

THE  
Callicoon Historian

BY J. S. GRAHAM.

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*A Narrative of Leading Events in the History of  
the Delaware Valley, from the Earliest  
Times to the Present Day.*

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# CALLICOON HISTORIAN.

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FOUR hundred years ago! When we consider the fact that a human life is but three score years and ten, or at the best four score, how this period of time appears to stretch out into the dim aisles of the past: when considered, however, in its relation to the history of the world, it is but as yesterday.

Four hundred years ago Columbus sailed out of the Spanish port of Palos, bound upon a voyage of discovery. Little did he dream of the tremendous results destined to follow this undertaking. The advanced thinkers of his age had declared their belief in the spherical form of the earth, which concept was the actuating idea in all of the great discoverer's achievements. He sailed from Palos, not to discover a new continent, but to reach the eastern coast of Asia. The countries of Cathay (China), Cipango (Japan), were reported by travelers like Marco Polo to be fabulously rich. And to reach these wonderful realms the hardy adventurer sailed away. After a voyage of ten weeks, he landed on the shores of Watling's Island, Friday, October 12th, 1492, believing it to be an island of an Asiatic archipelago. Could he have been endowed with the powers of a seer, as he stood upon its sandy beach, and had the ability to look forward into the fu-

ture, and to have seen the mighty nation which was to work out the wonderful problems of civil and religious liberty; could he have seen the downtrodden people of Europe unitedly forming a nation whose equal the world has never seen, and whose name is the synonym of all that is wonderful and progressive, where every man is a freeman, and every man a monarch,—his subsequent days of bitterness,—when treated with ignominy and loaded with chains,—could have been borne with equanimity. But Columbus died at Valladolid in 1506, unnoticed and unappreciated, without himself knowing the importance of the discoveries he had made.

Years pass away. A spirit of adventure has seized upon the European people. In the popular mind the idea is prevalent that the new land is a land of wonders. There are fountains of perennial youth; there are inland nations whose wealth is beyond computation; cities whose streets are paved with gold; lands of perpetual summer. Every new fancy, no matter how preposterous, is hailed as a well established fact. Expeditions are fitted out at great cost, to explore the new land in search of the marvellous; hundreds of lives are lost in a mad pursuit of visionary schemes. Colonization languishes; a hundred years

pass away, and humanity has not been benefitted by the discovery of America.

Time moves on and history is being made. September 3d, 1609, Henry Hudson, in command of the Half-Moon, and sailing in the interests of the Dutch East India Company, discovers the river that bears his name. The wonderful bay and the magnificent river command his attention. For days he is engaged in sounding the one and exploring the other. Never before has he seen so noble a stream, with such diversified and beautiful scenery. The land is fertile, the forests stretch away in unbroken billows. What a place for a colony! He reports to his employers, and in 1623 the ship New Netherland, having on board a company of people numbering thirty families arrives at New Amsterdam. These colonists were Dutch Protestant refugees from Flanders, and were known as Walloons. They came to this country to find homes for their families, and to escape the rigor of that persecution which had been visited upon them. In religious faith they were the same as the French Huguenots, and were in sympathy with them.

Cornelius May led a detachment to the mouth of the Delaware, and sailed up the river to a point a few miles below Camden, where Timber Creek empties into the Delaware. Here they built fort Nassau, and from thence their hunting and trapping expeditions set out. Their explorations extended far up the river, how far, however, I have been unable to learn; but it is clear that they reached the point where the village of Callicoon now stands. The great number of wild turkeys in the vicinity attracted their attention, and in allusion to them they named the creek that debouches into the river at this point the Kollikoonkill. Eventually the name Kollikoon was given to the territory

also in the immediate vicinity of the creek. The advent of the English in the neighborhood caused the name to be translated, and for a long time the stream was known both by its Dutch name, and the English translation of it, *i. e.*, Turkey Creek. In 1851, when the Town of Fremont was taken from Callicoon, the clerk of the Board of Supervisors, not liking the singular orthography of the name, spelled it Callicoon, which orthography it has retained.

Three years before the landing of the Dutch colonists at New Amsterdam, the Puritans landed at Plymouth Rock. On the 6th day of September, 1620, the Pilgrim fathers bade adieu to the shores of England, and their little vessel, the Mayflower, breasting the billows of the Atlantic, was pointed toward the Western World. The first New England colony (gathered on board) comprised but 102 souls, but never in the annals of history was there convened a more noble, a more devoted company of people. Like the Walloons of New Amsterdam, they sought the wilderness of America in which to worship God, according to the dictates of their own consciences, without the fear of that persecution which had been visited upon them in the mother country. Their intention was to settle upon the banks of the beautiful Hudson, but tempestuous seas thwarted their design. For sixty-three days they were driven hither and thither by the fierce waves, and on the 9th day of November they looked first upon the desolate land of Cape Cod. They anchored in the bay, a meeting was called, and they entered into a solemn compact. In the charter which they made for themselves they declared their loyalty to the English crown, and framed for their own government a constitution which for wisdom and simplicity has never been surpassed. They

covenanted to live together in peace and harmony, with equal rights for all, obedient to just laws made for the common good. To this document, all the heads of families, forty-one in number, set their names. An election was then held, in which all had an equal voice, and John Carver was unanimously elected governor of the colony. The snows of December were falling before they were able to land. Shelterless, and with insufficient food, they began the building of New Plymouth. The toils and sufferings of that terrible winter and of the winter that followed it, can never be appreciated; but time at last brought them plenty and comfort, and they rose triumphantly above all their trials.

In the constitution framed for the government of the colony at Plymouth, are found the germs of that liberty, which, developed, constitute the framework of the government of the United States to-day. Between the Dutch in the south and the English in the north, there existed for a considerable time the most complete harmony. Territorial disputes, however, resulted in rivalries which engendered hard feelings, and in some instances war seemed imminent between the two. Mainly from these two sources, the English and the Dutch colonists, came the pioneer settlers into the part of the Delaware Valley above the Neversink; the English coming from Connecticut, the Dutch crowding from the Minisink patent.

Before entering directly upon the history of those early times, it will enable us to do it understandingly if we take a general survey of the region, as it was, when first visited by the whites. Those acquainted with the scenery of the Delaware, know the precipitous nature of the hills on either side, in some instances towering up so high as almost

to deserve the name of mountains. When these hills are surmounted, the country stretches away in a rolling upland. The soil is very fertile, and some of the finest farms in Sullivan county are immediately behind Callicoon, and stretch away in a northeasterly direction over the Beechwoods country toward Monticello. Passengers upon the Erie railroad, not knowing the peculiarity of the region, wonder how it is possible for the people to gain a livelihood in the rugged country through which they pass, little dreaming that near to them, but not visible, is some of the most productive soil.

When the Dutch first visited the upper Delaware in pursuit of furs, the country was one vast forest. Gigantic pine and hemlock trees, whose like is now seldom seen, intermixed with deciduous growths, covered the entire face of the country. These dark shades were seldom penetrated, even by the aborigines. In them lurked the bear, whose unwieldy form could often be seen as he emerged from the thickets and came out upon the beach by the river side. The panther with his flaming eyes and supple form made these dark places his home. And where our village now stands, the panther's cry has been heard in the stillness of the night, and he has been seen as he crept stealthily after his prey. Deer were plenty, and in many homes are preserved the antlers taken in the chase. Beaver, otter, mink, and other tur-bearing animals were found in great numbers in the creeks tributary to the Delaware, and were the main source of revenue. There were a few paths called trails, made by the Indians as they journeyed from place to place, seldom if ever used by the pioneers who made their way up the rapid stream in canoes or along the stony beach. That part of

the valley between Callicoon Creek and Ten-Mile River below Cochection, was named by the Indians "Cushutunk," or "Cushuuntunk," meaning "the low grounds." This particular section was one of their favorite resting places. The rich soil of the river flats supplied them with Indian corn, the river teemed with fish, the woods were filled with game. Everything conspired to make the region an Indian paradise. On Big Island, about a mile below Callicoon, they had a village; another was found on the river bank near the present village of Cochection. In these places they buried their dead, and from the surrounding country the savage warriors gathered to observe their ancient customs. Here were held their green-corn dances, dog festivals and games of ball. No traces of the Indians are now visible on Big Island, yet some of our older people can still point out the part of it used by them as a cemetery; and in the Indian cemetery at Cochection, their graves are still to be seen. How fast the footsteps of the aborigines are disappearing! The last warrior made his exit nearly one hundred years ago, and soon their very graves will have entirely disappeared. The Indians in Cushutunk were the Lenna Lenape, afterwards known as the Delawares; they seem to have held their hunting grounds subject to their more warlike neighbors on the north, the "Mohawks," who exercised a sort of suzerainty over them. If not as warlike as the others, they were equally as cruel and vindictive, and though disposed to be generous and neighborly when first encountered by the whites, the rapacity of the latter, coupled with their double dealing, produced an antagonism upon the part of the savages that found its vent in fire and bloodshed visited upon the whites.

Near Cochection village, on the bank of the Delaware (Cochection, by the way, being a corruption of "Cushutunk,") dwelt that famous Indian saint and sage, Tammanend, Tammaning, or Tammany. He was a powerful and virtuous sachem and deservedly popular among his people. The first Masonic lodge organized in this section was named after him. Tammany Hall in New York bears his name; and would it be unfair to intimate that the sachems and warriors of that great political organization would only be doing justice to themselves and to the memory of their patron saint, if they should erect a monument on Big Island to commemorate his virtues.

As far back as 1687, it was recommended by Governor Dougou in his report to the Committee of Trade, that a fort be erected on the Delaware River in 40 deg. 41 min., (Cochection) in order to protect the fur hunters. A fort at this point would protect the fur and peltry trade for the markets in New York and at Albany. In the same report it is intimated that danger is to be feared from the French rather than from the Indians. From the foregoing we can easily arrive at the conclusion, that long before any actual settlers appeared, the whites made periodical expeditions to the valley in search of the remunerative beaver.

The first white settler at Cushutunk was probably an Englishman by the name of Moses Thomas. He engaged in traffic with the Indians, and his descendants are to-day to be found in various parts of the Delaware valley. Under the auspices of the Delaware Company, a number of people settled at Cushutunk in 1757; in six years, 1763, their number had increased to thirty families or more, settled in various places between the Callicoon Creek and Ten-Mile River. These people were massacred or driven away by the Indians under their chief Teedynscung. The survivors, when it was possible for them to do so in safety, returned to their charred and ruined cabins, and began life over again. As we sit now in our comfortable homes, surrounded with everything to make life pleasant, and look out upon the beauty of the scenery that so impressed N. P. Willis, who called this the Switzerland of America, how little do we comprehend the greatness of the toil, sufferings and dangers of those early settlers in our beautiful valley.

It will not be possible in a paper of this length to enter minutely into a discussion concerning the claims made by the different governments to the region under consideration. The Pennsylvania government laid claim to the Cushutunk; New Jersey also claimed the right to dispose of its lands; and not to be behind hand, Connecticut avouched authority over it. Those who desire a full knowledge of the subject can obtain it by reading Quinlan's History of Sullivan County, in which the matter is fully treated. It will be sufficient to say that the settlers were harrassed on every side, and in many instances in order to be safe in the possession of their property, they were obliged to secure titles to it from all the powers claiming jurisdiction.

Among those who first came into the valley in 1757 were the Skinners, Bush's, Tyler's, and Calkins, all hailing from New London county, Connecticut. The Conklins came about the same time from Rockland county. The Ross and Mitchell families came from New Jersey, and the Youngs and the Laytons were from Scotland. The Skinners settled upon the land known as St. Tammany Flat. The Tyler family struck their stakes between Cochection and Callicoon. The Conklins owned land near by. The elder Ross settled on land since owned by Charles Miles. The Mitchells first located upon the land which afterward became the property of Elihu S. Paige. The Laytons settled near the forks of the Callicoon, and the Youngs settled on land of Joseph Griswold, at Big Island. These, with others, whose names are forgotten, or those who located so far away that they have no place in our narrative, made up the society of that early period. Their habitations were strongly built of logs, that being the only available material; and houses built in this way were the best protection against the marauding savages. They managed to get along as comfortably as possible without any of our modern conveniences. To reach a mill they made a journey down the Delaware to the Neversink. Traditionally there was a mill at Cushutunk in 1757, but this has not been authenticated. News from the outside world reached them seldom and at uncertain periods. We can readily believe that the young ladies were more familiar with the grubbing hoe than with the piano. The hardy young backwoodsmen knew nothing about trotting horses, or the peculiar pleasures of the saloon. Rugged and rude in manners, but noble and generous withal, their daily strife was to gain the mastery over the wilderness and its savage denizens. Intercourse between families was difficult, especially if some lived a considerable distance from the river; nevertheless they generally helped each other and kept up the most cordial relations. There was one instance, however, when jealousy and rivalry bred a dissension which resulted in what I might properly designate the battle of St. Tammany Flats. Daniel Skinner was evidently a man of good business ability, who for a time had followed a sea-faring life. The splendid pine trees, straight as an arrow, that grew near the river, suggested to him the possibility of getting them to the Philadelphia shipyards, and there selling them

as masts for vessels. This was in 1763. His first endeavor was not successful, as they were the loose trunks of trees which he attempted to guide by following with a canoe, and eventually lost them all. The year following he placed in the water six of the largest trees, and mortising the ends, he fastened them together with a white oak spindle. He shipped an oar fore and aft and taking with him a Dutchman as foreman, he boldly sailed away. His venture was successful, the timber was sold for a remunerative sum, and he returned home in triumph. His next venture was a large raft, which he safely piloted through the dangerous rifts of the Delaware. Because of these achievements he was named the Lord High Admiral of all the raftsmen on the river. Daniel's success, however, had created a jealousy on the part of certain individuals named respectively Nat Evans, Abraham Ross and Phineas Clark, who entered into a conspiracy to drive him from Big Island, take possession of his property and have for themselves a monopoly of the rafting business. They feared, however, to put the plan into execution, as Skinner was known to be a man of indomitable courage, and would not lightly surrender his possession. Besides, his brother Haggai lived with him whose opposition also had to be taken into account. What the men feared to do their wives resolved upon performing. While the Skinners, with the others mentioned were away in Philadelphia, the wives of Evans, Ross, and Clark resolved to march upon the Skinner citadel, carry it by assault, drive forth Skinner's wife and children, and retain possession. Ross's wife, who was evidently the leader of the expedition, had seen service already in the field of war. In company with other women and children, together with one man, they had made a successful resistance against the Indians some years before, when attacked in the block house at Cochection. The other two women were Amazons, and they presented a truly formidable front as they marched to the scene of action. Skinner's wife was a little mettlesome woman, who when imposed upon feared not anyone. Before her marriage to Skinner she was a widow, having married for her first husband a man by the name of Richardson; the fruit of this union being a daughter named Phoebe, who at the time referred to was fourteen years of age. The mother, daughter and three little ones of tender years comprised the garrison. I have



now faithfully described the opposing forces. I will next undertake to picture the awful scene that followed. The first reconnaissance revealed the fact that Mrs. Skinner was not at home, the children only being present. Having thus taken their enemy unawares, the invaders marched in and began to remove the few articles of furniture. Ross's wife, familiarly known as "Aunt Hulda," was active in this work. Phoebe, a strong, hearty girl, carried the goods back as fast as they were removed to the outside. This course of procedure could not result in the successful accomplishment of their design; besides, Mrs. Skinner might return at any moment, and haste was necessary. In this emergency the wife of Clark resolved to inflict condign punishment upon the Richardson girl, and sounding the war cry, she rushed upon her with might and main. But the battle is not always to the strong. Phoebe engaged boldly with her adversary, and having learned some of the Yankee tricks in wrestling, she gave the foot to her at the proper moment, and laid that respectable but heavy woman with no gentle force upon the floor. Not surrendering one iota of her advantage, she grasped her opponent by the hair and wringing her neck in a vigorous manner, she in a moment placed her among the non-combatants. Aunt Hulda and the other were about to rush to the help of their fallen sister, when Mrs. Skinner appeared upon the scene. The forces were now evenly divided, two against two, and the battle raged in deadly earnest. Mrs. Skinner, fresh upon the field, her soul vexed by the invasion of her home, and ably seconded by her daughter, made most glorious war. Four noses were soon sending forth each a trickling rivulet of blood; four faces bore the marks of finger-nails well applied; hair of four shades of color was scattered promiscuously about the room; and accompanying it all was a succession of cries, and phraseology of a kind which has not been reported, but which we can imagine, that made a pandemonium exceeding anything ever produced at an Indian festival on St. Tammany's Flats. Victory hung evenly in the balance and the beligerents were about exhausted. For an instant hostilities were suspended, and Mrs. Skinner grasped a handful of ashes to stanch a bleeding wound upon her head; but taking second thought she dashed them instead into the mouth and eyes of Aunt Hulda. The effect was instantaneous and de-

cisive; her combative propensities were instantly subdued. Mrs. Skinner, seeing her advantage, applied handful after handful of ashes, first to one and then to another, and in a moment they were at her mercy. The Skinner forces were entirely triumphant, and the invaders abjectly sued for peace. Their conquerors were magnanimous and the entire party adjourned to the banks of the Delaware, the pure water of which was applied to remove as much as possible the effects of their late encounter. Here they deliberately sat down and arranged the terms of a lasting peace, which was ratified by Mrs. Skinner sending Phoebe to put over the tea kettle, and to prepare a feast of johnny cake, pickled eels, boiled potatoes, and jerk. These goodies were served up in the most dainty manner upon birch bark dishes, and the five worthy dames sat down and enjoyed themselves in a rational manner, and were ever after the warmest friends.

