

region his parents were pioneers. Young Strong came to this county in 1814 or 1815, and was an early teacher. About the same time he began reading law, and was admitted to practice in 1822. He became not only a prominent member of the county bar, but is remembered as having been one of the most eloquent orators of the region, and an extensive and successful practitioner, particularly in criminal cases. Judge Strong served as first judge of the Common Pleas by appointment, April 13, 1838, and as county judge by election in November, 1855, in all a period of nine years. He was district attorney of Tioga county from July, 1836, to July, 1838, and from February, 1844, to June, 1847. He represented the twenty-second district in the congress of 1845-47. Later he removed to Waterloo, N. Y., and there he died April 5, 1866.

Alanson Munger, the last of the old Common Pleas judges in Tioga county, was born in Ludlow, Mass., February 5, 1801. He removed to Madison county, N. Y., in 1827, was graduated at Hamilton college, and thence came to Owego in 1840. He formed a law partnership with Stephen Strong, which continued two years, but aside from this partnership Judge Munger always practiced alone. He is remembered as a safe counsellor, a good trial lawyer, and a man of sterling integrity and worth. He was appointed first judge February 2, 1843, and surrogate January 24, 1844. He was elected district attorney in 1850, and special county judge in 1861. He also served one term as justice of the peace of the town of Owego, and was the democratic candidate for the senate in 1869, but was defeated at the polls. In politics Judge Munger was a democrat. He was the first man in Friendship lodge, F. and A. M., to be raised to the degree of master mason. He died suddenly at his home in Owego, December 31, 1877.

Charles P. Avery, the first county judge elected under the constitution of 1846, was a native of Owego, born in 1818, and was the son of John H. Avery, the second resident lawyer of the village. Judge Avery studied law with Thomas Farrington, his brother-in-law, and was admitted to the bar in 1840. He practised continuously until 1847, when he was elected county judge, and at the expiration of his first term of office he was re-elected.

Judge Avery, it is well remembered, was deeply interested in the Indian and pioneer history of this part of the state, and from early settlers he gleaned many interesting and valuable reminiscences of pioneer life in the Susquehanna valley. Indeed, his series of articles published in *St. Nicholas*, in 1853 and 1854, have made the existing copies of that magazine of much historic value. He also accumulated a rare collection of Indian relics, which after his death was taken to Rochester. In 1856 Judge Avery removed to Flint, Mich., where he practised law until the spring of 1872, then returned to Owego, in greatly impaired health, and in that village he died on the 31st of August following.

Thomas Farrington, who for more than forty years was a practising lawyer in Tioga county, and a widely known public official in this state, was a native of Delhi, Delaware county, N. Y., born February 12, 1799. He was the son of General Putnam Farrington, a soldier of the war of 1812, and served as orderly on his father's staff during the service, then being but thirteen years of age. He was graduated at Union college in 1826, and two years later began the practice of law in Owego. He soon became prominent in public affairs, and in 1833 was elected to the assembly, in 1835 appointed surrogate, and re-elected to the assembly in 1840. He was one of the Owego village trustees in 1839 and 1857, and president of the village in 1850. From February 7, 1842, to February 3, 1845, Judge Farrington was state treasurer, and in the year last mentioned he was appointed adjutant-general of the state, holding until 1846, when, on February 2, he was re-appointed state treasurer and continued in office until November 2, 1847. In November, 1859, he was elected county judge of Tioga county, and was twice re-elected, serving three terms of four years each, and being succeeded in 1871 by the late judge Charles A. Clark. From this it will be seen that Judge Farrington was in all respects a public man, and it is a fact that his professional life was much broken by his public services. Nevertheless he was a good lawyer, a sound judicial officer, and a faithful public servant, esteemed both at home and abroad. In Owego Judge Farrington lived at the northwest corner of Front and Ross streets, and there he died December 2, 1872. His wife was the daughter of John H. Avery, the second practising lawyer of Tioga county.



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*Charles A. Clark*



Charles Austin Clark, who for twelve years, 1872 to 1884, was county judge of Tioga county, was a native of Guilford, Chenango county, N. Y. He was born May 28, 1830, the son of Austin Clark and Julia A. (Phelps) Clark. His grandfather, Gershom Clark, was a native of Tolland, Conn., a soldier of the Revolution who fought at Bunker Hill under General Putnam. He removed with his family from Tolland, Conn., in October, 1814, to Guilford, Chenango county, N. Y., where he purchased a large tract of land, upon which he and his five sons, then young men, settled, one of whom, Austin Clark, the father of Judge Clark, in the spring of 1835, removed with his family to South New Berlin, where he remained until the spring of 1856, when he permanently located in the town of Berkshire, this county. Here he died April 2, 1882, having reared to maturity five sons and six daughters. Charles A. was the eldest son. The family being large in number and limited in finances, although he attended district school, he chiefly acquired his early education by study at night and at odd times when not at work with his father on the farm. At the early age of seventeen he was teaching school at Gilbertsville, Otsego county. Later he read medicine at South New Berlin with Dr. S. C. Gibson and completed his medical education at the University of Michigan, from which he was graduated in the spring of 1853. Dr. Clark began the practice of medicine at Berkshire, in 1853, and soon removed to Bainbridge, Chenango county. The study of medicine and surgery he enjoyed, but the practice was not to his liking, therefore he discontinued medicine and returned to teaching, this time in a large and well-equipped select school at Bainbridge village. Here he was soon elected superintendent of schools, which position he occupied until 1856, when he removed with his family to New Jersey. In 1857 he returned to Berkshire and for three years following the spring of 1857 was in mercantile business there, and subsequently at Marathon and Oneonta. It had been his desire from childhood to study law, and he had acquired sufficient means to warrant the undertaking. He retired to his farm at Ketchumville, in Newark Valley, where he lived during 1864 and 1865, spending the better portion of his time in the study of law. In 1866 he removed to Oneonta, continued his

law studies in the office of General S. S. Burnside and on the 15th day of May, 1867, at Binghamton, was admitted to practice. He opened his first law office in Newark Valley, taking an active interest in his profession and as well in local politics, for in 1869 he was elected supervisor of the town and was twice re-elected, once without opposition. In the fall of 1871 he was the nominee of the republican party for the county judgeship and was elected. At the expiration of his first term, Judge Clark was renominated and re-elected. He served as county judge twelve years and declined to again be a candidate for the position. In the fall of 1883 he was a candidate for the Supreme Court bench, though defeated in the convention. The duties of the office of county judge brought Judge Clark to Owego to reside in 1872, and at the county seat he afterwards lived. Judge Clark was twice married; first, on May 30th, 1853, to Evelyn Amelia Hodge, of Oneonta, of which marriage two children were born: H. Austin Clark and Emily Lucretia Clark, now Mrs. Charles L. Noble, of Yonkers. Mrs. Clark died March 17th, 1878, and on December 28th, 1880, Judge Clark married Celestia D. Arnold, daughter of H. Nelson Dean and widow of Captain Thomas H. Arnold. For many years he was an elder of the First Presbyterian church of Owego and vice-president of the Tioga National Bank. January 1st, 1884, the law firm of C. A. & H. A. Clark was formed, the partnership comprising Judge Clark and his son, H. Austin Clark, the latter having been admitted to practice May 5th, 1876. The firm was known in active professional life through the Southern Tier until the death of the senior partner May 9th, 1891, and its business was succeeded to by the son. A leading journal of a neighboring county paid Judge Clark this tribute soon after his decease:

“The late Hon. Charles A. Clark, of Tioga county, was cast in a giant mould—large in stature, in mind and in heart. We refer to this now, not to emphasize a fact apparent to every one who knew him, but to call attention to the almost universal expression of sorrow from his associates and friends. It is no mean compliment to those who loved him longest and knew him best that they appreciated his manly and noble qualities.”

Charles Edward Parker, present presiding justice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme court, Third department, was born in the village of Owego on the 25th of August, 1836, and was the son of John Mason and Catherine Ann (Pumpelly) Parker. He was educated at the old Owego academy, and was graduated at Hobart College, class of 1857. He read law in the office of his father and was admitted to the bar in the fall of 1859. From that until the present time Judge Parker has been a member of the Tioga county bar, devoted to the profession, although during the last thirteen years the routine of office practice has been laid aside while he has filled the positions of county judge and justice of the Supreme court. In 1866 Judge Parker was elected a member of the constitutional convention of 1867, and was the youngest member, save one, of that body. In November, 1883, he was elected county judge of Tioga county and served until January 1, 1888, when he resigned and began the performance of his duties as justice of the Supreme court, to which office he was elected on the 8th of November, 1887. Again on the 8th of October, 1895, Judge Parker was appointed, by Governor Morton, presiding justice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme court, Third department, state of New York, which position he now holds.

David T. Easton was appointed county judge on December 31, 1887, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Judge Parker. Judge Easton was a native of Dover Plains, N. Y., and first came to Tioga county in 1843, and attended the old Owego academy. In 1848 he went to New York, where he read law and was admitted to practice January 1, 1852. He practised seventeen years in New York, came to Apalachin in 1861 and to Owego in 1871, in the latter place being law-partner with Col. N. W. Davis. This firm continued until the death of Col. Davis, July 31, 1874. Judge Easton has ever since 1861 been a member of the county bar, and now lives in the town of Nichols.

Howard J. Mead, present county judge and surrogate, was born in the town of Caroline, Tompkins county, March 7, 1848, and was the son of David P. and Mary C. (Green) Mead. His grandfather, Dr. Daniel L. Mead, was one of the first physicians of Tompkins county. David P. Mead and his family removed from

Slaterville to Mottville, and in the latter place the young life of Howard was passed. He was educated in Tompkins county and taught school about four years. Later he read law with Lyman Donnelly and then entered Albany Law School, from which he was graduated February 10, 1871. In the same month he was admitted to practise law and located at Candor, where he remained until January 1, 1885, the date on which the former Owego law-firm of Mead & Darrow was formed. January 1, 1885, Judge Mead entered upon his duties as county judge and surrogate, having been elected to that office in November preceding; and in November, 1894, he was re-elected to a second term on the bench. While practising in Candor, in the fall of 1879, Judge Mead was elected district attorney of the county, and was re-elected in 1882.

#### THE OLD BAR.

The bar of Tioga county has ever been noted for its strength. On the bench and at the bar of the courts have been men of the highest professional character and of great moral worth. Of the leading legal minds of this state Tioga has furnished her full quota, many of whom have attained distinction and some have acquired eminence. They have been characterized by strict integrity and rare ability—qualities which have made for them a high place, not only in the courts, but as well in the legislative halls both of the state and of the nation.

All past writers of Tioga county history agree that the first practising lawyer of the county proper was Eleazer Dana, who came to Owego in the year 1800, but that there was no attorney residing within the county as now constituted previous to that time. It must be remembered, however, that the old town and settlement of Newtown (now Elmira) was within original Tioga, and that General Vincent Matthews, David Powers, and Peter Loop were lawyers residing and practicing there previous to 1792. Indeed, Vincent Matthews has been well called the pioneer of the bar in western New York, and who, according to O'Reilly's "Sketches of Rochester," left Orange county for Newtown about 1789, was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the state in 1790, and in Montgomery (meaning Tioga) and Ontario counties in 1791. In 1794-5 he represented Tioga county in the assembly,



in 1796, and again in 1803, was state senator, and in 1809–11 was member of congress. In 1821 he settled in Rochester. Chenango, too, had its little coterie of lawyers after the settlement there became a half-shire town in 1803, but in 1806 the erection of Broome county separated them from Tioga. However, it is proper in this connection to briefly refer to some of the old and more prominent lawyers of Tioga county, who were the recognized leaders of the bar during the period of their practice.

Eleazer Dana, the first lawyer, was born at Ashford, Conn., August 12, 1772, and studied law and was admitted to the bar at Newtown (Elmira) in 1800. His father was Anderson Dana, a victim of the Wyoming massacre. Eleazer Dana came to Owego the same year in which he was admitted and in after life became prominent in public affairs. He was postmaster at Owego from 1802 to 1816, was appointed surrogate of Broome county in 1806, and represented the same county in the assembly in 1808–9. He was district-attorney of Tioga county from 1823 to 1826; was a member of the first board of trustees of Owego village, and also one of the original trustees of the old Owego academy. The office of trustee he held to the time of his death, May 1, 1845. Mr. Dana was one of the founders of the Presbyterian church in Owego village, and one of the trustees from its organization in 1810 until he died. His residence in Owego was in Front street, about on the site now occupied by J. C. Dwelle's house.

John H. Avery, the second lawyer, was born in 1783, and came to Owego to practice law in 1801. His residence was also on Front street, where Dr. E. D. Downs now lives. Mr. Avery was member of assembly in 1814, but, while a highly esteemed man and lawyer, he had little inclination for public life. He died at Owego, September 1, 1837, at the age of fifty-four years. His sons were Judge Charles P. Avery, mentioned elsewhere in this chapter, and Guy H. Avery, of New York City.

William Platt, the third practicing lawyer of Owego and the fifth in Tioga county, came to the local bar in 1814. He was born at Bedford, Westchester county, N. Y., October 29, 1791, and came to Nichols with his father, Jonathan Platt, Jr., one of the pioneers of that town, in 1793. He studied law with John H. Avery, and

began his law practice in Owego village in 1814. He was for many years agent for the "Coxe Patent" land tract, and an active, energetic, straightforward business man and lawyer. Mr. Platt died in Owego January 12, 1855. His sons were Thomas C., Frederick E., and William H. Platt.

Ezra Smith Sweet, grandson of Silas Sweet and son of Paul Sweet, of New Bedford, Mass., and Bradford, Vt., was born in New Bedford, June 3, 1796. After teaching for a time, Mr. Sweet read law with Samuel Stevens, of Salem, N. Y., and in December, 1825, removed to Owego and began the practice of law in partnership with William Platt. In 1832 he became partner with Nathaniel W. Davis, a relation which continued several years. Later he practiced alone, and when his son, Charles H. Sweet, was admitted to the bar (1847) the law firm of E. S. and C. H. Sweet was formed. For almost half a century Ezra S. Sweet was identified with the legal profession in Tioga county, and was regarded as one of its best representatives. For several years he was justice of the peace, and was district-attorney from 1838 to 1841, and again from 1847 to 1851. He represented the county in the assembly in 1849. Mr. Sweet died in Owego, October 16, 1869.

Nathaniel W. Davis, more familiarly known among his friends as Colonel Davis, was a native of Connecticut, born at Weston, Fairfield county, May 10, 1807. He was educated for the legal profession at Ithaca, N. Y., and became a member of the Tioga county bar in 1832, practicing at the county seat. Colonel Davis was a popular man both in professional and social life, and was interested in military affairs, being for several years colonel of the 53d and 54th regiments of state militia. He was surrogate from 1840 to 1844, and member of assembly in 1844 and 1863; was village trustee in 1839, 1842, and 1847, and president of the village in 1859 and 1860. Colonel Davis died in Owego, July 31, 1874.

John J. Taylor may be truthfully mentioned in this chapter as one of the giants of the legal profession in Tioga county and in the the southern tier, for he undoubtedly was one of the strongest and ablest lawyers of the region in his time, and during the long period of his practice he was connected with some of the most important cases tried in this county. John James Taylor was the son of



*By H. C. Smith, N. Y.*

*John J. Taylor.*



English parents, John and Anne Taylor, who emigrated to this country from Oldham, near Manchester, England. He was born at Leominster, Worcester county, Mass., April 27, 1808. At about fourteen years of age he took a college preparatory course at New Ipswich academy, N. H., also one at the Groton academy in Massachusetts, and entered Harvard in 1825. He was graduated in August, 1829, then taught school a few months, and in 1830 became a law-student in the office of Judge David Buell, of Troy, N. Y. Later on he pursued his studies with John A. Collier, at Binghamton, but soon afterward located at Greene, Chenango county, where he both studied and practiced law. December 31, 1834, Mr. Taylor came to Owego, and on the next day entered into partnership with Stephen Strong in the practice of law. This firm was dissolved in August, 1838. Among his later partners may be mentioned James B. Edmunds, 1853 to 1855; James P. Lovejoy, 1858-9, and George A. Madill, April, 1860, to April, 1865. As a lawyer, John J. Taylor occupied a position in the first rank in the county, and much of his success in practice was due to close study and application, for he was a persevering and industrious worker. In the preparation of his cases he was cautious and methodical, but hardly laborious, and he entered into every legal contest fully armed and equipped; he struck no foul blow, and, victor or vanquished, he was still a knight, "without fear and without reproach." On all of the political questions of the day he entertained clear and well settled convictions, and was perfectly frank in the expression of them. He was always a democrat, a "state-rights" believer and advocate, having full faith in the ability of each people to govern itself. In June, 1841, he was appointed district attorney of the county and filled that office until succeeded by George Sidney Camp in February, 1843. He was a member of the constitutional convention of 1846, and in 1850 was the democratic nominee for congress, but was defeated at the polls. In 1852 he was re-nominated and elected by a fair majority over Charles Cook, of Havana. In congress he was a member of the committee on foreign affairs, also of that on the District of Columbia, and was in excellent favor with the administration. He was tendered an appointment as commissioner to settle the northwest-

ern boundary of the United States, but declined, and his name was also favorably mentioned in connection with the collectorship of the port of New York. In 1858 he was nominated for the office of lieutenant-governor, on the ticket with Amasa J. Parker, but the party was defeated in the campaign of that year. In all local enterprises Mr. Taylor was looked upon as a generous and public-spirited citizen, and one who stood high in the estimation of his fellow townsmen. He was one of the organizers of the old Bank of Tioga, afterward the National Union bank, and was for many years its president. He was at one time vice-president and later president of the Southern Central railroad company. In religious preference he was an Unitarian; his wife a Presbyterian. He married May 18, 1837, with Emily G. Laning of Owego, by whom he had two children, John L. Taylor, of Owego, and Sarah, who became the wife of L. Burr Pearsall, and is now dead. John J. Taylor died July 1, 1892.

