

The first officers elected in 1857 were as follows: Trustees, David P. Goodhue, Rochester Marsh, William W. Tanner, John B. Sweetland, and Isaac H. Ford; assessors, Augustus H. Phillips, Orrin W. Wheeler, and John C. Lacy; collector and poundmaster, Godfrey Sharp; treasurer, Horace G. Fitts; clerk, Thomas J. McElheny.

The following table gives the names of the presidents and clerks of the village to the present time:

## PRESIDENTS.

David P. Goodhue, -	1857-8	Harrison Marvin, -	-	1876
Freeman Stebbins, -	1859	George E. Goodrich, -	-	1877
Lewis Barton, -	1860	J. E. McElheny, -	-	1878
Freeman Stebbins, -	1861	John H. Pratt, -	-	1879-80
John C Lacy, -	1862	John H. Kennedy, -	-	1881
John Perrigo, -	1863	Erastus H. Lord, -	-	1882-3
John W. Phillips, -	1864	D. R. Montgomery, -	-	1884-5
Rochester Marsh, -	1865-6	Albert J. Baker, -	-	1886
Eli A. Spear, -	1867	John H. Kennedy, -	-	1887-8
D. Bartholomew, -	1868	D. R. Montgomery, -	-	1889-90
G. H. Washburn, -	1869	George E. Goodrich, -	-	1891-4
Alvin Cole, -	1870	C. D. Williams, -	-	1895
John H. Kennedy, -	1871-2	George Sutfin, -	-	1896
Rochester Marsh, -	1873	E. Davis Allen, -	-	1897
G. H. Sperry, -	1874-5			

## CLERKS.

T. J. McElheny, -	1857	S. S. Montgomery, -	1867
M. Van Valkenburgh, -	1858	C. D. Bouton, -	1868
Harrison Marvin, -	1859	S. S. Montgomery, -	1869-70
William H. Sears, -	1860	George E. Goodrich, -	1871-2
I. P. Ferguson, -	1861	William E. Osmun, -	1873-5
Mott L. Spear, -	1862	George E. Goodrich, -	1876
William H. Sears, -	1863-4	W. H. Goodwin, Jr., -	1877-80
C. D. Bouton, -	1865	L. D. Mallery, -	1881-2
M. Van Valkenburgh, -	1865	D. T. Wheeler, -	1883-94
William H. Sears, -	1866	E. D. Branch, -	1895-97

## CHAPTER XXVI.

## DRYDEN VILLAGE IN THE MATURITY PERIOD.

Near the beginning of this time (1872 to 1897) the outlook for the business prosperity of the village was not encouraging. Asahel Clapp had moved his printing office and newspaper from Dryden to Ithaca;

Jackson Graves, who had maintained a flourishing select school, the old Dryden Academy, was about giving up the enterprise, and portions of the Blodgett lot where the large hotel building was burned in 1866 had not yet been rebuilt. In fact there had been and was for a few years to come but very little new building in the village; the time of unusual prosperity had passed and the future was unpromising.

In these dark times for the village, the first sign of returning confidence was seen in the establishment of a Union Graded Free School to take the place of the old District School and defunct Academy. The writer well remembers the meeting at the old school house on Main street, where D. Bartholomew now resides, at which this change was made which seemed to be a turning point in Dryden's future prosperity as a village. Nearly every voter was present at the meeting, including such conservative taxpayers as John Southworth, John C. Lacy and Alpheus F. Houpt, to oppose the measure, and the more confident, progressive citizens, such as Harrison Marvin, Merritt Baucus and Barnum S. Tanner, to favor it. The attendance was full, the discussion excited, and the result for a time doubtful. The successful issue of the matter was supposed to have been brought about by a little strategy practiced by Harrison Marvin, whose duty it was, as clerk of the district, to prepare a list of the voters who answered upon the call of their names to the question, "yes" or "no." Mr. Marvin placed at the head of the list those who were most likely to favor the measure and the responsive "yes" came so frequently at the beginning of the call that the opponents were disheartened and the doubtful voters joined the majority.

In the year 1876, under the leadership of Capt. Marvin as president, the Village Hall was built on South street at an expense of about sixteen hundred dollars, furnishing accommodations for a fire department and fire extinguishing apparatus as well as a lock-up, and a public hall above. A hand engine was purchased and cisterns were constructed in different parts of the village as reservoirs of water for fire extinguishing purposes, but fortunately their practical utility was never very much put to the test.

The business failures during this period included John and Chas. M. Perrigo, at the Grist Mill; Sears & Baucus, at the Brick Store; the Rockwell Bros., at the Woolen Mill; and finally Kennedy Bros., at the Tannery, which, following in too quick succession, combined to depress further business enterprises.

In 1892 another crisis in the public affairs of the village was reached when the question of bonding the village for a gravity system of water-

works was submitted to the taxpayers, who, after considerable discussion and much opposition on the part of the more conservative element, decided by a majority of twelve upon a full vote, to issue the bonds and undertake the work, which was completed in the two years following. The system was put in at an expense of about twenty-five thousand dollars, and has since had one practical test in extinguishing a fire under full headway in the third story of the Woolen Mill, and it is now believed that this important step in the progress of the village, supplying excellent water permanently for all purposes, although involving a considerable expense for a small village, will never be regretted.



PARK AND M. E. CHURCH.

Stimulated by this enterprise and by an offer on the part of a former citizen, Hon. Andrew Albright, of Newark, N. J., to present to the village an elaborate ornamental fountain as a memorial to his parents, who were early residents of the town, upon the condition that citizens would provide for the removal of the church sheds which then occupied a part of the village "green" and prepare a suitable foundation and surroundings for such a fountain, this improvement was also undertaken, and at an expense of upwards of fifteen hundred

dollars, mostly provided by voluntary contributions, additional land was purchased to furnish sites for the sheds of both church organizations, which were then removed to the rear; the "green" was enlarged and graded so as to be worthy to be called the village "park," and the fountain was accepted and connected with the village system of waterworks.

About the same time another public enterprise, designed to provide a suitable hall for public meetings and entertainments, was instituted by the citizens under the leadership of John W. Dwight, who was the most liberal contributor and most efficient promoter and manager of the undertaking. A stock company was organized under the name of the Dryden Opera House Co., and a building erected on the new Library street in the year 1893 at an expense of about three thousand five hundred dollars, which does credit to the village and to those who contributed the stock as a public benefit, not expecting any immediate dividends on the stock as an investment.

An effort was also made at this time to revive the manufacturing industry at the Woolen Mill, which had been idle for a number of years, and Hugo Dolge, whose brother, Alfred Dolge, built up the manufacturing interests in Herkimer county, was induced to locate here by a loan of five thousand dollars, contributed equally by the mill owners and citizens, to be used as capital in carrying on the business. In spite of the business depression which has paralyzed almost all manufacturing concerns during the past two years, the mill has been put in much better condition than ever before and its products seem to be finding ready market, with prospects of increasing success as the times improve.

As a result of these efforts, in the year 1895 a dozen or more new houses were constructed in the village, as many as had been built in the dozen years preceding, and the prospects of Dryden as a flourishing country village were very much improved.

The building of the Southworth Library at this time will be considered in a separate chapter.

The thorough and systematic lighting of the streets is a public improvement recently inaugurated by the board of village officers, which is already much appreciated and completes our list in the review of recent public improvements of the village.

As business developments of this period in our village worthy of note here, we should mention the prosperous marble and granite works of Williams & Bower and the furniture business of the French Bros., both originating in a small way and now much exceeding simi-

lar concerns in most country towns. The grocery business, as conducted by the Baker Bros., in the stone block, will compare favorably in the variety and quality of its stock with any similar concern in the county.

The medical fraternity of the village has been reinforced in these later years by Doctors E. Davis Allen, Frank S. Jennings, and Mary L. Briggs, while the lawyers consist of George E. Monroe, George E. Goodrich, and L. D. Mallery, Esquire J. Dolph Ross officiating as town and village magistrate.

Mention should here be made of the Dryden Springs Sanitarium, built up and conducted by Miss S. S. Nivison, M. D., during the last half of the Century Period, just outside of the village limits. A hotel building was first erected on this site early in the forties by Uncle Thomas Lewis and by him rented to different parties who conducted it as a hotel and water cure. The medicinal spring waters which were here developed or discovered early in the century by the Lacy Brothers while prospecting for salt, have always been esteemed and made use of by the people of the community and have recently been carefully analyzed for Dr. Nivison with the following results :

#### MAGNETIC SPRING.

Total solids, 11.5 grains per gallon.

Residue consists of Lime, Soda, Potassium, trace of Iron—as Sulphates and Carbonates.

Carbon Dioxide free and combined, 13.00 grains per gallon.

Lithia, traces.

#### SULPHUR SPRING.

Total solids, 22.00 grains per gallon.

Residue consists of Lime, Soda, Magnesia, Iron in form of Carbonates and Sulphates, also Chlorides.

Carbon Dioxide free and combined, 6.5 grains per gallon.

Calcium Carbonate, 5.8 grains per gallon.

Hydrochloric Acid combined, 4.0 grains per gallon.

Silica, 0.55 grains per gallon.

Lithia, traces.

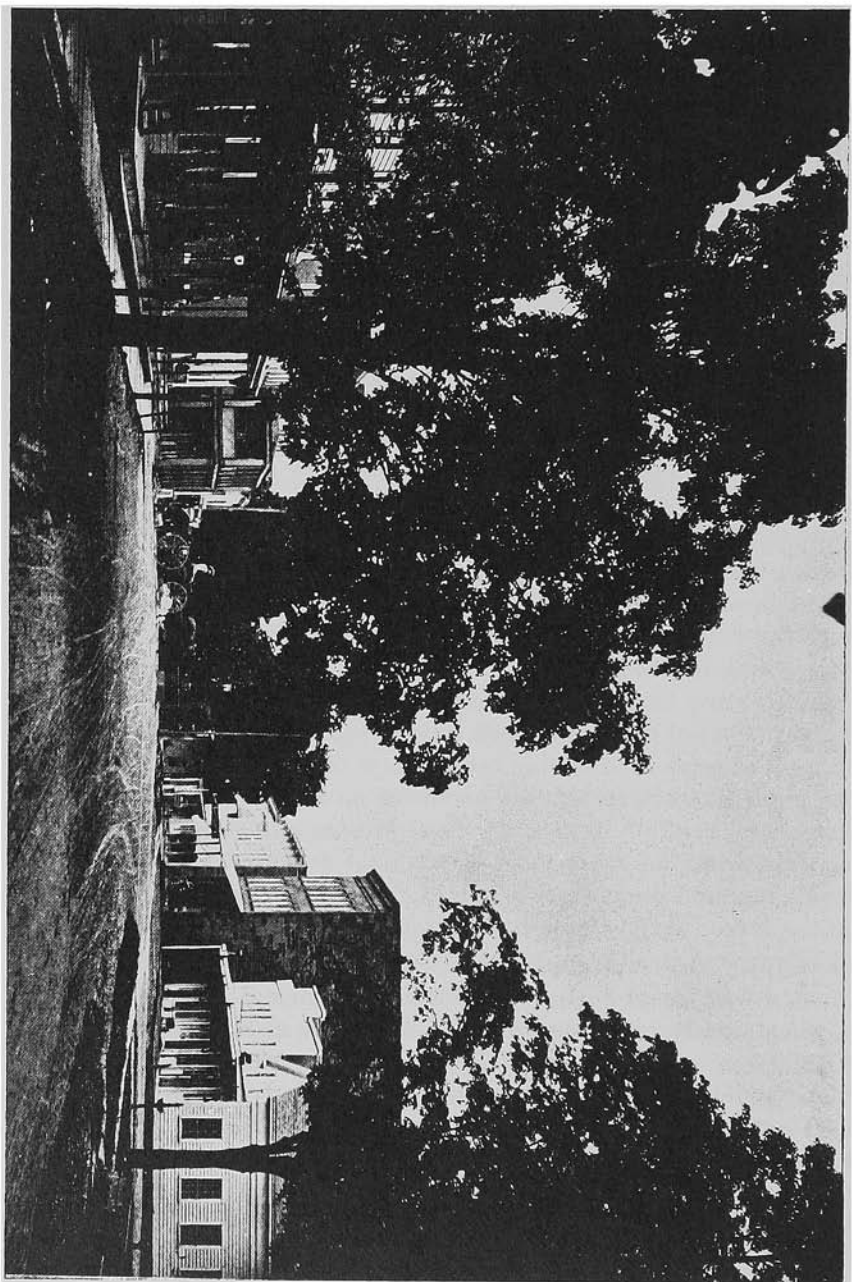
As in reviewing the town, so in closing the village history we cannot but compare some of the present conditions with those of the earlier times.

For instance the shoemakers of one hundred years ago were "traveling men," not "drummers," as the term "traveling men" would now imply, but men who with their kit of shoemaking tools went about from house to house in the new settlements, making up the farmers' leather into footwear for the family, enough to last for a year, when the shoemaker would again visit them. T. S. Deuel, whose grandfather, Reuben Deuel, was one of these traveling shoemakers, has the old account book of his ancestor, in which are charged in shillings and pence the work which he did in each family as he visited them one hundred years ago. Fifty years ago instead of traveling shoemakers the work was done in the shop in the village, and W. S. Moffat used to keep in his shop on East Main street at least half a dozen men constantly employed in making boots and shoes to order, and every person who was about to need some footwear was required first to go to the shop and have his foot measured. All is now changed and the boots and shoes of to-day are nearly all manufactured in the large cities and distributed through the traveling drummer and local salesman.

Dryden village to-day supports two excellent meat markets, supplied with refrigerators, power meat choppers propelled by motors connected with the village system of waterworks, and furnished with all other modern conveniences in that line. Nearly fifty years ago old Uncle John Wilder and Godfrey Sharp undertook to carry on a meat market in the basement of the stone block, promising to butcher and furnish fresh meat of some kind during certain days of each week, but, as we remember it, the enterprise was given up as a bad job, until it was afterwards successfully revived by Levi Messenger. The difficulty in those days with the meat market was that everybody was supplied with salt beef and pork which was laid down in barrels for each family in the fall or early winter as regularly as we now provide potatoes for the year, and fresh meat was a luxury not often thought of.

The first permanent barber to locate in Dryden was Wm. H. Lester, who, when a young man twenty years of age, opened a shop July 1, 1858, in the southeast room of Barton's Hotel. Prior to that time Dryden men either shaved themselves or let their beards grow in the natural way, as was quite often done. Now the village supports two very creditable barber shops with four men constantly employed.

Thus we are able to see how times have changed with us during the past hundred years.



MAIN STREET, DRYDEN.

CHAPTER XXVII.