The Tylers, Calkins, Skinners, Rosses, Mitchells and Youngs, married and inter-married, and their descendants are found on both sides of the river in great numbers. Many arrived at distinction, and many of our best business men are known by one or the other of the names mentioned. Daniel Skinner, the Admiral, lived on St. Tammany's Flats until his death in 1812. It is said that in his old age, having become a widower, he married a lady in Newburg, which event was commemorated by a local poet in a poem which is now forgotten, except the lines that follow. Coming over the hills on the east of the Delaware, he points to the valley below and says to his wife:

"Behold St. Tammany! Behold the fountains:  
At the foot of the hill  
There is a saw mill,  
And plenty of timber in the mountains."

The first Calkins to settle in Cushutunk was a doctor of usefulness and talent. He settled at Cohecton Falls, but removed afterward to Wyoming. His son, the great-grandfather of the present generation of Calkins, returned after the Revolution, and bought lot No. 63, containing three thousand acres, including the flats where Cohecton village now stands.

Bezaleel Tyler and family were the first of the name to enter the valley. They came from Preston Township in New London county, Conn., in 1757, as did also the Calkins and Skinner families. Bezaleel Tyler was the



father of twenty-one children, fourteen of whom arrived at years of maturity. His son served in the revolutionary war, and one Capt. Bezaleel Tyler fell at the battle of Minisink, July 22d, 1779. The family is extremely numerous in this section at the present day. The Conklins came from Haverstraw in Rockland county about the same year. They were of Dutch extraction and served valiantly during the war of the Revolution. After the war they returned and two of the family, John and Elias, became men of note. John was elected to many public offices, while Elias was noted as an Indian doctor of rare merit. They removed to Great Bend in 1817. William Conklin, a brother, lived on lands of Joseph Griswold on Big Island, and though twice driven from his home by Indians, he always remained a friend to them, declaring they were more sinned against than sinning; that generally they were good fellows, and that he had seen sixty of them at one time playing ball upon the island.

The Ross family were from Bound Brook, N. J. They were induced to come by Joseph Griswold and settle in Cushtunk. Two of the sons of the elder Ross, John and James, settled upon the Callicoon Creek near its mouth, John on the south side and James on the north. The latter died in 1812. In those days the village of Callicoon had not been thought of.

At the time of the Revolutionary war, Cushtunk was particularly liable to attacks by the Indians. Lying in an exposed situation, and at the point where the various trails converged, it was thought best by the settlers when war was declared to remove their families to the more densely populated settlements at Minisink, Shawangunk, Rochester and other places where they would be comparatively safe. A few remained who professed neutrality, and some were open Tories. Many of the Whigs left without harvesting their crops, and when the safety of their families was assured, they returned to care for their property, and found that their enemies had destroyed it. This conduct was not calculated to promote amicable feelings, or to lead to peace and good will, particularly as they themselves were driven away. The patriots at Mamakating organized a company of scouts placing them under command of Capt. Bezaleel Tyler. They were intended for the general defense and often visited the Cushtunk to regulate the Tories and make reprisals. It is not to be presumed

that they spent much time in trials, or bothered about the quibbles of the law. They drove away the cattle and took other property of the malignants, and sometimes carried along the Tories, also. It does not appear that they shed blood except on two occasions. On one of their trips to the upper valley, they met a poor half-witted fellow named Handy, in what is now called Old Cohecton. Before the war he had been disappointed in love, and the result to him was most disastrous. Feeble-minded and an outcast, he wandered from place to place. Finally he stole a horse from a Whig at Mamakating and joined a party of Indians under a chief named Minotto. Elevated in his own estimation by this acquisition, he rode about thinking himself some great individual, when, meeting by accident Tyler's Scouts and mistaking them for friends, he rode towards them and exclaimed "I'm Minotto's man!" Some of the scouts had recognized the horse and when he declared what he was, his fate was sealed. He was shot and his body buried upon the river bank. Some years ago his bones were uncovered by the action of the water; they were taken possession of for scientific purposes, and are now believed to be in the possession of one of our local physicians.

A well-known Whig of Cohecton, by the name of Nathan Mitchell, very nearly lost his life because of his peculiar headgear. He had remained after the others left because his wife did not wish to leave her father, whose sympathies were known to be with the Tories. In order to protect himself from the shots of the lurking Redmen, he wore an Indian cap. The cap excited the suspicions of the scouts and they concluded that the wearer should give an account of himself, and he, fearing he would not have time to make an explanation, ran for the woods. The pursuers were well-mounted, and soon were within shooting distance and about to fire when he was recognized. The scouts, taking Mitchell with them, proceeded up the river until they came to the residence of David Young, the Tory. Young lived on the New York side of the river opposite Big Island. His wife claimed to be a natural child of George III., and was a woman of intelligence. Young was not at home; it was quite customary for people of his political views to be absent when Capt. Tyler was around. Mrs. Young received her visitors and informed them that Brant, the Indian, with five hundred warriors, was at the mouth

of the Callicoon. She was evidently so sincere in her statement that the scouts left precipitately without doing any particular damage to the Young property.

During the first years of the war, an individual calling himself Payne came up the Cushtunk and desired shelter at various points. Not being able or willing to give a satisfactory account of himself, the people refused to receive him. He continued to wander up the river until he reached a point near Little Equinunk, where Mr. Benjamin Tyler's ferry is now located. Here he found a deserted cabin into which he entered, and lived a harmless, inoffensive sort of life. To this place he was tracked by the scouts, and without the pretence of a trial, he was shot while upon his knees begging for mercy. Some of the troops were dissatisfied with this summary way of proceeding, stigmatizing the action as a cold-blooded murder, and declared their intention to cease being scouts if such work was to continue. It was afterwards discovered that the man's real name was Cooley, the name of Payne being assumed, and the Creek at that place has since been called Cooley's. It is possible that something had occurred in his former life which justified his violent death. He was buried near the place where he was killed, but the action of the water has removed all trace of the grave.

In those days when feeling ran high and the bitterest animosity prevailed, it was not surprising that men in active life on either side should be inveighed against by those of the opposite party. Capt. Tyler was called by the Tories "Captain Mush," or its equivalent, "pudding head," and was lauded or denounced by his own or the opposing side. Quite a number of events occurred about this time which it will be necessary to group together in order to make progress. William Conklin, who has already been mentioned in this article, married in 1774 a beautiful young woman by the name of Elizabeth Brink. They moved into a log house upon their farm near Big Island and continued to live there although the dark clouds of war were gathering about them. In time a little one came to their home, and the young woman's anxiety supplemented by her maternal instinct concerning the possible approach of the Indians, made her keep a sharp lookout on each side of the river. One day her vigilance was rewarded. She discovered the dreaded red men crossing the Dela-

ware in the direction of her home, painted and bedizened for war. Taking her little one in her arms, she fled away through the woods. Coming to a stream of water, and fearing that the peculiar instinct of the Indians would enable them to track her through the forest, she entered the stream and waded a long distance up its course until she reached a rocky mass in the fissures of which she concealed herself and child, remaining there until the enemy had departed.

During the Indian raid under the notorious Brant, which terminated in the battle of Minisink, she had many exciting and dangerous adventures, but survived them all. She was the mother of eleven children, and was noted among her neighbors for her kindly disposition and Christian integrity. She died in 1842 at the house of Jesse Tyler, and was buried in sight of her early home. It was estimated at the time of her death that her descendants numbered one hundred souls.

Another lady who deserves special mention in this connection was Mrs Jesse Drake. Her descendants are well known and respected residents of the Delaware Valley. She married for her first husband Moses Thomas, who was the son of that Moses Thomas mentioned as being probably the first white man to settle at Cushtunk. Moses Thomas the elder was killed by Indians at Cohecton in 1763. At the beginning of hostilities they abandoned their old homestead and removed to the neighborhood of Mamakating. Mr. Thomas entered the patriotic army, but becoming dissatisfied with his officers, he hired a substitute and returned home. When Brant invaded the region in 1779, he joined the little force raised for defence and was killed at the battle that followed. Mrs. Thomas married Nathan Chapman for her second husband. They removed to Wyoming where he was killed by the Indians. In time she was married to Jesse Drake, and the Indians ceased from troubling. It is said that after the war she could not look at an Indian without fainting, so great was her horror and dread of the painted demons who had slain so many near and dear to her.

A short time before the war of the Revolution a man by the name of Bryant Kane bargained for a farm a short distance from Cohecton Falls, and on the east side of the river. Above him lived Nicholas Conklin, and directly opposite on the other shore lived Robert Land. Kane and Land were Tories and after war had

been declared, the Committee of Safety sent a summons to them to appear before them and answer why they should not be imprisoned. Kane, anticipating imprisonment, employed a man named Flowers to care for his family and see to his business and immediately decamped to the Indians for safety. He is supposed to have been the Barney Kane mentioned in Stone's Life of Brant, and if the identity is correct, he was one of the most bloodthirsty wretches that ever lived. Land answered the summons and Nicholas Conklin appeared against him. Mrs. Land shook her fist in Conklin's face, and being mistress of a peculiar kind of English, she called him everything in her vocabulary. Her violent defense, however, did not save her husband; he was found guilty and imprisoned, but eluded the vigilance of his guards and escaped to New York. Mrs. Land understanding that the scouts were to visit Cushtunk in a short time, hurried home and assisted by her son John, a young man of nineteen, drove their cattle to a place of concealment. They remained away all night, leaving the other children, three boys and two girls, at home. Some time in the night, one of the daughters was awakened by feeling a spear head drawn gently across the sole of her foot. Supposing it to be a practical joke played upon her by a friendly Indian of the Tuscarora tribe named Capt. John, with whom she was well acquainted, she held out her hand and said, "How do you do, Captain John?" "Do you know Captain John?" the visitor asked with an Indian accent. She told him that she did, but now she saw that she was mistaken. He told her that they were Mohawks and had come to drive the whites from the valley, but did not wish to kill more than was necessary and that she was to go and warn the rest. Hastily dressing herself without awakening the others, she got into a canoe and crossing over to Kane's, found that the entire family had been slaughtered outright except one little girl who was still alive and who lay wallowing in her blood, in a clump of bushes where she had been scalped. Mrs. Kane had evidently been scalped while yet alive; for she had died while trying to dress herself, and a portion of her clothing was drawn over her mutilated head. Hastening from the ghastly scene she informed Nicholas Conklin and others of the fearful deed, and then returned home. In the meantime the Indians had left, taking with them her brother

Abel. Early in the morning Mrs. Land and son returned, and a party of whites and friendly Indians was organized for pursuit. After a rapid march the Mohawks were overtaken, well posted and ready for battle. The pursuers were not disposed to fight, John Land simply wanting his brother, and called for a "talk." An explanation took place and it was agreed by the Indians to deliver up Abel to his friends after that he should have run the gauntlet. The ground was marked out, the warriors each armed with a good, flexible sprout, formed two lines facing each other. Abel was conducted to the head of the line and at a given signal, he started at a pace so terrific it astonished friends and foes alike. It is said the Indians did not succeed in hitting him more than half a dozen times during his passage. After the declaration of peace, Kane returned to Cushtunk. Friendless and without family he wandered from place to place. His property passed into other hands, he became a drunkard and finally disappeared.

Shortly after the events narrated above, John Land was discovered by Tyler's scouts near Big Eddy (now known as Bush's Eddy), coming up the Delaware in a canoe, accompanied by one, Davis. They had been to Ten Mille River to a mill and were returning, bringing home the meal. Capt. Tyler and his men were well acquainted with them and asked them to come ashore in order that they might be informed concerning the capture and re-capture of John's brother. Noticing hesitation upon the part of the young men, they said their intentions were peaceable and solemnly promised to do them no harm. There were in the company a number of men with whom Land was well acquainted, and not knowing any reason he should fear them, and not having seen them for some time, he persuaded Davis to land. As soon as they were on shore they were seized, and their hands were tied behind their backs. This treatment, so different from what had been promised filled them with indignation, and they remonstrated pointedly with their captors. John Conklin, one of the scouts, answered that there was policy in war, while Moses Thomas cocked his gun and putting it to young Land's heart, said he would shoot him if he could obtain permission. Land was stubborn, but Davis begged piteously to depart. He reminded the scouts that his wife and child were

dependent upon the meal in the canoe as they had no other provision, and that they would starve if he was taken prisoner. Neither stubbornness nor tears availed, the meal was confiscated, and the prisoners were driven before their captors to Neversink. When they arrived at this place they held a council in order to abuse them, and beginning with young Land they demanded how many women and children he had murdered. The indignant man did not answer, and they put a rope around his neck, threw it over a limb of a tree, and hauled him up. After hanging a moment they let him down and asked the same question. He replied that he had never killed any woman or child, and that he had no desire to do so, and that the accusation was a lie. This reply maddened them still more and they jerked him up again. This would have been the last time had not some of his former friends desired to torture him still further. He was lowered again and they continued to alternately hang him and abuse him until they were exhausted with the sport, and none were willing longer to pull the rope. He was then shackled and handcuffed and thrown into the log jail. It is not known how long he was kept prisoner, but was liberated after a time and finally married Lillie Skinner, daughter of the "Admiral." It will be noticed that the above incident is described from a standpoint not altogether in sympathy with Captain Tyler and his work; and it is a commentary upon the actual condition of things at that time. Friendly and neighborly feelings were obliterated during the throes of the struggle, and a man was known as a friend or an enemy according to the party to which he was attached. The Skinner family endeavored to remain neutral, but their neutrality did not save their property. Daniel Skinner's house was burned and he was obliged to escape to the woods to save himself. After the war he returned to St. Tammany Flat and beginning life again, he became a successful business man. The amount of lumber rafted by him, and floated to tide water, must have been immense. He died in 1813. The writer recently visited the spot where his house formerly stood on a beautiful knoll overlooking the river. A short distance away his dust is reposing by the side of his wife in a spot shaded by magnificent trees, and by the side of the river of whose raftsmen he was the Admiral. The tombstone is broken and young

trees are growing between the graves, and unless soon cared for, his resting place will be unknown except by tradition.

The lurid clouds of war were finally dispelled, it's thundering ceased, and the sun of peace after nearly eight years of obscurity beamed again upon Cushtunk.

The scattered families returned slowly one by one, and began again to build up the waste places. Toil and poverty awaited their coming. Their houses were burned, their plantations grown up to weeds and bushes; few of them had cattle, and fewer still had the money to purchase stock. Bravely they set to work to retrieve their fortunes. Some things were in their favor. The river teemed with fish; plenty of game was still to be found, and their land was fertile. Their nearest mill, however, was at the Neversink. They had no schools, no churches, no postoffice, and no store. When the river was high and a freshet prevailed for a long time they often suffered from the lack of bread. And it sometimes happened when there was a failure of crops, occasioned by drought, that they were brought to the verge of actual destitution. Gradually things grew better and the people began to prosper.

