

1895 Landmarks of Oswego County, NY Book

BIOGRAPHICAL SECTION

Many thanks and appreciation to **Cheryl Hanson** for her time and efforts in transcribing this Biographical Section of surnames from Oswego County, NY. Cheryl is researching her Sandy Creek family, that of **Darwin CRONK**. He married **Jeanette ELDRED** and they had the following children: **Ann J., John E., Samantha, Aura Arthur, Darwin and Sarah A.** I am told that part of the family also went by the surname **CONKLIN**. Thank you, Cheryl

Part I

THOMAS KINGSFORD

To the subject of this sketch, as to but few men, has it been given to have his name become a household word in nearly every land. Associated forever with the separation of starch from ripe Indian Corn, the name of Kingsford will go into history, as that of a benefactor of the race. The history of the Kingsford family dated back, it is said, to the time of King John, the Usurper, who, having murdered young Arthur, and for this, and his oppressive exactions, drawn upon himself the bitter hatred of his English subjects, was flying before the triumphant banners of the French invader; coming late one night to the brink of a rapid stream, with no means of passage at hand, he was borne over on the shoulders of a stalwart subject, to whom, thereafter, in those days of new and quaint surnames, clung the well fitting title of "The King's Ford." In 1767 we find the family ensconced among the sunny meadows of Kent. Here on January 9, 1767, was born George KINGSFORD, who married at twenty-two, on January 18, 1789, Mary LOVE, also of Kent, and two years his senior (born at Headcorn, Kent, February 4, 1765). Thomas, the son of this union, early forced to seek his own support and to aid his widowed mother, left the parental roof at the age of seventeen, and merged his life in that of the great city of London. He embarked in business as a baker, which he followed with varying success for about five years. Near the close of this period, at the age of twenty-two, he married (on January 6, 1818), Ann THOMSON, a native of the maritime borough of Deal. Leaving London about this time, Mr. Kingsford obtained employment in a Chemical Works, where he developed a remarkable genius for chemical research. Failing health drove him from this employment, and he resumed his former occupation of baker. Overtaken by financial reverses, he was forced to return for a time to Canterbury, a former residence, but leaving there after a brief period, he went to Headcorn, Kent, where he opened a school and conducted it six or seven years. But the growing necessity of providing for his increasing family, obliged Mr. Kingsford to abandon this pursuit, and he turned wistful eyes to America. After much thought, he decided to emigrate. Leaving his faithful wife in charge of the school at Headcorn, he sailed from London in 1831, and landed in New York on December 12 of that year. After a trying winter with but partial employment, and that at scant wages, he sought and obtained, in April, 1832, a position in the starch factory of William Colgate & Co. at Harsimus, Bergen county, N.J. This firm was one of the largest in that manufacture, which was then in its infancy in this country. In America in 1832 starch-makers were using principally wheat as the raw material, and vainly endeavoring to meet the ever growing demand for this commodity. Amid such conditions, Mr. Kingsford at the age of thirty-three, came to the consideration of the starch problem. A year or more of service, faithfully rendered, proved to his employers his value, and his wages were increased to a sum, which enabled him in 1833 to send to England for his family. Mr. Kingsford now devoted himself for some years to the mastery of the details of his business, and a study of the conditions upon which its success depended. He early became convinced that there must be sought in new directions, a raw material capable of yielding starch in sufficient quantities to meet the demand which was now fast outrunning the limited supply. His observant mind noted the quality of the American Maize or Indian Corn and he suggested to his employers the practicability of extracting starch from it. But they were manufacturing from wheat and were satisfied. No one had yet succeeded in extracting starch from Indian Corn, and they did not care to experiment. He conferred with other starch makers, but stood alone in his views. He talked with his associates of his theories, and like many another seeker after light along untrodden paths, was met with incredulity, often with ridicule. But his was not a nature to be easily turned from its purpose. So strongly did he become impressed with the possibility of improvement, that he resolved to proceed with investigations on his own account. In the year 1841 he began his experiments; bringing to the subject, together with his acquired practical experience, the chemical knowledge gained so many years before in England, and which now proved of great benefit. The story of his studies and researches, his repeated failures, the difficulties he encountered, and his ultimate success, reads like a romance; and can only be appreciated by those who have heard from his own lips, the recital of the incidents of that eventful year. The jewel of success seemed to hang just beyond his grasp. But he was not a man to be discouraged by failures. With increased concentration his resolute mind set itself to the mastery of the problem before him, and he pursued his investigation. But success was near at hand. Throwing one day, into a tub containing a mixture of lye and corn pulp, a solution of lime in which he had unsuccessfully treated some corn for starch, he devoted several days following to racking his brain for new processes. On desiring later to again use the tub, he was about to empty it, when he discovered on the bottom a quantity of beautiful clear white starch perfectly separated. He had now clearly demonstrated that starch could be produced from ripe Indian Corn, and he rejoiced in his achievement. It was always a treat to hear Mr. Kingsford tell, with a twinkle in his eye, of submitting to his employers his first sample of starch from ripe corn. They had denied his premises, failed to admit his conclusions, and had looked upon him as a dreamer and an enthusiast. But, as so often happens, the dreamer had made his vision a practical reality. Here was the evidence not to be confuted. They were compelled to admit that he had succeeded; that starch from Indian Corn was an accomplished fact, and that Mr. Kingsford had fairly won the right to rank as a great discoverer. He now threw himself with enthusiasm into experiments for perfecting the new product, and arranging for its manufacture on a large scale; and in the year 1842 he succeeded in preparing a quantity suitable for the market. The great superiority of the new starch was immediately recognized, and it sprung at once to popular favor. So great was the demand from manufacturers of textile fabrics and the trade generally, for the new and better product, that Mr. Kingsford soon resolved to engage in the manufacture on his own account. Accordingly in 1846 he severed his connection with the firm of William Colgate & Co., and formed with his son, Thomson KINGSFORD, who had assisted him in all of his experiments, the firm of T. Kingsford & Son. A small starch factory was now built at Bergen, N. J., but within one short year, the young industry had outgrown its cramped accommodations, and enlargement became an imperative necessity. In the fall of 1847, Mr. Kingsford and his son were approached by capitalists from Auburn, N.Y., who were desirous of being associated in the manufacture and introduction of Corn Starch to the world. They made overtures for the investment of ample capital, to provide for the growing necessities of the new business. These proposals being accepted, it was decided at the same time, to remove to a point where the raw material, Indian Corn, would be more accessible, pure water, a necessity in the processes, most abundant, and facilities for the shipment of the product more ample. These conditions, most fully met in the City of Oswego, N.Y., decided them to locate at this point. A stock company with a capital of \$50,000 was formed in 1848, under the State manufacturing laws, having the corporate name of "The Oswego Starch Factory," and with this company the firm of T. Kingsford & Son entered into a contract for the manufacture and sale of the starch. A commodious factory was built on the bank of the Varick Canal just west of the Oswego River, and not far from its entrance into Lake Ontario. From this time on the growth and development of the business was phenomenal, scrupulous care being taken that not a pound of starch which failed to reach the highest standard of purity should leave the establishment. Beginning with sixty-five workmen in 1848, the output

of starch for the next year was 1,327,126 pounds. This had increased five years later to an average annual production of above 3,000,000 pounds. This rapid growth made necessary not only additional buildings, but radical improvements in machinery and appliances. In these the mechanical and inventive genius of the son, Thomson KINGSFORD, was brought into requisition, and the protection of the patent office was sought again and again for inventions, the control of which could be effectually secured. Still the business grew; in 1859, eleven years after the location of the business at Oswego, the output of the factories had increased to an annual average of 7,000,000 pounds, and "Oswego" and the "Kingsfords" were fast gaining a national reputation as names connected with an indispensable, yet pure, perfect, and plentiful household necessity.

The five or six years succeeding 1859 covered the era of depression, caused by the late civil war, in manufactures in which large quantities of starch had previously been utilized; but still the annual average output of the Oswego Starch Factory continually increased. New avenues of use were constantly opening for their product, and the manufacturers were kept increasingly busy in supplying the demand. Starch had come to be employed, not merely in the manufacture of textile fabrics, or the making of paper, but was finding a wide consumption in confectionery, baking, paint-making, and a multitude of minor industries. For these and for the laundry, The Kingsford's Oswego Starch was increasingly sought, at home and abroad; and the sales during this period mounted rapidly upward, to a figure exceeding 10,000,000 pounds yearly. The "Corn Starch," "Prepared Corn," or "Corn Flour," as it was named in different countries, which had been introduced in 1850 by the Oswego firm of T. Kingsford & Son, had now won its way to universal favor as a pure, perfect, wholesome and nutritious article of diet, and was fast supplanting arrow root, sago, tapioca, and similar farinaceous foods in the popular estimation. These most gratifying results had been wholly reached by the perfection of the product, the fame of which had now become well nigh world wide. The phenomenal success of the business stimulated competition. Other manufacturers, following in the wake of this pioneer firm, were investing ample capital, erecting buildings and buying costly machinery in the effort to attain a similar success. In the twenty years from 1850 to 1870 the number of starch factories in the country had grown to 195, and the capital invested in this business was in 1870 \$2,741,675. Compelled to meet continually in new and ever changing forms, the rivalry of the trade and the claims of other manufacturers, unceasing vigilance was exercised by the Kingsfords in maintaining the recognized superiority of their product; so that "as good as Kingsford's" became the argument of their competitors in pushing their own inferior wares.

The corporation, "The Oswego Starch Factory," lent its willing aid, augmented by large wealth, to maintain the prestige of the institution, and the business grew apace in spite of increasing and fierce competition. No backward step was ever taken from the position at first assumed and steadily maintained by T. Kingsford & Son, of being the originators and the leading manufacturers in the world of starch from ripe Indian Corn. The official seal of public and popular appreciation of Mr. Kingsford's great discovery has been put upon it again and again by the great Industrial Exhibitions of the world. Beginning with the great London Exhibition of 1851, down to the present time, whenever the products of the Oswego Starch Factory have been placed on exhibition in competition, by the Kingsfords, they have never failed to receive the highest award and commendation, under the most minute scrutiny of the world's first experts, a record rarely gained, and one which speaks volumes for their purity and worth.

Thomas KINGSFORD was a man who clearly recognized the truth that a business to be successful must be a system of mutual services. The operatives were treated with fairness and good will, their interests consulted, their opinions and suggestions sought, their pleasure and comfort made a matter of thoughtful consideration. Such treatment on the part of the employer, had its fruitage in the cordial relations which always existed between Mr. Kingsford and his employees. Strikes and contentions were unknown in the business, and the utmost quiet, regularity, and kindly feeling ever prevailed throughout the whole establishment.

Mr. Kingsford's uprightness and business ability were recognized by the citizens of Oswego soon after he took up his abode with them, and his co-operation was sought in many public and associated movements. In 1856 Mr. Kingsford, with four others, established the Marine Bank of Oswego, of which Mr. Elias ROOT was the president, and Mr. Kingsford the vice-president. In 1864 Mr. Kingsford in company with substantially the same parties organized the First National Bank and he was its first president.

Mr. Kingsford never cultivated the arts of political life, but he embraced heartily, as a true patriot, the principles of the Republican party, and sustained the war measures of the administration in its efforts to preserve the Union. In 1864 he was one of the Presidential electors who cast the vote of the Empire State in favor of Abraham Lincoln.

Mr. Kingsford's religious character, the result of early training by his pious mother, was decided and active. An ardent Baptist, he early identified himself with Baptist history in New Jersey, and was a prominent organizer of the first Baptist church built in Harsimus, now Jersey City. Soon after removing to Oswego he connected himself with the First Baptist Church in East Oswego, at that time under the ministrations of Rev. Isaac BUTTERFIELD. The increase of population on the opposite side of the river led to the organization in 1852 of the West Baptist Church by forty-two members, dismissed from the parent church for that purpose, in which movement Mr. Kingsford took an active interest. Mr. Kingsford was the first treasurer of the new church, and subsequently one of its leading deacons. Mr. Kingsford gave with a liberal hand both to his church and to other charitable institutions. Ever ready to assist those less fortunate than himself, he never turned a deaf ear to any proper appeal to his sympathies. His manners were unassuming, and he did not embarrass the recipients of his bounty by a word or look. At his death, which occurred at his home in Oswego on November 28, 1869, and which was universally mourned, he left an example of exalted success attained by singleness of aim, well directed application, and undeviating rectitude. His unfailing kindness had made all his friends, and he left no enemy to begrudge his well earned prosperity. Mr. Kingsford had four children – one son and three daughters, by his first wife, who died in 1834, soon after he arrival in America, his son Thomson being now the sole surviving child.

As an inventor and discoverer the name of Thomas KINGSFORD will ever be associated with a great industry, and will live in history as that of a benefactor of the human race. Dying, he has left a "foot-print on the sands of time," which will not soon be effaced. Of him, as of another great man, it may be said: "It was his misfortune (if indeed it be one) to be born poor. It was his merit by industry and perseverance to acquire wealth. It was his misfortune to be without friends in his early struggles to aid him by their means or their counsel. It was his merit to win them in troops in his maturer age by a Christian character that challenged all scrutiny."

THOMSON KINGSFORD

Thomson KINGSFORD, the present head of the firm of T. Kingsford & Son, was born at Headcorn, in Kent, England, April 4, 1828, one of four children of a family whose ancestry is traceable back to the days of the early English kings. His earlier years, until the age of five, were passed in his native place, where his mother was maintaining a school founded by her husband, who, in 1831 had sailed for America to seek the opportunity for bettering his own condition and of educating his family, which seemed to be denied to him in his native land. Locating in the spring of 1831, in Harsimus, Bergen county, N.J., where he had secured employment in the starch factory of Messrs. William Colgate & Co., the elder Kingsford was enabled during the following year to send to England for his family. Thus it was that Thomson brought to the environment of the congenial air and institutions

of America, those characteristic traits which its untrammled freedom was so well suited to foster and develop. The excellent schools and academy of Harsimus, laid for him the foundation of a thorough practical education; and at the age of fourteen he entered as apprentice the business of machinist and draughtsman. During the first year of this apprenticeship, he constructed a perfect working steam engine of some six horses power, which was the first power used by his father in the then newly discovered process of extracting starch from ripe Indian corn. At the age of eighteen years, the American Institute awarded him its diploma for the best mechanical drawing, a high honor when his age and the exclusive character of that Exhibition are taken into account. It was in this year (1846) that his father, having severed his connection with the starch firm of William Colgate & Co., took into partnership his son Thomson, who had been a deeply interested participant in all of his father's researches and experiments, and had rendered direct and efficient aid in their prosecution, and with him, organized, for the manufacture of starch from corn, the firm of T. Kingsford & Son, now so widely known as the largest manufacturers in the world in their peculiar line.

Thomson was therefore especially fitted, both by a knowledge of the needs and his thorough mechanical training, to supply the necessary machinery and many labor-saving devices for the factory which the firm erected at Bergen, N.J. In the spring of 1848, the young business having crowded itself out of its New Jersey quarters by its rapid increase, the machinery was taken down and removed to Oswego, N.Y., where it served to form a nucleus for the establishment which has since made Oswego famous the world over, as the center of the starch making industry. The steady and remarkable growth of the business in its new location, and the new uses and adaptations of the product in manufactures and the arts, which were constantly arising, necessitate continual improvements in appliances and treatment to suit various demands, in supplying which the inventive talent of Thomson KINGSFORD was often useful. For twenty years the business life of father and son were interwoven, and an effect produced which probably would not have been accomplished by either single handed. Neither knew any limit to his energy and perseverance, and having concert of tastes and views, the efforts of one supplemented those of the other.

As the years of the father increased, the management devolved more and more upon the son, and at the death of his father in 1869, Thomson KINGSFORD found himself at the head of one of the largest manufacturing establishments in the country. The sixty-five workmen of 1848 had been increased more than tenfold. The capital, from \$50,000 had been augmented to \$500,000. That the high quality of the product was maintained under the administration of Thomson KINGSFORD is evidenced by the fact that in 1876 the superior merits of the Kingsford's Oswego Starch, which had steadily held the first place in all public exhibitions where the manufacturers had put it in competition, was clearly recognized by the report of the judges for awards of the Centennial Commission at Philadelphia, in which they paid tribute to the superior character of the exhibit shown, recognized the Kingsfords as "originators of starch from Indian corn."

Mr. Kingsford maintains a constant and unremitting oversight over all manipulations of the starch. He is familiar with all the countless ramifications of the business and nothing escapes his eye. He is personally acquainted with every employee, and his relations with his subordinates are of the most cordial and helpful nature. He aims to be the friend of each, and in this, unconsciously makes each a friend.

Mr. Kingsford's ability as a financier and manager, has received recognition both at home and abroad in his appointment to positions of honor, trust and confidence. He is a trustee of Colgate University at Hamilton, N.Y., and also of Wells College at Aurora, N.Y., president of the corporation, The Oswego Starch Factory, and of its executive committee; a director, and subsequently vice-president of the National Marine Bank of Oswego; an active participant in the organization of The First National Bank; a promoter, with his father, of the Oswego Water Works Company; a director of the Oswego Gas Light Company; a trustee and one of the original incorporators of the Home for the Homeless, a local charity of widespread influence, originated by the ladies of Oswego in 1879. Mr. Kingsford also now carries on a number of individual enterprises among which are a box shop and planing mill, which supplies the boxes for The Oswego Starch Factory; a machine shop and foundry, and a "department store," one of the largest in this section of the State.

Mr. Kingsford's influence has been frequently recognized in the councils of the Republican party in this State. He was a member of the convention of 1879 in Saratoga Springs which nominated Gov. Cornell, and again three years later, in 1882, a member of the Convention which in the same place nominated the Hon. Charles J. Folger to the same office.

Mr. Kingsford was, with his father, one of the founders of the West Baptist Church of Oswego, which has left its deep impress upon the community.

Mr. Kingsford married, July 1, 1851, Virginia J., daughter of Augustus and Mary PETTIBONE of Oswego. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kingsford; Thomas Pettibone KINGSFORD, born December 24, 1858; now associated in business with his father, and perpetuating the firm name of T. Kingsford & Son, and a daughter, Virginia M. KINGSFORD, now the wife of the Hon. John D. HIGGINS, one of the trustees of The Oswego Starch Factory, and at present mayor of the city of Oswego.

Mr. Kingsford is a public spirited citizen, a great manufacturer, a financier of comprehensive views and executive force; a kind employer, a strong friend with a helping hand, and a philanthropist of deep seated religious principle.

THOMAS PETTIBONE KINGSFORD



Thomas Pettibone Kingsford

Eldest child and only son of Thomson and Virginia J. (Pettibone) KINGSFORD, was born in the city of Oswego on December 24, 1858. He attended the schools of his native city, after which in 1876 he entered Madison (now Colgate) University, at Hamilton, Madison county, N.Y. Closing his studies there in the spring of 1880, at the age of twenty-one years, he was immediately called into the business of The Oswego Starch Factory, and for the past fifteen years he has worked in harmony with the policy that has always governed the conduct of the several branches of manufacture and trade founded by this grandfather and his father, in unceasing efforts to maintain the high character of their product, and in that fairness and liberality towards the employees which seldom fails to secure their loyal service. He was elected to the office of vice-president of The Oswego Starch Factory in June, 1894.

Mr. Kingsford is a Republican in politics, but his exacting business relations prevent him from giving to public affairs more than the performance of the duties of good citizenship.

On February 7, 1882, Mr. Kingsford was married to Jennie E. SCHUYLER, daughter of Harvey SCHUYLER of Little Falls, Herkimer county, N.Y. They have one child, Thomson, born July 27, 1888.

JOHN D. HIGGINS

In the second generation back, John D. HIGGINS descended from Bradley HIGGINS, who was born in Norwalk, Conn., in 1793 and died April 30, 1885, at Mexico, Oswego county. He was married in early life in New York city to Maria de la MONTANYE. In 1835 he removed to the northern part of the town of Richland, Oswego county, having successively conducted mercantile stores in New York city, Richfield, and Plainfield, a nearby place. He carried on farming for eight or nine years in Richland and then moved into the village of Mexico, where he passed the remainder of his life. He was a life-long and ardent Democrat and a highly respected citizen, and died at the advanced age of ninety-two years. His oldest surviving son, John B. HIGGINS, was born in New York city July 17, 1822, and moved to Mexico with his father in the early forties. Educated at Mexico Academy, he studied law in Mexico with Orla H. WHITNEY, beginning in 1843, and was admitted to the bar in 1846; began practice in Mexico and was for a few years associated with Luke D. SMITH. George G. FRENCH and T. W. SKINNER were students in his office, and the former was subsequently his partner for a few years. In 1856 he removed to Oswego and has continued in practice there since. A Democrat in politics, Mr. Higgins has been active in his party and influential in its measures. In 1850 he was elected district attorney and served one term. After settling in Oswego he was appointed deputy collector of customs under Orville ROBINSON, whom he succeeded as collector in 1857, under James BUCHANAN. In 1874 he was elected recorder of Oswego for a term of four years. Mr. Higgins was married in 1850 to Mary A. DAUBY, a native of Oswego county, daughter of Alexander J. DAUBY. There were two children: Dr. Frederick M. HIGGINS, of Bozeman, Mont., the elder, and John D. HIGGINS, the subject, who was born in Oswego city June 9, 1858. His education was obtained in the public schools, the High School and the State Normal School of his native city.

Having determined to follow the law as a profession he entered the office of Rhodes & Richardson in 1877 and in 1880 was admitted to the bar. He remained in the same office in the employ of the firm until February, 1882, when the firm was dissolved by the death of Mr. Richardson. On the 1st of March of that year, the firm of Rhodes, Coon & Higgins was formed, composed of Charles RHODES, S. M. COON and John D. HIGGINS. This firm continued in business until March 4, 1890, when it was dissolved by the withdrawal of Mr. Rhodes therefrom and the firm of Coon & Higgins was formed, which continued until September 1, 1891. He early took an interest in local politics, departing from the precedent fixed by his father and grandfather and affiliated with the Republican party. In 1887 he was elected city attorney and served one term. On June 6, 1889, Mr. Higgins was married to Virginia M. KINGSFORD, only daughter of Thomson and Virginia J. KINGSFORD of Oswego. Previous to the dissolution of the law firm of Coon & Higgins in September, 1891, before mentioned. Mr. Higgins was chosen a director in The Oswego Starch Factory, T. Kingsford & Son, and soon thereafter abandoned his law practice and associated himself actively with the business of that company. In the spring of 1894, he was elected to the office of mayor of the city of Oswego after a heated campaign, in which office he has not failed to uphold the principles which have always governed his public acts, nor flinched from what he believed to be his duty, in the promotion of the common good of the community.



Alanson S. PAGE was born in Saratoga county, N.Y., on June 30, 1825. His ancestry belonged to the hardy New England stock from which sprang so many of the pioneers of this State. His father was David PAGE, born in Massachusetts, who removed with his parents to Providence, Saratoga county, when he was ten years old. He was a respected farmer and later in life followed canal contracting. His wife was Elsy SUMNER, a daughter of Robert SUMNER, of Edinburg, Saratoga county, who was a native of the State of Connecticut, where his daughter was born. The father of David was also named David, was a native of Salem, Mass., and removed to Saratoga county and died there.

Alanson S. PAGE was given exceptional educational advantages for one in his station in life and at that comparatively early time. After attending the district school through his boyhood, he was sent to the Galloway Academy, which he left in 1842, when he was seventeen years old, to attend the Cazenovia Seminary one year; this was then an institution of learning of considerable note and gave its students excellent opportunity for obtaining a higher English education. His attendance there was followed by a period in the academy of Professor BECK, in Albany, which he left well equipped for his after career. It had been determined by himself and his parents that he should follow the profession of law, and he accordingly entered the office of S. & C. Stevens, in Albany in 1846, where he studied assiduously for two years, when he was admitted to the bar and settled in the then young but active city of Syracuse. One year of practice there was sufficient to convince Mr. Page that in other fields of labor he could more surely, and certainly sooner, attain the success for which he was ambitious.

He removed to Oswego in 1850 and engaged in lumber trade with Myron S. CLARK under the firm name of Clark & Page, a successful business connection which continued until the death of Mr. Clark in 1862, which dissolved the firm. The business was then continued three years longer to 1865 by Mr. Page associated with L. A. CARD under the style of Card & Page. This firm was dissolved and Mr. Page became a member of the International Lumber Company, an organization at Albany comprising five co-partners. This organization continued until 1873, when the business was closed up.

In 1853, during the existence of the firm of Clark & Page they purchased of Benj. BURT, the water power at Minetto, including an old saw mill, which they rebuilt into the second gang mill in this State. Logs were imported from Canada, and the mill was operated by that firm and by Mr. Page until the close of the business in 1873. During the period between 1868 and 1873 Mr. Page was associated with the late Delos DE WOLF in Oswego in the distilling business.

