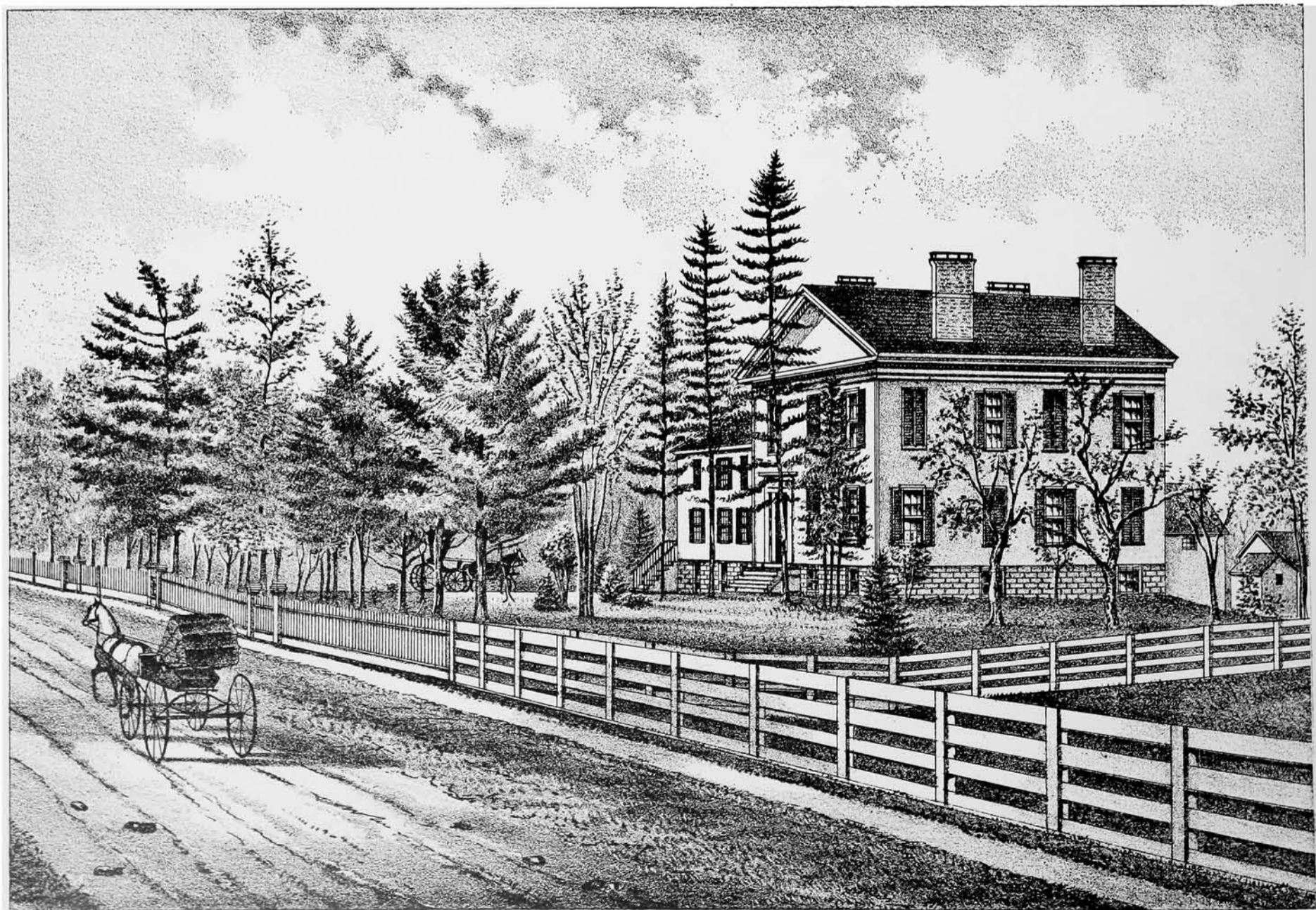




MARY ANN DE MOTT.



GEN. JOHN DE MOTT.



RES. @ GENERAL JOHN DE MOTT,
LODI, SENECA CO., N. Y.

LODI.

THIS township originally comprised a portion of the Military township of Ovid. Covert was set off from Ovid in 1817, and Lodi taken from Covert January 27, 1826. It is the southwest corner town in the County, and borders on Seneca Lake. The surface slopes toward the west and north, except a small portion lying east of the summit, which inclines toward Cayuga Lake. The bluff along the shore of Seneca Lake varies in height from ten to fifty feet. The principal streams are Jackson Run, Sheldrake and Mill Creeks; upon the latter stream is a beautiful cascade, one hundred and fifty feet in height, called "Silver Thread Falls," a fine view of which may be seen upon the frontispiece of this work.

Lodi was originally covered with a dense forest, consisting mainly of white, red, and black oak, white and yellow pine, basswood, maple, ash, hickory, white-wood, elm, aspen, butternut, walnut, slippery elm, beech, red cedar, hemlock, chestnut, and an occasional cucumber, white thorn, and crab-apple. Basswood predominates to such an extent in the eastern part of the town that that portion was locally known as the "Basswoods." The timber was very tall, and straight as an Indian's arrow.

This town was also crossed by General John L. Sullivan, LL.D., in his invasion in 1779, when he drove the Indian from his much-loved hunting grounds, and compelled him to seek a home far from the waters of the beautiful Seneca. It is said that Sullivan encamped on Jackson Run, on the premises now owned by Samuel Gulick, one and one-half miles east of Seneca Lake.

A TROPHY OF THE INDIAN WAR.

In the year 1812, a large oak-tree, measuring about three feet in diameter, was felled, and in the crotch, about eighteen feet from the ground, a horse-shoe of not very fine workmanship was found, thoroughly imbedded in the growths of the tree, and in all probability was placed there by Sullivan's soldiers when on this campaign. This souvenir of that invasion is in the possession of Samuel Gulick, at whose residence the writer saw it in April, 1876.

INDIAN ORCHARD AND BURIAL-PLACE.

At the point now called Lodi Landing, once known as Smock's, and subsequently as Goff's Point, was a large Indian orchard, which was partially destroyed by Sullivan's soldiery. On the farm of Mr. Gulick was also a favorite camping-ground of the Indians, when en-route from Newtown to Kanadesaiga. At Goff's Point was an Indian burial-place of considerable note, on the site now occupied by the dwelling of Henry Jackson.

FIRST SETTLEMENT.

The first settlement in Lodi was made by George Faussett, from Pennsylvania, in the year 1789. He located in the southwest part of the town, on premises now occupied by his son, G. F. Faussett. James Jackson settled on Lot 35, in 1789, and was Justice of the Peace in 1802, and perhaps officiated in that capacity many years previously. James Bramble was an early settler on Lot 77, where his son now resides. John Gaulty settled, prior to 1800, in the southeast part of the town. A Mr. Rice also located the same year on Lot 75. Stephen Smith was an early settler on Lot 63. His grandson, Stephen B. Smith, now resides in Lodi Village. Henry Warton settled on Lot 44, in the year 1800. Frederick VanLew located on Lot 44, in about 1800. His son, Captain Richard VanLew, now resides on Lot 75. John VanLew, brother of Captain Richard, was a soldier in the war of 1812. Jacob Smith was a pioneer, and the keeper of an early inn on Lot 43. He was located on one of the principal thoroughfares, and the traveler was cheered alike by his fire-place, venison, and whisky.

Levi Ellis and his son William were the owners of Lot 43, and located upon it in the year 1801. Mr. Ellis erected a grist-mill on this lot, which occupied the site of the present stone grist-mill of Charles E. Wyckoff. Abram Sebring was an early settler on Lot 35, and subsequently occupied several positions of trust within the gift of his townsmen. A daughter of Squire Sebring, Mrs. Katy Cashun, now resides in Ovid. Tertulius Goff settled at Goff's Point in about the year 1800, on premises now owned by his grandson, J. P. Goff. Robert Oliver settled on Lot 36 in the year 1800, and soon after removed to

Cayuga Bridge. Michael Coryelle was also an early settler on this lot. Joshua Wyckoff located on the northeast corner of Lot 46, on premises now owned by P. D. Post and Augustus Woodworth. David Himrod settled on the same lot in 1800, on lands now owned by Ralph Smith. William Himrod, brother of David, settled about the same time on Lot 36, and erected a tannery a short distance north of Lodi Village. This tannery subsequently passed into the hands of Nicholas Gulick, and was long since abandoned.

Lot 45 was purchased by Silas Halsey, the first Supervisor of the old Military town of Ovid, who was elected April 1, 1794, and sworn into office before himself, he being at the time a Justice of the Peace. The following is a copy of the oath:

"I, Silas Halsey, do solemnly and sincerely promise and swear that I will in all things, to the best of my knowledge and ability, faithfully and impartially execute and perform the trust reposed in me as Supervisor of the town of Ovid, in the County of Onondaga, and that I will not pass any account or any article thereof wherewith I shall think the said County is not justly chargeable, nor will I disallow any account or any article thereof wherewith I shall think the County is justly chargeable.

"SILAS HALSEY.

"Sworn before me, the first day of April, 1794.

"SILAS HALSEY, Justice of the Peace."

Oliver Halsey, son of Silas, settled on the west part of Lot 45, on premises now owned by H. W. Halsey. Silas Halsey purchased Lot 37, where he settled in 1790. His daughter, Mary Ann, widow of General John DeMott, now resides in Lodi Village.

FIRST PHYSICIAN.

Dr. Jared Sanford, the first physician in the town, and son-in-law of Silas Halsey, was an early settler on Lot 37. General Halsey Sanford, of Ovid, who celebrated his "Golden Wedding" in 1872, is a son of Dr. Sanford. Henry Montgomery married Frances, a daughter of Silas Halsey, and early settled on Lot 46. Mrs. Montgomery subsequently married Judge Barto, of Trumansburg, and now resides in that village. Stephen Bishop settled, in 1800, on Lot 55; on this lot are located the grist and flouring-mills of J. La Tourettee. A sea-captain named Williams settled some time after 1800 on Lot 65, and introduced the Spanish merino sheep in the town, bringing them, as he said, from across the sea. Mr. Williams disposed of his place to a Mr. Bogart, grandfather of J. Bogart, who now occupies the premises. A Mr. BoDine settled on the northeast corner of the same lot. Abram La Tourettee settled in an early day on Lot 78, where now is located Lodi Centre. A Mr. Lameraux and Smith were also early settlers on this lot. James VanVleet located on Lot 91, in the southern portion of the town, and still resides there. Jeremiah Slight was also an early settler on this lot, where A. Slight now resides. Paul Cooper was an early settler, and located on the south part of Lot 37, on the premises now owned by Casper B. Vesceus, Esq. Cornelius Wyckoff settled on Lot 38, on lands now owned by L. Prince and William M. Wyckoff; John and Henry Voorhees, from New Jersey, in about the year 1800, and located on the south part of Lot 38, on lands now owned by W. M. and J. N. Voorhees, grandsons of John Voorhees. A Mr. Kelly and William Roberts were early settlers on Lot 47, the latter locating on the southwest corner on premises now owned by D. L. Case.

Nicholas Gulick, with a family of nine children, came from Loudoun County, Virginia, and settled in an early day on Lot No. 26. They came in by way of "Tioga Point," now Athens, Pennsylvania, "Newtown," now Elmira, through "Catherine's Town," now Havana, to the head of Seneca Lake, where they came upon the old Indian trail and the track of Sullivan's army, along which they pursued their course to the present town of Lodi. Mr. Samuel Gulick, son of Nicholas, now eighty-five years of age, resides on Lot No. 43. Dr. William Gulick and Samuel S. Gulick, sons of Samuel, occupy official positions, the former representing Schuyler County in the State Legislature, and the latter is the present County Clerk of Seneca County.

S. Miner and a Mr. Stevens were early settlers on Lot No. 91. The latter located where his widow now resides. The Slight family were early settlers on Lot No. 79. Mr. Osgood located in an early day on Lot No. 66, and erected a saw mill on the site now occupied by the mill of H. VanLew. Three sons, Hubbard, Covert, and Hiram, reside in the County; the two former are residents of Lodi, and the latter resides in the town of Ovid. George Bishop was an early settler on Lot No. 56, where his widow now resides; he has three sons living in the town. Captain Isaac Miller was also an early settler, who came from Orange County, and located on Lot No. 56, where J. Myers now resides. David Coryelle, from New Jersey, settled on the eastern part of Lot No. 56, on premises now occupied by J. Keady. Peter VanVleet came from the same State, and purchased a portion of the southern part of Lot No. 46, where his grandson, Isaac VanVleet, now resides; another early settler on this lot was Charles Mersherall, who located on the southeast corner, on premises now owned by A. Wyckoff.

Dominié Brokaw settled on Lot No. 39, in the northeast corner of the town, on premises now owned by J. H. Sniffen. He was a prominent minister in the Dutch Reformed Church, and died in about the year 1843, and was buried in the old McNeil cemetery. A daughter of his, Catherine Brokaw, is still living with a niece, Mrs. Royal Huff. Daniel Brokaw was also an early settler, who located on premises now owned by a grandson, George W. Brokaw. Abram C., a son of Daniel Brokaw, resides in the western part of the town. John Knight and James VanLew were also early settlers; a son of the latter, named James, now resides in Farmer Village.

