

# Through Eleven Decades of History

## W A T E R T O W N

A HISTORY FROM 1800 TO 1912 WITH ILLUSTRATIONS  
AND MANY INCIDENTS

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BY JOEL H. MONROE

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NINETEEN HUNDRED AND TWELVE

**HUNGERFORD-HOLBROOK CO.**  
**WATERTOWN, N. Y.**

## Preface

**H**EREWITH is presented the History of Watertown from 1800 to 1912. If there are errors in it, and doubtless there are, the writer has no apology to offer. To produce a history of any kind without error, the author would needs be divine, and the author of this makes no such pretense. The most earnest effort has been made, however, to write a complete and reliable history, sufficiently tinged with the incidents that have been a part of the life of the community to give it added interest.

As a further part of this preamble, the writer wishes to express his deep sense of appreciation of the universal kindness and consideration extended by the citizens of Watertown. Further, he wishes to acknowledge his special obligation to the following citizens for valuable aid rendered: Mr. Geo. B. Massey, Lawrence J. Goodale, Esq., Mrs. Althea O. Greene, Miss Hattie Fairbanks, Mr. John C. Knowlton, Mr. Geo. W. Knowlton, Miss Alta M. Ralph and many others.

*Watertown, N. Y., October 8, 1912.*





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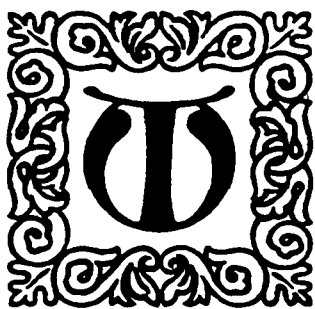
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# Through Eleven Decades of History.

## CHAPTER I.

### THE FOUNDING OF WATERTOWN.



WATERTOWN—the Watertown of to-day, with its strong and diversified manufacturing industries, its thrift, its metropolitan air, its culture and wealth—owes its existence in great part likely, to the action of the glaciers of several million years ago. When these glaciers came rushing down from the north grinding the rock into powder, forming mountains, fashioning lakes and plowing channels for running streams, they, together with other internal forces, formed the course of the Black River, its broad sweep of rapids and the rough-angled, rock-walled falls around which the City now clusters. These falls and the mighty water power of the rapids, harnessed for service, have constituted the main energy and commercial sinew in the making and building of Watertown.

As to the number of races of men that were dwellers along the river's banks from that prehistoric period to the beginning of recorded history, it is as impossible

to tell now as it is to determine in years the period of occupancy of the Red Man. The Indian, for little more than a tin whistle as a consideration as is known, surrendered his title to the land soon after the coming of the new race; and this transference of title and surrender of possession signalized the beginning of a notable epoch in building and achieving in the Black River Country. Watertown had its birth with this epoch.

From 1797 the whole Black River Valley was the scene of the most tenacious activities in various lines. It attracted many men of notably strong character and commanding personality, men who were potent forces in its progress and upbuilding. These men, for the most part, too, made Watertown their field of action. But from 1798 and 1799, there was almost an uninterrupted stream of incoming pioneers, all inspired with zeal and the hope of self betterment in the new country. There were all types, the home seeker merely, the builders and the master spirits, the latter the essential force in all successful achievements in any line of endeavor.

Among the early arrivals in the region were Eliphalet and Christopher Edmunds, brothers, who rode down Black River in a boat in 1798 carrying their arms, goods and provisions. When they reached the rapids on their way down, their craft overturned resulting in the loss of all their goods and chattels. This of no account incident in pioneer life seems to have completely disheartened these worthy argonauts, and they there-

fore made haste to seek some place for settlement remote from what they regarded as the treacherous waters of the Black River.

This bit of history, in many respects, has a parallel in the story of the fabled Romulus and Remus of old, brothers and infants, who floated down the river Tiber in a cradle and were stranded at the foot of the Palatine. Romulus, so the story goes, held his ground and later founded Imperial Rome on the Seven Hills, whereas Eliphalet and Christopher Edmunds stopped at the site of Watertown for the space of time only to give one brief, resentful look at the falls and the rapids, then passed on, the one to become a farmer on Dry Hill and the other to engage in the same occupation in the Adams section. The founding of Watertown was left to others, the real makers and builders among the pioneers yet to come.

The early part of the year 1800 found these men on the ground. They were Henry H. Coffeen, Hart Massey and Zachariah Butterfield, all New Englanders by birth, and like all true pioneers, they were men of strong feeling, vivid imagination and dauntless courage. These men perceived the possibilities and recognized the future commercial value of the vast body of water pouring over the rapids and the falls, and they at once set out to found and build a city. This was the beginning of Watertown, now the Garland City.

They were now in the midst of a primeval forest; the only sounds were the roar of the water as it plunged over the falls and the souging of the wind through the

trees. In the shadow of such influence and in face of the hardships and struggle to be experienced and borne in the undertaking, it surely required strong faith and courage of the highest order.

The contour of the land upon which they began building, and which was to be the center of the proposed village, was rough and exceedingly unattractive. The western end of the present Public Square was twelve or fifteen feet higher than the eastern end, while in the center there was a depression of sufficient dimensions for a comfortable skating rink. Besides, there was a goodly stream of water having its source south of Clinton street and running down across Stone street in front of the Arcade, crossing the western end of the Square on its way to the river. The surface, too, was covered with rock, or as much rock as could well be wedged in among the thick growth of forest. Yet out of this unsightly, uncouth spot there has been evolved one of the handsomest public squares to be found in any city of the nation.

#### THE BEGINNING.

Henry H. Coffeen soon had a log house in process of construction, for he, like his associates, had a family which soon was to be brought to the settlement. This the first house in Watertown, was situated at what is now the corner of Public Square and Court street, where the Watertown National Bank is located. Coffeen had purchased a large tract of land extending from this point northward along the river for a considerable dis-

tance. But his little log cabin among the trees was soon completed and ready for occupancy.

Hart Massey soon had a similar dwelling under way for the housing of his family which was soon to arrive. This was located a little southward from Coffeen's about at the eastern entrance of the Paddock Arcade.

Zachariah Butterfield built the third log house at the corner of the present Square and Washington street, on the site of the Washington Hall Building, now the home of the Young Men's Christian Association. These three houses formed almost an exact triangle, and all faced toward the plat of land which is now the Public Square.

Hart Massey had purchased a vast body of land extending westward from the river front along what is now Arsenal street as a northern boundary and reaching on the east to the present Washington street, including, in fact, nearly all of the present City between these two thoroughfares and the city limits.

Pioneer Butterfield's land holdings constituted all that section east of Washington street to State street and a long reach southward.

Dr. Isaiah Massey had cast his fortunes with those of his brother Hart in the new settlement, and their operations in land and in building were carried on largely as joint undertakings. The result of their energy and activity is told further on in the settlement's growth and development.

A short step backward now at the very beginning of the founding and building of the city. It has a con-

nected interest, because, in truth, it starts the whole story. It all had its beginning when the poor Indian, unschooled in values, sold to the State for a song all the land comprising the western half of the Empire State, and the State, at a slight advance in price, parcelled it out in patents to eager purchasers.

In 1796 Alexander McComb purchased of the State at eight cents an acre a large tract of land of which the present City was a part. McComb a little later sold it to Nicholas Low who rapidly disposed of the land to operators and home seekers. Silas Stow acted as his agent and sales manager during the early years of Watertown's first formative period.

The Town of Watertown had been surveyed in 1795, but it was ten years later before there was a Jefferson County. The town, however, was erected from the Town of Mexico in March, 1805. Meanwhile, the first little group of men were active in laying the foundation and formulating plans for the new village. In a little time the report of the marvelous water power and the surpassing possibilities of the new location, became spread abroad and there was soon several accessions to the small community. Deacon Oliver Bartholemew had already settled on a farm in the northwestern part of the town, but the early comers to the settlement were Aaron Bacon, Jonathan Cowan, a millwright, Jesse Doolittle, a blacksmith, Medad Canfield, a shoemaker, and Aaron Keyes, a cooper. They were all men of character and force. They did much in the early years toward the making of Watertown.



It was not until the first of March, 1801, that Hart Massey moved his family, consisting of a wife and three children, to the settlement and took possession of the little log house at the entrance of the present Paddock Arcade. Many hardships were experienced in the tedious journey from Vermont over the mountains and through the dense forest.

A little later Dr. Massey began the erection of his inn or tavern. This was located about midway between Hart Massey's cabin and that of Zachariah Butterfield. This would place it nearly in the center of the present Washington street. But there were no well defined streets yet and doubtless that appeared to be the most eligible site at the time. The tavern opened to the public early in 1802, with Dr. Massey as landlord, and Massey's Inn became a factor in the new community; for by 1802 there were many prospectors and tourists dropping in to partake of the host's hospitality. It was in the barn at the rear of this tavern, too, that Sally Coffeen, daughter of Henry H. Coffeen, in 1802, taught the first school in the community. In front of this inn also, was the old spring-pole "grist mill" for grinding corn. There was no toll charged at this mill. Here the settlers brought their corn, also their muscle, and pounded the corn into meal in the hollowed out stump. It was a New England Yankee's invention, but it served the purpose until a real grist mill was built and saved, too, many trips on horse back through the woods to Felt's corn mill located on Sandy Creek.

For at the time of the first settlement of the Black

River Country there was not a grist mill nearer than Canada, and a perilous journey it was to undertake under the conditions. There was not a road leading in any direction. All travel and transportation was by means of pack-horse, and any extended trip was beset not alone by hardships but by many dangers on account of the wild animals that infested the forest. In 1802, by the combined action of Hart Massey and Silas Stow, land agent, a grist mill was built at Burrville, which fact ameliorated somewhat the trouble and hardship of taking the grist to mill.

By the close of the year 1802, much progress had been made in the laying out of the village. Coffeen, Massey and Butterfield were active in giving shape and form to the city which had been a substantial vision with them from the start. Court street was probably the first important thoroughfare surveyed and opened for building. This early became an important street, in fact, was for many years the chief street of the place; due largely in those early years to the locating of the County buildings at the north end of the street. The establishing of Washington and State streets or State road, as it was called in early times, was undertaken later. But all of these were main arteries and have continued to be to the present time.

In 1802, Burrville was in advance of Watertown, in that it had a grist mill, one store, that of Jabez Foster, and a distillery run by Rev. Ebenezer Lazelle. But in 1803, Jonathan Cowan built the first grist mill at Watertown, on what was then Cowan's Island and





the same year Henry Coffeen and Andrew Edmunds built the bridge across the river at the foot of Court street. From this time on Burrville was rapidly left behind. In 1802, too, Jonathan Cowan built the first dam across the river at what is now Mill street; and the following year he built near this dam the first saw mill. This supplied lumber for building purposes, and soon thereafter began the era of frame buildings in place of those of logs. Cowan also built his first log house on Cowan's Island (now Beebee's Island) near his saw mill. Israel Thornton soon constructed a small house on the same island near Cowan's home. A road was cut through the woods at this time to Cowan's Island, but not for a considerable number of years yet was there a bridge across the river at that point. The name of this road finally settled down into Mill street and so remains.

#### EARLY SETTLERS.

During the years 1802 and 1803, many settlers were added to the community. They were mostly men of high character, progressive and valuable elements in the making of the town. William Smith located in the village in 1802. He had a shop down by the river where he made potash barrels, and later became a prominent merchant and in every way was a promoter of the community's best interests. He also held many important commissions and offices in all of which he served with high honor. Then came Ezekiel Jewett, Dyer Huntington, Chauncey Calhoun, John Hath-

way, and a little later Amasa Fox and John Paddock and about the same time Philo S. Johnson, a carpenter and builder, became a settler in the community. Johnson, with his mechanical skill and good ability, became a valuable asset to the town in the making and building during the next two decades.

Among others who came about this time and added their force to the undertaking conceived by Henry Coffeen, Hart Massey and Zachariah Butterfield, were Isaac Carter, J. Waite, William Huntington, Paoli Wells, Seth Bailey, Col. Gersham Tuttle, Andrew Edmunds, Eli Rogers, Joel Goodale, John Simmons and many others.

Ezekiel Jewett owned all the land between State street and the river and did much in early times toward the building up of that section. In 1803, he built a mansion on State street which he occupied till he removed from the community. This mansion became a famous tavern during the early stage coach days. It finally burned.

Jonathan Cowan owned Cowan's, now Beebee's Island, and controlled nearly all the water privileges along the river. He was an active figure for many years in the business affairs of the village, but the latter part of his life was spent near Evans Mills, where he died in 1840. This is said to have been the second death in the community, though forty years had elapsed since the coming of the first pioneers. Israel Thornton's was the first death in 1804, caused by an accident while chopping in the woods near his home.

Timothy Hungerford, father of Orville Hungerford, settled at Watertown Center early in 1801, also James Rogers, son of Lieut. Rogers, hero of the Revolutionary War. James Rogers secured the first deed to the land adjoining the present Brookside Cemetery.

Meanwhile, Watertown was making headway, both as to development and settlers. By the beginning of 1804, Dr. Isaiah Massey's little Inn had become inadequate for the demands and a new and larger hostelry of frame construction was started at the corner of the Square and Arsenal street, afterwards known as the American House Corner. This was built by Judge Henry H. Coffeen. It later became a hotel of considerable note in the community. It had as landlords from time to time men of marked personality and substantial standing in the young city. Joseph Clark was the first landlord. Clark, in 1810, was appointed County Judge, and in 1818 was made sheriff of the county. He was succeeded in 1810 as landlord of the hotel by Thomas White, a good type of landlord and a valuable citizen, who afterwards had much to do with town and public affairs. At this time the tavern became known as the White House, a name which clung to it many years. Isaac and Daniel Lee succeeded White in the conduct of the hotel, and after them Dexter Hungerford ran it successfully for some time.

The next tavern of note was that built by Butler Ranney, in 1817, on the Washington Hall site. Both

this and the White House were the scene of many brilliant public functions in the early days.

Micah Sterling, Esq., also built quite a pretentious stone hotel between the Woodruff House and the corner of Court street, which was known as the Mansion House. This was run first by a Mr. Phelps and later by Luther Gibson. The Mansion House was the stopping place for the stages going both north and south in early times. These rumbling stage coaches discharged many personages of note at this old hostelry from time to time up to the era of steam railroads.

The year 1804, showed that there had been considerable expansion and building in the embryo city. Judge Henry H. Coffeen's original log house still stood at the corner of the Square and Court street, although he had erected and was occupying a new frame dwelling a little farther east on the opposite side of the street. At the Court street bridge there was a distillery owned and run by Isaac Culler, but there was not a building between this point on Court street and the log cabin built by Coffeen. The new tavern at the corner of the Square and Arsenal street was then in process of construction. A little distance south on Washington street was Dr. Massey's Inn, and next to this was Aaron Bacon's residence. Still a little farther up the street and immediately beyond the present Jefferson County Savings Bank building on the ground now occupied by the E. L. Paddock residence, Hart Massey had erected a new frame dwelling, and Joel Goodale had a residence still farther south. A little







east of Judge Henry H. Coffeen's log house and facing toward the present Square was the frame store of Amasa Fox, and on the east side of Washington street was also the residence of J. Waite, and south beyond Waite's were Aaron Keyes' home and cooper shop, and next south of this was the residence of Medad Canfield, while on Cowan's Island were the homes of Jonathan Cowan and Israel Thornton, also Cowan's saw mill. But the first frame building in the village was that of a blacksmith shop in front of the present Paddock Arcade.

About this time a missionary on his way to the new country is said to have been interrogated as to whither he was going, to which he replied that he was on his way to the Black River Country to preach to the heathen. A mental and moral examination of the settlers at that time no doubt would have shown them to be not alone high types of heathen but well rounded out types of civilization and Christian culture. These elements were in fact a part of their inheritance. This missionary was entering upon well tilled soil.

The building of the Court street bridge in 1803, by Judge Henry H. Coffeen and Andrew Edmunds gave impetus to the settlement on the north side of the river, too, and from this time on it became an important suburb, finally becoming a part of the City in 1869.

Philo S. Johnson settled in the village in 1804, coming from Litchfield, N. Y. He was a good mechanic, a carpenter and builder, a man of progress and marked

energy. He early built a sash and blind factory by the river, near where the Knowlton Bros. Paper Mill is now located. This factory several years later was burned and was not rebuilt. Philo Johnson, however, was the builder of many houses in the village during the early years. In 1812, he built a home at the corner of Washington and Sterling streets, and that year took his bride into his new home, where they both lived out their lives. The home has been in possession of the family since, being now occupied by the two daughters. Mr. Johnson married Anna Maria Nash, sister of the wife of William Smith, another early settler and business man.

In 1854, Philo S. Johnson was appointed post master of Watertown and served four years. His commission bore the signature of Millard Filmore, President, and Daniel Webster, Secretary of State. Mr. Johnson died in Watertown in 1885.

The agitation for a new county took root in 1803 and 1804, and the question being canvassed and discussed from the various interested view points, aroused much jealousy and contention throughout the Black River Country, for it was all then a part of Oneida County. In this movement the matter of the county seat of the new county was the chief element of contention. With one huge county only Lowville safely would be chosen as the capital, but if two counties were erected, comprising the eastern and western sections of this vast territory, respectively, then Watertown would be near the pivotal center of the western





county. In the event of two counties being set off both Champion and Brownville were claimants for the distinction of the county seat.

Finally, early in 1805, a commission was appointed to canvass the matter, which resulted in the naming of two counties, Lewis and Jefferson. This decision as to the county precipitated the contest between General Brown of Brownville, Nodadiah Hubbard and others of Champion, and Judge Henry H. Coffeen as the upholder of Watertown's claim. Judge Coffeen's influence finally won the fight and the vigorous little Watertown became the county seat in March, 1805.

This gave Watertown added strength and much prestige. The wheels of progress moved rapidly from this time on. Judge Coffeen donated the land for the Court House and Jail at the north end of Court street. William Rice and Joel Mix had the contract for the building of the Court House and Jail combined. It was all constructed under the supervision of William Smith, one of the pioneers of 1802. It was completed and ready for occupancy in 1807.

Meanwhile, courts had been held at Dr. Massey's Inn and at the little school house which had been built on the ground now occupied by the Hotel LeRay, south side of the Public Square.

During the years 1804 and 1805, many strong and active citizens and good business men settled in the growing village. Norris M. Woodruff, Joseph Sheldon, Simon Woodruff, David Bent, Aaron Brown and

many others whose lives and efforts were devoted to the making of Watertown.

The Indians in these early pioneer days had not yet wholly abandoned the Black River Country, which by prior treaty right was to be their fishing and hunting ground for all time to come. They often passed through the country on excursions of various kinds, and often visited the homes of the white settlers, always with the bearing and manner, too, of children driven from home. They never were hostile, but always kindly and appreciative of kindnesses extended to them. Many log cabins in the settlement on various occasions housed a trio or a quartette of them over night and saw them started on their way in the morning only after a wholesome breakfast, the best the pioneer could serve, and this given, too, with a heart brimming full of kindness and good feeling.

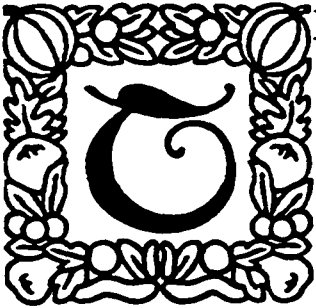
This was all as simple and as spontaneously honest as were the crude hay scales constructed below the eastern end of the Public Square. By an ingenious contrivance of balances and a platform suspended by chains, these chains being sustained by two posts driven firmly into the ground, the basis of this commercial device was formed. Across these posts was a heavy beam surmounted by a cap upon which the scales were poised. The whole arrangement was as novel as was the hollowed out stump with the spring pole and pestle for grinding corn in 1801, and like this first device, too, in its working principle, the weighing scales rendered honest weight.



Although now in its fifth year of progress Watertown was not yet out of the woods. Where the trees had been felled and cleared away for planting or building, the stumps stood everywhere like an army of sentinels, and the outer woods were still the stamping ground of the wolves and many other kinds of animals. Very little had yet been produced from the soil. Deacon Oliver Bartholemew was the first in the community to raise a crop. In 1801, in harmony with the pioneer spirit, he divided among the settlers a goodly crop of turnips, all of which was a relish added to the "samp kettle." At this time, too, settlers went long distances to cut wild grass for the cattle, and oftentimes these journeys were attended with many dangers and many hair-breadth escapes. Moreover, they had a threshing floor on a smooth faced table rock near Delano's Falls where they went to pound out grain. To be sure it was not always that they had grain to thresh in those first years, and it was not an uncommon thing either, for the old "buttry" to be empty, with scant outlook in fact, for the next meal. They were altogether poor and poor altogether. But they survived it all and the housewives, meanwhile, gathered at the bank of the river near the falls once a week in summer and there did the washing and hung the clothes or the garments on the limbs of the trees or the bushes near by to dry. At the same time the beds or "whapponknocks" upon which they slept were crude affairs mostly, with elm bark for bed cord, if, indeed, they had anything approaching a "cord bed" at all.

## CHAPTER II.

### THE SECOND FORMATIVE PERIOD.



THE year 1805 brought a stream of important events; the City, which was the dream of the three founders, was now assuming form. The next succeeding ten years constituted a period of notable progress and substantial growth and expansion of the community.

Among other noteworthy pioneers who had located in the growing settlement were Moses Bacon, a man of high character, a good citizen and a successful business man, John Safford, Silas Marvin, John E. Brown, Alanson Tubbs, Adriel Ely and many others who were either mechanics or engaged in business as merchants or manufacturers. About this time a dam was constructed across the river below the new Court street bridge, and soon thereafter a saw mill was built on the south side by a Mr. Potter and another was built by Seth Bailey. Henry H. Coffeen soon after erected a grist mill on the north side of the river. Coffeen, meanwhile, in view of the Court House and Jail being definitely located at the end of Court street, contemplated the laying out of a spacious public square in that vicinity, which was to be approached by a





broad thoroughfare leading off Arsenal street. The proposed square, comprising many acres, was to be called Madison Square and the main street leading to it was Madison street. The project, so far as the square entered into it, never materialized, the scheme being overshadowed by the developments in the center of the village. But Coffeen built a fine residence and a large business block in that section with the end in view of building up the locality in which he had large landed interest. For many years thereafter that section was known as Coffeenville.

#### THE FIRST STORES.

Amasa Fox, early in 1805, had gotten his frame building on the north side of the Square completed with the view of opening the first store in the village. Meanwhile, William Smith and John Paddock, under the name of Smith and Paddock, opened a general store in their new building situated a little east of the Woodruff block. A little later Jabez Foster, the first merchant at Burrville, moved his stock of goods to Watertown and launched another general store. From this time on the business section built up rapidly, each brief period adding new stores and more diversified lines of goods.

Dr. Daniel Brainard was the second physician to settle in the village early in 1805. Dr. Isaiah Massey, the first physician, had now been on the ground five years, and so far as record goes, had not had a patient. The pioneers, meanwhile, had been so engrossed in the

daily cares and struggles they had no time for sickness or the physician's counsel. Yet Dr. Brainard settled in the community for the practice of his profession and became a successful practitioner, and an esteemed and honored citizen.

Potash in those early days was the chief product. Through the manufacture and sale of this the settlers were enabled to get real money, and actual money was far from plentiful. The manufacture of potash and barrels were therefore thriving industries for a considerable number of years.

The zeal and spirit of Massey, Coffeen and Butterfield was further evidenced when early in 1805 they developed their plan for the Public Square. They together with Dr. Isaiah Massey, Jonathan Cowan, Jesse Doolittle, Aaron Keyes and Medad Canfield, owners of the land, counselled together on the matter and concluded to transfer to the village a plat of land thirteen rods wide by twenty-eight rods long, the same to constitute a public square. Also at right angles to this, another plat of land nine rods wide and extending southward to what later became Clinton street, was given. Few of these benefactors lived to see the work finished, but it is complete to-day and stands as a monument to the broadness of mind, the progressiveness and the generosity of those early settlers.

Meanwhile, Jefferson County had been erected, the Town of Watertown had been set off from the town of Mexico, the county seat had been located at Watertown, new stores established and the land for the

great Public Square donated. In addition to all these the first school house was built this year. This was a small frame building situated on the south side of the Square where the Hotel LeRay now stands. It was in this small school house that the courts were mostly held from the date of the establishment of the county seat to the time of the completion of the Court House in 1807. And, too, the first meeting of the Board of Supervisors was held at this school house, October 1, 1805. Corliss Hinds was the first member of the Board representing Watertown. Tilley Richardson, a resident of the outlying town, was the second Supervisor of Watertown. Richardson was a man of force, ability and character.

#### THE SCHOOLS—EARLY AND LATE.

The schools of one kind or another established in a growing community, if they survive long, usually leave a shadow, an impress, a memory, that is not easily effaced, and an interest in them that seldom wanes with the passing of the years.

The first little school of 1802, taught by Miss Sally Coffeen in the barn at the rear of Dr. Isaiah Massey's Inn, was the first stepping-stone toward Watertown's strong and efficient public schools of to-day. There were not a dozen pupils all told, at this first little school, in fact, the stumps around the school were more numerous than were the pupils, in the school. A couple years later the school had new quarters in a log house on Washington street at or near the corner

of the present Clinton street, the school after being moved to this place, was taught by Miss Heiress Coffeen, sister of the teacher of the first school.

This school, like the one kept in the barn in the rear of Massey's Inn, was in all respects a pioneer day school. The pupils ranged in ages from babyhood to ten or twelve years of age. Some of them began and ended their school education in these first little primary schools. But the training they received at these schools was both helpful and wholesome.

The school house of 1805 was somewhat of an advance step in schools. It was built primarily for a school house and was dedicated to the cause of education in the village. The building was a frame one standing on "stilts" or blocks of logs set endwise in the ground, and upon these the sills of the building rested. The building, therefore, was several feet from the ground, with a series of steps in front by which to reach the entrance. The seats consisted of a pine board extending around the outer walls of the room, while the teacher occupied the center of the room. A Mr. McGregor, a Scotchman, was the first teacher of this school. He is said to have been a good deal of a czar, a teacher who ruled with the rod and exacted constancy in the matter of study and the strict observance of rigorous rules of discipline. After Mr. McGregor came a missionary named Leavenworth, and succeeding him were Roswell Babbit and a Mr. Laidlaw in the order named. The fifth teacher of this school was Jeremiah Bishop, a teacher of good spirit and considerable abili-



ty as an educator. During this period this little school house served also as Court House, a place for town meetings, and for religious services.

Affairs in the school line moved along in this manner till 1811, when a movement was made for a village academy. Perley Keyes, Esq., then gave a block of land on Academy street in the rear of the First Presbyterian church, and the building of brick material was soon under way. It was completed in 1812, about the time of the breaking out of the war of that period. A garrison of soldiers was at this time stationed at Watertown, and as this building seemed to be the most available for the purpose, it was taken over and occupied by them as a barracks until the close of the war in 1814. This experience seemed to strangle for a time the project for an academy, and as a result of this status of mind, the academy building, a little later, was torn down and the material moved over to Clinton street and went into the construction of the Watertown Female Academy, which is said to have been promoted by John Safford and Orville Hungerford. This Academy afterwards became a school of unusual note for those early days. At the time of its erection it was the only building on Clinton street, in fact, Clinton street was not as yet formally laid out and opened. The Female Academy was only a short distance off Washington street, but it was the advance step toward the establishment of a street which since has become not only a main thoroughfare, but a handsome residence street.

The Academy opened for the reception of pupils

about 1823 or 1824, under the principalship of Miss Sarah R. Hooker, sister of Gen. Joseph Hooker, or "Fighting Joe Hooker", as he became known during the Civil War. Miss Hooker was a young woman of unusual intellectual force, a capable teacher, of strong personality, and upbuilding influence in her association with the pupils.

The school, according to record, prospered exceedingly for those days, having as pupils from the start to its close in 1839, daughters of the best families in both Watertown and the contiguous country. Miss Sarah R. Hooker continued as principal of the Academy till 1832, at which time she married the Rev. M. L. P. Thompson, a Presbyterian preacher and a former teacher in the village. They afterwards moved to Buffalo, where they lived and where Mrs. Sarah Hooker Thompson died.

Miss Sarah R. Hooker was succeeded as principal of the Female Academy in 1832 by her sister, Miss Ann S. Hooker. They were from Hadley, Mass., and both possessed the peculiar fitness of education and culture to carry on such a work. The assistant principal of the Academy during the last regime was Miss Emily Miles, another remarkable young woman, a teacher also of great capability. Miss Miles came from a family of strong intellects and broad education. Her father, Jonathan E. Miles was a farmer living a little distance out of Watertown. While he was a farmer, he was also a student, a scientist, a philosopher and a man of wide reading. He had twelve children, six





sons and six daughters, ten of whom were teachers, and most of whom attained to note either as teachers or as workers in the field of literature. Josiah Miles wrote Miles' Spelling Book, which was published by the old firm of Knowlton & Rice, of Watertown. This Spelling Book was popular and had long vogue. Eloise Miles Abbott wrote a book on "Personal Recollections and Sketches," 1861. Pliney Miles was the author of a work on the "Cultivation of the Memory." Fabius, another son, was for some time a representative in Congress from Michigan. It was in all ways a noteworthy family.

This early educational institution was so great a factor and so representative of the best people in the community, that it may be not without interest to name here some of the pupils of the Academy during the years 1832, 1833 and 1834—the history of a small part of them only being obtainable now—and to note their destiny. Few of the pupils of those days, of course, are now living.

Miss Susan M. Safford, daughter of Dr. John Safford of Watertown, married Henry W. Welles of Ann Arbor, Michigan, at which place they spent their lives. Miss Mary Safford, also daughter of Dr. John Safford, married Isaac H. Fiske, of Watertown, a man for many years prominently identified with the business, social and political affairs of the town and city. Mr. Fiske died in 1876, leaving one daughter, the wife of John C. Knowlton, Esq., of Watertown.

Miss Charlotte E. Hotchkin, daughter of J. B.

Hotchkin, married George W. Seymour, of Bellevue, Ohio, where she is now living.

Miss Malonas, another daughter of J. B. Hotchkin is still a resident of Watertown.

Miss Jane I. Massey, daughter of Hart Massey, married George A. Boalt, of Watertown. He was associated many years with Edward S. Massey in business. Mrs. Massey Boalt died in Watertown, April 28, 1861.

Miss Lois P. Woodruff, daughter of Norris M. Woodruff, married Howell Cooper of Watertown. Mrs. Cooper is still living in Watertown.

Miss Lucy Massey, daughter of Stillman Massey, married Timothy A. Smith of Watertown. She spent her life in Watertown.

Miss Martha P. Hungerford, daughter of Orville Hungerford, married the Rev. J. Covert. She died in Watertown. Her sister Miss Frances E. also lived and died in Watertown.

Lucina H. Hoyt, daughter of Judge Hoyt, married Gilderoy Lord, a prominent resident of Watertown. She spent her life in the City. Miss Sarah A. Hoyt another daughter of Judge Hoyt, married a Mr. Gregory, druggist in Watertown where they resided until their death.

Emma E. Huntington, daughter of Dyer Huntington, married Solon Hungerford a banker in Adams, where Mrs. Hungerford lived and died. Miss Mary S. also daughter of Dyer Huntington, married J. A. Lawyer, Esq., a man who became conspicuous in mer-







cantile and railroad affairs. Mrs. Lawyer spent her life in Watertown.

Jane A. and Elizabeth Butterfield, daughters of Judge Justin Butterfield, early went to Chicago where Miss Jane A. became the wife of William Johnston, and Elizabeth married Dr. Sawyer of Chicago. They both spent their lives there.

Miss Sarah M. Burchard, daughter of Peleg Burchard, became the wife of James R. Starbuck, who later became a distinguished citizen. Mrs. Sarah Burchard Starbuck died early.

Miss Harriet F. Ely, daughter of Adriel Ely, early merchant, married a Mr. Richardson. They moved to Auburn, N. Y., where she lived and died. Eveline Ely, a sister, remained single and died in Watertown.

Miss Amelia A. Goodale, daughter of Joel Goodale, married Orville Ranney of Watertown. They soon thereafter moved to Buffalo where Mrs. Ranney died. Miss Mary Johnson, daughter of Philo S. Johnson, went south to engage in teaching. She finally died in Indiana at twenty-one years of age.

Miss Mary P. Kimball, daughter of Joseph Kimball, married Henry H. Kellogg, a druggist. They later moved to Evanston, Ill., where Mrs. Mary Kimball Kellogg died.

Miss Maria D. Woodruff, daughter of Norris M. Woodruff, married Pierson Mundy, who was one of the leading business men of the city. Mrs. Mundy died in Watertown.

In 1836, Miss Ann S. Hooker retired from the

Academy when she became the wife of Mr. William Wood, a merchant of Watertown. Mrs. Wood died in Watertown, in 1885.

Miss Emily Miles married the Rev. William H. Waggoner, a Universalist minister. They went to Middletown, N. Y., and finally to Boston, where Mrs. Waggoner spent the rest of her life.

The old Female Academy continued on till 1839 and during the years of its existence it was a strong educational force in the community, uplifting and refining in its influence. In character and standing as a strictly female academy, it had no successor. There were other strong and efficient schools of various kinds that followed it, however.

In the meanwhile steps had been taken in 1832 for the building and equipping of an academy for the higher education of boys and young men of the village. The common schools of the village naturally fell short in preparing young men for college, and of affording others a complete academic education. Belleville Academy was the leading school of the kind in the northern part of the state. The movement for the boys' Academy materialized in 1832, when on September 19 of that year, the school opened for the school year. It was a substantial stone building situated on Academy street, an eligible site with good surroundings. The school was well equipped and this equipment supplemented by a capable corps of teachers.

Mr. M. L. P. Thompson, a graduate of Union College, was the first principal. Principal Thompson was

succeeded in January, 1834, by Joseph Mullin, who afterwards became a noted lawyer and a supreme court justice. David Burnette succeeded Mr. Mullin as principal at the beginning of the school year in 1834.

But the old stone Academy with its apparently adequate equipment and general preparedness for doing good work, had a short career, it seems. The finish of this Academy as a successful school seems to have been due to the establishment of the Black River Literary and Religious Institute in 1837. This latter institution had its birth in the desire of the Presbyterians and the Congregationalists of Northern New York for a church school in the section of which Watertown was the natural center.

The Institute was favorably located on State street, had a well constructed and attractive building and opened with a strong faculty. Rev. James R. Boyd was the first principal, Rev. J. Covert, Vice-Principal, and associated with them as teachers were Archibald Whitford, George Ramsey, Henry Miller, Miss E. P. Woodward, Miss A. W. Jenks, Mrs. L. Covert and Mrs. Sybil Keyes.

In 1851 the Rev. Alvin Parmelee, a Presbyterian Clergyman, became principal of the Institute. His son David L., a graduate of Hamilton College, taught the languages and elocution. Miss Anna Elizabeth Parmelee, a daughter, taught literature and history, and Eli Burlingame taught mathematics. Mr. James Carruth, a man of education and ability, was at the

head of the department of philosophy and botany, and Miss Helen Searles had charge of the drawing and painting.

The Black River Institute was strong and efficient; it did notable work in higher education.

Miss Jenks, one of the faculty, afterwards married the Rev. William Knox, pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church on Factory street.

The Institute was eminently successful and for a period of ten years enjoyed great prestige. It had at times well above four hundred pupils. Many of the graduates of the school afterwards attained to high places in the various fields of endeavor.

In May, 1846, by an act of the Legislature, the name of the institution was changed to that of the Jefferson County Institute, and so continued until it was taken over by the city and became the Watertown High School.

There were many other schools started in the early years, some of which did notable work in the education of the boys and girls of Watertown.

In 1818 a Mr. French taught a Lancasterian school in a building on Academy street in the rear of the First Presbyterian Church, but his discipline was, it is said, still more rigorous than that of Mr. McGregor at the school on the south side of the Public Square. Mr. French's school, in consequence, had a brief career.

In May, 1823, William J. Sykes opened a school on Factory street near the old cotton mill, and in 1825

Sewall Brintnall taught a school at the corner of Arsenal street and Massey street. William A. Green, in 1828 and 1829, conducted a school on Court street in a building near the Fairbanks block.

Miss Abbie Anderson, about 1830, had a private school in a little building at the rear of the old Universalist Church on the Public Square, and a Miss Richardson at the same time had a small school at the home of William Smith.

About 1828 or 1829, William Ruger opened a select school in a building next to Perkin's Hotel on Washington street. It had considerable success for quite a period of time. Ruger was a young man of unusual ability. He developed a series of lectures on Arithmetic and Grammar. He also wrote and published a text book on Arithmetic. Ruger later became prominent in both educational and public affairs.

Mrs. Sybil Keyes, about 1836, and for several years thereafter, taught a select school in a building near the present Smith building on Franklin street. It was located near the old Dr. Sykes home. This was mostly a kindergarten school, but seems to have had very good success. The building afterwards became a tenement house.

Mrs. Charlotte Hunt's school for young ladies, from about 1838 to 1849, commanded much attention and had the patronage of the best of the families in the village. Mrs. Hunt was a woman of singular ability, and beautiful in both personality and character. The school was quartered in the old Streeter block on the Public

Square. Mrs. Hunt was the wife of Alvin Hunt at that time editor of the "Jeffersonian," a weekly newspaper.

About 1846, Miss Massey Dow opened a school for girls in a little one and a half story building near where the Woodruff House is now located. Miss Dow was a native of Vermont, a competent teacher and ran a successful school for two or three years.

A Miss Van Ness kept a girls' school about 1844 in the basement of the old Baptist church, corner of State street and the Square.

