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DEDICATED

TO

EBENEZER MACK TREMAN

Whose modest but open-hearted encouragement of contemporaries engaged in
nifying and preserving the history of his native city has accomplished far more
n will ever be known to the people of his own generation; with whose superior
rary taste and talent manifested in many a chapter from his pen and in his
mmentaries upon, and his knowledge of, standard authors and literature, the
ter is familiar, with at least a part of which the public may hereafter become
miliar, as it is now conversant with his high rank among our leaders in finance
l commerce; who as a philanthropic patron of music of the highest standard
elevated and refined the musical sense of a much wider community than the
y and whose sympathetic and generous nature has, along other lines, contributed
terially to its happiness and its pride.

Christmas, 1903.

THOS. W. BURNS.

INDEX

PREFACE

THESE Sketches were written to preserve the memories of the most prominent local officials who transformed ague-laden swamp and marsh and forest-covered rock and hillside into a rude and primitive hamlet, the hamlet into a beautiful inland village, the village into one of the greatest educational centers of America. It is doing justice to them for they were the makers of our municipal history and representatives of the public sentiment of their days.

It is strange indeed that their contemporaries left this work to those who had never known many of the presidents, a few of whom had been awarded cold and meager published remembrances, but most of whom were only mentioned by name in local history.

The Sketches do not even indicate the extent of the patience, research and time required to make them possible. Nearly all of the presidents and their contemporaries have been dead many years, their private and public papers lost and their relatives scattered from the reach of the writer.

It is lamentable that so little could be learned of the public careers of Presidents Bruyn, Johnson and Woodcock. They deserved far more elaborate memorials.

The Sketches, notwithstanding the disadvantages of the writer in collecting materials for the earlier subjects, have received the praise and approval, in private and public communications, of eminent historians, scholars, jurists, clergymen, editors, relatives of the subjects and hundreds of old Ithacans and former and present residents of Tompkins county who followed them closely as they were published in the Ithaca Daily and Weekly Journals. But not one adverse criticism of any one of them has been heard or received by the writer. This volume contains all and more than was published in The Journal, but with corrections and supplementary matter.

They were begun none too soon. The most valuable, because the most reliable, source of information the writer had upon the early history and leading citizens of Ithaca, the venerable and sweet-natured James Quigg, was called from earth (August, 1902,) before the first sketch appeared in public print, but not until much of his knowledge of local history and public men had been compiled by the writer in the form of memoranda. Another important source, Linn DeWitt, survived until the summer of 1903. Mr. Quigg, a son of the first merchant in Ithaca, was born the year Ithaca was incorporated as a village. Mr. DeWitt was an older man, and a son of General Simeon DeWitt.

With rare exceptions, names of relatives and descendants of the presidents and mayors have been omitted. The purpose has been to sketch the man and not his relations, a purpose indorsed by Ithacans best qualified to judge it. The stock from which the presidents and mayors descended, when it could be learned, their personalities, training, lifework and public standing, and enough of local history

to denote the development of the village and city in their official days, are given. It is all that a reader of books, in this age of books, cares now or, perhaps, will ever care to know of them.

The first intention of the writer was simply to collect as many portraits of the presidents as possible for the walls of the Common Council chamber in the City Hall, and to present them to the city with an address in which references would be made to those of whom the historian had said and published the least. They were gathered from over a wide territory, including Louisiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, New England, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

During the collection, and the preparation of the address, in 1901, recourse was had to historical papers and documents in the possession of Ebenezer Mack Treman, many of them in the hand writing of his grandfather, Senator Ebenezer Mack. Mr. Treman became deeply interested in the work and suggested the writing of a history of Ithaca. Early in 1902, Hon. George E. Priest proposed the writing of the Sketches. The first one was published in October, 1902; the last one in December, 1903.

Although the Sketches were first published in The Journal, they were designed for permanent use in book form. Whatever doubt existed in the minds of the writer and the publishers regarding their merit, as historical literature, it was set at rest by the receipt of an unexpected communication from the American Ambassador to Germany, which read as follows:

"EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

BERLIN, November 4, 1902.

THOMAS W. BURNS, ESQ.,

Ithaca, New York.

My Dear Sir:

I have been reading with especial interest your series of brief biographies of noted citizens of Ithaca, during its early days, as published in the Ithaca Journal, and I cannot forbear expressing to you the pleasure and profit I have derived from them. My earnest hope is that you will bring them together in some more permanent form.

I remain,

Very respectfully yours,

ANDREW D. WHITE."

Such an approval from so distinguished a historian, scholar, statesman and Ithacan was most welcome; and, as this is the first formal answer the writer has made to it, he now emphasizes the expression of his gratitude and pleasure, neither of which is easy to measure. But President White (Ithacans will always call, and refer to him by that title) as an author of the foremost rank and world-wide fame will perhaps recall the receipt of many a similar note in his own literary experience and realize the sentiment inspired in the mind of the writer of the Sketches by his note from Berlin.

Communications of like import were received from DeWitt J. Apgar, of Washington, D. C., George S. Humphrey, of West New Brighton, N. Y., Mrs. L. C. Speed Brackett and Miss Minerva McChain, of New York city, and from many others who had been residents and natives of Ithaca. Their kindly words are remembered with pride and pleasure.

The friendly and intelligent interest manifested by the Rev. Wm. Elliot Griffis, D.D., the earnest and effective president of the DeWitt Historical Society of Ithaca, also acted as an encouragement during the collection of the portraits and writing of the Sketches.

To Judge Francis M. Finch, whose place in history as poet, jurist and citizen is secure in its eminence, the writer is indebted for the strong encouragement and approval he gave the work in its beginning; and for the sidelights he turned upon the personalities of Judge Walbridge and Judge Dana; lights that changed in important essentials impressions which the writer had formed of them, for their earthly careers were ended when the writer was a youth and before he had felt any interest in public affairs or in local public men.

Special obligations are also due to James B. Taylor, Sr., Jacob R. Wortman, Horace Mack and Horatio N. Hodson, old and respected citizens of Ithaca, for material information relating to the earlier presidents. Mr. Mack furnished three portraits for the presidential group: his father, Horace Mack, his uncle, Benjamin G. Ferris and David Woodcock.

The Sketches will, it is hoped, serve as biographies of many of the foremost and some of the greatest of our citizens and fall within the spirit, if not the letter, of the following sentiment:

"The history of the world is the history of its great men."—*Thomas Carlyle.*

"There is no history; only biography."—*Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

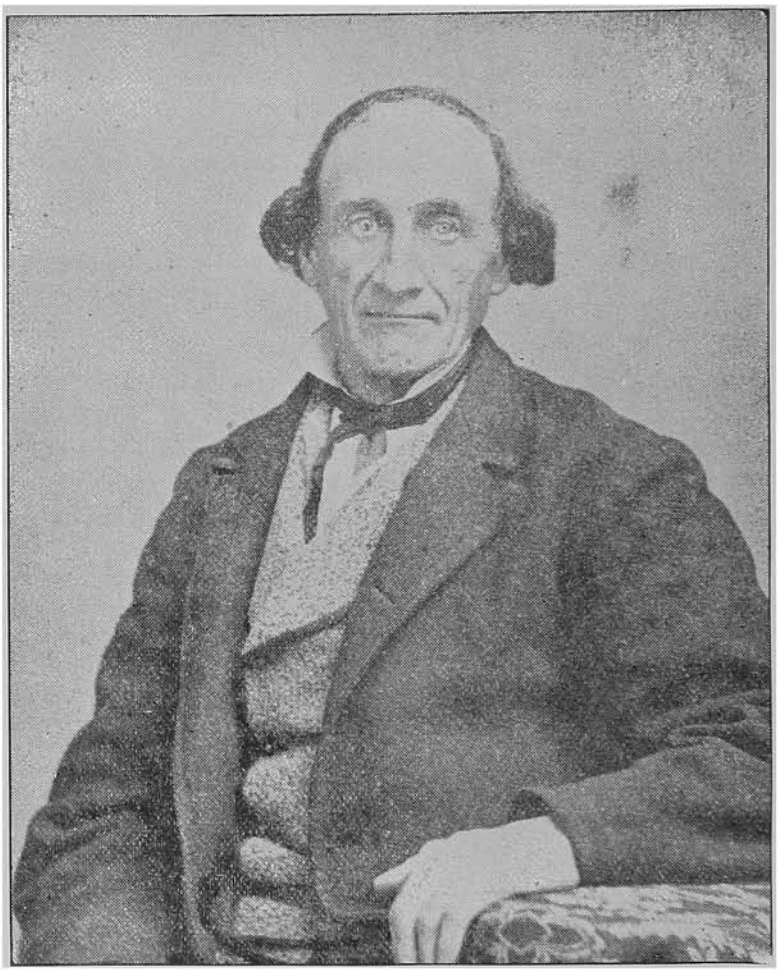
How can we take issue with Carlyle, or with Emerson, after reading of the marvelous industrial and commercial instinct of Daniel Bates, the first president of Ithaca (1821), and of the galaxy of famous jurists who succeeded him as presidents and whose careers prove a revelation to the Ithacan of 1903? or after reading of the business men whom the electors chose to rule them for many years afterward, representatives of the soundest, safest standard of American manhood and American life?

Upon their private and public careers Ithaca rose to high place among the municipalities of the Empire State. Their successors have maintained that high place.

The Ithacan of today may with confidence challenge the world to produce a nobler list of municipal rulers, or one so noble, when integrity and patriotism are the elementaries of standard. The history of this municipality is the history of its rulers, its presidents and mayors; they reflect the merits each of the other. The histories of those rulers are worthy of preservation for Ithaca has become, under their leadership, an important integral part of and entitled to its share in the glory and the grandeur of the United States. And thus will the historian and biographer and genealogist of the future understand and regard the subjects of these Sketches—if the writer has accomplished his purpose.

THOS. W. BURNS.

Initial Ithacans.



DANIEL BATES—First President.

DANIEL BATES—FIRST PRESIDENT.

The first charter election in Ithaca was held in Jesse Grant's "Coffee House," a tavern that stood on the spot now occupied by A. H. Platts & Co's (Platts, Crise & Niver's) cigar store and factory, numbers 8, 10, 12 and 14, East State street, on the eighth day of May, 1821, pursuant to the act of the legislature of April 2, 1821. Daniel Bates, Andrew DeWitt Bruyn, Julius Ackley, William R. Collins and George Blythe were chosen as trustees. The official records do not say how they were chosen and nobody now living knows. By the system then existing under the village charter, and which continued until 1854, the trustees elected Daniel Bates president of the Board, and of the village, for one year.

DANIEL BATES

had come from Connecticut in 1812 and established a tannery on the land now occupied by the residences of Mrs. Calvin D. Stowell and Arthur B. Brooks, on the east side of Aurora street. He resided on the opposite side of the street, where the Unitarian Church now stands. A large flume or ditch conveyed water for the tannery from Six Mile Creek, which caused bitter contention and litigation between Mr. Bates and others who erected dams in Six Mile Creek for milling purposes. His flume at times interfered with the flow of the creek to the dams. Archer Green, one of the mill-owners, was thrown bodily into the flume by Mr. Bates during a spirited controversy. The episode ended the use of the flume by Mr. Bates. He abandoned it and procured water for the tannery from Cascadilla Creek.

EARLY BUILDINGS.

Daniel Bates was appointed, in 1817, upon a commission to build the first court house in the new county. In 1818 he was appointed upon a committee to select a site for a new school house. In 1820 he was one of the fifteen signers of a public notice that application for a village charter would be made to the next legislature. During 1820 he was chosen a director of the Ithaca branch of the Bank of Newburg. In the same year he was one of a company, with $6,000 capital, to construct a canal, half a mile long, from the steamboat landing up to the center of the village, using the water of the Cascadilla Creek as a feeder to the canal. The canal was never constructed. In 1827 he was appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of assessor.

In 1829 Mr. Bates was chosen a director of the newly chartered Bank of Ithaca. Manuscript records show that his rigid manner of doing business as an officer of the bank resulted in contentions with its customers and with other officials, in which he was seldom sustained. He had a habit of jingling coin money from one hand to the other, in private and public places, because he enjoyed the music that it made.

The assessment of his personal property at $36,000, in 1845, received his emphatic protest at a meeting of the Board of Trustees. The Board sustained the assessors and did not reduce the assessment.

In 1842 Mr. Bates was nominated for trustee and was defeated. His administration in 1821 had been more than economical. The village had about 1,000 inhabitants who, by volunteer service, furnished fire and police protection to the village. While president, he called a public meeting of freeholders and [illegible] $200 (the charter limit was $500 for the first year and $400 thereafter)

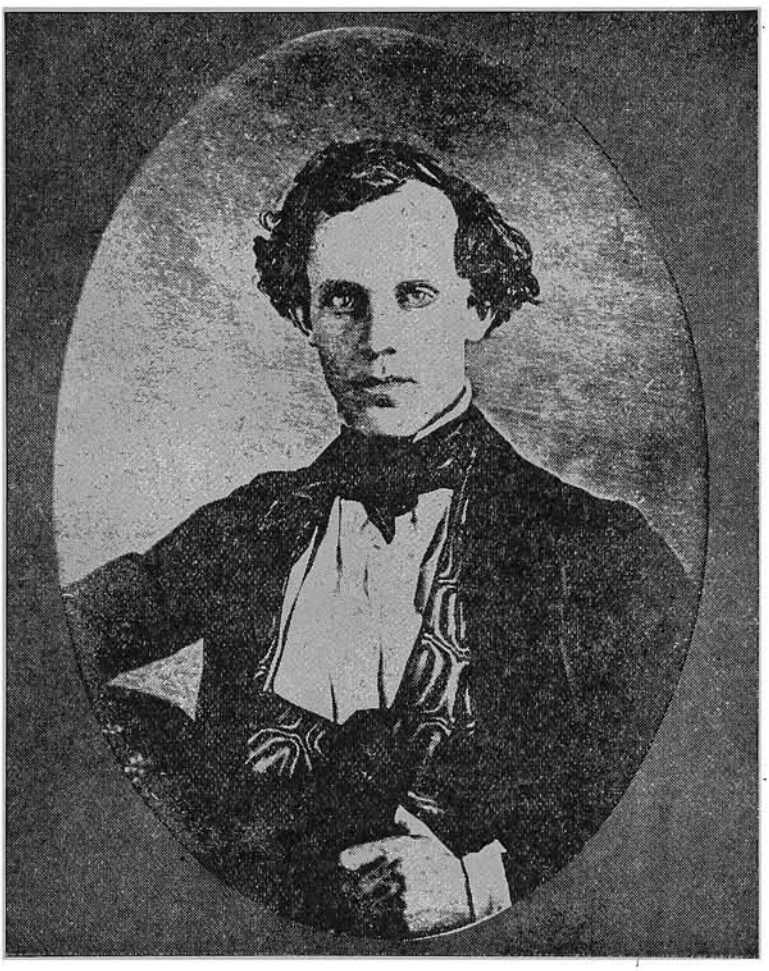
for conducting the affairs of the Board during the year. His request was granted. At the end of his term Charles W. Connor, the village treasurer, reported a surplus in his possession of $87, and all debts and all obligations of the Board paid in full. In 1822 Mr. Bates was appointed by his successor upon a committee with Ben Johnson to recommend changes in the village charter.

THE RUSSELL SAGE OF ITHACA.

This story was told by Daniel Bates: His pew was the one in the Presbyterian church directly in front of Ben Johnson's. He often turned around, rested his head on his hand with his elbow on the back of his pew rail, and gazed intently at Mr. Johnson's large family of children. They always attended divine service with their parents, and filled two entire pews. One day the famous lawyer met Mr. Bates and said: "Daniel, there appears to be more attraction for you in my pews at times than there is in the pulpit. What is it?" "Well, Ben, I will be glad to tell you," answered Mr. Bates. "I am as proud of your noble family as I am of you, and the way you are bringing your boys and girls up." "But, Daniel," replied Mr. Johnson, "people notice it and talk about it!" "Oh, don't mind them, Ben," replied Mr. Bates, "for they do the same as I do only I am more open and more honest about it." The compliment was evidently too well meant to incur Mr. Johnson's displeasure. He smiled and passed on to his law office with a friend who was with him.

Daniel Bates died in 1853, aged 75 years, survived by his son, Samuel, who died in 1858, aged 43, and by his wife Sally. He had accumulated upward of $300,000, a great sum for a resident of any village at that period. Two thirds of his wealth he bequeathed to his son and one third to his widow, Sally Bates. She was an aunt of the late counselor and senator, George D. Beers. She was so earnest in aiding the church in its missionary and charitable work that she often toiled for tailors and others in making and sewing garments and clothing, during her married life with her wealthy husband, and gave all of her own private earnings to the poor and to missionaries.

Daniel Bates was a genius in finance, distinguished for his knowledge of the value of money. His success furnished encouragement to ambitious but less able financiers. His genius for thrift was upon the public tongue. We cannot doubt that he aided in developing the crude and uncultivated hamlet into a village, the surrounding country into farm lands, hamlets and villages. Farmers and village borrowers found his bank checks convenient; his counsel sound and his methods safe. He was part and parcel of the wealth and strength of the village of his day and generation. Daniel Bates was the Russell Sage of Ithaca.



ANDREW DE WITT BRUYN—Second President.

ANDREW DE WITT BRUYN—SECOND PRESIDENT.

Andrew DeWitt Bruyn, one of the first trustees, and the second president of the village of Ithaca, was an example of the strength of inherited tendencies. His ancestors, Norwegians and Hollanders, settled in Kingston-on-Hudson in the seventeenth century. The oldest sons for five generations were lawyers, and named Jacobus. The stone house of the first Jacobus Bruyn is now standing with his name carved over the door, and this inscription:

"Virtue is the driver away of all vices."

He is attired, in his portraits, in the lawyer's gown and wig. His firm, fine features are reproduced in our portrait of Andrew. His grandfather was also his mental prototype, and a lawyer of distinction, trained for the bar by Cadwallader Colden, colonial governor of New York.

During Andrew's school days he found a second home with his uncle, Colonel Bruyn, of Kingston, whose defence of Fort Montgomery won him prominence. The colonel's wife, Blandina Elmendorf, was one of the most learned and cultured women of the Revolutionary period. Mrs. Ellett, in "Heroic Women of the Revolution," says that her home was always distinguisbed far and near as the seat of liberal hospitality. Andrew's character was doubtless strongly influenced by this aunt and uncle.

He was graduated from Princeton in 1810. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa; a student of the Bible and of Shakespeare. Among his life-long friends were his classmates, the famous Philadelphian George M. Dallas; the Kentuckian Joseph C. Breckenridge and the prominent editor John I. Mumford, of New York. Andrew's oldest sister often told with pride of the elegance of his room in college, the furnishings of which, with all of his books, he gave to a poor student in whom he was deeply interested. Generosity was inherent in him through life.

In 1812 he was attracted to Ithaca by his cousin, General Simeon DeWitt. He was charmed by the picturesque scenery, and here he located. In 1817 he erected a residence on the northwest corner of Cayuga and Buffalo streets, which he turned into a place of artistic beauty, with its flower-beds and bowers and large spring of water bordered by aquatic plants. He brought to his gardens flowering plants from places associated with his early days on the Hudson. He returned from morning horseback rides with his saddle-bag filled with rooted plants, botany being his chief recreation. His son-in-law, Dr. E. J. Morgan, sr., thirty years after his death, replaced the old residence with one more modern. A familiar acquaintance of the family wrote of Judge Bruyn's home: "The Bruyns have a delightful style of entertaining; people of social and professional prominence are often met there. Hospitality is a penchant with the Judge and his beautiful and lovely wife."

Andrew Bruyn was not long in winning high standing and public confidence in Ithaca. He was studious, laborious, and his legal acquirements and integrity were appreciated until people instinctively honored him. At the age of 24 he was elected one of the directors of the Ithaca branch of the Bank of Newburg when it was established in 1815. The directors erected the first bank building in Ithaca. It is the wooden dwelling house adjoining the stores of Quick & Wool on West State street. In 1817 he was appointed, when only 26, the first surrogate of the new county. In 1818 he was elected to the assembly. In 1820 he signed the village charter notice. In 1821 he was chosen secretary of the first village school meeting; elected a commissioner of schools for the township of Ithaca and a trus-

tee of the village. In 1822 he was elected trustee, and president of the village. In 1825 he was elected supervisor of the village and town; appointed on a committee to prepare amendments to the charter of the village; nominated for State Senator, but was defeated with his ticket.

In 1826 he was chosen Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. In 1828 he was elected a presidential elector on the Jackson ticket by a majority of 1,678 in his district, when the electors ran independently of each other. In the same year he was made, by a legislative act, one of the first directors of the Ithaca and Owego railroad company, one of the first railways chartered and constructed in America. In March of the same year the name A. D. W. Bruyn was at the head of a long list of names of prominent citizens of the county and published in THE ITHACA JOURNAL, calling a mass meeting in the court house to indorse a bill then before Congress creating a tariff for the protection of American industries, including the products of the shop and the farm; and to denounce the slanders of President Jackson. He acted as secretary of the meeting. In December, 1827, he was a promoter of an elaborate midday banquet on the 8th of January, 1828, in honor of "Jackson Day." In THE JOURNAL containing a report of the dinner and speeches, Judge Bruyn advertises six pews in the Episcopal Church for sale to the highest bidders.

In 1826-7-8 and 1830 he was elected treasurer of the village, but refused to serve in 1830. He was made a trustee, in 1829, of the new Bank of Ithaca which erected a building, now used for a post office, on East State street. In 1836 he was elected to Congress, for which he resigned his office as Judge of Common Pleas. His letters of acceptance of the nominations of presidential elector and congressman were simple, modest and direct in a promise to cordially support his party in its aims to sustain General Jackson.

During all of his residence in Ithaca Judge Bruyn was an extensive dealer in real estate, manufacturing properties, and prominent in commercial affairs. His ten months of service in Washington was a pathetic close to his noble and beautiful career. He was scarcely 47; just entering upon full manhood; respected and trusted in his own district; honored in Washington; relative and confidential friend of the President and with a greater public prominence and wider public achievement seeming to await him, he was striken down with illness. Judge Bruyn was never strong in body, but he permitted his personal friends to bear him on a stretcher from his sick bed to the House of Representatives, where he answered his name on a roll-call and broke a tie vote upon a question of great moment. The effort proved too great for him. He was immediately brought home to Ithaca by the slow and severe traveling system of that period, and died soon after. in July, 1838. His devoted wife and their son William attended him in Washington and during the homeward journey by the way of New York, the Hudson river and the Erie canal.

Judge Bruyn's obsequies were attended by people from far away towns. Numerous letters from eminent men, obituaries in the press, resolutions of the bar, and testimonials from various public bodies and organizations, proved the commanding respect, the deep sympathy that his character and life had inspired.

Speaker, afterward President, James K. Polk, wrote to Judge Bruyn's widow:—"Joining as I do with much feeling and regard in the testimonials of regret and respect for the memory of your lamented husband and inclosing the resolutions adopted by the House of Representatives." The resolutions contain the following appreciations, and also express the local sentiments at that time.

"The death of Judge Bruyn is regarded as no ordinary calamity to the community to whom he was intimately known, and by whom his salutary influence, both in public and private life, was felt and appreciated. In all situations in life, he was amiable and unpretending; deliberate in forming his opinions and inflexible in maintaining them. He was, in all respects, an honorable man; justly and in a very high degree, enjoying the esteem of all who knew him; and those who knew him best respected him most. He was a lawyer of eminence, distinguished for the clear and comprehensive view he took of all subjects presented for his consideration, possessing talent peculiarly fitting

for a judicial station; and after a successful practice of his profession he received the appointment of First Jndge of the county, in the county where he resided, the duties of which he discharged for eleven years, and until he was elected to a seat in this body, with distinguished ability; and when he resigued to enter upon his duties here, he received the nnanimons and cordial approbation of the bar of his county, and those whose peculiar province it was to join in an expression of his valuable services in that capacity. Of his course here it is only necessary to remark that he acquired a repntation which he maintained elsewhere of a pnre, npright, honest man."

The great lawyer, Charles O'Conor, said to a member of Andrew Bruyn's family, years after his death: "Judge Bruyn was the most conscientious lawyer I ever met." His early biographers assert that he was powerful in argument, his decisions were clear, dignified and wholly unbiased. He refused to aid a client whose case was not founded upon justice. He was a gentleman of the old school; in bearing, courtly and dignified; in temperament, retiring and even reserved; but possessed of a childlike and lovable nature. His legal and private libraries were large. The books he loved and studied revealed the purity of his taste, the breadth of his scholarship.

Judge Bruyn's intimate associations with Francis Granger, Judge Van Ness, grandfather of Major Van Ness, of Cornell, President Van Buren, with whom he corresponded for twenty years, and from whom he received two visits in Ithaca, in the thirties; and with many other prominent leaders of men, indicate his character and influence. He contributed much to the founding of Ithaca upon a solid plane, along moral, mental and material lines. Had his life been marked by physical health his fame would have passed beyond state boundaries. His lifework should be cherished, and his memory fondly preserved.

DAVID WOODCOCK—Third President.

DAVID WOODCOCK—THIRD PRESIDENT.

David Woodcock, third president of the village of Ithaca, was born in 1785 in Williamstown, Massachusetts, and the son of Nehemiah and Hannah Woodcock. He was a type of gentleman that made his profession chivalrous in his day. He was induced to make Ithaca his home by Judge Buel. He came to the hamlet prior to 1808; his commission as postmaster of Ithaca, now in the possession of Horace Mack, is dated November 19, in that year. He was married to Mary Baker, of his native village.

Mr. Woodcock was 23 years of age when appointed postmaster and Master in Chancery. In 1809 he purchased the entire east end of the block bounded by State, Tioga and Seneca streets and erected offices upon the southeast corner. He afterward erected office buildings on Tioga street, and a striking brick residence on the corner now occupied by the Savings Bank building, in which he died in September, 1835, and Ezra Cornell in December, 1874.

In 1814-15 he represented Seneca County in the State Assembly, Ithaca being then in the town of Ulysses in that county. In 1817 he was surrogate, and an assistant attorney-general of the State. In 1818 he was district attorney of Tompkins County which had been organized one year. In 1819 he was president of the first steamboat company that placed steamers on Cayuga Lake. In 1820 he signed the notice of the application for a village charter.

Mr. Woodcock was elected a member of Congress in 1821. In 1823-4-6 he was elected trustee and president of the village. In 1826 he was elected member of Assembly for Tompkins County. In 1832 he was appointed chairman of the Board of Health under an act of the Legislature passed in June of 1832 after an epidemic of small pox had visited the village.

His character, activity and talents had given him wide distinction as jurist and politician in the higher sense, and made him a leader in the political conventions of his time. In 1827 he took a prominent part in the anti-Masonic crusade and in the anti-Masonic State convention held at Utica in that year. In 1828 he was nominated by the Whigs for a seat in Congress but was defeated by Maxwell, of Owego, the Jeffersonian nominee. Party feelings ran to bitter extremes. Editorials in THE ITHACA JOURNAL, then owned and edited by Senator Ebenezer Mack, and in other Jacksonian papers that opposed his election, show that David Woodcock was a powerful and popular man.

In addition to his professional and political distinction he was prominent in local business circles and constantly attended the courts in neighboring counties as counsel in important cases against famous lawyers He was an accomplished debater. He presided and delivered the principal speech at a mass-meeting at the court house in Ithaca, in 1824, that was called to discuss and attack the then existing system by which the State Legislature chose the presidential electors. He eloquently protested against the Legislature assuming such a right as the election of president of the United States and denounced it as a usurpation of the private rights of the citizen. The law was soon changed and, in 1828, the congressional districts chose and elected their own presidential electors. In 1829 the present system was adopted.

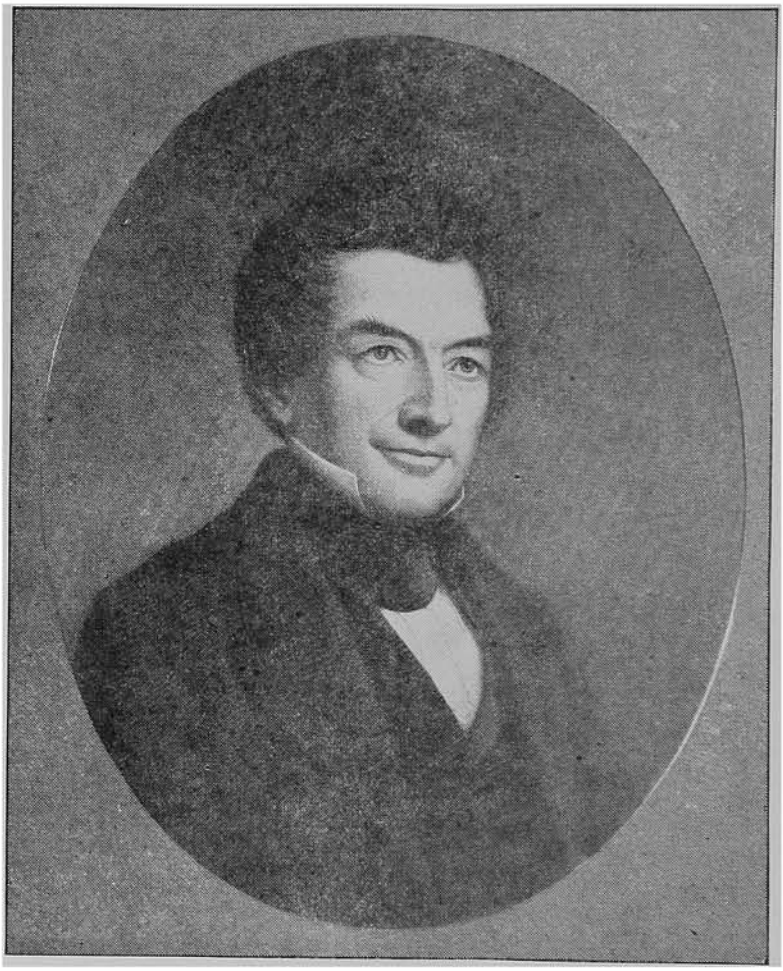
Mr. Woodcock was an advocate of common and higher education. In that direction, he followed his New England instincts. He was elected school trustee

in 1816, and served on the committee that builded the new school in 1818. He was one of the committee that selected the site for the Lancasterian School in 1825, at the northwest corner of Geneva and Mill streets. He was credited with successfully carrying on the correspondence with General Simeon DeWitt for the present High School site. It was used formerly as an academy and public school lot, one building serving for both school and academy. In 1827 he advertised over his own name, as trustee, in the village papers that the "Ithaca Monitorial and Lancasterian School was open and its rates fixed at 75 cents a quarter." In 1820 he was appointed by the Genesee Conference, with Charles Humphrey, on a committee to establish an educational institution for both sexes along the lines now followed, and on the land now occupied by Cornell University. Sufficient funds were not subscribed for the purpose named, and the project slept until Ezra Cornell founded his "institution where any person can find instruction in any study;" and Henry W. Sage forced its doors to swing open to women.

No indication of opposition to his election as village trustee or president appears in the records of the village or in the village press of that period. His readiness to improve and elevate the condition of his fellow citizens is demonstrated, by carrying out the request of one of his Boards of Trustees (1824) to act as watcher and learn if any grocers were violating the village ordinance by selling liquor without license, and to prosecute them. He called a mass-meeting of tax payers in that year, at the court house, to submit to them the necessity of adding three acres to the "village burying ground." The three acres were ordered purchased, and he was directed to "clear and fence them." During the same year, under his advice, the Board of Trustees ordered the owners of the several dams in Six Mile Creek to remove them and threatened to declare the dams nuisances and remove them, and punish the owners. He served once with Daniel Bates, and once with Ben Johnson and Judge Bruyn, on committees to amend the village charter.

As further evidence of David Woodcock's interest and usefulness in local affairs, and his popularity among his fellow citizens, it may be said that he was at the head of the list of men who were allowed by the Board of Trustees to organize Tornado Hook and Ladder Fire Company in 1831. He was then 46 years old, and became a member; perhaps, at urgent request, to serve as chief orator of that aristocratic company at its social and other public functions, and by his prominence lend luster to the new organization among the firemen of this State, and of other States, upon the company's annual pilgrimages.

In 1834 Mr. Woodcock was president of the Ithaca division of the Tompkins County Temperance Society. He died of an epileptic fit when 50 years of age, in the prime of manhood. He had been on a business trip to Jacksonville, eight miles distant, and arrived at his residence apparently as well as usual and died in a few hours. His burial was held with great public honors. The Ithaca Chronicle (now The Ithaca Democrat) the Ithaca bar, and others, ran the entire rhetorical gamut in attempt to do justice to his life-work, his talents and his character. The members of the bar wore crape on their arms for thirty days as a tribute to his memory.



BEN JOHNSON—Fourth President.

BEN JOHNSON—FOURTH PRESIDENT.

Ben Johnson, the fourth president of the village, was a picturesque character. Whatever may be said of his contemporaries, his greatness was unquestioned. He was original and strong in his personality; his mind was free and independent and a stranger to the influences of a university curriculum. Fashioned, morally and mentally, after the Abraham Lincoln patern he studied Latin roots while plowing during his boyhood on his father's New Hampshire farm.

Ben Johnson was a lawyer by nature. Law was his profession, his pride, his recreation. He was a philanthropist by choice and practice, for which he paid a heavy price until his last hour on earth. Unlike Dr. Samuel Johnson he had no Boswell to record and preserve the glory of his mind, the sweetness of his heart. He was less a New Yorker than he was a type of those New Englanders who are elected to Congress and Senate, term after term, and win international fame.

Stories of the court trials and incidents of his career were common in the offices of his contemporaries for many years; stories that conveyed impression to the lay mind that Ben Johnson could do no wrong nor fail to win a law-suit. His skill in examining a witness was equalled by his eloquence in addressing a jury and by his logic in an argument upon a legal problem before a court. His income was large for his time and for his section of the State.

Mr. Johnson was senior partner in four law firms; David Woodcock, Charles Humphrey, Henry S. Walbridge, Anthony Schuyler and Marcus Riggs were the other partners. His forensic career is too wide, too great a subject for this brief sketch, although it would profit both writer and reader to review it. He was often retained by attorneys to aid them when contending in far away villages and cities against the great jurists of the State; against Governor Seward, Joshua Spencer, Mark D. Sibley and Daniel S. Dickinson, all of whom were his admirers and friends. Judges accorded him distinguished consideration. On the central battlefield of his profession in Albany, where the most eminent lights of the bar met one another, his acquaintance was sought as was that of Seward, Spencer and Dickinson.

It was asserted that Ben Johnson was eccentric. He would sit in his chair at home and lovingly fondle his children and at the same time study his evidence and his law. He would go out from his home into pelting rain and forget to open the umbrella that he held under his arm. The rain could not disturb that genius during its profound study of law and law-suit. But he seldom failed to win a case. If that made Ben Johnson eccentric, and absent-minded, it might be wise for others to practice it. Such a mental system seems to be the reverse of "absent-minded" while its presence is essential to great professional success.

He had no desire for political preferment, and was induced to accept only three political positions; village trustee and village president in 1825 and supervisor for the township in 1826. He was nominated for a seat upon the supreme court bench but was defeated by Judge Shankland, a Democrat. His hostility to politicians defeated his ambition to be elected to the bench, and to become attorney-general of the State. His earnest advocacy of temperance, and of the abolition of slavery, made him unpopular with two powerful elements in all political parties. He would not yield his independance of thought, of speech or of action for any official position in the world.

It was not strange that Ben Johnson and David Woodcock recognized the tendency of the village toward unsavory reputation by reason of the rapid growth of its canal and brewery and liquor business; nor that they volunteered their services and talents to redeem the brutal elements of the community. Their own characters shine out the more brightly with the moral light shed by their efforts to reclaim the fair name of the village. Such professional men are seldom engaged in similiar missionary work. But a great change has come over Ithaca since their day. Would that they could behold and enjoy it.

Ben Johnson was a constant and powerful advocate and friend of the common schools and academy of the village. He served for years as trustee of the academy, and was a close attendant at public school meetings. On Saturdays he entertained the teachers in his own residence, now No. 120 East Seneca street. He brought his namesake, a nephew aged nine years, from New Hampshire and educated and maintained him until he was graduated from Union College then very prominent in the State and Nation as an educational institution.

He advised against the craze that led clients and neighbors into the wild speculation which sank them into financial ruin in the thirties. Three times he was appointed upon committees to revise and amend the village charter. He was elected chairman of public meetings of taxpayers, and in many important public questions was asked by the people to advise and guide them. In 1820 he was one of the signers of the public notice of the proposed application for a village charter, and one of the incorporators of the proposed Cascadilla Canal. He entered into but few speculations except to indorse notes and become surety for friends. He was generous, and not anxious to become wealthy.

Mr. Johnson was so consistent a Christian and citizen, and so equipped mentally, that one of his partners, years after his death, wrote of him: "Ben Johnson was a perfect man." His sense of justice might have been as high, his morals as pure if he had never entered any church. His life was an emphatic refutation of the belief that one cannot be a powerful, a successful lawyer and an honest man. In speech he was frank and deliberate; his diction was simple; his person was attractive, above the average height and strong. His portrait shows a Roman head and face, with an almost Greek nose.

For burning satire upon the Christian church, the political party in power, and the legal profession of his day, the following story of Ben Johnson is a masterpiece and a reflection of his own nature. George A. Johnson, a well-known Ithacan of the present day, relates it: "My father's barber-shop adjoined the building on North Aurora street in which Ben Johnson had his law office, now occupied by P. &. F. Wall. Occasionally I visited Mr. Johnson in his office and informed him that several runaway slaves had arrived during the previous night by the way of the 'underground route,' and that they must have shoes and clothing and money for their passage toward Canada. He answered that he was a Christian, and member of the church, and a lawyer, and a Democrat and therefore a law abiding citizen; that he could not consistently assist in depriving men of their property. No, he could not do such an unlawful act.' But he would hand me a five or a ten dollar note, and tell me to take it and buy tickets, and send the runaway slaves back to their masters. He knew that the terror-stricken runaways would be aided on their way by being secreted during the night in the steamboat 'Simeon DeWitt' and taken to Cayuga Bridge and on toward the North Star."

Ben Johnson died in 1848, aged 63 years. He was survived by many relatives, including a devoted and lovely wife, and by a fame that reflected honor not only upon them, but upon the entire community in which he had passed 40 years of his noble life.

CHARLES HUMPHREY—Fifth President.

CHARLES HUMPHREY—FIFTH PRESIDENT.

The portrait of Charles Humphrey, fifth president of the village of Ithaca, presents a very interesting study. It is a Greek head and face of a captain of the War of 1812. The single epaulet denotes his rank. He was a native of Little Britain, N. Y., and educated in the neighboring schools and academy of Newburg. He enlisted when 20 years of age and served as captain until the close of the war.

While camping and sleeping upon the bare ground Captain Humphrey contracted neuralgia which affected his spine and in later years made it very painful for him to stand or walk unaided by crutches. During his last years he suffered almost constantly from the neuralgia. But Captain Humphrey possessed the heart as well as the face of a Greek hero and was never heard to utter a complaint. His experience in the camp and field and his sufferings were guarded almost as secrets by himself and his family, attributable to their innate modesty. It explains why no flag, no flowers have ever been placed upon his grave in the city cemetery on Memorial Days, although the adjoining grave of his son Charles, a veteran of the Civil War, receives annually the affectionate and patriotic decoration of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Captain Humphrey was a law student in 1812, in Newburg, and resumed his studies after ending his military service. He was admitted to the Bar in 1816 and located in Ithaca in 1817 as attorney and manager of the Ithaca Branch of the Bank of Newburg.

His position as banker and lawyer from the day of his arrival in the village was a passport of supreme importance to him and to the people of Ithaca. He was only 24 years of age. He was a Deputy United States Marshal in 1820, and signed the public notice of application for a village charter. In 1821 he presided at the public meeting of freeholders that elected David Woodcock school trustee and himself trustee of the "Gospel and School Lot." In 1823 he was one of the organizers of Rescue Fire Company, No. 1, the first fire company organized in the village, and was appointed Fire Captain by the board of trustees.

In 1825, when 32 years of age, Captain Humphrey was elected member of Congress. In 1827 he was Master in Chancery, and the same year he was elected village trustee and president, and re-elected to both offices in 1828. In 1831-2-3-4 he was surrogate of Tompkins County, and in 1834-5-6 and 1842 he was elected a member of Assembly.

In an address delivered at the dedication of the Cornell village library in 1866 that brilliant writer William H. Bogart said: "Charles Humphrey was a man of commanding intellect whose life of suffering could not quench the mastery of his mind, whose broad comprehension and noble thought gave him such power in his time. Judge Humphrey would have known the more than golden worth of this library and strengthened in its strength." His character as lawyer and jurist won him a large practice. His editorial work known as Humphrey's Precedents Reports received extensive praise from judges and lawyers in all the States.

Judge Humphrey was an able debater, upright, fearless, industrious, modest, learned in and an ornament to his own profession. His domestic and social life were admirable. He was an earnest and faithful member of the Presbyterian Church. He was devoted to the education of the common people. He was succeeded in his educational activities by his son, the late William R. and his grand-

daughter, Katherine Humphrey. The Humphreys were prominently identified in the school affairs of the village for 67 years.

Judge Humphrey ranked among the ablest and most accomplished politicians in southern New York and in legislation he was reputed a statesman. His training and experience in Congress equipped him as a parliamentarian. During his first year in the Assembly in Albany his talents were recognized and so greatly admired that during the second and third years he was elected Speaker. His debate with Chairman Youngs of the Committee on Banks, upon a bill to charter the Bank of Ithaca, involved the fundamental purpose, power and prerogatives of a legislative committee and occupied several entire sessions. The banking question was then a live one. The debate held the close attention of the whole State, and won for both men wide distinction.

During the long legislative battle between Ebenezer Mack, of Ithaca, Chairman of the Committee on Railroads in the Senate, in 1836, and the opponents of the bill proposing to loan the credit of the State for $3,000,000 to aid in the construction of the Erie Railroad, Governor William L. Marcy asserted that, in the persons of Senator Mack and Speaker Humphrey, Tompkins County was the most ably represented county in the State legislature; a pronouncement that meant much when it is recalled that Mark Sibley, of Canandaigua, and John McKeon, of New York, were assemblymen, and William H. Seward, Daniel S. Dickinson and Robert Lansing were senators.

Judge Humphrey carried through the Assembly, against powerful opposition, in 1834, a resolution for the appointment of a committee to investigate and report upon the system in force in this State, by which convicts in prisons were compelled to manufacture goods and wares for public markets that made the State a competitor with the mechanics and laborers of the State. He was appointed chairman of the committee and wrote and filed an elaborate report that was influential in abolishing that system. He proposed and successfully championed a bill that gave to Ithaca a canal collector's office. It raised Ithaca to an importance and recognition commensurate with its then extensive canal traffic.

He found congressional life and duties aggravating his bodily infirmities, and took warning from Judge Bruyn's experience. He guarded his health by declining to serve more than one term in Congress. His three years of service in the Assembly were highly honorable, but equally arduous, and he declined further service in that body until 1842. But he was not so active during that year and refused to accept another election.

The resolutions adopted by his colleagues of all parties at the close of the two annual sessions when he was Speaker were of unusual force. They were extraordinary tributes to his broad and logical and affable poise, as well as to his talents as legislator and parliamentarian. His responses to these were modest and eloquent. Not an adverse criticism can be found against him in the press published in New York, Albany or Ithaca during the years that he presided over the Assembly.

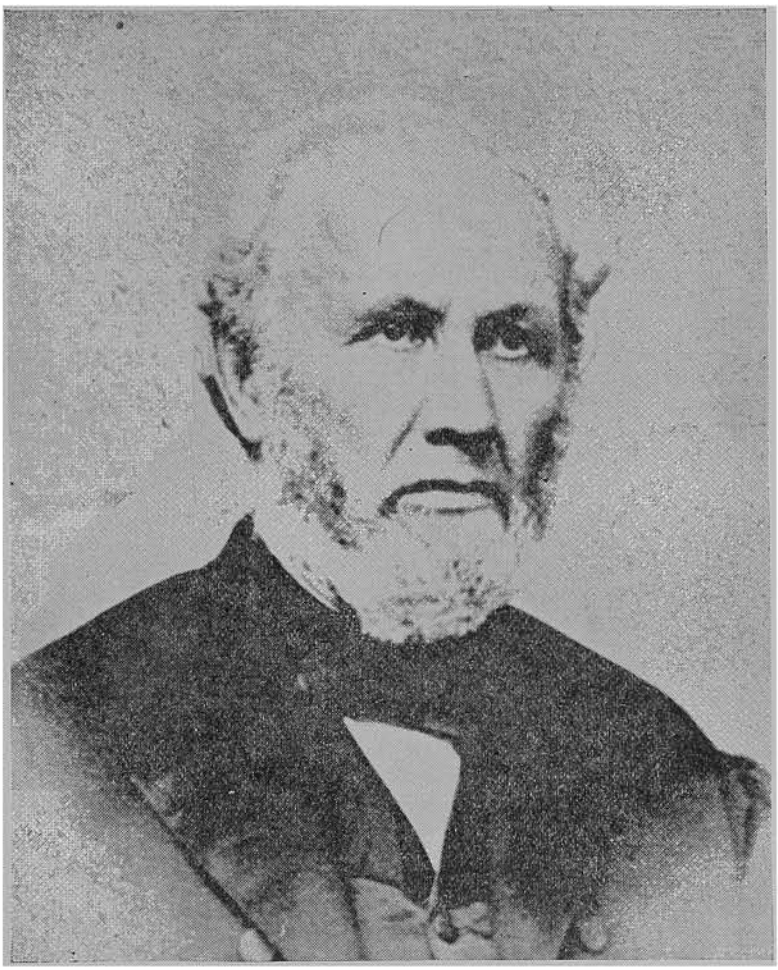
In politics Judge Humphrey was a Jacksonian. He was active in local and State and National campaigns. Ithaca village and Tompkins County swung to and fro—Democratic and Whig—with almost the regularity of a pendulum until it became an adage through the State that "as Tompkins County goes, so goes the State." An observer of the political history of New York will discover its truth when he refers to the history of the parties in the thirties and forties, and later. He will also learn that the issues and campaigns of recent times are mild indeed compared to those of bygone years.

Judge Humphrey was elected president of the village before his term as congressman expired. His local standing was very high and his influence great among his contemporaries. While president of the village in 1827 he obeyed the request of the Board of Trustees to superintend the laying out and building of new roadways on West Hill which resulted in his appointing the first street

committee in the Board. He advanced $512 to pay for a new fire engine and was reimbursed for it a year later. In 1828 he selected the site for an engine house and contracted for 25,000 bricks and water lime to use in the construction of street cisterns for fire purposes. In the same year he purchased a site for a village market on the northeast corner of Mill and Tioga streets from General Simeon DeWitt and removed the old one from the southwest corner of Tioga and Green streets. His Board of 1828 ordered flagstone sidewalks 11½ feet wide, and stone curbing, on State street from Cayuga to Aurora streets; the cross-walks, hitching-posts and all other expenses to be paid by the owners of adjoining property; and that Aurora street sidewalks be laid with stone flagging from State street to Mill street; and that Cayuga street be graded and graveled from State street to Clinton street.

In 1843 Judge Humphrey was appointed to what was believed to be a life office, clerk of the Supreme Court in Albany. His neuralgic infirmity having increased upon him, and the duties of his profession become more arduous, the people of the village and county were elated over the honor, the generous salary and the long term of the office. The members of his profession tendered him a farewell banquet in the Clinton House, which he reluctantly accepted, for he loved the people and reluctantly parted from them. He removed from the village with his family to Albany and performed his new duties with the distinguished success that his contemporaries predicted. But the Constitutional Convention of 1846 abolished the Supreme Court as it then existed. Judge Humphrey finished his official duties in 1848 and returned to Ithaca to resume his practice as a lawyer. He was welcomed back again in a very cordial manner. He erected and resided in the house now occupied by Charles C. Garrett on the northeast corner of Cayuga and Mill streets.

His last work was to argue a case for the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad Co., in Albany, in July, 1850. He succeeded, but was immediately stricken down with illness and died in one week, aged 58. His remains were brought for burial to Ithaca, the village he had served with such loyalty and honor in many positions of trust and power.



HENRY S. WALBRIDGE—Sixth President.

HENRY S. WALBRIDGE—SIXTH PRESIDENT.

Henry Sanford Walbridge, the youngest of the trustees and presidents of the village of Ithaca, was 28 years old when first elected in 1829; and 41 when elected the second time, in 1842. He had served as clerk of the Board of Supervisors in 1824, and joined the first fire company when it was organized in 1823. The company received a new machine in 1828. Its old one was passed to a company then organizing and with it passed the number of the older company. The first company became Rescue No. 2; the second company Red Rover (now Cayuga) No. 1. This confusing historical paradox has existed 74 years.

In 1846 Mr. Walbridge served as a member of Assembly. One of his colleagues and intimate associates during the session was Samuel J. Tilden. In 1852-3 he served as a member of Congress. From 1859 to 1867 he was county judge and surrogate.

Judge Walbridge was possessed of those attributes which attract and win and retain the admiration of individuals and the confidence of a community. Honesty and frankness were his chief characteristics. He was popular with all classes throughout the county. One of his partners, a jurist whose character and fame have shed lustre upon Ithaca and his profession wherever the judgments of the highest court of the State of New York are read, has said: "Judge Walbridge held a unique place in Ithaca as judge and jurist. He was more powerful before juries by his honesty and fearless devotion to truth and justice than were lawyers with more brilliant intellects and more eloquent tongues. People knew him and accepted his statements of disputed facts as if he were a disinterested witness rather than a lawyer pleading the case of a client. He would not depart from truth to favor any client."

Judge Walbridge was a practical and industrious man of affairs and mingled daily with the people. His personal, commercial and political life was open to the public. He was a native of Norwich, Connecticut, and was educated in Bennington, Vermont, coming to Ithaca during his minority. He prepared for the Bar in the offices of Ben Johnson and Charles Humphrey when those lawyers were partners, and was afterwards a partner in the firm composed of Johnson, Walbridge & Riggs. Francis Miles Finch studied law with Walbridge & Riggs, after Ben Johnson's death, and became a partner with Mr. Walbridge, after Marcus Riggs removed to Buffalo.

Ben Johnson urged upon young Walbridge that a young lawyer should not permit the duties and distractions and animosities of politics to divide the time and divert the thought that were essential to success in his chosen profession. Mr. Johnson practiced his own teaching in that regard as in all others. Judge Walbridge followed it and refused political preferment for thirteen years after his first term as village president. Six years elapsed between his terms in the Assembly and in Congress. He declined a second term in the Assembly and in Congress. Henry W. Sage succeeded him in the Assembly.

Such a fair-minded jurist upon the bench and as surrogate was desired by the village and county. Henry S. Walbridge yielded to the popular demand and for eight years made an ideal magistrate. Lawyers and litigants submitted to his decisions with respect. He was endowed with the very rare gift of complete self-control under all conditions and against all provocations. He was a model of dignity, gentleness and courtesy to his juniors and to the common peo-

ple who sought his counsel. He was also beyond the reach and influence of cunning politicians.

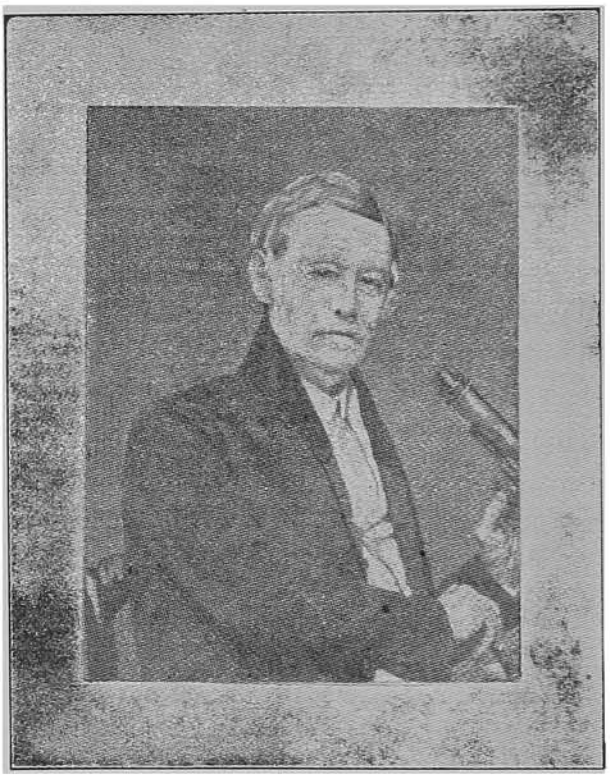
Judge Walbridge found and enjoyed recreation upon his farm, one mile south from the village, at the base of West Hill. So enthusiastic did he become in his agricultural pursuit that he nearly abandoned his law practice. But he could not escape further public honors and public service and he was drawn again from the farm to the village and his professional duties. His Congressional experience soon followed. His young partner, Francis M. Finch, conducted the business of the firm during his absence in Washington, the larger part of two years.

Judge Walbridge owned the site and erected the flouring mill now conducted by Albert M. Hull. He erected and occupied the gothic residence on the southwest corner of Buffalo and Parker streets. He was from 1858 to 1868 president of the Board of Trustees of the Ithaca Academy and for many years was an active elder in the Presbyterian Church. The logic of his nature and of his life led him to those high places. He was a champion of public education and of practical Christianity. During his 50 years of residence in Ithaca he aided and welcomed every advance in its moral, mental and physical development. His name is uttered at the present time with reverence by his old acquaintances and contemporaries.

One of the admirable chapters in the history of Judge Walbridge was the aptness of his scholarship in learning and maintaining the high standard of his predecessors in village administration, and in the performance of legislative duties. He had been a daily associate of Presidents Bruyn, Woodcock, Johnson and Humphrey. They were his friends and advisors. The Board of Trustees in 1829 held its sessions at Grant's Coffee House; the Board of 1842 at the Clinton House. He was active in correcting the excesses in drinking liquors, metheglin and hard cider sold in the village groceries in 1829, and created a tumult among the grocers and their tippling customers. He, with Trustee Julius Ackley, framed a code that "regulated the grocery traffic" in intoxicants.

The Board of 1842 was progressive. Its records show that the village had developed largely during the thirteen years intervening since President Walbridge had served before. The condition of the village sidewalks was ordered examined officially for the first time. Joseph Esty was "granted permission to build the first family vault in the village burying ground." A new bucket company, "of not less than 40 members," was authorized. The sums of $600 for lighting streets; $1,000, for building and repairing bridges; and $1,600, for contingent expenses were allowed. At a mass-meeting of tax-payers President Walbridge was appointed one of a committee to end the contention between the village and owners of dams and obstructions in the village creeks by bringing actions against them in the courts.

Judge Walbridge removed to Leonia, New Jersey, in 1868, for a home, and opened a law office in New York city. He crossed the Hudson river twice daily. On the 27th of January, 1869, when 68 years of age, at the entrance to the Bergen tunnel, while standing on the ground waiting to take passage on a train, he was killed by a locomotive that came from the tunnel. His burial was in the village of Ithaca. The funeral was attended by a concourse of people who sincerely manifested its respect and affection for him in its church, bar, press and society resolutions and obituaries. He had for half a century typified all that was best in public, private and official life in the village.



JOHN HOLMAN—Seventh President

JOHN HOLMAN—SEVENTH PRESIDENT.

John Holman, the seventh president of Ithaca, was probably a native of Salem, Massachusetts. His earlier years had been passed as sailor, mate and sea-captain. But the garb and jargon of sailors, the sight of ships and oceans, the wiles of sea-coast cities and the witchcraft memories of Salem, became distasteful and monotonous to him. The winds in the tarred rigging of ships in the harbor recalled years of fretting and loneliness upon distant seas.

To escape them all he sold his ship "The Two Brothers," abandoned Salem and the sea and sought peace and livelihood in this faraway inland village. His manner was gentle, his speech chaste, his stories of the sea modest but interesting. His nature was charming and generous, his intellect superior and his character for honesty very high. The poor admired him, the well-to-do respected him, the community trusted him and recognized in him a valuable citizen.

True to his calling Captain Holman was not a partisan in politics, nor a seeker after preferment nor political favors. His election in 1830 as trustee and president of the village was purely a compliment to him.

He established a large variety store, including drygoods and groceries on East State street, opposite the Mack & Andrus book-store. It was well patronized; but his capital and stock declined as the years passed by. His generosity was greater than were his means to maintain it. His residence was on the northwest corner of Buffalo and Geneva streets now occupied by Edwin Gillette.

Captain Holman was born prior to 1772. He died in Ithaca, in 1858, and was probably buried in Salem. The time of his coming to Ithaca is not known. He had two sons who died in early manhood in Ithaca. One was a physician. A discolored marble slab lying on the ground and partly hidden by the grass, in the northwest corner of the old cemetery tells that Olivia, wife of John Holman, died in 1831.

The brief records of the village clerk of 1830 show that President Holman's administration was meritorious and progressive. Important improvements were inaugurated. It proposed to the officers of the Presbyterian Church that they pass over to the Board of Trustees the care, custody and control of the Public Square, now known as DeWitt Park, the title to remain in the church. The name of Aurora street was changed to Pearl street. Hudson street was opened and graded. Eastport, Westport and Fulton streets were surveyed, graveled and graded. Miles of sidewalks on State, Seneca, Albany and Mill streets were ordered graveled and graded. The office of chief of the fire department was created. Uri Y. Hazard was appointed captain of the volunteer night-watch.

The Board heard an appeal argued by Judge Dana and his partner Judge Bruyn in behalf of the new Bank of Ithaca to secure a reduction of the assessment made against the bank by the village assessors Horace Mack and Ira Tillotson. The assessment was sustained by the Board, appealed from to the courts, became famous, and was compromised several years later.

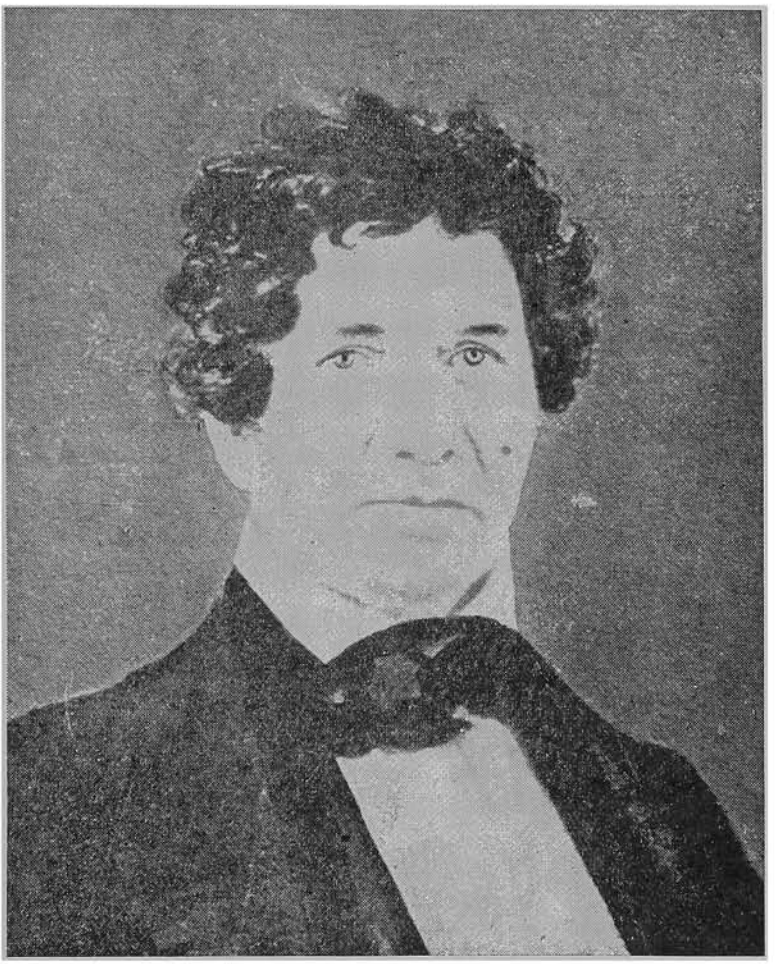
Notwithstanding President Holman's pastoral simplicity, he stamped his personality upon his municipal administration with the characteristic force of the ideal sea-captain. No favors were granted at the expense of taxpayers. The laws were obeyed because they were enforced. He interpreted the village charter with intelligence and without fear. He wisely followed the precepts and manners of his distinguished predecessors who had framed and introduced and construed the charter for six years.

