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Twenty-Seventh Publication

of the

Oswego County Historical Society

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Dedication

Over the past twenty years no one has been more actively identified with the work of the Oswego County Historical Society than Anthony M. Slosek. A life-long resident of Oswego, a recipient of degrees from Niagara and St. Lawrence universities, and an instructor of history in Oswego High School, he has had a second career as a local historian. Early in his teaching he emphasized Oswego's unusual historical heritage in his classes and sponsored the Yorker activities. In the process he stimulated an interest in local history among hundreds of students. He assisted in the organization of the Society's collections and presented a series of papers on local subjects dealing with the early decades of the nineteenth century. No less than six of his articles have appeared in the Yearbooks of the Society. He also took the responsibility for editing a number of these volumes. He has served as Curator and Executive Secretary of the Society. He and Mrs. Slosek have been hosts at Headquarters House on many occasions. He is currently serving as County Historian, and in this capacity coordinates the work of the town historians.

For his many contributions to local history, the Society dedicates this twenty-seventh volume of the Yearbook to Mr. Anthony M. Slosek.

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Early Clockmakers of New England and New York

"The Clock of Life is wound but once;
And no man hath the power
To tell just when the hands will stop,
At late or early hour.
Now is the only time you own:
Live, love, toil with a will,
Place no faith in tomorrow, for
The clock may then be still." (Author unknown)

The measurement of time has been a matter of concern to civilized man since early times. In sunny climes some form of sun dial sufficed. Colonial homes often had a noon mark on a window sill. Where sunshine was uncertain, other devices such as water clocks, a burning rope marked in hours by suitably spaced knots or a lamp the reservoir of which was suitably marked to show the hourly consumption of oil were used. In Shakespeare's, "Julius Caesar" a seeming anachronism : The clock hath stricken three," appears. Not necessarily, since in Caesar's day water clocks were in use, some of which did strike.

Strictly speaking, a clock must strike the hours on a bell or gong. If it does not, it is known as a timepiece. A chiming clock requires more than one bell or gong.

The earliest known mechanical clock seems to have been a timepiece, "the Orloge of St. Paul's Cathedral" made by Walter the Orgoner of Southwark in 1344. A copy of the Norman French indenture now in the British Museum states: "--- the said Walter is to make a dial in the horologe with roofs and all kinds of housing appertaining to the said dial, and to the turning of the Angel on the top of the horologe, so that the said horologe shall be good, fitting and profitable, to show the hours of the day and of the night, to endure without failing - He is to receive six pounds sterling on completion of the work, is to find at his own cost the iron, brass, etc., and is to have for himself the old apparatus that will no longer serve." Twenty years later, De Dondi of Italy invented a marvelous astronomical clock erected in the library of the Castle of Pavia. In 1529 Charles V moved it to Spain, where it seems to have been lost

in a fire. Control was by a foliot balance like that seen in the Columbus Clock (a reproduction) since the pendulum had not yet been applied to the control of a clock mechanism, which was to come about 1657. Properly made, a pendulum clock attains a degree of accuracy adequate for all ordinary purposes.

From 1657 until 1807 clocks were essentially hand made, a period during which clocks were bought, not sold. An individual in sufficiently affluent circumstances sought a clockmaker with whom he arranged to construct a clock to meet his requirements. A timepiece would, of course, be the cheapest. There could be added: striking, moon phase dial, chiming, tune playing on bells with or without automatic daily change of tune, automata or even astronomical dials. Thus it will be seen that the clockmaker needed to be a mathematician, an astronomer and frequently a musician. Except in rare instances, the clockmaker did not construct the case, that being done by cabinet makers or joiners, who could furnish just as elaborate a case as the taste of the customer dictated and his purse allowed.

Prior to 1800, the clockmaker seems not to have always had clocks on order, so to make a living he applied his skills to other metal work. In the shop records of Daniel Burnap (of whom more later) we find such entries as these: brasses for a sword, 2 pairs of hooks and Eyes, mending flask, making pair of sleave buttons, mending Spurs, mending a fan, mending andirons, mending a warming pan, making a pair of plated buckles, making a set of teaspoons and Silver, mending a whip for Noahdiah Bissell, making lead pipe, mending potash kettle, making hook for tooth instrument for Doctor Fitch Read and for Doctor Samuel Cooley, making tool for making pills, all chores which seem to bear little relation to clockmaking.

Upon encountering a clock with wood works, the assumption is likely to be made that it is very old, made before clockmakers' could successfully work metal. Though wood had been used in some clocks in Europe through four centuries, most clocks were constructed of iron and brass. The method was to cast brass wheels and plates (the pieces in which holes for pivots are drilled), hammer until the requisite hardness was attained, turn the wheels true, cut the teeth with a dividing engine and finish by filing at which the clockmaker was unbelievably skilful. In the early years of the 18th century, after having served his seven year apprenticeship which usually began at age 14, the journeyman clockmaker was capable of making all the tools he needed, which he could carry on his back. Later it became possible to buy some tools and still later clock parts ready to finish. Though his tools were crude by present day standards, the great skill of the workman enabled him to produce a supe-

rior product, proof of which is that clocks are still running today which were made two centuries or more ago. Early makers even drew their own wire.

Clockmakers who emigrated to the colonies from England, where the Clockmakers Company was chartered in 1631, brought with them the superior skills they possessed, skills which they imparted to apprentices. One of these was Thomas Harland.

Harland, born in England in 1735, emigrated to the colonies in 1773 having come to Boston, it is said, in one of the ships carrying tea destroyed in the Boston Tea Party. Perhaps wary of a disturbed city, he went at once to Norwich, Connecticut, where on December 9, 1773 he advertised in "The Norwich Packet"

Thomas Harland, Watch and Clockmaker from London, Begs leave to acquaint the public that he has opened a shop near the store of Christopher Leffingwell, in Norwich where he makes in the neatest manner and on the most approved principles, horizontal, repeating and plain watches in gold, silver, metal or covered cases. Spring, musical and plain clocks; church clocks; regulators &c. He also cleans and repairs watches and clocks with the greatest care and dispatch, and upon reasonable terms.

N. B. Clock faces engraved and finished for the trade. Watch wheels and fuzees of all sorts and dimensions, cut and finished upon the shortest notice, neat as in London and at the same price.

One of his earliest customers was the patriot Nathan Hale, who, while on a visit to see his sweetheart, employed Harland to repair a watch.

Nor did Harland confine himself to the making of watches and clocks, for in 1787 he designed and personally constructed the more vital parts of a fire engine.

By 1790 he had a dozen apprentices working and his annual production was about 40 clocks and 200 watches.

The best known of Harland's apprentices was Daniel Burnap, a maker of superior Brass Clocks and a skilled engraver who conducted his business in East Windsor. In 1796 Burnap bought a farm in Coventry, where in 1798 he built a large sawmill using water power from a brook which ran through the farm. Next he erected a barn, followed by a house completed in 1805. The house had a long downstairs room where he held court in his capacity as justice of the peace and an attic room where he repaired clocks and watches. In 1805 he bought a still and distilled rum until 1813 when he became an advocate of temperance. It was during this period that his pupil, Eli Terry, was getting into mass production of cheap and good clocks. Apparently Burnap disliked to change his methods.

Burnap was known as a kindly and taciturn man, one of whose pleasures in later life was feeding and protecting wild birds. Even quail would come to his barnyard for the grain he scattered for them.

A nephew, Ela Burnap, one of Daniel's apprentices, seems to have settled in Rochester, N. Y. in 1825 where he repaired watches and perhaps made a few clocks. He was a poor business man, continually in debt, generously helped by his uncle from time to time. From 1825 to 1837 he was writing to his uncle about making a town clock for Rochester, seemingly uncertain how to proceed. It is not known that the clock was ever made.

Benjamin Hanks, of Mansfield and Litchfield, Conn., is worthy of note as a talented and versatile clockmaker. He also made stockings, looms, compasses, brass cannon, and large church bells. In 1777 he was petitioning the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut to supply him with funds to buy materials to make a stocking loom he had invented. The petition was denied. He also invented an atmospheric or "pneumatick" clock which was driven by changes in atmospheric pressure unlike the "Atmos" clock of our day which is wound by changes in temperature.

With his son, Truman, in 1808 he established the bell foundry at Troy, N. Y. since famous as Meneely's.

Now we come to Daniel Burnap's most apt and famous pupil, Eli Terry, who was apprenticed to him at the age of fourteen. In 1793, Eli was free of his time, a competent workman who made before 1800 several tall clocks with brass works, much prized today. He seems also to have spent some time with Benjamin Cheney from whom he learned the art of making wood clock movements and it was the wood clock which enabled Terry to retire in 1833 at age 61 with an income of $3000 per year for the rest of his days. Today he would need to have waited four more years for social security and then would not have fared as well.

An interesting sidelight appears in the opinion of John Fitch of steamboat fame of both Benjamin and Timothy Cheney to whom he was apprenticed for a time:

"My master was a man of some considerable genius. My mistress was as well as a very silly woman a very lazy one as well as proud. . . who had the best that the world afforded in victuals and would get drunk as often as she could come across licquor."

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"Benjamin Cheney followed nothing in his shop but wooden clocks and small brass work and my indentures was (so) ambiguously expressed that he was not obliged to learn me anything but

Wooden Clocks to which he paid no attention. . . and when I left him I was almost totally ignorant of clockwork"

Nor did Fitch fare any better with brother Timothy.

"Timothy Cheney folowed making brass and wooden clocks and repaired watches, and agreed to take me for one year and learn me the three branches. I was set to work on small brass work and with the exception of being shortly put to clock work and going out. . . to work on his place which he was building that summer, tending on masons, carpenters &c. I was not put to one single clock, neither wood nor brass, during that time.

As to watch work, I never saw one put together during my apprenticeship. . . He never told me the different parts of a watch, and to this day I am ignorant of the names of many parts."

On the contrary, Eli Terry seems to have profited by his association with the Cheneys. Terry was of steady habits, ate sparingly, shunned liquor and tobacco and eschewed gambling.

In 1795 Eli was scratching for a living in Northbury, Conn. where on March 12 he married Eunice Warner and set up housekeeping on Town Hill; their furniture being one chair, one cup and saucer apiece.

In 1796 Eli had a great idea, an equation of time clock upon which he took out his first patent signed by President John Adams on November 27, 1797, the first clock patent issued by the U. S. Government. Such a clock shows both the mean time, as does a common clock, and the time shown by the sun, rarely the same. This Eli purposed to do by a clock having two minute hands of different color and pattern. This clock triggered a great controversy of no little interest though too long to be included in this paper. Equation of time clocks using a different method of noting it are in existence. Eli's clock apparently didn't sell and no collector has ever set eyes on it.

Next he made a few wood movements for tall clocks, which he peddled in the "New Country" west of the Hudson River, taking four at a time to be sold at $25 each to be hung on the wall or cased by a local cabinet maker. He is said to have taken produce in trade upon occasion, money being scarce. Some clocks were paid for by notes, clock notes for many years being regarded as the thinnest commercial paper extant.

President Dwight of Yale (irrevently known as "old Pope Dwight") had a very low opinion of peddlers. In his words:

"Many of the young men employed in this business part, at an early period with both modesty and principle. Their sobriety is exchanged for cunning; their modesty for imposition; and their decent behaviour for coarse impudence. Mere wanderers, accustomed to no order, control or worship; and directed solely

to the acquisition of petty gains; they soon fasten upon this object; and forget every other, of a superior nature. The only source of their pleasure, or their reputation, is gain; and that, however small, or however acquired, secures both. No course of life tends more rapidly, or more effectually to eradicate every moral feeling."

Your speaker seems to recall tales of travelling salesmen of the same general import though couched in less dignified language.

By 1800 Eli Terry employed two or three hands turning out a dozen or more tall clock wood movements at a time. By 1802 he was using water power and making more clocks than any man in the country, about 200 a year.

It would be gratifying to be able to say that Terry was the first to manufacture a product with interchangeable parts but that distinction goes to another Eli, Eli Whitney of cotton gin fame, who thus successfully began the manufacture of muskets in 1798.

In 1807, Eli contracted with the brothers Porter to make 4000 clock movements at $4.00 each, they to furnish the stock. For a whole year he was "tooling up" and did not make a single clock. Next year he started a batch of 500 through the shop and by the end of the year he had finished these and 500 more. That year he hired Seth Thomas, who was later to be his competitor and to found a clock business which exists to this day, to put clocks together. Thomas was a joiner, not a clockmaker.

In 1814, Terry and somewhat later Terry and Sons began to make the patent 30 hour shelf clock, which is the delicate pillar and scroll cased clock with brass finials, painted wood dial and reverse painted tablet below, a case perhaps designed by Heman Clark. It is to be remembered that Terry was first and last a clockmaker who redesigned the hang-up thirty hour long pendulum wood clock movement to fit a case permitting a short pendulum and a very short fall for the weights.

Two years later, Chauncey Jerome, who was to exert a tremendous influence on the clock industry for three decades, went to work for Terry. The account is set forth in: "History of the American Clock Business for the Past Sixty Years and Life of Chauncey Jerome Written by Himself" published in 1860.

Jerome's father was a blacksmith and nail maker. Chauncey had the most meager schooling, being set to work making nails in his father's shop at the age of nine. Two years later his father died. In Chauncey's words: "There being no manufacturing in the country, poor boys were obliged to let themselves to farmers and it was extremely difficult to find a place where they would treat a poor boy like a human being. . . The winter before

I was fifteen years old I went to live with a house carpenter to learn the trade and was bound to his till I was twenty-one and was to have my board and clothes for my services." In exchange for four months off during the dull season, Jerome agreed to clothe himself, made some wood dials for Terry's tall clocks and went to New Jersey for a short time to make tall clock cases.

The year 1815 found Chauncey Jerome married to Salome Smith, described as "one of the best wives and mothers" and battling hard times and high prices at wages of twenty dollars per month with brown sugar at 34¢ per pound and white cotten cloth a dollar a yard. Nevertheless he was enjoying singing school in the evening, to which he walked a long distance, being chosen chorister after a few weeks.

The next year was "1816 and froze to death" or the year without a summer. Chauncey writes: "There was ice and snow every month in the year. . . On the tenth of June my wife brought in some clothes that had been spread on the ground the night before which were frozen as stiff as in winter. On the fourth of July, I saw men pitching quoits in the middle of the day with thick overcoats on and the sun shining bright at the same time. A body could not feel very patriotic in such weather. I often saw men when hoeing corn, stop at the end of the row and get in the sun by a fence to warm themselves. I worked at my trade and had the job of finishing the inside of a three-story house, having twenty-seven doors and a white oak matched floor to make, and did the whole for eighty-five dollars."

The life of Chauncey Jerome is fascinating. In 1818 we find him in Bristol making cases, buying movements and selling finished clocks. The year 1825 marked a revolutionary change in the clock business when Jerome devised the "bronze looking glass clock". It was half again as tall as the Terry patent clock, the bronze was a stencil decoration of the two half-pillars at the sides and on the arch top and the looking glass was, of course, a mirror which replaced the tablet below the dial. Nevertheless, it drove the much more beautiful Terry clock from the market, even though it sold for two dollars more. These were made in quantity, both by Jerome and others.

The panic of 1837 brought the clock business almost to a halt. Jerome, having lost $100,000, was so discouraged he thought of going into the marl business. Fortunately, while in Richmond, Virginia, trying to collect money owed him he conceived the idea of a thirty-hour shelf clock with brass works. His brother, Noble, designed the movement, which Chauncey "modestly" characterizes as "the best clock that had ever been made in this or any other country. What I originated that night on my bed in Richmond has given work to thousands of men yearly for

more than twenty years, built up the largest manufactories in New England and put more than a million of dollars into the pockets of the brass makers, . . . but there is not one of them who remembers JOSEPH."

Wood clocks could not be exported as the dampness would swell the wheels, Metal clocks could. In 1842, Jerome sent his son, Chauncey, Jr. and a talented young man, Epaphroditus Peck, to invade the English market, no easy undertaking. "Yankee clocks, good for nothing or they would not be offered so cheap." Finally one London merchant took two into his store for sale. Next day they were sold. The merchant took four more, saying, "I will see if I can sell any more of your Yankee clocks." Next day they were all gone so he took a dozen, then two hundred and the export business was launched. The British Customs seized two loads, deeming the declared value too low, paying that value plus 10%, a quick turnover with a satisfactory profit. The next shipload passed unchallenged.

Eventually, after making 200,000 metal clocks in a single year and many millions in his lifetime, Chauncey Jerome's factory became the Jerome Manufacturing Company. His nephew, who was secretary, seems not to have managed well. Six months after P. T. Barnum joined the company, it failed and was succeeded by the New Haven Clock Company. The failure left Jerome, at age 63, penniless and heavily in debt. In his attempts to retrieve something he seems to have been cheated again and again by men in whom he had faith.

The most famous family of clockmakers in Massachusetts was Willard. Benjamin Willard, born in Framingham in 1716, had twelve children of whom three became known as clockmakers, Benjamin, Jr., Simon and Aaron. Of these Simon was probably the master clockmaker. Unlike Terry, Thomas, Jerome and others, the Willards did not go into mass production but made high quality clocks for the carriage trade. Simon advertised little, relying on clock papers (pasted in the back of clocks) one of which is here quoted:

"CLOCK MANUFACTORY
SIMON WILLARD"

"At his Clock Dial in Roxbury street, manufactures every kind of Clock Work, such as large Clocks for Steeples, made in the best manner and warranted, price with one dial, 500 dollars; with two dials, 600 dollars; with three dials, 700 dollars; with four dials, 900 dollars. Common eight day clocks with very elegant faces and mahogany cases, price from 50 to 60 dollars. Elegant eight day Timepieces, price 30 dollars.

Timepieces which run 30 hours and warranted, price 10 dollars. Spring clocks of all kinds, price from 50 to 60 dollars. Clocks that will run one year with once winding up, with very elegant cases, price 100 dollars. Time pieces for astronomical purposes price 70 dollars. Time pieces for meeting houses to place before the gallery, with neat enamelled dials, price 55 dollars. Chime clocks that will play 6 tunes price 120 dollars. Perambulators are also made at said place, which can be affixed to any kind of wheel carriage, and will tell the miles and rods exact, price 15 dollars.

Gentlemen who wish to purchase any kind of clocks are invited to call at said Willard's Clock Manufactory, where they will receive satisfactory evidence that it is much cheaper to purchase new, than old and second hand clocks; He warrants all his work ---and as he is ambitious to give satisfaction - he doubts not of receiving the public approbation and patronage, ---"

The Willard name is often associated with the banjo wall clock, Aaron being credited with being the first Willard to put a timepiece in a banjo shaped case. Simon, in 1801, applied for a patent on an "improved timepiece", i.e. a banjo clock though that term was never used by the Willards. Such a clock graces any home and authentic Willard Banjoes are rare indeed. It is estimated that Simon Willard made 4000 timepieces of all kinds.

In New York State there were at least three manufacturers of clocks, Asa Munger of Auburn in the 1820's and Munger & Benedict of the same place in the 1830's, Theodore Ruggles Timby of Baldwinsville and Saratoga Springs, who also invented a revolving gun turret and a turbine water wheel, who made the Timby Solar Clock about 1863-65, and the Ithaca Calendar Clock Company of Ithaca, which made calendar clocks under the Horton patents from 1868-1919. Other clocks with clock papers showing them to be made in New York State are to be found, examination of which is likely to reveal Connecticut made wood works; so it is possible that cases only were made by the manufacturer shown. In New York City there were numerous clock makers in the early period, many of them of shady reputation or at least dubious members of the trade.

The Munger clock was of excellent quality with brass works, weight driven, having a pendulum ball in the form of a flying eagle, the case being lined with wallpaper.

The Timby Solar Clock was a shelf clock with a globe in the center above which the hours on a rotating dial came to a fixed pointer above the globe, the minutes being similarly shown near the bottom. About 600, all numbered, were made by Timby and L. E. Whiting.

The first calendar to be actuated by clock work was invented

in Ithaca by J. W. Hawes, who secured his original patent in 1853. However, Hawes's calendar did not provide for leap year. One year later, another inventive genius, W. H. Akins of Caroline in collaboration with Joseph C. Burritt of Ithaca, invented an improvement on the Hawes calendar, which provided automatically for February 29 once in four years. This patent was bought by Huntington & Platt who commissioned the Mix Brothers machine shop to make calendar clocks.

The Mix Brothers must have operated quite a machine shop as their products ranged from padlocks to telegraph instruments. There is evidence that Ezra Cornell commissioned them to build the latter.

Huntington & Platt produced mainly large calendar clocks for banks, business places and hotels. About 1864 they sold their patents to the Seth Thomas Clock Company at Plymouth Hollow, Connecticut.

H. B. Horton, in 1865, patented a calendar mechanism for which he made eight claims, later to be enlarged to seventeen claims. Having unsuccessfully tried to sell his patent to the Seth Thomas Company, he approached the Waterbury Clock Company, which offered him only $300 for his patent upon condition that he would guarantee that it would not be infringed. Disillusioned, he returned to Ithaca, where he succeeded in getting three others to match $200 which he could raise. Thus the Ithaca Calendar Clock Company was formed with a capital of only $800. The business grew rapidly and survived the total destruction of the factory by fire in 1876.

Mr. Horton was both musical and versatile, inventing automatic musical instruments which would produce the latest music of the day (the juke box of the 1870's?) Of these the Cornucindan, which used ox horns of regular gradation, showed the most originality. In 1877, Horton invented the Autophone, which reproduced music by forcing air through perforated paper strips against metal reeds. Prior to 1883, 18000 were made. With due credit to "Deacon Doubleday", there were pneumatic mechanics in those days.

It is of some interest that the passage of the Volstead Act in 1918 was largely responsible for the failure of the Ithaca Calendar Clock Company. For a number of years prior to that Act, the company had been selling most of its production to food manufacturers, cigar makers, chewing gum manufacturers (Wrigley being one) brewers and distillers, firms which were giving the clocks as premiums with the purchase of certain quantities of their products. Having lost its best customers, The Ithaca Calendar Clock Company was obliged to discontinue operations.

