

of the settlements, the first framed one being in Owego about 1802.

The first church formed in the county was the Baptist Church of New Bedford, organized February 20, 1796, by settlers in what is now the Town of Tioga. It had but nine members. As early as November 10, 1819, there was an agricultural society in the county.

Tioga County, according to the official postal guide for July, 1930, has the following post offices: Apalachin, Barton, Berkshire, Candor, Catatonk, Halsey Valley, Lockwood, Lounsberry, Newark Valley, Nichols, North Spencer, Owego, Richford, Smithboro, South Apalachin, Spencer, Straits Corners, Tioga Center, Waits, Waverly, Willseyville.

#### OWEGO.

Owego, known as the southern gateway to the lake country, is a village of 4,739 inhabitants finely situated on the Susquehanna, near the mouth of Owego Creek. In 1922 the state completed the final link of the New York-Finger Lakes-Buffalo cross state motor route, thus placing Owego on a route fifty miles shorter than the old New York-Albany-Buffalo highway. At Owego the traveler leaves the Liberty highway and follows the new road to Ithaca.

From time immemorial the Susquehanna River at Owego and the Finger Lakes at Ithaca have been connected—first by an Indian trail, next by a pioneer roadway cut in 1789, and then the turnpike built from 1808 to 1811. During the War of 1812 this highway was of great value as a means of bringing supplies to the Atlantic seaboard, the Susquehanna River at that time being an important artery of commerce.

It was from Owego to Ithaca, that the second railroad in the United States was chartered in 1828 to bring salt, lumber and plaster to the Susquehanna River on which these goods were transported by barges to Baltimore on Chesapeake Bay.

The attractiveness of Owego today has its appeal to all who love the peace and inspiration which comes from intimate contact with the gifts of nature. Many creeks and glens and wood roads

tempt the traveler to tarry a while and drink in the beauties of the region.

The Susquehanna River sweeps in a picturesque bend at Owego, and for several miles is navigable for launches, sail boats and canoes. Three miles east of the village is Hiawatha Island, a favorite objective for canoeists. The current runs deep on the south side of this island, and here fine bass can be caught.

Just across from Hiawatha Island on the River Road, is an interesting little house in which the Rockefellers lived, while John D. Rockefeller and his brother, William, went to school in the old Owego Academy.

Owego is also interesting as the home of General H. M. Robert, whose books on parliamentary law are of nation-wide authority. Thomas C. Platt, former senator of the United States, was born and lived in Owego. His last resting place is in Evergreen Cemetery, high above the village.

A favorite walk, of which the hikers never seem to tire, takes one past Glenmary, and the home of the poet, Nathaniel Parker Willis; where, inspired by its natural loveliness, he produced many of his best poems and essays.

The little Indian town which Colonel Dearborn designates "Owagea," has been variously spelled and pronounced by authorities and writers of local history. In the Indian dialect it was known as Ah-wah-gah, the authority for this statement being Mrs. Jane Whitaker, a captive white girl, who was taken to Owego with other prisoners on the journey to Unadilla after the massacre at Wyoming. According to Morgan's "League of the Iroquois," the name, in the Onondaga tongue, was "Ah-wa-ga," the "a" in the second syllable having the same sound as in "fate." It was otherwise known and spelled as "Owegy," "Oweigy," and also as "Oswegy."

On a number of the early maps of the Region the names were known as "Owegy" and "Owega," while to the pioneer settlers it was commonly pronounced "O-wa-go," and was so written in the journals of several officers in Sullivan's Expedition, and also in the records of the town of Union, that being the first organized civil jurisdiction which exercised authority over the territory

now called Owego. The meaning of the word "Ah-wa-ga," according to Judge Charles P. Avery, a recognized authority on Indian history in the Susquehanna Valley, is "where the valley widens," but Wilkinson's "Annals of Binghamton" interpret it as "swift river."

Owego was settled one of the earliest of any locality in Central New York. In 1785 Amos Draper, an agent and Indian trader from Wyoming Valley, first came to the place. He erected a house on the site of Owego the following year and in 1787 or 1788 brought in his family. An Indian chief and his wife passed the first winter in the wilderness abode of the Draper family and here that first year a child was born to Mrs. Draper.

John McQuigg and James McMaster, from New England, the original patentees of the half-township on which Owego stands, came in 1788. A clearing was made and grain sowed on an Indian improvement there in the season of 1786 by William McMaster, William Taylor, Robert McMaster, John Nealy, and William Wood, who entered the valley from the east by way of Otsego and the Susquehanna.

There were no mills nearer than Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, which was reached by canoes. Until 1801, when a post office was established at Owego, settlers had been dependent on private hands and chance ways of receiving a letter. For many years the early Owego post office was one of the four distributing offices of the state.

From Owego for an extended period were shipped salt, plaster, lumber and wheat for the Pennsylvania and Maryland markets. The first tannery in the county was built in Owego in 1795-96, with deer skins as the chief hides dressed.

The greatest disaster in Owego's history came September 27, 1849, when fire destroyed the entire business section—104 buildings exclusive of barns, with a loss of \$300,000, as figured in those days of low valuations. The blaze started in the hall of the Sons of Temperance, over the store of James and Wm. A. Ely on the south side of Front Street. Only three stores were left in the business section, the destruction including all buildings on both sides of Front Street from Church Street to the

park, and all on Lake Street to the old Center House on one side and the Jared Huntington residence on the other. The bridge across the river was partly destroyed.

This conflagration came in the days when fire fighting equipment was crude. The first steamer did not come to Owego until 1866, four years after the village fire department incorporated. Today Owego's fire fighting force is highly efficient and equipped with all modern apparatus.

Before the nineteenth century Capt. Luke Bates built the first tavern in Owego and soon after the Franklin House was opened. The Owego Academy was founded in 1828. The place was incorporated as a village April 4, 1827.

The Owego Gas Light Company was organized March 20, 1856, with a capital of \$40,000. Owego has always been a community interested in horse racing. The Owego Driving Park Association was formed in 1871, leasing grounds for a fine half mile track.

The steamer Lyman Truman, built in the fall of 1875 and launched the following March, was the largest ever launched at Owego. It was built for excursions to Hiawatha Island and had a capacity of more than 700 passengers. At the island the steamboat company had erected a hotel.

Three railroads serve Owego, the Erie, the Lehigh Valley and the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western. The village industrial plants turn out shoes, furniture, chemicals, laboratory supplies and auto accessories.

Two admirable weekly newspapers are published in the village—the Owego Gazette, founded in 1800, and the Owego Times, founded in 1836.

#### CANDOR.

The Village of Candor, in the town of the same name, was for many years in two settlements, Candor Corners and Candor Center. It was incorporated as a village in 1900 and has a population of 669, its greatest population having been in 1915 when the census showed 749 residents.

Thomas Hollister kept the first tavern in 1795, built the first log barn and frame house, set out the first orchard and raised the first apples in the town in or near the cemetery in the village. The first religious services were held in barns and homes as early as 1797, by Rev. Seth Williams, a missionary from Connecticut. As early as 1854 plows were wooded at the Candor Iron Works, the irons being cast at Montrose. In 1824 a woolen mill was built. The First National Bank of Candor was chartered March 30, 1864.

Candor is on the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western R. R. Large quantities of gloves are made there and pine, oak and hemlock timber is produced in abundance.

The Candor Courier, a weekly, was established in 1899 and still serves the community. The first journalistic venture here was the Candor Press, established in 1867. It became the Candor Free Press and later suspended publication. In 1872 the Candor Review made its debut but it was burned out in a fire in 1873 and did not resume publication. Then came the Candor Independent, established October 14, 1876.

The strong agricultural organizations of the county today found their inception in Candor on December 19, 1876, when a County Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, was organized.

#### NEWARK VALLEY.

Newark Valley, incorporated in 1894, is a delightful village of 795 inhabitants, in the Town of Newark Valley. Here is located a state fish distribution and field station, which in 1930 distributed 100,345 brook trout fingerlings furnished by the hatchery at Bath, Steuben County. Since then its work has expanded.

As a private enterprise, the Newark Valley trout ponds were commenced in 1869 and opened to the public June 6, 1872. The ponds had a plentiful supply of water from springs on the grounds, were well stocked with trout and had hatching houses on the premises.

Newark Valley, fifteen miles northwest of Binghamton, is on the Lehigh Valley Railroad. Quantities of ladders and scaffold-

ing are produced in its shops. Since March 4, 1876, the village has enjoyed an enterprising weekly newspaper, the Tioga County Herald.

Newark Valley was the home of Dr. D. W. Patterson, a genealogist of some note, who collected much data relative to old families throughout the county. Rev. Marc Fivas, a professor of natural sciences at the Academy of Lausanne, Switzerland, came to America in 1849 because of political troubles at home, and chose Newark Valley for his home. Noted in the scientific and literary world, he produced valuable works in this community where he died in 1876 at the age of eighty-four.

The first church erected in the Town of Newark Valley was built by the Congregational Society in 1803-04. It was organized in the village in 1803 and in 1811 it became, by change of church policy, the first Presbyterian Church in Tioga County.

#### NICHOLS.

Charmingly situated on the south bank of the Susquehanna near the mouth of Wappasening Creek, the Village of Nichols, in the town of the same name, is a community of 533 inhabitants. It was incorporated in 1903. Nichols was formerly known as Rushville, receiving that name from Dr. Galamiel H. Barstow, in honor of a Dr. Rush, a prominent physician of Philadelphia.

The place was originally settled about the year 1793 by Caleb Wright, but very little actual improvement came until arrival of Dr. Barstow in 1812. A tavern was kept by Jonathan Platt, about a mile east of the village, as early as 1800. The first frame house in the village was built by Dr. Barstow in 1813. The first brick house was put up by Nehemiah Plat about 1830 and the first store opened by Dr. Barstow, in part of his frame dwelling, in 1814.

The post office was established probably about 1812-13, though an office had existed some years previously at Smithboro on the opposite side of the river two miles from Nichols. A few years after the place was named Rushville, it was discovered that a post office of the same name existed in Yates County and to avoid confusion, Nichols was adopted. In return for the com-

pliment conferred, Colonel Nichols gave \$200 to be applied toward creation of some public building. The sum was used in erection of the Free Meeting House, completed in 1829 as the first church edifice in the town.

Dr. Barstow, the energetic civic figure who built the community up, was elected a member of Assembly in 1815, filling the post three successive terms. In 1818 he was elected to the State Senate from the western district, which then comprised nearly half the territory of the state. The same year he was appointed first judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Tioga County. In 1823 and again in 1826 he was elected to the Assembly. In 1825 he was chosen state treasurer and in 1830 he was sent to Congress. In 1838 he was once more elected state treasurer.

It was at Nichols that the Tioga County Sunday School Association was organized in 1864.

#### SPENCER.

Spencer, a village of 628 inhabitants, is situated on Catatonk Creek west of the center of the Town of Spencer. It was incorporated as a village in 1886. The first settlement in the town was made in 1794 by Benjamin Drake and Joseph Barker on the site of the village. Drake owned all the territory now embraced in the community, taught the first school and was justice of the peace for twenty-eight years. He put up the first grist mill in the town.

The Spencer Union School building was erected in 1859 and an academic department added in 1874.

Thirty years after the first settlers came, the howl of the wolf was still heard nightly. At an annual town meeting March 4, 1828, it was voted that the town allow \$10 for each full grown wolf scalp; \$5 for whelps; \$5 for full grown panthers; \$2.50 for young ones; \$2 for full grown wildcat scalps and \$1 for young ones.

Spencer is on the Lehigh Valley Railroad and milling is one of its prosperous industries. About it lie fine dairy, poultry and

grain farms. Spencer's weekly newspaper is the Needle, which has been published since 1888.

Among the early settlers at Spencer village were Joshua Ferris, Henry Miller, Edmund and Rodney Hobart from Connecticut, Andry Purdy, Thomas Mosher from Westchester County, and George Fisher. The first birth was that of Deborah, daughter of Benjamin Drake; the first marriage that of John B. Underwood and Polly Spaulding and the first death that of Prescott Hobart. The first school was taught by Joseph Barker, in his own home in the village; the first inn was kept by Andrew Purdy; the first store by Samuel Doolittle and the first gristmill was built by Samuel Drake.

Spencer was the county seat of Tioga County, then including Chemung, from 1812 to 1821.

#### WAVERLY.

Waverly, a thriving village of 5,664 population, is in the southwest corner of Tioga County on the east bank of the Chemung River. Prior to 1849-50, the period of completion of the Erie Railroad, the site of the village was little more than farm land. The railroad started the rapid development of the community.

The name of the village was suggested by J. E. Hallet, who settled there in 1832, as there was then no other post office by that name in the state. The first frame house was built in 1810 by Deacon Ephraim Strong; the first brick house was put up by Dr. Clute in 1843; the first store was kept by Alva Jarvis, who started business in 1841; the first manufacturing business was a foundry built in 1842 on the northwest corner of Chemung and Waverly Streets.

Isaac Shepard opened the first hotel about 1825 and the Courteney House was built in 1849-50 by William Peck. The first mill was the steam grist mill erected by Duzer, Hallet & Marsh in 1866. It was leveled by fire February 8, 1870, with a loss of \$20,000 above the amount covered by insurance. The first church erected in the village was that of the Presbyterians in 1849.