A single term closed his official life. He refused another. His refusal was sincere. His gentle nature was not fitted for judicial or executive contentions. His heart was not tempered with alloy. His abandonment of the sea and of Salem and their unpleasant elements must not be to assume the burden of similar ones in Ithaca. His portrait shows him, with spy-glass in hand, a mild and gentle and modest soul, a winning and conservative mind. And yet, he had an aversion to making his age known. His widow inquired among his male friends, after his death, for his age which he had kept a secret from her.

Jacob R. Wortman, one of Captain Holman's personal friends, purchased from his widow a pair of corsair pistols which he had carried on the seas. Mr. Wortman caused Ezra Cornell to make purchases from Mrs. Holman of various keepsakes and marine trophies of the dead captain. The pistols and keepsakes were presented to the village museum. They included a painting of "The Two Brothers" executed for Captain Holman while the ship rode at anchor in the harbor of Venice.

Mrs. William Halsey bought a small oil painting from Mrs. Holman; took it among the professional and business men; sold it to them for various prices; asked for and received it back again.

When night came she was in Spence Spencer's store, weary but radiant. He paid her a generous price for the painting which she did not ask him to return to her. Mr. Spencer and Mrs. Halsey then made haste to surprise Mrs. Holman with a present of her painting, which Mr. Spencer hung in its accustomed place upon the parlor wall, and with a handsome sum of money which Mrs. Halsey pressed into Mrs. Holman's trembling hand. "A testimonial of the respect which the citizens feel for John Holman's memory," said Spence Spencer. "A tribute of affection for his widow," added Mrs. William Halsey, and then kissed away a tear from the widow's cheek. A side-light cast upon earlier days in Ithaca.



LEVI LEONARD—Eighth President.

LEVI LEONARD—EIGHTH PRESIDENT.

It might be fairly assumed that the portrait of Levi Leonard resembles an actor of the Edwin Forrest school. He was a business man of modesty and refinement of manner and of high mental and moral standards. He gained and held the respect of the entire community. His father, Asa Leonard, was a native of Lynn, Connecticut, and enlisted three times during the Revolution, the first time when he was 16 years old, and served four years in camp and field. Asa was too proud to apply for or accept a pension until in 1832, after the lapse of 50 years, when a pensioner of the Revolution had become a distinguished and honored personage in the public mind.

Levi Leonard inherited his father's pride. From his childhood in his native village of Berkshire, N. Y., until his death it was his guiding star. It was not the "pride that puffeth up," but the pride that makes every thought and act honorable and admirable in the sight of mankind. He was often heard to say: "My father was a battle-scarred patriot of the American Revolution."

Mr. Leonard bore an active part in the development of Ithaca into a busy little port for receiving and shipping grains, lumber and general merchandise, after the village had secured connection with the Erie canal. His place of business was at the Inlet, where a large part of the trade of the county was then transacted. His residence was an attractive house that stood directly west of the confluence of Six Mile Creek with the Inlet. The old storehouse and the grain elevator of William Taber now occupies part of the Levi Leonard property. That section of the village witnessed the beginning of many a fortune that was amassed by the pioneer shippers, warehousemen, lumber-dealers and boat-builders of Ithaca. He was a shipper and forwarder, and a dealer in lumber and builders' merchandise. The village audits in 1828 include a bill for water-lime furnished to village officials by Levi Leonard. Water-lime was an important output from the rocks on the lake-shore for many years, even as Portland cement is now becoming a prominent commercial product from the same source.

Levi Leonard was in Ithaca in its early days for he was elected village assessor in 1823. In 1830-1-2 he was elected a member of the Board of Trustees. His colleagues chose him to preside over them as president of the village during the last two years. In 1837 he was appointed Village Agent under the session laws of that year, section 5, chapter 303, that amended the village charter. It was an important official position. He was the first chairman of the first committee on sidewalks; and was selected by his fellow trustees to speak for them at important public meetings, because of his grace of manner, and generally attractive personality.

While on a visit in New York in the forties Mr. Leonard and the late James Quigg were invited and escorted by a relative of Simeon DeWitt to hear a sermon by a famous preacher. Upon their return to their hotel, the Astor House, the Ithacans were asked what they thought about the preacher. Mr. Quigg did not answer. Mr. Leonard was equally reserved. The question was repeated by their New York friend. Mr. Leonard answered that he would have enjoyed the preacher's sermon more if he had quoted his Bible text correctly. His answer caused the New Yorker to assert that the preacher

was without doubt the most eloquent, the most learned clergyman in that city, and that his quotation must have been correct. A spirited debate followed until someone in another part of the Astor House loaned the contestants a Bible. The text was found, and read, and Levi Leonard was declared by his host to be a "better scholar, a closer student of the scriptures than the greatest clergyman in the city of New York." Mr. Quigg related this incident just before his death, in 1902.

During Levi Leonard's presidency in 1832 the Clinton House was completed and opened to the public, and appeared then nearly as it appears today. It was a great event in Ithaca. The last session held by the Board of Trustees in Jesse Grant's Coffee House was when he was first chosen president in March, 1831. The Boards had met in that tavern for ten years and then "resolved" to hold their sessions at the Ithaca Hotel for one year. The dams owned by Blythe & Bennett, Beebe, The Eagle Factory Company and Henry Ackley; and the McCormick "tail race," constructed along the Six Mile Creek as far down as Clinton street; and the Box Factory dam in the Cascadilla Creek, were declared by the Board to be nuisances. The owners were ordered to remove them upon pain of fine and punishment for refusing or neglecting to obey the "ordinance" of removal. The Board declared them menaces to the village because they were obstructions that caused overflows into the village.

This order resulted in litigation and public meetings of tax-payers and entered as an influence into local politics. The bell in the Old Dutch church was ordered rung daily at 9 A. M; 12 M. and 9 P. M. at village expense. Village physicians were paid $200 by the Board for vaccinating people during the small-pox epidemic in the winter of 1830-1. The citizens had been acting as volunteer night watchmen. President Leonard appointed Village Clerk. George Freer captain of the two watchmen of the night and added $10 a month to his official compensation. The Board of 1831 at its last session appointed Derick B. Stockholm, one of its own members, village attorney, the first one appointed in Ithaca. The same Board by a resolution adopted in June, appointed President Leonard chairman of the first finance committee in Ithaca.

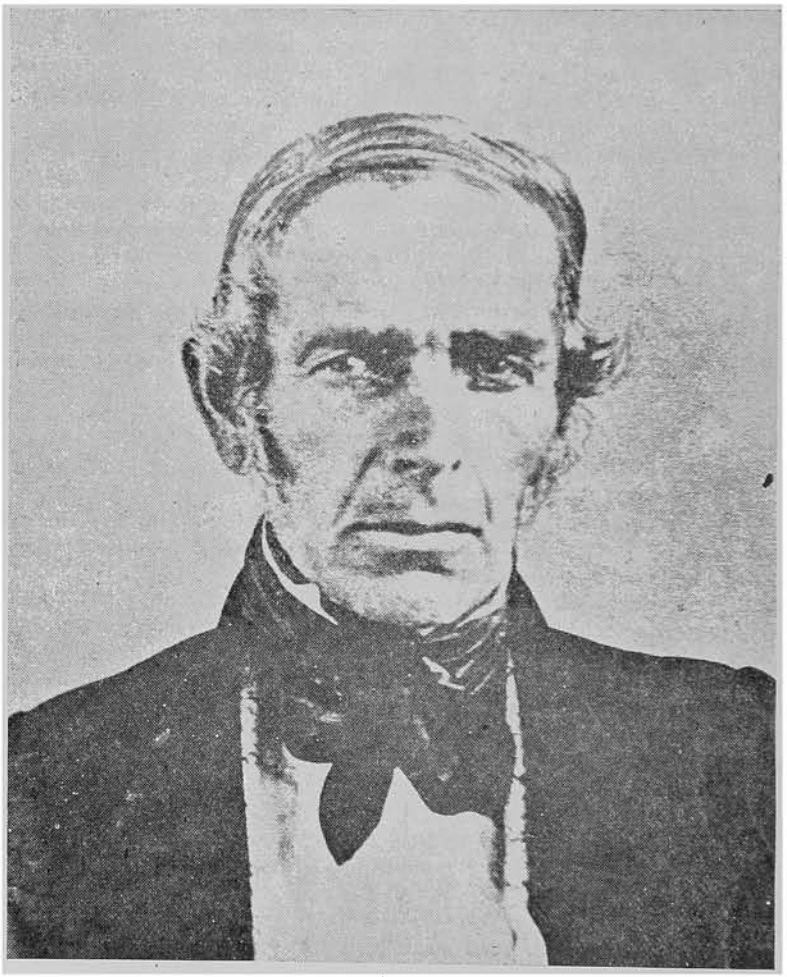
He appointed in August 1831, the first Board of Health in the village. He instructed Village Attorney Stockholm to take $125 from the village treasury and go to New York City and defend the village in the argument upon the appeal taken by the Bank of Ithaca from the decision of the Board sustaining the action of the village assessors in their assessment of the property of the bank during the preceding year. The Board also directed Attorney Stockholm to take an appeal from the decision of the Board ot Supervisors that refused to build "a good bridge over Fall Creek near the mill."

According to the meager information that is obtainable of him Levi Leonard was not an active politician. He declined a nomination for the Assembly; but he responded eloquently to a toast, "Republican Government," at the famous Jackson Day midday banquet January 8, 1828. Mr. Leonard was a favorite with all classes. He was always courtly and serious. He was heard to kindly chide a female relative who spoke to him of her husband and did not refer to him as "Mr." Children greatly enjoyed his company, his refinement and delightful stories. He was generous to every deserving person and was adored and venerated by his own family.

Upon viewing several dogs manifesting fond familiarity with William Leonard, a son of Levi, while William, in the late forties, was landlord of the Clinton House, his friend, Abel Burritt inquired: "William, Why such companionship? Are you related to those dogs?" William answered:

> "No, Abel. 'Tis not the tie of blood, though much in that there be:
> It's warmth of heart and flow of soul that binds these dogs to me."

Levi Leonard could have truthfully made a like answer. He died in 1862, at the home of his son William, in Jersey City, aged 75. He is buried in the old part of the Ithaca cemetery.



IRA TILLOTSON—Ninth President

IRA TILLOTSON—NINTH PRESIDENT.

Ira Tillotson's name appears often in the early records of Ithaca. His public spirit and wisdom were manifest and popular; his character was held in esteem. He was born in Farmington, Connecticut, in 1783. In 1790 he removed, with his father, Gen. John Tillotson, who was on General Washington's staff during the Revolution, to Whitestown, N. Y., and in 1794 to Genoa, then Milton, N. Y. He was educated in the then far-famed Genoa school and in the Aurora academy.

When 18 years of age, young Tillotson joined a party of government surveyors who were establishing the boundary line between Canada and the United States. He became a victim of fever and ague, and was compelled to return to his home in Genoa. He journeyed on foot and alone through the pathless forests, and rested and slept, wherever night overtook him, by the sides of logs or of fallen trees; his companions being the storms, the winds, the howling wolves, and his chills.

The ambition of the boy did not yield to the illness that weakened his body. He came to Ithaca in 1809, and adopted the avocations of surveyor, architect and builder with marked success. His rise in the hamlet was rapid. He designed and builded the Presbyterian, Dutch Reformed, First Methodist and other churches, and many of the principal buildings in the village and county. He was given charge of making the underground cisterns in the streets for fire purposes, and the building of "superior" bridges over the village streams, thus substantially extending and bettering the principal driveways long before he was chosen to an office.

In 1824 Mr. Tillotson served upon a committee of citizens which selected for the county the site for an alms-house—the one still used for that purpose. In 1816 he served on a committee, and made its report, to select a site for a schoolhouse. In 1820 he was one of the signers for the village charter and one of the incorporators of the Cascadilla Canal Company. He succeeded Nathan Herrick as supervisor of the township in 1827. He was re-elected annually until 1835. He declined that office in 1835 and removed to Buffalo; but he was compelled to return to Ithaca by reason of ill health. In 1836 he was again elected supervisor.

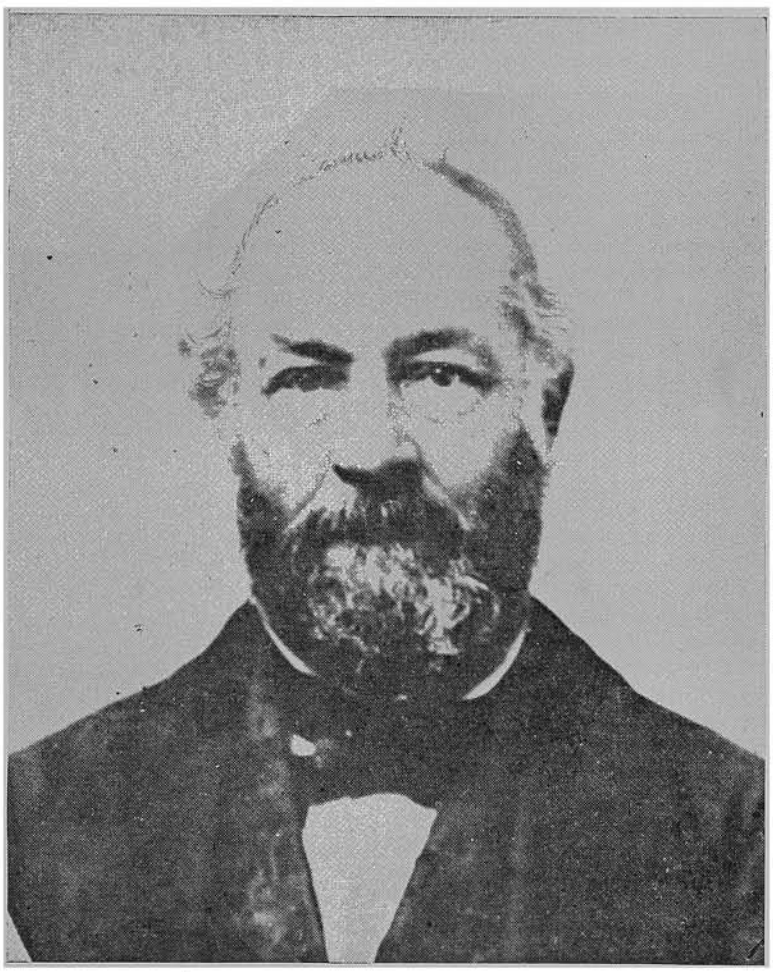
In 1829–30–1–2, he was elected a village assessor; in 1828 and 1833 a village trustee. In 1833 he held the three important offices of supervisor of the township, president of the village and member of Assembly. He was several times chairman of the Board of Supervisors. He resigned as roadmaster of Ithaca village and supervisor of the township in 1836. He removed in September of that year to Calhoun County, Michigan, where he served ten years as county clerk; and one year as supervisor in Eaton county in 1848.

Ira Tillotson was an active and devoted adherent of the political, military and personal fortunes of Andrew Jackson. The board of Trustees of 1833 empowered him to invite General Jackson to visit Ithaca and partake of its hospitality. He was chairman of a committee on resolutions at a Jacksonian mass-meeting held at the court house in 1828, and presented and read the resolutions indorsing a bill, then pending in Congress, favoring protection to all kinds of American products and industries by the imposition of a tariff on foreign made goods imported into this country. His declining years were cheered when this protective and old-time Democratic doctrine and its advocates scored victories. General Levi Hubbell was chairman and Judge Andrew DeWitt Bruyn secretary, of the mass-meeting.

Mr. Tillotson was elected chairman of the public meetings of taxpayers in 1830—1. He was appointed on the Board of Health in 1832 to carry out important changes in Ithaca after a scourge of smallpox. He was one of the subscription commissioners who secured in three days $200,000 for the new Bank of Ithaca, in 1829. He was village surveyor for years, and graded and laid out village streets. He was an organizer and charter member of Tornado Hook and Ladder fire company in 1831. In 1833 he was appionted member of a citizens' committee to institute proceedings against owners of dams in Six Mile Creek, and Jacob M. McCormick's flume; and to have them declared nuisances, by the courts, and ordered abolished. Humphrey & Maynard were village attorneys during his administration. He appointed the first road-list committee in the Board of Trustees. The committee assessed two days of highway work against every male inhabitant and 4,500 days for highway tax in the village.

Ira Tillotson's Board proudly called public attention to the seven cents that remained in the village treasury, at the close of the year, and boasted that every obligation created by the Board was paid in full.

One of the fixed opinions of this most remakable man was that destiny would witness Ithaca occupying an important place on Cayuga Lake, near its southeast corner. Recent developments in that direction seem to verify his prediction. His talents, his accomplishments and integrity were as highly prized in Michigan as in Ithaca. His death occurred at the age of 75, in Bellevue, Eaton County, Michigan, in 1858. He was buried in Marshal, Michigan.



WAIT TALCOT HUNTINGTON—Tenth President.

WAIT TALCOT HUNTINGTON—TENTH PRESIDENT.

Wait Talcot Huntington was a versatile and popular member of the "Connecticut Colony" in earlier Ithaca. He left his native village, Ellington, Conn., in 1805, at the age of seven, and located in Owego, N. Y., with his father, where he was educated, and where he taught school until 1818 when he was 20. He then came to Ithaca to assume the management of his father's branch store. His talents and accomplishments were soon appreciated in Ithaca. In 1821 he was selected to survey the lines that bounded the new village. In 1822 he was chosen principal of the academy. In 1826 he purchased the brewery that stood until 1878, on the east bank of Six Mile Creek, midway between the Clinton street and Cayuga street bridges. He owned and conducted a store on State street. Added to natural abilities he was possessed of such engaging manners and pleasing personality that he was for many years prominent in village activities.

He was elected town clerk in 1826, and re-elected annually until 1833. In 1829 he was elected, and in 1830 he was appointed, village treasurer. In 1831-2-4-1854-5 he was elected a trustee of the village; in 1834 and 1855 president of the village, being elected the latter term by the people, the charter having been amended in 1854. In 1837 he was elected county clerk for three years; in 1844 he was president of a taxpayers' meeting to raise funds for purchasing additional cemetery land and in 1859 he was elected a justice of the peace.

Mr. Huntington was a charter member of Tornado Hook and Ladder company. He was married to Sophronia Carter, of Aurora, N. Y., in 1840.

Mr. Huntington was from his 23d year a member of Fidelity Lodge F. & A. M., being Master in 1847-8-9. He was a loyal and constant member of Eagle Chapter R. A. M. for many years, and during the trying anti-masonic period that began in the later twenties. He was made High Priest in 1851 when Eagle Chapter, under dispensation, resumed its meetings after 20 years of cessation. In the Masonic circles of the State his name was honored; it is still an honored name among the 900 or more Masons in the city of Ithaca and the nearby villages of Tompkins county. Charles Humphrey, the fifth president of the village, had been High Priest of Eagle Chapter in 1820-1-2-3-4.

In 1860 he purchased a half-interest in the patent of the original Ithaca calendar clock and had the clock manufactured by the Seth Thomas company. The Civil War interfered with that class of business, and he abandoned it. He was an active supporter of President Lincoln, and presided at a mass-meeting in Ithaca, in 1862, which resolved itself into a Loyal League, an influential organization that gave valuable aid to the Lincoln administration.

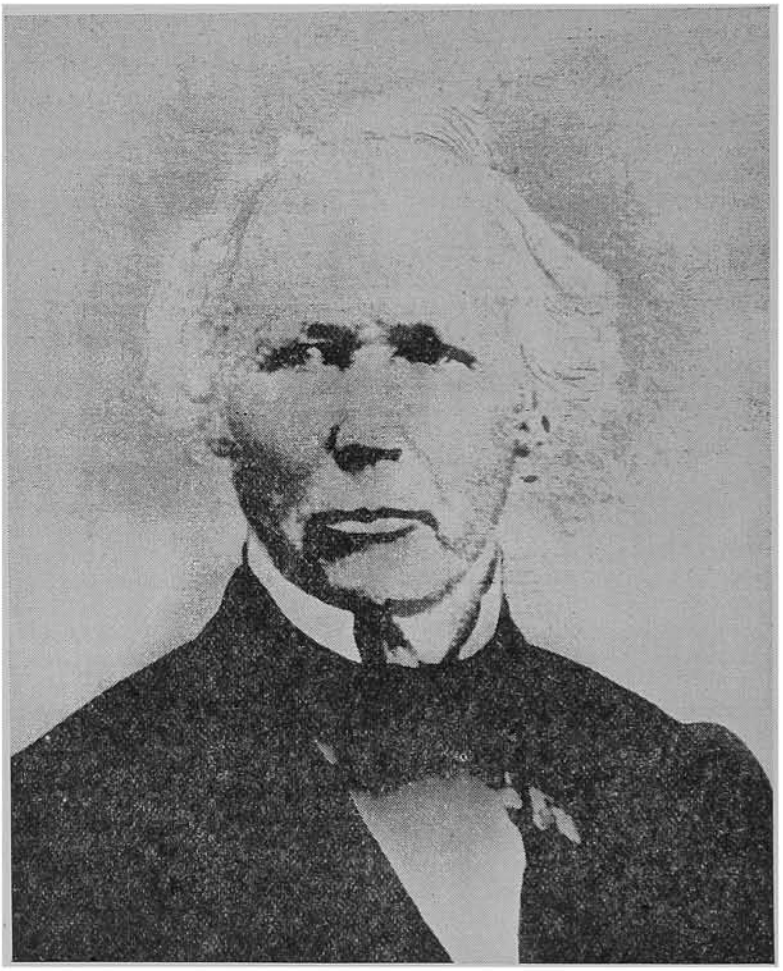
In 1863 Mr. Huntington entered the service of the Pension Department in Washington; in 1865 he was transferred to the War Department, and in 1874 to the New York post office. In 1879, at the age of 81, his failing health caused him to resign his position. He retired to private life with his daughters in Moravia, N. Y., where he died and was buried in 1880.

As the nominee for village president of the American or "Know Nothing" party, in 1855, Mr. Huntington received nearly three-fourths of all the votes cast, against the very popular and three-times president Nathan T. Williams, the Democratic nominee. The country was aroused against aliens being permitted to vote before they had resided in the United States at least 21 years. The bitter hostility shown 25 years before to the secret society system, particularly to the

Masons, was less general than the dislike shown in the fifties to the "foreigners." But, like the anti-masonic sentiment, the anti-alien fury soon spent its force, and the populace recovered its political equilibrium in its treatment of fellowmen from foreign lands. Ithaca was a hot-bed of "Americanism." Its most eloquent champion, Stephen B. Cushing, was carried on the crest of its fury into the office of attorney-general of the state. It proved costly to him for he became a victim of the excitement and reaction of that period and died soon after his term expired, and after a brief but brilliant career in New York City as the law partner of the father of General Daniel E. Sickles.

It is justice to President Huntington to note that he was not inspired to bigotry by the "American" sentiment. It was not a sectarian or anti-Catholic crusade, as the following facts show, in the minutes of the Board of 1855. Catholics should know it and remember it. The first appointments made by President Huntington and his Board of Trustees were: John W. Pickering, cemetery keeper, and Hugh McDonald, head constable. Mr. Pickering was an Englishman, by birth, and a Protestant. Mr. McDonald was an Irishman, by birth, and a Catholic. They were reputable and experienced men who had served under a preceding Board. The races and creeds from which the two men came were as well known to the Board of 1855 as to the Board of 1854. The populace demanded their dismissal from their official positions. The excellent record made by Mr. Pickering for years, as cemetery keeper, did not weigh much with the village "Americans." Constable McDonald's patriotic record under Generals Scott and Shields in the Mexican war a few years before did not aid or save him from public humiliation. The reappointments were revoked, reluctantly, at a subsequent meeting of the Board and other men were appointed to fill the vacancies.

Wait T. Huntington has been known to the people of Ithaca as the "Know Nothing" president of the village, and particularly to one sect of Ithacans; but this record proves that it was not a religious or merely sectarian animosity that inspired or governed the movement. It was a sentiment, a crusade based upon the theory that no person born in the United States should be compelled to reside in them for a longer period, in order to gain the right of suffrage, than a person not born in them. He was not among those who looked upon Catholics as foreigners, as a matter of course, to the spirit and purpose of our Government. His theory was the popular theory all over the United States until the Civil War was begun and when entire regiments and brigades of foreign born and Catholic recruits and volunteers marched to the front with that spirit and dash and loyalty to the Government that made the "Americans" see how much in error they were in the fifties. Wait T. Huntington was one of those "Americans" who enjoyed the spectacle and became the true and liberal American that made him so popular and so valuable in that Ithaca of which he was so proud until his last day.



AMASA DANA—Eleventh President

AMASA DANA—ELEVENTH PRESIDENT.

Amasa Dana was the eleventh president of Ithaca and a potent influence in moulding and directing its moral and intellectual advancement for half a century. It is asserted that he was the strongest and soundest pillar of the local Methodist society as his contemporary Ben Johnson was of the Presbyterian Church during the last thirty years of his life.

Richard, the progenitor of the American Danas, was a French Huguenot who came to Massachusetts in 1640, 20 years after the landing of the Pilgrims. This family has furnished many eminent leaders in patriotism, jurisprudence, science, literature, arts and scholarship in the Eastern and Middle States. Their names are familiar to students in every branch of American history.

Amasa's grandfather, Anderson Dana, a lawyer, while doing military duty in 1778 near his own home in the Wyoming Valley, protecting helpless women and children from England's Hessian and Indian allies, was brained by the hatchet of an Indian to glut the vengeance of the Tories. His widow and his seven young children escaped the massacre and on foot, suffering hardships and terrors beyond the power of pen to describe, over 300 miles of swamp, mountain, river, and through forest and wilderness infested by Redcoat and savage, reached their former home in Pomfret, Connecticut, after an absence of five years.

When General Sullivan had banished the British and savages from the Wyoming valley Amasa's grandmother and her children returned to her lonely home, now the city of Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania. It was there that her son Aziel was married to Rebecca Cory, who had escaped the massacre. In 1792 their son Amasa Dana was born, 14 years after the flight to Connecticut. How natural that his life from his childhood to his grave was haunted by the awful shadow, influenced by the tragic memories of the most atrocious massacre ever perpetrated by any so-called civilized people.

He was educated in the Dana academy in Wilkesbarre; an educational institution that is mentioned in Miner's History of the Wyoming Valley and by other historians of Pennsylvania, and in Owego, New York. That his education was substantial is to be seen in a Fourth of July oration delivered in 1819, the manuscript of which is now preserved by his niece, Mrs. Helen Dana Angell, of Ithaca. It affords abundant evidence that he was a perfect grammarian and a close student of history. His penmanship was elegant, his diction pure and his sentiment intensely patriotic. Although he was ouly 26 years of age the oration proves that he was matured in mind and an able debater.

Young Dana asserted that America's French allies had, while aiding us, breathed the invigorating air of true freedom and when they returned to France spread it as an influence among their kindred. It became in France as in America the sun of liberty and withered tyranny beneath its powerful rays. The monarchs and the nobility watched and hated it. Like a horde of confederated mercenaries they saw and realized its development in France and they broke into that country to stop its progress. The French rose in vengeance against them and swept over Europe in triumph.

But the French armies, he said, and the French people became intoxicated with glory and power and abandoned the goddess of liberty; and in Russia and at Waterloo the goddess in turn abandoned them. Referring to the War of 1812 he said that our 30 years of peace and prosperity after the Revolution had excited the

envy and jealousy of our English brethren who goaded us into a second war. But that war had plucked some of the laurels of the Nile and Trafalgar from the brows of English sailors and transferred them to the foreheads of American naval heroes; there to remain until ocean tides shall cease to roll and time shall be no more. England had lost her supremacy upon the seas; her trident was broken; her lion was crouching beneath the stars and stripes of the United States since the conflicts al Bridgewater, Erie, Plattsburg and New Orleans. This oration is now 83 years old, and its author has been dead 35 years; but it predicts "the danger to the people in the selfishness and combinations of moneyed powers in the hour of commercial competitions."

Amasa Dana was appointed district attorney of Tompkins County in 1823; Master in Chancery in 1828; elected a member of Assembly in 1828-9; a trustee and president of the village in 1835-6-9; surrogate and county judge in 1837; member of Congress in 1839 and 1843. Between his two terms in Congress he served (1842) the township as supervisor. He was chairman of the Assembly judiciary committee in 1829 and received a number of votes for Speaker.

His record as a lawmaker and legislator was honorable and conspicuous. His chief laurels were won in Congress in his successful battle to reduce the prices of postage. His purpose was sentimental but thoroughly practical. The reduction in the rates doubled and tripled the volume of postal business and the communication of tbe people between distant geographical points.

Judge Dana was a man of well balanced personality. He excelled in all of the elements that are essential in the man who makes and enforces laws; in the village, the county, the state and the nation, all of which he served.

The name of Amasa Dana is today the most revered of all long list of laymen who have been communicants at the altar of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Ithaca. His church work would make an interesting volume. He had been generous to its various missionary and charitable demands. At his death he bequeathed it $10,000 more, thus proving the sincerity of his religious activities. He presided at a meeting of the congregation in 1851 and earnestly advocated the organization of a second society and the building of a second Methodist Church in the village. He was sustained in his position and the Seneca Street (now State Street) Church and congregation followed. His religious activities were begun in his yonth. He had presented the Methodists in this society in 1826 with several huudred dollars with whicb to purchase books tor a circulating library. He became intensely religious at the great Methodist revival of 1826 and from that time, until his death he was a leader in all churcb affairs.

The painting of a noble appearing officer in scarlet uniform that has for thirty years brightened the wall in the Cornell city library is the Duke of Wellington. He was a relative of Judge Dana's wife, Mary Harper Speed, a native ot Virginia. Other members of the Harper family were married to members of the Bonaparte and Charles Carroll of Carrollton families. The portrait of the duke is of high artistic and historic value and a gift from Judge Dana and his wife to the Library.

Judge Dana was Judge Bruyn's law partner from early in the twenties until the death of Judge Bruyn in 1838. He succeeded Judge Bruyn as surrogate, county judge and congressman. Their relationships in personal and business and legal matters were very close and constant. In later years Judge Dana was senior partner with a son of Jonathan Gosman, George D. Beers and Ossian G. Howard. He was attorney for the Bank of Ithaca, president of the Tompkins County bank, an extensive dealer in real estate and interested in various commercial concerns.

Judge Dana was eminent as a lawyer and distinguished for the care and study he gave to the preparation of cases for trial. He had been an eloquent advocate in early years, but he almost abandoned the trial courts in the fifties and sixties and confined his work to his office practice. He was at his best in his office and as a counselor. He was blessed in having a large and healthy physique and excellent voice. He was so methodical in his daily work and in his office hours that his contemporaries asserted that they might set their watches by his

movements. He was a model of industry, dignity, courtesy and self-control. It has been said of him: "He kept his hands so very clean that he used to wash them with invisible soap."

Judge Dana encouraged young men in business ventures and professional ambitions, as this incident will prove: Sydney Dean, at present a resident of Ithaca, when a boy of 16 came from his father's (Jefferson Dean) farm in Newfield to Judge Dana in 1861 and made known his desire to go to Pennsylvania to purchase sheep for the Ithaca and surrounding market. When asked by the lawyer why he did not go and buy them the boy answered that he had no money. When asked how much he would need to carry out his plan the boy answered: "Five hundred dollars." Judge Dana wrote and handed him a check for that sum. When a note for $500 was tendered Judge Dana he said: "The note will be worthless if you lose the money. And, Sydney, you are a minor and I cannot collect it. If you succeed, your word and honor will be my security." The boy did not fully comprehend the transaction until his relatives expressed their surprise at Judge Dana's act.

An interesting incident in his middle life was the breaking of the cable that held a car at the upper end of the steep "inclined plane" of the old Owego and Ithaca Railway, and the dash made by the car to the bottom of the hill until it struck "the level" near the mineral and gas wells, about one-half mile south of the Cayuga street bridge over Six Mile creek. The car contained passengers, Judge Dana being one of them. All but a man named Babcock jumped from the car. Judge Dana sustained a painful sprain of a leg. The lone passenger, as the story has been told for at least 40 years, was not badly harmed, being under the influence of intoxicants, "notwithstanding the fact that no piece was left of the car as large as himself. It was dashed into pieces ready for kindling wood." Babcock soon recovered from his shock.

Judge Dana was elected to Congress while serving his third term as president of the village. He resigned the presidency when he departed for Washington. His municipal administrations covered a very dark and embarrassing period in Ithaca which cannot be forgotten nor its influence be eradicated from municipal affairs. Reference will be made to it in the sketches of Judge Dana's immediate successors, George P. Frost and Caleb B. Drake, who served as presidents of the village between his second and third terms. Notwithstanding the commercial embarrassments mentioned his administrations were marked by progressive but conservative steps. The Board of Trustees of 1836 reported at its last session that no corporation tax had been levied during the year; and declared that something should be done to enlarge the powers of the citizens of the village in laying and collecting taxes to keep pace with the increased and increasing business and population of the village; especially of the needs of good roads and bridges; that the citizens would cheerfully vote to pay for these if they had authority to raise the money needed; and that measures had been taken to remedy this want of the village.

The Board of 1839 paid $16. to the trustees of the Baptist Church for winding the village clock; offered $100. reward for the conviction of the person who "set fire to the village market-house last Sunday evening," and returned stall moneys to the stall tenants who had paid in advance. It granted a permit to the Owego and Ithaca R.R. Co., to build a track on State street from Aurora street to the Inlet. Wages of laborers were 87 cents a day on the village streets. The bell in the Dutch Reformed Church was ordered rung as formerly, at 9 A. M., 12 M. and 9 P. M. at village expense, and daily. Railroad and Lake avenues were extended. A proposition to the Board was made by the Water Works Company for fire protection, and referred to a committee consisting of Trustees Jacob M. McCormick, Horace Mack, sr., and William Andrus.

A romantic story, founded probably upon truth, comes from the Speeds who knew and admired Judge Dana and refer to him with affection and respect. Dr.

Joseph Speed and his family while on their way from Virginia in 1805 to Tompkins County, their future home, overtook a boy who was walking up the valley from Wilkesbarre, his shoes hanging over one shoulder and his bundle of shirts, stockings, handkerchiefs, etc., on the other shoulder. The boy was invited to ride "up the valley a way". He gladly accepted the invitation and joined the family in the wagon. He said that he was going to his uncle, Eleazer Dana, a lawyer in Owego, N. Y. His father was dead and he had started out in search of opportunity and fortune. His name was Amasa Dana, his age 12. The Speed family passed through Owego. The boy parted with them and impressed them with his sense of gratitude.

For years he was not heard from by the Virginians in their Tompkins County home. But one of the doctor's sons, who was preparing for the bar, in Owego, found a chum in another law student whom he brought for visits to the parental home in Speedsville. The sequel is the old and the happy one. The chum law student was Amasa Dana. Like many others he "fell in love" with Mary, the doctor's daughter. When Judge Dana was in Washington as congressman his wife, Mary Harper Speed, was regarded the most attractive because the most beautiful and most stately woman in the capital. The domestic life of this couple was ideal, if happiness can be used as a staudard. Her Virginian characteristics and accomplishments made her a favorite in church and social life wherever she went.

Judge Dana held a high place in the respect and confidence of his own profession and in the community. He was in apparent health and strength when he was stricken with apoplexy in 1867, at his home, No. 117 East Buffalo street, now occupied by Dr. Chauncey P. Biggs as a residence. It was natural that his death, which soon followed, was regarded as a public loss. His obsequies were conducted with church and professional honors.

GEORGE P. FROST—Twelfth President

GEORGE P. FROST.—TWELFTH PRESIDENT.

When George P. Frost was elected a village trustee in 1835 Ithaca was attracting national attention. Its inhabitants were enthusiastic in their efforts to make known to the world its natural commercial advantages and magnificent scenery. Its rapid expansion into a large city was unquestioned. Ambition inspired them, realization of hope seemed certain and happiness prevailed. They charmed and converted the surrounding villages and counties until the project became woven into the warp and woof of village life and at the end allured them into overwhelming disappointment and distress.

Prosperity had aided the village for years but in 1835 it began to assume new life. Real estate swiftly advanced in prices if not in value. Mills, factories and houses were erected in the valley and on the hillsides. People flocked to Ithaca for work and for permanent homes. Merchants and capitalists from other parts came to invest and join the commercial throng. Professional men also arrived and became Ithacans.

The village press heralded the ambition and purpose of local statesmen and capitalists to build a ship canal from Cayuga Lake to Lake Ontario and thus connect Ithaca with the St. Lawrence river and the Atlantic. An outlet to the Atlantic by the way of the Ithaca and Owego railway connecting with the Susquehanna river at Owego, thence to Baltimore and the Chesapeake Bay was made part of the plan. The railroad was to link the new metropolis of Ithaca with the Susquehanna and Cayuga Lake; the short ship canal would link Cayuga Lake with Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence. The Erie canal would serve as a tributary to this grand circuit and bring New York within its reach. With Baltimore as the southern terminal and Buffalo the western, the whole country and Canada would be added to the circuit. Not a railway existed to compete with this route over which the products of America must be exchanged and transferred.

An extensive ship yard and an inland naval station would be established at or near the head of Cayuga Lake. Ithaca was to be the center of this plan and receive a lion's share of gain. The State would construct the Cayuga and Ontario ship canal. Ithaca and Owego capitalists would build the railway. Pennsylvania would prepare the channel of her mighty Susquehanna. Baltimore would lend her aid and energy, and milk and honey would find their way in plenty to every table along the route.

When Mr. Frost was re-elected a trustee in 1836 his constitutents were battling loyally to accomplish the work here outlined and believed themselves near the goal. Ebenezer Mack, one of the ablest and soundest thinkers and writers in central New York was re-elected to the Senate. Speaker Humphrey was returned to his place of power in the Assembly and controlled the appointment of committees which acted upon appropriations. Judge Bruyn was in Congress from this district. Surely such leaders among lawmakers must succeed. No voice was raised in their districts, nor in those adjoining, against the wisdom or the patriotism of the great scheme. Everything in Washington and in Albany appeared to point to its success.

The marvelous prices paid for real estate within a radius of three miles

from the Clinton House and for the water-privileges of the village streams illustrate the conditions existing in 1836. They seem incredible now, and read like a chapter from Washington Irving or Fenimore Cooper. The Bloodgood tract of swamp and hillside shale sold for $100,000; more than three times greater than the price paid for it by C. M. Titus and John McGraw 32 years afterward. Part of the Simeon DeWitt estate on East Hill sold for $200,000. Henry Ackley refused $20,000 for a half interest in a vacant square at the Inlet now occupied by the Gunderman store-house, Lackawanna depot and St. John Hotel.

Water rights at Fall Creek sold for $220,000. A piece of the DeWitt estate that was sold for $4,676 in January brought $52,929 in July. One farm one mile and one-half outside of the village boundary was sold for $500 an acre by its owner, who paid $50 an acre for it ten months before. Other farms sold in like manner.

The late and lamented James Quigg, in May, 1902, said to the writer of these sketches: "I met a man named McCormick on a steamer on Lake Ontario, many years ago, who told me that he was one of two men who were employed by wealthy business men in Oswego to lobby in Albany against the proposition of the representatives of Tompkins and adjoining counties to build the ship canal from Cayuga Lake to Lake Ontario. 'We were prepared' he said, 'to abandon our opposition if a few thousand dollars had been forthcoming as they would be today. We wanted the contract to do the dredging. It was a plan easy to carry out and not very expensive. It came very near to success anyway. Ithaca would have jumped into a very big and rich city if that canal had been built.'"

When Mr. Frost was again elected a trustee in 1837 by the people and chosen president of the Board and of the village he was at his zenith, and about 37 years of age. What could he not do with genius and capital? And genius and capital were abundant in Ithaca. Prices continued to rise and every thing continued to point to an inland metropolis.

But President Andrew Jackson created the contention with the banks and forced a contraction of the currency. A money panic fell upon the Nation and plunged it into distress too deep for hope of speedy relief. Senator Mack and Speaker Humphrey voted with the large majority in both branches of the legislature to loan the counties $3,000,000 for temporary aid. The Ithaca Chronicle (now the Democrat) published six columns of names of men in this county who protested against the principle of mendicancy contained in the bill.

Every business interest in Ithaca except usury came to a stand-still. Real estate became a drug in the market and people loathed it. Business men were heavy-hearted at the awful change in commercial conditions.

George Frost was forced to meet the local distress as president of the village. He performed his duties wisely and fearlessly. He had been a bright and prominent business man since 1821. His store was No. 12 North Aurora street and contained an extensive stock of saddlery, hardware and harness and carriage materials. He was experienced and popular and counseled patience and hope and industry to the public. He had been an active fireman since the first company was organized in 1823. and in 1831 he had joined Tornado Hook and Ladder company at its organization. His prominence in church affairs led him to the superintendency of the Sunday school of the Dutch Reform (now Congregational) Church.

Mr. Frost had as a single committeeman from the Board of Trustees in 1835 adjusted the long standing contention between the Board and the officials of the Presbyterian Church relating to the care and control of DeWitt Park, and accomplished that which other village presidents and trustees had attempted but failed. His adjustment still holds good between the city and the Presbyterian society; a period of 67 years. He had settled differences of like character between the three Boards of which he was a member and the people of the village.

But his presidency ended his public services for the village, except as a fireman. He could not restore confidence, business prosperity and happiness. He was himself a victim of the financial stringency. During his presidency wages were reduced to fifty cents per day and the 8-hour system abolished upon village works. The village ran in debt although the tax budget was increased. Citizens were discontented. Taxes were levied but difficult to collect. And yet, Mr. Frost's administration was positive and spirited and progressive.

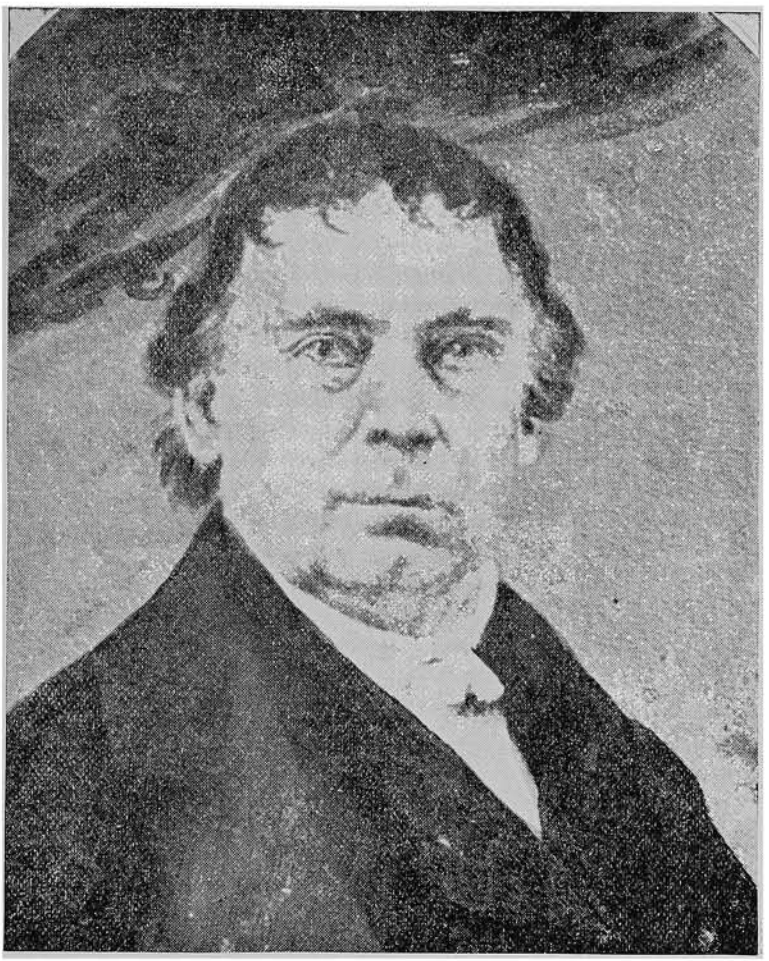
The Simeon DeWitt system of maps and streets was accepted and the commissioners, Richard Varick DeWitt, Ancel St. John and William A. Woodward, carried out that system and it has been made permanent. Buffalo street was opened from Aurora street to Eddy street. Spring street and Stewart avenue were opened from State street to Buffalo street. Tioga and Utica streets were extended to Tompkins street. Yates and Marshall streets were opened from Lake avenue to Aurora street. Both sides of Cayuga street were ordered flagged from creek to creek. The first sprinkling cask was purchased and used on the streets. Extra compensation was voted to the lamplighter who was compelled during the winter days to take his street lamps to a stove to thaw the oil for night use. Gen. Levi Hubbell, a son-in-law of Simeon DeWitt and member of the Board of Trustees, was appointed village attorney.

In 1834 Mr. Frost was secretary of the county temperance society. He read the Declaration of Independence in the Baptist Church at the Fourth of July celebration in 1838. In 1839 he served as assessor and in 1849 he was elected to serve again but declined . His residence, a fine one in his day, was the present No. 427 East Seneca street. Part of the land is now occupied by former Mayor John Barden's residence.

He was chosen second assistant chief of the fire department by the Board of Trustees in 1849. General Robert Halsey was chief and Josiah B. Williams first assistant chief. Mr. Frost resigned in 1851, having served 28 years in the department.

No information cau be obtained of his antecedents nor of his later years. His wife was Eliza Benjamin of Lansing. She died in 1860 in Mendon, Illinois, aged 55 years. Mr. Frost's store and stock were ruined by fire and water for the third time about the year 1854. After receiving his insurance money from George W. Schuyler, the company's agent, Mr. Frost and family removed to Mendon.

He was of large and imposing form and personally attractive. He was a humorist as well as a public speaker. While presiding at a session of the Board of Trustees and debating and lamenting the distress that depreseed the people, in December, 1837, he asserted that the Lord had put a frost in his garden every morning during the summer and fall. When challenged for his remark he replied that he was the Frost that the Lord had sent in to his garden.



CALEB B. DRAKE—Thirteenth President.

CALEB B. DRAKE—THIRTEENTH PRESIDENT.

Caleb Beverly Drake was a local celebrity whose many years of useful public service made his name a household term. He was appointed and elected to more important local official positions of trust and influence and served more years than any other man in the history of Ithaca. His service was of high standard. He died while a public official.

He was a son of Benjamin Drake, a Revolutionary veteran and one of the earliest settlers of Tioga county, N. Y. Caleb was born in the house owned and occupied for many years in Peekskill, N. Y., by Henry Ward Beecher. He removed with his father to Tioga county, N. Y. He served as an adjutant in the War of 1812. In 1805 he came to Ithaca and served as a clerk in the store of David Quigg for seven years, during which he prepared for the bar as a student of David Woodcock.

Mr. Drake was a large property owner in the village and in the township. He owned and resided on the southeast corner of State and Tioga streets, his lot extending to Six Mile creek. He was the owner of the building on Tioga street in which for five years the first fire company kept its engine. His business and professional standing was excellent. The panic of 1836-7 numbered him among its victims.

Mr. Drake was made Master in Chancery in 1817 and won local distinction in 1819 as a magistrate, when Ithaca was part of Ulysses, and four years before Ithaca village was incorporated. He was in the same official position when he died in 1861, aged 75 years. He was, like the members of his profession generally, an influential and constant advocate of advanced education, from the primary department of the common school to the last day in the class of the college senior. In 1816 he was appointed on a committee with two other young men, who were in attendance at a school meeting, to obtain the assistance of Fidelity Lodge F. & A. M., to build a new school in the unchartered village of Ithaca. The committee was Caleb B. Drake, Ira Tillotson and Luther Gere who were also members of that Masonic Lodge.

An elaborate document now in the possession of Isaac Dodd and daughters, Mary and Kate, of Ithaca, contains considerable penmanship of Caleb B. Drake, reference to which will interest many who have known only the handwriting that made him a subject of comment in his later years. The document is an article or proof of a sale in 1792 by Simeon DeWitt, as surveyor-general of the State, of a parcel of land in Solon, New York. The acknowledgement was drawn by Caleb B. Drake. General De Witt's signature and seal were attached and acknowledged before Caleb B. Drake, commissioner, in 1829. Moses DeWitt and Francis Bloodgood signed as witnesses. Mr. Drake's penmanship is plain and admirable.

Mr. Drake was a lawyer whose wide reading and extraordinary memory confined his practice to his office. He was credited with the faculty of reading a book and years afterward, with ease, accurately repeating its details and dates. This made his knowledge of local affairs valuable to the public. He was a victim of dropsy in his later years which affected his penmanship so much that his legal documents became subjects of general criticism. His mental faculty remained unimpaired.

Mr. Drake was elected a village trustee and president in 1838 under conditions

that were a high compliment to his character and popularity and merit a record here. Prior to the village election that year Ezra Cornell, Charles E. Hardy, John James Speed, John Hawkins, George McCormick, Anson Spencer, Frederick T. Deming, Joseph Burritt, Henry Hibbard and Wait T. Huntington issued a public call for a Whig mass-meeting. The meeting was well attended and appointed a "vigilance committee of 100 Whigs to act for the party and the ticket until after election."

The result of the committee's efforts was a startling surprise to the Democrats. Every man on the Whig ticket was elected except Ezra Cornell, a nominee for trustee. Former Speaker Charles Humphrey was one of the defeated Democratic nominees for trustees.

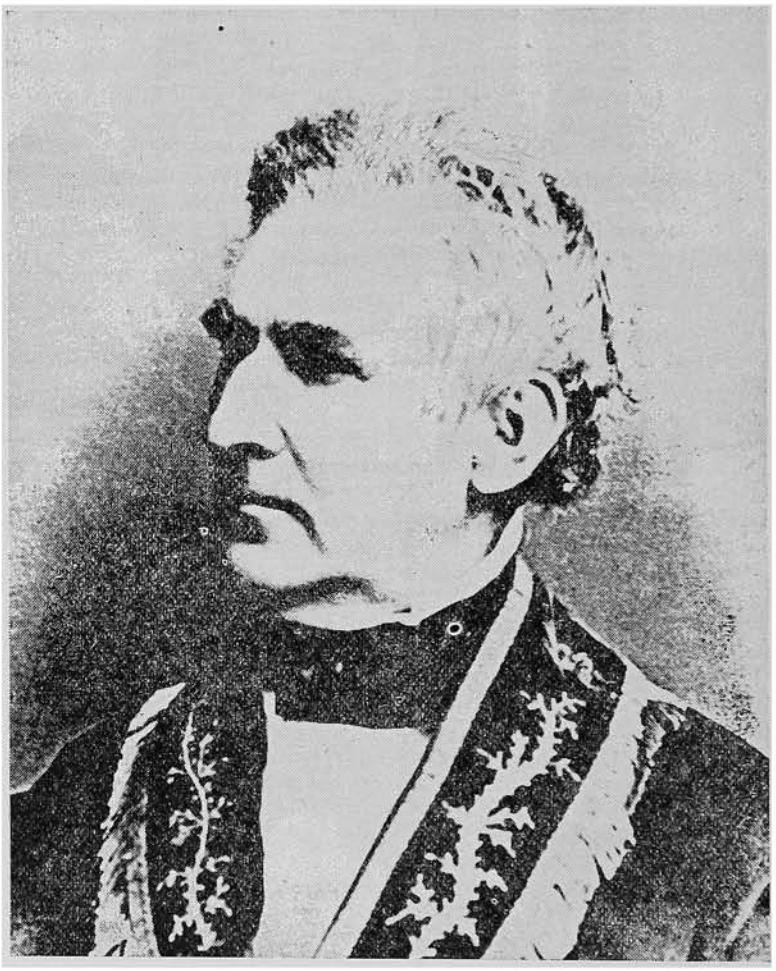
Mr. Drake, Mr. McCormick and Mr. Speed were elected as trustees. Mr. Drake was chosen president of the Board and of the village. It might be asserted that Caleb B. Drake was of heroic nature to accept such a public position at such a period. The panic of 1836 was yet stifling the commercial life and happiness of the village and no sign pointed to a break in its severity. His party mercilessly assailed the Jacksonians with having brought ruin upon the country. The Democrats were forced to Jackson's defence. It was a great political contest.

Caleb B. Drake was the center of the local field during that year. He was elected as justice of the peace for the township several weeks later. His office was convenient of access for the clamoring and hungry and idle throng and he soon tired of the presidency. He was powerless to relieve the awful conditions of the working people. He realized the emptiness of the presidency as it related to public or private honors. He did not improve conditions because he could not. Ithaca had been running wild in all kinds of speculation and had no substantial reserve forces or wealth to protect the village from the influence of the reaction. People were comprehending their own condition and its causes. They saw that years of hardship and poverty, and many cases of bankruptcy were ahead, and that the long battle for the ship canal, the ship-yard and naval station would not be a pleasant or profitable battle to continue. The great satisfaction remained to President Drake and his party colleagues in the Board of Trustees in not being charged with causing the prevailing industrial distress.

Mr. Drake's administration was unavoidbly conservative but gave special attention and consideration to the poor and deserving. A new village clock was placed in the tower of the Baptist Church at an expense to the village of $500. The Judge Dana petition for the right to lay a railway on State street from the Inlet to Aurora street, by the D. L. & W. R. R. was referred by the Board to President Drake as a single committeeman with full authority to act upon it. The right was not granted until Judge Dana became president the third time, in 1839. The railway was never laid on that street.

Upon the reorganization of Eagle Chapter R. A. M. in 1851 Mr. Drake was appointed Scribe. He presided at several public meetings of taxpayers, including one in 1839, when taxes were to be raised for village expenses. In 1854 he received the nomination for police justice. His opponents were two popular and intelligent men, former President George P. Frost and Chauncey G. Heath. He received 42 votes more than were cast for both of them. His salary was $500. He was elected a justice of the peace in the township the year before. His courtroom was where the First National Bank now stands. Ithaca was in need of an upright and fearless and intelligent police magistrate in his time and he faithfully and ably performed his duties. The village had been expanding. The canal had increased the number of men and women of bad character and disorderly conduct in the village. He won high praise for his manner of sitting in judgment upon them. His reputation although admirable as a lawyer now stands chiefly upon his career as magistrate which won for him the familiar title by which he was and is still known far and near: Squire Drake,

He was twice married; first to Aurelia Buell and after her death to Lucy Ann Buckley. He was buried in the village cemetery with many public, society, bar and church honors.



JACOB M. MC CORMICK—Fourteenth President.

JACOB M. McCORMICK—FOURTEENTH PRESIDENT.

Jacob M. McCormick, fourteenth president of Ithaca, was stately in appearance and active in his citizenship. His only existing portrait is on the wall of the Masonic Temple in a city on the Hudson. It was painted for that temple. He wore his regalia when sitting to the artist. Mr. McCormick was one of the distinguished members of the Grand Lodge; and had won and borne many local Lodge honors by his faithful service and his excellent Masonic example during many years of membership. While reverently viewing this portrait recently one of his old Ithaca contemporaries asserted that Jacob M. McCormick was no more impressive to the sight than he was to the mind of all who knew him. It has been said that Jacob McCormick and his wife were fit subjects for sculptors' models. Mrs. McCormick, Catherine Conrad, of Lansing, N. Y. was called the "Lady-of-the-Lake" in admiration for her personal beauty and social graces.

Mr. McCormick was born in Big Flats, Chemung County, N. Y. in 1793. His grandfather, Joseph McCormick, resided and died near the Giant's Causeway, Ireland. Joseph's widow emigrated to America in 1760. She was a McDowell and a native of Scotland. Jacob's father came to America as a lieutenant in the British army at the beginning of the Revolution. He was captured by the Americans and became a willing and contented prisoner of war until he learned that his brother was serving in Washington's army. He found him, changed his uniform, enlisted with his brother and, receiving an officer's commission, fought valiantly with the Colonials against his king and former comrades until freedom for the colonies was attained. He then settled in Painted Post, N. Y., and led an industrious and successful life. He was elected to various important offices and became an extensive land owner.

Imbued with his father's military spirit and influenced by his example, Jacob, our subject, enlisted and served in the War of 1812, leaving the army, at the close of the war, with a major's commission. He is another president of Ithaca whose patriotic service as a soldier during that war has never been known to the veterans of the Civil War. His grave in the city cemetery has not been honored by the veterans on Memorial days.

Jacob McCormick was one of four brothers who served in the War of 1812. All of them were officers. One of them, Col. Henry McCormick, killed an Indian chief who was shooting the colonel's men from his hiding place behind a fallen tree. The chief was very brave and refused to surrender. Col. McCormick took the Indian's leather pouch, in which he carried his bullets and flints, as a trophy, and many years afterward presented it to his nephew, John H. McCormick, of Ithaca. Jacob McCormick's gentle manners did not indicate the spirit of the warrior that was in him and his kin. He said that in civilized communities such a spirit should not be encouraged or tolerated. His contest with the village authorities over his mill-race by the side of Six Mile Creek ended in a friendly compromise.

Jacob M. McCormick was one of the most active and most progressive business men in Ithaca for many years. Inheriting considerable property he invested it in his new village home. He owned oil, grist and plaster mills, large farms, a foundry, a hardware store and much merchandise. He erected the mansion now occupied by Miss Belle Cowdry on East State street, and resided in it. He owned the Ithaca Hotel. He conducted and owned the stage route from Owego to New York, involving large capital in its purchase and the responsibility of a common

carrier of passengers, mails and light freights in its conduct. He was interested in other industrial and financial enterprises than above indicated.

His official career was conspicuous and approved. He was postmaster for years; elected village assessor in 1827 and several times thereafter. He was appointed on a committee in 1828 to select the site for a new public market. He was elected a village trustee in 1836-7-9-1840 and in the last named year was chosen president of the village.

He was appointed the first chief of the fire department, in December 1838; and again in 1839. When President Dana resigned, in January 1840, to serve in Congress, Mr. McCormick was elected to fill the vacancy. He served with Ancel St. John as firewarden in 1829 and presented a petition to the Board of Trustees, the same year, for flagstone sidewalks 11½ feet wide on State street, between Aurora and Cayuga streets, with stone curbing. The Board ordered the plank sidewalks replaced with flagstone. His Board established the first fire limit or wooden building forbidden district in the village; 100 feet from State street between Aurora and Cayuga streets. It offered "$1,000 reward for the conviction of the persons who set the village on fire on the 28 of May, 1840."

