

## BROOME COUNTY.



**BROOME COUNTY** was formed from Tioga, March 28, 1806, and named in honor of John Broome of New York, who was then Lieut. Gov. of the State, and who acknowledged the compliment by presenting the County with a handsomely executed silver seal, appropriately designed by himself, emblematical of the name. Berkshire and Owego were annexed to Tioga County, March 21, 1822. It is situated near the center of the south border of the State, centrally distant 110 miles from Albany, and contains 706 square miles. Its surface is greatly diversified, consisting of rolling and hilly uplands, broad river intervals and the narrow valleys of small streams. The hills extend from the Pennsylvania line northerly through the County. They are divided into three general ranges by the valleys of the Susquehanna and Chenango rivers. The first range, lying east of the Susquehanna, forms the east border of the County. Its highest summits are 400 to 700 feet above the Delaware, and 1,400 to 1,700 feet above tide. The declivities of the hills are usually steep, and the summits spread out into a broad and hilly upland. This ridge is divided by the deep ravines of a large number of small streams, and in several places it rises into peaks. The second ridge lies in the great bend of the Susquehanna, and is bounded by the valleys of that river and the Chenango. The highest summits are 300 to 500 feet above the Susquehanna, and 1,200 to 1,400 feet above tide. The hills are generally bounded by gradual slopes, and the summits are broad, rolling uplands. The southern portion of this ridge is high above the valleys; but towards the north the hilly character subsides into that of a fine rolling region. The third ridge lies west of the Chenango and Susquehanna rivers. Its summits are a little less in elevation than those of the second ridge; and the general characteristics of the two regions are similar. The wide valley of the Susquehanna divides it into two distinct parts, the southern of which is more hilly than the northern. The hills in the central and western parts

of the County are rounded and arable to their summits. The narrow valleys that break the continuity of the ridges are usually bordered by gradually sloping hillsides.\*

The geological formation of the County is so exceedingly simple that it scarcely received notice in the report of the geological and mineralogical surveying party of the State at an early day. It possesses little attraction to the scientist. The principal rock is graywacke, which is found lying in strata, in a nearly horizontal position, in all the hills and in the beds of the largest streams, and which forms the basis of the mountains. All the rocks are included in the Chemung and Catskill groups. The former—consisting of slaty sandstone and shales—occupies all the north and west portions of the County; and the latter—consisting of gray and red sandstone, red shale and slate—crown all the summits in the south and east portions. Much of the more level portions of the surface is covered to a considerable depth by depositions of sand, gravel, clay and hardpan. The rocks crop out only upon the declivities and summits of the hills.† The valleys throughout the County give evidence of having been excavated by the action of water, whose currents exerted a force immensely greater than any which seek the ocean through these channels at the present day. Their origin is referred by geologists to the drift period—a time when the gorgeous hillsides which now afford so many attractive homes, were inundated, and the productive vales pulverized and prepared by the mighty agencies then at work for the occupancy of man. Weak brine springs were early found, extending for several miles along the valley of Halfway Brook in the north part of the County.‡ Sulphur and other mineral springs are found in various parts of the County.§ Several excavations for coal have been made, but without suc-

\* French's *Historical and Statistical Gazetteer of New York*.

† "The pebbles found in and near the banks of the Susquehanna and Chenango rivers," says Wilkinson, in the *Annals of Binghamton*, "exhibit an astonishing variety: garnet, tourmaline, quartz, agate, hornstone, porphyry, granite, jasper, feldspar, hornblend, dark blue limestone, and conglomerates of almost every character are occasionally picked up and added to the cabinet of the naturalist."

‡ Several years since a boring was commenced in Lisle, on the site of an old deer lick, and was continued to a depth of more than 400 feet, without any practical result. More recent attempts have been made to develop the springs in the valley of Halfway Brook, in the town of Barker, a more detailed account of which will be given in the history of that town.

§ A sulphur spring has for some time been developed in the town of Nanticoke; and one was recently discovered at Osborne Hollow, in the town of Colesville, while a shaft was being sunk to ascertain the depth of a vein of lead, traces of which are found there. A chalybeate spring was recently discovered in Binghamton, in the history of which town a more detailed account of it will be given.

cess, as all the coal measures are above the highest strata of rocks found in the County. It is believed that the County has no valuable minerals, or at least none in sufficient quantity to render them profitable. Traces of copper and nickel are supposed to have been found at Osborne Hollow, but too little is known regarding it to warrant an assertion.

The principal streams are the Susquehanna, Delaware, Chenango, Tioughnioga and Otselic rivers; Oquaga, Okkanum, Nanticoke, Little Snake, Big and Little Choconut, Castle, Yorkshire, Bradley, Tracy and Kattel creeks; and Halfway, Page and North brooks.\*

\*The Susquehanna, having its rise in Otsego Lake, enters the County at Nineveh, on the north line of Colesville, passing in a southerly direction through that town and Windsor, and leaves the County near the south-east corner of the latter town. After forming the *great bend* in Penn. it again enters the County on the south line, and runs in a north-westerly direction to the north of Conklin, forming the division between that town and Kirkwood, when it turns and flows nearly due west through the town and city of Binghamton, forming the dividing line between Union and Vestal, and leaves the County on the west border, on the line of these two towns. Passing nearly its entire length through mountainous country, whose prominences are oftentimes abrupt and irregular, it is subjected to frequent changes in its course; and though this feature detracts from its value for navigable purposes, it adds vastly to the beauty of the country adjacent to its banks. In its upper course through the County its valley is contracted and rendered narrow by the high and steep declivities through which it meanders; but further west it expands into broad intervals, skirted by gradually sloping hillsides. The usually placid surface of its clear, sparkling waters, the gently receding banks, dotted with the evidences of thrift and industry and mechanical ingenuity, and crowned with the alternating foliage of the forest and cultivated field, combine to present the picture of rare and quiet beauty for which it is so celebrated. This picture is varied at intervals by its more wild and rugged aspects, which develop a romantic beauty, at times approaching the sublime.

In Smith's history of Virginia, the name of this river is written *Sasque-sa-han-nough*; and by Mr. Morgan, in the Onondaga dialect, *Ga-wa-no-wa-na-nch*. This last name, says C. P. Avery, in a paper on *The Susquehanna Valley*, which appears in *The Saint Nicholas* of March, 1854, is pronounced as follows: "The first and third *a* pronounced as in the syllable *ah*; the second one as in *fate*; the fourth as in *at*."

The Delaware forms the southern portion of the east boundary of the County, commencing at the village of Deposit, and flowing in a south-east direction, through a deep, rocky valley, bordered by steep and often precipitous hills.

The Chenango enters the County on the north line, a little east and north of Chenango Forks, and pursuing a southerly direction, forming in its course the boundary between the towns of Chenango and Fenton, augments the Susquehanna, with which it unites near the southern limits of the city of Binghamton. In the north part, the valley of this river is hemmed in by high ridges; but in the south it expands into a broad interval. It has a uniform descent of five or six feet to the mile, and is free from rapids and sudden turns.

Upon Guy Johnson's map of 1771, this river is named *Ol-si-nin-goo*; upon DeWitt's map of about the year 1791, *Che-nen-go*; and in Mr. Morgan's work, *O-che-nang*.—*The Saint Nicholas*, March, 1854, p. 412.

The "Indian name," says French, in his *State Gazetteer*, is "*O-nan-no-gi-is-ka*, Shagbark hickory," the second and fifth syllables in the name being accented.

The soil along the river intervals is generally very fertile, consisting of deep, sandy and gravelly loam, mixed with disintegrated slate and vegetable mold. The narrow valleys of the smaller streams are also fertile. The soil upon the north and west hills consists principally of gravelly loam intermixed with clay and disintegrated shale, and is well adapted to grazing. The declivities of the south and east hills are similar to the last in character, but their summits are generally covered with clay and hardpan. The large proportion of upland and the unevenness of the surface render this County best adapted to pasturage. While all branches of agriculture are pursued,

The Tioughnioga enters the County on the north, from Cortland county, and flows in a south-east direction, through the east part of Lisle, the south-west corner of Triangle and diagonally (from north-west to south-east,) across the town of Barker, until it unites with the Chenango at Chenango Forks. Its valley is very narrow, being bordered by high and steep hills.

"This name is formed from Te-ah-hah-hogue, the meeting of roads and waters at the same place."—*Spafford's Gazetteer of New York*, 1813, p. 176.

The Otselic also enters the County from the north, and like the Tioughnioga, into which it empties at Whitneys Point, flows through a narrow valley, through the west part of Triangle.

Oquaga Creek enters the County on the north line of Sanford and flows south through the center of that town to McClure Settlement, when it turns east and empties into the Delaware at Deposit.

By the early missionaries this creek was called Onuh-huh-quah-geh, and by the Iroquois, now in Canada, it is so pronounced. Upon an early map it is named O-nogh-qua-gy.—*The Saint Nicholas, March*, 1854, p. 413.

Okkanum Creek, which flows east through the north-west part of Windsor; Nanticoke Creek, which flows south through Lisle, Nanticoke, Maine and Union, nearly to the south-west corner of the latter town; Little Snake Creek, which rises in the south-east corner of Vestal and flows east through Binghamton and Conklin; Big and Little Choconut\* Creeks, the former of which rises in Penn. and flows north-west through the center of Vestal, and the latter, in the north-west part of Chenango and flows south through the south-east part of Maine, north-east part of Union, crossing in a south westerly direction the north-west corner of Binghamton, and westerly through the south-east corner of Union; and Tracy Creek, which rises in Penn. and flows north through the west part of Vestal, are tributary to the Susquehanna. Castle Creek, which rises in the south-west part of Barker and flows south through Chenango; Kattel Creek, which rises in the north-east part of Chenango and flows south through that town; and Page Brook, which enters the County near the center of the north line of Fenton and flows south-west, are tributary to the Chenango. Yorkshire Creek, which enters the County from Cortland County, in the north-west corner of Lisle, and flows south-east through that town; and Halfway Brook, which also enters this County from Cortland, near the north-east corner of Triangle, and flows south through the east part of that town and to the north-east part of Barker, when it turns west, are tributary to the Tioughnioga. Bradley Creek, rises in the east part of Maine, through which town it flows, in a south-west direction, and empties into Nanticoke Creek a little south of Union Center. North Brook rises in the west central part of Sanford and pursues a south-east course to Oquaga Creek, with which it unites a little south of McClure Settlement.

\*Choconut, upon an early map, is written Chugh-nult. At the treaty of 1768, it is written the same way, with the exception of the letter l, which is omitted.—*THE SAINT NICHOLAS March*, 1854, p. 413.

fruit culture, and stock and wool raising, in connection with the products of the dairy, form the leading interests.\* Manufacturing is carried on to a limited extent at Binghamton and other places. A stronger disposition to engage in this branch of industry is manifest.

*The County Seat* is located at Binghamton, at the junction of the Susquehanna and Chenango rivers. Previous to the erection of this County, Binghamton (then *Chenango Point*) was a half-shire of Tioga County, and courts were held a part of the time at the house of J. Whitney, until 1802, in which year a court house† was erected. The County (Tioga) was divided into two jury districts in 1801. In 1828‡ an act authorizing the erection of a new court house passed the Legislature, and \$5,000 were raised in the County for that purpose.§ In 1857 the court house erected in 1828 was superseded by the present elegant structure, which is located at the head of Chenango street, fronting on Court street.|| The County Clerk's office is a fire-proof building situated on court house square, adjacent to

\* French's *State Gazetteer*.

†The first court house was located on the north-west corner of Court and Chenango streets, fronting on Court street. In size it was about 36x24 feet, finished in a plain and hasty style, and contained two log jail rooms, a room for the residence of the jailor below, and the court room above. It was afterwards moved across the road, and stood a little down from the top of Court hill.—*Annals of Binghamton*, p. 182.

The first county officers were: Gen. John Patterson of Lisle, *First Judge*; James Stoddard of Lisle, Amos Patterson of Union, Daniel Hudson of Chenango and Geo. Harper and Mason Wattles of Windsor, *Associate Judges*, (the last named two were added in 1807, the year following that in which the County was erected,) Ashbel Wells of Binghamton, *County Clerk*; and Wm. Woodruff, *Sheriff*. The first court was held on the second Tuesday in May, 1806, and the first cause tried under the authority of this County was between Amraphael Hotchkiss and Nathan Lane jr.—a civil suit. The first criminal cause was the people against Ebenezer Centre.

‡ *Annals of Binghamton*, p. 217. French says the first court house was superseded by the erection of a new one in 1826.

§ Ami Doubleday, Grover Buel and Geo. Wheeler were appointed commissioners to superintend the construction of the work.

||This last building is ninety-six feet long and fifty-eight feet wide. The basement is built of stone and the upper stories of brick. A Grecian portico supported by four Ionic pillars, each six feet in diameter and thirty-six feet high, adds beauty and finish to the front. Its fine dome is surmounted by a statue of justice, whose evenly balanced scales, it is hoped, are a true symbol of the equity meted out in its courts. It contains the usual county offices, the rooms for which are large, convenient and well ventilated. It was erected at a cost of \$32,000.

the court house.\* The jail is on Hawley street a short distance from the court house.†

*The County Poor House* is located on a farm of 130 acres, about three miles north of Binghamton, on the west side of the Chenango River. Of its management, the committee appointed to inspect it in 1871, say in their report, "that we found the house in excellent order; and everything (apparently) done for the unfortunate inmates, that the liberality of the County and the kind and humane treatment of the keeper and his family could do to make them comfortable." The children receive instruction at the Susquehanna Valley Home, in the city of Binghamton.‡

\*This building is to be superseded by one now in process of erection, in the rear of the present one. The basement of the new building is being constructed of stone, and the upper story will be built of brick, with stone trimmings. Its front will be forty-six feet and two inches, its length sixty-eight feet and four inches, and its height above ground thirty-one feet and six inches. The upper story will consist of three commodious rooms, one of which will be used for the office of the clerk, one for that of the recording clerk, and the third as a depository for legal documents. The basement is designed to be used for storing documents to which reference is seldom made. It will be a tasty, fire-proof structure, and furnished with modern improvements. The County appropriated, Dec. 6, 1871, \$16,000 for its erection.

The following is an abstract of the first deed recorded in the clerk's office of Broome County :

"THIS INDENTURE made the twenty fourth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and six, between James Harvey of the town of Union and county of Tioga, and Catharine, his wife, on the one part, and Lewis Neeler of the town of Chenango and county aforesaid, of the other part, for and in consideration of the sum of Two Hundred Dollars, to them in hand paid, at or before the ensembling and delivery of the presents, by the said party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, Have granted, bargained, sold, aliened, remised, released, conveyed, assured, enfeoffed, and confirmed; and, by these presents do fully, freely and absolutely, grant, bargain, sell, alien, remise, release, convey assure, enfeoff, and confirm unto - - - containing one acre and one hundred square rods of land, more or less, situate - - -"

The third deed recorded is a conveyance from John and Peter Augustus Jay, esquires, of Bedford, Westchester county, to Garret Williamson, farmer, of the same place, and bears date of Nov 29, 1805. It was recorded May 20, 1806. By it one hundred acres, a part of sixteen thousand acres granted by letters patent to Jay and Ruthelford in 1787, is conveyed.

†The portion of the jail containing the cells was built in 1858, at a cost of \$15,000. In its construction due provisions were made for the safety, health and classification of prisoners.—*French's Gazetteer*, p. 179.

‡From the report of the *Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors in 1871* we glean the following interesting particulars relative to the poor of the County: The whole number of paupers relieved or supported during the year ending Dec. 1, 1871, was 1,602, all of whom were County paupers. The number of persons temporarily relieved was 1,375. The aggregate expense of relieving and supporting paupers was \$23,437.48. Of this sum the amount expended for temporary relief was \$10,961.10. The actual value of the labor of the paupers maintained was \$1,200; the estimated amount saved in their support in consequence of their labor was \$500; and the sum actually expended independent of the labor and earnings of the paupers, divided by the average number kept during the year, gives \$1.54 per week, as the actual expense of keeping each person. The number of paupers received into the Poor House during the year was 160, two of whom were

The principal works of internal improvement are the Chenango Canal\* ; the N. Y. & Erie R. R. † ; the Syracuse, Bing-

born there. The number who died during the year was five; the number bound out, two; and the number discharged, 141. The number remaining in the Poor House Dec. 1, 1871, was 79, of whom 43 were males and 36, females. Of the males, three were of the age of sixteen years or under, and of the females, two. Of the seventy-nine inmates, twenty-two were foreigners; ten, lunatics; thirteen, idiots; two, mutes; and one was blind. The number of insane paupers, supported by the County, and remaining in Willard Asylum, at Ovid, Dec. 1, 1871, was eleven.

The following table shows the nativity of persons relieved or supported in the County during the year 1871:

<i>Country.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
United States.....	397	422	819
Ireland.....	344	237	581
England.....	22	7	29
Scotland.....	4	3	7
Germany.....	75	56	131
France ..	9	4	13
Italy.....		8	8
Austria.....	2		2
Russia.....	6	5	11
Denmark.....	1		1
Totals.....	860	742	1602

and the following, the causes of pauperism of persons relieved or supported in the County, during the same year:

<i>Causes.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Intemperance, direct.....	94	8	102
Children having intemperate parents.....	20	40	60
Wives having intemperate husbands.....		20	20
Debauchery.....	3	22	25
Debauchery of parents.....	5	7	12
Vagrancy.....	381	178	559
Idiocy.....	6	11	17
Lunacy.....	14	14	28
Blindness.....	12	4	16
Lameness.....	26	8	34
Sickness.....	66	48	114
Decrepitude.....	13	7	20
Old age.....	24	26	50
Deaf and Dumb.....	3		3
Indigent and destitute.....	65	125	190
Children having destitute parents.....	80	122	202
"    "    sick.....	38	60	98
Females having sick husbands.....		27	27
Orphans.....	8	9	17
Bastards.....	2	6	8
Totals.....	860	742	1602

The first cost of the land and the erections on it was \$3,000. The present estimated value of the whole establishment is \$30,000.

\* This Canal was authorized Feb. 23, 1833, in which year it was begun, and was finished in 1837, at a cost of \$1,737,703. It connects the Erie Canal at Utica with the Susquehanna River at Binghamton. It is ninety-seven miles long, exclusive of thirteen and three-fourths miles of feeders, none of which are navigable. It is supplied by the Chenango River and six reservoirs, viz: Madison Brook, Woodmans Pond, Lelands Pond, Bradleys Brook, Hatchs Lake and Eaton Brook reservoirs, all of which are in the south part of Madison County. The Canal extends across to and up the valley of Oriskany Creek to the summit level and down the valley of Chenango River. From Utica to the Summit it rises 706 feet, by 76 locks, and from thence it descends 303 feet, by 38 locks, to the Susquehanna. Of its

† See foot note on following page.

hamton & N. Y. R. R.\*; the Albany & Susquehanna R. R. †;

114 locks, two are stone and the remainder composite. Upon the feeders are twelve road and eighteen farm bridges. It enters the County on the north line of Fenton and follows the course of the Chenango, on the east side.

Attempts have been made to effect the extension of this Canal to Athens, Penn., and large appropriations have been made by the State for that purpose and considerable work done, but it still remains a huge, unfinished ditch, with little prospect of its being perfected according to the original design. Efforts, which seem likely to prove successful, are being made to secure from the State the right of way along this route for the road-bed of a new railroad.

† *The N. Y. & Erie R. R.* was authorized April 24, 1832, and the company organized in July, 1833. The first preliminary survey was made in 1832, by DeWitt Clinton, Jr., by order of the Government. In 1834 the Governor appointed Benj. Wright to survey the route; who, assisted by James Seymour and Chas. Ellett, began the survey May 23d, and finished it the same year. In 1845 the Company was reorganized, and forty miles were put under contract. Various financial embarrassments, necessitating State aid and increased private subscriptions, and involving the relinquishment by the original stockholders of one-half the amount of stock held by them, confronted this gigantic enterprise and retarded its accomplishment, so that its final completion to Dunkirk was not effected until 1851. The road was opened to Binghamton Dec. 28, 1848, and to Dunkirk May 14, 1851. It enters the County at Deposit and extends through the town of Sanford, across the south-east corner of Windsor, when it leaves the County, passing into Pennsylvania, and enters it again on the east bank of the Susquehanna, extending along the west line of Kirkwood, through the north part of the town and city of Binghamton, and the southern part of Union, leaving the County in the south-west corner of that town. Being the first road opened through the County, it contributed largely to the latter's growth and development.