Miss Delia Hosford had a private school in the Washington Hall block for two or three years beginning in 1855.

Among the many teachers of noteworthy ability, in the schools of those years, the Rev. Jedadiah Winslow commanded much attention and regard. He was a man of great force of character, an able educator as well as a great preacher, and wielded marked influence over his pupils.

Rev. Mr. Winslow taught in the Jefferson County Institute from September, 1846 to 1848, and in the schools on Factory and Sterling streets from 1848 to 1855. He died in 1893.

The foregoing constitutes a remarkable record in the matter of schools. It all evidences a deep interest in education in the community. These various schools, for the most part, seem to have received loyal support in a marked degree. Yet as a municipality, Watertown was notably dilatory in the matter of inaugurat-







ing a public school system. But it is true on the contrary that when finally the system was established, no city has made greater headway in the direction of efficient organization, well equipped and capably conducted schools. The schools of the City to-day unquestionably rank among the best in the State, and the school buildings surpass in architectural beauty and completeness those seen in most cities of equal population.

When Watertown became a city in 1869-70, an arrangement was effected with those in control of the old Jefferson County Institute, whereby the Institute building was taken possession of by the City as a part of the school system, one of the considerations being that the Institute in future should be represented on the Board of Education by three members. This classic old building then became the High School and continued to be till 1904, when the greater and wholly modern high school building was completed on Sterling street.

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The first superintendent of the schools, after the establishment of the school system, was Hannibal Smith, and the first Board of Education, 1870-71, was composed of the following men: Beman Brockway, Rev. Theodore Babcock, Rev. Isaac A. Graves, G. W. Goodrich, S. B. Hart, C. A. Holden, Thos. Keenan, John Lansing, A. B. Moore, E. Q. Sewall, S. B. Upham. Beman Brockway was the president of the board, and Hannibal Smith served as the superintendent till 1873.

The different Boards of Education down to 1912 have been as follows:

1872-73, Beman Brockway, Pres.; Milton Converse, Rev. Isaac A. Graves, S. B. Hart, C. A. Holden, Thos. Keenan, John Lansing, Milton H. Merwin, A. B. Moore, E. Q. Sewall, S. B. Upham.

1873-74, till 1875, Beeman Brockway, Pres.; Milton Converse, Isaac A. Graves, S. B. Hart, Simon C. Knickerbocker, John Lansing, Milton H. Merwin, A. B. Moore, Edmund Q. Sewall, Hannibal Smith, William W. Taggart. Daniel G. Griffin was superintendent of schools from 1873 to 1875.

In all respects, the officers and board of 1874-75 was the same as the previous year.

1875-76, Beman Brockway, Pres.; William S. Carlisle, Isaac A. Graves, S. B. Hart, John Lansing, Simon C. Knickerbocker, Hannibal Smith, Henry H. Smith, Charles R. Skinner, E. Q. Sewall, William W. Taggart. A. R. Beal became the superintendent of schools in 1875 and served till 1877.

1876-77, William W. Taggart, Pres.; E. B. Hart, Hannibal Smith, Simon C. Knickerbocker, E. Q. Sewall, Wm. S. Carlisle, Chas. R. Skinner, Henry H. Smith.

1877-78, William W. Taggart, Pres.; Wm. S. Carlisle, Chas. R. Skinner, Henry H. Smith, Simon C. Knickerbocker, E. Q. Sewall, John Lansing, J. H. McKay, W. G. Williams. In 1877, W. K. Wicks was elected superintendent and continued two years.

1878-79, John Lansing, Pres.; J. H. McKay, W. G.

Williams, Simon C. Knickerbocker, E. Q. Sewall, C. A. Holden, Hannibal Smith, Wm. W. Taggart.

1879-80, John Lansing, Pres.; C. A. Holden, Hannibal Smith, Wm. W. Taggart, Simon C. Knickerbocker, E. Q. Sewall, Wm. S. Carlisle, Charles R. Skinner, Henry H. Smith. Fred Seymour was superintendent from 1879 to 1893.

1880-1881, John Lansing, Pres.; William S. Carlisle, Chas. R. Skinner, Henry H. Smith, Simon C. Knickerbocker, E. Q. Sewall, J. H. McKay, W. G. Williams.

1881-1882, Wm. W. Taggart, Pres.; John Lansing, J. H. McKay, W. G. Williams, Simon C. Knickerbocker, E. Q. Sewall, C. A. Holden, Hannibal Smith.

1882-83, Edmund Q. Sewall, Pres.; C. A. Holden, Hannibal Smith, Wm. W. Taggart, Simon C. Knickerbocker, Wm. S. Carlisle, Charles R. Skinner, D. C. Middleton.

1883-84, Edmund Q. Sewall, Pres.; W. S. Carlisle, C. R. Skinner, D. C. Middleton, S. C. Knickerbocker, John Lansing, J. H. McKay, W. G. Williams.

1884-85, Hannibal Smith, Pres.; John Lansing, Henry Purcell, W. G. Williams, S. C. Knickerbocker, S. F. Baggs, C. A. Holden, Wm. W. Taggart.

1885-86—Hannibal Smith, Pres.; C. A. Holden, Wm. W. Taggart, S. F. Baggs, Fred. R. Farwell, Sidney Cooper, Thos. C. Chittenden, Azariah H. Sawyer.

1886-87, John Lansing, Pres.; Sidney Cooper, Thos. C. Chittenden, A. H. Sawyer, S. F. Baggs, Fred. R. Farwell, Henry Purcell, W. G. Williams.

1887-88, John Lansing, Pres.; Henry Purcell, W. G. Williams, S. F. Bagg, Fred. R. Farwell, Daniel G. Griffin, Hannibal Smith, Eli W. Herrick.

1888-89, A. H. Sawyer, Pres.; Daniel G. Griffin, Hannibal Smith, Eli W. Herrick, S. F. Bagg, Fred. R. Farwell, Sidney Cooper, Thos. C. Chittenden.

1889-90, A. H. Sawyer, Pres.; Sidney Cooper, Thos. C. Chittenden, S. F. Bagg, Fred R. Farwell, John Lansing, Henry Purcell, L. C. Greenleaf.

1890-91, Thos. C. Chittenden, Pres.; John Lansing, Henry Purcell, L. C. Greenleaf, John C. Knowlton, Chas. M. Rexford, Smith T. Woolworth, George S. Hooker, George Adams.

1891-92, Thos. C. Chittenden, Pres.; Smith T. Woolworth, George S. Hooker, George Adams, R. G. Keyes, Chas. M. Rexford, Sidney Cooper, A. H. Sawyer.

1892-93, Chas. M. Rexford, Pres.; Sidney Cooper, Thos. C. Chittenden, A. H. Sawyer, John C. Knowlton, John Lansing, Henry Purcell, L. C. Greenleaf.

1893-94, Chas. M. Rexford, Pres.; John Lansing, Henry Purcell, L. C. Greenleaf, John C. Knowlton, Smith T. Woolworth, George S. Hooker, George Adams. W. G. Williams this year became superintendent of schools and served till the middle of the school year 1900-01.

1894-95, Henry Purcell, Pres.; Smith T. Woolworth, George S. Hooker, George Adams, Chas. M. Rexford, John C. Knowlton, Charles E. Holbrook, Henry D. Goodale, George Adams.





1895-96, Henry Purcell, Pres.; Charles E. Holbrook, Henry D. Goodale, George A. Lance, Chas. M. Rexford, John C. Knowlton, L. C. Greenleaf, E. E. Harrington.

1896-97, George Adams, Pres.; Chas. E. Holbrook, Henry D. Goodale, Geo. A. Lance, Chas. M. Rexford, John C. Knowlton, Joseph A. McConnell, George S. Hooker.

1897-98, George S. Hooker, Pres.; Chas. E. Holbrook, Henry D. Goodale, Geo. A. Lance, Chas. M. Rexford, John C. Knowlton, J. A. McConnell, Geo. Adams.

1898-99, Henry D. Goodale, Pres.; Chas. M. Rexford, W. H. Stevens, Jere. Coughlin, W. A. Nims, E. E. Harrington, F. R. Roth, H. H. Rice, W. H. Hathway.

1899-1900, George A. Lance, Pres.; Thos. Burns, Wm. S. Carlisle, E. E. Harrington, W. H. Hathway, W. A. Nims, Chas. M. Rexford, H. H. Rice, F. D. Roth, W. H. Stevens.

From this date they were called commissioners.

1900-01, Geo. A. Lance, Pres.; F. D. Roth, H. H. Rice, W. H. Hathway, John N. Carlisle, Henry D. Goodale, W. A. Nims, E. E. Harrington, Thos. Burns, Chas. M. Rexford, W. H. Stevens. Jere. Coughlin was appointed superintendent to serve a part of the year ending June, 1901.

1901-02, E. E. Harrington, Pres.; John N. Carlisle, Henry D. Goodale, Geo. A. Lance, W. A. Nims, Thos. Burns, Chas. M. Rexford, W. H. Stevens, H.

H. Rice, Geo. W. Reeves, Leonard L. Allen. Frank S. Tisdale became superintendent of schools in 1901 and is still serving.

1902-03, E. E. Harrington, Pres.; W. A. Nims, Thos. Burns, Chas. M. Rexford, W. H. Stevens, H. H. Rice, Geo. W. Reeves, Leonard L. Allen, Wm. J. Allen, Chas. G. Keenan, Geo. W. White.

1903-04, H. H. Rice, Pres.; George W. Reeves, Leonard L. Allen, Wm. J. Allen, Chas. G. Keenan, Geo. W. White, E. E. Harrington, Thos. Burns, Chas. M. Rexford.

1904-05, H. H. Rice, Pres.; Wm. J. Allen, Chas. G. Keenan, E. E. Harrington, Geo. W. White, Thos. Burns, W. H. Stevens, Chas. M. Rexford, Leonard L. Allen.

1905-06, W. H. Stevens, Pres.; E. E. Harrington, Thos. Burns, Chas. M. Rexford, H. H. Rice, Leonard L. Allen, Wm. J. Allen, Chas. G. Keenan, Jos. McConnell.

1906-07, Thos. Burns, Pres.; H. H. Rice, W. H. Stevens, Leonard L. Allen, Wm. J. Allen, Chas. G. Keenan, Joseph McConnell, E. E. Harrington, Karl George.

1907-08, Thos. Burns, Pres.; Wm. J. Allen, Chas. G. Keenan, Jos. McConnell, E. E. Harrington, Karl George, H. H. Rice, Leonard L. Allen, George A. Dunn.

1908-09, Leonard L. Allen, Pres.; E. E. Harrington, Thos. Burns, Karl George, H. H. Rice, Geo. A. Dunn, Chas. G. Keenan, Jos. McConnell, Harvey W. Steele.



1909-10, Leonard Allen, Pres.; Geo. A. Dunn, Chas. Keenan, D. Frederick Lane, Harvey W. Steele, E. E. Harrington, Thos. Burns, Karl George, H. H. Rice.

1910-11, Karl George, Pres.; Leonard Allen, Geo. A. Dunn, Thos. Burns, Chas. G. Keenan, D. Fred. Lane, Harvey W. Steele, E. E. Harrington, H. H. Rice.

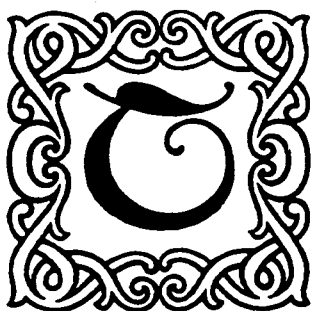
1911-12, George A. Dunn, Pres.; D. Fred. Lane, Harvey W. Steele, R. E. Cahill, E. E. Harrington, H. H. Rice, Karl George, W. D. McKinstry, W. I. King.

There are now twelve city schools, besides the private and parochial schools.

The Board of Education from year to year has been composed of men who have devoted time, thought and effort to the cause of the public school system, while the city has given unstinted pecuniary assistance in making them complete and efficient.

## CHAPTER III.

### WATERTOWN FROM 1805 TO 1812.



THE year 1805 saw many forward stakes set in Watertown's progress, and the immediate years following were still more marked in development along all lines. During these years there was an accession of an unusual class of men to the little town in the woods. These men were of the mould and type of the founders, men who, like them, were strong enough to create an atmosphere which was at once healthful and upbuilding. In a broad sense, they had the qualities of empire builders. They builded well and from a land of rocks and stumps developed into state and national influence, politically and commercially. Business blocks of brick construction were almost wholly the vogue in the village from 1805 on. There was a brick yard then in an open field on Franklin street not far from the Public Square. It was run by Abram Jewett and was an institution of exceeding value to the community in those early days. It was a pioneer, too, in the business in Northern New York.

The completion of the County building in 1807, naturally gave Watertown added strength and prestige throughout the Black River Country. Although

the buildings, as a compromise measure, had been located some distance out of the settlement, yet they then were not far enough out to detract from the general interest of the village. At any rate, their location soon proved to be a source of small consolation to those who, in face of defeat, had secured this one concession when the question of location was in contention. But the County buildings were completed and were adequate for the time. They burned in 1821, however, and were replaced with stone buildings, the Court House and the Jail then having separate buildings. In 1816 a County Clerk's Office of stone material was erected on Court street, and was occupied till 1831, at which time a new and larger building was erected and continued to be the Clerk's Office till 1862. This building passed through the fire of 1849 with no material harm. Meanwhile, in 1861, the old Court House was torn down and a part of the stone thereof was used in the building of the new Court House on Arsenal street, its present location. Now the Court House, the County Clerk's Office and the Surrogate's Office form a group of three attractive buildings, two of which front on Arsenal street and the third, the County Clerk's Office, on Benedict street. The Jail, some time ago, was handsomely rebuilt and still occupies the original site.

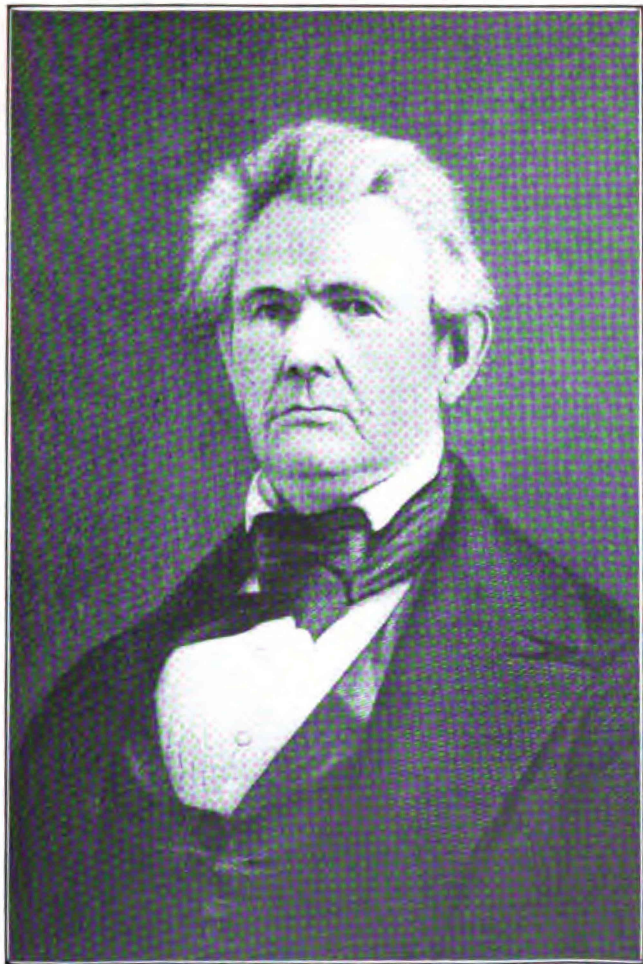
When by the completion of the Court House Watertown became the county seat in fact, many members of the legal fraternity from various places settled in the village. The first to become residents were Ben-

jamin Skinner, Egbert TenEyck, Amos Benedict and Samuel Whittlesey, the latter a few years later becoming peculiarly conspicuous in the community. During the next two or three years several other lawyers of ability and strong personality cast their fortunes with others in the growing county seat. They were Thomas Skinner, Ela Collins, David W. Bucklin, Perley Keyes and Micah Sterling. The two latter became figures of note in the affairs of Watertown.

During this year half a dozen hotels were built, three on the north side of the river and as many more on the south side, all in anticipation of the increased volume of business resulting from the influx of attendance at the courts. From this time on Court street took form rapidly both as a residence and a business street. Business soon extended along Factory street, too, and it was thrifty because small mills and factories of various kinds were established in that vicinity. Factory street and Factory village, in fact, for a time made greater progress in upbuilding than did the upper section around the Square. In these years several incoming residents had launched new stores in different localities. John Safford, Tuttle & Sill, Otis & Duane, and those mighty forces, though of dissimilar type, Norris M. Woodruff, Orville Hungerford, Loveland Paddock and Jason Fairbanks.

#### ORVILLE HUNGERFORD.

Among this group of early settlers in Watertown who became conspicuous figures in business and public





affairs, Orville Hungerford occupied a foremost place. He was a man endowed with the ability, resolution and courage necessary to achieve success in any field of action that he might have chosen. He selected Watertown because he was a born pioneer. It offered the scope and opportunity suited to the types of mind that naturally gravitated to the place.

Mr. Hungerford, like most of the early settlers, was a New Englander by birth and the influence of his early environment and training was an asset of value in his life work and doubtless contributed to the success he worked out. He was born in Farmington, Conn., in 1790. As a boy or young man he located in Burrville in 1804, and begun his career there in the general store of Jabez Foster. When Mr. Foster moved to Watertown in 1805 and opened a store, Orville Hungerford accompanied him and continued in the capacity of clerk. A little later he became a partner of Jabez Foster in the business, and through his efforts, mainly, they built up a large and prosperous business. In 1815, when yet only twenty-five years of age, he withdrew from the co-partnership and began business as a merchant on his own account. He made a success of this venture; he forged ahead at a rapid pace. He soon became interested in other enterprises and his capacity for business developed to such a degree that every undertaking was a success. He was also deeply interested in the welfare of the village and omitted no effort to upbuild and advance its interests. He served for several years as president of the village,

meanwhile becoming interested in county and state affairs. He was, moreover, largely identified with the banking business in the village and did much toward its making. He was one of the founders of the Jefferson County Bank and served many years as director and president of that institution. He gradually became an extensive real estate owner in the village and in this manner, too, added materially to the betterment and expansion of Watertown. He was a man of the strictest integrity and honor. In 1842, Mr. Hungerford was elected to represent his district in Congress, and as its representative he served two terms with ability and credit. In 1847, he was the candidate of the Democratic Party for comptroller of the state. He accepted the nomination under protest because he had no ambition for further political preferment. He was defeated, but the defeat was not a disappointment to him. His interest was then in other directions. He was extensively interested in railroads as well as many other public enterprises. He encouraged and aided many undertakings in the days when such help was needed. He contributed to worthy causes and always to Watertown's upbuilding. Mr. Hungerford died in 1851, being then only sixty-one years old. He left two sons, Orville E. and Richard E., neither of whom is now living.

JASON FAIRBANKS.

Jason Fairbanks, another one, unquestionably was one of the most picturesque and interesting characters







in the whole Black River country. He was of the type that combines many qualities, many attributes of wonderful versatility and fascination, along with the peculiar poise of mind that made him a complex, yet well balanced man of affairs. His spirit looked out upon life through a glass or lens that pictured things differently from that of most people. He saw every side of life that had good in it and lived in conformity with it. He was earnest when this quality was required and as full of foibles and pungency when occasion presented. As a humorist and comedian he was a striking actor, as a man of business he was practical and industrious to an intense degree, and withal successful in a good degree.

Fairbanks was an unfinished mortal, in the sense of being moulded by education and surface culture, but he had the intellect and the keen instinct and good manhood that made him a valuable citizen and a man of note. He would labor all day and half the night to build up and carry on a business and then spend the rest of the night in perpetrating a practical joke or injecting some of his wit and innocent fun into the hum-drum life of the community. It was not a hardship for him to rise at 3 o'clock of a morning in summer and rouse from his sleep a chronic sluggard that he knew and drive several miles into the country to have him see for the first time in his life, as Fairbanks declared, the rising sun. With his horse of a value always not exceeding ten dollars, a harness tied with strings and a wagon that, like the

wonderful one-horse-shay, was likely to collapse at any moment, he derived extreme pleasure in driving about the town and country. In the early years Fairbanks was sheriff of the County and a good one, too. The peculiar quirks of his mind led him to summon a sheriff's jury composed wholly of fat men of the county. When they were assembled, they were weighed and found to aggregate nearly six thousand pounds, or an average of about two hundred and fifty pounds each. These and a catalogue list of other quips and fancies all went to make up an interesting character. He was the leavening element in the life of the community. Yet with it all he was sternly honest, had high ideals of life, and was a citizen of good impulse and wholesome influence.

Jason Fairbanks, like most of his cotemporaries in Watertown, was of New England stock. His father, Samuel Fairbanks, was a captain in the War of the Revolution. Their home was in Mendon, Mass., where Jason was born in 1785. About 1802, Jason started westward and located at Newport, Herkimer County, N. Y., where he remained till 1807, at which time he settled in Watertown.

During the War of 1812, Fairbanks was alert and active in the stirring affairs. He was appointed deputy United States Marshal and performed valuable services for the Government. He held this office twenty-eight years with a most honorable record. In 1821 he was appointed sheriff of the county, and afterwards was elected to the office and served a second term. He





was also County Treasurer from 1828 to 1838, discharging the duties of this office, with ability and honor.

Fairbanks first started in business with a tannery. He soon had the second one and a little later he added still another, until his business became extensive and profitable. As an adjunct to this business, he opened a harness and saddlery store and carried on a large and successful business as a merchant.

In 1815, Mr. Fairbanks married Marry Massey, daughter of Hart Massey, one of the founders. Their home was on the site of the old Arsenal street Armory. They had four sons. Mr. Fairbanks died January 10, 1875, and thus closed the career of a most unique figure in Watertown's history.

#### JUDGE PERLEY KEYES.

Another figure and a close associate of Jason Fairbanks was Perley Keyes. They were quite similar in type and were endowed to a great degree with similar characteristics. Judge Keyes was a little older and had the advantage of some education, but so far as nature's mental equipment entered into their makeup, they were both richly endowed. Keyes was born in New Hampshire, in 1774, but like most of the others of that potential band of men who cast their fortunes in the vigorous little Watertown, he was seeking a broader field. In 1799, one year before Watertown was founded, Keyes selected Rutland as his field of action. He was a young lawyer and Rutland supplied

but few clients in those days, because there were not a sufficient number of people there, all told, to make up a County Court Jury. When the courts were established in 1805, or soon thereafter, Keyes was appointed one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas. He also served in Rutland as Justice of the Peace. So Judge Keyes, soon joined others in making up the Watertown Bar. In 1808, he was appointed sheriff of the County and six years later was made custom officer at Sackets Harbor, serving four years in this official capacity.

Judge Keyes by this time had become a man of note. He was in the public eye, more than this, he was in nearly every movement and undertaking of moment in the community. He was progressive, public spirited and, like his compatriots in town, omitted no effort to further the interests of Watertown. When the academy was erected on Academy street in 1811, Judge Keyes donated the land and was, moreover, an active influence in the project. In 1814, Judge Keyes was elected to the State Senate and discharged the duties of that office with marked ability. He was re-elected continuously for six terms. He was fearless, aggressive and independent. He was at this time made one of the members of the Council of Appointment and at once became an influential figure in its affairs. His reputation became state wide and through this he aided in bringing publicity and distinction to his home town and county. Judge Keyes' activity in affairs and his associations and bent of mind led to his becoming one



of the chief actors, with Jason Fairbanks, in the memorable Whittlesey episode of 1814, which is mentioned elsewhere in this work.

Judge Keyes left one son, Perley G. who lived and died in Watertown. Judge Keyes died suddenly on May 13, 1834, and in his passing another one of Watertown's striking characters was lost.

#### EGBERT TEN EYCK.

Still another conspicuous member of the local bar in this early period was Egbert TenEyck, also a native of New England. He was a graduate of Williams College, and in 1800 settled in Champion, doubtless believing as some others did that Champion was destined to be of some account. But after the settlement of the county seat question, TenEyck hastened to cast his lot with others at the county seat.

Judge TenEyck at once became prominent in public affairs. He was a man of much force of character and admitted ability. He was the first Judge of the County and continued in that office nine years. The year 1820 found him a member of Assembly and he rendered valuable service in that body for four years. In 1824 he was elected representative in Congress, which place he filled with honor and credit. Judge TenEyck was a man of unquestioned integrity and splendid character. He was earnest and faithful to every duty and always staunchly loyal to Watertown. Judge TenEyck died in Watertown in 1844. He and Judge Keyes were closely associated in public affairs.

## JOHN PADDOCK.

It was not alone in the professional line that early men of Watertown made their mark. As well as judges and statesmen of a high order, there were captains of industry and captains of finance who achieved great success against almost unsurmountable obstacles. The fact that Watertown's wealth has been made almost wholly in Watertown reflects enviable credit upon those who in honorable business and financial operations have progressed to such a state. They began their careers among the trees and on the rock where success mainly had to be dug out of the earth and the surroundings. Some of the early merchants worked out marvelous success in the days when the horizon of business was narrow and the facilities for accomplishing great things were meagre. The first store of Smith & Paddock in 1805, had little upon which to base the hope of success in a large degree, yet prosperity hovered around that store, making it a profitable enterprise. John Paddock, like his partner, William Smith, was a hard headed, sane business man, with the qualities of mind that enabled him to work in harmony with the local conditions in carrying on the business.

## LOVELAND PADDOCK.

It was as a clerk in this store that Loveland Paddock began his career in 1812, when seventeen years of age. The family came originally from Middletown, Conn., where Loveland was born in 1795. His father





after the close of the War of the Revolution, became a skipper or commander of a vessel carrying freight between the United States and the West Indies. But about the year 1800, the father of Loveland abandoned the sea and settled on a farm in Frankfort, near Utica. There was a large family and a small farm, thus making the outlook for the sons on the farm not very reassuring. There was no place of consequence nearer than Utica and the opportunities for schooling were scant. But he was another one of the boys reared in that cradle of strong men and women—New England. What he lacked in school training was largely made up for in inheritance, spirit and ambition.

After a brief experience in a store in Utica, Loveland Paddock found his way to Watertown, where his older brother, John, had established a store. Loveland's inclinations were towards a mercantile career, and so he became a clerk in the general store of Smith & Paddock. He was then only seventeen years old. The conditions and circumstances of his life had begot within him habits of economy and conservatism. He seemed to adapt himself readily to the barter system of business which was then the principal basis. John Paddock was then interested in two stores at Brownville and was also the sheriff of the county. Loveland, therefore, had opportunity to obtain a grasp and knowledge of business which he made good use of. In a little time, through the aid of his brother, Loveland opened a store at Sackets Harbor and made a fair de-

gree of success. In 1815, Loveland superintended the construction of two new buildings which John Paddock was then erecting in Watertown. At their completion, Olney Pearce opened a store in one of these buildings on the Public Square and Loveland Paddock was employed as manager. In this manner he gained wide acquaintance and in all ways got a footing for his future business.

In 1816, with only a few hundred dollars saved from a small salary, he opened a store on his own account in one of the John Paddock buildings. His progress from this time on was marvelous. His business expanded, he had money to invest in other enterprises and in other channels wherein profits were large and the business also large. Although still a young man, he was fast becoming a captain of finance. He was already a stockholder and director in the Jefferson County Bank, also a stockholder and director in the Sackets Harbor Bank. In 1839, Mr. Paddock became president of a new bank and in 1842, he abandoned the mercantile business and established the Black River Bank in Watertown. This he conducted with a great degree of success. It was a strong and reliable banking institution for many years.

Meanwhile, Mr. Paddock was active in the building and expansion of the village. He erected business blocks and dwellings. In 1850, he built the Paddock Arcade building and others later.

Mr. Paddock had no ambition in the direction of politics or public life. He was by instinct and in-







clination a business man, and as such he wrought wonders, in view of all the circumstances. He was temperate in all things, conservative, yet generous in many ways. He was at once one of the very strong factors in Watertown's financial affairs, and a self-made man, who, in the financial world, made the name, Paddock historic.

In 1821, Mr. Paddock married Miss Sophia A. Foster, a native of Rowe, Massachusetts. She was an excellent wife and woman and did much toward her husband's success. They left one son, Edwin L., who died July 22, 1909.

HON. MICAH STERLING.

But the story of Watertown's early citizens of exceptional fiber and consummate ability includes many others besides those already mentioned. Occupying a place in the forefront of this group was Micah Sterling, the lawyer, the statesman, the man of affairs, the gentleman of culture, the citizen of worth and the staunch friend and promoter of every measure for social and civic betterment. He was one of the factors, in combination with the others of similar type who left their impress upon the community. It would at first seem that in settling in Watertown at that early day, Micah Sterling was out of his element, but this was not so. He found his peers in the young Watertown men, without the polish, perhaps, but men who could meet him on his own mental plans and measure up with him in the gage of life's affairs.

Micah Sterling, in some measure, had the coign of advantage; he was well educated and had been reared in the environment of culture. He graduated at Yale in the class of 1804, and five years later found him located in Watertown. He had read law and had been admitted to practice. He was a native of Lyme, Conn., where he was born Nov. 5, 1784, and was therefore twenty-five years of age when he began his career in Watertown. In Yale he was a classmate of John C. Calhoun and a warm friendship was there formed between them which continued many years. His early training and associations of this kind, inculcated in him, possibly, a manner which was thought by some to be haughty, or the manner of an aristocrat, whereas he simply possessed great dignity which increased with age. He was a dignified gentleman of the old school.

Mr. Sterling rose rapidly in his profession until he became a lawyer of almost national repute. He had many cases which took him to the chief cities of the state and also to the national capital, all of which helped to bring him into public note. He early formed a copartnership with Isaac H. Bronson. It was a strong law firm and had a large and far-reaching business. The partnership continued a good many years.

Meantime, Mr. Sterling had become active in public affairs, and as early as 1820, he was elected to Congress. While there he was an active and influential member of the body. This extended his acquaintance with men and affairs and reasonably added greatly to his law business. Soon after settling in Watertown,

Mr. Sterling married Miss Elizabeth Bronson, a sister of Isaac H. Bronson, who became his law partner. In 1826, Mr. Sterling erected a stately mansion on Sterling street, now one of the historic places of the City. When it was built the estate comprised a large plat of land amounting almost to a park. The house is a stone structure, symmetrical and handsome in design and when built it overlooked a long stretch of beautifully wooded park. This beautiful home which Mr. Sterling built and the private library of the owner typified the man. Both were of the highest quality.

Mr. Sterling's first wife died in 1831, leaving three children, Emma Bronson Sterling, Francis Winthrop and John Calhoun. A miniature picture of Mrs. Sterling shows her to have been a very beautiful woman. In 1844, Mr. Sterling married for his second wife, Miss Ruth Benedict, of Albany. By this union there was one son, Lewis Benedict Sterling.

After many years devoted entirely to his professional work, Mr. Sterling, in 1836, was elected to the State Senate and in this official capacity again he served with distinction and ability. He was a Democrat in politics and his prominence in public affairs made occasion for his entertaining at times men conspicuous in public life. President Martin Van Buren was at one time a guest at the Sterling home, and there were others from time to time of national reputation. Mr. Sterling for many years also was the land agent of James D. LeRay de Chaumont, that distinguished Frenchman who for a long period of

years was in the hearts and the affairs of the Black River Country people. The old Sterling mansion continued to be occupied by members of the Sterling family until 1909, when it passed into other hands.

HON. ISAAC H. BRONSON.

Isaac H. Bronson, who was for many years the law partner of Hon. Micah Sterling, was born in Rutland, Vermont, but settled in Watertown in its first decade. He early attained a commanding position in his profession and also in almost every movement of account in his home town and county. He pushed his way into noteworthy prominence in home and state affairs. He matched up in ability with Micah Sterling and was a factor in the making of their success while in partnership. In 1830, Mr. Bronson was elected to Congress and was an able representative. He was a man of honor and a valued citizen.

MAKING HEADWAY.

Taking up again now the movement of affairs in the early years, Jotham Ives, in 1801, settled in the section then known as Field Settlement. This settlement later became a part of Watertown, and Jotham Ives also became identified with the place, and was a citizen of high standing in the community. He was a brother of Willard Ives, both of whom were sons of Dr. Titus Ives, who settled in the county at an early day. Willard Ives, during his life time, had much to do with local affairs, of which mention is made further on.





In 1808, Gurdon Caswell built a small paper mill on the site of the present Knowlton Bros. paper mill, and with little or no interruption from that time to the present, it has been the seat of a prosperous paper making industry. About the time of the building of this paper mill Gersham Tuttle built a brewery along the river near the Court street bridge and ran it successfully for several years. This brewery later passed to the ownership of Andrew Newell. Andrew Newell had long been a sea captain, but retired and sought a home away from the billows of the ocean. He was an odd character, with streaks of drollery running deep in his nature. Yet he was the soul of kindness and generosity. On occasions when approached by some person seeking aid, Newell would almost explode while delivering a stream of reprobation for being thus importuned. Then after the alms seeker had passed on, Newell was wont to say to those present, "Now perhaps that poor devil needs help. Call him back." Thereupon Newell would treat the person generously, supplementing his donation with some bit of jocularity.

Some years later when Andrew Newell was sick unto death, the Rev. Dr. Boardman, who was his pastor, called upon Newell to talk with him about his spiritual welfare. It is said that Dr. Boardman in great seriousness said; "Now Mr. Newell, you are about to die and unless you repent and seek forgiveness of your sins, you will go straight to hell." Newell looked up and replied simply: "That would be just my damned luck, parson."

## FIRST MOVEMENT TOWARD AN ARMORY.

By an act of the Legislature in 1808, five hundred stand of arms were ordered to be stored or deposited at Champion, but in a little time these arms were ordered to Watertown, and also an Arsenal was planned and was soon in process of construction on the east side of Arsenal street. This Arsenal was built under the direct supervision of Hart Massey, who was then collector of customs for the district of Sackets Harbor. It was a modest building and not very expensive, but it served the purpose for the time. The Arsenal was of brick material put up at a cost of little less than two thousand dollars. The work was done by Abram Jewett, Thadeus Smith, Joseph Cook, David Stafford and Benjamin Goodale. Its location was next to the present fire engine house Number One.

In 1850, this old Arsenal was sold to Oscar and Edwin L. Paddock for a tobacco warehouse. Later C. A. Holden bought the building and used it as a storehouse. A few years later the second and present Arsenal was erected in greatly expanded form and increased equipment. This is situated on the opposite side of Arsenal street and a little eastward.

The building of the first armory in 1808-09, was the inspiration leading to the organization of the first company of militia in the county, known as the Watertown Rifles—Thomas Delano was the Captain, Ezekiel Jewett, Lieut. and Zachariah Butterfield as Ensign. This action was the primary step to the general

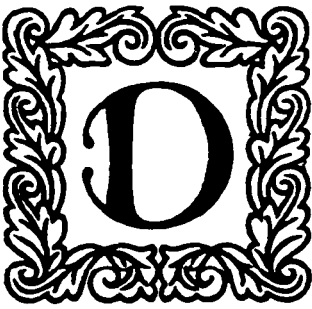


training which followed later. But Watertown's sphere of influence was widening; the outlying country recognized the fact. It was probably this which inspired the Irish bard of Sackets Harbor to vent his jealousy in the following.

“North Adams with its deacon face,  
And Brownville with its modest grace,  
And Watertown, a leetle place,  
Just back of Sackets Harbor.”

## CHAPTER IV.

### THE MAKING AND BUILDING OF THE TOWN AND THE INDUSTRIES.



R. Reuben Goodale began the practice of his profession in the village about 1812. He came from New Hampshire, was a man of excellent qualities and a successful physician for a long period of years. Dr. Goodale was an uncle of Lawrence J. Goodale, Esq., now living in Watertown at ninety-seven years of age. Joseph Goodale settled in Watertown about the same year. He began as a farmer but soon became a merchant in town and continued in this business until his death in 1859.

Dr. Amasa Trowbridge was another early one in that profession in the village. Dr. Trowbridge gained wide repute as a surgeon. His work extended throughout northern New York, while his fame was almost state-wide. His son Dr. Amasa attained to some distinction in this line, too. He was killed in 1841.

By the year 1812, the north side of the river had begun to take on life and build up. There were twelve or fifteen frame buildings, mostly along what is now





Main street. Soon thereafter a block of stores was erected on the site of the original Henry Coffeen house at the corner of the Square and Court street. Arsenal street as yet had no buildings except the Armory and two or three small buildings in the rear of the American building. John Paddock had a store and a dwelling on the site of the present Paddock Arcade, and Amos Benedict had a store where the Jefferson County Savings Bank building now stands. Paoli Wells, Judge Jabez Foster and Olney Pearce had residences further south on the street. Perley Keyes' residence was on the site now occupied by the Agricultural Insurance Company's building. Court street, however, lead all others in building up. Woodruff road, now Franklin street, had only James O'Riley's house and Jewett's brick yard.

But the development of the great water power was the force that started the wheels of progress. This movement really had its beginning when the Black River Cotton and Woolen Manufacturing Company built in 1813 a large factory building which employed a considerable number of people. This was the beginning of Factory Village which later became Factory Square. The old tavern, the Failing Hotel, first known as the Travelers' House, had been built by Samuel Mack, on the north side at the corner of the present Main and LeRay streets as early as 1808. It was a hostelry of some note for quite a period of time. During the War of 1812, it was used by the soldiers as a barracks, but after the close of the war

the hotel resumed business and ran on until 1865 when it was destroyed by fire.

