

Auburn as it appeared in the thirties

Lafayette's last view of the lake country was at Skaneateles, where every home bespoke its hospitality with lighted candles peeping from every window.

The counties of the Finger Lakes Region were organized in the following order: Ontario, 1789; Tioga, 1791; Onondaga, 1794; Steuben, 1796; Cayuga, 1799; Seneca, 1804; Tompkins, 1817; Yates, 1823; Chemung, 1836; Schuyler, 1854.

The forces at work in the settlement period largely determined the character of the frontier villages and their enterprise in the period to come. Those who erected the grist mills and saw mills, the store keepers,

the lumbermen and road builders and the owners of cloth mills were men whose life and prosperity depended upon their own initiative, courage and resourcefulness.

In this settlement period, the lake country was almost self supporting. Articles obtained from the outer world were few. Families subsisted largely upon the things they grew and their own ingenuity produced. Necessity made both men and women "jacks of all trades." And it nurtured motive forces in those early settlers that made communities strong and ready for the new and broader life.





Half Century of Development



LIKE the hard and glorious period of settlement, the half century of development in the Finger Lakes Region from 1829 to 1879 proved momentous in the advance of progress. The settlers who had blazed trails, harnessed streams, planned towns merely paved the way for other pioneers, whose genius and fortitude have contributed a thousand devices for comfort, convenience and easier living. In this period the telegraph and then the tele-

phone came to the lake country, but the outstanding achievement was the spanning of hill and valley by bands of steel rails.

The stage coach and the Erie Canal had been magnificent expressions of an indomitable courage, but it was the railroads, threading between the lakes, which gave first evidence that time and distance had come under the control of man.

On April 1834, the first railroad in the lake country was opened. The Cayuga and Susquehanna Railroad, second road chartered in this state, ran its first train between Ithaca and Owego. The road had been chartered still earlier, in 1828, with a capital stock of \$150,000. In 1837 the road failed and was sold for \$4,500. Today substantially this same old line chartered to bring salt, lumber and plaster to the Susquehanna and its barge fleet, is known as the Cayuga division of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western.

The second railroad into the lake region—the Auburn & Syracuse—was incorporated May 1, 1834, a month after the opening of the Ithaca-Owego road. Its authorized capital was \$400,000 and it was to be a continuation of the first road in the state, that from Albany to Schenectady. Settlers scoffed at the idea

that a railroad could cross the hills about Auburn. Subscriptions had to be forced, the public fearing the competition of packet boats on the Erie. Constant effort among residents between Auburn and Syracuse finally resulted in all the stock being subscribed, but \$350,000 of the \$400,000 was taken by Auburnians. The company organized in 1835 and by 1838 the road was practically completed. The first excursion train upon it made the trip of twenty-three miles, January 8, 1838, the train being drawn on wooden rails by horses of Col. John M. Sherwood, stage coach magnate who lived in Skaneateles. On June 4, 1839 a second excursion went to Auburn to celebrate completion of the entire distance, but this was drawn by an engine.

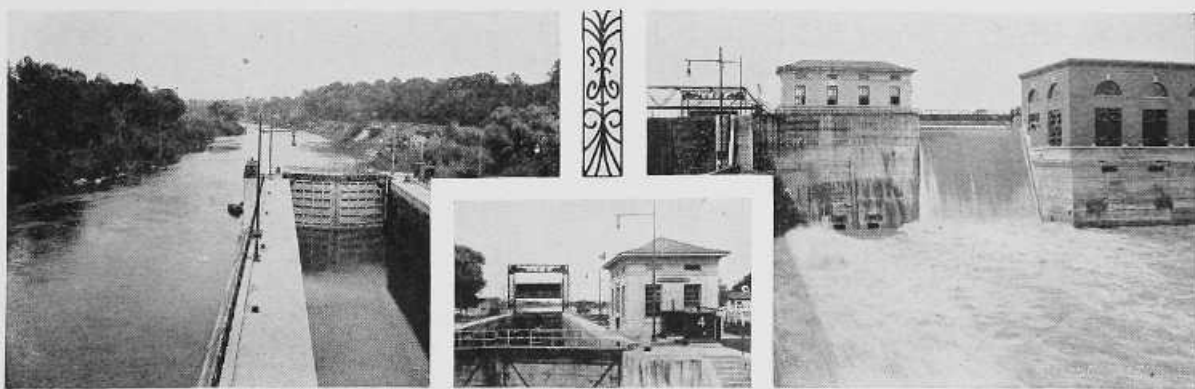
In 1836 the Auburn & Rochester Railroad Company was organized to complete the line from Albany to Rochester. Ground was broken in 1838 and the first train left Rochester for Canandaigua on Thursday, September 10, 1840, but owing to some hinderances by an unfinished track it did not arrive there until Sunday, and started for the return trip on Monday.

On September 22 the first time-table was issued. These were for freight and passengers, three trains a day. The first conductor on the road was William Failling and the first baggageman Herman G. Miller. The fare from Rochester to Canandaigua was nine shillings, which was afterward reduced to five and then advanced to six.

It was then proposed to complete the road to Geneva by May 15, 1841. The work was done rapidly, and the road was continued to Seneca Falls. The first passenger train east was an excursion train which ran to Seneca Falls, July 4, 1841.

The bridge over Cayuga Lake was completed in September of the same year, and during November the road was completed to Auburn.

Two tracks were built between Geneva and Canandaigua, but one was sufficient for the business and the other was taken up. The track consisted of scantling about four inches square and laid on top of the



Barge Canal Lock near Cayuga; Waterloo's prize canal lock; lock at Seneca Falls.

ties, upon which were placed strips of half-inch thick, two-inch wide, iron, spiked. Often the strips would come loose by the wheels running over them, and they would run through the bottom of the cars, and sometimes persons were killed by being run through by them.

The first train that left Geneva consisted of two coaches and an engine. Each coach would hold 15 or 16 people. It was a free train, to test the road. The train returned the same day, running about 10 miles an hour and stopping often. Wood was used in the engine.

Many people along the line of the road had a great antipathy against the cars. A colored woman, Old Annie Lee, as she was called, had such hatred toward the cars that when the first train came through she armed herself with an axe and standing in the center of the track defied them to come further or she would cut the engine to pieces. Many times afterwards she greased the tracks, making it impossible for the cars to proceed until the tracks were cleaned.

In 1853 the direct road from Syracuse to Rochester was completed with a single track.

Both the Auburn & Syracuse and the Auburn & Rochester now form the Auburn branch of the New York Central.

The Erie was extended to Elmira in 1849 and to Corning the following year.

The Northern Central Railroad, now part of the Pennsylvania system and known as the Elmira Division, originated as the Canandaigua and Corning Railroad. On March 12, 1845, publication was made of application for incorporation. The bill passed May 11, 1845. The capital was to be \$1,600,000. Time was extended April 16, 1847 and again March 24, 1849. An adjourned meeting was held at the town house at Canandaigua on May 30, 1845. J. M. Wheeler, M. H. Sibley, Jared Wilson, John A. Granger and Oliver Phelps, a committee appointed February 27, submitted a favorable report, and another committee was appointed to procure a survey of the route.



Canoga Spring, Cayuga, discovered in the Nineteenth Century.

Marvin Porter was the engineer employed, and his work was completed in July. The total cost of building and furnishing the road was estimated at \$950,100. It long remained doubtful if the amount required could be raised. Meantime meetings were held and the subject kept in mind.

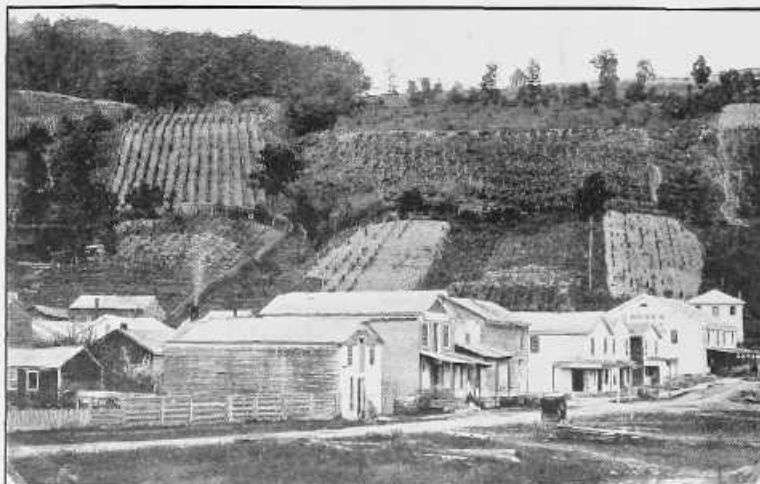
The breaking of the ground towards the commencement of work took place at Penn Yan on July 4, 1850. In 1851 the enterprise was under full headway. On June 25 one thousand men were employed laying rails from Penn Yan to Jefferson, now Watkins Glen, and grading near Canandaigua. The road was opened from Canandaigua to Jefferson in September, 1851, the New York and Erie Railroad furnishing engines, cars, etc., for a specified rate per mile.

The first engine, No. 94, with passenger cars attached, was run over the road, a distance of 46.74 miles, in two hours, on September 15. Marvin Potter was the first superintendent and three trains per day were run each way. A depot building was erected by Judge Phelps at Canandaigua, and this, on December 23, was burned in a large conflagration which destroyed much valuable property. The road connected with the Chemung Railroad at Jefferson, and changed name September, 1852, to Canandaigua and Elmira Railroad.

The directors met at Penn Yan during September to appoint employees and arrange to run the road on their own account. On January 1, 1853, the company began to run their own trains. They had purchased six engines and a sufficient number of cars. The Chemung road was leased and under their control for an indefinite period. Two passenger and two freight trains were run the round trip daily.

The road was sold to parties in Elmira, Penn Yan and Providence, R. I., on April 23, 1857 and possession given May 1. Price was \$35,000, subject to a half million dollars due bondholders. The name was changed to Elmira, Canandaigua and Niagara Falls Railroad.

