

WIARD FAMILY

BY
CAPTAIN GEORGE KNAPP COLLINS

FOR
WILLIAM WOLCOTT WIARD

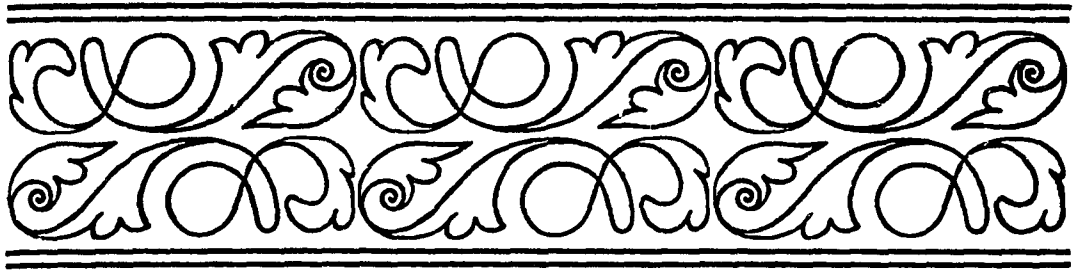
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK
1912



HARRY WIARD

Superintendent Syracuse Chilled Plow Company

No. 198



Preface and Introduction

THE WIARD FAMILY described in this Genealogy had its beginning in this country with Robert and Mary Wyer, who are mentioned in Vital Statistics of Boston, Mass., as having a son, John Wyer, born to them November 30, 1646. There is no account of their coming to this country, or from whence they came; yet as they were found in the Puritan Settlement of Boston, it is proper to presume they came from England with the Puritan exodus to this country, which commenced in 1628 and ended in 1640. These ancestors of the Wiards must of necessity have been born in the old country, else they could not have been of sufficient age to marry and have a child as early as 1646.

There were others of the same surname in this country at a very early date, but if they were in any way related to Robert Wyer it has not been sufficiently traced. It has been suggested, however, that Robert Wyer was an elder son of Nathaniel Wyer of Newbury, Mass., and later of Nantucket, whose descendants now go by the name of Weare. (See Sargent's Family History of Weare.)

Savage in his *Genealogical Dictionary* (Vol. 4, pages 661 and 663) mentions the name of Edward Wyer of Charlestown in 1658, and gives the names of ten or more of his children; also Nathaniel Wyer of Newbury in 1637, and afterwards of Nantucket. He also mentions the name of Peter Wyer of York in 1640, or earlier. In this work he gives Robert the surname of Wyard as well as Wyer. All these people mentioned by Savage may have been related to each other, still there are no circumstances or reliable tradition to warrant such a conclusion. At an early date John Wyer, son of Robert and Mary, moved from Boston to Wethersfield, Conn., where he married and lived until his death. Soon after his departure from Boston, his father and mother followed him to his new home, settled there, and remained until their decease. Robert died at Wethersfield in 1682, leaving his wife, Mary, a widow. On the arrival of Robert and John at Wethersfield they were known and called by the name of Wyard, which spelling of the name continued in the family for a generation or two, and was then succeeded by Wiard, as the name is spelled at the present time.

In preparing this work for publication, the writer has been greatly aided by Mr. F. Seth Wiard of Yalesville, Conn., who kindly loaned him the use of a written manuscript prepared by his deceased sister, Ella Elizabeth Wiard, which contained the names and data of many families recorded in this work. The writer is pleased to acknowledge his indebtedness to Mr. Wiard for this favor.

The descendants of Robert and Mary Wyer have now reached the ninth and tenth generation, and are scattered throughout the land from the Atlantic to the Pacific. They have lived and prospered, and the fruits of their industry are known and appreciated by the people of all civilized countries. Their number is legion. A complete record of their names and a proper tribute to their worth awaits a skilled and sympathetic hand of a member of the clan to do them honor and justice. We trust this short sketch will point the way for a more elaborate and exhaustive work of the family in the near future.

G. K. C.

Dated, Syracuse, N. Y., March 15, 1910.





Wiard Family

Robert Wiard, born probably in England, and died at Wethersfield, Conn., Sept. 11, 1682; married **Mary** ———, who survived him at Wethersfield, Conn. According to Savage, Robert, whose name he spells Wyard, was in Boston, Mass., in 1662, Hartford in 1666, and died at the latter place Sept. 11, 1682, "leaving a widow and probably children." His estate was inventoried at £180.02.00. Savage says his name was sometimes written Wiard, Wyer and Wier. In Boston, Mass., vital statistics, Robert and Mary had recorded to them, under the name of Wyer, the birth of one child there as follows:

Child

- 2 **John**, born at Boston, Mass., Nov. 30, 1646; died at Wethersfield, Conn.; married Sarah Standish, daughter of Thomas, April 7, 1681.

2

John Wiard (Robert), born at Boston, Mass., Nov. 30, 1646; died at Wethersfield, Conn., about 1727; married at Wethersfield, Conn., April 7, 1681,

by Samuel Talcott, **Sarah Standish**, daughter of Thomas Standish of Wethersfield, Conn., and by her had:

Children (born at Wethersfield)—

- 3 **Lois**, born Aug. 21, 1682; married Nov. 22, 1700, Hezekiah Deming. (John, John.)
- 4 **John**, born July 15, 1684; married Phebe Hurlbut March 3, 1708.
- 5 **Thomas**, born Nov. 14, 1686; married Martha Smith, daughter of Philip.
- 6 **Eunice**, born Jan. 12, 1688; died Jan. 22, 1690.
- 7 **Jonathan**, born Sept. 29, 1690; died at Farmington, Conn., May 29, 1712.
- 8 **Sarah**, born about 1693; married Martin Smith, born April 15, 1692, Wethersfield, Conn.

3

Lois Wiard (John, Robert), born at Wethersfield, Aug. 21, 1682; married Nov. 22, 1700.

Hezekiah Deming (John, John), born Wethersfield, Conn.; died Farmington, 1747.

Children—

- 9 **Hezekiah**, baptized July 20, 1703; married Hannah Warren, daughter Abia, Aug. 17, 1734.
- 10 **Benjamin**, born July 20, 1705.
- 11 **Lois**, born Jan. 24, 1710-11.
- 12 **Eunice**, born May 29, 1708.
- 13 **Elisha**, baptized March 8, 1712-3.
- 14 **Zebulon**, baptized July 3, 1715.

(There were others, but no names given.)

John Wiard (John, Robert), born July 15, 1684, at Wethersfield, and died there before 1725; married at Wethersfield March 3, 1708, by John Chester, **Phebe Hurlbut**, daughter of Stephen (Thomas), born Aug. 2, 1688. Mr. Wiard was Collector at Wethersfield in 1714 and moved from the latter place to Farmington, Conn. His wife, Phebe, and her brother, Thomas Hurlbut, administered his estate. Notwithstanding he had over 1200 acres of land at his decease, his estate was claimed by his wife to be bankrupt.

Children (born at Wethersfield)—

- 15 **Lois**, born Dec. 26, 1709; baptized Jan. 1 or 15, 1709-10.
- 16 **Eunice**, born June 15, 1712; married John Woodruff, Aug. 11, 1729, Farmington.
- 17 **Sarah**, born April 26, 1715; married Eldad Lewis at Farmington, March 10, 1737. She died Aug. 10, 1742, and he died Feb. 17, 1711.
- 18 **Mary**, born Dec. 20, 1717.
- 19 **John**, born Feb. 12, 1720; married Martha Newell, March 1, 1744.
- 20 **Phebe**, born Nov. 7, 1722; married Jonathan Woodruff, Feb. 21, 1744.

Thomas Wiard (John, Robert), born at Wethersfield, Conn., Nov. 14, 1686; married **Martha Smith**, born Sept. 27, 1694, daughter of Philip Smith (Philip, Samuel) of Hartford. Her father died before Feb. 2, 1724-5, at which time Thomas Wiard ap-

peared in Probate Court at Hartford in behalf of his wife.

Children (born probably in Wethersfield)—

- 21 **John**, baptized Wethersfield, March 24, 1727-8.
He married Deborah ———.
- 22 **Aaron**, born 1731; died Jan. 22, 1804; married
Mary Gaylord, born 1738, died May 22, 1812.
- 23 **Elisha**, married ———.
- 24 **Matthew**, married Betty———. She married
(2) William Roberts.