About 1812, Hart and Baker Massey were interested in the hotel on the corner of Washington street and the Square. In 1815 it passed to Butler Ranney, but later the property came into Hart Massey's possession and he soon thereafter sold it to Gilbert Woodruff and the Woodruffs erected the Washington Hall block in 1854.

#### THE LE RAYS.

Any chronicle of the history and events in Watertown's life would be incomplete and cursory without due mention of those early comers to the community, the LeRays. During a long period of years they cast a helpful, civilizing and refining shadow over the whole Black River Country. While they were not residents of Watertown, they lived so near to it and their relations to it and interest in it were so deep and vital that they were in heart at least a part of Watertown.

James D. LeRay de Chaumont came to this country as a refugee from France at the time of the downfall of the Bourbons and the crowning of Bonaparte as Emperor. He was assured of and was entitled to a cordial reception in this country by reason of the fact that his father, Jacques Donatius LeRay de Chaumont, when the American Colonies were struggling for independence, had given both sympathy and financial aid to the cause. James D. LeRay, about 1800, purchased a large tract of land in the northern part of New York







State, in fact, at one time James D. LeRay owned all the land upon which Watertown is located.

In 1805 or 1806, they settled on the north side of the Black River where James D. LeRay built that beautiful and historic LeRay mansion, a few miles east of Watertown. James D. LeRay became deeply interested and active in the affairs of Northern New York and especially in Watertown. He was earnest and active in building up and developing the Black River Country. He took special interest in agriculture, and was one of the promoters of and president of the first agricultural society in Jefferson County. He contributed both money and time to this movement and when the first county fair was held in Watertown in 1818, James D. LeRay was the chief factor in making it anything approaching a success. He was a distinguished man from a most distinguished family and throughout his long residence at LeRayville he gave lustre to the community. His son, Vincent, who for many years had charge of the LeRay estate, was of the type and characteristics of James D., and was equally as close to the hearts of the people. James D. LeRay returned to France in 1836 and died in 1840, at the age of eighty years.

The LeRay mansion with two thousand acres was bought in 1840, by Jules R. Pruyen, a Frenchman and a civil engineer. His daughter Julia, who married William S. Phelps, inherited the estate and occupied it and kept it unbroken till her death early in 1912.

When the LeRays came to this country, they brought

along with them Baroness Janice de Ferriet, who had been maid of honor to the ill-starred Queen Marie Antoinette. Madame de Ferriet was also a refugee from France when her life, like all others intimately associated with the regime, was endangered. She was an interesting character, bright, highly educated and polished by long and intimate association at the Court of Louis the XVI.

Madame de Ferriet at once became a conspicuous figure in the new country and her amiability and charming manner won for her the love and high regard of everybody who had the pleasure of knowing her. She possessed ample means for her maintenance and lived sumptuously in the beautiful home, the Hermitage, which she erected some distance east of the LeRay mansion. It was in truth a sequestered place at that time, because it was mostly surrounded by dense forest, yet she entertained at times many people, friends, acquaintances and personages of note. On occasion she would don her court dresses, of which she had many, and thus dazzle the eyes of those present who were unacquainted with such splendor.

Madame de Ferriet had many friends in Watertown and it buoyed up her heart to visit the village and have social intercourse with those whom she knew. Oftentimes she rode into town behind an oxteam on a sled or other conveyance. On occasion of these visits she would often exclaim in her French accent: "I had to come to town; I had to see somebody. I was dying of loneliness!"





Madame de Ferriet also returned to France in 1836, and in spite of the hardships she had endured and her narrow, secluded life, she regretted going, conditions in France would be so changed, she said, there would be no place to rest her head in peace.

### NEWSPAPERS, 1809-1912.

The story, the life, the rise and fall of the various kinds of newspapers and publications of a town usually possess interest to many readers. The history of the newspapers of Watertown, however, seems to be so incoherent, so lacking in continuity of detail as to render impossible the presentation of a complete and connected chronicle. Therefore, little more will be attempted here than a brief mention of the names, so far as possible, and by whom they were established.

The American Eagle, the first newspaper, was launched in 1809, by Henry Coffeen. The name of this paper seems to have been changed in 1812, to the American Advocate, and this again in 1817, to the Jefferson and Lewis Gazette. After passing through several ownerships the year 1819 seems to have told its life. The Independent Republican was started in 1819, by Seth A. Abbey, and this paper ran on till 1825, when the publication was suspended.

About 1819 or 1820, W. Woodard started the Watertown Freeman. This project had the financial backing of Perley Keyes. When Judge Keyes died in 1834, the paper passed to other hands and the name

was changed to that of the Democratic Standard. In 1835, the Democratic Standard was consolidated with the Watertown Eagle, which according to record available, was founded in 1832, by John Calhoun. The name of the Eagle and Standard was afterward changed to the Jeffersonian, and later this was consolidated with the Democratic Union, which had been started in 1846. In 1856, John A. Haddock became owner of the Democratic Standard and changed the name to the Jefferson County Union. The Jefferson County Union, in 1865, passed to the ownership of R. A. Oaks. The Union took over The Weekly News which was started that year and the combined name became the Democrat. The Daily Democrat was started in this office in 1865, and expired at the end of one year along with the Weekly issue.

In 1866, Anson B. Moore bought the plant of The Democrat and revived The Democrat, and two years later the name was again changed to the Re-Union. In 1872, The Daily Morning Dispatch had its birth in the Re-Union Office. The Dispatch continued till 1882, when it was discontinued. Charles W. Clare then purchased the Weekly Re-Union and conducted it successfully till his death in 1912. It is now conducted by his son Roderick W. Clare.

The Herald of Salvation, a semi-monthly publication of a religious character, was started in 1822, by the Rev. Pitt Morse. He was a man of strong intellect and influential force and the Herald therefore was an aggressive exponent of his philosophy and principles.

The Herald was sometime later removed to Philadelphia and consolidated with another magazine.

Theron Parsons, in 1826, established the Thursday's Post which ran three years under this name when it became The Register. After changes of ownership in 1830, the name was changed to The Watertown Register and General Advertiser. A year later the former name, Watertown Register, was resumed and 1835 found it under the name of The North American, then in 1839, back to The Watertown Register.

In 1846, Joel Green launched The Daily Journal but it enjoyed a brief life, when it became a tri-weekly paper. A. W. Clark bought the office and made the name The Northern State Journal. After many owner-ships it was bought in 1868 by the Reformer and the publication was suspended.

The Phare de Lacs (Beacon of the Lakes) began in 1858. Its publisher was C. Petet. After seven years the paper was transferred to Buffalo, and finally to Toledo, where it died.

The Annals of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, a monthly magazine was started in 1878, by the Rev. J. F. Durin, who was the Superior of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart at Watertown. It was a strong publication for thirty years.

The Temperance Advocate, began in 1884 as a temperance publication and later changed to the Watertown Advocate, a weekly newspaper, and so continues.

The Republican was started in 1883, by General Bradley Winslow, and in 1884, was merged with the Post.

In 1907, Lloyd E. Brown began the publication of the Chronicle, a society paper, but it lived only a brief period of time. Then came the Liberal News in 1910, a weekly paper. It ran about six months.

The Daily Times began publication in 1861. Beman Brockway was one of its founders and continued as its editor for many years. He was a man of admitted ability and wide experience in journalism. The Times is Republican in politics and has been from its beginning a strong, forceful newspaper of high standing and wide influence.

The Watertown Herald began publication in 1886. It had its beginning in the combination of four county weekly papers, published in different sections of the County.

This was the enterprise of Jere. Coughlin, probably one of the ablest newspaper men in Northern New York. He made The Watertown Herald a good paper and achieved success. He died in 1909, since which time the Herald has been conducted by his sons.

The Daily Standard was started February, 1894, by an incorporated company. The President was John P. Douglas, Vice-President A. W. Munk, Treasurer, Hannibal Smith. The President of the Company now is E. N. Smith.

The Standard is a strong and ably conducted newspaper and is also Republican in politics. George A. Glynn is the editor.

Probably the most unique publication in the history of Watertown was "The Warrior," which made its







appearance in March, 1845. Its slogan was "Cry Aloud and Spare Not," and apparently it lived religiously to both of these sentiments. The paper bears the date line of "Virtue's District, March, 1845," and the editors as printed therein are: "Jedadiah Sledgehammer, Anthony Mill-Saw, Cicero Jack-Plane, Pomp Bellows and Clark Wheel-Hub."

The aim and policy of this publication seems to have been to slander and vilify all who happened to incur the ill will of billious minds. It was a muck-raker of the most virulent type. The span of its life is not known.

Previous to the coming of the steam railroads, the greater part of the shipment of goods was by way of Sackets Harbor and the lake, but it was as early as 1808, that the first movement was made toward the building of plank roads. In a few years, as a result of this, there were several well established plank roads running into Watertown from different directions. Both travel and the transportation of goods to and from Sackets Harbor and Cape Vincent were thus greatly facilitated.

#### HENRY COFFEEN AND HART MASSEY.

When the War of 1812 came on Watertown naturally was one of the strategic points. Watertown and her men of action rendered valuable aid during the war.

During this time none was more alert and active in official service than Hart Massey. As early as 1808 he was made a colonel and inspector of troops. In the

war time he was quartermaster in Col. Elijah Putman's regiment and adjutant in Col. Gersham Tuttle's regiment, and was the government's trusted bearer of private messages between Sackets Harbor and the Governor at Albany. He was also, during this period and for several years previous, collector of customs in the Sackets Harbor district. In 1820, Hart Massey was appointed Judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

It is to be regretted that so little information is obtainable in relation to Judge Henry Coffeen. If his value be measured by what he was and what he did, he was fit to be a king; and while the city which Henry Coffeen, Hart Massey and Zachariah Butterfield founded is and will remain a monument to their foreknowledge, their courage and ability, a memorial in the form of a shaft erected on the Public Square would be only a befitting expression of appreciation of their work.

The Massey family was for the most part a family of strong and resolute men. Their lineage goes back to Cromwell's time in England when Sir Charles Massey was a figure in British affairs. Jeffrey Massey came to the Colonies and settled in Salem, Mass., in the early part of the sixteenth century. Deacon Jonathan Massey, a grandson of Jeffrey and father of Hart, was born in Salem, which was also the birthplace of Hart, his son. There were two John Masseys between Jeffrey and Jonathan and he was the son of the second John. Deacon Jonathan Massey was born July 6, 1747, and died in Watertown, March 30, 1830.

Jonathan Massey was a Lieutenant in the Continental

Army and served through the War of the Revolution. There were thirteen children in the Jonathan Massey family, two of whom were Hart and Dr. Isaiah.

Hart Massey was born Dec. 5, 1771, and died in Watertown, March 3, 1853. February 1, 1796, he married Lucy, daughter of Deacon Nathaniel Swain of Windsor. Hart Massey also had a family of eleven children, three of whom were born prior to their settlement in the place that became Watertown. Mary, Solon and Stillman were these children. Solon was then about two years and a half old. Hart Massey, Jr., was born Sept. 30, 1802, and was probably the first child born in the settlement. Edward Swain was born October 18, 1806. The others were Albert E., Serena Lucy, Marcellus and Jane Ingalls Massey.

Hart Massey was only twenty-nine years old when he dropped down in the wilderness on the bank of the Black River. He was therefore the youngest of the triumvirate, the founders of Watertown. He, plainly, was a man of destiny, a born leader, a man who would have achieved great things in any sphere of action.

Solon was in boyhood a farmer, but a good part of the time he was attending the common school and later was placed under a private tutor, a Mr. Joel Everett. Then he was sent to Fairfield Academy and there made creditable headway in learning. Later he taught school in Rutland, Watertown and several other places. A man of good intellect, high ideals, he did much toward the advancement of education and good citizenship. Moreover, it is due to

him more than to any other one person, that the early history and events of vital interest in Watertown were written and preserved in printed form. His series of articles "A Link in the Chain" are the main basis of all reliable histories. He married Esther Mary Boalt. They had five sons and two daughters. Solon Massey died in Watertown, August 12, 1871.

Another one of the brothers and a son of Hart Massey, was Edward Swain, born Oct. 18, 1806. He, too, was a farmer for some time but his interests were diversified. He became a builder and was therefore a factor in the building of Watertown.

May 28, 1828, Edward Swain married Miss Nancy Kilbourn of Champion, and they at once took possession of the new and handsome home which had been completed on Massey street. This house is one of the historic places of the City. It is now occupied by George Bragg Massey, the second child by the second marriage.

The first wife of Edward Swain Massey died in 1830, and on Dec. 19, 1832, he married Esther Bragg, daughter of Jairus Bragg, of Newport, N. Y. There were six children by this marriage—Maria E., George B., Mary E., Jarius Edward, Albert P. and Annie M. Esther Bragg Massey died June 6, 1863.

Edward S. was a man of energy, progressive, helpful, honorable and honest, a high type of citizen. He was the first coal merchant in Watertown. Associated with him for a considerable time in this business was George A. Boalt, under the firm name of Massey &







Boalt. When the First Presbyterian Church was built Edward S. Massey had charge of its construction; he also had much to do with other building, and for a long time was one of the directors of the Jefferson County Bank. During the thirties, he was adjutant in the militia and was in active service at the time of the Fenian invasion of Canada. Mr. Massey died July 14, 1876, after a life of usefulness, of good deeds and Christian example.

Albert P. Massey, son of Edward S., was one of the noted mechanical engineers of the State. He was a graduate of the engineering department of Yale. He attained to a high position in the mechanical world, by reason of his inventions and original devices in mechanical equipment.

The marked success of the New York Air Brake Company was due in great measure to his genius and skill. At a time when litigation and contention over patents and infringements were threatening the company's life, Mr. Massey invented a new and certain valve as a part of the brake which at once gave the company independence and great prestige. This new device proved to be of so great value that the company increased from 550 employees and a weekly pay roll of \$5,314 in Nov. 1892, to a force of 2,352 and a pay roll of \$30,700 in 1907.

Unfortunately for the world of mechanics, Albert P. Massey died in 1898. He was taking a trip to England and died and was buried at sea. He was then fifty-eight years of age.

The only living male representatives of the older families of Masseys are Fred. K. and George Bragg Massey, now president of the Jefferson County National Bank. Few families have a record of so many strong representatives, men whose lives and works were always in the direction of advancement and betterment.

Dr. William Johnson Sikes was among the early and prominent physicians of Watertown. He was born at Clinton, N. Y., in 1799, but soon thereafter his father, Deacon John Sikes, settled in Redfield where the family lived a short period of time, then becoming residents of Watertown.

As a young man William J. entered the office of Dr. Reuben Goodale, and later attended Fairfield Medical College, graduating from that institution after a two years' course. Dr. Sikes at once began the practice of his profession in Watertown and continued with abundant success till his death in 1872.

His son, William Wirt Sikes, became a man of note. He was a prolific writer on various lines, and attained to high standing in the literary world. He was a journalist, magazine and book writer of singular ability. He died at Cardiff, Wales, where he was serving as U. S. Consul.

Among the early merchants in Watertown, William Wood had a long and successful career. Throughout his life he had a firm standing in the community by reason of his honor and business integrity. Mr. Wood was born at Westport, Conn., and located in Watertown when a young man. His grandfather, Rev. Sam-





uel Wood, was a chaplain in the army during the War of the Revolution, and on his mother's side he was descended from Governor Bradford, of Mass. Mr. Wood married Miss Ann S. Hooker, for several years principal of the Female Academy on Clinton street. Neither Mr. or Mrs. Wood is now living. They left one daughter Mrs. Geo. R. Hanford, of Watertown.

#### THE WHITTLESEY INCIDENT.

The history of a community, like that of a nation is made up of many parts, many elements. There always is an intermixture of drama and tragedy and romance. They are the stage-setting in the more sober events that go to make up the daily life. The Whittlesey incident was the tragedy scene in the drama. These things often constitute a dark cloud on the horizon of a young town, and, albeit, leave an unpleasant memory, yet they are a part of the record.

Whittlesey was one of the first lawyers to settle in the village when Watertown became the county seat in 1807. He came from Tolland, Conn., and was well regarded in the community. As recognition of his standing, he was appointed district attorney for the territory of Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties. After a short time or in 1813, he was succeeded in the office by Amos Benedict, another lawyer of the village. This aroused sympathy for Whittlesey who had a wife and family. At the close of the War of 1812, when settlements were to be made with the militia for services and other claims growing out of

the war, Jason Fairbanks was tendered the position of brigade paymaster to settle these accounts. Fairbanks, naturally sympathetic and kind, declined the office and urged the appointment of Samuel Whittlesey. The Government, therefore, appointed Whittlesey to the position, Fairbanks and Perley Keyes becoming his bondsmen. Whittlesey, accompanied by his wife, went to New York to receive and bring back thirty thousand dollars for these payments. Upon his return the story was told to the effect that he had been robbed of \$8,700 while stopping at a hotel in Troy. Whittlesey's wife hastened to give the color of truth to the report. But Jason Fairbanks and Perley Keyes were too keen and discerning to accept the story. They were still more staggered, however, when Whittlesey declared that the whole amount of thirty thousand had been lost.

They resorted to every sort of subterfuge and cajolery to ascertain the truth in the matter, none of the time believing that Whittlesey had been robbed of any part of the money. Finally as a last resort, they inveigled Whittlesey to a deep spring near where is now situated the City Hospital, and there Jason Fairbanks and Perley Keyes announced to Whittlesey that the hiding place of the money must be revealed or he would go to his death in the spring. Whittlesey was obstinate, whereupon the "third degree" was worked by sousing him several times head foremost in the water. The treatment finally was effective and Whittlesey gave the information that they would find the money in the







bedding in his wife's room at their home. A respite was given to Whittlesey while Perley Keyes went to Whittlesey's home to make the search. The wife, apparently, had had a telepathic communication of the approaching visit, for she had gone to her room and locked the door, offering sundry excuses why she should not be disturbed. But an entrance was finally forced, and there in the bed, as stated by Whittlesey, the money was found practically in full. A will drawn by Mrs. Whittlesey was also discovered in which the money was to be divided amongst her children. Mrs. Whittlesey, after a noisy and emotional cry of being wronged and humiliated, made her way down to the river bank and plunged into the water. Her body was recovered later. She was believed to be the chief conspirator in the crime. Whittlesey soon moved to Indiana and, it is said, became a man of good standing and some prominence. Honesty, surely, had too firm a footing in Watertown for such people to thrive.

When Hart Massey built a large brick house on his farm in 1812, it was regarded as almost a case of "fools folly," but the events of the later years demonstrated his far seeing wisdom. This house was in the then Field Settlement and there was no road or street leading to this handsome farm home. But the advance movement soon found this house on Massey Avenue, now one of the fine thoroughfares of the City. Massey was here again a pioneer and that section built up rapidly a little later.

George Smith, for many years treasurer of the Jef-

fereson County Savings Bank, was a son of William Smith, one of the very early and prominent settlers in Watertown. George Smith was engaged in the engineering division of both the Erie Railroad and the northern roads which later became the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg system. He also served as city chamberlain through several terms, besides being for some time Deputy County Treasurer. He was born in Watertown in 1813, and died in 1896. His first wife was Amanda Rockwell. He was three times married. For his third wife he married Miss Anna M. Johnson, daughter of William Johnson.

NORRIS M. WOODRUFF.

Norris M. Woodruff's place in the history of Watertown cannot be defined by simply saying that he was a potential figure in its affairs. He was a genius, a born captain of finance. He would have achieved success in any place or in any field that he saw fit to apply his talents. Certainly the outlook in Watertown at the time of his coming to it was not wholly clear blue sky, by any means. The marvel is that so many men of this type chose it as a field of effort. But Norris M. Woodruff's career was a continuous forward. A boy of twenty-one with one hundred dollars capital, saved from a small farm wage, furnished the means for him to embark with a horse and cart as a tin peddler in a country with bad roads and sparsely settled. Yet he prospered and saved money from the round of barter and exchange of goods among the farmers. He was

not of strong physique, but this life on the peddler's cart brought both health and profit.

After a couple of years on the cart, he located in Watertown and established a tinware manufactory and a hardware store. There seems to have been no interruption in his business; his headway was marked and sure. And it happened that his first business venture was on the ground now occupied by the great hotel which he built later. He reached out in business with a grasp that was firm and confident. He seems never to have made a misstep in business matters; every undertaking ended with the balance on the plus side. His magnetism and his business tact drew the people whose acquaintance he had made over the county on his tin cart. It all added to the increased volume of his business.

In a few years Mr. Woodruff's interests had extended to several other channels for money making. In all matters he was honest and honorable, giving to rather than taking from those with whom he had business dealings. He became a stockholder in banks and other financial institutions and in all of them his opinion and influence was valuable and helpful. For many years Mr. Woodruff was president of the Jefferson County Bank, and was a factor in carrying it through some stormy times. When the first movement toward the steam railroads was made Mr. Woodruff at once became one of its most earnest promoters. Any railroad or any other enterprise that promised benefit to Watertown had his heart, his energy and his

financial aid. The Watertown & Potsdam, had his encouragement and backing.

Although by his master ability Mr. Woodruff amassed a great fortune, he was not a man given over to the love of money. He loved Watertown, however, and no measure or suggestion having for its object the betterment of his home town ever failed to enlist his interest and support. He was ready also to help individuals, and not a few of those he knew owed their success, or the basis of their success, to his generosity and kindness.

When he built the great Woodruff House in 1850, it would seem almost to have prefigured certain bankruptcy. But his vision was keen and he possessed the courage to build a hotel in a village of five thousand population that would have been adequate in a city of fifty thousand.

Soon after 1850, Mr. Woodruff turned over his business to his son Horace, who, in company with Howell Cooper, conducted the hardware store for some time. Horace later moved to St. Louis, leaving the business to his brother-in-law and partner, Howell Cooper.

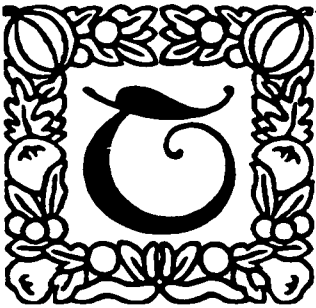
Mr. Woodruff married Miss Roxana Bush. They had three sons and six daughters. It has been a family of good works, good citizenship and helpful influence. Mr. Woodruff was born in the town of Hartford, Conn., in 1792, and came with his father to LeRaysville in 1803, his father being a farmer. Mr. Woodruff died in 1857.





## CHAPTER V.

### THE INCORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE.



THE first legal steps toward becoming a municipality were taken when the village of Watertown was incorporated by an act of the Legislature, April 5, 1816. The charter seems to have been planned along broad lines similar to those which governed the laying out of the Public Square. It provided for every contingency and condition in a village government. There were five trustees elected by ballot and the president of the village was chosen by them from among the number elected.

The first trustees elected at a meeting on the first Monday in May of that year were as follows: Timothy Burr, Egbert TenEyck, Olney Pearce, Marinus W. Gilbert and Norris M. Woodruff. William Smith, Orville Hungerford and Reuben Goodale were the assessors, Micah Sterling, treasurer and Seth Otis, collector. There were five fire wardens as follows: Jabez Foster, Samuel Watson, Jr., Rufus Backus, William Fletcher and Joseph Henry.

The village was at once divided into five wards with

one fire warden in each ward, each to have four ladders. The official rank of these wardens was indicated by a white staff seven feet long, which they were to carry when on duty in their respective wards. The presidents of the village from its incorporation to the time of its becoming a city in 1869, were as follows: 1816, Timothy Burr; 1817, Isaac Lee; 1818, Orin Stone; 1819, William Smith; 1820, Egbert TenEyck; 1821, Olney Pearce; 1822, David W. Bucklin; 1823 and 1824, Orville Hungerford; 1825 and 1826, Olney Pearce; 1827 to 1831, Norris M. Woodruff, 1832, Jason Fairbanks; 1833-34-35, Orville Hungerford; 1836, Jason Fairbanks; 1837-38, Dyer Huntington; 1839, David Otis; 1840, George C. Sherman; 1841, William Wood; 1842-43, William H. Robinson; 1844, Benjamin Corey; 1845, Dyer Huntington; 1846, Orville Hungerford; 1847, Stephen Boon; 1848, Peter Howk, 1849-50, David C. Otis; 1851, Joshua Moore; 1852, Kilborn Hannahs; 1853-1854, Joseph Mullin; 1855, Randolph Barnes; 1856-1858, Henry H. Babcock; 1859, Ambrose Clark; 1860-1863, Henry H. Babcock; 1864-1865, John M. Carpenter; 1866, George A. Bagley; 1867, Wilbur F. Porter; 1868, Lysander H. Brown; 1869, Edmund B. Winn.

The presidents of the village during these years came from the ranks of the best business and professional men.

In 1817 the first fire company was organized. This was the nucleus of the present well equipped fire department of the City. The name of the first company



was the Cataract Fire Engine Company, and it was composed largely of the business and professional men of the village. An engine house was built soon thereafter on the site of the Jefferson County Savings Bank building. The first frame one story double engine house was erected on Stone street in 1832. This building housed, along with the fire engine, the Hook and Ladder Company until 1850, when by Legislative enactment, the Fire Department of Watertown was organized and equipped with new and greater apparatus for service.

In 1831 the village practically was re-incorporated with greatly enlarged power for control, also with extended boundaries to include Factory Village. And in 1832, began the election of the village presidents by ballot. The year 1835 brought another amendment to the charter, giving increased power of action to the police department. The act of 1852 extended the boundaries again and changed the time of election to the first Monday in March.

Meantime, Watertown was prospering. The seven or eight years following its first incorporation, the business and manufacturing industries doubled and likewise the population. In 1824 there were twelve hundred inhabitants, with thirty-eight mechanic shops, eighteen stores, seven offices, one bank, the Jefferson County Bank; one cotton and woolen factory, one planing mill and two saw mills, one furnace, one foundry, one tannery, one machine shop, one distillery, four chair factories, one plow factory, one tin shop, six

taverns, two churches, three schools, located on Factory, Sterling and Arsenal streets.

The taverns were then run by Sewall Brintnall, Butler Ranney, Stanton Brown, Elliot Makepeace and Dexter Hungerford. The latter's hotel was at the corner of the Public Square and Arsenal street, American House site. The little white frame hotel on the site of the Washington Hall block was kept by Luther Gibson.

Nathan Wiley established the first general machine shop on Factory street in 1818. It was in a stone building which is now a part of the H. H. Babcock Company's plant. A little later Lovell & Kimball located their foundry and machine shop on Factory street, also George Goulding's machine shop. These additions to the Factory street industries gave it stability and much impetus to its growth and importance.

The first county agricultural fair held in Watertown, Sept. 28 and 29, 1818, was an event which appealed to everybody within its borders. The exhibits were quite extensive and varied for a county not yet out of the woods. The people came in by oxtteams, on horseback and by all means of travel in the early times. In addition to the general exhibits, there were plowing matches with oxtteams and horses. Roswell Woodruff exhibited seventeen yoke of oxen attached to a cart loaded with farm produce. The interest was keen and the rivalry for premiums was sharp. James D. LeRay was one of the most active and earnest in making the first fair a success.





The occasion brought to Watertown some distinguished guests. Among them were Governor DeWitt Clinton, Gen. Stephen Van Rennselaer and Col. Jenkins. Governor Clinton delivered an address at the Court House and others added in various ways to the interest of the occasion. Daniel Lee entertained the guests of the society at the old White House.

PIERSON MUNDY.

Along in the early middle period of Watertown's life, there were many valuable and influential business men added to those of the earlier days. Pierson Mundy came from Pennsylvania, and as a young man clerked in the grocery store of Horace P. Mitchell. He afterwards became a partner in the business and the firm was Mitchell & Mundy. In 1847, Mr. Mitchell retired and from that time on till 1871, Mr. Mundy was in the business alone. He was a good business man, honorable, honest, generous, public spirited, progressive and helpful in furthering the interests of his home town. In 1876, Mr. Mundy built a large malt house at the foot of Court street, which he carried on till his death in 1885. He was identified with many different enterprises in all of which he was honored and esteemed. Mr. Mundy was one of the directors of the Jefferson County National Bank and for several years president of the board of trustees of the Henry Keep Home. He was also postmaster from 1846 to 1850. In 1846, Mr. Mundy married Miss Mary D. Woodruff, daughter of Norris M. Woodruff.

## JOHN GUY HARBOTTLE.

Another citizen and business man of this middle period was John Guy Harbottle. He was born at Trenton, Oneida County, but located in Watertown as a young man. He was first a tinner and foreman in Norris M. Woodruff's tinware manufactory, and later became a hardware merchant. He was a man of high standing, splendid character and a good citizen. Mr. Harbottle married Sophia Vassar, sister of Matthew Vassar, founder of Vassar College. He died in 1887.

## WOOSTER SHERMAN.

Wooster Sherman was an early comer and for many years a prominent business man and financier. Mr. Sherman established a bank which he conducted many years, and he later founded the Watertown Savings Bank and was its active head for a considerable time. He was a lawyer by profession, but business affairs and finance appealed to him stronger than did the law. Yet he read law in the office of Bucklin & Sherman and afterwards served a long time as deputy county clerk and also acted as clerk of the Supreme Court. Wooster Sherman was widely known in the banking world, was actively interested also in other channels of business.

## BANKS AND BANKERS.

Down to 1816 there was not a bank in Watertown; there was not one in the County, in fact. The volume of business in Watertown had grown to such magni-







tude by this time as to require facilities and banking accommodation.

As early as 1807 there was a movement toward establishing a bank, but it was not until 1816 that the real organization of a bank was perfected. John Brown, Roswell Woodruff, Eliphalet Edmunds, David T. Andrus, Ethel Bronson, Jabez Foster, Egbert Ten Eyck, Hoel Lawrence, Frederick White, Abel Cole and some others organized the Jefferson County Bank. Nearly all of the promoters of the undertaking were Watertown men, and naturally, by reason of this and the fact that Watertown was the county seat and the chief center of business, believed it to be the logical and proper location for the first banking institution. Yet there was opposition and claims put forward in favor of locating the bank at some other place, Brownville again being the most active contestant. Finally as a compromise the Jefferson County Bank was established at Adams. A charter extending to 1832 was secured and the capital stock was fixed at \$50,000. On June 20, 1817, the first board of directors was elected. John Paddock, Hoel Lawrence, Ebenezer Wood, Clark Allen, David T. Andrus, Samuel F. Hooker, Elisha Camp, Frederick White, David Hale, Samuel C. Kanady, John Cowles, Eliphalet Edmunds and Micah Sterling were chosen as the first board. The first president was John Paddock and the cashier was James Wood.

The experience of the early years following demonstrated the folly of locating the bank outside of the

county seat, for it was not making marked success at Adams, although the Sackets Harbor Gazette of October 8, 1818, contains the following notice of dividend to stockholders:

“A dividend of three and a half per cent. on the capital stock of this Bank will be paid to the stockholders after the 30th inst. By order of the president and directors.

JAMES WOOD, *Cashier.*

Adams, September 11, 1818.”

But by 1824, all recognized the expediency of moving the bank to Watertown, and this year it became the banking institution of the county seat.

In 1830, the charter was amended and the capital stock increased to \$80,000. This was increased again in 1836 to \$200,000, but in 1844 it was reduced to \$148,000. As evidence of its soundness and reliability, from 1827 to 1853, the Jefferson County Bank was designated as one of the safety fund banks of the State. At this time the bank was reorganized as an associated free bank and the charter was extended to 1900. Then in 1865, when National banks were inaugurated, the Jefferson County Bank voluntarily reorganized again and became the Jefferson County National Bank.

Throughout its existence of nearly one hundred years, there have been no interruptions in the Jefferson County Bank's business, no scandals, no discreditable record in its career. It has been officered and directed by men of proven ability and unquestioned honesty.

The first president was John Paddock, 1816; Jabez Foster, 1817-19; Ethel Bronson, 1820-26; Perley Keyes, 1826-33; Micah Sterling, 1833-34; Orville Hungerford, 1835-45; Norris M. Woodruff, 1845-54; Robert Lansing, 1855-56; Talcott H. Camp, 1857-97; John C. Knowlton, 1897-1904; George B. Massey, 1904. Mr. Massey is now the president.

The cashiers have been James Wood, 1816-20; Orville Hungerford, 1820-33; Orville V. Brainard, 1833-66; Myers Thompson, 1866-71; Smith T. Woolworth, 1871-1905; George V. S. Camp elected in 1905 is still the cashier.

The present board of directors is as follows: George B. Massey, John C. Knowlton, Orville E. Hungerford, William H. Stevens, George V. S. Camp, Robert J. Buck, Charles H. Anthony, Henry W. Boyer, John B. Taylor, James B. Wise, George H. Babcock, Stuart D. Lansing, William M. Pruyn, J. Munson Gamble, Byron B. Taggart, Leland G. Woolworth, Lucien S. Strough, James Vock.

The Jefferson County National Bank now has resources of two million and seven thousand dollars and since it became a national bank in 1865, it has paid in dividends to stockholders considerably above a million dollars. It is housed in the Jefferson County Savings Bank building, and well appointed banking quarters comport with the standing, age and dignity of the first bank in the county.

The next bank, the Bank of Watertown, was started in 1838 with some of Watertown's strongest men as the

organizers. They were Orville Hungerford, Loveland Paddock, Norris M. Woodruff, William H. Angel and Henry D. Sewall. Loveland Paddock was the first president and William Angel was the cashier. Succeeding Paddock as president were, Willard Ives, John Goldsmith, Thomas C. Chittenden and William H. Angel. The bank went out of business in 1860.

The Watertown Bank and Loan Company was organized in 1859, by George C. Sherman, with a capital of \$100,000. Ten years later Mr. Sherman organized the Merchants' Exchange Bank and soon thereafter merged it with the Watertown Bank and Loan. In 1865 it was changed to the National Bank and Loan Company and owned and controlled by the Sherman family. This and the National Union Bank were consolidated and became a part and the foundation of the Northern New York Trust Company.

The Black River Bank was founded in 1844, by Loveland Paddock. It was a private bank with \$100,000 capital. It went on with a good measure of success till 1865, when it became a National Bank, its name being the First National Bank of Watertown. As a national bank it was one of the strongest banking institutions of Northern New York. Loveland Paddock was made president and so continued till 1880. The bank at this time went into voluntary liquidation and ceased to exist.

The National Union Bank, at the time of its organization in 1852, was the Union Bank of Watertown and had a capital of \$100,000. The original promo-

ters of the bank were Henry Keep, George S. Goodale, N. M. Woodruff, Abner Baker, Washington Gannet, Orrin C. Utley, Loveland Paddock, Daniel Lee, J. H. Dutton, Edmund Q. Sewall, W. K. Hawkes, John White and John Sterling. Henry Keep was the first president of the bank for the years 1852-53; W. K. Hawkes, 1853-55; Abner Baker, 1855-58; Merrill Colburn, 1858-69; Alanson Skinner, 1869-77; Gilde-roy Lord, 1877-89. Then Judge Azariah H. Sawyer became president and served till his death. In 1865 the bank changed to the National Union Bank and so continued until merged in the Trust Company.

The Jefferson County Savings Bank is the oldest institution of the kind in Northern New York. It was chartered April 5, 1859. The first board of trustees, twenty-two in number, were as follows: Abner Baker, Bernard Bagley, Alonzo Maxon, Clark Hewitt, John E. Dodge, B. F. Hotchkin, L. J. Bigelow, Peter Haas, Meritt Andrus, Charles D. Smith, Fred Emerson, D. C. Tomlinson, John L. Marsh, Jacob Clark, Adriel Ely, James I. Steele, William Estees, Patrick O'Dougherty, Ambrose W. Clark, Orlin Wheelock, Willard Ives, Charles B. Hoard. James I. Steele was elected the first president, Fred Emerson, vice-president and John L. Marsh, secretary and treasurer. The presidents since the incorporation have been James I. Steele, 1859-61; Addison M. Farwell, 1861 to January 20, 1886; Fred Emerson, 1886 to Sept. 1891; George B. Phelps, 1891 to Sept. 1, 1892; Talcott H. Camp, 1892 to February 1, 1897; George W. Wig-

gin, 1897 to 1902; J. R. Miller, 1902 to 1909; A. T. E. Lansing, 1909, now in office.

In 1894, the Jefferson County Savings Bank erected a handsome six story banking and office building at the corner of Washington and Stone streets, in which it has large and well equipped banking rooms in an ideal location. The bank carries a deposit of above eight million dollars.

The Merchants' Bank began business in 1870, as a private banking institution, under the management of Norris Winslow. It was an outgrowth of Wooster Sherman's private bank which was started in 1851 on the corner now occupied by the Watertown National Bank. Sherman sold the bank to Winslow, who carried it on till 1870, when it became a state bank with Norris Winslow as president. In 1881 the bank went into the hands of a receiver which soon terminated its existence.

Henry Keep had a private bank in 1847 and in 1851 changed it to the Merchants' Bank. He also started other private banking houses, one of which later moved to Carthage and another to Ogdensburg.

George L. Paddock & Co., ran a private bank from 1867 to 1875, when it failed and went out of business.

The Security Bank was started in 1868, under the management of Richard E. Hungerford. It occupied the site of the present City National Bank. This bank was afterwards sold to Norris Winslow and a little later closed its doors finally.

The Watertown National Bank was incorporated in

1882. George W. Knowlton was the first president, Sidney Cooper vice-president and Nathaniel P. Wardwell, the first cashier. In 1906, N. P. Wardwell was elected president and served till his death in 1909, when George W. Knowlton was elected to office again and is now the bank's president. The Watertown National Bank has been a strong and successful bank from its foundation. It has been well conducted along safe lines of modern banking.

