs. Levi Lewis, Mrs. A. R. Wright, Mrs. A. C. Hoxsie; matron, Miss O'Connell. Mrs. S. V. Parsons was chairman of the executive committee. Mrs. Louise Allen is the present matron, and Miss Sarah Calhoun, recorder. The hospital is located at 74 Cottage street.

*The Buffalo Eye and Ear Infirmary.*—This institution was incorporated February 26, 1876, and is located at 568 Washington street. It is free to the poor and is supported by an appropriation from the county and voluntary contributions. The first officers were:—J. P. White, president; Thomas Lothrop, secretary; Josiah Letchworth, J. F. Schoellkopf, Thomas F. Rochester, Sherman S. Rogers, Lucien Howe. The present trustees are:—Thomas F. Rochester, M. D., president; Sherman S. Rogers, James Mooney, John Hauenstein, M. D., C. C. Wyckoff,







Albert Ziegele, Lucien Howe, M. D. consulting surgeons; Julius F. Miner, Charles E. Rider, Lucien Howe, surgeons in charge; Dougald Macniel, assistant surgeon; B. H. Grove, clinical assistant.

*The Buffalo Surgical Infirmary*, was incorporated December 5, 1876, for the purpose of affording gratuitous surgical treatment at the Infirmary. Charles C. F. Gay, M. D., is the surgeon-in-chief. Dr. Gay was born in Pittsfield, Mass., January 7, 1821. His father was William Gay, Jr., a native of Worcester, Mass.

While he was still a boy Dr. Gay's parents removed to Lebanon Springs, Columbia county, N. Y., where he acquired a thorough education in the select schools of that vicinity, one of them being the classical school of Professor John Hunter, of New Lebanon. In 1843 he attended the Collegiate Institute at Brockport, Monroe county, N. Y. Dr. Gay began the study of medicine in 1844, in the office of Dr. Joseph Bates, of Lebanon Springs. He soon afterwards went to Pittsfield, Mass., where he studied under Dr. H. H. Childs, who in 1843, had been Lieutenant-Governor of that State. He also attended a course of instruction in Berkshire Medical College, and one in the Medical School at Woodstock, Vermont. A third course was taken by him at the former institution, from which in the fall of 1846, he received his medical degree. To more thoroughly complete his medical studies, Dr. Gay repaired after his graduation, to Philadelphia, then the center of medical instruction of the highest order, where he attended the winter course of lectures in the Jefferson Medical College and Clinics of the Pennsylvania Hospital.

The following year (1847) Dr. Gay began practice of his profession in Bennington, Vermont, whence he removed to Byron, Genesee county, N. Y. He remained there in successful practice four years, when he removed to Buffalo, which city has since been his place of residence. In 1855, upon the organization of the Buffalo General Hospital, he was chosen consulting surgeon, and a few years later was appointed attending surgeon, which position he has held ever since. He has been a permanent member of the State Medical Society since 1861. He is also a member of the Erie County Medical Society, and has been president of that body. On several occasions he has been a delegate to the American Medical Association, and has made valuable written and verbal reports on surgery before that distinguished body; and his reports and contributions to medical literature published in medical journals have been numerous and important. He at present occupies the Chair of Professor of Clinical and Operative Surgery in the medical department of the University of Niagara. Of late years he has devoted his attention more especially to surgery.

*The Buffalo City Dispensary.*—There are three dispensaries in the city, the oldest of which is the Buffalo City Dispensary, which was

organized in March, 1847, and incorporated in February, 1859. Its present officers are:—Emmor Haines, president; D. C. Beard, treasurer; Julius Walker, secretary. This dispensary does its work by means of orders drawn upon the city drug stores, and accomplishes a most beneficent work.

*The City Dispensary* is on the corner of Court and Pearl streets. It was incorporated December 31, 1882. The following comprise the Board of Trustees:—Charles G. Curtiss, president; Hon. A. W. Hickman, vice-president; F. Park Lewis, secretary; R. R. Gregg, treasurer; John Gordon, D. D., W. W. Brown, Henry Montgomery. The following comprise the Medical Staff:—L. M. Kenyon, P. A. McCrea and A. M. Curtiss, general practice; C. P. Alling and Sarah H. Morris, diseases of women; R. R. Gregg, diseases of the lungs; W. B. Kenyon and E. A. Fisher, diseases of children; P. Erb, diseases of the skin and nervous system; Dr. F. Teller, dentistry. The following are on the Surgical Staff:—E. P. Hussey and A. M. Curtiss; F. Park Lewis, eye and ear.

*The Buffalo Provident Dispensary and Hospital*, 385 Washington street, was opened for the reception of patients on the 14th of February, 1883. Its officers are as follows:—William S. Tremaine, president; A. R. Davidson, vice-president; Dougald Macniel, treasurer; Henry D. Ingraham, secretary; consulting staff—surgeons, Charles C. F. Gay, John Cronyn, John Boardman; physicians, John Hauenstein, Edward Tobie, George N. Burwell.

In addition to these hospitals and dispensaries, and acting in a similar field of benevolence, there are in the city of Buffalo, fourteen different asylums, the doors of which are open to all claims of unfortunate humanity. The Buffalo Orphan Asylum was incorporated April 24, 1837. It is located at 403 Virginia street. Officers for 1883—John D. Hill, president; J. B. Sweet, vice-president; Carl T. Chester, secretary; John U. Wayland, treasurer; M. B. Folwell, M. D., physician; Mrs. Hopkins, matron. Trustees—P. P. Pratt, Thomas Chester, Francis H. Root, Hugh Webster, Joseph B. Sweet, Cyrus P. Lee, Henry H. Otis, Truman C. White.

*The Ingleside Home*, an institution organized for the purpose of reclaiming the erring, was incorporated October 22, 1869; it is located at 527 Seneca street. Officers for 1883—Mrs. G. C. Stearns, president; Mrs. L. D. Cobb, vice-president; Mrs. H. H. Otis, treasurer; Mrs. L. D. Cobb, corresponding secretary; Mrs. C. E. Walbridge, recording secretary; Mrs. A. McPherson, assistant treasurer; Mrs. A. Prindle, matron; Miss Helen Teal, assistant matron.

*The St. Mary's Male and Female Orphan Asylum*, (German) is on Best street, near Johnson. It was incorporated August 16, 1856, and is under the charge of the Sisters of St. Francis. Sister Mary Xavier is Superior.

*The Church Charity Foundation*, was opened as a Home for Aged and Destitute Females, in 1858. In the spring of 1866, it was determined to establish an Orphan Ward in connection with the institution; by this time the number of destitute women claiming the hospitality of the house had greatly increased. To meet both of these requirements, the building now occupied by the Foundation, Rhode Island street near Niagara, was purchased. The Society has general authority to purchase real estate for charitable purposes and is not restricted to any particular form of charity. The Right Rev. A. Cleveland Coxe, D. D., is visitor *ex-officio*. Officers for 1883—James N. Matthews, president; Thomas F. Rochester, vice-president; Edward S. Dann, treasurer; Theodore F. Welch, secretary; J. N. Matthews, Thomas Thornton, James E. Ford, finance committee; James N. Matthews, Thomas Thornton, Thomas Lothrop, M. D., Thomas F. Rochester, M. D., Chester P. Turner, James E. Ford, A. Porter Thompson, Thomas Dennis, Thomas Loomis, board of managers.

*St. Joseph's Male Asylum*\* is situated outside of the city boundaries, on Limestone Hill, and is directed by Rev. Nelson Baker, assisted by Rev. John Biden. A large farm is connected with the institution. The Sisters of St. Joseph, to the number of twelve, have charge of the orphan's school.

*The Evangelical Church Home*, for Buffalo and vicinity, is on the corner of Genesee and Broadway. Rev. F. Schelle, is president. The Asylum of Our Lady of Refuge is at 485 Best street.

The number of other charitable and benevolent organizations in Buffalo, covering all the broad field of public, corporate and private charity, is most creditable to the liberality of the people of the city. Every church has its benevolent society of some character, and the same may be said of many of the trades and professions. Of most of these it is not deemed important to present statistics here. Of the more prominent charities not yet referred to, however, it is proper to speak of the following:—

*St. Mary's Asylum for Widows, Foundlings and Infants*, No. 126 Edward street, was opened in 1848, and incorporated in 1852. The institution is under the charge of ten Sisters of Charity. Sister Mary Clarence Walker, Sister Servant.

*St. Vincent's Asylum, (Female)*, is located at No. 41 Broadway, and was established in January, 1849. The asylum is under charge of ten Sisters of Charity. Sister Mary Thomas Maynes, Sister Servant.

*The LeCouteulx St. Mary's Institution for the Instruction of Deaf-Mutes*, 125 Edward street, was established October, 1857. It is under the care of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Attached to the institution is a boarding school for young ladies. Mother Mary Ann Burke, superior.

\* See history of West Seneca, in Vol. I.

*The Providence Lunatic Asylum*, is on Main street near Humboldt Parkway, and is under charge of the Sisters of Charity. Sister Rosaline is Sister Servant. During the year 1882, there were two hundred and twenty-five patients in the asylum.

*The Buffalo German Roman Catholic Asylum*, Best street, near Fox, was incorporated in 1874, and is under charge of the Sisters of St. Francis. Sister Mary Ignatia, superior.

*The Evangelical Lutheran St. John's Orphans' Home*, at 280 Hickory street, was incorporated April 14, 1865. Its character is indicated by its name. Rev. Christian Voltz is president; Rev. George J. Long, House Father.

*The St. Francis Asylum*, Pine street, between Broadway and Sycamore, is a refuge for the aged and destitute without regard to nationality or religion. It is governed by the Sisters of St. Francis. Sister Mary Gabriella, superior. This asylum was incorporated November 14, 1862.

*The Magdalene Asylum*, at 485 Best street, near Johnson, is under the charge of Our Lady of Refuge. Mother Mary of St. Bernard, superior, At the same place and under the same direction, is the Catholic Protector for girls.

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# HISTORY OF BUFFALO.

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## PART SECOND—BIOGRAPHICAL.

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**J**AMES ADAMS was born in Martha's Vineyard Mass., on the 21st of December, 1823. When he was but two years old his parents removed to Newburgh, Ohio, whence he came to Buffalo when he was ten years of age, and entered the employ of his uncle, Cyrus Athearn, in a tobacco factory, where he remained until 1854; when he bought and carried on the business himself. The factory was located in a building next to the present postoffice, on Washington street, Mr. Adams' present business office being upon the same site. During the war of the rebellion Mr. Adams took an active interest in the raising of troops for the army and otherwise assisting the Union cause. He became favorably known at that time to the Sanitary Commission, as one of the most charitable men in Buffalo towards any measure designed to aid and relieve the Union soldiers.

In 1862 he was appointed Quarter-Master and stationed at Fort Porter, where he efficiently filled the responsible position. He went with the 116th Regiment to Maryland, but soon returned. Though never seeking public office, he was made one of the first Police Commissioners of the city, and rendered valuable assistance in the organization of the present police force. He was elected Alderman of the Ninth ward in the year 1859, and held the office two years, discharging its duties to the eminent satisfaction of his constituents. He was president of the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia railroad, and president of the Buffalo Creek railroad, which he built. He has been president of the Buffalo & Jamestown railroad, and is now vice-president of the Brush Electric Light company.

In these various positions of trust and responsibility, Mr. Adams has developed and exhibited traits of character and business qualifications of a high order, and by the efficiency and integrity of his course, public and private, has gained the esteem of all with whom he has been associated.

Mr. Adams was married in the year 1852, to Miss Catharine Simons, daughter of Rudolphus Simons, of Chautauqua county, N. Y. Three children have been born to them. George F. Adams was born June 12, 1853, and died from an injury in an elevator on the 13th of April, 1882. The oldest daughter is the wife of Dr. W. H. Heath, a physician in the Buffalo Marine Hospital. The younger daughter is Miss Jessie Adams.

Mr. Adams is now and has been for a number of years the senior member of the firm of Adams & Moulton, among the heaviest lumber dealers of Buffalo. He has been eminently successful in his business enterprises, and is still one of the most active and energetic men in the community.

**S**TEPHEN GOODWIN AUSTIN.—The father of the subject of this sketch was Joseph Austin, of Suffield, Connecticut; his mother was Sarah Goodwin, daughter of Captain Goodwin, of Goshen, in the same State. Stephen Goodwin Austin was the youngest of three sons and was born on the 28th of October, 1791. His educational advantages were exceptionally good for that period, beginning with a preparatory course of studies at the academy in Westfield, Mass. In 1811 he entered as a freshman at Yale College, completed the full regular course and graduated with honor on the 13th of September, 1815, under the presidency of Dr. Dwight.

Immediately after his graduation, Mr. Austin entered upon the study of the law in the office and under the guidance of Daniel W. Lewis, Esq., in Geneva, N. Y., where he remained until fully prepared for his profession. On the 15th of January, 1819, he received at the hands of Hon. Ambrose Spencer, then Senior Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, a license to practice in that court. He soon after left Geneva and removed to the then small village of Buffalo, (before the close of the year 1819) and began the practice of his profession. His license to practice in the Court of Chancery for the State of New York, was dated February 22, 1822—Kent, Chancellor.

At the time of Mr. Austin's removal to Buffalo, the project of constructing a safe harbor for the port, upon which the future commercial importance of the village so largely depended, with the kindred subject of making Buffalo the terminus of the projected Erie canal, were topics of anxious and exciting discussion. Their favorable decision meant the building of a great city at the foot of Lake Erie. That they would be favorably decided, Mr. Austin early foresaw, and this fact confirmed, if it did not originate, in his mind the determination to make Buffalo his permanent home; this determination was fulfilled by a long life of active usefulness in the city.

Mr. Austin, although possessing acknowledged ability, integrity and other qualifications that fit a man for public service, never sought political or other public office; indeed, he repeatedly declined it, when solicited by his fellow citizens to accept high positions for which he was eminently qualified. The only office he held was that of Justice of the Peace, the duties of which he discharged, as he did all of his life-work, with fidelity and faithfulness.

In the year 1831, the degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him by his Alma Mater.

In his profession Mr. Austin was characterized as a man of clear insight, a thorough knowledge of the law and its principles as applicable to any case in hand, and of careful judgment based upon close and generally accurate analysis. He possessed a mind of quick perception and intellect at once acute and active. These traits, supplemented by untiring industry, unflinching perseverance and the most thorough devotion to the interests of his clients, made him a formidable legal opponent, and secured for him an extensive and lucrative business. In later life much of his time and attention were devoted necessarily to the care of a large estate which had accumulated through judicious investment and excellent business sagacity.

Mr. Austin's character was in all respects above reproach; he was at all times and in all places the perfect gentleman, kind and devoted in his domestic relations, an honored member of the elevated social circles in which he lived, and eminently respected by the community at large.

On the 1st of October, 1829, Mr. Austin was married to Miss Lavinia Hurd, daughter of Jesse Hurd, Esq., of Middle Haddam, Conn., a union that was in all respects an auspicious one. Four daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Austin, one of whom died an infant and a second at two years of age. A third daughter (Lavinia) married W. P. Russell, of Philadelphia, and died in 1874. The other daughter is the wife of T. G. Avery, Esq., a well-known citizen of Buffalo. Mr. Austin's death occurred on the 19th of June, 1872.

**DAVID S. BENNETT.**—Among the citizens who have borne a prominent part in the commercial and political history of Buffalo, during the last quarter of a century, few have made more durable marks than the Hon. David S. Bennett. He came to the city in 1853, with a moderate capital and an excellent business training. Born and bred on a farm in the most fertile district of Onondaga county, within the town of Camillus, he owed to that wholesome, industrious country life the habits and the character which are at the bottom of so many successes in the world. The vigorous blood of New England was in his veins, his father, James Bennett, having been a native of Connecticut, who emigrated westward into Central New York while a young man, and acquired, by his own thrift and energy, a more than comfortable estate in well-chosen lands. Of the large family which James Bennett reared, David was next to the youngest child, and the hardships which the pioneer father overcame had disappeared before he came upon the scene. He was well disciplined in industry, but not harshly. As a boy, he had good opportunities for common school education and two years of study at the Onondaga Academy.

On reaching manhood, Mr. Bennett had two hundred acres of his father's farm made over to him, partly as a gift, anticipating his share of the inheritance, and partly to be paid for by his earn-







ings from it. He soon after married Miss Harriet A. Benham, daughter of Mr. Truman Benham, of Bridgewater, Oneida county, and made his settlement in life most happily complete.

For four or five years he continued the cultivation of his farm with success, meantime buying and selling other pieces of property with such judgment that his capital was considerably increased. The commercial instinct, in fact, was native and strong in Mr. Bennett, and naturally it led him, ere long, to withdraw from the pursuits of agriculture and to enter the more active arenas of trade. First in Syracuse and afterwards in New York he established himself in the produce business, his elder brothers, James O. Bennett and Miles W. Bennett, then cashier of the Salina Bank of Syracuse, being at different times interested and connected with him. Finally, in 1853, the operations of the New York firm, Bennett, Hall & Co., brought about his removal to Buffalo, where important transactions were carried on. Since that time Mr. Bennett has been among the leaders of enterprise in Buffalo, so far as concerns the great grain traffic of the lakes, the canal and the rail.

One of the earliest of Mr. Bennett's undertakings in the city was the purchase of the Dart Elevator, which is believed to have been the very original, not only here, but in the world, of those warehouses with steam machinery, and with the endless belt and bucket contrivance for lifting grain from the holds of vessels, which have since become so common in American ports. A little later, in conjunction with the late George W. Tiff, he built an elevator on the Ohio Basin. Again, in partnership with Messrs. A. Sherwood & Co., he erected another on Coit Slip, which was afterwards burned. In 1862 he engaged, alone, in a far greater undertaking of the same kind, by commencing the construction of the Bennett Elevator, a huge and massive structure which cost, with its site, nearly a half million of dollars and which was not finished until 1866. The contiguous Union Elevator was also rebuilt by Mr. Bennett, and both, with a combined capacity for handling 20,000,000 bushels of grain per annum and storing 700,000 bushels, are still his property.

The sagacity and energy which Mr. Bennett exhibited in business did not fail, in due time, to mark him for selection by his fellow citizens as one who might serve them usefully in public affairs. He had identified himself early with the Republican party and distinguished himself during the war for the Union by the eager and unmeasured liberality with which his wealth and his personal exertions were devoted to the National cause. In the equipment of volunteer officers and soldiers, in the maintenance of soldiers' families, and in contributions to every movement and organization by which the army was cheered and strengthened, he had expended more than a moderate fortune during the four years of the war. There were many reasons, therefore, for the spontaneous movement in the Republican party in 1865, which put him forward, quite against his inclination, as its candidate for the State Senate. He was elected by an overwhelming majority, and his service for two years in the Senate proved eminently satisfactory to his constituents. He gave special attention to the interests of the canals and urged strenuously a measure for the enlargement of the locks of the Erie and Oswego canals to pass boats of six hundred tons burthen, foretelling the diversion of traffic that has since been brought about as a consequence of the inadequate capacity of the boats employed. But his efforts were defeated by the selfish jealousy of the districts interested in the lateral canals. Among the bills of most local importance which he carried through the Legislature was one reorganizing the police department of the city, another which founded the now flourishing State Normal School at Buffalo, and another which gave existence to the Reformatory for Boys established by Father Hines at Limestone Hill.

The close of his State Senatorial term found Mr. Bennett without a rival in popularity at home, and his nomination for Congress in 1868 was a foregone conclusion. Again his election was triumphant, by a great majority, and he took his seat in the Forty-First Congress under auspices most flattering. Although a new member, he was assigned to an important place on the Committee on Commerce.

Convinced by his experience in the New York State Legislature that the State would undertake no measures of canal improvement liberal enough and vigorous enough to meet the pressing demands of commerce, and seeing how broadly national the question of cheap and adequate communication by water between the great lakes and the seaboard really is, Mr. Bennett boldly advanced the proposition that it should be the duty of the general government to enlarge the Erie and Oswego canals and to maintain them without toll, as free to navigation as the rivers of the continent. He introduced in Congress a bill to that end and found much readiness among the representatives of

the West to give it support. The Committees on Commerce and Appropriation both signified their willingness to report the bill if the State of New York, by its Legislature, would indicate a disposition to accept the proffered aid. But the spirit of the New York Legislature was the spirit of the dog in the manger. It would do nothing for the canals on its own part; it would suffer no one else to do anything for them. And so they were left to fall into desuetude, their commerce to seek other routes, their revenues to dwindle away, until even the despairing policy of making them free will not win traffic for their decaying fleets. There are not many now who will dispute that Mr. Bennett surveyed the canal question in 1868, and in the after years while he pressed his nationalizing policy, with more forecast than those who opposed and fought him down.

In the two years of Mr. Bennett's service in Congress he accomplished a number of important things:—The authorizing of the construction of the International Bridge across Niagara river at Buffalo; the re-commission of the revenue cutters on the lakes, and the practical extension of the park system of Buffalo over the grounds of Fort Porter, among the rest.

Since his return to private life, Mr. Bennett has occupied himself much with various important projects for the advancement of the commercial interests of Buffalo. In 1874 he was instrumental in organizing a company known as the "Buffalo Crosstown Railway Company," for the purpose of establishing connections by rail through the city, and with its docks and warehouses, for the equal and common use of all railroads. His sagacious plans were not carried out as he designed them to be, by an independent corporation, extinguishing monopoly in the railway privileges of the city; but they have been realized by the New York Central and by the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad companies, each securing for itself the great advantages which Mr. Bennett strove to open to all.

A tunnel under the Niagara river is another of the enterprises which Mr. Bennett has striven for years to obtain encouragement for among his fellow citizens, and time will most likely vindicate his judgment in that, as in various other matters of public policy; but the day has not yet come.

This sketch of Mr. Bennett cannot be closed more fitly than by the following extract from a biographical article that appeared not long since in the Buffalo *Sunday Morning Times*:

"It will be seen from this brief sketch of Mr. Bennett's career that he has been through life a man of tireless activity, showing marked and many-sided capabilities. The quality which distinguishes his character most of all is the unconquerable spirit of perseverance with which his plans are pursued. That is the royal quality in human nature—perhaps rarer than any other—which masters men and things and dominates the circumstances of the world. Hot, headlong and obstinate energy is plentiful enough among men, and wrecks itself quite as often as it triumphs. But the patient, persisting, cumulative kind, which is generated from inexhaustible sources of invention and calculation and waxes stronger by exercise—that is something much more rare. It is this quality which exhibits itself in Mr. Bennett to a surpassing degree. He is a man who will not turn—cannot be turned—from the purposes which he has once deliberately formed. To that which he has undertaken to do, being convinced that it is a right and needful thing to do, he is lastingly pledged, by the resolution of his nature. If one path to his end is closed he goes back and seeks another; but the object on which he has once fixed his eye is never abandoned. He pushes toward it through all obstacles and discouragements; not doing so stubbornly, for stubbornness is blind, but with patient persistence and the elastic high temper of mind which cannot understand defeat. It is impossible to vanquish such men, and this has strikingly been shown in all the encounters with misfortune which Mr. Bennett has undergone. He has had more than his share of the buffetings of adversity but not one spring of hope or courage or energy has ever seemed to be broken in him.

"That the undertakings of Mr. Bennett, both in public and private affairs have been sagacious, almost always, is undeniable. Events have vindicated his superior foresight and his shrewd apprehension of the drift of things, in those cases where his views met with most antagonism at first. As regards the canal policy of the State, the municipal policy of our city in relation to the railways, and the general interests of our commerce, Mr. Bennett was far ahead of most men in discerning exigencies and demands which all can now recognize very easily.

"It is inevitable that one so positive in character as Mr. Bennett, so fertile in progressive projects and so determined in pursuing them, will provoke animosities and raise enemies around himself. It is quite as inevitable on the other hand that he will multiply friends. The two consequences go together and cannot well exist apart. He who has no enemies can have no friends, is a statement of fact which claims adoption among our proverbs. Mr. Bennett has both enemies and friends in a proportion which is flattering to him. If his enemies are sometimes bitter, his friends have warmth enough to more than meet them. In his own nature there is a warmth of kindness and gentility and generosity which kindles responsive feelings, and those who know him best, who see the most of his daily life and how much of his time and care are given, with painstaking consideration, to the serving and pleasing of other people, are sure to be the highest in their esteem."



**PHILANDER BENNETT.**—Nathaniel Bennett, the father of Philander Bennett, was born at Saugatuck, now Westport, Conn., and about the year 1793 was united in marriage to Sarah Cable, a native of the neighboring town of Norwalk. Shortly after their marriage they removed to Catskill, State of New York, where Philander was born on the 29th day of April, 1795. They remained a few years at Catskill, and then moved to Clinton, Oneida county, where Philander prepared for and entered Hamilton College, from which institution he graduated in the year 1816. In the summer of that year he left Clinton, with a companion by the name of Scribner, and proceeding across the Allegany mountains in a covered wagon, containing a stock of goods, established himself in business with Scribner, at Delaware, Ohio. This enterprise not proving profitable as they anticipated, they sold out the business, and Scribner, returning to the East, purchased a new stock of goods which he shipped by lake to Sandusky, where they had a store; but the vessel containing the goods, being driven by a storm upon the beach near Buffalo, they thought it best to dispose of the goods at that place; accordingly Mr. Bennett joined Scribner at Buffalo, where they rented a store on the corner of Main and Eagle streets, and did business for two years under the firm name of Scribner & Bennett.

On the 15th of December, 1817, he married Henrietta, daughter of Nathaniel and Parnel Griffin, of Clinton, N. Y. In 1820, withdrawing from the mercantile firm, Mr Bennett entered the law office of Heman B. Potter, then District Attorney of the county of Erie. In October, 1822, he was admitted as an attorney of the Supreme Court, and in February, 1828, became a counselor in the Court of Chancery. He was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1822. In 1828 he was, with Silas Wright, Jr., secretary of the State Convention which nominated Van Buren for Governor, and in the same year was nominated for State Senator, but the Democratic party being in the minority in his district, he suffered defeat. In 1829 he was a Master in Chancery, and in the same year was appointed First Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for the county of Erie, which position he held by three successive appointments, until January, 1837, when on account of ill health, he resigned the office. Upon the death of Martin Chittenden, in 1832, he performed for several months the duties of Surrogate of the county of Erie. He was elected an Alderman of the city of Buffalo in 1832; was re-elected in 1833, and again in 1840 and 1841.

In 1826 Mr. Bennett was appointed by Gov. Clinton, Judge Advocate of the 47th brigade of infantry. He was for many years closely connected with the "Albany Regency," but in the latter part of his life was deeply interested in the anti-slavery cause, and upon the organization of the Republican party became one of its members.

He was for a short time president of the old City Bank of Buffalo, and for several years vice-president of the Buffalo & Attica railroad company. Upon the visit of President Van Buren to the city of Buffalo, in 1839, he was made chairman of the committee of citizens appointed to receive the President, and upon that occasion delivered the address tendering to him the hospitality of the city.

In 1831 he erected on the corner of Eagle and Pine streets, the old stone mansion in which his widow now (1883) lives, and where may be seen the first marble mantels brought to this city.

Mr. Bennett's father removed from Clinton to Williamsville, in this county, in 1820, and resided there until 1838. They were members of the old Buffalo Land Company and as such, were largely interested in real estate in what are now the cities of Toledo and Cleveland.

Philander Bennett was for many years prominently identified with the interests and growth of the city of Buffalo, and was conspicuously known as a lawyer, a Judge, a member of the City Council and a business man generally. In all the relations of life his conduct was marked by integrity, charity for the feelings of others, and kindness and benevolence to those who might look to him for sympathy or aid. As a business man, in middle life, he was noted for his clear-sighted and adventurous policy. The old mercantile firm of Marvin & Bennett, of which he was the senior member, was for many years the largest mercantile house west of Albany; and the building of the Buffalo & Attica railroad, which was the last link in the chain of railroads now forming the New York Central & Hudson River road, was mainly due to the enterprise, forecast and capital of some half dozen individuals, of whom he was one. For the last sixteen or seventeen years of his life he lived in quiet retirement, sometimes engaged in foreign travel, but mostly occupied with horticultural pursuits, and in studies and reflections suited to an enlightened Christian and philosophic mind. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church.

Judge Bennett was in height nearly six feet, of a fine erect bearing. His eyes were hazel and unusually bright and penetrating. He died July 22d, 1863.

He had four children: Griffin, who died at sea, on his passage from St. Croix to New York, March 24, 1841, in his 22d year; Mary Henrietta, who died June 11, 1879, and who married the late Germain; Edward, who lives at the old homestead; and Charles, lost at sea.

**M**A RTIN H. BIRGE, one of the leading business men of Buffalo, and a prominent manufacturer, was born on the 30th day of July, 1806. He is descended from hardy and heroic New England ancestors. His father was Elijah Birge, who was born in Lenox, Mass., and rendered his country valuable service in the war of 1812, dying in Underhill, Vt., at 72 years of age. David Birge, grandfather of M. H. Birge, was a native of Woodbury, Conn., born in 1754; he was a soldier in the war of the Revolution, and died at the age of 82 years, at Underhill, Vt.

The early life of the subject of this sketch was divided between hard labor on his father's farm in the town of Underhill, Chittenden County, Vt., and the common schools, supplemented by studies at an academic institution. Arrived at the age of nineteen years, the young man entered a store as clerk, in Middlebury, Vt. Here he rapidly acquired those correct business principles and laid the foundation of the thorough mercantile education that served him so well in later years, in the upbuilding of a great establishment.

Mr. Birge first began business for himself in a dry goods and general store in Middlebury, Vt., in the year 1829. In August of the year 1834, he sold his interest in this store to his partner and came directly to the city of Buffalo, where he has ever since resided. In October of that year he began his business career of fifty years in this city, during which period he has by persistent energy and active enterprise, built up a wall paper manufactory that is second to none in the country, the sale of the product of which forms one of the leading important mercantile interests of the city.

Mr. Birg  has never sought nor held public office of any kind. His life has been eminently a practical one. Of a naturally retiring disposition, he has felt little ambition to appear before the world in any public capacity. His business reputation is one of which any one might well feel proud; his integrity and fairness have never been questioned; his judgment and foresight, as shown in the development of his extensive establishments, are remarkable, giving him a foremost position among the leading business men of the city.

Mr. Birge has been for many years a member of the First Presbyterian Church, where he commands the respect of the entire society; he is now an Elder in the church.

On the 21st of October, 1836, Mr. Birge was married to Elizabeth Ann Kingsley, daughter of Rev. Phineas Kingsley and wife, of Sheldon, Vt. Four children have been born to them:— Julia E. Birge, Mary O. Birge, George K. Birge and Henry M. Birge. The sons are both married, live in Buffalo and are engaged with their father in the manufacture and sale of wall papers. The daughters reside at home with their parents.

Although Mr. Birge has not occupied a station in life that has brought him very prominently before the public gaze, he has the satisfaction of knowing that he has acquired a reputation for integrity, enterprise, industry and general worth as a man and a citizen of Buffalo, that cannot be questioned.

**S**A MUEL NELSON BRAYTON.—The ancestors of the subject of this sketch were New England people who were descended from three brothers who came from England about the time of the arrival of the Pilgrims. These immigrants, like the majority of those who left the mother country in that early period, were tillers of the soil, and many of their descendants have followed the same honorable occupation. They settled in the Eastern States and from there the family has spread over the entire country. Among the descendants of the three early immigrants was Moses Brayton, who was born and reared upon a farm in Queensbury, Warren County, N. Y. He was the father of Samuel Nelson Brayton, of whom it is our purpose to write, and who was born at the parental homestead on the 11th of January, 1839.

The boyhood home life of the average American farmer's boy is much the same, whatever the surrounding circumstances; it is usually made up of attendance at district schools in winters (sometimes portions of the summers,) varied with such farm work as he is capable of doing. This was the experience of the son of Moses Brayton until he was fourteen years old, when he was fortunate







enough to be able to enter the High School at Lawrence, Mass., where he obtained a thorough classical education. Leaving this institution, Mr. Brayton proceeded to carry out his already formed resolution to enter the medical profession. To this end he entered the office of the late Dr. Walter Burnham, of Lowell, Mass., as a student. His studies were supplemented by attendance upon a regular course of lectures in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in the medical department of Columbia College, New York, where he graduated with honor in 1861. While attending lectures, Dr. Brayton was employed as physician and surgeon in a hospital on Sixty-fifth street, New York, where opportunity was given him to put into practice the knowledge of his profession gained in office and college. In 1861 Dr. Brayton, appreciating the value and importance of the medical and surgical experience to be gained in the army and navy, entered the United States service as an assistant surgeon and was assigned to duty in the Boston Navy Yard. He was transferred thence to the United States frigate, *Sabine*, and subsequently to the ironclad *Montauk*, which became so conspicuous in the active operations of the navy for the suppression of the Rebellion. The vessel was in some of the severest engagements of the war, among which was the destruction of the *Nashville*, on the Ogeechee river, one of the most formidable of the rebel gunboats. Dr. Brayton was on board of the *Montauk* during that engagement; he was also on duty during the eight months naval siege of Forts Moultrie and Sumter, off Charleston Harbor.

At this time Dr. Brayton's impaired health, incident upon a long period of active and unremitting service in the Southern climate, prompted him to a short period of rest. After three months' retirement from duty, he was detailed for service on the Pacific, on board the frigates, *St. Mary's* and *Cygne* where he remained two years. At the close of this period of duty, and when plans were about consummated for joining a squadron on a cruise in the Mediterranean and other foreign waters, an attractive business opportunity was offered Dr. Brayton in New York city, and he resigned his position in the navy to accept it. He remained in New York one year, engaged in the drug and medicine business in connection with his professional practice, and then sold his business there and established himself at Honeoye Falls, Monroe county, N. Y. Here he was in active practice for ten years. At the end of this period Dr. Brayton felt that his varied experience and practice were worthy of a broader field; his ambition in this direction he gratified by a removal to the city of Buffalo in 1877, where he formed a partnership with Dr. Hubbard Foster; this was continued for one year, when Dr. Brayton succeeded to the business and has since practiced alone and with the most gratifying success.

Previous to his removal to Honeoye Falls, Dr. Brayton adhered to the Allopathic school of practice in which he was educated; but when he left New York he determined to adopt the Homeopathic tenets. He has not, however, confined himself strictly to the newer school of practice, but freely uses the remedies and follows the principles in medical practice that his studies and experience have taught him are best. He entertains no extreme views that might prevent him from treating every individual case according to what, in his opinion, seem to be its needs.

Dr. Brayton soon advanced to an honorable and successful position in the profession in Buffalo; his connection with Dr. Foster gave him prominence, as well as led to important professional engagements. The large practice enjoyed by his former partner has not only been held by Dr. Brayton, but has been also greatly increased. Dr. Brayton was one of the incorporators of the Buffalo College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1879, and has been a member of the Faculty since the establishment of the institution, as Professor of "Theory and Practice of Medicine." In 1881 Dr. Brayton was promoted to the rank of Dean of the College, which position he still occupies.

In addition to the duties incumbent upon his college office, Dr. Brayton has editorial charge of the *Physicians' and Surgeons' Investigator*, a monthly journal of medicine and surgery; which is the organ of the homeopaths of this vicinity. The journal is now in its fourth volume and its pages show that its editor is as successful in that sphere as in the other branches of labor to which he has been called.

Dr. Brayton was married to Miss Frances Hyslop, of Honeoye Falls, in 1868. Personally, Dr. Brayton is a man of engaging manner, imposing presence and magnetic temperament, which favorably impress those with whom he comes in contact; he possesses a robust and vigorous physique and a countenance that shows marked traits of character. He is untiring and unselfish in his profession, which he loves for its own sake, and in which he has already attained a most enviable position.

**A**LLEXANDER BRUSH.—Alexander Brush was born in a small hamlet called Brushland, in the town of Bovina, Delaware County, N. Y., on the 8th of February, 1824. He was the third son and fifth child of a family of ten children belonging to Jacob Brush and his wife, whose name before her marriage was Phœbe Cushing; she was from Dutchess County, N. Y. The Brush family are of Scottish ancestry, and Alexander Brush, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, emigrated from New England and settled in Delaware county, where he became a well-to-do farmer, erected a grist-mill, saw-mill and became a prominent man in his vicinity. The settlement that grew up around him was called "Brushland" in his honor. He had three sons, Joel, Jacob and Alexander, the second of whom was the father of the present Alexander Brush, of whom we are writing. Jacob Brush removed from Brushland to Lebanon, Columbia County, N. Y., in 1827, where he remained several years, and again removed, to settle in Savannah, Wayne County, N. Y., purchasing there six hundred acres of unimproved land. At the time of this last removal the subject of this sketch was eleven years old. His boyhood was passed in a manner not essentially different from that of most farmers' boys of that period; he worked hard at home on the farm about nine months of each year, attending a district school the other three months. Such was the life that disciplined many of the youth of the early years of this century, who afterward profited by it in some of the walks of life. Soon after the family were settled in Wayne county, Jacob Brush died, leaving his widow with ten minor children to care for, and a farm of six hundred acres but partly paid for. It was not a very encouraging outlook for the family; but the mother was possessed of the qualities necessary to carry the family successfully through their time of trial. She undertook the management of the farm, placed her sons out to work when they were not needed at home, their earnings helping to accomplish the release from debt.

The purchase of the farm of six hundred acres was found to be too heavy a burden for the family, after the death of its head, and accordingly it was sold and a smaller one bought in the adjoining town of Gaylord, where the family remained until the autumn of 1843, when they removed to Buffalo. In 1844, when Mr. Brush was twenty years old, he established himself in the brick-making business in Buffalo. This he has carried on ever since, in connection with his brothers, increasing it largely and extending it from the primitive manner of manufacture at that time to the use of all the later improved appliances. Alexander and William C. Brush have been connected in this business for a period of nearly forty years, and are now among the most extensive brick-makers in Western New York, manufacturing now from 18,000,000 to 20,000,000 per year.

Notwithstanding Mr. Brush has been so constantly identified with business pursuits, he has frequently been called by his fellow citizens to the discharge of official duties. He has never sought office and has only yielded to the persuasions of others when he has consented to accept an office. Mr. Brush is excessively modest and retiring, often distrusting his own ability in his reluctance to even appear as intrusive. His judgment of men and things, and his practical knowledge of business and affairs generally, are superior, and in this may be found the key to his success, not only officially but in business concerns.

Mr. Brush's ancestors for generations back were Democrats of the real old Jackson stripe. No other sort could live in Delaware county fifty years ago, and the breed has not changed much since, for that county has a way of rolling up Democratic majorities that astonishes rural counties of the State. But Alexander, upon coming to his majority, identified himself with the old Whig party, doing his first effective work, although too young by six months to vote in the memorable campaign of 1844, when Henry Clay ran as the Whig Champion and candidate for President for the last time. Upon the formation of the Republican party Mr. Brush became one of its warmest supporters and active workers. He was elected to the office of Alderman from the Third ward, as a Republican, in 1860, at the same time that Lincoln was first chosen President. He was re-elected in 1863 and again in 1865, serving three full terms of two years each, and rendering faithful and efficient service as a member of the Common Council.

Without any solicitation on his part his name was presented to the convention in 1867 for the office of Street Commissioner. He was nominated and elected. As an evidence of his popularity, it may be said that Mr. Brush and Joseph Ball, who was elected Overseer of the Poor, were the only Republicans elected on the ticket that Democratic year.







Before the expiration of his term as Street Commissioner, Mr. Brush was nominated for Mayor by the Republican Convention of 1869. To his knowledge his name had not been mentioned in connection with the office before the meeting of the convention, but he was nominated with great unanimity and upon hearing of the result, Mr. Brush determined to go before the convention and decline the nomination. He was met on his way thither by some friends, however, who persuaded him to wait and decline to the city committee, to avoid embarrassing the convention. The delay gave time for other persuasions, and he finally, with great reluctance, consented to run. His opponent was Mr. Thomas Clark, a man of great wealth and wide popularity, and notwithstanding it was a year of Democratic victory, six of the ten city officers being chosen from that party, Mr. Brush was elected by a handsome majority, although Mr. Clark was under the impression until nearly daylight of the day after election that he had been successful.

In 1871 the local Democratic leaders procured the passage of a new charter for Buffalo, dividing the city into twenty-six wards and providing for charter elections in the spring instead of on the same day as the State elections. The persons then in office were continued until the spring of 1872. Some of the provisions of this charter were so distasteful to the people that there was a popular demand for its speedy repeal—so much so that the question was made an issue at the election for State officers and members of the Legislature in the fall of 1871. Upon the assembling of the Legislature, among the first bills introduced was one to repeal the new charter and re-enact the old one substantially, providing for a special election to be held in February to choose city officers for the ensuing two years. At this election Mr. Brush was re-nominated for the office of Mayor, by acclamation, and elected by a sweeping majority, carrying with him every candidate on his ticket, a thing that had not occurred before in many years.

At the expiration of his second term, Mr. Brush preemptorily declined to be a candidate for re-election, and retired, as he supposed, although then in the prime of life, to the care and management of his private business. But political parties, like individuals, have exigencies, and one of these occurred to the Republican party in 1879, six years after Mr. Brush had retired from official life. The exigency was a suitable head to the municipal ticket. The fitness and availability of a score of persons was discussed, but none seemed to fill the bill like Alexander Brush. And so when the convention was held he was again nominated for the high office, though greatly against his wishes. He begged his friends to release him from the candidacy, but the fear of defeat with any other nominee, prevented them from yielding to his solicitations.

His administration of the office has not been noted for any aggressive or radical efforts at reform, yet it was always characterized by that conservatism which is generally in the interest of the people. He managed public affairs as he did his private concerns, upon business principles. There was no effort at public display or to seek popular approval, but his aim appeared always to be to accomplish the greatest good for the greatest number.

Mr. Brush evinced a skill in administration which stands almost without a parallel in Buffalo, for his popularity with the masses never suffered from any official act of his as Mayor. Few men have passed through such an official ordeal with cleaner skirts. Fourteen of the twenty-one years since the Republican party came into power he has been in office—six as Alderman, two as Street Commissioner and six as Mayor, and no suspicion of wrong-doing on his part was ever entertained by any one. This is a gratifying tribute in these days of official malfeasance and derelictions in the public service.

In April, 1863, Mr. Brush was married to Lorinda Bucklin, of Titusville, Pa. The honeymoon had scarcely passed when his home was turned into a house of mourning. The young wife died in less than a year after marriage. In 1866 Mr. Brush was married to Mrs. Sarah A. Leonard *nee* Warner, daughter of D. S. Warner, of South Wales in this county. He never has been blessed with children.

Mr. Brush was brought up in the Methodist faith, although he has never been a communicant of any church. His ancestors were Methodists as far back as he has any recollection or knowledge.

Mr. Brush is literally a self-made man, for all his attainments have depended upon his own exertions. The death of his father when he was a young lad and the subsequent care of the family by a widowed mother, left the children to their own resources, and they became contributors to the needs of the family rather than beneficiaries from its resources. His educational opportunities were limited. A few weeks in the winter at a country school-house two miles away, was all that was afforded in his younger days. His education was completed by one term in No. 5 in this city, a luxury which

he appreciated and regarded as the best part of his school life. But his good sense and practical knowledge have served him much better than a classical education would many persons.

**BRYANT BURWELL** was born in Russia, Herkimer county, N. Y., August 26, 1796. After completing the ordinary academic studies of that period, he entered the office of Professor Wiloughby, of Newport, Herkimer county, N. Y., as a student of medicine. His studies were further pursued at the Fairfield Medical College in 1822-'23, and in Philadelphia in 1826-'27. In 1824 he formed a partnership in Buffalo with Dr. Cyrenius Chapin, where he continued to practice his profession until his death.

Dr. Burwell attained the foremost rank as a physician, and none felt more strongly than he the *esprit de corps* of the profession. He was prominent in the County, State and National Medical Societies and Associations. He was ever active in measures to advance the science and promote the honor and interests of his profession.

He was a man of warm sympathies, and his benevolent nature made him the special friend of the poor and needy, who ever commanded his gratuitous services. Endowed with an eminently social nature, his home was the centre of a genial hospitality. He was twice married. On the 28th day of September, 1817, he married Anna Clark, of Newport, N. Y. The children of that marriage were Dr. George N. Burwell, Mrs. Esther A. Glenny and Mrs. Anna C. Rathbone. Mrs. Burwell died on the 14th day of September, 1818. On the 26th day of February, 1845, he married Mrs. Clary, widow of Joseph Clary, Esq., who was one of the pioneers of Buffalo and an eminent lawyer and citizen.

Dr. Burwell died on the 8th of September, 1861.

**JOHN WHIPPLE CLARK** was born on the 30th of June, 1799, in the village of Newport, Herkimer county, N. Y. His father, Stephen Clark, and his mother, Esther Whipple, were originally from Rhode Island.

Dr. Clark became a resident of the village of "Buffaloe" as early as February, 1823. He drove alone in his cutter from his home in Newport, reaching Buffalo after many days of constant driving, but without accident or noticeable detention. Just before sunset on one of the last days of February he crossed the hill between what are now North and Allen streets, which overlooked the then small, quiet village lying on the border of the lake.

He drove slowly down the road through the village to the corner of Main street and the "Terrace." This was then a precipitous bluff, on the brow of which, to the left, stood Landon's Tavern, now the Mansion House.

Here he stopped for a long look at the lake, the Canada shore beyond, and of "the flats," lying between the Terrace and the Big Buffalo creek. Then turning around he drove back up the road in search of a good place to stop for the night.

On coming down he had noticed a very comfortable looking country tavern, with its barn in the rear, and in the barn-yard a large stack of hay. The place struck him then as a comfortable one "for man and beast," and to it he now drove to seek lodgings for the night.

He found the proprietor to be "Deacon Goodell," of honest fame, who, besides his "tavern," owned the nice farm in the rear of it. The house, or "tavern," was on the spot now occupied by the residence of Hon. Elbridge G. Spaulding. Dr. Clark has been heard often to speak of the comfortable kitchen, and the generous supper gotten for him that night by Mrs. Goodell.

Dr. Clark had gone through the regular curriculum of the study of medicine, and had graduated in 1822 at the medical school,—then famous throughout New York,—situated in the town of Fairfield, and but six or seven miles from his father's home.

He came to Buffalo in the faith that it was some day to be a place of importance. It had already become a certainty that the Erie Canal,—"Clinton's Ditch,"—would be eventually finished through to Buffalo, and the attention of enterprising young men throughout the State was being directed to this then frontier town. He came to settle in the practice of his profession and he was not long in making arrangements for a co-partnership with Dr. Cyrenius Chapin, then a leading physician of the village, and, indeed, of the entire country about it, including that part of Canada bordering on the Niagara river.

Settled a few miles to the east of the village was the tribe of Seneca Indians. The Indians were great friends of Dr. Chapin and soon became friends also of Dr. Clark. His professional experience with them was very interesting, as he knew personally all their chiefs and great men,—



*J. W. Clark*





as Red Jacket, Young King, Corn Planter, Farmer's Brother, Daniel Two Guns, etc. Once, when on a professional visit to the family of Red Jacket, his squaw (wife) thought the doctor was not sufficiently protected from the cold and a light rain which at the time was falling. She got out her best blanket and insisted that he should wear it home. She fastened it closely over his shoulders and around him, and as it fell in graceful folds over his person (he being on horseback,) it completely protected him during his slow and tedious return, by trail, along the numerous windings of the Big Buffalo creek. Dr. Clark could have lived a lifetime a neighbor to these wild sons of the forest without once having a misunderstanding, much less a quarrel with them; such was his thoughtfulness and forbearance for them, and his unvarying kindness towards them.

But before his first year in Buffalo was past, with the same foresight that originally induced him to seek his fortunes in Buffalo, he relinquished the practice of his profession for the quicker, larger results of a business life. He then turned all his attention and his efforts to the development of the interests of the already rapidly growing village.

The next fifteen years of his life were very busy ones, for in addition to his large private business, he undertook the direction of public affairs. In 1830 he was chosen one of the trustees of the village, which office he held also in 1831 and 1832—previous to its becoming a city. In 1835 he was elected one of the Aldermen from the First ward of those days.

He had in the meantime acquired very large landed interests in the southeastern part of the city, and in the organization of this territory, then mostly farming lands, he was especially prominent; he did most of the planning, and laying out and the naming of the streets and canals, and the names he gave are without exception those in use at this day.

These were bright, happy days for the citizens of Buffalo. Emigration set in largely to the village, as well as through it to the "Western Reserve" of Ohio and to the wilds of Michigan. Some venturesome people went as far west as the States of Indiana and Illinois; and Chicago was then just beginning to be spoken of as a "growing place."

Entire communities, cities and States shared in the general but fictitious prosperity of the time. Buffalo, as a great center of commerce and trade, at the junction of the Grand Erie Canal and the Lakes, became the seat of a great speculation, and affairs for awhile went on swimmingly. Buffalonians all became rich on paper and in "corner lots." It used to be jokingly said that a man not worth \$50,000 was a candidate for the poor-house.

Dr. Clark shared in the general prosperity, and was considered one of the wealthiest men in Buffalo. But a great reverse came upon the city in 1836, '37 and '38, utterly prostrating, financially, nearly the entire population of the city. Dr. Clark fell with the rest.

The next few years of his life were devoted to the saving if possible of something from the wreck of his estate, and by the generous assistance of a friend in the East he was enabled to save a moderate competency, on which he afterwards lived a very quiet and retired life. He was in great part forced to this by a naturally feeble constitution, rendered more feeble by his worry and struggle with his disappointments. He was of a slender make and of a highly sensitive and nervous character. A large generosity marked all his dealings with his family and friends, and his thoughtful devotion to them was something exceptional. His ideas were definite, his conclusions quickly reached, his hold upon them most tenacious, and his expressions of opinion were always most clear, positive and emphatic.

In spite of the great depression here after 1836, his faith in the destiny of Buffalo was supreme and he never wavered in that belief. To be sure, "I seem to have anticipated largely," he would say in his latter days, "but it will come," and *it has come*, if not within his life-time, certainly within the eleven years since his death. Even his "South Channel" scheme, abandoned by his successors, will one day become an accomplished fact.

Dr. Clark was very fond of science and of books. He took a lead in the early days of Buffalo, in founding and liberally assisting schools and societies of learning. Miss Dennison—afterwards Mrs. Joseph Dart—opened a school for girls which enlisted his active interest and support.

He was foremost in the village times in getting up courses of scientific lectures. He was one of the most active supporters of the old "Buffalo Lyceum," the immediate predecessor of the "Young Men's Association." Of the first contributors to this latter enterprise, he was one of the largest. To all these objects his time and personal efforts were most liberally given, and his purse most freely opened. He was also an active Mason, and the lodge of that day, on its disbanding in 1832, was largely his debtor.

His habit was to head the subscriptions for objects desired and then himself personally to circulate them. All this was in his younger and more prosperous days. Later in life he was limited in his activities by his great delicacy of constitution. This delicacy increased upon him with his years, and finally required of him, to make "life worth living," the most constant care in the regulation of his habits and a total avoidance of the cares and anxieties of business.

Dr. Clark never married, but found always a comfortable home with a married sister as long as she lived, and afterwards with a niece and her husband, where he was always made most welcome and in his invalid age cared for with all the devotedness of a daughter and son. Dr. Clark was ever most liberal and considerate toward the beliefs and religious convictions of others. He died November 25, 1872, in the communion of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

**THOMAS CLARK.**—About fifty years ago Mr. James Clark came from England to America, to profit by the better opportunities afforded here in business than could be had in his native land. He had a wife and several young children to provide for—three of the latter being the offspring of his wife by a former husband—and he hoped to find in the new world the means to give them all a start in life. Leaving his family in their native place until he could provide them a home on this side of the Atlantic, he made the then somewhat tedious voyage in a sailing vessel. He had been bred to the trade of a miller, and he had no trouble in finding employment of this character as soon as he reached America. In due time his earnings and savings justified him in writing for his family to join him. Funds were sent to bear the expense of the trip, and the voyage was begun and prosecuted with all the bright anticipations that might be expected in the hope of a speedy reunion of a long separated, loving family. But little did the wife and children apprehend the sorrowful disappointment that awaited them. Little did they apprehend that the cherished reunion would never occur. Mr. Clark was accidentally killed before the arrival of his family. He was employed in a mill at Troy, N. Y., and in some way was drawn into a bin of grain and smothered before he could be rescued.

The family were in straightened circumstances, and were left to depend upon their own resources. After a brief stay in the eastern part of the State, they came to Western New York, and settled upon a farm in Perry, Wyoming county. By hard work and rigid economy they were enabled to gain the means of a subsistence from the little farm. The children were kept in school when their services were not needed for farm work or domestic duties. One of the last injunctions of the father before parting with his family was whatever might befall him to have the children educated. In the fulfillment of this trust the widow made many sacrifices to give her offspring an opportunity to attend school.

Thomas Clark was one of the sons of this widowed mother, and he was eleven years old when the family came to this country. He was born at Hull, England, on the 25th of September, 1821, and came to America in 1832. He remained on the Perry farm until he was nineteen years old, or wrought for other farmers in the neighborhood for the stinted wages that were paid farm hands in those primitive days. His schooling was limited to portions of each year in district schools, but he made the most of his opportunities.

At the age of nineteen Mr. Clark started out for himself, first going to Oswego, where he found employment for a short time, and then he went to Geneva and made an engagement with the forwarding and commission house of Hastings & Field, at thirteen dollars per month. His attention to business and faithful performance of his duties soon gained him the confidence of his employers, and he was promoted in position with an increase of salary. In due time he became the confidential man of the establishment, and was entrusted with much of the management of its business. In this capacity he frequently visited Buffalo, and thereby formed a favorable opinion of this city as a promising business point.

After a connection with the house of Hastings & Field of about five years, Mr. Clark came to Buffalo in the autumn of 1847, and first engaged in the distilling business, in connection with Horace Williams, in a small building on Ohio street. The business was carried on under the firm name of Clark & Williams. Mr. Williams was succeeded by B. F. Brown, and the firm was then Clark & Brown. The new concern established a distillery on Elk street near Chicago street, and enlarged their business, but the establishment was soon devoured by fire. In 1854 the Seneca street distillery, that is still in operation, was established. Upon the death of Mr. Brown, Mr. Clark continued the business in his own name. About the same time the premises at the corner of Washington and



Yours Truly  
Thomas Clark





Perry streets were purchased and fitted up as a general office for the growing business of the concern as well as a rectifying establishment for the treatment of the products of the distillery. A very large and profitable business was done by the house, and he became one of the largest distillers in the country. He also established a reputation for the manufacture of a superior quality of goods.

In 1868 a company was formed under the name of the "Niagara Elevating Company," for the erection of an extensive elevator, in which Mr. Clark was one of the principal stockholders. The company built the Niagara elevator at a cost, including the site, of about \$750,000, and after its completion Mr. Clark purchased the interest of his associates and became the sole owner of the property. In 1879 Mr. Clark commenced the construction of a second elevator adjoining the Niagara, and completed it in 1881. To distinguish the structures they are designated Niagara Elevators "A" and "B." Their capacity is about 8,000,000 and 14,000,000 bushels each respectively. Their estimated value, including a malt house with an annual malting capacity of 125,000 bushels that occupies a portion of the elevator site, is \$1,500,000.

Mr. Clark also became the owner of one-third of the Brown elevator, with a collateral interest of another third. He was an extensive operator in grain, having the means to take advantage of the fluctuations in the markets, thereby enabling him to realize gratifying profits. His success in business has been largely due to the possession of superior judgment. He rarely made a mistake in his estimation of the character of men or in a business conclusion. This qualification enabled him to succeed where others would fail. He was not only attentive and industrious in his business pursuits, but he believed in a rigid economy as well. From the commencement of his business career, he was scrupulously faithful to all financial engagements. His credit he held to be more important than the accumulation of wealth.

One of the cardinal principles of his business methods was prompt payment of all obligations. His transactions were almost invariably for cash, and he thereby realized the advantages that are incident thereto. In all of his vast business, involving many millions, he never has had a "bill payable" entered upon his books, but of "bills receivable" there are plenty of entries. He disliked the credit system, and his ample means enabled him to practice what he believed in.

Mr. Clark was a man of marked character and of decided ability. He possessed a large brain, took a comprehensive view of things, and was well calculated to manage extensive enterprises. He was not content with the narrow limits of retail affairs, but his mind rather grasped after larger methods and more comprehensive operations. He was a thorough-going business man and was known of all men as straightforward and strictly honest in all his dealings.

Mr. Clark has done much to promote the growth and prosperity of Buffalo. He came to it when it was but a large village, and few persons have been more intimately identified with its material progress or taken a deeper interest in all that was calculated to promote its welfare. His charities have been liberal and numerous, but not ostentatiously bestowed. He did not seek notoriety through his benefactions, but he cherished the gratitude of deserving persons and worthy institutions who were the recipients of his generous contributions.

Broad-natured, warm-hearted, genial, courteous, obliging and kind, he had hosts of friends that were bound to him with hooks of steel and indissoluble cords of friendship. He was never blessed with children, and yet his domestic relations and fireside associations were most endearing, enriching one of the most elegant and attractive homes of Buffalo. He was extremely domestic in his tastes, and found more pleasure in the seclusion of his courtly mansion than at places of public resort. Mr. Clark married Naomi Macy, daughter of Mr. George Macy, of Geneva, on the 1st of September, 1851. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Dr. Bissell, who is now the Bishop of Vermont. Mrs. Clark is also a native of England, and came to this country with her parents when a mere child, in 1830.

Eight years after their marriage, in 1859, Mr. and Mrs. Clark made their first trip abroad. They spent six months visiting the scenes of their childhood and their relatives in England, and in sight-seeing on the continent. They afterwards made five other journeys to Europe. They spent the winter season of 1879 on the Pacific coast.

Very few men with such a life beginning as Mr. Clark had, have been so successful as he has in accumulating wealth. Commencing his business career at a salary of ten dollars per month, he lived to see his possessions reach upwards of two millions, the result of well-directed management.

Mr. Clark was never much of a politician. He was nominally a Democrat, but not a rigid partisan. He voted for Gen. Grant for President, and often supported Republicans for local offices.

He represented the Seventh Ward in the Common Council in 1864-'65, and was the Democratic candidate for Mayor in 1869, but he shared the fate of the rest of the ticket in a defeat, the result of an opposing party majority.

Mr. Clark was a strong union man during the war, and contributed liberally towards the maintenance of the quota of Erie county in the army of the nation. He was an Episcopalian and a member and attendant at Trinity Church, and a life member of the Young Men's Association. He died on the 29th of September, 1882, four days after completing his sixty-first year.

GEORGE COIT has been called "one of the eminent fathers and founders of Buffalo." That he was entitled to that distinction no one who is familiar with the history of the city will question. He was a continuous resident of the place from June, 1811, until the day of his death, May 9, 1865,—more than a half century. He saw the pioneer hamlet rise into an active and enterprising village, only to be swept from the earth by the torches of an enemy, and he again witnessed its rebuilding and growth into a great city, step by step, and constantly identified himself in many ways and at all times with its advancement and prosperity.

The Coit family are an ancient and honorable stock, being descended from John Coit, who came to America from Glamorganshire (probably) between 1630 and 1638. There are records in existence of Coite Castle, in Wales, dating back to 1091, which is supposed to have been held by ancestors of John Coit. The latter had a grant of land in Salem, Mass., in 1638. In 1644 he removed to Gloucester, where he held the office of Selectman. He was the great-great-great-great-grandfather of George Coit. The next in direct descent was Joseph Coit, who went from Gloucester to New London in about 1651, where he was a ship-builder all the remainder of his life. Rev. Joseph Coit was the second son of the ship-builder, and great-great-grandfather of George Coit. He was born at New London April 4, 1673, graduated at Harvard and was admitted to a Master's degree at the first Commencement of Yale College. Colonel Samuel Coit, son of Rev. Joseph, was born at Plainfield, Conn., in 1708. He attained the military rank of Colonel and held various civil offices. One of his sons, William Coit, was a graduate of Yale and became prominent as a naval commander in the Revolution. Another of his sons, John Coit, built the first vessel known as a "smack," (having a well for the carrying of fish alive), on the Atlantic coast. A third son was Benjamin Coit, who was the father of Benjamin, Jr., the latter being the father of the subject of this sketch. Benjamin, Jr., was born December 21, 1759, in Preston, Conn., where he was a ship-master and afterward a merchant. He also commanded vessels in the Revolutionary war. He died at Norwich, December 28, 1841, aged eighty-three. This brief record brings us to the birth of George Coit, which occurred on the 10th of June, 1790, in Norwich, Conn. There his boyhood and youth were spent in acquiring his education and learning the druggist's business.

In the further preparation of this biography, we extract as follows from a memorial sketch prepared by Mr. William Ketchum, who was long an intimate friend of Mr. Coit, and read before the Buffalo Historical Society on the 11th of July, 1865 :

"He (Mr. Coit) and the late Judge Townsend were clerks together in a drug store in Norwich, and came to reside here in 1811, and established themselves in the same business. They continued in it until 1818, when they sold out to Dr. John E. Marshall. During these first few years of their residence in this city (then a village) they established for themselves a high reputation for integrity and pecuniary responsibility. It may be mentioned as a fact almost without precedent, that during the greater part of their co-partnership of more than forty years, they owned and used everything in common. Even after they both had families this continued to be the case, each taking from the joint stock what was required for the daily expenses of their families, no account being made as against either individual partner. \* \* \* It is believed no difficulty, in fact or in feeling, was ever known to exist between them growing out of this circumstance. After the sale of their drug store, Townsend & Coit engaged in the storage and forwarding business. Their first warehouse was at the foot of Commercial street, at the mouth of the Little Buffalo creek, where they built a dock and a frame building, which was used many years. After the Erie canal was extended to this city, Messrs. Sheldon Thompson & Co. removed their business from Black Rock to Buffalo, which led to a union between the two firms of Townsend & Coit and S. Thompson & Co. The firm engaged extensively in the transportation and forwarding business, forming connections with all the principal points both east and west, doing business for many years under the name of the "Troy & Erie Line," enjoying a reputation attained by few if any other companies among the numerous associations engaged in the business at that or any subsequent period.