The total cost of the road, equipments and other expenses, September



Early Hammondsport settlement when the foundation for the great Keuka vineyard development was started.

30, 1858, was \$200,000. Earnings \$17,989.46 Transportation expenses, \$11,947. During the year, 15,852 passengers had been carried and 4,293 tons of freight. The road is now run as a part of the Northern Central Railroad, the terminus being at Canandaigua.

The first Skaneateles Railroad company was incorporated May 16, 1836 with a capital of \$25,000. In 1838 the construction of a wooden railroad between Skaneateles and Skaneateles Junction was started to connect with the Auburn and Syracuse road and on September 30, 1840 the road was opened for passengers, who were transported in a horse car. This crude line was closed August 24, 1850 and gave place to a plank road which was succeeded by a steam road, organized in 1866, and placed in operation a year later. Only five miles long, the railroad is one of the shortest in the country.

The Southern Central was completed from Auburn through Freeville to Owego in 1869, in which year a charter was procured for the Ithaca and Cortland Railroad to meet the Southern Central at Freeville and to pass on to Cortland.

In 1870 a charter was granted for the Ithaca & Athens Railroad to Athens, Pa., to connect with the Lehigh. These three roads later merged with the Lehigh.

The Geneva & Ithaca Railroad opened in 1872 and the same year the Cayuga Lake Railroad from Ithaca to Auburn. These, too, were taken over by the Lehigh.

Other roads which have helped to build the pro-



Genesee Street, Auburn, before the days of the trolley or the telephone.

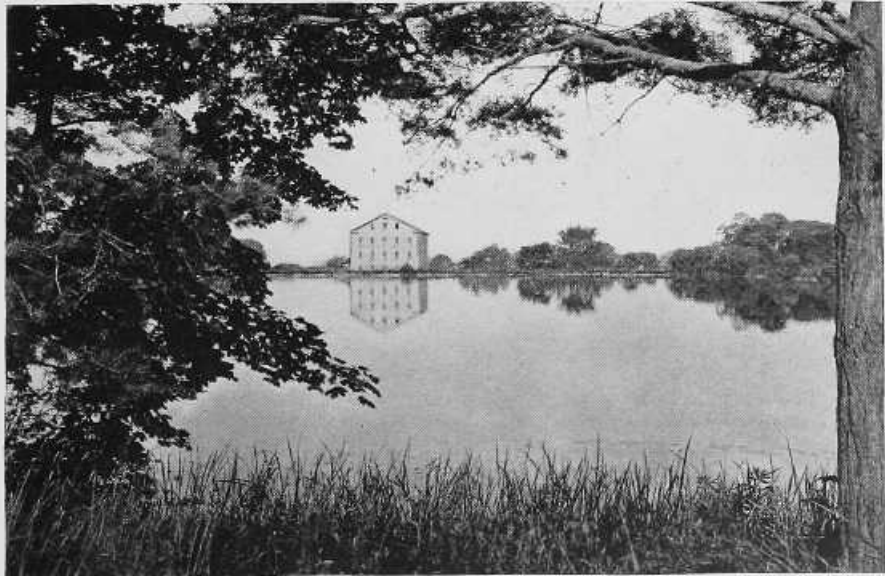
perity of the lake country might be chronicled, but these mentioned give a conception of the railroad expansion and place sufficient emphasis on this phase of the development period. There have been successes and failures, the later being exemplified in the Short Line or Central New York Southern Railroad built in 1909 from Auburn to Ithaca and torn up when in receivership in 1924.

Coming of the railroads brought a new mail service to the frontiers. It was not many years before postage ranged from six and a half to twenty-five cents. Toward the close of the war of 1812 the maximum was increased fifty per cent more, so that a letter from one part of the state to another cost the sender 37½ cents.

The railroad era gave place to the age of wire. Before many settlers had ever ridden on a train, the frontiers began to hear of the strange telegraph of Morse. The first telegraph message was transmitted May 27, 1744 between Washington and Baltimore and soon thereafter it invaded the Finger Lakes country to hurry along the tide of progress. Two years later the first line reached Auburn, enabling the first newspaper in Auburn to start publication.

Extension of lines gave a new impetus to journalism. The first telegraph office in Elmira was opened in 1850 over a drug store and ran to Canandaigua to connect with the New York Central railroad wires.

Next to the inventor of the telegraph, none did



Old four story limestone mill built at Union Springs in 1835 by George Howland at a cost of \$40,000.00.

more to make it practical than two men from the Finger Lakes country. It was Millard Fillmore, born in a forest home not many miles from Owasco Lake, who, as a member of Congress in 1842 procured for Morse a government appropriation for the construction of an experimental line. Morse's idea was to bury wires. The man who suggested stringing them on poles was Ezra Cornell of Ithaca, founder of Cornell University. Mr. Cornell made a fortune out of the idea and hastened the day when coast speaks to coast without delay.

The building of the Chenango Canal was started in 1830 and completed in three years. It extended from Watkins Glen to Elmira and, together with a navigable feeder from Horseheads to Corning, was thirty-nine miles in length and cost \$344,000. It had fifty-three locks and a rise of 516 feet. This opened the southernmost section of the lake country by a water route to the Hudson. Finally the canal was abandoned.

Started simultaneously with the Chenango Canal, the Crooked Lake Canal between Penn Yan and Dresden, a distance of seven miles, was completed in 1833. The canal bed proper is now used by the New York Central railroad as the roadbed. This line was the Fall Brook Railroad before the New York Central acquired control. Where the old canal bed is not used the tracks are laid along the towpath. It is a historic feature of the Finger Lakes Region.

The tracks are laid through several of the original locks of the old canal, one being located near the old Cascade Paper mill, now the site of the extensive chemical plant of the Taylor Chemical Company of Penn Yan and New York City.

There were twenty-eight locks of the lift pattern in the seven miles of the old canal, the canal being fed by the waters of Lake Keuka and terminated in Seneca Lake. The main lock for the letting in or shutting off the water was located at Main Street, Penn Yan, where



Old Arsenal, Moravia, 1800.

the present bridge crosses Main Street, and close by, a few feet to the south, was a second bridge over the Minnesetah River, the outlet of Lake Keuka, which flowed into Seneca Lake.

The Crooked Lake Canal was constructed for shipping over Lake Keuka, the canal entering Seneca Lake where shipping went over waterways to the Erie Canal, thus on to Albany and New York City. The canal was completed at a cost of \$137,000 and gave great impetus to traffic in the region of Lake Keuka, formerly known as Crooked Lake, from the time of its completion to its abandonment in 1869 or 1870, a period of about thirty-seven years.

Laden canal boats from any point on Lake Keuka were towed over the lake by the early steamboats, to the canal junction in Penn Yan, where they were taken in charge by horses or mules over the Crooked Lake Canal, and towed to Dresden, on Seneca Lake, north or south by steamboats, five in number, each doing a large amount of business sixty years ago.

The names of these steamers were The Elmira, S. T. Arnot, P. H. Field, Duncan S. Magee and Canadesega.

At the head of Seneca Lake was the village of Jefferson, now Watkins Glen. There canal boats passed southward through the Chemung canal, which was one of the last lateral canals in this section of the state.

Large quantities of grain, lumber and farm products not naturally perishable within the period of navigation, were conveyed over the Crooked Lake Canal. Merchandise was transported on canal boats on their return trips from Albany and New York, to the villages in Lake Keuka region, thus supplying a large number of merchants with their stocks of goods, all of which was locked through the Crooked Lake Canal, which descended for a distance of approximately



Stone mill, at Auburn, one of the oldest structures along the Genesee turnpike. It was erected more than a century ago by John Hardenbergh. The stone relic stands today.

270 feet from Lake Keuka extending to Seneca Lake.

Upon the abandonment of the canal in consequence of the dropping off of the matter of clearances and tolls, owing to competition of railroads with their faster transportation facilities, the old lock at Seneca Falls was left in nearly its original condition for years.

In the development period in the lake country, the "woman's rights movement" in America found birth at Seneca Falls. On July 19, 1848 at a meeting of advocates of the movement the legal "wrongs" of women were brought to public attention. Among the group present were James Mott, his wife, Lucretia Mott, Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Mrs. Amelia Bloomer, Ansel Bascom, Thomas McClintock and Frederick Douglas.

Until that time the rights and responsibilities of married women were determined largely by the old "common law" of England. A woman's rights at marriage merged with those of her husband. Apart from him she could own no property, make no contracts, could not collect or use her own earnings, nor control her children. Mrs. Stanton urged before a Seneca Falls' meeting that the ballot be given woman. This meeting was followed by others in many parts of the state and the movement launched in the lake country amid ridicule, resulted in the equal ballot of today. In the same territory where the Indian woman had the right of the vote, sprang the germ of action which gave the ballot to her white sister.

On the morning of April 12, 1861 the lake region was electrified by news of the firing on Fort Sumter and the start of a four year war which halted the development of commerce and industry for the business of battle. In the region which nurtured William H. Seward, the great abolitionist, the fires of patriotism were kindled with a suddenness visible in few sections of the nation. And during the period of conflict the



A view inside the yard of Auburn prison before the Civil War evidences the changes brought by the years. Note the "stove pipe" hats of the guards, the presence of grass in the yard and the sidewalk down the center.

towns and the countrysides of the Finger Lakes gave of their manhood and womanhood, their money and their resources to an extent surpassed by few if any regions of the land. Of the 50,000 men and the \$150,000,000 which the war cost the state, the lake country bore a staggering share.

Volumes might be written of the history of the dozens of regiments which went out of the lake zone and returned decimated. But in a volume of this nature, even an attempt to chronicle the region's part in the Civil War would be impossible. Only a few incidents may properly here be cited. At the outset of the conflict, one of three military depots in the state was established at Elmira, which formed a hub for sending men to the front.