About 1790 Ebenezer Taylor of Orange County, N. Y., came up the river from Carpenter's Point in a canoe, and brought with him a stock of goods. He located opposite Cohecton village on the land of Simeon Bush and began business as a merchant. Soon after he married Eleanor Calkins and moved to the place afterward owned by Hon. James Curtis, where he continued his store. He was the first merchant of the town, likewise the first postmaster, having been appointed by President Madison when the first post route was established through the town. He died in 1821, leaving three sons and two daughters. The sons shortly after moved west, and none of the name now remain in this section.

In 1800 Charles Irvine, a native of Ireland, landed at Philadelphia. Mr. Irvine was a gentleman of fine personal appearance and a thorough scholar. He was induced by some people from this section who were at Philadelphia selling lumber to come to this town as a schoolmaster. He proved to be a popular teacher and assisted in organizing the first regular school, and in building by a joint stock company the first frame school house. He afterwards became a successful tavern keeper, operating the best hotel between

Bloomington and Great Bend. He married Weighty Calkins, and from him are descended the respectable family of Irvines.

As early as 1797 Rev. Isaac Sergeant began to preach up and down the valley. Wherever a little company of the scattered people could be gathered together, he would meet them and hold a religious service. He was a minister of the Congregational church, and probably formed the first religious society in Sullivan County, at Narrows Falls in 1799. In 1800 he administered the Lord's Supper, according to the Congregational order, to fifteen persons at Cohecton. It is possible that Mr. Sergeant took steps to organize these persons into a legally constituted church, but if he did so, no certain evidence of the fact remains. Mr. Sergeant ceased coming after a few years, and of those whom he admitted as members of the church, some died, others were scattered, and the rest joined the Presbyterian society.

Another of the early pioneer preachers was Elder Enoch Owen. He was of the Free Will Baptist faith, and for a number of years was the only clergyman living in the town. Mr. Owen never had the advantage of a liberal education, but combining shrewd good sense with robustness of manners, he succeeded in doing what now many accomplished ministers fail to do; he impressed the truths of Christianity and morality upon the people. On week days he worked as a lumberman, farmer or mason, and some of the stone chimneys still to be seen are an exhibition of his handiwork. It is said that he usually carried his rifle with him in going to hold service, and often he has put an end to the Sabbath-breaking proclivities of certain panthers, deer and bear that crossed his path. On one occasion while returning from a service, and cogitating deeply upon some theological subject, and just as the dusky shadows of night were falling, he thought he saw before him a vision of horns and hoofs. Believing he saw a large buck he raised his gun and fired, hastened forward to cut the animal's throat, as the shot had been successful, and found, alas, too late! he had shot and killed his only horse which had come to meet him. He never afterward carried a gun on the Sabbath. In his old age Mr. Owen joined the Close Communion Baptists. His good name and good deeds survived his mortal body, and are yet held in grateful remembrance.

The ubiquitous circuit riders of the Methodist church early visited the Cushutunk. One

of the appointments was St. Tammany Flats, another was at Conklin Hill, and another at Milanville. This was in 1831. The ministers were appointed by the New York conference until 1843. The records are very deficient, however, and not much can be said about the status of the church at that time. The organization of the Methodist church in Callicoon will be noted in another place.

Through the researches of the late Hon. James C. Curtis, we are enabled to supply a list of those who lived in the town of Cohecton in March, 1814. Cohecton at that time included the town of Delaware. The following are the names of those who had families:

On the river below Jared Irvine's,—

David Young, Stephen Mitchell, Elias Conklin, William Conklin, Oliver Calkins, Joseph Mitchell, Old Mr. Mitchell, Elias Conklin, Jr., Bezaleel Calkins, Charles Irvine, James Mitchell, John Conklin, Jacob Conklin, Moses Calkins, Pierre A. Barker.

In the village above those before mentioned, Benjamin Raymond, Nathaniel Tyler, Ebenezer Taylor, David Brown, Timothy Tyler, Bezaleel Tyler, William Palmer, Paul Tyler.

On the turnpike,—

Enoch Owen, James Hill, William Tyler, Frederick Wallace, and one other family whose name is not known.

At Pike Pond,—

A family by the name of Woodruff who ran a saw mill.

At Callicoon Flats,—

Silas Tyler, and one other family whose name is not known.

At Beechwoods,—

Ebenezer Taylor's family, George Keesler, Timothy Tyler.

At Big Island,—

William Conklin, Squire Marsh, James Brink, — Baker, Jesse Tyler.

At Callicoon,—

John Ross, Joseph Ross, Charles Layton.

At North Branch (above Callicoon),—

James Ross, William Tyler, Nathaniel Tyler, Sen., Benjamin Tyler, William Tyler, William Billings.

Those without families,—

George S. Young, George B. Guinnip, Eli Conklin, Elias Ross, John Kellam, Bateman Smith, John Mitchell, — Robinson, Paul W. Conklin, John Layton, George Kellam, John Hill, Chas. R. Taylor, Amos Tyler,



John Ross, Jacob Mitchell, John Brown, Isaac Tyler.

Of the above sixty-five families and unmarried men, more than half bore the name of Mitchell, Conklin, Tyler, or Ross. The preceding numeration would indicate a population of about two hundred and fifty. The first town meeting was held in what was familiarly known as "the tavern," in old Cohecton, in March 1829, at which time Jas. C. Curtis was elected supervisor. In 1830 the population was reported to be 438, and voters about 80.

The Erie Railway Company was incorporated on the 24th of April 1832. The next year a million of dollars was subscribed to the stock, and Benjamin Wright conducted a survey of the whole route. In 1836 the route was re-surveyed and active work commenced; but to level the rugged hills and cut through the mountain barriers, span the rivers and deep ravines with bridges, and viaducts, required an immense amount of money. In 1842 the company had become so deeply involved in debt that its affairs was placed in the hands of the assignees. The state of New York however came to their aid and the work was pushed rapidly forward to completion, and on the 14th of May, 1851, the stupendous work was finished. The first pick was struck into the ground at Callicoon on the 14th of March 1847, and in December of 1848 the first engine was driven through the place. The first train from Callicoon was run in January, 1849. The building of the railway which afforded a ready transit to the great centres, caused many people to come into the vicinity and establish tanneries. The lands formerly covered with hemlock and deemed almost valueless, were now considered of prominent importance as the hemlock bark was the principal agent in the tanning process, and commanded a good price. This business caused the influx of many strangers, many of whom remained and became permanent residents when the denudations of the forest caused the tanning business to be no longer profitable.

Some years before the completion of the Erie road, in 1840, Solomon Royce a surveyor, and land agent, having in charge large tracts of land belonging to William H. Denning and other non-residents, caused to be printed in great numbers, hand bills and circulars in the German language setting forth the peculiar advantages of settling in the north-western

part of Sullivan county. These were placed in the hands of those newly arrived in the country, and a few families were induced to try their fortune in the wilderness. They endured many hardships, but on the whole they liked the region so well, they persuaded others to come also; and so rapidly did they enter the country that in 1847 it was estimated that more than two hundred and fifty German families were in the towns of Cohecton, Callicoon, and Fremont. Very generally these people paid for their land in ready money, reserving enough to supply their wants until they should be able to clear their land, and raise crops for their maintenance. Unused however to the labor demanded in subduing the forest, and many having no teams to clear their fallows, they were in many instances reduced to the utmost destitution. On such occasions, be it said in his favor, Royce always appeared bringing help and comfort. He deserved good luck and he had it. His venture proved very successful and in a few years he had a fortune. The Germans underwent many trials but continued to improve and develop their farms. They were hardy and industrious and economical and with all progressive, and they finally succeeded admirably. Good schools are found in the German districts, and they are eminently a church people. Their farms are among the best in the county and are particularly worthy of mention for the neatness of their buildings and the general thrift displayed. The younger generation has never acquired fluency in the German language, and many do not speak it at all and probably in a short time it will be entirely superseded by the English. They hold in loving remembrance "der Vaterland," yet their loyalty and devotion to the land of their adoption is unquestionable. They are American citizens in the truest sense of the word and take an active interest in all political affairs.

The first four months of 1857 were remarkable for deep snows, low temperature and floods. In January the weather was unusually severe, and the 24th, of that month was the coldest day on record in this county, the mercury in some instances registering as low as 34° below zero. Rivers and lakes were frozen to an unprecedented depth and an immense body of snow lay upon the ground. The cold wave was followed by one of such warmth that the snow was suddenly melted, and a great

flood was the result. The Delaware rose rapidly, the ice was broken up by the force of the water. Huge pieces, acres in extent, moved onward until checked by some obstruction, when they formed dams, choking the river, and the accumulating waters behind overflowed the surrounding country. At Cohecton the river was dammed by ice, causing it to rise forty feet above its ordinary level. So hastily was the dam formed, and so suddenly did the water rise that it was with the utmost exertion that the people saved their lives. The ice barrier was formed at 6 o'clock in the morning, and in a few minutes the houses were surrounded by the mad waters and the floating ice. Some of the dwellings were submerged to the height of the second story, and in the church the water reached the pulpit. Those upon the shore launched rafts, boats, and every available thing to help their imperiled friends. By ten o'clock all were safely on the land, but houses, barns and cattle were swept away. An immense amount of household goods, hay and grain were destroyed. The new iron bridge across the Delaware, which had recently been completed at a cost of ten thousand dollars, was borne away bodily, after the water had risen some feet above the piers. Two or three houses in Callicoon Depot were destroyed, as was the bridge across the Callicoon Creek. Nearly all the lumber on the river banks was swept off.

In 1847 there was but one house in Callicoon Depot, and that stood on the site of the one now occupied by Bezaleel Ross. The first store was where Alfred Mayo now lives and was owned by William H. Curtis. The first postoffice was established in 1849, with Reuben Tyler as postmaster. The first hotel was the

Callicoon House, which is still in business, and was managed by Tompkins and Bartlett. After the completion of the railroad Callicoon sprang into prominence. House after house was built and soon it developed into the most important business station between Port Jervis and Susquehanna. On March 1st, 1869, the town of Cohecton was divided and the western portion in which Callicoon is situated was named the town of Delaware. It contains 20,293 acres. Its surface is uneven, being broken by steep ridges and narrow ravines. The principal streams are the Callicoon and its branches. The mouth of the Callicoon is 777 feet above sea level.

On February 28th, 1888, between twelve and one o'clock in the morning, a fire broke out in the store of Arthur A. Eickhoff. The night was intensely cold and a high wind prevailed at the time. Notwithstanding every effort was put forth to subdue the flames, the fire burned fiercely and spread from building to building. The terror stricken inmates had hardly time to rush from their homes before they were wreathed in flames. There on that bitter February night, most of them dressed in their night clothes, stood the sufferers gazing upon the destruction of their homes, and the precious things that made the home pleasant. Those who lost heavily at that time were E. Everard, A. A. Eickhoff, John Dycker, Mrs. O. F. Traynor, C. F. Starck, J. Ruppert, Adam Metzgar, and Mrs. Best. The summer following, the burned district was rebuilt with finer stores and more beautiful houses, but the sufferings of that terrible night will never be forgotten by those who participated in them. Callicoon as it is to-day will be reserved for another article.

B. E. DYCKER,

DEALER IN

*Fine Groceries, Provisions, Tea, Coffee and Spices.*

PILLSBURY AND SEVERAL OTHER BRANDS OF FLOUR.

Crockery, Boots, Shoes and Rubbers, Also, the Celebrated Snag Proof Boots.  
A Fine Assortment of Seelyville Flannels. Ladies' Skirts, Yarns, Etc.  
Also a Large Stock of

*GLOVES . AND . MITTENS.*

SALT BY THE QUART, BUSHEL AND BARREL,

Location, Opposite the Erie Depot,

Callicoon Depot, N. Y.



# MILWAUKEE FURNITURE STORE

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## PARLOR SUITS.

FOR \$33 UP.

All Styles, in Oak, Walnut and Cherry.

## BEDROOM SETS.

FOR \$15 UP.

All Styles and Quality. Full size Bedsteads from \$2 up. Mattresses and Springs from \$1.25.

— BABY CARRIAGES, ALL STYLES, FROM \$5.50 UP.—

Headquarters for Lounges in Sullivan Co., from \$5 up; a large assortment of Rockers, in Plush, Rug, Common Splint and Wood.

Writing Desks, Book Cases, Side Boards, all kind of Chairs,

**6 COMMON CHAIRS FROM \$4 UP. 6 WOOD CHAIRS \$2.50 UP**

All kinds of Live Geese Feather Pillows. Quilts, Fine Blankets, all colors, from 70 cents, up. All kinds of Picture Frames kept in stock and made to order.

Looking-glasses in all sizes and styles. I keep in stock a full line of

*CARPETS, MATTINGS, OIL CLOTHS,  
WINDOW SHADES,*

Carpet Linings, all styles of Rugs, Door Matts. Furniture Polish, Varnish, all kinds of Stair Trimmings in Brass, Gold, Silver and Nickle. Writing Desks, Oil Paintings, 24x36 and 8 inch. frame, \$2.50. I have lots of other goods to show.

MAIL ORDERS PROMPTLY FILLED.

CALICOON DEPOT, N. Y.

## *Callicoon and Vicinity as it is To-Day.*

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**C**ALLICOON DEPOT is in the Town of Delaware, Sullivan County, N. Y. It is the principal business depot upon the line of the Erie Railway between Port Jervis and Susquehanna. A number of stage routes connect it with the large inland villages, and the amount of produce shipped from the station is immense.

During the summer months the Erie trains are loaded with passengers for the various resorts in the immediate vicinity. Hundreds of these people go to North Branch, Jeffersonville, Thumansville, Kenoza Lake and Fremont. So popular has this region become as a summer resort, that the regular passenger accommodations are taxed to their utmost capacity, and extra cars are attached to the trains for the benefit of Callicoon tourists. The "Callicoon Special" is run over the line on Saturdays, reaching here about 6 p. m., and leaves again on Monday morning at 6. This is a great convenience to the business men who desire to spend the Sabbath with their families in the country.

The great amount of business transacted at this place in freight and passenger traffic requires men of ability to take care of it. Mr. L. B. Stone, the agent, is just the man for the place. He looks carefully after the interests of the road, and, notwithstanding the perplexity of his position, he is always calm and courteous to those having business at the office, and is universally liked and respected by the patrons of the road. The same can be said of Mr. Allington, his assistant, and it is only fair in passing to say that Mr. Frisbie, the baggage master, is a favorite with all because of his genial disposition and strict attention to business.

The village is 136 miles from New York and is beautifully situated on the Delaware river. The scenery on either side is very fine. Towering, wood-clad hills between which the river flows, beautiful islands encircled by the stream, some of them of historical interest, and the absolutely pure air and water, make

this region a paradise to the dwellers in the great city who come during the summer months to enjoy the peculiar pleasures of the region. The Delaware is a river of fish, and every creek tributary to it is a trout stream, and to go "a-fishing" on the Delaware is one of the pleasures looked forward to by the busy man in the city as he toils at his desk or in his store. We can congratulate ourselves that we have no malaria. This disease has its rise in stagnant water, or in putrid swamps. We have neither. The water of the Delaware, though a large river, is vastly purer than the Croton, which supplies New York. Springs gush out from every hillside with water so pure and cold as to make this one of the best dairying regions in the state.

The history of Callicoon has already been given, and it only remains to describe the village as it is to-day. On the heights above the village, overlooking it and all the valley below as far as Cohecton, is the Kling House, a splendid structure, built expressly for the accommodation of summer guests, and is large enough to do this in the most comfortable manner possible. The house is supplied with all modern conveniences, and is a truly delightful home for the summer guest. In the village proper there are three large hotels, the Delaware House, Jacob Dietz, proprietor; the Western House, Charles Thorwelle, proprietor; and the Sutcliffe House, Truman Sutcliffe, proprietor. These hotels are all first class in their appointments. The rooms are large and airy, and the tables are supplied in a manner that would reflect credit upon the best houses of entertainment in the city. Being situated near the river, they are the favorite stopping places of those who delight in fishing, and their patronage is large.