ANECDOTES OF DRYDEN VILLAGE.

It was the privilege of the writer some years ago to spend an evening in a small company of former Dryden men at Fargo, North Dakota, with John Benton, formerly sheriff of Cortland county, and afterwards for a few years one of the proprietors of the Dryden Hotel as a partner with Peter Mineah. On that evening Mr. Benton entertained the company very agreeably by telling Dryden stories, which he can do to perfection, and after keeping his hearers in convulsions of laughter for an hour, he concluded by saying that there was no place on earth where he had ever been which furnished such a fund of anecdotes as Dryden, and among his many excellent characters for humorous stories he placed John Tucker, of Dryden, with his innocent smile and stammering tongue, head and shoulders above all others. If my readers could have listened to the genial ex-sheriff on the evening in question while he was giving his recollections of some of the humorous incidents of his sojourn in Dryden village, I think they would readily accede to the truth of his conclusions.

It is designed in this chapter briefly to give a very few samples of some of the true anecdotes which are connected with the history of Dryden village.

The first one concerns Parley Whitmore, who, as we have seen, was the postmaster and justice of the peace located at the "Corners" in pioneer times. Among the numerous attendants at his court upon the occasion in question were the two McKee brothers, James and Robert, who lived north of the village and who are the ancestors of many of the present inhabitants of Dryden. In some way these two brothers were very much displeased with something which occurred before the justice at this time and they had not much ability or disposition to conceal their displeasure. So excited did Jimmy become that in giving vent to his feelings upon the subject he used profane language in the very presence of the court. This could not be tolerated or overlooked, and the justice arraigned the culprit on the spot, imposing a fine of one dollar upon Jimmy for contempt of court. This produced quiet in the court room, but the two brothers were more angry than ever, fairly ready to burst with suppressed indignation, when Robert, who had the most money but who was the less fluent in his speech of the two, stepped forward and laid down on the table before the court one dollar in payment of the fine, and started to



put up his pocket-book ; but upon second thought he opened it again, taking out this time a five-dollar bill which he plumped down before the court and turned triumphantly to his brother, saying, "Now, Jimmy, swear your fill."

It was before the same Justice Whitmore that at one time in the early days of Dryden a rather pompous individual whom we will call Mr. T., stepped up in the presence of a crowd of spectators and asked, "'Squire how much will it cost me to knock down Jim Beam?" Justice Whitmore, who seems to have had some common sense as well as a knowledge of the rules of justice, answered rather officiously somewhat as follows ; "It would be improper, Mr. T., for me to fix in advance the penalty for such an offense, but I will say that in my judgment an attempt on your part to commit the crime which you mention would cost you among other things a good threshing."

As illustrating the state of school discipline in our early times, which we are happy to be able to say has sustained some improvement since then, we relate an incident which occurred in the old schoolhouse on Mill street, which was located where the John Gress house now stands. A "man" teacher was commonly employed in the winter term, whose duty it was to train the older boys, many of whom could attend only in the winter season, and lucky indeed was the teacher who was not turned out of the schoolhouse before the first warm days of spring called them back to their work on the farm.

One winter over fifty years ago Nehemiah Curtis was the name of the teacher, and so faithful had been his work and so gentlemanly his bearing that all the scholars liked him and the last day of school approached without any serious difficulty. In view of the fact it was decided to have some special exercises upon the last day and the scholars on the day before trimmed up the school room with evergreens procured from the woods, which were then not far away. But on the morning in question when the teacher and pupils, dressed in their best apparel for the occasion, entered the schoolhouse they were met at the door by two cows, one belonging to Abraham Tanner and the other to James Patterson, which had been locked in over night and had browsed and trampled down the trimmings and mussed up the school room generally. The good-natured teacher's high hopes of ending the term prosperously were thus suddenly crushed and he was about to give up in disgust when the better disposed pupils offered to take hold and repair the damage so far as possible and clean out the school room for the exercises, which they did. Of course no one knew who the guilty culprits were who caused the mischief, although great

efforts were made at the time to ascertain, but one of our present peace officers of the town now admits that he then persuaded his "best girl" to falsely represent to his inquiring parents that he spent the evening in question with her in order to shield him from the suspicion of having been among those who introduced the cows into the schoolhouse.

One short story must be told of John Tucker as a sample of his ready wit and stammering tongue, although we cannot undertake to convey to the reader who has not seen it an adequate conception of the innocent smile which lights up his countenance upon these occasions. The incident which we shall attempt to relate has in its repetition been associated with different individuals, which is immaterial, for in all versions of it the part of the essential character, John, is the same. For the benefit of those readers who are not acquainted with him it must be stated that John is a great trapper and his favorite game is the skunk. He is thoroughly acquainted with the haunts and habits of these peculiar animals and derives no little revenue annually from the sale of their pelts which he thus collects and which are quite valuable for fur.

One day in the spring when John was looking over his stock of skins in company with a friend, his next neighbor, Mrs. Dupee, happened out at the back door near where they were and inquired incidentally of John how many skunks he had caught that season, to which he replied, "Twenty." She went in-doors and a few minutes later her husband, William Dupee, came along and he asked John how many skunks he had caught that season, to which he readily replied, "F-forty-five." After William had disappeared his friend remonstrated with John for showing such disregard for the truth and giving such contradictory statements concerning the result of his winter's trapping, when he replied with an innocent smile on his face, "Why, B-b-ill can stand more s-s-skunks 'thau she can!"

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, AND CEMETERIES OF DRYDEN VILLAGE.

As we have already seen, the pioneer log cabin of the township, after it had ceased to be used as a place of habitation by Amos Sweet, became its first schoolhouse in the year 1804, with Daniel Lacy serving in it as the first schoolmaster of Dryden. Imagine the children of the pioneers who first settled about "Dryden Corners" coming togeth-

er to receive their first school education and congregating in a room ten feet square inside, with one door and one window without sash or glass, and no stove, but a fire-place made of a few hardhead stones placed together, and no chimney but a hole in the roof for the smoke to pass out. The next teacher at the "Corners," of which we have any note, was Charles Grinnell, who came from Columbia county early in the century and taught school, boarding with John Southworth before he built his brick house in 1836. But the first account which we are able to give of the schoolhouses of the village brings us down to near the middle of the century, when there were two public school buildings, one being a wood-colored house on South street where the Marvin house is now located and the other a red schoolhouse on Mill street, which has since been remodeled where it stood, into what is now known as the John Gress house.

There was also another school building which stood on the site now occupied by the residence of Charles Perrigo, on the corner of Main and Lewis streets, but this accommodated a private school and here the celebrated criminal, Ruloff, in the year 1842, served as a teacher for a short time, and here, over fifty years ago, a very capable teacher by the name of Burhans trained the youth of the village.

This building had a belfrey and bell but was afterward used as a shop and was finally destroyed by fire. About the year 1850 a new union school house was built, taking the place of the others, on the lot now occupied by Daniel Bartholomew as a residence. The upright part of this building, which was an imposing edifice at the time, now serves as the plaster and lime storehouse of G. M. Rockwell, near the railroad depot, and one of its wings is the Wall house on Wall street. Here various principals of the district school ably presided and succeeded each other, including a Mr. Starr, Mills Van Valkenburgh and finally George E. Monroe, Esq., who continued to teach there until the Union Free School District was organized in 1872.

About the year 1860 Jackson Graves from Pottsville, Pa., who had then recently married Mary J. Bishop, who was a very capable and an excellent Dryden teacher, purchased the site of the present public school property in Dryden village, and erected the present academy building, which was known as the Dryden Seminary, conducting it as a private school enterprise under their efficient management for about ten years, when the property was purchased by the school district and has since been maintained as a public Union Free School and Academy. Prof. Graves had in the meantime been elected School

Commissioner of the second district of Tompkins county, and has since resided in the town of Danby, his first wife having died in 1892. Mr. and Mrs. Graves will long be remembered by the present generation of Dryden village as faithful and efficient teachers.

Since the establishment of the Union Free School the standard of educational advantages in the village has not been allowed to fall, and many excellent teachers have served the district, including Charles A. Fowler, afterwards principal of the Binghamton city schools, Fran-

cis J. Cheney, Ph. D., now principal of the Normal School at Cortland, and Herbert M. Lovell, since principal of the Elmira Academy and now an attorney and counselor of that city. Dr. Wm. Fitch, George E. Goodrich and George E. Monroe have successively served as presidents of the Board of Education.

The First Presbyterian society of Dryden was organized February 17th, 1808, with the following charter members: John Terpenning, Juliana Terpenning, James Wood, Sarah Wood, Stephen Myrch, Rebecca



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Myrch, Benjamin Simons, Isabel Simons, Derick Sutfin, Elizabeth Topping, Abram Griswold, Asenath Griswold and Jerusha Taylor. The first services were held at the home of Mr. Serren H. Jagger, a shoemaker in Dryden village, and in the barns of Thomas Southworth and Elias W. Cady at Willow Glen. The church edifice was commenced in 1819 and completed in 1824 under great difficulties.

It was extensively repaired in 1847 and again in 1861, and with some recent improvements now appears as represented in the accompanying

view. In the year 1851 a town clock was purchased by subscription and placed in the tower of this building and we are, fortunately, able to give from the old suscription paper the names of the subscribers and amounts contributed for that purpose, which are as follows :

Thomas Lewis,	\$4 00	Hiram Bouton,	\$2 00	Timothy Cross,	\$ 50
John C. Lacy,	3 00	D. J. Baker,	3 00	Lewis Barton,	4 00
Enos Wheeler,	5 00	W. S. Moffat,	1 50	Wm. Ercanbrack,	50
Bowen Sweetland,	2 00	Joseph McGraw,	1 00	Darius Givens,	1 50
Daken & Stebbins,	2 00	Michael Butts,	2 00	Wm. H. Miller,	2 00
Thomas Jameson,	3 50	Geo. Truesdell,	1 00	T. Burr,	1 00
Briggs & Goodyear,	1 00	Orrin Wheeler,	1 00	Isaac Ferguson,	1 00
Collin Robinson,	2 00	D. P. Goodhue,	50	J. W. Montgomery,	3 00
John Southworth,	10 00	G. D. Pratt,	4 00	Pardon Tabor,	5 00
Jacob Stickles,	1 00	Otis Murdock,	1 00	Abram Emory,	1 00
S. Cleveland,	1 00	Wm. Hazlett,	1 00	P. M. Blodgett,	5 00
Ralph Barnum,	1 00	L. J. L. Bates,	1 00	A. Foster,	10 00
Wm. Holmes,	2 00	Amos Lewis,	2 00	L. B. Corbin,	4 00
H. H. Ferguson,	1 00	A. H. Phillips,	1 00	J. H. Hurd,	3 00
Milo Goodrich,	1 00	Willet Ellis,	2 00	E. A. Givens,	1 00
S. Goddard,	1 00	J. W. Dwight,	2 00	A. L. Bushnell,	5 00
Leonard Griswold,	50	I. P. Ferguson,	1 00	Wm. F. Tanner,	1 00
Bradford Kennedy,	1 00	John Ercanbrack,	1 00	S. S. Bunnell,	2 00
Joel Bishop,	3 00	Gordon Johnson,	1 00	S. & C. Bradshaw,	2 00
Abraham Tanner,	1 00	Stickle Hamblin,	50	Gardner West,	50
B. W. Squires,	2 00	Stephen Emory,	1 00	S. T. Wilson,	2 00
Wyatt Allen,	2 00	D. Bartholomew,	1 00	Jesse Givens,	2 00
John R. Lacy,	3 00	H. C. Beach,	1 00	Jacob Præme,	1 00

We are thus able to give the names of the public spirited citizens who resided in and about Dryden village about fifty years ago, recalling to the memory of old residents many familiar faces, only a very few of which can be seen among us to-day.

The list of the ministers who have succeeded each other at this church is also here given and is as follows :

Nathan B. Darrow,	Luther Clark,	Geo. R. Smith,
William Williston,	George W. Pruden,	Anson G. Chester,
Joshua Lane,	H. P. Crozier,	Charles Ray,
Timothy Tuttle,	R. S. Eggleston,	E. W. Root,
William Miller,	F. Hendricks,	G. H. Dunning,
Samuel Parker,	Charles Kidder,	C. O. Hammer,
Elnathan Walker,	A. V. H. Powell,	G. V. Reichel,
Reuben Hurd,	W. G. Hubbard,	Fred L. Hiller,
Isaac Patterson,	A. McDougall,	Oliver T. Mather.
Samuel Robertson,	J. V. C. Nellis,	

A Methodist Episcopal class was first organized at Dryden Corners about the year 1816, with Selden Marvin, Edward Hunting, and Abraham Tanner among the original members. They had no church building until about 1832 when a church society was organized with the following charter members :

Parley Whitmore,	Selden Marvin,	Asa Phillips,
J. W. Montgomery,	Robert Dier,	George Carr,
Daniel Godfrey,	M. C. Brown,	Erastus Bement,
Philo Godfrey,	Elias Ferguson,	Abraham Tanner,
Daniel Coleman,	Andrew Guile,	Pardon Tabor.

Their church edifice erected in 1832 was destroyed by fire in 1873, while being repaired and enlarged, and the present building, a view of which is given on page 10—, was erected in the following year at an expense of about eleven thousand dollars.

The clergymen who have supplied this church are as follows :

J. T. Peck,	O. M. McDowell,	David Keppel,
Wm. Bailey,	S. B. Porter,	I. Harris,
M. Westcott,	O. Hesler,	James Gutsell,
P. R. Kinne,	E. Owen,	W. H. Goodwin, L. L. D.
M. Adams,	L. D. Tryon,	M. S. Wells,
M. W. Rundell,	S. Minier,	David Keppel,
C. W. Harris,	M. M. Tooke,	Robert Townsend,
W. H. Pearne,	E. G. Curtis,	S. S. Barter,
H. E. Luther,	T. D. Wire,	James R. Drake,
D. Lamkins,	J. H. Barnard,	R. N. Leake,
George Parsons,	E. Owen,	J. H. Ross,
W. W. Rundell,	B. Shove,	A. C. Willey,
A. Cross,	L. Hartsough,	Worth M. Tippy,
—— Hagar,	A. L. Lusk,	J. W. Terry,
Wm. C. Cobb,	Selah Stocking,	George Britten,
C. W. Harris,	H. Meeker,	C. W. Walker.