Each county sent men to many regiments and some regiments were composed entirely of residents of the lake country. The number of regiments to which the lake country sent men follow: Cayuga, 22; Chemung, 31; Onondaga, 36; Ontario, 29; Schuyler, 20; Seneca, 20; Steuben, 29; Tioga, 17; Tompkins, 13; Yates, 18.

The immediate material results of the war on the lake country were beneficial, giving a hint of the prosperity period ahead. Large sums were distributed to producers of all kinds to meet the necessities and waste of war; to laborers, to manufacturers and to public carriers. Many of the urban communities grew rapidly and the entire region was in strong position to withstand the financial reaction of 1873. The region fared much better in that hour of depression than many districts and began the third half century of her life with a proud, firm faith in her future.



A view of Genesee Street, Auburn, many years after this spot had been dubbed the "worst mud hole between Albany and Buffalo." Trees are shown in front of the stores in the business section.



Half Century of Prosperity



SET firmly upon a foundation of intrepid pioneer courage and the faith and vision of builders who conquered rivers and mountains and distance, the prosperity of the last half century from 1879 to this sesqui-centennial year has brought a new era of happy living to the Finger Lakes.

The age of power came to take the load from men's backs. The gallop of the iron horse along steel trails between the lakes throbbled in unison with the purr of a new servant of man—the automobile. The silver wings of airplanes were reflected in the limpid waters of the lakes and in urban home and sequestered camp, the voice of the world came to the Finger Lakes through radio.

The great inventions of this third half century came early to the lake country; some of them, the seaplane, the talking movie, the adding machine, etc., went out of the lake region as the gift of her citizens to mankind.

The mighty Corliss steam engine, that stood in the center of Machinery Hall at the Centennial Exposition, was the symbol of the mechanical power achievement of the second half century—great power, but irrevocably bound to the locality where it was produced. The long distance transmission line is the symbol of the more mobile power of this third half century, when power pioneers of Niagara followed the route of Sullivan's march in the lake country.

Power was developed at Niagara as early as 1757. Water wheels were improved down through the years, but the art of transmission remained at a standstill. Rope drive, shafting and compressed air were proposed—and rejected. Industries using Niagara Power were few in number and were limited in location to the banks of the hydraulic canal at Niagara Falls.

Electricity, late in the 19th century, opened the way to more widespread use of Niagara Power. Discouragement and difficulty beset the pioneers of electrical development, but perseverance at last won

its reward. Niagara Power was successfully transmitted to Buffalo, 23 miles away, on November 16, 1896.

Only a few years later came the startling announcement that it was proposed to transmit the power of Niagara across the Finger Lakes region to Syracuse over 150 miles away.

Many thought the project rank folly, but the power pioneers settled grimly to their task. Day by day the line was pushed nearer its goal. It passed Rochester and swung across the rolling hills of Wayne. In 1906 it reached Syracuse, and people excitedly told one another that again the impossible had been done.

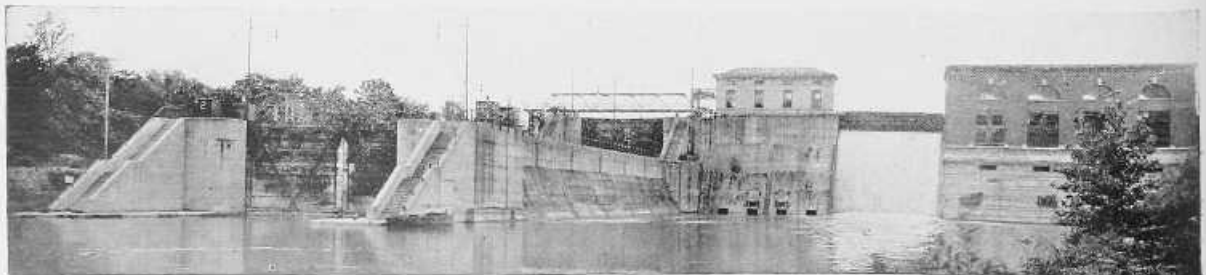
Two years later a line of steel towers was built 81 miles from Rochester through the Finger Lakes country to supply Geneva, Auburn and Syracuse. Motorists see this line as they drive between Auburn and Seneca Falls.

Montezuma Marshes presented the greatest single obstacle to the line builders. The bottomless swamp afforded no sound footing for the towers, and it was freely prophesied that the first windstorm would carry out the entire line. But the engineers were not discouraged. They sank piles in the mud and on them built reinforced concrete foundations. On these mats of concrete the towers were anchored—and there they stand today.

In 1928 a second steel tower line, over the same route, was completed. The original line of 1906 has been replaced by a newer and shorter line.

Niagara Power now flows into the northern Finger Lakes territory over five circuits through Rochester. It serves the southern part of the region with Geneseo and Geneva as the gateways. Extension of the Niagara line was only one of many agencies which brought great power to the lake country in the past fifty years.

Today new projects for harnessing nature's wild-horses are underway that will make the plunging streams of the lake region turn industry's wheels and light cities and villages. Already work is nearly completed on the big Lake Lamoka Power Company development. The project calls for the impounding of the waters of the Lamoka Valley, including Lamoka, Waneta and several smaller lakes. The reservoir, when completed, will extend from Savona on the Cohocton River northward to Wayne, a distance of



Great Barge Canal locks at Seneca Falls.



Quiet place along Owasco's shore.

approximately 16 miles. Hundreds of acres of farm land and a number of small villages will be inundated.

Robert O. Hayt of Corning, a civil engineer associated with the project for more than 10 years, has estimated the cost of the finished work at more than \$12,000,000. When the dam at Savona is completed, a spillway at Wayne will drop the water from the reservoir a distance of 395 feet to Keuka Landing on Lake Keuka, directly below the Wayne Hills. A power house is built at that point.

During those hours of the day when the load on the power system is lowest, the water from Lake Keuka will be pumped back up the hill into the Wayne reservoir, to pour down the spillway again, thus passing again and again through the Keuka power house.

Additional power will be derived from another power house near Dresden on Seneca Lake where the water from Lake Keuka drops 200 feet into Seneca. The present outlet of Lake Keuka will not be used, but a new canal will be constructed to carry the water to the Seneca power house.

It is planned also to utilize the flood waters of the Cohocton River between Bath and Kanona. It is expected that ultimately a race will be built from Baker's

Mills eastward through Bath to the dam at Savona to convey all surplus water from the river, during the spring or seasons of protracted rains, to the reservoir. This race would be tapped at several points to receive overflow water from several small creeks which empty into the river below Baker's Mills. The complete system will develop more than 200,000,000 kilowatt hours, the power being distributed over a wide area in Western New York.

Along the Owasco River between Auburn and Port Byron a hydro-electric development is underway, with a million dollars as the reputed amount to be expended in harnessing Owasco. It is one of several others in this region, which in such development ranks well with any section of the state. And New York State electric utilities on the first of the year had in operation 190 hydro-electric generating plants with a total installed capacity of 1,559,695 horsepower, according to a report just published by the U. S. Geological Survey. This is more than 13 per cent of all utility hydro-electric capacity in the United States, and is second only to that of California, which has a total of 2,207,447 horsepower. Alabama is third, with 798,560 horsepower. Municipal hydro-electric plants

are included in those figures.

While New York State is second to California in developed water-power utility plants, it leads all others in production of electricity by utilities, and in 1928 established a new high record of more than 13 billion kilowatt hours of current.

In addition to the 190 utility hydro-plants in New York there are also 318 water-power stations operated by manufacturing companies, mills, etc., says the report. These have an aggregate capacity of 253,806 horsepower, giving the state a total of 508 water-power plants with a total installed capacity of 1,813,501 horsepower.

Of the current generated by New York utilities in 1928, it is estimated that approximately 41 per cent was generated by water power and 59 per cent by fuel-burning plants.

In the century which brought hydro-electric development to the lake country, railroads grew in their mileage and their service. Even waterway transportation, begun when the Erie Canal was opened in the first period of settlement, has been extended. As years went on the inadequacy of the old Erie became apparent. In 1884 the locks were lengthened. This proved a mere makeshift and in 1903, by popular vote, New York authorized an expenditure of \$101,000,000 to convert the Erie into a wider and deeper barge canal. Actual construction began in 1905 and today the canal system represents a cost of more than \$140,000,000.

In the Erie system, the Cayuga and Seneca Canal, from the junction of the old Erie to Ithaca and Watkins, including Cayuga and Seneca Lakes, is entirely within



Dill Street, Auburn, as it appeared about 1890, when the livery shown above had a hundred horses before the days of the auto.

the lake country and provides a waterway ninety-two miles long. Three fourths of the population of the state reside within a half hour's walk of the Barge Canal System.

Since the building of the Barge Canal state aid in numerous public improvements within the lake zone has reached a new high peak. Even since the World War more than \$40,000,000 in state highways inside the region has brought country and city closer together. Schools have improved, public utilities have been extended and conveniences taken to sequestered places and the economic force of government placed behind all worthy projects for the improvement of the region. The latest project is reforestation.

The state legislature is now planning to timber parcels of land of 500 acres or more and in this schedule, the counties of the Finger Lakes Region are listed for a total planting of 105,010 acres. This is apportioned as follows: Cayuga, 9,200; Chemung, 8,050; Onondaga, 27,800; Ontario, 2,000; Schuyler, 14,000; Steuben, 17,790; Tioga, 13,650; Tompkins, 11,900; Yates, 700. This is in addition to smaller timbering projects of sportsmen's clubs, farm bureaus and other organizations which yearly are setting out many thousand trees.