The Poole Clock Company of Ithaca made an electric clock,

operated by three flashlight cells, which was unique in that the pendulum drove the clock. Once started, the heavy pendulum swung through a progressively diminished arc until an ingenious mechanism triggered an electromagnet whereupon the clock gave a "gulp" when the pendulum was given a push sufficient to drive it for another lapse of seconds. For a short time these clocks were assembled and sold by the Revere Products Company on Chestnut Street in Phoenix, N. Y. Properly regulated, they are very accurate timepieces.

Prior to 1840, there were countless clockmakers at work in New England and elsewhere, making brass clocks or emulating the success of the Terrys with wood clocks. During the century that followed several large clock companies, which made an infinite variety of clocks, were formed. Among these were Ansonia, Gilbert, Howard, Ingraham, New Haven, Seth Thomas, Waterbury and Welch, to mention a few, all of which have either gone out of business or have been absorbed by large organizations. No pendulum controlled clocks are now manufactured in the United States, having been replaced by synchronous electric clocks, so familiar to all.

In closing I read a poem by John Ciardi

HOUSE OF MANY CLOCKS

Intricately, in a house of many clocks,
The front hall chimes the forward and running hour,
And, chime by chime, from every darker room
The unrepaired small clocks of bric-a-brac
Run to a backward time, but on the hour
Ring out their backward faith, each wrong machine
Convinced its time is Time. And all the house
Rings with the prompt confusion of its hours.

Man, the collector, in that maddened house
Knows its confusion, but nostalgia rules it.
Sometimes he hears the great clock in the hall,
Sometimes a dangerous ticking understairs,
But day by day hears mostly memory:
The alarm clock does not ring, but it was Father's;
The mantel clock is off, but Mother loved it.
He treasures each for its memorial quirk
And morning by morning he is late for work.

Fulton At The Turn Of The Century

by Grace E. Lynch

Last June I went back to the College at Oswego with thirty-five others to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of our graduation from the old State Normal School. As we talked about those long gone days, there was a feeling that we were talking about another world - a world that will completely disappear when those of us who lived in it are gone.

Yet it was a secure and pleasant world, and tonight I should like to picture for you a small part of it - Fulton and some of its prominent personalities at the turn of the century. In speaking of Fulton, of course, I include the west side of the river, then the separate village of Oswego Falls. Some time ago, Mrs. Albert O'Brien loaned me a directory of the two villages issued in the early 1890's. It gives us a good overall view of the town for our starting point tonight.

Not a single garage, filling station or automobile dealer is listed. But the long list of teamsters, harness makers, blacksmiths, hostlers, carriage painters, coachmen, cartmen, livery stables and wagon works gives ample testimony that it was the age of the horse. There were no dry cleaners or laundromats but the town boasted two Chinese laundries and thirty-nine washerwomen. Ready-to-wear clothing had to compete with the work of thirty-three dressmakers and eleven merchant tailors. There were three weekly papers and three banks. To feed the combined population of two villages, less than 8,000, there were ten meat markets, twenty-seven grocery stores and one peanut stand. They were evidently thirsty people, for no less than thirty-one saloons and "liquor emporiums" are listed.

The importance of the woolen mill in the town's economy is attested by the large numbers of people who were warp dressers, wool combers, spinners, weavers, perchers, burlers, sewers, loom fixers and cloth finishers. The Oswego Canal provided work for many boatmen, boat builders, mule drivers, lock tenders and dry dock employees. Electric household appliances were far in the future, but the dozens of women listed as domestics provided cheap help and blocks of ice peddled from door to door substituted for electric refrigerators in the preservation of food.

Other occupations noted were commercial travelers, thirty-three of them, coopers, artists, millers, well-diggers, pulley makers, gunsmiths, white washers, quarry men, tanners, sawyers, trimmers, pen men, pursers, cigar makers, caulkers, brickmakers, bottlers - but not a single beauty parlor.

Though wheat was rapidly moving out west, flour milling was still important in the village economy. The mill wheels were turned by water power from the hydraulic raceway that ran underneath the mills which lined both sides of North First Street. Nearest the lower bridge was Willis Nelson's big Genesee Mill while others were owned by W. G. Gage and Co., Gilbert and Nichols, Gardner and Seymour and the True Brothers. Hundreds of barrels of flour were turned out every day, and the miller standing in the mill doorway with his hair, features and clothing lightly powdered with flour dust was a familiar figure.

The miller was highly respected for his skill and so were those highly skilled craftsmen who proudly called themselves "gun works men", those employed by the Hunter Arms Company. The big factory owned by the famed Hunter brothers made one of the finest sporting guns in the world. Some of their special orders with original designs in gold inlay were things of real beauty and the records made by their guns in national and international competition clearly proved their superiority.

At its peak, the woolen mill employed one-sixth of the town's population. Its wool serge made American uniforms for every war beginning with the Civil War one hundred years ago.

The making of paper and of knives was building up in importance. One of the early paper mills, owned by the Waugh brothers, turned out what was known as straw paper for the butcher trade. Farmers of this area found a market there for their straw which was piled in hugh stacks outside the mill at the west end of the lower bridge. Other paper mills were the Oswego Falls Pulp and Paper Co., the Victoria Paper Co. and the Battle Island Pulp and Paper Mill.

The men who worked in these industries were respected members of the community. Most of them owned their own homes and were family men concerned with giving their children the right bringing up. They attended and supported their churches and were interested in village affairs. They worked a ten hour day six days a week at what seem to us very low wages. Yet they were content with what they had and the local papers of that day report no labor agitation of

any kind. Their wants were simple. A man usually had one good suit, usually made by a custom tailor out of serge from the woolen mill and it lasted for years. In fact, the owner was often buried in it! To provide a home for his family, to see that they were warm and fed and clothed, and to lay a little bit aside each week for a rainy day - that was the goal of the average man. Not a soaring ambition, it is true, but it made for a stability that is lacking in our life today.

Automobiles, trolleys and buses had not yet made their appearance and only a few blocks downtown were paved - paved with bricks. However, for transportation there were twenty-four passenger trains a day, numerous freight trains, all passing right through the town, and a horse drawn street car that came across the lower bridge, up to First Street to Broadway and across the upper bridge to the D. L. and W. station. A stage that carried passengers and mail still ran between Mexico and Fulton.

Though there were no radios, movies, or television, no one ever lacked for amusement. We used our feet and roamed the woods for wild flowers in the spring, wild berries in the summer and chestnuts in the fall. Sometimes excursion trains took us to Sylvan Beach or Long Branch for a day. Almost every summer a circus came to amaze us with its big street parade, its clowns, its daring riders and trapeze artists, its wild animals and, greatest thrill of all its Wild West Show. There were school entertainments, home talent minstrels, drama and hair raising melodrama at the Stephens Opera House with tickets at ten, twenty or thirty cents each. In the winter we enjoyed wonderful sliding on the long village hills, skating on the frozen stretches of the canal and river and gay strawrides in horse drawn sleighs for an evening of fun and a bountiful meal at the farm home of some family friends.

The river provided recreation for all seasons - boating, swimming, fishing and canoeing in addition to Pathfinder Island with its club house, tennis courts, baseball fields, dinners and dances. Then there were band concerts and ice cream festivals in the Park, church picnics, rip roaring Fourth of July celebrations, the excitement of torch light processions at election time and, to crown it all, the Oswego County Fair, held on the ground now occupied by Recreation Park.

Who could ever forget the wonders of that fair - horse races, political orations, Green's candy, balloon ascensions, Dr. Mary Walker, free yard sticks, out-size vegetables, basket lunches, prize pigs, poultry and cattle, Fort Ontario soldiers drilling in front of the grand stand, the noise, the smells, the good natured crowds.

Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter were days reserved for family and church observance. For entertainment plus culture there were the Schumann Club, the Fulton Choral Society, the Reading Circle, the Current Events Club and the Lyceum lectures.

Boys and girls also found surprise bonuses of fun and excitement in such unexpected happenings as horses wild with blind staggers, fires, mad dogs, runaway teams or the man billed as "The Human Fly" who climbed straight up the side of the Lewis House. Truly, life was never dull!

Buying habits were very different from those of today. Each store sold just one kind of goods. We bought meat at a meat market, food at a grocery store, cloth towels and such items at a dry goods store, and so on. There was little in the way of packaged food - even tea, butter, sugar and coffee being sold in bulk. Coffee beans in the proper proportions of Mocha and Java were ground while you waited. Butter was cut out in chunks from butter tubs or huge crocks. Items like ice, vegetables, milk and kerosene were peddled in wagons from house to house with the customers bringing out their own containers for the milk and kerosene. There was a much closer personal relationship between customer and merchants than is true today. All the markets had delivery wagons. The drivers came in the morning to take the orders and returned in the afternoon to deliver the goods. When the customer paid his bill at the end of the week, he expected and received dividends, a bag of candy for the children from the grocer and from the butcher a bone for the dog and scrap meat or a chunk of liver for the cat.

Sunday observance was more strict than it is today with calling on friends or taking a walk or a buggy ride into the country about the only activities which were not frowned upon. The town supported a number of churches - Methodist, Presbyterian, Catholic, Baptist, Episcopal, Congregational, Free Methodist, Universalist and Seventh Day Adventist. The last two passed out of existence years ago. In the summer, camp meetings or revivals were often held in Wilber's Grove on what is now Maple Avenue. These services, lighted by torches, were largely attended and many, aroused by the preacher's exhortations, shouted and screamed and twisted in strange contortions in a high, emotional fervor.

The town did not lack for society with a capital S. On South First Street were the mansions of the Gardners, the Nelsons, the Cases and Lewises, the Thomas Hunters and the Pratts. The Gardner home, now the Chamber of Commerce, was said to be modelled after a castle in Spain and its lawn was enclosed

by a specially designed iron fence, part of which still remains. Many of its furnishings and decorations like the Delft tiles of the fireplace were imported from Europe. All the village liked to watch when Miss Alice May Gardner went out for a ride. Beautifully dressed, hatted and gloved, the picture of gracious dignity, she sat behind her ramrod stiff coachman who guided the sleekly groomed horses with their jingling, silver mounted harness through streets untainted by the fumes of gasoline.

These families and others equally prominent in homes on South Fourth St. or near the Park usually had one or more "hired girls", as they were called who lived in the family home and did the cleaning, laundry work, mending, cooking, baking and caring for the children. Many of them spent most of their lives with the one family, serving with a loyalty and affection as great as though the family belonged to them. And in many, many cases the feeling was mutual. Many of these families were very charitable and civic-minded. A group of them were responsible for setting up a hospital in a large house on W. Fifth St. These families gave elaborate dinners, whist parties, musicales, sedate dances where the waltz alternated with the two-step and progressive parties with the guests moving from one home to another. When their sons and daughters married, the weddings were events to be long remembered. The local papers devoted columns of front page space to the wedding gifts, the guests, the decorations, the refreshments, the costumes of the members of the wedding, all in great detail. One of these notable weddings was the marriage of Miss Edith Hamilton to Victor Case Lewis who later served many terms as mayor and as the assemblyman from this district.

In more modest homes, the most important room was the kitchen. The front room or parlor was used only for special occasions, such as weddings or funerals or when the pastor came to call. Otherwise, the slippery, horse hair covered furniture with a marble topped center table holding a plush-covered family album and a stereopticon served mainly as a status symbol. The family living was done in the kitchen and the "sitting room". The kitchen was really the heart of the house. The big, black, coal burning range gave out a steady heat that also warmed a bedroom just above it. A reservoir at one end of the stove supplied us with warm water. From its oven came crusty loaves of home made bread, roast pork or roast chicken, molasses cookies, apple, mince and cherry pies, Johnny cake, ginger bread and rich, dark chocolate cake. Not a mix was in existence. On the hot front griddles we could roast chestnuts and pop corn in a wire popper. The

cat purred away close by while the dog snoozed on a piece of carpet behind the stove. Oil lamps stood on wall brackets and red geraniums blossomed on the window sill. Near the window was a rocking chair where the mother or grandmother would sit with the mending or would rock the baby.

When everything in the kitchen had been put in apple pie order for the night, the family adjourned to the sitting room where the big Rochester burner lamp on the table gave plenty of light for the father to read his paper, the children to do their lessons and the mother to sew. When neighbors came in, conversation made the evening interesting. The talk ranged far and wide - the weather, Bryan, Teddy Roosevelt, village problems, Carry Nation, the Boer War, Admiral Dewey, Dan Patch and Mr. Dooley. And by nine thirty the family had settled down for a good night's sleep.

But there were other homes in the town, down in the low-lying nor thern section called "the flats", where the families were well acquainted with cold, hunger and insecurity. Boys and girls came to school in ragged clothing with bare feet till snow forced them to stay home for lack of shoes. Only in the direst extremity would a family ask the poor master for help because to accept such aid was considered the blackest kind of disgrace. Usually the poor master was very grudging about granting help and the allowance was so skimpy it was hardly enough to keep body and soul together.

But a champion arose for the people of the flats and he made Fultonians feel guilty about enjoying their comforts and even luxuries while others within a few blocks were without food and shivering with cold. This man was Samuel Green who had grown up in England where he had been an earnest member of the Methodist Church. He worked at his trade for a living but his spare time was spent on the flats, visiting the sick in the rat infested shacks, begging food and clothing for destitute children and struggling with the fathers to break the habit of drunkenness that caused so much of the misery.

His church gave him a license to preach and he began to hold services for these people in what they called their homes. One day when visiting an old Negro woman who was close to death, he found the wife of Judge Ransom Tyler, a woman of the utmost kindness and charity, trying to relieve the woman's suffering. When Mrs. Tyler asked what could possibly be done to better such conditions, he told her of his dream - to build a chapel right there on the flats with a hall that would be a center where old and young might come for practical as well as spiritual help, a center for teaching and wholesome recreation, a place that could bring a little hope into their

drab lives. She promised her help. Though she died about a year later, she set in motion a campaign for such a building. Frank E. Bacon, who later became a leading merchant in Syracuse in the firm of Bacon and Chappell, took the lead in raising funds, and Grace Chapel, a little white church on North First Street with a big recreation hall in the rear, became a reality. There until his death was Uncle Sammy, as the children called him, working constantly to bring a better way of life to the flats. The village officials made him truant officer and commissioner of charity. (He refused to be called the poor master.) It was said of him, "He hated the sin but never the sinner and the good he accomplished was great beyond measure."

Another man of that period much in the public eye was the head of the Fulton village schools, Prof. B.G. Clapp. Pupils and teachers alike stood in awe of him. He was a big, paunchy man whose pink face and bald head had a fringe of white hair and scraggly beard. He had a cold blue eye that made even the boldest quail. Once after he visited a new first grade, Miss Gertrude Farrell, the teacher, asked whether any child knew who he was. One awe-struck boy raised a hand to ask, "Was it God?" I often wonder what he would make of the permissive discipline in today's schools, for he firmly believed that sparing the rod spoiled the child and he wanted no spoiled children in his schools. Yet under his direction the schools attained high rank among the others in the state and later, when the two villages were joined to make the city of Fulton, he succeeded in the difficult task of unifying the two very independent village systems.

Another figure looming large in the life of the town was that of Willis Nelson. His father, Roger Nelson, came to the town of Volney when there were only three dozen families in the whole township. In his prime Willis Nelson was like a one-man corporation, a real tycoon. He owned farms which supplied some of the wheat used in his mill and wood lots where men cut timber all winter. When seasoned, this timber was used in his boat yard to build canal boats. He had a cooper shop to make barrels in which he packed his flour. His big Genesee flour mill at the east end of the lower bridge turned out thousands of barrels of flour each year. His fleet of canal boats carried the flour from his own and other mills, and salt from Onondaga to towns and cities from Oswego to Buffalo and to New York City.

He was an officer of the Fulton Savings Bank, trustee of Falley Seminary, supervisor for the town of Volney, elected four times to the office of village president, a trustee of Mt.

Adnah Cemetery, warden of Zion Episcopal Church (now All Saints Church), an organizer of the Fulton Board of Trade and the holder of mortgages on uncounted pieces of property throughout this whole area. On South First Street he built himself a dark stone house that might well have served as a fort. After the death of his only child, Miss Hattie Nelson, a most determined little lady, it became the Christian Science Church and was later demolished to make way for the Fulton Motel.

In the field of politics and government, two names stand out above all others - Nevada N. Stranahan and Thomas D. Lewis. It is a tribute to their wide spread popularity and unusual ability that these two Fultonians represented the county in the two houses of the state legislature at the same time, Mr. Stranahan as state senator and Mr. Lewis as assemblyman, for it was rare indeed for one town to have two such political plums. Both were active in promoting the insurance reforms of Governor Charles E. Hughes. While active in matters concerning the state, they never neglected the needs of their own district. Senator Stranahan is credited with securing the State Armory for Oswego and when more than a dozen towns strove for the first Nestle Food factory to be located in America, it was Mr. Stranahan who induced the Nestle Company to locate in Fulton. Almost single-handed, Assemblyman Lewis fought for a $5,000,000 appropriation to finance the construction of the Barge Canal as a replacement of the old Oswego Canal. He was also the one who skillfully steered the bill for making Fulton a city through the maze of legislative red tape. He was likewise responsible for legislation to raise the Battle Island Dam, and both men were deeply interested in legislation to improve schools and education throughout the state. This county owes much to their efforts.

In most of the village churches, the pastors changed every few years but Father Patrick J. Kearney served the Catholic people of Fulton and the surrounding area for twenty-seven years, from 1879 until his death in 1906. Born in Ireland, he was finishing his studies to become a doctor of medicine when he decided to go into the priesthood. Throughout his long life, he often used his medical skill to help those in need. When he came to Fulton, the prospect was discouraging. His congregation was small and poor, depending largely on the woolen mill for a living, and his church was an old wooden building, once a female seminary and later a tenement. Yet during his pastorate, he and his people, in spite of slack periods in the mills that sometimes lasted for two years, built the fine church on South Third Street with one of the best pipe organs in the diocese and the substantial brick

rectory on the opposite corner. Father Kearney was a tall, robust man with a keen sense of humor, an interesting talker who read widely and observed closely all that went on in the town. He could be stern, however, as wrong doers found to their sorrow. On the day of his funeral, all city offices and the public schools were closed in respect for a man who never hesitated to speak out for whatever he considered a just cause.

These men are typical citizens in the fields of social service, education, business, politics and religion in the era that saw the nineteenth century ended and the twentieth ushered in. People everywhere felt that a new age of peace and prosperity was dawning. So far, in its first sixty-four years, this century has not lived up to that billing. Wars world wide in scope and terrible weapons that kill helpless civilians as well as fighting men, ruthless dictatorships, torture and mass killings and the awful threat of atomic destruction - these almost make us wish that, in spite of advances in science and invention, we could turn the clocks backward to the simpler and happier world of our childhood.

Pulaskiana

by Helen Elizabeth Bentley

The first settlement according to most of the records was at the mouth of the Salmon River in 1801. Nathan Tuttle and Nathan Wilcox came from Canada and settled at the outlet in 1801. Benjamin Winch, a surveyor, also came that year and settled there, but in 1804 Winch moved to the site of Pulaski. He married Betsy Smith of Pleasant Point.

Mrs. Walter Cuthberston, a direct descendant of their daughter Sally, can remember her mother telling how they used to go over to Pleasant Point to visit the Smiths. She also told me this incident. One day Sally rode down with her father to an Indian village located somewhere between Pulaski and Selkirk. While her father was visiting with the Indian chief, Sally slipped from her horse and stood by the Indian Princess, who was watching a fierce fight between two Indian warriors. Sally learned later that the warriors were fighting for the hand of the Princess. She was to marry the one who was victorious.

Capt. Ira Deane, son of a Revolutionary soldier, whose family settled in Pulaski in the 1820's, said, when he was nearly 97, he remembered the Indian village well with its wigwams, braves, squaws and papooses.

According to one of the records, "Landmarks of Oswego County," Thomas Jones also came here in 1804. Mrs. Cora Miner, L.J. Farmer, and Edward Jones (Edward married Mabel Clark, a daughter of Louis Clark and sister of Emily Clark), all three, Mrs. Miner, Mr. Farmer, and Mr. Jones descended from this Thomas Jones. Mrs. Miner told me her grandmother was so young when they came here from Bridgewater, New York, that her father put her inside his great overcoat to keep her warm on the journey.

Some records say that Thomas Jones' daughter, Clara Jones, and Joseph Spaids were the first couple to be married in the town. Joseph had to go to Selkirk and then go by boat to Oswego to get a magistrate to marry them. They were the grandparents of Dr. J.F. Bradner, formerly of Pulaski.

The first child born here was Benjamin Ingersol, August 28, 1804.

At the beginning of the 19th Century the young government wanted to encourage migration of settlers to the western and northwestern parts of New York state and so land agents were

sent throughout New England to tell the inhabitants the wonders of this region. Pawlet, Vermont, must have been one of the places visited by a land agent and he did his work so well that in 1805 a group of men with axes over their shoulders came across the almost unbroken wilderness of Northern New York to look the land over. The land agent had evidently told them the section had been named Richland because the land was very rich.

These men from Pawlet, Vermont, (some of them were descendants of the Pilgrims who came in the Mayflower) were Ephraim Brewster, John and Simon Meacham, John Woods, Gersham Hale, Philo Sage, and David Kidder. They liked the country, and so they built log cabins and the following year, 1806, brought their families. Other families came and by 1810 there were almost a dozen families here. That year John Meacham opened the first store. By 1812 so many settlers had come that John Meacham sold his store and was able to raise a militia and go twice to the assistance of Sackets Harbor and once to Oswego.

When the first settlers came here, it was almost unbroken wilderness from the lake to Rome.

Mrs. Hugh Barclay tells me that her grandmother told her that the early settlers blazed a trail to Rome and took their grain and other products by ox team to Rome. They took with them a barrel of salt pork to throw to the wolves when they became too troublesome.

From Mrs. Barclay I also learned that they used to have an old goat treadmill churn and that the women used to gather on the bank of the river on a wash day and there cleanse the week's washing. The women made a sort of picnic out of it.

Her great, great, great grandfather, Rufus Price, I learned from one of the histories, came from an aristocratic old Virginia family, that he was a colonel in the Revolutionary Army, an aid on Washington's Staff and a pensioner. He settled here in 1808 on the farm now called Douglaston Manor. His wife, Ruth Grant, was related to the family of General Grant.