Burgun Covert came from Durham's Ferry, on the Delaware River, New Jersey, in 1791, and first settled on lands now owned by the Kinnies, near the village of Ovid, and soon after, in about the year 1798, he located on Lot No. 48, with a family of four sons, viz., Joshua, John, Joseph, and Jacob. Joseph was a captain in the war of 1812. Squire Burgun Covert, a son of Joseph, subsequently settled on Lot No. 57, where he now resides, at the advanced age of seventy-two. He has two sons living in the town, Claudius and William R., the former a successful merchant at Lodi Village, and the latter a farmer at Townsendville. Two daughters of Burgun Covert, Jane and Catherine, were in the party of six persons first married in the old military township of Ovid, who crossed Seneca Lake in 1793, and were united in the bonds of matrimony by Squire James Parker, a follower of the "Universal Friend," Jemima Wilkinson, who then resided in Jerusalem, Ontario County, now Torrey, Yates County. Joseph W., a son of John B. Covert, now occupies the premises where his father located, and, with the exception of Mrs. Starrett, a granddaughter of Joseph Covert, he is the only remaining member of the Covert family now residing on that lot.

A Mr. Gulladet was the first settler on Lot No. 53, and erected a rude log structure, covering it with basswood bark. Squire Charles Kelly was an early settler, who came from the State of New Jersey, and located on the same lot. He brought with him a small willow riding-whip, which he placed in the ground near where he located; it took root and became the largest tree of the kind between the lakes. It blew down a few years since, and, being cut and piled, furnished seven cords of wood. Enoch Stewart, Ruloff Voorhees, and Frederick VanLew were early settlers on Lot No. 58. Abram Voorhees, the only son of Ruloff, now occupies the old homestead. Mr. Dennis early located where Archibald Knight, grandson of Israel Knight, also a pioneer, now resides. James C. Knight, son of Israel, is a successful merchant at Farmer Village. Dorus Larison was an early settler on Lot No. 58. Elijah Townsend, Abram Hall, Ezekiel Wentworth, Richard Compton, Mr. Travis, and Joseph Stewart were early settlers on Lot No. 68. The latter was father of Enoch Stewart, of the triple marriage mentioned above. John Townsend, son of Elijah, resides on the old homestead at Townsendville, and Luke K., grandson of Richard, now occupies the old Compton homestead.

A gunsmith named Smith was an early settler a short distance north of Townsendville, and a Robert Herriot and Mr. MonFort early located on Lot 81. Mr. Herriot was a graduate of an Eastern college, and spent much time in the educational training of the youth. Many of the older citizens of Lodi were members of his classes, and relate the great interest that he manifested in the art of penmanship, and those of his scholars who are still left retain the fine style of writing taught them by Master Herriot. Richard Kelly and a brother-in-law named Whelpley early located near Townsendville. Isaac Drake and Captain Wakeman were early settlers on Lot 93, the latter locating on ground now owned by Rev. Z. Horton. Ebenezer Ellis was an early settler on this lot, and was locally celebrated for his skill as a violinist, and was known as "Fiddler Ellis."

Abram I. Miller and his sons, Jacob and Gilbert T., settled on Lot 86 in 1806, the year of the great eclipse. Jacob was soon after killed by the falling of a tree. Gilbert T. now resides at Townsendville, at the advanced age of seventy-eight, and has held the office of Justice of the Peace nearly a quarter of a cen-

ture. Judge White and Caleb Sayre early settled on Lot 92, the latter locating where his son, Daniel H., now resides. Joshua G. Skinner settled in 1818, on premises now owned by B. C. Farr, and erected a saw-mill near by on Lot 91. Jerry Ganong, Dennis Vandine, Webster Winn, and Zebulon Randolph, were also early settlers. Joseph Howell located on Lot 57, on premises now owned by Squire Burgun Covert; and Richard Cadmus settled on lands now the property of George Hunt, P. Holton, and William R. Covert. Thomas Miller and his son, Oliver, settled on the northwest corner of Lot 57. Ucal Howell, a prominent Methodist, early located on the same lot, on premises now in the possession of Alpheus Covert. Wilhelmus Miner was also an early settler on this lot, and has several descendants residing in the town, viz., Stephen V. and Dennis VanLew, Phoebe Jane, wife of Peter Voorhees, and the wife of W. B. Coryelle, who lives in the town of Covert.

Conspicuous among the names of the pioneers of Lodi is that of David Cole. His sons, Elijah, David, Cornelius, Gilbert, and Washington, were born in this town. Elijah, Gilbert, and Cornelius are residents of California, and the latter has represented that Commonwealth in the United States Senate. Washington was a major-general in the war of the rebellion, and was a patriotic and gallant commander. He became somewhat notorious in the unfortunate affair at Stanwix Hall, Syracuse, where he shot General Hiscock. He died in 1875. David Cole now resides at Havana, Schuyler County, and is the proprietor of a celebrated watering-place, called the "Havana Magnetic Spring Cure." A daughter of David Cole is the wife of Jacob Meeker, who resides on Lot 64. Joseph, Samuel, and Z. Kelly were early settlers on Lot 47. Dr. Alfred Sears was an early physician at Townsendville, and still resides there, and is a prominent and influential citizen.

On the line between Lots 67 and 80 is an elevation of land called "Prospect Hill," from the summit of which nine counties are opened out in panoramic view; to the east may be seen Cayuga and Onondaga, while Tompkins, Schuyler, and the distant hills of Chemung are plainly visible in the south, "Little Yates" and Ontario in the west, and Wayne in the north.

TAKING REVENGE ON A TORY.

John Emmons, a soldier of the Revolution, and a Mr. VanWagener, who had fought with the British, were also early settlers in Lodi. VanWagener was a tory, composed of the same elements that characterized the inhuman Colonel John Butler, the instigator of that savage butchery which has gone down to history as the massacre of Wyoming. VanWagener and his Indian allies were out on a skirmishing expedition, and, coming to a dwelling, massacred its inmates, and while yet searching for one more victim, the Indians came to a cradle, where a little child lay in its innocence; as they gazed upon the cherub, with their scalping-knives still dripping with the blood of the slain, the fierce spirit of the red man was quelled, and he determined not to further wreak his vengeance by taking the life of the babe, when VanWagener appeared on the scene, and, brushing the Indians away, plunged his bayonet through the body. He was ever after known as the man who killed the child; and at a certain election, held at Kelly's Corners, in about the year 1825, both Emmons and VanWagener were present, and the patriotic old soldier, who had passed through the campaign of eight dreary years, and in whose mind were yet fresh the butcheries of Cherry Valley and Wyoming, together with the child-murder of VanWagener, threw an end of a rope over a beam in the room where they were standing, and quick as thought fastened the other end around VanWagener's neck; in less time than it takes to write it, the old tory was dangling in the air. After keeping him suspended for some time, Emmons gradually lowered him, feeling that he had in a small degree punished the wretch for his inhumanity.

Andrew Emmons, son of the old soldier, erected the mill on Lot 58, now owned by C. E. Wyckoff.

VILLAGE OF LODI.

The first building erected where now is located the thriving village of Lodi was a log dwelling which occupied the present site of the Eagle Hotel, now owned by Mr. Foster. In about the year 1810 General John DeMott erected a dwelling now occupied by Claudius C. Covert.

General DeMott was the first merchant in the village, and conducted an extensive business in a store where now is located the mercantile establishment of Covert and BoDine. General DeMott was a prominent man, and became a major-general of militia, represented the County in the Legislature, and was member of Congress in 1845. He died in this village in 1870. Cooper and Halsey were also early merchants.

The first physician in the village was Dr. Lewis Post. Dr. John L. Eastman was also an early physician.

Lodi contains two churches, Dutch Reformed and Methodist, seven mercantile

establishments, one hotel, post-office, and shops of various kinds. The following represent the business interests of to-day: General merchants, Covert & BoDine, S. O. Root, M. B. Ellison & Son, Peter LaTourette; Druggist, Chas. A. Woodworth; Jeweler, L. C. Galloup; Hardware and Tinner, John H. Stevens; Conveyancer and Postmaster, Casper B. Vescelius; Physicians, Lewis Post, J. Dunn, Charles R. Keyes, C. V. H. Morris; Hotel, Daniel Foster.

Townsendville is a hamlet in the southeastern part of the town, and contains several dwellings and two stores, one kept by Gilbert Townsend (2d), who is also Postmaster, and the other by Ansel Austin.

Lodi has a healthful climate, as is evidenced by the longevity of its inhabitants. The following is a list of those over eighty years of age residing in the town: Sybil Neal, eighty-seven; Jane Huffman, eighty-four; Sophia Wilson, eighty-six; Elizabeth Neal, eighty-two; Jane Bramble, eighty-five; Lydia S. Cox, eighty-five; Anna Stewart, eighty-one; Mary Montgomery, eighty-five; Edward Converse, eighty-eight; Betsey Stevens, eighty-six; Esther Watson, eighty-three; Samuel Gulick, eighty-five; Catherine Starkey, eighty-one.

CIVIL HISTORY.

The first town-meeting in Lodi was held at the house of John Ingersoll on Tuesday, March 7, 1826, when the following officers were chosen: John De Mott, Supervisor; John Ingersoll, Town Clerk; Noadiah Shannon, Cornelius De Mott, Joseph C. Kelly, Assessors; Henry R. Halsey, Constable and Collector; N. Feagles, Gideon Kept, Constables; Samuel Gulick, Andrew German, Elijah Townsend, Commissioners of Highways; Morris Sherwood, J. McGonery, Claudius C. Coan, Commissioners of Common Schools; Henry McGonery, David Cole, Trustees of School Fund; Claudius C. Coan, John C. Emory, G. L. Miller, Inspectors of Common Schools; John Gottery, Henry McGonery, Overseers of the Poor; Chas. Kelly, John Ingersoll, Pound Masters.

The present town officials are, James Jones, Supervisor; John H. Stevens, Town Clerk; Casper B. Vescelius, Delos H. Townsend, Elisha Reeves, B. M. Huff, Justices of the Peace; Abram Wyckoff, G. Townsend (2d), W. J. Traphagan, Assessors; William Lameraux, Overseer of Poor; Abram Campbell, J. S. Brooks, Aaron Shannon, Commissioners of Highways; James H. Stover, Herman W. Halsey, Geo. S. Himrod, Inspectors of Election; Peter Lott, H. D. Eastman, A. C. Brokaw, Town Auditors; Benj. S. Stevens, Collector; F. Parker, E. Stevens, L. P. Osgood, John G. Farr, Constables; John Budd, Game Constable.

SOCIETIES.

LODI LODGE, NO. 345, F. AND A. M.

Covert Lodge met under dispensation, October 26, 1825, with John DeMott, W. M.; William C. Bishop, S. W.; William VanLew, J. W. It was subsequently changed to Seneca Lodge, No. 476. During the Anti-Masonic excitement, the charter was surrendered to the Grand Lodge. It was surrendered March 7, 1829. The present lodge was instituted July 11, 1854, with John De Mott, W. M.; William Booth, S. W.; Richard VanLew, J. W.

The present officers of the lodge are, C. C. Covert, W. M.; Wm. T. Bowlby, S. W.; Wm. E. Howard, J. W.; James Gulick, Treasurer; Geo. W. Golding, Secretary; John H. Stevens, S. D.; Chas. T. Smith, J. D.; Wm. L. Knight, S. M. C.; John Neal (2d), J. M. C.; E. S. Miller, Chaplain; Nathan Lewis, Tyler.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

Lodi Division, No. 65, of Sons of Temperance, was organized October 3, 1873. The following are the charter members: C. C. Covert, W. P.; M. Francis, W. A.; S. O. Root, R. S.; Miss Sarah Tumerson, A. R. S.; W. V. Gould, F. S.; Miss Frances Saulisbury, Treasurer; E. S. Miller, Chaplain; Mrs. Almira Miller, A. C.; James D. Brown, C.; Miss Martha Brown, I. S.; Geo. Jackson, O. S.; Mrs. Jennie Jackson, Miss Janette Hetterschied, Mrs. Emma Gunderman, Miss Kate Hull, Miss Ann Caywood, Miss Alice Root, Frank M. Jones, J. C. Herrington, Watson Gulick, Orlando Gould, Edwin Dumm.

LODI GRANGE, NO. 213.

Societies for the purpose of fostering the agricultural interests of the country have rapidly sprung into existence, and to-day there is perhaps not a score of towns within the boundaries of the "Empire State" that has not a regularly constituted grange. The Lodi society was organized June 2, 1874, and the following officers installed, viz.: Walter J. Traphagan, M.; Edwin Smith, O.; Isaac Lameraux, S.; H. D. Brundage, L.; J. K. Miner, A. S.; H. D. Eastman, C.; Wm. Minor, Treasurer; S. B. Mundy, Secretary; W. W. Sears, G. K.; Mrs. E. Smith, C.; Mrs. Helen Crisfield, P.; Mrs. Martha Minor, F.; Mrs. E. S. Mundy, L. A. S.

CHURCH HISTORY.

REFORMED CHURCH OF LODI.

This church is an offshoot from the "First Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Ovid," which was organized April 15, 1809, or, perhaps, more properly it is a continuation of the "First Reformed Church," as the persons who constituted this church were those who remained when Dominie Brokaw formed the secession in the autumn of 1822. January 9, 1823, a new consistory was chosen, composed of the following-named persons, who were ordained February 11, 1823: John Kelly, John I. Sebring, Folkred Sebring, Ruloff Voorhees, Elders; Cornelius Wyckoff, Shepherd C. McCoy, Joseph W. Smith, Joseph Stull, Deacons.

The following-named persons have served this church as pastors: Revs. Abram Mapes, Asa Bennett, John A. Liddle, Garret J. Janeston, Geo. J. VanNate, J. Addison VanDoren, Isaac H. Collier, and H. Parks McAdams, the present pastor. In all there have been eight pastorates in this congregation, the longest, twelve years, and the shortest, one year. The whole number received into the membership of this church since its organization has been seven hundred and ten. The present fine brick church edifice was erected in 1872 or 1873, at a cost of about twenty thousand dollars. The Sabbath-school in connection with this church is in a flourishing condition, and is under the superintendence of P. V. N. BoDine.

METHODIST CHURCH, TOWNSENDVILLE.