Application to incorporate as a village was made on December 12, 1853, and on January 18 following the citizens voted 114 to 44 in favor of the project. It was reincorporated in 1876. The old Waverly Institute was organized as the Shepard Institute, so named in honor of Isaac Shepard and opened in 1857. Owen Spaulding, a pioneer in Waverly, not only took half the capital stock, but also donated land for a building. On April 15, 1871, the institute became the academic department of the Union High School and under the state regents.

There are but cursory dates in the history of a community which has demonstrated remarkable growth, chiefly because of its railroad advantages and the fertility of its tributary territory. Its religious life goes back more than a century. The Baptist Church of Waverly, as first organized, was created at Ulster, Bradford County, Pennsylvania, June 24, 1824, at the home of Joseph Smith. Then it was called the Athens and Ulster Baptist Church. In 1832 the name was changed to the Athens and Chemung Baptist Church and in 1836 to the Factoryville Baptist Church. It was established in Waverly in 1865.

The Methodist Church of Waverly was first organized as a class at Factoryville in 1828 with five members. In 1864 it moved to Waverly. The First Presbyterian Church was organized with twenty-two members June 8, 1847; the Grace Episcopal Church was founded December 28, 1853; the Church of Christ, July 8, 1877, and the Roman Catholic Church several years later.

The first fire company was the old Neptune Engine Company No. 1. The Tioga Hose Band was organized March 20, 1876, partly of members of the Waverly Cornet Band. The Waverly post office was established in 1849 with Benjamin H. Davis as first postmaster.

Waverly enjoys the transportation facilities provided by three railroads—the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western, the Erie and the Lehigh Valley. Paint, furniture and gloves are among its industrial products. Lying in the heart of a rich farming section, it is a large shipping point for dairy products, grain and vegetables. The weekly newspaper published here is the Sun Recorder, established in 1908.

## CHAPTER XXXV

### TOMPKINS COUNTY.

ORGANIZED IN 1817—INDUSTRIES—COUNTY SEAT—EARLY ROADS—TOWNS—POST-OFFICES — ITHACA — CAYUGA HEIGHTS — DRYDEN — FREEVILLE — GROTON—TRUMANSBURG—NEWFIELD.

Tompkins County, formed April 17, 1817, from Cayuga and Seneca Counties, embraces 476 square miles. Of its land area of 304,640 acres, 240,632 acres are in farms, which number 2,358. Farm lands and buildings are valued at \$12,724,134. Of the county's 41,513 population, a little more than half is rural.

In the county's forty-nine industrial plants, 3,132 employes receive \$4,638,593 yearly in wages, according to the latest federal statistics compiled in 1929. The plants pay \$2,909,677 annually for materials, fuel and purchased power and their products are valued at \$15,157,865.

There are 1,075 miles of road in the county, of which 169 miles are state highway. A total of 13,192 motor vehicles are owned within the county.

Tompkins County seat is Ithaca, only city within the county, which also has five incorporated villages: Cayuga Heights, Dryden, Freeville, Groton and Trumansburg. In 1895 Newfield was incorporated as a village but incorporation was dissolved December 2, 1926.

The nine towns of the county are: Caroline, 1,616; Danby, 1,407; Dryden, 3,532; Enfield, 939; Groton, 3,789; Ithaca, 2,951; Lansing, 2,721; Newfield, 1,450; Ulysses, 2,381.

Tompkins County has one assembly district, it is in the thirty-seventh congressional district, the sixth judicial district and the forty-first senatorial district.

Three towns were annexed from Tioga County March 22, 1822, and a part of Schuyler County was taken off Tompkins in 1854. The three southern towns of the county were included in the Watkins and Flint Purchase and the remainder were in the Military Tract.

A public road was built from Oxford, on Chenango River, directly through to Ithaca by Joseph Chaplin in 1791-93 and this became the great highway for immigration to the southern part of the state for many years. Consequently Tompkins County, immediately bordering upon the road, was rapidly settled. The first immigrants were chiefly from New England. At the spot where Ithaca stands were found cleared fields, which had previously been cultivated by Indians, and these lands were among the first occupied in the county. The next settlements were made in Ulysses, on the west bank of the lake and along Chaplin's road in Dryden.

Caroline was formed from Spencer (Tioga County) February 22, 1811, and was transferred to Tompkins County March 22, 1822. A part was annexed to Danby in 1839.

Danby was formed from Spencer (Tioga County) February 22, 1811, and was transferred to Tompkins March 22, 1822. Part of Caroline was annexed April 29, 1839, and a part was annexed to Caroline in 1856.

Dryden was first erected as a separate town February 22, 1803, and Enfield was formed from Ulysses March 16, 1821. Groton was formed from Locke (Cayuga County) as Division April 7, 1817, and its name changed March 13, 1818.

Ithaca was formed from Ulysses March 16, 1821; Lansing was formed from Genoa (Cayuga County) April 7, 1817; Newfield was erected from Spencer (Tioga County) as Cayuga February 22, 1811, and its name changed March 29, 1822, and a part was annexed to Catharine (Schuyler County) in 1853.

Ulysses was formed March 5, 1799, Dryden was taken off in 1803 and Ithaca and Enfield in 1821.

Tompkins County's first judge was Oliver C. Comstock, named April 10, 1817; the first surrogate was Andrew D. W. Bruyn, appointed March 11, 1817; the first clerk was Archer

Green, named April 11, 1817; the first sheriff was Herman Camp, designated the same day, and the first district attorney was David Woodcock, appointed April 15, 1817.

The act organizing the county designated Ithaca as the county seat and contained a provision, providing that in case of failure to convey a site for the county buildings to the supervisors, and to secure \$7,000 to be paid, the new county was to be reannexed to Cayuga and Seneca. The conditions were met and in 1818 a building for a court house and jail was put up. A second brick structure to replace the old frame one was erected in 1854-55.

The official postal guide for July, 1930, lists the following post offices in Tompkins County: Brooktondale, Caroline Depot, Dryden, Etna, Freeville, Groton, Ithaca, Jacksonville, Ludlowville, McLean, Myers, Newfield, Peruville, Portland Point, Slaterville Springs, South Lansing, Trumansburg, West Danby.

#### ITHACA.

Proudly resting upon its foliated hills, "far above Cayuga's waters," Ithaca, the city beautiful, is known throughout the world as the home of Cornell University. In all Central New York it is doubtful if any community has a more picturesque natural setting.

Within the city are four creeks, flowing through gorges cut deep into the native rock, tributaries of the Cayuga Inlet. Six Mile, Cascadilla, and Fall Creeks, all within a few minutes' walk of the center of town, provide exceptional opportunities for the visitor to discover the natural beauties that characterize this entire region.

In recent years, these deep ravines, through improvements at the hand of man that harmonize with Nature's wild beauty, have been made more accessible to the visitor. Six Mile Creek, in its upper reaches, is still in the wild state, for it serves as the city's watershed, and many tree plantings have been made to preserve the forests through which the stream flows.

The gorges through which Cascadilla and Fall Creeks flow are rich in rugged beauty. From the highlands to the eastward, the waters flow down the hillside toward the lake in a series of

cascades and high waterfalls, dropping more than 400 feet in their descent.

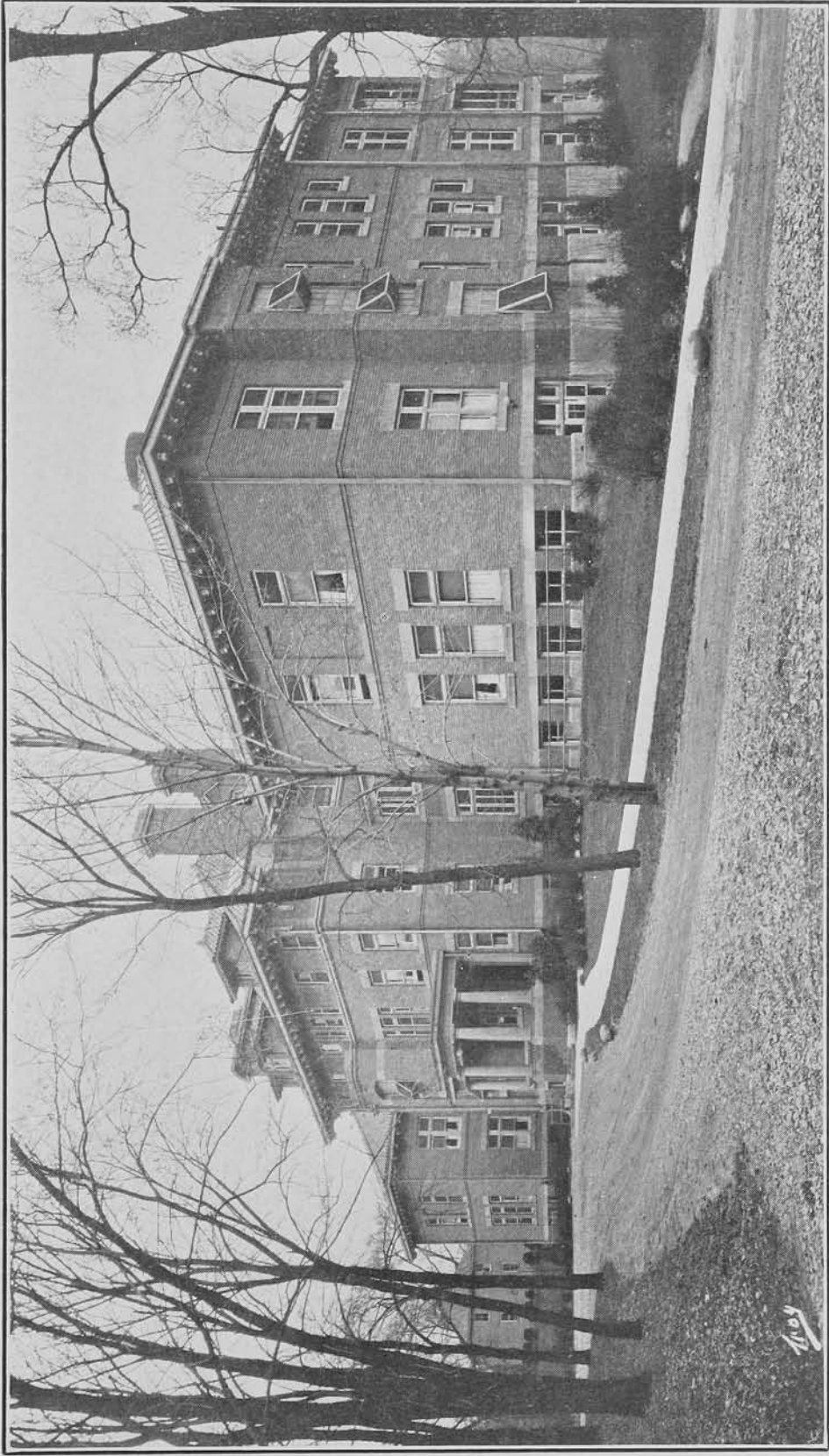
On the high plateau bordered by these two ravines stand the stately buildings and extensive campus of Cornell University. Thousands of visitors and returning alumni make their annual pilgrimage to this most beautiful college setting in America.

In a valley at the end of Cayuga Lake is the city and, reaching northward out of vision, the waters of the lake. Across the valley, to the south and west, rise the rolling hills which give the region its matchless setting.

Back into the dim past, the city's history extends to the time when Sullivan's army set the forests aglow with the light of a burning Indian village at the head of Cayuga Lake. Lieut.-Col. Henry Dearborn's detachment of 200 men in the Sullivan campaign passed across the site of Ithaca in 1779 and camped at the foot of West Hill the night of September 23. Then in April, 1788, eleven men left Kingston on the Hudson, with two Delaware Indians for guides, and visited the Cayuga Valley on an exploring trip. The following year three of their number—Jacob Yapple, Isaac Dumond and Peter Hinepaw—returned and planted corn in the clearings before made by the Indians. Leaving one in charge, the others returned for their families, who came back to the Cayuga Valley in August. Nineteen persons comprised this first group of settlers. Others soon arrived but by the end of the century many of the first comers had left for other locations.

Much of the Cayuga Valley was purchased by Simeon DeWitt, state surveyor general, and by Abraham Bloodgood, his brother-in-law. DeWitt named the settlement Ithaca, probably because it was in the Town of Ulysses, just as the Greek Ithaca was the capital of Ulysses' realm. Later DeWitt acquired Bloodgood's holdings, so that he owned virtually all of what is now Ithaca.

John Yapple built the first mill in Ithaca, locating it on Cascadilla Creek. The first frame house was erected for Abram Markle about 1800 on the same creek near the present Linn Street. It is said that a store was kept here for a time and that later the building became Ithaca's first tavern. The first public house constructed solely for that purpose, however, was on the



TOMPKINS COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL



southeast corner of Aurora and Seneca Streets. It was built in 1805 by Luther Gere. At about the same time the Ithaca Hotel was built by Jacob Vrooman diagonally across from Gere's place, and the next year an inn opened where the Cornell Library now stands. The Ithaca Hotel changed its name in 1809 and Gere built another hostelry at the corner of what is now State and Aurora Street, and put up a new Ithaca Hotel. That was the predecessor of the present hotel of that name.

