

larger quantity than any other town, 88,846 bushels, and Sennett, 62,207 bushels.

Ira produced the most apples, 80,471 bushels; Victory next, 67,940; Sterling next, 64,116; while the otherwise agriculturally rich town of Springport is credited with but 8,971. Moravia is credited with the largest production of hay, 6,094 tons; Niles, with 6,086; and Sterling, with 5,806 tons. Scipio leads in the production of barley, with 37,569 bushels; Aurelius, with 33,628; and Cato, with 33,197. Ira sent to the cheese factories the milk of 535 cows; Moravia, 458; and Sempronius, 291. Conquest made in her families 17,381 pounds of cheese; Owasco, 9,250; and Sennett, 8,299; while Moravia made but 525 pounds. Niles leads in the production of butter, 234,973 pounds; Moravia next, 195,195; Sempronius, 194,435, and the small town of Summer Hill, 186,613, more than the two large towns of Brutus and Cato combined.

In comparison with the other grain growing counties of the State, Cayuga holds a very high rank as to the quantity produced per acre of land, which is the true test of agricultural excellence. Of the four great staples, winter wheat, Indian corn, oats and hay, she stands at or near the head of all the grain-growing counties, and the few counties that excel her do so but in small degree. In winter wheat Cayuga is fifth, in Indian corn, fourth, in oats, fourth, and in hay, fifth. Of winter wheat the State at large averages 16.16 bushels per acre, Cayuga, 18.55. Of Indian corn the average of the State is 32.33; Cayuga produces 40.77. Of hay the State average is 1.13 tons per acre, Cayuga, 1.27. Of oats the State averages 28.59 bushels, Cayuga, 34.13. Wheat, Indian corn, hay and oats, constitute the source of nine-tenths of the wealth annually drawn from the soil. The corn, aside from the quantity annually marketed, is largely fed to animals, and forms the basis of the pork, beef, fowls, etc.; while the hay, an index also of pasturage, is the great source of the dairy interest of the County.

The study of the census of 1875, one of the most careful ever made in the State, will we believe, deeply interest the agriculturists of the County, and convince them that their lines have indeed fallen in pleasant places; that they occupy a section of the State as fertile and productive as any within its borders. That the farmers of the County are disposed to keep up the fertility of

their lands is shown by another short but comprehensive paragraph in the census, viz.: that Cayuga County used more fertilizers in 1875 than any other two of the rural counties of the State.

In a succeeding chapter we shall give a history of the efforts made to improve the agriculture of the County, and a full detail of its productions from the census of 1875.

CHAPTER VIII.

TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION.

EARLY MODES OF TRAVEL—DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED—WESTERN INLAND LOCK NAVIGATION CO.—CANAL PROJECTED—SURVEYS—EARLY ROADS—STAGES—FREIGHT WAGONS—ERIE CANAL—ITS IMPORTANCE—RAILROADS—COMPARED WITH CANALS.

THE routes over which the early settlers came to Cayuga County, and by which their families and their household and other goods were transported, were circuitous, rude and toilsome in the extreme.

The first summer route was by water from Schenectady to Cayuga and Seneca Lakes. The Hudson River furnished a feasible means of reaching Albany; but between that point and the mouth of the Mohawk so many difficulties were to be met, that the river was abandoned and the land route taken, a distance of sixteen miles over the sand-barrens, very difficult to traverse. At Schenectady the Mohawk was taken to near the Little Falls, fifty-six miles distant; and on this part of the route the navigation was comparatively easy, the current was gentle and the water sufficiently deep for the flat-bottomed boats used upon it.

At Little Falls a portage of three-fourths of a mile was encountered, through a rocky gorge, over the jagged surface of which a rude and crooked way was made, and over it were carried by men the canoes and light boats, while the heavier boats were drawn by oxen. These larger boats were from twenty to thirty feet long, and from four to six feet wide, flat-bottomed and of

light draft. Upon the upper edge and on both sides ran a wale or plank, the entire length, upon which the boatmen walked as they slowly poled the boats up stream. This was done by placing one end of a long pole on the bottom of the river and the other against the shoulder, and thus, by pushing, the boat was propelled.

After passing Little Falls there was a free passage of six miles, to the "German Flats," where, by reason of shoals, a short portage was made. From thence to Utica, fifteen miles, the passage was again free. Between Utica and Rome the water was shallow and obstructed by trees felled into it by the settlers. At Fort Stanwix, now Rome, immigrants left the Mohawk and passed into Wood Creek by a portage of about two miles. This was a small, yet navigable stream, that flowed into Oneida Lake after a course of about thirty miles. From Oneida Lake the route lay through the Oswego and Seneca Rivers to the outlets of the Cayuga and Seneca Lakes. On the latter, at Seneca Falls, their last obstruction was met.

The time required to make this journey from Schenectady to Seneca Lake was from fifteen to twenty days, and the bateaux then used were propelled by three men, and would carry about one and a half tons. A single family with few effects would, therefore, constitute a full load. This was the summer route of travel. In winter, the immigrants came on rude sleds drawn by oxen, through an unbroken forest, over a rude pathway made by widening the Indian trails, and often upon routes the only guides to which were blazed trees.

The summer route referred to was under the control and management of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company, incorporated in 1791. This Company rapidly improved the navigation of their line, by constructing locks at Little Falls, removing the other obstructions in the Mohawk, and connecting that river with Wood Creek by a canal, straightening the former and shortening the distance over it nearly one half. Boats were now put upon the route propelled by five men, that would carry twelve tons, and ten days only were then required to go from Schenectady to Seneca Lake.

These improvements, limited as they were, are said to have doubled the value of the contiguous lands. For many years the route was liberally

patronized by the flood of immigrants that were seeking homes in Western New York. It was the great popular line to the West, passing through Cayuga County. It bore thousands of the early settlers to their new homes, brought to them their merchandise, and carried their produce to the eastern markets.

ERIE CANAL.—As settlements increased, the shoulders of men were found inadequate to push through the tortuous channels of the natural water courses the needed supplies and productions of the people, and as early as 1803, Gouverneur Morris sounded the key note when he said "Lake Erie must be tapped and its waters carried over the country to the Hudson." The project of an artificial canal between the Hudson and the lakes, was vigorously canvassed from 1807 till the conclusion to build the work was reached. The survey was ordered in February, 1808. James Geddes, of Syracuse, was entrusted with the preliminary surveys, and instructed by the Surveyor-General as follows:

"As the provision made for the expenses of this business is not adequate to the effectual exploring of the country for this purpose, you will, in the first place, examine what may appear to be the best route for a canal from Oneida Lake to Lake Ontario, in the town of Mexico, and take a level and survey of it; also whether a canal cannot be made between the Oneida Lake and Oswego, by a route in part to the west of the Oswego river, so as to avoid those parts along it where it will be impracticable to make a good navigation. The next object will be the ground between Lakes Erie and Ontario, which must be examined with a view to determine what will be the most eligible track for a canal from below Niagara Falls to Lake Erie. If your means will admit of it, it would be desirable to have a level taken throughout the whole distance between the lakes."

The whole expense of this preliminary survey was only \$675. Mr. Geddes submitted his report on the three different routes in 1809. He most favored the interior route without passing through Lake Ontario.

These surveys established the practicability of this interior route for a canal, and the next step was to secure the means to build it. An effort was made to secure the aid of the General Government in 1809, and the surveys and plans were laid before President Jefferson, who carefully examined them, but regarded the scheme as in the highest degree chimerical and disposed of it in

the following summary way: "You talk of making a canal three hundred and fifty miles through the wilderness; it is little short of madness to think of it at this day." But there was "order" and energy in the "madness" of the canal men at that day; they persevered and triumphed.

In 1810 a commission was appointed, consisting of DeWitt Clinton, Stephen Van Rensselaer and seven others, to explore the inland navigation route. They did so, and made a favorable report the next year. James Geddes and Benjamin Wright were then employed as engineers, and a second and fruitless effort was made to secure Congressional aid. In 1812 the commissioners reported that "the canal should be built by the State of New York on her own account."

The war of 1812-'15, suspended operations relating to the canal; but the Legislature of 1816 authorized the loan of a million dollars, and the section from Rome to the Seneca River was to be the first completed. This conclusion was based upon the possible contingency that the full plan might not be executed, and if not, the completion of this section would, with the Mohawk River, furnish greatly increased means of interior communication.

The report of the engineers, Messrs. Geddes and Wright, was made in 1816, embracing a careful survey of the line from Rome to Black Rock and revised estimates of the cost of the entire canal, placing it at \$5,000,000.

On June 27th, 1817, the first contract was made, and July 4th of that year the first spadeful of earth was lifted at Rome from the grand Erie Canal with appropriate ceremonies. The first contractor was John Richardson, of Cayuga County. Ninety-four miles of the canal were completed in the autumn of 1820, and in November, 1825, the entire work was finished from the Hudson to the Lakes, at a cost, including the Champlain Canal, of \$8,273,122.66.

In July, 1820, boats commenced running between Utica and Montezuma three times a week, the trip requiring two days, and the fare on the packet boats, including board, was \$4. Stages ran from the principal interior villages for the transportation of passengers, and freight wagons for goods and merchandise. In 1821 the boats ran from Montezuma to Schenectady.

In the completion of the Erie Canal our citi-

zens took a lively interest and made arrangements to celebrate the event. On the 29th day of September, 1825, a meeting of the citizens of Auburn was held at the Western Exchange, then kept by Holt & Curtis; Dr. Erastus Humphreys was Chairman, and William H. Seward, Secretary. The following resolution was passed:

"Resolved, That we hail with great satisfaction the approaching completion of the Erie Canal, the most splendid work of internal improvement undertaken in any country, and that we will heartily cooperate with our fellow-citizens in other parts in celebrating the same."

Elijah Miller, Erastus Humphreys and S. W. Hughes were appointed a committee to arrange for the celebration. That event occurred at Port Byron—then Bucksville—on the 27th day of October, 1825, and was an occasion of great festivity. An ox was roasted, cannon fired, speeches made and toasts given; one of the latter, as exhibiting the enthusiasm excited by the event, we reproduce.

By James Lucky, Esq.:

"The grand Erie Canal; a monument of wonder, which at its commencement was looked upon by its friends with fear, and by its foes as an impossibility. But fear has been lost in joy, and impossibilities have been overcome; the work is completed and it is ours to 'rejoice with exceeding joy.'"

"Weed's Basin" and "Bucksville" were sharp rivals for the honor of being the port of entry for the more pretentious village of Auburn, and of the business of the county to and from the canal. Stages were run over both routes, and a lively freight and passenger traffic was maintained for fourteen years, until the construction of the Auburn & Syracuse Railroad.

EARLY ROADS—STAGES.—The first roads through our County followed quite closely the Indian trails. In 1790, General Wadsworth and a party of immigrants, widened the trail from Whitestown to Canandaigua. In 1797, \$45,000 were raised by lotteries, under the authority of the State, to improve its various roads, the great Genesee road receiving \$2,200, of this sum. That road through this County was, substantially, the old road through Skaneateles and Mottville, through Franklin street in Auburn, and thence westerly nearly on a line with Genesee street, to Cayuga Ferry, which was about one mile north of the present Cayuga Village.

In 1797, the Cayuga Bridge Company was in-

corporated, comprising John Harris, Thomas Morris, Wilhemus Mynders, Charles Williamson and Joseph Annin, the latter the Sheriff of the County in 1800. The bridge was completed in that year, at a cost of \$25,000.00. Its length was one mile and eight rods.

THE SENECA TURNPIKE COMPANY. — This company was incorporated in 1800, to construct a turnpike road six rods wide, from Utica to Canandaigua; twenty-five feet of it, in the center, to be covered with gravel, or broken stone, to a depth of fifteen inches. They were permitted to place gates ten miles from each other, and to exact twelve and one-half cents toll for two-horse teams, and twenty-five cents for four horses. The Cherry Valley Turnpike was also laid out in that year, running from Cherry Valley, in the county of Otsego, to the outlet of the Skaneateles Lake, where it connected with the great Seneca Turnpike.

In 1804, an act was passed giving Jason Parker and Levi Stevens the exclusive right to run stage wagons for seven years, on the new turnpike between Utica and Canandaigua. These were the first stages which ran through Cayuga County. The number of passengers to each coach was limited by law to seven adults, and the stages made two trips per week. In 1805, John Post fitted up three stage boats, or bateaux with seats and oil cloth coverings, to run between Utica and Schenectady. The current would carry the boats down the Mohawk; but they were poled up by men, the same as were the other boats of the "Navigation Company."

The population of Cayuga County and of the entire Military Tract was, at this time, increasing with wonderful rapidity, and the supplies of merchandise which they required and the shipment eastward of their surplus productions, so over-taxed the public means of transportation, that they were supplemented by private freight wagons, carrying farm products to Albany and returning laden with merchandise. A caravan of teams from a neighborhood would go in company and assist each other, by doubling teams up heavy hills or through the deep sloughs. These long journeys, the round trip often occupying two weeks, were thus cheered by mutual aid and sympathy, and were rather interesting episodes in the routine of early farm life. At the hospitable *inns*, which arose by the way-side

every few miles, these hardy and happy teamsters would pass a noon, or night, as cheerfully as any modern traveler in the pretentious hotels of today. Besides these farm-teams heavy transportation wagons were regularly run over the Seneca Turnpike, often drawn by from seven to nine horses, and carrying a proportionate load. The wagons were massive, with very broad tires, to prevent them from penetrating the road-bed. The writer well remembers the interest with which in early boyhood he viewed the broad and distinctly marked paths left in the highways by the wheels of these "big wagons," and the great difficulty which they encountered in passing through the miry road south of the "Bottsford Tavern," three miles north of Auburn.

THE SHERWOOD'S AND OTHER STAGE LINES.— In 1809, Isaac Sherwood, of Skaneateles, became a partner of Jason Parker of Utica, in the stage line through this County, carrying the United States Mail. In 1816, a line of stages left Canandaigua every week-day, and ran to Utica in thirty-six hours. The proprietors were Thomas Powell, J. Parker, J. Wetmore, Aaron Thorpe and Isaac Sherwood & Co. From Utica east, a tri-weekly line ran to Albany, under the control of the same parties. This "old line mail," held the exclusive control of the passenger transportation over the great central line of travel, until 1828, and their business was large and remunerative.

In that year the "Pioneer line" of stages was put upon the route. It was intended to further the reforms demanded by a large public sentiment opposed to Sunday traveling. A national society "to promote the due observance of the Sabbath," had been formed. The members of this society were required to sign written or printed pledges to patronize only those lines of stages, steam, and canal boats, that ran only on secular days. Auxiliary societies were formed throughout the country, and liberal subscriptions made to carry out the plan of running "six day lines." The old stage companies offered to sell their stage property to the new organization; but their offer was rejected and the gauntlet thrown down for a terrible stage war.

The old companies were financially strong; understood their business fully; had, by an experience of years of successful business, mastered all its details, and were, of course, prepared to maintain a sharp contest with their inexperienced

rivals. They had but one interest over the principal lines of travel in the State, and they united, as one man, in the fight. The old contestants at this time were: Jason Parker, A. Shepard, S. D. Child, and T. S. Faxton, of Utica; Isaac Sherwood, of Skaneateles; J. M. Sherwood, of Auburn; C. H. Coe, of Canandaigua; Adams & Blinn, of Rochester; B. D. Coe, of Buffalo; E. Phillips, of Syracuse; S. Goodwin, of Madison; William Storey, Cherry Valley; Asa Sprague, of Schenectady; and A. Thorpe, of Albany.

Many stage lines then converged at Auburn, from Homer, Ithaca, Oswego, Aurora, &c., and hence the struggle for passengers at this point was sharp. The "Pioneer line" obtained control of the Western Exchange, then the leading hotel of the village, where the old line horses had been kept, and hoped thus to embarrass and defeat their rivals; but a new place was quickly fitted up opposite the Bank of Auburn, entitled the "Bank Coffee House," and made the general headquarters here of the "old line."

The citizens of Auburn and of the county generally were not idle spectators of the contest. They came in large numbers to the aid of the old stage interest, and to defend, what they believed to be a sacred individual right, attempted to be forcibly wrested from them by a class of men whom they denominated *fanatics*. At a very large public meeting, at which it is said one thousand were in attendance, Rev. John Jeffreys, of Mentz, stated the object of the meeting, and the following is one of the resolutions adopted.