He advertised in the village papers, in 1827, that he wanted to purchase wheat at his hardware store (now C. J. Rumsey & Co's); and that he had for sale the newest improvement on the spinning wheel. Hs opened, graded and presented Spring street to the village in 1837. He was the first chairman of any street committee in the village. He presented and moved the adoption of the resolution which ordered the levy of a tax by the annual taxpayers' meeting of 1849 for the expenses of the village. In that year he was appointed a member of the Board of Health to improve the sanitary conditions of the village under the provisions of a new act of the legislature passed after a cholera scourge had inspired the inhabitants here to a deeper sense of their negligence.

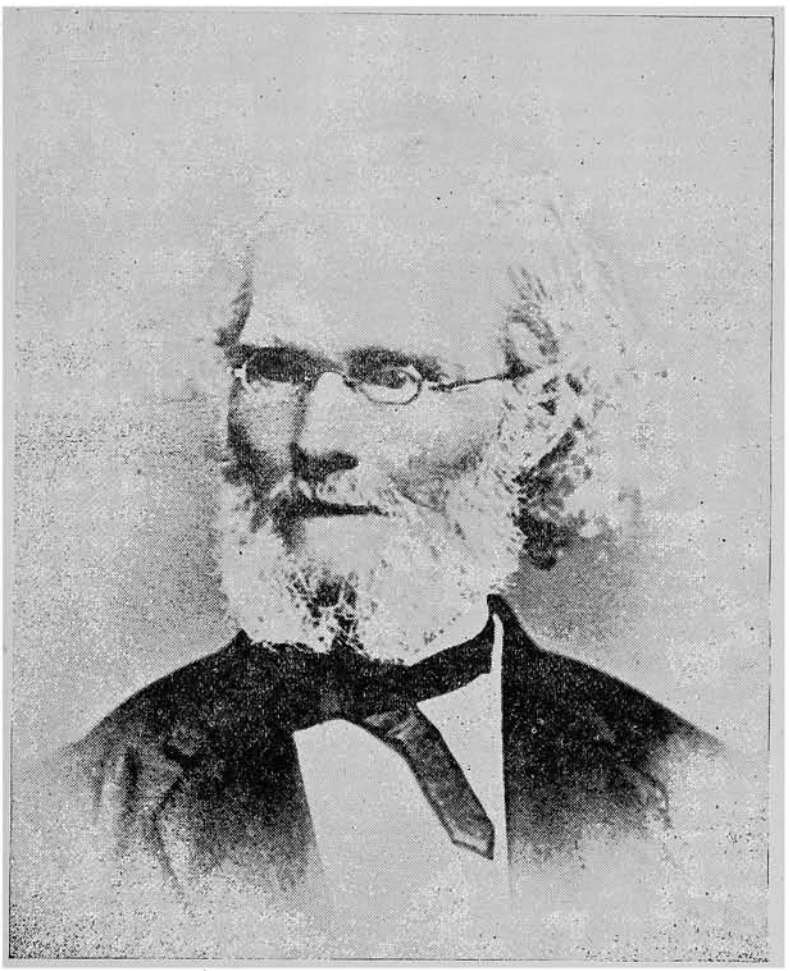
Mr. McCormick was an enthusiastic partisan and fervid Jacksonian in all the tenets of the Democratic party,—except one. He despised the very thought of slavery. He was in that respect a fervid Abolitionist. His generous nature was logical. He declined elections to State and National positions. His intimate friends understood his reasons. He was tendered every official honor within the power of his fellow citizens to confer; but he invariably selected personal friends of high moral and intellectual equipment and intense patriotism for such honors, when not confined to local affairs. He contended that it was moral and political treason to refuse to serve a municipality when selected by the people.

Mr. McCormick possessed a happy nature. He infused happiness in those who associated with him. He enjoyed carrying a bright countenance where a sad one might show the weight of care and sorrow. No village president has been survived by a more tender or more loving memory than he. His endowments were superior in mind and heart and person; but his deep and unvarying sympathy with his kindred and his neighbors is the first characteristic to be mentioned by those who knew him well and still survive him. It was the secret of his power and popularity in his family, among the people and among the Masons.

Gray-haired men of the present day tell their admiration for Jacob McCormick during their childhood and boybood; for his gentle and generous manner toward them. His family revered bim as a saintly man. His domestic relation was ideal. He was well informed in the standard literature and politics of America and Europe; and a delightful companion. Association with him was pleasant and instructive. His integrity was above question.

Mr. McCormick was among the scores of wealthy men in Ithaca who bore their heavy financial cross during and after the inflation and panic of 1836 with patient and surprising fortitude. He knew that he was only one of a large company; and he did not unduly mourn. His sunny nature continued to dominate him and influence all around him. He was foremost in encouraging the villagers in their efforts to retrieve their lost wealth; and to hasten the development of the village.

His death, in 1855, was caused by an ailment considered incurable in his time. The community mourned him and praised him. The press and the pulpit commended his life work as an inspiration and his character as a noble example.



BENJAMIN G. FERRIS—Fifteenth President

BENJAMIN G. FERRIS—FIFTEENTH PRESIDENT.

Benjamin Gilbert Ferris was the last lawyer elected to the presidency of the village of Ithaca. He served two terms: 1841 and 1852. He was in the front rank of the old school of professional gentlemen and maintained his standard until his death. His father was a native of Peekskill, N. Y., and one of the first settlers and most prominent citizens, a surveyor, magistrate and property owner of Spencer, Tioga County, N. Y. It was there that his son Benjamin was born in 1802. His preparatory education was received in Spencer and Canandaigua; his advanced education in Union College, from which he was graduated in 1828. His commencement oration was delivered in Latin. Mr. Ferris was prepared for the bar in the offices of Charles Humphrey and David Woodcock in Ithaca and admitted in 1829 to the attorneyship, and as counselor and equity practitioner several years later.

Mr. Ferris was married to Cornelia, the older daughter of David Woodcock, in 1830. Until Mr. Woodcock's death in 1835 Mr. Ferris resided in the house now used as a city hall annex. It then occupied the corner where the city hall now stands. In 1837 he erected and for years resided in the Leander R. King brick house on West Green street. About 50 years ago he made a home of the residence in Ferris Place, now occupied by his nephew Horace Mack. It was there he died in 1891 in his eighty-ninth year.

Mr. Ferris was not a believer in the doctrine of Talleyrand, that language was devised to enable men to disguise their thoughts. He was a student of books and of language throughout his life.

He was a thoroughly cultivated man in addition to his learning as a lawyer. He was an ardent friend of all grades of educational institutions. His great hope was that the schools would develop into one grand system that might teach and influence youth and men to be frank and truthful and just, as well as learned and refined. It was the thought nearest to his heart; and from it he never varied for an hour. His entire life was elevated, his daily conduct and example were inspired by that one desire, that central thought. Hence it was that no man was more respected and more honored in his community than he.

Mr. Ferris was a lawyer by profession and education, but by nature a student. His special line of study was the origin of species. He was a student of Darwin, Huxley, Tyndall, Herbert Spencer and their class. He wrote and published articles and pamphlets upon his favorite theme and often took issue with the reasoning of those great leaders upon the origin of man and animals and matter. Book reviewers wrote of him as "the new philosopher of Ithaca" and accorded him respect and praise. But Mr. Ferris did not urge his literary productions upon the public nor receive the distinction that would have been awarded a less modest and more aggressive writer of his standard and industry. His studies and researches became simply his mental recreation. During his four years (1874 to 1878) as a law student in the offices of Ferris & Dowe the writer of these sketches never saw Mr. Ferris pass an idle quarter-hour. Specimens of the best literature of his day were in his hands when he was not perusing a law book or preparing a legal document. He would not listen to an unchaste story or a racy joke although coming from the lips of a client or friend.

Mr. Ferris was a disciple of Swedenborg and maintained and practiced the tenets of the sect with perfect consistency. He did not put them aside as im-

practible or inconvenient while performing his work as a lawyer. Always ready to act along honorable lines, he frankly and without hesitancy declined all questionable cases in the courts. His office and court business suffered, but his conscience did not. His associates were the learned and honored men of his times. His home was a center of social and intellectual hospitality and his own dignified example was the center of its popularity. After Cornell University was opened many of its leading professors were regular guests at his evening fireside.

He was a wise and conscientious counselor a chivalrous friend of tbe distressed; a paragon of patience and courtesy to the students and juniors in his profession. He uttered an admirable truth when he said that he had been a successful lawyer in preventing law suits. He might have claimed with absolute justice that he was, in that relation, one of the most accomplished lawyers of his times, considering his opportunities and his financial conditions for he became comparatively poor.

He held his last partner, General Dowe, in exalted esteem as lawyer, man and companion. He was a partner of the brilliant orator and attorney-general, Stephen B. Cushing, who also was married to a daughter of David Woodcock. He held an aversion for criminal cases and the atmosphere that surrounded them. He was an office lawyer rather than a trial lawyer. His old school of professional ethics was not rapid enough for the age of electricity and multi-millionaires. His commentaries upon the change in every department of education (except the classics) and in industrial, commercial and professional development were such as might be heard from a proud, refined and philosophical lawyer of the year in which Mr. Ferris was born. The Golden Rule never lost its golden purity and priceless value when it could be used as an influence in his hands. He despised all other rules of life or of action.

His accomplishments were utilized by the founder and directors of the Cornell City Library. He was for many years its acting president, friend and counselor. It was his last public service and congenial to his nature. The reading public was aided by his wide knowledge of authors and tbeir books. He enjoyed his opportunity to aid the public.

Mr. Ferris proved a marvel of consistency in official life. He was district attorney from 1840 to 1845; village trustee and president in 1841 and 1852; member of Assembly in 1852 and supervisor of the township in 1855. Attracting the attention and admiration, by his superior service to the State, of President Fillmore, in 1852, Mr. Ferris was appointed territorial secretary of Utah. He could not suppress his abhorence of Mormonism nor tolerate its influences, nor accept its devotees as his neighbors, and resigned his high position, thus sacrificing great possibilities in his very promising public career. He wrote and published a book upon Mormonism. It sounded a warning to the American people. The warning was heeded. It acted as a powerful influence in checking the Mormons in their "religious" development and purposes. Mrs. Ferris also wrote and published a second book upon the same subject, with similar effect, two years afterward.

An illustration of his life work and its consistency is found in the episode related by Jesse Johnson since his recent return from Colorado. It is of local as well as of general interest. In 1845 Tornado Hook and Ladder Co. No. 3, of Ithaca made an excursion to Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. On the return trip the company was entertained by the fire department of Cleveland, Ohio. The fine company glee club and excellent brass band that accompanied the Ithacans and the eloquent Ithacan and state attorney-general Stephen B. Cushing were heard to great advantage at the banquet and reception.

A witty Cleveland orator credited the famous "Hooks of Ithaca" with having along with them everything good and glorious except a minister of the Gospel. Attorney-General Cushing promptly introduced the Rev. Benjamin G. Ferris, a Swedenborgian divine, a member of the Hooks and one who had longed to be heard by the people of Cleveland. Surprised at and admiring the turn which Cushing had made of the very pleasant jest of

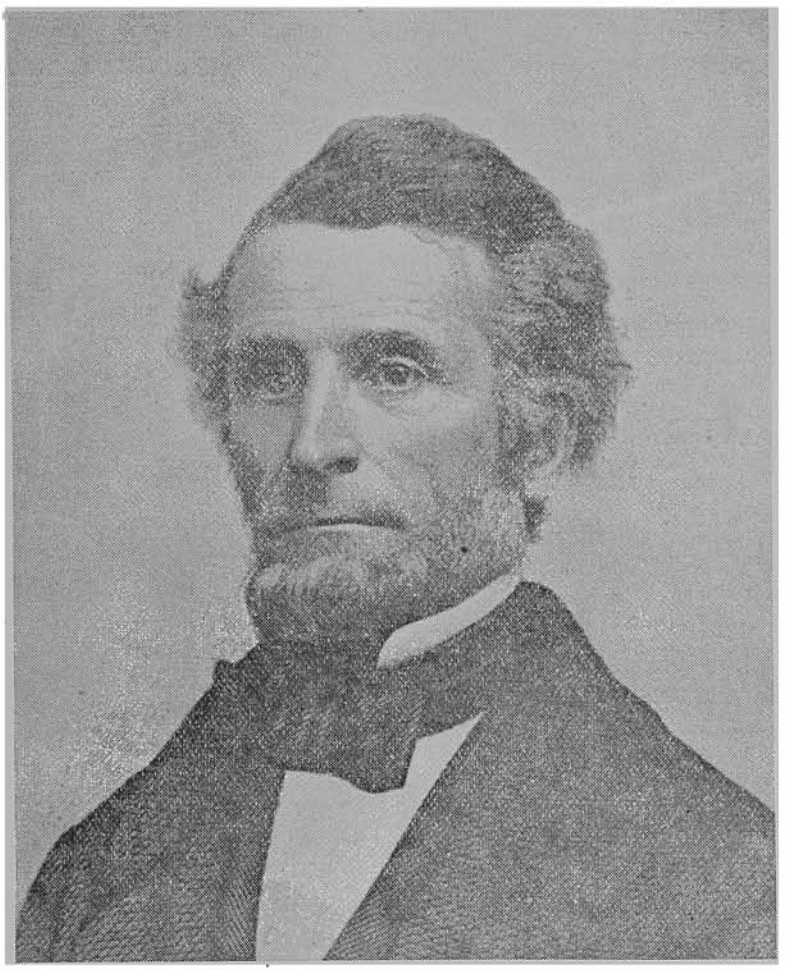
the Cleveland orator, the audience settled into a profoundly serious mood while Mr. Ferris stepped forward and delivered a brief but impressive sermon upon the special necessity of firemen to do their religious duty to God. The audience was stirred up to a high pitch. The company was very proud of the incident. Mr. Ferris was never more sincere nor more heartily congratulated for a noble act.

Mr. Ferris was a veteran of the panic of 1836-7. But he erected his Green street residence iu 1837 and encouraged others to stem the tide of ruin and distress. His wealth was reckoned at $100,000 in 1836, but it had diminished with his neighbors' when he became president. He was surrounded by many men whose financial ruin caused the new bankrupt act to be welcomed as a relief. He urged a brave and progressive administration upon the Board of Trustees and succeeded in a large degree in protecting the village from complete despondency.

The village was in a dangerous condition because many buildings were idle and empty. Fires were common and a volunteer secret service night-watch was placed under President Ferris's personal control and direction. The fires were all of incendiary origin. The rewards offered by the Board of Trustees failed to bring the "firebugs" to justice. Firemen enjoyed the shriek of their matchless firebell. A new fire engine was cheerfully ordered by a mass-meeting of tax payers at a cost of $1,200. The sum of $1,000 was voted to build a stone-arch bridge on Aurora street over Six Mile Creek, upon motion of President Ferris. At the charter election that year 4 votes were cast and counted for Ben Johnson, B. F. Taber, George W. Schuyler and Joseph Esty,sr.,for trustees. Perhaps they formed the first Abolition ticket in Ithaca and were themselves the only citizens who voted that ticket. Three years later the records say that B. G. Ferris was elected village treasurer.

Ben Johnson and General Levi Hubbell, a son-in-law of General Simeon DeWitt, appeared before President Ferris and the Board of Trustees and tendered $100 in money and requested that it be offered as a reward by the Board for the conviction of the persons who defiled several houses on Seneca street several nights before. The reward was reluctantly offered by the Board, at a subsequent session, but the culprits were never punished. The community was very indignant at the lawless act of the night-prowlers and ruffians. The cause of the act cannot be stated now with certainty. It was inspired probably by the temperance or abolition sentiments of Mr. Johnson and the owners of the houses selected for revenge.

The Ferris administration of 1852 was less conservative,for Ithaca was a large and prosperous village and had shaken off the worst effect of the panic.



JOHN JAMES SPEED—Sixteenth President

JOHN JAMES SPEED--SIXTEENTH PRESIDENT.

John James Speed, sixteenth president of Ithaca, was a Virginian by birth and in his characteristics. His American ancestors were prominent for their patriotism and industry, and for their intellectual accomplishments. His grandfather was one of five brothers who enlisted and served under Washington with valor and honor during the Revolution of the Colonies. In morals, intellect and industry he was an honor to his family record and to later-day kindred.

He accompanied his father, John James Speed, from Mecklenburg County, Virginia, in 1805, when but two years old, to Caroline, Tompkins County, New York. He was 29 years of age when married to Anne Sophia Morrell, of New York City. She was a woman of admirable social qualities and an aunt of the famous Brooklyn divine Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler. His own military nature was so marked that in 1829 he had, after several promotions, risen to the rank of colonel of the "199th infantry regiment of the State of New York." His first appointment as an officer was made by Governor DeWitt Clinton, his last by Governor Throop. He was known thereafter as Colonel Speed. His son Captain William Speed was killed at the battle of Gettysburg. He had enlisted while city attorney of Detroit, Michigan. Another son, Frederick, who was born in Ithaca in 1841, became an adjutant-general in the Union army during the Civil War, and attained distinction as a lawyer and judge in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Another son, John James Speed, jr., who was also a native of Ithaca, won a high place and honor as judge and jurist in Detroit. James Speed who served in Lincoln's cabinet as United States attorney-general was a near relative of this family.

Colonel Speed experienced a distinguished and varied career. His removal from Ithaca was to perfect and carry out the plans which Ezra Cornell and himself had drafted for the construction of telegraph lines from Buffalo through the Western States. He became associated with Mr. Cornell in his great enterprises and for years shared his dreams and hopes and hardships and, in the end, his millions. Colonel Speed located in Detroit and operated from that point. When about 5,000 miles of telegraph lines had been constructed by them and their associate, Jeptha H. Wade, they were driven to the verge of failure, according to Colonel Speed's version of the transactions, by need of capital and by the powerful competition of other companies that were then constructing other lines in the same and nearby territory. To avert bankruptcy and failure Colonel Speed and Mr. Wade, against Mr. Cornell's emphatic protest, voted to combine their stock with the stock of the competing companies. Hiram Sibley was one of the competitors. The stock which the three partners held rose rapidly in value and they became millionaires. Mr. Cornell's wealth was then estimated at $4,000,000. His partners had not held so much stock and neither was so wealthy as he.

Mr. Cornell was so incensed at the act of Colonel Speed that he refused further personal association or business intercourse with him although he consented to serve as a pallbearer at Colonel Speed's funeral in 1867, thirteen years afterwards.

Colonel Speed had in 1832 owned 1,000 acres of land in Caroline, Tompkins County, 700 of which were under cultivation. His enthusiasm for agriculture was great until he served a term in the Assembly in 1832. He then sold part of his

lands for $26,000, became a resident of Ithaca and entered in mercantile business with J. S. Tourtelot on the site now occupied by the McWhorter block on the northeast corner of State and Cayuga streets.

He soon became one of the foremost citizens of Ithaca. In 1838 he was elected a village trustee and supervisor of the township, which included the village until 1888. He was elected a trustee by the people and president of the village by the Board of Trustees in 1843. He escaped the ruin which the panic of 1836-7 had made so general in the village. Colonel Speed led the pace which financiers were forced to follow and was joined by others in erecting and establishing in Ithaca one of the most extensive woolen mills on the continent. The venture was a success and a great aid in developing the village until one of the stockholders and directors plunged the concern into bankruptcy by his wild speculation in the wool market.

During Colonel Speed's mercantile years he made a study of chemistry and mechanical invention. He was not forced by his financial needs to turn his inventive genius to practical purposes and he pursued his investigations for recreation only. But he had in 1837 shipped to the Emperor Nicholas, of Russia, his invention of a new system for the transmission of intelligence by semaphore or visual telegraphy. The emperor adopted it in the Russian empire and personally complimented Colonel Speed upon his success as an inventor and praised the merits of his invention. After his fortune was gone Colonel Speed abandoned mercantile life and applied his talents and industry to telegraphy He had been an intimate friend of Ezra Cornell and entered into Mr. Cornell's affairs with great zeal with the result already indicated.

In 1857 Colonel Speed disposed of his telegraph interests and invested the proceeds in coal and iron mines. He was one of the first speculators to produce and place coal-oil upon the market, but the oil fields were discovered in Pennsylvania and became a powerful competitor of coal-oil.

Against the earnest protest of his friends and of great capitalists, and the threats of other telegraph companies whose territory he was about to invade Colonel Speed,in 1862, constructed a new telegraph line from Portland, Maine, to Washington, D. C. His wisdom was demonstrated in two years. His new line was purchased by,and amalgamated with, the older lines.

He became president of an iron company and was preparing to put a new invention into operation that would mannfacture common iron into high class steel at a nominal cost. But his death came before the invention was perfected and nobody could be found to take up his plan and develop it with a reasonable promise of success.

Colonel Speed was endowed with great intellect, an eloquent tongue, seductive address, integrity, wide vision of industrial and mechanical affairs, profound insight into future public needs, and, above all, a fearless spirit that was balanced by admirable temper and consideration for the opinions of experienced men. He was a natural leader of men. When he became rich the second time he hastened to pay every dollar which he had left unpaid when he failed in Ithaca. His obligations were many and in several States, and were outlawed; but he did not permit lost accounts in ledgers and elsewhere to prevent the late but welcome settlements.

While a resident of Detroit Colonel Speed was a neighbor and intimate friend of General Lewis Cass. He removed from Detroit to Vermont and Maine hoping to receive benefit from the New England air for his pulmonary ailment and from which he died.

Colonel Speed was very resourceful and he knew it and had confidence in his genius to foresee and invent and construct when emergencies arose to embarrass his fellow citizens. He was celebrated as an industrial diplomat and negotiator. His experience had covered a wide field. He had been rich and aristocratic, a bankrupt, a public power and favorite, proud and humiliated. But he was never

discouraged and again he triumphed over every adverse surrounding. And in the obituaries and press and magazine notices after his death he was crowned with the reputation that a grand intellect and an honest life had won.

One of the incidents in Colonel Speed's life which his children knew was a source of pride to him was his speech to a mass meeting of taxpayers held at the Clinton House. He urged the erection of a village hall and such a hall that it would house all of the fire engines under one roof. His eloquence and character were so influential that a unanimous vote ordered the building of the village hall. He presided at a meeting of the taxpayers the same year, 1843, when a new fire engine was ordered to meet the conditions created by an alarming number of incendiary fires.

His death was followed by a series of articles, editorials and essays in the press wherever the telegraph system had been adopted. They reviewed his career and gave him credit for his useful and valuable mechanical inventions in telegraphing and for his commercial genius. He was also praised in the telegraphic magazines for the important aid he had furnished to Professor Morse during the latter's attempts to make telegraphy a success.

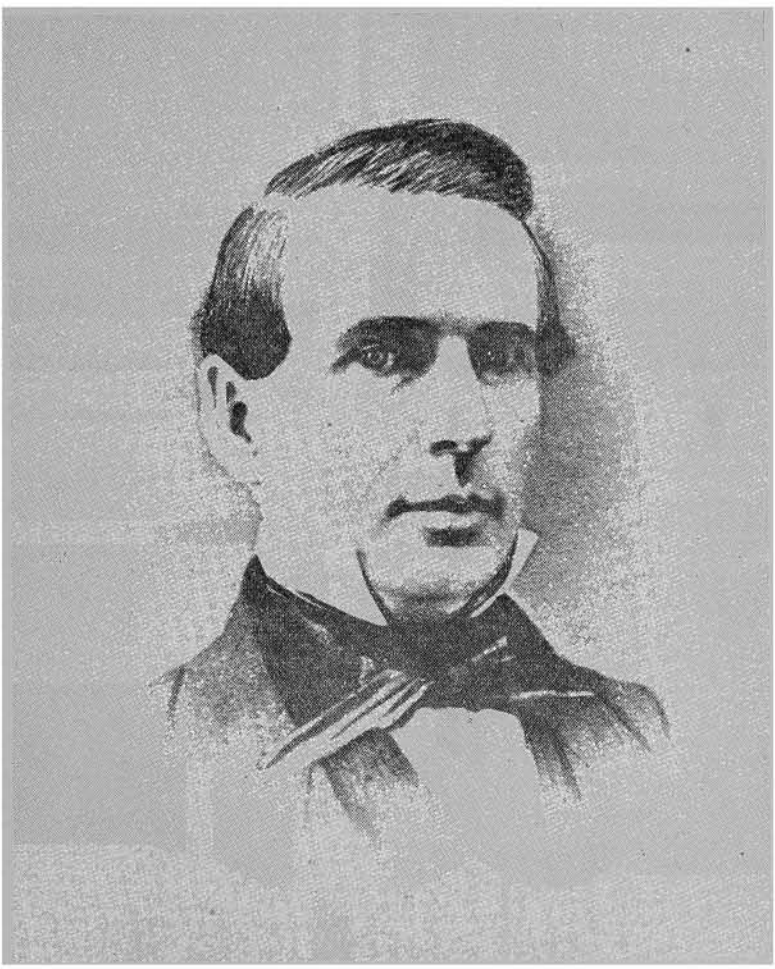
At his death Colonel Speed was 63 years of age. His ashes were interred in Greenwood cemetery, in Brooklyn, with all the honor and distinction that was essential to make his funeral memorable. His domestic and family relations were of such an affectionate nature that every relative who survives him mentions his name with profound reverence.

Colonel Speed was elected supervisor for the township of Ithaca, in 1838. Two years later he was elected a presidential elector on the Whig ticket and took part in the political campaign with great success as an orator. He had no superior perhaps as a public speaker in Ithaca in 1840. The election of the Whig nominee, General Harrison, opened up a wide field of political opportunity for him, but his tastes for public life were not dominating and he confined his energies to a business career, chemistry and mechanical invention. Poverty would have inspired him to urge his inventions upon the telegraph companies and he would have received much of the fame which Professor Morse won by anticipating the work of Colonel Speed.

His administration of village affairs in 1843 was unusually progressive. He was an inspiration to his official colleagues. His urgency of the new village hall was successful beyond his expectation. George McCormick was the owner of the property desired. The Board of Trustees purchased it for $1,800 and Mr. McCormick moved the house then standing upon it to the site it now occupies. It is now the city hall annex. Part of Mr. McCormick's contract was to furnish building stone for the foundation of the new village hall. The new building was opened for firemen's banquets in the following December.

Wages of laborers were raised from four shillings to five shillings per day. Thomas Reed was appointed pathmaster at eight shillings per day.

Colonel Speed was one of the most active and most influential men in Ithaca at that period. His financial losses were sustained while building up the village. His integrity and standing were very high and his removal from the village was deeply regretted. His affection for Ithaca and Ithacans never lost its freshness and his memory in turn will be affectionately preserved.



TIMOTHY S. WILLIAMS—Seventeenth President.

TIMOTHY S. WILLIAMS—SEVENTEENTH PRESIDENT.

An open bible resting upon a pulpit chiseled from a block of purest Carrara marble stands in a conspicuous spot in the city cemetery. The only word cut upon the face of the pulpit is: Williams. For more than thirty years this monument appeared to the writer of these sketches as a memorial to some saintly woman; a simple and impressive Puritan symbol of her beautiful and religious life.

Recent research disclosed this inscription on the reverse side of the pulpit: "Timothy Shaler Williams; born in Middletown, Conn., 1800; died in Ithaca in 1849, aged 48 years."

The unchanging story told by this snow-white symbol would serve its purpose well were not the honored ashes over which it stands sentinel of historic interest to the world. The memory of Timothy Shaler Williams merits wider fame than this monument can give to it.

He was a descendant of the Shalers who came to America in the Mayflower and of Roger Williams who was banished from Salem by his Puritan neighbors, for his liberality of mind, and given welcome in midwinter, from the storm and forest, to the wigwams of the Narragansett Indians; the Roger Williams who founded Providence, R. I. He was a grandson of Josiah Williams who fought for liberty at Bunker Hill.

Timothy S. Williams was the oldest of a large family and seemed favored by nature for great accomplishments. He was more than six feet tall, with noble physique and head so large that his hats were made to his order.

His tendencies were to refinement, the classics, the ministry. He studied two years in Yale and gave promise of a grand religious future. But his health failed, in 1825, and he sought pine lumber camps on the high table-lands between Cayuga and Seneca lakes for health and fortune and a temporary home.

Mr. Williams engaged in the lumber markets and succeeded beyond his expectations. He established a mercantile store at Applegate Corners in the town of Enfield. Success followed. He removed to Ithaca in 1827 and widened the scope of his business ventures. His younger brothers Manwell and Josiah joined him from Connecticut.

He continued his marvelous mercantile success and the extension of his business. The village papers of that period contain his advertisements and his name only. His brothers were minors. He erected the storehouse and elevator now owned by Mayor William R. Gunderman at the Inlet. He owned canal boats and conducted a large freight line on the canals; purchased and sold lumber, plaster and numerous building supplies, grains, produce and general merchandise.

He owned and resided in the house that stood upon the site of the present Methodist Church on West State street. It was surrounded by attractive fruit and flower gardens and bounded by State, Albany and Seneca streets. He erected the brick building on the opposite corner, the east half for his new bank (Merchants' and Farmers') and the west half for his store. The bank was chartered in 1838 and conducted in his residence during the erection of the bank building. His two brothers were then associated with him in the bank.

Mr. Williams was president of the bank until his death. His brother Manwell died soon after the bank was established. He erected and owned the grist mill on Linn street. He was one of the first directors of the Tompkins County Bank

that was chartered in 1836. He displayed executive ability of very higb order and met witb distinguished success in all his undertakings. His store in the bank building was popular and filled witb silks, broadcloths, groceries and general merchandise.

The religious life which Mr. Williams had designed to follow was not abandoned. He gave much attention and made generous subscriptions to the Presbyterian Church. He was specially interested in its missionary and charitable departments. He was one of eight members who builded and presented a mission house to the congregation. It was removed to make a site for a new one and is now the blacksmith shop adjoining the Chas. E. Seaman stables on South Cayuga street. He was one of the Elders of the church for many years.

Mr. Williams made annual presents of $100 to maintain a pastor in an Enfield Church. He paid, for years, the difficiency in the salary due to the pastor of his own church in Ithaca. It has been said that his generous contributions of money to his church were no more influential in spreading the Gospel tban was his own personal example.

Timothy S. Williams was a man of rare social qualities. His gentleness and courtesy were extended to children upon the streets. His dignified bearing well became his magnificent pbysique. Members of his family, after his death, received marks of gratitude from strangers to them who bad been aided by him in financial and commercial uudertakings.

He was married to Kesia Hungerford in Bristol, Connecticut, She was worthy of him and of the opportunities he afforded ber for performing works of goodness and in maintaining the social and religious life that distinguished her husband. She was of the Connecticut Porter stock that proved its pure Americanism in the Revotutionary and 1812 wars and in the intellectual and moral development of the nation.

Mr. Williams was a friend of popular education; such a friend that he was for years a trustee of the Ithaca academy and opened a generous purse to needy and deserving students.

He consented to accept public office in 1844; and was elected a trustee of the village in 1844-5-6. His colleagues in the Boards of Trustees cbose him to preside over them and to be president of the village. He was elected to the State senate in 1847. While driving overland from Albany to Ithaca during a session of the Senate, in Marcb 1849, he was attacked by a cold which settled into pleurisy. He died in fifteen days.

The village administrations of 1844-5-6 were stamped witb his conservative but progressive characteristics. His name had been affixed to numerous petitions presented to Boards of Trustees, prior to his own election, asking for street extensions, road and sidewalk and other municipal improvements. He was an arbiter of influence in many local affairs and a cheerful giver when subscription lists were circulated for local benefits.

He was the first citizen upon whom was conferred the honor of a third consecutive election as president of the village.

His last residence was the stone mansion, builded for Horace Mack, sr., by Samuel Halliday, and is now the home of his son, Timothy D., and his dangbter, Miss Harriet N. Williams, No. 115 West Green street.

Timothy S. Williams presided at the first meeting of the Board of Trustees in the new village hall, March 21, 1844. He appointed Trustee Samuel Halliday to prepare and finish the trustee room for occupancy. Elaborate rules were adopted for control of the Village Hall. The Franklin Temperance Society was permitted to use the hall on Monday evenings. Hook and Ladder Co. No. 3 was assigned the parlor now occupied by the Protective Police. Jacob R. Wortman furnished the parlor with his own handiwork which remains precisely as he left it.

The farm owned and occupied by William L. DeWitt was assessed as village building land. Upon Mr. DeWitt's protest to the Board of Trustees the question

was referred to Ben Johnson, Esq., for his legal opinion, and the assessment was changed. Franklin C. Cornell now occupies the DeWitt residence and farm. Mr. DeWitt was requested to survey and map the village cemetery. His charges therefor were audited. A "Potter's Field" was set off by Mr. DeWitt and adopted by the Board.

The Odd Fellows' circle was purchased by the local Lodge for $50.50. In March, 1845, the charter election was held in the Village Hall. In that month wages of laborers were increased to six shillings per day.

Madison, Hancock and First streets were ordered opened, upon the petition of H. W. Sage. A reward of $250 was offered in June, 1845, for the discovery of the person who set fire to the plow shop in the rear of the Ithaca Hotel and the Franklin House stables. The fence around DeWitt Park was ordered whitewashed in July. In October William L. Dewitt surveyed and opened Clinton street west from Plain street to the C. & S. R.R.

The citizens' volunteer night-watch was increased. Creditors of the village were given "notes for their claims to be paid next year." A bill for salt furnished by L. H. Culver to extinguish fires was audited at $17.56. William S. Hoyt repaired the town pump for five shillings.

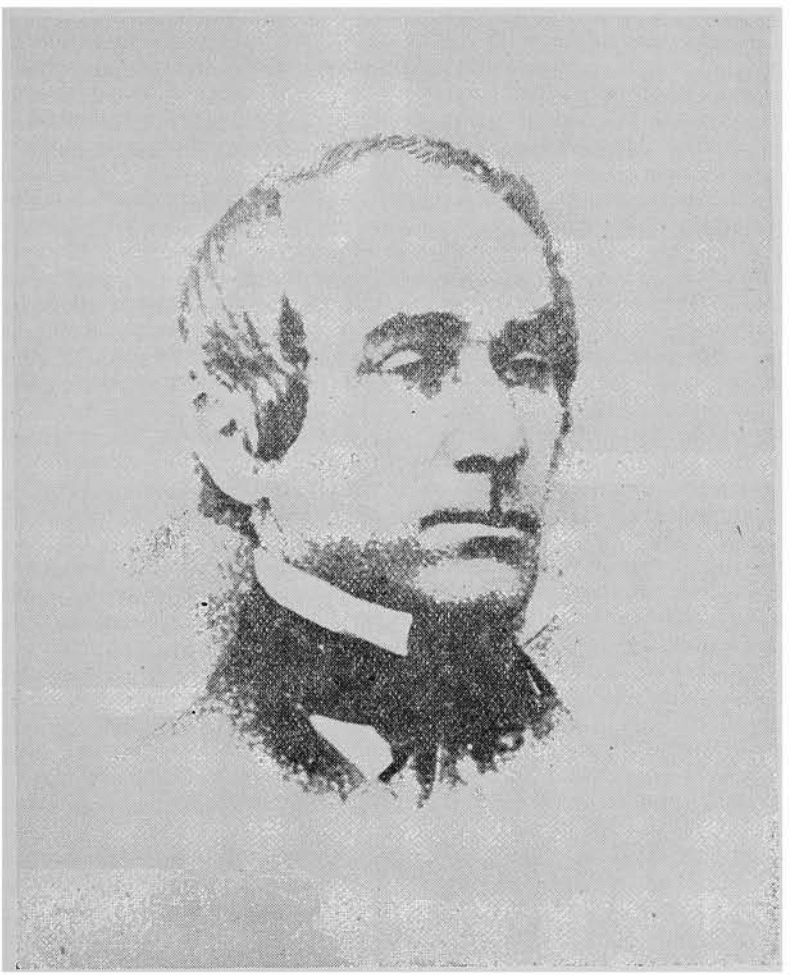
The disappointment which came to Senator Williams in his incomplete education and in his enforced change of avocation was made less poignant by his great success in his commercial pursuits. His wealth enabled him to materially aid many ordained ministers of the Gospel and to extend their influences in places and climes where he had hoped and planned to toil in Christian service. He became therefore a man of action rather than a declaimer; a man of thought rather than of luck although he was endowed with all the faculties essential to a great, generous, trusted, revered leader of a Christian community.

He was scholarly in tastes as he was refined in mind and continued to read his favorite Greek and Latin classics and to teach them in their original languages. His bible and his Greek authors shared his time and attention at his evening fireside.

It was his choice perhaps to serve upon the committee on religious and chartable socities in the Senate, a committee to which he cheerfully devoted much time and work until his death. His marble memorial typifies this and dignifies his life. Charity and religion are its fundamentals. It is the Christian's ideal. Upon it his memory and his fame may rest in safety.

The anouncement of the death of Senator Williams created profound sorrow in the village and county. His senatorial associates expressed their esteem for him in an impressive manner. The entire press of the State published eloquent tributes to his memory. Business centers mourned him. Pulpits echoed his praises for his noble qualities as a man and Christian.

Timothy Shaler Williams had held a grand hold upon the public heart. His death came in the bloom of his manhood.



NATHAN T. WILLIAMS—Eighteenth President.

NATHAN T. WILLIAMS—EIGHTEENTH PRESIDENT.

Natban T. Williams, eighteenth president of Ithaca, was for twenty years and more one of its most popular citizens, a social and official favorite. His personality, engaging manners, executive talents and generous nature found wide appreciation. His position as cashier of tbe Tompkins County Bank gave him abundant opportunities for public and financial information that equipped him well for public life. He was brilliant and refined and always prepared to accept public preferment when his fellow citizens urged bis acceptance.

He seemed to enjoy the performance of official duties as personal recreation, and yet he proved a genius while serving the public. No public meeting called for a discussion of village development was allowed to proceed without him. His unselfish spirit, wise counsel and fearless action made him a power for public good.

Mr. Williams was industrious and alert in business affairs and in party councils. His name was known in every corner of the village and the county and spoken with respect and admiration. He was a natural leader of men, not by his own choice but by the choice of the people. His popularity and public preferment were unsought by him.

He was aggressive in performing his public duties and resourceful in his leadership. He was a tireless friend of popular education and served from 1854 to 1858 as president of the Board of Directors of the Ithaca Academy.

In an eloquent address delivered at the dedication of the City Library in 1866 William L. Bogart said:

"I think of Nathan T. Williams, tbat kind, true and chivalric-hearted man; so ready to follow in works of enterprise and public good; so quick to discover the sources of usefulness and to give himself to whatever might elevate, refine and strengthen the village of Ithaca."

Mr. Williams was elected a village trustee in 1844-5-6-7-8-9-1850. In 1847-8-1850 he was chosen president of the village. The Whigs had a majority in the Board of Trustees in 1849 and he was a Democrat. President Frederick Deming appointed him chairman of the committee on finance with Philip J. Partenheimer and Josiah B. Williams as associates; a committee composed entirely of bankers.

He was elected supervisor of the township in 1850, thus holding three official positions in one year and at tbe same time. He was tbe only village trustee in the Board of 1849 who was re-elected in 1850, although his colleagues were all renominated. He always received more votes than were cast for any otber nominee except twice; William R. Humpbrey received five votes more than he received in 1847, and in 1855 he was defeated by Wait T. Huntington, the "American" nominee, for tbe office of president of the village. Mr. Williams was one of only 207 Democrats who remained loyal to the party in 1855. Although the Whigs placed no ticket before the people, Justus Deming received 50 votes from members of that once powerful and often victorious party.

His political activities and party affiliation gave Mr. Williams high distinction as a Democrat. During the exciting contest in 1840 he was made specially prominent by his service on a committee with Judge Dana, General Robert Halsey, Stepben B. Cushing and Chauncey L. Grant in the management and control in Tompkins county of President Van Buren's political interests and official canvass.

Tbis committee published a notice of a great mass meeting to be held at noon on the 19th of September in tbe "public square," now styled DeWitt Park, and

with the notice published 1,000 names that had been signed to the call. An elaborate and earnest appeal to the Democrats was added to the notice in the Ithaca Journal, then the organ of the party and of the committee. The appeal was written by Mr. Williams and won for him the hearty congratulations of his party associates. In inspired the Democrats to enthusiastic pitch and the holding of preliminary meetings in every school district in the county. It also united the party leaders in this vicinity.

The Whigs afterward issued a call for a mass-meeting at the same place and at the same time. This action of the Whigs created bitter contention among the people and furious debate in the party papers. Mr. Williams proved his superior generalship during the contest and became more prominent than he desired to be. His party tendered him its support for any political position that he might choose, but he declined to enter political life. He was then 34 years of age.

Mr. Williams was an active member of the fire department. In 1842 he was chairman of a delegation of firemen who appeared before the Board of Trustees and recommended the appointment of General Robert Halsey as chief and Josiah B. Williams as first assistant chief of the fire department. They were appointed.

In 1843 he offered a resolution, at a taxpayers' meeting held at the Clinton House, during the recurrance of incendiary fires, authorizing the Board of Trustees to purchase a new fire engine and new hose to meet the extraordinary and dangerous conditions then existing. The resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote.

It was upon the motion of Mr. Williams that the tax payers' meeting of 1843 voted authority to the Board of Trustees to "purchase property and build a town hall." John H. Selkreg was first appointed corporation printer during Mr. Williams' first administration as president of the village, 1847.

Mr. Williams's record as trustee and president of the village is admirable. He was alert to every opportunity for the progress and prosperity and beauty of the village. An inference may justly be drawn from the records and history of the village and from the present recollections of his contemporaries that Nathan T. Williams gave more than his share of time and talents to the advancement of the village along moral and mental and material lines.

The Boards of Trustees elected him three times as president by unanimous votes. His administration of village affairs was almost radical in its urgency of improvements. .Wages of laborers were increased in March 1847 from six shillings to seven shillings per day; in April to eight shillings and in May to nine shillings per day. State street was ordered planked from curb to curb from Aurora street to the Inlet, and when the trustees voted 3 to 3 to reconsider the order to plank the street President Williams voted no.

A remonstrance against planking the roadway was presented to the Board and by the same vote the remonstrance was tabled and not acted upon. Miles of street were extended and improved and new streets opened. Aurora street tenpin alleys were ordered closed and their owners ordered prosecuted. A sewer was laid through State street. Esty street, Brindley street and a street to the steamboat landing were opened. Theater companies were refused the use of Village Hall.

John and Joseph McGraw of Dryden were paid for 300,000 feet of lumber used for planking State street. William Linn DeWitt's bill for services as surveyor and civil engineer in grading and planking State street was paid by the Board of 1849, upon Mr. Williams' motion.

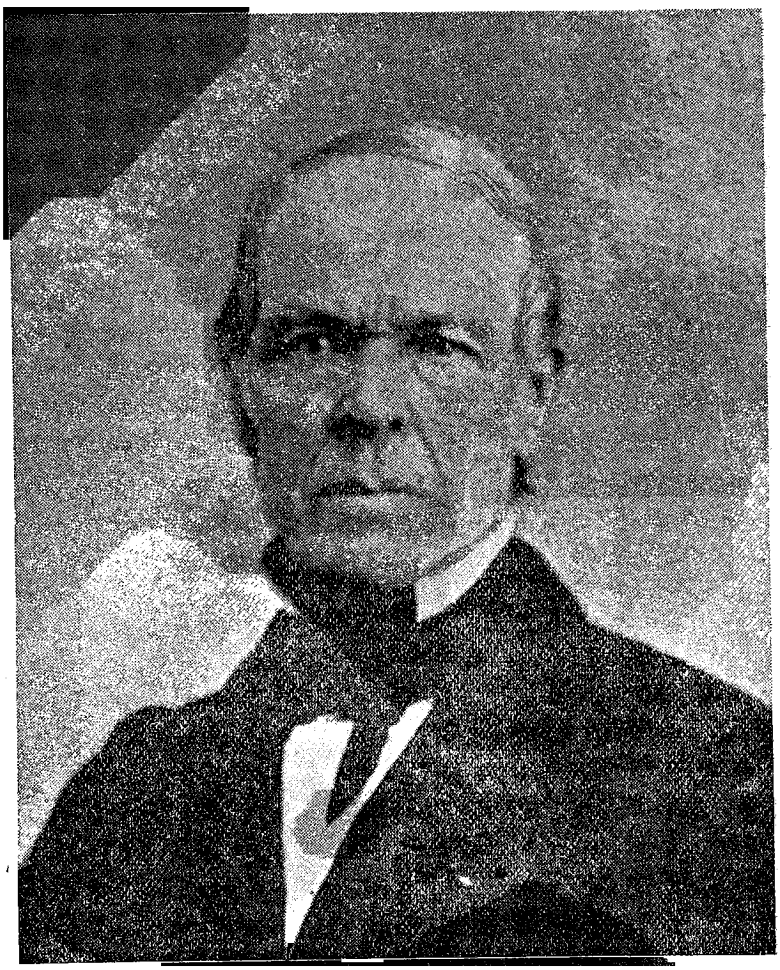
A cistern was ordered in 1850 at the corner of Cayuga and Mill streets to be used for fire purposes. It was to be kept filled with water from the roof of the Presbyterian Church. Jay, Corn, Wheat, Second, Fulton, Third and Cascadilla streets were extended and opened. A reward of $100 was offered for the conviction of the person who set fire to Covert and Leslie's morocco factory in December, 1850. Washington Park was taken by the Board for control and improvement and public use. A petition to abolish the town pump from the corner of State

and Aurora streets was refused. The Board ordered 10,000 days' work to be assessed upon property owners for highway purposes.

Trustees Leonard Treman, General H. A. Dowe and Leander Millspaugh were appointed the first committee upon fire matters. They immediately purchased new hose carts for No. 1 and No. 2 fire companies.

Nathan T. Williams was a native of Williamstown, Connecticut. He was a resident of Utica before he removed to Ithaca. His contemporaries who are still living describe him as a man of such genteel and dignified bearing that, to a stranger, he appeared haughty and aristocratic; but he was a pleasant companion and his character and personality were among the best in Ithaca. He contributed much indeed to the development of the village during a period when the best citizenship directed its affairs. His official and business competitors were chosen from the most influential men in the county. It was a high compliment to him to be chosen to fill their highest offices. He died in 1858 at the age of 52.

Mr. Williams was named after his father, Nathan Williams, who removed from Williamstown, Massachusetts, to Utica, N. Y., with his family when his son Nathan was a child and arose to such distinction as a lawyer that he was elected to Congress in 1803 and afterward was appointed a judge of the United States court. Mr. Williams was given Thompson for his middle name, his mother's father being General Thompson J. Skinner, a hero of the French and Indian and the Revolutionary wars. The Nathan Williams family is of Welch descent and, like the Skinners, were early settlers in America and noble New England stock. Mr. Williams was cashier of the Tompkins County Bank and a vestryman of St. John's Episcopal church at the time of his death.



FREDERICK T. DEMING—Nineteenth President

FREDERICK T. DEMING—NINETEENTH PRESIDENT.

Frederick T. Deming was one of that rare type of men who maintain marvelous composure, gentle and lovable manners during a life contest in the industrial and political world. Although prominent in business circles he resisted all influences that generally disturbed his neighbors and competitors. He was thoroughly judicial in his temperament.

He was ever ready to perform private or public duties. His name was a synonym of honesty and justice. But honesty was not a rare quality in the public men of his generation, nor in the mercantile centers in which he moved. It was his combination of attributes that elevated him to a standard which all men admired.

Mr. Deming was the son of Justus Deming, a Berkshire County, Massachusetts, farmer. Both father and son, perhaps, were natives of Connecticut. That is all that we can learn of his antecedents. It accords with the iron logic of his modest personality. He left no further information of his family.

His estimate of men was based entirely upon personal, not ancestral, merit; an indication that his own parentage was of modest historical surroundings. In this characteristic Mr. Deming was notable, considering his own prominence as man, merchant and public official.

In his early life he learned the trade of cabinet making with a Mr. Wells, in Newark Valley, Tioga County, N. Y. He must have been still young when he accompanied Mr. Wells to Ithaca.

A deed was given by David Woodcock to Frederick Deming and a partner in 1817 for a piece of land, 50 by 60 feet, next to the Fall Creek bridge and west of a saw mill, for $600. It was recorded in Book B in 1818 and recited that Ithaca was in the town of Ulysses in the County of Seneca. He was then 21 years old.

The record says that he was to establish an oil mill near the bridge. He owned a cabinet shop on the Cascadilla Creek above the Williams (now the Campbell) mill at Linn street. His speculations until late in his life were successful and he saved many thousands of dollars. His declining years were passed in comfort and happiness.

His principal occupation was in manufacturing and dealing in furniture. His store and shops were destroyed by fire in the forties. He erected a brick building upon the old site and leased it. Murray E. Poole now owns it and Osborn & Co. occupy it. It is part of the Demiug block and contains the Deming Hall. Mr. Deming, later, conducted the furniture business in the present Wolcott & Barton store, No. 107 West State street.

How natural that Frederick T. Deming whose character and personality were so like those of Captain John Holman should be chosen for public honors. But unlike Captain Holman Mr. Deming was an earnest and interested partisan. His alliance with the Whigs was a disappointment to his Democratic friends. He became one of a group of fifty men whose presence at party caucuses and meetings gave the Whigs high standing and prestige and many exciting victories over Democrats whose leadership gave Ithaca envied fame and influence in Albany and in Washington.

In 1841-5-6-9 Mr. Deming was elected on general tickets, for which every citizen might vote, a trustee of the village. In 1849, he was chosen president by his Whig colleagues Philip J. Partenheimer, Josiah B. Williams, John L. Whiton,

Samuel Stoddard and Anson Spencer;and Nathan T. Williams, the only Democrat in the Board. This tribute to Mr. Deming can be expressed with greater effect by naming Democrats who were defeated at that charter election: John H. Selkreg, Henry W. Sage, Lewis H. Culver, William R. Humphrey and Peter Apgar.

Mr. Deming was a charter member of the first fire company in Ithaca. He had served as a private citizen on a committee to purchase additional land for the village cemetery. He had been active in public and private affairs that in any way tended toward developing the industrial and commercial interests of the village.

A few weeks after he had been elected president of the village he was elected supervisor of the village and town and held the two positions at the same time. He was elected supervisor again in 1851.

Radical measures were adopted by the Board of Trustees in 1850, under new laws passed by the legislature of that year, to prevent a return of the cholera scourage of 1849. Mr. Deming was appointed a member of the Board of Health and succeeded in enforcing stringent sanitary rules in the village, with Jacob M. McCormick, his colleague.

During Mr. Deming's administration as president of the village a plank sidewalk was ordered to be laid at the expense of owners of property on the west side of Lake avenue from Cayuga street to the steamboat landing. The Cayuga & Susquehanna R. R. Co., by its secretary William R. Humphrey, offered to furnish the plank for a plank road 8 feet wide from the South Hill depot to the steamboat landing if the village would lay it, the company having been granted the right to cross State or any other street in the village that the company might choose. The offer was accepted by the Board of Trustees. Plain street was opened from Buffalo to Cascadilla street. Mill street was opened from Albany street to Plain street. H. W. Sage was granted permission to "dig a ditch to lay pipe to bring a pure supply of water to the village." The planking of State street was finished and fast driving on the new plank road was made punishable by a fine of $10.

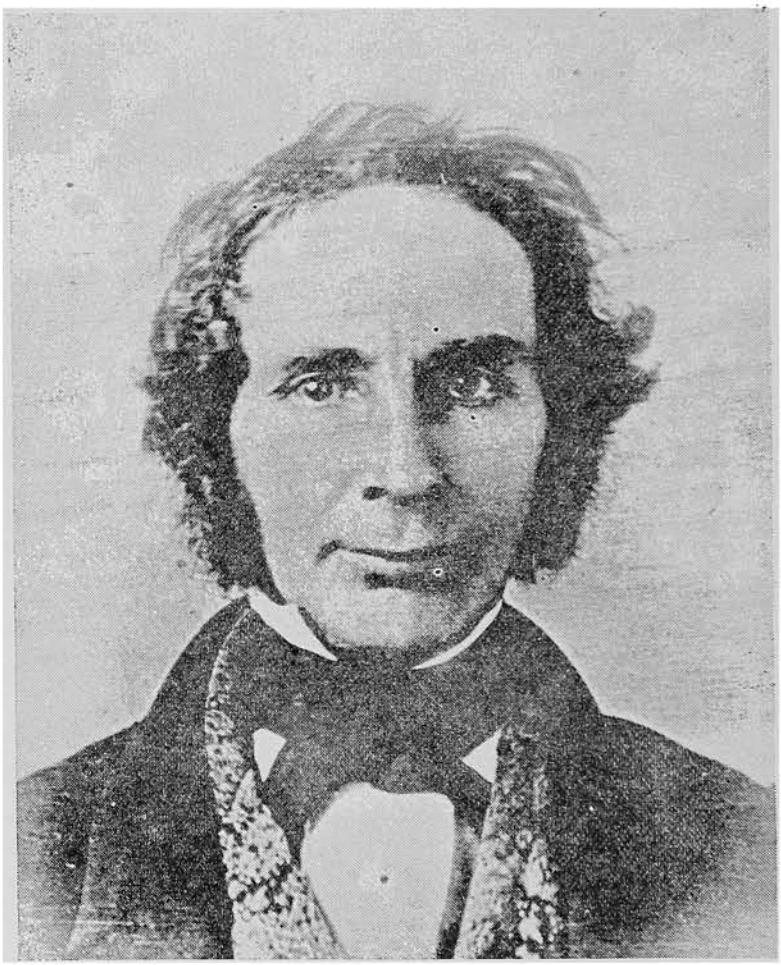
Citizens were requested by an ordinance to not split or saw wood on State street sidewalks. The request went unheeded for five months and the Board passed an ordinance making such sawing and splitting of wood on said street sidewalks punishable by fine or imprisonment. The health officer was paid $80, and "each member of the Board of Health $40 for faithful and efficient service during the cholera" of that year. The Board of Trustees also passed a resolution of thanks to the Board of Health.

The expenses of the administration were large during 1849 and notes were given by the Board to its creditors for the amounts due to them.

At the final session of the Board in 1850 it adopted a resolution of thanks to President Deming for his wise and considerate manner of presiding over the Board and for his excellent work as president of the village.

Mr. Deming was tall and attractive in physique. His face was serious and benevolent in expression. His manner of speech and action was deliberate. His opinions were uttered only after reflection and carried weight among men who knew him. Mr. Deming was an Odd Fellow of distinction and a member of the Ithaca Lodge.

His residence was on East Green street. He was never married. He died in 1877, aged 81 years, and received the respect and consideration justly due from his surviving contemporaries. Among the sincerest mourners around his bier were men who had been in his employment in their earlier years; a beautiful tribute to his generous and intelligent nature.



HORACE MACK—Twentieth President.

HORACE MACK—TWENTIETH PRESIDENT.

Horace Mack was equipped with extraordinary qualifications for public life and public service. His intellect and morals were of high standard. He was trained in the school of industry and experience and was intensely patriotic. His ancestors, as the name indicates, were, perhaps, Celtic and settled in New England in 1680. The records show the Macks to have been noble Colonial stock that displayed admirable patriotism and strength of personality during the Revolution.

Mr. Mack's father, Stephen Mack, was born in Marlborough, Mass., in 1766, ten years before the colonists declared their independence of England. Two of his older brothers served in Washington's armies and became distinguished officers. One of them died from hardships imposed upon him by the English after he was captured by them and confined as a prisoner of war in a Canadian fortress. Many of the family relatives have served the nation well and honorably not in war alone, but in every branch of its industrial and intellectual life.

Horace Mack was born in Cooperstown, N. Y., in 1799. In 1803 he went to Owego, N. Y., where his father had located and was conducting a printing and newspaper establishment. In 1817 he served one year with his father. In 1818 he removed to Ithaca, where his half brother, Ebenezer, had located, and entered the store of Levi Leonard. After two years of service with Mr. Leonard he became a clerk in the store of Jeremiah S. Beebe, on the southeast corner of State and Aurora streets, Mr. Leonard's adjoining it on the east, on State street. In 1822 he removed with Mr. Beebe to the brick building now occupied by Stephens & Welch, No. 106 East State street.

In 1823 Mr. Beebe and Stephen B. Munn became partners and took possession of the store on the northeast corner of State and Cayuga streets. Mr. Mack retained the store vacated by Mr. Beebe and conducted it in his own name. In 1827 the three men entered into partnership and occupied the corner store, and the brick ware-house on Cayuga street now owned by Michael Egan and known as the Union Hotel, and a wooden store-house on the southeast corner of Cayuga and Seneca streets where the residence and dental offices of Dr. George W. Hoysradt now stand. Mr. Beebe then owned the three buildings.

In 1829 Mr. Mack withdrew from the firm and established his own store in the Egan building. In 1830 he purchased the property on the southwest corner of State and Cayuga streets, now the Crozier block, and, with Daniel T. Tillotson as a partner, transacted a mercantile business until 1832 when he sold his interest to Henry Ackley and removed to Spencer to recuperate his failing health. He followed milling and farming and acted as a land agent for Mr. Munn in Spencer until 1836. He then returned to Ithaca and resumed mercantile trade in his own building on the Crozier, then the Mack, corner, with Myron H. Ferris as a partner. In 1839 he sold his mercantile interest to Samuel H. Winton who had been in his employment and whom Mr. Mack brought to Ithaca from Tioga county.

He joined John James Speed in 1838, under the firm name of Mack & Speed, and purchased the property known as the Fall Creek Flouring Mills and conducted them until 1840 when Mr. Mack disposed of his interest in the mills and returned to his mercantile avocation. In 1844 George W. Phillips became his partner. In 1849 he retired from active business pursuits.

Mr. Mack had purchased, cleared and improved a large tract part of which was long known as the Irish Settlement, upon which the father and grandfather of the writer resided, south of the city line, on the road to Newfield. Part of the tract is still owned by his descendants. In 1853 he purchased the Stannard block on East State street. It is now owned by Pumpelly and occupied by Howes, Bement and Rankin. He erected the stone mansion No. 115 West Green street in 1840 and resided in it six years.

He was a prominent leader in the public and industrial affairs of the village for more than thirty years. His accomplishments were appreciated. His commercial and political influence was extensive. He was a ready debater, resourseful and enthusiastic in promoting public improvements. His integrity and wisdom were admired far beyond the boundaries of the county.

During his young manhood Mr. Mack was often elected an assessor of the village. He caused a great contention between the banks and wealthy residents on the one side and the Boards of Trustees on the other by his fearless manner of making assessments for tax rates. He was always sustained by the Boards of Trustees and by the people. In 1832 he was elected a member of the Assembly; in 1839-1840-5-1851 a village trustee; in 1851 president of the village; in 1841 supervisor of the township; in 1849 county clerk and served three years, 1850-1-2. In 1843 he was appointed a commissioner to build the new court house. In 1850 he presided at the annual taxpayers' mass-meeting. In 1846 he, with Judge Dana and William Grant, was defeated for trustee by one vote.

Mr. Mack was a cautious and genial citizen and very popular with every class of people. His courage often won him public admiration. Two incidents may be cited as illustrations. A number of pugilists, engaged in their favorite sport upon an election day, espied one of their own class who had voted an opposition ticket and rushed toward him. He ran from them and sought a hiding place in Mr. Mack's store. The others followed him. Mr. Mack witnessed the flight and the chase. He armed himself with an ax handle and, standing in the doorway of his store, threatened to use it upon the first of the pursuing bullies who would dare to molest any man that sought shelter and protection in that store.

The fighters were so pleased with Mr. Mack's conduct that they shook his hand and promised courteous treatment to the man in the store. They made their promise good and invited their would-be victim to join them. They gathered around Mr. Mack and assurred him that they were ready to do anything he might ask of them. Fighting was not an unusual custom upon election days in Horace Mack's generation.

