

which had been increased during his last year in the institution.

In October, 1822, he considered himself fitted for admission to the bar, applied and was successful. His examination was at Utica, N. Y., and he availed himself of the occasion to visit Auburn, ostensibly in quest of a business engagement, but really for a more interesting purpose, as we shall see. He was offered and accepted a partnership with the Hon. Elijah Miller, then County Judge, one stipulation of which guaranteed five hundred dollars for the first year, which his actual receipts exceeded. He was now able to pay off all his old and annoying debts, and, for the rest of his life, found full occupation and maintained his independence. He knew he must rely for support upon his profession, and he applied himself diligently to the faithful and prompt execution of every trust confided to him. At the same time he neglected none of the duties which the good citizen owes to the community in which he lives. He was not a lawyer only; he was a citizen and neighbor as well, and freely devoted his spare time to the social, material and moral improvement of his adopted village. He was social and courteous and won many personal and warm friends, and the esteem and admiration of all that knew him. Connected in business with one of the best lawyers in the County, who had also much other business to transact, the legal business of the firm gradually devolved upon Mr. Seward; but a more interesting case than any which had occurred in his professional experience was soon to be tried, the circumstances of which are thus related by himself.

"I had, in the spring of 1821, while on a visit to Florida, N. Y., met there my sister, who was a pupil in Mrs. Willard's popular seminary at Troy, and was then at home, accompanied by her school-mate, Miss Frances A. Miller, of Auburn. A partiality that I conceived for her was my inducement to stop at Auburn, when afterwards exploring the West; our intercourse now ripened into an engagement of marriage." They were married on the 20th of October, 1824. The bride was the daughter of Elijah Miller, senior partner of the firm. Mr. Miller was a widower, and his consent to the marriage had the condition that the daughter should not leave her father's home for a permanent residence elsewhere while he survived, and she did not, but lived and died in her childhood's home.

Mr. Seward took an active interest in political affairs. He attended conventions, wrote resolutions, and delivered addresses. To this he was led by his habit of thoroughly investigating public questions, on which he formed decided opinions, and the impulses of his nature led him to defend and propagate them. As yet, at least, he was not ambitious of public office. The highly honorable social and professional position which

he had attained was satisfactory, and for the time he appeared fully content with them. In 1828, the office of Surrogate became vacant by the resignation of Seneca Wood, and the name of Mr. Seward was presented to but not confirmed by the Senate. This led him to say that, "I saw at once, how much the desire for or the holding of such a place tended to compromise my personal independence, and, resolved henceforth, on no consideration other than the safety of the State, to seek, or accept a trust conferred by executive authority."

He adhered to this resolution throughout his life, except when armed rebellion assailed the "safety" of the nation, when, under President Lincoln's and Johnson's administrations he held the office of Secretary of State of the United States.

The abduction and alleged murder by Free Masons, on the 14th of September, 1826, of William Morgan, of Batavia, for revealing their secrets, created widespread and intense excitement, especially in the western counties of New York, and to a considerable extent also throughout the Union. It led to a political organization entitled the Anti-Masonic party, to which the great majority of the electors in Western New York became attached, including Mr. Seward. Of this party Mr. Seward became a distinguished leader, and to it he owes his first political preferment. He was nominated for and elected State Senator of the Seventh District by a large majority. He took his seat in the Senate in January following, there being in that body of thirty-two members, but seven anti-masonic representatives. Mr. Seward was then but thirty years of age, with no legislative experience; a member of a party dominant only in a few counties of a single State, and hated and scorned by its opponents as an insignificant faction. He was confronted by old, talented and experienced opponents. In his first service in the Senate of this State, as afterwards in that of the United States, he had a difficult part to perform, and in both instances his prudence, tact and talents were conspicuously displayed. As a member ex-officio of the court for the Correction of Errors, he was active, industrious and influential. Legislation for the general interest of the State engaged his careful attention. In State and national politics, he actively participated, and won in his first public service that respect for his superior acuteness, diligence and prudence which has been accorded to him in all the various and responsible public trusts which he has held. In the summer of 1833, he accompanied his father, who was an invalid seeking restoration of health, in a journey to Europe. While there he contributed very interesting letters, which were published in the *Albany Evening Journal*, and widely copied by the press of the country, adding to his reputation

as a clear and forcible writer, and close observer of men, manners and events. He returned in season to resume his seat in the senate.

In 1834 he was an unsuccessful candidate for Governor, being defeated by Wm. L. Marcy. Mr. Seward's increasing popularity with the people of the State was shown by his triumphant election to the same office, over the same competitor, in 1838, and he was reelected in 1840. As Governor, his administration was eminently popular, and his State papers were dignified, forcible and original. His official acts were stamped with that boldness and vigor of thought which distinguished his entire public career, and received the enthusiastic endorsement of the great body of the people of the State.

At the close of his gubernatorial service, for the ensuing years he practiced his profession with success and distinction. In 1849 he was appointed Senator of the United States and reappointed six years later, holding the office for twelve years. He entered that body in the full maturity of his powers, with deliberately formed and thoroughly grounded political opinions, and with capacities for their forcible and logical defense. The period of his service in the United States Senate was that of the incubation of secession, when the arrogance and dominance of its friends were offensively manifest. Mr. Seward at once took firm ground against their pretensions. His independent, and, as some of his friends thought, his ultra-course was offensive to some of the leading members of his party, as Webster, Clay and Fillmore,—while no epithets were sufficiently expressive to characterize the Southern hatred of his policy. He was bitterly denounced by pro-slavery men; every effort was made to bring him in disrepute, destroy his influence and deter him from his course; but in vain. He had carefully laid his plans and deliberately pursued them. To their railing and bitter invective he never retorted. Personalities he scorned. He met and overcame his opponents in argument, which was the only triumph he desired, leaving to time and events the vindication of the wisdom of his acts. His calm, unswerving course finally won the regard, even of the hot-headed Southerners themselves, who, though they hated his measures, could not but respect the man. His career in the Senate, while it was one of the most difficult which any of our statesmen had attempted, was crowned by the most complete triumph. He won the hearts of our loyal citizens, brought them into harmony, with his views, and prepared them when the final trial came, to sacrifice life and fortune in defense of the union. He was strongly opposed to slavery, both from its injustice to the colored race, and its injurious effects upon the whites themselves. With the mind of a philosopher he saw in the jarring and dissonance between the freemen of the

North, and the slave-holders of the South, such a wide separation and bitterness of feeling, as to render hopeless the effort to induce harmony of action. The government must, in his judgment, be either free or slave, and this led him to announce that ever memorable sentiment, that the conflict between the sections was "irrepressible," for which, at the time, he was severely criticised; but which subsequent events proved to have been prophetic.

In the National Republican Convention of 1860, he was a prominent candidate for the presidential nomination which his friends regarded as certain. On the second ballot he received one hundred and eighty-four and one-half votes; but on the third Mr. Lincoln received the nomination.

In the organization of his Cabinet, Mr. Seward was made Secretary of State, a position which he held during Lincoln's and Johnson's administrations, discharging its delicate and embarrassing duties with signal ability and success. New, grave and complicated questions of domestic and foreign policy arose during the Rebellion, which must be met and decided, and the vast number of able papers which were issued from the State Department attest, at once, his great industry, wisdom and sagacity.

Early in April, 1865, while riding in his carriage, the horses becoming frightened, ran, and in jumping out, he was thrown violently to the ground, his right arm broken and both sides of his lower jaw fractured. He was completely prostrated by the injury and fatal results were feared. While thus lying enfeebled upon his bed, at ten o'clock on the evening of April 14th, a would-be assassin forced his way into his chamber, armed with a heavy horse pistol and a large knife. His son, Frederick W., Assistant Secretary of State, who sought to prevent the assassin from entering the chamber, had his skull crushed by a fierce blow of the pistol, and his life was, for a long time, despaired of; Augustus, another son, Paymaster in the United States Army, and two male nurses, who came to the rescue of the invalid Secretary, were all severely wounded.

The assassin made repeated thrusts with his knife at the throat and heart of Mr. Seward, but the latter instinctively rolled himself in the bed clothing which shielded his body from the effect of the thrusts, and the wire-netting used to support the broken jaw warded off the blows directed to his throat, the Secretary rolling himself from the bed to the floor. His daughter, Fanny, had now entered the room and it was her agonized cries, as the assassin himself afterwards admitted, which caused him to desist. He fled, but was subsequently arrested and executed. Though Mr. Seward was severely cut in the face and bled profusely, he recovered as did all the parties who were wounded in this terrible struggle.

Mr. Seward continued to discharge his official duties to the close of President Johnson's administration when he cast off his official robes, never after to assume them. It was believed by his friends that after a life of such incessant toil, and having reached nearly the allotted limit of human life of "three score and ten years," worn, wounded and scarred, he would retire to his own beautiful and quiet home, there to enjoy that rest which he had so richly earned, and the pleasant society of his warm and faithful friends. But this was not his purpose. His mind was yet clear, and his spirits elastic. His life had been one incessant round of activities, and he had constantly borne a heavy load of cares and responsibilities, which he knew it would not be best for him to suddenly cast off. "Rest," he said, for him, "was rust," and he preferred, while he lived, to keep himself bright by the attrition of action.

His reputation was international. He was favorably known both to the Occident and the Orient, the West and the East. He therefore proposed to make a "journey around the world," to visit the most noted nations of the globe and renew or make the acquaintance of eminent men in both hemispheres. He arranged to record and fully illustrate the observations and scenes made and observed on his route and did so, publishing the result in one of the most beautiful, interesting and really instructive books of travel which has ever emanated from the American press.*

He left Auburn August 9th, 1870, with his adopted daughter, Olive Risley Seward, and her sister, Mr. Alexander W. Randall, Mrs. Randall and Mr. George F. Seward and Mrs. Seward. They proceeded to California, thence to Japan, China and Cochin China, the Eastern Archipelago, British India, Egypt, Palestine, and the principal nations of Europe, returning after an absence of about fourteen months.

It would now seem that the purposes of his life were so far fulfilled that he could and would seek repose, but he still found his highest enjoyment in mental work, to which, soon after his return, he applied himself in the preparation of an autobiography addressed to his children. The completion of this work † was arrested by his death, which occurred quietly and peacefully at his home in Auburn, on October 10th, 1872. His ashes repose in Fort Hill Cemetery among his kindred and friends. His monument bears the expressive words:

"HE WAS FAITHFUL,"

words, which, in the famous trial of Freeman, while standing between the friendless prisoner and the gallows, he said he hoped might be said of him. His wish has been gratified and affec-

tion and truth alike bear witness to the fidelity of the inscription.

JOSIAH LETCHWORTH.

No history of Cayuga County would be deemed complete without brief mention of JOSIAH LETCHWORTH, a man who, neither renowned as statesman, logician, lawyer or priest, nevertheless might be said to have filled to a limited degree the place of each in the prescribed circle of his acquaintance. Eminent alike for his private virtues, and the native force of a clear and vigorous intellect, his influence was not the result of wealth, but perhaps the more potent, because the outcome of a pure and nobly spent life, superior to selfish impulses, or low ambitions.

