

John Hollenback, in the year 1828, although he went to school in the village as early as 1816. In the fall of 1847, after John Hollenback died, the firm of Wm. H. Bell & Co., was formed, and was continued twenty years. In later years he was actively engaged in business, successor to the firm, and associated with his sons, George F. and John G. Hollenback. After 1871 they sold crockery exclusively, and in 1873 sold out their remaining stock to D. C. Tuthill and retired. Mr. Hollenback was village president in 1854, trustee three times and supervisor three terms. He died December 30, 1878.

William H. Bell was the son of William Bell, a farmer residing on West Owego creek, and an early settler north of Owego. When William H. came to Owego village he was clerk in David P. Tinkham's store, and was afterward employed by John Hollenback and Platt & Ely. In 1837, in company with Daniel G. and W. C. Taylor, he purchased the Platt & Ely stock, and the firm of Taylors & Bell became known in the region. Soon afterward Mr. Bell sold out and became teller of the old Bank of Owego, but in 1841 left the bank and succeeded W. C. Taylor in the old store. Mr. Bell became sole proprietor of the business in 1847. Then followed the operations of Wm. H. Bell & Co., lumbermen and merchants. Mr. Bell was stricken with paralysis in 1870, and died April 20, 1876.

The Taylors came to Owego about 1837. After selling to Mr. Bell, Daniel G. kept grocery several years on the corner of Main street and North avenue, where is now Mr. Leahy's store. W. C. Taylor afterward became station agent for the Erie at Jersey City. He died in Brooklyn April 9, 1892, aged 78 years.

General Ansel Goodrich, son of Captain Eliakim Goodrich, was for several years a merchant in Owego, in company with his brother-in-law, Jonathan Platt. Their store was on the south side of Front street, below Lake. He was in business at the time of his death, July 15, 1819.

Charles B. Pixley, son of Col. David Pixley, the pioneer, was born in Tioga in 1792, and when grown to maturity became a manufacturer of wool and fur hats. He kept a hat, book, musical instrument and stationery store in Owego for many years,

first on the south side of Front street, east of Lake, but in 1834 removed to the north-east corner of Lake and Front streets. He afterward closed out his business and returned to Tioga where he died in August, 1865.

Hamilton Collier opened a general country store in Owego, May 2, 1824, on the south side of Front street, opposite the old Bates tavern, but later on moved to Judge Drake's building opposite Lake street. He lived in Main street, and in his house Mrs. Collier kept a school for small children. In 1827 Mr. Collier went to Binghamton and became a lawyer.

Gurdon Hewitt was one of the most successful of the early merchants of Owego. He was born at New London, Conn., May 5, 1790, and early in life went to Towanda, Penna., where he was for a time a merchant, but in the spring of 1823 came to Owego and entered into partnership with his brother-in-law Jonathan Platt. Their general store stood on the bank of the river, just above the bridge. After a year Mr. Platt retired from the firm and Mr. Hewitt continued business alone until the spring of 1837, when he formed a partnership with John M. Greenleaf. This firm continued until their store was burned in the fire of September 25, 1849, after which Mr. Hewitt devoted himself entirely to banking and his private enterprises. He was the first president of the old Bank of Owego, and for many years its cashier. At the time of his death he was the wealthiest man in Owego. His children were Gurdon Hewitt, Jr., Fred C. Hewitt, Mrs. Stephen T. Arnot, of Elmira and Mrs. Frederick H. Pumpelly, of Owego.

John M. Greenleaf came to Owego from Richford in the fall of 1826, and after serving three years as clerk for Colonel Amos Martin and with Gurdon Hewitt six years, he went into business with Lyman Truman, in a brick store in Lake street, where now stands the building occupied by the Owego National bank. This firm dissolved in 1836, and in 1837 Mr. Greenleaf became partner with Gurdon Hewitt, continuing twelve years. After the fire of 1849 the firm did not resume business. Mr. Greenleaf died in Owego, August 23, 1881. His father was John H. Greenleaf, who came from Washington county to Smithboro in 1818, and thence to

Richford in 1822. John M. Greenleaf was the father of Dr. J. T. Greenleaf, founder of Glenmary Home.

Asa H. Truman, mentioned in town chapter, began business in Owego in 1825, and continued to the time of his death, February 6, 1846. Edward D. and Stephen S. Truman, sons of Asa H., became partners with their father about 1840, and after the fire in 1849, they continued the business in the "Diamond store," in North avenue. S. S. Truman retired in 1855, and two years later E. D. Truman removed to Illinois.

Charles and Printice Ransom were sons of Major William Ransom, the pioneer of Tioga Centre, where Charles was born in 1805 and Printice in 1807. In 1830 they came to Owego and began a general mercantile business with William A. and James Ely, under the firm name of Ely & Ransoms, in a brick store, which stood on the south side of Front street, west of Lake street. Charles Ransom retired from the firm in 1820. In 1833, Charles Ransom purchased the interest of the Ely Brothers, and C. & P. Ransom continued the business until 1851. After the dissolution of the partnership, Charles Ransom returned to Tioga Centre, where he lived until his death, August 12, 1860. From 1851 to 1857, Printice Ransom and his brother-in-law, James S. Thurston, conducted a general mercantile business in Owego, under the firm name of P. Ransom & Co. In 1857 Mr. Ransom removed to Iowa City, Ia., where he died October 16, 1889. Printice Ransom was elected sheriff of Tioga county.

Aaron P. Storrs began business with Dr. Lucius H. Allen in 1835, at the west corner of Front and Lake streets, but in the next year removed to the south side of Front street. In 1838 the firm became Allen, Storrs & Ball, and continued one year. Soon afterward Mr. Storrs became sole proprietor and so remained until burned out in 1849. In April, 1852, Mr. Storrs and John R. Chatfield established the firm of Storrs & Chatfield, which soon afterward became Storrs, Chatfield & Co., by Frank L. Jones coming into the firm. In 1855 they bought the stock of R. Woodford & Co., and moved to the corner of Front and Lake streets, where is now the large hardware store of A. P. Storrs & Co. In February 1860, Mr. Jones withdrew from the firm, after which Storrs &

Chatfield conducted the business until 1886, when A. P. Storrs, Jr., and George S. Chatfield became partners, the name of which then changed to Storrs, Chatfield & Co. Aaron P. Storrs died September 9, 1888, and in July, 1894, A. P. Storrs & Co., the present proprietors, purchased the interests of the other partners. In July, 1895, John R. and Geo. S. Chatfield sold their interest in the business and withdrew from the firm, which is still known as A. P. Storrs & Co.

The old business firm of L. Truman & Brothers was well known throughout the southern tier, and in all the lumber markets down the Susquehanna, for many years. The partnership was formed in 1836, and the old sign is still conspicuously displayed on the front of George Truman & Son's store. Lyman Park Truman, the senior member of the firm, was born at Park Settlement, March 2, 1806. He came to Owego in 1830, and became clerk in the store of his uncle, Asa H. Truman. In 1833 he began business for himself, and in 1836 the firm of L. Truman & Brothers was formed, and was thereafter known in business circles for a period of more than thirty years. The partners in this firm were Lyman P., Orin, Francis W. and George Truman. In 1836 Lyman Truman became president of the old Bank of Owego, and of its successor, the First National bank, which position he held until a short time previous to his death. In public affairs he was an interested and prominent factor, holding several town offices, from constable to supervisor. He was elected to the state senate in 1857, and was re-elected in 1859 and 1861. In January, 1838, Mr. Truman married with Emily, the daughter of Anor Goodrich, by whom he had four children: Adeline who married with Dr. John B. Stanbrough; Emily, wife of Eugene B. Gere; Dora, wife of Clarence A. Thompson, and Anor B., who died October 2, 1848. Mr. Truman died in Owego, March 24, 1881.

Charles E. Truman was born at Park Settlement, November 1, 1807, and has spent most of his life in the town of Owego, at Flemingville, where for more than thirty years he was justice of the peace. His sons are Aaron B., Lyman B., Elias W. and Charles F. Truman. His daughters were Adeline, Adelaide, Helen, Lucy and Lydia.

Dorinda Truman was born February 24, 1809; married with Captain John Gorman, and died September 12, 1895.

Orin Truman was born February 17, 1811, and was one of the well known firm of L. Truman & Brothers. He never married. He died September 30, 1885.

Francis W. Truman was born December 13, 1812, and was for many years connected with the firm of L. Truman & Brothers, and also with the manufacturing firm of Gere, Truman, Platt & Co. He died January 20, 1893.

Charlotte Truman, daughter of Aaron, died young.

George Truman was born in Owego, June 16, 1816, and was the junior member of the firm of L. Truman & Brothers. He is now senior member of the firm of G. Truman & Son, and also president of the First National bank. He married with Eunice Ann Goodrich, and to them five children were born, four of whom are still living, viz: William S., Sarah F. (Mrs. A. Chase Thompson), George, Jr., and Gilbert Truman.

Fanny Truman was born April 1, 1818, married David Goodrich and had three children—Mary, Charles F., and Lyman T. Goodrich. Fanny Truman Goodrich died in 1892; David Goodrich died in 1896.

Mary E. Truman was born June 18, 1820; married January 9, 1859, with Alfred Dodge, and now lives in Owego.

Adeline Truman was born June 17, 1822, and died February 13, 1823.

Asa H. Truman, brother to Aaron, the pioneer, was an early school teacher at Park Settlement, and from 1816 to 1825, kept store and tavern at Flemingville. In 1825 he came to Owego village and was in mercantile business until his death, February 6, 1848. His sons were Lucius, William H., Charles and Edward D. Truman.

The Camerons, James, John and Robert, are also to be mentioned among the early and prominent merchants of Owego. James began business here about 1835, and John became his partner in 1838. Robert began on his own account in 1840, but his store was burned in 1849. He rebuilt and resumed business and

thereafter was one of the most successful merchants of the village. He died in Owego in 1896. James died May 31, 1865.

David Beers began business in Owego about 1820, buying and selling fish, but soon afterward had saved enough money to purchase a stock of goods and open a store in Cauldwell row. Later on he had a store in Apalachin, which he sold to Squire Steele, and then returned to this village and began livery business. Still later he started a mercantile business, his partner being Frederick Brown, and afterward Albert R. Thomas. Mr. Beers was in business here until 1866. He died in Brooklyn Dec. 27, 1889.

Franklin Slosson, the pioneer of the book business in Owego, was a native of Newark Valley, born in 1805. He opened a general store in the village in 1838, and one year later became partner with George Williams, and then put in a good stock of books and stationery. In 1845 the firm dissolved, Mr. Williams retiring, and Mr. Slosson thereafter continued in business until 1857. He died April 2, 1867.

Joshua L. Pinney, and his son Egbert R., opened the "Owego Arcade," a drug store, in 1835, in Judge Drake's building in Front street, south side. This was the first "open front" store in the village. Later on other members of the family became interested in the firm, which changed location and style occasionally, but was known in local business circles many years. The senior member, J. L. Pinney, died in Owego, October 15, 1855. After his death the business was continued some years by his sons, Hammon D. and P. Henry Pinney.

William P. Stone came from Flemingville to Owego in 1834, and began a general mercantile business with Sheldon Osborn in a building on the site now of George Truman & Son's seed and produce store, in Front street; and from 1834 to 1874 Mr. Stone was closely identified with mercantile life in the village, and was, withal, one of the prominent men of his time. Briefly, we may note his several partners in business: Sheldon Osborn (Osborn & Stone); Lucius Truman (Truman & Stone, proprietors of the "Empire Store"); Charles L. Truman (Truman, Stone & Co.); Ezra S. Buckbee. In 1851 the firms of Truman & Stone, and Truman, Stone & Co. were dissolved and Stone & Buckbee formed

the new firm of Stone & Co., builders of the Empire block, which was burned in 1860. In the meantime the firm comprised Messrs. Stone, Buckbee, Stephen L. and B. L. Truman, but the Trumans had withdrawn before the fire. Stone & Co. continued in business until 1874, when the senior partner retired.

Thomas I. Chatfield came to Owego in March, 1839, and found employment in Gad Worthington's bake shop in Lake street. In October following he purchased the business, and for the next forty-five years was one of the most active merchants and public men in the village. During the long period of his business life, as baker, grocer and miller, Mr. Chatfield had as partners John S. Martin, Moses Stevens, Michael Bergin, Charles P. Skinner, Henry Campbell, and Anthony Freeman. Mr. Chatfield died May 2, 1884. (See personal chronology department for further mention).

Frank L. Jones is well remembered among the former business men of the village. He came here in 1837 and was clerk for Allen & Storrs, but from 1840 to 1865 his active business operations were in other localities. In 1865 he became partner with Storrs & Chatfield, in 1868 was appointed sheriff of the county, and was later under sheriff; was partner with B. M. Stebbins from 1865 to 1880; was appointed postmaster at Owego Feb. 17, 1871, and served to 1879; was village president in 1869. In July, 1880, he was appointed agent and warden of Auburn state prison. He died November 8, 1883.

John Carmichael came to Owego from Johnstown, N. Y., in 1819, and opened a jewelry store, and was in business until 1849. He was the first village collector in 1827 and held that office to 1834; was village assessor four years, and county treasurer from 1837 to 1843. He died in Owego, April 24, 1878.

Timothy P. Patch opened a meat market in 1834 and conducted that and a grocery business until 1855. In 1860 he removed to Towanda, Penna. In 1850 he built "Patch's hall," at that time the largest public hall in the village. He died at Corning N. Y., June 30, 1882.

Among other early business men in the village may be mentioned Alanson Dean, George Bacon, Edward W. Warner and Frederick E. Platt.

The foregoing sketches are intended to bring to the attention of the reader the names of as many as possible of the early merchants of Owego, whose period of business life was previous to 1840. However, the claim is not made that every merchant of the village has been mentioned, for such a record at this late day would be impossible. There were others, representing various other occupations in village history, whose names are also entitled to be recorded in these pages, for they, too, by their efforts and their presence contributed in a greater or less degree to the early building up and establishing of Owego as the first town in Tioga county. In the chapters of this work devoted to the professions will be found mention of the lawyers and the physicians, and in the press chapter will be found reference to all persons who were identified with journalism in the village. In the special department devoted to personal chronology will also be found more extended sketches, biographical and geneological, of the old and prominent families and persons who have been factors in the past and present history of the village.

Among the early residents of Owego whose names are not elsewhere mentioned, may be recalled Isaac B. Ogden, familiarly known as General Ogden, who learned the trade of cabinet making in the village and afterward carried on the business here with Dana and Kingsbury. He was greatly interested in village affairs, was trustee of the village eleven years, and president four years. He died in Owego, April 14, 1868.

Isaac Lillie was a land surveyor and school teacher. He came to Owego in 1814, and died here September 23, 1864.

John Ripley, a native of Coventry, Conn., born in 1792, came to Owego in 1814, and from 1823 to 1832 was deputy sheriff of the county. He was justice of the peace, except for one year, from 1853 to the time of his death, January 2, 1860.

Col. Henry McCormick, a soldier of the war of 1812, came to Owego in 1814, and was the first gunsmith in the village. He afterward removed to a farm in the town. He was sheriff from 1828 to 1831, and village trustee in 1832 and 1833. He died at St. Peter, Minn., May 22, 1874.

James and John W. L'Amoureux, harness makers, came to Owego, James in 1835 and John in 1839.



In the same manner may be recalled the names and some brief mention of the lives of other early characters of the village. One of them was Capt. Luke Bates, an old sea captain, who is said to have been the first settler west of Union, and who was supervisor of that town in 1791. He secured from James McMaster a deed conveying much of the land whereon Owego now stands, and on the site of the Ahwaga house, in 1795, he built a tavern, a famous hostelry in early history. Later on Capt. Bates moved two miles up the river, to a house on Little Nanticoke creek, where he kept a distillery. He died in 1813.

Abner Beers, was one of the four brothers who founded Beers's Settlement, in Danby. He came to Owego in 1818, was a carpenter, and in 1828 built the first bridge across the Susquehanna in this village. Ephraim Leach, of Tioga, was the engineer. Mr. Beers's wife was sister to James Pumpelly. He died Sept. 7, 1828.

Caleb Leach was a native of Plymouth, Mass., a clockmaker by trade, and a man of scientific attainments. He came here from New York city in 1806, and built a saw and grist mill in Tioga, at the place afterward known as Leach's Mills. Ephraim Leach, son of Caleb, built the present mills across the creek, but he gained early prominence through the construction of the bridge across the river in 1828, which was planned by him and of which he had charge as engineer.

Capt. Isaac Bartlett came from Salisbury, Conn., to Owego in 1813, with his sons Joseph, Isaac L., and Robert S. Bartlett, all of whom removed to Binghamton in 1829. Capt. Bartlett was a blacksmith; his sons were gunsmiths.

Jared Huntington was a harnessmaker, a native of Hebron, Conn., and an early resident in Owego; was county superintendent of the poor from 1832 to 1837. He died July 2, 1861.

James Conklin is remembered as a carriage maker in early days. He died January 6, 1855, age 92 years.

Richard E. Cushman, carpenter, came to Owego in 1812. He was born at Stafford, Conn., June 2, 1782, and died August 18, 1863, aged 81 years.

John Dodd, carpenter, came from Goshen, N. Y., in 1829; died September 3, 1854.

Ezra S. Madan, cabinet maker, was born at Sing Sing, N. Y., Sept. 20, 1785, and died at Owego, Oct. 11, 1868. He came to the village in 1825.

Asa Dearborn was a shoemaker, of whom little is remembered. He died March 23, 1873, aged 74 years.

David Thurston, the pioneer of a large and respected family in this county, several of whom are in active business to-day, came from New Hampshire in 1805.

Deacon Francis Armstrong was born in Orange county in 1788, and came to Owego in 1829. He was deputy sheriff and under sheriff nine years, and was justice of the peace eight years. He died Nov. 25, 1881.