The first Methodist Church established in the present town of Lodi was organized in about the year 1810, at Townsendville, and called the "Taunton Church." The society was incorporated December 26, 1836, and the following-named persons were chosen trustees: David Cole, Gilbert T. Miller, Gilbert Townsend (2d), H. P. Kinch, Jedediah Townsend, Gilbert Ganong, and C. Miner. The present church edifice was erected in 1839, during the pastorate of Rev. Delos Hutchins. The church was remodeled in 1862, during the administration of Rev. S. Nichols. In connection with this church there are two out appointments,—one at Smith's Settlement, where is located a chapel, and the other at Stearnburg, in Hector, Schuyler County.

METHODIST CHURCH, LODI.

The second Methodist Church organized in Lodi was near Bogart's School-house, southwest of the village of Lodi, November 9, 1830. Rev. Israel Chamberlain was President of the meeting, and Ucal Howell, Secretary. The deed for the church lot was made to the trustees by Isaac Miller and Anna his wife, under date of October 10, 1831, and was recorded by Seba Murphy, in October, 1832, for which he charged no fees, and indorsed on the back the following words: "Withhold not good from thy friend, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it.—S. M." The church building was erected in 1831 and '32, and was used as a house of worship in a circuit with others until about the year 1865, when it was sold by order of the court, and the society merged in the one at Lodi.

The church at Lodi Village was organized as the Third Society, in July, 1837, but it was allowed to expire, and was reorganized May 17, 1847. The first Board of Trustees were Hiram G. Gulick, Ezra Cleveland, Nichol H. Wyckoff, William C. Kelley, and Horace Brown.

Meetings were held at the school-house in the village, for a time at irregular intervals, being included in a circuit with other appointments. A church lot was deeded, under date of April 9, 1849, to the above-named trustees, by General John DeMott and wife. A subscription was raised, and Mr. William C. Kelley assumed control of the funds, and was chiefly instrumental in erecting the church edifice. Methodism in this vicinity is largely indebted to Mr. Kelley for his self-sacrifices in the interests of the church and society. He afterwards moved to the State of Wisconsin, and subsequently to Missouri, where he died a few years since. The house of worship was erected at a cost of about \$2200, and was remodeled and enlarged in 1861. The following-named persons have officiated as pastors, viz., Revs. John Powell, J. U. Brown, E. Wood, O. Trowbridge, David Crow, A. N. Fillmore, A. E. Chubbuck, J. G. Gulick, W. Mattison, D. Nutten, J. S. Edson, J. W. Wilson, and J. B. Shearer.

POPULATION.

The population of Lodi, in 1835, was 1772; in 1840, 2236; in 1845, 2246; in 1850, 2269; in 1855, 2018; in 1860, 2067; in 1865, 1892; in 1870, 1825; in 1875, 1896.

MILITARY RECORD.

The following is a record of those who enlisted in the war of the Rebellion, from the town of Lodi, with their promotions, discharges, deaths, etc.:

Allison, Oscar, enlisted in Company E, First New York Cavalry, October 6, 1862.

Baker, Charles E., enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment, August 8, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Bond, John, enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment; wounded at the battle of Gettysburg, July 2, 1863; discharged with the regiment.

Bailey, Cornelius.

Brown, James D., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Bennett, James M., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, in September, 1862.

Budd, Daniel P., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862, and was discharged with the regiment.

Baker, Marcus M., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, in August, 1862.

Brown, Lewis, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862, and was discharged with the regiment.

Brokaw, Richard, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862, and was discharged with the regiment.

Bush, Charles, enlisted in the Ninth New York Artillery, January 20, 1864, and was discharged May 15, 1865.

Blew, Abram, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, December 28, 1863.

Cole, George W., enlisted in Company H, New York Cavalry, October 6, 1862, and was discharged with the regiment.

Covert, James, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862, and was discharged with the regiment.

Covert, Anthony, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; died from wounds received at the battle of Petersburg, and was buried on the field.

Clawson, Firman W., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862, and was discharged with the regiment.

Covert, Elisha, Jr., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Conley, John; date of first enlistment not known; re-enlisted in Third New York Light Artillery, August 29, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Clawson, George W., enlisted in Fifteenth Regiment, August 29, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Curry, Eugene A., enlisted in Company A, Fiftieth Regiment, February 29, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Darling, Wilmer S., enlisted in Company E, Fiftieth Regiment, August 25, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Faussett, Robert F., enlisted in Fiftieth Regiment, September 10, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Freer, Richard, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Freer, Christian, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, in August, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Fenner, Ezra, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Fenner, Philip, enlisted in First New York Artillery in August, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Gallusha, Jerome, enlisted in Fifteenth New York Engineers, August 25, 1864; died at Lincoln Hospital, May 23, 1865.

Gardiner, Hezekiah C., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Gibson, Richard V., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Gunderman, Abram V., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Huff, Richard, enlisted in First New York Artillery, August 29, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

House, William N., enlisted in Fifteenth Regiment, August 25, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Hermon, Peter, substitute for Delos Townsend, enlisted August 29, 1864.

Hyatt, Enos R., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, February 29, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Hildibidol, Henry, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment; died from wounds, June 3, 1864.

Jackson, Henry, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862.

Jackson, Charles B., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; discharged February 16, 1863.

Jackson, George H., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Jordon, Desmon C., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Jones, Henry V. L., enlisted in Company A, Fiftieth Regiment New York Engineers, August 29, 1864; mustered out at Fort Barry, Virginia, June 30, 1865.

Kitson, Shadrack, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Kitson, Elonzo, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; wounded and discharged; date unknown.

Knight, Ralph S., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; died September 7, 1863, at Norfolk, Virginia.

Lockwood, Jonathan, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 26, 1862; date of discharge unknown.

Light, James G., enlisted August 26, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Larasey, James, substitute for James Flood, enlisted in Third New York Artillery, September 3, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Lameraux, Hiram, enlisted in the One Hundred and Forty-first Regiment, September 10, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

McDowell, Charles, enlisted in Company M, One Hundred and Fiftieth Regiment, August 29, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Miller, Henry C., enlisted in Company M, Fifteenth Regiment, August 26, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

McEvery, Michael, enlisted in Fifteenth Regiment, August 26, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

McEvans, Thomas, enlisted in Seventy-fifth Regiment.

Neal, Ferman, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; died July 19, 1864.

Pinneer, Henry D., enlisted in Company D, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; died July 19, 1864, from wounds received at battle of Cold Harbor.

Quinn, John, substitute for David L. Kase, enlisted in Company F, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 29, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Quinn, Francis, substitute for Lewis Townsend, enlisted September 2, 1864.

Reaves, Francis M., enlisted in Company M, Fifteenth Regiment, August 26, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Rappylee, Samuel, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 26, 1862.

Rappylee, Milton, enlisted in Seventy-fifth Regiment in 1861, and re-enlisted in January, 1864.

Sprague, Bolles C.

Sprague, James.

Stout, Hiram, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; discharged March 10, 1863.

Smith, James W., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; promoted to Sergeant February 5, 1864; wounded June 3, 1864.

Smith, Sylvanus T., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; died August 14, 1864, at Point of Rocks, Virginia.

Sharp, John M., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; promoted to First Lieutenant.

Swarthout, Geo. H., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; died at Camp Lee, near Richmond.

Skinner, John W., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Smith, Andrew J., enlisted Captain; enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; discharged with the regiment.

Shannon, Geo. N., enlisted in Company H, Fifteenth Regiment, August 26, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Stevens, Geo. B., enlisted in the Fiftieth Regiment, August 26, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Slaight, Waterman, enlisted in Company M, Fifteenth Regiment, August 29, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Shannon, Silas W., substitute for E. B. VanVleet, enlisted in Company F, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 26, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

Stevens, John H., enlisted in the Fiftieth Engineer Regiment, August 29, 1864; discharged with the regiment.

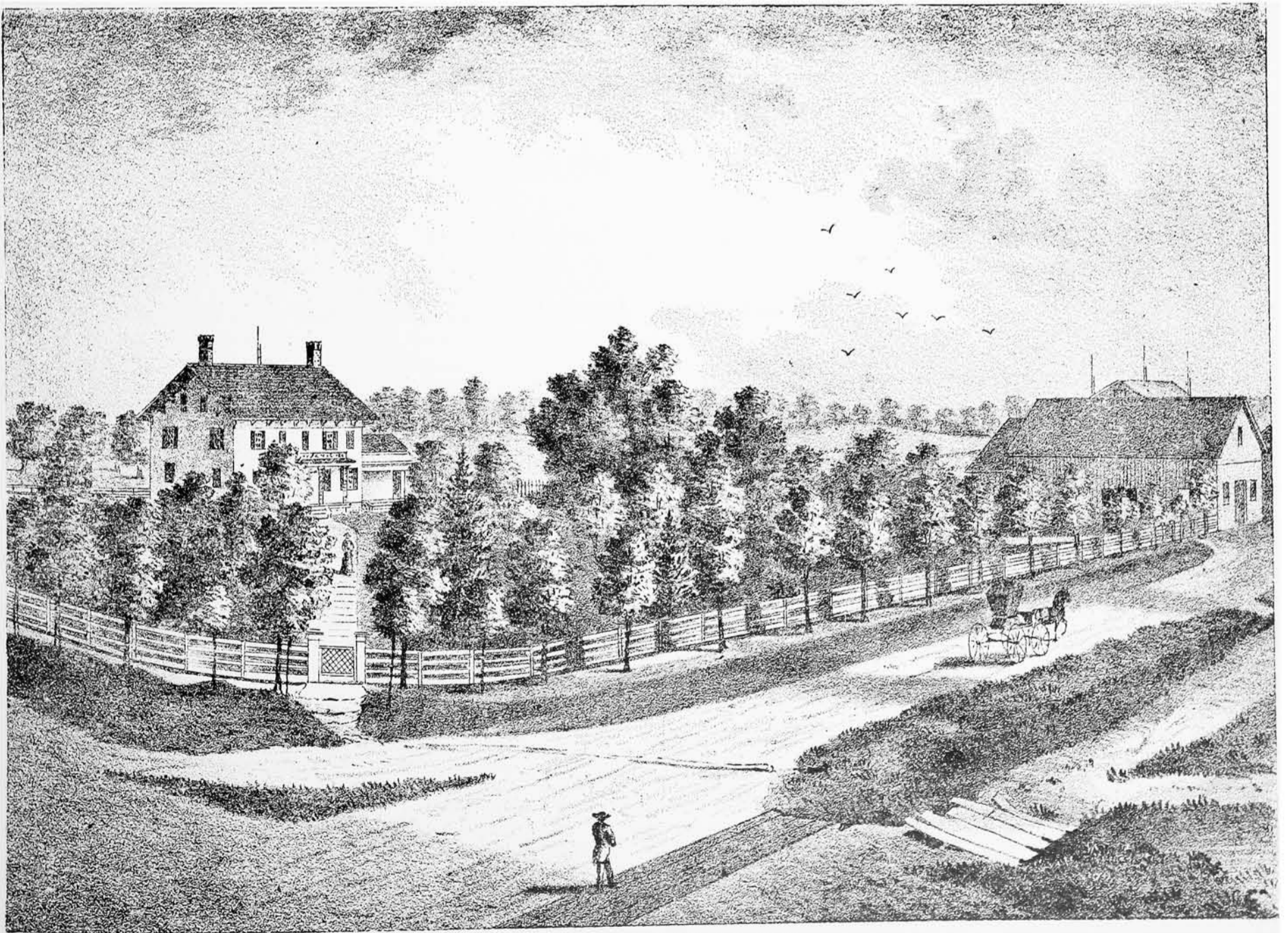
Stout, Isaac H., substitute for John M. Coryelle, enlisted in the Sixty-first Regiment, August 29, 1864; discharged with the regiment.



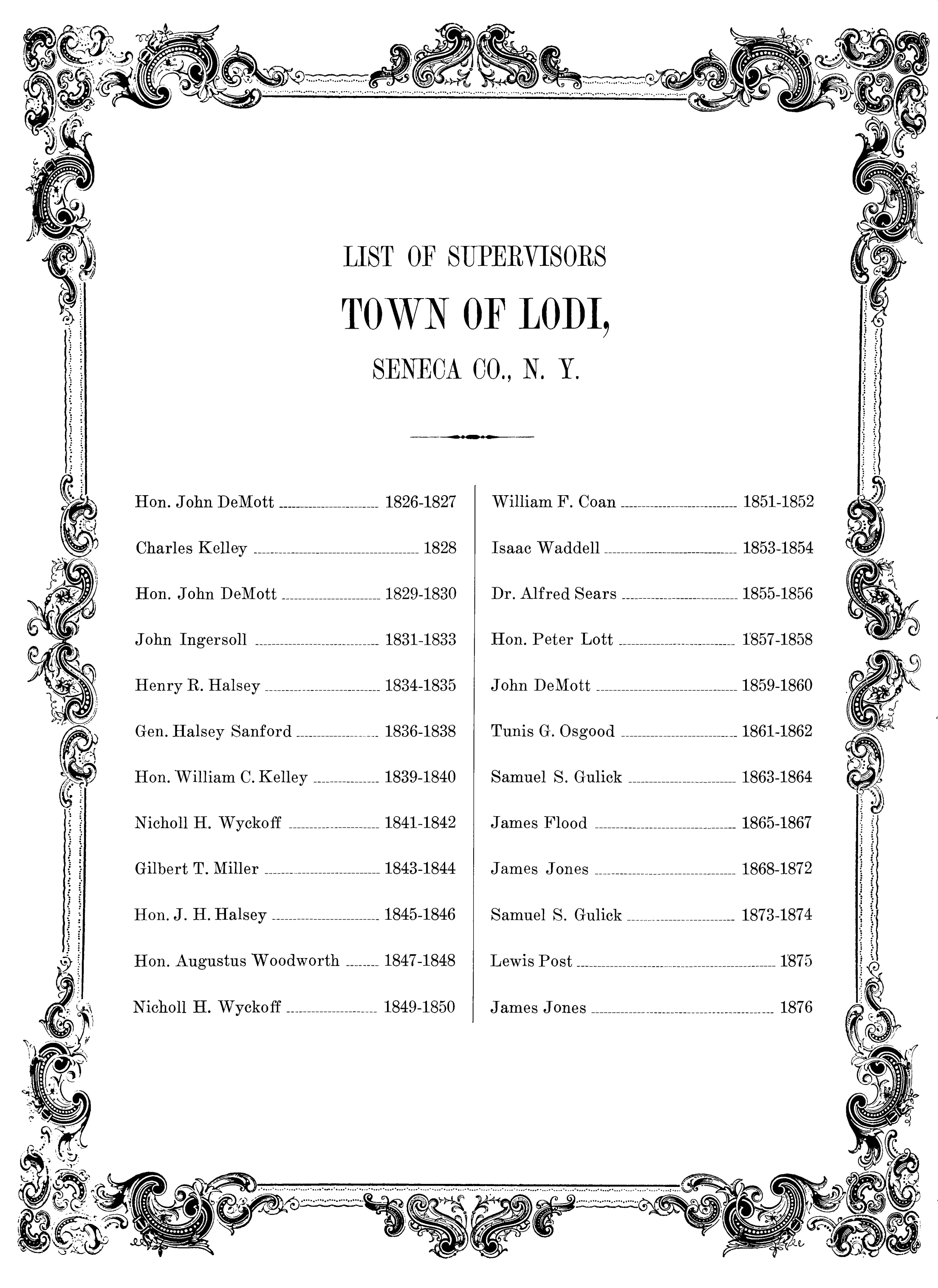
ELIJAH TOWNSEND.