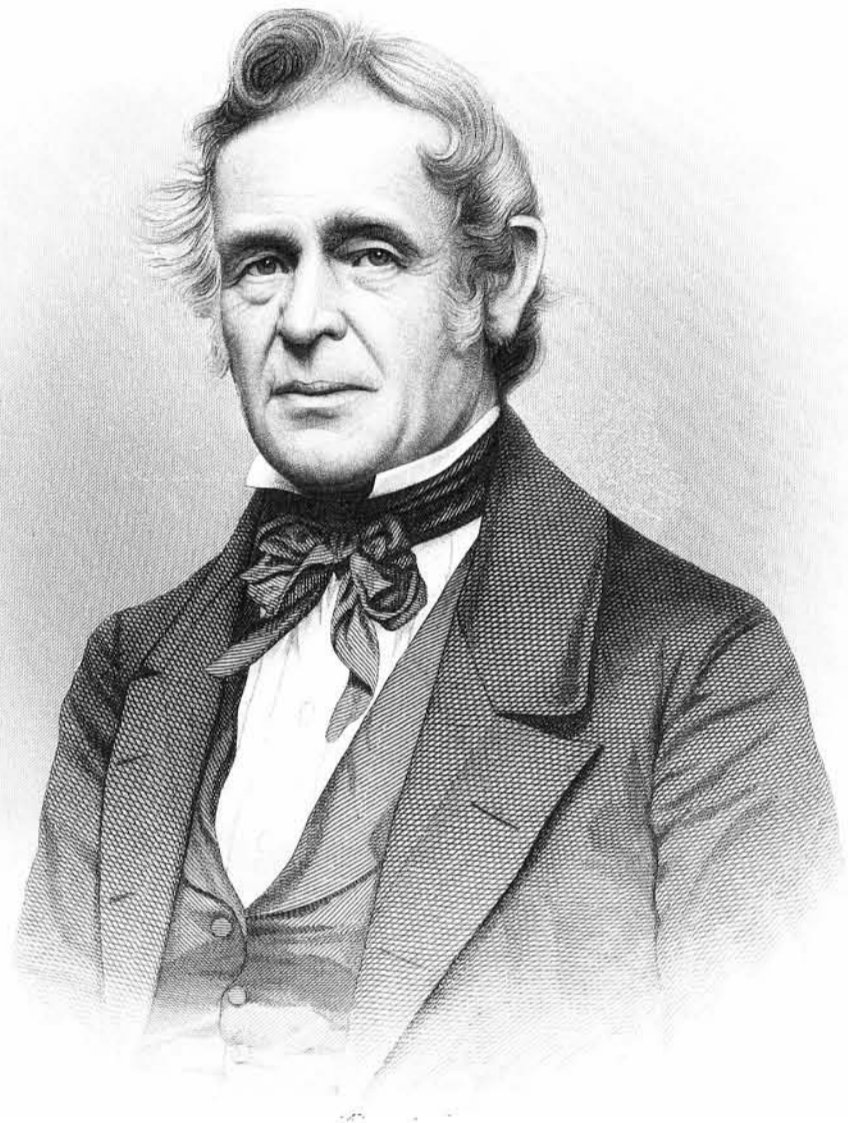
Mr. Letchworth was a native of Philadelphia, Pa., where he was born November 22d, 1791, and in the neighborhood of which city he resided until after his marriage to Ann Hause, Oct. 12th, 1815, when he settled at Burlington, New Jersey, and there established himself in the business with which he had become familiar by apprenticeship, that of a saddler. It was at this time, when, desiring to know by personal observation something of the Great West of which he heard so much, that, in company with a friend, he traveled, much of the way on foot, to the city of Pittsburgh; there purchasing a small row-boat, the two proceeded by the Ohio river as far as Cincinnati, at night pulling their boat to land and encamping on the shore. Arriving at the last named city they disposed of their boat and repaired to their hotel—this being a not uncommon procedure on the part of travelers at that time. His journal kept during this tour is possessed of much interest, describing as it does these then embryo cities, and the impressions made upon his mind. Contrasting with the present, it seems more like the vagaries of a fitful dream, than the realities of a life whose span might reasonably have extended to the present moment. Inspired, perhaps, somewhat by the new world of thought and enterprise which this journey had awakened, he the more readily became imbued with that spirit of emigration which continues unabated even to our time.

About the year 1819, with his little family of wife and two children, he entered upon the then long and wearisome journey, by private conveyance, to the newly settled district known as Black River, in our own State. After a residence there of several years, during which he held important and responsible positions in connection with extensive manufacturing interests, he removed to

the form of a memoir, containing full and very interesting extracts from his private letters, in which is contained a pretty full history of the times in which he lived.

* William H. Seward's Travels Around the World. One volume octavo pp. 778: D. Appleton & Co.

† This work was completed by his son Frederick W. Seward, the scholarly and accomplished present Assistant Secretary of State, in



Engraved by J. C. Buttre

J. Letchworth

this County and settled first at Moravia, and subsequently at Sherwood, where he resided for a period of twenty years, during which time he identified himself with many of the popular reform movements of the day. He was vigilant in the temperance reform, which then was a new movement, and to this cause he continued faithful and devoted through the various stages of the Washingtonian movement, Sons of Temperance, Good Templars, &c., often lecturing upon the subject, arousing the latent sentiment of the County, and strengthening the convictions of the wavering or indifferent.

He was a strong anti-slavery man at a time when those sentiments were not so popular as they became at a later period, when to be known as holding such views well nigh amounted to ostracism from the friendship and good will of a considerable and very respectable portion of community.

He at one time, without solicitation and indeed without previous knowledge to himself, received the nomination of the Whig party, of which he was an enthusiastic supporter, for the State Assembly. This nomination, however, he afterwards declined to accept, though had he done so his friends thought, in view of his general popularity and well known reputation for honesty and sincere desire for the best interests of the community, he would have proven a successful candidate; but his tastes were of a domestic rather than public character, and the greatest pleasure of his life he found in those simple joys that center in the domestic circle. There surrounded by those most dear, he labored to give such directions to the impressible minds of his children as would most directly serve to fit them for the active arena of life. For this work his fine literary attainments and capabilities eminently fitted him. With his mind well stored with the most elevating sentiments of poets and standard authors, he had an ever perennial fund of entertainment and instruction at hand.

In the year 1852, Mr. Letchworth closed his business at Sherwood, and removed with his family to Auburn, purchasing the homestead on Fulton street, where he continued to reside during the remainder of his active and useful life. Relieved from all business cares and anxieties, in the daily intercourse with more than one of his children, who had now grown to man and woman-hood, he found additional time for the exercise of those benevolent impulses of his nature in which he took delight.

Mr. Letchworth was a warm personal friend of many of the prominent men of this County, and the beautiful tribute paid to his memory by the beloved and lamented Hon. Wm. H. Seward, in a speech made November 2d, 1857, upon the occasion of his return to Auburn, shortly after the decease of Mr. Letchworth, is a striking evidence

of the warm place he held in the hearts of all who knew him. To repeat these words here renders all other eulogy unnecessary and puerile. Mr. Seward spoke as follows:

"*Fellow Citizens*—I spoke to you ten years ago to night in this place on questions identical with those I am now to discuss. I had then recently left the cause of human rights prostrate in the Halls of Congress. I came home expecting that here, at least, I should witness a speedy and generous and effective rally for its restoration. I found, however, to my inexpressible mortification, no such effort, but, on the contrary, the whole body of this community bewildered and deliriously excited about the relative virtue, intelligence and patriotism of Catholic and Protestant. Not even the questions of the day, much less the mighty and absorbing question of the age, seemed at stake. Prejudices intense, and passions strong, ruled the hour. I spoke, as you may perhaps remember, with sorrow aggravated to the verge of impatience. When I descended from the platform, a fellow citizen, venerable in years, and beloved by us all, gently asked me whether I was not becoming disheartened and despondent. He added that there was no occasion for dejection, and what I had seen was but the caprice of a day. 'Go on and do your duty, and we, your neighbors, will come around you again right soon, and sustain you throughout.' Do you ask who it was that administered that just, though mild rebuke? Who else could it be but Josiah Letchworth, a man whose patience was equal to his enthusiastic zeal in every good cause, and to his benevolence in every good work? His prediction is fulfilled, and I am here to speak with more boldness and confidence among you than ever before. But my faithful monitor no longer has a place in our assemblies. Josiah Letchworth, the founder of our charities, the defender of truth and justice, is no more. You deplore his loss as I do, for he was not more my friend than a public benefactor. I do injustice, however, equally to my own faith and to that which was the inspiration of his life, when I say that I miss his benevolent smile, and the cordial pressure of his hand to-night. No—he yet lives, and his shade is not far from us whenever we assemble in places where he was once familiar, to carry on a good work in which he was accustomed to labor. He has, indeed, passed the inevitable change. But we all know as he knew, that that

* * * eternal change,

But grasps humanity with a quicker range,
And they who fall, but fall as worlds will fall,
To rise if just, a spirit o'er them all.' "

The interest Mr. Letchworth manifested in the Cayuga Orphan Asylum when in its infancy, as also in the public schools, and the affection which he inspired in the children, will be remem-

bered by hundreds who have years since entered upon active life. His death, which took place at his home on Fulton street, in the city of Auburn, April 14th, 1857, was peaceful, and a fitting close to his sweet and beautiful life. There, surrounded by his family and his friends, his spirit calmly passed into the great unknown, sustained by these comforting words which it was his delight to repeat, contained in the 23d Psalm, commencing, "The Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want." The children flocked to visit his remains, and shed their honest tears about his pall, and afterward that they might have his cheering face, with its tender smiles of sympathy, in more enduring form than that of memory, employed the celebrated artist, Mr. Buttre, to execute in his best style a fine steel engraving of him, prints of which are to be seen in hundreds of homes today, and the same which accompanies this notice of him in the present volume. It will be recollected with interest by those who engaged in this pleasant tribute, that the money remaining after the expense of engraving was paid was employed by the children in the purchase of the marble tablet at the asylum, which bears the name of the institution and date of its erection, commemorating both the affectionate interest of the children, and the sympathy of one who was the orphans' friend.

Perhaps no more satisfactory close could be made to this brief biography than extracts from the obituary notice which appeared in the *Auburn Daily Advertiser* upon the occasion of the decease of Mr. Letchworth, as follows :

"It is our painful duty to record the death of this estimable and highly respected citizen, who died at his residence on Fulton street at 9 o'clock this morning.

"The intelligence will be received by his friends and fellow citizens with profound grief, for Mr. Letchworth was a man both respected and beloved. He had only resided in this city about five years ; but had been a resident of the County for a quarter of a century, having lived in Scipio some twenty years, where he had a large circle of friends, and had been long known to our principal citizens in this city.

"He was a Friend by birth-right, and entertained the general views held by that class of Christians ; though in matters of religion he always refused to be restricted by creeds or sectarian shackles, claiming for himself and according to others the largest liberty in all matters of conscience. One of the marked traits in his character was his profound deference to the right of private judgment, with which he believed God had invested every man.

"Mr. Letchworth had long been known as a genuine reformer and philanthropist, and was accounted among the staunch friends of freedom, temperance and education. The oppressed had

in him a true friend, and the fugitive slave was never refused aid and comfort at his hand. The rum traffic was his especial abhorrence, and at an early day he engaged in the temperance reform, to which he continued firmly devoted. He was deeply interested in the cause of education ; he loved the young, and had a happy faculty of talking to them. He had been for several years trustee of his district, and was but recently re-elected.

"In former times Mr. Letchworth was well known in the political affairs of our County. He was a devoted friend of Henry Clay, and during the presidential contests of those days was a somewhat voluminous correspondent of the *Journal and Advertiser*, over the signature of 'Old Cayuga,' which our older citizens will remember.

"He was not, however, a man ambitious of political honors, and was quite satisfied to render service to his country and to his fellow men in the sphere of a plain citizen. A man of a high order of native intellect, but of unassuming character, he secured universal respect without provoking envy. He had a family of four sons and four daughters.

"Mr. Letchworth had not been in health since last July, when he had a severe illness. The sickness of which he died, however, was only of a week's continuance, and he was not considered so near his end until last evening. Yesterday he was dressed and was up most of the day ; about 11 o'clock last evening, after being conducted to his room and assisted to bed, he said to his family, 'I shall not be with you much longer, I feel that my decease is near. I want you to bury me without parade, let all be quiet, and invite my friends of all denominations to the funeral.' He added, 'I have endeavored to bring up my children as Christians, and I am now quite willing to die, and as to my property you will find what I wish to say on that subject, in my drawer.' All this was said in a calm and intelligent manner, though previously he had seemed quite bewildered at times.

"He appeared anxious to have his family keep near him, which they did, though, he soon became insensible, and never recovered consciousness up to 9 o'clock this morning, when he quietly breathed his last."

LANSINGH BRIGGS, M. D.

LANSINGH BRIGGS, M. D., the son of Gilbert Briggs, was born in Washington county, N. Y., December 5th, 1807. In December, 1808, his father removed to Scipio in this county, locating on a farm on lot No. 16, purchased of Amos Rathbun, father of the late George Rathbun, Esq., of Auburn.