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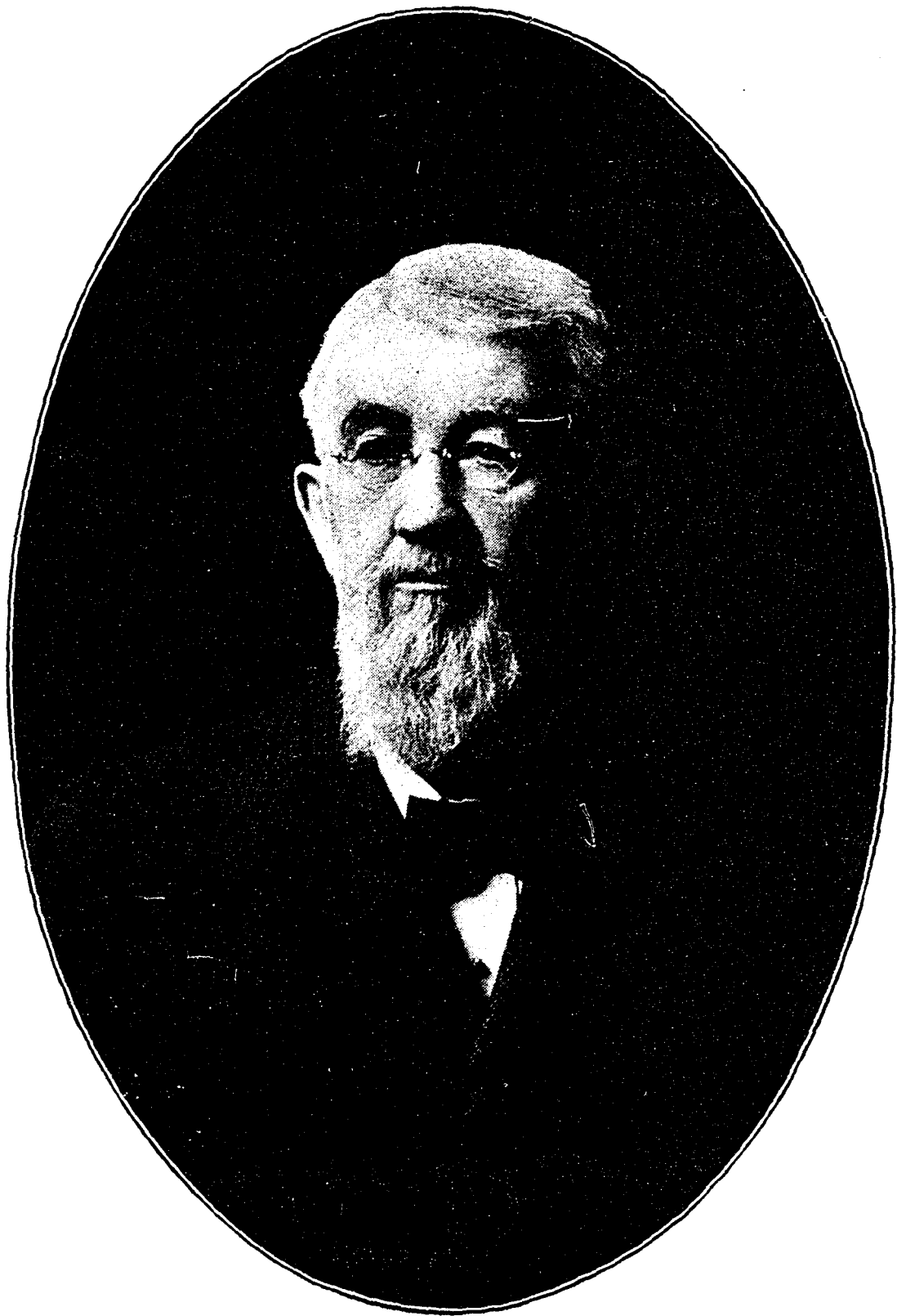
Sarah Wiard (John, Robert), born at Wethersfield, Conn., about 1692 or '93; married **Martin Smith** (John, Philip, Samuel), born in Hadley, Mass., April 15, 1692. They were married at Wethersfield, Conn., where they settled after marriage.

Children (born at Wethersfield)—

- 25 **Rebecca**, born Feb. 3, 1716.
- 26 **Sarah**, born Oct. 3 or 30, 1717.
- 27 **Joanna**, born March 15, 1719; died Sept. 26, 1725.
- 28 **Eleazor**, born April 21, 1722.
- 29 **Abigail**, born 4, died 22 August, 1724.
- 30 **Lois**, born Aug. 13, 1725.
- 31 **Martin**, born March 15, 1729.

Stites, in his history of Wethersfield, Conn., says Martin Smith married Sarah Wiard, the mother of the above Sarah, but in this he was clearly in error. He was a first cousin to Martha Wiard, wife of Thomas Wiard.

CAPTAIN GEORGE WIARD
President Wiard Plow Company
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Eunice Wiard (John, John, Robert), born at Wethersfield, June 15, 1712, and died at Southington, May 7, 1761; married at Farmington, Aug. 11, 1729, **John Woodruff**, who died at Southington, where he resided, Oct. 17, 1794. Their

Children (born at Southington)—

- 32 **Sarah**, born, Sept. 10, 1730.
- 33 **John**, born Oct. 18, 1732; died May 26, 1740.
- 34 **Seth**, baptized July 13, 1735.
- 35 **Jesse**, baptized March 12, 1738.
- 36 **John**, baptized June 15, 1740.
- 37 **Eunice**, baptized Feb. 13, 1743.
- 38 **Timothy**, baptized Dec. 5, 1745.
- 39 **Lucy**, baptized May 10, 1752.

John Wiard (John, John, Robert), born Feb. 12, 1720; died Sept. —, 1788; married at Farmington, Conn., March 1, 1744, **Martha Newell**, born Feb. 24, 1726; died Sept. 17, 1798. She was the fifth daughter of Capt. John Newell and his wife, Elizabeth Hawley. They resided at Farmington, Conn.

Children (born at Farmington)—

- 40 **Sarah**, born, Nov. 25, 1745.
- 41 **Seth**, born Sept. 24, 1749; he was a soldier of the Revolution; married (1) Dorcas Hopkins, and (2) Anna Kellogg.
- 42 **Lois**, born July 8, 1752.
- 43 **Huldah**, born Jan. 4, 1755; married Nov. 4, 1774, Abijah Cather of Harwinton. She died Jan.

28, 1816, and he died Sept. 17, 1813. Their children were: **Anna, Abiel, Huldah, Hannah, Lucretia, Rachel and Samuel.**

44 **John**, born about 1758.

20

Phebe Wiard (John, John, Robert), born, Nov. 7, 1722; died Aug. —, 1782; married Feb. 21, 1744, at Wethersfield, Conn., **Jonathan Woodruff**, born Oct. 13, 1720; died Aug. 13, 1782. Mr. Woodruff and his wife resided at Southington, Conn.

Children (born at Southington)—

- 45 **Joel**, born April 18, 1746; died April 18, 1746.
- 46 **Jemima**, born 1747; died Nov. 20, 1759.
- 47 **Amos**, born 1749; married Phebe Hart.
- 48 **Lois**, born 1751; married Simon Smith.
- 49 **Phebe**, born 1754; married Roger Lewis.
- 50 **Jonathan**, born 1756.
- 51 **Mary**, born 1758; married Ruben Thompson.
- 52 **Ashbel**, born Jan. 22, 1761; married Sybel Ingraham.
- 53 **Gideon**, born 1763.

22

Aaron Wiard (Thomas, John, Robert), born 1731; died Jan. 22, 1804; married April 4, 1767, **Mary Gaylord**, born 1738; died May 22, 1812; resided in Farmingbury, Conn.

Children (born in Farmingbury)—

- 54 **Mary**, born Aug. 22, 1770; married (1) William Davis, and (2) Mark Lewis.

- 55 **John**, born Dec. 26, 1772; married (1) Lois Judd, and (2) Sylvia Hart.
- 56 **Smith**, born April 25, 1773; married Sarah Clark.
- 57 **Lucy**, born Dec. 26, 1775; died Aug. 22, 1777.
- 58 **Lucy**, born Aug. 22, 1778; married Barnabas Johnson.
- 59 **Solomon**, born Aug. 26, 1780; married Olive Comes, Dec. 7, 1808.
- 60 **Aaron**, born April 8, 1782; died unmarried at Wolcott, June 1, 1855.

23

Elisha Wiard (Thomas, John, Robert). Married, (name of wife not known).

Children (born in Farmington)—

- 61 **Lemuel**, born Feb. 14, 1754; he was a soldier of the Revolution.
- 62 **Martha**, born March 1, 1756.
- 63 **Darius**, born June 12, 1761; married Hannah Scarrit.
- 64 **John**, born May 29, 1765.

24

Matthew Wiard (Thomas, John Robert), born probably in Wethersfield, Conn., and died before April 30, 1790, in Bristol, Conn.; married **Betty** ———; she married (2) William Roberts of Bristol, Conn.

Children (born probably in Bristol, near Wolcott line, Conn.)—

- 65 **Thomas**, born 1769; died 1837; married (1)

Miss Susan Hall, and (2) Miss Nancy Ganson.

- 66 **Matthew**, married Sally Roberts, daughter of Seth Roberts, before July 5, 1823. He moved to Meredith, Delaware County, New York, where he still resided as late as Sept. 27, 1828. His name, and that of his brother **Thomas**, appear as residents of Wolcott Village, according to Orcott History of Wolcott, about 1800. **Thomas** was freeman there in April, 1802. Matthew raised a large family of children.
- 67 **Rhoda**. She conveyed April 30, 1790, to William Roberts, her interest in her father, Matthew's, estate.

41

Seth Wiard (John, John, John, Robert), born in Farmington, Conn., Sept. 24, 1749; died there Dec. 19, 1831; married (1) at Farmington, June 20, 1770, **Dorcas Hopkins**, born Sept. 16, 1748, and died there Jan. 21, 1782, and married (2) at Harwinton, Conn., Jan. 1, 1788, **Anna Kellogg**, born Nov. 8, 1761; died May 6, 1839. He was a soldier of the Revolution.