Samuel Hull came from Mannyunck, near Philadelphia, in 1827, and was village collector much of the time from 1845 to 1872. He died Sept. 19, 1877. Frederick K. Hull, son of Samuel was village trustee five years; president in 1873, and town supervisor from 1870 to 1874. He died in Owego, May 29, 1896.

Erastus Meacham, blacksmith, a native of Cornwall, Conn., born in 1798, came to Owego in 1820. He died in the village Jan. 25, 1890.

Col Benoni B. Curry, was a tailor who came from Orange county in 1840. He died at Baleville, N. J., January 19, 1875.

Capt. Sylvanus Fox, carpenter, was born at North Glastonbury, Conn., May 6, 1797, and came to Owego in 1803. He was prominent in early village history; was trustee eleven years, and president in 1840. He died Aug. 24, 1871.

Charles R. Barstow was born at Gt. Barrington, Mass., in March, 1804, and came to live with Dr. Gamaliel H. Barstow, his uncle, at Nichols, in 1816. He was a merchant at that village; was loan commissioner from 1840 to 1842; elected sheriff in 1843; elected to the assembly in 1846, and postmaster at Owego from 1849 to 1853. Later on he was connected with the Erie railroad, and in April, 1868, was appointed port warden at New York. He died at Big Rapids, Mich., Dec. 10, 1880.

Arba Campbell was a tanner and one of the most prominent business men in the village. He was born in Madison county in 1809, and came to Owego 1842. He bought and sold wool, cattle,

and sheep, and manufactured wagons until 1852, when he purchased a tannery, and was for many years one of the largest wool-pullers in the state. He was also greatly interested in agriculture, owning four farms. He died in Owego February, 1895.

Referring briefly to one of the earliest industries of Owego, it has been said that the tannery built by Lemuel Brown in 1795, was a log structure and stood well down on the river bank, about in rear of Goodrich & Co.'s dry goods store, and that the gradual washing away of the bank resulted in the destruction of the tannery, in 1801. Then the other tannery was built in the north part of the village, and was in operation until about 1819. The next tannery was built about 1825, and although the original structure long ago ceased to exist, its successor is still in active operation and will be mentioned among the present industries of the village.

In 1838 Samuel Archibald built a tannery on the site of the later known Owego tannery. The building was burned January 31, 1860, but was soon replaced with a larger and more modern structure, located on the south side of the river, west of the bridge. The construction of the railroad in 1881-2 took this property, but a part of the old building still stands. The Arba Campbell tannery was built in 1871, and put in operation the next year by A. Campbell & Co.

INCORPORATION.—The old pioneer surveyor, Amaziah Hutchinson, laid the foundation for a village settlement in Owego in 1788 and '89, when he surveyed and subdivided into parcels lot twenty-three of the West half-township; and David Pixley assisted in the same work by completing the survey in 1789 and '90. About twelve years later James Pumpelly enlarged the limits of the settlement by his survey, and from that time until the act of incorporation was passed he, as one of the leading men of the time, labored earnestly to bring about that result. However, in 1810 the population within the limits of the village as afterward established did not exceed three hundred persons, and the only merchants then doing business were William and Nathan Camp, General Laning, Major Ross, John Hollenback, Charles Pumpelly, Gen. Huntington, and General Camp. During the next twenty years the name

and fame of Owego as a business centre had become known throughout the east, and the result was a steady and substantial growth in commercial interests and in number of inhabitants ; and with the increased importance of the hamlet there came a demand for at least a partial separation from the surrounding township, that the county seat might have the necessary improved condition of affairs that was to be obtained only in a corporate character. To this end James Pumpelly, Eleazer Dana, Jonathan Platt, William A. Ely, and their fellow townsmen and associates, had recourse to the legislature, and the result was an act passed April 4, 1827, by which all that part of the town of Owego "now included within the gaol limits of the eastern jury district of said county, or as the said gaol limits shall be established by the court of common pleas of said county at the next May term of said court, and shall not exceed three hundred acres of land, shall be called, known and distinguished by the name of '*the village of Owego.*'"

Among other things the creating act directed that the freeholders and inhabitants of the village should meet at the court house on the first Monday in June, following, and there proceed to elect five *discreet* freeholders to be trustees. The trustees elected were authorized to make *prudential* by-laws for the government of the village, and "such in particular as may relate to restraining swine, horses, and cattle of any kind, from running at large." They were also authorized to assess, levy and collect taxes to defray village expenses, and were also declared to be fire wardens, in case of fire. Authority was given to appoint not to exceed twenty firemen, "who shall be willing to accept," and to regulate the time and place of meeting of said company of firemen. The primitive fire company and organization brought into being through this authority, was the nucleus of the present splendid fire department of Owego.

Under the authority of this act of the legislature, a formal though somewhat incomplete municipal organization was effected ; but it was sufficient for the time, and by virtue of the authority of its provisions the foundation was laid for the establishment of all the institutions of the village in later years. As population and business importance increased, it became necessary to enlarge

the corporate power, and also the extent of the village area, therefore amendments to the act of incorporation were made in the years 1835, '37, '40, '42, '44 and '47, each defining or increasing the authority and powers of preceding acts, until the act of 1851 granted to Owego a formal charter.

The act of April 9, 1851, provided that the village officers should be a president, one trustee for each ward, one treasurer, three assessors, one collector of taxes, one clerk, one police constable, one street commissioner, one chief engineer and two assistant engineers of the fire department, one or more fire wardens (not exceeding three), a pound master, a sexton, and a keeper of the village hall. The trustees, treasurer, assessors, collector and street commissioner were to be elected by ballot. The territory of the village was also to be divided into five wards, each to have one trustee. However, in 1854, by an act passed April 15, the office of president, in addition to those enumerated in the act of 1851, was made elective by the people, and not by the trustees, as in all previous years.

Notwithstanding the fact that the charter of 1851, with the amendments of 1854, made ample provision for all departments of local government, it soon became necessary to still further amend, and for this purpose the legislative power was besought in the years 1857, '59, '60, '61, '63, '64, '65, '72, '79, and '90. The material changes of 1890 were the results of the work of a non-partisan commission, appointed January 13, by the village trustees, and comprised Howard J. Mead, Martin S. Lynch, William A. Smyth, LeRoy W. Kingman, Watson L. Hoskins, and Patrick Maloney. Still further amendments to the charter were made by chapters 301 and 302 of the laws of 1893. By the amendment of 1890, which went into effect at the annual charter election in January, 1891, the number of wards was reduced to three, each to have two trustees, elected alternately and for two years. Therefore the board of trustees consists of a president and six members.

The act of 1854 also provided for the election in the village of one supervisor, to have the same power and authority as town supervisors.

The first election of village officers was held at the court house in June, 1827. The board of trustees comprised James Pumpelly,

Eleazer Dana, Harmon Pumpelly, William A. Ely, and Jonathan Platt, Jr. On the organization of the board James Pumpelly was elected president, and Ezra S. Sweet, clerk.

The succession of village presidents has been as follows :

1827-31—James Pumpelly.	1865-67—William Smyth.
1832-33—Anson Camp.	1868—Thomas I. Chatfield.
1834—Jonathan Platt.	1869—Frank L. Jones.
1835—Harmon Pumpelly.	1870—James Bishop.
1836-39—Latham A. Burrows.	1871—Hiram A. Beebe.
1840—Sylvanus Fox.	1872—Charles M. Haywood
1841—John R. Drake.	1873—Frederick K. Hull.
1842—James Wright.	1874—Ephriam H. House.
1843-45—John R. Drake.	1875—Asa N. Potter.
1846-49—Isaac B. Ogden.	1876—James Wilson.
1850—Thomas Farrington.	1877—Frank M. Baker.
1851—Charles R. Barstow.	1878-80—Foster N. Mabee.
1852—Hiram A. Beebe.	1881—William Smyth.
1853—Chauncey Hungerford.	1882-84—Stephen Chamberlain.
1854—George W. Hollenback.	1885—John Jones.
1855-57—William F. Warner.	1886—Judson B. Winters.
1858—Nathaniel W. Davis.	1887-89—Henry Billings.
1859—John J. Taylor.	1890—John G. Sears.
1860—Nathaniel W. Davis.	1891—William E. Dorwin.
1861—Isaac S. Catlin.	1892-94—Theodore D. Gere.
1862—Henry L. Bean.	1895-96—James Forsyth.
1863-64—Charles Platt.	1897—Orin T. Gorman.

The supervisors, in succession have been as follows :

1854-55—Dr. Ezekiel Lovejoy.	1878—Burr J. Davis.
1856—Franklin Slosson.	1879—Dr. Theodore S. Armstrong.
1857—Thomas C. Platt.	1880—Ephraim H. House.
1858-59—Thomas I. Chatfield.	1881—John Jones.
1860-61—Watson L. Hoskins.	1882-83—Aaron Ogden.
1862—Charles C. Thomas.	1884-85—Charles M. Haywood.
1863-71—Daniel M. Pitcher.	1886—Stephen Chamberlain.
1872—Harry Jewett.	1887-90—Charles M. Haywood.
1873—Daniel M. Pitcher.	1891—George F. Andrews.
1874—William H. Corey.	1892-95—Edwin Stratton.
1875—Thomas I. Chatfield.	1896-97—Orlando G. King.
1876-77—Dr. Theodore S. Armstrong.	

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS. So far as record and tradition furnish any reliable information, the first school within the limits of

Owego Village was opened in a little log house standing on the east side of Court street, about on the site of the old academy building, but when and by whom built we cannot say. So far, however, as inference and conclusions tend to establish facts, the statement may be made that this log school house was probably built about the time James McMaster deeded the park tract to the trustees of "Owego Settlement," in 1797. The first teacher in this school was Mr. Quincy.

At a little later period another log school house was built on the south side of Main street, just west of where the rectory of St. Paul's church now stands. In still later years this old structure gave place to the more substantial two-story framed building, which was occupied for the purposes of school and Masonic lodge rooms, the lodge rooms on the upper floor. Isaac Lillie taught in this old building, as also did Erastus Evans, and during the term in which Mr. Evans was teacher, in the summer of 1835, the school house was burned. This was a somewhat notable building in early local annals, for here were held all public meetings, and the Masons met there at a time when such assemblages were viewed with suspicion.

**THE OWEGO ACADEMY.** The subject of an academy in Owego was discussed by the people of the settlement as early as 1817, although it was not until ten years afterward that such an institution was in fact founded. In the south part of the town was the "gospel and school lot," so called, at that time unoccupied, unimproved and of no benefit to any cause. This was a tract of land reserved by the state for the use and benefit of such schools as should thereafter be established, and for the support of the gospel in the town. This reservation was authorized by an act of the legislature, passed in 1782, and the tract of land so reserved in what is now Owego, lay in the south part of the town, in the old Hamden township and on the south boundary of Coxe's patent.

On April 12, 1826, the legislature passed an act by which James Pumpelly, William Camp and John H. Avery were appointed commissioners to take charge of the gospel and school lot, and were authorized to sell the same and apply the proceeds to such

school or literary purposes as the inhabitants of the town in meeting assembled, should agree. In accordance with this authority, a special town meeting was assembled in Owego on December 30, 1826, and it was there resolved that the yearly income, or the annual interest arising from a sale of the gospel and school lot be appropriated to the "indowment" of an academy to be erected in the village of Owego. At the same time Anson Camp was appointed commissioner to succeed William Camp, who was killed by the explosion of the boiler of the steamboat *Susquchannah*.

April 8, 1828, the trustees of Owego Settlement—Eleazer Dana, John H. Avery and Gen. Anson Camp, deeded to the trustees of Owego academy the tract of land on which the building was erected, on the east side of Court street, a portion of the land deeded by James McMaster to the trustees of the settlement in 1797.

This conveyance by the trustees of the settlement did not meet the approval of the heirs of James McMaster, and soon after John J. Taylor came to practise law in Owego (1835) they asked him to bring an action to recover the land or its value. At that time Mr. Taylor was a young lawyer and did not feel inclined to sue the most influential men of the village, although he knew his clients had "a good case." He finally told them that for a \$100 cash retainer he would bring suit, but the money was not paid, hence the matter dropped.

The first trustees of Owego academy were James Pumpelly, president, and Rev. Aaron Putnam, Col. Amos Martin, Dr. Joel S. Paige, Latham A. Burrows, Eleazer Dana, Gurdon Hewitt, Rev. Joseph Castle, Charles Pumpelly, Jonathan Platt, Anson Camp and Stephen B. Leonard. The academy building was erected during the year 1827, by Col. Amos Martin, contractor; Abner Beers, superintendent of construction. The first principal was Rev. Edward Fairchild, A. M., and his assistants were Hamilton VanDyke, A. B., and Joseph Pattee. The tuition was two, three and four dollars a quarter according to the studies pursued. During its first term this notable old institution had one hundred and twenty pupils, sixty of whom were males. In 1851 the trustees enlarged the academy building by adding in rear of the main structure three large rooms.



From this time the history of Owego academy was a record of continued and increasing success for a period of nearly a quarter of a century, but with the introduction of our state free schools, followed in 1853 by the union free academic system, with all its increased advantages over the tuition schools and academies of the period, then came a gradual though certain decline in interest and profit in the affairs of the academy, and the result was its final dissolution, so far as its corporate charter was concerned, and in 1864 it was merged into the more modern system under the name of the "Union Free Schools of the Village of Owego." During the period of its existence the principals of the Owego academy were as follows :

1828—Rev. Edward Fairchild.	1844—J. N. Jenner.
1830—Joseph M. Ely.	1847—Theodore F. Hay.
1835—A. Clarke.	1849—William Smyth.
1836—R. M. Stansbury.	1854—James M. Burt.
1837—Isaac B. Headley.	1856—A. B. Wiggins.
1844—Joseph M. Ely.	1860—Leopold J. Bæck.
	1863—Joseph A. Prindle.

The present admirable system of schools in the village, more perfect than at any time in its history, was established by an act of the legislature, passed April 23, 1864, which with the amendments of 1865, declared that all school districts and parts of school districts lying within the corporate limits of the village of Owego, be consolidated and incorporated into one school district, to be called the "Union School District of the Village of Owego." Further, the act provided that the schools be designated the "Union Schools of the Village of Owego," and for their control and government created a "Board of School Commissioners," of six members, one from each ward (by the act called sub districts), and one from the village at large.

The first board comprised Thomas I. Chatfield, at large, and Rev. Charles H. Everest, John L. Matson, Andrew Coburn, William Smyth and H. D. Pinney, representing the five sub-districts in the order named. The system established under these acts was continued without substantial change until 1890, when by the radical revision of the charter the sub-district feature was abolished, and provision made for the election of six commissioners

from the village at large, to comprise the "Board of School Commissioners."

This consolidation of districts brought to the new jurisdiction several school buildings and other property, yet the transition from the old system to the new was not accomplished without difficulty and opposition. The old Owego academy, says a contemporary account, was found to be the greatest obstacle to the new system, but after two years of prolonged and needless trouble, it was made the academic department of the union system; principal Prindle retired, and the school commissioners took possession. The old building was thereafter used for school purposes until 1883, when the splendid new free academy was completed and ready for occupancy, and was then sold to Charles A. Clark. However, from the union district established there has grown and developed the present satisfactory condition of educational interests in the village, the buildings now numbering six, and designated as the academy, the grammar school, Temple street, Main street primary, Talcott street primary, Front street, and Southside schools.

The principals of the free academy, since the retirement of Prof. Prindle, have been as follows :

1869—Jonathan Tenney.

1871—Theophilus L. Griswold.

1873—A. J. Robb.

1879—A. M. Drummond.

1881—Henry A. Balcam.

1884—Henry Edick.

1886—Ezra J. Peck.

OWEGO POST OFFICE.—From the best sources of information it is believed that Owego was made a postoffice sometime during the year 1800, although the department records show no reports from the office previous to January 1, 1801. Down to this time the settlers went to Union for their mails, but the appointment of pioneer David Jones as postmaster at Owego Settlement relieved the inhabitants of this locality from much inconvenience. The succession of postmasters at Owego has been as follows :

1801, January \*1—David Jones.

1802, April 28—Eleazer Dana.

1816, May 11—Stephen B. Leonard.

1820, May 15—Dr. Jedediah Fay.

1842, February 4—James Ely.

1849, April 18—Charles R. Barstow.

1853, May 4—Hiram A. Beebe.

1864, June 30—Charles Stebbins.

1871, February 17—Frank L. Jones.

1879, March—Daniel M. Pitcher.

1887, March 17—Frederick O. Cable.

1889, Sept. 16—William Smyth.

1893, June 28—Jonas Shays.

1894, August 30—W. J. Atchison.

\* Date of first report.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.—The seventh section of the act incorporating the village of Owego authorized the board of trustees to organize a fire company and to appoint not to exceed twenty members. In accordance with this authority, on August 25, 1828, “The Owego Fire Company” was duly organized, the first institution of its kind in the county, and one of the first in the region. The company was organized by David Riddle, a student in Farrington & Johnson’s law office. The members worked with buckets, no engine being used until nearly two years later. Through some misfortune no record of the original members of this old pioneer company has been preserved, but the names mentioned below are known to have been among the early members, and at least fourteen of them were charter members.

- |                           |                        |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. John M. Greenleaf.     | 8. George J. Pumpelly. | 15. David A. Allen.    |
| 2. Printice Ransom.       | 9. Alvah B. Archibald. | 16. George Kent.       |
| 3. George W. Hollenback.  | 10. Henry W. Williams. | 17. Samuel Babcock.    |
| 4. David Riddle.          | 11. William Barnes.    | 18. Eleazer Valentine. |
| 5. Thomas Farrington.     | 12. Francis Donlevy.   | 19. Daniel Farnham.    |
| 6. Ezekiel B. Lovejoy.    | 13. Robert Manning.    | 20. Joseph Bartlett.   |
| 7. Frederick H. Pumpelly. | 14. P. H. Ball.        |                        |

The first foreman, or captain, or leader, for by all these titles was he called, was probably Thomas Farrington, while Mr. Greenleaf was known to be secretary of the company for several years, and later on was captain. About the time Rescue engine was purchased, in 1838, the name of Owego Fire Company was changed to Neptune, No. 1.