"*Resolved*, as the sense of this meeting, that all associations and combinations of men, formed to prescribe and dictate to others in what manner they shall observe and keep the Sabbath, are subversive of the free exercise of the rights of conscience; and that this meeting hereby enters their solemn protest against the forming, or organizing any religious party in politics."

Archibald Green, William H. Seward, and Dr. Campbell, were appointed a committee to publish the proceedings of the meeting in pamphlet form.

The opponents of the "Pioneer line" did not object to legitimate competition in running stages, or in other business; but they did object to combining the religious opinions of a portion of the community, to coerce those who differed from them.

To secure a more rapid transit of passengers, and thus increase patronage, J. M. Sherwood &

Co., caused to be built for them, a sufficient number of light, yet strong, coaches, to carry six passengers only, drawn by their fleetest horses, and driven by their most reliable men, and denominated the "Telegraph line."

The building of the "American Hotel," now St. James, was an outgrowth of the stage contest. It was commenced in 1828 and finished and occupied in 1830, by J. M. Sherwood & Co., and was the head-quarters of their stage business. The hotel was kept by Thomas Noyes, and the agent of the large stage business, was the ever bland and courteous Consider Carter, kindly remembered, by all that knew him. The new and rapid "Telegraph line"; the building of the "American"; the failure to secure the carriage of the United States Mail; but above all the failing support of their enterprise by the great body of the people, were so many broken links in the chain of their hopes, that the "Pioneer" speedily waned, withered and died; leaving the field again free to the "old line," which they held until January 28th, 1838. On the completion of the Auburn and Syracuse Railroad, the eastern bound stages were hauled off; and many of the horses were employed for about a year and a half in drawing the cars upon wooden rails between Auburn and Syracuse.

RAILROADS.—The first movement towards the construction of a railroad from Auburn to the canal was made in 1828, in which year the committee of the Legislature on Canals and Internal Improvements, reported favorably upon the subject of lending State aid to the construction of the road from Auburn to Weed's Basin. Their reasons for favoring the measure were *first*: it would be a feasible and cheap experiment, and furnish a model for improvements of a similar kind; *second*: the needed accommodations of the people, and *third*: the advantage it would be to the interests of the State represented in the Auburn prison.

The same committee add: "That in particular districts, and for particular objects, improvements by railroads can be usefully extended; but that they can bear a fair competition with well located and well supplied canals, remains to be proved; and while railroads are of minor consideration, yet as tributaries to the canals, they will be of vital importance." The committee add, "that unemployed convicts could be engaged in the con-

struction of the road," and they unanimously agreed upon a bill for the purpose. Francis Granger was the chairman of the committee, and the presumed author of the report, but the measure failed.

AUBURN AND SYRACUSE RAILROAD.—Pursuant to the action of a public meeting held at the Western Exchange in January, 1832, an application was made to the Legislature, then in session, to incorporate a company to construct a railroad to the canal. The charter was finally obtained May 1st, 1834; (Chapter 228 Session Laws.) The incorporators were: Daniel Sennett, Ulysses F. Doubleday, Bradley Tuttle, David Munro, Grove Lawrence and William Porter, Jr. The following named gentlemen were appointed commissioners to receive subscriptions of stock, viz.: Daniel Sennett, Ulysses F. Doubleday, Bradley Tuttle, John Seymour, Halsey Phelps, Stephen Van Anden, David Munro, John Wilkinson, Grove Lawrence, Hezekiah Earll and William Porter, Jr. The organization was perfected in January, 1835, as follows: Elijah Miller, President; A. D. Leonard, George B. Throop, N. Garrow, J. M. Sherwood, S. Van Anden, Richard Steele, John Seymour, Abijah Fitch, E. E. Marvine and Allen Warden, of Auburn, and Henry Raynor and Vivus W. Smith, of Syracuse, Directors; E. F. Johnson, Engineer, and Levi Williams, Assistant Engineer; Levi Lewis, Superintendent. About six months were spent in surveying and locating the road, and work was begun upon it in December, 1835. The first payment to contractors was in January, 1836.

The construction of this road was met with unexpected embarrassment. The very severe financial panic of 1837, and the general suspension of banks and the failure of business men, rendered it difficult to negotiate the necessary funds; but the energy and perseverance of the directors overcame these obstacles, and on January 8th, 1838, the road was open from Auburn to Geddes, the cars being drawn by horses until June 4th, 1839, when the first locomotive was used. Amos Sherwood, Alfred Conklin, J. H. Cheddell, Thomas Y. How, Jr., John Wilkinson, C. C. Dennis, and George H. Wood, have been prominently connected with its management.

This road was first intended to be a part of a line of communication extending to the head of Owasco Lake, and its depot terminus was to

have been near the stone mills of Messrs. Burr & Thorne, and there connect with the projected Owasco Canal. A freight depot was secured on the south side of Genesee street, and used for some time. This road had the exceptional privilege, at that day, of carrying freight. William G. Fargo commenced his eventful life in transportation, in the capacity of freight agent in this depot. Silas W. Armett and George C. Skinner, were, in turn, his successors.

The freight cars then used had but four wheels, and three tons constituted a full load. These freight cars were hauled to and from the car house, then on Van Anden street, to the freight depot, one at a time, by horses owned and driven by Jabez Gould. "Uncle Nat Williams," long the prince of freight men between Auburn and the Erie Canal, was the freight conductor on this road. He was succeeded on the 5th day of Sept., 1841, by J. Lewis Grant, this being his first experience in railroad business in which he subsequently became distinguished as the superintendent and manager of several important lines. The depot was fixed at its present location by law, after a long and bitter controversy.

The early passenger cars rested on four wheels, had three compartments, with seats running lengthwise upon the sides like those of an omnibus, and each compartment would seat eight persons. There was no room to move about, or stand upright, any more than in the late stage coaches. Side doors opened into each compartment through which "collector," as he was called, could enter. He passed from one compartment and car to another, by hanging to a hand rail near the top of the car, and walking on a foot piece extending the length of the car on the outside, and about four or five inches wide. Collector Wilkinson lost his life by slipping from his frail foot-hold one snowy night and rolling beneath the cars.

The first eight-wheel coach, with center aisles and end platforms, was put upon the Auburn road in 1839, and it was, for several years, the only eight-wheeled car upon the entire line to Albany. The locomotives then used were about one-fourth the present weight.

The Auburn and Rochester Railroad was completed November 4th, 1841, finishing the chain of roads from Albany to Buffalo, then comprising seven separate companies, as follows: Albany

and Schenectady, Utica and Schenectady, Syracuse and Utica, Auburn and Syracuse, Auburn and Rochester, Rochester and Attica, and Attica and Buffalo. Each of these roads was operated separately and, at the terminus of each, the passengers and baggage changed cars, the check for the baggage being a chalk mark upon it, indicating its destination. Seven different tickets must be procured by each through passenger, and there were the same number of conductors to "punch," not the tickets, but the sleepy and irritated travelers, who could take but little rest between the terminal stations. This annoying practice was soon superseded by through tickets and through cars. The Auburn and Syracuse and Auburn and Rochester Railroads, were consolidated in July, 1850, and a general consolidation of all the roads was effected under the general title of the "New York Central," on May 17th, 1853.

THE DIRECT LINE OF THE NEW YORK CENTRAL RAILROAD.—The line from Syracuse to Rochester, composed of the Auburn & Syracuse and the Auburn & Rochester Railroads, was one hundred and four miles over a crooked route with heavy grades. In 1849, the attention of Mr. John Wilkinson, of Syracuse, and others was called to the necessity of constructing a more direct and level railroad between Syracuse and Rochester, and with that object in view they organized the Rochester and Syracuse Direct Railroad Company, August 1st, 1850, with a capital of \$4,200,000. The surveys were made by O. C. Childs, and showed that a level railroad could be constructed twenty-two miles shorter than the old line. This road was built in the ensuing years under the direction of James Hall, engineer, and opened in 1853. In 1855 it was consolidated with the New York Central Railroad Company which was formed under the Act of April 2d, 1853, authorizing the consolidation of the several roads in operation and in contemplation between Albany, Troy, Buffalo and Niagara Falls. The stock of the company was received at \$130, and each stockholder received a like amount of stock of the new company at par, and for the difference, certificates or premium bonds bearing six per cent. interest, and payable May 1st, 1883.

SOUTHERN CENTRAL RAILROAD.—This road extends from Fair Haven, on Lake Ontario, to the village of Sayre, Pa. It is one hundred and

twenty miles in length, opening a very direct and easy communication between the great centers of trade, New York and Philadelphia, and the fertile and productive region bordering upon, and tributary to the road, including the western part of the Dominion of Canada. It has not only opened to much of this region a means hitherto wanting, of railroad communication with the commercial centers; but has also been the means of cheapening transportation over all the competing lines; and, when we take into account the large annual shipments both ways over these several routes, and the gain to the shippers in the reduction of freights, the necessity and value of the road can be clearly seen.

It is largely a coal road, penetrating the Pennsylvania coal region and connecting it by a short and direct route with central and western New York and Canada; its coal carriage is immense. The fisheries of the lake, the lumber of Canada, and the merchandise and grain of the tributary region furnish a large and increasing volume of business, for the proper transaction of which the officers of the road have assiduously prepared, by a careful ballasting and improvement of the road-bed, supplying rolling stock, reconstructing bridges, erecting warehouses and elevators, and by improved facilities for handling coal and grain.

Like most of our early efforts in the construction of railroads, those directed to the work of building a road over this line were a failure. As early as 1852 an effort was made by the organization of a company entitled the "Lake Ontario, Auburn and New York Railroad Company," with a capital of \$1,500,000, of which the directors were: President, Thomas Y. How, Jr.; Secretary, B. F. Hall; Treasurer, Joshua Burt; Directors, Roland F. Russell, Worthington Smith, Hiram S. Farrar, Moses T. Fell, O. C. Crocker, Lyman Murdock, Isaac Bell, David Cook, Robert Hume; Engineer, Levi Williams. The route was surveyed and established upon what is familiarly known as the Murdock Line, its southern terminus being Pugley's Station and Fair Haven its northern. The right of way was procured over most of the line, contracts made, and about \$375,000 expended in grading. So many of the original subscribers defaulted that funds for its continuance could not be procured and the enterprise collapsed.

The effort was renewed in 1858 and a company organized to construct the road and work began on the line from Weedsport to the lake, on which about \$450,000 were expended. Operations were suspended by the rebellion, and not efficiently renewed until 1865, when a reorganization of the company was effected, and the location of the southern line of the road changed by adopting the route through Moravia, Groton and Dryden. The several towns on the line issued the necessary amount of bonds to secure the completion of the road, which was rapidly effected. The officers were then as follows: Cyrus C. Dennis, President; J. J. Taylor, Vice-President; William H. Seward, Treasurer; George I. Post, Secretary; Thomas C. Platt of Owego, William Lincoln of Newark Valley, Hiram W. Sears of Dryden, H. K. Clarke of Groton, William Titus of Moravia, Charles P. Wood, William C. Barber and George J. Letchworth of Auburn, and John T. Knapp of Cato, Directors.

The road was completed and trains moved over it in 1869. The business of this road is constantly and largely increasing. For the year ending December 1st, 1877, about 240,000 tons of coal were transported over it, and the passenger and general freight traffic was also large. Its facilities have been greatly increased and its advantages as they become more widely known are better appreciated, and its patronage thereby extended.

It is the policy of the managers to keep the road in perfect order. In extensions and repairs they have used during the past year over \$1,000,000 feet of lumber, 50,000 ties and four miles of steel rails. The company has now sixteen locomotives, nine passenger coaches, five baggage cars, eight cabooses, forty-nine box cars, eighty-two flat cars, twenty gondolas, and two hundred and forty-eight coal cars. The rolling stock is mostly new and in good condition. The road has always been operated with exceptional care and accidents upon it have been of rare occurrence.

The advantages of this road to the people of the County, by whose funds mainly it was constructed, have already yielded a full return for the investments made in it, and its permanence is fully assured.

The following are its present officers: Elmore

P. Ross, President; T. C. Platt, Vice-President; J. N. Knapp, Secretary; C. L. Rich, Treasurer; Henry D. Titus, Assistant Treasurer; J. G. Knapp, General Superintendent; and Charles A. Warden, General Freight and Passenger Agent.

CAYUGA SOUTHERN RAILROAD.—This road extends from Cayuga to Ithaca, a distance of thirty-eight miles. This company was first organized in 1865, as the Cayuga Lake Railroad Company, with the following directors: Henry Wells, E. B. Morgan, T. Delafield, J. J. Thomas, D. Anthony, A. Beardsley, C. H. Adams, L. A. Pelton, Samuel Adams, J. H. Burr, H. J. Grant, Joseph Esty, B. B. Howland, Henry Wells, President; C. H. Adams, Secretary; and T. Delafield, Treasurer.

The line was surveyed by George Geddes, of Syracuse, who recommended the shore-line, on account of its favorable grades, and as dispensing with one line of fencing. Work was begun upon the road in 1871, and completed and trains run over it in 1873. But the panic of the latter year embarrassed the finances of the company, and the property was sold by a foreclosure of the second mortgage bonds. The company was then reorganized as the Cayuga Lake Railroad Company, with a capital stock of \$400,000, and a bonded debt of \$800,000. The President of this company was T. Delafield; Vice-President, F. Collins; Secretary and Treasurer, James Stillman. Directors: James Stillman, D. B. Coe, F. Collins, G. C. Morris, James R. Cox, A. H. Goss, E. H. Patterson, Horace T. Cook, J. J. Thomas, T. Delafield, J. Lewis Grant, H. Grant.

Under this management the road was run until 1877, when, as the earnings of the road were only sufficient to meet its running expenses, there was no alternative except the sale of the road by a foreclosure of the first mortgage bonds, and it was bought in by the bondholders, who sold the property to Judge Packer for \$425,000 of the stock of the Geneva, Ithaca & Sayre Railroad.

An organization was then made under the title of the Cayuga Southern Railroad Company, and is run by R. A. Packer in the interest of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company. The length of the road is thirty-eight miles, and its original cost, including equipments, was \$1,450,-

000. Of this sum the bonds of the town of Springport were issued for \$100,000, and the town of Lansing for \$75,000, in exchange for the stock of the company. The latter was blotted out by the sale of the road. The failure of this enterprise was due to a non-fulfillment of the original plan of a connection with the Ithaca & Athens Railroad.

The Erie Canal has now been in use a trifle over a half century, and it has been a work of national importance. It opened a cheap and capacious means of communication between the populous East and the nearly unoccupied West, by which the manufactures of the former and the productions of the latter could be readily exchanged. The settlement of the West was by that means, rendered not only possible but profitable. To its broad and fertile prairies, the labor and the capital of the East and of Europe was speedily turned, and its settlement and general improvement was rapid beyond all former example. Beyond reasonable question, the settlement and development of the country was advanced a full quarter of a century beyond what it could have been without the Erie Canal. Without it, the same settlements and improvements would doubtless have been made; but at a much later period. Railroads, after experience had perfected them, would have produced similar results, but their construction would have been delayed. The passengers and the freight to be transported between the East and the West, were the outgrowth of the Erie Canal improvement, that had populated the latter.

In 1827, the Hon. Francis Granger, a man of large experience, and so far as time had developed results, of generally sound views, predicted that railroads could never successfully compete with canals, but would become valuable tributaries to them. He could not, however, foresee the changes which a half-century would produce, and in the light of present facts would doubtless have revised his conclusions.

The New York Central Railroad in 1877, carried 6,803,680 tons, of which 4,300,000 was eastern bound freight, a quantity sufficient to load one of the largest canal boats of to-day every fifteen minutes, day and night during the entire season of canal navigation. The New York Central is but one of six trunk lines running from the West to the seaboard, and their

united eastern bound freight would require a fully loaded boat to depart every two and a half minutes. Were all these lines but tributaries of canals like the Erie, they would over-tax the capacity of a full half dozen of them; but the present facilities for the transportation of passengers, have not only kept fully even with those for the movement of freights, but, in many respects, have surpassed them. Wherever the face of the country will permit it, air-line railroads have been constructed—connecting the main points of the country by the shortest practicable routes; the road beds are carefully graded and firmly ballasted; steel rails have taken the place of iron, securing safety and durability; strong locomotives with an extreme power of movement of little less than one hundred miles per hour; coaches that combine comfort and even luxury, wherein days and nights may be spent, the lodging and the larder nearly equaling those of a good hotel, in which may be reached in a few days the farthest bounds of the continent. In 1817, four days were required to reach Auburn, by stage, from Schenectady, 157 miles. In 1879, in the same time, the passenger can travel over 2,500 miles.