David Quigg, who had been a trader in a cabin on Cascadilla Creek, established a frame store in 1804 at the northwest corner of Aurora and Seneca Streets, and stimulated a business drawn from a thirty mile radius.

In these early days, religion was practiced by the pioneers. As early as 1793, some of the settlers had gathered at Robert McDowell's cabin for Methodist services. The first permanent church was organized by the Presbyterians in 1804, under the name of the Second Presbyterian Church of Ulysses, the First Presbyterian having been formed in Trumansburg. From 1808 to 1816 the Presbyterians worshipped in a district school on the site of the present high school, and in 1817-18 built the first church edifice in Ithaca.

The literary and educational character of the community, which has been predominant down to the present, was evidenced as early as 1806, when \$300 was raised for a library.

One of the unique organizations of early days was the Moral Society, a group of self-constituted guardians of the morals of fellow citizens. Offenders against temperance were often doused with water and locked up with hogs or their clothes removed and thus exhibited to the society members. On one occasion a group of outraged inebriates after their incarceration captured four of the moralists and confined them in the hog pound. The society demanded tribute of visiting shows and had a semi-official publication, "The Castigator." "Tecumseh," the Grand President of the society, was Benjamin Drake, a village merchant.

The War of 1812 gave impetus to the little settlement which then numbered less than fifty houses. With gypsum cut off from Canada, this material for use in making fertilizer plaster, was



supplied from the limeladen shores of Cayuga Lake and Ithaca became a shipping center for it. Building of the Erie Canal added to the possibilities for water transportation. By 1828 the Cayuga and Seneca Canal had been completed.

On April 2, 1821, Ithaca was incorporated as a village, with Daniel Bates as first president and two years later the Ithaca Academy was incorporated. Within the next few years Ithaca was made the northern terminus of the second railroad incorporated in this state. Its story is told in the section of this book devoted to railway development. By this time boat service had become a regular, accepted thing on Cayuga Lake, dividing the business which the rumbling stage at first had claimed as its monopoly.

In the early thirties the hand of Ezra Cornell, one of the builders of Ithaca, began its task of community improvement. With Fall Creek claiming numerous mills by that time, Cornell was engaged to overhaul and repair several of them. Water power was then supplied through a wooden flume extending down the south bank of the gorge. Often freezing water broke the conveyor. Cornell set out to remedy the situation. He excavated a tunnel through the rock 200 feet long and twelve wide and thirteen high. Thus the water was diverted from the main stream to the mill wheels, the tunnel remaining in use even now.

In 1832 the old Clinton House opened in the building it occupies today. It was one of the finest hotels west of New York. The same year the Ithaca & Geneva Railroad was chartered, and in 1836 a railroad to Auburn was chartered, along with another, the Ithaca & Chemung Road. The depression of 1837 virtually bankrupted Ithaca, but courageously her citizens rose above circumstance. Two banks opened as the first new enterprises after the panic. Fires visited the village and more business houses closed and a return to normalcy was not experienced until the forties. The present City Hall was opened in 1843 and four years later Owego Street was planked from Aurora Street to the inlet.

Ithaca was lighted for the first time by gas in 1853, by the newly formed Ithaca Gas Light Company. That same year the

Ithaca Water Works Company was incorporated, bringing water from springs near Buffalo Street. Though Ithaca's population increased three-fold between 1825 and 1835, following the opening of the canal, it grew from 3,925 to 4,908, or less than twenty-five per cent in the next twenty years.

One of Ithaca's greatest misfortunes came June 17, 1857, when a flood tore down Six Mile Creek Valley, washing out dams, all the bridges and some mills, killing three men and leaving damage estimated at \$100,000. Parts of the village were under water for more than four months.

Ithaca weathered the Civil War, the village trustees issuing shin plasters, later redeemed and destroyed. A new building for the county clerk's office was built in 1863. At this period Ezra Cornell was becoming a leading figure in the community, having returned from extensive work in the development of the telegraph. Cornell was the principal promoter of the Ithaca & Cortland Railroad to connect at Freeville.

His first gift to Ithaca was the public library, begun in 1863. Of even greater importance was his vision of a network with the Southern Central from Auburn to Owego. Likewise, he was the leading spirit in procuring a charter in 1870 for the Ithaca & Athens Railroad that would tap the coal fields of Pennsylvania. He was the driving force behind the chartering of the Ithaca & Geneva Road and the extension of the Ithaca & Cortland to Elmira on the Erie and Canastota on the New York Central. Only the building of the Cayuga Lake Railroad, now the Lehigh Valley along the shore from Auburn to Ithaca, was opposed by Cornell.

The prosperity which Ithaca had gained through increasing industries and added rail facilities was given a severe blow on August 22, 1871, when a \$200,000 fire leveled eleven dwellings in the area bounded by South Aurora Street, Six Mile Creek, State Street and the Tompkins County Bank. Then came the depression of '73 and the failure of some of the railroads which had been Ezra Cornell's dream. The control of the roads went into the hands of the Lehigh Valley and Cornell was virtually bankrupt. The founder of Cornell University died December 9,

1874, after a period of illness and worry. Andrew D. White, first president of the university, was a leading figure in the organization of the institution.

The presence of the university had a stimulating influence on educational progress. The Ithaca Academy had been incorporated in 1823, and in 1840 it occupied a new structure built on the site of the old wooden school building erected in 1818. Here were planted the germs of vision and love of education which formed the groundwork for the pioneer endeavors to found a university.

When the Union School District for the village was created in 1874 by the Legislature, the academy building was leased for five years to the new Board of Education. At the end of that time the village purchased the property and also erected a brick school on Aurora Street near Fall Creek. In 1880 the old Central School, Mill and Geneva Streets, was remodeled and the following year the East Hill School was built. A permanent primary school was built on South Hill in 1907. The old academy building was razed in 1884 and the cornerstone of a new high school laid the next year. Several additions were built on before fire leveled the school in 1912.

The present fine high school was then constructed. In 1912 the Central School burned and was replaced in 1923 by a modern Central School at Mill and Albany Streets. The same year a small school for lower grades was built on Cornell Heights. The latest schools are the Henry Street John School at Clinton and Albany Streets and the Belle Sherman School in Bryant Park, both of which were opened in 1926. In 1883 a parochial school was built on West Buffalo Street.

The Ithaca Conservatory was organized in 1892 and received its charter under the laws of the State of New York in 1897. Beginning over thirty years ago in a small home on one of Ithaca's choice residence streets, the school later moved into one of the principal business blocks of the city where it remained for twelve years. Outgrowing these quarters the Conservatory then purchased its present valuable property. Facing on the largest and most beautiful park of the city, the school enjoys an element of

seclusion, at the same time being in the immediate proximity of the principal public buildings. Facing on the same park are the City High School, the court house, Odd Fellows' Temple, and three of the city churches, while the post office and Y. M. C. A. are distant only a half block. The Conservatory has gradually developed its property until now it includes an Administration Building, three Studio Buildings, Little Theater, Band School Building, Martin Hall, six Dormitories, three Sorority Houses, Gymnasium, Infirmary, two Fraternity Buildings.

In 1926, the Ithaca Conservatory as a stock company was dissolved, and the school property valued at close to a million dollars was turned over to the state. At this time the school received a new charter from the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York as a non-stock institution. Thus another great stride forward was made by this famous institution freeing it from any personal ownership or commercial consideration.

Horse cars came to Ithaca in 1883. A year later a charter was granted the Ithaca Street Railways Company and Ithaca was one of the first places in America to have trolleys. In 1885 there were only thirteen electric railways in the country, with a total mileage of fifty.

Ithaca was incorporated as a city May 2, 1887. In 1904 the municipality took over the previously, privately owned water works.

With a natural scenic background, it is little wonder that Ithaca has been the hub of state park activity in the Finger Lakes Region. Much of the development is due largely to one of Ithaca's leading citizens, Robert H. Treman. On December 14, 1915, Mr. and Mrs. Treman purchased Enfield Glen proper and an old hotel property embracing about forty acres. During the next four years they bought about a dozen parcels of land, consisting of 388 acres, which, in 1920, they gave to the state. A commission, known as the Enfield Falls Reservation Commission, was formed with Mr. Treman as its chairman. The commission existed until 1924 when ten counties in the region were placed under the Finger Lakes State Parks Commission, of which Tre-

man was elected head. The story of state park development is told in another chapter.

The general beautification and development of Ithaca as a city of natural loveliness was stimulated in 1923 under the administration of Mayor Louis P. Smith, who named a citizens planning committee as the forerunner of a long series of improvements in the physical appearance of the community.

One of the most striking elements in the development of Ithaca industrially was the coming of the Morse enterprises. The first of these comprises simply a machine shop, cabinet shop, two-press mill and an oil mill. The great Morse Chain Company was incorporated in 1898. Plants as branches sprang up even in Europe. The automobile advanced the growth of the industry by leaps. Then came the second of the great Morse industries—the Thomas-Morse Aircraft Corporation, which opened in Ithaca as a separate enterprise in 1914. Then in 1919 the Peters-Morse Company began producing a commercial adding machine. The latest Morse enterprise is a company which manufactures an electric clock.

With an estimated number of 3,500 permanent families, Ithaca because of its seven educational institutions, has also today a large transient population. Of its inhabitants, ninety-five per cent are native white, two per cent negroes and three per cent foreign born. In 1928 there were 1,369 Ithacans who filed income tax returns. The city has eight public schools, one high school and one parochial school. Then there are two Baptist Churches, one Christian Science, one Congregational, two Episcopal, one Hebrew, three Methodist, one Presbyterian, one Roman Catholic, one Lutheran and five miscellaneous.

The modern Ithaca, though primarily an educational center, is also strong industrially, with forty-five manufacturing establishments, the principal ones of which are the Morse Chain Company, Ithaca Gun Company, Thomas-Morse Aircraft Corporation, Barr-Morse Company, Peters-Morse, Stanford-Crowell Company.

There are 4,800 gas meters which serve the city, 11,000 electric meters and 8,600 telephones. The business classifications follow: Passenger auto agencies, fifteen; commercial car

agencies, six; auto accessories, thirty-five; auto tire agencies, ten; bakers, six; cigar stores and stands, twelve; confectioners, twenty-five; delicatessens, three; dressmakers, thirty-nine; druggists, ten; dry goods, five; department stores, two; electrical supplies, seven; florists, three; fruits, four; furniture, six; furriers, three; public garages, eighteen; grocers, sixty-one; hardware, four; jewelry, twelve; meat markets, twenty; men's furnishings, twelve; merchant tailors, thirty; milliners, eleven; opticians, three; photographers, eight; pianos, four; radio supplies, nine; restaurants, forty-seven; shoes, fourteen; sporting goods, five; stationers, eight; women's apparel, seven; five-and-ten-cent stores, three; twenty-five cents to one dollar stores, two; doctors, forty; dentists, eighteen; osteopaths, one.

Ithaca has its own municipal airport, two miles northwest of the city at the south end of Cayuga Lake. It is also connected with the Barge Canal, is on the main line of the Lehigh Valley and two branch lines, and the D. L. & W. also has a branch terminal here. Bus lines lead in all directions.

The city is particularly proud of its record in hospitalization. The Ithaca Memorial Hospital was established January 19, 1889, under the name of Ithaca City Hospital, which name was changed November 15, 1926. The hospital maintains a registered school of nursing and the 1928 reports of the State Department of Charities show it has a capacity of 106 beds, and twenty bassinets.

The Ithaca Tuberculosis Association was organized in 1911 as the Tuberculosis Committee of Ithaca and incorporated under its new name in 1915. It operated in conjunction with the Health Department, and relicensed the Ithaca Public Health Clinic January 8, 1924, nurses making visits to patients in their homes.

Maintained by the City Board of Education, the John C. Rumsey Memorial Dental Clinic, in the high and grammar school, was licensed January 9, 1918, to provide for dental needs of public school pupils.

According to the federal census of manufacturers of 1929, Ithaca employs 2,073 wage earners, whose annual pay amounts to \$3,110,784. The value of Ithaca made products yearly is \$8,757,096.

## CAYUGA HEIGHTS.

Cayuga Heights, one of the finest residential sections in the entire district, is in reality a subdivision of Ithaca although it was incorporated as a separate village in 1915 and in the 1930 federal census is given an independent listing with a population of 507. Because of its beautiful location, it has grown rapidly since it was incorporated with but 137 inhabitants. In 1920 the population was 179 and by 1925 it had grown to 370.

Rapid development north and south of Cornell University campus resulted from extension of a trolley line up East Hill. The Cornell Heights Land Company, organized in 1901 by Charles H. Blood, Jared T. Newman, E. G. Wyckoff, Prof. Charles H. Hull and Prof. John H. Tanner, purchased a farm north of Wyckoff's original "Heights." The company sold thirty acres of its land to the Ithaca Country Club. Highland Avenue, Wyckoff Avenue, Triphammer Road and other streets were laid out and graded. Today most of the land of the Cornell Heights Land Company is now included in the village of Cayuga Heights.

The remainder of the land in the new tract was put up for sale as building lots and the principal owners of the Cornell Heights Land Company then incorporated the Ithaca Suburban Railway Company, September 24, 1904, to make the land more accessible. The new village, restricted by a zoning ordinance which went into effect in 1926, commands one of the finest vistas of lake and valley anywhere in the state.