The first fire engine used in Owego was built by Ephraim Leach, in 1830. The brass and copper work was brought from New York; the iron for brakes was purchased at Gurdon Hewitt’s store, and manufactured by Erastus Meacham and Samuel Babcock. The engine was built at Leach’s mills, and was indeed a novel machine, when in use being supplied with water carried in buckets from the nearest well or cistern. The suction hose and attachment was not put on the engine until 1840, and then to the great disgust of many “old heads,” who knew the machine could not both “suck and squirt” water at the same time. The engine was kept in the old cannon house, in the southeast corner of the academy lot, where the first village burying ground was laid out; and it was the in-

terference of the headstones with the proper handling of the engine that prompted the trustees, in 1833, to build an engine house in the southwest corner of the same lot, near the street. The new engine house was used by Owego fire company, and by its successor, Neptune engine company, until September, 1849, when it was torn down to prevent the destruction of the academy building during the great fire.

The first Hook and Ladder company was organized by the trustees in pursuance of a resolution adopted February 12, 1835, and comprised twelve men; but there is no record to show who the members were, or their officers. However, the equipment of the company was quite novel, comprising four ladders made from small pine trees by Capt. Sylvenus Fox, and a set of poles with hooks, the handiwork of Harlow Norton. But this primitive apparatus soon grew into disfavor, and on June 22, 1837, the company reorganized for more effective duty, with more improved appliances. The members of this company were as follows:

George W. Thurston.	Lambert Beecher.	Abner T. True.
David Goodrich.	Andrew H. Calhoun.	William H. Platt.
Isaac B. Ogden.	Edward W. Warner.	William Duncan.
George W. Fay.	Nicholas Kittle.	Robert Cameron.
Hammon D. Pinney.	George Truman.	James Cameron.
George Arnold.	Lucius Truman.	John Gorman.

The apparatus first used by the reorganized company also consisted of hooks and ladders of imperfect construction, heavy and cumbersome to handle, but were in use for nearly ten years, when, June 6, 1846, the trustees made arrangements for a new equipment. This was secured in 1847, when Captain Fox made new and better ladders, hooks, chains, and poles. James Conklin & Co. contracted to build a hook and ladder wagon—the first fire truck—at an expense of fifty dollars, but for some unknown reason the wagon was not built, and the company carried their apparatus until the hooks and ladders were finally burned in Gen. Ogden's cabinet shop, in February, 1854.

In the latter part of 1839 the trustees purchased a new fire engine, at a cost of about \$550. This became known as the "coffee mill," and a company was organized to operate it, known as Engine company No. 2, but all records of the organization are lost.

However, the company was reorganized at a later day under the name of "Rescue No. 2." In the fall of 1841, No. 2 petitioned the trustees for a hose cart to run in connection with their engine, and the request was granted. In the next year No. 1 made a like request, which was granted, and thus two more elements were added to the fire department.

From this time on the history of the Owego fire department was a record of frequent changes, the companies being disbanded almost yearly, and as frequently reorganizations were effected. Therefore, having referred to the pioneer companies, and their members, the purposes of this sketch are fully served by mentioning only the name of subsequently formed companies, with the date of organization of each, and such other facts of history as will best inform the reader in search of fire department chronology.

Rescue Engine company No. 2, reorganized May 25, 1842, with 24 members.

The first parade of the Owego fire department took place October 10, 1842.

The Fire Bucket company was organized November 25, 1842, with 16 members. The name was soon changed to Deluge Bucket company, No. 3.

On October 6, 1842, a new fire engine was purchased for Rescue Engine company, No. 2; cost, \$615.

"Firemen's hall" was built on the county property, north of the clerk's office. It was built by William Duncan, and accepted by the village April 30, 1844.

Rescue Engine company was disbanded January 5, 1844, and reorganized as Croton Engine company, No. 3, with 30 members.

Rescue, No. 2, was reorganized by the trustees, February 2, 1844. On January 15, 1847, Rescue Engine company was disbanded by the trustees, and on January 27, reorganized with 15 members.

Croton Engine company disbanded November 5, 1847, and on the 11th of the same month reorganized with 19 members.

About three o'clock in the morning of September 27, 1849, there occurred the most disastrous conflagration in the history of Owego. There had been little rain since the month of June preceding, and

every condition was favorable to rapid ignition. The fire broke out in the Sons of Temperance hall, over James & Wm. A. Ely's store, on the south side of Front street, and within a very few hours the entire business portion of the village was destroyed, only three stores remaining uninjured. By this fire one hundred and four buildings, exclusive of barns, were burned, entailing a loss of about \$300,000. All the buildings on both sides of Front street, from Church street to the park, and all on Lake street to the Central house on one side, and Jared Huntington's residence on the other, were burned. The bridge across the river was also partially destroyed.

In the spring of 1851 engines Nos. 1 and 2 were exchanged for Susquehanna No. 1, and old Rescue Engine company passed out of existence. In May of this year the engine house on the county property was removed to the north side of Main street, near North avenue.

Susquehanna Engine company, No. 1, was organized May 13, 1851.

Wave Hose company, No. 2, organized May 31, 1852.

Hope Hose company, No. 4, organized September 13, 1852.

January 5, 1853, the engine house in Main street, with engine No. 1, and the cart of Wave Hose company, No. 2, was destroyed by fire. New apparatus was at once secured to replace that which was burned.

June 15, 1853, a contract was made with T. I. Chatfield to build a village hall and engine house in Main street, at a cost of \$4,500. The building was completed and accepted by the trustees on the first of November following.

Croton Engine company disbanded August 15, 1853, and a new company of the same name was organized August 20, to take charge of engine No. 3 and hose carriage No. 4.

Independent Engine company, No. 5, was organized December 29, 1853. Wave hose disbanded November 6, 1854, and many of its members joined Independents. The latter disbanded in 1855. However, on December 11, 1854, Wave hose company reorganized, and continued in existence until March 26, 1860, and again dissolved.

Young America Independent Engine Co., No. 6, was organized in June, 1857, but disbanded during the war.

Defiance Hook and Ladder company was organized January 14, 1859, and during the summer and fall of 1861, the village erected the building standing on the south side of Front street, opposite Church street, which is still used for fire department purposes. In the fall of 1865, this company disbanded, but reorganized September 7.

Defiance Junior Hook and Ladder Co., No. 5, was organized in the fall of 1860, and disbanded in 1865.

Wave Hose company was revived and reorganized March 26, 1860.

“The Owego Fire Department” was incorporated by an act of the legislature, passed April 17, 1862, and its management thereby became vested in a board of trustees, constituted as follows: Charles Ogden and Jonathan S. Houk, of Susquehanna No. 1; William H. S. Bean and John W. Kennedy, of Wave No. 2; Edward Forman and Edward Legg, of Croton No. 3; and Hamlin Jones and George A. Madill of Defiance No. 5. The trustees organized by electing George A. Madill, president; Charles Ogden, vice-president; Wm. H. S. Bean, secretary, and Edward Forman, treasurer.

From this time the affairs of the department were established on a more secure and permanent basis, and later years were a period of advancement until the Owego fire department came to be regarded among the best volunteer organizations of its kind in the state, a reputation fully upheld and maintained to the present day.

Ahwaga Steam Fire Engine company was organized May 9, 1866, and on June 10, following, the first steamer arrived in Owego. It was a second class Amoskeag, and cost \$4,500.

Tioga Hose company No. 7 was organized September 13, 1869, and disbanded in 1874.

Eagle Hose company No. 4, was organized May 16, 1870, and occupied the same room with Ahwaga No. 6. Eagle Hose disbanded in 1873, and the company was at once (July 15) reorganized by George B. Purple. Eagle Hose has since been in existence, but

under changed conditions. In 1886 the company resolved into Protectives No. 4, one of the most efficient branches of the department.

In June, 1874, the village purchased the Earsley lot in Talcott street, and moved to it a large frame building for use as quarters for Croton Engine company. A new hose cart was purchased for a reorganized company, which was effected July 7, 1874. This, too, has been one of the enduring companies of the local department and is still in existence.

The interior of the engine house in Main street was seriously injured by fire in the morning of February 1, 1874. The work of repairing was completed in November following.

Ahwaga Steam Fire Engine company, old organization, disbanded in the fall of 1877, and October 2, following was reorganized, and now known as No. 6, is a part of the present fire department.

Thus the fire department of Owego comprises six well drilled and equipped companies, known respectively, as Susquehanna No. 1, Wave No. 2, Croton No. 3, Protectives No. 4, Defiance Hook and Ladder No. 5, and Ahwaga No. 6.

The officers of the department are Ellis M. Crandell, chief engineer; Michael J. Sweeney, 1st assistant engineer; B. N. Hubbard, 2d assistant engineer; Frank S. Bloodgood, treasurer; Owen T. Moloney, secretary.

The chief engineers of the department have been as follows:

1844-45—John J. Taylor.	1855—Thos. Farrington.	1877—Richard Loader.
1846—Nathaniel W. Davis.	1856-57—Sylvenus Fox.	1878-81—George B. Purple.
1847—Sylvenus Fox.	1858-60—Nath'l W. Davis.	1882—Frank M. Baker.
1848—Thos. I. Chatfield.	1861—John C. Laning.	1883-84—Albert H. Keeler.
1849-51—Jos. S. DeWitt.	1862-64—Wm. Smyth.	1885-88—Fred S. Hodge.
1852 { George H. Smith.	1865-69—Jos. S. DeWitt.	1889-90—Otis S. Beach.
{ John C. Laning.	1870-73—Chas. F. Hill.	1891-92—Eugene F. Barton.
1853 { John C. Laning.	1873-74—E. H. House.	1893—James J. Leahy.
{ Benj. F. Tracy.	1875—Albert H. Keeler.	1894-95—Chas. B. Dugan.
1854—Dr. Ezra B. Sprague.	1876—Chas. M. Haywood.	1896—Ellis M. Crandell.

CEMETERIES.—Away back in the pioneer days of the town, and about the time James McMaster conveyed to the trustees of Owego Settlement the park tract, the inhabitants started a little burying ground on the site afterward used in part for the old academy.



Here, too, if tradition be true, once stood a little meeting-house, built before the settlers were numerous enough to exercise denominational preference, and built because they were taught to keep sacred the Sabbath day and knew it was right to meet for public worship. Therefore it was only natural that the large plat of ground around the meeting house should be used for burial purposes. In later years, after Charles Pumpelly sold a lot to the trustees of the Presbyterian society, in 1817, the church yard in rear of the edifice was made a cemetery, to which were removed many of the bodies formerly buried in the Court street lot ; but not all were removed, for in still later years the pupils of the academy occasionally discovered human bones which had in some manner come to the surface. After this the trustees caused a quantity of earth to be spread over the ground to cover up any other exposed bones.

The churchyard was the village burying ground until Evergreen cemetery tract was purchased and laid out, in 1851 and years following. This beautiful "silent city" is situated on a commanding eminence in the north part of the village, overlooking east and west the charming valley of the Susquehanna, while away to the north stretches the delightful sloping lands bordering on Owego creek. About the same time—possibly a few years earlier—the parish of St. Patrick's church opened a cemetery at the foot of the hill and not far distant from the entrance to Evergreen, but in later years the church officary secured other and more suitable grounds for a cemetery, across the creek in the town of Tioga.

COBURN FREE LIBRARY.—More than half a century before the legislature incorporated this worthy institution, a good library was maintained in the old district school, which stood on the site of the present Temple street grammar school building, and when the district became a part of the consolidated union district both building and library were village property. Thus was established the Free Academy library, the books being kept in the Temple street building for several years afterward.

The Owego Library Association was formed with the approval of John M. Parker, Justice of the Supreme court, December 1, 1873, with Henry B. Napier, Frank M. Baker, William A. Smyth,

Charles P. Starr and LeRoy W. Kingman, board of managers. On organization these officers were elected : William Smyth, president ; J. B. Brush, vice-president ; Frank M. Baker, chairman of board of managers ; Henry B. Napier, treasurer ; LeRoy W. Kingman, secretary.

Under the law, and by authority of an act of the legislature, the association became entitled to receive twenty-five per cent of the excise moneys for library purposes, and the same has ever since been applied to this use although the association has passed out of existence. On December 5, 1873, the board of school commissioners transferred the books of the academy library to the association, and they were thereupon removed from the Temple street building to the rooms of the association, in James Bishop's building, in North avenue, near Main street. As the efforts to sustain a free public library and reading room were not properly encouraged and sustained by the public, the library association, in August, 1875, returned the books, etc., to the school commissioners, who again assumed control of the library property and removed it to the residence of Mrs. E. Daniels, in Main street. Here the library was kept until the completion of the new court house, and the removal thereto of the county clerk's books and records, upon which the school commissioners removed the library to the clerk's office building in Court street, where it has ever since been maintained.

The Coburn Free Library was incorporated by an act of the legislature, passed and approved February 18, 1895, and by which the board of school commissioners, and Aaron P. Storrs and H. Austin Clark, were created a body corporate and politic, by the name of the "Coburn Free Library at Owego," with power to sue and be sued, to receive and hold money, property, and bequests, for the purposes implied by the creating act.

By his will the late Andrew Coburn, of Owego, left the income of his estate to the use of his brother, George W. Coburn, of Chicago, and his wife, for life, and after their death to be used in founding a free library in Owego, to be known as the "Andrew Coburn Library." It was the desire of the testator that the Owego free library should be changed and the whole merged into one

large library, but as the village library was not incorporated, the change was impossible, hence the act constituting the corporation. The board of school commissioners in 1895 comprised Friend G. Newell, John T. Greenleaf, John B. Stanbrough, William H. Ellis, Watson L. Hoskins and James M. Hastings. Aaron P. Storrs and H. Austin Clark were the executors of Andrew Coburn's will.

Andrew Coburn was born October 24, 1821, in Warren, Bradford county, Penna. He was a son of Andrew Coburn, and his mother's maiden name was Maria W. D. Case. Mr. Coburn resided with his parents at Warren until the death of his father, in 1839. The following year Mrs. Coburn and her five children came to Owego to reside, which place continued to be Mr. Coburn's home until his death, November 25, 1894, except a temporary residence in the south. Mr. Coburn in early life commenced the study of law with the late Judge John M. Parker, but was obliged to abandon it on account of his health. For many years, in company with his brother, Ebenezer, he conducted a photograph gallery in Owego. He was one of the first members of the board of school commissioners named in the act establishing the union school system, and was afterward elected for two terms of three years each, in 1865 and 1868. He was also clerk of said board for several years, and was greatly interested in educational and religious institutions. At the time of his death he was an elder in the First Presbyterian church, having held that office since 1877. He never married.

Andrew Coburn to the present time is Owego's greatest benefactor. By his last will and testament, after properly providing for his kinsmen and those who cared for him in his declining years, he gave the remainder of his property, about twenty thousand dollars, for a free public library, which, as he directed, has been incorporated (Chap. 22, Laws of 1895.) This corporation will receive, upon the death of Mr. Coburn's brother, the above legacy, which will be appreciated by the people of Owego, and be a lasting monument to his memory. In a quiet and unpretentious way, in perfect keeping with Mr. Coburn's nature, he has done with his property, that which he so often expressed as his desire, namely, "To benefit the rising generations and do the greatest good to the greatest number."

**BANKING IN OWEGO.**—On May 21, 1836, the old Bank of Owego, with a capital of \$200,000, was incorporated by the legislature; and for the purpose of receiving subscriptions to the stock the act designated a committee comprising Henry McCormick, Anson Higbee, Daniel S. Dickinson, Henry W. Camp, John Jackson, Otis Lincoln, Samuel Barager, Stephen Strong, and Arthur Yates. On the organization of the board of directors, Gurdon Hewitt was chosen president and a Mr. Babcock cashier of the bank, but later on Jonathan Platt became president and Mr. Hewitt cashier, holding those positions several years. William Pumpelly succeeded Mr. Platt as president, and was, in turn, succeeded by Mr. Hewitt, who came into the management a second time about 1853 or '54. Lyman Truman was the last president of the bank, elected in 1856, and continued as such until the old institution finally merged in the First National Bank, of which he was the first president.

The bank began business on the second floor of Gurdon Hewitt's store, on the south side of Front street, but after a short time moved across to a frame building which stood on the site now occupied by the Tioga National bank, which was burned in the fire of 1849. Then the bank at once began the erection of a brick building at the corner of Front and Church streets, and in the meantime did business in one of the front rooms of cashier James Wright's house, the same now occupied by Gurdon Hewitt. After several years the bank was removed to the building then recently vacated by the Bank of Tioga, where it continued throughout the period of its existence, and where its successor, the First National, still does business.

The First National Bank of Owego, No. 1019, the direct outgrowth of the old Bank of Owego, was organized under the national banking act January 6, 1865; capital, \$100,000. The directors were Arba Campbell, Lyman Truman, Gurdon Hewitt, John B. Brush, Orin Truman, Thomas M. Nichols, William P. Stone, George B. Goodrich, John B. G. Babcock, and George Truman. The officers were Lyman Truman, president, and John B. Brush, cashier.

Mr. Truman was president of the bank until his death, March 21, 1881, and was succeeded by his brother, George Truman, the present president. Mr. Brush was cashier until May 10, 1880,

then succeeded by Orin Truman, who died September 30, 1885. William S. Truman was then elected to the cashiership.

The First National has for years been regarded as one of the safe and well conducted financial institutions of the southern tier, and its record discloses a remarkable freedom from disaster. It has a present surplus of \$20,000, while the undivided profit account is \$13,000. But, best of all, this bank, during the period of its history, has paid back to stockholders in extra dividends seventy-five per cent of its capital.