The first death in Dryden village was probably of some member of the family of Amos Sweet, all of whom are said to be buried in the grounds opposite to the Dryden Springs Sanitarium. Tradition informs us that a grave-yard was early started near the corner of Main and Mill streets and some evidence of this fact was recently found when the village water pipes were being laid in that locality. The early habit of using private family burying grounds has already been referred to and the first public ground of which we have any record in the village was located on the gravel knoll west of the fair-grounds. How early this site was in use we are unable to determine, but a deed

from Abram Griswold to the Trustees of the First Presbyterian Society of Dryden of an acre of land in this locality bears date February 10, 1830, and contains this commendable statement from the grantor: "The true intent and meaning of this indenture of said piece of land is that all sects and denominations have the privilege of burying their dead and using the same as a burying ground." Probably the use of this site as a burial ground for the inhabitants of the village antedated this public dedication of it for that purpose. More land was afterwards added but no incorporation was perfected, and the locality is now neglected and abandoned as a cemetery, and has grown up to a second wilderness; some graves marked by dilapidated stones remain, while numerous pit-holes here and there show where the remains of others have been taken up to be removed to more modern cemeteries. A visit to this locality, where many of the pioneers of Dryden still lie buried, will afford striking suggestions of the brevity of human life and of the rapidity with which after death our mortal remains will be absorbed by mother earth, and the places which once knew us will know us no more. The gravel from the parts of this knoll which have not been used for burial purposes is now being rapidly removed for filling and grading purposes and the existence of a burial place there is likely to be entirely forgotten.

In the year 1863 the people of the village united to organize a cemetery association and to purchase a new site for a permanent cemetery. The Green Hills cemetery is the result, located in the southwest section of the village and comprising nearly fifty acres of land, only a small part of which has yet been used for burial purposes. The site is upon the highest ground in the corporate limits of the village, so that the home of the dead commands a beautiful view of the homes and business places of the living. The association has been somewhat crippled in its operations by a considerable indebtedness incurred in the purchase of its extensive grounds, but this debt is now being paid off and great improvements have been made in opening and grading its main avenue, to the site, which is remarkably adapted by nature for this purpose and which will in time be so improved as to be one of the most commodious and beautiful cemeteries to be found in a country village.

## CHAPTER XXIX.

THE SOUTHWORTH LIBRARY.



JENNIE MC'GRAW-FISKE.

If any one could have claimed to unite in her veins the flow of the blue blood of Dryden pioneer aristocracy, that person was Jennie McGraw-Fiske. Her great-grandfather was Judge Ellis, "King of Dryden" in its early years. Her grandfather was John Southworth, Dryden's millionaire farmer, while her father was John McGraw, Dryden's barefooted farmer boy in 1827, who soon after commenced his business career as a clerk in a Dryden store at eight dollars per month, becoming later a Dryden merchant, and after a life of great business activity and success died possessed of an estate worth two millions.

She was born in the house on North street in Dryden village now owned and occupied by Mrs. E. H. Lord, nearly opposite to the Southworth homestead, in September, 1840. Her mother died and her father moved from Dryden before she was ten years of age. She was educated at Canandaigua and at a school in Westchester county. Her health being always delicate, she was encouraged to gratify her taste for foreign travel, which she did, first visiting Europe when about twenty years of age, and several times afterwards.

Of her marriage to Prof. Willard Fiske in 1880 and her death in the following year, which was subsequently followed by the celebrated litigation as the result of which the bequest of the bulk of her estate to Cornell University was defeated, we need not speak here at length.

In the distribution of the estate of her grandfather, John Southworth, she received a share as representing her deceased mother, and it seems to have been her desire to return to Dryden village a sub-



stantial memorial to her grandfather out of this portion of her estate, for in her will she makes the following provision :

"I give and bequeath unto Jeremiah W. Dwight, John E. McElheny and Dr. J. J. Montgomery, all of Dryden, N. Y., the sum of thirty thousand dollars, in trust, for the following uses and purposes, to wit: I desire that they, with such associates as they may select, shall procure, under the laws of the State of New York, a corporation or association to be organized at Dryden aforesaid under the name of The Southworth Library Association, the object and purpose whereof shall be the building, support and maintenance of a public library in the said village of Dryden; that said trustees shall transfer said trust funds to said association upon the trust and condition that not more than fifteen thousand dollars of said sum shall be expended in real estate, buildings and furniture, and that the remainder shall constitute a fund to be invested and the interest or income thereof to be applied to the purchase of books and other necessary expenses of said association, excluding, however, salaries of officers and pay of servants thereof.

"If this purpose be not accomplished within three years after my death the trust shall cease and the fund shall be paid to and distributed with my residuary estate."

In pursuance of this bequest the Southworth Library Association was incorporated April 22, 1883, with Jeremiah W. Dwight, John E. McElheny, John J. Montgomery, Henry B. Napier and Erastus S. Rockwell as incorporators. In the following year the Bancus property on the corner of South and Union streets was purchased and remodeled so as to afford temporary accommodations for the Library, and here it was first opened to the public September 25, 1884.

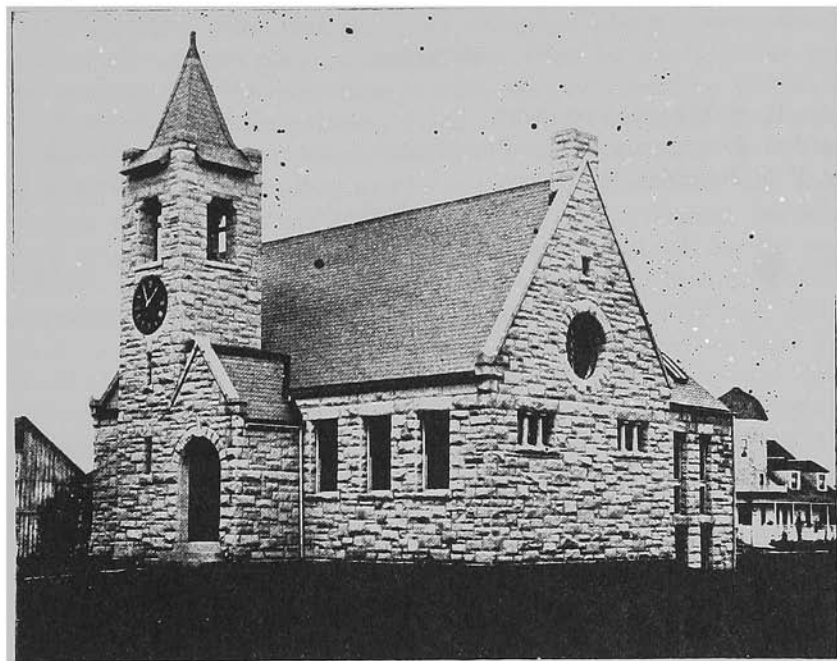
For about ten years the Library was accommodated in a portion of this building, the rent of the remainder, which was leased for a dwelling, being used to pay the expense of employing a librarian.

In the meantime a permanent site was purchased on the new corner on Main street formed by opening Library street, and a fine, substantial building here erected of which we are able to give the accompanying pictorial illustration.

It is constructed of Ohio sandstone in a very thorough and substantial manner at an expense of about fifteen thousand dollars. The building is fire-proof and includes commodious and elegant reading rooms. Here the trustees intend, among other things, to provide for a collection of historical relics, which will be securely preserved for future generations. The structure was completed in the year 1894,

since which time there has been presented to the association and placed in the tower of the building, a Seth Thomas clock, the gift of Mrs. D. F. Van Vleet, of Ithaca, as a memorial of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Lacy, who were for a long time residents of Dryden.

Some unhappy differences of opinion among the citizens of the village as to the intention of Mrs. Fiske in excluding from the purposes for which the funds of her gift could be used "the salaries of officers and pay of servants thereof" has caused the building to be closed for some portion of the time, for the lack of a provision, as the trustees



THE SOUTHWORTH LIBRARY.

claim, for the employment and pay of a janitor and librarian, and these questions are not yet settled to the satisfaction of all; but it is believed that these matters will soon be determined by the courts or otherwise.

According to the last report of the librarian, in the month of April, 1897, the number of volumes in the Library was 6994. These volumes comprise a careful selection of the best works in the whole field of literature, including the latest editions of all standard authorities. The invested interest-bearing funds of the association now amount to

about seventeen thousand dollars, the income from which is to be devoted principally to the purchase of books and will continue to supply the reading matter best adapted to the wants of the people in ever-increasing accumulations of the best works of the best authors. Prof. Willard Fiske, although sojourning in Italy for the past few years, has been made a trustee of the association and has shown his interest in the institution by presenting to the Library a valuable and unique set of the complete works of the bard, John Dryden. The following is a list of the present officers and trustees of the association :

## TRUSTEES.

John E. McElheny, President,	D. R. Montgomery,
Dr. J. J. Montgomery, Vice-President,	John W. Dwight,
Dr. F. S. Jennings, Secretary,	D. E. Bower,
Willard Fiske.	
Treasurer,	H. B. Lord

## CHAPTER XXX.

## WILLOW GLEN.

A stranger now passing through the quiet locality of our town which formerly was known as "Stickles's Corners," but latterly called by the more romantic name of "Willow Glen," upon looking about him would naturally inquire, "Where are the willows and where is the glen?" for both are at present a little obscure. It is said, however, that over fifty years ago, when this name was first applied to the locality by one of its inhabitants, Miss Huldah Phillips, the banks of the little stream which flows down through the "Corners" from the hill-side were lined with large willow trees, forming with them a glen which made the name very appropriate.

As we have already seen, the settlement of Willow Glen dates back as early as 1798, when three of the very earliest pioneer families of the town located there, and during all of the Pioneer Period it was a formidable rival of Dryden village. During that time it contained a tannery upon what was afterwards the Phillips corner, a grist mill (one of the earliest in town), and two saw-mills (one of which was *the* earliest in town, being completed in 1802), upon Virgil Creek, two stores, two distilleries, one hotel, a blacksmith shop, an ashery and a large wagon shop, all constituting a good business equipment for a

new country settlement. One by one these elements of business have disappeared, and all which now remains in that line is the old blacksmith shop, converted in these latter days into the factory and storehouse of Mosso's Tempering Compound, and the wagon shop across the way conducted by Andrew Simons. Willow Glen has always had and still maintains a good school, and with it is connected an incident which is still remembered by some of the oldest inhabitants, who were children when the events took place. It is the "Story of the Bison" and reads as follows:

On a certain autumnal Saturday afternoon about seventy-five or more years ago two men entered Willow Glen by the highway from the west, leading between them a wild, shaggy animal, a buffalo recently captured on the prairies, being the first one seen in this part of the country. They stopped at the hotel, then kept by William Wigton, in whose barn they exhibited the buffalo to those who would pay ten cents for the opportunity of seeing him. During the afternoon the school was let out—Saturday was a school day in those times—and some of the scholars had ten cents with which to purchase the privilege of seeing the exhibition, but many others did not, and as an inducement to the owners of the animal the older school boys proposed that those who could should pay, but that all of the school children should see the buffalo; but the proposition was not accepted and none of the scholars were admitted to the barn. As night approached, Mr. Wigton, who had overheard some plans among the boys, who were displeased with the rejection of their proposition, informed the proprietors that he would lock up the barn at night but he would not be responsible for what might happen to the buffalo. They replied that there was no danger that any one would molest the animal for it was all that they could do to manage him and no one else would venture to undertake it.

Matters were left in this way, but in the morning the barn doors were open and the buffalo was gone, no one knew where. There was a long watering trough which extended into the barn and some one during the night had drawn the plug, letting the water out so that he could enter the barn through the empty trough and unfasten the doors from within. The proprietors in vain spent the morning looking after the source of their income, but no track or trace of him could be found.

Early that morning Darius J. Clement, the old gentleman who died a few years ago in Dryden village, but who was then a boy living with his parents where John Card now resides, went out before it was fair-

ly daylight to the barn to do the milking. He returned soon after saying to his parents that he believed the Evil One himself had taken possession of the barn during the night, for such pawing and bellowing, by a large animal with short horns, a large shaggy head, fierce, glaring eyes and a long tail, he had never seen or heard of before. Mr. Clement, who was a very religious man, decided that the Sabbath was no time to investigate the matter and directed that nothing should be done with the animal until the next day. But the news began to be circulated that the buffalo was in the barn of Mr. Clement and the people from all about began to congregate so that by noon all the men and boys from the neighborhood were assembled, and Mr. Clement was very willing that the cause of the disturbance should be removed. Some of the boys, presumably the same who had brought him there in the night, readily undertook the task of removing him and in so doing they led him through a clearing in which a vicious bull was being pastured. No sooner did the bull see the intruder of something like his own species approaching than he came rushing toward them ready for a contest for supremacy. Those who then had charge of the buffalo were very willing to let go their hold, which they did, thereby having the fun of witnessing a Sunday bull fight. The result proved that the buffalo, with his short horns and wild, vigorous habits, was too much for his domesticated cousin, who was compelled to recognize the superiority of the intruder. The fun being over the boys returned the buffalo to his owners, who went on their way sadder if not wiser men.

Willow Glen, as well as the northwest corner of the township, claims a share in the invention of the power threshing machine, an inventive genius by the name of Miller having there developed one of the first threshing machines ever seen, which, with subsequent improvements, has revolutionized that part of the farmer's labor.

We have as yet failed to secure very satisfactory notes of the pioneer families of Willow Glen. Of the first three families to locate there in 1798, so far as we are able to learn, the Clausons have no descendants now residing in town, while Ezekiel Sanford and David Foote are the ancestors of quite a number of the present inhabitants. John Southworth, whose father, Thomas Southworth, came to Willow Glen in 1806, will be the subject of a separate chapter. Joshua Phillips, who owned and perhaps built the tannery on the now vacant corner of Willow Glen, was early a prominent citizen, being a Member of Assembly from this county in 1820 and a supervisor of the town in 1839. He came to Dryden from Nassau, Rensselaer county, about

1806, or, as some say, in 1811, and was a major in the State Militia. His wife, whom he married in Rensselaer county, was Huldah Bramhall, a very estimable wife and mother. They had no daughters, but twelve sons, one of whom, Archibald, now resides on the former homestead of his father-in-law, Peter Mulks, near Slaterville, and another, Albert, who married into the Twogood family, is still living at Merton, Waukesha county, Wis., 91 years of age, with another brother, Henry, whose age is 80. Among the others was George W. Phillips, who was once prominent in business in Dryden village. Joseph Bramhall, a brother of Mrs. Phillips, was a carpenter and an early resident of Willow Glen, leaving children who still perpetuate from him the name of Bramhall. He was an assessor of the town at the time of his death, which resulted from consumption. His widow afterwards married Israel Hart and became the mother of Chas. I. Hart, of Dryden. We have already mentioned Elias W. Cady as a prominent citizen in public affairs, Member of Assembly, supervisor and first president of the Dryden Agricultural Society, who died in 1883 at the age of ninety-one years. He came here from Columbia county in 1816, and also married into the Bramhall family. His oldest son, Oliver, recently died, but his youngest son, Charles Cady, of Auburn, N. Y., and daughters, Rebecca A. (Dwight), Harriet S. (Ferguson), and Mary Cady, all of Dryden village, are still living. His daughter Sarah (Wilson) died, leaving numerous descendants now residing in the town. Aaron Foster was not a pioneer of Dryden, but settled in the year 1829 upon the farm which he sold to Joseph McGraw, where, for a number of years, he operated the lumber and grist mills of Willow Glen, there still being no grist mill in Dryden village, and later he removed to the village. His daughter was the wife of Geo. D. Pratt and his son, A. H. Foster, of Superior, Wis., was one of our guests at the Centennial Celebration.