"Mr. Coit married a sister of his partner, Miss Hannah Townsend, on the 4th of April, 1815, by whom eight children were born to him, of whom a record is given hereafter. There are few men who are permitted to enjoy so much comfort in their children as did Mr. Coit. They had remained under the paternal roof until they were all married and settled in the world, with the exception of John,

who was absent a few years pursuing his theological studies in Europe. The family were remarkably affectionate, extremely attached to each other, and to their father and to their father's house. Their mother, who was entirely devoted to her children while she lived, died while they were all young. But they never forgot her instructions or the influence of her example. Mr. Coit was twice married, after the loss of his first wife; to Mary Smith Atterbury, July 28, 1837, and to Emeline P. Martin, in 1841; both of which connections seem to have been eminently judicious and happy.

"Although Mr. Coit had lived to see Buffalo grow up from an insignificant village to become a large and populous city, his own chosen dwelling being, as it were, in the very heart of business, he preferred to remain in his old home, and continued to occupy his plain, unpretending residence on the corner of Pearl and Swan streets, where he had first pitched his tent more than fifty years ago.

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"This record of our departed friend would be incomplete without some notice of his peculiarities of character. Mr. Coit did not attempt great things. He seemed perfectly satisfied in the position where Providence had placed him, and his ambition was to discharge the duties of that position with fidelity and maintain with consistency the character he had assumed of an upright, conscientious business man, and all who knew him will say that in this he was eminently successful. There was no period of his business career when the firm of which he was a prominent member did not stand "A No. 1" in the public estimation, not only for pecuniary responsibility, but for punctuality, honor and integrity. The name of Townsend & Coit, associated as it was with that of others of the highest business standing in almost every principal town from New York through the Erie Canal and the lakes to Chicago, was a guarantee that whatever was committed to their hands was safe and sure to receive the most vigilant care and prompt attention.

"In 1818, on the application of the citizens of Buffalo, the Legislature of the State authorized the survey of the mouth of Buffalo creek with a view to the construction of a harbor. The next year the Legislature authorized a loan of \$12,000 for the construction of the work. This loan was secured by the bond and mortgage of Charles Townsend, Samuel Wilkeson and George Coit. A pier was built, and in 1821 a channel was formed of sufficient depth to admit vessels of ordinary size into Buffalo creek, giving assurance of the success of what had been considered a doubtful experiment. When, however, the agent of the steamboat company came on from New York, in January, 1822, to build a new steamboat to take the place of the *Walk-in-the-Water*, which had been wrecked, he did not regard the harbor improvements sufficiently advanced or secure to ensure the boat a safe passage out of the creek if constructed upon its banks, and decided to build it at Black Rock. To induce the building of the boat in Buffalo, however, the citizens offered to indemnify the company against loss by agreeing to pay \$150 a day for every day the boat should be detained in Buffalo creek after the 1st of May, by reason of any obstruction of the channel. Charles Townsend, Samuel Wilkeson, George Coit, Ebenezer Johnson, Elijah D. Efner and Ebenezer Walden executed this bond. The boat was accordingly built on Buffalo creek, and when completed and ready to sail, in the spring of 1823, the *Superior* found an open, unobstructed channel into the lake and the bond was cancelled. This was a great day of rejoicing and triumph in Buffalo.

"As has already been observed, Mr. Coit did not seek public notoriety out of the legitimate sphere of his business, yet his political opinions were decided and freely expressed on all proper occasions. In these, as in all else, he was conservative in his views and principles. He held his religious views and principles in the same way, never obtruding them upon others, yet always exhibiting in his daily life an example which created a favorable impression upon all who came within the sphere of his influence. He professed no more than he practiced and he practiced what he professed. His charities were unostentatious—the natural impulses of a kind, sympathizing heart, ever open to the woes and wants of others, not practiced by any rule, but the promptings of a tender sympathy with suffering wherever found.

"Townsend & Coit were almost, if not the first, who came to settle in Buffalo who possessed capital. Most, if not all, who had hitherto settled here, had little else than strong hands and a resolute purpose. Townsend & Coit were reputed wealthy and their means and credit contributed to give a permanency to the business here which it had not hitherto enjoyed. The first vessel registered in the district of Buffalo creek was the sloop *Hannah*, which was built in part at least with their means. Captain Oliver Coit, who was a relative of Mr. George Coit, was master and part owner of the vessel. They continued to be interested in the commerce of the lakes from this time to the introduction of steamboats, and the firm to which they belonged were large owners, both in steam and sailing craft, up to the time of its dissolution in 1843 or '44, and perhaps it is due to the truth to say that the capital and credit of Townsend & Coit contributed as much or more than that of any individual at that early day to develop the resources of the country and carry forward the commerce of our internal waters. The same may be said with equal truth of the improvements of our city. They, at an early day, became the owners of a large amount of real estate,\* much of which they improved. The stores they built on Main street, and their warehouses on the dock were the best of their class at the time they were built, and it is no disparagement to others to say that during the whole period of their active business, from 1811 to 1844, theirs was the leading house in the city."

Following is a record of Mr. Coit's children:—Sarah Frances, born November 11, 1816; Charles T., born February 14, 1819; George, born March 22, 1821; John Townsend, born May 3, 1824;

\*Real estate has changed hands quite recently for the first time, that was obtained by Mr. Coit from the Holland Land Company.



Frances E., born June 4, 1826; Nathaniel T., born October 26, 1829; Eliza Ripley, born June 23, 1832; William Benjamin, born March 2, 1835. Of these only three are now living, Mrs. S. F. Winslow, Mrs. E. R. Harvey and Frank E. Coit, of Buffalo.

As incidental to the life of Mr. Coit, in Buffalo, the following from an obituary printed in the Buffalo *Courier* is historically interesting:—

“The two young men procured a stock of drugs in New York, and by way of the Hudson, the Mohawk, Lake Ontario and the Niagara river, arrived at Lewiston, and thence brought them by wagons to this place. The pioneer merchants reached the little trading post or hamlet, of Buffalo, on the 4th of June, 1811.

“It was virgin soil upon which the firm of Townsend & Coit planted their little mercantile enterprise, but they went forward with stout hearts to the task of clearing the path of commerce. In the fall of 1811 they had started a primitive store on Main street, near the site of the old Eagle Hotel, and Indians and whites, hunters and backwoods farmers, were their customers. The following spring they bought the property running from Main to Pearl, on Swan street, whereon the Townsend Hall is built as well as the house where Mr. Coit afterwards lived and died. Where the Hall now stands they built their store and did business, till the fateful 30th of December, 1813. In the night preceding that day of trial, Mr. Coit loaded a wagon with a part of his goods and drove his partner, who was a cripple, away from the lines of the incendiary enemy, to Williamsville.

“Returning to the scene of desolation, the partners procured a small wooden building, located on what is now Erie street, which, from its very insignificance, had survived the conflagration. This they fitted up and opened.

“Messrs. Townsend & Coit continued in the drug business till about the year 1820. At that date Buffalo began to assert itself as an emporium of trade between the East and West, several wagon lines having been established between Albany and here, by which goods were brought and conveyed up the lake. The wagons usually took a return cargo of pearl ashes and other products of this region. Mr. Coit and his partner, taking advantage of this opening commerce, established themselves on the wharf as produce and forwarding merchants. Upon the completion of the Erie canal, their business expanded into large and prosperous proportions.”

Mr. Coit was a prominent member of the Buffalo Historical Society, of the Buffalo Board of Trade, of the Water Works Company, and other organizations, all of which testified to their appreciation of his character, in appropriate resolutions.

Little more need be said of the life of George Coit. His death was made the subject of an eloquent discourse, by Rev. Walter Clarke, D. D., of the First Presbyterian Church, of which Mr. Coit was a devoted member for over forty years. In that discourse Mr. Clark said of the deceased:

“I hear it said on every side, as I converse with those who have known him best, that during the fifty years and more through which his eminent business career has run, since the day that he and his partner opened their little drug store on Main street, not a stain has fallen upon his integrity nor a shadow obscured the fair face of his honor. I confess it was with a tremulous joy that I heard from his dying pillow the deliberate declaration that on a careful review of his past life he could not recall the instance in which he had intentionally injured, or knowingly defrauded a single fellow man. It is so much to say that, and say it truly, over a life that has covered a half century of years. But when I have the testimony of so many impartial observers who, without one discordant voice, confirm the verdict, I relinquish all hesitation and offer hearty thanksgiving to God that an honest man was carried to his grave when we bore that venerated dust to its burial.”

What higher tribute could possibly be paid to the memory of any man?

**ABNER CUTLER.**—No class of men, perhaps, accomplish more for the material advancement of communities, than successful manufacturers; men who are quick to see the advantages for business and manufacturing possessed by villages or cities where they are located, and who have the capacity to plan, grasp and control vast enterprises, with the energy and perseverance to push them to complete success. In the front rank of this class it is proper to place the subject of this sketch—a man who has devoted more than a half century to the development of the manufacture of furniture in the city of Buffalo.

Abner Cutler's ancestors were English, their later descendants being of the hardiest New England stock. Joseph Cutler was the father of Abner Cutler. He was born in Killingsly, Mass., in the year 1755, and was conspicuous in fighting for his country through the Revolutionary war. His wife was Dotha Judd, daughter of Elnathan Judd. To them eleven children were born. The Judd family of which Mrs. Cutler was a member, was of considerable importance, and traced its lineage back through a well-preserved record to honorable English ancestry. Thomas Judd came from England in 1633, and settled in Cambridge, Mass., afterwards removing to Hartford, Conn. His son William married a daughter of John Steele, of whom the late O. G. Steele was a descendant. The subsequent generations continued in the persons and order of Thomas Judd, William Judd and Elnathan Judd. Mrs. Cutler thus being a daughter of the fifth consecutive generation from the



paternal English stock. Dr. Elnathan Judd, Jr., was a prominent physician of Paris, Oneida county, N. Y., whose son, Gerritt Parmalee Judd, went to the Sandwich Islands as a missionary in 1827, and was afterwards appointed by the King of the Islands to the office of Minister of Finance, which he still holds.

After Joseph Cutler's marriage he removed to Paris, Oneida county, N. Y., where Abner Cutler was born on the 22d day of May, 1802. Joseph Cutler was a farmer, and his sons were brought up to that vocation from the time they were old enough to be of much service. But this kind of labor never suited Abner Cutler; the reason is a good one and the prime cause of his occupying the position that he has reached—he was a born mechanic. A jack-knife was in his hands a far more acceptable tool than a hoe or a rake. But the assortment of tools on his father's farm was extremely limited; so much so that on one occasion young Cutler was impelled to make an attempt to borrow some from the more complete stock belonging to a neighbor, during his temporary absence, not for any evil purpose, but for the gratification of his ever-present desire to learn and practice the use of mechanical tools. A brother was induced to assist in securing the coveted tools; he was to watch at the door of the out-building, while Abner selected and carried away the tools; but he was destined to disappointment, for when he opened the door to the tool house, lo, the proprietor stood before him. He had to content himself, for the time, with his own meagre resources. The few bits of board which the young mechanic was able to secure, were sawed and whittled into some semblance of usefulness; the crooked root of a sapling was bent and shaped into the runner of a handsled, and thus the boy sought to gratify the bent of his genius.

In the year 1806, the Cutler family removed to Sullivan, Madison county, where they settled upon another farm. By this time, or a little later, the elder Cutler began to realize the hopelessness of his endeavor to make a farmer of his son. Therefore, when the boy had reached the age of sixteen, he was apprenticed to the trade of cabinet-making with Silas Sikes, whose shop was in Clinton, Oneida county, N. Y. He served faithfully for three years, and left his employer, endowed with all the knowledge of the business to be obtained in a small country shop. The young cabinet-maker then went directly to New York city, where he readily found employment with Thomas Constantine; he remained there, extending his knowledge of the business until he had mastered it completely, until the terrible visitation of the yellow fever in 1822 prompted him to seek employment in the country. He accordingly went to Chittenango, Madison county, N. Y., where he worked until 1824, when he made up his mind that there was a more promising field for his ambitious labor farther west. Like everybody else in the East, young Cutler had often heard of the attractions of "the Genesee country," as all the western part of the State was then called, and he decided to learn of the magnificence for himself. He stopped a few days with relatives in Mendon, Monroe county, where he made arrangements with another young man named Stearns, by which they were to proceed farther westward and unite their energies in establishing a business. The young partners loaded two wagons with tools and household goods of Stearns, who was married, and set out towards Lake Erie. On the 6th of September, 1824, they reached Black Rock, where they immediately began the business of cabinet making. Mr. Cutler's ready energy and unhesitating action in business, is shown by the fact that the very next day after his arrival at Black Rock saw him on his way to Lancaster for a load of lumber, and within forty-eight hours after the establishment of the firm of Stearns & Cutler, they offered for sale a "fall-leaf table" of their own manufacture.

It was just five years after Stearns & Cutler located themselves at Black Rock, that Mr. Cutler became convinced of the future supremacy of Buffalo, and he was not slow to act upon his convictions and remove thither. He opened a shop on Main street, between South Division and Swan streets. This event occurred in September, 1829. A year earlier than this Mr. Cutler had made his first attempt to introduce power into his shop. In a building which had been furnished with water power for the purpose of flour-milling, he put rude examples of a circular saw, a jig saw and a turning lathe. From that time on Mr. Cutler has never hesitated to avail himself of every desirable improvement in woodworking machinery, for the advancement of his business. Early in the year 1829 he started the first boring machine ever used, and by it he came very near ending his career. The machine consisted simply of the introduction of a boring bit into the end of the mandrel of his buzz saw. While boring a plane handle on the machine he fell forward, and to save himself from being pierced through the body, he struck his head against the saw. If that saw had been moving at the speed given to those in his present works, Mr. Cutler's labors would have ended at that time; as it was he received a severe wound which partially destroyed one eye.

In his Buffalo shop of 1829, Mr. Cutler had no water power; but he was not inclined to depend solely on the slow processes of hand work. He accordingly rigged a large wheel seven feet in diameter, which was turned by a blind man. Following this primitive motive power, he introduced a sweep with a horse attached, which he used for some time. These rude appliances for expediting his work were then far in advance of his contemporaries. He finally purchased from the old Buffalo & Niagara Falls railroad company, a locomotive boiler and engine, and has ever since largely used steam power. Shaping machines, one of the first "Daniels" planers, saws of all kinds, and in fact all of the most improved wood-working machinery he has been quick to adopt, until now it is well known that his extensive works are better equipped in this respect than almost any other similar establishment in the country.

In the overwhelming financial panic of 1836 Mr. Cutler failed in business, but he never suffered his credit to be impaired in any respect whatever. In 1870 Mr. Cutler admitted his son to partnership with him, and the firm has since been A. Cutler & Son. Their business is now one of the largest in the country in this line, and their wareroom is the largest in the world.

As would naturally be expected, Mr. Cutler possesses a remarkable inventive faculty, and numerous patents have been granted him, some of which are of great value. One of the most important of these is the well known desk, with sliding, receding corrugated cover; upon this desk Mr. Cutler has obtained seven patents, covering all of its various ingenious features. The manufacture of the desk is now very large and it is sold in all parts of the world.

The Cutler Manufacturing Company was recently organized by A. Cutler & Son in connection with some of their employes, for the manufacture of furniture separately from the original firm. Abner Cutler is president of the company, which is largely interested in the manufacture of fine furniture.

Mr. Cutler was married on the 21st of July, 1828, to Miss Lydia Gray; they have had seven children, as follows:—Maria Cutler, who was married to Thomas Bassett, January 10, 1850; John D. Hart Cutler, born August 5, 1832, died January 21, 1856; Abner Cutler, born September 30, 1836, died November 6, 1836; Grace Cutler, who married Oliver W. Belden, September 28, 1858; Agnes Cutler, born March 31, 1840, died November 27, 1857; Fred. H. Cutler, born July 22, 1843; Katie Cutler, born March 5, 1848, died April 21, 1866.

In politics Mr. Cutler was a staunch Whig so long as the party lived, and then he naturally drifted into its successor, the Republican party. He reserves the right, however, to vote for the best man, whether belonging to his party or not. He has never held any public office, nor has he ever tried to get one.

In religion he is a Presbyterian, and is, and has been for many years a member of the Central Presbyterian Church.

**G**ARRETT C. DABOLL was born on the 13th of December, 1839, at Mount Morris, N. Y. He is descended on his father's side from the French Huguenots. His father was John L. Daboll, formerly from Groton, Conn., and his mother was Jane Peterson, of Nunda, N. Y. When Garrett C., was twelve years old, his parents removed from Mount Morris, to Rushford, Allegany county, N. Y., where he remained at home most of the time until he was twenty years of age. He was a thorough student and in the common schools and academies acquired a good academic education. At the age of sixteen he began teaching school, to which he devoted a portion of his time for several years. When Mr. Daboll was twenty years of age (in 1859) he went to Dansville, N. Y., and began the study of dentistry. He remained there in the study and practice of his profession about eight years, making special efforts during that period to broaden his knowledge and expand the limits of his professional possibilities.

In 1867, Dr. Daboll removed to Buffalo, where he at once occupied an eminent position in his profession as well as in social circles.

In April, 1862, Dr. Daboll was married to Miss Lucy C. Bristol, daughter of Porter B. Bristol, and Catherine Hoagland. One year after this marriage Mrs. Daboll died, (April, 1863), after giving birth to a son, Louis B. Daboll, who was born March 23, 1863. Dr. Daboll was again married in July, 1868, to Miss May C. Aldrich, daughter of Obed Aldrich and Meliniah Potter, by whom he has no children.

Dr. Daboll spent two years in Paris, beginning with the winter of 1878, in the practice of his profession, where he found a field so attractive and lucrative that he now has it in contemplation to







return there and take up his permanent residence. In the city of Buffalo he stands at the head of his profession, and his success has been commensurate with his thorough abilities.

Dr. Daboll is possessed of a social, cheerful disposition and temperament, coupled with a manner at once dignified and attractive, which together win him friends in whatever circle he moves. He is a musician of ability and has long been connected with the church choirs and musical societies of the city.

Dr. Daboll is a vestryman in the Church of the Ascension (Episcopal) and is president of the Board of Trustees of the Homeopathic Hospital.

**ROBERT DICK.**—The subject of this sketch was born January 12, 1814, in Bathgate, Linlithgowshire, or West Lothian, Scotland. He was the fourth son and ninth child of James Dick and Janet Brown, married in 1798, who, so trained their five sons and six daughters that every one of them became co-workers with God, and four of the sons Christian ministers. In 1821 the entire family sailed from Scotland and landed at Quebec, on their way to Lanark, Upper Canada, now Ontario. Lanark and vicinity was then a wilderness of stalwart trees, marred only by the "surveyor's blaze" indicating the front and rear lines of the twenty-four two-hundred acre lots which constituted each "concession." Guided by the surveyor's lines and corner-posts, each settler made a selection of his lot, which in the case of the Dick family was lot No. 13, on the tenth line of Lanark. The selection was made blindly enough, but, providentially, it proved better than the average. Here in his eighth year Robert Dick began the life of a backwoodsman; and in its work of chopping, logging, burning, potash-making, rail-splitting, fence-building, hoeing, reaping, mowing, at fourteen acknowledged no superior.

The necessity for labor at that period so pressed upon young and old that day-schooling was, early in life, out of his reach; but knowledge he would have, and therefore organized in the "Inglecorner" a night school of one, and lighting it up with the cheerful blaze of dry and resinous wood, he, in that grand school, wherein he was both scholar and teacher, ploughed through the Scotch "Gray's arithmetic," and then the American one of Adams, improved in writing, reading, English grammar, composition, and made a beginning in algebra and geometry. On Sabbaths he gathered theology, chiefly from the Bible, hindered some but helped more by the productions of the Westminster divines and their compeers. At eighteen his thirst for a college course became intense. To attain the pre-requisite Latin he began its study at Smith's Falls, under Neil Dunbar, continuing it, in connection with Greek, under Robert (now Rev. Dr.) Crawford, late of Deerfield, Mass., then a Junior in Williams College. The Professors of the College kindly permitted him, while yet a sub-freshman, to attend all their lectures in Philosophy and Chemistry, which to him was a rare feast.

At twenty-two he entered what is now Madison University as a freshman, in order to be with his brother William, two years his senior, who was then there preparing to enter. At twenty-three he, with his brother and seventeen other students, were suspended by the Faculty, of which Dr. Nathaniel Kendrick was president, because they refused to abandon an anti-slavery society which they had formed among themselves. The Faculty prevailed on fourteen of them to abandon the society; Culver, the noted abolition Baptist minister, withdrew his son Charles; another, Voorhees, went westward in disgust, leaving the two Dicks alone members of the society, the younger being the secretary. They prepared their lessons as usual and met with their classes, calmly waiting in expectation of being expelled by the Faculty. When longer thus waiting seemed folly, Dr. Kendrick was called upon and respectfully requested to inform the suspended brothers when further action would be taken by the Faculty in their case. The answer was—"No further action is intended." They then informed him that if their suspension was just their expulsion was imperative, and that he must know that in order to enter another college they must be honorably separated from that one. To this the same answer was given, followed after some further discussion with the assurance that the brothers might ask for letters of honorable dismissal and they would be granted, which was done. On these letters, after examination, they entered Hamilton College, then under presidency of Dr. Penney, William as a freshman and Robert as a sophomore, because of his advanced standing in mathematics, though he was deficient in the languages; so conscious was he of this defect that he voluntarily took the freshman year again, determined if possible to make progress in Latin and Greek as easy to him as attainments in philosophy and mathematics; but after five years of faithful effort, three of them in college, he was compelled to give it up. Continuing his other studies, he accepted a call from a church whose pastor was leaving for the far West;

as a student he had often preached under a church license. His call at the age of sixteen was to the work of an evangelist in the broadest sense. Then accepting this as his life-work, after four years more than a half century, it is still his chosen labor; and never in all these years did he make money, much or little, a condition of work, not even in his four years of pastoral work, nor in his four years of strictly home-mission work. His four years of home-mission work was performed in Canada, county of Lanark.

In 1847-'48 he, with his brother William, conducted an academy in Brockville, on the St. Lawrence river, and preached nearly every Sabbath. In Brockville he helped organize the first Division of Sons of Temperance in Canada, and also the Grand Division of Canada. Becoming fully convinced that there was promise of good to all men in this Order, he afterwards organized the first Division of Toronto, in Coburg, Bowmansville, Oshawa, Markham, Newmarket, Brampton, Hamilton, Galt, Guelph, and in most of the intermediate villages—fifty-nine Divisions in all. After a year of this work he began the publication of books for the promotion of Biblical knowledge; first, "Simmon's Scriptural Manual, or the Bible Ledgerized"; and, second, his "Laocian Manual." Of these two works, in connection with others, he sold in Canada 20,000 copies. To still further advance his special evangelistic work he began in 1854 the publication of a monthly journal in Toronto, called the *Gospel Tribune*, which was inter-denominational in character; this he continued until 1858. It was for this magazine that Mr. Dick invented his typographical book-keeping and machine mailing system. Seeing that this invention made the whole continent his parish, he moved to Buffalo as its best center, publishers being his co-operating parishioners. At the end of twenty-five years he believes that his choice of location was wisely made. In Buffalo from 1860 to 1876, he did a great deal of evangelistic work, especially in "the streets and lanes of the city." What he saw and heard during those sixteen years compelled him at their close to lead in organizing the "Law and Order Society," in which he and ninety-nine others were each pledged in the sum of \$100, made payable to a committee of three chosen by the "Hundred," five-dollar installments as needed from time to time. The society, believing that the faithful enforcement of the Sunday liquor law was indispensable to the moral well-being of the community, toiled energetically for that consummation till every lawful measure *then* known to them proved abortive.

Mr. Dick was married on the 11th of January, 1838, to Mary Muir, daughter of Thomas Muir, a worthy elder in the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and to the Dick family the nearest neighboring farmer. Three years after their marriage their first child (a son) was born at Ames, near Sharon Springs. He died from illness following upon fatigue and exposure during service in the One Hundredth New York volunteers, and as captain in the Twelfth cavalry, and is buried in Forest Lawn. Robert Thomas Dick was born in 1846, and also shouldered a musket when Lee invaded Pennsylvania, although under the prescribed age for enlistment. He joined the ranks of the Seventy-fourth New York militia, and hurried with them towards Gettysburg to help drive Lee back across the Potomac. During the battle of Gettysburg his regiment and one from Pennsylvania guarded a gap in the mountains at Clear Springs, within hearing of the artillery carnage. On the Sabbath after the battle, 10,000 of Lee's hungry troops looked wistfully up their valley, but on seeing these regiments spread out among the trees and ready for battle, they turned back. So much for the honor of the Seventy-fourth.

The first-born sister of these brothers died at the age of eighteen months, before the younger was born. Their youngest sister, Mary F., died in her twentieth year. Her spirit ascended to God in a marvelous ecstasy of heavenly illumination, for which nothing short of the soul's consciously entering into glory can possibly account. Her body rests in Forest Lawn beside the ashes of her brother.

The second daughter, Jennie E., graduated from the Buffalo Central School in 1868. In 1872 she became the wife of Arthur M. Barker, the only son of the late Professor J. W. Barker, whose recent death the city so sorrowfully mourned.

As to success in life, Mr. Dick has from his sixteenth year held that it cannot be measured by what begins and ends here; that the success of gaining the whole world is a failure if the gainer's soul is lost. The earnings of Mr. Dick's brain and hands have not only been sufficient for his use, but have enabled him to spend many thousands for the good of others; and as no one has ever suffered a pecuniary loss through him, it will scarcely be denied that financially his life has been a success.

From a lengthy delineation of Mr. Dick's characteristics, publicly given at sight by Professor O. S. Fowler, the first paragraph is subjoined as it appeared on the following morning in the *Buffalo Courier*:

"Professor Fowler said: 'The gentleman before him had a very large brain, it being twenty-three inches in circumference. Better yet, he has a good body to support it; and these, together with an uncommon degree of enthusiasm, lend him a great deal of power—he being able to work with tremendous energy. A squarely-built head always indicates an impulsive temperament, which is in this case a little too flashy—a weakness. A long and prominent organism indicates speed and strength.' The Professor cautioned Mr. Dick to be careful as he grows older as his over-excitability and inflammability would affect his brain. He lacks faith, but his conscience is enormous, and benevolence likewise. It is his desire to make men happier by making them better. He can hardly help being a speaker on moral and religious subjects. His unusual development of the forehead would show that he reasons much with matters involving conscience and right. His veneration is considerable, but his whole character runs in a moral and religious channel. He has so little faith that he will break away from any dogmas or creeds running not according to his conscience, and he is therefore a radical religionist."

CHARLES CURTIS FENN GAY, M. D.—The subject of this notice was born in Pittsfield, Berkshire county, Mass., January 7th, 1821; his father was William Gay, Jr., a native of Worcester, Mass. The common ancestor of the Gay family in America was John Gay, who came with his wife from the western part of England, making the voyage in the ship *Mary and John* and landing in this country on the 30th of May, 1630. He first settled at Watertown, Mass., but a few years afterward removed to Dedham (then called Contentment) where he died in the year 1688, at a ripe old age. Dr. C. C. F. Gay is a lineal descendant in the seventh generation from this founder of the family. His mother was Maria (Stanton) Gay, a native of Richmond, Berkshire county, Mass., in which place her grandfather, Augustus Stanton, who came from Rhode Island, settled about 1760.

Among the members of this family who have become prominent in some direction may be mentioned three Doctors of Divinity, one of whom, Ebenezer Gay, a Congregational minister of Hingham, Mass., was especially distinguished for his piety and learning. John Gay, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, held a captain's commission in the American army in the time of the Revolution. The mother of Dr. Gay is still living at the age of eighty-nine years, and is vigorous both in mind and body.

While he was still a boy Dr. Gay's parents removed to Lebanon Springs, Columbia county, N. Y., where he acquired a thorough education in the select schools of that vicinity, one of them being the classical school of Professor John Hunter, of New Lebanon. In 1843 he attended the Collegiate Institute at Brockport, Monroe county, N. Y. He taught school one winter in his native place. Dr. Gay began the study of medicine in 1844, in the office of Dr. Joseph Bates, of Lebanon Springs. He soon afterwards went to Pittsfield, Mass., where he studied under Dr. H. H. Childs, who in 1843, had been Lieutenant-Governor of that State. He also attended a course of instruction in Berkshire Medical College, and one in the Medical School at Woodstock, Vermont. A third course was taken by him at the former institution, from which in the fall of 1846, he received his medical degree. To more thoroughly complete his medical studies, Dr. Gay repaired after his graduation to Philadelphia, then the center of medical instruction of the highest order; where he attended the winter course of lectures in the Jefferson Medical College, and Clinics of the Pennsylvania Hospital.

The following year (1847) Dr. Gay began practice of his profession in Bennington, Vermont, whence he removed to Byron, Genesee county, N. Y. He remained there in successful practice four years, when he removed to Buffalo, which city has since been his place of residence. In 1855, upon the organization of the Buffalo General Hospital, he was chosen consulting surgeon, and a few years later was appointed attending surgeon, which position he has held ever since. In 1861, he was appointed by the "Union Defence Committee" of Buffalo, as Surgeon-in-charge of Fort Porter; while at this post he had charge of and examined the Forty-ninth Regiment of New York Volunteers, Colonel Daniel D. Bidwell, commanding. He is one of the founders of the Society of Natural Sciences, of Buffalo, and was a member of the original Board of Directors; he was also Curator of Botany in that institution at an early period of its history. He has been a permanent member of the State Medical Society since 1861. He is also a member of the Erie County Medical Society and has been president of that body. On several occasions he has been a delegate to the American Medical Association, and has made valuable written and verbal reports on surgery before



that distinguished body ; and his reports and contributions to medical literature published in medical journals have been numerous and important. Indeed, his entire life since he began practice, has been devoted to the science of medicine, and he occupies an enviable position both as a physician and a surgeon. Dr. Gay has performed all capital operations ; has successfully ligated the sub-clavian, the external iliac and femoral arteries for aneurism ; resection of the hip and elbow joints, etc. He at present occupies the Chair of Professor of Clinical and Operative Surgery in the medical department of the University of Niagara. Of late years he has devoted his attention more especially to surgery, making it a specialty.

Dr. Gay was married in January, 1854, in Buffalo, to Miss Sarah A. Tift, daughter of the late George W. Tift.

Aside from his standing in professional circles, Dr. Gay is deservedly popular in social life. In all that pertains to the advancement of general education, and in whatever has a bearing on the interests of the city in which he resides, he takes an active part. Dr. Gay is a Presbyterian, and is a member of the Central Church.

**J**EROME FREEMAN FARGO was born at Jamesville, Onondaga county, N. Y., February 20, 1820. He was the second child of a family of twelve children. His youth was spent on the farm in hard work during the summers, and in attendance at school winters until he was fourteen years old. It was then considered necessary that he should contribute in other ways towards the support of the large family, and he was, accordingly, hired out to a neighboring farmer, with the understanding that he should remain until he became of age. Farm life, however, did not agree with young Fargo, either as regarded his health or his ambition, and in 1835 he left home and began life on his own account. He first engaged as a clerk in a country store at Pompey Hill, Onondaga county, kept by a man named Curtis, but he gave up that position the following year and found employment in the grocery store of Polley & Goetchius, in the city of Syracuse, with whom he remained a few months only, and then began an apprenticeship with John Stone, in the baker's business. In 1838 he removed to Weedsport, where he began work as a journeyman baker with Peter Sampson. After a year's service he was offered an interest in the business, which he declined, and entered the service of Baylis & Mills, as clerk in the grocery and dry goods trade ; he remained there something over a year, when he joined his brother, the late William G. Fargo, in the business of merchants and bakers in Weedsport ; this business he continued after the dissolution of the partnership, until 1841. At that time he removed to Auburn, N. Y., where he began his career as a railroad man in the employ of the Auburn & Syracuse road, as night-watchman in the company's shops. Promotion soon came to Mr. Fargo, as a reward for faithful service, and he was made a local freight conductor ; as such he ran the first through train over what is now known as the direct road from Syracuse to Buffalo. He resigned his position with the Central railroad in 1856, removed to Buffalo and became one of the proprietors of the Corn Dock Elevator, under the firm name of Williams & Fargo. He had entire charge of the construction of that elevator and was its manager until it was destroyed by fire in 1865. He then, in company with O. L. Nims and the late William Williams, held for five years the lease of the City Elevator ; this firm continued until 1872.

In July, 1873, Mr. Fargo entered the service of the American Express Company as superintendent of real estate, personal property and supplies, in which position he had entire and exclusive charge of that important branch of the great express system until the day of his death.

On the first day of July, 1839, Mr. Fargo was married to Miss Hannah Watson, of Weedsport, N. Y. They had seven children, but two of whom are now living—George W. Fargo, of the American Express Company, Buffalo, and an unmarried daughter, Miss Bessie Fargo.

In politics Mr. Fargo was a life-long adherent to the principles of the Democratic party, but was of that retiring nature and disposition that he rarely came into public notice otherwise than in connection with some church or charitable object, and though often approached with regard to the use of his name for political honors, his consent to such overtures could never be obtained. He found his greatest enjoyment and happiness in the home circle, surrounded by his family, and his hospitable nature and genial manners won for him hosts of friends.

Mr. Fargo was a strong believer in the Christian faith and for many years had been a communicant with the Episcopal Church. At one time he was a member of the vestry of St. John's church, but withdrew to join the Church of the Ascension. He was the leading spirit in the movement which resulted in the construction of the new church edifice for that congregation, he being







the largest subscriber to the building fund and devoting nearly two years of his time to the financial and building interests of the new church. He entered the vestry as Warden in 1867, in which capacity he faithfully served the church for ten years. He was at one time President of the Homeopathic Hospital, and for many years and at the time of his death was one of the executive committee of the Old Settlers' Festival, in which organization, as well as in many of the charitable organizations of the city, he took a deep and active interest. He was a life member of the Young Men's Association, and for many years and at the time of his death was a member of the Lodge of the Ancient Landmarks, F. and A. M.

Following is a brief extract from a newspaper notice of Mr. Fargo's life and character, printed just after his death:—

“Jerome F. Fargo was a man of executive ability and conscientious in the discharge of every duty he assumed. In his long identification with the business of the American Express Company, he had become an important constituent in the organization, and no department of that great corporation was more faithfully and skilfully managed than that entrusted to him. He was never above his business and was always master of its details, and gave them needed attention. He was an industrious man, but his mind worked easily and he could always find time to look after charitable enterprises and other matters of public interest, and he was always at home to his friends. The social qualities of his character were decidedly marked, and he was a devoted husband and father, a loyal friend and a thoughtful, generous host. In the cause of charity he was enthusiastic, untiring and efficient, and for the poor and deserving he did his full share of the work. He was proud of his city and interested in everything that was calculated to advance its interests and augment its glory. He was a straightforward, honest man, unobtrusive, ambitious only to be useful and cared nothing for prominence at the hands of political parties. He performed his duties faithfully and well and his loss was an irreparable one to the city of Buffalo. He died January 19, 1883, after an illness of nearly three years. The Christian fortitude and patient submission displayed during his long and terrible suffering, were of the kind seldom witnessed under similar circumstances.”

**G**EORGE B. GATES.—The subject of this notice, a resident of the City of Buffalo for fifty-four years, was born in Gorham, Ontario county, N. Y., November 5, 1812, and died at his residence on Delaware avenue, Buffalo, June 27, 1880. He received a common school education, which at that period only embraced the elementary English branches. When fourteen years of age he came to Buffalo, and began the humble duties of life, as any lad of courage and honorable purpose would. From a modest and lonely beginning he worked his way bravely up, to be at last recognized as one of the most conspicuous figures among the solid men of the community. When a mere youth, he was employed in the foundry of Wilkeson, Beals & Co., of Buffalo, and while there, as in all his later life, he manifested the strictest devotion to the principles of integrity, and constant attention to the obligations which rested upon him.

For a number of years Mr. Gates was Deputy Marshal for the Northern District of New York. Those were indeed times of social disorder and political excitement, calculated to prove the force of character and fidelity of any man who should attempt to administer the laws of the State. Mr. Gates was found fully equal to the situation, and discharged his duties without fear or favor for any public offender.

Later in life he became identified with the sleeping-car interests, and established “Gates' South Shore Line” (over the Lake Shore railroad) which began at Buffalo, and extended first to Cleveland and afterwards to Chicago. This line soon became one of the most important and successful links in the great chain between the East and the West. The cars used were of the Woodruff Patent, the exclusive right to the use of same on that road having been assigned to Mr. Gates by the inventor on the 4th of January, 1858. It should be remembered that these were the first “sleepers” used upon any railroad leading out of Buffalo. They were built and placed in operation through the personal efforts and superintendence of Mr. Gates, and at his own risk at first. The line was named after him, but subsequently the name was changed, when the Lake Shore and the Wagner Lines, (of the New York Central,) were consolidated. Mr. Gates remained, however, until the time of his death a heavy stockholder of the company. He was Vice-President and one of the Directors of the Bank of Buffalo from the date of its organization. In 1876 he was chosen Vice-President and General Manager of the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia Railroad, and held this responsible position for the remainder of his life.

He was also President of the Kendall & Eldred Railroad Company, a line extending from Eldred to Bradford, and Vice-President of the Olean, Bradford & Warren Railroad Company, its line extending from Olean to Bradford. He was also a Director in each of these three companies.

For many years Mr. Gates was one of the Water Commissioners of the city, and in this capacity rendered valuable service. Always a firm and impartial adherent to what he believed to be just, he often stood between the city and those who sought to deplete its treasury. In that manner he saved the tax-payers many hundred thousand dollars. Those who were best informed felt at the time of his death that it was largely his clear head and capable management which had put the present water system in successful operation and had enabled the city at reasonable expense to introduce the Holly System and put in working order the great machinery of the present complete department. When the Common Council of the city was formally notified by the Mayor, of the sudden death of Mr. Gates, that body expressed in strong and unmistakable terms its sense of the worth of his public services as a prudent and wise adviser, an efficient helper, a capable and faithful head of the Water Department, and a man long identified with the best interests of the community. He was one of the Trustees and Directors of the Falconwood Club and took great pleasure and pride in the association. He was also a member of the Buffalo Club.

In early life Mr. Gates was a zealous member of the Whig party and believed in the political measures advocated by the great Kentucky orator, Henry Clay. Afterwards he was not a strong supporter of any party, but voted rather for men of ability and trustworthiness than for the machine politicians.

On the 20th of May, 1832, he was married to Miss Sarah A. Galligan, of Buffalo. Their union was blessed with ten children, the only survivors of whom are Miss Elizabeth H. Gates and Mrs. William Hamlin, of this city, and Mrs. Charles W. Pardee, of Oswego.

In home life he was kindly, generous and indulgent to a fault. In social life he was ever ready to assist the needy, and to befriend those whom he considered really deserving of his aid and sympathy. At the time of his death, it was justly observed by those who knew him, that no man was more averse to wearing his virtues on his sleeve than he was. His manner was often abrupt, especially so when he came in contact with shams, bores, imposters and others whom he heartily detested—but underneath a rough exterior, lay one of the kindest and tenderest hearts and an incorruptible integrity, that combined to draw to him “as with hooks of steel” the friends who knew him so well. Having been taught by his own experience in early life some of the trials, hardships and difficulties of those who have to begin in humble circumstances, and slowly win their way up to places of honor and emolument, his sympathies were with the poor and unfortunate. To needy persons of this class he extended benefactions in his own quiet way. In every position of life, his strong personality was felt and his peculiarities of speech and temperament readily seen. He often did by his abruptness of speech or his unstudied manners, injustice to himself. He had little regard for the forms and conventionalities of polite society. He was positive and outspoken in his likes and dislikes. He was quick to detect the weaknesses and pretences of others, ready to expose imposture, and impatient with injustice and wrong. These qualities, while they estranged some, drew others to him in cordial confidence and friendship. These qualities also made him valuable and reliable as a man of business. His clear insight and sound judgment were recognized by those with whom he was associated, and they appreciated the peculiar decision and energy with which he carried to a successful issue whatever project had been entrusted to his management.

Thus his sudden removal was felt as an almost irreparable loss to those enterprises in which he was especially active. \* \* \* Upon the occurrence of Mr. Gates' death, the Bank of Buffalo held a meeting and passed a series of memorial resolutions, from which we extract the following :

*Resolved*, That in the death of Mr. George B. Gates, the Vice-President and one of the Directors of this Bank, his associates in the Board of Direction feel that it has sustained a serious loss. Mr. Gates was a man of unusual powers. His fidelity of every trust was perfect ; his judgment sound and comprehensive ; and his energy and force of character remarkable. His devotion to the interests of this institution from the outset, has been constant and untiring, and we desire in this formal manner to attest the sorrow with which his sudden decease has afflicted us.

The Board of Directors of the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia Railway held a meeting also at the Bank of Buffalo, to take suitable action in reference to the death of Mr. Gates, on which occasion they tendered to his afflicted family assurances of their sympathy, and passed a series of resolutions expressive of the great worth and character of the man, in terms similar to those in the above resolutions, and adding :—

“Four years since, this Board selected George B. Gates as the general manager of the property and affairs of this company. Embarrassed in credit and resources, burdened with debt, with public confidence in the success of the enterprise almost lost, Mr. Gates entered upon the discharge of his





*George H. Carter*



duties. From that day to the hour when stricken with fatal illness he went home to die, he guarded the interests of the company as if they were his own. Wise and judicious in counsel, prompt in decision, energetic and enterprising, yet prudent, mindful of every detail, yet generous in policy, his watchful care has extended to every department and his active intelligence has controlled every branch. Refusing every adequate compensation, he has applied to the work his best powers of mind and body. Generous to a fault, he has freely advanced from his private fortune for any needed object connected with the administration of his trust. He lived to see, as the reward of his labor, a prosperous corporation, practically free from floating debt. \* \* The Board of Directors feel that in his death the company has sustained a loss which is irreparable."

The death of such a man causes a profound sense of loss and deep sorrow in any community where he lived.

**WILLIAM HAWKS ABELL**, the subject of this notice, is a son of Thomas Griswold Abell, who was born at Bennington, Vt., on the 15th of April, 1791, and afterwards married Rhoda Hawks, of the same place. He is a direct descendant of William Hyde, a native of England, who emigrated to America and settled at Hartford, Conn., in 1636; he probably came over in 1633 with the Rev. Thomas Hooker, the first minister of Hartford. He is the fifth in descent from Caleb Abell, who married Margaret Post, daughter of John Post and Hester Hyde. The latter was the daughter of William Hyde. Caleb Abell's son Benjamin was the father of Simon Abell, whose son Thomas was the father of Thomas Griswold Abell, the father of the subject. On his maternal side William H. Abell is also descended from William Hyde, through Matthew Griswold, who married Phœbe, daughter of Samuel Hyde, the son of the original emigrant. William Hyde was the father of two children—Samuel, born about 1637, and Hester, born probably in England. Samuel married Jane Lee, of East Saybrook, (now Lyme.) She was a daughter of Thomas Lee and ——— Brown, who came from England in 1641. Hester married John Post, and their daughter Margaret married Caleb Abell, from whom the subject of this sketch descended; as he also did from Samuel Hyde on his maternal side.

Thomas G. Abell removed to Fredonia, Chautauqua county, N. Y., in the year 1814, where he purchased the hotel property now known as the Taylor House. He subsequently, in connection with Bela D. Coe and Nathaniel Bird, established the first line of stages between Buffalo and Erie, Pa., which they conducted for many years; it is said that Mr. Abell built the first stage coach in the county. He was a prominent man in Chautauqua county; was for many years a Colonel of the infantry regiment. In 1852 he removed to Buffalo, where he died in the year 1857.

William Hawks Abell is the only son of Thomas G., and Rhoda Abell, and was born in Bennington, Vt., January 29, 1814, the same year in which his parents removed to Fredonia.

Mr. Abell graduated from the Fredonia Academy, and at the age of twenty years had made himself of such prominence and popularity that he was given the office of Colonel of militia. A year later, when he had attained his majority, he went to Buffalo, where he remained two years. During the excitement of the Texas Revolution, he went to that Republic, where he spent the winter in Matagorda, returning the following spring. In 1839 he again departed for Texas and settled in Austin, the capital of the then Republic, which had just been laid out as a city. He remained there about three years, during which period he was honored with several civil offices—Acting Comptroller, Postmaster and Alderman; he was also Captain of the Travis Guards, of Austin.

In the year 1842 Mr. Abell returned to Fredonia, and two years later removed to Buffalo, which city has since then been his home. He was given a position by Oliver Lee in the Oliver Lee & Co.'s Bank, and in the fall of that year, Mr. Lee being then President of the Buffalo & Attica Railroad, sent him into the service of that Company as freight clerk, the only official of that character in the employ of the road that winter. This movement was the first step towards Mr. Abell's long connection with the dock interests in Buffalo. After two years spent in the service of the railroad company, he began the storage business, commencing with the unclaimed goods from the railroad. This, in connection with a commission, transportation and elevating business he has followed ever since.

In the year 1866 Mr. Abell was elected President of the Western Elevating Company, an organization which practically controls the immense elevating business in Buffalo. This position he has held ever since, with the exception of one year following his first election. He is also a Director in the Western Savings Bank. Mr. Abell's business career in Buffalo has been one of success, and in it he has acquired an honorable and respected name. Although decided in his political connec-

tions, Mr. Abell has never asked nor desired public office. He was, entirely without his solicitation, made an elector for Erie county on the Democratic ticket, when Gen. Hancock was the Presidential candidate.

He was married on the 22d of October, 1846, to Eliza Lee, daughter of Oliver Lee; she was born November 25, 1820. They had four children—William Oliver, born March 18, 1848, died March 18, 1873; Harriet Eliza, born July 2, 1850, married Thomas Towers, of Buffalo; Charles Lee, born October 4, 1856; Helen M., born March 12, 1864. Mrs. Abell died March 21, 1868. On the 17th of January, 1871, he was married to Margaret Hussey, and has a daughter, Alice Louise, born March 5, 1880.

**DANIEL E. BAILEY**, formerly a prominent ship-builder, but for many years past a government contractor of Buffalo, is a native of Madison county, Ohio, where his early life was passed. His father was Harlow Bailey, a native of Winstead, Conn., and his mother was Apphia (Bartlett) Emery, grand daughter of Josiah Bartlett, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. She was from Walpole, N. H., but settled first with her husband in Vermont, whence they removed in 1818 or 1819 to the State of Ohio, making the journey by team. Mrs. Bailey still resides in Ohio and celebrated her ninetieth birthday on the 10th of September, 1883, still in good health. Her husband died in his eighty-seventh year, after passing a long life of active business in his adopted county and State. Daniel E. Bailey passed his early days on a farm in Madison county, Ohio, attending the country school of his neighborhood during the winter seasons, and subsequently completing his educational career by a two-years' course in the Painesville (Ohio) Academy.

In 1853 Mr. Bailey began the ship-building business on the Madison dock, which was the commencement of the extensive enterprise in that line that he carried on for so many years. He remained at the Madison dock until 1863, when he removed to Fairport, where he built vessels and did other contract work for the government. In 1866 he established a ship-yard at Toledo, which he left in the following year to come to Buffalo to commence work on the outside breakwater; this work he has continued down to the present time, with the exception of two years, in which the work was in the hands of other parties.

The ship-yard is still continued and is operated by Mr. Bailey in connection with his brothers. This company have built between sixty and seventy vessels of various tonnage, among which are the *David Dow*, the *Adams*, and many other well-known craft. In this branch of his business Mr. Bailey, in connection with his associates, has established a most enviable reputation for the integrity of his work and the energy and vigor with which it has been carried out.

Mr. Bailey has also been almost a constant contractor for the government during the past eighteen years, principally upon the breakwater in the Buffalo harbor. This one piece of contract work has extended over a period of fifteen years; the breakwater being now over a mile in length. He is also extensively engaged in the manufacture of shoes in the city of Philadelphia, and various other business interests of importance claim a share of his time and energy.

Mr. Bailey is vice-president of the Buffalo Electric Works; is trustee of the Buffalo Loan, Trust and Safe Deposit Company; is a director in the Toledo Street Car Railroad Company, and a director of the Buffalo and Southwestern Railroad.

Mr. Bailey was married in 1853 to Miss Donnelly, of New York city, and is the father of two children—Eva Caroline, born in 1854 and died on Christmas day, 1873; and Harlow W. Bailey, born in 1864, and now a student in college.

In person, Mr. Bailey is an affable and courteous gentleman whose social qualities are as prominent as has been his success in his business career.

**WILLIAM H. GLENNY**.—Mr. Glenny was of Scotch descent and was born in the North of Ireland September 23, 1818. He came to Buffalo in 1836, entering as clerk in the book store of A. W. Wilgus. In 1840 he opened a small crockery store. His business grew steadily and rapidly. In 1877 he erected the block Nos. 251 to 257 Main street, one of the most perfectly appointed establishments in the country. Before his death his business had become one of the largest of its kind in the country, its relations extending to all the Western States and Territories. Starting from small beginnings, his devotion to its interests, his sterling integrity, and his wise judgment of the needs of a rapidly developing West, enabled him to build up a vast trade as honorable to his city as to himself. Mr. Glenny's history is another illustration of what high mercantile character





Yours  
D. E. Bailey



and ability can accomplish. Coming a stranger from a foreign land, with little means and without patronage, he steadily advanced until he attained the foremost rank of the great merchants of the country.

He was identified with several moneyed institutions of the city ; was a director of the Manufacturers' and Traders' Bank from its organization ; was for many years a trustee of the Erie County Savings Bank ; and was associated with the organization of what is now the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia Railroad Company. Mr. Glenny was for a long time a trustee in the First Presbyterian Church, where he was a regular attendant.

In May, 1844, he married Esther Ann Burwell, daughter of Dr. Bryant Burwell, and sister of Dr. George N. Burwell. The children of the marriage are William H., Bryant B., John C., and George B., who succeed to their father's business. He died on the 27th of November, 1882.

**J**OSEPH C. GREENE.—The subject of this sketch is a descendant from Samuel Greene, who came over from England and settled in Boston in the year 1630. Later ancestors of Joseph C. Greene, namely, Isaiah Greene and his wife, Mary, settled in Kensington, New Hampshire, whence they removed to Ware, in the same State, in 1764. Their oldest son was Simon Greene, who was born in Ware, and married Naomi Tukesbury. Their oldest son was Stephen S. Greene, who was the father of our subject. He removed to Starksboro, Vermont, in 1827, and the following year married Lydia Chase, daughter of Joseph Chase, of Starksboro, Vermont, a prominent minister of the Society of Friends, and a descendant of the early Holland-Dutch families that settled about New York. Twelve children were born to Stephen S. Greene and his wife, all of whom are still living.

Joseph C. Greene was born in Lincoln, Vermont, July 31, 1829. His early life until he reached sixteen years of age, was passed in the arduous labors of the farm, except portions of each year in school, after he was old enough to attend. At sixteen he was sent to Nine Partners Boarding School, in Dutchess county, N. Y. From there he went to Burr's Academy, in Vermont, where he finished a liberal education and graduated.

Having resolved to devote his life to the medical profession, Mr. Greene began study in the office of Dr. Hugh Taggart, one of the most eminent physicians of Western Vermont. He afterwards attended lectures in the Woodstock and the Castleton (Vermont) Medical Colleges, finally graduating from the Albany Medical College in June, 1855. In order to still better fit himself for the successful practice of his profession, Dr. Greene subsequently attended clinics in New York City, in the different hospitals and colleges. He began practice in the year 1856 in Charlotte, Vermont, and in 1863 came to Buffalo, which has since been his place of residence.

On the 21st of September, 1856, Dr. Greene was married to Miss Juliette Taggart, daughter of William and Ann Taggart, both of whom now reside in Buffalo, the former at the age of eighty years and the latter seventy-six years. Mrs. Greene died on the 15th day of October, 1882, in Buffalo. They have three children : DeWitt Clinton Greene, who is practicing medicine in Buffalo and connected with the Board of Health as District Physician ; Anna Adelaide Greene, a graduate of Buffalo Female Academy ; and Julia Delphine Greene, now attending school.

Dr. Greene was made one of the District Physicians to the Board of Health in 1873-'4. He is a member of the American Medical Association ; a permanent member of the New York State Medical Society ; a member and President of the Erie County Medical Society ; President of the Buffalo Medical Union ; member of the American Microscopical Society ; and member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Greene has always shown a warm interest in local societies, and is a member of the Buffalo Historical Society ; of the Buffalo Microscopical Society ; and a member of the Acacia Club. He is a Knight Templar and thirty-second degree Scottish Rite. He is one of the building committee of the new structure of the Young Men's Christian Association.

Dr. Greene is a Republican in politics, of the most pronounced proclivities, though he has never taken an especially active part in politics ; he never hesitates or wavers in his political beliefs and actions. He enjoys a large general practice, is esteemed by his brethren in the profession and respected by the community at large.

**W**ILLIAM HENRY GREENE, son of Samuel and Fanny (Harwood) Greene, was born at Shrewsbury, Mass., August 31, 1812 ; fitted for college, at Ashfield (Mass.) Academy ; taught school at

Skaneateles, N. Y., and read law there with Lewis H. Sanford, in 1830-'38; admitted to Bar as Attorney July 13, 1838, the Hon. Samuel Nelson, Chief Justice; admitted as Counselor July 16, 1841; admitted Solicitor in Chancery July 17, 1838, Walworth, Chancellor; admitted as Counselor in Chancery January 7, 1845; admitted to United States District Court, Northern District of New York, as Attorney, Proctor and Solicitor, October 8, 1839, and as Counselor and Advocate, October 12, 1841, Hon. Alfred Conkling, Judge. Mr. Greene migrated to Buffalo in September, 1838, and soon afterwards formed a partnership with Thomas T. Sherwood in the practice of the law, and which continued until Mr. Sherwood's death, which occurred in 18—. From the time of his adoption of Buffalo as the place of his residence, until his death, which occurred on the 24th of April, 1882, Mr. Greene was accounted one of the ablest, most successful and most honored members of the Bar of Western New York.

Although Mr. Greene was "to the manor born," coming from good Puritan ancestry, his inheritance consisted only of what Mr. Emerson calls good deeds gone to seed—true nobility. Seeking an education in the usual New England manner, he taught in summer what he himself studied and learned in winter. At an early age, having completed his college course with honor, he came to Skaneateles, N. Y., where he taught for several years, studying law at the same time, under the direction of the Hon. Lewis H. Sanford, who, on the completion of his studies there, offered him a law partnership in New York city. Circumstances relating to his own family home decided him to settle in Buffalo, where he became the junior partner of the late T. T. Sherwood.

When Mr. Greene came to this city there were many able and accomplished men at the Bar. He was only in his twenty-fifth year, with no social or family prestige to help him; it required no ordinary ability to achieve and hold a place among such men as Solomon G. Haven, George P. Barker, H. K. Smith, Joseph G. Masten, Henry W. Rogers and others of similar age and experience. Yet thus alone, unaided and comparatively friendless, he soon accomplished, and these gentlemen were willing to yield him a place among them, tacitly owning him as their equal and peer. He soon took high literary rank among his fellow citizens, being an enthusiastic helper in the Young Men's Association and was, perhaps, among the very few who were invited to read lectures before them. He delivered three lectures on John Milton, Edmund Burke and Cicero, all full of original thought, showing evidences of much study and great familiarity and personal admiration of these men, with whose works and character he early became intimate and for whom, through his whole life, he maintained the closest sympathy and admiration.

Mr. Greene was a large practitioner in the courts; his business was almost exclusively of that class called litigated suits. It was a joke among his own family that men who had little and profitable suits took them to some other lawyer; but when there was hard work and severe controversy, somehow they always drifted to Mr. Greene. Harassed and worn as he was in the achievement of this measure of what is generally called success, he found the greatest consolation, comfort and rest not only in the quiet and seclusion of his own family, but also in the society of those men of the past generation with whom he held frequent, nay, daily intercourse and study. His familiarity with dates and history was a remarkable feature of his mind. From the earliest days down to the present time, events were so carefully arranged in his mind that he was never at a loss. The political and geographical changes of nations and peoples were tracked and stored away in his memory, and language, which contains in itself more actual history than any narrator of events possible, was always a delightful study and recreation to him.

Professionally, I think his moral nature never stood higher and grander than in the case, well-remembered by our older citizens, of Merrill B. Sherwood. He was the president of what was called a joint-stock bank, doing business here and in Canada; buying currency in Canada at very low rates and circulating it here in Buffalo at par. In this nefarious business Mr. Sherwood had made a large fortune and was among the first of our fellow citizens to give expression to his wealth by building a palace for his own occupation. Even at this day of large and extravagant dwellings it still remains conspicuous by its size and proportions. Just as he had completed this most ambitious palace the bank failed, having large amounts of unredeemed currency in the hands of many of our business men as well as in those of poor widows and day laborers. It was a great blow to this community who stood ready to tear the offending man into shreds. Excitement ran very high; the passions of the indignant and outraged people were universally aroused; threats were made of not only tearing down his house brick by brick, but also touching his life itself. The whole city was aroused against him.



The wretched man knew not what to do, when some one said : "Sherwood, why don't you go to Greene? He is the only man who can pull you through." Upon this he did apply to Mr. Greene. It was a most embarrassing and disagreeable position in which to place any lawyer. To stand between a man who had so thoroughly abused the confidence of a whole community and who were determined to mete out to him his just deserts, demanded courage and magnanimity of no ordinary kind. A meeting of bill-holders and losers was called and resolutions of summary vengeance were agreed upon. Mr. William Ketchum presided at the last meeting, to whom Mr. Greene sent a letter requesting that it might be read to the meeting. This letter has been lost, but its substance was that, while Mr. Sherwood desired no consideration at their hands, this was not the right way to proceed ; that the law provided a proper redress for all grievances; and that if Mr. Sherwood's house was pulled down every brick would have to be paid for by the city, thus increasing their taxes without helping to pay the debt. The consequence was the meeting adjourned without taking any steps for further summary action and the law took its course. In thus defending Mr. Sherwood, as he did, Mr. Greene stood between his client and a most respectable mob of highly and justly incensed citizens, many of whom were greatly offended that he took and defended a case of such gross dishonesty. But such were Mr. Greene's ideas of the duties which a professional lawyer owed to the community in which he lived that he could act no differently. His courage was thus put to a severe test, but it stood the strain, though it deprived him for several years of the friendship of men who had before been friendly. Though Mr. Greene was thus ardent and indefatigable as an advocate yet his sovereign love of truth forbade him, even in defense of a client, ever to pass the simple boundary line of exact probity and truth.

At the Bar meeting held on the occasion of Mr. Greene's death, Hon. James M. Smith, of the Superior Court of Buffalo, paid the following just though glowing tribute to the memory of the lamented deceased :—

"When I came to practice my profession in 1838, Mr. Greene was already engaged actively and industriously in a large practice, in company with the late Thomas T. Sherwood ; and from that time until a comparatively recent period he was one of the most laborious and successful members of this Bar. I have known few lawyers who were so well-fitted by scholarly training and by careful and thorough study of the principles of the law to do honor to their profession and to render intelligent and valuable service to their clients. He was a true scholar. He loved the study of the classics and of English literature, and was familiar, as few are, with the best writings of the great masters of the English tongue ; and considering the law as a noble science, he brought all the powers of a logical, well-trained and vigorous mind to the mastery of its learning. Shrewd and acute beyond his fellows, in the analysis of cases and in the application of legal principles of the ever-varying conditions and circumstances of business affairs, he was ever a wise and safe counselor ; and the sagacity with which he guided the many and important litigations in which he was from time to time engaged, was only equaled by the untiring industry with which he devoted himself to their conduct. He was wholly, truly and purely a lawyer. He sought no office, he yielded to none of the temptations and fascinations of political life, but gave himself, heart and mind, with untiring devotion, to the studies and labors of his profession. I need hardly add that he was successful beyond most of his compeers. Those who have been longest at this Bar best know that few, if any, of all those who toiled by his side in an arduous professional career have achieved more complete and gratifying legal victories than Mr. Greene. And yet he had few of the powers or arts of the advocate, and none of those showy or brilliant gifts of speech or manner which attract and dazzle the crowd, and sometimes give a popular reputation to lawyers whose real usefulness, learning and ability are very moderate in degree. His gifts and acquirements were of that solid and substantial character which, more than all the arts of the orator, ensure to clients the best results of professional skill and labor. And with these qualities you will all agree with me that he united powers of sarcasm, wit and pleasantry of no ordinary kind and of a very delightful character, in that they were never used maliciously or unkindly. We can all recall his epigrammatic speeches, his witty sayings and his shrewd and keen observations upon men and things ; and how pleasant it is now to remember that they were never morose or ill-natured and never wounded even the most sensitive. For, indeed, in him, with great learning and ability, was found a most genial, gentle and kindly nature."

Mr. Greene was a sincere lover of truth and despised all shams and hypocrisy. Nothing caused him greater annoyance when discussing a topic than a feigned and flattering acquiescence in his views. Before the argument of an important case he was always willing to possess his adversary with the grounds upon which he relied. He did not wish to succeed at the expense of sound logic, or justice, or by means of any undetected fallacy or sophistry.

His religious convictions were deep, tender and strong, and although he never openly united with any church, his friends knew him to be a reverent, loyal and humble Christian. For a consid-

erable period he was a leading member of the Board of Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church, where he uniformly exerted himself in the interest of harmony and progressive Christian work.

He had exquisite and womanly sensibilities and was deeply moved at any tale of suffering or distress. At such times his time and purse were liberally devoted to succoring the oppressed and unfortunate. In his domestic relations he was the model of a loving, indulgent husband and father, as well as a generous, genial host, finding his greatest enjoyment when surrounded by his family and friends before his hospitable hearth, in the glow and warmth of which his winning and tuneful nature (so rarely revealed to the world at large) found its greatest expansion.