Engraved by J. Sarg, Phila.

Lansing Briggs

Scipio, though the earliest settled of any of the townships in the County, was still, in that part of it where Mr. Briggs located, comparatively in a state of nature, the only improvements or "betterments," consisting of a small clearing and a log-house and barn, made by a previous occupant. The subject of this sketch was then an infant, and he received his early impressions beneath the shadows of the primeval forest,

"The dark umbragious woods,"

in removing which, and in planting and reaping grain for sustenance, and in preparing flax and wool for raiment, his family, and the settlers generally, both old and young, were for many years, employed. In due time young Briggs was disciplined and cultured in the same earnest and wholesome lessons, supplemented, at the proper age, by instruction in the common schools of the period during the winter. Farm work occupied his summers, and in autumn he assisted his father in his cooper shop.

In the winter of 1823, when but sixteen years of age, he was examined by the school inspectors of the town, the late Doctor John Thompson of Sherwood, and the Rev. W. Johnston, still living in Owasco, and was by them duly certified to be, in respect both to his literary attainments and moral character, fully competent to teach a common school, and he immediately engaged therein in Deacon Daniels' district in Scipio.

This occupation he continued during the winters, working on the farm in summer; and in the spring of 1825, he became a student in the "Auburn Associated Academy," Rev. Noble D. Strong, principal. This was a private unchartered institution, but under the care of a very competent teacher. It occupied the ground floor of the old Theological Seminary building, and was a rival of the regularly chartered "Auburn Academy;" which was at the same time, in successful operation, in a building on the corner of North and Academy streets, afterwards long known as the "stone bottom." Among Doctor Briggs' associate students, at this time, were Deacon Henry Willard, of Cayuga; Doctor H. P. Peterson, of Union Springs; Charles Loring Elliott, the eminent artist; Matthew La Rue Perrine Thompson and the Rev. Wm. Wyckoff, late professor of the New York University.

He continued his vocation of teaching during the winters, and at the same time studied medicine under the direction of Doctor Phineas Hurd, late of Scipio.

In the spring of 1829, he entered the office of Doctor Joseph T. Pitney, late of Auburn, who had a large general practice, and was the principal surgeon of the County. In the succeeding autumn he attended his first course of lectures in the Berkshire Medical Institution, at Pittsfield, Mass., and graduated from the same school the year following.

In June, 1831, forty-eight years ago, he commenced the practice of his profession with Dr. John G. Morgan in an office at No. 1, North St. Among their students was Dr. Frank H. Hamilton, since a distinguished professor of surgery, and the author of several deservedly popular surgical works, that are authorities on both sides of the Atlantic. The same year he was made a member of the Cayuga County Medical Society, an association organized in 1806, and continued uninterruptedly to the present time. One generation of members has already passed away, and very few only of his then associates now remain.

Medicine is an inexact, a progressive science, with the progress of which Doctor Briggs has kept fully abreast. Of the two modes of practice, which have prevailed from time immemorial and now prevail, the *active* and the *expectant*, the one relying on the potency of drugs in the treatment of the sick and the other more on the recuperative powers of nature, Doctor Briggs inclined to the latter; and within the last fifty years, it has become a largely prevailing view with the medical profession generally. Very many of the most potent medicines, though still in use, are rarely resorted to, and bleeding has become a nearly "lost art." Among the causes of the great change in medical practice, are the varying character of diseases; a more thorough knowledge of the means of preventing them; increased facilities for dissections and vivisections; improvements in the microscope and its practical use; progress in chemical science; discoveries of new and valuable remedies; and a much more general interchange and diffusion of knowledge by means of periodicals, books and public lectures.

Doctor Briggs was a diligent and earnest student in his profession and kept himself fully informed of the improvements in it, and as a medical expert has been much consulted in difficult cases.

In the summer of 1832, on the advent of the Asiatic cholera in America, he was commissioned by the Board of Health of Auburn, to visit Rochester and other places wherein the disease was then prevailing, in order that he might, by personal observation, learn something of its peculiarities, and assist in keeping the scourge at a distance, or in alleviating its horrors should it appear in our midst. We were then spared that affliction; but, in the summer of 1850, it invaded the city, and claimed for its first victim a resident and prominent physician, Doctor L. B. Bigelow, followed by Anson Vanderheyden, — Parsons, and a few others.

In June, 1834, he formed a partnership with Ira H. Smith, which continued until the death of the latter in 1839. Their office was on the site of the residence of C. S. Burtis, Esq. In the lat-

ter year he married Miss Angelina Warden, daughter of Capt. Allen Warden, of Auburn. She died in 1841, leaving one child which survived her only five years. On December 30th, 1836, he contracted a second marriage with Miss Matilda C. Lillie.

In 1848 he went to Europe with a view to improvement in his profession, and for the general advantages to be derived from foreign travel. Visiting foreign countries thirty years ago, a practice now "more honored in the breach than in the observance," was then supposed to afford peculiar and exclusive advantages to physicians and surgeons in the practice of their profession. Doctor Pitney had up to this time, monopolized the surgery practice of all this region of country; but his health was failing, and that practice gradually fell into the hands of Doctor Briggs, where most of it still remains. The latter, with less practice, proved himself a more expert and successful operator than his predecessor.

About this time anæsthetics were introduced, and their use in Auburn, in painful operations, was inaugurated by Doctor Briggs. Their use was universally regarded as the most important improvement that had been made in operative surgery, and tended, in no small degree, to enhance the reputation and extend the practice of Doctor Briggs. He also introduced here the practice of *Ovariotomy*, by a successful operation, which he has often repeated, and generally with success.

The subject of this sketch, though no politician, in the common acceptation of the word, nor a seeker of public office, is still thoroughly informed in political affairs, and was elected mayor of the city of Auburn for three successive terms, 1857-'8-'9, and discharged its duties with signal acceptance. As *ex-officio* President of the Board of Education, he manifested equal zeal and intelligence in behalf of popular education.

Doctor Briggs, it will have been noticed, practiced medicine twenty years before he made surgery a specialty, and was unusually trustworthy and successful in that capacity. For the past twenty-eight years he has made surgery a prominent feature of his practice, fully supplying himself with all the improvements in the art as experience has developed them. Of these the most important is *conservative* surgery, aiding the processes of nature, and, whenever practicable, saving the wounded or diseased organism; but when operations *must* be performed, he renders them comparatively painless by the use of improved modes and instruments, and especially of *anæsthetics*, which his large experience enables him to safely and successfully employ.

The increase of population, the rapid introduction of machinery and the use of railroads has so multiplied surgical cases, that, at first view, surgery would appear a very lucrative field. Yet

Dr. Briggs has never made it so. It has been with him an invariable rule to answer all such calls, from all ranks and conditions; and he is proverbially inattentive to collections, so that his life in that direction has been a busy rather than a profitable one. He has nevertheless made for himself and his profession a useful and highly honorable record, which is largely due to his great industry and the devotion to his work of his time and talents. This he owes largely to his early training in the lessons of industry and self-reliance, which included also many necessary self-denials. In youth "he paddled his own canoe" successfully over rough waters, and in manhood, that experience has enabled him to manage successfully a larger craft on the broader sea of life.

BENJAMIN F. HALL.

Judge BENJAMIN F. HALL, now one of the oldest inhabitants of Auburn, came from Whitehall, in the county of Washington, in this State, to Auburn, a young man of one and twenty, three years advanced in a course of law studies, in the autumn of 1835, and, except when away in the performance of official duties, has resided there ever since. He belongs to the seventh generation in the male line of descent, from Francis Hall, one of the English founders of the colony of New Haven, and one of the original framers and signers of the famous covenant in Newman's barn in 1639, and one of the founders of the town of Fairfield, on the Sound, in 1640. His ancestors, therefore, were Connecticut people, with Connecticut residences, traditions, principles, habits and manners. They were enterprising, intrepid and hardy, and the most of them were thrifty and well-to-do in the places where they lived.

During the French war and the Revolutionary war, their families were conspicuously and honorably represented in the field, and nearly all the while from 1640 to the commencement of the present century, in the councils of the colony and that State. They were also well represented in the professions of divinity, medicine and law. In the genealogical tables of the descendants of the pioneer settlers of the State of Connecticut bearing the surname of Hall, the male descendants of the pioneer Francis are mentioned as belonging to "the Fairfield line."

The immediate male ancestor of the Judge, Asbury Hall, like the rest of the descendants of Francis, was born in Fairfield county, Connecticut, but he removed out of that State into the Lake Champlain region, then so called, in 1808. In the year 1812, Asbury Hall married Nancy Foster, a daughter of Dan Foster, a lineal descendant of the pioneer Fosters of Wind-

ham county, Connecticut, so that his conjugal relations were essentially a perpetuation of Connecticut relations with all their train of traditions, ideas, principles, habits and manners. The same year he enlisted in an artillery company raised to resist the then threatened British invasion of the State from Canada—an invasion subsequently attempted and defeated by our army and navy at Plattsburgh. Asbury lived to the ripe old age of eighty-seven, and died in the town of Aurelius, in this County, on the 13th of February, 1879, highly respected by all who knew him. His ashes repose beside those of his wife, who died several years before, near the Logan monument on Fort Hill.

According to the data derived from his family records, his eldest son, Benjamin Franklin, now generally known by the title of Judge, was born in the town of Whitehall, in the county of Washington, on the 23d day of July, 1814. From the time he was large enough to wield a hoe and guide a plow until he was one and twenty, he worked during the planting and cropping months for his father upon his father's farm, and spent the rest of the time in attending or teaching school and in studying law with the Hon. John H. Parker. With the aid of the late Salem Town, then principal of Granville Academy, and the late Allen Fisk, then principal of the Auburn Academy, he was enabled to master the arts and sciences, usually denominated classics, sufficiently to be voluntarily recommended by those distinguished linguists and by every learned professor in the college at Geneva, for the honorary degree of Master of Arts; and a year or two after he came to Auburn to reside, he received that degree from the trustees and faculty of that institution. That circumstance rewarded him for his industry, perseverance and fortitude in "climbing the hill of science alone," outside of college walls, by admitting him to fellowship with the alumni as their peer. Upon the invitation of the alumni of Hobart, he attended the next commencement and delivered an address upon the political and judicial economy of the Hebrew commonwealth, which pleased and surprised the trustees and faculty so greatly that the late Rt. Rev. Bishop DeLancey, then the president of the trustees, complimented him at its close with the remark that, "instead of the degree of Master of Arts, the trustees and faculty ought to have made him a Doctor of Laws."

That recognition of his ability to develop from ancient scriptures and other ancient records and monuments and analyze the political and judicial economy of the Hebrew Commonwealth was an encouragement by learned men which gave a new bent and direction to his ambition and a new feature and complexion to his subsequent life. Finding that the fruits of his earliest researches in fields of antiquity attracted the

notice of the ripest of those who enjoyed the advantages of a full course of college instruction, and elicited commendation from such eminent scholars as the late Bishop De Lancey, and being, withal naturally fond of Oriental history and literature, he determined immediately to explore those fields more thoroughly, and if possible to make Orientalism more interesting and instructive to the modern readers, by employing his pen as opportunities should offer, as a journalist and author. In conformity with that determination he at once engaged to write historical articles for the *Auburn Journal*, the *Cayuga Patriot*, the *New York Observer*, the *New York Mirror* and *Evening Post*, and began to gather from all accessible quarters unpublished materials for historical books. He commenced his authorship of books by enlarging his Geneva address upon the political and judicial economy of the Hebrew Commonwealth into a treatise of upwards of 300 pages and having a small edition of the same printed and published by Thomas M. Skinner. When the edition had been sold by Doubleday and Ivison, then the only book-sellers in Auburn, the copy-right was purchased by Professor E. C. Wines of Washington College, Pennsylvania. A year or two after this, Mr. Hall gathered the materials for a fresh but condensed history of the Canadas, and put them in shape for publication in a small octavo for schools, and then for a moderate price sold the Ms. to Derby, Miller & Co., to be inserted by them in Goodrich's Universal History, with Goodrich as nominal author. The credit for the substance of both of these volumes, however, belonged to the Judge as their real author, and they constitute volumes I and II in a series of fourteen volumes of his principal works on his own shelves and in the Library of the House of Representatives at Washington. The subjects of the rest of the series respectively, are indicated by their titles. Volume III is entitled "The Land-Owners Manual;" volume IV, "The Trial of Freeman;" volume V, "The Republican Party;" volume VI to XI inclusive, "Cabinet Decisions" and volumes XII to XIV inclusive "Our Commercial Relations with the rest of Mankind." He prepared and published those volumes at intervals along for thirty years following 1836 as his other avocations permitted or occasions required, by patient but intense and thorough researches, and for the most part over "midnight oil." Those volumes speak for themselves that they contain a vast amount of historical, political and judicial information useful to mankind; and they stand, and are likely to stand for ages to come as a monument more enduring than brass of the intellectual depth and strength, and of the political and judicial learning of their author. He expects to complete the series before he dies with a volume of his own personal observations of men and things.