\* *The Syracuse, Binghamton & N. Y. R. R.* was originally formed July 2, 1851, as the Syracuse and Binghamton R. R. The road was opened through, Oct. 23, 1854. It was sold Oct. 13, 1856, on foreclosure of mortgage, and the name changed to Syracuse & Southern R. R. Its present name was assumed under act of March 31, 1857. In 1858 the company were authorized to purchase the Union R. R. to the canal at Geddes. The Delaware, Lackawanna & Western R. R. company obtained a controlling influence in the road about the first of March, 1869, and still maintain it. It is 79.33 miles in length. It enters the county on the north line of Lisle, and following the west bank of the Tioughnioga to Chenango Ferks, it then follows the general course of the Chenango, making a slight detour to avoid the bend in that river between the towns of Chenango and Fenton, passing in its course through Lisle, across the south-west corner of Triangle, through the towns of Barker and Chenango and the north part of Binghamton to the city of Binghamton. It makes the great salt depot at Syracuse and, by its connection with Oswego & Syracuse R. R. at the last named city, the lake and lake ports easily accessible.

‡ *The Albany & Susquehanna R. R.* was organized April 2, 1851, and opened to Harpersville, in the town of Colesville, Dec. 26, 1867, and to Binghamton, Jan. 14, 1869. With its varied connections it brings Binghamton within easy communication with the northern and eastern parts of the State, and the capital at Albany. Its length is 142 miles. It enters the county at Nineveh and runs in a circuitous course through Colesville, diverging slightly into the east part of Fenton a short distance, through the south part of Fenton and the north part of Binghamton, connecting with the Erie R. R. at the city of Binghamton. It is leased to and operated by the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company.

the Utica, Chenango & Susquehanna Valley R. R.\*; the Delaware & Hudson Canal Co.'s R. R. †; and the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western R. R. ‡ These routes, which traverse the County in various directions, afford ample facilities for traveling and commercial purposes, and bring the agricultural lands within easy reach of the great eastern markets, and the business and manufacturing centers in close proximity to the coal mines of eastern Pennsylvania. The increasing agricultural and commercial importance of the County may warrant the opening of new avenues in those parts of the County furthest removed from any of the great thoroughfares. The several plank roads which were built at an early day are now mostly abandoned.

There are ten newspapers published in the County; two dailies, one semi-weekly and seven weeklies.

The BINGHAMTON DAILY REPUBLICAN was started as *The Daily Iris*, in 1849, by Wm. Stuart and E. T. Evans. It was soon after changed to its present name and was published by Wm. Stuart alone, until 1864, when he leased it to Messrs. Carl Bros. and J. W. Taylor for five years. They, after publishing it about three years, sold their lease to Malette & Reid, the present publishers, who bought it of Wm. Stuart, April 1, 1867.

THE BROOME REPUBLICAN was established at Binghamton, by Major Augustus Morgan, in 1822. It was published by him until 1824, by Morgan & Canoll until 1828, by Evans & Canoll, until 1835, by Canoll & Cooke until 1839, when it passed into

\* *The Utica, Chenango & Susquehanna Valley R. R.* enters the county in the south-east corner of Barker, having its southern terminus at Chenango Forks. It was commenced in 1867, and twelve miles were completed that year.

† *The Delaware & Hudson Canal Co.'s R. R.*, which was recently completed through the County, enters it at Nineveh, and follows the general course of the Susquehanna, which it crosses at Center Village, through the town of Colesville, to the south line of that town, when it deflects from the river and avoids the bend which commences at this point, and again touches the river a little north of Windsor, extending along its valley to the south line of the town of Windsor, where it leaves the County. Large quantities of coal are already shipped over this road from the coal mines in Penn., to which it leads.

‡ *The Delaware, Lackawanna & Western R. R.* was completed to Binghamton in January or February, 1871. It enters the County in the south-east corner of the town of Conklin and runs along the west bank of the Susquehanna to Binghamton, where it connects with the Syracuse, Binghamton & New York R. R., and at Syracuse with the Oswego & Syracuse R. R., which road is leased to it. This is an important link in the chain of railroads centering at Binghamton, as it brings that city in direct communication with the valuable mines of this company in Penn.; and with its connections with the S. B. & N. Y., and O. & S. railroads, which are under its control, this company are enabled to ship direct to their depot in Oswego, and from that point to the northern part of the State, the lake ports and Canada. Vast quantities of coal are shipped over this road, no inconsiderable amount of which is deposited at Syracuse.

the hands of Davis & Cooke. It was continued by Benj. T. Cooke until 1848, and by E. R. Colston until 1849. It subsequently became the property of Wm. Stuart, who published it until 1864, when he leased it for five years to Messrs. Carl Bros. and J. W. Taylor, who, after about three years, sold their lease to Malette & Reid, the present publishers, by whom the paper was purchased of Wm. Stuart, April 1, 1867, and by whom, in January, 1869, it was consolidated with *The Binghamton Standard*, and printed in connection with that paper as the *Republican & Standard*. July 4th, 1870, the two papers were disconnected and the original title, *The Broome Republican*, was resumed. It is published as a weekly.

THE BINGHAMTON STANDARD & SEMI-WEEKLY REPUBLICAN was started as *The Binghamton Standard* in Nov. 1853, by J. R. Van Valkenburg, by whom it was sold to G. W. Reynolds, and by the latter to F. N. Chase. It was afterwards successively purchased by Alvin Sturtevant, M. L. Hawley & P. D. Van Vradenburg and, in Jan. 1869, by Malette & Reid, who consolidated it with *The Broome Republican*, and adopted a name embracing that of both papers, the *Republican & Standard*. July 4, 1870, it was renewed as a separate paper, under its present name.\*

The BINGHAMTON DEMOCRAT was started at Binghamton, as the *Broome County Courier*, in 1831, by J. R. Orton, who continued it until 1837, after which it passed successively into the hands of Sheldon & Marble, I. C. Sheldon, E. P. Marble, E. P. & J. W. Marble, and Marble & Johnson. In 1842 or '3, its name was changed to *The Binghamton Courier & Broome Co. Democrat* and was published by J. & C. Orton. It passed into the hands of Dr. N. S. Davis, in 1846, into those of J. L. Burtis in 1847, and its name was by him changed to the *Binghamton Courier*. Mr. Burtis sold it J. T. Brodt, who published it until 1849, when it passed into the hands of Hon. J. R. Dickinson, who changed its name to *The Binghamton Democrat* and published it until 1855, when he took W. S. Lawyer as a partner. This firm continued its publication until 1857, when Mr. Dickinson sold his interest. It was published by Messrs. Adams & Lawyer until the death of Mr. Adams in 1861, when it was continued by Mr. Lawyer alone until 1866, at which time his brother, G. L. Lawyer, was admitted to an interest. It is still published as a weekly by the Lawyer Bros.

The BINGHAMTON DAILY DEMOCRAT was commenced in 1869, by W. S. & G. L. Lawyer, and is still published by them.

\*The *Binghamton Daily Republican*, *The Broome Republican* and *The Binghamton Standard & Semi-Weekly Republican* are issued from the same office by Malette & Reid.

THE BINGHAMTON TIMES, weekly, was started by *The Binghamton Times Association*, April 6, 1871, and published by them until April 27, 1872, when it was purchased by A. L. Watson, who, on the first of August of the same year, took as partner Mr. E. H. Purdy and enlarged the paper from a quarto to a folio. It is now published by the firm of Purdy & Watson.

THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER, weekly, was started at Binghamton by A. W. Carl and E. H. Freeman, Sept. 10, 1869. Mr. Carl purchased Mr. Freeman's interest July 1, 1871, and still continues its publication.

THE UNION WEEKLY NEWS was started as *The Union News*, in June 1851, by A. J. Quinlan, who published it until his death, in 1854, when it was purchased of the heirs by R. Bostwick, who continued it a short time and sold it to Cephas Benedict and E. M. Betts, by whom it was published about two years, when Mr. Benedict purchased Mr. Betts' interest and controlled it alone until 1866, at which time he sold it to E. C. & G. W. Mersereau, but continued its editor. Mr. Benedict repurchased it in 1867 and again sold it May 15, 1868, to M. B. Robbins, the present proprietor, who changed its name to that it now bears. It is an independent journal.

THE DEPOSIT COURIER, weekly, was started in the spring of 1848, by M. R. Hulse, who published it five years, when it passed into the hands of his brother, S. D. Hulse, by whom its name was changed to *The Deposit Union Democrat*, and published seven years. In 1860 it passed into the hands of Lucius P. Allen, who changed its name to *The Delaware Courier* and its character to the advocacy of the principles of Republicanism. Mr. Allen published it seven years, when he sold it to Ambrose Blunt and Joshua Smith, who changed the name to that it originally bore, and now bears, and, after about two years, sold it to J. B. Stow. It was subsequently published by Charles N. Stow (son of J. B. Stow) and Adrian L. Watson. In March 1872, Mr. Watson retired and Mr. Stow continues its publication alone.

THE LISLE GLEANER was commenced at Lisle, May 24, 1871, by Gilbert A. Dodge, who sold it, March 7, 1872, to Eugene Davis, the present publisher, by whom it was enlarged from a twenty to a twenty-four column paper. It is a weekly and is independent in politics.\*

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\* The following is a list of obsolete papers published in the County:  
*The American Constellation* was started at Union, Nov. 23, 1800, by D. Cruger, as is shown by a copy of this paper now in the possession of Mr. Beebe of Owego, which is dated "Union, N. Y., Sept. 12, 1801," and marked "Vol. I, No. 43." It is generally supposed and admitted that this

The first step looking to the settlement of the country adjacent to and partially included within the limits of this County, seems to have been taken in 1785, on the 28th of June of which year a treaty was held at Fort Herkimer between the Governor

paper was printed at "old Chenango," then located on the west bank of Chenango River, about one mile above Binghamton, as is asserted in the *Annals of Binghamton*, and, says Dr. Charles J. Seymour, in a letter dated Binghamton, Aug. 9, 1872, it was probably dated to correspond with the postoffice at Union, which, says Dr. Seymour, on the authority of a warrant issued by Postmaster General Habershaw, was established June 23, 1798, (Joshua Whitney being appointed postmaster,) at Binghamton, the station at which place was for several years called Union. French says this paper was published at Union Village, in 1800, but the assertion, as regards location, is believed to be unwarranted. How long this paper was published we have been unable to learn definitely, but there are indications that it was removed to Owego, and its name changed to *The American Farmer*, under which name alone, it is proper to say, Wilkinson refers to it. He says, after referring to *The Broome County Patriot*, which, he asserts, was the first paper printed in Broome County, "There had a paper circulated here, which was first printed in old Chenango, and afterward in Owego, called 'The American Farmer.' While issuing from the former place, it was conducted by Daniel Crugar; and while from the latter, it was conducted by Stephen Mack, afterward Judge of the County," who, it will be seen by referring to the history of *The American Farmer*, in the history of Tioga County, started that paper in Owego, though Stephen B. Leonard, the founder of *The Owego Gazette*, is of the opinion that *The American Farmer* was established and always published in Owego.

*The Broome County Patriot* was commenced in Binghamton in 1812, by Chauncey Morgan. In 1813 it was transferred to Dr. Elihu Ely and its name changed to

*The Ohio*, under which title it was published one year, when it passed into the hands of Dr. Tracy Robinson, who changed its name to the *Binghamton Phoenix*. In 1815 Augustus Morgan became partner with Mr. Robinson and it was published by Morgan & Robinson until 1817, when Mr. Robinson's interest was purchased by Anson Howard. The firm then became Morgan & Howard and they published the paper one year, when Mr. Howard purchased Mr. Morgan's interest and continued it until 1819, when it was discontinued.

*The Republican Herald* was commenced in 1818, and successively published by Morgan & Howard and Abraham Bunell and Dorephus Abbey, until 1822.

*The Evening Express*, daily, was issued from the Republican office in 1848, by E. R. Colston, and was, after a short time, merged in the *Republican*.

*The Iris*, semi-monthly, was started in July, 1839, by C. P. Cooke. In July, 1841, it was purchased by Edwin T. Evans, who enlarged it and published it weekly until 1853, when it was merged in the *Binghamton Republican*.

*The Binghamton Mercury* was published a short time by Chester Dehart, as a semi-monthly.

*The Susquehanna Journal* was started in Oct., 1852, at Binghamton, by Rev. Wm. H. Pearne, and was merged in the *Broome Republican* in 1855.

*The Broome County American* was started at Binghamton in May, 1855, by Ransom Bostwick, in advocacy of the Know-Nothing principles, and lived but a short time.

*The Binghamton Daily Times* was published by J. R. Gould, about 1835 or '6.

*The Binghamton Journal* was started about 1870, by John E. Williams who published it about six months, when it was discontinued.

*The Broome County Gazette* was commenced at Whitney's Point in July, 1858, by G. A. Dodge, by whom it was published several years.

and Commissioners of Indian Affairs in behalf of the State, and the Oneida and Tuscarora Indians, by which the latter for \$11,500 ceded all their lands, bounded north by an east and west line from the Chenango to the Unadilla, ten miles above the mouth of the latter, east by the east line of the County,\* south by Pennsylvania and west by the Chenango and Susquehanna. At the Hartford convention, in 1786, a tract of 230,400 acres, bounded by the Chenango† and Tioughnioga rivers on the east, Owego Creek‡ on the west, by the north line of the tract previously granted to Daniel Cox and Robert Lettice Hooper on the south, and extending as far north as to include the number of acres specified, was ceded to Massachusetts.§ This tract was sold by the State of Massachusetts to Samuel Brown and fifty-nine others, principally from Berkshire county, in that State, Nov. 7, 1787, for \$1,500, and was designated the Boston Ten Townships. These persons were induced by the favorable representations of individuals who had viewed this country while connected with the expedition against the Indians under Gen. Sullivan, in 1779, to make the purchase. The tract, according to the grant made to the company, was to be bounded on the south by the Susquehanna, but when the agents of the company arrived they found that previous grants embraced the valley of that river, consequently its southern boundary was determined by the north line of these grants. The company appointed as commissioners to treat with the Indians, Elijah Brown, Gen. Oringh Stoddard, Gen. Moses Ashley, Capt. Raymond and Col. David Pixley. These gentlemen met the Indians in treaty on the east side of the Chenango, two or three miles above Binghamton, in the forepart of winter, but did not fully complete negotiations, and adjourned to meet at the forks of the Chenango. The second treaty resulted satisfactorily.¶ “The nominal sum paid for this tract is not now known,

\* This line was agreed upon at Fort Stanwix, in 1768, and was surveyed by Simon Metcalf the next year. It is designated the “Property Line.”

† The Tioughnioga was then termed the west branch of the Chenango and was treated by the surveyors as the main stream.

‡ This creek was then termed the “Owego River” and was identical with what is now generally called the “West Owego Creek,” that being treated as the main stream.

§ When this tract was surveyed it was found that its northern limits encroached upon the Military Tract by 17,264 acres, and an amount equivalent to this was granted to the claimants in Junius, Seneca County.

¶ “At this and the former treaty, it is said, the Indians, who were furnished with provisions and liquor at the expense of the company, would get drunk almost to a man, by night, but be sober through the day. While the subjects of the treaty were under discussion from day to day, they would sit in circles upon the ground, and listen with the utmost decorum. Their chiefs, when they spoke, would speak in substance, if not in form, in accordance with parliamentary rule. Captain Dean was their interpreter

but the payment was made, one-half in money, and the other moiety in goods, consisting of rifles, hatchets, ammunition, blankets and woolen cloths. The last, it is said, the savages, in perfect character with their taste, immediately tore into strings for ornament." The total cost of the land, including the purchase price, the expense of the treaties and the survey, was about one shilling per acre. The first sales were uniformly made at twenty-five cents per acre, but after a little they rose to one dollar and even more.\* The deeds of partition were executed in 1789, and were legalized March 3d, of that year, in an act reciting the names of the sixty associates. The several owners commenced selling and settling their respective allotments. Grants were made in the south and east parts of the County to Hooper, Wilson, Bingham, Cox and others, several of whom resided in Philadelphia.†

The first settlements in the County were made in the valleys of the Susquehanna and Chenango, in 1785, by persons who had traversed the region during the Revolution. They located while the country was still threatened with Indian hostilities, and before Phelps and Gorham opened the fertile lands of Western New York to immigration. The early settlement was

and did their business. \* \* \* The land upon the shores of the two rivers, and for some distance back was, even at the time of the purchase, partially cleared, so far as the Indians have their lands cleared. The under-brush was cleared, having been kept down by burning, and grass growing on the flats. The Indians uniformly keep down the shrubby part of their hunting grounds, that they may, with the more facility, discover and pursue their game. Col. Rose says that he could see deer upon the mountains immediately back of him for a half mile, so free were they from under-brush. He observes also, that the woods exhibited a sombre appearance, from their annual burnings. The large island opposite Judge Stoddard's, was, when the first settlers came, covered with grass and the anacum weed, a tall kind of weed, the roots of which they were in the habit of digging and drying, and then grinding or pounding for bread stuff; or rather its apology, perhaps, when their corn failed them."—*Annals of Binghamton*, p. 50 and 51.

\* The Indians, in their treaty, reserved to themselves the right to hunt upon the lands sold, for the term of seven years; and also made a reserve of one-half mile square, near the mouth of Castle Creek, in the town of Chenango, as their own possession. This reserve was known as the "castle farm" and upon it those Indians, who did not remove to New Stockbridge, or Oneida, resided.

The means through which they lost possession of this reserve will be detailed in the history of the town of Chenango.

The remaining Indian titles within the County were extinguished by the treaty of Fort Stanwix in 1788.

† A tract of land containing 49,710 acres, known as "Chenango Township," was granted to A. Hammond and others; another, containing 61,440 acres, known as "Warren Township," to Robert Harper and others; and another, containing 1,000 acres, on both sides of the Susquehanna, was sold to Jacob and John Springstead. Josiah, David and Daniel Stow, David Hotchkiss and Joseph Beebe. Other tracts were sold to Wm. Allison, Jas. Clinton, Isaac Melcher and others. The islands in the Susquehanna were sold to James Clinton, at four shillings per acre.

retarded by a remarkable ice freshet in 1787—88, which destroyed most of the property of the settlers upon the river intervales. Scarcely less calamitous to life and property was the scarcity that followed in 1789. Oquaga was a noted rendezvous of Tories and Indians during the Revolution.\* Most of the invasions into the Schoharie and Mohawk settlements, as well as those upon the frontiers of Ulster and Orange counties were made by way of the Tioga and Susquehanna rivers from Niagara; and this war-path, with its sufferings and cruelties, has been often described in the narratives of returned captives.†

We extract from the *Annals of Binghamton*, by J. B. Wilkinson, the following interesting and amusing particulars relative to the extent to which the early settlers engaged in fishing and hunting, which are illustrative not only of the hardihood and daring of the early settlers, but also of the struggles which many of them so heroically encountered in their efforts to obtain a subsistence.

“In early times, when the country was first settled, and for a long time since, shad ran up the Susquehanna in great numbers as far as Binghamton, and even some to the source of the river. Thousands of them were caught from year to year, in this vicinity, especially at the three great fishing places, at Union, opposite Judge Mersereau's; at Binghamton, opposite the dry bridge, and upon the point of an island at Oquaga. There were two other places of less note; one on the Chenango, opposite Mr Bevier's; the other at the mouth of Snake Creek. [The shad arrived here, and began to be caught generally about the last of April, and the fishing continued through the month of May.] It was made quite a business by some, and after the country was sufficiently filled with inhabitants to create a demand for all that could be caught, the business became a source of considerable profit. \* \* \* Several hundred [were] sometimes caught at one draught. Herring also ran up at the same time with the shad; but as it was no object to catch them while a plenty of shad could be caught, their nets were so constructed as to admit them through the meshes.

“The nets employed were from sixteen to thirty rods long; [and each employed from six to eight men to manage it.] Their time for sweeping was generally in the night, as the shallowness of the water would not allow them to fish in the day time. Again the shad, in the night, [ran] up on the riffles to sport, which gave to the fishermen another advantage. They [made] their hauls the darkest nights, without lights, either in their boats or on shore. They had their cabins or tents to lodge in; and [were] notified when it was time to haul, by the noise the shoal of fish [made] in sporting at the shallow places.