## DRYDEN.

Dryden village, in the town of Dryden, with a population today of 665, is a busy agricultural center on the Lehigh Valley Railroad. It was named for John Dryden, English poet. The land on which the village originally was built was owned for the most part by Benjamin Lacy, Edward Griswold and Nathaniel Sheldon. Early settlers were enthusiastic over the possibilities of their settlement. Griswold gave a blacksmith forty acres of land if he would locate his shop at Dryden.

The first settlement in the town of Dryden was commenced in 1797 by Amos Sweet, on the site of Dryden village, who, accom-

panied by his mother, brother, wife and two children, built the first cabin in the town. That first house was only ten feet square and constructed of logs twelve inches in diameter. The house was eight logs high. The roof was supported by poles covered with bark, stripped from elm and basswood. The only window was an opening eighteen inches square cut through the logs. In winter this was covered with coarse, greased paper, so some light would be admitted.

The next settlers in the town were Ezekiel Sandford, David Foot and Ebenezer Chausen, who located at Willow Glen in 1798. A single yoke of oxen, at one load, brought these three families, consisting of fourteen persons, and all their household goods from the Chenango River. Capt. George Robertson (sometimes called the father of the town) came in the same year and started cultivation of the first farm in Dryden and harvested the first crops.

The first white child born was Robert Robertson and the first death was that of the mother of Amos Sweet. Daniel Lasey taught the first school in 1804; Amos Lewis kept the first inn; Joel Hull the first store and Col. Hopkins from Homer built the first mill in 1800. The first stage from Homer to Ithaca was run through the town in 1824. The famous old Bridle Road, built in 1795, was the first road into Dryden and over it the first horses were brought in 1800. In early days the town was known as a superior lumber district, there having been fifty-one saw mills in operation within its limits in 1835.

The village was incorporated in 1857, with David P. Goodhue as first president. The previous year the first newspaper was issued in Dryden, under the name Rumsey's Companion. One mile west of the village are the well known Dryden Sulphur Springs, where in olden days the Dryden Springs Sanitarium catered to invalids attracted by the medicinal properties of the waters. Two miles southeast of the village is Dryden Lake, a mile long and a half-mile wide.

#### FREEVILLE.

Though Freeville, Tompkins County, is a village of but 373, it is the post office address for the "smallest republic in the world."



For at Freeville is the George Junior Republic, world known and the outgrowth of an ideal of William R. (Daddy) George, who was born on a farm near West Dryden.

When he was fourteen, his parents moved to New York and he spent only his vacation at the old home. In 1890 he conceived the plan of a fresh air camp for city boys at Freeville. For several successive years he brought boys there. From this grew the Republic and on July 10, 1895, the first government of the youth, for the youth and by the youth was established. About 2,000 young people of both sexes have since passed through the George Junior Republic.

In no single instance does this little community resemble an institution. In fact, the Junior Republic is diametrically opposed to the institution idea.

Not only are the laws made by the boys and girls who comprise the population of the Republic, but by them also are enforced. He who does not work is arrested as a vagrant and sent to jail. He who loses his job is given three days in which to find other work, or he becomes a vagrant. The youngsters escape losing jobs or becoming vagrant by earning at least six dollars and fifty cents per week; otherwise they appear in court before a youthful but just judge, make their pleas and serve such sentences as may be imposed.

The motto of the Republic is "Nothing Without Labor," and consequently both boys and girls work. The boys may become farmers, carpenters, plumbers, bakers, bankers, lawyers, printers, or enter other occupations; the girls keep house, cook, bake, scrub and do such other work of a domestic nature as their talents may permit.

Protestant, Catholic and Jewish congregations are provided for in the three houses of worship. The Republic boasts also a bank, store, jail, hospital and school, as well as an extensive printing plant. Both grade and high school studies are taught in the school. Even a college preparatory course is available, while those inclined toward business or other work may obtain training in commerce, domestic science and other subjects.

The jail building, which adjoins the print shop, has twelve cells. Nearby is the city court room where boy judge, boy chief

of police, boy patrolmen, boy jail superintendent, boy district attorney and boy lawyers may be found during court sessions. A boy is president of the bank; other boys and girls are clerks in the general store. In all there are fourteen buildings on the 300-acre grounds of the Republic.

Freeville itself is located on Fall Creek, in the northwest part of the town of Dryden. It was incorporated as a village in 1887. Probably its first settlers were Daniel White and his brother-in-law, George Knapp, a veteran of the Revolution, who settled in 1798 near what are now the village limits. White erected a grist mill in 1802, when he began preaching as a Methodist minister on the Cayuga circuit.

Today Freeville is also a gathering place for Spiritualists, a camp ground drawing large numbers each summer for extended meetings, with distinguished proponents of the belief as speakers.

#### GROTON.

Groton, a village of 2,004 in the town of Groton, enjoys a community life and intellectual trend reflected in its superior school, libraries, civic clubs, fraternal and social organizations. Early settled by New Englanders, the village gained its name from Groton, Massachusetts, and Groton, Connecticut. And the name has been carried to the four corners of the world by the Corona typewriter, which is the chief product of the village industries.

Located on the main Auburn-Ithaca-Owego highway, the village nestles in the wide sweep of the Owasco Valley. It is surrounded by picturesque hills and valleys dotted with thrifty farms. An abundance of water is piped to the village from springs on the hills by the gravity system. The water is noted for its purity. There has not been a case of typhoid during the past twenty-five years. The Groton Rod and Gun Club has more than 100 members and keeps the streams well stocked with brook and rainbow trout. The Owasco inlet flows through the village and there are miles of trout streams within easy reach. English pheasants are plentiful; it is not uncommon to see a dozen feeding in the fields in the autumn.

It is a far cry from the present century that has brought prosperity to Groton, back to the day in 1797 when John Perrin built the first log cabin in what is now the village. But the spirit of enterprise has grown with the community until today few places offer finer possibilities for the householder or manufacturer than this Tompkins County town. The first frame house was erected about 1806 by Jonas Williams and within the next five years six others arose. There were about the same number of log houses. And one of the frame structures was a schoolhouse, the precursor of the present admirable system which Groton boasts.

Groton Academy was founded as a stock institution in 1837, with Prof. S. W. Clark as first principal. Financially the school was a failure, but educationally a success. It ultimately passed into the hands of the Groton Board of Education and became a public school.

The hospitality of Groton has been proverbial from the time the first humble tavern extended the hand of welcome to visitors at what was then called Groton Hollow. The village was incorporated in 1860, after a vote of the 596 inhabitants in the 434 acres embraced in the proposed village. There were 123 ballots cast, sixty-eight being for incorporation and fifty-five against. Philander H. Robinson was first president and D. V. Linderman first clerk.

Groton's first newspaper was the Groton Balance, thirty-nine weekly issues of which were published, starting January 31, 1839. It then changed hands and managed to publish for the rest of the year. Next in the field came the Groton Democrat in 1840, but it was discontinued. The Groton Journal first appeared November 9, 1866. Today the village boasts the flourishing weekly, the Journal-Courier.

Groton Lodge of Masons was formed in 1869.

Groton is but a few miles from picturesque Lake Como, 1,306 feet above seaboard. The lake is noted for its excellent bass fishing and its many camps. Nearby is the old Salt Road over which in olden days, salt was shipped from Syracuse to New York City.

The village is on the Lehigh Valley Railroad, and enjoys motor bus service to Auburn, Cortland, Ithaca, Syracuse, Elmira, Binghamton and other points.

On a farm just northeast of Groton there lies a miniature Black Forest of Norway Spruce, the original planting having been made in 1878 as a wind-break. It has been enlarged to cover about three acres. Travelers who have seen the Schwartzwald (Black Forest) of Germany describe the Groton planting as just a bit of the famed European forest set down in Central New York.

#### TRUMANSBURG.

As the sunrise burst over Cayuga Lake, of a spring morning back in 1792, a stalwart young adventurer of the Colonial army stood on Goodwin's (later known as Taghanic) Point on Cayuga Lake, gazing westward upon the masses of towering pine, oak, hickory and maple.

Abner Treman, thirty-one years old, was breaking his last camp before arrival at the mile square military grant of land upon which he was to leave the imprint of his name down through many generations. Since midwinter he had traversed forest trails from Columbia County to the unknown home he was to make on the frontier.

With his wife, two children and a brother-in-law, John McLallen, a lad of nineteen, and all the family's earthly possessions, Treman left the Indian trail at the point and headed into the tangle of the forest. A few miles along this last lap of the journey and the party halted. Treman struck his axe into a tree. The toilsome expedition was over. A rude hut, with no windows, no doors, arose, but it was home. And from that cabin on what is now Main Street, opposite the present Methodist Episcopal Church, sprang the sturdy race of Tremans. Trumansburg was born.

The next year Treman went east as far as Utica for mill machinery. On the return he was lost in the forest. When found he was so badly frozen that one foot was amputated. Hard days they were, but men carried on. Tremans erected the first grist

mill, in 1794, it was the nucleus around which grew quite a settlement.

Within five years of the time Treman struck the first blow with his axe, a blacksmith shop, shoe shop, carpenter shop, tailor shop and tavern were clustered about his wildwood abode.

For the first few years the nearest market was Owego. The first store was established in Trumansburg by a Mr. Henshaw probably in 1800 or 1801. By 1830 the village population had grown to 600. The first brick building was put up as a store in 1825 by James McLallen.

It was McLallen who in 1795 built a small log building, designating it with a sign "Inn." As a result Trumansburg in earliest days was known as McLallen's Tavern. But later residents perpetuated the memory of the village founder in its name—Trumansburg. In making out Treman's commission as postmaster, the name was misspelt Trumansburg, and so it has remained.

The first society organized in the village was the Ulysses Philomathic Library in 1811. In 1818 Fidelity Lodge, F. & A. M., was constituted and in 1840 a charter was granted to Tuckahannock Lodge, No. 20, I. O. O. F.

The first church erected in the village was built in 1819 by the Presbyterians, and absorbed an earlier church erected four miles south of the village in 1803.

The wooden village, rickety, grass grown sidewalks, the straggling roads and lanes of other days have given place to a modern, industrious community, alive with civic spirit. Today Trumansburg is the gateway to Taughannock Falls State Park, up whose great ravine Treman picked his way in quest of a spot on which to build a town. As the center of a large and fertile farming region, the village is a shipping point for great quantities of produce and livestock.

Abner Treman was in the Second Regiment under Col. Philip VanCortlandt during Sullivan's campaign, being promoted successively to corporal, sergeant and sergeant-major and receiving a Badge of Honor. He was the ancestor of the famous Treman family of Ithaca. On July 4, 1929, the village named after him unveiled a tablet in his memory.

The early days of this village created by Treman in a wilderness was a stopping place for DeWitt Clinton, in 1810, when he was a commissioner for the state exploring the lake country. In his diary he described the settlement as follows:

"We dined at Treman's village, so-called for the soldier who owns the lot for military services. He resides here and is proprietor of the mills and in good circumstances. The village has several houses, three taverns and two or three stores and mills in a ravine or hollow formed by a creek which runs through it. It is in the town of Ulysses and was formerly called shin Hollow by some drunken fellows who, on the first settlement, frequented a log cabin here, and on their way home broke their shins on the bad roads. Dr. Comstock and another physician reside here.

"The contemplated turnpike from Ithaca to Geneva will pass through this place." This turnpike company was incorporated in 1810. Its route was from Ithaca to Baileytown on Seneca Lake (now Willard State Hospital), whence it followed the old route blazed by Sullivan's army. It was completed in 1811, giving a new impetus to the growth of Trumansburg.

Even before this ancient road was laid out Trumansburg had a school. It was built in 1805 of logs and was located near the Baptist Church. The Trumansburg Academy was opened October 9, 1855. When a free school district was established, the academy property was given to the district. Since that time improvements in the school system have been made and today the village boasts one of the finest new schools of any community of its size in the state.

The village was incorporated in 1872 and a year later organized a fire department. Its business houses today are enterprising and its financial institutions sound. As a modern community it is well worthy of the courage and fortitude of its pioneers. In all the nation's wars since the village was founded, Trumansburg has given freely of its money and its manpower. And in its civic vision it has been a leader.

#### NEWFIELD.

The village of Newfield, pleasantly situated on Cayuga inlet, was incorporated in 1895 but dissolved the incorporation in 1925.

In that year its population was 362. But the community is enterprising, as evidenced by its action in the summer of 1932 in becoming a member of the Finger Lakes Association. The village site is included in the Thomas S. Livingston Purchase. Eliakim Dean purchased the present site of the village about 1802 and built the first saw mill in 1809 and the first grist mill two years later. Samuel K. Rogers opened the first factory in 1815 for manufacture of cloth and for carding wool.

The village's first store was conducted by George Dudley about 1816 and the first tavern kept by Jeremiah Hall about 1810. Newfield's first school was a log structure erected about 1805-06 and the first church was erected by the Presbyterians in 1832.

Newfield's greatest disaster came June 15, 1875, when almost the entire business district was wiped out by fire. But rapidly the old frame buildings reduced to ashes were replaced by brick blocks and community progress speeded onward.