The City National Bank was organized in 1890 with \$100,000 capital. Gilderoy Lord was the first president and John E. Kemp, vice-president. Gilderoy Lord died in May, 1891, and John E. Kemp was elected to succeed him. At the time of Mr. Kemp's death in 1896, C. R. Remington was elected to the presidency. He was succeeded by Charles M. Rexford who is now the official head of the bank. The present cashier is J. O. Hathway.

The Watertown Savings Bank was incorporated in 1893. The first president was B. B. Taggart who served till his death in 1897. William W. Taggart was then elected to succeed him. At the death of William W. Taggart, I. L. Hunt was chosen as president and is now occupying that position. The bank has deposits amounting to above three million dollars with a safe surplus. It has been conservatively conducted since its beginning.

The Northern New York Trust Company, while it is the youngest banking institution in Watertown, is, in the line of inheritance, one of the oldest in the City.

Through the Watertown Bank and Loan Company, it goes back to 1839. This bank under its later name of the National Bank and Loan Company and the Union Bank of Watertown were merged in 1910, in the Northern New York Trust Company. The Trust Company began business, therefore, as a strong institution, and has grown rapidly. It has deposits reaching above three millions and a quarter, with a capital and surplus of more than seven hundred thousand dollars. The banking quarters are among the best in the state. The president is DeWitt C. Middleton, F. L. Carlisle, 1st vice-president; D. C. Murry, 2nd vice-president; H. B. Matteson, secretary and treasurer.

#### AGRICULTURAL INS. CO.

Along with this record of the great financial institutions of Watertown, it is in order to mention another one which came into existence under such unusual circumstances, and which has reached out so like an octopus until it has a business touch in every quarter of the United States. This institution is the Agricultural Insurance Company, of Watertown.

The history of this institution's birth and development is peculiarly interesting. It is another one of the marvelous achievements against many discouragements in the Black River Country. It began its existence in 1853, in the little hamlet of Evans Mills, and struggled along there for ten years, its promoters and workers taking compensation for their services mostly in hope of the future. It started as a







mutual fire insurance company with assets consisting almost wholly of pluck and assiduous work. This capital seems not to have been impaired or weakened in any way through all those years of struggle. Its field of operation then was confined to Jefferson County, and the only hazard assumed was on farm property. Two years after its organization the company, or association, ventured across the border of the county after business, and in a little time it had a footing in several adjoining counties.

In 1863 the company was rechartered as a stock company and at that time cast its fortunes in Watertown, under the name of the Agricultural Fire Insurance Company of Watertown. It was growing stronger and had at this time small but real cash assets. New blood came into it then, and added capital was acquired by the sale of the stock of the company. From 1863 on, the company grew rapidly and made a place for itself in the insurance world. Now it stands with the greatest of the companies of the kind, with a business that extends to nearly every state and territory in the Union. It has assets of above four million dollars, and is housed in its own handsome building.

The Agricultural Insurance Company has had some strong men, not alone at its head, but in every department of its business. The presidents of the company from its foundation have been: Alden Adams, February 25, 1853 to January 8, 1855; John C. Cooper, January 8, 1855 to January 26, 1877; John A. Sherman, March 31, 1877 to March 25, 1882; Isaac Mun-

son, April 21, 1882 to March 8, 1886; J. R. Stebbins, May 8, 1886 to April 25, 1898; A. H. Sawyer, May 28, 1898 to November, 1904; W. H. Stevens, 1904, now in office. John C. Knowlton is the 1st vice-president and W. C. Stebbins the 2nd vice-president.

The secretaries have been as follows: Thomas Ward, February 25, 1853 to March 12, 1853; U. A. Wright, March 12, 1853 to May 3, 1855; Isaac Munson, May 3, 1855 to April 21, 1882; H. M. Stevens, April 21, 1882 to April 3, 1897; W. H. Stevens, April 22, 1897, to 1904; J. Q. Adams, 1904, now in office. P. H. Willmott is assistant secretary.

The Board of Directors is as follows: J. Q. Adams, W. P. Herring, D. C. Middleton, R. J. Buck, R. S. Whitman, P. H. Willmott, J. C. Knowlton, W. H. Stevens, H. Barnum, D. M. Anderson, E. B. Sterling, W. C. Stebbins, S. A. Upham.

#### THE EMPIRE LIFE.

As the opposite of the Agricultural Insurance Company in point of continuity and success, there was the Empire State Life Insurance Company incorporated in 1869 with a capital of \$100,000. John A. Bell was its president and Loveland Paddock and Ezra B. Cornell were vice-presidents. John Sheldon was the secretary and treasurer. The company made very good headway in business, yet not to the degree to warrant its continuance, it appears, for it went out of business after three years' struggle. Besides this there were other fire insurance organizations from

time to time, all of which soon passed from the field.

In the matter of personal mention, one of the early time physicians of Watertown who rose to a high place in a foreign field, was Dr. Amos Russell Thomas. Dr. Thomas was born on Beebee's Island in 1826. Early in his professional career Dr. Thomas went to Philadelphia and became president of the Hahnman Medical College in that city. He had a wide reputation as a leader in the science of medicine. Dr. Thomas' father was Col. Azariah Thomas, who was an active participant in the War of 1812.

James Stone was another early resident of Watertown. His son Orin was a merchant for many years, and was actively and prominently identified with local affairs.

Benjamin H. Henshaw, cabinet maker, was for many years a conspicuous figure in town. He was extremely odd in character and original in expression, a philosopher with a peculiar twist of mind. On account of these characteristics, Henshaw became quite a celebrity.

In 1818 the village voted to raise \$500 toward the building of a bridge across Black River at the foot of Court street, and in 1823 began the first movement for a cemetery. Land was purchased of Hart Massey and platted into lots, non-resident tax payers being permitted to buy one lot, equal to one share in the association. A little later the village authorities appropriated \$50 for "boring a public well." This was the initial movement in the direction of a water supply.

In the development of Clinton street, the second house erected on the street was that occupied by the Rev. Dr. Boardman. It was built by Eli Farwell, Esq., and still stands as built, except with some improvements. The next house erected on the street was the home of Clark Rice.

General Marcena R. Patrick, son of Duncan Patrick, an early settler, attended the little district school in the village when a boy and later developed into a military figure of considerable note. He was in service during the Civil War, was a valiant soldier and thus rose to the rank of General. He returned to his home town many times after becoming noted in military affairs. During the military training days George C. Sherman and Loveland Paddock were captains of different companies, and were active and zealous in the service.

#### THE EXECUTION OF HENRY EVANS.

One of the dark clouds on the early horizon of the community was the murder of John Rogers and Henry Dimond by Henry Evans in 1828. Evans was tried in Watertown in June of that year, was convicted and hanged in a vacant lot on the north side of the river. On the way from the Court House to the place of execution, June 22, Evans was escorted by a company of cavalry and a company of infantry, also a crowd of people. It is said that on the way Evans followed immediately behind the hearse and looked upon the whole matter more as a festival occasion than







as his own execution. The murder was committed near LeRaysville, where Evans lived. This was the first crime of the kind committed in the county.

In 1827, Levi Beebee built the second cotton factory in town. It was located on the island which bears his name, he having purchased the island from Jonathan Cowan. It was an institution of considerable importance, employing many people for a short period of time. The factory burned in 1833 with a loss, it is said, of \$200,000.

Dr. John Binsse, an early physician, was a Frenchman by birth. He was educated in New York, later taking the degree of M. D. at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of that city. He located on the Pamela side of the river and became a man of standing and consequence. He acted for a long period of time as the agent of the LeRay estate. Dr. Binsse died in 1879.

KNOWLTON & RICE.

Probably one of the institutions of early Watertown which had as far reaching celebrity as any launched in the village, was that of Knowlton & Rice, paper makers, book publishers and book sellers. For thirty years or more, beginning in 1824, the name of Knowlton & Rice was a familiar one throughout a large section of the country. They published school books mostly, but occasionally ventured into other fields. There are those now living who remember in their early school days carrying under their arm Webster's Spelling book, Cobb's Series of Spellers and Readers,

Pierce's Grammar and Ruger's Arithmetic. These were all published by Knowlton & Rice and they were important books then, many boys and girls getting from the study of these the only education they ever had. Knowlton & Rice published, besides those mentioned, "Pope's Essay on Man" and Knowlton & Rice's famous Almanac Cook-Book, entitled "The Cook Not Mad." They brought out also an historical work "The Campaign against Quebec," which had wide interest in those days.

The little Caswell paper mill which was started in 1808, together with a second small mill, came into the possession of Knowlton & Rice from Holbrook & Fessenden, who had taken them in settlement of a claim. Clark Rice was a printer in Holbrook & Fessenden's printing office. They were all residents of Brattleboro, Vermont, and in 1824, after the transfer of the Watertown plant to Knowlton & Rice, the latter came on to take charge of the business. In addition to the paper mills, there was a printing office and a bookstore. Mr. George W. Knowlton joined his partner, Mr. Rice, in 1825, and from that time on the business of the firm was an element in the life and thrift of Watertown. A fire in 1833, burned one of the paper mills and the printing plant, but both were re-established with greater plants and added facilities. The firm of Knowlton & Rice had high standing in the business world. The bookstore, the print shop and the bindery were finally sold to Hall & Chamberlain. Clark Rice was a man of great force and good business ability. In early

times his home was on a little hill east of the Old Universalist Church. Later he built a fine home on Clinton street.

George Willard Knowlton, for thirty years the associate of Clark Rice in business, was born at Newfane, Vermont, in 1795. His early training and environment, together with rigid experience in his native state, moulded and fitted him for the destiny he worked out in the new country of Northern New York. His father, Calvin Knowlton, was a lawyer, yet George W. began shifting for himself at an early age. At sixteen he was in Gen. Jenks distillery at Warehouse Point, Conn., where he worked several years. He kept his balance, meanwhile, and saved a little money. With this he went to Brattleboro when he was twenty-one and started a store, meeting with a very satisfactory degree of success. It was during his early life as a merchant that fortune shifted his career to the new field where he met others of his type, a group of most unusual men. Mr. Knowlton was a man of keen business perception, level-headed, calm always, without ostentation, but earnest and assiduous in prosecuting his affairs. The firm of Knowlton & Rice, prospered against many hindrances and obstacles. Mr. Knowlton, during his busy years, contributed both time and money to the making of Watertown the ideal city. Public affairs, however, had no attraction for him. He was an earnest Abolitionist when that question was stirring the hearts of many, and for this cause he was ready to fight if necessary.

In 1830, Mr. Knowlton married Miss Elizabeth Carroll. They had five children, two sons and three daughters. Neither of the daughters is now living. In 1854, Mr. Knowlton retired from active participation in the business, leaving it to his two sons John C. and George W. and others. He died October 18, 1886.

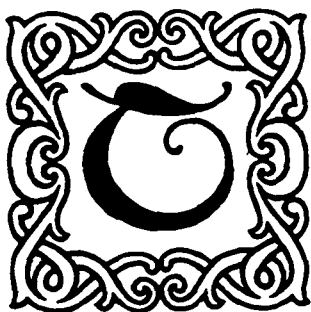
The little paper mill which was located on the site of Knowlton Brothers present plant has been in almost continuous operation from 1808 to the present time. It has been greatly enlarged from time to time and modern equipment added, until now it is one of the great paper making industries of the Black River Country. For many years it has been Knowlton Brothers, John C. and George W., sons of the original George W. Knowlton Brothers manufacture the highest grade of papers in Northern New York. Their efforts have been devoted almost exclusively toward the making of high grade colored specialties. Conspicuous in this line is the production of unusual paper for catalog covers, where unusual effect is desired. This special line of their manufacture is distributed to all parts of the world. They also produce unusual effects in exclusive hanging papers.





## CHAPTER VI.

### CHURCHES OF WATERTOWN.



THE movement toward building churches or places of worship, in truth, was notably long delayed in Watertown. This was not, naturally, from lack of spirit or religious devotion, surely, because these were a part of the inheritance of most of the early settlers. Religious services were held and attended with ardor and devotion, however, but these services were mostly at private homes or in some school house or hall. The first religious meeting in the settlement was at Hart Massey's little log house on the first Sunday after the arrival of his wife and family, the first of March, 1801. But the first general gathering for church services was at Burrville. This continued to be the assembling place for a considerable time, until a strong and active society grew up composed mostly of Presbyterians. The First Presbyterian Church of Watertown had its beginning in this society. Worshipers from Watertown, both men and women, went through the woods on horseback to attend services at Burrville.

The Watertown element in the Burrville society fin-

ally withdrew and formed the nucleus of a church in Watertown. This seems to have taken place as early as 1803, but it was nearly twenty years before anything like a church edifice was erected. The Rev. Ebenezer Lazelle brought about the organization of the society, but whether he had an extended connection with it record fails to tell.

In 1811 further steps were taken toward perfecting a church organization. Tilley Richardson, John Sikes, Hart Massey, Amos Benedict, William Fellows, the latter representing Burrville, and Aaron Brown for Watertown Center, were chosen trustees of the society. Three years later a final organization was effected. But there was no pastor as yet, and it was seven years later, or in 1821, before the society was recognized and received into the St. Lawrence Presbytery. It then became the First Presbyterian Church of Watertown.

The trustees of the final organization were Jabez Foster, Orrin Stone and Hart Massey. Meanwhile, a stone church was erected at the corner of Washington and Academy streets. The Rev. David Banks was the first pastor. The new church, a very handsome one for those days, was dedicated June 1, 1821.

The stone church edifice was removed in 1850 and a new and greatly enlarged structure replaced it. This new church was dedicated April 10, 1851, and 1892 saw the building of 1850 remodeled and vastly improved.

The First Presbyterian Church has been the mother



of several other church societies. The Congregational Society grew out of it in 1830; the Second Presbyterian Church in 1831, the Burrville Church in 1836, Hope Presbyterian Church, 1889, and later Faith Chapel, on Arsenal street.

The Rev. Dr. George S. Boardman was the pastor of the First Church from 1821 to 1837; Rev. Isaac Brayton, 1837 to 1864; J. Jermain Porter, D. D., 1864 to 1882; Rev. George B. Stevens, 1882 to 1886; Rev. Allen Macey Dulles, 1886 to 1898; Dr. Andrew Brodie, 1899 to 1911. The present pastor is Rev. Darwin F. Pickard.

The Second Presbyterian Church was first located on Factory street and was dedicated October 3, 1831. It continued on Factory street till 1864, when it was located on Stone street with a handsome new house of worship. It then became the Stone Street Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Jedadiah Burchard was the first pastor from October 3, 1831 to March, 1832; Rev. L. Hill, 1833 to 1835; Rev. Marcus Smith, November 1, 1835 to September, 1843; W. E. Knox, 1844 to 1848; Rev. Peter Snyder, 1848 to December, 1863; Rev. Geo. D. Barker, 1864 to 1867; Rev. Charles C. Wallace, 1868 to 1870; Rev. Charles M. Livingston, 1870 to 1876; Rev. Dr. Samuel Hayt, 1877 to 1898; Rev. Henry M. Dunning, 1898 to 1906; Rev. Victor H. Lukens, 1906 to 1911; Rev. Winifred P. Moody, 1911, now pastor of the church.

The First and the Second, or Stone Street, Presbyterian churches have had as pastors, some of the old

type of preachers and pastors. The Rev. Dr. Boardman of the First Church was one, of those who looked upon religion with great seriousness. To him salvation was impossible for those who failed to live to the severest lines that the human mind could conceive. He believed in what he preached and preached his philosophy with courage and force. He was a man of marked strength of character, of high ideals, and did a great deal of good. His life was lived true to his convictions.

Among the early pastors and preachers there was probably none who left a more lasting impress than Rev. Peter Snyder.

Peter Snyder was a different personality, a different spirit from that of the good Dr. Boardman. Snyder had a different way of doing and spreading the cause of Christianity. He was not of the stern dogmatic type that used a flail and sledge-hammer to implant the seeds of his faith. His mission was to sow the seeds of kindness, gentleness and love. This he did by both example and precept. He made the community better for having lived in it, and he attracted people to him and his church because of his beautiful, simple life.

Hope Presbyterian Church is located on the north side of the river. The society has a handsome church edifice and an active organization. It was founded as Hope Chapel but in 1897 it became Hope Presbyterian Church. The first pastor was Geo. B. VanDyke, 1897 to 1904. The present pastor is Rev. Henry S. Hunt-





ington. Besides these there is Faith Chapel, Presbyterian, located on Arsenal street.

#### THE M. E. CHURCHES.

The Arsenal street Methodist Episcopal Church had its beginning back in 1804, when missionaries and itinerant preachers came along and ministered to the little band of worshipers that gathered in almost any place where a simple service could be held. However, a church organization was effected about this time, but it was not till 1821 that the society built a church and dedicated it as the First Methodist Church. It was located at the corner of Arsenal and Massey streets and is still on Arsenal street a little east of the original location.

The church erected in 1821 was replaced in 1859 with a new and larger building, but this burned in 1880, and was rebuilt in 1881, at which time it became the Arsenal Street M. E. Church. The first pastor, 1821-1822, was John Dempster. The present pastor is Rev. W. H. MacClenthen.

The Arsenal Street Church is a strong and growing society with active and earnest workers.

The State Street M. E. Church was an outgrowth of the Arsenal Street. It was organized in 1850. In 1908, a beautiful new church was erected by the society on Sterling street, the name then being changed to the Asbury M. E. Church. Bethany M. E. Church, founded on the north side in 1888, was also an overflow from the Arsenal Street Church.

## TRINITY CHURCH.

Trinity Episcopal Church Society was the third to become an active living organization in the early church building.

The society began to take form in 1812, when Rev. Daniel Nash held the first service in the little school house on the south side of Public Square. The work went on mostly in this manner till 1827, when the society became strong enough numerically, to organize a parish. In 1831 the parish organization began the erection, on Court Street, of a frame church edifice, which was completed in 1833. This burned in the great fire of 1849, but a new one replaced it in 1850. This was consecrated in 1851 and was occupied till 1887. At this time the church parish had grown until it was one of the strongest and most representative in the City, having as members many people of wealth and culture. Gov. R. P. Flower and A. R. Flower, were deeply interested in the welfare of the Church and were generous contributors toward its maintenance.

The new church on Trinity Place, one of the handsomest in Northern New York, was built almost wholly by these two gentlemen in 1887. They gave unstintedly to the building of a church that would adequately meet the needs of the growing parish, and the growth of the parish had much to do with inducing the change of location from Court street to the present location on Trinity Place. A. R. Flower, Esq., donated the parish house in 1887.







The first pastor of Trinity Church was Rev. J. M. Rogers, 1827-28; Rev. William Lynn Keese, 1828-29; Rev. Hiram Adams, from January 8, 1829 to April, 1831; Rev. Richard Salmon, December, 1831 to September, 1832; E. G. Gear, 1832-34; Rev. Burton W. Hickox, April, 1835-37; Rev. Chas. Ackley, 1837-39; Rev. John F. Fish, 1839-44; Rev. William Carmichael, D. D., 1845-46; Rev. Levi W. Norton, 1846-53; Rev. Geo. M. Hills, 1853-57; Rev. Theodore Babcock, D. D., 1857-72; Rev. Leigh R. Brewer, 1872-81; Rev. Russell A. Olin, 1881-93; Rev. J. Saunders Reed, 1894 to 1907. Rev. Francis W. Eason is the present rector.

The history and growth of Episcopalianism in Watertown make a story in religious life of unusual interest. The seeds sown in 1812 by the good Rev. Mr. Nash, apparently took deep root and have since produced fruit in abundant measure.

As stated above, the church as an organization, had its beginning in 1827, but dating it from the time of the Rev. Mr. Nash's modest work, the society is now one hundred years old. During this time there have been many faithful Christian workers in the cause, and some whose spirit for good works has not consisted of personal effort alone; they have given liberally of their substance to aid in the spread of Christianity and the uplift of the community. Many of the church's rectors have been forces in carrying on the great work. The Rev. Leigh H. Brewer was one of these. He gave ten years of faithful and effective labor in

the church and parish. Following him was the Rev. Russell A. Olin, a Godly man, devoted to good works, a man whose life and character stood for everything that is highest and best in life.

The scope for great work in Christianity, morality and civic betterment is now being broadened and strengthened by the added ways and means for extending the helping hand. The new Trinity House the generous gift of Mrs. Emma Flower Taylor, representing an expenditure of nearly \$100,000, is now nearing completion. This institution, when fully completed and equipped, will probably have no parallel in similar church institutions.

Trinity house is a spacious, handsome stone structure planned with the greatest thought and care for the work in view. The basement contains a gymnasium, bowling alley and a manual training school for boys, while the ground floor has a large auditorium, with broad stage and pipe organ, a library and a chapel. The floor above is still more important in that it is given over wholly to good work. This contains a guild room for carrying on charitable and missionary work. It also has a fine suite of rooms for the deaconess, and rooms for friendless girls, regardless of creed or denominational inclination. The main idea and plan is to throw out the lifeline to all in need of help or Christian association.

#### ST. PAULS.

The St. Pauls Church Society was organized in

June, 1867, and the services were held at the Court House and in one of the school houses of the city. In 1889 the society began the erection of a church at the corner of Franklin and Jay streets, which was completed in 1891. It started as Grace Church but in 1897, the name was changed to St. Pauls. Rev. John A. Stanton was the first pastor. Since his pastorate there have been, Geo. T. LeBoutellier, William L. Parker, Albert D. Banker, Ph. D., John F. Nichols, Chas. M. Carr, W. H. Brown, C. H. Mockridge, D. D. The present pastor is David C. Huntington.

#### CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER.

The parish was organized in 1888, the name being the Mission of the Redeemer. Rev. Mr. Winne and Deaconess Clark were the prime movers in the organization of the parish and they conducted the services for a time.

The present handsome church, located on the north side was completed in 1897. The funds for its erection were given largely by Mrs. Frances Lord Bennett, as a memorial to her father, Gilderoy Lord.

The first stated pastor was Rev. Arnold Redding. Succeeding him there have been Rev. E. S. Rasey, Rev. George Maxwell, Rev. Horace Goodyear. Rev. Gilbert A. Shaw was rector from December 13, 1900, to October 31, 1910. His successor, Rev. Geo. A. Perry, who assumed the pastorate March 1, 1911, is the present rector of the parish.

## ALL SOULS CHURCH.

The Universalist denomination began its work in Watertown at a time when the soil was not particularly responsive to the seeds of that faith. But at the beginning it had on the ground a sower of the seeds who did it with such grace, such earnestness and such a spirit of honesty that the sowing yielded fruit from his efforts. This man was Pitt Morse, a tower of strength, a leader and a teacher of great influence. He organized or brought into concrete form the first church society.

A preliminary organization was made in 1820, when twelve citizens gathered at the Court House and declared their intention of forming a Universalist Church. Levi Butterfield, Chauncey Calhoun, Henry Caswell, Simon Skeels and Darius Doty were chosen as trustees. The church organization was perfected in 1823, and was incorporated in 1825.

Two years after the organization, or in 1825, the society had become strong enough to undertake the building of a comfortable stone church. This was located on the Public Square where the Hotel LeRay now is. This church was destroyed by the fire of 1849. A new church edifice was soon begun and completed in 1852. This served the congregation till Oct. 1907, when the new All Souls Church on upper Washington street was dedicated. This is a handsome structure with all the modern fittings and appointments that go to make an attractive, pleasant house of worship.





Rev. Pitt Morse first ministered to the church from 1823 to 1825, leaving the church then to return in 1826, and take up the work. He then continued as the minister till 1837. His work and influence were felt in the community. The church prospered and built up under his administration, and the intervening years between 1837 and the present, have not effaced the memory of Pitt Morse and his work.

The minister, 1825-26, was Rev. Mr. Chase, since 1837 the following have been pastors of the church: Rev. Wm. Waggoner, 1837-41; Rev. H. Boughton, 1841-46; Rev. John H. Stewart, 1846-54; Rev. A. A. Thayer, D. D., 1854-59; Rev. E. W. Reynolds, 1859-65; Rev. I. M. Atwood, D. D., April 1, 1865 to November, 1865; Rev. D. C. Tomlinson, 1865-69; Rev. Harvey Hersey, 1870-76; Rev. G. F. Babbitt, 1876-78; Rev. G. J. Porter, 1878-84; Rev. Richmond Fiske, D. D., 1884-92; Rev. D. L. R. Libby, 1892-97; Rev. B. B. Giggs, 1898-1902; Rev. M. H. Harris, M. A. D. D., 1902-11; Rev. Harry Westbrook Reed, 1911, is now pastor.

#### FIRST BAPTIST.

The First Baptist Church organization had its inception when a little band of earnest Christian people held a meeting in the school house on Factory street, in 1823, and took definite steps toward the formation of the Baptist Society. There were then seventeen members. The first trustees named were: Samuel G. Grady, Caleb S. Henderson and Harvey Farrington.

The society was incorporated in 1827, and the following year a meeting house was erected on Factory street. It was occupied till 1837, by which time the congregation had grown beyond the capacity of the church, and a new and greatly enlarged church edifice was that year erected at the corner of the Public Square and State street. The Factory street church was sold to the Catholics and thus became the first church of that denomination established in the village.

The Baptist Church built in 1837, burned in the fire of 1849, and was at once replaced with a brick structure. This continued to house the growing congregation till 1891, at which time the present stone church was built on the same ground.

The Rev. Nayman Guiteau was the first pastor of the society. Since his pastorate the ministers of the church have been; Seth Smalley, Isaac Knapp, John Miller, Charles Clark, L. J. Matterson, John Peddie, L. M. S. Haynes, James W. Putman, H. C. Townley, L. J. Dean, Charles Maxfield, E. F. Osborn, M. G. Rogers, J. Foster Wilcox. The present pastor is Rev. Charles W. Fletcher.

The Church of Christ was organized in 1892. The society purchased the old Grace Church property and afterward erected a new and attractive house of worship on the same site.

#### OTHER CHURCHES.

The Free Methodist Society was organized in 1878.







The congregation first worshiped on Factory street. The present church is located on Lansing street.

There is also a Christian Science Church on Park Avenue. A very comfortable temple.

The Zion M. E. Church is located on Morrison street, the north side.

#### ST. PATRICK'S.

St. Patrick's is the oldest Catholic Church Society in the City. It dates from 1830, when Father O'Riley said mass at a private house. There were only six of that faith in town then. But the services continued at private houses and at the old Court House, also the school house on Arsenal street.

In 1838, the parish purchased the Baptist Church on Factory street and continued to occupy it till 1855. St. Patrick's was built that year on Massey street and was dedicated in 1856. It is a commodious church, centrally located, and the parish is now a large and prosperous one. Father DuBois followed Father O'Riley in the early church beginning. He afterwards became Bishop DuBois.

The first regular rector was Rev. Michael Gilbert, 1838-40; Rev. Phillip Gellick, 1840-44; Rev. John O'Dowd, 1844-46; Francis McFarland, 1846-51; J. Finley, 1851-55; P. McNulty, 1855-61; James Hogan, 1861-78, Father Walsh was the rector during 1878, and Father Florence McCarthy, 1879. He was succeeded by Father Tobias Glenn, who remained till 1907. Rev. Father Burke, Father Glenn's assistant,

remained the balance of 1907. Father P. J. Devlin succeeded him and is still rector.

#### SACRED HEART.

The Church of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart grew out of the old St. Mary's Church on Factory street in 1857. A new church for this society was built on the north side and dedicated in 1878, and another new and more beautiful church was erected in 1906, at the corner of Thompson and Lynde streets. It has had a continuous growth in membership and influence. The church is one of the handsomest in the city, and besides, has under its direction a monastery and a large parish school. The school and monastery is under the special supervision of Rev. Z. Peloquin. It is mostly French.

#### HOLY FAMILY.

The Holy Family Church was organized from St. Patrick's in 1895. For a time the church services were held in Washington Hall and in a temporary church. In 1903 a new and modern church was begun and completed in 1905 on Winthrop street. Father Michael R. Burns, a man of strong character and good works, became the rector and under his ministration the parish has grown and prospered.

#### THEODORE TUTTLE WOODRUFF.

The world of progress and achievement owes much to many Watertown men. The field of science and the field of mechanics have been advanced by the genius





and skill of these minds. Theodore Tuttle Woodruff, in early times, was an expert pattern maker in Geo. Gouldings machine shop. Woodruff was born in Watertown in 1811. He first invented a mowing machine which was practicable and workable to a successful degree. He later conceived the idea of a sleeping car and produced one for demonstration. A model car was first run over the New York Central Railroad between New York and Buffalo. He afterwards had much difficulty in establishing his rights in the matter, but the sleeping car embodying the principle and features of his conception later became the great Pullman Sleeping Car System.

L. J. DORWIN.

Luther J. Dorwin was in many respects one of the distinguished members of the Watertown bar. He was born in Champion in 1820, son of Abby Dorwin, a farmer. Dorwin read law in Watertown and at once rose to prominence in the profession. He was a good deal of a scholar, was keen, resourceful and an able advocate. In real estate law, Dorwin was accounted an authority.

ISAAC HUBBARD FISKE, ESQ.

Another man, who, in the middle period of Watertown's history, occupied a prominent place in business and public affairs, was Isaac Hubbard Fiske. Mr. Fiske was born in Ashtabula, O., in 1811, and in 1836, married Miss Mary, daughter of Dr. John Safford,

of Watertown. For a short time thereafter they resided in Ohio, but in 1842, they returned to Watertown where Mr. Fiske became a business man. He ran a tannery and in company with Samuel F. Bates, had a store. The tannery was on the site now occupied by the Union Carriage and Gear Company's plant. Fiske & Bates were leading shoe merchants for quite a period of time. Mr. Fiske was one of the organizers of the Watertown Portable Engine Company, in 1865. He was a stockholder and director of the company.

Meanwhile, Mr. Fiske had become interested in politics and political affairs. He was an ardent Whig before the birth of the Republican party and, naturally, when that party was launched in 1856, Mr. Fiske cast his political fortunes with the organization. He was a delegate to the national convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln in 1860, and was also a member of the Electoral College that year. For many years Mr. Fiske was one of the directors of the Jefferson County National Bank. There were four children in the Fiske family, one of whom, Susan M., is now the wife of John C. Knowlton, Esq., of Watertown. One of the sons, John S. Fiske, died in Italy.

#### LEVI H. BROWN.

Again in the legal fraternity of Watertown, Levi H. Brown had a prominent place for nearly half a century. He was an able lawyer, had a wide reputation and a successful legal business.

Mr. Brown was born in 1818, a son of Calvin Brown.



He entered Union College in 1841, and after graduation read law in Schenectady, and later was in the office of Calvin Skinner at Adams. He was admitted to the bar in 1846, and soon thereafter located in Watertown, entering into partnership with Joshua Moore, the firm name being Moore & Brown. In 1854, Brown withdrew from this copartnership and joined Allen C. Beach in a partnership, it being then Brown & Beach. They built up an extensive business and gained high repute as lawyers. This partnership continued till 1871, when Mr. Beach was elected Lieut. Governor. The firm was then dissolved, Brown continuing in the practice alone. He represented the City in the Board of Supervisors and served as Mayor of the City. Mr. Brown had the esteem and respect of all who knew him.

#### A WEDDING TRIP.

Luther G. Hoyt was one of the early merchants in Watertown. He located in the village in 1820, being then a mere boy or youth. In 1828 he married and he and his bride planned an extensive wedding trip to the western country. They left Watertown by stage at four o'clock one morning, bound for Syracuse. The stage trip to Syracuse consumed eighteen hours' time. From Syracuse they were to sail by canal packet boat westward. They had lodging quarters and served meals aboard the boats in those days. After a two weeks' strenuous trip, the bride and groom returned to Watertown having been as far as Buffalo. The trip was made with safety, however, as at no time

on the way was the speed limit of four miles an hour exceeded.

NATHANIEL P. WARDWELL.

In the early days of Watertown, Nathaniel P. Wardwell, as a young man, was one of the conspicuous citizens. He was a lawyer by profession and a student by inclination. He graduated at Union College in the class of 1837 and read law in the office of John Clark, Esq., and soon after his admission to practice in 1842, he became a partner of Micah Sterling, the firm name being Sterling & Wardwell. Mr. Wardwell married Miss E. B. Sterling, daughter of Mr. Sterling, and they spent the rest of their lives in the Sterling mansion. He was active in public affairs, was public spirited, generous and in all ways a citizen of value and distinction. He died in 1847, while a young man.

The life of the second Nathaniel P. Wardwell, son of the above, was one of activity and greatly diversified business connections. He was born in Watertown in the Sterling mansion, which was his parents' home. His early education was acquired in the schools of the village, with the addition of a short course later at the East Hampton, Mass., Academy.

Mr. Wardwell's bent of mind was in the direction of business and finance, rather than the law, and, naturally, therefore, he began his business life in a bank. As a very young man he entered the old National Bank and Loan Company as a clerk. In a little time he be-





came teller. When the Watertown National Bank started in 1882, N. P. Wardwell was selected as its first cashier. He was a good banker and a shrewd financier, which was an admitted element in making the bank's success during those early years. He continued as the cashier through twenty-one years, then officiated as its president for six years.

Mr. Wardwell had other banking connections, both in Watertown and other places. Although quitting his first bank position as teller, his affiliation with it continued, he was one of its directors up to the time of his death. Besides, he was a stockholder and director in the Farmers' National Bank of Adams, and the Farmers' National Bank of Theresa, first vice-president of the Jefferson County Savings Bank, also one of the board of directors of the Agricultural Insurance Company, and of the Ontario Paper Company. Moreover, Mr. Wardwell had a business connection with the West End Paper Company of Carthage, the Carthage Electric Light Company and the Kalispel, Montana, Water and Electric Light Companies. These were not all of the enterprises and interests that had his mind and time. For several years he was president of the board of water commissioners of the City, one of the officers of the Jefferson County Historical Society, and vice-president of the Watertown Cemetery Association. His interest in the Historical Association and the Cemetery Association never lagged. He did much, in fact toward their promotion and improvement.

Mr. Wardwell's life was a busy one. He had great

mind capacity for giving thought to a multitude of subjects and affairs. A man of a clean sense of honor, a heart full of kindness and a disposition to do good, made him a citizen whose life was a credit to his native town.

Mr. Wardwell married Miss Ella F. Farwell, daughter of Addison M. Farwell, one of the prominent business men of Watertown. There were two sons born to them, Addison F. and Samuel B., both of whom are business men of Watertown.

DR. ISAAC MUNSON.

Dr. Isaac Munson, for many years a factor in the business affairs of the Agricultural Insurance Company, was a man of most admirable qualities. While he was trained for a professional career, his life and talents were engrossed mainly in business and public affairs.

Dr. Isaac Munson was born in Herkimer County in 1812, and after completing his professional studies he settled in Jefferson County to prosecute his work. His popularity seems to have soon taken him into political activity for in the late forties he was elected to the office of County Clerk. After completing his term of office Dr. Munson joined the force of workers who were then trying to work out the problem of making a success of the Agricultural Insurance Company, which was then running under its maiden name. He became its secretary and later its vice-president, and in 1882, was chosen president of the Company. Dr.

Munson possessed a good degree of business sagacity, was a conscientious and assiduous worker, which was manifested in the results of his labor. Besides his business qualifications, Dr. Munson had also other personal qualities which commanded the respect of the community.

JUDGE W. F. PORTER.

Judge Wilbur F. Porter probably had as wide a circle of staunch friends and admirers as any lawyer in the City of Watertown. His many good qualities, together with his tact and fighting ability almost made his calling and election sure in political contests in the City. Judge Porter was a native of Herkimer County, but when a boy his parents moved to Cape Vincent, where he lived during his boyhood. He was a student in the old Watertown Academy for some time and subsequently attended Falley Seminary at Fulton, N. Y.

After teaching school for a little while Mr. Porter began the study of law in the office of Laban H. Ainsworth at Cape Vincent. He practiced law a short time at the Cape after being admitted, and then became a member of the Watertown bar, where he spent the rest of his life. At first he was with Bagley & Wright, a business and professional connection that lasted ten years. During his whole professional career Judge Porter was one of the most active and widely known lawyers of the county. Governor Flower appointed him one of the Judges of the Court of Claims which post he filled with ability.

In politics Judge Porter was a Democrat, yet he was elected to the office of Mayor of the City for five consecutive terms. In 1896 he was made the nominee of his party for governor but went down in defeat. Judge Porter was active and widely known in the Masonic Order and other associations. In all his relations and business intercourse he had the respect and regard of everybody who knew him.

JOHN CLARK.

The list of the early time lawyers in Watertown of unusual ability is a long one for a provincial town. They have been conspicuous, not alone in law, but in public life and in various lines of endeavor. In law John Clark, Esq., brought honor to himself and the bar of which he was a member. Mr. Clark was born at Saybrook, Conn., in 1799. He located in Watertown at twenty-one years of age and began the study of law, being admitted in 1825. He then began practice with his brother, Charles E. Clark. John Clark rapidly rose to prominence in his profession. He was a man of great industry, profound research and a logical, eloquent orator. He was a man also of dignified and courteous manner, and of kindly speech. As a master of law, he is admitted to have been one of the most conspicuous in the county. Withal, he was a splendid citizen, a high type of man and a good friend. From 1840 to 1844 he was Surrogate of the County. He did not seek official position; he was devoted to the law.



In 1830, Mr. Clark married a daughter of William Smith. He was twice married, his second wife being the daughter of Butler Ranney. Mr. Clark died in Watertown in 1865.

D. D. OTIS.

And among the well known merchants of the early period David D. Otis was active and prominent. He was not only a successful merchant, but he was a builder. He erected a fine business block which was a monument to his energy and business ability.