Children (first five by Dorcas, others by Anna, at Farmington)—

- 68 **Rhoda**, born March 27, 1771; married Marcus Hart.
- 69 **John**, born, Feb. 15, 1773; married Phebe Griswold.
- 70 **Phebe**, born July 31, 1775; died May 18, 1779;

- married Conant Abernath of Harwinton and had one child, **Ruth**.
- 71 **Lois**, born Sept. 21, 1777; died May 16, 1779; married Martin Pond of Burlington; one child, **Wiard**.
- 72 **Dorcas**, born Feb. 9, 1780; died March, 1865; married Mr. Fuller of Burlington; had four children: **Lucena**, **Augusta**, **David** and **Jesse**.
- 73 **Seth**, born, Oct. 15, 1788; married Lydia Humphrey.
- 74 **Anna**, born May 18, 1790; married Martin Hale.
- 75 **Patty**, born Jan. 12, 1792; married Stephen Hotchkiss.
- 76 **Martin**, born Jan. 15, 1794; married Nancy Bronson.
- 77 **Chester**, born Sept. 13, 1796; married Louisa Pettibone.
- 78 **Hulda**, born June 15, 1798; married George Pettibone.
- 79 **Charles**, born March 12, 1801; died Oct. 20, 1822.

54

Mary Wiard (Aaron, Thomas, John, Robert), born at Farmingbury, Conn., Aug. 22, 1771; died at Southington, Nov. 28, 1859; married (1) **William Davis**, and (2) **Mark Lewis** of Farmington.

Children (were by first husband)—

- 80 **Nelson**, born Dec. —, 1809; died Oct. —, 1855; married Rosana Neal of Southington, Conn., and had four children: **Phidelia**, **Wilson**, **Lucena** and **Mary**.

- 81 William,
82 Aaron, died young.

55

John Wiard (Aaron, Thomas, John, Robert), born at Farmingbury, Conn., Dec. 26, 1772, and died in Pennsylvania in 1833; married (1) at Southington, **Lois Judd**, who died at Southington, Jan. 7, 1818, and married (2) **Sylvia Hart**, widow of James Hart.

Children (by first wife, born in Wolcott)—

- 83 **Leman**, born Sept. 6, 1797; married and died in Pennsylvania, leaving one son, Aaron, who died at age of 22.
84 **Nancy**, born Jan. 4, 1800; married Harry Had-
sal of Farmington and had four children:
Albert, Rebecca, Dennis and Elizabeth.
85 **Osbrary**, born May 21, 1802; married and had
one child, living in Nebraska in 1879.
86 **Smith**, born Nov. 8, 1804; living in Kansas in
1879.
87 **John**, died about 1849, leaving a son who went
to California.
88 **Lois Ann**, died at age of 15 years.
89 **Cynthia**, died about 1849 in Pennsylvania.
By his second wife **Mr. Wiard** had:
90 **Olive**, who married in Pennsylvania.

56

Smith Wiard (Aaron, Thomas, John, Robert), born in Farmingbury, April 25, 1773, and died at Southington, Jan. 27, 1806; married **Sarah Clark**, born Sept. 19, 1754, and died May 27, 1833. She was

a daughter of Abram Clark. They had one

Child—

- 91 **Martha**, born 1800; died March 20, 1834; married Nov. 3, 1819, Eathan Hart, who died May —, 1835.

58

Lucy Wiard (Aaron, Thomas, John, Robert), born in Farmingbury, Conn., Aug. 22, 1778, and died May 25, 1861; married Dec. 27, 1808, **Barnabas Johnson**, who died April 22, 1814. Their

Children—

- 92 **Mari Anna**, born Oct. 9, 1808; married Joseph Merriman May 8, 1836.
93 **Barnabas Lyman**, born Oct. 12, 1812; died April 10, 1866.

59

Solomon Wiard (Aaron, Thomas, John Robert), born at Farmingbury, Conn., Aug. 26, 1780, and died at Wolcott, Conn., July 11, 1829; farmer and distiller; married at Wolcott by John Bronson, Esq., Dec. 7, 1808, **Olive Comes**, born at Danbury, Conn., and died at Wolcott, Oct. 8, 1867.

Children (born at Wolcott)—

- 94 **Delila**, born Oct. 9, 1809; married William R. Bradley.
95 **Seth**, born April 4, 1810; married Jennette B. Comes.
96 **Cyrus**, born Jan. 3, 1812; married Lucy Chase.
97 **Edward**, born March 10, 1814; moved to California; married Mrs. M. K. Smith.

- 98 **George**, born Feb. 9, 1816; died Sept. 24, 1821,
in Wolcott, Conn.
- 99 **Mary Ann**, born Nov. 10, 1817; married Gad
Norton.
- 100 **Emma Jennette**, born May 6, 1820; married
William Bordwine Cargill.
- 101 **William**, born Nov. 10, 1821; married Jennette
Thomas.
- 102 **George Solomon**, born Sept. 16, 1825; married
(1) Nancy Maria Sherwood, (2) Amanda
Peck.
- 103 **An Infant**, born May 28, 1826; died same day.
- 104 **Harriet Eveline**, born July 3, 1827; married
Ira N. Bevans.
- 105 **Angeline Theresa**, born Nov. 24, 1828; died
Aug. 11, 1854.

63

Darius Wiard (Elisha, Thomas, John, Robert), born in Farmington, Conn., June 12, 1761, and died at Verango, Pa., in 1811 or 1812. His name appears on a list of freemen residing in Wolcott, Conn., in 1800, also Aaron Wiard, his brother; he married at Wolcott **Hannah Scarrit**, who died in Camden, Oneida County, N. Y. Their

Children—

- 106 **Jeremy**.
- 107 **Lutius**.
- 108 **Lucius**.
- 109 **Minerva**.
- 110 **Mary**.



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Vice-President Syracuse Chilled Plow Company
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Thomas Wiard (Matthew, Thomas, John, Robert), born in Bristol, Conn., near Wolcott line, Aug. 29, 1769, and died at East Avon, Livingston County, New York, in the year 1837. He married (1) at or near Wolcott, Conn., **Miss Susan Hall**, born May —, 1781, and (2) at East Avon, N. Y., **Miss Nancy Ganson**. Mr. Wiard was made freeman at Wolcott, Conn., April, 1802. He moved from Wolcott to Geneseo, N. Y., in or about the year 1804. About 1805 he moved onto a farm about one-half mile from East Avon, Livingston County, N. Y., and remained there until his decease in 1837. He was a blacksmith and machinist by trade, but lived on a farm. He made plows—first wooden ones and then cast iron ones as early as 1804. One made by him at the latter date still remains in the hands of one of his descendants to this date (1910). He was a public spirited man and held various town offices in his adopted town, such as Justice of the Peace, and Supervisor. His first two children were born in Wolcott, and the balance in East Avon, N. Y.

Children (first ten by Susan and last by Nancy)—

- 111 **Margaret Ann**, born Jan. 11, 1797; married Stewart Webster; large family; she died in Michigan at the age of 86 years.
- 112 **William**, born Dec. 5, 1798; died in Ancaster Canada West, Feb. 4, 1841; married March 3, 1824, Lucinda McLaughlin, born Montreal, Que., Dec. 19, 1797.

- 113 **Seth**, born March 16, 1802, Avon, N. Y.; married Miss Dayton, who died at 71. He died at 86 years.
- 114 **Rachel Ann**, born Nov. 29, 1803; married Mr. Perry; settled in Michigan; died at 65 years.
- 115 **Thomas**, born Nov. 19, 1805; married **Almira Alderman** (two wives); first wife born Nov. 29, 1811. Children (first wife): **Marietta**, born May 12, 1831; **W. L. P.**, born July 27, 1832; **Louise Maria**, born May 12, 1834; **Emily Jane**, born Nov. 22, 1837; **Alice Le Vanch**, born Aug. 12, 1844; and **Charles Thomas**, born June 3, 1850.
- 116 **Mary Ann**, born June 21, 1809; married Nathan Dayton; settled in Rush, N. Y.; moved from there to Michigan. She died at 96 years.
- 117 **Caroline**, born Aug. 3, 1811; married Robert McLaughlin; settled in Canada; moved to Michigan; died at 65 years.
- 118 **Matthew**, born Sept. 8, 1813; died unmarried at 83; Justice of the Peace, Supervisor, and Member of Assembly, N. Y. State.
- 119 **Henry**, born July 13, 1815; married (1) **Charlotte** (or **Caroline**) **Palmer**, and (2) **Amanda Landon**. He made plows, etc. By first wife, children: **Fred H. Wiard** and **Julia D. Wiard**. The former married **Adelia Spencer**; 3 children: **Fannie**, **Maud** and **Robert**. **Julia D. Wiard** married **Lorenzo Wilbur**, one son, **Harrold**.

120 **George**, born Feb. 20, 1817; died unmarried at 19 years.

121 **Nancy**, born at Avon and died in Rochester State Hospital, unmarried.

122 **Elizabeth**, born in Avon; married Mr. Platt, and resides in San Francisco, California.

Lockwood L. Doty, in his history of Livingston County, New York says (p. 491):

“Thomas Wiard was a native of Wolcott, Conn. In 1804, he emigrated with his family to the Genesee country and settled in Geneseo, occupying a little loghouse which he built on the spot, until recently occupied by two small brown houses on Main street, opposite the Genesee Valley Bank. In 1805, he removed to a farm half a mile from the village of East Avon, where he continued to reside up to the time of his decease. He took an active part in public affairs, was prominent in local politics and especially active in the memorable contest that terminated in the election of the younger Adams to the Presidency. He held the office of Justice of the Peace for many years, and was nine times elected Supervisor of the town. He was a man of the strictest integrity in all his relations, public and private.”