Aaron Lacy, from New Jersey, settled on the Stickles corner in 1799. His only surviving child, John R. Lacy, afterwards lived and died on the corner still held by his family one mile north of Dryden village.

Willow Glen has had no churches, but the barn of Elias W. Cady afforded the Presbyterian society accommodations for preaching and communion service before their building was completed in Dryden village.

The inhabitants have suffered somewhat from religious fanatics, the first visitation being from a band of some fifty "Pilgrims," as they called themselves, who came from Vermont in 1818, and are thus described by the "Old Man in the Clouds:" "When they moved in they

had several wagons, some of which were drawn by four horses. One team carried the large tent beneath which the entire family was housed in all kinds of weather. The name of their Prophet was Thaddeus Cummins, a very stout, healthy and well proportioned man, with sandy hair, and about thirty-five years of age. The name of the woman whom he brought as his wife was Lucy. A priest also accompanied the Prophet, whose name was Joseph Ball. There were some two or three brothers by the name of Slack; the rest of the company was made up of the off-scourings of wretched humanity. When the Prophet and his followers arrived near the residence of David Foote they pitched their tent and rested over night, but moved the next day into the woods then on the Stickles farm, where they remained a week, when they again moved upon the north bank of Fall Creek near the former residence of Jacob Updike. Here this singular people remained for fully six weeks, practicing all kinds of devilry upon themselves and the people in the neighborhood. They had no beds, but slept in nests of straw, each sex in common with the other, they having no belief in or respect for the marriage ceremony. They did not believe in beds, chairs, or tables. They stood up to eat and sucked food through a goose quill, and could not be persuaded to eat in any other way. They wore large white cloths upon their backs, which, as they said, were marks for the Devil to shoot at. Their antipathy against the Devil was very great and every morning early they might be heard howling and yelling like a parcel of wolves for two miles around, driving the Devil out of their camp."

When they left town they went to an island in the Mississippi river, unfortunately inducing some Dryden and more Lausang people to follow them, where they finally disbanded. They should not be confounded with the "Taylorites," who flourished here later and some of whom afterwards joined the Shakers.

There is perhaps no better index of the degree of thrift and refinement which exists in a community than the condition of its graveyards. The principal burial place now used by the people of Dryden at large is the Willow Glen Cemetery, located very near the center of the town, the Green Hill Cemetery in Dryden village being patronized more especially by the residents of that village. Both are laid out and maintained in a manner indicative of the prosperity and intellectual culture of the people of the township. The former, which we now consider, has been especially fortunate in its financial management and the devotion which its officers and friends have shown in its development. It already has a surplus fund of over three thousand dol-

lars, invested at interest, and this surplus has been for the past few years rapidly increasing from the sale of lots. The interest from this money, with such contributions as are added to it, enables the officers to keep its beautiful grounds, consisting of about thirteen acres, in excellent condition, and for a country burying ground it has few rivals either in the natural beauty and extent of its grounds or in the good taste exhibited in its adornment.

The older section was used as a burial place early in the century, some inscriptions recording deaths as early as 1816, and in this section the remains of Judge Ellis and Esquire McElheny, whose deaths occurred in 1846 and 1836, and Aaron Lacy, the original owner, who died and was buried there in 1826, were deposited before the present extension of its territory was contemplated. But in 1864 the friends of the enterprise perfected an organization, and subscribed, as a fund for purchasing additional ground, about one thousand dollars, which was contributed by the following inhabitants :

Wm. Hanford,	\$100	Samuel Rowland, -	100
Geo. A. Ellis,	100	Thos. Jameson, Sr.,	100
Mrs. Olive Lewis,	50	Jonathan Rowland,	50
Huldah Stickles,	50	Geo. Hanford, -	50
Anson Stickles,	50	Zephaniah Lupton, -	50
Fred Hanford,	50	Artemas Smiley, -	75
Amos Lewis,	50	John R. Lacy,	50
Darius J. Clement, -	50		

All these sums have since been repaid by the sale of lots or in other ways so that the society is now entirely out of debt with the surplus above indicated and considerable territory still available for the sale of lots. The principal officers at present are, Moses Rowland, president; Theron Johnson, treasurer; Geo. E. Hanford, secretary.

## CHAPTER XXXI.

### WEST DRYDEN.

Some statements contained in "The Landmarks of Tompkins County" would seem to indicate that the earliest settler located at West Dryden before the year 1800. The proximity of this part of the town to Lansing, which, from its location on the lake, was reached by the pioneers some years before Dryden was accessible, gave plausibility to these statements, but a patient and careful investigation of the subject



establishes the fact that the pioneer first to locate at "Fox's Corners," as it was known in early times, was Evert Mount, who came in the year 1801 or 1802. He was followed by Jacob Primrose and Samuel Fox. Mr. Mount, who was a blacksmith, built his cabin and shop on the southwest corner, while Primrose first occupied the southeast and Fox located on the northwest corner a few rods from where the church now stands. Some rivalry is said to have existed among this trio of pioneers as to which should give the new settlement its name, Mr. Mount suggesting "Mount Pleasant," and Primrose, "Primrose Hill," but Fox carried off the honors and "Fox's Corners" it was called until a postoffice was established under the name of West Dryden, December 23, 1825. Many, however, still know it best by its original name, which still clings to it, and letters yet occasionally find their way to the postoffice addressed "Fox's Corners, N. Y."

It is remembered that before the postoffice was established here the mail was delivered from house to house, being brought from Ithaca once a week by a man named Hagin, who made his trips on horseback, and who finally while performing this duty was thrown from his horse and killed.

From 1816 to 1840 West Dryden was a business place of some note, supporting good stores, shops, hotels and the like. It is supposed that Daniel C. Carr kept the first store, carrying on in connection with it an "ashery" at which "pearlash," a crude form of saleratus, was manufactured. Lumber, shingles, ashes and barter of all kinds were taken in exchange for "store goods," and the space surrounding a country store in those days had much the appearance of latter day lumber yards. Carr was succeeded by Israel Hoyt, who became the first postnaster in 1825, and built and kept the first hotel, dealing largely in lumber. As store-keeper he was followed by Reed & Sanders, after whom came Robert T. Shaw and Parley Guinnip and later Lykin & Hance, Lykin & George and H. H. George.

Charles W. Sanders, author of Sanders's series of school books, resided at West Dryden several years, during which time he completed his "First Speller." John Barber did a large carriage making business at an early day and James Youngs manufactured large quantities of broad and narrow axes, adzes, chisels, augers, etc., besides furnishing the usual products of a smith's shop.

The first physician was Dr. Harvey Harris, registered at Ithaca in 1828, who was followed by Doctors Baldwin, White, Barker, Howell and Pelton, all of whom were here prior to 1840.

The first school house was a log building located one-half mile west

of the "Corners" directly across the road from where A. W. George now lives. This was built in 1806 or 1807. No roads had as yet been opened to many of the settlers' cabins, and children had often to find their way to school a long distance through a dense forest by means of blazed trees. In a few years, the school was removed to the corners and a large frame building erected which was used for school purposes on week days and for church service on Sunday. This was soon followed by a building on the northeast corner and later by one on the



WEST DRYDEN M. E. CHURCH.

present site. The present school building is the fifth which has been used for school purposes since the settlement of the place.

The first Methodist society in the town of Dryden was organized at West Dryden in 1811 by Rev. Geo. W. Densmore. The members of the first class were Samuel Fox and wife, David Case and wife, Selden Andrus and wife, and one other whose name is not known. Densmore was succeeded by Revs. James Kelsey, Isaac Puffer, John Kimber-

lin and other old time circuit riders. Meetings were held at the houses of members of the class and other places until about 1815, when a large building was erected on the corner where the blacksmith shop now stands. This was used for both church and school purposes for a few years and was the only church here until the present edifice, constituting with its white dome one of the most prominent and familiar landmarks of the township, was built in 1832 by Peter Conover at a cost of twenty-two hundred dollars. It has sittings for three hundred people.

The first trustees were Lemuel Sperry, Thomas George and William George. The pastors of the society since 1845, include Revs. W. N.

Pearne, D. Lamkin, D. Cobb, A. Cross, W. N. Cobb, S. Minier, E. Hoxsie, J. M. Searles, F. Reed, R. C. Fox, J. B. Hyde, F. M. Warner, J. V. Benham, A. M. Lake, L. R. Pendle, W. E. York, E. D. Thurston, L. T. Hawkins, J. E. Rhodes, Philo Cowles, W. M. Sharp, A. S. Durling, George Britten, G. D. Walker, J. A. Roberts, T. C. Roskelly, F. E. Spence.

Among the pioneer families of West Dryden, which, for the purpose of this chapter, is considered as including the four town lots which corner here, are :

CASE, DAVID, who was a native of Hartford county, Conn., and came to Truxton, N. Y., about 1798 and to Dryden in 1808 or 1809. He purchased fifty acres of land on Lot 12, where he lived until he died. He was in the War of 1812 and was buried on the farm of A. W. George. No stone marks the place where he and other pioneers there lie. Soon after coming to Dryden his wife died and he afterwards married the widow of Burnett Cook, who was also an early pioneer. Susan (Cook) Case was a daughter of John Morris, whose will was the first one recorded and proven after the formation of Tompkins county. One son of the second wife, Eleazer Case, is now living in Ithaca aged 80 years. David Case and wife were members of the first Methodist class formed at West Dryden in 1811.

FOX, GEORGE, was also a native of Hartford county, Conn., coming as far west as Truxton in 1798 and to West Dryden in 1808 or 1809, when he purchased fifty acres of land on Lot 12, where he remained until he died. He was also in the War of 1812 in the company of Capt. Bassett of Col. Bloom's regiment. He was buried on the farm now owned by A. W. George with no stone to mark his final resting place. His only son was Palmer B. Fox, well known throughout the county, and who left descendants, including Aretas Fox, still a resident of West Dryden.

FOX, SAMUEL, became a resident of West Dryden in 1804, coming from Fabius, Onondaga county, to which place he had emigrated fourteen years previously from East Hartford, Conn., where he was born in 1756. He had served seven years in the Revolutionary War, enlisting in May, 1775. In July, 1780, he was sent to the command of LaFayette in Virginia, where he was in the battle at the mouth of the James River, the siege of Yorktown, and at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. He was one of the first settlers of Fox's Corners and from him the place derived this name by which it was first known. He built his first log house a few rods west of where the M. E. church now stands and was one of seven to form the first Methodist class in the township.

To Samuel Fox and his wife, Mabel (Webster), were born eleven children, of whom three died unmarried. Edmund returned to Fabius, N. Y., Julius removed to and died in Wisconsin, but the remaining six, including Anna (who married Ephraim Bloom), Samuel, Jonathan, Eunice (who married Harris Roe and afterward Francis White), Asa (who married Eunice Dodge), and Chester (who married Julia Spafford), all settled in and about West Dryden.

Samuel Fox died in West Dryden Oct. 10, 1844, 88 years of age. His farm of about fifty acres is still included in that of his grandson, James A. Fox, to whom we are indebted for some interesting incidents of the hardships endured by the pioneers and their families. When his father, Asa, was a boy trying to keep up with the men in hoeing corn, his grandfather, Samuel, to encourage his son sent to Ludlowville by a neighbor who happened to be going down, for a hat, the first the boy had ever had. When it was brought back the father placed it upon his son's bare head, but after he had hoed once around with it on, the boy took it off and laid it by under the fence, saying that he was not used to it and it made his head ache. He had his first pair of boots when he was eighteen years of age, children going barefooted like colts until that age, and he secured a pair of shirts by splitting one thousand rails. When he bought his farm there was a mortgage on it held by a man in New Jersey, where he went twice on foot to make his payments.

When the eldest son, Edmund, went by himself he had a pair of oxen and a cow, constituting his stock and team. When his season's work was half done one of his oxen died and his only recourse was to yoke the cow in with the other ox to carry on the work of the farm, the cow being thus required to furnish the family with milk and butter and at the same time do half of the team work. We should hear but little about the present bad times if people now realized the extremities to which the pioneers were often reduced.

FULKERSON, BENJAMIN, JOSIAH and CHAPMAN, brothers, were originally from New Jersey, coming to Lansing soon after 1790. They came to Dryden in 1805, Benjamin purchasing in that year all of Lot 22 except the survey fifty acres and paying for it two thousand dollars. He bought fifty acres which is now included in the farm of J. H. George. On this he built his cabin, but soon after died. His wife, who was Sally Giles, survived him many years and was married to Simeon Van Nortwick, also an early pioneer. Benjamin and Sally Fulkerson had one son, Benjamin, Jr., and one daughter, Phoebe, who married Henry White, son of Daniel White. Benjamin, Jr., married

Emily Douglas, who is now living with her daughter, Mrs. J. B. George, at the age of 86.

Josiah Fulkerson bought of his brother the south half of Lot 22, building his house where his great-grandson, Lamont Fulkerson, now lives. His wife was Polly Cook and his family consisted of five sons, Burnett C., Silas, Benjamin, Lot and Calvin. The daughters were Sally, who was married to John George; Ann, to Sheldon Sharp; Jane, to Hiram Snyder; and Maria, to James Snyder, the latter being the only one now living.