Mr. Otis was born in Galway, Saratoga County, in 1806, and began life in Watertown in 1827. He was a hardware merchant for many years, his store being in Court street in the Otis building. He was in company with a Mr. Duane, the firm name being Otis & Duane. Later it became Otis & Stanley. Mr. Otis' business career in the hardware trade extended over a period of forty years. The building which is now the Otis block extends from Court to Arsenal street. In early times and for many years it was the Globe Hotel. This building burned in 1902, the heirs then erecting the present handsome office building. Mr. Otis served as president of the old village corporation and also as a member of the Board of Supervisors.

In 1843, Mr. Otis married Sarah Wardwell, of Wardwell Settlement. She died soon after their marriage. In 1848 he married Sarah Underwood. They had six children, two daughters and four sons. Mrs.

Joseph E. Greene, one of the daughters, is now a resident of Watertown.

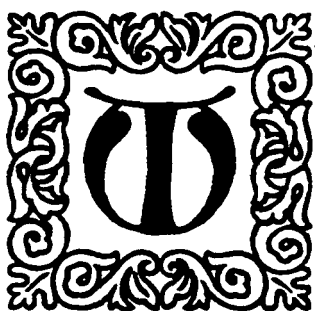
HON. FREDERICK LANSING.

Hon. Frederick Lansing, lawyer and soldier, was a native of Herkimer County. At eighteen he entered the law office of Judge F. W. Hubbard in Watertown, where he read law and was admitted in 1859. In 1862, Mr. Lansing answered the call for volunteers. He enlisted in Co. K, 10th N. Y. Volunteers and was made First Lieutenant. Later he was promoted to Adjutant of the 8th N. Y. Cavalry. In the engagement at Bristol Station, in 1863, Mr. Lansing received a severe gun shot wound, from which he never fully recovered.

Mr. Lansing returned home and resumed the practice of the law and soon rose to prominence in public affairs. From 1881 to 1885 he was in the State Senate, and in 1888 was chosen as representative in Congress, and served with honor and ability. He died in 1898.

## CHAPTER VII.

### PROMINENT MEN AND EVENTS.



WATERTOWN during the first fifty years or more of its life certainly was distressingly tried by fire. From 1833 to 1853 there was a series of conflagrations which in some instances wrought much ruin and loss.

The fire of 1833 destroyed the extensive tannery and oil mill of Jason Fairbanks, the paper mill of Knowlton & Rice, together with the morocco factory and the dwellings of Kitts and Carpenter. Besides, Beebee's cotton factory fell a prey to the flames this year.

In 1841 the Black River Woolen Mills on Factory Square were burned, resulting in tremendous loss.

In 1848 a fire, which started in an old stone shop on Mill street, burned a large number of buildings, also the bridge going across the river to Beebee's Island.

The great fire of 1849, of course, left a trail of ruin and a money loss of enormous extent. More than one hundred buildings went down in the fire and business was paralyzed for a time. Yet after all, it was an element of progress, for it cleared the ground for greater and better structures. The fire at this time had its beginning in the old American House.

The year 1851, saw the Perkin's Hotel on the Washington Hall corner go down in ashes, with a loss of \$25,000 or more. In 1852, a fire started at about the entrance to the Paddock Arcade and burned through to Stone street.

The Knowlton & Rice mill was burned again in 1848, also Winslow & Partridge's woolen mill, the Haddock axe factory and Gilderoy Lord's plow works.

The fire of 1852 which started at the corner of River and Mill streets destroyed that which was then known as "Mechanics' Row."

In 1853 the foundry, machine shop and car factory of Horace W. Woodruff on the north side near Beebee's Island, were burned. And the same year the sash and butter tub factory of Farnham & Button on Beebee's Island was consumed by fire.

By the year 1827 there were a plethora of hosteleries of one kind or another in Watertown, none of which decently comported with the standing of the town at the time. In view of this condition, some of the progressive citizens formed a company with a capital of \$20,000 for the purpose of building a hotel which would be adequate. The associated movers in the enterprise, legally known as the Watertown Hotel Company, took over the little two story structure at the corner of the Square and Arsenal street that was erected in 1804, and replaced it with the greater American House. This was a hotel of considerable pretension, having the equipment and appointments of a first class hostelry. It was in this hotel, too, that the fire

of 1849 began its destructive work. The hotel was consumed along with the many other buildings.

In 1832, Stephen Boon built a stone hotel which was then known as the Adelphi. It afterwards became the City Hotel.

One of the perplexing problems in the making of Watertown seems to have been that of procuring wholesome water. Much time and thought and considerable money were expended in this direction. Back in 1829, the village voted to use the money received from license grants for this purpose. In pursuance of this, eight hundred dollars were expended for the sinking of a well on Factory Square and one on the Public Square. Neither of these undertakings seems to have resulted in any degree of success. Later on, however, efforts were directed toward other sources of supply and the matter was solved.

There are perhaps some now living who remember the time when the Public Square was anything but a beauty spot, in fact, when it was a common dumping ground. This condition prevailed up to 1835, and in some measure to a later date. The fire of 1849, started the forward movement, however, and a few years later the Square became a garden of beauty. To-day the Square is a source of pride and pleasure, it is surpassed by very few.

#### OLD STAGE LINES.

W. W. Kiniston established the first stage line from Watertown to Utica. He also built the first

house on Stone street. It was a small stone structure somewhere near the end of Arcade street. Hart Massey built the second stone dwelling on this street; it was located at the corner of Massey street.

But the stages were important public utilities before the steam roads of anthracite penetrated the northern country.

George W. Burbank started the first parcel stage between Watertown and Utica, in 1831. The trips were made twice a week then. But this was the beginning of an extensive express business. Stages began by making weekly trips, later twice a week and then tri-weekly. By 1840 stages were making daily trips to Syracuse, to Utica and to Ogdensburg, also to Sackets Harbor. The time from Watertown to Syracuse was eighteen hours; to Utica twenty hours; Ogdensburg eighteen hours. One of the early placarded working rules of the Watertown Post Office, was as follows: "Mail closes immediately upon arrival of stage from Syracuse, usually between twelve and four p. m." All stages departed at 2 o'clock in the morning. Some of the early stage drivers were Samuel Buckley, E. Merriam, Edward Backus and H. Lewis. The coming of the steam roads, however, put an end to the career of these stage drivers.

Physicians settled early in Watertown, but it was not till 1835, that the first dentist had the temerity of offering his services in dental surgery in town. Dr. Willard Spaulding opened an office that year on Court street. As to his career in the village, there is no record.

## GEO. W. WIGGINS.

Among the merchants and manufacturers of Watertown, Geo. W. Wiggins was accounted one of the foremost. He was not only a good business man but possessed other qualities that made him an interesting friend and a good citizen.

Mr. Wiggins was born at Montpelier, Vt., in 1822. In 1843, he settled in Watertown and engaged first as a clerk in the store of Peck & Welch, dry goods merchants. He continued in the capacity of clerk till 1847, when, in company with Peter Horr, he engaged in business under the firm name of Horr & Wiggins, clothing merchants. Later Mr. Wiggins was associated with Mr. J. W. Clark in business, the firm being Wiggins and Clark.

In 1854, Mr. Wiggins joined the company of Horr, Fiske & Co., wholesale clothing manufacturers, he being the third party in the company, in the manufacture of clothing. The headquarters of the company were in Chicago, while a greater part of the goods were manufactured in Watertown. The enterprise gave employment to a large force of employes and thus contributed to Watertown's industrial activity.

In 1857, the firm of Wiggins & Johnson was formed to carry on the clothing business in Watertown. This continued till 1871, when Mr. Johnson withdrew from the firm and left Watertown. Thenceforward, Mr. Wiggins conducted the Wardrobe Clothing House which built up a wide reputation in the North Country.

Mr. Wiggins was a modest, unassuming man, who made many friends that still revere his memory. He finally retired from active business and devoted much time to public improvements and the betterment of Watertown.

GEORGE C. SHERMAN.

Prominent among that very interesting group of men of the early days in Watertown's history, Orville Hungerford, Jason Fairbanks, Micah Sterling, Loveland Paddock and Norris M. Woodruff, was George C. Sherman, Esq. Mr. Sherman possessed many of the combined qualities of Micah Sterling and such men as Paddock, Hungerford and Woodruff. Judge Sherman was not only a great lawyer, but he was a business man, a financier of acknowledged ability. He, with those mentioned, together with still others, constituted that wonderful mental and physical force that could make "bricks without straw" or build a municipality where most men could have seen little more than desolation.

Judge Sherman cast his lot in the struggling little settlement of Watertown in 1815. He was only sixteen then, much younger than those mentioned, yet he soon made a place for himself among them and added his strength and force to the work which had been undertaken. He was a native of Providence, R. I., where he was born in 1799. Upon his arrival in Watertown, Mr. Sherman entered the law office of David Bucklin as a law student. In 1823, he was admitted to the bar,



and he at once formed a co-partnership with his preceptor, and the firm became Bucklin & Sherman. This relationship continued till Mr. Bucklin left Watertown.

Mr. Sherman forged ahead in his profession till his law business became extensive and profitable. He was an able lawyer, resourceful and diplomatic in a marked degree. In 1833, he was appointed district attorney of the county, a position he filled with great credit till 1840. Following this, in 1845, he was made one of the Judges of the Court of Pleas, and held it till 1847, when the court was abolished by change in the State Constitution.

Judge Sherman's political faith was Democratic, yet in 1843, he was elected to the State Senate, and in this again acquitted himself with honor and credit. Meanwhile, he had entered into partnership with Hon. Robert Lansing, thus making a combination of two unique characters, leaders in the law. He meanwhile, had got a grip on finance and so in 1838, the Watertown Bank and Loan Company was founded and under his able guidance the bank became one of the strong institutions of Watertown. It grew and prospered and was a strong bank long past the year of his death in 1863.

In 1828, Judge Sherman married Miss Marry Ann, third daughter of Nodadiah Hubbard. They had six children, namely: Francis A., Mary H., Geo. H., Robt. L., Chas. A. and Sarah Sherman. When Judge Sherman passed, the community lost a tower of strength as a citizen and a man of good works.

## HON. ROBT. LANSING.

In more senses than one, it is fitting that Hon. Robert Lansing should have immediate association here with Judge Sherman.

First, they were born the same year, 1799, were partners for years and spent practically all of their lives in intimate association with one another. Besides, they were kindred types of men. Robert Lansing was born in Albany, and located in Watertown in 1817, two years after Sherman's arrival. He was a law student in the office of Egbert TenEyck and became a practitioner in 1820, when he was twenty-one. As early as 1826, he was selected as district attorney of the county, serving till 1833. Mr. Lansing, in addition to a great law business, early drifted into public affairs and political life. In 1831, he was elected to the State Senate and served two terms, or till 1836. He was then succeeded by Micah Sterling, a worthy successor, surely. Judge Lansing was again appointed district attorney in 1845, but he had grown beyond that position and resigned after a short service. But in 1847, he was elected Judge of the County and made an excellent and able judge till 1852, at which time he retired from active public service and law work, except in referee cases. These were two strong characters, men of marked ability, of a high sense of honor, always faithful to Watertown and faithful to every truth.

In 1831, Judge Lansing married Marie, daughter of Nodadiah Hubbard. She died in 1839. By this





union there was one son, John Lansing. In 1841, Judge Lansing married a second daughter of Nodadiah Hubbard. Judge Lansing died in 1878.

HON. CHARLES E. CLARKE.

Hon. Charles E. Clarke was another one of the men to locate in Watertown in 1815, and become a lawyer and citizen of note. He was a graduate of Yale College, had read law in Green County, and had been admitted to practice in the State Courts. He also attained a high position both in law and public affairs. Soon after his settling in Watertown, he was joined by his brother John under the law firm name of C. E. and J. Clarke, which partnership continued till 1848. From 1839-40, Mr. Clarke was a member of Assembly, and in 1848, he was elected to Congress, defeating Willard Ives. Mr. Clarke was accounted one of the very able lawyers of Northern New York. He died in 1863.

EDMUND Q. SEWALL.

As a man of culture, education, business man and gentleman, Edmund Q. Sewall filled an important place in the community. Mr. Sewall was born in New York City in 1826, but spent practically all of his life in Watertown. His parents moved to Watertown when he was a small child, so that he grew up and got his preparatory education in Watertown, and later graduated at Harvard. Mr. Sewall began as a lawyer but soon became identified with business affairs. He read law in the office of Mullin & Goodale, with the inten-

sion of making it his life business. In a little time, however, he became a member of the company which was then Goulding, Bagley & Sewall, now the Bagley & Sewall Company. This business relationship continued until his death. Mr. Sewall's mind and heart, meanwhile, were as much in other matters, in education, public improvements and all measures of civic betterment. He was a scholar, a reader, a man of the highest impulse and uplifting influence. For many years he was a valued member of the board of education and served a good part of the time as its president. Aside from his contribution to the business and industrial advancement of the town, his activity and devotion to the upbuilding in other ways distinguished him as a citizen.

#### HENRY KEEP.

Whether the name be significant or not, certainly the character of Henry Keep was another strange compound of interesting qualities. When a very young man he dropped into Watertown with not a friend or acquaintance to direct, suggest or aid him. He applied himself to anything that was honorable to gain a livelihood; in fact, it is said he was once a "hostler" in a livery stable on Court street. But if so, he was beyond doubt, a good hostler. At all events, it was in the horoscope of this penniless and friendless young man to rise to power, to great wealth and position in affairs that would have been the envy of many much better circumstanced.

In a little time Henry Keep was a business man and in another decade he was sought by business men and financiers. As proof of this, he became president of the great New York Central, R. R., he was a banker, a man of influence and character. Yet he was simple, strong of heart, with an unswerving principle. The beautiful Keep Home of Watertown, founded by his widow, is a befitting but slight memorial to a man of wonderful achievement.

JAMES F. STARBUCK.

Following along the list of citizens and lawyers of note, James F. Starbuck was a contemporary of those previously mentioned. Starbuck was a brilliant man, one who would have been influential in diplomatic affairs. In politics and political matters he was a force to be reckoned with.

Senator Starbuck, was a native of Cayuga County, N. Y., but like so many others of his type, he drifted to Watertown when a young man of twenty-three. He was born in 1815, and 1839, entered the law office of Lansing & Sherman to read law. As soon as he was admitted, he opened an office and began an active career. In 1846, Senator Starbuck was elected Secretary of the Constitutional Convention which was held that year. In 1850, he was elected district attorney of the county and served with great efficiency for three years. The year 1860, saw him a candidate for Congress, but he was on the wrong ticket and therefore suffered defeat in spite of his popularity. But in 1876,

he went to the State Senate as the candidate of the same party. While in the Senate he became a conspicuous figure, a man of energy, integrity and influence.

In 1848, Senator Starbuck married Miss Sarah M. Burchard, daughter of Peleg Burchard. Mrs. Starbuck died in 1857. They had one daughter, now Mrs. E. S. Goodale of Watertown. In 1861, Senator Starbuck married for his second wife Mrs. Roxina Boyer, widow of Judge Joseph Boyer. The Senator died in 1880.

#### HOWELL COOPER.

Howell Cooper was not a pioneer in the new country. He became a citizen after the great formative period, when business had got a footing and the stamp of progress was on the community.

Mr. Cooper was born in Trenton, N. Y., in 1815. In 1839, he married Miss Lois P. Woodruff, the daughter of Norris M. Woodruff, and through this connection he became a business man and citizen of Watertown.

Mr. Cooper was actively identified with Horace Woodruff in the hardware business, the store then being on Washington street, a little south of the Washington Hall block. He was a good business man and contributed much to the success of the business. They manufactured a patent cheese vat and heater which had a wide sale throughout the dairying country. Besides, Mr. Cooper made the old Buckeye Mower which had long and successful vogue among the farmers of







New York and other states. He died in Watertown, in 1870. His widow is still living.

#### ELI FARWELL.

One of the active and strong forces in the early business of Watertown, was Eli Farwell. Mr. Farwell was the second of eight children born to Isaac M. Farwell, a native of Townsend, Mass., born April 16, 1757, and Thankful Brigham, who was born June 13, 1760, at Shrewsburg, Mass.

Eli Farwell was born March 14, 1791, at Whites-town, Oneida County, N. Y., and died May 27, 1866, at Watertown. December 23, 1819, he was married by the Rev. E. F. Willey, of Utica, N. Y., to Margaret Adeline Brayton, who was born April 27, 1798, at Deerfield, Oneida County, N. Y., and died in Watertown, May 19, 1871. To them six children were born.

Mr. Farwell moved to Watertown in the early twenties, and in 1835, was elected a Member of Assembly from the Watertown district. For many years he was a partner of Josiah W. Baker in a general store, located on Court street on or near the site of Scott Bros., Furnishing Dry Goods store, now the property of Frank A. Empsall & Company. Mr. Baker afterwards moved to New York City.

Mr. Farwell's health partially failed during his close attention to commercial life and so he became associated with his younger brother, Samuel Farwell, of Utica, and other contractors in building the Delaware & Raritan Canal of New Jersey, and also the Boston

Reservoir for supplying the city of Boston with water. Besides, he was interested in other public enterprises.

Mr. Farwell returned to Watertown and until the time of his death, was associated with his brother-in-law, Mr. Hiram Merrill and others, as owners of the Union Flouring Mills of Watertown.

Mr. Farwell was long an elder of the First Presbyterian Church, where he rendered faithful and devoted services to the time of his death.

In 1835 he was made one of the first directors of the Potsdam and Watertown R. R. Co., and in 1836, one of the first Board of Trustees of the Black River Literary and Religious Institute (afterwards the Jefferson County Institute and Watertown High School.) He was for many years a director of the Jefferson County National Bank.

In the summer of 1828, Mr. Farwell erected the home on Clinton street, which he occupied until his death in 1866, and which was the birth place and now the home of his only surviving child, Frederick R. Farwell.

Mr. Farwell was not ambitious as an office seeker, but during his entire life and up to the time of his death, about the age of 75 years, he was an active, widely known and prominent business man, a good citizen, a kindly neighbor and friend, always taking deep interest in that which was for the best of the community and for the welfare and uplift of his fellow men.

DR. HOLBROOK.

Dr. Edwin A. Holbrook was born at Madrid, St.





Lawrence County, N. Y., October 6, 1807, and lived in Watertown from 1852 until his death, April 21, 1897. When Edwin was seven years old his father moved with the family into a section of the Adirondack wilderness which afterwards became the town of Fine. Here he built a house and barn, cleared about thirty acres of land and had expectations that other pioneers would come to that section and form a settlement, but these hopes were not realized in his lifetime. When Edwin was fifteen years old, his father died, leaving a widow and twelve children. Many hardships were endured by the family, but Edwin managed to secure a very good education. In the early days he was taught by his mother and older sister and afterwards he worked on a farm in the summer months and thus earned money to attend the St. Lawrence Academy in winter. Later he attended the Clinton Liberal Institute. Subsequently he studied for the ministry and for thirteen years he preached the Universalist faith in the villages of Malone and Carthage. Afterwards he studied dentistry and practiced that profession for forty years in Watertown.

Dr. Holbrook devoted much of his time to literature and delivered lectures upon various subjects, and wrote many articles for the press. He gave much study to economic subjects—the question of capital and labor, railroads and canals receiving much of his attention. He contributed a series of articles to the *Railway Age* upon the subjects of the railroads and their relations and obligations to the public, which were much

esteemed during the formative period of railroad-ing.

Dr. Holbrook also wrote many poems which were contributed to the newspapers of Jefferson County. In 1875, he published a collection of them in a volume of 500 pages, which met with a ready sale.

Dr. Holbrook was twice married. His first wife was Lucinda Richardson, of Columbia village, who died in 1842. In 1846, he married Anna M. Hazelton, of Fowler, St. Lawrence County, who died in 1898. Dr. Holbrook is survived by four sons, Dr. Arthur Holbrook, a dentist of Milwaukee, Wis.; William H. Holbrook, of Parish, N. Y.; Charles E. Holbrook, of Watertown, and D. M. Holbrook, of Suffern, N. Y.

#### HON. AMBROSE W. CLARK.

As a journalist, statesman and diplomatist, Hon. Ambrose W. Clark attained to much distinction. Mr. Clark was not a man of extensive education but by dint of his own inclination and assiduous reading he became a man of learning. Besides the common schools the basis of his education was obtained in a newspaper office, a training school that develops ability and rounds out character.

Mr. Clark was born near Cooperstown, February 19, 1810. At an early age he entered a newspaper office and there had the experience that enabled him to embark in the business for himself. He established a newspaper in Lowville in 1836, and remained there ten years. At this time he moved to Watertown and took control







of the Black River Journal, at once changing the name to the Northern New York Journal. He was a good newspaper man, was a versatile writer and a recognized force in political matters. He was a Whig in those days and was ever active in advancing its interests. When the Republican party was organized in 1856, Mr. Clark espoused its cause and worked to strengthen and build up the new party.

In 1860 Mr. Clark had become a leader in the Republican party and that year was nominated and elected to Congress. He was re-elected in 1862, and served his constituents with fidelity and ability.

In 1865, Mr. Clark was selected as U. S. Consul at Valparaiso, Chile, and there distinguished himself as a diplomatist. He died in 1887. His daughter, Mrs. George A. Bagley is now a resident of Watertown.

#### BERNARD BAGLEY.

In early times the moving spirits of progress, like the travelers through the great desert, all bound for the Mecca, so Watertown seemed to have been the Mecca in those days. Bernard Bagley rode on horseback through the woods from Durham, N. Y., to Watertown, when there was little more than a trail. Sometime after casting his fortunes in the new town he began the study of law in the office of Hon. Charles E. Clarke and was admitted in 1826.

Mr. Bagley soon became a lawyer of ability and note. As a trial lawyer he had singular ability, which was recognized in all the courts. He was a logical rea-

soner, with a clear and forceful manner, of presenting the questions involved in a case, and so won many a hard contested suit. Mr. Bagley built up a large business which took him into all the Courts of the State.

He was also interested in political affairs and had much influence in county matters. He served several terms as supervisor, during which time he, with Orville Hungerford, was instrumental in having the county poor house moved to Watertown. When the first Trinity Church of Watertown was built, Mr. Bagley gave it material aid, also when the second Trinity Church was erected on Trinity Place. Mr. Bagley, in 1824, married Mrs. Wright, mother of Judge Wright of Watertown. He died in 1878.

#### CAMP'S DITCH.

The Empire State in early times had "Dewitt Clinton's Ditch," and Watertown and Jefferson County had "Camp's Ditch." "Clinton's Ditch," or the Erie Canal, was completed in 1825, whereas the Jefferson County Ditch, although projected in 1823 was not completed till 1832.

Back in 1823, Sackets Harbor was seeking some means for procuring water power, and a movement was started to divert some of the water from the lower pond in Watertown into Pleasant and Mill Creeks to supply this power, but Judge Henry Coffeen, Orin Stone and others, whose land would be crossed by this waterway, opposed the undertaking, therefore, it was blocked temporarily. An act of the Legislature in 1825, au-



BERNARD BAGLEY, ESQ.



thorized Joseph Kimball, Amos Catlin and Daniel Hall, Jr., to take water from the river through Stony and Pleasant Creeks for the purpose named, the damages growing out of this diverted waterway to be assessed by Egbert TenEyck, Joseph Hawkins and Clark Allen. However, water was not to be taken from the dam without the written consent of the owners. This consent could not be obtained, and so the project was blocked again. Another act of 1826 also failed to clear the way. This was followed by a movement to construct a navigable canal from Sackets Harbor to Carthage, at a cost of \$200,000, upon which toll was to be charged. In furtherance of this scheme an act was passed April 15, 1828, incorporating the Jefferson County Canal Company, with a capital of \$300,000. Vincent LeRay, Philip Schuyler, Egbert TenEyck, Elisha Camp, Jason Fairbanks, Levi Beebee, Arthur Bronson, John Felts and Joseph Kimball were the parties in the organization. Still there was no canal.

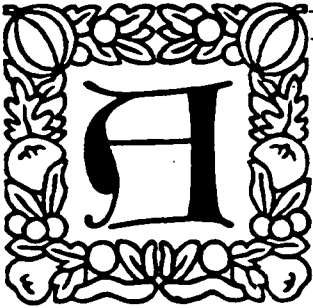
At a meeting held December 30, 1829 Elisha Camp proposed to assume the stock individually on certain conditions, these being that those interested were to ascertain the amount of aid that could be secured. In 1830 the work of building the canal was begun, the specifications calling for a canal four feet deep, twelve feet wide at bottom and twenty feet wide at the surface. This work started in 1830 at Huntington's Mills, two miles above Watertown, and was completed that year to a place called the "Big Swamp." By 1832 the canal was finished.

But trouble followed the opening of the new waterway. Suits for damages along the way accumulated rapidly, by reason of which the enterprise was harassed and crippled in its operation. After a frenzied life of about ten years, the canal was abandoned with tremendous loss to its projectors and stockholders. Now broken and overgrown banks in places along the canal's course remain as a memorial to the builders of Camp's Ditch.



## CHAPTER VIII.

### PERSONALITIES AND AN ORIENTAL FUNERAL.



LONG with the many strong and unique characters in Watertown's history, there was that most strikingly unique spectacle, the funeral of Alexander Cummins, in 1842. The story is interesting because of its truly oriental setting and coloring.

Alexander Cummins, a resident of Watertown, died and was buried June 1, 1842, and this date happened to fall on Sunday. In religious faith Mr. Cummins was a Universalist, and the services, therefore, were held at the old Universalist Church on the Public Square. In those days VanAmberg's circus and menagerie was the greatest show of the kind on the road. It was known as VanAmberg's Caravan. VanAmberg's show exhibited in town on the Saturday preceding the day of this funeral. Mr. VanAmberg, it is said, had known Mr. Cummins and was himself an ardent believer in the Universalist faith, and so asked permission to attend the funeral with his caravan.

At the hour of the funeral on Sunday the entire menagerie drew up on the Public Square in front of

the church decked and bespangled with all the pomp and show of a real oriental funeral. The elephants and camels, with riders, were two abreast while the rest of the aggregation followed in order. In this manner they led the funeral cortege out Arsenal street to the old Arsenal street cemetery, where the burial took place. There was a little bridge to be crossed on entering the cemetery, it is said, and the elephants stubbornly refused to cross it. But after much lashing they were forced to pass over the bridge, which ended in a ferocious demonstration and a fight among the elephants. It certainly was a strange spectacle and probably never had a parallel, except at the funeral of some royal personage in an oriental country.

HON. FREDERICK W. HUBBARD.

Judge Hubbard was born in Champion, the son of Nodadiah Hubbard, one of the earliest and most respected citizens in the community.

Frederick W., after completing his education became a student in the law office of Lansing & Sherman in Watertown, and after his admission to the bar he practiced his profession in the City till 1850. Judge Hubbard was a man of splendid fiber, strong mentally and of the most scrupulous honor. In 1850 he was elected Justice of the Supreme Court and served eight years. As a member of this body Judge Hubbard was distinguished and honored. Sudden death cut short a life full of good deeds and helpful influence in the making of good citizenship.

## HENRY D. SEWALL.

Henry D. Sewall, who was an active figure in the manufacturing industry of Watertown from 1828 to 1846, had many of the same characteristics of some of those who had also come from New England and settled in Watertown in advance of him. He was a native of Massachusetts, having spent most of his life in Boston and New York City. Mr. Sewall came from a distinguished family, was a business man of ability and strict integrity. He had been in business in New York, and by reason of a large interest in the cotton and woolen mill on Sewall's Island which had fallen to him, he came to Watertown to engage actively in the business. This had been transferred to him by Gilbert & Sigourney. Mr. Sewall, in company with John Sigourney and Josiah Baker, carried on the factory and the store until 1834, at which time the charter expired. The property was then sold. In 1829, Mr. Sewall built the dam at the upper end of the island which bears his name, and soon thereafter he built that handsome residence on the island.

In 1834, Mr. Sewall, in company with Austin Barton erected an extensive woolen mill on the south side opposite the island and soon built several brick stores on the east side of Factory Square, also several dwellings near the woolen mill, and in the early forties was a contractor in the building of the now N. Y. C. along the Mohawk Valley. Mr. Sewall was a fine type of man, a force in upbuilding and a doer of good. He

died in Watertown in 1846. He had two daughters, one who became Mrs. Talcott H. Camp, and one the wife of Dr. Charles Goodale, also one son, Edmund Q.

#### JUDGE WRIGHT.

Hon. Charles David Wright was one of the ablest office lawyers in Jefferson Co. When he was admitted to the bar he became a partner of Bernard Bagley, who had married his mother. The firm of Bagley & Wright continued many years and had an extensive business. Judge Wright was not a strong trial lawyer, but as a counsellor and office lawyer he had recognized ability. He was for four years a partner of Hon. Frederick W. Hubbard. In 1859, Mr. Wright was elected County Judge and served four years with the greatest satisfaction to all who had business in his court. He was of the right temperament, was just and honorable.

Judge Wright settled in Watertown in 1838, was educated in the schools of the city and read law in the office of Bernard Bagley. In addition to being County Judge, he was master in chancery from 1840 until that court was abolished by constitutional amendment.

Judge Wright married Pamela Brown Shields, daughter of James Shields of Brownville. Mrs. C. F. Clark of Watertown, is a daughter by this marriage. Judge Wright died July 9, 1905.

#### TALCOTT H. CAMP.

Talcott H. Camp, merchant, banker and financier, was a native of Utica, N. Y. He was born in 1817,





and when a small boy his parents moved to Sackets Harbor, where Talcott H. lived until he was twenty-three years of age. By 1840 the relative conditions of Sackets Harbor and Watertown had been reversed, and the Irish bard of Sackets Harbor truthfully could have sung, "Sackets Harbor just back of Watertown," because Watertown had sometime before passed the little barracks town.

In 1840, Mr. Camp began his business career at the county seat. He first started a drug and paint store in the Paddock building; afterwards Geo. B. Massey became his partner, the firm being Camp & Massey. He made good progress in the business, because he was honest, courteous and obliging. In time he reached out into other lines of business and other enterprises.

Mr. Camp was one of the active promoters of the Rome and Cape Vincent Railroad and was one of its directors for twenty-five years, also its financial supervisor. He was also one of the organizers and stockholders of the Watertown Steam Engine Company and a friend and earnest supporter of the old Black River Literary and Religious Institute. For thirty years he served as one of the trustees of the Jefferson County Savings Bank and from 1866 until his death he was president of the Jefferson County National Bank.

Mr. Camp was a recognized factor in financial affairs; he was trusted implicitly because he had been proven to be honest, thorough and efficient in all po-

sitions of trust. Mr. Camp was an active and earnest member of the First Presbyterian Church, and was equally active and earnest in all measures for good and the advancement of Watertown.

On June 30, 1847, Mr. Camp married Miss Anna Elizabeth, daughter of Henry D. Sewall, Esq. Mr. Camp died June 3, 1888. They had three sons, Frederick, Walter Hale and George VanSanford Camp.

#### LYSANDER H. BROWN.

Lysander H. Brown was a man of many distinguished qualities. He was an able lawyer, a good writer and an orator of unusual grace and finish. Mr. Brown was a farmer boy and obtained his primary education in the country district school. He was born at Brownville, December 2, 1808, and until nearly or quite twenty years of age his life was spent on a farm. At this time he spent two years at Belleville Academy and in 1831, entered Union College, graduating in 1834, with the highest honors of the class. Then he returned to become the principal of the Academy in which he had prepared for college.

In 1838, he resigned the principalship of the Academy and began the study of law in Watertown. The following year he was admitted to practice and devoted his life to his profession in Watertown.

Mr. Brown was a Democrat and in many campaigns was a force in advancing the interests of his party. He was an eloquent and convincing speaker, a logical reasoner, and therefore had telling influence from the



platform. He was as eloquent and able a lawyer as he was a stump speaker.

In 1844, Mr. Brown was elected to the Assembly and made a brilliant record as a legislator and speaker. In 1847 he was elected Surrogate of Jefferson County and held the office until 1852. He died in Watertown in 1892, after a long and active life full of good work and honor.

HON. JOSEPH MULLIN.

When Judge Mullin at nine years of age landed at Brownville in 1820, probably few who knew him then put him down as one of the coming great lawyers and jurists. But that was his history.

Judge Mullin was an Irish boy, born at Droman, County Downe, Ireland, and along with his parents, John and Martha Mullin, emigrated to the new country and then pushed on into the yet undeveloped Northern New York. As a boy he worked in a printing office at Brownville and at Adams. This went on six years with very little opportunity for schooling until he was fifteen. He then entered Belleville Academy where he studied and remained till 1831 or until he was prepared for college. That year he entered Union College and graduated in 1834. After his college course he accepted the principalship of Union Academy, where he remained one year. In 1836, Mr. Mullin entered the law office of Thomas C. Chittenden, Esq., of Watertown, to prepare for the law. This was interrupted by one year's service as principal of the

old Academy at Watertown. At the end of the school year he went into the law office of Sterling & Bronson, and when admitted became a partner in the firm of Sterling & Bronson. He rose rapidly in his profession. He was industrious, energetic and thoroughly reliable.

In 1841, Judge Mullin was appointed one of the Supreme Court commissioners, and also a commissioner in bankruptcy under the old bankruptcy act of 1841. This year he was elected district attorney of the county, and in 1846, was elected to Congress from his home district. In all of these positions of trust and honor he was faithful, capable and honest. The Republican party, in 1857, nominated and elected him to the Supreme Court bench, of which body he later became the presiding officer in the judicial district. Judge Mullin possessed judicial qualities of the highest order; he was kindly, considerate and always just. Union College, in 1870, bestowed upon him the degree of LL. D., in recognition of his ability and learning. In 1839, Judge Mullin married Lydia M., daughter of Egbert Ten Eyck. He died May 17, 1882, and by his death, Jefferson County and the State lost a valuable and honorable citizen.

SAMUEL B. UPHAM.

Samuel B. Upham was another New England boy who made his way unaided to a high place in business affairs, and also in the esteem and honor of his fellow men.

Mr. Upham was born September 28, 1819, son of





John and Susan Baker Upham. At eight years of age he lost his father by death, and so Samuel B. found his way to Watertown Center where his uncle, John Sawyer, was living. Here he lived, doing farm work, until he was eighteen. Business and commercial affairs attracted him more than that of farming and in following this inclination he engaged as a clerk in the general store of Moffett & Hanford at Rodman. This service continued till 1844, by which time he had acquired experience and some money. He moved to Watertown and engaged in the general dry goods trade in company with Mr. O. C. Utley. They built up a large business and worked out a good success, but in 1854, poor health compelled Mr. Upham to retire from business. Three years later Mr. Upham threw his ability and efforts into another line which was more congenial and for which he was eminently fitted. He became cashier of the Union National Bank and in that position demonstrated his ability as a banker. He continued as the bank's cashier until his death May 11, 1892.

For a good many years Mr. Upham was a member of the board of directors of the Jefferson County Savings Bank, and a part of this time he was its vice-president. Besides, he was a stockholder and director in the old Carthage, Watertown and Sackets Harbor Railroad corporation. All these were the achievements of a boy left practically homeless at the age of eight years. He accumulated a comfortable fortune, meanwhile was honest and upright in all things and

had the respect of everybody. When he died business and the whole community mourned the loss. In 1847, Mr. Upham married Miss Mary Allen Lawyer, of Schoharie, by whom he had seven children.

ADDISON M. FARWELL.

Addison M. Farwell was also a blood product of New England. He had the true Yankee character and along with it much of its peculiar genius which has always seemed to make for success. He was born in Sandusky, Ohio, but his father, Lyman, and his mother, Theodosia Abbott Farwell, were both natives of the Yankee country. A. M. Farwell was born Jan. 19, 1819.

At the age of twenty-one Mr. Farwell was acting as foreman of a gang of men on the Croton water works of New York City. From this position he became a contractor in the building of the Great Western Railroad through Canada. He built sixty miles of the road. Upon the finish of this work he had a contract and helped construct the Brooklyn water works. After these Mr. Farwell was identified with many public enterprises and construction works. He was a man of marvelous courage and a clear conception of the possibilities of an engineering and building proposition. His rare ability was everywhere recognized by the great contractors and builders. His undertakings of this nature extended into many states, and through them all he was noted as never having been daunted by any obstacle. A contract begun by him was seldom abandoned.











In 1858, Mr. Farwell, in association with Mr. Frederick Baker, established a tannery on Newell street, which they continued to carry on for twenty years. They also had a store on the Square, selling leather and findings. The tannery was mostly in the line of sheep skins, but the business was prosperous and profitable. Mr. Baker retired in 1878, and Mr. Farwell continued the business, adding another tannery and extending the line into many novelties that had wide sale. In 1888, after thirty years of successful business, the plant was sold to Bertram Taylor, later Taylor Brothers.

Mr. Farwell was a director and for a long time president of the Jefferson County Savings Bank, succeeding James I. Steele. In 1870, he succeeded Howell Cooper as director of the Jefferson County National Bank. Mr. Farwell was also a stockholder of the Ontario Paper Company, and also a director.

Although leading an active and very busy life, Mr. Farwell found time to devote to good works. He was charitable, kind and helpful in every worthy cause. In 1842, Mr. Farwell married Miss Mary T. Wright of Lewis County. They had three children, Lucius, who died at 17, two daughters one of whom married Nathaniel P. Wardwell and the second is the wife of Edward B. Sterling, Esq., of Watertown.

#### ISAAC P. POWERS.

Isaac P. Powers was a native of Lewis County, N. Y. He spent the early years of his life on a farm and

at the age of twenty-one became a merchant in a general store at Denmark, in the county of his birth. He conducted this business until 1852, at which time he became a resident of Watertown.

Later on in 1868, Mr. Powers became largely interested in the Watertown Steam Engine Company and served several years as its secretary and treasurer. Mr. Powers was a man of large means, in a money sense, and therefore was interested in and identified with many enterprises and business institutions. Some of these were the Watertown Spring Wagon Company and the Thermometer Company, of which he was president. He was also a partner of the D. S. Miller Company and a stockholder and director of the Union National Bank.

