

removing to the store previously occupied by Daniel Foote, opposite the residence of Richard Morgan. In 1810, Mr. Morgan built a store just south of Richard Morgan's residence, which he occupied until 1827, when his son, Edwin B. Morgan, succeeded him in the business, and in 1829, erected the building now occupied by his brother Richard, next south of the hotel, discontinuing the old store in 1830. In 1831, Edwin formed a copartnership with his brother Henry. George, another brother, subsequently acquired an interest in the business, and sold August 9th, 1850, to his brother Richard, who also bought Henry's interest April 1st, 1856, and Edwin's January 1st, 1859. In 1850, the firm name was Morgans, and remained such until 1859, when it became R. Morgan. March 6th, 1863, Richard admitted his son Christopher B. to partnership, and the business has since been conducted under the name of *R. Morgan & Son*. This, with one exception, is said to be the oldest mercantile house in the State.

Jonathan Swan, a Quaker, from Western, Oneida county, came about 1812, and opened a store, which he continued until about 1820. He continued to reside in the village till his death. Mary, wife of Wm. Wilkinson, of Buffalo, and Joseph R. Swan, an ex-Judge and a distinguished citizen of Columbus, Ohio, are children of his. Charles E. Shepard, a native of the town, son of Daniel Shepard, a lawyer, who settled in the village about 1795, opened a store about 1830, which he continued some ten years, when he read law and removed to Buffalo, where he now resides. Frederick E. Curtis and John Marsh opened a store about the same time as Shepard. They did business some six years and failed. Both are natives of this town, in which their parents were early settlers. Ephraim C. Marsh, father of John Marsh, came from Morristown, New Jersey, and settled and cleared up a lot two miles south of the village, which was awarded to his father for Revolutionary services, and on which he resided till his death, January 2d, 1842, aged fifty-five. Curtis soon after removed to New Jersey, where he now resides. Marsh is living on a farm adjoining his father's homestead. Numerous persons did business here for short periods of time, but were not prominent as business men.

Those who are at present doing business in

the village besides the Messrs. Morgan are Samuel G. Daykin, proprietor of a shoe store, who commenced here in the spring of 1865, having previously carried on the same business at Scipioville since 1852; R. Murphy, grocer, who bought out Johnson McDowell in 1872; Wm. Martin, grocer, who commenced in the spring of 1875, having previously resided here since 1867; and Arthur Parsons, hardware dealer, who came from Poplar Ridge, in Venice, where he had resided some eighteen years, and bought out W. O. Cory in March, 1877.

POSTMASTERS.—The post-office at Aurora was established at *Scipio*, April 1st, 1795, with Judge Walter Wood as postmaster. Previous to that date there was no post-office in the State west of Canajoharie. Contemporary with the establishment of the office at Aurora, offices were established at *Onondaigua*, with Comfort Tyler as postmaster; *Kanandaigua*, with Thaddeus Chapin as postmaster; at Whitestown; Geneva, with John Johnson as postmaster. Offices were established at Auburn, as *Aurelius*, in 1804; Canajoharie, March 20th, 1793; Schenectady, April 25th, 1793; and Lansingburgh, October 9th, 1793. The comparative importance of the settlements at these respective places may thus be seen. The receipts of the office at Aurora the first year were \$39.28. Edward Paine contracted to carry the mail from Cooperstown three years at \$175 per year. April 1st, 1810, the name of the office was changed to Aurora, and another office was established at Stewarts Corners, (*Venice*), also bearing the name *Scipio*, with James Glover as postmaster.

Judge Wood held the office till his removal to Montville in 1811, when he was succeeded by his son-in-law, Eleazer Burnham, who had been deputy since 1798, and who held the office till about 1822, when Seneca Wood, son of Walter, was appointed and held it till about 1828. He was succeeded January 1st, of that year, by Lazarus Ewer who held it till his death September 4th, 1834. Charles E. Shepard next received the appointment and held the office until 1841, when he was succeeded by Charles Campbell, who held it till January, 1843. Campbell was succeeded by Edward Dougherty, who held the office till 1844 or 5, when John Lincklaen Cuyler was appointed and held it till 1849. Chas. Campbell again succeeded to the office and held

it till 1853. John Marsh, Cuyler's brother-in-law, held the office from 1853-'61; Richard Morgan, from 1861-'3; Ebenezer W. Arms, from 1863-'69; Johnson McDowell, from 1869 to June 16th, 1870, at which time Christopher B. Morgan, the present incumbent, was appointed.

PHYSICIANS—The first physician at Aurora, was Frederick Delano, who came from Orange county about 1792, and practiced till his death July 26th, 1825, aged 60. He was one of the original members of the *Cayuga County Medical Society*, which was organized at the tavern of Daniel Avery in Aurora, August 7th, 1806, a sketch of which is given in connection with the general history of the County. He was a skillful physician and an honor to the profession. None of his children are living. John Gridley came in about 1826 and practiced some ten years, when he removed and immediately after became a Presbyterian clergyman.

Alexander Thompson, son of John and Charlotte Thompson, was born at Sherwood May 2d, 1819, and educated at Cayuga Academy, Aurora. He studied medicine with his father at Sherwood, and attended medical lectures at New York. He joined the County Medical Society August 7th, 1834, and having practiced a short time with his father, removed to Aurora about 1840 or '41, and practiced there till his death September 21st, 1869. December 24th, 1842, he married Eliza, daughter of Eleazer Burnham. He afterwards married Mary, daughter of Lyman Root of Albany, who survives him. He was a distinguished physician, and enjoyed an extensive practice, by which he amassed a handsome fortune. He was for one year president of the State Medical Society. He was not less distinguished in the departments of horticulture and floriculture, especially the latter. His extensive gardens and rare botanical collection formed one of the chief attractions of the village.

Elijah Price Baker was born in Owasco June 12th, 1819; and educated at Skaneateles Academy. He studied medicine with his father Dr. Abel Baker of Owasco, and commenced practice with him in that village in 1847. In April, 1848, he removed to Fleming, where he practiced till June, 1862, having joined the County Medical Society January 18th, of the previous year, (1861.) He removed thence to Meridian, and practiced there till November, 1869, when he removed to

Aurora, where he has since practiced. He attended lectures and received a diploma at the Geneva Medical College in 1847.

Elisha Morgan, John N. Clarke and Elisha Leffingwell joined the County Medical Society while residents of Aurora; Morgan, August 7th, 1828, Clarke, August 6th, 1835, and Leffingwell, June 2d, 1843. Clarke came from Danby, Tompkins county, about the time he joined the Society, and practiced here some ten or twelve years, when he returned to Danby. Leffingwell came from Vermont about 1843, and died here February 10th, 1871. Thomas Siveter, an Englishman, came in from London, England, and joined the County Medical Society, August 3d, 1826. He practiced here till about 1840, when he removed to Iowa. Henry B. Fellows came from Sennett in 1865 and removed to Chicago.

BENCH AND BAR.—The early establishment of the courts at Aurora attracted here some of the best legal talent of the county. Silas Marsh, a brilliant counsellor, was the first resident lawyer. He practiced till about 1806, and removed from the town. Judge Walter Wood, who has been noticed in connection with the early settlement of the town, practiced here from 1795, till his removal to Montville in 1811. Thomas Mumford and Glen Cuyler practiced here previous to 1798, and were lawyers of marked ability. The former was Surrogate of Onondaga county from October 1st, 1797, till the erection of Cayuga County, March 8th, 1799; and the latter of Cayuga County from March 14th, 1799, to February 5th, 1811, and again from February 26th, 1813, to February 28th, 1815, being succeeded each time by Eleazer Burnham. Glen Cuyler was a brother of Cornelius Cuyler. He came from Albany about 1794 and settled in the village, where he practiced till his death, September 1st, 1832. Margaret L., who is living with Mrs. John L. Cuyler, in Syracuse, is the only one of his children living. Daniel Shepard was born in June, 1771. He came in from Connecticut about 1795, and settled in the village, nearly opposite the residence of Mr. William H. Bogart. He practiced here till his death, September 22d, 1819. He was a highly respected lawyer.

Eleazer Burnham, who has also been noticed in connection with the early settlement of the town, came from Bennington, Vt., in 1798, and entered the office of Judge Wood, with whom he

formed a law partnership in 1804, which continued till the removal of the latter to Montville. He practiced till about 1825, when failing health compelled him to discontinue. He was an able lawyer, and an estimable citizen. He was Surrogate from February 5th, 1811, to February 26th, 1813, and again from February 28th, 1815, to June 7th, 1820. He represented this County in the Assembly in 1826.

Benjamin Ledyard Cuyler, son of Glen Cuyler, was born in Aurora, September 15th, 1797. He studied law with his father, and commenced practice about 1819, continuing till his death, June 30th, 1826. He married Louisa, daughter of Charles H. Morrell, of Aurora, who survives him and is living with their only child, the Rev. Dr. Theodore L. Cuyler, of Brooklyn. He was appointed Surrogate February 14th, 1821, and held that office till his death. He was gifted with talents of a high order, and these had been cultivated by all the advantages which ample fortune, liberal education and respectable patronage could bestow.

Michael S. Myers came from Auburn, and formed a law partnership with Glen Cuyler. He returned to Auburn, (where further mention is made of him,) on his election as County Clerk in November, 1828. Alva Worden, also from Auburn, practiced here several years in connection with Isaac and Seneca Wood, till his removal to Canandaigua, where he died. He was a brother-in-law of Gov. Seward. Christopher Morgan, of whom mention is made in connection with the early settlements, practiced here several years in connection with Ebenezer W. Arms, the latter of whom was from Greenfield, Massachusetts, about 1834, and practiced till his death, January 15th, 1877. His wife, who is a daughter of Daniel Avery, is still living in the village. He was elected District-Attorney in June, 1847, and held that office till November, 1850, when he was succeeded by Hon. Theo. M. Pomeroy of Auburn. Isaac, Thomas and Seneca Wood, sons of Judge Walter Wood, practiced here. David Wright came from Pennsylvania about 1830, and practiced here till his removal to Auburn. Oliver Wood came from Venice, his native town, and practiced till his removal to Auburn.

N. Lansing Zabriskie was born in Flat Bush, L. I., February 18th, 1838, and educated at the Erasmus Hall Academy of his native place. He

graduated at Union College, in 1857, and in 1858 commenced the study of law with Abraham Lott, of Brooklyn. He was admitted to the bar in 1861, and commenced practice that year in Brooklyn, from whence he removed in 1867 to Aurora, where he is still practicing. June 20th, 1865, he married Louise F., daughter of Col. Edwin B. Morgan of Aurora. He has been Justice several years. Thomas J. Bradford studied law with N. Lansing Zabriskie at Aurora, and was graduated from the law school of Union University in May, 1876. He was admitted the same year, and has since practiced at Aurora.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF AURORA.—At a meeting of persons interested in the organization of a bank at Aurora, held March 4th, 1864, Henry Morgan and Talmadge Delafield were authorized to call a meeting of the subscribers to its capital stock, and to do whatever was necessary to secure the organization under the above name.

The first meeting of the stockholders was held at the Aurora House March 8th, 1864, and was attended by Henry Wells, Henry Morgan, John Searing, Talmadge Delafield, John E. Williams, Sanford Gifford, Augustine C. Boyer, Alex. Thompson and Mathias Hutchinson. The meeting was called to order by Henry Wells, and Dr. A. Thompson was made chairman, and Oliver Wood, secretary. Articles of association were adopted; the capital stock fixed at \$52,000, with power to increase it to any sum not exceeding \$200,000; the association was to continue till February 25th, 1883, unless sooner dissolved; and Henry Wells, Samuel Adams, Alex. Thompson, Edwin B. Morgan, Augustine C. Boyer, Talmadge Delafield, Henry Morgan, Sanford Gifford and Leonard Searing were elected Directors. A meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the same place, the same day, and Henry Wells was chosen president, Talmadge Delafield, cashier, and D. L. Parmelee, book-keeper and teller. Messrs. Thompson, Wells and Delafield were appointed a committee on buildings, etc., and the capital stock was increased to \$100,000. March 15th, 1864, the building committee were instructed to purchase or lease of Henry Morgan, the stone building on Main street, now occupied by the Bank. Thirty per cent. of the capital stock was called in, payable April 1st, 1864. April 6th,

1864, it was decided to purchase the building above referred to for \$1,100, and it was changed to adapt it to its present use. The seal adopted by the Bank is a reproduction of Palmer's *Morning*, encircled by the name of the Bank. June 1st, 1864, the remainder of the stock was called in, payable July 1st, 1864. January 4th, 1865, the old directors were reelected and James H. Wells and John E. Williams were added, increasing the number to eleven. December 4th, 1868, it was resolved to reduce the number of directors to nine, and at the election of January 6th, 1869, the names of Henry Morgan and James H. Wells were dropped. Dr. Thompson died in 1869, and E. T. Brown was elected to fill the vacancy. November 3d, 1870, the office of assistant cashier was created, and Allen Mosher received the appointment as such. February 11th, 1871, the office of vice-president was created, and E. B. Morgan elected to that position. Delafield's resignation as cashier was tendered June 13th, 1871, and accepted July 17th, 1871. Allen Mosher was made acting cashier September 19th, 1871, and elected cashier December 4th, 1872. He still holds that office. Mr. Wells resigned the presidency November 3d, 1875. E. B. Morgan was elected to that office the same day, and still holds it. N. L. Zabriskie was elected vice-president to fill the vacancy occasioned by Mr. Morgan's promotion, and has since held the office. Allen Mosher was elected director January 8th, 1873, in place of E. T. Brown; N. L. Zabriskie, January 6th, 1875, in place of Leonard Searing, who died that year; and Henry A. Morgan, January 5th, 1876, in place of Mr. Delafield. January 2d, 1878, the number of Directors was reduced to seven, a reduction to that number having been previously effected by the resignation of Henry Wells, and the death of John E. Williams, in 1876.

The Bank paid a uniform semi-annual dividend of four per cent. from the date of its organization till August 1st, 1871, except February 1st, 1866, when three per cent. was paid, and February 1st, 1871, when three and one-half per cent. was paid. From that date to February 1st, 1876, three and one-half per cent. was paid semi-annually, except February 1st, 1873, and August 1st, 1874, when nothing was paid. Nothing was paid August 1st, 1876; and February 1st, 1877; but since then three per cent. has been paid semi-annually.

Following is a statement of the resources and liabilities October 1st, 1878:

RESOURCES.

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Loans and discounts----- | \$ 77,248 69 |
| Overdrafts ----- | 131 42 |
| U. S. bonds to secure circulation-- | 95,000 00 |
| Other stocks, bonds and mortgages | 41,450 00 |
| Due from reserve agents----- | 16,124 45 |
| Due from other National Banks---- | 2,102 11 |
| Banking House----- | 3,300 00 |
| Checks and other cash items----- | 53 36 |
| Bills of other banks----- | 1,753 00 |
| Fractional currency and nickels--- | 12 94 |
| Gold and silver coin----- | 140 00 |
| Legal tender notes----- | 3,200 00 |
| Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer ----- | 4,275 00 |
| | \$244,790 97 |

LIABILITIES.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Capital stock----- | \$100,000 00 |
| Surplus fund----- | 5,000 00 |
| Undivided profits----- | 7,294 11 |
| Circulation outstanding----- | 85,500 00 |
| Dividends unpaid----- | 18 00 |
| Deposits ----- | 46,672 06 |
| Due National Banks----- | 306 80 |
| | \$244,790 97 |

SCHOOLS.—Aurora is justly noted for its excellent schools.

CAYUGA LAKE ACADEMY AT AURORA.—On the 2d of February, 1801, Walter Wood, Daniel Shepard, Frederick Delano, Daniel Foote, Daniel Avery, Thomas Mumford, Silas Marsh, Seth Burgess, Jr., Jared Cornell, Samuel Brush, Seth Phelps and Glen Cuyler, made application to the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York for the incorporation of Cayuga Academy, they having contributed more than half in value of the real and personal property of the Academy.

On the 23d of March, 1801, the Regents granted their certificate of incorporation, with the following named persons as first Trustees, viz: Seth Phelps, Benjamin Ledyard, Walter Wood, Seth Sherwood, John Tillotson, Thomas Hewitt, Silas Hutchinson, Jonas Whitney, Silas Halsey, Benjamin Dey, Wilhemus Mynders, Thomas Mumford, John L. Hardenbergh, Ezekiel Sales and Elijah Price.

The document was signed by

"JOHN JAY, ESQUIRE,
"Chancellor of the University."

On December 21st, 1802, Benjamin Ledyard, by a deed of gift, conveyed to the Trustees the present Academy lot with the buildings then upon it. The first Academy building was destroyed by fire in 1804, and a larger and more commodious building was erected upon its site and occupied for the purposes of the Academy until the year 1835, when it was supplanted by the brick building which now contains the school-rooms and lecture hall. The old building was removed to another site, and is now occupied by the Methodist Episcopal congregation of Aurora as a place of worship.

In 1856 another brick building, 38 by 56 feet in size and four stories in height, containing the library, apartments for the Principal's family and rooms for fifty students, was added.

In 1827 Walter Wood, by a legacy in his will, gave to the Trustees \$1,000, to be kept invested by them as a permanent fund, and the income to be applied towards the education of orphans and indigent children, which trust has been faithfully performed, and many now occupying positions of responsibility and honor, whose education was obtained by this means, thankfully testify to the wisdom and forethought of the founder of "The Walter Wood Fund."