CHAPTER IX.

HISTORY OF THE PRESS—NEWSPAPER AND BOOK PUBLISHING—MEN OF THE PRESS.

GROWTH OF THE AMERICAN PRESS—IMPROVEMENTS—AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN, COMPARED—PERFECTION OF THE MODERN PRESS—PRESS HISTORY OF THE COUNTY—NUMBER OF LOCAL JOURNALS—THE FIRST NEWSPAPER—THE LEVANNA GAZETTE—THE WESTERN LUMINARY—THE AURORA GAZETTE—THE CAYUGA TOCSIN—THE FIRST NEWSPAPER IN AUBURN—THE VARIOUS NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED—BOOK PUBLISHERS—BOOKS PUBLISHED—MEN OF THE PRESS.

THE Press of this country has had a marvelous growth. In 1840 there were in the whole United States but sixteen hundred and thirty-one newspapers, of all kinds, now we have over seven thousand. The circulation, of all the newspapers

in 1840 was one hundred and ninety-five million copies a year, but it is now over two thousand millions. More than ten times greater than in 1840, and an average annual increase, for nearly forty years, of about 30 per cent. ; but in the gain in the size of the sheets now published, in the amount, quality and variety of the matter, in the number and character of the illustrations, in the quality of the paper and the perfection of the letter-press, the progress has been greater still. In the number of newspapers published, the United States are far in advance of any of the old nations. We issue more newspapers than four principal nations of Europe, viz : Great Britain, France, Germany and Italy. This fact is important as indicating the comparative reading habits of our people and those of Europe.

The mechanical facilities for the neat and rapid production of press-work, have kept even pace with, if they have not led, the other departments of mechanical progress. The contrast is surprising between the rude presses of seventy years ago, and the marvelous perfection of the press of to-day. The former would print a few hundred small sheets daily, by the severe toil of two strong men ; the latter 20,000 mammoth sheets in a single hour, and fold and direct them ready for the mails, all by mechanism, aided only by the slender fingers of delicate girls.

The Press history of Cayuga County extends through a period of eighty-one years. Since the issue of the first newspaper, there have been published in it over sixty different local journals, and hundreds of thousands of standard and miscellaneous books issued by the two publishing houses which flourished here from 1848 to 1856. The first settlements made in the County were at or in the vicinity of Aurora, Levanna and Cayuga. The early courts were located at one or the other of these places, and in this part of the county—then part of Onondaga—the first newspapers were published.

The first newspaper, was the *Levanna Gazette and Onondaga Advertiser*, issued at Levanna on the 20th of July, 1793, by John Delano. With the exception of the *Ontario Gazette*, issued the year before at Geneva, it was the first paper printed in the State west of Whitestown.

The *Western Luminary*, was started at Watkins' Settlement, now Scipioville, on March 24th, 1801.

The *Aurora Gazette*, edited and owned by the brothers Henry and James Pace, was issued at Aurora on April 30th, 1806, and continued less than two years.

The *Cayuga Tocsin* was started at Union Springs in 1812 by R. T. Chamberlain.

These four were the only newspapers issued in the county, outside of Auburn, until after the completion of the Erie Canal, in 1825.

THE FIRST NEWSPAPER IN AUBURN.—The Paces, not having succeeded at Aurora, and the county seat having been removed to Auburn, came hither and started

The *Western Federalist*, on June 7th, 1808. It was printed on a blue tinted sheet, not much larger than cap paper, and very coarsely executed. The type had seen service in England, whence it had come with the owners, and was very badly worn. On the questions which led to the war of 1812, these Englishmen sided with the mother country, offending many of their readers ; but as theirs was the only local paper, in which all legal advertisements must be inserted, they continued the publication until compelled to yield by the decline of federalism and the rivalry of the *Cayuga Patriot* and the *Auburn Gazette*.

The *Cayuga Patriot* was first published at Auburn by J. G. Hathaway, in 1814. He was succeeded by Samuel R. Brown. The *Patriot* was politically opposed to the *Federalist*, defending the supporters of the war, and sustaining Daniel D. Tompkins, in opposition to DeWitt Clinton. It was the organ of the party of which Enos T. Throop was a leading representative. It was a small quarto, coarsely printed ; but conducted with fair ability and well sustained. Its office was over a wagon-maker's shop on the west side of the river, near what is now Mechanic Street, and here that veteran journalist, Thurlow Weed, was a type-setter in 1814. James Beardsley published the *Patriot* in 1817 and David Rumsey—father of the present Justice of the Supreme Court of that name—in 1819. At the later date, U. F. Doubleday bought the establishment. Isaac S. Allen became a partner eight years later, and on April 1st, 1827, bought out Mr. Doubleday, who had been elected a member of Congress. Willett Lounsbury became a partner December 30th, 1833, and so continued until his death, May 18th, 1843. Mr. Allen then became the sole owner. On June

12th, 1845, Mr. Doubleday bought the paper, and on November 17th, transferred it to Henry A. Hawes and Henry M. Stone who published it under the firm name of Hawes & Stone, until June, 1847, when it was consolidated with the *Tocsin*, under the title of the *Cayuga New Era*. The *Patriot* was published here over thirty years.

The *Auburn Gazette* was first issued in June, 1816, by Skinner & Crosby,—Thomas M. Skinner and William Crosby. It was published as a neutral paper, pending the reorganization of parties, after the decline of federalism. After two years it was changed to the *Cayuga Republican*, Mr. Skinner being really the sole owner and publisher; yet, for political reasons, appearing only as *printer* of the paper. It soon became a leading and thorough party organ, advocating the principles of the "Clintonians." Mr. Skinner conducted the *Republican* for fifteen years, when in May, 1863, it was united with the *Free Press*.

The peculiarity of the *Republican* was that its editors were seldom announced, and local departments not regularly maintained. The latter feature was a general characteristic of the country press of that day. There were also few original articles except when important elections were pending, the journals being made up mostly of extracts from eastern city papers.

The *Evangelical Recorder*, a weekly religious magazine, was started in January, 1818, by Rev. Dirck C. Lansing, and continued for one year.

The *Advocate of the People* was issued in 1818, and discontinued at the end of a year.

The *Free Press* was the next paper issued in Auburn, in 1824, by Richard Oliphant. His brother Henry bought the paper five years later, and published it till its union with the *Republican*, as stated above, the combined papers taking the name of the *Auburn Journal and Advertiser*.

The *Free Press* was an influential, a well managed and successful journal. It was the largest newspaper in the State west of Albany, and a strong rival of the *Cayuga Patriot*, to which it was politically opposed.

The *Gospel Messenger* was started in Auburn in 1826, by Rev. John C. Rudd, D. D., rector of St. Peter's Church, and principal of the Auburn Academy. It was a weekly paper, devoted to the advocacy of the doctrines of the Episcopal Church, but was liberal to all sects. It was

ably edited, Dr. Rudd having been one of the clearest and most forcible of writers. From Auburn the paper was removed to Geneva, and from there to Utica.

The *Gospel Advocate* was started in Auburn by Doubleday & Allen, January 1st, 1828, Rev. L. S. Everett, Universalist, editor. It was 8vo. in form, published semi-monthly, and continued for three years. Rev. O. A. Brownson was one of the contributors, then of the Universalist denomination; he subsequently joined the Catholic Church, and became a distinguished writer and editor of a review. He was a man of vigorous talents, but of changeable views, having been first a Presbyterian, then a Universalist, and finally a Catholic.

The *Diamond* was commenced in 1830, and continued for a short time only.

The *Cayuga Democrat* was started by Frederick Prince in 1833, but was succeeded in 1835 by

The *Auburn Miscellany*, by the same publisher. In 1839, he discontinued the *Miscellany*, and became foreman in the office of

The *Western Banner*, started in that year with Francis S. Wiggins as editor. Its name was changed in 1841, to

The *Auburn Banner*, and sold to the Methodist Book Concern in New York.

The *Primitive Christian*, by Rev. Silas E. Shepard, Disciple, was started in 1835, and continued for six years. It advocated the religious views of that sect. For nearly a year a discussion was maintained through this journal of the tenets of the Disciples and Universalists, by its editor and the Rev. G. W. Montgomery. The discussion was able, courteous and quite interesting. Mr. Shepard was the author of

The *Prison Chronicles*, which were published here anonymously at this time, and in which the alleged cruelties practiced in the Auburn Prison were scathingly rebuked, and their authors most severely reprobated; but who wrote or published these articles could not be discovered, although the most vigorous and searching efforts were made by the victims to discover the author. Suits were instituted against the supposed publishers without discovering the true originator of them, and the matter remained a mystery for over forty years. In the biographical notice of Mr. Shepard, who died at Troy, Pennsylvania, in Oc-

tober, 1877, the fact of his authorship of the chronicles was confessed. The chronicles were ably and vigorously written, in the Biblical style, and were very personal and scathing.*

The *Conference Record* was commenced in Auburn by Rev. J. S. Chamberlain in 1837.

The *Cayuga Tocsin*, second, was started April 5th, 1839. It became the organ of the Free Soil, or Barn-burner division of the Democratic party.

The *Patriot*, sustained the Conservative or Old Hunker division. These distinctions were kept up until 1847, when a partial truce was made, and the two papers were united under the name of the *Cayuga New Era*, which will be described in its proper place.

The *Tocsin* was first published by Miller & Hine, into which the *Genoa Spy* was merged, Gelam Hine having published the latter paper at Genoa. Miller & Stowe, and Merrill & Hollett were successively its publishers and Thomas Y. How, editor.

The *Northern Advocate*, Methodist Episcopal, was first started by Rev. John E. Robie, in April, 1841, with Revs. F. G. Hibbard and William Hosmer, editors, and continued as a private enterprise until May, 1844, when it was purchased by the Methodist General Conference, and continued here as

The *Northern Christian Advocate* for twenty-eight years, under the following editors: Rev. Nelson Rounds, from 1844 to 1848—four years; Rev. William Hosmer, from 1848 to 1856—eight years; Rev. F. G. Hibbard, from 1856 to 1860—four years; Rev. Isaac S. Bingham, from 1860 to 1864—four years; and from 1864 to 1875, by Rev. D. D. Lore, D. D.,—eleven years, and until his death. The paper was, however, removed to Syracuse two years before his death. William J. Moses was the agent and business manager of the paper here for twenty-eight years.

The *Star of Temperance* was started here by L. H. Dewey, in 1845, and removed to Rochester in 1848.

The *Auburn Journal and Advertiser, Weekly*, was first issued here in May, 1833. In March, 1846, Mr. Oliphant issued the weekly under the title of the *Auburn Journal*, and the daily under that of the *Daily Advertiser*, the second daily paper issued in Auburn.

The telegraph wires were first brought into Auburn in May, 1846, and made a great change in the transmission and publishing of news. Hitherto several days had been required to bring news from the seaboard, which now required only as many minutes, and if the news was sent, it must be distributed promptly, creating the necessity for a daily paper at all important business centers, and the *Daily Advertiser* was quickly followed by the *Daily Tocsin*. The telegraph gave a great impulse to interior newspaper progress.

On September 14th, 1846, Mr. Oliphant sold his papers, the *Weekly Journal and Advertiser*, to Henry Montgomery, who, in about twenty months, assigned to Charles T. Ferris. Mr. Ferris afterwards bought the papers and published them until August 22nd, 1849, when he sold them to George W. Peck, Oscar F. Knapp, taking a one-half interest therein, Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Peck, editors, and Mr. Knapp business manager, the firm being Knapp & Peck. Afterwards Mr. Peck became the editor-in-chief. That arrangement continued, the former gentleman being aided, in later years, by his son Horace J., and the latter by his two sons, Henry D. and George R. The firm so continued until the death of George W. Peck, in July, 1878, when his sons succeeded to their father's interest in the two papers, under the same firm name.

These papers have been published the longest of any in the County under one ownership, and have been signally prosperous. They hold a prominent place amongst the larger and more important journals in the interior cities of the State.

The *Cayuga New Era*, formed in 1847 by the union of the *Patriot and Tocsin*, the two Democratic rivals, was designed to heal the old divisions in that party on the subject of slavery extension; but time only widened the breach and increased the bitterness of the contest, which finally culminated in the terrible and disastrous events of a four years' war. This journal was published for nearly ten years, first by Merrill, Stone & Co., and afterwards, successively, by Stone, Hawes & Co. Finn & Hollett, and William L. Finn, and discontinued in 1857.

The *Auburn Daily Bulletin*, the first of that name, was issued as a campaign journal, in 1848, by Stone, Hawes & Co.

* See article, Auburn Prison.

Auburn's Favorite was first issued by N. P. Caulkins, in 1849, and the *Masonic Union* by Finly M. King, in 1850. A few monthly numbers only of the latter were issued. The *Spiritual and Moral Instructor* in 1851, the *Farmer and Mechanic* in 1856, changed in 1857 to the *Teacher's Education Journal*, both by P. B. Becker, and the *Spiritual Clarion*, in 1856, were unsuccessful experiments and of little public importance.

The *Cayuga Chief* was commenced January 4th, 1849, by Thurlow W. Brown. It was an original, vigorous and outspoken temperance journal, continued here for eight years, when it was removed to Wisconsin, and there continued under the same ownership. Emma, sister of Thurlow W., was early associated with her brother in the literary and business management of the paper, for which she evinced peculiar qualifications.

The *Christian Ambassador* was first established in New York City as the successor of the *Christian Messenger*, on the 4th of December, 1850, and Rev. J. M. Austin, of Auburn, appointed editor. Early in January following, it was removed to Auburn and conducted here for about twelve years under the supervision of Mr. Austin. It was published in the interest of the New York Convention of Universalists, by a stock company, and was very successful.

The *Auburn American, Daily and Weekly*, was issued by William J. Moses in February, 1855, and continued until June 20th, 1859, when the name was changed to

The *Auburn Daily and Weekly Union*, Moses & Vail, publishers. The *American* was the organ of the political party of that name, while the latter existed, and vigorously and ably advocated its principles. The *Union* was continued until March 6th, 1861, when it was sold to Knapp & Peck, and consolidated with the *Advertiser and Journal*.

The *Northern Independent* was established in August, 1856, by Rev. William Hosmer, aided by a publication committee. It had its origin in the anti-slavery zeal of its projectors, by whom the regular church journals were considered as too conservative, and not sufficiently outspoken on the slavery question. When slavery died the paper was discontinued.

The *Orphan's Friend* was started in 1857, edited by J. W. Wilkie and printed by Knapp & Peck, and is still continued.

The *Auburn Democrat*, weekly, was started by Stone, Hawes & Co., in August, 1857, and continued about five years, until Mr. Stone entered the army. William S. Hawley succeeded and issued

The *Spirit of the Times* for about one year and a half, when it was discontinued.

The *People's Union and Advocate of Political Reform*, was published during the local canvass of 1862, the contributors to which were Michael S. Myers, Warren T. Worden, C. L. Adams and others.

The *McClellan Banner* was published during the Presidential campaign of 1864, by P. W. Rhodes and C. L. Adams.

The *Semi-Weekly Herald*, Democratic, was begun in 1865 by N. T. Hackstaff and G. E. Bostwick, and continued for about six months.

The *Cayuga County Democrat*, issued in September, 1866, by Charles F. Durston & Co., was transferred the next year to J. N. Bailey, who published it for four years, when the paper was sold to William J. Moses.

The *Auburn Morning News*, daily and weekly, Republican, was issued in July, 1868, by Dennis Brothers & Thorne. William H. Barnes, editor-in-chief; Theodore H. Schenck, literary editor; and Charles A. Warden, city editor. It was discontinued in January, 1871.

The *Auburn Daily Bulletin* was started February 16th, 1870. K. Vail & Co., editors, publishers and proprietors. It is independent in all things, and liberally supported. Its local department is conducted by Charles A. Caulkins, whose contributions are often quaint and humorous.