Col. Price bought the first buggy that came into the community.

One Sunday he and his sons were caught fishing. The church authorities fined them and took all their salmon.

Pamela Price, the Colonel's daughter, wanted to marry Russell Calkins. The Colonel objected. One day she took a basket and went to the field for cucumbers. There, by prearrangement, she met Russell and the minister, and standing there side by side in the cornfield, they were married.

Douglaston Manor has been in the family for 155 years.

These facts I gleaned from "Landmarks of Oswego County" and from J.H. Monroe's "Pulaski - Past and Present."

Thaddeus Harmon in 1806 settled on the north side of Salmon River. Thaddeus Harmon and his neighbors, like Col. Price, paid for their farms with salmon.

It is said that the early settlers gathered up the dead salmon with pitch forks and used them for fertilizer. In those days, so the story goes, a salmon, as fertilizer, was placed in every hill of corn.

There is another legend that, when the salmon came up the river for spawning, they were so numerous that men could walk across the river on their backs. Mrs. Grove Harmon, Charles Lane, and several others have told me of this old saying.

Once a year Thaddeus Harmon and the rest went through the woods to Albany to make payments on their farms. John Woods brought back from one of these trips the first pane of glass to be seen in this section and on another trip he brought back the first kerosene oil lamp to be seen here. John Woods served as a banker to the early settlers. They brought their money to him to keep for them, and when they needed money they came to him to borrow.

One man needed $500 but had no collateral to offer. He went to John Woods, told him he needed $500 but had no collateral. John Woods handed him the $500 and said, "I'll take your face for collateral." When the man reached home, he told his wife he would pay every dollar of that loan, if he never paid any other, and he did.

His granddaughter told this story to Mrs. Dwight Ellsworth. When she finished, Mrs. Ellsworth said, "That was my grandfather who loaned your grandfather the money."

John Woods' cabin was built near a never failing spring on the land now owned by Mrs. James Chawgo on Route 11. The housewife who lived in the cabin next to his used to come over in the afternoon to sew by the glass window. It was not uncommon at any hour for a party of Indians to announce themselves and request something to eat, or at other times for the family to find a half dozen Red Men asleep on the floor. In order not to step on them Mrs. Woods would light a candle when she went out to warm milk for the babies.

The Indians were wont to call Mrs. Woods "Mother Woods." Once after she had nursed a sick Indian back to health, she found one morning a pair of white beaded moccasins on her doorstep, their thanks for her kindness.

Miss Helen E. Bentley, Mrs. Nellie Clement, Mrs. Lester Dewey, Mrs. Hugh McChesney, Mr. Edwin Woods Warner, and Mr. Norman Woods are direct descendants of John Woods.

The Maltby family came home from church one Sunday to find a big Indian asleep in the spare bed. Imagine their consternation! Dr. Hugh McChesney's grandmother was Mrs. Alta Maltby Austin. Mrs. Austin's grandmother was Beulah Harmon, daughter of the Thaddeus Harmon mentioned earlier in this paper.

Thaddeus Harmon built one of the early frame houses in this section.

The first frame house was built by Erastus Kellogg on the south side of the village in 1816. Later it was moved to North Street to the site of the present Tracy Wilder home. Eli Weed occupied it for 40 years. After his daughter, Margaret, died, it passed to Mrs. Hannah Thompson, who took care of Margaret in her last years. Then it passed to Mrs. Edith Vincent, a sister of Hannah Thompson. Mrs. Vincent had it torn down because it had become a hazard.

Four years later Tracy Wilder bought the property and erected the attractive home that now stands there. When he was about to build a fireplace in the living room, he planned to use brick, but the mason asked him why he didn't use the beautiful granite stones in the back yard. These stones had been part of the foundation of the Kellogg-Weed house.

Tracy followed the mason's advice and afterward brought two stones from the bed of the river back of his factory for the mantle piece. His factory is now the Pulaski Lumber Company. If you have an opportunity to enter his home notice the fireplace, how the mica in the granite shines.

Have you ever noticed the long rectangular river stone in Carl Graham's yard? I wonder how many oxen were required to bring that stone there from the bed of the river.

The second frame house was built by John Woods. It still stands in the Farmer District at the curve of the old Mexico Road. The family moved into this house from the log cabin in 1817. It was 34' longer than it is now, Miss Hadley told me. Her father, when he bought the place, took 34' off the back and moved it down to Route 11. It is now the building back of Mrs. James Chawgo's house. Miss Hadley also said the John Woods' house was called in early days The Tower of Richland, because it stands on the highest point of land in this section (according to the Geodetic Survey made in the 1950's) and the early travelers were guided by the light in its windows. The large stones leading to the front door were drawn by oxen from the bed of the river.

The house Charles Lane lives in is one of the oldest within the village limits. His sister, Harriet Lane showed me an agreement for the sale of the tract of land on which this house stands, 261 3/4 acres for $1,173.37. The sale was from the Pierrpont Estate to the Lane family. The agreement to sell was signed by the executors of the Constable Estate under the last will and testament of William Constable and was dated October 26, 1816.

Mr. Charles Lane said at that time this section was almost unbroken wilderness.

Harriet Lane showed me an old Psalm Primer dated 1818. She has a number of old Bibles and old French books. She has a Psalm of David published by Isaac Watt in 1830.

The Oneida Indians and sometimes the Onondaga Indians used to get their winter supply of fish each year from the Salmon River. They encamped along the shores and on the islands in the river and smoked the fish. While they stayed the squaws made baskets from the reeds they found in the marshes. Then the Indians returned to their encampments 40 miles away loaded with smoked fish and baskets.

In the early days there were no roads, only blazed trails. There was a blazed trail where now is Lake Street, where North Street is, and where Port Street is, besides the blazed trail to Rome.

Fred Whitney said he could remember when he was a little boy seeing the Indians walking down the blazed trail which is now North Street.

Practically all the wood in the forest here was hard wood - maple, oak, and pine. The trees were very large - forest giants. What to do with them when cut down to make a clearing was a question. They burned them, then gathered the ashes, made the ashes into lye, and took the lye to Albany by ox team to sell for the manufacture of soap. They traveled in winter. It was much easier than to travel over rough muddy roads and tree stumps at other seasons.

By 1840 there was a flourishing community, but there was still enough forest for my grandmother to get lost in it one day when she went berrying in the woods across the road from Woodlawn.

When stage coaches began to operate, the people at Woodlawn traveled so often the driver of the stage coach that came through the village at 3 o'clock in the morning always blew his horn long and loud as he approached the hill north of Woodlawn.

The year 1816 was known as the year they had winter all year. It snowed every month, even in July and August.

When that memorable eclipse of the sun occurred in 1806 and plunged the densely wooded country into utter darkness, there was consternation among the little band of settlers. Probably some believed it was the end of the world, but a little later when the sun reappeared, they went back to the day's work.

The village was incorporated in 1832 and in 1839 it was enlarged to its present limits.

According to Mrs. William Elliott Griffis her grandfather on her mother's side, Thomas C. Baker, was a great admirer of Count Pulaski, the Polish soldier who helped our country in the Revolution, and, when the Village Fathers met to choose a name for the growing community, he persuaded them to accept the one he proposed - Pulaski.

The village paid $75 to have the South Park cleared and freed from stumps. Capt. Ira Deane said it took a man with a yoke of oxen two weeks to draw the stumps out.

The early Village Fathers planned to have a continuous park from the Court House to the Methodist Church and from the west side of Broad Street to the river. What a park that would have been! The early Village Fathers made large plans for the future.

Miss Meteill Huntington tells us in her "Bits from Pulaski" that in the early days where Box Street now runs was all a swale except that under the cliff was still a channel in which flowed a stream so deep that row boats came up to the cliff's feet. Here Salmon River once extended from the bank just south of Furnace Street which curves around behind the Benjamin Snow estate to the bank south of Box Street.

Miss Huntington said she never crossed the lowland there without recollecting that she was walking where the fishes used to swim and thinking how the Indians must have loved the river as they looked across its broad expanse to the dense woodlands beyond.

Mr. David Mahaffy, who had the old carding mill on Maple Avenue, could remember when there were no bridges across the river. He said they used to drive their horses and oxen across the river from where Edward's Hardware Store (formerly Brown's Hardware Store) is to the island and then to what is now Maple Avenue. No banks and a good ford. Mr. Mahaffy could remember when he was a boy seeing Rice's Circus ford the river there.

Rice's Circus belonged to Zillah Rice's (Mrs. Thompson) family. She is a relative of Mrs. Albert R. Johnson. She is still living in Pineville. Mrs. Thompson was 97 last December. I went up to call on her last summer and found she had gone to Pulaski to shop.

There used to be a big hotel opposite where her house is. Canal boats were built on Salmon River back of where that hotel stood. The slips where these canal boats were built were visible for a long time afterwards. When the water was high, they ran these boats down the river and took them to Oswego to be used on the Erie Canal.

On the river bank about where Harry Tollerton's and William Brown's homes are, Code Harmon tells me, they built boats to be floated down the river when the water was high and then took them to Oswego.

Before the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation built the lake at Redfield and the one lower down, we often had floods on Lewis Street in the spring when the ice was melting. I recall one time, I think it was about 1900, going down to the short bridge to see the river. Quite a crowd had gathered. The ice and water had risen perilously near the under part of the bridge. Lewis Street was flooded. The Randall Hotel was surrounded by water.

Did you know that this section was once a part of Albany County? More and more divisions into counties were made until we became a part of Oswego County. Just before Oswego County was formed, we were in Oneida County, and today there are records in the Oneida County Clerk's office pertaining to residents of Pulaski.

The town of Richland was formed in 1807, nine years before the organization of Oswego County.

Even after Pulaski was incorporated, mail came addressed to Richland, New York. Mrs. Robert M. Smith (Louise Matthewson Smith) showed me letters dated as late as the 1840's addressed to her family "Richland, New York." Mrs. Smith showed me where someone had scratched on the bottom of the old chest containing these letters J.A. Matthewson 1813. I hope the chest lasts another 150 years.

While we are speaking of mail, did you know that at one time postage could be bought on credit?

J.A. Matthewson, Louise Matthewson Smith's ancestor, and also the ancestor of Stanley Brown (his mother was a Matthewson) came to Pulaski in 1806. His son, Andrew A. Matthewson, learned the printer's trade in the Pulaski Banner, our first newspaper, under Nathan Randall. He purchased the Richland Courrier, a sheet afterwards merged with the Banner. Later he wrote novels and short stories.

The old Matthewson homestead was afterwards the home of Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Hill and is still standing. It is the house north of the Esso Station at the corner of Salina and Port Streets. The lawn formerly ran to Port Street and back of the

home in earlier days was a woods called McCarthy's Woods. I understand the Matthewson-Hill property formerly belonged to McCarthy.

At one time Route 11 was called the Salt Road, because such large quantities of salt were drawn over it from Syracuse.

Elizabeth Ann Erskine, Tracy Wilder's grandmother, said that soft stones in the creek were used for slate pencils. They used them to mark on the large stones on the front of the fireplace. Sometimes they alternated them with coals from the fire. Soft stones, she said, could be distinguished from common stones by their clear look.

The Erskines lived six miles from Pulaski. The mother often walked from her home to the Methodist Church in Pulaski. One Quarterly Meeting she walked all that distance to be there for the "Love Feast." A "Love Feast," Tracy told me, differed from Communion in that they served bread and water instead of bread and grape juice. It was in the days of closed doors. That is, when the meeting began, the doors were locked and no late comer was admitted. Tracy's grandmother arrived just too late. The doors were locked and she had to turn around and walk back home.

Her husband asked her whether she would rather have a new silk dress or a horse and wagon. She chose the horse and wagon and soon her husband came home with a gray horse and a lumber wagon. Then they all went to meeting in the lumber wagon with boards across the box for seats - mother and father on the front board - the girls on the second and the boys on the last board. According to the daughter who relates the story, they were pleasant rides along the south bank of the Salmon River.

When Mrs. Kinney gave us her splendid talk on the old homes of Pulaski, she did not mention her ancestor's home. Her ancestor's home is not in the village limits, but it is, to quote from " Landmarks of Oswego County," one of the most unique houses in the county.

I refer to the Cobblestone House on the Scenic Highway. It was built in 1845 by Daniel Pratt, Mrs. Kinney's great grandfather, and is composed entirely of cobblestones, none of which is larger than a turkey's egg.

Mrs. Kinney tells me her grandfather had the first yoke or team of oxen in this section and the neighbors were delighted to be taken for a ride.

Excerpts from a letter written by Charles B. Pratt:

"My father, Daniel B. Pratt, was born in the State of Vermont 1795 near Brattleborough. He left that state at the age of 21 to go to the far West. He came into this town in 1813.

He bought 150 acres of wild land where I now reside. It was all a dense forest, not a tree cut or a place large enough to build a cabin. He was married in 1815 to Mary Twitchell. They commenced the struggle of life in that primeval forest to make a home for themselves and their little ones. Deer was plentiful, with an occasional bear. Our first wagon was a cart. It was a farm cart, marketing cart, and a buggy cart. We used to visit by cartloads. If we did not have enough people to fill it, we took our neighbors that did not own such luxury as a cart and oxen.

"I remember seeing father plant corn with an ox and I used to hoe in the wheat between the roots of the stumps.

"Our spending money was obtained by picking up wheat one head at a time."

In 1888 Syracuse considered taking water from Salmon River to supply the city.

One time long ago someone decided to build a stairway about where Martha's Beauty Salon is now, to the foot of the hill. What was their surprise, when they began digging, to find, solid and shapely, a stairway of heavy stone cut from the living rock of the river. It had been covered over with earth. Who build it? When? No one knows.

The twin arches of stone just south of Perry Hastings' house were part of the old railroad bridge pier, when the railroad ran along Broad Street and between North and Jefferson Streets to Sandy Creek.

In the early 1890's a man bought these stone arches and was going to tear them down. My sister Sarah loved the arches from childhood. She went around with a petition to the business men of the village and succeeded in raising, as I recall it, $25 to buy the arches for the village, so that Pulaski might not lose something of beauty and of historic interest. I remember Mr. Charles Tollner, Sr. headed the list of contributors. The arches have disintegrated some in the intervening years and are not as easily seen to be enjoyed, but I am glad they are still there, and I presume many others feel the same way about them.

The building which Mr. E. M. Hastings has made into such an attractive home was once the freight station for the railroad.

The Methodist Church was formerly on the south side of the village on the east side of Salina Street, corner of High Street. Dr. and Mrs. Bollinger at one time lived in the Hibbard-Austin house which was later built on the site of the church. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Spoon live there now. The hill was much steeper then than it is now. I remember my grand-

mother told me she often walked down to attend the evening service in this Methodist Church and was sorry when they moved it up on the hill to its present location.

The Academy Grove was a grand place for picnics. At one time there were two swings that hung 40 feet down from the great branches back of the Academy. (Now Peters' Furniture Store.)

There used to be a town clock on the belfrey of the Baptist Church.

There was a sulphur spring that flowed near the river's edge back of the Charles Gurley Estate, the property west of Miss Flora Hohman's house. Do you suppose it is still there?

The house on the hill south of Mr. A. M. Gates' house (two doors away) was once a comb factory. When John Jones, who came to the village in 1808 at the age of 16, married, he moved into what is now the back part of the house. One day his little son, Kendrick found a box of queer looking objects in the attic and brought them down to show to his father. "Yes," said Mr. Jones, "this used to be a comb factory and these are combs, cut but not separated."

Mr. Jones was one of the last veterans of the War of 1812. Mr. Kendrick Jones had his second eyesight and his second growth of hair.

The hill at the head of Maple Avenue was in the early days called "Tallow Hill," because it was much steeper and the the mud deep, it was almost impossible for wagons to go up or down it after rain. They might almost as easily have run through tallow.

The hill where the Acme Market and the Shell Gasoline Station stand today was much higher and was called "Cottage Hill."

Did you know that at one time we had with us a Danish sculptor, a pupil of the great Thorwaldson? Gottfried Borup was one of Thorwaldson's pupils. Heartbroken over the death of his wife and child, Borup came to America to find courage and inspiration to work. Encouraged by Mr. Brockman he moulded the fine bust of Lincoln which bears his name and is highly prized by connoisseurs. In gratitude for kindness shown him, he made and put up a set of ceiling ornaments in the parlors of a house here, where they were proudly kept for nearly half a century, because they were made by a pupil of Thorwaldson.

Mr. Brockman, the man who encouraged Gottfried Borup when he came to Pulaski, was a Bavarian. He came here and lived on Bridge Street. When he first came to this country about 1842, he entered the U. S. Service as a topographical

engineer and was assigned to Col. John C. Fremont as his assistant in his western expedition. He accompanied Fremont on three of his exploring journeys. He served three years during the Civil War. He came to Pulaski and helped Mr. Otto in starting a tile factory. He was an honored member of the J.B. Butler Post, G.A.R., and was buried with the ceremonies of that body May 13, 1901.

One of the most public-spirited citizens Pulaski ever had was Charles Tollner, Sr. He was born in Germany and came in 1846 to Pulaski from New York. Beginning with no capital except his trade, Mr. Tollner established an enterprise that brought thousands of dollars into the community and gave employment to hundreds of people.

For many years a million pencil boxes were manufactured every year and shipped to nearly every state in the United States and to countries in Europe. He also made seed boxes used by Mandeville and King Co. of Rochester, thread cabinets for the Clark Thread Co., pencil boxes and counter boxes for the F.W. Woolworth, S.S. Kresge, J.G. McCory, and other syndicates.

To Charles Tollner, Sr., Pulaski is indebted for natural gas which was enjoyed for many years for cooking, lighting, and heating. Mr. Tollner was so positive that natural gas could be found here that he laid gas mains on nearly every street at the cost of many thousands of dollars before he began drilling.

Mr. Tollner also owned and operated an electric light plant. George Harmon, a descendent of Thaddeus Harmon, had charge of the electric light plant.

Charles Tollner, Sr. died in July 1897.

Jefferson Street, one of the main thoroughfares of the village, was crooked as late as the 1880's. It was straightened during the R.L. Ingersoll term of office as president of the village.

On Jefferson Street, where now stands the Atlantic Gasoline Station, once stood a large temperance hotel. It was owned and run by Robert Lloyd, Mr. Edwin R. Warner's grandfather on his mother's side. In 1861, Mr. Warner tells me, Tom Thumb and his wife and Commodore Nutt and Miss Minnie Warren, sister of Mrs. Tom Thumb, visited Pulaski and gave an entertainment in Tucker's Hall. Tucker's Hall stood about where Jewell's store is now. Mrs. Lloyd had occasion to go to their rooms. When the door opened she saw Minnie Warren, the smallest of the three midgets, lying on a pillow. She was smaller than the pillow. Mr. Warner has in his files a letter from Aaron Burr, his great uncle, telling about President Lincoln calling up 50,000 more troops. Aaron

Burr lived on Salina Street on the east side next to the old red brick school house. Mr. Nelson Peters lives in the brick school house, which was made into a house years ago. The old maple tree under which the children played at recess is still there.

Elisha Burr, Aaron Burr's brother, was Constance Rogers' grandfather.

Mr. Warner has a fine collection of Aaron Burr's Civil War letters.

My sister and I often stopped in to visit with Aaron Burr. He was at that time in late 80's and early 90's, a stalwart old man, keenly intelligent and interested in all that was going on.

Betts' Opera House gave as its opening performance Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice." It was given by a company that came up from New York City. William Spofford was the leading man. Mr. Warner has one of the programs for this performance.

Before I close I would like to speak of a modern Pulaskiana.

I am sure we have all noticed and admired the wrought iron picture of the Lighthouse with a sail boat on the lake and the wrought iron picture of the Long Bridge, but I wonder if we all know how we came to have these works of art. And they are real works of art!

The late Mr. Merritt Switzer designed and made the wrought iron picture of the Lighthouse with the sail boat on the lake, which is at the southern entrance to the village on Route 11. He inspired Mr. Gus Thompson, the engineer of the Long Bridge, to design and make the wrought iron picture of the Long Bridge, which is on Route 11 at the northern entrance to the village.

I hope these random bits of Pulaskiana have made the village a little more interesting to you.

May I close with a few lines from a poem Metelill Huntington wrote for the Centennial of the Congregational Church of Pulaski.

"From far off mountain homes a little band
Stepped forward, gaily crying,
"Westward Ho!"
To where our rolling hills stood forest clad
More than a hundred years ago.
"Familiar grow the hills, the fields, the streams,
Streets ever lengthening, raised their dwellings high
Till this seemed home, and dear and dearer grew
As many a year went by.
"Around their altars generations kneeled

And generations followed.
Firm and fast
Abides the faith they left as heritage.
Though all these years have passed.
"O God, whose love, beyond our dreams, is vast,
. . . . . .
May still Thy blessing rest upon this place
When countless years have passed."

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8. Bits from Pulaski by Miss Metelill Huntington.
   These last two are papers read before the November Meeting 1924 of Ontario Chapter DAR.
   From Old Letters and Manuscripts and Personal Reminiscences-
9. Mrs. John Abbott.
10. Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Barclay.
11. Mrs. Gladys Benedict.
12. Mrs. Walter Cuthbertson.
13. Mr. Maurice Gates.
14. Miss Ida Belle Hadley.
15. Mrs. Grove Harmon.
16. Miss Flora Hohman.
17. Mrs. Herbert Kinney.
18. Miss Harriet Lane.
19. Mr. Charles Lane.
20. Mrs. Cora Miner.
21. Mrs. M. Robert (Louise Matthewson) Smith.
22. Mr. Ralph Snow.
23. Mrs. Merritt Switzer.
24. Mrs. Edwin R. Warner.
25. Mr. Tracy Wilder.
26. Woodlawn Memories and Records
    - Helen E. Bentley

Historical Society Unveils Portrait of Dr. Corey, Patron of Fort Ontario, Nov. 17, 1964

Dr. Albert Corey, State Historian, left a legacy of new ideas, original hypotheses and challenges still to be met, Ralph M. Faust, past president of the Oswego County Historical Society and retired Oswego High School principal, declared at the oil portrait unveiling ceremonies at Headquarters House before a capacity crowd on November 17, 1964. "We, who were fortunate enough to work with him, learned that no problem was too broad to be encompassed by his vision, and no problem too small to elicit his interest and consideration. His friendship and his professional skill has enriched not only Oswego but the whole state for which he labored and gave of his vitality."