Mr. Powers was a most estimable citizen, an earnest supporter of good causes, public spirited and helpful in all ways. Mr. Powers married Miss Lorinda Lamon, who survives him. Mr. Powers died in 1908.

#### ABEL DAVIS.

The story of Abel Davis' life and achievements in face of the darkest sort of an outlook is another instance of a boy making his way in the new country of Northern New York.

As a boy of fifteen or sixteen Abel Davis came from New England and worked on a farm near Brownville. He was desperately poor and depended wholly upon himself. He, of course had only one suit of clothes and that not an expensive one by any means. He had no money; his capital consisted entire-



ABEL DAVIS



ly of vigor and determination. He began work on the farm in the early spring of 1827, and it is told of him that one day while riding to Brownville upon a load of hay in March that year, he lost his coat and the exigencies of the circumstances compelled him to go coatless until the next fall.

In a few years, however, by industry and economy, Abel Davis had accumulated some money. This he ventured in a business undertaking with a man by the name of Babcock. In a little time Davis' hard earned money was gone, but he still had courage and faith. He earned more money and engaged in the business of making the old time box stoves for burning wood. These stoves were popular in the early days of wood stoves, therefore, Davis' wood stove had a wide sale and he made money. Meanwhile, Mr. Davis had money to loan, and with all his providence and extreme prudence in money matters, he loaned money in a way that accrued to the benefit of the borrower and the community. Settlers coming in to buy farms found Abel Davis ready to supply the money to secure the desired home. In time he had a mortgage interest in many farms in Jefferson County. His personal wants were simple and inexpensive, all of which threw the balance on the right side of his growing wealth. Davis, at the same time, did much for the needy in a quiet way, and being an earnest spiritualist, he built a temple in North Watertown, dedicated to the cause, and presented it to the Society.

Mr. Davis married a daughter of James Wood of

Woods Falls. They had no children. He was born March 28, 1810, and died in Watertown, June 23, 1904. Mr. L. G. DeCant, his nephew, became his heir.

JUDGE JOHN C. MCCARTIN.

Judge John C. McCartin was born in the Town of Alexandria in 1840. He entered E. B. Wynn's law office in Watertown and was admitted to the bar in 1861, he was with the firm of Brown & Beach until December 20, 1863. He then enlisted in the 14th N. Y., Heavy Artillery and was commissioned First Lieutenant. He served through the campaign of the following year, including that of The Wilderness, until August 20, 1864, when he was discharged for disability.

He returned to Watertown and formed a partnership with Anson B. Moore, which continued till 1873.

In 1873, Mr. McCartin formed a partnership with Hon. Pardon C. Williams, which continued until 1884, when Mr. Williams was elected Justice of the Supreme Court. From that time on Mr. McCartin practiced alone. In 1889, he was elected County Judge of Jefferson County on the Democratic ticket, with a plurality of several hundred, although the county was over two thousand Republican. He served as County Judge until his death in January, 1891.

Judge McCartin was not a strong trial lawyer but as a counsellor and in preparing evidence in a case, he had few superiors. He was popular in the county as a lawyer, judge and citizen. His probity never







was questioned and his fairness and impartial decisions while on the bench gained for him the highest respect and honor.

Judge McCartin, in 1873, married Miss Julia Sterling. She died in 1889. His second wife was Miss Fannie Paddock of Norwich, N. Y. There was one son by the first wife, George S.

BYRON B. TAGGART.

Byron B. Taggart was a farmer boy in the Town of LeRay. He was born in 1831. He first attended the country school and after a time went to the Albany Normal School and fitted himself for teaching. He taught at various places for several years, and when the Civil War came on Mr. Taggart, in 1862, raised a company of volunteers for the 10th N. Y. Artillery Regiment. He was commissioned captain and was wounded in an engagement at Fort Reckets. After his return to Watertown Mr. Taggart engaged in business. His brother William was a lawyer and sometime later they began manufacturing paper bags and did a large and successful business. William for a considerable length of time was Surrogate of the County but later he devoted most of his energy to the manufacturing industry.

Mr. Byron B. Taggart was elected Mayor in 1879, and served two years. He was also one of the trustees of the Soldiers' Home at Bath, N. Y. Both he and William were good business men and were highly regarded in the community.

GILBERT BRADFORD.

Another man who contributed to Watertown's distinction in mechanics was Gilbert Bradford. He invented the first portable steam engine that was ever put upon the market. It was a novelty in those days but his machine was practical and a success. The engine was made for some time by Hoard & Bradford, both of whom were men of a good deal of account in business and citizenship. Mr. Bradford was identified with other enterprises and held important offices. In 1858 he was elected member of Congress.

#### THE BUILDING OF THE RAILROADS.

When the agitation of the question of railroads was uppermost in the early thirties, William Smith and Clark Rice used to meet in a room in the rear part of a store on Factory street to solve the problem of getting a railroad for Watertown. Few people had seen anything like a steam railroad and naturally had little faith in a project of the kind. This condition prevailed well on through the forties, too. But these two gentlemen constructed a model of a train and exhibited it in this back room when they were trying to interest people and get financial aid toward the building of a railroad from Rome to Watertown.

The Watertown and Rome Railroad was incorporated as early as 1832, yet the actual work of construction on this road was not begun till 1848, and was completed from Rome to Camden in 1849. In May, 1851,

it reached Pierrepont Manor and was completed to Watertown September 5, the same year. There was a celebration in Watertown on the 24th of that month in honor of this most important event.

The first president of the Watertown and Rome Railroad was Orville Hungerford, Clark Rice, secretary and Orville V. Brainard, treasurer. Mr. Hungerford did not live to see the road completed and William C. Pierrepont succeeded him in the presidency. This road was completed to Cape Vincent in 1852. The Potsdam and Watertown R. R. was incorporated in 1852 and completed in 1854.

The Carthage and Watertown R. R. was completed to Watertown in 1872 and through to Sackets Harbor two years later. In 1875, these, together with other railroads in Northern New York, were merged in the Rome and Watertown System, and in 1886 they were taken over and became a part of the N. Y. C. R. R. System.

Another corporation whose underlying principle was wholly commendatory was the International Association incorporated in 1843. Its object was to harmonize and cement kindly relations between capital and labor or to bring about a union of the two elements. This joint stock company survived two years.

The Watertown Mechanics' Association of 1844 had a laudable creed and purpose also. Its object in effect was for civic improvement. The outlined aim was to improve and uplift the community morally, intellectually and socially. Among its active members

were William H. Robinson, Gilbert Bradford, W. G. Buck, Avery Thomas, George Martin, James H. Ryther, Lorenzo Finney, O. L. Wheelock, C. E. Hubbard, John Jordan, Timothy Turner, George Burr and John A. Haddock. The association continued with more or less activity till 1861, when it became disrupted.

During the years when the State Fair was moving from place to place like a circus and exhibited alternately in a half a dozen different cities through the middle section of the State, Watertown was made one of these points for the exposition. In 1856, the fair was held in the City, the fair grounds being in an open field just off Franklin street. Theodore S. Faxton was president of the association then and was present at the fair that year. The great new Woodruff House, which went down in the fire of 1849, had been rebuilt and opened in 1852 and was one of the finest hostelrys in the State. It was in fact, one factor in bringing Watertown into public note. It has been a hotel of high repute from that day to the present.

HON. DENIS O'BRIEN.

Watertown and Northern New York have a rich heritage in the many legal luminaries that they have produced and are proud of the impress that has been made upon the bench and bar of the State. Without disparagement to others, it is generally conceded that in point of legal acumen and broad learning, the late Denis O'Brien stood at the very pinnacle.







Favored by nature with a strong physical constitution and equable temperament, which were properly directed, they imparted to him great intellectual strength, and thus endowed, after an academic education, he entered upon the realities of life with a determination to succeed which surmounted every obstacle.

Judge O'Brien was born in St. Lawrence County near Ogdensburg, in 1837, and commenced the study of law in that city and continued until he was admitted to the bar in 1861. In the fall of that year he located in Watertown and at once began the practice of his profession which he continued with great assiduity and success until later called to public life. His local popularity was proved on numerous occasions by the positions of trust which were given him by the people. In 1869, in the first year of the existence of the City of Watertown, he was elected an alderman from his ward and served for four succeeding terms and afterwards was elected mayor of the City and served one term. He enjoyed politics as a by-play. In 1880 he succeeded the late James F. Starbuck as a member of the State Democratic Committee, holding that position for four years and becoming one of the chief counsellors of the party in the State.

In the fall of 1883, he was nominated by his party for Att'y General and his nomination was ratified at the polls by a handsome majority over a distinguished adversary. His administration as the state's attorney was so signally successful that he was renominated and re-elected in the fall of 1885, thus filling the highest le-

gal office of the state for a period of four years. He retired to the practice of law in 1888, and continued until the fall of 1889, when as a tribute to his satisfactory public service, the Democratic State Convention tendered him the unanimous nomination for Judge of the Court of Appeals. This nomination was also ratified at the polls by a splendid majority and he took his seat in that court on January 1, 1890, for the constitutional term of fourteen years. Here he served the people with great ability and with such fairness and impartiality that though his term of office was about to expire, he received a renomination by both the great parties and was practically unanimously re-elected. He continued on the bench of the Court of Appeals until December 31, 1907, when he was forced to retire by constitutional limitation of age. Upon his retirement from the bench, he again resumed the practice of his profession and argued many important cases before the court of which he was formerly a member.

Judge O'Brien always acted with the Democratic party and was steadfast and firm in his devotion to the constitution, and opposed to any infringement of the great heritage of the nation. He was absolutely fearless, never courted popularity and was untiring in energy and courageous in what he believed to be his duty. His opinions while a member of the Court of Appeals, found in volumes 119 to 190, inclusive, covering practically every phase of the law, will stand as models of clearness and precision as long as our

system of judicature shall last. It was said of him by his former associates of the Court of Appeals in proceedings taken with respect to his death, that "Within the period allotted by the people for the rendition of judicial services, Judge O'Brien served them with fidelity and eminent ability. His opinions were valuable contributions to the body of jurisprudence and his judicial work has left its enduring impress upon the judicial history of the State. His judicial views were noticeable for their breadth and tolerance and his mind was quick to perceive the flaw in plea or argument."

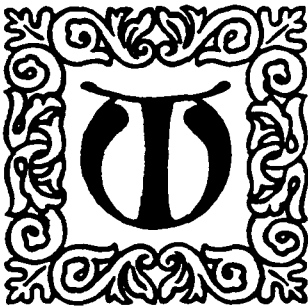
No greater tribute could be given Judge O'Brien than is embraced with this short quotation.

While still apparently in good health, Judge O'Brien was stricken at his home in Watertown in May, 1909, and died on the 18th of that month.

## CHAPTER IX.

### PERSONS AND EVENTS.

#### HON. WILLARD IVES.



WILLARD Ives, whose active life was so inseparably identified with Watertown, was born in the Town of Watertown in 1806. He was a son of Dr. Titus Ives who settled in the county in 1801. Dr. Ives had purchased a large tract of land and as the Black River country developed the sale of these lands yielded a goodly fortune. Willard Ives, therefore, had much to do with the sale and development of this large landed estate.

Mr. Ives became widely interested in business as well as political and religious affairs. One of the large farms which he owned and upon which he spent the greater part of his life, became a part of the City and by reason of this Mr. Ives was a resident of the City of Watertown. Along with his many other interests Mr. Ives never wholly abandoned or gave up farming. He was as thorough and successful at farming as he was in business. As early as 1840 he was a director in the old Bank of Watertown and afterwards served as its president. He was also interested in the Merchants' Bank in its day.

Meanwhile, Mr. Ives devoted much time and energy to politics and stood high in the estimation of the people. In 1852 he was elected to Congress and rendered faithful and honest service therein. His interest in religious matters, however, was deeper and more vital to him than public office. He was an earnest and active worker in the Methodist Church. In recognition of this and of his ability he was chosen to represent the denomination at the World's Congress of churches held in London, in 1846. Ives Seminary at Antwerp was one of his beneficiaries to the extent of several thousand dollars endowment. He was also active on its board of trustees and president of the institution for a considerable time. Later on the Y. M. C. A. of the City shared in his efforts for its upbuilding, also in generous gifts.

Mr. Ives married for his first wife, Miss Charlotte Winslow of Watertown. He was twice married, his second wife being Miss Lucinda M. Eddy, of Oswego, New York.

JOHN A. SHERMAN.

To tell the complete story of John A. Sherman's life would be to put down the history also of the Young Men's Christian Association of Watertown, because they are inseparably linked together. Therefore, the strictly personal sketch will be given here, followed by a brief history of the Association.

Mr. Sherman's early life was one of struggle and more or less hardship. He was born in Rutland, June

13, 1809. His father, Alfred Sherman, with his family migrated from Massachusetts soon after 1800, and bought a farm in the Town of Rutland. They apparently had means for it is said that Mr. Sherman suffered distressing loss of money or property during the War of 1812. But the greater loss was by his death in 1827, when John A. was seventeen years old. He, being the elder son assumed charge of the farm and carried it on successfully for many years.

Abel Sherman, father of Alfred, was the first sheriff of Jefferson County and Alfred Sherman married the adopted daughter of Roswell Woodruff, one of the pioneers of the county. John A. made marked progress on the farm, having a large dairy which he made very profitable. In addition to this he became a cheese and butter buyer for the New York market, which also accrued to his profit.

In 1832, Mr. Sherman married Julia Ann Larned and in 1856 they became residents of Watertown. He soon took an active interest in business, becoming a stockholder in some of the banks and also the Agricultural Insurance Company, of which he was vice-president and president for many years. About this time he purchased the Washington Hall block, a valuable property which by will at his death became the property and permanent home of the Young Men's Christian Association. His heart pulsed with kindness and good will toward everybody and every cause that was right. He died March 25, 1882, and society, good citizenship and good works lost a faithful friend and supporter.

## THE Y. M. C. A.

The movement for a Young Men's Christian Association started in 1869. The first definite steps were taken on December 17, of that year, when a meeting was held and an agreement or resolution made to organize a Young Men's Christian Association in Watertown. Mr. F. R. Farwell was chairman and Mr. George L. Davis secretary of this meeting. On the 18th of January following, the first permanent officers were elected as follows: O. C. Case, president; F. R. Farwell, vice-president; H. W. Congdon, 2nd vice-president; Orrin C. Foster, secretary; George L. Davis, treasurer. The following were chosen to constitute a board of managers: John C. Knowlton, George B. Massey, L. Meekins, J. M. Lyon, O. Maltby, C. A. Waterman, W. H. Moore, F. B. A. Lewis, C. A. Sherman and C. H. VanBrakie. A general open meeting was held in Washington Hall block on March 6th, following that of the organization. -In this meeting came the initial step in Mr. John A. Sherman's good feeling and generosity toward the association. He at once donated a room in the Washington Hall building at a small rental, for a reading room and library. As the association grew and more room was needed from time to time, he added them to the suite at a nominal rental, and finally ceased in the demand for any rental whatever. Now the association owns a beautiful property and has the earnest support of a community of faithful and devoted workers for the advancement of mor-

ality, christianity and good citizenship. The association is making headway toward a strong and valuable auxiliary in the effort for civic betterment.

ORVILLE V. BRAINARD.

In the long list of exceptionally strong business men of the earlier period in Watertown's history, Orville V. Brainard occupies a secure position. He was not a plunger in business, nor did he spring into the fore in hazardous undertakings, yet he was progressive and active in projects having the elements of a possible success.

Mr. Brainard was born in the little village of Watertown, in 1807. His father, Dr. Daniel Brainard settled in the community as a young physician and although he died in 1810, he had already established a reputation as a successful practitioner. Some of his prescriptions for various ailments continued in favor long after the Doctor's death. However, the death of Dr. Brainard left Orville V. practically to make his own way in life. He spent his boyhood in the village attending the schools of those days and later on, when Orville Hungerford became cashier of the Jefferson County Bank, he took young Brainard into the bank and this began a forty years' service in that institution. He soon became teller and then cashier of the bank, which position he held nearly thirty-three years. He was a sound banker and an able financier which proved to be a valuable asset to the bank on various occasions, for his skill in its management carried it through several trying experiences.







When it came to the matter of building a railroad for the benefit of Watertown, Mr. Brainard was foremost in the movement. He was one of the promoters of the Rome & Watertown R. R., the first one to be constructed and was the treasurer and financial manager for a considerable time. In fact, it is said that it was due to his ability more than to that of any other person that the road was carried through the early critical period of its existence. So in all his conduct of business affairs he manifested a well balanced mind. Withal he was the soul of honor, was kindly, generous and devoted to any cause that seemed to him to be for good. He was extremely modest, never obtrusive, but always steadfast and true to his principles of right. He never sought office, yet he was elected supervisor and served with ability, he was also president of the village several times.

Mr. Brainard, in 1857, married Miss Mary Seymour Hooker, sister of Gen. Joseph Hooker, and sister also of Miss Ann S. Hooker, a woman of great mental strength and high accomplishments, who was principal of the early time Female Academy on Clinton street. Mrs. Brainard died in 1882, and Mr. Brainard in 1866. They had one daughter, Mrs. Mary Seymour (Brainard) Treadwell, now a resident of Watertown.

HON. ROSWELL P. FLOWER.

All the way from 1800 down there have been notable instances of Watertown men attaining to high position and distinction in the various walks of life. Many

of these successes have been worked out in face of not a pleasant or auspicious outlook at the beginning, the matter of inherited position and consequent prestige being considered. Gov. Roswell P. Flower can reasonably be placed in this class. The position he attained was mainly the result of his own ability and assiduous effort. However, he had the New England blood in his veins.

Gov. Flower was born in Theresa, Jefferson County, August 7, 1835. His grandparents were natives of Connecticut, but moved to Oak Hill, Greene County, N. Y., where Nathan Monroe Flower was born. Nathan Monroe Flower, at the age of twenty-one, engaged in business in Cooperstown, N. Y., but apparently remained there only a short time. Meanwhile he married at Cherry Valley, Miss Nancy Ann Doyle, and soon thereafter they moved to Theresa and established a home. Here Nathan M., father of Roswell P., built up a wool carding and cloth making industry and probably succeeded as well as most others did in those days of limited business. Roswell P., was the fourth son and the sixth child in a family of nine children.

When he was eight years old the father died leaving the wife and mother with the family and the business to care for. Roswell's services were needed in the mill and here he worked as best a boy could, attending school meanwhile, when it was possible to do so. The mother's inheritance, besides the shop, were a couple of farms and upon these, too, Roswell worked in various capacities. By cutting wood he earned the first really

new suit of clothes he had. Then he worked in a store at five dollars a month and had some time for school. He sawed wood and carried it upstairs to the lawyer's office; he drove an oxtteam in a brick yard as another service. These were a part of his experience and struggles to get a footing in the world. But by all this drudgery and struggle he became disciplined for greater work and a higher place in affairs.

Later Mr. Flower taught a country school and so earned a little money. In 1853, he gravitated to Watertown and there began the career which brought distinction and honor. He first took a clerical position in Howell Cooper's Hardware store. In a short time he was made deputy postmaster, under Mr. W. H. S. Sigourney, at a salary of \$50.00 a month. This certainly was an advance step. He was then only twenty and it was at this early period in his life that he had real experience in business. He invested fifty dollars of his money in a watch which he sold to a friend for fifty-three dollars taking his note in payment. The note continued to be a part of his assets as long as he lived.

But nevertheless, at the end of six years' service in the post office he had saved \$1,000. With this he purchased the interest of Mr. Sigourney in the jewelry store of Hitchcock & Sigourney and the firm became Hitchcock & Flower. Two years later he bought the interest of his partner and continued the business till 1869. In 1859, Mr. Flower married Miss Sarah M. Woodruff, daughter of Norris M. Woodruff. Through

all these years Mr. Flower had been a student along financial lines and public affairs. In 1872 he established an office in New York City and there built up a commission business of great magnitude and correspondingly profitable. His brother Anson R. joined him in the business and both of them became factors in the greater world of business. Here they hewed out a fortune.

Mr. Roswell P., meanwhile, had got into the public eye as a political factor. He was a Democrat of the staunchest sort. He was active during the Tilden regime. He was an unswervable enemy to political graft or vote buying, and when he was nominated for Congress in 1881, he accepted on condition that there should be no vote buying. In the 47th Congress Mr. Flower was a member of the committee on banking and his sound opinions and suggestions greatly influenced action in Congress. He was also a recognized force in many departments of governmental affairs. He declined the nomination for Lieutenant-Governor in 1885. He was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention at St. Louis in 1888, and the same year was the choice of his party for member of Congress again, and while there was a member of the committee on Ways and Means, also one of the commissioners of the World's Fair.

In 1891, Mr. Flower was nominated and elected Governor against J. Sloat Fassett, one of the strong representatives of the Republican party. His official life as Governor was able, strong, honest and impartial, a

credit to both himself and the State. In charity and good works Mr. Flower was as earnest and devoted as he was in public office. No worthy cause failed to appeal to the heart of Roswell P. Flower. The Flower Hospital in New York, St. Thomas' Church of the same City, and many others were beneficiaries, both in his boyhood home, Theresa, and in Watertown. Trinity Church and other churches in the City shared largely in his generosity.

This was the career of a country boy who made his own way, who made the world better for having lived in it, and whose death was a loss to his home town, the state and nation.

#### BEMAN BROCKWAY.

In journalism Beman Brockway was probably the most conspicuous representative in the northern part of New York. He was a man of very little school education, but he had taken a long training course in that exacting, plenary school, the newspaper office.

Mr. Brockway, too, was of New England birth; he was born at South Hampton, Mass., in 1815. In some way he had got westward to Fredonia, N. Y., when he was fifteen, and there entered the "Censor" office as an apprentice and a boy of all work as was the custom. In those days such apprentices were politely designated as the "printer's devil" and gradually outgrew this title as they grew out of and above the position. So it was with Beman Brockway and so many of the old school journalists.

After four years' experience at Fredonia, Mr Brockway was connected with a paper at Mayville, the county seat of Chautauqua County and there remained till 1845. At this time he bought the Oswego Palladium and a little later started the Oswego Daily Palladium. A few years later still, he edited a paper in Pulaski and was elected to the State Legislature from that place in 1859. Then he moved still further northward in 1860, and bought an interest in the Watertown Reformer. The following year he, with others, started the Watertown Daily Times, and so he spent the rest of his life in the metropolis of the north country. He was a strong, coherent, incisive writer and wielded telling influence on questions and measures of various kinds in county, state and national affairs. Both he and his paper were Republican in politics and the Republican party never had occasion to question his faithfulness.

EDWIN L. PADDOCK.

Edwin L. Paddock was a trained banker from his boyhood. His father, Loveland Paddock, was in the banking business when Edwin L. entered business life and therefore nearly all his business activities were in this line.

Mr. Paddock was born in Watertown, March 19, 1824, prepared for college in the public schools and graduated from Hamilton College. Immediately after his graduation he entered the old Black River Bank and soon became its vice-president and finally, at the death of his father, he became president of the bank.







He was a well balanced banker, an able financier who conducted business always within the bounds of honor and honesty. The old Black River Bank, in 1863, secured a new charter as the First National Bank of Watertown. This was continued till 1880, when it went into voluntary liquidation.

Mr. Paddock had a large estate to manage and greatly diversified investments to occupy his time and mind. He was an extensive realty owner in the City, and was ever willing to bear any burden of taxation for the benefit and improvement of his home town.

In 1852, Mr. Paddock married Miss Olive A. Wheeler, daughter of Thomas Wilson and Emma Andrus Wheeler. After his retirement from active business Mr. and Mrs. Paddock traveled extensively through the different countries of the world. Mr. Paddock died in 1909, and by his death Watertown lost a good business man, a man of spotless character and a high type of citizen.

DANIEL G. GRIFFIN.

Daniel G. Griffin by sheer force of character and indomitable will, developed unaided from a poor country boy into a man of education, ability and state-wide reputation.

Mr. Griffin was born in the Town of Wilna, Jefferson County, August 15, 1848. He was a son of Morris and Margaret Flynn Griffin. They were farm people of limited means and Daniel had an ambition that reached beyond the farm. He set out to get an educa-

tion and so entered Antwerp Academy and spent three years as a diligent student. After this he entered the Watertown High School in which he distinguished himself for work and scholarship. This is evidenced by the fact that, meanwhile, he was made clerk of the board of education. Soon after his graduation from the High School he was elected superintendent of the schools, a position he filled with signal ability for four years. At the end of this time he concluded to adopt the law as his profession and so became a student in the law office of McCartin & Williams, in the City. He rose rapidly in his profession. In legal acumen and mental vigor he could grapple any proposition or match the strongest members of the bar in a case before the court. He was equally as capable in the field of politics. As a Democratic politician he had a reputation throughout the state. In 1896 he was the nominee of the Gold Democrats for Governor of the state. He had the best of standing among such men as Governors Tilden, Robinson, Hill and Flower. Mr. Griffin died in 1898, at the most useful period of his life.

#### THE TORNADO OF 1857.

There are those now living who remember the terrific tornado of 1857. It came up from the southeast and swept across upper Washington street and the great park bordering the Sterling mansion, thence down State street, unroofing houses, uprooting trees and causing great damage all along its path. A man driving out State street was blown from his wagon and killed while

crossing over the bridge of the old canal. The hail stones, it is said, were as large as hens' eggs. There has been no similar occurrence since.

#### REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS.

The great number of Watertown residents who were statesmen and conspicuous figures in national affairs may well be a source of just pride. Few places of equal size have furnished so many who have made their mark in public life. The following Watertown men have been representatives in Congress: 1818, William D. Ford; 1820, Micah Sterling; 1824, Egbert TenEyck; 1828, Joseph Hawkins; 1830-32-34, Daniel Wardwell; 1836, Isaac H. Bronson; 1838-40, Thomas C. Chittenden; 1842-44, Orville Hungerford; 1846, Joseph Mullin; 1848, Chas. E. Clarke; 1850 Willard Ives; 1856-58, Charles B. Hoard; 1860-62, Ambrose W. Clarke; 1874-76 George A. Bagley; 1881-82, Charles R. Skinner; 1888, Frederick Lansing.

#### JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT.

Watertown has also been represented on the Supreme Court bench by men of unusual ability. 1849, Frederick W. Hubbard; 1857, Joseph Mullin; 1874, Milton H. Merwin; 1883-1901, Pardon C. Williams; 1902, Watson M. Rogers to 1910. At his death Henry Purcell was appointed to serve out the balance of the term. In addition to those who held a place on the Supreme Court bench, Hon. Denis O'Brien served on the Court of Appeals from 1889 to January 1, 1909.

## POSTMASTERS OF WATERTOWN.

The following have been postmasters of Watertown since 1811: November 22, 1811, Paul Hutchinson; July 20, 1816, Henry H. Sherwood; May 20, 1822, Daniel Lee; June 30, 1829, Alpheus S. Green; June 23, 1840, Alvin Hunt; September 27, 1841, John F. Hutchinson; June 28, 1845, Pierson Mundy; April 25, 1849, Philo S. Johnson; April 1, 1853, William H. Sigourney; April 9, 1861, Levi Smith; January 28, 1870, William G. Williams; January 28, 1874, Alexander Campbell; May 8, 1874, William G. Williams; July 1, 1882, Edward M. Gates; July 26, 1886, John C. Streeter; September 6, 1889, Ed. M. Gates; April 15, 1893, Chas. W. Clare; May 17, 1897, Dewitt C. Middleton; April 14, 1900, Robert J. Buck to April, 1911; Bruce M. Martin, April, 1911, is the present incumbent.

## A CIVIL WARTIME INCIDENT.

Although situated some distance from the main theatres of action, Watertown has been the scene of some stirring incidents in connection with military affairs. During the War of 1812, as previously mentioned, Watertown was a strong auxiliary in the prosecution of the War. It was also a rallying place for soldiers and a refuge for those sick and disabled by service, and again, in the Patriot War of 1837, Watertown was to a great extent a focal point.

So it was during the Civil War. It was a recuper-

ating place for soldiers of the disabled squad. At that time there was a barracks and hospital in a vacant lot on Stone street not far from the present Stone Street Presbyterian Church. It was in this vicinity and also on the Public Square that the soldiers drilled from day to day. In 1864 an exciting incident occurred in town which brought into action this body of United States troops against another squad of troops from Sackets Harbor. These troops from the Harbor had been ordered to Oswego and had several hours' wait in Watertown before the train for that place. The sergeant and soldiers meanwhile got boisterously drunk while the Lieutenant was asleep in a room at the Woodruff House.

During their carousal an old man entered the hotel, whereupon the sergeant and the soldiers set upon him and brutally mistreated him. A fearless and manly man by the name of Alexander Neal, undertook to protect the old man from the abuse and rough handling of these drunken troops. This so incensed the sergeant that he ordered one of his soldiers by the name of Patterson to get his gun and shoot Neal. Patterson, therefore, went to the station, got his gun and returned to the Woodruff House and upon the second order to shoot, he put a bullet through Neal's heart. There was intense excitement in town on account of this act, and Fred Emerson being provost marshal, took immediate steps to have the men taken into the custody of the law. The sergeant and troops meanwhile had taken rendezvous in the station with the threat that

all who approached would be shot. At this juncture the invalid corps of U. S. troops were called into action. They marched to the station with their arms in charge position. This cowered the sergeant and his fighting soldiers, and so the sergeant and Patterson were arrested and locked in the county jail. They were later tried in Watertown and convicted. The sergeant was sentenced to three years in prison while Patterson got a life sentence. There are many now living who remember this unhappy affair.

#### HISTORICAL NOTES.

It is said that Watertown has no legal title to the land comprising Factory Square other than that acquired by long occupation. There is no record of this land having been set off or transferred either to the early settlement or to the village. It is the presumption that this is land once owned by the Black River Cotton & Woolen Manufacturing Company, and that it was gradually pre-empted by the public with no interposing action by the one time owners.

There used to be some hotels in that section that were of some account. Butler Ranney at one time ran a hotel on Factory street. J. L. Huntington, brother of Dyer Huntington, kept a temperance house there at one time. The Huntingtons were ardent temperance people and for that reason it is said many people of good standing were housed at this old tavern. Baker Massey owned and ran this hotel beginning in the early fifties and until about 1860. It was sold by



Geo. B. Massey in 1865 to the H. H. Babcock Company.

William Ellwood, a carpenter, living in town, did a great part of the woodwork on the Woodruff House when it was built in 1850-51. Wesley Sage, another carpenter, built the First Presbyterian Church. There were also James Meigs, E. G. Albro and James Ballard, all of whom were identified with the building during the middle period of Watertown's history. Dexter Parker built the first house on the north side of the river in the opening between Jewettville and Court street bridge.

#### JOHN CALHOUN STERLING.

John Calhoun Sterling inherited many of the qualities of this father, Hon. Micah Sterling. He was endowed with the same high type of mentality, was of the same fiber and lofty poise of mind. He was not aggressive like his father, due perhaps to a not over rugged constitution, which condition continued all of his life.

Mr. Sterling was born in the village March 29, 1820. Soon after this or when John C. was a boy of six or seven, the family moved into the beautiful Sterling mansion which his father erected in that most picturesque and delightful quarter on Sterling street. And in this charming place and amid the surroundings Mr. Sterling spent his life. Perhaps the environment had something to do with the moulding and shaping of his mind along the lines leading to a high plane of life

and living. At any rate these were the dominating qualities in his character.

Mr. Sterling was prepared for college at an early age. He was not above sixteen when he entered the Freshman class at Yale. At the end of two years, however, his health failed, thus compelling him to leave college. Later he recovered somewhat and then entered New York University. But here the same condition confronted him and after a short time he returned to his home. He was a natural student which made the disappointment all the keener.

As a hoped for restorer of health, he engaged as a common sailor and fisherman on a fishing smack bound for the fishing banks of New Foundland. Here he took his turn at fishing, cooking or any other work required of the sailor. After three months or so of this seafaring life he returned much improved in health. For a time thereafter he taught Greek and Latin in the old Jefferson County Institute. This was congenial work, subjects in which he was specially proficient. He was a successful teacher, giving life and interest to the subjects he taught.

In 1844 his father died leaving a large estate for John C. to manage, which put an end to other avocations. In June, 1844, he married Miss Anna Swan Brayton, daughter of the Hon. George Brayton, of Westernville, N. Y., a young woman of beautiful character and culture. They were natives of New England. By this union there were four children, Susan Brayton, Edward Brayton, and John Sterling, all of whom





reached maturity. The fourth, a daughter, died in early childhood.

In 1848, Mr. Sterling opened a book store on Court street, but the fire of 1849 put him temporarily out of business. A little later, however, he had a new and finer store in the then new Paddock building. For forty years he occupied this as a book, stationery and picture frame store.

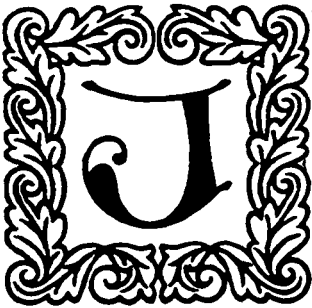
In 1890, Mr. Sterling moved across the street in the Washington Hall block and there the business is still carried on by his son John Sterling.

Mr. John C. Sterling retired from active business in 1891. He was an active, earnest Christian, a zealous member of the First Presbyterian Church. His life was full of good deeds, doing good, helping those who needed help. His heart was full of kindness and his influence both by example and precept was uplifting and Christianizing. He was deeply interested in education, was a good friend and active worker for the betterment of the schools, or any measure which made for higher citizenship. Mr. Sterling died in May, 1903, sincerely mourned by the entire community.

## CHAPTER X.

### PERSONALITIES AND MUSIC.

#### JUSTIN W. WEEKS, THE COURT CRIER.



JUSTIN W. WEEKS, the old Court Crier, was an attractive character. He was simple in manner, frank and honest, yet there was a quaintness and originality of expression that attracted friends and made him an interesting citizen throughout a long life.

Mr. Weeks was born in Watertown in 1806, and acquired what education he had in the village school. But he finally got learning sufficient to teach school. He taught in Watertown and in other places in the county. After this he was a clerk in the old Knowlton & Rice book store, and while there made a host of cordial friends. In 1860 Mr. Weeks was appointed Deputy County Clerk and custodian of the records, a trust which had his honest and faithful care and heart for many years. He was also the court crier and it was in this line of his multifarious duties that he best exhibited the characteristics and quirks of mind that made him a figure of more than ordinary note.

Mr. Weeks was religiously conscientious in the function of an officer, therefore every act was one of seri-

ousness. He had a voice of great volume and strength with little rhythm. When he called a case in court he could be heard two blocks away. He would cry out: "Hear ye! hear ye! hear ye! all persons having business with this court, let them draw near and give attention, and they shall be heard!" This call brought all interested attorneys from every quarter of the court house. Then Weeks made it a part of his duty to see that all witnesses took the proper oath before testifying. He would present the Bible to each witness, take his hand and place it upon the book and then see to it that he kissed it with the unction of a truth-telling witness.

Once when Mr. Weeks was calling a "John Doe" case, Wilbur F. Porter made shift to correct him, saying that the name in the case was that of Abraham Lincoln, whereupon, Mr. Weeks called out lustily, "Abraham Lincoln!" The reverberation of his voice had not yet died out when the point of the joke pierced his brain, and Weeks nearly collapsed with chagrin. Yet with all his seriousness Weeks was full of innocent humor. Once when a damage suit was on in connection with some dam, Weeks broke away from his religious scruples to say: "What a dam suit this is!" This was the nearest to a profane expression that he ever ventured.

Justin Weeks was a familiar figure among a great part of the county's population, and all honored and respected him. A beautiful portrait of Mr. Weeks now hangs in the Court House as a memorial to a faithful officer.

## HON. WATSON M. ROGERS.

Justice Watson M. Rogers was born at Cape Vincent, in 1846. He acquired most of his education in Watertown, however. He was a student of the old Jefferson County Institute and graduated from the High School in 1867. He read law in the office of Hammond & Winslow, then took a course at the Albany Law School, graduating from that institution in 1869. Mr. Rogers at once began the practice of his profession in Watertown and spent his life in the City. He was a man of splendid character, good ability and therefore made substantial progress from the first. He became well known as a lawyer of force and integrity. He built up a business that took him into all the courts of the state.

In 1874, Mr. Rogers was elected district attorney of the county and was re-elected in 1877. His reputation as a lawyer brought him into such prominence and favor that in 1902 he was nominated and elected Justice of the Supreme Court on an independent ticket. Judge Rogers served on this court for about seven years, when his career was closed by death. As a Supreme Court Justice he was able, fearless, honorable and honest.

Judge Rogers, as a resident of Watertown, was actively interested in public affairs and many business enterprises. He was a director in the International Paper Company and the Watertown Carriage Company. He was a member of the Watertown Lodge No. 49,







F. and A. M., also the Chapter No. 59 and the Commandry.

HON. JOHN LANSING.

John Lansing, one of the distinguished members of the Jefferson County bar, was born in Watertown November 18, 1832, and died in the City July 5, 1907. He was a son of Judge Robert and Maria Hubbard Lansing. Mrs. Lansing was a daughter of Nodadiah Hubbard, one of the early and prominent settlers in Jefferson County.