JOHN TOWNSEND.



RES. of JOHN TOWNSEND,
TOWNSENDVILLE, SENECA CO., N. Y.



LIST OF SUPERVISORS
TOWN OF LODI,
SENECA CO., N. Y.

Hon. John DeMott 1826-1827	William F. Coan 1851-1852
Charles Kelley 1828	Isaac Waddell 1853-1854
Hon. John DeMott 1829-1830	Dr. Alfred Sears 1855-1856
John Ingersoll 1831-1833	Hon. Peter Lott 1857-1858
Henry R. Halsey 1834-1835	John DeMott 1859-1860
Gen. Halsey Sanford 1836-1838	Tunis G. Osgood 1861-1862
Hon. William C. Kelley 1839-1840	Samuel S. Gulick 1863-1864
Nicholl H. Wyckoff 1841-1842	James Flood 1865-1867
Gilbert T. Miller 1843-1844	James Jones 1868-1872
Hon. J. H. Halsey 1845-1846	Samuel S. Gulick 1873-1874
Hon. Augustus Woodworth 1847-1848	Lewis Post 1875
Nicholl H. Wyckoff 1849-1850	James Jones 1876

- Swarthout, N. O., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862.
- Stevens, Abram B., enlisted in the One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, December 28, 1862; discharged with the regiment.
- Stevens, Isaac H.
- Turbush, David, substitute for Elijah Colmon.
- Tillyear, Phineas, enlisted in Company M, Fifteenth Regiment, August 29, 1864; discharged with the regiment.
- VanVleet, John DeMott, enlisted in the One Hundred and Seventh Regiment; died from wounds received in Georgia.
- VanVleet, James F., Sergeant, enlisted in the One Hundred and Seventh Regiment.
- VanLew, Frederick, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862.
- Whipple, George, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; wounded and discharged October, 1864.
- Woodworth, Elbert, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862.
- Wilson, Edwin J., enlisted in the Fifteenth Regiment, August 26, 1864.
- Wilson, Charles, enlisted in the Fifteenth Regiment, August 26, 1864; discharged with regiment.
- Whipple, Oscar, enlisted in the Fifteenth Regiment in August, 1864; discharged with the regiment.
- Cattand, David S., enlisted in Seventh New York Battery, January, 1864; discharged with the regiment.
- Sherwood, George, enlisted in the One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, in December, 1863; discharged in May, 1865.
- Chestnut, Andrew, enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment, August 22, 1862; died February 6, 1864.
- Ellis, Jeremiah T., enlisted in Fiftieth Regiment; died March 29, 1864.
- Hall, Edward, substitute for Elijah Townsend.
- Licht, John M., enlisted January 20, 1864.
- Brown, Lewis, drafted.
- Waterbury, George, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, January 10, 1865.
- Kane, Martin, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, January 20, 1865.
- Shannan, John, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, January 20, 1865.
- Sanders, James, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, January 20, 1865.
- Scheurur, Christopher, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, January 20, 1865.
- Meyer, Jacob, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, January 20, 1865.
- Ray, John, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, January 20, 1865.
- Atkinson, James, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, January 20, 1865.
- Bauer, William, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, January 20, 1865.
- Colvin, Charles, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, January 20, 1865.
- Moran, Peter, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, January 10, 1865.
- Bennett, John, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Athestor, Wm. H., enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Brady, James, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Clark, Robert, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Davis, Henry, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Hiram, Willis, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Keafer, Peter, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Lachenal, Andrew, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Nank, Otto, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- O'Conner, Patrick, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- O'Neal, Cornelius, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Rill, Ferdinand, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Rice, John, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Smith, John, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Weis, Charles, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Tanares, Charles, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Hogan, Patrick, enlisted in Eighth United States Infantry, February 20, 1865.
- Waite, Washington, enlisted in Company A, Thirty-third Regiment, in April, 1861; died at Washington.
- Morrell, Thomas, enlisted in Company A, Thirty-third Regiment, in 1861; discharged with the regiment.
- Kelley, Thomas, substitute for S. O. Root, enlisted September 1, 1864.
- Jones, Edward, substitute for B. F. Ellison, enlisted September 12, 1864.
- Dennick, William, substitute for Chas. A. Neely, enlisted September 12, 1864.
- Kecnan, Francis, substitute for William M. Voorhees, enlisted September 12, 1864.
- Joyce, James, substitute for Herman D. Eastman, enlisted September 12, 1864.
- Risby, John, substitute for Abram Wyckoff (2d), enlisted September 12, 1864.
- Baldock, Frederick, substitute for Peter Lott, enlisted September 12, 1864.
- Parker, Andrew, enlisted December 30, 1863.
- Desmond, John, enlisted December 30, 1863.
- Hammill, John, enlisted December 30, 1863.
- Waterman, George, enlisted December 30, 1863.
- Cathcart, Nathan, enlisted December 30, 1863.
- Triax, Renselear, enlisted December 31, 1863.
- Bird, Abram, enlisted December 31, 1863.
- Jackson, Edward, enlisted December 31, 1863.
- Bigelow, L. R., enlisted December 31, 1863.
- Richards, Edward, enlisted December 31, 1863.
- Wyant, H. G., enlisted December 31, 1863.
- Galan, William, enlisted March 21, 1864.
- Butler, Edward, enlisted March 21, 1864.
- Miller, H. G., enlisted March 18, 1864.
- Brien, John O., enlisted March 21, 1864.
- Smith, Selah, enlisted December 31, 1863.
- Sharpe, Philip Kline, enlisted in Company I, Thirty-third Regiment, May 11, 1861; died in hospital, at Annapolis, Maryland.
- Roach, Peter, enlisted in the Thirty-third Regiment, May 11, 1861.
- Miller, David P., enlisted in the Thirty-third Regiment, April, 1861.
- Quinn, Peter, enlisted in Company A, Thirty-third Regiment.
- Rappylee, Winfield S., discharged with the regiment.
- Nevins, Winfield S., enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Second Regiment; discharged with the regiment; re-enlisted February 29, 1864.
- Swarthout, James P., enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Second Regiment, January 14, 1862.
- Darling, Anthony C., enlisted in Company II, One Hundred and Second Regiment, January 14, 1863; discharged with the regiment.
- Root, T. W., Captain, enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Second Regiment, January 14, 1862.
- Swarthout, J. V., enlisted in the One Hundredth Regiment in 1861; died in hospital.
- Huff, James A., enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Second Regiment, January 14, 1862; re-enlisted.
- Madison, Covert, enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment, August 8, 1862; discharged with the regiment.
- Covert, W. R., enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment, August 8, 1862; discharged with the regiment.
- Gunderman, Conrad, enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment, August 8, 1862; wounded at Harper's Ferry; left arm amputated.
- Gunderman, John, enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment, August 8, 1862; discharged with the regiment.
- Herrington, W. H., enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment, August 8, 1862; wounded in battle of Gettysburg; discharged December, 1863.
- Hammill, Matthew, enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment, August 6, 1862; discharged December 15, 1863.
- Hubbs, Daniel, enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment, August 8, 1862.
- Peterson, Henry, Captain, enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment.
- Swarthout, Benjamin, Captain, enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment, August 8, 1862; discharged July 19, 1865.
- Grant, J. T., enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment, August 8, 1862; killed at battle of Gettysburg, July 3, 1863.
- Kelley, George, enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment, August 8, 1862; killed at Gettysburg, July 3, 1863.
- VanLew, M. C., Lieutenant, enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment, August 8, 1862; killed at Suffolk, March 9, 1864.
- Arnold, Lewis, enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, August 28, 1862; discharged December, 1863.

PERSONAL SKETCHES.

GENERAL JOHN DE MOTT.

The subject of this sketch was born in Readington, N. J., October 7, 1790. He came with his parents to the new country when but three years of age, and only fourteen years after the invasion of Sullivan, who passed through the town of Lodi in his campaign of extermination in the year 1779. He was educated to mercantile pursuits in the store of John McMath, near Ovid, and soon evinced an aptitude for business which placed him at the head of a large establishment before attaining his majority. He continued in trade at Lodi Village until a few years before his death, and that village owes much of its past prominence and prosperity to his untiring energy and uniform liberality; and many of the wealthy citizens of the South Jury District acknowledge their indebtedness to General John DeMott for their early start.

In June, 1811, he united in marriage with Mary Ann Halsey, daughter of the late Judge Silas Halsey, and sister of the late Jehial H. Halsey, who still survives. General DeMott was very popular, and it used to be said that every third family in his neighborhood named one of their boys "John DeMott."

Though an active business man, giving close personal attention to the details of a large business, he always interested himself in public affairs, and was thoroughly posted. He was fond of the military, and in the militia service rapidly rose from the ranks through every grade of office, until he became Major-General. When the civil war broke out, though then past seventy years of age, he promptly repaired to Washington and tendered his services to the Government. In civil life he has honorably filled nearly every office in his town, county, and district. In 1833 he served in the Legislature. In 1840 he was an unsuccessful candidate for Congress, and in 1844 was elected and served during the stormy session of the Twenty-ninth Congress. He was deemed by his friends an active and influential member. After the close of the term he made the tour of Europe. He was the first President of the Seneca County Bank, the first safety-fund bank chartered in this County, and many of the citizens of Seneca remember his well-known signature upon the bills of that institution.

He died July 31, 1870, in the eightieth year of his age. At the close of an illness of three weeks he passed away peacefully,

"Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him,
And lies down to pleasant dreams."

COLONEL RALPH SMITH.

Among the many prominent and early settlers of Seneca County, none occupied a more worthy place in the esteem and confidence of his fellow-townsmen than he of whom we write. Colonel Ralph Smith was of German origin, and his great-grandfather, Lieutenant Peter Smith, emigrated to America some time before the French and Indian war, and located in Northumberland, Wyoming County, Pennsylvania. He served in the French and Indian wars as a lieutenant, and was a brave and trusted officer. He suffered terribly in the butchery of Wyoming, having his wife, one son, and one daughter massacred, and two other children taken prisoners, and probably murdered, as nothing was afterwards heard of them. He had one son, Peter, Jr., and a daughter, Mary, left to comfort him during the last years of his eventful life. In the fall of 1789, Peter, Jr., son of Peter, Sr., and father of the subject of this sketch, came to Ovid and purchased a tract of land, and after sowing three acres of wheat, returned, and in the following year, 1790, retraced his steps to the new purchase, bringing with him his father and sister. In 1812, Peter, Sr., died, aged about eighty years, and was buried

north of Willard Asylum, in the town of Romulus. Peter, Jr., was born in Wyoming County, Pennsylvania, October 18, 1763, and married Ruth Weisner, of Pennsylvania, in about the year 1786, who was born May 6, 1762, in Wyoming County, Pennsylvania, and died in May, 1832. Eleven children were born to them. Alexander was a soldier in the war of 1812; Peter, Jr., died September 9, 1829, and he and his faithful wife lie side by side in the beautiful and romantic cemetery at Ovid.

Colonel Ralph Smith was born at Ovid, Seneca County, New York, April 20, 1801, and has been an active agriculturist during life. He resided in Ovid until 1845, when he removed to his present location. Colonel Smith has held various offices in civil life, and also in the military. He rose step by step in the militia, until he occupied the rank of colonel, and in this capacity discharged the duties of commanding officer with entire satisfaction. November 23, 1829, he married Eliza Bawker, of Dutchess County, New York, who was born December 10, 1804. Three children were born of this marriage, viz., Archelaus G., born June 12, 1831, and died March 2, 1832; J. DeMott, born December 10, 1832; Mary Ann, born February 11, 1839.

Colonel Smith is a representative agriculturist, and is the owner of more than four hundred and forty acres of valuable land. A view of his home, etc., may be seen in another part of this work. He is now in his seventy-sixth year, hale and active, and surrounded by all the comforts of a happy home.

THE TOWNSEND FAMILY.