Dr. Corey, Mr. Faust said, worked hard to obtain Fort Ontario as one of the State's 23 historical sites and also in supporting the work of local historians. The work to obtain Fort Ontario started 18 years ago this month when he spoke to local people on the procedures to be followed, with the local historical society under President Edwin M. Waterbury playing a key role in the movement. Thomas A. Cloutier continued the leadership work following Mr. Waterbury's death, Faust added.

Mr. Wallace F. Workmaster, Curator of Fort Ontario, described Mr. Corey as a "man of humility and integrity, a man who never within his lifetime sought praise for its own sake. He saw many years ago that Fort Ontario had the historical and physical potential of being developed as a major historical museum."

He cited Dr. Corey's active direction and inspiration as responsible for the development of Fort Ontario.

Miss Anna K. Cunningham, Supervisor of Historic Sites, described Dr. Corey as a man of vision, dynamic energy and leadership, who saw Fort Ontario as offering the greatest challenge among the state's historic areas.

Mrs. Albert B. Corey in her remarks prior to the unveiling termed Fort Ontario unique because of its furnished quarters, and recalled Dr. Corey's research in London to make the restoration authentic.

She also spoke of her husband's joy upon the restoration and the splendid cooperation of Mr. Waterbury, Mr. Cloutier, Mr. Faust and other local leaders.

After the unveiling of the portrait of Dr. Corey, painted by Miss Betty Warren of Albany, Mrs. Corey read a letter from Miss Anna W. Post commending Dr. Corey's services for Oswego and for Fort Ontario.

Mr. H. Fred Bartle, President of the Society, accepted the portrait in behalf of the Board of Directors and the members of the society.

Life and Career of Louis Lavonier, Woodcarver Extraordinary

by Dr. Helen M. Breitbeck

I am honored to have been invited to speak before the Oswego County Historical Society,. particularly since the subject matter is far away from my own special field. Fortunately, our honored guest, Louis Lavonier, Jr., son of the wood carver who is the subject of tonight's paper, is a skilled craftsman in his own right. He is present this evening and will be able to answer many questions about decorative woodwork, wood sculpture and the life of the Lavonier family.

May I present Mr. Louis Joseph Lavonier who will be 84 on July 15th of this year.

Today, February 16th, is a memorable day for Mr. Lavonier because it was the birthday of his wife, the former Esther Theresa Robarge of Oswego.

Carving or sculpture is one of man's oldest activities. Thousands of years before man settled down to an agarian life, he found a way to chip, rub, and scrape a variety of materials into shape. Carvings of bone, horn, or ivory have survived from, perhaps, 30,000 years. Of course, any wood sculpture from that period has disintegrated but common sense tells us that when bone and ivory were carved, wood must have been carved, too, and on a more extensive scale.

Wood carving is a form of sculpture and it is performed by taking away parts that obscure the desired image.

Carver must have:

1. A clear idea of the shape and form of what he is going to carve.
2. Long practice in the use of his tools.
3. He must know how to conquer the very serious difficulty which the grain of the wood presents in every inch of his work.

The art of wood-carving demands a love of beautiful form and a constant pleasure in the use of the creative faculties.

Ernest Wilfred Gilles, grandfather of our honored guest this evening, certainly enjoyed the art of wood-carving and took pleasure in creating design. He passed this love of

wood-carving and artistic endeavor on to his two sons and to his son-in-law, Louis Lavonier.

Ernest Wilfred Gilles was born in France (date unknown) and learned the wood-carving trade in Paris. He came to New York City when he was 21 years old. There, he practiced his trade and his wife (Julia Collier Gilles) ran a French restaurant and boarding house.

While in New York City five children were born to them: Ernest (the eldest), Augustin (who later married Louis Lavonier), Emily, Lilly, and George, the youngest. Ernest was artistic like his father. He designed mosaic floors and supervised the laying of mosaic floors such as in hotel lobbies. George concentrated on interior decoration and apparently was a consultant as an interior decorator. He selected draperies, rugs, and supervised general interior decoration.

Now, you are probably wondering what brought the Gilles family to Oswego. The family moved here through the influence of Jules Wendell, an Oswego jeweler, who ran a store where Green's 5 & 10¢ store is now. Apparently on his trips to New York he used to enjoy Mrs. Gilles' food at the French restaurant. He met Ernest Wilfred Gilles and persuaded him to move to Oswego.

The entire family arrived (probably in the year 1868 or 1869) and Mr. Gilles started his own cabinet and wood carving shop located approximately where Markson's new furniture store is now (West Bridge St.). Later he moved the shop across the street to the Kendig's corner.

The city directory indicates that Anthony LaTulip was his partner in 1869 and Ernest Waite in 1870. By 1874 no other names were listed as partners in the Gilles shop. An interesting advertisement in the 1869 directory says:

> "E. W. Gilles: late from Paris and New York: cabinet maker, wood carver, interior decorator. Wood carved figures of every description."

Information about the wood carving of Ernest Wilfred Gilles is sparse. Louis saw his grandfather only twice in his life, once at age of 12 when he, Mother and sister went to New York, once when he came to Oswego. One reliable piece of information is that Mr. Gilles carved and constructed the main altar which is now in St. Paul's church here. The Lavoniers, father and son, carved the Virgin Mary altar, now placed at the right of the main altar although originally it was placed on the left. Also, Gilles worked in the Irwin house, located at E. Utica and E. 6th St. which is now torn down.

Actually, Mr. Gilles didn't make as good a living in Oswego as he did in New York. Mrs. Gilles liked city life and she persuaded him to return to New York. Since the Gilles wood shop was not mentioned in the 1880 edition of the city directory, we can assume the family had moved back to New York by that time.

In New York Gilles had a good position as a designer of interior decoration. They must have enjoyed a comfortable income because, after retirement, they purchased property in Florida and lived there for a number of years. Following the death of Mrs. Gilles, the grandmother of Louis Lavonier, Jr., Mr. Gilles married again. Further information about him is not known.

Louis Joseph Lavonier was born in Champlette, France, September 26th, 1852. His father's name was Claude Lavonier and his mother's maiden name Annette Andre. He came to the United States with his parents when he was two years old. The family settled in Rosiere, a small settlement about 7 miles from Cape Vincent. Rosiere was a community of French settlers. Louis' parents lived on a farm, and raised sheep.

Louis Joseph didn't care for farm life so when he was a young man he came to Oswego to seek his fortune. Perhaps it was the French language that drew him to the Gilles family. In any event, he apprenticed himself to Mr. Gilles to learn the cabinet-making and wood carving trade.

It was altogether natural that Louis should become acquainted with the attractive elder daughter in the Gilles family, Augustin. The wedding took place September 30, 1873, in St. Louis French Church in Oswego. Father Peltier performed the ceremony. Louis was 21 years old: Augustin, 18 years of age.

Louis Lavonier went into business for himself; Mr. and Mrs. Gilles and the rest of the family returning to New York City. Over the years five children were born.

NAME	PLACE	BIRTH	DIED
Mary Louise Lavonier	Oswego, N.Y.	April 29, 1875	Oct. 30, 1957
Leona Frances Lavonier	Oswego, N.Y.	July 6, 1877	July 4, 1900
Louis Joseph Lavonier	Oswego, N.Y.	July 15, 1881	
Augustine Lavonier	Oswego, N.Y.	March 13, 1886	Feb. 22, 1955
Ruth Marguerette Lavonier	Oswego, N.Y.	Nov. 1, 1893	April 22, 1919

Lavonier's shop was located on West Cayuga Street between First and Second Streets. The shop was on the second floor of a three-story brick building. This building is now torn down and the space is the exit driveway from the A & P grocery store into Cayuga Street. Lavonier, in later years, repaired and refinished furniture in his shop at home at 31 John Street. This building is still standing.

After 59 years of marriage, Augustin Gilles Lavonier died January 25, 1932 and her husband, Louis, died two years later on April 7, 1934. They are buried in St. Peter's Cemetery in Oswego.

It is difficult to pinpoint the dates when Louis Lavonier performed the decorative wood carving which we know about. From 1873, the date of marriage, until 1888 was a 15-year span. By 1888 Louis Jr. was seven years old and he began to remember family activities.

Louis Lavonier worked three years at the Conde House of French chateau type architecture carving interior decorative woodwork. This house was located at the corner of West 5th and Seneca. He also carved the beautiful woodwork and mantles in the Kogan house on West Fifth Street. In 1891-92 he walked back and forth to the Bates-Richardson house to work on the library paneling there.

Lavonier went to work for 3-4 years for the Indurated Fiber Co. following his work at the Bates-Richardson house. The company manufactured many articles from wood fiber such as bath tubs, commodes, and pails. The shop was located at the spot of the present Castaldo Construction Co. on West First Street.

Louis Lavonier Jr. actually saw the bathtub his father carved for Queen Victoria. It was scrole carving; leaves, rosettes, and curliques but no figures or heads. After the final bake process the wood carving was gilded in gold.

The shop produced three kinds of tubs:

1. Plain: no carving, least expensive, used by the common man.
2. A decorated tub in which a composition pressed carved wood was glued on.
3. Hand-carved tub: most expensive model.

The tubs were made of pressed wood fiber which was more difficult to carve than ordinary wood. First the wood fiber was ground, then mixed with a binding agent, then pressed or rolled much as card board or paper is made today. Then the pressed wood fiber was shaped into the bathtub form by being squeezed between two dies. The bathtub was then dried.

This first step in manufacture was performed in the stone building near the river which is still standing to the rear of the Castaldo Construction office on West First Street.

The baked tubs were transferred via a cable into the wood shop. Castaldo's office is a part of this original building. After carving, the tubs were enamalled in the paint shop. Mr. Lavonier says he can still remember the rather strong odor in the paint shop of the amyacetate, the thinning agent for the enamels.

After the final baking process when the enamal was hardened, the wood carving might be further enhanced by gilding.

Lavonier worked 10 hours a day, 6 days a week in this shop and earned 25¢ an hour. He walked back and forth to work from John Street. Lavonier's son says his father was a quiet man who never complained about the long hours he worked. He enjoyed a glass of beer when he got home from work.

Around 1900, Lavonier patented a design for a folding chair. He made one of these chairs for a Sea Captain who was on his way to the Philippine Islands. Mr. Hunter, who owned a furniture store in Oswego, backed Lavonier in manufacturing 1000 of them. They were sold locally and to the Stolk Steamship Co. in New York. Gradually, aluminum and other materials replaced wood for the chairs and he stopped making them.

Gradually, wooden tubs went out of style as copper ones succeeded them. The Indurated Fiber Company passed out of existence.

Lavonier carved the heads which held up the ticket window of the old Richardson Theater. It is a pity that the heads have been lost. High relief carving, or carving in the round, demands much knowledge of form on the carver's part. For example, in carving a head, the carver must know by heart the exact proportions, the position of each feature and he must find these details by a process of clearance which is very confusing.

Louis Lavonier Jr. started to work as an apprentice in his father's shop at the age of sixteen. His apprenticeship lasted five years. He worked by kerosene lamp light.

Louis discovered that the output from the carver's shop declined steadily from the nineteenth century onward. Hand carving ceased to be used on household furniture and for domestic architecture such decoration was no longer in demand. The cause of the decline could be attributed to the increasing use of machinery and to the high cost of labor.

Therefore, Louis learned the pattern making trade. He worked at Oswego Machine Works for three years as a pat-

tern maker, then at the Tonkin Boiler Works in drafting and pattern making. He gained experience in foundry work at Ames Iron Works for ten years, then ran a shop of his own at Hessler's Jobbing Foundry.

He has been employed at Kingsford Pump Works, at Fitzgibbons (for nine years) and retired 18 years ago from Dilts Machine Works in Fulton after 13 1/2 years of employment.

The best evidence of Louis Lavonier Jr.'s skill as a woodcarver lies in the actual furniture that is found in his house today at 127 West Cayuga Street.

A partial list includes a mahogany seat and mahogany Martha Washington cabinet in the front hall; a black walnut butterfly table and cherry coffee table in the living room; a half dozen cherry Hepplewhite chairs; in the back living room, a cherry table with birdseye maple drawer, a mahogany sewing cabinet, a rosewood base for a television set, and a hand carved mantle made when he was an apprentice. The tile in the mantle is made of birdseye maple with rosewood strips between.

In the house, also, are several beautifully hand carved pieces of furniture made by Louis Lavonier Sr. This home has an interesting decor and many stimulating conversation pieces.

I should like to thank Louis Lavonier, Jr. for his gracious hospitality and cooperation; also, Mrs. George Nesbitt for film production and presentation; Mrs. Milton Kogan for her willingness to share with us the beautiful Lavonier workmanship in her home; Miss Juanita Kersey for library research; and Mrs. Robert Bichan for display materials.

In conclusion; Perhaps in this age of machines and rockets we should not expect or even encourage any interest in handicraftsmanship. Some may think the working of wood is becoming obsolete. I don't agree with this attitude. How long would the visual arts remain if their roots, the handcraft arts, are cut away?

Mankind without art, as without religion, would be without order or direction.

There is a mystical quality about the creative work of a man's hands which defies analysis. There is a vital force in the work where the hands are carrying out a creative design. This must be sustained and recognized. Otherwise, mankind will lose the war between materialism and the things of the spirit.

Life Along The Hall Road

by Mildred Boigeol

My interest in the early settlement of the South Road, now called the Hall Road, began in 1939. I was then the teacher at Lansing School, Scriba District #3. At that time there was an enrollment of fifty pupils ranging in age from five to fourteen years.

One day in one of our history classes, while discussing the New England colonies, several pupils asked, "Why don't we find out about the early times along the Hall Road?" Then followed a list of questions. "Who were some of the settlers?" "Why had they come to this area?" "Why was the cross-road called Lansing?" "Why was the highway called the Hall Road?" This curiosity precipitated a most interesting history project, and for several weeks the class members interviewed many of the older residents, whose grandparents had settled there and whose children had been born and reared on the same properties.

From that time on when time permitted me, I continued to search for additional information. I have written this paper just as a class might discuss their findings.

In 1791 John and Nicholas Roosevelt purchased five hundred thousand acres of land between the Oswego River and Oneida Lake, a tract which included most of present-day Oswego County. Three years later they sold most of it to George William Augustus Frederick Scriba, a merchant then living in New York City, for about $80,000. Scriba, in turn, transferred a part of his holdings in the vicinity of Oswego to Jacob Marks. Marks mortgaged the land with the result that it passed into the hands of John Lawrence, an early U.S. Senator from New York, Alexander Hamilton and John Church. The tract is still known today as Hamilton Gore. It later became a part of Scriba Township, and in 1828 the western portion was incorporated into the village of Oswego.

At this time salmon were still running thick in streams. One of the early Van Burens who migrated to Oswego said, "Fishing in the morning until late afternoon gave the fisherman all the fish he could possibly carry home. Salmon was gotten from the Oswego River as late as 1888.

There was also plenty of trout in the streams and the spring season brought mullet.

Then too, there were plenty of deer and squirrels. Wild fruits such as gooseberries, blackberries, wild plums and nuts abounded in plenty.

Among other wild game were ducks, geese, and bears.

The trapping of mink and beaver offered money to the pioneers. These furs often brought as much as seventy-five cents a hide, which at that time was a big price.

A report contained in the October 4th, 1848 issue of the Oswego Times had this statement. The Bloomfields of Mexico made a report to B.P. Johnson, Esquire, Secretary of New York State Agricultural Society on December 31, 1847 that the dairy farmer and many of his class who had emigrated from Herkimer and Otsego Counties had discovered that our soil was admirably adapted to the natural grasses and that the uplands abounded in never-failing streams and trout brooks.

THE COMING OF THE PIONEER FAMILY

Now that we have had a brief summary of how Scriba town came to be, and why people migrated to Scriba, let us find out about one of the early families who migrated to Scriba and located on what is now known as the Hall Road.

The Halls were Quakers who came from England and settled in Rhode Island in 1636 with Roger Williams.

Our story begins with John Hall II, the son of John Hall I, of West Greenwich, Kent County, Rhode Island.

John II was born in West Greenwich, Kent County, Rhode Island in 1763, and married Margaret Richer, a daughter of Keleon Richer of St. Petersburg, Rensselaer County, New York in 1788. The Richers had migrated from Germany.

They lived in Norway, Herkimer County, for a few years, then moved to the frontier.

Hall paid five hundred and thirty-six dollars, current money of the State of New York for all of Lot 26 in township 17 in Scriba Patent, in the town of Scriba in the northerly subdivision thereof called Hamilton Gore. The same was surveyed by Benjamin Wright containing one hundred and fifty acres. Thus he paid little more than three dollars and a half an acre.

In the month of March 1814, John Hall II and his sons John III, Keleon, Ephilet, and Daniel II journied to Oswego with an ox cart and tools, where they took up their newly acquired land on the North side of the Hall Road, beginning at the present City Line Road and extending to the present home of Donald Gilbert. This tract of land contains between one hundred fifty and two hundred acres. Additional acres were purchased by his son, Daniel II.

John II and his sons remained on their newly acquired land during the spring and summer months, clearing spaces for their dwellings and erecting log cabins.

Daniel II was a carpenter by trade and together with his father and brothers built their first log cabin upon a knoll just east of Wine Creek and Wine Creek Swamp. Upon this knoll today is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Michel Cerklivich. (Dwight D. Stone whose mother was Laura Hall, a daughter of Daniel II, was born in this log cabin. She married George Stone, a grandson of Jehiel Stone who settled at Scriba Corners.)

Upon completion of this log cabin the Halls proceeded to clear the land just east of the City Line Road on the north where later Jesse Bennett erected a brick dwelling. Today this property is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bond. Here another log cabin was built. This was to become the home of John II, his wife Margaret, and their unmarried children. In later years this cabin became a slaughter house.

These cabins had puncheon floors. Basswood was most often used, also birch and water beech. The Halls probably used one of these kinds of trees for their floors. They would cut down a good sized tree into logs of proper length and then split them in half. Both edges would be hewn off leaving the sides three or four inches wide. The upper surface was smoothed with a broad axe and plane. These were laid on the ground and made an attractive floor. When scoured with sand, water, and a splint broom the floor stayed white and fresh.

In the fall of 1814, after completion of the cabins, John II and his sons returned to Herkimer County to spend the winter and await the approach of spring.

When March of the next year arrived all of the Hall family consisting of seven children, namely Daniel II, twenty-six year old, and his wife Jerusha King, Hannah, twenty-two, Keleon, nineteen, Eliphlet, sixteen and John III, fifteen, Mary, thirteen, and Leander, ten, started their journey to Scriba to make their permanent home. Again they came with their ox teams, wagons, their tools, and all their household goods, leading and driving their cows and sheep.

Dwight D. Stone, who was making his home in Coolidge, Arizona, at the time of preparing this story, stated that he had at his old home at Black Creek the old wagon seat upon which John II and his wife Margaret sat during this journey. Margaret carried upon her lap a mirror to prevent harm coming to it. Among other articles were a small keg which contained their drinking water, also a Dutch pewter beer pot,

a bread tray, and a wooden pestle, and mortar. When Mr. Stone disposed of his home at Black Creek these articles were removed to his son's home at Cortland.

As soon as John II and his family were settled, they cleared additional land and built stone fences. In time they added extensive apple orchards.

Later John II with the aid of his sons built a sawmill on Wine Creek. This creek ran at the foot of the knoll upon which John II had built the cabin. The mill was referred to as Little John's Mill.

As time went on, the Halls built several frame houses. One frame house was built just east of the Bond's brick home. After the purchase of John Hall's farm by Jesse Bennett and by a still later owner, Paul Schneible, Schneible sold this frame house, and it was moved across the Hall Road to land on the south side of the road. This house still remains on the south side. Many families from time to time have occupied it and it has seen many alterations. The last Hall family to dwell in this frame house before it was relocated on the south side was William Hall, whose father Thomas Hall was a cousin of John II.

Another frame house was built just east of the Lamb Turkey Farm. This home was purchased by Charles Boigeol in 1875.

Still another frame house was built by John Hall III upon a knoll east of Wine Creek between the present Boigeol farm and the farm of Michel Cerklivich. John Hall, III and his wife Abagail lived there until 1838 when they sold it to John Boigeol.

The fourth frame house was built by Daniel II in 1831. This house is owned today by John J. Downey and known as the Lamb Turkey Farm. It was the first clap-board house on the Hall Road. The clap-boards may have been sawed at Little John's Mill. This home had five fireplaces, two upstairs, two downstairs and another in the east end of the cellar. The cellar and cellar fireplace was used as a summer kitchen. Hung around the fireplace and wall at convenient places were the cooking utensils.

A huge woodshed was built by the west end of the house and huge doors opened at both ends with a width of twelve feet, through which teams could be driven with their loads of wood. The shed was painted a good old substantial red.

In later years Daniel Webster Hall, son of Daniel II lived in this house.

After the death of John II in 1827 his wife Margaret lived alone but was finally persuaded to come and live with her

grandson, Daniel Webster Hall. In her lonliness for her husband she found great joy in cooking over the huge cellar fireplace and in sitting by the warmth of the fire in colder days. This fireplace required a quarter cord of four-foot wood every day. Finally a heating stove was provided for Margaret. At first she objected to the stove but as time went on the warmth and coziness of the stove meant more to her than had the fireplace.

One unusual feature of this cellar was the lathed ceiling which was covered with plaster.

JOHN HALL II'S CHILDREN

Daniel II the eldest son of John II and Margaret Richer Hall, was born in Petersburgh, Rensselaer County May 22, 1789. He had worked at the carpenter and joiners trade previous to his settlement in Scriba, and upon arriving here continued to labor in his honorable calling, and the first few years were passed in erecting buildings in the city of Oswego. He worked sixteen and seventeen hours a day at fifty cents a day. Sometimes his work would net him seventy-five cents a day. On days when it was too stormy to work outside he made tables, bureaus and other furniture for the house.