John Lansing grew up amid the very best surroundings and with every opportunity and advantage in the matter of position and influence. He was a clean cut and well rounded out type of man. He possessed the temperament and qualities that won friends, therefore, his circle of staunch admirers was a large one. Mr. Lansing read law in the office of George C. Sherman and Alexander Wilson of Watertown and was admitted to the bar in 1853, or when he was twenty-one. In 1855 he formed a partnership with George H. Sherman, the firm name being Lansing & Sherman. In 1860, Chas. A. Sherman became a member of the firm and after George H. Sherman's retirement in 1863, Mr. Lansing and Mr. Chas. A. Sherman continued in business till 1878. From this date till 1889, Mr. Lansing practiced alone, his son Robert then having been admitted to practice became a partner under the firm name of Lansing & Lansing.

In 1864, Mr. John Lansing married Miss Maria

Dodge, daughter of Judge Edwin Dodge, of Gouverneur, N. Y. Judge Dodge and Mr. Lansing were later in the State Senate together. Mr. Lansing was one of the organizers of the Jefferson County bar and was its first president. He was widely known and highly esteemed both as a citizen and friend. Mr. Lansing was a Democrat in politics and deeply interested in the party's welfare. He, like many others in 1896, bolted Bryan and the sixteen-to-one platform and joined the Gold Democrats. Mr. Lansing always had a lively interest in education and rendered valuable service as a member of the Board of Education. Meanwhile, he was as earnest in charity and in quiet unostentatious ways of doing good in the community. His affiliation with the First Presbyterian Church continued through many years. He served as one of the Board of Trustees and was active in furthering its interests.

#### HENRY HOLMES BABCOCK.

Among the early manufacturing industries in Watertown that had a forward history from its foundation was that established by Henry Holmes Babcock. Mr. Babcock located in Watertown when a young man of twenty-four. He was born at Hamilton, N. Y., November 28, 1821, and in 1845 he started a business in the village. He began by making wood pumps, a product of importance in those days before the era of iron pipes and iron pumps. And so for a considerable period of years he worked out a good success in mak-





ing these utilities. He was a good business man, he was industrious and withal manufactured a good article. This was his business creed, to make honest goods, and he lived to this creed to the end of his business career.

But the wood pump had its day and Mr. Babcock, after a successful business of twenty-five years, was cognizant of the conditions and so in 1871, he shifted the plant into a carriage factory, the pioneer industry of the kind in Watertown and likely in the northern part of the state.

In 1841, Mr. Babcock married Miss Eliza Wheeler and they had six children, three sons and three daughters. These sons had grown to manhood and joined H. H. Babcock in the business. In 1871, Mr. Babcock, with his sons, began the manufacture of carriages and the business grew and prospered. They made good carriages, the Babcock carriage becoming known as one of the best in the carriage world. In 1882, a stock company was formed composed of Mr. Babcock, his sons and Roswell P. and Anson R. Flower, the corporate name being The H. H. Babcock Company. From this date the business went forward rapidly and successfully, until the product of the company had wide sale. Mr. Babcock was president of the company from its organization till his death November 30, 1903. The plant long ago became one of the largest and best known carriage factories in the country. Since Mr. Babcock's death they developed and are manufacturing automobiles in connection with the former line.

Mr. Babcock's reputation in private life was as clean and correct as were the goods he made. He was public spirited, progressive, a warm hearted friend and an exemplary citizen. He served several terms as supervisor and also as president of the old village. He was a devoted member of Trinity Church and for many years was its senior warden. Mrs. Babcock died June 29, 1900 and Mr. Babcock died November 30, 1903.

JOHN H. TREADWELL.

Mr. John H. Treadwell was born in New York City in 1844, and became a resident of Watertown in 1873 and died January 12, 1882.

Mr. Treadwell was essentially a literary man. He was a graduate of Yale University, was a student by nature and inclination. He married Miss Mary Seymour Brainard, daughter of Orville V. Brainard of Watertown. She is still living in Watertown. Mr. Treadwell, as a part of his work, wrote an interesting history of pottery and porcelain, which was highly thought of among people familiar with the Ceramic arts. He also wrote the first history of Martin Luther ever published in the United States. He wrote also poems, and was an extensive collector of curios. Mr. Treadwell spent much time in travel through Europe and South America. He was a profound scholar, a man of wide knowledge and information. He was not a business man, but a man of culture and refinement, whose mind and efforts were devoted to literary lines.



DR. HENRY M. STEVENS.

Dr. Henry M. Stevens, for many years prominently identified with the Agricultural Insurance Company, was a forceful illustration of a professional man becoming a good business man.

Dr. Stevens was born in Pulaski, Oswego County, October 25, 1826, and spent his boyhood in that village. At maturity he concluded to become a physician and so studied medicine in the office of Dr. Noyes of Pulaski. Later he graduated at the New York University Medical College in 1852, and settled down to practice in Lafargeville, Jefferson County. He worked out a good degree of success in medicine for eighteen years, at which time he was chosen as one of the directors of the Agricultural Insurance Company which was then, of course, a struggling organization. In 1870, Dr. Stevens was called to the assistant secretaryship of the company and at once became an aggressive and successful worker in the company's interest. By 1882 his progress in the business and his grasp of the problems in hand brought about his election to the secretaryship. He was practical, zealous and active in pushing the company to success, and he, with the united efforts of his associates, succeeded. In him the company had a loyal and efficient officer who was untiring in his efforts to build up and extend the business.

Yet Dr. Stevens found heart and time for other interests and causes. He was, for many years, president of the City Hospital Board and an active promoter of

its best interests. He was also a worker in behalf of the Orphans' Home and for a long time one of the directors of the Jefferson County Savings Bank. Besides all these his heart and effort were in every measure for public betterment.

In 1856, Dr. Stevens married Miss Carrie Harmon, of Oswego. She died in 1871. They had one son, William H. Stevens, who is now president of the company which Dr. Stevens helped to make. Dr. Stevens died April 3, 1897, and the Agricultural Insurance Company and the City lost an excellent officer and citizen.

**RICHARD MARCY.**

Richard Marcy, who was one of Watertown's successful business men and a citizen of high standing and value, was a native of Kildare, Ireland. The parents emigrated to the United States when Richard was three years old and settled in Utica, N. Y. This was in the early thirties, and Richard acquired what education he could up to fifteen, when he began to work out his own destiny. In this he succeeded very well. He early turned his attention toward railroading. He was first a member of the construction gang in the building of the Black River Railroad, and when it was completed, Mr. Marcy was the first conductor of a freight and passenger train on the new line. He continued in this service till 1872, and meanwhile had established a reputation among the officials of the road as a capable, faithful and efficient employe. He had made many friends and none more steadfast than





those for whom he worked. This was a valuable asset in business and in other ways later on.

In the meanwhile, Mr. Marcy had been active in politics in the interest of the Republican party. His wide acquaintance with men and public officials added greatly to his value in carrying the party to success in political contests. He was a loyal friend and supporter of Roscoe Conklin, back as far as when he was the mayoralty candidate in Utica. Mr. Marcy knew all of the noteworthy politicians and was highly esteemed by them. His advice and aid were sought in times of need.

When the Watertown & Carthage Railroad was completed in 1872, Mr. Marcy moved to Watertown and from that time on to his death he was a prominent business man and respected citizen. At the time of moving to the city he started the coal and wood business in a small way. This he carried on till 1887, when Charles W. Hackett of Utica, a man of political fame in the state, became a partner of Mr. Marcy and from that time on for several years they controlled the coal business on the Utica & Black River Railroad. This naturally strengthened and helped along the Watertown business until the local trade became large and profitable.

In 1863, Mr. Marcy married Miss Lydia Ann Roberts, of Remsen, N. Y. They had two daughters, one of whom became the wife of Harry W. Taggart and the other married Robert J. Buck of Watertown. Mr. Buck became a partner in the business and is still carrying it on.

Besides his many other associations, Mr. Marcy was a member of the Utica Lodge, F. & A. M., Watertown Chapter, R. A. M., the Watertown Commandry, Media Temple and the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He was also connected with the Black River and the Lincoln League Clubs. Mr. Marcy was a man of admirable qualities. He was a faithful friend, a worthy companion and a respected citizen. He died May 6, 1906.

ANSON RANNEY FLOWER.

The career of a great financier is always interesting. His achievements constitute a study for those not endowed with that peculiar quality of mind which usually characterizes a man of extraordinary success in the world of finance. It is quite as interesting, too, that men country born, and brought up where the horizon of business is narrow oftentimes turn out to be masters in business. In fact, they often surpass those reared in the great center of finance.

Anson R. Flower, unquestionably measured up as an unusual financier. He was born and reared in the country where little knowledge either by experience or observation could be acquired in great undertakings or large business propositions.

Mr. Flower, like his brother Gov. Roswell P., was born at Theresa, Jefferson County, June 20, 1843, and continued to reside there until 1865. At this time he joined his brother Roswell P. in the jewelry business in Watertown. He had been a clerk in a general store in his home town and also served in the same ca-







capacity for a time in Washington during the Civil War.

Again in 1879, he became associated with Roswell P., who had, meantime, established a commission and banking business in New York City. The firm then was R. P. Flower & Co., Bankers. Anson R. proved to be a valuable acquisition to the business and it brought two strong men together in a community where the possibilities were great and the dangers equally as overshadowing. But their headway was continuous; they built up a tremendous business and became one of the substantial banking institutions of the City, and much of this notable success was due to the ability of Anson R. Flower. Their operations reached out in the line of railroads and other schemes of financing. Through it all Anson R. Flower never lost his mental poise in business. He was regarded in New York as one of the most successful of financiers.

In the meanwhile, Mr. Flower never showed indifference toward his boyhood town or to Watertown. Both places shared in his gratuities, and these were many. Churches, charitable institutions and measures in good causes found in A. R. Flower a warm and earnest friend. Mr. Flower was devoted to Trinity Church and gave liberally of his money to build up and aid the great work being carried on.

In 1870, Mr. Flower married Miss Amelia Laura Babcock, daughter of Mr. Henry H. Babcock of Watertown. She died in 1874, and in 1878 he married Miss Ida May Babcock, sister of his first wife.

Mr. Flower died January 3, 1909, and thus Watertown and New York City lost a splendid man and staunch friend to everything that is best in life.

ADRIEL ELY.

It will be not out of order to return to the early days once more and mention collectively the names of some of the men, contemporaries, whose brain, courage and resolution founded and gave vitality and coherence to Watertown. Among them were Henry Coffeen, Hart Massey, Orville Hungerford, Jabez Foster, Jason Fairbanks, Perley Keyes, Isaac H. Bronson, William Smith, Micah Sterling, Loveland Paddock, Geo. W. Knowlton, Norris M. Woodruff, Henry Keep, Geo. C. Sherman, Eli Farwell and Adriel Ely.

In this group Adriel Ely, admittedly, held a conspicuous place. He was a business man with the mental and physical qualifications to have made him a figure of note in almost any line of endeavor. Like most of those mentioned he was a New Englander by birth and education. He was born at Lyme, Conn., Feb. 9, 1791. His ancestors came from Plymouth, England, about 1660, and settled in Connecticut. They were large land and ship owners, besides carrying on the land estate. Adriel was raised at the country home and remained there until he was twenty-three. He received a fairly good education so that when he came to maturity he was equipped to engage successfully in almost any pursuit. Besides, he was endowed with mental qualities of a high order which were sustained by a





splendid physique that added greatly to his force and ability.

Adriel Ely, his father, married Miss Sarah Stow. They had four sons and one daughter, Adriel being the fifth in order of birth. He taught school for a little time while at home but like so many others in New England in those days, he broke away from his environment and started westward. His brother Sumner had already settled in Otsego County, New York, and it is said that one day Adriel started from home on horseback and made his way to Otsego County where Sumner was living. This was about 1814. Apparently he remained there but a short time because that year he was a clerk in the general store of Olney Pearce in Watertown. It was not long before he became a partner in the business and Pearce & Ely took a place among the best merchants in the growing town. A little later still Mr. Ely purchased the interest of Mr. Pearce in the store and carried on the business alone.

After a short period of time he became a partner of Orville Hungerford in the mercantile business, the firm name being Hungerford & Ely. How long this partnership continued is not known. But Mr. Ely was a merchant for many years and one of the best known in Watertown.

It was in other lines as well as that of a merchant that Mr. Ely became a figure of more than ordinary consequence in the community. He was an extensive manufacturer of potash, his asheries being located on

what was then known as "the flats." This was an important industry at that time and was profitable. This product passed out through channels that brought back ready money. His store became a headquarters for this and other interests. On account of his clear grasp of legal questions and his ready application of "common sense" law, his counsel and services were much sought. He was not a lawyer by profession but he had a legal mind and real judicial temperament. It is said of him that although not a lawyer by education, he could have matched most of them in an ordinary case in court. He was urged by Judges of the Supreme Court to adopt the profession, the examination, they said, would be merely a formality. Many cases in equity came before him as referee and few of his decisions were overruled by the courts. A Supreme Court Justice once said of him, that he possessed the legal mind and other qualities for the bar or the bench. For many years he was active as a pension attorney and through his efforts and influence many widows and orphans of the Mexican, Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, were beneficiaries by reason of pensions thus secured. On pension day Mr. Ely's store was the assembling place of a crowd of people. When others failed, Adriel Ely succeeded in getting the pension. As an estimate of his all around ability it was further said of him that, "Give Adriel Ely Dry Hill for his soldiers and he would conquer Napoleon and all his army."

December 28, 1826, Mr. Ely married Evelina Foster, daughter of Judge Jabez Foster. Seven children were







born to them, Harriette, Evelina, Elvira, Foster, Frederick Gustavus, Gertrude Sumner, and Theodore Newel.

Mr. Ely was probably one of the best known men in the county on account of his business touch with the people in one way or another. There were few public movements or measures for the betterment of the community and the uplift of his fellow men that did not have his hearty co-operation. In all his life and acts he was independent, fearless, frank and honorable. Mr. Ely was the chief promoter of the Brookside Cemetery and it was through his efforts mainly that it was put into shape and form. He was president of the cemetery association soon after its organization until his death. He was therefore buried in the cemetery he had made. He was for some time a director of the Jefferson County Bank and a valued counsellor in its business affairs.

In 1819 Mr. Ely was elected supervisor and served several years. He was instrumental during this service in establishing the Orphan's Home at Watertown. Mr. Ely was also an active member of the Masonic Order and a Knight Templar.

Mr. Ely died April 20, 1859, and thus passed out a citizen whose Christian life and example left a deep impress upon the community.

JABEZ FOSTER.

The mention of Jabez Foster here closes the list of unusual men previously referred to. Judge Foster's

force and personality measured up and harmonized with others in the group.

The exact time of Judge Foster's coming to the Black River Country is not known. He was born in Lebanon, Conn., Aug. 1, 1777, and evidently was a pioneer in New York State prior to 1800, because September 13, of that year he married at Paris, N. Y., Miss Hannah Hungerford, daughter of Timothy Hungerford and sister of Orville Hungerford who settled in Jefferson County the following year. They probably came together to Jefferson County. Mr. Foster was engaged in the pioneer's work in or near Burrville till 1804, at which time he established the first store in that settlement. The next year, or in 1805, he moved his business to Watertown and opened the second store in the little village. He was a successful merchant; he made money and grew in the esteem of the people. He was progressive, resolute and active in the things that made him a good citizen and a man worthy of advanced position in affairs. When this county was finally established, he was appointed, in 1813, as one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, a position he filled with dignity and ability for several years.

Judge Foster was active in building up and improving the village. About 1807, he bought land of Hart Massey on Washington street and erected a handsome home on the site now occupied by the E. L. Paddock residence. It was then one of the finest in the county. Adriel Ely's home joined this on the south. This was

of stone construction and very substantially built. There was a considerable space between upon which he erected another dwelling later. This recently has been purchased by the Masonic Order and a temple is to be erected thereon. Judge Foster built also the Dr. Binsse house at an early date. This was situated on the north side of the river and was a residence of considerable pretensions.

Judge Foster was a member of the board of supervisors in 1827 and for several years president of the Jefferson County Bank and a factor in making the bank's success. He was sociable and genial and therefore made warm friends. It is said that the latch string of Judge Foster's house was always on the outside and that he enjoyed being in the circle of sociability. In early times when religious services were held in the little school house on the Square, Mr. Foster lead the choir. He was very fond of music and entered into it with spirit. When the First Presbyterian Church was built, Judge Foster, with others, gave the land upon which it was built and the church was constructed under his supervision.

Mrs. Foster died in 1826, and later Mr. Foster married a Mrs. Merwin, of Toledo, Ohio. This took him away from Watertown for a time, but after her death, which occurred soon after their marriage, Judge Foster returned to Watertown and became a member of the household of Adriel Ely, whose wife was his daughter. Judge Foster died December 10, 1847, while visiting another daughter in Michigan.

## MUSIC IN WATERTOWN—SAMUEL ADAMS.

To write of music and its development in Watertown is perforce to put down the story of Samuel Adams and his long and earnest labor in the art, for Samuel Adams concededly, was the dean of music in the city. His efforts, sustained by his good musical talent, brought distinction both to him and the town as well as the pleasure, culture and refinement that resulted from close touch with music of a high order.

Mr. Adams was an Englishman by birth and an American in every fiber and instinct. He found his way to Watertown in 1849, when he was fifteen. He was born at Cheltenham, England, in 1834, and joined his brother, Mr. George Adams, in Watertown at the time named above. He first worked in a local shop making the woodwork for planes for carpenters' use. Later he was a pattern maker in one of the shops, where he did skillful and excellent work. All this time his heart was in music and the later years brought the actual demonstration and the results.

There had been some more or less desultory work along musical lines in earlier years. Back in 1818, a Mr. Powers had a singing school in the old school house on Arsenal street, and a Mr. Moffett taught singing along in the late twenties. His singing school was in the American building. In 1827, and on for some time Mr. Fiske had a vocal class in the session room of the old Stone Presbyterian Church. About 1831, Mr. A. H. Parker had a music school of some note, his pu-





pils coming, it is said, from all parts of the country. He is said to have been an odd character but a genius in music. At a Fourth of July celebration in 1833, he got together a chorus of several hundred voices, comprising the best talent, both in and out of the village. This chorus was a feature of the celebration, making it somewhat noteworthy.

But the era of high grade music began when Samuel Adams threw his talents and force into the work in the early sixties. In 1861, Mr. Adams was associated with Mr. A. M. Utley, a music dealer on Court street, according to the following announcement over the date of January 28, 1861: "I have secured the services of Mr. Samuel Adams, a well known musician, to assist in the selection of music and musical instruments." In 1869, however, Mr. Adams and his brother George had a music store in the Paddock Arcade and they continued in business for a long period of years. Meanwhile, Mr. Samuel Adams was active in developing and giving direction to music in the City. He himself had a tenor voice of splendid quality, but it was as a director and teacher of music that brought him recognition and standing in the art. During the years that he directed the choir of the All Souls Church, he trained and developed many musicians who held high rank in vocal and instrumental music. In 1865, Mr. Adams organized the Watertown Musical Association, and thus brought together musicians who made it a distinguished organization.

In 1866, a Complimentary Concert was given to Miss

Nette Sterling, under the direction of Mr. Adams. This combined the best talent in the city. Miss Sterling, herself, took part in the program. Miss Sterling was one of the world's prima donnas at that time. She was born and reared at Sterlingville, a small place east of Watertown. Her musical education was acquired almost wholly in European Countries; she had been before the public for many years as an opera singer, having a reputation on both sides of the Atlantic. She is said to have had the finest contralto voice in the world.

In 1875, Handel's "Messiah" was produced in the City under Mr. Adams' direction. Both local and foreign talent were brought into this. It was the first time a presentation of this character had been attempted in Northern New York. Subsequently several oratorios and musicals of a high rank were given in the City. During these years the trend of music was upward, due mostly to the efforts and ability of Samuel Adams. When he died music and musical culture lost a leader whose place it was difficult to fill.

After Mr. Adams' death Mr. Fred Seymour took up the work and carried it on with marked success. About this time the Schubert Quartette was organized and by reason of the talent of the members and the excellent training, the quartette attained to much note and distinction.

Miss Corline Moore of Watertown also became a celebrity as a singer. She was a protege of Mr. Charles Leberge, of New York and afterwards went



to Europe, later having an international reputation.

Miss Emma S. Wardwell, sister of Mr. Nathaniel P. Wardwell, was a music teacher of marked ability. She was recognized as one of the best in the City.

AZARIAH H. SAWYER.

Judge Azariah H. Sawyer was born at Potsdam, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., son of the Rev. George Sawyer, a Methodist clergyman. After completing his education, Mr. Sawyer read law in the office of Hon. Amos G. Hull, Fulton, N. Y. He was admitted to the bar at an examination held in Watertown in 1857, and upon receiving his certificate of admission, he formed a partnership with Senator James F. Starbuck, who was then one of the leading lawyers of the City. This partnership continued until Senator Starbuck's death in 1880. The firm of Starbuck & Sawyer built up a large business and was in good repute throughout Northern New York.

When the Union League Club was organized at the outbreak of the Civil War Mr. Sawyer was chosen as its president, and continued as such until the close of the War, when the Club was disbanded. This Club was composed of loyal union men of the County of Jefferson and its object was to give service and aid in all ways to the Union cause.

In 1867, Mr. Sawyer was elected County Judge and discharged the duties of that office with so great efficiency and satisfaction that he was re-elected until he had served continuously for ten years. After the

death of his partner in 1880, Judge Sawyer had no partner in law. He was attorney for several large corporations, among them was that of the Agricultural Insurance Company. On account of the relations thus established, Judge Sawyer, in 1893, was elected vice-president of that company and served till 1898. At this time he was chosen president of the company and acted in this capacity until his death in 1904. He was also a director of the Union National Bank and had interest in and connection with several other business institutions. He was a man of high standing, and devoted time and energy to education and civic improvement.

SENATOR JOSEPH MULLIN.

The Hon. Joseph Mullin was born in Watertown May 29, 1848, and his early education was acquired in the City schools. He afterwards graduated from the Troy Polytechnic Institute, a school whose work and teaching is along scientific lines wholly. It is not the school that a young man would naturally choose to prepare himself for law. Senator Mullin's inclination evidently was toward the legal profession, therefore he adopted it and became a lawyer of great strength and ability. He was a son of Hon. Joseph Mullin, one of the distinguished members of the State Supreme Court. Joseph, Jr., therefore had fitness for the profession by reason of heredity and training. He attained to high standing in the bar of Northern New York. His honor and integrity were never questioned,





either in law or official life. During his service of nearly six years in the State Senate he kept free of the taint of questionable acts. He served on the finance committee and held other important posts. Although a staunch Republican, Mr. Mullin never hesitated to oppose measures or movements which lacked the stamp of honesty and fairness to the commonweal. He was one of the Senators who conscientiously refused to vote for the confirmation of Louis F. Payne for State Superintendent of Insurance, when the pressure of the machine carried so many of that body over to its support. He enjoyed the esteem and confidence of everybody in his community, as well as throughout the state.

For a long time Mr. Mullin was associated with the late Daniel G. Griffin in the practice of the law, the firm being one of the strong and active law firms of Northern New York.

Mr. Griffin's death occurred only a little time before that of Senator Mullin, thus removing from the bar of Jefferson County and from the community in which they were both honored and respected, two citizens of note and great value. Senator Mullin died suddenly in 1897.

**HANNIBAL SMITH.**

In the long list of Watertown's citizens who became prominent in law, Hannibal Smith had a firm footing, and as an educator and a promoter of educational affairs, he was one of the very strongest and most valuable help to the cause. He rendered effective service

both as a teacher and as an earnest supporter of good schools. Mr. Smith was always a pressing advocate of classical education.

Mr. Smith had little to do with politics. It happened that one of his ancestors who was an Irish lord and land owner of Dublin became too active in the political affairs of the Kingdom, and therefore found it expedient to seek another place of residence, so he emigrated to Vermont, where he bought the land comprising one township. This was prior to the War of the Revolution. This early pilgrim was the progenitor of this family in the United States.

Savillian Smith, father of Hannibal, was born at Waterford, Vt., November 22, 1807, and when a young man settled in Oswego County, N. Y. In 1836, he married Louisa Chafee, of Vermillion, in that county. Hannibal was born November 29, 1839. When he was three years of age, his parents moved to Bridgewater, Oneida County. Here he attended the village school and later prepared for college at the West Winfield Seminary. He was also a student at Cazenovia Seminary, and at nineteen taught school. In 1862, he entered as a freshman at Hamilton College, graduating in 1866, *magna cum laude*, besides taking a much striven for prize.

After graduating Mr. Smith was for a time principal of the High School at Little Falls, but soon entered the law department of Michigan University and graduated in 1870. This same year he became principal of the High School and superintendent of schools

in Watertown, he being the first superintendent under the City Charter.

Mr. Smith was a capable superintendent and a successful teacher. He had the faculty of interesting the pupils and inspiring in them the ambition to get education. After retiring as the head of the schools to take up the practice of his profession, Mr. Smith never lost his interest in and touch with the schools of the City. He served on the board of education for fifteen years, a part of the time as its president.

September 13, 1866, Mr. Smith married Miss Amelia Marsh, daughter of Eli and Elizabeth Marsh, of Utica, N. Y. They had three sons and two daughters, namely: Edward N., William Hannibal, Elizabeth Chard, Amelia Lydia and Eli Marsh Smith, who died at the age of fourteen years.

Mr. Smith first formed a partnership with Gen. Bradley Winslow, under the firm name of Winslow & Smith. After a period of three years Mr. Smith withdrew from the partnership and carried on the work alone until 1892, when his son Edward N., who had been admitted to practice, joined him, the business then becoming Smith & Smith.

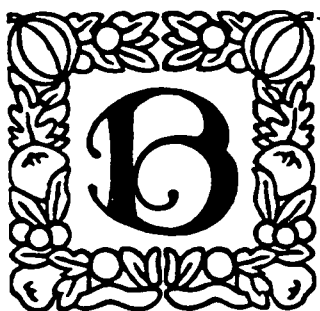
In his profession Mr. Smith was a lawyer of the old school. He was thorough, painstaking, industrious and an able advocate with the best of standing. He built up a large business in his profession, yet he was identified with several business concerns and enterprises. He was chief promoter of the Watertown Daily Standard and was president of the corporation until his

death. He was also interested in the Taggart & Moffett Land and Improvement Co., H. M. Harbottle & Co., and others. Mr. Smith died Dec. 17, 1899, after a life of honor and helpful influence in the community.



## CHAPTER XI.

### WATERTOWN BECOMES A CITY.



BY an act of the Legislature, passed May 8, 1869, Watertown became a City. It had then approximately ten thousand inhabitants. The first City election took place on the 15th day of June following the incorporation act, and the first officers chosen at this election were as follows: Mayor, Col. Geo. W. Flower; Recorder, Laban H. Ainsworth; City Chamberlain, Edward M. Gates; Treasurer, Louis C. Greenleaf; Street Commissioner, Jacob Hermes; Overseer of the Poor, Clark Wetherby; Assessors, A. Palmer Smith, Hiram Converse, William Howland, and the Supervisors, one from each of the four wards were: John M. Carpenter, Norris Winslow, Thomas C. Chittenden and John C. McCartin.

#### MAYORS, 1869 TO 1912.

The Mayors from 1869 to 1912 have been: 1869-71, Geo. W. Flower; 1871-73, Gilderoy Lord; 1872; Wilbur F. Porter; 1874, Bradley Winslow, 1875, Levi H. Brown; 1876 Wilbur F. Porter; 1877, John C. Streetter; 1878, Denis O'Brien; 1879-80, Byron B. Taggart; 1881-82, Nelson Burdick; 1883-84, Dewitt C. Middle-

ton; 1885, Henry M. Allen; 1886-87, William E. Hart; 1888-89, John Nill; 1890-91, Wilbur F. Porter; 1892, F. D. Roth; 1893-94, Hiram F. Inglehart; 1895-99, James B. Wise; 1900, Wilbur F. Porter, served till his death, 1901; 1901-03, James F. Pappa; 1904-05, Chas. D. Bingham; 1906, Daniel W. Cahill, resigned May 26 same year; 1906, Francis M. Hugo. Mayor Hugo has served continuously since the above date.

#### CITY CHAMBERLAINS, 1869 TO 1912.

From 1869 to 1897 the official, whose function was that of City Clerk, was designated City Chamberlain. The first City Clerk therefore was elected in 1897, when the time for holding City elections was changed from spring to the regular election date in November.

1869-70, Edward M. Gates; 1871, Alanson D. Seaver; 1872, George Smith; 1873-75, Byron D. Adsit; 1876, Chas. A. Settle; 1877-78, John L. Phelps; 1879-83, William J. Shepard; 1884-88, William Hanchette; 1889-93, John C. Lewis; 1894-96, Chas. R. Murray; 1896, Nov. and Dec., Frank Walts; 1897, Jan. and Feb., Fred Waddingham; 1897, March to Dec., C. L. Parmelee; 1898, Gary M. Jones; 1899-1900, J. B. Muzzy; 1901, Fred W. Streeter, who is still City Clerk.

From 1869 to 1897, as above the City Judge was styled Recorder. The first Recorder, 1869-81, Laban H. Ainsworth; 1882-85, Henry Purcell; 1886-93, Jos. McConnell; 1894-97, Geo. H. Cobb; 1898, Jos. A. McConnell, who is still City Judge.

## SUPERVISORS, 1805 TO 1912.

In order to give compactness and continuity to the list of Supervisors elected in the Town and City, it has been thought best to make the complete record here. Mention of the first Board of Supervisors has been made earlier in this work, therefore, names and terms of services only are given now. The members of the Board from the Town and the City have been: 1805-8, Corlis Hinds; 1809-10, Tilley Richardson; 1811, William Smith; 1812-19, Egbert TenEyck; 1820-26, Titus Ives; 1827, Jabez Foster; 1828, Titus Ives; 1829, Daniel Lee; 1830-34, Henry H. Coffeen; 1835-37, Orville Hungerford; 1838-40, Joel Woodworth; 1841-42, Orville Hungerford; 1843-45, John Winslow; 1846-47, Orville V. Brainard; 1848, George C. Sherman; 1849, Adriel Ely; 1850, Kilborn Hannahs; 1851, Orville Hungerford; 1852, Robert Lansing; 1853-54, David D. Otis; 1855, Adriel Ely; 1856, Willard Ives; 1857, Levi H. Brown; 1858, H. H. Babcock; 1859-60, Ambrose W. Clark; 1861, David W. Baldwin; 1862, H. H. Babcock; 1863-64, Edward Lansing; 1865-66-67-68, Geo. A. Bagley.

At the beginning of the City in 1869, there were four wards and one Supervisor from each ward. The Supervisors elected 1869, John Carpenter, Norris Winslow, Thos. C. Chittenden, John C. McCartin; 1870, Chas. W. Acker, Norris Winslow, Thos. C. Chittenden, John C. McCartin; 1871, Byron B. Taggart, Geo. Smith, Thos. C. Chittenden; G. C. Bradley; 1872, By-

ron B. Taggart, John C. Knowlton, Thos. C. Chittenden, G. C. Bradley; 1873, Chas. W. Acker, John C. Knowlton, Thos. C. Chittenden, L. F. Phillips; 1874, the same as previous year: 1875, Thos. Keenan, John C. Knowlton, Chas. A. Holden, Solon Wilder; 1876, Thos. Keenan, John C. Knowlton, Thos. C. Chittenden, C. W. Sloat; 1877, John C. Streeter, John C. Knowlton; Thos. C. Chittenden, C. W. Sloat; 1878, Thos. Keenan, John C. Knowlton, Thos. C. Chittenden, Thos. F. Kearns; 1879, George Adams, Jr., John C. Knowlton, Thos. C. Chittenden, Thos. F. Kearns; 1880, John E. Bergevin, J. A. Quencer, Chas. A. Holden, A. D. Seaver; 1881, John Nill, C. D. Bingham, Chas. A. Holden, Thos. F. Kearns; 1882, John Nill, C. D. Bingham, Chas. A. Holden, Thos. F. Kearns; 1883, John Nill, C. D. Bingham, Thos. F. Kearns, S. S. Trowbridge; 1884, John Nill, C. A. Settle, S. S. Trowbridge, Wm. H. Cole; 1885, John Nill, L. C. Greenleaf, Elon R. Brown, Thos. F. Kearns; 1886, same as previous year; 1887, W. S. Carlisle, L. C. Greenleaf, Elon R. Brown, Thos. F. Kearns; 1888, Foster Rhines, Jos. Atwell, Jr., Elon R. Brown, Thos. F. Kearns; 1889, W. O. Smith, Jos. Atwell, Jr., J. Barney Low, Thos. F. Kearns; 1890, Richard Holden, Joseph Atwell, Jr., R. Eldridge Smiley, Solon Wilder; 1891, same as previous year; 1892, B. J. McCarthy, Jos. Atwell, Jr., R. Eldridge Smiley, Solon Wilder; 1893, Richard Holden, Joseph Atwell, Jr., Alanson D. Seaver, Wm. H. Tallett; 1894, same as previous year; 1895, Richard Holden, Jos. Atwell, Jr., Jesse C. Ayers, Wm. H.

Tallett; 1896, Richard Holden, Jos. Atwell, Jr., Harvey W. Steele, Wm. H. Tallett; 1897, Richard Holden, Jos. Atwell, Jr., Harvey W. Steele, Wm. H. Tallett, Chas. E. Makepeace, L. M. Babcock.

In 1898 the number of wards in the City was increased to six. The Supervisors since have been, 1898, Richard Holden, Jr., Robt. J. Buck, Harvey W. Steele, Wm. H. Tallett, Chas. E. Makepeace, L. M. Babcock; 1899, Addison B. Parker, Robt. J. Buck, Harvey W. Steele, Wm. H. Tallett, O. J. Woolworth, L. M. Babcock; 1900, Addison B. Parker, John R. Pawling, Harvey W. Steele, W. A. Morrow, O. J. Woolworth, L. M. Babcock; 1901, the same as previous year; 1902, Addison B. Parker, John R. Pawling, Harvey W. Steele, Geo. H. Seeber, O. J. Woolworth, L. M. Babcock; 1903, Addison B. Parker, John R. Pawling, Harvey W. Steele, Geo. H. Seeber, O. J. Woolworth, L. M. Babcock; 1904 Addison B. Parker, John R. Pawling, Harvey W. Steele, Geo. A. Harris, O. J. Woolworth, L. M. Babcock; 1905, the same as previous year; 1906, Jas. F. Pappa, John R. Pawling, Elliot G. Johnson, John W. Whalen, O. J. Woolworth, L. M. Babcock; 1907, the same as previous year; 1908, Chas. L. Scharch, John H. O'Brien, Elliot G. Johnson, John W. Whalen, Fred H. Moore, L. M. Babcock; 1909, the same as previous year; 1910, Chas. T. Laing, John H. O'Brien, Elliot G. Johnson, Geo. B. Walker, Fred H. Moore, L. M. Babcock; 1911, Chas. T. Laing, John H. O'Brien, Elliot G. Johnson, Geo. B. Walker, Sydney H. Foote, L. M. Babcock.

In 1911 the number of wards in the City was increased to twelve. The Supervisors are as follows: David Fawdry, Edward W. Carroll, Harold B. Johnson, John H. O'Brien, George H. Hooker, Fred B. Marshall, John C. Muldoon, Wm. A. Burns, Andrew T. Sargent, Jas. W. Barnes, Jas. F. O'Connor, L. M. Babcock.

#### SOME HISTORICAL NOTES.

Mention has previously been made of many taverns and hostelries of different kinds in the village and City, and now to make the record more complete a few others may be added to the list. About 1816, Nathan Jewett built a hotel on the west side of the Square a little east of the Woodruff House. It was known as "The Flat." The property in 1849, after passing through many ownerships was purchased by Norris M. Woodruff. The Harris House was built in the late twenties by Nathan F. Butts, and this also had many owners. In 1852 it was bought by Silas Gates.

The Kirby House, now the Hardiman House, was erected in 1850 by Chauncey Jackson and Elijah Buck. In 1853, Clark M. Brown built a hotel on the site of the Crowner House. Later this property was purchased by John D. Crowner, hence the name Crowner House. In 1854, the present structure was built and after some time George and Solon Wilder were the landlords.

The Hotel LeRay, a handsome and modern hostelry situated on the south side of the Square, was

erected in 1903. It is now owned by the Jefferson County Savings Bank.

There seems to have been no adequate and satisfactory water for Watertown until the late fifties, and the plant contemplated then was little more than a preliminary movement toward the present for supplying water. In 1853 a commission was appointed composed of Loveland Paddock, George C. Sherman, Isaac H. Fiske, William H. Angel and Howell Cooper, to investigate and superintend the construction of a water plant on the Black River east of the City. Bonds to the amount of \$60,000 were issued and the work was soon begun and completed. The plant has since been materially enlarged and increased in working efficiency, also a modern scientific method has been established for the filtration of the water.

The Watertown Gas Company was incorporated in 1850, and this plant also has been greatly expanded and improved to keep pace with the increased demand. The Watertown Electric Light Company was organized in 1885, and, like the other utility the plant and the facilities have grown with the population of the City.

COL. ALBERT D. SHAW.

Col. Shaw was born in the Town of Lyme, Jefferson County, Dec. 27, 1841. His parents were Henry and Sally Ann (Gardner) Shaw, who had come from Albany, N. Y., and settled in that section sometime prior to the year given. That Albert D. possessed the real elements of a soldier is quite natural, in view

of the fact that his ancestors on both sides were in service under Gen. Washington in the War of the Revolution. There came a time in Albert D. Shaw's life when the soldier qualities earned for him credit and distinction as a valiant fighter.

Col. Shaw graduated at Belleville Academy and St. Lawrence University. Immediately after graduating in 1861, he enlisted in the 35th N. Y. Vol., Co. A, being the first soldier to enlist in Cape Vincent where he then lived. He served two years with an honorable record as a good soldier. At the end of this term of service he was appointed special agent of the provost marshal's office under Captain Fred Emerson in Watertown. At the close of the Civil War Col. Shaw was discharged with many credits and commendations from those under whom he had served.