68

Rhoda Wiard (Seth, John, John, John, Robert), born March 27, 1771; died Feb. 12, 1804; married **Marcus Hart**. Their

Children—

123 **Rhoda**, married Darius F. Butler of Burlington.

124 **Alice**.

John Wiard (Seth, John, John, John, Robert), born Feb. 15, 1773, and died April 4, 1808; married **Phebe Griswold**. They resided at Burlington.

Children(born in Burlington, Conn.)—

- 125 **Griswold**.
- 126 **Newell**.
- 127 **Lyman**.
- 128 **Lucena**.

Seth Wiard (Seth, John, John, John, Robert), born Oct. 15, 1788; died May 20, 1826; resided at Burlington, Conn.; married at Burlington, Conn., Oct. 2, 1809, **Lydia Humphrey**, who died March 21, 1858.

Children (born at Burlington, Conn.)—

- 129 **Elizabeth**, born June 19, 1811; married at Burlington, April 7, 1833, **Hector Smith**, born at Grawville, Mass., Aug. 24, 1811; died at Pittsburg, April 18, 1836; had one child, **Francis**, born Grafton, Ohio, June 8, 1835.
- 130 **Phebe**, born Nov. 4, 1813; married at Burlington, Dec. 12, 1835, **Samuel Reynolds**, born at Warren, Conn., Aug. 8, 1809; died at Warren, Dec. 16, 1850, and had the following born in Warren, Conn.: **Walter S.**, born Dec. 14, 1837; **Seth**, born Aug. 22, 1840; killed in S. C. Oct. 22, 1862; **Sarah M.**, born Jan. 24, 1846; and **Arthur J.**, born May 19, 1850.

- 131 **John**, born July 21, 1817; married Jennette R. Buell.
- 132 **Sarah**, born Feb. 26, 1822; died at Cleveland, Ohio, Dec., 1881; married at Canton, Ohio, Nov. 19, 1840, John Mansfield, born at Litchfield, Conn., April 22, 1818. One child, **Ella L.**, born at Ashtabula, Ohio, Sept. 27, 1857.
- 133 **Lydia**, born Aug. 28, 1824; married Norman Smith.

74

Anna Wiard (Seth, John, John, John, Robert), born May 18, 1790, and died at Burlington, Dec. 18, 1862; married at Burlington, Conn., Jan. 14, 1811, **Martin Hale**, born May 7, 1788, and died Sept. 17, 1848.

Children (born at Burlington, Conn.)—

- 134 **George M.**, born May 3, 1812.
- 135 **William**, born April 5, 1814; died Sept. 7, 1842, aged 28.
- 136 **Edward**, born March 30, 1816; died Sept. 5, 1839, aged 23.
- 137 **Lucy**, born Feb. 21, 1818.
- 138 **Seth**, born May 19, 1821; died an infant.
- 139 **Anna**, born April 17, 1824.
- 140 **Charles E.**, born Dec. 13, 1827.
- 141 **Jane M.**, born April 25, 1830.
- 142 **Sarah R.**, born Oct. 1, 1833.

75

Patty Wiard (Seth, John, John, John, Robert), born Jan. 12, 1792, and died at New Britain, Dec. 5,

1884; married at Burlington, Dec. 31, 1811, **Stephen Hotchkiss**, born at Burlington, Feb. 9, 1790; died April 22, 1876. Resided at Burlington, Conn.

Children (born at Burlington)—

- 143 **John W.**, born April 7, 1812.
- 144 **Andrew S.**, born Dec. 14, 1814.
- 145 **Mary**, born July 24, 1817.
- 146 **Hiram**, born April 16, 1821.
- 147 **Martha**, born July 16, 1825.
- 148 **Celia**, born March 13, 1834.

76

Martin Wiard (Seth, John, John, John, Robert), born Jan. 15, 1794, and died October 20, 1822; married at Burlington, **Nancy Bronson**. After his death Mrs. Wiard married, for a second husband, Allen Woodruff. She died in a Pennsylvania asylum.

Children—

- 149 **Martin**, died 1842 in Pennsylvania.
- 150 **Laura**, died in Burlington, quite young.

77

Chester Wiard (Seth, John, John, John, Robert), born Sept. 13, 1796, and died Sept. 7, 1827; married **Louisa Pettibone**. She married for a second husband, after Mr. Wiard's death, Harvey Morris of Burlington.

Child (by first husband)—

- 151 **Noble P.**, married Celia Ann Fuller of Farmington, Oct. 6, 1845.

Huldah Wiard (Seth, John, John, John, Robert), born June 15, 1798, and died in Chicago, Ill., March 29, 1886; married at Burlington, Conn., July 31, 1822, by Rev. Jonathan Miller, **George Pettibone**, born at Burlington, Conn., Sept. 22, 1793. He died at Hartford, Conn., March 3, 1861.

Children (born at Burlington, Conn.)—

- 152 **Hannah Ann**, born April 18, 1829; died Burlington, July 8, 1831.
 153 **Charles G.**, born July 11, 1832.

Delila Wiard (Solomon, Aaron, Thomas, John, Robert), born at Wolcott, Conn., Oct. 9, 1809; died at same place, April 19, 1870; married at Southington, Conn., May 22, 1827, **William R. Bradley**, born at Wolcott, Aug. 13, 1804, and died Dec. 18, 1875.

Children (born at Wolcott, Conn.)—

- 154 **Charles William**, born Nov. 24, 1828; died Dec. 9, 1828.
 155 **Eliza Ann**, born Oct. 22, 1829; married Samuel C. Judd, June 16, 1850; six children.
 156 **Edward Burdett**, born Aug. 23, 1831.
 157 **Moses B.**, born Dec. 1, 1833.
 158 **Mary Augusta**, born April 2, 1836; died June 17, 1837.
 159 **Mary Jennette**, born Aug. 25, 1840.
 160 **George Adelbert**, born March 23, 1843.
 161 **Harriet Virginia**, born Nov. 17, 1846.

Seth Wiard (Solomon, Aaron, Thomas, John, Rob-

ert), born at Wolcott, Conn., April 4, 1810, and died July 4, 1876; married at New York, April 25, 1853, **Jennette B. Comes**, born at Waterbury, Conn., March 10, 1816. Mr. Wiard was a farmer and a man of great business energy, and acquired a competency before his death.

Children—

- 162 **Ella Elizabeth**, born at Wolcott, May 11, 1854; died unmarried April 26, 1908.
- 163 **Frank Seth**, born Sept. 20, 1855; married Mrs. Frances M. Andrews of Meriden, Conn., at West Haven, Conn., Feb. 12, 1908. Mr. Wiard resides at and his postoffice address (1910) is Yalesville, Conn.

Mr. Seth Wiard represented the town of Wolcott in the State Legislature in the years 1862-3-4. Was elected Justice of the Peace in 1862 and again in 1868, and was Selectman of his town in 1850. Freeman 1836.

96

Cyrus Wiard (Solomon, Aaron, Thomas, John, Robert), born at Wolcott, Jan. 3, 1812, and died at Patterson, N. Y., April 24, 1873; married at New Fairfield, Aug. 18, 1835, **Lucy Chase**, born at New Fairfield, Aug. 25, 1818, and died Sept. 15, 1881.

Children—

- 164 **Walter**, born New Fairfield, Sept. 8, 1836, and died at Bridgeport, Nov., 1839.
- 165 **Sarah Louise**, born at Bridgeport, June 7, 1839; married Charles H. Reed, July 4, 1859.

- 166 **Susan M.**, born at New Fairfield, Sept. 13, 1844; married Jan. 29, 1863, Washington Carey.
- 167 **Edward Alving**, born Sherman, Conn., Nov. 15, 1848; married at Patterson, N. Y., Dec. 23, 1875, **Jane Ann Nickerson**, born Aug. 27, 1852, and had one child, **Jessie N.**, born Patterson, N. Y., Oct. 29, 1871. Edward A. Wiard is now (1910) foreman for a contractor at White Plains, N. Y.

97

Edward Wiard (Solomon, Aaron, Thomas, John, Robert), born in Wolcott, Conn., and died in Oakland, Cal., Feb. 1, 1886; married in San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 28, 1860, **Mrs. M. K. Smith**. Mr. Wiard is reported to have been successful in business and left a competency for his family at the time of his decease.

Children (born in California)—

- 168 **Annie**.
- 169 **Elizabeth**.
- 170 **George E**.

99

Mary Ann Wiard (Solomon, Aaron, Thomas, John, Robert), born at Wolcott, Conn., Nov. 10, 1817; married at Wolcott, Oct. 23, 1839, **Gad Norton**, born at Southington, Oct. 24, 1815.

Children (born at Southington)—

- 171 **Marshall Parish**, born June 10, 1842.
- 172 **Asher**, born Nov. 21, 1843; died Sept. —, 1844.
- 173 **Alice Jennette**, born Jan. 28, 1845.

- 174 **Julius Gad**, born June 11, 1847; died Dec. 12, 1871.
- 175 **Gilbert Ernest**, born May 9, 1852; married at Shelton, Conn., Sept. 2, 1889, **Nellie Scattergood**.

100

Emma Jennette Wiard (Solomon, Aaron, Thomas, John, Robert), born May 6, 1820, at Wolcott, Conn.; married at Wolcott, March 9, 1840, **William Bordwine Cargill**, born at Munson, Mass., July 19, 1819, and died December 24, 1894.