In the Spanish-American War, the period of prosperity was interrupted slightly, when



Serene Contentment along Owasco, Auburn



The superb system of highways, through woods and rolling hills, beside waterfalls and lapping waves, forms one of the strongest appeals to the Finger Lakes motorist. Views above are typical of hundreds throughout the lake country. From left to right, above: "The Cut" on the Canandaigua-Naples Highway; on the Penn-Yan-Hammondsport Highway; the Road to the Glen Springs, Watkins Glen. Center: From the tunnel on the "Gorge Route," Skaneateles to Syracuse. Below: Where shadows play upon the Branchport-Hammondsport Highway; the Watkins Glen-Waterloo Highway along Seneca Lake.

boys from the lake country marched off to serve the colors. But the great shock came when the World War called to farm and city and thousands went to France. The World War cost the lake counties 808 men, divided as follows: Cayuga, 81; Chemung, 97; Onondaga, 318; Ontario, 80; Schuyler, 11; Seneca, 38; Steuben, 98; Tioga, 25; Tompkins, 36; Yates, 24.

In the period after the great conflict men came back, some maimed and gassed, but the spirit to carry on was with them.

In industries, in commerce, in expansion of public works and all the other pursuits of peace the years

since the Armistice on November 11, 1918, the lake country has enjoyed a new birth of progress.

Today prosperity is in the air. But the wealth of the lake region is not in the hands of a few. People in general are blessed with goods and services that once were luxuries. The optimism of the average Finger Lakes citizen is significant. His eagerness to accept the new, the better method has hastened his prosperity—the success of the region's business. Just as surely it foretells the success of businesses which today are only dreams in the minds of their future founders, the lake country will respond to changing times.

Half Century of Opportunity



CLEARLY, the steady sweep of progress which has carried the Finger Lakes Region to leadership in the Empire State of the nation is nowhere better exemplified than in the opportunity that lies ahead for a district now standing at the crest of 150 years of advancement.

The glorious past—the enviable present position of the region—may be truthfully described as only the prelude to an even more glorious future.

The long trials of the Revolution settlement and development periods, created a region enured to hardship, apt in emergency, confident in its future; a region hospitable to every new thought and idea and invention, but conscious of a sturdy basis of conservatism.

The lake country has laid deep and broad the cornerstones of prosperity—a prosperity that lies in its agriculture and its diversified industry.

Picture, for a moment, a stage seventy miles square and embracing 5,949 square miles—the area of the ten Finger Lakes counties. Upon it has been enacted a pageant of progress three half centuries long.

The early actors were a handfull of intrepid pioneers who sensed the opportunity which lay here on the greatest watershed in America. Across the stage there passed builders of towns, and cities and institutions; inventors who made the work of the world easier; educators who erected five colleges and hundreds of schools within the region; financiers, philanthropists, business men, economists and statesmen.

The forests, the frontier, the stragglng settlements have passed, until today upon this stage are scores of cities and villages with a population totalling 664,217 souls, of which 398,899 are urban residents and 265,318 rural dwellers.

This population of the lake country, according to 1928 state records, has 169,214 motor vehicles, or the equivalent of one machine to every 3.8 men, women and children in the district, a far higher percentage than in almost any other urban-rural section of the United States.

The paths of the Indians are no more but on this little stage only seventy miles square there have been



Race Track at Naples Fairground



REGIONAL STATISTICS FOR TEN LAKE COUNTIES

COUNTY	Area in Sq. Mi.	Total Road Mileage	State Road Mileage	No. of Mot. Veh.	POPULATION		
					Urban	Rural	Total
Cayuga.....	703	1,490	285	15,935	35,677	29,667	65,344
Chemung.....	407	875	125	17,384	53,155	19,137	72,292
Onondaga.....	781	1,635	367	65,418	203,007	64,002	267,009
Ontario.....	649	1,348	223	15,539	23,594	31,646	55,240
Schuyler.....	336	762	103	3,718	2,919	10,537	13,456
Seneca.....	336	704	156	6,136	10,398	14,965	25,363
Steuben.....	1,398	3,094	364	21,222	35,554	46,621	82,175
Tioga.....	520	1,067	149	6,685	10,321	15,790	26,111
Tompkins.....	476	1,091	168	11,523	18,948	20,611	39,559
Yates.....	343	769	142	5,654	5,326	12,342	17,668
Totals.....	5,949	12,835	2,082	169,214	398,899	265,318	664,217

12,835 miles of road that, if extended, would reach more than three times across the United States. Of this road mileage, 2,082 miles are fine state highway.

Diversified agriculture, in the richest section of the state, is one of the assets with which the lake country faces the future. Diversified industry is the second. And the third boon is nearness to markets—the region being within twenty-four hours by train of half the population of the nation.

From the time the first pioneers harnessed the rushing streams of the lake country to drive their grist mills, the Finger Lakes Region has been recognized for its superior natural advantages to the manufacturer. Since those olden days when water power alone was available, there have come the added boon of Niagara power, natural gas and a network of railroads that provide quick and easy transportation facilities to expediate the shipment of products to all parts of the globe. The building of the Barge Canal tapped the region, through its Cayuga and Seneca Lake canal spur, with the waterways throughout the East.

To the prospective industrial concern, the type of cities and villages that are located among the Finger Lakes is itself of strong appeal. Better living conditions, more stable labor, improved recreational facilities, better social standing and lower costs for both factories and men are elements of interest to the wise manufacturer who sees in the smaller cities a new opportunity.

More and more factory business is bound to go into these beautiful, friendly smaller towns or cities, where the air is clear and the fields are fresh and one knows one's neighbors and there's room for a garden and shade trees and roses. The home and civic atmosphere of every Finger Lakes community makes it indeed a fitting place in which to make a living and live while making it.

Today the transportation facilities of the lake country and its power resources have a capacity probably 200 per cent beyond present industrial requirements. And with decentralization of industry on the climb,

the advantages the lake country offers the industrialists are self evident.

A. W. Lawrence, secretary of the Genesee Country Association, proposes joint action with the Finger Lakes Association in a regional survey that will reveal the lines of effort to enable the district to meet squarely the opportunity ahead. The day of regional mindedness has come, he says, and in analyzing the future development prospects he declares:

"Looking back to 1865 we find the beginning of a period of tremendous movement of population toward the middle and far West. We find high density of population only along the Atlantic seaboard.

This date, 1865, saw the close of the Civil War and the commencement of the greatest railroad building era the world has witnessed. The economic problem of that period was to manufacture and transport food, clothing, equipment and people during the greatest migration of population in history—over 20,000,000 people in approximately 30 years.

The solving of this economic problem brought about the era of centralization. Immigration and settlement was so rapid that where the West had little or no manufacture, centralization of manufacture in the East was imperative. Manufactures in the East grew with leaps and bounds. Cities developed to four or five, even ten times their former size. Distributing centers like Chicago, St. Louis, etc., developed rapidly to supply these manufactureless people with all their needs.

It was the day of centralization. The day of the big city. The day of large individual concerns.

But that day has passed. It is apparent that a new set of conditions exist. It may be well to review some of these before drawing inferences and conclusions.

Again looking back it is found that 1918 or the close of the World War, clearly marks the beginning of another period. From 1914 to 1918 unusual war conditions forced an unnatural concentration in the larger centers to supply the demand for war munitions. The



Skaneateles—Highest of the Finger Lakes

same conditions limited immigration. But after 1918 the change of conditions as evidenced by census and other figures show:

1—That the percentage of increase in most of the large cities has decreased. Where in some cases it was formerly as high as 25 per cent it is now as low as 7 per cent over a five-year period.

2—That many smaller cities of 5,000 to 50,000 are increasing at the rate of 20 per cent to 50 per cent in five years.

3—That with the transmission of electricity to practically all sections of the country, together with the development of road and rail facilities, it is no longer necessary or expedient for industry to be concentrated in the larger centers.

4—That basic industry, (iron and steel, lumber, cotton, leather, pulp, chemicals, etc.) has gravitated or is gravitating to the source of raw materials.

5—That secondary industry which combines several basic products is partially decentralized.

6—That immigration has been greatly restricted.

7—That huge consolidations or combinations in all lines of manufacture, finance and distribution are being consummated.

8—That area or regional organizations are springing up in the country developing area consciousness.

9—That the nation has recently elected to the office of its chief executive a business organization engineer.

These outstanding facts point to two conclusions:

1—That industrialism in the United States is going through a tremendous re-organization.

(a) That with the flood of immigration restricted

and the West settled, we have a chance for the first time to re-organize and further develop what we have achieved.

(b) That capital, sensing the change of conditions, realizes this change can only be handled by large amalgamations with the area viewpoint and the country as a whole for a background.

2—That this re-organization is preparatory to intensive development and competition of what? Cities? No. Areas or Regions? Yes."

Major Lawrence suggests that the leadership of Western Central New York should meet together for the purpose of creating—

A board of economic development for Western Central New York and that the functions of such a board should be:

1—To co-ordinate the interests of the area.

2—To co-ordinate the regional planning bodies of the area.

3—To make an industrial and economic survey of the entire area.

4—To then take such steps as are expedient to follow the best lines of economic development.

Economics has been at work while we have been complacent. If the leadership of the territory requires a challenge, let the general condition speak that challenge and it is believed that the necessary action will be taken.

A glance at the transportation resources of the lake country shows that there are nine railroads traversing the region as follows—Pennsylvania, Lehigh Valley, N. Y. Central, D. L. & W., Bath & Hammondsport, Erie, Buf. & Susquehanna, Owasco River, Skaneateles.



William M. Leffingwell, President for the past three years.



Harry R. Melone, Publicity Director since organization of association.



Edward C. Cooper, secretary-treasurer since organization of association.

Re-discovery of the Lake Country

THE "re-discovery" of the Finger Lakes Region was made in 1919 by the pioneers in the Finger Lakes Association, a regional civic organization now embracing forty-three cities and villages. Like the Iroquois of two centuries ago, this league of towns formed for mutual benefit and unity of effort.

Men with vision began to sense that the signs of the times were the direction markers along the highways and that the days of the walled cities had passed forever. They conceived of America as a nation on wheels, seeing new things, new places and creating new loyalties and new understandings. In the lake country they saw some of the greatest scenic wonders of the East in a watershed which has no peer in America.