The Academy has also received other endowments, John Morgan, in 1840, giving by will \$3,500 for the general purposes of the institution, and Edwin B. Morgan, in 1854, establishing a permanent fund of \$5,000, the income of which has ever since been applied to increase the equipment and usefulness of the institution.

The first President of the Board of Trustees was Seth Phelps, and the first Secretary, Glen Cuyler.

John Ely was the first Principal of the Academy.

January 15th, 1860, the name was changed to *Cayuga Lake Academy*.

This institution thus ranks among the oldest academies of the State, and has enjoyed a long career of honor and usefulness, sending forth from its halls many whose names have justly been held in high esteem in every vocation of life,—names that have been an honor and a power in the pulpit, at the bar, on the bench, and in the councils of the State and Nation.

The present Board of Trustees are Edwin B. Morgan, President; Allen Mosher, Henry Mor-

gan, Lewis Himrod, N. L. Zabriskie, Augustine C. Boyer, James B. Smith.

The library contains about 3,000 volumes, judiciously and carefully selected.

The Academy, under the able direction of Charles Kelsey, A. M., and Mrs. M. A. Kelsey, with a competent corps of assistants, is one of the most flourishing institutions of learning in the State. One of its peculiar features, and in which it is believed to differ from any other in this State, is a class for the instruction of deaf mutes in articulation, which was organized in 1871, and is under the personal care of Mrs. Kelsey, who has had very gratifying success in this department.

Care is taken to promote physical health by timely and judicious exercise, and to inculcate sound morals.

WELLS COLLEGE, at Aurora, was incorporated March 28th, 1868, under the title of "Wells Seminary for the higher education of young women." The name was changed in 1870, to *Wells College*, and by the Legislature was granted all the rights and privileges pertaining to its advanced character.

The trustees named in the charter of incorporation were Henry Wells, Charles H. Wells, James H. Welles, William W. Howard, Alexander Thompson, Edwin B. Morgan, Talmadge Delafield, William H. Bogart, Frederic W. Seward; Nathan K. Hall, Jonathan B. Condit, Charles J. Folger, Alexander Howland, John Scott Boyd, William E. Dodge, Charles B. Sedgwick and Henry Foster.

July 19th, 1867, the corner-stone of the college building was laid with appropriate ceremonies. It is a brick edifice of the Elizabethian style of architecture, with gray stone trimmings, ample in size to accommodate eighty students, a full corps of teachers and the requisite servants. It is heated by steam, and a private gas house and reservoir furnish light and water to the entire building. Its cost together with furniture and appurtenances was met entirely by Henry Wells, who, July 23d, 1868, gave to the trustees a deed of the same, including twenty acres of land surrounding. He also, in August, 1875, made a further donation of twelve acres of land adjoining, upon which was a handsome residence for the president of the institution.

August 12th, 1873, Edwin B. Morgan of Au-

rora, generously supplemented the gift of Mr. Wells by presenting to the college an endowment fund of \$100,000, the principal to remain intact and the interest to be devoted to the furtherance of the educational interests of the college according to the best judgment of the trustees. In 1878 he further increased his donation by erecting at his own expense a fine additional building of brick and stone, adapted most fully to the growing want felt in the departments of natural and physical science, music and painting. A large and well-appointed gymnasium also forming a part, at a cost of \$25,000.

No more desirable location could be selected for a school of its character. Surrounded by its fine grounds of more than thirty acres, sloping picturesquely with lawn and woodland to the edge of the lake at its borders; with a quiet retirement and privacy most favorable to the higher needs of a scholastic life; with apparatus, libraries, cabinets, laboratory, and every facility for the acquirement of a thorough education at the hands of an experienced corps of professors and teachers; the college has rapidly advanced to a leading place among the best schools for the education of women.

Much attention is paid to physical culture—gymnastics and calisthenics in the winter; boating, archery and walking excursions in the fall and spring. The healthy body, fully as much as the sound mind, is regarded a most essential requisite to success in whatever sphere in life man or woman may be called upon to move.

The first term of the College began in September, 1868, and a class has been graduated each year since then. Several hundred young ladies, representing some nineteen States, have received the benefit of its educational advantages.

Rev. Wm. W. Howard, D. D., was elected President at the opening of the institution; he resigned in 1869.

Rev. I. Iranaeus Prime, D. D., was elected in 1869, and resigned in 1873.

Rev. Thos. C. Strong, D. D., was elected in 1873, and resigned in 1875.

Rev. Edward S. Frisbie, D. D., the present incumbent, was elected in 1875.

December 10th, 1878, the founder of the College, Henry Wells, died in Glasgow, Scotland. By his death his friends lost a genial and warm-hearted companion, his associates a sagacious and

far-seeing advisor, society an upright man, and the cause of education a hearty and generous supporter.*

CHURCHES.—Of the early settlers in Ledyard and the adjoining towns a large proportion were Friends, who rapidly became a numerous and influential body of citizens. Their simple lives, temperate, frugal and industrious habits and peaceful characteristics, are still manifested in their descendants, modified, to some extent, by the great changes which have occurred in the community at large. They were devout, consistent Christians, and soon after the settlement of the first family they commenced to hold religious meetings. In 1799, the first Friends meeting in the County was organized at the house of Benjamin Howland, who came in with his family the previous year, and was assisted in its formation by the families of John and Isaac Wood and James Wood and sister, who came in that year (1799). During the first six months meetings were held at Mr. Howland's house. After that an adjacent log-house was purchased, and an addition built thereto. This was the first Friends meeting-house in Cayuga County. This meeting was termed an "indulged meeting," it was subordinate and belonged to the Farmington Quarterly Meeting in Ontario County. In 1811 their numbers had so increased that a new meeting-house was built two miles west of Poplar Ridge, associated with which were the names of Allen and Abial Mosher, John Brotherton, Ebenezer Wanzler, John Winslow, John and Nehemiah Merritt, Sylvanus Hussey, Rufus Winslow and others, all of whom are dead.

In 1818, a meeting-house was erected in the Salmon Creek Valley, in Venice, associated with which were the Halsteds, Kenyons, Sherwoods, Uptons and others. In 1821, a meeting-house was built two miles west of Scipioville, associated with which were Thomas Estes, Charles and Abner Gifford, Israel Cox, Joseph Hoxie, Aaron Baker, Joseph Frost and others. In 1834, the brick meeting-house one and one-half miles west of Sherwood was built. Its elderly members were Humphrey and Slocum Howland, Joseph Talcott, Joshua Baldwin, John E. Williams, Job Otis, David Thomas and others.

* We acknowledge our indebtedness to Col. E. B. Morgan of Aurora, for the preceding sketches of *Cayuga Lake Academy and Wells College*.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AURORA was organized August 24th, 1818, by Rev. J. G. Ogilvie. It was composed of the following persons, who were members of the *First Congregational Church of Scipio*, of which this is a continuation, viz: Lucius Stebbins, Lucius Gaylord, John Spalding, Eliza McCarty, Emily Hills, Elizabeth Hills, Rhoda Benedict, Elizabeth Huggins and Deborah Avery, who adopted articles of faith and were received under the care of the Presbytery of Cayuga, which met at Aurora, September 22d and 23d, 1818.

Stated public worship was established by members of this denomination in 1799. They were visited occasionally by missionaries from the Eastern States, prominent among whom was Rev. Seth Williston, whose labors culminated in the formation of a church in 1800. They adopted the Congregational form of government; and were, at an early day, one of the most able and promising churches in Western New York. As early as 1804 or '5 Rev. Hezekiah N. Woodruff was installed its pastor. He served them until June 22d, 1813.

Subsequently a second church, composed mostly, it is believed, of members from this, was formed and was received under the care of the Presbytery, February 20th, 1816. The formation of the present church in Aurora seems to have consisted simply in the change of the name of the one organized in 1800, which adopted the name of the *First Presbyterian Church of Scipio*.

The Presbytery which met at Aurora September 22d and 23d, 1818, installed Rev. James G. Ogilvie pastor. There were present at the meeting Revs. L. Parsons, D. C. Lansing, J. Lane, Wm. Wisner, J. Poole, Seth Smith, and Elders J. Hicock, J. Leonard, J. Oliphant, E. Cady and J. McKinne. Mr. Ogilvie's pastorate continued till 1823. He was succeeded June 30th of that year by Asa K. Buel, who remained till March 29th, 1825. Revs. Medad Pomeroy, Salmon Strong and George Allen preached occasionally between 1825 and 1829. Pomeroy died at Auburn June 20th, 1867, aged seventy-five. Strong was principal of Cayuga Lake Academy from 1813-'15; three years at Princeton Theological Seminary; tutor for two years at Hamilton College; and again principal for eight years of Cayuga Lake Academy. Rev. E. N. Nichols served them as pastor from July, 1829, to Decem-

ber 1st, 1830. He was succeeded in December, 1831, by Henry R. Hoisington, who served them till 1833, when he joined the Ceylon Mission. Chauncey Cook served them as pastor from December, 1833, to 1837. James Richards, Jr., commenced his labors with this church May 31st, 1837. He was installed July 19th, 1837; and dismissed in April, 1841. Charles N. Mattoon served them as a stated supply from May, 1841, until September, 1847. Richard Dickinson was a stated supply the latter year. Wm. R. Chapman served them from October 7th, 1850, to 1854. He was installed December 15th, 1850. P. P. Burnham was a stated supply from May, 1855, to September, 1856; and Daniel H. Temple, from October 4th, 1856, to April 7th, 1863. Wm. H. Howard entered upon the pastoral duties June 21st, 1863, was installed August 7th, 1863, and continued his labors with them till his death, July 1st, 1871. Thomas C. Strong, D. D., was installed pastor December 13th, 1871, and labored with them until August 22d, 1875. The pulpit was vacant from the time Dr. Strong left till March, 1877, when Wm. Aikman, D. D., the present pastor, commenced his labors with them. He was installed June 6th, 1877.

Lewis Stebbins was elected to the office of ruling elder at the organization. Samuel Mandell, a highly respected citizen, was elected ruling elder in 1836, and has held the office continuously since. Though ninety-one years old, he attends the morning service regularly.

The total number of persons who have joined the church is 564. The present number of members is 105. The Sabbath school numbers 85, with an average attendance of about sixty. Both spiritually and temporally, the church is in a healthy and prosperous condition.

The church edifice was built in 1819, and rebuilt in 1860. It is a handsome structure, occupying a beautiful site and supplied with a superior organ. It is at once a credit to the village and an honor to its projectors.

In addition to other memorial windows and works of art which have been noticed elsewhere, it contains an elaborately and beautifully finished window, which is a memorial to the sister of ex-Governor Dix, and bears this inscription:

"In memory of Rachel Dix Temple, the first Missionary Lady from this to the Holy Land. Died 1827. Gift of her sons, Daniel H. and Charles."

THE M. E. CHURCH OF AURORA was organized about 1836, and held meetings in an upper room in the residence of Stephen Gifford, deceased. The house is now occupied by his son, George W. Gifford. Their meetings were continued there until the old academy building was purchased, removed to its present site and repaired. The first pastors of whom we can obtain any account were S. C. Phinney and Sylvester Minier, who were here in the spring of 1839 and during that year. Peter Bridgeman succeeded them and remained one year. He was followed by A. Hamilton, John Crawford and O. M. McDowell. Isaac Parks, L. D. Tryon and Henry Ercanbrack served them in 1842 and '3; Edward L. Wadsworth and L. D. Tryon, in 1844-'5; Aaron Cross and Benoni I. Ives, in 1846; Aaron Cross and Hezekiah C. Hall, in 1847; H. C. Hall and Edwin G. Bush, in 1848; Edwin G. Bush and E. Nelson Cuykendall, in 1849; Doctor Lamkin, in 1851; Alanson Benjamin, in 1852; S. Orcott, in 1853; Richard L. Kenyon, in 1854; W. M. Spickerman, in 1855; I. O. Bower and William N. Cobb, in 1856-'7; A. Ensign, in 1859; F. B. Harrison, in 1860; D. R. Carrier, in 1861-'2; Albert B. Gregg, in 1863-'4; Ephraim C. Brown, in 1865, '6 and '7; Francis M. Warner, in 1868-'9; H. T. Giles, 1870-'72; E. Hoxie, in 1873-'5; J. S. Lemon, who left before the completion of the year and joined the Episcopal church, in 1876; W. M. Henry, in 1877-'8; and Wesley Mason, the present pastor, who commenced his labors with this church in the fall of 1878. The church is on the Union Springs charge. It is in a feeble condition, having a membership of only twenty-five.

ST. PAUL'S (EPISCOPAL) CHURCH OF AURORA was founded February 11th, 1835, under the Diocesan administration of Bishop Onderdonk, whose diocese was then the whole State of New York, a territory which now embraces five important dioceses. The Rev. Mr. Baldwin was its missionary, and under his efforts, which were warmly seconded by the family of Hon. Jonathan Richmond, the organization was effected. It lay dormant, however, for a long time, when services were renewed and continued for a series of years by Rev. John Leech. The meetings for public worship were held in the lower story of the Masonic Hall. Several clergymen continued here

in missionary service after the departure of Mr. Leech. Revs. Hagar, Beauchamp, Tomkins, Perrine, Williams and Smith, bring the line down to Rev. Alfred Brown, during whose ministrations, through the abundant liberality of Mr. E. W. Arms, was erected in 1870-'71, their beautiful church edifice, which stands on the east side of Milton or the main street. By its admirable construction from the plan of the architect, Mr. S. D. Mandell, it has won a place among the most tasteful edifices in the Central New York Diocese. Its ornamented, open-timbered roof is especially admired. The structure is built of light colored brick, profusely relieved by the blue limestone of Waterloo. It was consecrated in 1874, by the Rt. Rev. F. D. Huntington. Since the beginning of 1873, the church has enjoyed the intelligent and faithful labors of Rev. William H. Casey, a graduate of Trinity College, Cambridge, England.

Strangers visiting Aurora will be well repaid by an examination of the inner roof of this edifice, which is a beautiful specimen of skilled workmanship and architectural taste; also the mural tablet, monumental to Mr. Arms, from the designs of Mr. Palmer, the eminent American sculptor. The bas relief of *Grief*, in bronze, has received merited commendation. The edifice fronts the broad and beautiful lake, overlooking well kept pleasure grounds, and is entered by successive flights of stone steps, which give a pleasing effect. Its handsome range of solid black walnut pews, made from the designs of Mr. Mandell, in Mich., were the gift of Hon. Erastus Corning, late of Albany.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH (Catholic) of Aurora was organized in 1838. The pastor is Rev. T. A. Hendrick, of Union Springs.

Their church edifice is a neat though unpretentious brick structure, and being located upon the bank of Cayuga Lake, it presents a striking and beautiful appearance, as will be seen by a reference to the view of it given in this work.

SOCIETIES.—*Scipio Lodge No. 58, F. & A. M.*, at Aurora, was chartered March 22d, 1797. The charter officers were Seth Sherwood, *Master*; Comfort Tyler, *S. W.*; John Tillottson, *F. W.* The charter is signed by Robert Livingston, *Grand Master*; Jacob Morton, *D. G. M.*; James Scott, *S. G. W.*; and DeWitt Clinton, *F. G. W.*

The lodge was rechartered June 18th, 1846, and received then its present number, 110.

The present officers are: Wm. J. Morgan, *Master*; N. L. Zabriskie, *S. W.*; Christopher B. Morgan, *J. W.*; P. Seling, *Treasurer*; E. P. Baker, *Secretary*; Charles Kelsey, *S. D.*; Arthur Parsons, *J. D.* The present number of members is fifty. Meetings are held the first Monday of each month, in the building erected by the lodge in 1819. This building is admirably adapted to the uses of the lodge, the room in which the meetings are held being elliptical in shape and separated from the exterior walls by a passage which entirely surrounds it. It is in an excellent state of preservation. The cornerstone was laid by DeWitt Clinton, and still bears the initials of his name.

Following are the names of some of the early members, with the years in which their names first appeared upon the records, though many of them are known to have joined earlier than the years indicated: John Tillottson and Seth Sherwood, in 1797; August Chidsey, Andrew Simpson, Abner French, Daniel Shepard, Edward Paine, Edward Richardson, Edward Wheeler, Elisha Durkee, Fred'k Delano, Joseph Richardson, Jas. Barnes, Joseph Barnes, Jas. Bacon, Jonathan Richmond, Jonathan Hastings, Osborn Parson, Perley Kenney, Peres Brownell, Roswell Franklin, Victor S. Towsley, Walter Wood, Zebulon Taylor, Dudley Avery, Erastus Spalding, Stephen Downing, Matthew N. Tillottson, Phineas Rice, Jabez Bradey and George Barkley, in 1799; Thos. Luckey, Robert L. Tracy and Luther Gere, in 1800; Samuel Knapp, Wm. L. Morgan, Edmund Wright, Jedediah Morgan, James M. Devit, Christopher Morgan, Cornelius Cuyler and Benjamin Ledyard, in 1802.