Children (1st at Wolcott, 2nd at Middlebury, Conn.)—

- 176 **William Aithen**, born Nov. 25, 1842; married (1) at Waterbury, Conn., Aug. 31, 1862, **Merinda Munson**, born at Rawana, Ohio, Dec., 1841, and (2) **Agnes Havard**, and had one child by his first wife: **Bertha**, born Dec. 27, 1863, at Waterbury, Conn.
- 177 **Edward Ernest**, born Aug. 12, 1849; married **Emma Harrison**, and by her had two children: **Olive** and **Inna**.

101

William Wiard (Solomon, Aaron, Thomas, John, Robert), born at Wolcott, Conn., Nov. 10, 1821, and died in Sacramento, California, Aug. 19, 1896; married at Wolcott, Conn., Oct. 24, 1837, **Jennette Thomas**, born at Wolcott, Dec. 1, 1820, and died in California Dec. 13, 1899. Mr. Wiard resided for a time after his marriage in the western part of the town of Wolcott, Conn. From there he entered the

service in the Union army in the war of 1861, served his time, then studied medicine and became a successful physician and surgeon; moved to Murray, Iowa, where he practiced his profession, and from thence to California, where he died as above stated at Sacramento, Cal., Aug. 19, 1896.

Children (born at Wolcott, Conn.)—

- 178 **John Edward**, born April 16, 1840; died Feb. 14, 1865.
- 179 **William Frederick**, born Jan. 22, 1843; married **Jennie** ———; one child, **Lawrence Eric Wiard**, born Nov. 21, 1885. Mr. W. Fred Wiard is a physician in California, where he now resides.
- 180 **Francis E.**, born Aug. 18, 1850; died March 1, 1851.
- 181 **Eric Thomas**, born Feb. 16, 1852; died in Murray, Iowa, Aug. 17, 1882. He married **Ann** ———, and had **Edward, Jennie** and **Lena**.
- 182 **Henry De Forrest**, born June 18, 1858; married at Murray, Iowa, Jan. 10, 1883, **Jennie Arnold**, born at Fairview, Ohio, March 12, 1857. One child, **De Forrest Willota**, born at Bangor, Dakota, Dec. 12, 1885.

102

George S. Wiard (Solomon, Aaron, Thomas, John, Robert), born at Wolcott, Sept. 16, 1825, and settled there; married at Naugatuck, Conn., Dec. 15, 1844, **Nancy Maria Sherwood**, born at Bridgewater, Conn., in 1818, and died at Bristol, Conn.,

June 19, 1847, aged 31. Mr. Wiard then for a second wife married at Wolcott, Conn., Jan. 9, 1849, **Amanda Peck**, born at Newtown, Conn., Feb. 27, 1826. Mr. Wiard was a soldier, war of 1861.

Children (first by first wife at Bristol; others by second wife at Wolcott)—

- 183 **Georgana Maria**, born May 10, 1847; died at Wolcott, June 17, 1862, aged 15.
- 184 **Angeline Theresa**, born Dec. 14, 1854; married **Edward Alonzo Judd** at Wolcott, Nov. 28, 1872, and by him had three children: **Grace**, born June 6, 1873; **Alice M.**, born Oct. 2, 1876, and **Leslie H.**, born Aug. 16, 1881.
- 185 **Charles Edward**, born May 21, 1858.
- 186 **Dora Lucy**, born Dec. 24, 1867; married June 27, 1884, **Joseph Wininger**, born at Odell, Oregon.

104

Harriet Eveline Wiard (Solomon, Aaron, Thomas, John, Robert), born at Wolcott, Conn., July 3, 1827, and died May 2, 1873; married at Trumbull, Conn., May 24, 1847, **Ira N. Bevans**, born Munroe, Conn., July 5, 1824.

Child (born at Waterbury, Conn.)—

- 187 **Walter**, born June 21, 1857.

112

William Wiard (Thomas⁵, Matthew⁴, Thomas³, John², Robert¹), born at Wolcott, Conn., Dec. 5, 1798, and died at Ancaster, Canada, Feb. 4, 1841; married **Lucinda McLaughlin** March 3, 1824, and

MRS. WILLIAM W. WIARD
AND DAUGHTER KATHARINE
No. 209



settled in Ancaster, Canada. Mrs. Wiard was born in Montreal, Canada, Dec. 19, 1797, and died Ancaster, Canada, June 9, 1863.

Children (born at Ancaster, Canada)—

- 188 **Norman**, born June 1, 1825; died Sept. 11, 1896; married Elizabeth Ritchie, May 19, 1848.
- 189 **Edward**, born July 16, 1826; died Sept. 14, 1898; married Charlotte Whitmore, Feb. 15, 1852.
- 190 **Jane**, born Aug. 10, 1827; died June 25, 1829.
- 191 **Ann**, born Dec. 9, 1828; died Dec. 29, 1896; married William A. Cooley, Feb. 15, 1851.
- 192 **Matthew**, born May 19, 1830; married Eleanor Black, Feb. 10, 1871.
- 193 **John**, born Oct. 19, 1831; died Jan. 6, 1864; married Elizabeth Torrance, May 24, 1854.
- 194 **George**, born March 11, 1833; married (1) Emeline Warren, Nov. 20, 1856; (2) Celestia Isabella Warren, Jan. 9, 1872.
- 195 **Oliver**, born March 27, 1835; died Jan. 28, 1862.
- 196 **Almyra**, born June 4, 1836; died Dec. 23, 1902; married Jacob Rymal, April 7, 1858.
- 197 **William**, born Sept. 16, 1837; died Oct. 1, 1838.
- 198 **Harry**, born Jan. 21, 1839; married Eleanor L. Wolcott, Sept. 21, 1864.

Statement of Harry Wiard, now of Syracuse, N. Y.

“My grandfather, Thomas Wiard, was a blacksmith and a farmer. He first made wooden plows and later cast iron ones. My father, William Wiard, when he went to Canada, made plows, mill gearing,

and built the first foundry in Canada. He was interested in the first steamboat that ran between Lewiston and Hamilton, Canada. Before 1840, he prophesied that a steamboat would yet run by power generated from chunk bottle.

“My brother, Edward Wiard, was for twenty-five years superintendent of the B. F. Avery Plow Manufacturing Company of Louisville, Ky.

“My uncles, Henry Wiard and Matthew Wiard, carried on the plow business at Avon, N. Y., before the Civil War of 1861. Matthew bought out his brother and finally sold a half interest to my brother, George Wiard, after the war. Uncle Matthew finally sold his remaining half interest in the business to a Mr. Hough. This business was soon afterwards taken to Batavia, N. Y., where it took the name of Wiard Plow Company, and so continues to this time, 1910, with success.

“My brother, Norman Wiard, did business at Trenton, N. J., and other places and made rifle guns; I think the first ever made. This was during the war of 1861. He died at the age of 70 years. He was a good mechanic, and was in other business besides what I have mentioned.

“My brother, John Wiard, who was a private in Company ‘B,’ N. Y. Regiment, Eighth Artillery, was drowned at Baltimore, Md., during his service in the Union army in the war of 1861. Both my brothers, John and George Wiard, served in the Union army; the latter was a captain. He carried a ball in his knee received in battle until very recently, when it was removed.

"I, Harry Wiard, have been Superintendent of the Syracuse Chilled Plow Company since the beginning of that business in 1876. I suppose I am chiefly responsible for the organization and inception of that business, and, to a certain extent, its subsequent prosperity."

The following was taken from the Reading Daily Times and Dispatch, of Reading, Pa., of September 14, 1896:

Col. Wiard's Early Life.

"Philip C. Van Brocklin, who has resided the past five years in this city, and at the advanced age of nearly 89 years, enjoys all his faculties to a most remarkable degree, likewise a surprising amount of physical vigor, was interviewed by a Times reporter last evening at his pleasant home, 1542 Mineral Spring Road. Mr. Van Brocklin was closely associated with the early life of Colonel Norman Wiard, who died suddenly on Friday evening, and interestingly recounted a number of incidents concerning the early life of Colonel Wiard.

"The grandfather of Colonel Wiard was Squire Thomas Wiard of East Avon, Livingston County, New York. He was a famous man through Western New York and reared a good sized family. William Wiard left the paternal roof and located in the highlands at Ancaster, Ontario, Canada, and became an iron founder and machinist, and married and settled down.

"The celebrated General Mackenzie owned a furnace at Potter's Creek, close to Ancaster, and

changed the name of the place to Normandale. William Wiard at this period had become the father of a young son, the first born, and in a conversation with General Mackenzie said that the change in the name of Potter's Creek to Normandale was an acceptable one, and, in order to exhibit his pleasure, he remarked that his first born he would christen Norman as a derivation from Normandale, and thus Col. Norman Wiard received his name.

"The country about Ancaster is most picturesque, beautiful valleys nestling between rugged hillsides, and to a marked similarity in physical outline between magnificent views about Reading and those of his birthplace was due the love that Col. Wiard possessed for Reading, and caused him to locate here.

"A classical school near Ancaster was the source of Col. Wiard's foundation to a fine education. Mechanics had for him a great attraction, and while yet in his teens he had outstripped his elders in the mastery of mechanical problems.