He completed his five years of law studies with the late Judge Elijah Miller, and with his successors in practice, Seward and Beardsley, at the end of the year 1837, and was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court and Court of Chancery immediately thereafter. In January, 1838, he became the junior partner in the law firm of Porter & Beardsley, altered to "Porter, Beardsley & Hall," and continued in that business relation down to the end of 1841. He then withdrew from that firm and formed a law partnership with the late John P. Hurlbert, which continued to the end of 1846. From that date down to March, 1861, he practiced alone. He never liked his profession very well, for the principal reason that it involved so much perplexity with the troubles and quarrels of others. He liked to investigate difficult cases, liked to prepare elaborate briefs, and liked to submit delicate and intricate questions of law and equity to the courts; but he shrank instinctively from vindictive and wrangling litigation. That class of law business was uncongenial to his feelings, habits and tastes. But he practiced his profession with fair success for nearly five and twenty years, during all of which he enjoyed the confidence of a large and remunerative clientage, and became as popular and eminent as the average of his peers.

Besides several local offices of inconsiderable importance, he held at various times during the period referred to the following official positions: In the year 1840, he was appointed by the Governor and Senate, Examiner in Chancery, and discharged the duties of that office during the term of three years. In the year 1844, he represented this County in the State Legislature, and set the ball in motion in that body which resulted in the Constitution of 1846. In the year 1850, he was appointed by the President of the United States, Commissioner to rescue from oblivion and arrange in volumes like the Reports of the Decision of the Courts, the official decisions of the Attorney-Generals of the United States and Federal Cabinets, from the foundation of the government down to that time, and he performed that duty by the preparation of six volumes of them to the satisfaction of the President and Congress. In the year 1852, he served as Mayor of Auburn one year, and signalized his administration by vetoing all measures involving expenditures unauthorized by the charter; by refusing to issue the bonds of the corporation to aid in the construction of the Lake Ontario, Auburn and New York Railroad, for the reason that the personal subscriptions to the work were uncollectable and otherwise insufficient to construct it; and by a public reception of the patriot-exile, Louis Kossuth, of Hungary. In March, 1861, he was appointed by the President of the United States, Chief-Justice of the then new Territory of Colorado, and specially instructed to go there

speedily, to qualify its other officers, to organize the governmental machinery, inclusive of its courts, to instruct its officers in their duties, and if possible, to restrain the disloyal portion of its primitive inhabitants from aiding the Southern Rebellion. As the territory covered the traveled passes in the Cordilleras, which served as channels of overland communication with California, and as it contained a garrison of United States troops under the command of the disloyal Col. Sibley, President Lincoln deemed it a vulnerable region, which needed to be carefully watched and guarded. Judge Hall was at first disinclined to accept a duty so responsible, difficult and perilous; but at the urgent request of Secretary Seward, who would not listen to his excuses, he accepted the appointment and went there over burning bridges and through disloyal towns in Missouri, and through the Indian country beyond to perform the duties. Upon his arrival at Denver he found secession flags fluttering from flag-staffs in various parts of that so-called city, and was informed that the secessionists, if not in majority, were so numerous that they controlled the sentiment of the place. It was an exigency which demanded the exercise by the officials of the territory of the coolest courage, and the nicest strategy, in order to obtain possession of the territory without provoking resistance, so as to be afterwards able to suppress by force the treason among the people. But the judge and the territorial governor, who had been a colonel in the Mexican war, and knew the location and strategic value of the passes to be guarded, were equal to the emergency. They put their cool heads together, contrived the way to obtain arms and munitions from Fort Laramie, put some of them into the hands of trusty men, and instituted a vigilant watch of the movements of suspected rebels. The secessionists of Denver plotted their treason inside of what was called Blue Lodges, and succeeded, for awhile, in keeping their proceedings secret. But in September, 1861, a Texan named McKee came to Denver with a commission from the rebel General Sibley, and commenced the business of recruiting for the rebel service. As the Governor was charged by the organic act with the duty of preserving the public peace, he issued an executive warrant on the 29th of September, 1861, to the marshal to arrest him. The marshal took with him a posse of armed men and arrested him and his recruits, to the number of thirty or forty, and put them into a temporary guard-house. That affair produced great excitement, and naturally enough brought on a crisis. The secessionists not then under arrest assembled in their lodges, threatened the governor and marshal and resolved to rescue McKee and his party of recruits by force. But in order to effect the rescue according to their plan of operation decided upon, they

needed to have them outside of the place where they were. At length, by the advice of lawyers, they hit upon the expedient of applying to the Judge for a writ of *habeas corpus*, in order to get them before him in a court room, where they expected to overpower the marshal and his posse and get them away. They employed counsel, presented their petition for the writ to Judge Hall on the 14th of the ensuing October, and expected it to be granted, as a matter of course, as nothing had then been done at Washington to suspend its operation in that territory. But the Judge surprised them with a prompt and well considered decision, based upon the meaning imputed to that clause in the Constitution by those who framed it, that being in rebellion against the government, they had forfeited the privilege of having it granted to them.

The Judge then ordered a grand jury of twenty-three men to be summoned and empaneled, and laid the cases before them. That body indicted them all for overt acts of treason, and thereby enabled the Governor and the Judge to suppress the rest of the rebellion in Colorado.

Finding that they could not rescue Capt. McKee and his party the majority of the rest of the secessionists of the territory took warning and fled to Sibley's camp in Texas. The Governor then proceeded with his work of organizing his department; and the Judge proceeded with the work of organizing his without hindrance or molestation. Judge Hall remained there over three years, established an excellent judiciary, outlived the early prejudice against him on account of his course with the rebels, and resigned on account of the insufficiency of his salary. When it became known to the members of the bar that he had resigned and was about to leave them, they prepared an address to him containing the following passages, read it to him, and had the clerk record it in the minutes of his court.

"The results of your administration of the law here for nearly four years fully vindicate your policy and judgment. It devolved upon you when you came here to lay the foundations of a future civilization and to erect upon it the edifice of a systematic and enlightened judiciary. That you have succeeded in this to a remarkable extent, the records of this court attest. You leave behind you the evidence of unusual foresight, untiring industry, great legal ability, purity of intention, and of an inflexible purpose to be faithful to your trust."

That testimonial was supplemented by another of the same import, by a daily journal called the *Denver Commonwealth*, as follows:

"Chief Justice Hall carries with him the best wishes of the best portion of this community to his new field of labor. A few of the lawyers and speculators complained some of his early decisions before they understood his judicial policy. But

ever since they comprehended his ideas in respect to our lands they have approved it. We think we are warranted in stating that at no period of his administration here has there been a single voice lifted against his legal ability, patience, patriotism and purity. He has been an industrious, patient, politic, able and upright Judge. By those whose ante-territorial ranche and mining titles have been upheld and confirmed by his decisions as against the rapacity of jumpers and speculators he will long be regarded as a public benefactor."

It appears from these testimonials that the Judge performed the difficult duties of Chief Justice of that territory to the satisfaction of the lawyers there and all others who were able to appreciate them. There are very few ex-judges in the country who have left behind them a better record than his.

He left a similar record there in religious matters. He organized an Episcopal church in 1862, in Denver, and with the assistance of a few others, fitted up a large brick building on the public land in Denver for a church edifice, and had it consecrated by Bishop Talbot. He served as its senior warden as long as he remained there. When he left Denver he resigned his wardenship in a writing left with the Rev. H. B. Hitchins the Rector. Soon after he left, the Rector, other warden and vestrymen met and among others passed the following resolution and had the same published in the Denver papers and Church journals elsewhere:

"*Resolved*, That, as it was through the untiring exertions of Senior Warden Hall that we came possessed of this edifice in which our praise and prayers are offered to Almighty God, it is with profound regret that we feel obliged to accept his resignation.

"*Resolved*, That we bear willing and grateful testimony to the salutary influence during his residence here, of his consistent walk and conversation as a private Christian man, of his integrity and incorruptibility as a Judge, and to the inestimable worth of his exertions to establish and maintain in this Territory, the Apostolic Church of Christ."

After retiring from the Supreme Court Bench of Colorado, he was appointed to the office of Consul General of Valparaiso. But for reasons mostly of a domestic character he declined to accept it. He was then tendered the to him more agreeable position of Superintendent of Commercial Statistics in the State Department under Secretary Seward. While holding that position he compiled from documents in the State Department volumes XII, XIII and XIV, of his works above referred to, entitled "Our Commercial Relations with the rest of Mankind," and assisted the Secretary in preparing the famous treaties with Russia and China.

His conjugal and domestic relations are unusually happy. Early in the year 1843 he married Abby Farnham, a daughter of the late John I. Hagaman, an eminent architect and builder, then of Auburn, and their union was blessed with a dutiful and amiable family of three sons and seven daughters, at this writing all living in health and comfort. His sons, named Henry, James and Edward inherited the tastes and talents of their father, and are journalists and authors. The former is well connected with the *New York Tribune* and the others with a daily paper in Connecticut. Five of the daughters are married, one of whom resides with her husband in Western East India. The others are still in school.

In political matters he acted with the old Whig party until it disbanded, and since that time with the Republicans. He framed the platform of the Republican party in this State, and wrote a book to demonstrate that its principles descended from Jefferson. For more than five and twenty years he was the intimate and trusted friend of William H. Seward, and stood by him and his policy, through good and evil report to the end of his illustrious life.

In all local measures and enterprises to increase the business and promote the prosperity of Auburn, he has been by disposition and habit among the foremost of men of his means. He was never rich, but was generally able to command money enough to help forward such enterprises as he himself originated. Among other things, he originated and helped to start the Gas Light Company, the Water Works, and Fort Hill Cemetery, and lastly the monument to Logan. He has left his mark at home and abroad.

JOHN W. HUBBARD.

JOHN W. HUBBARD was born in the town of Onondaga, Onondaga county, N. Y. His parents being farmers, his first work was that of a "farmer boy," and at the early age of seven years proved of great advantage to his father, who, about this time, had been intrigued into signing notes with friends to the amount of several thousand dollars, which soon after necessitated the disposition of his farm, when he removed his family to Syracuse, N. Y. His father, having in early life learned the carpenter and joiner's trade, thought to follow this avocation for the maintenance of his family; also the superior advantages of educating his children in the city, where teachers and discipline far exceeded those of his own town. Here he prospered, but not long. Not content with doing well, he invested in "patent rights," and soon his financial foundation floated from under him and he was obliged to again use

the "chisel and mallet" and shove the jack plane. But his oldest child, Johnny, as he was familiarly called, a lad of twelve summers, thought, in view of his father's embarrassment, he would try the world, for better or for worse; accordingly he sought, for an experiment, the farm of Mr. Geo. Seely, of DeWitt, in the same county, and hired out to him for five dollars per month, working days and studying nights during the summer season, and in the fall went to live with another farmer where he did chores for board, and attended school at Onondaga Valley Seminary during the winter.