Messrs. Eickhoff and Wenzel are the proprietors of a fine store on Main street. They are young men of good business ability, and painstaking in their efforts to please their patrons, courteous in their manners, and are doing a rapidly increasing business. They

J. KNIGHT,  
CALLICOON DEPOT, - NEW YORK.  
MANUFACTURER OF

## FINE HARNESSSES

I have constantly on hand, or will make to order, any style of harness, heavy or light and guarantee the workmanship.

MY PRICES WILL BE FOUND  
AS LOW AS ANY.

I have constantly on hand a complete stock of

ROBES,  
BLANKETS,  
WHIPS,

and have furnishings of every description, and can fill any order. "The proof of the pudding is in the eating thereof," call and try me.

Also a large stock of

CIGARS, TOBACCO, PIPES, ETC,  
CONSTANTLY ON HAND.

M. HERMAN,  
CALLICOON DEPOT, N. Y.

## Carpenter and Builder.

DEALER IN ALL KINDS

Dressed Pine & Hemlock Lumber

LATH, SHINGLE;

SASH, DOORS.

BLINDS, MOULDINGS, Etc.

PLANS DRAWN,

ESTIMATES FURNISHED

For any style of building. Everything  
Furnished at lowest Prices.

ALL KINDS OF

## HOLIDAY NOVELTIES,

FOR MEN AND BOYS. SUITABLE FOR

Christmas  
Presents



At J. H. WOLF'S

Clothing Store,

Callicoon Depot, N. Y.

have a complete stock of dry goods, notions and groceries. Their object is to furnish anything in their line that the people may desire as cheaply as it can be obtained anywhere.

Twenty-six years ago C. F. Starck entered Callicoon with a cash capital of sixty cents and a poor set of tools. He set up in the jeweler's business as a watch repairer; his work was good and his patrons became numerous, and step by step he advanced in the path of success. He has to-day one of the finest establishments to be found in this section; gold and silver watches, rings of all kinds and prices, silverware of all descriptions, and a multitudinous stock of everything usually found in a jeweler's store. Mr. Starck deserves good success and he has had it.

Mr. Dycker is the proprietor of another fine store, and is the postmaster of the village. He carries a large stock of provisions, boots and shoes, notions, etc. In their seasons he is constantly supplied with a complete assortment of fresh fruits and vegetables of every description, which are sold as cheaply as possible. He has a large trade. Mr. Dycker is a thorough gentleman and a general favorite.

Otto Bergner, our furniture dealer, occupies two large buildings and has as complete a stock as can be found in any town of this size in the state. Everything in the line of furniture to furnish the house or beautify the home can be found at Bergner's. He has recently received a large invoice of oil paintings, handsomely framed, which he offers for sale. Mr. Bergner's determination is not to be undersold by anyone, and judging from the numerous loads of furniture that leave his establishment, the people believe it.

Herman Doetsch is the hardware dealer, and keeps everything in stock, from a tack to a threshing machine. He is the agent in this vicinity for the "New Quick Time" range, one of the finest kitchen stoves ever made. Mr. Doetsch is an agreeable man to deal with and a jolly good fellow.

There are two harness shops in the village, one owned by William Tyler and the other by Jacob Knight. These gentlemen are thoroughly competent in their line of business, and their work passes muster anywhere. They each carry on an extensive trade.

Our drug store is owned by Dr. S. A. Kemp, a thoroughly competent physician. The doctor keeps a complete stock of drugs, medicines, and a general supply of druggists' notions.

The clothing store on Main street is owned by John Wolf. He carries a large stock of ready-made clothing of every description, besides a complete assortment of gentlemen's furnishing goods. Mr. Wolf is ready to fit out his patrons, boys or men, with any quantity of clothing at a reasonable price.

The lumber yard is owned by Mr. Herman, the contractor and builder, who is ready to supply his customers in any quantity, from a stick to a carload,

One of the longest established stores in Callicoon is owned by Mr. C. T. Curtis. It is a general country store and contains everything for sale usually kept in such an establishment. Mr. Curtis is well known to a large class of patrons as a fair-minded and honorable business man, and he has a large trade.

Mrs. Pollack keeps a grocery store on the Callicoon road leading to North Branch, which is a great convenience to those living in that part of the town.

No place is complete without a blacksmith shop, and Mr. Baudendistle, a thoroughly competent mechanic, presides over the one on Fremont street.

All kinds of feed, grain and flour can be purchased from Z. Minard, who deals fairly and squarely with all.

Dr. Barr, the resident dentist, is located at the Delaware House. He is thoroughly competent in all the details of his profession, and is besides an affable gentleman and a great acquisition to the society of the place.

Any person desiring to do so can build a house and furnish it in all its details without going beyond the confines of Callicoon Depot to purchase an article. Moreover, it is believed that the things purchased will be good in quality and as cheap as can be obtained anywhere.

The distance from Callicoon Depot to Hankins by wagon road is five miles. By railroad it is seven. In the latter case the railroad passes about the base of the mountain; the wagon road passes over it. For the first mile the road is decidedly steep, but when the summit is reached a magnificent panorama of mountains, valleys, river and forests is spread out before the observer. The next two miles is through the woods. Leaving the leafy forest behind, the road continues to wind about the base of the table land, when suddenly a most enchanting prospect bursts upon the

# DON'T FORGET TO CALL

And examine my regular grades of merchandise, Etc., which I offer at the regular prices.

No Auction Goods at

The Old Reliable Store of Hankins, Sull. Co. N. Y.

Where you will find a complete line of the following:

Flour, Molasses, Syrups, Sugars, Oils,  
 Paints, Drugs, Tobaccos, Teas,  
 Coffees, Spices, Soaps, Pat Medicines,  
 Cond. Powders, Canned Goods, Paper,  
 Envelopes, Pens, Ink, Shelf Hardware,  
 Nails, Corn Planters, Table Cloths, Shirts  
 Unbleached Muslin, Bleached Muslin,  
 Towels, Napkins, Suspenders, Gloves,  
 Mittens, Ribbons, Handkerchiefs,  
 Wire Nails, Pork, Hams, Fish, Salt,  
 Shoulders, Butter pails, Butter tubs,  
 Onions, Cabbage, Woodenware,  
 Tinware, Nickelware, Oil cloth, Pants,  
 Overalls, Jackets, Stoves, Coal Hods,  
 Shovels, Forks, Plow Fixtures, Buttons,  
 Lace, Shawls, Cloaks, Jackets, Skirts,  
 Baby Waists, Hats Caps, Hoods, Yarns,  
 Table Spreads, Stand Covers.  
 Hoes, Picks, Spades, Grain cradles,  
 Axe handles, Pick handles, Fork handles,  
 Earthen Jars, Glass Jars, Jugs, Crockery,  
 Glassware, Copper pails, Tin boilers,  
 Lanterns, Globes, Boots, Shoes,  
 Rubber Goods,  
 Calicoes, Gingham, Outing Flannels,  
 Cotton, Combs, Brushes, Toilet Sets,  
 Books, Plated ware, Playing cards,  
 Harmonicos, Knives, Forks,  
 Boot Taps, Brooms, etc., etc.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR GOODS WITHOUT END

I am also agent for E. Stout's Pat. Snag Proof Rubber Boots and Shoes in this place. I will also receive orders for Plows, Harrows, Harness, Horse Rakes, Cultivators, Gill's Improved Well Curb. My goods I will guarantee to be regular, and to sell as cheap as the cheapest with same grade of goods. Willing to give credit to responsible parties, but make a reduction of 5 per cent. on every \$1.00 for spot cash. Don't forget

## The Old Reliable,

MARY A. GALLOWAY, PROPRIETOR.

WM. S. GALLOWAY, MANAGER.

sight. Far away in the blue of the distance, the towering peaks of the Pennsylvania mountains are dimly visible. Everywhere are seen deep valleys between high hills, with occasionally a body of water shining like silver in the sun. Immediately in front, and barely half a mile distant, the Delaware sweeps grandly around, forming more than half a circle. Standing six hundred feet above the valley the beholder gazes upon a scene of loveliness that cannot be surpassed in any part of the state. One mile farther, and down a decline, and upon the bank of the river is the village of

### Hankins.

This is a station on the Erie railroad, and is situated in the town of Fremont. Probably the first settler in the town was Isaac Simmons, who had a right of possession as far back as 1780, and who undoubtedly owned the land where the village of Hankins now stands. He afterwards sold out to Joseph Brown. Brown transferred his possessions to Aaron Pierce in 1792. Pierce built a sawmill and also constructed a primitive sort of a grist mill. The latter, however, never worked successfully. Jonas Lakin bought a considerable tract of land and settled in the place in 1800. Lakin sold out to Elizabeth Pierce in 1821, who continued to live there with her family until 1833, when she died. In 1834 this property was purchased by John Hankins and Luther Appley. One year later Mr. Hankins purchased another piece of land from a man by the name of Elmendorf, and in 1839 moved his family to his new possessions. He had previously married a Miss Thomas, a lineal descendant of the first white settler in Cushutunk. Mr. Hankins exhibited great force of character in dealing with the difficulties which surrounded him. His nearest neighbor was at Long Eddy on the west, or at Long Pond in the north. There were no roads, no conveniences of any kind. The rest of the town was a wilderness as primitive as when the red man left it. Town meetings were held at Liberty, and to reach them he was obliged to follow a line of marked trees through the forest. Gradually, however, he brought order out of chaos. During the first year he started a store and built a blacksmith shop. Soon he erected a fine house for his family, and built a sawmill on Hankins Creek in 1847. Mr. Hankins did not live to see the completion of the railroad. He died

in 1847. When the Erie line was finished, a station was established on the Hankins property and named after the family. In 1851 the name was changed to Fremont, and the postoffice which was created, bore the same name. A short time after, the original name was again adopted, and both the postoffice and railway station are known as Hankins. Gedney Underhill was the first postmaster.

Hankins is situated on a large level tract of land, having ample room for growth. The village of Little Equinunk is but two miles away. Mileses is three and a half and Fremont Centre five miles distant. From this station is shipped an immense quantity of blue stone. The quality of this commodity from the quarries in the vicinity is the very best for flagging purposes. During the year 1891, Manny & Ross sold 760 carloads, valued at eighty thousand dollars, or more. They mainly control the blue stone business in this section, and have won the confidence of all those dealing with them as fair-minded, honorable business men, who are willing to "live and let live."

M. A. Galloway carries on an extensive business in general merchandise. His stock is complete in the lines of groceries, provisions, dry goods, hardware, notions, etc. During the holidays he has an extensive display of novelties for the season.

Mr. Gottschalk deals in flour, grain and feed, and can furnish the same in any quantity and at the lowest price.

G. F. Yeager's is on the river side of the railroad. His store is new and well filled with goods of every description, and he is prepared to do a large business and to please his patrons.

M. Benjamin Tyler's store is directly opposite the railroad depot. It is an old established business, and a complete line of those goods usually found in a village store are always on hand. Mr. Tyler believes in giving good goods for good money. Those who desire a more complete knowledge of the business places noted above can consult the advertisements accompanying this magazine. The present postmaster is Mr. L. L. Borland, who is also the Erie railway agent. Mr. Borland attends strictly to his business, is careful of his employers' interests, and is courteous to the patrons of the road.

Hankins is an appointment on the Callicoon charge and is regularly supplied by the Meth-

A. M. BAUDENDISTLE,

WILLIAM P TYLER,

CALLICOON DEPOT,

NEW YORK

MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN

FINE HARNESSSES

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

Horse

Shoer,

AND GENERAL BLACKSMITH.

ALL KINDS OF BLACKSMITH REPAIRING AT  
REASONABLE PRICES AND PROMPTLY  
ATTENDED TO.

.....  
HEAVY AND LIGHT  
.....

ALSO A COMPLETE STOCK OF

HORSE FURNISHING GOODS,  
ROBES, BLANKETS, WHIPS,

And everything needed for a complete turnout.

Agent for Dr. Daniel's Medicines for the horse.

CALLICOON DEPOT, - - NEW YORK

*RIVER VIEW FARM HOUSE.*

A. R. KLING, - PROPRIETOR.

*CALLICOON DEPOT, - - N. Y.*

Commanding view of Delaware River and Valley. 45 Rooms. Steam  
Heat. Hot and Cold Water. Bath Tubs. Water Closets throughout  
House. Sportsmen will find this a desirable place to stop, it being in a

*• Fine • Hunting • and • Fishing • Section. •*

Livery attached. For further particulars apply to address.



odist minister of the latter place. It is also within the bounds of the Holy Cross parish, and stated services are held by the priest, Rev. Michael Montgomery.

The road leading from Hankins to Fremont Centre was probably the second one constructed in the town of Fremont. The grade is remarkably even, and the difference in elevation between the two places is not great. The road follows the valley of Hankins Creek (formerly known as Pierce's Brook) to Fremont, from thence by way of Obernburg to North Branch. From Hankins to Fremont the road is carefully worked, and the ride is a delightful one. The village of

### Mileses

is situated three and a half miles on the way. It was formerly a place of considerable importance, because of the tannery which was located there and operated by the Messrs. Miles. But the tanner business is a thing of the past. Hemlock bark is no longer obtainable in quantities sufficient to supply these establishments, and nothing now remains to mark the position of this one but the broken foundation walls. During its continuance there were paid out yearly some ten thousand dollars in wages, besides sixteen thousand dollars for bark. Many a piece of land in this vicinity has been paid for by the hemlock bark which it produced. Quarrying blue stone has taken the place of the lumber business of former years, and that in connection with farming keeps the people well employed. About one-fourth of a mile above the village is situated the extensive cooperage business of Geo. W. Sipple. He has every facility to produce the very finest work, and in any desired quantity. Last year during the apple season he sold over five thousand barrels, all of which were manufactured in his shops. Mr. Sipple makes a specialty of butter tubs. He is a thorough business man and liked by all.

Just out of the village there is a beautiful cascade, where the waters of Hankins Creek plunge down a perpendicular rock twenty feet or more. The surroundings are romantic in the extreme. Just above is a dark gorge with perpendicular rocky sides furrowed and seamed by the action of the water, and wrought into innumerable grottoes and small caverns, the whole overshadowed by the dense foliage of the bordering trees. One and one-half miles further is the village of

### Fremont.

It must be remembered that the town of Fremont was the last settled part of Sullivan county. The original proprietors of the land were in nearly every case non-residents, and it was difficult to purchase land from them except in large quantities. As early as 1831 Benjamin Misner built a sawmill at the outlet of Long Pond, and a year or two later he moved his family to this far-away wilderness. Jeronimus Secord, and others of the same name moved into the town and settled near Round Pond in 1835. Among the rest was Thomas Secord, who fought with "Yankee" Sullivan and was declared vanquished by the roughs who managed the affair, although Secord's friends claimed that the noted Sullivan was beaten.

The early comers appear to have been progressive, however, as a school was established in this section in 1847, with Sarah Hardenburgh as teacher, who received two dollars a week for her services and boarded herself.