"When Col. Wiard was born, Mr. Van Brocklin was repairing the furnaces at Normandale. Later he engaged in the foundry business himself at Brantford, Ontario, and while Mr. Van Brocklin was doing some of the finest work in his line of business, Norman Wiard, who had become a manly fellow of eighteen years, walked into his office one day and asked for a job. Mr. Van Brocklin, recognizing the son of his old friend, at once put him to

work in the machine department, and he remained there for six months, at which time the foreman of the works approached Mr. Van Brocklin and stated that he had a liberal offer to go abroad in three shops. The foreman was told that the salary promised him was more than he could expect to receive there and he was advised to accept and did so. It was thus from an apprentice work of six months, Norman Wiard was installed as the foreman of the shop, as his theoretical knowledge of the business from the outset was far in advance of that day.

“Norman Wiard, while in these works, commenced his early experiments in ordnance that afterwards won for him distinction.

“The sobriquet of Colonel he won through his connection with the legation in Japan, as a military engineer. It was always a great pleasure to him to recount the great attention shown to him by the Japanese government. The Wiard plow was among the earliest successful inventions in the farming implement line, and shipments were made all over the world.

“The remains of Col. Wiard will be interred in Charles Evans Cemetery. George Wiard, a brother of the deceased, of Batavia, N. Y., and Fred Wiard, of the same place, a son of the deceased, are registered at the Hotel Penn.”

The following appeared in the same paper under date of September 12, 1896:

“**Col. Norman Wiard** died suddenly in his room at Hotel Penn last evening; he was 73 years of age

and was survived by two brothers, one residing at Syracuse and the other at Batavia, N. Y. He was extensively engaged in the manufacture of guns during the early part of the war and was connected with an establishment at Trenton, N. J., where upwards of a thousand hands were employed in the production of ordnance.

“He was fertile in inventive genius. He sold a patent for the non-explosion of boilers to the United States Government, which was put on each of thirty-two war vessels, for which he received \$72,000. He subsequently sold the same patent to the Japanese Government for \$80,000, besides receiving 18,000 Mexican dollars as a present from the Imperial Navy of Japan prior to his departure from that country, where he had been living for upwards of two years. He was the confidential adviser of the late Speaker Randall in all matters pertaining to ordnance, and was frequently closeted with that gentleman as often as twice a week when Mr. Randall was chairman of the committee on appropriations.

“Col. Wiard, prior to his departure from Japan, had been of Washington City, where he was married to a sister of Billy Florence, the celebrated actor. His wife survives him, as do four children, most of whom are living in the far West.

“In the days of his great prosperity, he lived in Grammercy Park, New York City, where he entertained with princely hospitality, his guests embracing some of the foremost men and women of the

nation. Among those who breakfasted with him at his home almost daily during the four years he lived in New York, was the late Horace Greeley. At that time he kept twenty horses for riding and driving purposes.

“As a fabricator of iron, but particularly as an inventor and manufacturer of heavy ordnance, Col. Wiard ranked very high. The writer of this once heard a very highly complimentary remark about him from the lips of the late John G. West, who was superintendent of the foundry at the time of the conversation alluded to. Pointing to Mr. Wiard, who was a short distance ahead of Mr. West and the writer, he said: ‘There goes a man who I believe knows more about ordnance than any man in this plant.’ Quite a compliment, indeed, coming as it did from such high authority. Upon another occasion the writer heard a naval officer of high standing—none other than the late chief of ordnance of the U. S. Navy—say about him something like this: ‘If the government authorities had as much knowledge of the fabrication of iron as this man Wiard has, it would be of great advantage to the government.’ These things are mentioned here merely to show Col. Wiard’s high standing as an inventor and manufacturer of cannon—a matter of information which will no doubt be pleasant reading to his friends.

“Col. Wiard had a native kindness of heart that never failed him. In the days of his adversity—and he had often drank from the cup of sore disappoint-

ment and sorrow—he was uniformly cheerful and buoyed up with a feeling of hopefulness which never left him. He was a man of wide information, particularly upon subjects bearing upon science and mechanism, and was an incessant worker up to a few days before his recent illness overtook him. For more than thirty-four years he was engaged in careful investigation and costly practical experiments in perfecting his inventions and new combinations.

“The public Congressional documents for a series of years show that Mr. Wiard had frequently been summoned before committees of the Senate and House as a mechanical expert. They also show that he received many hundreds of thousands of dollars from the United States government for guns, gun carriages, and the like, and for making a large number of experiments with the firing of ordnance on Nut Island in Boston Harbor.

“In a letter to Charles Sumner, dated June 1, 1866, Horace Greeley said: ‘I beg to introduce to you Mr. Norman Wiard, an ingenious inventor and skilful mechanic, who has I believe saved the government vast sums of money by his persistent hostility to and exposures of the jobbery of the ordnance department. On this account I feel very friendly to him’.”

131

John Wiard (Seth, Seth, John, John, John, Robert), born at Burlington, Conn., July 21, 1817, and married at Manchester, Conn., Nov. 23, 1841, **Jen-**

nette R. Buell, born at Simsbury, Conn., Jan. 18, 1820.

Children (born at Burlington, Conn., and Plymouth)—

199 **Martin Seth**, born Feb. 21, 1843; married Dec. 4, 1873, **Louisa T. Peck**, and by her had **Grace Louise**, born May 27, 1875, and **Oliver Martin**, born July 18, 1879.

200 **Albert Lyman**, born Plymouth, Conn., Oct. 30, 1849, and married Nov. 30, 1870, **Nellie Bulkley**, and by her had **Bertha Louise**, born March 16, 1874, and **John Bulkley**, born Oct. 12, 1877.

133

Lydia Ann Wiard (Seth, Seth, John, John, John, Robert), born at Burlington, Conn., Aug. 28, 1824, and married at Plymouth, Conn., in 1845, **Norman Smith**, who died July 24, 1865.

Children (born at Plymouth, Conn.)—

201 **Charles W.**, born March 6, 1846.

202 **Edward W.**, born Dec. 22, 1847.

203 **Jennie**, born Nov. 10, 1850.

194

Capt. George Wiard (William, Thomas, Matthew, Thomas, John, Robert), born at Ancaster, Canada West, March 11, 1833; living at Batavia, N. Y., 1910. President Wiard Plow Company. Married Nov. 20, 1856, **Emeline Warner**, who died Aug. 7, 1870, and he married second, **Celestia Isabell Warren**, Jan. 9, 1872. Both wives he married at East Avon, N. Y.

Children (by second wife)—

- 204 **May**, born at East Avon, N. Y., Nov. 17, 1872;
married at Batavia, N. Y., June 11, 1902,
Ernest Fifle of Montreal, Quebec. They
have one child, **Isabelle Fifle**.
- 205 **Louis**, born at Batavia, N. Y., Oct. 20, 1877;
married at Batavia, N. Y., Sarah Monell,
Oct. 9, 1901.
- 206 **Ernest**, born at Batavia, N. Y., July 11, 1882.
- 207 **Henry**, }
208 **Harry**, } Twins, born at Batavia, N. Y.,
Feb. 10, 1887.

Capt. Wiard entered the Union Army in the Civil War as a private, Aug. 12, 1862, and was mustered into the U. S. service at Lockport, N. Y., as a second lieutenant of Co. H, 129th N. Y. Regiment Infantry Volunteers. This regiment became the 8th Artillery Dec. 19, 1862; he was promoted to first lieutenant of the same company and regiment Dec. 2, 1862. He was made captain of the 4th Regiment N. Y. Artillery Volunteers June 22, 1865. While a member of the 8th Artillery he was for three months on Court Martial; Post Adjutant seven months at Fort McHenry, Md. May 12, 1864, he was ordered from the defenses of Washington to the front and was wounded near Petersburg, Va., June 17, 1864, by ball in the knee. He was afterward Instructor of Artillery at Fort Meigs, Department of Washington; appointed Inspector of Artillery, Assistant Inspector General and Aide de Camp; Assistant Adjutant General of Hardin's Division, defense of

Washington; Ordnance Officer in DeRussey's division, south of Potomac; officer in charge of dismantling forts south of Potomac. Discharged from service Sept. 26, 1865.

The Daily News, published at Batavia, N. Y., of July 27, 1904, contained the following:

"Banquet Celebrates Century of Plows, Wiard Plow Company's Delightful Informal Event—Story of the Development of the Wiard Industry—One of Batavia's Most Valued Plants—Presentation of a Chest of Silver to George Wiard, President of the Company—Feautres of Centennial Celebration.

"When **Thomas Wiard** constructed his first complete plow in Avon, Livingston County, N. Y., one hundred years ago, did he realize that he was laying the corner stone of an industry which was bound to gain proportions of considerable magnitude in the republic which had not yet outgrown its swaddling clothes, and of which agriculture was regarded as a fundamental element of growth? He was a mechanical pioneer on the frontier of western civilization, a practical, clear headed genius who appreciated the possibilities of development in the new world, and who sought by well directed efforts to lighten the labors of the men who were striving to establish homes in a wilderness.

"Those who are acquainted with the Wiards of today and are familiar with the history of the family know, however, that they are not a race of air castle builders, and for that reason the assertion may safely be made that **Thomas Wiard** did not

dream when he conceived it, what an important factor in the manufacturing as well as the agricultural industry, the product of his inventive skill would become long before the close of the century in which he lived. Neither did he dream when he fashioned that first wooden plow with an iron share that a century hence, bedecked with flowers, it would be observed of all observers at a function in celebration of the first centennial of the industry which he founded.