Through cooperation on a Twentieth Century plan they set out to advance all interests of their district in the settlement of which intrepid pioneers had wrought so courageously. With the motor car and its consequent new "tourist industry" they saw the beginnings of a regional development program that in years to come would expand into the realm of industry, commerce and recreation. The first step was to capitalize the tourist industry and scenery as a cash crop by means of the new magic of advertising.

The affiliated towns worked on

the principle of the merchant who pays more rent because he has a position on a main street, where more people pass his door, see his goods and perhaps become his patrons for every object he has to sell. The association knew that every drop of new blood, every dollar that came into the region from the outside came in to benefit every resident of the region.

For twelve months a year the association is advertising Finger Lakes communities. As a result it is conservatively estimated that \$10,000,000 a year is spent inside the lake country by tourists and the regional association has grown from a handful of member towns to forty-three.

The force of honest advertising has been called into play by the Finger Lakes Association which has used newspapers, magazines, the radio, pictures, direct mail, novelties and virtually every other legitimate medium known. Advertising experts across the country concede that, in proportion to the amount spent, the association has gained a record amount of advertising.

Today the words "Finger Lakes" are known wherever the English language is read. Several hundred thousand illustrated booklets have been distributed; scenic art panels have been erected in hotels, railroad stations and colleges; radio talks have been broadcast from Washington, Cleveland, New York, Syracuse, etc., and illustrated magazine



Leonard H. Searing, first president of Finger Lakes Association.



Glenn R. Morton, Benn Kenyon and Jack Casner vice-presidents of Finger Lakes Association.

and newspaper articles have appeared almost beyond count.

Railroads, boat lines and motor tours have been induced to advertise the region at their own expense; manufacturers have inserted reference to the Finger Lakes in their national advertising and business men, having the Finger Lakes' emblem on their stationery, are sending out 10,000 pieces of mail matter daily from the region with this tiny bit of advertising. Thousands of photographs of the region have appeared in periodicals throughout the country and hundreds of pupils inside the region have been influenced to write regional descriptive letters to mayors, authors and broadcasting stations throughout the country.

Finger Lakes advertising has been a success because it has been honest, non-commercial and purely civic. It has popularized the words "Finger Lakes" to such an extent that 100 companies inside the region use the words as part of their trade name.

Such a spectacular movement, generated by the driving power of many communities, has perforce caught the ear of authority in Albany. The association has acted as the spokesman for a region in asking highway improvements. It is significant that more than \$24,000,000 worth of state highway, asked for by the association, has been built already. The association program to encircle each of the six lakes with improved roads is rapidly nearing realization.

Always, the association has had an ear to the material benefits it could secure for the residents of the region. Before the state voted upon

a \$15,000,000 state park bond issue, the organization ascertained the approach of state development of recreational areas. It spoke again for the region. As a result, the lake country was one of the first in the state to have a State Parks Commission.

Today it has eight state parks partially developed, before some areas have their first park. And over a million and a quarter dollars has been already spent in the last few years on Finger Lakes State Parks.

Park development has brought more connecting roads, it is increasing adjacent property values and bringing nearby towns increasing revenue from rising assessments. Already as many as 100,000 persons a day have visited Finger Lakes Parks.

Realizing that fish and game life is essential to the outdoor pleasure of residents and the attraction of visitors, the association has promoted a consistent conservation program, working in cooperation with fish and game clubs. Through its work, nets have been banned from all the Finger Lakes. Better conservation legislation has been pushed and during the summer of 1928 alone the State Conservation Commission, at an expense of \$60,000, conducted a fish survey of the region, looking toward development of a systematic policy for stocking, feeding and future legislation.

In short, the Finger Lakes movement has, through harnessing the strength of all communities, attained for each benefits which a community could never attain going it alone. It has stirred civic conscience. A dozen chambers of commerce have been formed in small



E. D. Button, V. P. of Organization



towns for the sole purpose of affiliation with the larger organization.

The movement has welded all faiths, all parties, all interests into a working whole. It has been the medium of advertising farms in the region to middle western farmers. It has attracted outside business men to the towns through its exploitation. Lake-side property values in many cases have doubled; new hotels have opened, the region is putting its house in order and community builders throughout the nation are patterning after the methods employed to promote the general good of this land of lakes.

Initial steps toward the formation of the Finger Lakes Association were taken by the Auburn Chamber of Commerce, which called a conference of chamber representatives from several towns of the lake country to be held in the Osborne Hotel, Auburn, on April 25, 1919. The idea was then favored and a second conference was held at the Seneca Hotel, Geneva on May 6 with Ithaca, Canandaigua, Penn Yan, Auburn, Watkins Glen, Waterloo, Geneva, Montour Falls and Hammondsport represented. A temporary organization was perfected at a meeting May 15 at the Hotel Ithaca, with the following temporary officers: President, A. F. Freeman, Geneva; first vice-president, Ernest D. Button, Ithaca; second vice-president, Samuel T. Henderson, Auburn; secretary and treasurer, Edward C. Cooper, Watkins Glen. Mr. Henderson and L. J. Seeley, Hammondsport, were named as a publicity committee and first action, showing the aggressive character of the infant organization, came with the passing of formal resolutions against netting in the lakes. A constitution was here adopted.

Permanent officers were elected at a meeting May 22 at the Glen Springs, Watkins Glen, as follows: President, Leonard H. Searing, Auburn; first vice-president, A. F. Freeman, Geneva; second vice-president, Ernest D. Button, Ithaca; secretary and treasurer, Edward C. Cooper, Watkins Glen. The publicity committee recommended the appointment of Harry R. Melone, Auburn, as publicity director for a probationary period, his duties being to popularize the words "Finger Lakes", to spread the fame of the scenery, resources and history of the district and to "sell" the exploitation movement to residents within the region. On August 23, 1929 at a meeting at Sheldrake on Cayuga, Mr. Melone, on motion of E. D. Button, was elected permanent publicity director and each year since that time has filled the office of director of all the association's advertising, publicity and public relations projects.

The first annual meeting took place at Auburn on October 31, 1919 and since the annual meeting has always been held in that city. At the annual meeting on October 28, 1925, after seven years of continuous service as president, Leonard H. Searing, Auburn, declined to run for office again because of pressure of business duties. William M. Leffingwell of Watkins Glen was the unanimous choice as president. Ever since that time he has served with notable enthusiasm, tact and progressiveness. Mr. Searing, on retirement as a token of esteem, was presented with \$100 in gold,

the personal gift of the officers with whom he had served.

One of the last examples of the broad program of the organization was its inauguration of the state program for a Sullivan sesqui-centennial celebration this year, in the carrying out of which the state has appropriated \$70,000.

Members of the Finger Lakes Association today, each of which contributes to the regional budget a sum fixed on a basis of seven cents per capita of population, are: Auburn, Aurora, Bath, Burdett, Canandaigua, Cayuga, Clifton Springs, Dresden, Dundee, Elmira, Fair Haven, Geneva, Groton, Hammondsport, Honeoye, Interlaken, Ithaca, Keuka Park, King Ferry, Lodi, Middlesex, Montour Falls, Moravia, Myers, Naples, Odessa, Ovid, Owego, Penn Yan, Prattsburgh, Pulteney, Rushville, Romulus, Seneca Falls, Skaneateles, Trumansburg, Union Springs, Valois-Hector, Waterloo, Wayne and Watkins Glen.

The Association directors are: Auburn, Benn Kenyon; Aurora, James H. Chase; Bath, Dr. Walter Woodbury; Burdett, C. W. Partello; Canandaigua, Peter Burke; Cayuga, Harris McIntosh; Clifton Springs, Lee H. Leland; Dresden, W. D. Gelder; Dundee, L. B. Earnest; Fair Haven, William J. Bradley; Elmira, Jack Causer; Geneva, Glenn R. Morton; Groton, Henry M. Geisenhoff; Hammondsport, D. W. Putnam; Honeoye, George R. Reed; Interlaken, W. D. Wheeler; Ithaca, E. D. Button; Keuka Park, E. W. Cushman; Kings Ferry, S. J. Carson; Ovid, G. Raymond Gray; Lodi, Monroe B. Covert; Prattsburgh, Spencer E. Clark; Middlesex, J. H. Underwood; Montour Falls, James Towart; Moravia, P. M. Rathbun; Myers, Mrs. Ellen G. Townsend; Naples, John C. Bolles; Odessa, H. J. Couch; Owego, Joe Field; Penn Yan, Paul Ritchey; Pulteney, W. A. McConnell; Rushville, Prof. E. C. Corbet; Romulus, C. L. Garnett; Seneca Falls, Earl D. Clarke; Skaneateles, Bert C. Sellen; Trumansburg, W. P. Biggs; Union Springs, L. V. Doremus; Valois-Hector, C. H. Beattie; Waterloo, George L. Marshall; Wayne, Mrs. Mabel Crookston; Watkins Glen, Frank L. Millen; Glen Springs, William M. Leffingwell.



Weaver Falls, near Groton



Seneca Indians in aboriginal pose along Canandaigua Lake.

Six Nations Twice as Old as U. S.