AURORA CHAPTER No. 64, R. A. M., was chartered by the Grand Chapter of New York, at its convocation of 1819. Jedediah Morgan, who represented the Seventh District in the State Senate, from Aurora, in 1825-'6, Christopher Morgan and Jonathan Richmond, were specially mentioned in the resolution granting a warrant. Its name failed to appear in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, first at the convocation of 1828. Its charter was revived in 1849, and Jonathan Richmond, Salem Town, Charles D. Haight, Samuel Mandell, Charles E. Shepherd, John A. Dodge, Minard V. Babcock, Allen

Thomas, and Peter Yawger, were the petitioners and permitted to become the members thereof. Of these Samuel Mandell is the only one who survives.

The present officers (1878) are Wm. J. Morgan, *H. P.*; Coral C. White, Jr., *K*; Samuel D. Mandell, *Scribe*; Sanford Gifford, *Treasurer*; Delos Aikin, *Secretary*; Edward L. French, *C. H.*; E. P. Baker, *P. S.*; Charles Kelsey, *R. A. C.*; Patrick Seliny, *M. 3d Veil*; Lot C. Husted, *M. 2d and 1st Veils*; Maurice Polhemus, *Tiler*.

LEVANNA.

Levanna is a post village of 100 inhabitants, situated on the east shore of the lake and on the Cayuga Lake Shore R. R., by which it is distant about two miles north from Aurora. It contains a district school, two stores, a store-house, a blacksmith shop, (kept by Abraham West) a shoe shop, (kept by Ezra Underhill,) a carpenter shop, (kept by Jacob West,) and a tomato catsup factory, which is known as the *Cayuga Lake Tomato Catsup Manufactory*, and was established in 1874 by Wm. H. Wakeley, who run it two years, when he sold it to G. W. & W. A. Wakely, the present proprietors. During the season some fifteen persons are employed, and about 7,000 gallons of catsup made in this establishment.

The chief business of the village consists in its lake commerce, which was commenced about sixty years ago by Elias Manchester, who was the first person who shipped grain on the lake. He sold a half interest in 1857 to John Ellis, and the two continued the business until 1865, when Alfred Ellis, brother of John, bought Mr. Manchester's interest. In 1868, George S. Ellis, son of John, hired Alfred's interest, and he and his father have since carried on the business. They handle from 40,000 to 60,000 bushels of grain, 500 tons of coal, about 200,000 feet of lumber, and 300 tons of phosphates per annum. For storing phosphates they use the old steam grist mill, which was built in 1836, by a company of whom Gardner Chidester was the principal one, and which was bought by them in September, 1876. The first store-house was built about 1818, by Asa Foote, who stored grain for Elias Manchester. He sold the building to Mr. Manchester, who built an addition to it in 1850. It stands upon the lake shore and forms the landing for steamboats and other craft.

Levanna gave promise at an early day of becoming the chief seat of trade and commerce in the County. Here was established in 1798, by R. Delano, the first newspaper in Cayuga County, and the first in Onondaga County, which then embraced this County.* But its after life did not develop this promised fruitage. Its importance as a business center seems to have been of short duration. David Thomas speaks of it in 1819, as a deserted village.

MERCHANTS.—Prominent among the early merchants at Levanna were Samuel Allen, (who afterwards removed to Canandaigua, where he was also engaged in mercantile business,) Erastus Spalding, George Rathbun, Gardner Chidester, (who commenced about 1836 and sold in 1838 to Benjamin Wade,) Samuel Ayres, Garret VanSickle, (who sold to Seth Swift,) and John L. Howe, most of whom remained but a short time.

The present merchants are Otis Howe and L. B. Bowen, the latter of whom, a native of the town, commenced April 1st, 1878. Otis Howe, who came in from Scipio, has carried on mercantile business here since 1841, with the exception of five years spent in California.

POSTMASTERS.—The post-office at Levanna was established in the winter of 1834, with Gardner Chidester as postmaster. He held the office until 1838, when Seneca Boyce was appointed. He was succeeded by Otis Howe, who held it several years, when Seneca Boyce was again appointed. John L. Howe next held the office and was succeeded, first by his father Otis Howe, and afterwards by John Ellis, who still holds the office.

LEDYARD.

Ledyard is situated in the south-east part of the town, on the line between Ledyard and Venice, and lies partly within the two towns. It is distant two miles north of Northville. It contains one church, (M. E.) a district school, a store, two blacksmith shops, (kept by James H. Brightman and Albert Mason,) a carriage shop, (kept by Henry Purdy,) and a population of sixty-two. This place was originally called *Capins Corners*, and later, *Talcotts Corners* from early

merchants named Capin and Talcott. It is still known by the latter name.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant at Ledyard was Philip, or Aaron Capin, father-in-law of Benjamin Avery, Jr., who opened a store about, or soon after, 1800. He was succeeded by Richard Talcott, who commenced shortly before the war of 1812, and did business here a good many years. Lewis Seymour and Isaac Jacobs did business a few years; also Mosher & Divine, previous to 1831, about which time they sold to Alfred Avery, son of Benjamin Avery, Jr., who carried on mercantile business here a great many years, till about 1865. Abner Chapman, from Boston, did business two or three years previous to Mosher & Divine. Jonathan Proud and Sidney Mosher commenced business about 1867, and continued till 1870, when Thomas P. Peckham bought Proud's interest. In April, 1876, Peckham & Mosher sold to L. E. Hinckley and Wm. H. Avery, who continued till April, 1878, when Thomas P. Peckham bought Avery's interest. The business is now conducted under the firm name of Peckham & Hinckley.

POSTMASTERS.—The first postmaster at Ledyard was probably Thomas Mosher or Charles Divine, who held the office but a few years, and was succeeded by George Meacham, father of Dr. Isaac J. Meacham. Alfred Avery next held the office till 1866, April 1st of which year, Chas. D. Avery, the present incumbent, was appointed.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician at Ledyard was Dr. Consider King, a native of Rochester, Mass., who practiced here from 1805 to 1837. In 1846 he removed to Wisconsin, and died there August 19th, 1848. He was a surgeon of some notoriety and was called on to perform nearly all the difficult operations in this section of country. Isaac J. Meacham practiced one year, in 1843, and removed to Nunda.

CHURCHES.—Meetings were held by members of the Methodist denomination as early as 1820, and continued till 1833, when the *First M. E. Church of Ledyard* was organized. W. Cameron is the first pastor whose name appears on the records, in 1835. He was succeeded in the pastorate by John Watson, in 1836-'38; Sylvester Minier, in 1838; S. Minier and S. C. Phinney, 1839-'40; Wm. W. Rundal and P. G. Bridgman, 1840; Wm. W. Rundal and A. Hamilton, 1841; Hiram E. Luther, 1842-'3; Jonathan Worthing,

* This paper was denominated the "*Levanna Gazette* ; or *Onondaga Advertiser*." An early copy is preserved in the archives of the *Cayuga County Historical Society*. The earliest which has come under our observation is No. 23 of Vol. I., and is dated Wednesday, Nov. 21st, 1798.

1844; Sylvester H. Brown, 1845-'6; Benajah Mason, 1847; Lewis G. Weaver, 1848-'9; Benajah Mason, 1850; Alonzo Wood, 1851-'2; J. W. Pratt, 1853; Doctor Lamkin, 1854-'5; Wm. N. Cobb, 1856-'7; Sylvester Minier, 1858-'9; Thomas D. Wire, 1860-'1; Albert Ensign, 1862-'3; Samuel T. Tackabury, 1864; Reuben C. Fox, 1865-'7; Ellis D. Thurston, 1868-'9; Elias Hoxie, 1870-'71; Phineas H. Wiles, 1872-'3; Richard H. Clark, 1875-'7. The present pastor is Francis M. Warner, who commenced his labors with this church in October, 1877. This charge includes the church at Bell Corners or West Genoa.

The present number of members is 141. The number attending Sabbath School is 100; the average attendance being fifty.

The first church edifice erected by this society is now occupied as a carriage and blacksmith shop; the second was burned February 8th, 1873; the present one was built and dedicated in 1875. The church is valued at \$7,000; and the parsonage at \$2,000.

BLACK ROCK.

About one and one-half miles from the south line of the town, and midway between its east and west bounds, is a place known as Black Rock, which derives its name from the color of the shale rock, over which the waters of Paines Creek are poured, with a perpendicular fall of nearly eighty feet, into the gorge below. About 1800, a Mr. Anway built in the gorge below the falls, a grist-mill, small in dimensions, but sufficient at the time for the demands upon it. Soon, however, with the rapid increase of settlers, it proved inadequate, and the mill now in use, standing upon the east side, near the brink of the falls, was built and a dam raised above the falls. He also built a saw-mill upon the west bank of the stream. This after a few years service, together with the dam and the highway bridge were carried over the falls by a freshet, demolishing and carrying with them the little mill below. The saw-mill, dam and bridge were rebuilt, and about 1816, a small furnace was erected and put in operation by Jedediah Morgan and John Harris. About the same time or soon after, Anthony Squires opened a store, but how long he continued the business we are unable to state. Other parties since his time have carried on the business at different periods.

Seth Swift erected the first frame dwelling, which is still standing and doing service as such. He also built a blacksmith shop, which has its representative at the present time. A man named Hall had a chair factory there, but it, like its owner, fulfilled its mission and passed away.

The mill and the blacksmith shop are the sole representatives of the various branches of business carried on there when Black Rock was in its glory. Mr. Anway sold the mill property to the late Eleazer Carter, who, after using it several years, sold it to David Thomas, who to accommodate the increasing business, built another mill about ten rods north, and a little lower down the bank of the gorge, using the water from the first mill. He also built and operated a distillery some twelve or fifteen rods south-east of the mill now standing. He subsequently resold the property to Mr. Carter, who, after a time, in consequence of mills having been built at Genoa, Union Springs, and other places, and his increasing age and infirmities, which rendered it undesirable to keep the whole establishment in running order, removed the north mill, or one last erected, to the shore of the lake, where it has since been used as a warehouse. For the same reason the distillery was either removed or suffered to go down. He finally sold the remaining grist and saw-mill to Reuben Smith, in March, 1849. In August, 1854, Mr. Smith sold the property to Joseph R. Swift, who, in March, 1855, sold it to Nelson King. King sold it to Reuben Smith, April 1st, 1859, and ten years from that date Smith sold it to James Glanister, who held it till his death in 1874. In 1875, it was sold on foreclosure of mortgage to Elijah Anthony, E. T. Brown and James B. Smith. Before the mill was put in operation Messrs. Brown and Smith sold their interest to Mr. Anthony, who afterward sold an interest to Slocum Howland. The foreclosure sale was the beginning of a new era for the old mill. When repairs on it were commenced, it was found to be so completely dilapidated that no portion of it could be utilized, except those old French burr stones, which made the Black Rock mills so famous long years ago, and everything has been made anew and modernized. A new ten inch Little Giant turbine wheel, with a head of from seventy-five to eighty feet, drives the machinery.

Messrs. Howland & Anthony have found it necessary to build a twenty feet addition to the

south end for storage for custom work. They contemplate the erection of a new and strong dam, a saw-mill adjoining the grist-mill, and the addition of an engine to be relied on when the water fails in summer time.*

WAR OF THE REBELLION.—Ledyard's share in the war of the Rebellion is one of which she may justly feel proud. She poured out her blood and treasure with lavish hand upon the altar of Liberty—in aid of her stricken country, and the names of her fallen heroes are beautifully and appropriately enshrined on a copper tablet upon the walls of the Presbyterian church of Aurora. The tablet was designed by Russell Stergis, of New York, and the gift of Colonel E. B. Morgan. It was dedicated September 6th, 1872. It bears this inscription :

“ In Memory of Soldiers of Ledyard, who died in Battle or in Hospital during the War for the Union, A. D. 1861—A. D. 1865, that their Fatherland might live.

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| “ Daniel Abbott, | Edward Peto, |
| David A. Baker, | Peter Quackenbush, |
| Wm. H. Barnes, | Peter Quackenbush, Jr., |
| Patrick Barry, | James Redman, |
| James Benedict, | Martin Roe, |
| Sylvester Brightman, | George Runnel. |
| Andrew J. Carey, | Ansel Basset Smith, |
| Wilson E. Cowan, | Chas. Frederick Smith, |
| Seward Dean, | Horace Walworth Smith, |
| Wm. Henry Fowler, | Wm. Nelson Smith, |
| David Abbott Gifford, | Cornelius Sullivan, |
| Henry Nelson Gifford, | Richard Tierney, |
| James Gray, | Jonathan VanDerip, |
| Samuel J. Halstead, | Abraham Vreeland, |
| John L. Jones, | George Webster, |
| Dier Moreland, | George West, |
| Rufus Myers, | James West, |
| Charles F. Nye, | John Shurer Winters, |
| Wm. Henry Patchin.” | |

CHAPTER XLVI.

TOWN OF SCIPIO.

SCIPIO was one of the old townships of the Military Tract and was formed March 5th, 1794, deriving its name from a Roman General. It originally embraced Sempronius, which was taken off March 9th, 1799; a part of Marcellus,

* We are indebted to an author unknown to us for the facts given in the sketch of Black Rock.

Onondaga county, set off in 1804; and the towns of Ledyard, Venice and a part of Springport, which were set off January 30th, 1823. It lies south of the center of the County, upon the west shore of Owasco Lake, which forms its eastern boundary. It is bounded on the north by Fleming, on the south by Venice, and on the west by Springport and Ledyard.

The surface is rolling, its highest elevations being 500 feet above the lake. A steep bluff twenty to fifty feet high borders the lake, and the land slopes gradually upward from its summit for about a mile. Its waters are the headwaters of numerous small streams, the principal of which are Salmon Creek, flowing to the south, Crain Creek to the north, Great Gully Brook to the west, and Yawger Creek to the north-west. Numerous little rivulets course down the eastern slope to the lake, some of them cutting deep gullies in the shaly rocks and forming beautiful cascades. These streams furnish numerous mill sites in their course, but they are inconstant in their supply, being subject to the influence of drouths.

The soil is a highly productive sandy and gravelly loam, intermixed with clay. It is underlaid by limestone, which crops out north of Scipio Center, but is nowhere quarried in the town, we believe, except on the farm of Jacob Post, about three-fourths of a mile north of the center, from which stone for the railroad culverts was obtained. The ledge extends about a mile north and south. Slate and some limestone are exposed in the railroad cutting on the shore of Owasco Lake. It is an excellent agricultural town.

The population of the town in 1875 was 1,917; of whom 1,594 were native; 323 foreign; 1,911 white; and 6 colored. Its area is 22,503 acres; of which 20,206 are improved, and 2,279 woodland.

The Utica, Ithaca and Elmira Railroad, now operated as a branch of the Midland Railroad, enters the town from the south, and, following the line of the old Auburn & New York survey, terminates at Scipio Summit, about a half mile north of Bolts Corners. The Southern Central extends through the east border of the town, along the shore of the lake.

The settlement of the town by the whites was begun in 1790, probably by Henry Watkins, who

left Granville, Washington county, in the fall of that year, with knapsack on his back, and after a journey of ten days arrived at Cayuga Lake, when he proceeded to lot 27, in this town, bordering on the east line of the Cayuga Reservation, near Scipioville, arriving there September 10th, 1790. He erected a log house, the first built in this section, and returned east, stopping on the way at Albany to enter his lot in the land office. He returned here the latter part of the following March with his family, all of whom are now dead. One son and two daughters lie in the grave-yard west of Scipioville; the other two sons sleep on the prairies of Illinois, where they settled with their families forty-five year ago. Mr. Watkins subsequently deeded to his son-in-law, Wm. Allen, the 150 acres now owned by Samuel Searing; to his son Henry, Jr., the 150 acres now owned by the family of Charles Searing; and to Peter Watkins, the 150 acres owned by Benj. Gould, Jr. He retained possession of the rest of the lot till his death, at the age of eighty-four, when it passed into the hands of Samuel Watkins, who died January 28th, 1855, aged seventy-five, and is now occupied by L. W. and R. B. Watkins.