The *Auburn Daily News* was started by the Auburn Printing Company, William J. Moses, President, and H. Laurens Storke, Secretary and Treasurer, on July 16th, 1872, and

The *Weekly News and Democrat*, on August 12th, of that year. The *Daily News* is a morning paper, and is a well conducted journal. These are the only Democratic papers in the county.

The *Cayuga County Independent*, was first issued February 8th, 1874, J. N. Bailey & Co., publishers; A. B. Hamblin, printer. It is published weekly, is well conducted, and, as its name implies, is independent in its treatment of men and things.

The *Auburn Daily Item* was started in June, 1877, by Urban S. Benton & Co., G. H. Wheeler, editor, November 8th, 1877, the *Item* was merged in

The *Evening Auburnian*, which was then enlarged and published by a stock company, of which Homer N. Lockwood is President; U. S. Benton, Secretary; M. C. Cuykendall, Treasurer; A. W. Lawton, Chairman of the Executive Committee. Its title is the "Auburnian Printing Company," and the enterprise has been successful.

THE LATER COUNTRY PRESS.—Since 1827 the following papers have been published outside of Auburn, namely:

The *Port Byron Chronicle*, in 1844, by Frederick Prince.

The *Port Byron Gazette*, in 1849, by Charles T. White, sold in 1860 to B. W. Thompson, also sold to William Hosford in 1861, and in 1862, to Charles Marsh who changed the name to

The *North Cayuga Times*.

The *Port Byron Chronicle* was started in October, 1861. In July it was sold to Edward Clarke, and in November, 1873, to Ransom & Johnson. Charles E. Johnson is now the sole owner.

The *Cayuga County Courier*, was first issued at Moravia in October, 1863, by A. O. Hicks, who was succeeded in 1865, by W. M. Nichols; and in March, 1867, by A. J. Hicks and A. H. Livingstone. In December following A. H. Livingstone became the sole editor and owner, and so continued until December 31st, 1870, having changed its name to

The *Moravia Courier*. At the latter date M. E. Kenyon, became the sole owner and editor, and changed its title to

The *Moravia Valley Register*, improving both its literary and mechanical departments.

The *Weekly News*, by Uri Mulford, was started at Moravia in January, 1872, and removed to Auburn in 1875, and, for a few months, published here in the interest of the Prohibition party.

The *Moravia Citizen*, a religious, temperance and political sheet, begun by Rev. Charles Ray in June, 1876, is still continued.

There have been two newspapers printed at Meridian, viz:

The *Meridian Sun*, in June, 1854, and

The *Meridian Advertiser*, one year after, each continued about one year.

The *Weedsport Advertiser*, started in 1827, by Frederick Prince, was changed three years later to

The *Northern Phoenix*, by the same publisher.

The *Weedsport Sentinel* was started in February, 1867, by John Gibbs & Son; sold to S. D. Lee & Bro., four years later, and on October 12th, 1872, it was bought by George R. Nash. J. B. Rogers then purchased a half interest therein, and it has since been published by them, under the firm name of George R. Nash & Co.

The *Cayuga Chief*, second, started on June 16th, 1877, by Dr. I. D. Brown & Co., editors and publishers. It is independent and

"Pledged to no party's arbitrary sway;

We follow Truth where 'er she leads the way."

The *Cayuga Tocsin*, first, was started at Cayuga in 1812, and has already been noticed.

The *Cayuga Telegraph*, was started by William Clark, in 1850.

The *Union Springs Advertiser*, begun in April, 1865, by James B. Hoff, editor and publisher, is still continued.

The *Central New Yorker*, started in April, 1865, by F. F. De Wolf, was continued about one year only.

The *Central New Yorker*, second, started at Auburn in 1878, and published in the interest of the "National" party, is still continued.

THE BOOK PRESS.—The firm of DERBY, MILLER & Co., was organized in March, 1848, and was the first regular book publishing firm in the County. It consisted of James C. Derby, Norman C. Miller, general partners, and James B. Thomson, special partner. The firm was reorganized in May, 1860, Mr. Thompson retiring, and Elliot G. Storke, Edward Munson and Chas. F. Coffin, becoming members, Mr. Storke as general partner. They soon established their wholesale house in Buffalo, retaining their manufactory in Auburn. William Orton was at this time a partner, and was the head of their New York house when the latter was established, and so continued while the firm was in business.

Alden & Markham and *Alden, Beardsley & Co.*, were also extensive book publishers here between 1852 and 1858, and their business was large and flourishing. Derby & Miller were, at one time, the largest miscellaneous book publishers of any

in the State, out of the city of New York, and Alden, Beardsley & Co., held the second place among such houses. In 1857, both firms went into liquidation.

The contrast between the sale of books in the nine years between 1848 and 1857, and similar sales now, is very striking. Notice the following sales of books made at the former period by Derby, Miller & Co. :

History of the Mexican War,	35,000	copies.
Life of General Taylor,	40,000	"
Life of John Quincy Adams,	40,000	"
Life of the Empress Josephine,	50,000	"
Lives of the Three Misses Judson,	-	50,000
Fern Leaves, by Fanny Fern,	70,000	"

Cayuga County has been distinguished above any other of the interior Counties of the State, not only for the production of the greatest number of books, but also for the number of local authors, of whom the following are a part only : Rev. Josiah Hopkins, D. D., Rev. Laurens P. Hickok, D. D., Rev. Henry Mills, D. D., Rev. Edwin Hall, D. D., Rev. D. K. Lee, Rev. D. Holmes, Rev. William Hosmer, Rev. J. M. Austin, Hon. William H. Seward, Hon. Samuel Blatchford, Clarence A. Seward, Esq., P. Hamilton Myers, Esq., David Wright, Esq., Hon. B. F. Hall, John S. Jenkins, Esq., Henry Montgomery, Esq., Thurlow W. Brown, Esq., Mrs. Helen F. Parker, and Miss Margaret Conklin.

The first book written and published in the County was in 1815, by Samuel R. Brown, entitled a "*History of the Late War*," in two 12mo. vols., published by J. G. Hathaway, Auburn, and printed at Manlius, by Kellogg & Beardslee.

Elliot G. Storke, in 1858, edited and published at Auburn the *Family, Farm, Garden and Domestic Animals*, in one large octavo volume, and in 1864 wrote and published a complete history of the *Great American Rebellion*, in two octavo volumes. In 1869, Henry Hall prepared a "*History of Auburn*," in one 12mo. volume, and Henry and James Hall, in 1873, prepared "*Cayuga in the Field*."

We will close the Chapter on the History of the Press, with brief, characteristic sketches of a few of the "men of the press," who, by long and conspicuous connection with it, have won a place in its annals.

The *Cayuga Patriot* was the first paper published in the County that became thoroughly es-

tablished and continued for a long series of years, under the management, for the most part, of the same persons. The first publisher of that paper of whom recollections are preserved, was

SAMUEL R. BROWN, with whom in 1814, that veteran journalist, Thurlow Weed worked, and of whom he writes :

"Nor shall we ever forget the upper story of a wagon-maker's shop, where the *Cayuga Patriot* was printed ; for there we worked, and laughed, and played away the winter of 1814. Samuel R. Brown, who published the *Patriot*, was an honest, amiable, easy, slipshod sort of a man, whose patient, good-natured wife, was 'cut from the same piece.' Mr. Brown the year before had been established at Albany with a paper called the *Republican*, under the auspices of Governor Tompkins, Chief Justice Spencer, and other distinguished Republicans, with whom Mr. Southwick of the *Register*, and then State Printer, had quarreled. This enterprise, like every thing in our old friend Brown's hands, failed, and he next found himself at Auburn, then a small village without a sidewalk or a pavement, and, save Sackett's Harbor, the muddiest place we ever saw. Mr. and Mrs. Brown were originals. Neither of them, so far as we remember, ever lost temper, or even fretted. The work in the office was always behind hand, and the house always in confusion. The paper was never out in season, and neither breakfast nor dinner was ever ready. But it was all the same. Subscribers waited for the paper until it was printed, and we for our meals till they were cooked. The office was always full of loungers, communicating, or receiving news."

ULYSSES F. DOUBLEDAY, long connected with the *Patriot* as editor and proprietor, was distinguished for the strength, originality and accuracy of his mind ; for purity of purpose, and integrity of character. His readers, therefore, were greatly influenced by his writings, regarding him as right in the positions he assumed, because of the soundness of his judgment ; and honest in the expression of his opinions, because of the acknowledged purity of his character. He was one of the most prominent journalists of the County.

WILLETT LOUNSBURY, also of the *Patriot*, was too diffident and retiring to succeed at the bar, for which he had been educated ; but he won success as a journalist, and, for nearly ten years, was the responsible editor of the *Patriot*, holding that position at the time of his death.

ISAAC S. ALLEN, also of the *Patriot*, was business manager of that paper while connected

with it, and its success was largely due to his careful prudence, of which his whole business life has furnished a conspicuous example. He lives in his green and happy old age to enjoy the fruits of careful industry, temperance and frugality, and is with a single exception, the only living representative of our earlier press.

THOMAS M. SKINNER, the oldest survivor of the men of our early press, at the age of nearly ninety, resides at his home on North street. Though physically feeble he has yet clear mental perceptions. His first connection with our press was sixty-three years ago. He opened the first book-store in Auburn, and was a newspaper publisher here for twenty-six years.

FREDERICK W. PRINCE had a press experience here and elsewhere, running through thirty-two years. He established, on his own account, ten different newspapers, in six different localities, and his experience was the most varied and eventful of any publisher in the County. He was a good writer, and an exemplary and highly respected citizen, but an unsuccessful journalist.

THADDEUS B. BARBER has been connected with the press of Auburn for over thirty years, in the various departments of the business. For skill and artistic neatness as a printer, he has never been excelled by any one of his local compeers.

ANDREW SHUMAN, the present editor of the *Chicago Evening Journal*, and Lieutenant-Governor of the State of Illinois, was a printer boy in Auburn in 1846, was interested in the publication of two papers here before he attained his majority, was remarkable for self-reliance and industry, educated himself thoroughly in a preparatory school, by his own exertions, and has won his way to success, in his chosen field of journalism, and is also equally successful as a politician.

KENDRICK VAIL, an associate printer's apprentice with Andrew Shuman, has subsequently and creditably filled every position in the business, including that of foreman, pressman, editor, and publisher, and is, at present the publisher of the *Auburn Daily Bulletin*.

GEORGE W. PECK was connected with our local press for twenty-eight years, from 1849 to 1877, as editor and one of the proprietors of a very flourishing daily and weekly journal, to which he assiduously devoted his time and talents, and thereby won a liberal competence. He died on the 2nd day of July, 1877.

OSCAR F. KNAPP, senior partner of the firm of Knapp & Peck, publishers and proprietors of the *Auburn Daily Advertiser* and *Weekly Journal*, was born in Groton, N. Y., February 19, 1819. At seven years of age he was left an orphan, and at the age of fifteen, entered the office of the *Jeffersonian and Tompkins County Times*, to learn the art of printing, continuing there about one year. He then spent four years in the office of the *Cortland Republican*, completing his trade, and came to Auburn in the Spring of 1839. Here he engaged as foreman in the office of the *Auburn Journal and Advertiser*, then owned and published by Oliphant & Skinner, and continued four years. His salary was small, yet by prudence and economy he accumulated sufficient to pay for and stock a fifty acre farm, bought at the low rates then ruling for farm lands. Having married, he settled upon, and cultivated it for three years, when, feeling satisfied with rural life and farm experience, he decided to return to his case and press, and the spring of 1846 found him established in the job office of the *Journal and Advertiser* in Auburn, where he remained until August, 1849, when, as related, he became joint purchaser, with the late Geo. W. Peck, of the paper now published by his firm.

Mr. Knapp has been engaged as practical printer and publisher for over forty years, and for the past thirty years as publisher of a leading daily and weekly journal in Auburn. He has made his art the means of the most complete and gratifying success and secured an ample fortune. It has been no sudden gain; but the accretion of years of patient and assiduous toil, in which untiring industry, prudence and economy have been important factors. The story of his life but adds force to the maxim: "Wealth arises more from the savings than from the gains of business."

JOHN S. JENKINS, was an elegant and forcible writer, the author of several valuable works which were published here, and as editor of and contributor to our local press, held a prominent position.

THURLOW W. BROWN, editor of the *Cayuga Chief*, author of the *Temperance Tales and Hearthstone Reveries*, and a lecturer of distinction upon temperance, was a bold, vigorous and effective writer and speaker, entirely devoted to his favorite cause. He worked here energetically for eight years, when he removed to Wisconsin, and there continued the same benevolent work.

REV. WILLIAM HOSMER, editor of the *North-ern Christian Advocate* and of the *Northern Independent*, and also the author of several works of merit, was connected with our local press for about twenty years. He was distinguished for great independence, earnestness and zeal in the advocacy of his opinions. As a reformer he stood in the front ranks, and boldly confronted his opponents. Like Phillips he scorned the hissing mob, by whom the earlier reformers were assailed. He is now weakened by disease, and calmly awaits the final summons.

BENJAMIN F. HALL, as editor and author, has rendered valuable services to our local press. He has prepared many valuable works, chiefly relating to legal subjects, and is a ready and fluent writer.

Of the book publishers of the County, JAMES C. DERBY and NORMAN C. MILLER were the most conspicuous. They were partners in the business. The former was really the originator of regular book publishing here. By his peculiar aptitude for trade, he was well fitted to bring business to his firm, and in that way contributed largely to its success. In the manufacturing and accounting department, Mr. Miller had superior efficiency, and their united efforts were, for many years, crowned with complete success.

CHAPTER X.

PROGRESS OF EDUCATION—SCHOOLS.

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL PROGRESS COMPARED—EFFECTS OF PIONEER LIFE — EARLY DISADVANTAGES — SCHOOL BUILDINGS — BOOKS—TEACHERS AND TEACHING — SCHOOL DISCIPLINE — ITS BARBAROUS MODES — INCENTIVES TO STUDY — COUNTY SUPERVISION — IMPROVED SCHOOL BOOKS—TEACHERS' ASSOCIATIONS—INSTITUTES—NORMAL SCHOOLS—PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF AUBURN.

THE historic records of our County would be incomplete if there were not found in them some account of the means and agencies employed for the intellectual and moral development of the people. If there has not been as

manifest and decided progress in the means for the mental, as for the physical improvement of our people, there have, nevertheless, been very decided advances made in the former, as will clearly appear in a review of the early history of our schools.

Physical progress, the world over, has always outrun the mental. For this the reasons are obvious. Physical wants are imperious and their supply is necessary to existence. Life depends upon attention to them. Moreover, physical progress is easily seen and appreciated by the simplest observer and its necessity and importance acknowledged. All can see it, for it is manifest to the external senses. The millions that crowded to our Centennial Jubilee, saw with wonder and admiration, understood and appreciated the marvellous creations of the mechanical and artistic genius of the world. In that display, where the genius and skill of cultivated minds were manifested in external and sensible objects, all were interested, as they could appreciate the results of skill and toil applied to material things. But mental and moral progress are less apparent and the means and agencies by which they are affected are not so easily seen. They operate so slowly and so obscurely, and their results are so widely separated from their causes, as to appear only in the lives and characters of the developed man and woman.

It has been well said that "the pulsations of a nation's heart are to be counted not by seconds, but by years;" and so the formative effects of culture are fully manifested only in matured lives, and those effects are so far removed from the causes which produced them that their connection is rarely traced except by the educated. It really requires culture to understand the needs and advantages of culture.

But our early settlers were surrounded by circumstances quite unfavorable to mental progress. The country was new, the people poor, and all their surroundings demanded close attention in order to meet the absolute wants of their physical natures. While nearly all of the descendants of New England ancestry in this County and in the State, and their number was relatively large, brought with them a love of learning, as they understood it, their conception of the import of the word was very different from ours. To be wholly unlettered was a disgrace; but to be able

to read, write and cipher, was regarded as amply sufficient, and all beyond that, except for the learned professions, was held to be a mere waste of time and money.