Mr. Greene was twice married; first to Catharine T. Bull, daughter of William Bull, of Wallkill, N. Y., who died in 1856, and next to Helen T. Bull, who survives him. He left five children, William B., John B., Harry B., Keturah B., and Samuel B. Greene.

**W**ILLIAM W. HAMMOND, the eldest of four children of Charles Hammond and Clarissa Clark, was born in the town of Hamburg, Erie county, N. Y., on the 4th of November, 1831. His father was one of the pioneers of this county, arriving in it from the eastern part of the State about the year 1820, and settling in the town of Hamburg, where he bought and cleared a small tract of land; this he exchanged about the year 1833 for a larger tract of wild land in what was then that portion of the town of Evans which was afterwards erected into the town of Brant.

William grew up amid the surroundings incident to the early settlers and gained his primary education in the district school taught in the log school houses of those days, attending school winters and working upon the farm summers. At the age of fourteen he attended a select school at Irving, in Chautauqua county, for one year, to do which he walked through the "Indian woods" six miles each day; he afterwards for a short time attended the academy at Fredonia.

When sixteen years old he commenced teaching school, being first employed at the village of Columbus, in Pennsylvania, and the next year he went to Louisville, Ky., where he taught school for a time; he then traveled south through several of the Southern States, into Louisiana, where he was engaged until sickness compelled him to return North in the summer of 1851. After a year of illness he again resumed his vocation of teaching school winters, teaching at North Evans, Boston Corners, White's Corners and other places, and working at painting and farming summers.

In the year 1855 he opened a country store at Brant, dealing in general merchandise, improving his leisure moments in reading law and practicing in Justice's Courts. After four years thus spent he came to Buffalo, and at the age of twenty-nine years entered the law office of Sawin & Lockwood, where he completed his legal studies and was admitted to the bar in 1861, at the General Term held at Buffalo in June of that year.

He then commenced the practice of his profession at Angola, where he remained about three years; during this period he, with the Sixty-seventh regiment of the National Guard, to which he belonged, was ordered to Harrisburg to aid in repelling the invasion of the rebels into Pennsylvania, under General Lee. He was mustered into the United States service as First Lieutenant, but after the rebels were driven out of Pennsylvania, the regiment was ordered home and mustered out.

Mr. Hammond held the office of Justice of the Peace, and represented his town upon the Board of Supervisors for ten years, serving there with both Judge Sheldon and Judge Haight. In the fall of 1877 he was elected to the office of County Judge, running against Willis J. Benedict, Esq.

In the fall of 1878, to the surprise of the Republican party of this county, an election was again ordered for County Judge, and rather than appeal to the Courts, he once more ran and was re-elected, this time defeating Hon. Henry F. Allen, now one of the Judges of the Court of Claims. It was then supposed that the question was settled; but in the meantime the administration at Albany having changed, an election for County Judge was again ordered in the fall of 1883, upon the theory that his election in 1877 was for six years, and that his election in 1878 was void, because there was in fact no vacancy in the office, and no election could be legally ordered or held to fill it. He again entered the canvass, was renominated and again re-elected, this time defeating Mr. Charles F. Tabor, the Democratic nominee, by a small majority, although Mr. Tabor was endorsed by the Liquor Dealers' and Saloon Keepers' Association, and Hon. Stephen Lockwood was run as a temperance candidate, and Judge Hammond held court every working day during the canvass and did not spend a day in looking after his own interests during the period between his nomination and election.

Judge Hammond was one of the incorporators of the Congregational Church at Angola, and has been a member and trustee of the First Congregational Church of Buffalo since its organization. In the spring of 1883 he visited California, which State he characterizes as the most desirable and delightful portion of the United States. Little need be said of Judge Hammond's characteristics and popularity in addition to what will be gained from a perusal of the above. He is at all times an affable, courteous gentleman, and his professional standing is of a most enviable character.

Judge Hammond was married in 1844, to Miss Amy A. Hurd, who died in 1860, leaving him with one child, now Mrs. Charles Koepke, of Brant. In 1861 he married Miss Louisa A. Hurd, who has borne him two children, a daughter, Lillie M., in 1869, and a son, Clark H., in 1875, who, together with his wife's mother, Mrs. Sophia Hurd, now eighty years of age, compose his family at his pleasant home, No. 35 Niagara Square, Buffalo.

**EDWARD AND BRITAIN HOLMES.**—It seems to be especially appropriate that this brief record of the lives of two of the foremost business men and manufacturers shall be connected together; for they are not only brothers, but have been engaged in all their different enterprises as a firm and have dwelt together in the same house for many years.

Edward and Britain Holmes are the sons of the Rev. Benjamin and Susannah Holmes, who came originally from Stratford-on-Avon, England, settling in Massachusetts; the family afterwards removed to Vermont, and finally in 1840, came to Lancaster, in this county. The two brothers remained at home with their parents in New England, until the year 1840, their time being divided between hard labor and the pursuit of a good common school education. In the last mentioned year, the family came to Lancaster, where the brothers engaged in the saw-mill and lumber business, which they successfully conducted for twelve years, when they removed to Buffalo.

The first business enterprise of the Holmes brothers in Buffalo, was the establishment of a planing-mill and general lumber business on the corner of Michigan street and Hamburg street canal. This was the germ of their present vast business, a portion of which still occupies the original site.

In the year 1859 they purchased the property now known as the Chicago Street iron works, where they soon after began the manufacture of machinery for making barrels. Prior to that time barrels of all kinds had been mostly made by hand, and the limited machinery in use for that purpose was in a crude, imperfect state. The Messrs. Holmes set themselves the task of not only building and improving the machinery already in use, but also of inventing new and improved machines for most of the various branches of barrel making. In this broad field they have been thoroughly successful, having invented and manufactured over fifty different machines, most of which are patented, which have completely revolutionized the cooperage business. These machines are in successful operation in all parts of the United States and in many foreign countries. In this connection the firm erected a large barrel factory of their own, in rear of the iron works, which is not only a source of profit, but enables them to exhibit their machinery in practical operation. On the 9th of July, 1879, the entire iron and barrel works on Chicago street were destroyed by fire; and it is an evidence of the energy and enterprise of these two gentlemen, that within two years both manufactories were rebuilt on a much larger scale than originally existed. In the various branches of their business E. & B. Holmes (that being the firm name) employ about four hundred hands.

Edward Holmes married Miss Clara Keeney, daughter of Allen and Julia Keeney, of LeRoy, Genesee county, N. Y. Two children have been born to them—Edward Britain Holmes, born February 3d, 1872, and Susar Bishop Holmes, born September 26, 1874.

Britain Holmes married Miss Elinor Child, daughter of Joseph and Penelope Child, of Brooklyn, N. Y. They have no children.

Edward Holmes is a consistent member and a deacon in the Central Presbyterian Church, of Buffalo; while his brother is connected with the same church as a trustee and president of the Board.

The prominent personal characteristics of the two gentlemen of whom we are writing, will be readily inferred from the foregoing record of their business achievements. They are thorough-going, practical men in all respects. They possess minds of the inventive order, which have been greatly stimulated in that direction by their experience in efforts to improve and create machinery for the expeditious and economical manufacture of cooperage. Many of their machines are ingenious in the highest degree, and all are practical in their operation, accomplishing what was intended in the simplest manner. Aside from this faculty, the Messrs. Holmes are successful business men;



had this not been the case, their valuable inventions might have been of little use to the world. Socially they are held in the highest respect by all who know them.

**ETHAN H. HOWARD.**—Among the early settlers of the town of Boston, Erie county, were Ethan and Mary Howard. They were New England people, Mr. Howard being a native of Bennington, Vermont, and his wife of Killingly, Conn. They were blest with four children, among whom was the subject of this sketch, Ethan H. Howard. His life did not differ materially from that of other pioneer lads whose parents settled upon new and unimproved farms in Erie county during the first quarter of the present century. Ethan H. Howard remained at home until he was fourteen years of age, at that time he came to Buffalo and accepted a position in the postoffice, where he remained the greater part of the years 1827 and 1828. The following year he spent at home on the farm. In February, 1830, Mr. Howard again came to Buffalo and entered the dry goods store of Samuel N. Callender as a clerk, where he remained four years, and with his successor, James P. Darling, one year. During this period he made himself thoroughly familiar with the business methods of the time and laid the foundation of that mercantile knowledge which served him so well in later years.

It was not Mr. Howard's inclination nor intention to remain permanently in the employ of other men, and in the spring of 1836, when he was twenty-three years old, he began the dry goods business for himself, in Buffalo, which he continued with a satisfactory measure of success for thirty years. In January, 1865, he retired from active business pursuits, with the exception that during the years 1868 and 1869, he was a member of the *Courier* Company and was chosen its treasurer. In the dry goods business, Mr. Howard was successively a member of the firms of Dole & Howard, Fitch & Howard, Howard & Cogswell, Howard & Whitcomb, and Howard, Whitcomb & Company. He always occupied an honorable position in the business circles of the community in which he lived, and when he retired, it was with the consciousness of taking with him the respect and confidence of his business contemporaries.

Mr. Howard was twice married; first to Mary E. Rumsey, of Stafford, Genesee county, N. Y., on the 24th of October, 1842; second, to Caroline H. Cogswell, of Peterborough, N. H., on the 1st of September, 1846. Two children have been born of these marriages—Mary E. Howard, born February 18, 1844, and Henry C. Howard, born September 20, 1847, the latter of whom only is now living; he is a well-known and respected farmer, of La Salle, Niagara county, and President of the Bank of Niagara, at Niagara Falls. Mary E. Howard died September 30, 1864.

Ethan H. Howard's worth as a business man, his general capacity and his unimpeachable integrity have led to his selection for several positions where these qualifications are especially desirable. He has been for many years a trustee of the Erie County Savings Bank; a Director in the Buffalo Gas Light Company; a Director in the Bank of Niagara, Niagara Falls, and was Treasurer of the *Courier* Company while he was connected with it. Mr. Howard is a member of the First Congregational Unitarian Church, and was for many years one of its trustees; he is at present one of the deacons of the church and was for a time treasurer of its church building fund.

Mr. Howard has never sought public office. His natural inclinations have led him rather towards the quieter walks of life, in which the approval of his own conscience and the respect of his fellow men has satisfied his ambition. He still resides in Buffalo, in the full enjoyment which follows immunity from labor at a time when it would prove a heavy burden, independent in a competence earned by a successful life, and surrounded by numerous friends.

**GEORGE HOWARD** was born in Charlotte, Chittenden county, Vermont, on the 26th of June, 1810. He is a descendant of English parents who came to America in the seventeenth century; his grandfather was a prominent Baptist minister. His father, John Howard, was a tanner by trade and he carried on the business of farming as well. He was the owner of a farm of 200 acres in Charlotte, and he had a tannery to which he devoted a portion of his time. He married Electa Penfield, and four sons and one daughter were the issue of the union, of whom the subject of this notice was the second born.

Mr. Howard was reared after the manner of bringing up New England boys. He attended the public schools in the winter season, wrought upon the farm in the summer when the weather was favorable, and when it was not, employment was found in his father's tannery. In this way his time was all utilized to good advantage. Very little opportunity was had for sport and recreation.







The boys were generally allowed four holidays each year—New Years, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, and Fast-days. Not much attention was given to Christmas in those days in New England. Sometimes a day was spent at General Training, and still rarer a circus or menagerie afforded a day's amusement. But for such recreation, or a day's fishing, extra work had to be performed in advance by allotted tasks so that no loss should be sustained thereby. This method of parental discipline inculcated habits of industry, and taught the children the necessity of rigid economy in order to get along in the world.

Mr. Howard's schooling was completed at the age of thirteen years, his services at that time being deemed more important than the acquisition of more book knowledge. At the age of sixteen years he was accounted fully competent to perform the labor of a man, and he discharged the duties thereof both on the farm and in the tannery. When he was eighteen years old his father met with business reverses that resulted in a loss both of the tannery and the farm. The misfortune was so complete that the family were stripped of nearly all their possessions. The property was not only gone but unliquidated obligations remained that they were unable to meet. The laws of Vermont at that time authorized imprisonment for debt, and rather than submit to this Mr. Howard's father determined to seek a home elsewhere. He found an opportunity to trade a horse that he had managed to save from the general wreck of his failure for an "article" calling for 115 acres of land in the forest, on the tract of the Holland Land Company, a few miles back of Westfield, in Chautauqua county, N. Y. In company with one son Mr. Howard came to Western New York to locate on the purchase in the spring of 1828. They cleared away three or four acres of the heavy forest, planted it to potatoes and other crops, built a log cabin, and in the following autumn he brought the remainder of his family to the home in the wilderness, the expense thereof being borne from the sale of fifty sides of leather that had also been rescued from the disastrous failure.

They came West by the canal that had been completed about three years, and from Buffalo they shipped by a little schooner, landing at Portland Harbor, near Westfield, and from thence by a rude cart hauled by a yoke of oxen to the humble log house in the little clearing on the forest farm. In the course of two or three years the father and his sons cleared the timber from about one hundred acres of the farm and subjected it to cultivation. George found this kind of work too hard for his impaired health, and he resolved upon a seafaring life. To carry out this purpose he came to Buffalo in the spring of 1831 to seek his fortune, and if possible to get an opportunity to go as a sailor upon the lake. He was obliged to borrow the money—four dollars—to pay his stage fare from Chautauqua to Buffalo, and upon his arrival in the city he worked for the late ex-Mayor Ebenezer Johnson for fifty cents a day, until he had earned enough to repay the loan to his friend. While waiting for navigation to open he found a chance to work for his board, and in the meantime he was looking out for a situation on shipboard. This was at length found, and he shipped before the mast at \$12 per month. The duties of a sailor were not as he had fondly anticipated, and when the vessel landed at a port near Westfield, he deserted the ship and returned to his home, and thus ended his career as a navigator.

In the following year Mr. Howard went to Westfield and made an engagement to work in the tannery of the late Aaron Rumsey for fifteen months at a compensation of \$100 for the term. He expected by this arrangement to be able to perfect himself in the trade which he had obtained a partial knowledge of in his father's tannery in Vermont. At the end of six months however, he made a compromise with his employer, left the situation and came to Buffalo on the 9th of April, 1833, and became foreman in Mr. Rumsey's tannery in the city at a salary of \$280 per annum and his board. During the first two years he found that \$30 per year would provide the necessary clothing and incidental expenses, so that he was able to lay aside \$200 per year. The third year his salary was increased so that he was able to lay up \$300. This gave him a capital in the three years of \$700, which was the first money he ever had. The failure of his employer at this time gave Mr. Howard a chance to lease the tannery, and he run it on his own account for six months, and then he formed a partnership with Mr. Aaron Rumsey and carried on the business as Rumsey & Howard. This connection began in 1837 and continued for about four years, when his partner was succeeded by Mr. Fayette Rumsey, with whom he continued about two years.

In 1844 Mr. Howard formed a copartnership with Mr. Myron P. Bush, with the firm name of Bush & Howard, each partner contributing \$5,000 to the concern. This was all the means they had, and their business was therefore largely done on borrowed capital. They built a tannery on Chicago

street and commenced in a small way, doing business to the value of from \$20,000 to \$30,000 per annum, but they gained and increased from year to year until they reached \$700,000 to \$800,000 per year. For twenty-four consecutive years the concern of Bush & Howard made substantial profits, never making a loss in either year. They continued to operate together for about thirty-five years, or until about four or five years ago, when their sons succeeded to the business, which is still carried on in the old firm name. The house is known as one of the staunchest and most responsible establishments in Western New York, and its financial standing ranks A 1.

In 1835 Mr. Howard married Miss Ellen Martin, of Warsaw, N. Y., by whom he had one daughter that died at the age of five and a half years. Mrs. Howard died in 1846, and in November, 1848, he married Miss Louise Corley, of Ithaca, N. Y., who died March 28, 1851. Mr. Howard then married on the 9th of November, 1852, Miss Amelia Flagler, of Lockport, N. Y. Two sons and two daughters have been the issue of this union—Frank King Howard, born April 21, 1854, who is now traveling abroad; Anna Maria Howard, born February 7, 1856, died August 26, 1879; Nellie Louise Howard, born September 20, 1859, and died in infancy; George Rumsey Howard, born May 27, 1861, and is now in the firm of Bush & Howard. The latter is married to the third daughter of John B. Griffin, Esq.

In politics Mr. Howard was an original Jackson Democrat; but believing that much of the financial disaster that the country suffered during old Hickory's administration resulted from his summary treatment of the banking institutions of the period, Mr. Howard left the Democracy, and became an ardent supporter of the Whig party. Upon the formation of the Republican party he gave that organization his support. Although an earnest partisan, he has never sought any political favors. He has never been a candidate for any political office, and never would accept any. He has frequently served officially in charitable and benevolent institutions, and devoted much time and contributed liberally to their support. He has served as trustee of the Buffalo Hospital, and been Chairman of the Board. He was one of the trustees of the State Insane Asylum, the Forest Lawn Association, and Westminster Church Society. He is a member of the Young Men's Association, Buffalo Historical Society, Fine Arts Academy, and Society of Natural Sciences. He has been a generous giver from his ample means to the support of all deserving objects that look to the promotion of Buffalo's interests. Among his recent noteworthy contributions may be mentioned, \$5,000 each to the Buffalo Hospital, Orphan Asylum, Hamilton College, and to the building fund of the Young Men's Association.

Two years ago Mr. Howard spent the season in foreign travel, visiting all important points in England and on the Continent.

Mr. Howard illustrates in his life the possibilities of individual unaided effort in this country. As will be seen from the foregoing brief sketch of his career, his early opportunities and advantages were limited. His minority was spent in aid of the support of his father's family, and upon attaining his majority he left the parental roof to provide for himself, with a father's blessing, but without the patrimony that parents are sometimes able to bestow upon their children. He had a partial knowledge of a trade, which is often equal to, or better than, available capital. By following this pursuit success attended him through life. The contrast between his condition when he came to Buffalo to seek his fortune in 1831—working for a few shillings a day to pay his way hither, and his present situation, is a marked and striking one.

**RUFUS L. HOWARD.**—The subject of this notice is an example of the prominent self-made man of this country. He was born in the town of Litchfield, Herkimer county, N. Y., on the 30th of October, 1818. His parents were Rufus Howard and Nancy Hungerford, his wife, originally of New Hampshire. They removed to Frankfort in 1824, and thence to Herkimer in 1831. His early boyhood was passed at the home of his parents in the pursuit of such education as he could obtain at the district schools, supplemented with some private instruction. At the age of fifteen he entered a country store in Schuylers, Herkimer county, as clerk, where he remained about eight months. He was then similarly employed in other stores in the same county down to the year 1837. The firm he was last engaged with in Frankfort was Stevens & Borden, and it was while in their employ that he was taken sick and compelled to relinquish work for about two years.

In the year 1839 his brother-in-law, Lyman Randall, then a resident of Buffalo, wrote Mr. Howard to come to this city, enclosing \$50 for his expenses. By boat, cars and stage he arrived here



in the afternoon of May 6th, 1839. Mr. Randall had procured for him a situation in the grocery and ship chandlery store of Messrs. H. C. Atwater & Co. In this establishment his industry, faithfulness to his employers and ability in business soon placed him in the position of head clerk. Such confidence did he inspire in the firm that in the fall of 1841 he was offered a fourth interest in the establishment, to be paid for at his convenience. The firm had then become Atwater, Williams & Co., which it continued until the death of Mr. Atwater, when G. L. Newman was taken in and the firm style changed to Williams, Howard & Co.' In 1850-'51 Mr. Howard bought the interest of Mr. Williams in the business, and the firm became Howard, Newman & Co.

The year 1853 marked a turning point in Mr. Howard's business career, through the sale of his entire interest in the chandlery business to Capt. Asa Hart, for the purpose of manufacturing the Ketchum mowing machine. This was a bold venture at that time, for the machine had been experimented with for several years, but had never worked very satisfactorily. Mr. Howard first saw it in the summer of 1849, in Batavia, whither he had gone with his family for refuge from the cholera epidemic then raging. Mr. Ketchum had brought his machine to Batavia to give it another trial, after having made some recent changes in it; but he was disappointed in its work and thoroughly discouraged. In this frame of mind he offered to sell Mr. Howard his remaining interest in the patents—about one-half of the United States. Mr. Howard urged him to persevere, but without avail, and finally took an assignment of the patents, without much consideration as to their real value, but he had strong faith in the correctness of the principles on which the machine was built. His first manufactory comprised a two-horse portable engine, a lathe or two, a drill and a bolt cutter, and employed two or three men and a boy. Upon purchasing the mowing machine patents, Mr. Howard hired Mr. Ketchum to work for him, ordered certain changes made in the machine, and in the summer of 1851 had the satisfaction of seeing the remodeled machine cut several acres of grass in a successful manner. During the winter of 1850-'51 (before he had yet disposed of his interest in the store,) he manufactured five machines, which number was increased to seventy-four during the following year; to 500 during 1852-'53; to 1,500 in 1853-'54, and to 3,300 the next year. Of course Mr. Howard's establishment was gradually enlarged to meet the increased demands upon it. There are now built annually throughout the United States from 150,000 to 200,000, every one of which uses the Ketchum patents, or improvements made or caused to be made by Mr. Howard; nor is it probable that grass will ever be cut by machinery without them. Mr. Howard may, therefore, claim with truth that he was the first person who put the first successful mower into the field, and Mr. Ketchum the inventor of indispensable patents thereon. As the mowing machine patents expired from time to time, Mr. Howard began the manufacture of general machinery and foundry work, the establishment finally culminating in the well and widely-known Howard Iron Works, employing from 250 to 300 men, and turning out from the raw material from \$300,000 to \$350,000 of work annually.

Thus is given the simple business record of one of the prominent men of Buffalo, and it need scarcely be said that the qualities which have wrought this success, combined with others of a social character, have been recognized by his fellow citizens in many ways. He became deeply interested in the Young Men's Association as early as 1844, was elected one of its officers and subsequently was honored with its presidency. He was one of the nine prominent men who started the subscription with their names for \$3,000 each, towards the fund for the purchase of the valuable property now owned and occupied by the Association.

In 1854 he was elected a director and afterwards the vice-president of White's Bank of Buffalo, which latter position he now occupies. He was for several years a trustee of the General Hospital, and gave to its affairs much of his personal attention. He was one of the twelve men who proposed and inaugurated the laying out of the beautiful park, and with others organized and was made a director in the Driving Park. He was one of the organizers of the Buffalo Club, was a director of that institution under President Fillmore and subsequently the president for three years. He became a member of the Order of Odd Fellows in 1839-'40 and is now a Master Mason, having given \$500 towards fitting up the splendid rooms of that order in this city.

Mr. Howard is a vestryman and communicant of Trinity Church, and is now actively engaged in the erection of a new church edifice, being chairman of the building committee; he is also chairman of a committee on subscriptions, who have obtained pledges for over \$50,000, himself subscribing \$3,000.

In connection with others Mr. Howard organized the District Telegraph system in Buffalo and was one of its officers until the consolidation with the Telephone Company, now so well established and of such great usefulness here.

Mr. Howard always had a decided taste for military life and was appointed aid on the staff of the Major General commanding the Eighth Division N. G., S. N. Y., with rank of Major. He was soon promoted to Chief of Staff with rank of Colonel. In 1865 he was appointed Major General of the Division by Governor Fenton, which honor he felt impelled to decline, but upon urgent solicitation, both civic and military, he accepted, and his appointment was at once confirmed by the Senate. The Eighth division then consisted of two brigades and five regiments. General Howard at once appointed his staff and began to reorganize and instil new life into a very demoralized body. He procured an appropriation through the Board of Supervisors of \$32,000 for the construction of an armory; he bought the lot and supervised the erection of a building one hundred by two hundred feet dimensions. With others he organized and constructed a rifle range on the lake shore and was its president until he resigned his position of Division Commander in 1878.

General Howard was always an earnest lover of Nature, and might have made a very successful career in the higher walks of agriculture. His financial circumstances have been such that he has been able to gratify this taste; in 1858 he purchased a plat of timbered land containing about two hundred acres in the Thirteenth ward of the city, paying \$95 per acre. The winter of that and the following years was one long to be remembered by the poor. Men with large families, though willing to work, could find nothing to do; the local poor fund was exhausted and hundreds of families became objects of charity. Under these circumstances General Howard performed a most worthy work by employing at one time more than one hundred men in chopping and clearing this land. In a few years this tract was converted into a highly cultivated and improved farm, which he still owns and vastly enjoys. Here he introduced Jersey cattle for the first time into Western New York, and in later years turned his attention largely to the breeding of blooded horses, of which he now has a large number of the finest in the country.

During the year 1883 some of the new railroads entering the city were obliged to cross General Howard's farm; this fact, with the rapid increase of his stock, compelled him to look elsewhere for more extensive accommodations. He accordingly purchased three hundred and fifty acres near the lake shore in the town of Hamburg, to which his stock, etc., will ultimately be transferred.

General Howard was married on the 27th of September, 1842, to Miss Maria L. Field, daughter of John C. Field and Lydia Ketchum, his wife. They have had six children, three sons and three daughters, all of whom are dead.

Mr. Howard is a man of fine, commanding presence and impresses upon every one with whom he comes in contact, rich or poor, the fact that nature made him the gentleman. He is a lover of the right in all things, and despises a mean act while he can feel charity for its perpetrator. His long life among the busiest and most important interests of Buffalo, has been one which has earned him the highest respect of his fellows.

ELAM R. JEWETT was born at New Haven, Vermont, on the 10th of December, 1810. His father, Othniel Jewett, was a native of Tyringham, Mass., where he learned the trade of wool-carding and cloth-dressing, in which business he established himself at New Haven, about the year 1800. He was a prominent man there, was a representative in the Assembly several terms, and served nearly forty consecutive years as Justice of the Peace. In connection with his wool-carding business, Mr. Jewett cultivated a farm. Elam was taught to do farm work as soon as he was old enough; his first employment was riding a horse in front of an ox-team to plow, when he was seven years old. He attended the common school in the winter months and worked on the farm in the summer, until he was thirteen years old, when he was apprenticed to the printer's trade.

About the time that Horace Greeley went from West Haven, Vermont, to East Poultney, to learn the printers' art, in the office of the *Northern Spectator*, Elam R. Jewett who was less than two months Greeley's senior, left New Haven in the same State, to learn the same trade in the office of the *National Standard* at Middlebury, Vermont. The former subsequently gained distinction as a journalist in the nation's metropolis, and the latter became eminent in the same profession in a great city at the other extremity of the Empire State.

The conditions of Elam's apprenticeship were, to serve seven years, for his board, and a compensation of \$25 the first year, with an additional \$5 each year, and to have the benefit of six

months' schooling during the seven years. The contract was faithfully kept by both parties, and young Jewett graduated a first-class printer at the age of twenty, but without much available capital.

After a term of two months' attendance at the Montpelier Academy, he became one of the publishers of the *Vermont State Journal*, Mr. C. L. Knapp, afterward member of Congress and editor of the *Lowell Citizen*, being his associate. Shortly afterwards they assumed the publication of the *Middlebury Free Press*, and carried on both papers. They were both anti-masonic, that question being then prominent in the politics of the country. All the financial assistance Mr. Jewett received from his father in his start in life was the loan of \$35, which he was not required to repay.

Three or four years' experience with these country papers gave Mr. Jewett a desire for a larger field and greater opportunities. These were at that time naturally sought for in the West, and for the purpose of suiting himself better he made a tour of observation through New York and into Ohio in 1838, going as far as Cleveland, and finally determined to establish himself in the book and stationery trade and the publication of a paper at Ohio City, a name given to the settlement on the opposite side of Cuyahoga river from Cleveland. He returned to his home in New England, packed and shipped his newspaper material, bought a stock of books and stationery in New Haven, Conn., and New York and returned to Ohio City. A Mr. Babcock, of New Haven, from whom he had purchased a portion of his stock of goods, accompanied him West to consult and advise with reference to the establishment of the new business. The ground was carefully looked over by the dealer and his young customer. The result of the financial crisis of 1837 still rested upon the business of the country; the success of Ohio City was an uncertainty, and all things considered, Mr. Babcock thought the prospect anything but promising. It was therefore abandoned, Mr. Babcock agreeing to take the stock Mr. Jewett had purchased from him upon the payment of \$250 for expenses already incurred.

While in Cleveland Mr. Jewett strolled into a newspaper office as newspaper men naturally will, and incidentally picked up a Buffalo paper in which he read an advertisement announcing that the *Buffalo Daily Journal* was for sale. He took passage on the first boat for this city, and sought an interview with the advertiser. The paper was owned by the late Judge Samuel Wilkeson and was published by his son-in-law, H. R. Stagg, and M. Cadwalader. It was a daily paper with a circulation of about six hundred. A weekly edition was also printed under the name of the *Patriot*. The papers were printed with a hand press. The city of Buffalo then had a population of 16,000. Mr. Jewett purchased the *Journal* establishment, and became the proprietor of a daily and weekly newspaper and a pioneer in Buffalo journalism.

A strong rivalry existed between the *Journal* and the *Commercial Advertiser*. Both were Whig papers, and the exciting presidential election of 1840 was approaching. Clay and Harrison were the talked of candidates. The *Journal* supported the former and the *Commercial* advocated the nomination of the latter.

In the meantime the *Journal* was selected as the official paper of the city, an event that widened the breach between the two Whig organs. The proprietors of the *Commercial* were sorely grieved in having a new comer to the city step in and carry off such a prize.

At length a proposition was made to Mr. Jewett to unite the two papers, upon the plea that the field was too small for two of the same party, and he was advised to purchase the *Commercial*. Much as he desired to have his rival out of the way, and anxious as he was to have his paper benefited by such a union, Mr. Jewett was in no condition to purchase such an establishment. The *Commercial* was owned by Messrs. H. A. and Guy H. Salisbury, and Dr. Thos. M. Foote. It was finally proposed that Mr. Jewett purchase the interest of the Salisbury's, if in addition to certain other payments he would assume a mortgage upon the property of twelve hundred dollars. The proposition was accepted, and Mr. Jewett had no difficulty in finding twelve good friends who joined him in a note, each becoming responsible for one hundred dollars, upon which the cash was obtained from the late Hiram Pratt, President of the Bank of Buffalo, and the mortgage was discharged. Mr. Jewett paid the note at or before maturity from the profits of his business, and without troubling his obliging endorsers.

The consolidated paper was called *The Commercial Advertiser and Journal* in order to protect the legality of unexpired advertisements, for awhile, and then the *Journal* was dropped and the *Commercial Advertiser* used only. The publishers were E. R. Jewett & Co., Dr. Thomas M. Foote being the Company.



Mr. Jewett had a narrow escape from assassination in 1847. A midshipman by the name of Pollock, attached to the United States lake steamer *Michigan*, taking exception to an article in the paper, came to the office and inquired of Mr. Jewett whether he was responsible for its publication, and being assured in the affirmative, Pollock drew a horse-pistol and deliberately fired at him. The weapon was loaded with large buck-shot, two of which lodged about midway in his wallet, filled with miscellaneous papers, opposite the groin, and directly over the femoral artery, which would have been severed but for the wallet. Pollock was convicted and sent to prison for five years, but was pardoned by Governor Young before the completion of the sentence.

In 1850, at the solicitation of numerous friends of President Fillmore's administration, Mr. Jewett assumed the management of the *Albany State Register* for nearly two years, traveling between Albany and Buffalo, chiefly by night trains, and attending to business alternately by day in the two cities.

In 1850 Messrs. Jewett and Foote formed a co-partnership with C. S. F. Thomas and S. H. Lathrop for the transaction of book and job work, in connection with the stationery business, and the concern did a large and profitable business. The desire of Messrs. Thomas and Lathrop to extend the business beyond what the other parties deemed justifiable, led to a dissolution in 1855, the former purchasing the interest of the latter, both in the newspaper and the book and stationery business. The *Commercial*, under Mr. Jewett's administration, secured a national reputation for its excellent job printing and relief-line engraving.

C. C. Bristol, in his history of Buffalo, published in 1865, says upon this subject:—

"The *Commercial Advertiser* printing house is now the oldest in that line in Buffalo. In its early days it gave a reputation to the town for the best printing in the land. It inaugurated the celebrated Chromotypic style, out of which has grown the beautiful colored work now seen in the shape of cards and frame show bills for railroads, etc.

"The Relief Line Engraving Establishment of Messrs. E. R. Jewett & Co. for many years has furnished the fine-line engraving for the Patent Office reports, which, until Messrs. Jewett & Co. took the contract, was given out to numerous engraving establishments in the principal cities of the United States. It is now all done in this establishment, where sufficient hands are employed to produce the engravings as fast as they are wanted.

"Copies of the work produced by Messrs. Jewett & Co. were submitted to United States Commissioners of Patents, the Superintendent of Public Printing, the examiners in the Patent Office and others, who all pronounced it the handsomest and cleanest specimen of work ever submitted for inspection. It is very creditable to us that Buffalo has done some of the best work the Government has ever had."

Mr. Jewett finally disposed of the engraving department of his business to H. Chandler & Co., from whom it was passed to Messrs. William P. Northrup & Co., thence to Messrs. Matthews, Northrup & Co.

Mr. Jewett was a warm personal friend of the late President Fillmore. The intimacy began upon Mr. Jewett's arrival in Buffalo, and only terminated with the death of his associate. Upon the invitation of Mr. Fillmore, Messrs. Jewett and Foote accompanied him on a trip abroad in 1856, meeting in Paris, and then visiting many points of interest in Europe. Circumstances preventing Messrs. Fillmore and Foote from going to the Holy Land, as was contemplated, Mr. Jewett joined a party of Americans bound thither and traveled through Palestine. At Cannes, in France, the summer residence of Lord Brougham, President Fillmore and companions were invited to the chateau of the English statesman and cordially welcomed. At Rome they were given an audience by His Holiness Pope Pius IX. While abroad Mr. Jewett had a very pleasant visit in London with Sir Curtiss Lampton, a Vermont boy and a school companion, who had risen to distinction in England. He left Vermont when young, going to Canada, and was connected with the American Fur Co., under J. J. Astor. He finally became the successor of the company in its London business, and in connection with his sons continues it to the present time. He became active and prominent in laying the first Atlantic Cable, for which he was baroneted by Her Majesty, a title which he declined to accept until earnestly pressed to do so by American friends with whom he advised, including Minister Charles F. Adams, who felt that his acceptance would officially identify America with the enterprise.

Soon after Mr. Jewett's return from abroad the panic of 1857 swept over the country, carrying down his former partners, who had extended and enlarged their business beyond what Messrs. Jewett & Foote would consent to do and which was the cause of the dissolution. They failed for \$300,000, and made an assignment for the benefit of their creditors, of whom Messrs. Jewett & Foote were the



largest. They purchased the business of the concern from the assignee in order to protect their interests, and thereby again became the publishers of the *Commercial Advertiser*. In 1862 Messrs. Jewett & Foote sold the establishment to Messrs. Rufus Wheeler, James D. Warren, and Joseph Candee. The interest of Messrs. Wheeler and Candee was soon after transferred to James N. Matthews, and the paper was published by Matthews & Warren until 1877, when Mr. Warren purchased the interest of his partner.

Mr. Jewett then engaged in the manufacture of envelopes, establishing the first envelope factory west of New York city, in which he was assisted by his nephew, E. M. Jewett, and carried on the stationery business for a while, and in 1864, he retired from active business, and purchased the old Chapin farm on Main street near the Central Railway Crossing. He added to his purchase adjoining farms, until he became the owner of 450 acres, which he proceeded to cultivate and improve in the most elaborate manner. When the Park was laid out about 200 acres of his farm was taken for Park purposes, leaving about 250 acres, which is now one of the choicest and most attractive spots in the vicinity of Buffalo and is known as Willow Lawn.

The farm is cultivated for the pleasure and amusement of its venerable proprietor rather than for profit. Anything which promises comfort and enjoyment is indulged in, his aim seeming to be not only to minister to his own pleasure but to the happiness of his host of kindred and friends as well. In his retirement he is surrounded with all the luxuries that can be desired. A well selected library and rare pictures grace his mansion, choice fruits and luscious vegetables abound in his well-kept garden, broad and extended lawns stretch out in all directions to please the eye, gently curving avenues fringed with nicely trimmed hedges invite strolls through their serpentine meanderings, graceful shade trees shut out the rays of the scorching sun, while unnumbered blossoms lend their enchanting fragrance to render this unequaled suburban retreat—Willow Lawn, the Val Ambrosia of Buffalo.

Mr. Jewett finds infinite pleasure in entertaining his friends and acquaintances at his country-like home. His social habits, genial disposition and generous nature are well suited to the means at his disposal for doing the honors of host. Willow Lawn is a sort of half-way house for the legion of Mr. Jewett's kindred in the East and West, and they always find a hearty welcome and hospitable entertainment at his mansion. No sooner had Mr. Jewett become established at Willow Lawn, and prepared the facilities for entertainment than he extended an invitation to his former associates of the press of Buffalo to meet at a social gathering under his roof. This event occurred in August, 1869, and the *Commercial Advertiser* published the following reference thereto:—

“One of the most delightful reunions or quiet social gatherings it was ever our good fortune to participate in took place at the elegant and delightfully beautiful country seat of E. R. Jewett, Esq., on Saturday afternoon last. The ex-publisher of the *Commercial Advertiser*, at his ‘model farm’ just beyond Cold Spring, luxuriates in the good things of this world and has demonstrated to what perfection a country residence and farm can be brought. He has expended a large sum of money in adorning and developing his estate with the greatest success. We congratulate him on his well-earned fortune.

“Among the incidents of the day was the discovery of Mr. Jewett's intention to raise a simple monument of stone upon the site of the burial of a number of the soldiers of the war of 1812, who died in camp at this place.”

In reference to the proposed monument, it should be said that soon after the reunion about one-half of Mr. Jewett's farm, including the burial-spot, was taken by the city for Park purposes, thereby frustrating Mr. Jewett's patriotic intention, and now the two willows standing in the Park are the only objects that mark the sacred spot where rest the remains of three score and ten of the defenders of their country.

These soldiers were a portion of General Smyth's Regulars who were encamped in the fall and winter of 1812 on “Flint Hill,” a rise of ground over which Main street passes from the crossing of the Parkway north to Chapin street. The troops remained here until the following spring. During this time a typhoid epidemic prevailed among them, which carried off about three hundred. They were buried on the hill in cheap, plain pine-board coffins, but the rock came so close to the surface that their graves were only about one foot in depth. The frosts of winter caused many of the bodies to be exposed the following spring, and upon application to the Government an order was obtained for their re-interment in more secure graves. By permission of Captain Rowland Cotton and Doctor Chapin the remains of seventy-one officers and men were buried directly on the dividing line between their respective farms, and Dr. Chapin stuck down a willow sprout at each end of the

trench, which have grown to the stalwart trees that now stand guard over the unknown but patriotic dead.

On the 10th of December, 1880, Mr. Jewett celebrated his seventieth anniversary, and his friends thought it an occasion that should have some formal observance. The venerable septenarian assented to the proposition, and the affair was described in the *Buffalo Express* as follows:—

“Willow Lawn, the beautiful suburban residence of our esteemed fellow-townsmen, Mr. E. R. Jewett, was on Tuesday last the scene of a delightful reunion of relatives assembled to celebrate the seventieth birthday of the host. There were about thirty of them, and the youngest among them did not appear much livelier than did Mr. Jewett. Rare and fragrant flowers made one almost forget the cold outside. The table was spread with a feast of good things, the central object of attraction being the birthday cake, surrounded by seventy candles and festooned with smilax. All present rejoiced in the good health and happiness of their loved and respected relative, and departed expressing themselves delighted with the evening's entertainment.

The veteran ex-printer, ex-publisher and ex-editor is most fortunate in his circumstances and surroundings; but few men have better deserved by hard and honest work in their younger days, the ease and comfort which Mr. Jewett enjoys in a hale and hearty age that is not old.”

Mr. Jewett refers with just pride to his numerous “boys,” as he calls those who have been in his employ, and gone out to fight the battle of life successfully. Among these are W. F. Story, editor and proprietor of the *Chicago Times*, James N. Matthews, editor and proprietor of the *Buffalo Express*, S. P. Rounds, the present Government Printer, and others in the newspaper profession, as well as some who have entered the pulpit or been admitted to the Bar.

Mr. Jewett was married in 1838 to Miss Caroline Wheeler, of his and her native town of New Haven, Vt. The venerable couple have not been blest with living children.

In religion Mr. Jewett is an Episcopalian, and in politics he is an ardent Republican. His admiration of Lincoln, the great apostle of Republicanism, is duly attested by an original painting by Sully, that graces his drawing room.

He has never been an office-holder or an office-seeker. He was elected Supervisor of the Twelfth ward a few years ago, much against his wish, but having been chosen he discharged the duties of the office faithfully and well.

**SHERMAN S. JEWETT.**—Joseph Jewett was a resident of East Lyme, Conn., until in the Revolutionary war he displayed his patriotism by entering the Continental army. He became a captain in Col. Huntington's regiment and was engaged in the battle of Flatbush; being taken prisoner he surrendered his sword to a British officer, who instantly plunged it through his body. His fourth son, Josiah Jewett, moved to Cayuga county, N. Y., and settled at Moravia as a farmer. There he married as his second wife, Sophia Skinner, who was also of New England ancestry. Their eldest son was Sherman S. Jewett, the subject of our attention. He was born at Moravia, January 17, 1818.

His early life was passed upon his father's farm, engaged in such work as he could do to assist in the support of a large family. For three or four years after he became ten years of age, he attended the district school in winter. In 1833 he acted as clerk for his half-brother, who had a small country store. Leaving there he returned home to remain a few days and then started in life for himself. He appreciated the lack of opportunity in Moravia and, favored by the suggestions of relatives, he intended to work for his uncle, Isaac Watts Skinner, who owned a small foundry in Buffalo and was a manufacturer of plows, mill castings and mill machinery. He left Moravia in company with a man who was taking a load of produce to market; consequently he walked nearly all the way to the Erie Canal at Jordan. There taking passage on a packet boat, he arrived in Buffalo on the 3d of May, 1834. Charles Coleman and his son, William Coleman, were fellow passengers. Buffalo appeared to him very small, compared to the reports about its growth and the pictures of it which were then in circulation. Its population was then about 12,000. On reaching Buffalo he commenced work in his uncle's foundry, painting plows and cleaning castings.

In the winter of 1834-'35 he attended Silas Kingsley's high school. Afterwards for several months he applied himself to learning the moulder's trade; then acted as a clerk in the warehouse, taking the time of the men and other similar work, until Mr. Skinner was burned out. On September 1st, 1836, a copartnership was formed consisting of Franklin Day, Francis H. Root and Sherman S. Jewett, under the firm name of Day, Root & Co. They erected a small foundry on Mississippi street, near Elk. In a few months Mr. Day withdrew and Mr. Skinner took his place, changing the style of the firm to Skinner, Root & Co. In a few years Mr. Skinner and Mr. Root







withdrew and a new firm was organized, composed of Thomas J. Dudley and Sherman S. Jewett, under the style of Dudley & Jewett. After two years of existence this firm was dissolved by Mr. Dudley selling his interest to Mr. Jewett, after which the business was continued by him alone until 1843, when Sherman S. Jewett and Francis H. Root established the firm of Jewett & Root, who continued to manufacture stoves. Business increased with them as rapidly as they could secure means with which to handle it. In 1854 the Chicago branch was opened in order to retain and increase their hold upon the trade of the growing West. In 1875 Mr. Josiah Jewett was admitted to the firm of Jewett & Root. In 1878 Mr. Root parted with his interest in the firm, thus dissolving a partnership of thirty-five years of prosperity. Then the firm of Sherman S. Jewett & Co. was formed, composed of Sherman S. Jewett, Henry C. Jewett and Josiah Jewett. The house now have flourishing branches in Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee and San Francisco. Mr. Jewett has always been very energetic in the management of his business, and is still actively at the head of the firm in every sense of the word; is early at work and nearly the last to leave. He is never known to speculate, and is remarkable also for his keen insight into matters of finance and his intuitive knowledge of circumstances affecting future calculations. To all these is to be attributed his success in business, from which he has realized a handsome fortune, which he not only enjoys himself, but uses to increase the comfort of those connected with him, and to benefit many others with whom he has associated in other business enterprises and in various social relations. His only amusement is fishing on the Niagara River, where he uses his elegant steam yacht *Titania*, and devotes himself with passionate energy to the destruction of perch, black bass and muscalonge.

Mr. Jewett was elected to the Common Council in 1845, and served during 1845, 1846 and 1849. He was elected Mayor *pro tem.* two or three times and served as such during the Mayor's absence. At this time occurred the Ohio Basin and Erie Basin fight in the Common Council, the advocates of each making every exertion to kill off the other. Mr. Jewett took a positive position that the city needed both, and the Council adopted this course, which has proved the most beneficial to the city of Buffalo. The Blackwell canal was also an enterprise of this time.

In 1878, Mr. Jewett received without any previous knowledge the nomination for Representative in Congress, at the hands of the Republican party. Owing to his poor health he felt compelled to decline this unanimous and unsolicited nomination. In 1880 he was elected upon the Republican ticket as a Presidential Elector and cast his vote in the Electoral College for James A. Garfield and Chester A. Arthur.

In social life and in private enterprise, a brief summary of his efforts cannot fail to be interesting in this record of a busy life:—

*Park Commission.*—A meeting of citizens was held August 5, 1868, at his house, to consider the subject of a public park. As a sequence the Park became an established fact in 1871. Mr. Jewett has been a Commissioner since the organization of the Board of Park Commissioners, and its president since 1879.

Mr. Jewett was one of the founders of the Buffalo Club in 1867, a director during the first nine years of its existence, and its president in 1874.

During the war of the Rebellion, Mr. Jewett served on various committees; was a member of the Buffalo branch of the Christian Commission, and joined in every movement to aid and perpetuate the Federal Union. At all times he was among the foremost to aid in strengthening the power of the government by his counsel, his personal labor and the use of his private means.

His name also appears as one of the originators of the Falconwood Company, in 1869, and as its first president, holding the office until 1877.

His relations with the Young Men's Association have been at times of a peculiar and impressive importance. In the year 1863, a meeting of nine gentlemen occurred at the old American Hall parlors, to discuss a project about buying St. James Hall and St. James Hotel, to improve the facilities of the Association. After several hours' discussion without any definite result, all mutually agreed to follow whoever led off in subscribing, and do the same. Mr. Jewett, as such leader, promptly solved the delicate problem by subscribing \$3,000, and thus contributed to the success of the effort. In 1883, when a further scheme was suggested, looking toward the erection of a fire-proof building upon the property bounded by Washington, Clinton and Ellicott streets, and Broad-

way, the first meeting of citizens was held at Mr. Jewett's house, at which time it was his privilege to again head the list of subscriptions, which was completed so triumphantly, with universal approval. He was president of the Association in 1865.

The Bank of Buffalo owes its origin to the efforts of Mr. Jewett and his friends. He has always been its president and is largely entitled to the credit of its success, which is without a parallel in the history of Buffalo banks. The Manufacturers' and Traders' Bank of Buffalo also claims him as one of its originators and a director ever since. He was also one of the originators and a director of the Clinton Bank during its entire existence. When it withdrew from business every stockholder and depositor was paid in full. Mr. Jewett has been a director of the Marine Bank since 1869, and is now a stockholder in several other banks.

He was also an originator of the Buffalo Mutual Insurance Company, which had a most successful career and gained the entire confidence of all business circles. Finally, under the re-organized name of Buffalo Fire and Marine Insurance Co., it continued to increase in popularity until compelled to retire from business owing to the terrible losses suffered in the great Chicago fire of 1871. Then the three principal insurance companies of Buffalo—"The Western," the "Buffalo City" and the "Buffalo Fire and Marine," were all placed in bankruptcy and by the action of the Chicago creditors Mr. Jewett was appointed assignee of all. This was one of the most important works of his life and to it he applied himself with such zeal that in three years he received his official discharge from the entire work, which he had completed to the unbounded admiration of all interested parties. The *Commercial Advertiser* of December 18, 1871, refers to this matter as follows:—

"The appointment of S. S. Jewett, Esq., of this city, as the assignee of all the companies, is a guarantee that the best disposition will be made of their several effects, and that their creditors will be honorably dealt with. The fact that he was elected by the creditors of each of the companies is certainly very creditable to Mr. Jewett's reputation; such a thing is very seldom done. The general opinion was that a different assignee would be elected for each company, and it was supposed that the gentlemen who had been appointed receivers would be elected assignees. Mr. Jewett was receiver of the Buffalo Fire and Marine, Mr. Gibson T. Williams of the Western, and Mr. P. J. Ferris of the Buffalo City. Mr. Jewett and Mr. Williams were the presidents of their companies, and Mr. Ferris was the vice-president of the Buffalo City. But while the election of Mr. Jewett by the creditors of each company was highly creditable to him, it does not follow that the non-election of the other receivers involved the expression of any want of confidence in them. The Chicago creditors were largely in the majority and, of course, had the control of the matter. Probably Mr. Jewett was better known to them than any of the other gentlemen, as his firm has a large branch establishment in Chicago."

The Buffalo Fine Arts Academy is proud to include Mr. Jewett as one of its originators, who in its darkest hour endowed it with a permanent fund of \$10,000, of which the interest could be used for its maintenance. Inspired by this act, however, the friends of the Academy at once raised another fund of similar amount to perform that service, and set apart the original donation as a distinct fund, to be called the Jewett fund, the interest to be devoted solely to the purchase of works of art for the Academy. Under the silent influence of this fund already (1884) a valuable collection of oil paintings now adorn the walls of the Academy and bear testimony to the thoughtfulness of the donor. Mr. Jewett served as curator of the Academy for eight years and was its president in 1865. Mr. Jewett is a trustee of Forest Lawn Cemetery, in which he takes a deep interest.

He was one of the earliest promoters of the construction of the Buffalo, New York and Philadelphia Railway and a director from 1867 to 1881. In 1876 he was called to the presidency. The affairs of the road needed just the ability which he brought to the work. In order to provide feeders for this road, Mr. Jewett and the friends of the enterprise constructed several narrow gauge roads which paid back to the stockholders more than the entire capital invested in them, and were finally sold at a handsome profit. At the same time the B., N. Y. & P. Railway had so improved that it was sold by Mr. Jewett so as to repay to the stockholders every dollar of the capital; thus saving to the city of Buffalo its \$700,000 of stock which it took to encourage the building of the road. This is a record of integrity to the trust reposed in him, and it is without a parallel in the history of municipal investments in railroads. In all of the negotiations to effect a sale of the property, the point proposed by Mr. Jewett and maintained by him persistently was, that all of the stockholders, including the city, must share alike and receive full value for their stock. A reference to the daily journals of Buffalo will show how they tendered praise to him for the ability and honor displayed by him in the entire transaction. We quote from the Buffalo *Courier* of April 19, 1881:—

"The sale of the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia Railroad would, under the ordinary circumstances which attend the disposition of a railroad, be in and of itself a matter of ordinary importance in these days of grand negotiations. But there are some points connected with the transfer of the Buffalo & Philadelphia, and antecedent to it, that make it a matter of unusual local interest. When Sherman S. Jewett plays anything like an important part, he is reticent to the last degree, and a newspaper man might as well interview the sphinx; but if he can give any valuable facts about the successful enterprise of another, or can speak of any brilliant stroke of diplomacy on the part of a neighbor or a friend, he is not only a free talker, but an enthusiastic one, and becomes exceedingly interesting. A personal experience with him during the time that he was working the B., N. Y. & P. up to a place where it could have recognition, bears us out in this, for it was next to impossible to get even an admission from him that he was rescuing the road from the utter ruin that threatened it. Indeed, *Courier* reporters gave him up, and almost uniformly reported him to the office as having nothing of importance to communicate. The interests of the city, if there were none other, compelled us to watch the attention paid to the B., N. Y. & P., and we recall some facts in connection with the history of the road which enable us to speak intelligently at this time. It was in the fall of 1876 that Mr. Sherman S. Jewett and Mr. George B. Gates took charge of the road in question; and it is no exaggeration to say that at that time the road was bankrupt and the stock worthless. The first mortgage bonds were put upon the market and sold very deliberately in 1876. We called attention to them at the time, believing them to be a safe investment under the then administration. They are now worth 110 and will go to a higher figure. Later in the same year the second mortgage bonds, drawing 10 per cent. interest, could only find a few purchasers; but Mr. Jewett retired all of these and issued a new series bearing seven per cent. in their place. Within eighteen months all of this issue—a million dollars—has been placed at par and is now quoted at 110.

"When Mr. Jewett took the road the floating debt was \$1,250,000.—something tremendous, all the facts considered. That debt is now all wiped out; and if any better evidence of masterly management can be cited, it does not occur to us at the present writing. It was under Mr. Jewett's management that all the narrow-gauge roads connecting with the Buffalo & Philadelphia were built and coal mines opened. By going outside of his road and levying legitimate tribute where he could, he extricated the B., N. Y. & P., from ruin and saved it to the stockholders, of which the taxpayers of Buffalo are no small number. The saving to Buffalo is nearly three-quarters of a million of dollars or in round numbers, \$700,000.

"Now, anybody who is familiar with the alphabet of railroading or the manipulation of stocks, will readily understand that, moved by a less upright and patriotic motive, Mr. Jewett could have literally frozen out the city and the smaller stockholders and made himself absolute master of the situation. He didn't do this even though he could have made a handsome fortune out of it, but preferred to carry the whole load on his own shoulders for the benefit of everybody interested; and these facts and the resurrection of the road from nothingness, all considered, make the sale one of the most remarkable in the history of American railroads. We take infinite pleasure in placing to the credit of one of our most prominent citizens, a transaction so rare and so successful in every feature of it. Negotiations have been pending for the past five months, but had they not succeeded, the property had been so thoroughly built up, Mr. Jewett would have paid a dividend next August.

"The work of Mr. Jewett will be the better appreciated, when it is remembered that his own every extensive business, both as a manufacturer and a banker, required a great deal of his time and attention, and assuredly these have not been neglected.

"Mr. Jewett has one of the best business and diplomatic minds in this country. He is a thinker; and when he proceeds about negotiations of any kind he knows precisely what he is doing. There is no trickery about him, and when he puts a thing into the market, the fact that his name is back of it is ample guarantee that it is worth what he asks for it. This is a good enough record for any man, but it holds good through all Mr. Jewett's business career; and the railroad transaction under consideration is primarily valuable to us as revealing the fact that we have a modest business gentleman in our midst who is capable of dealing with large enterprises in the best possible style, with reference to the best interests of all concerned. Mr. Jewett ought to have pleasure of a summer on Niagara river without disturbance."

The assistance given to religious enterprises is also worthy of mention. The Washington Street Baptist Church, Prospect Avenue Baptist Church, Delaware Avenue Baptist Church, Rochester University and similar institutions elsewhere, some of other denominations can attest his liberality to them. In 1882 Mr. Jewett erected in Chicago a mercantile building which ranks among the first in that city of commercial palaces, and is valued at a half million dollars.

Sherman S. Jewett was married August 14, 1839, to Deborah Dusenbury, of Buffalo. Their children are as follows:—Henry Clay Jewett, Josiah Jewett, Emma Alice Jewett, Jennie Matilda Jewett, Frank Webster Jewett, died in 1859, George Sherman Jewett, died in 1862. Henry C. and Josiah Jewett are associated with their father in the business of Sherman S. Jewett & Co. Emma married Charles H. Williams; Jennie married Henry C. Howard, all of Buffalo, where they now reside.



Since the foregoing sketch was prepared the following has been contributed by a friend :

"In 1863 S. V. R. Watson was elected President of the Young Men's Association. The opposing candidate was Sherman S. Jewett, but to strengthen both tickets the names of six of the most prominent business men of the city, including both Messrs. Watson and Jewett, were placed on both tickets, so that whichever ticket was elected the president-elect might have their advice and influence in support of any plan that he might devise for obtaining a suitable building for the Association. The election was one of the most hotly contested in the annals of the Association, and although the heads of the tickets manifested none but the most friendly feeling, yet it cannot be denied that among their immediate personal friends no little feeling was shown. Time rolled on and Mr. Watson succeeded in obtaining a refusal of what was then known as the St. James' property (now occupied by the Young Men's Association) for \$112,000. The question then was, could an amount be raised by subscription which would render it safe for the Association to purchase the property? After carefully considering the matter, Mr. Watson invited eight of the most prominent business men of the city, including the five on his ticket, to meet him at the American Hotel. In addition, some of the younger members of his committee who were on the building committee, were also invited. The evening arrived and Mr. Watson laid his plans before the meeting and took his seat. There was a dead pause for about five minutes. It was by far the largest scheme that had ever been planned in Buffalo; we had but few wealthy men. It is safe to say that there are two such here now where there was one then, and of the wealthy men, of whom those present were, perhaps, the most prominent, it is safe to say that every one is now worth at least double the amount he was then. I mention this matter to show the great doubts that existed whether any such sum could be raised. At last Mr. S. S. Jewett arose. The writer, who was present as one of the building committee, is frank to confess that his heart sank within him. A most vivid recollection of the last Y. M. A. election passed through his mind. The election, as before stated, had been an unusually excited one, and after it was over hot and bitter words passed between the younger men on the respective tickets. I had then but little personal acquaintance with Mr. Jewett. Would he heartily support a plan originating with a man who had just defeated him? A look at the anxious face of Mr. Watson showed me that the same thoughts were passing through his mind. It was not merely necessary that he should speak favorably of the plan; it was absolutely necessary to have the hearty and cordial support of the leading business men, and if a man of the standing of S. S. Jewett expressed the slightest doubt about the scheme, the thing was up. Fortunately he came loyally and nobly to our support. Over twenty years have elapsed yet I remember his speech as if I had heard it yesterday. Said he:—

"*Mr. Watson and Gentlemen*:—I have listened with great attention and the deepest interest to the details of Mr. Watson's plan. In my judgment there is no doubt as to what our duty is in the matter. The Young Men's Association is entitled to our most earnest support. It seems to me that the advantages of a great public library cannot be sufficiently extolled. It places within the reach of every family, for a mere trifle, the advantages of such a library as no private individual, however wealthy, can possess. The question is, what shall we do in regard to the plan before us? There is but one thing for us to do; we must do all in our power to carry it through. If there is any better plan it has not been shown. We have had too much throwing cold water on any plan that has been brought up. I have got thoroughly sick of hearing—'Well, the idea is a pretty good one, but can we not find a better one?' I tell you, gentlemen, we want a little less seeing and a little more subscribing. Now, I have three propositions to make to you, gentlemen, and you may take either one of them. I will go in with you eight and purchase this building and present it to the Young Men's Association; or I will go in with you eight and build a fire-proof building that will cost not less than \$250,000; or, I will give as much as any other man in Buffalo."

"From that moment the success of the project was secured. After consultation the nine men subscribed each \$3,000, and with this start the enterprise was pushed through to a successful conclusion. Comment is needless. In the words of the late Dean Richmond to one of the younger men of Mr. Watson's committee—'Young man, it is seldom you will find a man who, after he is beaten, will turn around make an offer that might cost him \$30,000 in order to carry through a project that his successful rival has originated.' The name of S. S. Jewett should always be held dear by all friends of the Young Men's Association, as one to whose loyal and unselfish support the institution owes so much of its present prosperity."

**HENRY KIP** was born in Whitesboro, near Utica, Oneida county, N. Y., on the 2d of January, 1817. His father was Henry Kip, Sen., who was born at Kip's Bay, New York city, August 1st, 1785, and died in New York city October 16, 1849. He was a grandson of Samuel Kip, born at Kip's Bay, June 7, 1732, and died there February 14, 1804. His mother was Christina Dakin, born in Liverpool, England, October 24, 1784, and died in Brooklyn, N. Y., March 15, 1862; she was a daughter of Thomas Dakin and Elizabeth Middleton, of Hope, Derbyshire, England.\* Henry

\* The first ancestor of the Kip family in America was Hendrick Kip, who was born in Amsterdam, Holland, in 1576, and came to New Amsterdam (New York City) in 1635, with his son, Hendrick Hendricksen Kip, born in Amsterdam in 1600, who died in New Amsterdam in 1680, at Kip's Bay. (For full records of the family history see Holgate's American Genealogy; also Lossing's Field Book of the Revolution, which contains a cut of the family mansion at Kip's Bay, Genealogy of Wells, of Southold, and Mrs. Lamb's History of New York city.)





*Nancy Kip*



Kip's parents removed to Buffalo on the 2d of July, 1819. His younger days were passed at home ; he attended school until he was seventeen years old, at Col. McKay's Military Academy, and the best private schools. When he had reached the age just mentioned, he was ambitious to engage in business and gained his father's consent to enter the employ of Robert Hollister, a wholesale drug and grocery merchant, of Buffalo. He remained there two years, and spent the next two years until he was twenty-one, in attendance at a private school at Westchester Farms, (now Fordham), Westchester county.

On his return from school in 1838, Mr. Kip again entered the drug business, but shortly afterwards formed the firm of Kip & Clark, dry goods and groceries. This proved to be an unfortunate venture, and the firm was dissolved. He then obtained a clerkship in the Wells, Fargo & Co. Express in 1845. A change occurring in the company's interests, he entered the service of the American Express Company, becoming its Superintendent ; he held this position until the formation of the United States Express Co., when he accepted the offer of the general superintendency of that company in 1854, and at the time of his death in 1883, was its general manager, vice-president and director.

Mr. Kip was married on the 6th of November, 1845, at Canandaigua, N. Y., to Miss Charlotte Miriam Wells. Mrs. Kip was born April 11, 1820, at Canandaigua, and was daughter of Dr. Richard Wells and Miriam Hayden ; Dr. Wells was born at Brattleboro, Vt., June 24, 1774, and died September 12, 1841, in Canandaigua ; (son of Dr. Henry Wells, who was born at Connecticut Farms (now Union), Essex county, N. J., June 14, 1742, and died August 24, 1814) ; Miriam Hayden was born December 25, 1780, at Conway, Mass., and died at Canandaigua, July 26, 1831. Miriam Hayden was the daughter of Dr. Moses Hayden, (born September 23, 1742, and died June 28, 1813, at Canandaigua) and Tryphena Childs.