“The shad seemed never to find either a place or time at which to turn and go back. Even after depositing their eggs, they [continued] to urge their way up stream, until they had exhausted their entire strength; which would, being out of their salt-water element, after a while fail them. The shores, in consequence, [were] strewn with their dead bodies, through the summer, upon which the wild animals [came] down and [fed.] Their

\* Further mention will be made of this place in the history of the town of Windsor.

† French's *State Gazetteer*.

young fry [passed] down the stream in the fall, having grown to the length of three or four inches, in such numbers as to choke up the eel-weirs.

“They have discontinued running up so far as this, for twelve or fifteen years [from 1840, when the *Annals* were published]; consequently none within that time have been caught. The numerous mill-dams and mills on the streams, together with the number of rafts that pass down in the spring, undoubtedly deter them from coming.

“As we have spoken of *fishing* in early days, which was so different from what it is at present, so will we speak of the *hunting* of early times.

“It is allowed by the old hunters that wild animals were uncommonly plenty here when the country was first settled. Martins were plenty, and caught in dead-falls for their fur. Panthers were frequently met with and shot by hunters. Bears were numerous and large. Wild cats were also found. But deer, which may be considered the staple commodity with hunters in a new country, were decidedly numerous. They would be seen sometimes twenty and thirty in a flock. Of this species of game great numbers were yearly killed. There appear to have been no wild turkies found here when the country was first settled. A solitary flock, some twenty-five or thirty years ago appears to have wandered from its native forests, and was observed in the neighborhood of Oquaga by Deacon Stow, who was at that day a distinguished hunter. He dropped his work in the field, and obtaining a gun from the nearest neighbor, he managed to kill one, before the flock got entirely out of his way. It remained in the neighborhood forest, until the turkies were all shot, except the last one, which was caught in a trap.

“There were several modes of hunting the deer. Besides the ordinary way of pursuing them by day-light with hounds, the hunters [resorted] to the deer licks, of which there were many, and ascertaining, as nearly as they could, where they stood to lap the water, they set their guns so as to take the deer when they came by night to drink. This they [did] before night-fall, and then [remained by their guns and watched.] They could hear the deer when in the act of drinking, by the noise they made in lapping the water. [This was the signal to discharge their guns, which they often did, several together.] If they heard the deer fall, they went and cut its throat, or their throats, as they sometimes shot more than one at a discharge, and brought them off the ground. They would then set their guns again, and wait for the well-known sound of the lapping to be renewed. They would continue their vigilance according to their success; sometimes till twelve and two, and sometimes till the dawn of the next morning. The dressing of the game was ordinarily reserved till the next day.

“Another mode pursued by the hunters was, to take the deer when they came down late in the summer or fall to feed upon the sedge or eel grass which grows in the river. Two men would get into a skiff, or boat of any kind that would answer the purpose, [in the forepart of which was a platform covered with turf]; upon this they would kindle a brisk fire, and one would sit in the fore-part, near the fire, with his rifle in his hand; the other would sit in the hinder-part and impel and guide the boat with a single paddle, taking care to make no noise, either in the water or at the side of the boat. The deer, at seeing the moving fire, would raise their heads and stamp with their feet, without moving much from their place, even at quite a near approach of the boat. This [enabled] the hunters to come as near to their game as they wished, and to make sure their aim. Sometimes they would take their stand upon the shore and watch by moonlight.

“A story is told of two of the early settlers of Oquaga, one a Dutchman by the name of Hendrickson, the other a Yankee by the name of Merryman. They had been in the habit of going together to a little island in the Susquehanna, called Fish Island, to watch for deer, with the understanding always, that each was to share equally in the game. One fine evening, while the moon was shining in its fullness, it occurred to the Dutchman that he would go down to the island and watch for deer, without letting his brother Yankee know of it. The same thought occurred to the Yankee. They both went down to the island and took their stations *accidentally*, at each end. In the course of the evening while waiting for deer, to their apprehension, two made their appearance and entered the river, and passing by the upper end of the island were fired upon by the *Yankee*, whose station happened to be at that end; the *deer* bounded, with a mighty splash, down stream; and passing the *lower* end of the island were fired upon by the *Dutchman*, whose shot took effect and brought *one* down. As the latter went out to drag in his game, the Yankee called out and claimed the *deer*, as he had fired first. The Dutchman muttered some objection, and continued wading. When he came to the weltering and dying animal, to his surprise, instead of a large deer, which he was in full expectation of, behold! he had killed one of his neighbor's young cattle—a two year old heifer; and which he readily recognized. ‘Well, den,’ said he to his companion, who was making his way down to him, ‘you may have de *deer*;’ it is yours, I believe.’ The Yankee, when he [also found] what had been done, and feeling they were about equally implicated, proposed that they should send the animal down stream, and say nothing about the matter, as they could not afford to pay for it. The Dutchman—and here we see the characteristic honesty of the one, as well as the characteristic *dishonesty* or *disingenuousness* of the other—objected; saying they would take it to the owner, and tell him how they came to shoot it; and as it would, when dressed, be very good eating, he did not think they should be charged very high for the accident. While they were disputing which course they should pursue, they heard at some little distance, near the shore, or upon it, a noise and difficult breathing, as of an animal dying; they went to it, and partly hid among weeds and grass, they found, to their further dismay, *another* heifer, belonging to *another* neighbor, in her last struggles, having received a death-wound from the first shot. The Yankee now insisted, with greater importunity, that they should send them both down stream, as they could never think of paying for both. But the Dutchman as strenuously objected, and proposed that the Yankee should go the next morning to the owner of one, and he would go to the owner of the other, and make proposals of restitution on as favorable terms as they could obtain. The Yankee finally acceded, and each went the next morning to his respective man. The Yankee made a reluctant acknowledgement of what had been done the night before, and showed but little disposition to make restitution. The owner was nearly in a rage for the loss of his fine heifer, and was hard in his terms of settlement. While the Dutchman, as if to be rewarded for his honesty, found his neighbor, when he had announced what he had done, and proposed to make satisfactory restitution, as ready to exact no more from him, than to dress the animal, and to take half the meat home for his own use.

“Another distinguished hunter of these early times, and one that was considered pre-eminent above all the others for marksmanship and daring feats, was Jotham Curtis, of Windsor. An anecdote or two, related of him, will best express his celebrity.

“He went out [one] afternoon to a *deer-lick*, and having killed a deer, he dressed it and hung the body upon a tree, bringing only the skin home with him. This he threw upon a work-bench in an apartment of the house he used as a shop. In the night he was awakened by a noise which he supposed to proceed from a dog at his deer-skin. He sprang up and opened the door that led into his shop ; and about over the work-bench he beheld the glare of *two eye-balls*, which he knew—so versed was he in the appearance of such animals—to be those of a panther. Without taking his eye from those of the animal, he called to his wife to light a pine stick, and to hand it to him, with his rifle, which she did. With the torch in his left hand, and the gun resting upon the same arm, he took his aim between the eyes, and shot the panther dead upon the bench. It is related to have been a very large one. It had entered the shop through an open window.

“He was one day hunting and came across two cubs. He caught one, and seating himself by a tree, with his back close to it, that he might be sure to *see* the old one when she [came.] He took the young one between his knees and commenced squeezing its head, to make it cry, which he knew would be likely to bring the old one. In a short time she was seen coming with full speed, with her hair turned forward, an indication of rage, and her mouth wide open. He waited deliberately, till she was near enough, and then, with his unerring fire, he brought her to the ground. Some one asked him afterward, what he supposed would have been the consequence had his gun missed fire ? Oh ! he said, he did not *allow* it to miss in such emergencies.”



## GAZETTEER OF TOWNS.

**BARKER\*** was formed from Lisle, April 18, 1831.† A part of Greene (Chenango Co.) was annexed April 28, 1840. It lies north-west of the center of the County, and covers an area of 21,147 acres, of which, in 1865, according to the census of that year, 12,081, were improved. The surface is hilly. The declivities of the hills are in some instances very steep; but their summits spread out into a broken plateau which renders them capable of tillage. The highest point, in the north-west part of the town, is about 1,400 feet above tide. It is watered by the Tioughnioga river, which flows diagonally through the town, entering it near the north-west corner and leaving it near the south-east corner, where it forms a junction with the Chenango River; Half Way Brook,‡ which flows through the north-east part and empties into the Tioughnioga at about half way in its course through the town; and Castle Creek, which rises, by several branches, in the western part and leaves

\* Named from John Barker, the first settler, who came from Branford, New Haven Co., Conn., in 1791.

† The first town meeting was held the first Tuesday in March, 1832, and the following named officers were elected: John Stoughton, *Supervisor*; Edward Hebard, *Town Clerk*; Woodruff Barnes, Hugh Cunningham and John Beach, *Assessors*; Wm. Osborn and Orlando Parsons, *Overseers of the Poor*; Lorenzo Parsons, John P. Osborn and Jacob Lowe, *Commissioners of Highways*; John P. Osborn, Harry Seymour and Asa Hubbard, *Inspectors of Common Schools*; Ransford Stevens, Oliver Stiles, Rufus Abbott and Daniel Sweatland, *Justices of the Peace*; David Barker, *Collector*; Rufus Abbott, *Sealer of Weights and Measures*; David Barker, Asa Hubbard, Charles Atwater and Lewis Cook, *Constables*.

‡ In the valley of this brook, springs of weak brine were early discovered and unsuccessful attempts to utilize them and increase the strength of the brine by boring have been made. A few years since a well was sunk by a stock company to a depth of 700 feet, but operations were suspended in consequence of a broken drill and the difficulty experienced in the efforts made to remove it. Several subsequent attempts to remove the broken drill and proceed with the boring have proved unavailing. It is asserted that the brine is equally as strong as that at Onondaga, and the same source is claimed for it, but the faith of those interested does not appear to have been sufficiently strong to induce them to remove the impediment to its practical demonstration.

the town near the center of the south border. The valleys of the river and brooks are narrow, but they furnish a limited interval of rich and highly fertile land. Upon the hills the soil consists of a clayey loam mixed with disintegrated slate and shale. The people are principally engaged in dairying.

In 1870, the town contained a population of 1,396. During the year ending Sept. 30, 1871, it contained twelve school districts and employed twelve teachers. The number of children of school age was 377; the number attending school, 350; the average attendance, 176; the amount expended for school purposes, \$3,055; and the value of school houses and sites, \$4,540.

The Syracuse, Binghamton & N. Y. Railroad crosses the town diagonally, following the course of the river.

CHENANGO FORKS (p. v.) is located in three towns—Barker, Chenango and Greene, the latter in Chenango Co.,—but mostly in this town. It is a village of about 600 inhabitants. That part of it lying in this town contains one church, (Congregational) a select school for girls, one hotel, one carriage, three blacksmith and two shoe shops, a saw mill, a grist mill, a drug store, eight other stores and about thirty dwellings. It lies at the forks of the Chenango and Tioughnioga rivers, in the south-east corner of the town, and is a station on the S. B. & N. Y. R. R. and the U. & C. V. R. R., which enters the town at the south-east corner.

HYDE SETTLEMENT in the west part, extending about one and one-half miles on "Hyde Street," is named from the first settlers in that locality, many of whose descendants still reside there. It contains one church (M. E.) a school house and seven houses.

ADAMS SETTLEMENT in the central part, also derives its name from the first settlers there.

BARKER, on the east bank of the Tioughnioga River, north of the center of the town, formerly contained a post office, but it is discontinued.

The first settlement, as previously stated, was commenced in 1791, by John Barker, from Branford, Conn. The next year he was followed by Simeon Rogers, John Allen, Asa Beach and Solomon Rose, all of whom were from Connecticut and settled on the east bank of the Tioughnioga. Barker located at Chenango Forks. He purchased the improvements of Thomas Gallop, whom he found living a hermitage-like life, just west of the Tioughnioga, in the town of Chenango, and with his

family, took up his residence in the "treaty house."\* Rogers located about one mile from the mouth of the Tioughnioga; and subsequently, in 1792, married the daughter of John Barker. This was the first marriage contracted in the town; and the first birth was that of Chauncey, son of Simeon Rogers, in 1793. A Mr. Lampeer was the first man who ventured any distance up the Tioughnioga. He settled seven miles from its mouth. The first school was taught by Thomas Cartwright, in 1795; the first inn was opened the same year, by Simeon Rogers, who also kept the first store and built the first mill.

There are only two churches in the town, (Congregational and M. E.)

The *Congregational Church* is located at Chenango Forks. It was organized with ten members, but in what year we are not advised. Its Church edifice was erected in 1837, at a cost of \$2,000. It will seat 250 persons. Rev. Seth Williston was the first pastor. Rev. Thos. Haywood is the present one. The number of members is forty. The Church property is valued at \$3,500.

The *Adams Street M. E. Church* was organized with 44 members in Feb., 1871. The Church edifice is now in process of erection and when completed will seat 200 persons, and be worth about \$2,000. Rev. A. W. Loomis was the first pastor; Rev. N. S. Dewitt is the present one. The number of members remains the same as when organized.

The *M. E. Church of Barker*, located at the village of Barker, was organized with five members, by Horace Agard, its first pastor, July 15, 1825. The church edifice, which will seat 200 persons, was erected in 1844, at a cost of \$1,500. The Church property is valued at \$3,000. Rev. N. S. DeWitt is the present pastor. The present number of members is twenty.

**BINGHAMTON** was formed from Chenango, Dec. 3, 1855. A part of Vestal was annexed by act of the Supervisors, passed Nov. 24, 1862, and which took effect Dec. 15, 1862.† It is one of the south border towns, lying west of the center of the County. Its southern boundary is formed by the Pennsylvania State line, and its northern part lies in the east and west angles formed by the junction of the Chenango with the Sus-

\*The "treaty house" was a "large double log house," erected for the accommodation of the Indians and Commissioners of the Boston Purchase in the treaty held at this place.

†The part annexed is described as the east part of lot No. 2, in the second tract in Sidney township, containing 250 acres, and being the farm of Wm. Morris.

quehanna. The town contains an area of 20,17 $\frac{1}{4}$  acres, of which, in 1865, according to the census of that year, 13,026, were improved. The surface is hilly in the south, but the north part embraces the wide and beautiful intervalles extending along the two rivers at and near their junction. The hills are from 300 to 400 feet above the river, and are generally arable to their summits. The soil in the valleys is a deep, rich, alluvial and gravelly loam, and upon the hills it is a fine quality of slaty loam.

The population of the town in 1870 was 14,758.\* During the year ending Sept. 30, 1871, it contained nineteen school districts, ten of which were in the city, and employed 44 teachers, thirty-five of whom were employed in the city. The number of children of school age was 2,940, of whom 2,350 (?) were in the city; the number attending school, 2,844, of whom 2,353 were in the city; the average attendance, 1,461, of whom 1,259 were in the city; the amount expended for school purposes, \$40,748, of which \$37,325 were expended in the city; and the value of school houses and sites, \$115,570, those in the city being valued at \$105,000.

BINGHAMTON,† the seat of justice‡ of the County, is eligibly situated at the junction of the Susquehanna and Chenango

\* The population of the town exclusive of the city was 2,066.

† From its location, Binghamton was originally and for a long time known as "Chenango Point." Its present name was given in honor of Wm. Bingham, of Philadelphia, who purchased a large tract of land lying on both sides of the Susquehanna, including the site of the city, and to whose beneficence in donating land for the erection of county buildings and a public school, and to the liberal and enlightened exertions of his agent, Gen. Whitney, its early prosperity is largely due. Mr. Bingham was a native of England, though he came to this country at an early age. He received a liberal education and graduated at the college of Philadelphia in 1768, at the age of sixteen. He possessed an ample fortune, acquired, it is believed, entirely through his own exertions, and was a shrewd financier. He was agent for this country at Martinique during the Revolution. In 1786 he was a delegate to the Continental Congress from Pennsylvania, and was elected a Senator in Congress in 1795, serving until 1801, and as President *pro tem.* of the Senate during the Fourth Congress. He died at Bath, England, February 7, 1804, aged fifty-two years.

"The first survey of the village was made in 1800, under the direction of Mr. Bingham, at which time the streets were regularly laid out at right-angles. In 1808, a re-survey was made by Roswell Marshall; and in 1835, a full and complete survey was made by Wm. Wentz, of the place. A map was made from this survey by F. B. Tower, in 1836. According to this last survey, the village has an extent of about two miles, measured east and west, and of one mile and a half measured north and south. Upon the east side of the river, where by far most of the village lies, the course of the streets being determined by the course of the two rivers [and] an important bend in the Susquehanna, [are] more short streets, and more that meet and cross at angles somewhat oblique. This defect, if such it should be called, does not, however, mar the beauty of the place generally, [nor] of the streets individually."—*Annals of Binghamton*, 1840.

‡ A description of the County buildings will be found on page 65.

rivers, both as regards the rare, quiet beauty of its surroundings and the valuable commercial facilities it enjoys. It lies north of the center of the town. The Susquehanna enters the corporate limits of the city about the center of the east line and passes in a westerly and slightly southerly direction to near the south-west corner, where it leaves it. It receives the Chenango west of the center of the city. The latter stream flows in a southerly and slightly westerly direction from the center of the north line of the city. The city reposes in the valleys of these streams, encircled by fine hills of considerable elevation. It was incorporated as a village April 2, 1813, and as a city, April 9, 1867. By a charter granted May 3, 1834, its limits were enlarged and its territory was divided into five wards, the number it at present contains.\* It is an important station on the Erie R. R., is the southern terminus of the Syracuse, Binghamton & N. Y., and the Albany & Susquehanna railroads, and the northern terminus of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western R. R. These lines with their numerous connections bring the city within easy communication of all parts of our own State, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. They extend to the valuable salt deposits at Syracuse and the lake ports, via Oswego, on the north, to the extensive coal mines at Pennsylvania on the south, and open to the products of its manufactories and the fine farming section surrounding it the great marts of commerce in the east and west. The city contains eight good hotels, two extensive tanneries and two finishing tanneries, four machine shops, three scale manufactories, one planing mill and two planing mills and sash, door and blind factories combined, six boot and shoe manufactories,† one steam flouring mill, and two flouring mills operated by water, two barrel fac-

\* WARD BOUNDARIES.—*First*.—All that part lying west of Chenango river and north of the Susquehanna, west of its junction with the former stream. *Second*.—All that part lying between the Chenango and the west side of Collier street to its intersection with Court street, Court street, to its intersection with Chenango street, and the west side of Chenango street. *Third*.—All that part lying east of Chenango street and north of Court street, from its intersection with Chenango street. *Fourth*.—All that part lying east of Collier street, and north of the Susquehanna and south of Court street, from their intersection with Collier street. *Fifth*.—All that part lying south of the Susquehanna.

† The firms engaged in this business are Lester Bros. & Co., Anderson & Tremaine, Meade & Benedict, J. M. Stone & Co., Benson & Ten Brook and Smith Bros. This business was originally started here in 1852, by Way & Lester. It now employs a capital of about \$246,000; gives employment to about 380 persons, including about fifty females; and the annual product amounts to about 364,000 pairs of men's, boy's, women's, misses' and children's boots and shoes, from the coarsest to the finest quality.