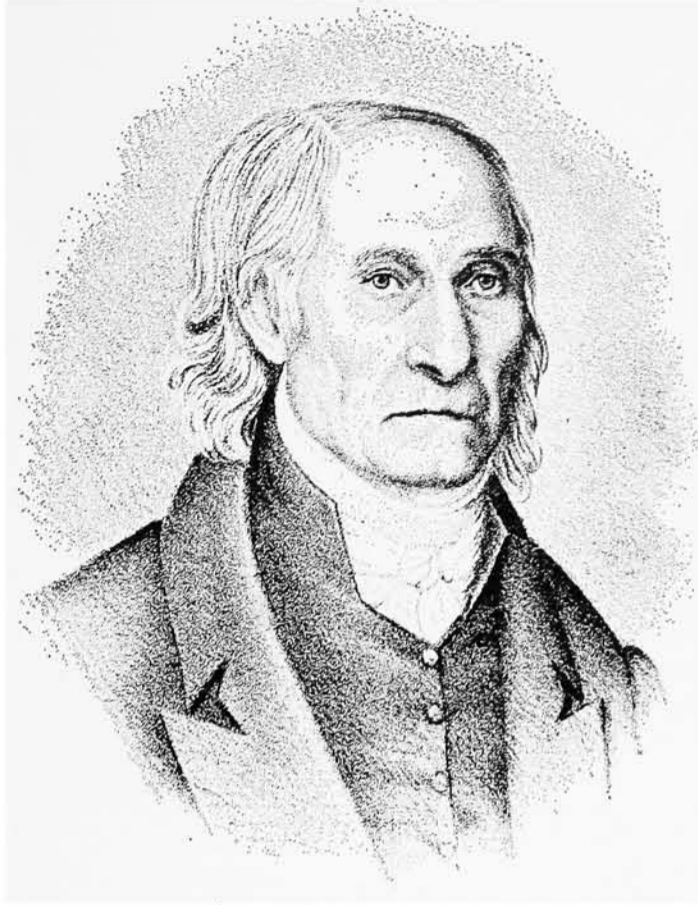
Elijah Townsend, the father of John Townsend, emigrated from Putnam County, New York (then Dutchess County), to Seneca County, New York, in the year 1800, and settled on the old homestead. His wife, Martha, and six children came with him. The trip, made with a lumber-wagon and horses, through an unbroken forest, consumed seventeen days. The time between the places now is twelve hours. He landed here on the 12th of November, surrounded by the primeval forest. Deer and bears were plentiful, and supplied his table with provision for several years. He lived to see the country in which he settled cleared of its timber and become beautiful, cultivated fields. The house and barn he built are still the same as he left them, with the exception of necessary repairs. He raised a family of eleven children, five boys and six girls. He was born February 8, 1767, and died March 17, 1862, in the ninety-sixth year of his age. He rests in the cemetery a few rods north of his old home, once a part of his own farm.

John Townsend, named after his grandfather, John Townsend (who is buried beside his son Elijah), was born May 18, 1810. He is the youngest of the family. He still resides on the old homestead, in the house in which he was born. His father having lost his farm by the dishonesty of the managers of the Lodi Bank, in which he held stock thirty-five years ago, it became his (John Townsend's) duty to redeem it from the Sheriff's hands. He married Emeline Meeker in 1835, and has a family of nine children, four boys and five girls. Their respective names are as follows: Martha, Elizabeth, Lewis M., Elijah, Sarah M., deceased; Helen, Robert H., J. Meeker, M.D.; and Ida.

He and his wife are still living, and enjoying excellent health. Their children are all alive, with one exception. The family and their ancestors have always been a very healthy race; the grandfather on the mother's side (Lewis Meeker) died in his ninety-second year.

HON. SILAS HALSEY.

SILAS HALSEY was born in Southampton, Long Island, October 6, 1743 (old style). He manifested a desire for the study of medicine at an early age, and pursued a course of study in Elizabethtown, New Jersey. In 1764 he returned to his native county, where he remained an honored disciple of *Æsculapius* until 1776, when, in consequence of his patriotic proclivities, he was compelled to leave his home and seek a home in the wilds of Connecticut, where he remained for a period of three years. He resided in Killingworth, Conn., in destitute circumstances, supporting his young and helpless family by great personal exertion and toil, while his former comfortable home was occupied by British officers and soldiers, who ruined the buildings and laid waste its pleasant surroundings. In 1778 his wife died, leaving him with a family of four small children. In the following year, through the clemency of that noble-hearted British officer, General Erskine, he was permitted to return to his desolate and dilapidated homestead in Southampton, where he resumed his medical practice. He served as Sheriff of the County and in many other official capacities until the year 1792. In April of that year he left his native county to seek a home in the country of the Senecas. Arriving some time in the month of May, he erected a cabin in the town of Ovid (now Lodi), at Cooley's Point (Lodi Landing), then in the County of Herki-



JUDGE SILAS HALSEY.

mer. After sowing six acres of wheat, and planting a nursery with about a quart of apple seeds, obtained from an occupant of the old Indian Orchard at Cooley's Point, he returned, and in the following year came with his family to their wilderness home, far from the busy scenes and haunts of men. He soon took prominent rank among the pioneers, and was elected Member of Assembly, in which capacity he served eight successive years. He was Member of Congress during the administration of President Jefferson, and afterward a member of the State Senate. He was a delegate to the Convention for the revision of the Constitution in 1801, and served in many minor official capacities, such as Justice of the Peace, Supervisor, County Clerk, etc., and was Judge of the County Courts in Onondaga, Cayuga, and Seneca. His public employment embraced a period of nearly forty years. Few men, in that early day, filled a larger space in the public eye, and few have left to succeeding generations a richer example of industry, integrity, and patriotism.

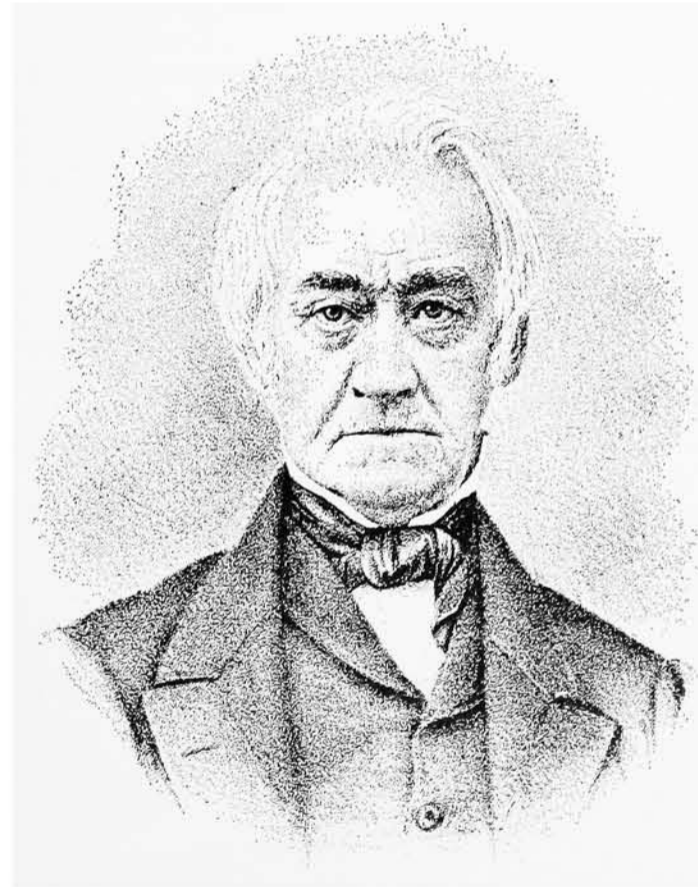
Death laid his pallid hand upon the strong man, and on the 19th day of November, 1832, he passed away, in the ninetieth year of his age.

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,
Await alike the inevitable hour;
The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

HON. JAMES DeMOTT.

The subject of this sketch is well identified with the early settlement of Seneca County. In fact, a complete history of the County cannot be written without associating therewith the name of Mr. DeMott. On his paternal side, as the name indicates, his family is of French extraction, and has been traced by some of the name to the Huguenots. His ancestors, on the maternal side, immigrated from Holland during the latter part of the sixteenth century. Among the heirlooms of this event is an old chest, at least one hundred and eighty-five years old.

Abraham DeMott, the father of James, was born in Somerset County, N. J., March 8, 1751. He married Hannah Van Dorn, his second wife, April 26, 1784. By his first wife he had one child—a daughter; and by his second wife he had seven children, all living to a good old age except the twin brother of James, who died in childhood. James, the eldest of the surviving children by his last wife, was born in Readington, Somerset County, N. J., June 17, 1786. In the fall of 1779, Gen. Sullivan successfully completed his campaign against the "Six Nations of Indians," and it is a memorable fact that, owing to this more than to any other one event, an early impetus was given to settle in what was then called the "Lake Country." Soldiers returning to their homes in the several States, carried with them favorable reports, both of the beauty and fertility of the country through which they had passed. Here and there, afterward, one could be found who had returned and settled somewhere along their old line of march. On the 30th of June, 1793, Abraham DeMott and family, with such stock as could be driven, left Readington, N. J., to seek a new home in the wilderness. This journey was along Sullivan's line of march, via Easton, Wyoming, Newton, and the head of Seneca Lake. They arrived at Balleystown (Willard), early on Sunday morning, just three weeks and four days from the time of starting. At this time James was seven years old, and assisted in driving the stock from the head of the lake down to the landing where the family had stopped. For a few months Abraham located temporarily on Lot 26, in the present town of Lodi, near what afterwards became the homestead of the late Nicholas Gulick, a Revolutionary soldier, and also an early settler. In a short time, however, he made choice of the northwest corner of Lot No. 9, in the present town of Ovid, containing about one hundred and fifty acres of land. Here he resided till the time of his death, which occurred on January 9, 1834. James was the only one of the sons who made agriculture a life pursuit. Early impressed with the necessity of an education, to be useful in society, the meagre school advantages of those days compelled him, out of necessity, to depend mainly upon personal effort and perseverance. Endowed with a well-developed, logical mind, and a remarkable memory, his few advantages in common school were turned to good account. Often, when the enjoyment of candle-light was not convenient, he could be seen prostrate before the large fireplace, in the old log house, eagerly taking his lessons by the light of a wood fire. It was a trite axiom of a worthy mother, whose courage in adversity never flagged, that



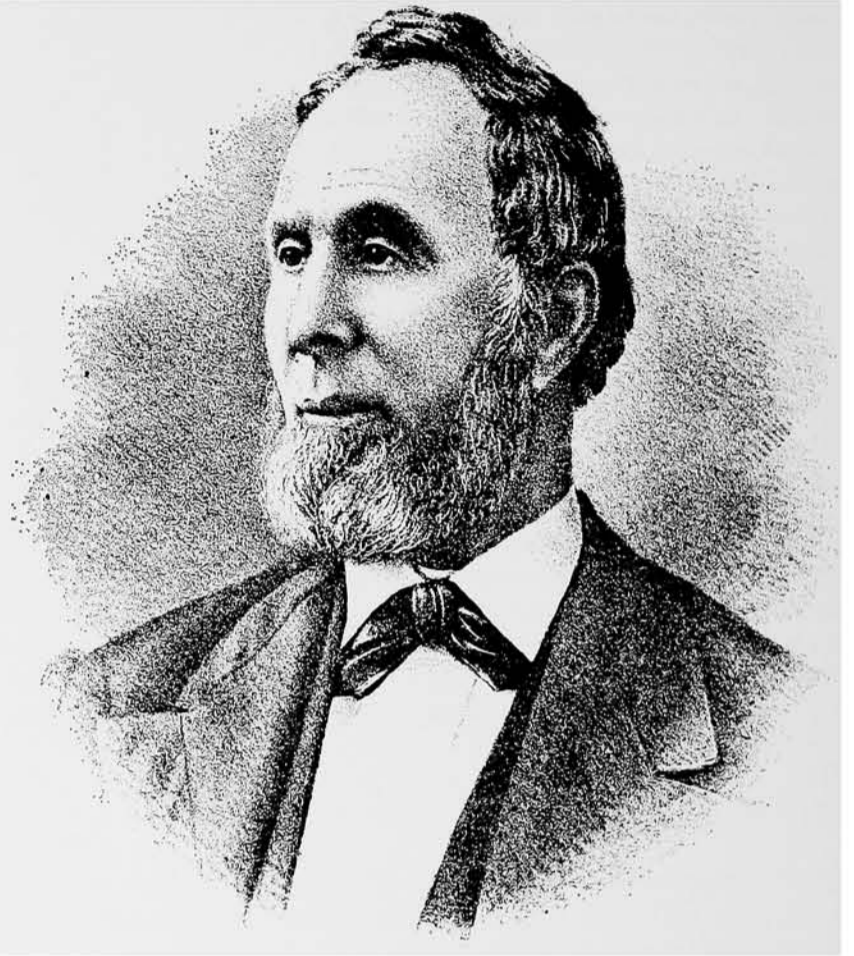
JUDGE JAMES De MOTT.