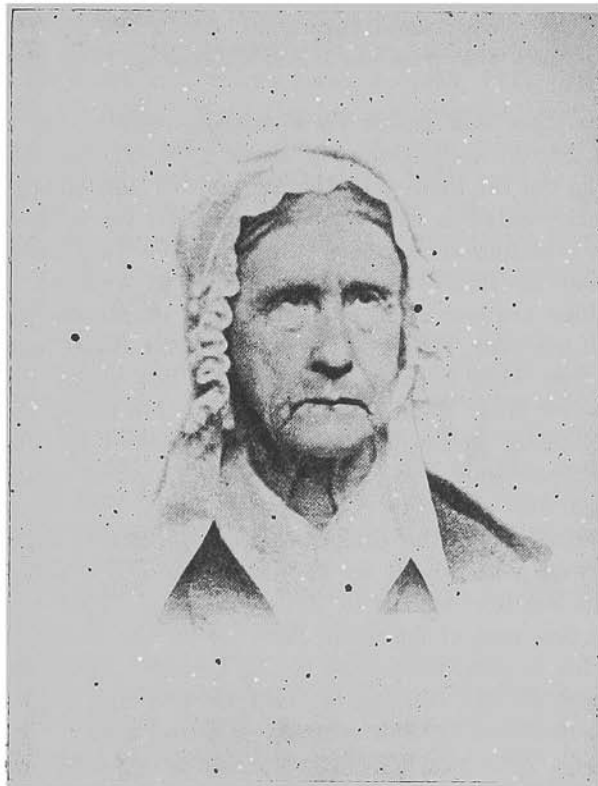
Another brother, Chapman, who came to the town from Lansing soon after, also settled on Lot 22. He was born in New Jersey in 1785, and his wife, Hester Brown, two years later. They were married and settled on a farm half a mile south of West Dryden in 1807. The first winter they kept their stock on browse and a few ears of corn each day, and wolves killed several sheep. Mrs. Fulkerson rode horseback and carried a child twelve miles to Teetertown, now Lansingville, to church during the first few years of their married life. Their first child was Betsey, who married Dayton Primrose and lived at West Dryden; she left children. Sarah married Philip Robertson and settled in the western part of Pennsylvania; she is still living and has three children. Miranda did not marry; Stephen B. lives on the old homestead. Malvina married Albert Twogood; they moved to Marion, Iowa, and left six children. Daniel removed to the West. Sophia married Abram Anthony; they settled in Iowa and have a family of six. Samuel C. married Lucinda Hill, has always lived in the town of Dryden, and has five children. Louisa married Elliott Fortner and left three children. John lives in Iowa. Chapman Fulkerson died December 24, '49, aged 64 years. Hester Fulkerson died January 21, '69, aged 81 years.

GEORGE, DAVID, was born near Monmouth Court House (now Freehold), Monmouth county, N. J., in the year 1769. He was nearly ten years old when the battle of Monmouth occurred near his home, June 28th, 1778. He carried water all day to the soldiers wounded in that bloody battle of the Revolution; and at night nearly fell with exhaustion. In 1793 Mr. George married Alletta Sheppard, whose father and grandfather both were officers of note in the Continental Army in the Revolution; both of them were taken prisoners in 1781 and carried to New York by the British, undergoing much suffering at their hands. Mr. George moved into the town of Dryden with his family in the year 1804, and settled three fourths of a mile east of West Dryden upon a farm of one hundred acres, a portion of which is now

owned and occupied by a Mr. Lathrop. Some parts of the buildings now on such portion were built by Mr. George during his lifetime. The family passed through all the hardships of the pioneer settlers of the town. The forest was almost unbroken, while the clearings already made were few and far apart. He was a weaver by trade, weaving coverlets, blankets, cloth and linen, and there are persons in the

town now who have some of his work.

In spite of their hardships and surroundings Mr. and Mrs. George raised a family of twelve children, namely: Thomas, who settled in Syracuse when it was a small village, and always lived there; Alletta, who always lived in the town, until her death; Rachel, who married George Conrad and after living a few years in Cattaraugus county, N. Y., moved west. One of her sons, Hon. W. F. Conrad, lives at Des Moines, Iowa, and is a prominent Judge of that



MRS. ALLETTA GEORGE.

state. Elisha, too, settled in Syracuse and always lived there. Joel with his family settled in Joliet, Illinois; Peter and his family settled in Steuben county, N. Y.; Sarah lived at Niagara Falls. Mary married Peter Grover; one of their sons, Andrew J. Grover, is still remembered by many in this section, and after him the G. A. R. Post at Cortland is named. Hannah married Solomon Silver, and lived for a number of years at Peruville, in this county; Eliza late in life married Dr. Isaac Carpenter and settled at Auburn, N. Y. She is

at present living at Jamestown, N. Y. Adaline married William L. Fessenden and is living at Candor, N. Y. Harvey married Susan Van Horn, for a while was a merchant at West Dryden and later moved to Kansas and died there about ten years ago.

Mr. George continued to live upon the farm where he settled, until his death, which occurred October 3rd, 1848. His widow survived him twenty-one years; her death took place September 12th, 1869, she being ninety-one years of age. She could remember seeing the British soldiers of the Revolutionary War pass her father's house on their way through the Jerseys.

None of their descendants now reside in Tompkins county; but a grandson, Dilworth M. Silver, an attorney of Buffalo, N. Y., has devoted himself to tracing out the history of this branch of the George family, and has materially aided us with the results of his researches, being able to trace his grandmother's ancestry back to the year 1654, which was the date when the first of her ancestors came to America.

GEORGE, JOEL, an elder brother of David, was born in Monmouth county, New Jersey, in the year 1767. He married Mary Toan, and all of their older children were born in New Jersey, but about the year 1798 they migrated "West" and after sojourning for about six years at Scipio, N. Y., located in Dryden on land now owned by Andrew Baker, about the year 1804. He bought three hundred acres, which included the farm now owned by S. M. George. His sons were Thomas, John and William T. The daughters were married—Sally to William Van Nortwick; Elizabeth to Thomas Hance, Jr., afterwards to Judge Joshua North; Clarissa to Peter Conover. Joel was the first blacksmith in that part of the town, carrying on the business many years. Among his grandchildren are S. M. George, James H. and Almanzo W. George, all still residing in West Dryden and representing the three male branches of their common ancestor, Joel.

KIMBERLIN, REV. JOHN, who had traveled thousands of miles on horseback through the wilds of New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio as an early Methodist circuit rider, came to Dryden about the year 1815, and bought of Selden Andrus the place now known as the Bryant farm, one-half mile west of "Fox's Corners," where he lived until his death, which occurred in 1853 at the age of seventy-two years. At his request he was buried directly underneath the spot where the pulpit had stood in the old Asbury red meeting house, which had been burned a few years before and where he had preached so many times.

MOUNT, EVERT, who was born in New Jersey in 1758, was a soldier of the Revolution, participating in the battles of Trenton, Princeton

and Monmouth, and coming to West Dryden in 1801, accompanied by his only son, Joseph. The latter was the father of William Dye Mount, and grandfather of the Mounts now living in Groton. Evert and his son built the first blacksmith shop at the corners, where they worked for a few years. They returned to New Jersey with the intention of bringing their families to their new homes, but while there hostilities between England and the United States broke out and Joseph Mount volunteered and was sent to the frontier. He was killed in the battle of Lundy's Lane, July 25, 1814. Evert Mount returned with his wife to West Dryden and resumed work at his trade, which he continued until the weight of years compelled him to relinquish it. He died at West Dryden in July, 1841, aged 88 years, and was buried in the "George" cemetery. His wife, Effie Dye Mount, survived him several years, living with her grand-daughter, Mrs. Wilson Hunt. They afterwards removed to Cattaraugus county, where Mrs. Mount died in 1849.

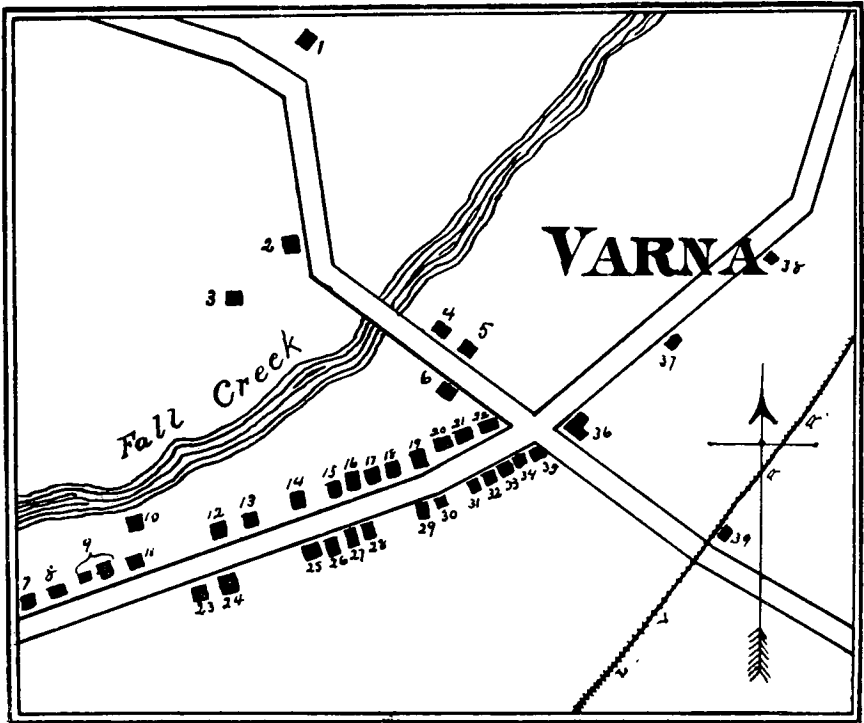
PRIMROSE, JACOB, came from Sussex county, New Jersey, in 1803, and settled on Lot 23, where he purchased one hundred and thirty acres of land. He was a weaver of coverlets and worked at that trade after he came here. His wife was Martha Dayton. They had three sons: Henry, who served in the War of 1812, and Lewis and Dayton. Of the four daughters, Ruth and Sarah married Silas and Benjamin Fulkerson, respectively. Sarah is still living at Clinton, Wisconsin, at the age of 88 years.

The farm has always remained in the family and is now owned by George Primrose, a son of Dayton.

SUTLIFF, DAVID, was an early West Dryden pioneer, coming from Hartford, Conn., to Genoa in 1804 and to Dryden in 1806, buying land on Lot 23 now owned by Geo. Fulkerson, and which remained in possession of the family nearly seventy-five years. He was the father of fourteen children, most of whom were born in Connecticut. The best known in Dryden were Uriah, Henry P., and Parintha, wife of Burnett C. Fulkerson, who was the last surviving member of that branch of the family. She died in 1892 in her 91st year.

WIRE, JARED, also came from Hartford county, Connecticut, and purchased a farm of fifty acres on Lot No. 12; but he removed to Pennsylvania, where he died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Watson Sutliff, many years ago, leaving no descendants in this town.





*Key to the Map of Varna.*

- |                                |                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Geo. E. Underwood.          | 21. Wagon Shop.           |
| 2. Ezra Ostrander.             | 22. School House, No. 18. |
| 3. Ezra Ostrander.             | 23. Marenus Crutts.       |
| 4. Mrs. Cooper.                | 24. W. C. Ellis.          |
| 5. Wm. J. Manning.             | 25. J. Pierce.            |
| 6. Wilson Baker.               | 26. Mrs. S. Grover.       |
| 7. Frank Powers.               | 27. O. T. Ellis.          |
| 8. Philip S. Snyder.           | 28. Seaman & Snyder.      |
| 9. Mrs. Olive Crutts.          | 29. M. E. Church.         |
| 10. Grist Mill.                | 30. M. E. Parsonage.      |
| 11. Wagon Shop.                | 31. Wm. J. Manning.       |
| 12. Marenus Crutts.            | 32. Geo. Brown.           |
| 13. Marenus Crutts.            | 33. Mrs. Isaac Creamer.   |
| 14. Geo. Underwood.            | 34. Mrs. Sherwood.        |
| 15. Robert Smiley, Postoffice. | 35. Frank Ellis.          |
| 16. Ernest Snyder.             | 36. J. T. Morris.         |
| 17. Milo Williams.             | 37. Will Ross.            |
| 18. H. Brink, Store.           | 38. Frank Hazen.          |
| 19. J. Whipple.                | 39. Depot.                |
| 20. Blacksmith Shop.           |                           |

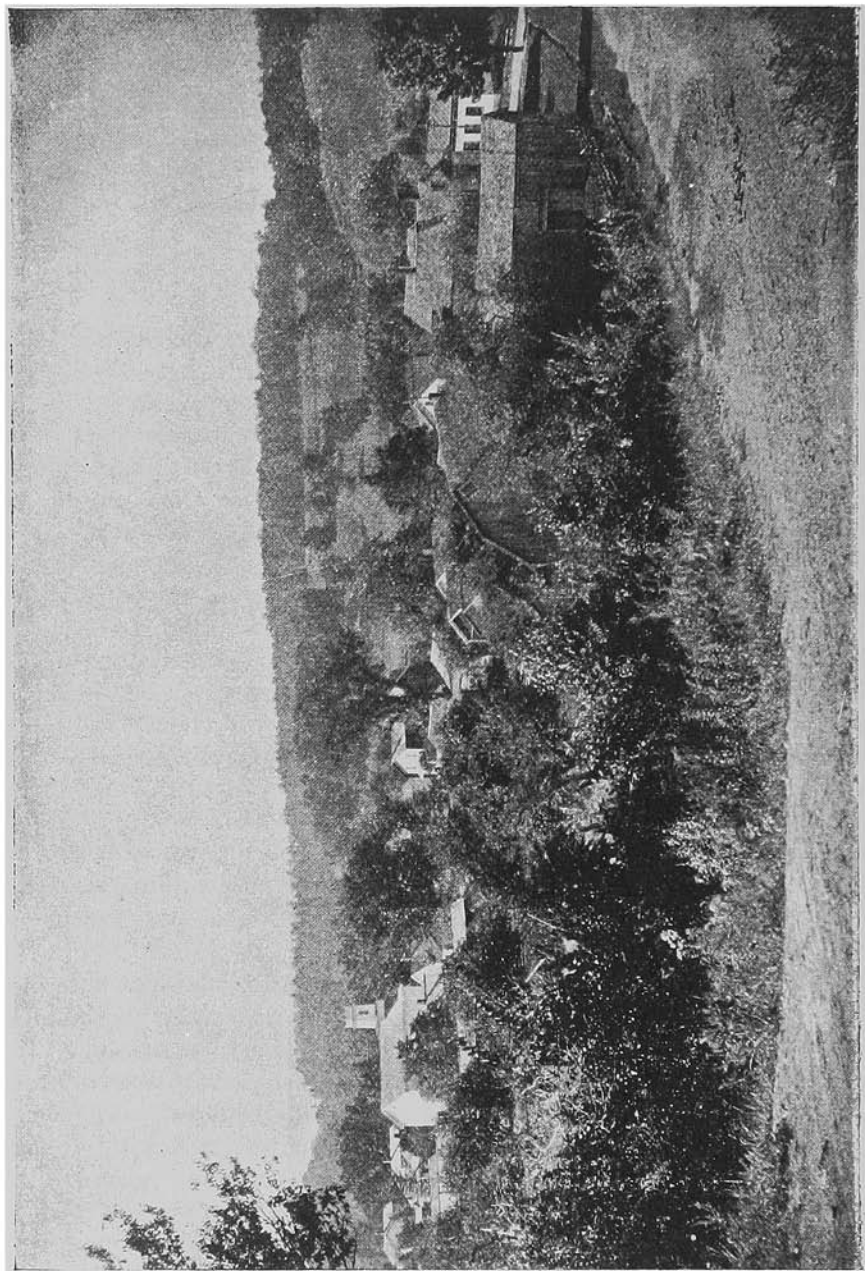
## CHAPTER XXXII.