The present officers are George Truman, president; William H. Ellis, vice-president; William S. Truman, cashier; and directors, Gurdon Hewitt, William H. Ellis, S. W. Leach, George Truman, William S. Truman, Frederick C. Hewitt, Gilbert T. Truman, Orin T. Gorman, George Truman, Jr.

The Bank of Tioga, an associated free bank, was organized and opened its doors for business in Owego village, June 14, 1856, with a capital of \$100,000. John J. Taylor was its first president and continued in that position so long as the bank was in active business. James Wright was the cashier, but was eventually succeeded by Charles Platt. Late in his history Mr. Taylor's stock was purchased by Mr. Platt, whereupon Mr. Taylor retired from the presidency.

The association filed articles of incorporation June 18, 1856, and named as corporators: James Wright, John J. Taylor, Thomas I. Chatfield, Jonathan Platt, Hiram Smith, Edwin A. Booth, Lorin Booth, Franklin Slosson, F. E. Platt, H. N. Hubbard, Robert Cameron, J. J. Springsteen, W. Ransom, James B. House, John Cameron, Charles Platt, and C. F. Wells.

This bank began business in the building now occupied as Brockway's printing office, on the south side of Front street, but later on removed to the building erected for its use on the north side of the street, now owned by the First National bank. The Bank of Tioga was not a specially profitable financial institution, and was finally merged into the National Union Bank, which also had only a brief existence and suspended business.

The Tioga National bank was organized in January, 1865, with a capital of \$100,000, and began business April 1, following. The

first board of directors comprised Thomas C. Platt, Daniel M. Pitcher, Aaron P. Storrs, Thomas I. Chatfield, William S. Lincoln, John F. Brown, Luther B. West, Frederick E. Platt, and Charles Platt. The first officers were Thomas C. Platt, president ; Wm. S. Lincoln, vice-president, and Frederick E. Platt, cashier. H. Austin Clark succeeded Mr. Lincoln as vice-president, but no other change has been made in the personnel of the management of the bank.

This bank has also become one of the safe institutions of Owego, and has done a successful business from the day its doors were first opened to the public. The undivided profit account has a credit of \$12,000 ; the surplus is \$20,000, and during its history the bank has paid \$250,000 in dividends. The present directors are Thomas C. Platt, H. Austin Clark, S. B. Davidge, Aaron P. Storrs, A. W. Clinton, George Truman, Jr., Frank M. Baker, Eli W. Stone, and Frederick E. Platt.

The Owego National Bank, No. 2996, was organized May 29, 1883, with the following board of directors : George B. Goodrich, Charles E. Parker, Charles C. Ely, Dr. Carlton R. Heaton, Albert J. Kenyon, Rev. William H. King, James Hill, Ransom B. Dean, Benj. F. Tracy, J. B. Winters, Dr. Warren L. Ayer, Elijah B. Waldo, and Clarence A. Thompson. The officers then elected were George B. Goodrich, president ; Charles E. Parker, vice-president ; Dr. C. R. Heaton, second vice-president ; Clarence A. Thompson, cashier.

The bank opened its doors in August, 1883, in Lake street, near Front, and from that time until the present has conducted business. Mr. Goodrich was president until his death, in 1885, and Judge Parker was elected to fill the vacancy January 12, 1886. He was succeeded by Daniel M. Pitcher, January 10, 1888. Ransom B. Dean was elected vice-president in place of Judge Parker, and was, in turn, succeeded by James Davidge in January, 1890. May 31, 1890, cashier Clarence A. Thompson was superseded by A. H. Upton, who held the position seven months, and was followed, in January, 1891, by Edward O. Eldredge.

The present directors are Daniel M. Pitcher, James Davidge, Dr. Warren L. Ayer, H. Austin Clark, W. N. Richards, E. B.

Waldo, J. F. De Groat, and Edward O. Eldredge. The officers are D. M. Pitcher, president; James Davidge, vice-president; E. O. Eldredge, cashier. The bank's capital has always been \$50,000. The present surplus and undivided profit account is \$15,000.

ECCLESIASTICAL.—As early as the year 1790 Revs. Nathan Kerr and Joshua Hart were appointed by the New York general assembly of the Presbyterian church to preach the gospel in the southwestern portion of the state. Tradition has it that one or both of these worthy missionary laborers visited Owego in that year, but no record of their services is found, nor is the place of the early meetings known to any present resident. It is known, however, that soon after James McMaster deeded the park tract to the trustees the inhabitants united their efforts and constructed a little log meeting-house about on the site of the old academy building, and here public worship was maintained at the general expense for several years, until a society was regularly organized. During the period from 1790 to 1803, several other missionary ministers visited the settlement, and prominent among them was Rev. Seth Williston, who became settled pastor of the first religious organization.

The First Presbyterian Church of Owego was the outgrowth of the primitive services and meetings referred to in the preceding paragraph, although it was not until the year 1817 that any formal church organization was effected, and then Congregational both in form and government. The first society organization was made August 7, 1810, and Solomon Jones, Caleb Leach, Abraham Hoagland, William Camp, James Pumpelly and Eleazer Dana were chosen trustees. On July 24, 1817, the informal society became a regular organization of the Congregational church, with eleven constituent members, under the care of the presbytery of Cayuga, after August, 1817, and was so continued until the creation of the presbytery of Tioga. In July, 1831, the church abandoned its Congregational form and became Presbyterian. The early services were held at the schoolhouse in Main street, near McMaster, but in 1819 a small church edifice was erected at the northeast corner of Temple street and North avenue. This building was torn down in 1854, and in its place was built the large, ample edi-

ifice now occupied by the society. Near it stands the session house, while in rear is the old church yard wherein lie buried the remains of many of the pioneers, both of village and town, the founders of the church and of other substantial institutions of the region. The pastors, ministers and supplys of this church from its earliest history to the present time have been as follows:

1790-1803, Nathan Kerr, Joshua Hart, Seth Williston; 1803, William Clark; 1810, Daniel Loring; 1817, Hezekiah May, 1818-27, Horatio Lombard; 1827-31, Aaron Putnam; 1832-41, Charles White; 1842-46, Samuel C. Wilcox; 1846-47, Seth Williston, D.D.; 1847-55, Philip C. Hay, D.D.; 1855-56, Samuel H. Cox, D.D.; 1857-64, Samuel H. Hall; 1864-69, Solon Cobb; 1870-75, Samuel T. Clark; 1876-82, L. Allen Ostrander; 1883-85, William H. Gill; 1885-96, Alexander Cameron Mackenzie.

The present membership of the church is 400, and in the Sunday school are 250 pupils; superintendent, A. S. Parmelee.

The First Methodist Episcopal church of Owego dates back in its history to about the year 1813, when John Griffin formed a class for religious worship and teaching. Yet it was not until the year 1817 that the society and church organization were perfected, and five years later, during the pastorate of Elder Payne, a frame house of worship was erected at the southeast corner of Main and Academy streets. The society meetings previous to 1822 were held in the schoolhouse in Main street. The present large and comfortable brick church edifice in Main street was erected in 1870.

Previous to about 1840 this church formed a part of a circuit comprising two or more M. E. churches, under a single pastorate, and there is no certain means of learning the names of pastors of earlier date. Still, in this connection may be mentioned pastors Seth Mattison, 1818; Ebenezer Doolittle, 1819; Horace Agard, 1822; John D. Gilbert, 1823. The pastors since 1840 have been as follows: Robert Fox, 1840; A. J. Crandall, 1841-42; F. H. Stanton, 1843-44; Wm. Reddy, 1845; Wm. H. Pearne, 1846-47; A. J. Dana, 1848-50; J. M. Snyder, 1851-52; G. P. Porter, 1853-54; G. H. Blakeslee, 1855-56; B. W. Gorham, 1856-57; John J. Pierce, 1858; Geo. M. Peck, 1859; S. W. Weiss, 1860; G. P. Porter, 1861-62; D. A. Shepard, 1863; E. R. Keyes, 1864; W. B. West-



lake, 1865-67 ; Henry Wheeler, 1868-70 ; Wm. Bixby, 1871-72 ; J. O. Woodruff, 1873-75 ; A. D. Alexander, 1876-78 ; E. W. Caswell, 1879-81 ; Geo. W. Miller, 1882-83 ; Geo. Forsyth, 1884-86 ; Wm. M. Hiller, 1887-88 ; P. R. Hawxhurst, 1889-91 ; J. F. Warner, 1892-94 ; M. D. Fuller, 1895, the present pastor.

The Owego M. E. church, as commonly called, has 515 members, and in its Sunday school are about 300 pupils ; superintendent, Dayton M. Sanford.

The First Baptist church of Owego was organized September 20, 1831, by thirty persons, who were assembled together in Chamberlain's wagon shop, at the corner of Main and Park streets, on the lot where now stands Dr. Heaton's office. Early meetings of the society were held in the wagon shop, in the court house, and still later in the old Masonic hall in Front street, but in 1833 a lot was purchased from Charles Pumpelly, a portion of the present church property in Main street, whereon a little frame edifice, 40x60 feet in size, was built. This edifice was formally dedicated January 8, 1836, under the pastorate of James R. Burdick. In 1856-7 the old wood meeting house was replaced with a large brick church edifice, and the latter was remodeled and materially enlarged in 1871. The succession of pastors has been as follows : James R. Burdick, June 12, 1833 ; Alonzo Wheelock, 1836 ; Jabez S. Swan, 1837 ; Philetus B. Peck, who came to the pastorate in 1838, and was removed by the hand of death in 1847. He was followed by Revs. Beaver, Pratt, Morton, Post, Burlingame, and Cooley, in the order named, and in June, 1854, William H. King became settled pastor. He resigned in March, 1881. The next pastor was L. A. Crandall, followed by R. E. Burton, who served about four years, and was succeeded by W. A. Granger. The present pastor, Rev. Milton F. Negus, was settled October 1, 1894.

The membership of the church numbers 756 persons, and in the Sunday school is an average attendance of 160 pupils ; superintendent, F. G. Newell.

St. Paul's church, Episcopal, of Owego, was organized February 10, 1834, and the earliest services were held in the lecture-room of the Presbyterian church, on the east side of Court street, near the academy building. However, in 1839, a frame edifice was built

in Main street, south side, near Academy street, and was then regarded as one of the most attractive structures of its kind in the village. The new church at the northwest corner of Main and Liberty streets was built during the year 1894, and was consecrated January 25, 1895. The edifice cost \$12,800.

The rectors of St. Paul's, in succession, have been as follows: Isaac Swart, 1840-41; Alfred Louderback, 1841-44; George Watson, 1844-54; James Rankine, 1854-61; Morrelle Fowler, 1861-63; George D. Johnson, 1863-66; Thomas W. Street, 1866-68, and James H. Kidder, from August 1, 1868, to the present time.

The church numbers 120 communicating members, and about 50 regular attendants at the Sunday school.

The Congregational church of Owego, as now constituted, was formed in February, 1850, although Congregationalism in the village and town dates back in its history to the early years of the century. Indeed, previous to 1831 the Presbyterian church was Congregational in all respects, while nearly all of its pastors before 1870 were allied to the Congregational form of government. The "Independent Congregational Society" was duly organized at the court house August 1, 1850, and February 3, 1852, the church edifice in Park street was dedicated. The building, however, was burned December 3, 1877, and in its place was erected the present brick edifice. Rev. Samuel Corylus Wilcox was the founder in fact of the reorganized society in 1849, and he became the first pastor of the church. The complete succession of pastors and acting pastors is as follows:

Samuel C. Wilcox, 1850-53; Corbin Kidder, 1853-54; William Henry Corning, 1854-57; Wm. Alvin Bartlett, 1857-58; Samuel McLellan Gould, 1858-59; Moses Coit Tyler, 1859-60; Wm. W. Paige, 1860-61; Charles Hall Everest, 1862-64; Charles A. H. Bulkley, 1865-67; James Chaplin Beecher, 1867-71; Dwight Whitney Marsh, 1871-76; Wm. C. Scofield, 1877-80; Rufus Underwood, 1880; Miles G. Bullock, 1881-86; Olin R. Howe, 1887-88; D. W. Teller, 1888-93; Charles M. Bartholmew, the present pastor, came to the church January 1, 1894.

The present membership is 220, and in the Sunday school are 120 pupils. The superintendent is James M. Hastings.

St. Patrick's church, Roman Catholic, of Owego, was organized as a parish about the year 1850, although that honored pioneer priest, Father James F. Hourigan, late of St. Patrick's in Binghamton, conducted services and said masses in the village as early as 1839. Fathers O'Reilly and Sheridan also said masses in the vicinity in later years, the place of meeting being David Connelly's dwelling in Paige street. Father Sheridan began collecting a fund for a church house, and an edifice was finally built, in 1850, by his successor, Father McManus. He was the first resident priest. Father Burns followed, and in 1860 established the parochial school now known as the convent, in charge of the Sisters of Mercy. The convent was instituted in 1865. The new church edifice was erected in 1888-9.

St. Patrick's parish contains 175 Catholic families. The priests in charge have been as follows: James F. Hourigan, Father O'Reilly, Father Sheridan, Father McManus, Francis Burns, Father Corning, Francis Clark, James Rogers, John O'Mara, Thomas D. Johnson, and Martin Ryan who came to the parish in October, 1893.

The African Methodist Episcopal Bethel church of Owego was organized in 1843 by Elder Spicer. The first regular pastor was Joshua Johnson. The church house of the society in Fox street, was formerly the Presbyterian lecture room, and was removed from Temple street to its present location. This church now has 35 members, and about 25 attendants at Sunday school. The succession of pastors cannot now be obtained, but during the last twelve years these ministers have served in that capacity, viz: T. T. B. Reed, L. M. Beckett, Horace Talbert, R. H. Shirley, L. B. Langford, J. H. Bean, Charles W. Mossell, and James J. Moore, the latter the present pastor, whose service began in June, 1895.

MASONIC.—On the evening of August 27, 1804, several master masons met at the house of Titus Chapman, in Owego village, and organized a lodge by the election of these officers: Mason Wattles, W. M.; Joshua Ferris, S. W.; John Murphy, J. W.

On the following day a petition was drawn for presentation to the grand lodge, requesting a dispensation to issue authorizing the petitioners "to hold a regular lodge in the village of Owego or its

vicinity." The petitioners were the three officers mentioned, also Henry Steward, Joel Smith, Lemuel Brown, Silas Clapp, Daniel Davis, Eleazer Dana, Asa Goodrich, Richard Ellis, T. O. Draper, Ephraim Wood, Elnathan Gregory, David McQuigg, John McQuigg, Jr., David Pixley, and Stephen Mack. As the new lodge would encroach upon the territorial jurisdiction of the lodges at Newtown and Chenango Point, it was necessary to obtain consent from each of those bodies before the dispensation could be granted, and it was not until June 24, 1806, that Friendship Lodge, No. 140, F. & A. M. was created by the grand lodge of the state. The first meeting was held August 7, 1806, at the house of Titus Chapman, at which time officers were elected as follows :

Mason Wattles, W. M.	Eleazer Dana, Sec.
Joshua Ferris, S. W.	Noah Goodrich, S. D.
John Murphy, J. W.	Daniel Davis, J. D.
Lemuel Brown, Treas.	Richard Ellis, Tiler.

The lodge continued in active operation until the period of the Morgan abduction and alleged tragic death, and then, in the early part of the year 1827, in common with nearly all the masonic bodies of the state, was compelled to suspend. But after the excitement of the period had passed away Friendship lodge was among the first to apply to the grand lodge for recognition and admission ; and in June, 1849, a new dispensation was granted and active lodge work began August 7 of the same year. The old name was retained but the number was changed to 153.

The succession of past masters in the original lodge was as follows :

1804-7—Mason Wattles.	1818—Warner Hatch.
1808-9—Joshua Ferris.	1819-20—David Fleming.
1810—John Murphy.	1821—Jesse McQuigg.
1811-12—Noah Goodrich.	1822—Jacob McCormick.
1813—Daniel Davis.	1823—Stephen B. Leonard.
1814-17—Jedediah Fay.	1824-27—Dr. Joel S. Paige.

The succession of past masters of Friendship lodge No. 153, F. & A. M., has been as follows :

1849-50—E. S. Madan.	1864—A. D. Buck.	1869—C. M. LaMonte.
1851-59—Stephen B. Leonard.	1865—Chas. S. Carmichael.	1870—E. W. Seymour.
1860-62—Chas. W. Warren.	1866—E. W. Seymour.	1871—Wm. H. Maynard.
1863—H. P. Johnson.	1867-68—James Bishop.	1872—Jos. S. DeWitt.

1873—B. J. Davis.	1881—Jas. H. Coppins.	1887-88—B. J. Davis.
1874—A. H. Gould.	1882—Foster N. Mabee.	1889—Edward Fitzgerald.
1875—G. V. Woughter.	1883—J. A. Goodrich.	1890-91—Clayton S. Scott.
1876—James H. Coppins.	1884—Geo. W. Buffum.	1892-93—F. A. Darrow.
1877-78—Richard M. Billings.	1885—A. B. Belcher.	1894-95—Otis S. Beach.
1879—B. J. Davis.	1886—Chas. E. Vickery.	1896—Frank A. Darrow.
1880—Wm. H. Maynard.		

Ahwaga Lodge No. 587, F. & A. M., was instituted under dispensation in July, 1865, and a charter was granted June 19, 1866, to John B. Stanbrough, Watson L. Hoskins, and Royal A. Allen. The succession of past masters has been as follows :

1865-67—J. B. Stanbrough.	1876-77—N. A. Steevens.	1884-86—Jas. E. Manning.
1868—R. A. Allen.	1878—J. B. Stanbrough.	1887—N. A. Steevens.
1869-70—S. S. Fairchild.	1879—A. S. Parmelee.	1888—James Fisher.
1871-72—G. F. Benton.	1880—J. B. Stanbrough.	1889—Jas. E. Manning.
1873—N. A. Steevens.	1881-82—N. A. Steevens.	1890-91—N. A. Steevens.
1874-75—G. F. Benton.	1883—Peter J. Robinson.	1892-93—O. B. Glezen.
	1894—Norton A. Steevens.	1895-96—Frank H. Warner.