"where there is a will there is always a way." This was early impressed upon his youthful mind, and proved a healthful stimulus to persevere in every laudable undertaking. On arriving at his majority he had acquired a good common English education, and had but few equals in arithmetic and English grammar. December 16, 1810, he was married to Alice Hogarth, and continued on the farm with his father. In the war of 1812 he went out as lieutenant under Capt. Sutphen to the northern frontier, for which service he was receiving a pension at the time of his death. In the fall of 1824 he was elected to the State Legislature on what was then called the Clintonian ticket. This was under the second Constitution, when Seneca County sent two members. Daniel Rhoad was his colleague. He served with such men as Dr. Faulkner, of Livingston, Judge Bowen Whiting, of Ontario, and Thurlow Weed, of Monroe. His record as a legislator was all

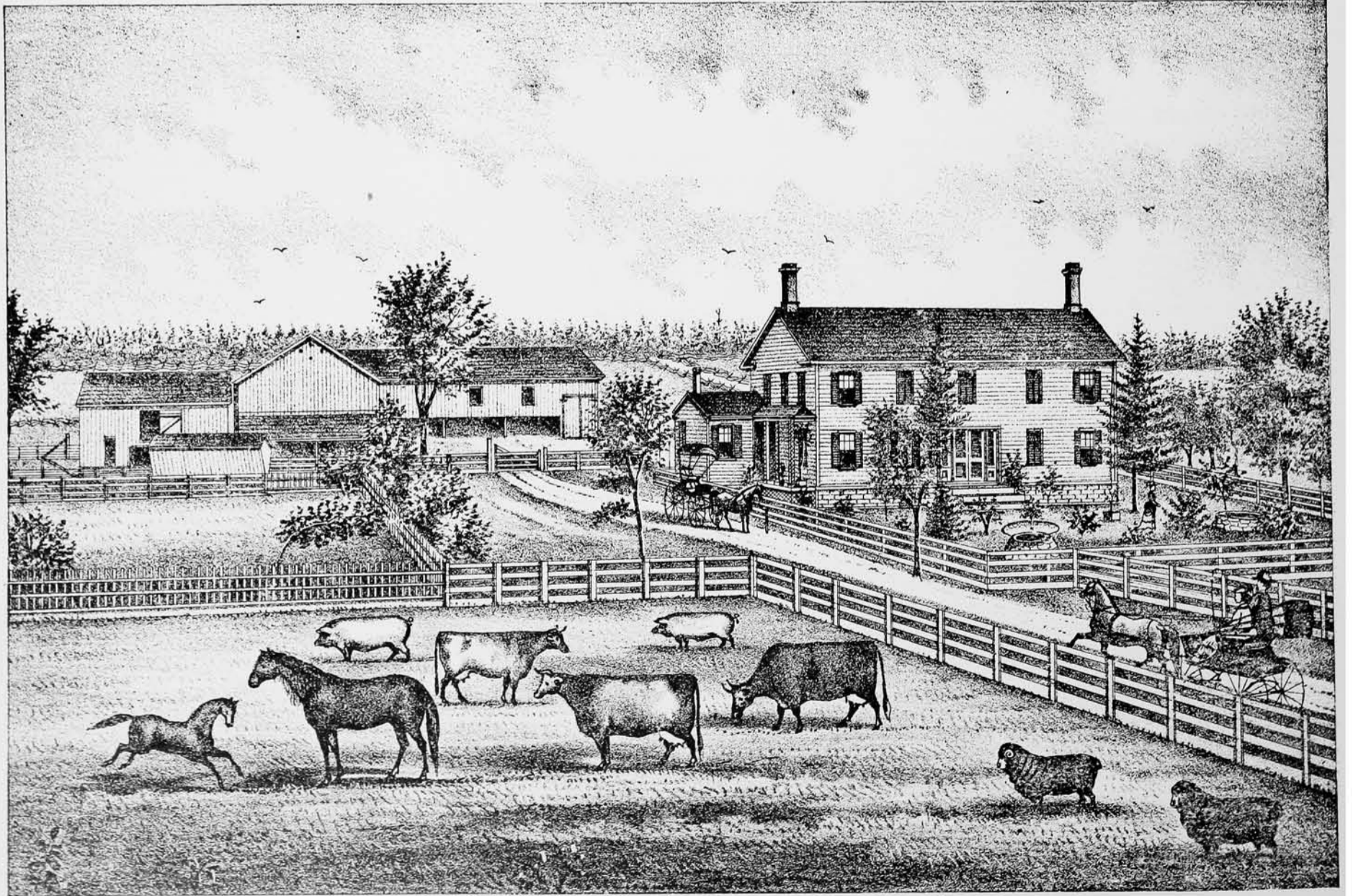
that his constituency could desire. Honest and faithful to his trust, he left the legislative hall respected and honored by his peers. At one time he was acting Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. Naturally, he possessed a legal turn of mind, that was admirably developed, on more than one occasion, in his clear and consistent charge to the jury. In 1827 he was elected a Justice of the Peace in the town of Ovid, and again in 1849. His decisions were generally considered final. In 1830 he was elected Supervisor, and also re-elected to the same office in 1845-47. As remarked above, Judge DeMott possessed a legal turn of mind, and it was not unfrequently the case, in matters of reference, that he was called as counsel. When satisfied (as he generally would be before he acted) of the justice of his cause, he never hesitated to measure arms with the most able counsel, and they found in him "a foeman worthy of their steel." In argument he was clear, logical, and impressively original in style of delivery. It has been aptly said that he was born a thinker and reasoner, with clear and independent views of men and events. In politics he started out in an early day a Jeffersonian Democrat, and usually acted with that party, until Jackson vetoed the United States Bank. Since that time he has generally been in opposition to the Democratic party, and not unfrequently assuming an independence above all parties. He would often declaim in unmeasured terms, with profound disgust, against the prevailing political corruptions of the day. Judge DeMott was a man of medium size, and possessed of a good constitution. With the exception of a six years' residence in Michigan, most of his life was spent on the old homestead farm, the greater part of which he purchased upon his return from the West, in 1842. He had been a worthy member of the Methodist Church about forty-three years previous to his death. He has been married three times. Living alone at an advanced age, without a home or a child to depend on during his declining years, he wisely concluded upon a third wife, the widow of the late Dr. Peter Covert, a proper companion for one of his age. He lived, however, only one year and a half from his last marriage. It is gratifying to know that he finally fell in his own home, with pleasant surroundings, where he was well cared for. His ability, honesty, and purity of life are well conceded by all who knew him. During the last few years of his life, although his hearing and vision were considerably blunted by the touch of time, his memory—a faculty that had always been a remarkable characteristic in his life—remained unimpaired to the last, and was a source of interest and gratification to numerous friends, who availed themselves of his society as long as he lived. He was able to recount dates and events, not only in the history of his own County, but of the State and nation, with surprising accuracy. A few years since, when a brief history of the several towns in his County was being compiled, the work came to a point where it could not be successfully completed without depending upon the memory of Judge DeMott. Two entire evenings were spent by the writer at his house in listening to an interesting recital of events that was penned and published as delivered from his lips. He died on the 18th of February, 1875, in the eighty-ninth year of his age.



BARBARA BROWN.



AARON BROWN.



RES. OF AARON BROWN,
ROMULUS, SENECA CO., N. Y.

ROMULUS.

ROMULUS is located south of the centre of the County, and extends from lake to lake. The surface is somewhat hilly, and slopes northward. The high grounds from Ovid extend into the south border of the town, and there abruptly fall some two hundred feet. Streams are small, and have worn deep channels. Lands are generally tillable, and the soil is a gravel and clay loam. The settlement was made at a very early date, and its history is full of interest. The expedition of Sullivan was doubly a memorable event: primarily, as the death-blow to a formidable Indian power; secondly, as a revelation of the beautiful location, temperate climate, and luxuriant soil of a hitherto unknown region. The battle of Newtown had been fought, the towns of Knawahole and Catharines destroyed, houses burnt, and orchards cut down, and the Indians were collected in force at Geneva when, on September 4, 1779, the advance guard of Sullivan's army went into camp about half a mile northeast of the present asylum, while the main force encamped near the Combs' school-house in Ovid. Trouble with the pack-horses caused a day's delay. The asylum ravine was crossed near the stone quarry. On the 5th of September the army went into camp at Canadia (Kendaia). The village was the finest yet seen; it stood upon rising ground, surrounded by an extensive apple- and peach-orchard, within a half-mile of Seneca Lake. This village of some forty well-finished houses, with neat and improved surroundings, was destroyed. A portion of the Indian orchards escaped notice, and on September 21, 1791, twelve years later, the party of Elkanah Watson pitched their tent on the site of the former village, and he wrote as follows in his memoirs: "Here Sullivan's conquering army wreaked its vengeance by destroying orchards, corn, wigwams, etc. Many of the trees are girdled, and marks of the destructive axe of the soldiery are yet to be seen in every direction. The Senecas were formerly a powerful nation. Sullivan broke up their last stronghold. Not a vestige is now to be seen in this vicinity, as the remnant is settled in Canada. We were astonished to see one hundred and fifty people collected at a meeting here. This is a prelude to the assembling of thousands, who are destined shortly to possess these fertile regions." Five thousand men had seen the inviting regions inclosed between Seneca and Cayuga Lakes, and told to eager listeners of its attractive features. Ten years elapsed, and men from New Jersey came thither to explore and settle, and close following came Pennsylvanians in search of a forest home, and but two years had elapsed ere Watson saw that large assembly congregated for worship on the site of the Indian home; thus speedily did one race follow the other, and civilization tread closely upon the retiring footsteps of half-civilized peoples.

Assistance in the compilation of the following material has been furnished by Judges J. D. Coe and W. T. Johnson, and Messrs. Helim Sutton and E. Sayre, to whom thanks are given for ourselves and others to whom as time progresses this matter will enhance in value.

PRIMITIVE SETTLEMENT.

It has been generally understood that the primitive settlement was made in this town by David Wisner, in 1789, on Lot 95, where L. Jones is located, but it is also known that one Abram Brown lived on Lot 71, and had peaches of his own raising upon it, in the year 1791; and John D. Coe, Sr., who, on one occasion, passed the night with him, partook of the fruit. The inference is that Brown was the first settler in what is now Romulus. Anthony Swarthout came out with Wisner and stopped upon 94, where stands Willard Asylum, and, a little later, settlements were begun by Isaac Johnson, on No. 89, Haynes Bartlett, on No. 65, and Messrs. McMath and McKnight, on No. 64. Alla McMath, in 1801, bought four hundred acres from the west end of this lot. He put up a log cabin just north of the creek, into which he moved his family, and they found themselves at a home without any of its comforts. McMath sold to James McKnight one hundred and eighty acres, shortly after the original purchase, and the latter erected a small house south of the creek, where P. Pontius owns. McKnight sold to David Brooks, of New Jersey, and he to Daniel and Jesse Cooley, who conveyed to Lattimer; the latter to Parker, and he to Pontius. McMath died upon his farm. His son, as well as McKnight, afterward opened public house, as was

customary, and evinced the same love of gain, with light labor, as characterizes many of the present generation. In 1806 the neighbors rented a room in the McKnight dwelling, and, having hired a teacher, whose name is not known, opened there a school which was continued at intervals for four years. An Irishman, Robert Sulfridge, was a teacher, and probably the only one they had. The marriages of Mabel and Anna McMath to Alexander Baldrige and John Bainbridge took place in 1808. Michael Baldrige, of Pennsylvania, owned one hundred acres on the southeast of the lot. In 1806, three young men, William, John, and Alexander Baldrige, came out from Pennsylvania, and, upon this lot, made improvements resulting, two years later, in the erection of a grist-mill upon the creek. John Sample bought of Michael Baldrige, and lives upon the place. The property of Alexander passed to his son Alexander, thence to his heirs,—present owners. Haynes Bartlett, from Orange County, New York, in 1794, purchased two hundred acres from the north side of No. 65. A blacksmith by trade, he erected a shop upon his farm, and made his own and neighbors' repairs. Forty-seven years he lived upon his place, and died at the age of eighty-five. Early births were of his children, Kezia, in 1795, John, in 1797, and A. B. Bartlett, in 1799. Kezia moved to Michigan, where he died. Thomas Combs was a New Jerseyman, who came on in 1798, and bought one hundred acres in the central part of the lot. In time the land was sold to Benjamin Bartlett, then to James Brooks, and finally to Thomas N. Everett, its occupant. John Sayre and J. Folwell were owners of one-hundred-acre farms in the lot.

In the southeast part of Lot No. 66, where lives the widow Folwell, John Bainbridge was the pioneer, and westward of him was his brother Mahlon. Sales have been made from time to time, and the southwest portion is closely settled.

Lot No. 67 was owned by Joseph Hunt, who dying, the heirs sold to Steele, and he to I. VanOstrand. William Hunt was a blacksmith, and carried on a shop in 1806.

Lot No. 68 was occupied by Peter, son of Joseph Wyckoff, prior to 1807. His marriage to Miss Pruden, by John Sayre, Esq., was of remote date. At his death the farm passed to other families. H. E. Burton occupies part of the tract. A family named Cooper owned and cultivated a piece of ground on this lot; their stay was brief. William McCarty was the next possessor, who has given way to James Blaine.

Lot No. 69, lying south of Romulusville, was owned and occupied by white men in 1802. First, a hardy band of men had moved into these fields and become established; news of their success aroused the spirit of migration, and at the date given John Terhune was found at work clearing land upon the southwest hundred acres; the land has successively passed through the hands of William McCarty, Joseph Blaine, J. H. King, Jacob H. Ogden, down to B. VanOstrand. Terhune died upon his improvement, and his family moved to Michigan.

Fifteen pounds sterling were paid to the soldier, John Green, by John D. Coe, for Lot No. 70, which contains seven hundred and twenty acres. The land remained in its native state for a number of years, while clearings became many and large upon adjacent and neighboring lots. Simon Vreeland became an occupant in 1813, and, after a residence of five or six years, departed with his family elsewhere. Mr. Coe was a resident of Rockland County, this State, and deeded his wild land to his sons. The southeast third was the portion of John D. Coe, Jr., who moved upon it during 1814, and the year following built a frame house and a good barn. A second son, M. D. Coe, received the west third; he moved out in 1817, and followed his brother's example in the erection of buildings. The old home seemed preferable, and he sold to one Denton Gurney, and returned thither. Gurney disposed of the farm to Morris Barton, a Presbyterian minister. It is now owned by Thomas Mann and Benjamin Warne. Judge Coe, now eighty-six years of age, has been in the Legislature, served as Side Judge for five years, and has long held the office of treasurer in the agricultural society of the County. Various reasons conspire to fix the primal settlements upon stream or lake in the days when communication was only possible by water. We have stated that Abram Brown was possibly the first settler in this part of Romulus.