## CHAPTER XXXVI

### WAYNE COUNTY.

COUNTY ORGANIZED—SUBDIVISIONS—PULTENEY ESTATE AND MILITARY TRACTS  
—EARLIEST WHITE MEN—SETTLEMENTS—TOWNS—COUNTY SEAT—LYONS—  
CLYDE—MACEDON—NEWARK—PALMYRA—RED CREEK—SAVANNAH—SODUS—  
WOLCOTT.

Wayne County was erected April 11, 1823, from Ontario and Seneca counties. It covers 599 square miles and 84.9 per cent of its land area of 383,360 is in farms, numbering 4,498 and covering 325,462 acres. The value of the farm lands and buildings in Wayne County reaches \$36,064,530. Two thirds of the county's 34,885 population reside in rural sections.

Though Wayne has no cities, some of its nine incorporated villages are comparable to cities in size and enterprise. The villages are: Clyde, Lyons, Macedon, Newark, Palmyra, Red Creek, Savannah, Sodus and Wolcott. Lyons is the county seat.

Wayne's fifteen towns are Arcadia, 10,054; Butler, 1,384; Galen, 3,901; Huron, 1,313; Lyons, 5,165; Macedon, 2,333; Marion, 2,172; Ontario, 2,714; Palmyra, 4,207; Rose, 1,921; Savannah, 1,484; Sodus, 4,994; Walworth, 2,047; Williamson, 2,502; Wolcott, 2,875.

The western towns of the county originally belonged to the Pulteney Estate and the eastern towns, including Savannah, Galen and portions of Wolcott and Butler, constituted a portion of the Military Tract. Most of the remaining portions were compensation lands granted to the Pulteney Estate for the "Gore" between the old and the new Pre-emption Lines.

The earliest white inhabitants were hunters and trappers. The first permanent settlements were made in 1789 at Palmyra, under auspices of Gen. John Swift, agent for a company of set-



tlers from Connecticut, and at Lyons, under Charles Williamson, agent for the Pulteney Estate. He built roads from Palmyra and Lyons to Sodus Point and upon these the early settlers mostly took up their abode. He also laid out plans for a city on Sodus Bay.

From 1790 to 1794 colonies came in from Rhode Island and Maryland, the latter bringing with them slaves, but it was soon found that slave labor was unprofitable. The settlements did not progress with great rapidity for several years, owing to diseases which prevailed. The fear of Indian hostilities and of British invasion during the War of 1812 greatly retarded settlement. But on the return of peace, settlers began to arrive in considerable numbers, principally from New England and Eastern New York. The completion of the Erie Canal gave new impetus to immigration, and in a few years the flourishing villages of Lyons, Clyde, Palmyra and Newark were built up along the course.

The town of Arcadia was formed from Lyons February 15, 1825; Butler was formed from Wolcott February 26, 1826; Galen was erected from Junius (Seneca County) February 14, 1812, and Savannah was taken off in 1824.

Huron was formed from Wolcott as Port Bay February 25, 1826, but its name was changed March 17, 1834. Lyons was formed from Sodus March 1, 1811, and Arcadia was taken off in 1825. Macedon was erected from Palmyra January 29, 1823, and Marion was formed from Williamson as Winchester April 18, 1825, its name being changed April 15, 1826.

Ontario was formed from Williamson as Freetown March 27, 1807, but it too changed its name February 12, 1808. Walworth was taken off in 1829.

Palmyra was formed in January, 1789, and Macedon was taken from it in 1823. Rose was erected from Wolcott February 5, 1826, and Savannah was formed from Galen November 24, 1824. Sodus was organized in January, 1789, and from it Williamson was taken off in 1802 and Lyons in 1811.

Walworth was formed from Ontario April 20, 1829, and Williamson was created from Sodus February 20, 1802. Ontario was taken off in 1807. Wolcott was formed from Junius (Seneca

County) March 24, 1807 and Butler, Huron and Rose taken off in 1826.

The first courthouse at Lyons, county seat, was a brick building erected shortly after organization of the county, which was named in honor of Gen. Anthony Wayne. This structure, however, was superseded in 1854-55 by a more commodious brick edifice. The first officers of the county were: John S. Talmadge, first judge; T. Armstrong, sheriff; William H. Adams, district attorney; I. J. Richardson, county clerk; John S. Talmadge, surrogate.

Indicative of the early enterprise of the county were plans for building a ship canal from the Erie Canal at Montezuma (Cayuga County) to Great Sodus Bay. A charter for this purpose was obtained in 1827. Surveys were made but no work was ever done. A new charter was obtained by John Greig of Canandaigua in 1836 and another by Gen. Wm. H. Adams in 1851. The route named in the last charter was from Sodus Bay to the Erie Canal a little west of Clyde.

Present enterprise is exemplified in Wayne's fight against tuberculosis. In 1922 Camp Oakwood was established at Sodus Point on Lake Ontario and in 1925 the name was changed to the Wayne County Health Camp, which received children from families with a history of tuberculosis. The camp is sponsored by the Wayne County Tuberculosis Committee and State Charities Aid Association.

#### LYONS VILLAGE.

Lyons, county seat of Wayne County, is a village of 4,049, which very largely owes its early growth to its position at the junction of two streams which form the Clyde River, an artery over which settlers moved into the frontier. And its early history dates back to the Sullivan Expedition of 1779, when the Colonials laid waste Central New York in a drive against the Indians and Tories. In that expedition was one William Stannell, who ten years later was destined to be one of the first settlers on the site of Lyons.

From the Mohawk Valley in the spring of 1789, William and a brother Nicholas, with their brother-in-law John Featherly, built and launched a boat or boats on the Mohawk. With them were their wives, five children and an Indian trader named Wemple to pilot them. After an arduous trip the little party reached a spot on the "north bank of the Clyde River just below the junction of the outlet to Canandaigua Lake and the Ganargua or Mud Creek." For many years the spot was marked by a large elm tree, later called the Council Tree, to which they tied their bateaux. The settlers built a log house here for joint use the first year.

It was several years before other settlers began to arrive, but probably in 1792 or '93 a number of bateaux came, bringing at least two more families, the Decker Robinsons and the Oaks. Individual homes were being built and the isolated little settlement, the nucleus of the present village of Lyons, began to have form.

For five years they lived in undisputed ownership and then in 1794 "a new factor appeared. He was a Mr. Charles Williamson," the agent of Sir William Pulteney. "He came with a legal notice which all people must respect, to the effect that all of this magnificent country belonged to a single landed gentleman," of England.

He established his family in Baltimore, and then came up through the wilderness and looking down on "The Forks" from what is now called Sturgis Hill, he renamed the new settlement "Lyons," the conjunction of the two streams reminding him of the town in France on the Rhone and Sayone rivers. He began at once through his assistant and local agent, Charles Cameron, the surveying of the village site, the erection of a mill, warehouse, roads, etc. Every public enterprise enlisted his earnest and enthusiastic support, and Wayne County owes much to the great vision of this Scotch gentleman.

The next important event in the history of Lyons was the coming from Frederick County, Maryland, of Judge Daniel Dorsey, no doubt influenced by Mr. Williamson's interest in the growth of the settlement in the Genesee. He had purchased of the Pulteney estate 1,000 acres and in 1801 came with his family

and many slaves and built his large and hospitable home on the banks of the Canandaigua Outlet west of the Geneva road. A magistrate, a physician, a man of large interests and affairs, he gave impetus to the intellectual, religious and commercial activities of the settlement. He was president of the first circulating library instituted in 1810. The first meeting of the Genesee Conference was held in his barn and was presided over by Rev. Francis Asbury, the first Methodist bishop in America. In 1924, bones were found south of the village in the burying ground of Judge Dorsey's slaves.

The Methodist has the distinction of being the earliest religious organization in Lyons, dating back to the arrival of Rev. John Cole, one of Wesley's lay preachers, in 1799.

The first postoffice was established in 1807 and the first postmaster was Major Ezekiel Price. The office was kept in his tavern and store on Broad and Water streets. Major Price held the office for thirty years and it was customary for him to claim seniority over all postmasters in the United States in length of service at that time.

The earliest physicians in Lyons were Dr. Prescott, who finding the climate unfavorable to his health soon returned to New England, and a Dr. Ambler, who occupied a log house where the Baltzel Hotel now stands.

Lyons has had a newspaper almost continuously since 1821, under various names and management.

All of the land east of Broad Street was included in the hundred acre farm of John Riggs, whose farm house afforded in early years the only tavern accommodations. In the year 1821, his farm was purchased by the Joppa Land Company, composed of a group of Lyons men, who surveyed and platted the farm and named three of the new streets for members of the company: Holley, Lawrence and William, the given name of Mr. Adams. For a century the quaint name Joppa has clung to the eastern portion of the village, where the office of the land company was located.

Up to 1823 Lyons was in Ontario County and in May of that year the first court in Wayne County, convened in Newark.

Date of the opening of the first school is not recorded, though the site of the first log school house was just south of the present jail on Butternut Street. But in March, 1828, the following advertisement appeared in a local newspaper: "Miss Chapin will open a school for the instruction of young ladies April 14 next in the upper room of Mr. Yale's tin factory. Terms—Reading, writing and plain needlework, \$2 per quarter. Grammar, arithmetic, geography, history, rhetoric, chemistry, natural philosophy, map drawing, painting, ornamental needlework and lace work, \$3 per quarter."

Growth of the village was slow until the Erie Canal came through in 1825, when a great celebration, with firing of cannon, was held in the settlement. The business section of Lyons, William and Water streets was built along the first canal and for years the events of the week were the arrival of the packets from Albany and the stage coach from Geneva.

A few of the outstanding personalities of this early period were Ambrose Spencer, chief justice of the Court of Appeals of New York and member of the Albany Regency controlling the politics of the state; William H. Adams, prominent lawyer and advocate of a canal connecting the Erie with Sodus Bay, and Myron Holley, dispenser of state canal funds, philosopher and gentleman.

The village was incorporated in 1854 and DeWitt W. Parshall elected first president. In the stirring days before the Civil war, Lyons was not noted for its Abolition spirit. Anti-slavery orators were sometimes stoned. But in the war Lyons sent out Company B, Twenty-Seventh Infantry, one of the first and the youngest in average age of any regiment going to the front.

The Lyons Union School was one of the first of its kind established in the state. The Smith Historical Gazetter published in 1860 states that Lyons was the center of Wayne County production of peppermint oil, about 15,000 pounds or a third of the whole amount in the United States, being turned out there.

In 1917 the Edward J. Barber Hospital was established, and in 1923 the Lyons Hospital of Towerton-Simpson, Inc., was opened.

The two weeklies published in the village are the Lyons Republican and Clyde Times, and the Wayne Democratic Press, both established in 1821.

#### CLYDE.

The village of Clyde, of 2,374 inhabitants, is located on the Clyde River in the town of Galen, so named because the town lay in the Military Tract and had been appropriated to the army medical department. The location of the village was originally called Block House, because a block house was originally built here by Indian traders. This house was used by Tories during the Revolution as a "station" in smuggling goods from Canada via Sodus Bay. It was burned previous to 1800. The village was first called Lauraville, from Henrietta Laura, Countess of Bath, daughter and heiress of Sir William Pulteney. Its name was changed to Clyde in 1818 but the village was not incorporated under that name until 1835.

Clyde commenced its existence on the south side of the river when Jonathan Melvin, Jr., built a house of hewn logs near the river in 1811. In the few years following, a number of families settled nearby. The first town meeting of Galen was held at the home of Jonathan Melvin in the blockhouse; and he was elected the first supervisor. For several years all the business and all the population was south of the river.

A bridge was built across the river in 1810 on the site of the upper bridge and a few years later a second was built known as the lower bridge. These have now been replaced by a fine cement one which makes an overhead crossing for both of the railroads and the Barge Canal.

Major Frederick DeZeng. In 1815 Major Frederick DeZeng, who had bought land on both sides of the river, determined to stimulate settlement by having this land surveyed into streets and lots. A surveyor, Mr. McLouth, then laid out Mill, Waterloo, Water and Geneva streets on the south side and Glasgow, Sodus and Genesee on the north. No lots were laid out except on the south side of the river. It was at this time that the hamlet received the name of Lauraville.

In 1818 Major DeZeng built a dam across the river about fifty feet west of the lower bridge. The dam was authorized by an act of legislature and gave him absolute right to the structure and water power. He built a grist mill on the south side of the river and a sawmill on the north side. Major DeZeng never lived in Clyde, but his business interests were long an important feature of the village.

In 1814 Dennis Vanderbilt erected a tavern on the corner of Waterloo and Water streets. This was the first public house within the present limits of Clyde, and in its ball room the first Sunday school was organized. James B. West opened the first store in Clyde in a part of the tavern that same year. Sylvester Clark also built a store, the upper room of which was used for religious services, school and lodge purposes for many years. The Presbyterians and Free Masons held their earlier meetings here. William McLouth also had a store on the river bank west of Sodus Street. He was the educated man of the place and people looked to him for the discharge of duties beyond their reach. He taught the first school in a log house on the south side of the river.

In 1817 a postoffice was established at Lauraville called Galen. James Humeston was the first postmaster and the office was in a part of his tavern near the river and between the two bridges. The postoffice was on the south side of the river until 1836 when, through the influence of Congressman William S. Stow, the postoffice located on the north side of the river.