In the early twenties he criticised the conduct of the German fencing-master who resided in the village. The German challenged Mr. Mack to fight a duel. He accepted the chanllenge and named pistols as the weapons. His friends could not persuade him to ignore the challenge until the last minute before the pistols were handed to the duelists. The people had collected in large numbers to witness the duel by the side of a deep pond called "Hemp Hole," near Six Mile Creek below Cayuga street. With the sound sense of an intelligent American and to the great amusement of the entire crowd, he grasped his ugly antagonist and threw him into the deep pond. The German became an object of laughter and a subject of jest all over the country and abandoned the village.

Mr. Mack was a charter member of the first fire company in the village; a director of the Bank of Ithaca; a director of the Tompkins County Bank from 1836 until his death in 1855 and member and official of the Independant Order of Odd Fellows. He was in constant correspondence with distinguished statesmen and politicians. His record as an assemblyman was excellent, but he refused to continue in high political office.

He contributed articles of superior merit to the press. He was a well informed, cultivated and an earnest and active Democrat and Jacksonian during his

manhood. He was a humorous and delightful companion, specially fond of children and enjoyed their innocent sports and games. His cheerful nature was a charming characteristic. He was generous, democratic, elevated and noble in his ambitions and worthy of the many public honors conferred upon him.

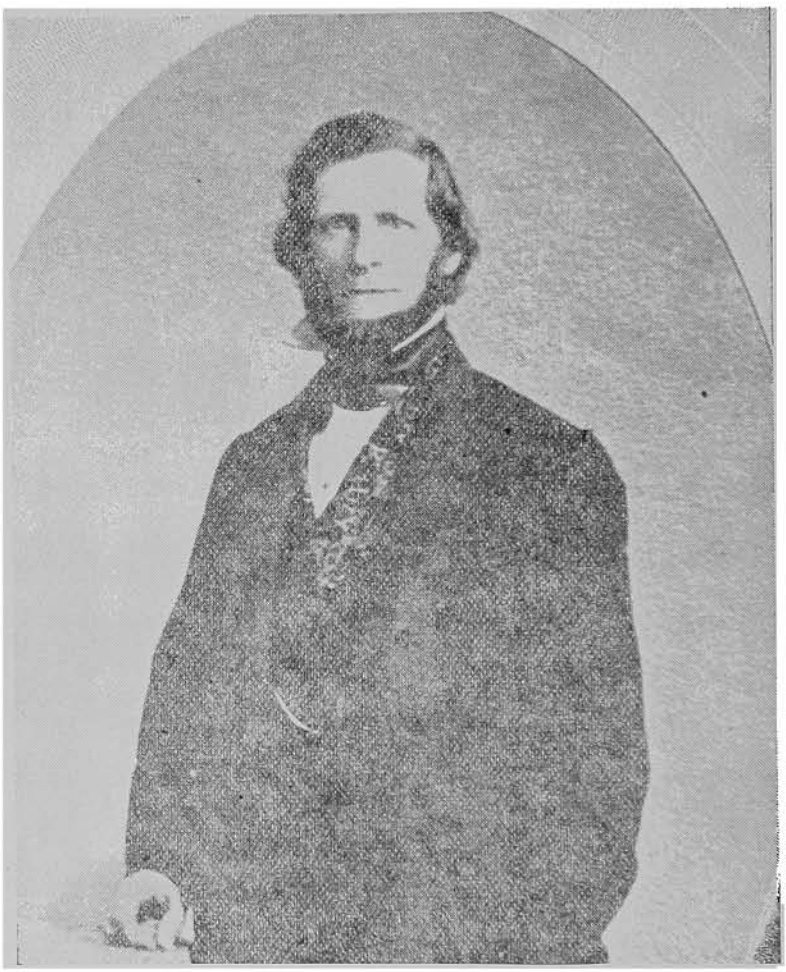
Horace Mack's administration in 1851 was along the progressive lines of his very popular party predecessor, Nathan T. Williams. Lafayette L. Treman was elected assessor, John Gauntlett, treasurer, and John H. Selkreg, publisher of the Ithaca Journal, reappointed corporation printer. Wages of laborers were increased one shilling per day. Madison, Esty, Utica, Meadow and Fourth streets were extended. Marshall, Varick and Washington streets were opened. A hrass cannon was secured from the State arsenal. Seven hundred dollars were offered in various amounts as rewards for the detection of persons "who set fire to Mrs. Bishop's barn, the Williams (Merchants and Farmers') bank, the Finch store-house, Peter Apgar carpenter shops, Burritt's barn and the Woolen Factory." Josiah B. Williams resigned as village trustee in Jannary 1852 to take his seat in the State Senate. Bridges were erected over the Inlet and other streams; a plank road was laid on Aurora street and $1,100 of debt which tbe former Board contracted was paid by the Board in 1851. Many sidewalks were ordered to be planked and numerous expensive improvements were continued or inaugurated during the year.

Mr. Mack died in 1855, aged 56 years. The Journal said of him, in an obituary: "In the Legislature of 1832, during the stormy times of the United States bank question he aided in sustaining our State institutions against that gigantic moneyed power. The deep sympathy felt by the community at his death is the fruit of a life not alone devoted to his individual interest. He possessed a large and liberal heart which endeared him to all who knew him. The young man, the mechanic, the laboring man always found in him a sympathizing friend, the public a faithful servant and society one of its most desired ornaments. His history is the mercantile history of Ithaca."

In the same issue ot the Journal the Odd Fellows assert in their resolutions: "Horace Mack has left a void that will long remain unfilled."

Mr. Mack was married to Ann Eliza, a daughter of Judge Joshua Ferris, and sister of Benjamin G. Ferris, in Spencer, N. Y. She was refined, intellectual and lovable as woman, wife and mother. He resided nine years and died in tbe brick mansion No. 105 West Green street, now occupied by his daughter Miss Mary Mack and granddaughter Mrs. Laura Mack Kephart. It was builded by his father-in-law Judge Ferris.

He was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church from its organization in 1823 until his death. He had ethical ideals and found them in the church. In his ethics and in his religion he was consistent. He would have been consistent and distinguished in any profession, as he was in his business career. He had many contemporaries and many competitors, but not an enemy. His character, his memory, his life work are worthy of public veneration.



ANSON SPENCER—Twenty-First President

ANSON SPENCER—TWENTY-FIRST PRESIDENT

The brief records kept by the village clerks shed only a faint light upon the first thirty years of village history. The local papers seldom referred to the Boards of Trustees and neglected at times to even mention the names of the citizens who were nominated and elected to fill village official positions. The editors and publishers of those papers were zealous and patriotic in all other municipal affairs and contributed largely to the development of the political and commercial life of Ithaca. The Ithaca Journal and The Ithaca Chronicle were party organs and with wide circulation and genuine fame. National and State affairs were debated in their columns in a manner that would win fame and honor at the present time.

But Anson Spencer was not so close a student of politics and politicians, of Federal and State development as he was of improvements and numerical growth in Ithaca. His career was singularly unlike that of his older brother David Spencer, the senior partner of the firm that published the Chronicle. He was a local favorite whose modesty kept him unconscious of the fact that he was making local history of an important character and of which he was an influential factor. This adds special interest to his own history and furnishes a reason for the absence of village history in the papers which he owned, controlled and directed in his earlier public career.

Had Anson Spencer foreseen the beautiful city of the present day, and become self-conscious, he might have filled many columns of his papers with the local history of his own times. This is true notwithstanding that he was the younger and less prominent member of the publishing firm of David and Anson Spencer, because David was a famous and powerful writer upon National and State politics from the Federal and Whig view points and ignored local affairs. Anson Spencer was aggressive and patriotic in all local affairs. He held a high place in public esteem as a modest, gentle, considerate and reliable citizen.

The variety of his public service was evidence of his popularity. He was fire warden, assessor, village trustee, village president, school trustee, corporation printer, and was honored with divers other offices of prominence. The office of fire warden was of decided importance, the village having no water works and only hand engines and a bucket company, and depended for protection from fires upon water in cisterns sunk into the streets.

The difference was not very great between the offices of president and trustee of the village. The assessorship was always regarded as a very important position which no man was too good or too able to accept. Mr. Spencer was elected a trustee in 1843-4-5-6-9-1852-3-1862. In 1853 he was chosen president by his colleagues in the Board of Trustees, the last to be so chosen.

He was elected and served as school trustee for a number of years. He was one of the "school board" with William R. Humphrey and Judge Boardman and with them designed, erected and dedicated School No. 16, now know as the Central School. The people were proud of the school and expressed their gratitude to the trustees in emphatic manner when it was opened in 1854. It seated 1000 pupils in three departments.

Mr. Spencer became a charter member, in 1828, of Cayuga Fire Company No.

1 and for many years was enthusiastic in his efforts to maintain it as a model company. In 1853 he was a charter member of the first water works company in the village, with Judge Wells, Henry W. Sage, Charles E. Hardy and J. E. Shaw.

At the dissolution of the Whig party he joined his old rivals, the Democrats, and proved to be one of the most consistent and most loyal members of the party. His popularity among the Whigs followed him into the ranks of his new allies. He was popular always and everywhere.

Anson Spencer was born in Canandaigua in 1809, three months after his father's death. His grandfather settled on a military tract, in that locality, allotted to him for military service in the Revolution. The family came from England, but when has not been ascertained, and settled in East Hamden, Conn. Fifty years ago Anson Spencer did not care to know when they came to America. Nor did David. They did not forsee the advent of the American genealogist and the American family historian. When Colonel Charles S. Spencer, the son of David and brother of Spence Spencer, was presented with a volume containing the family history of the Spencers in England, he said that it was useless and valueless because it omittted the history of the family in America, the best part of the whole Spencer sept. He added that he would like to cut out and preserve the family coat of arms as a curiosity. The traditions that have come down through the family show it to have been of New England stock with an honorable and patriotic record; a record of honor and patriotism that does not justify the modesty and reticence of the Spencers when discussing it.

When Anson was nine years old he learned that his stepfather was preparing to bind him out to learn the blacksmith's trade. Arranging his clothes in a large handkerchief he traveled on foot from Canandaigua to Ithaca and presented himself to his brother, David, who was then a resident of Ithaca. David received the lad with gladness, took him to his home and, being a printer taught Anson the trade. Anson was pleased with his new home. In 1823 David conducted and edited a weekly newspaper of his own. Anson personally distributed the papers over a large territory between Ithaca and Geneva. His task was congenial; his customers admired him and rapidly increased in number.

David and Anson Spencer founded the Ithaca Democrat in 1828. It was named the Ithaca Chronicle. In 1863 it was merged with The Tompkins Democrat that had been founded by Timothy Maloney in 1856 to take the place of The Ithaca Journal when The Journal abandoned the Democratic party and became the organ of the party that had nominated General Fremont for president. After Mr. Maloney's death, in 1860, the Democrat was purchased by Barnum R. Williams. He and Mr. Spencer were partners until 1872. Mr. Spencer then became sole owner and in 1873 took Ward Gregory into partnership until Mr. Spencer's death in 1876. Mr. Spencer was nearly 48 years a publisher and editor, and had been connected with the Democrat ten years before he was proprietor, publisher or editor of a newspaper. His papers were Whig organs until the Journal became a Republican organ. He became so skillful and so industrious in his trade that he seldom met his equal as a type-setter. He never lost interest or pleasure in working at the case, but continued it until his last years on earth. His manner and conversation were so cheerful that his employes enjoyed his presence among them and welcomed him with earnest greeting when he sallied into the composing room to take his place at the case and aid them in catching up with work that must be done.

He was so kindly. considerate and generous that he would not write or publish an article which he deemed hurtful to any person's feelings or harmful to any person's interests. His own interests were often sacrified to carry out that principle. It was the secret of his popularity. He followed that principle in his business, political and private life. He was almost unconscious of this trait of char-

acter, a fact that enriched it. He did not adopt it as a matter of policy. It was an innate virtue.

He was enthusiastic in nearly all of his undertakings. His home was a play house. His four daughters were his playmates. He made every hour a happy one. He sat on a hand-sleigh with his daughters behind him and steered the sleigh down the hill. He dragged it up the hill and again acted as steersman until his playmates and himself were tired of the exciting sport. They then in their home indulged in lighter pastimes. He was their escort to and from parties, receptions, church and public entertainments. They would have no other escort if he had time to attend them. He was a student of the Bible and a teacher in Sunday School. He once suggested to his daughters, in September, the saving of their spending money to purchase a Christmas present for their mother. They gladly obeyed and made him their treasurer. He cut a Christmas tree, brought it home and arranged the presents upon it. Among the presents were four bags of pop-corn. In each bag was double the amount of money saved by the daughter to whom the bag was addressed. The mother's present was also upon the tree. He thus taught them the beautiful Bible story of Joseph and his brothers. And by it he taught his daughters how sweet was the heart and how sympathetic was the mind of their father. He taught by precept, by example.

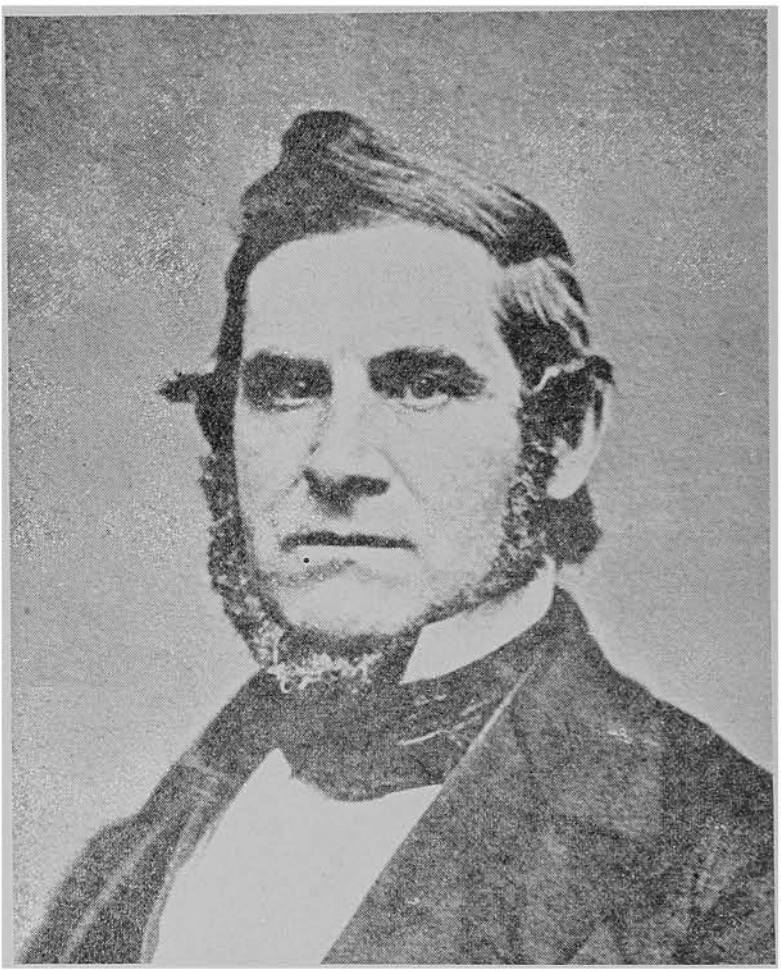
Anson Spencer purchased land in the edge of the forest and there erected his home in early years. It is now the second house below Spring street on the south side of Buffalo street, between the Albert M. Hull and Deforest VanVleet residences and is numbered 417. He had resided with his brother David on the site of the present Blood block, the south-east corner of Tioga and Mill streets.

Mr. Spencer was a peace-maker in public affairs. He had no ambition that could equal his desire to protect a citizen from a possible wrong. He was earnest in whatever he undertook to do, but he always gave great consideration to his opponents and won their sincere esteem in return. He was dominated by the spirit of justice. He acted his part in life so that his nearest friends and his sternest critics held him guiltless of personal, business or official wrong. His repeated election to important public offices was a tribute to these charming qualities of head and heart.

The Spencer administration was noted for its spirited advance in local improvements. Sidewalks were ordered graded and planked by the mile. Wooden awnings, high posts and signs were ordered abolished from the streets and 9 foot canvas awnings were allowed. Fences standing in Cascadilla street were ordered removed. Many streets were ordered surveyed. The 10,000 days of highway assessment resolution was continued. President Spencer purchased the old plank on First street for $1 per cord. A fund was provided for firemen; the first noted in the minutes of the clerks.

Walbridge & Finch were ordered, in December 1853, to sue the Board of Supervisors for $168 for the use of Village Hall. The bill was paid before the papers were served for the suit. The new court house was being builded. The Supervisors offered to pay only $105 for 21 days use of the hall. The village charter was amended by the legislature in January, 1854. The Presbyterians were not allowed the use of Village Hall every Sunday during the building of their new church because the hall was already occupied. The sum of $1,100, was paid to Justus Deming for the gravel from the Clinton street gravel bank (now Mrs. McGraw's). The Board of 1853 builded and completed over five miles of new roads and increased the taxable property of the village many thousands of dollars; builded a new engine house at the Inlet and fitted it up and builded a new bridge, which accounted for the debt that was kept on the village.

The minutes of the village clerk of 1853 do not indicate that President Spencer vetoed or obstructed the adoption of any resolution of the Trustees during the year. He must be awarded his share of the credit for such an excellent record and for the popularity of the Whigs who elected their ticket headed by Philip J. Partenheimer the year following. Mr. Spencer was married to Sarah A. Mitchell. He died in 1876 aged 67. She survived him many years.



PHILIP J. PARTENHEIMER—Twenty-Second President

PHILIP J. PARTENHEIMER—TWENTY-SECOND PRESIDENT.

This is a portrait of Philip J. Partenheimer in the early fifties, when his name stood for all that made a noble man in the prime of life; fit for mental and physical battle with great problems in municipal development and for contentions with great men. It presents the favorite Whig of his day and generation in Ithaca; the one man whom Democrats could not defeat; whom they welcomed in their party, when the Whigs dissolved their organization, and loaded with honors and positions of trust and importance as if he had not been their most successful opponent for many years.

Mr. Partenheimer was endowed with every physical and mental characteristic which men admire. His mien was martial and dignified. Strangers noted his step in the public highways and public places; his noble manner of action and speech; his graceful courtesy; his etiquette and his frankness. He impressed a stranger as he did bis personal friends. He never chauged his manners, his step, his frankness, his speech, his dignity. He was massive in head and face; in expression and looks; but he was also gentle and sympathetic which made his influence strong and immediate.

He was not an accomplished actor. He was one of nature's models. Prompt to act and to speak he was simplicity personified. He was suggestive of a fieldmarshal whose democratic instincts were hidden from view except to a person who knew him well. He was as fearless as a lion, and dominated by an exquisite sense of justice. He might have been imperious in his heart and mind and been consistent with his outward manner in general. It was this rare combination of qualities that made him a striking personality and drew men to him in great numbers. The hair that hung upon his shoulders was becoming to him. His head held high over his powerfully built body was admired for its apparent hauteur.

Mr. Partenheimer enjoyed public life. He was not a pretender and did not assume a mock modesty. He was never charged with ambition that was distasteful to his fellow citizens in business or social or fraternity circles. His mental and moral balance was a source of pride to his personal friends and society acquaintances. He was refined and sincere as well as powerful among men. His public and seciety honors were not of his seeking. But he made them worthy of his acceptance and he cheerfully performed all the duties that belonged to them.

Mr. Partenheimer was born in Philadelphia in 1813. His father, Adam Partenheimer, was a native of a village near Frankfort, Germany. Philip's mother was Elizabeth Bound, of English descent and a native of Milton, Pennsylvania. They were married in Philadelphia in 1806. Philip was one of eleven children. He came to Ithaca in 1830, when 17 years old. He passed his earlier years in the village as a clerk; and his young manhood as a forwarder and shipper. His daughter, Mrs. Henry A. Winton, found among his papers, after his death, an old printed card, which reads: "P. J. Partenheimer, commission merchant, Ithaca, N. Y." No date or location of his business is known. He was married in 1835, when 22, to Amelia Hargin, of Lansing, N. Y. She died, and in 1847 he was married to Belinda Ecker, of Marlborough-on-the-Hudson.

Mr. Partenheimer was appointed bookkeeper of the Tompkins County Bank

in 1839 and received promotions until he became cashier in 1858. That position he held until 1881, thus serving 42 years in that bank. It was said of him that he was a wonder as an accountant even to bankers. He ran up or down a long column of figures and added them with marvelous speed and accuracy. He handled and counted money with equal rapidity and exactness. His own special pride was in never having been deceived by a counterfeit bill or bogus coin although the whole country was often "flooded with them". This incident that occurred in the presence of the writer will illustrate his place in the mind and heart of the community.

Bridget, widow of Seth Bradshaw, and an old woman, of Ithaca, was preparing her will in view of her approaching death in the house of Patrick Murray in 1882. The disposition she made of considerable money suggested that disinterested witnesses should sign her will. Richard A. Crozier was present. Mr. Partenheimer was passing by and called in to act as a witness to a will. He cheerfully consented. Upon his entrance to the sick room and her bedside he inquired: "Well, Aunt Biddy, do you know me?" She reached out both her hands and exclaimed: "O Mr. Partenheimer! Is it you? Faith I know your dear face, your warm, kind hand. You counted out money to me many a time in the bank. You are a fine, dear, good man. God bless you. I am glad to see you, yes, indeed, glad to see you!" She died that night. This affectionate and touching scene was afterwards depicted in a contest over the will. The surrogate, Marcus Lyon, remarked to a friend at the close of Mr. Partenheimer's testimony: "There was no need of any other witness but Mr. Partenheimer. I would sustain the will upon his word alone. He would not tolerate the slightest wrong or trickery."

The official positions to which Mr. Partenheimer was elected included the following: Town clerk in 1840; trustee of the village in 1846-9—1851-3; president of the village in 1854-7—1866; supervisor in 1863; county clerk in 1883-4-5-6-7-8. He was chosen chief engineer of the fire department in January, 1850, and served for eight years. He was a member of Tornado Hook and Ladder Co. No. 3. He was a charter member of the Protective Fire Police in 1868 and elected its first captain, and re-elected four years.

He was one of the organizers of the once well known and popular military company, Co. A of the 50th Regiment N. Y. S. N. G. and its Captain from 1851 to 1861. During that time he won general praise for his military efficiency and the training he gave to the company. Military Hall was set apart for this company, known as the DeWitt Guard. He was an enthusiast in military affairs. He invited a prominent military company of Auburn, known as The Continentals, to become the guest of the DeWitt Guards. His invitation was accepted and his house made the headquarters of the Auburn soldiers during their visit to Ithaca; his tables their mess tables and his family and himself delighted with the honor of entertaining them. His spirit of chivalry was admired and his superior knowledge of military tactics and splendid military bearing thoroughly appreciated by the Continentals. The members of the DeWitt Guard were very proud of Captain Partenheimer.

Mr. Partenheimer was a charter member of St. Augustine Commandery, Knights Templar when organized in 1867, and their first Captain General; of Hobasco Lodge F. & A. M., when organized in 1871; of the Knights of Pythias when organized in 1873 and of the I. O. of O. F. when organized in 1842. His loyal and active membership in these prominent and influential societies was consistent with his membership in other organizations. His merits were also appreciated and his memory is treasured by them. At his death the press and the people and the lodges gave expression to their respect and affection for him in tender and eloquent manner.

Ithaca Lodge, No. 16, I.O.of O.F. spread this sentiment on its record: "Philip J. Partenheimer, our friend and brother, whom we loved and trusted as friend and advisor for nearly 50 years is dead. He, best of all men exemplified the virtues of

our order. His friendship was lasting as a rock. His love was tender and true. His truthfulness was truth itself. As an Odd Fellow he was loved and cherished. His death creates a vacancy we can never fill; yet he leaves us the legacy and example of a pure and noble life that will always remain. The chair that he has occupied for 45 years shall be draped for the remainder of his term."

Lodge No. 71, I. O. of O. F. said: "He has been a pillar of strength, his life, like an open book, has revealed the principles most dear to Odd Fellows: Faith, Hope and Charity. His example, like the symbolic language of our order, has exemplified our motto of Friendship, Love and Truth. His chair shall be declared vacant during the remainder of his term."

St. Augustine Commandery No. 38, Knights Templar by its committee, the Rev. S. H. Synnott, D.D., James Quigg, Judge Ellsworth and William Audrus, asserted and published: "He was of honor unsullied, of courtesy unfailing, of veracity unquestioned, and in all the relations of companion, friend and Sir Knight an example for imitation and emulation to all. We fear that years will come and go before we shall look upon his like or equal again, or be called to mourn another in character having so much to commend, so little to deplore."

The Knights of Pythias said: "The Supreme Chancellor on high has summoned to his last home Brother P. C. Philip J. Partenheimer; thus leaving a vacancy in our ranks which can never be filled. We shall miss his wise counsel, his pleasant companionship, his always cheerful and fraternal greeting. We bow with humble, sorrowful submission to the great loss we have sustained. He was an honorable citizen, exemplary man, faithful public official, kind neighbor and indulgent father." This was the current of sentiment that was heard and felt after his death.

At the dissolution of the Whig party he joined the Democratic party in which he became a leader and a power. He was elected president by the people when a nominee of the Democrats. He was elected county clerk as a Democrat in 1882 and re-elected in 1885. In February, 1888, he died in his offices in the County Clerk's and Surrogate's building, aged 74 years, He was intensely patriotic as an American and bore the great esteem and respect of his fellow citizens with modest dignity. He was friendly, considerate, deliberate when occasion required it and could say no with a pleasant manner that never offended. He would not accept election to senate or assembly although often tendered to him when elections were assured and certain.

Mr. Partenheimer's residence during the last half of his life was on West Buffalo street and is now occupied by his daughter Mrs. Henry A. Winton and her family. He was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church. His health was apparently as good and his life as promising as any man of his age in Ithaca until his sudden death in his office. Seldom does death find a man with so many mourners, so many who feel a keen personal loss in his death as did Philip J. Partheneimer. Seldom does a large community contain a man with so many virtues, fine merits and excellent traits of character as were centered in him.

The records of the village clerks show that Mr. Partenheimer was one of the wisest and most active and most popular officials the village ever had. His three administrations as president were especially meritorious. It was during his second term as president, 1857, that great damage to property, injury to health and loss of life resulted from a flood. Special attention was given to the selection of health commissioners. President Partenheimer, General Harvey A. Dowe, William S. Hoyt and Leander Millspaugh were made health commissioners. Benjamin F. Taber, James Ridgway and E. C. Seymour were appointed a committee to solicit provisions for the suffering poor of the village from the surrounding towns. The Board of Trustees established the bed of Six Mile creek at 70 feet wide and the bed of Cascadilla creek at 30 feet.

J. B. Williams, B. G. Ferris, General Dowe, and Judge Wells were sent as a

commission to investigate the obstructions in the Cayuga marshes that served as obstructions to the outlet of Cayuga Lake. The "four-inch square steel with six-foot sides" triangle that was used for a fire alarm in the village hall tower was declared by that Board to be a "Dead failure," upon Trustee A. S. Cowdry's motion and ordered removed. Church bells were ordered to be rung for fires. The Board unanimously "Resolved that its thanks be extended to President Partenheimer; and particularly for his judicious counsels and recommendations and efficient personal actions during, and subsequent to, the disastrous flood. May he and his henceforth enjoy health and happiness in the fullest measure."

During the year 1866. E. J. Morgan, sr., M. D. was health officer and President Partenheimer, F. T. Greenley, C. F. Livermore and Albert Phillips were members of the board of health. The Unitarians were allowed the use of Village Hall for $5 per day. A certificate as fireman was granted in May, 1866, to Chauncey S. Norton to date back to 1861, he having served for several years in the army. Whitlock's band was allowed $80 for playing in the firemen's parade.

Benjamin F. Taber was elected a trustee in the First Ward in 1854, under the charter amendment, when Mr. Partenheimer was first elected president. Mr. Taber is now the oldest man surviving, in point of service, who served as village trustee. His brother Curtis Taber, elected a trustee in 1857, is the next oldest trustee surviving, in point of service as trustee. Benjamin resides in Ithaca, Curtis in Virginia.

LEWIS H. CULVER—Twenty-Third President

LEWIS H. CULVER—TWENTY-THIRD PRESIDENT.

Lewis H. Culver was the merchant prince of Ithaca for many years. His chief characteristic was in his superior faculty of selling his goods and in not making collections of money for his sales, an indication of another characteristic —his generosity. He was one of the most eloquent men in the state in his domestic circle and in mercantile affairs. But he was speechless before even ordinary public assemblies. He dreaded a public meeting and disliked his own reputation for eloquence because it got him into trouble by his being called upon for speeches. His most serious effort to overcome his embarrassment in attempts at public speaking was at a firemen's banquet in the Ithaca Hotel and created amusement for the entire county for years afterwards.

Mr. Culver was born near Taughannock Falls, in the town of Ulysses, county of Seneca, in 1809. His father, Asariah, was a native of New Jersey and of English descent. His mother was Jane Mead, of Caroline, her family being from New Jersey and of English descent. Lewis received the ordinary country school education and added to it a knowledge of tanning, but not on an extensive scale. His superior intellectual endowment made Shakespeare and the Bible his favorite literature. His memory was unequalled among his contemporaries and he could quote the Gospels or the Plays or Sonnets by the page with scarcely an error. He was perplexed beyond his own comprehension at being unable to quote or to remember his favorite themes and well studied pages if he were required to entertain or instruct an audience.

In 1830 he removed to Ithaca and was married to Ann Eliza Seabring who was also of New Jersey stock. He was with the Stoddards in their tannery until 1831 when he took possession of a wooden building that stood upon the site of the John Northrup building now occupied by Fred W. Phillips. Judge Peter F. McAllister and Dr. J. B. Hamilton. His modest mercantile beginning was in making his place popular as an old fashioned rusk and honey cafe. It was successful beyond his expectation. It might be said now as it has often been said before that his delicious rusk, honey and butter were no more pleasant to the taste of his hungry patrons than were his cordial receptions and eloquent invitations to come again. So thorough was his mastery of the art or the grace of courtesy that a patron or a stranger who entered his cafe or his store many times in one day was received by Mr. Culver with a cordial hand and a very friendly word of welcome. He made his patrons feel that he was the most pleasant business man in the world.

About 1835 the store west of his cafe was destroyed by fire. He purchased the lot upon which it had stood, erected a wooden store and moved into it. Success had followed his ventures. He had added groceries and dry goods to his stock of merchandise. In 1839 he razed the frame building and erected the brick building occupied by him until his death upon the site. It is now occupied by the Empire State House Furnishing Co. In 1857 he purchased a lot on Tioga street to form an L to his store, builded the brick building upon it and used it as a warehouse for his wholesale department in various lines of merchandise, principally farming and dairy products, pork, etc. At one time his business was so large in volume that he had thirty clerks and men employed in his store and warehouse, a very large force of help in a village store in his generation. While Mr. Bates was his partner the cash receipts for one year were more than $300,000,

about $1000, for every week day in the year. The firm shipped their freights in their own canal boats to and from New York city.

In 1868 Mr. Culver took Charles Bates into partnership. At Mr. Bates's death in 1873 Mr. Culver resumed sole control of the business. In 1873 he took his sons Lewis H. and Thomas S. into partnership. In 1876 Mr. Culver died at the age of 67. His residence was for several years over his store, and later on the site now occupied by the Oriental Hotel, corner of Tioga and Seneca streets, and for thirty-eight years No. 445 North Aurora street, now owned and occupied by County Clerk Leroy H. VanKirk.

In his early years he was a Whig but in his later years a Democrat. He was a conservative citizen and had no taste for politics notwithstanding his strong opinions upon public and political affairs. He passed no adverse criticism upon the Lincoln administrations, but was emphatically opposed to war of any kind. He was too friendly, too generous, too courteous in his nature to approve of the carnage, the brutality, the horrors of war.

An old colored man stepped into his store one evening before the war and said that he was tired, hungry and penniless and wished to go to Speedsville, but was too hungry to proceed. Mr. Culver took the old man to his own table for supper, placed him in a bed for rest and sleep, gave him breakfast in the morning and money and sent him on his journey with all the eloquence and blessings at his command. The old "darkey" took his hand and said: "Before I bids you goodby I will tell you something. I was sent to you by some gents that, I think, was foolin with me and didn't want to help the poor old darkey. I think they played me on you as a joke. But, Massa Culver, you have no joke in your heart for the poor and tired and hungry and helpless. You have for them what God has for you. God bless you, Massa Culver."

Mr. Culver was a man of great nerve and physical power although he was not large. He did not fear to defend himself or others with force from any kind of wrong. He once rushed into a saloon and threw several men out into the street for kicking and abusing a man who was lying under them upon the floor. His sons and clerks read his mind by the position of his hat on his head. When it was set well down upon his forehead something was wrong with him and he was avoided; when hanging on the back of his head, nearly ready to fall off, he was happy, cordial and forgiving, a generous employer and delightful companion.

It is asserted that he never forgot a face, a name or a transaction in business; that he knew nearly every man in the county and how to drive or to walk to his residence by the nearest or easiest route. He was kind to birds and beasts and insects. His manner of punishing people who wronged him showed how merciful he was and how sensitive to humor that carried a point or a lesson. He once learned that a well known old and gray haired colored man was stealing his butter while engaged in the store basement. A hot fire of hickory was started in the old fashioned stove in the store at the close of the day. The clerks were marshalled around the stove by Mr. Culver. The old "darkey" passed out toward the street. Mr. Culver called him and soon engaged in conversation with him, near the hot stove. Several times the "darkey" started to go, but a shrewd and pleasant question or remark from the eloquent proprietor detained him. At last the purpose of the proprietor became apparent to his many clerks in the streaks of melted butter running down the gray hair and dark face of the colored man. He mopped away that butter-sweat, but he would not remove his hat until a clerk did it for him. The two-pound roll that was put under the hat on his head in the cellar had melted away to a half pound. The old man's humiliation was softened by the joke-like tone given to the theft by the owner of the butter and ended the affair except as it became a mirthful story for years.

Mr. Culver was a member of the First Baptist Church. So consistent a churchman was he that he made his word take precedence of his financial interest; he preferred the loss of a sale or of a customer to a sale made or a customer

won by the use or aid of a lie. His word was held sacred by him. His financial "failure" is worthy of record here. His store was closed by creditors. They met in the county judge's chambers soon afterward and counseled upon the course to pursue. Elias Treman was one of them. He took the floor and in his frank, forcible manner proposed to settle for twenty-five cents on the dollar "with the man whose word and dealings and character had done so much for the village and who had in some way become involved so that he could not proceed without help." The vote was unanimous with Mr. Treman. Word was sent to Mr. Culver. He promptly refused the proposition. He settled by giving 90 day notes for full amount to his creditors. Mr. Culver set to work to collect from bis debtors. He paid the notes and interest in full, in less than two months, and had a large bank account remaining and his large store stocked full with merchandise. He was simply too tender hearted to press his debtors or to ask them for the debts they owed him. Many of the accounts were nearly outlawed, but easily collected.

Mr. Culver was a commercial humorist as these couplets which he composed and had printed upon thirty thousand small paper bags, used in his store for putting up packages of tea, will show:

"When wife first saw L. H.'s teas
She cried 'O la! What leaves are these!'
But now since she their flavor got
The tea has never left the pot."

Wagers were often made among other merchants upon the variety of Mr. Culver's merchandise. He declared that he had in stock everything that was in every day use as a commodity. Once a coffin was selected by another merchant as a commodity that Mr. Culver did not have and a wager made upon it. The disputant went to the Culver store and asked Mr. Culver if he had a coffin for sale. "Certainly, sir; come this way," answered Mr. Culver, and be escorted the inquirer to an upper floor, where an old coffin once used by the Sons of Malta in their initiating services, was found. "I will sell it to you for twenty shillings. How do you like it? Who is dead in your household?" The coffin was a $5 loss to the visitor.

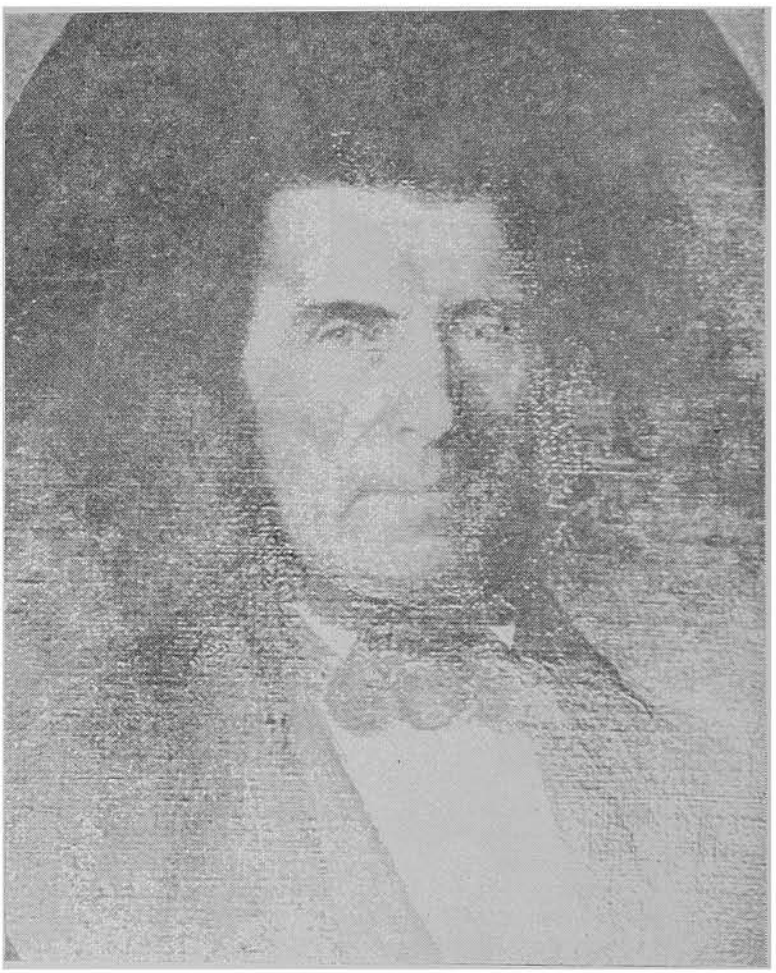
Another wager was made over a goose-yoke. The disputants visited Mr. Culver's store and found two of the articles for sale, and hanging up in an out-of-the-way place. The goose-yoke cost the loser $5. Mr. Culver enjoyed such incidents and knew that they afforded him wide advertising at no expense to him. H. C. Goodwin in his pamphlet "Ithaca As It Is" (1853) says: "Lewis H. Culver is one of the heaviest dry-goods dealers, his sales varying from $150,000 to $175,000 per year. We knew him as a boy attending the district school; on the farm driving his father's team; an apprentice, now taking hides from a tan-vat, and now shaking with the ague, or bleaching with the chill-fever. We see him in his under-ground grocery, now branching out a little, reaching farther, grasping more, adding hundreds to hundreds, thousands to thousands. Ever busy, active and energetic, he counts his gains with a certainty that surprises himself; applies word and action together and sees all things move on like clock work. He has every thing to sell and a host of clerks to sell every thing."

Mr. Culver was too busy in mercantile affairs to accept the local honors of much public service. He was elected a village trustee in 1839 and 1840 and village president by the people in 1856. During his administration as president such bitter contentions arose among the members of No. 1 and No. 4 fire companies that the companies were asked by the Board of Trustees to resign and turn over all of the fire fighting apparatus to the village. The request was honored and the companies resigned. Each company was composed of two factions. All four factions petitioned the Board to recognize them as the new companies. Anson Spencer, John L. Whiton, L. V. B. Maurice, W. F. Finch, A. Ackley, F. Brooks, Horace

Mack, A. H. Monnell, J. E. Williams and William W. Esty and their faction of 23 men were authorized to form a new No. 1 fire company. Henry Fitch Hibbard, Seth Wilcox, Jerome Norton, Orestes H. Gregory, M. S. Clinton and James Quigg and their faction of 19 men were empowered to organize a new No.4 fire company. The point of dispute was that some of the members of the two companies were bringing disgrace upon the companies by immoral conduct in the companies' fire rooms.

In May, 1856, a permanent arrangement was made by the village Board and the Presbyterian Church officials by which Dewitt Park was passed over to the control of the village Board. The article of agreement is recorded verbatim on page 131 Book C of the Village Records. It was executed for the Presbyterians by H. W. Sage, W. R. Humphrey, J. S. Tichenor, S. Stoddard, B. L. Johnson and George McChain; and for the village by L. H. Culver, president, T, P. St. John, J. Terry, J. C. King, N. Hungerford, J. Deming and O. E. Allen, as trustees. The title to the park was retained by the Presbyterians.

Jacob Terry was elected to preside when President Culver was absent from the meetings of the Board. A resolution was adopted directing the Pathmaster of the village to "engage the gentlemen boarding with Jailor Jarvis, who have leisure to clean out the gutters of the village." This resolution came "from the committee on streets: Deming, Allen and Hungerford," but the name of the author of the satire is not given by the clerk nor by the resolution.



CHARLES CORYELL—Twenty-Fourth President.

CHARLES CORYELL--TWENTY-FOURTH PRESIDENT.

This portrait of Charles Coryell, the only physician who was president or mayor of Ithaca, is from a painting that has become dim in coloring, outline and expression, and the only one in existence of that striking and original personality. He was a very influential and active citizen and an eminent physician, the last thirteen years of his life (1860 to 1873) being passed in blindness.

He was, in personality, a typical Southerner; emotional, high-spirited, sensitive, generous, honorable, frank and fearless in speech, impatient with weak hearted and timid people, heroic in emergency with lance and medicine, a devotee of fine and fast horses, the race course and manly sports, quick witted, well informed, a real type of the old school; a favorite with thousands but not with all people who knew him. He had a bitter and fluent tongue for quacks and hearty praise for men to whom he took a fancy. He was unique in his own profession as was Ben Johnson as a lawyer; and like Ben Johnson he enjoyed giving flight to his opinions of men and affairs in the presence of those who incurred his praise or his censure. He was not a respecter of persons nor calculated by nature for a career of diplomacy.

Dr. Coryell was thought to be eccentric, but he was not eccentric unless every person with the traits herein mentioned is that kind of a man. The writer of this sketch, when a boy, resided with him a year; read for him, was his guide and walking companion about the village, and attended him in his office during the absence of his son Dr. William Coryell whom he brought from Pennsylvania for his partner when he lost his sight. He could see the sun as if in eclipse, when it was shining, and its light as it shone through the window. He was an intense Democrat and would not listen to his son William read aloud from the New York Tribune, the son being an earnest Republican. His favorite papers were the New York World and the New York Express.

His office was a single story frame building where Dr. Lockerby's brick office now stands; his residence was next to it on the east, number 128 East Seneca street. When the telegraph dispatch was being posted on the front of the telegraph office, in April, 1865, announcing the death of President Lincoln, Dr. Coryell had his hand upon the writer's arm and was passing (about where Michelson now conducts a clothing store opposite the county clerk's building on North Tioga street). When informed of the contents of the dispatch he denounced the president's attendance at a theater on a Good Friday night and on any night under circumstances that gave "cranks" and enemies opportunities to kill him. When the doctor arrived in his office he said: "Boy, mark my prediction. You are young; I am old. You will hang your head in humiliation more than once because of assassinations of your presidents. They should be prohibited from such dare-devil experience; they may plunge the world into humiliation and calamities by it. They have no moral right to invite the knife or bullet of the assassin. They owe their lives and their services to the people who elect them." The memories of Garfield and McKinley prove the wisdom of his prediction.

Although he remembered well every inch of shelving and every bottle and pill box and its exact location in his office, after he became blind, he would not touch them. He prescribed medicines to patients and, in his son's absence, gave notice

to his faithful wife that he wanted her by striking his cane against the outside of his office. Taught by both doctors,the father and son, she had become an expert at putting up the medicnes. He limited his own examination of a patient to feeling of the pulse and asking questions. He required his wife or others to describe the appearance of tongue, eye, etc. He was always anxious about the kind of nurse that attended and gave medicine to a patient and asked his son about it when he returned from his morning and afternoon visits to patients. He asserted that more depended upon the nurse than upon the medicine because a competent nurse gave medicine as prescribed and greatly aided the physician with intelligent attention and encouraging words and conduct.

He was born at Coryell's Ferry. now Lambertsville, New Jersey, in 1787. His father and his family removed to Nichols, Tioga county, N. Y., about the year 1800. His paternal ancestors were French Hugenots, near the Swiss-German borders and emigrated to America at the time of the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. His father's name was Emanuel, his grandfather's John Coryell. John Coryell was a major in Washington's army during the Revolution. Emanuel Coryell had charge of the ferry when Washington and his army crossed it upon their march to Monmouth. George Coryell, another member of the family, was a Revlôutionary officer and the last survivor of the squad that laid the body of Washinton in its tomb. .Emanuel Coryell served as quarter-master and forage-master in that army, and was then a very young man. He became a prominent and honored citizen in Tioga county and served as senator, assemblyman, presiding judge of the Court of Common Pleas and judge of the Supreme Court. Dr. Coryell's mother, Frances Caldwell, was of Irish or Welsh descent and of extraordinary moral and mental personality. She was born in Bucks county, Pa., in 1759. Stories of her life are deeply interesting and admirable.

Charles graduated from Union College and prepared for the medical profession with Dr. Stout in Bethlehem, Pa. He located in Ithaca in 1840 or 1841. His success as a physiciau was marked and immediate, his treatment of feyers giving him wide distinction. The writer, in 1865, expressed surprise at his success in curing so many people with fevers and asked him if he were a magician or if he had discovered a new and sure remedy for fevers. He made this answer: "When I was a lad I was invited to bid my little chum goodby. His doctor said that his typhoid fever would not let him live the day out. I ran to the little fellow's bedside and he asked me to grant him one last dying request. I assented. It was to get him, steal him a drink of water. Now that poor little boy had a swollen tongue and burning body. His begging was too piteous for me to stand it. I went out through his bed room window and got a two-quart pail of cold spring water. I stole it to him through the window. He drank every drop of it. I put the pail out of sight and expected to see my chum die in an hour, his death hastened by the cold water. But he rallied immediately.

"I kept stealing water to him and he got better. They killed people then by letting them die of thirst. I find water to be the best medicine for fevers. My experience demonstrated it in the case that I named with my chum. They would have sent me to prison for giving him that nice cool water if they had known that I did it." His story is another version of "Drown a fever."

Daniel Struble, a very large and portly man, and still remembered by many Ithacans, was in bed surrounded by ten physicians all of whom declared that he was beyoud their aid and that he could not live two days. During their counseling Dr. Charles Coryell was recommended by one of their number, Dr. Henry Ingersoll, jr., and sent for by Mr. Struble. He obeyed the call and examined the sick man, and told him that all the doctors present, except Dr. Ingersoll, were block heads or cowards; that he had no reason for being in that bed and could be taken out of it in two days a well man. "How?" inquired the patient. "By bleeding you

and relieving your heart of its awful blood pressure," answered Dr. Coryell. The physicians denied that such treatment would aid Mr. Struble and declared that it would kill him. "You say that I cannot live anyway," replied Mr. Struble "it is my only chance. Here is my arm Dr. Coryell; go ahead." The doctors threatened to throw Dr. Coryell out of the house, but he, in turn, threatened to kill the first of them who would dare to interfere while he was bleeding the patient. They knew Dr. Coryell and did not interfere. He bled and relieved Mr. Struble at once. He bled him the next two days and on the third Mr. Struble was up and around his house when Dr. Coryell called to see him. Such is the story told by Mr. Struble to the writer after the doctor's death.

This story was told many years ago: A man whom the doctor knew well, and had treated as a patient, called and had his throat examined. The doctor pronounced it free from ailment. The man insisted that something was in his throat. The doctor made a second examination with like result. "That is strange indeed, Dr. Coryell," remarked the man, "for I have poured down that throat a 70-acre farm and 40 head of cattle, two bulls and a flock of sheep, and now you can't find any of them. Strange indeed, aint it, Doctor?,' Doctor Coryell's remarks must not be recorded here because of their emphasis; but before the man departed he convinced him that he had "turned a new leaf" and secured the doctor's indorsement to a paper that gave the man a new start. He became an owner of canal boats, an extensive shipper and was respected among bankers and commercial men in Itbaca, Buffalo and New York.

Alvin Merrill, father of City Assessor Jason P. Merrill, was a close friend of Dr. Coryell and an enthusiast in horse-racing in the forties and fifties. He and several neighbors in his Caroline home, at Dr. Coryell's request, took possession of a young colored boy whom the doctor brought to Ithaca from Canada, and carried out the doctor's urgent instructions to feed the boy only crackers and vinegar until he rode the doctor's horse in a race-then three weeks away. The colored jockey was also anxious to reduce his weight, and subsisted upon that diet for three weeks. He rode the race and won it, to the delight of the doctor and the Merrills, and to the heavy loss and sorrow of the owners and backers of the competing horses. The "darkey" was soon fat again as a result of his gorging upon good things the doctor furnished him. He kept the boy for a year or more and won and lost many races on a track now partly covered by Renwick Park and the beach of the lake.

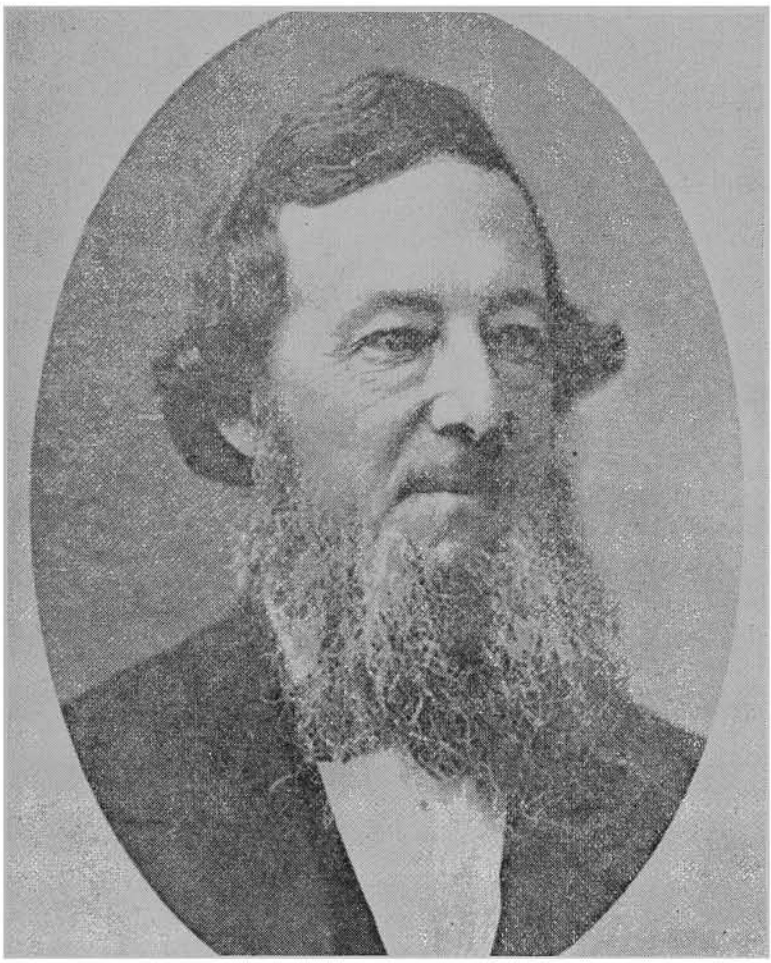
Dr. Coryell was kind to children and youth. He seldom charged any fees for operating upon or treating them for serious injuries if they showed nerve and patience with him. He assumed absolute control of all cases where blame for failure or the praise for success would fall upon him. He was imperious in that particular as in many others. In 1853 H. C. Goodwin in a brief paragraph in his pamphlet "Ithaca As It Is" said: "Dr. Coryell is one of that class of thoroughgoing, energetic physicians who, when aided by extensive scientific acquirements, a knowledge of medicine, of disease, of anatomy and physiology, is peculiarly fitted for any emergency. In cases where perplexity or doubt usually cause the common mind to waver he is firm, collected, prompt to act as the urgency of the case may require; he is never at a loss, never bewildered, never unmindful of a proper estimate of human life or neglectful of patients. He is active, of energetic character and determined will power; a man for an emergency."

Dr. Coryell received a plurality but not a majority over John L. Whiton and Peter Apgar for president in 1858, the only official position he held in the village. During his administration the Board sold for $1,000 the sand and gravel bank to Mrs. Samuel B. Bates (Mrs. Jane P. McGraw). Gravel was extensively used from that bank by the village for grading streets and sidewalks. She terraced it and closed it from further public use. The village hall was insured for $2,000, and the Aurora street bridge over Six Mile creek for $2,000. A bell weighing 2,000 pounds was purchased for fire purposes; it cost

$684, and was credited by visitors from every quarter of the globe who heard its midnight alarms and shrieks to have been the most perfect fire bell ever used. Alfred Wells was appointed village counsel. A board fence was erected around Washington Park. The S. B. Bates estate was assessed at $100,000. Ezra Cornell asked the Board for 12 special police (at his own expense) to preserve order at the county fair on the old grounds then bounded on the north by Railroad avenue. His request was granted.

Joseph H. Willson was paid $100 on account while painting the fence around DeWitt Park. An ordinance was adopted making it an offence to drive horses or wagons into the bed of Cascadilla creek and punishable by a fine of $5. Wagons and horses tore down the well made embankments and violated the proprieties of those tasty and high-tempered city fathers. City officials assert now that a similar ordinance would prove beneficial to the banks of the village streams. The Board made a contract with the Halseys to furnish the village cisterns with water through a flume from their dam for $100 per year. A reward of $200 was offered for the detection of "fire bugs." In December Cayuga Fire Company No. 1 again disbanded, each of two contending factions petitioning for possession of the hand machine. The Board decided that two thirds of the members of the company had not voted for dissolution and therefore the company had not disbanded.

Dr. Charles Coryell was twice married. His first wife was Nancy, a daughter of Amos Patterson who resided at Hooper, near Binghamton, N. Y. She was William's mother and, at her death, was buried in the Patterson family cemetery in Newark Valley. His second wife was Eliza Smith (of Baltimore.) Her death occurred before his own. He was then left absolutely alone in his old age and his blindness. His son William and his grandchildren resided in the Ben Johnson house (owned by William,) the second one west of his own. He enjoyed their affectionate attention and found partial relief from his loneliness in the generosity, refinement and companionship of William's older daughter, Emma, now Mrs. Bostwick, of Janesville, Wis. He died in 1873 in his 86th year and was buried in the city cemetery. His son William survived him seven years and was buried in Nichols, N. Y.



THOMAS P. ST. JOHN—Twenty-Fifth President

THOMAS P. ST. JOHN—TWENTY-FIFTH PRESIDENT.

This likeness of Thomas Powell St. John shows the progress of photography during the earlier years of that popular and useful art. It presents with admirable accuracy his fine head and countenance, illustrates the strong man that he was in his prime, aids his biographer and renders justice to his personality.

Left an orphan in his childhood, in his native village of Schenectady, he was afterward trained by experience for public life and deemed it a duty and a pleasure to share the burden of public affairs. In his very early manhood his patriotism and mental endowment made him a favorite with prominent people; his social nature, fluent and impressive address secured him unconscious influence and eminence. He became one of the most conspicuous of Ithacans, during his generation, among fraternities that had their centers in State conventions and rewarded their foremost champions with distinguished State honors and prominence, such as were conferred upon him from time to time. He was a skilled parliamentarian, powerful organizer, unembarrassed in a public assembly, enthusiastic, a fine penman and an excellent accountant; his voice was clear, deep and masculine, his diction superior and his whole personality dignified. He was considerate but fearless, generous but just.

One of Mr. St. John's enjoyments was in finding some body to test or to match the wit and conversational talents of bis companion and brother-in-law Henry Fitch Hibbard, a task, he said, that gave him supreme difficulty. He is credited with challenging Mr. Hibbard, who also enjoyed the bright and genial side of life and aided in spreading it wherever he happened to be, to ask Dennis Dunlavey, a well known Irish wag, a question that might test Dennis's wit. Dennis stood under their office window. The challenge was quickly accepted. Down stairs the brothers-in-law sallied. "Good morning, Dennis!" "Good morning, Fitch!" "Say, Dennis, if the Devil were to come here now for one of us two which one would he take first?" "Why, Fitch, he'd take me of course." "Why so, Dennis?" "Well, Fitch, you know he's sure of you at any time." Mr. Hibbard enjoyed it as much as did Mr. St. John.

When political and personal friends of Col. Joseph B. Sprague made an active canvass in this senatorial district (Tioga, Broome and Tompkins counties) in 1877 to nominate and elect him senator, while the colonel was president of the village, Mr. St. John was chosen to present his name and merits to the convention to be held in Owego. A very strong candidate was to be presented by tbe delegates from Broome county. Mr. St. John performed his task with such powerful effect that the Broome county delegates withdrew their candidate, supported Col. Sprague, returned to their homes, and reported Mr. St. John's speech with great pleasure and gave Col. Sprague a flattering vote at the election. The Tompkins county delegates were very proud of Mr. St. John's oration for it arose to the dignity of an oration.

He was only a lad when he came to Ithaca to become a member of the family of his uncle, Ancel St. John, a prominent citizen, and first cashier of the Bank of Ithaca (1829 to 1838.) The care and guidance he received from Ancel were of the best. He was well taught in the academy and, when 21, succeeded Ancel as

cashier of the bank. In 1842 he removed to Philadelphia, later to Montrose, and later still to New York City, in each place continuing his vocation as a banker.

In 1852 he returned to Ithaca and embarked with his brother-in-law Henry Fitch Hibbard in the manufacturing of sewing-silks. They erected a factory on the northwest corner of Seneca and Meadow streets. It was destroyed by fire about 1873 while used as a cigar and tobacco factory by John Farrand and Linn Babcock.

In 1839 Mr. St. John was married to Mary, daughter of Henry Hibbard, one of the leading citizens of Ithaca. Three children were the issue of the marriage: Henry A. St. John (mayor of Ithaca 1891-2) Miss Louise St. John and Mary St. John Westervelt.

In 1857 and 1864 he was elected a trustee for the third ward for terms of two years each and in 1859 president of the village. The records of the village clerks show that he was an active and positive factor in the village Boards during the five years. His services during the great flood year, 1857, were very valuable, and patriotic. In 1856 he resigned from the committee on Village Hall when his opinions were disregarded and his motions relating to the hall were voted down by the Board. But the Board refused to accept the resignation and adopted his recommendations. The records do not name them.

He inaugurated new systems during his administration and justified the expectation of his personal acquaintances. His first act as president was to subscribe and take the usual oath of office; his next to present a message or series of recommendations that startled and pleased his colleagues and were adopted as the rules of the Board. They directed the clerk to record the names of movers of resolutions and ordinances, a thing that was rarely done prior to the reading of his message; bookkeeping upon a systematic basis, including payments and claims and details; open sessions of the Board; no contracts or expenditures except ordered at regular meetings to be obligatory upon the Board or village; greater care and closer attention given to all claims against the village; and other new and important changes in municipal affairs, involving finances, and in the proceedings of the Board and village officials.

The Board attended a public meeting of interested towns and villages at Port Byron under the act of the Legislature that appropriated $30,000 to remove the embankments and obstructions at the foot of Cayuga Lake. "All religious denominations were granted free use of the village hall occasionally."