Of culture, of that discipline and training of the faculties by which the thorough student of to-day is prepared, solely by the unaided exercise of his own disciplined powers, to go on almost indefinitely in the attainment of knowledge, they knew little. Such was the popular estimate of education among the masses seventy-five years ago. It was the "dark age" in our intellectual history; dark by reason of the inevitable exclusion of intellectual light. The dense trees of the unbroken forest excluded the sunlight from the soil not more fully, than did the unfavorable surroundings of the settler shut out from his children the light of intelligence; and this was the common condition of education in the central counties of the State, where the same general causes, the same hinderances and helps operated to produce kindred results.

WHY OUR EARLY SCHOOLS WERE POOR.—The energies of the first generation were so severely taxed to remove the forests and all the other diversified obstacles which beset them as to leave little opportunity for mental improvement. Discipline of muscle, rather than of mind, was the great demand, imperious physical wants engrossed and compelled attention for many years.

The first generation in this County were, nevertheless, thoroughly educated in many very important respects, in lessons not sufficiently taught in the vaunted schools of to-day. They were taught many of the nobler lessons of true manhood. Their education gave them sound bodies, sterling common sense, pure minds and industrious and economical habits. They were thoroughly schooled in self-denials. A sense of mutual dependence cultivated in nearly all a mutual sympathy and helpfulness. To aid the needy, was a common characteristic, whether in sickness or in the common affairs of life. They were, moreover, homogeneous, had similar habits, tastes and aspirations, and were, mainly, of similar nationalities.

As communities, they were kind, social and orderly; quite unlike the gold-hunters and other speculating adventurers of to-day, or the recent immigrants of diverse, and often opposing nationalities and creeds, who have since thronged our

shores, filled our towns, or spread over our broad domains. The early settlers of this County and State also differed greatly both from the settlers of Plymouth and from those who have recently formed, and now form, the great bulk of our western settlers.

The settlers of Plymouth comprised a large proportion of thoroughly educated men, capable of organizing the State, the church and even the university. The leading minds in that community were men of marked individuality, distinguished alike for boldness of thought and independence of action. They had fled from tyranny at home to seek freedom of opinion here, at the cost of privation and hardship; and New England owes to those bold, brave spirits, much of the prestige which she has always maintained in politics, religion and learning.

But the struggles and privations of a new country for a century and a half, while they did not lessen the enterprise and vigor of their descendants who successively tenanted new regions, took from them the means of mental culture, so that, for several generations, instead of progress, there was really a retrogression of learning. But the West was mostly peopled by those who lived at the East after the "revival of learning," and had carried with them, and planted along our western parallels, a more enlightened and liberal system of instruction, perfected during the period from 1830 to 1860.

EARLY DISADVANTAGES.—The children of the first settlers of this County opened their eyes upon rude surroundings. Those settlers lived in log houses and, generally, were descendants of pioneers in other places, who for a generation or more had combated similar difficulties. Their own education was limited. They themselves felt the need of more thorough instruction, and were anxious to give it to their children. But how could this be done? Where were the books, or the teachers? Suitable books, for the instruction of children and youth had not been introduced and competent teachers were not in the County. But schools they must, and schools they did, maintain, for longer or shorter periods each year.

A brief glance at the early school buildings, school books, the teachers at their daily work, and their method of discipline and instruction, will show the early condition of our schools.

OUR EARLY SCHOOL BUILDINGS, like the homes of the children, were generally of logs. The windows were small and far between, the otherwise deficient light being supplied by the capacious chimneys, and by crevices in the walls and ceilings. This is no fancy picture; nor need we go any further back in our history than 1844 to find full counterparts of just such school buildings, still in use in this County. They were fully described in the reports of the supervisory officers of that day. In such buildings our ancestors in this County received their first lessons; among them was one who became president of the United States.*

On dark days the pupils would be arranged before, and around the base of, the large chimney, utilizing the light which poured down its capacious throat, and without which, study would have been impossible. The floor and ceiling were of loose, rough boards, through the joints of which the wind would freely circulate, affording an abundance of fresh air. The seats were often formed of riven portions of forest trees, or, where saw mills existed, of planks or slabs, supported at either end by roughly formed and acute angled legs, and without backs. Those legs would often seek in vain for a secure rest upon the uneven floor, but without doing so. From such seats, sufficiently high for adults, dangled for six tedious hours daily, the uneasy limbs of children from four to six years of age, with no support for either the legs, arms or backs. Here they must cling to the plank, or slab, and keep quiet, under the penalty of a blow from the whip, or ferrule, of the master, or mistress, of ceremonies. When weary, and they would soon become so, sleep would overtake, not only their limbs, in which the circulation was impeded by the sharp-angled seats, but also their entire bodies, and a careless rock of the uneasy seat would precipitate the sleepers to the floor. But the broad open fire-places of those primitive school rooms were objects of the highest interest. It was not alone the light which they supplied, grateful and necessary as that often was; they were miniature bon-fires, on which the otherwise underlighted eyes of the pupils rested with pleasure. They would gorge, at once, and without crowding, a full quarter of a cord of wood, and, when in full blast, glowed like the log heaps of the settlers' fallow ground.

* Millard Fillmore.

Around the blazing pile, the pupils on their entrance would range themselves, and by repeated turnings, would at length so saturate with warmth their thick, home-made clothing as, for a short time, to be comfortable upon their seats, but for a short time only; for "may I go to the fire?" was, on cold days, the constant cry of the pupils. In summer those open fire-places were beautifully adorned by the skill and taste of the sylvan mistress, with various green branches from the near forest, and with such wild flowers as the season afforded. Carving was one of the arts into which the school boys of that day were thoroughly indoctrinated, and the use of the pocket-knife was well understood by them; for

"The Yankee boy before he's sent to school
Well knows the uses of that magic tool,
The pocket-knife,"

and the benches and forms of all the early school rooms were honey-combed by his industry. Not having congenial employment for his head, he sought and found it for his hands. Such were the general condition of the school houses of the County, for a full generation after its first settlement, and very many of the same sort existed as late as 1840.

THE SCHOOL BOOKS.—It should be remembered that at the time, and for many years after the first settlement of the County, books of any kind were a luxury rarely seen in the homes of the people, excepting the family Bible and hymn book, and the annual calendar, or almanac. School books were then very few, and confined to the three subjects, of reading, spelling and arithmetic; the latter for the boys in all cases, but not always for the girls. The girls, it was thought, were sufficiently educated if they were taught to read and write. Their fathers, brothers, or husbands could do the "reckoning" for them. The first books were of English production. Dilworth's spelling book and arithmetic had been generally used in New England, and many of them found their way into the early schools of this County, having descended to the children from the parents, who had used them. Webster's Spelling Book, published in 1783, was the first American school book printed in this country, and it soon found its way into our schools to the exclusion of nearly every other spelling book, and became the constant companion of all

the pupils, from their entrance to their exit, and they were so long and so thoroughly drilled upon it that some pupils would recite half the words contained in it.

The New Testament was a common reading book in the earlier periods into which the pupil graduated directly from the spelling book. There were then no "grades" in the schools, or any first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth readers, as at the present day. Usually one reading book sufficed; but pupils would read in whatever book the parents might send, no matter what its title or subject. It might be Robinson Crusoe, or Pilgrims Progress; and it was all the same, if there was but one book of the kind in the school. Webster's Spelling Book, however, soon became nearly universal. Murray's English Reader and the Columbian Orator followed, and were fixtures in the schools for a full quarter of a century.

These books comprised the finest classical productions of the men of the age; but were utterly unsuited for the children into whose hands they were placed, and who mumbled and stumbled through their classic paragraphs, with as little comprehension of them, as though they had been written in a dead language. But it should be remembered that comprehension of a lesson, at that time, was not considered important; that was not the object. The pupils were then taught simply to read, not to comprehend. They were too young to understand the lesson, but would do so when they were older. This false and pernicious error ran through every study. Lessons were put into the hands of a child of eight years of age, which developed minds only could comprehend.

TEACHERS AND TEACHING.—It will be conceded that the teachers of that day, as a class, were not competent to their work, nor their instruction guided by any intelligent rules. They had been very imperfectly educated, and could not teach others what they did not know themselves. The very perfect text-books of to-day supply largely the deficiencies of teachers; but then both teachers and text-books were deficient, and the result was what we have described. But all the schools and teachers of the first generation were not equally inefficient. There were in the hamlets and villages a few well educated teachers, who were good instructors; and fine

scholars have graduated from even our early backwoods schools; geniuses, whom no obstacles could repress, and whose peculiar mental vigor led them on to conquer every obstacle in their paths.

The early school discipline was but a counterpart of the prevailing errors of the time. It was mainly physical. The whip and the ferrule were as constant companions to the teacher as the book, or the pen. The book in his hand, the whip or ferrule under his arm, and the pen over his ear, all were equally intended for use. The pupils were urged to be orderly and diligent by pungent and often painful persuasion. A goodly store of well seasoned switches was always ready for extra occasions, when, as often happened, wholesale floggings were to be inflicted. The whip in the hand of the teacher fell frequently upon the mischievous or the idle, and generally without warning or explanation. This impromptu discipline and the thorough preparation of the teachers for offense or defense, created in many schools a state of merely suspended warfare; the relations between the teacher and the pupils being essentially belligerent, and liable at any time to break out into open warfare.

In the teacher, therefore, strong physical proportions and firm courage were very necessary to success. On the entrance of a new teacher, he would be as carefully scanned as competitors in the prize ring, not to estimate his mind, manners, or morals, but the power of his muscles, and the probable chances of success if a conflict should arise.

With young pupils the whip and the ferrule were supplemented by many ingenious yet cruel devices, a gag in the mouth, a most barbarous punishment, standing on one foot, holding an object in the extended or uplifted hand, resting one hand and one foot upon the floor, holding a heavy weight in both hands, the body inclined forward. These and many other cruel tortures which the law forbids to be inflicted upon the felons in our prisons, were regularly used for more than a generation in Cayuga County, to incite in children the love of order, of books and of schools. Is their general failure a wonder?

Incentives to study, as we have just shown, were mainly coercive, but emulation and rewards were also employed; emulation mainly confined

to the spelling exercises, and rewards to the primaries, place-taking in spelling, and simple gifts to the small children. The post of honor, the head of the spelling class, was eagerly sought for, and, in the absence of other proper incentives, doubtless benefited the brighter pupils, who usually would carry off the palm; but the less gifted were depressed by thus constantly publishing their inferiority in the little community in which they daily moved.

Emulation was also employed in an interesting and exciting form in the process termed "spelling down," an exercise still continued; but the greatest interest centered in the spelling schools of the time, which for the lads and lasses, had connected with them more pleasant and endearing associations than any or all of the other school exercises.

Of all the studies pursued in our early schools, reading was the most imperfectly taught. The unnatural, listless, drawling monotone in prose, or the sing-song in poetry, was nearly universal. It was the result of a habit formed in childhood, continued and confirmed in youth, and immovably fixed in manhood. So general was this habit of expressionless reading that a good reader was seldom heard. The schools tended only to form and fix the habit, and books and newspapers were so rare that home reading, except of the Bible, was little practiced, and the idea that the Bible must be read in a peculiarly solemn tone did not help to form good readers. Among the masses of the people of this County for about a quarter of a century, good reading had nearly become one of the "lost arts." It was, at least, but imperfectly preserved, amid the rigid demands and privations of forest life.

Arithmetic was better taught. Its utility was apparent to all, and every boy was initiated into its mysteries, or rather its mummeries, for its mysteries were seldom revealed. Its operations were largely mechanical, yet so long and continuous was the drill that most of the boys could "do the sums" as far as the "rule of three," before they left school. Each pupil was taught singly without classes or blackboards. Indeed, in 1842, there were but two blackboards in the entire County. It was a slow and laborious operation for the teacher to "work out" the various "sums" for the pupils on their slates as models for them to imitate, for the progress was chiefly

one of *imitation*, the pupils, by long practice learning to follow their teacher's model or method of solving the questions under the different "rules." "Please show me how to do this sum?" was a question constantly repeated in all the early schools.

It would be interesting to compare the copy-books and the facilities for acquiring the art of writing, existing in our schools fifty to seventy-five years ago, with those of to-day. The pupils came with home-made copy-books of coarse, unruled paper, varying in quantity from one to a half dozen sheets, home-made inks compounded of domestic dyes, a flat lead pencil formed of hammered lead, a goose quill and a ruler. Ready-made writing books, ruled paper and steel pens were yet in the future. Pens were "made" and copies "set" by the teacher. "Please make" or "Please mend my pen," were regular appeals to the teacher. In cold weather, the fire-place would, each morning, be surrounded by inkstands to thaw their frozen contents. The teachers generally were clumsy penmen, and being changed every few months, there were very few decent chirographers among the pupils.

This rude condition of our popular schools was gradually changed. The rapid increase of our population, averaging for the first thirty years more than twelve hundred per year, led to a corresponding improvement in the means and condition of the people. Hamlets and villages arose and educated men in large numbers became residents of them. The professions and most of the employments soon had in them men of liberal attainments, whose children were to be educated. Nearly all of this class were the organizers and patrons of private schools, the popular schools not being at that time, in their judgment, or in fact, worthy of intelligent patronage. Hence, though there were a few educated and competent teachers thus employed in the instruction of the children of the more intelligent, the public schools were still neglected, and in them very little improvement was made.

From 1789 to 1838, the State from time to time, from the sale of lotteries, appropriations of public lands, and from revenues derived from United States deposit funds and other sources, had been accumulating a fund, the income of which was annually appropriated to the support of common schools. This fund in 1838 amount-

ed to over three-fourths of a million of dollars. From the administration of Governor George Clinton, every Governor and Secretary of State has advocated and recommended a liberal encouragement of common schools, and laws for their internal administration have been enacted, and from time to time changed. The first general law was passed in 1795. It appropriated \$50,000 annually, for five years, to the support of the common schools. Each county was required to raise by tax an amount equal to one-half its distributive share of this sum, and town commissioners and district trustees were authorized to be appointed. On this subject, at that time, Governor Clinton said :

“ While it is evident that the general establishment and liberal endowment of academies are highly to be commended and are attended with the most beneficial results ; yet it cannot be denied that they are principally confined to the children of the opulent, and that a great portion of the community are excluded from their needed advantages. The establishment of common schools throughout the State is happily calculated to remedy this inconvenience, and will, therefore, engage your early and decided consideration.”

The same liberal support was given to the common schools by Governors Jay, in 1800, Clinton, in 1802, Lewis, in 1805, and Tompkins, during his administration, and defects in the laws were sought to be corrected. In 1811 a commission was appointed by the Legislature, consisting of five persons, to revise the system of common school organization, whose report in 1812 was adopted, and Gideon Hawley was appointed State Superintendent, which position he held until 1821, when the Secretary of State was made *ex-officio* Superintendent of Schools.

But the practical operation of the school system of the State was far from satisfactory. Attempts were regularly made to correct defects. Eight academies, one in each Senatorial district, were designated in 1835, for the instruction of common-school teachers. District school libraries were established in 1838 ; and in 1841 the supervision of the schools was confided to Deputy or County Superintendents. In 1843 Town Inspectors and Commissioners were superceded by one Superintendent of Schools in each town. A State Normal School was organized in 1844, especially intended for the instruction of common school teachers, and opened on the 18th of December following.

The office of County Superintendent was continued for six years, and had been the means of effecting important improvements in the schools, but the appointments, made by the County Supervisors, were, in some instances, injudicious, and the office was brought into disrepute and abolished in 1847, against the earnest protest of the best friends of education in the State. It was, however, practically restored in 1856, by the institution of the office of School Commissioner, which is still continued. Free schools throughout the State were established in 1849, the act being submitted to the people, by three-fourths of whom it was approved. Its practical operation was found to impose unequal taxation and a re-submission of the law to a popular vote was demanded. In 1850 the vote was taken, and the law again sustained, but by a lessened majority.

The free school law was abolished the year following, and the provision was made to raise \$800,000 annually, by State tax, which was afterwards changed to a three-fourths mill tax, by which the country schools were mainly relieved from rate bills. The establishment of free, union, or high schools was permitted by law in 1853. There has, therefore, been no lack of interest in education on the part of the State, and it has, from first to last, liberally contributed to its support and advancement. But the great difficulty has been amongst the people themselves, as to the right use and application of the means provided, and a lack of intelligent comprehension of the best method of giving to their schools the highest efficiency.