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ories, one comb manufactory,\* one establishment for the

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\*This business being one of so special a character and requiring in its successful prosecution more than ordinary skill, we deem a brief review of its early and present history as coming legitimately within the scope of this work. The business was commenced in this city, in March, 1865, by C. M. Noyes & Co., who are the fourth generation of the family who have engaged in the manufacture of combs and followed it through life. Their great-grand-father, Enoch Noyes, is supposed to have been the first one to engage in the business in this country. He learned his trade from a Hessian soldier about the close of the Revolution, and commenced the manufacture of combs in West Newbury, Mass. His son, Ephraim Noyes, continued the business at his death, and Ephraim was succeeded by his son, David E. Noyes, who, in 1846, removed to Newark, N. J., where he pursued the same vocation until his death, in February, 1861, when he in turn was succeeded by his sons, the present proprietors, who, in 1865, moved to this city, where they have since followed the comb business. During Enoch's lifetime the business did not assume much magnitude. The manufacture was carried on entirely by hand-work. David E. Noyes introduced machinery into the manufacture in 1815, and since that time the business has been steadily progressing. Within the last fifteen years it has been so revolutionized by the introduction of machinery that those who first started it would fail to recognize any of the tools now in use as belonging to that business. The new machinery is important, not alone in the manual labor dispensed with and the greater rapidity with which the work is accomplished, but also as an economical agent, by which nearly fifty per cent. of the material consumed in the manufacture, and which was heretofore wasted, is utilized. Horns as crumpled as that belonging to the cow, which, as stated in the fable, was milked by a "maiden all forlorn," are, by the ingenious devices employed and the various processes through which they pass, converted into comely combs. The horn, which is native stock, is first cut with a circular saw into cross sections, after which it is slit lengthwise. It is then soaked in boiling oil about one minute and is by this means flattened out. This is a very delicate process and requires close observation and an experienced eye. By a series of sawing and planing processes it is reduced to the required size and thickness for cutting the teeth, after which, before the teeth are cut, it is kept in racks for several months to dry and season. After the teeth are cut it passes through a series of processes—about thirty in number—in which the metallic backs are added, before it is ready for market in the shape of combs. The "twinning" machine, or the one with which the teeth are cut, is one of the most ingenious used. It is automatic in its action, making all the changes for cutting the large and small teeth, but is too complicated in its nature for us to attempt a description. It derives its name from the fact that two combs are cut by one operation, from one piece of horn. This principle was introduced in 1812, previous to which time the teeth were cut with hand-saws. By an addition to the width of the piece of horn originally used equal to the back of the comb, or the width of the piece extending from the connected end of the teeth to the back edge, two combs are made, and with the addition of about one-third more horn than is required to make a single comb. Here is an important saving in material, which is effected by the use of hollow chisels, or rather by the use of two chisels so constructed with flanges on their edges that, when brought together, a hollow space, corresponding with the shape of the tooth, is left. When cut, the teeth of the two combs interlay each other but are readily pulled apart. The chisels work perpendicularly, and while the small teeth are being cut those which cut the large ones are stationary, and *vice versa*. In the manufacture a comb undergoes about forty operations. In 1864 E. M. Noyes secured a patent for combining metal with horn, and since that time the business has been confined almost exclusively to the patented article. No others are now made by them. At first this principle was used to combine short pieces of horn which could not otherwise be used. The Messrs. Noyes manufacture combs of

manufacture of children's carriages and sleighs,\* eight carriage shops, two hub and spoke factories, an oil refinery, a grain elevator, three express offices, (U. S., D. L. & W. and D. & H. Canal Co.,) six banks,† and numerous manufacturing establishments of less magnitude than those enumerated, a fuller description of which will be found in the Directory. There are ten churches‡—many of them substantial and imposing structures; five public schools, which are so admirably conducted that the several private schools which recently flourished here, or most of them, have become extinct§; one commercial college, four newspaper and one job printing offices,|| one water cure¶; and it is the seat of the New York State Inebriate Asylum\*\* and the Susquehanna Valley Home.†† The city

various sizes and styles, and use in the manufacture many ingeniously constructed tools, whose advantages and uses are too numerous and complicated to describe here. They employ a capital of about \$50,000; give employment to about thirty persons, including only three or four boys, and manufacture annually about 60,000 dozens of combs, all of which are shipped to Howard, Sanger & Co. of New York, who are connected with them in the manufacture.

\*The manufacture of boys' sleighs was commenced by Winton & Doolittle about 1862. About 1868 the manufacture of children's carriages was added, and in 1871 R. S. Darrow bought Mr. Doolittle's interest, when the firm became Winton & Darrow. They employ about \$35,000 capital, give employment to thirty persons and manufacture 18,000 boys' sleighs and from 2,000 to 3,000 children's carriages annually.

†The *Binghamton Savings Bank* was chartered April 18, 1867; the *Cheango Valley Savings Bank* was chartered April 15, 1857, but did not commence business until April 23, 1867; the *City National Bank of Binghamton* was organized in 1852, and was reorganized in 1865, with a capital of \$200,000; the *First National Bank of Binghamton* was organized Dec. 19, 1863, with a capital of \$200,000; the *National Broome County Bank* was organized in 1831, with \$100,000 capital; the *Susquehanna Valley Bank* was organized in 1854, with a capital of \$100,000. The names of the officers and the locations of the banks will be found in the Directory.

‡*Christ's Episcopal, First Presbyterian, North Presbyterian, Baptist, Free Methodist, St. Patrick's (Catholic), Congregational, Centenary M. E., Zion M. E. (colored), Bethel M. E. (colored).*

§The Seminary building on Chestnut street is now undergoing necessary changes for its occupancy as a Ladies' college, which, it is expected, will commence operations in September, 1872.

|| A history of the Press will be found on page 69.

¶The *Binghamton Water Cure*, of which O. V. Thayer is proprietor, is beautifully situated on the side of Prospect Hill, facing and overlooking the city, of which it affords a fine view, surrounded by large trees, and supplied with an abundance of pure, soft, spring water, the great essentials for hydropathic purposes. It was established in Binghamton in 1849, since which time it has treated successfully thousands of invalids.

\*\*This excellent institution is so amply and tersely described in the subjoined article prepared for us under the direction of the Superintendent Daniel G. Dodge, that we deem any further allusion to it unnecessary.

“The New York State Inebriate Asylum,” at Binghamton, is the oldest and largest establishment of the kind in the world, and may be regarded as the parent of the numer-

†† See foot note on page 87.

contains 12,692 inhabitants\*; its streets are generally well

ous public and private reformatories and sanatoria which are rapidly increasing in number, not alone in the United States and Canada, but also in Great Britain and Australia. The most succinct statement of the purposes for which it was established is embraced in the following declaration of principles put forth by the 'American Association for the Cure of Inebriates,' at its session in New York City in November, 1870.

1. Intemperance is a disease. 2. It is curable in the same sense that other diseases are. 3. Its primary cause is a constitutional susceptibility to the alcoholic impression. 4. This constitutional tendency may be inherited or acquired.'

"The first charter of the Institution was granted by the Legislature, April 23, 1853, and it was designated 'The United States Asylum for the Reformation of the Poor and Destitute Inebriate.' Meetings were held and large subscriptions obtained in the form of shares and stock at \$10 each. The charter provided for the election of a board of forty trustees to be chosen from the shareholders, but from the nature of the organization the whole management was practically in the hands of the Superintendent. This charter was amended and the name of the Institution changed to 'The New York State Inebriate Asylum,' March 27, 1857.

"The corner-stone of the Asylum was laid with masonic ceremonies, by J. L. Lewis, Grand Master, on the 24th of September, 1858. On this occasion a very large concourse of spectators was present and addresses were delivered by Hon. B. F. Butler, (of New York,) Dr. J. W. Francis, Rev. Dr. Bellows, Daniel S. Dickinson and Edward Everett. A poem was also read by Alfred D. Street.

"The Asylum, which is two miles east of the city, is built on a beautiful plateau, two hundred and forty feet above the level of the Susquehanna river, and commands picturesque views of the mountains that encircle the Susquehanna and Chenango valleys. The City of Binghamton donated two hundred and fifty-two acres of the land belonging to the Asylum, to which one hundred and twenty-eight acres were subsequently added by purchase. About \$40,000 of private subscriptions having been exhausted and being found entirely inadequate to complete the buildings on the scale of their projection, the property was deeded in trust to the State of New York, in consideration of an appropriation of ten per cent. of the excise money for the purpose of completing the Asylum. This per centage amounted to a large sum, but the repeal of the law, after it had been in operation for five years, deprived this institution of this source of revenue. For the last two years the Asylum has received no aid from the State and has had to depend for its support upon the receipts of paying patients.

"The Asylum, which is built of Syracuse limestone, is of the castellated Gothic order of architecture, a very enduring, but expensive and uninviting style for the purpose for which it is built. The length of the front is 365 feet; the transept is 72 feet deep, with an extension to the rear of nearly 200 feet, and the wings 51 feet in width. It is four stories in height, and besides sleeping rooms for nearly one hundred patients, it has handsomely appointed reception rooms, dining hall, club rooms, lecture room and chapel.

"The north wing was badly injured by an incendiary fire in 1864, and remains in an unfinished state, although a comparatively small appropriation by the Legislature would complete it and double the accommodation for patients. The eastern extension of the south wing, which contained the dining room, gymnasium, bowling alleys and many needed conveniences, was burned to the ground in 1870.

"The building was opened for patients in June, 1864, since which time, with varying fortunes, the Asylum has been in constant operation. The total number of patients admitted has been about eleven hundred. Of these 1,009 have been voluntary and 91 committed patients. The average residence of patients is four months. The proportion of patients cured is about 40 per cent., judging from reliable statistics of the last two years.

"The right and title of the property is now vested in the State of New York, and it is under the same control and supervision as other State institutions. Fifteen Trustees are appointed by the Governor, and the whole management of the Asylum is placed in their hands. The board is subdivided into three committees: Executive, Financial and Management and Discipline. The officers and Trustees for 1872 are as follows: Dr. Willard Parker, President; Dr. W. C. Wey, Vice-President; Dr. Geo. Burr, 2d Vice-President; Abel Bennett, Treasurer; Dr. D. G. Dodge, Superintendent; Carroll Hyde, Secretary; Rev. S. W. Bush, Chaplain. Trustees: W. W. Gordon, W. H. Bristol, P. S. Danforth, Austin Beardsall, P. Munday, P. G. Elsworth, A. P. Nichols, H. R. Pierson, Dr. G. A. Dayton, Dr. J. G. Orton, with the President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer, *ex officio*.

"The cost of board, residence and medical attendance is nominally \$20 per week, but the Committee on Management and Discipline have the power to reduce this to such an amount as may reasonably come within the means of the patient or his friends,—a right which they exercise with a judicious liberality as is shown by the last annual report, from which it appears that out of a total of 244 patients received in the Asylum in 1871, 30 per cent. paid at the rate of \$20 per week; 25 per cent. at the rate of \$15 per week; 25 per cent. at from \$5 to \$10 per week, and 20 per cent. were free patients—or, on the

\*See foot note on following page.

shaded and are lighted by gas†; and it is supplied with an abundance of pure, wholesome water.‡ The parts of the

basis of \$20 per week, 59 per cent. were paying and 41 per cent. free patients. Notwithstanding this large proportion of free patients, however, by judicious management and careful economy, the financial statement showed a balance of \$2,039.02 in favor of the Asylum, after all expenses, salaries &c., were paid.

“The mode of obtaining admission is by personal application, or letter, setting forth the condition of the patient and the pecuniary ability of himself or his friends. This application should be addressed to Dr. D. G. Dodge, Supt. of the Asylum, Binghamton, N. Y.

“The people of Binghamton are justly proud of the Inebriate Asylum, which is not only the most important public institution in Broome County, and has been of incalculable benefit to humanity, but it is also the exemplar and inspiration of many other institutions, existing or yet to be established in various parts of the world for the treatment of Inebriation as a disease.”

††The *Susquehanna Valley Home*, located near the west line of the city, was incorporated March 15, 1869. “The design of the institution is to furnish a suitable home for indigent orphan children and such others as the Board of Managers may consider worthy of admission, affording them facilities for acquiring an elementary education and habits of industry and economy, and finally to provide them with permanent homes in families of benevolence and christian principles.” From the report of the Board of Managers for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1871, it appears that 128 orphans and destitute children were received, supported and instructed during the fiscal year, thirty of whom were from the Broome County poor house; and that the average expense per week for support, maintenance and education, independent of all contributions of clothing, provisions, &c., was \$2.38.

\* Of these 10,350 were native and 2,342 foreign; 12,382, white, and 310, colored. They were distributed among the several wards as follows:

WARDS.	Native.	Foreign.	White.	Colored.	Total.
First Ward.....	2702	685	3326	61	3387
Second “.....	1488	302	1756	34	1790
Third “.....	2383	614	2981	16	2997
Fourth “.....	2820	603	3230	193	3423
Fifth “.....	957	138	1089	6	1095

† The *Binghamton Gas Light Co.* was organized Oct. 1, 1853. Its capital is \$50,000. The officers are: Chas. McKinney, *president*; C. B. Johnson, *superintendent*.

‡ The *Holley Water Works of Binghamton*, located in the east part of the city, on the north bank of the Susquehanna, were established by special act of the Legislature in 1868. They are owned by the city and controlled by a board of five commissioners, who elect their own officers, and are elected at special elections for a term of five years. The first five commissioners were appointed by the Governor, and were as follows: Wm. P. Pope, Frederick Lewis, Jno. S. Wells, Sabin McKinney and Wm. E. Taylor. Wm. P. Pope was elected president, and Frederick Lewis, treasurer. One commissioner is retired from the board each year, by a vote of the commissioners themselves, and vacancies thus caused are filled by election. Three, viz: Jno. S. Wells, Wm. E. Taylor and Frederick Lewis, have been thus retired and elected to the offices to which they were assigned by the Governor. The building is built substantially and tastily of brick, the main part being 40 by 60 feet on the ground, and the boiler room, 40 by 24 feet. The main part is two stories high. The wells are two in number and each is 20 feet deep and 24 in diameter. The water is of a very pure quality and is forced into the pipes by a double engine of 150 horse power, and a pressure of thirty pounds to the inch constantly maintained. Nineteen miles of pipe are laid, by which about seven-eighths of the populated city is supplied with water. Extensions are constantly being made as the requirements of the city demand. Three miles of pipes are to be laid the present summer (1872.) \$205,000 have been appropriated by the

city separated by the Chenango are connected by two bridges; the Susquehanna is crossed by the same number within the city limits. There are many magnificent business blocks and a few private residences already constructed and many others are in process of erection or contemplated. Few cities of its size, or even older and larger ones, possess so many elegant buildings. The disposition to construct ornate and elaborate dwellings and buildings seems, from the following extract from the *Annals of Binghamton*, to have been acquired, or rather, perhaps, found opportunity to manifest itself, within the last thirty years. We quote:

“\* \* \* the buildings \* \* \* are neat, convenient, and appear well from the street. There are but few poor houses, remarkable few for the size of the place. Again, it should be remarked, there are but few large and splendid dwellings, or edifices of any kind. A medium appears to have been studied, and much convenience rather than much ornament.”

This, it should be remembered, is the description of the city as it appeared in 1840.

It is yet an open question as to whether Binghamton possesses the requisites for making it a great and popular watering place. Certainly the existence of mineral springs in its vicinity is the only thing it *apparently* lacks to constitute it such. But no little excitement was recently created by the discovery of a “*saline-chalybeate*” spring on land near the foot of Mount Prospect, owned by Lewis West. *Cautious capital*, however, and a magnified estimate of the value of the properties of the spring, have thus far prevented its development. Current reports ascribe to it most unusual and valuable qualities, which, if it possesses, must ultimately prove it to be the great *desideratum* of Binghamton. It is claimed to be the only spring of its kind known to exist in the United States, and to resemble very closely the one at Cheltenham, England, which is highly impregnated with salt and iron.\* Another spring possessing similar qualities was subsequently found on the property of Thomas A. Sedgwick, adjacent to the former, and the opinion

city, and \$180,000 of that sum have been expended. The remainder will probably be expended during the summer. Over 2,000 water permits are granted, including railroads and manufacturing establishments, from which the receipts are about \$16,000 per annum, or from \$3,000 to \$4,000 in excess of the expenses. The officers consist of five commissioners, a superintendent and clerk. Three engineers, who are on duty eight hours each, and two firemen, who are on duty twelve hours each, are employed. The quantity of water supplied is ample for fire purposes. The services of the fire engines, in case of fire, are generally unnecessary. Water can be thrown 125 feet high from each of six hydrants at the same time and this pressure maintained. Six streams can with ease be brought to bear upon any fire in the thickly settled part of the city. The protection afforded by the water works has reduced the insurance rates 33 per cent.

\*Below we give the result of an analysis of the water from the spring by

is expressed that an indefinite number may be obtained by digging to the level of the source from whence these proceed.

The *Binghamton Normal Music School* was established in this city in the summer of 1871, having began its existence in Florida, Orange county, N. Y., as an experiment the previous summer. Its object is, as its name implies, to perfect teachers in this ennobling accomplishment and fit them to impart instruction to others. Although of recent origin the institution has already acquired an enviable reputation.

The *Binghamton Fire Department* consists of the following named companies :

<i>Excelsior Hook &amp; Ladder Co.</i>	No. 1,.....	H. E. Allen,	Foreman.
<i>Crystal Hose Co.</i>	No. 1,.....	A. W. Lockwood,	"
<i>Alert Hose Co.</i>	No. 2,.....	A. E. Green,	"
<i>Protection Hose Co.</i>	No. 3,.....	Daniel Emery,	"
<i>Fountain Hose Co.</i>	No. 4,....	Jas. Lyon, Acting	"
<i>Independent Hose Co.</i>	No. 5,.....	Robt. Crozier,	"
<i>Mechanics Hose Co.</i>	No. 6,.....	—— Darrow,	"

One steamer and two *first-class* hand-engines are connected with the department. An engineer and fireman are employed and paid by the city. The engines are seldom called into requisition, but are always kept in readiness for use in case of an emergency. Reliance is placed principally upon the city water works. No serious fire has occurred since their advent. The companies include 300 active members.

The *Exempt Fire Association* is composed of firemen who have served their time and who band together for mutual protection and benefit. They are not controlled by the chief, but in exigent cases volunteer their services.

W. Stratford, M. D., Professor of Chemistry in the College of the city of New York.

" In an Imperial gallon of 70,000 grains :

Sodium Chloride.....	10.82	grains.
Potassium ".....	trace.	
Iron Carbonate.....	53.12	grains.
Lime Sulphate.....	6.22	"
" Carbonate.....	32.95	"
Magnesia Carbonate.....	29.80	"
Silica.....	3.32	" "

The gases are carbonic acid, sulphurated hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen; their strength and amount cannot be determined except at the spring.

In his letter accompanying the report of the analysis, Prof. Stratford says: "The very large amount of organic matter is unusual and must, I think, have gained access either from leakage of some of the barrels in the vault, from substances left in the jug, or, and it is scarcely possible, from the shale rock itself. However this may be, the *chalybeate properties of the water render it very valuable for medicinal purposes.*" The spring, it is proper to state, was discovered in an excavation made in the side of the hill for a beer vault. The water, it appears, was used in the manufacture of beer, and the peculiar taste it imparted to the latter first led to an examination of its properties.

*The Firemen's Hall* is a fine structure, situated on Collier street, and was finished in 1858, at an expense of about \$10,000. Besides an ample depository for the appliances of the fire companies, it supplies a very convenient audience chamber for public meetings, lectures, concerts, and the like.\*

Although there are, as yet, no street railroads in operation in Binghamton, projects for the construction of two at least have been and are still in contemplation.† The immediate commencement of work on the Washington, and State Asylum Street R. R. is contemplated.

The *Binghamton Driving Park Association*, "for the improvement of horses and to encourage the breeding of horses," was incorporated by an act passed April 23, 1870. Henry S. Jarvis, John S. Wells, John Rankin, Daniel S. Richards and Wm. E. Taylor were the first directors.

Binghamton was the home of the late distinguished and talented Hon. Daniel S. Dickinson, a son of whom she may well feel proud, whose remains repose in the beautiful *Spring Forest Cemetery*. A monument erected over his sepulcher by the *Bar Association of New York* was unveiled May 31, 1872, in connection with the dedication ceremonies on that day.‡

\**History of Binghamton*, by Rev. Dr. Z. Paddock.

† An act incorporating the Binghamton & Port Dickinson R. R. (horse) was passed May 1, 1868. The route is thus described in the act: "commencing at the town line between the towns of Kirkwood and Binghamton, on the north bank of the Susquehanna, near the New York and Erie railroad, in the public highway, and running westerly along said highway, to the corporation line of the city of Binghamton; thence along and through Court street to Main street; thence through and along Main street to the westerly bound of said city; thence along the public highway to the town line of the town of Union, with a branch connecting with said road in Court street at Chenango street, and running thence through and along Chenango street to the northerly bounds of said city, and thence along the public highway leading north up to the Chenango river to Port Dickinson together with all the necessary connections, turnouts and switches for the proper working and accommodation of the tracks on the said route or routes." The act provided that the building of the road should be commenced within one year from the date of its passage, and finished within five years from the date of its commencement. An act was passed April 30, 1869, allowing two additional years in which to commence the building of the road.