Mr. Hall had been a resident of Scriba but a few years when he was called upon to fill various offices. In 1823 he was elected Assessor and in the years 1841, 1848, and 1849 held the office of Supervisor.

Mr. Hall married Jerusha King, daughter of David and Lydia King. Jerusha was born in Bolton, Tolland County Connecticut, May 3, 1795. She and her family moved to Herkimer County in 1798 or 1799.

Born to Daniel II and Jerusha were eight children-- Irene, Alexander, Charles, Calen, Daniel Richer, Laura, Margaret, and Daniel Webster.

Jerusha K. Hall died May 10, 1844, and on March 12, 1846 Daniel II was united in marriage with Miriam Littlefield of Volney, who had been born August 1, 1801 in Kings Washington County, New York. Miriam died October 24, 1867.

Mr. Hall was an active member of the old Whig party, and upon the organization of the Republican party became an earnest supporter of its principles. He died January 4, 1874, at the age of seventy-five.

Mr. Hall and his wives are buried in the South Road Cemetery now known as the Hall Road Cemetery.

Hannah Hall was born in Petersburgh, Renssalaer County June 1, 1793. In 1801 she accompanied her parents, John II and Margaret Richer, when they moved to Herkimer County.

She came to Scriba in 1815, at the age of 22. Hannah never married but her life was filled by doing kind things for others and administering to the sick. She doctored with herbs which were the common remedies of her time. Bleeding was a common remedy for various ills, and Hannah was experienced in this field. She died January 30, 1835 at the age of forty-two. Interment was made in the Hall plot beside her mother and father.

SOUTH ROAD TOLL GATE

Just west of the City Line Road, there was once a toll gate operated by a man named Allen. A toll of six cents was obtained for maintenance and overhead expense as there was no subsidy from Uncle Sam in those days.

The road was originally a plank road, although it was actually a common dirt road with the smooth surface of logs placed face up in the low, swampy places. The road finally became so terrible that the toll gate was torn down. Twice again it was replaced only to be destroyed each time.

The toll gate was actually a long pole or bar across the road, lowered or raised by a pulley. When a team approached the gate, Mr. Allen came from his house, collected the toll fee, then raised the pole or bar to allow the team and owner to proceed on their way to Oswego.

Men who traveled the road oftenest were the meanest. These men felt that the road would last forever, therefore toll was not needed and they refused to pay.

Another account related to me was about a family by the name of Jordan who lived in the former toll gate house. Mrs. Jordan, a tricky being, collected toll from strangers who weren't aware that a toll fee no longer existed and that the road was free to all travelers. Mr. Jordan was nicknamed "Bumble Bee Jordan".

Another toll gate had also been established one-half mile east of the present Klocks Corners. This toll gate was the only one that ever actually reaped its legal toll from all of the travelers. The corners were so called as Jeremiah Klock was one of the early settlers at this corner. Jeremiah owned the land which today is the property of Harry Jones.

THE MUCKLAND FLAT OR BENSON' S FLAT

In the summer many people traveling east on the Hall Road note the vast area of muckland growing lettuce and onions. This was once a vast swampland.

In the early days, portions of the swamp became a great congregation center for the teen-agers skating arena. The youngsters from the Benson, Lamb, Boigeol, Hart, and

Kehoe families gathered many an evening for a skating party.

During the afternoon of a scheduled party, several of the boys would meet and clear the ice, also gather a huge pile of wood for the evening gathering. When the happy group met, the wood was set ablaze. The brillance of the fire on the clear, cold night provided the light and warmth for the merry group. What delightful memories were carried by these same people in their mature years!

Ward Spencer and Albert Simpson were among the first to clear their portion of the swamp, to drain it and begin the first cultivation of Boston lettuce.

Since then, many acres of the swamp have been cleared and each year finds another acre or more.

As the swamp was cleared, one might see huge piles of stumps which had been taken from the muck, burning night and day. Occasionally the fires would ignite the muck, and it would be days before the fire could be extinguished, the muck being decayed wood and vegetable matter.

One of the interesting facts discovered upon the clearance of the swamp was its depth and fertility. Another was the discovery of pine logs which had been buried for many, many years. When the logs were pulled from the muck, they were found to be as solid as the day they had fallen. The muck acted as a vacuum or the logs would have completely decayed. It was a mystery when hundreds of pine logs taken from the muck were found to lie, most of them, in the same direction. Whether this was due to a cyclonic wind, a glacier or a strong current of the water during a flood has never been ascertained.

The swamp was very deep and, in the early days, formed a morass providing refuge for mink, muskrats, and raccoons.

To prove the depth it has been said that when a tall pine was cut, and if the tree lodged its top in a near-by tree, the stump of the tree was chopped so that the butt of the pine would slip off. Then the tree would settle nearly vertical, clear up to its limbs in the wet muck.

The portion of the swamp nearest the Hall Road was not so heavily wooded and grew mostly to alder and other small bushes.

This vast swamp was covered with water to a depth of 10 to 15 feet.

Clearing the swamp was begun at least fifty or more years ago, and each year has seen many more acres cleared. Around 500 to 600 acres are under cultivation today, making it the biggest muck section in Oswego County.

SOUTH ROAD BRICK YARD

Just east of the Hall Road Railroad track to the North was once a vast area where red clay was found.

The making of brick was begun in 1840, and operated by Duke Wellington, a man of 350 pounds from Albany, New York.

It was not an uncommon sight to see laborers stripping the top soil and bringing forth huge shovels of heavy, dripping clay. Other laborers wheeled the heavy loads of clay, which were placed in forms, and later baked in kilns or drying furnaces. There were several kilns in which the bricks were baked, each being fed with wood to produce the necessary heat. At a distance one might have seen large piles containing thousands of bricks ready for disposal and sale in Oswego and surrounding areas.

It is possible that, due to the weight of the wet clay, oxen were used to haul the heavy loads. Oxen may also have been used to tread and mix the clay ready to place in the forms. To prevent breakage, thick layers of straw were placed over the brick.

East of the clay pits was a low ridge, always green. It has been stated that this ridge contained the leached ashes from a potashery formerly located there.

The brick-making was done well over 100 years ago. Until recent years, this area was known as "Brick Yard Flat".

When brick-making ceased, the land grew a crop of grass and the area became a common pasture.

In later years, Edward L. Saisselin, who came to Oswego during World War I, acquired several muck farms. Lettuce was the chief muck crop. After it was cut and packed, it was hauled to the side-tracked box cars of the Ontario and Western Railroad at the Hall Road Crossing. Here it was loaded and shipped to New York City. Ice was needed to keep the boxcars cooled in order that the lettuce would be crisp and fresh upon arrival at the New York market.

Mr. Saisselin erected a large cold storage building near the tracks for storing ice, and many tons were stored in this building.

During the winter season this brick yard area was flooded by damming the stream called Harbor Brook which drained the swamp to the South.

During the zero weather of January and February, the water of the flooded area became frozen, usually 12 inches or more in thickness. Then men with teams were hired to scrape the snow from the ice and mark off the cleared ice in squares. Other men were hired to cut the cakes of ice which were floated to the storage house. This ice could be used

only for refrigeration of lettuce, as the cakes often had leaves and weed stalks frozen in them.

Some seasons there was a scarcity of ice due to the lack of freezing weather. Ice was not frozen thick enough to cut and would have been dangerous to teams and the laborers.

In time, the Independent Ice Company was organized with Mr. Raymond Tyler and Mr. Saisselin as partners. The business of manufacturing ice was begun. The firm produced 2500 tons a day and serviced all the cars which carried lettuce and vegetables from the Saisselin muck lands as well as other muck producers. A retail ice business was also carried on.

As time passed, the Saisselin muck land storage passed into other hands. In 1964 the storage burned and people of Oswego well remember the smoke and odor of tons of cocoa beans which burned for many days and nights.

To the south of the Brick Yard was a vast swamp. Today many acres have been cleared and rich muck lands exist, and are operated by the Ferlito brothers. Bordering the muck to the west the Davies Sand and Gravel have located their plant.

PURCHASE OF THE HOME OF JOHN HALL II AND ABIGAIL HALL BY JOHN BOIGEOL

John Boigeol was born in the village of Badevel, Boubs, near the Swiss border in France. He came to this country with his brother Pierre in 1828 under the guardianship of a cousin George Boegeol. John was 17 and Pierre 11 years old. It is believed that they located in Colosse as many other French families had located there. It is presumed that the Boigeols became cheese makers.

John married Magline Piquet of Deed, Little France and came to Oswego, buying property owned by Gerrit Smith on East Fifth Street in 1841 and 1842, then known as East Oswego.

Statements from the family were that John operated a machine shop where the Bell Telephone Office is located today.

In 1852, John bought the frame house and 2 acres of land owned by John Hall II and his wife Abigail. This homestead was located east of Wine Creek on the North side of the road. The house stood on a knoll between the present Boigeol barn and Michael Cerklivich's house. Here he brought his family and engaged in farming. Soon after, he bought the adjoining 58 acres to the west.

At that time, the South Road or Hall Road did not extend due East and West as it does today because of the vast Wine Creek swampland to the south. To avoid the swampland the

road wound its way across Wine Creek to the north and then back to its original route, east and west.

Just across Wine Creek was a blacksmith, presumably operated and built by one of the Halls. John Boigeol moved this building and added it to his home where it was remodeled into a modern kitchen of that time.

John and Magline had seven children, three dying in infancy. Charles and Louisa were the only two children to marry. His son, John Jr., died in Washington, D.C. of wounds received in the Civil War. All of John's family except Charles and Louisa were buried in the South Rural Cemetery.

Charles Boigeol married Clara Spencer in 1875. They purchased the dwellings and 2 acres of land owned by Daniel Hall II. This portion of land stood between the Lamb Turkey Farm and the present Boigeol home. Charles farmed his 2 acres plus that of his father (John), some 62 acres in all.

About 1896 Charles built the present Boigeol home and in 1905 a large dairy barn. Upon his death, the farm came into the possession of his son, William.

After the barn was built, Charles' daughters Lillian, Fannie, and Helen decided to christen it. Many of their friends were invited, and dancing upon the newly laid floor was the pleasure of the evening.

SAMUEL BENSON

Samuel Benson, the son of Peletiah Benson, was born in Cooperstown, New York, December 4, 1804, and came to Oswego in 1824 with John B. Edwards who had been his lifelong friend. Mr. Edwards superintended the construction of the Oswego Canal Company's Hydraulic Canal.

Samuel Benson bought a farm on the south side of the Hall Road from a family by the name of Blood. (Lots 38, 39, Scriba Township #17). Mr. Benson cleared some of the land and then brought his parents from Otsego County, accompanied by several of his sisters and brothers who were to share his home.

In August 1834, Samuel Benson married Jane Himes, daughter of Seth and Prudence Campbell Himes of Scriba.

The original Benson farm included 146 acres, a barn and a small brown house. This land extended far to the south and upon a hill stood a small house and barn.

Samuel Benson, known as Captain Benson, built this small house and barn upon the hill. To reach these buildings, Mr. Benson constructed a road through his property. This was the only accessible route because of the swamp to the east. The road was nicknamed the "Bi-O".

Samuel Benson did extensive farming and also custom slaughtering for all the farmers, far and near, charging .50¢ a head. The old slaughter house stood where the present Davis Brothers' slaughter house is located today.

After the death of Samuel Benson the property came into the possession of his son James. James Benson married Mary Snyder and to them were born five children: Pearl(Lamb), James, Adelbert, Marie (Gilbert), and Samuel.

About 1905 Mr. James Benson built a new house to replace the small homestead. This was a very attractive home with a large, rounded porch extending on the east and north side. He continued farming as his father had done, and was also among the first to realize the possibilities of developing muck-land. Therefore he cleared his portion of the swampland to the east, drained it and cultivated it for more than 15 years. His principal crop was Boston lettuce which was shipped to New York and Boston markets.

Mr. Benson lived to see muckland cultivation brought to a high point of production in Oswego County.

After the death of Mrs. Benson, the muckland was sold to extensive lettuce growers, and in 1960 the home came into the possession of the Davis Brothers who now carry on a custom slaughtering and meat processing business there.

THE PILLARED BRICK HOUSE

On the northern side of the Hall Road, east of the City Line Road stands a large brick home, now the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bond.

The brick house is reported to have been built by Jesse Bennett, born April 16,1785, died 1859.

Jesse Bennett came from Herkimer County and dealt in real estate. At one time he lived across from Ames Iron Works on East Cayuga Street. Recorded deeds in Oswego County Clerk's Building show that Jesse Bennett purchased from the State of New York, the south half of Lot #52 in block #82, formally in the village of East Oswego. This deed was witnessed by Horatio Seymour, Governor of New York State, at Albany, April 18, 1852.

Mr. Bennett's wife's name was Harriet (Hall), and to them were born two children, Norman and Naioma. Norman went to Canada where he lived until his death. Naioma Bennett married Jacob Richardson. (Jacob Richardson, born 1818, died 1854 - Naioma Bennett Richardson, born 1818, died 1890).

Mr. Bennett intended to make his home and grounds very elaborate. The grounds were to include a spacious race

track. Information given me was that the Cavalry of Company I of the New York State Guard drilled on horseback on this track, because of its level space. However, before all of Mr. Bennett's plans were completed, he died of a sudden attack of apoplexy in 1859.

The Bennett home was a large, square-roofed brick dwelling with a glass cupola in the middle of the square roof from which one could view the countryside for a long distance. The brick may have been purchased from the Brick Yard Flat.

A hall extended through the house, connecting the western and eastern wings, the wings being constructed alike. The western wing became the living quarters of the housekeeper, Lorinda Fink. We know little of Lorinda except that she was born in 1802 and died July 28, 1887, at the ago of 85. Her remains lie in the South Road Cemetery. Mrs. Lyman Lamb has in her possession the basket quilt blocks which Lorinda had pieced in her elderly years. After the Bennett's death, Lorinda made her home with Daniel Hall of the Broadway Road.

The brick walls of the house consisted of two layers of brick. Inside were five courses, or layers, laid lengthwise, and the next course of bricks were laid end-to-end. This made spaces between each of five rows.

The walls were plastered directly over the brick. This made most of the rooms sound-proof. The rooms were 11 foot high and some of the ceilings were painted to represent the sky.

The hall was panelled in blue and gold, and the rooms on the east side of the hall were panelled and done in terra cotta and outlined in gold. The room known as the parlor had its walls painted with pastoral scenes.

Many tales have been told of Bennett's strange ideas. He was sometimes called "an Old Rebel", "a Hardboiled Cuss", and that he built the western and eastern wings alike in order to prevent conflict between the housekeeper and his wife Harriet.

Another tale was that at his death it was his desire to be buried in Lake Ontario. Consequently he ordered an iron coffin to be made. Again, others have related that the coffin was made of marble and was stored in the attic. Upon his death his remains were to be placed in either the iron or marble coffin and committed to Lake Ontario by being gently dropped into the lake, where his soul might rest in peace.

At his death, however, he was given a Christian burial. His remains lie in Riverside Cemetery. For years after Mr. Bennett's death, the iron coffin was used as a watering trough for cattle.

SOUTH ROAD RURAL CEMETERY

After I came to live on the Hall Road in 1921, my husband William Boigeol and I often visited the old South Road Cemetery which is located at about 200 feet northwest of the Lamb Turkey Farm poultry house. (Daniel Webster Hall's place, now John Downey, Jr.'s). At that time one could walk through the cemetery providing that care was taken to avoid the many depressions due to sunken graves. Even then it was rapidly growing up to bushes and vines. Remaining portions of the fence which once surrounded the plot were still to be seen.

Several years later we felt that unless the names on the tombstones were recorded the time would come when it would be impossible to obtain them. Already bushes were of great height, trees were growing and depressions dangerous to the footing.

One Sunday afternoon, my husband and I armed with vegetable brushes, scrappers, and sticks journeyed to the cemetery to obtain the names on the markers and monuments. We brushed and scraped the moss which had gathered on most of the markers, pulled away grass, weeds, dewberry vines and even chopped bushes to reach many markers. Then, too, many of the markers had fallen and broken and consequently, myrtle, grass and vines had grown between and around them. We had a real task pulling and pushing this debris away in order to obtain the names inscribed. In some instances the stones were broken in many pieces, others lie three or four feet away. These we pieced and placed together in order to determine the name and date.

To record all names possible, we had to spend several afternoons in the cemetery. We recorded 125 names, including 18 Hall family names.

In the summer of 1962, I learned through Dr. Charles Snyder that Mrs. Isabelle Hart had in her possession some records about the organization of the South Road Rural Cemetery.

The following is copied from a 16-page excerpt from a notebook of unknown history, but presumably having come from the Hall family to Eliza Hall Lockwood, and having been given, after her death, to C. I. Kingsbury. Lockwood's house burned, and it is believed that the rest of any records of burials in the plot were lost.

At a meeting held at the School House in School District #9 of the Town of Scriba on the fifth day of December 1848 at Six O'clock P.M. For the purpose of organizing and association Agreeable to an Act authorizing the Incorporation

of rural cemetery association Passed April 27, 1847.

The following Persons were Present at the said meeting: Josiah Webb, J. U. Blood, Zachariah Allport, Erastus W. Kellogg, Isaac Dubois, Samuel Dubois, Benj. Hall, Wm. R. Hall, Amasa Jones, Elias Himes, Daniel Gordon, Elijah Drury, and others Proceeded to business by Resolving unanimously that Josiah Webb serve as Chairman resolved that J. U. Blood serve as secretary Resolved that the Association be called the South Road Rural Cemetery Association. Resolved that we have nine Trustees. Proceeded to elect Trustees by ballot Elected by a majority of the votes cast Daniel Hall II, Samuel Benson, Erastus, W. Kellogg, Zachariah Allport, James Himes, Samuel Dubois, Matthias Pannuk (or "ick"), Elijah Drury, and Wm. R. Hall.

The Chairman and Secretary Immediately Proceeded to class the Trustees by lot: Samuel Benson, James Himes, and Daniel Hall II, First Class: Wm. R. Hall, Erastus W. Kellogg and Elijah Drury, second Class: Samuel Dubois, Matthias Pannuk, and Z. Allport third Class. Resolved that the annual Meeting for the Election of Trustees shall be held on the Second Tuesday of October Annually .

Josiah Webb) Chairman
Joseph U. Blood) Secretary

ELDERBERRY INN

Shortly after the Civil War Charles Himes, an early settler of the Hall Road, built the first inn and dance hall in Lansing. It was on the southwest corner of the Kingdom and Hall roads. It is said that Mr. Himes obtained the lumber at the time of the repair of the lower bridge at Oswego and moved it to Lansing by teams and wagons, a distance of about four miles.

For a grand opening dozens of elderberry pies were baked with stacks of delicious doughnuts and other delicacies. When the night arrived many residents gathered at the inn for the celebration. Dancing was the fete of the evening, and in the process so many elderberry pies were eaten that it was identified thereafter as "Elderberry Inn."

A few years later the hall burned never to be rebuilt. To fill the need Roe Jones built a home on the opposite corner with a dance hall on the second floor. A room downstairs on the east was used as a general store, post office and polling station. He opened his hall with a St. Patrick's Day ball on March 17, 1900. Fifty years later Scriba folk gathered here for evenings of square-dancing.

SPENCER'S EVAPORATOR AND CIDER MILL

Years ago fruit was not preserved as it is today. It was dried or made into preserves. During these years it was not uncommon to see apple dryers or evaporators located throughout Oswego County, especially in the fruit growing region along Lake Ontario. Almost every farmer had an apple orchard which yielded Spies, Russets, Pound Sweets, Pippins, Baldwins, Greenings, Kings and other varieties.

The volume was so large that buildings were erected for the drying of the fruit. In Scriba there was the Walker dryer directly across from the present-day Alroll factory, two dryers belonging to Bertram Turner and a third owned by Albert Simpson at Scriba Corners. John Hart also owned an evaporator just over a mile south of Lansing Corners on the Kingdom Road.

At Lansing Corners a cider mill was erected by Hiram Hart. Later, Samuel Spencer and his wife Anna Wright, who had migrated from Spencerville in Canada and settled on the Kingdom Road, bought the mill and converted it into an evaporator.

The great heaps of rosy and green-checked apples at the evaporators afforded a pleasant aroma and a colorful sight. The apples rolled from the storage bins to the paring tables where operators stood ready to seize them and place them upon the paring machines, which pared and cored them at the same time. Women sat at these tables and trimmed any remaining skins or imperfections. The tables consisted of three or four paring machines with an operator at each machine. Some two to three hundred bushels were pared and cored each day. Operators sometimes raced to process the largest number of bushels in a day.

The peeled and cored apples were placed in trays and carried to a slicing machine, and the slices were then deposited in a bleacher, and dried in an evaporator or kiln. They were bleached with brimstone or sulphur and dried for 24 hours. There were two towers or evaporators requiring the services of two men day and night during the season. A ton of coal was consumed daily.

After the apples were dried they were packed in 50-pound wooden boxes and shipped to markets. A large buyer was J.W. Trombly of Boston. Housewives used the apples for apple and mince pies and fruit cakes. Broken pieces were packed separately and sold for mincemeat. The peelings were bleached, dried and packed in 300-pound barrels, and sold to jelly makers in America and Europe.

The drying season usually lasted from early October until Christmas. Most of the workers were men and women from the Lansing neighborhood.

When canning factories came to the area evaporators were discontinued. The Spencer evaporator was remodeled to become the home of Mr. and Mrs. Orla Gilbert.

LANSING'S POST OFFICE

Before rural delivery of mail hundreds of hamlets across New York had post offices. In Lansing a post office was established in 1877 with Amasa (called Amos) Jones as postmaster. The office was set up in the home of Jones on the south side of the Hall Road just east of the school house. The building housed also a grocery store and harness shop.

Daniel Webster Hart contracted to take the mail from Vermillion to Oswego and return. "Web" as he was called was assisted by Leon and Lyle Hart. There were stops at South Scriba, North Volney and Lansing. Hart carried passengers for twenty-five cents per head; he also did errands enroute for ten cents each. He drove a covered wagon, designed to protect the mail and passengers. He kept three horses, one receiving a rest every third day. The Hart family lived at Sayles Corners on the Hall Road. A post office was operated at Scriba Corners as early as 1867 with William E. Blossom as postmaster.