## VARNA AND FALL CREEK.

The annals of the early settlement of Varna seem to be hopelessly lost. We cannot even obtain a hint as to the origin of the application of its name to this locality, the only other Varna of which we have any knowledge being a Bulgarian city of that name on the shore of the Black Sea. It, however, had an early history, and among its first settlers were men by the name of Dyer, Jarvis and Blue, followed by Ebenezer Brown, Erasmus T. Brown, Jonathan Knowles, James Bird, Gen. John Munson, Peter Talmadge, John Ewers, Dr. Call, James McElheny, Wm. H. Miller, Walter Dowe, Dr. Ide, Dr. Pomeroy, William Cobb, William Schutt and Isaac Creamer.

Both the first saw-mill and the first grist-mill are said to have been built by Gabriel Cain, in 1803, the former near the site of the Hart mill, where Amos Ogden, in later years, first instituted the custom of putting up flour in cotton sacks, for which paper has been substituted. The first tavern seems to have been built by a man by the name of Abner Chapin, near the site of the present hotel, in 1806, but the present hotel building was built by James McElheny in 1832, the first school house having been erected two years before on the opposite side of the street. On the site of the Crutts grist-mill there was constructed a saw-mill in 1818 by Gen. John Munson, and a sash factory was built in 1837 by Erasmus Brown, which was later occupied by Israel Brown as a distillery. Gen. Munson had a store in 1831 on the site now occupied by the Whipple blacksmith shop, the first blacksmith shop of which we have any record having been built by William Van Sickle in 1830. A tannery was built and operated by Z. Hartsough in 1840, followed by the building of the M. E. church in 1842 and the Presbyterian church in 1843.

The proximity of Varna to Ithaca has always interfered with its prosperity as a business center, but there was a time, near the middle of our Century Period, when it had quite a business of its own. In those days it was a great horse market, and many a drove of horses was started from there to New York in the old-fashioned way, some twenty-five horses more or less being attached with yokes to a long rope at the head of which was a leader on horseback, and a man with a cart or wagon attached to the other end of the line brought up the rear, while horses in pairs were attached to the rope all the way between. Such a troop of horses starting for the New York market in



VARNA, FROM THE RAILROAD STATION.

*Photo by Silcox.*

this way would be a novel sight in these days of rapid transportation. Large droves of sheep and cattle driven along the highways of our town enroute for New York were a frequent sight fifty years ago, on all of our principal thoroughfares.

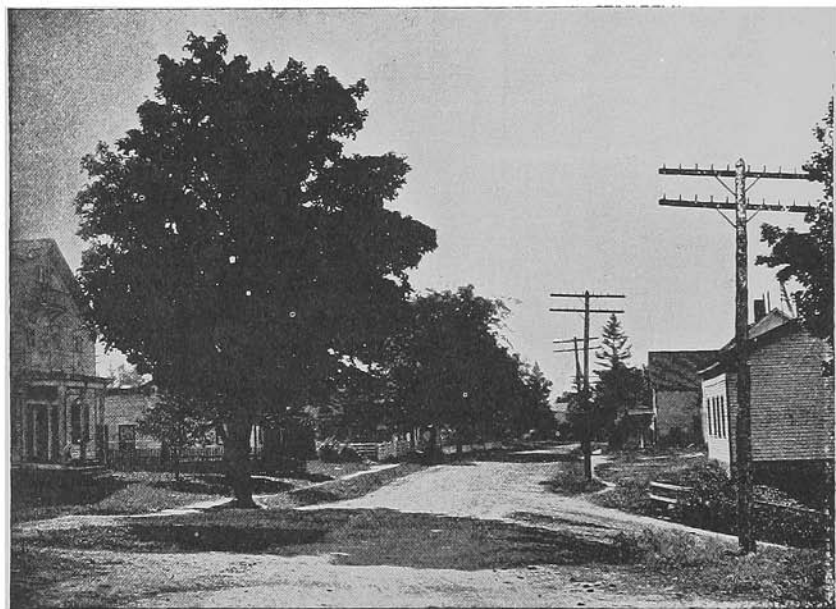
Not only was Varna in early times a great place for sending horses off to the cities, but it was noted as a home horse market where horses were sold and exchanged in great numbers, and where the running of horses as a test of speed was a common practice before the present custom of trotting horses came in vogue. At one time there were some parties there by the name of Sloan Bros. who for years made it their headquarters for peddling clocks of Eastern manufacture throughout the surrounding country.

The first M. E. church of Varna was organized at the school-house January 5, 1842, with the following as trustees: Hoffman Steenburg, William Cobb, Robert C. Hunt, Benjamin Davenport, George Emons, John Munson and Isaac Seaman. Their church edifice was completed the next year at an original expense of fifteen hundred dollars, extensive repairs having since been made. The pastors of this church have been W. H. Miller, A. H. Hamilton, D. Lamkin, L. G. Weaver, J. W. Steele, Elias Hoxsie, David Davis, G. W. Smith, A. Ensign, Sylvester Minier, L. R. Grant, E. House, D. W. Sherman, L. T. Hawkins, E. A. Peck, R. L. Stilwell, N. M. Wheeler, F. M. Wheeler, W. M. Fisher, P. W. Mynard, E. D. Thurston, G. W. Reynolds, J. L. King, C. J. Pendleton, M. J. Owen, P. H. Reigal, J. E. Showers, F. H. Dickerson.

The Presbyterian church of Varna was discontinued over thirty years ago and their building was taken down and removed to Brookton.

It is not a little remarkable that a town which forms a part of the great watershed separating the St. Lawrence from the Chesapeake systems of water courses—the streams of Dryden being represented in each—should possess such valuable water power privileges as are afforded by Fall Creek and its tributaries. Rising in the town of Summerhill and flowing south through the eastern part of the town of Groton, Fall Creek enters Dryden near McLean and flows diagonally through our town in such a way as to afford an abundance of mill sites for water power. It is the central drainage artery of the township, receiving as tributaries Beaver, Mud and Virgil creeks on the south, and the West Dryden stream from the north, as well as other smaller additions. Although Fall Creek suffers considerable diminution in times of drouth, especially since the country through which it flows

has been mostly deprived of the shade of the forests, it still has good lasting qualities even in the dry seasons of summer and autumn. The largest and most constant of these water powers are, of course, situated on the lower part of the stream, the last one in the town of Dryden running the present Crutts mill, which still does considerable business in flour and feed grinding. Peter Talmadge also had a mill near by but on the north side. Next above is the Hart mill, already spoken of, and next above in the order being the Wm. Allen site, the Wm. Bishop or Sherwood Mills, the George Robertson site, later sold to Jonathan Card and Ward Mallory, who there manufactured



MAIN STREET, VARNA.

chairs which are still in use, the Salmon Sharp site, the Rhodes site and the Wadsworth site, which brings us up to the Bartholomew mills in the vicinity of Etna.

All of these water powers were first employed in sawing the pine lumber, which was very abundant in and about Varna, the pine trees along the northerly side of Fall Creek being the largest to be found in this region, often five feet in diameter and each cutting twenty-five thousand clear shingles or five thousand feet of first class white pine lumber. If any one of our readers is inclined to doubt this statement

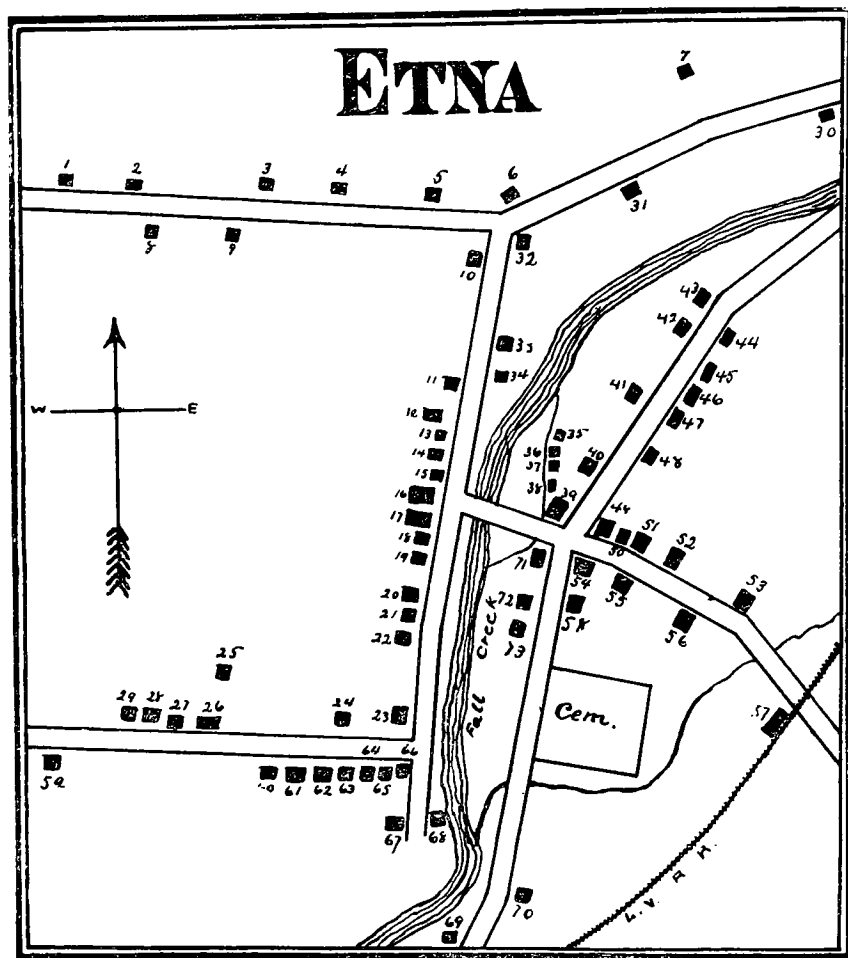
or consider it exaggerated, we can call attention to the fact as corroborating our accuracy that an occasional pine stump in the fence of this neighborhood is still shown which, split in two in the middle, makes four rods in length of stump fence.

Of the pioneer families of Varna we can only speak of James McElheny, whose father, Thomas McElheny, came from New Jersey early in the century, first locating near Malloryville, where James married Betsey, a daughter of Judge Ellis. He was a justice of the peace of the town in 1830 at Ellis Hollow, afterwards a hotel keeper at Varna, and died in 1836 at the early age of thirty-five years. His father and the rest of the family had already removed to Allegany county, the children of James who remained here including John E. McElheny, of Dryden, and Thomas J. McElheny, of Ithaca.

Isaac Creamer, although not strictly speaking a pioneer, came to Varna with the clock peddlers whom he assisted, about 1835, and for a long time he remained a prominent character in that section of the town. Although a pronounced Democrat he served as justice of the peace and justice of sessions in 1864, and was a leader among the Democratic politicians of the county.

Esquire Wm. H. Miller, who was a justice of the peace of the town in 1833, came to Varna from Rensselaer county about seventy-five years ago, followed later by his father, Moses Miller; his sister, Mrs. Nancy Grant, now over ninety years of age and residing with her daughter, Mrs. C. D. Bouton, of Ithaca; and other sisters, Mrs. Samuel Rowland, afterwards residing at Willow Glen, where she died; Mrs. Angeline Brown, widow of Capt. Brown, now of Cortland; and Mrs. Charles LaBarr, now of Dryden village.

Peter Talmadge seems to have been a prominent figure in the early times of Varna, his stentorian voice being employed to advantage in driving his oxen and being heard throughout the whole settlement. Although illiterate and unpolished in his speech and manners, Father Talmadge, as he was called, possessed rugged virtues, and when others of his less independent Varna neighbors bashfully admitted to the out-of-town merchants with whom they traded, that they lived "just in the edge of Dryden," it is said that he patriotically affirmed in unmistakable terms that he was not ashamed to own that he resided "in the very bowels of Dryden."



*Key to the Map of Etna.*

- |                    |                           |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Mrs. C. Turner. | 12. School House, No. 11. |
| 2. J. T. Primrose. | 13. Shoe Shop.            |
| 3. E. F. Weaver.   | 14. David Brotherton.     |
| 4. James Rawley.   | 15. Dr. G. L. Rood.       |
| 5. Geo. Cowdrey.   | 16. Baptist Church.       |
| 6. L. Dusenberry.  | 17. M. E. Church.         |
| 7. Arthur Burr.    | 18. Wm. W. Sherwood.      |
| 8. Mrs. H. Ralph.  | 19. Mrs. J. S. Weidman.   |
| 9. Mrs. D. Weaver. | 20. Dr. J. Beach.         |
| 10. L. Freeman.    | 21. Edward Gaston.        |
| 11. Wm. Smith.     | 22. E. Snyder.            |

- |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 23. C. Bartholomew.            | 49. Arthur Coggsell.           |
| 24. Mrs. Davenport.            | 50. Meat Market.               |
| 25. E. Freeman.                | 51. H. A. Root, Hotel.         |
| 26. L. Hemmingway, shop.       | 52. Geo. H. Houtz.             |
| 27. L. Hemmingway.             | 53. Mrs. C. Houtz.             |
| 28. D. B. Conklin.             | 54. Geo. H. Houtz.             |
| 29. Mrs. John Reed.            | 55. W. Marsh.                  |
| 30. Barbara Rulison.           | 56. Etna Hotel, C. Westervelt. |
| 31. Arthur Burr.               | 57. Depot, L. V. R. R.         |
| 32. P. Brady.                  | 58. Mrs. Mary H. Bartholomew.  |
| 33. Smith Stevens.             | 59. T. Rhodes.                 |
| 34. D. Brotherton.             | 60. Freeman Bros.              |
| 35. Cabinet Shop.              | 61. J. Bartholomew.            |
| 36. Wagon Shop.                | 62. S. Ralph Estate.           |
| 37. Blacksmith Shop.           | 63. Milo Snyder.               |
| 38. Blacksmith Shop.           | 64. Emma Snyder.               |
| 39. Houtz's Etna Roller Mills. | 65. Mrs. Hurley.               |
| 40. Store.                     | 66. Etna Creamery.             |
| 41. Ai Van Horn.               | 67. Blacksmith Shop.           |
| 42. Ann Merchant.              | 68. Machine Shop.              |
| 43. Geo. L. Snyder.            | 69. Hannah Lee Estate.         |
| 44. Mrs. William Haskins.      | 70. Wm. H. Sherwood.           |
| 45. Ladrew Sherwood.           | 71. Geo. H. Houtz, Store.      |
| 46. Eli Conklin.               | 72. Mary H. Bartholomew.       |
| 47. Wm. Tichenor.              | 73. Mrs. G. B. Davis.          |
| 48. Store.                     |                                |

## CHAPTER XXXIII.

## ETNA.

We are not able to give the year when Rev. Wm. Miller and his brother Arthur, who was a blacksmith, commenced building in the wilderness of what is now known as the village of Etna, but was first called, after them, Miller's Settlement.