“That the half a hundred guests, who partook of the hospitality of the Wiard Plow Company of Batavia at its centennial banquet at the Hotel Richmond last night, felt that it was their privilege to participate in an event of great note goes without saying. Neither is it necessary to say that they thoroughly enjoyed the privilege, for the function was a success in the fullest meaning of the word. The guests included the directors and officers of the company, its warehouse representatives and traveling salesmen, its home office force, men who formerly were in its employ, and representatives of other local concerns which manufacture and deal in farm machinery.

“It was 9:30 o’clock when the guests entered the dining room of the hotel, in which tables had been arranged in the form of a ‘T’. Flowers were tastefully arranged on the board and Thomas Wiard’s first plow occupied a place of honor on a stand near the head of the table. On either end of the room was Kleinitz’s harp orchestra, which discoursed sweet music throughout the evening.”

WM. WOLCOTT WIARD, JR

No. 209



Among those who took seats at the table were: **George Wiard, President of the Wiard Plow Company; Harry Wiard (brother of George Wiard), General Superintendent of the Syracuse Chilled Plow Company; William W. Wiard (son of Harry Wiard), Vice-President of the Syracuse Chilled Plow Company; Louis Wiard, Ernest Wiard, Henry Wiard, Harry Wiard, Fred Wiard and Charles Wiard**, most of whom, if not all, are engaged in the plow business or the manufacture of agricultural implements.

When coffee and cigars were reached **George Wiard** rose and gave an interesting sketch of the Wiard Plow industry.

"Gentlemen," Mr. Wiard said, "this being the one hundredth anniversary of the Wiard Plow, you have been invited to be present with us in Batavia on this occasion. We feel confident that we can safely say that this is the oldest plow establishment in America, if not in the world, that was started a century ago and been in continuous operation to the present time.

"The founder, Thomas Wiard, grandfather of the speaker, the President of the Wiard Plow Company, was born in Connecticut in 1769. He was a finished blacksmith and might have been called a mechanical engineer, if such a title had been thought of in those times. He made by hand such machinery as was then in use, and his skill in making and repairing sawmill machinery, especially the cranks and

such difficult and intricate work, gave him more than a local celebrity, and brought him custom from distant cities. He began the making of plow points of wrought iron, laying the cutting parts with steel, for farmers who made the balance of the plow of wood at their homes.

“In 1801 or 1802 he moved from Connecticut to Geneseo, Livingston County, N. Y., where he bought a farm, built a blacksmith shop, where he did various kinds of job work together with making plow points, and worked his farm at the same time. In 1804 he moved from Geneseo to Avon in the same county, where he bought a large farm, built a shop and began making the whole plow, covering the face of the mold board with strips of thin iron. As early as 1815 he bought castings of Jethro Wood, of Cayuga County, N. Y., for his then famous cast iron plow and finished them ready for use. Two years later, in 1817, he built a foundry, one horse furnishing the power, and made an improved pattern for a cast iron plow, which he continued to manufacture for many years, when his buildings were destroyed by fire. They were immediately rebuilt on a much larger scale, having a four-horse-power engine with cast iron boiler, both upright, and there he continued to make these plows of various sizes until his death in 1837.

“My grandfather left five sons, William, Seth, Thomas, Jr., Matthew and Henry, one or more of whom continued to manufacture Wiard Plows at that place. In 1857 part of the buildings

were again destroyed by fire, but were rebuilt at once. At that time the factory was managed by Seth and Henry Wiard. In 1863 Matthew Wiard bought the interest of Seth, who went to farming, and two years later, Henry, the only living representative of the second generation, retired from business and bought a farm upon which he now lives (1904), and Matthew carried on the plow business alone until November, 1865.

“At this time Capt. George Wiard of the third generation, the present speaker, having served in the army until the close of the Civil War, bought one-half of Matthew’s interest, became his partner, and managed the business under the firm name of M. & G. Wiard. In April, 1866, the whole place was again burned, but was rebuilt larger than ever, and the same management was continued until 1871, when Capt. C. W. Hough of Cayuga County, N. Y., my old comrade in the army, bought out Matthew’s interest, and the firm became Wiard & Hough.

“That the Wiard family were natural mechanics and plow makers will be seen from the subsequent history of the sons of Thomas already named and their descendants. My father, William Wiard, oldest son of Thomas Wiard, Sr., at the age of 19 started a plow shop at East Rush, Monroe County, N. Y., and, two years later, moved to Ancaster, Canada, where he continued to make plows until his death in 1841. Thomas Wiard, Jr., was widely known as a maker of plow patterns. In 1830 he

made the "Livingston County Plow," known the country through, and later went to Louisville, Ky., and made patterns for most of the plows manufactured by B. F. Avery previous to 1858. My brother, Edward Wiard, of the third generation, became superintendent of the B. F. Avery factory in 1858 and made patterns for all the other plows made there up to 1880. Harry Wiard, another brother, has been superintendent of the Syracuse Chilled Plow Company from its organization and has made or directed the making of all the patterns for plows manufactured by that company. My nephew, Fred Wiard, of the fourth generation, was assistant superintendent for this company twelve years, and afterwards organized and put in operation the Paris Plow Company of Paris, Ontario.

"Speaking of myself, at the age of 13, I began molding plow points after school hours in my father's foundry at Ancaster, Canada, and his cupola being too small for a man to enter, I with my brothers, according to their size, took turns at cleaning it out ready for melting the iron. At 14 years of age I left school and worked at molding plows most of the time, and after two years of stove plate work I was considered a full fledged molder. When 18, I went to Avon and made what plow castings were needed in the old Wiard Plow works, and so continued with a brief interval until 1862, when I entered the army and served until after the close of the Civil War. Since the organization of the Wiard Plow Company in 1876, I have been its

general superintendent as well as president, and have overseen the making, or made myself, the patterns for all our plows and other implements, with such success the general public is aware.

“As before stated, the firm of Wiard & Hough was formed in November, 1871, and by mutual agreement, Mr. Hough was to take charge of all office matters and I was to attend to the manufacture of the goods. Mr. Hough was a man of exceptionally good business qualities, coupled with great energy and perseverance, and under our joint management the trade, which had been almost local, was widely extended. The old system of sending out plows to be sold on commission was entirely replaced by that of straight out and out sales, and in less than five years our business had so increased that larger works and better facilities for shipping became a necessity.

“After careful inspection of various locations, Batavia was decided upon as the best, and its citizens raised by subscription enough money to buy the site upon which our buildings stand, costing \$2,500 at that time, and presented it to the firm of Wiard & Hough. The work of building was begun June 1, 1876, and continued so rapidly that iron was melted in the foundry and a heat taken off November 1st, 1876.

“Before this time, however, it had become apparent that to properly extend the business, more capital would be needed than had been required up to that time, and in September, 1876, The Wiard

Plow Company was incorporated under the laws of New York, and succeeded Wiard & Hough on that date. The officers of the new company were: George Wiard, President and General Superintendent, and C. W. Hough, Secretary and Treasurer, and they continued for the next two years, when in December, 1878, I. H. Smith, one of the directors of the company, and a gentleman of fine business attainments, was made Secretary. In the spring of 1880, Mr. Smith, on account of failing health, relinquished his position and J. J. Washburn was made a director and Secretary to fill those vacancies. Mr. Washburn had been long engaged in commercial pursuits, for ten years of which he had been a salesman of plows and kindred lines, and his attention was now given particularly to the sales of our product, and the credit of our customers, while Mr. Hough and myself looked after the financial and manufacturing parts of the business, with results too well known to require further comment.

“This management continued for twenty years until the sudden death of Mr. Hough on May 4, 1900, left his place as director and Treasurer vacant and filled the hearts of all his associates with sorrow. Mr. Hough had been one of the founders, and in fact the principal organizer of the Wiard Plow Company. He was a man of great business foresight and enterprise—a genial, honest, true-hearted man, and his death was a great loss, not only to his associates, but to the community at large.

"These vacancies were subsequently filled by his son, Arthur C. Hough, a graduate at law of Cornell University, and for some years previous his father's business assistant. Still later, John W. Pratt, who had been our confidential bookkeeper for a score of years, was made Secretary, and Mr. Washburn became Vice-President—all of whom, with myself, are the present officers of our company, while the directors are D. W. Tomlinson, Mrs. A. R. Kenny, A. C. Hough, George Wiard and J. J. Washburn.

"These details have been given at length, as this is the last centennial anniversary of the Wiard Plow that you or I will ever attend. From the small beginnings of a century ago the business has grown to proportions not to be ashamed of. We have as complete a line of plows as is made in the world, and the Wiard Plow is known and used in almost every country of the globe, from the rivers unto the ends of the earth, as the Scripture saith."