Between 1830 and 1850 is the period during which thorough improvements in our schools had their origin ; and the first important impulse was given by the introduction of improved school books, prepared by intelligent educators. In that period, also, the range of studies was greatly enlarged. Grammar, geography, natural philosophy and algebra found their way into the common schools, and chemistry, botany, astronomy, geology and mental and moral philosophy, into our public high schools.

Much of the credit of this reform must be conceded to that now troublesome and importunate class, the authors and publishers of school books. There was a great need of better books, and authors and publishers came in swarms to supply it. Each author, or publisher, acting as critic

of the defects of rival books, and as instructor in the great method of teaching the subjects embraced in his own. This gradually led to a more careful consideration of the whole subject and was the first step in educational reform.

There was a coincident and great change in the educational literature for children and youth, of which the "Peter Parley" and the "Abott's Books" were examples, and of which millions of copies were sold, and whose influence upon the young was most wholesome. S. G. Goodrich, the author of the Peter Parley books, who wrote more books for youth than any other American, and who has been called the "Napoleon of the Pen," gave, in four lines, the "Golden Rules" which should be the guide of the educator, whether parent or professional teacher.

"Begin with simple lessons—things
On which the children love to look ;
Flowers, insects, pebbles, birds on wings,
These are God's spelling book."

Between 1830 and 1850 was also the period during which education and the best means for its improvement formed the great subject of discussion, in which were engaged the ripest scholars and soundest educators of the age: Emerson, Mann, Woodbridge, Alonzo Potter, David P. Paige, and scores of others. They prepared masterly papers or books, which were widely disseminated over the country, enlightening the public and leading to the institution of the county supervision of our schools in 1841, the establishment of teachers' institutes in 1842, of the State Normal School for the special training of teachers, in 1844, followed by seven other similar institutions in different parts of the State, and of provisions for the free education of all the youth of the State a few years later.

The county supervision of the public schools, established in 1841, was the most efficient agency that had theretofore been employed to reform their great deficiencies. The officers entrusted with this duty, became among the people educational missionaries, carrying into all the schools the usages and practices of the best educators and acting as the instructors of both teachers and patrons. The people of the several districts were frequently convened, and the wants and deficiencies of the schools and the means of supplying them carefully pointed out. The teachers themselves were separately convened in county meetings and practical teaching discussed. Regu-

lar teachers' associations arose from these meetings and have been continued to the present time, forming important links in the chain of reform; but the limited time to which these meetings were restricted, prevented a satisfactory consideration of the various topics presented.

Teachers' institutes were a direct and necessary outgrowth of these associations in which the teachers of a county were held in an annual session of about two weeks and carefully instructed by competent educators in the science and art of teaching. The first teachers' institute in the State was held in 1842. They were held in Cayuga County among the earliest, and at the first three sessions there was an attendance of over five hundred teachers. These institutes so enlisted the public favor that they have been regularly maintained for the last thirty-five years, have been recognized, and in part sustained by the State, and organized in most of the counties. They were held in 1877 in fifty-five counties, at which there was an attendance of 11,892 teachers.

In 1845, coincident with or very soon after the formation of teachers' associations and institutes in the counties, the State teachers' association was formed and has since been maintained.

The County and State association and teachers' institutes were accompanied by the organization in 1843, of a State Normal School, located at Albany, and specially designed for the training of public school teachers. It was so satisfactory in its results that it was afterwards followed by seven similar institutions in other parts of the State, and they are to-day in active and efficient operation. The free school system of the State and of its cities and villages, was also the direct outgrowth of the educational activity during the decade from 1840 to 1850.

The results of all these agencies have been a marvelous change in many of the common and high schools of the State, and Cayuga County has not fallen behind in the march of improvement. Her public schools, especially in the city of Auburn and in the principal villages, that in 1840 were "a by-word and reproach," not patronized by the wealthy and the intelligent, nor worthy of it, are now the recipients of the patronage of all classes, and, for the right instruction of children and youth, are, beyond question, the best schools in the County. In the city of Auburn,

the change has been the most marked and decided, and is mainly due to the intelligent and persistent efforts of a few devoted men, amongst whom C. P. Williams, long a teacher in the city and officially connected with the administration of the schools holds a conspicuous place. B. B. Snow, under whose quiet but thorough course as superintendent for many years, the schools have constantly improved, deserves special mention for the important aid which he has rendered and is rendering in school reform.

The board of education of the city, to whom, by law, are confided the care and management of the schools, are so soon convinced of their efficiency by personal inspection, as to lead them cheerfully to adopt the measures necessary to maintain it. The greatest improvement arose from the institution of the academic high school, which is the rallying point of the hopes, and goal of the ambition of all the grades below it. Few, indeed, may enter it, yet most of the pupils hope and strive to do so, and it is a constant stimulant to all in the public schools. Much has been done for the improvement of popular education in Cayuga County; yet "eternal vigilance" is necessary to maintain and perpetuate it.

CHAPTER XI.

ART AND PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS.

ARCHITECTS — SCULPTORS — ENGRAVERS — PORTRAIT AND LANDSCAPE PAINTERS — LADY ARTISTS — EMINENT LOCAL ARTISTS.

THE large number of artists who were natives, or have been residents of Cayuga County, and the eminence to which several of them have attained, were a surprise to us as the long list has gradually been unfolded, and as our readers examine it, we believe that they too will find it greatly to exceed their expectations.

ARCHITECTS.

The architects of this County have, for the most part, been also practical builders, their genius and taste leading them so to cultivate their natural powers as to give them leading positions as designers and draughtsmen.

LAWRENCE WHITE, judging the genius of the man by the perfection of his work, was not only the first in point of time, but also the first in skill in his line, in this County. He designed and erected the old First Presbyterian church in Auburn, said, by experts, to have been as pure an exemplification of the Corinthian order of architecture as existed in the State, and was so complete an illustration of the skill of the man that no other example need be cited.

DEACON JOHN I. HAGAMAN, from a carpenter's apprentice, became a thorough expert in architectural drawing and designing, and was an instructor in the art in Auburn for many years as well as the designer of many of its public and private buildings, including the Second Presbyterian church, the court house and the town hall. He projected the map of the city of Auburn, published in 1836, and the buildings illustrated upon it.

WILLIAM B. OLMSTEAD followed the business of architect and builder in Port Byron and in other parts of the County, and at present ranks among the first architects of the city of Brooklyn.

CALVIN OTIS was a pupil of John I. Hagaman in 1841, and attained distinction as an architect, practicing his profession in Geneva and in Buffalo.

JOHN MAURICE practiced architectural drawing successfully in Aurora, in 1858, and afterwards in St. Louis, Mo., and was a designer and builder of good reputation.

MUNROE HAMLIN is one of the very few men now working at his trade as a carpenter and joiner, who served in it a regular apprenticeship. He is not only an excellent practical workman but a good architectural designer and draughtsman.

NELSON HAMBLIN, a native of the County, learned the trade of a carpenter here; studied and practiced architectural drawing in the city of Brooklyn for twenty years, and recently in Auburn for a few years, designing several important buildings here. He now resides in Brooklyn.

SAMUEL D. MANDELL, a native of Aurora, in this County, began architectural drawing in 1848, studied it thoroughly, and became distinguished. He designed Wells College, E. B. Morgan's residence, and two churches in Aurora, and afterwards many elegant and costly build-

ings in California, and in Kentucky. He now resides at Aurora.

BLANCHARD FOSGATE, JR., perfected himself in architectural drawing and designing by careful study and practice, and now devotes himself successfully to the work in the city of Elizabeth, New Jersey.

CHARLES FREDERICK SCHWEINFURTH, could not well avoid being an artist, as his parents, on both sides, are such. After carefully studying architecture, under a competent master, he received an appointment in the office of the Supervising Architect at Washington, where, for five years he has been perfecting himself in his art, in which he is destined to attain prëminent distinction.

ENGRAVERS.

Of engravers we may mention :

GEORGE WHITFIELD HATCH, who was a half-brother of Governor Enos T. Throop, with whom he began the study of the law in Auburn. His tastes led him to study engraving, and he engaged with A. B. Durand, of New York. He became one of the great firm of Rawdon, Wright & Hatch, celebrated for their perfect bank note engraving, and as the originators of the "American Bank Note Engraving Company," which executed the larger share of the engraving of the notes and bonds of the Government. Mr. Hatch was reputed to be one of the best plate engravers in the country. His remains repose in Fort Hill Cemetery.

JOHN CHESTER BUTTRE is a native of Auburn, born in 1821 ; he received an academic education, and a few private lessons in drawing from which his own genius led him to painting, in which he received casual instruction. Not succeeding in his first efforts at painting to his satisfaction, he tried wood engraving, for penny toy primmers, and persevered under many disadvantages, in various forms of that work.

At twenty-one years of age, by the kindness of Mr. Hatch he was given desk-room in the engraving department of Rawdon, Wright & Hatch. Here he so rapidly perfected himself as an engraver as very soon to secure remunerative orders ; and from that day to this he has followed his chosen profession, and has attained in it eminent success, professionally and financially.

SCULPTORS.

In native professional sculptors, Cayuga County

has been deficient, being credited with but one such, though Erastus D. Palmer honored us by a residence in the County of about two years.

BYRON N. PICKETT, son of a Port Byron barber, was a born sculptor, and developed such marks of genius and perfection of work, without instruction, as to arrest the attention of Mr. Palmer who kept him for several years in his employ. He is now established in New York, and has produced several valuable works, including a model of the bust of Professor Morse, cast in bronze, and erected in Central Park, New York.

ERASTUS D. PALMER, though not a permanent resident of the County, was nevertheless employed here about two years in the execution of orders from prominent citizens, of Aurora and Auburn, and in the production of ideal pieces. He is a sculptor of great and deserved celebrity.

WALTER G. ROBINSON, from the business of grave-stone cutting, developed the true genius of a sculptor. A bas-relief of Secretary Seward executed by him, is an excellent likeness, and a marble bust of the Secretary, cut by Mr. Robinson, is considered by the family superior to all others.

PORTRAIT AND LANDSCAPE PAINTERS.

With these, Cayuga has been exceptionally favored as will be seen in the following brief sketches.

WILLIAM DICKINSON, residing in Auburn, in 1816, and Daniel Steele, a native of Aurelius, were our earliest portrait painters. Mr. Steele and his wife were both artists. They have practiced their profession in Washington, D. C., and in the West and South.

JEHU KNAPP was born in Connecticut in 1801, took his first lessons in arabesque painting from William Dickinson, of Auburn, and subsequently studied in New York and Philadelphia, after which he established himself in Auburn. He here painted a portrait of William H. Seward, now in the possession of the family. Though Mr. Knapp was a good artist, he was compelled to supplement his artistic with practical work in house and sign painting to gain a livelihood.

CHARLES LORING ELLIOTT, one of the most distinguished artists that our country has produced, was born in a rude dwelling near Scipio Center, in 1812. He removed with his parents to Auburn. His father, who was a builder,

erected a house on the corner of William street and Love Lane, and here the boyhood of the great artist was passed. He was a natural mechanic, and fond of the pursuit. He early manifested a fondness for drawing and painting, from which his father and friends sought to dissuade him, as a poor paying employment. But his love of art grew, which his father sought to overcome by placing him first in a store, and next at school. It was, however, all the same in both places; neither business nor books would draw him away from his pencil and his brush. Seeing this, his father sought to direct the boy's genius to architectural drawing, as more profitable. That work he could do, but it did not please him; he wanted to paint. At length he was placed under the instruction of Colonel Trumbull, the eminent painter, and president of the Academy of Fine Arts in New York. He next studied with Onidor. But his means failing, he left the city, and, for the next ten years, took his lessons in the school of nature. In 1845 he returned to New York, and for the rest of his life, was eminently successful, and had the reputation of being the best portrait painter of his time in the country.

EDWIN W. GOODWIN was an artist of good reputation, resident in Auburn in 1835. He was expelled from a Methodist Church here for his anti-slavery views, in the expression of which he would not be restrained. He died at Ithaca, New York, in 1845.

CHARLES W. JENKINS was born in Owasco, July 9th, 1821, a son of a house painter, which business he pursued in Auburn for a time, until he entered the studio of E. W. Goodwin. He practiced his profession here until 1837, when he removed to Syracuse, thence to Utica, and in 1848 removed to New York city, where he has since practiced his art.

RANDALL PALMER located in Auburn in 1839. Among the portraits which he painted here were those of that notorious hero of the "Patriot," or "Rheuben" war, William Johnson, and of the bold and devoted daughter of the latter. He painted well, and was an artist of merit. He died about 1842, from the effects of a fall.

T. J. KENNEDY, was born at Saratoga Springs, New York, October 13th, 1820. He began the work of painting, as an apprentice, in Troy, N. Y., at the age of twelve years, was soon employed

in ornamental coach painting, decorating them with landscapes, and allegorical pictures, many of which were fine works of art. Here he also received, for the six years of his apprenticeship, lessons in drawing and painting landscapes, and in portrait painting, from the best artists in those branches in Troy. He came to Auburn in 1838, at the instance of Col. J. M. Sherwood, then a large stage proprietor here, and has since resided here. He has executed several large and fine pieces, "Mazeppa" and the "Last Arrow," among them, and many landscapes that have received favorable notices of art critics. He is an amateur artist of much merit, though the business of paint merchant and sign and house painting, has engaged his principal attention. He was the first man in the County to practically prepare for the great rebellion, by enlisting men, and was actively and efficiently engaged in the service during the war.

GEORGE L. CLOUGH was born in Auburn September 18th, 1834. His father died while George was yet an infant, leaving a widow with slender means and six dependent children. As early as ten years of age he developed a taste and tact in art, and his first picture, executed about this time, on a fragment of a board, is still preserved. From ten to eighteen years of age he was employed in compounding medicines, working by the piece for Dr. Blanchard Fosgate, and finding time to practice his favorite art. The excellence of his work arrested the attention of the artist Palmer, and the latter induced the mother to let her son go into his studio, where his chances of improvement were much increased. Here he continued until 1844, when he opened a studio of his own. About this time Charles L. Elliott came to Auburn to paint the portrait of Governor Seward, and fortunately for Clough, selected his room for the purpose. He was much benefited by the example and kindly hints of this great master. But his patrons were few, and the young artist was severely taxed for the means of support. William C. Barber generously gave him an order for six pictures, paying him one-half in advance. These were followed by other orders, and he soon found himself able to spend a few months with Elliott in New York, there perfecting himself in portrait painting. When he reopened his room in Auburn, he met with fair success, and married

a daughter of Robert Peat, in 1848. Under the patronage of the Barbers and other friends, he visited Europe in 1850, spending about a year in the principal art galleries of Germany, France and Italy. Since his return he has devoted his time mainly to landscape painting, to which his taste has always inclined him, and in which he is a close and severe imitator of nature.

There are, it is said, in the city of Auburn alone, over four hundred of his paintings, indicating clearly that as a painter, George L. Clough has been highly honored and liberally patronized by those among whom he has chiefly resided.

WILLIAM E. McMASTER came to Cayuga County with his parents when a lad, worked at carriage painting at Weedsport with his father, and evinced an early and great fondness for portrait painting, receiving therein some instruction from Miss Munson of that place, and also from the artist Palmer. He was afterwards a student of Charles L. Elliott, and of the great painter, Vanderlin. In his habits he has been cosmopolitan, practicing his art in the various cities, towns and villages of this country and in Europe. He is an artist of genius and has executed a vast number of portraits of eminent personages, including those of President Buchanan, and of Marshal McMahan, President of the French Republic. He has also been prominent as a political writer and speaker, and as a professional sportsman.

JOSEPH R. MEEKER was a native of Newark, New Jersey, born in 1827, and came with his parents to Auburn about 1836. Here he engaged first in a printing office, and next with T. J. Kennedy in painting, being anxious to become an artist. In the preliminary lessons he was instructed by Mr. Kennedy. In 1845, he went to New York to perfect himself in art studies, depending for his support upon the practice of plain painting. Here he spent three years of struggle and toil, when he returned to Auburn, greatly improved in his chosen art. He roomed with Mr. Clough in cheap quarters, they boarding themselves and studying together about a year, when Mr. Meeker established his easel in Buffalo, N. Y. Here, after a hard struggle, he won gratifying success. In 1852, he removed to Louisville, Ky., where for seven years his success was indifferent, and he re-

moved to St. Louis, Mo., where he "pitched his tent," in 1859. But the war soon followed and broke up his business. He then secured the position of paymaster in the navy, and there continued for four years. On the steamboats upon the Mississippi he had a fine opportunity to see and delineate the interesting natural scenery upon its shores, and he improved it, carrying back with him to St. Louis, at the close of the war, much material for future use. He has since steadily pursued his profession, and won in it abundant success. Mr. Meeker is not alone distinguished as a successful and accomplished artist; he is an able writer on art, and is distinguished for his general culture. He was the originator, and is the President of the St. Louis Art Society, among the most successful of such associations in the country.