In the spring he hired out again to Mr. Seely for fifteen dollars per month, and, by studying nights, was able the following winter, after a strict examination by the trustees, to enter the same class that he left in the spring, thereby losing no time. In this way, working summers, studying nights and attending school in the winter, he was able at the age of eighteen years to graduate at this seminary. Then he began his life as a farmer in earnest—having worked for Mr. Seely for some six years—was again engaged in the capacity of superintendent of farm and twenty-five acres of nursery, which was no small trust, certainly a great care, and proved too much for the boy, who had worked so hard for the past six years. After seven months in this capacity, he was taken with typhoid fever, which ended his career as a farmer. After a confinement of some eleven weeks he was able to ride out with the family physician who had charge of him; and one day while out riding, was asked if he would like the study of medicine? After weighing the matter carefully and taking all things into consideration, he, after a few weeks from that time, repaired to the doctor's office and informed him of his decision, and signed a contract to attend to the office and study for the space of two years when he was to attend lectures at some medical college. At the expiration of this time, becoming tired of study and office work, he removed to Auburn, N. Y., and, with his father, engaged in the fruit trade, in which business he remained for the space of five years, when an opportunity to change his business occurred, and a copartnership was formed between David M. Bulkley and John W. Hubbard, for the purpose of carrying on the undertaking business in Auburn.

In person Mr. Hubbard is about five feet seven, well built, perfectly healthy. He is blessed with that pleasing manner which instantly commends him to new acquaintances and makes him popular among his friends. He is dignified in his bearing and careful to avoid everything that will cause unjust remarks or criticisms. He is independent in his manner, except when attending to the wants of those in affliction, and there you discover his true nature. He sympathizes with

the afflicted and strives by kind words and strict attention to their wants, as far as lies in his power, to lighten the burden of their sorrow. He is a much respected member of Auburn Lodge No. 431, F. and A. M., and Auburn Tent of Rechabites No. 27, I. O. of R.

THEODORE J. SEARLS.

THEODORE J. SEARLS was born in Weedsport, Cayuga County, N. Y., May 20th, 1851. His father, Rev. William Searls, was born in Geddes, Onondaga county, N. Y., in November, 1827, in the midst of formidable difficulties, which sur-

and in less than one year graduated at Brown's Business College. At the age of 17 he entered the law office of Honorable J. T. M. Davie, now Surrogate of Cayuga County, with whom he remained one year. He then entered the office of Hon. E. A. Thomas, late Judge of Wyoming Territory, and remained with him nearly a year, when, on account of a change in his father's appointment to the 1st M. E. Church of Rome, N. Y., and desiring to remain with his parents as long as possible, he concluded to go with them and immediately entered the office of Hon. B. J. Beach, Member of Assembly in 1848, and Hon. A. H. Bailey, M. C. in 1868 and County Judge in 1871, both men of ability.

While in their office he was not only a regular



THEODORE J. SEARLS.

JOHN W. HUBBARD.

rounded him at the very gates of life. His parents being poor and his father intemperate, the returns from his labor were therefore very small, and seeing this he made a solemn pledge, which has never been broken, never to drink intoxicating liquors as a beverage so long as he lived.

When about twenty-one years of age he united with the M. E. Church and in a few years entered the ministry of that church, and at once rose to the front rank in the conference, filling the first appointments and ever preaching to large congregations. For several years he has been, as he is now, the very acceptable *chaplain* of Auburn prison.

While stationed as pastor of the 1st M. E. Church of Ithaca, N. Y., his son Theodore finished his academic education. He soon after received an appointment at the 1st M. E. Church of Auburn, N. Y. Theodore went with him,

correspondent for two papers but composed some very beautiful pieces of poetry.

After studying with these noted preceptors for two years, on the 7th day of June, 1872, at the Buffalo General Term of the Supreme Court, he was admitted to practice in all the Courts of this State. He received the following complimentary notice from the *Utica Morning Herald* of June 10th, 1872:

"At the General Term of the Supreme Court, now in session in Buffalo, Mr. Theodore J. Searls, of Rome, was admitted to practice law in all the Courts of this State. Mr. S. is a young man of talents, integrity and of correct habits; he has a fine future before him, and his friends will be glad to hear of his success. He is a son of Rev. Wm. Searls of that place. It is understood he has made business arrangements in Auburn, and will at once commence the practice of law there.

And the following from the *Roman Citizen* of Rome, N. Y., of June 12th, 1872:

"ADMITTED TO THE BAR.—Mr. Theodore J. Searls of this city, was last week admitted at the General Term of the Supreme Court, held at Buffalo, to practice law in all the Courts of this State. We congratulate our young friend on his success in passing an examination which was close and searching, and continued over four hours; and his many friends will be glad to learn of his going through the ordeal so triumphantly.

"He is a talented and honorable young man, and has the entire confidence of all who appreciate modest, yet real worth. He has formed a business connection with an old practitioner at Auburn, and it is understood he will at once commence the practice of law in that city. We wish him abundant success. He is the son of Rev. Wm. Searls of this place."

Mr. Searls immediately returned to Auburn and commenced the practice of the law. But this did not seem to be his forte, and he was often told by the older members of the bar that he was cut out for a minister and not a lawyer; in other words, he was too tender-hearted and could not crush as well as cure the afflicted, and scorned every attempt on the part of his clients to take advantage of their opponents, and inheriting his father's fire and spirit, love, money, fear or favor never could influence him to vary one hair's breadth from what he considered to be the right way—that to him was the *only* way.

During his practice he was several times requested to enter the political field but always refused and never held but one office, and that by appointment, for one year as assistant to his father in Auburn State Prison. The people have the utmost confidence in him and prominent men in the County have transferred very valuable real estate and other property to him to hold in trust, without a single line to show that they had anything to do with it, knowing that it would be ready for them whenever called for. Mr. Searls is always ready to sympathize with and speak words of cheer and comfort to those in affliction. To pass him on the street the stranger would say he appears rather cold and dignified, but when conversing with him you at once discern a genial disposition and warm heart. He is strictly *temperate*, having taken his father's pledge, which never has been broken, and by the firm and decided manner in which he speaks of his hatred of liquor and the liquor traffic we have faith he never will.

He is an honored and much respected member of Auburn Lodge No. 431, F. & A. M., David's Chapter No. 34, and Salem Town Commandery No. 16, K. T.

The 21st of March, 1876, he purchased Mr. Bulkley's interest in the undertaking business of Bulkley & Hubbard; the firm name being changed to Hubbard & Searls.

Their rooms, No. 7 Exchange street, opposite the Post-office, are elegantly fitted up and on account of the central location are easy of access.

WARREN THATCHER WORDEN.

WARREN THATCHER WORDEN, son of Nathan Worden, was born in the town of Milton, Saratoga county, in this State, November 7th, 1806. The maiden name of his mother was Sarah Pulling, to whom the subject of this sketch was very tenderly attached, and by whose side it is his desire his remains shall be buried. She died June 18th, 1812. She was highly esteemed by the congregation of the Episcopal Church, of which she was a consistent and devoted member, and, also, in the language of an obituary notice, she was "a benevolent neighbor, and a lover of virtue, justice and humanity." They had four children, three sons and one daughter. One son died young, and Alvah, Warren Thatcher and the daughter attained mature life. Alvah married a sister of Mrs. William H. Seward.

Mr. Worden was left an orphan at twelve years of age, without inheritance and was subjected to all the disabilities incidental to that condition. Fortunately for him, and for all similarly situated, the common schools were open to him, and he enjoyed, at intervals, the advantages which they afforded, until he was sixteen years of age. At that time, 1822, his elder and only brother, Alvah, took him into his store in Auburn, where he remained as a clerk for a few years, attending also an excellent classical school, taught by the Rev. Noble D. Strong.

He next attended the academy at Geneva, supporting himself while there by writing and taking care of the office of Messrs. Whiting & Butler, the latter a brother of Benjamin F. Butler, of Albany, one of the revisers of the statutes. Mr. Butler had a large chancery practice, and, by copying the papers in such cases, young Worden's retentive memory held for future use the main points in the papers copied, and thus, while yet an academic student, he became familiar with the chancery practice of that time.

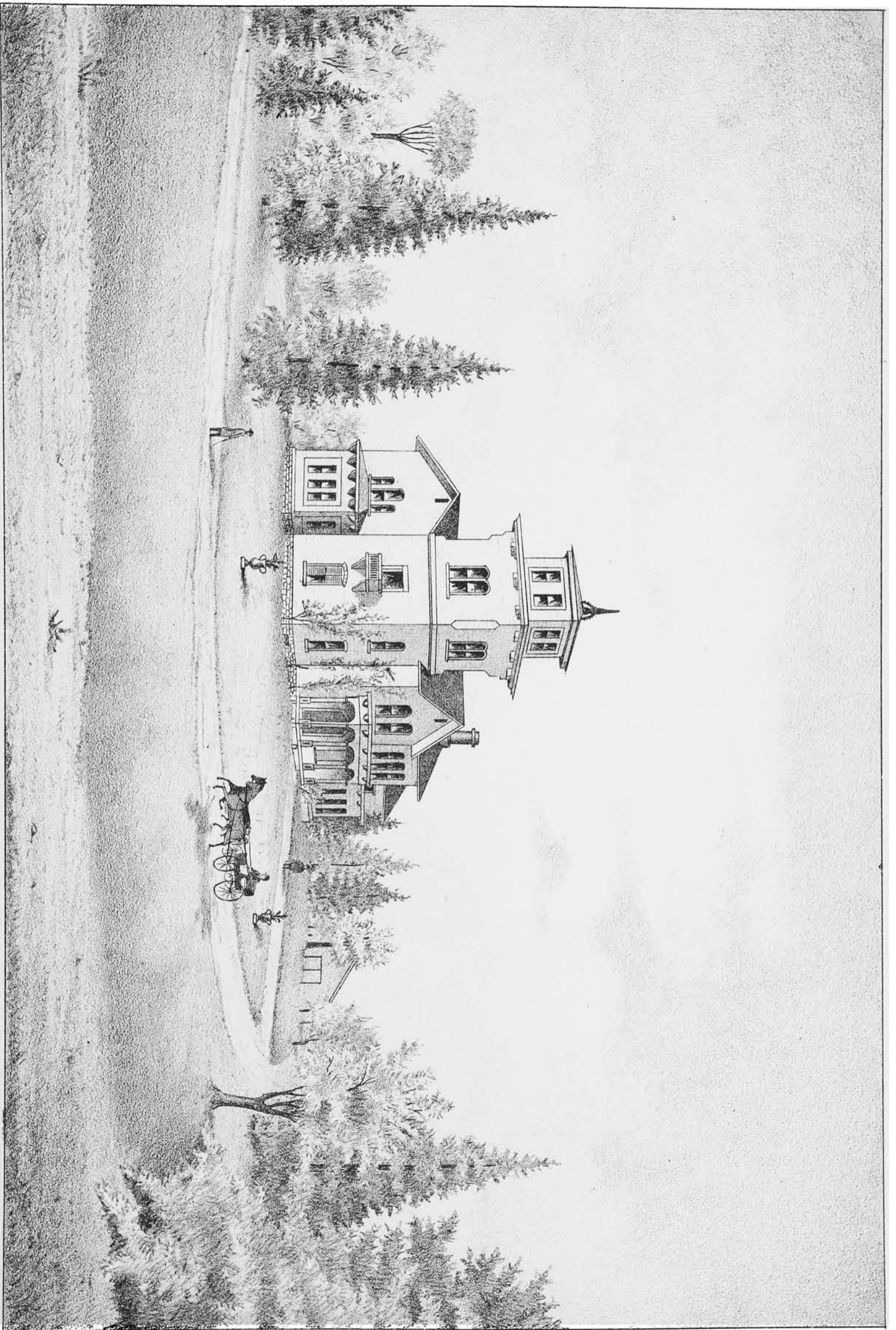
Mr. Worden remained in the academy at Geneva, until, and for some two years after, it was merged into Hobart College, when he returned to Auburn and entered the law-office of Miller & Seward—Hon. Elijah Miller and William H. Seward. But, being soon after offered a place in the law-office of Mr. Brown, where he could not only pursue his legal studies, but be compensated for taking care of the office, he accepted the offer and remained two years, when he entered Union College in the——— class. Here he could meet his necessary expenses only by his own personal earnings, but



MRS. S. W. T. WORDEN.



Warren J. Worden



RESIDENCE OF W. T. WORDEN. SOUTH ST. AUBURN. N. Y.

having the will, he soon found the way by doing clerical work in the law-office of Abraham Van Ingen, of Schenectady. He was graduated in 1829, at the age of twenty-three years, and admitted to the bar the year following.