With the winding up of these business enterprises Mr. Page found himself idle after a period of nearly thirty years of active life. With means at his command and the possessor of a splendid water power at Minetto, he remained out of business three years, when his attention was attracted to a new industry. The only manufactory of shade cloth in the country, for window curtains, was then in operation in Oswego, and Mr. Page determined to enter the field as a competitor for a part of the immense trade in these goods. He accordingly in 1879 formed the Minetto Shade Cloth Company, consisting at that time of himself and Cadwell B. BENSON. Charles TREMAIN became a member of the company prior to the beginning of manufacturing. The old saw mill was remodeled for its new purposes, and a new structure was erected 300 by 40 feet in size, and the business was begun with about twenty-five workmen. Mr. Page assumed the direct and active management of the business, and under his energetic and prudent control the manufactory prospered from the first and has become one of the largest industries in Northern New York. Additional buildings for various purposes have been erected, a roller plant established, a large number of workmen's houses built, and new processes evolved, until at the present time (1895) about 350 hands are employed, and the product of the manufactory finds its way to all parts of the United States, as well as to many other countries.

Mr. Page's superior business qualifications and his staunch integrity, sound judgment, and his character as a man, have received recognition from his fellow citizens. He was chosen the first president of the Oswego County Savings Bank, upon its organization, but resigned the position and was succeeded by John B. EDWARDS. Upon the resignation of the latter, on account of his advancing years, Mr. Page was again elected to the office, which he still holds. He was also one of the directors of the City Bank, and for a number of years was in the directorate of the Lake Ontario Shore Railroad. All of these institutions have profited by the business sagacity and conservative counsel of Mr. Page.

In politics Mr. Page was formerly an independent Democrat; indeed, independence of character is one of his marked traits, and when the time came that prompted him to change his political affiliation, he did not hesitate, but cast a Republican vote for President Hayes. Since that time he has supported the principles of that party as far as consistent with his sense of duty. Naturally aggressive and impatient of injustice and trickery in the political field, he has never hesitated to denounce wrong-doing, by whomsoever perpetrated. As far back as 1869, before he had changed his political allegiance, he was elected mayor of the city of Oswego by the Democrats and served in that capacity until 1872 inclusive. His administration was satisfactory to the community, and the city business was carried on upon the same prudent basis that has always characterized his own affairs. The new City Hall was erected during that period and is an enduring monument to those who had it in charge. A sewerage system for the city was projected also during that administration, which has been since established on substantially the plan then inaugurated.

In 1875 Mr. Page was elected to the Assembly and served in 1876. In that body he was chairman of the Canal Committee, in which capacity he warmly opposed free tolls on the canals and made a minority report to that effect. Mr. Page's course in the committee was disapproved at the time by many men who have since lived to adopt the views then so energetically advanced by him. The removal of tolls did not help the canal traffic, but, as he had often predicted would be the case, caused the railroads to lower their rates to a point where they could control the situation, just as they had previously done. With the close of his term in the Assembly Mr. Page relinquished politics as far as the acceptance of office is concerned; but he is found fearlessly aggressive and independent in support of what he believes to be for the best in local politics. His public and private life has been such as to gain for him the unqualified respect of his fellow citizens.

In 1858 Mr. Page was married to Elise BENSON, of Geddes, Onondaga county, N.Y., daughter of Dr. D. M. BENSON, who died in Geddes in 1854; the widow of the latter died at the residence of Mr. Page in Oswego in January, 1895.

THOMAS SMITH MOTT

Among the names of men who have contributed in a large degree to the growth and prosperity of Oswego, none

stands out with more prominence or with a brighter luster than that of Thos. S. MOTT. In many respects his career was a remarkable one; in some respects it was astonishing. From the smallest of beginnings and by the sheer force of his natural and acquired qualifications, he rose to a position of opulence and power; and when it is understood that during about one-third of his comparatively short life, and during its period of greatest activity and heaviest responsibility, he was almost wholly deprived of sight, his career becomes more than remarkable and teaches lessons of fortitude, patience, energy and uprightness that possess inestimable value to the living.

Thomas Smith MOTT was born in Hamilton, Madison county, N.Y., on December 15, 1826. His father, Smith MOTT, was a native of Bridgewater, Oneida county, N. Y., whence he removed to Hamilton in 1826 and there became a prominent and influential merchant. He married Lucinda RATTOONE, of Lansingburg, N.Y., born in September, 1806, and died in February, 1827. She was a descendant of an old and honorable family of that place.

The ancestry of the family on the mother's side is traceable to Maj. Thomas BROWN, a Revolutionary officer, who was great-grandfather of the subject. On the male side the family was of Quaker origin.

Thomas S. MOTT was enabled to acquire a good business education in the then famous Nine Partners Quaker Boarding School at Washington, Dutchess county, N.Y. and in the Hamilton Academy. He inherited from his father the characteristics that prompted him to engage in business pursuits and made him successful therein. Leaving school he entered his father's store as clerk and there laid the foundation of a broad knowledge of business principles, strict devotion to his duties and through-going, industrious habits, which characterized his after life. In 1847 at the age of twenty years he engaged in mercantile trade on his own account in Hamilton and was unusually successful. In the days of Oswego's brightest commercial prospects, desiring to enter a broader field of operations, he removed hither in 1851 and engaged actively in general mercantile and shipping business. Well equipped with a knowledge of correct and honorable business methods and the ability to judge accurately of men and their motives, and with a character already standing upon the solid foundation of integrity and fairness to all with whom he came in contact, he soon became a leader in the business life of his adopted city. During the twenty years succeeding his arrival in Oswego the city saw her greatest commercial prosperity. Grain came down from the West in immense quantities, the wheels of scores of great mills turned ceaselessly and the harbor was white with the sails of outgoing and incoming vessels. In the buying and shipping of grain and other commodities Mr. Mott assumed a leading position, and ere long gained the distinction of handling more grain than any other person in the city. The building of vessels for the growing commerce was also a great industry, and he early turned his energies in that direction. Vessel after vessel was built by him; Bermuda, Bahama, Thos. S. MOTT, Henry FITZHUGH, J. E. GILMORE, Norwegian, Jamaica, Florida, Nevada, John T. MOTT, Havana, Nassau, Atlanta, and the Pulaski followed each other from the stocks in rapid succession. He also purchased the S. J. HOLLEY, the S. H. LATHROP, the Ostrich, and the James NAVAGH, altogether constituting one of the largest and finest fleets on the great lakes, and giving him a reputation that extended from tide-water to the Rocky Mountains.

While carrying forward these extensive operations, Mr. Mott never lost sight of the material welfare of Oswego, and every measure that promised advantage to the city received his hearty and efficient co-operation or financial support. The First National Bank was organized in 1864; a year after he became its chief stockholder and its president, a position which he held until death, giving him the record of having been longer president of a bank than any other man who lived in Oswego. This bank was conducted not alone for his own personal gain but upon those principles of liberality towards the business public which have ever characterized its operations. So also, when further development of the water works system of Oswego became desirable, he assumed an active interest in the work, purchased a majority of the stock and was made president in 1883; he continued to devote his time and energy to the improvement of the system, and the old and inadequate facilities for extinguishing fires, the conditions of which had cost Oswego so dearly, were soon superseded under his energetic direction by extension of larger mains and new and more effective machinery which gave the community the present unsurpassed water supply.

Besides his business connections, thus briefly described, Mr. Mott was a liberal investor in other industries and manufactories of the city. Next to Mr. Kingsford he was the largest local owner of Starch Factory Stock, and other industries depended more or less upon his means and his wise counsel for their prosperity. Nor was he less solicitous for the educational and moral welfare of the community. He was several years a member of the Local Board of the Oswego Normal School, and showed a deep interest in the promotion of other educational facilities of the city. He was a regular attendant of Christ Episcopal Church, which often benefited by his generosity.

That beneficent institution, the Oswego City Hospital, found in Mr. Mott its most generous supporter. He donated the lot upon which the building was erected, and afterwards contributed most generously to its support.

In early life Mr. Mott was a Democrat in politics, but after the formation of the Republican party he became one of its leading members in Northern New York. During the period of the Nation's peril in civil war the government received from him the most loyal support in time, energy and means, and the heroic men who fought the battles of the Union found in him a practical sympathizer and a generous friend. He was a personal friend of General Grant and an intimate friend and admirer of Roscoe CONKLING. When this great leader was in adversity, no man gave him more unqualified fealty than Mr. Mott. It was inevitable that a man possessed of Mr. Mott's characteristics – his aggressiveness against all wrong and corruption, his power to control men and influence them towards his own political views, his broad knowledge of current events – should become a leader in local politics as far as he would consent to assume such an attitude. His influence became powerful in this field and was freely exerted for the advancement of those whom he believed to be worthy – never for his own. His unyielding integrity was carried into politics as it was into his business relations, and the masses as well as politicians had confidence in him. If he gave a man his promise to aid him to political preferment, that man knew what to expect and usually attained his desired object. Never accepting office himself, he efficiently performed the duties of good citizenship, the general good his only incentive.

More than thirty years prior to his death, Mr. Mott's sight began to fail, and during twenty years of his active life he was practically blind. Such an affliction would have caused many to abandon all business and give way to despondency; but he was made of sterner stuff, and until the last continued to carry on his business operations and to wield his influence in the political field, when he could distinguish those with whom he came in immediate contact by their voices only. This fact indicates one of the most prominent traits in his character – indomitable will and determination never to submit to adverse circumstances. He was, however, hopeful and saw the brightest side of life; otherwise he must surely have faltered under his great deprivation. Hence his career in his later years furnished a remarkable example of persistence in the activities of life under an affliction that would have appalled most men.

Socially, Mr. Mott was amiable, courteous, serene in temperament and a thoroughly democratic American. To him, it mattered little what was a man's station in life if he was honest and upright. Weakness he might tolerate and often he aided in raising such to a higher level; but the deliberate wrong-doer found little consideration at his hands. The aspiring young man of business, the lowly and the suffering, found his door always open and his heart responsive. No one knows, or ever will know, the innumerable occasions where his generous bounties were tendered to the needy, and it is not, therefore, remarkable that his death left a void not easily filled.

In July, 1947, Mr. Mott was married to Miss Sarah DE WOLF, sister of Delos DE WOLF, a former prominent citizen of Oswego and a local leader in the Democratic party. They had three children – Col. John T. MOTT, of Oswego, Mrs. WARD, wife of Maj. Thomas WARD of the U.S. Army, and Elliott B. MOTT of Oswego.

Mr. Mott's death took place on September 13, 1891, at his home in Oswego. His useful and honorable life was memorialized in resolutions of respect and esteem by the various organizations and institutions with which he was connected; among them the First National Bank of Oswego, the Oswego Water Works Company, the Local Board of the Normal School at Oswego, the Oswego Gaslight Company, the vestry of Christ Church and the Oswego City Hospital.

JOHN T. MOTT

John T. MOTT, son of Thomas S. MOTT, was born in Hamilton, Madison county N.Y., on October 11, 1848. He was given unlimited opportunity to obtain a liberal education, and after attending the Oswego schools (whither his father had removed in 1851) he was sent to the Walnut Hill School in Geneva, N.Y., and graduated from Union College in the class of 1868.

Under the circumstances surrounding his father's life at that time it was almost inevitable that the young man would enter upon a business career, even if his tastes had dictated otherwise. This, however, was not the case, for the same qualities with which nature had endowed his father, were, to a large extent, transmitted to the son. They gave him the capacity to attack and successfully prosecute large business undertakings and a natural liking for the stirring activities associated with modern commerce. His father's sight had already begun to fail when he left college, but in this emergency he found in his son a devoted and efficient aid. Immediately after graduating he entered the First National Bank of Oswego, of which his father was the principal owner and the president, filled for a time a clerkship, and in 1869 was made a member of the Board of Directors. Two years later, in 1871, he was chosen vice-president, which office he held twenty years. During this period he was conspicuous in the direction of the affairs of the bank. With the rapid growth of his father's commercial interest and the construction and purchase of his large fleet of lake vessels before described, and the contemporaneous failure of his father's sight, the responsible duties connected with the large grain and shipping interest devolved very largely upon the son. He proved equal to the burden and exhibited the ability to direct large business operations with success. He continued in the practical management of the fleet of vessels and the shipping interests down to 1887, when his father retired from the shipping business, at the same time faithfully co-operating for the advancement of his father's other numerous undertakings and acting in the boards of direction in several organizations in which they were jointly interested.

With the death of Thomas S. MOTT in 1891 further responsibilities devolved upon his son. He was promptly chosen to the office of president of the First National Bank, which position he has since filled, perpetuating in all respects the former policy of the institution and rendering it an important factor in the business life of Oswego. In 1891 he was chosen president of the Oswego Water Works Company, and still holds the position. In 1891 he was made vice-president and treasurer of the Oswego Gas light Company, was elected secretary and treasurer of the Home Electric Light Company, all of which positions he now fills to the entire satisfaction of his business associates. In 1892 he was chosen vice-president of the Niagara Falls and Clifton Suspension Bridge Company, and still holds the office.

It will be seen by the foregoing brief statements that although scarcely in middle life, John T. MOTT is in a broad sense a man of affairs. As such he enjoys the unlimited confidence and respect of his fellow citizens. Prompt and outspoken in his decisions on all business questions, unflinching in that business courtesy which makes a man accessible to all and places the humblest at his ease, a quick and accurate judge of human nature, and a hater of sham and trickery of every kind, Mr. Mott is an exemplar of what is admirable in the modern American business man and citizen. He is active in politics, believing that good citizenship demands it of every man. The Republican party finds in him a earnest supporter, and though he never asks and never accepted strictly political office, his services are well understood and widely recognized. As chairman of the Republican District Committee since 1880 he has given generously of his time and means to the advancement of the political measures which he believed were most contributory to the welfare of the State. He is now a member of the Republican State Committee for the 24th District. From 1880 to 1883 inclusive he held the post of aid-de-camp with rank of colonel on the staff of Governor Alonzo B. CORNELL, giving him his well-known military title.

Mr. Mott is prominent in club life; is a member of the Fortnightly and the City Clubs of Oswego; of the University and Sigma Phi Clubs of New York city; of the Syracuse Club; of the Royal Canadian Yacht Club of Toronto; the Rochester Yacht Club; the Sodus Bay Yacht Club, and a member of commodore of Oswego Yacht Club.

Mr. Mott was married on October 30, 1873, to Alice J. WRIGHT, daughter of Luther WRIGHT, who was long one of the prominent citizens of Oswego. They have one son, Luther Wright MOTT.

WILLIAM BENJAMIN PHELPS

Wm. B. PHELPS was born in Eaton, Madison county, N.Y., on September 24, 1817. He came from Puritan stock and always felt pride in the fact that his grandfather Elijah Phelps, fought as a private in the battle of Bunker Hill. His father was John PHELPS, who was a farmer, and died at the age of forty-six years. The early years of the subject were passed with his uncle at Springfield, Mass., where he obtained his education. On October 7, 1839, when he was twenty-two years old, he removed to Oswego, traveling on a packet boat. There he taught penmanship and composition for a time, and then found employment in the office of Penfield, Lyon & Co. His first business venture on his own account was as a partner in a hat store; this was not successful and its failure gave him a life-long distrust of mercantile business. After a brief period of work in a shoe store he entered the employ of the chandlery firm of Cooper & Barber, and in 1852 began work for a steamboat company. This business was at that time rising to the height of its prosperity, and many men of good capacity found the beginning of successful careers in connection with the lake commerce of the place. Mr. Phelps's business capacity, his energy, and his popularity soon gave him a purser's berth; this was then a lucrative position, for it was not uncommon for a lake steamer to sail with a passenger list of from 1,000 to 1,500. Mr. Phelps performed the duties of this position on several well-known vessels to the satisfaction of his company, and soon gained a wide popularity. About the year 1851 he went to New York as a steamboat agent, and in 1857 removed from Oswego to Buffalo; but the outlook there was not sufficiently attractive to him and he returned to Oswego. At the beginning of the season of 1860 he was acting as chief clerk of the Ontario Steamboat Company, and continued his connection with that organization several years. He finally, in common with other men of foresight, became convinced that the already numerous railroads would eventually outstrip the steamboats in commercial operations, and he counseled the sale of the Ontario line and aided in its accomplishment in 1867. In 1867 he was appointed superintendent of the Oswego and Syracuse division of the D., L. & W. Railroad, then the Oswego and Syracuse Railroad. In this responsible position he remained nearly twenty years, giving the highest satisfaction to both the company and to the public, and only resigned it in 1885 to accept the lighter duties of general agent of the same road, a station which he filled at the time of his death.

Mr. Phelps always entertained a strong liking for military affairs, and was chiefly instrumental in continuing Fort Ontario as a military station, visiting Washington and having personal interviews with the secretary of war, General



Sheridan, and others for that purpose. His interest in military matters prompted him to store his mind with a large fund of statistical information on the subject, and he was especially well informed in the military history of the country. He was a charter member of the old Oswego Guards, organized in 1837, and served as fourth corporal, from which fact he derived his familiar title of "Corporal." He was also an honorary member of various military organizations in Central New York.

In politics Mr. Phelps was a staunch Republican, but not an active partisan. His influence was always exerted for the cause of good government. He served as alderman of the third ward and was honored with re-election. In 1878 he was beaten by Thomas PEARSON in an exciting contest for the mayoralty of Oswego.

Socially Mr. Phelps was one of the most companionable of men, and his popularity whenever he was known was boundless, while his domestic life was of the most enviable character. He was married on December 24, 1843, to Caroline Matilda STONE, who died on September 25, 1889. They had four children who survive, Mrs. B. S. OULD, Mrs. C. H. BOND, John P. PHELPS, and W.B. PHELPS, all of whom are residents of Oswego.

It is proper to close this brief sketch of the life of Mr. Phelps with the following words of eulogy written by one who knew him well:

"Men like Mr. Phelps are unfortunately the rarest of the earth. But few communities are favored with such a character. As wit, raconteur, and bon vivant, this quaint little man could keep a company in a roar. Some of the quips and sallies that have dropped from his lips have provoked to laughter the mightiest of the land. His smile was sunny, a true index of his disposition, almost invariably genial, inquiring, reminiscent and sanguine. This was his social side - a good fellow, a prince of good fellows. From another standpoint a good citizen was revealed, one whose love for his country, her history, her institutions, was so great, so high, so manifest in his every-day doings as to be worthy of standing as the type of sincere patriotism. And more prominent than all, perhaps, was the business side of Mr. Phelps. He was essentially a man of affairs, and however much his attention might be solicited by other matters, he never permitted it to stray from his work sufficiently long for the latter to suffer. It was in the routine of his duties as the representative of the railroad, perhaps, that the manifold qualities which endeared the man to his fellows were best shown. His ear was ever inclined to the take of the needy, his mind was ever ready to sympathize with the afflicted, while thousands in straits of trouble were made partakers of his generosity and kindness. His monument has long been raised in the hearts of these."

Mr. Phelps died on May 17, 1893.

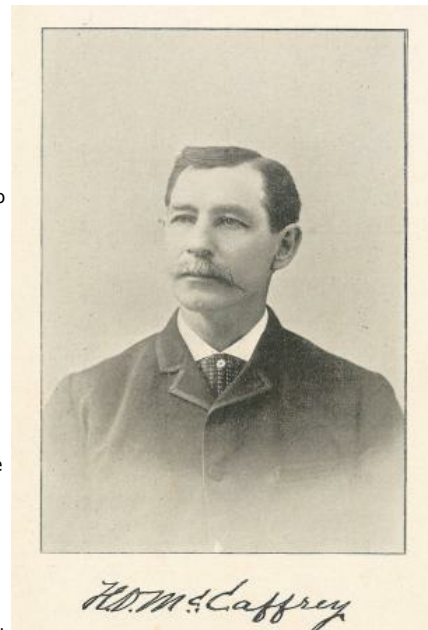
HENRY D. MC CAFFREY

H. D. McCaffrey was born on Island Noah, Canada (on Lake Champlain), June 14, 1841, son of Charles, born in the city and county of Armagh, Ireland, who died in Centerville, Canada, aged seventy-nine, and was buried with Masonic honors. He was a life-long Mason. Mary (DAVIS) Mc Caffrey, his wife, was born in Bath, England, and died in Centerville, Canada, aged seventy-two years. The father was in the British service, connected with the Engineer Department at the time of our subject's birth. The latter first attended a military school at Kingston, Ontario. He came to Oswego County, N. Y., when quite a young boy, worked at different vocations, and attended school, when possible, during the winter months. At the breaking out of the war in 1861, he enlisted in the 12th Regiment, New York Volunteers. After the military Telegraph Corps was organized he entered that department, and served in the line of construction of telegraphs during the war, and has since been, and is now, connected with telegraph and telephone construction. He has been connected with all the chief lines of the United States during their construction. He crossed the continent during the sixties, and is well versed in the geographical lay of the country, having built lines over the United States territories and British America. In 1870 he came East to accept a position with the N.Y.O. & W. R. R. Co. as general lineman, having full charge of the lines between New York and Oswego.

In 1873 he married Mary A. FITZSIMMONS, and their children now living are Ida M., born August 5, 1875; Cora A., Laura E., Henry R., Frederick J., and Walter C.

Mr. McCaffrey commenced constructing in a small way in 1879, and has worked his way up to be one of the largest and most successful contractors in telegraph and telephone construction in America.

In 1883 and 1884 he represented the first ward of the city of Oswego as alderman, and was elected mayor in March, 1888, by the Republicans. In his administration of these city offices he gave general satisfaction to his constituents. He is intimately connected with all the charitable institutions of Oswego, and is now a trustee of the Oswego City Hospital, the Oswego Orphan Asylum, the Oswego County Savings Bank, and is a director of the Oswego Gaslight Company, and the Oswego Casket Company. The family are all members of Christ Episcopal Church, in which Mr. McCaffrey has served several years as vestryman. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he is a thirty-second degree Mason, and is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. McCaffrey is now (1895) engaged in buying telegraph poles in Canada, and supplies the various telegraph and telephone companies in that country and the United States.



Source: Landmarks of Oswego County New York, edited by John C. Churchill, L.L.D., assisted by H. Perry Smith & W. Stanley Child, Syracuse, N.Y., D. Mason & Company Publishers, 1895.

[Part II - Next Section](#)

1895 Landmarks of Oswego County

BIOGRAPHICAL

Many thanks and appreciation to **Cheryl Hanson** for her time and efforts in transcribing this Biographical Section of surnames from Oswego County, NY. Cheryl is researching her Sandy Creek family, that of **Darwin CRONK**. He married **Jeanette ELDRED** and they had the following children: **Ann J., John E., Samantha, Aura Arthur, Darwin and Sarah A.** I am told that part of the family also went by the surname **CONKLIN**. Thank you, Cheryl!

Part II

HENRY S. CONDE

Henry Swits CONDE, a successful merchant and manufacturer of Oswego county, sprung from a noble family founded in France in the 12th century by Godfrey de CONDE in the French department of Nord, and from whom descended the illustrious princes of Conde. One of the earliest noted representatives of the line was Prince de CONDE, Louis I. de BOURBON (1530-1569)(1) younger brother of Antony of Bourbon, king of Navarre, who distinguished himself by his gallantry at the siege of Metz, the battle of St. Quentin, and the capture of Calais, and who from jealousy and conviction joined the Huguenots. The most illustrious of the name was Prince of CONDE, Louis II de BOURBON (1621-1686) who at the age of eighteen was intrusted by his father with the government of Burgundy. He married a niece of Richelieu, became commander of the French forces at the age of twenty-two, and acquired a name that still remains in the first rank of the Frenchmen of his century. He was known as "the Great Conde." Adam CONDE, a scion of this ancient family and a French Protestant (Huguenot), owing to religious persecution fled to Holland in the latter part of the 16th century and thence came soon afterward to America, settling in Schenectady, N.Y. He was called the "Chevalier" Conde, and in 1724 was high constable of Albany. In 1748 he was killed by the Indians within a few miles of Schenectady, and was survived by two sons, Adam and Jesse. Jesse CONDE was born in 1743, married Pathenia, daughter of Jonathan OGDEN, in 1762, and had born to him five sons and two daughters. Albert, one of the sons, married Hester TOLL, eldest daughter of Daniel and Susan (SWITS) TOLL, and they were the parents of Henry Swits CONDE, who derived his middle name from Henry SWITS, brother of Susan and a member of a respected Holland family.