David Hanmer brought an action against the village for damages sustained by him to his property on State street during the overflow of Six Mile creek in the flood of 1857. Boardman & Finch and Milo Goodrich were retained by the Board (Mr. Finch being specially named and particularly desired by it) to defend the village. They defended the suit successfully in October and averted hundreds of other similar suits. They were paid $427 for their services besides a vote of gratitude from the Board. The lawyers answered that it was the ability and activity of President St. John and his colleagues more than the lawyers that saved the village from virtual bankruptcy.

B. G. Jayne furnished the Board with ambrotype pictures of the property in question for use in court. He was paid $15 for them. The people desired the picture of the Board and Mr. Jayne to take it. He invited the Board to sit in his picture gallery on Christmas. An oval ambrotype, 6x4 inches, of that Board was hung upon the east wall of the Common Council chamber by some unknown person about three years ago. It contains President St. John, Trustees A. S. Cowdry, Curtis Taber, Griswold Apley, Justus Deming, Albert Phillips and James Ridgway. It might well be termed a relic of the flood of 1857.

Seventy-five or more loads of tanbark were ordered put upon the walks in Washington Park. A fine of $25 was ordered against any person taking anything out of a fire company's room without lawful authority. Geese were ordered kept from the streets or to be driven to the pound and 10 cents a head paid for them.

Senator Lyman Truman and Assemblyman J. W. Dwight were sent to examine the outlet of Cayuga Lake at the expense of the Board. A new truck was purchased for Tornado Hook and Ladder Co., No. 3. The Webster Lecture association and the village band were granted the use of Village Hall free of expense. At the close of the year the clerk was allowed $40 extra for correcting the books of his predecessor. A debt of $10,546 remained against the Board, part of the flood debt of 1857.

As the result of many years of agitation of the project the Legislature, in 1861, constituted the Board of Trustees of the village commissioners and they appointed Thomas P. St. John, Josiah B. Williams and Edward S. Esty to superintend the reclamation of the marsh and swamp lands in and near the village by draining and diking them. Although the work was not carried to an end the selection of the three citizens named indicate, to those who remember them, the high character of the work and of the men. The firing upon Fort Sumter and beginning of the great Civil War probably interrupted the fulfillment of the plan on an extensive scale. The diking of the village streams is being carried on from year to year with gravel from their beds, in summer when the streams are low.

Mr. St. John was for years secretary and trustee of the Cornell Village Library and held those positions until his death. In 1848 he was a charter member of a Lodge of Odd Fellows in Montrose, Pa. Upon his return to Ithaca he joined the local Lodge. His affection for this order and the distinguished services which he rendered to it were rewarded by the highest honors in the power of the Lodge to bestow upon him. He was chosen, in 1874, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge. It was upon his eloquent invitation that the Grand Lodge held its annual State convention in Ithaca in 1875.

When he returned to Ithaca with that exalted title he planned to widen the power and increase the membership of the various Lodges in the State. "The large ones can take care of themselves. the small ones need encouragement and aid," he declared. He made a systematic pilgrimage to the small Lodges and so increased their membership and influence that his name was revered by them. Five Lodges composed wholly of Germans, in New York and Brooklyn, united in presenting him with the most beautiful, most elaborate and if not the most expensive testimonial in penmanship that is to be found in Ithaca. At his death it was presented by his family to the Ithaca Lodge and is now hanging upon the walls of its reception room.

The St. John residence and homestead was on the corner recently selected by the Federal authorities for a new post office site. The house and lot were sold several years ago by his heirs to E. G. and C. F. Wyckoff. The latter owned and sold it to the Government, The house was removed to the east side of the lot facing Buffalo street and remodeled. It is now occupied by Benson P. Cooper and perhaps will soon be razed, or removed again, to make way for the post office.

Mr. St. John was an active fireman before and after he removed to Pennsylvania and New York City. It was at his instigation that fire companies No. 1 and No. 4 disbanded in 1856 and were re-organized. He led the faction that purified the membership of Eureka No. 4 and, being a member of the Board of Trustees, secured the recognition of his faction as mentioned in the sketch of President Lewis H. Culver.

Mr. St. John was an attendant of the Congregational Church; a champion of popular education; in the forties a Democrat; in the fifties an American; in the sixties a Republican (approving the Lincoln administration during the Civil War) and in the seventies a Democrat.

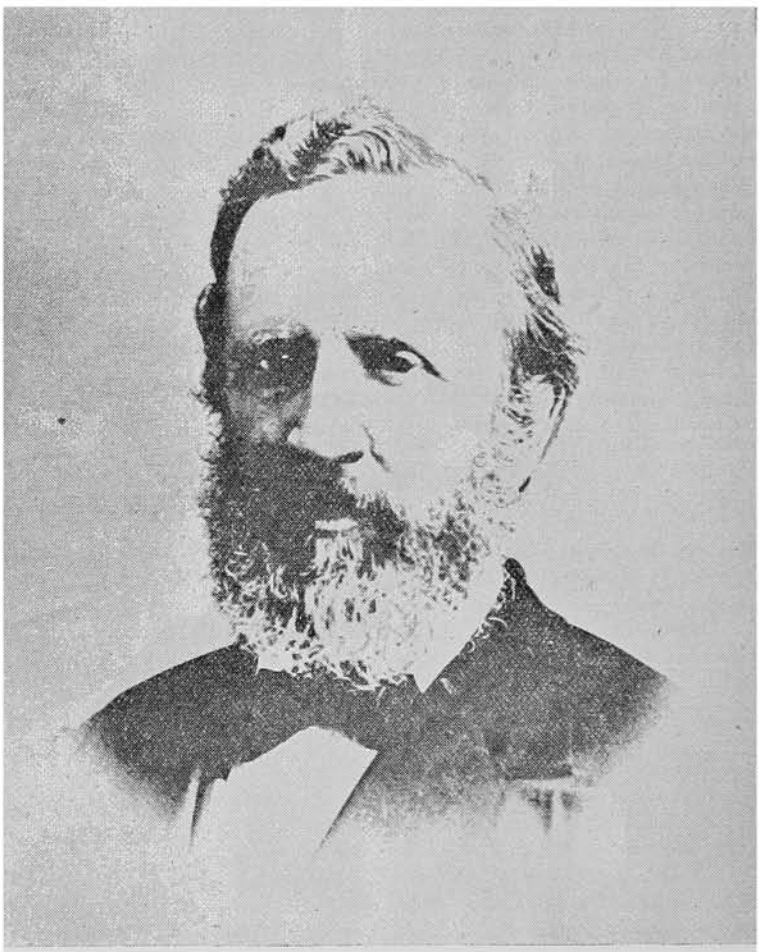
His last years were given to the enjoyment of a quiet life, but partly to the business of insurance and managing his real estate. His death occurred in 1880 in his sixty-third year. The sentiments of the community expressed at his death are preserved in the following declarations by his fraternity associates, a

committee of which Judge James L. Baker was chairman, in the Knights of Pythias of which Mr. St. John was a charter member:

"The Supreme Chancellor of the Universe has removed from us our beloved brother Past Chancellor Thomas P. St. John, a brave and faithful member, a true and generous hearted brother and a kind and affectionate husband and father. This Lodge loses an advisor and earnest worker and enthusiastic admirer of the principles of the Order and every member a sincere and valued friend. In his character was exhibited the true examples of the friendship that bound Damon and Pythias together, thereby furnishing fitting emblems of noble manhood worthy of imitation. This community has lost a highly respected citizen. Our grief is shared by all who knew him intimately. Words are empty in expressing our sorrow at his loss or to convey consolation to his bereaved family. The charter of the Lodge shall be draped in morning."

John H. Selkreg, Samuel Stoddard and Dr. George W. Mellotte, as a committee of the local I. O. of O. F., said and published in the village press:

"Whereas, after protracted illness and continued suffering borne with patience and endurance death has taken our worthy Past Grand Thomas P. St. John, who served with distinguished honor as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State, thus removing him from this life and leaving to us who knew him best his cherished memory; Resolved, That we present him to the entire organization as a true Odd Fellow who displayed, within the Lodge and without, unswerving industry in advancing the order with a spirit of love for its tenets, its labors, the grand fruits of which have flowed from it. As a man and as a citizen he stood high in the community and our deep grief at his departure is shared by all who enjoyed his acquaintance and recognized his many varied and amiable qualities.



GEORGE McCHAIN—Twenty-Sixth President

GEORGE McCHAIN—TWENTY-SIXTH PRESIDENT

Ithaca began the fortieth year of its municipal history under the complete control of the new Republican party. Democrats and Whigs had been in power alternately from 1821 until 1855 when the new American party, under Stephen B. Cushing and Wait T. Huntington's leadership, overwhelmed the candidates of the old parties. Lewis H. Culver, Philip J. Partenheimer, Charles Coryell and Thomas P. St. John by emphatic majorities continued the sway of the Americans until George McChain led the Republicans to success in 1860 by defeating President Coryell and the American municipal ticket. His plurality over President Coryell was 27, over William R. Humphrey, Democrat, 125. Justus Mitchell, Republican, defeated Treasurer Julius Ackley, American, by 42 and Frederick T. Greenley, Democrat, by 127. Isaac Randolph, Republican, was elected assessor over his American and Democratic competitors. It was the last organized public appearance of the Americans in local politics.

Mr. McChain was again elected president in 1864 and 1865, thus proving his popularity as a citizen and a public official.

He was born in New York city in 1826. His father (John) and grandfather (James) resided in the town of Ithaca about one-half mile west of the village, on the road to Mecklenburg. John McChain removed to New York where he was married and acquired a fortune as a business man. His wife died after the birth of her two sons James and George. John was married again and five more children were born to him.

James McChain, George's grandfather, was a Scotchman. He was buried in the village cemetery in 1844 aged 78; his wife, Mercy, in 1838, aged 73. George McChain died in Ithaca at the residence of his son-in-law, Professor Waterman T. Hewett, in 1889, aged 63. John McChain was an ambitions man and gave his two sons liberal educations. James graduated in the class of 1838 at Yale and later from the Union Theological Seminary. He was a Presbyterian clergyman and died in 1869 where he had been stationed through his entire ministry, in Abington, Virginia.

George McChain was prepared for college under the personal supervision of the Rev. John James Owen, D.D., and graduated from Yale the youngest of the class of 1846, when 19 years old. He too prepared for the ministry, but his health began to fail and he ceased his studies and taught the classics in Blountsville, Tenn., for six months. He removed to Ithaca, abandoned his purpose of entering the ministry and took up the work and chances of a business man. His interest in theology continued; he collected a large and valuable library and was a student in that line of literature until his death.

He gave much attention to the development of the Presbyterian Church; became one of its most devoted members, a leader in all of its affairs, treasurer of its Bible Society, teacher and superintendent of its Sunday School and an elder for many years. He was afterwards superintendent of the Congregational Church Sunday School and a member of its congregation. He joined Rescue Fire Company No. 2 in 1849 and was an active member for many years. He presided at public mass meetings of his party and at school and other meetings. At his death he was a member of the Royal Arcanum.

He entered the firm of William Andrus & Co. as a partner in which he remained until he became, by changes and death in its members, the senior member of the firm. This establishment owned large properties, conducted a very extensive business, manufactured paper of all kinds from the raw materials, manufactured and published books and sold them in their store by retail and wholesale. Their paper business, during the Civil War, was so remunerative that all the members amassed considerable wealth. The disastrous fire in Ithaca in 1871, by far the most extensive this locality ever experienced, burned down the store and book bindery of the firm. The rebuilding was very expensive. The fall in values in all speculative merchandise in 1873, after "Black Friday," added to the misfortunes of the firm and to the reduction in the value of its property, both real and personal. Its failure followed after four years of general financial distress.

The firm was ambitious; its properties were divided; its business was resumed under changed conditions. Mr. McChain took the paper mills and conducted them under those greatly changed conditions in the wholesale markets. The war prices had vanished never to return. Ambition and industry remained, but Mr. McChain's hope was not realized.

He was married in 1852 to Mary S. Pelton, daughter of Judge Platt Pelton, a refined and prominent lady of Monticello, N. Y. Two daughters were born to them: Minerva and Emma. Emma was married to Professor Waterman T. Hewett, of Cornell University, in 1880 and died in 1883. Mr. McChain resided on Green street until he erected the mansion now owned by Mrs. Douglass Boardman adjoining De Witt Park. Mrs. McChain died in 1902.

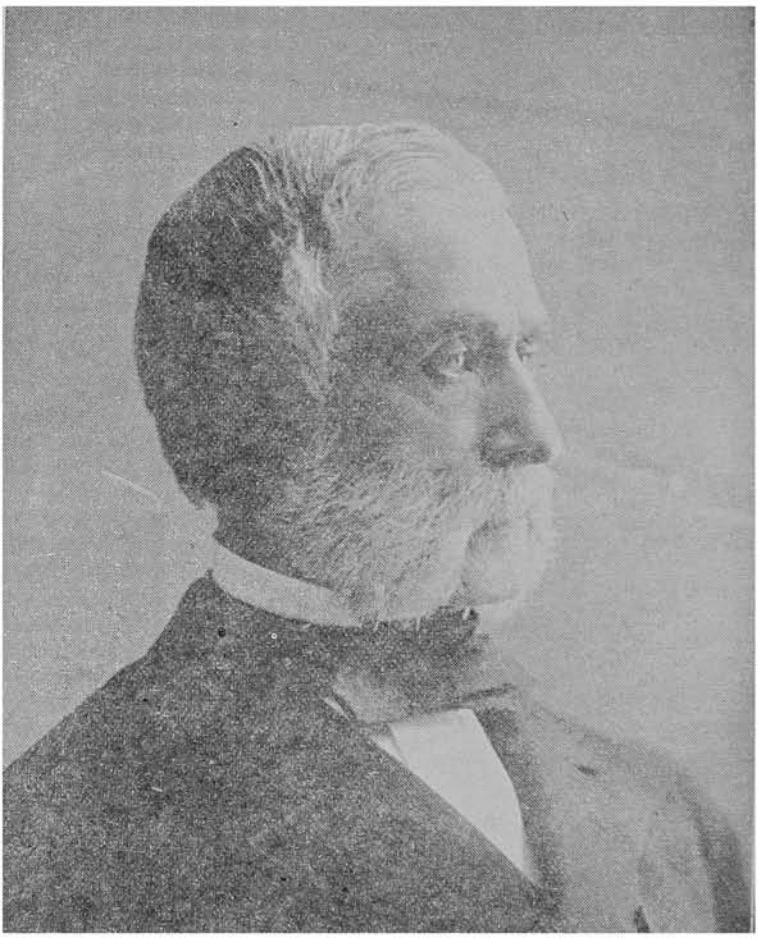
In the years of his affluence Mr. McChain was generous to his relatives and needy friends. John McChain lost his fortune and with his family was supported by his son George. He had kindly remembered his brother James whose Virginian parish was in distress during and after the ravages of the Civil War. Memories of that period of generosity often came to him from grateful beneficiaries.

Mr. McChain was conservative, undemonstrative, affable, polished, industrious, proud and patriotic. His business reverses were unexpected and, having been "reared in the lap of luxury," he battled hard to avoid them. Until the last he hoped to master them. His devoted wife was of high social connection, her brother, Col. George Pelton, being a husband of a sister of Governor Samuel J. Tilden. But. like thirteen other leaders of Ithaca's mercantile, industrial and professional centers who served the village as presidents when wealthy or well-to-do and influential and lived to be comparative strangers to financial or commercial influence, George McChain passed his last years.

President McChain's three administrations were eventful ones. In 1860 street cleaning was made obligatory upon abutting property owners every Saturday morning; State street was macadamized twenty feet wide with nine inches of common stone and three inches of limestone, from Geneva to Fulton streets; land was added to the village cemetery on the north; a Board of Fire Engineers, composed of the department chiefs and the committee on fire department of the Board of Trustees, was organized and a code of laws adopted to govern the fire department; a new truck for Tornado Hook and Ladder Fire Company No. 3 was purchased for $720; the large and beautiful oval burial plot in the cemetery was presented to the fire department; Boardman & Finch were village attorneys; a reward of $100 was offered for the detection of the person who set fire to Levi Newman's livery stables in January 1861; the village debt was reduced $2,600.00. Col. K. S. Van Voorhees was an active and influential member of this Board.

During 1864 and 1865 President McChain took patriotic part in the stirring events in the village that were incidental to the Civil War to which nearly all Ithacans gave much of their anxiety, time, energy and labor. The Democrats were in

a majority in the Board in 1864 and President McChain assigned them the chairmanships and majority of all the leading committees. The Board erected a new engine house for Cataract Fire Company No. 7 for which it paid contractor Peter Apgar $1,500. Wages of corporation laborers were increased to $1.75 per day. The Board paid the expenses of Spence Spencer and other citizens to go to Albany in 1865 to aid in securing the passage of the bill for the incorporation of Cornell University, while Senator Ezra Cornell and Assemblyman Henry B. Lord were having a great contest with many able and earnest leaders of all parties and the champions of other localities over that measure. During the entire three years of Mr. McChain's presidency his relations with the members of the Boards were of the most pleasant and cordial character.



ELIAS TREMAN—Twenty-Seventh President

ELIAS TREMAN—TWENTY-SEVENTH PRESIDENT.

Elias Treman, twenty-seventh president of Ithaca, served from March 1861 until March 1862. It was the first and the last political office that he would accept during the 51 years of his residence in Ithaca. It was more to his taste to take active part in any other public affair and to refuse no non-political duty or honor tendered to him by his associates. In that particular he was conspicuous and patriotic.

He was a leader among men. He could not have been otherwise in any country on earth. He was notable and influential in any assembly of men; frank and free in speech and manner; original and independent in mind and thought; tall, erect, athletic and rugged in health; methodical, industrious, frugal; plain, democratic, shrewd; fatherless when a lad, self-made in manhood. He was the foremost and best known merchant in Ithaca in the last years of his life.

Mr. Treman was born in Mecklenburg, N. Y., in December, 1822. When 15 years old he removed to Penn Yan and attended its academy, supporting himself and making it his home. His older brothers, Leonard and Lafayette, had preceded him and were engaged in mercantile service in that village. Upon leaving the Penn Yan Academy he became a clerk in a large hardware store and performed its primary duties. He was promoted from time to time and in 1846 he became head clerk.

In 1847 he removed to Ithaca whence his two brothers had preceded him and were proprietors of the hardware store now owned and occupied by his sons Robert H. and Charles E. Treman, on the southeast corner of State and Cayuga streets. He entered their service as clerk and in 1849 became a partner. A foundry was purchased and conducted by the firm. It stood upon the present site of the Lyceum Theater. A machine shop was added to the stores and foundry. It stood where the Lyceum block and Jamieson & McKinney block and the Gas & Water offices now stand, the three industries occupying the property abutting upon State, Cayuga and Green streets. In 1857 Leander R. King, a cousin of the Treman Brothers, was made a member of the firm and his name added to the firm title. Elias continued in active service in the store from 1847 until 1898.

The success of this firm soon found its members among the commercial and industrial leaders of Ithaca. It purchased the gas works and the water works which the owners continued to extend and improve. The purchase of stock in the Tompkins County Bank then followed and in a brief period, as individuals, the four members of the firm became directors of the bank. The noble old Bank of Ithaca edifice and many other valuable pieces of property were purchased by the firm.

During this period of 51 years Elias gave special attention to the development of the business in the stores. He trained his two sons in the various and extensive branches of that business. Leonard and Lafayette withdrew from active management in it and devoted their special attention to the management of the bank, the gas works and water works, Leonard becoming president of the gas works and water works, Lafayette president of the bank and later of the three corporations. Robert was taken into partnership in the stores in 1883, and Charles in 1892. The stores and foundry had been the basis of the commercial and industrial success of the firm and of its members.

Elias Treman was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Robert H. Lovejoy, of Owego, N. Y., in 1853, whom he first met at the residence of Henry W. Sage, in

Ithaca. Mr. Treman's first residence after his marriage was where Henry Clock now resides, No. 117 West Buffalo street, his next and permanent residence the northeast corner of Buffalo and Geneva streets, in which he died in October, 1898.

His father was Ashbel Treman, a native of Trumansburg and son of Abner Treman, a young veteran of the Revolution, who was allotted by this State a military tract, two miles long by three quarters of a mile wide, for his service as a soldier in the Revolution. That tract is now the site of the village of Trumansburg which was named after him, he being its first settler and owner. The Tremans were of Norman-French stock that came from England to America in 1666.

His mother was Mary Ayers. Besides the three sons she was the mother of two daughters, Ann Floretta (Gelazio) and Mary Caroline (Johnson.) Elias Treman said that his remarkably brusque and hearty manners of speech and action, his physical activity and business industry were inherited from his maternal ancestors; his spirit of pride and honor from his father's side of the house.

Elias Treman was a Democrat during his boyhood and his manhood and was very proud of that fact. He was a loyal friend of popular education and a member of the Board of Education from 1885 until his death; a member of Tornado Hook and Ladder fire company; a member and organizer of the Protective Fire Police from its organization in 1868 and served as its Captain eighteen years. He was active and enthusiastic in nearly every movement which advanced the business and industries of the village.

He was a regular attendant of the Presbyterian Church and president of its Board of Trustees at his death, but he had an inherited tendency towards the tenets of the Episcopal Church and directed that his funeral service should be the funeral service of the Episcopal Church.

If Elias Treman possessed a trait greater than any other it was his devotion to business in his stores. If he had one attribute more prominent than any other it was his frankness and freedom of speech. His predominating business principle was that the merchandise in the stores should be represented for what they were in fact, and that full weight, full measure should be given to every customer. More than one of his clerks was dismissed for disregarding or neglecting to honor that one positive principle. He maintained that ten reasons existed for it and that not one could be named against it as a moral or a business proposition. "It made Alexander T. Stewart the greatest merchant in the world; it has made the Tremans and Leander R. King what we are as merchants and business men," he said once to a clerk who had made a deal and delivered goods in violation of that principle.

Although a rigid disciplinarian he was a friend of cheerful men, the first to see and enjoy a joke, a sally of wit or humor and did not hesitate to take part in a game or a play where a bearty laugh would result from it.

He was thrown from his carriage by accident in June 1898 while driving to his summer cottage on the lake side and received an injury to his spine. Medical and surgical help of the highest kind failed to save his life. After four months of patient waiting and heroic preparation for the end he died. He had been in perfect health and did not feel his 75 years to be more than 40. His death was received in the city and county with profound sympathy and sorrow. The public had closely watched his long battle with the inevitable. He was buried with public honors.

His widow, as a religious tribute to his memory, presented a $10,000 organ to the Presbyterian Church, at which, in his devotion to her, he had been an attendant since his marriage.

As a citizen, a merchant, an industrial factor, Elias Treaman won the admiration of his contemporaries and a distinction that was seldom equaled in western New York. He was an influential member of a powerful and progressive firm that was composed of the members of a single family. His sons continue his affairs with the same zeal that characterized their father.

In 1861 President Treman was enthusiastic in advancing the purchase and erection of the beautiful monument on the firemen's plot in the cemetery, and aided materially in collecting the large fund that was paid for the monument. From 1868 until 1898 he marched in every annual fireman's parade as a "Protective" as he had marched in many preceding parades as a "Hook." He held all the honorary positions in the "Hooks" and in 1865 was elected Chief Engineer by the Fire Department.

He was a stock holder and director in the Tompkins County National Bank, in the Ithaca Trust Company, the Gas and Water Works companies; a director in the Ithaca Savings Bank, a member of the board of Education from 1885 to 1898 and a member of the non-partisan committee that constructed the present city charter. He was an organizer of the Ithaca Trust Co.

Memorial resolutions adopted after his death by these numerous organizations are eloquent tributes to his moral and mental worth. The Board of Education asserted: "Our schools and our city have lost one of their strongest and wisest leaders. He attended every meeting of the Board for 13 years. We commend the example of his life for emulation." The pupils of the schools on the annual Arbor Day planted a tree in his honor and named it the Treman tree.

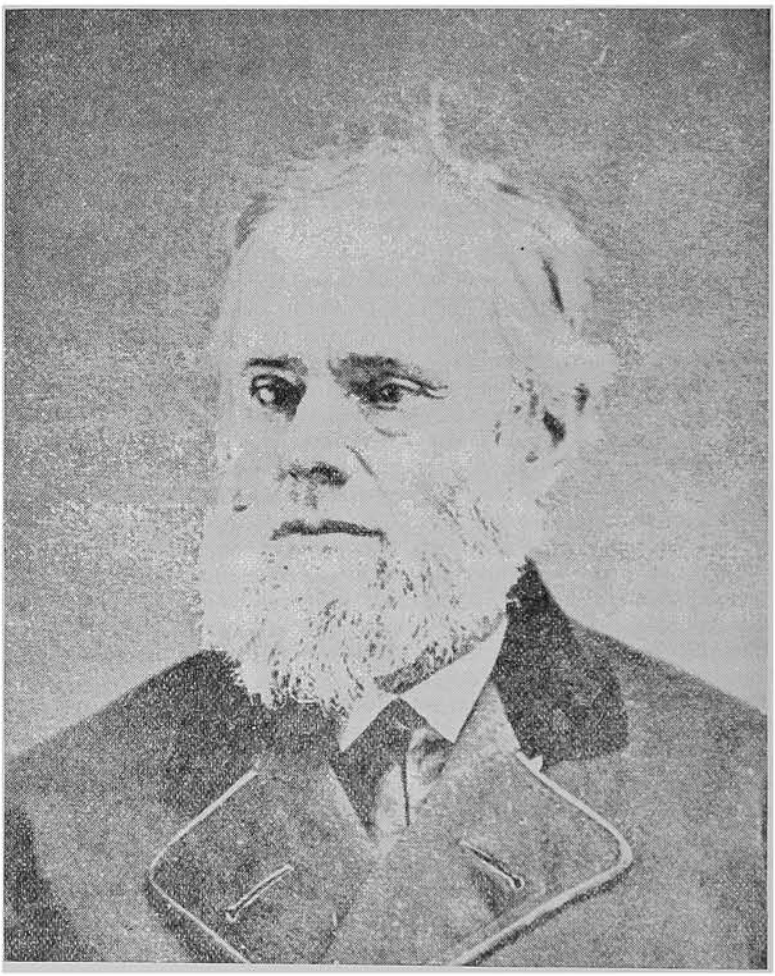
In the midst of his business life he enjoyed the society of cheerful men and of young people. He was a welcome guest at social functions; indulged in humorous stories; organized Independence Day sports and celebrations; encouraged and took part in baseball games and was himself a "star" catcher, batter and base runner until he had passed forty-five years of his life.

After his death the family received letters of sympathy from many prominent business men and capitalists and acquaintances in which his personality was vividly portrayed as it was judged by non-residents. William E. Dodge, a famous financier, wrote: "His visits to New York are looked to with great pleasure by his many friends and acquaintances." George Henry Sargent wrote: "His hearty cheerfulness, candor, integrity, lively and breezy ways combined with shrewdness and sagacity made him a delightful person to meet in social or business affairs." The Sargent firm employ over 5,000 men in its manufacturing business.

The officials and trustees of the Presbyterian Church passed a tender and affectionate memorial to their "Beloved President."

Elias Treman received 87 more votes in 1859 than were cast for John L. Whiton the Republican nominee and 162 less than were given to Thomas P. St. John the American nominee. He was not a candidate in 1860. In 1861 he had a single opponent, President George McChain, the Republican nominee whom he defeated by a majority of 123. James B. Taylor was elected treasurer of the village by a majority of 146 over Treasurer Justus Mitchell, Republican. The American and Whig parties had disappeared.

President Treman attended every meeting of the Board during the year. It was a business-like and popular administration,



FREDERICK T. GREENLEY—Twenty-Eighth President

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FREDERICK T. GREENLEY—TWENTY-EIGHTH PRESIDENT.

Frederick Trescott Greenley, twenty-eighth president of Ithaca, was a type of man and of merchant to whom the public turned for its officials during the exciting times of the Civil War. Gentle, sympathetic, patriotic; meeting and exchanging opinions with hundreds of customers daily in his double stores in the west end of the Deming block (known in the fifties as "Lawyers' Row," and as "DeWitt block"); esteemed by his acquaintances, admired by his customers, respected by his business contemporaries; active in Democratic caucuses and conventions and loyal to the Boys in Blue who were enlisting and departing for the front; generous to their families, he was chosen for public service, gladly accepted its duties and performed them with credit and distinction. He still lives to enjoy the memories of those times and witness the modern development of the city of Ithaca, while all of his predecessors and eleven of his successors have joined the great and silent majority.

He was born in Hamilton, N. Y., in 1817 and is now in his eighty-sixth year. His father, Dr. Thomas Greenley, was a native of Connecticut who removed to Hamilton and arose to such prominence that he held many local offices and served several years in the assembly and senate of the State. He was married to Thursa Trescott, of Hamilton. A brother of Frederick T. Greenley, Thomas H., served in the War of 1812. The early records and racial antecedents of the Greenleys and Trescotts have not been preserved.

Frederick T. Greenley was married in 1839 to Elizabeth H. Higgins, daughter of James Higgins, a leading citizen and business man of Hamilton. A son Edward now resides in Kentucky. He was educated in Ithaca and at the University of Heidelberg, Germany. Another son, Fred, was educated in Ithaca and at the Eagleswood Military Academy, N. J. He died in 1888 at Perth Amboy, N. J. In 1841 Mr. Greenley removed to Owego and in 1848 to Ithaca in both of which villages he was a merchant of prominence. He was the first man in Ithaca to burn gas from the gas works, in his residence. It was located on West Mill street below Cayuga street. A large peach orchard was near the residence on the north side of the street.

He was elected president of the village in 1862 and in 1863 and defeated Robert Cartright and Obadiah B. Curran, both Republicans. Col. Charles F. Blood, Republican, was elected assessor in 1863 and Charles G. Day, Democrat, collector. During his first administration the taxpayers voted against the proposition, 149 to 52, to drain and reclaim the marsh and swamp lands in the village. The Board of Trustees issued $4,000 in small notes or "shinplasters" of 5 cent, 10 cent, 25 cent and 50 cent denominations in addition to thousands of dollars of similar money or promises to pay already issued by the village for its use because of the absence of gold and silver money that had risen to a very high premium in the business world. These "shinplasters" were accepted as money without question, and later were redeemed and destroyed. Mr. Greenley issued small notes of like kind in his stores and so high was his standing as a merchant and financier that they passed as current money in this vicinity.

At the end of his first administration the village treasurer held $2,888 in his hands. The ringing of the village bell at 9 P. M. was discontinued. The Inlet was ordered freed from canal boats during the winter above the Seneca street

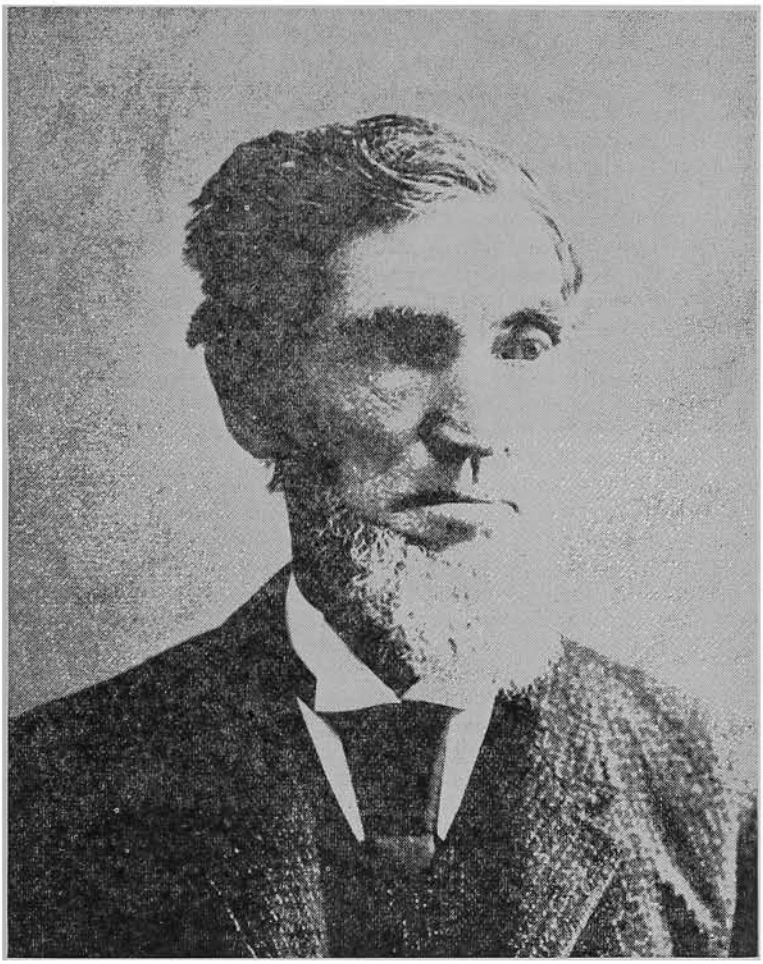
bridge, their winter quarters being set off to them below the bridges to give the ice room to break and not choke up the channel above the many business offices, elevators, storehouses and lumber yards that occupied both banks of the Inlet. Ithaca was then a very active canal, boat building and grain shipping center. The Inlet furnished an excellent winter harbor for scores of Ithaca "lakers" (famous canal boats, the best and highest priced on the canals of the State).

When some soldiers returned from the war in 1863 they met in front of Mr. Greenley's store and cheered Anson Spencer and his paper that had possession of an upper story in the building. They then moved further up the street and with several civilians expressed bad sentiments toward another paper and its editor. President Greenley ordered the crowd to disperse. A riot ensued. He took a club in his hand and struck several of the rioters and had others placed under arrest and locked in the police station.

He insisted upon suspending firemen from their companies who had removed the machines from the companies' rooms without due authority. He would not yield when it was urged that the firemen were aided by other citizens in "washing out" several notorious brothels. He asserted that ample laws awaited any citizen who desired the suppression of such places. People recognized in him an iron will although he was an ordinary man, physically, and gentle in manner.

President Greenley was a leader in the movement that gave a grand civic and military reception to the returning Boys in Blue, in 1863, at the expiration of their first enlistment. He was for many years a member of Tornado Hook & Ladder Fire Company No. 3 and has been an Odd Fellow since the early forties. He is an Episcopalian. His present residence is on East Seneca street.

The Board of 1862 decided that the old fashioned furniture, whitewashed walls and bare floor which made the council chamber of 1843 appear attractive in the new village hall did not comport with the dignity of himself and associates. Paper was ordered upon the side walls, fresh whitewash on the ceiling and carpet upon the floor. New chairs with cushions and a desk were added. The council chamber was the present city clerk's room, under the gallery in the village hall. Thaddeus W. Seeley was the only Republican in the Boards of 1862-3. James B. Taylor, Horace Mack, Anson Spencer, Joseph C. King, Adam S. Cowdry and Griswold Apley were the Democratic trustees. Mr. Seeley was a wise and greatly respected man and merchant in the First Ward and wielded a strong influence as a village trustee for ten years. He was the most popular man in his party in that ward. Two members of Mr. Greenley's Boards now survive with him: Horace Mack and James B. Taylor, sr.



SAMUEL STODDARD—Twenty-Ninth President

SAMUEL STODDARD—TWENTY-NINTH PRESIDENT.

Samuel Stoddard was a public favorite in Ithaca for fifty years. He was one of the most genial and most admired of its citizens in every branch of its business and civic and church and social life. He excelled in his faculty to make his associates and acquaintances enjoy his presence. He was always the same in his manners and speech and one of the most natural of men. Art and policy were strangers to him. Modest in all things but enthusiastic in church affairs he became one of the prominent citizens of the village and county.

Mr. Stoddard was born in Hudson, N. Y., in 1814 and removed to Danby, Tompkins County, N. Y., when he was very young, to reside with his uncle, Mr. Ranney, who conducted a tannery in that village. He secured some education in the village school but returned to Hudson for better schooling. He returned again to Danby and with his uncle became an expert tanner. When 21 years old (1835) he removed to Ithaca and entered the service of Joseph Esty who conducted a tannery on the southwest corner of Tioga and Green streets. In 1841 he became a partner with Mr. Esty in a leather store on State street where the Empire State House Furnishing store now stands. In 1841 it burned down.

Mr. Stoddard then purchased a tannery from his father-in-law, Silas Hutchinson on the bank of Six Mile Creek, on the east side of Aurora street, adjoining the bridge and conducted it until it was destroyed by the flood of 1857. He rebuilt it and continued the business until the tannery was ruined by fire in 1875. He then abandoned it and opened a leather store on State street above Aurora street, which he continued until his death in 1891, when he was five days less than 77 years of age.

He was the first church usher in Ithaca and claimed it as an honor. He was choir leader in the same church (Presbyterian); trustee for 31 years and deacon for five years, although he did not formally join the church until late in life. This is evidence of his loyalty to religious convictions and his popularity among the distinguished men who were leaders in that large and famous congregation.

Mr. Stoddard joined many organizations in the village. Among them were the old Ithaca Band; the military company; the fire department; the Protective Police; the Masons; the Odd Fellows. He placed the papers in the tin boxes that were deposited in the corner stone of the first building erected by Cornell University.

He was elected a village trustee in 1848-9-1851-4. In 1867 he was elected president of the village. As a village trustee he was very progressive, active, intelligent, influential and popular. He was elected poormaster five times and was reputed to be the most gentle, kind, active and admired poormaster the village and town ever had. The indigent poor and their friends held his name sacred.

His intense sympathy for and tender interest in the poor are illustrated in the fact that he walked his floor long into the night when the wind and storms in winter bowled around his own residence. He paced and moaned; "O my poor dear people, my unfortunate wards! How you must suffer! How you must suffer! How little the rich know what the poor must suffer to be honest and to live!" None but his wife and his children knew how deep was that sympathy and how sincere were his religious sentiments.

His favorite hooks were Spnrgeon's sermons and Christian works and the great orations and literature of Repnhlican statesmen and writers during the Civil War. He was called an expensive pnhlic official, hnt he was generous with his own money and he could not he a progressive official and avoid creating proportionate expense. He was elected when every other nominee on his party ticket was defeated. He was honest and fearless and consistent.

Mr. Stoddard was a zealons Repuhlican from the hirth of the party nntil his death. He gave his remarkahle energy and enthnsiasm to its development. He was influential in its councils and refnsed a nomination and election to the Assemhly. No man was more widely known in the village and connty. His hnsiness and church and fraternity associations were snch that he hecame in every sense a pnhlic man. His rare social virtues and high sense of hnmor made him approachahle, trnsted, admired. His plain and democratic style of life was snrrounded hy an aristocratic atmosphere. He had no enemies; no hitter tongned critics; no selfish motives.

He presided over a Board of Trnstees that was composed of four Democrats and two Repuhlicans and yet he gave all the leading committees into the control of the Democrats. He was not a cnnning and diplomatic politician. He was admired hy his political opponents.

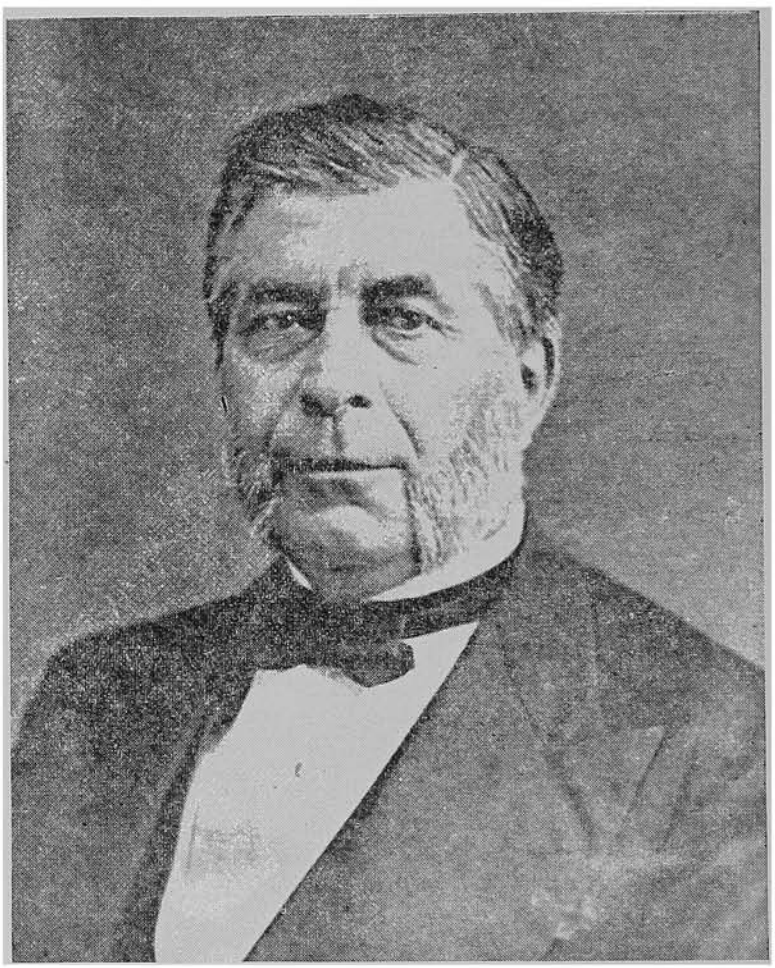
Mr. Stoddard was married in 1839 to Ann C. Hntchinson, danghter of Silas Hutchinson and grand-daughter of Dr. Silas Hutchinson, a large property owner and prominent citizen of Caroline. Mrs. Stoddard is still living and over 80 years old. She resides in the old Stoddard homestead on the northeast corner of Aurora and Prospect streets.

Mr. Stoddard was in Springfield, Ill., when Ahraham Lincoln was first elected President of the United States and called upon him early the next morning when the resnlt of the election was first learned. He and Mr. Lincoln were alone for a while hefore the people reached the Lincoln residence to congratulate him. Mr. Stoddard, heing a humorist and overjoyed at Mr. Lincoln's election, was delighted with Lincoln's stories, humor and personality for Mr. Lincoln was also overjoyed at the news that Mr. Stoddard confirmed. He made Mr. Stoddard remain in his company for a long time during the day. His meeting with Mr. Lincoln was under very happy auspices and made a lasting impression npon Mr. Stoddard.

Mr. Stoddard and his Board of Democratic Trnstees made a notahle record in divers ways, one of which was to increase the village deht $7,500. They purchased a lot 18x66, now occnpied hy the hnilding of Rescne Fire Co. No. 2 for $500 from the Episcopal society; paid $2,500 for new fire hose; $1,000 for "docking" Six Mile Creek and $1,000 for the expenses of the Board of Health. They numhered the huildings and placed names of the streets of the village where strangers could read them; named the puhlic park occupied hy the churches De Witt Park and christened the "the three cornered sqnare" north of Cascadilla Creek Thompson Park.

They changed the name of Owego street to State street and named the street extending around the village cemetery from Linn street hridge to University street; graveled and graded Eastport street; extended Linn street northward; sent General Harvey A. Dowe to Alhany to secure important amendments to the village charter; named New street Esty street; made a permanent reward of $500 for the arrest and conviction of village "fire hugs" and donated $500 to the fire companies.

The custom of former Boards of horrowing considerahle sums of money from individual citizens was continued. Ahel Bnrritt, Adam S. Cowdry, Thomas Reed and Jonah Sincehaugh were the favored capitalists in 1867. The Board leased a room in the Library Building for Rescue Fire Co. No. 2.



JOHN P. GAUNTLETT—Thirtieth President

JOHN P. GAUNTLETT—THIRTIETH PRESIDENT

John Payne Gauntlett was born in Portsmouth, England, in 1813, and was the first naturalized citizen who was elected president of Ithaca. His career was typical of that class of foreign born citizens that accomplishes far greater triumphs in the social, religious, industrial and political life of our cosmopolitan Republic than does the vast majority of our native born.

His father, a prominent citizen and ship-builder in Portsmouth, died when John was eight years old and the eldest of four brothers and one sister. His mother was a practical woman as well as cultivated, proud, refined and an excellent linguist. Upon the earnest solicitation of her advisors, and her deceased husband's brother, John Payne Gauntlett, who was then in New Jersey, she permitted her little son to become his adopted son. She packed his keepsakes and clothing in a small hair covered leather trunk, sewed a tag bearing his name and destination on his coat and put him on board of a sailing vessel in charge of the captain in Portsmouth harbor. Choking with sobs, blinded with tears, heart nearly breaking and fondly praying for her little darling emigrant she started him to his uncle in America. His uncle and aunt met him at Castle Garden and made his welcome hearty and lasting. He became American in sentiment with swift and certain pace. He was lonely for his mother, but his heart yielded to his reason and his uncle and aunt were made happy.

James Tolfree, a resident of Ithaca, and native of England, who had been a close friend of the Gauntletts in Portsmouth, induced the uncle and aunt to remove from their New Jersey home to Ithaca. They brought their nephew with them and gave him such an education as was obtainable in Ithaca until he was fourteen. He was then bound as an apprentice to learn the book-binding trade with Mack & Andrus in Ithaca. The apprenticeship document was signed by the boy, his uncle, Ebenezer Mack and William Andrus. It is now highly prized and carefully preserved by his son, John C. Gauntlett. It prohibited him from marrying and from doing any thing of importance, except in the interest of his masters, for six years and one month, at which time he would be just 21 years of age. He was to receive $25 and two suits of clothes at his majority and his board and living necessities during the period of his apprenticeship. He resided a large part of the time in the family of Mr. Mack.

At the end of the six years and one month he was furnished with funds to visit his mother in England and availed himself of the opportunity. He returned to the book-binding department and in 1834 he was made its foreman. About 1840 he was made a partner in the firm and remained a partner until 1859, ten years after Mr. Mack's death. Another partner, Charles Woodruff, had also died. George McChain and two sons of William Andrus, Frederick K., and William Andrus, jr., had become members of the firm. His application to the business of the firm was so close and that business so varied and so extensive that he withdrew to preserve his health. No firm in Ithaca was more successful or more widely known, nor more severely taxed with commerciel problems and work.

In 1863 he entered the drug business in a store now occupied by the beautiful West Block and in which are the store of David Roe, jr., and the Odd Fellows' Hall. His young son, John C. Gauntlett, was proprietor of the drug store. In 1867 John C. Gauntlett took his father and his brother-in-law, Arthur B. Brooks,

into partnership, which continued until 1875, when the senior Gauntlett died, aged 62. His commercial ventures were successful and he saved a handsome competence.

Mr. Gauntlett was one of the sound and influential merchants of the village. His career as a financier led his contemporaries to elect him a director of the Tompkins County Bank; a trustee of the Ithaca Savings Bank; trustee of the Mechanics' Society; treasurer and trustee of the First Methodist Episcopal Church and trustee of the Ithaca Academy. He held all of those offices of trust and influence and honor until he died, except the trusteeship of the academy which had become a public school.

Mr. Gauntlett was married in 1839 to Susan Burritt, daughter of Joseph Burritt, of Ithaca. She was a refined and lovely woman and gifted with rare literary talent. She died in 1853. The Gauntlett residence was then where Mrs. Merritt Wood, a sister of the late Henry W. Sage, now resides, No. 505 East Seneca street. She was survived by her son John C. and her daughters, Mrs. A. B. Brooks and Jane Gauntlett. In 1854 Mr. Gauntlett was married to Mary Jane, daughter of George Burritt, of Stratford, Conn. She is still living. Her daughter, Mrs. Ira A. Place, resides in New York. During the last 20 years of Mr. Gauntlett's life his residence was No. 304 East State street, now occupied by D. H. Wanzer.

He was a Democrat until the breaking out of the Civil War when, intending to be a war Democrat only, he acted with the Republicans; but he never returned to the old party, having become a zealous Republican. He was elected village treasurer in 1850-1 and town supervisor in 1859 and 1861 as a Democrat.

In 1868-9 and 1871 he was elected president of the village. He defeated Joseph C. King, Philip Case and William S. Hoyt. His party colleagues were in control of the Board of Trustees. Col. K. S. Van Vorhees was elected treasurer upon the same tickets in 1868 and 1869, and Isaac Randolph in 1871. Mr. Gauntlett's strong hold upon the confidence and good will of the voters was founded largely upon his opposition to increasing the debt against the village. His predecessors had increased the expenses of the village over the annual tax budget from year to year until the village debt was $30,000 at his first election to the presidency. He held his Boards to the budget limit and submitted to the taxpayers the question of a special annual tax of $7,000 to reduce the village debt. The people who paid taxes voted, in 1868, 54 for the proposition, 6 against it; in 1869 the vote was 18 for and none against the special tax. The last vote showed a strange absence of public interest in the proposition. A special tax of $3,000 for extraordinary expenses was voted upon and resulted in a similar manner, that of 1869 was 26 to 5.

The first death that made a vacancy in the Board of Trustees since the village was incorporated in 1821 occurred in 1869 when William Nixon, a trustee of the Third Ward, died. The Board of 1868 destroyed $613 of currency which former Boards had issued to take the place of money. The fire companies were donated $800 the same year. Quarry street and Fifth street were opened to the public. Dryden Road, University street and Hudson street were widened by commissioners appointed by the court. An ordinance was passed in 1869 making it a punishable offence to tie a horse to a shade tree or ornamental tree of any kind in the village. The Board purchased a gravel bank at "Fall Creek;" borrowed money from the Savings Bank; ordered many new gas lamps for street corners and, like the Board of 1868, refused to "let Village Hall to any political party unless the hall rent was paid in advance for the rent had not been paid when credit was given."

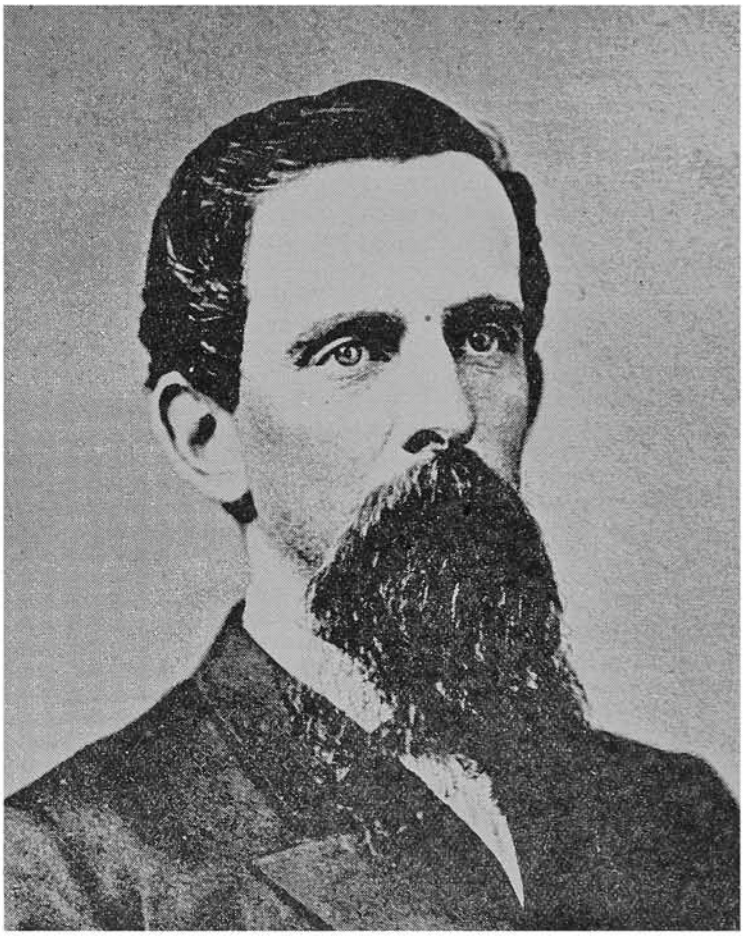
During the Gauntlett administration in 1871 the Board offered $100 reward for the detection of the person who set fire to the store of Andrus, McChain & Co. and $100 for the person who set fire to Philip Stephens's barn. Later in the year occurred the great fire that consumed many large and small buildings covering many acres bounded by Lang's machine shops and the Tompkins County Bank on

the west and the east side of Aurora street on the east; State street on the north and Six Mile Creek on the south. The village owned only hand engines and was saved from a greater conflagration by the aid of Owego firemen and the Lackawanna special trains that brought the Owego firemen and their engines to Ithaca. A testimonial of several hundred dollars was presented to the Owegoans by the Board of Trustees. The Board purchased a new fire ladder; erected a new building for Rescue Fire Co. No. 2; extended the wooden building "fire limits;" purchased a new steamer for Cayuga Fire Company No. 1 and a new steamer for Rescue Fire Company No. 2; granted a right of way into the village to the Cayuga Lake R. R. Co.; named the village cemetery "Sylvan Hill Cemetery"; refused a right of way through Mill street to the Elmira, Ithaca & Cortland R. R. Co.; paid $10,764 for recording, expenses of issuing and interest on the Elmira, Ithaca & Cortland R. R. bonds; extended West Clinton street 2,800 feet to Humboldt street; paved the block between Tioga and Cayuga streets on State street with Medina stone; and made many more permanent improvements. The taxpayers voted 239 to 29 for the expenditure of $10,000 for new fire fighting apparatus. Treman Bros. made a proposition to furnish the village with water through hydrants. It was not accepted that year.

In 1851 Mr. Gauntlett made a second visit to England and brought with him the first sewing machine ever seen in that kingdom. He had been baptized and brought up an Episcopalian but his wife had won his attention and devotion to such an extent that he attended the Methodist Church with her and he became one of its pillars. His funeral was conducted according to its service.

He was distinguished for his integrity, his business acumen, his positive and industrious nature. He was not demonstrative nor a seeker after public honors. His appointment as internal revenue assessor in the sixties was unsolicited, as were all his official positions. He enjoyed a humorous story, a joke, a pleasant anecdote, but not at the expense of somebody's pride of feeling. He was a consistent churchman, well informed, but did not fail to faithfully observe, and profit from, in his youth and manhood the business tuition he received from his tutors Ebenezer Mack and William Andrus. He followed them as models.

An anecdote will illustrate his manner of correcting an error of judgment, an error which seldom occurred with him. He purchased a horse of a horseman whom he regarded as an honest man. The horse was far from what he had judged it to be in quality. He afterwards asked the horseman if there was any rule of honor whatever among horse traders. "Yes, $5 to a man who feels bad over his deal and $10 to a man who feels very, very bad over it," was the answer. Mr. Gauntlett handed the horseman a $10 bill in perfect silence and passed on to his business. The horseman accepted the money in silence and with an honest conscience restored Mr. Gauntlett to his original condition before the deal.



RUFUS BATES—Thirty-First President

RUFUS BATES—THIRTY-FIRST PRESIDENT.

Rufus Bates was a fascinating man and distinguished for his sympathetic, generous and lovable personality. His election as president of Ithaca was against his desire and contrary to his prediction. He was democratic in manners and speech; he approached and received all men upon their individual merits, and accorded to them precisely what he expected in return; absolute candor and exact justice. He was one of the most respected and most admired citizens in the county. He derived enjoyment in practicing the Golden Rule.

Mr. Bates inherited his mother's lovable personality, her refined and genial patience, her delicate health. His intellect was robust and keen, his judgment superior and his habits very methodical. He was the center of a very happy and social group of gentlemen; a group which reveled in the development of Aurora street. Its history was well known to the members, a history as old and as interesting as Ithaca itself for the business of Ithaca was once transacted on Aurora street.

He transacted his own business in the rapid fashion of a Wall Street stock broker. Time was precious to him. His judgment was formed with speed and his offer of prices was not to be changed. He knew the current market and held perfect confidence in his own judgment. People generally knew bim and his custom and seldom had trouble with him. He was impulsive but so wise and so fair, so honest, so generous, his friends asserted, that he did not have one enemy. His business affairs kept him in intimate commercial relations with men in every part of Tompkins, Cortland, Tioga, Seneca, Cayuga, Schuyler, Chemung, Steuben and other counties. He had as wide a circle of personal and admiring friends as ever a man had in this community. He was a model of industry and integrity but his beautiful and sympathetic nature eclipsed all other traits.

Rufus Bates was born in Litchfield, Conn., in 1836, while his father, Jacob Bates, with his wife, Laura Puffer, of Danby, were temporarily in charge of an uncle's farm. In 1838 Jacob and his family returned to Danby. Jacob Bates was notably successful as a farmer and stock dealer for the New York market and began before railroads were constructed and often took the stock to market on foot. His wife was known for her rare social graces and mental accomplishments. She died when young. Jacob was, in later years, an extensive dealer in real estate and a capitalist.

Rufus was educated in the schools of Ithaca, in Alfred College and was graduated from Commercial College of Syracuse, in 1860. In 1863 he was married to Flora M. Doolittle, of Addison, N. Y., daughter of Anson Doolittle a lumber dealer and hotel proprietor. She was born in Tompkins County and graduated from the Elmira Female College in 1861.

Rufus became a partner and a favorite with his father. The father was a man of tall, magnificient physical appearance, rich complexion and a model of health. Rufus was of delicate appearance, handsome, and of average height. The contrast was notable. But Rufus did not possess his father's spirit for accumulating property. He found an unconscious pleasure in giving away and in sharing his money and property with others less fortunate in worldly possessions. His sympathetic nature operated as quickly as his intellect acted in a business transaction.

Men and boys watched eagerly for opportunities to go with him to the country for a herd of beef cattle. They knew he would extend his kindness to whomsoever he employed. He always gave them more than he promised them for the service. A prominent citizen of the present day who was a bookkeeper and cashier in the Bates & Wortman market on Aurora street relates many incidents when Rufus rolled up generous packages of the best meat in the market and placed them in the bottom of poor women's baskets in addition to the cheaper meat that they had purchased with their limited means. The poor women did not see the kindly acts nor know of them until they emptied the baskets in their own homes. His money was distributed with equal generosity and privacy.

After a very long and weary drive in the country he would invariably order a horse and carriage after supper and invite his wife to enjoy a drive. His passion for elegant horses, carriages and exquisite driving accompaniments was strong, but his devotion to and affection for his wife and children, caused him to forget his own fatigue and to study how to make them happy. The death of a little son was a heavy blow to his tender and sensitive nature.

He was high spirited and never delayed a duty for an hour. He was in constant action until he was weakened by an ailment that could not be shaken off. At 41 he saw his earthly end coming on and lamented it. He had begun to comprehend his standing among men and the great need of men of his kind. He grieved at the sorrow his death would bring to his wife, his little daughter, his kindred, and to his friends and companions.

He did not comprehend how beautiful and lasting would be the example he had set for others to follow, nor how rare was his personality, how it was admired by the whole community.

Rufus Bates was distinguished as a business man. His contemporaries now assert that he had no equal in his line. His training had been received under great advantages. His mind was even brilliant and logical. His father's wealth was at his command. He was a leader in enlisting enough capitalists in building the Ithaca Hotel for the Welches, Col. W. H. and his son Orlando, after the conflagration in 1871, by subscribing money for and accepting stock in the hotel. He was instrumental in improving Aurora street in many ways and in the building of the Bates Block.

He was an enthusiast in public improvements; in advancing popular education; a member of the Board of Education; director of the Ithaca Savings Bank; member of Cayuga Fire Company No. 1 until 1870 when he became a member of the Protective Fire Police. In politics Mr. Bates was a Democrat.

Rufus Bates was a moralist. He made no attempt to suppress his indignation when deception had been attempted upon him. He forthwith sought the man who deceived him even if he were thirty miles distant. He drove his horse and carriage to him and took a riding companion along. The meeting was made memorable. Refined sarcasm, cutting rebuke, powerful and bitter protest without permitting a moment's opening for denial or apology, followed. Humiliation was thus heaped upon the culprit. His emotion spent, his satisfaction secured Mr. Bates immediately returned to his business with an important duty well done. He was merciless to a fraud and a model of mercy to all others.