In 1844 Levi Minckler, a noted hunter of Schoharie county, came to the region in pursuit of game. The primitive forests were full of it, and the lakes and streams were teeming with fish. So well did he like the surroundings that he built a log cabin and the following spring moved his family, consisting of himself, wife and three children, to it. The next spring his brother John made him a visit, and believing that the country would be speedily settled and having a choice of land, he purchased a tract contiguous to what is now Fremont Centre, and erected his cabin. It required eight days to make the journey from Schoharie county to Fremont, as the hardy man was obliged to cut a road during the latter part of it for the passage of his team and cattle. His nearest neighbors were John Hankins at the mouth of Pierce's Brook, five miles away, Joseph Geer at Long Eddy, nine miles away, and those previously mentioned, who settled at the lakes in the northern part of the town. The only apology for a road was a trail formerly used by the Indians, which led from the Delaware to the East and West branches by the way of Summit Lake. Near the village, where the Cold Spring House now stands, there is a large spring of ice cold water. This was one of the favorite stopping places, of the red men and their implements are found in all directions about it. In about

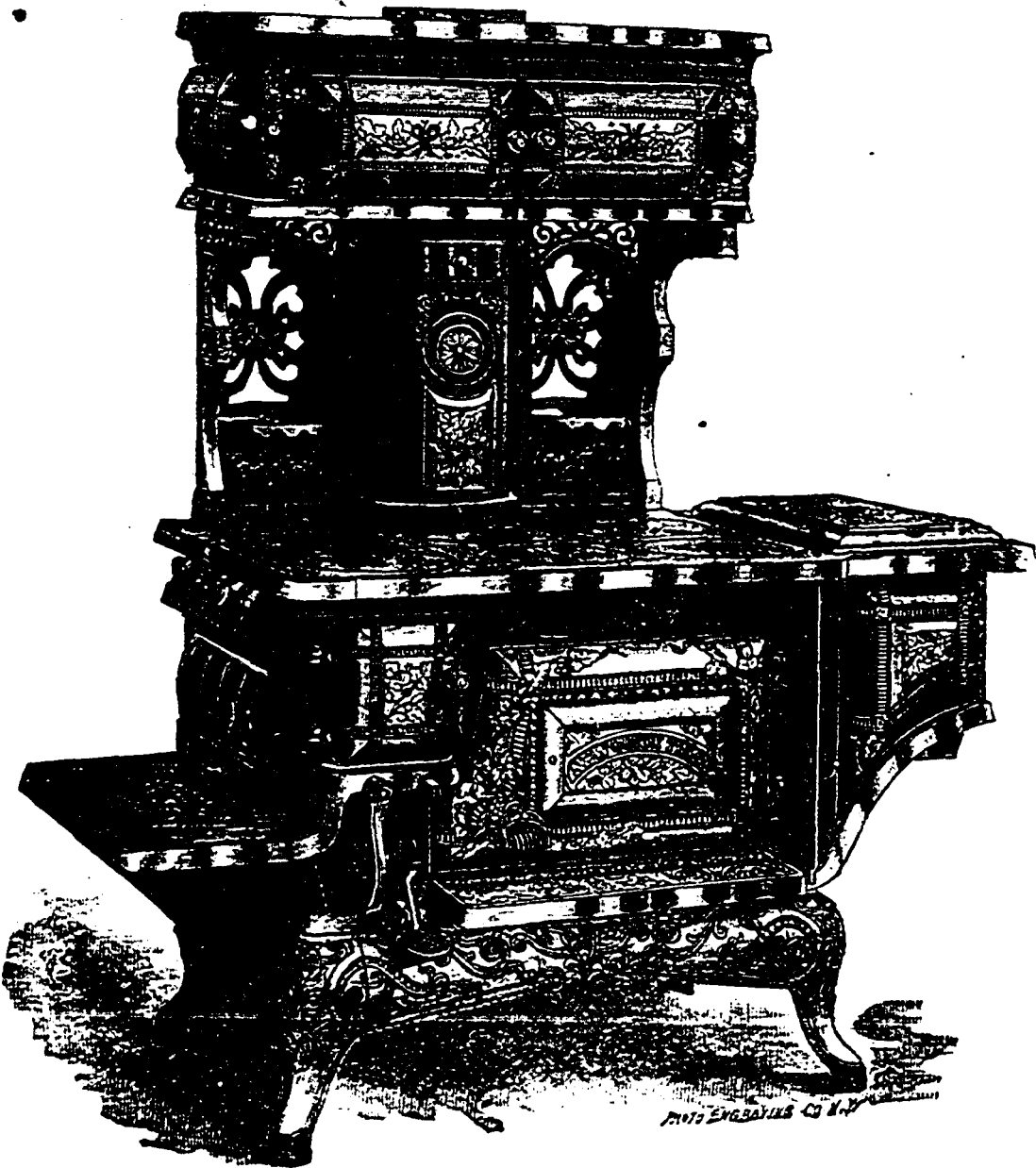
C. T. CURTIS.

THERE IS NO IMPROVEMENT IN THE BARGAINS TO OFFER THIS SEASON IN  
DRESS GOODS,

- |         |               |             |             |
|---------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| Tea,    | Wall Paper,   | Medicines,  |             |
| Coffee, | Ginghams,     | Paints,     | Drugs,      |
| Rice,   | Flannels,     | Varnishes,  | Hardware,   |
| Sugar,  | Shirtings,    | Lime,       | Tools,      |
| Fruits, | Table Linens, | Kalsomine,  | Woodenware, |
| Flour,  | Hosiery,      | Brushes,    | Rubbers,    |
| Boots,  | Gloves,       | Turpentine, | Oil,        |
|         | Shoes,        | Clothing,   |             |
|         | Molasses,     | Underwear.  |             |

CALLICOON DEPOT, N. Y.

November, 1892.



HERMAN DOETSCH,

DEALER IN

Stoves, Tin and Hardware. Agricultural Pools, Etc., Etc.

Water and Steam Pipes of Every Description.

A complete stock of everything necessary to equip a hardware store.

CALLICOON DEPOT, N. Y.

two years after Mr. Minckler's immigration, the following persons had settled in the vicinity, viz: E. G. Scott, Leonard Misner, Buiris Phillips, Austin Blackman, Chester Norton, Orin Lyon, C. T. Lee, and Joseph Lockwood. These were soon followed by Levi Harding, Judge McKoon, William C. Wood and Aaron Van Benschoten. A considerable number of German immigrants had also settled in the territory. A school house was erected where the Cold Spring House now stands. It was built of logs and covered with hemlock bark. Sarah Phillips taught the first school in Fremont Centre in this structure, and here were gathered the early worshipers. Elder Little, a Baptist clergyman, ministered to them. A short time before the settlement of the region, a cyclonic wind had passed up the valley, hurling the gigantic hemlock trees to the earth. So inextricably were the trunks and branches intermixed, and so thickly had they stood, that they formed an impassable barrier in their fallen condition. The writer has been informed by one of the first settlers that a pedestrian undertook to pass through them to reach a neighbor's house, the distance being only a quarter of a mile. He left home early in the morning, and did not reach the termination of his journey until the noon hour, and his passage through was only accomplished after the most strenuous exertions.

At this period Fremont was part of the town of Callicoon, and all public business was transacted at Jeffersonville. The town officials also lived in the vicinity of the last named place, and to reach them involved an immense amount of trouble and travel to those living in the western section. For this reason a petition was presented to the Board of Supervisors in 1851, asking for a division of the town. After an immense amount of wrangling, and perhaps some hard feeling, the measure was successfully carried, and the new town was formed and named Fremont, in honor of the great explorer, John C. Fremont. The first town meeting was held in the house of Austin Blackman. David R. Terry, Roderick LeValley and Gerard L. M. Hardenburg were the presiding officers. Judge Samuel McKoon was elected the first supervisor (1852) and Levi Harding town clerk.

Fremont is no longer a wilderness. The great forests have passed away, and beautiful farms and comfortable farm houses dot the country in all directions. The tannery busi-

ness carried on by B. P. Buckley and Son is also a thing of the past, and the people are engaged almost exclusively in dairying. Where the windfall formerly existed there are now the most fertile fields, and all the surroundings indicate thrift and prosperity upon the part of the people.

The first Roman Catholic church at Obernburg was built in 1852 and a new one was constructed in 1861. It has a membership of three hundred and fifty or more. To the Catholic body belongs the honor of constructing the first religious edifice in the town. To the Baptists, however, belongs the honor of first implanting religious truth. The Methodist Church in Fremont Centre was organized by Rev. Aaron Coons in 1860, in which year the house of worship was also erected at a cost of \$2,500. It will seat three hundred and fifty people and is supplied regularly every Sabbath by the pastor of the Callicoon charge.

The village contains two stores. W. F. A. Emerich is the proprietor of one. He keeps all kinds of goods necessary to supply the demands of the people in the village and the surrounding country. He is a thorough gentleman and has been the supervisor of his town. He is now the town clerk and has charge of the postoffice.

Mr. Maus is the proprietor of a fine hotel which is managed in first class style in every particular. It is a delightful place for the summer boarder or transient guest. About one-fourth of a mile from the village is the Cold Spring House, owned by Philemon Minckler. This house has already been noted in this article, and it is sufficient to say to those who desire to spend the summer there, that Mr. Minckler looks carefully after the welfare and happiness of his boarders.

Dr. A. J. Smith is the son of a physician, the grandson of another, and the nephew of still another. He is a first class physician himself and is the owner of the drug store in the village. A vein of sadness creeps over the writer as he thinks of the noble boy, bright little Willie, the only son of the doctor, who was taken so suddenly from his parents that last Sunday in October, 1892. Around him had clustered many hopes and wishes, but the great master of all called him to a higher destiny.

A little time ago an artesian well was sunk in the village to the depth of one hundred and twenty-five feet. An underground current of

*DR. F. A. BARR,*

*SURGEON DENTIST,*

*Callicoon Depot, N. Y.*

*Office in Delaware House. Gas Administered.*

---

N. KURZ, JR., & CO.

*P. Gottschalk,*

The *Hortonville* Millers

HANKINS, N. Y.

AND DEALERS IN

Dealer in Fine and Coarse Meal,  
Feed of all kinds. Corn, Corn-  
Meal, Cracked Corn. All the best  
brands of

*General  
Merchandise.*

*Flour.*

As we manufacture our own feed we are  
prepared to sell at the

In fact everything kept in a feed  
Store. A quick six pence is better  
than a slow shilling. I sell for small  
profits, and sell enough to make  
the business pay.

LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES

P. O. Address, Callicoon Depot, N. Y.

*P. Gottschalk.*

water was reached which immediately rose in the pipe to a considerable distance above the ground. It has continued to flow since with unabated energy, and probably will always do so.

It only remains to add that Fremont possesses in an eminent degree the peculiarities that distinguish western Sullivan county. Pure water, pure air and a complete absence of all malarial disease, make this section a delightful home for the invalid or the weary.

The road from Callicoon to North Branch is along the banks of the picturesque Callicoon Creek. This is one of the most beautiful drives in Sullivan county; not so much because of what man has wrought, but because of the varied charms that Nature has supplied. About one-fourth of a mile above the railroad bridge, the falls of the stream are reached. Here a splendid water power, one of the best in the county, and capable of moving the heaviest machinery, is absolutely running to waste. The Callicoon is a never-failing stream, and the possibilities of ponding the water at this point are unequaled. All things considered, a finer manufacturing site cannot be found anywhere. The road continues along the right bank of the river, tall trees over-shade it on either side, and during the summer months the air is made fragrant by the beautiful blossoms of the rhododendron. About one mile from the starting point the forks of the Callicoon are reached, and the way continues along the north branch of the stream. One-half mile further is the village of

### Hortonville.

This hamlet is situated on both sides of the creek, and the visitor is impressed by the neatness of everything he sees about him. The houses are pretty in design and the lawns are kept neatly mown. Everything indicates German tidiness, for the families are almost exclusively German. The large grist mill which stands upon the left bank of the stream is operated by N. Kurz, Jr., & Co. They manufacture their own feed, and for this reason they are able to compete successfully with the largest dealers in the business. They also deal extensively in flour of their own and other manufacture, and are in every sense progressive business men. A little farther up is the large carriage and wagon shop of Mr. Fromm. Here are manufactured all kinds of light and

heavy vehicles, suitable for the farm, for teaming and for pleasure. A general blacksmithing business is also carried on in connection with the other. Mr. Fromm personally superintends his own business and his work is honestly done.

Henry Gardner & Co. are the owners of the large paper mill in the village. This enterprise turns out an immense quantity of the best straw paper, which is shipped to the city by the carload. It also makes a ready home market for all the straw produced in the country for miles about, which the farmers change for the ready cash or goods from the company's store. The store operated by this firm is one of the very best, and contains a complete stock of general merchandise. Mr. Gardner, Sr., exhibits in his own success what may be accomplished by steady perseverance and honest business methods. When he began his career in Hortonville, it was as a mechanic earning ten dollars a month. Small as his wages were, he contrived to save part of them. Soon he owned the shop in which he worked, and as its responsible head, he gave entire satisfaction to his patrons and his business increased. When the tannery business was abandoned in the village, he purchased the building, and wishing to give his boys employment he converted it into a paper mill, and its success has justified his business sagacity and enterprise. It is not fair to conjecture how much a man is worth from a financial standing point; but it is safe to say that Mr. Gardner owes no debt he cannot pay. The firm is composed of Mr. Gardner and his sons, and they keep a considerable force in constant employment.

Hortonville receives its mail from Callicoon, and might almost be considered a continuation of the latter place.

The road winds through the village, past pleasant homes, and on the left, perched upon the hill, is the Dutch Reformed Church, of which the Rev. Mr. Mury is pastor. Leaving this place the road continues along the North Branch, under the shadow of mighty pines. Just beyond them, and on the other side of the stream is Laurel Park, where are gathered together every year a great concourse of people, sometimes numbering five thousand persons. The attraction is the Odd Fellows' picnic, which is annually held on the second Monday in August in this place. The river is very pretty as it winds and turns on its way to the Delaware, and has been described by Alfred

Headquarters.

GEO. J. YAGOR,

HANKINS, N. Y.,

DEALER IN

*General Merchandise,*

AND MFR. OF

*Feed and Meal.*

NOTICE!

I hereby give notice that I have removed my Undertaking business to Hankins, where I will carry a complete line of Coffins and Caskets, and all orders promptly attended to.

Yours Respectfully,

G. J. YAGOR.

FRED FROMM

MRS. E. POLLOCK,

DEALER IN

Carriages, Sleighs,

*Groceries,*

Manfr. of Fine Road Wagons,

*Provisions,*

lumber Wagons.

*General Sundries.*

Also

TEA, COFFEE, SPICES AND ESSENCES

HORSE SHOEING AND

OF THE BEST QUALITY AND ALWAYS

GENERAL BLACKSMITHING

ON HAND.

HORTONVILLE, N. Y.

STORE NEAR THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

P. O. Address. Callicoon Depot, N. Y.

CALLICOON DEPOT, - - NEW YORK

B. Street in his poems published in 1867 as follows:

"Now stealing through its thickets deep  
In which the wood duck hides;  
Now, pictured in its basin, sleep  
Its green pool-hollowed sides.  
Here through the pebbles slow it creeps.  
And foaming, hoarsely chides:  
Then slides so still its gentle swell  
Scarce ripples round the lily's bell."

About three miles and a half from Callicoon the town line is crossed, near the residence of John W. Peters. One and one-half miles farther is the village of

### North Branch.

The Town of Callicoon, in which the latter is situated, was formed from Liberty, March 30th, 1842. For the reasons already stated in our sketch of Fremont, it was not settled until a comparatively recent period. Had the great land owners who held possession of the territory in the last century built a road to this then unexplored region, it undoubtedly would have been settled half a century earlier. The first clearing was made in 1807-8 at a point a little south of Youngsville. John DeWitt, the owner, contracted with Ourtis Hurd and James S. Jackson to clear one hundred acres for a stipulated sum. It may have been Mr. DeWitt's intention to settle at this point in order to control his vast estates of wild land. He died, however, in 1808, and the property passed into the hands of his son Andrew. In 1813 the latter hired Abijah Mitchell of Bethel to build a log house upon the cleared tract. This was accomplished, except part of the roof, which was left unfinished because of the difficulty in getting nails. It is not known that Mr. DeWitt or any other person ever lived in it, and thus the first house ever erected in the town was an uninhabited structure.