Near where he built his log house was a clearing of four or five acres, surrounded by wild plum, crab apple, and other apple trees, one of which measured twelve feet in circumference and stood till within a few years, when it was blown down. This clearing, which was a little north-west of L. W. Watkins' buildings, is supposed, from the human bones and numerous Indian relics found there, to have been an Indian burying ground. These relics consist of beads, bottles, brass kettles and crosses and guns. About sixty years ago, over 700 beads, composed of glass, stone, pearl and amber, and of various forms and sizes, were disclosed by the plow, and are now in the possession of Jared E. Watkins. Mr. G. L. Watkins, a merchant of Scipioville, and grandson of Henry Watkins, has in his possession a brass Latin cross found in this locality forty years ago. It is three inches long and two inches between the extremities of the arms, and was evidently worn suspended from the neck or waist, as the upper end is perforated as if designed to receive a cord or chain. Upon one side of the upright portion of the cross is a figure of the Virgin Mary with a child in her arms; diagon-

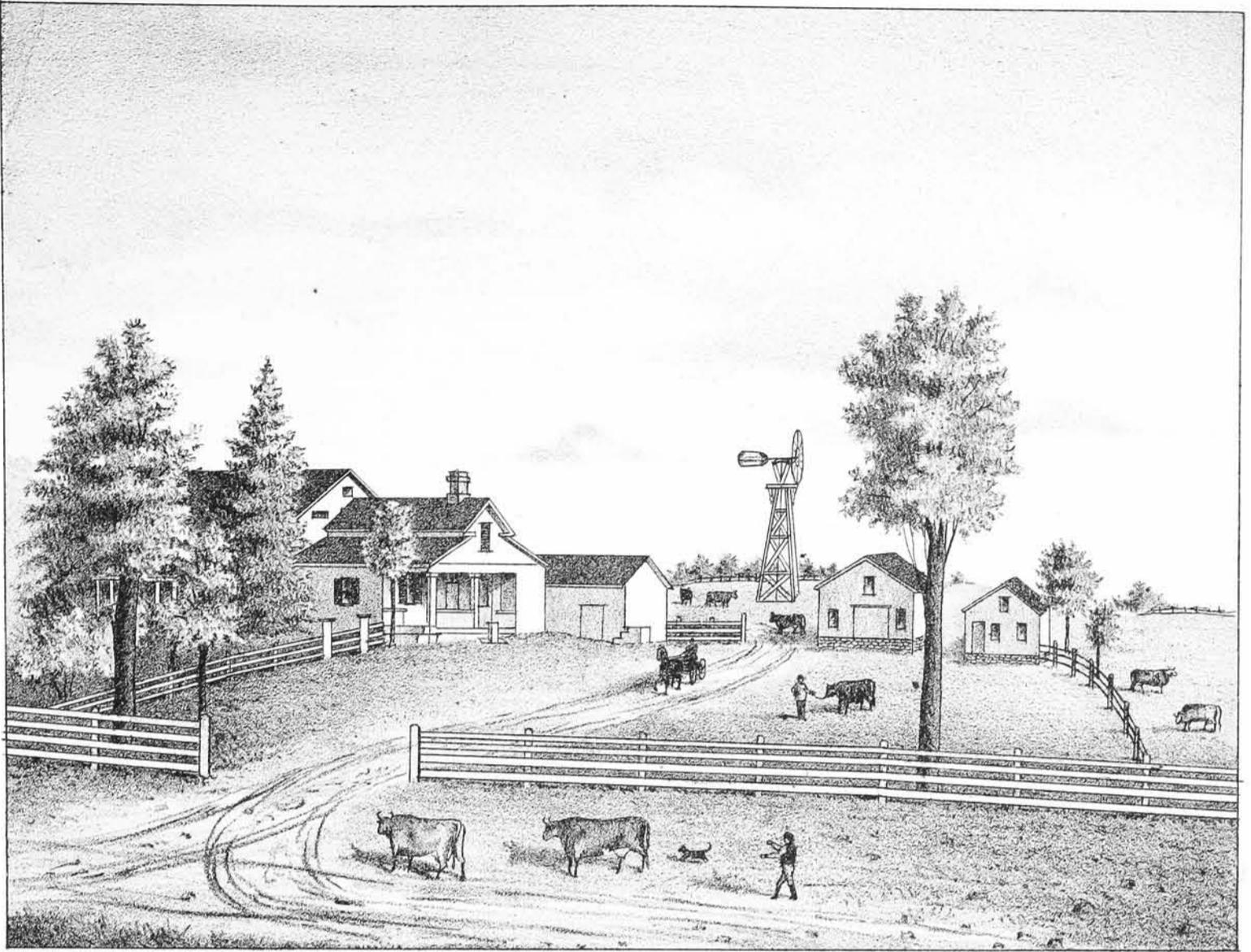
ally across this also, and above the arms, are the letters I. N. R. I. Upon the left arm is the inscription B. VIR. SIN., and below it, ORIGINI.; and upon the right one, PECATA., and below that the word CONCEP. On the reverse side of the upright portion is a figure of Christ crucified; over his head is the image of a dove, and under the feet the representation of a skull and cross-bones. This field has been plowed the entire eighty-seven years, with the exception of two, when it was seeded.

Gideon Allen, and possibly Ebenezer Witter, the latter of whom accompanied Roswell Franklin in his settlement at Aurora, came in the same year. Gideon Allen was a cousin of Ethan Allen, and came from Washington county. He settled a little south-west of Scipioville, where his grandson, Lemuel Allen, now lives. He afterwards bought the farm in Springport now occupied by Ethan Allen, another grandson, where he died, aged 97. Justus Allen, his son, was a prominent man in the town. In 1806, he bought the tannery built by Israel Busby, a very early settler, in 1797, and carried on the tanning and currying business a number of years. He was supervisor of the town two years. He died April 8th, 1845, aged 69, and was succeeded in the tanning business by his son Lemuel, who still continues it at the age of seventy, in the same old building. Betsey, wife of Jacob Post, is the only other grandchild living in the town. Martha Ann, wife of Lebeus Barton, living at Union Springs, is another grandchild. Busby was doubtless the first tanner in this section of country. He died March 4th, 1811, aged 51. He left two daughters, Jerusha, wife of Truman Van Tassel, of Syracuse, and Maria, who died young and single.

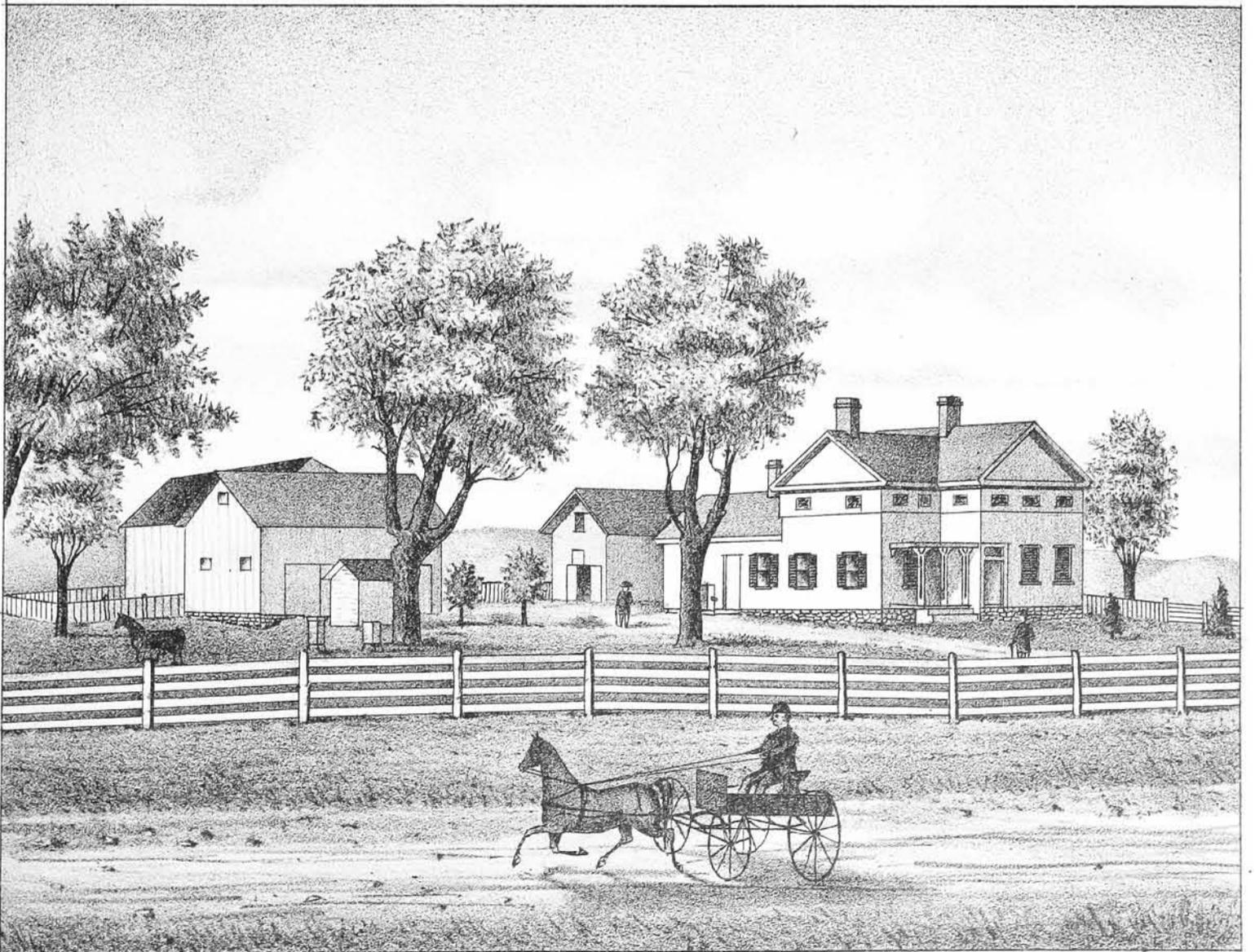
Ebenezer Witter* settled a half mile east of Scipio Center, near where John Akin now lives. He was a Revolutionary soldier, and took up a soldier's claim. None of his family are living. The last one, the youngest daughter, who married a man named Ames, died a few years since in Moravia.

Elisha Durkee, who also accompanied Franklin in his settlement at Aurora, came to Scipio in 1791, and settled a quarter of a mile north of

* One authority consulted says he settled a mile west of Scipio Center, where Jeremiah Simons now lives, and was succeeded on the same place by his son Ebenezer, who died there.



MOUNT PLEASANT. RES. OF ELONDO GREENFIELD. MORAVIA, CAYUGA CO. N.Y.



RESIDENCE OF ISAAC JUMP. TOWN OF SCIPIO CAYUGA CO. N.Y.

Bolts Corners. The old house in which he lived and died is still standing. He died at an early day, about 1816. His family consisted of Betsey, who was born a little south of Levanna, in Ledyard, December 5th, 1790, and was the first white child born in the town, and probably the first in the county, and who married a man named Sweetland, with whom she removed from the town; Armarilla, afterwards wife of Joseph Jackson; Cynthia, afterwards wife of Roswell Bennett; Amanda, afterwards wife of Cyrus Allen; Lucinda, afterwards wife of Reuben Weed; and Welthy, Anna, Sarah, Gore and Augustus, the latter of whom is the only one living—in Michigan.

Samuel Phelps, from Connecticut, came in soon after Watkins and settled at Sherwood. His log house stood a little in the rear of the house now occupied by S. W. Green. He afterwards built the north end of Green's house, and died there. His children were Samuel, Erastus, Seth, Orpha, widow of Joshua Hill, who is the only one living, aged about ninety, and another daughter who married Joel Shemar.

Squire Gilbert and Captain Alanson Tracy, cousins, came in from Pittsfield, Mass., in 1793. Gilbert settled first near Scipioville, and afterwards at Bolts Corners, which was for some time known as *Tracy's Corners* from him, but it subsequently acquired the former name from a family named Bolt, who settled there between 1815 and '20, and kept tavern there several years. One of the family, Augustus Bolt, is living a half mile north of Daniels Corners. Gilbert subsequently removed to Venice, where he died about 1842. Philander Tracy, a son of Gilbert's, went to Grand Rapids when young, and died there a few years ago. Seneca, another son, also moved west. Two of his children are living, viz: Kester, in Chautauqua county, and Ezra, in Ohio. Alanson settled a half mile east of Sherwood, where his son Calvin, who was born here in 1810, now lives. Clinton, a son of Alanson's, moved to Ohio. Alanson was a man of great prowess, energy and perseverance. It is related of him that once while upon a bear hunt, seeing a companion in imminent danger of being embraced by a bear, he jumped astride the back of the bear, which was standing erect upon his hind feet, and seizing him by the ears, rode him until his bearship was clubbed to death. He died in

1852, aged 81. In this year, (1793) on the 25th of June, the first marriage in the town took place. The contracting parties were Wm. Allen and Betsey Watkins.

An important acquisition was made to the little settlement in 1794, in the person of Elder David Irish, who it is said, preached that year the first Evangelical gospel sermon known to have been preached in the County.* Elder Irish was born in Paulington, Dutchess county, December 21st, 1757. At the age of seventeen he became converted, was baptized and united with the Church. He subsequently made some preparation for the ministry, and preached his first sermon December 21st, 1787, the day he was thirty years old. He was ordained in 1789, and after laboring three years in Eastern New York, removed with his family to Scipio in 1794, at which time there was neither church nor minister of any denomination, not only within the limits of this County, but that vast fertile section of the State, now so populous and thrifty, west of the counties of Oneida and Chenango. Wondrous has been the transformation within the brief period of eighty-four years, a period covered by the lives of many who are now living. Elder Irish came immediately from Stillwater, and settled at Scipio Center, on the west half of lot 23. His house stood directly opposite the present Baptist church in that village, on whose site he was the first settler, but was joined in the spring of 1795 by Major Josiah Buck, who took up the east half of that lot. He commenced at once the practice of his vocation, holding religious services in the houses of that sparsely settled neighborhood, and later in the log school-house, the first one in the original town of Scipio, which stood on the site of the widow Perkins' house, a mile north of Scipio Center, on the lot which Joel Coe took up in 1795. In 1801, he exchanged farms with his brother-in-law, Nathaniel Olney, who came from Stillwater about that time and settled three miles south of Auburn, in the town of Fleming. Irish, who served the First Church

* *History of the Cayuga Baptist Association, 1851.* Though we are not prepared to deny the accuracy of this statement, there is good reason to question it. It is seen that Elder Irish did not come to this County until 1794. There is documentary evidence to show that Aaron Kinne, a missionary, who was the first to preach at the settlements in Genoa, performed a marriage ceremony in November, 1793, near the Northville settlements, and although we are not able to assert positively that he preached there at that time, it is highly probable that he did.

in Scipio as pastor from 1794 to 1800, having received a call from the first Church in Aurelius, now Fleming, removed to Fleming and continued his pastorate of that Church till his death September 13th, 1815.

Olney moved on the farm vacated by Elder Irish, but removed west with his family a great many years ago. His children were Benjamin, Nathan, Hiram, Nathaniel and Elizabeth, afterwards wife of Eliakim Brown, none of whom are living. John O'Hara came from Saratoga county in 1794, and settled where his grandson, John, now lives.

Judge Seth Sherwood, from Vermont, settled about 1794 or '5, at the corners which perpetuate his name. He bought 200 acres and erected a log house. He soon after built a frame house, which stood on the site of S. W. Green's tailor shop, which was afterwards used as a tavern, and in the upper part of which, in 1804, the jail was established and the courts held one year.

Sherwood seems to have shared in common with other localities the ambition to be the County seat, and succeeded in its rival claims to the extent of being selected as such in 1804, by John Tillottson, Augustus Chidsey and John Grover, Jr., who were appointed commissioners to locate the County seat. But this distinction was of short duration. The other contestants could not accept this even as a compromise disposition of the matter; and Sherwood was shorn of its glory March 16th, 1805, when the law by which it was established was revoked, and Hon. Edward Savage of Washington county, Hon. James Burt of Orange county, both then State Senators, and Hon. James Hildreth of Montgomery county, were appointed to select a new location. The jail was established in the east room; and the bars placed across its two windows, which faced the east, remained there till 1845, when the building was torn down. The bars were subsequently worked up into horse-shoes.

Judge Sherwood's family consisted of his wife, (second, who was a sister of Dr. Bennett at the *Half Acre*,) and three children, Samuel, Seth and Mary, afterwards wife of Dr. Perley Kinney, who came in from Connecticut as early as 1797, and settled near Sherwood. His children by his second wife were, Belvia, afterwards wife of

John Wood, Julia, afterwards wife of — Allen, William, Walter and Ira. The Judge died here in 1821, and his children moved west. John G. Allen, one of the victorious Cornell crew, in the contest with the Harvard crew on Owasco Lake, in June, 1878, is a grandson of Belvia's. Judge Sherwood was preceded in his settlement at that place, but a short time however, by a family named White, who located about a half a mile south-east of the Corners, and were the first settlers in that locality. White cleared about four acres, which remained surrounded by woods till within two years, and uncultivated from his death, a year or two after, till the spring of 1878, when Giles Slocum, who owned the contiguous lands, which he has been gradually denuding of their timber, having made an opening from the north, subjected it to the plow.

Noble Fuller and one or two brothers came in the spring of 1795 and settled at Gallups Corners, one and one-fourth miles south of Scipio Center. Further settlements were made in 1795 by Joel Coe, Benjamin Fordyce, Robert McCullum and Elisha Horton, the latter of whose sisters the former three married. They came from Chester, Morris county, N. J., by the usual water route, and arrived at Aurora the last of October or first of November. From Aurora they came by way of marked trees, the road having been surveyed, but not opened. Coe settled three-fourths of a mile north of Scipio Center, where Wm. Akin now lives. He took up a whole lot. He removed to Springport about 1820, and died there. Some of his grandchildren are living there. Coe's children were Joseph, Nathaniel, Mary, afterwards wife of David Bennett, Rachel, afterwards wife of Benj. Olney, and Huldah, widow of Walter Bennett, of Portage. The latter is the only one living.

Fordyce bought fifty acres of Elder Irish, his farm joining that of Coe's on the south. He immediately made a clearing, and erected a log house a little north of the residence of his son, Nathaniel H. Fordyce, his family remaining in the meantime with that of Noble Fuller. He died there March 1st, 1819. His family, when he came in, consisted of his wife Rebecca, and two children, John and Eunice, afterwards wife of Nathaniel Olney, Jr. Three children were born to them after coming here, viz: Benjamin, Nathaniel H. and Rebecca. Nathaniel H.,

who is the only one of his children living, was born January 4th, 1799. The next spring after coming in Fordyce sowed upon the site of Nathaniel's house three pecks of wheat brought in the previous winter by Ebenezer Crow from the Mohawk country, and reaped therefrom nineteen and one-half bushels, which, excepting so much as was ground for family consumption, was garnered in a hollow log, the rotted portions of which had been burned out. The log was inlaid and covered with bark, and raised upon crotched poles. McCullum settled a quarter of a mile north of Fordyce, where Pardon T. Shorkley now lives. He sold out about 1810, and removed with his family to Farmington, Ontario county. His children were Isaiah, Joel, Rebecca, who afterwards married a man named Fowler, Mary, who afterwards married a man named Streeter, and Robert. Horton died of typhus fever about a year after he came in. Two of his children are living in the western part of the State, viz: Isaiah and Phebe, wife of Stephen Robinson.