The children of Henry Kip's marriage are Henry Wells Kip, born March 8, 1857, now a manufacturer of Buffalo ; Edward Dakin Kip, born May 30, 1850, and died November 29, 1851 ; William Fargo Kip, born April 8, 1855, now a lawyer, of Buffalo ; and Charles Hayden Kip, born June 27, 1860, who at the date of this sketch has just finished his college life.

In politics Mr. Kip was an earnest, uncompromising Republican ; but he took no active part in the political field, sought no political office, and lived a quiet, simple life, yet was full of usefulness in his sphere. In addition to his offices in the United States Express Co., he was a director of the Buffalo & Southwestern Railroad. He was one of the oldest parishioners, and, at the date of his death, next to the oldest communicant of Trinity Church, and was several times one of its vestrymen. He died at St. Luke's Hospital, New York city, where he had gone for medical advice and treatment, on the 17th of January, 1883.

Mr. Kip was a man of unostentatious benevolence, giving largely to charity and doing much good in many ways unknown to the world at large ; and he enjoyed in the largest measure the respect, confidence and esteem of the community. In a series of resolutions passed upon Mr. Kip's death by the Board of Directors of the American Express Company, was the following:—

“ For nearly thirty years Henry Kip held a place in the Express business of the country that found its measure only in the unsparing confidence of the directors of the United States Express Company, which for the last decade, was proved to be unlimited by his advancement and maintenance in the chief position of trust and honor in its management. Respected and wholly trusted by his business associates, esteemed and valued as a member of the church and society, revered and idolized by his family, his death was the occasion of saddened accents of grief throughout the wide circle by whom he was known, respectively as father, brother, associate and friend.”

The resolutions of the Directors of the United States Express and Adams Express Companies were equally remarkable, as the expression of friends and business associates. The *New York Tribune* said :—

“ In private and public life Mr. Kip was known as loyal to his friends and most unselfish in all his relations. He was brave, earnest, self-controlled and universally esteemed.”

At the funeral services in Buffalo, the Rev. Dr. Van Bokkelen, Rector of Trinity Church, said, among other things :—

“ As a citizen and friend, Henry Kip was too well known to need eulogy from me. Descended from the good Knickerbocker stock, to which this State owes much of its manly virtue, Mr. Kip illustrated in his business life its firm adherence to all that is just and of good report. He was fixed as a rock in holding what is right, and never disappointed those who committed to him any trust.”

The Sunday following the funeral, Right Reverend A. Cleveland Coxe, the Bishop of Western New York, preached at Trinity Church, and said :—

“ I have come to Trinity Church to-day, to express to the congregation my high appreciation of the late Henry Kip. I felt for Mr. Kip not only great admiration for his work as a churchman, but I can lay on his grave the tribute of warm personal friendship. I always found Mr. Kip ready with counsel and substantial aid.”

**URI C. LYNDE.**—John Lynde was a native of Burlington, Vermont, where he was born in 1785. His wife was Mehitable Horton, who was born in Providence, R. I., in 1792. John Lynde was an officer in the American army and fought for his country in the war of 1812. In 1815 he settled in Erie county, where he remained until his death. These were the parents of the subject of this sketch, who was born on the 26th of March, 1834, in the township of Concord, this county. His early life was spent in acquiring an education and afterwards in teaching in this State and in Kentucky.

In 1856-'57 Dr. Lynde attended one term at the Medical College of Geneva, following it with a term in New York City in 1857-'58. The next year (1858-'59) Dr. Lynde studied his profession in the Buffalo University, from which he graduated. He afterwards studied two terms in Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, where he graduated in 1866.

Dr. Lynde first practiced in his native town of Concord, at the village of Springville, in 1859, continuing there until 1862, when he raised Company F, of the 116th N. Y. S. Volunteers, and entered that regiment as first assistant surgeon. With the services of this gallant regiment our readers are already familiar, and in it Dr. Lynde gained a large experience in army surgery, which has been of great value to him in his later practice. In his official position, he was placed in charge of the hospitals at Springfield Landing, near Port Hudson, where the wounded were brought from the battles in the rear of that place.

Since 1872 Dr. Lynde has been in active practice in Buffalo, where his work in accidental surgery has been, perhaps, as large as that of any physician in Western New York, and in which he has reached an enviable degree of success.

In 1854 Dr. Lynde was married to Miss Susan Loveland, daughter of William Loveland and Rebecca (Barnes) Loveland. Three children have been born to them—James U. Lynde, born in 1859, is a druggist in Angelica, N. Y.; Charles C. Lynde, born in 1865, is a paper hanger in Chicago, Ill.; and Frank Lynde, a short-hand reporter of Buffalo.

Dr. Lynde's professional career, both in Buffalo and elsewhere, and also his private life, have been such as to gain him a lucrative business and the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens.

**JOHN A. CRESWELL** was born in Hanover, Beaver county, Pa., July 11, 1850. He removed to Ohio with his parents in 1856, and in April, 1866, left the parental roof and went to Michigan. Here he worked his way through the academy and to the senior class in college, as farm laborer, teacher, and afterwards as editor of the village paper. He was graduated from Albion College, Albion, Mich., in June, 1876; began in journalism as editor of the college paper, and August 30, 1872, became editor of the *Albion Recorder*. He continued there fourteen months, and in November, 1873, became night news editor of the *Detroit Tribune*, leaving that in December, 1874, to accept a position in Grand Rapids, Mich., as city editor of the *Morning Democrat*, which position he held until May, 1875, when he was recalled to his old post on the *Detroit Tribune*, and remained there until November, 1875. He was obliged to resign on account of ill-health, and by nervous prostration was incapacitated for work for over a year, but returned to journalistic duties March 5, 1877, as managing editor of the *Detroit Evening News*. He remained on this staff until December, 1879, when he purchased the *Saturday Evening Post*, of Grand Rapids, Mich., a literary weekly. Here he remained as editor until December, 1882, when he sold out and came to Buffalo, and has held the editorial chair of the *Buffalo Evening Telegraph* since March 12, 1883. In November of the same year he took an interest in this paper in connection with A. N. Safford, who is business manager.

Mr. Creswell was united in marriage August 12, 1876, to Miss Lief A. Leonard, of Grand Rapids, Mich. She was a noble woman of great intellectual power and an efficient helpmate to her husband. She died October 26, 1883, leaving one daughter, and a son who has since died.







**F**REDERICK HELD, publisher and proprietor of the Buffalo *Democrat and Weltbuerger*, was born in Germany on the 20th of December, 1830. He came to this country with his mother, at the age of eleven years, and soon after found employment as a carrier boy for the *Weekly Weltbuerger*, then under the control of Messrs. Brunck & Zahm. Shortly after arriving at his majority, Mr. Held established the *Daily Democrat*, in partnership with Mr. H. Domedion. In the year 1853 the *Democrat* was consolidated with the *Weltbuerger*, the daily edition continuing under the name of the *Daily Democrat*, and the weekly edition as the *Democrat and Weltbuerger*. Mr. Domedion retired soon after the consolidation, and the firm remained Brunck & Held until 1875, when Mr. Held assumed full control of the establishment, which he has kept until the present time.

This publishing establishment is fully equipped for all kinds of printing, and the publications issuing from it under Mr. Held's management exert a wide influence.

**E**DWARD HUBERT BUTLER, editor and owner of the *Evening News* and *Sunday News*, is one of the youngest newspaper proprietors in the State. He was born in the village of LeRoy, Genesee county, N. Y., on the 5th of September, 1850. His father, D. F. Butler, was an old resident of the village, and was ever mindful that his children should have opportunities of an education. He died while his children were quite young, leaving the subject of this sketch, who was the eldest, to assist the widowed mother in caring for the family.

After attending the common schools of his native town, Mr. Butler attended a private school in Buffalo, and subsequently took a course of instruction in an institution in the eastern part of the State. When only a boy he had his first experience in a printing office, in the establishment of the *LeRoy Gazette*, under C. B. Thompson. Before attaining his majority he went to Scranton, Pa., and became city editor of the Scranton *Daily Times*. He afterwards became interested in the *Free Press*, with which he continued about two years, when, in 1873, he came to Buffalo and established the *Sunday News*. It was the first successful venture of a Sunday paper in this city, and it soon became a recognized power in local affairs, holding an independent but never neutral position on all matters of general interest and largely contributing to mould as well as to express public opinion. The *Sunday News* rapidly grew in circulation and has had an average sale of 15,000 copies for the past five years.

In 1879 Mr. Butler started the Bradford, Pa., *Sunday News*, and made it a success, as the previous venture, in the face of the greatest difficulties. The Bradford *Sunday News* was, like the *Sunday News* of Buffalo, the leading Sunday paper of its city. A few months ago Mr. Butler disposed of the Bradford paper to Mr. P. H. Linderman, of Bradford, having conducted it with remarkable success for four years and aiding much through it in the local development of the metropolis of the northern oil field.

In 1880 Mr. Butler founded the Buffalo *Evening News*, which he is said to look upon as the greatest of his successes. Like the *Sunday News*, of which it is an outgrowth, though a separate paper in all things except location and ownership, it is an independent popular paper, and rejoices not only in an unrivalled circulation and prosperous patronage, but in the confidence and esteem of the public, which has been manifested in the success of nearly every popular movement it has started or championed. The *Evening* and *Sunday News* are members of the United Press, of which Mr. Butler is vice-president and one of the organizers.

In person Mr. Butler is below medium height, but of commanding appearance, stout, florid, with abundant surface indications of mental vigor, elasticity of temperament and rare determination of character. He is married and has two children, a son and daughter, his eldest son having died in infancy. His wife was Miss Mary E. Barber, of West Pittston, Pa., a relative of Ralph Waldo Emerson. In politics Mr. Butler is a pronounced Republican, but does not allow his politics to control the conduct of his papers, both of which are independent.

**J**OHAN LYTH.—In the early years of the present century there lived at Stockton-upon-Tees, County of Durham, England, a man and his wife whose individual names were John Lyth and Frances Grey Lyth. The paternal head of this family and his ancestors were originally from the town of "Lyth," adjoining Whitby, England. To this John Lyth and his wife was born on the 24th of September, 1820, the John Lyth whose portrait appears herein. At the age of thirteen years, previous to which time he had attended the public schools, the young English lad was apprenticed to Smith & Co., earthen ware manufacturers, at the Stafford Pottery, near Stockton-

upon-Tees. For this firm the young man faithfully served seven years and became a master of the business; at the same time he rounded out the limited education he had obtained at school, by reading and studying before and after his daily work was done.

Having concluded his apprenticeship, John Lyth went into the tile business with friends of his mother, at York, manufacturing drain and roofing tiles. In the year 1850, when John Lyth had reached the age of thirty years, he determined to emigrate to America, which he did, settling in Buffalo on the 9th of July of that year; his first employment in this city was working in the brick yard of P. A. Balcom, at Cold Spring; his wages were seventy-five cents per day. He shortly after engaged to work for W. H. Glenny, in the crockery business, where he remained six years. In 1857 he began in this city the manufacture of farm drain tile, and here began the hard struggle of his life; it was a new industry in this country; there was almost no demand for the goods; during the first two years of Mr. Lyth's business, not more than \$50 worth of his manufactures were sold. But he had a firm faith in his ultimate success and he was not a man to be easily discouraged; so, he worked on, gaining at the same time a livelihood for his family by labor in other directions, yet always keeping the manufacture of tile in the foreground. Two winters he labored in the Buffalo gas works, making tile in the summer. In order to advance his business he finally began the work of laying tile, for the main purpose of educating farmers and gardeners to the value of their use and the great benefits to be derived therefrom. The business soon after began to pay enough to support himself and family, and accordingly his entire attention was devoted to it, the manufacture of sewer pipe, for house sewerage being added.

In the year 1864, Mr. Lyth entered into business arrangements with Mr. P. A. Balcom, and the basis of the present extensive business was laid; his three sons were given interests in the business as fast as they became of age, and in 1874 they purchased the interest of Mr. Balcom, and the present firm of J. Lyth & Sons was established.

In 1872 Mr. Lyth discovered a bed of clay in this vicinity suitable for the successful manufacture of salt-glazed vitrified sewer pipe. He immediately visited England with the view of getting the latest improved machinery and methods for its manufacture; this movement resulted in the extensive works now in operation at Cold Spring, Buffalo, N. Y.

In 1882 the firm established a branch works at Wellsville, Ohio, which was placed in charge of John Lyth, Jr., the second son in the family. There advantage is taken of the large deposits of fire-clay and coal, for the manufacture of goods for the western trade. Mr. Lyth was the pioneer of the sewer pipe and terra cotta manufacture in this country.

John Lyth was married in 1843, to Mrs. Mary Ann Dale, of York, England. Their children are five in number, as follows:—Alfred, born April 21, 1844; John, born May 2, 1846; Mary, born August 30, 1848; William H., born June 14, 1851; Frances, born November 16, 1856. These children all now reside in Buffalo, except John who lives in Wellsville, Ohio, as above stated.

John Lyth is endowed in all essential respects with the characteristics of a successful business man; energy, perseverance far beyond the ordinary, daring in enterprise, far-seeing and of excellent judgment, it is no wonder that the business in which he was the pioneer in America has prospered to his eminent satisfaction.

Mr. Lyth has never entered the field of politics, though not without sincere political convictions himself, and has never sought nor held public office. He is a Unitarian in principle and a strong advocate of temperance since he was thirteen years old. In 1877 he was one of the five persons who originated the present order of Royal Templars of Temperance, a mutual benefit organization now numbering 20,000 members. At the organization of the order, he was elected Supreme Treasurer, which office he has held ever since; up to the present time he has paid out in this capacity, over \$750,000 in death benefits alone.

CHARLES WILLARD McCUNE, President of *The Buffalo Courier Company*, was born in Brattleboro, Vt., on the 1st of September, 1832, and his earliest acquaintance with the elementary principles of knowledge were obtained in the common schools of that village. At the age of eight years he entered the Brattleboro Institute, of which Professor Harris was the principal, and here he remained until he was twelve years old. With his training in the institute terminated his opportunities for scholarship, and from the halls of learning he was transferred to the country store kept by Orlen Pratt. Naturally bright, active and industrious, the boy found much in his new place that



was interesting and instructive and his service to his employer was intelligent and faithful. During the two years he remained with Mr. Pratt he learned the first practical lessons in life and business, and when at the age of fourteen he accepted a clerkship in the store of A. E. Dwinnell, in the east village of Brattleboro, he brought to the discharge of his duties as clear a knowledge of business affairs as any youth of his age and experience could boast of. A year with Mr. Dwinnell satisfied his ambition for mercantile pursuits in the country and, shaking the rural dust from his shoes, he started for New York, with the firm conviction that the metropolis would afford him a few advantages which were not to be looked for in his native village. On the 1st of August, 1847, he entered the house of A. T. Stewart & Co., in New York city, and in due time won favor with the merchant prince. Industrious, intelligent and faithful to the interests of his employers, he was advanced in position rapidly and successive promotions placed him in time at the head of one of the most important departments of the great dry goods establishment. He remained with A. T. Stewart & Co. for thirteen years, and during the last seven years of this period he spent most of the time in Europe purchasing goods for the house. When the important trust of representing the firm abroad was devolved upon him he had only attained his majority, and a higher compliment to his ability and integrity cannot readily be imagined. On the 1st of September, 1860, he left the employ of A. T. Stewart & Co., and accepted a clerkship in the commission and importing house of Morton, Grinnell & Co. He was admitted to a partnership in the house on the 1st of January, 1861, and the firm subsequently became L. P. Morton & Co. On the 1st of January, 1864, the firm of McCune, Scott & Cooper succeeded to the business of L. P. Morton & Co., and on the 1st of January, 1867, Mr. McCune retired and went to Europe, where he remained for a period of fifteen months. Returning, he engaged in business on Wall street for a time, and still later he yielded to its fascinations for a brief period; but he preferred more legitimate trade, and, any way, he had not seen all he desired to see of the old world, and a nine months' additional experience proved practically valuable as well as delightful to him.

While in Paris, in 1873, he was invited to an important place in a large concern in that city, and was about to accept it when he was induced to visit some friends in Buffalo. On the 1st of December, 1874, he entered the office of The Courier Company, Buffalo, as manager, and in January of the following year, a month later, he was elected secretary and treasurer of the company. Here he found himself in a new field of enterprise and practically at the head of one of the most extensive printing establishments in the world. To make himself acquainted with all its departments, to master all the details of its large and complex business, to familiarize himself with all the conditions of its growth and prosperity, and to learn to know and estimate at their true value the hundreds of men and women employed by the concern and the numerous clientele of the company was a most formidable undertaking. When it is understood that The Courier Company publishes two daily papers—the *Buffalo Courier* and the *Buffalo Republic*, and one weekly paper *The Weekly Courier*, and that its business includes the largest illuminated show printing establishment in the world, and extensive departments devoted to book printing, commercial and railroad printing, book-binding, the manufacture of blank books, wood engraving, lithography, the printing of illustrated catalogues, the publication of "The Buffalo City Directory" and many other branches of printing—we say, when this is understood, the responsibility assumed by Mr. McCune will be recognized as one which only a man of rare business qualities and splendid executive ability could hope to carry successfully. His administration of the affairs of the house was eminently judicious and energetic from the first hour of his identification with it, and the business of the concern soon reached proportions which had been regarded by his predecessors as unattainable. His clear and comprehensive views, his thorough business training, his faculty for organization, and his courage and enterprise were given full play and each contributed to the great success of his management and gave to his administration a force and brilliancy rarely equaled. With the death of Joseph Warren, in 1876, he became responsible for the policy of the different journals published by the company, and all who are familiar with the character and influence of *The Courier* and other publications of the house, need not be told that, as of old, they are distinguished for their ability, dignity, enterprise, fairness and purity of tone. In 1877 Mr. McCune was elected a member of the Democratic State Committee and has been re-elected to this important place each successive year, till, as we write, 1883, he is serving his seventh term. On the 3d of March, 1880, he was unanimously elected president of The Buffalo Courier Company, and continues to hold that position at the present time. Mr. McCune

was married, in 1852, to Miss Sarah C., daughter of Judge Beardsley, of St. Albans, Vermont, who bore him three children, one of whom only, Miss Ella McCune, survives. He has for several years been secretary and treasurer of the State Associated Press; he is one of the original founders and the president of the Buffalo Gentleman's Driving Club; he is one of the directors of the Merchants Bank of Buffalo, a director of the Buffalo Club, a member of the City Club, a member of the Merchants Exchange, and is actively associated with other civic organizations.

Charles W. McCune is a man of marked qualities and would win success anywhere. He is of the medium height, is compactly built, and combines strength and activity in equal proportions. His temperament is of the nervous bilious order, his brain is large and well balanced, and his power of endurance is remarkable. He is pliant and versatile, adapts himself readily to men and circumstances and is an excellent judge of human nature. His mental resources are abundant, and, although he is inclined to be impulsive and sometimes willful, the success of his enterprises attests the wisdom of his plans and the effectiveness of his work. He is thoroughly independent and self-reliant, and will yield his convictions to no man's views. What others do is no guide for him; he prefers to solve his problems in his own way and stoutly maintains the accuracy and conclusiveness of the results he arrives at. He is always fair, straightforward and direct; he is public spirited and patriotic, and he is widely known for his hospitality and kindness. Personal pride is a marked trait in his character but it is not marred by egotism or affectation. He is earnest in all his work; and although he is a splendid specimen of a man of the world, his life is an active one and business affairs engross his attention very largely to the exclusion of the lighter pleasures. In politics he is theoretically and practically a Democrat; he is prominent in the counsels of his party and displays in an unobtrusive way the qualities which become a leader. He speaks the French language fluently and with elegance; he is a connoisseur in the fine arts; he is a true lover of the horse; politics and the laws of trade and finance are familiar to him, and he is equally at home in the drawing-room and the counting house. Bold in enterprise, prompt and vigorous in action, resolute in execution, true to his word and loyal to his friends, he is at once a thorough business man, and a patriotic and valuable citizen.

**NORMAN E. MACK.**—There are to-day in all communities young men who have risen to positions of honor and trust in so short a period of time that they are looked upon as somewhat remarkable; they are, and very properly, objects of pride and emulation.

The subject of this brief notice was born on a farm near London, Ont., in 1854. Taking advantage of the growing West and its more promising future, he went to Michigan in 1865 with his parents, where he soon secured a clerkship in a store at Pontiac, remaining there until 1871. Detroit was at that time fast becoming a business center, and having a natural taste for the printing business, he removed there and began the publication of the *Saturday Advertiser*. Disposing of his interest in this paper one year later, he came to Buffalo, where he has since resided. Up to the year 1878 he was engaged in the advertising and publishing business, when he started the *Sunday Gazette* in Jamestown, N. Y., which he owned and successfully managed for two years, finally disposing of it to Mr. J. McCann, who changed its name to the *Leader*. In 1883 the paper again fell into his hands, and soon became a power in Chautauqua county, enjoying better prosperity than ever before. Mr. Mack recently sold his entire establishment to J. H. Monroe, of Jamestown.

In 1879 the field of journalism was quite well covered, it was thought, in the Queen City. There were large and prosperous dailies, popular weeklies and well-established Sunday newspapers, so that the expressed intention of this progressive young man to begin the publication of another Sunday paper was jeered and ridiculed. He met with opposition on every side, the other newspapers, individuals, and corporations all agreeing that "it is not needed." But in his experience he had learned to cast aside the smaller obstacles to his success, while preparing to meet and overcome the larger ones. At times his prospects seemed dark and his opponents likely to succeed; but by close attention to his business with continued improvements in the character of his journal, he gained for it the appreciation of the public and more prosperous days came; success was finally assured and the *Sunday Times* was acknowledged as one of the best family newspapers in the city.

This success was the result of a long struggle, and in the very height of it a reverse came. In the early part of February, 1883, the *Times* establishment was completely destroyed by fire; but it never missed an issue, and deciding to increase his facilities so as to be able to compete with other



*[Faint, illegible text, likely a signature or name.]*





local establishments in all branches of the business, he purchased the large printing establishment of Henry Nauert, known as the "Mercantile Printing House;" this establishment, with an excellent reputation for the finest of job printing, soon became the office of the Buffalo *Daily Times*, which, though at this writing but a few months old, has found a welcome with the reading public that must be a source of sincere gratification to its energetic publisher.

Mr. Mack promises, by exercising the same ability and attention to his business that he has in the past, to stand at an early day in the front rank of publishers, and take his place among the prominent self-made men of the country.

**J**OHAN BAKER MANNING.—Among the emigrants from Ireland to this country during the first quarter of the present century, was John Manning, who settled in the city of Albany. In that city he married Miss Eleanor Oley, who was of Holland descent. The subject of this sketch, John Baker Manning, was born to John Manning and his wife on the 13th of July, 1833. The boy was sent to the public schools until he was twelve years old, where he showed marked natural abilities and a faculty of rapidly acquiring education. In the year 1845 Horatio Seymour was Speaker in the Assembly, and through him young Manning was appointed one of the pages. In 1847, the year following the Constitutional Convention which limited the sessions of the Legislature to one hundred days, a long extra session was held in the fall, for the purpose of disposing of all accumulated business, preparatory to a fresh start under the new order of things. Hon. William C. Hasbrouck then presided as Speaker in the Assembly, and young Manning was appointed by him as one of the pages and was the only one retained during the regular and extra sessions of 1847.

The lad is remembered as just the one who would be most likely to retain such a position, although it was sought after by many aspirants. He was cheerful, amiable, active and attentive to the wants of Legislators, the newspaper men, and, indeed, made himself a general favorite. These qualifications attracted the especial attention of William H. Bogert, then correspondent of the New York *Courier and Enquirer*, who took him to Mr. Hasbrouck (the Speaker) and said: "Mr. Speaker, cannot we make Johnny a Senator?" The response was favorable and Mr. Hasbrouck at the first opportunity recommended young Manning to Hamilton Fish, then Lieutenant-Governor and President of the Senate. The boy's appearance evidently pleased Mr. Fish, for he kindly patted his head and shortly afterwards appointed him one of the two pages in the Senate. He was continued in that position by the Hon. G. W. Patterson, who succeeded Mr. Fish as Lieutenant-Governor in 1849.

The experience gained during his term of service in the legislative halls of the State, was of great value to Mr. Manning, and gave him a thorough knowledge of the workings of politics in the Capital. In 1860-'61 Mr. Manning acted as Albany correspondent of the Brooklyn *Eagle*, and from that time onward there was undoubtedly a political career of distinction open for him, had he chosen to pursue it; but he had other views and intentions, and suddenly severing his political relations in Albany, he came to the city of Buffalo and made immediate preparations to extend his small malting and commission business, which he had established about two years before. He immediately began a produce and commission business with Canada, which he continued with success until 1867, at which time he turned his attention wholly to malting. Three thousand bushels annually was the extent of his business at first, but so successfully was it conducted and so rapid its increase, that in 1881 he malted the enormous quantity of 500,000 bushels, and at this writing his business is probably the most extensive of the kind in the world. He is the owner of two separate malt houses, the smaller one having a capacity of 60,000, while the larger one, to which extensive additions were made in 1881, has a capacity of 940,000 bushels; it covers three hundred and sixty by one hundred feet and is nine stories in height. Two elevators are connected with this malt house, each of which has a capacity of 175,000 bushels.

It will readily be assumed that the building up and successful conduct of this enormous business enterprise, from a small beginning, and in the comparatively short period of time devoted to it, has required executive ability, business sagacity and judgment of the highest order. Much of the immediate superintendence of Mr. Manning's business is at the present time vested in Mr. J. Oley Manning, his son. In closing a sketch of Mr. Manning's malting business, a Buffalo paper thus alludes to it:—

"In commendation of this house as one with which to establish the most pleasing business relations, we cannot say too much, and the position Mr. Manning has achieved in the business community of Buffalo, as a manufacturer of a superior article and promoter of the general industrial

thrift, is such as to have endowed him with the consideration and esteem of the public and of those generally with whom he has established business relations."

At the National Convention of Malsters held at Niagara Falls, June 15th, 1881, Mr. Manning was unanimously chosen as the president of the body. Over four hundred of the most prominent firms of malsters in the country were represented in the Convention. On this occasion Mr. Manning delivered an address which showed the most thorough knowledge of his subject and that he was keenly alive to the best interests of the trade; the address was universally regarded as a masterly effort.

Although a man of strong political convictions, Mr. Manning has taken little public part in politics since his residence in Buffalo; but his fellow citizens recognized his ability and fidelity to the general welfare of the community, by placing him in the Mayor's chair which was vacated by the election of Grover Cleveland as Governor of the State. Mr. Manning is a Democrat in politics, but his sympathy with the principles of that party have never prevented him from supporting any measure which he believed to be for the public good, regardless of all party feeling. In his administration of the office of Mayor, he was fearless and independent in the discharge of his duty to the city at large, even to the alienation of many party adherents; once convinced that his support or his opposition to a measure, (no matter what its source or character), was for the best good of the community, Mr. Manning never wavered in his course. In the fall of 1883, Mr. Manning was again a candidate for the office of Mayor, but owing to party divisions, was defeated. Mr. Manning has also been vice-president and president of the Buffalo Board of Trade, one of the leading commercial organizations in the country, in which office his marked ability as a business man was conspicuous. Immediately after his election to the presidency of the Board of Trade, in the month of April, 1881, he initiated steps that led to the enterprise for the erection of that beautiful and magnificent Board of Trade building, now nearly completed. It is an ornament to the city and reflects credit upon the enterprising business gentlemen who were instrumental in having it built.

On the 14th of January, 1856, Mr. Manning was married to Miss Elizabeth House, of Cambridge, Washington county, N. Y. This auspicious union has resulted in the birth of seven children, six of whom are now living. Among the self-made men of the day Mr. Manning is accorded a prominent place, and his record while building up his own fortune, is above reproach.

**D**R. JOHN ELLIS MARSHALL, the only child of Thomas and Sarah Edgerton Marshall, was born in Norwich, Conn., March 18, 1785. His mother dying in his infancy, he was adopted by Daniel Ellis, of Franklin, Conn., and educated by him as his son. He was lineally descended from William Hyde, John Post, Richard Edgerton and Francis Griswold, four of the original proprietors of Norwich. He was a pupil of the Rev. Samuel Nott, of Franklin, having as fellow students, Eliphalet Nott, subsequently president of Union College, and John Tracy, afterwards Lieutenant-Governor of this State. At the age of twenty he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Philemon Tracy, of Norwich, under whose careful instruction he enjoyed peculiar advantages; and he attributed to Dr. Tracy's assistance and teaching, much of the success he attained in his profession. According to the testimony of a fellow-student, since a distinguished physician in Ohio, young Marshall was thorough in his medical studies, was gifted with a sound judgment and a discriminating mind; and by his diligent application to study, he laid broad and deep the foundation for his future eminence. He was licensed to practice by the Connecticut Medical Society on the 3d of August, 1808, and soon after left for the West, taking up his residence in Oxford, N. Y., where he opened his first office. Not satisfied with his location, he removed in October, the following year, to Mayville, Chautauqua county, where he practiced his profession for several years with marked success.

On the 9th of February, 1811, Dr. Marshall was commissioned by Governor Tompkins as clerk of Chautauqua county at the time of its organization. On the 20th of September, 1810, he was married to Ruth Holmes, daughter of Orsamus Holmes, of Sheridan, N. Y. On the 15th of April, 1812, Dr. Marshall was appointed Surgeon to the Second Regiment of the New York State Militia. On the 20th of December, 1813, he was ordered to join his regiment at Buffalo, and served five months on the Niagara frontier, when his regiment was disbanded. He again took the field on the 1st of August, 1814, his regiment being encamped near Buffalo, where he remained during the remainder of the season. The fevers, diarrhœas, and other diseases which prevailed in the army, crowded the hospitals and devolved upon Dr. Marshall, as senior surgeon, arduous and responsible

duties. His cares, exposure and fatigue seriously impaired his health and rendered him an invalid during the remainder of his life.

After the close of the war Dr. Marshall continued the practice of his profession and to discharge the duties of county clerk, at Mayville, until March, 1815, when he sought a more promising field for professional labor in the then rising village of Buffalo. He soon took the front rank among his professional brethren and acquired a solid reputation as a physician and surgeon. On the 2d of March, 1819, he was commissioned by Governor Clinton as clerk of Niagara county, which then embraced the present counties of Erie and Niagara, the duties of which he discharged until February 17, 1821. On the 27th of March, 1819, he was appointed by Governor Clinton, assistant hospital surgeon of the Fifth Brigade of New York State Infantry, and re-appointed to the same position by the same Governor, July 12, 1826. He subsequently received the honorary appointments as a corresponding Fellow of the Medicine and Philosophical Society of New York city, and as an honorary member of the Medical Society of Geneva College. For many years he was a member of the Masonic fraternity and in 1819 rose to Mark Master Mason.

During the prevalence of the cholera in 1832, when Buffalo was particularly exposed to its invasion, and when little was known of its treatment, Dr. Marshall was appointed Health Physician by the Common Council of the city. The duties of this position were of the most arduous and responsible character. No vessel or canal boat was permitted to enter the city, without the certificate of the Health Physician. Those approaching in the night were detained until daylight at the mouth of Buffalo Creek, or in Black Rock harbor. This required his attendance at these ports at daybreak. These fatiguing duties were performed with great efficiency, in addition to his large private practice, which left him scarcely an opportunity for rest.

While in the full vigor of his intellect, in the midst of a wide and successful practice, Dr. Marshall was attacked with pleurisy on Saturday, the 22d of December, 1838, and after severe illness, died on the following Thursday. His medical brethren paid a just tribute to his professional talents and worth, and of respect to his memory; and the Rev. Dr. Hopkins, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, of which Dr. Marshall had long been a ruling elder, preached to a large audience, his funeral sermon, in which his exemplary life and Christian virtues were eloquently portrayed.\*

**ORSAMUS HOLMES MARSHALL.**—Orsamus Holmes Marshall was born on the 1st day of February, 1813, in the town of Franklin, Conn. His father was Dr. John E. Marshall, a distinguished pioneer physician of Buffalo, a sketch of whose life precedes this. During the exciting scenes on the Niagara frontier in the war of 1812, in which Dr. Marshall bore a prominent part, his wife took refuge among his relatives in Connecticut, and it was during her sojourn there that Orsamus was born. After the close of the war Mrs. Marshall joined her husband in Mayville, Chautauqua county, where he had settled in 1809. In September, 1815, Dr. Marshall removed to Buffalo, himself and wife making the journey on horseback, and bringing with them their infant son, then two and a half years old.

Dr. Marshall purchased from the Holland Land Company a lot on the corner of Washington and Mohawk streets, subsequently sold to Trinity Church, and built upon it a home, with which Mr. Marshall's earliest recollections of Buffalo are associated. The next few years were devoted by him to the acquirement of an education. His first school was kept by a Miss Underwood, in a dwelling occupied by her brother-in-law, a Mr. Fales, whose descendants now live on Grand Island. He next attended school kept in the second story of a house which stood near the site of the Church of the Messiah. Other teachers under whom he studied were Brace and Gilman, Peter Miles, Deodatus Babcock, a Mr. Pease in the Atkins house, corner of Pearl and Church streets, John C. Lord and Lucius B. Comstock.

In 1827, when twelve years old, Mr. Marshall was sent to the Polytechnic School at Chittenango, N. Y, where he remained one year. Among his fellow students in that institution were John L. Talcott, since Judge of the Supreme Court of the State, and William L. Yancy, the noted Southern fire-eater.

Returning to Buffalo in the year 1829, Mr. Marshall joined a military school founded by Capt. Alden Partridge and kept by Col. James McKay, in the building afterwards occupied by the Sisters

\* See biography of Hon. O. H. Marshall, in these pages, and the chapter devoted to the medical profession of Buffalo.



of Charity Hospital. In 1830 Mr. Marshall entered the Junior class at Union College, where he graduated the following year at the early age of eighteen. The late Hon. Judge Verplanck was a classmate.

Returning to Buffalo, Mr. Marshall entered the law office of Austin & Barker, on Main street next below the present Bank of Buffalo. He read with this firm until the spring of 1833, when he entered Yale College for a course of law lectures, under Dr. David Daggett, then at the head of the school and Chief Justice of Connecticut. He was admitted to practice as attorney at law, at the October term of the Supreme Court in 1834, sitting at Albany, and as solicitor in chancery the following month, by the Hon. R. H. Walworth.

Mr. Marshall's first law partnership was with William A. Moseley, after dissolving which he formed a partnership with the Hon. Horatio J. Stow, which continued until Mr. Stow's appointment as Recorder in 1840. Mr. Marshall then entered into partnership with the Hon. N. K. Hall, who had recently withdrawn from the firm of Fillmore, Hall & Haven. They enjoyed a large and lucrative practice until Mr. Hall's appointment as First Judge of the county in 1841. Mr. Marshall continued practice alone for several years, when he formed a connection with Alexander W. Harvey, which continued until the latter removed to New York in 1863. After this he took his son, Charles D., into partnership, and in 1867 retired from active practice of the profession.

Few men have been more prominent and active in affairs directly connected with the welfare of the city of Buffalo than Mr. Marshall. The Buffalo Historical Society was founded in his office in 1862, and at a later date the Buffalo Cemetery Association was also formed there. With these institutions he has been connected from their foundation—of the former as one of its managers and at one time as its president, and with the latter as one of its trustees. He has been a member of the Board of Trustees of the Grosvenor Library from its foundation, with the exception of one term, being associated with Millard Fillmore, George R. Babcock, Joseph G. Masten and David Gray; he has also served as president of the Board. He has been connected with the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo Female Academy, serving as its president for several years. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Buffalo, and served as its president many years, until elected its Chancellor in 1882. He is also a trustee of the Society of Natural Sciences, of Buffalo, and president of the Thomas Orphan Asylum for Indian children. In all of these positions Mr. Marshall has honored himself and rendered inestimable services to the different institutions named.

In the year 1850 or 1851, Mr. Marshall was offered the appointment of Commissioner to China, but on account of ill-health and pressing business engagements, was compelled to decline, Humphrey Marshall being appointed in his stead. He was also offered by Postmaster-General M. K. Hall, the appointment of Assistant Postmaster-General, but for the same reasons was compelled to decline. He was appointed a United State Commissioner by the United States Circuit Court for the Northern District of New York, about the year 1868, and now (1883) holds the office.

As a historical writer Mr. Marshall is entitled to high rank, many of his papers and contributions to periodicals being of great value. Among his papers of this kind may be mentioned the following: "Expedition of DeNonville," published by the New York Historical Society in volume II., new series; "LaSalle's First Visit to the Senecas. 1669," privately printed in pamphlet form in 1874; "Expedition of DeCaloron;" "Historical Sketches, of the Niagara Frontier;" "The Building and Voyage of the *Griffon* in 1679," read to and published by the Buffalo Historical Society.

Mr. Marshall united with the First Presbyterian church of Buffalo, and has since been a member and attendant of the same.

On the 20th of February, 1828, Mr. Marshall married Miss Millicent Ann De Angelis, youngest daughter of Pascal De Angelis, one of the pioneer settlers of Central New York, resident at Holland Patent, Oneida county. From this marriage there are three children, all of whom are living:—John Ellis, born August 5, 1839; Charles De Angelis, born November 14, 1841, and Elizabeth Coe.

**WILLIAM GEORGE FARGO.**—One of the most conspicuous examples of self-made business men is furnished by the life and career of the late William G. Fargo. Beginning life in a country town, without means or influential friends, he achieved a national reputation and left a name as familiar throughout the country as household words.

His father, William C. Fargo, was born at New London, Conn., March 20, 1791. At seven-teen years of age, as was customary with many New England boys, he took a tramp to "the West,"



consisting of a trip through the State of New York—looking for employment and seeking a future home among the frontier settlers. He journeyed as far as Buffalo, where he was employed for three years upon a small salary, and at the breaking out of the war of 1812 he enlisted and served until peace was established, having been seriously wounded in an engagement on Canadian soil, on the 13th of October, 1812, in which the British General Brock was killed. At the conclusion of the war young Fargo resumed his prospecting adventures, and finally settled in Pompey, Onondaga County, N. Y., where he was married to Tacy Strong, on the 10th of August, 1817.

William George Fargo was born on 20th of May, 1818, at the homestead farmhouse in the town of Pompey, near the village of Watervale, Onondaga county, N. Y. He was the oldest of twelve children—nine sons and three daughters—that were born to William C., and Tacy (Strong) Fargo, and all of whom, with one exception—a son who died in infancy—lived to the age of man or womanhood.

When but thirteen years old William G. Fargo was employed to carry the mails on horseback twice a week from Pompey Hill by way of Watervale, Manlius, Oran, Delphi, Fabius and Apulia and back to Pompey Hill, a circuit of about forty miles. This was his first employment other than on the farm, and may be said to have been the beginning of his subsequent remarkable business career. Although very young for such an important trust, nevertheless the service was performed with promptness and fidelity, and the young mail carrier became very popular throughout the entire route. Until seventeen years old he wrought at different jobs, besides carrying the mail, in the neighborhood of his home, chiefly as an assistant in a hotel at Watervale kept by Ira Curtis. For four or five years thereafter he was employed as clerk in the grocery business in Syracuse, where he acquitted himself manfully, winning the confidence of his employers and giving promise of the possession of sterling business qualifications.

In January, 1840, when nearly twenty-two years old, Mr. Fargo was married to Miss Anna H. Williams, daughter of Nathan Williams, one of the early settlers of Pompey. Now that he had a family on his hands his ambitious spirit chafed under the restraint of a clerkship, and he longed to be in business for himself. He began to feel that to serve was not his *forte*, and he preferred to be in command even though his realm of authority was circumscribed. We find him, therefore, shortly after his marriage starting a grocery store on the joint account of himself and next younger brother, Jerome F. Fargo, of Weedsport. The fate of the new firm was that of a majority of mercantile houses—failure—and it was dissolved at the expiration of a year.

In 1841 Mr. Fargo removed to Auburn to accept the freight agency of the Auburn & Syracuse Railroad Company, then just completed; and in 1842 he resigned this position to accept that of messenger for Pomeroy & Co., who had established an express line between Albany and Buffalo. At this time the rails were only laid to Batavia, and express packages were carried by stage from Batavia to Buffalo, until the completion of the Buffalo & Attica Railroad. After a year's experience as a messenger, Mr. Fargo was appointed agent for the company at Buffalo, to which city he removed in November in 1843. The express business was in its infancy then, but Mr. Fargo recognized in it the elements of indefinite growth and expansion. In January, 1844, in company with Henry Wells and Mr. Daniel Dunning, he organized an express line from Buffalo to Detroit by way of Cleveland, under the firm name of Wells & Co. The capital these parties possessed was principally industry, energy and determination. The one who was able to borrow \$200 on a short note was regarded by the firm as a financial success. At this time the only railroads west of Buffalo were the one in Ohio from Sandusky City to Monroeville, and the one in Michigan from Detroit to Ypsilanti. These expressmen employed the steamers on the lakes in the season of navigation, and stages and express wagons in winter. They did not do a very heavy business, but it was a growing one, and they pushed it forward as rapidly as practicable. They extended the line to Chicago, Milwaukee, Cincinnati and St. Louis, and westward to Galena.

After a year's experience Mr. Dunning withdrew from the partnership, and in 1846 Mr. Wells sold his interest to William A. Livingston, and the firm name was changed to Livingston & Fargo. Mr. Livingston came to Buffalo and Mr. Fargo was located at Detroit, where he remained about one year, returning to Buffalo in 1848, when Mr. Livingston took up his residence in Cincinnati.

The express business west of Buffalo was managed in this way until March, 1850, when the American Express Company was organized, consolidating the interests of Johnston, Livingston and Henry Wells and the firm of Livingston, Wells & Co., proprietors of the line between New York

and Buffalo; those of Butterfield, Wasson & Co., proprietors of a rival line between these cities, and those of Livingston & Fargo, who owned the lines west of Buffalo. Henry Wells was the first president and William G. Fargo the first secretary; these positions were held by these gentlemen, respectively, until the consolidation with the Merchants' Union Company, in December, 1868, when Mr. Fargo was elected the president.

In 1851, Mr. Fargo, Henry Wells, and their associates organized a company, under the firm name of Wells, Fargo & Co., and commenced to do an Express business between New York and San Francisco, by way of the Isthmus, and to operate interior lines on the Pacific coast. This enterprise proved successful, and was continued over this route until the completion of the Union and Central Pacific Railroads, when the water was abandoned for the rail, and the management of the company transferred to San Francisco. While the control was in New York Mr. Fargo was Director and Vice-President. This Company has a capital of \$5,000,000, and is doing a lucrative and constantly increasing business.

In 1861 he was elected Mayor of Buffalo, and re-elected in 1863. His administration was characterized by that sagacity which distinguished his management of the affairs of the great corporation of which he was the recognized head. He was thoroughly identified with the growth and prosperity of the city and he did much as Mayor as well as a private citizen to promote its interests and develop its resources.

Eight children have been born to Mr. Fargo, only two of whom Georgiana and Helen are living.

**JAMES N. MATTHEWS.**—A proper biographic sketch of James N. Matthews cannot be written within the brief limits here prescribed. His life has been too busy and too much has been accomplished in it to be chronicled in a few brief pages. He was born in Suffolk, England, in 1828, and came America in 1845, at the age of seventeen years, soon afterward taking up his residence in Buffalo. He served as an apprentice to the printer's trade in the office of the *Commercial Advertiser*. When he had mastered the trade he became a partner in the Morning Express Printing House, under the firm name of Clapp, Matthews & Co.

In 1863 Mr. Matthews retired from the above named concern and purchased a half interest in the *Commercial Advertiser*, which was conducted by Matthews & Warren, the former assuming the editorial management of the paper while the latter had charge of the business affairs. This relation continued fourteen years, or until 1877, when Mr. Matthews transferred his interest in the paper to Mr. Warren and soon after purchased the Buffalo *Morning Express* newspaper establishment and added thereto a comprehensive job office, including designing, engraving, electrotyping, stereotyping, and other facilities for carrying on the printing and publishing business.

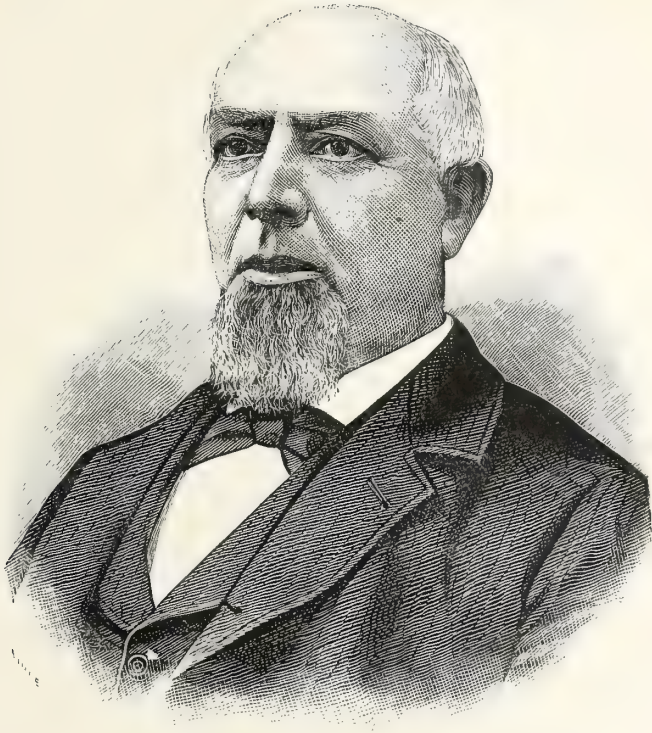
Further particulars of Mr. Matthews' business career, and of the journal of which he is the master spirit, will be found in the chapter devoted to Buffalo journalism, in these pages.

As a printer, Mr. Matthews is a master of the profession. His skill is only equalled by his exquisite taste, excellent judgment and comprehensive knowledge of the fitness of things. As an editor Mr. Matthews occupies a position in the first rank of modern newspaper writers. His style is easy and graceful, and yet forcible and incisive. Using no superfluity of words he treats his topics with a force and directness that carries conviction to his readers. He excels in sarcastic repartee, and no man knows better how to successfully parry the foil of an antagonist. His diction is far above the average newspaper writer, and his arguments and conclusions are accredited with honest convictions.

Few men are so well equipped in a perfect knowledge of the printing and publishing business as is the subject of this notice. He has risen from the printer's case to the editorial chair, and completely mastered every detail of the several intermediate positions. Thoroughness in whatever he undertakes is one of his chiefest characteristics. Anything worth doing at all is worth doing well, is seemingly an ever present motto.

In politics Mr. Matthews is a Republican, but in the management of his paper takes pride in being independent. While the *Express* is nominally Republican, it is anything but a party paper. He condemns the idea of publishing a party "organ." Under his auspices and management the paper has attained a wide circulation and a powerful influence among that class of readers (that is becoming more numerous) who refuse to be bound by party shackles.

Mr. Matthews is a liberal supporter of Buffalo's social, benevolent and scientific affairs. He is member of the Buffalo Club, the Young Men's Association, the Historical Society, the Society of



MICHAEL MESMER.





Natural Sciences, the Fine Arts Academy, and other kindred associations. He is an Episcopalian, and a member of St. John's Church.

**MICHAEL MESMER.**—Among the emigrants from Alsace, in the year 1828, was the father of the subject of this sketch and his family. They sailed from Havre for New York, came thence by canal to Buffalo, and settled on a small farm of fifty acres, situated on Main street just beyond Amherst street. He resided there two years and then returned to Europe to secure a patrimony. In 1832 he came again to Buffalo, and the following year purchased a farm in the town of Lancaster, where he died in 1863, aged eighty-one years.

Michael Mesmer was born in Surbourg, Alsace, on the 31st of October, 1815. He began his long life in Buffalo as second porter in the Buffalo House, on the corner of Main and Seneca streets. From that humble beginning, he has raised himself to a station in the foremost rank of the leading Franco-Germans of this country. After one year of faithful service in the Buffalo House, the young man engaged in similar service at the City Hotel, junction of canal bridge and Commercial street, where he remained eighteen months. He then took a trip to New York city, working his way as cook on a canal boat. There he was disappointed in finding the employment he had hoped for, and being without money, he was unable to get away. In this dilemma he met by chance a man who had been a friend of his father, to whom he made himself known, and who gave him ten five-franc pieces. This friend would not tell the young man his name, nor has the latter ever known who it was that befriended him at such an opportune time. The money thus obtained enabled young Mesmer to reach Syracuse, where he found employment in the old Syracuse House, then kept by Daniel Comstock. He remained there three years, carrying the mails from Syracuse to Oswego on horseback during two winters of this period, making the trip one way each day—thirty miles.

In the fall of 1836, when he was twenty-one years old, Mr. Mesmer found himself in the possession of \$400. With this capital he returned to Buffalo and entered into partnership with his brother-in-law, Joseph Sour, in the wood-turning business. A little later he began driving teams for Theodore Burwell and afterwards worked for Alanson Palmer, the then Buffalo millionaire, whom Mr. Mesmer placed in the county poor house while superintendent of that institution in 1863. He afterwards worked for General Burt one year, and then three years for Letitia Evans as carriage driver and gardener.

By industry and economy, Mr. Mesmer had by this time accumulated quite a fund in cash, which he applied towards the purchase of sixty-four acres of land in the town of Lancaster; but he did not feel contented on a farm, and when what is now the Erie railroad was begun in the town, running near the place, Mr. Mesmer hired out to the company as a carpenter, at fourteen shillings a day. Mr. Mesmer leveled the wooden ties, fitted the wooden stringers thereon and fastened the half-inch iron strip thereto, which combination constituted the track from Town Line to Buffalo.

In the year 1841 Mr. Mesmer again came to Buffalo, where he engaged as clerk in the flour, feed and grain store of Horace Wells, on Main street. He afterwards purchased the store, added groceries to the stock, and continued there until November, 1871. He then, in company with Jacob J. Weller and Charles E. Brown, bought the large cabinet manufactory on Elm street and also the large furniture store on Main street from Thompson Hersee. In 1872 he turned the store over to a young and faithful clerk, who afterwards removed the business to No. 50 West Eagle street, near Franklin.

The cabinet business was successfully conducted until January 1st, 1882, when Mr. Mesmer retired from active business and now lives in well-earned enjoyment of a competence, and surrounded by his family and a circle of friends whose respect and confidence must be gratifying to the recipient.

Mr. Mesmer has never been a seeker after public office or honors, but those who know him best have called on him to fill several positions of trust. In 1861 he was elected Superintendent of the Poor, which office he held three years, and he was Park Commissioner for eight years. He has been a director of the German Insurance Company of Buffalo since its establishment in 1867, and a director of the Western Savings Bank since 1865.

On the 31st of December, 1840, Mr. Mesmer was married to Miss Barbara Knauber, daughter of John Knauber, a farmer of the town of Lancaster. Eight children have been born to them, five of whom are now living, as follows:—Mrs. Catharine Lipp, of Dayton, Ohio; John Mesmer, who has been superintendent of the Citizens' Gas Works since 1875; Louis Mesmer, paying teller in the

Erie County Savings Bank since 1873, and the Misses Utillea and Louisa Mesmer. The names of the three children deceased were Martin, Magdalena and Michael.

In 1871 Mr. Mesmer erected his pleasant home on the corner of Prospect avenue and Virginia street, where he now resides.

In 1883 he demolished the old flour store building, and erected a splendid four-story building on the site known as No. 347 Main street.

**S**YLVESTER FREDERICK MIXER.—Judge Nathan Mixer, formerly of Forestville, Chautauqua county, where he lived more than sixty years, was well known as a man of prominence and distinguished abilities. He was Judge for many years and represented his district in the Assembly several terms. He was of English descent and his immediate ancestors settled in New England. One of his children was the subject of this sketch. Sylvester Frederick Mixer was born at Morrisville, Madison county, N. Y., on the 27th of December, 1815, and was brought by his parents to Forestville during his infancy. He was one of a family of fourteen children, all of whom lived to maturity. Judge Mixer gave his son a liberal education; he graduated from the Medical Department of Yale College in 1841. He was an ardent student and was imbued with an earnest desire to attain a high rank in his profession; this led to the further study of medicine in the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons, from which he received the degree of M. D., in 1847. Dr. Mixer had in the meantime, begun practice in Buffalo, having commenced a few months after leaving Yale College. From that time onward he rapidly built up a practice as successful as it was satisfactory to himself and his friends. Dr. Mixer was elected President of the Buffalo Medical Society in 1852; he was also in the same year made a member of the American Medical Association, over many strong competitors for that honor. From the year 1852, he was one of the prominent members of the Erie County Medical Society. Between the years 1858 and 1874, he was one of the attending physicians of the Buffalo General Hospital, and from that time until his death was a member of its Consulting Board.

On the 23d of February, 1853, Dr. Mixer married Mary Elizabeth Knowlton, daughter of Dr. Perrin Knowlton, of Cincinnati. Mrs. Mixer's mother's name was Elizabeth Carter, of New York city. Dr. Perrin Knowlton is still living in the West, at the advanced age of eighty-three years. He belongs to an honored family, one of his ancestors being Colonel Thomas Knowlton, of Revolutionary fame. Dr. and Mrs. Mixer's married life was productive of all the domestic happiness that ever falls to the lot of humanity, and their home (for many years after their marriage, on Swan street and later on Virginia street,) was the abode of a family blest in all its relations, and the social resort of a wide circle of friends. Four children have been born to Dr. and Mrs. Mixer, two only of whom are now living, Frederick and Knowlton, both of whom have reached years of young manhood and fill as far as it is possible to do, the vacancy caused by their father's death. Minnie Mixer, a beautiful and accomplished daughter, lost her life in the railroad catastrophe at Ashtabula, Ohio, December 29, 1876, a blow from which her parents never recovered and which made a marked impression upon the mind and demeanor of Dr. Mixer to the day of his death. Previous to the deplorable event, he had always entertained sincere religious convictions and was an earnest Episcopalian, but he had not formally united as communicant with the church, but after that event he was publicly confirmed, giving evidence of a firmly grounded Christian faith—a faith that never after wavered.

Dr. Mixer lived until 1862 before he experienced his first illness, from a disease that was destined to end his days twenty-one years later, but during the latter named period he was able to give almost constant attention to his large practice until the winter of 1882, when his failing health prompted him to make a trip to California. He returned in June, 1883, not materially benefited, though his health somewhat improved between that time and his decease. The few remaining months allotted to him on earth were passed at his home on Virginia street, in Buffalo, in the enjoyment of constant intercourse with his family and the immunity from labor which he had so fully earned.

Dr. Mixer died at three o'clock on Sunday morning, September 16th, 1883. The obsequies occurred on the Tuesday following, at Trinity Church, and were attended by many members of the Erie County Medical Society in a body, besides a large concourse of friends and relatives. The service was conducted by the Rev. Dr. L. Van Bokkelen, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Grainger. In the course of his discourse the Rev. Doctor said:—







"I may be permitted to bear my testimony to our departed friend, as he was best known to me, as a gentleman of dignity and culture, earnest and faithful in his duties as an officer and member of the church. He obeyed the injunction of Solomon, 'Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.' \* \* \* He had no fear of death, no anxious thoughts. He knew that his course was run, and with calmness he moved on toward the prize of his high calling in Christ Jesus. He was never more lovely, courteous, considerate and kind; never more gentle and humble than during the last week of his life temporal. He trusted in God and was not forsaken."

In a carefully prepared and judicious obituary of Dr. Mixer, which was printed in the *Buffalo Courier*, we find the following deserved tribute:—

"A citizen so well known and so highly respected as Dr. Mixer was, might easily have taken a conspicuous part in public affairs; but he had absolutely no ambition outside of his profession, which yielded him a handsome income and enabled him to accumulate for the loved ones left, a comfortable competency. He was an earnest Republican, but naturally a thorough reformer, and habitually took a lively interest in all political and other movements having the public good in view. Take him all in all, he was an excellent type of the ideal American citizen—a man of simple goodness, but so modest and unassuming withal that his biography could not have much of eulogy in it without doing violence to his wishes, as known to those who knew him best, and they are those that loved him best."

A meeting of the Erie County Medical Society was held to take action upon the death of Dr. Mixer, at which were expressed sentiments of the most profound respect for the deceased and of sympathy for his stricken family, an appropriate series of resolutions were drawn up, testifying to the regard and esteem in which Dr. Mixer was held by his professional brethren. He was a man whose loss will be long felt by the entire community.

**AUGUSTUS C. MOORE**, the subject of this sketch, was born in Fabius, Onondaga county, N. Y., on the 31st of March, 1799. He was in business at Sauquoit, Oneida county, until 1831, when he removed to Buffalo and at once invested in real estate, which engaged his attention during the remainder of his life. He was a man of unusual business ability; a great reader and of good judgment in all things; straightforward in all his dealings and of remarkable decision of character, he left a lasting impression upon the community in which he lived.

Mr. Moore died at Buffalo on the 17th day of August, 1883, and was buried at Forest Lawn. He was a devoted member of the Universalist Church and by his large gifts for charitable and benevolent purposes, he aided materially many of the most prominent and worthy of our public institutions.

**JOHN F. MOULTON** was born on the 3d of February, 1841, at Beverly, Mass., the native place of his parents. His father, Charles Moulton, was a son of Captain Tarbox Moulton, a well-known sea captain and ship owner, who lost three of his vessels in the French war of 1812. His mother was Abby Cole, a member of an old and respected family of New England.

The subject of this sketch received an excellent English education in the schools of his native place, and at the age of eighteen years engaged in the general mercantile business with his father. This partnership continued three years, when John F. Moulton, then twenty-one years of age, removed to Battle Creek, Mich., and entered into mercantile business. Three years later, when but twenty-four years old, Mr. Moulton became one of the chief organizers of the Bank of Battle Creek, and was elected a director of that institution. Since that time Mr. Moulton's career has been a wonderful example of what may be accomplished by energy, activity and business sagacity of the highest order. In the same year that the City Bank of Battle Creek was organized, Mr. Moulton was chosen as alderman of the city and in 1867 was elected President of the Battle Creek Gas Company.

About this time Mr. Moulton interested himself largely in the Peninsula Railroad, now known as the Chicago & Lake Huron railroad, which is the western connection of the Grand Trunk road. This was followed by his securing the contract for building the Buffalo & Jamestown railroad, when he removed to this city. The road was completed in 1875, soon after which event Mr. Moulton was appointed its General Manager, and in 1878 was elected its President, an office which he has filled with signal ability ever since. The cost of the road was \$3,300,000, and under Mr. Moulton's vigorous management has proven one of the best paying roads in Western New York.

In May, 1881, Mr. Moulton was elected President of the Buffalo Electric Light Company, which office he still holds. He was also elected Vice-President of the United States Concave Spring Company and the United States Equipment Company, in which offices his rare executive ability was still

further demonstrated. Mr. Moulton has also been largely interested in Colorado mining operations. Mr. Moulton is a member of the heavy coal and lumber firm of Buffalo, Adams, Moulton & Co., in which his son, Frank T. Moulton is also engaged. It is one of the leading firms in the city in their lines of business.

Mr. Moulton married Miss Lucy O. Giles, of Beverly, Mass., who is a descendant of an old and respected New England family. Three children have been born to them—Frank T., already mentioned, and two daughters.

In his business intercourse with men, Mr. Moulton is prompt and magnetic in manner, courteous to all, bold and vigorous in counsel and decision upon important measures, almost unerring in his judgment of men and projected enterprises and of sterling integrity. These are some of the prominent qualities that have enabled him, while yet a young man, to stand in the front rank of the great army of Buffalo business firms.

**C**HARLES DAVIS NORTON.—In a biographic sketch and graceful tribute to the man whose name appears above, written by Hon. Sherman S. Rogers and read before the Buffalo Historical Society, February 13, 1871, he said :

“There are some men whose individuality is so marked that neither absence nor death can efface or greatly obscure the impression which it has made—men the mention of whose names alone, recalls to mind the dead and gone with such power that they seem to stand before us in their bodily presence. We hear their voices, we look in at their eyes and feel the grasp of their hands. Such a man was Charles D. Norton.”

This brief tribute to the writer's dead friend is as truthful as it is beautiful.

Charles D. Norton was born at Hartford, Conn., on the 20th of November, 1820. His father was Joseph G. Norton, a shipping merchant of Hartford, Conn., who was born in Hebron, Conn.; he was a descendant of one of the two families that first settled the island of Martha's Vineyard—hardy, honest, sea-faring families. In the year 1827 Joseph G. Norton removed with his family to Black Rock, where he embarked in the dry goods business with Judah Bliss; the firm name was Norton & Bliss. Three years later Mr. Norton removed to Buffalo, where he died in 1844. He is remembered as a man of fine personal appearance, social in his habits, courteous, genial and worthy as a citizen. The maiden name of his mother, who was descended from Puritan ancestry, was Lucretia Huntington. She was the daughter of Dr. Joseph Huntington, a Congregationalist minister in Coventry, Conn., a brother of Samuel Huntington, signer of the Declaration of Independence and Governor of Connecticut. Dr. Huntington was a graduate of Yale College, of high intellectual endowments and fine personal appearance. He died in 1794. One of his sons was Samuel Huntington, second Governor of Ohio and afterwards Chief Justice of that State.

Regarding Charles D. Norton's youth and his educational advantages, we will quote from Mr. Rogers' paper, already referred to, as follows:—

“From his mother's family Mr. Norton doubtless derived in a large measure his superior intellectual endowments and his refined and scholarly tastes. His education in Buffalo began at the old academy (in the building now occupied by the Hospital of the Sisters of Charity) then taught by Theodotus Burwell, Esq. Mr. Burwell continued to teach but a short time after Charles' entrance to the academy, and as the school broke up on Mr. Burwell's departure, Charles entered a select school taught by a Mr. Lathrop, a law student, in the basement of the First Presbyterian church. Charles was regarded as a fine scholar in both schools, and in the latter received the highest prize for scholarship. Upon the death of Mr. Lathrop, or shortly thereafter, the old academy was reopened by Mr. Silas Kingsley. Here Charles was again entered, but Mr. Kingsley having resigned his position not long after, and Mr. Cyrus M. Fay, who had come to Buffalo as Mr. Kingsley's assistant, having opened a private school in the basement of the old church, Charles resumed his studies with him and was by him fitted for college. Mr. Fay was, I believe, a graduate of Union, and probably directed the choice of young Norton to that institution, where he was entered as a sophomore in 1836. He graduated with honor in the winter of 1840.”