Ezekiel Hays and Captain Andrew Smith each had a landing on Lot No. 71,

at the mouth of Martha's Creek, as early as 1802. Zebedee Williams had a ten-acre piece of ground near the lake, and carried on a store for some years. He was bought out by John St. Clair in 1814. Mr. St. Clair built a distillery and created a home market for grain. A grist-mill was also put up, and between the two manufactures the farmers found sale for what grain they could raise. The diversion of trade to other channels crippled the business, and the mill and still went to ruin. A man named Wicker, from New York City, became a purchaser of the property in 1835. After an experience of ten years, he sold out and returned East. Captain Abel Frisbee was an innkeeper and ferryman. In 1798 he lived upon the southeast corner of the lot, and ran a row-boat to and from Aurora for the accommodation of the people of this vicinity, who obtained their mail from that point. John Brown was an old-time settler. He built a frame house for a residence, and erected a large barn, which was used for Baptist meetings during the ministration of Rev. John Caten. There was an Indian apple-orchard on this lot, where Edward Dean now owns, and the fruit was serviceable, as was also the cider pressed from it. The repair and construction of cider-barrels, tubs, and other receptacles, gave employment to a cooper named Nathaniel Bryant, who, in 1803, was a resident in the northwest corner of the lot, where he owned eighty acres, had erected a shop, and did many a handy job for his neighbors.

The Scobeys, from New Jersey to Cayuga, were the first settlers upon No. 77. John had married Miss Homan in Cayuga, and, crossing the lake, the young couple wended their way by torchlight through the woods to his log cabin, built upon the northwest quarter. Picture the scene of these brave-hearted people upon their tour on foot to their forest home, devoid of occupant to welcome them, with difficulties to contend with, and a full realization of years of toil, and, contrasting them with the advantages now enjoyed, say whether their unostentatious lives do not claim at least a recollection. Lewis Scobey, about 1803, was owner of one hundred acres on the northern side, while Israel Brown dwelt upon one hundred acres in the northeast corner. From a family of five sons and three daughters there is but a solitary survivor in the town. Mr. Brown is remembered as an opponent of education, on the ground of its being a dangerous thing. There are not a few at this day who privately hold the same opinion. Upon the southwest one hundred acres lived James Voorhees, and his son George still holds a part of the old homestead, while the State's Hundred in the southeast corner was improved by Wm. Ball, who raised therein a family, all of whom have scattered to other places. In priority of occupation upon 78, Isaac Vandeventer, from the Jerseys, was a settler upon two hundred acres on the northeast. The tract went to a son Christopher, whose name appears as a Fence Viewer, in 1797. The farm was sold to Washburn Race, of Seneca Falls. The lands upon the lot have changed ownership, suffered division, and now have various owners. As early as 1814 the neighborhood united to build a frame school-house, wherein John Ogden was a teacher, and Levi Hart was one of like profession about the same period.

POSTAL SERVICE IN 1806.

Lot 84 borders upon Cayuga Lake. A farm of seventy acres in the northeast part was occupied by Stephen Sherwood, who at an early day was married to Miss Wakeman. To this spot came a Mr. Prout, who, in 1779, had been through this country with the army, and had returned to stay. He was a Methodist exhorter, and is remembered as a resident upon the southeast part of the lot. Identified with Lot 72 is the history of John Sayre, a carpenter by trade, and an emigrant from Orange County. In his Western journey he was accompanied by Haynes Bartlett; these men were equal to the task of moving through with a wagon, their route lying between Horse Heads and the head of Seneca Lake. Mr. Sayre was employed in the construction of the first court-house in Elmira, built in 1794. Arriving upon his land, which comprised a fourth of the lot, he found shelter for his wife and child. Naturally qualified for the business, he raised a tavern and store, but preferred the duties of an innkeeper, which he discharged for a period of thirty-five years. He was appointed a Postmaster in 1806, and retained the office until its removal to Romulusville. Mr. Sayre served a term in the Legislature of 1804, and was Side Judge many years. His death occurred in 1848, at the age of eighty. While Sayre was the Postmaster at Romulus, Samuel Seeley was a courier between Elmira and Geneva. One trip per week was made, and the mail was carried in a small green bag within his jacket pocket. Mahlon and Peter Bainbridge, the latter a Baptist minister, were settlers prior to Mr. Sayre, while Stephen Miller moved on about the same time as Sayre. The birth of Eliza Sayre, in 1796, occurred on this lot. On the southwest part was the farm of W. W. Folwell, who came in from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, in 1807, and, erecting a dwelling therein, passed his life. The estate fell to his son, Dr. N. W. Folwell, who, at the age of seventy years, lives upon the land made familiar by many a season's toil upon its fields. Mahlon Bainbridge owned the central part, running north and south through the lot. At his

death it passed to his sons, Peter, Mahlon, and John. The south side is owned by the heirs of Samuel Bainbridge. In the northeast corner stood the cabin of Stephen Miller; here he lived, toiled, and died; such, too, was the record of his son, of the same given name, and the property came down to his heirs. Mrs. Reeves was early an owner of fifty acres in the southeast corner, and sold to S. Miller. B. VanOstrand married an heir to Miller's property, and is a present inhabitant.

The record shows that William Brewster and Daniel Sayre, the former in the central part, on the old road, and the latter in the northern part, on the lake road, were settlers on Lot 73, in the year 1801. Both of these men sold to John Finton in 1805. When Mr. Finton died the farm passed to his descendants, by whom it is owned, in part, at present. Walter Carson bought a fifty-acre field on the west side from Brewster. John Fleming, in 1790, moved to a farm on the east side of the lot. John and Robert Fleming, his sons, were his successors. In 1800, John Green lived upon one hundred acres of a farm in the north part, on the east side of the road. No house now stands upon the old site. Opposite Green, on the west side, lived William Brewster. Joshua Tuttle was on the central portion, and Stephen Reeder, a mason, lived near by. In time he sold to McLafferty and moved away. Robert Chambers is named as an inhabitant of the lot in 1805.

FIRST NATIVE WHITE BIRTH.

This part of the town is notable as the birthplace of Elsie Fleming, the first white child native to the town of Romulus. Her birth dates 1790, and a child is a present resident of the city of Rochester. The primary settlement of Lot 74 began in 1800. Upon the southeast corner dwelt Boston Williams, and west of him was the place of Silas Beers. The latter sold to John B. Pruden nine acres. In 1804, Beers sold out to Richard D. Doremus, a carpenter, from New Jersey, whose son Garrett, aged sixty-eight, resides upon the old farm. Two brothers, named Dill, residents of Auburn, were owners of the rest of the lot, and sold their rights in 1814. John Bainbridge obtained seventy-five acres, Stephen Miller one hundred, and John Sayre one hundred and twenty-five. The last named moved on in 1821, and a son Edward yet survives, aged seventy. John B. Pruden bought fifty acres, Ebenezer Conkling fifty acres, while he had owned one hundred since 1807, giving him one hundred and fifty, and George Wycoff had thirty acres, on which he settled in 1816.

Thus rapidly did the larger tracts dismember to supply the demands of settlement. The chiseled inscription upon the marble slab tells birth, age, and death. Our record enrolls the names and place of labor of men who laid the foundations of the mightiest of nations.

OLD-TIME TAVERN.

The probable first resident upon No. 75 was Peter Huff, whose family lay upon the south side. At his death the land descended to Jacob and Peter, his sons. In time the former died, and the latter moved into Fayette, where the descendants now reside. Upon the farm owned by John VanOstrand lived Joseph Wycoff, from 1794 till his death, in 1810. For sixteen years the old fields were tilled, and a family growing to maturity learned to shift for themselves. An old weather-worn tavern stands upon this lot as a remembrancer of David DePue, the builder, and of a by-gone time. Riding upon horseback, now rare, was a custom and necessity to the pioneers.

Benjamin Sutton, by trade a carpenter, came west in 1791, from Orange County, New York, and settled upon forty acres on the south side of Lot 86. In making the journey in company with his wife, two boxes were carried upon a horse upon which Mrs. Sutton rode, while her husband walked alongside. Those who came in this manner were in search of a permanent home, and gave character to settlement, while various infant villages were the resort of gamblers and other disreputable classes, which precede and go with our American pioneers.

EARLY BIRTHS.

Among early births was that of Elizabeth Sutton in 1793, Helim Sutton, now living in the neighborhood, in 1803, and Cyrus J. Sutton, a life-long resident of the old place, in 1806. To these and like pioneers the language of the poet has a vivid meaning and truthfulness in the lines,—

"How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood,
When fond recollection presents them to view,—
The orchard, the meadow, the deep-tangled wildwood,
And every loved spot which my infancy knew!"

John Wisner owned fifty acres in the northwest part, and, a weaver by profession, pursued his calling at his house. Liquor was generally enjoyed, and considered in the light of a necessity, and those living upon and near this lot could obtain spirits fresh from the still of David Price, at a date as remote as 1803. Jonas Seeley, marrying a Miss Seeley, moved upon the large farm now held by

Mr. Larkins, as early as 1798. Sophia Fenton, aged seventy-six, and a resident of the town, is a daughter of Mr. Seeley, and was born upon the place. Mrs. Conkling, also a daughter, is at present living in Romulus. Judge Seeley filled the place of Side Judge several years, and departed this life on his old farm. The early settlers upon No. 79 were Joseph Folwell, of Pennsylvania, who owned one hundred acres on the south side; William Seeley, who lived in a cabin near the centre part, on the west side of the old road, and, later, moved on the lot south; James Watrus, a road-overseer in 1799, and owner of one hundred acres on the west side, where he died; and Walter Watrus, a resident where J. H. Gilmore lives. Dr. Ethan Watson occupied a farm on the southwest corner. A school was taught by Mrs. Watson, at an early day, in a small frame building that stood on this lot. In the central part lived John Caten, a Baptist preacher, who sold to S. Merritt, and he to J. VanVleet. John Dey came in early, and purchased four hundred acres from the north side. Sale was made to Anthony Schuyler. The farm is now owned by Edward VanVleet and Mr. Murnogan. An Indian orchard flourished on the southwest part of this lot, and a

SHORT-LIVED HAMLET,

Plymouth, was here laid out, with a Main Street and a Seneca Street, and half a dozen cabins were erected there prior to 1800. A warehouse, between the road and lake, stands opposite the site of this premature and short-lived hamlet. Hundreds of abandoned sites, scattered over the States, illustrate the enterprise of speculators and the uncertain future of the village. Phineas Tuthill and Asa Smith were residents upon the lot in 1800.

In the northeastern part of School District No. 6 is situated Lot 80. There lived William Shattuck upon the southern portion in 1795; his son William afterwards took the southwest corner of the lot. The father was a blacksmith, the son a legal practitioner, whose career as a farmer was terminated by sale to Joseph Sutton in 1812. This last party also bought the claim of Clinton Shattuck, another son, who sought to utilize his education in teaching a school, in a log house which stood on the northwest corner of No. 87.

PIONEER FARMER—MECHANICS.

In 1803, John Stone, formerly a shoemaker in Barletown, came over from Cayuga County, and located on the northern part, where he died. The farm is owned by Colonel Swarthout. A man named Dalls lived for a time on the east part of the lot, then sold to B. Sutton, who deeded to John, his son. The marriage of Dr. Eliphalet Shattuck to Jane Wiley, both residents of this section, took place on January 18, 1798. The adaptability to condition of former mechanics is a feature of their farm settlement. Wherever it was possible, the old weaver, shoemaker, blacksmith, and other tradesmen pursued their calling in house or adjacent shop, but many gave up all practice of their trade, and ultimately became excellent farmers. Sutton Turner was the owner of one hundred acres of No. 81 in 1810, and finally sold to Samuel Bailey, and migrated West. Near the centre of the lot dwelt a Baptist minister named John Caten. His family was numerous, and seem to have made good the adage that "preachers' children are generally the wildest." Upon Lot 82, in 1797, dwelt a settler from New Jersey, Samuel Waldron by name, who owned one-half its area. He was employed as overseer of roads in 1799, and at his demise the family removed to Michigan, where, in an inter-lake region on a larger scale, an exodus of Seneca pioneers seem to have gone and become the pioneers of that great and prosperous State. M. E. Kinne now owns the Waldron tract. A tavern stand was kept in 1827 by William Martin, and when he died his son, J. T. Martin, took up the business. The old inn, which had stood for half a century, was finally burned down in April, 1876. A post-office was established at Romulus Centre some time in 1860, with Mr. Martin, Postmaster. It was discontinued in 1874, and one established at Hayt's Corners, with Postmaster Combs in charge. As early as 1797, William Stout, carpenter, from New Jersey, owned part of the western portion of the lot, and John Hagerman settled on the northwest ground. William A. Stout is a present owner of his father's and Hagerman's farms. He has lived seventy-three years upon the old place, and where he played when a child in his age finds a rest more satisfactory than many who have traveled the wide world all over. Lot 83 was occupied by several pioneers in the year 1803. Lewis Ross and William Wilson, the former a Revolutionary soldier, owned the southwest corner, one hundred acres. North of Ross was William Hays, upon fifty acres; and next north of him was Uriah Townsend's one hundred acres. On the northeast corner was Palmer Roberts, a tailor, and afterwards a Methodist preacher of some ability and reputation. David and Diamond Gould owned two hundred acres on the east side. John Burt, who had one hundred acres on the southeast corner in 1800, had sold to Isaac Johnson, who was a resident in 1804. Rev. Roberts sold to D. Gould and removed to Junius. The Goulds sold to

Captain Kinne, and he deeded it to his sons. Mr. Day owns a portion of the tract; Johnson's farm passed to his children.