When the application for a post office at Lansing was made no name for the cross-road existed. It has been related that a candidate for the New York State Senate had promised, "Name the post office after me, and if ever a church is built in your area, I'll donate $100 toward its construction." It would appear that the Senator was Frederick Lansing of Watertown, who represented the Oswego-Jefferson district in 1882. In any event the post office was named Lansing and the cross-road, Lansing Corners. Residents had earlier referred to the corners as "Up to the Corners," or "Down to the Corners," or "Corners."

It has also been said that Senator Lansing honored his pledge, contributing $100 to the Lansing Methodist Episcopal Church.

With a change in politics, the post office was moved to a building used earlier as a cider mill on the west side of the corners. Elisha Manwaring was the postmaster here. He was also a cobbler and did general repair work.

Meanwhile the building which had housed the office during the tenure of Amasa Jones burned. It was replaced by Eugene Middleton who conducted a grocery there. When another political turnover occurred, Middleton, a Democrat,

obtained the plum. But the Republicans came back to power with President McKinley, and Middleton was replaced by Roe Jones. Again the office crossed the road, coming to rest on the northwest corner in Jones' hall. Jones was postmaster in 1904 when rural delivery closed the office.

A variety of amusing stories have been told about Lansing's postmasters. Amasa Jones, nicknamed Rowdy, was said to have read all of the cards which arrived at the postoffice. He applied black harness wax to toughen his thread when he sewed harness in the rear of his store. To make the wax pliable he always kept a portion of the wax in his mouth, chewing it like gum.

LANSING METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

For a number of years prior to the erection of a church ediface religious meetings were held in the district school. Funerals were conducted here, the casket resting upon a large table which was bolted to the floor.

In the winter of 1872-73 it was decided to build a church provided sufficient funds could be secured. Among the most active members were Edward Kingsbury, Hiram Hart, James Sears, A.C. Whittemore, Francis Drury, Stephen Jones, Amos Allport, Daniel Manwaring and Samuel Spencer. Land, just north of the corners was donated by Stephen Jones. Work was begun early in the spring. Elder George Foster was the contractor, and Lester Ladue and Richard Vant were employed as masons.

The ediface when completed had an arched ceiling and a graceful steeple. The interior was lined from floor to windows with chestnut with a black-walnut trim. The casings and seat-backs were also of chestnut and trimmed with walnut.

It was decided to call the church the Lansing Methodist Episcopal. Seats were to be free and open to all.

In 1923 a half-century of service was celebrated. As befitted the occasion, reminiscences and social reunions were coupled with religious observance. The sturdy faith of the pioneers was gratefully recalled, and the inspiration of their lives was pointed out to the participants.

Speakers at the afternoon service included Dr. Albert G. Rudd, pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Oswego, C.I. Kingsbury of Mexico, a former member of the church, David Dean, formerly of Lansing, and Mrs. Addie Sparks who had been present at the dedication of the church.

But interest in maintaining the church ebbed as the older generation passed away and the younger people married and moved away. For a time services were discontinued. Then in

August 1948 William Crouch, who made his home in Lansing, began to conduct services in the church. Mr. Crouch is a member of the Society of Friends, and the church is now identified as the Friends' Church.

SCRIBA SCHOOL DISTRICT #3

The first school at Lansing Corners was erected about 1830. Information supplied by Dwight D. Stone indicates that Laura Hall, his mother, who was a daughter of Daniel Hall, attended school here as early as 1831.

The building stood on the northeast corner of the Hall Road. The entrance of the little red building was guarded by a double-barred door of planks - four inches thick. Its stout structure was presumably designed for warmth and protection. The building seems to have been of plank construction. It was heated by a box stove, which stood in the center of the room and consumed wood-chunks up to two feet in length.

The site was purchased from John Kingsbury for $5.00. The foundation was a dry stone wall, the wall remaining for many years after the building had been moved away. After some thirty years the building was sold and moved to the farm of Samuel Benson, where it was used as a wagon shed.

In 1867 a contract was given to Galen Hall to build a brick school house on the opposite (the southwest) corner. A quarter-acre of land was obtained from the Kingsbury estate.

A rather unusual provision relating to its design and use is suggested in an old document once in the possession of Mrs. Isabelle Kingsbury Hart:

> "Resolved that Amos Kingsbury and other inhabitants of the district as choose to unite with him by authorization to construct and finish off at their expense, without any charge to District 3 in the town of Scriba, a room in the basement of the new school house about to be erected in said district with the right to erect a flue with the said chimney in said school house. The said room to be occupied for no purpose whatever that shall interfere with said school house."

Mrs. Hart recalled that Amos Kingsbury became a Spiritualist, and it is possible that he had this room in mind for Spiritualist meetings. In any case, there were no signatures on the paper, and the plan seems not to have matured.

The new school was also heated by a box stove. Older boys accepted the responsibility of keeping the wood-box filled.

The fifty to sixty students, ranging in age from five to sixteen years, sat on hard, straight chairs. The pupils did not progress from grade to grade, but rather from Group A to Group B to Group C until work equivalent to the eighth grade was completed. Most boys and girls then left school to find employment. Class recitations were conducted with the pupils lined up in a row at the side of the school. They read and spelled aloud.

At one time Eliza Downes Kingsbury, wife of Edward Kingsbury, kept a private school in her home for small children. She charged $5 per student.

In an early Scriba Town Minute Book with records for 1812, A. W. Dunham was named town superintendent of schools. Some of the very early teachers in Scriba, district 3, were John Kingsbury of Lansing, John Simpson of Scriba and Lucretia Wales of the Hall Road. In 1899-1900 the trustee was Harvey Jones. The school commissioner was T. O. Young, who licensed Miss Emma Cushman as a teacher. Miss Cushman had a second grade license, and received an annual wage of $255. She was assigned 65 students.

Licenses were given to teachers who attended a training class. A third grade license was legal for one year only. A second grade license required advanced studies at a training class and qualified the recipient for three years. A first grade license extended for ten years and required the holder to take additional subjects in training school. All examinations were conducted by the school commissioner.

The 1867 school still stands at the Corners, and many memories linger there. In recent years the building has been occupied as a dwelling.

Many tales remain untold about the early settlers along the Hall Road. Perhaps in the future the story may be continued and the coverage extended to include Klock's Corners, another step eastward along the old road.

St. Paul's Church, Oswego

by Catherine Rowe

About fifteen or sixteen families, anxious to perform their religious duties, and to have the services of a clergyman in their needs, who invited the Rev. Father Donahoe, who had charge at the time of Auburn, Rome, and other villages of Central New York, to visit Oswego and to attend it. This he could do, for his pastoral jurisdiction covered the territory in which not only was Oswego, but also other rising villages in the northeastern part of New York State. Arrangements were made to have divine services held in this place every three months, the first service being held in a private house on the west side of the river.

Subsequently services were held, first in one house and then in another, until finally, a lot now occupied by St. Paul's Church, was purchased from Gerrit Smith, and a cheap one-story 20x24 frame building, to serve for church purposes, was erected upon it.

For a number of years, this poor, cheap little building was imposing enough and large enough to meet the wants of the Catholics of Oswego, for their increase in numbers was slow. In time, however, larger accommodations became necessary, so an addition was made to the old building. Even thus enlarged, it was soon found too small for the now fast increasing congregation.

Finally, about 1840, the congregation felt, though still poor, that it should make the effort to erect a larger, more convenient and more befitting temple for religion and one that should meet the requirements of Catholic services at Oswego for all time.

With this view, the immediate preparation for the work was pushed forward so that in 1842 the corner stone of a stone building 55 x 100 was laid during the pastorate of Rev. Father Rogers, and before the winter set in the walls and the roof were completed.

During the pastoral charge of Rev. Father Kenny and Rev. Michael Kelly the church was finished, decorated and a very fine organ installed. Between 1850 and 1868, under the supervision of Father Kelly, the large commodious three-story brick school house, adjoining the church, was erected.

Though the Catholics of Oswego in 1842 thought they were building a large and substantial church that should meet the needs of the congregation for all time, yet it was found in 1871 that more room and better accommodations must be found. Consequently in 1871, the old church was, for the most part, pulled down, and the present church occupies the site of the old. The present church, stone and brick, is 200 feet long by 76 feet wide, and its seats in the body of the church and in the galleries will nicely accommodate about 2500 people.

St. Paul's Church also supported a first class parochial school, in which, under thirteen lay teachers, a comprehensive knowledge of our English tongue and cognate sciences were carefully and correctly taught, without fads or frills. Six hundred pupils were in regular attendance. At the present time the number of pupils has doubled.

In addition to the magnificent church and school property which is owned by the congregation of St. Paul's, is St. Paul's fine organ, which, with its improvements cost $21,000. In regard to the organ, Charles M. Courbin, organist at St. Paul's for some time, came to Oswego August 13, 1904 at the invitation of Dean Barry, Pastor, who had heard him play in the Antwerp Cathedral and had consulted with his organ teacher, Alphonse Mailly of the Royal Conservatory of Brussels. St. Paul's organ was originally built by Farrand and Votey, Detroit, Michigan and was enlarged several times. It has under the altar, an echo organ, which is one of the most beautiful ones ever heard, of five sets of pipes played from its four manual keyboards in the west gallery. The main organ in the west gallery has 64 sets of pipes, a set of 25 tubular chimes, a very fine instrument which Mr. Courbin hopes will be preserved in the new church.

The first pastor of St. Paul's was the Rev. Father O'Donohue. He was succeeded by the Rev. Father Rogers, he by the Rev. Father Kenny, and this last, in 1850 by the Rev. Michael Kelly. Father Kelly was the pastor except during the intermission of a few months until October, 1869, when the Very Rev. Michael Barry, M.R., V.F. was appointed to the place.

Dean Barry was born August 15, 1831, at Castle Lyons, County Cork, Ireland, and was educated in Irish schools. He made his studies for the priesthood at the Grand Seminary, Montreal, Canada, and was ordained in 1861. His first appointment was to Saratoga, where he served from July 1861

to July 1863, going from there to Carthage, where he remained until November, 1869 when his long and fruitful pastorate at St. Paul's began.

Dean Barry of Oswego, who had a keen interest in Catholic education, asked Bishop McQuaid of Rochester if some of the Sisters who had been trained under his direction might be allowed to come to St. Paul's Oswego, to take charge of his school, long his own beloved project. In September 1909, five Sisters of St. Joseph arrived in Oswego to take over the direction of a school which had already been in operation for two generations. At one time a religious order of nuns from Canada had taught at St. Paul's, but for at least thirty years prior to 1909 lay teachers under the direction and guidance of Dean Barry, carried on the work. The Dean himself, taught such subjects as Latin, French, mathematics, English rhetoric, and psychology, and only advancing old age, caused him to turn over the direction of his school to nuns, and then, only to "Bishop McQuaid's Nuns."

The school in 1909 was a unique landmark, three stories high and attached to the church. Boys and girls were on separate floors, necessitating a double set of teachers. Examinations, lasting for weeks, were oral and open to the public. Dean Barry attended all examinations and reserved the right to ask further questions after the teacher had put the class through its paces. He was always pleased if he caught an extra good student off guard. The nuns changed all these unusual arrangements and the school moved into the accepted order of the day. Dean Barry, wary at first, finally grew to trust these women not to "ruin" his school. He died assured on that point.

During the forty years that followed, the venerable Dean won the affection and esteem of his townsmen, irrespective of creed or class. Strong and vigorous in his 78th year, "Oswego's Grandest Old Man" was at once its ideal priest and foremost citizen. Ardent and unyielding as a churchman, an implacable foe of evil, in public or private, he had taken intense interest in the problems which have from time to time confronted the city of his adoption; and to his helpful suggestion and practical initiative many moral and civic reforms were brought about. Indeed, it may not be too much to say, that during the greater part of his service the pastor of St. Paul's had been in himself a personal purity league and a political reform association with ever widening influence and never flagging zeal.

One would need to have known Dean Barry personally to appreciate the type of priest he was. Profoundly intellectual

he spoke several languages and had a veritable passion for education which he somehow managed to persuade his parishioners to share. He did everything vigorously from crusading against liquor traffic, school dances, and baseball on Sunday, and the only organist he allowed to play the organ at St. Paul's, which was possibly the finest in New York State, he brought from Europe. The Dean was a great citizen, as well as a great churchman, and is credited more than any other person with securing lake water and municipal ownership of the water plant in Oswego. The Honorable Charles Evans Hughes, then Governor of New York State, later Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, sent Dean Barry the pen with which he signed the bill, thus recogni zing his leadership in this enterprise. But the school was his chief interest, and it was said that "its graduates spread the name and fame of their Alma Mater to all corners of the world". Many of the sons and daughters of the parish entered the religious life and carried the religious fervor instilled in them at St. Paul's to other parishes and people, and vocations to the priesthood and sisterhood are still being fostered here under the succeeding pastors, assistants and the Sisters of St. Joseph. Certainly many of them have fulfilled the hopes of their old pastor and he richly deserves any honor they brought him for his untiring efforts on their behalf. In 1914 Dean Barry died, and was replaced by the Rev. Timothy F. Howard.

Father Howard, a highly cultured man, provided for everything that would make a school a pleasant, profitable experience, and apparently succeeded, for St. Paul's can point with pride to its accomplishments.

St. Paul's Centennial Observance was held July 5, 6, 7 in 1940. It attracted hundreds of former members of the parish and their families to the city to take part in the Centenary event. It took months to plan for this centennial. The parish Centennial period was also the 25th Anniversary of Rev. T. F. Howard, Pastor. His manifold works were represented by St. Paul's new academy, center of numerous activities of this large parish. Some of the improvements by Father Howard were the installing of a bowling alley in the basement, a large auditorium, class rooms, social rooms, library, etc. Improvements of the church were also carried out and plans were made for further improvements. The Convent was rebuilt after the removal from East Fifth Street to East Sixth Street. The assistants to Father Howard at this time were Rev. Earle F. Anable and the Rev. Edward P. Humphrey who were very active in helping to carry out these improvements at Paul's.

Rev. Timothy F. Howard was pastor of St. Paul's from April 4, 1915 until his death on August 5, 1942. He was succeeded by Rev. Walter A. Sinnott, from September 1, 1942 until he entered the service as chaplin on October 6, 1943. Rev. James M. Shannahan who was later elevated to the rank of Monsignor, became pastor on October 6, 1943, and served until he was made pastor at St. John the Evangelist's in Syracuse, on December 5, 1958. The Rev. Paul H. Martineau, the present pastor, was then appointed on December 5, 1958.

Under Father Martineau the plans for a new Church at St. Paul's to replace the present one are fast coming into fruitation and the dream of the families of generations ago to meet the religious needs of the congregation is still being carried on by the parishioners of St. Paul's.

GENERAL ALBERT LINDLEY LEE

Reproduced from the collections of the Library of Congress

General Albert Lindley Lee

By Martha Jean Broadbent and Grace E. Lynch

For a generation before the firing on Fort Sumter in 1861, the slavery question kept the nation in a turmoil. The various compromises adopted by Congress in hope of stilling the tumult only made the extremists on both sides more bitter than ever. Northerners formed Abolition societies and set up the Underground Railroad to help runaway slaves get to Canada and freedom even though the penalties for such assistance were very severe.

Then came the Kansas-Nebraska Act which declared the settlers in those territories could decide by vote whether slavery should be allowed or forbidden there. The Abolitionists were determined that slavery should not be allowed in either territory. Southerners were equally determined to establish slavery there because the North was outstripping the South in population and in the number of new states so that soon the free states would have power to out vote the pro slavery men in both houses of Congress.

Kansas became the battle ground with true civil war raging there in the 1850's. Pro-slavery men rushed in from slave holding Missouri. Free state men, often financed by abolition societies like the New England Emigrant Aid Society, rushed in from the East. Some abolition groups offered a settler transportation to Kansas, a plentiful supply of food, farm tools which always included a gun and ammunition plus $100 in cash-all in return for a man's pledge to vote to make Kansas a free state. Rival towns were settled and the almost daily raids and skirmishes between the two parties gave the territory the name of "Bleeding Kansas."

Here in New York State there was an active state committee for the relief of Kansas with the wealthy abolitionist Gerrit Smith of Peterboro, owner of an extensive property in Oswego, as a prime mover. Every where groups were busy raising funds and collecting clothing to send to the free soil settlers in Kansas. The daily papers here in Oswego were filled with accounts of their activities, with small hamlets like Hannibal and Gilbert's Mills sending in $100 at a time, a tremendous contribution for those days. In one account in the Oswego

Times, it tells of a woman selling a cow and turning in the money with notice it was to be used for pistols and bullets to be used against slave states.

In Fulton a zealous worker for the state committee was Dr. Moses Lindley Lee, a leading citizen of the village, prominent in his profession, in banking and business and in political life. His wife Ann was a member of the Case family which was important for almost a century in the civic and business enterprises of Fulton. The doctor was an abolitionist and had held a number of village offices. He was then elected to the State Senate and later to the House of Representatives in Washington. He had a wide acquaintance among leading men of the state and these men were often guests in his hospitable home where the doctor's son, Albert Lindley Lee, listened to their conversations about public affairs.

Albert was an alert boy with a quick mind who graduated from Falley Seminary at the age of 15. Four years later he was head of his graduating class at Union College whose president was his father's good friend, the famous scholar, scientist and inventor, Eliphalet Nott. In 1855 he completed his studies at the Yale Law School and opened a law office in the village of Fulton.

In 1858, however, apparently fired with abolitionist fever and eager to seek the opportunities which the western frontier offered, young Lee moved to Kansas, in the same year which saw his father elected to the House of Representatives as the Republican Congressman from this district.

In Kansas Albert Lee's legal training and his qualities as a leader of men soon brought him into prominence in the Free State party, often known as the Jayhawkers. He had settled in Elwood, across the river from St. Joseph, and there in partnership with D. W. Wilder he established and edited a lively Republican newspaper called The Elwood Free Press. It was at that time that he made the acquaintance of John Brown who with five of his sons and a band of other devoted followers was waging almost constant guerrilla warfare against the slave state partisans.

When Brown's ill-fated expedition against Harper's Ferry resulted in his imprisonment and sentence of death, Albert Lee was one of a group of Kansas men who planned to rescue him from the Charlestown jail before the sentence could be carried out. According to O. E. Morse in Volume 8 of Kansas Historical Collections, "Capt. James Montgomery, R. J. Hinten, Thomas A. Osborn, Albert L. Lee, Edward Russell and D. L. Wilder arranged for passage to travel eastward on the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad together

with cash to cover expenses till they joined a group of abolitionists from the East who likewise planned to save the old man from execution. Due to various delays, the plan failed for John Brown was dead before it could be carried out."

Men with the education and knowledge of law possessed by Lee were rare in new and sparsely settled territories so it is not surprising to find that at the age of 26 he was made a judge of the Territorial Supreme Court where he served with distinction till he resigned in 1861 to enter the Union army. A contemporary wrote of him, " In his court room every form and ceremony of the law was observed with as much precision as in any court in the East, even though not infrequently judge, jury and lawyers sat with their weapons in plain sight." Lee's years in Kansas were turbulent ones for he not only witnessed but took an active part in the stirring struggle over the question of slavery. In the opening year of the Civil War volunteer regiments were quickly organized in Kansas. Albert Lee joined 7th Regiment Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, nicknamed the Jayhawkers, receiving the rank of Major. (In speaking of Lee at the dedication of the Lee Memorial Hospital, a Fulton official remarked that he entered the war " as a humble major," though to the private in the ranks a position as Major was a long, long way from humble.) Daniel H. Kellogg, a friend and associate of Lee, stated that the Jayhawkers were a rough and ready lot, well acquainted with border warfare, fanatically abolitionist, but with early religious training that often led them to sing a hymn like "I can read my title clear to mansions in the skies" before they rode into battle.

Jennison, the original colonel of the regiment, was soon resentful of restraints placed on him by superior officers and resigned. In appointing Jennison's successor trouble arose, according to an account in Volume 8, Field and Staff of 7th Kansas Cavalry, when Lieutenant Governor Root appointed Charles W. Blair to the colonelcy of the Seventh in the Governor's absence from the state while Governor Robinson on his return appointed Albert L. Lee to the rank of colonel. The account continues, "Colonel Blair appeared at Fort Riley- assumed command of the regiment, put it in motion toward the Missouri River and promptly disappeared. The day following, Colonel Lee met the regiment, assumed command, rode a short distance with it and finally ordered it into camp. He had "assembly" sounded, made a speech to the men- and vanished also. Col. Lee went direct-

ly to Washington, D. C. and submitted his case to Attorney General Bates who decided the contention a few weeks later in Lee's favor.

All accounts agree that Albert Lee was a fine officer, brave, dashing and ambitious- qualities that soon brought favorable comment from his superiors. After the battle of Iuka, General Rosecrans stated in his report, " I must not omit to mention Col. Lee who with the 7th Kansas and part of the 7th Illinois cavalry assured our flank and rear during the entire period of our operations." Lee not only guarded Rosecran's army but he also prevented the Confederates from moving on Corinth, then practically denuded of Union troops.

In a report to Gen. Halleck, dated Nov. 11, 1862, Gen. Grant wrote, "Col. Albert L. Lee is one of our best cavalry officers. I earnestly recommend him for promotion."

Grant had need of good cavalry officers. An important part of the Union strategy in the Mississippi Valley, as in the blockade of southern seaports, was to cut off all supplies to the Confederates in an effort to starve them into surrender. With very little industry to provide the sinews of war, the South had to look elsewhere for desperately needed medical supplies, weapons, ammunition, shoes, clothing and other necessities. As long as the South could keep control of the Mississippi River, such supplies could be brought from foreign nations into Mexico, thence through Texas and across the river to the Confederate armies and Texas beef could help to feed the southern soldiers. Therefore, the vital task of Grant and his men was to bring the great river under tight Union control all the way to the Gulf of Mexico.