From one of his college mates comes this testimony of his attainments and bearing while in that institution:—

“As a college youth he was marked for a glowing enthusiasm and a manly bearing so combined as to win both affection and respect. He was prompt in his manner, open and genial in his expression, jovial in his temperament, with a mingling of wit and humor, which never infringed upon the domain of refined taste, nor invaded the precincts of sacred things. As a student he stood high throughout his college course; and I think he was for a time at the head of his class on the merit roll of the college.”







In the winter of 1839, Mr. Norton began the study of law in the office of Horatio Shumway, which he continued until the autumn of 1841, when he was attacked by what was supposed to be a violent hemorrhage of the lungs, confining him to his house from November until the following May. His condition of ill health continued and became quite alarming; he seemed to be the victim of wasting consumption. In October, 1842, he sailed for Florida, where he remained under skillful treatment until June, 1843; he returned greatly benefited, resumed his law study and in the autumn of that year was admitted to the bar. Thereafter Mr. Norton, although not very robust in health, was able by constant care to attend to the duties of life during most of his remaining years.

Mr. Norton began his professional life just at the commencement of the famous struggle which resulted in the election of Mr. Polk, the annexation of Texas, the Mexican war and attendant events. Mr. Norton was a Whig in his political beliefs, and he took an active and earnest part in this struggle, becoming at once noted for his power and eloquence on the rostrum; but the condition of his health was such that he could not devote his energies to a field of labor wherein he could undoubtedly have earned the highest honors. In 1849, he was elected by the Whigs to the office of City Attorney. In 1851 he was elected Surrogate of Erie county, which office he held for three years; it is needless to state that both offices were most ably and honorably filled. In February, 1851, Mr. Norton was elected President of the Young Men's Association, of which he had long been one of the most useful members; he delivered its historical address in 1861, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Association; he was also one of the first commissioners of its real estate and held that position at the time of his death. From the first organization of the Buffalo Historical Society, Mr. Norton took the liveliest interest in its work; he was one of its founders and its first recording secretary, and from that time until his death, the society held few meetings at which he was not present. Its work was peculiarly suited to his tastes and was greatly aided by his efforts.

In October, 1851, Mr. Norton married Miss Jeanette Phelps, daughter of Oliver Phelps, of Canandaigua. Two children were born of this marriage—Porter and Charles.

In the fall of 1854 Mr. Norton was placed in nomination by the Republican party for re-election as Surrogate, but the Democrats were successful in the county that year. Of his legal career from that time until he was again called into public life, Mr. Rogers wrote as follows:—

“ \* \* \* Until again called to public life, Mr. Norton pursued the practice of the law at Buffalo with assiduity and substantial success. He sought, however, the quieter walks of the profession, and seemed to avoid the labors and responsibilities of an advocate. He was a painstaking and diligent man of business, giving his attention to all its details and neglecting nothing that a sensitive regard to duty required of him.”

In the summer of 1865, President Johnson appointed Mr. Norton Collector of Customs for the port of Buffalo; this honor was bestowed entirely without solicitation on the part of the incumbent, and the important duties of the office were discharged by him with fidelity in all their details, until his death. This event occurred on the 11th of April, 1867, when he was but forty-seven years old and just as he had apparently entered upon the best and most successful period of his life. He was mourned not only by relatives and intimate friends, but by the entire city where he had passed most of his life. In summing up the prominent characteristics of Mr. Norton, his eulogist says:

“ Mr. Norton's character was one of remarkable symmetry. Its defects were not many and so slight that they did not mar its beauty. His life was in the best sense exemplary. In youth and early manhood he sowed no foul seed from which to gather bitter sheaves in later years. In all the elements of true manhood he had strengthened to the last. \* \* \* Socially his gifts were superlative. It would hardly be too much to say that in this respect he had no peer among us. His mind was enriched by a varied and generous culture, but he did not possess the slightest tinge of pedantry. He enjoyed literary labor, and the triumphs of the library were more attractive to him than those of the bar. He found heavy burdens to carry, from early life; how cheerfully and quietly he bore them, devoting his life to the discharge of his duty, rather than the pursuit of pleasure or fame, we all know. The city mourned for him with more than usual sorrow. He was a citizen to be proud of and his death was a public bereavement.”

**JOHN T. NOYE.**—John T. Noye was born on the 21st of March, 1814, in the city of New York. He died at his residence in Buffalo, April 6, 1881. His parents originally came from England; his father, Richard Noye, came to this country when eighteen years old, and is said to have been the first merchant miller in the State of New York. Mr. Noye passed the early years of

his life in the various towns of Westchester county, and when seventeen years old took charge of the flouring mill at Rye, N. Y., where he remained until the spring of 1835, when he came to Buffalo and was employed in the Frontier Mills, at Black Rock. A few months later he was engaged to take charge of the mills at Springville, Erie county, but returned to Buffalo in a short time and accepted a position with Elisha Hayward, who was at that time interested in the flour and grain trade and carried on in a small way the manufacture of millstones. From that small shop, established in 1828, has grown the immense business of the John T. Noye Manufacturing Company, where some three hundred and fifty men find employment, the name and reputation of which is known wherever wheat is made into flour.

After a brief apprenticeship as clerk with Mr. Hayward, Mr. Noye became a member of the firm, the name of which, after the death of Mr. Hayward, in 1846, was Hayward & Noye, Nelson Hayward acting as trustee for the widow of Elisha Hayward and representing her in the business. The office was at that time on Hanover street. This partnership lasted until 1850, when Mr. Noye assumed the entire control and ownership of the business, and removed to the location on Washington street with which the business has so long been identified. In 1883 the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company purchased a part of the property and the works have recently been removed to their new location on Lake View avenue.

Up to the year 1850 Mr. Noye had not given up the grain business, but carried it on extensively and profitably. In 1848, memorable as the year of the Irish famine, he purchased and shipped wheat and other produce to an amount exceeding in value \$3,000,000. In those days no Atlantic cable was in existence to flash the news from continent to continent, and the arrivals of foreign steamers were anxiously awaited to enable operators to judge of the advisability of purchasing or selling commodities. The reputation Mr. Noye enjoyed for sagacity and promptness of decision was by no means mediocre and aided him in the realization of his most sanguine expectations. To him belongs the credit of having purchased the first cargo of wheat shipped from Chicago.

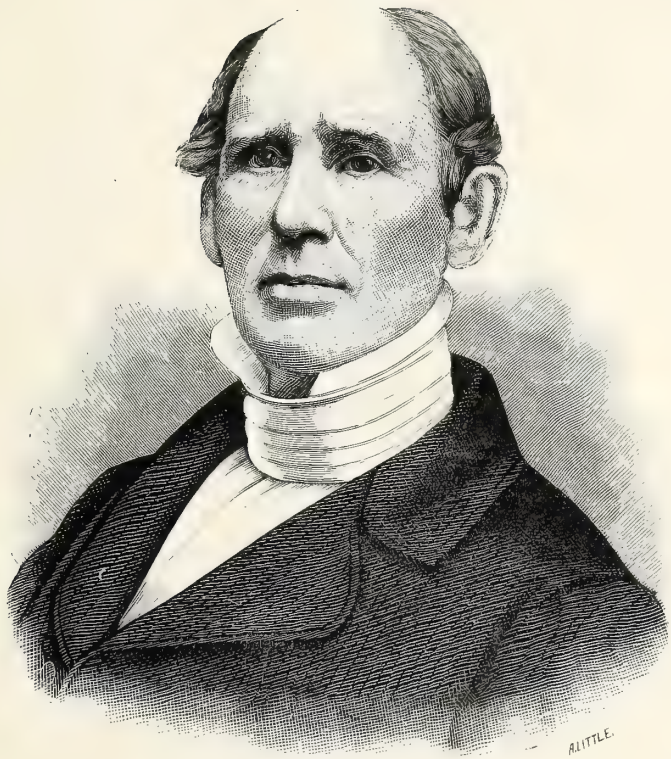
About the year 1856 Mr. Noye turned his attention almost exclusively to the manufacture of machinery for flour mills, which business grew rapidly under his energetic and intelligent management, until probably no other man in the business was better known, personally or by reputation, or more respected in his business as well as in his social relations; his name became a synonym for excellence in everything that left his works. At the time under consideration bank accommodations were practically unknown in Buffalo. Discount could not be obtained for a larger period than thirty days and the banks were all operators in grain. When the dark days of 1857 came, financial embarrassments involved him to many times the amount of his capital; but without credit he still persevered and never relinquished his business enterprises nor avoided his responsibilities. With rare persistence and unflinching courage he was able, after many years, to place his business on a firm footing and to discharge his obligations in full.

Mr. Noye never felt any inclination to public life and held no public office. He devoted his time and energies to the management of his manufacturing and business interests, finding therein his most congenial occupation.

In character Mr. Noye was entitled to the most profound respect; integrity, force, intelligence and intuitive knowledge of men were happily blended in him, enabling him to leave an unblemished record and gaining him the esteem of the entire community. He was a sincere Christian and held for many years the office of deacon in the Presbyterian Church; he was also elected ruling elder and trustee, and although he had not for years (owing to deafness) heard a word of the service, he was always prompt and constant in his attendance upon divine worship.

Upon the death of Mr. Noye, the Buffalo Board of Trade, of which he was one of the founders, represented by a committee composed of Charles J. Mann, Conway W. Ball and George B. Matthews, prepared and passed an appropriate series of resolutions, which were accompanied by the following memorial notes:—

“Another member of the Board of Trade has gone the way of all the earth—John T. Noye, whose business career commenced with the business of our lake and canal trade; although the firm of Hayward & Noye were engaged in the mill furnishing business as far back as 1840. They were also engaged in the flour and grain trade of the dock. Mr. Noye was one of the incorporators of the Board in 1850—known to all of us as a Christian gentleman through a long life of great activity. He spent his life in building up our city, and by his great enterprise and indefatigable energy, established one of the largest manufacturing industries in the land. His honor was unquestioned. His



GEORGE PALMER.





large heart showed itself in his generousities and his daily life proved his Christian character. We cannot let his death pass without notice and tendering to his afflicted family our heartfelt sympathies, and rejoicing with them that he has lived and leaves to us all the most enduring and grandest monument—a good name.”

This memorial minute was adopted and engrossed upon the record, and a copy furnished to the family and press.

Mr. Noye was married to Miss Maria Kirby, of Rye, Westchester county, N. Y., March 19, 1835. She was a daughter of David Kirby and Leah Bird, and died March 18, 1876. The children of this marriage are Richard K. Noye, born February 28, 1838; Helen Maria, born December 26, 1839; Elizabeth Coles, born February 5, 1844; E. Hayward, born October 17, 1848, died in 1882. Six other children died in infancy. Richard K. Noye has for some years managed the business of the firm of John T. Noye & Sons, and is now president of the John T. Noye Manufacturing Co.

GEORGE PALMER\* was born in Tiverton, Rhode Island, April 24, 1792, and died in the city of Buffalo, New York, September 19, 1864. His grandfather settled in Tiverton about the middle of the eighteenth century and the father of George was born there in 1766. It is probable that they were the descendants of Benjamin Palmer, who resided in Stonington, Conn., in 1665, and the genealogical records of the early New England settlers state that from that period no generation of the Palmers has failed to have in it both a Joseph and a Benjamin. The father and grandfather of George were each named Benjamin. For two hundred years past the name has been common in Rhode Island and the eastern portion of Connecticut, while it has representatives in every State in the Union.

Benjamin Palmer, the father of George, emigrated to Palmyra, in Wayne county, in 1796, where he died shortly after, leaving his family with small means to struggle with the hardships incident to life at that period in such a wilderness as was Western New York. The toils and privations of boyhood served to nurture the qualities of self-reliance, endurance and daring for which Mr. Palmer became conspicuous in his maturer years. He learned his trade as a tanner, of Mr. Munson, of East Bloomfield, Ontario county, and after working for Mr. Henry Jessup at Palmyra, for two years, formed a partnership with him in 1814, which continued successful and mutually satisfactory until 1828. On March 24, 1817, Mr. Palmer was married to Miss Harriet Foster, of Palmyra. Six sons and two daughters were born to them. Of the sons, Everard Palmer alone survived him. Their daughter, Cynthia J., married Mr. Peter Curtiss, and Harriet F., married Mr. James O. Putnam.

Mr. Palmer moved to Buffalo in 1828 and entered into partnership with Noah H. Gardner, in the leather manufacturing business. Jabez B. Bull was afterwards a member of the firm, which was continued to the time of Mr. Palmer's death. Foreseeing the growth of this city, he made considerable purchases of lands in eligible localities, which he largely built up for commercial and manufacturing purposes. He devoted himself to his manufacturing interests with little diversion to outside affairs, until the larger relations of Buffalo demanded railroad connections with the West. Mr. Palmer was one of the first to see this necessity and he entered with characteristic energy into the enterprise of constructing the State Line railroad. In June, 1849, Mr. Palmer took hold of the enterprise in earnest and was elected president of the company, and continued in that position by successive re-elections until his death. The office with him was not merely nominal. During the construction of the road he gave his whole time with unceasing labor, to the supervision of the work in all its details. He was liberal with means and gave his credit to the extent of his fortune in conducting it to completion, and carried into all its affairs the same economy that characterized his private business.

He was one of the originators and largest stockholders of the Marine Bank of Buffalo; became its president in August, 1851, and held that position until his death. To his financial skill is that institution largely indebted for the success which it achieved during his life.

Soon after the development of the rich deposits of iron which abound on the shores of Lake Superior, Mr. Palmer turned his attention to the subject of its manufacture in Buffalo. He confidently anticipated the period as not remote when Buffalo would become the center of the largest iron trade upon the continent. In conjunction with the late General Wadsworth whose untimely

\* From a sketch prepared for the Buffalo Historical Society, by the late Hon. George R. Babcock.

death upon the battle-field a nation mourns, he established a large furnace which was soon blended with a similar enterprise entered upon by Messrs. Warren & Thompson, forming the extensive furnaces and rolling mills known as the Union Iron Works.

Apart from his regular business and the enterprises enumerated, Mr. Palmer was often interested with others in mercantile pursuits, to the conduct of which he gave but little personal attention. Young men of industry, good character, and talent for business, often received great assistance from him in the way of capital and credit, for which no compensation, beyond simple interest for cash advanced, was asked or paid. No man was more liberal in the use of his name as surety for his neighbors, and often he met with severe losses and inconveniences from the freedom with which, in this way, he assisted others in business. His pecuniary liabilities for others, where he had no security except the integrity of those in whom he confided, and no apparent motive for the risk incurred except a desire to be of service, were oftentimes very large, and sufficient to excite lively apprehensions of disaster to his own fortunes.

His labors and liberality for the advancement of the material interests of himself and his neighbors by no means constituted the sum of his efforts. The various institutions of a benevolent scope, which to so remarkable an extent characterize the civilization of our country, found in him an efficient friend and liberal contributor. From an early period in his life he was a man of decided religious views. His faith and character were of the New England, Puritan stamp. Upon coming to this city he united with the First Presbyterian Church. Upon the division of that ecclesiastical body he adhered to the Old School, and was a liberal contributor to the erection and support of the Pearl Street Central Church, under the ministry of the Rev. Dr. Lord. In 1857 it was thought advisable to establish a new church farther up town and some steps were taken in that direction, which were entirely frustrated by the financial revulsion that occurred in the fall of that year. Although his associates in the enterprise were unable to continue it, Mr. Palmer resolved that it should not fail and soon set himself to the work of building upon the site which had become his individual property by purchase, the beautiful structure on Delaware street known as Calvary Church. The whole work was carried on under his immediate supervision. This edifice with its appurtenances cost \$85,000, and the whole was conveyed a free gift, July 7, 1862, to the society now worshipping in it. He imposed a few wise conditions to insure its preservation and continued use for the advancement of the Christian faith which he professed.

Mr. Palmer possessed a good physical constitution which was improved by constant exercise in the open air and preserved by habits of temperance. His power of endurance was great; his activity both of mind and body almost ceaseless; and he little felt the effects of advancing years. He was in attendance upon two services in Calvary Church the day before his death, apparently in perfect health. He died September 20, 1864, from an attack of *angina pectoris*. Mr. Palmer's life was frugal and unostentatious. His intellectual qualities were of a superior order. With clear perceptions, comprehensive views, and rapid evolutions of thought, he united a resolution that was rarely shaken.

Mr. Palmer's posterity at the present time are Everard Palmer, Harlow C., son of Everard, and an infant daughter of Harlow C.; George Palmer Putnam, and his children, George Palmer, James Osborne, Mary Hall and Edward Hall; Harriet Osborne Putnam, and Mrs. Robert Keating and her children, George Palmer, Jeannette and Harriet.

**ORSON PHELPS** was born at Fabius, Onondaga county, N. Y., December 17th, 1805; he was one of a family of seventeen children, the parents of whom were Oliver Phelps, born at Salmon Brook, Granby county, Conn., December 12, 1779, died May 4, 1851; and Abigail St. John, daughter of Samuel St. John, of Connecticut. They were married on the 16th of January, 1800, and came into Central New York about the beginning of the present century. The boyhood of Orson Phelps did not differ materially from that of most boys of that period; it was a period of labor, alternating with attendance at the primitive schools of that day, during portions of each year, until he was fourteen years old. From that time he was actively engaged with his father in various kinds of business involving enterprises of much importance. They established the first stage line over the Catskill mountains, from Ithaca to New York city. They built the first steamboat on Cayuga lake, and Orson was her captain at fourteen years of age. They also built the first bridge across the foot of Cayuga lake, as well as the first canal locks at Lockport. They constructed the



*James T. Smith*





“deep cut” of the Welland canal, at St. Catharines, C. W., and in 1837 had the contract for building the Genesee Valley Canal. While residing in St. Catharines, they built a Presbyterian Church, of which the son was a member for many years.

Mr. Phelps came to Buffalo to live about the year 1840, and bought the old United States Bank property on the corner of Main and South Division streets, where he erected a hotel which for some years was known as the Phelps House; it was subsequently called the Clarendon Hotel and was destroyed in 1859. Mr. Phelps was one of the original projectors of the Buffalo Water Works, and was the first to suggest the tapping of Chautauqua lake as a source of pure water for the city. He was one of the original Councilors of the Medical Department of the Buffalo University and held that position to the time of his death; he was also instrumental in the establishment of the General Hospital.

On the 6th of October, 1846, Mr. Phelps was married to Miss Calista Maria Fisk, daughter of Abram J. Fisk and Maria St. John Fisk, of the State of Illinois, both deceased. Three children were born to them, two of whom are dead; the other is Calvin F. Phelps, of Buffalo. Mrs. Phelps is also a resident of the city at this time.

This sketch may be appropriately closed with the following extract from an obituary notice printed in the Buffalo *Courier*.—

“It will be readily inferred by those who did not know the man, that his life was one of activity and usefulness. His mind had a strong mechanical bias, and he followed whither it led, with the best results. He preferred large projects to small ones and handled them with the same ease that men of lesser mental calibre would show in dealing with schemes of minor importance. He was admirably fitted, during his active life, to assume great responsibilities, for he belonged eminently to that class of men who master their business and are not mastered by it. Indeed, he was such a man in his energy, uprightness, public spirit and irresistible earnestness as would make himself felt anywhere in those enterprises which look to the building up of a city. He was for many years a communicant in the Presbyterian Church and a constant attendant. Mr. Phelps was a hearty, genial man, warmly attached to family and friends, a man of liberal views and unimpeachable integrity, and a citizen whose history is inwoven with the prosperity and growth of Buffalo.”

Mr. Phelps died on the 15th of March, 1870, leaving a record of which his friends may feel proud, and his loss regretted by the entire community.

**WILLIAM WARREN POTTER** was born in Strykersville, Genesee (now Wyoming) county, N. Y., December 31, 1837. His father, Dr. Lindorf Potter, a native of the town of Sheldon, Genesee (Wyoming) county, was a son of Dr. Benjamin Potter. The latter married Phœbe, daughter of Dr. Eastman, of Connecticut, and came hence to Western New York in 1808, and was, therefore, one of the earliest physicians in the Holland Purchase. Of four sons, two (Lindorf and Milton E.) became physicians and settled in the same county of their birth, where they became distinguished in their profession. Dr. Lindorf Potter, father of the subject of this sketch, married Mary G., daughter of the Rev. Abijah Blanchard, D. D., a prominent clergyman in the Episcopal Church, February 12, 1837, and settled in Strykersville, N. Y. He removed to Warsaw, in 1842; thence to Varysburg in 1844, where he practiced medicine until his death, which occurred March 27, 1857.

Dr. Milton E. Potter, uncle of William W., settled in Bennington Centre, whence he removed to Cowlesville, and thence to Attica, N. Y., where he died in 1875, in the ripeness of years and the full enjoyment of a busy practice up to the last days of his life. He was the father of Dr. Milton Grosvenor Potter, late Professor of Anatomy in the Buffalo Medical College, who died in Buffalo January 28, 1878.

The early life of William W. Potter was passed in the vicinity of his birth, and his lay education was received in the private schools, at Arcade Seminary, and at Genesee Seminary and College at Lima, N. Y. He came to Buffalo in 1854, receiving his medical education at Buffalo Medical College, where he graduated February 23, 1859. Soon after graduating he was offered a partnership in the practice of medicine, by his uncle, Dr. M. E. Potter, of Cowlesville, N. Y., where he located in the spring of 1859. Upon the breaking out of the civil war he made haste to offer his services in a professional capacity to the Government, and passed the examination of the Army Medical Examining Board at Albany, N. Y., April 25, 1861. He became interested in the organization of the Second Buffalo Regiment (the Forty-ninth New York Volunteers) in the summer of 1861, and was commissioned by Governor Morgan its Assistant Surgeon, September 16, 1861, at the instance of the Union Defense Committee, which was composed of Mayor F. A. Alberger, Dr. Edward

Storck, James Adams, Isaac Holloway, Alderman A. A. Howard and others. Colonel D. D. Bidwell was selected to command the regiment and, under his experienced and able leadership it bore its part honorably and well in the great contest which so sorely tried the metal of American soldiers. The history of the Forty-ninth Regiment has become a part of the History of Erie County, and need not be recounted here.

Dr. Potter served as its junior medical officer during all of its earlier career, from the date of its organization; was with it when it joined the Army of the Potomac; followed its fortunes during the peninsular campaign; then when it was temporarily under Pope; again when it was under McClellan in the Maryland campaign; and finally when under Burnside in the Fredericksburgh disaster. He was left with the wounded of Smith's division on the night of the 29th of June, 1862, by order of General Franklin, commanding the Sixth Corps, when the army was retreating by the flank to Harrison's Landing, and next morning fell into the hands of the enemy, when he had an interesting interview with the redoubtable "Stonewall" Jackson. In a few days he was removed to Richmond and given quarters in Libby prison, then under command of the celebrated Lieutenant Turner. He was released among the first exchanges under the cartel arranged between the hostile powers, and delivered to the hospital steamship *Louisiana*, July 18, 1862, and immediately thereafter rejoined his regiment at Harrison's Landing, Va. On December 16, 1862, just after the battle of Fredericksburgh, he was promoted surgeon of the Fifty-seventh Regiment New York Volunteers, in Hancock's division of the Second Corps. He served with his regiment during the Chancellorsville and Gettysburg campaigns; and, in August, 1863, was assigned to the charge of the First Division Hospital, Second Corps, continuing upon that duty until his muster-out of service with his regiment near the close of the war. He was breveted Lieutenant-Colonel United States Volunteers for faithful and meritorious service, by the President of the United States, and of New York Volunteers by the Governor of the State of New York, for like reasons.

After the war he performed service for the Government in connection with the Pension Office as General Examining Surgeon, and was appointed Coroner of the District of Columbia. He resigned the latter office to return to the more congenial field of private practice, and located temporarily in Mount Morris, Livingston county. For several years he resided in Batavia, Genesee county, where he was physician to the New York State Institution for the Blind; he was a member of the Genesee County Medical Society, which his grandfather, Dr. Benjamin Potter, joined in 1813; which his father, Dr. Lindorf Potter, joined in 1833; and which his uncle, Dr. Milton E. Potter, joined in 1838. Finally he returned to Buffalo in 1881, where he has since resided pursuing the practice of his profession.

He is a Curator of the Medical Department of the University of Buffalo; permanent member of the American Medical Association (1878); permanent member of the Medical Society of the State of New York (1883); member of the Erie County Medical Society; member of the Buffalo Medical and Surgical Association; member of the Buffalo Medical Union; and life member of Alumni Association of Buffalo Medical College. He was one of the founders of the latter association, and its president in 1877. His professional tastes, largely cultivated by association with his father, led him early into the field of surgery and he has performed many of the more important operations, both in military and civil practice.

Of late he has turned his attention quite largely to diseases of women, having performed many important operations in this department of medicine. He has been a frequent contributor to medical literature, and has, likewise, written many unpublished papers for medical societies and other bodies. Among his published writings may be mentioned the following: "Umbilical Hernia in the Adult, with the report of a successful operation," *Buffalo Medical Journal*, 1879; "Rectal Alimentation for the Relief of the Obstinate Vomiting of Pregnancy," *American Journal of Obstetrics*, New York, 1880; "Remarks on Rectal Feeding in Disease," *New York Medical Record*, 1880; "Epithelioma of the Cervix Uteri," *Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of New York*, 1881; "The Genu-Pectoral Posture in Uterine and Ovarian Displacements," *Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of New York*, 1882; "The Gynecic Uses and Value of the Genu-Pectoral Posture," *Transactions of the American Medical Association*, 1882; "Induction of Premature Labor in Puerperal Eclampsia," *Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of New York*, 1883; "Address to the Alumni of Buffalo Medical College," delivered in St. James



W. W. Potter





Hall, February 23d, 1875. He is a contributor to the *Army Medical Museum*, and to the *Medical and Surgical History of the War*.

Dr. Potter was married March 23d, 1859, to Emily A., daughter of William H. Bostwick, Esq., of Lancaster, Erie county. His wife, a native of Erie county, is a lineal descendant of Ethan Allen, of Revolutionary fame, and her family came from Vermont to Erie county in an early day. He has three children, viz:—Dr. Frank Hamilton Potter, born January 8, 1860; Helen Blanchard, born February 13, 1863; and Alice F., born November 22, 1870; all living in Buffalo. His son, Dr. Frank H. Potter, is engaged in the practice of his profession, and is clinical assistant to the Chair of Surgery in the Medical Department of Niagara University.

**SAMUEL F. PRATT.**—It is eminently proper that a brief sketch of the lives of Samuel F. Pratt and of Pascal P. Pratt, should be given in this connection. They were brothers between whom existed during all of their mature lives not only the most intimate business relations but a bond of fraternal affection that was severed only by the elder brother's death. Samuel Fletcher Pratt was born in Townsend, Vt., May 28, 1807, and came to Buffalo with his father about the first of September following, making the long journey in his mother's arms. The family came into Buffalo when it was a mere frontier hamlet, in the first carriage that ever passed through its streets. Amid those pioneer scenes the boy grew up to manhood, carefully nurtured by a devoted mother and a fond father. When he was but twelve years of age he went to Canada, where he spent three years in a store, returning to Buffalo to enter the hardware store of G. & T. Weed as a clerk on a salary of \$8 a month. After five years of close attention to the interests of his employers, and when only twenty years old he was admitted as a partner in the firm. Ten years later he became sole owner of the establishment and there laid the foundation of the great business enterprises in which he afterward became the leading spirit, and which will be referred to in the sketch of his brother's life.

Samuel F. Pratt was in all respects one of the most useful and respected citizens of Buffalo. At the time of his death it was written of him that "while he was not conspicuous for remarkable traits of character, except those fundamental principles of honor, honesty, integrity and truth in which he was never found wanting—while the influence he exerted over men was not by noisy declamation, for he was a man of few words, yet he was so free from that which mars the character and darkens the life of so many, as in this to be worthy of notice. As one who knew him most intimately said since his death, 'his negative qualities were splendid.' He was especially free from suspicion and envy and willing to accord to every one around him his proper place. He would not involve himself in the angry contentions or unnecessary quarrels of his fellow men, but while he had and held his own opinions on every subject most tenaciously, yet he never allowed them to be so prominent as to arouse any ill feeling among those who might disagree with him."

In this connection a brief quotation from the memorial prepared by the late O. G. Steele, will further delineate Mr. Pratt's characteristics and worth:—

"As a citizen, Mr. Pratt commanded the respect and confidence of our whole community. No man could be a more just and devoted husband and father, and no man better represented the good citizen. In all movements for the public good, his co-operation was certain and effective. His fairly-earned wealth was freely contributed to every public object which commanded his confidence. His charities were numerous and liberal, but never blazoned to the world with his consent."

In his history of the Pratt family Mr. William P. Letchworth thus refers to Mr. Pratt's character and some of the positions of trust to which he was called:—

"It is superfluous to speak of the integrity of one who fulfilled in his daily walk so nearly, if not entirely, the requirements of the divine law. He was the soul of honor and justice, and one soon felt in an acquaintance with him that these attributes were at the base of his character. When financial panics swept through business centers, bankrupting the strongest firms and shaking every business house to its foundation, then the moral power of this man was like a rock in the tempest, a pillar of strength to the house of which he was a member and around which the fury of the storm beat in vain.

"He was never inclined to push himself before the public, and yet he did not shrink from the responsibility when he thought his duty called him to act. During the late war he was treasurer of a citizen's committee of three organized to collect and disburse money for the defense of the Union. This fund was required to be variously appropriated. It was a position of considerable care, requiring discretion and involving on the part of each member of the committee not a little personal responsibility. His duties were so discharged as to give the highest satisfaction. He was several times importuned to allow his name to be used as a candidate for Mayor by the popular party, but he always declined. He never displayed any ambition for political honors. He accepted

the post of Alderman in 1844. There were then but five wards and ten aldermen, and his associates were a fine class of men. He attended to the duties of his position with scrupulous care, allowing no matter to pass out of his hands which did not receive the necessary attention. He made it a point to understand the merits of every question and voted and acted conscientiously in relation thereto. He was the first president of the Buffalo Gas Light Company, a position he held from the time of his election, in 1848, to that of his death, in 1872. He invested largely in this enterprise and worked hard to establish it. He foresaw at the beginning that the erection of complete gas works here was to be a great acquisition to the city, and he put forth his best efforts to induce citizens generally to become interested and take stock in it. He even went so far as to say to some who thought they could not take money from their business for this object, 'Subscribe, and if you find you cannot spare the money, I will take the stock off your hands.' These pledges were subsequently redeemed. "He was elected in 1851 the first president of the Buffalo Female Academy, and was a trustee from the time he relinquished the office of president to the time of his death."

Mr. Pratt united with the Presbyterian Church when he was eighteen years of age, and his life was guided by the teachings of Christianity. He was very fond of music and during nearly all of his mature years he was a member of the choir of the First Presbyterian Church.

In the fall of 1835, when Mr. Pratt was twenty-eight years old, he was married to Miss Mary Jane Strong, a lady "endowed with rare personal charms, all of which had been carefully and religiously nurtured." Two daughters, Jeannie, born February 18, 1841, and Helen, were the offspring of this union—a union that was productive of all the domestic happiness and peace that is ever vouchsafed to humanity. Jeannie Pratt was married to William J. King in June, 1860, and died September 24, 1872. Helen Pratt was married to Frank Hamlin, February 27, 1872, and died in Paris January 17, 1873.

In October, 1866, Mr. Pratt, accompanied by his wife, one of his daughters and Miss King, a sister of his son-in-law, made an extended European tour, being absent about a year. At another time he accompanied his brother, Pascal P. Pratt, on another visit to Europe.

Mr. Pratt died on Sunday morning, April 27, 1872, at the age of sixty-five years, and his remains were buried in the beautiful Forest Lawn Cemetery, on Wednesday, May 1, 1872. The eloquent funeral discourse spoken by the Rev. Dr. A. T. Chester concluded as follows:—

"At nine o'clock on Sabbath morning, just as the worshipers were preparing for the sanctuary below, he went up to begin the ceaseless worship of the upper courts. And if that is in some respects as we are taught, a service of song, may he not be especially fitted for it by his life on earth? You that remember him as joining so long and so heartily in the choir below, may yet hear him again as with a spirit's voice he unites with the great company of the saved, as they sing the praises of redeeming love."

**JAMES O. PUTNAM** is a descendant in the seventh generation, of John Putnam, who came from Buckinghamshire, England, in 1634, and settled in Salem, Mass. At a later day his family became principal proprietors of Danvers, Mass. The father of James O. was the late Hon. Harvey Putnam, who was born in Brattleboro, Vermont, and settled in Attica, Wyoming county, N. Y., in 1817. He was a lawyer and represented his district many years in the State Senate and in the United States House of Representatives. His mother was a daughter of James Osborne and a grand-daughter of Colonel Benjamin Symonds, of Williamstown, Mass. Colonel Symonds was one of the original proprietors of that town and an officer in the army of the American Revolution.

James O. was born in Attica, July 4, 1818. He graduated at Yale College in the class of 1839. He entered upon the study of the law with his father and was admitted to the Bar in 1842. Immediately after his admission he settled in Buffalo and was for two years a partner of the late Hon. George K. Babcock. In 1844, he was appointed secretary and treasurer, and in 1846, attorney and counselor of the Attica & Buffalo and Buffalo & Rochester Railroad Companies; positions he held until their consolidation with the New York Central Railroad Company.

In 1851 he was appointed postmaster of the city of Buffalo by President Fillmore, which position he retained during the residue of Mr. Fillmore's term. In 1853 he was elected State Senator. While his political studies led him to sympathize with the conservative branch of the Whig party, he uniformly resisted the aggressions of the slave interest, which was then trying to force the institution of slavery upon the new territories. By speech and vote in the Senate he united in the protests of his State against the repeal of the Missouri Compromise.

As a Senator he was best known as the author and supporter of what is known as "The Church Property Bill," which required real estate consecrated to religious uses to be vested in trustees in accord-



*James C. Putnam.*





ance with the general policy of the State, and with the statute relating to religious corporations. As his action in that connection grew out of a movement in the city of Buffalo, and within the Roman Catholic Church, and as it has had a marked influence upon the policy of that communion, it is proper to state briefly here its history. In the general council of Roman Catholic bishops held in Baltimore in 1829, an ordinance was passed that—

“In future no church be erected or consecrated unless it be assigned by a written instrument to the bishop in whose diocese it is to be erected, for the divine worship and use of the faithful whenever this can be done.”

This was approved by Pope Gregory XVI. Little attention was paid to this ordinance, and in 1849, at another council held in Baltimore, the following ordinance was passed :—

*Article 4.*—“The Fathers ordain that all churches and all other ecclesiastical property which have been acquired by donations or the offerings of the faithful or for religious or charitable use, belong to the Bishop of the Diocese, unless it shall be made to appear and be confirmed by writings, that it was granted to some religious order of Monks or to some congregation of Priests for their use.”

Several German Roman Catholic churches in the United States refused to surrender their charter in obedience to the ordinance, and a very bitter controversy grew up between them and their respective Bishops. Among them was the church of St. Louis, of Buffalo, composed of German and French citizens, which was incorporated under the laws of the State of New York relating to religious corporations. The whole power of the Catholic hierarchy was brought to bear to compel this church to convey its splendid property to the Bishop of the Diocese. The church petitioned to the Legislature for relief and in their petition they said :—

“For no higher offence than simply refusing to violate the trust law of our State, we have been subjected to pains of excommunication and our names held up to infamy and reproach. For this cause, too, have the entire congregation been under ban. To our members the holy rites of baptism and of burial have been denied. The marriage sacrament is refused. The priest is forbidden to minister at our altars. In sickness and at the hour of death the holy consolations of religion are withheld.”

This condition of affairs continued for five years. The question raised by this petition of St. Louis Church was squarely presented, whether the ordinance of the Council of Bishops or the policy of the State in relation to religious corporations should prevail. Mr. Putnam prepared and introduced into the Senate a bill requiring religious societies to be incorporated under the general law as to religious corporations, under penalty for non-compliance, of forfeiture to the State of its real property, which was to hold the same in trust until the proper organization of such corporation.

Mr. Putnam advocated his measure in a speech which is remarkable for the profound impression it made upon the country at the time. It is not too much to say that no words have ever been spoken before nor since in the Legislative halls of New York, which echoed so far and moved so wide a feeling.

The speech was published in the public journals in every section of the Union and everywhere called out the most cordial expressions of admiration and approval. His bill passed the Legislature by an almost unanimous vote. The great effect of this speech on the church property bill was due not more to its power and brilliance as an effort of oratory, than to the large liberality of the view in which he exhibited the momentous issues of the question in dispute, and the conscientious temper in which it discussed them. It was not for Protestantism that Mr. Putnam spoke, neither to sound its alarms nor to summon its defenders, but simply and altogether for the Republicanism of America, and for the spiritual independence which is the soul of all its franchises. The immediate constituency which he represented in speaking, was a body of faithful worshipers in the Roman Catholic communion, who claimed protection in their own liberties as such, against the policy of the Catholic hierarchy.

It was a singularly apt and fortunate occasion for examining freshly the grounds and principles of the polity of the Republic in religious concerns, and for confirming anew among the people the wise jealousy of ecclesiastical power, in which they have been traditionally trained. Mr. Putnam lost nothing of the opportunity. When he had finished his speech the controversy was ended. The Roman episcopacy had suffered defeat in its long-cherished design to acquire possession and title in itself of the entire real property of the Roman communion. The courageous trustees of the St. Louis Church of Buffalo were vindicated victoriously, and the religious corporation whose legal rights

they so valiantly and successfully maintained, has enjoyed peacefully ever since the spiritual fellowship that was being denied it. The same is true of other churches in the country that made like resistance to the Baltimore policy.

Some years later, and after the end of this controversy with the churches, another act was passed by the Legislature of New York and accepted by the church authorities, providing for the incorporation of Roman Catholic churches under the general act relating to religious corporations. The act places such corporations under the supervision of the Legislature and the Courts, as all other corporate trusts are placed; and so has ended the claims and discipline of the Baltimore councils.

In 1857 Mr Putnam was the candidate of the American party for the office of Secretary of State. He labored for the union of the American with the Republican party, newly organized to resist the aggressions of the slave interest, and in 1860 was one of the two (Lincoln) State Presidential electors-at-large.

In 1861 he was appointed by President Lincoln, United States Consul at Havre, France. His absence under this appointment covered the period of our civil war, when Paris was a center of loyal Americans on the continent. Upon our national occasions in the French capital, he was repeatedly called to act a principal part. The address of American citizens abroad, to their government, upon the death of President Lincoln, was from his pen. The oration at the celebration of the 22d of February, in Paris, after the close of the war, was by him.

In 1880 he was appointed by President Hayes, United States Minister to Belgium. While abroad upon this mission, he was appointed by the United States Government its delegate to the International Industrial Property Congress, which sat in Paris in 1881.

A published volume of Mr. Putnam's "Orations, Speeches and Miscellanies," reveals in some degree his relations to the institutions of the city during the last thirty years, and the scope of his public services as an interpreter of its benevolent sentiment and patriotic feeling. He was for a time trustee of the State Agricultural College, in Ovid, Seneca county. After the passage of the law authorizing a State Board of Public Charities, he was appointed by the Governor member of the Board for the Eighth Judicial District. His health did not admit his acceptance of the trust. He has been a member of the Council of the Buffalo University since its reorganization in 1846. He is a trustee of Houghton Seminary, in Clinton, N. Y.

Mr. Putnam has been twice married. On the 5th of January, 1842, he married Harriet Palmer, daughter of George Palmer, of Buffalo. She died May 3, 1853. The children of that marriage are George Palmer Putnam, Harriet Osborne Putnam, and Mrs. Robert Keating.

On the 15th of March, 1855, he married Kate F. Wright, daughter of Rev. Worthington Wright, of Woodstock, Vt. The children of that marriage are Kate E. Putnam, Dr. James Wright Putnam, Harvey Worthington Putnam, and Frank Curtiss Putnam.

**GORHAM FLINT PRATT.**—The subject of this sketch was born in the town of Redding, Mass., on the 4th of July, 1804. His boyhood, until he was about sixteen years old, was spent at his home, during which period he enjoyed the advantages of the union schools of his native place. Between the year 1820 and the time when he left his home, Mr. Pratt taught school several terms. The death of his mother when he was quite young, and the subsequent second marriage of his father, resulted in the young man's departure from home and locating in the State of New Hampshire, where he pursued a collegiate course. He then began the study of medicine, subsequently taking the degree of M. D., in the Medical College at Fairfield, New York, then a prominent institution, in 1831.

Before the completion of his medical studies, he removed to Black Rock, but soon after located in Buffalo, where he continued in active practice until his death. Dr. Pratt formed a partnership soon after his arrival in Buffalo with Dr. Cyrenius Chapin, the pioneer physician and heroic defender of Buffalo in the war of 1812. This partnership continued until the death of Dr. Chapin, in 1836. Dr. Pratt afterwards continued his practice without office associates.

As a physician, Dr. Pratt occupied a prominent position, met with excellent success and was given a large practice. He was particularly successful as an oculist, and performed many operations requiring the highest professional skill.

On the 4th of November, 1834, Dr. Pratt was married to a lady of the same name, though in no way related—Miss Sophia C. Pratt, daughter of Samuel Pratt, Jr., and Sophia Fletcher, of Buffalo, and grand-daughter of Samuel Pratt, Sr., the pioneer who came to the little frontier hamlet of "New Amsterdam" in 1804, bringing his family and effects in the first carriage that ever traversed the roads of Erie county. Samuel Pratt, Jr., was born in February, 1787, at Westminster, Vt., and was married in June, 1806, to Miss Sophia Fletcher. In the year 1807 he brought his wife and child to Buffalo, locating first on the North side of Exchange street, between Main and Washington; he afterwards removed to the corner of West Eagle and Main streets, where the family resided when the village was burned in the winter of 1813-'14.

By a life of integrity, industry and public spirit, aside from his honorable and successful career as a physician, Dr. Pratt attained a position in society and in his profession that was enviable in all respects. He is survived by his widow, who still resides in Buffalo, and one son, William F. Pratt. The latter was born July 26, 1835, and is a well-known farmer of the town of West Seneca. He was married June 17, 1867, to Miss Antoinette Fisher.

**ORRIN P. RAMSDELL.**—Among the most successful and respected business men of Buffalo is Mr. Orrin P. Ramsdell, wholesale boot and shoe dealer. The subject of this sketch was born in Mansfield, Conn., on the 19th of July, 1811. His immediate ancestors were of Scotch descent, his father being Isaiah Ramsdell, a native of Lynn, Mass. His mother was Clarissa Collins, who was born in Mansfield, Conn. The boyhood of Orrin P. Ramsdell was spent at the home of his parents, in Mansfield, where he attended the common schools regularly until he was about sixteen years old, acquiring a good English education.

Mr. Ramsdell's first business enterprise on his own account was the establishment of a retail boot and shoe store in New London, Conn., previous to which he gained a good knowledge of mercantile business as a clerk in a dry goods store, a portion of the time in New York city.

His career since that time stamps him as a self-made man, in the broadest sense of the term. His first business venture in New London was made on a borrowed capital of \$1,000, which was invested exclusively in boots and shoes; his failure was freely predicted, his store being the only one of the kind in that section. Within a year of his start, however, the general stores in the vicinity were forced to drop boots and shoes from their lines, and Mr. Ramsdell found himself master of a profitable business, which he continued until 1835. He then sold out to good advantage and came to Buffalo, where he permanently located and established a retail boot and shoe store in 1837, which soon developed into a wholesale establishment, and is now one of the leading houses of the city.

Mr. Ramsdell has always shown himself a public-spirited citizen; he has been closely identified with all enterprises having for their object the welfare and advancement of Buffalo. He has long been connected with all of the public and charitable institutions of the city, giving freely of his of time and means for their benefit. While he has always been looked upon as the pioneer shoe dealer of Buffalo and has for over forty years continued at the head of a prosperous boot and shoe house, still, that business for many years past has received but a small share of his attention—has been a sort of side issue. His enterprise led him to throw off the details of his regular business, leaving them to the care of trusted associates, while he turned his attention to other important enterprises. In 1861 he built the Erie Basin Elevator and purchased large pieces of property adjoining it, and although he afterwards associated with him John C. Clifford and Charles Ramsdell, (formerly of Buffalo) and his brothers Albert N., and Thomas Ramsdell, of Connecticut, he was the directing hand in a large elevating business. He finally, in the year 1867, sold the entire property at a very large profit, to J. Langdon & Co., the great coal firm, of Elmira, N. Y. These and other operations secured for Mr. Ramsdell a wide reputation as a man of rare business sagacity; the elevator enterprise was pronounced on all sides as one of the most successful undertakings of the kind ever carried out in Buffalo.

Mr. Ramsdell was an early and enthusiastic believer in railroads, investing largely in different lines. His early ventures in this direction proved very successful, and ever since he has been largely interested in various roads both East and West. Mr. Ramsdell was also early identified with the banking interests of Buffalo; he was one of the original stockholders of the Manufacturers' and Traders' Bank, and has remained a stockholder ever since. He is also interested in several other



Buffalo banks, serving on several of their past Boards of Directors. He was one of the Directors of the Buffalo & Southwestern railroad, from which he retired at the last election.

Mr. Ramsdell has been a man of large charities, and although this has been shown by many public gifts, he has in a more modest way made himself loved and respected.

Mr. Ramsdell's personal characteristics, as shown in his business career, are a strong preference for conservative methods, an intuitive and generally correct judgment of men, a manner always courteous and gentlemanly. These traits contributed in no small measure to his success and have given him a very extended circle of business friends and acquaintances. It has been said by one who possesses complete knowledge of Mr. Ramsdell's life, that "after so many years of active business competition, it can scarcely be said that he has an enemy." Mr. Ramsdell is a staunch friend to all whose interest he has at heart; a business man whose integrity and uprightness have always been above reproach, and a citizen who enjoys the respect of the entire community. He has never cared for, sought, nor held public office.

Mr. Ramsdell was married in 1851 to Miss Anna C. Titus, of Brooklyn, N. Y., a daughter of Thomas W. Titus, of New York, and Deborah Smith, of Flushing, L. I. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ramsdell, as follows: Albert N., born in 1853, and died in 1878; Thomas T., born in 1854, now in business with his father in Buffalo; Orrin P., Jr., born in 1856, and died in 1860; Belle C., born in 1857, now Mrs. E. A. Bell; Bessie H., born in 1858, and died in infancy; Alfred C., born in 1860, died in infancy; Anna K., born in 1862; Clarissa C., born in 1865; and Evelyn, born in 1868, living with their parents in Buffalo.

Though advanced in years, Mr. Ramsdell still devotes much attention to his large business and estate interests, and lives in the enjoyment of his well-earned competence.

**JEWETT MELVIN RICHMOND.**—The ancestors of the subject of this notice, on both sides, came originally from England and were among the early settlers of New England. His father was Anson Richmond, who was born February 4, 1790, near Taunton, Mass. He was the son of Josiah Richmond, and his mother's maiden name was Betsey Hatheway, who was also born near Taunton. Both were lineally descended from members of the Plymouth Colony. Josiah Richmond was a farmer by occupation and fought as a volunteer in the war of the Revolution. He removed from Taunton to settle in Barnard, Vt., where his son Anson became one of the volunteers of the Green Mountain State in the war of 1812. In 1813 or 1814 he left Vermont and settled in Salina, (now the First ward of the city of Syracuse, N. Y.,) which was then quite a flourishing village, and the seat of the manufacture of Onondaga salt. From the time of his arrival in Salina until his death, which occurred September 23, 1834, Anson Richmond was engaged in the manufacture of salt. He became a man of prominence in the village; was several times elected a trustee, and once or twice was chairman of the Council. He was for many years before his death a member of the Methodist Church. He left a reputation for unimpeachable integrity and a character that gained him the unqualified respect of his acquaintances. The mother of Jewett M. Richmond was Betsey, daughter of Captain Moses Melvin; she was born January 7, 1800, and her mother's maiden name was Betsey Brackett. She died January 23, 1883.

J. M. Richmond was born on the 9th of December, 1830, in Onondaga county, N. Y. His boyhood was passed at the home of his parents, where he availed himself of such limited educational advantages as were furnished by the common schools. When he had reached about sixteen years of age he first began the active business career which has continued almost without interruption to the present time. His first occupation in this direction was as a clerk in the store of Sampson Jaqueth in the village of Liverpool, near Syracuse, N. Y. He remained there two years, when he entered the employ of Lucius Gleason as clerk, in the same village. Two years were spent there when he was engaged to take charge of the grocery store of William F. Gere, in Salina, (now the First ward of the city of Syracuse.) This brought him down to the winter of 1853-'54, at which time he formed a co-partnership with William F. Gere, William Barnes and two of his own older brothers, A. and M. M. Richmond, as dealers in and manufacturers of salt and flour. This connection constituted a strong business alliance, and offices were opened by them in Syracuse, Salina, Oswego, Buffalo and Chicago. In the spring of 1844 Mr. Richmond also began business in the same line, under the firm name of J. M. Richmond & Co., at the same place, which was continued until 1860, when he retired from the firms of Gere, Richmond & Co., Syracuse; Gere, Barnes & Co., Salina; A. Richmond,



Chicago, and J. M. Richmond & Co., Buffalo, (all forming the before-mentioned alliance) and formed a co-partnership with H. A. Richmond, second son of the late Dean Richmond, under the firm name of J. M. Richmond & Co., for the purpose of carrying on the grain, commission, storage and elevating business in Buffalo. Three years later, in the winter of 1863-'64, he erected the Richmond Elevator in Buffalo.

From the time when Mr. Richmond first began business down to 1864, his life had been one of the utmost activity, resulting in a large degree of success not often attained by men in the same period of time. He therefore felt the more inclined to gratify his earnest desire for foreign travel. The firm of which he was then a member was dissolved and he spent the greater portion of the year 1864 in Europe. Returning in the following year he again took up the active duties of life by forming the co-partnership of J. M. Richmond & Co., with M. M. Richmond. Alonzo Richmond joined the firm at a later date. This firm continued until 1881, carrying on a large forwarding and elevating business.

In 1867 Mr. Richmond was elected president of the Marine Bank of Buffalo. The following year he made a second European tour, being absent the greater part of the year. Returning in the latter part of 1868, and finding his large commission business and his official position in the Bank too much of a tax upon his energies, he sold, in 1869, the controlling interest to S. M. Clement and present owners, but still retaining an interest in the institution, of which he is at the present time the vice-president.

In the year 1871, after the city had voted to take a million dollars of the stock of the Buffalo & Jamestown Railroad, a meeting was held for the organization of the Company. As had been his custom in all enterprises promising benefit to the city, Mr. Richmond had subscribed for a few thousand dollars of the stock of this railroad; at the meeting of stockholders he was, entirely without his solicitation, and even without his knowledge or desire, elected a director and president of the road; the latter office was urged upon him until he finally accepted it, expecting that the raising of the necessary funds for its completion would be a work of comparative ease and the road be finished in a year. The stringency of financial matters in 1873 operated against the project, rendering necessary the most vigorous and active work to save it from failure. In short, it needed just such a man as J. M. Richmond proved himself to be to place it upon a firm footing, and it is no disparagement to the active participation of others in the successful accomplishment of the work to say the final completion of the road was largely due to his material aid.

On the final completion of the line in 1875, he refused a re-election to devote his attention to his own large private business. He retired from active business in 1881, now finding his chief occupation in looking after his large real estate interests, in which he has been liberally investing for a number of years past. He is now (1884) just completing the Richmond Block, corner of Seneca and Ellicott streets—one of the finest business blocks in Buffalo.

Mr. Richmond has been a familiar figure upon the docks and in the streets of Buffalo for many years, where, by his affable manner and especially by his open-handed promptness in supporting any enterprise that promised material benefit to the city, as well as in aid of deserving individuals, he has gained a host of earnest friends. His chief personal characteristic is, perhaps, his indomitable nervous energy in the prosecution of any undertaking to which he turns his attention. No obstacle has ever yet arisen in his business path of sufficient magnitude to turn him from his settled purposes. He is a far-seeing, sagacious operator, who weighs well and judiciously all the features of an enterprise; but when he has once decided that it is worth his energies, no man could be more daring in devoting his means to its accomplishment or more energetic in his efforts. His faith in Buffalo as a future great city has never wavered, and if he has ever refused to aid and encourage any enterprise or institution calculated to benefit the community it is not known to the writer. He is a life member of the Young Men's Association; of the German Young Men's Association; a member of the Buffalo Historical Society; life member of the Fine Arts Academy and Society of Natural Science, and a member of many of the social institutions of the city. He is president of the Buffalo Mutual Gas Light Company, and vice-president of the Buffalo Insurance Company. In none of these positions of honor or trust has he ever failed to justify the good opinion entertained of him by his friends.

Mr. Richmond was married in 1870 to the daughter of John Rudderow, of New York city. They have had six children, four of whom are now living.

SHELDON PEASE was born in Derby, New Haven county, Conn., on the 26th of August, 1809. In 1817 he left Derby and came to Black Rock, Erie county, to reside with his uncle, Sheldon Thompson. While residing in Black Rock in the year 1818, he witnessed the building of the steamboat, *Walk-in-the-Water*, and was on her deck when she was launched into the Niagara river, at Black Rock. The *Walk-in-the-Water* made an excursion from Black Rock to Point Abino, on the 14th of September, 1818, and Sheldon Pease witnessed it as an attachee of the "Horn Breeze Brigade." After navigating Lake Erie until 1821, she encountered a severe gale and was driven ashore in Buffalo Bay a complete wreck; he assisted in taking care of a portion of the cargo shipped by S. Thompson & Co., as it came ashore. He also witnessed the launching of the steamboat *Superior*, the immediate successor of the *Walk-in-the-Water*, into the Buffalo creek at the foot of Main street, Buffalo, on the 16th of April, 1822.

For a number of years subsequent to 1817, Robert Hunter and associates at Albany managed a transportation line from Albany to Black Rock, composed of freight wagons drawn by five or six horses, transporting light and valuable goods to the latter point, and returning loaded principally with furs belonging to the American Fur Company, which were collected at Green Bay and Mackinac, and vicinity, and brought to Black Rock by water.

Sheldon Thompson contracted to excavate a portion of the channel for the Erie Canal between Black Rock and Buffalo; this was the first movement of earth in the construction of the canal between those points, and the first day's work thereon was performed by Curtis Thompson and Sheldon Pease.

In 1822, Mr. Pease left Black Rock and went to Oswego to reside, where he entered the employment of Alvin Bronson, who was engaged in the transportation business. While in Mr. Bronson's employ, he discharged the canal boat *Carnarvon*, Captain P. F. Parsons, at Oswego, she being the first canal boat that came from Troy to Oswego with merchandise. While in the same employ he assisted in loading the schooner *Winnebago*, Captain V. R. Bill, of Oswego, being the first vessel that passed through the Welland Canal with a cargo of merchandise, destined to Cleveland, Ohio. Her cargo each way did not exceed fifty tons. In the year 1832, while a member of the firm of Gidings, Baldwin, Pease & Co., he loaded the canal boat *Cleveland*, Captain W. T. Mather, at Cleveland, with merchandise for Portsmouth, Ohio, being the first canal boat that reached the Ohio river from the lakes. In the year 1837 while a member of the firm of Griffith, Pease & Co., they loaded the schooner *Ohio*, owned by Sheldon Pease, with a cargo of flour, provisions, etc., and disposed of the same at the ports of Chicago, Michigan City, St. Joseph, and Racine, for the wants of emigrants.

The firm of Gidings, Baldwin, Pease & Co., was dissolved at the end of the year 1836 and was succeeded by the firm of Griffith, Pease & Co., who built the steamboat *Cleveland*, at Huron, in 1835 or 1836, intended for carrying passengers exclusively between Cleveland and Buffalo; and one of the finest passenger steamers then afloat.

The firm of Griffith, Pease & Co. was dissolved in 1838, and was succeeded by the firm of Pease & Allen in the same year. This firm did a large and successful business for many years, building propellers, sailing vessels and canal boats, and flouring mills at Buffalo and Oswego. The firm built the propeller *Emigrant* at Cleveland, it being the third built on this continent. The firm also built the *Phoenix*, propeller, which burned at Sheboygan Pier. The next propeller built by them was the *Oneida*. All of the above were built at Cleveland in the years 1841-'42-'43. They also built the brigs *Ashland*, *Fashion*, and the schooners *Trident* and *Andover*. The above sailing vessels were built between the years 1841 and 1845.

In 1843 Sheldon Pease planned and caused to be built for the propeller *Oneida*, then building at Cleveland, Ohio, the first horizontal tubular boiler used in America. Had he patented it, he could have realized millions of dollars from it, as it is in general use in America and Europe, and no essential improvement has been made in it up to the present time.

About 1838 Professor Ericsson came to the United States and made the acquaintance of Captain Van Cleve, at Oswego, where he exhibited to him his submerged propeller wheel to propel steam vessels. Captain Van Cleve called on Mr. Doolittle, a vessel builder at Oswego, and induced him to build a vessel on his principle, which he did; she was named the *Vandalia*. The second was built at Buffalo and named the *Hercules*; the *Emigrant* was the third and was built at Cleveland; the fourth was built at Buffalo and was named the *Samson*.



SHELDON PEASE.





In 1853 Mr. Pease was appointed General Western Freight Agent of the Erie Railroad, located at Cleveland, and occupied that position until 1857. During the period of his agency of the railroad he contracted and built the following propellers at Cleveland: *Olean*, *Elmira*; and the *New York* at Buffalo. These propellers operated and run between Cleveland and Dunkirk.

In 1857, in connection with Dean Richmond, the New York Central railroad and the Cleveland & Pittsburgh railroad, a line of propellers was established between Buffalo, Cleveland and Chicago, under the management of Mr. Pease, who was part owner of propellers *Galena*, *Mendota*, *Winona* and *Dakota*.

The propeller *Idaho* was built at Cleveland in 1861 by Dean Richmond, Sheldon Pease, Henry A. Richmond, J. M. Richmond. In 1860-'61 Dean Richmond and Sheldon Pease purchased the following propellers: *Fountain City*, *Evergreen City*, *Chicago* and *Cuyahoga*. The propeller *Fountain City* was rebuilt at Buffalo in 1865, and made the finest passenger propeller running between Buffalo and Chicago. About 1842 the schooner *Acorn* and another schooner collided about two and a half miles from the pears at Cleveland and sank in eighty-two feet of water; she was believed to be an entire loss. At that time Pease & Allen owned the steamboat *United States*, and with her and the aid of a vessel on each side of the wreck, the *Acorn* was raised and taken into harbor; the vessel was saved and the cargo in a damaged condition.

In the month of February, 1870, John Allen, president of Western Transportation Company, purchased of the Buffalo, Cleveland & Chicago Line the propellers *Idaho*, *Fountain City* and *Chicago*, and Sheldon Pease then retired from the lake transportation business.

Nothing need be added to the above to indicate that Sheldon Pease has been one of the most prominent men in Buffalo in connection with the lake marine. During his long life his character has been fully established as one reflecting honor upon himself and his associates.

Mr. Pease was married to Miss Marianne Humphreys, a family of prominence in Revolutionary days. It was her great uncle who took Cornwallis's sword from the hands of General Washington at the surrender of the former. He was afterwards Minister to Spain, whence he exported to America blooded horses, with cattle and sheep from England and established stock-breeding at Derby, Conn.; where he also operated the first woolen factory in America.

Mr. Pease has been the father of three children, all of whom, with his wife, are dead. The first was Catharine, who died in childhood. The second was Alfred H. Pease, a pianist who had won a national reputation, when he was called from earth before he had reached the zenith of his power. The third child was Arthur W. Pease, who, with his wife, was killed in a railroad accident near New Hamburg, February 6, 1881.

**J**AMES COOKE HARRISON, the subject of this notice, was the son of Jonas Harrison, whose name has necessarily often been written in this work, as that of one of the most prominent of the early residents of Buffalo. He was born on the 14th of December, 1819, at his father's home, corner of Batavia and Washington streets, then the most pretentious brick dwelling in the village, and erected soon after the burning of the place. A few years later his mother removed to Lewiston, N. Y., and her son remained with her until he was fourteen years of age, at which time he joined his brother, Jonas Harrison, in Erie, Pa., entering the store of Tracy & Harrison, (the latter being his brother) as a clerk. Soon after, Jonas Harrison died, and James C. entered the store of Aaron Kellogg, where he remained until 1838. It was during this period that Mr. Harrison made the acquaintance and friendship of General Charles M. Reed, a fact which proved to be the governing influence over his after life, as far as his business career was concerned. Mr. Reed was largely interested in the building and running of passenger steamers on the lakes, and Mr. Harrison was employed by him to come to Buffalo, open an office and take charge of all of his interests at this port. Mr. Harrison had previously, in 1838, accepted a clerkship on board the steamer *Erie*, which was burned with great loss of life, in July, 1841, Mr. Harrison having given up the clerkship the previous year. His successor lost his life in the ill-fated vessel. He devoted himself to the utmost in the recovery and burial of the victims of the disaster. It has been said by those who knew him well, that this sad work undoubtedly contributed largely in developing those qualities of sympathy with suffering which were so characteristic of him in after life. The passenger traffic on the lakes at that time was very extensive; the present railroads to the West were not in existence and nearly all of the heavy emigration in that direction was by water. This led to the establishment of extensive

passenger lines of steamers and the organization of large transportation companies. One of the largest operators in this direction was General Reed, in whose employ Mr. Harrison found himself before he had yet reached man's estate. The passenger boats on the lakes were many of them magnificent examples of ship-building, and General Reed was owner and builder of a large number of the finest ones. The construction of several of these passenger steamers was placed under the direction of Mr. Harrison, a fact which clearly indicates the degree of confidence placed in him by General Reed.