A Confederacy of nations, that for 300 years or twice the age of the United States, held sway without a single internal conflict, had its seat of power in the Finger Lakes Region before white man set foot on America. At first it was called the Five Nations, embracing the Mohawks, Oneidas, Cayugas, Onondagas and Senecas. In 1722 the Tuscaroras were added, making it the Six Nations or Iroquois. Annals of mankind do not provide on the

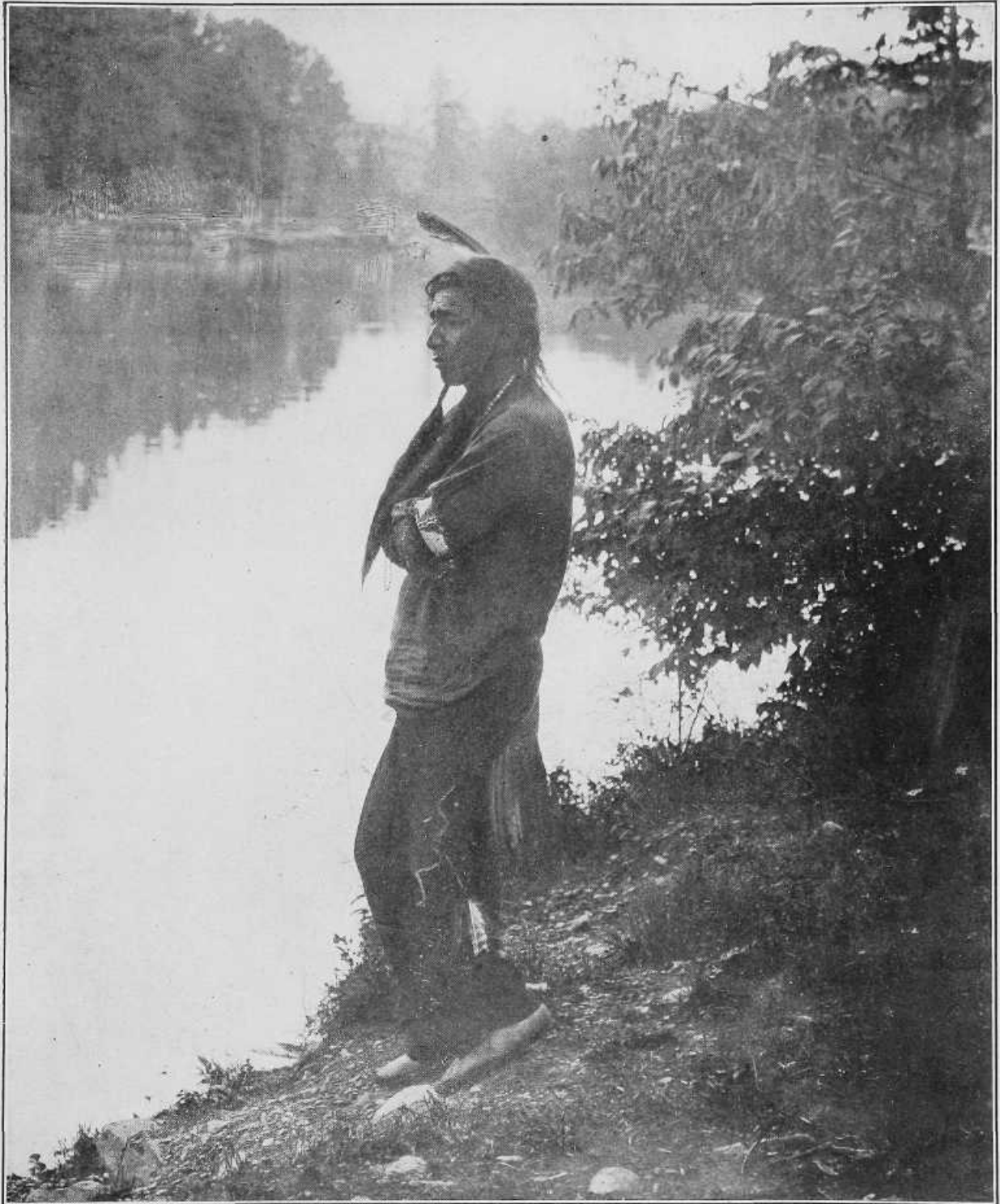
same grade of civilization any parallel to the political system of the Iroquois.

Charlevoix saw them as early as 1706 and said "these Americans are perfectly convinced that man is born free and that no power on earth has any right to restrict his liberty, while nothing can make up for its loss."

From the center of the land of the Iroquois rivers flow to all points of the compass. Early French gover-



"Modern" Iroquois Indians from the Onondaga reservation at a Finger Lakes Association meeting in Watkins Glen.



A Cayuga Indian along the shore of Beebe Lake, Ithaca.

nors saw in this domain the seat of empire. For more than a century France and England has been in conflict over the land of the Six Nations, employing the arts of diplomacy, the force of arms and even the

persuasions of religion to secure the alliance of the Iroquois and thus the mastery of the new world.

But the Iroquois, to whom a pact was inviolate, had at the outset signed treaties with the Dutch and

then with the British successors of the Dutch. And to the Iroquois these held, even down through the Revolution when the Red Men espoused the cause of the British, following out the policy established in alliance with England a century before.

Iroquois domination was not through brute force of numbers. Their strength in fighting men was placed at 2,150 by Courey, agent of Virginia, in 1667; 2,000 by DeNoville, governor of Canada in 1687; 2,030 by the census of Sir William Johnson in 1763; 1,750 by Pouchot in 1789, and 1,900 by the missionary Kirtland in 1783.

As early as 1678 Father Hennepin, who visited the Confederacy, said: "The Iroquois, whom the Swedes, then the Dutch and the English and the French have furnished with fire-arms, are reckoned as the most savage of all the savages yet known. They have slain the best warriors among the Hurons and forced the rest of the nation to join with them to make war together against all their enemies situated five or six hundred leagues distant from their cantons. They have already destroyed above two million men."

The Sachems of the Six Nations were elected in public assembly though some held hereditary office. They were in peace times the supreme civil authority while in war they were but counselors to the war chiefs, who held dictatorial power. The women of the tribes were influential factors in tribal affairs, holding the right to nominate Sachems, while they never spoke in council.

The tribes had various clans given animal names such as the bear, wolf, beaver, turtle, deer, plover,

heron and hawk. All members of a clan were considered near relatives. One might not marry in his clan and as children followed the mother's origin, father and child were never of the same clan.

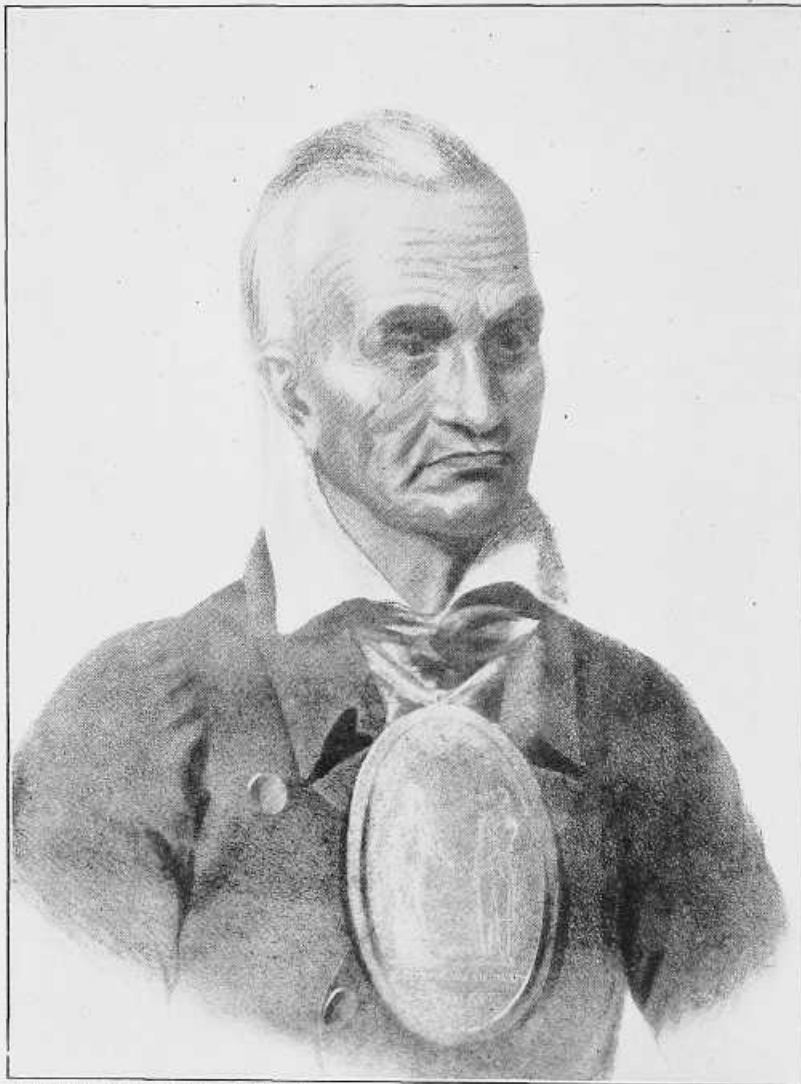
Commerce today runs in no paths over the eastern part of this continent where the moccasined foot of the Iroquois had not previously marked out the courses of power and of control. The Six Nations were the tribes which held the mastery of the continent

and worked out for themselves the initial problems of government before the Mayflower sailed and before the Netherlands fought the fight of liberty.

In this sesqui-centennial year there are approximately 5,500 Indians in New York state. At the close of the Revolution the Mohawks removed to Canada and in 1779 sold all their claims for \$1,600. The lands of the others were gradually purchased and the remnants of the tribes located on reservations, seven of which are in this state.

The Onondaga reservation, near Syracuse, contains 7,300 acres; the Tonawanda - Seneca reservation, in Erie and Genesee counties, 7,548 acres; the Alleghany-Senecas, in Cattaraugus County,

30,469 acres; the Cattaraugus-Senecas, Erie, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties, 21,680 acres; the St. Regis who entered the Confederacy after the Revolution to replace the Mohawks, Franklin County, 14,030 acres; Tuscaroras, Niagara County, 6,249 acres; of the Oneidas a part live near Green Bay, Wis., and there is an Oneida reservation of 400 acres four miles south of Oneida. The Cayugas are scattered among the different tribes, the larger part of them living



Courtesy Miss Florence McIntosh

Red Jacket famed Seneca Chief.



with the Senecas at Cattaraugus. When peace was proclaimed in 1783 England made no terms for her Indian Allies, but Chief Cornplanter brought about a peace treaty with the United States at Fort Stanwix, now Rome, in 1784. Councils between the Iroquois and the United States were held at Tioga in 1790, and at Painted Post in 1791, and the last one at Canandaigua in 1794, were the reservations allotted the Indians were confirmed. The treaty of Big Tree, at Geneseo, 1797, extinguished the title of the Six Nations to their ancient possessions with the exception of the reservations. This treaty was made between the Seneca Nation and capitalists, the precursors of white settlement.