After graduating here he reëntered the office of Mr. Brown accepting a small share of the profits of the business, the control of which fell mainly into his hands. Here he remained until 1830, when he applied for admission to the bar. At that time Mr. Worden's appearance was very youthful, and after the examination was concluded and the class appeared to receive their diplomas, Chief Justice Savage, calling Mr. Worden to the bench, handed him his license unsigned, and directed him to stand aside. This was a trying moment for the young candidate for legal honors. The Judge, after ascertaining his real age, signed his license with the remark that he appeared quite young for one of his age.

It will thus be noticed that at twenty-four years of age Mr. Worden, by dint of personal industry, had become a well-read classical and legal student, the latter, under the old chancery practice, a much more difficult task than that of the law-students of to-day, and he had done all this with means supplied by his own industry. That industry he had wisely directed to business in law-offices, where, while he was earning the means with which to pursue his literary studies, he was at the same time gaining a knowledge of his intended profession. It involved long, continuous and severe toil and many self-denials; yet he persevered and finally triumphed.

Very few students of to-day, with every advantage of wealth and leisure, and with no distracting cares as to "what they shall eat, or wherewithal they shall be clothed," or as to how their school, college or other bills shall be paid, do as much in the same time as did this self-reliant and self-dependent young man, who, against apparently insurmountable obstacles, worked his own way into an honorable profession, wherein he won gratifying success. It was then and has ever since been a characteristic of Mr. Worden, that when he undertook a case, or the execution of other plans, he pursued them with indomitable perseverance, giving to them all his time and thoughts; and while intensely anxious, he never permitted the thought of failure to check or lessen the ardor of his pursuit.

On the 16th day of August, 1832, he married Miss Nancy Emily Bennett, daughter of Dr. Abel Bennett, of West Bloomfield, in this State. They have one son, Warren Augustus, a member of the Auburn bar.

Mr. Worden has always been distinguished more as a man of thought than of words. He is proverbially indifferent to the "rhetorician's rules," and while his oral arguments have been clear and effective, he has never studied or cared for the

ornate in language. His first case was at Utica, and when he had concluded it a criticism was made that the young man had "sadly murdered the King's English," to which Azor Taber replied: "No matter, he made it up in ideas." As a man of ideas and of clear comprehension of the salient points in the cases at issue, and the skill to discover and successfully assail the weak points in adverse cases, he had few superiors.

The ingenuity and success with which he managed difficult cases was illustrated in the libel suits brought against the *Cayuga Patriot* in 1839, for publications reflecting upon the agent, physician, and other officers of the prison, for their alleged abuse of convicts. Three suits were brought against the publishers, each represented by able counsel, Mr. Worden appearing for the physician. The excitement in Cayuga County was so great that the venues were changed to Onondaga. The cases were all founded upon the same article and involved substantially the same facts, and hence a decision of one might reasonably be supposed to conclude the other two cases also. The defendants were represented by very able counsel, including James R. Lawrence, Mark H. Sibley and Samuel Beardsley. The suit represented by Mr. Worden was the last tried and verdicts in both the other cases had been given for the defendants. But a different decision was rendered in the case represented by Mr. Worden and was produced by his ingenious management. His declaration was very long, containing several causes of action, to all of which the defendants pleaded the general issue and several special pleas of avoidance to all the counts except one, that of the publication of the article. The defendants had some sixty witnesses. On opening the case Mr. Worden surprised the defendant's counsel by waiving all the counts except one, that being the count to which there was no plea. He then called a witness, proved the libelous publication, the number of copies issued, the reputable character of his client and the damage to him professionally of the publication, and there rested. The opposing counsel asked time for consultation and finally for an adjournment until morning, which was granted. The case proceeded the next day, the defense calling several witnesses; but their evidence was excluded, on the ground that the plaintiff had waived all claims for damages on those subjects. The verdict of four hundred dollars was rendered for the plaintiff. The decision in these cases prove how much the issue of legal contests depends on the skill and ingenuity of counsel.

Numerous cases could be referred to wherein Mr. Worden displayed similar adroitness in circumventing the most able counsel and winning important suits. He left no stone unturned in order to win. His eagerness for success was even greater than that of his clients. He would

debar himself of rest and even of food when necessary to increase his chance of success. In the Tupper case, in which the indictment was for forgery, and, if the trial proceeded, the issue was likely to be against his client; Mr. Worden, by various pretexts, had the trial delayed until the statute of limitations applied, when the case was thrown out of court.

It is a noteworthy circumstance, that Mr. Worden never argued a case at General Term, after Judge Cowen was promoted to the Supreme Court Bench, in which the former did not write an opinion.

One other instance of an important legal contest in which he was engaged must suffice in this connection.

Hotchkiss & Smith were carpet contractors at the Sing Sing Prison, employing about two hundred convicts. Difficulties arose between them and the prison officers, cross actions were commenced, and the suits were to be tried at the Westchester County Circuit. John VanBuren, then late Attorney-General, J. Warren Tompkins, Judge and Ralph Lockwood and M. L. Cobb, represented the State, and Mr. Worden alone appeared for his clients. Mr. VanBuren's presence in the case had drawn to see and hear him an uncomfortable crowd of both sexes. On the day of the trial, seeing the great array and eminence of the opposing counsel, Lieutenant-Governor Wilkins advised Mr. Hotchkiss not to trust his case to any *one*. Mr. Hotchkiss replied: "we are poor and have not the means to employ any one to assist." One of the causes was opened with much ability by J. Warren Tompkins. It proceeded slowly, the interest of the audience being kept up by the discussions of counsel. Judge Morse was frequently vacillating in his decisions under the scorching remarks of Mr. VanBuren. The feeling of the audience in the struggle began to manifest itself, and found expression in words like these, "I feel sorry for that little fellow, there are so many on him. I hope he will beat;" and he did beat. Mr. Worden soon left the courtroom, followed by VanBuren, Mr. Wells, the Inspector in charge, and Col. Pomeroy, then agent of the Auburn Prison. Mr. Wells enquired of Mr. VanBuren "what is to be done next?" Pointing his finger toward Mr. Worden, he said, "shoot that little cuss!" a remark implying that there was no hope in their case while he lived to resist them. The other cases were referred, and verdicts rendered in favor of Hotchkiss & Smith.

Pares G. Clark and Henry C. Bronson were students in Mr. Worden's office, the latter, son of the late Chief-Justice Greene C. Bronson, and the former became one of the ablest advocates in the State. Mr. Clark and Mr. Worden subsequently were law-partners, and their business was very large and lucrative.

Their partnership continued about four years, when Mr. Clark formed a partnership with ex-Judge Whiting, of New York City.

The more important suits in which Mr. Worden has lately been engaged have been those in behalf of the towns of Venice and Genoa against the holders of the bonds of those towns. The cases were carried through the several courts of New York, including the Court of Appeals and the views of Mr. Worden were affirmed. The bonds were then sold out of the State, and suits brought in the United States Circuit Court and taken thence to the Supreme Court by writ of error, and argued by Mr. Worden for the towns. That court declined to follow the decision of the Court of Appeals on a State statute, and, with a divided court, gave judgment against the towns. In the argument of those suits before the Supreme Court, Mr. Worden was very highly complimented by several eminent members of the bar who were in attendance.

In 1867-'68, Mr. Worden, wife and son made a tour of Europe, visiting Naples and Rome and the principal places of interest in Great Britain and on the continent.

Mr. Worden always took a lively interest in political affairs and criticised with great freedom the short-comings of politicians. He was too independent and out-spoken to be a favorite of mere partisans. Formerly a Whig, and always an anti-slavery man, he insisted that all should be equal before the law and enjoy the same political rights. He subsequently became a Democrat, and, on the currency question, now holds the views of the National party and, in 1877, was their candidate for Attorney-General of the State. He has also been twice a candidate for Justice of the Supreme Court of the Seventh District, and both times received a large majority of the votes of Cayuga County, notwithstanding it gave large opposing majorities for the other candidates.

Mr. Worden has been a frequent and voluminous contributor both to law and political journals, in which he discussed legal and political questions, with that originality, boldness and ability, by which he has always been distinguished. In his profession he has been successful; his business has been large and he secured a comfortable fortune. Both Mr. and Mrs. Worden are members of the Protestant Episcopal Church, as were also their ancestors before them.

DR. BLANCHARD FOSGATE.

DOCTOR BLANCHARD FOSGATE was born January 5th, 1809 in the county of Montgomery, State of New York, being about the sixth in descent on his paternal side in this country from an Anglo-Saxon family, and on his maternal, from about the

fourth generation of Highland Scot and Hibernian Celt.

In company with his parents he moved from Herkimer, his second home on the banks of the Mohawk, and arrived at Auburn in the spring of 1822, where he still resides.

When thirteen years old he left the district school to learn the drug and medicine business under instruction of his father and, with the exception of a single year spent in study at an academy, he followed that and the compounding of drugs for support, pursuing at intervals the study of medicine.

At twenty-five he attained at a medical college the degree of Doctor of Medicine, and in 1835, the succeeding year, married Maria Re-

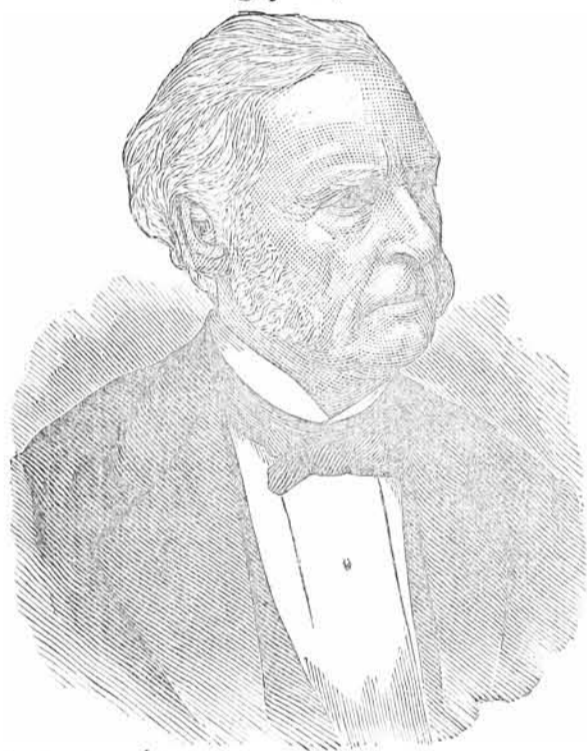


Photo by Emmsberger & Ray.

B. Fosgate

becca—daughter of Henry R. Abbott, Esq., of London, England, since which, in connection with his former occupation, he has practiced for most of that time his profession, holding several positions of considerable importance in that calling and has been an active member in most of the scientific and literary associations of Auburn during the past half century.

In 1849 he was appointed Physician to the New York State Prison at Auburn; in 1853, elected a member of the "American Association for the Advancement of Science;" was Medical Attendant for a decade at the County Asylum; Secretary of Cayuga County Medical Society for twenty-two years; for twenty years a trustee of Auburn Academy; has published on several occasions essays—historical, professional, social and scientific—and practiced his profession and followed steadily, throughout, his original occupa-

tion. His life has been one of laborious industry and careful economy, and any respite from the former, or departure from the latter, has been so rare as to be luxuries in a life thus far passed in temperate sobriety.

Without an inheritance of wealth, or assistance from its possessors, either in material or sympathy, he has, though neither pampered with surplus gains nor afflicted by indigence, maintained in his intercourse with mankind, a respectable independence and sustained an unimpeached integrity.

WILLIAM L. BUNDY.

WILLIAM LEGRAND BUNDY was born at Otego, Otsego county, N. Y., in 1846, and in 1848 removed with his parents to Auburn, where he attended the public schools until 1861, occupying his leisure time in selling papers, to add to the scanty means of his parents. From 1861 to 1863 he was variously employed, his mechanical genius finally finding in the jewelry business a congenial vocation. He entered the store of Messrs. Hyde & Betty, jewelers, of Auburn, and in 1868 commenced the jewelry business on his own account, in company with Wm. Covell, with whom he was associated one year. He employs five persons in the manufacture and repair of jewelry, and in gold and silver plating, most of which is made to order.