New Jerusalem Chapter, No. 47, Royal Arch Masons. The original warrant for this chapter was granted February 7, 1816, to John R. Drake, Lemuel Brown, and Jedediah Fay, but the records of its history through all the years down to 1852 are lost and unknown. In the year last mentioned the organization was revived, and from that until the present time has progressed and grown without interruption. From 1852 to 1896 the past high priests of New Jerusalem chapter have been as follows :

1852-53—E. S. Madan.	1873—Geo. F. Benton.	1885-87—F. N. Mabee.
1854-56—J. Ripley.	1874—Chas. S. Carmichael.	1888—A. D. Ellis.
1857-59—G. S. Leonard.	1875-77—B. J. Davis.	1889—B. J. Davis.
1860—J. S. DeWitt.	1878—Alonzo D. Buck.	1890-92—Horace F. Booth.
1861-68—G. S. Leonard.	1879-80—Dr. C. R. Heaton.	1893—N. A. Steevens.
1869—J. B. Judd.	1881—H. Frank Booth.	1894-95—C. S. Scott.
1870-72—Dr. J. B. Stanbrough.	1882-84—Minor D. Watkins.	1896—Frank H. Warner.

Owego Council, No. 30, Royal and Select Masters, was instituted in 1867, and chartered April 2, of that year, with charter members as follows : R. A. Allen, D. E. Comstock, J. B. Stanbrough, J. S. Houk, C. M. Haywood, J. B. Judd, H. A. Brooks, A. D. Ellis, A. R. Cole, H. P. Crane, E. J. Miller, Isaac Leech, J. S. DeWitt, Geo. F. Benton, and L. M. Worden.

Centennial Chapter, No. 100, O. E. S., was organized in 1876.

Owego Lodge, No. 204, I. O. O. F., was organized February 6,

1846, and was in existence among the fraternal institutions of Owego until the latter part of 1855 or '56, when it dissolved and surrendered its charter. The charter members were Dr. S. Churchill, C. J. Manning, F. C. Steele, B. C. Whiting, E. J. Johnson, C. P. Avery, W. H. Bell, E. S. Sweet, C. Platt, A. Munger, Lyman Truman, and J. C. Dean. During the period of its existence, the past grands of the lodge were as follows :

In 1846 four "grands" were elected—B. C. Whiting in February ; C. J. Manning in April ; S. Churchill in July, and C. P. Avery in October. In subsequent years elections were held in January and July.

1847	{ C. F. Manning. Alanson Munger.	1850	{ W. H. Bell. G. H. Smith.	1853	{ C. H. Sweet. Wm. Smyth.
1848	{ E. S. Sweet. W. H. Bell.	1851	{ J. C. Hubbard. N. W. Davis.	1854	{ C. S. Carmichael. James Hill.
1849	{ Charles Platt. W. F. Warner.	1852	{ B. C. Lefler. R. W. Hibbard.		

Tioga Lodge, No. 355, I. O. O. F., was organized and instituted October 28, 1872, with twelve charter members, viz. : Wm. Ira, G. Newell, N. Hyde, C. M. Haywood, B. D. Tuthill, H. B. Beers, H. A. Brooks, G. White, O. B. Hyde, O. L. Newell, and E. L. Lyons. From its organization to the present time the past grands have been as follows :

1872	G. N. Newell.	1881	{ A. Carter. G. C. Raymond.	1889	{ Edgar Hammond. O. M. Carlson.
1873	G. Newell.	1882	{ G. C. Raymond. J. S. Goodrich.	1890	{ Wm. Powell. D. Romine.
1874	{ H. W. Smith. C. M. Haywood.	1883	{ W. F. Briggs. E. P. Storms.	1891	{ Wm. W. Andross. F. J. Beers.
1875	{ L. T. Goodrich. O. L. Newell.	1884	{ L. T. Rising. J. T. Goodrich.	1892	{ Chas. S. Vickery. J. T. Jackson.
1876	{ O. B. Hyde. T. Holder.	1885	{ W. H. Thomas. L. T. Rising.	1893	{ Egbert Hammond. M. K. Upham.
1877	{ J. Frank. L. T. Rising.	1886	{ C. D. Mericle. R. H. Robertson.	1894	{ Albert S. Lee. N. Haster.
1878	{ G. W. Storms. E. W. Williams.	1887	{ D. Romine. W. L. Stuart.	1895	{ George Welch. Chas. La Grange.
1879	{ F. W. Newell. H. L. Rathburn.	1888	{ C. D. Mericle. W. W. Duren.	1896	{ John H. Field. M. H. Robison.
1880	{ F. W. Newell. A. Carter.				

**BUSINESS INTERESTS.**—Previous to the devastating fire of September, 1849, the mercantile portion of the village was an accumulation of frame buildings, mainly one and one-half and two stories in height, and few indeed were of larger proportions. Then,

as now, Owego was the geographical centre of a vast and fertile agricultural region, and here were market facilities not common to the villages of the Susquehanna valley. The business and manufacturing enterprises kept even pace with growth in other directions, and it was only when Elmira, on the west, and Binghamton on the east, became chartered cities with increased facilities for mercantile business and manufactures that the county seat of old Tioga suffered a decline. However, after the great fire the business part of the village was quickly and substantially rebuilt ; and in place of the old row of separated and primitive frame stores which formerly lined Front street on the south side is now a solid continuous block of three-storied brick buildings extending from the bridge to the truck building, a distance of two full city blocks. On the north side of the same thoroughfare, also in Lake street, and indeed within the entire limits of the burned district, the old stores were replaced, to a very large extent with attractive and substantial brick buildings, and to-day Owego enjoys a noticeable exemption from the undesirable "frame rows" which detract from the worth of many inland villages.

It has been said, and apparently with much truth, that Owego to-day has far more stores and mercantile houses than the necessities of trade demand ; and also that in the village is a noticeable and unfortunate lack of manufacturing industries. Be this as it may, the statement may truthfully be made that in Owego are comparatively few unoccupied stores, and all mercantile enterprises appear to be well established on a secure commercial basis. When compared with other villages under like conditions, failures and business disasters have been few indeed. On the other hand the inhabitants have never sought to make this the seat of extensive manufacturing enterprises, but at all times during the history both of village and town, factories have been in operation sufficient in number and magnitude to employ the natural working element of local population ; and taken all in all, the industries of the present day are in fair proportion with other like business investments. Let us note them briefly. The Dean tannery in the north part of the village is one of the old industries, having been established many years ago (about 1825) and was best known as the

Parmenter tannery. In 1860 it passed into the hands of Alanson Powers Dean, and in 1870 Horatio Nelson Dean became partner with his brother in its management. In 1872, H. N. Dean and his son, Ransom B. Dean, became owners, and by some member of the family the business has ever since been conducted.

The King Harness Company, one of the important industries of Owego, was incorporated February 1, 1896, with a capital of \$40,000, but going back to the foundation of the business, it may be said that in 1832 John W. L'Amoureux started a custom harness shop in the village, and was afterward connected with that manufacture until his death in 1880, a period of nearly half a century. Charles W. L'Amoureux succeeded his father, but soon afterward the business was sold to the firm of King & Co., comprising Rev. W. H. King, W. A. King, and George A. King. This was in 1881, but after a year the business was closed out and the firm then occupied a three-storied building in Lake street, employing 75 men from 1883 to 1887 in the manufacture of harness on a large scale. In 1887 the firm erected the large building now occupied by the company and again increased the facilities for manufacture. W. A. King retired from the firm in 1888, and George A. King conducted the business until the company was incorporated in 1896. The officers are as follows: Geo. A. King, president; M. W. Conklin, vice-president; J. C. Beard, secretary; Geo. A. King, treasurer.

Sporer, Carlson & Berry, manufacturers of pianos and general music dealers, is the style of one of the substantial enterprises of Owego. The business was begun by E. Hosford, in May, 1857. Two years later Norton & Co. conducted the business, and in the latter part of 1861 a firm was organized, comprising H. Norton, F. Sporer, and O. M. Carlson. Mr. Berry afterward acquired an interest in the business and the present partnership was formed.

The Champion Wagon Company, now one of the leading industries of the village, is the outgrowth of the business started in 1874 by the firm of Johnson & Gere, occupying the building of the still older Bristol Iron Works. In 1875 the firm of Johnson, Gere & Truman succeeded to the business, and in 1883 Gere, Truman, Platt & Co. superseded the firm last mentioned. The firm, in addition to the manufacture of wagons, also made grain drills,



from which fact the plant became known as the "drill works." However, in 1888, the buildings and contents were destroyed by fire, after which the Champion Wagon company was formed and began business in McMaster street. In the works are employed 125 men, and between 4,000 and 5,000 wagons are manufactured each year. In addition, the company manufactures the Owego grain drill. The officers of the company are J. C. Dwelle, prest. ; W. S. Truman, vice-prest. ; Theo. D. Gere, treas. and mgr., and F. L. Ringrose, sec'y.

The old firm of Moore & Ross, manufacturers of carriages, wagons and sleighs, began business in Owego April 1, 1859.

The present carriage manufacturing firm of Raymond & Emery was established in 1885, when David H. Emery bought George Raymond's interest in the still older firm of Raymond Bros.

James E. Jones's wood-working establishment in Owego was started in 1883 by Mr. Jones in partnership with B. C. Springsteen. After about two years Mr. Jones succeeded to the business.

The Standard Butter Company (Thompson & Truman, proprietors) was established in the spring of 1888 by A. Chase Thompson, and has grown to be one of the most important industries of either village or county. In fact this concern is one of the largest butter manufactories of the world, and in quality its output is unsurpassed. Here is made annually about 3,000,000 pounds of superior butter to supply forty principal hotels and thirty cafes in New York city. In various parts of this county, and others adjoining, are forty separators, from which the unfinished butter product is sent to Owego for complete manufacture.

The Owego Bridge Company was established in 1892 by Ellery, Frank, Henry, L. S., and Ray Colby. E. R. Booth became one of the company soon afterward, and the Henry Colby interest was sold to T. H. Reddish. The company was incorporated, after several months of operation as a partnership, with a capital of \$50,000. Although this is one of the youngest industries of the village it is nevertheless one of the most substantial of them all. In 1893 the company constructed the large bridge across the Susquehanna, at a total cost of about \$100,000. They are now putting in place at Mt. Morris the longest single span highway truss

bridge in this state. It is 360 feet in length. The present officers of the company are Ellery Colby, president; E. R. Booth, vice-president; Ray Colby, secretary, and Frank Colby, treasurer.

In 1889, Dr. Eli Sweet invented, but has never fully patented, a flexible file, an article in universal use among dentists, and elsewhere as well, the like and equal of which was never before or since put on the market. Dr. Sweet, himself a practical dentist, began the manufacture of this file in Hornellsville in 1890, but one year later removed to Owego and started a factory in North avenue. The Owego File Works, as now known, make a general variety of flexible files. The firm style of the owners is Perry, May & Ferguson.

The Owego Gas Light company was originally organized March 23, 1856, and included among its stockholders Wm. F. Warner, W. H. Bell, Printice Ransom, A. P. Storrs, Orin and S. S. Truman, F. E. Platt, John Danforth, L. N. Chamberlain and T. I. Chatfield. The company's capital was \$40,000, authorized in 1869 to be raised to \$60,000. However in more recent years the personnel of the company has materially changed, and two-thirds of the stock is now owned by foreign capitalists. In the village are about seven miles of main pipes, and about three hundred taps. The resident officers are A. P. Storrs, president, and George A. King, secretary and treasurer.

The Owego water supply system was constructed in 1879 by the Wiley Construction company of Philadelphia, and the entire cost of the plant with all appurtenances was approximately \$140,000. Through the village streets are about fourteen miles of water mains, supplying 576 taps. The number of fire hydrants is 69. The plant is now owned by R. D. Wood & Co., of Philadelphia; local superintendent, George Y. Robinson. The works were put in operation in 1881.

## CHAPTER XX.

## THE TOWN OF BARTON.

I N the southwest corner of Tioga county, with the Pennsylvania state line on the south, and Chemung line on the west, is one of the most important civil divisions of the county, known by the name of Barton, but why so named and called in the erecting act, or by the early settlers, is a question never satisfactorily answered in local annals. This is not an important question in Barton history, and the present writer feels disposed to accept the theory advanced by the most recent chronicler of local events. However, it is a well known and conceded fact that during the twenty-five years next following the close of the revolution all names which were distinctively English were very obnoxious to the victorious Americans, and there was a marked tendency on the part of legislative authority, and of the settlers in general, to repudiate all things strictly English and to accept only that which would not suggest any complimentary allusion to the mother country ; but as to what may have been the spirit which actuated the power that named this town Barton cannot be told. This much is true : It was a good name, worthily bestowed, and the town now so called is one of the very best in this old and historic shire.

The physical features and characteristics of Barton are not strikingly dissimilar to those of other towns ; the same general rolling condition of the land surface prevails, but unlike others, Barton has the two grand waterways, the Susquehanna and Chemung rivers, the one on the southeast and the other on the southwest border. Then, too, Cayuta and Ellis creeks have their courses almost wholly within the town, affording facilities for perfect drainage not enjoyed by all the civil divisions of the county. In the valleys of the streams are some of the most fertile and productive farming lands in the entire region, and while the highlands are at elevations varying from 400 to 600 feet above the

river bottoms they are nevertheless tillable to their very tops and yield profitably in return to the proper efforts of the husbandman.

In the early history of the region the Susquehanna and Chemung rivers were far more important thoroughfares of travel and trade than during the last half century. Indeed, the earliest settlers in the locality came through the valley of the streams to reach their places of future abode, and if we may go back still further, and into the early history of the state, there will be found associated with this particular region many of the most interesting and striking events which marked the advance of civilized white settlement in this part of the country. During the early and long continued French and English wars, these valleys were much used by the savages, though the contests between the contending powers were waged far away from this immediate vicinity. Still further back, about the middle of the seventeenth century, and for a long time previous thereto, this point in the valley of the rivers was debatable territory and lay between the possessions of the Iroquois on the north and the Delawares on the south.

The Indian history of the whole region is so fully recorded in the early chapters of this work that hardly more than a passing allusion to that occupancy seems necessary, but in view of the fact that so many persons have erroneous impressions and belief regarding that history, and particularly in regard to local traditions, we feel justified in making a brief special mention of the subject in this chapter ; and if our statements have the effect of shattering some of the traditionary idols which have been built up around "Spanish Hill," the reader will attribute the motive to a desire for truth rather than a wish to destroy favorite illusions.

The most careful students of Indianology have determined that the Iroquois confederacy was formed soon after the year 1400, and that for almost a century afterward they were devoted to strengthening the bond of union and increasing its power. The conquest over the other powerful Indian nations by the Iroquois was not begun until the early years of the seventeenth century had passed, and the conquest of the Delawares by the confederated nations—the Iroquois—was not made previous to 1640, and between that year and 1655. From this we discover how impossible it would

have been for any combination of forces to have been made between the Five Nations and the Delawares or their ancestors the Lennilenapes. According to well established Indian tradition, the enmity between these great peoples dated back almost to the year 1200, and there was nothing in harmony between them until after the conquest which ended in the final and effectual subjugation of the Delawares and many other nations as well. This old enmity was so fixed that it would have been utterly impossible for the Iroquois and the Delawares to unite against the Spanish gold hunters or against any other strange people, regardless of their mission.

Again, it is now well settled history that the French taught the Indians how to build defences and to construct fortifications, and it is also well known that French explorers, Jesuit Priests, and others of that people were among the Iroquois and had gained a foothold as early as the first quarter of the seventeenth century, and that they were especially strong among the Senecas of western New York. Such fortifications as that on Spanish Hill were frequent in this state, and one of them, quite like that near Waverly, was found by the pioneers of Yates county, hardly more than fifty miles distant from Spanish Hill, and as we near the line of the old French possessions in America such erections become more frequent. They are no longer a source of wonder and surprise, nor of superstition, for they have been reasonably and readily accounted for. But, we are not prepared to explain the origin of the name Spanish Hill, with any more satisfaction than can be interpreted the meaning of the name Barton as applied to the town.

PIONEER AND EARLY SETTLEMENT.—So far as we have positive knowledge the first white men to visit this region were the avenging soldiers of Sullivan's army, although the Tories and Indians allied to the British made frequent use of both the Susquehanna and Chemung valleys in their marauding expeditions against the frontier American settlements. Many of them came this way to the battle at Wyoming, and this was also the route taken by Brant and his followers to reach the bloody massacre scene at Cherry Valley. Small wonder, therefore, that Congress and Gen. Washington sent brave Sullivan and a strong force to visit condign punishment

upon these merciless savages and their equally inhuman Tory allies. The soldiers in this command not only drove the Indians from the region, but became acquainted with the desirable portions of the country through which they passed, and within four years after the close of the war Ebenezer Ellis left old Forty Fort and came up the Susquehanna in a canoe to the present town of Nichols, and thence in 1791 came to Barton and settled on the farm afterward occupied by John Hanna. From this settlement the stream called Ellis creek derived its name, although pioneer Ellis soon exchanged with Mr. Hanna and obtained land on the creek where the mill was built. Mr. Ellis had a large family of thirteen children, of whom Alexander, the youngest, was the first white male child born in Barton. He married with Betsey Saunders and had a family of twelve children.

Stephen Mills was also a settler in the town, in 1791, and, like pioneer Ellis, came here from Nichols. He was a Connecticut Yankee, an old Revolutionary patriot, and later a pensioner. He had a family but the names of all of them are not known. Mr. Mills was an earnest plodder in early times, but took no active part in affairs of the town. His family name has been preserved in the locality, and frequently appears in the town civil list.

Benjamin Aikens was the third settler and came in 1791. He was the owner of a 900 acre tract of good land, the same afterward owned by Gilbert Smith, covering the site now occupied in part by the little hamlet called Barton village.