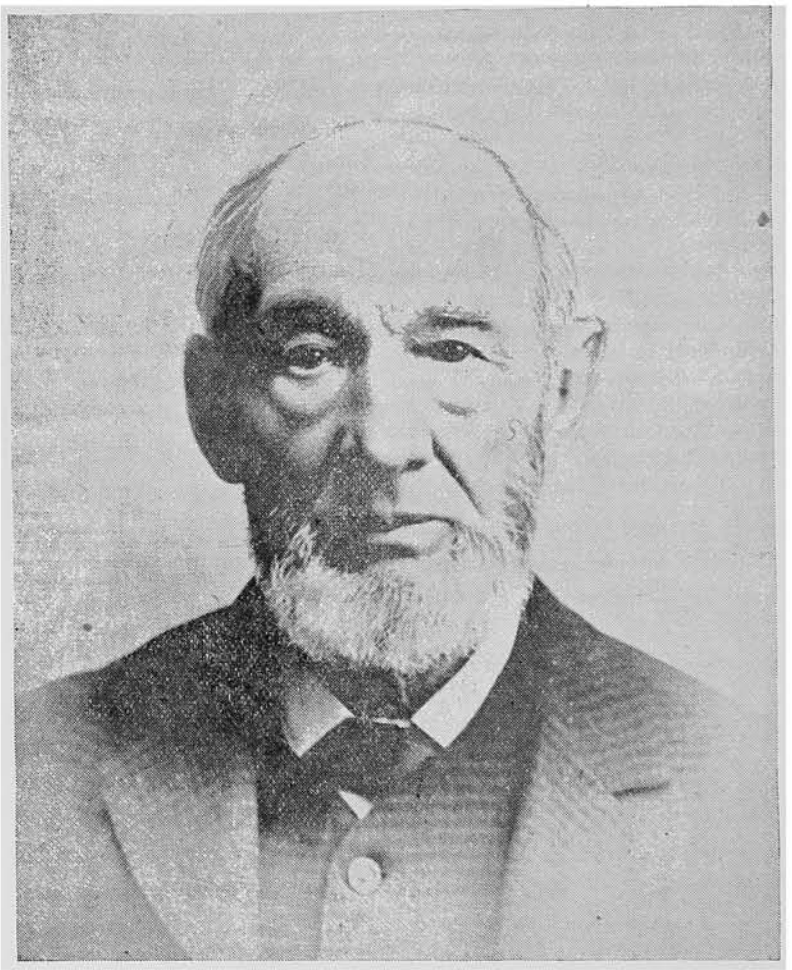
He died in 1880, aged 43, at his residence on Giles street.

Among the tributes paid to his memory were the eloquent preamble and resolutions adopted by the officials and directors of the Savings Bank. They asserted their "appreciation of his sterling worth, his faithfulness to all trusts placed upon him, their sensibility to the loss they sustained in his death; and that in all the relations of life he came fully up to the standard of a man whom all must esteem and honor and with whom it was a privilege to be associated." The memorial presented to Mrs. Bates bears the signatures of "John Rumsey, President and O. H. Gregory, Secretary.

The death of Mr. Bates was one of the first to be officially noticed by the Board of Trustees during the period that elapsed from the incorporation of the village, 1821, until 1880. The Board of 1880, Albert H. Platts, President, and George F. Mowry, clerk, presented the sentiments of its members to Mrs. Bates. They recited at length "the virtues, intellectual merits, generous heart, faitbful service and loyal patriotism of former President Rufus Bates; and the loss suffered by Ithaca in his untimely death."

The Ithaca Journal paid an eloquent tribute to his "iron will, generous soul, high character, love of the people and business talents." Other papers published well deserved testimonials to his memory.

Rufus Bates was elected president of Ithaca in 1870 and received 52 votes more than were cast for his Republican opponent John L. Whiton. It was a Democratic year. During his administration the first street paving was done in the village. It was the block on State street between Aurora and Tioga streets and Medina stone was used. The first iron bridge in the village was erected over Six Mile Creek at Aurora street. Upon the motion of Trustee Michael Wick Washington Park was "opened to the public and put in order." President Bates was transferred from Cayuga Fire Company No. 1 to the Protective Fire Police. Village Hall building was rearranged for the use of the fire companies of the village under a contract with Almon Boys. Many street lines were surveyed and extensive improvements made involving $10,000 extra expense. The deepest snow in the memory of Ithacans fell on tbe 16th and 17th of March which made the streets almost impassable for several days and caused a postponement for one week by the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of their eigth annual banquet. Street Commissioner Ebenezer Purdy reported to the Board that he measured State street and found it 4,243 feet from Aurora street to the D. L. & W. R. R. depot.



JOHN H. SELKREG—Thirty-Second President

JOHN H. SELKREG—THIRTY-SECOND PRESIDENT.

John Hopkins Selkreg in his active years was an organizer of men; a leader of parties; a promoter of commercial and industrial institutions; a champion of education and clean morals; a tribnne of the people; a maker of history during the contest for tbe supremacy of American principles which reached its climax in the Civil War and ended with the distracting events which followed that war.

His field of operation was in tbe village of Ithaca. His forces were the gifts which Nature had bestowed upon him in a nnique personality, nnique only in its similarity to the great commoner Abraham Lincoln. In his own community John H. Selkreg had no moral, mental or personal likeness. As Grattan said of Chatham: "Modern degeneracy had not reached him; he stood alone." His career was marked by his extraordinary influence and popnlarity dnring a period of forty years. He was nnpretentious and plain; a man of versatility and endowed with rare sound sense. His ambition did not rise to snch eminence that it inspired serions rivalries among his local contemporaries. His rugged and homely Americanism was in accord with his physical appearance and with his literary style. He was not composed of opposites. He knew his own mental limits and his physical characteristics, and their peculiar values, and nsed them with telling effect. That was the secret of his success as a leader in politics and as an editor.

His mannerisms and appearance were striking; his diction was artless and plain; he was fashioned by natnre to reach the pnblic heart and to win and hold its confidence. Aristocratic and schólastic fancies found no lodgment in him. He was pnrely and always a child of nature, self-tanght and self-made. He realized the dignity and the power which nature often bestows npon its favored ones and he learned from many an intellectual contest that he was not an ontcast from the favorites.

He was prond of that dignity and maintained it in the sanctum of The Ithaca Journal, in the Assembly, in the State Senate. He gnarded it zealously when he was postmaster, loan commissioner and president of Ithaca. He gave it full play when npon the political platform, in banquet halls, at Independence Day celebrations, holiday excnrsions and Memorial Day events. Environment never changed him; he was always and ever the same.

Motherless when five years of age and fatherless at eleven he engaged in the contest for fame and fortune when he was a mere boy. Enriched with experience and self-confidence when he had barely reached his majority he abandoned his home in Dutchess County, on the Hndson, for a new home in his native State. He located in Ithaca, to which he came by canal packet in 1841, at the age of 23. He purchased a half interest from Judge Alfred Wells in The Ithaca Jonrnal and, being an exerienced compositor, took an active part in its pnblication.

His relation with the pnblic became intimate and confidential, as editor and pnblisher of its oldest paper, for forty years. His vision was wide enough to comprehend the extraordinary advantage which accompanied such ownership and editorship. His snccess was sure and solid. The Jonrnal felt the strength of his personality and renewed its diminishing influence and standing.

No subject of interest or value escaped his attention. He whiled away no idle hours. He was a student of affairs, but not of books. He studied men and became notably efficient in his study. He was so well informed that few men conld teach him in worldly matters; so gifted with humor that his pen and tongue were

lightened by it; so bright in intellect that he excelled in wit, satire and repartee; so clear in memory that he forgot nothing he ever learned; so fearless that he feared no man; so versatile in thought and fluent in diction that he never prepared a speech nor felt embarrassment when standing before an audience; so generous with his talents and time that he was continually before the public. His many-sided nature, distinguished abilities and activities made him a popular orator, politician, editor, wit, humorist and legislator and a greatly admired citizen.

Mr. Selkreg was sympathetic and conservative but aggressive in all things which seemed to him worthy of development. Logical always, he attempted no imposition upon an individual or the public. Substance and not fashion was attractive to him. He did not begin a quarrel because he enjoyed a quarrel, but he did enjoy a contest of wit or of intellect if he foresaw that a benefit would follow for the public. Hence it can be said that he escaped the adverse criticism of historian and critic in his active years; a rare tribute to this worthy descendant of Scotch fathers and New England mothers. His kindliness and consideration and confidence were freely and naturally extended to his associates and employes, many of whom still mention his name with affection.

His mother Elizabeth Ames was from a Connecticut family that was prominent in literature and portrait painting. She was cultivated, refined and literary in her tastes and proud of her family and children. Within the past week Senator Selkreg answered a visitor's question thus: "I remember my mother as an angel." It is the memory of a child of five carried in his heart and soul for eighty years and has become a part of his very nature. Eloquent but simple tribute from a man of 85 years to his mother! He recalls the day in September, 1824, when his father raised him from the ground and held him in his arms above a throng to enable him to secure a view of General Lafayette, while on a visit to America, and slowly passing by on a Hudson river steamer. He was seven years and seven days old. Historic scenes which but few now living behold and fewer still can remember!

Mr. Selkreg served two terms as loan commissioner and more than four years as postmaster. Method and courtesy and increased accommodations were granted and secured by him to the people of this vicinity. When powerful attacks were made in the halls of legislation in Albany in 1866 against Ezra Cornell and Cornell University Mr. Selkreg was elected to a seat in the Assembly to answer for them and to act as the champion of higher education in the Empire State. His opportunity was vast and his talents put to a rigid test. But his task was so well performed that he was four times re-elected and remained at his post until all criticism against Mr. Cornell and the University had ended in that quarter.

His five years in the Assembly won him wide fame. He nearly became Speaker in 1869, when great men were his party colleagues in that body. He was chairman of the committee upon Ways and Means, the greatest and most influential committee in the Assembly, and member of it for five years, and of the committees on Banks, and on Printing, and on Privileges and Elections.

He was promoted to the Senate in 1874-5-6-7 and served with distinguished ability and acted as chairman of the committee on Railroads, a leading committee in the Senate in his time and as a member of the committee on Finance. His characteristics were appreciated in the halls of legislation and in committee rooms, and his intellectual powers fully recognized throughout the State. He secured large appropriations for canal improvements in Ithaca and for Cornell University and for the Old Ladies' Home on South Hill.

Mr. Selkreg was a favorite political orator and after-dinner speaker. His humor, wit and style of speech were as original as were his personal manner and deliberate, emphatic and peculiar delivery. Here also did he show his disregard for art and embellishment of every kind. He was a thinker and talked to thinking men. He will pardon others for writing as freely about him as he spoke of

his own person and of his own characteristics in public. It was one of his strongest and most influential traits.

He began a speech in Mecklenburg in this fashion: "Fellow Citizens; the State Republican Committee after an earnest hunt for its handsomest speaker, at the request of the citizens of Mecklenburg, has made its final decision. I was selected and sent here as that handsomest man. I will perhaps make up by my beauty whatever I may lack as an orator." The late and lamented Eron C. Van Kirk often asserted with enthusiasm that the large audience roared with laughter for several minutes at this humorous reference to himself by Mr. Selkreg and sat for two hours in delight during his speech, the Democrats being equally attentive. The purpose of the sally is apparent. He won the good will of his audience at the beginning of the harangue.

Mr. Selkreg began a political speech in a hall in Caroline thus: "Fellow Citizens; I love but one woman. She is my wife. But if in the course of events I should ever become free again I would immediately declare my passionate affection for Caroline."

At a banquet given to the veterans of the G. A. R. in Clinton Hall, in 1893, by the newly organized Woman's Relief Corps, he began his speech at 11:30 P. M., upon the text "The Press": "I will with your permission speak until tomorrow." And he did, and delivered an eloquent speech for more than an hour. He was then 76.

Five years later he was a guest of The Ithaca Journal correspondents at their annual excursion to Atwater's on Cayuga lake. Upon being requested to address them he cheerfully arose and delivered a speech that charmed his hearers. He intimated that it might be his farewell to them. It was inspired; it scintillated with wit, humor and anecdote. Pathos, imagination, affection, memory, poetry intermingled; the glory of his long life all arose to a sublime climax. Tears flowed freely, but he did not shed them. He was then 79.

Some of the speeches he delivered in the Assembly were accorded wide circulation and great praise, notably upon the Ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, in favor of negro suffrage; and his argument in favor of the bill fixing the time of a laborer's day at eight hours. His most effective speech in the Senate was delivered upon the subject of frauds which he discovered in the State printing department. His battles in the Assembly with the adherents of William M. Tweed were vigorous and added greatly to his magnificent legislative record. He was a familiar and honored figure in Albany and was numbered among the reliable "war horses" of the Republican party in those years of excitement.

It concerned John H. Selkreg very little what text he was assigned, nor the class of people who assigned it to him. His versatility was inexhaustible and his audience always inspired him. His eloquence was well sustained. He could entertain, instruct, please and encourage others at all times. His emotional, intellectual and humorous qualities were well balanced and shared each its duty to the public when opportunity was presented.

Mr. Selkreg was a total abstainer from wine and liquor. His fancy never found its wings opened by the contents of the wine glass. He was not rugged in health and was temperate in diet.

Mr. Selkreg was a Democrat until the conscience of the North had become aroused to curb the greed and arrogance of the slave states. He abandoned his party and made his paper, The Ithaca Journal, the organ of the new Republican party when it nominated General John C. Fremont for the presidency in 1856. The Journal was the oldest Democratic paper, and the most prominent, in Southern New York. Mr. Selkreg incurred censure and received praise for his act. But he was positive and followed the dictates of his own conscience. The history of John H. Selkreg and of The Ithaca Journal during the 47 years which have since elapsed demonstrate the bravery, wisdom and patriotism of that act.

Mr. Selkreg erected the Journal Block on South Tioga street, and the residence on East Buffalo street now occupied by the Rev. J.F. Fitschen jr,, and family. He was president of the Ithaca Calendar Clock Company for many years and is now first vice president of the Ithaca Savings Bank. He was a trustee of Cornell University and is still a trustee of the Cornell Library Association.

He has been an Odd Fellow of great prominence for many years. He was one of the pillars of the Republican party and member of the fire department (all the companies claiming him) and of many other organizations; an earnest advocate of public education and of local, county, State and national development. His associations and correspondence have been with people and statesmen of the best character. His has been a consistent and typical American.

Mr. Selkreg was married in 1842 to Clarissa M. Turner, of Poughkeepsie. Her virtures, accomplishments and philanthropic work won for her local fame and respect hardly less distinguished than her husband's. She was a source of encouragement and inspiration to him and to many women who acted with her in Ithaca and its neighboring towns. She died in 1892 mourned by the community in which her charities and missionary work had been performed.

One child was born to them, Mrs. George W. Apgar who, with Mrs. Ward Gregory, own and publish the Ithaca Democrat, the paper that was the organ of the Whigs, then styled the Chronicle, when the Journal was the Democratic organ. Mr. Selkreg transferred his ownership of the Journal to George E. Priest and Charles M. Benjamin in 1880. He is passing his days in peace and repose from the activities of the world with his daughter, on South Albany street. He is the last survivor of the grand old champions of the editorial room.

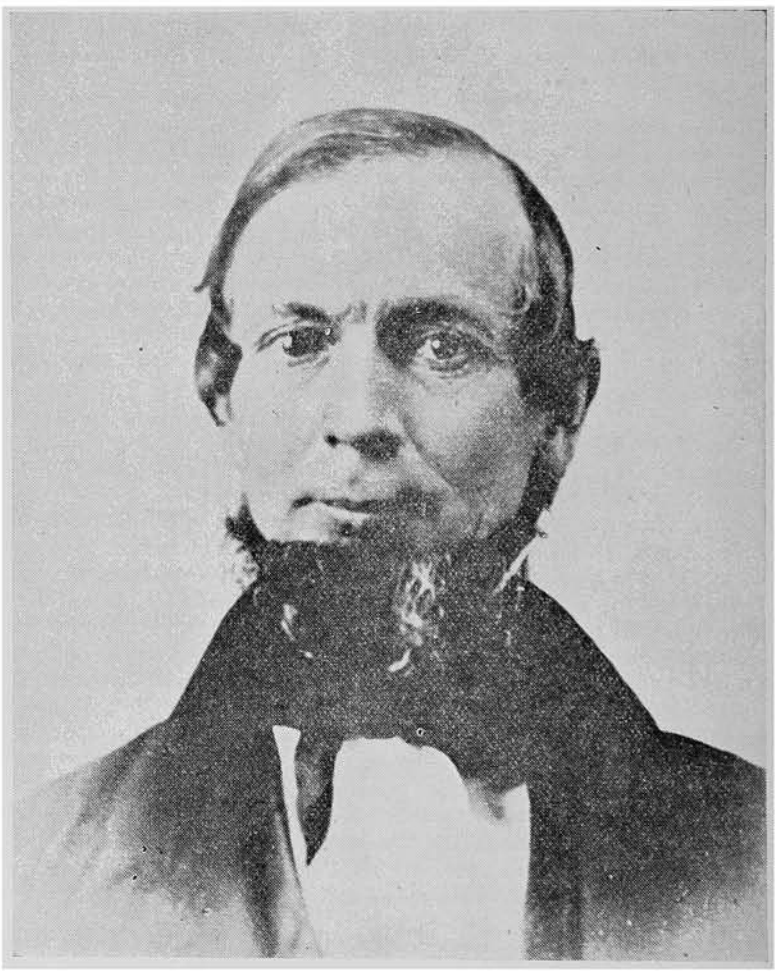
Flattery and bribery were held out to win him in the Assembly during the rule of the Tweed Ring and when he was a member of the Senate. But he resisted both flattery and bribery and returned to Ithaca with name unsullied, fame increased a hundred fold and poorer in purse than when he was first elected.

His speech in the Senate in April 1876, in which he exposed the fraud and extravagance of a gigantic State printing contract with Parmenter & Co., by which the State would lose $253,000, was a masterpiece of logic and argument and of plain, pure English. It was distributed in pamphlet form as a political party document throughout the State and created a profound impression among the people and a sensation in the legislature. It caused passionate denials and saved an immense sum of money to the State in the final interpretation of the contract. Governor Tilden, Comptroller Lucius Robinson and Secretary of State John Biglow were the three great Democratic officials whom Senator Selkreg attacked with such magnificent courage and consummate skill. "They had," he said, "signed and approved a monstrous contract, parts of which were too transparent to be classed as fraud, and must fall within the line of pure, unadulterated blundering by the chief State officers." The speech proved his power as a debater, his influence as a legislator and his courageous and reliable spirit as a citizen and public servant.

In Februry 1872 the Republican party in the village seemed to be breaking up. It was the year of party dissensions all over the Union and witnessed the great political paradox of the Democrats endorsing the nominee of the Liberal Republicans, Horace Greeley, for the presidency. William W. Esty, a popular business man and prominent Republican, was nominated at a Citizens' caucus for president of the village and was endorsed by the Democrats. The Republicans decided to select their strongest man for the same office and named John H. Selkreg. He was elected by an unusually large majority and carried into office every man on his ticket except one, the nominee for trustee in the First Ward.

During Mr. Selkreg's administration a reward of $500 was offered by the Board of Trustees for the arrest and conviction of the man who "attempted to assassinate Under Sheriff R. H. Fish;" paid $1,000 of borrowed money to Rufus Bates and $1,687 borrowed from John H. Selkreg; changed the name of Spencer Road to

Humboldt street; gave Brindley street to the Geneva, Ithaca & Athens R. R. Co. for railroad purposes; donated $2,000 for "another fire steamer" (Sprague Steamer No. 6), making the third one acquired in one year after the great fire in 1871; sold the hand fire engines and offered a reward of $500 for the apprehension of the person who set fire to William G. Johnson's dwelling house. The bridge at Fall Creek collapsed while Rescue No. 2 steamer stood upon it throwing water to extinguish the Johnson house fire, and killed one man, John U. Smith; crushed Andrew B. Davis's leg which was afterward amputated; crippled Charles A. Davenport for life and endangered the lives of many people who fell with it in the deep creek. The Board in February 1873, made a new (Fourth) Ward and changed the ward boundaries of the village. No change in wards has since been made, a period of 30 years.



ADAM S. COWDRY—Thirty-Third President.

ADAM S. COWDRY—THIRTY-THIRD PRESIDENT.

Adam Smith Cowdry, thirty-third president of Ithaca, served as a trustee fourteen years and as president two years. He was worthy of that distinction and served his constituents with honor and fidelity. He was well equipped by nature and inclination for his work. Few men were his peers in municipal affairs. He was elected trustee in 1857 when the American party held complete control of local and State governments and was re-elected in 1859—1861-3-5-7-9. In 1873 and in 1874 he was elected president over John P. Gauntlett and William W. Esty. No other citizen was elected so long nor attended more closely to his official duties.

His second election was as a Democrat and he remained a Democrat until his death.

Mr. Cowdry was noted for his well balanced temperament and good sense; his patience and fairness; his activity and interest in the beauty and development of Ithaca. His civilty and dignity and integrity were specially attractive. He was sympathetic; frugal; plain but admirable in speech and personal appearance. He was an artless and excellent business man.

Mr. Cowdry was descended from highly respectable stock and was so modest and unassuming that but few of his contemporaries knew that he read Latin and French classics at his evening fireside after the day's toil at the anvil and the forge behind the heavy leather apron. They did know that he was a model of manhood and of morals and intelligence. He enriched his own philosophy by the study of the best authors and the wisest men of all ages. His mental balance was so perfect that he was never heard to utter a word in ill temper or that would wound the feeling of any member in his household. His daily life was a beautiful religion, his domestic circle his church and altar. Such was the church of the philosophers who worshipped and taught before the Christian era, in "God's first temples," the groves of Greece and Rome.

Mr. Cowdry was born in Sharon, Schoharie County, in 1810. After residing with his father and family in Albany and Binghamton they located in Ithaca in 1822. His father, Resolved Lee Cowdry, was a veteran of the War in 1812. He was a carriage maker and blacksmith and established shops upon the site now occupied by the blacksmith shops of Burns Brothers, John and William, No. 308 East State street. He served as village trustee two terms in 1830-1. The shops were abandoned for the shops that stood where James Stanion's blacksmith and carriage shop now stands on South Aurora street. It was there that Adam conducted a very successful business that he had been taught by his father.

In 1871 Mr. Cowdry's shops and their contents were destroyed by fire and he lost many thousands of dollars, the insurance companies having been bankrupted by the Chicago fire, but he had an abundance of property and money elsewhere and continued in affluence.

He was placed in nomination in 1873 against the senior Gauntlett, John P., and defeated him. But the Democrats made a shrewd move and nominated the junior Gauntlett, John C., for trustee in the new Fourth Ward and succeeded in using his great personal popularity to offset his father's official strength. John C. Gauntlett was elected. Much of the success of the Cowdry ticket was due to the manner in which the Republican Board, in the preceding month, had readjusted the wards of the village and added a new one. It incensed the Democrats

and inspired them to extraordinary efforts to retaliate upon their opponents by defeating them. Hon. Henry B. Lord, was the only man elected on the Republican ticket. He defeated Capt. John W. Farrand for trustee in the new Fourth Ward.

President Cowdry was supported hy five of his own party in the Board of 1873. The Republicans had but three in the Board. The village was surprised when President Cowdry appointed Mr. Lord, a new Republican trustee, chairman of the Finance committee over the heads of the Democrats. It was a tribute of the highest regard to Mr. Lord and approved by the whole village, the Democrats in the Board included. It was an appointment that aided President Cowdry in his canvass for re-election the following year

The Board of 1873 raised 30,000 as the regular budget and $10,000 for extra expenses by a tax payers' election (124 ayes and 91 nays) and $7,000 for interest and sinking fund on railroad bonds; continued the $500 reward for the apprehension of "fire bugs;" paid the chief engineer of the fire department, Henry M. Durphy, for the first time, a salary of $200; paid Treman Brothers for the erection of an iron bridge over Cascadilla Creek at Tioga street; changed the name of Junction street to State street; and refused consent to petitions for permission to organize an independent hose fire company and a bucket fire company. It passed numerous resolutions and ordinances proposed by Col. Joseph B. Sprague, the trustee from the First Ward, that prohibited cows from running at large in the streets; made a $10 penalty for plucking, digging up or mutilating any flowering plant, shrub or tree in the village cemetery or any park; removed the DeWitt park fence and enforced the improvements of sidewalks and the street ordinances very extensively. Trustee Sprague created considerable excitement by his progressive work, but was sustained by the Board unanimously.

In 1874 the Board of Trustees was again Democratic. This Board paid the $14,600 due on the village debt and again left a clean balance sheet for its successor; purchased two nickle plated Babcock fire extinguishers for Tornado Hook and Ladder Fire Company and, upon the recommendation of the Chief Engineer of the fire department, Henry M. Durphy, offered $500 reward for the conviction of the person who set fire to Halsey's flour mills on East State street. A franchise was granted to S. D. Thompson and J. Lewis Grant to lay a street railroad on Seneca and many other streets. John H. Selkreg and O. B. Curran as railroad commissioners asked for the interest and $1,000 as a sinking fund for the Ithaca & Cortland R. R. bonds and received it. The Board passed resolutions on December first in memory of the life work of Ezra Cornell whose body was lying in state and awaiting burial from his late residence where the Savings Bank now stands. The Board resolved to attend the funeral in a body.

Mr. Cowdry was married in 1832 to Mary Frances Riley, a native of England who came to America when seven years of age. She was a practical and helpful wife and survived him four years. The Cowdrys were originally of English descent and settled in New England in 1630. Adam's mother was Rachel Smith. He was named perhaps after her father Adam Smith. The Cowdry residence, in the twenties, was upon the present site of the Episcopal rectory, now occupied by the greatly respected and beloved Rev. Stephen H. Synnott, D.D., on East Buffalo street.

Adam S. Cowdry enjoyed riding about the village with his daughter, Belle Cowdry. He was thus engaged in May, 1879, when he ruptured an internal blood vessel and fell dying in her arms. He was soon taken to his home and passed away at the age of 68, lamented, respected, loved and honored by every man who knew him.

He had accomplished much by his beautiful and exemplary life work. He aided materially in developing the village of Ithaca and uplifting the tone of its people, the character of its local policies and politics. The proofs of this are self-evident in the many times his virtues and merits were rewarded by an appreciative and grateful constituency.

The Cowdrys resided on East State street above Aurora street, Adam's last home being the noble mansion which President Jacob M. McCormick erected and occupied. It is now the home of his daughter, Miss Belle Cowdry. He was a member of Eureka Fire Company No. 4, and, at his death, was president of the Ithaca Mechanics' Society and a trustee of the Ithaca Savings Bank. The trustees of the bank acted as pallbearers at his funeral. The Board of Trustees of the village and the trustees of the Saving Bank adopted and published appropriate and eloquent resolutions as testimonials to his progressive life-work, his beautiful personality and high moral character.

JOHN RUMSEY—Thirty-Fourth President

JOHN RUMSEY—THIRTY-FOURTH PRESIDENT.

John Rumsey, thirty-fourth president of Ithaca, was elected in 1875 and refused to accept another term. He was an excellent type of selfmade leaders in the commercial circles of Ithaca. Gentle and undemonstrative in manners and speech; democratic in his customs and habits; tasty and refined in his dress and appearance; modest and reticent concerning his business affairs, he was notably successful in winning public admiration and respect and in accumulating wealth.

He was born in Enfield, Tompkins county, N. Y., in 1823, two years after Ithaca was incorporated as a village. He resided on his father's farm until he was 21. During this period he attended, and also taught in, the district school. He removed to Ithaca in 1844 to secure an academic education. He abandoned school in 1845 and entered the Treman Brothers' hardware store, and later the E. G. Pelton hardware store, as a clerk. After nearly eleven years of this clerkship he returned to speculative pursuits.

In 1858 he purchased the stock and good will of the Pelton store and personally assumed control until he took Freeman Kelly in as partner. At Mr. Kelly's death he made his brother, Charles J. Rumsey, his partner. In 1877 he sold his interest in the store stock to Charles J. Rumsey and Edwin Gillette and retired from mercantile pursuits. He had become the owner of the store building and had erected the Rumsey block on North Tioga street. He had become a capitalist and an associate of capitalists and bankers.

Mr. Rumsey was an original charter trustee of the Ithaca Savings Bank and its first vice president. In 1874 he succeeded Ezra Cornell as president of the bank and was reelected annually until his death.

He had been a promoter, with Ezra Cornell, in building the big stone structure then known as the "Water Cure" and that is now styled "The Cascadilla." He was its secretary and treasurer. He was a promoter also of the movement of its stock holders, himself included, in donating the stock and property to Cornell University.

He was active in encouraging and constructing the Geneva and Ithaca railroad and was appointed one of its bonding commissioners and elected a director of the company.

While president of the village he became ex-officio a trustee of the Cornell Library Association. At his death in his will he presented it $12,000. The will directs the trustees to invest that sum and apply its income to the purchase of books for general use.

Mr. Rumsey was never married. His residence was, as a permanent guest, in the Clinton House for 28 years.

He was fond of fine bred and swift race horses; a devotee of the race course and often acted as an official judge at races: he was promoter of the sale of the old fair grounds on the lands now bounded by Railroad avenue, Cayuga street and Willow avenue and the purchase and occupancy by the Tompkins County Agricultural Society of the present fair grounds bounded by Clinton and Meadow streets. He was first vice president of the Agricultural Society one year (1875) and one of its most active and most influential members. Mr. Rumsey became prominent among horsemen and aided in supplanting running races with trotting races in Ithaca. It was Mr. Rumsey's chief recreation. His high standing as a merchant

and as a gentleman lent dignity to that recreation and he was followed in it by other gentlemen of high personal character.

After his retirement from the hardware business his study of the financial markets led him to invest a large part of his wealth in the municipal bonds of western towns and cities. At his death he held many of them that paid large rates of interest. He carried on private banking with success and, before his last illness, was preparing to establish a banking house on an extensive scale.

No man in Ithaca was more faithful to his business than he. His name was a synouym of honesty and fair dealing. He instructed his clerks to observe one rule with rigid attention: "Lose a customer, lose a sale rather than make a misrepresentation of merchandise while dealing with a customer." His portrait indicates his firm and positive character and his superior intellect.

John Rumsey was of English descent on the paternal side. His father and grandfather, both named James, were natives of Orange county, N. Y. They removed to Enfield in 1805, cleared and settled upon a tract of land that is now owned and occupied by Burr Rumsey, John's brother. They arrived at their new home while the snow was deep. They melted it with buge bonfires to make a place upon which to erect a log house in which John was born in 1823. This land was perhaps a grant from the State for military service performed by James Rumsey, senior, during the Revolution. The Rumseys were noted for their industry and application to farming and commercial pursuits, a reputation that has passed down through the history of the town and followed the members of the family to Ithaca.

In 1868 John Rumsey visited Great Britain and Europe incidentally, but principally to study the exhibits at tbe Paris Exposition during that year.

He was a churchman in attendance and practice only. Although a bachelor he had a pew in the Old Dutch Reformed Church and gave liberally to church work. He was a leader in a famous gentlemen's reception and elaborate supper given to the ladies of the church. He personally furnished from Ithaca and Owego conservatories a bushel of elegant and costly little bouquets for the ladies which he gracefully presented to them one by one. He was a dominating figure and spirit during the delightful reception and entertainment. The men cooked and prepared the supper, waited upon the tables, served the hot turkeys and other delicious edibles. The attendance was large. The ladies voted Mr. Rumsey a model gallant and a rich catch. He enjoyed the rare function very much, but avoided their silken meshes.

He attended the formal opening of the Old Ladies' Home and heard Frederick K. Andrus sing the song "Prayers and Potatoes." It was so well sung, so well received by Mr. Rumsey that he hailed a farmer who was passing his store the next day with a large wagon load of potatoes, purchased them and sent them up on the hill to the newly opened Home. He observed: "It is a contribution inspired by Fred Andrus' song and a compliment to the wisdom of his selection and his skill as a singer."

Mr. Rumsey was endowed with a very positive and self-confident will power; quick to think and quick to act, his self confidence was a dominating characteristic; his opinion and decision when fixed were not to be changed. He was a close collector of store accounts, as a rule. But he once loaned $10,000 to a young friend, a stranger to him by blood or marriage, and did not ask for or receive any written evidence of the debt. His trust in the young man had become fixed, and later he was proud of the accuracy of his judgment upon which his trust in the young friend was founded. The young man also rose to eminence as a business man and was elected president of Ithaca. He heartily disliked a sluggard but he enjoyed lending aid and giving encouragement to an industrious and ambitious friend, many instances of which can be cited with great credit to John Rumsey. He seldom lost much money in that way and did not grudge what he did lose because the misfortune of those whom he favored caused the losses.

He so arranged his annual business and stove purchasing trip for many years to Albany foundries that he could visit in Saratoga Springs and drink the mineral waters, enjoy a rest and attend the great horse races for several weeks in that famous town.

Mr. Rumsey served ten years as a member of Tornado Hook and Ladder Co. No. 3, and was ever afterwards a reliable friend of the fire department.

His health became impaired in 1882. He entered a sanitarium in Avon Springs, N. Y., and in six weeks he passed away, at the age of 61, apparently at the zenith of his happiness and financial and social success. Public and private honor was freely accorded to him and to his memory.

The trustees of the Savings Bank adopted resolutions commemorating "his value as an official, as an excellent citizen and the many qualities that commended him to the respect of the community."

President Henry H. Howe and the Board of Trustees of Ithaca passed memorial resolutions "mourning as a loss that cannot be repaired the death of John Rumsey, the warm hearted, kind neighbor; whom loving friends have just borne to the tomb; the influence of whose life will be long felt as an example to young men who follow leaders of industry, integrity and energy. He was one of our most prosperous and most prominent business men."

During Mr. Rumsey's administration a new site and new engine house were purchased for Sprague Steamer Company No. 6; Samuel D. Halliday was appointed corporation attorney; Eureka Fire Company No. 4 was changed to a hose company and its hand engine sold; many streets were graveled and improved; the fence around Washington Park was sold and removed; corner and street loafing was prohibited by the adoption of an ordinance making it punishable, particularly around the entrances to churches; a fine of $50 was imposed by an ordinance against the givers of false alarms of fires.

The beginning of the Centennial year, 1876, was ordered welcomed by ringing of bells, firing of cannon and anvils and in other ways characteristic of an American jubilee. People walked through the streets all night in their summer attire, and comfortable, as the new year came in. The weather was warm and clear. Grass grew two inches, between Christmas and New Year's day. Great rejoicing was heard and observed throughout the village of Ithaca during the New Year's Day of 1876 and John Rumsey was one of the most enthusiastic citizens in the village or in the State.

WILLIAM W. ESTY—Thirty-Fifth President

WILLIAM W. ESTY—THIRTY-FIFTH PRESIDENT.

The names of the presidents of Ithaca have been, in large part, a roster of the names of many of the oldest and most prominent families in the village and city of Ithaca. The roster would be notably incomplete if it omitted the name Esty. But it does not. William Wisner Esty was elected president in 1876, defeating the hitherto invincible Adam S. Cowdry. Mr. Cowdry's defeat, like that of Charles Humphrey, Horace Mack, John P. Gauntlett and others, suggests the old maxim: As long as the pitcher goes to the water it will be broken at last.

Mr. Esty's administration as president won the respect and admiration of the Democratic majority, over whom he presided as a Republican. It could not be otherwise unless he reversed the course of his own nature as a citizen, patriot and business man.

He had won a warm place in the public heart by his gentle and lovable personality although he lived in the strong light shed upon the community by his father Joseph and his two brothers Edward and Joseph. He possessed every attribute required by the standard of a gentleman; he fulfilled every demand that made an honored and patriotic citizen. His daily life had commanded the admiration of Christian and churchman; and whichever way he turned he met hearty welcome and respect.

Mr. Esty was born in Ithaca in 1833 and was the first native of the village to be elected its president. His father Joseph Esty settled in Ithaca in 1822 and was a tanner and leather merchant. He erected and owned a large tannery and leather store. He was self-made, became a capitalist, was trustee of the village, supervisor of the township and was known also for his moral and religious consistency and his church work. He was in a broad sense a prominent and influential citizen. He made an annual report to the assessors of all of his property, both real and personal, and requested the assessors to tax him upon it all.

William W. Esty was an equally honest man. Chivalrous and refined in his manners and speech he displayed without ostentation an admirable public spirit. The writer of this sketch, when a boy, was deeply impressed one night while in a crowd of bystanders who witnessed the serenade by Whitlock's band of Joseph Esty, sr., at his residence on the northwest corner of Tioga and Mill streets. Two hundred firemen were present. It was the annual parade and inspection day of the fire department. The speech which the old fireman made, in response to the serenade, ended when he affectionately took his son William by the arm and introduced him to the crowd as a chip of the old Esty block. Father and son were received with cheers and satisfaction by the firemen who were having a jolly time about the village and thus paid their tribute of respect to the Estys.

Joseph Esty, sr., was an organizer and many years a member of the first fire company (No. 2) in Ithaca. His son Edward was chief engineer of the fire department in 1860-1-2. Joseph Esty, jr., was an organizer but not a member of the Protective Fire Police and a member of the department prior to the organization of the Protectives. William was for many years a member of Cayuga No. 1; an honorary member of Sprague Steamer Company No. 6 and of Cataract No. 7; and chief of the department in 1863-4-7. His nephew (Edward's son) Albert H. Esty was a member of the Protectives until he removed to Boston.

In 1857 William W. Esty was foreman of Cayuga No. 1. and led the company in a search for dead bodies of men drowned in the flood of that year. Wading in the water over on the Bloodgood meadows, now known as the Titus flats, the men drank stimulants to ward off colds and pneumonia. Some of them became too boisterous and hilarious. Foreman Esty mounted a drift-log and cried out to his men: "Boys, remember the character of this day and the character of the work you are pursuing!"

He attended and enjoyed a meeting of the Protectives the night before his death. It is to such men as William W. Esty that Ithaca has been indebted for the splendid character and effective work and fame of its volunteer fire department for nearly eighty years.

He was a religious man and an active churchman. At his death he was president of the Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian Church. He was also at that time a trustee of the Savings Bank and a director of the First National Bank.

He felt an admirable pride in American history, and American promise because he was a direct descendant of John Winslow one of the Mayflower Pilgrims. His education was academic and acquired in Ithaca.

In his young manhood he acted as bookkeeper for his father and brother Edward in the tannery and store. He engaged in business for himself with Merritt L. Wood as a partner under the firm name of Wood & Esty in 1857. They became owners of the storehouse and elevator at the Inlet bridge at State street and conducted it with great success, adding shipping aud forwarding to the other departments. It was a prominent canal and railroad freight and grain center for many years, and was originally erected by Timothy S. Williams. It is now owned by William R. Gunderman. Mr. Esty was sole owner and transacted the business alone for many years before his death.

He died of apoplexy in the office of this building in January, 1887 in his 54th year.

In 1857 Mr. Esty was married to Mary Standart, a daughter of a wholesale hardware merchant of Detroit, Mich. She now resides in New Orleans with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Everett Soule.

Mr. Esty was a delightful companion and a loyal friend. The charm of his personality was emphasized by his noble physique and dignified bearing. At his death thirteen years had passed since he was president of Ithaca, but the Board of Trustees unanimously adopted resolutions in commemoration of his public and private life and character "to express the sorrow of the community," and asserted that he "was a public spirited and influential citizen, a careful, conservative adviser, a wise manager; of spotless integrity in various public positions of trust and in institutions of the highest importance; in politics, in the church, in his daily life he was a conscientious and a polished gentleman."

The rare beauty of his character was recognized by all who knew William W. Esty. No acquaintance could doubt the truth of his remark to his pastor, the Rev. Asa S. Fiske, just before his sudden death: "If you have occasion to officiate at my funeral I hope you will be able to say of me 'here lies an honest man; honest with himself, honest with his fellowmen and honest with his God.'" It would be an epitaph fit for the tomb of a saint.

Mr. Esty's official associates in the managing boards of the First National and Savings banks published memorial resolutions relating to his "wisdom as a financier, his qualities as a man and his integrity as a trustee of private and public properties and interests and his sweet, sunny nature."

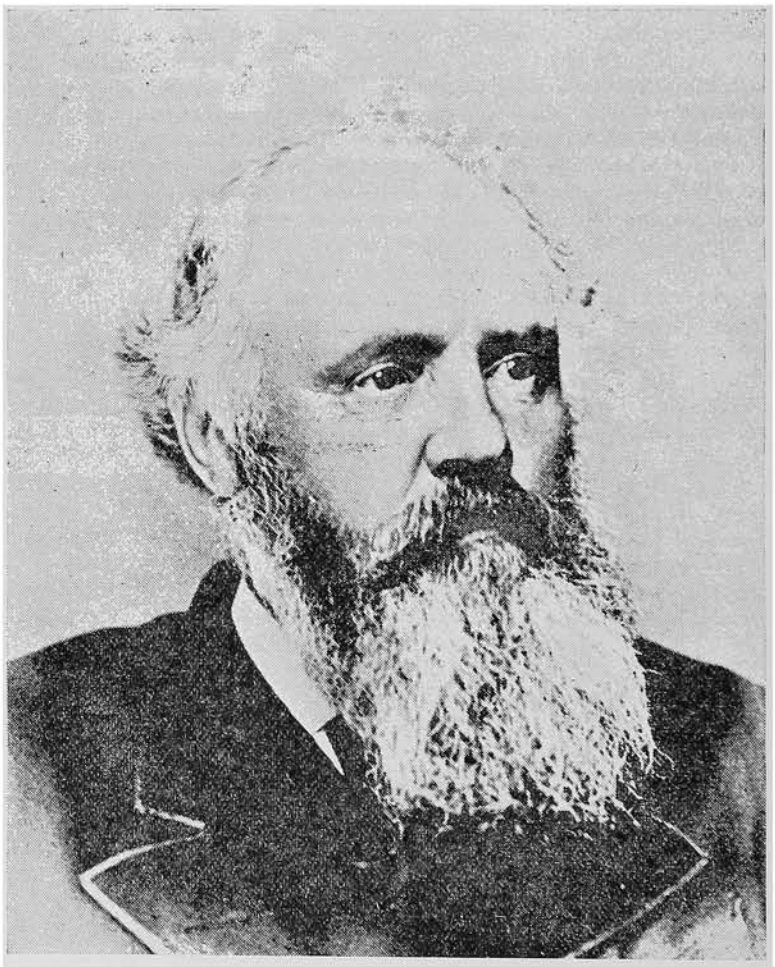
He builded the brick residence on North Aurora street, No. 310, now owned and occupied by Fred E. Bates, in 1870.

Mr. Esty's personality was so popular with the Democrats who were in control in the Board of Trustees at the close of his administration that their leader, William Andrus, presented a resolution that was cheerfully adopted "thanking Mr. Esty for his impartial manner of presiding during the year, and commending

his zeal in encouraging all local improvements and the continued and valuable voluntary assistance he rendered to every committee during the year." It was a very unusual tribute to a president and it came from a trustee who did not deal in mere formal compliments.

In 1876 the great soldier U. S. Grant, while president of the United States, made a visit to his son, a member of the class of '78 in Cornell University. President Esty gracefully performed the chief duties of extending a welcome to President Grant and introduced him to admiring throngs from the railway coach as it stopped at small stations on its way from Ithaca.

During his administration Medina stone blocks were laid from Geneva to Albany streets; two iron bridges were erected over Cascadilla Creek and one over Six Mile Creek; a new 3,000 pound fire bell was purchased and installed in the city hall to replace the old one that was cracked and had lost its alarming tone; Samuel D. Halliday was reappointed corporation counsel; gas lamps and hydrants were distributed through the village; fire companies were treated generously by the Board and many other lines of municipal progress were followed with vigor and wisdom.



JOSEPH B. SPRAGUE—Thirty-Sixth President

JOSEPH B. SPRAGUE—THIRTY-SIXTH PRESIDENT.

Joseph Brittin Sprague was a resident of Ithaca only seven years, from 1871 to 1878, but during that period he became one of its best known and most popular and influential citizens. Seldom has any man won the heart of the community so completely as he. His public career was entirely local, but shed its light into surrounding towns and neighboring counties. He was active, patriotic, public-spirited, original; an excellent business man and superior public official; but above all these characteristics was his generosity and democratic nature that won for him universal praise and love. He was, in the words of Nathan S. Hawkins another prominent and respected citizen who knew him intimately: "a representative of the golden age of chivalry in both heart and soul."

He was nominated upon the Democratic ticket for trustee in the First Ward in March, 1872, when but a few months a resident of Ithaca and he was the only man elected on that ticket. He was surprised at this compliment and entered with enthusiasm upon the discharge of his public duties. His personality was seductive. He inaugurated and urged various reforms in the government and customs of the village and carried them through the Board of Trustees during his two-year term. Like all radical reformers he was bitterly assailed as a tyrant and aristocrat. But he continued his reform crusade. He made public sentiment; he did not simply follow it.

When the Boards of Trustees hesitated to vote money for his reforms he donated it to the village indirectly by purchasing the things he commended for various public organizations. He did his work with open but modest firmness and fearlessness. Step by step he led the village to higher things and in 1877, against his own judgment and desire, he was elected president of the village.

This office he accepted as proof of the intelligence and progressive spirit of Ithacans. He did not realize it to be a profound compliment to himself because he had not yet become conscious of his own place in the public heart. That came when in the fall of 1877 he was nominated for state senator at a convention held in Owego and when he ran thousands of votes ahead of his ticket and lacked a very small number of votes to elect him over a powerful and popular opponent, Peter W. Hopkins, of Binghamton, in an overwhelmingly Republican district. Mr. Sprague made a phenomenal run in Ithaca and Tompkins County.

He had begun to comprehend the sincerity of the people who had often said that Ithaca had been in need of just such a man as he was. He possessed marked advantage over Ithacans in that he was wealthy and was not dependent upon his investments in Ithaca nor upon his standing or popularity among Ithacans. It gave him freedom and independence to speak and act and to urge and direct reforms for the benefit of the whole village. He was in his early life engaged in industrial pursuits but in his later years he enjoyed the leisure and comforts of a gentleman. Everything he did and commended was natural to him. He had no use for policy or for prevarication.

Had he followed a mercantile or professional career he would have been successful. His business transactions and his official record proved his acute business talent. While lavishly distributing an inherited wealth among worthy sick, wounded and needy people; among a hundred societies, churches and clubs; to

the general public, the workman, mechanic and servant, he was eloquently praised by the Boards of Trustees for "the frugal, conservative and careful manner in which he bad performed the duties of president and protected taxpayers from extravagance, neglect and wrong and for his effective work in leading in municipal reform during his private and official life in Ithaca."

He loved the people and encouraged the humblest to enjoy and assert their liberty and equality; he was no respecter of person and made personal merit a passport to his favors and respect. He allowed his servants and mechanics wide latitude to display their genius or skill, paid them well and encouraged them. He was chivalrous as a cavalier, but not arrogant. He was more than six feet tall, broad of shoulders and powerful; had an elastic step, a bright eye, a pleasant countenance. He appeared 62 rather than 52 at his death because he was so robust and massive and so strong and matured.

Mr. Sprague was descended from purest Revolutionary stock, both of his grandfathers having served with valor under Washington. He was named after his mother's father, Joseph Brittin, of Philadelphia. His father's mother was a Ransom, and a very superior woman. Asa Sprague, his father, was an extraordinary man and amassed a large fortune as a contractor. He was superintendent of the New York Central railroad and a heavy stock holder. He constructed the original Cayuga Bridge across the lake and owned extensive stage lines between Albany and Buffalo.

He was a native of Schenectady and afterwards, with his father, a resident of Rochester. He owned and resided on a farm in Ohio from 1865 to 1869. He passed upward of a year, beginning in October 1869, traveling in Europe, Africa and on the Indian Ocean. For five years and more and until he came to Ithaca to reside, he suffered with a chill and fever every morning except when off the Island of Madagascar. When he took up his residence in Ithaca his chills left him forever. He exchanged his Ohio farm with his brother-in-law, Charles M. Titus, for his future residence which then stood solitary and isolated in the meadows without a neighbor nearer than Mrs. Charles E. Hardy, on Clinton street.

In 1848 he was married to Louisa, a daughter of Ben Johnson, third president of Ithaca. Their twin children, boy and girl, died in infancy. She survives him and maintains the mansion in dignified manner; reveres his memory and enjoys sincerely the affection and distinction which his brief career won for him in her native home.

His election to the presidency of Ithaca in 1877 was a surprise to him in view of the bitter adverse criticism which his battle for reform in village government and village customs had inspired. He had beautified an entire square occupied by him as a residence, giving landscape gardeners full play for the perfection of their designs; removed the fences from around it and opened it to the public. But the "poorman's cow" had never yet been deprived of as much liberty in Ithaca highways and byways as the poorman himself had assumed. The cows found Mr. Sprague's velvet lawns and elegant shrubs very tempting for fodder.

Naturally, the beauty of the lawn and the elegance of the shrub, morning after morning, bore evidence of the primitive highway and cattle customs that still dominated the village that boasted of a thriving university and the greatest natural and artistic attractions in the world. The patience of a saint would not have stayed Mr. Sprague's battle to abolish that ancient custom. The pride of his colleagues in the Board of Trustees made them his willing followers, and the custom was abolished; cattle were driven from the streets of Ithaca forever afterward. And then fences were suddenly found to be useless and unsightly everywhere and were removed by their owners in the name of progress and good sense until very few remained in the village. Mr. Sprague carried the war against fences to the village parks. When the parks fences were removed and the parks were thrown open to public use and public sight he was called a vandal.

Hercules Fire Co. No. 6 secured a fire steamer by his large personal contribution of $1000 and persistent battle in the Board of Trustees for that purpose. The old company title was changed and made "Sprague Steamer Co. No. 6." A Cornell University rowing club was formed in the early seventies. Mr. Sprague presented prize cups and money to the club and soon found that the students had named their first boating club the "J. B. Sprague Boat Club."

His wine cellar was celebrated. His generous nature led him to many a bed side with a bottle of pure and ancient vintage for the sick patient.

He led in a movement to secure employment for idle men in 1875 because the stringent monetary conditions brought on them by Black Friday had not passed away. In 1878 he was urged by the other counties in the district to permit his name to be placed upon the Congressional ticket, but business affairs made it impossible.

Mr. Sprague was president of the Tompkins County Agricultural Society in 1875 and personally donated the first prize that was given to the handsomest baby shown at the fair, a custom that has been continued with notable popularity since that year.

While president of the village he wished to see some new fire hose tested and personally telegraphed for a new and expensive hose tester, paid for it himself and presented it to the fire department. It was his manner of doing business.

Mr. Sprague was a communicant and attendant of St. John's Episcopal church. His generosity was extended to this church in particular, and to every church in Ithaca in general.

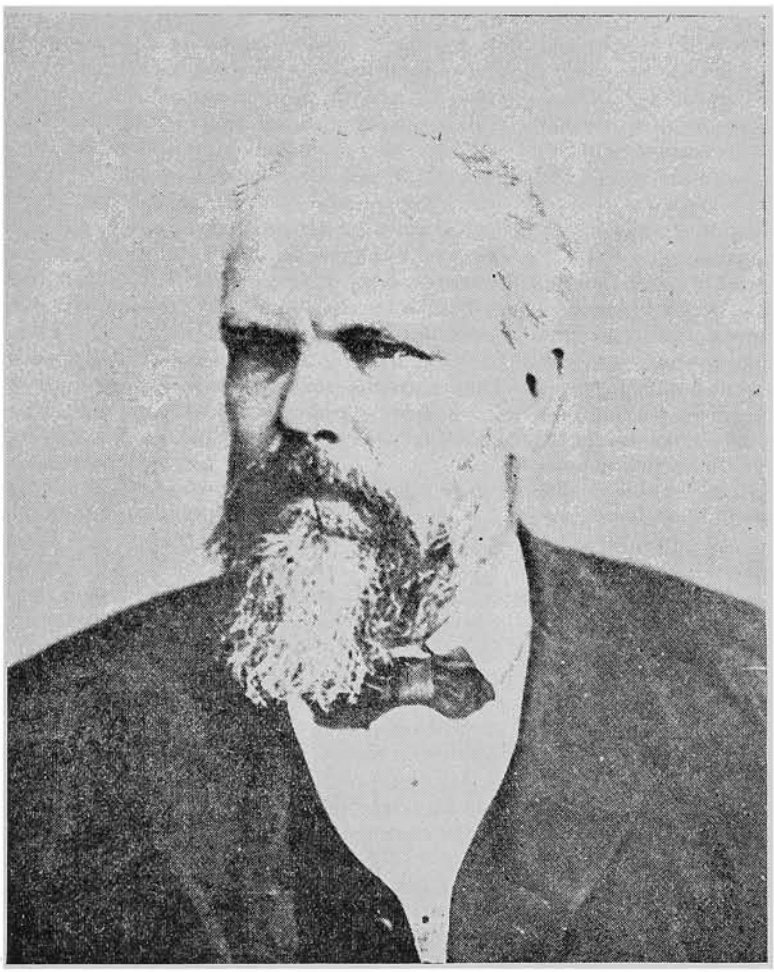
His business talents were not understood by people who were not so generous as himself. But he was a skillful financier and an excellent judge of the value of real estate. He caused, it is said, an article of agreement to be signed by the village authorities to the effect that Sprague fire steamer should not be taken from the First Ward uuless with the consent of the company, as a consideration for his own and other private gifts of money towards its purchase. He owned the Sprague block and other valuable property in Ithaca, a very valuable marble block in Albany and considerable property in other parts of the Union, including silver mining property in Colorado. He inherited large wealth from his father. At his death it was far from being enlarged by accumulations or investments. His life had been made beautiful by his big and tender heart; his name was stamped upon the public heart forever. He died in Denver, Colorado, in November, 1878, and was buried in the Ben Johnson plot in the city cemetery.

In an eloquent and comprehensive obituary two columns in length The Ithaca Journal said: "Joseph B. Sprague had the magic power of winning and holding forever the good will of millionaire and pauper, to the majority of men a more valuable gift than that of genius. Great is the pleasure with which we volunteer our expression of regard for his noble life and kindly nature. Time proved him correct in every public stand he took to make Ithaca a modern village. He grew rapidly in the esteem and affection of the people. Not a whisper was heard against his official rectitude or personal integrity."

In addition to this beautiful tribute by a paper that had opposed him in politics The Journal said that "no death except possibly that of Ezra Cornell's was in many years, if ever, so deeply lamented by the entire community."

Upon motion of Trustee Charles H. White the Board of Trustees adopted resolutions of regret and attended the funeral as a representative body; and upon motion of Trustee William E. Osmun the pillars of the city hall and the council chamber were "draped in heavy mourning for thirty days in memory of the noble quality of Mr. Sprague's mind and soul whose energetic efforts had accomplished so much in adding beauty and character to the village." Trustees White and Osmun were not members of Mr. Sprague's political party. These tributes prove that partisan lines were forgotten when Joseph Brittin Sprague and his political interests became involved in public affairs.

The Journal cited with pride how he "entertained Sprague Steamer company and the company's guests, two visiting fire companies, during a State firemen's convention and grand parade in Ithaca in 1878, in princely style, including all their expenses at the Clinton House." A large portrait of him occupies the place of honor over the president's chair in the company's spacious and elegant parlor. The members of this day and generation, many of whom never saw him in life, look upon it and speak of it with reverence and affection.



HENRY M. DURPHY—Thirty-Seventh President

HENRY M. DURPHY—THIRTY-SEVENTH PRESIDENT.

Henry M. Durphy had been a popular and conspicuous citizen for fifteen years when he was nominated by a convention of Greenbackers and elected president of the village in March, 1878. He had been prominent as a fireman in the volunteer department and elected its chief in 1873 and again in 1874. His opponents for president were two model citizens and leaders in business circles and very popular men; John O. Marsh, Democrat, and former president William W. Esty, Republican. The Greenback party was so strong and aggressive all over the States and Territories that it elected governors, congressmen, members of State legislatures and county, township and municipal officials. But its life was short and similar to the life of the American party. Three of the four village trustees on the Durphy ticket were elected with him: Orlando Seeley, first ward; William E. Osmun, third ward and Edward Tree, jr., fourth ward.

Mr. Durphy was a native of Whitney's Point, Broome county. He abandoned his father's home in his early boyhood, his stepmother becoming obnoxious to him by using for family purposes money he had saved for his schooling and his father slighting him for the stepmother. He worked in Binghamton during the day and attended school during the evening. Later he removed to Ithaca and learned his trade in the then extensive machine shops of Treman Brothers, on the northeast corner of Cayuga and Green streets. He was an intelligent and industrious apprentice. He became in his manhood the foreman and superintendent of the Titus & Bostwick, now the Williams Brothers machine shops; and of the Ithaca Calendar Clock company. It was the snperintendency of "the clock factory" that he held when he was president of Ithaca and when he died.

Mr. Durphy was a practical man and quiet, almost reserved, in manner and speech. He was considerate and pleasant with his employes and rose to his public distinction through the regard and admiration that men who had worked under him in the various shops had felt and retained for him as man and master. He was a student of public affairs and made profound studies during his whole life in the evolution of machinery. Had he been ready and voluble in speech in public assemblies he would have risen to much higher distinction. He encouraged his children to attend Sunday School, but was doubtful himself about the Christian religion. He once said to his daughter: "The Unitarians come nearest to my idea of faith". He was member of no church.

Mr. Durphy was at work in Columbia, S. C., when the Civil War opened and Fort Sumter surrendered; and he worried until he succeeded in securing permission without passports, a very severe test of his wits, to return to the northern states again. He was intensely patriotic, but he did not believe that the negroes, as a race, were worthy of such slaughter and destruction among white people that slavery should be abolished. He was drafted to serve as a soldier, but he escaped the service by the aid of friends, one of whom was on the board of examiners in Owego. He did not pay his regulation $300 for exemption from service.

"It is the cause of the war that I do not approve," he said, "and not simply the war itself. The end to be gained will not justify the means adopted to gain it.'" His sentiments were more popular in his day than they are now and he was frank in expressing them in private but not public places. He said that his northern sentiments were obnoxious to his acquaintances in Columbia and his stay there was made unpleasant for him.

He was married in 1863 to Mary E., daughter of Orrin Shepard, of Ithaca. She died in 1875. He died in October, 1886, aged 52 years. His death resulted from injuries sustained by being thrown by a runaway horse against a tree that stood in front of the John Francis store on West State Street, in 1876, striking upon his back over the kidneys. He was patient and heroic and suffered in silence during the ten years that followed until the end. During the first two months after he was elected president in 1878 he was rendered unable by his bodily infirmity to attend meetings of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Comfort Hanshaw acted as temporary president at the sessions of the Board. President Durphy presided at every session after the first one in May.

Henry M. Durphy was of Irish parentage. a self-made man, and was rising in the industrial and social world, notwithstanding his extreme modesty of manner and lack of selfish motives, until his unfortunate accident occurred. His very intimate friendships were limited but deep and lasting. He took a fancy to the present mayor of Ithaca, George W. Miller, and trained Mr. Miller, who was only a boy, to succeed him as superintendent of the Ithaca Calendar Clock Company. He was firm of will, sell-confident, strictly honest and an earnest advocate of public improvements.