Henry S. CONDE, it will be seen, descended from a distinguished line of ancestry. He was born in Charlton, Saratoga county, N.Y., May 30, 1809, and inherited all the principles of manliness which characterized his race. His early life was not unlike that of his playmates, but a naturally superior intellect very soon made him a leader among them, a position he held among men as well throughout an honorable career. Of books his knowledge was necessarily limited, his rudimentary education being confined to the scanty advantages of his time, but keen perception, shrewd and close observation, and systematic reading placed him high in the first rank of his contemporaries before he had reached his prime, while his youthful avocations developed a natural business instinct. His most marked characteristics were unerring judgment and intuitive foresight, two invaluable traits which in his case are exemplified by living results. In 1830 he settled in Central Square in the town of Hastings, where he followed the mercantile trade and held the office of postmaster twenty-two years. There he accumulated property and established a reputation which ever afterward marked his numerous commercial relations. In the fall of 1855 he was elected clerk of Oswego county by an overwhelming majority and removed to Oswego city. At the expiration of his term of office in 1859, during which he had materially advanced his popularity, he engaged in the manufacture of knit goods, founding the present extensive establishment of the Swits Conde Manufacturing Company. In this he was eminently successful. He was also interested in iron works, in various oil wells in Pennsylvania, and in cotton and sugar plantations in the South, and to all these enterprises he brought a trained ability and shrewd business qualifications. His best energies, however, were directed towards the maintenance and development of his interests in Oswego. Starting in a small way while the manufacture of knit goods was yet in its infancy, he gradually increased the capacity of his plant as the demands for his products augmented and lived to see his business become one of the leading factors in the commercial life of the city. A few years prior to his death, which occurred in Oswego on April 28, 1878, he practically retired. His wife, Dorcas A. PECKHAM, who was born August 5, 1812, also died in Oswego city June 30, 1888. Two sons, Swits and Frederick (elsewhere mentioned), and one daughter, Marion, all residents of Oswego, survive them.

Swits CONDE, who derives his name from his grandmother's brother, Henry SWITS, previously mentioned, was born in Oswego county on April 24, 1844, and was graduated from the schools of Oswego city at the age of eighteen. In 1863 he went to Louisiana and during the succeeding four years was interested in the growing of sugar and cotton. Returning to Oswego in 1867 he was admitted to partnership with his father under the firm name of H. S. Conde & Son, and continued in that capacity until 1874, when he succeeded to the active and permanent management of the business. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, of the Union League Club, of the Huguenot Society, and of the Riding and Republican Clubs, all of New York city, where he has a palatial winter home. He is an enthusiast in yachting and a member of several yacht clubs. He was married in 1873 to Miss Apama I., daughter of Churchill and Sarah (MORSE) TUCKER, of Fulton, and has three sons and two daughters. Mr. Conde's life since 1867 has been spent in developing the immense knit goods manufactory founded by his father, of which he became the responsible owner in 1874, and to which he has constantly devoted a close study of details. The plant, consisting of a four-story brick building 100 by 300 feet and a number of contributory structures, occupies one of the best water-power privileges on the Oswego River and covers an area of over three acres. It is also supplied with steam power and employs above 700 operatives. Since 1874 the business transacted has increased to upwards of \$1,500,000 per annum. Mr. Conde has invented more than forty separate appliances which have been of practical utility, and to them is largely due the present unexcelled facilities for manufacturing the various fabrics.

(1) Chamber's Encyclopedia

BENJAMIN E. BOWEN

The ancestors of Dr. Benjamin E. BOWEN were Richard and Ann BOWEN, who emigrated from Wales in the year 1640, and settled in Rehoboth, Mass. Among their descendants were Pardon BOWEN and William BOWEN, both distinguished physicians at Providence, R. I., in the early part of the present century, and Jabez BOWEN, L.L.D., late lieutenant-governor of Rhode Island, and chancellor of Brown University.

Dr. Bowen was born on the 15th day of January, 1801, in the town of Coventry, R. I., and was the eldest son of Stephen BOWEN and Rebecca HILL. She was a direct descendant from Robert WILLIAMS, the Puritan founder of the colony of Rhode Island. In early life Dr. Bowen worked at farming in the summers, taught school in winters, and at the same time pursued his studies in preparation for his chosen profession. After receiving his degree, in June, 1828, he first located at Holland Patent, Oneida county, N.Y., where he practiced his profession of physician

and surgeon, with great success during seven years. In 1835 he removed to Mexico, Oswego county, N.Y., where his former success was continued, and where he attained not only a high professional position, but a prominent rank as a public-spirited citizen. He held the office of president of the Oswego County Medical Society in 1837, and again in 1851, and in 1846 became a conspicuous member of the New York State Medical Society. He held the office of postmaster at Holland Patent under President Jackson, and the same office at Mexico under President Polk. A Democrat of the old school, he was a man of decided and pronounced convictions, but when the time of the nation's peril came, he was among the first and most enthusiastic to join the ranks of those who upheld the government during the great struggle of the Rebellion. He was a leader on most of the local committees for supplying the army with men and means, and often became personally responsible for money to provide for the payment of bounties to enlisted soldiers. In 1862 he was elected to represent Oswego county in the Assembly by a flattering vote over both a Democratic and a Republican opponent, and during the succeeding legislative term he occupied an honorable and prominent position. In all local affairs he evinced an ardent public spirit and was ever ready to render valuable service to the town and county in which he lived. Many of the streets in the pleasant village of Mexico were laid out at his instigation and under his supervision. For more than forty years he was an active trustee of the Mexico Academy, and was many times president of the board. He was active and conspicuous in the erection of the present Academy edifice, upon which his name stands engraved as one of the building committee. Through his energy and persistence, with that of others, in making liberal contributions, and in the solicitation of funds, the Academy building was completed free from debt.

Dr. Bowen was a true gentleman of the old school. Fearless and outspoken, free from hypocrisy, his judgment upon important subjects was rapidly formed and followed by instant action. He took part in many local contests, and fought his battles with great vigor to a clear victory or an honorable defeat. He was never a compromiser in either politics or morals. Tall and commanding in personal appearance, dignified and courtly in demeanor, he was a conspicuous figure in the community and an exemplar of business integrity and social purity.

Dr. Bowen was married on May 14, 1829, to Julia HASKIN, of Pittstown, Rensselaer county, and had but one child, Frances, who is the wife of George G. FRENCH of Mexico. Dr. Bowen died at Mexico, on the 12th day of March, 1878.

GEORGE G. FRENCH

Was born in Pulaski, Oswego county, N.Y., on the 20th day of August, in the year 1827. He comes of Puritan ancestry, from England, who settled in Massachusetts before the Revolution, and removed thence to Vermont, and thence to New York State in the counties of Jefferson and Oswego. In 1845 Mr. French attended the Mexico Academy, maintaining himself in his academic course and in acquiring his profession, by teaching a country district school, boarding around among its patrons, and by manual labor during the vacations, thus earning less than one hundred dollars during less than one-half the year, from which he paid for his board, clothing, tuition, and other necessary expenses during the remainder of the year. Ever since the close of his studies he has been a resident of the village of Mexico. In May, 1851, he was admitted to practice law in the courts of this State. He had been an earnest and persistent student, was an industrious and thorough lawyer, and soon acquired a lucrative practice in his profession. He held the office of district attorney of Oswego county from 1859 to 1863, administering its responsible duties with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the public. He however, soon withdrew from active politics and devoted his time and energies wholly to his profession. After thirty years successful practice as a lawyer, in the courts of this State and of the United States, and after being engaged in many famous and important cases, his private and personal affairs required so much of his time that he withdrew from active practice as a lawyer. He was formerly proprietor of a majority of the capital stock, and with Leonard Ames of Oswego, managed for many years the affairs of the Second National Bank of that city until they finally sold their stock to the present managers of that institution. Since that time he has been proprietor of the Mexico Banking Office at Mexico, N.Y. In all of these private and public capacities Mr. French has, by his natural and acquired abilities as an attorney and a business man, by his unimpeachable integrity, and his genial temperament, won the esteem of his fellow citizens, with whom he has come in contact.

Mr. French was married on May 3, 1853, to Frances BOWEN, only daughter of the late Dr. Benjamin E. BOWEN. They have three children, viz: Julia F., the wife of Dr. George R. METCALF of St. Paul, Minn.; Mary T., wife of Dr. Frederic W. GARDINER, of Brooklyn, N.Y.; and Fred E. FRENCH, an attorney-at-law, who resides at Mexico, N.Y., but is engaged in extensive business relations in Minnesota and North Dakota, which occupy a large portion of his time.

THE FARMAN GENEALOGY

Roswell FARMAN, eldest son of John and Rebecca (CHAMBERLAIN) FARMAN, or FOREMAN, as the name was formerly written, was born in Newbury, Vt. (then N. H.), March 20, 1765.

His father, John, was born September 16, 1739, in Maryland, and was a descendant in the fourth generation from Robert FOREMAN, a planter, who settled near Annapolis, Md., in 1674. John was a volunteer in the old French war, and served in the British army from 1756 to 1763. He came by the way of the Hudson, the Mohawk, Oneida Lake and Oswego River, to Oswego, where he was stationed a considerable time. In 1760 he descended the St. Lawrence, in the general movement upon Montreal, and in 1763 he went through the forest to New England, and settled and married in Newbury, Vt.

Roswell moved, in his early childhood, with his father to Bath, N. H., where he resided until 1803, when he came to Vernon, Oneida county, N.Y., and three years later, in 1806, to New Haven, then a part of the town of Mexico, where he resided until his death, October 17, 1839.

He was married three times. He married first Ruth TURNER, by whom he had two daughters, neither of whom ever resided in New Haven. For his second wife he married Abiah HUTCHINS, of Bath, N.H., who died in New Haven, N.Y., September 9, 1809. By her he had five children, one daughter and four sons, all born in Bath, N.H., viz:

I. Zadok, born April 24, 1791, died at New Haven, N.Y., April 9, 1854

II. Ruth, born July 18, 1794, married William TAYLOR, had five sons and one daughter, and died in New Haven in November, 1827.

III. Richard, born August 5, 1796, resided after his maturity, for some years, in Augusta, N.Y., and then in New Haven until 1838, when he removed to Lyons, Mich., where he died August 25, 1862. There are a large number of his descendants in that and other States.

IV. Mitchell Hutchins, born May 24, 1799, lived in New Haven until 1871, when he removed to Hillsdale, Mich., where he died February 1, 1873. He was twice married, but left no descendants.

V. Truman, born March 16, 1801, resided in New Haven until 1842, and died in Gelroy, Cal., February 28, 1890, aged eight-nine years. He left two sons surviving him, and a considerable number of other descendants.

Roswell Farman's third wife was Polly WHEELER, who died in New Haven, N.Y., September 1, 1860, aged eighty-eight years. By her he had one son, George Washington, born July 4, 1812, and still living in the village of New Haven.

Zodoc Farman, the oldest son of Roswell, married, March 8, 1814, Martha DIX, daughter of Charles DIX of Vernon, Oneida county, N.Y. She died in New Haven, December 23, 1863.

They had six children, two daughters and four sons, all of whom, except the eldest, a daughter, were born in the house, three-fourths of a mile west of New Haven village, now, and since the death of Mrs. Farman, owned by Charles Davis. The daughters died, one in infancy, and the other at the age of nineteen. The sons all lived to have families and were as follows:

I. Charles Dix FARMAN, born November 1, 1820, married in New Haven, removed to Gainesville, Wyoming county, N.Y., where he died January 7, 1889. He was a man of prominence in his locality, was several times supervisor of his town, and died leaving a handsome property to his three sons and a daughter.

II. Henry FARMAN, born March 14, 1823. On arriving at the age of twenty-one he removed to Augusta, Oneida county, N.Y., where he still resides. Previous to that time he had taught school two winters, and afterwards he continued teaching for a number of winters and managed a farm in the summer. He has been many years a justice of the peace and general legal adviser of people in his section, and largely engaged in the settlement of estates of deceased persons. He has accumulated a large fortune for a rural section. He is, in religion, a Methodist and has given liberally for the maintenance of the educational and religious work of that denomination. He has spent some time traveling in Europe and the Orient. He married Fanny SHEPARD, daughter of the late Hon. Riley SHEPARD of Knoxboro, N.Y., and has one son living.

III. Elbert Eli FARMAN (for a sketch of his life see below).

IV. Samuel Ara FARMAN, born December 6, 1835. When a young man he commenced business as a merchant at Fillmore, N.Y., and was appointed postmaster at that place by President Lincoln. Soon afterwards he entered the army as a first lieutenant, in the 130th Regiment of New York Volunteer Infantry, which regiment was afterwards transferred to the cavalry service, and designed as the First New York Dragoons. He served with efficiency, and for about one year was acting quartermaster of his regiment, the duties of which position he performed to the full satisfaction of his superiors, his fellow officers, and the private soldiers. After returning home he was many years a merchant at Hermitage, N.Y., and now resides at Fillmore, N.Y. He is married and has one son.

ELBERT ELI FARMAN

Elbert Eli FARMAN, jurist and formerly Diplomatic Agent and Consul General at Cairo, and late Judge of the mixed Tribunals, or International Courts of Egypt, was born at New Haven, Oswego county, New York, April 23, 1831. On the paternal side he is descended from an old Maryland family of planters, that settle near Annapolis, in 1674; and on his maternal side from Leonard DIX, one of the original settlers of Wethersfield, Conn., and from Thomas WELLS, also one of the settlers of that town (1635), and the first Colonial Treasurer of Connecticut, and afterwards, Secretary, Deputy Governor and Governor of that colony, and twenty-four years one of the Judges of the General Court, and the writer, and one of the enactors, in 1642, of the severe criminal statutes, that have given rise to the tradition of the existence of a criminal code, commonly called the "Blue Laws."

Mr. Farman prepared for college at the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, and graduated at Amherst, Mass., in 1855, and three years later received his degree of A. M.

Immediately on leaving college he took an active part in public political discussions and soon became an effective campaign speaker, and made in the campaign of 1856 in Oswego county, and its vicinity, forty speeches for Fremont. He studied law at Warsaw, N.Y., and was admitted to practice in 1858. From 1865 to 1867 he traveled and studied in Europe. On his return, in January 1868, he was appointed, by Governor Fenton, District Attorney for Wyoming county, and elected for the two following terms to the same position, serving until 1875. In March, 1876, he was appointed by General Grant, Diplomatic Agent and Consul General at Cairo, Egypt. He held this position until the 1st of July, 1881, when President Garfield, on the last day of his public service, on the personal recommendation of the Hon. James G. BLAINE, designated him as one of the Judges of the Mixed Tribunals of Egypt. This was a life position, with a liberal salary, but he resigned in the fall of 1884, and returned to the United States, and took an active part in the campaign of that year. In 1880, while holding the position of Agent and Consul General, Mr. Farman and the Hon. Geo. S. BATCHELLER was appointed, by President Hayes, delegates, on the part of the United States, to act on an international commission, instituted to revise the Judicial Codes of Egypt, for the use of the Mixed Tribunals. He was engaged in this work one year. In January, 1883, he was designated by President Arthur as a member of the International Commission, organized to determine the amounts to be paid to the people of Alexandria for damages arising from the riots, bombardment, burning and pillage of that city, in June and July, 1882. This commission examined, in eleven months, over ten thousand claims, and awarded upon them over twenty millions of dollars. During this work he continued to hold his position in the courts, generally sitting one day in a week.

Mr. Farman was our representative in Egypt during the most interesting period of its modern history. He was in Cairo during those eventful times that led to the dethronement of the Khedive, Ismail Pasha, and the installation, in his place, of his son Tewfik, and, afterwards, he witnessed the riots at Alexandria, and the bombardment and burning of that city.

When General Grant visited Egypt Mr. Farman presented him to the Khedive and acted as interpreter at all their interviews. He also accompanied the general on his famous voyage of the Nile.

While Consul General he sent to the department at Washington voluminous reports upon the agriculture, people, commerce, politics and finance of Egypt, many of which have been published. By direction of the Department of State at Washington, made at his suggestion, he negotiated with Egypt a treaty, relating to the extinction of the slave traffic in that country, and its provinces. Although this treaty was completed and verbally assented to by the Egyptian government, it failed of execution on account of a sudden change of the ministry. He took, in other ways, a deep interest in the condition of the slaves in that country, and on his application and through his personal efforts, in their behalf, at different times, fifteen slaves were liberated by the government, on the ground of their ill treatment by their owners. He successfully conducted the negotiations for the increase of the number



of American judges in the mixed Tribunals, and the Hon. Philip H. MORGAN, afterwards U.S. Minister Plenipotentiary, and Envoy Extraordinary to Mexico, was appointed to the position thus created. He also conducted the negotiations for the obelisk, and to his friendly personal relations with the Khedive, Ismail Pasha, and the members of this ministry, and his diplomatic skill, New York city is indebted for the gift of that ancient monument.

Mr. Farman also made while in Egypt extensive collections of ancient coins, scarabaei, bronzes, objects in porcelain, and other antiquities, which he has since classified. Some of these collections are loaned to and are now on exhibition in the Metropolitan Museum in New York.

In 1882 Amherst College conferred upon him the degree of L.L.D. On his leaving Egypt he received from the Khedive the decoration of "Grand Officer of the Imperial Order of the Medjidieh," a distinction rarely conferred.

In politics Mr. Farman has always been an ardent Republican. He is a member of the Union League Club of New York, of the Society of Sons of the Revolution, and of the New York Bar Association. He has been twice married. His first wife was Lois PARKER, a niece of the eminent Presbyterian divine, the late Rev. Joel PARKER D.D., of New York city.

He married for his second wife, in 1883, Adelaide F. FRISBIE, daughter of the Hon. David H. FRISBIE of Galesburg, Ill., and has three children.

Since his return from Egypt he has delivered an occasional lecture, and made political speeches, but has been principally engaged in the management of his private affairs.

WILLIAM FITCH ALLEN

William Fitch ALLEN, oldest son of Abner Harry ALLEN and Cynthia PALMER, his wife, was born in the county of Windham, Conn., on July 28, 1808. His parents removed to Schenectady county, N.Y., in the year 1814. In 1826 he graduated at Union College, and soon afterward commenced the study of law with the Hon. John C. WRIGHT, and finished his studies with C.M. and E. S. LEE, in the city of Rochester. In August, 1829, he was admitted to the bar, and in the following month began the practice of his profession in Oswego, in partnership with Hon. George FISHER, then about to take his seat in Congress as the representative of the district, composed of the counties of Oswego, Jefferson and St. Lawrence. Mr. Fisher returned from the practice of his profession in 1833, and in 1834 a partnership was formed by Mr. Allen and Hon. Abram P. GRANT, which continued until the election of the former to the bench of the Supreme Court in 1847. He held various village, town, and county offices, and for several years officiated as Supreme Court commissioner, and master and examiner in chancery.

He served in the Legislature of this State as one of the representatives of this county during the session of 1843 and 1844, at the first session acting as chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, and at the last as chairman of the Judiciary Committee. In April, 1845, he was appointed by President Polk as attorney of the United States for the Northern District of New York, which office he resigned on taking his seat as justice of the Supreme Court in 1847.

In May, 1847, he was elected to the office of justice of the Supreme Court, and officiated in that capacity until 1863. While thus serving on the bench he was placed in nomination by the convention for the office of governor of the state of New York, but he declined the nomination, choosing to remain on the bench, which he adorned by his wisdom, learning and impartiality. In 1863 he was the candidate of the Democratic party for the office of judge of the Court of Appeals. In the following year he removed to New York city and engaged in the practice of law as counsel only, and remained in that city until his removal to Albany to enter upon the duties of comptroller, to which he was elected in November, 1867. He was re-elected to the same office in 1869. He resigned the office in July, 1870, to take the office of associate judge of the Court of Appeals, to which he was chosen in May, 1870. His term in this office would have expired in December, 1878, but it was shortened by his death, which took place on June 3, 1878. He received the degree of L.L.D. from Hamilton College in 1857, and from Union College in 1864.

On the day following the death of Judge of Allen, Sanford E. CHURCH, then chief judge of the Court of Appeals of the State of New York, read a paper upon the death of his fellow member of the court, in which he reviewed the various public stations to which Judge Allen had been called, down to the time of his election as associate judge of the Court of Appeals, and concluded as follows:

"We cannot on this occasion enter into a proper consideration of the judicial character and labors of the distinguished judge who but a few days since sat with us on the bench, and whose loss will be felt and deplored not by the bench and bar of the State alone, but by the whole country. The first thirty-nine volumes of Barbour's Reports contain the published opinions of Judge Allen, pronounced by him while a judge of the Supreme Court. They attest his eminent ability, the fullness of his learning, a firm, intelligent and comprehensive grasp of the most difficult questions in the law, and the wisdom which he brought to bear in adjusting a new system of practice and procedure to the solution of legal controversies. The same qualities which distinguished him in the Supreme Court marked his judicial labors in the Court of Appeals. He was fertile in resource, patient and laborious in the investigation of causes, and unswerving in his adherence to his convictions. His knowledge of constitutional and commercial law, and his clear apprehension of their principles were especially conspicuous. Some of us have been intimately associated with him on the bench of this court since its organization, eight years ago, and others for lesser periods, and we unite in bearing testimony to his great qualities as a judge, to the facility with which he could comprehend and formulate the principles applicable to the most difficult and complicated cases, to his untiring industry and conscientious performance of his duty, and above all, to his independence of judicial judgment, and the fearlessness with which he adhered to and enforced his conviction of right. We never knew him to be influenced in the slightest degree by any attempt to bring popular prejudice or flattery to bear upon the judgment of the court. He was not only independent, but upright and just. He was truly a man of distinction among his contemporaries; a distinction to be coveted, for it was reached by the qualities which exalt the character, and it took no advantage by false pretensions. Through an extended life he was an honor to his race, to his profession of the law, and to his judicial office; and just as men are lamenting that the arbitrary provision of the Constitution would soon take him from the bench in the ripeness of his character, his talents and his powers, the Almighty Hand, in its wisdom, has removed him from earth.....His personal character was of the highest order. He took no step outside the path of a wise sobriety and exemplary rectitude. His judgments and his life were in accord. He was simple and modest. He was kind in nature, affable in intercourse, of warm social impulses, sensible of the claims of his fellows, and prompt in rendering all the dues of neighborhood. His warm and impulsive nature was held under restraint of reason, and of the religion he professed and practiced."

Judge Allen was married in 1833, to Miss Cordelia CARRINGTON, daughter of Elisha CARRINGTON, of Oswego. The had three children, all of whom died young.

GEORGE M. CASE

Hon. George M. CASE is the sixth child and third son of Jonathan and Betsey Ann (FERGUSON) CASE, natives of Oneida county, and was born in Fulton, where he has always resided, on the 29th of August, 1827. The parents were married in Oneida county and came thence to Fulton at an early day. Jonathan CASE was a merchant, sheriff of Oswego county, a canal contractor, and later a contractor on railroads, and died here in 1850. His widow survived until about 1885, at the age of eighty-six.

George M. Case was educated in the public schools of his native village and in the old Fulton Academy, the predecessor of Falley Seminary. He taught a district school one winter and then entered the dry goods store of J. & S. F. CASE as a clerk, in which capacity he remained for three years, when he was admitted to a partnership under the firm name of J. & S. F. Case & Co. Soon afterward his father died and the firm became S. F. & G. M. CASE. He subsequently engaged in business as a canal contractor in company with Thomas GALE, and performed the work of enlarging the Liverpool level. In 1860 he retired from mercantile trade and until 1870 devoted his entire attention to contracting. He undertook many important contracts involving hundreds of thousands of dollars, and executed each one satisfactorily. These covered numerous State and government works, and among them, as a member of the firm of Case, Van Wagenen & Co., was the blasting of rock out of the Mississippi River at Rock Island and the extensive dredgings in Maumee Bay at Toledo, Ohio. For eight years, with Thomas KEELER, he had charge of the Cayuga and Seneca canal.

In 1870 Mr. Case retired from business as a contractor and became cashier of the Citizens' National Bank of Fulton, of which he was subsequently elected president, a position he still holds. This bank was founded and has generally been conducted by members of the Case family, and no similar institution in Western or Northern New York ranks higher in financial affairs. It has always enjoyed the confidence of business men everywhere.

In politics Mr. Case has ever exerted a commanding and wholesome influence, and as a staunch Republican he has materially contributed to his party's welfare. In 1886 and again in 1887 he represented the second district of Oswego county in the State Legislature, where he served with distinction as chairman of the Banking Committee and member of the committee on canals. His legislative career was marked with unswerving fidelity to his constituents and an open-handed, liberal support of every worthy measure. He has served as member of the Republican State Committee for three years, and has frequently represented his constituency as delegate to local, county, district, and state conventions. He went as a delegate to the Chicago National Convention in 1880, and was one of the 306 who voted for the renomination of Grant; after Garfield was brought forward as a candidate Mr. Case with the others transferred his support to that subsequently lamented president, and was prominent among the number who proudly placed his name in nomination. Mr. Case has also been for many years one of the railroad commissioners for the town of Volney, a position he still holds. With Willard JOHNSON he was instrumental in refunding the town's indebtedness, which proved exceedingly beneficial to the taxpayers.