In the fall of 1796, after harvesting their crops, Fordyce, Coe, Elder Irish and Josiah Buck made up a load of forty bushels of wheat and sent it to mill by Buck, accompanied by a stout hired man in the employ of Coe. The nearest mill was at Whitesboro, and thither the grist was taken in a covered wagon obtained from the Mohawk country the previous winter by Coe, who, having \$1,800 in pocket and his farm paid for, was then considered very wealthy. The journey occupied four weeks. The wagon served as a place of shelter at night for those accompanying it, and they did not sleep in a house during the entire journey, except at Whitesboro, while the wheat was being ground. Occasionally, on coming to a steep ascent, it was necessary to unhitch the oxen, (of which there were two yokes, one furnished by Fordyce and one by Elder Irish,) take them to the summit of the hill, and draw up the wagon by means of chains attached to the tongue. It was often necessary for the attendants, both of whom were strong, muscular men, to put their shoulders to the wheel when the wagon got into a hollow from which the oxen were unable to withdraw it, and sometimes they were obliged to unload a portion of the grain before further progress could be made. A family named Henry, from the Eastern States, settled a little north of Coe about the same time. None of the family

are living. Henry died there. Eleazer Hill and Alexander Weed, from the New England States, settled soon after in the same locality. The widow of his son Joshua is living at an advanced age with her son Erastus Hill in Scipio. Wm. Cowen settled in 1797, where his son Wm. R. Cowen now lives. He had five children, four of whom are living, one in Michigan.

William Daniels, from Saratoga county, Geo. Elliott, from Mass., and a man named Haskins, from Washington county, came in 1798. Daniel settled in what is now known as Daniels Settlement, about two miles north-east of Scipio Center, where he lived to an advanced age. He and his wife spent their declining years with their son Benjamin in Michigan. Daniels taught that year the first school in Scipio, but he taught only one winter. His qualification as a teacher seems not to have been very ample, for it is said he could not solve a problem in the Rule of Three. His brother, Capt. John Daniels, who was one of the most intelligent men in the town, came in from Mass., in 1804, and settled about a mile south-east of him, where his son Hiram now lives, and where he died in 1871, aged 95. Hiram was born on the place in 1811. One other child, Harriet, wife of Hiram Olney, is living in Illinois. Both William and John, the latter of whom was a captain in the war of 1812, were for a great many years deacons in the Baptist Church. Geo. Elliott was a Revolutionary soldier and served seven years. He settled two miles north of Scipio Center, on the lot taken up by Joel Coe, where — Webster now lives. He afterwards settled on lot 8. He died some thirty years since on the farm subsequently owned by his son William, and now owned by Allen Hoxie. His family consisted, when he came in, of his wife Eleanor, and six children, Samuel, John, George, Mary, afterwards wife of William Fish, Prudence, afterwards wife of John Cowan, and William, the latter of whom is the only one living, in Scipioville. He was 82 years old April 7th, 1878. He had four children after coming in, viz: Sarah, afterwards wife of Joseph Cox, Jane, Otis and Nelly, afterwards wife of Wm. Bregg. George Elliott, of the firm of Lyon, Elliott & Bloom of Auburn, is a son of William Elliott now living at Scipioville. Haskins was grandfather to Edwin P. Haskins, now living on the old homestead.

Several additions were made to the settlements in 1800; among them Micah Hathaway, from Massachusetts, who died June 22d, 1857, aged 89; a German family named Roraback, who settled at Scipio Center, and removed at an early day to Crooked Lake; Richard Hudson, from Columbia county, who died here in 1834, and whose son Richard N., who was born in the town in 1804, is now living there; and Peter Wyckoff, from New Jersey, who came in with his family, consisting of his wife and five children, Peter, Henry, Jemima, widow of John O'Hara, now living in Scipio, Nellie, wife of Hiram O'Hara, who is also living in Scipio, and Sarah, and settled on the north line, on the farm adjoining that of Gardner Wyckoff, in Fleming, where he died. Peter, who was then a year old, removed in 1856 or '7 to Fleming, and settled where Hiram Babcock now lives. Mary E., the widow of his son Peter C., is living with her son George and daughter Grace, wife of Dr. Frank Hoxie, at Fleming village, on one of the finest farms in the county. Peter, another of her sons, is living in New York city, and is the eldest son of the sixth family who have named the eldest son Peter. Peter and Henry, sons of the elder Wyckoff, who settled in Scipio, married sisters of John and Hiram O'Hara, who in turn married the Wyckoffs' sisters, thus presenting an illustration of a rare occurrence—two brothers and two sisters in one family marrying two brothers and two sisters in another.

Daniel P. Van Liew came in from New Jersey about 1800. Robert Knox, from Ireland, settled in 1802, where his son John Knox now lives. Samuel Green, father of Samuel W. Green, tailor and postmaster at Sherwood, an Orthodox Friend, came in from Pennsylvania in 1804. William Fleming settled here previous to 1807, January 13th of which year he died. His widow afterwards married William R. Bancroft, who settled in 1814, a little east of Scipioville, where he died December 10th, 1857, aged nearly 89. His son, William F. Bancroft, is living at Barbers Corners, which place derives its name from Deacon William Barber, who was an early settler, and died there February 2d, 1844, aged 77. Olive, his wife, died December 7th, 1857, aged nearly 98. Barber came as early as 1796, in which year his name appears among the town officers.

Ezra St. John settled about 1807, on the south

line of the town, on the farm now occupied by Andrew Heffron, where he died July 22d, 1824, aged 77.

John Beardsley, from Connecticut, settled in 1808, near the center of the town, and after three or four years he removed to the east ridge in Venice, where he remained till 1836, when he removed to Auburn and continued to reside there till his death May 11th, 1857. He was Supervisor in Scipio and Justice of the Peace several years. He was County Judge a few years under the First Constitution; was Member of the Assembly in 1832 and '33; and represented the 7th District in the State Senate in 1836-'39. In 1840 he became president of the *Cayuga County Bank*, now the *Cayuga National Bank of Auburn*; and in 1843 he became agent of the State prison at Auburn. Four sons and four daughters are living, viz.: Nelson, president of the Cayuga National Bank of Auburn; Roswell, a merchant in North Lansing, Tompkins county, where he has held the office of postmaster over fifty years, and who is reputed to have been postmaster longer than any other individual in the United States; William C., who is living in retirement in Auburn; Alonzo G., who is treasurer of the Oswego Starch Company, and D. M. Osborne & Co.'s establishment, a member of the firm of Beardsley, Wheeler & Co., of Auburn, and vice-president of the *Cayuga County National Bank*; Caroline E., wife of L. W. Nye, of Auburn; Alice J., wife of James M. Holden, of New York; Mariette B., widow of N. B. S. Eldred; and Augusta B., wife of William Newell, of New York.

Joseph Hoxie came from Washington county in 1809, in which year his son Zebulon, who is now living in Scipio, was born there. Another son, Allen, is also living in Scipio. Thomas Hale settled in the town about 1809, and soon afterwards engaged in mercantile business with Orrin Peck. He died in October, 1852, aged 72. Wm. Wooden came from Putnam county in 1810, and settled one and one-half miles south-west of Scipioville, on 100 acres now owned by Hiram Lyon, where he died in March, 1819. He had eight children, none of whom are living. They were David, Palmer, Henry, William, Philip, Susan, afterwards wife of Ezra Hawley, and Mary, afterwards wife of Henry Hawley. Two of David's children are living, viz.: William D., at Scipioville, where he and William T. Stow were



Wm. D. Wooden

WILLIAM D. WOODEN.

WILLIAM D. WOODEN was born in the town of Fishkill, Dutchess county, N. Y., March 21st, 1802. His father moved to the town of Scipio, Cayuga County, in May, 1814. He commenced teaching in the common schools, when just past 16 years of age, in the then town of Scipio, which now comprises Scipio, Ledyard, Venice and a part of Springport. He commenced in 1818, continuing nineteen terms—thirteen winters and six summers—all in the present towns of Scipio and Ledyard, except two terms, one at Lake Ridge, Tompkins county, and the other in his native town. He was engaged a portion of his time in civil engineering under the late David Thomas, with Noah Dennis, Farr and N. Benedict, and Alden Allen, as associates. Among his contemporary teachers, who were, perhaps, the most prominent, the following are held in grateful remembrance: Eli Stilson, Noah Dennis, Davis Hurd, Benoni Smith, John B. Bowen and Col. John Niblo. The following esteemed citizens were Mr. Wooden's pupils: Sanford Gifford, Sylvester Weeks, Wm. Howland, Calvin Tracy, Lemuel Allen, Geo. L., L. W. and R. B. Watkins, E. B. King and Morgan Wardwell, who are now all residents of the towns of Scipio and Ledyard. Charles P. Wood, late of Auburn, and Austin B. Hale, of Moravia, were also his scholars. He has taken from his earliest years to the present time a lively interest in the cause of universal education, and has devoted practically, much of his time and talents to its advancement. Under the first supervision of our common school system, he was elected, and held for a number of years, in the town of Ledyard, the office of Inspector. Mr. Wooden was honorably associated with the venerable Salem Town, in the cause of education, a subject which lay very near the hearts of both. In 1839, under a special act of the Legislature, Mr. Wooden was appointed, with the late Joseph Tallcot, a school visitor for the town of Ledyard. Visitors were appointed in every town in the State, and much good was doubtless accomplished thereby. Their services were without compensation. Mr. Wooden has been through his whole life an earnest friend of freedom and temperance. He is now a member of a lodge of Good Templars in Scipioville, where he resides, and is a constant attendant at its meetings. He has also contributed a large number of original essays, poems etc.,



MRS. W. M. D. WOODEN.

which he has read with great profit to the lodge. Mr. Wooden commenced farming in 1828, in the town of Ledyard, and in 1857 moved to his present residence in Scipioville. This has been his principal business since 1828. He has twice been married, first in 1825, and again in 1857. He had six children by his first wife, one son and five daughters, but none by the last. Death has taken all his children but the two youngest daughters. He has through life been an ardent admirer and firm supporter of our peculiar form of government.

He was elected to the office of County Superintendent of the Poor for eight successive years, from 1833 to 1841. He cast his first vote in 1823. His first vote for President was for Andrew Jackson in 1824. He again voted for Jackson in 1828, and for his reelection in 1832; for Van Buren in 1836, and for his reelection in 1840; for Polk in 1844; for Van Buren in 1848; for John P. Hale in 1852; for J. C. Fremont in 1856; for A. Lincoln in 1860, and for his reelection in 1864; for U. S. Grant in 1868, for his reelection in 1872; and for Green Clay Smith in 1876. Thus it will be seen that he has voted at every presidential election since he became a voter. We do not know of another voter now living in the old town who has voted continuously, and without missing a town meeting. Mr. Wooden has never had a law-suit in his life, but has often acted as a peacemaker between his neighbors. He has never been a member of any religious denomination, but is a firm believer in the religion of Christ, in whose salvation he trusts, and looks forward to a blissful immortality beyond the grave. Mr. Wooden has been accustomed to write for the local press for the last fifty years. He has also occasionally corresponded with the *New York Evening Post*, and other public journals. Mr. Wooden has been a man of remarkable health through life, never having employed a doctor for himself but twice, first when 22 years old, and not again till his 73d year. He is now in his 77th year, and aside from the natural infirmities incident to that period of life, is a sound man mentally, morally and physically. Like a shock of corn, fully ripe, he is simply waiting the Divine will to be transferred to the garner above. Having faithfully served his generation, he is now waiting final discharge.

the first school teachers, and Desire, wife of Frederick A. Snell, of Oskosh, Wis. Philip's children who are living are Silas, at Fairport, Monroe county, Eliza Ann, wife of Isaac Treat, in Throop, Adah, Zillah, wife of Edward Treadwell, in Ann Arbor, Mich., and Susan, also in Ann Arbor. Cordial Jennings, from Middlebury, Vt., settled about 1810, on the long lot, on the lake shore in the south-east corner of the town, where he lived a number of years, when he removed to lot 65, in Venice, where he died February 15th, 1855, aged 81. His wife Lucy, died April 26th, 1861, aged 96. His eldest son, Sherburne H., aged about seventy, lives in Moravia. Another son, Chauncey, lives in Orleans county. Two grandsons, William and Crauson, are living in Venice.

Deacon Uriah Benedict, who was born in Norwalk, Connecticut, September 13th, 1783, removed to Scipio in 1811, and followed carpentering eighteen years after coming here. He purchased a farm, on which he remained sixty-six years, till his death, April 14th, 1877, aged 93. At his death he was the oldest member of the Presbyterian Church of Scipio, of which he was a member nearly seventy years, and a ruling elder for about sixty years. He had ten children, two of whom died in childhood. The rest, four sons and four daughters, married and raised up children. Two sons are ministers of the Presbyterian faith and two are deacons in the same church. Asahel Fitch, from Saratoga county, settled in 1811, in the east part of the town, where Wm. Munger now lives, and where he died December 13th, 1851, aged 79. He was Side Judge and Member of Assembly in 1824. His children were Alvah Fitch, who was born in Saratoga county in 1797, and is still living in Scipio, Judge ———, who lived and died in Lansing, Tompkins county, Charles T., who died in Scipio, where Hiram Wheat now lives, and Cynthia, afterwards wife of Eli Smith, who also died in Scipio. His wife, Martha, died October 2d, 1843, aged 71.

Elisha Barnes came from Pharsalia, Chenango county, in May, 1812, on foot and alone, at the age of about twenty-two, and commenced work with Joel Coe in a distillery, which stood two miles north of Scipio Center. In 1813, he bought half an acre of land, half a mile west of where he now lives, and commenced distilling for him-

self, continuing the business some twenty years. November 4th, 1823, he married Elizabeth Roberts, who died July 5th, 1865, aged 67. He had four children, three of whom are living, George, in Scipio, Franklin, in Venice, and Eliza, wife of Andrew Champman, in Scipio. In 1836, he took up the farm on which he now lives, and on which he has since resided. He was 88 years old August 18th, 1878.

Charles Loring Elliott, an artist of great celebrity, was born in 1812, in a plain wooden structure, standing on the east and west road leading to Sherwood, not far from Scipio Center. He removed with his parents to Auburn, where his father built and occupied a house now standing on the corner of Williams street and Love Lane, at present and for many years past, owned and occupied by the family of E. E. Marvine. Caleb Manchester married his wife Lydia, of Greenfield, Saratoga county, October 1st, 1812, and removed with her the following spring to a farm one and one-half miles south-east of Scipioville, where they lived forty-eight years and raised a family of four sons and seven daughters, only two of whom, Elias C., of Battle Creek, Michigan, and Rev. Wm. S., survive them. In 1861, they sold their home and lived with their daughter, Eliza P. Battey, near Scipioville, who died in March, 1870. Caleb died October 5th, 1868; and his wife at Battle Creek, Michigan, while visiting with her son, June 9th, 1877, aged 84 years. Henry Marsh was an early settler in the town. His son George S., was born here in 1813.

George Slocum came in from Massachusetts in 1814, and died here August 26th, 1867, aged 69. Several settlers came in about that year, prominent among whom was Wm. Alward and his sons Nathaniel, William and Squire, and daughter Betsey, afterwards wife of Justus Allen, who came in from Baskin Ridge, N. J., and settled at Scipioville. William, the elder, froze to death while crossing Cayuga Lake, February 13th, 1816. His age at the time of his death was 52.

Betsey, his wife, died June 27th, 1835, aged 69. Both were natives of Somerset county, N. J. Nathaniel carried on the harness making business till about 1833, and acquired a handsome property. He was connected with the Presbyterian Church at the *Square* from 1833 till his death in 1848, having been converted the

former year in Auburn. He was zealous in promoting the interests of the church. At his house were held prayer meetings presided over by himself, and ably addressed by his wife, who was an excellent and highly cultured woman. It was his custom to send his large family carriage through the neighborhood every Sunday to pick up those who desired to attend church, but had no conveyance. Only two of his family are living, William, in Nunda, Livingston county, and D. R., in Auburn. Squire married a daughter of John Boughton, of Ledyard, and settled near the *Square* in the north-west corner of the town.