George Sidney Camp was a native of Tioga county, born at Owego on February 5, 1816, yet his professional career in his native county did not begin until the latter part of the year 1841; and it terminated suddenly and unexpectedly on the 14th of February, 1888. By his death the Tioga county bar lost one of its most distinguished and cultivated members. Mr. Camp acquired his early education at the old Owego academy, and entered Yale College in 1832. At the end of his sophomore year he changed to the University of the City of New York, but left at the close of his junior year, and became a student in the law office of Judge Stephen Strong, in Owego. He subsequently continued his studies in New York city, and was admitted to the bar May 18, 1838. The first three years of his professional life were spent in New York, but in December, 1841, he returned to Owego and became a member of the local bar, partner with Stephen Strong, a relation which continued to 1856, when the latter was elected county judge. After that time Mr. Camp practiced without a partner. George Sidney Camp, for by his full name he was generally called, was indeed one of the strongest lawyers of Tioga county, yet he was a man of conservative habits, of quiet and refined tastes, of companionable and naturally sympathetic nature, a genial associate, and always

a gentleman. He inclined strongly to literary pursuits and was the author of several articles which attracted much attention both in this county and abroad. But notwithstanding these distinguishing characteristics, Mr. Camp was the peer of any lawyer in the Southern Tier during the period of his active practice ; and while he instinctively shrunk from the bitter legal contests frequently waged in the courts, he nevertheless proved equal to every emergency and was an opponent of no mean worth. Still he preferred the office and its quiet and less burdensome work. He sought no political preferment and his only service in office was as district attorney, to which place he was appointed in 1843, and in which he served one year. During the last fifteen years of his life, Mr. Camp combined farming with professional work, and in it found rest and recreation. He fancied live stock and was a breeder of fine Jersey cattle.

Austin Blair, the old war-governor of Michigan, was a former member of the Tioga county bar, having studied law in the office of Sweet & Davis in 1839 and 1840, and was admitted to practice in 1841. In the same year he went to Michigan, locating first at Jackson but soon removed to Eaton Rapids for a brief period, where he was elected county clerk. However, he soon returned to Jackson, where he resided until the time of his death, August 9, 1894. Austin Blair was born at Speedsville, N. Y., February 8, 1818, and prepared for college at West Newark, under the instruction of Benjamin Walter. He attended Cazenovia seminary and afterward entered Union college, from which he was graduated in 1839. He then came to Owego. In 1846 Mr. Blair was elected to the Michigan house of representatives as a whig, but in 1848 he declined to support General Taylor and attended the Buffalo convention which nominated Van Buren and Adams. In 1852 he was elected prosecuting attorney of Jackson county, and in 1854 was one of the organizers of the republican party in his state. Two years later he was elected to the senate, and after serving two terms was, in 1860, elected governor of Michigan, and in 1862 was re-elected. Beginning in 1867, he was three terms in congress, and as late as 1885 he was again elected prosecuting attorney of

Jackson county. For seven years, also, he was a regent of the state university.

William Fiske Warner was born at Hardwick, Vt., January 18, 1819, but spent nearly all of his young life in northern Pennsylvania. His parents intended him for the ministry and began his early education to that end, but young Warner preferred other pursuits, left the school to which he had been sent, and in November, 1834, came to Owego and found employment in William Pumpelly's store. In less than a year he had almost general charge of the business, but every leisure hour he devoted to study. March 18, 1843, he began a course of law-study in the office of Col. Nathaniel W. Davis, and after three years was admitted to the bar. He at once became law-partner with Col. Davis, continuing such nine years, then for five years following 1853 he practiced alone. April 1, 1858, was formed the law firm of Warner, Tracy & Walker, comprising Mr. Warner, Benj. F. Tracy, and the late Gilbert C. Walker. This firm was dissolved in April, 1859, when Governor Walker removed to Chicago, and was succeeded by Warner & Tracy until April, 1860, when the partners separated. In the early part of 1865 Mr. Warner opened an office in New York city, and removed his family to Montclair, N. J. Two years later the results of overwork necessitated a change, whereupon he made an extended European tour, and returned fully restored to health, and took up his residence in Niles, Michigan. In September, 1871, he was persuaded to return to Tioga county, residing at Waverly and resuming law-practice. For many years Mr. Warner was one of the most public-spirited men of Owego, and every measure tending to advance local interests found in him a generous supporter. He organized the Owego Gas Company in 1856, and was its president, superintendent and treasurer for many years. He was chairman of the committee which built the Presbyterian church, supervising the work of construction and laying out and improving the grounds. Originally a whig, he became a democrat when the whig party disbanded. In local politics he held the office of village clerk several years, and was the first president under the village charter, holding that office three years. He prepared all the charter amendments from 1851



to 1857, and also advocated and carried through the project of Evergreen cemetery. In Waverly he evinced the same public spirit, organizing the gas company, interesting himself in the water works and other local improvements. He was elected special county judge in 1856, and was once the democratic candidate for the county judgeship. He was also an interested student of local history and in 1876 wrote by request the centennial history of Tioga county. May 7, 1846, Mr. Warner married with Helen J. Dana, daughter of Eleazer Dana. Mr. Warner died November 7, 1890.

Benjamin Franklin Tracy, whose most recent public service was as secretary of the navy, appointed by General Harrison, president, on March 5, 1889, and who has been as highly honored by selection for places of special prominence as any son of Tioga, was born at Apalachin in 1829, and was the son of Benjamin Tracy, an early settler in the town of Owego, and the grandson of Thomas Tracy, one of the pioneers of the Susquehanna valley. Benjamin F. was educated in the district schools, and at Owego, and for some time was himself a teacher. He read law in Col. Davis's office and was admitted to the bar in 1851. Two years later he was elected district-attorney of Tioga county, and re-elected at the expiration of his term. In 1858, he, with the late W. F. Warner and Gilbert C. Walker, formed the law-firm of Warner, Tracy & Walker. Governor Walker retired from the firm in 1859, and the other partners dissolved in 1860. July 22, 1862, General Tracy, then member of assembly from this county, was authorized by the war department to raise a regiment of volunteers in the counties of Broome, Tioga, and Tompkins. This he did, and, on the organization of the regiment at Binghamton, it was given the numerical designation of One Hundred and Ninth Infantry, "Colonel Benjamin F. Tracy commanding." Soon after the battle of the Wilderness, May 5-6-7, 1864, General Tracy resigned and was placed in command of the Confederate prisoners' camp, and of the headquarters for drafted men, at Elmira. At the close of the war General Tracy went to Brooklyn and resumed law practice, and soon attained a position of prominence among the distinguished lawyers of the state. October 1, 1866, he was appointed, by Presi-

dent Johnson, United States district-attorney for the Eastern District of New York, and January 23, 1871, President Grant re-appointed him to the same office. He declined a third appointment and returned to his law practice in Brooklyn, partner with General Catlin. December 8, 1881, General Tracy was appointed judge of the Court of Appeals, and March 5, 1889, he was appointed Secretary of the Navy by President Harrison. With the close of Harrison's administration General Tracy returned to Brooklyn and to his law practice, but during all the years of his public service and residence in the metropolitan district he has maintained his associations with Tioga county; and at this time, and for many years past, he has operated a large stock-farm at Apalachin.

Gilbert C. Walker was born at Cuba, Allegany county, August 1, 1833, and came to the Tioga county bar, at Owego, in August, 1855. In 1858 he became one of the law-firm of Warner, Tracy & Walker, but in 1859 retired and removed to Chicago. He went to Norfolk, Va., in 1864, where he was president of the Exchange bank for three years. In 1869 he was elected governor of Virginia, serving one term, and in 1874 was elected to congress from the Richmond district. In 1876 he was re-elected, and at the end of his second term came to Binghamton, N. Y., and practised law in partnership with the late Charles A. Hull. Governor Walker died in Binghamton, May 11, 1885.

Charles A. Munger was the son of Judge Alanson Munger and succeeded the latter as special county judge in 1864. Charles was born at Hamilton, N. Y., July 13, 1830, and began practicing law about the time he attained his majority. He was twice special county judge, and was also justice of the peace, but his favorite pastime was contributing to various magazines. He was a writer of splendid ability, and, in addition, was a poet of no ordinary genius. He died at Owego, September 3, 1873. In 1874 a volume of his poems was published at the request of his numerous friends.

Isaac S. Catlin, better known perhaps throughout the state as General Catlin, was a native of Tioga county, born at Apalachin, July 8, 1833. He studied law in New York city and in 1859 came to the Tioga county bar. Soon after he became a member of the law-firm of Warner, Tracy & Catlin. In January, 1861, he was

elected president of Owego village, and within the next ninety days he left Owego for Washington, D. C., as captain of Co. H, Third N. Y. Vol. Infantry. He resigned, and in the summer of 1862 he assisted in the organization of the famous 109th regiment, and was elected and commissioned its lieutenant-colonel. When Colonel Tracy resigned General Catlin succeeded him in command. At Petersburg, July 30, 1864, General Catlin lost a leg. He afterward was given a colonel's commission in the regular army and stationed at Louisville, Ky., where he was promoted to brigadier-general. On his return from the service General Catlin resumed law-practice, and in 1865 was elected district-attorney of Tioga county. Later he removed to Brooklyn and was partner with General Tracy ; and was twice elected district attorney of Kings county. General Catlin has a splendid stock farm near Apalachin, where he passes the summer season.

George A. Madill came to Owego from Towanda, Pa., and began the practice of law in partnership with John J. Taylor, April 19, 1860. That relation was continued until April 14, 1865, when the junior partner, Judge Madill, removed to St. Louis, Mo., where he afterward became prominent both as a lawyer and magistrate, and in fact was one of the foremost men of that city, where he still lives. He was elected judge of the St. Louis Circuit Court in 1874.

Another member of the old bar and one of the shrewdest lawyers of his day was Ziba A. Leland, for a long time the law partner of John H. Avery, of Owego. Mr. Leland came here in 1820, and in 1822 was appointed justice of the peace. He removed to Bath. He was first judge of Steuben county from 1838 to 1843, and represented that county in the Assembly in 1842 and 1843. He subsequently removed to Saratoga, where he died.

About twenty years ago John J. Taylor, then senior member of the Tioga county bar, prepared a list of the lawyers of the county from the year 1800 down to about 1877. Having access to many of Mr. Taylor's accumulated papers, the present writer is able to reproduce the list mentioned, together with a reasonably accurate roll of the members of the bar from 1878 to the present time. The latter portion of the list is compiled from court calendars and records, and the year noted opposite each name indicates the time in

which it first appears. According to these authorities the attorneys of Tioga county have been as follows ;

- 1800—Eleazer Dana.  
 1801—John H. Avery.  
 1810—John Tillinghast.  
 1812—Daniel Cruger.  
 1814—William Platt.  
 1816—Latham A. Burrows.  
 1819—Seth A. L. Warner.  
 1820—Ziba A. Leland.  
 1822—Stephen Strong, Ezra Starkweather,  
 Ezra S. Sweet.  
 1826—Henry Wells.  
 1827—Cyrus Dana.  
 1828—Thomas Farrington.  
 1830—Robert Charles Johnson.  
 1831—David Riddle.  
 1832—Charles Noble, Nathaniel W. Davis.  
 1833—Ira Clizbee, John M. Parker.  
 1834—Henry H. Wells.  
 1835—John J. Taylor, John E. Clancey,  
 Gardner Knapp.  
 1836—Samuel Barstow.  
 1838—George Sidney Camp, C. Manuel  
 Harmon.  
 1840—Alanson Munger, W. L. Sherman,  
 Charles P. Avery.  
 1841—Austin Blair, Algernon S. Nye,  
 Thomas P. Waterman, John A. Nichols.  
 1842—B. C. Whiting.  
 1844—Isaac B. Headley, William Fiske  
 Warner, Robert H. S. Hyde.  
 1845—Frederick J. Fay, Solomon Giles.  
 1846—Edward G. Gibson, Charles E. Fil-  
 kins.  
 1847—Elisha P. Higbe, Charles H. Sweet,  
 George W. Coburn, Gurdon Hewitt, Jr.,  
 M. S. Leonard, J. Newton Jerome.  
 1848—George B. Wood.  
 1851—Benjamin F. Tracy.  
 1852—George W. Parker, Octavius Yates.  
 1853—James B. Edmunds, Adolphus G.  
 Allen.  
 1854—L. B. Pert.  
 1856—Gilbert C. Walker, Delos O. Han-  
 cock.  
 1857—Charles A. Munger.  
 1858—C. W. Ormsbee.  
 1859—Isaac S. Catlin, Willoughby Bab-  
 cock, James P. Lovejoy, Charles E. Par-  
 ker.  
 1860—John S. Hopkins, Elbert O. Scott.  
 1861—George A. Madill, John Hutchins.  
 1864—Eugene B. Gere, — Abbey, Charles  
 F. Johnson, Jr., Samuel W. Hunt, Al-  
 bert A. Twiss.  
 1866—F. D. Wright, James B. Caryll, F.  
 J. McLean.  
 1867—John G. Storrs, Paul I. Hedges,  
 William H. Gale, Charles A. Clark,  
 Oliver P. Harris.  
 1868—Henry H. Rouse, Ambrose P. Eaton.  
 1869—Lyman Settle, Charles Hayden, Mil-  
 ton J. Warner, James S. Tozer, John E.  
 Ashe, M. M. Cady, Charles D. Nixon, J.  
 Newton Dexter.  
 1870—S. O. Lockwood, Jacob B. Floyd, M.  
 V. B. Sweetlove, Jerry S. Gross.  
 1871—David T. Easton, Howard J. Mead,  
 Josiah C. Pumpelly.  
 1872—Charles F. Barager, John H. Rumpff,  
 Richard A. Elmer.  
 1873—Coe Mullock.  
 1874—Harrison Bostwick, J. F. Shoemaker,  
 Charles E. Hoilenback, William D. Pearne,  
 Charles N. Matson.  
 1876—Peter P. Gallagher, E. H. Ryan, H.  
 Austin Clark, John R. Murray.  
 1877—C. D. Watkins, F. P. Harkness.  
 1878—Charles P. Masterson, Frank A. Dar-  
 row.  
 1879—L. J. Barnes.  
 1880—D. Wellington Allen, R. A. Bennett,  
 Oscar B. Glezen, Rodolph C. Oakley, Timo-  
 thy B. Oakley, John G. Sears, Chester D.  
 Van Vradenburg.

- 1881—Frederick H. Church, Jonathan C. Latimer, D. J. M. Loop.  
 1883—George F. Andrews, Henry A. Balcom, Rev. M. G. Bullock, Romaine F. Bieber, E. F. Goff, H. C. Hutton, G. Ernest Lindsley.  
 1884—S. Jay Ohart, Martin S. Lynch, Willis H. Moses.  
 1887—Fred C. Hill, Lyman T. Stanbrough.  
 1888—Edward E. Dean, Stephen S. Wallis, W. Scott Smith, Frank Beck.  
 1889—Benjamin W. Loring, Jr.  
 1890—Edward E. Fredenburg, Theodore R. Tuthill.  
 1891—W. N. Fessenden, Herman D. Walters.  
 1892—Philip H. Hull, James T. Rogers, William H. Russell.  
 1893—Fred W. Clifford, J. T. Gridley, Frederick E. Hawkes, Henry E. Barrett.  
 1894—Frank A. Bell, Charles Nelson Dohs, DeWitt A. Millen, Clarence I. Nixon, Benjamin S. Spaulding,  
 1895—R. D. Wicke.  
 1896—Fred J. Davis.

THE PRESENT BAR.

In the department of this work relating to Personal Chronology will be found sketches of members of the bar in the county.