In this campaign for the Mississippi Valley, the cavalry played a most important part. All through 1861 and 1862 Lee and his men did escort duty along railroads such as the Mobile and Ohio, ranging from Columbus to Corinth to prevent the contents of northern supply trains from falling into the hands of the enemy. He led his men on long, hazardous raids into rebel territory, raiding southern supply depots, ripping up the railroads so important as Confederate supply lines and destroying southern property. Lee was also engaged in reconnaisance duty, scouting out lines of advance for the Union armies, which involved him in many sharp skirmishes with the enemy all through Tennessee and Mississippi at such places as Columbus, Corinth, Rienzi, Kossuth Springs, Ruckersville, Ripley, Coffeeville, Lamar, Holly Springs, Lumpkins Mills and Oxford, Miss.

At Lamar, Miss., although Lee and his 7th Kansas cavalry were more than two miles from any supporting troops, they attacked a whole division of Confederate cavalry, numbering more than 4000, commanded by Col. Jackson, and drove them off with heavy losses.

A little later at the Battle of Coffeeville, Dec. 5, 1862, Col. Lee's horse was wounded. The colonel was injured in the animal's fall and forced out of active duty for a time. While recuperating he received word of his promotion to the rank of Brigadier General, U.S. Volunteers with his commission dated back to Nov. 29, 1862. He was then 28 years of age.

Bidding good by to his comrades of the 7th Kansas, Lee took command of the Second Cavalry Brigade, succeeding Philip Sheridan in this command and fighting effectively at the Battle of Corinth all through Grant's central Mississippi campaign. He was appointed chief of staff to Gen. John A. McClernand then operating in the area around Vicksburg. It was about this time that he proposed to McClernand a plan for a raid deep into enemy territory, the kind of daring expedition in which he and his men delighted.

Briefly, he proposed to take 2,000 picked horsemen, carrying only a scanty supply of provisions, slip behind the Confederate lines to tear down telegraph lines, destroy railroads, bridges and property of every kind and then race away before a superior force could be gathered to stop them. All this would distract southern attention from the Mississippi where Grant was preparing to move his huge army across the river to begin the final attack on Vicksburg.

According to Daniel H. Kellogg, the New York City editor who gave a biography of Lee at the dedication of Lee Memorial Hospital in Fulton in 1910, the plan so impressed McClernand that he sent Lee to lay the scheme before Grant. Grant at once sensed its value and ordered Lee to make preparations to carry it out immediately. But fortune turned against Lee. As he descended a steep bank, slippery with mud, on his return from Grant's headquarters, his horse fell with General Lee beneath him. As a result he was confined to the hospital for several weeks and the raid which Gen. William T. Sherman called " the most brilliant expedition of the war, " was commanded by Col. Benjamin H. Griersen. In 17 days Griersen and his men rode from LaGrange, Tenn. to Baton Rouge, La., creating such havoc that Confederate troops were diverted from the Vicksburg area in a vain effort to stop them.

The month of May, 1863 saw Lee again in action in the battles of Champion's Hill and Big Black River. On May 19, however, while leading the 1st brigade, 9th division, 13th Army Corps in an assult on Vicksburg he received severe gunshot wounds in the head and face. He was unable to return to duty until July 26, 1863 when he was ordered to New Orleans and appointed chief of cavalry, Department of the Gulf, on the staff of Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks.

During the autumn of 1863 he was engaged in operations in the Teche country of Louisiana with spirited skirmishing around Opeleusas, Berre Landing, Grand Coteau, Carrien Crew Bayou and Bayou Vermillion. On Nov. 25, 1863 he was assigned to duty at the Union headquarters in New Orleans where he remained until the spring of 1864.

During that winter, Gen. Banks was busy with plans for what came to be known as the Red River Campaign the destination of which was understood to be Shreveport, La. and eventually the state of Texas.

From the beginning of the war, President Lincoln had been under heavy pressure to initiate such a campaign. The reasons were many and complex. Wars are never purely military affairs but are powerfully influenced by economics and politics. This was the case in the demand for an expedition up the Red River and into Texas. Ludwell H. Johnson in his book, "The Red River Campaign" says, "Possibly no campaign in the war sprang from a more complex series of events than did the Federal invasion of northwestern Louisiana known as the Red River expedition, one purpose of which was to invade western Texas."

Many Germans had settled in that part of Texas. They were sympathetic to the Union cause and strongly opposed slavery. They were eminently successful in the raising of cotton; finding that they could make a substantial profit, using free labor throughout the process. Early in the war General George B. McClellan recommended to Lincoln an invasion of the Lone Star State by way of the Red River, saying that it would "protect and develop the latent Union and free state sentiment well known to prevail in Western Texas."

Cotton was another factor contributing to the pressure on Lincoln to approve such an expedition. As early as 1862 New England textile mills were being pinched by a shortage of cotton. Only 25% of the spindles were working and the manufacturers feared ruin. When the blockade closed southern ports, some Confederates burned their cotton rather than risk its

capture by Union armies. Others hid their bales and waited to see what would happen. When the northern forces moved south, they were followed by traders and war profiteers, all alert for a chance to get hold of the precious fiber. Only those southerners who took an oath of loyalty to the United States could engage in cotton trading. U.S Treasury agents who accompanied the armies could issue permits for civilians to buy and sell cotton and the profiteers greedy for fantastic profits to be made in cotton found an agent here and there who could be bribed to give them such permits. One such trader paid $12,000 for 1500 bales of cotton and, by corrupting a couple of sergeants, secured army wagons and mules to take his purchase north where he sold it to eager mill owners at a profit of more than 700%. But in spite of the cotton smuggling that went on, the supply could not begin to meet the demand.

That was why Lincoln was besieged by men like Edward Atkinson and the Lowells of Massachusetts, General Benjamin Butler and Cabinet members Blair, Seward and Chase whose son-in-law, ex-Governor Sprague of Rhode Island, faced heavy financial loss with his cotton mills closed down. They insisted that the German settlers in Texas, sympathetic as they were to the Union, would send the North a plentiful supply of cotton if a way were opened up through the Red River Valley and that it was a patriotic duty to liberate these loyal citizens and indeed the whole state of Texas from the grip of the Confederates.

Lincoln promised consideration of the idea but insisted that priority must be given to securing complete control of the Mississippi River. The great river had always been the chief artery of commerce for Missouri, Iowa and the southern sections of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio and so continued even after railroads were built. Confederate control of the river had closed this outlet and in anger, those states deserted Lincoln's party and went Democratic in the elections of 1862. Therefore, he felt it was a political as well as a military necessity to break the Confederate hold on the river, a task that would not permit the detachment of any sizeable force for an expedition into Texas.

By the summer of 1863, however, the capture of Vicksburg and Port Hudson had cleared the Confederates from the river and planning for the Red River campaign was begun by General N.P. Banks. Banks was a political, not a military general, an ex-Governor of Massachusetts and a former speaker of the House of Representatives. He was ambitious, brave in battle but lacking in military skill, a lack which his war experiences had failed to remedy.

In general, the plan was to advance up the Red River to Shreveport, La., and thence into Texas. Navy units were to proceed up the river also with agents aboard to seize any available cotton as contraband. These ships were to support Bank's forces, if necessary, on the way to Shreveport. General Albert L. Lee was put in command of the cavalry which numbered about 5,000.

The following account of the expedition is based on the testimony given before the Senate Investigating Committee of the 38th Congress.

Banks proposed to take his 15,000 infantrymen to Alexandria, La. There Gen. Lee with his cavalry and Gen A.J. Smith with troops detached for a limited time from Gen. William T. Sherman's army were to join Banks and also meet naval units sent from Admiral Porter's fleet to open up the river. These ships, Gen. A.J. Smith's troops and Lee with his cavalry arrived at the rendezvous four days ahead of Banks. Lee's cavalry was to take orders from Major General Franklin who brought up the infantry and ordered an advance on Natchitoches. Gen. Lee went ahead followed by a supply train of wagons but the fleet was delayed by their difficulties in trying to get past the rapids and Gen. Smith was busy loading all the contraband cotton he could lay his hands on, so Lee had to go on alone.

On April 6, 1864, Gen. Lee received orders to advance toward Shreveport. One of his four brigades of cavalry was held back by Franklin to guard the infantry flanks, thus reducing Lee's force to 3,300 men. Behind him came his supply train of 350 wagons, carrying ten days' rations, forage for the horses and mules, stores of ammunition and camp equipment. He was told to attack the Confederates wherever he found them but not to bring on a full scale battle.

The route lay through dense woods along a single track road too narrow for one wagon to pass another or to turn around. The trees crowded so close to the road that there was no place where a wagon or other equipment could be parked except in the middle of the road itself, a fact which worried Lee because the wagon train would block the advance of any infantry units that might be sent up to support him. To add to his troubles there was almost no water to be found in that area.

After the first day, Lee's cavalry was in constant contact with the enemy who were full of fight, one of their commanders being the redoubtable Gen. Dick Taylor, son of ex-President Zachary Taylor. Repeatedly Gen. Lee requested Franklin to send him infantry support and asked that it should move forward ahead

of his supply wagons. In the constant skirmishing the cavalrymen had to fight dismounted which meant men had to be detached from the fighting line to look after the horses while at the very same time more than a third of Lee's men had to stand guard over the wagon train.

Franklin's repeated reply was, "Push on. Keep your train up close to you. Will send infantry if enemy is out in force."

On one occasion he did send forward an infantry brigade only to order it back when its colonel reported he didn't hear gun fire. Yet at every hill the Confederates were strongly resisting Lee's advance.

When about five miles from Mansfield, La., he came to a cross road where the enemy had gathered a force of 15,000 to 20,000 men, part of whom were being deployed to hit Lee's right flank. Just before the attack began, Gen. Banks and his staff rode up and questioned Lee about the situation and the disposition of his men. Apparently satisfied, Banks left, saying he would send up infantry support, but it did not come. Instead, came a definite order from Banks for Lee to advance immediately to Mansfield. Lee wrote back a protest that to try to advance through an enemy force four or five times greater than his own would mean a terrific beating. Banks replied that he would hurry up more men but before they arrived, the Confederates attacked on Lee's front and on both flanks with artillery, canister and musket fire. Three times Lee's men repulsed them but on the fourth attack the Union line crumpled. They fell back to the weeds just as a division of the 13th Corps arrived. They formed a new line but the enemy was in front and on both sides of them and they had to retreat or be completely encircled.

At the beginning of the fight, Gen. Lee had sent orders back half a mile to the supply train to get the wagons turned around and back out of the way just as fast as possible. But some officers attached to the staff of Banks and Franklin were near the train and countermanded the order, refusing to believe that Lee would be driven back. Confusion resulted. When the Union line broke and troops came running down the road, they found it jammed with wagons, some overturned, others not yet turned around, mules shot and the narrow road completely blocked. The Union lost 800 mules along with the wagons and supplies they pulled.

At the council of war held just after dark Banks ordered Lee to take what was left of the cavalry and escort the remaining wagons back to Natchitoches or its port, Grand Ecore, and to burn any wagon that broke down without pausing for repairs. The whole force was to follow. The fleet had been

battered as badly as the land forces for the greater part of it had been wrecked, blown up or burned. The great expedition was a complete failure. Yet Banks reported to Washington that a victory had been won, and relieved Gen. Lee and Gen. Stone of their commands, saying he regretted doing so in Lee's case as Lee had conducted himself and his men in a capable and honorable manner. Evidently Banks felt the need of a scapegoat!

The failure of the expedition from which so much had been expected led to an investigation by a Senate committee in the second session of the 38th Congress. In his testimony Lee tried to shield Banks and Franklin when their competence was questioned but the investigators pressed him closely, forcing him to admit that he realized the danger of advancing into enemy territory without infantry support and with his rear blocked by a long, unwieldy wagon train, that he had pointed out again and again to his superiors only to have them hint that he was afraid to fight. The despatches introduced into the record bear this out. And they also show that Lee was speaking the exact truth when he told the Senate committee, "The burden of all my orders was, 'Get along. Keep the wagons up close. Make time'. Their whole column could hear the sound of my guns every day, yet they would not believe that any fighting was going on. That is the mystery to me."

Late in April Gen. Lee was ordered to New Orleans to reorganize the cavalry forces in the Department of the Gulf. He commanded the cavalry in the expedition to the mouth of the White River in Arkansas during July and August. Later in 1864 he was sent to Baton Rouge and given command of the cavalry division of the Western Mississippi Military District. That fall he took part in the expeditions against Clinton, La.

On Jan. 5, 1865, he was ordered to New Orleans where he was stationed when the war ended in April. On May 4, 1865, he resigned his commission and was honorably mustered out of the service.

From then until 1870, he remained in New Orleans where he married Victorine Lind and where his two sons were born. He engaged in the growing of sugar cane and with Michael Hahn owned and edited the New Orleans Republican during some of the most turbulent days of the Reconstruction Period.

In 1870 he closed up his affairs in New Orleans and with his family sailed for Europe. One of his boys, Victor, died on ship and was buried in Liverpool, England. The family

went on to Paris where they made their home for almost twenty years.

In 1890, they returned to New York City where Gen. Lee became a partner in a large banking and brokerage firm where he amassed a large fortune. His death occurred in that city in 1907.

He had always held Fulton in affectionate remembrance. In deference to his wishes, his widow brought his body to Fulton for burial in Mt. Adnah Cemetery and as a living memorial to him gave to the city the Albert Lindley Lee Memorial Hospital.

He was a man who served his country well.

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D. Alexander Brown, University of Illinois

Robert H. Fowler, Editor, "Civil War Times," published at Gettysburg, Pa.

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Relatives of General Lee still living in Fulton, N.Y.

Letters of Abraham Lincoln

Appendix I

The Columbian Hand-Made Dolls.

These dolls are painted in oil by experts.

They are the most economical to buy, as they will last for years.

The faces, hands and feet can be easily washed.

They are light in weight, from 9 oz. to 24 oz.

They cannot break.

The clothes are made to be put on and removed, the same as a child's.

We are the makers of "Columbia," the doll chosen by Mrs. E. R. Horton of Boston, owner of the International Doll Collection, from all American dolls, to take a trip around the world, and called the *queen* of her collection of 600 dolls.

Received diploma, World's Fair, Chicago, 1893.

For descriptive price list, see third page.

Address all communications,

MISS MARIETTA ADAMS,

OSWEGO CENTER, N. Y.

"Columbian Dolls."

Something about the Queens of Dolldom and their Makers.

Toledo Sunday Courier.

One of the most interesting places I visited while in New York state this fall, was the pleasant colonial home of the Misses Adams, living with their parents in the quiet little country town of Oswego Center, and engaged in the manufacture of the "Columbian Dolls."

It was my pleasure to visit them one morning while at work at their home, in their pleasant sunny work rooms; we were gazed upon by dolls of all sizes, and such beauties, from one foot and a half long to nearly three feet long, and all dressed so prettily and with so much care; not like the ordinary "store doll," but as one could well say, "dressed conscientiously," for there was not any part of their clothes or the making of the doll itself, but what would bear the closest scrutiny, and all the clothes were made to "take off," much to the delight of little ones.

While our friends were busily engaged hurrying to get a box of their pretty dolls off to Marshall Field in Chicago, we were invited to "look around." In one corner was a large pile of arms, another of legs, all stuffed ready to put together, and on the sofa was a long row of heads, ready for the artistic brush of Miss Emma. The faces were exceedingly pretty, and the beauty of the dolls is, there is nothing about them to break, being stuffed with cotton and excelsior.

These young ladies are now supplying several large firms in Chicago, New York and elsewhere with their beautiful dolls. This shows what enterprising young ladies can do, and I heard the other day of another young lady who clothed herself handsomely by making paper dolls for several large firms in New York.

Mrs. H. R. Bacon.

A UNIQUE ENTERPRISE.

Northern Christian Advocate.

Our attention was recently called to a unique enterprise in doll-making carried on at Oswego Center. In 1892 Miss Emma Adams, since deceased, originated the Columbian Doll idea, which has resulted

in a unique and successful business. It has been developed by a sister, Miss Marietta Adams, who is as interesting and refined as she is enterprising and thorough in her business affairs. The dolls were first made for pleasure and novelty, but were so attractively gotten up that friends desired to purchase them, and from a small beginning the business has grown until many women are employed and they cannot keep up with the orders received. Miss Adams is very careful and thorough in every detail, nothing is slighted in the making, or dressing, and the stitching in the clothing is executed with as great care as it would be for a baby's wardrobe. Real artists have been developed in painting the faces and hair. We were shown a photograph of a group of Columbian Dolls, and we do not wonder that their fame has gone abroad. They took the prize at the World's Fair in Chicago, and have attracted the attention of Mrs. E. R. Horton, of Boston, who is a great doll fancier, and she is sending a fine specimen of this work around the world to be placed on exhibition in cities and towns for the benefit of children's charities. The Adams Express Company has undertaken to send the doll free.

The success of this enterprise is another proof that business genius is not confined to the men, and that ordinary demands can be supplied with profit, if enterprisingly met. This should be encouraging to industrious workers everywhere.

THE COLUMBIAN DOLL.

PRICE LIST:

No. 1,	15 inch	Doll in	Gown, ...	$1.50
" 2,	15 "	" "	Dress, pink or blue Gingham,	2.25
" 2½,	15 "	" "	Baby dress, white, . .	2.50
" 3,	19 "	" "	Gown, ...	1.75
" 4,	19 "	" "	Dress, pink or blue, . .	2.75
" 5,	19 "	" "	Baby dress, white, . .	3.00
" 6,	19 "	" "	Boy's Suit, ...	2.75
" 8,	23 "	" "	Gown, ...	2.00
" 9,	23 "	" "	Dress, pink or blue, . .	3.25
" 10,	23 "	" "	Baby dress, white, . .	4.00
" 11,	29 "	" "	Gown, ...	3.25
" 12,	29 "	" "	Dress, white, . . .	5.00

ORDER BY NUMBER.

SEND ORDERS TO

MISS MARIETTA ADAMS,

OSWEGO CENTER, N. Y.

A FEW NEWSPAPER EXTRACTS.

Among the interesting dolls on exhibition at the International Collection of dolls in Boston last week was one named "Columbia," which was shown by Miss Emma E. Adams, of Oswego Center.

Miss Adams, the originator of the doll, has a widespread reputation as a maker of cloth dolls which she sells to retailers in every part of the country. Miss Adams has several assistants at her Oswego home and persons who have visited the house have been enthusiastic over the many handsome dolls.—*Oswego Times.*

This doll is distinctly American for every thing in her wardrobe is of American manufacture.—*Boston Globe.*

Mrs. E. R. Horton, of Boston, is going to send "Columbia," a sweet little lady, around the world without a chaperon or guide book. However, the gem will be carefully watched over by express messengers, and every precaution will be taken to insure her comfort and safety. Little "Columbia" is a full grown domesticated doll. She was the star at the recent doll show. Now she is to be sent as a contribution to other exhibitions given in the interests of charity.

—*Boston Post.*

Doll traveling around the world for charity is queen of them all. This beautiful doll arrived in Philadelphia yesterday from Boston in the first stages of her journey around the world. She is the queen of the International Doll Collection and destined to become the most famous doll in all the world.

Miss "Columbia" is pretty and well dressed, as well as good and famous. When she returns to her native shores she will have a story to tell.—*The North American, Philadelphia.*

"Columbia," the gem of the International Doll Collection, is to travel around the world without chaperon or escort except baggagemen.—*Boston Journal.*

"Columbia," a doll, arrived in Philadelphia to-day on her trip around the world.

"Columbia" is a pretty little girl doll, and has a tag pinned on to her which says she is not a bit afraid of the long journey. And she is proud of herself, for she is to be exhibited when she returns, and the money that people pay to see her will be devoted to charity.

—*The Pittsburg Dispatch.*

"Columbia," America's doll, the one that is making a trip around the world alone and unchaperoned, after true American fashion, reached Denver this morning. Her face has been washed, her ulster brushed and she is ready to be admired, and it is quite possible her stay in this city will be marked by numerous functions in her honor.

"Columbia" has created something of a furore in the East.

—*The Denver Evening Post.*

Appendix II
Orrin Stone's Diary

INTRODUCTION

Orrin Stone was an Oswego County pioneer. A son of Jehiel and Ruth Norton Stone of Guilford, Connecticut, he accompanied his parents and nine brothers and sisters to a site near Ovid, Seneca County, New York, then a part of the Military Tract. After a brief residence there the Stones in company with their neighbors, the William Burts, resettled in Scriba. Tradition relates that they reached Oswego via the Seneca-Oswego waterway, driving their live-stock along the streams. They proceeded to Scriba Corners along a crude trace. The Stones occupied the land just east of the Corners, the Burts, a tract to the west. At the time of their arrival in 1803, Orrin was 14.

There was sufficient land for the numerous sons and daughters, and Orrin was preparing to move from the family cabin to one of his own when he made the initial entry in his diary. The date was January 1, 1814. He was planning to take a wife; and there were almost endless details requiring his attention.

A perusal of the terse observations through a period of several years leaves many questions unanswered; yet a partial pattern of frontier life evolves. Hard labor was a routine.

In the winter months he was busy "choping" to level the forest in preparation for fields and crops. In the course of a year he spent between 65-75 days chopping, logging and splitting, and additional days at woodworking, fence building and hauling. In March and April chopping yielded to "sugaring." Preparing troughs, tapping trees, sap gathering and boiling syrup absorbed most of his working hours for about three weeks. And before April yielded to May he turned to plowing, and later to planting and hoeing. The diary indicates some 30 to 40 days' labor in plowing for wheat, corn, oats and potatoes, and in hoeing corn, potatoes and garden vegetables. Uncounted hours were also consumed in the orchard in planting, grafting and tending. The harvesting of hay, wheat, potatoes, oats and corn became the principal occupation from July through October.

In-between-times he "laid my chamber floor," calked or "muded" his cabin, mended fences, drove his hog or cow to

be bred (sometimes over considerable distances), marketed his potatoes or ashes in Oswego, and borrowed his father's oxen to carry his grain to the mill.

There was a respite from heavy toil on Sundays when there were occasional "meetings" in the school house at the Corners or in Hiel Stone's barn. A local lay-preacher conducted the Baptist service. Recreation was found in "raisings" and "bees" and singing school. Stone occasionally went hunting and fishing, but took special delight in searching for bee trees in the woods.