‡ Daniel S. Dickinson was born in Goshen, Litchfield Co., Conn., Sept. 11, 1800; he removed with his father to Chenango Co., N. Y., in 1806; received a common school education; and in 1821 he entered upon the duties of a school teacher, and, without the aid of an instructor, mastered the Latin language, and became versed in the higher branches of mathematics and other sciences. He studied law, came to the bar in 1830, and settled in Binghamton, where he long practiced his profession with success. In 1836 he was elected to the State Senate, serving from 1837 to 1840; was Judge of the Court of Errors from 1836 to 1841; from 1842 to 1844 he was President of said Court, Lieutenant Governor, and also President of the Senate; was a Regent of the University of New York in 1843; was a member of the Convention which nominated James K. Polk for President, and a Presidential Elector in 1844; and he was a Senator in Congress from

It is also the home of Prof. Royal E. House, the inventor of House's system of telegraphy.\*

HAWLEYTON (p. o.) is a hamlet in the south-west part of the town, on Little Snake Creek. It contains one church, (M. E.) two hotels, two blacksmith shops and one wagon shop. Near it are two saw mills which saw nearly two millions of feet of lumber annually.

PORT DICKINSON (p. o.) is located in the north-east part, three miles north of Binghamton. It lies upon the east bank of the Chenango, and on the Chenango Canal. It contains a store, hotel, whip factory, cotton batting factory, broom factory and about fifty families. The Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Coal Co. have a depot at this place for the transshipment of coal.†

Previous to the Revolution the country included within the limits of the town of Binghamton is not known to have been trod by the feet of white men, except, perhaps, as prisoners of the Indians, who held undisputed sway of all this region of country, which seems to have been a favorite haunt of theirs. The placid waters of the Susquehanna have carried many a band of warriors on missions of death and rapine to the exposed frontier settlements of the whites. But such pictures are most unhappy retrospects when contrasted with the more pacific ones to which they have given place; hence we leave the Indian in the grandeur of his wildness and barbarity for the more pleasing contemplation of the almost magical transformations which the banks of this beautiful stream have witnessed under the genius of civilization and progress. The first white

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New York from 1844 to 1851, serving on important committees, and originating and ably supporting several important measures. In 1861 he was elected Attorney-General of the State of New York; was a Delegate to the 'Baltimore Convention' of 1864; and in 1865 he was appointed by President Lincoln, United States District Attorney for the Southern District of New York. He died suddenly in that city, April 12, 1866. Before accepting his last public position he declined several appointments tendered him by the President of the United States and the Governor of New York. His 'Life and Works' were published in 1867, in two volumes."

\* Prof. House was born in Vermont, in 1815. He moved to Susquehanna Co., Penn., from there to New York, and to Binghamton, in 1853. He erected a fine residence about one mile south of the city. It stands upon a hill 530 feet above the Susquehanna.

† The Port Dickinson hotel was burned March 23, 1872, and the grist and paper mills formerly at this place, March 29, 1872. Joseph Carman, who built these mills and owned them about ten years, moved to the site of Port Dickinson when nine years old. He worked for Abram Bevier until he was 21 years old, when he purchased the farm he now owns. He was for some time a merchant at this place; had contracts for work on the Erie R. R. amounting to \$2,000,000; and has dealt largely in lumber and stock.

visitors to this region came with hostile intent. They were soldiers belonging to a detachment of the American army under the command of General James Clinton, on their way to join another large division of that army, destined against the Indians of this State, under the command of General John Sullivan. They encamped one or two nights upon the site of Binghamton city, where were several Indian wigwams, but no Indians to be seen. Corn, which was growing upon the island, was destroyed. It is quite probable that these troops destroyed an Indian village opposite the site of Port Dickinson, as vestiges of a recent village at that place were visible to the first white settlers.

Eight years later, in 1787, Capt. Joseph Leonard, who is believed to have been the first white man to make a permanent settlement in the town, came, with a young wife and two little children, and located on the Chenango, in the vicinity of Port Dickinson. His wife and children were put into a canoe with the goods they brought, and rowed by a hired man; while he came up by land with two horses, keeping the shore and regulating his progress by that of his family. Leonard was originally from Plymouth, Mass., but immediately from Wyoming, Penn., where he owned a farm and lived several years. He was there under arms at the time of the great massacre, though not in the field of action. At the time of the great ice freshet in the Susquehanna, his dwelling, with many others, was carried away by it. This calamity, together with the disputes which existed relative to land titles, induced him to leave and seek more peaceable and secure possessions. He received information from Amos Draper, an Indian trader in this locality, which led him to select this as his home. Two or three weeks subsequent to his arrival came Col. Wm. Rose and his brother, Solomon, the latter of whom settled in Lisle. Col. Rose located a little higher up the river than Capt. Leonard. "It was," says Wilkinson, in the *Annals of Binghamton*, "but a short time after the arrival of the latter, that he, with Amos Draper, invited the Indians of the neighborhood to meet in council, and leased of them, for the term of ninety-nine years, one mile square; for which they were to give a *barrel* of corn per year. This lease, however, was invalidated by an act of the Legislature having been previously passed, and without the knowledge of these men, 'that no lands should be leased or purchased of the Indians by private individuals.' But before it was known [by them] that such a law existed, Col. Rose and his brother purchased Mr. Draper's interest in the lease. It embraced where the three had located." Col. Rose and his brother came from Connecticut on foot to Wattle's Ferry,

where they procured a canoe and brought with them stores to this place. Parties of Indians on the shore, sitting by their fires, engaged in their festivities, or skirting the mountains in pursuit of deer, were often seen by them, but never offered to molest them. They designed pushing on to the country bordering on the Conhocton and settling there; but learning at Union, from a Mr. Gallop, a temporary settler at that place, that the country they were seeking was in dispute, that they could obtain no satisfactory title to their land and that they would be obliged to fight for their crops, they turned back to the mouth of the Chenango, whose broad stream and pleasant banks impressed them favorably as they passed down, and sought the home before indicated. Soon after, during the same year, came Joshua and Wm. Whitney and Henry Green, from Hillsdale, Columbia county, and settled on the west side of the Chenango, about two miles above its junction with the Susquehanna, on what was afterwards called Whitney's Flats. In this town and in the vicinity of Port Dickinson, it is probable, was held the first council between the commissioners representing the proprietors of the Boston Ten-Townships and the Indians.\* Among the settlers who came the same year, 1787, were — Lyon, who lived, previous to Leonard's advent into the town, in a temporary log house, near the site of Col. Page's ashery; and who afterwards kept for several years the ferry across the Chenango; Jesse Thayer, who settled where Christopher Eldredge afterwards lived; Peter and Thomas Ingersoll, who settled where James Hawley afterwards lived; Samuel Harding who settled on the Bevier place, on the east side of the Chenango; Capt. John Sawtell, who settled opposite the Poor House; — Butler, who settled on the river bank, a little below Captain Leonard, and Solomon Moore, who settled on the site of the city of Binghamton. The next year about twenty families augmented the little settlement in this region and received from those who preceded them, in accordance with the urgency of their needs, the generous hospitality for which the early settlers distinguished themselves—a hospitality which meant, says Wilkinson, the impartial division among the needy settlers of such stores as the more prosperous had been able to accumulate, and which sorely taxed them at times to relieve the wants of new comers until they could create resources of their own. But this hospitality proved equal to the severest trial. The first roads were constructed by following the Indian paths when practicable and cutting away on either side the fallen logs, underbrush and sap.

\* See page 73.

lings until a sufficient clearing was made to admit the passage of wagons. A circuit was made to avoid large trees when such interposed. Roads of this description were, in a few years, built on both sides of the Chenango, generally where they now run, and on the north side of the Susquehanna, both above and below the settlements on it. A sleigh road was opened to Unadilla in 1788. The early settlers had little occasion, however, to leave home, except to take their grain to mill, which was done by means of canoes on the river. The nearest mill was at "Shepherd's Mill," three miles north of Tioga Point, (now Athens, Penn.,) a distance of forty miles. The journey occupied a week, and sometimes a fortnight. "A considerable portion of their corn, however, was pounded, and thus converted into samp, by the simple machinery of a stump hollowed out for a mortar, and a pestle suspended by a sweep." The Indians raised corn and potatoes, and from them the seed was procured; but the other seed and the flour, what little was had, was brought from the Hudson, or up the Susquehanna in canoes from Wyoming. In 1790 their condition as regards milling facilities was ameliorated by the erection of a grist mill on Fitch's Creek, in the town of Kirkwood. John Miller, — Moore and — Luce moved with their families, from New Jersey to Wyoming, but owing to the unsettled condition of things in that country they remained there but a short time and came to this town the first or second season of its settlement and located on the east side of the Chenango. Mr. Miller, it appears, was the first magistrate, he having acted in that capacity in New Jersey. He also first conducted religious exercises, before any regular minister visited the new settlement. He was a Presbyterian, and reported to be an eminently pious man. Meetings were held uniformly at the house of Samuel Harding, and he and his daughters walked a distance of four miles to attend them. Rev. Mr. Howe, a Baptist minister, who came in the summer of 1790, officiated in his ministerial capacity and succeeded in forming a church, consisting of ten or twelve persons, which was the first Christian society in this region, but which, after the removal of Mr. Howe, dwindled and became extinct about 1800. A considerable accession was made in the summer of 1789, by persons who settled in the valleys of the Chenango and Susquehanna. Among these was Daniel Hudson, who settled between Capt. Leonard's and Col. Rose's. The house erected on the site of Binghamton, by Solomon Moore, to whom allusion has before been made, was soon abandoned by him after he learned that he could not purchase the land, and in consequence soon dilapidated and disappeared. Thomas Chambers erected and lived in a log house on the site of the city. Other settle-

ments were made here and a post office established June 23, 1798, with Joshua Whitney as post master. Up to the beginning of the present century, however, little disposition to occupy the site of the city was manifested, the attention of early settlers being diverted to *Chenango village*, a prosperous settlement at that time on the west side of the Chenango, about one mile above Binghamton, and just above the point of Mount Prospect which projects toward and near the river, which boasted of a hotel, a newspaper office, (the *Constellation*, published by Daniel Cruger, to which allusion is made in the history of the press,) a store, a distillery and a doctor's office. In 1800, Joshua Whitney became the agent of Mr. Bingham for the disposal of the latter's lands in this vicinity, and as the whole of the site of the village just alluded to was not embraced in Mr. Bingham's patent, and it had neither the advantage of as eligible a location, nor possessed a sufficiently extensive area for the growth of a village such as might be built up at the junction of the two rivers, Mr. Whitney conceived the idea of diverting attention to the latter place and removing the village there. As a means to this end he took advantage of reports which were circulated to the effect that Lucas Elmendorf of Kingston, Ulster Co., was about to build a bridge across the Chenango on the line of the great western highway which passed through the site of Binghamton, and represented that it must determine the prosperity of settlers in its locality and cause a corresponding decline in the growth of the upper village. He accordingly, in company with several others, who came by appointment, commenced a clearing on both sides of the river at the point, where he represented the bridge was to be located. The ground was surveyed and laid out into streets and lots in village form, the same year. The lots contained three-fourths of an acre and were sold generally for twenty dollars each; the corner lots were held at a higher price. To render the success of his plan more certain, Gen. Whitney purchased a number of buildings in the old village and moved them down to the new one. By this means the nucleus of a village was formed and its prosperity assured. New accessions were rapidly made for a few years and the village soon began to assume size and importance, but the bridge was not built until 1808. It was built by Marshal Lewis and Luther Thurstin, at an expense of \$6,000, and was due to the enterprise, perseverance and pecuniary resources of Lucas Elmendorf.\* It contributed

\* The bridge was rebuilt in 1825, by Col. H. Lewis, as master builder, under the direction of Joshua Whitney, at a cost of over \$3,000. On each side of the river, at the ends of this bridge, stood a fine elm tree, and the two were long known as the "twin elms." That on the west side is still

largely to the growth of the village by removing the barrier to highway travel, presented by the Chenango, which had to be crossed at this point. From that time to the present the growth of Binghamton has been gradual but constant. It has suffered neither serious reverse, nor an abnormal inflation. The only important exception, perhaps, to the last part of the previous assertion was manifested by the temporary instability occasioned by the completion or location of the Erie R. R. through the village. That fluctuating tendency, however, gradually subsided into a steady and healthy growth. The advantages which the location of the city presents, if judiciously and liberally seconded or made available by its capitalists, by fostering existing manufacturing enterprises and encouraging new ones, must eventually make Binghamton an important commercial and manufacturing center.\*

We purpose now to give a brief history of such of the churches of the town as have given us the necessary information. The first church organized in the town was, as before stated, done through the exertions of Elder Howe, in 1790, or soon thereafter. The Dutch Reformed Church, the second one established, was organized in 1798, by Rev. Mr. Manly, a minister of that persuasion. Meetings were held by the latter society in the chamber of a dwelling house, located about a mile above the village, on the east bank of the Chenango, which was fitted with conveniences for that purpose. Mr. Manly preached alternately at this place and Union, but remained here only a few years. After an interval, during which the society had no minister, the services of Rev. Mr. Palmer were secured, and under his pastoral labors the church was revived and its number augmented. This society, differing so little in the substance of its belief from the faith of the Presbyterians was merged into the latter society, which organized after the establishment of the village.

*Christ Church*, (Episcopal) located at Binghamton, was organized Sept. 19, 1810, by Rev. Daniel Nash, under the title of *St. Ann's Church*. It was dissolved, and reorganized six years later, by Hon. Tracy Robinson. The first edifice was consecrated Nov. 20, 1818, by Bishop Hobart, and named *Christ*

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standing. The one on the east side fell into the river through the continual wearing away of the bank during a period of fifty years.

\* To those who desire a more minute portraiture of the early history of Binghamton, and in fact of the country within a circuit of thirty to fifty miles from it, we would commend them to the *Annals of Binghamton*, a work from which we have made liberal extracts, and in which the early settlements are detailed with greater particularity than is consistent with the scope of this work.

*Church.* In 1822 this building was sold to the Methodists and removed to Henry street, and a new one was erected in that year. In 1854 the present stone edifice was commenced and was opened for worship March 4, 1855. Its cost, including furniture, was about \$35,000. It will seat 700 persons. The present value of church property is \$75,000. The first pastor was Rev. James Keeler; the present one is Rev. Wm. A. Hitchcock. The present number of communicants is 350.

The *First Presbyterian Church of Binghamton* was organized with twenty members, Nov. 20, 1817, by Revs. Ebenezer Kingsbury and Joseph Wood. The first pastor was Rev. Benjamin A. Niles; at present it is without a pastor. The first house of worship was erected in 1819, and the present one, which occupies its site, was completed April 26, 1863, at a cost of \$56,000. It is built of brick, and will seat 1200 persons. There are 637 members. The church property is valued at \$75,000.\*

The *First Baptist Church of Binghamton* was organized with five members, in 1831, by Rev. M. Frederick, its first pastor.† Their first house of worship was erected in 1831-2; and the present one, which will seat 1400 persons, in 1871-2, at a cost of \$75,000. There are 708 members, who are ministered to by Rev. Lyman Wright. The church property is valued at \$110,000.

*St. Patrick's Church* (Roman Catholic) was organized with five members, in 1835, by Rev. Mr. Wainwright. The first house of worship was erected in 1837; and the present one, which is located on LeRoy street, in the city of Binghamton, and will seat 2,000 persons, in 1867, at a cost of \$120,000. There are 3,000 members, who enjoy the ministrations of Rev. James F. Hourigan, their first and present pastor. The church property is valued at \$200,000.‡

The *Congregational Church* was organized Sept. 26, 1836, with nineteen members, by Rev. John Starkweather, its first pastor. The first house of worship was erected in 1837 and dedicated Dec. 22d of that year; the present one, which is located on the

\*The Presbyterian Church of Castle Creek, and the Congregational Church of Binghamton were formed from this. The former, consisting of 23 members, was organized in 1833; the latter, in 1836.

†Rev. Dr. Paddock, of Binghamton, in his *History of Binghamton*, says this church was organized in May, 1829, with sixteen members—five males and eleven females—and that Elder Michael Frederick was called to preside over the church in 1830. The *data* from which our statement is compiled was furnished by the present pastor.

‡The *Convent of St. Joseph*, under the care of the Sisters of St. Joseph, has 35 boarders and 400 day scholars.

The *St. James School* for boys, numbers 125, D. J. Donaldson is the principal.

corner of Main and Front streets, in the city of Binghamton, and will seat 800 persons, in 1869, at a cost of \$50,000. Rev. Edward Taylor, D. D., is the present pastor. The number of members is 310. The value of church property is \$75,000.

The *A. M. E. Zion Church* was organized with thirty-six members, in 1836, by Rev. Henry Johnson, its first pastor. Its house of worship, which is located on Whitney street, in the city of Binghamton, was erected in 1840, at a cost of \$500. It will seat 125 persons. The present pastor is Rev. Stephen S. Wales; the number of members is 56. The church property is valued at \$3,000.

The *A. M. E. Church* (Bethel) was organized with sixty-five members, in 1838, by Rev. Chas. Spicer, its first pastor. The first church edifice was erected in 1838; the present one, which is located on Susquehanna street, in the city of Binghamton, and will seat 250 persons, in 1842, at a cost of \$850. The society numbers forty-five. Rev. John Frizbee is the pastor. The value of Church property is \$1,500.

The *M. E. Church*, of Hawleyton, was organized with eleven members in 1856, by Rev. — Blaxey. Their church edifice was erected in 1857. It will seat 250 persons; and cost \$2,000. The church property is valued at \$3,200. It has fifty-two members. Rev. C. V. Arnold is the pastor.

The *First Free Methodist Church of Binghamton* was organized with ten members, by Rev. B. T. Roberts, in 1862. Rev. D. M. Sinclair was the first pastor; Rev. C. H. Southworth is the present one. Their edifice was erected by the "Protestant Methodists" in or about 1841, and was sold by them, about 1851, to the "Court St. M. E. Society," by whom it was again sold, in March, 1867, to its present occupants, for \$3,600. It will seat from five to six hundred. It is located on the corner of Court and Carroll streets. There are sixty members in full connection, and eight probationers. The Church property is valued at \$12,500.

The *M. E. Church of Binghamton* was organized by the consolidation of the Henry and Court street M. E. Churches\* in 1865, by Rev. D. W. Bristol, D.D., its first pastor. It then had

\*The "Henry Street M. E. Church" was organized by Rev. Ebenezer Doolittle, in 1817, from which time the place was more or less regularly visited by circuit preachers. In 1822 the society provided itself with a house in which to hold meetings by purchasing the one discarded by the Episcopalians, as stated in the history of that Church. The "Court Street M. E. Church" was organized in 1851, under the legal title of *The Second Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Binghamton*, and was an offshoot from the "Henry Street Church." The means by which this society acquired its house of worship are stated in the history of the *First Free Methodist Church of Binghamton*.

399 members in full connection, and 30 probationers; it now has 615 members and 58 probationers. Rev. L. C. Floyd is the pastor. The church edifice was commenced in 1866 and completed in 1868, at a cost of \$65,000. It is located on the corner of Court and Cedar streets, and will seat 800 persons. The Church property is valued at \$70,000. The edifice is known as the Centenary M. E. Church.

The *North Presbyterian Church of Binghamton* was organized with fifty members, April 17, 1870, by Rev. C. Pierpont Coit, its first and present pastor. The church edifice, which will seat 350 persons, was erected in the fall and winter of 1869-70, at a cost of \$9,000. It is located on the corner of Chenango and Munsell streets. The society numbers 145 members. The Church property is valued at \$12,000.

**CHENANGO\*** was erected Feb. 16, 1791. It was one of the original towns. Windsor was taken off March 27, 1807; Conklin, March 29, 1824; and Binghamton and Fenton, Dec. 3, 1855. A part of Union was annexed Feb. 26, 1808, and a part of Maine, Nov. 27, 1856. It lies west of the center of the County, its eastern boundary being formed by the Chenango River. Its surface consists of the river intervalle, and several ridges which rise to an altitude of from 300 to 600 feet and are separated by the narrow valleys of the streams running parallel with them, north and south, through the town. The principal streams are Castle† and Kattel‡ creeks, which are tributary to Chenango River, and Gilbert Creek, which empties its waters into Kattel Creek. On the north hills the soil consists of a gravelly loam mixed with disintegrated slate and underlaid by hard pan, but further south it becomes a deeper and richer gravelly loam. It is productive, but moist, and for this reason is devoted principally to grazing. Stock raising and dairying form the chief agricultural pursuits. The town covers an area of 21,154 acres, of which, in 1865, according to the census of that year, 14,262 were improved.