- |                               |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Adolphus G. Allen, Waverly.   | Frederick E. Hawkes, Waverly.    |
| D. Wellington Allen, Waverly. | Fred C. Hill, Owego.             |
| George F. Andrews, Owego.     | Philip H. Hull, Waverly.         |
| Henry E. Barrett, Owego.      | J. C. Latimer, Tioga.            |
| Frank Beck, Owego.            | Benjamin W. Loring, Jr., Owego.  |
| Frank A. Bell, Waverly.       | Martin S. Lynch, Owego.          |
| H. Austin Clark, Owego.       | Howard J. Mead, Owego.           |
| Fred W. Clifford, Owego.      | DeWitt A. Millen, Newark Valley. |
| Frank A. Darrow, Owego.       | Charles D. Nixon, Owego.         |
| Fred J. Davis, Owego.         | Clarence I. Nixon, Owego.        |
| David T. Easton, Owego.       | Timothy B. Oakley, Owego.        |
| Ambrose P. Eaton, Smithboro.  | Charles E. Parker, Owego.        |
| E. E. Fredenburg, Candor.     | J. F. Shoemaker, Waverly.        |
| W. N. Fessenden, Candor.      | Lyman T. Stanbrough, Owego.      |
| J. B. Floyd, Waverly.         | Theodore R. Tuthill, Owego.      |
| J. S. Gross, Owego.           | Stephen S. Wallis, Owego.        |
| J. T. Gridley, Candor.        | R. D. Wicke, Owego.              |
| Oscar B. Glezen, Owego.       |                                  |
| O. P. Harris, Nichols.        |                                  |

## CHAPTER XIV.

## THE MEDICAL PROFESSION IN TIOGA COUNTY.

THE dawning of medical science which now sheds its light throughout the world began with Hippocrates nearly twenty-three hundred years ago, and he first treated of medicine with the simplest remedies, relying chiefly on the healing powers of nature. He wrote extensively, and many of his works were translated and served as the foundation for the succeeding literature of the profession. However, the greatest advances in medical science have been made during the last hundred years, and chiefly during the last half century. Physiologists no longer believe, as did the practitioners of the sixteenth century, that the planets have a direct and controlling action on the body, the sun on the heart and the moon on the brain; nor do they now believe that the vital spirits are prepared in the brain by distillation. On the contrary modern physiology teaches that the phenomena of the living body are the results of physical and chemical changes; the temperature of the blood is ascertained by the thermometer, and the different fluids and gases of the body are analyzed by the chemist, giving to each its own properties and functions.

There are now known to botanists more than one hundred and fifty thousand plants, many of which are constantly being added to the already appalling list of new remedies. Many of these new drugs possess little if any virtue, yet by liberal advertising they hold a place in nearly every drug store.

The ancients were not so well supplied with drugs and were compelled to resort to other means of cure. It was a custom among the Babylonians to expose their sick to the view of passers-by in order to learn of them whether they had been afflicted with a like distemper, and by what remedies they had been cured. It was also a custom of those days for all persons who had been sick to put up a tablet in the temple of Esculapius, whereon they gave

an account of the remedies by which they had been restored. Prior to the time of Hippocrates all medicines were in the hands of the priests and were associated with numerous superstitions, such as charms, amulets, and incantations; sympathetic ointments were applied to the weapon with which a wound had been made; human or horse flesh was used for the cure of epilepsy, and convulsions were treated with human brains. Yet, notwithstanding the great and wide advances made in all the branches of medical science during the last century, this credulous superstition of early ages has not been fully wiped out by the generally advanced education of the present day. One of the latest appeals to the credulity of the people is the so-called "Christian Science," and the "Faith Cure." The persons seeking to popularize this means of cure are either deceived themselves or are deceiving others. On this point a popular writer has said: "Filth brings fever, and prayer cannot interpose."

It is not the purpose of this work to treat at any length of ancient or even modern medical history, and while a review of the progress of this science from the time of the Egyptian medical deities, or the Greek or Roman medical mythology, would be both interesting and instructive, it is hardly a part of the medical history of Tioga county; and the introductory observations are merely to suggest to the reader the difference between the ancient and modern means of healing.

The medical profession of Tioga county has preserved but little of its own history, and while there are meagre records by which may be learned the proceedings and membership of the medical societies that have been formed, one of them dating back to the early years of the century, there are no reliable data upon which can be based a history of the development of the profession in the county. The great advance in all branches of art and science has indeed been marvellous, but in none has there been greater progress than in medicine and surgery.

The settlement of the region now included in Tioga county began soon after the revolution, but progressed slowly during the first half score of years. The country was then an almost unbroken wilderness, except as occasional improvements had been made by

the Indian in the fertile Susquehanna valley. At that time, and indeed for many years afterward, the facilities for obtaining a medical education were very limited. The state of New York, unlike New England and Pennsylvania, had done little to encourage science, and there were few schools of medicine worthy of the name nearer than Boston or Philadelphia. Few young men could afford to go so far to qualify themselves for a profession which offered but little pecuniary inducement, and the prevailing custom was for the medical aspirant to enter the office of some physician and read two or three years, at the same time accompanying his tutor in his professional visits and learn his methods of practice. At the end of the term the young doctor would seek some promising field and begin life.

The legislation which then regulated the admission and practice of physicians was so defective as to be really worthless. However, in 1806 an act was passed repealing all former laws relating to the profession, and at the same time authorizing a general state medical society, and also county societies. The enabling act was passed April 4, and October 13 of the same year the physicians of Tioga county held a meeting and organized the Tioga county medical society. However, several years previous to the formation of the society a number of prominent pioneer physicians were settled and in practice in the county. Therefore, before proceeding to a detailed history of the society it is proper to recall in a general way the names of some of the early physicians, those at least who antedated the organization. The reader must remember, however, that in 1806, the year in which the society was formed, Tioga county was somewhat peculiarly situated. The erection of Broome county took from the mother shire all her territory east of Owego creek, and the result was that Doctors Tinkham, Waldo, Ely, Fay, and possibly others, now forgotten, were residents of Broome, whereas in fact they were also pioneers of the profession in Tioga. Yet, in 1822 the territory of the present towns of Owego, Newark Valley, Berkshire, and Richford was restored to Tioga county.

#### RECOLLECTIONS OF EARLY PHYSICIANS.

According to well authenticated records, the pioneer physician



of original Tioga county was Dr. Joseph Hinchman, who settled in the old town of Chemung in 1788, and who in 1793 or '94 removed to Newtown. Dr. Hinchman was born at Jamaica, Long Island, August 28, 1762, and was the son and grandson of a physician. His father was a surgeon on a British man-of-war during the French war, and the pioneer of the profession in Tioga county was himself a soldier in the American army during the revolution. February 18, 1795, Dr. Hinchman was appointed sheriff of Tioga county. He died July 23, 1802.

Another of the early and prominent physicians of Newtown was Amos Park, the first president of the medical society. He came from Orange county in 1793, and is said to have built the first framed house in Elmira. Dr. Elias Satterlee was one of the original members of the medical society, and also lived in the western part of old Tioga. Dr. Chrisjohn Scott is said to have been in the Newtown region previous to 1800, though his name does not appear on the medical society records.

The pioneer physician of Tioga county, within its present boundaries, was Dr. Samuel Tinkham, a native of Plymouth, Mass., born July 17, 1769, and whose mother was the great great granddaughter of Miles Standish. Dr. Tinkham was a graduate of Dartmouth college, and received his medical education at Philadelphia. He came to Tioga county in 1788, locating at the Goodrich settlement, in the present town of Tioga, where the proprietary intended to establish a village. However, in 1793 Dr. Tinkham came to Owego, and with Caleb Leach purchased at mortgage sale a considerable tract of land on the south side of Front street, also other parcels, which had been owned by James McMaster, and were by him mortgaged to Robert H. Bowne, a New York merchant. Dr. Tinkham afterward lived in Owego, and was engaged in general trading, his store standing west of the entrance to the bridge, on Front street. His medical practice was extensive and his drives long and sometimes tedious. His fatal illness came in the fall of 1804. He had visited New York city and there contracted yellow fever. After returning home he was soon called to attend a patient in Newark Valley, and while on the visit was suddenly stricken, and died at the house of Mr. Sparrow. Dr. Tinkham

married with Mary, the daughter of Col. David Pixley, and to them were born three children: Sarah E., who married William Pumpelly; Samuel Standish, and David P. Tinkham.

Dr. James H. Tinkham was the grandson of Dr. Samuel Tinkham, and was born in Owego, March 16, 1836. In July, 1861, he entered the United States service as naval surgeon, and although a young man was nevertheless a physician of much promise and a surgeon of unusual ability. In 1879, during a visit to Owego, he was attacked with quick consumption, and died July 2d of that year. During his illness, Dr. Tinkham was ordered as fleet-surgeon to the West Indies squadron.

Dr. Elisha Ely was another of the early physicians of the county, and came to Owego from Saybrook, Conn., in the fall of 1798. He was the second physician of the village, and is recalled as a good practitioner and a man of prominence in the locality. He had been a surgeon in the American army during the revolution, and while in the service had by exposure contracted consumption, from which he died in 1801. His sons were William A., Daniel, Gilbert, Elisha, Edward and James Ely, of whom at least three afterward became prominently identified with the business interests in Owego.

Dr. James Osborn was one of the pioneers of the medical profession in Owego, as his advertisement in the *American Farmer* of March 20, 1811, states that he "will continue the practice of physic and surgery in Owego, and will relieve, cure, and warrant patients in every disease subject to the human frame." That he was qualified for practice is fully attested by the following certificate signed by the president and three of the faculty of some medical society or institution: "Owego, March 10, 1811. Dr. James Osborn has been approved relative to his knowledge in physic and surgery, and he has practiced a number of years with success; and therefore I do recommend him perfectly skilled in every branch of his profession." Signed, &c., JAMES WELSH, President, and others.

Dr. Joseph Waldo was the first physician in the northern part of the county, and as well was one of the pioneers of Berkshire. He was born at Windham, Conn., October 5, 1755, and was a surgeon in the American army during the revolution. On coming to

this state he settled first at Lisle, Broome county, and thence, in October, 1800, removed to Berkshire, where he lived the remainder of his life. For many years Dr. Waldo was the only physician north of Owego, and his practice was very large. He was identified with the early history and development of the northern part of the county, and was regarded as one of the foremost men of the region. He was one of the founders of the "First Church in Tioga" (1803), and later a constituent member of the Congregational church in Berkshire. Dr. Waldo married, July 17, 1778, with Ann Bliss, of which marriage three children were born: Mary, who married with Joseph Waldo, 2d; Nancy Ann, who became the wife of Solomon Leonard; and Joseph Talcott Waldo, also a prominent physician of Berkshire in after years. Dr. Joseph Waldo died February 13, 1840; his wife September 14, 1836.

Dr. Godfrey Waldo, another early physician of the county, settled at Owego in the summer of 1810 and began the practice of medicine. He came from Plymouth, N. H., and in 1839 removed to Birmingham, Mich., thence to Pontiac, in the same state, where he afterward lived. He died September 16, 1848.

Dr. Jedediah Fay, who for a period of nearly forty years was associated with professional and business life in Owego and its vicinity, was a native of Massachusetts, born at Hardwick, January 30, 1786. He was an educated physician when he came to Owego, in 1811, and at once began practice in partnership with Dr. Samuel Barclay, who was another of the old-time medical men of the county. Later on Dr. Fay conducted a store in the village, and from 1830 to the time of his death was in the drug business. He was also quite prominently connected with civil and military affairs; was postmaster from 1820 to 1842; was commissioned captain of a troop of the 8th regiment of cavalry in 1815, and in 1820 became surgeon of the 53d regiment of infantry, resigning the latter after three years. Dr. Fay was a well known and highly esteemed physician and merchant of Owego, and one whose acquaintance extended throughout the region. His sons were George W. Fay, of Owego, and Frederick J. Fay, of Columbus, Ohio. Dr. Fay died April 23, 1848.

Dr. Lewis Beers was one of the old and noted physicians of the

county, a resident of Spencer as early as the year 1810. He became a member of the county medical society, and its president, in 1811, and was re-elected to a second term as president in 1821. Local records and tradition furnish little information relating to his antecedents, but the memory of old settlers give him a good standing in the early times of Spencer. From the family surname Beers's settlement in Danby was founded. Lewis and Jabez Beers came from Stratford, Conn., in 1797, and in 1807 Dr. Lewis Beers was appointed one of the first justices of the peace in the town. In the same year he was also appointed judge of the common pleas court, and enjoyed the further distinction of having been the first and only president of the Owego and Ithaca turnpike company, his service being from 1812 to 1841. Dr. Beers died September 4, 1849, aged 81 years. Dr. Jotham Purdy, a prominent early physician of Elmira, read medicine with Dr. Beers at Spencer in 1821, and afterward practiced in that town about two years. Dr. Purdy died suddenly in Elmira in 1858.

Dr. Gamaliel H. Barstow, now familiarly recalled as Judge Barstow, by reason of his honorable service on the common pleas bench, but who began his career in the county as a physician, settled at what is now known as Nichols village in 1812, and erected the first house at that place. He practiced medicine from 1812 to 1823, and then turned his attention to trading and farming. Other old medical practitioners of Nichols, though perhaps not pioneers in the profession, were Drs. John Petts, John Everett, and John Chubbuck. Dr. George P. Cady was perhaps one of the strongest representatives of his profession in Nichols, and began his career there in 1855, soon after his graduation at the old Berkshire Medical college, at Pittsfield, Mass. He was partner with his uncle, Dr. G. M. Cady, the latter also a physician of prominence in the town, and a member of the county medical society from 1857. The younger Dr. G. M. Cady was the son of Dr. George P. Cady by his marriage with Susan Platt.

Dr. Platt F. Grow was one of the early physicians in the northern part of the county, and resided and practiced at Richford previous to 1837. The records fail to disclose the fact of his membership in the medical society, and it is probable that he had none.

He undoubtedly was a botanic physician, as his partner in 1828 was Dr. John Frank, who was afterward well known in Owego. Dr. Grow, with Richard Griffin, was selected to transcribe the Tioga county records for use in the newly erected county of Chemung, and that employment brought him to Owego in 1837.

Dr. John Frank, who died in Owego June 17, 1889, was for many years a well known physician and prominent figure in local annals. He was one of three "oldest physicians" living at the county seat at the same time, and the venerable forms of the three were the frequent subjects of comment. Dr. Frank was born at Virgil, Cortland county, September 3, 1797, and was the son of an old revolutionary patriot. He began the practice of medicine at Richford in 1828, partner with Dr. Platt F. Grow, and when the latter came to Owego in 1837 to transcribe certain of the county records for use in Chemung county, Dr. Frank came to assist in the work. When it was completed Dr. Frank opened a store in Lake street, but after a year resumed the practice of medicine, his residence and office being in Main street. He was a botanic physician, hence his name does not appear on the medical society records. However, he was a competent practitioner and had a large clientele in the village and town. At one time he owned an interest in the *Owego Gazette*. He was a prominent Odd Fellow and active in lodge work.

Dr. Ezekiel B. Phelps was a physician and surgeon residing and in practice at Owego for a period of almost seventy years, and during that time he was regarded as one of the safest and most trusted of the old-school physicians of the county seat. He was born at Hebron, Tolland county, Conn., April 12, 1800, and read medicine with Drs. Peters and Simon of that place. He was graduated at the Medical College at New Haven, Conn., in March, 1824, and was licensed by that famous institution to practice physic and surgery. After practicing a short time in the east, Dr. Phelps came to Owego, September 24, 1824, and from that time to his death, June 2, 1892, was a physician of the village. When he came to Owego the only resident physician was Dr. Joel S. Paige, Dr. Paige becoming a member of the medical society in 1824, while Dr. Phelps was admitted to membership in 1829.

Dr. Phelps devoted himself wholly to professional work, and while he was interested in all measures looking to the public welfare, he sought no preferment in politics. His rides were long and frequently severe, but his was a strong physique, while his determination was almost boundless. Herein lay the secret of his popularity, success and professional standing. His first wife was Sarah Hollenback Laning, daughter of General John Laning. After her death Dr. Phelps married with Laura A. Camp, daughter of William Camp.

Dr. Ezekiel Lovejoy, who came to Owego to practice medicine and surgery in 1829, and who died in the village August 15, 1871, has ever been regarded and mentioned as the father of homeopathy in the county. More than that, he was one of the successful practitioners of the village, and a man popular with the whole people; and even to this day the attention of the visiting stranger is always called to a large and comfortable dwelling house in Front street which was the residence of Dr. Lovejoy. He was born at Stratford, Conn., July 6, 1803, and studied medicine in New York city. He was a graduate of Union college, and a student of medicine under Dr. Valentine Mott, of New York. For a time, also, he was a surgeon in the United States navy. He came to Owego in 1829, and in that year was admitted to membership in the county medical society. He became a disciple of *similia similibus curantur* in 1847, and was one of the organizers of the homeopathic medical society of Tioga county in 1870. His only public office holding was that of the office of supervisor of the town of Owego, in 1854.

Dr. Theodore Spencer Armstrong was for more than twenty years one of the best representatives of homeopathy in Owego, and in the county, although he was educated under allopathic teachings. Indeed, the suggestion has been made, and has much color of truth, that the most successful homeopaths in practice previous to a quarter of a century ago were those who acquired a medical education under the old school instruction. Dr. Armstrong was the son of Henry Armstrong, the latter an early settler in Candor, and was born at Esperance, Schoharie county, in 1825. After a course of study with Dr. Spencer, of Geneva College, he



W. A. Fergusson & Co.

*T. S. Armstrong*





was graduated from that institution and at once began practice at Speedsville, Tompkins county. About this time he accepted the doctrines of homeopathy, and in December, 1861, removed with his family to Owego, where he soon became recognized as one of the leading physicians of the locality. He practiced continuously until June 1, 1880, when he was appointed superintendent of the Binghamton Asylum for Chronic Insane (now known as Binghamton State Hospital), to which place he removed with his family. Dr. Armstrong continued at the head of that institution to the time of his death, December 28, 1891. His wife was Jeredine, daughter of Lorenzo Pratt, of Geneva. They had two sons, Henry Lee Armstrong, a business man of Elmira, and Theodore Bedell Armstrong, who died April 7, 1895; and two daughters, Kiamisia Birdsall, wife of Gurdon Hewitt Pumpelly, and Mary J, wife of Dr. John F. FitzGerald.