The first grist-mill there was on the same spot and in the same building lately occupied by Jesse Bartholomew as a planing mill. The date of the erection of this mill cannot now be accurately given, and it has been claimed that it ante-dated White's mill at Freeville, but so far as we can learn, without authority, and, as it seems to us, without reason, for Capt. Robertson would not have gone to mill at Ludlowville with his crops of 1799 and 1800 if there had been a mill so near to him as Etna.

The first date of Etna which we can give with any accuracy or certainty is that of the organization of the first religious society in the township, the first and we believe to this day, the only regular Bap-

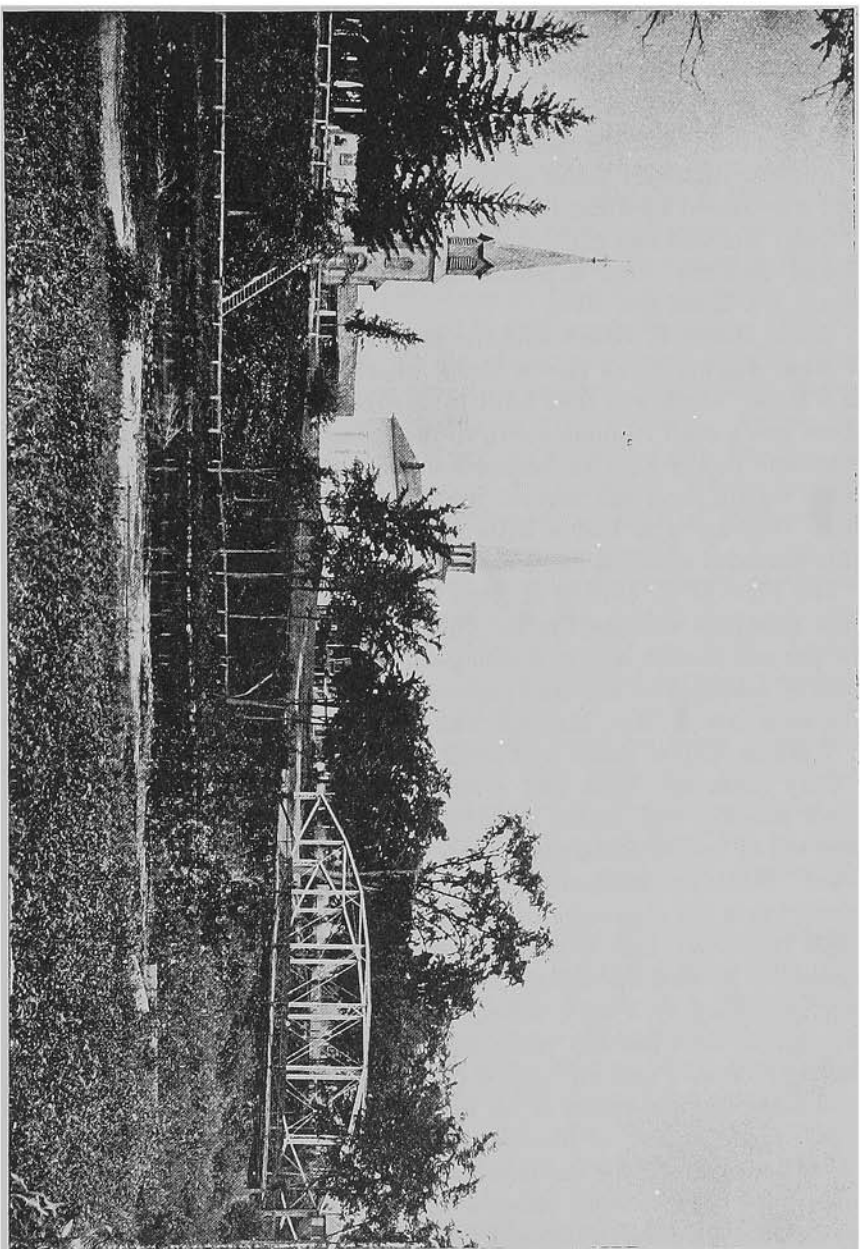


tist church of Dryden, which was organized February 29, 1804, at the home of William Miller. The meeting was opened with singing and prayer by Mr. Miller, Samuel Hemmingway being elected deacon, and John Wickham, clerk of the society. Among the original members are said to have been Francis Miller, Elijah Dimmick, Silas Brown, Ebenezer Brown, Nathaniel Luther, Job Carr, Ziba Randall, Timothy Owens, Jonathan Dunham, Joshua Jay, Abraham Woodcock, Nathan Dunham, Joel Whipple, Samuel Skillinger, Morris Bailey, Orpha Luther, Asher Wickham, Mehitable Carr, Betsey Brown, Abigail Dimmick, Mary Owens, Lucy Dunham and Katie Woodcock.

A saw-mill was built at about the same time as the grist-mill, upon the site lately occupied by the Houtz saw-mill, and afterwards a fulling mill owned by Joseph Newell and Stephen Bradley, on the ground now occupied by the blacksmith shop of Bert Conklin. Daniel Carr and John McArthur carried on the first store in the house formerly occupied by Wm. Miller and now owned by the Houtz family. The first blacksmith shop stood where is now the center of the road between Houtz's store and grist-mill. The first church building was of logs on the lands of Nathaniel Luther, but was replaced by a frame building on the same ground, which is where the Etna Creamery Co.'s building now stands, and the building is the same one which Caleb Bartholomew used as a pattern shop. At that time there was a bridge across Fall Creek at that point. The first school house stood on the site now occupied by the Houtz store and was the building afterwards used as the old cooper shop, which was finally taken away by high water a number of years ago.

About the year 1815 the place took quite a change. Wm. Miller sold out his property to the Houtz family and the new settlement from that time bore the name of Columbia until about the year 1820, when the postoffice was established under the name of Etna. In the meantime Bradley & Newell sold their fulling-mill to Rice Weed. Stephen Bradley owned and occupied the place now owned by Hiram Root, which afterwards became the property of Joseph Hemmingway. Here he built the hotel, and the original "Bradley House" of former years is a part of the present hotel.

The first shoemaker was Jacob Lumbard, whose descendants are well known in the town of Dryden. About the year 1818 a store was built on the ground where Ed Carbury now lives, just east of Root's Hotel. At the same time there was another store kept by H. B. Weaver in the building now known as Houtz's white shop. Henry Beach built a saw-mill which was burned on the island about where



ETNA, WEST SIDE.

*Photo by Sicaæ*

is now the center of the Houtz dam. Beach sold his interest in this property to J. H. Houtz, who rebuilt the mill, but later took it down to make room for a distillery. On that particular spot one saw-mill and two distilleries were burned and the last distillery was taken off by high water a few years ago, being remembered by the present generation as the old sash factory.

Another distillery stood on the island just back of Conklin's shop and was owned by John Dodge, who came from Maine.

Colurbia had two bridges at that time, one of which has been mentioned, and the other extended across the creek nearly in front of where Dr. Rood now lives.

When Henry L. Beach sold his property to J. H. Houtz he moved to what was known as Lower Etna, where Truman Rhodes now lives in a house which was then built by Mr. Beach as a hotel, from which there was a road running south to the corner of the pine woods. At that time Lower Etna possessed a hotel, paper mill, blacksmith shop, store, wagon shop and several other buildings. The first tailor was John Weaver, who had a little family of children from which only nine attended school at one time.

The First M. E. church of Etna was organized April 13, 1835, and their meetings were held in the village school house until 1837, when the present church edifice was erected at a cost of about two thousand dollars, seating two hundred persons. The first trustees were James Freeman, Alvah Carr, Michael Vanderhoef, Richard Bryant, Thomas J. Watkins, Oliver Baker and John H. Porter.

Fifty years ago Etna had a hard name, being then noted for its horse running and liquor distilling proclivities, there being no less than ten or twelve stills within two miles square of this section of the town. While the general business of the place has not increased in recent years the character of its inhabitants and industries has very much improved, and a stranger who now visits Etna finds it very pleasantly located upon the opposite banks of Fall Creek, which are here connected by a very substantial iron bridge, one of the largest and best in the township, and the dwellings and public buildings, including churches and schools, show abundant evidence of the thrift, good taste and enterprise of its inhabitants. The butter factory, recently incorporated, is one of the recent manufacturing enterprises which flourish, and for the past twenty-five years Etna has not been behind her neighboring villages in mercantile enterprise or in the educational advantages furnished by her excellent school.

The following pioneers of Etna have been brought to our notice :

BARTHOLOMEW, JESSE, SR., was born in Branford, Conn., in 1763, and about 1783, in Lee, Mass., married Mamra Bradley, who died in Dryden in July, 1823, after which he married Betsey Locke Updike in Dryden in 1831. He came in 1798 to Herkimer county, from which place, after living in Locke, Cayuga county, he moved to the town of Dryden in 1812 or 1813, and purchased and settled on the land now known as the Hanford farm, one-half mile east of Etna, from which he was subsequently driven off by a man who claimed a better title. While he yet lived on the corner where the Etna road joins the Bridle Road, and in the traditional cold season of 1816, he raised a field of corn, said to have been the only crop of that kind matured in the town of Dryden that year. He died in 1846 aged 83 years. He was a devoted Baptist and is said by his children to have been so even-tempered as never to have been seen in a passion. He was the father of fifteen children and the grandfather of over seventy. Among the former were Jesse Bradley, who carried on a distillery in Dryden village in the Pioneer Period and moved to Michigan, where he died leaving a large family; Lemi, who served in the War of 1812, having enlisted as the record says at Dryden, Cayuga county, N. Y., in August, 1814, in Col. Fleming's regiment, which rendezvoused at Cayuga Bridge, and was one of the volunteers who took part in the celebrated "sortie of Fort Erie." He died in Westfield, N. Y., in 1872. Daniel, Sr., was born in Locke in 1798, and in 1819 married Jerusha Griswold, whose children, Mary (Wheeler) and Daniel, Jr., are still well-known residents of Dryden. Caleb and Jesse, Jr., have for many years been prominent business men of Etna, where they both still reside, Caleb having been largely engaged in the manufacture and sale of scales and iron bridges, while Jesse has manufactured specialties, one of which was the first machine used in Etna which would do planing and matching of lumber at the same time.

CARR, JOHN, is said to have come to Etna from Pennsylvania as early as 1800, settling in the western part with his three sons, Job, Peleg and Caleb. His wife it is said used to call her sons in the morning, saying: "Come, boys, the birds are saying Job, Peleg and Caleb."

DUNHAM, JONATHAN, with his three sons, Henry, Louis and Nathan, coming from Pennsylvania, settled near Etna about the year 1800.

MCARTHUR, REV. DANIEL, from Scotland, arrived in New York May 29, 1811. He was originally a Presbyterian, but changed his religious views and went to Edinburgh, where he was baptised and united with the Baptist creed. Soon after he took passage for America in the hope that the change of climate would prove beneficial to his wife,

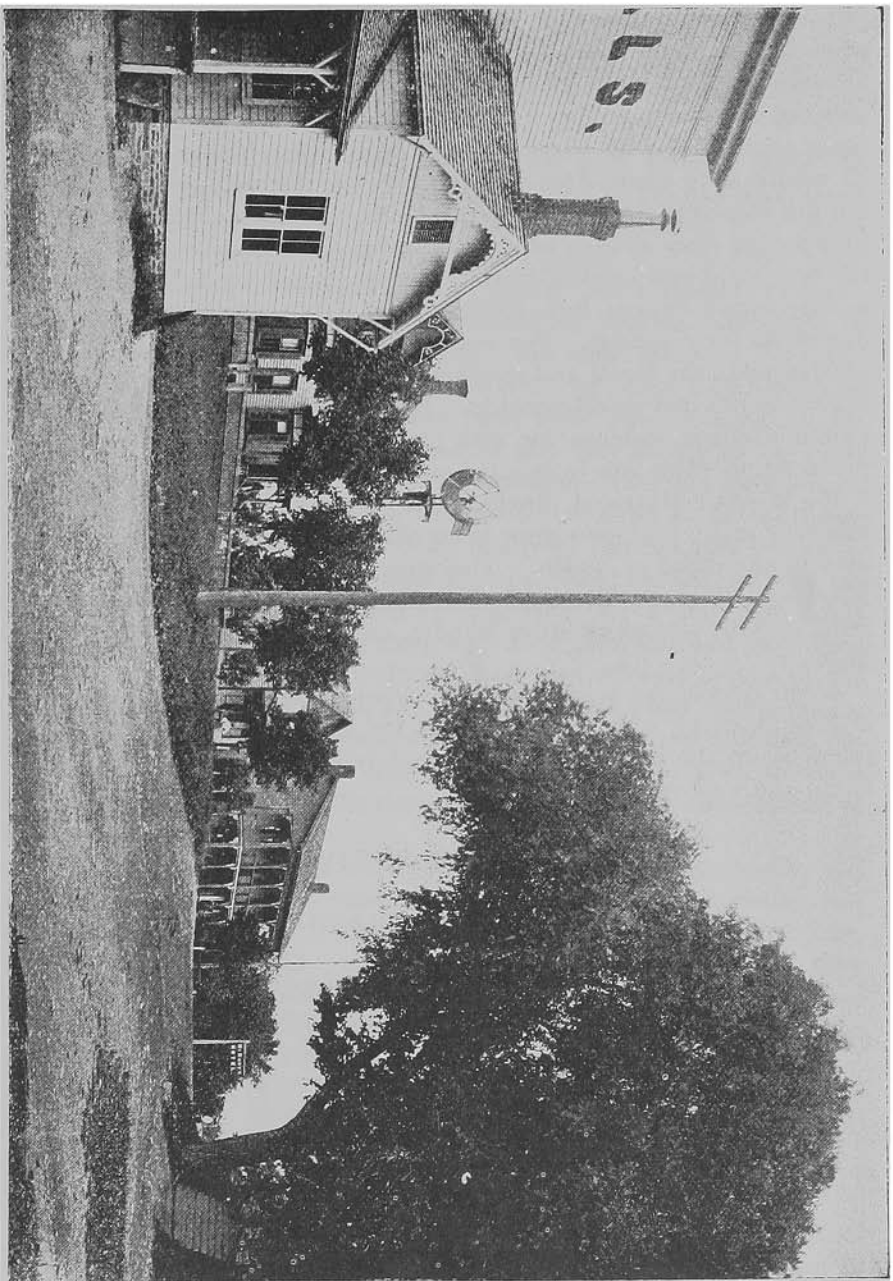
who was in poor health but died upon the voyage and was buried on Staten Island. After spending some time with friends in America from his native land he met Mr. Quigg, of Ithaca, on the Hudson river and was influenced by him to come to Dryden, as he did, and died here in 1847, leaving many descendants.