Catherine Montour

Catherine Montour, for whom Montour Falls was named, has been confounded by many writers with Madame Montour and by others with Queen Esther of Wyoming notoriety. She was the daughter of French Margaret and grand daughter of Madame Montour. Her husband was Thomas Hudson, alias Telenemut, one of the most noted of the Seneca chiefs. She had a son named Amochol and two daughters. Queen Esther was her sister, as also was Mary, wife of John Cook, another Seneca chief, who lived on the Alleghany and Ohio. Catherine was living after Sullivan's raid in 1891 "over the lake not far from Niagara."

Madame Montour was a noted personage in the Colonial history of Pennsylvania and about 1749 when old and nearly blind removed to the vicinity of Lake Erie.

Queen Esther, notorious as the "fiend of Wyoming," was a daughter of French Margaret and granddaughter of Madame Montour and a sister of Catherine. She lived six miles south of Tioga Point in 1772 when she moved six miles north, founding a new town

which was destroyed in 1778, when she probably removed to Chemung. She had a son, who was killed a short time previous to the Wyoming massacre, which doubtless prompted her fury at that time.

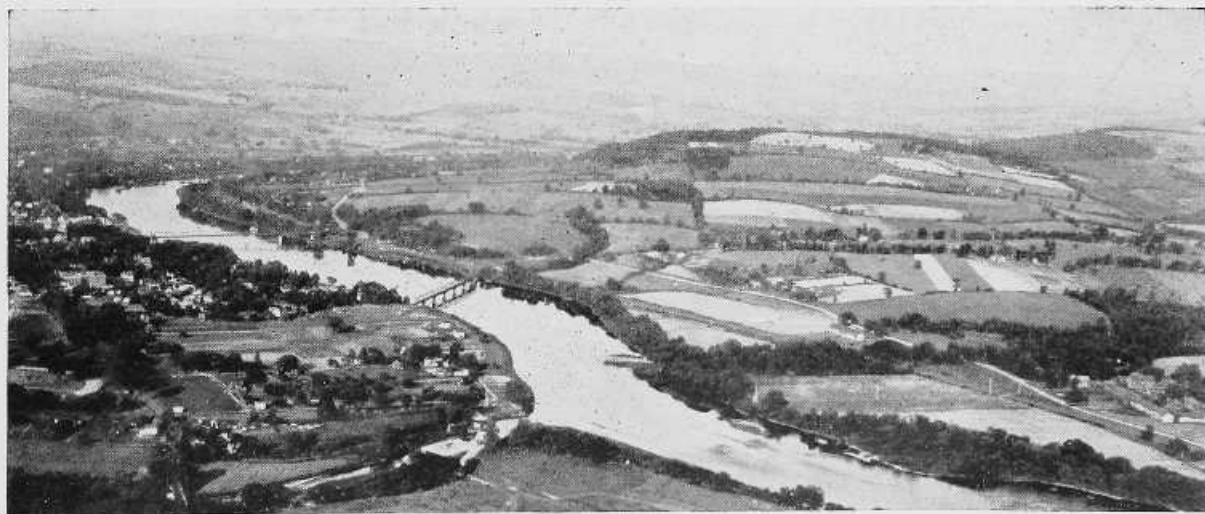
After her husband's death in battle Catherine ruled the tribe, superintended the tilling of nearby fields, growing maize, beans and pumpkins, an orchard of apple trees and on the meadows the raising of horses, cattle and swine. She attended the war councils of the Six Nations and even accompanied the chiefs to Philadelphia to lay some grievance before the Continental Congress. Here her wondrous beauty and dignity of bearing made a great impression. She spoke French and English besides the Indian dialects. Upon the approach of Sullivan's expedition she fled to Canada and died there.

"Old Smoke"

Old Smoke, known in the Indian tongue as Sayenquerghita and also as Guiyahgwahdoh, is said by most historians to have been the leader of the Indians in the Wyoming massacre. His home was at Kanadesaga, the Indian village on the site of Geneva, destroyed by Sullivan.

Hiawatha

Hiawatha, immortalized in the poem of Longfellow, was an Indian reformer, statesman and founder of the great Confederacy of the Six Nations, but through a singular complication of mistakes has by many historians been classed as a mythological personage and a diety of the Indian. Dates of his work vary as much as a thousand years in various accounts. But probably the most authentic record is the Iroquois Book of Rites, handed down by the record keepers of the red men and translated and correlated in 1883 by Horatio Hale.



The winding Susquehanna was a water path for the Indians but forests clothed her banks where farms now yield abundance



This authority shows that Hiawatha, then a middle aged chief of the Onondagas, conceived about 1450, or nearly a half century before Columbus discovered America, the idea of uniting the warring tribes of the Finger Lakes Region into a league for universal peace. His plan was for a permanent league that ultimately should expand until it embraced every tribe of red men on the continent.

He presented the project to his own Onondaga tribe, but three times failed in his appeal, because of the opposition of Atotarho, tyrannical war lord of the Onondagas. Then he took his plan to the Mohawks, bearing with him a wampum held as the sign of peace. Hiawatha means "He Who Seeks the Wampum Belt." The great chief Dekanawidah warmly received the idea, dispatching ambassadors to the Oneidas, who promised their decision within a year. At the expiration of the time a treaty was ratified between the Mohawks and the Oneidas and the Onondagas were once more asked to join. Concessions of power to the formidable Atotarho at last won his support. The Cayugas and Senecas were next easily induced to band together and on the shores of Onondaga Lake the great chiefs met in conference, with Hiawatha as adviser, to nominate the first council. Hiawatha was adopted by the Mohawks as one of their chiefs.

The strength of the league spread until an alliance was formed even with the distant Ojibways. The pact remained inviolate for 200 years until French influence undid this portion of Hiawatha's work. Hiawatha thought beyond his time and beyond ours. For more than three centuries the bond he welded held and the territory of the Iroquois spread. It was the "Great Asylum" for many tribes. The Tuscaroras, expelled from North Carolina, became the Sixth Nation. Eries,

Hurons, Tuteloës, Nanticokes, Mohegans, Mississagas and others received the hospitable protection of the Iroquois League and many were adopted. Our own reverence for the Constitution pales before the great gratitude of the Six Nations for the "Great Peace" created by Hiawatha and his colleagues.

Cornplanter

Cornplanter, orator and leader of the Senecas, was born about 1742, the son of John Abeel, a young fur trader and the son of a former mayor of Albany. His mother was a Seneca Indian princess named Aliquippiso, whom Abeel, then under twenty, married in a red man's ceremony after a forest courtship in the wilds of the Finger Lakes Region. The name Cornplanter is a free translation of his native cognomen, Kailiontwakon, meaning The One Who Plants.

No more romantic tale of the lake country frontier exists than that in which Cornplanter saved his white father's life. The father left his home with the Indians and married Mary Knouts, a German girl and was living with her when the Revolution broke out. In October, 1780, a year after Sullivan's invasion of the Finger Lakes, he was taken prisoner by the Indians. He looked for death, but a young warrior, Cornplanter, called

him father. He was given liberty to return to his white family. Later Cornplanter visited his father, and there, with his stepmother and half brothers and sisters, was cordially received.

Best authorities deny the claims of some historians that Cornplanter was also known as Handsome Lake, was the son of a Romanist priest, an English merchant and a French trader. Cornplanter derived his authority not by succession but through recognition of his natural abilities as a leader. He was one of the most



Monument to Logan, Fort Hill Cemetery, Auburn

prominent Senecas of military rank. As late as 1792, Chief Cornplanter, referring to the destruction by the Sullivan Expedition, made this eloquent address to Washington in person:

"Father, the voice of the nation speaks to you, the great counselor, in whose heart the wise men of the thirteen fires have placed their wisdom. It may be very small in your ears and we therefore entreat you to hearken with attention, for we are about to speak to you of things which to us are very great. When your army entered the country of the Six Nations, we called you the Town Destroyer; and to this day, when that name is heard, our women look behind them and turn pale, and our children cling close to the sides of their mothers. Our counselors and warriors are men and cannot be afraid; but their hearts are grieved with fear for their women and children, and desire the past may be buried so deep as to be heard no more."

Logan

The mediator, the lover of peace, the orator—that was Logan, the Indian whose most famous speech has been translated into many languages and has become a model of eloquence for American schoolboys. Generally classed as a Cayuga, he was reputed to have been born where Auburn stands, and died two years after the Sullivan expedi-



Replica of Iroquois Long House, built at Keuka College.

tion. But his memory remains enshrined in the Finger Lakes country as the friend of the white man. In 1852, almost three quarters of a century after his death, there rose in the ancient Indian fortress, now



When the dry season hushed murmuring waters in Great Gully, where citadel of Cayugas was located.

Fort Hill Cemetery, Auburn, N. Y., a great stone shaft in his memory—a monument of esteem reared with the free will gifts of Auburnians to an Indian of whom Judge William Brown of Pennsylvania once said: He "was the best specimen of humanity I have ever met with, either white or red."

It was in 1749, when he was but twenty-two years old, that Logan inherited from his father al-

most unlimited jurisdiction over the tribes of Pennsylvania, north to the Long House among the Finger Lakes and west as far as the crest of the Alleghenies. It was not long until the general council of the Onondagas raised him to a Sachem of the Shamokims and he was elected Sachem of the Cayugas as well.