Dr. Hiram N. Eastman, one of the most noted physicians of Tioga county during the period of his residence and practice therein, was born in Herkimer county August 17, 1810. He was graduated at Fairfield Medical College, and in 1838 began practice at Candor. In January, 1840, he removed to Owego, where he practiced until December, 1861, and then removed to Geneva, having previously been appointed Professor of Materia Medica and Theory and Practice of Medicine in Geneva Medical College. In August, 1870, he was appointed Lecturer on Materia Medica and Hygiene at the University of Buffalo. Later on he removed to Waverly, Iowa, where he remained until October, 1874, and then returned to Owego, where he died October 14, 1879. His sons were Dr. C. C. Eastman, of the Binghamton State Hospital; Dr. R. D. Eastman, of New York city; Rev. Rush G. Eastman, of Torresdale, Penna., and Rev. George N. Eastman, of Cincinnati, Ohio. His daughters were Cornelia, a teacher in Ogontz seminary, near Philadelphia, and Carrie, of New York city.

Dr. John B. Benton was born at Liberty, Sullivan county, June 15, 1811, and was graduated at Fairfield Medical College in the same class with Dr. Eastman. He came to Spencer in 1840 and practiced medicine until 1862, when he removed to Owego; thence returned to Spencer in 1882, and in 1886 removed to Ithaca, where

he died September 11, 1887. His sons are George F., John L., and Frank R. Benton, and his daughter is now Mrs. P. S. Stearns.

Dr. Seymour Churchill was born in the town of Newark Valley, December 22, 1810, and died at Owego July 9, 1864. He studied medicine with Dr. Sutton, of Newark Valley, and attended medical lectures at Woodstock, Vt., New York city, and at Washington. In 1839 Dr. Churchill was in practice at Flemingville, and in 1841 removed to Owego. In April, 1849, he was partner with Dr. J. Jay Hoyt, a graduate of Jefferson Medical College, in the drug business and also in general medical practice, though Dr. Churchill had a drug store in the village in 1848. In 1861 Dr. Churchill was commissioned surgeon in the 23d N. Y. Infantry, and served until July, 1862, when he resigned on account of impaired health, and returned to Owego. In May, 1863, he again entered the service as surgeon to fill a vacancy in the 109th regiment, but failing health compelled his resignation in January, 1864.

Dr. Lucius H. Allen was another of the old time physicians of the county, practicing at Berkshire from 1830 to 1843, and afterward at Owego, for a period of more than half a century. He was a native of Lunenburg (now Athens), Greene county, born January 31, 1796. He read medicine in Connecticut, under Dr. Thomas Ponfret, and was graduated at Brown University, Providence, R. I., in 1820. He began professional life in this state, first at Buffalo, then at Cherry Valley, whence he came to Berkshire in 1830, and thence to the county seat. Dr. Allen was a prominent physician, earnest and sincere in his professional life and work, and an ardent advocate of temperance. After the close of the war of 1861-65 he was appointed medical examiner of pension applicants, and held that position several years. In 1835 he became partner in mercantile business with A. P. Storrs, and was one of the later firm of Allen, Storrs & Ball. He died in Owego May 2, 1888.

John Howe Arnold was born at Mansfield, Tolland county, Conn., in December, 1800, and acquired his medical education at the New Haven Medical College. He located first at Whitney's Point, Broome county, later moved to Missouri, and in 1845 settled in Owego, where he practiced with good success several years. He died August 1, 1876.

Dr. Azel E. Metcalfe was born at Davenport, Delaware county, and came to practice medicine in Owego in 1837. For three years he was partner with Dr. Lovejoy, after which he removed to Otsego county and remained twenty-two years. In May, 1863, he returned to Owego, and two years later practiced medicine in partnership with his son, Dr. G. W. Metcalfe, until the death of Dr. Metcalfe in 1874. Dr. Metcalfe, the senior, died May 27, 1882. His only daughter is the wife of Eli W. Stone, of Owego.

Dr. George W. Metcalfe, whose death was felt as a personal loss to a wide circle of friends in Owego, and to the medical profession in the entire county, was born July 22, 1837. He read medicine with his father, and was graduated at the New York University Medical College, after which he began practice at Clarksville, in this state. He then removed to Erie, Penna., to practice, but when the war began he enlisted and served first as assistant-surgeon, then as surgeon of the 76th N. Y. Vol. Infantry, and finally was promoted brigade surgeon on the staffs of Generals Rice and Hoffman, holding that position to the close of the war. He then returned to Owego and resumed medical practice, although impaired health unfitted him for its hard work. Dr. Metcalfe died in Owego in October, 1874.

Dr. Hallam C. Champlin was a physician and surgeon in practice in Owego from 1852 to 1863, and from 1879 to 1884, and is especially remembered on account of his strong advocacy of spiritualism. He was born in Herkimer county in September, 1814, and was graduated at Albany Medical College January 24, 1843. After fourteen years practice as an allopath, Dr. Champlin became a convert to homeopathy, and so continued throughout his professional career. He died in Owego, April 4, 1884, leaving one son and two daughters.

In writing of the old physicians of the county the name of Dr. Joel S. Paige must be mentioned, for he indeed was one of the prominent practitioners of Owego for many years. He came from the east, united with the county medical society in 1824, and was its president in 1845. About the time of the war Dr. Paige removed with his family to Alexander, N. Y., where he died about twenty years ago. His home in Owego was at the northeast corner of

Main and Paige streets, Paige street being so named in allusion to him. Dr. H. Worthington Paige, of New York city, is the grandson of Dr. Joel S. Paige.

Dr. Elijah Powell was for many years one of the leading physicians of Tioga county, and withal one of its most influential and useful citizens. He resided in Richford and was chiefly instrumental in building that village. He was superintendent of common schools of the county, and the first school commissioner elected under the law of 1856. Dr. Powell was born at Pharsalia, Chenango county, October 3, 1800, and began the practice of medicine in Richford in 1823. Of his life as a physician and business man more is said in another department of this work. He joined the medical society in 1829, and in 1858 and '59 was its president. He died in Richford, January 12, 1876.

In Richford Dr. Elisha Briggs was one of the earliest physicians, in practice in 1820 and perhaps at an earlier date. Dr. Ezekiel Seaman was another early physician in Richford. In Spencer Dr. Lewis Beers, Dr. Holmes, and Dr. Jotham Purdy were among the pioneers of the profession. In Candor Dr. Horatio Worcester is said to have been the first physician, while over in Newark Valley, in addition to the early physicians already mentioned, may be recalled the names of Dr. Scamory, Dr. William Sutton, Dr. Curtis, Dr. Nelson and others of later years.

#### THE TIOGA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Extracting from the records of the society, it is learned that "At a respectable meeting of the physicians and surgeons of the county of Tioga, for the purpose of forming a medical society in conformity to the act of the Assembly, April 4, 1806," Dr. John Ross was chosen moderator. The physicians present at that time were Drs. Amos Park, A. Gates White, William Benson, John Ross, Elias Satterlee and Urial Bennett. The six present proceeded to complete the organization by the election of officers and the adoption of a constitution and by-laws authorized by the act for the government of the society. The officers elected were as follows: Amos Park, president; A. Gates White, vice-president; William Benson, secretary; John Ross, treasurer; and Elias Satterlee and Urial Bennett, censors.

This first meeting was held at Newtown, at the time indicated, and indeed the other early meetings were held at the same settlement so long as the eastern boundary of the county was Owego creek. At a later meeting in the same year the members agreed upon and adopted a fee bill and laid such strictness on the practice of "physic and surgery" as the law authorized. Under the act of April 4, 1806, the state society, and also the county societies, were clothed with what might at this time appear to be extraordinary powers, for into the control of the society was given the authority to license applicants to practice, and also for proper cause to revoke that license. Especially, however, did the society aim to stop all practices which savored of quackery, and were far more earnest in their endeavors in this direction than are the medical men of the present day. Yet during the last score of years the state legislature has dealt generously with the profession at large, and while quackery has not been fully abolished, the legitimate practice has been elevated to a much higher standing. The registration act of 1880 has had the effect to place every practitioner squarely on record, and if its requirements are not met the law defines the liability and prescribes the penalty.

The original members of the Tioga county medical society were but six in number, and during the ten years next following the organization the increase was quite small. This growth is perhaps best shown by reference to the society's records, from which is taken for the purposes of this chapter the names of all the members, with a mention of the year in which membership began. The statement may be made, however, that there have been periods in the history of the society during which no meetings were held, or at least during which no records appear to have been kept. These lapses were from 1807 to 1811; from 1840 to 1845; from 1849 to 1857, and from 1860 to 1868: So far as can be determined by records in existence the members of the society have been as follows:

1806—Original members, Amos Park, Will-	1811—Lewis Beers, Joseph Speed, Simeon
iam Benson, A. Gates White, John Ross,	Powers.
Elias Satterlee, Urial Bennett.	1812—Ichabod Meacher.
1807—William S. Garrod.	

- 1813—Clark Winans, Horace Bacon, William Bacon.  
 1814—Rulandus Bancroft.  
 1816—Samuel Gordon, Samuel Moore, Ezekiel Webb, John S. Rexford, Gamaliel H. Barstow.  
 1817—Milo Taylor.  
 1818—Lemuel Hudson, John P. Hoyt, Charles Woodworth.  
 1819—James Cook, George Hibbard.  
 1820—Jotham Purdy, David McAllister, C. B. Nichols, Joel Tallmadge, Jr.  
 1821—John Everett, Uriah Smith, James DeLand.  
 1822—Thesus Brooks.  
 1824—Sylvester Knapp, Isaac Kennedy, Samuel Barclay, Joel S. Paige.  
 1825—Hezekiah Woodruff, N. D. Gardiner, Erastus L. Hart, A. W. McKay, John P. Kennedy, Ozias Spring, Isaac T. Hollister.  
 1826—Guy Hulett.  
 1827—Townsend Seeley.  
 1828—Nelson Winton, J. Talcott Waldo.  
 1829—Ezekiel B. Phelps, Elijah Powell, Sr.  
 1830—Norman Smith. C. Bentley, Horace Seaman, J. Montanye Green, D. H. Monroe, Ebenezer Smith,  
 1831—Maxwell Richardson, Henry M. Graves, Horace Mosher, Ezekiel Lovejoy, John Pitts.  
 1832—Winthrop E. Booth, Weller D. Rood.  
 1835—Alfred Griffin, H. K. Webster, Nathaniel Aspinwall, J. S. Jones, Edmund Delaney.  
 1836—John Payne, Eleazer Lyman, Festus Demorest, Asa P. Howell, Nathaniel Boynton, Dr. Webster, Tracy Beadle.  
 1837—Lucius H. Allen, A. E. Metcalfe, William Sutton, H. Hemingway.  
 1838—R. B. Root, I. Howland,  
 1845—J. H. Arnold, H. N. Eastman, S. Churchill.  
 1846—E. Daniels, James Finley.  
 1847—James Keeler.  
 1848—Richard A. Crandall, John C. Tappan, J. C. Dixon.  
 1857—George P. Cady, Alexander Ennis, J. J. Harris, George M. Cady.  
 1858—George W. Metcalf, N. S. Cooley.  
 1860—Edward C. Coryell, John B. Benton.  
 1868—George H. Scott, W. J. Burr, N. H. Brundage, W. R. Bates, James Allen, Isaac W. Lewis, Jr., E. Daniels, C. L. Stiles, John H. Tanner.  
 1869—C. R. Heaton, W. E. Johnson, Charles Lanning, G. W. Beach.  
 1870—D. J. Tinkham, T. F. Bliss, Dr. Whitney.  
 1872—W. L. Ayer, R. E. Moore.  
 1874—R. S. Harnden, E. E. Pease, D. D. Harnden, J. C. Starkey, W. R. Nicol.  
 1875—H. N. Eastman, C. E. Hollenbeck, C. C. Eastman, W. R. Buttles.  
 1876—R. C. Tappan, C. R. Rogers, Dr. Rood, S. Miller.  
 1877—W. H. Fisher, H. P. Vosburgh, James H. Tinkham.  
 1878—A. T. Pearsall, A. E. Blair, Alonzo Norris, L. D. Farnham.  
 1879—F. P. Blair, A. W. Post, Ralph D. Eastman, R. W. Eastman.  
 1880—Charles S. Vaughn, W. H. Allen, E. H. Bates.  
 1881—Mary L. Briggs, E. J. Stone.  
 1882—James M. Barrett.  
 1883—F. D. Bailey.  
 1884—A. J. Harris.  
 1885—C. S. Payne.  
 1886—I. S. Vreeland, C. W. Chidester, J. T. Tucker, G. B. Lewis, W. H. Lincoln, J. W. Jansen.  
 1887—George M. Cady, Edward Beck.  
 1889—R. L. Lounsbury.  
 1890—D. S. Anderson.  
 1891—Thomas Washburn, J. E. Leonard, H. L. Knapp, A. F. Crans, C. F. Griswold, Henry A. Glover.  
 1892—R. L. Smith.  
 1894—W. C. Everett.  
 1896—R. T. Gates.

## SUCCESSION OF PRESIDENTS.

1806-10—Dr. Amos Park.	1860-67—Dr. George M. Cady.
1811—Dr. Lewis Beers.	1868—Dr. L. H. Allen.
1812-19—Dr. A. Gates White.	1869—Dr. George P. Cady.
1820—Dr. Lemuel Hudson.	1870—Dr. Wm. Josiah Burr.
1821—Dr. Lewis Beers.	1871—Dr. George H. Scott.
1822—Dr. David McAllister.	1872—Dr. James Allen.
1823—Dr. Gamaliel H. Barstow.	1873—Dr. W. E. Johnson.
1824—Dr. A. Gates White.	1874—Dr. G. W. Metcalfe.
1825—Dr. James Cook.	1875—Dr. J. B. Benton.
1826-27—Dr. Lemuel Hudson.	1876—Dr. Charles L. Stiles.
1828—Dr. Rulandus Bancroft.	1877—Dr. Daniel DeWitt Harnden.
1829-30—Dr. J. Talcott Waldo.	1878—Dr. Warren L. Ayer.
1831—Dr. Erastus L. Hart.	1879—Dr. William Josiah Burr.
1832-34—Dr. Jotham Purdy.	1880—Dr. Cornelius R. Rogers.
1835—Dr. Erastus L. Hart.	1881—Dr. LeRoy D. Farnham.
1836—Dr. Jotham Purdy.	1882—Dr. Rufus S. Harnden.
1837—Dr. J. Talcott Waldo.	1883—Dr. Ralph D. Eastman.
1838-44—Dr. J. Pitts.	1884—Dr. E. J. Stone.
1845-46—Dr. Lucius H. Allen.	1885—Dr. George P. Cady.
1847—Dr. Joel S. Paige.	1886-87—Dr. Charles L. Stiles.
1848—Dr. R. B. Root.	1888-90—Dr. Warren L. Ayer.
1849-56—Dr. John Everett.	1891-92—Dr. James M. Barrett.
1857—Dr. J. H. Allen.	1893-94—Dr. George M. Cady.
1858-59—Dr. Elijah Powell.	1895—Dr. Charles L. Stiles.

## OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1896.

President, Cornelius R. Rogers; vice-president, Warren L. Ayer; secretary, Ralph D. Eastman; treasurer, James M. Barrett; censors, George M. Cady, H. L. Knapp, D. S. Anderson; committee on hygiene, Carlton R. Heaton, W. C. Everett, I. S. Vreeland; committee on obituary notices, Charles L. Stiles, C. W. Chidester, James M. Barrett; delegate to state medical society, D. S. Anderson.

## THE HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL SOCIETY OF TIOGA COUNTY

Was organized July 20, 1870, by Drs. Lovejoy, Armstrong, Greenleaf, Hawley, Walsh, and Hunter, they comprising nearly all the disciples of Hahnemann then residing in the county.

The organization was perfected by the election of officers as follows: President, Dr. Ezekiel Lovejoy; vice-president, Dr. Hawley; treasurer and secretary, Dr. John T. Greenleaf; censors, Drs. Armstrong, Hunter and Walsh.

The life of the society, however, was not long, the homœopathic physicians in the county being so few that the number necessary to constitute a quorum was with difficulty assembled in meeting, and the result was that in 1875 the society was dissolved and its members united with the larger organizations in adjoining counties, a few in the Southern Tier society, and others in that including the counties of Broome, Cortland, Tompkins, and Tioga.