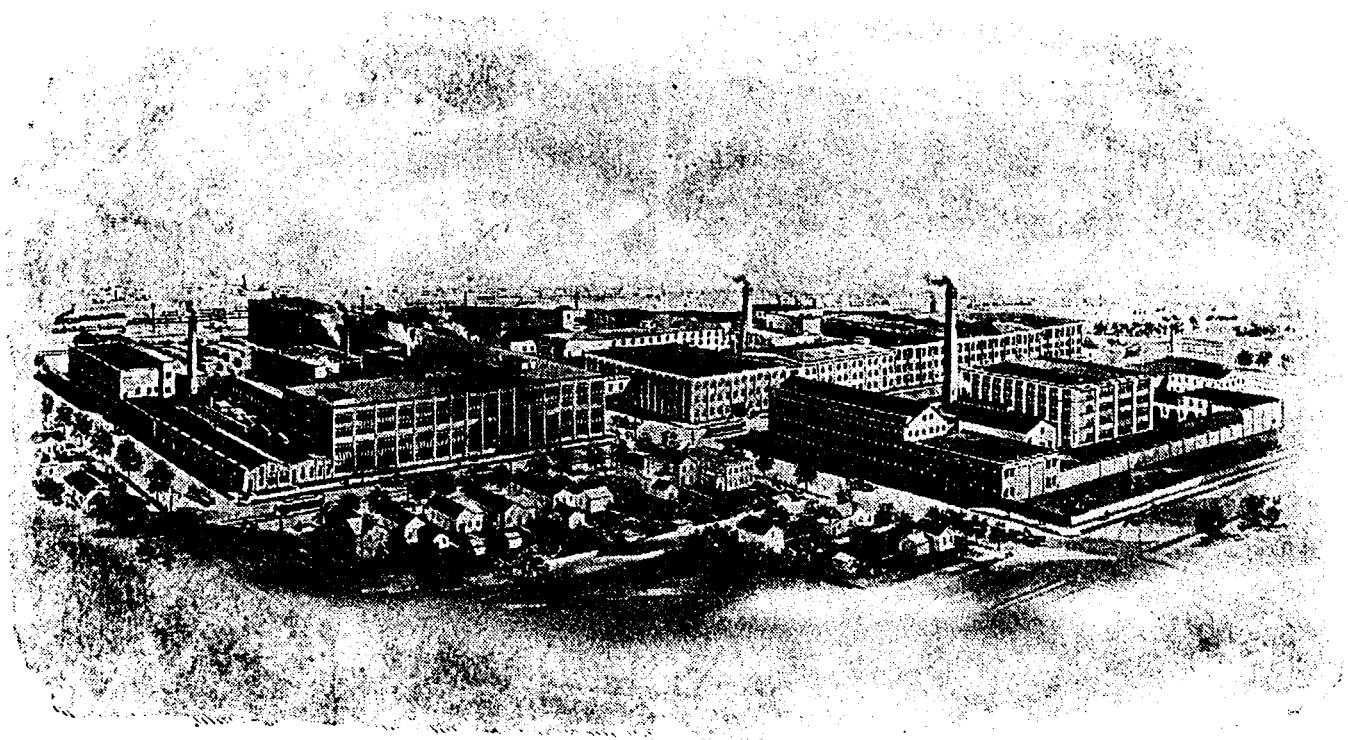
At the close of Mr. Wiard's address, and after an appropriate address made by G. S. Griswold, suitable for the occasion, a chest of silver was presented to Mr. Wiard, a gift from his associates in the Wiard Plow Company.

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Harry Wiard (William⁶, Thomas⁵, Matthew⁴, Thomas³, John², Robert¹), born at Ancaster, Canada, Jan. 21, 1839, now of Syracuse, N. Y., Superintendent Syracuse Chilled Plow Company; married at Oakfield, N. Y., Sept. 21, 1864, **Eleanora L. Wolcott**, daughter of William Wolcott, born at Oakfield, N. Y.

Children (born at Oakfield, N. Y.)—

- 209 **William Wolcott**, born Sept. 29, 1865, Vice-President Syracuse Chilled Plow Company, residing at Syracuse, N. Y.; married **Flora Belle Collins**, daughter of George K. Collins, at Syracuse, N. Y., April 4, 1893. Their children: **Katharine Wolcott**, born at Syracuse, Feb. 21, 1897, died Nov. 23, 1901; and **William Wolcott, Jr.**, born at Syracuse, N. Y., Oct. 8, 1902. Mrs. W. W. Wiard was born at Syracuse, Feb. 16, 1869.
- 210 **Mary Almira**, born in Oakfield, N. Y., Feb. 4, 1868; died in Oakfield, N. Y., Nov. 9, 1878.
- 211 **Anna L.**, born Jan. 2, 1871; married **Dr. William F. Law**, Oct. 29, 1896, at Syracuse, N. Y. Dr. Law was born at Verona, N. Y., Jan. 18, 1871. They reside at Syracuse, N. Y., and have one child, **Dorothy Wiard**, born in Syracuse, N. Y., Sept. 4, 1901.
- 212 **Sadie Miranda**, born July 26, 1873; married **Herbert Newton Baker**, born at Odessa, Ontario, Canada, Oct. 26, 1871; married at Syracuse, N. Y., Oct. 29, 1896. They have the following children, born at Syracuse, N. Y.: **Marion Wiard**, born Dec. 11, 1897; **Harry William**, born March 12, 1900; **Herbert Newton, Jr.**, born at Broadway, East Paris, Canada, July 29, 1903; **Gertrude Eleanor**, born at Syracuse, N. Y., Sept. 8, 1908, died June 3, 1911; and **Robert Nelson**, born Sept. 29, 1911. Mr. Baker died June 19, 1911.



WORKS OF
SYRACUSE CHILLED PLOW COMPANY

Harry Wiard, born at Ancaster, Ontario, Canada West, January 21, 1839, was the youngest son of William and Lucinda Wiard. He attended common schools until he was twelve years of age. His father having died before he had seen his second birthday, he now went to work at whatever he could get to do—principally in the machine shops in or about the place of his birth. He continued in this employment until he was fifteen, and then went to Chicago, Illinois, where he found work in the machine shop of H. P. Moses. He continued with Mr. Moses nearly two years, and among other things he did at that time, he remembers with pride cutting the thread of screws used in raising a brick building on the corner of Lake and Clark streets, seventeen feet to conform to a new street grade ordered by the Common Council of that city.

From Chicago he went to Janesville, Wisconsin, and worked in a shop there nearly six months, and then returned to Ancaster, where he found employment in a machine shop for a year. He was then less than nineteen years of age, yet was doing work as a first-class journeyman and getting his pay as such.

In his nineteenth year he left Ancaster for a second time, and after a sojourn in Louisville, Ky., of about three months doing shop work there, he went to East Avon, N. Y., and entered the employment of his uncles, Matthew and Henry Wiard, as a mechanic in their plow and agricultural factory situate at that place. He remained with these peo-

ple until some time in 1859, when his brother, George Wiard, now of Batavia, entered into a co-partnership with him for the manufacture of plows and other agricultural implements on their own account, and built a factory for that purpose in Oakfield, N. Y.

The business thus organized was carried on by the two brothers until about October 1, 1862, when George Wiard entered the army as lieutenant in the 129th N. Y. Regiment and departed for the seat of war. Just before this, another brother, Edward Wiard, joined the concern as partner, and he and Harry Wiard continued the business for a time, but before the return of George Wiard from the army in the fall of 1865, Mr. Harry Wiard bought out the interest of his brothers, Edward and George, and thenceforward until 1876 carried on the business in his own name.

In 1874 Mr. Wiard transferred his business from Oakfield to Albion, N. Y., where it was continued for about two years. Conditions at Albion not being satisfactory to Mr. Wiard, he made a second change of locality, and this time to Syracuse, N. Y. During the interregnum of change to the new locality, Mr. Wiard spent some months in Canandaigua, N. Y., experimenting with and perfecting his celebrated improved Chilled Plow, model of 1876, exhibited at the World's Fair in Philadelphia that year.

After coming to Syracuse in 1876, Mr. Wiard was instrumental in organizing a manufacturing com-

pany, incorporated May 13, 1876. The name of the company was subsequently changed somewhat, but finally, January 22, 1879, took the name of Syracuse Chilled Plow Company, a name by which it has been known ever since. From the beginning to the present, Mr. Wiard has been the superintendent of the Company, and at times has held other offices in the concern.

It seems unnecessary to say, from a small beginning in 1859, Mr. Wiard has succeeded by his skill and personal endeavor in building up a great business institution which has now arrived at an assured success. For certainly, on Mr. Wiard's mechanical and experimental skill rests the solid foundation on which this immense business structure of today is builded. When he conceived and produced the improved chilled plow, model of 1876, there was something for business and capital to build on. This was afterwards followed by other improvements in plows and other agricultural articles by the skilled hand of Mr. Wiard, which have enabled the Syracuse Chilled Plow Company to more than hold its own in the competitive market of the world, and has brought to the stockholders of the company a rich reward. The reputation of the company, as a producer of a superior quality of goods, is second to none. To the skill and genius of Mr. Wiard alone, is due the meed of praise for this abundant success.

The Syracuse Chilled Plow Company, which he was instrumental in organizing, long ago passed

the experimental stage of its existence, and now enjoys a just pre-eminence as one of the foremost manufacturers of agricultural implements in the United States. It is now giving employment to hundreds of men. It is not only a benefactor of the people of all lands where its output is sold, by reason of the excellent quality of its goods, but to the thousands of workmen to whom it has given employment, and incidentally their daily bread.

While living at Oakfield, Sept. 21, 1864, Mr. Wiard married Miss Eleanor L. Wolcott, a native of that place, and by her had William Wolcott Wiard, born Sept. 25, 1865. The latter entered the employment of the Syracuse Chilled Plow Company at an early age, and from the lowest round of the ladder of that concern has worked his way step by step up to the Vice-Presidency of that Company, and to the position of a large shareholder in said concern.

Mr. Harry Wiard has the proud satisfaction of having lived to know that he has not lived in vain, that he has not only been instrumental in providing opportunity and competency to his own family, but to know he has been a substantial benefactor to mankind.

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