In 1754 he represented the Six Nations at a meeting with the proprietaries at Albany on the sale of lands. Then opened the long list of broken treaties and while the French and English and the Indians were in strife, Logan kept to his cabin. In 1770 he moved to the Allegheny and Ohio river region. Still further down the Ohio he went, finally stopping at Yellow Creek.

There his troubles began. Capt. Michael Cresap, a land jobber, heading a body of ruffians, fired upon a canoe full of Indians paddling along the Ohio, massacring them all. The same evening in bloody debauch Cresap visited an Indian encampment and his gang ambuscaded the red men without provocation.



Monument at Canandaigua, commemorating the council held by Col. Timothy Pickering and others with the Six Nations in 1794. It was erected in 1902 by Dr. Dwight R. Burrell. Weighing thirty tons, the boulder is located on the Court House square.



A few days later on April 13, 1774, while Logan was away on a hunting trip, a party of thirty-two whites invited five braves, several squaws and a two months old baby across Yellow Creek to a tavern, feigning hospitality and offering drink. Unarmed, all the Indians save the baby were killed and most of them scalped. These unprovoked massacres wiped out the whole family of Logan. In the last killing were his brother and sister, the mother of the baby.

When Logan returned, vengeance sent him on the warpath.

Thirty white scalps adorned his belt. But humanity was still in his heart. On July 12, 1774 with eight warriors he attacked a settlement on the Muskingum and captured two prisoners. His mates prepared the pair for torture. But Logan cut the cords of one. The man was saved from severe torture.

In his bitterness, Logan debauched freely and is said to have been shot in 1791 by his own nephew in a drunken brawl. The name Logan is believed to have been taken from the benevolent

James Logan, friend of the Indian chief's father and of William Penn.

It was in 1774 that Logan's career was at its zenith and he delivered his historic speech. Beneath an ancient elm, on the plains of Pickway, six miles south of Circleville, O. he met Col. John Dunmore of Virginia and agreed to end the last great war between the Indian

and the white man in the Ohio valley. Thomas Jefferson in speaking of his address there beside the Scioto River declares it to challenge the art of Cicero, Demosthenes and European and American statesmen. Logan said:

"I appeal to any white man if he ever entered Logan's cabin hungry and I gave him not bread; if ever he came cold and naked and I gave him not clothing. During the course of the last long and bloody, war, Logan remained in his tent, an advocate of peace. Nay, such was my love for the whites that those of my own country pointed at me as they passed and said, 'Logan is the friend of white men.'

"I have even thought to live with you, but for the injuries of one man. Colonel Cresap, last spring, in cold blood and unprovoked, cut off all the relatives of Logan; not sparing even my women and children. There runs not a drop of my blood in the veins of a human creature. This called on me for revenge. I have sought it. I have killed many. I have

fully glutted my vengeance. For my country I rejoice at the beams of peace. Yet, do not harbor the thought that mine is the joy of fear. Logan never felt fear. He will not turn his heel to save his life. Who is there to mourn for Logan? Not one."

That plaintive call of woe is wrought in bronze upon Auburn's monument to Logan's memory.



Slate Rock Falls near Geneva, beside whose tumbling waters once lay an Indian village wiped out by smallpox.



Red Jacket

Sagoyewatha, or Red Jacket as he was called by the British because of a red toac he always wore, was born about 1755 presumably at Canoga on the west side of Cayuga Lake. As a boy he resided on Lake Keuka and some claim he was born near Branchport. In civil life his name was Otetiana, meaning Always Ready. On his elevation as chief in the ranks of the Senecas, he received the name, Sagoyewatha, meaning He Keeps Them Awake..

Little is known of his early career, but it is known he was never a warrior. When Sullivan's invasion came to the lake country, he advised retreat. But the fame of his eloquence was a byword throughout Long House. The speech of Red Jacket at the great council of the confederated Indians, held at the mouth of the Detroit River in 1784, was supposed to have been his first public address. It is commonly believed that he was present at the Treaty of Fort Stanwix in 1784, opposing the treaty.

Red Jacket was among the fifty Indian chiefs who accepted an invitation from Washington to attend a conference in Philadelphia in 1791. There he made one of the greatest addresses of his life and was presented with a great silver medal by Washington, a token which he wore until his death.

The great orator had a deep rooted antipathy for Christianity, because of his experience with violated treaties and white treachery. One of his most famous speeches was made in 1805 at a council of Indians at Buffalo, when a missionary from Massachusetts came to introduce faith.

"The Great Spirit will not punish us for what we do not know * * * *," he said. "These Black Coats talk to the Great Spirit and ask light that we may see as they do, when they are blind themselves and quarrel about the light that guides them. These things we do not understand."

At one time he fell into discredit in his tribe, when enemies denounced him with a charge of witchcraft. At his trial, three hours of oration acquitted him.

In the war of 1812 the Senecas enlisted with the forces of the United States, with Red Jacket as a leader. He distinguished himself in action near Fort George on August 17, 1813, when the British were defeated. Prisoners at his direction, were treated with humanity. As late as 1821 he protested against the intrusions of missionaries.

Until the day of his death he continued to enjoy distinction and always wore a great medal bestowed upon him by Washington. He lived in a log cabin in a lonely spot near Buffalo, and scarcely a traveler passed that way without calling upon the chief so celebrated for his wisdom and oratory. Red Jacket understood English well, but would never converse in it, nor reply to a speech in English until it had been trans-

lated to him. He died January 20, 1830, due to a broken heart over the losses of the hunting grounds of his people. He was buried on the Buffalo reservation and on October 9, 1884, the remains were removed and again laid to rest in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, with imposing ceremonies. A handsome monument was unveiled there June 22, 1891 in memory of the Indian Chiefs buried on the spot. Another monument to this orator is at Canoga.



Quaint Indian legends were woven about this waterfalls in Naples Glen.

Joseph Brant

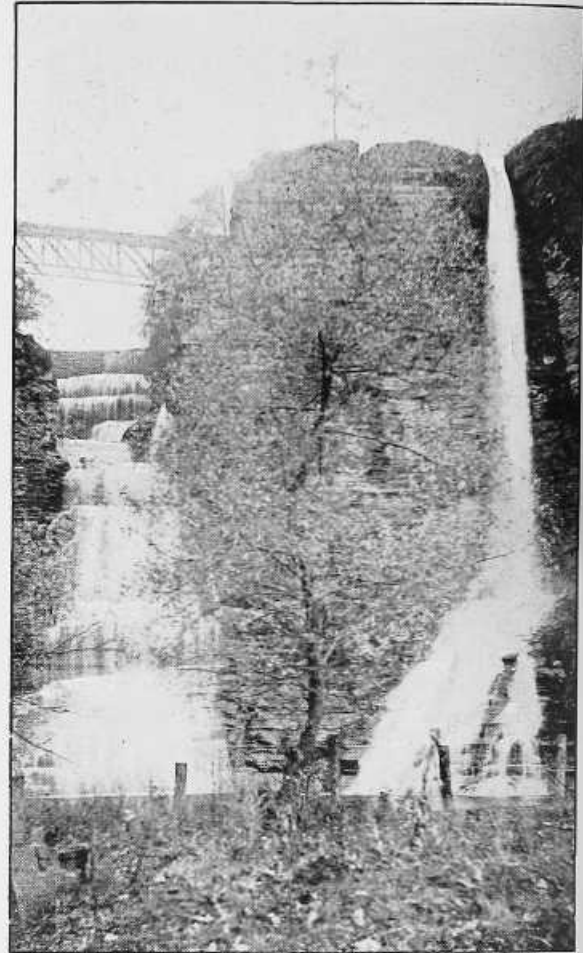
A savage marauder of the frontier, Joseph Brant, or Thayendanegea, as the Indians called him, has left a name whose recollection envisions slaughter, massacre, pillage, plunder, burning and devastation. As a war chief of the Mohawks he was a terror of the Finger Lakes a century and a half ago and no Indian played a greater part in the stirring events of the Revolution.

Brant's natural gifts were enhanced through circumstance. Because his sister, Molly, was the mistress of Sir William Johnson, baronet and popular British Indian agent who died in 1774, he was provided with a fair English education at Lebanon, Conn. Johnson gave him a responsible position in the Indian agency, which he held until the Revolution, when he fled to Montreal, was taken to Britain, presented to the nobility and was persuaded that ancient treaties of his people bound him as an ally to English arms.

The Indian came back to America to lead his dusky warriors against the colonists—a man of dauntless courage, lofty bearing and inhuman ferocity. Historians claim he was the Indian commander in the massacres of Wyoming and Cherry Valley. It was Brant who led the Indians at the battle of Newtown, with Col. John Butler, Indian land speculator, Tory and friend of Sir William Johnson, leading the Royalists. As the principal Iroquois leader he harried the settlers on the Schoharie, Susquehanna and Delaware rivers unmercifully.

In 1780 Brant surprised and burned Harpersfield and tormented the Mohawk valley all summer with about 500 Indians. After the declaration of peace in 1782, this implacable chief tried to incite another war against the colonies and was a powerful figure as late as 1795. In 1792 he had an interview with Washington.

Capt. Jeremiah Snyder thus described Brant: "He was a likely fellow of fierce aspect—tall, rather spare—well spoken and about thirty years of age. He wore moccasins elegantly trimmed with beads, leggings and breech-cloth of superfine blue, short green coat with



Glenora Falls, near Dundee, over 160 feet high.

silver epaulets, and a small laced round hat. He carried a silver mounted cutlass and was draped in a blanket of blue cloth, gorgeously decorated with a red border."

As the result of his service in the Revolution the British gave Brant a grant of land in 1785 at the western extremity of Lake Ontario in Canada, where he lived until his death, Nov. 24, 1807. Here he had forty negro slaves, cowed by the threat of the tomahawk should they attempt to escape. In the latter years of his life he received a captain's half pay from the British, together with presents which amounted to \$2,500 a year. In age he studied Greek and translated a portion of the New Testament into the Mohawk tongue.



The modern camper pitches his tent where the red man once built his long house.