Of his management of Mr. Reed's business in Buffalo, a newspaper of Erie thus spoke at the time of Mr. Harrison's death:—

"Mr. Harrison took charge of General Reed's commercial interests at Buffalo and continued to do so with great acceptability so long as General Reed had either steam or sail vessels in commission. Indeed, for nearly the whole of the ensuing forty-two years up to the time of death, as agent or executor, he continued his oversight of these important interests, while largely engaged in later years in commercial business. In the meantime by his sterling integrity, his keen foresight and systematic business habits, he had acquired a reputation among the foremost of the business men of his adopted city. His name had become a synonym for honesty and reliability."

In the year 1861, in connection with General Reed, he built the Reed Elevator in this city, which they operated in conjunction with a large transportation business. Mr. Harrison was elected one of the trustees of the Erie County Savings Bank at the time of its organization, and served several succeeding years as its vice-president. On the death of Colonel William A. Bird, then president of the Bank, Mr. Harrison succeeded to that important office, which he held until his death, discharging the responsible trust with fidelity and ability.

Mr. Harrison possessed artistic taste of a high order and was an enthusiast in his love for the works of the best artists. This was gratified by the purchase and accumulation of a large and valuable collection of paintings, the selection of which evinced the best of critical judgment. He was for many years a curator of the Buffalo Fine Arts Academy, to which position he gave much attention. He was formerly a director of the Buffalo & Erie Railroad, and was a director in the old International Bank. He held the office of Alderman and was a candidate for Mayor against Eli Cook. In politics he was a strong Republican since the formation of the party. His judgment in real estate matters, where large interests were involved, was highly valued, and he was frequently sought in the capacity of appraiser. None of the positions to which he was called were sought by him; they were the unsolicited and deserved bestowals of those who knew him best.

Mr. Harrison was a prominent member of Trinity Church, wherein he often served as a vestryman. His church interests, as well as all other deserving causes and charities, received liberal and substantial aid from him.

In an extended notice of his death the *Commercial Advertiser* said:—

"In social life he was of a most genial temperament and delighted to entertain his friends with a hospitality surpassed by none. He was of the most sterling integrity and uprightness, and probably no man in Buffalo enjoyed to a greater extent the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens. In short, he was a good man in every respect and his memory will long be cherished. He was especially kind and charitable, and took the utmost pleasure in doing good in a quiet, unostentatious way."

Mr. Harrison's death occurred on the 21st of November, 1882, at his home on the corner of Delaware avenue and Virginia street. An eloquent eulogistic address was pronounced by Rev. Dr. Van Bokkelen, from which the following extract contributes to the portrayal of his character:—

"Mr. Harrison was a Christian *full of sunshine*. He had faith in God as a Father. He found great pleasure in the impressive services of the book of common prayer, and loved to worship God in the beauty of holiness and with those accessories of music and symbolism which reach the heart through the ear and the eye. When in health he was seldom absent from his place in church. His piety was none the less genuine because unostentatious; nor was it the less pure and fervent because it was mingled with those qualities of wisdom and wit which made him the most delightful of companions and at times the embodiment of genial, glowing mirth.

"He knew how to rebuke insincerity and scourge actions of meanness and doubtful integrity; yet he did it kindly and oftener by withholding his confidence than by harsh words of condemnation. I have yet to meet the man who justly spoke harshly of James Cooke Harrison. I can emphasize the words of one who knew him intimately—words which in themselves are a brilliant eulogy: 'Of few men can it be truthfully said that they enjoyed throughout life the respect and good will of all who knew them; but James C. Harrison was one of those rare men.'"

Mr. Harrison was married in August, 1842, to Miss Mary Pearce, daughter of the late Lieutenant George Pearce, of the United States navy, who, with a daughter, Mrs. G. Stedman Williams, of Buffalo, survive him.







**G**ERHARD LANG.—Among the German emigrants of 1848 who resolved to seek more remunerative fortune and wider possibilities in America was Jacob Lang, father of the subject of this notice. His occupation was that of a butcher, which business he engaged in immediately after his arrival in Buffalo. This business he followed for nearly thirty years, and until a short time before his death, with regular and gratifying success. He was not a public man in any sense and devoted his life to the quiet pursuit of his business and the proper rearing of his family. But, though seeking no public office or recognition of any kind, nor making himself conspicuous in any way, he was yet a man of superior mind, of the highest character, excellent business qualifications and a sense of right, truth and justice that was never at fault and which never slept.

His son, Gerhard Lang, was born in the Fatherland in 1834. He was, consequently fourteen years old when he first reached Buffalo—a German boy with the foundation of an education, but ignorant of the English language. But he was not long in acquiring it, while assisting in his father's business, cultivating at the same time, correct business habits and a general knowledge of affairs which proved of future great value to him. He labored faithfully in his father's business until 1860, when he was married to Miss Born, daughter of the late Philip Born, of Buffalo, and assumed the proprietorship of the brewery, formerly owned and operated by Mr. Born, on the corner of East Genesee and Jefferson streets; for this purpose, a partnership was formed between Mrs. Born and Mr. Lang. The brewery was at that time one of prominence and good repute, and under its new management the business was increased and the establishment considerably enlarged. The partnership was dissolved in 1874, previous to which time (in 1870) Mr. Lang had begun operations looking to the erection of a splendid new brewery on the corner of Jefferson and Best streets. Mr. Lang visited and inspected all the most prominent breweries in the country and from the data thus obtained, designed the plans for what is, perhaps, the finest equipped brewery in America. In this connection it will be proper to reproduce what was recently said of this famous establishment in the columns of a local newspaper, as follows:—

“ Learning that the brewery was located on the corner of Jefferson and Best streets, we wended our way thither, but on arriving discovered an immense structure on a hill, with an elegant sloping lawn in front, bordered with trees and shrubbery, and a fountain in the center. The approach to the building is by a long semi-circular drive, kept in most perfect order. Thinking to have lost our way, we stopped in this (what seemed to us public institution) to inquire, and great was our astonishment to find that we had actually entered the brewery sought for. On entering the building we found ourselves in a lofty lobby or hall, with a flight of polished stairs on either side leading to broad galleries, above where Lang's renowned beer is made. Everything is orderly and clean, the very vats or tanks being covered with black walnut and ash, bound with wide hoops of polished brass. The machinery moved noiselessly, every man seemed to know his especial duty, and did it. After viewing the surroundings, we entered the spacious and handsomely furnished office, and there met the proprietor of all this splendor and order. We found Mr. Lang to be one of the most affable and genial gentlemen it has ever been our pleasure to meet, and though he cannot but be aware that his is the most elegantly appointed brewery in the world, he modestly disclaimed the great credit due him. We have therefore named Mr. Lang's as the Palace Brewery.”

Mr. Lang's brewery has a capacity of 100,000 barrels and is now making about 60,000. Almost the whole of this vast product is sold in Buffalo, which shows the estimation in which it is held at home. The old brewery on the corner of Genesee and Jefferson streets, has been changed to a malt house, where the greater portion of Mr. Lang's malting is carried on; and preparations are now making to largely increase the product of the establishment.

Mr. Lang was elected Alderman of the Sixth Ward a few years since, in which office he served with great acceptance for two terms. He has been for many years a Trustee in the Western Savings Bank, and has been identified with the progress and growth of the city in many ways. He is a prosperous and respected representative of the large German element of Buffalo.

On the 21st of February, 1883, Mr. Lang suffered the loss of his estimable wife, who left seven children.

**H**ENRY W. ROGERS.—The life of Henry W. Rogers illustrates the truth that a successful, noble and useful career is the result, in the great majority of cases, not of genius, nor of any brilliant intellectual gifts, but of early, energetic, persevering industry, purity of life and a supreme regard for virtue and integrity. These elements of character may not invariably command success, but they will always deserve it.

Mr. Rogers was the son of Samuel Rogers and his wife, Sarah Skinner, and was born April 4, 1806, at Unadilla, Otsego county, N. Y. He was the youngest of a large family of children, all of whom attained an honorable position in life as useful and worthy members of society. His parents were from New England, and of English puritan descent. They emigrated early in life to Otsego county while that region was yet called "the West;" and, like most of its early settlers, they had little capital, save their stalwart frames and the stern virtues of their race—industry, economy, the love of independence and the fear of God.

Parental teaching and the common school in his native town gave Mr. Rogers the first rudiments of education and inspired in him that love of reading and study which in later years enabled him to store his mind with useful knowledge, and though self-taught, to take good rank as an educated and well instructed man. He had, indeed, the advantage of one term of three months in the summer of 1824, at the Oxford Academy, in Chenango county. Thirty years later, (in 1854) at a great festival of that academy, which gathered many of its distinguished sons, Mr. Rogers was the honored president of the day, and his speech on that occasion gives not only a curious picture of the primitive times, but also exemplifies the self-reliance, energy and resolution of the youth of seventeen, and gives token of the fruits of maturer years. He said:—

"In order to raise funds to defray the expenses of a quarter's board and tuition at the Academy, I contracted with the trustees of a school district in the town of Guilford to teach their common school for four months for the compensation of ten dollars a month, and 'board 'round,' to take that portion of the public money appropriated to the winter's term and the balance in rye and corn at seventy-five cents a bushel. \* \* \* \* I taught—or perhaps I ought *rather* to say, *kept* the school, replenished my purse and came to Oxford; and when in the short space of three months my treasury became an 'exhausted receiver,' I *graduated* and left."

In September, 1824, Mr. Rogers removed to the village of Bath, in Steuben county, where he entered upon the study of law in the office of Henry Welles, then a prominent and successful lawyer and afterwards one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of this State. For one or more years Mr. Rogers taught the village school, and thus eked out his slender income. But he pursued his legal studies with such assiduity and industry that in June, 1827 he was admitted to practice in the Court of Common Pleas of Steuben county. Soon after he was chosen a Justice of the Peace of the town—then a far more important office than now—and he discharged its duties with marked ability and fidelity. On his admission to the Bar of the Common Pleas, he formed a co-partnership in the practice of the law with David McMaster, of Bath, which continued until Mr. Rogers' admission as an attorney of the Supreme Court, when he entered into partnership with Joseph G. Masten, who was admitted to the bar about the same time and who was afterwards a distinguished Judge of the Superior Court of Buffalo.

In 1829 Mr. Rogers was married to Kezia, daughter of John and Harriet Adams, of Litchfield, Conn., a most estimable lady, and thenceforth through all his life his beloved companion, counselor and friend.

Messrs. Rogers and Masten, after practicing a few years at Bath, removed in the spring of 1836 to the city of Buffalo, and continued practice there for another year. In this wider field Mr. Rogers made such rapid progress in his profession, and especially as an advocate, that in June, 1837, upon the resignation by George P. Barker of the office of District Attorney, he was, with the almost unanimous concurrence of the Bar, appointed his successor. He continued in this office until 1843, when he was succeeded by S. G. Haven. Perhaps at no period in the history of Erie county have the duties of that office—always a thankless one—been more onerous and responsible; and certainly they have never been discharged with more signal ability and zeal. The Bar of this county was then one of the foremost in the State, embracing in its ranks such men as Millard Fillmore, Nathan K. Hall, George P. Barker, Henry K. Smith, Thomas T. Sherwood, Solomon G. Haven, John L. Talcott, George W. Clinton, George R. Babcock, Seth E. Sill, Eli Cook, and many others, forming a brilliant galaxy of genius and learning. In his contests at the Bar with these men Mr. Rogers won bright laurels as an advocate and commanding rank in his profession.

In 1845 he was appointed, by President Polk, Collector of the Port of Buffalo, an office which he held for four years, giving to its duties his personal attention, and being thus almost wholly withdrawn from his profession. On the expiration of his term of office he resumed his profession and conducted a very lucrative and successful law business until 1863, when he finally retired. The

summer and autumn of 1863 he passed in European travel, and later he enjoyed another year of like delightful recreation.

As a citizen of Buffalo Mr. Rogers exerted a large and benign influence in social life, and was active and prominent in every public enterprise. He was for several years president of the Water Works Company, and was one of the founders and a liberal benefactor of the Academy of Fine Arts and of the Historical Society, succeeding Albert M. Tracy as president of the former, and Milard Fillmore as president of each of the two institutions last named.

In 1870, deeming the climate of this city in the winter and spring too rigorous for his health, he removed to Ann Arbor, Mich., where he purchased and fitted up a charming rural home; and, surrounded by his books and in the society of cultivated and congenial friends, he passed the remainder of his days. And there, on the 2d of March, 1881, after a short illness, he died, passing from earth with the calm and peaceful assurance of an immortal life beyond the grave.

His widow yet survives, cheered in her declining years by the memories of a useful and happy life, and beloved and revered by a large circle of relatives and friends.

Mr. Rogers left none but adopted children, but it may be most truly said of him (as it was of another) "though he was never a father, yet he left disconsolate children."

This sketch of his life cannot be more fitly concluded than in the appreciative words of a friend who had known him long, intimately and well:—

"Henry W. Rogers was a noble example of a man who through a long and active life was ever mindful of his duties to his fellow men, and was at all times ready and earnest to promote the welfare and to labor for the good of the community in which his lot was cast. Of a free and generous nature, warm in his friendships, and of noble impulses, he was loved most by those who knew him best, but all honored and esteemed him for the many attributes of his character. As in every relation of private life he was faithful to duty, so in the places of public trust which he filled, he served with scrupulous fidelity and integrity. A character so worthy demands our highest tribute, and the memory of such a man should ever be cherished with profound regard."

**SHERMAN S. ROGERS**, one of the ablest members of the Bar of Erie county and conspicuous in State and National politics, was born in Bath, Steuben county, on the 16th of April, 1830. His father was Dr. Gustavus Rogers, for many years a prominent and respected physician of Bath. His mother was Susan A. Campbell, of Bath. Dr. Gustavus S. Rogers was formerly from New England and partook of the hardy characteristics of that stock; he was of English extraction. The family of his wife were of Scotch descent and came originally from Ayrshire.

Sherman S. Rogers was given opportunities to acquire a good English education, which he improved regularly until he was sixteen years old, securing a certificate from his last teacher that he was fitted for the Junior class in any college. He then entered the law office of McMaster & Read, in Bath, for the study of that profession; his studies were afterwards pursued in the offices of Haven & Smith, and John Ganson, in the city of Buffalo. Mr. Rogers' law studies were continued, with brief intervals devoted to teaching, until 1851, when he attained his majority. He then formed a co-partnership for the practice of law with his maternal uncle, Robert Campbell, (late Lieutenant-Governor) and Charles W. Campbell, of Bath, N. Y. This business connection continued until 1854, when Mr. Rogers sought a broader field in Buffalo, becoming a partner with his uncle, Henry W. Rogers, and Dennis Bowen, the style of the firm being Rogers, Bowen & Rogers. In 1860, Mr. Rogers left this firm and continued practice alone until 1864, when he formed a partnership with Dennis Bowen, the firm being Bowen & Rogers. Mr. Franklin D. Locke was afterwards admitted to the firm, under the style of Bowen, Rogers & Locke. Mr. Bowen died in 1877; but the old firm name was perpetuated until 1883, when John G. Milburn and Charles B. Wheeler were admitted to the partnership and the present firm name adopted—Rogers, Locke & Milburn.

During these changes in his business connections, Mr. Rogers' advancement towards the eminent position he was soon to occupy, was rapid; he was early recognized as possessed of the talents and acquirements which would place him in the front ranks of the legal profession. In 1858 he was married to Christina Cameron Davenport, of Bath, N. Y. Her parents were Ira Davenport and Lydia Cameron, of English and Scotch descent, respectively.

When he was yet comparatively a young man, Mr. Rogers showed himself to be peculiarly fitted for usefulness in public life, and he has since honored and been honored with various trusts of this character. In 1872 he was appointed a member of the Commission entrusted with the very important work of revising the Constitution of the State of New York, in which task he took a



prominent part. In politics Mr. Rogers began his career as a Democrat, but at the outbreak of the Rebellion, he identified himself with the Republican party, in which political organization he has ever since occupied a conspicuous and honorable position; not through persistent seeking and obtaining of office, but through his constant efforts to advance the interests of the people at large; this he has accomplished in various directions, through his general popularity and the sincere respect in which he is held by people whose political faith differs from his own, as well as by those of his own party. In the fall of 1875, Mr. Rogers was prevailed upon to accept the nomination for Senator from the Thirty-first Senatorial District, comprising the whole of Erie county—one of the most important districts in the State. Two years before, at the time of the preceding election, this district had sent a Democrat to the Senate by a majority of nine hundred and eighty-four votes. This fact aided in influencing the Republicans to place in nomination the strongest and most popular man in their ranks, leading to the selection of Mr. Rogers; it was an important emergency and Mr. Rogers was induced to accept the nomination. His opponents were Cyrenius C. Torrance, Democratic candidate, and Charles W. Pike, the nominee of the Prohibitionists. The result demonstrated the wisdom of Mr. Rogers' friends in putting him forward for the office, as well as his popularity throughout the district. He was elected by a plurality of three thousand five hundred and fifty-four votes; the largest majority given up to that time for any Senator in this district.

Of Mr. Rogers' work in the Senate, it may be stated that he served as Chairman of the important Committee on Commerce and Navigation, and was also a member of the Judiciary, Canals, and Engrossed Bills Committees. His Senatorial career as a whole, was a most successful one and made a marked and favorable impression. He is a fluent, graceful, and at the same time a forcible speaker, while his power in argument upon whatever legislative subjects attracted his attention, showed the man of wide research, extensive knowledge, advanced ideas and wise judgment.

It was while Mr. Rogers was a member of the Senate, that the Republican party of the State, not unmindful of what Mr. Rogers had already done and was doing to demonstrate his fitness for public office, nominated him for the office of Lieutenant-Governor on the ticket headed by Edwin D. Morgan. In this campaign, 1876, the Democrats had placed in nomination for President, their ablest leader, who also had the advantage of being a resident of New York city, and was at the time Governor of the State of New York; under these circumstances the Republicans were defeated. Mr. Rogers, however, received the highest number of votes of any Republican candidate on the State ticket. In the year 1881 he was given strong support in the State Legislature, for the high office of United States Senator. Mr. Rogers is one of the leaders of the Civil Service Reform movement and is President of the Civil Service Reform Association, of Buffalo. He is one of the Commissioners of the Niagara Falls Park Reservation. In the city where he resides he is Director of the Bank of Buffalo, and holds positions in various other public corporations; he is also President of the Board of Trustees of the Calvary Presbyterian Church, of Buffalo.

As a lawyer, Mr. Rogers ranks with the foremost lawyers of the State. He is spoken of as "keen in analysis, logical in his inferences, profoundly versed in authorities, and eloquent in the presentation of cases;" his professional career has been a distinguished success.

Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rogers; their names are Fanny, Lydia, and Robert Cameron, completing a family circle unbroken and harmonious in all of its relations.

**M**ATHIAS ROHR was born in the little village of Zemmer, near Treves, (Trier,) in Rhenish Prussia, on the 25th of February, 1840. Following the profession of his father, he very early, at the age of sixteen, commenced teaching in another small town, in the meantime preparing himself for the examination to enter the Normal School at Bruehl, near Bonn. This he entered when nineteen years old, and at his graduation was honored with the first prize for the students from the Department of Treves. In this institution he first conceived the idea of going to America. The fortune of an American banker who had returned on a visit to the old fatherland, from whence he had immigrated as a schoolmaster, induced the young student to begin the study of the English language, which he was obliged to do clandestinely in his leisure hours, as no such study was allowed by the rules of the institution. At the same time he learned French and devoted himself with particular zeal to German literature, thereby laying the foundation of his future accomplishments as a journalist. After his graduation he was appointed teacher in the city of Bitberg, served his time in the Prussian army at Saarlouis, and was soon promoted to a position at the High School (academy)



in Bitberg, teaching literature, history, French and English. He was a regular contributor of the *Schul-Blatt* and correspondent for several political papers in Germany, and furnished translations from English and American publications. His sharp criticism of some of the evils in the old institutions of the country was not relished by his superiors and his long cherished dream of going to the land of freedom and promise was realized in May, 1868, when he was encouraged by a young German-American priest from Buffalo (Rev. P. J. Schmidt, now in Rome, N. Y.) who lived for a time in his neighborhood, to accompany him to America. Mr. Rohr was granted a year's furlough by the school department and the military authorities, but when eight months in this country asked for his discharge, reporting that he had formally declared his intention here to become a citizen of the United States. The papers of discharge were sent and Mr. Rohr had thereby secured the privilege to return to the fatherland at any time without being regarded and punished as a deserter.

He arrived in New York early in June, and was immediately engaged there for editor of the *Central Zeitung*, a weekly then published by Joseph Hoagg, in Buffalo; at twelve o'clock noon he arrived in the city, and at two o'clock we could see him already at his desk editing an American paper. This paper was conducted by him for two years, when he was induced to enter into partnership with a wholesale wine dealer. But this business did not suit his taste, and soon after we see him the managing editor of the Buffalo *Daily Volksfreund*, in which capacity he is serving up to the present time. In September, 1869, he was united in marriage to Miss Sophia C. Richert, and is at present the happy father of eight children and in comfortable circumstances. The *Volksfreund*, which was first published August 1, 1868, by the Buffalo German Printing Association, entered under the management of Mr. Rohr on a new career of success, and is to-day one of the most prosperous and influential German papers in the country.

For many years Mr. Rohr has been one of our public speakers in both languages, and is regarded as one of the local leaders in the Democratic party, which he, originally a Republican, joined in 1872, with so many others in the so-called Liberal Republican movement for the election of Horace Greeley.

In February, 1874, he was elected by the then existing Catholic Union of Buffalo, Right Rev. Bishop Ryan, presiding, as their delegate in the first great American pilgrimage to Rome and Lourdes, which started from New York May 16, of that year. The few months intervening were utilized by Mr. Rohr for the study of the Italian language which he afterwards for a time continued. His pilgrim-letters were read with great interest and would form a valuable little volume. After the trip through France and Italy, he visited his old home and his parents.

He is a member of a number of societies, was elected twice as treasurer of the Buffalo Press Club, and at present is a member of its executive committee. The *Volksfreund* has under his editorship acquired the reputation of an excellent family paper, conservative, independent, defending the interests of religion and of law and order, against revolutionary principles, thereby trying to serve best the public interests and to promote harmony between the different elements in this country of many nationalities.

**HENRY RUMRILL** was born in the town of Windsor, Vt., on the 16th of November, 1805. His father, Luther Rumrill, was a native of New Hampshire, whence he came and settled in the Green Mountain State in early life. He was a skilled mechanic as well as something of a genius, having invented several useful and time-saving improvements on the old primitive method of domestic weaving, and on many of the tools and utensils then in use. He married a lady of many excellent qualities, Miss Mercy Bailey, daughter of Mr. Bailey, of Windsor, Vt.

When the subject of this sketch was one year old the family moved from Windsor to Derby, Vermont, where they remained nine or ten years, and then came to New York and settled in Verona, Oneida county. Young Rumrill was kept at school after he was old enough, at least during the winter months. He was passionately fond of books, and became an inveterate reader and perused every book that came within his reach. He was a student at Utica Academy for four years, where he acquired a good education. When fifteen years old he was employed at farm work in Verona at four dollars and a half per month. A single year's experience of this character satisfied him that farming was not his forte, or at least that it was a vocation for which he had no fancy.

At the age of sixteen, seeing that many years must necessarily elapse before he could attain the education he so much desired, and being thoroughly convinced that he never could be a farmer, he

looked about to see in what direction he could best support himself. He inherited his father's mechanical genius, was fond of the use of the tools, and decided it was best to have a practical knowledge of some trade. He therefore determined upon that of a mason, and equipped with a trowel and an apron, he went to Utica to seek employment and to obtain a knowledge of masonry. He had no trouble in getting a situation with an experienced builder by the name of Jesse Sellock, at \$40 per year, little over \$3 per month, board being furnished by his employer. Three years of this kind of experience and discipline fitted young Rumrill for the duties of any branch of the trade. He was now prepared to go forth in the world, with certain capital of which he could not be divested by his own mistakes or the knavery of others. He felt that a good trade was something he could always rely upon in whatever place or circumstances he might be placed.

While Mr. Rumrill was in Utica the Erie Canal was completed, and he participated in the grand demonstration that celebrated the event. The people gathered at the villages all along the route, and had a day of general rejoicing. A part of the ceremonies was the firing of signal guns, thirty pounders being used, that were placed at such distances apart as would enable the report of one to reach the next station. The firing commenced at Buffalo, the western terminus of the canal, at the moment the water was let in, and in an hour the last gun was discharged at Troy, the eastern end of the great ditch. There was no telegraph then to convey intelligence from distant points, and the signal gun system was therefore improvised, and served a very good purpose. Mr. Rumrill was also a witness of the demonstration in honor of General LaFayette, during his triumphal tour through the State by way of the Erie Canal.

Mr. Rumrill came to Buffalo upon the invitation of the late Benjamin Rathbun. He came by stage, arriving on the 20th of March, 1835. There were no railroads then as far west as Buffalo, and at that season of the year the canal was closed. Mr. Rathbun was extensively engaged in building enterprises here and at Niagara Falls. Mr. Rumrill was at once employed by the great financier, and was very soon promoted to the rank of foreman, a position that he held until the memorable misfortunes came upon Mr. Rathbun that overwhelmed him, and created a financial panic in Buffalo and Western New York.

After the failure of Mr. Rathbun in 1837, Mr. Rumrill then thought it necessary to determine what his after life should be. During all these years he had been a close student, and his love for learning had carried him into extensive researches. He had thought of making the law his profession and read and studied with James Crocker for that purpose. He had also prosecuted a careful study of chemistry, the principles of which he delighted to demonstrate practically to his friends and associates in his own private laboratory.

Still with his trade he had been successful. Would he, being very near sighted, be successful as a lawyer? The outlook for the young city was most promising, being the connecting link between the great lakes and the new water route to the East. He thought he foresaw the brilliant destiny of the future city of Buffalo. Business men would be needed as well as professionals, and although he would have delighted in giving his whole time to literature, he determined that hereafter it must only be as a pleasure and recreation after the day's business.

So it was that Mr. Rumrill decided to carry on the business of builder and contractor. He therefore formed a copartnership with Mr. W. A. Sutton. The firm continued about five years and was succeeded by another, wherein Rossen Gorham was his partner. The latter concern existed another five years, and then Mr. Rumrill continued the business alone for a period of twenty-five years, and until the formation of the present firm of Rumrill & Rupp in 1875, wherein Alderman Charles A. Rupp is his associate. Mr. Rupp had been employed by Mr. Rumrill for a number of years, affording an opportunity for them to know each other pretty thoroughly. The confidence reposed in Mr. Rupp by his former employer and present partner has never been betrayed. The junior member of the firm is now entrusted with the general management of their large business, and Mr. Rumrill is confident of their faithful and efficient administration.

Mr. Rumrill's life has been an active one, and while it is not marked with any unusual occurrences, it has at the same time been eventful and useful. His residence in Buffalo began shortly after the incorporation of the city, so that he has seen most of its subsequent growth, and has probably done more than any other one man to build it up. He has left his impress upon its substantial structures in all parts of this great city. For forty-seven years he has been piling up the brick and mortar in Buffalo, and he may almost be considered the builder of the city.







Among the most important structures he has erected, either alone or with his partners, are churches, halls, warehouses, school-houses, stores, banks, shops, factories, and dwellings almost without number. He built the Church of the Messiah twice; he erected Westminster, Asbury, St. Michael's, Free Will Baptist, Church of the Ascension, Wells Street Chapel, Grace M. E., German Ve., St. Paul, and other smaller church edifices. He erected the Normal School, Central School, Young Ladies' Seminary, Medical College, St. Michael's Academy, and many of the public schools; the Erie County Savings Bank, Western Savings Bank, Buffalo Savings Bank, Bank of Attica Building, Young Men's Association Building, St. James Hall, and the new Fitch Institute; this is a substantial fire-proof building, donated by the late Benjamin Fitch of New York to the charity organization of Buffalo. He built the Genesee Hotel, American Block, Arcade Block, Harvey Block, Phelps Block, Hayne Block, W. H. Green's Block, Richmond Block, Miller and Greiner Block, Brown's building, Glenny's building, Dr. Pierce's Infirmary and Factory, General Hospital, Buffalo Orphan Asylum, Erie County Penitentiary, depots, elevators, market-houses, packing-houses, malt-houses, gas-works, sugar-works, engine-houses, ware-houses, factories, stores, shops, and all sorts of buildings in all parts of the city show his handiwork. Dwellings he has constructed on all the principal streets of the city too numerous to mention. Some business blocks in New York City, Reformatory at Elmira, a church at Binghamton, and other outside contracts, which, however, never interfered with his business in town. In fact few men in this locality have done as much in the line of business as Henry Rumrill, and it has been done well and faithfully.

There is something in a well spent private life that commands as much admiration, and deserves as much tribute, as does the record of men called to fill public stations. Indeed it is in the private character of men, whether in official position or not, that their true worth and merit must be looked for. There is less concern with the people generally in the career of private citizens than in those who are called upon to administer public affairs; for when a man consents to discharge the duties of an office, he is in certain sense public property, and his life and history are pertinent matters of inquiry. To make an important discovery, consummate a valuable invention, form a benevolent institution, project some grand enterprise or to practically build a city, are matters that deserve recognition in some proper manner even though the actors are private citizens. In our sketch we briefly trace the career of a man who has done more than any other person in the building of Buffalo, one who has had deep interest in all public affairs, but one whose active and eventful life has been exclusively a private one.

Mr. Rumrill had five sisters and two brothers. Through his exertions his youngest brother, Levi H. Rumrill, also came to Buffalo; he obtained employment for him on the dock. Subsequently his brother became a large stockholder and treasurer of the Western Transportation Company, and at his death in 1877 left a large fortune.

Mr. Rumrill has been three times married. His first and second marriages were with two sisters, Augusta E., and Melissa A. Cummings, both of whom died comparatively young. His present wife is the daughter of Mr. Barnes, of Black Rock. He has a daughter by the first wife, and three sons by the present one.

In all public charities Mr. Rumrill is greatly interested. He has always done whatever he could to help, and encourage progress in learning, in science and in art. He has taken a deep interest in the educational, scientific, and benevolent institutions of the city, and has done his full share in establishing and maintaining them. He is a life member of the Young Men's Association, and is connected with many other local societies and organizations.

Mr. Rumrill has never lost his habit of constant study. He is not only a great reader but an earnest thinker, and few men are better posted upon scientific topics or current events. His extreme modesty and well known reticence have obscured what in others would have gained notoriety. His literary attainments are of a high order, and there is no place so enjoyable for him as in his well selected library.

As a citizen Mr. Rumrill is scrupulously upright in all his dealings. His word is regarded as binding and as reliable as a sealed instrument could make it. He is generous and benevolent almost to prodigality in needful things, but he rarely lets his left hand know what his right hand does in this direction. Nothing affords him so much pleasure as to render an unexpected and therefore an unlooked for favor or kindness. There are multitudes of deserving persons who have shared his generous benefactions, and have silently blessed the benefactor.

During the late war he was untiring in his efforts so ameliorate the sufferings and trials of the soldierly boys who went from Buffalo to fight the battles of the country. Repeatedly he was instrumental at his own personal cost, in the shipment to the front, of medicines, wines, cordials, clothing and such luxuries as he thought would conduce to the health and comfort of those enduring the hardships of camp life. It is in such acts as these that his true character is seen; unselfish as the orb of day that shines for all; undeviating as the needle to the pole in his fidelity to principles, he is, as a neighbor and one who has known him longest and most intimately, recently expresses himself—"Henry Rumrill is a rare man."

**S**OLOMON SCHEU.—Prominent among the German residents of Buffalo, who have contributed so largely to the growth and prosperity of the city, is the subject of this sketch, Solomon Scheu, nearly fifty years of whose mature life have been passed here in active business or in the performance of those official duties which his fellow citizens have imposed upon him.

Solomon Scheu was born in what is known as Rhenish Bavaria, on January 6, 1822. His parents were Henry Jacob and Catherina (Hepp) Scheu. His youth was passed on his father's farm and in the schools of his native place. Following the tide of German emigration to America, he reached this country in the year 1839, when he was seventeen years old. Arriving in New York he immediately went to work learning the trade of baker and in the meantime studying the English language.

In 1844 Mr. Scheu went to Buffalo, where he first began business on his own account in 1846, opening a bakery, which he successfully conducted for several years. From 1850 to 1855 he was engaged in the grocery business. In 1856 he was made Receiver of Taxes for the city, which office he held, satisfactorily discharging its duties, until 1860. In that year he first engaged in the malting business, and laid the foundation of the great industry of which he is yet the controlling spirit. His first malt house was located at the corner of Hudson street and the Erie canal. In 1870 he extended his business operations by building another malt house adjoining this one. He now also owns the malt house in St. Paul street, and for a number of years has leased the Niagara Malt House on Ohio street; he is also member of the Lancaster malting firm of Scheu Brothers, his sons being the other partners in the firm.

The above is merely a simple business record of one of the leading representative German-American citizens of Buffalo, but it represents a successful career in that respect, that many might envy. But what reflects still more honor upon Mr. Scheu is the fact that in the years 1854, 1855 and 1856, he was elected to the office of Alderman, and his action in that position was so satisfactory to his constituents that they again called him to occupy it in 1866 and 1867. He was also elected on the State ticket as State Prison Inspector for a term of three years and re-elected on the expiration, making six years in all. His official fitness was further recognized by his fellow-citizens throughout the entire city in the years 1878-'9, by his election to the high office of Mayor. In this responsible position his record was one noted for its devotion to the best interests of the city and the wisdom of its measures for the public good. He is now a trustee in the Board of Trade, and holds other positions of trust in the city.

In 1847 Mr. Scheu was married to Miss Mina Rinck, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Diehl) Rinck. Six sons have been born to them, the elder of whom is thirty-five years old and the youngest twenty-one years. They are either in business with their father, as above stated, or have formed successful business connections elsewhere.

This brief sketch may be closed with a reference to Mr. Scheu's personal characteristics. He is, of course, eminently a self-made man, having reached the prominent station he now occupies solely through his own unaided efforts. He is a man of broad and liberal views, with a mind of comprehensive scope; a friend of his expresses it that "he is a wholesale rather than a retail dealer," preferring to lead rather than to follow. He is far-seeing into public measures and their probable results; careful in forming a judgment, but when his judgment is once fixed, persevering and energetic in acting upon it. Mr. Scheu is cordial and warm in his friendships, domestic and social in his habits; fond of amusement, jovial, and devotedly attached to his home and family. As a consequence of these traits, his circle of friends is a large one, and is made up of those who believe in him in all respects.

Mr. Scheu's success in life is based, as is most always the fact, when real success is attained, upon the broadest and most perfect principles of integrity and personal honor. He can neither do



J. F. SCHOELLKOPF.





a mean or dishonest act himself nor tolerate one in others. He is an honor to his native country and adopted city.

**JACOB F. SCHOELLKOPF.**—Prominent among the successful and honored German business men of Buffalo is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. Jacob F. Schoellkopf was born on the 15th of November, 1819, in Kircheim U. Teck, a small town of about five thousand inhabitants, in the Kingdom of Wurtemberg, Germany. His boyhood until he was fourteen years old, was passed in the schools of his native place, where he acquired the foundation of a good practical education. His business life was commenced as an apprentice for his father, when he was fourteen, in the tanner's trade, which had also been followed by his grandfather. After serving his full term of five years, he engaged as a clerk in a mercantile house, where he remained about two years. At this time, in common with many of his countrymen, his thoughts turned towards America as offering a broader field for energy and enterprise, and he emigrated to this country, where he arrived in December, 1841, in the twenty-second year of his age.

The first two years of his life in his adopted home were spent in working at his trade in New York city, where he quickly acquired the English language. In the spring of 1844 he removed to Buffalo and began business in a small leather store on Mohawk street, with a capital of \$800, which was loaned him by his father. During that year he purchased a small tannery at White's Corners (Hamburg) agreeing to pay \$1,200 for it in six years. He made his business successful from the first, and in 1846 started a sheepskin tannery in Buffalo, which enterprise was followed by the establishment in 1848 of a tannery in Milwaukee, and three years later another one in Chicago. The Milwaukee firm was G. Pfister & Co., in which Mr. Schoellkopf retained an interest until 1857. The name of the Chicago firm was C. T. Grey & Co., Mr. Schoellkopf remaining a member of it until 1856. Both of these establishments met with success and are now among the most prosperous of the kind in the West. In 1853 another tannery at North Evans, N. Y., was added to his already large property in this industry, which he successfully conducted for twenty years. In 1857 Mr. Schoellkopf first engaged in the milling interest by the erection of the North Buffalo Flouring Mills. Another tannery was built by him in 1864, in Sheffield township, Warren county, Pa., which is still in successful operation. In 1871 he purchased the Frontier Mills, in Buffalo, and has since erected extensive flouring mills and a brewery at Niagara Falls, utilizing the immense water power at that point. This water power is made further available through a system of canals in connection with the rapids in the Niagara river, an enterprise under the management of the Niagara Falls Water Power Company, of which Mr. Schoellkopf is president. He is senior proprietor of one of the largest sheepskin tanneries in the United States, located on Mississippi street, in this city.

Mr. Schoellkopf is also senior partner of Schoellkopf & Mathews, the latter in the milling interest. He is Vice-President of the Third National Bank; a Director in White's Bank and the Merchants' and German Bank; Vice-President of the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia railroad, before its recent sale; has been a Trustee of the General Hospital since it was founded; and has at different periods been a director in many other important Buffalo corporations. In his many vast business enterprises, Mr. Schoellkopf has amassed a great fortune, which he knows how to use and enjoy in a rational manner. His mind is capable of grasping extensive business operations, which his almost unerring judgment enables him to always turn to success. This is particularly shown by his establishment of large enterprises not only in Buffalo, but at different points.

In 1848 Mr. Schoellkopf married Miss Christiana Dier, a lady who was born in his native town and emigrated to this country soon after her husband's arrival. Eleven children have been born to them, eight sons and three daughters; the sons are actively engaged in the various business operations which engage their father's attention.

Mr. Schoellkopf is to-day one of the most respected German-American citizens of Buffalo, and is looked up to by a large portion of the community as a safe counselor and an able assistant in all large enterprises for public or private good. He is in every sense a representative man of this thriving community.

**JOHN B. SKINNER.**—John B. Skinner was born July 23d, 1799, in Williamstown, Berkshire county, Mass. His paternal grandfather was the Rev. Thomas Skinner, a graduate of Harvard University, and during his long ministerial life, pastor of the Congregational Church of West-

chester, Conn.\* John B. Skinner graduated from Williams College in 1818, and soon afterwards entered the law office of Hon. David Buell, of Troy, N. Y., and it was while pursuing his studies in that office that he formed a life-long friendship with the late Governor Marcy. He finished his preparatory law studies in the then celebrated law school of Judges Gould and Reeves, at Litchfield, Conn., and was admitted to the Supreme Court of the State in August, 1821. The advantages he had enjoyed and the position he occupied when only twenty-two years of age and at the outset of his career, were unusual for that period and foreshadowed the future eminence of the man.

Mr. Skinner began the practice of his profession at Middlebury, in the old county of Genesee (now Wyoming village, in the county of the same name). His success was ample from the first. He was a thorough lawyer in every sense of the word, industrious and faithful in the interest of his clients, eloquent and powerful before juries, and he soon attracted widespread attention and a large practice, which increased until he retired from business. Although brilliant inducements were repeatedly held out to him to remove from the field where he began his career to more ambitious centers of business and society, he resisted all such efforts until his final retirement. Judge Skinner's standing as a lawyer will be inferred from the following extract from a memorial prepared by Hon. James O. Putnam, of Buffalo:—

“ His success, solid and brilliant, was assured from the first. His industry, his fidelity to professional trusts, his learning and his marvelous power before juries, gave him a leadership at the circuits which he never lost. The jury trial was the favorite theatre of his professional contests, and it was as the advocate that he was without a peer. The methods of conducting litigation in his time differed from the present. Then the great object was to secure a verdict from the twelve men. On their decision hung the issues of life and death and fortune. This made the counsel who could carry the jury, whether by magic or storm, an indispensable ally. Appeals were comparatively rare. Now-a-days when the jury in so many trials is but an incident, and law, as has been said with much humor and some wisdom, is the power of decision by the last judge that can hear the case, the eloquent advocate holds a position less relatively important in the trial of causes. But Judge Skinner was learned as a lawyer, as well as eloquent as an advocate, and it was this rare combination that gave him a position so distinguished before the courts.”

At a meeting of the Bar of Erie county, convened to give some expression to its sentiment on the occasion of his death, were several appreciative addresses.

Ex-President Fillmore, in the course of his opening remarks as chairman of the meeting, said:—

“ My acquaintance commenced with Mr. Skinner in 1829, when he and I were both members of the Assembly. This was my first year, but I think it was his third year, and he had then an enviable reputation for so young a man in that distinguished body as yet free from the suspicion of bribery, and adorned by the talents of such men as John C. Spencer, Erastus Root, Benjamin F. Butler, Frank Granger, and of others. The revision of our statutes, the great work which did so much to methodize and relieve them from the cumbrous language and accumulated contradictions and inconsistencies of years, was then just completed, and in that great work Judge Skinner bore a conspicuous part. I know that he was listened to with confidence and respect, and no member of the House seemed to exert a more salutary influence. My subsequent acquaintance with him was mainly at the Bar. He was distinguished for his legal arguments and forensic eloquence. I have often felt a tremor of anxiety when I have had to meet him. He was a man religiously devoted to the interest of his client, without ever compromising his own conscience or dignity. He prepared his case with great labor and assiduity, and whatever could be said in favor of his client's interest he presented with great clearness and force, and when that was done he conceived he had discharged his professional duty, and he patiently awaited the result. The highest encomium that can ever be passed upon a man of his profession may with great propriety be passed upon him, and that is, he was a learned, conscientious lawyer.”

But it was not, perhaps, as a lawyer that Judge Skinner gained his greatest renown. In the year 1826, when the two political parties were under the great leaders, DeWitt Clinton and Martin Van Buren, without his solicitation he was nominated for the Assembly, and, although the opposing party had been in the ascendancy for years, he was elected by an overwhelming majority. He was re-elected the two succeeding years without opposition, a compliment which had never before and has never since been paid to any individual in the district. As a member of the Legislature, he was among the most prominent. He was the Chairman of the Committee on Literature, and of many important select committees; and the journals of the House and the political history of the period supply ample evidence as to how admirably he discharged his duties. In the year 1838 he was, at

\* His father, Benjamin Skinner, was one of the early settlers of Williamstown. He was prominently identified with the founding of Williams College and ever liberal and efficient in all Christian and benevolent enterprises.



*John B. Wynn*





the solicitation of the Bar, nominated by Governor Marcy and unanimously confirmed by the Senate, Circuit Judge and Vice-Chancellor of the Eighth District. In 1846 he was appointed District Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, which office he held until the change of the Constitution abolished the office. In 1852 he was, with the Hon. Horatio Seymour, appointed State delegate to the Baltimore Convention, which nominated Gen. Pierce for President; and the next year was one of the Presidential Electors to cast for him the vote of the State. In 1853 he was appointed Attorney of the United States for the Northern District of New York, an office of much responsibility and greatly sought for, but which, owing to his business in the State Courts, he respectfully declined.

At an early period of his residence at Wyoming, Judge Skinner united with the Presbyterian Church, of which he was soon appointed an Elder, and his liberal and active efforts contributed much to raise this church from a feeble beginning to a position of influence in that community.

In 1830, Mr. Skinner was married to Catharine, only daughter of Richard M. Stoddard, one of the most prominent of the early settlers of Western New York. This amiable and accomplished lady died in 1833. He was again married in 1837 to Sarah A., daughter of Henry G. Walker, of Wyoming, who bore him one daughter, his only child, the late Mrs. Josiah Letchworth.

In 1860, Judge Skinner removed to Buffalo, where he enjoyed the well-earned honors and fortune of his life in comparative retirement. From this time his history is closely identified to that of the religious, charitable and educational institutions of Buffalo and its vicinity. He died June 6, 1871, at which time he was a member of the Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church; President of the Board of Trustees of the New York State Asylum for the Blind, an institution recently established at Batavia, and one of the noblest charities of the age; President of the State Normal School in Buffalo; Vice-President of the Reformatory at Warsaw; a member of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo Female Academy, and also a member of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo City Savings Bank. All of these with other institutions to which Judge Skinner had given his aid in some direction, paid tributes to his memory and worth in series of resolutions and otherwise.

Of Judge Skinner's personal characteristics the following was written by one who knew him well:—

“He was not only a man of ability and culture, but a Christian gentleman in all his impulses, speech and bearing towards others. He delighted to exercise hospitality, and have his friends gather around him. Associates were not kept at arm's length, but were admitted to his generous confidence. He possessed traits of character, qualities of mind and heart, and cultivated attainments that greatly endeared him to friends and acquaintances. Approachable, easy of access, he was capable of greatly attaching others to himself. And how heartily he cherished the friendships with which God had enriched him, we all well remember. His social intimacies were very pleasant, and embraced all ages and various classes. He was a man for others to lean on—true, sympathetic and strong. He drew others to him by his unaffected cordiality, earnest sympathies and affable manners. As to his domestic life and relations, I need hardly say that they were singularly attractive. He knew what the joys, sympathies and refinements of a Christian home were; and to swell the fund of domestic happiness brought his own affluent contributions of piety, culture, fidelity and love.”

**P**ASCAL P. PRATT.—The Pratt family, of which the subject of this sketch is a member, were originally from Westminster, Vermont. Captain Samuel Pratt first visited Buffalo in 1803, and became a permanent settler there in the following year, bringing his family from the East in the first carriage that ever passed over the streets of the frontier village. His son, Samuel Pratt, Jr., remained in Vermont, and in 1806 was married to Miss Sophia Fletcher, daughter of General Samuel Fletcher, a prominent citizen of Townshend, in that State. In 1807, Samuel Pratt, Jr., with his wife and infant son, Samuel F. Pratt, moved to and permanently settled in Buffalo, where he died in 1822.

Pascal P. Pratt, son of Samuel Pratt, Jr., was born in Buffalo, on the 15th of September, 1819, and has ever since made that city his residence. His education was begun in the schools of the village, continuing until the year 1833, when he pursued his studies one year at Hamilton Academy, Madison county, N. Y. This was followed by nearly two years of study at Amherst, Mass. At the age of sixteen, the young man began working as a clerk for his elder brother, Samuel F. Pratt, in his hardware store in Buffalo. Five years later, when he was twenty-one years old, he was taken into the firm as a partner, to which firm Mr. Edward P. Beals was soon afterwards added; the firm name was then Pratt & Co., and so it has remained until the present time. Samuel F. Pratt died in 1880, his interest in the business being absorbed by the remaining partners. In addition to the

wholesale hardware trade, the firm has been largely engaged in the manufacture of iron at Buffalo, having formed the corporation and owned the entire stock of the Buffalo Iron and Nail Company, with its blast furnaces and rolling-mill located in the suburb of Black Rock. This corporation began operations in the fall of 1857 and continued until about 1880, since which time the blast furnace has been leased to and managed by other persons, and the rolling-mill has been changed for other manufacturing operations. The rolling-mill and blast furnace gave steady employment for many years to a large number of men, ranging from 500 to 800, and to several vessels during the seasons of navigation, in the ore trade. The necessary result of these extensive manufacturing operations, was to settle a large number of families in the immediate neighborhood of the mill building up a portion of the city which would otherwise have offered little inducement to settlers.

Pascal P. Pratt married Miss Phœbe Lorenz, on the 1st of September, 1845. Miss Lorenz was the daughter of Mr. Frederick Lorenz, a prominent business man and glass and iron manufacturer of Pittsburg, Pa. The names of Mr. Pratt's children are as follows:—Catherine Pratt, married Mr. John M. Horton and resides in Buffalo; Frederick L. Pratt, unmarried, resides with his father and manages the property of the Buffalo Iron and Nail Company; Melissa D. Pratt, married Mr. Robert L. Fryer, a lumber merchant, and resides at Albany, N. Y.; Samuel F. Pratt, unmarried, resides at Alden, N. Y.; Emma Pratt, unmarried, resides with her father; Edward P. Pratt, unmarried, resides at Des Moines, Iowa, is a member of the firm of Pratt, Craig & Warren, wholesale hardware merchants.

Pascal P. Pratt was a Presidential Elector in 1872 elected by the Republican party. He was President of the Buffalo Park Commission from the time of its organization in 1869, up to 1878, when he resigned; during that period the present park system was fully inaugurated and carried into successful operation.

Mr. Pratt has always made it a rule of his life to avoid and refuse the acceptance of office, except in the matter of strictly business corporations. His success in business has been of such a character as to place him among the foremost of the front ranks of business men. He is affable and pleasant in intercourse, strictly attentive to business in business hours, has a clear head and is prompt in action; reaches conclusions intuitively, as a rule correctly, losing no time in debating probabilities or possibilities, and proceeds at once to execute the plans he has determined upon. He is positive in his likes and dislikes, detests shams, is a strong and true friend, a liberal giver to religious institutions and all deserving charities; he has positive views of his own on all religious and political questions, standing squarely out and in the light to be read by all that know him. In religion he is a Presbyterian and an active member of this church. In politics he is and has been since the organization of the party, a Republican, active and earnest. For a long time he has been Vice-President of the Manufacturers' and Traders' Bank; he is also a Director in the Bank of Buffalo, the Bank of Attica, and the Third National Bank; he is a Trustee in the Buffalo Gas Light Company, Director in the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia Railroad Company, a Trustee in the Buffalo Street Railroad Company, the President of the Buffalo Insurance Company, President of the Buffalo Female Academy, Trustee of the Buffalo Orphan Asylum, President of the Board of Trustees of the Young Men's Christian Association, and is also connected with nearly all of the benevolent and charitable societies of the city, to all of which official positions he gives his special time and attention, believing that the duties pertaining to each should be carefully discharged.

In addition to the foregoing, Mr. Pratt has been a member of the firm of Pratt & Letchworth, since its organization in 1845, up to the present time, the special charge and management of the business being in the hands of Mr. Josiah Letchworth and Mr. George J. Letchworth, Mr. William P. Letchworth having several years since retired from the business, now and for several years past having been a prominent member of the State Board of Charities. The business of this firm grew up from a small beginning and now has a very prominent standing in the saddlery hardware trade, as manufacturers and merchants; its trade extends to every State in the Union.

**AUGUSTUS ROCKWELL.**—Augustus Rockwell, the subject of this notice, was the eighth generation in direct descent from Deacon William Rockwell and Susannah Chapin, who emigrated from England in the year 1630, settling in Lebanon, Conn. His parents were Daniel Rockwell and Prudence Wattles, his wife, who located their home in Manlius, Onondaga county, N. Y., in 1811. Here the subject of this sketch was born on the 7th of April, 1822. His early life was spent at the



*A. A. Rockwell.*





parental home in such pursuits as were common to the youth of the period. He attended the best common schools to which he had access and gained therein a good English education; but from his boyhood he studied and learned lessons from nature that are never taught in schools. His fondness for this kind of study was a part of his nature and foretold the existence within him of the artistic genius that at a later period would not and could not be repressed. He was born with a mind of the sensitive, reflective and contemplative character; he loved solitude, and his natural inclinations took him away from the haunts of men into the fields and forests, where he imbibed and cultivated his inborn love of the great works of his Creator; thence came his best aspirations and there were fostered his dearest ambitions.

Mr. Rockwell's earliest business, if such it may be called, was with the palette and brush, and nothing could divert him from his chosen labor. As an artist he was self-taught (an unerring evidence of genius), with the exception of a few months in the studio of the late A. B. Moore, of Troy, N. Y. In the year 1840, when he was eighteen years of age, he opened a studio in his native town, where he labored with varied success for about ten years. The story of his experience during that period would, doubtless, be a deeply interesting one; but it cannot be told here.

In January, 1850, Mr. Rockwell was married to Jane, eldest daughter of Hon. John Merritt, of Manlius. Immediately following the event he removed to Buffalo, where he opened a studio at No. 11 South Division street. This was soon given up for one in the Kremlin Block, corner of Niagara and Main streets, where he remained for a period of nearly thirty years. There some of the most eminent men and women of Buffalo and vicinity sat to him for their portraits, and there were reproduced in living colors and with faithful fidelity the beautiful studies of nature in her loveliest scenes, in works that now adorn homes of culture and refinement in all sections of the country.

Mr. Rockwell's ambition was directed more towards perfection in his art, than to success in a business sense; yet he was awarded a degree of success which was eminently gratifying to himself and his friends, as well as justly complimentary to his ability as an artist. So he labored on year after year, contented in the consciousness of work well done, of a happy home and the warm attachment of a large circle of friends. He never sought or desired public office or station of any kind; it could not be that he would do so, with his disposition and temperament. While he was naturally retiring, yet he was not unsocial, and his genial nature and generous, unostentatious hospitality is pleasantly remembered by all who were fortunate enough to enjoy it.

Mr. Rockwell was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and a life member of the Buffalo Historical Society and the Society of Natural Sciences. He was also an honorary member of the Bisby Club, which has a park and lodge of that name in Hamilton county, N. Y. Following is an extract from the proceedings of the Club at the time of his death:—

“He was a man as free from guile as it was possible to be; a true friend, a tender husband and father and a good citizen. Loving nature as the mother of all beauty, he developed in early life the tastes of a painter, and ere he had attained mid-age, won high rank in the various branches of his profession. His fame is embalmed in his masterly limnings of the human features and expression in his beautiful landscapes and exquisite sketches of forest scenery. In all these he exhibited the rare taste and skill which belong only to genius. As was fitly said of the poet Goldsmith, ‘He touched nothing he did not adorn.’”

Mr. Rockwell was a brother of the poet James Otis Rockwell, whose work is honored with extracts in the pages of Cheever's “American Poets.”

Mr. Rockwell's death occurred May 14, 1882.

**M**OSES SMITH, the subject of this notice, was born on the 12th of August, 1824, at Springfield, Essex county, (now Union county) New Jersey, and is descended from the oldest pioneer stock of the State. His father, Samuel C. Smith; his grandfather, Moses Smith; his great-grandfather, William Smith, and his great-great-grandfather, Walter Smith, were all born and lived at the same place. The family have been unusually long-lived; Moses remembers seeing his great-grandfather, while his own father is still living at the advanced age of eighty-one, in the township where he was born, and in the same house he has occupied during the past half century. He has three children living. A son, Henry C. Smith, and a daughter, Mrs. William Wade, are residents of New York city.

Mr. Smith attended the schools of his native place, securing the foundation of a good common school education, after which he was employed as a clerk in the village of his birth for about

two years. He then removed with his uncle, N. Robbins, to Oswego, where he was engaged as clerk in a dry goods and forwarding business for eleven years; six years of this period he was in the employ of Moses Merrick & Co., of Oswego.

Soon after October 1st, 1853, Mr. Smith removed to Buffalo and engaged in the lumber business on his own account. By his energy, perseverance and excellent business ability, he made this undertaking successful and has continued it for twenty years.

In 1874 he opened a private banking house at No. 179 Main street, where he conducted a successful business until 1877, when he removed to his present handsome offices in the German Insurance building, 451 Main street. This business he has also made a success. During a business career of over thirty years in the city of Buffalo, Mr. Smith has so prudently and judiciously managed his several interests that he has encountered no failure of any description, and has, on the contrary, made for himself an enviable reputation for integrity, liberal enterprise, interest in the progress of the city and general success.

Although entertaining sound political views of his own, which he upholds at the ballot box and otherwise, Mr. Smith has never been allured from his watchful care over his business by the strifes and agitations and hopes of the political field. His attention and energies have all been claimed in the fulfillment of an honorable determination to make his life a practical success. This determination has made him to-day one of the respected, solid men of the city, while he is still in the prime of a vigorous manhood and endowed with the valuable experience of years.

In February, 1854, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Esther M. Davis, of Buffalo. She was the daughter of Luther Davis, of Vermont, and came to Buffalo in 1838 in company with her mother, three sisters and a brother. She died on the 4th of January, 1883—an estimable woman and a worthy member of the Trinity Church.

**WILLIAM H. SMITH.**—Among the pioneers of the town of Colden, Erie county, was Mr. H. Smith, who was for many years a successful farmer and cheese maker of that town. He was the father of William H. Smith, the subject of this memoir, who was born in Colden on the 29th of December, 1832. He passed the first twenty-two years of his life at his parental homestead, and during that period pursued his studies to such purpose as to give him a good English education.

In 1854 Mr. Smith removed to Buffalo, where he engaged in the grocery business on the corner of Clinton and Michigan streets, in partnership with W. C. Dinwooddie. This business connection lasted about three years, at the expiration of which Mr. Smith established himself in the same business on the corner of Michigan and Eagle streets; he remained there until 1867, when he opened the drug store at the same location, of which he was proprietor at the time of his death. Mr. Smith had a natural taste for the science of chemistry and spent much time in the study of it, until he finally became efficient as an analyst and compounder. He also attained considerable skill in the healing art, and attended the Buffalo Medical College one year.

So deeply interested was Mr. Smith in pharmacy, that much of his time and means were devoted in the later years of his life, to the establishment of an extensive laboratory; the fulfillment of this project was prevented by his death. Mr. Smith in conjunction with William H. Cutler, perfected what is known as Cutler's Pocket Inhaler and Carbolate of Iodine Inhalant, for the cure of Catarrh and kindred diseases.

Mr. Smith was in all respects what is generally spoken of as a self-made man. He possessed a naturally inventive mind, was an ardent investigator, and made himself master of every subject to which he turned his attention. Generosity was a marked trait of his character, and he will be long remembered by the many poor who felt the benefits of his unostentatious benevolence.

On the 16th of November, 1857, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Georgina B. Manning, daughter of Aaron M. Manning, of Buffalo. Mr. Smith's death occurred on the 17th of November, 1879. His widow subsequently married Henry Howard Terry, of Buffalo, a descendant of an honorable English family. Mr. Smith's only daughter is now the wife of D. Bradley Sweet, son of Charles A. Sweet, and President of the Third National Bank of this city, a well-known business man of Buffalo.

**EDWARD L. STEVENSON.**—The subject of this notice was born in Auburn, Cayuga county, N. Y., on the 31st of March, 1806. His father was Edward Stevenson and his mother was Ann Lockwood; they came westward from Massachusetts, the former being a native of Greenwich,







and the latter of Pittsfield. The family remained in Auburn until Edward L., was seventeen years old, during the most of which period, after he had reached a suitable age, he attended the common schools of that village, at the same time applying himself in his leisure hours to the acquirement of such education as was obtainable with his limited advantages.

During the last three years of his life in Auburn Mr. Stevenson was in the employ of Chauncey H. Coe, who then kept a hotel there and had charge of that division of the great stage route running from Buffalo to Albany. In the stage office the young man made himself thoroughly conversant with the details of that business; and so well did he please his employer that when Mr. Coe sold out his business in Auburn and came to Buffalo, he brought his assistant with him. Mr. Stevenson arrived in Buffalo on the 18th of October, 1823. His employer purchased the western division of the stage route from Sylvanus Marvin, a brother of the late Mrs. Judge Walden, and Mr. Stevenson was at once placed in the office. In 1825 Mr. Coe exchanged his stage business with his brother, Bela D. Coe, then of Canandaigua, who came to Buffalo and took charge of the stage line, still retaining Mr. Stevenson in the office.

The stage route from Buffalo to Albany constituted in those days an enterprise of very considerable magnitude. At one time four regular lines of coaches left Buffalo—the "Telegraph" line, which limited the number of its passengers to six and in seasons of good roads made the distance to Albany in forty-eight hours, charging fifteen dollars fare; the "Pilot" line, the "Diligence," and the regular mail and accommodation line. The three latter charged about ten dollars fare. Old residents tell many amusing and interesting experiences while bowling along in the old days of stage travel.

Immediately upon the arrival of Mr. Stevenson in Buffalo he entered upon the duties in the stage office, which was then located in the old Mansion House, but after about six months was removed to the building in which was located the old and long popular Eagle tavern, where it permanently remained. This division of the stage line was operated by Mr. Coe for a number of years, a large share of the management of which devolved upon Mr. Stevenson. It was finally sold to Benjamin Rathbun a short time previous to his disastrous bankruptcy, Mr. Stevenson's continued service being a stipulation in the bargain. Upon the occurrence of that memorable event, the assignees (Messrs. Lewis F. Allen, Joseph Clary, Millard Fillmore, and David E. Evans,) placed the stage business in the sole charge of Mr. Stevenson pending the settlement of the estate; and it is said that at the time they closed up the wrecked affairs of the famous speculator, the stage business was the only portion of his property that was found to be paying a profit.

Mr. Stevenson continued in the stage office until the spring of 1842, at which time the Buffalo & Attica Railroad was completed, forming the last link in the line from Buffalo to Albany and practically ending the stage business over that route forever. During the period since Mr. Stevenson's arrival in Buffalo and the date just mentioned, he made numerous investments in land, chiefly under the advice of his friend, the late Hon. Albert H. Tracy, and his employer, Mr. Coe. These real estate operations, being carefully and judiciously conducted, yielded handsome profits and laid the foundation of his present large fortune. He is one of the comparatively few men whose wisdom, prudence and foresight carried him safely through the panic of 1836 and other financial revolutions, in which such a large portion of the business men of the country were overwhelmed.

Mr. Stevenson was for nearly twenty-five years engaged with his brother, the late George Stevenson, in conducting a livery business in this city. At one period they kept in stable sixty horses and practically controlled that business in the community.