Among the prominent homœopathic physicians in this county, past and present, not before mentioned in this chapter, may be recalled Dr. E. B. Sprague, of Owego, whose practice began in 1853 and ended at his death, in 1874. Another was Dr. A. R. Vail, who came to Owego in 1863, and left in 1868. Dr. John Talcott Greenleaf, founder and superintendent of the Glenmary Home, was born in Owego. He was a student of Dr. Armstrong, a graduate from the Homœopathic Medical College of New York city, March 1, 1867, and has ever since practiced in the village of Owego. Dr. R. B. Jenks was also a student under Dr. Armstrong, and a graduate of New York Homœopathic College. He practiced as partner with Dr. Armstrong, but afterward removed to Elmira. Dr. Hunter was a practitioner at Candor, and Drs. Hawley and Cadmus at Waverly. Dr. Merritt T. Dutcher was born in Niagara county, December 17, 1843, and was brought up on a farm. During the war he served in Co. K, 151st N. Y. Infantry, from September 6, 1862, to May 30, 1865. He read medicine and was graduated at the New York Homœopathic College. In 1882 he came to Owego and has since been a resident of the village. Dr. Walsh practiced in Owego a few years, beginning in 1870, and afterward removed to Michigan.

The Twenty-sixth Senatorial District Eclectic Medical Society was organized September 12, 1865, with the following members; John Frank and James Wilson, of Owego; J. B. White, of Spencer; F. D. Gridley, of Whitney's Point; I. P. Matthews, of Nichols; P. A. Johnson, of Waverly, and W. W. Wheaton, of Binghamton. The first officers were: James Wilson, president; W. W. Wheaton, vice-president; P. A. Johnson, recording secretary; F. D. Gridley, corresponding secretary; and John Frank, treasurer.



Under an act of the legislature passed in 1880, and acts supplementary thereto, each physician in the county (and in each county in the state) is required to register in the office of the county clerk his name, residence, place of birth, date of diploma, and the institution from which he was graduated, and the authority by which he claims the right to practice medicine in the county. In compliance with the requirements of the several acts there has been a very general registration by the physicians of this county; and in order to bring to the attention of the reader the names of as many as possible of the past and present practitioners, there have been taken from the records the names, with other data referred to, of those legally qualified to practice medicine in Tioga county since the law was passed.

- Cornelius R. Rogers, Owego; born at Windham, Bradford county, Pa.; diploma January 22, 1867, from Geneva Medical College; also diploma June 27, 1877, Syracuse University.
- William R. Buttles, Newark Valley; born at Lee, Berkshire county, Mass.; diploma 1873, from University of the City of New York.
- Carlton R. Heaton, Owego; born at Newark Valley; diploma January 26, 1864, from Geneva Medical College; also from Medical Department of Syracuse University.
- John Frank, Owego; born at Virgil, Cortland county; certificate June 12, 1844, from Eclectic Medical Society of Albany.
- William Henry Fisher, Spencer; born at Spencer; diploma March 1, 1876, from Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York city.
- Andrew T. Pearsall, Owego; born at Florence, Alabama; diploma October 1, 1861, from College of Physicians, New York.
- Alonzo Norris, Spencer; born at Erin, Chemung county; diploma March 12, 1860, from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia.
- John C. Dixon, Candor; born at Gilbertsville, Otsego county; diploma December 26, 1854, from Albany Medical College.
- George W. Beach, Apalachin; born in New York city; diploma January 14, 1864, from Yale Medical College, New Haven, Conn.
- Theodore S. Armstrong, Owego; born at Albany; diploma January 16, 1847, from Geneva Medical College.
- William H. Allen, Smithboro; born at East Smithfield, Penna.; diploma February 25, 1880, from University of Buffalo.
- John Talcott Greenleaf, Owego; born at Owego; diploma March 1, 1867, from Homœopathic Medical College, New York city.
- John Pike Magee, Candor; born at Magee's Corners, Seneca county; diploma June 4, 1850, from Geneva Medical College; graduate of Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia.

- Charles C. Eastman, Owego ; born at Owego ; diploma January 21, 1866, from Geneva Medical College.
- Abram F. Crans, Owego ; born at Shwangunk, Sullivan county ; diploma February 19, 1873, from Eclectic Medical College, New York city.
- Daniel S. Miller, Candor ; born in Cayuga county ; diploma November 3, 1847, from Berkshire Medical College, Pittsfield, Mass.
- Harriet P. Van Kirk, Owego ; born at Mt. Hope, Orange county ; diploma February 18, 1870 ; from Eclectic Medical College, New York city.
- Charles L. Stiles, Owego ; born at Wantage, Sussex county, N. J. ; diploma 1865, from Geneva Medical College.
- Henry P. Vosburgh, Halsey Valley ; born at Otto, Cattaraugus county ; diploma December 25, 1864, from Albany Medical College.
- William R. Nicol, Waverly ; born at St. Mary's, Canada ; diploma March 28, 1872, from McGill Medical College, Montreal, Canada.
- Horace M. Corey, Waverly ; born at Halsey Valley ; diploma March 27, 1878, from Homœopathic Medical College, University of Michigan.
- Warren L. Ayer, Owego ; born at Little Meadows, Penna. ; diploma June 28, 1868, from Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y.
- Azel E. Metcalfe, Owego ; born in Delaware county ; diploma February 27, 1832, from Medical Society of Herkimer county.
- Theodore F. Bliss, Spencer ; born at LeRoy, Bradford county, Penna. ; diploma January 26, 1869, from Geneva Medical College.
- Lucius H. Allen, Owego ; born at Athens, Greene county ; diploma September 6, 1820, from Medical Department, Brown University, Providence, R. I.
- Revere C. Tappan, Newark Valley ; born at Newark Valley ; diploma February 1876, from University of the City of New York.
- Albert W. Post, Tioga Centre ; born at Saugerties, Ulster county ; diploma January 24, 1871, from Geneva Medical College.
- Robert Watts Eastman, Owego ; born at Owego ; diploma February 25, 1871, from Medical Department, University of Buffalo.
- John L. Corbin, Athens ; born at Warren, Penna. ; diploma March 9, 1874, from Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, Ills.
- Elizabeth H. Bates, Owego ; born at Charlemont, Mass. ; diploma February 25, 1854, from Female (now Woman's) Medical College of Pennsylvania.
- LeRoy D. Farnham, Candor ; born at Owego ; diploma February 15, 1878, from College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York city.
- Willard M. Hilton, Waverly ; born in New York ; diploma March 8, 1876, from New York Homœopathic Medical College.
- Elias W. Seymour, Owego ; born at Windsor, Broome county ; certificate January 5, 1875, from Eclectic Medical Society, Twenty-sixth Senatorial district, state of New York, so-called.
- Parmenas A. Johnson, Nichols ; born at Linclean, Chenango county ; certificate January 5, 1875, from Eclectic Medical Society, Twenty-sixth Senatorial district, state of New York, so-called.
- George P. Cady, Nichols ; born at Windsor, Berkshire county, Mass. ; diploma November 1, 1855, from Berkshire Medical College, Pittsfield, Mass.

- William Josiah Burr, Newark Valley ; born at Homer, Cortland county ; diploma February 15, 1845, from Geneva Medical College.
- Daniel DeWitt Harnden, Waverly ; born at Victor, Cayuga county ; diploma January 13, 1844, from Geneva Medical College.
- John B. Benton, Owego ; born at Liberty, Sullivan county ; diploma June 15, 1839, from Fairfield Medical College, New York.
- Edwin D. Cahill, Owego ; born Fall River, Mass. ; diploma April 13, 1876, from Eclectic Medical College, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Frank P. Blair, Barton ; born at Castle Creek, Broome county ; diploma January 31, 1877, from Albany Medical College.
- William E. Johnson, Waverly ; born at West Town, Orange county ; diploma December 31, 1859, from Albany Medical College.
- Francis M. Bishop, Newark Valley ; born at Castle Creek, Broome county ; license May 12, 1875, from Homœopathic Medical Society of Tioga, Tompkins and Cortland counties.
- Charles E. Hollenbeck, Halsey Valley ; born at Barton ; diploma March 1, 1874, from Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York.
- Ransom Tiffany, Ketchumville ; born at Maine, Broome county ; diploma January 22, 1867, from Geneva Medical College.
- Isaac W. Lewis, Apalachin ; born in Owego ; diploma June 14, 1848, from Castleton Medical College, Vermont.
- Rufus S. Harnden, Waverly ; born at Port Byron, N. Y. ; diploma February 27, 1873, from Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York.
- Frank K. Post, Weltonville ; born at Apalachin ; licensed March 6, 1880, by the Eclectic Medical Society of the Twenty-sixth Senatorial district, state of New York.
- James Allen, Jr., Richford ; born at Bristol, Rhode Island ; diploma November 20, 1849, from Berkshire Medical College, Pittsfield, Mass.
- Isaac W. Gay, Berkshire ; born in Putnam county ; diploma June 6, 1870, from Eclectic Medical College of Pennsylvania.
- Ralph DeWitt Eastman, Berkshire ; born at Cortland ; diploma February 26, 1878, from Medical Department, University of Buffalo.
- Charles Ayers, Tioga ; born in Tioga ; license November 27, 1876, from Eclectic Medical Society of Twenty-sixth Senatorial district, state of New York.
- Edward E. Pease, Nichols ; born at Windham, Penna. ; diploma March 27, 1873, from Medical Department, University of Michigan.
- Hallam C. Champlin, Owego ; born in Herkimer county ; diploma January 24, 1843, from Albany Medical College.
- Charles S. Vaughan, Tioga Centre ; born at New Castle, Ontario ; diploma March 11, 1880, from Monroe county Medical Society.
- Ezekiel B. Phelps, Owego ; born at Hebron, Conn. ; license March 1824, from Medical College of New Haven, Conn.
- John H. Tanner, Spencer ; born at Harford, Cortland county ; diploma February 28, 1863, from Buffalo Medical College.
- Mary L. Briggs, Owego ; born at Dryden, Tompkins county ; diploma June 30, 1879, from University of Michigan.

- F. W. Keyes, Bradford, Penna.; born at Bradford; certificate August 18, 1880, from Eclectic Medical Society, Twenty-sixth Senatorial district, New York.
- A. H. Lewis, Apalachin; born at Schenectady; diploma November 28, 1851, from Castleton Medical College, Vermont.
- William E. Roper, Candor; born at Danby; diploma March 8, 1881, from Cleveland Homœopathic Hospital Medical College.
- Alanson Bishop, Owego; born Otsego county; diploma March 1, 1868, New York Homœopathic Medical College.
- Eliza J. Beach, Waverly; born at Knoxville, Tioga county; diploma February 14, 1877, from Homœopathic Hospital Medical College, Cleveland, Ohio.
- Louisa L. Seymour, Owego; born at Florida, Orange county; certificate July 7, 1881, from Eclectic Medical Society, Twenty-sixth Senatorial district, New York.
- Charles M. Hamilton, Smithboro; born at Harpersfield, Delaware county; diploma June 26, 1877, from Medical Department, University of Vermont.
- Ezra Canfield, Bingham; born at Smithboro; diploma February 23, 1881, from Eclectic Medical College of New York.
- James Morris Barrett, Owego; born Stanford, Dutchess county; diploma March 25, 1874, from Medical Department, University of Michigan.
- George C. Brown, Owego; born Wethersfield, Wyoming county; diploma March 25, 1880, from Medical Department, University of Pennsylvania.
- I. W. Bailey, Owego; born Leeds, Maine; diploma August 1, 1881, from Philadelphia Electropathic Institution.
- James H. Catlin, Tioga; born in Tioga; certificate Eclectic Medical Society, Twenty-sixth Senatorial district, New York.
- Merritt T. Dutcher, Owego; born Somerset, Niagara county; diploma from Homœopathic Medical College, New York city.
- Fred D. Bailey, Owego; born at Sidney, N. Y.; diploma March 9, 1882, from University Medical College of City of New York.
- R. D. Dearborn, Weltonville; born in Spencer; diploma March 24, 1878, from Eclectic Medical College of Philadelphia.
- George W. Davis, Spencer; born at Trenton, Wisconsin; diploma February 21, 1882, from University of Buffalo.
- George F. Dudley, Owego; born at Newfield, Tompkins county; diploma February 25, 1875, from Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York.
- Algernon J. Harris, Candor; born at Candor; diploma May 16, 1882, from College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York.
- Manuel D. Gamble, Waverly; born at Lycoming, Penna.; diploma June 1, 1881, from American Health College, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Edward J. Stone, Waverly; born East Troy, Wisconsin; diploma February 25, 1880, from Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York.
- James L. White, Halsey Valley; born at Bordentown, N. J.; diploma March 12, 1881, from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Penna.
- Phineas Sewell Stearns, Owego; born Hartford, Washington county; certificate January 25, 1871, from Eclectic Medical College of New York.
- Joseph H. Hillyer, Waverly; born New York city; diploma February 25, 1876, from University Medical College of New York.

- Charles S. Payne, Newark Valley ; born at Berkshire ; diploma February 26, 1884, University of Buffalo.
- Frances M. Wright, Waverly ; born at Farmington, Penna. ; diploma March 27, 1878, from New York Medical College for Women ; Homœopathic College at Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- James L. Beers, Willseyville ; born at Danby, Tompkins county ; diploma March 8, 1882, from University Medical College, City of New York.
- Charles T. Lyons, Waverly ; born at Colerane, Mass. ; diploma March 6, 1852, from University Medical College, City of New York.
- G. E. Pierson, Candor ; born at Middletown, N. Y. ; diploma January 24, 1870, from Geneva Medical College,
- Frank W. Severn, Waverly ; born Farmer Village, N. Y. ; diploma June 19, 1883, from Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y.,
- John T. Tucker, Waverly ; born at Ithaca ; diploma June 3, 1885, from Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y.
- John Burge, Waverly ; born at Alstead, N. H. ; diploma 1841, from The Botanical Medical College of Ohio.
- George Brinton Lewis, Apalachin ; born at Apalachin ; diploma March 6, 1886, from University College of New York.
- Otto F. Seidel, Candor ; born at Buffalo ; diploma February 22, 1881, from College of Physicians and Surgeons, Buffalo.
- Chancy W. Chidester, Weltonville ; born at Apalachin ; diploma February 23, 1886, from College of Physicians and Surgeons, Chicago, Ills.
- Arthur Osborn, Candor ; born at Spencer ; diploma June 30, 1882, from University of Michigan endorsed by Syracuse University.
- Emily A. Hammond, Owego ; born at Elkland, Penna. ; diploma July 2, 1880, from University of Michigan.
- Mark H. Lincoln, Owego ; born at Laurelton, Penna. ; diploma May 1, 1885, from University of Pennsylvania.
- Jesse W. Jansen, Owego ; born at Slaterville, Tompkins county ; diploma March 1, 1886, from University of the City of New York.
- Isaac S. Vreeland, Waverly ; born at West Milford, N. J., diploma March 15, 1876, from University of the City of New York.
- George Marvin Cady, Nichols ; born at Nichols ; diploma March 8, 1887, from University of the City of New York.
- James M. Peebles, born at Whittingham, Windham county, Vt. ; diploma March 9, 1876, from American Eclectic College, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- R. Belle Beach, Waverly ; born in Tioga county ; diploma February 28, 1883, from Homœopathic Hospital College, Cleveland, Ohio.
- Edwin Beck, Owego ; born at Candor ; diploma February 28, 1888, from University of Buffalo.
- Hiram L. Knapp, Newark Valley ; born at Windham, Penna. ; diploma Feb. 28, 1888, from University of Buffalo.
- Theodore C. Washburn, Van Etnenville ; born at Spencer ; diploma March 29, 1889, from Albany Medical College.

- Daniel Cook, Barton ; born at Richmond, Mass.; diploma April 9, 1885, from Eclectic Medical College, New York city.
- Franklin D. Pierce, born Venango county, Penna.; diploma March 19, 1878; University of City of New York.
- Ellsworth Gamble, Waverly ; born at Franklin, Penna.; diploma June 4, 1889, from Eclectic Medical Institution, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Thomas B. Flagler, Waverly ; born in Dutchess county ; diploma June 13, 1854, from Albany Medical College.
- Mary E. Smith, Waverly ; born in Sullivan county ; diploma March 19, 1884, from Homœopathic Hospital College, Cleveland, Ohio.
- Robert Lanning Lounsberry, Owego ; born at Smithboro ; diploma March 13, 1889, from University of the City of New York.
- Edgar Bailey Morey, Waverly ; born at De Ruyter, Madison county ; diploma February 19, 1889, from Chicago Homœopathic Medical College.
- James George Grant, Waverly ; born at Smithville, Chenango county ; diploma March 15, 1886, from Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York.
- Charles Albert Beach, Waverly ; born at Mansfield, Penna.; diploma February 28, 1883, from Homœopathic Hospital College, Cleveland, Ohio.
- John N. Norris, Spencer ; born at Spencer ; diploma March 28, 1892, from Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York.
- Walter Coryell Everett, Nichols ; born at Nichols ; diploma May 1, 1894, from University Medical College, New York.
- Abram W. Stoughtenburg, Owego ; born at Pittsford, Monroe county ; diploma May 3, 1894, from New York Homœopathic Medical College.
- Henry Estes Merriam, Owego ; born at Waverly ; diploma May 3, 1894, from New York Homœopathic Medical College.
- Louis D. Hyde, Glenmary ; born at Owego ; diploma May 3, 1894, from New York Homœopathic Medical College.
- Merrill Brainerd Dean, Newark Valley ; born at Newark Valley ; diploma July 10, 1894, from University of the State of New York.
- Frank H. Harrison, Candor ; born at Indianapolis, Ind.; diploma May 16, 1882, from College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York city.
- Dell Gerry Van Ostrand, Willseyville ; born at Ithaca ; diploma May 2, 1895, from Homœopathic Medical College of New York city.
- Sidney Welles Thompson, Owego ; born at Owego Feb. 10, 1873 ; license and diploma from the University of the State of New York.