Mr. Bundy displays in his show window, No. 90 Genesee street, an ingenious piece of mechanism of his own design and construction. It consists of a clock, the works of which are beautifully engraved and gold and silver plated, and all of which are visible. Arranged in a three-quarter circle around the works, is a chime of eight bells, which strike sixteen times at the quarter hour, thirty-two times at the half hour, and forty-eight times at the three-quarter hour. A gong strikes at the hour. Beneath the works is an arrangement which gives the moon's phases, and a calendar designating its different quarters. A perpetual calendar under these gives the day of the week, the month, and the day of the month. Below the barrel which operates the chimes, are two musical attachments, one of which plays every hour, five minutes after striking, and the other, at five minutes past noon. To the left is a calendar showing the day of the year from the first of January of each year, and on the opposite side is one giving the seasons. Another attachment consists of a calendar of the year run by four wheels, one of which will make a revolution in ten years, the second, in one hundred years, the third, in a thousand years, and the fourth, in ten thousand years. Opposite the calendar of the year is a silver grotto through which automaton figures move every quarter hour. The total num-

ber of pieces which enter into its composition exceeds 3,100. It is just three feet in height from the base to the top of the upper bell. The time occupied in its construction did not exceed three months.

February 22d, 1871, he was united in marriage with Miss Ella Sweet, of Auburn.

REV. WILLIAM SEARLS.

Rev. WILLIAM SEARLS was born in the town of Geddes, Onondaga county, N. Y., in November, 1827, and moved with the family to Auburn, N. Y., the following year. His father, Samuel Searls, had enjoyed the very best literary advantages the New England schools could give.

He came from the old and honored Searls family of North Hampton, Mass.

Mr. Searls has now in his possession manuscripts more than one hundred and fifty years old, showing the wealth and standing of his father's ancestry. His father, soon after coming into possession of his "portion," fell into dissipation, and in a course of prodigality, wasted all that fell to him, and was, when William was born, a poor intemperate man. William, seeing this, made a solemn pledge, which has never been broken, never to drink intoxicating liquors as a beverage so long as he lived.

Before William was ten years old, his father died, leaving his mother with four children on her hands, and the fearful winter of 1837 and 1838 before her. It soon became a question with the family as to how they should pass through the winter. He often saw his mother weeping, and on one occasion he urged her to tell him the cause of her tears. On learning from her that it was her inability to keep the children together and support them through the winter, he resolved to take care of himself. In a few days, with all that he had of this world's goods tied up in a bandana handkerchief, he left his home.

The parting from his mother gave him the keenest pangs his heart ever felt. With the "parting kiss," he urged his mother to "cheer up; in a little while I will be able to provide for you a home." In the town of Sennett, contiguous to Auburn, he found a place to live, where he could do chores for his board and go to school.

Two objects he now had before him, the acquisition of knowledge and to provide a home for his mother. Overcoming formidable difficulties, he was able on the day he was twenty years old, to move his mother into his own home, which he had built with his own hands. His mother's happiest day had come and the promise of the boy was fulfilled.

He was soon thereafter united in marriage with Miss Catherine Spingler, of Weedsport, a noble woman and devoted wife. When about twenty-two years of age he united with the M. E. Church, of which his wife was a member. Being a thorough student and a most indomitable reader, and feeling it a duty to proclaim to others the grace that had saved him, he entered the ministry of the church of his choice and at once rose to the front rank in the conference, filling the first appointment, and ever preaching to large congregations, and remaining the full disciplinary term on each of the appointments.

The first M. E. Church edifice in Auburn will ever bear mute but eloquent tribute to his devotion to his work, it being built under his administration. It may be well to note the voice of the press at the close of his pastorate in Auburn:

"Rev. William Searls, the able and energetic pastor of the First M. E. Church, closed his labors in this city last evening with a farewell sermon to his congregation. The church was so densely packed with those who had assembled to hear him for the last time, the aisles and all other available space were occupied. Mr. Searls will leave a bright record behind him in this city. He will be remembered as the genial friend, the able preacher, the indomitable laborer in the cause of church erection, and the fearless advocate of temperance. He assumed the pastorate of the Methodist congregation here when it was prostrated in finance and spirit by the conflagration which destroyed its sanctuary. He leaves it in possession of a stately capacious temple, and strong in numbers and means. These facts speak his praise better than can any words of ours. We shall regret equally with his friends here his departure from Auburn."

His ability as a preacher was fully tested on many important occasions, but he was never found wanting. On one occasion at conference, Bishop Foster preached in the morning and Mr. Searls was to follow in the afternoon. Of that effort the following was reported at the time for the daily press:

"The hour of three having arrived the house was again crowded to hear a sermon from Rev. Wm. Searls, from Auburn. This gentleman has long been known as one of the leading ministers of the Oneida, afterwards Central New York conference. Mr. Searls called the attention of the congregation to Rom. viii: 3, 4: 'For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, &c.' In view of the thrilling grandeur of the morning sermon and the high pitch of feeling to which the audience had been raised, some feared that it would militate against the success of Brother Searls in the afternoon, but their fears were groundless. In the name of his great Master, with majestic steps, onward he went in-



[Photo by Squyer & Wright.]

H. Searl

Chaplain of Auburn Prison.

creasing in power as he advanced. The drift of the discourse, as may be inferred from the text, was the superiority of the law of love under the gospel, to the dispensation of the law under the old covenant. The speaker felt the Divine unction, and the same spirit rested on the audience. The sermon ended amid shouts of rejoicing."

Mr. Searls stands second to but very few in the lecture field. He handles literary and popular subjects with the skill of a master.

An editor wrote the following after listening to Mr. Searls lecture on "self-culture:": "The lecture of Rev. Wm. Searls, on Tuesday evening last, was fully up to the high anticipations of the public. Those who go to New York to secure great lecturers, will rarely, indeed, fare so well as the audience which listened to Mr. Searls last evening. Mr. Searls is a deep and original thinker, a fine scholar, and a speaker second to but few in the United States."

In a course of lectures delivered in Auburn some years ago by "home talent," Mr. Searls came on the ninth in the course, and the following from the city papers, will tell how well he performed the task assigned him:

"One of the largest audiences that ever gathered in our city was not disappointed in the lecture last evening, delivered by Rev. Wm. Searls, at the Universalist church, the ninth in the temperance cause. The masterly manner in which he treated his theme, "Temperance and the Home," established his position as one of the most effective pulpit orators in our State. If eloquence consists in playing upon the feelings of an audience, now convulsing with laughter, then filling all eyes with tears, now moving every heart with sympathy, then arousing with righteous indignation, while every eye is fixed on the orator and every ear is open to catch the faintest whisper, then, surely, Mr. Searls may be placed among the most eloquent speakers of the day.

"Those passages in Mr. Searls' lecture that referred particularly to his childhood's home, thrilled the audience with their beauty and force and touched every heart with the tenderest sympathy. None but born orators could paint such vivid pictures as that of the boy's leaving home, his fervent prayer by the roadside on the hill overlooking the old home, and the mother lingering in the yard; we witness the whole scene as perfectly as if painted on canvass, in the colors of the master.

"Those who were present will not accuse us of exaggeration when we claim that Gough, in his palmiest days, never secured the attention and sympathy of an audience more completely than did the orator last evening. Such speeches cannot fail in establishing the most profound convictions and arousing the public to the highest resolves for the right."

During the war Mr. Searls was indefatigable in rallying the people around the flag.

During the great excitement arising from the question of the Bible in the schools, he wrote a pamphlet on "English Martyrology," which was widely read, and had great influence in Central New York.

He justly feels that the citizens of Auburn paid him a very fine compliment, in inviting him to be their orator for their great celebration, July 4th, 1876. He proved himself equal to the occasion, and delivered what was everywhere pronounced "a masterly oration, * * sound in political philosophy, deep in historical research, and practical in its admonitions."

For several years he has been, as he is now, the very acceptable chaplain of Auburn prison. He is deeply interested in every good work. Having lived in Auburn in his childhood, he has ever regarded it as his home, and takes pride and pleasure in the growth of the "lovely city." He is not without honor though a prophet in his own country.

Such a life as that of Mr. Searls supplies a valuable lesson, and shows what may be accomplished by the right use of our powers in the face of strongly opposing obstacles. Left fatherless and penniless at ten years of age, he was compelled to seek a home with strangers. He paid his board with his own labor, with the privilege of attending school. He was a quick student, his memory tenacious and his heart so fully in his work, that he very soon "learned how to learn," and his whole after-life became to him a constant school, without vacations, and his instructors were books, men, and events, his attainments becoming general and broad.

He was capable, self-reliant, industrious, prudent and faithful. Those excellent qualities won for him friends, home and employment. He was reliable and useful to those he served; and as "God helps those who help themselves," he gradually won his way not only to self-support, but, at twenty years of age, had provided a home and support for his widowed mother, a striking and noble example of filial affection. He labored, as he could, on the farm or in the work-shop, instructing himself in the use of tools, with which, as a wood-worker, he could earn more than in farming, and to that pursuit, for a time, he gave his chief attention, until he entered the holy calling, which, thereafter became the business of his life. Here, as our record abundantly shows, he quickly attained not only to distinction, but to eminence, ranking among the most popular and effective public speakers of our time. Possessing an unusually firm and elastic physique, a genial and highly social temperament, a pleasant voice, a quick and very active intellect, and pure and thoroughly grounded moral perceptions, his public efforts were, in a high degree, interesting and

magnetic. What he says is a clear reflex of his own strong common sense and his intimate knowledge of men and things, and his manner of saying it, is at once logical and interesting. Such a boyhood developing into such a life it is pleasant and profitable to record.

ELLIOT G. STORKE.

ELLIOT G. STORKE was the second son and the eighth child of Daniel Storke, and was born June 18th, 1811, in the old township of Aurelius, near Auburn, on what is known as the Washington White place. His father who was of Welch and his mother of English descent and both natives of New England, had located on that farm in the winter of 1796, three years after Col. Hardenbergh had settled at the "Corners." The year previous he had erected a house and cleared and sown a field of wheat, returning to bring in his family consisting of himself, his wife and an infant child, their first born. They had carefully prepared to meet the vicissitudes of their long winter journey through the forest and of their residence in a new country. For the former, among the provisions taken was a large supply of mince pies, which were frozen and carefully packed for future use, but which were stolen from their ox-sled one night by the Indians, who, with characteristic shouts, bore their plunder to the forests, beyond recovery. Provisions for one year and clothing and bedding for several years had been carefully prepared. Yet during the second year of their residence here, their home with all it contained was consumed by fire, inflicting a loss difficult to repair. But pending the erection of another dwelling, hospitable quarters were tendered by a benevolent neighbor, and the immediate wants of an utterly destitute family generously supplied.

The farm on which they had located had been chosen because of its level surface, in strong contrast with the rough aspects of their native New England hills; but after clearing and cultivating it for eighteen years, it was sold and a farm selected on lot 96, on the drift hills in the town of Brutus, now Throop, the great fertility of which has been established by more than seventy years of profitable culture. Here he passed the remainder of his life. It had been mostly cleared when he came; on it were two comfortable log-houses and a framed barn, the latter still in use.

The family comprised nine children, three sons and six daughters, all of whom attained maturity, married and settled in different parts of the country. They were all thoroughly trained in the industrial habits of the time, the girls in domestic work and in the preparation of flax and wool for raiment, and the boys in the diversified

labors of the farm. Work, systematic, regular, hard work were the "standing orders" of each day, in which each and all took part. There were then no foreign servants, on whom to shift the drudgeries of the farm or the household.

Mr. Storke received the usual instructions in the *very* common schools of the period, until ten years of age during both the summer and winter terms, and for four years following during the winters only, working on the farm in summer. The studies which he pursued were spelling, reading, grammar, arithmetic and geography. He then entered the Auburn Academy, then under the able direction of the Rev. John C. Rudd, D. D., principal. Here he "learned how to learn," and his subsequent progress was made by the careful study of books, unaided by teachers.