William Wood, with his three married sons, Garrett, Edward W. and David, immigrated from High Falls, Ulster county, in 1814. To reach their new home it was necessary during the last ten miles of their journey to cut a road for the passage of the company. They reached a point about one and one-half miles northeast of Jeffersonville, and formed there the first permanent settlement in the town. Here, far removed from the outside world, these families continued to live for fifteen years without a neighbor. Having no privileges, and no society but their own, it is not strange that their

children grew up ignorant of the usages of refined people. The nearest mill and store were at Liberty, and to reach either involved a journey through the pathless forest. When flour was required, the men carried a bushel and a half of grain upon their backs to the mill, and when it was ground, carried it home again in the same manner. The first funeral in the town was that of Garrett Wood's wife, who died a few years after their settlement. In order to make a coffin, they split a straight-grained tree into pieces of nearly equal thickness. These were hewn down, and in this way the rough receptacle for the dead was fashioned. Undoubtedly she was just as deeply mourned as though her obsequies had been attended by all the pomp and circumstance of state. John Wood, son of Edward Wood, was the first child born in the town. Peter Wormouth in 1830 bought out William E. Wood, who owned the land between Buck Brook and the North branch of the Callicoon. Through rigid economy and hard work he succeeded in accumulating a considerable estate, but was distinguished generally for his lack of geniality of disposition. In 1831 there were seven families in the town, and two years more elapsed (1833) before Georg G. DeWitt built a house in the vicinity of the site of the log house built by his grandfather, John DeWitt. Mr. DeWitt had been suffering from hemorrhage of the lungs for some time, and by advice of his physician he moved into Sullivan county for the benefit of the balsamic odors exhaled from the pine and hemlock trees. The experiment proved successful, and in a short time his lungs ceased to bleed; believing himself to be cured, he left his home in the wilds for a prolonged visit to friends in the cultivated regions. Again he was attacked by the dread disease and his life was nearly gone. This experience taught him that he could live nowhere else except in Callicoon. He returned, recovered his health again, and became identified with all the affairs of the township. The first town meeting was held at his house May 3d, 1842, at which all the voters in the town, forty-six in number, were present. The board who presided at this meeting was composed of the following persons, viz: John B. Spencer, John Hankins, Jacob Quick, Rollin Stoddard, and George G. DeWitt. The following officers were elected, viz: Olney Borden, supervisor; George G. DeWitt, town clerk; Rollin Stoddard, John Hankins and Jacob Quick.



## BENJAMIN TYLER,

HANKINS,

NEW YORK

DEALER IN

Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware,

NOTIONS, ETC.

*The stock is complete in all those things usually kept in a Village Store. My object is to give the best goods obtainable for the lowest possible price. My facilities for buying are the best, and any order can be filled.*

✠ SOLE AGENT FOR DEMOREST SEWING MACHINES ✠



JOHN. F. ANDERSON,

Attorney and Counselor at Law.

CALLICOON. DEPOT, N. Y.



S. A. KEMP, M. D.

CALLICOON DEPOT, NEW YORK.

DEALER IN

DRUGS, MEDICINES AND CHEMICALS

Fancy and Toilet Articles.

Sponges, Brushes, Perfumery.

.....

Domestic • and • Imported • Cigars.

.....

Physicians' Prescriptions carefully compounded and orders answered with care and dispatch. Our stock of Medicine is complete, warranted genuine, and of the best quality.

STORE OPEN ALL NIGHT.

justices of the peace; Rollin Stoddard, Thomas S. Ward, and William P. Main, assessors. At this meeting it was resolved:

That twice as much money be raised by the town as is provided by the State for educational purposes; also that \$100 be raised to repair the roads and bridges; that hogs, sheep and cattle be debarred from being common in the town; that division fences be four and one-half feet high; and lastly, that a map of the town be procured by the clerk, Geo. G. DeWitt.

Among the early settlers was Jacob Quick, who was a nephew of the famous Tom Quick, the Indian fighter, and who was also grandfather of Cyrus Quick, who now lives at North Branch. Mr. Quick was sixty years of age when he settled in the town. Previous to his removal from Pike county, Pa., he had been elected justice of the peace thirty successive times, and was a man of note. Through litigations or for some other cause, he lost his property, and in his old age was compelled to begin life over again. He was a strong, rugged man, and bravely did he set about it. His aged wife however, did not long survive the change from the former home to the savage wilderness of the forest. She died soon after their removal. Mr. Quick cleared field after field, his children settled about him, gradually his prospects brightened, his land produced bountifully, orchards were planted, a new sawmill was built, the villages were being developed, and he was a prosperous man again. At the first town meeting held in the town he was elected justice of the peace, and continued an honored member of society until his death in 1852. The settlement of the town progressed very slowly until 1840, when the Germans were induced to come by Solomon Royce, as has been stated in a previous article. The completion of the Erie R. R. also added greatly to the prosperity of the town, offering as it did a ready means of ingress to the territory, besides furnishing transportation for its products. In 1842 Stephen Eecker came from Newburg and settled about one mile below Thumansville. The same year Nicholas Zieres located near North Branch. Lockhart Stewart came from Massachusetts in 1842 and settled on the farm now owned by his son. Mr. Stewart returned to Massachusetts and remained there until 1849, when, having accumulated sufficient capital to pay for his farm, he came again to

North Branch and made it his permanent home. John Becker and Henry Staib were among the earliest settlers. Joseph Anderson settled in the Beechwoods in 1843. He was the father of County Judge Isaac Anderson, who died in 1871, and also the father of John F. Anderson, Esq., of Callicoon Depot. Joseph Smith immigrated from Greene county in 1847, and located at North Branch. Previous to the coming of Mr. Smith the site of the village was a dense forest. In the trees the wild pigeons made their nests, and the region was known to the hunters and fishermen, who alone penetrated its thickets, as Pigeon Roost. Game was everywhere plentiful and the streams were alive with trout. The north branch of the Callicoon is still one of the best trout streams in the county.

A. B. Baker drove the first two-horse wagon ever seen in the place in 1845. The first saw mill was constructed by a Mr. Merritt in 1843. The first school was taught by Mary Hunt in the house of Henry Cannon, who had become a settler. The first religious service was also held in his barn. Clemons & Stewart kept the first store, and a man by the name of Vandervort was the first blacksmith. Various industries were inaugurated that tended to develop the region; among the rest, the tanning business had its day. Two tanneries were established, one owned by Inderlied and Co., and the other by a man named Babcock. These have now passed away, and no one visiting the beautiful village would suspect that but two score years have passed since the country was a wilderness.

North Branch is beautifully situated at a point where several valleys converge. The hills are high on either side, averaging some 1400 feet above tide. The air is exhilarating, laden as it is with the odor of pine and hemlock trees. There is no stagnant water anywhere, as the streams are rapid, and never sluggish like those in a more level country. The village contains one church, the Methodist Episcopal. It was organized by the Rev. Wm. H. Hughson, in August 1861, with thirty members. The church edifice was constructed in 1869 at a cost of \$2000, and will seat about 250 persons. The village now contains a large population, and during the summer months the streets are filled with people who find in the large boarding houses and hotels, a delightful home, far away from the dust, heat, and disease of the great city.

# SULLIVAN COUNTY RECORD.

PUBLISHED AT JEFFERSONVILLE, N. Y. THE LEADING  
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**OUTSIDE NEWS.** We also publish each week a complete summary of what is going on in the outside world.

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RECORD PUBLISHING CO., - JEFFERSONVILLE, N. Y.

North Branch has quite a number of business establishments but space will not permit us to notice them all.

J. M. Schmidt carries on an extensive business in general merchandise. He has in stock, or is agent for, almost any article that may be desired. His business is constantly increasing. Fair dealing and honest business methods have won for him a large patronage, and he deserves it. O. B. Anderson is also the proprietor of a large general store, and is the postmaster of the village. His store is well filled with a multitudinous stock of everything necessary to supply the public. Associated with Mr. Anderson is Alfred Eickhoff, who is agent in this section for the Behr Bros. pianos, which are among the finest instruments made. No one need hesitate a moment in dealing with the above-named gentlemen. Their word can be relied upon, and their prices are as low as is consistent with honest business methods.

Mr. Hust is the jeweler of North Branch. He is a capable workman and keeps a large stock of gold and silver watches, clocks of all kinds, silverware, toys, etc. Mr. Hust is a good man and a straight dealer.

The village contains many hotels and boarding houses, among the best being the "Osmer Villa," O. B. Anderson, proprietor, and the "Traveler's Home" hotel, Mrs. Banernfeind, proprietress. These houses are large and roomy, and are surrounded by ample grounds beautifully shaded. Summer houses, fountains, and other accessories add to their desirableness as a summer resort, and every season their capacity is taxed to the utmost. One-half mile from the village is the "Quick House," Cyrus Quick, proprietor. This is another popular summer resort. The house is large and new, and everything possible is done to make the guest happy and to feel at home.

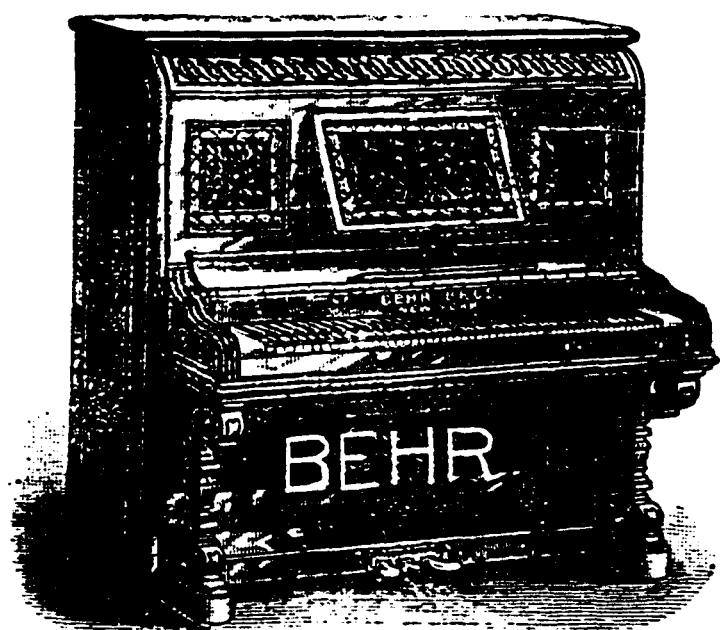
Four miles from North Branch and nine miles from Callicoon is the beautiful village of

### Jeffersonville,

the largest village in western Sullivan county. For over a mile it stretches along the banks of the Callicoon, with streets branching off in various directions. Large hotels abound in different parts of the village, made necessary by the ever increasing number of summer boarders. Four churches, finely situated, add grace to the scene. Various societies like the

F. and A. M., Red Men, and others, have halls and meet regularly.

The Sullivan County Record, one of the spiciest and best edited newspapers in Sullivan county, is published here. Jeffersonville is in direct telegraphic communication with Callicoon Depot, and the Erie railroad has an office in the village, where tickets are sold to any point on the line. The place contains many mercantile establishments, and has its fair share of physicians, lawyers, judges and distinguished men generally. Yet in 1839 there were but three families living within its present confines. In that year Thomas S. Ward located in Jeffersonville and had for his neighbors Jacob D. and C. K. Schemerhorn. Jacob D. Schemerhorn built a log house in 1838, the first structure erected in the village. Frank Schiedell came in 1840, and Abraham Schieder built the first sawmill in 1842. Chas. T. Langhorn moved to Jeffersonville and built the first hotel in 1846. Previous to his immigration he had been threatened with pulmonary disease, and by the advice of his physicians he came to Sullivan county for the benefit of its pure air and its life-giving balsamic odors. The present village at that time was nothing more than a clearing in the forest. Mr. Langhorn erected a hotel far in advance of the times and the place, and named it the Jefferson House, in honor of the great signer. The hotel gave its name to the village that followed, and by an easy transition it was called Jeffersonville. The building repaired still stands. House after house was added until the village assumed its present dimensions, and the end is not yet. Everything promises well for its future growth and prosperity. Its situation is splendid as it is in the valley of the Callicoon, where it stretches out in large level tracts, offering ample facilities for growth. It has never lost the reputation it acquired in the earlier days as one of the most healthful places in the country. People affected with pulmonary disease find in this section relief when it is not obtained elsewhere. Hence it is not strange that every year the tide of summer immigration tends more and more this way. To accommodate this ever-increasing flood the hotels have been enlarged and beautified, and Jeffersonville has now accommodations second to none in the county. It will not be possible in a paper of this length to particularly describe them all: yet on account of their fine situation and su-



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## Z. Minard.

perior excellencies, we are justified in calling attention to two of them. The Mansion House, J. Ludwig, proprietor, is a fine large structure at the head of the main street, facing the Callicoon. It has ample piazzas and stands within a lawn shaded by grand old trees. Mr. Ludwig knows how to keep a hotel, and the guests esteem themselves lucky when they have secured quarters there. The other is the Eagle Hotel, Charles Homer proprietor. This is another fine house, in every respect as desirable and as well managed as the other. The rooms are large and well furnished, and those who desire quarters in either should engage them early in the season. At the head of the main street is the old established store of Conrad Metzgar. Mr. Metzgar's reputation as a good business man, one who deals squarely and fairly with all, is well known. He keeps in stock and is constantly supplied with everything necessary to meet the demands of his large trade. Mr. Metzgar is an accommodating merchant, and a gentleman in every sense of the word. Meyer & Coventry also carry on a large trade, and have a complete stock of general merchandise. These gentlemen have built up a lucrative business and it is constantly growing. In connection with their store they are buyers and shippers of all kinds of country produce. They deserve their success.

W. T. Grishaber deals in tinware of every description, roofing, guttering, etc. He is a capable mechanic, and does his work honestly at reasonable terms.

Charles A. Ranft is the barber of the village, and a first class one at that. In another room connected with his tonsorial establishment, he keeps a large stock of tinned goods, novelties, toys, etc. Mr. Ranft is a general favorite.

Jeffersonville has been the home of quite a number of men who have risen to distinction in their native county. Some have passed away and are now sleeping in the quiet village cemeteries. Isaac Anderson, the son of parents poor in worldly goods, but rich in integrity and Christian character, rose by his own efforts to the foremost place among the legal fraternity of his own county. In 1859 he was elected District Attorney for three years; in 1862, County Judge and Surrogate for four years. In 1866 he was a candidate for congress, but was defeated. In 1868 he was made an attorney, proctor, counselor and advocate of the District Court of the United States. He

died on the 3rd of February, 1871, in the forty-sixth year of his age.

Among the living to-day is the Hon Alpheus. Potts, who has held many distinguished places in his native town and county, and is familiarly known as Judge Potts, having been elected to the office of county judge. This office he filled with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the people.

Edward H. Pinney, another distinguished jurist of the town, has just been elected (1892) to the office of County Judge. Mr. Pinney is a man of marked ability, who has served his country in the field as well as in the forum.

One other whom we wish to speak of in this connection is the Rev. E. E. Pinney, an honored member of the New York Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church; one who is universally esteemed by his brethren in the ministry, and one who, after spending a long life in his Master's service in labor more than usually successful, has settled in this beautiful village to spend his declining years. May the twilight of his life be a long one, and when he is called at length to the higher life, he will long be remembered by what he has done.

A short distance from Jeffersonville is the beautiful Kenoza Lake, the resort of fishermen for miles around. Near its edge is being erected the splendid new hotel of W. P. Coventry, which will be called the Coventry House. It will be open for the season of '93, and every precaution will be taken to make it one of the most desirable summer homes in this section. One more place remains to be described as within the vicinity of Callicoon, and this article will close.

### Galilee

is situated in the town of Damascus, Wayne county, Pa., and is distant five miles from Callicoon. It has been settled more recently than other villages in the township, and is particularly notable for its high elevation and the extreme purity of its atmosphere. The first settlers belonged to the Tyler, Conklin and Keesler families. These were followed by the Sutliffs, Brighams, Marks, and others. A Methodist class was formed in this place in 1840 with Joseph Sutliff as leader. This office he continued to hold for over half a century, dying in 1891. The church building was erected in 1876, costing about \$2,000.

There is also a Grange building in the village belonging to the Patrons of Husbandry.

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known as Damascus Grange No. 405, which is in a very prosperous condition. The village also contains two stores. One is owned by Geo. Abrahams, who keeps a complete stock of dry goods, groceries, hardware, boots and shoes, notions, agricultural implements of all kinds, and he can supply his customers with any sort of a vehicle or machine for the road or farm. Mr. Abrahams is advantageously situated to supply the large inland trade which comes to

his store. He is a man of splendid business ability, and is active in every good enterprise.