CHAPTER XV.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

AS early as the year 1806 the legislature of New York appropriated moneys from the public funds of the state to be used in promoting agriculture in the several counties. In later years appropriations were made for the like purpose, and in 1819 the amount apportioned to Tioga county was one hundred and fifty dollars, but there is no record extant showing by whom this sum was received or how it was applied, although it unquestionably was received by authorized persons and duly expended, for it was not the custom even in that early day to allow public appropriations to be returned to the treasury uncalled for.

There are existing records tending to show the organization of an agricultural society in Tioga county previous to or during the year 1819, but showing when it was in fact formed, how long it continued in operation, or what was its final ending, there is no data. In the *American Journal* of December 1, 1819, there appears a report of the proceedings of a meeting of the society in these words :

“At an adjourned meeting of the Tioga Agricultural Society at the house of Andrew Purdy, Esq., in Spencer, on Wednesday, the 10th of November, 1819,

“The president, in behalf of the committee appointed for that purpose at the last meeting, reported the following system of By-laws :

“1st. Special meetings of the society may be convened by the president or the executive committee. Notice of all society-meetings shall be given in the newspapers of this county, and those of Ithaca and Owego (the latter then in Broome county), at least twenty-one days previous to the time of holding such meetings.”

Another part of the report read as follows :

“Resolved, That it be recommended to the members of this society to appear at the next annual meeting *clothed in the manufactures of our own country*, as far as practicable.

“Resolved, That the editors of the *American Journal*, the *Owego Gazette*, and the *Vedette* be requested to give the foregoing proceedings an insertion in their respective papers.

“Nov. 10, 1819.”

“T. MAXWELL, *Secretary.*”

In 1837, Ezra Canfield, of the town of Tioga, represented this county in the assembly. On March 28, of that year, he secured the passage of an act constituting "James Pumpelly, Anson Camp, Ezra Canfield, Francis Armstrong, Stephen Strong, Henry McCormick, Ira Clizbe, John Coryell, Erastus Goodrich, Asa Wolverton, Ira Woodford, Russell Gridley, Henry Miller, George Fisher, Stephen Wells, Jr., Ezekiel Rich, David Williams, Horatio Collins, Joseph T. Waldo, Abram Hotchkiss, Otis Lincoln, Nicholas Schoonover, Samuel Mills, Isaac Shepard and William Platt, and all such persons as might thereafter be associated with them," a body corporate by the name of "The Tioga County Agricultural Society," for the purpose of improving the condition of agriculture, horticulture, and the household arts. The society was empowered to purchase, hold and convey such real estate as their purposes might require, not exceeding the value of \$5,000. The act was to continue in force twenty years, subject to alteration, modification, or repeal by the legislature.

Public notice was afterward given of a meeting to be held for the purpose of organizing the society, but, as very little interest was shown in the matter, no organization was effected. May 5, 1841, the legislature appropriated \$5,000, to be apportioned among the counties for the promotion of agricultural pursuits, and of this amount Tioga county was awarded sixty-one dollars. The act also made it the duty of county clerks to publish in the newspapers a notice of the time and place of a meeting to be held in each county for the purpose of organizing an agricultural society. Accordingly the clerk of Tioga county published in the *Gazette* a notice to the effect that a meeting of the farmers of the county would be held at the court-house in Owego on the 23d day of August, at 12 o'clock, noon, for the purpose of organizing a society in conformity with the provisions of the act.

At the time indicated the meeting was held and an organization was effected, Thomas Farrington being elected president. However, of this first meeting there is no present record, as the books and papers of the society showing transactions previous to 1867 were destroyed by a fire in that year. But as the first fair was held in October, 1841, it may be assumed that the officers of 1842



were substantially the same as in the preceding year. The first fair was held in Owego. The live stock was exhibited on James Pumpelly's lot, at the northwest corner of Main and McMaster streets. The vegetables, and like farm produce, were displayed in a building owned by S. S. Tinkham, just below the bridge in Front street. Floral hall was in the old court-house. No admission fee was charged. The officers for the year 1842 were as follows: Thomas Farrington, *president*; J. Coryell and A. Higbee, *vice-presidents*; C. F. Johnson, *secretary*; John Carmichael, *treasurer*.

The following executive committee was appointed for the several towns :

Barton.—Isaac Shepard, Owen Spaulding, Washington Smith.

Berkshire.—Joseph T. Waldo, John B. Royce, Calvin Jenks.

Candor.—Ebenezer Woodbridge, Hiram Smith, Russell Gridley.

Newark.—William B. Bennett, Joseph Walters, Elijah Wilson.

Nichols.—John Petts, Miles Forman, Clark Hyatt.

Owego.—George J. Pumpelly, John Fleming, Asa Camp, 2d.

Richford.—Chester Randall, O. L. Livermore, Joseph Belden.

Spencer.—Horace Giles, Isaac Carpenter, Anthony Riker.

Tioga.—Jesse Turner, John Dubois, Erastus Goodrich.

Under the then existing organization six exhibitions were given by the society, covering the period from 1841 to 1846, inclusive. A feeling of dissatisfaction had found its way into the society which finally culminated in dissolution after the fair of 1846. No effort was made to effect a reorganization until 1855, when, on July 21, a meeting was held at the old village hall, in Main street in Owego, to determine whether the society might be revived. Osee Hall, of Tioga, was chosen chairman, and William Smyth, of the *Times*, secretary.

The Tioga County Agricultural Society was the result of this meeting, and among the persons prominently connected with the reorganization measures were John J. Taylor, T. I. Chatfield, Moses Carlton, W. B. Green, G. M. Cady, M. Hotchkiss, Lucius Humphrey, John L. Howell, W. H. Gardner, Andrew H. Calhoun, Lemuel Clift, C. M. LaMonte, Robert Howell, T. P. Patch, Caleb Chaffee, Benjamin W. Brownell and others. Articles of association and incorporation were at this time adopted and executed,

and certified the officers for the first year to be as follows : Harvey L. Coryell, Nichols, *president* ; Louis P. Legg, Berkshire, *1st vice-president* ; Benj. H. Davis, Barton, *2d vice-president* ; Thomas Farrington, Owego, *3d vice-president* ; William Smyth, Owego, *secretary* ; Thomas I. Chatfield, Owego, *treasurer* ; and Calvin Ames, of Candor ; Daniel G. Taylor, of Newark Valley ; Chester Randall, of Richford ; Calvin Bradley, of Spencer ; David Taylor, of Tioga, and William R. Shoemaker, of Nichols, *directors*.

The first exhibition of the new society was held October 23 and 24, 1855. The live stock, machinery, &c., were exhibited on the lot at the southeast corner of Main and William streets, and the domestic articles, fruits and produce were displayed in the village hall. No admission fee was charged. In the afternoon of the second day Ezra S. Sweet delivered an address in the court-house, after which the premiums were awarded and announced from a platform in the village park. They amounted to about seventy dollars.

The next fair was held September 24 and 25, 1856, and while the premium list was not large it was encouraging, and soon afterward the society determined to secure a suitable site for future exhibitions and enclose it with a substantial fence. To this end a committee on location was appointed, and offers of sites were received from George W. Hollenback of Owego ; Mr. Curtis, of Factoryville, and David Taylor, of Tioga. The Hollenback offer was accepted and the land leased for five years. The grounds were enclosed, a race course constructed, and rough board buildings erected for the proper protection of exhibits ; but conspicuous among them was "Old Joe" DeWitt's refreshment hall in the center of the enclosure. The first fair on the new ground was held September 30 and October 1, 1857, and was a successful exhibition.

Notwithstanding the favorable beginning of the affairs of the society, and the influence and worth of its managing officers, there soon arose a feeling of dissatisfaction among the patrons and exhibitors which eventually led to a temporary discontinuance of operations. In 1862 the managers began paying premiums, amounting to three dollars and more, in silver-plated cups

and goblets instead of cash, which of itself greatly dissatisfied the competitors, and added thereto was the discontent occasioned by changing the location of the grounds. George Talcott, George J. Pumpelly and John J. Beers offered sites, and finally that of Mr. Beers was taken, comprising thirteen acres of land, just north of the village line, on the north side of the highway leading from the old Ithaca and Owego turnpike to Leach's mills. It extended from Owego creek east to a point just west of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroad tracks. However much of an improvement this location was over the old grounds, the debt created in preparing it for exhibition purposes, together with certain innovations in the way of offering large purses for horse racing and correspondingly reduced premiums for agricultural exhibits, worked the ultimate downfall of the society. In 1864 the price of family tickets was increased from one dollar to one dollar and fifty cents, and while the fair of that year was a partial success, a decline soon followed. In June, 1865, a horse fair was held, and racing was an important feature of the regular county fair in September following. This practice was continued for several years, and the fair of 1868 was such a failure that the society as an organization ceased to exist.

In the spring of 1871 the "Owego Driving Park Association" was organized, the present fair grounds on the north side of Main street, in Canawana, were fenced, and a good half-mile track was graded. The first races were held in June of that year, and on October 17, 18 and 19 an agricultural exhibition was given in connection with them. The success which attended this enterprise was so gratifying that the management determined to reorganize the county agricultural society, although the Driving Park Association enterprise ultimately resulted in failure. A public meeting was held at the court house on October 18, 1875, and the following officers of the agricultural society were elected: Thomas I. Chatfield, *president*; William Ellis, of Barton, Lewis P. Legg, of Berkshire, Sylvester Woodward, of Candor, George E. Rich, of Newark Valley, John Smith, Jr., of Nichols, Edwin Goodrich, of Owego, Charles F. Curtis, of Richford, Jeremiah McMaster, of Spencer, and Henry Young, of Tioga, *vice-presidents*; William Smyth, of

Owego, *corresponding secretary*; George Worthington, of Owego, *recording secretary*; Stephen S. Truman, of Owego, *treasurer*.

But even this admirably officered association could not effectually revive the society, and after the appointment of a committee on by-laws no further steps were taken and the subject was dropped. However, in 1872, on August 10, a public meeting was assembled at the court-house to consider the question of still another attempt at reorganization, or at least to re-establish the annual fairs. An informal organization was effected, a committee was appointed to confer with the officers of the driving park association, and on October 24 the society was revived and officers were elected as follows: Herbert Richardson, of Newark Valley, *president*; William Ellis, of Barton, Charles Manning, of Berkshire, James Anderson, of Candor, H. Richardson, of Newark Valley, John Smith, Jr., of Nichols, George R. Curtis, of Owego, Charles A. Clark, of Richford, James Nelson, of Spencer, and Richard Spendley, of Tioga, *vice-presidents*; William Smyth, of Owego, *secretary*; George Truman, of Owego, *treasurer*; and John S. Giles, Samuel M. LaMonte and William H. Armstrong, *directors*.

The first fair under this reorganization was held in September, 1873, and from that to the present time an annual exhibition has been held on the same grounds. Occasionally unfavorable weather has operated against financial success, but generally the results have been satisfactory, and the Tioga County Agricultural Society has become known as one of the fixed and permanent institutions of the shire.

From the time of the original organization in 1837 the officers of the society have been as follows:

PRESIDENTS.

1839—Thomas Farrington.*	1863—George Woodford.*
1843—1846—Charles Frederick Johnson.*	1864—Louis P. Legg.
1855—Harvey Coryell.*	1865—Samuel B. Smith.
1856—Louis P. Legg.	1866—1868—John L. Taylor.
1857—Chester Randall.*	1869—Thomas I. Chatfield.*
1858—W. R. Shoemaker.*	1873—Herbert Richardson.*
1859—William Ellis.	1875—Louis P. Legg.
1860—John McQuigg.*	1876—F. W. Richardson.
1861—David Taylor.*	1877—John S. Giles.

1878—William H. Armstrong.\*  
 1881—George J. Nelson.  
 1882—Frederick C. Lowman.  
 1883—John Smith, Jr.  
 1884—W. Hulse Shaw.  
 1889—Frederick C. Lowman.

1890—George M. Griswold.  
 1891—William E. Dorwin.  
 1892—Cyrenus M. LaMonte.  
 1893—G. Henry Horton.  
 1895—Jonathan C. Latimer.  
 1896—Herman M. Tilbury.

SECRETARIES.

1838—Charles Frederick Johnson.\*  
 1844—1846—Dr. L. H. Allen.\*  
 1855—William Smyth.  
 1862—John L. Taylor.  
 1864—Thomas I. Chatfield.\*

1866—68—W. H. Corey.  
 1871—George Worthington.\*  
 1872—William Smyth.  
 1873—William A. Smyth.  
 1877—1897—L. W. Kingman.

TREASURERS

1838—George Bacon.\*  
 1842—1846—John Carmichael.\*  
 1855—Thomas I. Chatfield.\*  
 1862—1868—Dwight I. Bloodgood.\*  
 1871—Stephen S. Truman.

1873—George Truman.  
 1874—Thomas I. Chatfield.\*  
 1878—A. Chase Thompson.  
 1880—1897—James M. Hastings.

\* Deceased.

THE TIOGA COUNTY FARMERS' CLUB.

Incident to the subject treated in the foregoing portion of this chapter, mention may properly be made of the farmers' club which was organized in November, 1855, at a meeting held at the old court-house in Owego. The proceedings were harmonious but much discussion arose in relation to a suitable name for the organization, among those suggested and advocated being "The Tioga County Agricultural Club," proposed by H. W. Shoemaker, of Nichols; "The Tioga County Agricultural and Horticultural Club," advocated by Col. James S. Thurston, of Owego; and "The Tioga County Farmers' Club," presented by William P. Raymond, of Owego, and finally adopted. The first officers were Stephen B. Leonard, *president*; H. W. Shoemaker, *secretary*, and Thomas I. Chatfield, *treasurer*. However, the club had but a brief existence and after one or two meetings was dissolved.

In 1872, at one of the meetings of the agricultural society held in the old court-house, a farmers' club was brought into existence, but no permanent organization was effected until January 29, 1875. At that time Rial Walker was elected president, and LeRoy W. Kingman, secretary. The club held monthly meetings for the

discussion of agricultural subjects, and the debates were published regularly in the *Times* and the *Gazette*. The original name of the organization was "The Tioga County Agricultural Society and Farmers' Club," but a portion was afterward dropped and that of "The Tioga County Farmers' Club" adopted. This club passed out of existence in 1876.

"The Gibson Corners Agricultural Society" was organized by articles of association filed April 28, 1880. The incorporators, officers and directors were as follows: James W. Benjamin, *president*; Orlando Winans, *vice-president*; Charles Annevelle, *secretary*; Amos Congdon, *treasurer*; Stephen Bostwick, Henry Bills, Thomas Bostwick, Albert Carpenter, Morris Moulton and James Dunham, *directors*, and Charles Sibley, David B. Thomas and Albert Benjamin, additional members.

The Northern Tioga Agricultural Society was formed at Newark Valley, November 23, 1880, and its articles of association named as directors John R. Ford, Edgar Belden, D. M. Sturtevant, William Elwell, Eugene Johnson, F. G. Bushnell, William T. Shaw, L. D. McCullough and F. W. Richardson; and as officers: L. S. Birch, *president*; Theodore Mayor, *vice-president*; C. F. Curtis, *2d vice-president*; Charles L. Noble, *secretary*; and J. R. Hankins, *treasurer*.

The North Barton Agricultural Society was incorporated June 25, 1885, by Shubael C. Brown, Oscar Talcott, D. V. Besemer, N. M. Bruster, Alonzo Baker, H. E. Barden, M. B. Sager, S. W. Ellison, P. H. Wheeler, O. H. Stebbins, D. V. Personeus, C. S. Nichols and Solomon Genung.

The Spencer Agricultural Society filed articles of association July 13, 1888, and named the following officers, directors and members, viz: John Q. Shepard, *president*; Seymour Seely, *1st vice-president*; O. H. Stebbins, *2d vice-president*; Loring W. Hull, *secretary*; Wm. A. Holdridge, *treasurer*; Daniel E. Brooks, A. J. Tupper, Asahel H. Woodford, Harmon Stevens, Marvin D. Fisher and Benjamin F. Lewis, *directors*; and Phineas C. Van Gelder and Charles E. Butts, additional members.

The Candor Agricultural and Driving Park Association was incorporated February 27, 1889, the articles of association naming

these officers : Lewis A. Hart, *president* ; John W. McCarty, *vice-president* ; Frank L. Heath, *secretary* ; Fred W. Smith, *treasurer* : A. A. Robinson, James H. Jennings, Solomon Vergason, Ira Hoose, Asahel Woodford, Jacob C. Fuller, Eli Blinn and Henry Quick, *directors* ; and Charles F. Barager, Wm. B. Smith, Epenetus Howe and George W. Hart, additional members.

The town agricultural societies will be further mentioned in the history of the towns in which they are respectively located.

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## CHAPTER XVI.

### THE PRESS OF TIOGA COUNTY.

EDUCATION is the great civilizer, and printing its greatest auxiliary, yet it is surprising when searching our libraries to discover how little has been written of the “ Art preservative of all arts,” and the educator of all educators. While printing has been the chronicler of all arts, professions and learning, it has recorded so little of its own history as to leave even the story of its first invention and application wrapped in mystery and doubt ; and we only know that from the old Ramage press, which Faust and Franklin used, capable of producing only one hundred impressions an hour, we have now the ponderous machine which turns out one thousand copies a minute.