From his earliest youth he was very fond of reading, but there was no family library to refer to. Its place was supplied by a circulating library, three miles distant, from which he drew books weekly, and their contents were eagerly devoured. He could and did for years procure all the books which he had time to read. While at the academy and for years after, he had free access to the large and excellent library of Dr. Rudd, who also prescribed for him a valuable course of general reading, which he afterwards followed.

At the age of sixteen he engaged in teaching, and, for the most part, followed it during the winters until twenty-one, when the spirit of adventure and self-care led to the resolution to "go West." But for domestic reasons, involving the care of his aged parents, the plan was changed, and he was induced to remain at the old homestead, purchasing the interest of the other heirs in it, where he remained until the death of his parents. In 1838 he married Miss H. Sophia, daughter of Alfred Putnam, Esq., of Herkimer, N. Y. They have two sons and three daughters.

In 1842, he was appointed County Superintendent of the Public Schools of Cayuga County, and reappointed two years later, serving four years, when he resigned to engage in other pursuits. He gave to that trust his time and best talents, and introduced into the schools of the County important and enduring reforms.

He next engaged with Mark H. Newman & Co., book publishers of New York City, and so continued until the spring of 1850, when he became a general partner with J. C. Derby and Norman C. Miller, in the general book publishing business in Auburn, which was successfully continued until 1856, when, by the fraudulent use in his private affairs of the credit of the company, by Eugene Mulligan, who had been admitted to the partnership, the company was involved in heavy liabilities, which they were rapidly paying, when the panic of 1857 suddenly engulfed most of their customers, and involved the firm in

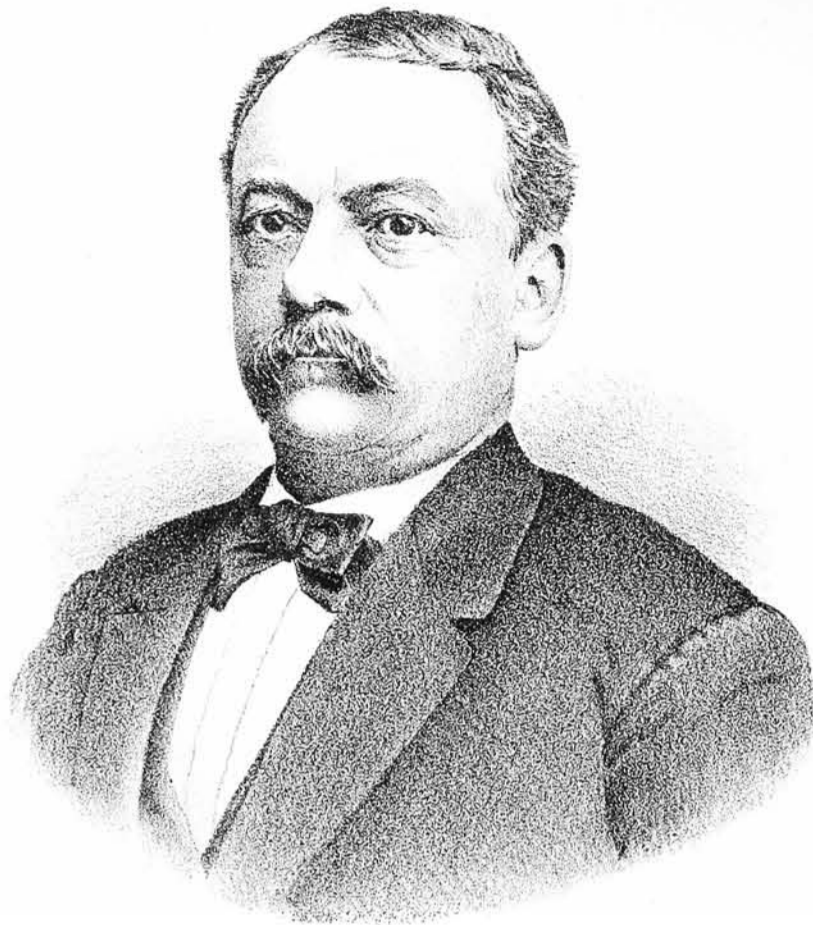


DR. JOSEPH. CLARY.
AUBURN, N.Y.

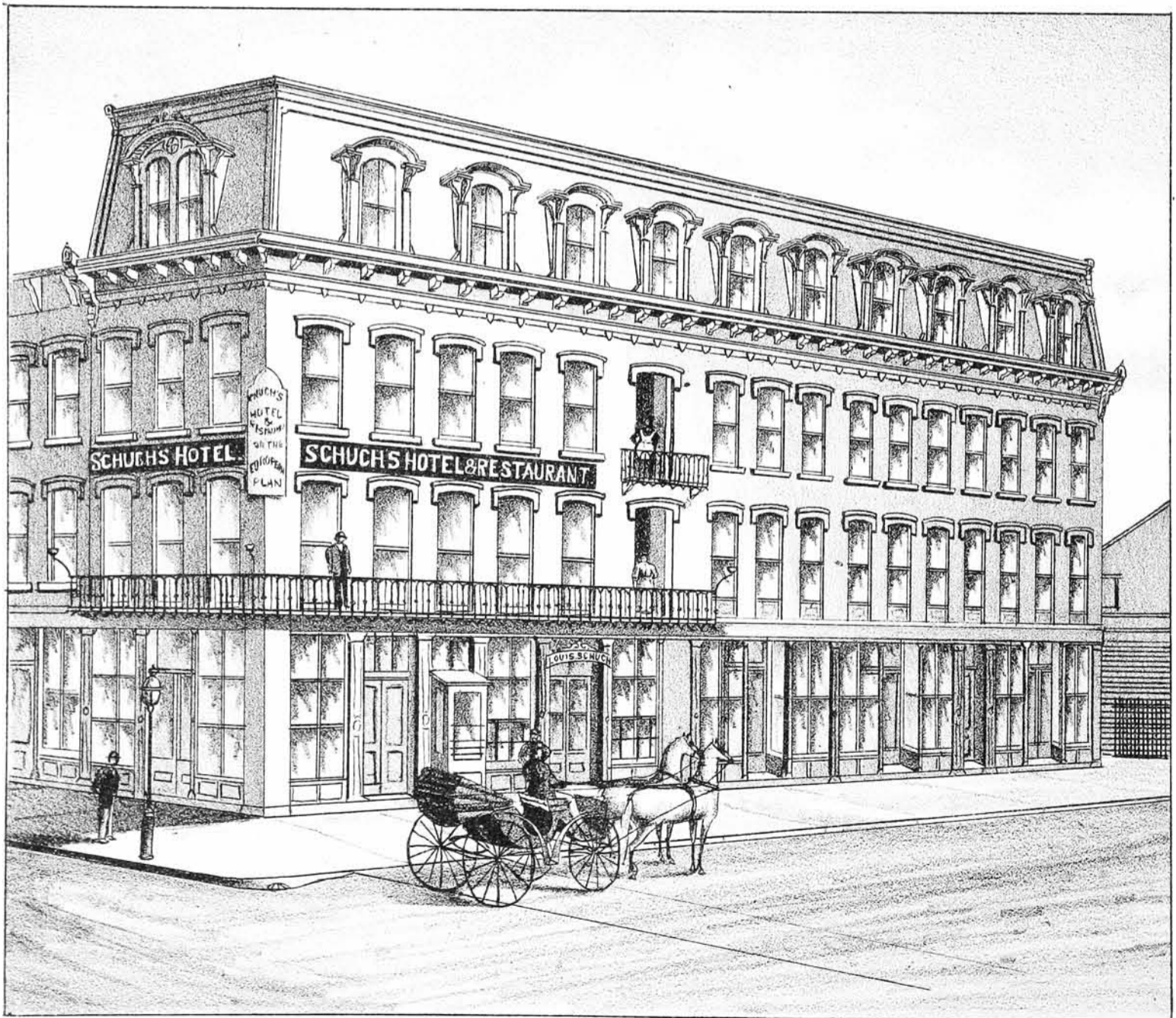


PHOTO. BY SQUYER & WRIGHT. AUBURN

MRS. A. M. B. CLARY.
AUBURN, N. Y.



LOUIS SCHUCH.



HOTEL & RESTAURANT OF L. SCHUCH. AUBURN, N.Y.

other and crushing losses, brought their business to a complete stand-still and forced them into liquidation, sacrificing for a nominal consideration property which had cost over one hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. Storke then organized, by the aid of kind friends, the Auburn Publishing Company, acting as its agent, continuing here the publication of subscription books, and making the enterprise a financial success. In 1857 he prepared a heavy 8vo. volume on domestic and rural affairs, which had a large sale. When the Rebellion began he accumulated material for a complete history of it, which he completed in over 1,600 octavo pages, and of which over 20,000 copies were sold.

In 1866, with others, he engaged in successful efforts to organize the Merchants' Union Express Company, acting as one of its executive committee, and as its supply agent during its existence.

In 1867, he established the Metallic Plane Company in Auburn, for the manufacture of iron bench and block-planes, an industry which has been rapidly extended, and that has resulted in very decided and useful improvements in those tools. That enterprise is still continued.

It will thus be seen that Mr. Storke has had an exceedingly varied experience, and if he has not gained wisdom by it, the opportunities to do so have not been wanting. As farmer, teacher, school superintendent, author, publisher and manufacturer, he has tried a sufficient variety of employments to give him an active, if not a useful or profitable life. Financial necessity first led him to teach, and afterwards to engage in the instruction of teachers; a love of books led him to engage in publishing; a belief that the merchants of the country could, and should do their own express carriage, led him into the express business, and while actively engaged therein he was induced to engage in manufacturing, which he still continues. The proposition to publish a complete history of the County met his hearty approval, and the proposal made to him to write the general history of the County, and to edit the histories of the several towns he reluctantly accepted and has executed the difficult task with care and fidelity, and, it is believed, to the full satisfaction of its numerous patrons.

LOUIS SCHUCH.

LOUIS SCHUCH was born in Landau Rheinpfals, Germany, the 6th of March, 1829. He is the son of Frederick and Magdalene Schuch.

His father was a potter by trade, and was engaged in that business for about thirty-five years and until his death, which occurred in 1845. His wife died ten years afterwards,

Louis learned his father's trade, and followed it for many years in his native place and in France, Russia, Austria and Switzerland. He came to America in 1853, landing in New York on the 16th of December of that year. He was employed in a hotel in the last named city for about two and one-half years. He was then engaged about a year on the steamship *Empire City*, running between New York and New Orleans. In 1858 he was employed in the Hotel St. Louis in the latter city, and remained there until about six months before the war of the Rebellion broke out. He then went to Syracuse, N. Y., where he remained until the first call for troops, when he went to New York city and enlisted in the 20th New York Turner Rifles. He remained in the service two years and three months. On being mustered out he came to Auburn and engaged in the hotel and restaurant business, in which he is still engaged.

In the year 1876, he commenced the erection of his fine hotel building, situated on the corner of State and Clark streets, a view of which may be seen on another page of this work, and completed it in 1878. It is one of the handsomest buildings in the city.

Mr. Schuch was married in 1864 to Madaline Keil, of Auburn, a native of Reichenberg, Austria, who came to this country in 1863. There have been born to them six children, one of whom died in infancy. In 1874 Mrs. and Mrs. Schuch visited Landau for the purpose of educating their children, and remained there two years.

JOSEPH CLARY.

Dr. JOSEPH CLARY, son of Deacon Abel Clary, was born in Massachusetts in 1787. He studied medicine in New Hartford, and at the age of twenty-five years he came to Cayuga County, settling at Throopsville, near Auburn, where he practiced his profession during a period of fifty-four years. He attained a high professional standing and became one of the leading physicians of the County. He was distinguished for the care and accuracy with which he diagnosticated diseases, and was rarely mistaken in their character and location. He possessed in a high degree the moral qualities of a good physician, and his attention to the patients under his care was characterized by a conscientious fidelity. Even to within a week of his death he performed his professional duties with the zeal and enthusiasm of earlier years. His great virtue and consistent piety won for him universal respect and confidence.

While a man of large ambition and less merit would have sought a wider sphere, his characteristic modesty made him content with the circum-