One hundred acres on the northeast of No. 85 was in 1800 the property of Sullivan Wakeman, from Balltown, New York. The farm which adjoins the lake was bought by Stephen Sherwood, and has come down to Levi Markle. The pioneer Wakeman moved upon the Holland purchase, where he continued through life. In 1815, James Purdy had one hundred acres on the southeast corner, and William Yerks held forty acres on the west side of Purdy. Both emigrated to Michigan, where, at last accounts, Yerks was still living at an advanced age. Captain VanLew, from off the Delaware River, purchased a portion of Lot 92 from William Hayt, and was a resident in 1817. The Whitneys, John, Nathan, and James, were settlers by the lake in 1803. They appear to have been men of some degree of enterprise, and about 1816 built a warehouse and bought grain, which was boated by Messrs. Purdy & Gibbons. Peter Smith settled for a time where C. Warne resides, and afterwards went west. One Barney McCue was a deserter, and came to this neighborhood, which bears a remembrance of his dexterity in flax-dressing, a business then general among the farming class. In 1800, Cyrus Dodge was a settler on fifty acres of Lot 99, where Lane resides, and died upon it. His brother Josiah dwelt upon fifty acres, now the home of W. S. Smith. Both were carpenters from Vermont, and were builders of barns for E. Kinne, Reuben Benton, and others. Josiah moved to Genesee County, where he died. The land was sold to John P. Nevins, who in turn made sale to D. E. Morris. Josiah Nelson and Alexander Dunlap were early settlers. A landing existed at this place as early as 1800, and bore the name "Porter's Landing."

Between 1790 and 1800 there were men settled in this vicinity; the date is difficult to establish. John Dunlap, of Pennsylvania, married Catharine Dowers, and located on two hundred acres in the southeast part of the lot, while Deacon Waldron owned a small piece of ground on the south side, where he erected a cabin, to which he brought a bride in the person of Miss Hoagland from farther down the lake. Elijah Miller, a practicing lawyer in Auburn, became the owner of Lot 91. He settled his father upon the western part. Three brothers to Elijah, named Lewis F., Elisha, and Ezra, came on and made improvements. The first sold to S. V. R. Johnson, and Peter Post is present owner. Elisha, the second, made sale of one hundred acres, now owned by Widow Bryant, to Judge DeMott. Ezra's son, H. S. Miller, owns the old farm cleared by the father. The Miller brothers are of the past. The Auburn member of the family was father-in-law to the statesman William H. Seward, Governor of New York, and Secretary of State during the administration of Mr. Lincoln.

Lot 90 was drawn by Charles Wissenfelts, a lieutenant in the Second New York Regiment, by whom it was probably sold for a trifle. The southwest part was occupied in 1800 by Lawrence Hall, who sold, and the property passed successively to Smith, Harris, and G. Townsend. On the east end was Z. Hayt, who built a shop in 1806, and carried on his trade of shoemaker on what is now known as Hayt's Corners. Nathaniel Newman, Hayt's half-brother, was owner of a fifty-acre lot, which he sold to Solomon Delevan; he, to L. C. Miller, and various owners have been known. Hayt purchased from Stephen Hurlbut, a weaver by trade, and an excellent man. It may truly be said of Father Hurlbut, "None knew him but to love him," and his memory is blessed by the living. The old gentleman lived with his son-in-law and pursued his calling, and finally returned to Dutchess County, where he died.

In the year 1795, Isaac Johnson, by trade a shoemaker, came west from Orange County and settled on the east half of Lot 89, which large tract of wild land he had purchased of Judge William Thompson, who himself had obtained it from John Williams, a private in the Second Regiment New York Infantry. The heirs of Mr. Johnson are present owners and residents of the old farm, which is associated with their earliest recollections, for thereon both were born: one, Joseph, in 1789, the other, Honorable William T., in 1803. The reminiscences of these aged sons of Seneca County were well worth a brief attention. The father, with wife and four children, came down the Cayuga by boat, and disembarked at what was St. Clair's landing. Between the family and home were the forest, the thicket, and uprooted trunks of large trees; and the axe was plied to cut a road to the present farm. And when arrived, what and where was the home! Trees were felled, and where they found the forest and gradually gathered comforts around them, is now the old and valued farm. Benjamin Burgess, of New Jersey, bought the west half, excepting the State's Hundred, and had moved on a few months before Johnson. Two hundred and fifty acres were sold in 1825 to three persons, Covert, Denton, and Dunlap, each taking a part. The Burgess farm is now owned in part by W. S. Smith. A frame school-house was built in 1828 by a Mr. Bailey, in the west part of the lot. The district of which this lot forms part has been attached for school purposes to Ovid, lying adjacent to the south. On the east half, Mr. Johnson had built an ashery in 1796, where quantities of potash were manufactured. It was conveyed in sleighs to Albany, and

there sold. Milling was done at Elmira, distant fifty miles, in skiff upon the water, by horseback overland. Mr. Johnson having lost his wife by death, married again in 1799. His second wife, Miss Mary Thurston, died in Ovid, 1872, at the advanced age of 90 years.

PIONEER SAW-MILL.

A settler named James Bailey, a wheelwright, came upon Lot 88, and, on the farm now owned by Joseph Dunlap, erected a saw-mill in 1800; a black walnut table of his making is still in use by Mrs. Johnson. On the death of Mr. Bailey, his children succeeded to his farm. A barn was erected upon the lot in 1806 by William Lobdell, upon land now held by D. W. Kinne. Samuel Waldron moved upon the lot, and owned 160 acres, in 1826. The regular improvement of the lot was of recent date; for some reason it was long allowed to remain wild.

On Lot 87 Timothy Jaynes, a blacksmith, had a shop in 1790. The shed stood about sixty rods west of B. Sutton's dwelling. John Seeley had forty acres, now owned by C. J. Sutton. David DePue was a squatter on the northwest corner of the lot, and set out an orchard in 1789. His sprouts were obtained from the old Indian orchard, and a few of the old trees yet remain on the farm of Helim Sutton. Later, and James Seeley moved upon the place, and DePue erected a tavern stand, as noted, upon Lot 75. Where J. Quinn now lives, William Brown was an early settler. The trades were represented upon Lot 93 by a shoemaker and a blacksmith. The former, James Woodruff, lived and labored in his house on the northern part of the lot, where Mrs. Cole resides. Woodruff sold his sixty acres to Benjamin Smolley, and he to Peter Smith. Where now lives H. P. Smith, one Peter Rattan had a temporary home, which was abandoned in 1812. The blacksmith was George Morrow, whose shop stood to the north where the road turns south towards the asylum. Aaron Burr moved at a very early day upon that section occupied by O. Toner. Elijah Fenton owned one hundred and sixteen acres on the southwest corner; it was sold to B. Sutton, who bequeathed to his son, who sold to C. VanVleet, present owner. Eighty acres were held by Jonas Abens in 1803, part of which were bought by Cornelius Tunison; the farm lies in the northwest corner of the lot. The history of No. 94, in the southwest of the town of Romulus, goes back to 1789, when Anthony Swarthout settled on the northwest corner of the lot, just north of a creek which bears his name, and near the site of the old cemetery. His son Barney came with him from Pennsylvania.

FOUNDING OF BALEYTOWN.

About the year 1794 or '95, George and Samuel Baley located at what is now known as Ovid Landing, and gave to it the name of Baleytown. Their business was general merchandise, distilling, and manufacturing potash. Upon the death of one of the brothers, the business passed into the hands of Messrs. Maxwell & Perry, of Elmira. Having engaged in a flour speculation, which resulted disastrously, the business passed to other hands. About the year 1797, Andrew Dunnett located there, embarked in the same business, and gave what had become a village the name of Lancaster, by which name it was known for many years, when once again the original name was adopted and continued to the present. John Stone came west in 1797, in company with some of the followers of Jemima Wilkinson, from Connecticut, and took up his residence in Lancaster, where he engaged in boot and shoe making until his marriage, on July 4, 1798, to Phylinda Shattuck, daughter of William Shuttuck, from Connecticut. A daughter, Mrs. Judge Coc, was born to them while residents of Lot 80, in 1801.

About the year 1801, Charles Gordon came over from Geneva, and established himself in the mercantile business. Fletcher Matthews kept a branch store in the place, and George King carried on a tannery. The first cavalry company in this region was organized by Charles Gordon; his lieutenants were John Arnold, First, and Henry Montgomery, Second Lieutenants. Among its members were Ephraim Kinne and Thomas Blain. There were twenty-five or thirty houses at Ovid Landing when there were no more than six at Ovid. At one time the villagers cherished strong hopes that the court-house would be located there, and the late Alvah Gregory opened a law office in the village. The gardener of the Willard Asylum now resides upon the site of the lawyer's house and office. The court-house being located at Ovid, the business of Lancaster began to wane. By Act of Legislature, passed April 15, 1825, John Maynard, Ethan Watrous, and William Howard were authorized to set up, keep, and maintain a ferry from the landing-place at Lancaster Village to a like landing at the village of Dresden. In 1844, P. F. Donaldson purchased the warehouse property, and gave it the name Ovid Landing, and since the location there of the Asylum, it has a post-office by the name of "Willard." Lot 95 was drawn by Michael Decker, of the Second New York Regiment. In June, 1789, David Wisner, from Pennsylvania, moved into Romulus and settled upon the south part of the lot upon a hundred-acre piece which he had bought from Elijah Kinne, who lived in Ovid. The price

paid was fifteen shillings an acre. Few realize the obstacles which Wisner had to encounter. In the woods he set up four crotches, put on poles, and covered all with bark peeled from the trees; in this scanty and savage abode he passed the winter with his wife and four children. Food was not plenty nor in variety; neighbors were miles away and mills were distant, yet the pioneers did not despair, and gladly we give them this honor as the first of Seneca County settlers, the pioneers of the town of Romulus. In 1810 or '11, Wisner sold to Elijah Kinne, Jr., who had married his daughter, Hester Wisner, in 1797. Kinne had been the owner of the remainder of the lot some years, and had a house built upon it. About 1810, Mr. Wisner had erected a frame house, and Mrs. Wisner having injured her arm, rode on horseback to Orange County to have it removed. What heroism, quiet and unostentatious, to make such a journey through the wilderness for such a purpose!

Interest undoubtedly attaches to the aboriginal; why not to him who immediately succeeded him? James Grace, of the First New York Regiment, is known to his credit as a Revolutionary soldier; nothing special marks him as the owner of Lot 96. But when Reuben Denton comes west in 1795 from Massachusetts, invests his means in the purchase of one hundred acres of forest, standing as marked by the surveyor upon adjacent trees, in the southwest corner of east half of the lot, builds thereon a log cabin for his family and a shop to carry on a smithery, directs, as overseer of highways in 1798, the construction of passages between settlers for facility of intercourse, and raises in thrift a family of eight intelligent children, the fact is worthy its brief record. A life-time upon this farm affirms content and moderation. Elijah Denton was born in the first log dwelling on the farm in 1798, and died at the age of seventy-seven. And what should be said of Michael Mead, who had no money whereby to purchase land on his arrival in 1796? In a contract made with Captain Elijah Kinne, he engages to work by the month for one hundred acres from either corner of the lot. He labored and gained title to the southeast corner, upon which he lived and whereon he died. Mead was elected Constable in 1797, and Fence Viewer in 1798. Upon the farm won by toil and improved by diligent industry, his daughter, Mrs. Wilson, now resides. Upon the west half of the lot settled Ephraim Kinne in 1800; and a part of the land is the inheritance of his son, Silas, at this time.

Lot 97 was drawn by John Goodenough for military service, and sold to Anthony Dey, and by him to one Van Ness, of New Jersey. Wishing to hold possession, and also to improve, he rented to various persons in 1810. On the southwest corner lived John Brink; on the southeast corner upon fifty acres dwelt James Nelson, and on the northeast J. P. Dey had acquired fifty acres. In 1834, sale of four hundred acres was made to William C. VanHorn, an Ovid merchant, who disposed of the property to various parties. A part of the lot is now held by William Kinne. Levi Burling, of the New York Second, had died before the distribution of the Military Lots, and to his heirs fell the ownership of No. 98. The locality has known considerable changes and improvements. In the northwest lived Isaac Johnson, the owner of one hundred and sixteen acres, and the lumber-manufacturer for the neighborhood, he having erected a saw-mill in 1806. The property passed by sale to William Chamberlain, who erected upon it a grist-mill in 1814, and as horseshoeing could conveniently be done while awaiting the grist, a smithery was put up close by the mill. This improvement was acquired through purchase by S. and N. Hayt, who took an active part in the local interests of the place. The Corners assumed their name, and a store building was erected on the northwest corner, wherein merchandise was sold by James Swan and Mr. Shutts in 1817. S. and N. Hayt were their successors in 1822, and continued the business. A new building was constructed on the southeast corner of Lot 90, to which the goods were removed, and a tavern was opened in the old building by John Dickerson, who had been a tavern-keeper in 1820. John Reynolds had, in 1807, bought one hundred acres on this lot, and had sold to Dickerson at a later period. The record of Romulus closes with Lot No. 100, which was drawn by Thomas Bacon, Sergeant in the First New York Regiment, and by him sold to Joseph Wilson, of Pennsylvania. Wilson sold one hundred acres, southwest corner, to Joseph Verkes, and he to William Purdy, a tailor from Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Of a large family named Purdy, none remain. David Wilson married Miss Nellie Chamberlain, and came upon the lot subsequent to Purdy. Since 1816, Mr. Wilson has been a constant resident upon the old farm, in the same house which gave him a home in his early manhood, and now, at the age of eighty-three, is regarded as the oldest man native to the town between the lakes. As early as 1812, Messrs. Hatch and Gibbons had bought the land lying between the present road and the lake shore; the firm owned and ran boats upon the lake, and were engaged in the shipment of produce to Albany.

VILLAGES AND POST-OFFICES.

The business of the residents of Romulus is agricultural in the main, yet the germs of what was hoped would be thriving places still have vitality. Of these