Others who came in about this time were Deacon Samuel Leonard, from Connecticut, who settled and died near Scpioville; Wm. Graham, a Revolutionary soldier, who settled at Merrifields Corners, one and one-half miles east of Scpioville, where he died February 2d, 1844, aged 92, and who had two daughters, one of whom died young, and the other, Jane, married Ozam Merrifield, who gave to the Corners, his name; and Eli Stillson, who settled at Barbers Corners, where he taught the district school in the winters of 1815 and '16. Noah Dennis, a civil engineer, was also an early settler in that locality, and taught the district school there in the winters of 1817 and '18. He died in 1834, in his thirty-eighth year. Anthony Tallman, from Rensselaer Co., was an early settler, but in what year we could not determine. His son Squire P. T. Tallman, was born in Scpio, in 1817, and married Mary, daughter of Thomas Cushman, who was Justice sixteen years. Lewis B. Smith came in before 1816, in which year his son Elijah, who is now living in Scpio, was born here. Mitchel Baldwin and Philip H. Buckhout settled here in 1816. Mr. Baldwin was from New Jersey. He died in Aurelius in 1872. Mr. Buckhout was from Westchester county, and settled in 1817, at Scpioville, where he carried on the wagon-making business until compelled by old age to discontinue it. He is living a little east of Scpioville, and was 85 years old April 14th, 1878. Two sons are living, Edward, in Ledyard, and Byron B., in East Saginaw, Michigan. His wife, Amanda, daughter of Wm. Allen and Betsey Watkins, the first couple married in Scpio, died October 8th, 1876, aged 75.

Cornelius Weeks came from Dartmouth, Mass-

achusetts, about 1816, and settled first a little west of Poplar Ridge, in Ledyard. A year afterwards he removed to the place now occupied by his grandson, Wm. Penn Sisson, a little west of Barbers Corners. Daniel Sisson, father of Wm. Penn Sisson, married Mr. Weeks' only daughter, Charlotte, and succeeded Mr. Weeks to the farm. Mr. Weeks died January 25th, 1867, aged 89; and Daniel Sisson, June 28th, 1867, aged 65. Calvin King came in from Saratoga county about 1818, and settled at Barbers Corners, on the farm now owned by Abner S. Gifford. He died March 30th, 1851, aged 62. Of his children, William is living in Chicago, Edward B., in Scpio, and Jane, wife of Elisha Marsh, in Beatrice, Neb. Ira Akin came from Johnstown, Fulton county, about 1816, and settled one mile south of Scpio Center, on the farm now owned by Alson Hoskins, where he resided till the death of his wife, when the family broke up and he went west and died there. His children were Edward, who married a daughter of Nathan Morgan, and removed to Janesville, Wisconsin; Ira, who married Olive Tone, and settled a little over a mile north of Scpio Center, where he died, leaving two children, Yale, living in New York City, and Whelpley, in Auburn; John, who removed to Ohio; and Deacon Isaac, who married Phebe Tompkins, and settled about two miles east of Scpio Center, on the farm now owned by Artemas Ward. He afterwards removed to Scpio Center, where he died April 9th, 1877, and his wife, October 22d, 1878. They leave seven children, viz.: John W., William, Morrell J., all of whom are living in Scpio; Ann, wife of Horace Allen, in Nevada; Mary Jane, wife of Harden Brayton, in Chicago; Caroline, wife of Philo Sperry, in Michigan; and Harriet, wife of Henry Slocum, in Scpio.

Jeffery A. Farnam, Amaziah Griswold, Wm. Main, Elnathan Smith and Thomas Parker were among the earliest settlers, but we are not advised of the year in which they came. Farnam, who was born October 17th, 1773, came in from Connecticut, and settled near the *Square* or "No. 1." He died November 12th, 1842; and his wife a few years since, aged ninety-seven. Henry Farnam, now a resident of New Haven, Conn., an engineer of some prominence and formerly superintendent of a western railroad, is a son of his. Griswold was from New Lebanon, Columbia

county, and was the first shoe-maker in Scipioville. He was the grandfather of J. E., R. D., R. B., G. L., L. W. W., and A. Q. Watkins. In his house, says G. L. Watkins, was published the *Western Luminary*, the second newspaper published in Cayuga County. It was published every Tuesday evening, "by Ebenezer Eaton for Eaton & Co.," and the earliest preserved copy we have seen is dated "Watkins Settlement, Tuesday, July 21st, 1801," and is No. 17 of Vol. I. Wm. Main settled on the south line of the town, on the farm now owned by Hiram Wheat. He afterwards removed to Venice, about 1835, and died there August 14th, 1855, aged ninety-seven, and Lucy, his wife, April 28th, 1847, aged ninety-one. Charles, who is living in Venice at an advanced age, is the only one of his children living. Thomas Parker settled in the east part of the town, on the farm now occupied by Robert Stewart, and died there February 20th, 1855. He was born December 16th, 1775. Three sons are living, Nelson and Perry in Venice, and Franklin in Locke. Elnathan Smith settled south-east of the center of the town, on the farm now owned by George Barnes, where he died February 8th, 1860, aged eighty-three. His children were Eli, who died March 29th, 1869, aged seventy-one; Lorsey, afterwards wife of Charles Fitch; and Maria, afterwards wife of J. Crosby Smith, who died May 11th, 1867, aged sixty.

TOWN OFFICERS.—The first town meeting was held at the house of Augustus Chidsey the first Tuesday in April, 1794, and the following named officers were chosen: John Stoyell, *Supervisor*; Samuel Branch, *Clerk*; Henry Watkins, Daniel Mack and Elisha Durkee, *Commissioners of Roads*; Luke Taylor, Gilbert Tracy and Joshua Patrick, *Assessors*; Wm. Branch, Alanson Tracy and Winslow Perry, *Constables*; Alanson Tracy and Winslow Perry, *Collectors*; Thomas Morgan and Philip Strong, *Overseers of the Poor*; Ebenezer Witter, Simeon Herrick, Daniel Fuller, Henry Watkins, Gideon Allen, Jr., Edmund Sawtelle and Winslow Perry, *Pathmasters*; Joshua Patrick and John A. Thompson, *Pound Keepers*; Jonathan Hastings, *Sealer of Leather*; Thomas Morgan, *Sealer of Weights and Measures*.

At this meeting it was resolved to pay a bounty of \$5 for every grown wolf taken and

killed in the town. Every ram found running at large from September 1st to November 25th, was to be forfeited to the people of the town. At the annual meeting in 1795, it was "resolved that each sheep ram that is found running at large from the first day of September to the first day of December shall forfeit \$2.50, to be recovered of the owner." In 1796, the bounty on wolves was increased to \$12.50, and hogs were made free commoners.

The town officers elected for 1879 were:

Supervisor—John P. Chase.

Town Clerk—Willis G. Hoskins.

Justice of the Peace, (to fill vacancy,)—Enos T. Shaw.

Justice of the Peace, (full term,)—Enos T. Shaw.

Commissioner of Highways—Calvin H. Wattles.

Collector—George Coy.

Assessor—Elias C. Pierce.

Overseers of the Poor—John Casler, John Snyder.

Inspectors of Election—Henry T. Marsh, F. Leslie Smith.

Game Constable—James Flynn, Jr.

Constables—Leonard S. Owen, George L. Hoxie, James Flynn, Jr., Libbeus H. Merry.

Sealer of Weights and Measures—Jeremiah Simons.

SCIPIO CENTER.

SCIPIO CENTER is situated a little south-east of the center of the town, nine and one-half miles north-east of Aurora, one and one-half miles north-east of Summit Station, and about three miles south-west of Ensenore, on the Southern Central Railroad. It contains three churches, (Baptist, Catholic and Universalist,) a district school, one store, one hotel, (kept by Frederick Nichols,) a cider-mill, (owned by James Smith, and erected by him in the fall of 1878,) two wagon shops, (kept by David Hawley and Albert Slocum,) two blacksmith shops, (kept by Wm. Coulson and John Beachman,) and a population of 102.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant at Scipio Center was Dr. Ezra Strong, who came in with his brothers, Philip and Epaphroditus, about the beginning of the century, and opened a store at the Center, where he settled, about 1808, which he kept some ten or twelve years, and failed.

His store stood on the site of G. B. Peterson's store. Philip settled one mile south of the Center, at Gallups Corners, and Epaphroditus a half mile south of the Center, where Isaac Howell now lives. They died in the town. Strong was succeeded in the mercantile business by Leonard Searing; and later by John E. Beardsley, a native of Venice, and son of John Beardsley who settled in Scipio in 1808, who did business twelve to fifteen years and removed to Auburn, where he engaged in the book business. He was succeeded by a clerk of his, whose name we could not learn, who remained two or three years. John Snyder did business some ten or twelve years, till April, 1875, when he sold to Gilbert B. Peterson, from Fleming, who has since done business here. Peterson was associated as partner one year with Wirt Voorhees, whose interest he bought at the expiration of the year.

POSTMASTERS.—We have been unable to obtain a complete list of the postmasters at this place. The office was established as early as 1825, but probably not much earlier than that. James Glover was postmaster at that time. Andrew Groom was postmaster in 1831; John C. Beardsley, as early as 1836 and as late 1854; Alvin Seely, in 1857; and Daniel P. Van Liew, in 1859. John S. Snyder, the present postmaster, has held the office ten or twelve years consecutively, with the exception of a few months in 1875, when Wirt Voorhees held the office.

PHYSICIANS.—Probably the first person to dispense medicine in the town was Elder David Irish, who, though not a regular physician, made himself useful in that capacity, until Dr. Ezra Strong, came in soon after 1800 and practiced till about 1812. He joined the County Medical Society August 7th, 1806. Matthew Tallman came in about the time Strong ceased practising and settled about a mile north of the Center. He practiced a few years and sold to Adonijah White, who joined the County Medical Society February 6th, 1812, and practiced with marked success through the epidemic, about 1815, and finally became a victim to it. Andrew Groom, who practiced with Tallman the last year of his stay, commenced practicing as early as 1814, August 4th of which year he joined the County Medical Society, and settled at the Center after Tallman's removal to Scipioville, and practiced in the town till his death, though he had previously removed

from the Center. Benjamin Fordyce practiced here some twenty years, till his death a few years since. Burton Hoxie came in about 1860, and practiced till his removal to Auburn three or four years since. He was succeeded by Frank Kenyon, the present physician, who was born in Owasco, October 26th, 1844; educated at *Bellevue Hospital Medical College* in New York city, where he graduated March 1st, 1873, and immediately commenced practice at Scipio Center.

CHURCHES.—The town of Scipio has been largely supplied with Baptist churches. Besides the old *First Church*, there was a *Second*, a division from the *First*, also a *Third*, a *North-East*, a *West*, a *United*, and the present one. The old *First Church* is now the *Venice Church*. The *West Church* became extinct in 1816. The *Second*, *Third* and *North-East Churches* united in 1807, and became extinct in 1840.

THE SCIPIO BAPTIST CHURCH was constituted and united with the Cayuga Baptist Association in 1822. In their letter to the Association for that year, the names of Michael Pearsall, William Daniels and John Daniels, appear as delegates and the reported membership was fifty-six. Their first pastor was Elder Ichabod Clark, who entered upon his labors with them as a licentiate in 1823, and was ordained pastor in the latter part of 1824 or early part of 1825. He remained seven years. Their next pastor was Elder Ansel Clark, who commenced his labors with them in 1831, and was succeeded in 1833, by Elder S. Gilbert, who resigned the charge after about a year. The pulpit was supplied a part of 1834-'5, by Brother J. H. Ricketts, and a few months by Elder Jones, under whose labors they received an addition of twenty by baptism. In 1836-'7 they secured the services of Elder Bishop Ames, who labored with them as a temporary supply about seven months, and was succeeded by Elder H. J. Eddy, who resigned the charge in 1842.

A revival was commenced in the fall of 1837, and meetings were held every evening in the week during the fall, winter and spring. It resulted in the addition to their membership of eighty by baptism, and twenty-five by letter, and increased the membership to one hundred and fifty. "During the third year of Elder Eddy's pastorate, fifty-three were added to their number by baptism. Twenty-one were added to their number by baptism and eleven by letter in the

winter of 1841-'2. After the close of Elder Ed-
dy's pastorate, they were supplied by Brother
W. F. Purrington and others until the summer
of 1843, at which time Brother J. W. Osborn
commenced his labors as a licentiate, but was
subsequently ordained pastor. During the fourth
year of his pastorate twenty-six were added by
baptism, and eleven by letter. During that year
also their house of worship, which was erected
in 1831, was repaired and newly furnished.
Elder Osborn's resignation was accepted with
great reluctance in the fall of 1849."

Elder C. Sharman became the pastor in the
winter of 1849, and continued his labors with
them till 1851, when he was succeeded by B.
McLouth, who remained till 1853, in which year
George H. Brigham, who served them three years
was ordained. In the winter of 1854, he was
assisted by Reverends Dennison and Baldwin,
ministers from the vicinity, in a series of revival
meetings, which resulted in the addition of twen-
ty-one to the membership. The next pastor was
W. H. Delano, who served them two years, till
1859, and was succeeded by L. Hall, who after a
brief pastorate was followed by P. Conrad, who
remained two years. They next enjoyed the
ministrations of J. R. Burdick, who revived the
Sabbath School, which had fallen into decay, and
instituted a Bible Class, which was conducted by
Deacon John Daniels, who, though eighty-six
years of age, never failed to attend. In 1862 the
church raised \$162.25 for bounties to soldiers.
Elder Burdick resigned the pastorate in 1864,
and was succeeded by Bishop Ames, who re-
mained but a part of a year. Geo. N. Sears be-
came the pastor in 1865, and was ordained in
January, 1866. He resigned in 1868, and was
succeeded by Wm. L. Goodspeed, who resigned
in 1870, and was followed by Geo. Lewis, who
remained one year. Geo. C. Downey was called
to the pastorate in 1871, and served them nearly
two years. He was succeeded in 1873, by L.
Braisted, now of Fleming, whose pastorate cov-
ered a period of four years.

The pulpit was supplied during most of the
summer of 1877; and in September of that year
E. R. Warren, the present pastor, entered upon
his duties. During his pastorate the church has
been rebuilt, at a cost of \$4,000, and was dedi-
cated November 7th, 1878. The edifice is a neat
wooden structure, and does credit to the town.

It is 36 by 60 feet, with a tower on the north-
west corner rising to a height of 125 feet above
the ground. It contains a lecture room and au-
ditorium, each having a seating capacity for 300
persons, and a baptistry. Upon the lower floor
is a kitchen and parlor. It is richly furnished
with carpets, cushioned pews, and gothic chairs
in its pulpit. It has a memorial window put in
by the church, commemorating the services of
Deacon Isaac Akin, who was for twenty-five
years a Deacon of the church, which was carried
on almost entirely by his individual effort. Other
memorial windows have been put in by individ-
uals, complimentary to Mrs. Phebe Akin, wife,
and Mrs. H. B. Brayton, of Chicago, and Mrs.
H. C. Slocum, daughters of Deacon Isaac Akin ;
Mrs. R. E. Eaker, wife of Deacon Robert Eaker;
and Mrs. Louisa Fordyce, widow of John H.
Fordyce. The church has a membership of 75.
It has an interesting Sabbath School and Bible
Class, the attendance at the former being about
100.

THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY IN THE
TOWN OF SCIPIO was organized May 22d, 1836,
with fifty-six members, thirty of whom were
males, at the school-house near Bishop's tavern
at Scipio Center. Worden Babcock was chosen
chairman of the meeting and F. Boughton, sec-
retary. The trustees then chosen were Asa
Way, Jacob Morgan, Worden Babcock, William
Taber and Lyman Birch. Thomas Cushman
was chosen treasurer; Jesse Babcock, clerk;
and Elisha Marsh, collector. The first pastor was
Rev. Harvey Boughton, who preached some
three years previous to the organization of the
society. November 11th, 1837, it was decided
to build a meeting house of wood, and Worden
Babcock, Titus Fisk, J. E. Beardsley, D. P.
Van Liew and A. T. Wilber were appointed a
committee to raise funds to build with. Decem-
ber 23d, 1837, Worden Babcock, Henry Snyder,
Christopher Roffee, William Taber and D. P.
Van Liew were appointed a building committee.
The building does not appear to have been fin-
ished before 1839. The records of the society
are very incomplete and give very little clue to
the pastors who have officiated in this church ;
we have been unable to find any one able to sup-
ply the deficiency. Mr. Boughton seems to have
been the pastor as late as June 7th, 1840. Al-
fred Peck was pastor May 1st, 1842, and as late

as May 20th, 1843. H. L. Hayward was pastor May 24th, 1845, and as late as May 30th, 1846; Harvey Boughton, May 23d, 1847, and as late as May 20th, 1849; and J. H. Harter, May 22d, 1853, and as late as May 25th, 1856. At present the church is without a pastor. The present membership is about thirty.

ST. BERNARD'S CHURCH OF SCIPIO CENTER (R. C.) was organized in the early part of 1867, at the house of James Flynn, of Scipio Center, by Rev. Father Bernard McCool, with about 100 adult members, of whom the following were the principal ones: John Conran, Thomas Hefferman, James Flynn, Joseph Morgan, Andrew Neville and Edward Reilly. The earliest meetings by members of this faith were held in a small private house, (now entirely removed) which stood some thirty or forty rods east of the present church, in 1851, and were conducted by Father Quigley, who, together with Fathers Burns and Twohig, administered to the spiritual wants of the Catholics in this vicinity from 1851 to 1863. In the latter year Father McCool took charge, and the church erected four years later attests his zealous labors. In 1870, Father McCool was removed by the Bishop to Seneca Falls, the field of his present labors, where he still enjoys the best wishes of this congregation. He was succeeded by Father Schmeltzer, who, by reason of delicate health, was unable to endure the hardships of this mission longer than ten months. Father Eugene Pagani ministered to this people in the latter part of 1871 and early part of 1872, and was succeeded by Father Archange Paganini, who was the first resident pastor of this church, but was relieved June 15th, 1873, after a pastorate of ten months, by the present pastor, Father Hugh Francis Rafferty.