In glancing over the pages of history we discover the gradual development in the arts and sciences. We notice that they go hand in hand—one discovery points to another, one improvement in the arts leads to others continually, and the results of the last few centuries have shown that observations of no apparent use led to the most important and valuable developments. The falling of an apple led Newton to unfold the theory of gravitation and its relation to the solar system ; the discovery of the polarity of the

loadstone led to the construction of the mariner's compass; the observation of the muscular contraction of a frog led to the numerous applications of galvanic electricity; the observation of the expansive force of steam led to the construction and application of the steam engine; the observation of the influence of light on the chloride of silver led to the art of photography; the observation of the communication of sound by the connected rails of a railroad led to the invention of the telephone; the impressions cut in the smooth bark of a birch tree led to the art of printing—the art which transmits to posterity a record of all that is valuable to the world.

Thus is progress discernable in each successive generation of man. Gradually has he advanced from a state of rude barbarism and total ignorance to a degree of perfection which gives him almost absolute dominion over all elements, and in the pride of glorious and enlightened manhood he exclaims with Cowper:

“I am monarch of all I survey,  
My right there is none to dispute;  
From the centre all 'round to the sea  
I am lord of the fowl and the brute.”

So long as mind shall occupy its seat, so long will progress be the watchword of man, and onward and upward will be his march to an almost limitless ascent, where all the hidden and occult secrets of creation will unfold their mysteries to his comprehension and crown him master of them all.

The printing office has well been called the “Poor Boy's college,” and has proven a better school to many; has graduated more intellect and turned it into useful, practical channels; awakened more active, devoted thought than any *alma mater* on the earth. Many a dunce has passed through the universities with no tangible proof of fitness other than his insensible piece of parchment, himself more sheepish, if possible, than his “sheepskin.” There is something in the very atmosphere of a printing office calculated to awaken the mind to activity and inspire a thirst for knowledge. Franklin, Stanhope, Beranger, Thiers, Taylor, Greeley, and a host of other names illustrious in the world of letters and science,



have been gems in the diadem of typography, and owe their success to the influence of a printing office.

The newspaper has become one of the chief indexes of the intelligence, civilization and progress of the community in which it is published, and its files are the footprints of the advancement and refinement of the period of its publication ; and the printing office is now deemed as essential as the church or the school-house. It has taken the place of the rostrum and the professor's chair and become the great teacher. No party, organization, enterprise or calling is now considered perfect without its "organ"—the newspaper, as a mouthpiece.

The first newspaper published in America was *Publick Occurrences*, issued in Boston, Mass., September 25, 1690, by Richard Pearce for Benjamin Harris, and was immediately suppressed by the government. The next was the *Boston News-Letter*, the first number of which was dated April 20, 1704. The first newspaper published in the state of New York was a reprint, in 1696, of a copy of the *London Gazette*, which Benjamin Fletcher, lieutenant-governor of the colony, caused to be issued, having induced William Bradford, a Philadelphia publisher, to quit that city and set up business in New York. The paper contained an account of an engagement with the French, not long before the peace of Ryswick. The first newspaper published in the state of New York, and still published, was the *Hudson Gazette*, established in 1785. The tenth newspaper established in this state was the *Owego Gazette*, first issued in 1800 under the name of *American Constellation*, and was, of course, the first newspaper published anywhere in the southern tier counties. The first number was issued Saturday, November 22, 1800, dated at "Union, Tioga county, N. Y." Although the paper was dated at Union it was actually printed at Chenango village, a small settlement on the west side of the Chenango river, about one mile above the present city of Binghamton. This settlement was begun in 1793 or 1794, and there was no settlement at Binghamton until 1799. In 1800 Binghamton was surveyed and laid out as a village, was then called "Union," and the paper was dated "Union," for the reason that the place was for a long time the only postoffice in the vicin-

ity. A postoffice was established at Binghamton (then Union) in 1796, but there was no office at Union until 1830, when it was kept by William A. Stoddard, four miles east of the present village of that name, exactly at the only point where the Erie railroad touches the bank of the river between Union and Binghamton.

The *American Constellation* contained four pages of four columns each, measured seventeen and one-half inches in length and eleven inches in width. The subscription price was two dollars a year. It was published by Daniel Cruger, Jr., who may have been the son of Daniel Cruger, who is mentioned in Wilkinson's "Annals of Binghamton" (page 106) as having been one of the earliest settlers of Elmira and as having opened there the first store.

In 1801, Mr. Cruger removed his printing office to Owego, and continued the publication until 1803, when he sold it to Henry Steward and Stephen Mack, who changed its name to the *American Farmer*, issuing the first number under that name August 26 of that year. The printing office was in a frame house which stood on the lot at the northeast corner of Front and Court streets. Judge Mack soon afterward purchased his partner's interest in the paper, and removed the office to the second story of his residence, on the north side of Front street, east of Church street, between the present residences of Henry Young and I. J. Delevan. The house was torn down in 1826.

When Daniel Cruger, Jr., came to Owego he was 21 years of age. In 1794, at the age of 14, he was apprenticed to the printing trade in the office of Mr. Webster, one of the early printers and publishers in Albany. He was not only attentive to his duties, but while other boys were amusing themselves he pursued a course of classical studies, assisted occasionally by a relative, a learned and benevolent clergyman. As time passed he contributed anonymously to Webster's paper, the articles possessing such marked ability that they were at first attributed to John Jay or DeWitt Clinton. Immediately upon the completion of his apprenticeship he came to southern New York and began the publication of the *American Constellation*. Having disposed of the paper in 1803, he went to Bath, Steuben county, where his father lived

and where he worked as a printer until his health began to fail. Then he left the printing office forever and entered the law office of General S. S. Haight, of Bath, and prepared himself for the bar. He was admitted to practice in 1809, and soon became one of the leading lawyers and most prominent politicians of western New York, the friend of DeWitt Clinton and other notable men of the day. In 1814, 1815, 1816, and 1826, he represented Albany and Steuben counties in the assembly, and in 1816 was speaker of the house. He was district attorney of the seventh district, which comprised the counties of Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Steuben, Seneca, and Tioga, from March 17, 1815, to June 11, 1818, and from 1818 he continued as district attorney of Steuben county until February 19, 1821. He represented the Twentieth congressional district in the Fifteenth congress from 1817 to 1819. While in congress General Cruger made the acquaintance of Mrs. Lydia Shepard, of Ohio county, Va., who was in Washington trying to collect a claim of her deceased husband against the government. He subsequently went to Virginia and was married with her. After marriage he retired from public life, devoting his remaining years to agricultural pursuits and the management of his wife's property. He died July 12, 1843, at Elm Grove, Ohio county, Va., in the 64th year of his age, and his remains lie in Stone Church cemetery.

Some time previous to 1811, the name *American Farmer* was changed to *American Farmer and Owego Advertiser*, which name it bore until Judge Mack's death, in 1814.

Judge Stephen Mack was born in Massachusetts, March 20, 1766. In 1799 he kept a general country store in Cooperstown, N. Y., and had a contract with the government to furnish about 100,000 spars, to be delivered at Baltimore, Md. In March, 1799, a freshet carried away all the timber he had purchased and paid for in goods from his store, and bankrupted him. He came down the Susquehanna to Owego in quest of his timber, but found it would cost as much to secure it as it would be worth, so he abandoned the search. Having become attracted by the beauty of this valley, he came here to live. He engaged in mercantile business and became a prominent citizen. He held the offices of commissioner of high-

ways, assessor, excise commissioner and constable, and was supervisor of the town of Owego in 1807, 1808, 1811, and 1812. He also served several years as a justice of the peace. From 1812 until his death he was first judge of the court of common pleas of the county. He died in Owego April 16, 1814.

In 1813 Stephen B. Leonard purchased an interest in the *American Farmer*. He had entered Judge Mack's office in 1806 as an apprentice to the printer's trade. After the expiration of his term he went to Albany in order to perfect himself in the printer's art. In the winter of 1813 he returned to Owego and purchased a half interest in the paper. An agreement was made whereby Judge Mack's son, Horace, was to be taken as an apprentice, the services of Horace to offset those of Mr. Leonard. Mr. Leonard soon afterward returned to Albany. One day in May, 1814, by chance he picked up a piece torn from a newspaper, in which mention was made of Judge Mack's death. He at once returned to Owego and June 15, 1814, changed the name of the paper to the *Owego Gazette*. The arrangement in regard to Horace Mack was at the same time terminated. June 15, 1815, the date of the completion of the first year, Ebenezer Mack, another son of Judge Mack, who had been foreman of the *Columbian* office in New York city, became a partner with Mr. Leonard in the publication of the paper. This partnership lasted only one year, when Mr. Leonard purchased Mack's interest. Mack went to Ithaca, where from 1817 to December, 1833, he was proprietor, with various partners, of the *Ithaca Journal*. He represented Tompkins county in the assembly in 1830, and was state senator for the sixth district from 1834 to 1837, inclusive. He died in Ithaca in August, 1849.

When Mr. Leonard purchased the *Gazette* he removed the press and material to the second story of the building owned by James Pumpelly and occupied as a store by John Hollenback. The store was afterward converted into a dwelling house, and is still standing on the north side of Front street, the second west of Paige street. The post office was kept in the printing office from 1816 to 1820, Mr. Leonard having been appointed postmaster.

In 1821 Charles Pumpelly built a small one-story building, with basement, which stood on the bank of the river on the south side

of Front street, above Church street, about 20 feet east of the house built by W. A. King. A dug road led down to the river on the west side of this building, from which a door opened into the basement, into which the printing office had been removed. The building was torn down by Mr. King, in March, 1877. At this time the office force was composed of John Rose, foreman, and Daniel H. Cole, apprentice. The paper was published on a hand press. The ink was applied to the type by means of balls made of buckskin, stuffed with wool.

When Mr. Leonard began the publication of the *Gazette* he delivered the papers throughout the county in person, established post routes, and obtained subscribers. He afterwards secured contracts for delivering the mail at various points throughout this part of the state by post-riders, as Judge Mack had also done while publishing the *American Farmer*. Mr. Leonard's routes extended from Owego to Binghamton, Norwich, Penn Yan, Bath, and other points. The United States government paid the post-riders for delivering the mails, and the newspapers were delivered at the same time. Mr. Cole was one of the carriers. He went to Ithaca once each week by the way of Richford, returning the next day by way of Speedsville. Mr. Cole served an apprenticeship of only three months. He afterward became a lumberman and farmer, and died at Tioga Centre, Feb. 18, 1891, aged 83 years.

Previous to 1828 no other newspaper than the *Gazette* had been published in Owego, and as the paper was democratic in politics the whigs had no organ. In the presidential year of 1828, when Andrew Jackson was the democratic candidate for president and John Quincy Adams the candidate of the republicans (or whigs), Stephen S. Chatterton, who was then about twenty-two years of age, and who was the publisher of the *Republican Chronicle* in Ithaca, came to Owego and established the *Owego Free Press*, the first number of which was issued September 2, supporting Adams and Rush. It was printed at the *Republican and Chronicle* office in Ithaca, and was almost identical with that paper. After the election publication was discontinued. Four years later, in the campaign of 1832, S. S. Chatterton and C. O. Flynn, who were publishers at Ithaca of the *Tompkins American*, to which name the

*Republican and Chronicle* had been changed, established in Owego the *Owego Republican*, the first number of which was issued September 19, 1832. The *Republican* supported Henry Clay, the whig candidate for president. This paper was also printed in Ithaca, and its publication was suspended after election. In the next presidential campaign, four years later, the *Owego Advertiser*, a whig paper, was permanently established in Owego. Mr. Chatterton was a native of Troy, N. Y., and had learned printing in Ithaca. In 1835 he went to New York city, where he established a job printing office, became prominent in politics, and died February 26, 1876.

In October, 1827, Mr. Leonard sold an interest in the *Gazette* to Jonas B. Shurtleff. The partnership of Leonard & Shurtleff continued two years, and was dissolved October 13, 1829. In 1831 the paper was published for a short time by Leonard & Cook, and the day of publication changed to Thursday. Mr. Leonard's next partner was John J. C. Cantine, a printer, who learned his trade in the Albany *Argus* office and who came to Owego from Ithaca. The firm of Leonard & Cantine continued from the summer of 1833 until early in the summer of 1835. In this year Mr. Leonard was in congress, but Cantine's management during his absence was so unsatisfactory that the partnership was dissolved. Cantine went to Towanda, Pa., where he established the *Bradford Democrat*. He died in Chicago, Ill., in January, 1859, aged 53 years. In the summer of 1835 Mr. Leonard sold the *Gazette* to Shurtleff & Bull.

Stephen Banks Leonard was born in Wall street, New York city, April 15, 1793, and came to Owego in his boyhood with his father, Silas Leonard. He served an apprenticeship to the printer's trade in the office of the *American Farmer*, and at the expiration of his term (in 1813) he purchased an interest in the paper. Soon afterward he went to Albany and entered the printing office of Solomon Southwick, in order to perfect himself in his trade. On learning of the death of Judge Mack he returned to Owego and took possession of the *American Farmer* office and changed the name of the paper to the *Owego Gazette*. Mr. Leonard naturally became active in politics, and was for many years one of the most prominent democratic leaders in this part of the state. He was

supervisor of Owego in 1854 and 1856 and trustee of the village in 1832 and 1833. He was one of the original trustees of Owego academy and remained a member of the board until that institution was merged in a free school system, in 1864. He was elected to congress in 1834, and re-elected in 1838. He was postmaster of Owego from 1816 to 1820, and was a deputy United States marshal under Buchanan. When Mr. Leonard began publication of the *Gazette*, he delivered the papers himself over his route on horseback. He afterward became an extensive mail contractor and stage proprietor, establishing the first stage line from Owego to Bath, in 1816, and later a route between Owego and Montrose, Pa. He died in Owego May 8, 1876. When Mr. Leonard became postmaster, in 1816, his printing office was in the second story of John Hollenback's store. It was subsequently removed to the Exchange buildings on the bank of the river below Lake street. In November, 1836, the office was removed to the second story of the first building above the bridge. Mr. Shurtleff kept a general country store on the first floor until September, 1837, after which the store room was occupied by John Bassett.

In the winter of 1837, Dr. John Frank (of whom mention is made in the medical chapter) became a partner with Mr. Shurtleff, but the relation proved unsatisfactory to Dr. Frank, who compelled his partner to re-purchase the interest he had bought in the paper, in May, 1838. Bassett set fire to his store in the night of Feb. 13, 1839, for the purpose of defrauding an insurance company, and the entire *Gazette* establishment was wiped out of existence. Shurtleff afterward went to New York, where he published a school book, of which he was the author, and was bankrupted in the undertaking.

Three days after the fire, Edward M. Marble, who was engaged with his brother, J. Ward Marble, in publishing the *Courier* at Binghamton, came to Owego with a letter of introduction from prominent democrats, and, having received sufficient encouragement here, brought type and a press and revived the *Gazette*. His office was in the second story of the Rollin block, a large wooden building which occupied the northwest corner of Lake and Front streets. The name of the paper was changed to the *Owego and*

*Tioga County Gazette*, but the old name, *Owego Gazette*, was restored Nov. 7, 1839. On Dec. 24, 1841, the establishment passed into the hands of Charles C. Thomas with Judge Alanson Munger as editor. The Marbles removed to New Berlin, N. Y. The office was removed to the third story of the new brick building which John Carmichael had erected on the north side of Front street, on ground now occupied by the Tioga national bank. July 15, 1842, Thomas Woods succeeded Mr. Thomas as proprietor, and Gideon O. Chase became the editor.

When Marble re-established the *Gazette* his father-in-law, Mr. Medbury, of New Berlin, N. Y., advanced about \$400 to assist him, taking as security a chattel mortgage on the property. The mortgage followed the sale to Thomas and continued a lien when Woods became the owner. Chase continued as editor until Nov. 25, 1842, when the entire establishment was then surrendered to Medbury by virtue of his mortgage lien. In January, 1843, Hiram A. Beebe, who had succeeded J. J. C. Cantine as publisher of the *Democrat* at Towanda, came to Owego at the solicitation of prominent democrats and purchased the *Gazette*, still subject to the chattel mortgage. He removed the office to the northeast corner of Lake and Front streets, up stairs.

About this time came the division of the democratic party into two factions, known as the "Hunkers" and "Barnburners." There was a local controversy over the management of the Tioga county poor house, which institution was in charge of Waterbury Smith, one of the superintendents of the poor, a "Hunker." It was charged that Smith's bill against the county was excessive; that he had grossly overcharged for provisions furnished to the poor house, and that money he claimed to have been paid had not in fact been paid. In this dispute Smith was sustained by Mr. Beebe and the regular democratic organization, and to obtain possession of the paper the anti-poorhouse faction (Barnburners) induced Woods to foreclose the chattel mortgage. Having suspected the plans of his opponents, Mr. Beebe worked night and day printing the outside pages, containing about a page of legal advertisements, for issues of successive dates about six weeks in advance of the days of publication. An arrangement had been made with Mr.