He also belonged to the local militia, and sometimes accepted the duty of conveying the "warning" to the members. In an emergency in 1814 attending the War of 1812 he accompanied the militia to Henderson Harbor. The only detailed incident in the record (a brief paragraph) relates the invasion of Oswego in May of 1814.

In later life Stone was a postmaster, storekeeper and farmer. He died in 1876.

The Society is indebted to Mrs. George M. Penny, a descendant of the Jehiel Stone family, for the use of The Stone Diary.

Charles M. Snyder, Editor.

DIARY OF ORRIN STONE

JANUARY, 1814

S	1	Choping on a job for George W. Burt in Hannibal
Th	4	Choping with E(rastus) Stone (continued for several days)
M	10	Father and Mother started on a visit to the Genesee. Thrashing wheat P.M.
W	12	Thrashed wheat A.M. E. Stone. P.M. got ready and went to A.M. Butlers ball.
F	14	Fanning wheat and put it up, etc.
S	15	Got home a load of cherry boards from Taylors saw mill
T	18	Choping with E.S. (continued through Friday)
S	23	Rode in sleigh with G.W.Burt to Oswego Falls lower landing and then came back on foot.
T	25	Choping E. S.
W	26	A.M. finished our job. P.M. went home.
Th	27	Had Fathers horses and sleigh to draw a load of boards from Oswego.

F 28 Went with Anson Stone after wolves but could not catch any. Laid my chamber floor.
M 31 Drawed two load of boards with the horses from the river.

FEBRUARY, 1814

M 7 Took a clock to pieces and cleaned it.
T 8 Making a cupboard
Th 10 Went to Oswego with team. Got part of a load of boards and two small kettles. boiled, etc.
F 11 Helped Mr. Serenus fan wheat with a faning mill.
S 12 Finished my shelves, etc.
W 16 This evening waited on a girl to Mr. Buels to see Mr. Town perform his turn lilury(?)
Th 17 Went into the woods and found two bee trees.
S 20 Went to Mr. J. Wordens to meeting.
M 21 Went out with Father to look for a bee tree. Found none. P.M. Moved my chest to my house and some things.
T 22 Bought 86 lbs. pork of Father.
W 23 Cut down an ash tree for sap troves. Blocked off thirty one.
Th 24 Went to collect an execution of Holden Corp
S 26 Choped out 20 sap troves.
S 27 Went to Mr. Wordens to Mr. Baldwins meeting. (Baldwin was a lay-preacher)

MARCH, 1814

T 1 Attended town meeting at Fathers.
W 2 Went to Mexico.
Th 3 Came from Mexico home.
S 6 Brought my hog from R. Lays.
M 7 Made 15 sap troves.
T 8 Fixing to make sugar.
W 9 Had Fathers horses and sleigh and drawed a load of cherry boards from Taylors mill.
S 13 Went to Mexico.
M 14 Came from Mexico home and drawed some fire wood.
T 15 A.M. to work. P.M. Went to Fathers to an extra town meeting.
Th 17 Went and cut off a black ash (k)not for a hole or two.
F 18 Taped part of my sugar bush. Sap ran very well.
S 19 Taped a few more maples. Boiling sap.
S 20 Hired Hubbard Church to boil sap.

W 23 Made 25 lb. sugar.
F 25 P.M. Sugared off some.
S 26 Went to J.S. Morgans carried some sugar (to sell) - 213/4 lb. of sugar at 18 pence per lb.
S 27 Rode out in a sleigh to Soloman Everts and I was married to Miss Sally Everts, Orrin Stone. Married by David Easton, Esq. (Justice of the Peace, Town of New Haven)
M 28 A.M. Came from Mr. Everts home. P.M. To work in the sugar bush.
T 29 Hubbar Church and myself sugared off some surrep. Made 27 lbs. of sugar of which I had half.
W 30 Went to Esq. Crockers Oswego Falls. Bought a set of knives and forks and some crockery of which I hve a bill.

APRIL, 1814

S 3 Had J.W. Wordens sleigh and horses to go to Mexico to move my wife home. (continued to boil sap through April 19)
F 15 Choping. Put 10 pails for Vinegar.
S 16 Broke flax and gathered sap.
M 18 Boiling sap, burnt up some.
Th 21 Stuck up cherry boards and set out apple trees.
F 22 To work at hog pasture, fence, etc.
M 25 Plowed garden with Mr. Churchs oxen. Had Robert Church to drive $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours.
Th 28 A.M. Choping. P.M. Attended election at Fathers.
F 29 Sowed wheat. Father steered to drag it in.
S 30 Sowed wheat and flax. Finished.

MAY, 1814

M 2 A.M. Hoeing in wheat. P.M. Sewed onion seeds and making garden.
T 3 A.M. Went to Oswego. P.M. Fixed hog pasture and turned my hog out to grass.
Th 5 An alarm at Oswego. Turned out and went down. The British shiping lay off. Sent out their gun boats and fired upon the fort and village. Did not land this day.
F 6 This morning the British fleet stood in and at 12 o'clock commenced a very heavy cannonading upon the fort, and fired upon the village. Put out their boat and landed below the fort. Marched up and

carried the fort about three o'clock. Our troops retreated up the river.

S 7 This morning went to Oswego and the British had burnt the barracks and plundered the place and evacuated the place.

S 8 At home.

M 9 Went to Oswego. Dug cannon balls 42.

T 10 Diging cannon balls on the state lot.

W 11 Planting beans and beet seed.

Th 12 Went to Oswego. Dug cannon balls 12.

F 13 Went with horses and waggon gathered cannon balls.

T 17 Plowing. British fleet lay Oswego. Sent in a flag. P.M. Went to Oswego.

M 23 Began to plant corn. Hoeing in nursery.

T 24 Planting corn and potatoes.

W 25 Went down to Fathers to see the troops. (Hiel Stone was Major of Militia). P.M. Planting corn.

Th 26 Went to the Widow Peelers loging bee.

JUNE, 1814

S 4 Went to Mexico with my wife. A visiting George Wales (Richland).

S 5 Come from George Wales.

M 6 Went to training at my Fathers. Chosen C. Morgan 3 R.O. Stone 4 corps.

Th 16 Planting potatoes A.M. P.M. Went James S. Sweet raising.

S 18 Sowed five pecks of oats and drag them in, etc.

T 21 Hoeing corn Fathers and the boys five days work.

T 28 A.M. To work on the road. P.M. Peeling bark and went to raising Rattrays barn.

Th 30 To work on the road for Father.

JULY, 1814

M 4 Choping A.M. P.M. Wm. Burts raising.

W 6 Fathers oxen waggon to draw clay.

Th 7 Building my oven.

W 13 Mowing greatest part of the day.

Th 14 Finished mowing. Wised up my hay and hoed some. C. Crane worked half a days work in the nursery.

F 15 Began to hoe out my corn the second time. Samuel Coon, J. Stone, C. Crane, 3 days work hoeing done that day. Stacked my hay and finished nursery.

S 16 Hoeing corn. S. Coon, J. Stone, A. Stone, T. Stone finished hoeing.
M 18 Haying for Father.
T 19 Haying for Father.
W 20 Haying for Father.
Th 21 Had Fathers horses and waggon to draw cannon balls to Oswego which I sold to Dr. Clarke (who in turn sold them to arsenal at Salina).
S 24 Went to Father Everts in Mexico, horse back.
M 25 A.M. Diging thistles. P.M. Haying for Father.
T 26 Went to Warners and got a great wheel.
W 27 Haying for Father.
Th 28 Peeling flax, etc.
F 29 Finished peeling flax. Robert Church hoed potatoes. Price 3 shillings six pence.
S 30 Plowed out my potatoes. Hoed some. Bound up flax, etc.

AUGUST, 1814

M 1 Choping for myself. P.M. went to Oswego bought a looking glass.
T 2 Rained A.M. P.M. To Fairley raising.
Th 4 Choping A.M. P.M. went to Mr. J. Kings haying bee.
F 5-
F 12 (haying for Father and chopping for himself)
M 15 Went to Oswego and L. Everts.
T 16 Choping A.M. P.M. Went to warn the men to training.
W 17 A.M. Warning men to training. P.M. Reaping my spring wheat.
Th 18 Went to training at Fathers.
S 21 Reaping and drawing in wheat Samuel Coon and Philo Stone worked for me.
M 22 A.M. Finished my wheat. Anson and Philo helped. P.M. I helped them get in oats.
T 23 Pigeoning with Mr. J. Coon. Carried a horse load to Oswego.
S 28 Went to meeting Fathers Barn.
M 29 Spreading flax, etc., etc.
T 30 Diging potatoes P.M. went out with Butler to look for bees east of E. Stone found none.
W 31 Diging potatoes and spreading flax. Burnt brush, etc.

SEPTEMBER, 1814

F 2 Diging elders, burning brush.
S 3 Went to Oswego with a load of potatoes horses and wagon, etc.
M 5 Training J. Buels, etc.
F 9 Thrashing. P.M. Went to Oswego.
W 14 Went to Burdicks one shoe taped. J. Stone started soldiering.
Th 15 Choping A.M. P.M. Thrashing 2 bushels.
F 16 Loging J. Church R. Church A.M. Their oxen. P.M. rained
S 17 Went to mill Churches oxen and fathers waggon. Staid all night.
S 18 Came from Braytons mill home. (Town of New Haven, Cheever's Mill, Catfish Creek at North Road)
S 24 Put up corn stalks. Took up flax.
F 30 Toping corn. P.M. helped W. Church brand.

OCTOBER, 1814

W 5 To work. Went to Mr. Burdick and my shoe tap.
S 9 This day started a soldiering. Went to Calvin Tiffanys in Mexico and thence to Henderson Harbor in the County of Jefferson and staid till the 25th inst. and then got a pass for 8 days.

NOVEMBER, 1814

T 1 This day started for Henderson Harbor arrived next day and staid until the 16th inst. and then was dismissed.
W 16 This morning started with the rest of the company from Henderson Harbor for home. I come to C. Braytons and staid.
Th 17 Came from Braytons home.
S 19 A.M. fixing the spring. P.M. Went to Oswego. Cold wind.
S 26 Bought some boards and fixed the end of house.
T 29 A.M. Choping. P.M. Laying up hovel. Mr. Church and Robert with their oxen.

DECEMBER, 1814

Th 1 Went to Dr. Clarkes with a horse and sled and got a pork barrel and put on some new hoops.

F 2 A.M. Fixed for killing my hog. P.M. Killed and dressed. J. Church and Anson helped me and M.M.C. part.

M 5 Finished laying up my hovel. Mr. Church and his boys helped and drawed out some rail buts.

T 6, Had a bad bile on my leg and did not do much but
W 7, make fire.
Th 8,
F 9

M 12 Had two acres measured off for a job on Rattrays farm to chop for underbrushed some $19.

M 19 A.M. Went to Capt. Hubbells and received eighteen dollars, and one due $19 of A. Rattray for which I am to chop two acres by the 15 April. P.M. Mr. Church drawed away part of my hog pasture fence and layed up into a yard fence and split some rails. I worked with him.

T 20 Split some rails and finished my yard fence. P.M. brought my lambs home.

W 21 Went to Oswego P.M. Paid Dr. Coe $4.75 balance.

Th 22 Went down to thrash out my wheat and agreed to chop four cord wood for Father for thrashing out my wheat.

S 24 A.M. Ground my ax. P.M. Choping fire wood. In the evening helped fan up my wheat. Had fifteen bushels.

S 25 Christmas day. Went to meeting to the school house. After meeting I went with my wife to J.S. Sweet.

JANUARY, 1815

W 1 Went to Oswego to break road. (Spent much of January chopping on his contract.)

F 6 Went to mill carried $4\frac{1}{2}$ bushels for myself 6 bushels for Father.

F 13 Had Fathers horses and sleigh to go to Mexico with my wife a visiting.

S 14 Went from Father Everts to G. Wales in Richland.

S 15 Came from George Wales home in the afternoon.

M 16 Plaining boards for a cradle.

Th 19 Made a cradle, etc.

F 20 Reading the newspaper, etc.

S 21 Went to Lays and got my boots mended.

S 22 Went to meeting to the school house in the evening went to the singing school.

Th 26 A. M. Packed over my pork. P. M. Choping fire wood. Stormy Singing school.
F 27 Went down and read the news. Drawed wood with Churches oxen part of the afternoon 5 load.

FEBRUARY, 1815

S 5 In the evening went to singing school.
T 7 Went to Oswego with a load of potatoes and drove over on the ice.
Th 9 Chopt some fire wood. Singing school.
F 10 Put on some snuff to kill the ticks on the sheep. Brought in corn.
S 12 In the evening went to singing school.
Th 16 Brakeing flax.
F 17 Reading news.
S 19 Went to meeting and singing school at the school house.
S 26 Went to meeting and singing school at the school house.
M 27 Dressing flax on shares.
T 28 Went with my wife to Butlers bee. Went into the woods and found a bee tree east of Butlers.

MARCH, 1815

W 1 Went to Mexico visiting.
Th 2 Hunting bees found a tree.
T 7 Attended town meeting at E. Hubbels adjourned to the school house.
W 8 Went to the mill with the bulls and horse. Carried 73/4 bushels wheat.
F 10 Cut a bee tree. C. S. Mattesons to save the bees, etc.
S 11 Dress some flax. P. M. Hubbard and I drawed sap troves with oxen.
S 12 Taped 73 trees. Snow greatest part off.
S 18 Boiling sap.
S 19 Went to meeting at the school house.
F 24 Went to Oswego. Bought pair of shoes. Price eleven shillings.
Th 30 Sugared off 37½. F 31 Sugared off 11½. (Sugaring continued to April 8).

APRIL, 1815

M 3 Mr. Matteson and I drove a swarm of bees out of the woods.
T 18 A.M. Triming trees in nursery. P.M. Set out apple and peach trees.
Th 20 Setting out cherry trees.
S 23 Went to meeting school house.
Th 27 Grafting apple trees and attending election at Fathers.
F 28 Silas, Anson and Philo with the oxen helped me log better than half a day.

MAY, 1815

M 1 To work for Father transplanting apple trees.
M 8 Branding A.M. P.M. Picking up. Anson helped me A.M. with the oxen.
W 10 Bragging with the steers.
S 14 Went to meeting at school house.
M 15 Took my potatoes out of ground.
Th 18 Making garden.
F 19 A.M. Rained. Planted beet seed and beans, etc.
S 20 Had Fathers oxen to plow. Plowed the garden and one other piece on the Church lot A.M. P.M. plowed my orchard and made a log heap.
M 22 Planting the garden spot that I hired and a piece of corn. W. Melons M. Melons Cucumber Bean Seed.
T 23 Planting corn and beans, peas, water and musk melons and hoed 4 rows apple trees.

JUNE, 1815

Th 1 Warned part of the company to training. Went to Oswego.
M 5 Training at Fathers chosen H. Warner. Lieut. A. Sabins Ensg. C. Morgan 1 Serg. S. Brown 2. O. Stone.
T 6 Had Fathers oxen and waggon to draw a load of cherry boards into the village of Oswego for Mr. Baker.
F 9 Went to Mexico visiting.
S 10 Went with Wm. Everts to Roberts and led up each of us a hog.
S 11 Went from Father Everts to G. Wales with my wife.
M 12 A.M. Come from Mexico home. P.M. I went to Butlers planted over corn that the birds pulled up.

T 13 A.M. Planting over corn the birds pulled up. P.M. Went with Philo to Mexico after hogs. A verry rainy afternoon.
W 14 Drove my hog from Mexico home.
S 17 Peeling elm bark.
T 20 Covered my room with elm bark.

JULY, 1815

S 1 Hoeing corn A.M. P.M. I went to work on the burying ground. Alanson Himes hoeing corn for me all day.
M 10 Fixing sleepers for new room.
T 11 A.M. To work for E. Stone. P.M. Went to invite men to lay up my barn.
W 12 Lay up my barn. Erastus and Silas A.M.
Th 13 To work for Erastus. Causeway making.
F 28 Received $12.67 for soldiering.

AUGUST, 1815

F 11 Hewing rafters.
S 12 Framing rafters for barn.
M 14 To work on my barn and raised rafters.
T 15 A.M. Drawing rib timber P.M. Finished reaping winter wheat.
W 16 Pining on the rafters on barn.
Th 17,
F 18,
S 19 To work on my barn.
M 21 Begun to shingle my barn. Erastus helped me till sun two hours high. John did about a half days work at the wheat.
T 22 Reaping and binding wheat.
W 23 To work at wheat and barn.
Th 24 Fixing my barn A.M. P.M. Rained.

SEPTEMBER, 1815

F 1 Spliting long shingles, etc.
S 2 Boarding up the gable end of my barn A.M. P.M. Thrashed wheat.
M 4 Training at Fathers.
F 22 Went to Mexico after my wife.

OCTOBER, 1815

S 1 Aaron Parkhurst married Sally Stone.
T 3 Sowing wheat and draging it.
W 4 Draging in wheat with steers.
Th 5 Went to general training Tiffany.
F 6 Came from Mexico home. P.M. Dug some potatoes.
M 9 Killed a lamb and dressed it.
W 11 Lineing bees with John A.M. P.M. To work in the fallow.
F 13 Half the day to work in fallow. Buryed 550 apples, etc.
W 25 Killed a lamb and dressed it.

NOVEMBER, 1815

W 15 P.M. Muding my house.
Th 16 Laid my hearth.

DECEMBER, 1815

F 1 Choping fire wood for S. Matteson for making Harriet shoes.

JANUARY, 1816

W 31 Father Everts and Mother to my house visiting.

FEBRUARY, 1816

S 3 Choping. Went with Anson and killed fox.

OCTOBER, 1816

(In 1816 no suggestion that harvests are not normal, despite the tradition that 1816 had frosts each month of the year.)

S 12 This night went a fishing with Mr. Masters. Speared six salmon.
M 14 Dressed 8 salmon and went fishing catched three salmon.
Th 17 Anson and I got pine for fishing.
Th 24 Speared 15 salmon.
W 30 Made an ash house. Put up ashes.

NOVEMBER, 1816

S 17 Went to meeting to hear Priest Dixon (A Presbyterian minister).
Th 21 Drawed up boards for barn doors. Drawed a load of bark and fixed the hovel. In the evening made a trundle bunk.

DECEMBER, 1816

S 7 Muding my house.

JANUARY, 1817

F 10 Made a barn door.
S 11 Went to Gidleys. Got my boots tap.
F 17 This night the snow fell 2 feet.
S 18 Stormy day. Went with oxen and sled to break the road on east.

JULY, 1817

F 11 P.M. Went to raising Fathers shed.

AUGUST, 1817

S 17 Meeting Fathers barn. Five baptised viz. Elijah Whitney, Ambrose Morgan, Philo Stone, Miss Whitney, Polly Whitford.

MARCH, 1818

S 15 Elder Turner prached school house.
S 22 Went to meeting. E. Ferris, J. Turner.

Appendix III

Reminiscence of Benjamin Burt During The War of 1812

(Recorded by his daughter, Helen Burt)

Sirs - I communicate to you by putting to paper the incidents that occurred with me at Oswego in the year 1812 (1814). I was plowing for corn. I had to leave it, and attend to moving our most valuable things out of the way of the British who drew in before the town and began to fire balls and grape shot. I took the team and carried my Mother up by the Oswego River four miles - now called Minetto. Then I returned to Oswego again in company with a boy of about 18 years. I was 22. We could hear the guns. I told the boy that I should go and join the artillery. We went together. Within one half or three quarters of a mile the road then ran on the bank of the river - now a canal - the balls and grape shot fell in the river like hail stones and cutting the limbs and leaves of brushwood and trees.

We ran all the way to our battery and joined our men. Found our mortar was not heavy enough therefore went down to the dock and drew up a thirty-two pounder and showered them so that they shortly hoisted their anchors and bid us good bye.

I will now tell you further that I went with team to Sacketts Harbor with baggage. Next, I went on express, night and day, without sleep as there had been a great flood the road was unusually bad. I had to press a horse into service at Smith's mills. 160 dragoons started for Oswego, and then I took a rest and started for home. I did very well till I got this side-west - of the Salmon river. The water had run over the road; being of clay bottom, the dragoons had made such a deep clay mortar bed that my horse would get stuck. Once I had to get off in the mud knee deep and with difficulty get him out - although a good horse.

General Adams would always call on me or my brother James for expressing, as horses were scarce in Oswego at that time - telling me I should be cleared from duty in action. I always told him that I did not wish to be cleared but would go and do my duty as I was well equipped.

I was called upon to go to Baldwinsville, about 20 miles south of Oswego. I started at six o'clock in the evening.

When I got into the pine woods on the bank of the river I could only find my way by the blazed trees when the lightning flashed. I at last got as far as Judge Mooney's and stopped to refresh myself and horse, then went on to Baldwinsville, and delivered my papers, got my breakfast and returned home.

They said that there were 1800 troops started for Oswego, although some went no farther than Oswego Falls.

My brother and I crossed the river/May 6, 1814/ and saw the dead and wounded. The dead were on boards and the wounded in hospital. One in particular I remember with his jaw shot off. They said he would have to be bled to death. Then we went north east of the fort and visited the English mounds of dead. Some with cloth over them and others with faces bare. My brother fainted.

A few of the English came as far as our house but my father guarded it with his gun (Daniel Burt).

[Benjamin Burt was born Nov. 18, 1790; he was a twin of James Burt. They were sons of Daniel Burt and Martha Bradner Burt, who were married January 25, 1770. The latter moved from Warwick, Orange Co., N. Y. to Oswego in 1802. Daniel Burt died in Oswego, July 5, 1823 when 84. Daniel Burt and Martha Burt had seven sons and one daughter, all born in Warwick, N. Y. They were: William Burt, born March 25, 1771, died in Scriba; Joel Burt, born December 22, 1773, died in Oswego; Daniel Burt, Jr., born September 7, 1776, died in Ohio; Margaret Burt, born September 25, 1778, died near Oswego; Bradner Burt, born January 18, 1782, died in Oswego; George W. Burt, born October 1784, died in Oswego; James died in Hannibal, Benjamin in Minetto. The reminiscence is reproduced with the permission of Mrs. John E. Worden, West River Road, Fulton, R. D. Mrs. Worden is a descendant of Benjamin Burt.]

Charles M. Snyder, Editor.

- NOTES -