When Father Rafferty took charge, the church was struggling under a \$1,200 indebtedness, besides a large annual rental for the house occupied as a parsonage. Since then this debt has been paid, and a new and respectable two story brick parsonage, as well as a suitable barn and stable have been built on the grounds adjoining the church. The church edifice, erected in 1867, was 32 by 45 feet, and was enlarged in the summer of 1877, by an addition 32 by 62 feet, besides a vestry 12 by 32 feet, making the building present the form of a Latin cross. In the front has been built a neat little tower, seventy to eighty

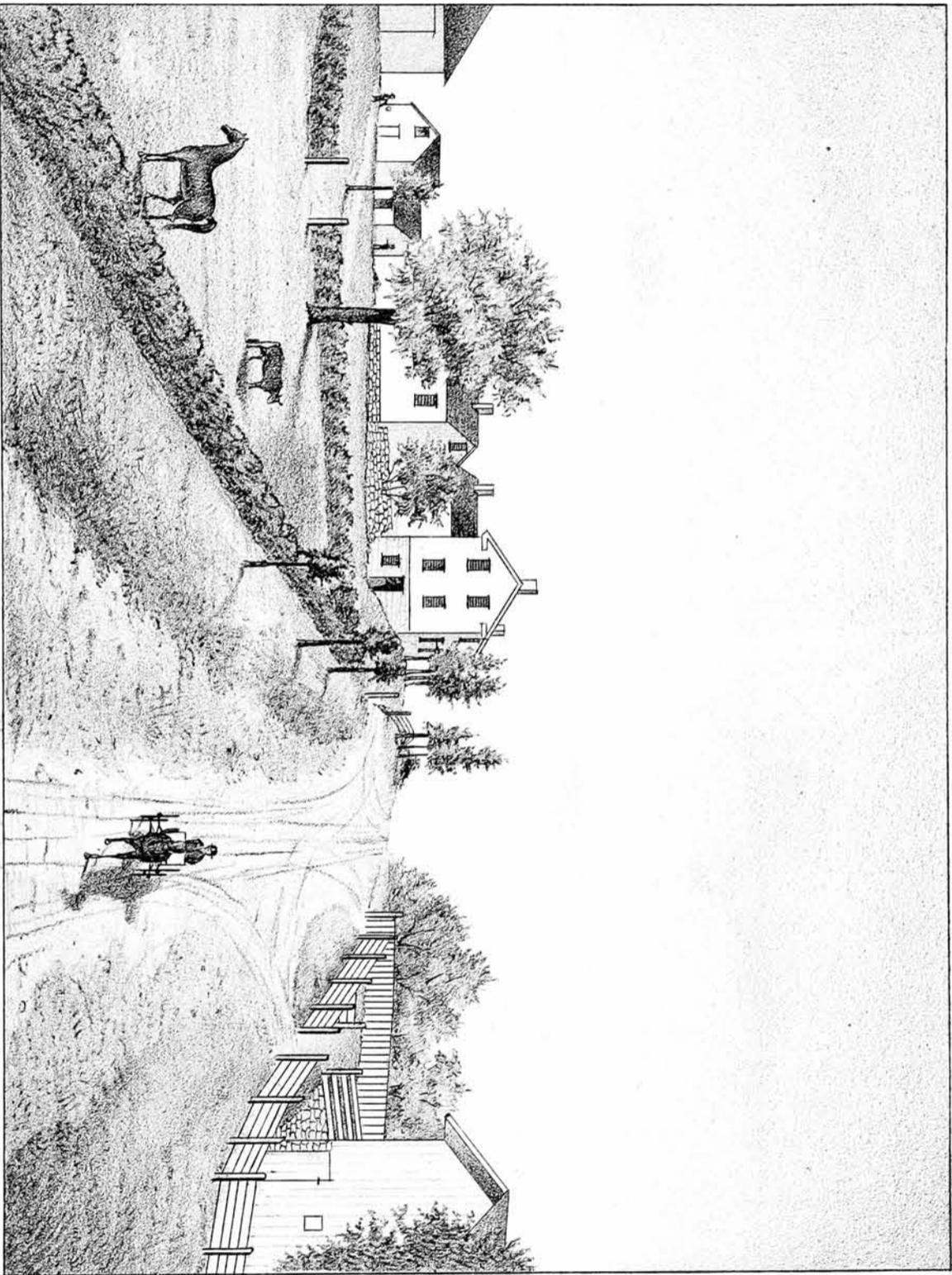
feet high, and surmounted by a well proportioned gilt cross. Upon a stone in front of the tower, in gilt letters, is the Latin inscription: *Et Porta Inferi non prevalebunt advesus eam.* Within the tower is a fine-toned bell, weighing over 1,600 pounds. The interior of the church presents a pleasing appearance. The pews are neatly grained and varnished, with walnut stained trimmings. The walls and ceilings are beautifully frescoed; and upon the former, to the right and left of the altar, are life size portraits of saints Peter and Paul, while upon the latter are representations of various religious emblems. Immediately behind and above the tabernacle is a bust of the monk St. Bernard.

SCIPIOVILLE.

SCIPIOVILLE is situated near the west line of the town, south of the center, on Poplar Ridge, and is twelve miles south of Auburn, eight miles north of Northville, four miles east of Levanna, and one and one-half miles west of Scipio Summit. It contains two churches, (Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian,) a district school, a hotel, (kept by N. J. Webster,) two stores, a harness shop, (kept by George R. Kent,) a shoe shop, (kept by Dr. O. Reynolds,) a carpenter shop, (kept by Benjamin Cain,) a blacksmith shop, (kept by Houghton & Cooper,) a wagon shop, (kept by J. Dean,) a tannery, kept by Lemuel Allen,) an attorney, (James Hyat Baker,) and a population of 170.

Scipioville was first known as *Watkins Settlement* and *Watkins Corners*. In 1806, Paine Fitch built a tavern there and it was afterwards known as *Fitchs Corners*, till subsequently it was named *Mechanicsburg*, which name it retained till the establishment of the post-office in 1836, when the present name was adopted.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchants at Scipioville were Orin Peck and Thomas Hale, who opened a general store in 1813, in the building now occupied as a dwelling by the widow of Jotham Forbes. They also carried on the distilling business. They bought that year the tin shop established about 1809 by Asahel and Seth Peck, brothers of Orin Peck. This tin shop is said to have been the first one west of Utica in the State. In 1823, they dissolved. Hale, who came from Connecticut in 1811, continued at the old stand, discontinuing



RESIDENCE OF N. E. WEBSTER, SCIPPIO, CAYUGA Co. N.Y.

after a short time his general stock, keeping tin-ware, sheet-iron and stoves, which he continued till his death, October 7th, 1852. He was one of the most prominent men here for several years. Austin B. Hale, of Moravia, is a son of his, and is the only one of his children living. Peck built and kept some five years the store now occupied by Mrs. A. B. Groom. He sold to Uriel Mosher and returned to Connecticut, whence he came, and died there. Mosher did business about three years, and sold to two brothers named Lawrence, from New York, who continued about a year and sold to Truman Wakeley and Asahel Warner, both residents of the town. After a short time Wakeley sold to Warner, who took in as partner Benjamin King, who continued a year and a half, when King withdrew and soon after removed from the town. Wm. B. Wooden then bought an interest and he and Warner did business some three years, when they sold to Edwin Akin and John Gildersleeve, both natives of the town, who, after four or five years, sold to Nicholas D. Tripp and Francis Snow, who continued from 1861-'5, when Andrew B. Groom bought them out. Green was from Romulus, Seneca county. He did business about a year, when it went into the hands of Mrs. A. B. Groom, who still carries it on.

Matthew Tallman, from Aurora, where he settled prior to 1800, opened a store in company with Roswell Beardsley, on the north-west corner, opposite Mrs. Groom's store. The building or frame, which was afterwards removed and remodeled, is now occupied by George L. Watkins. They continued till the death of Beardsley, a few years after, when Tallman carried on the business alone several years. About 1834, about which time the house was moved, he was succeeded by Seneca B. Dennis, his son-in-law, who continued six or seven years, and sold to Alvah Ward, who kept it but a short time, till 1841, when the property came into possession of Geo. L. Watkins, who has since carried on the business, having been associated from 1851 to 1853 with Wheeler Powell.

POSTMASTERS—The post-office at Scpioville was established in 1836, and Seneca B. Dennis was the first postmaster. He was succeeded by Alvah Ward, Wm. T. Dennis, Albert S. Allen, and Charles D. Tallman, who filled up the period to 1845, when George L. Watkins was appoint-

ed. He held the office till 1849; Asahel Warner from 1849-'53; Geo. L. Watkins, from 1853-'57; Andrew Race, from 1857-'61; Edwin Akin and Nicholas D. Tripp, from 1861-'66; Geo. R. Kent, from 1866-'70; Silas Elliott, from 1870 till his death in the spring of 1878, when Geo. R. Kent, the present incumbent, was again appointed.

PHYSICIANS.—The earliest physician of whom we have any record was Matthew Tallman, who was licensed to practice by a County Judge in July, 1806, and joined the County Medical Society, while a resident of Scpioville, August 7th, of that year. He removed to Scpio Center about 1812, and after a few years practice there returned to Scpioville. He was born December 9th, 1780; and died May 28th, 1847. Phineas Hurd settled one mile north of Scpioville, in 1812, on the 5th of November of which year he joined the County Medical Society. He practiced till August 31st, 1867.

CHURCHES.—The Baptists had an organization here at an early day, and completed in 1810, a large church edifice. The church prospered for many years, but finally ran down. Elders Rathbun and Abner Wakely were among the first pastors.

THE FIRST M. E. CHURCH OF SCIPIOVILLE was organized about sixty years ago, and a house of worship erected about the same time one mile west of Hurds Corners. The church was taken down and removed to Scpioville in 1871. The first pastor after the removal was Wm. Adams, who labored with this church three and one-half years. He was succeeded by D. D. Davis, who remained three years; when P. T. Hughston, the present pastor commenced his labors with them. The present membership is 120. They have an interesting Sabbath School, the attendance at which is eighty-five. The present trustees are Leddra W. Watkins, Wm. Manchester, Morris Reynolds, Peter Ridley, and Dixon Perry.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN SOCIETY OF SCIPIOVILLE was organized July 29th, 1872. The first members were Mrs. Esther C. Allen, Mrs. Ann E. Watkins, Mrs. Sally Ann Watkins, J. N. Fordyce and wife, Henrietta, and daughter, Frances, Mrs. Maria Pearl, and Mrs. Mary D. Tompkins. Their church edifice was erected the same year, at a cost of \$3,000, and dedicated March 19th, 1873. The corner-stone was laid

September 13th, 1872, by Deacon Uriah Benedict, assisted by his son Rev. Edwin Benedict. The society met previous to the completion of the church, in the school-house. The first pastor was Robert C. Allison, who lived at the *Square* and supplied the church there as well. His pastorate continued until January, 1876, when he accepted a call from the church in Otisco. During the summer of 1876, the pulpit was supplied by students from *Auburn Theological Seminary*. In May, 1877, Rev. Charles Ray, editor and publisher of the *Moravia Citizen*, took the pastoral charge, and still continues it. The present membership is twenty-six. The first trustees were Lemuel Allen, A. Q. Watkins and Nathan Webster. The present trustees are Dr. Denison R. Pearl, James Ross, A. Q. Watkins, Wm. Hawley and Benj. Gould. The attendance at Sabbath School and Bible Class is forty-seven.

SHERWOOD.

Sherwood is situated on the Poplar Ridge, in the south-west corner of the town, one mile south of Scpioville, and about five miles east of Aurora. It contains a district school, a select school, with some thirty-six pupils, established in 1872, Hepsibeth C. Hussey, Principal, and Dorcas Gardner, Assistant, two stores, a broom manufactory, employing two hands in the winter, (Benj. Myers, proprietor,) one harness shop, (kept by Charles F. Cumstock,) blacksmith and wagon shop, (kept by Henry S. Nye,) a shoe shop, (kept by George Rider,) a blacksmith shop, (kept by John D. Hudson,) and a population of 167.

Henry Koon's apple jell and cider-mill was erected in 1871; contains four presses; employs four men during the season. About seven tons of jelly are made per annum.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchants were Joseph Barnes and Melvin Brown, who opened a store about 1808, on the site of the house now owned by Abby Jane Mastin, and did business about two years. They also carried on the potash business, and paid in goods for ashes. Humphrey Howland and Thomas Alsop opened a store about 1817, where John S. Smith's store now stands. In the spring of 1819, Slocum Howland bought the interest of his brother Humphrey, and carried on the business in company with Alsop two years, when he bought the latter's

interest. In 1831, he admitted Ledra Heazlett to partnership, and did business with him till shortly before Mr. Heazlett's death in 1841. In 1847, his son William became his partner, and the firm then became and has since remained *S. Howland & Son*.

A man named King opened a store about 1812, in a building erected that year by Samuel Phelps, and continued three years, when he was succeeded by a man named Parsons, who remained three or four years, and moved west, taking a portion of his goods with him. David P. Johnson bought a portion of Parsons' goods, and did business about a year, when he sold to Josiah Bowen, father of Sayles Bowen, who continued it a year or two. Allen Thomas, who came with his father-in-law, Seth Allen, from Washington county, about 1806 or '7, and settled at Aurora, and a year or two after bought the farm now owned by Thomas Collins, one-half mile west of Sherwood, opened a store in 1820, and after two or three years, admitted to partnership George Thomas, a cousin's son, with whom he did business about two years, when George Thomas sold to Arthur Phelps, whose interest Allen Thomas bought after two or three years. Allen Thomas continued the business until his death, in March, 1862. John S. Smith has been engaged some six years in buying and selling poultry, eggs and fruit, which are sent to the New York market. Alexander Robinson keeps a small grocery, which he recently started.

POSTMASTERS.—The post-office was removed from Poplar Ridge and established at Sherwood March 4th, 1822, with J. Winter Branch as postmaster. Branch held the office till about April 15th, 1827, when Allen Thomas was appointed and held it till within a few days of his death, till February 24th, 1862, when S. W. Green was appointed, and held it till the winter of 1864. He was succeeded by Sylvanus G. Reynolds, who received the appointment January 1st, 1865, and held the office about a year. S. W. Green was reappointed January 15th, 1866, and still holds the office.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician at Sherwood was Dr. Rude, who came in prior to 1800, and after practicing several years removed from the town. Parley Kinney came from Connecticut about 1800, and practiced till his death in 1819. He was licensed to practice by a County Judge

in December, 1797, and joined the County Medical Society August 7th, 1806. Barnabas Smith, from Washington county, who joined the County Medical Society August 7th, 1806, while a resident of Scipio, probably came here about that time and practiced till his death, about 1813. John Thompson came from Washington county, where he had married Dr. Smith's daughter, about the close of the war of 1812, in which he was a surgeon, and practiced here till 1843, when he retired. He joined the County Medical Society November 7th, 1816. He was born February 11th, 1784, and died December 15th, 1854. He was succeeded by Denison R. Pearl, who was born in Paris, Oneida county, October 9th, 1806; educated at Hamilton College; studied medicine with Drs. Peck and Clark at Whites-town, and with Dr. P. B. Havens at Hamilton, Madison county; graduated at Fairfield Medical College in 1828; commenced practice in May of that year at Northville, where he practiced six years; and in 1843 commenced practice at Sherwood, where he has since continued, having occupied the interval of nine years in the pursuit of other business.

SCIPIO SUMMIT.

SCIPIO SUMMIT is situated in the south part of the town, nearly equi-distant from Scipio Center, Scipioville and Sherwood, and is the northern terminus of the Utica, Ithaca & Elmira Railroad. It contains two stores, one of which is kept in the basement of a dwelling house, and the other at the station, these being about the only buildings in the immediate locality of the station. The post-office was established here January 1st, 1876. Charles A. Morgan was appointed postmaster, and has since held the office.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant at Scipio Summit was Charles A. Morgan, who commenced business November 27th, 1872, and still continues. Mr. Morgan also deals in lumber, and, in company with Charles Elliott, in grain, of which they handle about 75,000 bushels per annum. Mr. Morgan is also agent for the railroad, and for the A. and P. Telegraph Company.

E. S. Miller and John Snyder commenced business under the name of E. S. Miller & Co., in May, 1876. After about a year W. G. Hoskins, from Auburn, bought Snyder's interest, and

the firm has since done business under the name of Hoskins & Miller.

ENSENORE.

ENSENORE, (Culvers Point p. o.) is situated on the shore of the lake, and on the Southern Central Railroad, by which it is about twelve miles south of Auburn, a little south of the center of the east line of the town. This place has gained some notoriety of late as a theatre of aquatic sports. Hotel accommodations are furnished by George Clark, proprietor of the Ensenore Glen House, which stands at the foot of the glen.

At *The Square*, in the north-west corner of the town, is a small Presbyterian church, which was organized about 1825, in which year their house of worship was built. The pastors who have officiated at this church are Revs. Clark, Avery, Baker, Page, Moses Thatcher, Atherton, Lansing, Porter, Atwood, Gilbert, Ebenezer Squire and Robert Allison, the latter of whom, who left in the fall of 1876, was the last settled pastor. The pulpit has since been supplied mostly by students from Auburn Theological Seminary.