In private life and as a citizen Mr. Case is universally esteemed and respected. His influence is ever directed towards the betterment of his town and county. In business he is shrewd, liberal, and honest. He is a generous benefactor, public spirited, kind hearted, and consistent. He belongs to the Masonic lodge in Fulton and is a prominent member of the Presbyterian Church, of which he has served as president of the board of trustees for many years. To this organization Mr. Case has long been a liberal contributor and an earnest, active supporter.

September 11, 1850, Mr. Case married Miss Vandalia M., daughter of Henry FRENCH, an early and prominent resident of Fulton. They have had two children, both living, viz., Eva D., wife of Dr. Charles R. LEE, of Fulton, and Solon F., cashier of the Citizens' National Bank. Mrs. Case died August 14, 1890, and on October 20, 1894, Mr. Case married for his second and present wife Mrs. B.J. KIMBALL, of Fulton.

EDWIN RICHARD REDHEAD

Few men in all Northern or Western New York have attained by their own exertions, within a comparatively short space of time, a more distinguished position in the business and social life of their respective communities than has Edwin Richard REDHEAD, the extensive paper manufacturer of Fulton. His parents, the Rev. Richard and Elizabeth (BARKER) REDHEAD, natives of England, descended from a long line of honored and substantial ancestry, many of whose members acquired stations of eminence. Soon after their marriage, or about 1847, they emigrated to America, where the father has since followed the respected profession of a Methodist clergyman, being for a number of years an active member of the Northern New York Conference of the M.E. Church. He is now superannuated and lives in Syracuse, where his surviving daughter also resides, his other daughter having died in Fulton, where he officiated as pastor in 1860-61. While holding a pastorate in Brownville, Jefferson county, his only son, Edwin Richard, was born on January 6, 1851. E. R. REDHEAD was educated in the public schools and spent his boyhood in the villages in which his father was stationed as a preacher. He attended the Red Creek (N.Y.) Academy and Fairfield Seminary in Herkimer county, graduating in the classical course of the latter institution in 1869. He then entered Wesleyan University at Middletown, Conn., and remained until the beginning of his sophomore year, when sickness obliged him to return home, where he spent one year in recuperating. His father was then stationed at Port Byron, N.Y. Meanwhile Syracuse University had been founded, and young Redhead was given the choice of going there or returning to Wesleyan. He chose the former, entered as a sophomore, and was graduated in the classical course with the class of '74. During his attendance at Syracuse he ably filled all the positions on the college paper, the University Herald, of which he was one of the founders, and the last year was editor-in-chief.

In the fall of 1874 Mr. Redhead began the study of law in the office of the late Judge H. B. HOWLAND at Port Byron (later of Auburn), where he remained about one year, when serious impairment of the eyes compelled him to relinquish that profession and throw him upon his own resources. He finally entered the employ of F. G. WEEKS, the well-known print-paper manufacturer of Skaneateles, N.Y., as traveling salesman, a position he filled with entire success for five years. In 1880 the two formed a partnership and purchased the original mill of the present Victoria Paper Mills Company in Fulton, and began the manufacture of tissue papers. Mr. Weeks was president and Mr. Redhead served as secretary, treasurer, and general manager. Two or three years later they reconstructed the plant, erected a pulp-mill – the first pulp-mill in this section using the Voelter or German process – and changed from the making of tissue to the manufacture of heavy manilla paper. About 1886 they purchased the great water-power at the upper bridge in Fulton and converted an old stone flouring-mill into a pulp-mill. In 1889 they constructed the present raceway at a cost of \$50,000 and laid the foundations of a new pulp-mill which was completed in 1890. This valuable property had laid idle for a number of years, and it is to these enterprising men that it owes its modern development. They reclaimed its immense water-power and converted the site into one of the best manufacturing privileges in the village of Fulton.

In 1892 Mr. Weeks exchanged his interest in the Victoria Paper Mills Company for Mr. Redhead's interest in the property at the upper bridge; the title at this latter point was vested in the Oswego Falls Pulp and Paper Company, of which Mr. Weeks had been the president and Mr. Redhead the vice-president and local manager. This exchange of interests left Mr. Redhead the principal stockholder, the president, and the general manager of the Victoria Paper Mills Company, positions he has since filled with singular executive ability.

In 1894 the mills formerly operated by William BARBER and the Cataract Paper Company were added to the plant, making four paper machines, employing an average of eighty men, and giving a daily product of fifteen or twenty

tons of manilla paper. In the summer of that year a bag manufacturing company was also added.

These vast business interests have placed Mr. Redhead in the front rank of the leading manufacturers in not only Oswego county but in Western and Northern New York. He is one of the best known paper men in the State and acknowledged as a leader in his line of manufacturing. In local affairs he has always taken a prominent part. An unswerving Republican he has ever been actively identified with wholesome politics, but has always eschewed public preferment. Charitable, liberal, and benevolent, he has been a local benefactor, especially to the M. E. church, of which he and his wife are active members. With characteristic liberality he donated the lot upon which the State street chapel stands and furnished also a large portion of the funds for erecting that building. During the erection of the new M.E. church in Fulton he was one of its most generous supporters, while in the government of that denomination at large he has contributed valuable time, great executive ability, and wholesome influence. As a lay delegate he represented the Northern New York Conference in the General conference of the M.E. church in Omaha, Neb., in 1892. For nine years he has been a member of the Board of Trustees of Syracuse University, being at present one of its Executive Committee.

Mr. Redhead was married on May 22, 1877, to Miss Sarah A., daughter of Israel PETTY, of Port Byron. They have traveled extensively throughout the United States, and in 1889 made a continental tour, during which they visited the memorable Paris Exposition.

WILLIAM B. HUTCHINSON



Wm. B. HUTCHINSON was born in Pepperall, Worcester county, Mass., July 4, 1806. He received a district school education in his native town. In early life he worked at the painter's trade in various cities in the New England States. In 1833 he was united in marriage, to Amelia, daughter of Azariah HASKIN, of Pittstown, Rensselaer county, N.Y. They resided in Poughkeepsie two years, then went to Palmyra, Wayne county, N.Y., and in 1837 removed to Mexico, Oswego county, where he purchased a large farm. His agricultural ability soon developed, and in a short time he was known as a successful and scientific farmer. Energetic, honest, and upright in every business transaction, and possessed of a remarkably cheerful and social disposition, he took a great interest in everything that tended to the welfare and prosperity of his adopted town. He was greatly interested in educational matters and did much to bring the school at Colosse up to the high standard which it had during his residence in Oswego county. He was an organizer of the Colosse Debating Society, for the culture of the young people of the vicinity. Mr. Hutchinson took a leading part in the politics of his town and county, being an old time Democrat, but joined the Republican party at its formation. From the time Horace GREELEY was nominated for the presidency he voted the Democratic ticket. Another fact, of which his children are justly proud, is the interest he always manifested in the cause of

temperance. His popularity in this way made him a prominent man all through his life, which ended May 26, 1889, at the age of eighty-three years. His wife survived him two years. Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson were the parents of five children; Harriet F. DRIGGS, of Decorah, Iowa (deceased); Lucy G. CALKINS, of Erie, Pa.; Ellen J. JOYCE, of North Syracuse, N.Y.; Lydia A. DE LANCEY, of Binghamton, N.Y.; and Charles D., who died at the age of sixteen. Mr. Hutchinson spent the last fifteen years of his life with his daughter, Mrs. Joyce, in the town of Cicero, Onondaga county, N.Y.

GEORGE H. GOODWIN

George H. GOODWIN was born in Mexico, Oswego county, N.Y., on December 5, 1834. His family is of English descent, and he is the youngest of four children, and the only survivor. His brothers were J. Austin GOODWIN, Joseph C. GOODWIN and Henry G. GOODWIN. His ancestors on both sides were of New England stock, and of sturdy stuff, both intellectually and morally. His father, Calvin GOODWIN, and his mother, Emily HINKLEY, were born in Mansfield, Conn., and came to Mexico in 1828. The former died in 1869 at the age of sixty-eight years, and the latter died in 1845 at the age of forty-three years. His grandfather, the Rev. Jonathan GOODWIN, was a widely known and universally respected minister of the gospel. He preached for nearly forty years in Connecticut, and was the founder and first pastor of the Baptist church in Mexico village.

The subject of this sketch was educated at the Mexico Academy. He early began the study of law with ex-Judge Cyrus WHITNEY, and finished his legal studies in the offices of Orville ROBINSON and James NOXON. In 1856 he graduated from the Department of Law of the Albany University, and was admitted to the bar at the age of twenty-one years. He practiced his profession in Oswego county and in California, and for a number of years applied himself closely to the profession but was afterward more or less diverted from the law by reason of ill health and the cares devolving upon him in the settlement of some extensive estates, and has of late given more time to business and literature than to his profession. Mr. Goodwin has been largely identified with the growth and prosperity of Mexico, and few men in the county have a more extended acquaintance or are possessed of warmer friends.

Mr. Goodwin formerly took an active interest in politics and often refused offers of political advancement. His local popularity has been attested on numerous occasions by the positions of trust which have been given him. He was chairman of the Democratic County Committee many years, and very frequently represented his party in its State conventions. He was president of Mexico village in 1879, and was chosen supervisor of the town of Mexico in 1883, though the town was more than two to one Republican at that time. He is the only Democrat, with a single exception, that has been elected as supervisor of the town of Mexico during the past thirty-nine years.

Mr. Goodwin has been an extensive traveler on both continents. In 1882 he visited Ireland, England, France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium and Holland, of which countries he had previously acquired a broad general

knowledge from books and conversation. In 1889 he made another more extended tour in the east, in the course of which he ascended the Nile in Egypt, and afterwards visited Palestine, Syria, Turkey, Greece, and many islands of the Mediterranean. He has also traversed almost every portion of North America. In writing, as well as in speech, Mr. Goodwin is a master of the English language, with a style clear, lucid, terse, and fluent. While abroad he wrote a long series of very interesting letters, which were published in the local papers, and widely copied by the press of the State.

In 1883 Mr. Goodwin was united in marriage with Adelaide E. ALFRED, daughter of Charles L. WEBB, of Mexico. She died April 14, 1884, at the age of thirty-six years. Their only child, Mabel A., died September 29, 1984.

SYLVANUS C. HUNTINGTON

Judge HUNTINGTON was sixth in direct descent from Simon HUNTINGTON of Norwich, England, who, in 1633, died on board the ship that was bearing him and his family to America. His widow, Margaret (BARET) HUNTINGTON, and their four children – the first Huntingtons in the colonies – dwelt for a time in Massachusetts, but in 1660 Simon, the youngest son, moved to Norwich, Conn., and in that vicinity his descendants lived for more than a century. There Joseph HUNTINGTON was born in 1778. In 1807 he married Hannah CONVERS, and engaged in farming in Orange and later in West Charleston, Vermont, where he died in 1857, a man of commanding presence and physical prowess. There Sylvanus CONVERS, the sixth of their eight children, was born April 14, 1820.

Of strong constitution and vigorous in body and mind, he early determined to get a liberal education, and buying his time from his father, supported himself during his whole term of study, first at Brownington Academy, Vt., and afterwards at Oberlin and Dartmouth Colleges, graduating at Dartmouth in 1845. He then studied law with McCarty and Watson of Pulaski, N.Y., being drawn thither by Miss Hannah M. WARMER, of Sandy Creek, a classmate at Oberlin, whose ambition, so like his own, led her to make her way, by a fortnight's journey on horseback, by canal boat and stage to the only college where women could receive the same classical education as men. After their marriage in February, 1846, they went to Tennessee, where he was private tutor in President Jackson's family at "The Hermitage," and she a governess in the family of Mrs. NICHOLSON, President Jackson's adopted daughter.

Returning in 1847, he was admitted to the bar, and practiced for two years at Belleville, N.Y., whence in 1849 they moved to Pulaski. There he continued in active practice until 1894, alone until 1882, and after that in partnership with his only son. He served as county judge of Oswego county for four years, beginning January 1, 1856, and in 1865 was elected district attorney, but resigned soon after his health not being equal to the strain of that and his other work.

Alone in a country village, he devoted himself with great energy to the law in all its branches, and soon became thoroughly equipped in its principles and practice in the courts of the State and Nation, and for more than thirty years was conceded by all to be a leader of the county bar. His great mental and physical strength and indomitable will enabled him to perform the vast amount of labor which his reputation as a trial lawyer and as a counsel, and his devotion to the interests of his clients brought him. Probably his well trained intellect was at its best in the study and argument of questions of law before the appellate courts, yet most will remember him as a successful criminal lawyer, but one of the sixteen, indicted for murder, whom he defended, having suffered the death penalty. The ability and persistency for almost six years displayed in the defense of that one, Nathan Orlando GREENFIELD, a poor farmer of Orwell, N.Y., charged with wife murder, and his lavish expenditure of time, strength and money, added more to his fame than the other fifteen. Three jury trials, occupying in all eleven weeks, four arguments on appeal and numerous applications to the governor did not bring success. The power of public opinion, the skillful preparation of the evidence by ex-district Attorney LAMOREE, and the masterly conduct of the prosecution at the third trial by William C. (afterwards Chief-Judge) RUGER, secured a conviction, which the highest court sustained. Judge Huntington's belief in Greenfield's innocence became to him a certainty, when, as stated by Judge CHURCHILL, at the meeting of the Oswego County Bar in April, 1894, Greenfield before the third trial refused to plead guilty to murder in the second degree, because by so doing he would admit that he killed his wife. And the feeling that a great wrong had been done contributed as much to Judge Huntington's sorrow at the final execution of the sentence as did the failure of the labor of years. One of the results of Judge Huntington's labors in that case was Chapter 182 of the Laws of 1876, which provided that persons jointly indicted for crime could testify for each other, thus making Greenfield's mother a competent witness for him.

Judge Huntington's mind was well formed and trained for grasping legal principles and solving legal problems. Its most distinguishing qualities were strength, keenness of insight, and the power of generalization. He always sought the broad principles which lie at the foundation of all things, and valued details only as they showed the way to or illustrated those principles. He believed in an order of things in which God works by eternal and unchanging laws, and his reverence for the Infinite One and his expression of himself in the universe was unbounded.

Throughout his life he added to his professional labors careful reading of the classics, and critical and thorough study of the sciences, the higher mathematics, philosophy and history. His ardent love for the masterpieces of poetry, his wide reading and most vivid imagination kept his own inner life fresh and beautiful with the thoughts of all the ages. He was gentle as well as strong, and his affections formed a large part of his home life, while his genial nature made him to all a most welcome companion. He never oppressed or tyrannized over any one. In all his relations with his fellowmen his principle of conduct was, "All have an equal right to live their own lives without dictation from others."

His first wife was seventh in direct descent from Andrew WARNER, who came from Wales to America about 1630, and lived in Massachusetts and Connecticut. She was the third child of Andrew WARNER, jr., and Elizabeth Clark (YOUNG) WARNER, who moved from Vernon Centre to Sandy Creek in 1836. Her literary tastes and love of study, especially of the laws and ways of nature, continued throughout her life, which was ended by pneumonia May 23, 1888.

On December 24, 1890, Judge Huntington married Emily L., daughter of Lovina (WARNER) and Benjamin SNOW, and widow of Hon. James W. FENTON, of Pulaski. Endowed with rare personal qualities, she made his last years a happiness for him and therefore a beautiful remembrance for herself. She survives him and now resides with a married daughter in New York city.

Judge Huntington left two children by his first marriage, Miss Metelill HUNTINGTON, now engaged in literary work in Philadelphia, and S. C. HUNTINGTON, jr., of Pulaski, both graduated from Oberlin College.

Judge Huntington's fine inherited physique and strong will carried him to a good old age in spite of his immense labors. After repeated attacks of the "grippe," the last few years of his life showed constantly decreasing vitality, though no loss of mental power. He died on March 2, 1894, "full of years and of honors."

SYLVANUS CONVERS HUNTINGTON, JR., only son of Judge S. C. and Hannah M. WARNER HUNTINGTON, was born

June 12, 1857. His home has always been at Pulaski, where he prepared for college in the class of 1871. In 1872 he entered the Freshman class at Oberlin College, graduating at the head of the class of 1876. He then taught classics at Pulaski Academy one year and Greek at Oberlin the next, and had begun a post-graduate course in languages at Yale, when his father persuaded him to begin the study of the law in his office. Admitted to the bar in January, 1882, he at once became junior partner in the firm of S. C. Huntington & Son, of Pulaski, which continued until his father's death in March, 1894. Since then he has practiced law at Pulaski, first alone, and lately with F. G. WHITNEY.

Mr. Huntington was married November 1, 1883, to Ellen DOUGLAS, only daughter of Rev. James and Mary J. DOUGLAS, of Pulaski, and with his wife and their three sons, lived in the homestead so long occupied by his father.

Source: Landmarks of Oswego County New York, edited by John C. Churchill, L.L.D., assisted by H. Perry Smith & W. Stanley Child, Syracuse, N.Y., D. Mason & Company Publishers, 1895.

 [Part III - Next Section](#)

1895 Landmarks of Oswego County

BIOGRAPHICAL

Many thanks and appreciation to **Cheryl Hanson** for her time and efforts in transcribing this Biographical Section of surnames from Oswego County, NY. Cheryl is researching her Sandy Creek family, that of **Darwin CRONK**. He married **Jeanette ELDRED** and they had the following children: **Ann J., John E., Samantha, Aura Arthur, Darwin and Sarah A.** I am told that part of the family also went by the surname **CONKLIN**. Thank you, Cheryl!

Part III

MERRICK STOWELL

County Judge of Oswego county, was born in the town of Scriba on October 3, 1838. His father was Shubael W. STOWELL, a native of Jefferson county, N.Y. Merrick STOWELL, at the age of thirteen, commenced to earn his own livelihood by working as a boatman upon the New York State canals, which occupation he followed continuously for seven years – the first three as a canal driver, the remaining four in other positions. His principal ambition at that early age was to acquire a liberal education. He attended the country district schools winters; afterward the district schools of Oswego, and the excellent High School of the city, where by his naturally studious habits and retentive memory he fitted himself for a teacher. He had already spent two years in this vocation before graduating from the High School in 1860, thus securing the necessary means to carry out his cherished plan of going through college. But the outbreak of the great civil war, which changed the current of so many men's lives, found a ready response in the young man's breast, and he shouldered a musket as a private in the gallant Twenty-fourth Regiment, gave his country two years of faithful service and returned with the rank of sergeant. The record of the Twenty-fourth Regiment is elsewhere given in this work, and in its varied struggles Mr. Stowell bore his honorable part.

Returning to Oswego at the close of his term of service, he resumed teaching for two years, regretfully abandoning his desire for a collegiate education. The following six years were passed by him as bookkeeper in the Lake Ontario Bank, succeeded by six years in the same capacity for a large lumber firm. Finding himself now in circumstances that justified his engaging in business on his own account, he joined with Charles W. SMITH to form the firm of Smith & Stowell, lumber dealers, which connection continued three years to 1876.

Leaving the lumber business Mr. Stowell became associated with Messrs. Cheney AMES and Coman C. AMES in the grain and milling industry, which continued three years, which brought to a close his connection with trade and manufacturing.

In politics he has always been an earnest Republican, and before the year last named had become well known in the local councils of the party, where his knowledge of the field and grasp of the situation when important issues were at stake, gave him deserved prominence. His official life began with three terms as school commissioner. In the fall of 1879 he was given the nomination for the office of county clerk, was elected by a handsome majority and served three years, 1880-82. Meanwhile in consonance with his natural liking and his more recent associations, he began studying law in 1878 with B. F. CHASE, now of the city of Chicago. In the spring of 1883 he was admitted to the bar at Rochester and opened an office in Oswego. His practice was commensurate in extent with his expectations and his success gratifying to himself and his friends. In the fall of 1887 he was nominated and elected district attorney, in which office he served three years to the satisfaction of the bar and the people of the county; receiving a renomination, he was, in the uncertainty that often prevails in local politics, defeated. Resuming his practice he continued until the fall of 1892 when he was further honored by his fellow citizens with the nomination and election to the office of county judge, in which he is now serving his third year, with marked favor.

The professional career of Judge Stowell is one of the seldom occurring examples of success following the beginning of an entirely new calling in middle life. He was forty years old when he began the study of the law, and it was five years later before he was admitted to practice. Within the succeeding ten years he had risen to the highest county judicial office. While this result may, perhaps, be creditable to some extent to the fact of his having rendered valuable military and political services, it is nevertheless true that it is far more largely due to his exceptional fitness for the office; the qualifications acquired through the most energetic, persistent, and unflagging study, with such other fitting attributes as are his by nature. If he is not classed among the more brilliant lawyers whose greatest success is attained through eloquence before court and jury, Judge Stowell is accorded the confidence of his professional associates in his knowledge of the law, his fairness and impartiality as a judge, while as a man he is esteemed by the entire community. He is a member of the Congregational church of Oswego, and is ever found ready to turn his hand to good works.

Judge Stowell married in 1863 Melinda W. EVERTS, of Mexico, daughter of Frederick EVERTS. They have four children, one son and three daughters, all of whom are living.

SIDNEY SHEPARD

Sidney SHEPARD was born in the village of Cobleskill, Schoharie county, N.Y., September 28, 1814, and died in the town of New Haven, Oswego county, December 26, 1893. The period of seventy-nine years between these dates covered the life of a successful man – a life replete with indomitable activity, honorable purpose, and lasting usefulness. Such a career is worthy of emulation and a fitting example for suture generations.

Mr. Shepard was descended in a long and honorable line of ancestry from Ralph SHEPARD, Puritan, who emigrated to America from England in 1635; and on his mother's side from William HAMILTON, a Scot, who came over from Glasgow in 1668. His maternal grandfather, Hosea HAMILTON, was a surgeon in the Revolutionary war and a personal friend of George WASHINGTON. His own father, Jesse SHEPARD, a physician, practiced his profession for many years in and around Cobleskill. From these ancestors young Sidney inherited a vigorous nature, a strong intellectuality, an upright character, and a robust constitution. His earlier life was not unlike that of the average country lad of that period. His rudimentary education being necessarily limited to the common district schools, his knowledge of books was consequently meager, but in after years he amply repaired the disadvantages of youth by systematic reading and extended travel. Possessing an alert and retentive memory, and being withal a close observer, he was a shrewd judge of human nature, an accomplishment that materially aided him throughout a long, eventful life. At the early age of fourteen he found his first employment as a clerk in a hardware store in Dansville, N.Y., where he was quick to learn and faithful to duty, traits which characterized him ever afterward. The liking he then and there acquired for the hardware trade, decided his vocation. After a similar experience in Rochester, he went to Bath, N.Y., in 1831, and for three years was associated in business with his brother. In



1835, while yet not twenty-one years of age, he made his first venture by purchasing a hardware store in that village. Honest in all transactions, energetically devoting himself to business, resolute in a determination to make his own way, he was successful from the very beginning, and the five years there brought him a little capital.

But he aimed higher. In 1836 he removed to Buffalo and bought an interest in a hardware store, the oldest business house in that city, changing the firm name to Crane & Shepard. The next year he became sole owner under his own name, and soon afterward the firm of Sidney Shepard & Co. was formed. A manufactory of sheet metal ware was added, and before ten years had passed an immense business was thoroughly established. A large wholesale trade was built up, not only in Buffalo, but in adjacent sections of the country. Mr. Shepard made several prolonged trips into the then comparatively uninhabited Western States, opening branch houses in Detroit and Milwaukee, and even carried his enterprise into the South. This was done gradually and steadily, with a purpose and zeal born of laudable ambition. In 1849 he became proprietor of the Shepard Iron Works in Buffalo, and thereafter constantly added to his undertakings. The firm eventually became one of the largest importers of tin plate, manufacturers of stamped metal ware, and dealers in hardware and tinner's supplies in the Union. Nor was his activity confined to these industries alone. Accumulating means, and early realizing the advantages of the electric telegraph to merchants and others, he personally promoted several pioneer lines in the West, and became one of the largest stockholders in the Western Union

Telegraph Company upon the consolidation of the earlier lines, being one of its directors until a few weeks before his death, when he resigned. He was also for many years a heavy stockholder and director in the Alabama Central, The Mobile and Ohio, and the New Jersey Central railroads, and was prominently interested in numerous other enterprises. He was frequently offered, but accepted a few positions of trust, preferring to concentrate his energies and means largely upon the development and maintenance of the extensive business he had founded. Yet he was, emphatically, a public spirited citizen and liberally encouraged every movement looking toward the betterment of humanity.