Calhoun, publisher of the *Advertiser*, that in the event of foreclosure of the mortgage, the other sides of each issue should be set up and printed at the *Advertiser* office until new material and a press could be procured by Mr. Beebe. Woods foreclosed the mortgage and took possession of the *Gazette* office. The result was that for several weeks two Owego *Gazettes* were published, one being commonly known as "*Woods's Gazette*," and the other as the "*Poor House Gazette*." G. O. Chase assumed editorial control of Woods's paper. The "Hunkers" purchased the *Towanda Democrat* and removed the press and printing material to Owego early in the spring of 1843, establishing for Mr. Beebe a new office below the bridge in Front street.

When Woods obtained possession of the *Gazette* it contained more than a page of legal advertising, which he continued to publish, as did also Mr. Beebe in his paper, and both presented bills for payment. Judge Avery, who was master in chancery, and who was associated with the "Barnburners," refused to pay Mr. Beebe, hence a suit to recover. Mr. Beebe succeeded, the court holding that the good will of a newspaper office could not be encumbered, and that Woods's purchase by virtue of the chattel mortgage covered nothing except the presses and material. Woods thereupon discontinued publication of his paper and removed the entire establishment to New Berlin.

Thomas Woods was an Irish boy, who came to Owego from Candor. He went to California, where he was for a time successful in gold mining, but subsequently became reduced in circumstances, and died in 1858 of consumption, in a San Francisco hospital.

Mr. Beebe continued publication of the *Gazette* until 1845, when he sold the establishment to Thomas Pearsall, of Nichols, who had been living several years in Alabama. He took possession July 25. He published the paper eight months, when, owing to political trouble, he sold it to Stephen B. Leonard, who held temporary possession until March 27, 1846, and then sold it to David Wallis & Son. Mr. Pearsall died June 2, 1881, at the home of his son, Dr. A. T. Pearsall, in Owego. Mr. Beebe went to Westfield, Mass., where in August, 1845, he became editor of the *Standard*. In 1847 he received a request, signed by thirty prominent democrats of

Owego, asking him to return to the village and resume control of the *Gazette*, the circulation of which had been reduced to about 300 subscribers. Accordingly Mr. Beebe returned and repurchased the paper.

The *Gazette* office, with its presses and material, was burned in the fire of September 27, 1849, and as there was no insurance it was a total loss. As soon as new material could be brought to Owego, publication was resumed, the new paper being enlarged to 28 columns. When the brick building at the northeast corner of Front and Lake streets was erected, the *Gazette* office was removed to the third story from its temporary office in North avenue, in May, 1850. In May, 1853, the office was moved into Patch's hall, which occupied the third floor of a brick building on the site of which the Chamberlain block now stands. In September, 1855, Mr. Beebe purchased a Northrup cylinder press, the first steam power press used in Owego. In 1866 he built the *Gazette* block on the east side of Lake street, into which the office was moved in January, 1867, and where it still remains. In 1871, LeRoy W. Kingman purchased a half interest in the paper and it was published by Beebe & Kingman until September 1, 1880, when Mr. Beebe sold his interest to Mr. Kingman, who is still its proprietor.

Hiram A. Beebe was born March 11, 1817, near Montrose, Pa., and was educated at the Montrose academy. He became an apprentice to the printer's trade in the office of the Montrose *Volunteer*, in 1832, serving four years. He afterward became foreman of the Montrose *Spectator* office. In the fall of 1837, he went to Harrisburg, where he was employed in the *Keystone* office. In the winter of that year he was press representative for the *Pennsylvania Reporter* in the state senate. In 1838 he went to Towanda to become editor of the *Bradford Democrat*. He conducted that paper until the spring of 1839, when he went to Erie and became editor of the *Observer*. After the presidential election of 1840 he returned to Towanda, where he published the *Democrat* until January, 1843, then came to Owego and purchased the *Gazette*. While editor of the Westfield (Mass.) *Standard*, in 1846, he was elected a member of the house of representatives of that state. Mr. Beebe was postmaster of Owego from May 4, 1853, to June 30, 1862. He was

president of the village in 1852, 1861, and 1871. In 1874 and 1875 he had charge of the department of public records in Albany, under secretary of state Willers, succeeding the poet, Alfred B. Street. For many years Mr. Beebe was one of the most prominent and influential democratic politicians in the state, associated in state conventions with Dean Richmond, Peter Cagger and other leaders of the day. He was a member of the democratic state committee eight years, and was also for more than twenty years a member of the democratic committee in Tioga county, much of that time being chairman. He died in Owego March 30, 1897.

The *Owego Advertiser* was established by Andrew H. Calhoun in 1836, and its first number was printed March 25 of that year. Previous to his coming to Owego, there was no whig paper here, with the exception of S. S. Chatterton's campaign issues in 1828 and 1832. Mr. Calhoun lived at Canajoharie, N. Y., and was induced to come to Owego by prominent whig politicians. He brought his press on a sleigh. The paper was a 24-column folio, 30 by 22 inches. The office was in the second story of Platt & Ely's brick building on the south side of Front street, opposite where Ahwaga hall now stands. In 1847 the office was removed to the second story of the Rollin block, at the northwest corner of Lake and Front streets. In June, 1848, the office was removed to the second story of a building which occupied the site of the present Tioga national bank. In the fire of 1849 the office was burned, but was afterward re-established, with new presses and material, in the second story of a wooden building on the east side of Lake street. From 1849 to July, 1852, William B. Calhoun, eldest son of the editor, was one of the publishers, the firm name then being A. H. Calhoun & Son.

In May, 1853, the *Advertiser* (which in the absence of Mr. Calhoun in Albany, where he was holding the office of appraiser of the public works, was conducted by another son, S. Howard Calhoun) was sold to a stock company composed of William Smyth, Benj. F. Tracy, Col. N. W. Davis, and nine others. The company leased the plant to Powell & Barnes. Rev. A. V. H. Powell was a clergyman and writer, who came from Batavia, and Myron S. Barnes was a practical printer from Rochester. The name of the

paper was changed to *Southern Tier Times*, and the first number with that name was published June 2, 1853. In October following the office was removed to the third story of the brick building at the northwest corner of North avenue and Main street. Powell & Barnes having failed at the end of the year to pay the amount agreed upon for the use of the office, the company took possession. Mr. Smyth, one of the stockholders, purchased the interests of the others and became sole owner. The first number under his proprietorship was issued June 29, 1854. The name of the paper was changed to *Owego Times*, June 7, 1855. In October, 1869, the office was removed to the north side of Main street, opposite Lake street. In 1872 Mr. Smyth's eldest son, William A. Smyth, became a partner, and the firm has since been known as Wm. Smyth & Son. Since the organization of the Republican party, the *Times* has supported its policy and candidates.

William Smyth was born in county Derry, Ireland, June 19, 1819. Having received a thorough classical education, he entered the Royal Academic Institute, in Belfast, from which he was graduated in 1842. He also spent two years in Edinburg university. He was subsequently three years tutor in a gentleman's family, and still later principal of a classical school in county Derry. He came to America in November, 1847. For a few months he was a contributor to the *New York Sun* and the *New York Observer*. He came to Owego in the spring of 1848 and became principal of the Owego academy in April. He resigned on account of ill health in the spring of 1854, and then purchased the *Owego Times*. Mr. Smyth was elected school commissioner of Tioga county in 1857 and 1860, and was chief engineer of the Owego fire department three years, from 1862 to 1864, inclusive. He represented the old fourth ward in the board of trustees in 1863 and 1864, and was president of the village in 1865, 1866, 1867, and 1881. In 1867 he was appointed a justice of the peace. In 1872 he represented Tioga county in the assembly, and in 1873 was appointed deputy superintendent of the insurance department of this state. In January, 1876, after the resignation of Orlow W. Chapman, the superintendent, Mr. Smyth became acting superintendent, and held the office until the appointment of John F.

Smith, in 1877. Mr. Smyth was appointed postmaster of Owego in 1889, and held the office four years. During his half a century of active life in Owego, Mr. Smyth has been foremost in all public enterprises, and a leading spirit in urging and carrying forward measures for local improvement. As a party leader he has been prominent and influential, both as a speaker and writer.

Upon the outbreak of "Know Nothingism," in 1855, Andrew H. Calhoun, who had been seventeen years editor of the *Owego Advertiser*, began the publication of a weekly newspaper in support of the new American party. It was called the *Owego American*, and its first number was issued August 23, 1855. Although nominally published in Owego, the type-setting and press-work were done in the office of the *American Citizen* at Ithaca. In the fall election this year Mr. Calhoun was the Know Nothing candidate for state senator and was defeated. After the election publication of the *American* was discontinued. In April, 1856, Mr. Calhoun went to Elmira, where he purchased the *Elmira Republican* and *America's Own*, and merged them into another Know Nothing paper called the *Elmira Republic*. The Know Nothing party was short lived, and Mr. Calhoun's venture proved an unfortunate one. The daily edition ceased publication in April, 1857, and the weekly was also discontinued soon afterward.

Andrew Hamilton Calhoun was born in Boston, Mass., April 1, 1798. He lived in that city until early manhood, when he removed to Canajoharie, N. Y., thence removed to Owego in 1835, and founded the *Advertiser*. After the suspension of his Know Nothing paper in Elmira, Mr. Calhoun removed to Albany. While living in Owego he was elected justice of the peace, and served one term. He was two years clerk of the state senate, in 1848 and 1849, and was canal appraiser in 1851 and 1852. In 1863 he was appointed clerk in the appraiser's department in the New York custom house, which position he held during the remainder of his life. He died in Brooklyn, December 17, 1874. Mr. Calhoun was a sarcastic, pungent, and able writer in the days when political rancor and vindictive personalities far exceeded anything of the present day. He was a warm friend of Millard Fillmore, William H. Seward, and other prominent men of his day.

In the spring of 1848, there was another division in the democratic party of this state, which resulted in the establishment in Owego of the *Tioga Freeman*, the organ of the "Free Soil" faction of the party, the first number of which appeared May 2. It was owned by a stock company, composed of Judge C. P. Avery, Judge Thomas Farrington, John J. Sackett, Gideon O. Chase and others, many of whom had been members of the "Barnburner" faction in 1843. John Dow was publisher and Mr. Chase the editor. The circulation and advertising patronage of the paper were large, but through lack of business ability on the part of the management the paper proved unprofitable, notwithstanding the fact that nothing was asked by the company for the use of the establishment. However, in September, 1850, publication was discontinued, and the presses and material were taken to Port Jervis, where the *Tri-States Union* was founded.

The *Freeman* office was over Charles Pumpelly's store, a wooden building which stood directly opposite the present Ahwaga house. In the fire of September, 1849, the building was burned, but the presses and type were safely removed. The press was placed in Front street, a little east of Church street, and while the remains of more than one hundred buildings were still smoking, extras were printed on the press, giving an extended account of the conflagration, the largest and most destructive in the history of Owego. During the remainder of its existence, the *Freeman* office was over Fay's drug store, a wooden building which stood on the north side of Main street, opposite Lake street.

When John Dow was publishing the *Freeman* the motto printed at the head of the paper was :

"Here shall the Press the people's rights maintain,  
Unawed by influence and unbribed by gain."

It is related that one day a printer changed it to read :

"Here shall John Dow the people's rights maintain,  
Unawed by Beebe and unbribed by Calhoun,"

and the whole edition was printed and distributed before the change was discovered.

Gideon O'Linn Chase was born at Cambridge, Washington county, N. Y., March 29, 1808. Six years afterward the family

removed to Camillus, N. Y., where Mr. Chase learned cabinet making. He came to Owego in 1832 and worked at his trade in Gen. I. B. Ogden's shop until 1841, when he opened a grocery store. He became active in democratic politics, and as he was a fluent speaker and possessed of an agreeable personality, he became one of the prominent leaders of the party. He was elected to the assembly in 1844, and was afterward under-sheriff of the county. When the publication of the *Tioga Freeman* was discontinued, Mr. Chase became landlord of the Tioga house in North avenue. In 1853 he was appointed local freight agent of the New York and Erie railroad company, and was afterward station agent at Smithboro. He removed to Atchison, Kansas, in 1859, where he published the *Atchinson Union* until November, 1860, but then sold out and returned to Owego. In June, 1862, he was re-appointed station agent at Smithboro, which position he held until his death, March 26, 1887.

*St. Nicholas* was a monthly magazine, published at the *Gazette* office. The first number appeared in April, 1853. The idea was taken from the *Knickerbocker* magazine, the only publication of the kind at that time, and which *St. Nicholas* resembled in make up and arrangement of matter. Its pages were a little smaller than those of the *Knickerbocker*. It was published only one year. The volume contains ten numbers, those of the months of December and January and of February and March being double numbers. Only five complete volumes are now known to be in existence. The prominent feature of *St. Nicholas* was the highly valuable series of papers relating to early history in the Susquehanna valley, written by Judge Avery, who obtained his information from the earliest settlers in this part of the state; and to Judge Avery belongs the credit of having gleaned and recorded much early history of this county, which otherwise would have been lost. The manuscripts from which the Susquehanna valley history was written are now the property of the Wisconsin historical society. The chief contributors to *St. Nicholas* were the poet Charles A. Munger, who wrote some excellent papers entitled "The Susquehanna Angler," in imitation of Isaac Walton, and a serial novel entitled "Francis Felton," the scene of which was laid

in Owego. The humor of the magazine was in a department called "Our Stocking," a *melange* of good things contributed to each issue by Thomas C. Platt, written in his peculiar vein of clever and gossipy pleasantry. Other contributors were Guy H. Avery, Charles T. Ransom and George S. Leonard.

The defection, in the latter part of the year 1871, of a large number of the prominent men from the Republican party who organized the Liberal republican party, resulted in the publication of the *Ahwaga Chief*, the first issue of which appeared February 23, 1872. The editor and proprietor was Horace A. Brooks, a prominent republican politician, who had been county clerk from 1861 to 1870. At the conclusion of the presidential campaign of 1872, in which the *Ahwaga Chief* supported Horace Greeley, the paper was discontinued, having proved a losing venture. Mr. Brooks removed the establishment to Elmira in January, 1873, where, in company with Colonel James S. Thurston and P. C. VanGelder, he subsequently began the publication of a Republican-Methodist temperance weekly called the *Southern Tier Leader*. In June, 1874, Mr. Brooks sold his interest in the paper to Colonel Thurston, and in July assisted in establishing a grange newspaper, now defunct, called *The Husbandman*. Mr. Brooks died in Owego July 19, 1896.

The Owego *Christian Tribune* was an eight-page religious monthly, in size 13 by 24 inches. It was published in 1867 by John F. Seaman, and lived only a short time.

In 1871 Charles H. Keeler, who had been conducting a job printing office in Owego and issuing a small advertising sheet for free circulation, known as the *Trade Reporter*, converted the paper into a weekly newspaper, called the *Tioga County Record*. The first number was published March 18, 1871. August 3, 1885, the paper was sold to Clayton S. Scott, who subsequently received Odell J. Watros as a partner, and the firm is now known as Scott & Watros.

At the time of the Greenback agitation, in 1877, Merritt E. Webster, a former employe of the *Gazette*, who was conducting a small job printing office, formed a partnership with Benjamin B. F. Graves and began publication of a weekly paper called the *Workingman*. Its first number appeared November 1, 1877. August



9, 1878, George M. Jordan became editor and publisher. The paper died a natural death with its issue of February 28, 1879. Jordan was a harness maker, with a *cacoethes* for journalism. Subsequent to the demise of the *Workingman* he became the publisher of the Newark Valley *Herald*.

B. B. F. Graves, with the old *Workingman* plant, issued the first number of a temperance organ called *The Family Journal and Temperance Advocate*, Jan. 18, 1879. Only five numbers were published, the last one being issued Feb. 15, 1879.

*The Resolute*, another temperance organ, followed the *Advocate*. It was published by a company of which John L. Matson, John J. Hooker, and Van Ness Russell were the trustees. The company purchased the old *Workingman* plant. The first issue was dated April 12, 1879. It expired peacefully with its issue of Nov. 8, 1879. G. M. Jordan was at first its editor, and afterward it was published by Jordan and G. W. Tyson.

George F. Cameron, who was proprietor of a news office in Lake street, published one number of the *Tioga County Greenbacker*. It appeared Aug. 22, 1878.

The first issue of the *Owego Blade*, a weekly paper, appeared Jan. 1, 1880. John McCormick, who had been foreman in the *Times* office had obtained possession of the old *Workingman* plant. Wm. H. Young, who had discontinued the publication of the *Independent* at Candor, removed his printing material to Owego and with the two plants McCormick & Young launched their venture on the sea of journalism. It was republican in politics, and appearing at the time of the "Half Breed" and "Stalwart" republican quarrel, it espoused the cause of the "Stalwarts." In December, 1880, Young sold his interest in the concern to McCormick. In November, 1881, Captain Eugene B. Gere purchased a half interest in the *Blade* and became editor of the paper, while McCormick had charge of the mechanical department. In January, 1882, Capt. Gere purchased McCormick's interest.

The first issue of the *Owego Press*, a small monthly newspaper, devoted to the interest of free schools, was published by Charles R. Burnette, the proprietor of a job printing office. It appeared Sept. 1, 1886, and expired with its twelfth number.