In 1837 Mr. Stevenson was elected Alderman of the Third ward of Buffalo, and was again elected to the same office in 1839; the duties of this office he discharged to the eminent satisfaction of his constituents and for the best good of the city. He is now a trustee of the Buffalo Savings Bank; a director in the Bank of Buffalo; was at one time a real estate commissioner of the Young Men's Association, in which he has always felt a warm interest, and a director of the Buffalo Insurance Company. He is an attendant at St. Paul's Church, of which he has been one of the vestrymen. In person Mr. Stevenson is naturally of a retiring disposition, never courting the notice of the public and devoting himself quietly to the management of his own affairs. For many years past he has devoted his attention almost entirely to the care of his large real estate interests, and now, having accumulated a competence and won the unqualified respect and friendship of all with whom

he has come in contact during his long life in Buffalo, he may look back upon a long career of honor and usefulness. It is his pride to say that he has transacted business within a circle of one hundred feet from his present office on Main street for a period of sixty years.

Mr. Stevenson was married in 1832 to Miss Amelia S. Geer, of Shelburne, Chittenden county, Vt. She was a daughter of William and Sally Geer, of that State. They have had two children—Edward Henry, born October 23, 1838, died May 5, 1840; and George P. Stevenson, born May 9, 1849, died May 23, 1878. The latter was one of the most promising and respected young men of Buffalo, and his loss was a terrible blow to his fond parents. This sketch may be appropriately closed with a brief extract from an obituary printed in the *Buffalo Express* at the time of his death:—

“Outside the circle of family friends and acquaintances, few of our readers could realize what a world of sorrow is embodied in the formal, terse and customary announcement of the death of George P. Stevenson. That circle is an unusually large one, it is true, for the deceased was known personally to many of the young people of Buffalo, as his parents are among our oldest and most respected citizens; but few even of these can understand what a crushing weight of affliction is caused by his death. An only child of wealthy parents, amiable, intelligent, affectionate and irreprouchable in conduct, he seemed to be the darling of fortune, as he was the idol of his parents. From early childhood he was frail in form and of a delicate constitution, the source of such constant anxiety and nervous solicitude as can be appreciated only by fathers and mothers whose hopes of happiness have hung trembling upon the threatened life of a beloved child. He grew stronger as he grew towards manhood; but these encouraging indications were deceptive, as they usually are. All that could be done or thought of, by love unbounded and at expense without limitation, to remove the impending shadow, was done promptly and persistently in hope and fear, but, alas, without avail. Some months ago the weary young traveler was brought home—brought home to die, as he knew, and he waited for the inevitable event in hourly suffering, borne with a sweet patience and a rare courage that endeared him the more to the sorrowing surroundings. At last the fatal messenger came, and we can say nothing to mitigate the profound affliction of the bereaved parents. What consolation there may be in the sincere sympathy of friends they will be sure to find. We also hope there may be for them some comfort in the thought that his beautiful character will not soon be forgotten.”

**R**OBERT G. STEWART.—Near the close of the eighteenth century Thomas Stewart and Jeannette Duff—having been joined in the bonds of matrimony at their native place, Edinburg, Scotland—came to this country and settled in the town of Fenner, Madison county, N. Y. Mr. Stewart had been brought up a farmer, and he followed this vocation after coming to America. He was among the pioneers or early settlers of Madison county, and in the observance of the prudent and industrious habits for which the Scotch people are noted, he became one of the well-to-do farmers of Central New York. He was an influential man in the community where he lived.

Six sons and two daughters were born to Mr. Stewart, all of whom grew to man or womanhood except one daughter that died in infancy. The fourth son was christened Robert G. Stewart, and is the subject of this sketch. He was born on Christmas Day in 1808, at the farm homestead in the town of Fenner. His early years were spent in the manner of country boys of those days, attending school in the winter months, and when old enough doing farm work in the summer. When a boy, Mr. Stewart displayed the wonderful energy, industry and push which characterized his career in after life. It is said of him that he was never idle. He was ever seeking employment and utilizing his time to some good purpose.

Mr. Stewart had no educational advantages other than those afforded by the common district schools. But in these he acquired a thorough knowledge of the rudiments of a good English education. He purchased a farm in his native town upon attaining his majority and was prosperous and successful in its management.

On the 16th of October, 1836, when nearly twenty-eight years of age, Mr. Stewart was married to Lydia Coman, daughter of a farmer of Monroeville, in the county of Madison. The young couple settled upon the farm and soon were surrounded with all the comforts that pertain to a prosperous and thrifty country home-life. Mr. Stewart's uprightness of character and business reputation soon gained for him a leading position in the community where he had been reared. He was active in politics, and deeply interested in the management of public affairs. When quite young he was elected Supervisor of the town, and was continued in the office for eight consecutive terms. He was also chosen a member of the Assembly for one session by the old Whig party, to which organization he belonged. Like many young men, of forty years ago, Mr. Stewart was a great admirer of







Henry Clay, and the defeat of the great Kentuckian for the Presidency in 1844, was a personal sorrow to him.

In 1855, at the age of forty-seven, Mr. Stewart was induced to venture in business pursuits other than farming, and he joined some of his friends and relatives in the establishment of a manufacturing enterprise in this city. The business was that of an extensive distillery, located at Black Rock, which was carried on under the firm name of Shoemaker, Stewart & Co. The firm was composed of John Shoemaker, Robert G. Stewart and his brother, Alexander, his cousins Daniel and Robert Stewart, and G. N. Sherwood.

At the time of entering this concern Mr. Stewart was possessed of only about \$10,000, and the firm, although embracing several names, was not particularly a strong one financially. But it had plenty of the real Scotch grit, and therefore success was assured. Yet it was several years before the company advanced to that period where they felt absolutely certain of it. After four or five years one or two changes occurred in the firm, one of which was the retirement of Mr. Sherwood, whose interest was purchased by Mr. Thomas Graves, a banker of Auburn, who added more capital to the concern. Soon after this change the war came on and the internal revenue tax upon highwines was a boon for the Black Rock distillers, as it was to other holders of this commodity. A tax of two dollars per gallon was equivalent to an addition of that amount to their stock on hand, which fortunately was very large at that time, and they reaped the benefits.

Mr. Stewart retired from the distilling business after about ten years, and in connection with his brother, Alexander, purchased a half interest in the Exchange Elevator. He also became interested in the commission and forwarding business with the firm of Stewart, Graves & Co; Mr. Graves, of Auburn, being a partner in this house as he was in the distillery. The concern did a successful business for several years.

In 1873, upon the formation of the Bank of Commerce, Mr. Stewart was chosen President, and continued to fill the responsible position up to the time of his death. He and his brother subscribed for one-fifth of the capital stock of the bank. Mr. Stewart was also a Director in the Merchants' Bank that was started just prior to his death. He was an active member of the Board of Trade, and in all business relations and industrial pursuits he occupies a place in the front rank. His failing health for the last ten years, however, prevented his active participation in business affairs so much as he desired to.

Mr. Stewart never occupied any official station after taking up his residence in Buffalo. Business engrossed his attention, and suited his taste much better. He did not fail, however, to manifest his interest in public affairs. Few men were more concerned in the politics of the country than Robert G. Stewart. It may be said of him that he was an active politician in the best sense of that term. He sought to promote the success of his party for the good of the country and not to advance his personal interests. He sought no office, nor would he accept any. He was a radical Republican from the time the party was organized, and was an earnest, enthusiastic and liberal supporter of the Government in its efforts to put down the great Rebellion of 1861.

Mr. Stewart was very liberal in his religious sentiments. He was reared in the old Scotch Presbyterian faith, and continued through life to manifest his adherence to that doctrine, as much as to any religious belief, but he never became a member of any Christian church. He believed in doing good as well as professing it, and in acting right as well as in assuming to do so.

Mr. Stewart's business connection with his unmarried brother, Alexander, was somewhat unusual. From boyhood they had all their affairs in common, each laboring and planning for the promotion and advancement of their united interest. They had as it were but one purse. No jealousies or disputes ever disturbed the harmony of this relation.

An agreement was made, however, between the brothers that each should execute a will making the survivor, residuary legatee of the one who should die first, and these instruments were made and executed, Alexander, the bachelor, dying first. The subject of this sketch then changed his will, devising the joint estate to his widow, with the exception of certain specific bequests to personal friends and for other purposes. Both of them died in the same year.

Mr. Stewart died on the 28th of October, 1881, at the age of nearly seventy-three years. Four years before his death he had a paralytic stroke, from which he never fully recovered, and which greatly enfeebled him. He bore the infirmity uncomplainingly and continued to give his attention to business more than his crippled condition would seem to justify. He had no children.

A good man, a valuable citizen, a true friend and a kind and affectionate husband passed away when Robert G. Stewart died.

**J**AMES TILLINGHAST.—The Tillinghast family in America originated with the Rev. and Elder Pardon Tillinghast, who was born at Seven Cliffs, in Sussex, near Beachy Head, on the south coast of England, in 1622. He served in Cromwell's army and came from England to Providence, R. I., as one of the Roger Williams Baptist colony, on the 19th of November, 1645, at the age of twenty-three. As appears by "Book No. 1," of the town records of Providence, R. I., he was received as a quarter-sharesman, or land-owner, and was "of the particular Baptist order and remarkable for his plainness and piety, and was sett as a Baptist minister." (See Benedict's History.) He at first preached in a grove on his lot of ground at the north end of the town, the wagon road being at the front and the river at the back; a few years later he built a small building to use in bad weather; and, according to the records of the First Baptist Church of Providence, at his own expense and upon his own ground, built the first meeting-house which, in 1700, he gave, with the lot on which it stood, to the first Baptist society organized in America; which is now (1884) the First Baptist Church property of Providence, R. I. The meeting-house was removed and a larger one erected in its stead in 1718. Elder Pardon Tillinghast continued to preach in it until about the time of his death, which occurred April 27, 1719, at the age of ninety-seven. His shield, brought from England, bore the motto, "Be just and fear not," and which, as a good Christian, he endeavored to live up to.

The family and his descendants continued to live in Rhode Island for many years, and in 1820, Gideon Tillinghast, father of James Tillinghast, having served an apprenticeship as a mechanic at Walpole, Mass., where he helped to build the first power looms for weaving cotton and woolen fabrics, was employed by Levi Bebee, of Cooperstown, N. Y., to come there and superintend the construction of a cotton factory called the Hope Mills, near that village, in which were built and started the first power weaving looms used in the State of New York for making cotton cloth. In the year 1824 he removed to Whitesboro, near Utica, N. Y., to take charge of the starting of cotton mills at that place. In 1827 he removed to Brownville, Jefferson county, N. Y., where in company with Averill & Smith and others, of Cooperstown, N. Y., started a foundry and machine shop and erected cotton mills, and operated them for a number of years. He afterwards went to Little Falls to superintend the construction and operation of cotton mills at that place. He died there on the 13th of October, 1860, at the age of sixty-five years, leaving three children—James, Francis D., and Annie Tillinghast.

James Tillinghast, the subject of this sketch, was born at Cooperstown; Otsego county, N. Y., May 8th, 1822. His father having charge of cotton factories and machine shops connected with them, James spent most of his time when not at school and while yet a boy, in and about the shops, acquiring thus a fancy for and considerable practical knowledge as a mechanic, without the usual process of apprenticeship. In 1837, at the age of fifteen, he was employed as a clerk in a country store at Brownville. In the fall of 1838 he entered the employ of Bell & Kirby (James A. Bell and Major Edmund Kirby), who opened a country store at Dexter, Jefferson county, N. Y., on the dock located just above the mouth of Black river, on Lake Ontario. For this firm Mr. Tillinghast acted as both clerk and bookkeeper. Captain Bradley afterwards became a member of the firm, and having charge of the land department of the parties projecting the extension of the then small village of Dexter, the keeping of the land company's books was added to the young clerk's duties of making fires, sweeping the store, waiting upon customers in the sale of groceries, drugs, hardware and dry goods, and keeping four sets of books. For this comprehensive work he was paid eight dollars a month, four of which he gave for his board and washing. Mr. Bell was the only member of the firm who assisted in attending to the detail business of the firm.

At that time Messrs. Massey & Co., owned and managed a transportation line of steamboats and other vessels running between Dexter and Oswego. This line was purchased in the winter of 1839 by Mr. Tillinghast's employers, and the charge of its business added to his duties. This was his first experience in the transportation business.\* Mr. Tillinghast continued with this firm in the

\* There were no railroads at that time to the northern part of the State, and the freight, lumber and passengers from Jefferson county went by boat from Dexter and Sackett's Harbor to Oswego; from Oswego to Albany and New York by canals. Between Dexter, Sackett's Harbor and interior places in Jefferson county, goods and passengers were carted by teams. Pine lumber for eastern markets was then largely produced in the Black River district and sent by team to Dexter, where it was shipped on boats, sail-rigged, to Oswego; there the sails were taken down and the boats towed through the canals to Albany, when the sails were again rigged and the boats sailed to New York. One of these boats was named the "Jim Wood."



*J. Tillinghast,*





lake transportation business until the winter of 1840, when he went to Brownville and took charge of the Brownville Cotton Manufacturing Company's store and office affairs. In the fall of 1841 he joined Alexander Brown in the firm of Brown & Tillinghast, as merchants in the country store at Brownville; buying out the firm of C. K. Loomis & Co. In the fall of 1843 he sold his interest in this business to again engage in the lake trade. In the winter of 1843 a sail vessel was built at Pillar Point, opposite Sackett's Harbor, which was named after H. H. Sizer, of Buffalo. She was completed in the following spring and Captain Jack Wilson appointed her master, with Mr. Tillinghast as super-cargo. They sailed from Sackett's Harbor at the opening of navigation in 1844 for Chicago, having on board some 134 passengers and their effects, household goods, farming utensils, etc. The passengers carried their own provisions and slept in the hold of the vessel. Arriving at Oswego and finding it necessary to have more load on the vessel to insure safety, Mr. Tillinghast bought of Richmond & Co., 200 barrels of salt and stored it in the hold of the vessel for ballast. A few more passengers were taken on at Oswego and other points, and after encountering a severe gale on Lake Huron, which carried away the sails and mainmast and nearly wrecked the vessel, they made Chicago in safety, landing the passengers on the only dock in the place—known as the Newberry & Dole dock, on the north side of the river. The disabled vessel had to be taken across the lake to Grand River, where Grand Haven now is, to get pine trees for masts, which were put in and new sails made at Chicago.

Not being able to get eastward freight at Chicago to load his vessel, Mr. Tillinghast received instructions from Buffalo about the first of June to purchase, as fast as possible, wheat enough to load the vessel, requiring about 3,500 bushels. He accordingly began buying wheat at Chicago, Racine and Michigan City, and after long delay was able to secure 1,536 bushels at Chicago, less than 400 at Racine, and about 900 at Michigan City. With these three lots, which were all that could be bought in those places, he sailed for Buffalo, arriving during the famous September gale of 1844, where the wheat was sold so as to net about forty-eight cents per bushel for freight.

All grain at western points was then handled in bags, there being no elevators or grain warehouses, and one of the greatest difficulties in handling it was to keep the sailors from stealing empty bags to make their clothes; the bags were, therefore, counted in and out, and the vessel required to pay for what were missing. Since then all this is changed, and millions of bushels are now handled in place of the hundreds of those days, for which elevators and steam power have taken the place of hand labor and bags. These improvements were a necessity; for, while a vessel of 3,500 bushels capacity could be loaded in a reasonable time by the old method, the great 60,000 bushel cargoes of the present time could not be successfully handled in that way.

Mr. Tillinghast continued in the lake trade until 1846, when, in company with his father, he removed to Little Falls, N. Y., where they started a machine shop and foundry. He continued there until the winter of 1850, when he gave up his interest in the business to his father, to try his hand at railroading. In the spring of 1851 he was employed on the Utica & Schenectady road as extra fireman of engine No. 10, hauling a gravel train. About this time his old friends in Jefferson county had begun building the Rome & Watertown Railroad, with Robert B. Doxtater as president. At the suggestion of William Lord, of Brownville, and Norris M. Woodruff, of Watertown, Mr. Doxtater sent for Mr. Tillinghast to meet him at Rome, which he did in July, 1851. Mr. Doxtater asked him to come to Rome and work for the new road, which then had about twelve miles of track finished and one engine. Mr. Tillinghast accepted the offer and began serving as extra fireman, brakeman, conductor, mechanic or agent, doing whatever service was most needed at the time, and finally, as the best man available, drifted into the position of acting Master Mechanic and Assistant Superintendent, Mr. J. L. Grant being the General Superintendent. He continued with that road until April, 1856. Mr. Grant had in the meantime accepted the position of General Manager of the Northern Railway of Canada, from Toronto to Collingwood; he requested Mr. Tillinghast to go with him as Superintendent of Motive Power and Assistant General Superintendent, and he consented, removing to Toronto for that purpose. That line running in connection with steamboat lines between Collingwood and Chicago, and Toronto and Oswego, brought him again in connection with the lake traffic, and he became interested in steam propellers. Retiring from the Collingwood Railroad December 31, 1862, he joined with Captain R. Montgomery, of Buffalo, and Mr. E. B. Ward, of Detroit, in forming a line of propellers to run between Goderich, Port Huron and Chicago in connection with the Grand Trunk Railway and the Buffalo & Lake Huron road, removing to Buffalo

April 1st, 1863. Here he concluded, after looking about considerably, to make his future home, which he has done, although at times his business has required him to have his office headquarters at other places.

Mr. Tillinghast continued in the lake trade until April, 1864, when, at the request of M. L. Sykes, President, and H. H. Porter, general manager of the Michigan Southern Railroad, he consented to act temporarily as Superintendent of Motive Power until another person might be found for the position. His headquarters were established at Elkhart, Ind. He sold out his steamboat interest and remained at Elkhart until July, 1864, when his old friend, J. Lewis Grant, who had been appointed General Superintendent of the Buffalo & Erie Railroad, requested him as an old and tried friend to come and act as Assistant General Superintendent, with charge of the mechanical and machinery departments. This position he accepted, partly because it would bring him back to Buffalo, occupying it until February 8, 1865, when Dean Richmond, then President of the Buffalo & Erie and New York Central road, requested him to come into the service of the latter as Superintendent of the Western Division, in place of Mr. Harlow Chittenden, who was changed to the place of General Superintendent at Albany, *vice* Chauncey Vibbard, who retired from the service. Mr. Tillinghast accepted the appointment, and has ever since been in the New York Central Railroad interest and service.

In 1867 Commodore Vanderbilt obtained a large interest in the New York Central road, and on his first trip of inspection over the road, met Mr. J. Tillinghast. From that date and that meeting the Commodore became and continued his true, firm friend; and after the many changes that resulted in Commodore Vanderbilt's acquisition and control of the property, he made Mr. Tillinghast its General Superintendent, with headquarters at Albany. During the Commodore's administration "until his death, which occurred on the 4th of January, 1877," Mr. Tillinghast enjoyed his full confidence and was entrusted with many confidential duties. It was while he was with the Commodore, on various trips of observation over the property, and upon examination as to the growth of traffic and the prospects of future increased tonnage, that the plan of four tracks was arranged and carried out; the result being that the road in 1881, carried ten times the tonnage it did in 1865—the year the first through freight lines were established—and at an average rate of seven-tenths of a cent per mile, instead of three and thirty-one-hundredths cents in 1865.

Mr. Tillinghast continued as General Superintendent of the New York Central until 1881. In addition to his duties in that office, in 1877 and 1878, he was President and Acting-Manager of the Canada Southern railroad and succeeded in getting passed through the Dominion Parliament at Ottawa, laws for the re-organization of the bonds and obligations of that road. By this means and with the important aid of William H. Vanderbilt, the Canada Southern was made a valuable and successful property and its stockholders saved from loss.

In 1881 Mr. Tillinghast retired from the position of General Superintendent and was appointed by William H. Vanderbilt assistant to the President of the New York Central & Hudson River railroad, relieving him from the arduous work connected with the details of operating the road, and was assigned special duties by the President; among them being the re-organization of the Pittsburgh, McKeesport & Youghioghing railroad, for the purpose of securing its construction from Pittsburgh to the Connelville coal and coke district, in the interest of the roads that are largely controlled by Mr. Vanderbilt. In this work Mr. Tillinghast was successful, the road now being in operation and extensions of it to Harrisburg, Pa., being in process of construction in the same interests; that will connect with the Philadelphia & Reading system of roads at Harrisburg, Pa., and when completed will unite the interests of the New York Central, the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern and the Reading system of roads, both *via* the Pine Creek route to the New York Central, and *via* Pittsburgh and Ashtabula, to the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern.

In addition to his duties as assistant to the President, Mr. Tillinghast has, since the sad accident causing the death of his friend, the Hon. Webster Wagner, of the Wagner Sleeping Car Company, on January 13, 1882, acted as Vice-President and General Manager of that Company. Besides those duties, he has during the last year, as Vice-President of the Niagara River Bridge Co., had charge of and looked after the building of the new cantilever bridge, which was completed and opened for traffic December 20, 1883.

Mr. Tillinghast was married October 22, 1843, to Mary Williams, at Limerick, Jefferson county, N. Y., who died at Atlantic Beach, near Portland, Me., August 20, 1859, leaving three children—James W. Tillinghast, now manager for the Western Union Telegraph Co., at Buffalo, in which

service he has been since he left school; the other two children are daughters, the eldest, Kate, being married to Mr. P. P. Burtis, of the Howard Iron Works, Buffalo; and the other, Annie, being the wife of Mr. F. D. Stow, General Agent for the Merchants' Dispatch Transportation Co.

Mr. Tillinghast was married to his second wife, Mrs. Susan Williams, widow of his first wife's brother, on July 25, 1882. He is still in good health and active duty, and will be sixty-two years of age on the 8th of May, 1884. All the offices and positions of trust that he has held, have been tendered to him without solicitation of any kind; the chief rule of his life has been, to try and do his whole duty to whatever interests were placed in his charge, and he has never yet asked that his compensation be made any particular sum; invariably leaving that to the person tendering him a position. He has been a householder and resident of Buffalo for twenty-one years, though his duties keep him in New York a large share of the time. Still, as he decided when looking for a place to call home in 1862, he hopes when the time comes to retire from active railroad duty, to dwell in Buffalo continuously. His present residence is No. 138 Swan street, in the house he bought in 1874, from his old and tried friend, George B. Gates, who at that time had built a new home on Delaware avenue.

We will close this sketch of one of the most prominent railroad men in America, with a brief extract from the *Utica Observer*, of December 8 and 15, 1883, in the publication of the "Recollections of Hon. William W. Wright," who was formerly a Jefferson county man. In referring to the Northern New Yorkers now scattered over the country, he says:—

"There was another Brownville boy who has for a number of years filled a large place in railroad circles. This is James Tillinghast, of the Central and other Vanderbilt roads; commencing as a fireman and engineer on a locomotive, he has occupied in succession all the intermediate places between the humble position in which he served on the Watertown road, and that of assistant to the President of the immense establishment with which he is connected. Dean Richmond was, perhaps, the first to discover his merit as a railroad operator and manager, and after that remarkable man had passed away, he came under the notice of the elder Vanderbilt who, like Richmond, promptly recognized his ability and fidelity as a railroad man and gave him his full confidence; he not only appreciated his ability and trustworthiness in the management of an enterprise in which he had acquired such a vast interest, but he treated him as a personal and trusted friend down to the period of his death. Tillinghast is a quiet, shrewd and thoughtful man, and remarkably plain and undemonstrative in his manners. He is both wise and fortunate in his investments, and may safely be set down as among the wealthiest, as well as ablest, of the long list of Jefferson county people who have made their mark in the world."

**S**HELDON THOMPSON was born at Derby, Connecticut, on the 2d of July, 1785. His grandfather, Jabez Thompson, was a man of prominence in Derby. He was an officer in the French war of 1755 to 1763; and was one of the Selectmen of Derby from 1761 to 1764, and again in 1774 and 1775. At a town meeting held at Derby, November, 29, 1774, after the "Boston Tea Party," to consider the proceedings of the Continental Congress, held at Philadelphia, September 5, 1774, the plan of the association recommended by that Congress, was approved, and a committee of fourteen appointed, to see the same carried into execution. On this list the name of "Major Jabez Thompson," stands third. He was in command of the first troops sent from Derby immediately after the fighting at Lexington; and this company was probably in the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775.\* His commission, dated May 1, 1775, "in the 15th year of the Reign of his Majesty, King George the Third," from Jonathan Trumbull, Captain-General, etc., appointed him "First Major of the First Regiment of the Inhabitants inlisted and assembled for the special Defense and Safety of his Majesty's said Colony." On the "Committee of Inspection" of Derby, appointed December 11, 1775, again his name appears third, preceded by the same two as before, but this time with the rank of "Colonel." Tradition recites that he was killed while in command of his troops on Long Island, on the retreat of the Revolutionary army, and that his body was buried with honor by the English officers who had been his companions in arms in the French war.

His father, also named Jabez Thompson, was born January 7, 1759, and was a sailor from his youth. He was lost at sea with his eldest son, in 1794, while in command of a West India trading vessel, owned by himself, and which was never heard from after leaving port. He was a man of most estimable character, as is attested by an oration on his life and services, delivered before King Hiram Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, at Derby, December 23, 1794.

\* Orcutt and Beardsley's History of the Old Town of Derby, pp. 160, 173, etc.



The mother of Sheldon Thompson was thus left a widow with a large family of children. The greater part of the property was lost with the father by the sinking of the ship, and a small farm only was left. The eldest surviving son, William, was a sailor, and it became necessary that the boys should care for themselves, leaving the farm for the mother and daughters. Hence, Sheldon Thompson, at the age of ten years went to sea as a cabin boy under the charge of his elder brother, William, then a master. In 1798, during our difficulties with France, he was in the West Indies, where he was taken prisoner, conveyed to Guadaloupe, and there confined for several months. He followed the sea until he became master of the ship *Keziah*, owned by Gillett & Townsend, of New Haven, having risen rapidly from a sailor before the mast to the command of a fine ship in the West India trade, at the age of twenty-four years.

In 1810, he abandoned the ocean, and came to Lewiston, N. Y. This year was the turning point of his career, and the first step of his prominence, as connected with the beginnings and early growth of the commerce and navigation of the great lakes. One of his partners, the late Hon. Alvin Bronson, of Oswego, has left a vivid sketch of the formation of their firm, from which the principal facts may be condensed.\*

In 1810, Jacob Townsend, Alvin Bronson and Sheldon Thompson left the seaboard for the lakes, impelled by the British orders in Council, and Bonaparte's Berlin and Milan Decrees. The war, originating in the French revolution, had pervaded all Europe, and well-nigh involved the United States. The leading belligerents had ceased to respect neutral rights. Great Britain, when her military marine was exhausted by blockades, supplemented it by what were called "paper blockades," declaring, by an order in Council, the ports of France, her colonies and allies, in a state of blockade, without any naval investiture. France, in retaliation, by Bonaparte's Berlin and Milan Decrees, forbade all intercourse with Great Britain, her colonies and allies.

During the year 1809, Jacob Townsend,† then of the firm of Gillett & Townsend, West India traders, of New Haven, visited the lake region, taking in his route, Salina, Oswego, Niagara, Erie and Pittsburgh, and returned to New Haven about the time that Bronson arrived from a voyage to the West Indies, and proposed to the latter to abandon the West India trade, and join him in his projected Lake enterprise.

This proposition found Bronson ready for almost any change. He had brought the first news to the underwriters and to his associate owners, of the capture of their schooner, the *Philander*, by the French. She was condemned and sold at Guadaloupe, under the Berlin and Milan Decrees, for having been bound to an English port. She was bought in by the master, for whom it might concern, again fitted out and again captured. She was carried to Antigua, tried by a court of Admiralty, and condemned *for having been to a French port*.

Bronson said that if Sheldon Thompson would join them he would go. He felt that they were taking leave of civilization for the wilderness and wanted company in a project deemed wild by most Eastern men. Thompson promptly agreed to join the enterprise and proceed to Lake Erie to cut a frame for a coasting vessel before the sap ran. Articles of co-partnership were accordingly drawn up. These provided that the name of the firm should be Townsend, Bronson & Co., and that it should continue for four years; that each should contribute all his capital and his whole time and that the purpose of the co-partnership should be transacting business in the State of New York and elsewhere, of a mercantile nature, in the various branches of vending goods, ship-building and coasting on Lakes Ontario and Erie, and any other business in which the parties collectively might judge best to engage.

In March, 1810, Bronson proceeded to Oswego Falls, where he cut a frame for a schooner of one hundred tons, on the land now occupied by the village of Fulton. He then visited Oswego for the first time, and arranged for her construction in the same ship-yard where Eckford built the United States armed brig *Oneida* the year before. The same builder became famous soon after, by constructing the formidable navy of Lake Ontario, with unparalleled dispatch.

This schooner was called the *Charles and Ann*, measured about one hundred tons, and in the fall of 1810, was running under the command of John Hull. At the completion of this first vessel,

\* Hon. Alvin Bronson, died at Oswego, April 2, 1881, aged almost ninety-eight years. He communicated the facts herein set forth a few years before his death.

† Jacob Townsend was born in Stratford, Connecticut, in 1769. He married for his first wife, Betsey Clark, daughter of Sheldon Clark, of Derby, Connecticut, a connection of Sheldon Thompson; and, for his second wife, Eunice, daughter of Eldad Atwater, a descendant of David Atwater, an early settler of New Haven. He died in Buffalo, in 1850.



Sheldon Thompson took the carpenters, and proceeding to the Niagara river, above the Falls, built the schooner *Catharine* (named after his future wife), at Cayuga Creek, near the spot where LaSalle had built the *Griffin*, the first vessel navigating Lake Erie, one hundred and thirty-two years before. The *Catharine* was completed and in commission early in June, 1811, commanded by Seth Tucker, so that, in little more than one year, the two younger partners had completed two vessels; which, when the circumstances they had to encounter are considered, is evidence of that energy by which they were distinguished in after life. Both vessels figured as United States gunboats during the War of 1812.

The combined capital of the firm amounted to \$14,000, of which Townsend furnished \$7,000, Bronson \$4,000, and Thompson \$3,000. This was hardly adequate to the business in which they were embarked, but was supplemented by fair credit of their own; by the high credit of Isaac and Kneeland Townsend, of New Haven; and by liberal loans made by Isaac Bronson from his Bridgeport bank.

In addition to the coasting trade of the lakes, the firm established two stores, one at Lewiston, conducted by Townsend & Thompson, and one at Oswego, conducted by Bronson. Their principal trade during the two years preceding the war was the transportation of Onondaga salt for the lakes and the Pittsburgh market, before the Kanawha springs were worked. In addition to this they transported the stores for the military posts, the Indian annuities, the American Fur Company's goods and peltries, and provisions for the frontier settlements. The route taken was by sloops up the Hudson to Albany, thence by Portage to Schenectady, then shipped on the Mohawk River boats, called "Durham" boats,\* to Rome, thence by canal into Wood Creek, through Oneida lake, and down Oswego River to the Oswego Falls, where there was a portage of one mile, and finally taking a smaller class of boats to Oswego. Here goods destined to the upper country took schooners to Lewiston, were transported by teams to Schlosser, where they again took "Durham" boats to Black Rock, and there took vessel and were aided by what Thompson denominated "horn-breeze," (a team of several yoke of oxen), to ascend the rapids to Lake Erie.† The salt from Salina took the same course, landing for the Pittsburgh market at Erie, with a portage of sixteen miles to Waterford, down the French Creek and Allegany River to Pittsburgh. The Lake Ontario business consisted of goods and salt to the lake ports, flour, pork, beef, potash, etc., from the New York interior lake region and Genesee, with staves from the south shore of Lake Ontario, chiefly for the Montreal Market.

Sheldon Thompson married Catharine Barton, at Lewiston, April 6, 1811. She was born August 31, 1793, and was the daughter of Benjamin Barton, of Lewiston. He was born in Sussex county, New Jersey, in 1771, went to Geneva, New York, in 1788, was married at Canandaigua in 1792, and removed to Lewiston in 1807. He was a surveyor by profession, and surveyed much of the frontier. In 1805, he attended the sale of the "Mile Strip," on the Niagara River, at the Surveyor General's office in Albany. Here he met Judge and General Porter on the same business, and combined with them. They purchased several farm lots, including the property around the Falls, and bid off at public auction the landing places at Lewiston and Schlosser, for which they received a lease for twelve or thirteen years. In 1806, under the firm name of "Porter, Barton & Co.," they commenced the carrying trade around the Niagara Falls, and formed the first regular line of forwarders that ever did business from tide-water to Lake Erie. Benjamin Barton died at Lewiston in 1842, aged seventy-two years.‡

The two firms being thus connected by marriage, formed a more or less intimate connection in business. They co-operated in their undertakings, harmonized in the main, and conducted almost the entire commerce of the lakes, which has since swollen to such gigantic proportions. Townsend, Bronson & Co. did the carrying trade to Lewiston; Porter, Barton & Co. received the profits for the portage from Lewiston to Schlosser; and both firms were interested in the development of the business beyond the latter point.

The new firm of Townsend, Bronson & Co., was scarcely well established in business, and the junior partner hardly settled in matrimony, when the frontier was disturbed by rumors of war.

\*The "Durham" boats were decked over, fore and aft, with running boards on each side, to which were attached cleats to secure good footing. A considerable opening was left in the center. They were propelled against adverse winds and currents by poles, and had a crew of five or six men.

†The very valuable assistance of Sheldon C. Townsend, Esq., of Lockport, son of Jacob Townsend, now in his eighty-fourth year, is gratefully acknowledged.

‡Turner's History of the Holland Land Company, p. 392.

These were speedily confirmed, and the war of 1812 followed. On the frontier it was vindictive and desolating to the utmost. At this day we can scarcely realize what our forefathers suffered; but the letters of Sheldon Thompson to his partners give a graphic picture of the anxieties and perplexities of the times. It was necessary again and again to move and remove their goods to places of safety; sickness was prevalent, and deaths were frequent; in addition to fighting the enemy, disturbances arose among our own troops, and nobody felt safe. The trouble increased until, in December, 1813, the enemy advanced on Fort Niagara, destroyed Lewiston, and devastated the border as far as Buffalo. The two letters that announce this event are as follows:—

“LEWISTON, December 17, 1813.

“*Mr. Townsend*—DEAR SIR:—I have but one moment to inform you that Fort George is evacuated and Newark burned. We have but about three hundred troops on this frontier. We momentarily expect an attack, but where, we cannot say; but it is generally believed on Fort Niagara. I am now moving out our goods eight or ten miles. Harry has gone West. I am very anxious for you to return.  
Yours in haste,  
S. THOMPSON.”

“*Mr. Townsend*—DEAR SIR:—I am happy to have it in my power to inform you that our lives are all spared. They have burnt everything belonging to us except about one-third of our dry goods. I hope you will make all possible speed to get to me at this place, as I am about beat out. Our goods are scattered from this to John Jones. I am getting them on this far as fast as possible. I got nothing of any amount from my house; had I been ten minutes later I should have fallen into the hands of the Indians, together with my family. You will have the goodness to inform my friends that we are all well.  
“Yours in haste,  
S. THOMPSON.”

“N. B.—Our buildings on the farm were all burnt.”

This last letter was posted at Geneva, January 6.

On the approach of the enemy to Lewiston, Thompson, after looking after the goods as far as practicable, drove his sleigh to his house; hurriedly put in it a mattress and a big iron kettle; turned into it part of a barrel of crackers, and part of a barrel of pork, put in his family and started for Geneva. Had he been a few minutes later they would all have been killed. A short time after this, February 20, 1814, at Pittsford, another daughter was born to him.

After the close of the war the settlers returned to their former homes, and began to build anew their shattered fortunes. About this time, in 1816 or 1817, the two firms formed a branch firm at Black Rock—Porter, Barton & Co., furnishing Nathaniel Sill, and Townsend, Bronson & Co., Sheldon Thompson, as managers, under the firm name of “Sill, Thompson & Co.” This caused Sheldon Thompson to change his residence from Lewiston to Black Rock. The firm of Sill, Thompson & Co., built the *Michigan*, a schooner of about one hundred and twenty tons, and a smaller vessel called the *Red Jacket*. The *Michigan* was too large for the trade, and was finally sent over the Falls in 1829. It is said the old Seneca chief was present at the launch of the *Red Jacket* and reminded the vessel that she bore a great name, charging her not to disgrace it.

The up-freights continued of the same general character as before the war. The down-freights, from the upper Lakes, consisted of furs, potashes, pork, beef, feathers and grindstones, but as yet the grain trade was unknown. The *Michigan* was the largest merchant vessel on any of the Lakes; the *Charles and Ann* of Lake Ontario, being but a little over one hundred tons, while the larger portion of the vessels did not exceed fifty tons. The transportation business was attended with great labor, the boats on the rivers being propelled, in large part, by poles and oars, against currents and rapids, while the Lake harbors were unimproved and without light-houses.

The early rival routes for transportation to the Lake region, appear to have been by the way of the St. Lawrence, and the Hudson, Mohawk, and Oswego rivers; and, at a later period, by wagons, from Albany to Buffalo. There were remaining, as late as 1816, timbers and abutments of the inclined plane by which the French goods ascended the “Mountain,” near Lewiston; the power used is said to have been a capstan.

The firm of Townsend, Bronson & Co., continued in business until 1821, and Sill, Thompson & Co., until 1823 or 1824. Mr. S. C. Townsend writes of the former firm:—

“Having had access to the correspondence of the partners of the firm of Townsend, Bronson & Co., during the eleven years of its existence, and having been four years in their employ, it is a source of pride and pleasure to be able to say I have never found a word savoring of a desire, by fraud or trickery, to obtain an advantage of any party.”

During the time of the building of the Erie Canal, it was a mooted question, whether the terminus should be at Black Rock or Buffalo. Sheldon Thompson, as a leading man of the former place, was active in his efforts to have the canal stop at Black Rock. He was in charge of the con-

struction of the harbor and pier built at Black Rock, in the hope that the work would decide the question. It is said that he would spend the days in directing this work, a greater part of the time up to his waist in water; and the evenings in discussions of the question with General Porter. Sheldon Thompson, with his commercial sagacity, saw that which ever place obtained the victory, must inevitably win the business supremacy. It was finally decided at a meeting of the Canal Commissioners at the Eagle tavern in Buffalo, in the summer of 1822, that the canal should be continued to Buffalo. The decision became known, and that same night Sheldon Thompson sent his younger brother, Harry, on horseback to Batavia. There, early the next morning, as soon as the office of the Holland Land Company opened, Harry purchased and entered for his brother, the land where the Reed Elevator now stands. Captain Thompson foresaw that he would need a new base of operations, and took prompt steps to obtain it.

About this time, in 1823 or 1824, the firm of Sheldon Thompson & Co., was formed, having its principal offices in Buffalo. It continued the same general forwarding business of its predecessors. Sheldon Thompson was a devoted friend of the canal, and went down on the first boat to assist in the mingling of the waters of Lake Erie with the waters of the Atlantic.

His firm owned a small line of canal boats in 1825, being one of the first organized lines on the canal. The line was called at first, the "Troy and Black Rock Line," having its terminus at Black Rock. In 1826 the terminus was changed to Buffalo, and the name altered to the "Troy and Erie Line." This line subsequently grew to large proportions. The boats were built with large cabins, carried from one hundred to one hundred and fifty passengers, mostly Western bound emigrants, and about two hundred and fifty barrels of flour; and constituted regular lines of passenger packets and of freight boats.

The firm was also largely instrumental in the early development of steam-navigation on the Lakes. Although the first two steamboats, *Walk-in-the-Water*, and the *Superior* were built by Albany parties, S. Thompson & Co., were not far behind. The *Pioneer*, the third steamboat on the lakes, was built by S. Thompson & Co., in 1823, and was a great success. The *Sheldon Thompson* was built at Huron, Ohio, by the same firm about 1828, and was long one of the prominent boats on the Lakes. Her first commander was Captain Augustus Walker, and he with the young clerks of the house, carried out quite a celebration on her first entrance into Buffalo, a small cannon on the dock saluting the vessel, as she sailed up the creek, and the salute being replied to from the deck of the boat.

The completion of the Canal having given Buffalo the lead, Sheldon Thompson moved there in 1830. His firm of S. Thompson & Co., and the firm of Townsend & Coit, were, for some years, the principal forwarders. In 1836, the two were consolidated, under the name of "Coit, Kimberly & Co."; the two senior partners, Thompson and Judge Townsend, rather retiring into the background.

During the years of his business life in Buffalo, Sheldon Thompson was prominent in most of the enterprises that occupied the attention of its business men. He was one of a co-partnership that bought, laid out and developed Ohio City, now a portion of Cleveland. He was one of another co-partnership that did the same with Manhattan, on the Maumee river, an early rival of Toledo. He was one of a large land company that entered immense quantities of land all through the State of Wisconsin, embracing Milwaukee, Green Bay, Sheboygan, the mining regions in Iowa county, and other portions of the State. He was one of seven prominent men in Buffalo who bought out the assets of the branch United States Bank; one of the largest individual investments of the time, but which did not result very successfully. He finally retired from active business about 1845, and occupied himself with the management of his estates, which had assumed goodly proportions, as the result of long years of industry and care.

While Sheldon Thompson was at all times an active citizen, public-spirited and patriotic, he was never a politician. He held public office but once in his life. Buffalo was incorporated as a city in 1832, and for eight years the Mayor was elected by the Common Council. In 1840 a law was passed by which Mayors of cities were made elective by the people. In the spring of that year the first election for Mayor of the city of Buffalo was accordingly held. The Whigs nominated Sheldon Thompson, and the Democrats George P. Barker, one of the most popular and brilliant men who ever graced the city. The biographer of Mr. Barker, in speaking of the difficulties of his canvass, says:—



"Added to this, the opposition put in nomination their strongest man; one whose residence was coeval with the first settlement of the country—whose acquaintances and connections were extensive and whose wealth and weight of character added great strength."

He further says of the contest:—

"It was, without doubt, the most severe one ever known at our charter elections. The friends of each candidate exerted themselves to the utmost. Few general elections have ever been so warmly contested. The eyes of the city, and indeed of Western New York, were centered upon the issue."

The result was: Sheldon Thompson, 1,135; George P. Barker, 1,125. Sheldon Thompson was accordingly the first Mayor of Buffalo elected by the people.\* He filled the position with credit, and never again was a candidate for office.

Sheldon Thompson was brought up an Episcopalian, in the sturdy faith of the Connecticut churchmen, and never wavered from his allegiance. About the time he removed to Black Rock, the first movement was made at Buffalo for the formation of a parish, and he fully co-operated therein, there not being enough Episcopalians in the two places to support two churches. In 1817, February 10th, a meeting was held at the house of Elias Ransom, northwest corner of Main and Huron streets, in Buffalo, at which St. Paul's Parish was organized. Sheldon Thompson was one of those most interested, and was a member of the first vestry. He continued in the position for many years, until he voluntarily retired to make way for younger men. His bust, in marble, on the walls of the present beautiful edifice of St. Paul's Church, commemorates the fact that he was "one of the founders of the parish and a member of the first vestry."

His wife died at Buffalo May 8, 1832. She bore him ten children, of whom four lived to maturity. Sally Ann married Henry K. Smith, one of the most prominent lawyers of Western New York, and died at Buffalo April 15, 1839; Agnes Latta married Edward S. Warren, and Laetitia Porter married Henry K. Viele. Both gentlemen were lawyers, and both are now deceased. Augustus Porter Thompson married Matilda Cass Jones, of Detroit; has always been identified with the development of the various manufacturing interests of Buffalo, and is now the president of the Cornell Lead Company.

Sheldon Thompson died at Buffalo, Thursday, March 13, 1851, at half-past two o'clock in the afternoon. His decease was followed by many warm expressions of regret and admiration. The Common Council, the vestry of St. Paul's and many other bodies passed appropriate resolutions. All emphasized especially his sturdy honesty and uprightness. The most widely copied and approved eulogy on his character closed with these words:—

"He possessed many noble traits of character which will be long treasured up in the memory of those who knew him. His intercourse with the younger portion of the community was of the kindest and most agreeable character, and by them he was looked up to with affectionate regard. He was quick to discern merit and prompt to extend to it a generous aid. We give expression to a fact known to so many of our readers when we say that he aided in the establishing of more young men in business in Buffalo than any other individual in the city. During the brief illness that preceded his death, he exhibited the same equanimity and cheerfulness of temper that were prominent traits in his character. He retained perfect consciousness to the last, and, surrounded by his children and relatives, died without a struggle."

He was industrious, temperate and cheerful, capable of great endurance and quick of resource. While not witty, he was full of humor, and ready and apt in reply. He bore reverses with equanimity and carried himself with steady courage, loyalty and honesty. From the humblest beginnings he achieved for himself a career of usefulness and prominence; through a long and eventful life he bore his name without a stain; he did his duty to himself, his family, and the community; and he died loved and mourned.

**SOLOMON STURGES GUTHRIE.**—Stephen Guthrie, who was grandfather of the subject of this notice, was born in Washington, Litchfield county, Conn., on the 10th of January, 1768. His father's name was Joseph, son of John Guthrie, who emigrated from Scotland and settled in the vicinity of Litchfield early in the eighteenth century. Stephen Guthrie married Sally Chappell, who was born at Sharon, Litchfield county, Conn., August 11, 1770, and they, in company with Truman, Stephen Guthrie's brother, left Connecticut in the summer of 1790, for what was then the North-west Territory, where after much hardship by land and water, they landed at Marietta, where the first settlement in that section was made. They remained there about a year and then removed to a place on the banks of the Ohio river, called Belpre, opposite the mouth of the Little Kanawha

\* His partner, Alvin Bronson, was the first Mayor of Oswego.







river; there they lived, with other early settlers, in a log stockade which had been built as a protection against the wild Indians. In that wilderness home was born on the 26th of April, 1792, Julius Chappell Guthrie, father of Solomon S. Guthrie. The father of Julius soon after procured some land below at a place called Newburg, entered upon it and began farming. Julius remained there until he was about nineteen years of age, when he went upon the river and took charge of a "keel boat," it being long prior to the era of steamboats, and then the only mode of transportation for goods, salt, etc., on the Western rivers. This boat was often loaded at the Kanawha Salt Works, and there Mr. Guthrie made the acquaintance and enduring friendship of Hon. Thomas Ewing, who was then boiling salt, and while watching his kettles, studying at night, preparatory to occupying, as he subsequently did, some of the most honorable and prominent positions in the gift of the government.

In the course of his trips on the boat in 1814, Mr. Guthrie went up the Muskingum river to Putnam, Ohio, where he renewed his acquaintance with Mr. Ebenezer Buckingham, one of Ohio's first men, and in his large mercantile business Mr. Guthrie found employment. While thus engaged he was associated with and enjoyed the friendship of Solomon Sturges, for whom the subject of this sketch was named. In Putnam, Mr. Guthrie met Miss Pamela Buckingham, sister of Ebenezer Buckingham, Jr., and daughter of Ebenezer and Esther Bradley Buckingham, who were originally from Greenfield, Conn., whence they removed first to Ballston, N. Y., and then to Cooperstown, N. Y., where their daughter, Pamela, was born August 20, 1799. They afterwards, at the close of that year, removed with their numerous family, to the Western wilderness, locating in Athens county, Ohio. Julius C. Guthrie and Pamela Buckingham were married on the 25th of September, 1817, at Putnam, Ohio, where they passed their lives and reared a large family. Mr. Guthrie was a man of more than ordinary character and ability; he was an industrious reader and close observer of passing events; strong in his political convictions, a firm believer in the doctrines of the Whig party and a great admirer of Henry Clay. He continued in a successful mercantile business until his death, which occurred on the 25th of July, 1849. Mrs. Guthrie was a woman of rare Christian devotion and sweet simplicity. Of their large family of children, five only are now living, namely, the subject of this notice; Mrs. H. J. Jewett, wife of the Hon. H. J. Jewett, president of the New York, Lake Erie & Western railroad, residing in New York; Mr. E. B. Guthrie, of Chicago, secretary of the Chicago & Atlantic railroad; J. C. Guthrie, of Elmira, vice-president of the Tioga railroad; H. F. Guthrie, of Kansas City, agent of the Delaware & Lackawanna railroad; Mrs. C. C. Waite, wife of C. C. Waite, of Cincinnati, Ohio, superintendent of C. H. & D. railroad, who is a son of Chief Justice Waite.

S. S. Guthrie was born at Putnam, Ohio, on the 30th of August, 1819. At the age of fifteen he entered his father's store as clerk; the firm name was then J. C. & A. A. Guthrie. He remained there, applying himself assiduously to the study of mercantile business, until the fall of 1838, when he and his next younger brother, Frank Guthrie, who had spent one year at the Academy in Kinderhook, N. Y., went to "Gambria"—a school and college under the management of Bishop McIlvane. He remained there six months and then returned to his father's store. During that summer, his father, his brother Waldo and himself established a store at Rehoboth, Perry county, Ohio, of which he took charge and remained there until the fall of 1840. At that time he concluded to still further continue his studies, and procured a substitute in the store at his own expense, and went to the Ohio University, at Athens, which at that time was under the management of President McGuffey. After six months of study in that institution he returned again to Putnam and formed a partnership with his father and brother, Waldo, in the mercantile business, under the name of J. C. Guthrie & Sons. In the year 1844, on the 29th of August, Mr. Guthrie was married to Anna J. Sherwood, daughter of Buckingham Sherwood, of Newark, Ohio. The firm of J. C. Guthrie & Sons was continued until 1849, when the father died. The two sons continued the business with their mother until 1851, when, in the spring, S. S. Guthrie formed a partnership with his uncle, A. Buckingham, and his two sons, Benjamin and Philo, removed with his wife and two children, Frank and Edward, to Buffalo, and engaged in the commission business under the firm name of Buckinghams & Guthrie; the former also established branches at Chicago, Toledo and New York City. They continued together until the year 1855.

In the spring of 1856 Mr. Guthrie associated himself in business with Mr. Cyrus Clarke and Mr. Edward Sturges, under the name of Clarke, Guthrie & Sturges. They continued together until

the fall of 1857, when the firm was dissolved and Mr. Guthrie continued the business on his own account until 1874. In that year his brother-in-law, Hon. H. J. Jewett, was made Receiver of the Erie railroad, and afterwards President of the New York, Lake Erie & Western Railroad, and appointed Mr. Guthrie its General Agent at Buffalo; he was also made a director of the road, and elected President of each the Union Steamboat Company and the Union Dry Dock Company, which positions he has since occupied. That they are positions of responsibility and demanding business qualifications of a high order, need not be asserted; neither will it add to Mr. Guthrie's standing in the business community to say that he has filled them to the eminent satisfaction of those whose interest he serves.

For a period of three years Mr. Guthrie represented the Ninth ward in the City Council of Buffalo, and was at the same time Chairman of the School Committee. In this office he took a prominent position and gave his constituents cause for congratulation upon their selection. He was also sought as a candidate for Mayor, by a large and respectable political element of the city. He has been for twenty years a Trustee of the First Presbyterian Church, of which he is a member. He has served as director and president of the Buffalo Board of Trade, and has been a delegate from the Buffalo Board to the National Board of Trade Conventions on several occasions. He was president of the Young Men's Christian Union, (before the organization took the name of Young Men's Christian Association); and was a member at one time of the Executive Committee of the Young Men's Association. It is due to him to say that no position ever occupied by him has been of his own seeking; they have all been tendered him out of the confidence felt in him by his fellow citizens. He has always been conspicuous in the prominent benevolent and charitable movements and institutions of the city. Is now President of the "News Boys' and Boot Blacks' Home," and is identifying himself, as far as possible, with whatever promises real good to the community at large. He is a man who, while never crowding himself into public gaze in any manner, yet has made for himself a position which none but men of marked character and capacity ever attain.

Mr. Guthrie has been the father of five children, but two of whom are now living; they are Edward B. Guthrie, of Buffalo, who is a graduate of Yale College, a civil engineer, and a member of the firm of Guthrie & Clifton, married Miss Clifton, a niece of ex-Gov. Dorsheimer; and Henry S. Guthrie, of Milwaukee, also a graduate of Yale, and a member of the firm of Guthrie & Buell, coal merchants of that city.

**G**EORGE W. TIFFT.—Some men are so constituted that they are not content with the transaction of business on a small scale. They have an instinct to enlarge and extend their operations beyond the circumscribed treadmill, retail methods, and are constantly seeking to utilize a combination of forces which may produce greater results than individual efforts are capable of accomplishing. It is to such men that the country is indebted for the organization of enterprises and the development of plans that result in the grand achievements that characterize this age of remarkable progress. It is not a quality that is acquired; it is inborn, and its possessor is incapable of restraining its forces and naturally has enlarged ideas of things and readily grasps and easily solves complicated business problems. Such men originate projects and devise methods where others are content to plod along in the aimless footsteps of their ancestors. No country has produced more men of this character than America; and no other country presents such opportunities for their development. Its institutions, resources, capabilities and business methods combine to offer unparalleled advantages for the development of genius and enterprise in those who possess these qualities. Doubtless much must be allowed for circumstances and conditions. Success is not always a true test of merit although it is generally conceded to be. But when an individual overcomes adverse conditions and succeeds in spite of them, he evinces real genius and true greatness.

The biographical sketch of such a man always possesses an interest in which the public are concerned, and we shall briefly sketch one in the life of George Washington Tift, during his life, one of the most active and prominent business men of Buffalo. For more than forty years he was closely identified with the business concerns of the city.

Mr. Tift was born on the 31st of January, 1805. He was the youngest of a family of twelve children—eight sons and four daughters—all of whom lived to the age of manhood—that were born to John and Annie (Vallett) Tift. His parents were born in Rhode Island, where they were married and lived until eight of their children were born, when they removed to Nassau, Rensselaer County, N. Y., the place of the birth of the subject of this sketch.



Mr. Tift's ancestors upon the paternal side were from Alsace, France, and upon the maternal side they were, as the name indicates, also of French origin. John Tift, the father of George W., was a man of sterling qualities, great decision of character, strong in his convictions and positive in their avowal. He was raised upon a farm, and continued the occupation of a farmer through life, and therefore did not have the opportunities that are afforded by the broader field of commercial, manufacturing and mercantile pursuits. While he was not rich, he was always what is called in the country a "well-to-do farmer." Notwithstanding he had a large family to support, his foresight and prudent management always enabled him to continually lay up a little for the needs of the future. He was prompt to all engagements and required the same fidelity from others. It used to be said that he was the only person in the town where he lived who never had to be called upon the second time for the payment of his taxes. He always kept a little surplus on hand.

John Tift died in 1813 at the age of fifty-six, when the subject of this sketch was eight years old. George remained upon the farm with his mother and other members of the family until he was sixteen years old, receiving about two months schooling in each year in the country district schools. About this time the farm was sold to his older brothers, by whom he was engaged to work thereon until he should be of age, at a compensation of four dollars per annum for his current expenses, with three months schooling in each year, and upon becoming of age he was to have a yoke of oxen and a horse.

Not a very bright prospect for the future, most young men will say, but young Tift accepted the situation, unpromising as it was. As might have been expected, this arrangement only continued for a short time. It was too much of a one-sided affair. George felt that he could and ought to do better, and so the contract was canceled at the end of the first year and he went to work for another brother on a farm at ten dollars per month.

Even this compensation did not long suit the young laborer. His ambitious spirit chafed under the restraint of being an employe. He longed to be his own master and to do business for himself. It did not last long before an opportunity presented itself, and in connection with another brother a contract was taken to clear some land of its timber, and the boys divided the profits from the sale of the wood taken therefrom, and they did well at the job, making a handsome profit, the first money which Mr. Tift ever accumulated. He then went to New Lebanon in Columbia county and attended school for four months, which concluded his educational pursuits.

Mr. Tift was now eighteen years old, and although still a minor, he was under no paternal restraint, and was practically his own master. The first enterprise in which he engaged after returning from school to his old home in Nassau was the purchase of five acres of timber land, which he cleared off, selling the wood at remunerative prices and realizing handsome returns. Some of the chopping was done by himself, but he soon found that a profit could be made upon the labor of others—a discovery that he has not failed to utilize in later years—and so he hired choppers, while he superintended the business, attended to the piling, measuring and selling of the wood. The success of this first venture led to other purchases, and he carried on this line of business until he was twenty-one years of age, when he found he had accumulated \$1,200. This was somewhat better than to have wrought for his brother until his majority at four dollars per annum with a donation of a yoke of oxen and a horse. He now received \$1,000 from his father's estate, making his aggregate capital \$2,200.

Believing that better opportunities for a young man were offered elsewhere than in Eastern New York, in 1826 Mr. Tift made a journey of observation to Orleans county, and bought an unimproved farm in the town of Murray. After concluding the purchase he returned to his native place and resumed the wood cutting business, which he appears to have had a fancy for. He also bought and sold several parcels of land and made other speculations in which he was successful. On the 14th of March, 1827, Mr. Tift was married to Miss Lucy Enos, daughter of Joseph and Thankful Enos. He remained in and about Nassau after his marriage until he was twenty-five years of age, and then removed to his farm in Orleans county, which he carried on for two years and then began to operate in the purchase and sale of grain, and also in the milling business, depending upon hired help for his farm work. His ventures were generally successful, for they were made with that rare good judgment which was characteristic of his after life.

When he had apparently outgrown the country village in Orleans county he cast about for a larger field to operate in. He did not believe he had gone far enough West, and so in 1841 he

established himself at Michigan City, at the foot of Lake Michigan in Indiana, and went to buying grain and shipping it East. There were no railroads in that region then, and very few anywhere for that matter, and all shipments were made by the lakes. He carried on a very large business there for those times, and it was very remunerative. He not only made a profit on his purchases but having Eastern money which was worth a premium in the West, he was enabled to realize a double gain on all his operations. While at Michigan City he formed business acquaintances with Buffalo shippers that led to his subsequent settlement in this city.

After selling out his Michigan City business he made a tour of the Northwest, visiting Chicago, then but a village, and went up into Wisconsin, which was almost a barren wilderness. Settlers had begun to enter lands along the lake shore, and Mr. Tift, who always had a great fancy for real estate, was moved to obtain a foothold in that new country. With this object in view he examined the land in the vicinity of Southport, now called Kenosha, and concluded to make a purchase. He went to the land office at Milwaukee and called for a map of the district about Southport. The agent patronizingly inquired whether he wanted a forty, or an eighty acre farm. After examining the plat, Mr. Tift deliberately indicated by checking with his pencil the several parcels that he would like, which aggregated nearly eleven hundred acres. The agent stood aghast, and was at a loss to know what sort of a customer he had encountered. Mr. Tift paid the government price, \$1.25 per acre, using in payment the money he had made in exchange between Eastern and Western money, which he had carefully kept separate from other funds. The land was situated about four miles west of Kenosha, in a fine agricultural region. He made a contract with a gentleman to cultivate it and plant a crop of winter wheat. He was laughed at for his attempt to grow winter wheat in that region, but this did not dissuade him from his purpose. Only a portion of the tract was broken according to the contract, but upon this a fine crop of grain was raised, a heavy body of snow having fallen and remaining on the ground all winter protected the crop from the injuries it usually receives in that latitude. An average of twenty bushels per acre was harvested, which enabled Mr. Tift to sell the tract the next season for a profit of \$6,000.

In 1842 Mr. Tift came to Buffalo and formed a copartnership with the late Dean Richmond and carried on the milling business. Here his good fortune or superior judgment was manifested again, for no better business man could be found in Western New York than his distinguished partner.

In 1843 Mr. Tift entered into an arrangement with Gordon Grant, of Troy, the owner of a transportation line known as the Troy & Michigan Six-Day Line, that is, they did not run Sundays, and opened a branch of the Troy house in this city, under the name of George W. Tift & Co. Like everything he had embarked in thus far, this business flourished and added to his accumulating fortune. In 1844, Mr. Grant having sold his line of boats, Mr. Tift formed a partnership with the late Henry H. Sizer, under the firm name of Sizer & Tift, to carry on the produce and commission business. After one year with Mr. Sizer, he sold his interest in the concern to his partner and again went into business with Dean Richmond, purchasing the Erie Mills, which they operated in connection with three other mills at Black Rock.

For the ensuing nine years Mr. Tift gave his attention almost exclusively to milling operations, doing a very large and successful business, and securing a position among the leading monied men of the city.

In 1854 the International Bank of Buffalo was established, largely by the influence and support of Mr. Tift, and he was selected as the first President, which position he filled until 1857, the year of the great financial crash which carried down so many banks and business houses. There were few business men who were not affected by the panic of that eventful year, and failure was the rule rather than the exception. Mr. Tift was a heavy endorser for the Buffalo Steam Engine Company for which he had to pay nearly \$100,000, and therefore he was compelled like many others to suspend. The creditors of the concern for which he was an endorser gave him an extension of four years, and he took charge of its affairs, and under his management and superior financiering skill the whole indebtedness was paid off in two years, or one-half the time allowed.

About the time of the crash in 1857, Mr. Tift had made heavy advances upon coal lands in Mercer county, Pa., and this property also came into his hands as had that of the Steam Engine Company. In utilizing this property he built two blast furnaces, in addition to one already on the property and conceived the idea of melting Lake Superior ore with mineral coal. His experiments

in this matter were a success, and to him belongs the credit of having demonstrated the practicability of using mineral coal in blasting this ore. In neglecting to cover his discovery by letters patent he lost an opportunity to add immensely to his gains. He purchased a fleet of vessels, and transported the ore from Lake Superior to Erie, which was taken thence to his furnaces in Mercer county, Pa.

In 1858 Mr. Tift was chosen President of the Buffalo, New York & Erie railroad which is an extension of the Erie road from Corning to Buffalo by the way of Bath, Avon, Batavia and Attica. The organization is still in existence, and the New York, Lake Erie & Western railroad are the lessees of the line.

About this time Mr. Tift turned his attention to the improvement of the real estate of which he had become possessed, and was one of the most extensive builders in the city. In one year, 1863, he erected seventy-four dwelling houses, besides the Tift House, and an Elevator, which was subsequently disposed of to the Erie Railroad Company. He afterwards built the magnificent brick fire-proof Tift Elevator at a cost of \$700,000.