His success was due to a good name, a clear head, a sound judgment, an untiring energy, combined with perseverance and singleness of purpose. He possessed a rare business ability and a capacity for organization which almost amounted to genius. Endowed with a faculty for keen observation, a courage equal to any emergency, and a strong faith in things divine, he was ever the true and noble man, the respected citizen, and the sincere Christian gentleman. For twenty-five years he was a member of the First Presbyterian church of Buffalo, to which, as well as to numerous other charitable institutions, notably the General Hospital, the Orphan Asylum, and the Home for the Friendless, of that city, he was a generous and frequent benefactor. In 1865 he relinquished the active management of his business, and for several years thereafter traveled with his family in foreign countries, visiting nearly every capital in Europe, besides Egypt, Asia Minor, and the Holy Land. Upon their return they settled in the spacious and handsome homestead of his wife in the village of New Haven, Oswego county, where he spent the remainder of his life. In 1885 he transferred to his son Charles Sidney, now the only survivor of a family of three children, his interest in the firms of Sidney Shepard & Co. of Buffalo and C. Sidney Shepard & Co. of Chicago.

On the 12th of June, 1851, Mr. Shepard married in Buffalo Miss Elizabeth De Angelis, daughter of Chester R. WELLS (elsewhere mentioned in this volume) a lady of rare personal charms and accomplishments. Their children were Elizabeth Wells, who died at the age of ten years; Charles Sidney, and Ralph Hamilton.

Ralph Hamilton Shepard was born in Frankfort-on-the-Main, Germany, October 15, 1867, and his infant tongue first learned French and German. For eight years he spent the summers in New Haven, N.Y., and the winters in New York city or the South. In 1879 he passed six months in Dresden, where he pursued his German studies in the family of Rev. Dr. SAUER and in close companionship with Counts CASTEL and Otto von PESSENS; the next year he visited Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Cyprus, Asia Minor Greece, Turkey, Bulgaria, Roumania, and other historic places, returning to America in the autumn of 1880. He prepared for college at Oswego and Buffalo and passed his entrance examinations at Harvard in 1887, after which he again went abroad, studying German and Italian. Returning in April, 1888, he entered Harvard University in the fall of that year and was graduated with honors in 1892, receiving the appointment as one of the five commencement orators in a class of over 200 men. This selection was really a brilliant honor. The remainder of his life was mainly spent in New Haven, N.Y., where, after nine weary months of suffering, he died on August 17, 1894, in the first bloom of his manly career. Delicate in physical constitution, but endowed with a mind of rare conception, he evinced the instincts of a scholar and the attributes of a master. He was one of the brightest men of Harvard, and during his brief life acquired a reputation in modern literature and history and as a graceful and forcible writer. He produced many articles worthy a master's hand, covering a wide range of subjects, and but for his early death an honorable and probably a brilliant future in the world of letters was within his grasp. His most important work was a monograph on "Ralph SHEPARD, Puritan," in which he showed tireless research and thoroughness. This was for private circulation, and entailed the examination of numerous manuscripts and letters. Early in 1892 he was one of sixteen sterling young men to band themselves together for mental social improvement and to re-establish Iota Charge of Theta Delta Chi, of which his was the first death that fraternal chapter was called upon to deplore. His most enduring attribute, however, was the sincerity of his manly Christian life, which he beautifully and appropriately expressed by a legacy of several thousand dollars to his alma mater "for the carrying on of religious work in Harvard College." Never before did a young graduate leave to that institution a similar bequest; the monument thus founded perpetuates his good name, and the example of his life should and will guide others to the same Christian service and its rewards.

CHESTER ROBBINS WELLS

Chester Robbins WELLS was born September 8, 1799, in Hartford, Conn., and died August 9, 1867, in New Haven, Oswego county, N.Y. At the former place his ancestors had lived since the early colonial days, Thomas WELLES, from whom he was directly descended and who was one of the first governors of Connecticut, having settled there after coming from England with Lord SAYLES in 1636. On his mother's side he was descended from the Griswolds, and it was Mr. Wells's just pride that his great-grandmother was Mary GRISWOLD, one of the heroines of the Revolution. He was the son of Captain Elisha WELLES, who was with George WASHINGTON at Valley Forge, and of his wife, Mary GRISWOLD, born either in Hartford, or near Saybrook, Conn. After teaching for several years, and not seeming strong enough for a life of such confinement, he ventured in 1826 into what was then the comparatively unsettled region of Northern New York, moving from Trenton, Oneida county, to New Haven. When

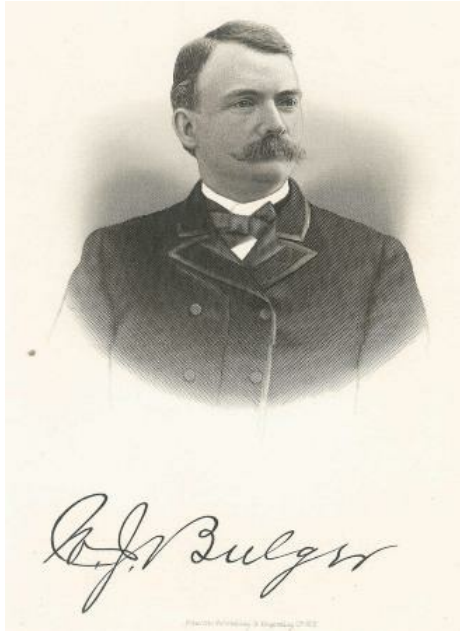
still a young man he married Miss Hannah Le Moyne DE ANGELIS, daughter of Judge Pascal Charles Joseph DE ANGELIS, of Holland Patent, N.Y.

His wife's family was, on her father's side, of noble Italian and French descent, being allied by the latter to the famous Generals Iberville and Iturbide LE MOYNE, who founded New Orleans, and on the other side to the well known WEBBS of Revolutionary and pre-Revolutionary days.

His sons were William Chester and Charles; his daughter, Elizabeth De Angeles, became the wife of Sidney SHEPARD of Buffalo, N.Y.

He was remarkable for his sweet humility. His son-in-law, Sidney SHEPARD, said repeatedly that he considered him the most honest man, with the purest character, of any he had ever known, and that his children might be justly proud of such parentage. Eminently true and lovable in all his ways, Mr. Wells won that esteem of his fellow men, which, though in a comparatively narrow circle, was a fitting tribute to a high souled and noble minded Christian.

WILLIAM JAMES BULGER



William J. BULGER was born in the town of Volney, near the village of Fulton, Oswego county, N.Y., on May 27, 1857. His father, the late Patrick BULGER, was the son of a well-to-do farmer in the east of Ireland, and was born in Castle Comer, Queens county, on August 17, 1806. In 1844 Patrick BULGER, who was possessed of some means, came to the United States, bringing with him his wife, who was the daughter of a prosperous neighbor in the old country. Mrs. Bulger, previous to marriage Miss Bridget MURPHY, was an accomplished and cultivated lady, having a thorough education in the excellent schools of her native place, which was finished at the Dublin Seminary. She was a woman of high character, as well as fine education, and proved an inspiring and faithful help-mate to her husband in his manly efforts to found a home and rear a family in the new world. With a keen appreciation of the advantages of the district Mr. Bulger, shortly after his arrival in America, purchased a farm in the town of Volney, where he remained for a number of years, and was regarded as one of the most prosperous farmers in that section of the State. About ten years prior to his death he disposed of his farming interests in that locality and set about to find a place to spend the remainder of his days. He then purchased a farm, charmingly situated on the west bank of the Oswego River, about five miles distant from Oswego, which is one of the finest and most beautifully located in this section of the State, and is still owned by heirs of Mr. Bulger. Skilled in agriculture and having sufficient means at his command to enable him to carry out his ideas, Mr. Bulger conducted his farming interests successfully and added largely to his worldly possessions. His family consisted of five

children, one of whom, the eldest, died in infancy in the old country. The remaining four were brought up under benign home influences, with a devoted Christian mother to supervise their education, and with every comfort at their command. Mrs. Bulger died October 20, 1879, and was followed by her husband August 3, 1881. The four children who still survive them are the Hon. P. F. BULGER, of Utica, formerly for twelve years recorder of that city; Hon. C.N. BULGER, who has held the office of recorder of the city of Oswego since the year 1882; Dr. Bulger, the subject of this sketch, and Mrs. M. HENNESSEY.

Dr. Bulger was the youngest child of his parents. In his youth he was afforded good educational advantages. After finishing the ordinary school studies he took a course at the Falley Seminary in Fulton, after which he took a course at the State Normal School in Oswego. Deciding to adopt the profession of medicine, he began medical studies under Dr. Ira L. JONES, of Minetto, N.Y., and afterwards was a pupil of the late Dr. James A. MILNE, of Oswego. In 1879 he entered Long Island College Hospital at Brooklyn, and after a year of study in that splendidly equipped institution entered the medical department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he remained a year, when he returned to Long Island College Hospital as the assistant of the noted anatomist, Dr. Carden L. FORD, and graduated from that institution June 15, 1882. Well qualified to begin his life work he now returned to Oswego and entered into partnership with his former preceptor, the late Dr. MILNE, which partnership was continued until a short time prior to the latter's death in 1886. Thorough in his attainments, a conscientious student and a close observer, Dr. Bulger has steadily advanced to a leading position among his professional brethren, and is now recognized as the peer of any physician in Oswego, and the most skillful surgeon in the city. His practice extends to people in all walks of life, for the confidence reposed in his ability and skill is shared alike by the wealthy and the humble, the learned and the unlearned. No medical man in Oswego is held in higher regard by the profession, and few, if any, hold a higher place in the public esteem. Some of the most difficult cases which have occurred during his residence in Oswego have been successfully treated by Dr. Bulger, and in late years cases unusually severe or presenting uncommon complications, are always sent to him for treatment. His attainments are not limited to scientific subjects, but are of a broad and comprehensive character, which befitted the advanced professional man of modern times and embrace nearly all branches of polite learning.

Outside of his profession Dr. Bulger has always shown active public spirit and a desire to aid in advancing the material as well as the social welfare of his city. Believing that every citizen has duties of a public character which cannot conscientiously be neglected, he has, particularly in recent years, made his influence felt in the local political field as a Democrat of enlightened views. A personal admirer of President Cleveland, and believing in the political principles that have governed his public acts, Dr. Bulger has during the past five years been a leader of that section of the Democratic party in Oswego which has adhered to the president as against the opposing faction. For his political services he has received conspicuous recognition.

In 1892 he was nominated for the office of mayor of Oswego by the Cleveland Democrats. The strife in local politics was then at white heat, and in order to defeat the Cleveland faction many of the opposing Democratic faction united with the Republicans and succeeded in defeating Dr. Bulger and electing a Republican mayor by a plurality of thirty-four votes. In the following year he was again nominated, and the followers of David B. HILL put up no candidate. The campaign was an active one and Dr. Bulger's popularity is shown in the resulting election by a majority of about 600. His administration was a successful one and gave satisfaction to the people, in spite of the fact that the Republicans and Hill Democrats in the Council combined in opposition to many measures that were necessary for the good government of the city. While holding this office Dr. Bulger was appointed by President Cleveland collector of customs for the Oswego District, and is still administering the office. In the spring

of 1894 he again received the nomination for mayor and received further evidences of popularity with the people, but with two candidates against him, and the opposing Democratic faction acting as in 1892, he was defeated by a plurality of eleven(11) votes, and a Republican mayor elected.

Dr. Bulger and his wife are prominent in the social life of Oswego, and their hospitable home is often open to their friends. Dr. Bulger's most conspicuous personal traits of character are his aggressiveness in affairs in which he is deeply interested; a rugged integrity; and a temperament which prompts him to sociability and to meet all with whom he comes in contact upon the broad plane of humanity.

Dr. Bulger married on August 26, 1883, Miss Mary CUSICK; they had one child, a boy named Charles William BULGER, who died at the age of fourteen months.

ORVILLE ROBINSON

Was born on the 28th of October, 1801, at Richfield, Otsego county, N.Y. His parents emigrated from New England at the close of the Revolutionary war to the far west, and took up their abode in the wilds of Otsego county. His early years were spent amid the hardships and privations of pioneer life. The only aid he received in acquiring an education was from the scanty and precarious instruction of the common school. His own energy and diligence did the rest. But in the struggles against these adverse circumstances of his youth, habits of industry and self-denial were formed and a vigor of body and mind, and a strength and firmness of character were developed, which distinguished him in after years and enabled him to outstrip, in the prizes of life, many of his contemporaries who had enjoyed the advantages of the academy and the college.

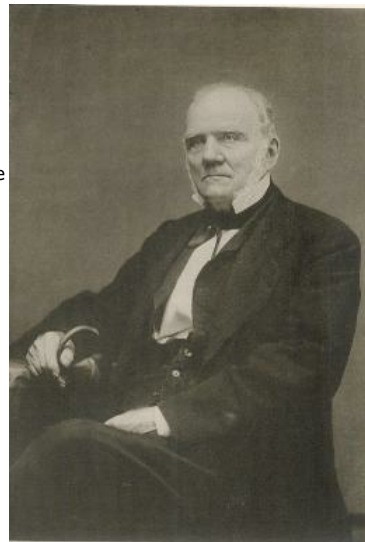
When about twenty-one years of age Mr. Robinson began the study of the law in the office of the late Veeder GREENE, at Brighton, and finished his legal clerkship in the office of the late Daniel GOTT, at Pompey Hill, in Onondaga county. William H. SHANKLAND, afterwards justice of the Supreme Court for the Sixth Judicial District of New York, was his fellow student in the office of Mr. Gott, and many lawyers who have attained distinction received their legal training about the same time at Pompey Hill.

In 1827, at the May term of the Supreme Court held in the city of New York, Mr. Robinson was admitted to practice as an attorney of that court, and in July following he opened a law office in what is now the village of Mexico, Oswego county.

On July 7, 1827, he was married to Miss Lucretia GREENE, of Richfield, a daughter of Wardwell GREENE, and the sister of his first instructor in the law. Mrs. Robinson was born February 8, 1862, in the county of Schoharie, N.Y. Her father was a native of Rhode Island and a relative of Major-General Nathaniel GREENE of Revolutionary memory. He was also a soldier in the war of the Revolution, was severely wounded in battle and for many years received a pension from the United States. It may also be stated that both of the grandfathers of Mr. Robinson were citizen soldiers. Both rendered active service in the so-called French war of 1755, and both, as captains of companies, shared in the struggles of the American Revolution. It might be expected that the descendants of such ancestors could not be deaf to the call of their country in her hour of danger. Age had unfitted Mr. Robinson for military service in the late civil war, but his sympathies were with the government in all lawful efforts to suppress rebellion and maintain the Union, and his contributions to that end were freely given. His son, Wardwell G. ROBINSON, however, closed his law office, took command of the 184th regiment in New York Volunteers, and continued in active service until the close of the war; he is still living in Oswego.

In the first year of Mr. Robinson's residence in Mexico he was elected to the office of justice of the peace, and in the succeeding year to that of town clerk. In 1880 he was appointed by Governor THROOP surrogate of Oswego county and continued in that office eight years, having been reappointed by Governor MARCY in 1834. In 1834 and 1836 he represented the county in the Assembly, and when the county became entitled to two members in 1837, he was again elected as one of them. In the meantime his professional business had been increasing in extent and importance. He had been admitted to the highest grades of his profession in the State and Federal courts, and had attained a prominent position among the lawyers of Central New York.

In 1841 Mr. Robinson was appointed district attorney of the county and held the office two years. In 1843 he was elected to represent the newly-formed district comprising the counties of Oswego and Madison, in Congress, and in the same year was elected supervisor of the town of Mexico. In 1847 he removed to Oswego, where he has since resided. In 1852 he was elected recorder of the city, but the police duties connected with the office made it distasteful to him, and he resigned in August, 1853. In 1855 he was for the fourth time elected to the Assembly and was honored with the speakership of that body. In 1858 he was appointed by President BUCHANAN collector of customs for the Oswego District, and after having discharged the duties of that office to the satisfaction of the government and the public for two years, he resigned it and thereafter held no public office.



Orville Robinson

BENJAMIN S. STONE

Benjamin S. STONE was born in Bridport, Vt., March 26, 1821, and came to Mexico with his parents, Isaac and Lydia B. (HURLBUT) STONE, in 1826, where he has since resided. One of a family of twelve children, reared on a farm, with all the privations and hardships which that implied in those days, at the age of seventeen he entered upon a clerkship in the general store of Peter CHANDLER, with whom he remained until that gentleman's retirement from business in 1843, when he was succeeded by S.H. & B.S. STONE. In 1857 this partnership was dissolved and B.S. STONE engaged with S. A. TULLER under the firm name of Stone & Tuller, in the hardware trade. They were burned out in 1862, and again in 1864, after which Mr. Tuller withdrew from the business and Mr. Stone formed a partnership with a younger brother, J.R. STONE under the firm name of B. & J. Stone. This firm was dissolved by the death of J. R. Stone in the spring of 1868, and soon after the present firm of B.S. Stone & Co. was organized. They were again burned out in 1882. This record gives Mr. Stone an unbroken active mercantile career of fifty-seven years.

In 1846 he married, at Saratoga Springs, Sarah Elizabeth CHESTER, only sister of the Rev. A. G. CHESTER, D.D., of Buffalo, and Col. J. L. CHESTER, of London, England. They had six children, two of whom died in childhood, and the four living are: Walter C., proprietor of the Advance-Journal, Camden, N.Y.; Edward T., of B.S. Stone & Co., Mexico, N.Y.; Dr. William G., for thirteen years a physician in the Northern Insane Hospital at Elgin, Ill.; and Rev.

Carlos H., proprietor of Cornwall Heights School, at Cornwall-on-the-Hudson. His wife died in 1861, and two years later he married Mrs. Ellen S. BOYLE (born HICKS), of Bennington, Vermont. Mr. Stone has never sought political preferment, but has nevertheless been called to many positions of public trust and honor. He has been a member of the First Presbyterian church since young manhood, for a greater part of that time one of its trustees, and three times has had charge of repairing and remodeling the church edifice. A member of the Board of Trustees of Mexico Academy for forty years, and president since 1878, he was active and prominent in the erection of the present academy building, to which, as a member of the building committee, he devoted much time and energy, estimating its cost, and, what is noteworthy in these days, completing it within the estimate. He has several times served as trustee of the village, has for twenty-five years been prominently identified with the Mexico Cemetery Association, of which he is at present one of the Board of Commissioners, and has since its foundation been a trustee of the Oswego County Savings Bank, of which for several years he has been one of the vice-presidents.

Starting in life with very limited educational privileges and little or no capital financially, and in young manhood, owing to the death of his father, being called upon to partially bear the burden and care of the family, he made the most of his limited advantages, was energetic, economical and of strictest integrity, and has won an enviable reputation among the most successful business men in the county.

THE ROWE FAMILY

The year following the formation of Oswego county, on February 17, 1817, Norman ROWE, then twenty-two years of age, with his wife, Mary MOORE ROWE, and all their household goods, loaded upon sleighs, drawn by a yoke of oxen, started from Paris, Oneida county, for their new home in the town of New Haven. They settled upon a farm a mile northwest of the present village of New Haven, and afterwards purchased and cleared a farm further to the north, which is now known as the George W. DAGGETT farm, and where Mrs. Rowe died, in October, 1835. In the following year, Norman ROWE removed to the village of New Haven, and soon after married Sarah Tompkins HITCHCOCK. She brought with her her niece and adopted daughter, who, with Norman's five motherless children by his first wife, made up the family. Mr. Rowe died at the village of New Haven October 28, 1887, being then nearly ninety-three years of age. He was a son of Ari and Wealthy BULL ROWE, and was born at Litchfield, Conn., January 2, 1795, and removed with his family to Oneida county in 1803, and in 1808 to Paris, in the same county. In these early days, he often drove team from Paris to Albany, carrying wheat to market. During the war of 1812, he served as a soldier at Sackett's Harbor, and thereafter was promoted from time to time until he was commissioned by Governor Clinton, lieutenant-colonel. Intemperance was then one of the vices of the service, and Colonel Rowe, as an example to his brother officers, took a bold stand for total abstinence from all intoxicants, a novel position in those days, and difficult to maintain, but one which he did maintain ever after. He and his wife, Mary, with his father and mother above named, were four of the original thirteen persons who organized the Congregational church of New Haven, July 30, 1817, one of the first churches in the county; and he was made one of its first trustees, and on December 10, 1852, he was appointed one of its deacons. In 1827, he was elected justice of the peace, and was thereafter elected to that office several terms till 1853, after which he was re-elected regularly every four years, making almost fifty years of service in that office, and served as one of the justices of sessions in 1849 and 1856. He was elected town clerk in 1860 and again in 1865, and continuously thereafter until his death. These positions he held without opposition of any kind. He represented the town in the Board of Supervisors in 1839, 1840, 1847 and 1858, and was twice chairman of the board. In 1840, he was elected sheriff of the county and again in 1848; and at the time of his death one of his neighbors figured up his years of service in public offices as one hundred and thirty-four years.

In the early days of this county, there was much more litigation in justices' courts than at present, and its relative importance was much greater. Justice Rowe's judgment was considered excellent, and it was seldom that any decision rendered by him was reversed by the higher courts; but he was known more as a peacemaker than as a magistrate; and by his counsel and aid, many a settlement of neighborhood quarrels was brought about that might otherwise have been the cause of much expensive litigation; in all town matters, his advice was sought and followed. He had a wonderful memory, and his stories of early days were delightful to listen to; and he retained his faculties until his death. At the age of ninety-two, in the last year of his life, at the town meeting, he presided as chairman of the Town Board.

Mr. Rowe's children who survived him were Nathan M. ROWE, of Oswego, N.Y.; Abbie N. ROWE, who is well known by the present generation of the city of Oswego, where she was a favorite teacher in the public schools for over twenty years, retiring therefrom fifteen years ago, to act as housekeeper for her father; Henry M. ROWE, of Bucyrus, Ohio; Elizabeth, mentioned above, who, in 1850, married Dr. C. M. LEE, of Fulton; and Augustus F. ROWE, for twenty years postmaster and the leading merchant at New Haven, and who is now engaged in mercantile business at Syracuse, N.Y.

Nathan M. ROWE, son of Norman ROWE, was born in the town of New Haven in 1823. He went to Fulton while a young man, where he attended Falley Seminary and studied law in the office of the late Judge TYLER, and taught school for several seasons; but he afterwards chose to follow other callings. In 1848, when his father was elected sheriff for the second time, he came to Oswego to discharge the duties of under-sheriff. In 1850 he married Miss Sophia PARK a sister of the late Ira LAFREINIERE, the well-known ship-builder of Cleveland, Ohio. Her parents died while she was an infant, and she was adopted by Miss Louisa PARK, whose name she took and was reared and educated by Miss Park and her brother, John B. PARK, who was one of the most prominent and active members of the First Presbyterian Church, an enthusiastic worker for the common school system, in which he had great faith, and one of the leading dry goods merchants of the former village of Oswego.

For a short time Mr. Rowe was interested with the late James M. BROWN as editor and publisher of the Oswego Times, and he was also engaged in the clothing business in the West First street. About this time, he built the house in West Fifth street, now the home of Charles H. BOND, and lived there until, becoming interested with Willis S. NELSON, of Fulton, in the starch factory established by the Messrs. DURYEA, of Battle Island, he removed thither in 1859, where he assumed the superintendency of the factory, and where he resided with his family until after the factory was destroyed by fire in 1861. The loss by the fire was a heavy one.

In the spring of 1862, he returned to the city of Oswego, and having acquired a large tract of timber land in conjunction with the late Charles RHODES of Oswego, in the northwestern portion of the town of New Haven, commenced cutting the timber which found a ready sale at Oswego, as the Island dock and several elevators were then being constructed.

While the Oswego Water Works Company was constructing its plant, the superintendency was offered to Mr. Rowe, which he accepted and retained for many years, and built up and ran in connection with the same an ice business under the name of Reservoir Ice.

About 1890, owing to failing health, he retired from active business, and spent most of his time thereafter on his farms in the town of New Haven where he had one of the largest apple orchards in the county. He died suddenly at New Haven August 29, 1893, of heart trouble, in his seventy-first year.

He was always active and energetic, and ready to help those who needed help. In politics he was a staunch Democrat and was widely known throughout the county. He held many positions of trust and responsibility, and always acquitted himself so as to gain the highest esteem of all with whom he came in contact.

Among those of the fourth generation of the Rowe family in Oswego county is the present postmaster of Oswego city, Louis C. ROWE. He was born at Battle Island, in the town of Granby, November 27, 1861, while his father, the late Nathan M. ROWE, was running the starch factory at that place, and the family returned to Oswego in the following spring. Louis C. ROWE was educated in the schools of Oswego city, and thereafter began the study of law with B. F. CHASE, esq., then district attorney of the county. Upon Mr. Chase's removal to Chicago, he continued his studies with the late Newton W. NUTTING, then our representative in Congress. In 1884, at Rochester, Mr. Rowe was one of twenty-three applicants, out of a class of thirty-four, then admitted to the bar, and since that time he has been engaged in the practice of his profession at the city of Oswego, in which he has attained a satisfactory degree of success. Though still young in years he has been entrusted with a number of important cases, in the conduct of which he has shown superior ability as a lawyer.