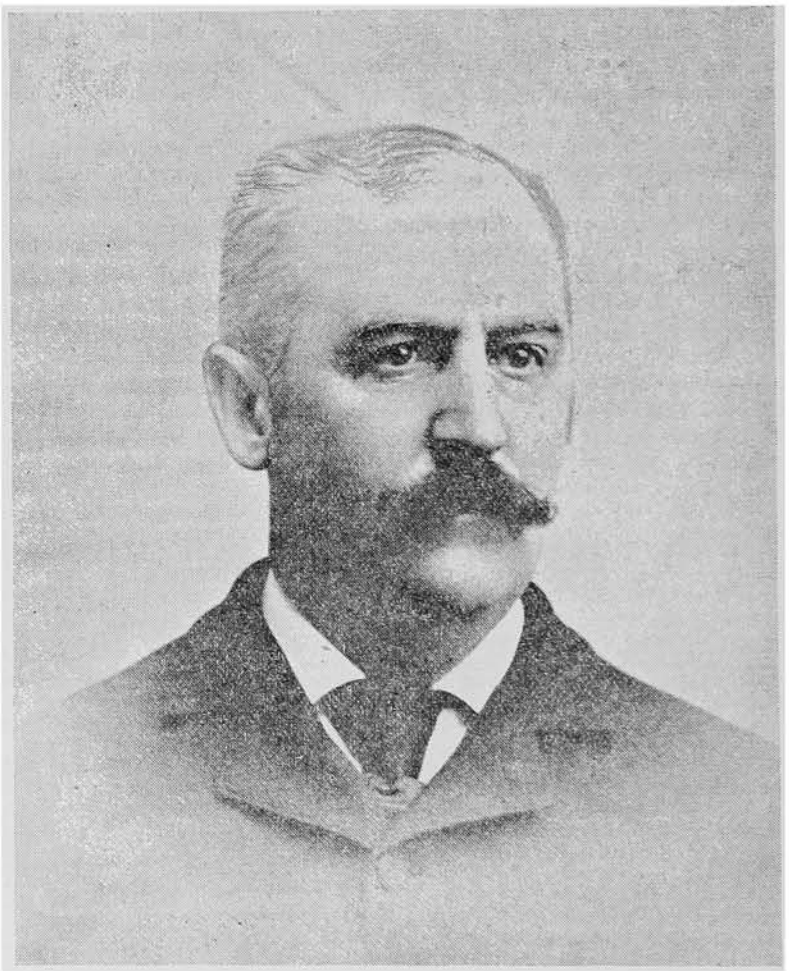
He was like a waif without a home in his youth in Richford, N. Y.; acted as hostler at a hotel and became greatly interested in machinery and steam engines. He manifested so much interest in them that he was advised by men who had charge of them to go to Ithaca and solicit a position in the machine shops of the Tremans. He acted upon that advice immediately, about 1853, with the result already stated. A strong friendship arose between him and the Tremans that lasted until death severed it. When he returned from the South he again entered their service.

Mr. Durphy was a Democrat before and after the Greenback party had existence. He was foreman and the most prominent active member of Sprague Steamer Company No. 6 for many years. At his death the people of Ithaca were filled with sorrow. The president of the Board of Trustees, Collingwood B. Brown, appointed Trustees Albert L. Niver, James A. McKinney, William F. Major and Leroy G. Todd, a committee to draft resolutions to serve as a memorial for his service to the people of the village. The committee performed its duties well and their memorial is spread upon the minutes of the Board. The pillars of the City Hall and the Council Chamber were draped in mourning for thirty days. Sprague Steamer Company draped its building and its parlor in his memory and adopted appropriate measures.

The funeral was large and the remains of the solid and public-spirited citizen were interred with public honors, the Board of Trustees attending in a body.

During President Durphy's administration no party had a majority of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Charles H. White, the only Republican in the Board, was appointed chairman of the Finance committee, then and now considered generally the leading committee of the Board. The Board paid for a new 62-inch fire bell and sold the one then in use in the city hall tower; tabled indefinitely a proposition to purchase a fire alarm telegraph system for the fire department; reduced the width of West Port street from 66 feet to 56 feet taking 10 feet from the east side of that street; paid Smith brothers, (Simeon and William Hazlitt) lawyers, a large bill of costs recovered against the village by them as attorneys for Thomas Gould, a traveling merchant and auctioneer. He was sued for penalties, $25 a day, a sum fixed in a new ordinance, for selling without receiving a license from the village. He filled a large store with high class dry goods and created consternation among the village merchants whose business was seriously effected by his success. He employed six expert salesmen.

The courts held that the Board of Trustees could not impose a license that would operate as a practical prohibition of a licensee's businees in the village;and that $25 a day did operate as such a probibition. The contest between Gould and the merchants was watched with great interest until the final judgment was rendered by the appellate court. It was a pioneer case in this State. The village streets were lighted in 1878 by 74 gas lamps and 89 oil lamps. Michael Mone, contractor, builded the stone retaining wall on the south side of Cascadilla Creek between Cayuga and Tioga streets. President Durphy's administration ended with no debts unpaid and a balance of $3,034 in the treasury.



ALBERT H. PLATTS—Thirty-Eighth President

ALBERT H. PLATTS—THIRTY-EIGHTH PRESIDENT.

Albert H. Platts was the second native of Ithaca who was its president. He was born where Ralph C. Christiance now resides, No.214 North Aurora street in 1845 and was 34 when first elected president in 1879. His career has been notable in other ways. He was not only one of the youngest of the village presidents but he had never held a public office or been a candidate for one. He was perhaps the youngest financier who had gained the respect and confidence of the business world in this vicinity for he was a traveling salesman for a wholesale boot and shoe house in Syracuse when he was 17, from 1863 until 1865. He was one year a partner with his father, in a store where the Sprague block now stands, groceries and boots and shoes being their main stock. He then traveled for the Ithaca Calendar Clock company with headquarters in offices established by him in Pittsburg, Pa., and Wheeling, W. Va. He had been so successful that in 1867, when only 22, with Captain John W. Farrand, he purchased the Kellogg tobacco and cigar factory that had formerly been the Hibbard & St. John silk factory on the northwest corner of Seneca and Meadow streets. Success continued to reward his ventures in commercial affairs and he sold his interest in the firm to Charles Tourtellot in 1870.

The next year, 1871, when 26, he, with Albert S. Gaskin and James Patterson, purchased the stock and good will of the Grants, Henry, Chauncey, sr., and Chauncey, jr., in the tobacco and cigar store and factory on East State street. And there he remains as he began, the senior member of the firm that now owns and conducts the business. His partnerships have been: From 1871 to 1875, Platts, Gaskin & Patterson; from 1875, the date of Mr. Gaskin's death, Platts & Patterson until 1877; from 1877 to 1882 he had no partner; in 1882 the firm became Albert H. Platts & Martin S. Delano; in 1889 he took into partnership one of his traveling salesmen, Peter Crise, and his foreman in the cigar shops, Albert L. Niver. In 1896 Mr. Delano died. And thus the firm has continued until the present time.

Mr. Platts was a devotee of manly sports before he reached his teens; he was distinguished for his love of exciting contests and developed a faculty to turn even a sporting contest at that very early age into a money making transaction. His integrity and aversion to cheating and deceit in his boyhood became a topic of public comment. Public confidence followed. Success so crowned his adventures in youth and in manhood that he was influential in business centers when most boys of his age were in school or learning trades.

Evidence of his manner of life is now found in the affection and respect felt for him by the hundreds of men who have been upon the payrolls of his factories, his farms, his stables, his stores; companions who have passed weeks with him upon hunting trips, at races and in other pastimes. The same measure of his generosity, his spirited denunciation of trickery and love of fair play; his pride of action and of speech; his varied information and success in industrial, agricultural and financial pursuits; his refreshing and admirable frankness of manner and of speech; his kindness to the deserving sick and helpless poor; his patriotic and public spirit and his consideration for his critics, all of these receive similar coloring and similar praise from every person who has known him and understood him. He was so popular in the higher sense in 1879 that he de-

feated Merritt King, a prominent lawyer and former district attorney, by the largest majority ever given to any nominee on any ticket for president of Ithaca, except when all parties voted for W. T. Huntington, the American candidate, in 1855.

His avocation had been very public and his place of business, after 1871, the oldest in the village, and the most historic from a public view point. He has been senior member of all his partnerships since that year. The firm has steadily increased in standing and influence since he assumed control and for many years has been one of the most respected and best known cigar manufacturing concerns in the northern states; not so much in the volume as in the high grade of its output.

The store and factory occupies the site of the old Grant Coffee House that had served the public as an inn during the early years of the hamlet of Ithaca and as a village hall, voting place and council chamber when Ithaca was first incorporated and for eleven years after. Every municipal officer was elected in it from 1821 until 1832. The Boards of Trustees held council meetings in it and audited the rentals and refreshments served to them in the good old days at the Coffee House tables around which they sat.

The building has not changed its character as a public place until this day, for day and night it is a mecca for men of business, of wealth, of leisure and of social tendencies from many parts of the State. Judges of courts, editors, lawyers doctors, professional men, officials of every grade, capitalists, stockmen, horsemen, retired farmers visit it daily, recall memories of the past and enjoy the healthy influence and pleasant companionships which they find there; influences, memories and companionships which he also enjoys and encourages.

Albert H. Platts has been since his boyhood an enthusiast in breeding and owning high grade horses and cattle. He has been a leader in the Agricultural Society of Tompkins county, was twice its president and contributed largely to its finances and general success which made it famous and admired over a very wide territory. It has been said that he is known in Lexington, Ky., and in Saratoga, N. Y., and all intervening horse racing and horse breeding centers as well as in Ithaca. He now owns and conducts a large farm and dairy near Jacksonville in this county and a small farm near Ithaca on the Trumansburg road. He has owned four or five other large farms in Newfield, Lansing and Ithaca townships.

He was an intimate friend of John Rumsey, Joseph B. Sprague, Lafayette L. and Elias Treman, Rufus Bates, Dean Sage, and of that class of leaders in the social and financial and political world. The Golden Rule has been his creed and he its loyal disciple.

Mr. Platts is self-made. Business has been a passion with him, but passion tempered by extensive enjoyment of its emoluments and ennobled by generosity, modesty and dignity. Readers of this sketch years hence may know, as well as do those who know him in life, that his personality is as pleasing to the sight as to the mind. Today he appears like a man of 50 and in his prime. His portrait shows a combination of firmness, shrewdness and generosity.

This sketch is not so brief that it does not indicate the instincts and business talents of a typical descendant of a New England ancestry. And such he is. His father, Hervey Platts, was a native of Georgetown, Mass.; his mother, Rachel Coburn, a native of Dracut, Mass., was a model wife and mother. Hervey Platts was descended from Revolutionary stock of prominence and influence. He was a skilled boot and shoe maker and received a thorough business training. He came to Ithaca in 1841 and opened the first ready made boot and shoe store in the village where Michael Casey is preparing to erect a new brick block, Nos. 105 and 107 North Aurora street. He served several terms as village trustee and was for many years prominent in the business affairs of Ithaca and as a member of the Democratic party.

Albert H. Platts was married in 1878 to Miss Fanny Fredenburg, a native of Oneonta, but a resident of Ithaca. Their spacious residence is No. 433 North Aurora street. They have a pew in St. John's Episcopal Church.

Mr. Platts was for years a member of Tornado Hook and Ladder Fire Co., No. 3. He is now a member of the Protective Fire Police that was organized during his first term as president of the village and was recently elected to the directorship made vacant by the death of John C. Stowell in the First National Bank of Itbaca.

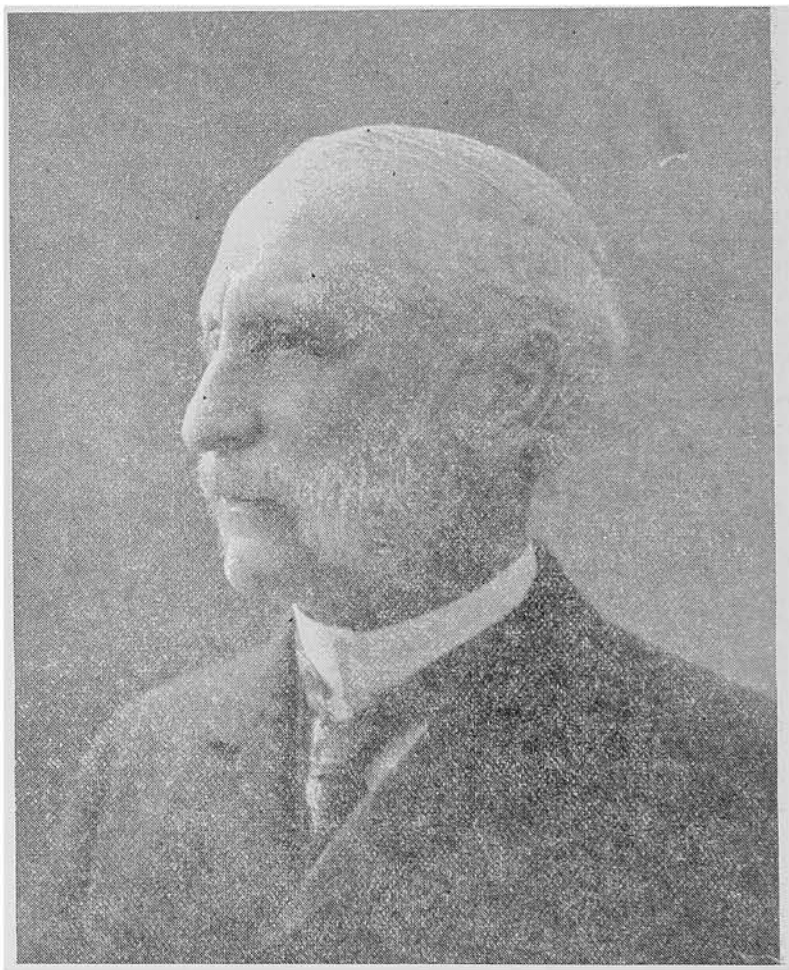
When the writer asked recently if Mr. Platts had ever experienced trouble with his union men or his tenants or his employes one of tbe oldest and most prominent of the men in his present employment answered with deep feeling: "If ever an employer was kind and manly with his employes it has been Albert H. Platts. When he had just started in business with us in the old Kellogg factory in the sixties one of our cigar makers desired to go to Minnesota to find relief in its air for his increasing consumption. We made up a purse for him in the shops. Mr. Platts heard of it and contributed more than any other man, and he did it with cheerfullness." He cited other incidents of similar character during the 35 years or more that have since elapsed. One of them was that a tenant had abandoned his wife and children leaving them without a penny and a large debt for rental due to Mr. Platts. The distracted wife made known to Mr. Platts that her husband was away in another state and bitterly lamented her poverty, her debt for rent and her inability to go to the recreant or to care for her children or to pay Mr. Platts. To her astonishment he handed her enough money to attend properly to herself and children, purchase respectable clothing and pay their passage to the runaway and the freightage of the family furniture.

Mr. Platts was twice elected president, in 1879 and 1880. Tbirty thousand dollars was the tax budget of 1879 (exclusive of interest on railroad bonds) with no excise, poor fund, nor other additions as are now received and used by the Common Council. The two long squares from Corn to Fulton streets were paved witb Medina stone blocks, only one eighth of the expense being assessed to abutting owners, the village paying about $9,000 for the work. At the eud of the year a balance of $4,000 remained in the treasury, and all debts paid. This financing was extraordinary. During the second year of his administration only $20,000 were put into the tax budget. At the close of the year all debts were paid and $500 remained over to the incoming Sisson administration.

An electric fire alarm system was inaugurated in 1880 through Captain William O. Wyckoff secretary of the telephone exchange; times were still hard, wages of laborers $1.25 a day and taxes slow in collection.

President Platts had a Democratic majority behiud him during both terms. At the close of each, resolutions were unanimously adopted by the Board commending in very strong terms the excellent judgment, untiring vigilance and business tact displayed by him as president of the village and assuring him of the heart felt thanks of the members of the Board and that the village was deeply obligated for his services.

Mr. Platts served upon the people's committee of five to initiate a sewer system in the city, during Mayor Bouton's administration, and as a member of the Sewer Commission, to which reference will be made in later numbers of this series.



P. FRANK SISSON—Thirty-Ninth President

P. FRANK SISSON—THIRTY-NINTH PRESIDENT.

Philip Frank Sisson was born in Seneca Falls, N. Y. in October, 1839 and was 43 when elected president of Ithaca in 1881. It was the only political honor or responsibility he could be induced to accept. Fixed in his opinions and purposes, and true to the spirit of French Hugenot ancestors who came to America under the family name of Soisson after the revocation of the edict of Nantes, he performed his public duties with such admirable tact and vigilance that he retired to private life with honor and credit to himself and his party.

He defeated George W. Schuyler, Democrat, whose personal and official career was of the most distinguished character and made him known in many States. Mr. Sisson's majority was very large and, more pleasing to him than that, was the election for the first time of every ward and village nominee on his (Republican) ticket. During his administration Thomas McCarthy was the only Democrat in the Board of Trustees, having been the only Democratic trustee elected one year before. With such a Board President Sisson found full play for the execution of his local administrative and political opinions.

He might be classified as a product of the Rhode Island Yankees of French name and Hugenot instincts for the same purpose inspired the Hugenot and the Puritan to abandon their native lands. Their amalgamation of blood and of sentiment contributed intensely interesting chapters to the history and development of New England. Like the early family history of President Platts, and of other families whose descendants became presidents of Ithaca, the services rendered by the Sissons as soldiers, sailors and statesmen were not preserved in private records and are lost perhaps forever unless the family historian shall soon collect them for preservation.

Mr. Sisson's grandfather, Mathew Sisson, was a sea captain and removed from Rhode Island with his family to Danby, six miles south of Ithaca, and became a farmer. His son Phillip, P. Frank Sisson's father, was born on that farm, but he preferred the life of a mechanic. After receiving a district school education he learned a carpenter's trade, came to Ithaca and located when a young man, followed his trade and was married to Sarah A., sister of Johnson Foote, of Ithaca. He soon after removed to Seneca Falls where he became prominent. He engaged in business pursuits and was successful.

Frank was educated in the public school and academy of that promising village. His father had an ambition to see Frank become a naval officer and secured his appointment as a cadet in the naval academy in Annapolis, Maryland. Frank, who was then 17 and had no ambition to cut throats, scuttle and sink ships, rebelled against parental authority and refused to prepare for national or naval service.

He abandoned a home made unpleasant by his father's anger, and went to Chicago, Detroit and other western cities for a year before he returned to Seneca Falls. Later he resided in New York for a year and returned home until the opening of the Civil War. The boy who then received the appointment that Frank had refused is now the famous Admiral Crowninshield. Frank was preparing to join a company of his fellow townsmen and do service in the field with Ellsworth's Zouaves. But his father was an intense opponent of "the war in behalf of the niggers" and carried his "Copperhead" sentiments to such extremes that he bitterly denounced Frank's purpose to enlist in the Zouaves. The parental ambition to see the

son a warrior by profession had died out while the son's peaceful nature had developed into patriotic enthusiasm. But the father won and the son came to Ithaca to escape his embarrassing position at home. He visited his cousin Joseph Lyon, in Danby, afterward a popular citizen and member of the Andrus, McChain & Co. firm in Ithaca.

In 1861 he was engaged as bookkeeper and shipping clerk in the Foster Hixon machine shops and salesman in the Hixon lumber yard adjoining the shops. In 1862 Charles M. Titus and William L. Bostwick purchased and conducted the Hixon plant and manufactured the first horse rakes put upon the market in this part of the world. Mr. Sisson remained with the new firm until 1871 when Mr. Bostwick, Roger B. Williams and Mr. Sisson organized and conducted a sash and blind factory which, in 1877, was turned into and continued as an organ and piano factory until 1885. The machine shops, now owned and directed by the Williams Bros., are located on the northeast corner of State and Corn streets. The organ and piano company's buildings are now owned in part by the Ithaca Sign Works Co. and by the Cornell Incubator Co. on West Seneca, Brindley and Green streets and on both banks of the Cayuga Inlet, west of Brindley street.

The organ and piano factory was the largest industrial plant the county had possessed; gave employment to hundreds of men and many agents and turned out many thousands of instruments. But, not being conducted upon sound or safe financial principles, in 1885 it went into the hands of George R. Williams, as Receiver. Mr. Sisson had been its secretary and Mr. Bostwick its president. Its stockholders were many, and its directors prominent capitalists. Long time credits distributed over many states and among people of either unsound or of no financial standing, under the management of the general sales agent, and payments made and to be made in small monthly installments, ended as Mr. Sisson had predicted.

His protests against the sales system were not heeded. Hundreds of instruments were necessarily taken away from defaulting purchasers and being damaged were resold at reduced and ruinous prices, and with large expenses for the resales and collections. Mr. Sisson acted as receiver's assistant for three years.

After the business of the big concern had been closed by the receiver Mr. Sisson purchased the merchant tailoring establishment of H. K. Jones, at No. 156 East State street, the site of the Esty leather store, and managed it until 1895 when John Barnard became his partner. In January 1903 Mr. Barnard retired from the partnership and Mr. Sisson sold the business and stock to his son, William Sisson.

Mr. Sisson was married in 1864 to Eliza S., daughter of William C. Hill, a carpenter and builder and extensive owner of real estate, of Ithaca. They attend the Presbyterian Church. He was one of the pioneer cottagers on the west shore of Cayuga Lake and for many years owned, and occupied in the summer, his cottage in "Presbyterian Row." He is an active Knight Templar and was in earlier years a member of Sprague Steamer Co. No. 6 and contributed $100 to the purchase of the company's steamer in 1873. He was a Republican until 1872 when he followed Horace Greeley into the new Liberal Republican party. After five years he returned to the Republican party as an active member.

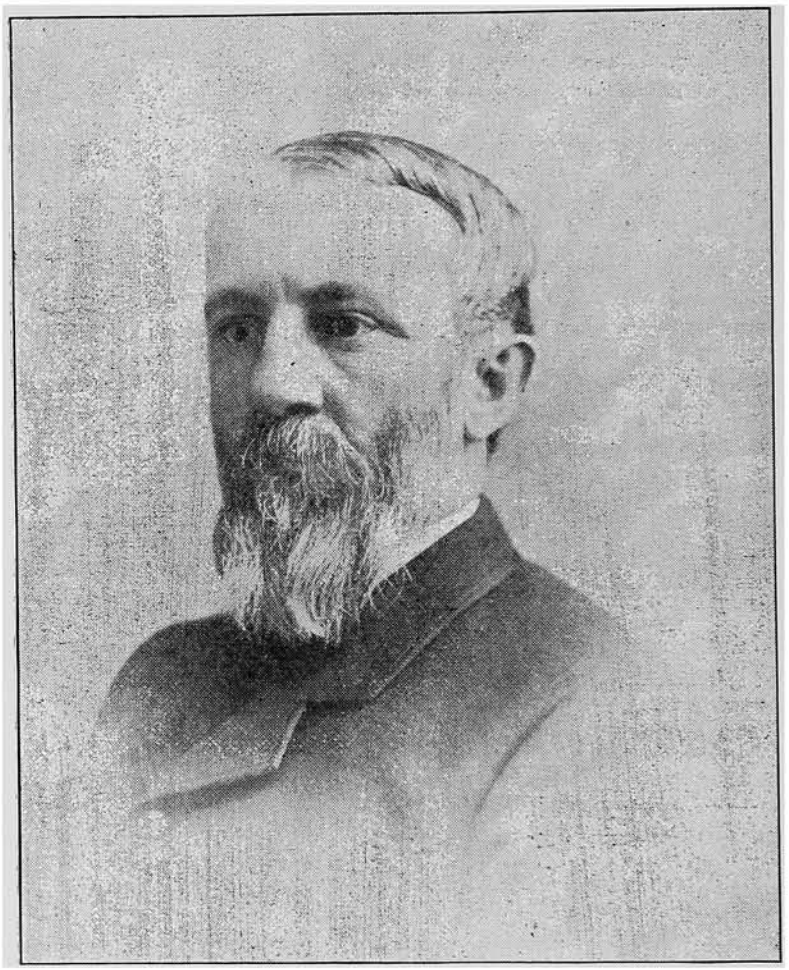
Hugenot features, dignified mien and high spirit, following the Sisson name through its Yankee amalgamation show to advantage in the accompanying portrait of our subject. He is apparently in the full possession of that mental and physical strength and charm of manner that made him popular with the people of Ithaca in 1881, and have been kept in constant action in the business world for more than 44 years.

President Sisson's administration was eminently satisfactory to the public. The Board of Trustees raised a tax budget of $25,000, exclusive of interest on railroad bonds and a sinking fund to pay the bonds; purchased a new hook and ladder truck for Tornado No. 3; erected an iron bridge over Six Mile creek near the county fair grounds; exchanged lots in the city cemetery with the veterans of the G. A. R.; courted the good will and graces of the State commissioners who

were searching for a location for an asylum for the blind; directed its counsel, Almy and Bouton, to draw up a new charter for the village; the new charter was adopted by the Board and passed one reading in the legislature and held up in committee. A charter commission was appointed, and another charter was adopted in 1888, that made a city. The movement originated with the Sisson administration and ended as had been planned by President Sisson and his colleagues in the Board.

President Sisson issued a proclamation in September 1881 requesting the suspension of all industrial pursuits and the closing of all business places upon the day of President Garfield's funeral. He presided at the public exercises in memory of the martyred president in the State Street Methodist Episcopal Church, during which Andrew D. White, president of Cornell University delivered the eulogy.

At various public receptions President Sisson in modest but effective manner proved to be an efficient and a dignified representative of the people. At the close of his term highly complimentary resolutions were adopted by the Board of Trustees and the personal and official thanks of the members extended to him as a man, a citizen and president of the village.



HENRY H. HOWE—Fortieth President

HENRY H. HOWE—FORTIETH PRESIDENT

Henry H. Howe was the first veteran of the Civil War to be elected president of Ithaca. He served one year as president, from March 1882 until March 1883. Like Joseph B. Sprague, he died the year followng his term and like Nathan T. Williams, Joseph B. Sprague and Henry M. Durphy he died at the age of 52.

His career in Ithaca was a pleasant one to him; his merits were appreciated and honored by the people. He had come from Groton, twenty miles away, in 1866 to act as secretary and bookkeeper for Byron C. Howell, a real estate dealer and owner of the Ithaca Hub and Spoke Factory that stood on the knoll above the paper mills. The Howell offices were in the second floor of the present Dudley F. Finch block on the northwest corner of State and Tioga streets. Mr. Howe had been elected a justice of the peace in Ithaca and resigned that office, after several years, to become deputy postmaster under Marcus Lyon. In the winter of 1873-4 he was appointed postmaster by President Grant, Mr. Lyon having become county judge and surrogate. Mr. Howe was postmaster eight years.

He was deputy under Postmaster Eron C. VanKirk when elected president of the village. He was a member of the local Masonic lodges, a Knight Templar and a member of the Sydney Post G. A. R. It was said of him that his temperament was perfect from a philosopher's standard, his heart warm and sympathetic, his manner so kindly and winning that children took a fancy to him, dogs made friendly overtures to him in public places and all men admired and trusted him.

He was generous to a fault, but was unconscious of it. His associates and his employes felt sincere affection and respect for him. He was a natural and faithful public servent, a fast friend who did not know the meaning of jealousy or selfishness.

And yet Henry H. Howe was made of firm and manly stuff; he was descended from ancestors who had purest Americanism in their own hearts and souls. He inherited his manliness from both sides of his house.

His grand father, Moses Howe, a farmer in the town of Londonderry, Maine, began a four-year service under the American flag at Bunker Hill. Henry's father, Perry Howe, performed his highest duty to his family and to his country as a soldier in the War of 1812, Moses removed from Londonderry to Massachusetts, thence to New Hampshire, thence to Connecticut and in 1794 to Groton, N. Y. In 1813 he purchased and located upon a farm one mile from the village of Groton. That farm is now owned by Samuel B. Howe, superintendent of the schools of the city of Schenectady, N. Y., a brother of Henry H. Howe, and has been owned by the family for 90 years.

Henry's mother, Mary Love, a native of Washington county, N. Y., was of Scotch stock and claimed blood relationship with the family of Mary Stewart, Queen of Scots. She was intensely Scotch in sentiment and a woman of high spirit and intelligence. She was directly descended from a Scotch physician, probably named Stewart, who was kidnapped and pressed into service on an English man-of-war. He jumped overboard in Boston Harbor, swam to shore, was immediately pursued, but made a miraculous escape aided by a Colonial dame into whose house he ran as she was coming up from a cellar way, into which he sprang before she could shut down the cellar trap door. The English followed him in the house in a few seconds; the dame pointed them to an open door in the opposite

side of the house through which they rushed after the doctor and did not return. The immediate or remote relations that sprang up between the cultivated Scotch physician and his guardian angel are not now known to the Tompkins county branch of the Howes or the Stewarts; but they are easy if not logical to surmise. The vacant chapters of the Stewarts in America are long and numerous. But Henry's mother learned much of them from her father who was a captain and won distinction and honor in the War of 1812.

Henry H. Howe was born on the Groton farm in 1831. His father, Perry Howe, had also accompanied his own father, Moses Perry, from Connecticut to Groton when three years old. The usual life of a farmer's boy, with the village schools one mile away, held out but little that was promising to Henry. At the age of 20 he became a clerk in the Trumbul store in Groton and served as clerk until he was 30. The old Saxon war spirit of the Howes and the proud blood of the Scotch Stewarts led him as a recruit in the fighting 76th Regiment, N. Y. Infantry, and to serve as a soldier under the stars and stripes. A year later broken down with a fever, from whose relentless ravages he never recovered, he was discharged in a hospital near Fredericksburg, Va., and returned to Groton, able only to perform light work.

In 1872 he was married in Farmerville (now Farmer), N. Y., to Mrs. Mary E. Godley, of Ithaca. She was the daughter of William Price, a miller in Trumansburg, N. Y. She survived him eleven years.

Mr. Howe was a pew holder in the Congregational Church. His honesty was unquestioned; his mental and moral endowments were artless; no word of adverse criticism or reproach was ever uttered against his private or public life. His face was generally illumined with generous and friendly expression; his voice was low and musical and well fitted to express the kindly sentiments that came naturally from his soul. Those who knew him best admired him most.

As magistrate, postmaster, soldier, citizen and partisan he was worthy of the many honors conferred upon him and of the respect of his comrades and followers; as president of Ithaca he deserved a place for his portrait on the council chamber walls and a chapter in the printed chronicles of village history. His name has long been honored on the muster rolls of national fame and glory, like those of his father and of his brother, Lemi N. Howe, a veteran of the Civil War, and a resident of Ithaca.

Mr. Howe was buried in East Lawn Cemetery in Ithaca in a spot which he had selected. His obsequies were marked with appropriate honors, the Masonic orders, Sydney Post G. A. R., the President and Board of Trustees leading in them and adopting beautiful memorial resolutions in his honor.

Late in March, 1883, Mr. Howe started for Phœnix, Arizona, to transact some business for a silver mining company of which he was president. He fainted when he arrived in Kansas and, warned of his heart weakness, returned to Ithaca. He never left the house again and died in three weeks. During that period he sent a request at midnight to the Ithaca Quartette to sing his favorite songs "Those Evening Bells," and "Nearer My God to Thee." The quartette was composed of William H. Storms, Charles B. Mandeville, Edwin C. Tichenor and Fred B. Delano. It was famous and its members only amateurs. They honored the request, but with great difficulty for tears were in their eyes, emotion and sobs in their voices. The death songs were so effective that the quartette never again would sing at sick men's bed-sides. But Henry H. Howe was soothed by the sweet music and the inspired sentiments of the poets. He died with peace and happiness upon his kindly but weakened heart—weakened by the hardships and fever of the southern camp and marching.

The little newsboy who had served him with daily papers seeing, upon his evening visit, crape hanging on the door insisted earnestly upon entering the house to be taken to the death chamber that he might "see Mr. Howe who had been so good to him." When the lad was held up by others and he looked down at the

dead face he burst into tears and gave expression to a sorrow that was felt by many other boys who had known Henry H. Howe.

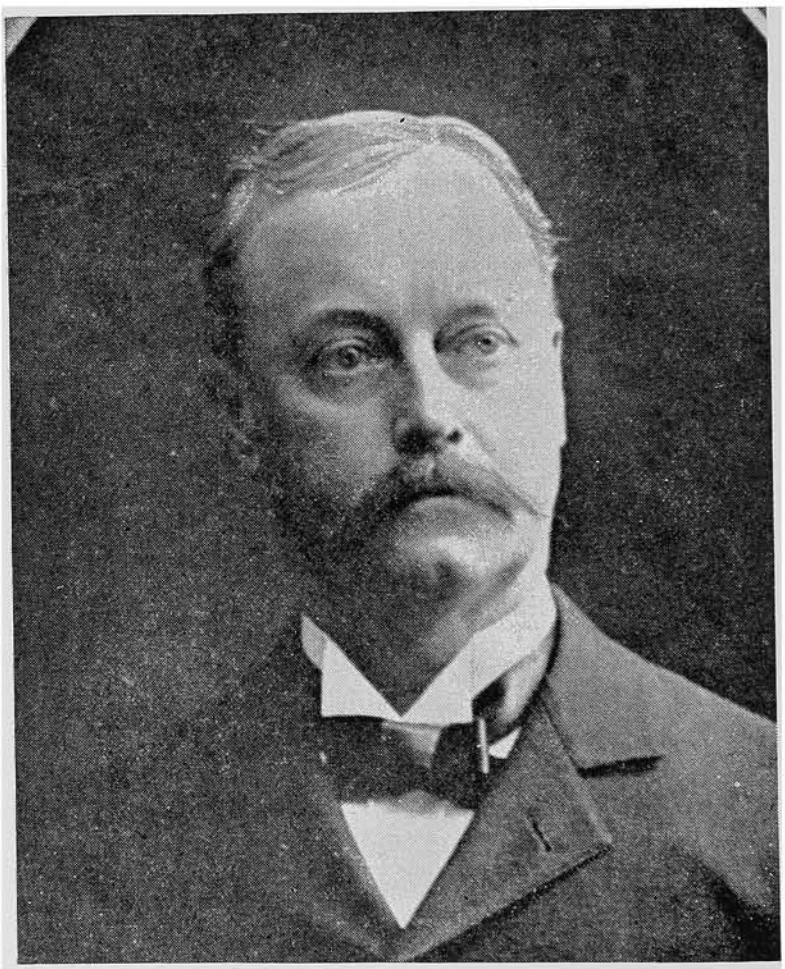
These incidents denote the strength and tenderness of the ties that held him to so many hearts; ties that gold alone could not purchase nor statesmanship inspire.

His administration as president was not disturbed by local contentions of serious character, except possibly when a policeman, Daniel Nelligan, was tried by the Board upon a charge of brutality and exceeding his duties as an officer in the arrest of a student of Cornell University. The Board unanimously voted to dismiss the charge against the officer and complimented him in emphatic terms for his conduct. President Howe personally congratulated Officer Nelligan. It served as a salutary lesson to others who were in need of such action by the entire Board.

The Board voted to purchase the lot from Richard A. Crozier and erect the build-ing now occupied by Torrent Hose Co. No. 5, at a cost of nearly $4,000, and purchased new hose carts for other companies.

The Board of 1882, at its last session in March in 1883, unanimously adopted resolutions praising President Howe's dignity, ability and courtesy during the year and declared that his services and personality would always remain with them the most pleasant recollection of their official careers.

Five weeks later the new C. J. Rumsey (Democratic) administration passed memorial resolutions. after Mr. Howe's death, and affirmed that the public and the Board felt a just pride in the record he had made and in the love and respect and trust he had inspired.



CHARLES J. RUMSEY—Forty-Fi st President

CHARLES J. RUMSEY—FORTY-FIRST PRESIDENT.

During his three terms as president of Ithaca Charles J. Rumsey was often sought by strangers who had official business to transact with him. One of them thus addressed him: "I wish to see Mr. Rumsey." "I am Mr. Rumsey," was the answer from behind a counter. "Yes, but I want the other Mr. Rumsey, the president of Ithaca," was the stranger's reply. "Then you must see me for I am president of Ithaca" said the young man behind the counter while quietly tying up a package for a customer. After his interview was over the stranger departed.

In a few minutes auother stranger entered the store and closely scanned every person who appeared to be engaged in it as proprietor or clerk. At last he approached Mr. Rumsey and transacted business similar to that of the other stranger in the village and took his leave to meet the chairman of a committe of the Board of Trustees. He said to that trustee: "I was told to pick out the plainest and most unpretending man in the store and I would be sure to find the popular head of the municipal government and prominent leader in the commercial affairs of the county. I hit it the first time. Authority, wealth and popularity have not inflated that young man. He is greater than all three of those things. He is the most natural man of his standing and influence that I ever met and my life is spent among public officials all over this broad country."

The stranger's estimate of Charles J. Rumsey was true twenty years ago and can be asserted with truth today. It explains much of his popularity among the common people who are not governed by financial or social affairs. He is in his personality as clearly distinct and unique as was any of his predecessors and worthy of his political and commercial standing. He was wise beyond his years and fairly earned his success as merchant and man. In the course of his mercantile and official career he found the light of his own intellect forced into contrast with that of his older half-brother John, a prominent hardware merchant who had been president of Ithaca eight years before; but Charles did not suffer by the comparison.

He was born on his father's farm in Enfield in January, 1849, and attended the district school and the Ithaca academy. He taught his former schoolmates in the old school in the winter, for at sixteen he became the man of the farm, his father being disabled by paralysis. When the crops were harvested in 1870 he was 21, and could vote the old fashioned Rumsey or Democratic ticket. His ambition to enter the hardware store of his brother in Ithaca could no longer be restrained, and in that store he began a seven-year clerkship. No ribbons, nor laces, nor silks awaited upon the shelves to be measured by his bronzed and calloused hands. Shovels, spades, axes, iron and steel bars, plows, cradles, scythes and implements with which his farm life had made him familiar were the chief merchandise in that store.

In 1877 John decided that Charles was properly equipped with experience and talents and temperament for a one-third partnership, which Charles afterward asserted that he did not dispute. People who knew John Rumsey's commercial customs declared it a great compliment to the morals and abilities of his brother Charles. In 1880 John Rumsey disposed of his interest in the merchandise and good will of the store to Edwin Gillette and Edgar M. Finch and the firm at John's request became C. J. Rumsey & Co. In 1883 Mr. Finch retired from the firm and from active industrial life to pass thereafter the life of a gentleman. The firm has

been continued by Charles J. Rumsey and Edwin Gillette during 20 years, its volume of business constantly increasing, its floor and storage and shelf space extending and its reputation for fair dealing remaining at the standard that made John Rumsey a wealthy and an honored man.

This partnership has been so harmonious, so prosperous, so admirable, so beneficial to the community that the writer regrets that this sketch must be confined to the member who was elected president of Ithaca in 1883-4-5.

Mr. Rumsey is a large stockholder and director in the Remington Salt plant at the "Corner of the Lake" from which the city Electric Light company and Electric Street Car company secure motive power. He continues the private banking which John Rumsey carried on during his later years.

Charles owned the building used as a hardware store No. 206 East State street and the Rumsey block on North Tioga street which made him prominent in financial circles before he was elected president of the village. He did not yield to inordinate reach for greater wealth without reasonable enjoyment of what he already possessed, but gave indulgence to his passion for hunting, fishing and horse racing, and to other sports of respectable character that have found him traveling in different states to witness and enjoy.

He followed his boyhood instincts and contributed liberally in time and money to the county Agricultural Society; has given a standard cooking range to the prize baby for 25 years; won purses with his race horses and donated his winnings to the society's treasury; made large displays of hardware and stoves at the fairs and refused to enter them for prizes, thus encouraging other hardware firms to make attractive displays and secure awards for their patriotism.

He has traveled often for recreation to Cuba, Mexico and the Pacific; hunted in the Adirondacks, the Rockies, and the Carolinas; fished in the St. Lawrence and in the head waters of the Great Lakes. It was natural for him to give liberally to home sports, patriotic celebrations, and to all kinds of church and club and firemen's and musical solicitors.

In politics he was an expert whom his party sought with pride and confidence. The Democratic spirit of the Rumseys always inspired him to respond in generous and loyal manner as its supporter or as its local or legislative nominee. His third consecutive election as president and the election of a Democratic successor proved his popularity as a party leader and public official.

Mr. Rumsey was married in 1881 to Sarah, daughter of John Cooper of Catharine, Schuyler county, N. Y. The family residence was for four years in the present city hall annex from which they removed in 1885 to the fine residence owned by them on West State street adjoining the M. E. Church.

He was an active and zealous member of the Eureka Fire Company No. 4 for twenty years, an Odd Fellow, Master of Fidelity Lodge and is now a member of St. Augustine Commandery of Knights Templar.

He is a trustee of the Cornell Library Association and treasurer of the John Rumsey and old Ithaca Academy fund of $25,000 owned by the Association and keeps it invested in interest bearing securities. He is a lover of literature and history, Longfellow and Bryant being his favorite authors. He has deep and lasting dislike for modern novels that impart no solid information to the reader.

He is a Congregationalist and is liberal in his religious opinions. He is like his intimate friend Albert H. Platts, prominent for frankness and honesty in speech and act.

Among the attributes which make Mr. Rumsey's personality so winning and popular are the wit and humor inherited from his Irish mother, Jane Kelly; heart-soothing companions to the thrift of his Scotch fathers. The writer of this sketch was a spectator at a funeral conducted by a Masonic Lodge many, perhaps 20 years ago. Mr. Rumsey, as Master of the Lodge, read the Masonic ritual over the grave with such perfect elocution and dignity that its influence remains undiminished. His own emotional and sympathetic nature, a racial inheritance

through that high type of domestic, moral and maternal excellence, his mother, brings a flush of pride, an expression of reverence to his face when her name is uttered in his presence. His daily domestic and paternal life reflects other admirable characteristics of his mother.

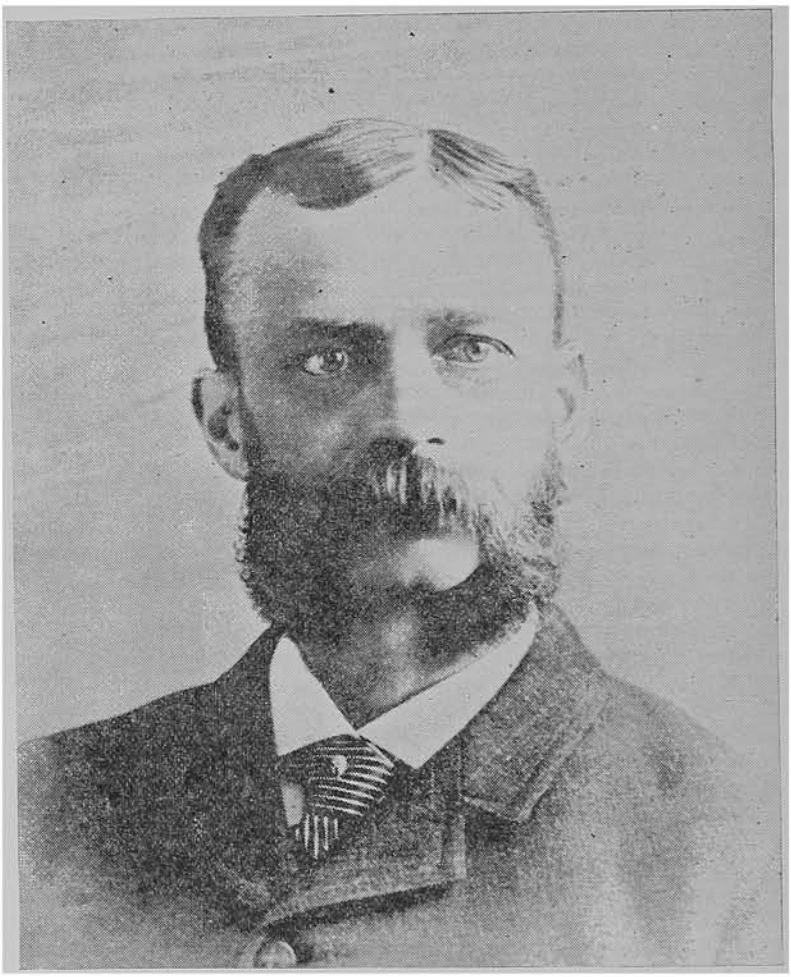
Mr. Rumsey was one of the victims of the typhoid fever epidemic in the early months of 1903 and passed nine weeks under care and control of physician and nurses. He was surprised to be welcomed back to the stores, streets and to society with great cordiality, apparently by the entire community. But his most gratifying and most cordial welcome was from the mechanics and employes who rushed from their shops in undisguised glee down to the store when they heard he had again returned to it emaciated, weak and aided by attendants and cane. "Their pleasure in my recovery from the fever and at my return to the store was evident in the sparkle of their eyes and in the tones of their voices and it affected me more than I can tell," he said to a friend, "and it gave me a new view of the real influences that control human nature." The incident illustrates his social, personal and business relations with his employes.

His physician, Dr. Arthur White, said to the writer during Mr. Rumsey's illness: "It is not his sickness that worries me most. I have others more dangerous. It is his great prominence and the interest the public take in him that worries me. If I should lose him by unexpected complications arising in his fever I will have special attention and less consideration from his many friends than if Mr. Rumsey were not so prominent in this community." This is also a valuable sidelight thrown upon Charles J. Rumsey.

Mr. Rumsey defeated Frank J. Enz in 1883, John B. Lang in 1884 and in 1885. His Boards contained Democratic majorities. The Board of 1883 raised a budget of $30,000; paid laborers $1.50 per day; paid Dr. S. J. Parker $164 for vaccinating school children during a small pox scare; erected a pagoda in Washington park; erected two bridges; granted a franchise to the first telephone company; passed a resolution in favor of a new sewer system; paid Almy & Bouton, attorneys, $400 for drawing up a city charter in 1881—2 and had $436 on hand at the end of the year.

The Board of 1884 prepared another city charter after the taxpayers voted 768 to 586 for a city charter; changed Cayuga Fire Steamer Company No. 1, to a hose company; granted a franchise to the Brush-Swan Electric Light Co. and installed 70 electric street lights for half of the night during 250 nights and had a balance of $3,018 left from the $30,000 budget.

The Ithaca High School was erected during that year. The Board of 1885 purchased the lot and erected the building now occupied by Torrent Hose Co. No. 5 at a cost of $2,500; called a public meeting in Library Hall to take action upon the question of installing a comprehensive sewer system in the city. President Rumsey called the meeting to order and set it in motion by presenting Judge Douglass Boardman as chairman. The meeting voted almost as one man to proceed with surveys and further work to investigate the subject. The Board devoted much attention to streets and sidewalks and public improvements. Mr. Rumsey ended his three terms with exceptional honor and public respect. He acted as chairman of a public committee to properly commemorate the life of General U. S. Grant who died during the year. He was complimented by hearty and affectionate sentiments in a resolution presented by Trustee J. M, Stewart, Republican, and adopted by all the Board at its last session in March, 1886. This Board passed over to its successor $1,073.



COLLINGWOOD B. BROWN—Forty-Second President

COLLINGWOOD B. BROWN—FORTY-SECOND PRESIDENT.

Had a young Englishman, William W. Brown, not fallen in love with Sarah, the daughter of Collin Addison, a Scotch officer in the British army, to elope with him to the old and original Gretna Green, the famous marriage resort for runaway lovers, just across the Scottish border and the river Tweed from the English village where young Brown and Sarah resided, perhaps the name Collingwood Bruce Brown would not be found among the trustees and presidents of Ithaca.

The family history was made more romantic by the placing of Sarah in a room under lock and key, for six weeks by her indignant mother, to whom, in a few hours, she had returned and related the particulars of her elopement and marriage; the calling out of the marriage bans from the chancel of the village church on the three following Sundays and the further imprisonment of the bride for three more long weeks, and then marching her up the aisle of the church and compelling her to undergo a second marriage, to conform to the outraged ecclesiastical laws of the Church of England.

"I did not care the slightest bit how many times I was married as long as Willie Brown was the man," she said many years later. "The youngsters had a liking for the informality of Gretna Green marriages, but the parents did not take to it. It was really more satisfactory to Willie and me than to be marched up to the chancel in the church. I was made Mrs. William Brown at Gretna Green and the six weeks under lock and key could not change that name or relation."

That spirit of independence and originality was inherited by their son Collingwood Bruce Brown and inspired him, when 14 years of age, to abandon the parental roof in Kingston, Canada, where he was born in 1842, to seek his fortune elsewhere. He soon found a home with his sister's husband George H. Ford, in Porona, Canada, and served two years in his jewelry store before he returned to Kingston and passed four years in school and in his father's hardware store.

In 1862 Collingwood came to Ithaca to attend its academy. His older brother Thomas was then a resident of and in business in Ithaca. But Collingwood, who did not care so much for school as for mechanical and industrial pursuits, was permitted to follow his own wishes. He entered the jewelry store of Samuel L. Vosburg where Edward S. Jackson now conducts a grocery on East State street. In 1867 Mr. Vosburg removed to the building now occupied by Mr. Sturdevant No. 132 East State street. Collingwood remained with Mr. Vosburg until 1870 and then established a jewelry store of his own in the H. J. Grant building across the street, No. 115. In 1873 he removed to the Sprague block, No. 147 East State street, and in 1877 to the last Vosburg store where he remained for 23 years. He removed in 1900 to his present quarters in the Morrison block on the northeast corner of State and Tioga streets.

He was and now remains a zealous and consistent Christian and is serving his twentieth year as a vestryman in St. John's Episcopal Church.

He was for 15 years a member of Tornado Hook and Ladder fire company. At a recent banquet of the "Hooks" he was toasted as the oldest living foreman. He is now an active member of the Protective Police; of St. Augustine Commandery, Knights Templar, and other Masonic lodges and was for years an Odd Fellow.

In 1869 he was married to Elvina E., daughter of Edward Hungerford who had been sheriff of Tompkins county and had among his jail prisoners, for nearly two years, Mrs. Heggie, the notorious murderess who poisoned her own daughters.

In 1867 Mr. Hungerford, against his daughter, Mrs. Brown's wish and protest, took her first son, Edward Hungerford Brown, to the county fair and entered him for the first prize offered for the handsomest baby in the county. It was a $20 gold piece, donated by Joseph B. Sprague, then president of Ithaca, and was won and carried home by the proud grand-father and with the child presented to its mother whose happiness can be imagined by a mother only.

The wife of Edward H. Brown, Elizabeth, daughter of the late Pierce Pearson, one year a bride, was the most notable victim of the great typhoid fever epidemic that put Ithaca in mourning and in terror in the early months of 1903. Her recovery seemed to be impossible, but she survived and gave profound relief to the great anxiety of every mother in the city and to hundreds in the surrounding country who had followed her condition for many weeks. Her first son was born in July, 1903.

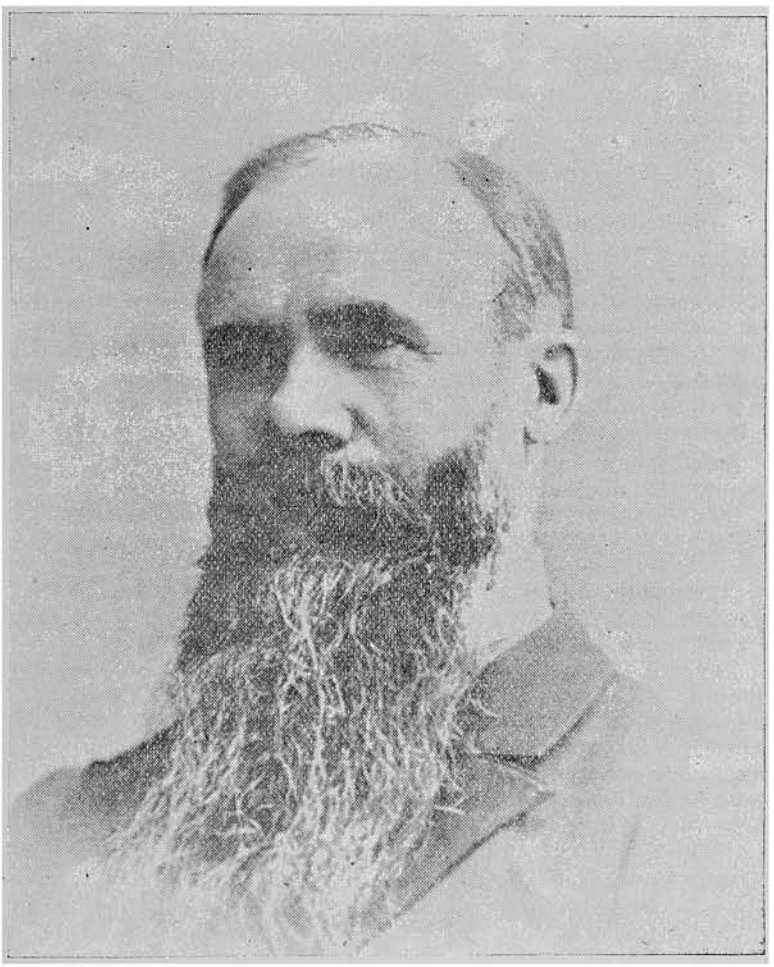
Collingwood B. Brown has been a leader in social and society life, his handsome residence on Titus avenue being the center of domestic and young people's enjoyments. He has a private summer home of a dozen acres called "The Hobby" in the town of Caroline. Every visitor has signed "The Hobby" register and was generally required to add some commentary to his or her name. Hundreds of friends from the city and campus have enjoyed its hospitality, fished for trout in its ponds and hunted in the surrounding woods. His daughter was married in "The Hobby" on his own birthday. His hobby is fishing for brook trout and reeling off fishing tales with purest Waltonian flavor but conforming to the truth with the exactness of a consistent church vestryman. He has not passed his days in hoarding wealth from the sales of jewels and diamonds, but rather in seeking and furnishing happiness for all who have been near him in blood, family and business; in society, politics and religion. In this he has been eminently successful.

Mr. Brown was fortunate in his personality. He has an abundance of nature's most coveted graces in addition to an admirable physique. He is now 60, in his prime and apparently as vigorous as in 1886 when he was president of the village.

His administration as president was popular notwithstanding bitter dissentions that disturbed the party organization, with which he had little to do in the beginning, but was forced by circumstances to take part during the year.

Mr. Brown was elected a village trustee, as a Democrat, in 1879 and served two years. He was a member of the finance committee during the two Platts administrations; chairman of the committee on fire department; and on other committees. He defeated David B. Stewart for president in 1885. During his administration as president the Board appointed D. F. Van Vleet police justice, under a new law; gave a new hose cart to Cataract Fire Co. No. 7; granted the franchise, upon motion of Trustee Albert L. Niver, now used and owned by the Ithaca Street Railway Company; extended and graded many streets, made many public improvments, erected bridges and added greatly to the beauty and attractiveness of the village.

A balance of $2,673 was handed over to the incoming administration. His administrative ability was so conspicuous and his personality so pleasant that a Republican colleague, Trustee James A. McKinney, presented resolutions at the close of the term "thanking him for his fairness, his impartiality as a presiding officer and for the interest he had always manifested in the wise management of corporation matters; and assuring him that we shall always cherish him with the confidence and respect that his own example has inspired." The McKinney resolutions were adopted unanimously



DANIEL W. BURDICK—Forty-Third President

DANIEL W. BURDICK—FORTY-THIRD PRESIDENT.

The life work of Daniel Waite Burdick has been consistent with the purpose he formed while a fatherless boy in the hamlets of Clarkville and Lenox in Madison County, New York. Roger Waite Burdick, his father, a farmer in Brookfield in that county, died in 1841, when his son was four weeks old. His mother, Anna M. Burdick, returned with her babe to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Asa Frink, on their farm in Brookfield, where he passed the usual life of a farmer's boy, attending the nearby district schools of Clarkville and Lenox in the winter. When 14 years old he made a home with his uncle and guardian, Daniel Frink, in Watertown, N. Y., where he attended the Arsenal Street school for three years.

His health then failed him for eight months, during which he assisted his uncle in his business as dealer in lime, coal, salt, etc., and then entered the law offices of Starbuck & Sawyer, in Watertown, as a student. After two years of profitable and delightful study and association with his very prominent tutors, he enlisted in the 10th N. Y. Artillery. He was then 20 years of age. He was told that "law students could stop bullets and be torn assunder by cannon balls as well as any other recruits," and answered: "I will do my share of it whatever may come."

He was singularly consistent, patriotic and brave during his three years of service in camp and field and received very high praise from his comrades and superiors. From the ranks as a private he was promoted to a second lieutenancy, and later to a first lieutenancy, captaincy and majorship, each promotion coming to him "for brave and honorable services upon the field of battle." Part of the time he was on the staffs of the famous corps commanders Ord and Terry.

General Ben. Butler once pulled Major Burdick from his horse and ordered him to take some rest and sleep after long and very dangerous service in scouting. At Fort Harrison, before Richmond, he was thrown senseless to the ground by the concussion made by a shell that burst just over his head. How long he laid there nobody ever knew for he wakened to earth in the hospital. He has never recovered from the effect of that tremendous shock. His hair was cut off above his right ear by a bullet in front of Petersburg. This also proved dangerous and lasting in its influence upon him, acting upon him as did the bursting shell and partly stunned him. He was drinking from a canteen when a shot cut a hole through the canteen and passed over the ear. The glitter of the canteen bottom had attracted the attention of the sharpshooter. A sun stroke disabled him for weeks in front of Petersburg. At Cold Harbor four inches were cut off the lower end of his iron scabbard that hung from his belt. His sword was in his hand. The scabbard now hangs upon his house wall with a brass addition where it was shortened by the shell or bullet. He has the bullet that cut through the canteen and grazed his head. It was dug out of a piece of timber a short distance from where he stood. Four of his companies captured Petersburg Heights, the third one of three lines of breastworks, and its fort that was the key to the position, held afterward for eleven months until Lee abandoned Petersburg.

His batteries were stationed on a hill one mile from Washington to protect the capital and navy yard for one year, in 1863-4. Under a wild order from somebody in command he was one of 300 soldiers who charged upon General A. P. Hill's whole army corps and advanced under his guns and entrenchments. Through some misunderstanding by General Hill, the 300 escaped as complete annihilation as the British Light Brigade of 600 under Col. Nolan suffered by obey-

ing a mistaken command at Balaklava in front of Sevastopol. He was at Spotsylvania, and The Wilderness, and aided in rescuing General Butler from his approaching capture at Bermuda Hundred. In September 1864 his batteries performed deadly work among Bushrod Johnson and Longstreet's 16,000 Confederate troops while attacking 7,000 Union troops in their entrenchments, for ninety minutes. He said once that it was the only battle in which he felt comfortable because his men were behind the cover of entrenchments. An old and respected comrade from Watertown said to the writer of this, several years ago: "Major Burdick was one of the bravest and best fighters and disciplinarians and most considerate officers in the army and seemed contented when fighting like a fiend in the most dangerous place on the battle field."

Major Burdick enjoys the special honor of leading the first squad of nine Union soldiers, his own artillerymen, into Richmond on the day that the city was abandoned by General Lee. He established bis headquarters in the parlors of the mansion occupied by the great John Marsball, chief judge of tbe United States Supreme Court, in his life time and then occupied by the judge's family. He immediately began the liberation of Union soldiers from Libbey Prison and filled it with Confederates whom he found in Richmond. He was then 23 years of age. He was mustered out of service in June 1865, at Sacketts Harbor, N. Y., 80 days after his entrance into Ricbmond and returned to Watertown. In six days this young major of artillery was serving as a clerk in the drug store of Camp & Massey with as much modesty and as little conceit as if he had not been absent from Watertown one day during the war.