Mr. Tift's penchant for owning land induced him to invest in about 600 acres in the southern portion of the city, bordering on the lake, which for years has been familiarly known as the "Tift farm," and was originally the "Pratt farm." It is a tract of rich bottom land of great productiveness, and admirably located for manufacturing and commercial purposes. Several years ago when Mr. Tift felt that his financial condition would justify the act, he sold the entire tract, except a few parcels that had previously been disposed of, to his children for a stipulated consideration of one dollar, but the purchase money was never paid. The title however was passed and the property afterwards was sold to Mr. Packer of Pennsylvania, and last year it was leased to the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, for a term of fifty years, for a rental of \$20,000 per annum, and an agreement to expend a million or more in improvements. The prospective value of this farm that Mr. Tift held so many years will reach into the millions.

Mr. Tift also became the owner of an extensive farm in Shelby County Iowa, containing 5,000 acres, well stocked and under a good state of cultivation.

For the last twenty years of his life, Mr. Tift gave his attention chiefly to the management of the Buffalo Engine Works, a private stock company, the shares of which are held by members of his family, the business being done under the name of George W. Tift, Sons & Co. It is one of the most extensive concerns in its line in the country and gives employment to about four hundred persons and furnishes support for more than a thousand individuals. When the company was first organized as its name indicates the manufacture of steam engines was a speciality, but as time advanced, other branches were added, until now almost anything wrought in iron is manufactured at this mammoth establishment. The profits from the business were large, and materially enhanced the fortune of its founder.

In addition to rebuilding his shop, Mr. Tift erected a block of stores, 121 to 133, on the corner of Washington and Mohawk streets, which cost nearly \$200,000. Here he established his large furniture business.

Amid all the changes, ups and downs, of his busy and eventful life, Mr. Tift always maintained an unimpaired credit. He always held his obligation to be sacred, whether as principal or endorser, and never failed to pay one one hundred cents on the dollar for every obligation assumed and required to meet. This can not be truthfully said of many business men. Mr. Tift was not always exempt from embarrassment, but he never shirked an obligation or repudiated a just debt.

Buffalo has had no citizen who did more for its prosperity and advancement than George W. Tift. He was a bold and courageous operator—ready to assume risks, but exercising a wise judgment as to the chances of success. He was what may be called a broad-gauge man; delighted in active pursuits; preferred to be busy even at a loss than to rust out in idleness. He had a comprehensive intellect that could grasp and give direction in a variety of enterprises at the same time. He knew no such word as fail. No difficulties seemed insurmountable to him, and opposition only inspired him to greater efforts and determination, such a man will succeed under less favorable circumstances than attended his career. He is therefore entitled to memory as in the front rank among the many prominent and successful business men of Buffalo.

Mr. Tift always took a deep interest in public affairs, although never seeking or consenting to accept a public office. He was constable and collector in his native town of Nassau when twenty-two



years old, and this is the only office he ever held. His taste was for business rather than for office, and in this he found more pleasure as well as greater profit.

He was an active supporter of the Republican party, was a great admirer of President Lincoln, and gave largely from his princely fortune for the support of the war, in furnishing substitutes for the army and providing for the sustenance of soldiers' families during their absence.

He was a generous and cheerful giver to charitable and benevolent objects, and the hundreds who have been the recipients of his favors, privately bestowed, learned to know and appreciate the nobleness of their benefactor. One of his principal charities was the gift of the premises now occupied by the Ingleside Home, near the Hydraulics, to that institution, valued at \$50,000. No worthy object ever appealed to his purse in vain. He was identified with the Presbyterian Church for nearly fifty years, and at his death was a member of the Central Church, Rev. James McLeod, pastor. Mr. Tift was always strictly a temperance man, never using spirituous liquors except medicinally.

Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Tift, only three of whom are now living.—John Vallett, an only son, and two daughters, the wife of Dr. C. C. F. Gay, and the wife of George Plympton, Esq. Mrs. Tift died in 1871. One of his children, George Harrison Tift, was killed at the burning of the American Hotel, in 1865, when the falling walls of that structure buried Harry Tift, Harry Gillette, and Harry Sidway, carrying sorrow to the homes of three prominent families, as well as heartfelt mourning to the households of a wide circle of friends.

The limits of this brief notice only permit a bare mention of the more salient points in the eventful career of the distinguished subject. From the time of his early start in life—before his majority to the present time—covering a period of sixty years of an active, busy life, Mr. Tift has always been conspicuous in all the relations of life. When he was young his comrades and neighbors believed him capable of almost any undertaking, for he always made it a point to succeed. In later years his name was a tower of strength, and was always sought in every movement requiring moral, social or financial support. He filled a large place in the affairs of the city which he did so much to build up. He died on the 24th of June, 1882. His remains rest in Forest Lawn, Buffalo's beautiful cemetery. His name will long be enshrined in the hearts of a people who knew his worth and appreciate his virtues.

**C**HARLES TOWNSEND.—Much of the business and public career of Charles Townsend, the distinguished pioneer of Buffalo, is embodied in the foregoing extended biography of his partner, George Coit, with whom he was associated for many years. Charles Townsend was born in Norwich, Conn., January 22d, 1786. His father was Nathaniel Townsend, who was born October 10, 1747; his mother was Hannah Hughes, who was born June 27, 1758; they were married September 7, 1774. Their ancestry is traced back to Thomas Townsend, who came from England and settled in Lynn, Massachusetts, in 1635.

The early life of Mr. Townsend was passed in his native village until he was fifteen years of age, chiefly in attendance upon such schools as offered the best advantages for an ambitious youth. But he became anxious for broader possibilities to advance in the world than were afforded at his home, and he accordingly obtained the consent of his parents to locate in the city of New York. He first found employment in a drug store and engaged to board in a French family; this arrangement gave him an opportunity to study the language, and he soon became a master of it in its native purity. At the same time he gained the confidence of his employer for integrity, correct habits and the conscientious discharge of his duty. He also while in that city enjoyed the advantages of companionship with people of cultivated tastes and general intelligence, while he employed his time outside of his business hours in study.

In 1811 Mr. Townsend, in company with the man who was to be his life-long business associate, George Coit, came to Buffalo, where they embarked in the drug business, which they continued until 1817. In 1814 they first engaged in vessel building and transportation business, which they continued during Mr. Townsend's life. Until the year 1821, the firm of Townsend & Coit was the only one following this business in Buffalo. They became very successful and the firm was widely known and respected for business promptitude and integrity.

In 1813 Mr. Townsend was made Judge of Niagara County, which office he held until about 1826, discharging its duties with intelligence and impartiality. In 1821, when the long-agitated





HORACE UTLEY.



project of securing the construction of a harbor for Buffalo seemed likely to be abandoned, Judge Townsend, George Coit, Samuel Wilkeson and Oliver Forward mortgaged their private property to the State and procured a loan of \$12,000 with which to commence the "experiment" of a harbor. The work was successfully carried out under the supervision of Judge Wilkeson, and when its success was thus demonstrated by private enterprise, was adopted by the State and subsequently assumed by the general government and rebuilt in its present form. After the construction of the Erie canal, the firm of Sheldon Thompson & Co., removed to Buffalo from Black Rock. This led to a union of their transportation business with that of Townsend & Coit, and they afterwards conducted a very large business under the name of the "Troy & Erie Line," and formed important connections east and west.

Judge Townsend's name belongs high among those pioneers who were most devoted to the interests of the village and city of Buffalo. By his uprightness of character, his excellent qualities of mind and his unblemished business career, he gained the high respect of his fellow-citizens. He died September 14, 1847, his wife having died November 3, 1841.

Judge Townsend was married in 1819 to Miss Jane Corning, of Hartford, Conn. She was the daughter of Asa Corning and Cynthia Seymour, who were married April 21, 1782. Children were born to them as follows:—Anna M. Townsend, married Alfred P. Stone; George C., married Louisa C. Mathews; Jane C., married Guilford R. Wilson; Mary W., married Andrew J. Rich; Charles, married Martha S. Rich; Fannie H., married Charles Rosseel. Mrs. Stone, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Rich and Mrs. Rosseel now reside in Buffalo.

**G**EORGE URBAN. The subject of this notice was born in the town of Morsbrunn, Alsace, on the 10th of August, 1820. His boyhood was spent in his native town until the spring of 1835, when he came with his parents to this country. When he reached his majority he took a position as clerk with Mr. H. Colton, who carried on a general merchandise business on the corner of Main and Genesee streets, Buffalo. He remained there until 1846, when he began business for himself on the corner of Genesee and Oak streets, with flour as a specialty. Here he carried on a successful business until the year 1882, when the firm of which he is the senior member, completed the first roller flour mill in the city of Buffalo, on a lot opposite his old store. The product of this mill is now noted over a wide territory for general excellence. The firm is now composed of George Urban, his sons, Geo. Urban, Jr., W. C. Urban and E. G. S. Miller.

Mr. Urban occupies a position of prominence among the German citizens of Buffalo, and has established a character that is above reproach in all respects. He is one of the directors and first vice-president of the Western Savings Bank, of Buffalo, and also a member of the Park Commission.

Mr. Urban was married to Miss Marie Kern, who, like himself, was a native of Alsace. She died on the 30th of January, 1879, leaving three children, as follows: George Urban, Jr., born July 12, 1850; Caroline, born October 15, 1854; William C. Urban, born July 28, 1861.

**H**ORACE UTLEY. Horace Utley, son of Jeremiah Utley, of Hartford, Conn., and Susan Cady, of Pomfret, Conn., was born in Hanover, N. H., in 1810. The financial embarrassment and early death of his father made it necessary for him, when only eight years old, to make his home on a farm in Winsted, Conn., where he remained until he was twenty-one, securing in the meantime a good education in the village school. Leaving the farm, he found employment in a neighboring manufactory, where he remained about five years, coming to Buffalo in 1836, to represent its interests here. He soon resigned this position and under the firm name of Utley & Burdet, was among the first in this section to engage in the manufacture of pianos. This partnership was dissolved about 1841, at which time Mr. Utley engaged in the business of supplying materials for piano-makers, cabinet-makers and upholsterers, in which he continued to the time of his death; which occurred on the 3rd of December, 1873.

Mr. Utley's business success was uninterrupted, and it was his pleasure to feel that he had passed safely to himself and with credit unimpaired, through the various financial revulsions from which the country has suffered. He was one of the original stockholders of the Third National Bank and for a time its vice-president. He was a man of strictly temperate habits, was incapable of a vice in any shape, and a vigorous opponent of any but the most honorable dealings.

Mr. Utley was a man of unusual intellect, and kept himself well informed upon all current subjects of interest. He was a warm supporter of religious institutions, and for many years one of the

pillars of the Central Presbyterian Church, of Buffalo. He was one of the most liberal contributors to its financial needs, active and energetic in its service, and a regular and constant attendant to the time of his death.

Horace Utley was married in 1846 to Miss Charlotte Spicer, of Buffalo, who died in 1847, leaving one son, Charles Horace Utley. In 1851 he married Miss Anna Shurtliff, of Winchendon, Mass., who died in 1857, the year following the death of her only son, George E. Utley. In 1863 Mr. Utley married the lady who survives him, Miss Cecilia Johnson, daughter of Ebenezer Johnson, the eminent pioneer of Buffalo. No children were born of this latter marriage, the sole surviving offspring being Charles Horace Utley, who was married to Mary Bach, daughter of Robert Bach, of Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1879. He continues the large business left by his father.

**JAMES D. WARREN** was born in the town of Bennington, Wyoming county, N. Y., on the 19th of January, 1823. His father, the late Orsamus Warren, was a farmer, and one of the pioneers of Western New York. After a brief residence in Bennington he moved to the town of Wales, Erie county, and from thence shortly afterwards to the town of Clarence, Erie county, where he purchased and settled upon a farm situated about a mile from the village. He also carried on a country store at Clarence, dealing in a general assortment of dry goods, groceries, and farmers' implements.

When the family moved to Clarence the subject of this notice was about two years old. He attended school, wrought upon the farm and assisted his father in the management of the village store. Before attaining his majority Mr. Warren made a tour of the South, spending about a year in Natchez, Miss. Returning North he engaged in business in Clarence, following mercantile and farming pursuits, and was elected a Supervisor for several terms from that town. In 1854, at the age of thirty-one, Mr. Warren was elected County Treasurer, and served a term of three years. He subsequently held the office of Clerk of the Board of Supervisors for two or three terms; and in April, 1861, in connection with Joseph Wheeler and Joseph Candee, he purchased the *Commercial Advertiser* newspaper and entered upon his life work—that of publisher.

In 1862, Messrs. Wheeler and Warren purchased Mr. Candee's interest, and immediately after Mr. James N. Matthews was admitted into the firm. Mr. Wheeler retired from business some two years afterwards, and the firm then became Matthews & Warren.

In 1877, Mr. Warren purchased the interest of his partner in the *Commercial Advertiser*, and has since that time been its sole proprietor and publisher. He is an earnest and active Republican, and has been prominently identified with that party since its organization. The only offices he has held, as above stated, are Supervisor, Erie County Treasurer, and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors. He has been active and influential in the direction and management of party affairs, serving repeatedly as a member of the State Central Committee, as well as a Delegate to the State and National nominating Conventions. He is what is known as a Stalwart Republican, and is the recognized leader of that branch of the party in Erie county if not in Western New York. His sound good sense, thorough knowledge of human nature, keen observation, valuable experience in affairs and genial disposition combine to make him not only a successful man of business, but a far-seeing politician as well. Under his direction and management the *Commercial Advertiser* has become the leading Republican newspaper of Western New York. He is also President of White's Bank, one of the oldest and most substantial financial institutions in Buffalo.

Mr. Warren has been twice married—first to Miss Laura Love, daughter of the late George Love, by whom he had one son. After her death he married Miss Mary Mills, daughter of the late Judge Mills, of Clarence, by whom he has had one son and two daughters.

**JOSEPH WARREN** was for many years one of the most conspicuous men in Western New York. His eminent standing as a journalist and proprietor of one of the leading political newspapers of the State, as well as his characteristics as a man, fully entitled him to the position he occupied at his death.

Mr. Warren was born in Waterbury, Vt., on the 24th of July, 1829. His father was a Congregational minister, and Joseph was next to the oldest in a family of five children. His parents were poor and his childhood and youth were necessarily passed in hardship and labor. He was scarcely eleven years old when he was placed in a country printing office in Johnson, Vt. After between one and two years of service there the family removed to Essex in the same State, and the lad was there



hired out to a blacksmith; between the shop and the farm of his employer it may be imagined that Joseph Warren's life at that time was not of the most attractive character. Up to this period his educational advantages consisted of brief terms during portions of the years in the district schools; but he was an ardent student and possessed a good brain; consequently he rapidly acquired knowledge. The more he learned the stronger grew his early awakened ambition to obtain a collegiate education, and at eighteen years of age, with a little assistance from his father, he entered the University of Vermont, at Burlington. During the succeeding four years of college life, he largely supported himself, and graduated as a Bachelor of Arts on the 8th of August, 1851. Three years later he was honored by his *Alma Mater* with the degree of Master of Arts.

Immediately upon leaving College, Mr. Warren went to Albany, N. Y., where he obtained employment in the office of the *Country Gentleman and Cultivator*, published by his uncle, the late Luther Tucker. In that office Mr. Warren's extraordinary capacity as a journalist was rapidly developed; he added a new department of fireside reading to the columns of the paper, which at once became popular, much of which was from his own pen. At a little later date, in addition to his own work as associate editor, he accepted the position of teacher of Latin and Greek in the Albany Academy. Upon his departure from Albany in 1854, Mr. Warren's class in the academy testified to their appreciation of himself and his work by presenting him with an address bearing all of their signatures and an appropriate testimonial.

October 16th, 1854, Joseph Warren came to Buffalo to accept the position which had been offered him, of local editor of the *Courier*. He entered upon his work in the new field with zeal and earnestness and that consciousness of his own strength which could not fail to win ample recognition. He infused new life into the system of local reporting, making such changes and improvements in methods as to mark an epoch in that department of daily newspaper-making. In 1857 he was tendered the Democratic nomination for Superintendent of Schools and was elected. In this office Mr. Warren displayed excellent administrative ability and performed the duties of Superintendent to the satisfaction of the city at large. From that time he refused to accept or be a candidate for any elective or salaried office.

In 1858 Mr. Warren and Gilbert K. Harroun bought the interest of Mr. Seaver in the *Courier*, James H. Sanford retaining his former interest, the new firm becoming Sanford, Warren & Harroun. Two years later Mr. Sanford's interest was purchased by his partners, and on the 24th of October, 1860, the firm of Joseph Warren & Co., was formed, which continued until the organization of "The Courier Company," with Mr. Warren as its president, January 1st, 1869. From the date of his first ownership in the *Courier* establishment, 1858, until his death, Mr. Warren was the editor-in-chief of the paper, and the Courier Company had no other president until after his death.

After the death of Dean Richmond in August, 1866, the leadership of the Erie County Democracy, by general consent, devolved upon Mr. Warren, and he was made member-at-large of the Democratic State Central Committee, in which body he was an active member until his death; for ten years previous to his death he was the recognized leader and valued counselor of the Democratic party of Western New York. But although giving much attention to politics, Mr. Warren never for a day neglected the best interests of Buffalo. His devotion to her welfare, his zeal for her growth, culture and prosperity, amounted to a passion. Of his work for the good of the city, it was written of him at the time of his death as follows:—

"Mr. Warren's extraordinary ability in dealing with men was exhibited in the way he brought the leading citizens of Buffalo together and enlisted their varied and often conflicting interests for the furtherance of public ends. One of the first results of his efforts was the projection of the system of public parks, under the act of the Legislature passed April 14, 1869. Mr. Warren wrought indefatigably and with consummate sagacity to secure the success of this scheme. He saw in it a heritage to Buffalo of coming years of priceless value—a perpetual source of health, enjoyment and culture for the people. With the exception of a single year he served as a member of the Park Commission from its organization until his death. Another project in which he was deeply interested and which he may almost be said to have originated, was that of the City and County Building. The Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane, was located in this city, largely through his exertions, and he served on its Board of Managers, and as chairman of the Executive Committee of the same, until he resigned about a month ago. The State Normal School in this city, owes its existence in large measure to Mr. Warren's efforts. He was from the beginning to the last a member of its Board of Trustees, and hopefully regarded the institution as the possible nucleus of a noble and great seat of learning in the future. Another scheme for the advancement of Buffalo, to which he devoted much time and labor, was the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia Railway. He believed in the road as

a valuable factor in Buffalo's growth and the successful carrying out of the project was powerfully aided by his counsel and influence. The same may be said of the branch road to the McKean County coal mines, of which he was one of the most active organizers.

Mr. Warren in earlier years took a warm interest in the Young Men's Association, and served it many times as Manager, and one year as President. It was during Warren's Presidency of the Association, that the first important fine arts exhibition was arranged in this city, an enterprise which really pioneered and suggested the organization of the Fine Arts Academy. Of this latter institution Mr. Warren was for a number of years, and until his death, a Curator. He was also President and one of the organizers of the kindred institution known as the Buffalo Society of Arts, which was projected for the purpose of advancing art education. In 1867 he helped to establish and was one of the incorporators of the Buffalo Club.

Outside of the interests of Buffalo, Mr. Warren was appointed by Governor Hoffman a Member of the Commission to locate the Elmira Reformatory, and afterwards served on its Board of Trustees. His election for six successive years as President of the State Associated Press, speaks in eloquent terms of the esteem in which he was held by his fellow journalists of the State.

Mr. Warren was for several years a Vestryman of Christ Church (Protestant Episcopal), the organization of which was in large part his work. For three years previous to his death, he was a Member of the Council of the Medical Department of the University of Buffalo.

On the 20th of March, 1855, Mr. Warren was married to the daughter of James Goold, of Albany. She still survives him, and is a resident of Buffalo. This sketch may be appropriately closed with a further quotation from the writer already referred to, relative to Mr. Warren's personal characteristics:—

“He was one upon whom, in years past, hundreds have leaned for succor and counsel. His generous nature scarcely scrutinized the reasonableness of a request, but hastened first to grant it. His brain was the readiest to devise help, and his hand to extend it, that we ever knew or expect to know. His prime ambition was the Christian one—to do good to others and leave his part of the world better than he found it, as might be expected. He was incapable of a mean thought or act. Intellectually Mr. Warren was a man of exceptional power and grasp. His was pre-eminently a constructive mind, it was easy for him to create a plan or policy, and in his power to mould men and interests to the execution of his designs, he was rarely endowed. Recalling him as he was at his best, it is a vision of ideal manhood that rises before us—the wise counselor, the able man of affairs, the practical philanthropist, the true and generous friend.”

Mr. Warren died on the 30th of September, 1876, having reached but a few weeks more than forty-seven years of age.

**CHANDLER J. WELLS.**—Among the pioneers who came to Buffalo as early as the year 1800, were the parents of Chandler J. Wells. His father, Joseph Wells, was of New England parentage and came from the village of Partridgefield, about sixteen miles from Providence, R. I. In that vicinity he married Prudence Grannis, the mother of the subject of this sketch. The first representative of the Wells family in this country emigrated from England about the year 1776. The Wells ancestors were of considerable prominence and distinction in that country.

When Joseph Wells emigrated to Buffalo the journey from Albany was made in wagons and attended with great fatigue and hardship, requiring fifteen to twenty days, according to the condition of the roads, which at times were rough and almost impassable. On their arrival in Buffalo, finding no lands surveyed and in market, they went to Brantford, Canada, where a married sister of Mrs. Wells had settled, and remained there two years. Determined, however, to locate in Buffalo, they returned in the year 1802 and here established their future home. They experienced all the vicissitudes incident to a frontier life. Eleven children—six sons and five daughters—were born to them, of which Chandler J. Wells was the fifth son and the seventh child. Their oldest son, Aldrich Wells, now deceased, who was born in August, 1802, was probably the first white male child born in Buffalo, and their third son, William Wells, is undoubtedly the oldest male child born in, and now living in Buffalo. Possessing a full measure of the family trait, spirit and courage, Joseph Wells promptly proffered his services to the government during the war of 1812, and was one of the first to enroll among the defenders of their homes. Serving for a time as captain of a company of Indians and whites, he was elected to the office of major.

On the 30th of December, 1813, the village of Buffalo was captured and burned by the British and Indians; many of the inhabitants were carried away captive; and those who escaped, fleeing as they did, in the depth of winter and in utter destitution, were in a deplorable condition. The village was destroyed, excepting two or three houses, and the settlers to all appearances hopelessly dis-







persed. Most of the fleeing inhabitants were women and children, the men being in the army. Nearly all found temporary homes for the winter in Williamsville and Batavia, the nearest settlements at that time. The wife and children of Joseph Wells accompanied the fleeing settlers, and the following spring the family returned to Buffalo. Their dwelling being on the outskirts of the village, escaped the flames. They were about the first to resume their residence in Buffalo after it was burned. Very little was actually done towards rebuilding the village until 1815. Joseph Wells erected the first tannery in Buffalo or vicinity. It was located on Main street near Allen, where he owned a farm and resided for quite a period. He made the first brick in Buffalo. The brick kiln was located on the site of the present Bennett elevator. By frugality and industry he accumulated quite a property for those times, but through an unfortunate act, the endorsement of a friend's note, it was all lost and he never fully recovered from the disaster. He was a man of sound constitution and robust health and by lineage entitled to a long lease of life, but during the cholera of 1834 he was the very last victim in Buffalo, and died at the age of sixty-six years.

Chandler J. Wells was born in Utica, N. Y., on the 10th of June, 1814, during his mother's visit with friends in that place. He was brought home in due time, in his mother's arms, and passed safely through all the ills that pertain to childhood. As a boy he was restless, bright and active, a leader in games with his playmates and of a kind and generous disposition. When of a suitable age, he was at first sent to a private school kept by Miss Dorr, who was succeeded as teacher by Mrs. Aurelia Bemis, in a building located on Main street, near the present *Courier* office. He also attended a private school taught by John Drew, and later received instruction from the Rev. John C. Lord, who had opened a school in the old Court-house. Only the common English branches were then taught in the schools of Buffalo. During the last two years of his school life, he also served as apprentice in the joiner's trade with his older brother Aldrich. About the year 1831, at the age of seventeen, he had become quite proficient at his trade and determined henceforth to work independently for his own interests. He readily found employment in some of the vast building operations of the unfortunate Benjamin Rathbun. About a year later his old school teacher, John Drew, who had shown decided interest in his welfare, offered him higher wages and a more important position. Recognizing in him the qualities of a leader, Mr. Drew at once placed him in charge of the erection of a building on the corner of Pearl and Tupper streets. In this, his first attempt in the capacity of overseer, he was highly successful, considering that he was only eighteen years of age. It gave him increased assurance and confidence.

In the year 1835, Mr. Wells formed a partnership with William B. Hart, as "contractors and builders," which continued during a period of twenty years. They were eminently successful and prosperous in their business; acquiring a most enviable reputation for the prompt and thorough fulfillment of their contracts. The numerous buildings erected by them are, many of them, standing monuments of their sound construction and a credit to their builders. An amicable dissolution of partnership was made in April, 1855, leaving both in easy circumstances. The last building erected on contract by Mr. Wells was the State Arsenal, built on Broadway, in this city in 1857. His name with others stands engraved on a stone tablet over the north door of the building.

In 1857, Mr. Wells first became interested in the Elevator business. The commerce of the lakes, handling grain, etc., was the principal source of Buffalo's first prosperity. The docks and shipping were the life and resources of the place in early days. There was handled of grain in Buffalo harbor 543,400 bushels in 1836, which swelled to the enormous amount of 58,642,000 bushels in 1862, and this exclusive of the quantity of flour handled. In 1843 Joseph Dart constructed the first Elevator in this harbor, and it was the first attempt to handle grain by steam-power and machinery in the country. It had a storage capacity of 55,000 bushels, but could transfer only 1,000 bushels per hour. William Wells, brother of Chandler J., was placed in charge as foreman, and he is therefore the oldest elevator man now in the business in the world.

The first elevator constructed by Mr. Wells was in 1857-1858, called the "Wells Elevator," and now known as the "Wheeler Elevator," located on the south side of Buffalo Creek, opposite the New York Central Railroad freight house on Ohio street. It had a storage capacity of 100,000 bushels and could elevate 6,000 bushels an hour. August 27, 1860, Mr. Wells leased what was known as the Coburn Square, bounded by Buffalo Creek, Ohio and Indiana streets, and built thereon the Coburn Elevator. This was destroyed by fire in 1863. On the 11th of September in the same year he purchased the property of Dexter P. Rumsey and others for the consideration of \$25,000.

He at once commenced the erection thereon of the "C. J. Wells Elevator." Building materials, stone, brick and lumber, were used in profusion to insure great strength and stability, and it was provided with the most improved machinery. In fact it was made, as intended, the model elevator of its day. Immense quantities of piles were consumed in laying the foundation. It has a storage capacity of 350,000 bushels, and will elevate 8,000 bushels an hour. December 24, 1872, Chandler J., and his brother, William Wells, purchased of William G. Fargo for \$50,000, the property bounded by Buffalo Creek and Commercial, Water and Dock streets, known as the "Williams Elevator," which they reconstructed, enlarged and strengthened, adding new and improved machinery, and re-christened the "William Wells Elevator." This now has a storage capacity of 300,000 bushels and will hoist 8,000 bushels an hour. Altogether Mr. Wells has built in this city, for himself and others, five elevators. He has always been largely interested in elevator and dock property, also in real estate both in the city and country.

Messrs. Wells and Hart were at one time owners of three saw-mills, which they used in their business. One was located near Abbott's Corners, one in Titus Hollow, and one on Cazenove Creek, at the Hart homestead. Later, in 1856, Mr. Wells built a steam saw-mill in West Seneca, which he run six or seven years, while building elevators.

Prior to 1836 he built a dwelling on Swan street below Chestnut, in which he resided with his mother and sisters. While living there the important event of his life, his marriage, occurred. His homestead for many years was on Michigan street, between Folsom and Seneca streets, where he erected a brick dwelling in the year 1844. His partner, Mr. Hart, resided next door, and the roomy premises gave them ample accommodation for the prosecution of their extensive building operations. In 1858 he built and occupied a fine residence at what was then No. 77 Swan street. A few years later he sold this, and for a limited time boarded at the Tift House, while repairing the dwelling purchased by him on the corner of LaFayette and Washington streets, in which he resided until 1861, when he erected his present fine residence at No. 683 Main street.

The energy and sterling qualities exhibited by Mr. Wells in the prosecution of his business have long been recognized by his fellow-citizens, and they have on numerous occasions honored him with positions of public trust. In the year 1854 he was elected Alderman for the Second Ward, and was continued in that office seven successive years. In 1864 he was nominated for Mayor by the Republicans, rather against his wishes and with not very ardent expectations of success. His opponent, William G. Fargo, the Democratic nominee, was elected by a small majority.

Two years later he again accepted the nomination against Mr. Fargo, and was elected. During his administration as Mayor, the Water Works, then the property of a corporate company, was purchased by the city. Mr. Wells has frequently been characterized: the "father of water works," and not altogether unjustly considering what he has done for them. When the city came into possession, the supply of water was taken from Niagara river so close in shore, that it was more or less impregnated with the filthy sewage discharged into the river above. As a remedy, it was determined to construct a new and larger tunnel under Niagara, extending it one thousand feet from shore, with an inlet near the centre of the river, where it was ascertained by practical tests, that the water was always pure. In 1868, the Board of Water Commissioners was created. Mr. Wells was appointed on the commission, and held the position the full term of six years; most of the time acting chairman of the board. The inlet pier and tunnel were constructed while he held this office, and the completion of this important work was undoubtedly due to his indomitable perseverance. Great difficulties were encountered, and for a time it was feared the project would have to be abandoned. Messrs. Clark and Douglass, the first contractors, sunk about \$150,000 on the work, and abandoned their contract. A new contract was made with John Heckler, who, under the advice and encouragement of Mr. Wells, by his energy and skill overcame the many difficulties, and practically completed the work. Mr. Heckler was discouraged and at times disposed to throw up his contract, which he doubtless would have done, had it not been for the financial aid rendered him by Mr. Wells, in becoming personally responsible for a large sum of money, then absolutely essential to the prosecution of his contract. The greatest misfortune suffered by Mr. Heckler, was the loss in Niagara river, of a crib intended for the foundation of the inlet pier, on which he had expended about ten thousand dollars. While the work was in progress Mr. Wells gave it his constant personal attention to the neglect of his private business; overlooking and directing operations, and a portion of the time performing the duties of superintendent. Having faith and confidence in the young engineer in charge,

Louis H. Knapp, who inflexibly contended that the projected tunnel was feasible and possible, Mr. Wells supported him in every essential suggestion necessary to success. According to eminent physicians, the ample supply of pure water, resulting from this improvement, greatly reduced the average of certain diseases and generally promoted the health of the city.

About the year 1870, Mr. Wells conceived the idea of importing sand for paving and building purposes, the supply in the near vicinity of the city having become scarce and the demand for it on the increase. In pursuance of this purpose he in company with Isaac Holloway, on the 29th of September, 1870, purchased a farm located in Canada, on the shore of Lake Erie, about ten miles from the city and known as "Point Abino." From and after that time the principal quantity of sand used in Buffalo has been brought in barges from that super-abundant deposit. In 1881, desiring to relieve himself from the pressure of business, Mr. Wells sold his interest in the Point Abino farm, including the sand business, to Isaac Holloway, only reserving three to four acres of the land for a summer residence.

In the year 1837, Mr. Wells married Susan Jane Wheeler, sister to Joel Wheeler, of this city. While success and happiness generally attended their married life, they were sadly unfortunate in the loss of their children. Their first child, a boy, christened Theodore, lived only six weeks. Their second, Elizabeth, a lovely daughter, lived sixteen years and died of cholera, the last case in Buffalo at that time. She was kind and affectionate, and being their only child, was loved and petted as the precious jewel of the household. Her sudden death was a sore affliction to her doting parents. Kind, social, and fond of the society of the young, they adopted two grand-nieces, granddaughters of his brother, John G. Wells. Their mother, Lucy Ann Wells, was a member of the family many years, and was regarded by them as a daughter. The children of their adoption, named Jennie and Elizabeth, were taken to their hearts and cared for in every respect as their own, and will probably become their heirs. They were naturally bright and intelligent, and with the educational advantages given them, became accomplished young ladies and ornaments to society. Jennie, married James A. Redfern, an English gentleman, and now resides in London, England; Elizabeth, remains at home with her adopted parents.

Mr. Wells has been conspicuous in many of the most prominent institutions of the city. He was one of the founders of the Erie County Savings Bank and long a director in it. He was the founder of the Buffalo Driving Park, and for fifteen years at the head of its management. The organization was incorporated March 30th, 1868, with a capital stock of \$45,000. It was the first of its kind, and has been the model for similar organizations throughout the country. Under wise and liberal management it has been a success from the first, proving a profitable investment to its stockholders. It became noted for the very large premiums paid; one hundred thousand dollars the first year, an amount for such a purpose unheard of before in this country. It brought to Buffalo some of the best trotters in the world. On this track the celebrated horse Dexter made his mile in 2.17 $\frac{1}{4}$ , then the fastest time on record. The horse was immediately purchased by Robert Bonner, of New York, for \$30,000. Owing to ill health Mr. Wells resigned the presidency of the Park Association in 1882, but he still feels a deep interest in its welfare. He is also a member of the Falconwood and Beaver Island Clubs, and owns an interest in their fine summer resorts located on Grand and Beaver Islands. His name is recorded among the founders of the Buffalo Club, of which he is a member at the present time. He is a life member of the Young Men's Association and the Buffalo Historical Society. His wife and daughters are members of Trinity Church, and while he is not himself a professor of religion, he highly respects Christianity, and believes society and the world better for its teachings. In fact he has done much to build up the material prosperity of Buffalo and liberally supports all her worthy institutions.

Mr. Wells is a man of quick perceptions, rare judgment and unflinching integrity, with energy and perseverance far beyond the average; a bluff and outspoken manner to strangers, behind which, however, lies a hearty good humor and a kindly, generous heart; once his confidence firmly fixed he will not desert a friend under any circumstances. Though now advanced in years he is still vigorous and attends personally to his extensive business interests, notwithstanding a serious attack of rheumatism two years since. His life career has been such as to win the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

**RUSSELL JESSE WHITE.**—The well-known physician whose name appears above, was born at Petersburg, N. Y., on the 9th of April, 1814; he was the youngest son of Aaron and Mary



White, the former of whom came into this State from Vermont and was descended from Scotch ancestors; the latter came from Massachusetts and was descended from English ancestors. Aaron White was a man of more than ordinary intelligence and of considerable local influence. His wife's name previous to her marriage was Mary Bigelow.

The boyhood of our subject was passed like that of the great majority of the sons of the settlers in this State during the first quarter of the present century. He remained on his father's farm until he was sixteen years old, his time being divided between the common school in the neighborhood and arduous out-door toil. But meagre as were his early educational advantages, the young man made the most of them, and supplemented the instruction and study he secured in the school by persistent reading of all the books that he could obtain. He fortunately possessed natural studious habits and a fondness for reading and studying the writings of other men who had made themselves great in the pages of the world's progress, and it was not long before he had added to his school learning, a fund of general information both varied and useful.

From about the year 1835 Mr. White followed mechanical pursuits until he had accumulated the necessary means to enable him to take up and pursue the study of medicine, for which he had long felt an irrepressible desire. After a thorough preparatory course, he was graduated as "M. D.," from the Metropolitan Medical College, of New York, in 1854. Three years later he settled in Buffalo, where he has since remained, and where he rapidly acquired a large and lucrative practice, continuing it until his recently failing health demanded its abandonment.

Dr. White was married in the year 1838, to Miss Helena A. Boynton, daughter of E. L. Boynton, of Vermont, and Elizabeth Fancher, of Connecticut. Two daughters are the offspring of this union:—Harriet E. White, born in 1839, married to Dr. V. C. Price, of Chicago, Illinois, and now residing at Waukegan, Illinois; Emma F. White, unmarried and resides in Buffalo.

In 1874, Dr. White was made an honorary member of the Medical Eclectic College of New York, and has occupied a prominent position in the profession in which he has attained so great a degree of success.

Dr. White is eminently a self-made man. He began life in poverty and surrounded with none of the advantages that are supposed to be potent in enabling men to rise to eminence in the world; but through his own unaided efforts, inspired by confidence in his own powers, he has arisen to a station of which any man might be proud. His private and professional life has been guided by the strictest principles of integrity and morality, and his character was formed upon an upright Christian basis that has gained him the respect of all with whom he has come in contact. In early life Dr. White was nurtured in the Unitarian religious belief, but in later years he attached himself to the Protestant Episcopal Church, of which he has since been a consistent, faithful and liberal member. He has for several years past been one of the Wardens of the Church of the Ascension, Buffalo. Politically, Dr. White is a Republican, having been connected with that party since its organization in 1856. One of Dr. White's greatest ambitions was the aiding of poor boys. By the aid received from him many were educated and made useful men, have been successful in business and now rank among our wealthy merchants in New York, Chicago and Buffalo.

In his personal characteristics, Dr. White commands the admiration of his fellows. He is of noble bearing, kindly at heart, of polished address and genial presence; a profound, logical, clear-headed thinker and a most entertaining conversationalist. These qualities, with his sterling worth as a man, give him a name that will live in the memory of all his acquaintances. Dr. White now lives in honorable retirement, surrounded by all that conduces to earthly contentment.

**GIBSON T. WILLIAMS.**—Gibson T. Williams, the subject of this sketch, was born in Charlestown, N. H., January 15, 1813. His paternal ancestors were Welsh, while those on his mother's side were Scotch. Mr. Williams' father was a native of New Hampshire. His father, Benjamin Williams, was born in Massachusetts, was a Revolutionary soldier and took part in the battles of Bunker Hill, Bennington and Saratoga. Having become a resident of New Hampshire, he enlisted in the Second New Hampshire regiment, and was made Orderly Sergeant in Captain Ezra Town's company. This regiment, as we are informed, was given the post of honor in the memorable conflict of Bunker Hill.

Gibson T. Williams moved with his father, when eleven years of age, to Franklin county, Vt., where he worked on a farm until he was sixteen; he then went to the neighboring town of St.





RUSSEL J. WHITE, M. D.



Albans and attended the academy about a year. At the age of seventeen he began work as clerk in St. Albans in a general country store, where he remained three years.

At the age of twenty Mr. Williams came to Buffalo, where he readily found employment in a hardware store, where he remained until the spring of 1834, when he began clerking for Kimberly & Waters, in the grocery and ship chandlery business. He continued in their employ until February, 1837, when, with Henry C. Atwater, he bought out the old firm, the new one starting business under the name of Atwater & Williams. In 1845 Mr. Atwater died, when a co-partnership was formed consisting of Mr. Williams, Rufus L. Howard and George L. Newman, who continued the same business at the old location under the name of Williams, Howard & Co. In 1850 Mr. Williams sold out his interest to the other partners; but he soon learned that with his naturally active temperament, a quiet life was almost an impossibility in his case. Accordingly he, together with the late Henry Roop, built on the corner of Delaware and Virginia streets "The Niagara White Lead Company's" factory; now known as the Cornell Lead Company. Mr. Roop soon after retired, and Mr. Williams associated himself with Mr. Peter C. Cornell and Samuel G. Cornell, of New York, late deceased, and they carried on a successful business in the manufacture of white lead for many years, Mr. Williams being President of the company. In 1850 he, in company with Gen. Rufus Howard, built what is now known as the Howard Iron Works, for the manufacture of agricultural implements, which they carried on together for several years with success.

Mr. Williams was one of the original members of the Buffalo Board of Trade, which was organized in 1844, holding its meetings in what was then known as the Webster block, on Main street. Mr. Williams was President of the Young Men's Association in 1845; he was for several years President of the Clinton Bank; was First Vice-President of the Western Insurance Company, and succeeded Dean Richmond as President, continuing as such until 1871, when the great Chicago fire closed it up. He has for the past twenty years been a director in the Buffalo Gas Light Company; he is also a director in several of the old large banks of discount in Buffalo. He was in 1854, upon the organization of the Erie County Savings Bank, elected its First Vice-President. He is now President of that prosperous institution—the largest in assets in this State west of New York city.

Mr. Williams, with Col. W. A. Bird and A. H. Tracy (both the latter deceased), were the commissioners for taking the land for the Buffalo Park system; all the grounds were taken at their appraisal, and to the satisfaction generally of all parties.

Mr. Williams was, in 1841, married to Miss Harriet C. Howard, of Herkimer county, in this State. They have three children now living—two sons and one daughter.

Mr. Williams has built many of the fine buildings of Buffalo, several of which he now owns. His business record is one of which any man might properly feel proud, and clearly indicates the degree of confidence felt in his integrity and ability by his fellow citizens.

**A**LFRED P. WRIGHT. The subject of this notice was born in Oswego, Oswego County, N. Y., January 3rd, 1834. His father, Peter P. Wright, and mother Eliza Ann Wright, were descendants of the good old English stock, who settled in this county in its early history.

Alfred P. Wright received a liberal education, graduating at the Oswego High School, at the age of eighteen years. He soon after commenced his business career as a clerk in his native city. Two years later found him head clerk and business manager of a large concern, at a salary of \$1000 per year, which was then considered a large compensation. He remained in this connection until the year 1863, when he commenced business for himself—that of Transportation on the Erie Canal. This he pushed with great vigor, and two years later he had become the owner of one of the largest individual lines on the canal, numbering twenty-one boats.

In the fall of 1865 he found it for the best interest of his business, to remove to New York, where he remained until the spring of 1867, when, after selling out his entire boat interest, he came to Buffalo and immediately formed a copartnership with Mr. George H. Preston in the Grain Commission business, under the firm name of Preston & Wright.

This new enterprise at once opened up a wide field of action, which, to many strong and experienced firms, had proved a rough and rugged road. But the rare ability which has marked Mr. Wright's progress in former enterprises, soon ranked the new firm second to none on the chain of lakes; and its business continued with uninterrupted success until January 1st, 1880, when Mr. Preston's failing health compelled him to retire from active business.

Mr. Albert J. Wright, Mr. Wright's son, was then admitted a partner in Mr. Preston's place. This combination proved even more successful than the former one, and the business during the first year, increased to the enormous amount of thirty-three million bushels of actual grain handled during the season of navigation; and the business has been continued to the present time, with undiminished success.

Mr. Wright has always refused public offices; but has accepted and filled with honor and ability many positions of trust and responsibility, of a more private nature. He was the organizer of the Merchants' Bank of Buffalo; was elected its first president and again elected in 1882. In 1872 he was elected president of the Board of Trade, and was one of the originators in the movement which has resulted in the erection of its magnificent building. He is a director in the Erie County Savings Bank, in the Merchants' Bank, and in the Cataract Bank of Niagara Falls, and is a large stockholder in the Merchants' Bank, (of which he has had the active management), in the Bank of Commerce and in several of the railroads centering in Buffalo. Mr. Wright is to-day one of the eminently solid business men of the city of Buffalo, and his career has been such as to earn him not only the confidence, but the respect and friendship of his fellow citizens.

Mr. Wright was married first to Lovina L. Springer, of Oswego, who died March 9, 1880; he was again married Jan. 23, 1883, to Charlotte L. Davock. He is the father of two children, Albert J. Wright, his present partner in business, and Pattie L. Wright.

**S**TEPHEN VAN RENNELAER WATSON.—Stephen Van Rensselaer Watson was born in Rensselaerville, N. Y., June 13, 1817, his immediate ancestors being from Rhode Island. He came to Buffalo in 1844 and passed the remainder of his life in this city. Of his career after his arrival here, an intimate friend of his furnishes the following particulars:—

“ Mr. Watson came to the city of Buffalo in 1844. He devoted himself for several years to real estate operations, becoming the owner of large tracts in the eastern part of the city, dividing them into lots and selling them for building purposes, principally to German residents. He aided them, not only by advances of money, but with advice in erecting their dwellings and in the management of their property; and by his kindness as well as his integrity, he gained their entire confidence. He accumulated a handsome property in these enterprises, and was also fortunate as the owner of vessels upon the lakes, which he managed successfully for a number of years. He built and was the owner and manager of the Watson elevator, one of the largest structures of that description in the city.

About 18— he became interested in the street railroads of Buffalo. The affairs of the Buffalo Street Railroad Company, then existing, were in a precarious condition. It seemed as if it would be compelled to suspend, if not entirely cease, its operations. Mr. Watson took hold of its affairs with his accustomed energy and forethought. He subsequently organized the East Side Street Railway Company. Up to the time of his death the interests of these companies were the object of his untiring efforts, and it is no derogation to the labors of others to say that the present magnificent system of street railways of Buffalo, are substantially the creation of his brain, the result of his labors and perseverance.

“ As a business man Mr. Watson was upright and honorable, enterprising and courageous. His mind was fertile of ideas, comprehensive and far-seeing. Nor were his views confined to his own interests. He was eminently a public-spirited citizen. During his administration of the office of President of the Young Men's Association, it was raised from an humble library association to the proud position it has since occupied; and it was by his efforts to a large extent that the money was raised by which its present real estate was purchased. He was among the founders of the Erie County Savings Bank, and continued one of its most active trustees up to the time of its death. He was as untiring in the performance of his public as of his private business duties, and he is justly awarded a permanent place in the annals of the city of Buffalo.”

Although Mr. Watson was never a seeker after political office, he was honored with election as Member of Assembly in 1861, and filled that office with ability and credit. He was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church and was vestryman from 1859 to 1865 and from 1871 to 1874.

Mr. Watson was twice married; his widow, Charlotte A. Watson, now survives him. She is a daughter of Pardon C. Sherman, of Buffalo. Three children survived Mr. Watson—Annie, Jeanie H. and Gertrude; the first two married S. S. Spaulding and Porter Norton respectively, and all of them reside in Buffalo. Mr. Watson died in Buffalo on the 15th of June, 1880.

**O**TTOMAR REINECKE. Ottomar Reinecke, one of the proprietors of the *Buffalo Freie Presse*, daily and weekly, and the *Sunday Tribune*, was born on the 20th of November, 1840, in the beautiful city of Sondershausen, which is picturesquely located almost at the foot of the Hartz Mountains, in northern Germany. He came to this country with his parents in the summer of 1852, arriv-



ing in Buffalo the 24th of June, where he has ever since resided. His education and knowledge of the English language was acquired in the city public schools.

Two years after his arrival in Buffalo, his father started a printing office, with a capital of eighty dollars and no credit. He built his own press of wood and iron, which resembled in general appearance those of the days of Guttenberg. The young man assisted his father in this primitive printing office, an occupation that always seemed natural to him and in consonance with his tastes. The business grew to respectable dimensions before his father's death, which occurred in the year 1866, when he took entire charge of it. The following year Mr. Reinecke found it necessary to take a partner and a business connection was formed with his present partner, Mr. Franz Zesch. This proved a most fortunate event for the two men have not only worked in harmony for twenty years, but have always been the most intimate friends. By hard and persistent work, and strict integrity, they have brought their business to its present flourishing condition. Their publication has always advocated the principles of the National Republican party.

**F**RANK H. ZESCH. The subject of this notice, junior proprietor of the Buffalo *Freie Presse* printing and publishing establishment, was born April 16, 1840, in the city of Stargard, in the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg Strelitz, Prussia, Germany. When nearly fourteen years of age, after graduating at the school in his native place, he came with his parents to America, in the early part of the year 1854, settling at once in the city of Buffalo, where he has ever since resided, with the exception of one year (1859) which he passed in Rochester.

Immediately after his arrival in Buffalo in 1854, the young lad accepted a position as carrier for the Buffalo *Demokrat*, where he remained about two years; in the meantime the proprietors of that journal, learning that he passed a good German school, placed him in their office to learn the art of type-setting. He liked the work and was so apt a student in it, that it was but a short time before he was able to add materially to his income by type-setting in the forenoons and carrying his paper route in the afternoons. At the close of the second year, the young man's father made arrangements to place him in one of the leading tinsmith and hardware establishments of the city, to learn that trade, learning which, the proprietors of the *Demokrat* made him so favorable a proposition, that he was induced to remain with them and finish an apprenticeship in the printing business, his time being, in consideration of what progress he had already made, reduced from four years to two, and his compensation being advanced in like ratio. After the year spent in Rochester, as before noted, Mr. Zesch was again induced by the liberal offers of his former employers to return to Buffalo, remaining with them until 1863, when he entered the job rooms of the *Courier* for the purpose of further perfecting himself in that branch of the business. He remained there until 1867, when he formed the copartnership with Mr. O. Reinecke, which has continued with excellent success and in perfect harmony to the present time. They carry on a large job printing business in English, German and French, and publish the *Freie Presse*, daily and weekly, and the Buffalo *Sunday Tribune*, besides three different semi-monthly publications for church congregations.

**A**LBERT ZIEGELE, SR.—This prominent German citizen of Buffalo was born on the 9th of April, 1818, in Stuttgart, Wurtemberg. His life up to the year 1849, when he was about thirty years old, was spent in his native country, where he learned the trade of a cooper, after having passed such time in schools as was generally given up to the boys in his circumstances. His trade learned, he began to turn his attention to the subject of malt liquors and their successful brewing; and during his quite extensive travels in different parts of Germany and France, he acquired a thorough practical knowledge of the business, as conducted in a land where it forms one of the greatest industries.

Finally, in 1849, Mr. Ziegele emigrated to America and immediately took up his residence in Buffalo. The following year he rented a small brewery on Genesee street, in which he began brewing the first lager beer made in Buffalo. His product was undoubtedly excellent, for it commanded so generous a sale that in 1853 he found himself in circumstances that justified his purchase of the land where the brewery is now situated, on Main and Washington streets, subsequently erecting the extensive buildings on that site. The same year he purchased adjoining property, erected new buildings, and furnished them with all the latest improvements for the manufacture of this popular beverage. The product of the first year after he began brewing on his own premises was only about two thousand barrels. His establishment has now a capacity of fifty thousand barrels annually,

and the product does not fall very much short of that. The following description of his plant we find in a local publication:—

“ Located on both sides of Washington street, with a frontage of one hundred and sixteen feet on Main street, the establishment is very extensive, and comprises the brewery on the west side, with ice-house; on the east side a malt-house, ice-house and barn, with splendid facilities for the manufacture of malt, to the extent of forty-five thousand bushels yearly (in addition to which fifteen thousand bushels are annually consumed from other sources), and an equipment throughout which involves the finest machinery in the chemistry of malting and beer manufacturing. This machinery has been applied by Mr. Ziegele after the most erudite research, and affords such facilities as are rarely concentrated in any one establishment.”

Since October 1st, 1879, Mr. Ziegele has practically retired from the active management of his extensive brewery. At that time his two sons—Albert Ziegele, Jr., and William Ziegele, both of whom were educated in the College of Applied Sciences, at Stuttgart, with especial reference to their business, and Herman Grau, a son-in-law of Mr. Ziegele, were taken into the concern. Under their management, the success of the establishment, so solidly founded by their father, has been continued in a manner satisfactory to all those interested.

During his business years, and since his partial retirement, Mr. Ziegele has not lived in idleness. He has made several journeys to Europe, and when at home has devoted much time and labor to the beautifying of the magnificent grounds surrounding his villa in this city—one of the most charming places of residence in the country; its natural scenery is unsurpassed, while labor and money artistically expended have greatly added to its beauty.

In the advancement of the interests of his countrymen in Buffalo, as well as of the general welfare of the city, Mr. Ziegele has always occupied a conspicuous position; his time, his efforts, and his purse have ever been ready for either. He is a broad and liberal-minded man in all things of a practical nature. He was the principal advocate who led the German Young Men's Association to purchase the ground on which now stands the magnificent music hall, and advanced liberally of his own means for that purpose. He is a director in the German Bank and of the German Insurance Company of Buffalo, and has occupied numerous other offices of trust and responsibility, especially in the institutions and associations under direction of the Germans of the city. In all of these, as well as in his large private business, Mr. Ziegele has maintained a character that is unblemished.

Mr. Ziegele was married on the 15th of September, 1846, to Miss Catharine Schneider, who died June 30, 1873. Their children are Albert Ziegele, Jr., William Ziegele, and Pauline, now Mrs. Charles Reiss, of Carlsruhe, Baden, Germany; and Bertha, now Mrs. H. Grau, of Buffalo.

Mr. Ziegele in politics is a Republican, and has been a strong supporter of that party since its organization in 1856, but has always refused political office, and notwithstanding his business in manufacturing spirituous liquors has always been a very temperate man.

**C**HARLES EDWARD YOUNG was the third of ten children (and the third son) of Foster and Valinda Young. He was through father and mother, of New England stock, on the paternal side, originally, from near Londonderry, Ireland. His father was born in Peterboro, N. H., and was well trained for mercantile life by apprenticeship with Mr. Gray, a prominent business man of Boston, Mass. In or not far from 1809, he came West in Mr. Gray's employ to open trade with the Indians and white pioneers, and located at the mouth of Cattaraugus creek, the point later known as “Mack's,” where now is the village of Irving.

He married November 10, 1810, in Buffalo, Miss Valinda, daughter of General Samuel Fletcher, of Townshend, Vt. She was then twenty years of age, having been born May 9, 1790, and in the summer of 1807 had come to Buffalo with her sister, Sophia, (Mrs. Samuel Pratt) mother of the late Samuel F. Pratt, Lucius H. Pratt, and of Pascal P. Pratt.

In 1812, war breaking out, Mr. Young gave up his business, became and continued during the war an army “forage-master,” now termed “sutler,” removing his residence to Buffalo.

In the latter part of 1813, being obliged in the discharge of his duties to spend some time in Chautauqua county, he took his wife and their eldest, and then only child, William F. Young, to what is now Westfield, in that county, then called “The Four Corners;” so that they were not in Buffalo Village when it was burned December 30, 1813.

After the close of the war, Mr. Young having first made an unsuccessful venture at milling in Canada, became a resident of Williamsville, Erie county, N. Y., and there, October 26, 1816, the subject of this sketch was born.

In 1825, Foster Young removed to Buffalo, where he resided till his death, January 8, 1851, at the age of sixty-eight. Mrs. Young survived him till October 11, 1881, when she died in the ninety-second year of her age. She was a lady of many marked excellences of character, and of bright and winning ways, a fine example of those qualities, physical and mental, which shaped and gave such efficiency to the pioneer life of these regions.

Of the children of Foster and Valinda Young, six are now living, viz.—William Fletcher, already mentioned; Mehitable Elizabeth (Mrs. William Baldwin); Susan Jane (Mrs. James Reid); Sophia Charlotte (Mrs. Robert Johnson); John Foster, and Samuel Warren. Francis Henry, the second son, died in 1843; Fannie Maria, (Mrs. George Rickards), the youngest daughter, died August 22, 1864, and one daughter, Cyrena Aurelia, died in infancy.

Charles E. Young attended the common school at Williamsville, till he was nine years of age, then the common schools of Buffalo Village, finishing with a year at the Military Academy, kept in what was formerly the Hospital building of the Sisters of Charity, on Main street, below Virginia. He added much, however, to his knowledge by independent reading and study. The taste for and habit of study was then permanently formed and was constant throughout his life; so that in later years he was often seen book in hand when on his way to or from his place of business. At twelve years of age he was allowed to follow his own inclinations and learned first of the watchmaker's trade with Mr. Lazalier, and then that of bookbinding with the late O. G. Steele. The latter he chose for his business. To this he gradually added printing, and finally the manufacture of blank books and legal blanks as a specialty, in connection with a general stationer's business. At first he was engaged for some years in the book store and bindery of Mr. Steele. Then after a short time spent in Detroit, Mich., and Rochester, N. Y., he settled in Buffalo. Here he entered the employ of his next elder brother, Francis H., who was a bookbinder, and was afterwards associated with him as partner till his death in 1838. Then after twelve years in business alone, he had as partners, from 1850 to 1872, Messrs. John A. Lockwood and Robert Johnson, his brother-in-law, (first as Young, Lockwood & Co., then as Young, Lockwood & Johnson); and later Messrs. Lockwood and John C. Adams, as Young, Lockwood & Co., for the remaining ten years of his life. These firms, of which Mr. Young was the founder and leading member, have steadily maintained an enviable reputation for enterprise and integrity, and hold an advanced rank among those in the same line of business in the State.

In political affairs Mr. Young was a Whig, while the Whig party lived, and then as a Republican, was the upright citizen seeking to act through these organizations for the public good. In church associations he was from early manhood a Presbyterian, being during his later years a member of the North Church.

Mr. Young was for nearly thirty years a zealous member of the order of Free and Accepted Masons, having been initiated in Queen City Lodge, No. 358, which he left in 1858 to become a charter member of the Lodge of Ancient Landmarks, No. 441. He served his lodge as Master during the years 1863 and 1864. He was for several years Grand Junior Deacon of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and in 1877, 1878 and 1879, was District Deputy Grand Master of the Twenty-fifth Masonic District. He was also a member of Keystone Chapter No. 163, Royal Arch Masons, of Buffalo Council R. & S. M., and of Hugh De Payens Commandery No. 30, K. T. He had taken the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite up to and including the Thirty-second, and belonged to Palmoni Lodge and Council here and to the Rochester Consistory.

Mr. Young was always the courteous, dignified gentleman, the warm and steadfast friend, and as a citizen, faithful and upright. He was genial and gifted with fine discriminating taste. He was specially fond of music, and was prominent in musical affairs in the city for a large part of his life. He was both a "singer" and "player on instruments," and was leader of the North Church choir for several years. In matters relating to public interests Mr. Young was earnest and active. Among services that might be detailed, one is his ten years' membership of Red Jacket Engine Co., from July 6, 1836, to March 25, 1846. This was in the time of the old Volunteer Fire Department when, with the less perfect methods and apparatus of that day the fireman's duty was of peculiar difficulty and danger. He once in fact received so serious an injury in the discharge of his duty at a fire that he never recovered from its effects. But the most noticeable feature of his public service was his zealous and active interest in the affairs of the city and county. He was eminently a public-spirited man, and it was therefore natural that his fellow-citizens should seek him as a repre-



sentative of their interests in public matters. This appreciation was manifested in 1854, when he was elected Supervisor of the Tenth Ward,—an office which he held almost uninterruptedly for twenty-five years; and the varied duties of which he discharged with the utmost fidelity and under the encouraging approval of his constituents. For several years he was Chairman of the Board, and at times when matters of peculiar difficulty were concerned. He occupied this position at the time of his death.

But the labor devolving upon him in this and other trusts and that connected with his own business interests finally overtaxed his powers, and he was repeatedly warned by his physicians of the great risk he was running. But he was not a man who would let personal considerations of any nature interfere with the discharge of duty in important matters which had been intrusted to him;—so he worked on, and finally, on the 29th of September, 1882, after but a few hours of sickness, he died as it may truthfully and most appropriately be said “in the harness.”

Mr. Young was married May 27th, 1842, to Miss Aurora M. Barnes, of Buffalo. Their first child was Charles Edward who died in infancy. Their surviving children are Charles Fletcher, Albert Barnes, George Foster, Clara Lavinia and Frederick Caryl.

Mr. Young was again married December 19, 1865, to Miss Katharine Magoffin, of Clarence, Erie, Co., N. Y., who survives him.

**CORNELIUS C. WYCKOFF, M. D.** Cornelius C. Wyckoff was born on the 5th of August, 1822, at Romulus, Seneca County, N. Y. He is descended from Holland ancestors, his grandfather having been Joseph Wyckoff, who settled in Pennsylvania. His grandmother's name was Keziah Foré, who was of French parentage. His grandfather and grandmother made each other's acquaintance while held as prisoners by the Indians, in Canada. They were married at the close of the Revolutionary War. His father was Peter Wyckoff, and his mother's maiden name was Anna Pruden. The early life of the subject of this sketch was passed at home in the routine of farm life, with the exception of portions of each year in school. He early developed vigorous qualities of mind and studious habits, which soon carried his educational attainments beyond the limits of the common schools of that period. He then went to Lima, Livingston County, N. Y., where he completed an academic education in the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary. Before the expiration of this period, he had resolved upon making the study and practice of medicine his life-work. Accordingly, soon after his graduation from the seminary, he entered the Geneva Medical College for his first course of medical lectures. This was followed by two courses at the Buffalo Medical College, from which he graduated as M. D., in 1848. Dr. Wyckoff began practice in Buffalo immediately after his graduation and has continued the same until the present time, with the exception of a portion of the year 1877, when he made a short European tour.

Dr. Wyckoff was married to Miss Frances Hall Hastings, daughter of Eurotas and Eroë Arms Hastings, May 31, 1849. Their children are George S. Wyckoff, M. D., now a practicing physician in Bradford, Pa., who was born April 11, 1850, and Cornelius Hastings Wyckoff, born Sept. 22, 1859; who is now in the dry goods business in Buffalo. Mrs. Wyckoff died June 29, 1869. Dr. Wyckoff was again married to Miss Alice Lindsley Hall, daughter of the late David A. and Abbey, (Els-worth) Hall, of Washington, D. C., May 9; 1877.

In his profession Dr. Wyckoff has attained an enviable position, gaining alike the esteem and confidence of those to whose aid he has been called, and the respect of his fellow practitioners. He is a member of the American Medical Association; a member of the State Medical Society and a member of the Buffalo Medical Association. He was president of the Erie County Medical Society in 1858, and of the Buffalo Medical Association in 1876. He has been a member of the Board of Censors of the State Medical Society from 1870 to the present time, and was for several years a delegate from the State Medical Society to the American Medical Association. He has been attending physician to the Buffalo General Hospital from its opening in 1858 to the present time.

Dr. Wyckoff has never held office of a political character, except that of Health Physician of Buffalo. He is connected with Ascension Church, of which he has been a Vestryman several years; he was also a Vestryman of St. Paul's Episcopal Church for a number of years.

Dr. Wyckoff is now one of the circle of prominent physicians of Buffalo, whose professional attainments, high personal character and social standing, give the medical profession of the city its eminent position.



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