He has always been an ardent Democrat, active in the party councils, and has done much good work for his party. April 19, 1894, President Cleveland nominated Mr. Rowe to the position of postmaster of Oswego, but his nomination, with many others, was not acted upon by the Senate, and after the adjournment of the Senate, and on August 30, the president appointed him to the position, and in December sent his name to the Senate, which thereupon confirmed his nomination of December 11, 1894. He was one of the members of the Charter Revision Commission, 1894, 1895. In these official stations he retains the confidence and respect of the community.

EARNEST M. MANWAREN, M.D.



This well-known eclectic physician of Oswego is a son of Dr. James MANWAREN, and was born in New Haven, Oswego county, on September 20, 1852. Removing at an early age with his parents to the city of Utica, he was there given excellent educational advantages, and attended and graduated from the Select School of Prof. WILLIAMS. He soon afterward went to Saginaw, Mich., and there attended and graduated from the Commercial College of Prof. TILLINGHAST. He was still young and from the time he left this school until he was twenty years old he had charge of the news business on the Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad.

At the close of this period, in 1873, he found himself in such circumstances that he was able to carry out his earlier formed intention, and he returned to Mexico, Oswego county, whither his father had in the mean time removed, and began the study of medicine under his father's guidance. This period of study was followed by his attendance at lectures in the Eclectic Medical College in New York city, from which institution he graduated in 1878. Returning to Mexico he began his professional practice in association with his father where he remained until the spring of 1881. He then removed to New Haven, Oswego county, and succeeded to the practice of Dr. G. W. WHITTAKER.

The death of Dr. James A. MILNE took place in Oswego in 1886 and left a vacancy which Dr. Manwaren was invited to fill, and he accordingly removed to the city where he soon acquired a large and reputable practice which he continues at the present time. Dr. Manwaren is qualified by nature and by his earnest and persistent study and reading to successfully fill the honorable professional position accorded him in Oswego, while his rare social qualifications, genial and equable temperament and unflinching courtesy have given him his well deserved popularity outside of his profession. Prompt to act, and yet gentle in the sick room, sympathetic with every form of distress, he wins that feeling of confidence and affection from his patients which always constitutes an important curative element. Among his professional brethren Dr. Manwaren is accorded the respect and esteem everywhere due to "the good physician." This is clearly indicated by his having been honored with various offices in societies more or less closely related to his profession. He was president of the Oswego County Eclectic Medical Society in 1885, of which he is now a leading member. He has also held the same office in the Central New York Eclectic Medical Society and the New York State Eclectic Medical Society, is a member of the National Eclectic Medical Society, and has taken an active part in the proceedings in each of these organizations. He has also held the chair of Lecturer on Physiology and Hygiene in the college from which he graduated in New York city.

Dr. Manwaren is now and has been since 1893 a member of the State Board of Medical Examiners, which is under the control of the State Board of Regents, and is secretary of the board.

He is conspicuously identified with Free Masonry and has been honored with several eminent positions in that order; has held the office of master of Oswego Lodge No 127; has been high priest of Lake Ontario Chapter No. 165, R.A.M.; and is a member of Lake Ontario Commandery No. 32, K.T.; and of Damascus Temple A.A.O.N.M.S., Rochester.

Dr. Manwaren is not active in politics, but as far as practicable fulfills the duties of good citizenship in the ranks of the Republican party. He is a member of the Presbyterian church of Oswego and one of its Board of Trustees.

He has been a prolific contributor to medical literature, especially to the Chicago Medical Times, the New York Medical Tribune, and the Eclectic Medical Journal, of Cincinnati. In these and other publications his communications are received with marked favor.

On May 14, 1879, Dr. Manwaren was married to Emma L. THOMAS, daughter of Almeron THOMAS, of Mexico, N.Y., and they have two children, a son and a daughter.

EDGAR A. VAN HORNE

Edgar A. VAN HORNE was descended from Dutch ancestry, and was a son of Robert VAN HORNE, born in Cooperstown, N.Y., in 1809, and settled in Oswego village in 1823. There he joined his brother, W. H. VAN HORNE, in the boot and shoe trade, the firm being W. H. & R. VAN HORNE. Upon the subsequent dissolution of the firm Robert VAN HORNE engaged in grocery trade and was many years one of the most extensive dealers in that line in



Oswego. In 1840 he married Rebecca IVES, daughter of the late John C. IVES, who was during many years a leading mason and builder of Oswego and erected many of the large stone structures in the place. Mr. Ives died January 24, 1860. Mr. Van Horne removed to and lived in the town of Oswego several years, but in 1865 returned to the city, and acquired an interest in the transfer business of Parker & McRae, forming the firm of Van Horne & Co. In politics he was an old school Democrat, but never held nor sought office. He was one of the original members of the Oswego Guards, organized in 1838, and so continued until 1842. He was a dignified, courteous and unostentatious gentleman, and fully enjoyed the confidence of the community. His death took place on July 7, 1884, and he is survived by his widow. Robert and Rebecca VAN HORNE had two children, Celia, and the subject of this sketch, both now deceased.

Edgar A. VAN HORNE was born in Oswego on August 7, 1845, and received his education in the city schools. At the age of seventeen years, in 1862, he entered the employ of the late A. B. MERRIAM as clerk in his hardware store. He served his employer's interests with fidelity, but all the time felt that he was not in his proper sphere. From early boyhood he had shown a deep interest in all matters connected with

railroading; the running of a locomotive, the laying of track, the bustle about a station, all possessed an irresistible charm for him, and he resolved sometime to join the great army of railroad workers. After two years in the hardware store he found a beginning towards gratifying his ambition, and entered the office of Superintendent George SKINNER, of the then Oswego and Syracuse Railroad. There he managed, outside of his prescribed duties, to learn the mysteries of telegraphy, an accomplishment which was often of great value to him in after life. He was now amid surroundings that thoroughly pleased him and he labored unremittingly to master all the details of the office. In 1865 he was promoted to the position of freight and ticket agent. In 1870 he purchased the controlling interest in the line of transfer teams, which he managed until August 31, 1872, when President MOLLISON made him superintendent of the Lake Ontario Shore Railroad. In the following year he was made assistant superintendent of the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad from Oswego to Richland, which he managed until June 1, 1874, when the Lake Ontario Shore road went under control of the R. W. & O. Company and was added to Mr. Van Horne's charge. This far his career had amply justified his choice of life work, and he demonstrated the possession of extraordinary ability in railroad management. On January 1, 1876, the Syracuse Northern Railroad also passed to the control of the R. W. & O. Company, and on October 1, 1878, Mr. Van Horne was made general superintendent of the whole line of the R. W. & O. road. The exacting duties of this responsible position were discharged by him until the road passed under control of Charles PARSONS on July 1, 1883. He did not remain long idle, and on August 1, 1883, was made general superintendent of the Utica and Back River road, and took up his residence in Utica. He held this position about four years, when he substantially retired from public station, and returned to Oswego to pass the remainder of his life. For a short time he was engaged in Syracuse in the interest of a street railway company, and later was made superintendent of the Oswego Street Railway Company. This offered little inducement to him and he soon resigned and purchased an interest in the hardware store of Smith & Lieb, in Oswego. In 1893 this business was consolidated with that of Tanner & Co., and the Oswego Hardware Company was formed, of which Mr. Van Horne was a prominent member until his death. For ten years or more before his decease Mr. Van Horne was in ill health and finally became impressed with the belief that his heart was affected. This belief became very strong and to a considerable extent controlled his actions and weakened his powers. He avoided all possible exertion that might affect his circulation, and only a short time prior to this death refused a salary of \$10,000 annually for the management of a new railroad. His presentiment that he would die from heart trouble was finally verified, and on July 31, 1894 he suddenly passed to another life.

Mr. Van Horne was a fine example of the typical successful railroad manager. A strict disciplinarian, he was yet affable and courteous to the lowest employee, as well as to the wealthiest person; and his knowledge of every detail of the business was remarkable. His genial bearing and the confidence felt in his management made him extremely popular with the public and his friends were numberless. His hospitable home, at a little distance from the city, was characterized by refinement an affection, and the city at large often felt the force of his public spirit.

Mr. Van Horne was fond of military affairs and at one time was a member of the 48th Regiment. He was promoted to the rank of second lieutenant in Company K, and in 1867 was made inspector-general on General Sullivan's staff with rank of captain. In 1875 he was promoted to major and was inspector general of rifle practice and brigade inspector in 1877; this office he held until 1881, when he resigned. In Masonry he was a member of AEonian Lodge No 679, of Lake Ontario Chapter No. 165, and of Lake Ontario Commandery No. 32, K.T.; also a member of Oswegatchie Lodge No. 156, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

At the time of his death he was president of the Oswego County Agricultural Society. He was a Democrat in politics of the conservative type, but never accepted political office.

On June 12, 1867, Mr. Van Horne was married to Sarah M. PERRY, daughter of Talmadge PERRY, who was a son of Eleazur PERRY, the first supervisor of Oswego town, and grandson of the first Eleazur PERRY, who was the supervisor of the town of Hanibal, then in Onondaga county. Talmadge PERRY died at his home in Oswego town on May 25, 1883, bearing the respect of the whole community. His wife was Amy SABIN. Mr. and Mrs. Van Horne had four children; Mrs. N.H. TUNNICLIFF, of Omaha, Neb.; R.E. VAN HORNE, F. P. VAN HORNE, and Medora Maynard VAN HORNE, all whom are living. Mrs. Van Horne is also surviving.

FRANK S. LOW, M.D.

Dr. Frank S. LOW was born in the town of Shrewsbury, Rutland county, Vt., March 31, 1828, being the fourth child of a family of seven children born to Joel B. LOW and Anna WEBBER.

Joel B. LOW was the son of Samuel LOW and Abigail BACON, who moved from Barry, Mass., and settled in the wilderness of Vermont.

Samuel LOW was the son of Francis LOW, who was born at Cape Ann, Mass., in 1720.

The stories told to the doctor by his grandfather Samuel, of the adventures and hardships undergone in the struggle for existence during the first few years of his residence in the wilderness, would read much more like

fiction than a formidable fact. But Samuel, whose father was one of the early settlers of Massachusetts and who was himself a soldier in the war for our independence, was of true Puritan stock, and with his good wife, Abigail BACON, overcame all obstacles and reared a family of eight children. He died in 1837.

Joel B. LOW, the father of Dr. Frank S. LOW, was the seventh child of the above mentioned Samuel LOW and Abigail BACON. He was born in 1795 in a log house covered with spruce bark, and was the first child born in the town of Shrewsbury, where he lived until 1847, when he moved to Castleton, Vt., for the purpose of better educating his children. He lived in Castleton until 1853, when he came to Williamstown, N.Y., from where he removed to Pulaski, N.Y., in 1855, where he lived until his death in 1875.

He was for several years elected justice of the peace while living in Shrewsbury, and was the captain of a militia company, and when volunteers were called for to defend our northern border in the war of 1812, he with several other members of the company volunteered and marched to the defense of Plattsburgh. In politics he was always a Democrat. He was a millwright by trade and with his brother, Samuel, went on horseback from Vermont to the place where Rochester, N.Y., now is and built a saw mill, the first mill on Genesee Falls.

Dr. Low's mother was the daughter of William WEBBER and Hannah BARNEY, both of Puritan stock, coming from Rhode Island, and settling in Shrewsbury about the same time that Samuel LOW did.

Dr. LOW was one of a family of three boys and four girls, all of whom, excepting the doctor, have been dead for several years.

He spent his early life on his father's farm, attending the district school during the winter. Being a great reader, he availed himself on the benefits of a circulating library (a common thing in New England towns), composed largely of works on ancient and modern history and biographies of eminent men, acquiring a kind of education that proved of great service to him in after years. He also attended a few terms at Castleton Seminary, then quite a noted school, where the Hon. John C. CHURCHILL, now of Oswego, was one of his instructors.

The first book the doctor ever read aloud was Weems's Life of Washington. This he read to his grandfather by the side of an old fashioned fireplace and by the light of a tallow candle.

The stories told by his grandfather of the war of the Revolution and by his father of the war of 1812 made a lasting impression on his mind, creating great love and veneration for his country and its defenders.

In 1847 he commenced the study of medicine at Castleton Medical College, Vt., under the instruction of the whole faculty, among whom was Dr. Middleton GOLDSMITH, Dr. Thomas MARKOE, and Corydon L. FORD, all of whom became very eminent in the profession. The college being in the town of his residence, the doctor was enabled to attend two courses of lectures of sixteen weeks each for three years, which at that time was something unusual. He graduated June 19, 1850, and immediately settled in Williamstown, Oswego county, N.Y., where he entered into a large and laborious practice, in which he continued until 1855, when he removed to Pulaski, where he has continued in active practice ever since, and as an all around general practitioner has probably seen a large number and greater variety of cases than most physicians.

His opinion and counsel have always been in demand both locally and abroad, by the laity and his professional brethren. His honesty and charity are proverbial while his genial, cheerful manners have won him a host of friends.

The doctor married February 6, 1850, Jane H. GRAVES, daughter of Jesse GRAVES and Sarah WHEELER, of Castleton, Vt. She proved a true woman, a loving mother and an affectionate wife. She died March 17, 1860, leaving four children: Frank W., who, after embarking in commercial pursuits took a course of lectures at the dental department of the University of New York, and is now a prominent and successful dentist of Buffalo, N.Y.; Addison S., who graduated from the medical department of the University of New York, practiced in Pulaski, N.Y., and Steamboatrock, Iowa, from where he removed to Watertown, N.Y., where he remained until the time of his death, January 17, 1892; Kate N., now the wife of Frank E. AVERILL, who is a graduate of the School of Mines of Columbia College and a skillful electrician of Buffalo, N.Y.; Jesse B., a graduate from the medical department of Howard University, Washington, D.C., and now a successful practitioner in Watertown, N.Y.

October 8, 1860, the doctor married Helen L. FIFIELD, OF Salem, N.Y., the daughter of Francis FIFIELD and Mary GRAVES. She had one child that died in infancy, and died January 27, 1871, a noble woman beloved by all.

February 8, 1872, the doctor again married, this time Mrs. Mary F. WOODS, widow of Wait T. WOODS, also a daughter of Francis FIFIELD and Mary GRAVES. She is the ideal of true womanhood, the fondest of mothers and best of wives. She had borne him one child, Charles E., who is now pursuing a course in medicine at the medical department of the University of Buffalo.

In politics the doctor is a staunch Democrat, and although living in a county of an average Republican majority of 3,300, he was in 1875 elected sheriff of the county by 800 majority. In 1863 he was elected on a union ticket as a War Democrat to the office of coroner. During the Rebellion he was zealous in aiding the northern cause and in raising troops. He was three times offered the surgeons'hip of different regiments, but owing to his family of small children he was unable to accept. He has also been trustee of Pulaski Academy, as a member of the Board of Education, and has served several terms as trustee and president of the village. He was active in securing a village water system and the first president of the Board of Water Commissioners.

He was the first Mason raised in Pulaski Lodge, F. & A. M., and was for two years master of the same, and is now a member of Pulaski Chapter No. 135 R. A. M. He was last year appointed chief inspector of the second division of New York on the State Board of Health. He is a member and ex-president of the Oswego County Medical Society, a member of the Central New York Medical Association, a permanent member of the New York State Medical Society, of which at its last meeting he was elected vice-president.

ORRIN R. EARL

Was born in Jefferson county, November 2, 1812. He is a grandson of Stephen EARL, who was born in Rhode Island and died in Saratoga county aged seventy-eight, and a son of Pardner EARL, who was born in Rhode Island, and died in Jefferson county, aged sixty-two. The latter married Nancy SHERMAN, who died at the age of fifty years; their children were Andrew C., Ruth, Orrin R., Albert, Nancy, Jenette, and Ann V., who are all deceased excepting Orrin R., the subject. Pardner EARL was a soldier in the war of 1812, a prominent farmer, and served as supervisor and in other local positions of trust.

Orrin R. EARL was educated at Belleville, Jefferson county, and in 1846 began life as a farmer. His public spirit and his unselfish interest in public affairs gave him prominence in the town, and he was elected to the Board of Supervisors, on which he served as a leading member for seventeen years. He held the office of president of the village four years, and in 1847 was elected to the State Legislature where he served with credit. In 1848 he engaged in mercantile trade at Sandy Creek, as a member of the firm of Earl & Salisbury, which continued five years. He also conducted the Salisbury Hotel one year, and for about eight years carried on the tan yard. In

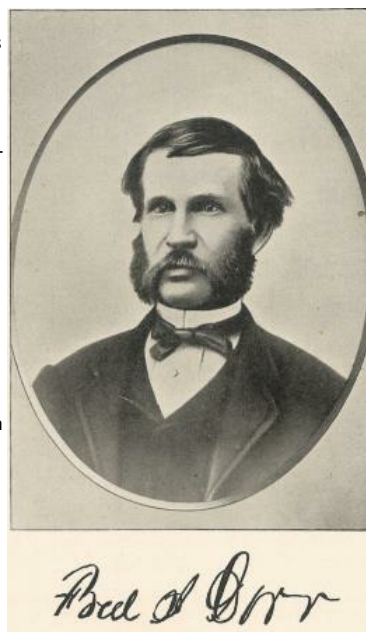
1870 he opened a bank in Sandy Creek, in connection with P. M. NEWTON, which partnership existed ten years, and was dissolved by the retirement of Mr. Newton. This bank was the first one established in Sandy Creek, and is still successfully conducted by Mr. Earl. In 1884 Mr. Earl became interested in the Sandy Creek Wood Manufacturing Company, Limited, of which he is now president and one of the largest stockholders. When the subject of boring for natural gas in Sandy Creek was first agitated, Mr. Earl took a deep interest in the matter and was one of the prime movers in the project of sinking the first gas well in 1889. He was chosen president of the Sandy Creek Oil & Gas Company, held the office three years, and is now one of the directors, and the principal stockholder. In addition to these various pursuits, he has successfully conducted a general farming and dairy business.

During the war period Mr. Earl was one the most ardent and unselfish supporters of the government, and in 1862 was sent by the citizens of his town to look after the interests of the local soldiers at the front. While on this mission he found himself inside the lines at the battle of Antietam, and witnessed the entire fight. He gave to the wounded men of his acquaintance \$500 in cash, and rendered them other much needed assistance. Mr. Earl at the age of eighty-two years still personally conducts his banking and other business interests, and enjoys the merited confidence and esteem of the community.

In 1844 Mr. Earl was married to Jenette SALISBURY, daughter of Nathan SALISBURY, and granddaughter of a soldier of the war of 1812. She died on March 8, 1886.

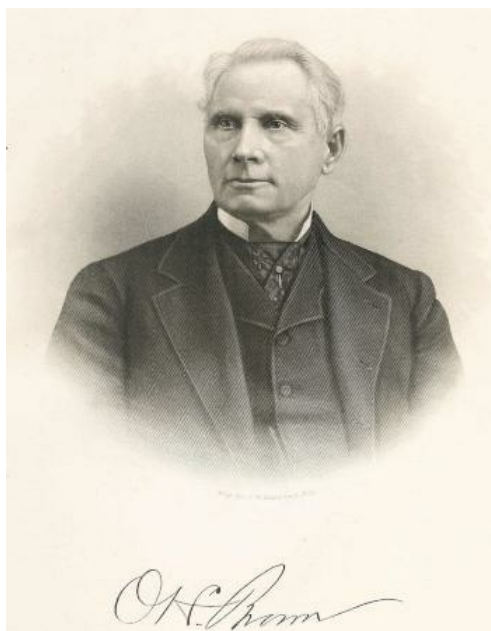
FREDERICK J. DORR

The subject of this sketch was born in Cambridge, Washington county, N.Y., on the 30th of April, 1826. His father was Rittenhouse DORR, and his mother was Anna Lorain CARRINGTON, a daughter of Elisha CARRINGTON, and sister of Frederick CARRINGTON, both of whom were prominent citizens of Oswego city. When Frederick J. DORR had reached his tenth year, in 1836, he was taken by his parents from Cambridge to Oswego, and there placed in the family of Elisha CARRINGTON. His opportunities for obtaining an education were limited to the district school, after which he was employed as a clerk in the dry goods store of Dwight HERRICK, where he continued until he had reached his majority. His experience as clerk served to inculcate in him those strict and conservative business principles which governed his long and active business life. Soon after he was twenty-one years of age, he opened a hardware store in Oswego, where he carried on a successful trade until his death. During this long period Mr. Dorr gained the entire respect and confidence of the community. His unswerving integrity, fairness in all business transactions, sound judgment upon public questions, and the high plane of morality which governed his social and domestic life, conspired to give Mr. Dorr an enviable position in the business and social life of Oswego. Although not a member of any church, he was long a trustee of the Presbyterian Society, and was always ready to devote his time and energies to good works. In early life he was a Democrat in politics, but later espoused the cause of the Republican party, and cast his vote for General Grant for president of the United States. Of a naturally retiring disposition, the active strife of politics was distasteful to him, and he never sought public official station.



Mr. Dorr was married in Watertown, N.Y., on September 23, 1857, to Mrs. George D. LEWIS. Before her first marriage, she was Louise L. DAKE, a daughter of Edward D. W. DAKE, of Saratoga, N.Y. The Dake family were prominent in Saratoga county, where Mrs. Dorr's father was a physician, and late in life a successful lumber merchant. Her grandfather was a large real estate owner in that vicinity, and a prominent and respected citizen. Mr. Dorr died on February 24, 1881, his widow surviving him, and now residing on their homestead about two miles south of Oswego city.

ORSON H. BROWN



Orson H. BROWN, an old and respected citizen of the city of Oswego, was born in Jefferson county, N.Y., on September 23, 1816. His father was Roswell BROWN, a native of Stonington, Conn., of which state his mother, Electa HERRICK, was also a native. The family removed to Oswego county in 1827, when Orson was eleven years of age. Roswell BROWN died in Oswego county at the age seventy-six, and his wife at the age of eighty-four. After receiving such education as was possible in the common schools up to the age of fourteen years, the son then entered the service on the inland lakes, which he followed seventeen years, rising in the mean time from the lowest position to the command of vessels. In 1838 he was in command of a vessel and continued in the same capacity ten years, when he abandoned navigation. Mr. Brown now turned his attention to the insurance business, the adjustment of marine losses, care of properties, etc. In fire insurance he is one of the oldest and most respected agents in the State; he has held the agency of the Aetna Insurance Company of Hartford over forty-one years; of the Insurance Company of North America thirty years; and the Royal Insurance Company of Liverpool, England, the Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Company of Philadelphia, and the Western Assurance Company of Toronto twenty-three years each; also the Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company, twenty-five years. During this long period a large part of the insurance of Oswego and vicinity has been placed in these staunch companies by Mr. Brown. In the adjustment of marine losses Mr. Brown is an expert and has

had many interesting experiences. Thoroughly familiar with maritime law, he has in the interest of clients, met and

vanquished some of the famous lawyers of this State. In one memorable case he fought his opponents almost single handed through four years of litigation and won his case against some of the best legal talent in the State. A man of recognized integrity and sound business judgment, Mr. Brown has been honored with many positions of trust. For fifteen years past he has been trustee, vice-president, and chairman of the Loan Committee of the Oswego City Savings Bank, and chairman of other committees in the same institution; he is a member of the Board of Directors of the First National Bank of Oswego; and in 1879-80 he was president of the Oswego Board of Trade, and aided in inaugurating many movements for the welfare of the city. His public spirit is active and he has always contributed freely to the local press on topics of current interest. Under the will disposing of the Guimaraes estate of \$200,000 value, of which he was executor – no bond or other security required – and on which he rendered his final account on May 16, 1895, and in less than an hour and thirty minutes after presentation the account was settled, and the surrogate's final decree entered. Mr. Brown collected between October 3, 1882, and May 15, 1895, \$126,553, a task requiring much of his time and oversight for twelve years past. He had previously handled the same estate under power of attorney after 1876. Complicated litigation in the cities of Oswego, New York, and Lisbon, Portugal, and other exacting duties have attended the settlement and care of this estate, but they have all been judiciously conducted by Mr. Brown. In 1878 he purchased the lot on which the Guimaraes Block stands, which structure he erected. He has also been entrusted with other valuable property on many occasions, and always without the execution of any bonds. Mr. Brown is a Republican in politics, but has given little attention to that field of effort further than is the duty of every citizen. For six years he was a trustee of the Presbyterian church, although not an active member.