John Hanna came in 1794, and in many respects was one of the most prominent men of the locality for many years. He was a Scotchman by birth and made his way to this country when a boy as servant to the captain of a sailing vessel. He lived for several years in eastern Pennsylvania, and when grown up became a distiller at Nescopeck Falls, Pa. However, the depreciation in value of continental money cost Mr. Hanna his fortune, although he possessed some means when he settled in this town. He also served with credit in the army during the revolution, hence belonged to that class of pioneers who were generally honored on account of that experience. When arrived in the town, Mr. Hanna first settled on a tract of land at the mouth of the creek,

but soon changed places with pioneer Ellis. John Hanna built the first barn in the town, and in it were held religious services. His wife was also a native of Scotland, named Margaret McCullough, with whom he was married in Pennsylvania. Mr. Hanna also became the owner of a large tract of land in the town by purchase from Peter C. Lorillard, of New York, in extent 1,000 acres, and situate in the locality known as Ellistown. He became indeed one of the foremost men in the vicinity and possessed a large quantity of land. He attained the remarkable age of 102 years and was always respected for his sterling qualities. His home was the general stopping place for itinerant preachers, and public worship was frequently held under his roof. Pioneer Hanna had a family of nine children, viz.: John; Nancy, who married with John Swartwood, and after his death with John Shoemaker; Jane, who married with Joseph Swain, of Chemung; William; Margaret, who became the wife of Elisha Hill; Betsey, who married with Lewis Mills; George; Sally, wife of Squire Whittaker; and Martha, who became the wife of Joseph G. Wilkinson. The surname Hanna is still well represented in both the town of Barton and the village of Waverly.

James Swartwood came to the town soon after John Hanna and previous to 1795. He came from Delaware, undoubtedly by way of Wyoming, and was a valuable acquisition to the little settlement, as he is remembered as a man much respected in the region. In his family were nine children: Mary, who married with Isaac Shoemaker; Martha, who became the wife of Benjamin Smith; Sarah, the wife of Joseph Langford; Katie, who became the wife of Baskia Jones; and Benjamin, James, Jacob, John and Ebenezer. This family name is still in Barton, reasonably numerous, and numbers among its representatives some of the most substantial farming element of the vicinity.

Luke Saunders was one of the settlers previous to 1795, and came from Connecticut. He, too, was a substantial farmer, whose descendants are still in the town, though not numerous. His children were Sarah, Parish, Jabez, Nathan, Betsey, Christopher, Nancy, and Robert.

Samuel Ellis also came to Barton in 1795. He was a brother to

Ebenezer Ellis, the pioneer, and came with the record of a soldier of the revolution.

Ezekiel Williams was another settler of about the same time, although data concerning his personal and family record is indeed meagre ; but as one of the pioneers of the town he is entitled to mention in this place.

John Shepard was one of the earliest settlers in the region, having come into the valley south of Waverly as early as 1790 or '92. He emigrated to Tioga Point, according to Judge Avery, about 1784 or '85, and became acquainted with this particular locality through his business operations as Indian trader. At the place called Milltown Mr. Shepard built a fulling mill, and also a woollen mill. In 1796 he became the owner of a thousand acres of land on the site now of the village of Waverly, having purchased the tract from General Thomas, of Westchester county, for the sum of five dollars an acre. He at once moved here and became prominently identified with all subsequent measures of improvement of the new region. Isaac Shepard was the son of John Shepard, and upon him seems to have fallen the duty of carrying out the work begun by the father. During the first half of the present century he was one of the foremost business men in the county, and he, perhaps more than any other single person, contributed toward building up the village in particular and the town in general. Later generations of the same family have in like manner been important factors in the more recent events of local history, all of which will be further mentioned in the village chapter.

William Bensley was another of the early settlers in the locality, but the exact year of his arrival is uncertain. Judge Avery, the earliest writer of contemporary history, gives Mr. Bensley a place among the pioneers, and also, with other writers, says he was an important factor in early events. Pioneer Bensley came from Smithfield, Wayne county (now Pike) about 1803 (in that year according to Mr. Genung's interesting and carefully prepared narrative), and located on the farm more recently owned by John Park, situated about one mile west of Barton village. This farm was in the Bensley family for a period of eighty years. William Bensley married with Mary, the daughter of Isaac Bun-



nell, and to them were born nine children: Gershom, John, Daniel, Henry, Eleanor, Elizabeth, Anna, Mary A., and Sarah Bensley. Pioneer Bensley was a weaver by trade, hence was a valuable acquisition to the settlement, but in connection with that work he was also a lumberman and farmer. His descendants are still in the town, but the pioneer element of the family has passed away.

Charles B. Smith, who is remembered as an early settler, came to the town when a boy, and was one of the Bensley household. He afterward married with Elizabeth Bensley.

Judge Avery, in his sketches of early life in the valley, says that the first settlers on Cayuta creek were Charles Bingham, Layton Newell, Lyon C. Hedges and Philip Crans; and on the upper waters of the stream Justus Lyons, John Manhart and a family named Reed were the first comers. Silas Wolcott lived on Ellis creek but afterward moved to Ithaca. Moses and Elisha Leonard were other settlers in this locality.

George W. Buttson was the owner of a saw mill at Barton village in the early history of the town, and from him the creek on which the mill was built received its name. Among the other early settlers in the vicinity may be mentioned John Hyatt, Eliphalet Barden, Benjamin and Samuel Mundy, Peter Barnes, Selah Payne, Peter Hoffman, and others, whose names have been lost with the lapse of time.

Charles Bingham, who was one of the first settlers on Cayuta creek, was a pioneer in the Wyoming Valley but was driven from that region by the Indians. He returned to Wilkesbarre, but after dangerous hostilities had passed came to the vicinity of Spanish Hill, and still later moved to a home about six miles up Shepard's Creek. Mr. Bingham was noted for his maple sugar product; indeed the abundance of sugar maples on the tract was the inducement to him to make the purchase. Charles Bingham, son of the settler, built an early mill on the site now of Bingham Brothers' mill at Lockwood. Charles Bingham the elder, had four sons, John, Ebenezer, Jonathan and Charles, Jr., and three daughters, Anna, Margurite and Sarah.

Thus was the pioneer and early settlement accomplished in this western portion of the old town of Owego. The reader must of

course understand that the original town of Owego included all the territory between Owego creek on the east and the Cayuta creek on the west. This name was continued from the time of the erection of the county in 1791 to the time of the general revision of both counties and towns in the state in 1813. Then the town previously known as Tioga took the name of Owego, and Owego thenceforth became known as Tioga. Therefore all settlers in Barton before 1813 were in Owego, and between the year last mentioned and March 23, 1824, all who came to what we now call Barton were settlers in Tioga. However, before proceeding to a discussion of the civil and political history of the town we may with propriety recall the names of other and perhaps later settlers in Barton, but who were in some manner identified with its history. Still, this mention must be brief in view of the fact that in another department of this work, devoted solely to personal chronology, the reader will find more extended allusion, to pioneers and as well to other substantial families of the town, whether early or more recent settlers.

In the locality known as Tallmadge Hill, Sutherland Tallmadge, from Schoharie county, was an early settler. David Davis was also an early settler, and his son Samuel was a blacksmith as well as farmer and lumberman. Elisha Hill came from Connecticut to Bradford county, Pa., in 1818, but after three years removed into this town. His brother, Caleb Hill, came at the same time. Elisha had been in the service during the war of 1812-15, hence was a man of importance in the town. He married with Margaret, the daughter of John Hanna, and to them were born five children: John G., Philomela, Sarah, Hannah, Elizabeth, and Tabitha J. Hill.

Benjamin Genung was the pioneer of a numerous and afterward well known family in this region. He was of Huguenot descent, a patriot of the revolution, and a pioneer in Dryden, Tompkins county. From him descended the family in this part of the state. He had six children: Barnabas, Aaron, Rachel, Philo, Peroni, and Timothy. Barnabas married with Susan Johnson and raised a family of twelve children. They were Lydia, Nathaniel, Harrison, Ann, Rebecca, Sally, Enos, George, Marilda, and Barnabas,

Jr. John Franklin and George Frederick Genung, the well known educators at Amherst college and Benedict (Columbia, S. C.) institute, respectively, were sons of Abram Genung. Enos Genung, also son of Abram, married with Sarepta Earsley, of Caroline, and lived chiefly in Tioga county. Their children were Emma, wife of Fred Morgan ; George D., of the *Waverly Free Press* ; Dell, wife of George Gardner ; Priscilla, who married with George Stevens ; Luella, who married with Wm. Ewen, and Reuben E. Genung.

Squire Whitaker, of whom frequent mention is made in this and the village chapter, was born in New Jersey in 1808, and came with his parents to Barton in 1816. He walked and assisted in driving a cow the entire distance. In 1832, Mr. Whitaker married with Sally, the daughter of John Hanna, and soon removed to Tallmadge Hill, where he built a cabin on crotched sticks, and then set about clearing his farm. Misfortunes befell him in his early endeavors, but success came later on, and Squire Whitaker was known as one of the foremost men of the town. He had a family of seven children.

Peter Van DeBogart came from Schenectady county and was a pioneer in Tompkins county. In 1825 he removed to Barton and afterward lived here. His was a large family, and the name is still numerous in the town, though most of its representatives have contracted it to Bogart. In fact this has been done by the family generally in the country.

Salmon Johnson was a Vermont Yankee, and came to Barton from either Chittenden or Franklin county. He located at Ellistown, as that settlement was known.

John W. VanAtta, whose surname is still preserved in business circles in Waverly, came to Barton from Warren county, N. J., about 1827. In his family were eleven children, from whom there has grown a large number of descendants, living in this county and elsewhere.

Eliphalet Barden came from Connecticut in 1821, and settled on the Giltner farm, as known in recent years. One story is to the effect that the town was named in allusion to this family name, though slightly modified. However this may be we know not, but the surname is still represented in the town, and by good worthy citizens.

John Parker was an early settler at Ellistown, and married with Lizzie Ellis. They had seven children, but the surname is not now numerous in this locality. Shaler Shipman came from Connecticut and settled in Barton in 1829. He was both farmer and lumberman and built two saw mills. Shipman Hollow was named in allusion to this settler and is situated near the centre of the town. Mr. Shipman married twice and had fourteen children, ten by the first and four by the second marriage. James N. Harding was a native of Orange county, and became a resident of Barton in 1833, settling on Tallmadge Hill. He raised a family of five children, and they marrying made the name numerous in the town. Reuben Harding's family came about the same time, and also from Orange county, and, like James, settled on Tallmadge Hill, on the farm more recently occupied by Elliot Harding. James M. Sliter came in 1834, from Albany county, and David B. Cure in 1835, from Hector, in Schuyler county. Daniel J. Lum, a native of New Berlin, N. Y., and John Solomon, formerly of Orange county, became residents of Barton in 1840.

Having in this manner brought to mind the names of as many as possible of the early settlers of Barton, it is proper that there be made a brief allusion to the first events of town history as they have been collated and noted by thoughtful observers. Pioneer Ebenezer Ellis built the first dwelling house, and harvested the first crops raised in the town. Alexander, son of Ebenezer Ellis, was the first white child born in Barton. Factoryville was made a post station in 1812, and Isaac Shepard was the first postmaster. Ephraim Strong taught the first school. Ebenezer and Samuel Ellis built the first saw mill, on Ellis creek. The first grist mill was built in 1800, on Cayuta creek, by George Walker, senior. The old fulling mill on Cayuta creek, near the state line, was built in 1808, by John Shepard and Josiah Crocker. Two years later, in 1810, a woollen mill was built near the saw mill. Dr. Prentice was the first physician, William Giles the first lawyer, and Rev. Valentine Cook the first minister in the town. The Emery M. E. chapel, at Ellistown, was the first church edifice erected. The first brick building was the old church at Factoryville. Elias Walker built the first tavern.

All these things were accomplished previous to the organization of Barton as a separate town, and previous to the actual founding of the village. From the number of settlers whose names have been noted, it must be seen that this part of the mother town had a considerable population previous to the creation of Barton as a town. Such indeed was the case, and from an old document it is learned that in the year 1800 the territory now comprising the town had a population of 180 persons.

POPULATION.—In 1824 the town was erected and organized, and in the next year the first enumeration of its inhabitants was made. By reference to the census reports there can be obtained a fair idea of subsequent growth, and the fact will be disclosed that there has been a constant increase in population from 1824 to the present time, and that the number of inhabitants in 1892 was greater than ever before in the history of the town. In 1825 the population was 585; in 1830,—982; 1835,—1,469; 1840,—2,324; 1845,—2,347; 1850,—3,522; 1855,—3,842; 1860,—4,234; 1865,—4,077; 1870,—5,087; 1875,—5,937; 1880,—5,825; 1885,—no count; 1890,—6,120; 1892,—6,495.

ORGANIZATION AND CIVIL HISTORY.—Town records, generally fruitful sources of information, are always searched by the student of town history, and generally with gratifying results, but in Barton, through some now unknown misfortune, the records are missing and the most patient search fails to discover any trace of their whereabouts. However, it is well known that on March 23, 1824, the legislature passed an act creating the town, and that on April 27 thereafter the electors met in town meeting to complete the organization. The officers elected were as follows: supervisor, Gilbert Smith; town clerk, John Crotsley; assessors, Jonathan Barnes, A. H. Schuyler, and William Hanna; commissioners of highways, William Crans, Frederick Parker, John Giltner; constable and collector, John Parker; overseers of the poor, John Hanna, Jr., Seely Finch; commissioners of common schools, Gilbert Smith, Eliphalet Barden, Nathaniel Potter; inspectors of common schools, James Birch, Ely Foster, Joseph Tallmadge, Samuel Mills, Jonathan Barnes; fence viewers, George W. Johnson, Abraham Smith, Joseph Tallmadge; poundmasters, John Hyatt, Joel Sawyer.

Thus was perfected the civil organization of the town called Barton, a jurisdiction which in point of importance ranks almost first in the county, and in some respects stands at the head. The town, with its villages and hamlets, has grown from a beginning as small as in any other of the county's subdivisions, and in the face of obstacles and disadvantages has it been built up to its present position. The first officers at once began the work of dividing the territory into road and school districts, for at that time the existing provisions, established by the mother town Tioga, were indeed limited; but these things were easily accomplished, and with the old Chemung Turnpike having its course directly through the town, Barton was placed on a substantial footing.

The town began its civil history with a population of nearly 600 inhabitants, and at a time when the arts of peace prevailed throughout the southern tier, but when the settlers in the towns further west were entering that unfortunate period known in history as the anti-rent conflict. But, unlike the inhabitants of the Pulteney lands, the settlers in this region were not so seriously distressed by importunate landlords and grasping proprietors as were their western neighbors, and the period passed without injury to interests in this immediate locality.

The succeeding score and a half of years was an era of constant progress and prosperity in all that pertained to the welfare of Barton, and one in which the population was increased almost ten fold. In that same period were built up several hamlets, and one incorporated village equal in commercial importance to any municipality in the whole shire. With this growth came strength, and when the north and the south were arrayed against one another in civil war, Barton volunteers were not wanting and the patriotism of the town was fully demonstrated.

Glancing over the military records of the town, it is seen that Barton recruits were in almost every command, from the original three-months men to the 179th infantry, but the story is so fully told in another chapter that not more than an allusion to the subject is necessary in this connection. Gleaning data from all sources, we learn that Barton sent into the service during the war a total of more than 200 men, who were scattered through the several

regiments recruited in the county, while not a few of Barton's sons enlisted at Elmira, a general headquarters during a portion of the war period.

During the three-quarters of a century of separate history in this town, among the several villages built up only one has attained to the dignity and character of a municipality. Old Factoryville is now wholly lost in the more progressive village of Waverly, and the old-time importance of Barton city is fast fading away. Bingham's Mills, as previously known, but now Lockwood, and Reniff are stations on the Lehigh Valley railroad; North Barton is in the north part of the town, Halsey Valley in the northeast, Barton Centre in the centre, and the little new postoffice called Glencairn is just north of Waverly village limits. However, each of these settled localities is mentioned in another place, and we may conclude this branch of town history with the civil list.

## SUPERVISORS.

1824-25--Gilbert Smith.	1846-51--Samuel Mills.	1873--Levi Westfall.
1826--John Crotsley.	1852--Henry S. Davis.	1874-77--O. H. P. Kinney.
1827--William Ellis.	1853-55--Samuel Mills.	1878--Wm. H. Allen.
1828--John Crotsley.	1856--Chas. Shepard.	1879--Andrew A. Slawson.
1829--Gilbert Smith.	1857--Geo. H. Fairchild.	1880--Benjamin Golden.
1830--William Ellis.	1858--J. L. Sawyer.	1881--Leander Walker.
1831-32--Frank'n Tallmadge.	1859-61--Silas Fordham.	1882-84--Levi Curtis.
1833--Daniel Mills.	1862-64--Harden D. V. Pratt.	1885--And'w A. Slawson.
1834--Alex. H. Schuyler.	1865-68--John L. Sawyer.	1886--J. Theodore Sawyer.
1835-37--Samuel Mills.	1869--J. Theodore Sawyer.	1887-88--Abram I. Decker.
1838-9--Washington Smith.	1870--Gurdon G. Manning.	1889-91--Edward G. Tracy.
1840-41--Samuel Mills.	1871--Dewitt C. Atwater.	1892--Levi Curtis.
1842-45--Reuben S. Smith.	1872--Julian F. Dewitt.	1893-96--Edwin S. Hanford.