In 1823 Mr. William DeZeng, the son of Major DeZeng, came from Geneva and had the land north of the river, which he had bought from his father, surveyed into lots. He also built a frame house on the south side of west Genesee Street near Sodus Street. This building is still standing, the first frame house on the north side of the river.

The village of Clyde was incorporated May 2, 1835; the limits embracing both sides of the river.

Probably the first school in the town was a log one built near Black Creek, near Lock Berlin, in 1814, the first teacher here was John Abbott. The first school building in Marengo was erected in 1816 and the first teacher was Samuel Stone. In 1818

this school is said to have had ninety pupils with Joseph Watson as teacher. In Clyde the first school was taught by William McLouth in a log building on the south side of the river. The Clyde High School was legally incorporated in 1834, with a consolidation of two districts. A two-story building with a high basement was erected on the lot where the present high school building is. The district was later divided and a grammar school was built on the south side of the river. The present high school building was started in 1874, but has been remodeled and greatly enlarged since then. For several years a parochial school has been conducted in connection with St. John's Catholic Church.

As was the case in nearly all towns at that time, Clyde had a number of small "Select" schools in its early history. Mr. DeLancy's Stow's early education was obtained at a private school maintained by the various branches of the DeZeng family residing in Clyde. Mr. Westcott, one of the best educated men in the county at that time, kept a school. Miss Allen and Miss Harriett Groom, who was very particular what pupils she had, each had schools here.

The oldest religious organization in the town of Galen was the Quaker Church at Marengo, which was started soon after this sect came here in 1809. In 1814 the Presbyterian Church was instituted. This was the first church within the present limits of Clyde. Then came the Baptist in 1817 and the Methodist in 1824, all three held their earlier meetings in the school house or in other rooms on the south side of the river until they built churches on the north side, St. John's Episcopal Church and St. John's Catholic Church were both started in 1840 but neither erected church buildings for several years. The Free Methodists, the German Lutherans, and the Universalists all have held services in Clyde but the societies were not strong enough to last.

In a diversified farming area, Clyde's industries turn out products which include silk, asbestos and vinegar. Its weekly newspaper, The Herald, was established in 1885.

#### MACEDON.

Macedon Village, of 566 population, is an attractive village in the town of Macedon, to which in 1789 Webb Harwood from



Adams, Massachusetts, came with his family and two bachelor friends to found a frontier home. He felled the trees, cleared the ground and built a log cabin on a knoll near the first canal locks, one-half mile east and overlooking the village. His home was the center of activity for some time, the meetings of the Baptist Church being held there until 1806, when a church was built, and in the records of town roads for 1792 and 1793 three roads terminated at Webb Harwood's.

Jonathan Warner settled south of the village and at one time owned 1,200 acres of land. He was especially interested in the political history of the village, was a collector in 1794 and made many sales of land.

Noah Porter settled a little east of Mr. Harwood and south of the main road, on a farm later owned by William P. Nottingham. In 1800, while a deacon in the Baptist Church, he gave a plot of land for the first burial ground. It was an orchard north of the lower locks on a farm later owned by Edwin Robinson. This was used for ten years when another spot farther east was selected, but many of the oldest settlers were buried here, among them Nathaniel Braley, a Revolutionary soldier, buried in 1802.

Israel Delano, an old man at the time of his coming in 1790, died soon afterward and his death is believed to be the first one in the town.

Darius Comstock's daughter, Hannah, born in 1793, was the first female child, and Jacob Gannett's son, born in 1791, the first male child to be born in the town.

Mr. Gannett settled one-half mile west of the village and built the first grist mill on the bank of Ganargwa Creek in 1801. It was used until 1832, when it was removed to the village and used as part of the mill later in operation. In 1815 Mr. Gannett and Daniel Lapham built a carding machine and cloth dressing factory near the mill of today, which was the first business interest in the town. A big business was carried on until 1836, when it was torn down.

The first school house was built prior to 1800, north of the canal near the west locks, on land excavated for the West Shore Railroad. This proved an unfavorable location, so it was sold

and a new one built in 1803 on the ground now occupied by the Universalist Church. After thirty years of use, it was demolished and in 1852 a third one was built on the present site. In 1871 this was made into a graded school, and in 1887-88 a union school was built of brick, which was later remodeled.

With the completion of the Erie Canal and the locks in 1825, settlement moved to the east, and thus the prosperity of the present village began.

In 1828, the land comprising Macedon was sold to William Willits, Alexander Purdy and John Lapham by Enoch Gannett and Abiatha Powers, the original owners, for eighteen and three-quarters cents per acre. At this time there were but two frame houses in the village, one of these being the home of Mr. Gannett.

Messrs. Willits and Purdy opened a store in 1829. John Lapham built the first dry-goods store in 1834, and in 1831 the foundry at the "Huddle" was removed to the village, thus beginning Macedon's greatest industry, the manufacture of farm implements and machinery. Later, grain drills became a specialty and the firm of Bickford and Huffman, formed October, 1842, were the pioneer builders of fertilizer grain drills in America.

The removal of the post office from the "Huddle" to the village followed soon after, with Alexander Purdy as postmaster.

In 1831 John Robson opened a blacksmith shop, and the next year Michael Ellsworth built the first village tavern. This burned in 1882 and the frame hotel erected on its site also burned.

The Baptist Church, which was built on the present site of No. 6 school and north of the Yellow Mills, was taken down in 1835, moved to its present site in the village, rebuilt and rededicated.

Macedon was incorporated as a village in 1856, its limits being one square mile. In the same year, the Roman Catholic Church was established, and in 1873 the Universalist Church was built on the land donated by Lyman Bickford, an influential member, who at his death left a legacy to the church, while the little park adjoining was given to the village.

Macedon today is on the Barge Canal, seventeen miles east of Rochester, and has the transportation facilities provided by both the New York Central and the West Shore Railroads.

#### NEWARK.

Newark, a village of 7,652 inhabitants in the southern part of the town of Arcadia, was incorporated July 21, 1853, combining the village of Lockville, now East Newark, under one government. Gaius Howell was first to suggest the name Newark at a meeting called to decide on a name. First village officers were chosen on January 24, 1854.

Among the earliest settlers south of the Ganargwa or Mud Creek were William Stansell, Lewis Jessup, Enoch DeKay, a miller, Wesley Benton, a Methodist minister, and Jeremiah Lusk, whose sons Jacob, Isaac and Philip, were original owners of the site of Newark. John Spoor and Nicholas Stansell were among the first settlers in East Newark. The first road near Newark was from Whitestown, near Utica, west to Geneva and Canandaigua. Later a road (Newark's main street) was laid south from Arcadia to Vienna (now Phelps) to intersect it, thus making it easier to reach Geneva, the nearest market town.

In 1820, Joseph Miller, a Vermonter, came to build a section of the original Erie Canal and built a house, still standing, on Main Street, across from what is now West Miller Street. Miller laid out the village and gave land for a park which for many years remained but a public square. He sold lots for \$30 and up. Because of his enterprise, the community was known as Miller's basin when the Erie canal went through. Then the little settlement soon became a great wheat market.

One of the early Newark schools was built by Joseph A. Miller on Miller Street and named Marvin Hall. It was two stories high and the second floor used as a Masonic hall. In 1844 there were four school districts in the village and six years later it was voted to consolidate and a new school building opened in 1851. Six years later the Newark Union School was constituted and in 1863 the system was reorganized under the name of the Newark Union Free School and Academy. Pupils increased rapidly in

number and on June 11, 1891, the cornerstone of the new school building was laid and the edifice dedicated the following December 17. But this soon became inadequate and in June, 1911, the Lincoln School was dedicated. In June, 1912, the Roosevelt School was opened and April 29, 1925, the cornerstone of the Charles H. Perkins School in the southwestern part of the village was laid.

The Free Public Library was erected in 1900, the gift of the late Henry C. Rew, a former townsman. In 1921 the Newark Hospital was established by Dr. Edwin York, on his return from war.

Newark has been the native heath of numerous men of wide prominence. Charles J. Edwards, born on a farm near Newark, began as a telegraph operator and finally became an insurance magnate, president of the Brooklyn Club and a director of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. He was prominent in Democratic politics and was a world traveler.

Abel E. Blackmar, born in Newark in 1852, rose to the position of justice of the Supreme Court in New York City from 1908-22. For the last five years of that period he was a member of the Appellate Division, served as president of the Union League Club, trustee of Hamilton College and counsel for the New York Produce Exchange. For a time he was counsel for the Public Service Commission at a salary of \$10,000.

Samuel W. Allerton began to work on a farm near Newark when twelve years of age. When a young man, he was buying and selling live stock in Chicago. Soon he did business on a large scale and with great success. He was one of five to start the First National Bank of Chicago, and he was a first promoter of the Union Stock Yards of that city. At one time he was the largest farmer in the United States, who cultivated his land. He owned 40,000 acres, and cultivated his farms thoroughly.

John Daggett was born in Newark in 1833. He was a student in the Union School and early acquired also much practical knowledge of the construction and operation of machinery. He went to California in 1852, and engaged in gold mining. In 1860, he was manager of a gold quartz mill. In 1866, he became

one-third owner of the Black Bear quartz mine, one of the famous gold mines of the state. He was in the mining business for more than forty years. While his income, at times, was very great, yet his losses were also great. Entering politics, he was elected three times to the Legislature, and he served four years as Lieutenant Governor. In 1893, while a member of the World's Fair Commission, President Cleveland appointed him superintendent of the mint in San Francisco, for a four-year term.

J. Dorman Steele, a principal of the Newark Union School, became famous for writings on science. At one time his works were used all over the country as school text-books. He became wealthy from the sale of his publications.

O. J. Garlock, born in Newark, invented the "Garlock Packing" now used all over the world. He is president of a great company with headquarters in Palmyra, which manufactures and sells this packing.

The village has municipal water works with head waters at "Newark Lake." There are twelve miles of paved streets, a modern sewer system, twenty-five miles of water mains, twenty miles of sanitary sewers, eight miles of storm water drainage, a school community gymnasium, a country club and some of the largest nurseries in the country.

Newark's two newspapers are the courier, a weekly established in 1846, and the Union Gazette, a semi-weekly published since 1872.

#### PALMYRA.

Palmyra village, a community of 2,576 inhabitants, in the southwestern part of the town of the same name, was first settled by John Swift in 1789 or 1790, who with Col. John Jenkins purchased the tract comprising the town, in the winter of 1788-89. They commenced a survey in March and by summer Swift had moved into the town and erected a log house and storehouse a little north of the lower end of Main Street, Palmyra village. For the next few years settlers trickled in. In 1791, the "Long Island Company" through Elias Reeves, J. Foster, William Hopkins and Luther Sanford, purchased 5,500 acres near East Pal-

myra at fifty cents per acre and the first wheat harvested sold for one dollar a bushel.

Before the close of 1789, Webb Harwood and family, Noah Porter, Jonathan Warner and Bennett Bates from Massachusetts came in. Harwood settled a little west of Palmyra village. David White and family came in 1790. Joseph Smith, father of the prophet who established Mormonism, settled a little south of Palmyra village in 1819. The plates of the Mormon Bible were claimed to have been dug up on a hillside in Manchester, Ontario County, a little south of the Palmyra line. The book was printed at the office of the Wayne Sentinel, Martin Harris, a convert, mortgaging his farm to defray the expense. The founding of Mormonism is described in the chapter devoted to religions of Central New York.

Religious services in the present town were first held in 1792 in private houses among the members of the Long Island Colony at East Palmyra. They were of the Presbyterian order. Until December, 1793, the meetings were held in the annex of David H. Foster's house, where a church was organized under the Congregational form of government, by Rev. Ira Condit. This was the first church society organized in the State west of the Pre-emption line. On November 10, 1806, fifty-one members subscribed \$1,026.00 for the erection of a church building, and on March 23, 1807, Gideon Durfee and Humphrey Sherman deeded the site at East Palmyra, and in September of that same year, a church building was opened for service.

Educational institutions followed very closely the establishment of churches in the Town of Palmyra. In 1792, two log school houses were erected, one on the site donated by General Swift within the present village of Palmyra, the other known as the Hopkins School House in East Palmyra. Further definite information of the schools of the town up to 1829 does not appear available. At that time a two-story brick building having four departments was built on the present site of the Catholic Church, and on it was placed the first bell brought to the town. This organization, incorporated under the laws of the state, was known as Palmyra Academy and was attended by the young people who

later became the grand parents of the present generation. It may be considered more of a village institution than that of the town. Six years later the School District No. 1 was divided into three separate districts, but these were later combined in 1846-47 into the Union School No. 1, or the present Palmyra High School.

Something of Palmyra's pioneer, Gen. John Swift, a hero of the War of 1812, is recounted in the chapter dealing with that war. The village has been a home of military men since its founding. Maj. William Howe Cuyler, another officer of the War of 1812, was the first lawyer opening an office in the town. That was in 1800.

But of all military celebrities of the village, the most distinguished was Admiral William T. Samson, born there February 9, 1840, and whose feats of daring in two wars are touched upon in the chapter dealing with military affairs.

Another distinguished Palmyra son was Pliny T. Sexton, for several years Chancellor of the State Board of Regents and later Chancellor Emeritus.