HENRY WELLS, the son of a shoemaker in Clarksville, was, at the age of fourteen, bound an apprentice to T. J. Kennedy, to learn plain and sign painting. Mr. Kennedy soon discovered the boy's genius in art, and instructed him in its elementary principles, for about three years, when he gave the boy his indenture, and advised him to go to Philadelphia, to pursue and practice art, and support himself meanwhile by plain painting. There he found an opportunity to draw on wood, and was well paid for it. Going to Mount Vernon, he drew the house and tomb of Washington, had them engraved and published on his own account. Being novelties, the picture had a good sale, five hundred copies having been purchased in Auburn alone, and the enterprise paid well. He continues his designs on wood for the magazines and other publications, and also paints fair pictures in oil. He has been a diligent student and is a cultured and refined gentleman, now about forty years of age.

JOHN R. PAGE, was born in Elbridge, Onondaga county, in 1821; was first a cabinet-maker and next a farmer, and is still engaged in the latter pursuit. He took up art at the age of thirty, as an aid to his judgment of cattle, though always fond of delineating animals. In that specialty he has become so thorough an expert in the critical judgment of blooded horses and cattle, that he has few, if any, equals in the country. He will read off the points and pedigree of an animal on first sight with great rapidity and with surprising accuracy, being rarely incorrect in his

judgment. He paints cattle in oil, giving nearly perfect representations of the originals, and executes neat engravings of them on wood or stone. In 1851, he prepared all the illustrations for the Catalogue of Cattle issued by Col. Morris, of Fordham, the first one of the kind issued in this country. The excellence and perfection of that work gave to Mr. Page a national reputation, and the claim upon his time and talents for similar work has since been very great from all parts of the country, including California and the Pacific Coast. He illustrated the American Herd Book of Short-Horn Cattle, in sixteen volumes, and also the Canada Herd Book. His services have been sought in England. As an auctioneer in the sale of valuable animals he has no superior. He sold the famous York Mills herd, one cow in which brought the fabulous price of forty thousand dollars. He owns and neatly cultivates a farm in Sennett, rears choice animals and good products, is a genial and social gentleman, a fine specimen of genius practically and usefully applied.

FREDERICK M. COFFIN, a native of Nantucket, born in 1822, came to Auburn with his parents in 1845, and is the only surviving son of his widowed and aged mother, with whom he resides, and to whose comfort he administers with true and exemplary filial affection. He early manifested a genius for art by drawing and grouping animals. In 1846, he engaged as clerk in the store of F. L. Griswold & Co., in Boston. We next find him engaged in sketching and drawing figures for a fresco painter in Boston. He returned to Auburn and engaged again as merchant's clerk, but keeping up his habit of sketching and drawing, producing striking representations of groups of people whose portraits were readily recognized. In 1849, he drew on wood for engravers and executed portraits in crayon. He next spent a year in the collector's office in Buffalo, and three subsequent years in designing and drawing on wood for the publishers. He illustrated several of the books published in Auburn by Derby, Miller & Co., as well as works for Buffalo, and New York publishers. In 1854, he took up his residence in New York and devoted himself exclusively to drawing and designing for the magazine and book publishers of that city and Boston. Too close application impaired his eyes and he traveled for a season as a means of restoration.

He enlisted and served three years in the war of the Rebellion, sketching many military and natural scenes. He then directed his attention to painting cattle in oil, locating himself with his parents in Sennett, where he industriously applied himself to painting horses, cattle and pastoral scenes, adding greatly to his already large store of art productions. But the death of his father and brother devolved upon him the sole care of his aged mother and aunt, for whose comfort he generously relinquished his art studies and dutifully devoted himself to his relatives — an interesting and forcible illustration of the beauty of his character.

GEORGE H. MATTHEWS, a native of Utica, born in 1834, removed in early life to Buffalo, N. Y., where he pursued art studies under various masters, and came to Auburn at nineteen years of age. He has been principally engaged here in portrait painting, and has probably executed more portraits of the citizens of Auburn than any other resident artist, and his portraits are all faithful likenesses of their subjects. His merits as an artist are appreciated, and he is so liberally patronized that he makes his profession a financial success, which is a rare thing in a city the size of Auburn. Notwithstanding his complete success as a portrait painter, he has continually expressed a wish to change his employment. He has a great fondness for the works of the dramatists, and the facility with which he can recite their productions is a marvelous illustration of the power of his memory. It is said that he can repeat verbatim fifty entire plays, of Shakspeare, Bulwer, Sheridan and Knowles, and, when on his walks, is often so absorbed in their silent recitation, as to pass his most familiar friends unnoticed.

JOSEPH HASKILL, son-in-law of the late Joseph Choate, has painted portraits in Auburn, and elsewhere in the County for many years, and in New York City, Detroit, &c. He now resides and practices his profession in Syracuse.

FRANK R. RATHBUN, a native of Burlington, Vermont, was early inclined to sketch mechanical objects, and those relating to natural history. After preliminary studies, he was engaged in the geological survey of Vermont, in sketching the scenery and animals to illustrate that work. He went out with the Nineteenth Regiment and made drawings of the birds of the Chesapeake.

Subsequently he was mechanical draughtsman for a firm of manufacturers of cotton machinery in Worcester, Mass. He is now engaged in this city in painting objects of natural history, drawings of birds, various designs for book publishers, and artistic ornamentation generally.

NICHOLAS B. KITTELL was a resident in Auburn in 1865, and for several years painted portraits here quite satisfactorily, and is now continuing his profession in New York City, and maintains a fine reputation, both as an artist and a social and pleasant gentleman.

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM B. GIFFORD are natives of Aurora, N. Y., the latter, granddaughter of Humphrey Howland. They possess ample pecuniary means, and are both enthusiastic lovers of art. They are yet young, and have been, and are, carefully perfecting themselves in art studies in the best schools in this country and in Europe, devoting to them their time and all the necessary means. They both paint portraits, and are now pursuing their studies in New York City, with every prospect of attaining eminence in their profession.

GEORGE W. KING was born in Auburn in 1836, and worked at the carpenter's trade until twenty-five years of age. He had a natural taste for art which was early and constantly shown by the use, first of his pencil, and subsequently of crayons. He would employ nearly every fragment of leisure in delineating some animal or other object upon a board or box, or whatever was at hand, on which he could construct the image of his fancy.

His mechanical employment did not please him; but his love of art was controlling, and it impelled him to its pursuit against strongly opposing obstacles. He had slender means, without influential friends, and was of amiable and modest disposition, and not calculated to push his way to success through an adverse and jostling crowd. His early struggles, between the strong promptings of his taste and his inability to gratify it, were therefore severe; yet he decided to go to New York at a venture, and to test what might come of it.

He accordingly went thither and entered the drawing class at the Cooper Union. Fortunately for him he soon made the acquaintance of the kind-hearted and distinguished portrait painter, Page, who became his firm friend and

benefactor; and when Mr. King's means failed he aided him in procuring work in coloring photographs, which partly relieved his necessities. His generous patron went farther and invited Mr. King to accompany him and his family to Eaglewood, N. J., and to make his home with them, and he did so.

Here he had the good fortune to meet and secure the warm friendship of the artist, Innis, who became so much interested in Mr. King as, for nearly a year, to give him voluntary and valuable instruction in landscape painting, and to compliment him for his skill in that department of art, in which his progress was rapid. He was greatly encouraged by the flattering approval of so competent a master, with so full an opportunity for critical and careful judgment.

In 1864 he returned to Auburn and opened a studio; but like most young artists, he did not secure satisfactory patronage. Returning to New York, he worked at a salary on crayon heads, for which he was well paid. He again came to Auburn, and went thence to Oswego, where, for three years, he found liberal patronage, and, obtaining commissions, he went to California, made numerous sketches of the Yo Semite valley and has finished several fine paintings of that remarkable region, which are much admired.

In the spring of 1873, he went to Europe and devoted about a year and a half to a careful study of its works of art. He then returned to Auburn, and in 1876 removed to Philadelphia which has since been his home.

ALEXANDER F. LOAMANS, a French artist of genius and ability, and a connoisseur in his profession, came to Auburn in 1854, and painted here for about two years. He had many marked peculiarities. He could paint with great rapidity, and could with little apparent effort make showy pictures, which he could, and did sell cheap; yet realizing a full equivalent for the time devoted to them. He would frequently arise from his bed at night, and by the light of a lamp lay his ideal subject rapidly upon the canvas for future study, and at other times, for weeks together would work with a peculiar zest, as if inspired with a supernatural enthusiasm. Like most artists he was a wanderer and his whereabouts and subsequent career are unknown to us.

SANFORD THAYER, the son of a small farmer, was born in the town of Victory, in this County,

July 19th, 1820. At the age of fourteen his father died, leaving his family in such poverty as broke it up, and scattered its members, and young Thayer was left to shift for himself. For four years he worked at farming, barely supporting himself, his art genius burning for gratification. At this time, slender in purse and wardrobe, he came to Auburn to learn to paint. He was directed by the artist Goodwin, to whom he applied for a position, to go to a carriage painter, to take lessons in plain painting, and this he did; but failing of employment, he returned to his old work upon the farm and in the smithy. He was finally employed in Skaneateles in carriage painting. Fortunately, Elliott, the great painter, then resided in Skaneateles, engaged in the execution of a design on a fine carriage. Thayer watched with great eagerness the work of this master, and attempted to copy it when completed. While absorbed in the effort he was surprised by Elliott, who kindly criticised and complimented the rude, yet promising effort of the young man, giving valuable practical hints to the great joy of the would-be artist, who was thus firmly fixed in his purpose to become an artist, and he fully executed it. He applied himself diligently to his work, and years after he again met Elliott in Syracuse, to whom he exhibited a portrait of a boy which he had painted, and was delighted and encouraged by words of commendation. The friendship thus formed between these two geniuses continued till Elliott's death. The latter painted two splendid portraits of Thayer, which were said to have been his finest productions. He was selected to complete the orders left unfilled when Elliott died, a compliment of significant import. Mr. Thayer still resides in Syracuse and, as health permits, still executes fine works of art.

LADY ARTISTS.—MISS CELIA MURDOCK resides with her father in the town of Venice in this County. She is an artist of much merit, and has practiced and taught art successfully for many years. She is now traveling in Europe.

MISS CARRIE WOODRUFF NOYES, is a cultivated lady, a professional and accomplished artist, conceded by art critics to draw and paint better in water-colors than any other resident lady artist.

MRS. MARY VIGUS, was a native of Port Byron and a self-taught artist. She became an instructor in art at a ladies' seminary in Memphis,

Tenn.; married, and on the death of her husband supported, and still supports, herself and two boys by her profession.

MISS LOU ANN MUNSON, when a resident of Weedsport in 1841, and afterwards, painted portraits in oil with much acceptance. She is now Mrs. Sunderlin, and resides in Philadelphia. She is a sister of Mrs. James Henderson of Auburn.

MISS GERTRUDE L. STONE, daughter of Col. Henry M. Stone, late of Auburn, early evinced an excellent taste and tact in drawing, and has taught pencil and crayon drawing for many years in schools of her own, and in young ladies' seminaries. She is now an instructor of art in a ladies' school in Ohio.

MISS ELIZABETH M. BEMIS, a native of Auburn, is a lady of good general culture, and has been specially instructed in drawing in the New York Academy of Design. Her work is strongly commended by art critics, as indicating skill, culture and care. She is now acceptably teaching drawing in the public schools of Auburn.

MISS FANNIE BEMIS, sister of the foregoing, was educated in pencil drawing and crayon work, in Cooper Institute and the New York Academy of Design, and was the recipient of the first prize, a gold medal for the best drawing, a compliment well merited, as evinced by the excellence of her work. Her crayon portraits are much commended by competent critics, and give full satisfaction to her patrons. For some three years she taught drawing in the Howland school at Union Springs.

It will thus be noticed that Cayuga County has been the home of a very large number of professional artists, of varying ability and success, most of whom contended against poverty and adverse circumstances, and won their reputations by following their own native impulses for art, which no obstacles, however severe, could repress. They were born artists, and their birthright they claimed and won.

Of engravers, we may well be proud of George Whitfield Hatch and John Chester Buttre; the former, the foremost of bank note engravers, and the latter the peer of any in steel portrait engraving; while Elliott, in portrait painting, won a national reputation, and Meeker, Thayer and Page, with the long list of other artists, whose careers we have briefly chronicled, won deserved distinction in their several fields of labor.

towns had been advanced from four to eight-fold, while the personal property of the County had in the same period increased only about two-fold.

COMPARATIVE VALUATIONS OF REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY.—The foregoing table furnishes a guide as to the relative estimated value of the real and personal property at the different periods from 1814 to 1822. The personal property of the County was assessed at one-seventeenth of the value of the real property. But, for the next two years, from 1822 to 1825, it was suddenly raised to one-fifth, an increase in two years in the assessed value of the personal estate of the County of more than three hundred per cent. From 1835 to 1838 it was still farther advanced and reached the highest relative amount at any period in the whole history of the County, and was rated at one-third of the real estate. Here the increase ended. From 1838 to 1850 the personal property fell off one-half and was rated only one-sixth the real. From 1851 to 1860, very nearly the same proportion was maintained, but from 1873 to 1877 the proportion was lower than at any other period during the last fifty years and was less than one-seventh of the real property.

TAXATION.—The foregoing table also supplies some interesting facts relating to taxation. In 1840, but thirty-seven years ago, (the table closes with 1877,) the gross tax upon the County and the towns for all purposes, was but \$41,632. The population was then in round numbers 50,000; the taxation, therefore, was about eighty cents *per capita* of the population, and that was the highest tax which up to that time, a period of more than forty years, had been levied upon the County.

The amount for the next ten years did not greatly vary from that, and in 1850 the gross tax was but \$50,000, about the same *per capita* as in 1840. The gross tax upon the County between 1850 and 1860 was more than doubled, arising mainly from the large increase during that decade, of the State tax, which, it will be noticed, had arisen from \$5,581 in 1850 to \$59,245 in 1860, the increase from all other sources during those ten years being only \$28,092. But the great flood of taxation rolled in upon us from 1863 to the present time. At the former date the war claims were being paid, and the gross

taxation reached its climax in 1864, when we paid \$621,283, about \$10 for each man and woman and child in the County. From that time it has been gradually lessening until now. During these fourteen years the County of Cayuga paid \$5,431,623 in taxes, an amount greater than the entire property valuation of the County at any time during the first forty years of its existence.

An examination of the foregoing table will show the sources of the trouble and also our gradual release from it. Up to 1863 our County and town taxes had been relatively light, less than \$50,000 for the former, and an average of about \$12,000 for the latter. But they suddenly arose to hundreds of thousands in consequence of the military expenses of the time, and, in respect to the towns, the added burden growing out of their indebtedness for the construction of railroads. The State tax, owing to the same general causes, was enormously increased, rising in 1872 to \$163,578; but the latter has been reduced to \$54,868 in 1877, only about \$9,000 more than it was in 1857, twenty years before. The County taxes have fallen to \$55,910, but the town taxes still aggregate high figures, \$197,919, owing mainly to liabilities incurred for railroad construction.

EARLY SUPERVISORS.

The Supervisors of the County of Cayuga in 1818 were the following: William Allen, Scipio; William Clark, Genoa; Nehemiah Wisner, Aurelius; James Leonard, Mentz; Charles Chamberlain, Locke; William Satterlee, Sempronius; Elijah Devoe, Owasco; Rufus Sheldon, Brutus; Augustus F. Ferris, Cato; John McFadden, Sterling,—representing ten towns.