## TOWN CLERKS.

1824--John Crotsley.	1850-57--Silas Fordham.	1874--John R. Murray.
1825--Nathaniel Potter	1858--H. W. Longwell.	1875-76--P. P. Gallagher.
1826-28--Joel Sawyer.	1859--Henry S. Davis.	1877-78--Frank J. Campbell.
1829-30--Samuel Ellis.	1860-61--Horace C. Hubert.	1879-81--Geo. W. Chaffee.
1830--Alex. Ellis.	1862--A. G. Allen.	1882--Samuel O. Shoemaker.
1831-34--Chas. VanHorn.	1863--Wilbur F. Finch.	1883-85--D. John McDonald.
1835--Franklin Tallmadge.	1864--Ozias Shipman.	1886-87--Edwin S. Hanford.
1836--Inman Walling.	1865-67--G. G. Manning.	1888-89--Geo. D. Genung.
1837--Seymour Wright.	1868--Wilbur F. Finch.	1890-91--Edwin S. Hanford.
1838--Arthur Yates.	1869--Benj. W. Bonnell.	1892--V. C. Manners.
1839-40--Alex. H. Schuyler.	1870--John E. Pembleton.	1893--Will H. Swain.
1841-42--Wm. H. Thomas.	1871--John R. Murray.	1894-96--Charles H. Turney.
1843-49--Alex. H. Schuyler.	1872-73--B. W. Bonnell.	

## JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

1830—Gilbert Smith.	1851—Jacob Newkirk.	1876—Wm. E. Casey.
—Jonathan Barnes.	1852—Seymour Wright.	—George H. Grafft.
—Alexander Ellis.	1853—Horace C. Hubbert.	1877—John R. Murray.
1831—Abel Sawyer.	1855—Thomas Yates.	—William F. Warner.
—Franklin Tallmadge.	1856—Seymour Yates.	1878—J. W. Hollenback.
1833—Alex. Ellis.	1857—Hiram Payne.	1879—George H. Grafft.
1834—Inman Walling.	1858—Horace C. Hubbert.	1880—Wm. H. Spaulding.
—Washington Smith.	1859—Nicholas Shoemaker.	1881—William Corey.
1835—Joel Sawyer.	—Stephen McKinney.	—F. J. Armstrong.
1836—Wash. Smith.	1860—Nicholas Shoemaker.	1882—F. J. Armstrong.
1837—Arthur Yates.	1861—Alvah James.	1883—George H. Grafft.
—Alex. Ellis.	1862—Horace C. Hubbert.	1884—Wm. H. Spaulding.
1838—Arthur Yates.	1863-64—Sam'l M. Newland.	—L. Bensley.
1839—Jonathan Barnes.	1864—Thomas Yates.	1885—G. H. Manning.
1840—Inman Walling.	1865—Lewis <sup>W</sup> Mullock.	—DeWitt C. Bensley.
1841—Joel Sawyer	1866—James Aplin.	1886—DeWitt C. Bensley.
1842—Thomas Yates.	1867—Thomas Yates.	1887—George H. Grafft.
—Seymour Wright.	1868—S. M. Newland.	1888—Wm. H. Spaulding.
1843—Nicholas Shoemaker.	1869—Oliver B. Corwin.	1889—Ezra Canfield.
1844—Amos Moore.	1870—Newton Kinney.	1890—DeWitt C. Bensley.
1845—Joel Sawyer.	—Lewis W Mullock.	1891—George H. Grafft.
1846—Thomas Yates.	1871—Levi Westfall.	1892—Charles O. Hogan.
1847—Jacob Newkirk.	1872—DeWitt Dwyer.	1893—Richard H. Andrus.
1848—Lyman Wright.	1873—L. W. Mullock.	1894—DeWitt C. Bensley.
1849—Joel Sawyer.	1874—Coe Mullock.	1895—George H. Grafft.
1850—Peter Wentz.	1875—John T. Osborn.	1896—Charles O. Hogan.

VILLAGES AND HAMLETS.—Among the settled localities of Barton the incorporated village of Waverly is first in importance and is indeed one of the most metropolitan municipalities in Tioga county, hence is reserved for special and extended mention in another chapter.

Barton, sometimes called “Barton City,” not, however, in derision but from a certain prominence the locality has ever held among the villages of the town, where settled and lived several of the most respected and worthy of the pioneers, whose names have been mentioned on earlier pages, is one of the most interesting places from a historic standpoint to be found in all the county. In the early history of the region Barton shared honors and business with Milltown and other established centres, but with the growth and wonderful prosperity of Factoryville of old and Waverly of more recent years, our little eastern hamlet suffered



loss with final result in its comparatively unimportant position. Yet, there is something in and about this hamlet which has always commanded a certain respect from the older and more substantial element of the town's people. In the days of the stage and mail coach here was indeed a busy place, and when the railroad superseded the old method of travel, Barton for a time retained its prestige, and in fact never did decline but was outgrown by more fortunate villages. It is now described as a station and postoffice on the line of the Lehigh Valley and Erie railroads, with a population of about 200, and business interests sufficient to supply the inhabitants of a rich and prosperous farming region. Here, too, is the Barton Methodist Episcopal church, a good district school, a hotel, with other interests necessary to supply all local requirements. It is also an important shipping point for agricultural products.

The M. E. church at Barton was one of the first of the denomination in the county, and was organized about 1805 at the dwelling of pioneer Peter Barnes. Among the first members were Peter Barnes and wife, Gilbert and Betsey Smith, Benjamin Aikins, Samuel Mundy, Daniel Bensley, Peter Hoffman, and Selah Payne. The first ministers to officiate here were Revs. Timothy Lee and Horace Agard, while Benjamin Aikins was the first local preacher. The first church edifice was built by the society in 1836, and from that until the present time this has been one of the strong M. E. churches in the county, outside the large villages. This charge is united with North Barton and Smithboro, under the pastoral care of Rev. S. A. Terry.

The present business interests of the hamlet are about as follows: De Witt C. Bensley, coal dealer and justice of the peace; Masterson & Cary, general store and two large storehouses; F. W. Harding, general store; I. F. Hoyt, shoemaker and dealer in notions; The Johnson house, S. E. Johnson, proprietor; F. A. Ellis, grist mill; Wm. Cornell, saw and feed mill. The Barton steam mills burned in 1877, together with other valuable property. Mr. Cornell rebuilt the mill and established a saw and feed mill, though the latter has not been operated in several years.

Lockwood, as now known, owes its existence and business im-

portance almost wholly to the efforts of the firm of Bingham Brothers, who began operations here soon after the close of the war. However, in the early history of the town Charles Bingham, Jr., son of the pioneer Charles, built a mill at Lockwood, or on the site of the subsequent hamlet so called. In later years the place came to be known as Bingham's Mills, and was so called until 1881, when on account of a political difference between the proprietors in fact of the place and a government official, the official having the power, caused the name to be changed from Bingham's Mills to Lockwood. The date of the change was November 18, 1881.

The postoffice was established January 7, 1870, and the postmasters have been George W. Bingham, appointed January 7, 1870, and November 18, 1881; George D. Brock, August 24, 1885; Edmund J. Bingham, May 2, 1889; Ezra Canfield, August 23, 1893.

A part of the extensive mills at this place which Bingham Brothers operate was burned in December, 1896, but was at once replaced with others. Therefore the business interests of Lockwood are about as substantial as ever, and are represented as follows: Bingham Brothers, general merchants, manufacturers of butter packages and proprietors of saw, planing and grist mills; Truman Searles, grocer; W. E. Edgerton, dealer in agricultural implements and proprietor of meat market.

The Methodist Episcopal church at Lockwood dates back to the days of early settlement, when a class was formed, although it was many years later that the formal organization was perfected. The church home was built in 1854, since which time the society has been generally prosperous. In this charge are now 177 members. The pastor is Rev. A. F. Brown.

North Barton is a post hamlet in the northern part of the town, in a purely agricultural region, but the country roundabout is rich and fertile in nature's products. The farming people here required a trading centre and this hamlet was built up to supply the want. No business interests are now maintained here, and the only public buildings are the M. E. church and the district school.

The North Barton Methodist Episcopal church was organized in 1869, with eighteen members, and in 1870 the edifice was built. However, the society has never been sufficiently strong to support

a pastor and is therefore a part of the circuit comprising Smithboro, Barton and North Barton, of which the pastor in charge is Rev. S. A. Terry.

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

The Acme Grange of North Barton was incorporated December 18, 1885, by L. W. Kingsnorth, S. C. Brown, S. Speer, O. H. Stebbins, Archie T. Smith, P. V. Bogart, Ezra Canfield, W. C. Edgerton, F. E. Steenburg, S. W. Ellison, James Payne and C. L. Baker. These societies were formed for the benefit and advancement of interests pertaining particularly to farmers, and such were their results.

Halsey Valley is a pretty hamlet in the northeast part of the town, lying in both Barton and Tioga. Its interests are chiefly in Tioga, hence requires no mention in this chapter.

Reniff is the name of a once prosperous hamlet and station on the line of the now called Lehigh Valley railroad, in the northwest corner of the town. Willis E. Gillett was for several years the active man of the place, but now all evidences of former prosperity are gone.

Barton Centre is the name given to designate a cluster of houses in the central part of the town, where twenty years ago was a quiet settlement.

## CHAPTER XXI.

## VILLAGE OF WAVERLY.

WHEN in 1796 John Shepard came up from the vicinity of Tioga Point and purchased a thousand acre tract of land from General Thomas, he little thought the location residence would ever be the site of one of the most enterprising business villages in Tioga county. Pioneer John Shepard was a farmer and trader, a land speculator and bought and sold extensively, but he probably did not have in mind the thought of founding a village when he made the first purchase. He did not live to see the village of Waverly under that name, but he did live to see the old hamlet of Factoryville one of the most prosperous trading centres in the county. John Shepard died in 1837, and it remained for his son, Isaac Shepard, and other worthy pioneers, to make the many improvements which contributed to the growth of the village.

From an old printed document it is learned that a large tract of land extending from the Chemung east to Shepard's creek and from the state line north a considerable distance, was originally known as the Benedict location. East of the creek was the Lorillard tract, a portion of which, after the English custom, was reserved by the proprietor as a manor, otherwise called a "Barton;" and the theory has been advanced that from this fact the town received its name. From the same authority it is also learned that in 1800 George Walker made the first substantial improvement at Factoryville by building a grist mill, and six years later John Shepard and Josiah Crocker, the latter from Lee, Mass., built a fulling mill and set up a carding machine at the settlement called Milltown on the state line. This was the beginning of improvements which led to the subsequent village, and within the next few years so rapid was the growth in the locality that a post-office was established, and Factoryville became a fact as well as a name. A little later on Isaac and Job Shepard, sons of John, built a woollen mill at or near the east village, the same property

which was afterward bought by Alexander Brooks and which was burned in 1853. The postoffice was kept for several years in the woollen mill, but was removed to a more suitable location in Mr. Shepard's store on the then called Owego road, but now Chemung street.

A survey of Factoryville was made in 1819, by Major Flower, and the owner of the land, Mr. Shepard, divided it into lots of large size. Many of these lots were sold to Thomas Wilcox and Moses and Elisha Leonard, who, in turn, subdivided them, sold many, built on others, and within the next five years Factoryville had become a trading and manufacturing point of much importance in the county. Indeed, previous to the construction of the New York and Erie railroad, in 1849, this little hamlet was known as one of the most progressive in the southern tier, and only the erection of the station at "Shepardville" and the consequent transfer of business to that point took from Factoryville nearly all its former importance. Even then the transformation was hardly more than in name, for previous to the construction of the railroad all the settled and business locality here was known as Factoryville.

Deacon Ephraim Strong, of whom mention is made in the history of the town, purchased 153 acres of the Shepard tract in 1819, and about the same time built a substantial plank house in what is now Waverly, this being the first dwelling in that locality. In 1821 the Turnpike from Owego to Chemung was opened for travel, and for the accommodation of the public Isaac Shepard built, in 1825, a substantial tavern. However, in 1824, Jerry Adams built a tannery near the state line, thus adding one more to the interests of Factoryville neighborhood. It stood on the site now occupied by the Sayre Butter Package Co.'s works. Adams sold to one Norris and he, in 1834, to Luther Stone, father to William and James Stone. In 1842, Mr. Stone removed the old buildings and erected larger ones, the same being burned in 1860. They were at once rebuilt, and after the death of Luther Stone, in 1866, the business was carried on by his sons until 1868, when J. A. Perkins became owner of a half interest, and, in 1870, purchased the entire plant.

After the turnpike was opened and after Isaac Shepard had completed the tavern at the west settlement, the settlement began to assume a position of importance and was the rival of the hamlet to the east. April 3, 1826, Owen Spalding and his brother, Amos, came to the place, and from that time to his death, May 3, 1882, Owen Spalding was one of the most enterprising and public spirited men of the village, and few indeed were the local enterprises in which he was not in some manner interested. He is well remembered, too, and his name is perpetuated in the worthy organization known as Spalding Hose Fire company. Mr. Spalding lived for a time in the Deacon Strong plank house, but later on built on the site of the late Richard A. Elmer's residence.

Joseph Hallet came to the settlement in 1833, and purchased a hundred acre tract of land. This family, especially some of its later representatives, were prominent factors in Waverly history, and to Joseph Edward Hallet, familiarly known as "Uncle Joe," is due the honor of originating the Waverly fire department; and he was actively connected with the organization to the time of his death. He also wrote the early history of Methodism in Barton, and of his manuscripts the present writer has made free use.

At this time, in 1833, says a recent narrative, there were only fifteen buildings in Waverly, and they were Isaac Shepard's tavern, Jacob Newkirk's distillery and house, Thomas Hill's house, and another small dwelling standing near the Shepard residence. Elder Jackson, the Baptist minister, lived just west of the more recently known Inman dwelling, and the elder's blacksmith shop stood on the site of the Slaughter residence of later days.

Among the later comers was Capt. Benjamin H. Davis, who proved a valuable acquisition to the hamlet, and who by reason of prominence was made the first postmaster at Waverly, March 14, 1850. He built, in 1852, the Davis block, later known as the "Exchange," to which he removed the postoffice. In many respects Capt. Davis was an important figure in the early history of the village.

Still there were other factors in history in Factoryville, for the whole settled part was so known until the incorporation, and among the many there may be recalled the names of Pierre Hyatt,

Paris and Robert Sanders, David Carmichael, Jonathan Robbins, G. W. Plummer, Jacob Swain, Nathan Slawson, Steven Van Derlip, Daniel Blizzard, David Mandeville, the elder, Peter and Lewis Quick, W. A. Lane, S. T. Van Derlip, Jesse Kirk, and others whose names have perhaps been lost, but all of whom were in some manner identified with the interesting early development of the region ; and we say region rather than village, for it would indeed be difficult to say just where the village in fact begun or how its boundaries were defined. It was all Factoryville, and all the settlers were interested in its prosperity. However, among still later comers and worthy to be mentioned in this connection, were F. H. Baldwin, H. M. and W. E. Moore, Richard A. Elmer, senior, with his sons Howard and Richard A., junior, both of whom afterward became prominent in Waverly business and financial circles. There were also Jacob Reel, E. J. Brooks, J. A. Corwin, Sylvester Gibbons, Dr. R. O. Crandall, Squire Peter Wentz and Lawyer George Beebe, all necessary adjuncts of municipal life.

As early as 1840 the little west hamlet had sufficient population to justify laying out additional streets, and the next five years witnessed a material growth in every direction. In the spring of 1841 Squire Alva Jarvis opened the first store, and G. H. Hallet followed with the second in the fall. In 1842 Mr. Hallet and Andrew Price built a foundry on the corner of Chemung and Waverly streets, and very soon afterward started a cabinet shop on the second floor of the building. Later on the foundry was transformed into a hotel and christened "Clarmont House." In 1843 Edward Brigham built a hotel on the site of the Methodist church of later years, and where now stands the M. E. parsonage Robert Shakelton built a store and dwelling.

Of course these were but a part of the many improvements which resulted in the ultimate prosperous village, but gradually, step by step, the western settlement gained the greater prominence although it was not until the year 1854 that Factoryville lost its prestige ; and not until 1889 did the place lose all its former identity and was absorbed by the extension on the limits of Waverly village.

In 1849, as is elsewhere stated, the New York and Erie railroad

was opened for traffic and although its line passed through Factoryville, Waverly secured the station and company buildings. The hamlet, however, was variously called. Isaac Shepard, for whom it should have been named, called it "Villemont," while others suggested the name "Loder," in allusion to the then vice-president of the railroad. Yet it remained for that worthy old citizen, Uncle Joseph E. Hallet, to suggest the name which was finally adopted "*—Waverly—*" at first spelled Waverley, and in honor of Scott's works, the famous Waverley novels.

With the characteristic generosity for which they were noted, Owen Spalding, Isaac Shepard, and Capt. Benjamin Davis gave to the company the right of way through their lands, and the result was that business, which had previously centred around the park was soon transferred to the vicinity of the station. The depot was the first building erected there, but William Peck soon had a saloon ready for business on a site just west of the present Warford house ; and in less than six months Captain Davis had started a saloon and public house between the Warford site and the old Waverly house location. This building was soon enlarged and made into a good hotel. Later on Stephen Bennet, a former village blacksmith, succeeded to the ownership of the hotel, but in the fall of 1856 Cyrus Warford bought it. It was burned in 1857 but the name of Warford house has ever since been known in local annals.

In the meantime Broad street had sprung into existence as the prominent thoroughfare of trade and traffic, and early acquired the importance it has ever since maintained. Here, too, the year 1849 witnessed many improvements. Amos Spalding erected a large store building, which Hiram Moore filled with goods about Christmas, soon after the first store had been started by William Gibbons. T. J. Brooks was the next merchant, and John A. Corbin the fourth, both of whom, with Mr. Moore, were in the Spalding block. Then Isaac Shepard built the Shepard block, and in 1850 Hiram Moore erected a foundry on the site of the more recent Slawson furniture store. In 1852 B. P. Snyder built a public house on the site of the Warford house. Mr. Warford purchased this hotel in 1855, and the present Warford house stands on its site.