Galilee possess every requisite to make it equally with the other places mentioned a fine summer resort, and it is to be hoped that in the near future the people will turn their thoughts in that direction, as the demand for summer homes in the section in which we live is ever on the increase.



## *Delaware Lodge, No. 561, F. & A. M.*

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THE history of this lodge properly begins on the 24th of June, 1800, when a warrant was granted for holding a lodge at the house of Daniel Skinner, Sr., in Upper Smithfield Township, (now Damascus) in Northampton county (now Wayne), Pennsylvania, to be named St. Tammany's Lodge, No. 83. Reuben Skinner was the first Master, Aaron Pierce, Senior Warden, Jonathan Dexter, Junior Warden. Very little light, however, can be thrown upon this period of its existence, owing to the fact that the early records were destroyed by fire. Reuben and Nathan Skinner, sons of Admiral Skinner, who piloted the first raft down the Delaware in 1764, were prominent in bringing about its organization. With the exception of the names given above, it is not known who constituted the charter members.

Harris's Discourses, an early Masonic publication, contains a list of subscribers, and in it the following names are credited to St. Tammany's Lodge, No. 83: Geo. B. Guinnipp, Reuben Condit, Jesse Drake, Nathan Mornington, Joseph Guinnipp, Jacob Tyler, Dudley B. Clark, George Bush, Noah Phillips, Silas Tyler and David Guinnipp. Considering the

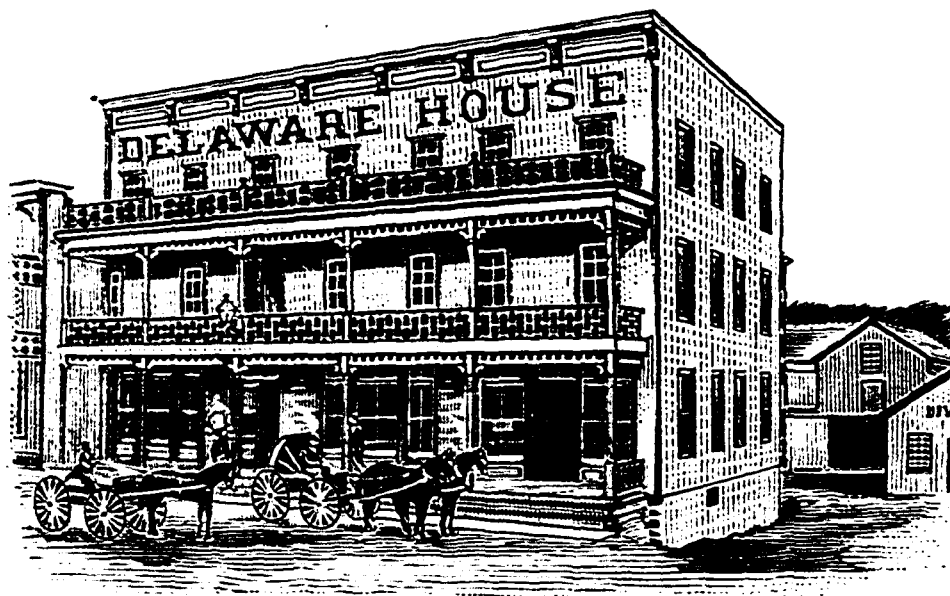
fact that the above were subscribers to a Masonic publication, it appears to be quite conclusive evidence that they were also members of the fraternity.

Their meetings were held in an old log store house on St. Tammany's Flat, the only way to the lodge room above being by a ladder which was let down and drawn up for the accommodation of the members. It received its name from Tammanend or Tammany, a chief of the Delaware tribe, who in 1683 affixed his signature to a document conveying certain lands in Bucks Co. Pa., to William Penn. He was an old Indian, noted for his many virtues, and during a portion of his life lived on the level lands of the Delaware at Cushtunk. When the early settlers arrived in the valley, they appear to have been aware of the exact place; and Daniel Skinner named the land he settled upon Tammany Flat, because the chief had formerly pitched his wigwam there. When the great sachem was canonized by the American party and had the prefix "Saint" attached to his name it was deemed proper by the first founders of masonry in this section, inasmuch as their lodge was upon the land formerly oc-

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cupied by him, to call their organization St. Tammany's Lodge. This early home of the fraternity was burned down about 1812 or '13, and all the records were destroyed. It was then moved to Damascus, Wayne Co., Pa., and continued to work at that point until about 1820, when the lodge building was burned again and the records were lost as before. Under a new charter it began its labors at Milanville, Pa., but the right to confer Mark Master's degrees had been taken from it. It continued its work at Milanville until February 6, 1837, when the warrant of the lodge was vacated for delinquency. When Honesdale Lodge No. 218, F. and A. M., was organized, the furniture and jewels of the Tammany fraternity were loaned to them, and in the fire that followed, April 25, 1851, everything was destroyed, and it is not now known that any records are in existence pertaining to it. Its two oldest members have recently died, Calvin Skinner and John Burcher, and the old lodge is not now bound to the living age by a single surviving member.

A new lodge was organized at Cohecton in 1864: F. R. Van Gelder, C. T. Curtis, L. D. Tyler, E. M. Calkins, W. Roper, J. Baring, Jr., Isaac Forshay, and James C. Curtis being the petitioners. The dispensation was granted in June of that year and the first meeting was held September 3, 1864. F. R. Van Gelder, M.; C. T. Curtis, S. W.; L. D. Tyler, J. W.; H. Balkey, acting treasurer; J. M. Bevins,

secretary; J. H. Beach, S. D.; J. Bowman, J. D.; W. Kimble, S. M. C.; and E. M. Calkins, Teller; Mr. John C. Drake was the first applicant for degrees, and the lodge was known as Delaware Lodge, 561. The Warrant, with names of officers inserted, and also number of lodge 561, was given June 20th, 1865, the officers being F. R. VanGelder, M.; J. H. Beach, S. W.; L. D. Tyler, J. W. The lodge continued its labors in Cohecton until 1885, when it was deemed best by the fraternity to surrender its charter. C. A. Newman, at that time a resident of Callicoon, the agent of the Erie Company, and a member of Callicoon Lodge 521, conferred with them and at his suggestion the lodge was moved to Callicoon Depot without losing its jurisdiction. A dispensation was granted for the removal and confirmed by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York in 1886 at its regular communication. Under the inspiring influence of Mr. Newman's energy the lodge received new life, and its history since that time has been a constant growth in prosperity and numbers. Its membership is now about seventy, and its meetings are regularly held on the first and third Friday evenings of each month. The officers for the present year are as follows: C. T. Curtis, M.; Wm. V. Ross, S. W.; Sidney E. Wenzel, J. W.; Dr. S. A. Kemp, Secretary; J. Dycker, treasurer; Charles F. Starck, S. D.; Chris. Jardin, J. D.; J. Dietz, S. M. C.; and Otto Bergner, Teller.

---

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## *Church of the Holy Cross, Roman Catholic.*

THE early German settlers in this section were a religious people. Quite a number were of the Roman Catholic faith, but being new to the country, and the country itself being in a primitive condition, it was some time before they had regularly organized service. St. Mary's Church at Obernburg was organized in 1852, and a church building erected the same year, the Rev. John Ranfeisan being the pastor in charge; its membership at that time was about eighty.

When the Erie railroad was being built a large number of people were employed by the company in various capacities. Some of them became permanent residents of Callicoon, and a part being members of the Catholic church, it was but natural that they should desire a place for worship nearer than Obernburg. The Methodist church was the only society that owned a church building in Callicoon in 1860. The Catholics obtained permission to hold mass in this structure, and the two religious

bodies used the church alternately, and the most cordial good will prevailed between them. Mr. Peter Traynor, a zealous member of the Catholic church, but a worthy, fair-minded gentleman, was a trustee of both the Methodist and Catholic churches, and it is declared that the Methodists never had a more faithful secular officer.

When the Catholic society was first organized, it was under the supervision of the Rev. John Nilan, a secular priest from Port Jervis, officiating under the authority of the Arch-Diocese of New York. In 1869 the society had become strong enough to purchase from the Methodists the church they both had occupied, paying \$2,000 for it. The congregation continued to be controlled by priests from Port Jervis until 1871, when the Rev. Gerard Henry Huntman was appointed pastor of the parish. He continued in charge until 1887, when he was succeeded by the Rev. Michael Montgomery, the present incumbent.

## **Gustave Adolph Lodge No. 274, I. O. O. F.**

WAS organized March 27, 1871. The charter members were Peter Fetz, Christian Wagner, Philip Kohler, Nicholas Haus, and John Glassel. With these five were associated the following: Chas. F. Starck, John Frey, Geo. Dech, Mathias Fiebrly, Chas. Krantz, Christian Kantz, Nicholas Kurz, Henry Gardner, Adam Metzgar, Fred Gottschalk, Henry Eller, Adam Gorr, John Werlau, Peter Baum, Josiah Deuner, Wm. Rosenberger, Fred Theobald, H. Thorwelle, Peter Scheuer, Jos. Bauernfeind, Nicholas Theis, Henry Leowin, John Wolf. The first five named were selected, and made application for membership to Attila Lodge, Port Jervis. On the 27th of March, 1871, the Lodge was instituted, a large number of the mother lodge being present. Among them were Christ Gusenheimer, L. Eckle, Jacob Kadel, Peter Fetz, Jr., M. Kadel, Christ Weigard, Abr. Happy, and others. The festivity wound up with a banquet, and Gustave Adolph was lauded under most favorable circumstances. A room was selected over John

Robisch's furniture store, which was afterwards fitted up. The Lodge still occupies the same quarters. It is a fact worthy of note, that the five leading members, at that time men of past middle age, are alive and well to-day. Of the original members Geo. Dech, Chas. Kantz, John Werlau, H. Thorwelle, Peter Scheuer, Jos. Bauernfeind, and John Wolf have died.

The Lodge has paid many thousand dollars for relief, and now has the snug sum of nearly \$2,500 to their credit. The annual picnic of this lodge is one of the grandest affairs in this part of the country; and the second Monday of August is always looked upon as a great gala day. They hold their meetings every Saturday, and during the twenty-two years since they were organized, they have not failed five times to meet at the appointed hour and transact their business. It is the oldest O. F. Lodge in the county, and they work in the German language. John Frey has been the Recording Secretary for sixteen consecutive years. The present membership is about fifty.

C. F. STARCK.

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AND ALL KINDS OF FARMING IMPLEMENTS.



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## The Methodist Church.

THE first Methodists in this section undoubtedly worshipped in some house on St. Tammany's Flat. In the early days of Methodism the ministers traveled over large circuits. The pioneer families were few and far apart, and the people were very poor. Equipped with horse and saddle-bags, often carrying his theological library with him, (so meagre was it) besides the clothes necessary for his comfort, he took his journey through the wilderness, over rough roads or where there was no road at all. Fording streams and swimming his horse through them when necessary, he usually managed to keep his appointments.

His home was with the people while traveling; a shake-down upon the floor, or a bunch of straw in the log cabin attic, was his bed. He received thankfully what they gave him to eat. His pay was so small it would not have paid the house rent of the modern country minister. It was this class of men that planted Methodism in all the surrounding country. If his pay was little, it must be remembered that the people to whom he ministered were but few and had little to give. The minister shared with the rest. Some of these men in intellectual ability, eloquence and devotion, were the peers of any that ever lived. Whenever it was possible they gathered the people together and formed a "class." Every converted person was expected to belong to it, and those who entered the class were expected to be able to testify to the consciousness of their own conversion. Each of these classes was the nucleus of a church, and all of our churches can trace back to the time when they were a little class-meeting in some private house or a school-house.

A class was formed on St. Tammany's Flat as early as 1831. No complete records were kept and it is impossible to tell who was the first minister, or how many composed the class. The surrounding country at that time lay within the boundaries of the New York conference. From 1831 until 1843 the ministers traveling the circuit of which St. Tammany's Flat was a part, were sent out by that body. When the Wyoming Conference was

formed, the people upon the New York side of the river organized a new class and used to meet in the old school house which was near the site of the present one. No regular church was organized until the pastorate of the Rev. W. A. Hughson in 1860. At that time the membership was twenty-five. The church edifice was erected the same year. This building was capable of seating 200 persons. The society continued to occupy this until 1869, when it was sold to the Roman Catholics for \$2,000.

The Methodists then built a new church on Pleasant Street, with seating capacity for three hundred people, at a cost of \$2,950. Until the new church was completed the Methodists continued to worship in the old church with the Roman Catholics, and the utmost harmony prevailed between the two religious bodies. The church record contains the names of a great number of people who have been members since its first formation. Many are dead, many have moved away, and the membership is now forty. The parsonage was built in 1889, at a cost furnished, of \$1650. In 1891 about \$600 were expended on the church in needed repairs, which include a bell, donated to the society by John F. Anderson. The following have been pastors of the church: William A. Hughson, Aaron Coons, D. A. Powell, Paul T. Deyo, Fletcher Handlin, Andrew Schriver, W. P. Jones, William Combs, Josiah Tetley, F. W. Andrews, A. H. Haynes, F. Kratz, W. A. Fuller, E. A. Boggs, Geo. W. Thompson, Geo. Wescott, A. Schleiermacher, and J. S. Graham.

The church and parsonage are beautifully situated on Pleasant street, commanding a view that is unsurpassed in all the village. The river curves gracefully about St. Tammany's Flat, and passing on, soon parts, encircling Big Island. Still farther down are the heights of Cochection, with the old village nestled snugly against the hill; while about is an amphitheatre of hills, wonderful in their beauty, making the scene one that is delightful in the extreme, and well worth coming far to see.

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**Jeffersonville, Sull. Co., N. Y.**

## St. James Episcopal Church.

---

**T**HE first Episcopal service in Callicoon Depot was held in June, 1874, by the Rev. John Kiernan of Deposit, N. Y. He held monthly services here until January, 1875. He was succeeded by the Rev. Oliver Perry Vinton, who remained several months. Believing that an Episcopal church could be maintained in the place, he started a subscription paper in order to secure the funds necessary for such an enterprise. In a short time the necessary amount, about eleven hundred dollars, was subscribed. An acre of ground, beautifully located on the south bank of the Callicoon, was donated for the church site by the late James C. Curtis. On the first day of September, 1875, the Rev. C. F. Cannedy, Rector of St. John's, Monticello, N. Y., laid

the corner stone of the new church building and formally gave it the name of St. James. On the 6th of June, 1877, it was consecrated by the Rt. Rev. Horatio Potter, Bishop of New York.

Rev. G. A. Chambers became the first Rector in January, 1877, and remained in charge until October, 1880, when he removed to Iowa. From 1880 until 1885 the church services were held by Rev. C. K. Capron of Port Jervis, E. F. Roké of Deposit, and F. N. Lusson of New York, who were each at different times in charge of the parish. From 1885 the parish has been under the care of the Rectors of Grace church, Port Jervis, and for nearly four years the Rev. U. Seymour has held monthly services.

### Patrons of Husbandry.

---

**T**HIS society was organized March 6th, 1878, by the late W. A. Armstrong, Past Master of the New York State Grange, and editor of the Husbandman. When organized, there were twenty-five charter members. H. J. Goubelman was elected Grand Master and Jas. P. Denniston Secretary. The society is known as Delaware Grange No. 422, Patrons of Husbandry. It is in a very prosperous con-

dition, has fifty-two members, and they own the hall in which they meet. The hall is finely situated on Pleasant St. overlooking the Delaware river. It is neatly furnished, contains an organ, library, etc. The value of the whole is \$500. Meetings are held on the first and third Saturdays of each month. The present Master is J. Deuner, Secretary, J. Glassel.