In 1870 the population of the town was 1,680. During the year ending Sept. 30, 1871, there were fourteen school districts, and the same number of teachers employed. The number of

\* "Upon the map of 1771 this is given *Ol-si-nin-goo*. Upon DeWitt's map of about the year 1791, it is written *Che-nen-go*. In Mr. Morgan's work it is given *O-che-nang*."—*The Saint Nicholas for February and March, 1854, p. 412.*

† Named from the location of an Indian Castle near its mouth.

‡ Named from a family of early settlers.

children of school age was 761; the number attending school, 679; the average attendance, 281; the amount expended for school purposes, \$7,403; and the value of school houses and sites, \$8,815.

The Syracuse & Binghamton R. R. enters the town in the north-east corner and follows the course of the Chenango River until it reaches near the center of the east border, when it diverges and crosses the point formed by the bend in the river and leaves the town on the south border, a little east of the mouth of Kattel creek. The Utica & Chenango Valley R. R. just enters the town in the north-east corner. Both these roads are leased and operated by the D. L. & W. R. R. Co.

CASTLE CREEK, (p. v.) located near the north line, on the creek whose name it bears, contains two churches, (Baptist and M. E.) two stores, one hotel, a steam saw mill, two blacksmith shops, a wagon shop, cooper shop and 180 inhabitants.

KATTELVILLE (p. o.) is in the east part, on Kattel creek, near the S. & B. R. R.

GLEN CASTLE (p. o.) is located about two miles above the mouth of Castle creek.

WEST CHENANGO (p. o.) is in the western part.

CHENANGO BRIDGE (p. o.) is located on the S. & B. R. R. at the point where it crosses the Chenango River.

CHENANGO FORKS (p. v.) is partially in this town.\* That part in this town contains one church, (M. E.) two stores, one hotel, a cabinet shop, shoe shop and blacksmith shop.

NIMMONSBURG† is a hamlet in the south part, lying in the valley of the Chenango, three and a-half miles north of Binghamton.

The first settler was Thomas Gallop, who, as previously stated,‡ located at Chenango Forks, in 1787. He is believed to have remained there but a short time. Among the other early settlers were Col. Wm. Rose and John Nimmons, who located in the south part. Col. Rose settled on the farm now owned and occupied by Wm. R. Nimmons. Jedediah Seward, Wm. Hall, John Jewell, Stephen and Henry Palmer, Josiah Whitney, Jared Page, Nathaniel Bishop, James Temple and Foster Lilly were early settlers. Settlements appear to have been made rapidly and to have assumed some importance, for in 1788, a saw mill, which was owned by Henry French, was built at Glen

\* For further mention of this village see town of Barker, p. 80.

† Named in honor of Burwell Nimmons, who is 83 years old, and is one of the oldest inhabitants in town.

‡ See page 80.

Castle. It was the first erected in the county. The Indians from whom the Boston Company purchased their lands, reserved a tract of one-half mile square, which was situated near the mouth of Castle Creek and was known as the "Castle Farm." "Upon this reserve the Indians of the neighborhood who did not remove to New Stockbridge, or Oneida, resided." Their number "is said to have been about twenty families." They cultivated the farm to some extent, but depended chiefly upon hunting and fishing. Wilkinson in speaking of them says:

"[They] kept up their peculiar mode of dress so long as they remained upon their farm; clothing themselves with their shirt and moccasins, their head bare, except sometimes ornamenting it with feathers, and wearing jewels of silver in their nose and ears. Their wigwams were built of logs, locked together at the ends, and sloping up on two sides from the ground to a peak, like the roof of a house.

"Another form of their wigwams was, to erect four stakes, or crotches, two longer and two shorter; upon these to lay two poles, one upon the longer and one upon the shorter crotches. Upon these poles they would lay sticks or smaller poles and then barks, with sufficient ingenuity to exclude the rain and weather. From the lower crotches to the ground they would tie barks, answering to our weather boarding. They would close up the two ends in the same manner. Upon the front side were suspended skins of deer sewed together, from the pole upon the high crotches to the ground, and which they could raise or fall at pleasure. Before this their fire was kindled, and the curtain of skins raised by day time, and more or less lowered by night, as the weather might be. In some cases they would have their wigwams lined with deer skins. Seldom any floor but the ground. Their bed consisted of straw, or skins thrown down. When they sat down, it was always upon the ground. In eating they sat generally without any order, as they happened to be, upon the ground, with each his piece in his hand. Their adroitness in spearing fish was admired by the whites, in which they displayed as much marksmanship as they do with the bow and arrow. They would *throw* the spear at the fish which very seldom failed of transfixing its object, though the distance to which it was thrown should be twenty or thirty feet, the fish moving rapidly at the same time, and the water running swift.

"Their chief was called Squire Antonio. This title was given him by the whites on account of his just decisions, his correct judgement, and his sober habits. He was very much esteemed by the white people, as well as revered and loved by his own. He undoubtedly contributed very materially towards maintaining that peaceful and friendly, or at least orderly, conduct which the Indians have the good name of having observed towards the whites."

But notwithstanding the amicable relations which subsisted between the whites and Indians, and the nominal price at which the latter were induced to sell their vast possessions, there was, in the neighborhood, a person named Patterson, who was sufficiently base, either through his own designs, or as the tool of others, to rob them of the small portion reserved for their own uses, by an appeal to the cupidity of the chief's son, Abraham Antonio.

"About 1792 or '3," says Wilkinson, "he went to the Indians at the Castle, and made himself very familiar and sociable with them. He brought with him a silver mounted rifle, which he knew would gain their admiration and excite their cupidity. Abraham Antonio was smitten with a desire for it. He endeavored to purchase it, making such offers as he could afford. But Patterson put him off, telling him he did not wish to sell it; or setting such a price upon it as he knew was beyond the power of Abraham immediately to command. After he had sufficiently prepared the way for himself, he proposed to the young chief, that if he would engage to give him so many bear skins he would let him have the rifle. This the prince complied with. A note was required on the part of Patterson, with the son and father's name subscribed, that the skins should be delivered against a specified time. Abraham hesitated as to such a course, as he did not understand such a mode of business. He therefore asked his father as to the propriety, who told his son it was a common mode of doing business with the whites. Patterson then *professedly* wrote a *note*, specifying the number of skins, and read it off to the father and son accordingly, who both signed their names. But instead of writing a *note*, he wrote a deed for the Castle farm."

For this act of perfidy, however, Patterson is believed to have forfeited his life and that of his family at the hands of Abraham, who either followed him for the purpose to Ohio, whither he moved, or accidentally met him there and summarily revenged the treachery of which he was made the victim. With the loss of the Castle farm, the Indians appear to have gradually withdrawn from this section, leaving their favorite hunting grounds in undisputed possession of the whites.

Nothing of marked prominence appears in the history of the town until the breaking out of the Rebellion, from which it suffered in common with other sections of the country. It contributed seventy-one soldiers as its share in the establishment of the supremacy of the Union.

The *First M. E. Society*, at Chenango Forks, was organized in 1833. Their house of worship will seat 250 persons. It was erected in 1863, at a cost of \$2,500, which is the present value of Church property. There are sixty-eight members. The present pastor is Rev. C. E. Taylor.

The *Castle Creek Baptist Church* was organized in 1844, in which year its first house of worship was erected. The present one, which will seat 300 persons, was erected in 1870, at a cost of \$7,860.75. There are eighty-seven members. Rev. A. P. Merrill is pastor. The Church property is valued at \$9,500.

The *M. E. Church*, at Castle Creek, was organized with thirty members, in 1847, by Rev. T. D. Wire, its first pastor. The first Church edifice was erected in 1840; the present one in 1868. It cost \$6,000, and will seat 300 persons. Rev. N. S. DeWitt is the pastor. It has eighty members. The Church property is valued at \$7,500.

The *Kattelville M. E. Church* was organized with nine members, by Rev. R. S. Rose, its first pastor, in 1851, in which year was erected the house of worship, at a cost of \$1,500. It will seat 225 persons. Rev. C. E. Taylor is the pastor. The number of members is forty-eight. The Church property is valued at \$1,600.

The *Glen Castle M. E. Church* erected its house of worship, which will seat 300 persons, in 1851, at a cost of \$1,200. Its 39 members are ministered to by Revs. Philo Wilcox and Robert Thomas. The Church property is valued at \$2,000.

**COLESVILLE\*** was formed from Windsor, April 2, 1821.† It lies upon the north border, east of the center of the County. Its surface is broken by an elevated ridge whose summits rise from 400 to 700 feet above the valley of the Susquehanna, by which it is cut in two. The Susquehanna and several small streams tributary to it are the only water-courses. The soil upon the river bottom is a deep, fertile, gravelly loam, while upon the summits of the hills it consists of clay and slate. It is generally much better adapted to pasturage than tillage. The town is traversed by the Albany & Susquehanna and the Delaware & Hudson Canal Co.'s railroads, both of which enter the town on the north line, at Nineveh, and pursue a circuitous course, the former in a general south-west direction and the latter along the valley of the Susquehanna. It covers an area of 47,283 $\frac{1}{4}$  acres, of which, in 1865, according to the census of that year, 29,696 $\frac{1}{2}$ , were improved. The population in 1870 was 3,400. During the year ending Sept. 30, 1871, it contained thirty school districts and employed twenty-nine teachers. The number of children of school age was 1,218; the number attending school, 1,011; the average attendance, 472; the amount expended for school purposes, \$6,948; and the value of school houses and sites, \$9,090.

HARPERSVILLE (p. v.) is situated north of the center, about one-half mile west of the Susquehanna. It is about one mile

\* Named from Nathaniel Cole, one of the first settlers.

† The first town meeting was held on Coles Hill, at the house of Nathaniel Cole, in 1822, and the following named officers were elected: "John W. Harper, *Supervisor*; Daniel Sanford, *Town Clerk*; Ozias Marsh, Harvey Bishop and Gervase Blakeslee, *Assessors*; Nathaniel Cole Jr. and Elisha Humastun, *Overseers of the Poor*; Amos Smith, Alpheus Goodenough and Daniel Sanford, *Commissioners of Highways*; John Wasson and George Wilcox, *Constables*; John Wasson, *Collector*; John W. Harper, Jeremiah Rogers and Harvey Bishop, *Commissioners of Common Schools*; Harvey Martin, Garry Ruggles and Joel K. Noble, *Inspectors of Common Schools*; Geo. Wilcox, Samuel Badger and Samuel Martin, *Trustees of Gospel and School Lands*; Ira Bunnell, *Sealer of Weights and Measures*."

south-west of the depot on the A. & S. R. R. at Nineveh, and is about one-half mile from the D. & H. Canal Co.'s R. R., in the same direction. It contains three churches, (Baptist, Episcopal and —,) two dry goods stores, two drug stores, one grocery, one hardware store and tin shop, two cabinet ware rooms, one saw mill, a furnace and machine shop, a shoe shop, a merchant tailor's store, four blacksmith shops, three carriage shops, one harness shop, one hotel and 320 inhabitants.

CENTER VILLAGE (p. v.) is situated on the Susquehanna and the D. & H. Canal Co.'s R. R., a little east of the center of the town. It contains two dry goods stores, two grist mills, one saw mill, one lath mill, one carriage shop, two blacksmith shops, a tannery, a shoe shop, a harness shop, a wool carding machine, a hotel (now closed) and thirty houses.

NINEVEH (p. v.) is situated on the north line, on the Susquehanna and on the D. & H. Canal Co.'s and A. & S. railroads. It contains two churches, (Presbyterian and —,) two dry goods stores, two carriage shops, three blacksmith shops, one cooper shop, one harness shop, a shoe shop and about 225 inhabitants.

DORAVILLE (p. o.) is located on the Susquehanna and on the D. & H. Canal Co.'s R. R. It contains a jewelry store, a grocery, a blacksmith shop, two cooper shops and about a dozen dwellings.

VALLONIA SPRINGS\* (p. o.) is located near the north-east corner of the town and on the line of the contemplated branch of the N. Y. & O. Midland R. R.

NEW OHIO, (p. o.) located in the north-west part, near the tunnel† on the A. & S. R. R., on which road it is a station, contains a telegraph office, two groceries, a blacksmith shop, a few dwelling houses and a church (M. E.)

NORTH COLESVILLE, (p. o.) located in the north-west corner, contains a grocery, a saw mill, a shoe shop and seventeen dwellings.

OUAQUAGA, (p. o.) situated on the Susquehanna, near the center of the south line, contains one church, (M. E.) one store, two blacksmith shops, a carriage shop, two shingle mills,

\*The waters of this spring have acquired some fame on account of their medicinal properties and are making this a place of considerable resort. They are impregnated with sulphur, magnesia and iron, and are not only efficacious in cutaneous diseases but are highly prophylactic.

†This tunnel is one-half mile long. The rock through which it is constructed was at first hard and compact, but exposure to the atmosphere slacked and dissolved it and rendered it necessary to arch it with stone.

two planing mills, two lath mills, one saw mill, a grist mill and twenty-three dwellings.

OSBORNE HOLLOW,\* (p. o.) located in the west part, on the A. & S. R. R., contains one church, one hotel, three groceries, two blacksmith shops, two wagon shops, one steam saw and feed mill and several dwellings.

WEST COLESVILLE, (p. o.) in the south-west part, contains a church, (Baptist,) a blacksmith shop, a shoe shop and a few dwellings.

COLESVILLE (p. o.) is located a little south of the center. It contains a Free Church.

John Lamphere, from Watertown, Conn., made the first settlement in 1785. He was followed by Lemuel and Nathaniel Badger and Casper Spring in 1786; Nathaniel and Vena Cole, Daniel Picket, J. Merchant, Bateman S. Dickinson, ——— Wilmot, Daniel Crofoot and Titus Humeston in 1795; John Ruggles and Isaac Tyrrell in 1796; and Eli Osborne and Peter Warn in 1800. The birth of Louisa Badger, which occurred May 28, 1788, was the first one in the town; the death of John Lamphere, which occurred the same year, was the first in the town; and the marriage of Benj. Bird and Mrs. John Lamphere, in 1794, was the first marriage. The first inn was kept by Benj. Bird, in 1794; and the first store, by Bateman S. Dickinson, in 1805. Job Bunnel taught the first school.

Religious services were conducted here by Rev. Joseph Badger as early as 1793, though it does not appear that his ministrations resulted in the formation of a church until 1799, in which year (April 15th) the *St. Luke's Church*, (Episcopal) at Harpersville, was organized.† Their house of worship, which will seat from 300 to 400 persons, was erected in 1828, at a cost of \$2,193, and was consecrated Sept. 28th of that year, by Rt. Rev. Jno. Henry Hobart, Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of New York. The first pastor, or missionary was Rev. Philander Chase; the present pastor is Rev. E. Dolloway. There are ninety members. The Church property is valued at \$10,000.

\*There is believed to be a rich vein of lead ore here, and a mining shaft has been (May, 1872.) sunk to the depth of eighty-three feet, nearly to where it is expected to strike the ore bed. Specimens of ore, containing lead, zinc, copper and silver have been taken out.

† The meeting at which the organization was effected, was presided over by Rufus Fancher as chairman, and Rev. Philander Chase (afterwards Bishop) as secretary. At this meeting Titus Humeston and Rufus Fancher were chosen church wardens; and Isaac M. Ruggles, Josiah Stow, Asa Judd, Abel Doolittle, Samuel Fancher, Daniel Merwin, David Way and Wright Knap, vestrymen.

*The First Baptist Church of Colesville*, located at Harpersville, was organized with seven members\* in 1811, but their house of worship, which will seat 250 persons, was not erected until 1846. Its cost was \$1,600. Elder Levi Holcomb was the first pastor; Rev. T. D. Hammond is the present one. The church property is valued at \$2,500. There are 105 members.

The *First Methodist Church*, of New Ohio, was organized by "Billy Way," in 1825, with eight members, and the Church edifice, which will seat 250 persons, was erected in 1844, at a cost of \$800. The first pastor was Rev. Morgan Ruger; the present one is Rev. Chas. Shepard. There are twenty-five members. The church property is valued at \$1,500.

The *Presbyterian Church of Nineveh* was organized with thirty-five members, by Rev. Mr. Pratt, in 1831. The first Church edifice was erected in 1829; and the present one, which will seat 375 persons, and on which, in 1870, \$4,000 was expended in enlargement and repairs, twenty years later, at a cost of \$2,000. The first pastor was Rev. Willard M. Hoyt; the present one is Rev. Wm. H. Sawtelle. There are 180 members. The Church property is valued at \$8,000.

The *Baptist Church*, at West Colesville, was organized with seven members, in 1846, and their Church edifice, which will seat 150 persons, was erected the following year, at a cost of \$600. The present value of church property is \$1,000. The first pastor was Elder A. B. Earle; the present one is Rev. Harvey Cornell. It has forty-one members.

The *Ouaquaga M. E. Church* was organized with forty-six members, by Dewitt C. Olmstead, in 1867, and their house of worship, which will seat 300 persons, was erected in 1868, at a cost of \$3,000, which is the present value of Church property. Rev. Wm. Round was the first pastor; the present one is Rev. Wm. W. Andrews. There are fifty-two members.

The *Colesville Free Church*, located at Cole's Hill, is composed of twenty members, and is ministered to by Rev. Charles D. Shepard. Their house of worship† will seat 125 persons. The Church property is valued at \$1,000.

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\*The names of the original members are: Nathaniel J. Gilbert, Stephen and Polly Barker, Silas Moon, Silas Hall, Peter Newton and Lucinda Deuny.

†The house was built by the Presbyterians who occupied it several years. It was subsequently used by the Baptists for a term of years; but becoming dilapidated it remained for some time unoccupied. In 1853 it was repaired by the Methodists, who have since occupied it.

**CONKLIN\*** was formed from Chenango, March 29, 1824. A part of Windsor was taken off in 1831, and a part of that town was annexed in 1851. Kirkwood was erected from it Nov. 23, 1859. It is one of the southern tier of towns and lies west of the center of the County. Its eastern boundary is formed by the Susquehanna. The surface is generally hilly. The summits of the hills rise from 400 to 600 feet above the valley. Their declivities terminate abruptly on the river. It is watered by several small streams, tributary to the Susquehanna, the principal of which are Big and Little Snake creeks. The former flows through the town in an easterly direction, a little south of the center, and its valley is narrow and bordered by steep hills; while only a small portion of the latter flows (north) through the south-east corner. The soil upon the summits of the hills is a hard clayey and gravelly loam, largely intermixed with fragments of slate.

The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western R. R. enters the town in the north-west corner, and following the course of the Susquehanna, leaves it in the south-east corner.

The town is the smallest in the County. It covers an area of 14,858 acres, of which, in 1865, according to the census of that year, 10,022 were improved. Its population in 1870 was 1,440.

During the year ending Sept. 30, 1871, it contained eight school districts and employed eight teachers. The number of children of school age was 571; the number attending school, 448; the average attendance, 207; the amount expended for school purposes, \$2,534; and the value of school houses and sites, \$7,670.

CORBETTSVILLE, (p. v.) located in the south-east part, near the line of the D. L. & W. R. R., and the Susquehanna River, contains two stores, two tanneries, † two saw mills, ‡ two blacksmith shops, one wagon shop, about twenty-five dwellings and 150 inhabitants. It is surrounded by hills, nearly all of which are covered with forests.

CONKLIN STATION, (p. v.) (formerly known as *Milburn*.) located near the Susquehanna and on the D. L. & W. R. R., contains one church, (Presbyterian) a school house, a store, a

\* Named from Judge John Conklin, one of the early settlers.

† The tannery of which Messrs. Parks & Porter are props. and which is located here, is the principal one in the town. It contains sixty-six vats, employs ten persons, consumes one thousand cords of hemlock, and one hundred cords of oak bark, and manufactures from 10,000 to 12,000 sides of "Union Sole Leather" annually.