In 1838 Mr. Brown married Jane WEED, daughter of William WEED of Richland, where he died in 1849, at the age of sixty-two years. He was a native of Vermont, and a cousin of Thurlow WEED, the celebrated journalist and politician.

EDWIN L. HUNTINGTON

Edwin L. HUNTINGTON was born in Mexico, N.Y., July 8, 1839, and was the fourth child of a family of eight children. He was of English stock on his father's side, while his mother's ancestors were of Scotch origin.

His grandfather, Caleb HUNTINGTON, was born October 4, 1770, in Sharon, Conn., and married Sarah JOYCE in 1795. She died September 13, 1823. He died at Mexico, N.Y., October 1, 1839.

His father, Edwin HUNTINGTON, was born in Otsego county, June 1, 1805, and came to Mexico in 1829. He married Mary C. GREGORY in 1831 and she died July 6, 1834. In 1835 he married Lucy A. GREGORY who died in 1851. In 1853 he married Mary E. HEWETT who died in 1881.

The children of Edwin HUNTINGTON were as follows: Marion, Mary H., Lester B., Edwin L., Sarah H., Lewis J., Harriet E. and Helen. Three of his daughters are still living, Mrs. M. H. THORPE and Mrs. S. H. HOWARD in Michigan and Mrs. Helen MC MULLEN in Mexico. Lewis J. HUNTINGTON, his third son, enlisted in Battery L, 9th Artillery, in March, 1864, and died in Washington July 9, 1864, at the age of eighteen, of fever contracted in the Wilderness campaign.

The subject of this sketch was educated in his native town and finished his studies at Mexico Academy in 1856. He lived for two years in Wisconsin and Michigan.

In 1861 when the tidings of the assault on Sumter flew over the land Mr. Huntington was one of the first to leave his business and his home to defend the principles which had found such deep root in his heart. From first to last he was in the thickest of the conflict and has good reason to be proud of his war record. Waiting for no bounties he volunteered as a private soldier and went with the first regiment which left the county. Entering the ranks as a private he was afterwards promoted as corporal and then as captain.

In April, 1861, he enlisted in Capt. Payne's Co. B, 24th N. Y. Infantry, 1st Brigade, 1st Division, 1st Corps. The 24th Regiment was one of the regiments which composed the famous "Iron Brigade." Mr. Huntington was at the front during almost the entire war and took part in the following engagements during the years 1861-62-63:

Bailey's Cross Roads, July 25th; Falls Church, October 8th; Falmouth, April 17th; Massaponax, August 6th; Rappahannock River, August 22d; Sulphur Springs, August 26th; Gainsville, August 28th; Groveton, August 29th; Bull run, August 30th; Little river Turnpike, September 1st; South Mountain, September 14th; Antietam, September 17th; Fredericksburg, December 14th and 15th; Pollock's Mill Creek, April 29th; Chancellorsville, May 2d and 3d.

At Chancellorsville Mr. Huntington was the only private in Co. B that escaped injury, all the others engaged in the battle being either killed or wounded. He was slightly wounded at Fredericksburg and honorably discharged and mustered out May 29, 1863.

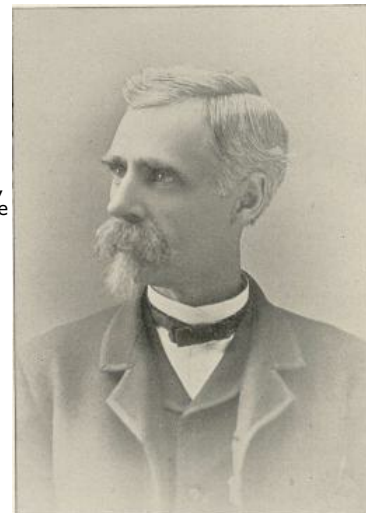
Mr. Huntington re-enlisted in 1863 as 2d lieutenant in Capt. Frank Sinclair's Battery I, 9th N.Y. Artillery, for three years and was promoted as captain July 6, 1865. He served in 2d Brigade 3d Division, 6th Army Corps, and participated in the following engagements during the years 1864 and 1865.

Cold Harbor, May 31st to June 12th; Assault on Petersburg, June 15th to 19th; Weldon Railroad, June 21st to 23d; Washington, July 12th to 13th; Charlestown, August 21st; Summit Point, August 29; Winchester, September 19; Near Cedar Creek, October 9th; Strasburg, October 14th; Cedar Creek, October 19th; Bunker Hill, October 26th; Assault on Petersburg works, March 25th; Fall of Petersburg, April 2d; Sailor's Creek, April 6th; Appomattox C. H., April 9th.

He was slightly wounded at Cedar Creek and was honorably discharged September 29, 1865. Since the close of the war he has devoted most of his time to the drug trade in Mexico.

In June, 1870, he organized a company to be attached to the 48th Regiment of National Guards of the State of New York, which was known as the Huntington Guards. He was the captain of the company for twelve years. It was composed largely of veterans and was reputed to be one of the finest companies of the regiment. This company was called into service of the State several times, the most notable occasion being at the time of the railroad riots commencing at Homellsville and extending over other parts of the State.

In 1880 Mr. Huntington was unanimously nominated at the republican county Convention as sheriff on first ballot, an event which never before occurred in connection with that position in Oswego county politics. He was elected by an unusually large majority. In 1894 he was elected supervisor of the town of Mexico for two years. For eight




A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edwin L. Huntington". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

years he has held the position of commander of the Melzer Richards Post No. 367 of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Camp of the Sons of Veterans of Mexico bears his name. He always manifested a deep interest in village improvements and to his means and energy the people are largely indebted for the Mexico Electric Lighting System. He was also very active with others in the raising of funds for the erection of the beautiful monument now standing in the Mexico cemetery to the memory of the brave men who enlisted from that town during the war of the Rebellion.

In 1868 Mr. Huntington was married to Florence A. ALLEN and they have two children, Edith L., now Mrs. Clinton E. AVERY of Mexico, and Lulu Adelle. His wife died in 1888 and in 1891 he married Mary A. TUDO.

Mr. Huntington has held many positions of trust and always filled them with honor to himself and credit to the community. Reliable in his pledges, true to his friends, he possesses independence of character to do what he thinks to be right. In whatever position he has been placed, the public have always evinced entire confidence in his ability and integrity.

Source: Landmarks of Oswego County New York, edited by John C. Churchill, L.L.D., assisted by H. Perry Smith & W. Stanley Child, Syracuse, N.Y., D. Mason & Company Publishers, 1895.

 [Part IV - Next Section](#)

1895 Landmarks of Oswego County

BIOGRAPHICAL

Many thanks and appreciation to **Cheryl Hanson** for her time and efforts in transcribing this Biographical Section of surnames from Oswego County, NY. Cheryl is researching her Sandy Creek family, that of **Darwin CRONK**. He married **Jeanette ELDRED** and they had the following children: **Ann J., John E., Samantha, Aura Arthur, Darwin and Sarah A.** I am told that part of the family also went by the surname **CONKLIN**. Thank you, Cheryl!

Part IV

JOHN C. CHURCHILL, LL. D.,

Of Oswego, was born at Mooers, Clinton county, N.Y., January 17, 1821. He is sixth in descent from John CHURCHILL, who settled at Plymouth, Mass., about 1640, and who married there, December 16, 1644, Hannah, daughter of William PONTUS, a member of the Plymouth Company to whom King James granted in 1605, the North American continent between 41 deg. and 45 deg. north latitude. His oldest son, Joseph, married Sarah, granddaughter of Robert HICKS, an eminent non-conformist of London, also a member of the Plymouth Company, who sailed in the "Speedwell" in company with the "Mayflower" in 1620, and, on that vessel becoming disabled, returned to England and in the following year sailed to and settled in Plymouth. Joseph, grandson of the last named couple, born in Plymouth in 1722, settled in Boston, where in 1748 his son John was born, who married Sarah STACY, of Salem, Mass., and settled in New Salem, Mass. Soon after the close of the Revolutionary war, he removed with his family from New Salem to Benson, Vermont, in the valley of Lake Champlain, to which at that time the people of the older settled parts of New England were greatly attracted, and where he died August 23, 1798.

In 1804 Samuel, this third son, with his brothers and sisters and their widowed mother, removed to Clinton county in this State, in the same beautiful valley, then almost an unbroken wilderness. February 8, 1814, he married Martha, daughter of John BOSWORTH, esq., of Sandisfield, Mass., and died February 23, 1865.

Their second son, the subject of this sketch, fitted for college at Burr Seminary, in Manchester, Vermont, and entered Middlebury College, where he graduated in July, 1843. The ensuing two years he taught languages in Castleton Seminary in the same State, and subsequently, for a period of twelve months, was a tutor in Middlebury College. Having decided on adopting the legal profession, he entered the Dane Law School, of Harvard University, and having completed the required course of study was, in July, 1847, admitted to the bar. About this time the Chair of Languages in his alma mater being temporarily vacant, he was called to fill it and remained thus engaged several months. Early in 1848 he established himself in the legal profession at Oswego, where he has since resided. A year later he married Miss Catherine T. SPRAGUE, daughter of Dr. Lawrence SPRAGUE, of the United States army. From 1853 to 1856 he was a member of the Oswego Board of Education, and during a part of the same period he was a member of the Board of Supervisors. From 1857 to 1860 he held the office of District Attorney, and in the latter year was chosen County Judge. October 15, 1862, he was appointed by Governor Morgan commissioner to superintend the draft for Oswego county, which office he held for about one year, and until that business was transferred to officers appointed by the general government. In 1866 he was elected by a majority of 5,634 to represent the Twenty-second District of New York in the XLth Congress. During the XLth Congress he served on the Judiciary Committee, and with Mr. Boutwell and Mr. Eldridge formed the sub-Committee that drafted the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution in the form in which it was finally adopted. On the question of the impeachment of President Johnson he joined with a majority of the Judiciary Committee in a report in the affirmative. In the XLth Congress Mr. Churchill was chairman of the Committee on Expenditures on Public Buildings, and was second on the Committee of Elections. He introduced at this Congress the act to secure the purity and freedom of elections at which members of congress were chosen, which subsequently became a law with slight amendment, and furnished means for national supervision of such elections. The determined attempt to repeal this act, and the equally determined defence which kept it on the national statute books until 1894, show the importance attached to it. In 1876 Judge Churchill was a delegate to the Cincinnati Convention, which nominated President Hayes, and the following year (1877) he received the Republican nomination for Secretary of State of the State of New York. At the presidential election in the fall of 1880 Judge Churchill was elected one of the presidential electors-at-large for the State of New York, and as such voted for James A. GARFIELD and Chester A. ARTHUR, for president and vice-president of the United States. During the years 1879 and 1880 he was again a member of the Oswego Board of Education and president of the Board, which he resigned to accept the appointment of Justice of the Supreme Court, made by Governor Cornell, January 17, 1881, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Judge Noxon. In the fall of 1881 Judge Churchill was nominated, and at the November election chosen by a majority of 11,092, Justice of the Fifth Judicial District of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, for the full term. The degree of LL.D., was conferred upon him by Middlebury College, Vermont, in 1874, and by Hamilton College, New York, in 1882. He is a member of the Local Board of the State Normal and Training School at Oswego.

TIMOTHY W. SKINNER

Timothy W. SKINNER was born at Union Square, Oswego county, N.Y., on the 24th day of April, 1827. His ancestors were of old and highly respected New England stock. His grandfather, Timothy SKINNER, was a Revolutionary soldier and a participant in the battle of Bunker Hill. His father, the Hon. Avery SKINNER, was one of the pioneers of the northern section of this State, having come to Watertown from New Hampshire in 1816. He afterwards moved to Union Square in this county in 1824, and from that time until his death in 1876 was prominently identified with the best interests of this section. Judge Skinner was a man of powerful intellect, combined with a vigorous and athletic frame, admirably fitted by nature to take part in the settlement and progressive movements of a new country. For fifty years he filled a most important part in the history of Oswego county and the northern section of the State of New York. In politics he was a Democrat of the Jeffersonian school, a personal friend of Horatio SEYMOUR, Silas WRIGHT and other prominent Democrats, and responsible political honors were repeatedly conferred upon him. For twelve years he was judge and county treasurer of Oswego county. In 1831 he was elected member of assembly from his district, and re-elected to the same office in 1832, serving two terms thereafter; and in 1836-41 was chosen State senator from the district then comprising the counties of Oswego, Jefferson, Lewis, Onondaga, Otsego and Madison. While in the Senate Judge Skinner was a member of the Court for the Correction of Errors, which under the old constitution was the highest court in the State and analogous to the present Court of Appeals. He was also interested in business and educational matters, having been the first presiding officer and a director of the Syracuse Northern Railway Company. He was also one of the founders of the Mexico Academy in 1826, and in 1876, a few months before his death, he

attended its semi-centennial as the only survivor of its original board of trustees.

The grandfather of Hon. Timothy W. SKINNER on his mother's side was Solomon HUNTINGTON, who settled in the town of Mexico in 1804, and who was a near relative of Samuel HUNTINGTON, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and president of the Continental Congress.

Timothy W. SKINNER, the subject of this sketch, spent the first twenty five years of his life on his father's farm, teaching school in the winter and having charge of the farm in summer. In 1852 he was elected justice of the peace and served for two terms. In 1853 he moved to the village of Mexico, where he has since resided. In 1857 Mr. Skinner was admitted to the bar, and in November of the same year joined with Judge Cyrus WHITNEY in the organization of the law and banking firm of Whitney & Skinner. After this firm was dissolved in 1870 by the removal of Judge Whitney to Oswego, Mr. Skinner took his brother-in-law Maurice L. WRIGHT, now justice of the Supreme Court, as his partner, under the firm name of Skinner & Wright, and the partnership continued until 1800. Since then Mr. Skinner has continued alone in the active duties of his profession, and is to-day one of the oldest and most widely known and respected members of the legal fraternity in active practice. Though reared amid Democratic surroundings Mr. Skinner has been an unswerving Republican for many years, identifying himself with that party in its early days, and has had a prominent and influential part in its county, judicial and State conventions. No one has been longer connected with the active politics of the county than Mr. Skinner. He was elected surrogate in 1863, again in 1870, and re-elected in 1876, thus serving as surrogate three terms – the longest time that any who have filled that office have held it in the county. He has always taken the deepest interest in the affairs of the village of Mexico; has served as its president, and is one of the best known and most highly esteemed of its citizens. He has been for many years a member of the board of trustees of the old historic Mexico Academy, and a trustee of the First M.E. Church of that village. He is also prominent in Masonic circles, and has been High Priest of the Mexico Chapter for a long term of years. There are but few men living in this county whose history will show a longer or more honorable career in public life, and all his public life, and all his public acts have been marked by the strictest integrity and moral rectitude. He is a man of great force of character, with a stalwart and vigorous physical development, and his assistance in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the county has always been highly valued. Aside from the arduous duties of his profession, Mr. Skinner has large landed interests in the county, and in the past has been connected with extensive business enterprises.

Mr. Skinner is the oldest of a family of nine; his sister Eliza, now deceased, married Charles RICHARDSON, of Colosse; his brother, Albert T. SKINNER, also deceased, was superintendent of the Walter A. WOOD mowing Machine Co. of Little Falls. Of the brothers and sisters now living the Hon. Charles R. SKINNER, of Albany, is Superintendent of Public Instruction of this State; the Rev. James A. SKINNER is an Episcopal clergyman near Rochester, and Mrs. Maurice L. WRIGHT is the wife of the Hon. M. L. WRIGHT of the Supreme Court of the Fifth Judicial District.

In 1856 Mr. Skinner married Elizabeth CALKINS, who died in 1861, leaving one daughter, now Mrs. J. B. STONE, of Auburn, N.Y. In 1862 he married Sarah L. ROSE, and their children are Anna Grace SKINNER, died December 24, 1894, and Avery Warner SKINNER.

JOHN ALBRO PLACE

The history of a county like Oswego would be incomplete without suitable reference to those who have contribute to its intellectual, moral and political development as well as to its material growth. Of this number few have labored longer and more assiduously in all these directions, or wielded a larger or more wholesomely shaping influence upon passing events than has the subject of this sketch, the Hon. John Albro PLACE. Mr. Place is descended from a long line of New England ancestry and possesses in a marked degree the rugged qualities of integrity and industry so strongly characteristic of that well known people. He was born in the town of Foster, Providence county, R.I., February 25, 1822. While yet a mere child his family removed to Manchester, Hartford county, Conn., where he attended the village school until he was ten years of age, 1832, when the family again removed, this time to Oswego county, taking up its residence in the town of Oswego on the Rice farm, near the mouth of Rice or Three-Mile Creek, which was the first place in this locality to be settled after the Revolution. After a residence here of about a year, and the two or three following years in the village of Oswego, Mr. Samuel PLACE, the father, having purchased a tract of wild land on what is known as Heald's Hill in the town of Oswego, distant about four miles west of the river, removed thither with his family. This was about 1836. Here, young Place, by this time a sturdy youth of fourteen, attended the district school during those portions of the winter months that he could be spared from the farm work, making the most of such advantages as were thus offered him, till he was sixteen, when he entered the office of the Oswego Weekly Palladium (this was in the spring of 1838), to learn the printing business. Finding, after four years of this kind of employment, that the business offered no immediate encouragement for remaining in it, Mr. Place, then twenty years of age, engaged in teaching in the schools of the, as yet, village of Oswego, and continued successfully to do so for several years. Mr. Place was a student as well as teacher. From early childhood he had shown a marked interest in current events, especially those relating to politics, both in their local and national bearings. Early, too, he had shown decided aptitude for writing, and his spare hours, while teaching, were naturally devoted to the preparation of various articles for such papers of the county as were open to the propagation of his sentiments, with occasional contributions to other papers outside of his immediate locality and supposedly wielding a large influence. In these years of teaching and desultory newspaper writing, Mr. Place was a Democrat of the Silas Wright School, Silas WRIGHT then being the leading U.S. senator from the State of New York and an outspoken and masterful opponent of the further extension of slavery by the South. Mr. Place's earliest formed convictions were opposed to this system of human chattelhood, -- convictions that grew with his growth, and strengthened with his years. It was an interesting period in the history of slavery and its relations to the Democratic party. For several years the slaveholders had had their way and been duly though reluctantly yielded to. A protest, however, against this exhibition of subserviency came with the result of the Democratic national convention of 1844, when Van Buren, also an opponent of the further extension of slavery into the free territory of the country, was defeated and James L. POLK nominated and elected to conciliate the slaveholders. This divided the Democratic party of the country into two factions, one of which, in 1848, nominated Lewis CASS for the presidency; the other, at a convention held in Buffalo, nominating Martin VAN BUREN on a "no more slave territory" platform. The Whig candidate, General Taylor, was almost necessarily elected. The Democratic party of Oswego county also naturally divided on the issue thus created. The Oswego Weekly Palladium, then published by the late Beman BROCKWAY, afterward of the Watertown Times, took strong ground in support of Mr. Van Buren. The Fulton Patriot, established in 1846 by Merrick C. HOUGH, had taken equally strong ground for the election of Cass, the pro-slavery extension candidate. Mr. Place was still teaching in Oswego. It occurring to him that the Patriot could, perhaps, be purchased, without consulting anyone, he quietly went to Fulton, made Mr. Hough an offer for his paper and returned with a bill of sale of it in his pocket. In its very next issue the Fulton Patriot flung to the breeze the banner of Martin VAN BUREN, with the motto, "Free Speech, Free Soil and Free Men!" inscribed upon it. The files of that paper testify with what earnestness and ability Mr. Place contributed to the defeat of the pro-slavery extension candidate, Lewis CASS. A union was patched up subsequently between the two sections of the Democratic party, but the Patriot, notwithstanding, continued loyal, under Mr. Place's control, to those principles and measures of freedom which, a few years later, were so successfully incorporated into the doctrines

of the Republican party and in whose support that party has achieved its most signal triumphs. Mr. Place remained in sole control of the Patriot for six years, when he sold it to accept the office of school commissioner of the first district of Oswego county, which he ably filled for several years, but he continued to write the editorials of the Patriot so long as his successor retained connection with it. In February, 1864, the Oswego Daily Commercial Advertiser, with a weekly edition, was established, and Mr. Place became its editor-in-chief. In February, 1873, the Commercial Advertiser and the Oswego Press were consolidated, the new publication being called the Oswego Times and Mr. Place being continued as its editor. This position he has held substantially till quite recently, when he voluntarily resigned the charge of its columns to Mr. John B. ALEXANDER, the two having been associated together in the management of the paper for a number of years past. Mr. Place, however, holds his experience and ready pen – an invaluable aid – at all times at the service of his successors. And here we may say that whatever of respect and influence the Oswego Times, through its daily and semi-weekly editions, has won in the community and with the press of the State is cheerfully and in the largest measure accorded to the able and conscientious labors and wise guidance of Mr. Place. Mr. Place, from the organization of the Republican party, has neither wavered in his fidelity to its principles nor remitted his exertions to promote its success. He was a member of the convention in 1856 at which the party in Oswego county was organized and was selected to call this convention to order. This he did, and took an active part in all of its deliberations. From that time forward Mr. Place has shown a most earnest interest in the success of the organization, receiving, meantime, many marks of the trust imposed in him by the Republican party. He has frequently represented it in county, district and State conventions, besides being a member of the State committee and serving in that relation on some of the most important sub-committees. In 1868 he was member of assembly from the first district of Oswego county, which included the city of Oswego, serving the interests of his constituents with rare fidelity and conceded ability. In 1873 he was appointed postmaster of the city of Oswego by President Grant. During this term, under much discouragement, he succeeded in securing the free delivery system, Oswego then being the smallest city in the State to receive the benefits of a system now so general and everywhere so popular. He also introduced various other improvements into the local service of essential benefit to the business men of the city. Mr. Place's services on the State committee secured the friendship of many of the most prominent Republicans of the State. Thus it resulted that when Alonzo B. CORNELL became governor in 1880 Mr. Place was tendered the responsible position of auditor of the canal department which he filled for a term of three years. The appointment carried with it that of commissioner for the construction of the new capitol building. His associates on the commission were Lieutenant-Governor George G. HOSKINS and Attorney-General Hamilton WARD. Mr. Place was elected treasurer, filling the position for the term to the entire satisfaction of the commission and the public. He is remembered to this day as one of the most faithful and painstaking officials ever appointed to a capitol commissionership. One and a quarter million dollars were annually expended during the life of this commission, and so carefully was every feature of the business attended to that neither complaint of the quality of the work nor hint of scandal of any kind has ever followed. Mr. Place's appointment by President Harrison in April, 1890, as postmaster once again of the city of Oswego marks his last official service. His retirement from it within the year past by reason of the expiration of his term was accompanied by so many expressions of appreciative regard that he is justified in feeling that his administration of the office this time was no less popular and satisfactory to its patrons than was the case on the former occasion under President Grant. Relieved practically from the arduous labors of the editorial chair and gifted with an unusually vigorous constitution, there is foundation for the warm wishes of his numerous relatives and friends that many more years of enjoyment and usefulness are yet to be the portion of one whose whole life so far has been a singularly busy one and filled with interesting incidents beyond the experiences of lives in general.

MAURICE LAUCLIN WRIGHT

Born November 27, 1845, in Scriba, Oswego county. Came from New England ancestry. Received an academic education at Mexico Academy and Falley Seminary. Enlisted in the navy in the summer of 1864; was appointed yeoman of the U.S. Steamer Valley city of the North Atlantic squadron under Admiral Porter, and served until July, 1865; was under fire in several engagements. After the war he taught school. In 1867 began the study of law in the office of Hon. John C. CHURCHILL at Oswego. In 1868 entered the Columbian College Law School at Washington, D.C., and graduated in the class of 1870. In the following year formed a law partnership with the Hon. T. W. SKINNER at Mexico.

In 1883 was elected county judge and in 1889 was re-elected. In 1890 was appointed by the governor with the confirmation of the Senate, a member of the Constitutional Commission to revise the judiciary article of the Constitution. In 1891 resigned the county judgeship, and in the same year was elected justice of the Supreme Court. In 1893 removed to Oswego. In 1869 was married to Miss Mary Grace SKINNER, daughter of Hon. Avery SKINNER, late of Union Square, N.Y. Has one child, Avery Skinner WRIGHT. Always been a Republican in politics.

CHARLES N. BULGER

Was born in school district No. 16, of the town of Volney, Oswego county, N.Y., on the 19th day of August, 1851. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick BULGER, notice of whose lives is given in a sketch of Dr. W. J. BULGER herein. Charles N. BULGER was fortunate in his opportunities to obtain a liberal education, studying first in the district schools of his native town and later in that at Gilbert's Mills, in the town of Schroepel. He then entered Falley Seminary, in Fulton, which was at that time an educational institution of considerable note, where he remained until 1870. It was his determination to adopt the law as a profession, but previous to beginning his legal studies he taught school one year in the town of Granby, Oswego county, at the close of which he entered the law office of Stephens & Pardee, in Fulton, where he continued eight months.