HOUTZ, REV. ANTHONY, with his father, Philip Peter, migrated from Germany in 1768, when the former was only ten years of age, locating at Lancaster, Pa., where the son learned the trade of a tailor, and using this occupation as a means of support he studied theology and was licensed to preach by the German Reformed Church. The original family name was "Hauz"; but as they soon began to speak English they changed the spelling and pronunciation to Houtz and later to Houtz, which with the English spelling is the exact German pronunciation of "Hauz." During his pastorate in Pennsylvania, his first wife died and in 1803 he married Katrina Keller, who became the step-mother of his four children and in the year following the mother of his fifth child, John Heinrich Hauz, who was the old merchant and miller, John H. Houtz, so well known to the older residents of Etna, where now lives and toils at his roller mills his son, Col. George H. Houtz, the great-grandson of Philip Peter Hauz. In the years 1804 and 1805 Rev. Anthony Houtz preached at Canoga and Lansingville and as early as 1806 located at Etna, where he served the people not only as their preacher but also as a tailor, jeweler, or "time keeper," as they were called in those days, and as druggist and physician. His books, still preserved, show that the most universal diseases of the section at that time were the usual new country plagues, the ague and the itch. He was a very useful and much respected man in the new settlement, where he died in 1813 and was buried in the Etna cemetery.

THE RHODES FAMILY of the town of Dryden are of English descent, their ancestors having originally settled in Pennsylvania before the Revolutionary War and their great-great-grandfather was a cooper by trade who worked for Washington's Army and was killed by Indians in the massacre of Wyoming.

One of his sons, George Rhodes, came to Lansing from Northumberland county, Pa., in 1792, coming by the way of the Susquehanna river to Owego, from there to Ithaca through a forest road, and from there to Lansing, where they settled. They cut their way through the original forest, going east from Ithaca to a spot just east of Forest Home, where they crossed the creek and from there went north to the farm now occupied by John Conklin.

Of a numerous family, one son, Jacob Rhodes, left home in 1804,



ETINA, EAST SIDE.

*Photo by Silcox.*

when he was twenty-one years old, to go for himself. Taking his rifle, ammunition and hatchet, he came to the present town of Dryden, sleeping the first night on the banks of a small stream a short distance southwest of the present site of the village of Etna. From there he went east to where Freeville, McLean and Dryden now are, camping the second night near the forks of the creek near Freeville. After prospecting for a number of days he came back to where he camped the first night and located, buying a claim owned by a Revolutionary soldier named Savage, from Rutland, Vt. His early life was the usual one of the early settlers. For years he kept house by himself and depended upon the forest and streams for provision. He was noted for his woodcraft and marksmanship. In fact, he was barred from taking part in shooting matches, for, with him, to shoot was to win, and at the present time spots can be pointed out where he killed deer, bear, etc.

He married Margaret, daughter of Christopher Snyder, and of a family of eight, four sons grew to an old age, the four daughters having died in childhood or youth. The sons were Wm. S., Geo. W., and Miles and Truman Rhodes. The old home of Jacob Rhodes was until recently owned by Miles Rhodes, and is now occupied by W. J. Davis.

Jacob Rhodes, by combining farming with a distillery, accumulated a large property, which is now owned by his grand-children, consisting of about one thousand acres of land, lying in nearly a solid body south and west of Etna.

## CHAPTER XXXIV.

### ISAIAH GILES AND GILESVILLE.

Early in the history of the country there came to New England from the mountains of Wales three sturdy brothers with their families, bearing the name of Giles or Gyles. They bore the characteristics that marked the sturdy and determined followers of Owen Glendower. Courageous, thrifty and resourceful, they regarded nothing better in man than honor and self-reliance. One of these families or their descendants came early into Eastern New York, and it is from this branch that sprang the family that forms the subject of the following sketch. Owing to a serious misfortune that befell the family early in the present century, mention of which will hereafter be made, many records of the history of the family were totally lost, so that much pertaining to such history, prior to that event, has been perpetuated

more by tradition than otherwise. But in the preparation of this paper all the care that the time would permit has been taken to reject everything that did not seem to be well authenticated.

In the summer of 1801 Isaiah Giles came from Orange county to begin a home for himself and family in the town of Dryden upon lands that he had recently purchased on Lot 15. He began his little clearing about, and built his log cabin near, the spring that in later years has been known as the Cheese Factory spring, just northwest of Freeville. After building his cabin he extended his clearing sufficiently to put in a piece of corn the next spring. He then returned east and early the next year, in the month of March, he came back, bringing his wife and children. He did not have time when putting up his house to put on the roof, so that one of the first things to be done, when moving in, was to shovel out the snow, and then cut and put on basswood bark for a roof. Then with a blanket hung up at the doorway the home and castle of the Giles family in Dryden was complete, for the time. From that time until the opening of spring, he was engaged in splitting and smoothing up puncheons for a door and flooring, and in building bunks for sleeping. In all the toil and care incident to such a beginning he had an earnest and efficient helper in the person of his good wife, Sarah Lanterman, whom he had married some nine years before. Their family then consisted of seven children, including two pairs of twins. There were subsequently born to them two sons and a daughter. To these children we shall have occasion to refer farther on.

Isaiah Giles and his wife were earnest, thrifty, pushing people, and about them soon began to cluster the evidences of their industry and economy. In the fall of 1802 they harvested their first corn and potatoes. The winter brought many privations and discomforts, but they passed through it without serious sickness or mishap. In the summer of 1803 they harvested their first crop of wheat, and threshed it in the little log barn that they had built the year before. They winnowed away the chaff, and carried the first grist to the mill of Elder Daniel White, at Freeville, to be ground, and then had their first wheat bread in the town of Dryden. The clearings and improvements were extended each year by dint of hard labor and good management. But in spite of the energy and thrift of Mr. and Mrs. Giles a great misfortune was in store for them.

About 1806 there came a man by the name of Thompson who laid claim to the land which Isaiah had bought. Investigation showed that Thompson's title was good and that Giles had been defrauded in



his purchase. Instances of this kind were not uncommon in the early history of Dryden. But the same spirit that had begun the first home in Dryden was ready to begin again. Gathering together his effects he went down upon Fall Creek at the point afterwards for years known as "Gilesville," and bought another tract of land and began anew. It was here that he, with his sons, built a saw-mill and a carding and fulling mill, and subsequently his sons built an extensive tannery.

Isaiah Giles was a man of considerable prominence in the affairs of the town, at one time serving as magistrate. In this connection a funny circumstance occurred. The writer repeats it as it was told him by Samuel Giles in 1870. Squire Giles, as he was then known, was an ardent Methodist withal, and one dark night a man by the name of Pipher, from the town of Groton, came with his wife to the Giles house and aroused the family, saying that they wanted to be baptised, and that the Lord's business was very urgent. They seemed to have the impression that the civil magistrate was the proper one to administer baptism. Esquire Giles explained the matter to them and directed them to Elder Daniel White, at Freeville, whom they aroused, and who administered the ordinance of baptism and sent them on their way rejoicing.

Although a strong Methodist and feeling the interests of the church of paramount importance, it is said Mr. Giles presented a resolution or motion at town meeting, "that the income from the gospel and school fund should thereafter be used wholly for school purposes." The resolution was carried through his influence, and that of some others.

Mr. Giles died when comparatively a young man, in 1822. His sickness was short and his death unexpected, but he died as he had lived, "diligent in business, fervent in spirit," and a firm believer in the tenets of the church of his choice. His wife survived him forty years, dying in 1862, a woman of great force of character, combined with very good judgment. These qualities were manifested in the manner in which she managed her household after the death of her husband.

Of the ten children of the family six lived to manhood and womanhood. Polly, the oldest of these, married John Van Nortwick, and died in 1823 at the age of twenty-six years. The other surviving daughter married Samuel Mead, and afterwards in 1857 moved to Iowa, where she died at the age of eighty years. It is of the sons that what follows will pertain more particularly.

Samuel and John Giles were twins born in Orange county in 1798. James Giles was born in the same county in 1800. These came with

their parents to Dryden in 1802, and may he justly classed among the pioneers of the town. Samuel Giles learned the trade of cabinet making, and John served his time as a tanner and currier with Burnett Cook, late of Ulysses. It was here that he first saw her who was destined in after years to become his wife. She was then but a child in the cradle, and he a lad in his teens. Samuel and John, having finished their apprenticeships, worked as journeymen for some years. James in the meantime had staid at home with his mother and carried on the saw-mill and fulling mill, assisted by an adopted brother, George Van Horn, whose family was in after years well known in the town of Dryden.

About 1823 Samuel and James went west to seek their fortunes, going as far as Indianapolis, Ind. After prospecting for a time and working at intervals, they concluded that while the soil was wonderfully fertile and the country presented many inducements to young men, the "shakes," as they termed it, more than offset the advantages. So at the beginning of winter they started for Dryden on foot. It was on this journey that their knowledge of mechanics stood them in good stead. They had the opportunity of putting into operation for different parties several carding machines, and when they reached home each had more money than when they started.

It was just after this that Samuel and John decided to build the tannery at Gilesville. This business they carried on with considerable success until 1832, when they built the Tompkins House, a historic hotel in the city of Ithaca. John in the meantime had waited until the child whose cradle he had rocked when an apprentice boy had grown to young womanhood, and in 1828 he was married to her (then Miss Mary A. Cook.) The union was a happy one. Samuel was married in 1832 to Miss Susan Depew.

In 1843, tired of hotel-keeping, they bought the Eddy property on East Hill, at Ithaca, on which they afterward built them a home, which they occupied until their deaths. These twin brothers during all their lives after beginning the tannery business at Gilesville occupied the same house and did business in partnership. John died in August, 1862, and Samuel in July, 1871, and his wife in February, 1872. The widow of John is still living at Trumansburg, N. Y.

James Giles was married to Barbara Rayner and shortly after bought one hundred acres of land on Lot 34, of Dryden. By subsequent additions thereto he owned three hundred and twenty acres. He was a man of unusual force of character, and possessed rare mechanical ability. He was a thorough farmer and early turned his at-

tention to dairying, and was among the first in the town to realize what was then known as fancy prices for butter. He early saw that machinery must play a prominent part in farming, and he began fitting his meadows for the mower, and it was upon his farm one of the first, if not the first, mowers was used in town. For many years he was actively engaged in selling mowers and reapers, and in buying and selling butter, of which article he was long known as being a competent judge. In his good wife he ever found an efficient helpmate and a wise counselor. They were the parents of eight children, one son and seven daughters. In 1867, feeling the weight of years bearing upon them, they arranged to give up the hard work of life, and passed the management of affairs to the son, Capt. J. J. Giles, of Freeville. Mrs. Giles died in November, 1887, and Mr. Giles in October, 1890, at the age of 90 years and 28 days. He had lived as long if not longer in the town of Dryden than any other person. Of the family of James Giles there are still living one son and four daughters.

Sarah Lanterman Giles, the wife of Isaiah Giles died in 1862 at the age of 91 years and 13 days.

In speaking of the misfortunes that befell the family of Isaiah Giles it may be mentioned that soon after moving to Fall Creek an event occurred that ever afterward cast a shadow over the life of James. It occurred during the time in the year when the latter was engaged in running the saw-mill. The little brother Weyburn, some four or five years old, had been down to the mill, and, as his brother supposed, had gone to the house, as he saw him go down the path and across the foot bridge spanning the race leading from the mill. But it seems that something in the race had attracted the child and he had either climbed down or fallen into the race, just as James hoisted the gate. The rush of the waters and the noise of the mill drowned his cries, but the brother caught a glimpse of his clothing as he was struggling in the water. To shut the gate was but the work of a moment and he rushed to his rescue, but it was too late; as he carried the dripping form to the house he found that life was extinct.

It was when the creek farm was nearly paid for, and at a time when Isaiah Giles had gone to Dryden to make the last payment, the family home was burned. Little or nothing was saved from the house. Then it was that the family records afore-mentioned were lost.

Ai W. Giles, born in 1810, was the youngest child. When he came to man's estate he worked for and with Samuel and John Giles until they left the Tompkins House. He then took charge of it and for some time conducted the business alone. He at one time had charge

of the tannery at Gilesville for a short period. He was engaged in the shoe business for a short time at Ithaca, and at one time owned and occupied the property known as the Half Way House, on the Bridle Road. He was afterward connected with the milling business at Free Hollow, as it was then known, and kept a flour and feed store in Ithaca. He was married in 1846 to Miss Nancy Leach, of Chenango county, N. Y. He died childless in Ithaca in November, 1889. His wife survived him some three or four years.

In matters of politics the Giles brothers were Democrats until 1856, when they became Republicans and remained such until the end. They never took any active part in political matters and none of them ever held any public office save Samuel, who in 1835 was trustee of the village of Ithaca, and in 1845 was supervisor of the town of Ithaca. In 1854 Samuel Giles was named by the Legislature, with Stephen B. Cushing and Horace Mack, as a building committee in the act authorizing the building of the Court House at Ithaca. S. & J. Giles was a firm name known and honored among business men of Central New York. Unlike in temperament, yet they lived and worked together without friction. John died childless and Samuel lived to bury his last child, Miss Sarah Giles, in 1866.

The records of Tompkins county show that the first will proven in the county, September 6, 1817, was witnessed by Isaiah and Sarah Giles, being the will of John Morris, of Lansing, and presumably drawn by Isaiah Giles. The family name has now but one representative, and when Capt. J. J. Giles shall have been gathered to his fathers, a name for nearly one hundred years so well and favorably known in the town will be known only as a matter of history.

## CHAPTER XXXV.

### MALLORYVILLE AND McLEAN.

The larger part of McLean being outside of our territory in the adjoining town of Groton, we include in this chapter what we can claim of it as a part of Dryden. In the year 1820 Samuel Mallory, then 22 years of age, walked from his native place in Sharon, Conn., to Homer, N. Y., and five or six years later he purchased the mill site and water power at the point on Fall Creek, about one mile from McLean, which, from him, was named Malloryville. Here he built a saw-mill and added carding and cloth dressing machinery as well as a dye-house, and finally established a chair factory, so that in these, their