‡ J. S. Corbett's saw mill, located here, employs from two to six persons and manufactures about 340,000 feet of lumber annually.

wagon shop, a blacksmith shop, the extensive pyroligneous acid works\* of A. S. Saxon, thirty-five dwellings and about 140 inhabitants.

CONKLIN CENTER (p. o.) is located about the center of the east border.

There are several other mechanical and industrial institutions in parts of the town which are removed from the business centers.†

The first settlements were made in 1788, by Jonathan Bennett, Ralph Lathrop‡ and Waples Hance,‡ who located at the mouth of Snake Creek. These were followed at an early day by Garret Snedaker, David Bound,§ Daniel Chapman, Peter

\*These are the oldest works of the kind in the U. S. They were first started by Turnbull & Co. of Scotland, about 1851. They give employment to ten persons, and annually consume from 1,500 to 2,000 cords of hard wood in the manufacture of acetate lime, sugar lead, red and iron liquor, wood naphtha, charcoal, charcoal facings, &c.

† Among these are: Ira Corbett's steam saw mill, which is located near the line of the D. L. & W. R. R., about one-half mile south of Conklin Station, and which employs about six men, contains one circular saw and manufactures from 600,000 to 800,000 feet of lumber annually; the *Conklin Grist Mill*, (the only one in town) owned by Levi L. Roe, and located about one and one-fourth miles "below" Conklin Station, which contains three runs of stones for grinding flour, feed and meal; John Jageler's saw mill, (known as "old Major Shaw's Mill,") which is located on the Susquehanna, about two miles from the north line of the town, and which annually saws about 100,000 feet of lumber, principally hemlock and pine; the saw mills of Richard Van Patten and Atwood Vining, both of which are situated on Little Snake Creek, (the latter two and one-half miles from Conklin Station,) and saw about 100,000 feet of lumber per annum, and the latter in addition thereto from 50,000 to 100,000 feet of lath; and Emory Blatchley's grist and saw mill, which is also located on Little Snake Creek and contains two runs of stones.

‡ Wilkinson, in the "Annals of Binghamton," &c., page 134, gives the names of "Ralph Lotrip" and "Waples Hanth;" while French, who also consulted the "Annals of Binghamton," in his Gazetteer of the State of New York, on page 182, spells the names as they are given above.

§ David Bound from New Jersey settled near the mouth of Snake Creek in 1795. About a year later he was joined by his family, who came with a four horse team, and occupied seventeen days in the journey. Before reaching their destination their provisions were exhausted. Mr. Bound learned the fact and went to their relief, carrying the provisions nine miles upon his back. Soon after this, while hunting one day, Mr. Bound discovered that the water in the creek was rising rapidly, in consequence of the melting snow. He hastened home, drove his cattle on a hill and surrounded them with a brush fence to prevent them from straying. When he returned the water was running into his pig pen. He placed a plank in such a position that the pig was able to walk up it and over the top of the pen, when it was also driven up the hill. When he returned to the house the water had entered it and put out the fire. His family had retreated to the chamber, where they had built a fire in a tin pan, and had commenced the removal of their effects. With the assistance of a Mr. Hance, Mr. Bound built a raft and crossing the stream, procured a large canoe, with which he rescued his family whom he took from the chamber window, and escaped to the hill, where he took refuge in the house of a Mr. Corbett, and where he was obliged to remain about a week until the water subsided sufficiently to admit of his return.

Wentz, Asa Rood, Nathaniel Tagot, Asa Squires, John Bell, Silas Bowker, Joel Lamereaux, Abraham Sneden, David and Joseph Compton, Abraham Miller, Ebenezer Park, Noel Carr, and Thos. Cooper. The latter were followed at a later date by David Bayless, who came from Princeton, N. J., about 1810, and settled near Conklin Station; Edmund Lawrence, who settled on the river road, in the north part of the town, in 1813; Felix McBride, who came from Ireland, in 1820, and settled on the river road, about four miles from Binghamton, and who was followed by his son, Michael, four years later. At that time, says Mr. McBride, there was no regular public highway—only a sled road along the river. He was accustomed to go to mill in the summer with an ox-sled. There were, he says, but three wagons in the town, (which then comprised Kirkwood and a part of Windsor,) most of the carrying business being done in boats on the river.

The first birth was that of Wm. Wentz, Feb. 18, 1795; the first marriage, that of Noel Carr and Sally Tousler in 1803; and the first death that of Silas Bowker. The first school was taught by Geo. Land, in 1801.

The settlers in this vicinity gave early evidence of a deep interest in religious matters. The first religious services were, says French, conducted by Revs. David Dunham and John Leach, Methodist missionaries; but whether the extraordinary zeal displayed by the inhabitants of this locality at an early day was due to their ministrations does not appear, though it is fair to presume they exerted a salutary influence in that direction. The people seem to have been extremely rigorous in the observance of devotional exercises, for in speaking of them, J. B. Wilkinson, in the "Annals of Binghamton," page 140, says, "it is said that in all the families from the mouth of Snake Creek to Harmony, beyond the Bend, [Great Bend in Penn.,] morning and evening prayers were offered; and not one family in this whole distance in which there was not *one* or *more* of the members pious." But what appears more strange is the fact, which we extract from the same work, that "in the course of five and twenty years, instead of nearly *all* the families being pious, not but *two* or *three* were to be found entitled to that sacred epithet." Whether this declension is due to the removal of these early settlers and the influx of an element inimical to their devout practices, or to change in their religious convictions, we have been unable to learn; but the author quoted is inclined to "refer it to the general depravity of men." After the death, in 1814, of Rev. Daniel Back, the resident minister at Great Bend, infidelity, which had previously manifested itself in a subdued form, was, by many, "openly and publicly avowed;

and its abettors went so far as to hold their meetings on the Sabbath, and to read Paine's 'Age of Reason' to the multitude. They showed their hostility to the Christian religion, by attending meetings for divine worship, and either succeeding with theirs immediately, before the Christian Congregation had dispersed, or they would commence before the stated hour of Christian worship. Meetings then were held in a school house, in which the whole community felt they had an equal right. The magistrate of the place however, who took a part in this demoralizing cause, too active for his own interest or lasting reputation, was in consequence finally deposed from his office." In what the culpability of the so-called infidels, implied in the quotation from Mr. Wilkinson, consisted, does not appear, unless it is found in the persistence of the right to the free exercise of their religious convictions; for the right to the use of the school house for religious purposes remains unquestioned, and his charge does not implicate them in any breach of decorum. But we will draw the mantle of charity over an historic period in which men were sometimes led by blind zeal to unwittingly persecute those who differed with them in matters of religion, and look with intense gratitude at a present which ensures comparative immunity to all from similar persecutions.

The *First Baptist Church of Conklin*, located on the river road, near the east center of the town, was organized in 1855, with forty-three members, by Rev. S. M. Stimson of Binghamton, who was the first pastor. Their house of worship, which will seat 225 persons, was erected in 1856, at a cost of \$1,600. There are sixty members. The present pastor is Rev. Edward H. Ashton. The Church property is valued at \$4,500.

The *M. E. Church*, located on Little Snake Creek, was organized with sixty members, by Rev. C. N. Arnold, who became and is still its pastor, in February, 1872, in which year their church edifice, which will seat 225 persons, was erected, at a cost of \$2,000. The Church property is valued at \$2,500. The number of members is 75.

**FENTON\*** was formed from Chenango, Dec. 3, 1855. It lies upon the east bank of the Chenango River, and borders on

\* It was formed as Port Crane, (which name it derived from Jayson Crane, one of the engineers on the Chenango canal,) and its name changed to Fenton, March 26, 1867, in honor of Reuben E. Fenton, in consequence of the extreme aversion of a part of the inhabitants to the former name, an aversion which was so potent as to induce some of them to resist the payment of taxes.

The names of the officers elected by the Board of Election, (composed of John Bishop, George Hickox, Willet Cross and H. A. Slosson, the latter

the south boundary of Chenango county. Its surface is hilly, but the hills are broad and the slopes gentle. The steep hills which border along the Chenango and rise from 500 to 700 feet above it, confine the valley of that river within narrow limits. Page Brook,\* the principal stream, flows in a southerly direction through the west part, and divides the uplands into two distinct ridges. Osborn Creek rises near the tunnel on the A. & S. R. R. in the north part of the town of Colesville, and entering this town near the south-east corner, flows in an easterly direction to the Chenango, into which it discharges its waters a little north of Port Crane. Pond Brook is composed of two ponds over a mile in length and separated from each other by a sharp ridge, called the "Hog Back," under which the water from the upper passes into the lower pond. The outlet is but a few rods from the river and as the ponds have a considerable elevation above it, an excellent water power is formed. This has been and still is a great resort for fishermen. The ponds are yet stocked with various kinds of fish. The surface of the country for some distance around is very peculiar. It consists of plain land interspersed with basins or small valleys, some of which descend to a great depth below the general level. These basins have no connection with each other and all present the appearance of having been ponds at some remote period. The plain was formerly covered with a dense growth of pine. The soil is well adapted to tillage. On the hills it consists of a clay and slaty loam underlaid by hardpan, while in the valleys it is a rich gravelly loam and alluvium. With the exception of the country bordering the Chenango River and Page Brook the town is comparatively new. Along these streams are some fine farms and sightly residences. Among the latter are the residences of James E. Waite at Port Crane, Marvin Conniff at North Fenton and Jno. Hull† at the confluence of Page Brook and the Chenango River, which, in point of architectural beauty, compare favorably with villas of greater pretensions. The latter is especially attractive. It is situated

clerk of the Board,) Feb. 12, 1856, are as follows: (No choice was made for Supervisor,) Hermon Waite, *Town Clerk*; John Bishop, Enos Puffer, Thomas Taber and Ebenezer Crocker, *Justices*; John B. Van Name, *School Superintendent*; James Nowland and Benj. A. Potter, *Commissioners of Highways*; James A. Barnes, I. D. Amsbury and Geo. P. Miller, *Assessors*; Wm. Slosson and Garry V. Scott, *Overseers of the Poor*; Hiram Silliman, *Collector*; Henry Kark, Sherman McDaniel, John Jones, Leverett Jeffers and Willet Cross, *Constables*; Daniel Hickox, Wm. Williamson and Simon J. Lounsbury, *Inspectors of Election*.

\* This stream is named from Isaac Page, who settled on it in 1807.

† Mr. Hull was the first Supervisor elected in the town, an office he has since several times filled. He has for several years been extensively engaged in erecting public works, and has held important trusts from the State.

about twenty-five rods from the main road, on an elevation of forty feet, covering an area of about two acres. It is approached from the east on an artificial embankment, and is surrounded by trees and shrubbery which give evidence of fine taste in their owner and constitute it a most lovely retreat.

The Chenango Canal extends through the town, following the course of the Chenango river. The Syracuse and Binghamton R. R. crosses the south-west corner, about three-fourths of a mile east of the border. The Albany and Susquehanna R. R. enters the town near the south-east corner and, running in an easterly direction until within about a mile of the south-west border, turns south and runs nearly parallel with the S. & B. R. R., leaving the town on the south border.

The town covers an area of 17,972 acres, of which, in 1865, according to the census of that year, 9,759, were improved. Its population in 1870 was 1,499.

During the year ending Sept. 30, 1871, it contained nine school districts and employed nine teachers. The number of children of school age was 428; the number attending school, 354; the average attendance, 177; the amount expended for school purposes, \$2,215; and the value of school houses and sites, \$4,260.

PORT CRANE, (p. v.) on the Chenango canal, in the south part, contains two fine, new churches, (Baptist and M. E.) two stores, a hotel and a good school house. It has been for many years a depot for considerable quantities of lumber, and, being a canal village, boat building and repairing has been an important branch of its industry. It is nearly surrounded by hills, although lying on the bank of the Chenango. Formerly, for nearly two miles below, the river washed the base of perpendicular rocks, known as Crocker Mountain, and the inhabitants were obliged to cross this summit to get to Binghamton. But now the canal is cut in its base and is separated from the river by an embankment wide enough for a highway, both of which are protected by a slope wall. A fine view is afforded of the A. & S. R. R. as it winds along the mountain side, far above the level of the canal. Port Crane station on this road is distant from the village about a mile.

NORTH FENTON (p. o.) (also known as Ketchum's Corners) is pleasantly located in the valley of Page Brook, in the north part of the town. It contains a fine church, a store, grocery and a large cheese factory. The people are energetic and enterprising.\*

\* This was the place of residence of the late Rev. Enos Puffer, who, during the Rebellion, invented a bomb-shell charged with inflammable matter.

The first settlement is believed to have been made by Elisha Pease in 1788. Jared Page, — Vining and Timothy Cross,\* were also early settlers. Isaac Page, Garry Williamson,† John F. Miller and Elias Miller settled on Page Brook, in 1807. John F. Miller located one mile below North Fenton, where his son, Robert T. Miller, now resides. He died March 5th,

\*Mr. Cross is still a resident and is hale and hearty. He is conversant with many of the daring exploits of the early settlers in their encounter with wild beasts. Owing to its peculiar situation Port Crane was for many years a famous sporting field. It lies outside the arc formed by the bend in the river in its vicinity. In its rear is a fine circular range of hills, which terminate above and below in perpendicular rocks called the upper and lower rocks, and which is divided nearly midway, by Osborn Creek; while in front are manificent hills filling the arc down to the river's brink. A hound set after a deer anywhere in the area inclosed by the river and this semi-circle of hills was sure to bring it to the water at one of the points of rocks, and if it escaped those stationed there would cross the stream and take to the opposite mountains. Deer were numerous and in warm weather, as is their custom, visited the salt licks in large numbers. Mr. Cross relates an adventure of Isaac Page, who knew of one of these resorts, and, as was his custom, went one night to watch. Soon his experienced ear detected signs of the approach of the expected game. He waited some time, but failing to ascertain their whereabouts, he concluded they had left the vicinity without the usual manifestations, and became convinced that something extraordinary was the matter. He was not long left in suspense, for his conviction was soon confirmed and his attention riveted to two fire-like balls which gleamed above a log but a few feet in front of him, and from behind which they seemed gradually to rise. At this critical moment he leveled his trusty rifle, with as much precision as the darkness rendered practicable and fired, and rising, walked deliberately away. In the morning he returned and to his surprise saw that he had shot a large panther. Thus the unaccountable leaving of the deer the previous night was explained.

Mr. Cross also relates the following incident of himself: One day he heard hounds on the trail, and as it was evident the deer would cross the lower rocks too soon for him he took his favorite dog in a dug-out and crossed over to the upper point on the other side. As he expected the deer came to the river, crossed and took to the mountains. The dog, being well trained, crossed likewise and was soon on the trail. This was as Cross anticipated, and taking his dog in his arms he took his station in the road which runs along the river-bank several feet above the water. Soon the deer made its appearance in the road and he threw the dog very nearly against it. Both deer and dog plunged into the river. The deer came to a bar, on which it was able to maintain a footing, and stood at bay. As the current was swift the deer had the dog at a disadvantage, for as often as the dog swam to it, it was struck under by the fore-paw of the deer, and would come to the surface some distance below. Cross stood for some time a spectator of the unequal contest, until apprehension for the safety of his dog induced him to wade out to its assistance. Intent in watching its assailant the deer did not heed his approach until he got within a few feet of it, when it suddenly turned, rose upon its hind feet, and tried to strike him down. In its struggles, the deer struck one foot into Cross's hand. He immediately grasped it. At the same time it became so firmly entangled in its horns as to draw its head into the water, where Cross had it entirely at his mercy. When the dog, which was nearly exhausted, saw its enemy subdued, he took a position on the deer and retained it till its master drew both ashore.

†Garry Williamson's was the third deed recorded in the Broome County Clerk's office. His son, Garry Williamson, lives on the old "Homestead."

1869, aged 87 years. His sons (Geo. P., Robert T., Hurd F. and Addison,) are still residents of North Fenton. The birth of Chester Pease, in 1793, was the first in the town; the death of Mrs. Pease, in 1789, was the first death; and the marriage contracted by Gardner Wilson and Polly Rugg, in 1800, was the first marriage. The first saw mill was erected by Elisha Pease in 1797; and the first store was kept by Thomas Cooper, in 1813. Ozias Masch taught the first school in 1800. Rev. John Camp conducted the first religious services in 1798.

As nearly as we have been able to ascertain the number of persons who enlisted during the war of the Rebellion in Port Crane and its immediate vicinity was sixty-four, of whom twelve were killed. Enlistments were made in the 16th N. Y. Artillery, and the 27th, 50th, 89th, 109th, 137th, 149th and 179th Regts. N. Y. Vol. Infty. North Fenton furnished, in addition to the above, twenty-six men, who enlisted in the 8th N. Y. Cavalry and the 79th N. Y. Infty., and of whom six were killed or died from wounds received or disease contracted while in the service.

The *First Baptist Church of Port Crane* was organized with nineteen members, by W. Alibum, in 1860. Their first pastor was Rev. A. P. Menie; the pulpit is at present supplied by Rev. H. H. Mills. Their house of worship, which will seat 350 persons, is a very fine one, and was erected in 1870, at a cost of \$5,000. There are thirty-three members. The church property is valued at \$6,000.

The *M. E. Church*, at Port Crane, was organized in 1841. Rev. G. A. Burlingame was the first pastor.\* Their house of worship, which will seat 250 persons, was erected in 1870, at a cost of \$4,700. There are forty-five members. The church property is valued at \$5,000.

The *First M. E. Church*, located at North Fenton, was organized in 1832, by Rufus G. Christian, Ebenezer Cole, Charles Elliott, Justin Watrous, Garret Williamson and Claude Hamilton. The first church edifice was erected the same year; the present one, in 1871, at a cost of \$2,000. It is a very fine building and will seat 400 persons. The first pastor was Rev. P. S. Worden; the present one is Rev. Thomas Burgess. There are 120 members. The church property is valued at \$6,000.

**KIRKWOOD** was formed from Conklin, Nov. 23, 1859. It is one of the southern tier of towns and lies near the center of the County. It is separated from Conklin, on the west, by

\* Until his death, May 22, 1872, this Society enjoyed the ministrations of Rev. Enos Puffer.

the Susquehanna, which, with its several small tributaries, form its waters. The surface is generally hilly, though along the river extends a fine broad interval, enriched by the fertilizing deposits of the adjacent hills. The hills, which, on the west side of the river, are steep, on the east side have a more gradual descent. On the hills the soil consists of clay and gravel, largely intermixed with slate; while in the valley it is a deep, rich alluvium and gravelly loam. Most of the remaining timber consists of oak and chestnut. The pine, of which there was a considerable quantity, has mostly been cut and sent to market, the stumps being utilized as fences. Various kinds of grain are grown successfully, and dairying is carried on to quite an extent.

The New York and Erie R. R. passes through the town, following the course of the Susquehanna.

The town covers an area of 18,437 acres, of which, in 1865, according to the census of that year, 12,706, were improved. Its population in 1870 was 1,402.

During the year ending Sept. 30, 1871, it contained ten school districts and employed ten teachers. The number of children of school age was 491; the number attending school, 399; the average attendance, 219; the amount expended for school purposes, \$2,401; and the value of school houses and sites, \$4,360.

KIRKWOOD (p. v.) is located in the south-west part, on the Susquehanna River, and the N. Y. & E. R. R., by which it is distant eleven miles from Binghamton. It contains one church, (M. E.) a school house, three stores, a wagon shop, a harness shop, two blacksmith shops, a shoe shop, a paint shop, forty houses and 155 inhabitants. About one mile south of the village, on the Susquehanna, are the *Kirkwood Mills*, of which M. A. Andrews is prop. They consist of a grist, saw and planing mill. About 100,000 feet of lumber are sawed in the saw mill. Considerable custom grinding is done, and but very little planing.

KIRKWOOD CENTER (p. o.) is situated on the Susquehanna River, and the N. Y. & E. R. R., near the center of the west border. It is distant from Binghamton by rail eight miles.

RIVERSIDE (p. o.) is located in the extreme south part, on the Susquehanna River, and on the N. Y. & E. R. R. It contains one church, (M. E.) one school house, a cooper shop, wagon shop, blacksmith shop, store, twenty-five dwellings and 125 inhabitants.

STANDLEY HOLLOW is located in the north-east part, and contains a school house, blacksmith shop, five or six dwellings and about twenty-five inhabitants.

Ferguson's saw mill, located on the Windsor road, about one mile from the town line, saws about 50,000 feet of lumber annually.