At this time he was enabled, through his own efforts and those of his sympathetic parents, to gratify his early ambition to obtain a classical education. For this purpose he entered St. John's College, Fordham, New York city, and after a year of preparatory study, passed through the classical course of four years and graduated with credit in June, 1875. He then settled in Oswego city and resumed the study of law in the office of Hon. Albertus PERRY, at that time one of the foremost lawyers of this part of the State. His offices in the Grant block were the same now in use by Mr. Bulger. An ardent student and an omnivorous reader, Mr. Bulger was admitted to the bar in June, 1879, immediately began practice and has continued since, meeting with a large measure of success.

A Democrat in politics and possessing the qualifications necessary to success in the political field, Mr. Bulger soon became prominently identified with his party. He was early chosen a delegate to the county conventions, where he was able to practically advance the interests of his party and his friends. His first nomination to public office was to the school commissionership of the first district, which followed closely upon his return from college. In March, 1882, he was appointed attorney for the city of Oswego, and in the fall of the same year, while still incumbent of the office of city attorney, he was nominated for the office of recorder of the city and elected for the term of four years. He resigned the first named office, but the Common Council declined to accept his resignation until the close of the year. His administration of the office of recorder was eminently satisfactory to the community, as indicated by the fact of his re-election in 1886, followed by two subsequent re-elections in



1890, and 1894, leaving him still in the office after thirteen years of service. In 1892 he was chosen a delegate to the National Democratic convention in Chicago.

To the foregoing brief sketch it is proper to add that as a lawyer Mr. Bulger is recognized among the leaders of the Oswego county bar. By continued study and reading he has kept abreast of the times in legal knowledge, while the interests of his clients are always efficiently protected by careful preparation of their cases and their able presentation before court and jury. In the office of Recorder, which he has held so long, he has shown the possession of excellent judicial qualifications and capacity for discrimination in dealing with offenders against the law. But the prime source of Mr. Bulger's efficiency at the bar and of his strength and popularity in the political arena must be sought in another direction – in his power as an orator. He is a natural as well as an educated speaker. His public addresses are logical, argumentative, convincing, and marked by courage, beauty of thought and brilliancy of diction. With a broad knowledge of general affairs, a retentive memory and a large share of that personal magnetism which enables one man to sway and influence thousands, he is often found upon the platform, where he never fails to distinguish himself and where he is always listened to with satisfaction.

Mr. Bulger was married on June 5, 1883, to Caroline Adelaide DUNN, daughter of John DUNN, a former large mill operator and merchant of Oswego.

DON A. KING

The ancestry of the subject of this sketch is directly traceable back to the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when John KING, father of the original settler in this country, was secretary for Ireland to that famous ruler of England. A son of John, named Edward, was a classmate of John MILTON, was drowned later in the Irish Sea, and is commemorated by Milton in the poem of Lycidas. John, the ancestor of the family in this country, came from England and settled in Northampton, Mass., in 1645. He was from Northamptonshire, England.

Don A. KING, son of Henry and Betsey (ALLEN) KING, was born in Ellisburgh, Jefferson county, on March 27, 1820. His mother was a daughter of Joseph ALLEN, esq., the first settler at Bear Creek (now Pierrepont Manor). His father, Henry KING, came from Southampton, Mass., in 1806. Don A. KING graduated with honor from Union College in 1844, in the same class with Professor JOY, of Columbia College, Gov. A. H. RICE, William H. H. MOORE, James C. DUANE, U.S.A., and Generals FREDERICK and Howard TOWNSEND, of Albany. After graduating he began the study of law with a Mr. Blake, at Cold Springs, on the Hudson River, opposite West Point, and finished with Hon. A. Z. MC CARTY, of Pulaski, in 1847. On September 22, of that year, he was admitted to the bar at Poughkeepsie, N.Y. In 1848 he formed a copartnership with Mr. MC CARTY, which continued until 1855, in which year he was appointed a director of Pulaski Bank, an office which he filled until the dissolution of the institution. Upon the organization of R. L. Ingersoll & Co.'s Bank, he became a partner and acted as attorney for the institution until 1876.

Mr. King is a man of large intellectual capacity, and of broad and progressive impulses, which have impeded him to take a deep interest in educational matters and public affairs generally. In the founding of the Pulaski Academy he was one of the first energetic actors, was one of the incorporators of the institution, and has contributed largely towards its prosperity.

In 1848 Mr. King married Mary, daughter of Thomas C. BAKER of Pulaski, and they have four children, viz; Ella M., widow of the late Rev. J. H. WRIGHT; Katharine D., wife of J. L. HUTCHENS; Charles B., and Sarah F., now preceptress of Pulaski Academy. Charles B. is a graduate of Union College, is an attorney, and now resides in Peoria, Ill.

DANFORTH E. AINSWORTH

Mr. Ainsworth was born in Clayton, Jefferson county, N.Y., November 29, 1848, was educated at Pulaski Academy and Falley Seminary, and is an attorney and counselor-at-law, having been admitted to the bar in 1873. In 1874 he married the daughter of Nelson B. PORTER, of Pulaski, N.Y. He was a trustee of the village of Sandy Creek in 1881, 1882 and 1883, and has been a member of the Board of Education of that village.

Mr. Ainsworth is a Republican in politics and always has been, but prior to 1885, when he was first elected to the Assembly, had never been a candidate for public office. He served in the Assembly in 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1893, 1894 and 1895, and during his service was regarded as one of the most ready and forceful debaters in the House. His ability as a public speaker has rendered his services to the State very valuable, and during campaigns he had done effective work for the party throughout the State.

In 1894 Mr. Ainsworth was chairman of the leading Assembly committee, that on Ways and Means, and by virtue of that position was the Republican leader in the Assembly and the manager of nearly all of its political interests. He paid very close attention to his legislative duties, and in 1894 introduced upwards of ninety bills, nearly all of which became laws, and during that year was exceedingly economical as chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. He introduced a supply bill which appropriated only \$1,497,034, a reduction of \$1,299,550 in comparison with the year before. In 1895 he was once more the Republican leader, being chairman of the Committee upon Ways and Means, and a member also on the Committee upon Rules and Codes.

Mr. Ainsworth is at present deputy superintendent of Public Instruction, having been appointed to that position on June 1, 1895.

H. C. DEVENDORF

Was born in Verona, Oneida county, in June, 1828, and is a son of Peter DEVENDORF, a native of Herkimer county, one of thirteen children of Rudolph and Barbara (THUMB) DEVENDORF, natives of Mohawk Valley. Rudolph officiated as judge, assemblyman, county clerk, and held other offices in Herkimer county. Peter DEVENDORF came to Hastings in 1832, and was elected justice of the peace the following year, which office he held twenty years. His wife was Rhoda A. SHERMAN, a native of Oneida county. They had five children: Henry C., Rudolph H., Mary, Mrs. Rhoda A. BREED, of Central Square, Mrs. Catherine BEEBY, of Central Square.

At the age of sixteen years he began work as clerk in Oswego, N.Y., and later was similarly employed in various places until he was twenty-four years of age, when, in 1853, he purchased of his uncle a general store in Hastings, which he conducted until 1856. He then removed to Central Square, where he engaged in the same business, and where he has since been interested. From 1871 to 1883 he resided in Georgia, where for ten years he served as postmaster of Doctortown post-office. He then returned to Central Square, where he owns and conducts the largest dry goods and grocery store in town. In 1858 he was chosen captain of a company of New York State National Guards, and later was elected lieutenant-colonel. The country's call for aid in her time of trouble found a ready response from Major Devendorf, and he raised a full company of volunteers which went from Oswego as Company D., in the 110th Regiment, he being chosen captain. The company served with distinction until the close of the war, and in 1864 Mr. Devendorf was promoted major. During the last eighteen months of his term of service he was located at Fort Jefferson, Dry Tortugas, where he commanded the post when the Lincoln conspirators arrived; Colonel Hamilton was in command in Key West. Major Devendorf's wife, and their adopted daughter, Mrs. Emma Dygert LOW, were with him during his service in that port.



In 1853 Major Devendorf was married to Armonella, daughter of Lorenzo D. MARSHALL, of Mohawk, N.Y., and granddaughter of John MARSHALL of Warren, N.Y., who enlisted in Colchester, Conn., as a soldier of the Revolution, and who was supposed to be the last survivor who witnessed the surrender of Cornwallis, a fact creditable to his youth at the time, and his great age at the time of his death. His father was drafted, but was the head of a large family, and his eldest son was accepted in his place, at the age of sixteen years, and was ninety-nine years old at the time of his death. Major Devendorf is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and of Waterbury Post, G.A.R., of which he was the first commander.

CHARLES TOLLNER

This enterprising citizen of Pulaski is a native of Westphalia, Prussia, where he came of good ancestry and inherited their best qualities. He was born on January 1, 1824. After attending school in his boyhood he was brought up in the business of his grandfather, but from sixteen to twenty-one years of age served an apprenticeship in a large exporting house dealing in general hardware and tools. At the age of twenty-three, just before the German revolutionary outbreak, he skipped military duty and came to America, his wife following in another vessel. On his arrival in New York he found it very hard to obtain work, but finally succeeded in getting a place as salesman in a small hardware store at the rate of five dollars per week. After one year's stay he engaged in the wholesale business of W. N. Seymour & Co., in Chatham Square, and in May, 1851, opened a hardware store in his own name, and was very successful; but the losses during the war time were very heavy, and in 1864 he sold out his store and engaged with a man, C. C. F. OTTO, of Pulaski, N.Y., in the manufacture of floor tiles. This venture was unprofitable and Mr. Tollner soon found himself without means. But his energy and faith in himself had not weakened and he turned his attention for a time to the making of smokers' pipes of a carbon composition. They were a good article and Mr. Tollner sold them himself from place to place. He soon began placing these pipes in pairs in fancy wooden boxes which he made himself, and the work upon them was so fine and their appearance so attractive that orders began to come to him unsolicited and he soon found himself fully occupied. Not only did the pipes sell, but the boxes began to be called for to be used in manufacturers of other goods. The pipe business was abandoned and he gave his entire attention to making boxes and cabinets of various kinds; the demand rapidly increased, and from that beginning has been developed one of the largest industries in Northern New York, employing 350 persons, using several million feet of fine lumber annually, and occupying buildings erected for the purpose, which, with dry-houses and lumber yard, cover twelve acres of ground. Most of the fine cabinets for holding thread, ribbons, etc., seen in dry goods stores throughout the country come from this establishment.

Outside of his own business Mr. Tollner is a public spirited citizen. When the natural gas excitement found its way to Pulaski and vicinity, he obtained the franchise and laid pipes through the village streets for the expected gas, which had not at that time been discovered, for his use; he simply pinned his faith to the existence of the article, and was determined that the village should have it when it arrived. When the Pulaski Gas and Oil Company was formed he bought up its stock and is now president of the company and substantially its owner. Gas is furnished to consumers at twenty-five cents per thousand feet. He also established the local electric light plant, which has been of great benefit to the place and which he recently sold to one of his townsmen. These brief statements indicate to some extent the kind of man Mr. Tollner is, in a business way. Energy, persistence, faith in himself are his chief characteristics; he is looked to in all public improvements to take the lead and any measure that meets his approval finds him enthusiastic in its support. Mr. Tollner is a Republican in politics, but he is too busy a man to give very much attention to that field of activity. He has held the offices of president of the Board of Education and president of the village, and could have had further advancement if he would have accepted it. Social and courteous to all, generous with his means, ever ready to exert his influence for the good of the town or for an individual, Mr. Tollner has gained a wide circle of sincere friends and admirers. His family consists of his wife, three sons, Charles, Eugene, and Hugo, all living in Brooklyn and well-to-do, and one daughter, Bertha, wife of Chas. F. HOWLETT, living at Pulaski.

MOSES A. DU MASS

Moses A. DU MASS was born in Sterling, Cayuga county, N.Y., May 28, 1836, and came to the town of Hannibal, Oswego county, in April, 1842. He received a limited education in the district school, working on the farm and doing carpenter work with his father during the summer season, lumbering the last few winters before he was twenty-one years of age. He then went to Hillsdale, Mich., and for three years labored on a farm and at his trade.

Mr. Du Mass then returned to Hannibal, and was engaged in carpentering until August 8, 1861, when he enlisted in Company C, 44th Regiment New York Volunteers, which was an independent infantry regiment with headquarters at Albany. This regiment was called the "Ellsworth Avengers," and was organized to avenge the assassination of Colonel ELLSWORTH at Alexandria, Va. The name of the regiment was afterwards changed to Ellsworth's People Regiment and was mostly officered by men who had served in the Ellsworth Zouaves, and the regiment thereby came to be known as the Zouaves. The plan of the organization of the regiment was one unmarried man between the ages of eighteen and thirty from each town in the State, and was to be of good moral character and not less than five feet eight inches in height. In October, 1861, the regiment was mustered into the United States service, and left for the seat of war, and spent the winter of 1861-62 near Hall's Hill.



In the spring of 1862 the regiment was removed to Old Point Comfort, and afterward took part in the siege of Yorktown; on the evacuation of that place the 44th occupied it for a few weeks. During the siege of Yorktown Mr. Du Mass was detached to do carpenter work, and was engaged in building signal towers. The regiment was then ordered to become part of the advance army, and went to Hanover Court House, where in an engagement with the Confederates on May 27, 1862, Mr. Du Mass was wounded in his right leg just above the knee, the ball passing through the limb. He saw that the flow of blood was such that he would soon die, and having no bandages, he thrust his thumb into the wound, thereby stopping the bleeding, and after a few hours it was hurriedly bandaged. The following day, which was his twenty-sixth birthday, he returned to camp, some sixteen miles in an ambulance, being in a very weak condition. A comrade lay by his side, who was so injured that the shaking of the ambulance caused him much pain, and Mr. Du Mass grasped his arm and steadied him for the whole distance.

During the following week, Mr. Du Mass was returned to Yorktown, and the blood having stagnated below the knee, on account of the wound not being properly dressed (as the Union forces were driven back), an abscess formed, which was lanced and with the discharge of pus the flesh sloughed off until the bones were nearly bare. After consultation the medical director told Mr. Du Mass that he could not live over three days, and asked what messages he wanted sent home. Mr. Du Mass asked the director if there was any hopes of life if the limb were amputated, and the reply was, that owing to the great loss of blood, there was only one chance in a thousand of surviving the operation. Mr. Du Mass's answer was that he would rather die at once, and wished to have the leg amputated, and the operation was performed. He is unable to tell the exact date, being weak and delirious at the time, but it was about the middle of June. He was cared for like a babe by the nurses, for a number of weeks, and on July 4, 1862, the Yorktown Hospital was evacuated, the Confederates having driven the Union forces back, and he was placed on an ocean steamer and taken to Portsmouth Grove, R.I., where he was discharged October 16, and returned home, and after a while was able to walk with the aid of crutches.

A marked characteristic of the Du Mass family is a progressive spirit and an indomitable courage to carry forth reforms that will better humanity. So, early in the Abolition movement, his father became a member of that party, and his home was the resting place for runaway slaves.

Mr. Du Mass was early taught to be self-reliant, and seeing the evils of intemperance, has given his energies to educating public sentiment on the temperance question; has allied himself with all temperance movements whenever possible; having his name connected with all temperance societies, and aiding the W. C. T. U. movement; has been an active member of the I.O.G.T. for years, is now in good standing in the subordinate, county, and grand lodges; will soon join the International Supreme Lodge, to which he and the most of his family are eligible; believing that political education, and final success of any principle is the ballot in a republic, and neither of the great political parties daring to combat the evil, he allied himself with the Prohibition party, and has for the last eighteen years voted that ticket, and for ten years has been a prominent worker in their ranks, being a member of the County Committee and has been its secretary and treasurer for most of the time besides holding the position of chairman. He was for two years town collector.

Although Mr. Du Mass is physically disabled and almost sixty years of age, he is ambitious and actively engaged in business, working from early morn till late at night. For the last few years he has carried on a small dairy, using a "Cooley Creamer," making and marketing his own butter.

His grandfather, Peter DU MASS, came from France to this country with La Fayette, and was a soldier during the Revolutionary war. He afterwards settled in the town of Sterling, and was one of its earliest settlers. His youngest son, Jasper, was the father of our subject.

Mr. Du Mass married, March 19, 1865, Mary E. TALLMAN, who was born in the town of Oswego, May 1, 1837, a superior humanitarian. They have three children: Milicent I., born April 22, 1867; Olive R., born April 2, 1870; and Hattie E., born August 4, 1874; also an adopted son, Earl N., born November 1, 1886. Mr. Du Mass believes and thus acts, that Christ's kingdom will be set up, so his work is given to that end, and has always been a prominent Sunday school worker, as opportunity was given; seeing that rural districts are neglected, he has given the most of his attention to that work, having been superintendent in a number of school districts; he was converted and baptized in the Baptist church on his eighteenth birthday and became a prominent church member; his Christian zeal has not abated. An independent thinker, believing the church wrong on communion, he, in August, 1887, joined the Free Will Baptist church at Oswego Falls. Denominational lines are weak with him; members of the true church, be they of any name, are his brothers and sisters. Believing God, he daily goes forth relying on his providential dealing. In his regiment he helped to organize and maintain a Christian association of seventy members; he was its secretary and sexton, seeing that the grounds were prepared for religious services, when it was needed having a bright fire in the center, around which they gathered in song and prayer; in camp having a tent arranged with split logs for seats. At Yorktown he saw the only church there was refitted for worship, and the Confederate General John MAGRUDER's alarm bell was placed on the top of the building to ring for service where it remained for a number of years.

LOOMIS FAMILY

"Faithful and freeborn Englishmen and good Christians, constrained to forsake their dearest home, their friends and kindred; whom nothing but the wide ocean and the savage deserts of America could hide and shelter from the fury of the bishops."
John MILTON

Such the epitaph due the forerunners of the Loomis family in America, illustrated in each succeeding generation,

but in no one member more clearly defined than in Alanson (1806-1874) or carrying more fragrant strength than in Abial Theodore (18?1-1878)

The first of the family in this country was Joseph LOOMIS, a Puritan, who, born in 1590, was a woolen draper of Braintree, Essex, England, and through religious persecutions during the reign of Charles I left his native land, with wife and eight children (five boys), took passage upon the ship "Susan and Ellen" and was landed at Boston on July 17, 1638. The close of that year found the family at Windsor, Conn. The passing years disclosed its members doing their full share of duty in the New World, God-fearing, patriotic, fervent; helpful in church and all good works; participating in the French and Indian wars (Wait LOOMIS was in the Ohio campaign under General HARMAR); in the Revolution (in which Icabod and Daniel served in Capt. John HILL's company under Gen'l Israel PUTNAM; and in which at least two members gave up their lives - Elijah and Remembrance, both in Captain BEEBE's company of Colonel BRADLEY's regiment, were captured at Fort Washington and died upon the prison ship); striking stalwart blows in the war of 1812, and again in the Great Rebellion (in which Loyd A. lost his life, and Alanson R. and James H. served until its close).

Before 1770 several scions of the family settled in Litchfield county and became a recognized force in church and town. In 1797 Asher LOOMIS was a tanner at Winsted in that county. Captain Abial LOOMIS followed the same business and shortly after returning from the war of 1812-14 he bought the Dudley tannery at Winsted and removed to the house adjoining, wherein he died in 1818 leaving his widow with five young children, Alanson aged thirteen, the eldest. The story of the struggles and trials of this young lad and his brothers, and the success which they earned, would be one from which the young men of to-day might well take lessons. Alanson LOOMIS continued in business in the town of his birth until 1847, and won for himself not alone a competence but name unsullied, a character untarnished, a reputation for generous kindness and Christian sympathy which is still remembered and cherished with tender love though he has not been known as a citizen of that community for nearly half a century. When he removed to Fulton, Oswego county, N.Y., in 1847, he embarked in the tannery business with his brother Lewis E. and Mr. George SALMON. He continued in it either alone or in partnership until near the close of the war when he retired from business, selling out to Mr. George FALLEY. As was written of him "In every good work he was a foremost doer. In anti-slavery times, from first to last he was the consistent friend of the down-trodden and oppressed." (Frederick DOUGLASS and Gerrit SMITH were his friends). "His hand, and not an empty hand, and always outstretched to aid and assist the needy. In the temperance reform he was prompt and active. Indeed, there was no good work but received his countenance and no deserving enterprise but he extended to it substantial help. Fulton never knew a worthier citizen nor one who has done more for its prosperity." He died at Mattoon, Ill., July 22, 1874, and his remains were brought back to Fulton for interment, being met by a committee of citizens. At a public meeting held on the 24th the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we have learned with unfeigned sorrow and regret of the recent sudden demise of Alanson LOOMIS, for many years and until quite recently, a resident of our village.

Resolved, That it is due to the sterling qualities of the deceased, his public spirit, his unostentatious generosity and his high moral worth, that we, his old neighbors and friends, should pay this last tribute of respect and affection, and hold up his example to the rising generation.

Resolved, That in the decease of Alanson LOOMIS, the village of Fulton mourns one of her oldest and most respected citizens, the poor an ever generous friend, the cause of temperance, morality and Christianity an ardent supporter, and his family an ever kind and indulgent parent.

Resolved, That in token of our respect and affection for the deceased we attend his funeral in a body.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the family and that the village papers be requested to publish. Signed, M. L. LEE, George M. CASE, W. G. GAGE, A. HANNA, H. C. HOWE.

Mr. Loomis never accepted public office; he did, however, serve as school trustee and was mainly instrumental in the erection of the present academy during his term. He was twice married but survived both companions. His first wife, Polly RICHARDS (1803-1862) of Winsted, Conn., left five children, Calista M. (married Marshall LEWIS and bore several children of whom but one, Calista M. now survives); Abial Theodore; Alanson R. (married Antoinette FRANCISCO of Cleveland, O., an had two children, Edward J. and Alanson); Julia Coe (married her cousin William A. BROWN and died without living issue); and James Holly. By his second wife, Annette VORIS (1832-1872) of Akron, Ohio, he had one child, Myra Belle (now Mrs. Edward THOMAS OF south Evanston, Ill.)

Abial Theodore LOOMIS of the eighth generation in the line of Joseph LOOMIS, was born at Winsted, Conn., December 30, 1831, and there resided until 1847, when he came to Fulton with his father. In boyhood he was an active wide-awake lad and in early manhood a bright and promising scholar. Having completed his studies at Falley Seminary he entered Rensselaer Institute at Troy and began his preparatory course for college, Gen. Albert L. LEE being his room-mate. While there he had the misfortune to shoot away a portion of a finger, which became a painful sore, and combined with overstudy, threw him into a fever which obliged him to discontinue his college course, and which indeed seems to have been the beginning of his long years of sickness and suffering. Upon recovery from his sickness he in company with Mr. Marshall LEWIS opened a leather store at Geneva, N.Y., and was in trade there several years when he sold out and came to Fulton again and became partner with his father in the tannery. In this he retained connection until 1864. For quite a number of years he was interested in various business ventures including a shoe store, a grocery store, bedstead and table factory, with brickyards at Fulton and Norwich, N. Y., but through the great strain of his physical ailments, which frequently confined him to his bed for months at a time, he was unable to give enough personal attention to their conduct, with the result that heavy losses ensued. In search of health, nearly always accompanied by his devoted wife, he traveled much and visited many parts of this country and England, but never secured any permanent relief from the fell disease which caused his death October 16, 1878.

Mr. Loomis was an ardent admirer of Speculative Masonry and gave much time to the study of its laws and rituals. Oswego county has produced very few men who were better workers in the different grades. He belonged to Hiram Lodge No. 144, F. & A. M., and served as wor. master. He was high priest of Fulton Chapter No. 167, R.A.M.; T. I. master of Fulton Council of R. & S. M. during its career; and also performed more or less work as a Knight Templar attached to Central City Commandery K. T. of Syracuse.

Of Puritan descent he naturally was attached to the Presbyterian church and associations, although anything good and true had ever his warmest co-operation and support. He was an earnest Christian gentleman and of him it may be and oft has been said, "the world was better by his having lived in it."

When twenty-three years old he was married to Valonia H. ROSEBROOK of Oswego county, by whom he had two children, C. Mella (now Mrs. Henry BALDREY and the mother of Lona P., A. A. Loomis and Haynsworth), and H. May (now Mrs. E. U. HOWLAND and the mother of Mella I.)

Source: Landmarks of Oswego County New York, edited by John C. Churchill, L.L.D., assisted by H. Perry Smith & W. Stanley Child, Syracuse, N.Y., D. Mason & Company Publishers, 1895.

"The Fine Print"

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