A little east of Barbers Corners is a Friends meeting house (Hicksite) which was built in 1822. The society was formed shortly before and met previous to the erection of the house of worship, in the house of Amos Gifford.

About a mile south-east of Bolts Corners is a grist-mill owned by J. S. Wood & Son, (George,) which was built by James Akin, father of David Akin. It is situated on Salmon Creek, contains three run of stones, and is operated by water and steam.

SOCIETIES.—*Cayuga Lodge, No. 221, F. & A. M.*, received their warrant June 13th, 1851. The first officers were William Taber, *W. M.*; Amzi Wood, *S. W.*; Amos Morgan, *J. W.* Others of the charter members were Williams Fish, Benjamin Lamkin, Geo. Whitfield, Phineas Hurd, M. D., and Allen Thomas. Amzi Wood and George Whitfield are still living, the former in Auburn and the latter in Scipio. The whole number of persons who have been members of the lodge is 180; the present number of members is 87. The present officers are Frank Kenyon, *W. M.*; Amos E. Hutchison, *S. W.*; Josiah L. Streeter, *J. W.*; John Snyder, *Secretary*; James K. Smith, *Treasurer*; William S. Degroff, *S. D.*; William

Wheat, *J. D.*; John W. Chamberlain, *S. M. C.*; John Crawfoot, *J. M. C.*; Calvin W. Wattles, *Tiler*; Leddra W. Watkins, *Chaplain*; Warren B. Tompkins, *Marshal*; Jonas Wood, Daniel Nichols and Franklin P. Poppins, *Trustees*. Following are the names of other past Masters: George Whitfield, Amzi Wood, John Bowen, Andrew Race, Selah Cornwell, Isaac Jump, Warren B. Tompkins and Wm. L. Jaquett. Meetings are held the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Scipio Center.

CHAPTER XLVII.

TOWN OF VENICE.

VENICE was formed from Scipio January 30th, 1823, and derives its name from Venice, a city in Italy. It is an interior town, lying in the south part of the County, at the head of Owasco Lake, which borders upon the north-east corner. It is bounded on the north by Scipio, on the east by Moravia and Locke, on the south by Genoa, and on the west by Ledyard.

The surface is a rolling upland, whose summits are 300 to 400 feet above Owasco Lake. The declivities on the lake and west bank of Salmon Creek are steep, though generally the hillsides are long, narrow slopes.

Its waters are Salmon and Little Salmon Creeks and their tributaries, and numerous small streams, which head in the east part and flow east, emptying into the lake and its inlet. The Salmon, which heads in Scipio, and the Little Salmon, which heads in the north-west part of Venice, flow south, the former through the central, and the latter, the western portion of the town, through deep valleys, which divide the surface into well defined ridges.

Limestone boulders found upon the surface have been burned, but there are no limestone quarries in the town. There are several slate quarries, the principal one of which is on the farm of P. K. Storms, two miles south-west of Venice Center, which has been worked more or less for fifty years, but more extensively recently than ever before. The strata vary from one to six inches in thickness; thus furnishing an excellent

flagging stone of almost any desired thickness. Slate also crops out in several places upon the farm of Lyman Murdock, one-half mile south of Venice Center; upon the farms of William Jackson and James H. Wallace, the former one and one-half miles south, and the latter two miles south-east of that village; and other places along the hillsides, upon both sides of the creek, in all of which it has been quarried to some extent. Sand and gravel beds abound in the flats along Salmon Creek, and both are used to improve the roads. The soil is a highly productive gravelly and clayey loam, admirably adapted to grain.

The Utica, Ithaca & Elmira R. R. extends through the center of the town, along the valley and on the east side of Salmon Creek. The Southern Central R. R. crosses the north-east corner of the town and has a station (Cascade) within its limits. The former road is also known as the western extension of the Midland R. R. It is leased by the Utica, Ithaca & Elmira R. R. Co., and was opened in 1872.

The population of the town in 1875 was 1,753; of whom 1,585 were native; 168 foreign; 1,739 white; and 14, colored. Its area was 24,996 acres; of which 20,956 were improved; 3,854 woodland; and 186 otherwise unimproved.

A portion of the tract known as the Indian Fields lies in this town, and has given evidence at various times and in various ways of Indian occupancy. When the railroad was built through the town along Salmon Creek, in cutting through a bed of excellent gravel on the Benjamin Whitten farm, three and one-half miles south of Venice Center, a large quantity of human bones were exhumed. The first white settlers found upon the Creek near the center of the town, extensive fields, cleared and cultivated, and near them an Indian burying-ground. Upon the ridge, east of the Creek, near the south border of the town, are the remains of an ancient fortification.

The settlement of Venice was contemporary with the neighboring towns. It is probable that the first settlement was made as early as 1790, although we have been unable to discover any data which fully establish the fact. The town records of Scipio, before the division of that town, show that Luke Taylor settled as early as 1794; Henry Hewitt and Samuel Chidsey, as early as 1795; Zebulon Taylor, as early as 1796; Zadoc Bateman and Thomas Cannon, as early as 1798;

and Josiah Beard, as early as 1800, while it is nearly certain that they settled earlier, some of them several years, as well as some whose names do not appear in the town records.

Luke Taylor came in from Massachusetts, in 1794, and settled where Alonzo Stewart, who married Taylor's grand-daughter, now lives, a little west of East Venice, and died there December 4th, 1841, aged 87. Elizabeth, his wife, died March 16th, 1813, aged 57. Two children are living, viz: Mary, widow of Erastus Carpenter, with her son-in-law, Alonzo Stewart, in Venice, and Esther, widow of Asa Sawtelle, in Elba, Genesee county. Zebulon Taylor, a brother of Luke's, came in from Massachusetts, a little earlier than the latter, probably in 1793, and settled where James Youngs now lives. The old house in which he lived is still standing in a dilapidated condition, though not used as a dwelling-house. He sold out and removed with his family to Elba, where he died. The house in which he lived was built in 1800. He kept tavern in it several years. His son John is living near the farm upon which he settled in Elba. Luke's grandchildren who are living, are: Harvey Mills, son of Caty, wife of John Mills; Betsey Ann, wife of Alonzo Stewart, and Henry Taylor, children of Abner Taylor, who died February 23d, 1872, aged 81 years and 11 months; Lewis E., and William H. Carpenter, children of Mary, wife of Erastus Carpenter, in Auburn; Eliza, widow of Lyman Hinman and Catharine, wife of Justus Whipple, also children of Caty, wife of John Mills, in Auburn; and Julia Ann, wife of Lewis Ludlow, daughter of Rev. Hull Taylor, who died January 27th, 1873, aged 91, also in Auburn. Caty died January 12th, 1811, aged 30; and her husband, Capt. John Mills, April 28th, 1852, aged 80. Henry Hewitt came in from Connecticut, a little later than Luke Taylor, and settled a little north of East Venice, where Frederick B. Lester now lives. He removed to Michigan, at an advanced age, to join his children who had previously settled there, and died soon after. Cyrus Hampton, a grand-child, and the only one living in this part of the country, keeps the toll-gate a little south of Moravia. Samuel Chidsey settled at Poplar Ridge. Deacon Zadoc Bateman was from Vermont. He settled one mile west of East Venice, on the farm now occupied by Benj. P. Cogswell, where he died September 22d, 1842, aged

80, and Lucy W., his wife, January 8th, 1852, aged 81. He was justice of the peace a great many years. Lucina, his youngest child, who married Daniel T. Reed, and is now living in LeRoy, Genesee county, is the only one of his children living. Thomas Cannon settled one mile west of Venice Center, on the farm now occupied by Isaac Saxon, and died there. John Hutchinson, who was born near Springfield, Mass., came in from Columbia county, (where he married Thankful Whitten,) in 1794, and settled about a mile south of Venice Center, where his son now lives. He died there November 28th, 1855, aged 87, and his wife, December 17th, 1850, aged 81. He had three sons, Warren, who was born in Columbia county, in 1792, married Betsey McLaughlin in Venice, and in 1838, removed to Summit county, Ohio, where he died in May, 1871, and his wife in May, 1873, leaving four sons and six daughters; Andrew, who was born in 1791, and still lives on the old homestead in Venice; and Silas, who was born in November, 1806, married Almira, daughter of Zephaniah Silcox of Moravia, and settled on a part of his father's farm, where he died in July, 1878, leaving a widow and seven children, Franklin, Ann, wife of Charles Crawfoot, Mahala, Amos, John, Caroline, wife of Henry Kenyon, and Alpheus, all of whom reside in Venice, except John, who lives in Scipio.

Amos Hutchinson, father of John, the original settler, moved in from Columbia county in 1800, with his sons Amos Jr., and Obediah. He came with a cart, drawn by four oxen, the journey occupying eighteen days. He settled where Eber Edwards now lives, and died there March 16th, 1827, aged 84. Mary, his wife, died March 12th, 1847, aged 99. Other of his children, in addition to those named, were Shubael, who came about the same year as his father, and died October 1st, 1834, aged 63; Percy, who married in Columbia county, and remained there; Ann, who married Joseph Breed, who settled in Chenango county; and Polly, who married Daniel Brinsmaid. None of them are living. Amos, Jr., died November 15th, 1867, aged 87 years and 11 months; and Obediah, July 2d, 1866, aged 81.

David Avery, who was born in Pequonnock, Connecticut, in 1779, started for the Military Tract in 1795, in company with Hezekiah Avery

and wife, Daniel Avery and wife, Ebenezer Avery and wife, Dudley Avery and wife, Nathaniel Gallup and wife, and several young men. They boarded a sloop commanded by Amos Avery, and proceeded to Albany, making headway at flood-tide and lying at anchor at ebb-tide; the voyage to New York occupying three days, and that up the Hudson sixteen. From Albany their goods were conveyed by wagons to Schenectady, at which point each family bought a bateau, and started up the Mohawk. Before reaching New York, they were joined by a family named Babcock, the head of which died on the way up the Mohawk, causing a detention of a portion of the party, who rejoined the advance portion at Little Falls. With difficulty they made the passage of the rapids, being twice forced back by the current, and arriving at Little Falls, their goods were carried around the falls in wagons and reloaded, the transfer occupying one day. At Fort Stanwix, (Rome) their goods and bateaux were conveyed by wagons through a dense, uninhabited wilderness of thirty miles to Wood Creek, at the mouth of which they pitched tents, made fires, and cooked meat. They resumed their journey by water the next morning, having, while encamped, rigged sails to their boats, and proceeded by the usual water route to Aurora, having been forty days in making the journey from New London. David and his brother Benjamin worked out that summer, and in the fall, in company with Captain Daniel Avery and others who joined the company, set out with packs on their backs for New London. His father Benjamin moved in with his family the next spring, coming by the northern water route, and settled at Talcotts Corners, (Ledyard,) where he died. He assisted in the erection of the first court house at Aurora after the removal of the County seat from Cayuga in 1804. It consisted of posts set in the ground, supporting poles covered with boughs. Daniel Avery had previously settled near Aurora in 1793. David and Benjamin, Sr., settled at Talcotts Corners, the former in Venice, where Elisha Cobb now lives, and where he died November 27th, 1856, and the latter in Ledyard, in the house next north of the church, and died there January 27th, 1816. Benjamin, his son, who was born November 25th, 1776, succeeded his father to the homestead, and died there January 31st, 1866, aged 90. Two of David's

daughters are living, viz: Nancy, wife of Nathaniel Walker, in Cattaraugus county, and Fanny, widow of I. Johnson Tillottson, in Auburn. The children of Benjamin, Jr., living, are Alfred, in Genoa, Edgar, in Colorado, and Charles, in Venice. None of the elder Benjamin's children are living. Ebenezer Avery settled a half mile east of Poplar Ridge. Shortly before his death he removed to Collins, Erie county, where he and his wife died. Only one daughter of a large family is living, viz: Lucy, wife of Sylvester Richmond, in Mt. Morris. Judge Nathaniel Gallup, who married Nancy Rogers, a cousin of Benjamin and David Avery, settled in Sempronius.

James Stevenson, from Connecticut, settled about 1795, just north of the south line of Venice, where Adelbert Young now lives, in the locality of East Venice, and both he and his wife died there, the former February 24th, 1825, aged 63, and the latter in 1843. They left no children. Mr. Henderson took his grist to Skaneateles to mill, carrying upon his back a bushel and a half of wheat at once, and this he continued until the mill at Montville was built, usually returning within the twenty-four hours. On one such occasion he failed to return before the following morning, and his wife, being afraid of the Indians, started towards dark to the house of their nearest neighbor, a family named Strong, who lived a mile south of Scipio Center, a distance of seven miles, with no other road than marked trees. When she returned in the morning she found the house burned to ashes, and their store of provisions either stolen or consumed by the flames which destroyed their dwelling. This was supposed to be the work of Indians.

Joshua Murdock, who was born in Windham, Connecticut, October 9th, 1763, removed with his father's family to Bennington, Vermont, where he spent two years in the clothing business. He afterwards followed the vocation of a farmer. In 1787, he married Eunice Moore, of Athol, Massachusetts, and settled at Granville, Washington county, and thence in the fall of 1800, he removed to Venice Center, and built a log house on the north-east corner of lot 62, where the State road crosses Salmon Creek. He took up 250 acres on which he moved his family in the winter of 1801, bringing with him horses, sleigh, two yoke of oxen and an ox sled "wood shod,"

seven cows, household furniture and a year's provisions. His family then consisted, besides his wife, of Pamela, who married Samuel Beeman, and moved with him to Clarence, Erie county about 1808, where both died; Salmon, who died with his parents in Venice in 1815, unmarried; Mary, who married Hezekiah Murdock, and moved to Mesopotamia, Trumbull county, Ohio, where she died; Lydia, who married Wm. D. Ledger and removed to Lake county, Illinois, where she died; Huldah, who married Anson Baldwin of Royalton, Niagara county, where she died; and Ruby, who married Philip Reynolds, removed to Mesopotamia, Ohio, and subsequently went to live with her sons near Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, where she now resides. Lyman, another son, was born in Venice, August 8th, 1804, and lived on the homestead farm seventy-two years. He now resides in North Candor.

January, 1801, Joshua Murdock built a log barn on the site of W. R. Cannon's store. In 1802, he built a saw-mill on the south-east corner of his 250 acres. In 1816, he built the family residence, now occupied by his grandson, M. W. Murdock. He died on the old homestead December 13th, 1845, aged 82; and his wife, August 21st, 1839, aged 78.

Lyman, his son, has been largely interested in the growth and prosperity of Venice Center, where his father was the first settler, and prominently identified with its material interests and enterprises. In 1820, at the age of sixteen, he took the management of the farm. In 1821, he, in company with his neighbors, the Fishes, built a saw-mill on the site of the old one, on the south-east corner of the farm. September 5th, 1824, he married Clarinda, daughter of Captain Alanson Tracy, of Scipio, and bought 150 acres of the old homestead farm, but continued to work the whole farm. In the fall of 1826, he built an addition to the homestead and commenced keeping a public house, in which also the town meetings and other elections were held and other town business transacted for many years. That building, which was the first tavern at Venice Center, forms the east end of the present tavern, and was moved to its present site, in 1835, when the addition was built.

In 1834 he built a grist-mill on the site of the present one; and in 1835 he built a saw-mill adjacent to it. The same year (1835) he built the

present tavern at Venice Center; and gave one acre of land to Philander Tracy, who built thereon that year, the first store in that village. From 1850, he has been connected pecuniarily and officially with railroad projects, which culminated in the establishment of the road which runs through the central part of the town. Lyman's children are Evanden, who married Margaret Wood, of Venice, who has two sons, Clarence and Lyman, and is living at Cedar Falls, Iowa; Mary A., widow of Stephen Howard, who has two daughters, Gertrude and Minnie, and is living at Sherwood; Miss Clarinda R., an artist, residing in Ecoen, France; Lyman T., who married H. Eliza Hull, of Genoa, by whom he has one son, John H., and is living at Venice Center, where he is engaged in farming, dealing in produce, is station agent, and, until the spring of 1877, carried on the milling business; Eugene B., who died in 1866; and M. Wellington, who married Mary Lyman, of Venice, by whom he has one daughter, and is living on the old homestead.

Samuel Mosher, from Rhode Island, also came in 1800, and settled two miles north-east of East Venice, where James Heaton now lives. After about ten years he traded his farm for an interest in a grist-mill in the south part of the town, near Tabor & Whitney's saw-mill, below the Willow bridge, which was built about 1808, by Benjamin Beardsley, who came in from Connecticut, in 1801, and settled first a mile north of Venice, afterwards removed to the east part of the town, and subsequently bought the mill property in question. This was the first grist-mill in Venice. It had one run of "rock" stones, which ground wheat, corn and feed indifferently, and was driven by an overshot wheel. It was in operation till about 1835. About 1812, Mosher traded his interest in the mill for the farm now occupied by his son Arvid Mosher, in Genoa, where he died May 4th, 1871, aged 90, and Philomelia, his wife, October 16th, 1868, aged 77. Three children are living besides Arvid, all in Venice, viz: Emily, wife of Ephraim Andrews, Lovice, wife of Squire Raymond, and Hermon. Benjamin Beardsley died with his daughter, Philomelia, who married Samuel Mosher, June 6th, 1837, aged 83; and his wife, Amelia, June 14th, 1849, aged 89. He was a cousin to John and Sherman Beardsley, the former of whom settled in Scipio in 1808, and the latter in Venice, about