We are unable to give the date of the first settlement of this town; but among the early settlers are the following: John and William Jones, who came from near Trenton, N. J., in 1802, and settled on the river about two miles below Kirkwood, at which time the country was new and the forests abounded with all kinds of game; Henry C. Bayless, who, with his father, came from Middlesex Co., N. J., but immediately from Wilkesbarre, Penn., in 1808, and settled on the farm contiguous to the Conklin bridge;\* Ely Osborne, who came from Windsor, Conn., about 1812, and located at Standley Hollow, formerly known as "South Osborne Hollow"; Ezra Carrier, who came from Liberty, Sullivan Co., in the autumn of 1814, and located on the river, about five miles from Binghamton, on the farm now occupied by James White; Moses Standley, who came from Bennington, Vt., in 1820, and located in the eastern part of the town, near Osborne Hollow; Thomas M. Carroll, who was one of the first settlers at Standley Hollow; and Arthur Attridge, who located in the north part of the town in 1824, at which time there was only one house between his and the Chenango River.

The first grist mill† in the County was erected in 1790 at or near the mouth of "Fitch's Creek," about four miles above Binghamton, and it, as well as the creek on which it was located, was named from Jonathan Fitch, to whom it belonged. Mr. Fitch was from Wyoming, and settled on the creek to which he gave his name in 1789. He is believed to have been the first representative to the State Legislature from Tioga County, though some confer this honor upon Gen. Patterson, who settled at an early day at Whitney's Point.

\* At that time, says Mr. Bayless, there were only three families near them, viz.: the Berkalews, Bounds and Roods, all of whom lived near Kirkwood, which was then covered by a forest of oak and hickory. The river afforded the principal carrying facilities. Their grists were taken to mill by this means. On one occasion when he and his brother attempted to cross the river at high water, their canoe became unmanageable and ran against a tree, up which they climbed and were obliged to remain some time before they could right their canoe.

† It is probable, that for a few years after this mill was erected, it was the only one within at least eighty miles west of it, for in 1792 we find that the inhabitants of Newark Valley, in Tioga County, and within the limits of what was then known as "Brown's Settlement," carried their grists to this mill, a distance of forty miles.

The *Christian Church*, located at Kirkwood, was organized Oct. 18, 1856, with nineteen members, by Rev. J. G. Noble, its first pastor. Their church edifice, which will seat 250 persons, was erected the following year, at a cost of \$1,000. There are forty members; but there is no pastor. The Church property is valued at \$900.

The *First M. E. Church of Kirkwood* was organized with twenty-five members, in 1860, in which year their house of worship, which will seat 230 persons, was erected at a cost of \$1,500. The first pastor was Rev. J. M. Grimes; the present one is Rev. James N. Lee. There are seventy-five members. The Church property is valued at \$4,000.

**LISLE** (named from Lisle in France,) was formed from Union, March 14, 1800. Barker, Nanticoke and Triangle were formed from it April 18, 1831. The line of Berkshire, Tioga Co., was altered in 1812, and a part of Union was taken off in 1827. It is the north-west corner town in the county. Its surface consists of a hilly and broken upland, unequally divided by the valley of Tioughnioga River. The hills have an elevation of from 400 to 700 feet above the river; their declivities are generally steep—too steep to admit of cultivation. Tioughnioga River, which runs through the east part of the town, in a southerly direction, is the principal stream. The other streams are small. They are Yorkshire and Fall creeks. The former flows easterly nearly through the center of the town, the latter in the same direction, near the north line; both empty into the Tioughnioga. The head waters of Nanticoke Creek are in the south-west part of the town. The narrow valley of Yorkshire Creek breaks the continuity of the western range of hills. Along the valleys the soil is a rich gravelly loam, but on the hills it is characterized by clay and slaty gravel, underlaid by hardpan. The moist clayey loam on the summits of the hills is better adapted to grass than grain culture.

The Syracuse and Binghamton R. R. extends through the town, following the course of the river.

The town covers an area of 25,083½ acres, of which, in 1865, according to the census of that year, 14,560½ were improved. Its population in 1870 was 2,525.

During the year ending Sept. 30, 1871, the town contained twelve school districts, in which fifteen teachers were employed. The number of children of school age was 806; the number attending school, 660; the average attendance, 364; the amount expended for school purposes, \$6,396; and the value of school houses and sites, \$16,710.

LISLE (p. v.) is situated on the west bank of the Tioughnioga, at the junction of Yorkshire Creek with that stream, and is a station on the S. & B. R. R. It is an incorporated village and contains two churches, (Congregational and M. E.) a Union graded school, two dry goods stores, one hardware store and tin shop, a drug store, three harness shops, a carriage shop, three blacksmith shops, one furnace and machine shop, a grist mill, two saw mills, a large tannery for tanning sheep skins, a jewelry store, a variety store, two dental offices, two shoe shops, a clothing and furnishing store, a furniture manufactory, a milliner shop, a tailor shop and about 500 inhabitants.

YORKSHIRE, (Center Lisle p. o.,) situated near the center of the town, on the Creek of the same name, contains three churches, (Baptist, Congregational and M. E.) one hotel, a dry goods store, a grocery, a large tannery\* for tanning sheep skins, a steam saw mill and grist mill, a wagon shop, a blacksmith shop, a milliner shop and dressmaker shop.

KILLAWOG, (p. o.) situated in the north-east part, on the S. & B. R. R. and the Tioughnioga River, contains two churches, (Baptist and M. E.) two dry goods stores, a grist mill, a steam saw mill, a blacksmith shop and thirty or forty dwellings.

MILLVILLE, located on the Tioughnioga, near the south-east corner of the town, contains a large tannery, a grist mill and saw mill, a blacksmith shop and several dwellings.

The first settlement is believed to have been made in 1791,† by emigrants from North East, Dutchess Co. Among these and those who subsequently settled at an early day were Ebenezer Tracy, Eliphalet Parsons, Josiah Patterson, Whittlesey Gleason, Edward Edwards‡ and David Manning. The last two settled on the Tioughnioga in 1795. The first birth was that of Henry Patterson, in 1793; the first marriage, that of Solomon Owen and Sylvia Cook; and the first death, that of Wright Dudley. Jacob Hill built the first grist mill. Capt. John Johnson from Conn., we are credibly informed, kept the first store and tavern.§

\*This tannery is 360 feet long, and gives employment to about one hundred men.

†French's State Gazetteer, p. 182.

‡Edwards was grandson of President Edwards of Princeton College, and first cousin to Aaron Burr, who was Vice-President of the United States, in 1801, and was brought up in the family to which Edwards belonged. He was member of the State Legislature in the time of Gov. Jay's administration.

Mr. Edwards is said to have built the first saw mill on the Tioughnioga River.

§ Says French, "the first store was kept by Moses Adams and the first tavern by O. Wheaton, in 1799."

Religious services were instituted as early as 1795, by Rev. Seth Williston, who was sent here by the Connecticut Missionary Society at the solicitation of Mr. Edward Edwards. Two years later the labors of Mr. Williston were rewarded by the organization of the *First Congregational Church of Lisle*, whose first pastor he became. At its organization the church consisted of eleven professing members, and five who were not professors. William Osborn was elected to the office of deacon in 1801, but it was not until 1810 that he and Andrew Squires, his colleague, were consecrated. Mr. Williston employed only half his time in pastoral duties in this Society, the residue being occupied in missionary labors in Union, Owego and Oquaga. From 1803, when he was installed pastor of this church, till 1810, when he was dismissed from it, he seems to have devoted all his time within the pastoral limits of this congregation. This church "was the earliest organized, it is believed, of any west of the Catskills and south of Utica."\* Their first house of worship was not erected until 1822. The present one, which will seat 400 persons, was erected two years later at a cost of \$3,000. The present pastor is Rev. R. A. Clark and the number of members, seventy. The Church property is valued at \$7,000.

The *M. E. Church*, of Lisle, was organized about 1815, by Rev. Geo. W. Densmore, its first pastor. The first class was organized in 1830 or '31, with P. B. Brooks as leader. Their house of worship, which will seat 250 persons, was erected in 1857, at a cost of \$2,000. The present pastor is Rev. A. W. Loomis; the number of members, eighty. The value of Church property is \$4,500.

The *Baptist Church* at Center Lisle was organized with seven members, in 1828. Their church edifice, which will seat 400 persons, was erected in 1856, at a cost of \$4,400. Rev. Asahel Holcomb was the first pastor; Rev. Gardner Dean is the present one. There are twenty-six members. The value of Church property is \$3,000.

The *Congregational Church* at Center Lisle was organized with nineteen members, June 14, 1830, by Rev. Seth Burt. Their first house of worship was erected two years later; and the present one, which will seat 400 persons, in 1855, at a cost of \$3,300. Rev. Alvin D. French was the first pastor; at present there is none. The number of members is sixty. The Church property is valued at \$6,000.

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\* *Annals of Binghamton*, p. 166.

The *Baptist Church* at Killawog was organized with sixty-nine members in 1841. Rev. David Leach was the first pastor. The church edifice occupied by this Society was erected in 1835, and repaired in 1868. It will seat 300 persons. Its original cost was \$3,000; its present value, together with all Church property, is \$5,000. There are fifty-one members, who are ministered to by Rev. Abner Lall.

The *M. E. Church* at Killawog was organized with thirty members by Rev. Arvine C. Bowdish, its first pastor, in 1867, in which year was erected their church edifice, which will seat 200 persons, at a cost of \$3,000, which is the present value of Church property. The present pastor is Rev. Reuben Fox; and the number of members, seventy-five.

The *M. E. Church* at Center Lisle was organized by Rev. D. D. Lindsley, the first pastor, in 1869, in which year their church edifice, which will seat 250 persons, was erected at a cost of \$4,500, which is the present value of Church property. Rev. A. W. Loomis is the present pastor.

**MAINE** was formed from Union, March 27, 1848.\* A part was annexed to Chenango in 1856. It is located about the center of the west border of the County. Its surface consists of ranges of hills, separated by numerous narrow valleys, the principal of which—the valley of Nanticoke Creek—extends in a north and south direction, a little west of the center of the town. The hills rise from 400 to 600 feet above the valley of Chenango River. The principal streams are Nanticoke, Bradley and Crocker creeks. Bradley Creek rises a little east of the center, and, flowing in a south-west direction, empties into Nanticoke Creek a little south of the south line in Union; Crocker Creek enters the town near the south-west corner, and, flowing in a general south-east direction, discharges its waters into the same stream, about the same distance north of the south line. Several minor tributaries of

\* The first town meeting was held in the school house in the village of Maine, on the 25th of the following April. At this meeting John C. Curtis, Sands Niles and Louis Gates were the presiding officers, and Nathaniel W. Eastman was clerk. In accordance with the resolutions then adopted the following named officers were elected: Andrew H. Arnold, *Supervisor*; John W. Hunt, *Town Clerk*; Marshall DeLano, *Superintendent of Common Schools*; John T. Davis, *Collector*; Cyrus Gates, John Blanchard and Hanan W. Moores, *Justices of the Peace*; Orange H. Arnold, Thomas Young Jr. and Wm. H. Tuttle, *Assessors*; Hanan Payne and Edward Ward, *Commissioners of Highways*; Dexter Hathaway and Matthew Allen, *Overseers of the Poor*; Eustis Hathaway, John B. Smith, Joel Benson and Ransom T. Gates, *Constables*; Jefferson Ransom, Anasa Durfee and Luke Curtis, *Inspectors of Elections*; James W. Carman, *Sealer of Weights and Measures*; and Lyman Poffard, *Pound Master*.

the Nanticoke spread, fan-like, over the north part, and all pursue a southerly direction. Little Choconut Creek flows almost due south through the south-east corner, entering the town on the north line of the southern angle which projects into the town of Chenango.

The soil is a gravelly loam largely intermixed with the underlying slate. The inhabitants are chiefly engaged in lumbering and dairying. Two "farmers' clubs" have been organized, and periodical meetings are held at the residences of the different members, and the deliberations are participated in by the families of the members. Crops, stock, out-buildings, agricultural implements, &c., are critically examined and commented upon. The subjects discussed at these meetings are designed to embrace all matters of interest to a farming community. Such meetings nurture amicable social relations and afford opportunities for the interchange of ideas, which will tend to stimulate a spirit of generous rivalry and promote the farming interests of the County at large.

The population of the town in 1870 was 2,035. Its area is 27,319 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres, of which, in 1865, according to the census of that year, 15,738 $\frac{1}{2}$ , were improved.

During the year ending Sept. 30, 1871, the town contained thirteen school districts and employed fourteen teachers. The number of children of school age was 634; the number attending school, 556; the average attendance, 283; the amount expended for school purposes, \$3,652; and the value of school houses and sites, \$5,325.

MAINE (p. v.) is located on the west bank of Nanticoke Creek, west of the center of the town. The principal part of the village is built in the form of a square. Its well laid out and neatly shaded streets present a pleasing aspect. It contains four stores, three churches, (Baptist, Congregational and M. E.) one hotel, a tannery,\* a rake factory,† a saw mill, a tin shop, three blacksmith shops, two cooper shops, a wagon shop, two shoe shops, one tailor shop and three hundred inhabitants.

EAST MAINE (p. o.) is located in the east part, south of the center, and contains a cooper shop, wagon shop and blacksmith shop.

BOWERS CORNERS is a hamlet located one mile north of Maine village and contains a store, a shoe shop, blacksmith shop and wagon shop.

\* The tannery contains 132 vats, employs twenty men, annually consumes 2,500 cords of bark and manufactures 12,000 hides.

† The rake manufactory produces annually an average of from 15,000 to 20,000 rakes in addition to other work of a miscellaneous character.

The two principal saw mills in the town are Pollard's and Baker's. The latter is a steam mill and is capable of sawing from 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 feet of lumber annually, though the yearly average does not exceed one and one-half million feet.

The town was principally settled by families from New Hampshire, Connecticut and Massachusetts. Benj. Norton settled about three-fourths of a mile above the site of Maine village, in 1794. He was a native of Stockbridge, Mass. In 1797 Alfred and Russell Gates, two brothers, came from the vicinity of Binghamton, where they had located four years previously, and settled in the north-west part of the town, now known as the Gates settlement. They cut their road through the forest from Centerville, a distance of seven miles. At that period they were in the habit of carrying their dinners to work with them; but they were obliged to be as careful in the selection of food as the most confirmed dyspeptic, as anything emitting an agreeable odor was sure to attract to them an escort of wolves, whose number and presence were far from awakening pleasurable emotions. Daniel Howard and Winthrop Roe came the same year. Moses Delano and Nathaniel Slosson are said to have been the first settlers in the vicinity of East Maine. They located there about the beginning of the present century, and were followed by Samuel Stone and Heman Payne in 1816, and by William Hogg in 1836. The latter was joined a few years later by a number of his relatives, who gave the settlement the name of Mount Ettrick, in honor of their uncle.\* By industry and intelligent farming they have done much to improve the locality in which they settled. James Ketchum, from Conn., came here from near Binghamton, where he settled about 1790, and located about three miles south-west of Maine village, on lot 155 of the Boston Purchase, in 1802. Timothy Caswell, who appears to have been the first settler in the locality known as the Allen settlement, located there in 1815, and was followed some five or six years later by John Mareau, and in 1836 by Ebenezer and Matthew Allen, from Otsego County. Marsena H. McIntyre, from Otsego County, settled in the north-west corner of the town, in what is known both as North Maine and the McIntyre settlement, on the 7th of May, 1829. The north-east part of the town was the last settled. It is known as "Canada" — a name it owes to the following incident: It was covered with a growth of very fine timber, which persons in its neighborhood were accustomed to appropriate to their own uses. Warrants were

\* James Hogg, the Scottish poet, who was born in the forest of Ettrick, in Selkirkshire, in 1772, and who in early life followed the occupation of a shepherd, was commonly known as "the Ettrick Shepherd."

frequently issued for the guilty parties, but the inquiries of the officers invariably elicited the reply that those for whom they were searching had gone to Canada.

During the war of the Rebellion this town furnished 190 men, nearly one hundred of whom belonged to the 50th Engineers. Of this number fifteen were killed.

The *Congregational Church*, located at Maine village, was organized with forty members, in 1818, and re-organized in 1833. Its first church edifice was erected in 1824; and the present one, which will seat 260 persons, in 1840, at a cost of \$3,000. The first pastor was Rev. Naham Gould; the present one is Rev. William T. Hayward. There are 220 members. The Church property is valued at \$7,500.

The *First Baptist Church of Maine* was organized with thirty-one members, by a Council\* convened at the Congregational Church, Jan. 21, 1835. The church edifice will seat 300 persons, was erected in 1840, at a cost of \$1500, and dedicated in Dec. of that year. Rev. William Gates was the first pastor; Rev. H. R. Dakin is the present one. There are 170 members. The value of Church property is \$6,000.

The *M. E. Church*, located near Union Center, was organized with forty-five members, in 1836, and its house of worship, which will seat two hundred persons, was erected the following year. Rev. S. Stocking, was the first pastor; the present one is Rev. Wesley Sartelle.

The *M. E. Church*, located at North Maine, was organized with thirteen members, in 1844, by Marsena H. McIntyre, Orange H. Arnold, Russell Robinson and George M. Hardendorf. Their church edifice was erected in 1870, and dedicated March 8, 1871. It cost \$3,000, which is the present value of Church property, and will seat 180 persons. There are thirty-eight members. Rev. Thomas Pitts was the first pastor; Rev. John A. Wood is the present one.

The *M. E. Church*, located at Maine village, was re-organized (the date of its first organization is not known) with forty members in 1866, by Russell Dodds, Clinton Cleveland, Henry Turner, Matthew Allen, James Howard, Daniel Dudley and Henry Van Tuyl. The church edifice, which will seat 150 persons, was erected in 1847 or '8, at a cost of \$2,000, which is one-half the present value of Church property. The first pastor

\*The Council was composed of the following named delegates: "Rev. J. R. Berdick, Owego, Deacon John Congdon, Binghamton, Rev. M. M. Everts, Berkshire and Lisle, Deacon B. Eldridge, Barker, Rev. J. J. Miller, 1st Green, Rev. N. Church, 2d Lisle."—*Extract from book in possession of Cyrus Gates.*

was Rev. Edgar Sibley; the present one is Rev. John A. Wood. There are forty members.

The *Abbott Church*, (M. E.) located at Dimmick Hill, (East Maine) was organized with forty members in 1868, in which year the church edifice, which will seat 250 persons, was erected, at a cost of \$2,200. The church was dedicated by Rev. Daniel W. Bristoe, D. D., Jan. 7, 1869. Rev. ——— Abbott was the first pastor; Rev. Edgar Sibley is the present one. There are fifty members. The Church property is valued at \$3,000.

A Presbyterian church is now in process of erection in the immediate vicinity of East Maine.

**NANTICOKE\*** was formed from Lisle April 18, 1831. It lies upon the west border, north of the center. The surface consists of an upland broken by a few narrow ravines. The highest summits are from 100 to 300 feet above the Susquehanna, and from 1,200 to 1,400 feet above tide. The town is watered by the two main branches of the Nanticoke and their tributaries. Both these branches flow south, one through the western, and the other through the eastern part. The soil upon the hills is a slaty loam underlaid by hardpan.

The town covers an area of 16,124½ acres, of which, in 1865, according to the census of that year, 7,413½, or less than one-half was improved. The population in 1870 was 1,058.

During the year ending Sept. 30, 1871, the town contained seven school districts and employed seven teachers. The number of children of school age was 399; the number attending school, 323; the average attendance, 161; the amount expended for school purposes, \$1,585; and the value of school houses and sites, \$2,310.

LAMBS CORNERS, (p. o.) located on Nanticoke Creek, west of the center of the town, contains two churches, (Baptist and M. E.) one store, a wagon shop, a blacksmith shop and two saw mills, one of which (Washington Johnson's) is quite extensive. It is run by steam, and in connection with it are a grist and planing mill. About 300,000 feet of lumber are annually cut, this being done in the spring of the year. The rest of the time is occupied in planing and finishing. The postoffice was established here in 1860 and was removed from Nanticoke Springs.

GLEN AUBREY, (p. o.) (formerly known as Councilman Settlement,) located on the east branch of the Nanticoke,

\*This name is derived from the Indian name of Nanticoke Creek.—*French's State Gazetteer*, p. 182.