It was only a little time after this that he became active in public affairs. He was an eloquent speaker and derived much satisfaction in such demonstrations of his oratorical ability. In fact, Col. Shaw was quite given to vainglory. But his vanity however, was based on real merit in this line. Col. Shaw was in demand at functions where good oratory was a consideration. In 1866, the Colonel was elected to the Assembly and had a clean record for honesty and legislative ability. Gov. Reuben E. Fenton, who was then in office, appointed Mr. Shaw Colonel of the 36th N. Y. S. N. G., a post which Col. Shaw took pride in filling.

In 1868 Col. Shaw was made U. S. Consul at Toronto, Canada, and while there won much distinction



as a capable and diplomatic consul. President Rutherford B. Hayes, in 1878, appointed Col. Shaw U. S. Consul at Manchester, England. Here he made a brilliant official record. His tenure of this office held until 1885, when President Grover Cleveland appointed a Democrat to succeed him.

While in England Col. Shaw was much in the public eye as a speaker on various occasions. In 1893 Cornell University recognized his ability and selected him to deliver the founder's address at the commencement exercises that year. Col. Shaw was always a factor in political campaigns as a stump speaker. Col. Shaw was specially popular among members of the G. A. R. He was commander-in-chief of the State department and in 1899 was chosen national commissioner-in-chief.

In 1900, Col. Shaw was elected to Congress and died there very suddenly on February 10, 1901. He was apparently in perfect health with no indications of an early death, yet in a letter written to his friend in Watertown, Geo. B. Massey, on the evening before his death it would almost seem that he had some premonition of the approaching end. The following is an extract, and, the occasion for it seemed to arise in the fact that a mutual friend had recently died, hence the sentiment: "I thank you for securing the roses which exactly fitted my idea. I enclose check to cover cost of same. How strange it all seems! to-day we hear the voices of our dear friends—tomorrow we place our warm hands on their cold faces—the awful change from life to death."

RICHARD E. HUNGERFORD.

Richard E. Hungerford was the son of Orville Hungerford, one of the early business men of Watertown. He inherited many of his father's qualities, though perhaps not having the same aggressive spirit. He was a good business man, however, and during his lifetime was connected with some important business concerns.

In early life Mr. Hungerford was a clerk in his father's store. In 1840, or when he was sixteen, he entered Hamilton College and graduated in 1844. A few years after graduation he entered the service of the Rome & Watertown Railroad, and when the road was completed he was chosen secretary, treasurer and general paymaster of the company. He continued actively in this capacity for a period of seventeen years. It was at the end of this period that he established the Security Bank and served a considerable length of time as its president. The bank finally was sold to Norris Winslow, thus terminating Mr. Hungerford's connection therewith. He had a business connection with several other business institutions meanwhile, being a director of the Jefferson County National Bank, president of the Watertown Steam Engine Company, and vice-president of the Brookside Cemetery Association.

Mr. Hungerford was one of those without ambition for public life or office. He preferred to live quietly in peace and kindly relationship with everybody. He was active in charity in unostentatious ways, giving to the needy and to the church societies. He was a member





of Trinity Church, yet he was generous in his financial aid of the First Presbyterian Church.

In 1845, Mr. Hungerford married Miss Helen M. Osgood, of Hamilton, N. Y. There were two sons by this union, Richard S. and Orville. Mr. Hungerford was twice married, his second wife being Miss Harriet R. Cooper, daughter of Mr. Howell Cooper of Watertown. By this marriage there were two daughters, Helen H., who became Mrs. Woolworth, and Miss Harriet R. Hungerford.

CHARLES HERBERT REMINGTON.

In the paper making industry of Northern New York there were few more active or successful than Charles H. Remington. He was a paper maker by heredity and training. His father and grandfather were paper manufacturers in Fayetteville, N. Y., from the early fifties. Mr. Charles H. was born in Manlius, December 24, 1860, where the parents were then living. About this time they moved to Watertown where Mr. Herbert R. Remington began the manufacture of print paper. He established the Remington Paper Company on the Black River a little out of the present City.

After graduating from the Watertown High School Mr. Charles H. began work in the Remington Company's mill and developed into a man of great capacity in the elemental work of producing paper. He was interested in machinery, was of a mechanical mind, and these qualities were used to a good advantage in his work of building up a tremendous business. Through his

efforts and peculiar genius for that kind of work there was established a string of paper making mills which, taken together, constitute one of the largest industries of the kind in the world. These were located along the Black River and in St. Lawrence County. These comprise the Remington-Martin Company, at Norfolk; the Raymondville Paper Company, the Norwood Paper Company and the Diana Paper Company, located at Harrisville, N. Y. He was the controlling force in all of these great plants, and served either as president or supervising director.

Besides these, Mr. Remington was the promoter of the Norwood & St. Lawrence R. R. Co., a line extending from Norwood to Waddington. He served as its president until his death. He was also one of the promoters and was interested in the St. Lawrence and International Electric R. R., running from Redwood to Alexandria Bay.

There were few more active business men in Northern New York and few who achieved greater success in their special line of endeavor. In 1888 Mr. Remington married Miss Abbie Crosby Fairbanks, daughter of Mr. Andrew J. Fairbanks. Mr. Remington was much interested in music and played the chello with grace and proficiency. Socially he made good, warm friends and when he died March 15, 1911, there was general sorrow among all who knew him.

COL. GEO. W. FLOWER.

Col. Flower was a native of Theresa, Jefferson Coun-

ty, and lived the greater part of his life there. He moved to Watertown in 1865, and at once took an active interest in political affairs. By 1869 when the City Charter became operative, Col. Flower was elected Mayor and was efficient and honorable in his official acts as Mayor.

During the Civil War Mr. Flower raised a company of volunteers in his native town and went into service as captain. He was a valiant soldier and won high credit from his superiors. During his residence in Watertown his business interests were largely with his brothers, Governor and Anson R. Flower. Col. Flower was a well known figure in Watertown and enjoyed great popularity. He was a genial companion and a good friend. He died May 4, 1881.

#### ADDISON L. UPHAM.

Addison L. Upham was born in Watertown April 25, 1849. His father, Samuel B. Upham, was cashier of the Union National Bank and when a young man Addison L. was taken into the bank at such service as he could then perform. He developed rapidly in banking ability, and at the death of his father in 1892, Addison L. was chosen to succeed him as cashier. He filled the position ably and satisfactorily until his death January 7, 1901. Mr. Upham had good training; he came from a family of honorable, upright people, and was himself a man of the highest integrity and stood high in the esteem of the community in which he spent his life.

In 1885, Mr. Upham married Miss Elizabeth V. Swits, of Schenectady, N. Y. There were two children born to them, one son and one daughter. Samuel B. was born July 10, 1891 and died January 7, 1901. Miss Margaret is the surviving child.

Mr. Upham was a member of several social organizations, and was also a member of the Union League Club. He also served two terms as County Treasurer.

JERE. COUGHLIN.

By the death of Mr. Jere. Coughlin in 1908, journalism in Northern New York lost one of its brightest representatives. He was not only a versatile and able writer but he was an all around newspaper man who published a good paper and worked out a high degree of success.

Mr. Coughlin was born in Farmersville, Ontario, in 1854, and as a young man of nineteen came over the border to Carthage, N. Y., and became editor of the Carthage Republican. In 1882 he was managing editor of the Daily Times in Watertown. But he had ambition that led him into an enterprise of his own. In 1886 he established the Watertown Herald by buying and consolidating four weekly newspapers. This at once assured a business basis upon which he built up a valuable newspaper property. Mr. Coughlin died suddenly July 8, 1908, and thereby journalism of Northern New York and the community in which he lived lost a man of splendid parts and a useful and valuable citizen.



## COL. JOSEPH A. LAWYER.

Col. Lawyer, soldier, business man and railroad official, was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., June 22, 1825. During his boyhood he attended the Schoharie Academy and later spent some time at a boys' school in Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

When Col. Lawyer was twenty he went to New York City and entered the service of a wholesale dry goods concern. His mother had died when he was two years old and his father seven years later. Col. Lawyer, therefore, had his own way to make. He continued in active work in New York until 1848, when, by reason of his sister having married Mr. Samuel B. Upham of Watertown, he located in the City joining his brother-in-law in the mercantile business. This continued until the breaking out of the Civil War. Mr. Lawyer was then appointed additional paymaster of volunteer troops, a post he held until 1866, with the rank of Lieut. Colonel. At this time Col. Lawyer returned to Watertown and again engaged in business, carrying it on successfully until 1876, when he was appointed secretary and treasurer of the R. W. & O. R. R. He continued in this capacity for more than ten years, or until the Rome, Watertown & Ogdensburg system was taken over by the New York Central Railroad. Col. Lawyer stood high among the officials of the road and, although not actively holding the office, he held the title of secretary and treasurer until his death.

Col. Lawyer was an active thirty-second degree Ma-

son, was also a member of the Joe Spratt Post, G. A. R., and a trustee of the Jefferson County Savings Bank. He was respected and esteemed for his many good qualities, a citizen of worth, whose life was correct and exemplary.

#### THE PAPER MAKING INDUSTRY OF WATERTOWN.

The paper making industry of Watertown has grown to be an important factor in reckoning the output of manufactured products; in fact the volume of business in this line probably exceeds that of any other given manufactured commodity in the City. As a second proposition, too, this industry has had almost a continuous, active life for more than a hundred years. With the exception, perhaps, of a flouring mill, this is therefore the oldest industry in the City.

When Gurdon Caswell built his little two story paper mill on the site of the Knowlton Brothers plant in 1808, he likely little thought that his was the foundation of a great business. In 1819, Caswell built a second mill, and this, together with the first one passed to Knowlton & Rice in 1824. They continued to operate this mill until 1833, when it burned.

In 1854, Illustrious Remington and his two sons, Hiram and Alfred D., leased the old Juhelville cotton mill and fitted and equipped it for paper making. In 1865, they organized the Remington Paper Company. Two years later the plant was removed to Sewall Island and in 1869 the first machinery for manufacturing wood pulp was installed. From this time

to 1912, there has been expansion and an increase of facilities from year to year to keep pace with the great volume of business in paper products of various kinds.

In 1863 the Watertown Paper Company was organized by A. D. Remington, C. R. Remington, Walter D. Sewall and others. Following this in 1883, the H. Remington & Sons, Pulp and Paper Company, was incorporated with the plant at Black River.

The old distillery and flouring mill built in 1843-45, by William H. Angell at the lower dam was converted into a paper mill in 1864, by B. B. Taggart and A. H. Hall. This, a little later became West, Palmer & Taggart, makers of manilla paper. In 1867, they also began making print paper. In 1887, B. B. and William Taggart became owners of the property, at which time they organized a stock company, known as the Taggart Bros. Company. The Remington Mills in this City some time ago became a part of the International Paper Co.

#### CEMETERIES.

The land for the old Arsenal Street Cemetery was bought of Hart Massey in 1823. It is the burial place of Hart Massey, his wife Lucy and his father Jonathan Massey. This continued to be the main burial place until the opening of Brookside in 1854. Much money, labor and care have been expended on Brookside Cemetery, until now it is one of the beautiful cemeteries of the State. It is located on Washington street and contains seventy acres or more, is handsome-

ly laid out and beautified with a labyrinth of trees and shrubbery of nature's choicest productions.

The North Watertown Cemetery, located on Morrison street, is one of the old burying grounds. Many soldiers are buried there.

Glenwood Cemetery, near Brookside, was established by Father Glenn, while he was rector of St. Patrick's Church. It is a cemetery of considerable size and is well planned and cared for. The Catholics have another one, Calvary, on State street which years ago took the name of the Pamela Burying Ground.

#### THE RIVER DISASTER OF 1850.

The mishap of the Edmunds brothers while riding down the Black River in their boat in 1798, had an intensified parallel in the disaster of 1850, which claimed five victims by drowning. At that time it was quite the custom to row across the river in either direction. At this particular time Mrs. J. J. Premeau, her child aged five, Mrs. Beansoliel, Mrs. Joseph Premeau and a young lady by the name of Miss Beband, started a little above the dam and the falls to row across from the north side and when in midstream one of the oars of the boat became disconnected by the breaking of some part of the socket or holder, thus rendering the boat wholly unmanageable. After a strenuous effort on the part of the occupants to stem the tide of the mighty rapids, they were swept over the dam and the falls, all of them perishing in the water. This horrible accident naturally cast a gloom over the

whole community. The unhappy affair no doubt was an object lesson, which possibly prevented other similar catastrophies on the swift running Black River.

DANIEL MINTHORN.

Another citizen of Watertown who, it is believed, had a valid claim to more or less genius was Daniel Minthorn, who died in Watertown in 1903.

Mr. Minthorn was a native of Lewis County but spent the greater part of his business life in Watertown. In his early life he was a student at the old Black River Institute. He was a wide reader and had a versatile mind full of excellent ideas, if worked out by others, but he himself was impractical and somewhat unstable in the application of his energy in connection with his many projects. He was at different times a farmer, a merchant, a promoter, an inventor and one of the first, it is said, to take up amateur photography.

In 1849, after the destruction of his store by fire, Mr. Minthorn went to New York, where he met Prof. S. F. B. Morse, the inventor of the telegraph, and Prof. Morse thought so well of Minthorn that he gave aid to some of his undertakings. Mr. Minthorn apparently was a man of some study and research, because it is stated that the great talc mines of Northern New York were discovered by him. This seemed to promise a fortune but others who were shrewder and less conscientious, finally wheedled or beat him out of all his valuable holdings in this property. Mr. Minthorn was universally esteemed for his honest gen-

ius and many good qualities, and all regretted his misfortune as deeply as did Mr. Minthorn himself.

CHARLES BRAGGER, ARTIST.

Charles Bragger was born and grew to manhood in Watertown. His father ran a small greenhouse on the north side and the boy assisted in the raising of the flowers and plants. The talent which he exhibited later as a painter in oil, probably received stimulous and developing influence while at work amongst the flowers. Dr. Rosa, who was a prominent citizen and lover of art and culture, discovered the bent and talent of the young man Bragger and generously bore the expense of a long course of art training in the best art centers of Europe. The young man made good progress in the work and finally became an artist of acknowledged ability. He later returned to his hometown and painted several oil portraits of prominent people. His work had the life and touch of a genuine artist, some of these pictures, it is said, being almost masterpieces. His career of success was not a long one, however, he died while yet a young man.

DR. JOHN L. DUNLAP.

Dr. John L. Dunlap, oracle and egotist, in his career covering many years, gave another tint and an added flavor to the chronicles of Watertown. His peculiar kinks of mind and his manner made him a person of comic interest. His career as a physician probably would be entitled to a brief record, because the Doctor

put aside all professional etiquette in his professional work.

He made and sold Dr. Dunlap's Cough Syrup, which he fervently recommended to everybody, and no occasion was permitted to pass, in his various means of getting in contact with the public, without due attention being called to his panacea. The Doctor's seat of action for pressing the sale of his coughless cough remedy was on the Public Square in front of the Paddock Arcade. Here he pleaded the merit of his compound and intermixed many other subjects in his lectures to the public. He delivered talks on various matters wholly foreign to the cough remedy proposition, yet in all instances the talk closed with the injunction "Don't forget that I make Dr. Dunlap's Cough Syrup."

The doctor apparently was to a great extent the victim of auto-suggestion, for he moulded himself into the belief that his was an exceptionally fine physique and physiognomy. While speaking, he would pass his hand across his forehead and ask his hearers if it was not a noble head. He himself believed it sincerely. The Doctor believed also that he was destined to the presidency of the United States; in fact he was positive that the people were solidly for Dr. Dunlap. It was the thwarting of their will that kept him out of the chief executive's seat. He was always an earnest listener to those who took pleasure in stimulating this fancy by stories of his popularity throughout the country and of the movement in the different states to make the Doctor president. Once when Gen. Joseph Hooker

was in Watertown, the Doctor called upon him and tendered him the portfolio of Secretary of War, saying that he had been elected president and wished to have a real fighting secretary of war in his cabinet.

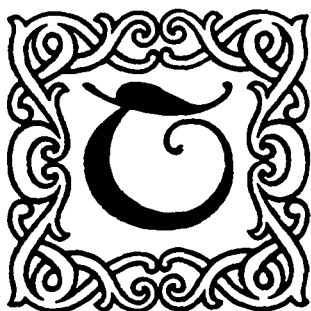
Queen Victoria was living in those days, the Doctor's period of activity being from about 1845 to 1870. The doctor believed that the Queen of Great Britain, Empress of India and other dependencies were seeking him for a husband. Some citizens of Watertown while abroad, wishing to add to the Doctor's vain glory, wrote letters purporting to come from Queen Victoria setting forth her desire to have him visit her and become her marital partner. And the Doctor believed in the validity of the letters and in the personal ambition of the great Queen in this direction.

Dr. Dunlap had much pride in the military uniform which he often wore. That with the cough syrup and the various delusions he nursed, the doctor was a busy man for many years. His passing removed from the community an odd and interesting character.



## CHAPTER XIII.

### THE MUNICIPALITY AND ITS INSTITUTIONS.



HERE have been several amendments to the charter since 1869 to meet the needs of a growing population. By an act passed April 14, 1891, the board of public works was established. By the same act the office of city surveyor and street commissioner were abolished and in their places came the city engineer and superintendent of public works. In 1895, the City Hall was erected, a metropolitan public building and a credit to the City.

In 1897, another important amendment to the charter came by legislative enactment. It increased the number of wards in the City and changed the date of election to correspond with the regular election in November. It also provided for a president of the common council, a city judge, two aldermen from each ward, one supervisor from each ward, nine commissioners of education, five commissioners of the water board and three assessors. The appointive officers were those of city attorney, city treasurer, city clerk, city engineer, five commissioners of public works five commissioners of health, five of public safety and five

of charity. The appointment of these was within the province of the mayor. By another legislative act in 1911, the number of wards was increased to twelve.

In 1889, the first board of trade was organized. B. B. Taggart was the first president, H. R. Remington the first vice-president, Geo. A. Bagley, second vice president, Sidney Cooper, third vice president, F. Bagg, fourth vice president. The board of trade has since developed into the chamber of commerce, with broader scope and more effective modes of action in furthering the city's interest.

The handsome soldier's monument on the Public Square was the gift to the city of Mrs. George Cook, placed there as a memorial to her husband in 1890. This, together with the fountain, the shafts and the beautiful flower gardens contribute greatly to its attraction.

#### HISTORICAL NOTES.

In noting the row of handsome plate glass fronts in the business places now along the north side of the Public Square incidentally brings up the record that the first full plate glass front in a store or business place in the city was that in the old Security Bank which was located east of the Woodruff House. This step in progress came in 1871. Mr. J. W. Nott purchased the building of Sylvanus Pool and opened a drug store therein after the going out of the bank.

Another historical item of great moment still, is the fact that the five and ten cent store conception had its birth in Watertown. The idea was put into active opera-

tion in a very small way about 1878 by Mr. W. H. Moore. Mr. Moore was then conducting a store in the same quarters now occupied by the F. W. Woolworth Syndicate five and ten cent store, and as an experiment he began by devoting one small table to the display of such articles as could then be grouped in this category. The business grew amazingly until in a little time it became an important department of the business. About a year later Mr. L. G. Woolworth, who was a clerk in the Moore store, opened a store in Utica, making the five and ten cent department a leading feature. After some halting and shifting about natural to an innovation of this character in business, the plan and system worked out is one of the most marvelous successes in the mercantile world. Now the Woolworth Syndicate chain of stores extends from coast to coast and across the ocean. And the fact is interesting that the syndicate store of to-day occupies the same quarters where the business had its birth.

In the days of long ago, when Watertown's public utilities in the way of horse vehicles, consisted of one hack, "Pete" Cowan was the reigning king, because he had the only hack in town. He was much in the public eye on account of the fact that he had a monopoly and his services, therefore, were much in demand. Cowan was a genial fellow, possessing many attractive qualities and was popular and a busy man.

#### THE CITY HOSPITAL.

The present City Hospital had its foundation in

the House of the Good Samaritan established in 1881. It was founded by Episcopal clergymen of the City and was conducted under the auspices of Trinity and Grace Church parishes. The first officers of the organization were Dr. H. M. Stevens, president; H. H. Babcock, vice-president; Rev. Dr. R. A. Olin, treasurer; Rev. Albert Danker, secretary.

For nearly fifteen years this institution carried on the hospital work with efficiency and credit to those who labored earnestly in its interest. But the time came when a greater hospital was needed and this required greater financial resources. Therefore, it was taken over by the City in 1895, and became non-sectarian. The institution at first was located on Ten Eyck street, but in 1898, plans had been prepared for a greatly enlarged hospital which was erected on Washington street. The hospital since has been much increased in building capacity, furnishings and equipment, until in 1912, it is a hospital that would be a credit to any city without regard to population.

#### ST. JOACHIM'S HOSPITAL.

This institution is situated on Stone street in close proximity to the business center, yet far enough removed to have pleasant surroundings. St. Joachim's Hospital is a Catholic hospital under the management of the sisters. The work is carried on in a fine building with modern equipment and with the best of thought and care. It renders excellent service to the community.

## THE ORPHAN'S HOME.

The Jefferson County Orphan's Home has an interesting history and has had a career of great usefulness. It had its beginning in a modest way in 1859. Prior to that date, according to record, no need for such a home had arisen, which fact is additional evidence of the thrift and forehandedness of the dwellers in Jefferson County during the first half century of its history.

The institution began in a small house on the north side of Woodruff street, a short distance off Washington street. Miss Jane Frazier was the first matron engaged by some of the alert and philanthropic women of Watertown, in an emergency when two small children became homeless by the sudden death of their mother. The furnishings for the first home came mainly from the homes of the women directly interested, as well as did the care and supervision of the work. After a time the orphans were housed in another home at the corner of Sterling and Goodale streets, and still later the home was established at the corner of Franklin street and the Public Square. Finally the home was located permanently on Franklin street at the corner of Keyes Avenue. One acre of land was donated by Rev. Richard G. Keyes in 1862, and later more land was purchased of him by the trustees of the home. Now the orphans are housed in a comfortable home under good influences and excellent care.

The following citizens were elected as trustees of

the Home at a meeting held April 28, 1859: Willard Ives, Isaac H. Fiske, Aaron C. Cady, Chas. B. Hoard, William H. Angel, Frederick W. Hubbard, Milton Clark, John A. Hadcock and James W. Clark. It was incorporated on May 11 following, as "The Watertown Home for Destitute and Friendless Orphans and Children." The first directoresses elected were: Mrs. Robert Lansing, Mrs. Ambrose W. Clarke, secretary and treasurer Mrs. Isaac H. Fiske.

#### ST. PATRICK'S ORPHANAGE.

This home was established in 1895, through the efforts of Rev. Father Tobias Glenn. The denomination had long felt the need of a home for the orphans and friendless children and Father Glenn set about the founding of such an institution.

This also started in a small way but grew gradually as the room and other facilities for housing the children increased. It is now situated on Coffeen street, and has a large three story brick building with every means for properly caring for the destitute children of the different parishes.

#### THE HENRY KEEP HOME.

Another institution of no less consequence is that of the Henry Keep Home for aged women. This is located on Washington street near the City Hospital and has attractive grounds comprising thirty-five acres of land. It was incorporated by an act of the Legislature of 1879. The home was founded, erected and







endowed by Mrs. Henry Keep Schley as a memorial to Henry Keep, her husband. It was first opened to receive inmates in 1883. Since that time many changes and improvements have been made in both the environments and the building. It is well furnished and equipped for carrying into effect the idea and plan of the founder—that is to furnish a pleasant home with cheerful surroundings and good associations.

#### THE FLOURING MILLS.

Commercially the flouring business did not begin until about 1835. There had been several mills but they were mostly grist mills with a very small, if any, product for the general market. In 1827, Joseph Henderson sold the old Baily and Clark mill to Joseph Sheldon, and in 1835, Mr. Sheldon erected the Union Mills. In 1838, these mills passed to the ownership of Hiram Merrill & Co. The firm was composed of Hiram Merrill, Eli Farwell and Josiah W. Baker. They at once sold to Eli Farwell & Co. This was the beginning of that which is now an industry of great magnitude and corresponding value to the City.

In 1855, Mr. Frederick R. Farwell became a member of the firm of Eli Farwell & Co. In 1866, Eli Farwell, senior member of the firm, died, and one year thereafter Mr. Frederick R. Farwell retired from the firm to engage in other business. In 1878, he again engaged in the flouring business in company with Mr. Foster P. Rhines. They soon took over the City Mill and a little later still, bought the Crescent Mills, near

Factory Square. Since that time there have been great expansions and many additions. They have added Mill D, five warehouses, having a storing capacity of eighty thousand bushels of grain, two thousand barrels of flour and five hundred tons of feed.

In 1895, the business was incorporated as the Farwell & Rhines Company. Besides the enormous output of flour, the company manufactures many specialties in the way of cereals made from pure grain under the strictest sanitary conditions. These later products have a market not only throughout the United States but in many foreign countries. The great water power combined with the perfect equipment enables the company to compete in the leading markets of the world.

The old Jefferson Flouring Mill erected in 1855, by Moulton & Symonds was purchased in 1863 by A. C. Hanchette, who carried it on till 1883, when he sold it to Knowlton Bros. for a pulp mill.

The Excelsior Flouring Mills also erected by Moulton & Symonds was sold to A. H. Herrick & Son, who have a well equipped mill and do an extensive business.

The old Pearl Barley Mill built in 1847, by V. P. Kimball was an important industry for many years, passing in 1897 to the Farwell & Rhines Co.

#### THE BAGLEY & SEWALL CO.

The Bagley & Sewall Company, whose plant is located partly on Sewall Island and partly on the north





bank of Black River at the intersection of Pearl and Moulton streets, was founded September 1, 1853, by the co-partnership of George A. Bagley, who is still the president of the company, with George Goulding and Edmund Q. Sewall, under the firm name of Goulding, Bagley & Sewall.

George Goulding had conducted a small machine shop on Sewall Island for about twenty years prior, and purchased his castings from a foundry on the island owned by the late Abel Davis, which foundry the firm of Goulding, Bagley & Sewall immediately proceeded to buy out, as Mr. Bagley was a practical foundryman, having had charge of the Hoard Foundry for two years prior to the formation of the partnership above mentioned.

The concern began business manufacturing central discharge water wheels, boilers and engines, saw mills and general foundry work, and this continued for nine years until 1862, when George Goulding left the concern, his interest being purchased by Messrs. Bagley and Sewall, and the concern was known as Bagley & Sewall until the incorporation of the present company in 1882.

Messrs. Bagley & Sewall increased the lines of their business and began building engines and boilers on a large scale for those times, and in fact became the best known engine concern in Northern New York. Mowing machines were added to the list, with plows and other agricultural machinery, then a line of pumping machinery, the celebrated Green rotary pump being among

their outfit. Later, somewhat before the incorporation of the company, they started building iron workers' and wood workers' vises for the Prentiss Vise Company of New York, which business, small at first, has grown into a large department of the present Bagley & Sewall Company, and the contract with the Prentiss Vise Company is in its thirty-sixth year of existence.

When the Davis Sewing Machine Company was founded, Bagley & Sewall took the contract for building all the iron castings for the sewing machines, and during the residence in Watertown of the Davis Sewing Machine Company, manufactured the castings for from one hundred to one hundred and fifty sewing machines a day. They also, for a great many years, built all the castings for the Eames Vacuum Brake Company, which is now the New York Air Brake Company.

In 1884, the corporation of Bagley & Sewall took up the manufacture of printing presses and established a large line of these presses, although they abandoned the business about 1890, owing to the pressure caused by a new line of business which had been undertaken in 1888, namely, that of building paper making machines.

From the beginning of the co-partnership until 1888, about thirty-five years, both Bagley & Sewall and the new corporation were building odds and ends for paper mills, many of which were located in this vicinity. Among the principal things which they made for paper mills were pulp grinders. This business began with the introduction of the process of grinding wood pulp, the machine being introduced into America by Messrs.

Warner Miller, Adolph Pagenstecher and Warren Curtis. This process revolutionized news paper and cheap wrapping papers in the United States, and Bagley & Sewall had the entire right of building these machines under a license from the above named gentlemen. Later, under the corporation of Bagley & Sewall the hydraulic pulp grinder was developed and that business has continued ever since.

In 1888 the Davis Sewing Machine Company having decided to move to Dayton, Ohio, and the New York Air Brake Company to build its own foundry, left an opportunity for the Bagley & Sewall Company to take on other business, and George A. Bagley decided to build paper making machines. This appears to have been the crucial moment in the affairs of the company, and it was the right decision at the right time.

The first machine was built during the fall of 1888 and practically the whole year of 1889, and was finally started in December, 1889, in the mills of the Ontario Paper Company in this city. The machine proved to be the fastest machine that had ever been built for paper making, and its production exceeded all records heretofore made. The result was very logical; the concern at once sprung to the front in the manufacture of Fourdrinier paper making machines. The plant was increased, and despite the panic in 1893, the concern grew and has doubled and trebled its capacity during the last twenty years, during which time all classes of paper making machines have been added to their list, until to-day The Bagley & Sewall Company are as

well known in the field of high grade paper making for books and writing, tissue and board making, as they are known throughout the world in the field of Fourdrinier machines for news paper.

Their first machine which won them immediate attention ran at the maximum speed of 325 feet and manufactured fourteen tons of news paper. To-day their machines are attaining 700 feet per minute and producing sixty tons a day, and at present the concern is contemplating and negotiating for the building of a machine to run 1,000 feet per minute and to produce one hundred tons of news paper in 24 hours.

The plant has been extended this year across the north branch of Black River on to the main land, and there a new machine shop has been erected embodying all the latest construction of steel, concrete, completely equipped with electric power and gridironed with railroad facilities. The water power which was originally developed in 1818 by the then owners of the island has been redeveloped this summer increasing the power fully 100 per cent.

The output of the Bagley & Sewall Company is not only distributed domestically in every state of the United States, but their foreign trade is large with England, France and Japan, and a large amount of work has been sent into Sweden and China, and in the Canadian trade their name ranks at the top.

The concern at the present time is employing five hundred hands; their yearly output averages nearly a million dollars, and the company is very proud of the







fact that during all the years of its existence it has been able to keep their employes on their pay roll despite hard times, depressions or any of the unsettled difficulties that general trade in the country has experienced.

Edmund Q. Sewall of the original partnership, and afterwards treasurer of the corporation, owing to physical disability was inactive after July, 1888, and died shortly afterwards. George A. Bagley is in his sixtieth year as the president of this company.

The present officers of this company are as follows: George A. Bagley, president; Charles D. Bingham, treasurer; Stuart D. Lansing, secretary; C. W. Valentine, superintendent; C. E. Kinne, mechanical engineer.

#### THE NEW YORK AIR BRAKE COMPANY.

This company succeeded the Eames Vacuum Brake Company which was incorporated in 1876 and continued in the business until 1890. The business of the company was not a success. The brake which the company manufactured was adapted only for light trains and the smaller type of cars, therefore the demand for the product was limited.

In 1883, Messrs. John C. Thompson and George B. Massey secured a controlling interest in the Eames Vacuum Brake Co. Mr. Thompson believed that he could work out a success but he was then regarded as visionary and when he talked of the future and the possibilities he received little sympathy from the public. He was instrumental, however, in 1890, in converting it into The New York Air Brake Company and from

that time there has grown up an industry which is surpassed by only one of its kind in the United States. The mighty water power has here again been an element not alone in making it a success but insuring its continuance in Watertown. The improvements which have been made in the brake from time to time have produced a practical and effective air brake which ranks with any in the market. The plant now gives employment to above fifteen hundred men. It covers a great area of land, the east plant alone having 260 acres with forty acres covered with buildings. In addition to this there is still the original factory on Beebee Island and another on Factory street. Chas. A. Starbuck, who was vice president when the company was formed became president in 1894 and is still president. John C. Thompson, vice president and general manager; Geo. B. Massey, vice president; H. F. Bickel, secretary and treasurer.

#### THE H. H. BABCOCK COMPANY.

The foundation of the H. H. Babcock Company was laid by H. H. Babcock in 1845, when he began making wood pumps and wood water pipes. This industry was carried on successfully until 1882, when a corporation was formed to manufacture carriages. Three years previous to this Mr. Babcock started the manufacture of carriages in a small way but after the incorporation the plant was devoted wholly to this line. The company manufactures high grade carriages, in fact, the Babcock carriages were among the best in

the market and have continued to be. The company has an extensive plant with complete equipment.

The officers of the company in 1882, were H. H. Babcock, president; R. P. Flower, vice president; Geo. H. Babcock, treasurer and F. W. Babcock, secretary. The company was re-incorporated in 1909, at which time it absorbed the Watertown Carriage Company. The officers now are Geo. H. Babcock, president and treasurer; W. J. Mills, vice-president; W. R. Tasse, secretary.

Besides there is the Excelsior Carriage Company with a large factory and a product of large extent, also the Union Carriage and Gear Company located on Newell street. This latter company was organized in 1885, and first was known as the Maud S. Gear and was therefore incorporated as the Maud S. Gear Co. In 1888 the corporate name was changed to that of the Union Carriage and Gear Co.

#### NILL & JESS CO.

Nill & Jess, bakers, started in business in 1863, in a small way, and from this beginning have grown into a baking concern of considerable extent. In 1897, a stock company was formed under the name of the Nill & Jess Company. The company has a large and well arranged building on Factory street with all the modern appliances for turning out a complete line of baked stuff. The company's business is mostly wholesale, their products going to all sections of Northern New York. Nill & Jess have made a substantial suc-

cess from the beginning. It is now a strong company and has a prosperous business.

#### THE WATERTOWN SPRING WORKS.

The Watertown Spring Works, a concern which formerly was allied entirely with the carriage industry, has grown to be a business of great extent. In addition to making carriage springs, the company now makes all kinds of springs for automobiles, thus greatly increasing the volume of its business. The company's product has a wide sale in consequence.

Sill & Bates, makers of harness, saddles, horse collars and sundries, have a successful business with a trade that reaches into several states.

There are many other kinds of goods manufactured in Watertown, kid gloves, thermometers, silks, steel plows, centrifugal pumps, automatic water gauges, brick, candy and many other small articles which contribute to the thrift and prosperity.

The Harmon Machine Company, manufacturers of the Harmon Diaphragm Pulp Screen, has grown to be an industry of considerable extent. The company's manufactured product goes to nearly every paper mill in the Union. It is one of the substantial industries.

The J. B. Wise Company has a large plant and does an extensive business throughout the country. The company manufactures hardware specialties, also locks, hinges, sewing machines and organ parts, besides brass work for various purposes. The company began business in 1877, under the name of Wise & Son. Since the

death of the senior partner, Mr. J. B. Wise has been in control of the business.

#### THE HUNGERFORD-HOLBROOK COMPANY.

The Hungerford-Holbrook Company was formed in 1898, by the merging of the printing plants of Mr. Orville E. Hungerford and Mr. Charles E. Holbrook. They had both been in the printing business for many years, Mr. Hungerford's establishment being located on Arcade street and that of Mr. Holbrook being in the Marble Building.

In 1898, a stock company was organized with \$100,000 capital to carry on the printing and book publishing business. A new and modern building was erected in Printing House Place and the company has now every modern facility for doing first class work. It makes a specialty of three color printing and embossing, and the clients come from almost every line of business and from many sections of the country. The officers of the company are, Orville E. Hungerford, President; William H. Stevens, Vice-President; Charles E. Holbrook, Treasurer; Charles R. Lee, Secretary.

#### THE FLOWER MEMORIAL LIBRARY.

There are some things in the line of progress in which Watertown, undeniably, is a laggard. The most notable instance is the lack of adequate street car facilities, which to a great extent, is a clog to the expansion of the City. It certainly is in ill accord with

the spirit and energy which has made Watertown a City of distinction.

There are other things, however, in which Watertown unquestionably excels, its population and age being taken into account. One of these is the City Park and the other is the Public Library. Taken together they would be a crowning glory for any city of the Nation. The Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library was erected by Mrs. Emma Flower Taylor, of Watertown, in memory of her father, Gov. Roswell P. Flower. The architectural design, the exterior and interior were produced by thought and eminent artistic ability. The structure represents an expenditure of approximately \$250,000. Both the location and the perspective of the grounds constitute an added charm to the graceful building. The library is very well stocked in the various departments of literature and therefore affords the basis of education and culture.

#### THE CITY PARK.

The City Park is being built and put into form by some person or persons now unknown. In this great work Watertown is again made the beneficiary by some generous spirit whose heart and interest are in the place.

The park as a whole has an area of about 500 acres of land situated in the southeastern part of the City and extending from State to Washington streets. All this land has been purchased and is now in process of park making by the artists and architects.



Nature made it a park and the handiwork of man is now adding grace and finish to the work. There are 221 acres of lawn, 222 acres of plantation, more than fifteen acres of drives, or nearly six miles, and above ten miles of walks. The work has been going forward for several years, it being planned to make yearly progress until the whole grounds are completed, at which time it will be largely transferred to the City, with an endowment sufficient to maintain it for all times. The outlay in buying the property and consummating the work is not known, but probably it will exceed a million dollars. The finished City Park will have no parallel outside of the great cities.

For one hundred and twelve years Watertown has been in the forefront of progress. From three little log huts in 1800, it has grown to a city of nearly thirty thousand inhabitants, with beautiful streets, handsome homes, and with schools and churches of the best type. The industrial buildings and the business blocks are all in conformity with the idea of substantiality. It is this spirit and energy that have made Watertown the metropolis of Northern New York.