With a view of recalling the names of as many as possible of the old business men and residents of Waverly, the accumulated files in the *Free Press* office have been drawn upon, and from an old copy of the *Luminary*, published in April, 1852, we learn that mercantile and business interests in the hamlet were carried on by these proprietors : John Allen, butcher ; Barnes & Bailey, drugs, medicines, paints, oils and stationery ; T. J. Brooks, general store in Spalding block ; Peter V. Bennet, general store ; Bosworth & Shaw, saddlers and harness makers, in Waverly street ; George Beebe, attorney at law, over Bennet's store ; S. Bennet, grocer and restaurant, under Foster's hotel, near the depot ; Mrs. Beard, milliner and dressmaker, Broad street ; J. A. Corbin, music and musical instruments and patent medicines ; Charles Corbin, "daguerreotypists," Spalding block ; R. O. Crandall, physician and surgeon ; Joseph Chamberlain, furniture dealer, corner Chemung and Waverly streets ; H. S. Davis, dry goods and groceries, Spalding block ; B. H. Davis, postmaster, Broad street ; George C. Drake, sash and blind manufacturer ; John W. Ellston, butcher, Broad street ; R. A. Elmer, marble dealer ; William Foster, hotel, near depot ; William Gibson, dry goods and groceries, Broad street ; L. Gilbert, boots and shoes, Broad street ; S. Gibbons, dry goods and groceries, Broad street ; William Galloway, painter ; Hay & Lovejoy, boots and shoes, leather and findings, Chemung street ; J. W. Hard; watches and jewelry.

With these and other interests, together with the residence portion of the village well built up, it was natural that the people should expect and demand at least a limited separation from the surrounding territory of the town. At that time the inhabitants of the village proper numbered about 750, the business and manufacturing places were not less than twenty-five, and all required both fire and police protection, and other conditions of municipal life not to be enjoyed in the hamlet character. Therefore, on December 12, 1853, the first steps toward incorporation were taken, and January 18, 1854, the proposition was submitted to the qualified electors, and the result was 114 votes for and 44 against the measure. It was at this time that the subject of an appropriate name was first seriously considered, and the final result was as has been stated.

While these events of history were taking place in the progressive west village, old Factoryville remained in much the same condition as before, but as business interests became unprofitable, or were lost through fire or other disaster, the owners generally removed to the corporation or retired from further operations. In the course of time it became necessary for the village authorities to enlarge the corporate limits of Waverly, and the residents of old Factoryville at length sought to be united to the village, and in 1889 petitioned the trustees to extend the boundaries of the corporation. A survey and map of the proposed territory were made and the question of union was submitted to the Factoryville inhabitants, and carried, although some fault was afterward found in certain quarters with the manner of procedure.

Then old historic Factoryville lost not only all its old-time prestige, but also its name. The people there hoped to retain the post-office, which they did for a time, and were then given the benefits of the free delivery system of the village. The Factoryville post-office was established in 1823, and from that to the time the office was discontinued the postmasters, with date of appointment, were as follows :

1823, Feb. 12, Isaac Shepard.	1875, April 6, Gurdon G. Manning.
1835, Jan. 19, Samuel Smith.	1877, March 26, John T. Osborn.
1836, Jan. 21, Arthur Yates,	1877, May 25, Leonard H. Nichols.
1849, July 27, Benjamin H. Davis.	1879, Feb. 18, Thomas P. Yates.
1850, March 14, Alexander Brooks.	1886, March 20, Clarence E. Cook.
1853, June 18, Silas Fordham.	1889, April 11, David H. Eaton.
1861, July 10, Thomas Yates.	

Waverly was made a postoffice in 1850, from which time, with the date of appointment, the postmasters have been as follows :

1850, March 14, Benjamin H. Davis.	1883, Oct. 2, Charles C. Brooks.
1853, June 18, Alva Jarvis.	1887, April 14, Andrew A. Slawson.
1861, July 1, William Polleys.	1889, Oct. 6, Charles C. Brooks.
1875, April 18, Oliver H. P. Kinney.	1894, Dec. 11, James A. Clark.

With the absorption of Factoryville by the village of Waverly the latter became one of the most progressive and interesting municipalities in the county, and while possibly not the largest, is in point of situation and natural commercial advantage the most important. Within its present limits are about 4,800 inhabitants,

but including South Waverly, a borough on the Pennsylvania side of the line, and in fact a part of this village, the local population is just about 6,000. Two miles south of Waverly is the enterprising village of Sayre, and two miles still further south is old historic Tioga Point, now known as Athens, and both of these places are tributary to and in a measure dependent on Waverly as a chief centre of trade. Therefore, within a radius of five miles from a central point in this village is a population of from twelve to fifteen thousand inhabitants. Here are the great east and west trunk lines of railroad, the Erie and the Lackawanna, while in East Waverly is the no less important Lehigh Valley, a strong competing line with the others, and having a branch from Waverly to Owego, and thence up the valley of Owego creek through the county to the city of Auburn. As Waverly owed its very existence to the construction of the Erie railroad, so, too, has its later development and progress been due to the opening of the other lines of road; and to-day, as a railroad centre, this village has advantages superior to the great majority of municipalities in this part of the state.

The civil and political history of Waverly may be stated briefly. The incorporation was accomplished December 12, 1853, and on March 27, 1854, the first village officers were elected. This organization, while complete was nevertheless informal, and the president was chosen from the trustees until 1863, when William W. Shepard was elected to that office by the people. This was the first step in municipal advancement, but in 1876 the old charter was wholly abandoned and the village was incorporated under the general statutes of the state, and then advanced to the dignity and position of a village of the first class.

At the first village election, March 27, 1854, these officers were chosen: Trustees, Francis H. Baldwin, William Gibson, Hiram M. Moore, Peter Dunning, and Alva Jarvis; assessors, Squire Whitaker, John L. Sawyer, and Benj. H. Davis; collector, Wm. P. Owen; treasurer, Owen Spalding; clerk, Peter V. Bennet; street commissioners, Morris B. Royal, Absalom Bowman, and W. A. Brooks; poundmaster, David E. Howell.

In this connection it is interesting to note the succession of village presidents, viz :

1854—Hiram M. Moore.	1867—William Polleys.	1877—Levi Curtis.
1855—Alva Jarvis.	1868—Richard D. VanDuzer.	1878-83—James R. Stone.
1857—James Manners.	1868—Hugh T. Herrick.	1884-88—Henry H. Sniffen.
1858—Moses Sawyer.	1869—Hugh T. Herrick.	1889—Andrew A. Slawson.
1859—Delos O. Hancock.	1870—O. W. Shipman.	1890—Hugh J. Baldwin.
1860—John L. Sawyer.	1871—William E. Johnson.	1891—Hugh J. Baldwin.
1861—James S. Sheafe.	1872—William E. Johnson.	1892—Charles H. Shipman.
1862—James S. Sheafe.	1873—Levi Curtis.	1893—Charles H. Shipman.
1863—William W. Shepard.	1874—Alex. McDonald.	1894—Hugh J. Baldwin.
1864—Lewis W. Mullock.	1875—William Polleys.	1895—Levi Curtis.
1865—George W. Chaffee.	1876—George W. Orange.	1896—Edwin G. Tracy.
1866—George W. Chaffee.	1876—Henry C. Clapp.	1897—Andrew A. Slawson.

The village hall, frequently called the city hall, was erected in 1892, and cost \$18,000. It is a large and well appointed building and appears the more attractive as it is so vastly superior to its old predecessor structure. The basement is occupied for heating purposes and for the lock-up, or prison. The first floor is occupied for fire department purposes, by Tioga Hose Co., No. 1 ; Waverly Hook and Ladder Co., No. 2 ; Spalding Hose Co., No. 3 ; the fire police, and also by the trustees and the police justice. On the second floor, up one flight, are the elegant assembly and business rooms of Spalding Hose and the Hook and Ladder Co., while the third floor is used for like purposes by Tioga Hose Co., and the fire police.

The Waverly fire department has for many years been regarded as one of the fixed and substantial institutions of the village. It had its inception in old Neptune Engine Co. No. 1, organized May 24, 1855, immediately after the fire which destroyed Compton's dry goods store, in Broad street. The trustees then authorized Joseph E. Hallet (the founder in fact of the department) to visit New York city and there procure an engine and other fire apparatus. This "Uncle Joe" did, and brought back to Waverly an engine, a hose cart, and 400 feet of hose, the cost of all which to the village was only \$900. Old Neptune's first fire was the Phillips & Murray tannery at Factoryville, June 9, 1855, and while not within the corporate limits of the village the firemen nevertheless did excellent service on that occasion. In truth, in that day the

company knew no territorial boundary and gave service where and when needed. The same may also be said of the present companies, and South Waverly has frequently received the good services of the local department, although that borough is in another state.

The second fire of importance was the disastrous conflagration of 1871, by which sixteen blocks and twenty-five business places were burned. This disaster had the effect of arousing the trustees to action, and in 1873 they voted to expend \$5,000 for a fire steamer. The result was a second-class Silsbee, for years the pride of the department. With this acquisition Neptune company was reorganized, and about the same time Hope Hose was formed, but was disbanded in 1874.

Tioga Hose and Steamer Co. No. 1, was organized April 15, 1875, whereupon Neptune was disbanded. However, the old veterans reorganized May 14, 1884, for active duty in any emergency. Tioga was incorporated May 18, 1876, and did duty with the steamer as long as it was used and then resolved into a hose company. The steamer was sold in 1894.

Waverly Hook and Ladder company was organized June 12, 1876, and has since been in active service in the department.

Spalding Hose Co., was organized September 4, 1888, and was named in compliment to Owen Spalding, an old and public spirited citizen of the village.

The Waverly Fire Police, whose duty it is to exercise police protection in time of fire, and which has proved one of the most valuable and efficient bodies in the department, was organized June 12, 1877.

Cayuta Hose Co. No. 4, is the junior fire organization of the village and was formed in 1891. The company occupies a building provided by the trustees located in what is called the East ward.

The chief engineers of the Waverly fire department have been as follows :

1855-57--William Polleys.	1864--O. W. Shipman.	1869--John Mahoney.
1858-61--Joseph E. Hallet.	1865--O. H. P. Kinney.	1870-71--Joseph E. Hallet.
1862--William Sharp.	1866-67--Amasa S. Mott.	1872--William P. Stone.
1863--William W. Terry.	1868--William H. Sliney.	1873--J. Newton Dexter.

1874--William H. Sliney.	1883--H. Wallace Kinney.	1891--Percy L. Lang.
1875--Robert G. Crans.	1884--Charles Sweet.	1892--H. Wallace Kinney.
1876-77--Fred'k R. Warner.	1885--Wm. H. W. Jones.	1893--Selvin C. Smith.
1878--Hugh J. Baldwin.	1886--Michael W. Kennedy.	1894--Howard C. Van Duzer.
1879--Harry C. Mercereau.	1887--Charles W. Jones.	1895--Fred A. Sawyer.
1880--George H. Grafft.	1888--N. E. Walker.	1896--Fred F. Smith.
1881--Harry E. Robbins.	1889--P. J. Sheahan.	
1882--Lucius R. Manning.	1890--Fred W. Genung.	

SCHOOLS AND THE ACADEMY.—The loss of early town records precludes the possibility of any reliable data concerning the primitive schools of either town or village. Indeed, previous to 1824 this entire territory was a part of Tioga, and such provision as was made at that time for the maintenance of schools was a part of the history of another civil division of the county. However, the fact is well known that in the early history of the region, and before Barton was set off from Tioga, two schools were in operation in what is now the corporation, one of them at the hamlet called Factoryville and the other in the west part of what is now Waverly, standing near the residence of Charles H. Shepard. In fact this school building was erected by that worthy pioneer, Isaac Shepard, and probably about the year 1825. These schools were established and supported in accordance with the public educational system of the state as then authorized, and were considered sufficient for the time. The first school in the village was that opened by Deacon Ephriam Strong in his dwelling house on the site of the academy afterward built. However, almost immediately after the village was incorporated the question of a school of higher grade was seriously discussed. About that time and as early at least as the year 1854 a Mr. Howe came to Waverly and opened an academic school at the corner of Lincoln and Chemung streets, as now laid out. The school was in operation in 1855 when Anthony Hemstreet came to the village to teach in the district school. Mr. Hemstreet remembers Prof. Howe's school as a worthy institution and well patronized. It was continued until the winter of 1856, and was then closed.

The only other private or select school in Waverly of any considerable note was that opened by Mrs. Porter, wife of the pastor of the Methodist church. Perhaps some of the older residents of the village will remember the school at the corner of Ithaca and

Chemung streets, and also at East Waverly under the same direction.

About the year 1855 a man, whose name is now forgotten, came to Waverly and began the erection of a school building at a point opposite Forest Home cemetery. The cellar was dug, but soon afterward the proposed proprietor suddenly departed from the village.

During the early summer of 1856, a number of the leading men of Waverly determined to establish an academic school in the village, which should be in all respects worthy of its founders, and an honor to the county. The prime spirit of the enterprise was Owen Spalding, who generously donated to the trustees the land on which the building was erected, and who also purchased one-half of the stock of the association. The result of this public spiritedness was the Waverly institute, but which institution was originally known as the "Shepard institute," according to William F. Warner's centennial history. The latter name was applied in deference to the local prominence of Isaac Shepard, and was truly characteristic of Owen Spalding, as he was known in the community. However, at a meeting of the stockholders held December 2, 1857, the name was changed to "Waverly Institute."

The incorporation was effected and trustees chosen August 30, 1856, the board comprising Owen Spalding, Arthur Yates, Benjamin G. Rice, F. H. Baldwin, Isaac Shepard, Richard A. Elmer, Sr., Alva Jarvis, William Manners, G. H. Fairchild, and Richard D. VanDuzer. The officers of the board were chosen December 1, 1856, and were Arthur Yates, president; G. H. Fairchild, secretary, and R. D. VanDuzer, treasurer.

The institute was placed under the charge of Prof. Andrew J. Lang, a native of Palmyra, Me., and a graduate of Union college, at Schenectady. His connection with the school continued until the time of his death, August 22, 1870, he then being thirty-nine years of age. The management of the institute so highly valued the services of Prof. Lang that upon his death this resolution was entered in the minutes: "Resolved, That as a public educator Prof. Lang stood deservedly high in this and adjoining states; and that in his death the educational interests of the country have suf-

ferred a serious loss." In addition to the gratifying expressions of esteem on the part of the public press, those who knew him best said Prof. Lang "crowded sixty years work into less than forty." He was indeed a noted educator, and for six years held the office of county school commissioner.

After the death of Prof. Lang, the institute was continued with a fair degree of success until the following year, when on April 15, it was superseded by and merged into the academic department of the recently established union school district, and placed under the principalship of Prof. S. C. Hall. By this merger and the action of the electors of the village, the present educational system of Waverly was established; a system more complete and elaborate, and of greater value to the youth of the village than at any previous period in village history.

Union Free School district No. 9 was established in 1870, and included within its limits the territory of the village and also the hamlet of Factoryville. Then there were two schools, one at the east and the other at the west end of the district. Now there are five schools, known and distinguished as follows: Central school, or academy, successor to the institute, having nine teachers; East Waverly school, three teachers; Grove school, two teachers; Lincoln street school, four teachers; west end or brick school, two teachers.

Briefly stated, the present condition of the village schools is about as follows: Census of district, 1,200; number on school roll, from about 800 to 900; annual expense of schools, about \$16,000; public moneys received for year ending July 31, 1896, \$3,833.29; received from regents, \$509.80; raised by tax, \$11,862.54; paid teachers, \$10,461; paid for libraries, \$448.54; paid for apparatus, \$40. In the library are 2,125 volumes, valued at \$2,700. The value of school buildings and property in the district is estimated at \$43,000.

The personnel of the present board of education is as follows: George D. Genung, president; George H. Grafft, secretary; Frederick E. Lyford, Edwin G. Tracy, William C. Farley, Albert J. Lester, and Harvey C. Brewster.

**BANKING IN WAVERLY.**—The old Waverly Bank, the pioneer in-



stitution of its kind in the village, filed articles of association August 20, 1855, although its business began August 6 of that year, under a hundred year charter, and with a capital (in 1859) of \$106,100. The first president was John C. Adams ; cashier, George H. Fairchild. Business opened in the northwest corner room of the old Snyder house, but in May, 1856, Isaac Shepard dug the first shovelful of earth in making an excavation for a new bank building at the northeast corner of Broad and Loder streets. Here the bank did a successful business until 1865, when it changed character and became a national bank, under the United States law. The new name was Waverly National Bank, and this, too, did a profitable business for a time, until in 1871, when its controlling officers removed the seat of operation to the building now owned by the Citizens' Bank. Here, about April 1, 1872, a private bank was opened with H. T. Herrick president, George Herrick cashier, and H. T. Sawyer teller. These officers held the same positions in the National bank, and within one month after the private concern had been organized the National bank passed into the hands of a receiver. Col. James S. Thurston was the first appointee, but resigned at the end of three months, and was succeeded by J. T. Sawyer. After a like time he also resigned and J. B. Floyd closed up the affairs of the concern. In May, 1873, the Herrick bank also failed, and its assignees, J. Theodore Sawyer and Richard A. Elmer, settled its affairs.

The Home Savings Bank was in a measure a local institution, but was organized and began business in South Waverly under Pennsylvania authority, so far as it had any authority whatever. The ostensible capital was \$86,000, and the officers were Selim Kirby, president ; C. E. Pendleton, cashier. Directors, Selim Kirby, C. E. Pendleton, J. R. Stone, G. P. Cady, O. A. Barstow. This bank failed June 27, 1887.

The First National Bank of Waverly, No. 297, was organized February 13, 1864, with a capital of \$50,000. Business began at the same time in the Warford house block. The first officers were Richard D. Van Duzer, president ; Richard A. Elmer, vice-president ; Howard Elmer, cashier ; and directors, R. D. Van Duzer, R. A. Elmer, Jesse Owen, Abner Turner and H. D. V. Pratt. Mr.