#### RED CREEK.

Red Creek, a village of 560 population, is in the southeastern part of the town of Wolcott, named after Gov. Oliver Wolcott of Connecticut. The village was incorporated in 1852. Today it boasts one of the best airplane landing fields for a place of its size in the state.

Jacob Snyder came here in 1811, with a family of eleven children, and settled on his claim in a log cabin. Soon after Isaac Easton came from the south part of the state with his family of eleven children and all his household goods. No place was ready for them so Mr. Snyder opened his already crowded cabin to the whole family until the settlers for miles about came to help Mr. Easton build his house on the claim. This family brought one of the first teams of horses to this section, and when they were put in the shed the cattle were terrified having never seen horses before.

Iron ore was early found at Red Creek. At first this was thought to be another source for gain, but it was not found in

quantity sufficient for mining. Here is where Red Creek gets its name. It was named Jacksonville first, but from the red color of the ore rechristened Red Creek.

The first settlers brought with them farm implements and seed as well as household goods. Those who came from Connecticut and Massachusetts had a fairly good road. They came by way of Cayuga Lake, where they crossed on a bridge, and came by way of Lyons. From that place the first day's journey was to the "Buttonwood Hotel," now Wayne Center. This was simply a hollow log, which it is asserted as a fact, was capable of holding three families. It sheltered three of Wolcott's early settlers, Levi Wheeler, Osgood Church and Obidiah Adams. There were fourteen of them at the same time within this novel structure of natural shelter.

Red Creek is recognized for its manufacture of canned goods and silos. The Herald, its weekly newspaper, was started in 1894.

#### SAVANNAH.

The village of Savannah, of 599 population, was incorporated in 1867. Today it is a center for shipment of the muck garden crops which are grown on the wide fertile acres once a part of the great Montezuma Marsh. The ancient Jesuit Relations indicate a mission existing on the top of Fort Hill, the highest elevation in the town of Savannah, about 1657. It was established by Rev. Fr. Rene Menard. Most of the pioneers a century and a half later were from New England and the eastern part of this state.

Elias Converse and Joseph Mozier, who came to the locality in 1812, are credited with having been the first settlers. Some, however, claim that the place had been settled as early as 1808.

The town of Savannah was formed from Galen, November 24, 1825, and was originally surveyed in lots of six hundred acres each.

About 1835 a mail route was established from Auburn via Savannah to Wolcott with a post office at Crusoe Lake, called Crusoe, two miles north of Savannah. When the New York Cen-



tral was completed the post office was removed to Savannah village.

The first school house in Savannah was erected as early as 1816, and the first teacher was Loren Brown, who received five dollars per month.

The Presbyterian Church of Savannah was organized by Revs. Wilson and Young, of Lyons, in 1864. The church finally grew weaker in members and influence and is now virtually disbanded. The Methodist Episcopal was organized in 1867. St. Patrick's, of Savannah, was built in 1875. The Congregational Church was built under the pastorate of Rev. B. N. Wyman.

Savannah's newspaper is the Weekly Times, started in 1894.

#### SODUS.

No community in Wayne County has a more glamorous past than the village of Sodus, which has shown a steady increase in population since its incorporation in 1918. In 1920 it had 1,329 inhabitants, and in 1930, 1,444. Sodus Point, not far from the center of the village, is a great summer resort drawing thousands each season to the shore of Lake Ontario and to Great Sodus Bay. In the spring of 1932 the first annual blossom festival held there drew 20,000 people to a celebration in connection with the great fruit production and marketing of the section. Red oxide of iron is found two miles west of Sodus Point and salt was manufactured in 1831 and 1832 in the locality.

The first settlement was made in 1794 under the auspices of Charles Williamson, agent of the Pulteney Estate. He caused a road to be laid out from Palmyra to Sodus Point in the spring of 1794. During the summer the town was surveyed, an extensive city plan laid out between Salmon Creek and the point and within two years mills were erected on Salmon Creek.

A tavern was built at an expense of \$5,000, a pleasure yacht was placed upon the bay, and in roads, surveys, buildings, etc., more than \$20,000 was expended. Of those connected with these permanent improvements, but few remained after they were completed. Elijah Brown was an early settler four miles west of the point. Dr. William Nixon Lummis settled at the point, building

mills and a forge. A daughter of his was Mrs. Elizabeth Ellet, author of "Women of the Revolution" and "Domestic History of the Revolution." Col. Peregrine Fitzhugh, an Englishman, came from Maryland in 1803, with his family and slaves, over forty in all. Ammi Ellsworth came from Connecticut in 1801 and located near the point. Dr. Thomas G. Lawson, another Englishman, settled one mile from the point in 1803. After expending considerable money in trying to form a settlement, he abandoned the enterprise in 1805. In 1799 there were twenty-five families in the town on roads leading to Palmyra and Lyons. The first church, a Baptist, was organized in 1805, with Elder Seba Norton as first settled minister.

Moses and James Sill kept the first inn at Sodus Point, in the building erected for that purpose by Mr. Williamson. On the evening of June 13, 1813, a party of about 100 English landed at Sodus Point in boats, from the fleet of Sir James Yeo for the purpose of seizing or destroying what public stores they could find. They were opposed by about forty Americans, under Captain Hull of Lyons.

After the first fire, the Americans retreated. The enemy burned five houses and the old Williamson Hotel, owned by Capt. William Wickham. The public flour had been secreted in a ravine and remained undiscovered. The next day a gunboat proceeded up the lake to Nicholas Point and burned a warehouse. The British had two killed and the Americans one killed and one mortally wounded. The total amount of property destroyed amounted to about \$25,000.

Sodus was called by the Indians Assorodus, meaning "Silvery Water."

The Myers Hospital was established at Sodus in 1900, with Dr. John F. Myers as superintendent. The classes of service included medical, surgical, gynaecological and obstetrical.

The village weekly newspaper, The Record, was started in 1897.

#### WOLCOTT.

Wolcott, a village of 1,260 population, lies in the heart of Wayne County's famous fruit belt, its first settler being a pio-

neer orchardist. Jonathan Melvin was the first settler and landowner in Wolcott on the spot which later became Wolcott village. He came before the town was legally formed. He settled on Military Tract No. 50. He was a soldier and came here from the town of Phelps in Ontario County about 1805, and the following year put up a small log house. He was a plunger in affairs of business and dared much. To carry out his schemes he borrowed money from the banks of Utica and Geneva. He put up the first mill which gave to the settlement the name of "Melvin's Mills." Later he sold it to Obadiah Adams for ten thousand dollars.

Melvin donated a site for a schoolhouse or a church to the village, and sold about three acres, then known as the Swamp lot, to Dr. David Arne. This included the site of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Melvin was a peculiar man but was public spirited and generous and respected by his neighbors. Before he came to Wolcott, while he lived in Phelps, he set out a large orchard. He was a pensioner of the Revolutionary War and after his failure he returned to Phelps, where he died about 1845.

The first school house in the town of Wolcott was a log structure built in 1810. Later in 1812 a school house was erected on the land donated by J. Melvin. This is the present site of the Baptist Church of Wolcott village. In 1859 Isaac Leavenworth, one of the most prominent citizens, founded the Leavenworth Institute. It ranked high in the county as an institution of learning. This has been built over several times. It is one of the most beautiful schools in setting in the county. Its beauty of architectural design is greatly enhanced by the most favored of sites which the structure occupies, with rows of lofty trees and a well sodded campus.

Wolcott was incorporated February 24, 1852. The Wolcott weekly newspaper is the Lake Shore News, founded in 1874.

## CHAPTER XXXVII

### YATES COUNTY.

POPULATION—INDUSTRIES—COUNTY ORGANIZED—NAME—EARLY SETTLEMENT—  
BUILDING OF CANAL—COUNTY SEAT—FIRST COURT HOUSE AND JAIL—  
TOWNS—PENN YAN—DRESDEN—DUNDEE—RUSHVILLE.

Yates County was formed February 5, 1823, from Ontario County. It covers 343 square miles. Of its 219,520 acres, eighty-four and seven-tenths per cent or 185,999 acres are in farms which number 1,739. Value of farms and buildings is \$13,645,930. The county's population is 16,934, more than 12,000 of which is rural.

In Yates' twenty-nine industrial plants, the 842 employes are paid a yearly wage of \$785,504, according to the last available federal statistics. These plants pay \$1,676,406 a year for materials, fuel and purchased power, while the value of their products is \$3,145,656.

Yates County has four incorporated villages: Dresden, Dundee, Penn Yan (the county seat) and Rushville, part of which is in Yates County and part in Ontario.

The county's nine towns are: Barrington, 790; Benton, 1,845; Italy, 510; Jerusalem, 2,072; Middlesex, 839; Milo, 6,653; Potter, 1,190; Starkey, 2,231; Torrey, 804.

Yates County was named for Joseph C. Yates, governor at the time of its creation in 1823. Barrington and Starkey were added from Steuben County April 6, 1824. The early history of the county is intimately associated with the history of the "Friends," a religious sect founded by Jemima Wilkinson, and about which the chapter in this book devoted to religions, gives an account. At a general meeting of the sect in Connecticut in 1786 it was decided to emigrate to some unsettled region and

found a colony. Three of their number were delegated to seek a location. They proceeded to Pennsylvania, went up the Susquehanna and followed the route of General Sullivan to Seneca Lake and determined to settle in what is now Yates County.

In June, 1787, twenty-five Friends set out for the land of promise from the Mohawk Valley. They settled one mile south of the present village of Dresden, because of the nearness to the water power in Lake Keuka outlet. There they erected the first mill in Western New York in 1789, two and a half miles from Penn Yan. During the fall of 1787 they prepared the land and the next season sowed it with winter wheat, which they harvested in 1789 as the first crop ever raised in Western New York.

In 1789 William Potter and Thomas Hathaway, two of the number, purchased of the state 14,000 acres of land lying between Seneca Lake and the Pre-emption line and subsequently Hathaway and Benedict Robinson bought the town of Jerusalem from Phelps & Gorham. In 1789 Jemima and a large number of her followers came in. The first frame house in the county was erected for her on a farm of 1,000 acres set apart for her special use. For a time the colony flourished, but soon neighbors began to arrive, jealousies were engendered and a series of persecutions commenced which resulted in the ultimate dissolution of the colony.

Construction of the Crooked (Keuka) Lake Canal was a step which materially advanced the prosperity of Yates County. The county seat was located in Penn Yan by Commissioners John Sutton of Tompkins County, George H. Feeter of Herkimer County, and Joseph R. Walton of Otsego County. The first court was held at the house of Asa Cole in Penn Yan in June, 1823. The first Board of Supervisors met at the same place. First county officers were: William M. Oliver, judge; James Taylor, district attorney; Abraham H. Bennett, county clerk; James P. Robinson, sheriff; Abraham P. Vosburgh, surrogate.

The first court house and jail combined was erected in 1824 and burned ten years later. In 1835 a new brick court house was constructed on a public square at a cost of \$12,000. The same season a detached jail was put up. The latter was leveled by

fire in February, 1857, and rebuilt the same year at a cost of \$10,200. The present county buildings, replacing the old, are modern and boast all conveniences. The jail of 1857 was razed and a new one constructed in 1904. The new Yates County Building was erected in 1889.

Barrington, on the east bank of Lake Keuka in the southern part of the county, was formed from Wayne (Steuben County) April 6, 1822. It was first settled in 1800 by Jacob Teeples, who kept the first tavern in 1804 on the Bath road.

Benton, named for Levi Benton, first settler, was formed from Jerusalem February 12, 1803, at Vernon. Its name was changed to Snell April 6, 1808, and to Benton April 2, 1910. Milo was taken off in 1818 and a part of Torrey in 1851. The first settlement in the town was made in the spring of 1789 by Levi Benton from Catskill, Greene County, and the first religious services were held in his barn. Caleb Benton built the first saw mill in 1790 at Bellona; the first store was kept by Luther Benton and James Stoddard in 1799 and the first inn by Ezra Cole in 1800. John Coats taught the first school at Benton Center in 1794.

Italy, in the southwestern corner of the county, was formed from Naples February 15, 1815. The first settlement was made by John Mower at West Hollow in 1793. Here Nancy Torrey taught the first school in 1803 and Elias Lee kept the first tavern in 1806. Abraham Maxfield conducted the first store at Italy Hollow and Asahel Stone, Jr., built the first saw and grist mill.

Jerusalem, the central town of the county, was organized in January, 1789, and Benton was taken off in 1803. A small part of Steuben County in the forks of the lake was annexed February 25, 1814. It was in this town that Jemima Wilkinson and her Friends settled in 1789.

Middlesex in the northwest corner of the county on Canandaigua Lake, was formed in 1789 as Augusta. Its name was changed April 6, 1808. Potter was taken off in 1832 and a part was annexed to Potter in 1856. The first settlement came in 1789. Judge Potter, one of the surveyors of the Phelps and Gorham purchase, was the original purchaser of the town and took

an active part in its settlement. William Bassett taught the first school in 1796; Jesse Gilbert kept the first tavern near Rushville and Nelson Wilder the first store. John Walford, Jr., built the first saw mill. Many of the early settlers were adherents of Jemima Wilkinson and for some time there was no other religious association in the town.