### Knights of Honor.

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**S**t. TAMMANY LODGE No. 2139, Knights of Honor, was instituted April 3, 1880. The charter members were Chas. A. Newman, Charles F. Starck, John F. Anderson, John Dycker, Dr. S. A. Kemp, Wm. G. Schott, Dr. W. W. Appley, L. L. Borland, J. W. Calkins, J. P. Denniston, D. Frisbie, F. W. Resseman, Dr. A. J. Smith, J. H. Wolf, Geo. N. Weed. The Lodge increased rapidly and has a membership of 57 at the present time. The Hon. A. E. Wenzel became a member in May, 1880, and died July 25th of the same year. This was the first

death of a member. During the twelve years of existence, the Lodge has reported seven deaths to the Supreme Lodge, and in each case, inside of two months, the benefit of \$2,000 has been paid to beneficiaries. The officers of the Lodge at the present time are Wm. G. Schott, Dictator; J. C. Curtis, Vice Dictator; Jacob Dietz, Assistant Dictator; Chas. F. Starck, Reporter; John Dycker, Financial Reporter; C. Jardin, Treasurer. The Lodge has held a membership of between fifty-five and sixty for the last six years.

C. F. STARK,



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Lake Huntington,		White Lake,	
Cochecton,	Narrowsburg,	Monticello,	Mongaup,
Mongaup Centre,	Stevensville,	Strongtown,	Rockland.

and numerous other places in Ulster, Orange, Delaware,  
and Broome Counties.

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## *The Tyler Family.*

---

**T**HE TYLER FAMILY is well known on both sides of the Delaware river, having settled at an early date in Sullivan county, N. Y., and Wayne county, Penn. In the first Tyler family to move into this section there were twenty-two children besides the parents. They came in 1757, at the same time with the Calkins and Skinners, all immigrating from Preston, New London county, Conn. The Thomas, Conklin, Ross, Layton, and Mitchell families were already upon the ground, or came immediately after.

The second generation of these families intermarried, and this they have continued to do to a considerable extent ever since, so that a history of the Tyler family would involve a history of all the others. The following genealogical table is published, not only because it will be of interest to the Tyler family, but to the public generally, and is believed to be correct.

One of the early settlers whose descendants became prominent in the annals of Damascus Township was Bezaleel Tyler, the one previously mentioned. He married Sarah Calkins, and was brother-in-law of Simeon and John Calkins. He had twenty-two children, fourteen of whom attained to years of maturity, viz: Hannah, Bezaleel, Sarah, Silas, Paul, Abigail, Timothy, Nathaniel, William, Charles, Mary, Rebecca, Zuriah and Amos. Most of the sons were soldiers in the Revolutionary War. Nathaniel was a drummer in the army and was taken prisoner at the battle of St. Johns. Bezaleel was known as Captain "Zeel" Tyler, and was killed at the battle of Lackawaxen, July 22d, 1779. He had previously married and settled on Hollister's Creek, where with Daniel Skinner he built a sawmill, the second one in the town of Damascus. He also assisted in the erection of Daniel Skinner's

house on St. Tammany Flat, which was burned by the Indians in 1777. His children were John, Moses, Oliver, Elam, Phebe and Abigail.

John married Jane Fanoy and had seven children, viz: Bezaleel, Moses, Benjamin, Oliver, Sally, (the wife of James Ross, Jr.) Abigail, (the wife of Jesse Drake, Jr.) and Lydia, (who married Moses, a son of Oliver Calkins of Big Eddy). Oliver, the fourth son of Captain Tyler, married Elizabeth Comfort. His oldest son was John, but who the others were is not known, the family having moved to Dryden, N. Y. Moses married Sarah Ross, a daughter of James Ross, Sr. One of his daughters married Elias Calkins of Barryville. Elam was killed in youth; Phebe married Joseph Thomas; while Abigail became the wife of Joseph Mitchell.

Simeon Bush was one of the original settlers and came with the Calkins and Skinners; he was a half brother to the Tylers, and married Hannah Smith of Orange county during the Indian war.

Paul Tyler, son of Bezaleel Tyler and Sarah Calkins, married Hester Brink, a sister of Judge Brink of Sussex county, N. J.; and his daughter Sophia married David Wilder, who removed from Cohecton to Bethany in 1803. Wilder's daughter Charity became the wife of Judge James Manning and had ten children.

William Tyler, son of Bezaleel 1st, married Mary Monington, and his children were Israel, Raymond, Alfred, Truman, Sally, (who married Cortland Skinner), Eliza (wife of Kinney Skinner), and Emeline, wife of David Fortman of Tyler Hill. The elder son, Israel, was for many years one of the influential and prominent residents of Damascus township and lived at Tyler Hill. He died in 1874, leaving two sons, Moses and Lorenzo D. Tyler. He mar-

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ried Lavina, daughter of Moses Tyler, a descendant of another branch of the same family.

Silas Tyler, son of Bezaleel 1st, had several children. One daughter married Rev. Enoch Owen, and another, Phebe, married Enos Hedden and moved to Ohio. Nathaniel, Eben and George were Silas' sons.

Charles, brother of Silas, married Isabella Young, and Sarah, a sister, married John Lassley. The children of Moses Tyler and Mary Ross were Lavina, Marinda, Clara, Margaret, Sally, Eliphalet, Phineas, James and Calvin.

The children of Benjamin Tyler and Sarah Kellam were Benjamin and Jane.

The children of Oliver Tyler and Thankful Pierce were Angelina, Margery, Eliza, Rockwell, John, Wesley, Henry and Oliver.

The children of Sally Tyler and James Ross,

Jr., were Abigail, Mary, Sally, Eunice, Rosanna, Margaret, John, Royal, James, Bezaleel, and Joseph.

The children of Bezaleel Tyler and Elizabeth Mitchell were Elbert, John, Alvin, Nathan, Lydia and Delilah.

The children of Abigail Tyler and Jesse Drake were Drusilla and Charles.

The children of Lydia Tyler and Moses Calkins were Abigail, Minerva, Drusilla, Eliza, Delilah and Jesse.

The above scheme brings the family down to the older generation now living, the grandfathers and grandmothers of to-day. Space will not permit us to extend it further. In the Tyler family and its connections we have some of our very best people, prominent in church, social, and business life. We cannot spare any of them and wish for more.



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# The Advantages of Callicoon

## And Vicinity as a Place of Summer Residence.

. . . . .

CALLICOON DEPOT with its two streets of irregular houses, and the railroad sandwiched between them, has no claim to beauty. In fact, while railroads are a great convenience as a means of transit, their surroundings are dingy and ill-looking. Away from the centre of town, however, the houses look fresher, and some of them are elaborate enough to be quite ornamental. Nevertheless it is a brisk business town and furnishes to its quondam residents many sources of amusement at a small cost. The river with its rowboats which may be hired for a few cents an hour, is a cool retreat from the dust and discomfort of a hot summer day, and to the fisherman it furnishes plenty of sport. It has been largely stocked with bass from the State Hatchery, and many are annually caught in the river. The shallow water makes rowing comparatively safe even for inexperienced oarsmen.

To those who have no taste for fishing or rowing but who love rather to commune with Nature in her solitudes, there is food for enjoyment in the country around Callicoon. As we walk along the hillsides, with their rocky ledges adorned with a great variety of flowers, a panorama of surpassing beauty is spread out before us. Far in the distance to the right, through the hills that seem to open just enough for its exit, appear the shimmering waters of the Delaware. As it flows along toward the village the waters divide to give space for an island, on which a few old trees stand to mark the space where once was a broad cultivated field; but the encroachments of the water were such that it was abandoned, and now the cattle that feed along the river bank go there to crop its short herbage; or on hot days stand knee deep in water under the

shade of the old trees. Bold bluffs on the Pennsylvania shore are crowned with a fringe of chestnut, oak and pine, that look down twenty feet at the quiet waters that seem so harmless. An old resident told us that he had seen the river rise until it ran over these tree roots into the road, and he was about to leave his house when the waters began to subside.

Far down, the river bends toward the New York shore, and around this curve stands a clump of trees of gigantic proportions. When the afternoon sun shines upon them they are so brilliantly reflected in the water, that the picture may be seen for a long distance. The New York shore is lower than the other and the banks are less picturesque, but the land is under much better cultivation. The land along the river was formerly called Barrens, and it was thought impossible to cultivate them, but they have proved to be fully as good as the average land in the vicinity.

Among the hills above the village are many springs of pure water, and from these most of the inhabitants of the village are supplied, without the trouble or expense of sinking wells. This water, though pure and sweet, has such an effect upon people who suffer from diabetes, that after a few days' drinking it they are greatly relieved. We are constrained to say that the lager beer found here does not possess this quality.

Interspersed through the woodland are many pines, singly and in clumps, and all through the hot weather these pines exhale an odor which has proved to be most healing in lung troubles. Consumptives coming here often improve so rapidly that it is not an uncommon thing for them to gain a pound a



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week, and after a few months' residence become hale and hearty.

As a commercial centre there is no more important town within a radius of twenty miles than Callicoon. The roads converging here are generally good, and through them the produce of a large agricultural district finds its way to the railroad, where it is shipped. Three creameries send milk and cream from here to New York, while a fourth manufacturing establishment ships large quantities of butter. The latter is located at Jeffersonville.

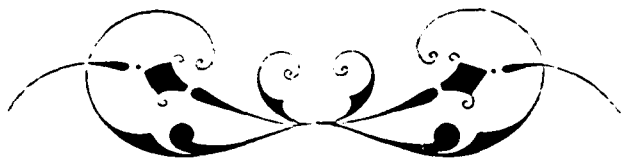
Among these hills and rocky ledges are numberless stone quarries, some of which are being constantly opened up, and no business yields a larger income from the money invested than the stone business.

Fruit growing is still in its infancy, though pears are plentiful and of a very fine quality. Apples are not only very fine, but are pro-

duced in such quantities that they are sent off by the car-load. The land seems peculiarly adapted to grapes, and the vines grow with an almost fabulous luxuriance. The Champion is a wonderful grower, and its purple clusters with their rich aroma and delicate flavor, declare themselves "food fit for the gods." Many other kinds abound, and they have been so plentiful during the past season that many have been given away. One of the prettiest sights we come upon in the woods in Autumn, is a wild grape vine that has climbed to the topmost branches of some oak or chestnut and there hangs its dark fruit.

The nutting season has a peculiar fascination for some strangers, especially for the juvenile portion; and the great trees as they mature their crop, often yield a bushel or more.

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# OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

---

THE early christian settlers of our country, with their crude means of education, taught their children the sacred names of God and the Savior. The history of the patriarchs and prophets, of the apostles and holy men were their nursery tales. The Bible was the entertainment of the fireside, and the first and last, and almost the only school book of the child ; and sacred psalmody was the only song with which he was lulled to rest on his mother's arm. This simple means of instruction gave rise to institutions of learning that opened the way to an education which to-day reaches humanity in every part of our nation.

All the nations of the earth are educating their youth for the promotion of their own ends. Their schools are the institutes of their intentions and the gauge of their enlightenment and integrity. The American schools are being shaped and operated in view of American circumstances, and for the furtherance of the highest and noblest aims of our social and national life. They are also, at the same time, the instruments of our ambition and the measure of our capacity. Educational effort in this country extends far back of the nineteenth century. It has traveled in every direction with accumulating force and quickening speed, until to-day it seems, beyond question, to have its most abundant fruitage in the great Empire State. We know of the prosperity and intellectual activity of our commonwealth, that the enduring strength and prosperity of the people are dependant on mental vigor as well as material growth ; and that the education of the people, of all the people, is a condition precedent to their success in the accumulation of property, domestic happiness, social order, and public security. The progressive improvement in the organization and administration of the school

system of this great state is more rapid than any other state in the Union, and is regarded at the present time as superior to any other, for its extent, its liberality, its efficiency, and the general intelligence and activity with which its wide-spread affairs are administered. The record of educational progress in the Empire State is one to which we look with pride.

The oldest institution of learning in America is now maintained at 248 West Seventy-fourth street in the city of New York.

New York was the first to establish a permanent State Common School Fund. She was the first to make special provisions for the education of teachers, and she is now doing more for the professional training of teachers than any other state in the Union. The Institute system was first established in this state. New York was the first to publish a journal exclusively devoted to the interests of the Common Schools. The oldest State Teachers' Association in America is being annually held in this state. The first woman's college in America was established at Elmira. The Albany Female Academy is said to be the oldest higher educational institution for women known to the civilized world. It is the only state to determine the character of the structure which localities must provide for school purposes. This state is doing more to build up a teaching profession, by exacting proper qualification on the part of teachers and protecting their legal rights, than is being done in any other state. The legislative power has been, and is continually being exercised to consolidate and systematize her educational work upon an intelligent plan, with a definite purpose, to a much greater degree than any commonwealth in the United States. It was the first state to give statutory recognition to the work of the colleges and universities in educating teachers. It is not boasting ; it



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is a generally conceded fact which her teachers appreciate and feel the responsibility which rests upon them, that what the state of New York has done, is doing, and what she is aiming to do, her common school work occupies the leading position among the states of the American Union.

One of the most important aims of the educational system of the state, is to cause its influence and benefits to be felt in the small rural districts as well as the most populous city. The little district school of to-day is enjoying excellent advantages.

The schools of Sullivan county are in much better condition than ever before in its history. With the state Normal school system, the country training classes in the high schools and academies, and the uniform examination system, which prevents any one from teaching who does not pass an examination prescribed by state authority, the country schools are amply supplied with a class of teachers who are thoroughly acquainted with the best methods of school work. With the excellent school buildings, which in most districts are models of neatness, splendidly equipped with the modern improvements of lighting, heating and ventilation, the capacious play-grounds, the excellent sanitary conditions of the out-buildings, clear spring water near the school grounds, a pure bracing mountain air, the careful supervision of the county superintendents who are ever looking after the best interests of the schools under their charge, the influence of state institutions, and the benefits of state school monies; Sullivan county justly feels proud that her schools offer educational advantages equal, and in some respects superior, to the average institution of learning in the state. Sullivan county is divided into 185 school districts. The number of teachers employed for the legal term is 211. The whole number of pupils in attendance for the school year closing July, 1892, was 7,756. The value of school buildings and school sites is \$117,769. The amount of school moneys received from the state in 1892 was \$27,637.03. The amount raised by local tax was \$34,556.21.

The amount of school moneys received by

Delaware township in the year 1892, was \$1,698.20, and the amount raised by local tax was \$2,980.48, making a total of \$4,678.68 for the support of the school in Callicoon Depot and vicinity

In 1887, the school at Callicoon Depot was carefully graded into three departments with three teachers, and is now known as the Callicoon Depot Graded School. The school board of trustees is doing everything in its power to maintain a good school. The building is in an excellent condition as to lighting, heating, seating and ventilation. The outbuildings are in the best possible sanitary condition. The large play-ground in front of the building is carefully looked after, and affords ample room for the rolling hoop, bat and ball, and all the innocent games that add strength to limbs and color to the cheek.

The schools at North Branch, Jeffersonville, Hortonville, Kenoza Lake, Falls Mills, and Cohecton are on a par with the best schools in the county. The people are interested in the future welfare of their children, which is manifested by keeping the buildings comfortable and in proper repair, and by employing teachers who are thoroughly acquainted with the best educational methods.

The marvelous development of our material resources, the modern inventions, the great improvement and wonderful multiplication of facilities for travel and for carrying information, have aroused the world to the highest degree of activity and expectation. Methods for the transaction of business have been almost wholly revolutionized, and the volume of business has been wonderfully augmented. The educational world too is in a ferment. These things may well engage the attention of the officers and teachers and patrons of American schools. If we fill the measure of our responsibility we shall consider all the circumstances as they exist, appreciate the great needs of our generation, take the world's experience as our guide, and set about perfecting a public educational system, a system that will touch humanity on every side, which will develop the utmost of our manhood and womanhood, loyal sons and daughters of the state, and patriotic citizens everywhere.



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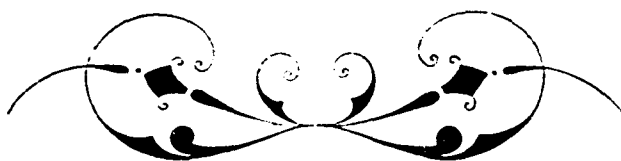


## PUBLISHERS NOTICE.

There is now in preparation a complete history of the Delaware Valley, from Milford. Pa., to Walton, N. Y. It will be low enough in price so that the very poorest can afford to buy a copy. It will be issued from the press about May 1, 1893.

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