The town of Auburn was first represented in the Board of Supervisors in 1824, Elijah Miller being the first Supervisor from that town. There were then eighteen Supervisors, as follows: Auburn, Elijah Miller; Aurelius, Robert Cook; Brutus, Sylvester Sheldon; Cato, John Jackway; Conquest, William Crowell; Fleming, Lyman Loomis; Ira, William H. Noble; Genoa, William Wilber; Locke, Silas Bowker; Ledyard, Ephraim C. Marsh; Mentz, James Leonard; Owasco, Geo. R. Brinkerhoff; Springport, Asa W. Burnham; Scipio, John Daniels; Sempronius, William Satterlee; Venice, John Beardsley; Victory, Roswell Enos.

The fact is disclosed by the proceedings of our early Supervisors that the principal sources of local taxation were damages paid to land owners for new roads laid through their lands ; bridging streams, for the support of the poor, and for bounties paid for the destruction of wild beasts.

PAUPERISM.—Contrary to the common belief, we have had the poor with us always. The early settlers were not all self-supporting. The hardships and privations of the early emigrants caused much sickness amongst them ; many heads of families died, leaving sick and dependent members who required temporary support from the more favored. There were not then many chronic paupers, but the aggregate assistance required was relatively large.

Before the erection of the County Poor House, in 1825, the amount paid by the towns for the support of the poor, was nearly equal to all the other town expenses.

Aside from the maintenance of the paupers and the expenses incident to opening new roads, the other town expenses were very light. The town of Aurelius, which in 1818 included the village of Auburn, paid in the four years from 1818 to 1821 inclusive, for all local purposes \$3,244.04, of which sum \$2,354, or more than two-thirds, went for the support of the poor, and a similar expense, for the same purpose, was imposed upon the other towns of the County. We, therefore, had indigence and pauperism sixty years ago, relatively to the numbers of the people, nearly as great as at the present time.

In 1823 the town of Auburn was formed and in 1824 the entire town expenses were but \$302.21, or excluding damages incurred for laying new roads, it amounted only to about one hundred dollars. In 1825 the town paid \$200 to improve highways and the same amount for the support of the poor, and for all other local expenses \$47.36. In 1827 it was still less. We append the items as found in the records of the Supervisors proceedings of that year.

Asa Munger com. of schools three years,	\$11.25
Hackaliah Burt, " " two "	7.50
John Patty, " " one "	3.75
Samuel Dill, com. of highways,	1.00
Collector's commission,	1.59
Total,	\$25.09

It is quite apparent from the early records of the bills audited by the Board of Supervisors of

the County, that official incumbents did not then depend upon office for their support.

In further demonstration of the poor expenses, before the erection of the County Poor House, we append the following: The town charges of Scipio in 1824 were \$380.41, of which sum \$250 was for the support of the poor ; Ledyard \$288.68, of which \$250 was "poor money" ; Owasco, \$182.37, of which \$100 was "poor money" ; Locke, \$212, of which \$150 was "poor money" ; Sempronius, \$447, of which \$250 was appropriated for the support of the poor, and so on through the list of towns and the records of years.

These heavy expenses for the support of the poor, led the Supervisors at their session in 1825 to take measures for the erection of a County Poor House, a site for which, comprising seventy-nine acres, was procured on the farm of Thomas Stevenson, then in the town of Brutus. George Casey, Daniel Sennett, Henry Polhemus and Salmon Tyler were appointed superintendents for the erection of the building and superintending the general object of County pauperism. Two thousand dollars were appropriated in 1825 to this object, and three thousand dollars in 1826. The building was completed in the latter year, during which fifty-two paupers were received, and in 1827 the number had risen to one hundred and fifty, a number of inmates exceeding the present average.

The first lunatics were sent to the Insane Asylum from this County in 1843, when four were taken to Utica by Dr. J. D. Button. The present number of insane maintained by the County in the two asylums of Utica and Willard is seventy,—fifty-two at the latter who are considered incurables, and eighteen at the former many of whom are considered as curable cases. The whole number of insane persons in the County in 1875, was 157, an increase in this unfortunate class within twenty-five years of about three-fold, and nearly equaling the aggregate number of the blind, idiotic and deaf and dumb in the County. The cost to the County of maintaining the insane in the asylums, exclusive of clothing, is four dollars per week at Utica, and two dollars and sixty cents at Willard, thus imposing in the support of these unfortunates, an annual tax exceeding \$12,000.

Sylvester Willard, M. D., was the first physi-

cian to the poor house. Dr. Boyce has held that position for the past seventeen years, receiving a salary of \$250. In 1843 the cost of maintaining the poor of the County outside of the poor-house was \$7,224.55, and at the poor house \$3,707.62, a total cost of \$10,932.17. In 1877, at the poor house the cost amounted to \$7,741.94 and outside of it \$31,407.21, an aggregate cost for the maintenance of the poor of \$39,149.15, nearly four times the aggregate of 1843. The present average weekly cost of the maintenance of the paupers at the County Poor House is one dollar and fifty-six cents, independently of the annual products of the farm. E. L. Phelps held the position of Keeper of the Poor House for seventeen years, and Morris M. Olmstead that of Superintendent of the Poor for twenty, and is the present incumbent of that office.

CHAPTER XIII.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES AND STATISTICS.

EARLY DISADVANTAGES—FIRST SOCIETY AND ITS PROCEEDINGS—SECOND SOCIETY—ITS OFFICERS AND PROCEEDINGS—MORAVIA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—NORTH CAYUGA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—GENERAL HISTORY OF THE PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY—CAYUGA COUNTY PATRONS—FIRE RELIEF ASSOCIATION—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.

IN a County naturally so favorable to so varied and abundant agricultural productions as Cayuga, associations might be expected among the farmers for their own mutual improvement; but for nearly a quarter of a century the early emigrants had to maintain a stern contest with rude nature and had little time or means for anything else. The forest had to be removed, roads constructed, streams bridged, mills erected and most of their own clothing prepared. Those who enjoy the improved facilities of the present day, with all the arts and conveniences of life, can but feebly conceive the difficulties and embarrassments under which the first settlers labored. They had a fertile soil to cultivate, when once the trees were removed, which needed no

phosphates to enrich it, yet mowers and reapers tedders and hay-rakes, had they then been known, could not have been used among the knolls and stumps of the early farms. The old "bull plow" with its wooden moldboard, and wrought iron and steel-pointed share; the home-made drag, supplied with wooden teeth, and formed of the forked branch of a tree; the native cattle, pastured in the woods in the summer and often "broused" in winter upon buds and branches of forest trees; the swine, fed upon the native roots and nuts and running free and wild in the woods, all as nimble as the other wild animals; all these rude accompaniments were not suggestive of public exhibitions.

The "art and science of agriculture" was not then known to, or thought of, by the early farmers. "What they knew about farming," was to clear the land and cast and cover the seed; protect its growth from the ravages of beasts and vermin; harvest and secure the products, and then to find some means to grind enough grain for the family supply, and to find a market for the remainder, which for a few years was supplied by the needs of the new comers.

In 1818, however, a successful effort was made to form the Cayuga County Agricultural Society. On the fourth day of February in that year a meeting was held at the house of Amos Adams in Scipio, and an organization completed. David Thomas, was made President; Silas Holbrook, Vice-President; John Tift, Treasurer; and Joshua Baldwin, Recording Secretary. On September 7th following, David Thomas delivered an address before the society, which is believed to have been the first address upon agriculture delivered in the County.

In that address Mr. Thomas said: "Cayuga County, which we have to cultivate, contains 697 square miles with less than one square mile of waste land; nearly every other part is suitable for a garden."

David Wright, Esq., of Auburn, also addressed the same meeting and said: "If the farmers of Cayuga County do not march in the van of the agricultural host, the fault must be theirs. Nature has been no step-mother to them. With a soil of great fertility and well adapted to the growth of the principal agricultural productions of this latitude we have, in addition, inexhaustible beds of gypsum, quarries of lime-stone,

swamps of marl and a fair promise of an abundance of salt."

On the 20th of October ensuing, the first Fair and Cattle Show in Cayuga County, was held at Auburn. The animals were exhibited in a field on the farm of William Bostwick, south of the Court House, and the other articles in one of the stores of the village. The fair was held for two days and was an occasion of great interest, being largely attended. The church bells were rung for a half hour in the morning of each day, an expression of the jubilant satisfaction of the people of the village at the presence of their rural friends. The exhibition was closed by a long and formal procession from the Court House to the Presbyterian church. Here prayers were offered, hymns sung and an address delivered by David Thomas, full of sound practical thoughts. Twenty-five prizes were awarded, consisting of silver cups and teaspoons, of the aggregate value of two hundred and thirty-one dollars. One of these cups then awarded is still in the possession of H. H. Bostwick, Esq., of Auburn.

These Fairs were annually held for many years, and were a decided benefit to the farmers of the County. But the burden of maintaining them fell upon a few who became weary of bearing it and, after about fifteen years, the enterprise was abandoned.

Another society was organized on the 22d day of July, 1841, of which Humphrey Howland was the first president, and the following gentlemen were the Vice-Presidents: John M. Sherwood, of Auburn; Loring Willard, of Aurelius; Isaac Bell, of Brutus; Luke Hollister, Cato; Levi Colvin, Conquest; David O. Durkee, Ira; William F. Tompkins, Fleming; Mathias Hutchinson, Genoa; Wing Tabor, Moravia; Samuel Bell, Mentz; Isaac Sisson, Locke; John I. Brinkerhoff, Owasco; Jonathan Richmond, Ledyard; Mr. Fuller, Sempronius; John W. McFadden, Sterling; E. A. Howland, Venice; Mathias Vanderheyden, Victory; John Sittser, Sennett; U. F. Doubleday, Scipio; Luther Fuller, Niles; Henry Crane, Springport; and Martin Barber, Summer Hill.

The following were the Presidents of the Society from 1841 to 1855 inclusive, namely:

Humphrey Howland,-----	1841
John M. Sherwood,-----	1842-1845
Ezra W. Bateman,-----	1846

Chester Gridley,-----	1846-1849
Lyman Sherwood,-----	1850
William Howard,-----	1851-1852
E. W. Sheldon,-----	1853
John S. Clark,-----	1854
Abraham Burlew,-----	1855

The following were the Secretaries of the Society for the same period:

William Richardson,-----	1841-1845
Benjamin F. Hall,-----	1845-1848
John B. Dill,-----	1849
T. M. Pomeroy,-----	1850
H. H. Bostwick,-----	1850-1853
Luman W. Capin,-----	1854
John B. Dill,-----	1855

There was a reorganization of the Society under the act of April 15th, 1855, when new articles of association were formed under the name of the Cayuga County Agricultural and Horticultural Society. The first associates were Thomas S. Bentley, Charles P. Wood, David Wright, Abraham Burlew, Harrison Hopkins, Henry Fellows, Benjamin Ashby, Henry S. Dunning, John B. Dill, Harvey A. Lamphere, Hiram O'Hara, Henry H. Bostwick, I. W. Quick and others.

The first directors were Thomas S. Bentley, of Brutus, President; Horace T. Cook, of Auburn, Secretary; H. H. Bostwick, Treasurer; William D. Osborn, of Mentz; Abraham Burlew, of Springport; Henry Conklin, of Owasco; Charles P. Wood, of Auburn; and Mathias Hutchinson, of Genoa.

The Presidents of the Society from its reorganization until the present time have been as follows:

Thomas S. Bentley,-----	1856
Grove Bradley,-----	1857
Henry W. Dwight,-----	1858-1859
William Webster,-----	1860
Alanson M. Clark,-----	1861-'2-'3-'4-'5-'6-'7-'8
Allen D. Morgan,-----	1868-1869-1870
Jay Lewis Grant,-----	1871-'2-'3-'4
John B. Shank,-----	1875-'6-'7-'8

The Secretaries of the Society since its reorganization have been the following:

Horace T. Cook,-----	1856
Larned C. Mann,-----	1857-'8-'9
B. B. Snow,-----	1860
John G. Hosmer,-----	1861-'2-'3-'4-'5-'6-'7
A. S. Hamblin,-----	1868-'9
John G. Hosmer,-----	1870-'71-'72
A. B. Hamblin,-----	1873-'4-'5-'6-'7-'8

The Vice-Presidents were Henry Willard, of Aurelius; Harvey A. Lamphere, of Brutus; Moses Robinson, of Cato; Hardy Cole, of Con-

quest ; Calvin Leach, of Fleming ; Henry Pardee, of Genoa ; John E. Terpening, of Ira ; J. Hewitt, of Moravia ; John S. Clark, of Mentz ; M. D. Murfey, of Locke ; George Thomson, jr., of Owasco ; Elijah Brown, of Niles ; Samuel C. Crowley, of Ledyard ; Hector C. Tuthill, of Sempronius ; Morell S. Fitch, of Scipio ; Henry Fellows, of Sennett ; George W. Truesdell, of Springport ; J. Barber, of Summer Hill ; Joseph Eldridge, of Victory ; Mason White, of Venice ; and George B. Cole, of Sterling ; Horace T. Cook, Secretary.

Larned C. Mann has held one or the other of the responsible offices of secretary or treasurer of this society since its reorganization twenty-three years ago. H. H. Bostwick held the office of treasurer for six years, John G. Hosmer that of secretary for ten years, and A. B. Hamblin the same office for eight years. It is a compliment to the capacity and fidelity of these officers that they continued so long to discharge, for a trifling consideration, so arduous a duty, and that the records and accounts of the society, for so long a period, have been so faithfully kept.

Among those who have delivered addresses before the society are David Thomas, David Wright, Humphrey Howland, B. P. Johnson, Nathan Burchard and A. S. Divens.

In 1856 a new departure was taken by the introduction of riding, driving and trotting matches. In the "ladies' riding match" in 1856, nine prizes were offered and awarded to as many different ladies, and in the "ladies' driving match" seven prizes, Mrs. Henry taking the first prize in both, Miss Smith, the second prize in the "riding match," and Miss Cuykendall, the second prize in the "driving match." It was the first and only experiment of the kind.

In 1856 the conclusion was reached to purchase permanent exhibition grounds and to erect thereon buildings and show-pens, and grade a half mile track. Nineteen acres were bought for this purpose of Henry S. Dunning, at \$150 per acre, and the ground fenced and improved with the track, show-pens and necessary buildings, costing in the aggregate about \$6,000 and forming ample and very complete accommodations for the intended purpose. An effort was made to change the location of the grounds to the eastern part of the city, provided a sale of present grounds could be made on satisfactory terms.

They were accordingly advertised ; but satisfactory offers for the same not being made the contemplated change was not effected. This offer to sell the property created the false impression among many that the society was about to disband, which was not contemplated.

Among the novelties and objects of interest often shown at the annual fairs, was an old and unique clock, shown in 1859 by James Law, which was owned by an English sovereign three hundred years ago, a card upon which bore the following inscription :

" Three hundred years have nearly fled
Since my royal owner lost her head ;
Amid her country's pomp and power,
I marked the time and told the hour."

MORAVIA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The constitution of this society was adopted September 20th, 1858, and its by-laws on the 26th of the same month. Sidney Mead was the first president of the society ; M. W. Alley, secretary, and E. P. K. Smith, treasurer. Its first purpose was to perfect a town organization for social and agricultural improvement. The first fair was held October 12th, 1858, and annual fairs have now been held for twenty years with very gratifying success, both as respects its financial receipts, which indicate the attendance, and the display of the animals and agricultural and mechanical products, which have regularly increased.

The entire receipts of this society the second year of its existence, from all sources, was but \$114, while the total receipts for 1877 were \$1,229.01. It was early found that the residents in the ten southern towns of the County took a lively interest in this organization, to the administration of which they were admitted in 1859, with the following Vice-Presidents : G. L. Mead, Moravia ; E. W. Bateman, Venice ; J. C. Smith, Scipio ; H. C. Tuthill, Sempronius ; E. E. Brown and H. W. Lockwood, Niles ; Grover Stoyell, Summer Hill ; Jonathan Conklin, Locke ; Albert Lester, Genoa ; and Thomas Gould, Ledyard. The Directors appointed at the same time were Sidney Mead, James H. Jewett, P. M. Stoddard, John Cortright, E. P. K. Smith, and P. D. Livingston. The southern towns of the County were this year cordially invited to participate in all the operations of the society and the invitation was generally accepted. This cooperation has since been uniformly maintained, so that, though bearing the local name of the town in