Milo, on the eastern border of the county, was formed from Benton March 6, 1818. A part of Torrey was taken off in 1851. The first settlement was started in the northern part of the town by Friends in 1787. As her creed was the dominant one in the town for some time, there were no marriages and no known births. For years in Milo there was an era in which people died but none was born. Hezekiah Townsend kept the first inn a little east of Penn Yan and James Hill the first store.

Potter, named from Arnold Potter, an original proprietor and the first settler in the town, was erected from Middlesex April 26, 1832, and part of Middlesex was annexed December 18, 1856. Here settlement was begun in 1788 by followers of Jemima Wilkinson. Most prominent among them were William Potter and his four sons who purchased the whole township.

Starkey, named for John Starkey, one of the first settlers, was formed from Reading (Schuyler County) April 6, 1824. In the southeastern corner of the county, it is one of the most scenic in Yates. Settlement began in 1800. Andrew Harrison kept the first inn at Eddytown in 1808 and Hervey Smith the first store at the same place in 1809. The first saw mill was built by Timothy Hurd in 1807 and Rhoda Royce taught the first school in 1809.

Torrey, named for Henry Torrey and lying on Seneca Lake on the eastern border of the county, was formed from Benton and Milo November 14, 1851. Thomas Hathaway kept the first inn in 1790; Eliphalet Norris the first store in 1792 and the first mills were built by Charles Williamson in 1795.

#### PENN YAN.

Penn Yan, county seat of Yates County, goes by a name without a duplicate in the world. It is a compromise cognomen

reached by rival groups of settlers. PENNSylvanians and YANkees. When Yates County was formed in 1823, Penn Yan had seventy dwellings, two grist mills, a trip hammer, four stores, a printing office, post office, two schools and three inns. It had achieved the dignity of a community since its beginnings which found birth in the famous Shay's rebellion in Massachusetts, two years before inauguration of Washington as president.

The first arrival was Jacob Fredenburg, who fled in 1787 from Massachusetts and came to live among the Indians where Penn Yan now is located. He built a log hut by Jacob's Brook and was adopted into the Indian tribe.

Possession of the tract now embracing the village was acquired in 1791 by George Wheeler, who divided it between his two sons-in-law, Robert Chissom and James Schofield, who were the first settlers after the fugitive, Fredenburg. Chissom located on what is now Maple Avenue, where he built the first tavern. His daughter, Mrs. Catharine Crane, mother of the late Dr. Wemple H. Crane, was probably the first white child born in Penn Yan.

Real progress in the village began in 1796 with the coming of David Wagener, a prosperous farmer from Montgomery County. Wagener was first attracted in 1791 to the Finger Lakes country by purchase of a part interest in the Friends Mill, built in the township of Torrey on Seneca Lake. Five years later he bought lands in Penn Yan and erected the first grist mill south of the outlet on the site of the Andrews mill, destroyed by fire in 1913.

David Wagener died August 24, 1799, the first person to be buried in Lake View Cemetery. Under his will his Penn Yan property was left to his sons, Abraham and Melchoir. Abraham in 1799 came to Penn Yan and built the first frame dwelling within the bounds of the village. He is generally considered the actual founder of Penn Yan and with his brother played a leading role in the early history of the community. It was they who induced most of the active early citizens of Penn Yan to locate there.



In 1801 Abraham erected the second grist mill on the north side of the outlet and about 1816 he constructed what was long known as the Mansion House, on the south end of Main Street on the west side. Extending northward to Elm Street was his orchard, in which was produced the Wagener apple.

Penn Yan's second frame house was that of Dr. John Dorman, who came in 1795. The structure was used as a tavern.

In early days distilling was one of the pioneer industries. The first distillery in Yates County occupied in 1795 a log house not far from what is now Benton Center, but its capacity was only one bushel of grain a day from which two quarts of whiskey were obtained. Robert Chissom owned a distillery on the south side of Maple Avenue, and Dr. John Dorman also opened another. Aaron Gilbert Dorman, his son, owned three running full time and still named his daughter "Temperance." Penn Yan and its environs in the first quarter of the Nineteenth Century boasted at least a half dozen other distilleries. One owner, William Babcock, suddenly had a change of heart on the liquor question and advertised his distillery for sale, stating that "the whole establishment at a moderate calculation would produce daily a sufficient quantity of whiskey to kill fifty men."

The first newspaper was the Penn Yan Herald, started in 1818. Four years later it changed its name to the Penn Yan Democrat, under which it is now issued by Harry C. Earles. The flourishing Chronicle Express came into existence December 16, 1824, under the name of the Yates Republican, published by Edward J. Fowle. In 1831 the name changed to the Yates County Enquirer; in 1833 to the Western Star; in 1837 to the Democratic Whig; in 1839 to the Yates County Whig; in 1856 to the Yates County Chronicle. Under the late DeWitt C. Ayres, it was merged with the Express under its present name and is published today by Mr. Ayres' son as one of the outstanding weekly newspapers of the state. The Express had been started in 1866.

Shortly after the village was incorporated in 1833, Abraham Wagener built the historic Wagener Mansion, which today stands out in bold relief on Bluff Point. He moved, selling his Penn Yan

property to John Sloan, a newcomer from Geneva. Sloan was largely instrumental in the upbuilding of the village's business life.

Sloan's new purchase included all that part of the village lying east of Liberty Street and south of West Elm and East Elm Streets. A new street was at this time laid out through what had been Mr. Wagener's orchard and given the name Wagener Street. Another thoroughfare was opened along the waterfront of the outlet under the name of Water Street. The Mansion House was moved back and converted into a tavern. Building lots were marked off on the two new streets, together with lots for stores on Main Street.

At the start, the business section of Penn Yan was largely confined to the head of Main Street, but the building of the Crooked Lake Canal and the presence of cheaper lots elsewhere gradually drew business to the foot of the street.

A post office under the name of Jerusalem was established in 1801. Before that time Daniel Brown carried mail from Canandaigua and Geneva to Penn Yan on horseback and occasionally on foot. At one point he placed the letters for the entire countryside in a covered hole in a tree, and to this improvised "post office" the settlers would come for their letters at regular intervals.

What is said to have been the first public show in Penn Yan was the display of an elephant about 1820 in the barn of Zachariah Wheeler, located on a site just south of where the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hospital stands on Main Street. The first band, comprising ten musicians, was organized in 1839 with A. M. Cobleigh as leader. In the presidential campaign of "Tippecanoe and Tyler too," the band journeyed by canal as far as Syracuse, to take part in a big political rally.

Penn Yan's first church, the First Presbyterian, was organized February 18, 1823. St. Mark's Episcopal was formed January 3, 1826, though the first church building of the society was not completed until 1837. The First Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church was founded March 29, 1824, and save one, the locations have been shifted.

The Penn Yan of today, with a population of 5,321, is in the heart of a rich farming center. A diversity of prosperous industries, pleasant residences and all, opportunities for education, worship, recreation and pleasure make it an ideal community of homes. Its rail and highway facilities are of the best, though the old daily steamer connecting it with Hammonsport at the foot of Lake Keuka is no more.

#### DRESDEN.

Dresden, a village of but 276 population in the town of Torrey, Yates County, has as striking a history as any community in the county. For Dresden has always held a unique geographical position. It lies at the mouth of Lake Keuka outlet on the west side of Seneca Lake and in the years when the old Crooked Lake Canal operated along the river waterway, it was the great shipping center for goods sent from many counties to the Erie Canal and the seaboard. The Keuka outlet in a course of five miles has a drop of 276 feet through a rocky gorge, producing valuable water power resources.

Dresden was a hub for steamboating in early days. In its cove, lines of tows were made up for passage northward to the Erie. The village was the meeting place of waterways, but since has also become a railroad junction point, though its old time docks and warehouses are fallen into decay. Dresden faces the widest expanse of water of any community on any of the Finger Lakes, for Seneca Lake, largest lake, reaches its widest point—five miles—opposite the village. Old canal days at Dresden are touched upon in the chapter devoted to waterways.

Robert G. Ingersoll, free thinker, was born at Dresden, his birthplace still standing. How the community honored this distinguished son in maintaining his old homestead is told in the chapter devoted to the region's landmarks.

Dresden is connected with a new lakeside state road built in 1926 with Geneva and another improved road to Penn Yan.

#### DUNDEE.

On the broad plateau rising between Keuka and Seneca Lakes

is Dundee, a thriving village of 1,083 inhabitants. It was incorporated June 26, 1848, and is the principal village of the town of Starkey. Some historians claim that the burial place of Col. Isaac Andrews, private secretary of George Washington during the Revolution, lies within the village limits.

The first settlers on the area are now comprised within the limits of the village of Dundee were Isaac Stark and Hendrick and Isaac Houghtaling, who located here in 1807. For some time the settlement was known as Stark's Mills. Other early settlers were Anson Stark, William Durland, Elias Fitzwater, John Walton, Lazarus Reed and Joseph Green.

In 1808 or 1809 Benjamin Potter built a double log house on the west side of Main Street, just across Big Stream. This building was occupied as a dwelling and a tavern and was the first public house in what is now Dundee. Nearby was built a blacksmith shop and a small store, conducted for some months by Jonathan Botsford, later by John Walton. John Walton, the grandfather of G. B. Walton, came here in 1816 and later erected a store and dwelling combined south of Big Stream, on the northwest corner of the lot now occupied by the present race track. The next store was erected by John Starkey where the Sayre home now stands. Meanwhile two saw mills and two grist mills had been built in or near Dundee.

Samuel Harpending came to Dundee in 1811. He erected a building near Big Stream, on the west side of Main Street, conducting a public house and hattery. About 1818 he built a hotel on the site now occupied by the Harpending House. Andrew Harpending, his son, later took over the hotel. Andrew was succeeded by his nephew, Abraham A., a son of Anthony S. Harpending.

The first grist mill in the township was built by John Sears near Eddytown. In partnership with his brother-in-law, Clayton Semans, John Starkey built the old red grist mill, the second in the township, near the Main Street bridge over Big Stream. Semans soon sold out his interest to Starkey, who took in another brother-in-law, Samuel Kress. Isaac Stark built a saw mill in 1808 in Dundee and General Timothy Hurd, a son of Abner Hurd,

built a saw mill on Big Stream south of Eddytown in 1809, and later a grist mill. Griffin B. Hazard built a saw mill in 1811 and a grist mill in 1812 on Big Stream south of Dundee. The Peche mill was built by James Barkley of Geneva in 1837. Big Stream at one time furnished power for fifteen saw mills, four fulling mills (mills where wool was carded and cloth dressed), two woolen mills and five grist and flour mills.

The settlement which later was to become Dundee was now known as Harpending's Corners. For some years it was secondary in importance to Eddytown, which had several stores, a church, two hotels, lawyers, doctors and a daily mail and line of four-horse stage coaches running from Elmira (then Newtown) to Geneva. In those days Eddytown was of greater importance than Watkins Glen. Eddytown was the "metropolis" of the township, and all public events were held there.

In the early thirties Dundee had a boom. The Harpending House was enlarged; Samuel Huson built a store and dwelling on the northwest corner of Water and Union Streets in 1831; a Baptist Church was erected in 1832; and homes were built on Main Street by John Sweeney, Dr. Benjamin Nichols, B. B. Beekman, Thomas Swarthout and E. J. Smith.

From this time on the future of the village was assured and Eddytown as a business place was doomed, its prestige gone. Little by little its trade was absorbed by its younger rival.

Meanwhile there developed a controversy over changing the name of the community. Plainville, Harpendale, La Grange and Starkville were proposed, but in 1834 the name Dundee was adopted.

Dundee has good schools, a modern public library, new water and sewage systems and a supply of drinking water so pure that typhoid is unheard of. A newly developed natural gas field, the largest producing field in the state, supplies gas in abundance for domestic and industrial purposes.

The village weekly newspaper, *The Observer*, was established in 1878.

## RUSHVILLE.

Rushville, a village of 452 souls, has the distinction of lying within two counties, Ontario and Yates, and embraces a portion of three towns—Gorham in Ontario County and Potter and Middlesex in Yates County. It lies at the northern end of the Marcus Whitman highway on the direct route from Rochester to Watkins Glen, and has one of the most scenic settings in the county.

Rushville is the birthplace of Dr. Marcus Whitman, that intrepid missionary and pioneer who saved the vast Oregon territory to the United States and whose adventures are outlined in the chapter of this book devoted to Empire Builders.

The village lies in a valley, from whose surrounding hills may be obtained exquisite views of productive farms and shadowy groves, which bear silent testimony to the wonderful fertility of this district. Rushville, which had previously been called Federal Hollow, was named in 1818 in honor of Benjamin Rush, then a noted surgeon of Philadelphia. At one time the place was also known as Burning Spring, from the natural gas springs one mile southwest of the village.

As early as 1792 Elias Gilbert opened a tavern at Rushville. The first merchant was Philander Woodworth, who also opened a tavern about 1810 at the corner of Main and Gilbert Streets. The village had a district school about 1800. The Rushville Academy was built in 1834 and razed in 1867, to give place the next year to the present Union School Building, built at a cost of \$13,000.

A postoffice was established as early as 1818 and the first church, the Congregational, organized in 1802. Rushville was incorporated as a village in 1866, when it had thirty-one houses. The first physician was Dr. Buffum Harkness, who settled in 1796.