Tbere is little to wonder at in such a record in young Burdick notwithstanding that he had never known the strength or advantage of the care, association, training and example of a father. But if inheritance of ancestral characteristics be not simply a theory, the blood which coursed through his heart tbat came from his first American ancestor, Judge Beardeautte, a French judge, who was expelled from France for his Jansenist and Hugenot sentiments and sought an asylum in England and a home in Rhode Island, was not weakened by the strain that came to him from Lord Healey, of Londonderry, Ireland, through bis great-grandmother, Anna Healey; nor from his paternal grandmother, who descended from the Puritan John Rogers who was always in trouble with his Puritan townsmen over his stubborn and fearless advocacy of liberal sentiments in politics and religion; nor by the blood of his great-grandfather Frink who manned a cannon as a Colonist during the American Revolution; nor by his grandmother Frink who wept when her husband marcbed away with his comrades and clapped her hands with joy when she heard the booming of his cannon at New London seven miles away. This mixture of tbe blood and spirit of Celt and Frank and Puritan in the Colonies made American liberty possible, and has made Daniel W. Burdick what he was and what he is.

In 1867, at the end of two years of service in the drug store, he joined his old schoolmate and intimate friend Charles H. White, who was a clerk in another drug store in Watertown, and removed to Ithaca. They purchased the "Ben Halsey" drug store, now No. 116 East State street, and conducted it in partnership until Mr. White's death by a railroad accident in New Jersey, while on his way to pass Thanksgiving with relatives of Mrs. White in New York city, in 1900, a period of 33 years. Major Burdick soon afterward purchased the interest in the store of the White family, widow and son, and has since then had no partner although he retains the old firm name, White & Burdick, with the consent of the heirs of Charles H. White, thus paying a noble tribute to his friend and partner by keeping his name and memory fresh in the public mind.

Major Burdick joined Sydney Post, G. A. R. in 1869, the year of its organization, and has continued a very active and influential member, as its commander, as committeeman of numerous departments; as grand marshal on Memorial days, and toast master at many banquets and camp fires. He manifests great zeal in

attending to the interests of veterans and their families in state legislation, in relief and charity affairs, in sickness and at burials. No member can command higher respect in Grand Army circles than he.

He is a member of the Loyal Legion, an organization of officers of the Civil War. Three others are members of it in Ithaca: Professor Robert H. Thurston, Major William P. Van Ness, Rev. Dr. Charles Mellen Tyler and Captain Henry L. Hinckley. The D. W. Burdick camp Sons of Veterans of Ithaca is named in his honor.

Major Burdick has been a vestryman of St. John's Episcopal Church for many years; a prominent and active official in the city hospital; is now serving his third term as president of the Ithaca Business Men's Association, that has a membership of 500; is a leader in the industrial, mercantile and social circles of the city and an active member of the Republican party.

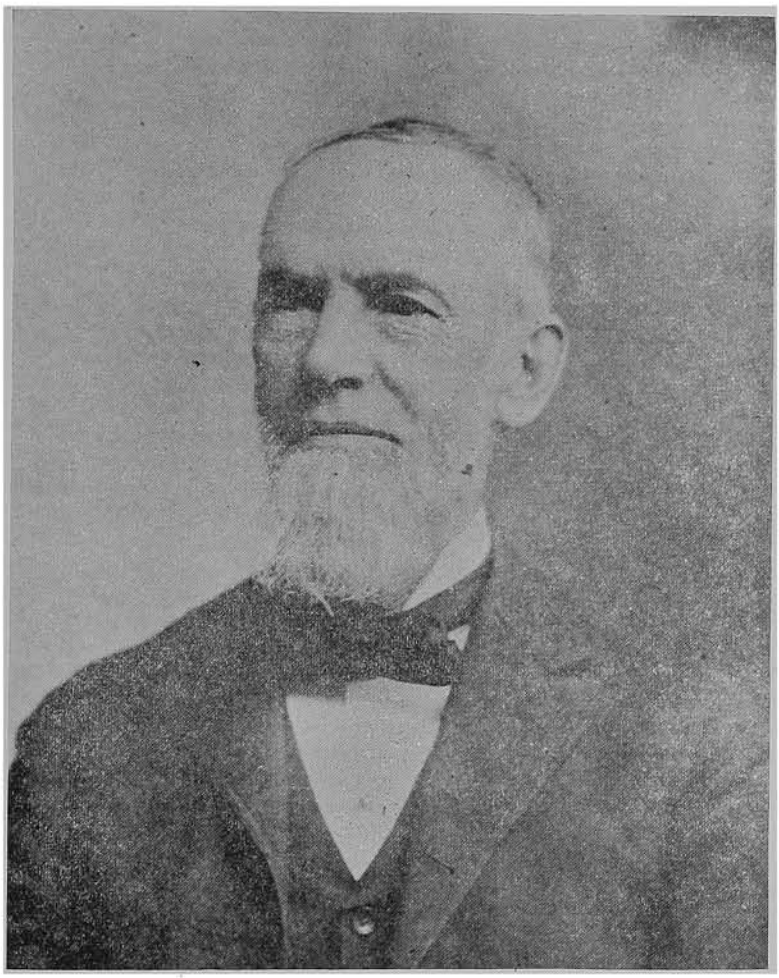
He is owner of large and valuable properties and recently builded two handsome and commodious brick business blocks on East State street, into one of which he removed his stock and continues the drug store, one of the best arranged and most prosperous in Southern New York.

In 1874 he was married to Mary M., daughter of Samuel D. and Elizabeth L. Morse, of Watertown. His residence is on the southeast corner of Buffalo and Spring streets and is a model of fine taste in its arrangements and furnishings.

Major Burdick is identified with everything that advances the character, interests or expansion of Ithaca. He is a guarantor of large mortgages and obligations of industrial and business firms. He is one of the solid and conservative men of the city and performs his duties in all the walks of life with the promptness and precision which won him such distinction as a soldier. His manner and personality are pleasant and courteous, his talents well adapted for leadership in all public affairs. Major Burdick has traveled extensively in the United States and has made three trips to Europe.

During Mr. Burdick's administration as president of Ithaca, from March 1887 to March 1888, the Board was composed of four Republicans and four Democrats; $30,000 were raised for the use of the Board and $2,186 remained unexpended at the close of the year; a committee of 16 citizens was appointed by the Board to revise the village charter and prepare the way to incorporate the village as a city; 30 new hydrants were erected for fire purposes; Spencer Road was changed to its original grade and the rise over the old inclined plane abandoned; fire escapes were ordered in business places; Trustees James A. McKinney, Albert L. Niver, Leroy G. Todd and Dr. James A. Lewis were appointed a committee to superintend the building of an electric street railway to which a franchise had been granted; the extended litigation between Linn DeWitt and the village over the title to the parks, a portion of the village cemetery and several streets was settled by President Burdick and deeds passed from Mr. DeWitt and his attorneys, Almy & Bouton, to the village for the lands in dispute.

The entire year was eventful and gave President Burdick ample opportunity for the display of his superior administrative ability. He refused a second term and retired with the respect of his political opponents and the admiration of his own party.



DAVID B. STEWART—Last President and First Mayor.

DAVID B. STEWART—LAST PRESIDENT, FIRST MAYOR

David Barnes Stewart was the forty-fourth and last president and the first mayor of Ithaca. The transition from village to city occurred during his term as president. The charter which the committee of sixteen had prepared became a law May first and took effect June first, 1888; the president became mayor, the trustees aldermen, and the Board of Trustees the Common Council. Four presidents, Elias Treman, Albert H. Platts, Collingwood B. Brown and David B. Stewart, were among the committee of sixteen. The event was welcomed by the public and celebrated by the city officials and invited guests in the common council chamber in serious and dignified manner. Mr. Stewart presided during the ceremonies.

A sketch of his life and antecedents is thus doubly interesting from a local historical view point. The sketch cannot reach far into family records because the modesty, plainness and practical characteristics of the Stewarts have not inspired much research into family history. Even the valiant service of Mr. Stewart's great-grand-father as a soldier in the army under Washington in the Revolution, and a highly honored citizen, has not been exploited nor made known outside of the family.

His father, Horace Schofield Stewart, was of Scotch descent and came from Connecticut to Delaware county, N. Y., in 1811 when eight years of age, with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Stewart, to Tompkins county and settled in the town of Newfield upon a rich tract now known as the Lafayette Cutter farm. Horace was a farmer and stock dealer. He died in Newfield in 1902, in his 99th year.

David Barnes Stewart's mother was Calista, daughter of David Barnes, a farmer, of Newfield; a lovable woman, devoted to her husband and children and a devout Christian. She died in 1862. Her son David was born on the farm in October, 1832; attended the district school in winter and worked on the farm in spring and summer; attended the Ithaca academy and taught schools in country districts until, to fulfill his ambition for wider intellectual achievements, he was sent to the Cazenovia Seminary where he made good use of his time and opportunity.

Early in the fifties after arriving at his majority he decided to abandon the farm for mercantile pursuits; the school for a study of the markets. His first business venture was as a storekeeper in Montour Falls, then known as Havana, Schuyler County, N. Y., drugs and books being his chief merchandise. In that store he sold to David B. Hill, a resident and native of that village, the first books the distinguished politician and lawyer ever purchased. Mr. Stewart as president of the village and member of the charter commission went to Albany and urged upon Governor Hill who was opposed to the signing of the new city charter and succeeded in securing the governor's signature to that legislative document. The death of an older brother caused Mr. Stewart to return to the farm, after an absence of two years, and give up the store in Havana.

In 1857, when 25 years old, he began the manufacture of cigars in Newfield, a business that he has continued until the present time. In 1867 he removed to Ithaca and, in partnership with Charles W. Manchester, purchased the grocery and bakery business of Giles & Rockwell, No. 107 East State street, in the east end of the Treman block. After conducting a wholesale and retail business for five years, Mr. Stewart became sole proprietor.

In 1880 Mr. Stewart purchased a half interest in the whoselale grocery business of Samuel H. Winton, in the building now owned by Michael Eagan and known as the Union Hotel, on North Cayuga street. In 1889 he purchased Mr. Winton's interest and removed to the large brick building that was erected on South Tioga street and used for a roller skating rink. He has improved this building until it is a model of its kind.

He took into partnership Hiram M. Lovell and Benjamin F. Tompkins, under the firm name of D. B. Stewart & Co. His son, Edwin C. Stewart, who served two terms in the Assembly and is now serving his sixth year as a Senator, was admitted to membership in the firm in 1896, when Mr. Lovell retired from it.

The business of the firm has expanded to very large proportions, its agents, office and other employes constituting an important force of men and women. Mr. Stewart's cigar trade has also been and remains extensive. D. B. Stewart & Co. is one of the foremost mercantile concerns in southern New York and has a very high and influential standing.

In 1857 Mr. Stewart was married to Almira Louisa, daughter of Moses Crowell, a lawyer of distinguished wit and popularity of Newfield, and later of Ithaca. She was noted for her dignity and fine personal appearance; she was popular in society and a devoted wife and mother. She died in 1901. The Stewart residence has been for many years No. 125 East Buffalo street.

The early training on the farm remains an influence over David B. Stewart. He has purchased large farms in his native town, one of which he keeps well stocked with cattle for dairy purposes, and equipped with extensive modern buildings. He finds recreation in driving a good team to this farm, six miles up the Cayuga Inlet valley, several times each week.

David B. Stewart is a selfmade man and has few peers in his line of business. His integrity, executive ability and commercial acumen are well matched. He is in his 71st year, but as bright and agile as the average man of 50 and apparently inherited his father's longevity. He avoids and banishes cares and worries by indulging in social and mental recreations; enjoys the meetings of the Protective Police, one of whom he has been for many years; plays euchre in the Edward M. Marshall house around the corner from his own, and devotes many hours with friends in the Town and Gown Club.

He is a member of the Board of Education and of all the Masonic lodges, including St. Augustine Commandery; an Odd Fellow; a trustee of the Ithaca Savings Bank; a director of the Ithaca Trust Company; treasurer of the City Hospital; an active member of the Republican party and was many years a member and treasurer of Cayuga Fire Company No. 1.

Last Mr. Stewart was defeated for president by Collingwood B. Brown in 1886 by 60 plurality; Mr. Brown was defeated by Major Burdick in 1887 by 16 plurality, and by Mr. Stewart in 1888 by 328. The contentions among local politicians were many and distracting, and greater in their significance than at any time since the village was incorporated. The new city charter; the paving of the streets; the sewering of the streets; new commissions and bodies with extensive authority; the appointment of new salaried officials and the expenditure of an immense sum of money, asserted by many to aggregate, in the end, more than a million dollars, and the maneuvering for political advantage by the local party leaders; these issues and the contentions that arose from them were added to the discontent created by the failure of a Democratic politician to secure his own appointment as police justice from Mr. Brown's Board, or his election to that office when nominated for it by his party caucus, in March 1887, and contributed to Mr. Stewart's extraordinary run against Mr. Brown, in 1888, and the emphatic defeat of the other Democratic candidates.

Mr. Brown's administration was popular with the masses who were patriots first and politicians afterwards as his second and third nominations proved. Into this ocean of new local issues Mr. Stewart plunged. He was equal to its demands and impressed his personality upon every issue that was presented for his con-

sideration. He advocated a comprehensive system of street paving and a comprehensive sewer system and would not yield his own judgment to any others. He was not a figurehead and soon found himself in contentions with his party associates. He would not hear with patience the wild demand for expensive brick pavements before the streets and city had been furnished with sewer mains.

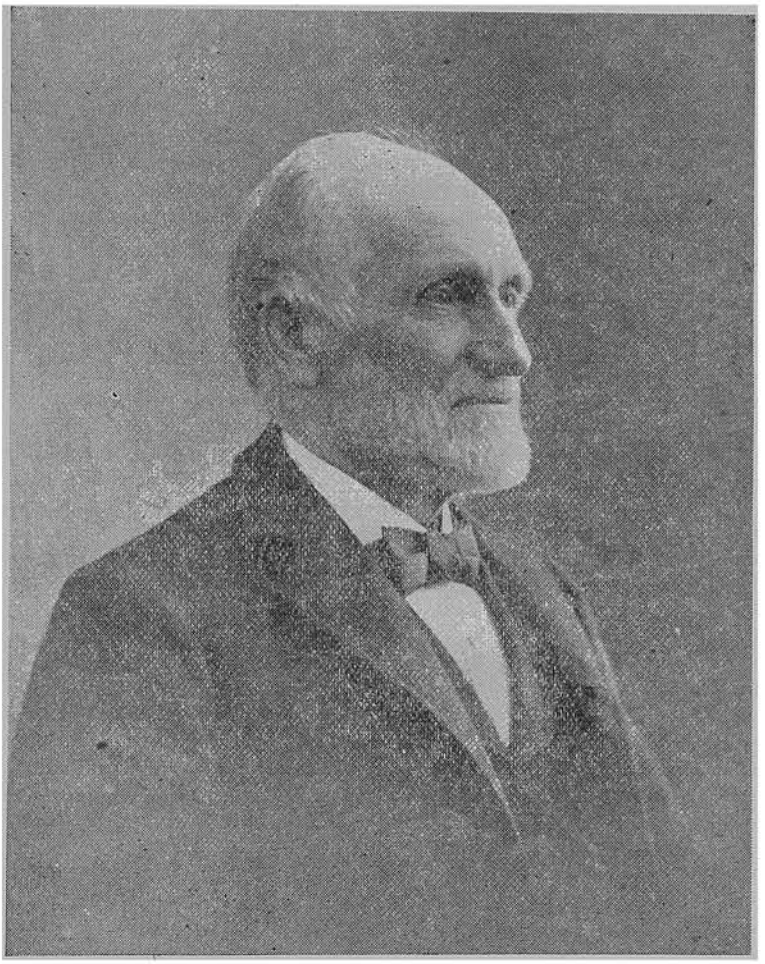
For this he was criticised. Had his counsel been heeded subsequent events would not have proved him much wiser than his wisest critics. Had his counsel prevailed many paved streets would not be torn up annually, their value impaired, their beauty disfigured and bitter criticism be heard against it. His wisdom and foresight are now acknowledged by his critics.

He appointed his personal friend and party colleague, Franklin Cornell, city superintendent, "without compensation." This resulted in great benefit to the corporation and aided the Council to perform its duties in a business-like manner.

The Ithaca Journal, the party organ, said two years after Mr. Stewart's administration had ended that Mr. Stewart had personally saved the city $2,500 annually for five years in the lighting of the streets, by the courageous manner in which he had handled various bids and made a new contract.

He urged progress in municipal affairs upon far reaching and permanent lines. Factory street was opened and extended northward and an excellent iron bridge erected over Cascadilla gorge. This opened up the valuable fields and groves north of that gorge for the traffic of the city and for new streets, avenues and "lanes" that are being rapidly lined with magnificent University chapter houses, beautiful and costly residences and buildings and the elegant grounds that are swelling the assessor's lists and the tax collectors' receipts. For this Mayor Stewart was criticised and for it the Common Council, upon motion of Alderman James A. McKinney, changed the name of Factory street to Stewart avenue, in honor of the first mayor of the city and a progressive city official whose services were given free to the city at the expense of his own private business.

Mr. Stewart was urged to accept a second term, reluctantly consented and was re-nominated by acclamation; but upon noting how some members of his party were opposed to extensive municipal improvements and how much his own purposes and plans were misunderstood, he promptly mounted the platform at the convention and declined the nomination. He was not willing to sacrifice his private interest and his good standing for the mere privilege of doing his duty as a citizen and leading in the affairs that concerned the city as a whole. His pride and high spirit controlled him. He stepped aside to allow others to enter the field of fierce local contentions and do battle against forces dominated by the spirit of ingratitude and procrastination. Who can say that he was not just to himself in so doing, although it cost his party nominee in the election that followed a defeat by only seven plurality?



JOHN BARDEN—Second Mayor

JOHN BARDEN—SECOND MAYOR

John Barden, the first person to be elected mayor of Ithaca, was born in the village of Stoddard, New Hampshire, on Christmas Day, 1825. His father, Otis Barden, was a merchant who removed from Stoddard in 1834 to Hillsboro, N. H., where he enlarged his business and erected woolen mills which he carried on in conjunction with his mercantile pursuits. He became a neighbor and intimate friend of Franklin Pierce who was afterward president of the United States. John attended school in Hillsboro, his teacher being Henry Pierce, a brother of Franklin.

The financial crash of 1837 caught Otis Barden among its victims and the bankrupt act that followed it gave great liberty to debtors and completed his financial ruin. It was then that John, at the age of fourteen or fifteen, began a business career that made him independent of his father. He entered the service of the Nashua Railroad company which he continued until 1849 when, with his brother William Wallace Barden, he accompanied P. W. Jones, of Nashua, to Ithaca to finish the latter's contract of building the railroad between Ithaca and Owego. Wallace, as foreman, laid the rails and John, as foreman, set the ties. It replaced the horse railroad from Owego to Ithaca. The Erie railroad was then completed and in operation to Owego and being extended westward to Elmira. The Bardens completed their work in December 1849, after which John went to Scranton, Pa., in the employ of the D. L. & W. R. R., his work covering the territory between Scranton and Binghamton, for two or three years, when he returned to Ithaca, still in the service of the company.

His first work in Ithaca was to superintend a gang of 80 men during the filling of the Seager trestle that formed the curve near Buttermilk Falls, about one-third of a mile in length. The fill was made of gravel from the gravel-bank near the falls. Mr. Barden then acted as agent of the company's wholesale and shipping yard at the dock near the Steamboat Landing for nine years after which he served as passenger train conductor between Ithaca and Owego until 1886, the year after William R. Humphrey was succeeded as superintendent of the Cayuga Division of the D. L. & W. R. R. by Willard B. Peirce. Mr. Barden had then served the company 36 years.

He had led a quiet, industrious and frugal life and saved a handsome competence that had been rapidly increased by investmeuts in railroad stocks, bonds and like securities at low figures and which had, as Mr. Barden foresaw, increased in value, while in his possession, several hundred per cent. He thus became a capitalist whose judgment was sought by other financiers. In 1882 he was elected a director of the Tompkins County National Bank during Lafayette L. Treman's presidency. He has held that position until the present time.

John Barden is distinguished for his gentle manner and his frank and friendly nature under all circumstances. He is firm and positive in his opinions. When asked by a friend how he maintained his gentleness of manner and speech when other men would yield to temper and harsh language he answered: "My father was as amiable as my mother and she was a perfect woman. I assume that I inherit my even and pleasant disposition which I have cultivated with care and pride. My father's friend Franklin Pierce was the most admirable man in that regard whom I ever met. His seductive manuers influenced me very much. He

moved to Concord where the public took him up and made him president of the United States. He took his fine manners to the White House with him."

Mr. Barden owns a handsome and commodious cottage on Indian River, in Florida, where he passed the winters of 1893-4-5-6-7-8-9—1900-1. He was 20 years a Mason; has a pew in the Unitarian Church, but is not a churchman. "The longer I live the less I like the use that many people make of the church and I have no patience with them and seldom attend church with them", he says.

His mother was a Farnham, of Groton, Massachusetts. He heard his grandmother Farnham describe in his boyhood, a massacre of the whites by the Indians near Groton, which she saw when a girl. His father's brother was a soldier in the War of 1812. He has a curious political memento of English politics, a very large buff colored handkerchief with political declarations and cartoons printed upon it in beautiful and artistic style. It was given to him when he was seven years old by a hungry and penniless sailor for a "piece of bread." Mr. Barden prizes it as a relic of the happy days of his childhood among the hills and dales of his New Hampshire home which he left with a real bandanna handkerchief containing two pairs of socks and two shirts, on his way to Ithaca.

Mr. Barden was twice married; first, when 27, to Eliza Coddington, of the Coddington Road, with whom he boarded when he returned from Scranton; and in 1870 to Mrs. Abbie Shaw, of Owego. Eliza died in 1854.

His residence was the George P. Frost home on East Seneca street for several years. In 1873 he erected the residence, No. 423. It has cosy terraces covered with green turf that wins the admiration of the passer by. Behind his residence are steep, high terraces that adjoin the rear of the Adam S. Cowdry (Jacob M. McCormick) home. His next door neighbor on the west is Frances, daughter of Anson Spencer, and wife of E. Kirk Johnson. Although Mr. Barden is in his seventy-eighth year he is now recovering the use of his right arm, the wrist of which was broked by a fifteen-foot tumble head first down these terraces. He appears to have suffered no other serious injury. He views the mishap with his accustomed meekness and composure.

Mr. Barden was defeated for president by 20 votes in 1865 by George McChain. "It was a time," he said, "when some of our Copperhead Democrats made their party unpopular with many of its own members and to be on the Republican ticket was equal to an election unless Adam S. Cowdry was running for trustee in the Second Ward. In that ward I led Adam 11 votes and did not take my defeat to heart. And besides, the Republicans depended upon a majority of 300 against me because Mr. McChain was a leader in the churches, Sunday Schools, mercantile and industrial affairs of Ithaca. We had no university nor streets filled with strangers to me then, as we have now. The change in our town is great indeed and but few of my old Democratic associates remain to review those old days with me. One of my pleasantest memories of those years is of the affection I had for Superintendent William R. Humphrey of the D. L. & W. R.R."

Two years ago, so the story was told, Mr. Barden purchased and presented a house and lot to a woman who had been in his family as servant for 20 years and "quit that service to marry," as she said. Other incidents of his generosity can be related.

He was in Florida when his term as mayor expired. The office had no charm for him. His purpose to hold the expenditures of the Common Council within its budget limit was stubbornly maintained. The old school of finance was his ideal: "Pay for everything when it is purchased; run in debt for nothing unless to carry on a war." It was not popular with many and he turned his back to local politics, departing for Florida before the term ended, and was not renominated. But he retired with honor, public praise, and at the age of 65, without an enemy.

He presided over six Republican and two Democratic aldermen. Political maneuvering was resorted to by the six to favor political friends and party policies. But the new city charter gave the mayor too much authority for them to

overcome. He was a firm Democrat and freely vetoed their resolutions. One was for a $12,000 bridge over Six Mile Creek at Stewart avenue. But peace and mutual friendship came at last and vetoes ended.

During his second year as mayor (his term was 2 years) the Board was composed of four Republicans and four Democrats. Thomas B. Campbell was the only Republican, elected in 1890. Mayor Barden appointed him and Alderman Theodore Dobrin, another Republican, chairmen of leading committees notwithstanding his own party sentiments. He dismissed a policeman from the force because of "lack of judgment essential to that office."

In a special message to the aldermen in December, 1890, he proposed amendments to the new charter that were unanimously adopted, made part of the charter by legislation in 1892 and ended in the appointment of a paving commission that existed for ten years and expended about $500,000 in paving the principal streets of the city with bricks and macadam.

HENRY A. ST. JOHN—Third Mayor

HENRY A. ST. JOHN—THIRD MAYOR

Henry Ancel St. John, third mayor of Ithaca, is the son of Thomas Powell St. John, twenty-fifth president of Ithaca. He was born in 1845 in the homestead of his grandfather, Henry Hibbard, the birthplace also of his mother, Mary A. Hibbard, on the southeast corner of Tioga and Buffalo streets, and recently purchased by the federal government for the site of a new postoffice building. He was named after his grandfather, Henry Hibbard, and his granduncle Ancel St. John. The preceding sketch of his father shows that on both sides of his house he represents the warp and woof of the old families of Ithaca.

He was educated in the Ithaca schools and Academy and by a private tutor, the Rev. William DeLancy Walker, D.D., the learned, pious and popular rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Ithaca. His admiration for civil engineering and desire to become a civil engineer were encouraged by his parents and he adopted a very practical method to equip himself for that profession. He took a subordinate position in surveyors' parties and performed any duty assigned to him. In 1866-7 he crossed to England and Europe and studied and examined Continental systems of bridge and railway construction. Every day increased his intense interest in civil engineering.

In 1868 he was first assistant to the engineer who ran the lines and grades of the Ithaca and Sayre railway, now part of the Lehigh Valley R. R. system. Later he was engaged in designing, examining and constructing in connection with the Erie, Central Vermont, Long Island, Second Avenue (New York City) and other railway companies. For several years he was chief civil engineer for the New York company.

Mr. St. John had become so prominent in his profession that he was, in 1872-3, associated with the chief engineer of the United States army, General Q. A. Gilmore, and E. H. Tracey, of the Croton Aqueduct Department, as a consulting engineer and prepared plans and specifications for the great and famous elevated railroads of New York City. His professional duties multiplied to a degree that compelled him to devote eighteen and twenty hours a day to his work, traveling much by night. His ambition seemed to have been reached, at least as a civil engineer.

But his father's death changed his business career. He returned to Ithaca in 1881 and entered into mercantile pursuits. His mother was happiest when he was near her. It was a filial duty which he performed willingly. His mother died in 1894, fourteen years after she had laid his father's mortality in the tomb.

It seems strange that a man who passionately enjoyed the construction camp, running lines and grades in the solitude of forest, and on mountain side and in swamp; a moralist, Christian and eminent civil engineer; a man whom his comrades declared was a light and joy to all who were around and near to him, should thus abandon his profession. But it was not strange to his closest friends. It was yielding to a characteristic that few men possessed and perhaps few ever will possess. Retrospection proves its nobility, if not its wisdom.

In 1883 Mr. St. John was married to Cynthia, only daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Edward J. Morgan, sr., and granddaughter of Judge Bruyn, second president of Ithaca.

He has been an active and consistent champion of public education and is serving his twenty-third year as a member of the Board of Education of Ithaca. It is a position and distinction which he greatly enjoys and prizes because it affords him opportunity to advance the intelligence and refinement of his fellow citizens.

He was one of the sixteen charter commissioners who constructed and prepared the new charter that made Ithaca a city in 1888 and by which the city is now governed.

He has been for years a member of the local lodge of Odd Fellows in which his father won such honors and distinction.

He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and a charter member of the Protective Fire Police.

The writer of this sketch has keen recollection of Mr. St. John's high standing as a member of the DeWitt Guard in 1869 when the writer became a member of it. It was Company A in the 50th Regiment, National Guard, State of New York. Joseph Esty, jr. was then captain and Henry A. St. John first lieutenant. Lieutenant St. John was regarded as a perfect soldier and officer and inspiring drill-master. The company was so well drilled and efficient in tactics and of such superior personnel that it held a high place in the State military department. Lieutenant St. John's resignation, caused by his departure from Ithaca for twelve years, was deeply regretted by every member of the regiment and lamented by the Guard. He had served as a company "marker" when a mere boy and when large enough enlisted as a private. Twenty-seven pages, one chapter of a book "History of the DeWitt Guard," published in 1866 by Andrus, McChain & Co., are taken from his pocket diary during its 100 day service in the army in the Civil War. It is a vivid, an excellent pen picture of guarding 12,000 Confederate prisoners of war (and deserters from the Union army) in Elmira. No other member kept a diary of that service. Eighty-four members served in the army and navy during that war. The company was officered in Elmira by Captain (afterward Colonel) Charles F. Blood; First Lieutenant, Levi Kenney; Second Lieutenant, Joseph Esty, jr.; Sergeants, John C. Hazen, Calvin C. Greenley, Edgar M. Finch and Henry A. St. John; Corporals, Barnum R. Williams, Uri Clark (later Lieutenant Colonel), John C. Gauntlett and Alfred Brooks. The privates who served in the "Elmira campaign" and now reside in Ithaca are E. Kirk Johnson, Captain E. M. Latta, Lieutenant Edward C. Marsh, George Pollay, Charles R. Sherwood, George R. Williams and John V. Wilson.

Captain Esty says, in the book mentioned: "Sergeant St. John was one of the best officers connected with the eight regiments in Elmira and particularly distinguished himself, being repeatedly appointed by Col. R. P. Wisner to fill vacancies occasioned by absences of officers on his staff; and was the only sergeant detached from the regiment and placed in charge of a train of freight cars loaded with substitutes and desperate and slippery deserters en route to City Point; and during the four days and nights he never lost a man en route. It is a pleasure to be associated with him as a soldier or socially or in any walk of life."

He generally passes the summer months with his family at "The Knoll", his suburban residence in Slaterville Springs, eight miles from Ithaca. He is a traveler and realizes the benefits to be derived from it by people of refinement. Mrs. St. John often accompanies him as a traveling companion. Another view of his domestic nature is to be seen very often in the public streets where his twelve-year-old daughter, Sheila, in familiar and artless manner, leads him by the hand, unconscious of the charm her conduct exercises upon people who behold them. He apparently enjoys the captivity which his affectionate child imposes upon him. What a contrast between this life in Ithaca and the professional captivity and tyranny of his younger years!

Henry A. St. John has been as conspicuous and consistent in his moral work as in his business career. His name and presence have been familiar in the

church affairs of the whole community since his boyhood. He is a Congregationalist. His personality has influenced and dominated many public gatherings of people. His work has been fearless but courteous; he is aggressive but never denies the fullest liberty of thought and word to any who differ with him. He is true to his inheritance in frankness and freedom of speech, and in thought and action. One of his prominent traits is his modesty in claiming credit for duties well performed.

As a public speaker and debater he is ready, clear, strong and attractive. His sincerity is very effective. He has a pleasing address and is chaste in language and thought. He is above medium height, straight, agile and in perfect health.

Since 1881 Mr. St. John has been a stockholder in the Autophone Company and is now president and manager of the company. The factory is the east half of the Ithaca Calendar Clock Company's brick building on Jay and Auburn streets. The output of the company is shipped to every corner of the civilized world. Its purchases of lumber from local dealers are important. Its payrolls are beneficial to the city.

Mr. St. John's administrative and executive ability has avoided troubles with and strikes by his employes. Several of them who have been with the company for 23 years and longer assert in unstinted terms that he is a kind-hearted, considerate and tactful master and employer. Judge Francis M. Finch and Horace M. Hibbard are the other members and stockholders of the company.

Mr. St. John's generosity is well known. His loyalty to the rights of others is made clear by one incident selected from many which the writer can record. An officer from St. Lawrence county had, after Mr. St. John's term had expired, arrested a citizen in Ithaca upon a warrant charging him with non-support of wife and children who were in that county, and was about to board the train in Ithaca, with his prisoner, from which Mr. St. John had just stepped down. Mr. St. John knew the prisoner and inquired the cause of departure with an officer. Upon being informed, Mr. St. John requested the officer to return to a magistrate in Ithaca and told him that he should give the prisoner an opportunity to furnish a bail bond to appear at a later day before the magistrate who issued the warrant. The officer refused to do so until Mr. St. John threatened to arrest him on the spot. He thus compelled the officer to return to the city police court where Mr. St. John himself signed the bond and the prisoner was released. He gave the prisoner financial aid and encouragement and in the end caused his discharge by the St. Lawrence court upon the merits of the case. His general knowledge of the laws, his sense of justice and his decision of character proved sufficient to thwart the power of ignorance and prejudice and perjury, and to save an innocent, penniless and disabled man from serious wrong and humiliation.

In 1900 the adoption of a curfew ordinance, for children under 16, by the Common Council was a very live issue in the city and was up before the Council for action. It was the subject also of a public debate in the Congregational Church in which Mr. St. John was a very active leader and official. He surprised many of its advocates by arguing against the proposed ordinance. He maintained that his children should not be humiliated by being forced into a class of children who were indiscreet or lawless; that such an ordinance would be an interference with the moral and civil liberties of every American citizen of every age and every social condition and that the mere presence upon a public street by night or by day of a minor or an adult should never be made a crime. The Council did not vote upon the question, although discussed at several sessions by the mayor (Elmendorf) and aldermen. The debates in the church and in the Council were published in the city press. The press also took part in the debate and favored the ordinance.

Henry St. John's nomination for mayor emphasized his standing as a citizen and civil engineer. It was made by a caucus of citizens of all parties. Judge

Boardman, Republican and justice of the appellate division of the Supreme Court, presided. Jason P. Merrill, Democrat, justice of the peace and now sole city assessor, was chosen and acted as secretary.The nomination was made unanimously and by acclamation. Mr. St. John was present and protested and positively refused to accept it. But the enthusiasm of the caucus was too strong for him and later he reluctantly yielded. A full city ticket was also nominated upon a non-partisan basis. The Republicans made no nominations against this citizens' ticket.

The Democratic caucus nominated Chester C. Platt for mayor and a full party ticket. Mr. St. John was elected by the unprecedented majority of 893. He was himself a Democrat and rather independent in thought and action. His nomination was made to carry out the wishes of an impatient people to pave the main thoroughfares and install a system of sewers in the city.

He personally desired the laying of the sewers before the paving should be laid. but the tide had set in so strong for paving that he put aside personal wishes to carry out the demands of his constituents. He appointed city officials from the Republican and Democratic parties and made an honest effort to give the city a citizens or non-partisan administration. He recognized THE ITHACA JOURNAL as the organ of his administration. It had advocated his election and stood loyal to his administration.

Mayor St. John gave the greater part of two years to the duties of his office and spent much time in travel and studying the sewer and paving systems of other cities. The purpose of his non-partisan nomination and election caused him to yield his own desires to the wishes of his constituents, in the main issues, as he deemed it his duty to do; although it was more in form than in substance that any differences arose.

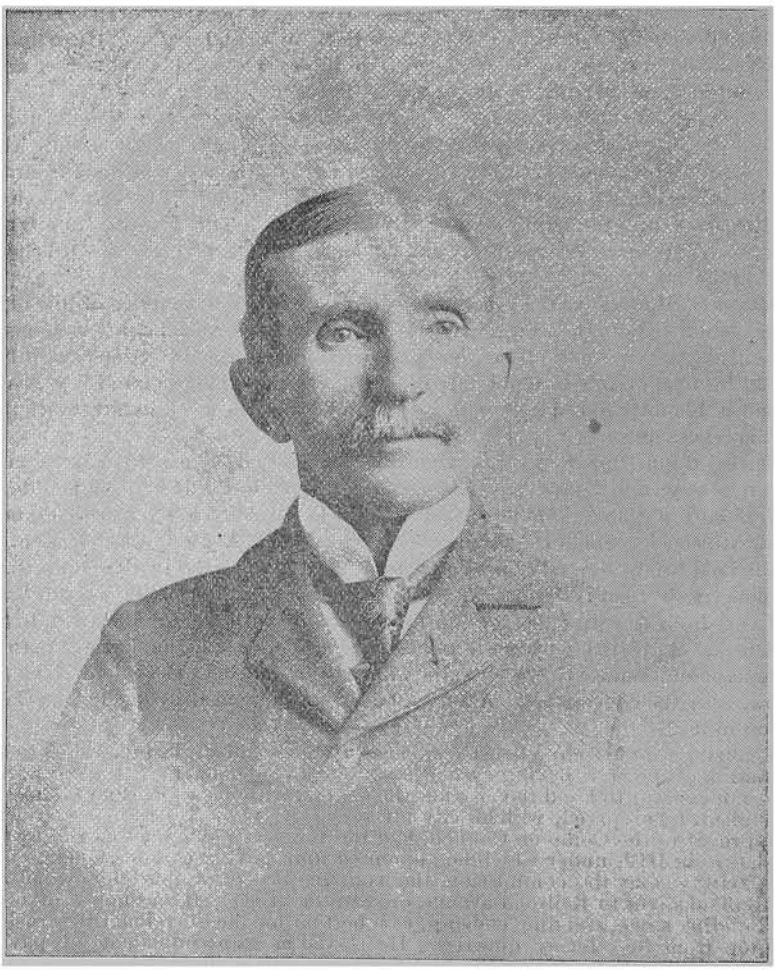
During the first year street paving was inaugurated by constructing a macadam roadway from Fulton street, on State, around to the Lehigh Valley depot on West Port and Buffalo streets; and two blocks on Aurora street, from State to Buffalo streets, for which the taxpayers had voted $10,000 at a special election.

Vitrified brick were laid on a cushion of sand two inches thick and the sand on a concrete bed six inches thick, as a pavement, extending 700 feet on State street east from Aurora street and on Aurora street south from State street, to Six Mile Creek. Although ten years have passed since its construction it appears to be nearly as sound and serviceable as when first constructed. Costello & Nagle, of Elmira, were the contractors. About $40,000 were expended by the Paving Commission in 1892.

Realizing that a comprehensive sewer system should be installed before the installation of the new paving system, and being confident that the taxpayers would not consent to bond the city for the sewers, without which they could not be installed, he prepared, with his city attorney, Myron N. Tompkins, and with the approval of the Common Council, had the ten-year paving act passed by the Legislature in 1892, under which he appointed four paving commissioners. The next paving was by the commission, the construction of a macadam roadway from Buffalo street to Railroad avenne on Aurora street. It was made of ordinary building stone, standing ends up, as a bottom for the gravel and the crushed stone top from New Jersey quarries. He served as superintendent of paving without compensation, during the first five years of the life of the paving commission. He was active in educating tbe people concerning the wisdom of bonding the city for a sewer system, hoping to bring it about as early as possible, by 1900 surely; but was surprised to see it accomplished in 1894.

Mayor St. John suggested, encouraged and carried through the Fire Board and Common Council in 1892 the first fire telegraph or electric alarm system used in the city; and the separation of city and town, thus creating the "Fringe" or the distinct township of Ithaca. Until then the township had, since 1823, included the municipality in all town and State affairs relating to county and State taxation. The franchise of the street railway company was enlarged the same year to include Tioga streets and streets on East Hill.

Tbe two years of his administration were crowded with many controversies over municipal questions; but through them all Mayor St. John maintained his temper and dignity in an admirable manner and witnessed a non-partisan elected to succeed him as mayor.



CLINTON D. BOUTON—Fourth Mayor

CLINTON D. BOUTON—FOURTH MAYOR.

Clinton Duane Bouton, fourth mayor of Ithaca, represents the shifting, speculative genius of America; the spirit that inspired European emigrants to brave the dangers of the Atlantic in frail, primitive ships and to hazard the torch and hatchet of the American savage in lonely hamlet and isolated clearing in the hope of securing opportunity, freedom and the dignities of life almost unknown to common people in countries dominated by sectarian, military and political tyrants. His paternal ancestors were French Hugenots who chanced the society and toleration of Pilgrim and Puritan rather than suffer political and sectarian oppression in their native land.

The American history of the Boutons forms a creditable chapter in the ambitions, the civilization, the amalgamation of blood and creeds, and the loyalty to liberty of people of various nationalities that settled and developed New England. Overlooking the briet periods when her sons marketed wooden nutmegs and sawdust hams; and her witch-burning and other religious severities, for religion's sake, no other political division has a history with grander coloring. To descend from New England stock is a never failing source of family and sectional pride. The moral and intellectual achievements of the people of New England, both native and foreign born, command the wonder and admiration of the world.

Enos Bouton, Clinton's grandfather, a Connecticut farmer, removed to Virgil, Cortland county, N. Y. in 1779. George Bouton, Clinton's father, was a native of Virgil, a farmer in his younger manhood, and later a minister of the M. E. church. Nathaniel Bouton, a cousin of Clinton's, compiled, wrote and published a history of Virgil township, and accords his ancestor Enos credit for being one of its pioneers who developed it into an influential factor in the early history of Central New York.

Clinton's mother was Charlotte, daughter of Michael Thomas, a farmer of Dryden, in the adjoining county of Tompkins. Clinton was born in Virgil in November, 1842, and given an education that was considered superior in his locality. It was obtained in the district school and in the Homer academy for many years a prominent educational institution.

In 1859 he engaged as a clerk in the store of E. F. Phillips in Homer where, for two years, he performed the work of a man, from five in the morning until ten at night: his wages were less than twenty one cents a day besides very cheap and poor board. The store was filled with everything used in a village community. He shoveled raw sugar from the hogsheads late at night into a hand machine and ground it for the custom of the day to follow. Although his duties were arduous his commercial instruction was fundamental and comprehensive. He began at the bottom and climbed every round of the ladder to the top, by his own ambition, his own energy. All that he has he earned himself; all that he is he developed in himself.

In 1861 Mr. Bouton became a clerk in the store of the late Pliny Hall in the hamlet of Peruville, Tompkins county. It was full ot the merchandise used in a country community. But he chafed in that modest hamlet like a young lion in captivity. When Fort Sumter fell, and the Civil War began in earnest, he was inspired with the patriotism of a soldier and enlisted in the "Fighting 76th Regiment," at a recruiting station in Dryden, "for three years unless sooner discharged." Henry H. Howe, fortieth president of Ithaca, was in the

same regiment. Upon being chided by a friend for enlisting, Clinton answered: "I might as well be shot as to live in Peruville. I can distinguish no difference in the two alternative punishments. I consider that dying for my country is the more honorable, perhaps the more agreeable." It was a characteristic commentary upon his environment, viewed in the light of his future life work and his present position in the commercial and social world.

Clinton D. Bouton was a private when he left Cortland with his company and was started up the official list by being made corporal. In August, 1862, at Gainesville, near the Second Bull Run battle-field, he was shot in the knee and partially disabled, but did not abandon his comrades. During the same night while charging at a double-quick, when they could barely distinguish, at close quarters, their own men from Confederates they plunged, company front, over a precipice into a deep ravine which they did not see. A comrade who followed fell upon Corporal Bouton and with his musket stock crushed in several of Corporal Bouton's ribs and otherwise severely injured him internally.

The regiment lost, that day and night, more than half of its men by death and wounds. Corporal Bouton was completely disabled and passed the following seven months in hospitals in Washington, D. C., and at Point Lookout, Maryland. As soon as his surgeon and his wounds permitted he aided his comrades in the hospitals.

His skill and industry were appreciated by the officers in command of the hospital and resulted in his being given charge of much of their work. He was aided by a staff of thirty clerks, nearly all of whom were Confederate prisoners. Among his most important duties was the exchanging of prisoners, thousands of whom passed back and forth.

His reports were so much admired by officials in the War Department at Washington that he was ordered retained at Point Lookout, and was refused permission to report for duty with his regiment. In the spring of 1864 he was peremptorily commanded to report in person at the War Department, for which the commandant at Point Lookout charged him with having requested the call to the War Department. He had been satisfied with his work and so informed his angered superior, and together they insisted upon his reteution at Point Lookout; but without success. When he arrived in Washington he was assigned to an important position in the War Departmeut in which he served with honor and credit until the fall of 1864, when his three years expired and he was mustered out of the army and returned home.

In January and Fehruary, 1865, Mr. Bouton served as a clerk in the Tompkins county clerk's office under Thomas J. McElheny. He found the peculiar duties and confinement of the county clerk's office irksome and removed to Dryden village, where with Edwin Fitts, under the firm name of Fitts & Bouton, he opened a general village store.

This firm was successful until in 1867 when it lost nearly all of its stock by fire. Having carried but very small iusurance with which to begin business again the partnership aud business were discontinued. Mr. Bouton then served two years as clerk for George Truesdell in his Dryden store after which he purchased Mr. Truesdell's interest and conducted it alone until 1875.

Mr. Bouton was appointed postmaster in 1870 and again in 1874 and served eight years. He carried on granite and monument works from 1874 until 1880, with Charles Williams as a partner. This partnership was also quite successful. He then sold his interest in the firm to Mr. Williams and removed to North Dakota where he purchased a wheat range and opened a real estate office. He raised 1,000 acres of wheat the first year and increased it to 2,000 the next year.

Success rewarded his Dakota speculations and he again longed for home and friends, having saved a competence. He had made annual visits to Dryden and Ithaca and in 1891 he sold his farms and removed to Ithaca.

Mr. Bouton now owns extensive properties in both of the Dakotas, Colorado and Texas, the management of which he directs from Ithaca. He was for years

a confidential adviser of the late John C. Stowell and collector of his large questionable debts. When Mr. Stowell died in 1902 the wholesale grocery house he had founded and builded up into such a prominent factor in the mercantile world was purchased by Charles C. Howell, Warren B. Holden and Elmer E. Manning. Mr. Manning died a few months later and Mr. Bouton purchased his interest in the business. The partners had continued the name "The J. C. Stowell Company." It did not change when Mr. Bouton became a member of the firm. It will probably be soon incorporated.

Mr. Howell, who had been for 14 years one of the old firm, recently said: "We gave Mr. Bouton a hearty welcome into the firm. We knew his wide experience, his commercial ability and his talents in financiering. I had traveled with him far and near and learned that his judgment is accurate and that his temperament is well fitted for almost every class of commercial life. He is a systematic and logical calculator."

Mr. Bouton is fortunate in his mental and emotional nature. His manner is modest and gentle, his voice pleasant. He is a natural diplomat, firm in maintaining conclusions and an ideal leader of men. The attributes that made him a model soldier along various lines during the Civil War won him popularity with business men and commercial partners.

In 1866 he was married to Alice, daughter of James and Nancy Grant, of Dryden, N. Y. His city residence, No. 413 North Cayua street, was purchased from Albert H. Platts. His summer residence is at Maplewood, on the west shore of Cayuga Lake.

He is a trustee of the First M. E. Church; a member of James E. Mix Post, G. A. R. and was post commander in 1891 and 1902. He is deeply interested in agricultural affairs and was president of the Tompkins County Agricultural Society in 1897; a member of Hobasco Lodge F. A. M. and also of Cascadilla Lodge K. of P.

Mr. Bouton is a Republican and very active at times in party matters. He has also been an independent as that term is applied to members who express their criticisms of party managers and party management.

The non-partisan sentiment that elected Henry A. St. John mayor in 1891 elected Clinton D. Bouton mayor in 1893. He was selected by the anti-saloon and church element to lead a non-partisan ticket. His nomination was made by a petition containing more than 500 signatures, under the State law. The Republicans made no nominations against him. The pastors of the Unitarian, Presbyterian, Baptist and Methodist churches made a vigorous canvass for him, held large meetings in churches and with prominent laymen and the publication of a strongly edited campaign paper entitled "The Plain Truth," roused the majority of the voters of Ithaca to vote for him and gave him 127 majority over Albert H. Platts, candidate of the Democrats.

Mayor Bouton made non-partisan appointments of salaried officers. He tendered the city superintendency to Thomas McCarthy, Democrat. But before the appointment could be actually made the Ithaca Journal published a list of names of hotel and saloon proprietors (and their bondsmen) who were hurriedly given new licenses by the excise board before Mayor Bouton could, under a recent law, appoint a new excise board. Mr. McCarthy had signed three of the bonds for the licenses which caused his name to be passed and James Smith, Democrat, to be appointed city superintendent. The chief issue in the mayoralty campaign had been "no license" as a punishment of the liquor dealers for gross abuses of their licenses. Mayor Bouton's candidacy represented that side of the issue and he acted, he said, upon the ground of consistency in making appointments. He appointed Simeon Smith, Democrat, city attorney.

Mayor Bouton called a public meeting of taxpayers in Library Hall, in 1894, during an alarming outbreak of typhoid fever on East Hill. The meeting voted that Mayor Bouton, Roger B. Williams and Henry W. Sage should investigate, and

report to the people upon the feasibility of constructing a sewer system in Ithaca. The three members of the committee were Republicans and enlarged the committee by adding to it Albert H. Platts and Samuel D. Halliday, Democrats. The taxpayers also voted the committee $5,000 for securing professional advice and for its expenses. The committee reported in favor of the sewers; an act was passed by the legislature to authorize their construction, and took effect during the succeeding administration.

He strongly protested against the assessment of abutting lands for the laying of the mains and argued that the city should pay for the work by general taxes and general city bonding. The people were purposely misled, he said, into voting for the "one third" system that was afterward adopted, "or they would have defeated it."

Mayor Bouton was handicapped with the prejudices of an adverse political and pro-license Council in 1893; but he met those prejudices with patience and dignity and was met in return, before the year closed, with respect and accorded generous support by the Council. In April he was stricken with serious illness which continued until September. During that illness Walter McCormick of the First Ward, who is now serving his eighth year as alderman, performed the duties of the mayor.

The contentions over the excise questions in 1893 were taken to the courts for adjudication. But the licenses granted by the old excise board were sustained, A history of that controversy would furnish interesting reading for present and future generations, especially the part which Mayor Bouton acted in it. His excellent farewell address to the Councils of 1894 and 1895, when Mayor Todd, was installed, reviews his administrations and, with the reports of standing committees for 1894, was the first to be published for public distribution in pamphlet form.

The Common Council consisted of six Democrats and two Republicans in 1893 and four Democrats and four Republicans in 1894. In 1893 $14,000, was appropriated by the Council, under its power in the new paving commission act, for the use of the Paving Commission; and $10,000 in 1894. The paving in 1893 cost $43,000; in 1894, $19,500. The Commission paved and paid for all intersections and paid for one-third of the remainder of the streets paved. In 1893 Cayuga street from Six Mile Creek bridge to Green street and from Seneca street to Cascadilla street bridge; and Tioga street from Green to Seneca streets were paved with bricks; and State street from the brick paving to Stewart avenue with Medina stone. Driscoll Brothers, contractors, laid the Medina paving in 1893 and, with John Sheehey, constructed the macadam road on Aurora street from Buffalo street to Railroad avenue in 1892. In 1894 Campbell & Wood, contractors, constructed the brick pavement on Seneca street from Aurora to Plain streets, using vitrified bricks from their own factory in Newfield.

Mayor Bouton procured the passage of a law commanding the Board of Supervisors to assess an amount annually upon the city for a poor fund. He secured a settlement with the township of Ithaca of the dispute over the division of the gospel and school fund; and in many ways added to the dignity and development of the city.

Upon being urged to accept a second term, by many prominent members of the Republican party, he published a notice in THE JOURNAL asserting that he would not accept it. Notwithstanding that notice, and his absence from the caucus in 1895, he received a large vote for the renomination. His record as mayor received general praise and approval and added to the high character he had already established as a patriot, a citizen and a leader in public affairs.

LEROY G. TODD—Fifth Mayor.

LEROY G. TODD—FIFTH MAYOR.

Prominent in the commercial affairs of Ithaca and its vicinity and twelve years a proprietor of a drygoods house which had brought competence and distinction to its owners during half a century, Leroy G. Todd had reached a high standard when he was elected mayor of Ithaca in 1895. His career had been consistent with the American business ideals and won for him the respect and admiration which naturally tend to his standard of men. A sketch of his ancestry and of his own personality is instructive and interesting. It is an insight to the evolution of European intellect and ambition amidst the forests and hills of America; the evolution of forest and hill into farm and granary, village and city, workshop and factory that supply the needs of the world.

His immediate ancestors were master-spirits of rural Christian communities and he, maintaining the pace they had established, became a leader in the mercantile and political affairs of the village and city that arose near his birth place.

His grandfather, James Todd, was an Ulster Irishman whose Scotch ancestors had settled there early in the eighteenth century. He came to Tompkins County and settled in Newfield in 1809. He soon led in organizing a Presbyterian Church and served as one of its officers until his death. His son, Goyne Andrew Todd, Leroy's father, removed to West Danby, a neighboring hamlet, to which he took his bride, Maria, daughter of Moses and Amy Barker, of Spencer, N. Y. He afterward purchased a farm from his father-in-law upon which he resided and where his youngest son, Judson B., was born, and his own death took place. Goyne Todd became prominent as citizen, farmer and stock dealer. This Inlet farm of 125 acres was purchased from the Pompelly estate for $4.25 an acre upon which he erected a log house that was replaced later by a frame house, and the frame house by the residence now occupied by his son, Supervisor Frank A. Todd, the most elaborate and most imposing private residence in that vicinity for many years.

A grist mill in the then very small hamlet of Ithaca was patronized by the Barkers who carried their grain to and from the mill upon the backs of horses. Amy Barker lived to witness the civilization wrought by railroads and farming implements, the growth of neighboring villages and cities and the rise in the commercial world of her descendants.

Maria Todd's grandfather, Joseph Barker, settled in Spencer in 1774, having come from the Wyoming valley by an Indian trail along the Susquehanna. He cleared a spot in the Speucer wilderness and, with the trees he felled, erected a log house, subsisting with his family upon cracked corn and deer meat. Their raiment was made from the hides of deer which he shot with his own rifle. His son Moses removed from Spencer to West Danby, eight miles distant, in 1808, guided by marked trees in the forest the last three miles. He also rose to prominence as a farmer, citizen and Christian. He organized a Baptist church in West Danby the official headship of which was removed to Ithaca and is the present First or Park Baptist Church.

Amy Barker's father, Phineas Spaulding, fought with Washington at Monmouth and suffered with him and his heroic army at Valley Forge during the indescribable hardships from hunger and cold when the blood of the shoeless feet of himself and comrades reddened the snow and ice. He was a Baptist clergyman and one of the first fifteen pioneers who settled Spencer. He swung the ax

that felled the trees that builded the first Baptist church in that locality and aided in rolling the logs up into the walls of that church. In that church he preached his first sermon when the church was dedicated. His granddaughter, Mrs. D. W. Barnes, of Auburn, N. Y., still owns and preserves the crow-bar with which he rolled the logs of the church into position.

Leroy was born on the "Pompelly farm" in 1849. He assisted in the work of the farm and attended the district school in his boyhood. In his youth he attended the Ithaca academy, aided his father upon the farm and taught school in various places. The foundation of his business career was laid during his clerkship in 1869, 1870-1 in the general store of J. W. Tibbetts & Co. in Pond Eddy, on the Delaware river.

In 1874 he removed to Ithaca and entered the general store of Marsh & Hall, as a clerk, and remained with that distinguished and popular firm, in the Wilgus block, until 1883. In this latter year he became a member of the drygoods firm of Hawkins, Todd & Co., John Rounseville, the third member, withdrawing from the partnership in 1889. In 1900 Henry Todd, a brother of Leroy, purchased Mr. Hawkins' interest and the firm became Todd & Todd. At Henry's death in 1902 William C. Blackmer and Arthur J. Pritchard entered the firm; and thus it continues: Todd, Blackmer & Co. Its stock is high grade silks, laces, etc.—merchandise that makes a comprehensive drygoods store and one of the foremost in the county.

He is an active Mason and member of Hohasco Lodge; Eagle Chapter; St. Augustine Commandery; and Damascus Temple of the order of the Mystic Shrine; was treasurer of Eagle Chapter and chairman of the General Masonic House Committee. He is a member of Tornado Hook and Ladder Fire Company No. 3 and served as its foreman. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Elks and of several local social clubs and organizations. His membership has been notable for his attention to new members and making their initiations pleasant and their first years enjoyable. His fraternal associations are especially open hearted and there his friendships are strongest and his praise sounded the loudest.

In 1901 Mr. Todd was married to Miss Anna, daughter of Dr. E. F. Davis, of Cleveland, Ohio. He recently purchased the Alexander King property on North Aurora street for a permanent residence.

He is an enthusiastic friend of the Ithaca Band and was elected an honorary member. This band has made a notable musical epoch in Ithaca and ranks among the most famous in America in concert as well as on parade. It is the pride of the city, partly supported by its citizens, very popular and fills engagements in the most prominent cities in America. At the time this sketch is being written (August, 1903) 40 members of the band are filling an engagement for 14 concerts at Ontario Beach, on Lake Ontario, after which 50 members will fill similar engagements in Philadelphia, Pa., and in Buffalo, N. Y.

Mr. Todd is pleasing and undemonstrative in manner, popular among clubmen and a leader among people who enjoy lively and happy events. Local organizations generally find in him an appreciative and loyal friend. He is intenesly patriotic, generous with his time and purse in promoting events that reflect credit upon Ithaca and its inhabitants. He is democratic, but dignified and readily adapts himself to any surrounding and any class of people. He is very progressive, but has a conservative style of making progress. It must be substantial and not superficial or cheap. He is proud of Ithaca and its fame and of the part he has acted in its sudden transition from an old-fashioned village into a modern city.

Mr. Todd was village trustee in the Second Ward in 1886—7 and later was one of the two city supervisors for three years. He was elected mayor, on the Republican ticket, in 1895. His industry and versatility were quickly recognized by his colleagues and by the public. As a village trustee he served upon important committees and performed all duties that came to him in a conservative and thoughtful manner. He introduced the resolution that granted the Haines Brothers a trolley-car franchise; prepared and presented the resolution that was

adopted in 1887, to appoint a city charter commission consisting of two Democrats and two Republicans from each of the four village wards, the names of the commissioners being included in the resolution; and prevailed upon the members to serve upon the commission. The final report of the commission was accepted by the Board and the charter it proposed is the charter under which the city of Ithaca is now governed.

As supervisor Mr. Todd was an active member of the committee that made extensive changes and improvements in the county clerk and surrogate's building; in the county jail; in the court house and in the county alms house. His public spirit and grasp of public needs made him so conspicuous as trustee of the village and as supervisor that he was nominated for mayor at a time when the foremost citizens and largest taxpayers took deep and active interest in the party conventions. In view of the anticipated extra expenditure of $150,000 for a system of sewers in the city and the extraordinary powers of the mayor under the new laws, his nomination was a very high tribute to his public and private record during his residence of 24 years in Ithaca.

He was to appoint the new sewer commission and be its president and one of its members ex-officio; he was to be president and member ex-officio of the paving commission. He was to make appointments of city officers without the consent or aid of the Common Council. As mayor he would have powerful influence in directing the expenditure of nearly $500,000 during his term. He was also to appoint the committee that would erect the $20,000 bridge over the Six Mile Creek which the people of South Hill received in exchange for their votes upon the question of sewering the city that had been submitted to the taxpayers; all of which was to be added to the usual duties and power of the mayor.

Mr. Todd received a plurality of 476 over William F. George, and of 574 over William Cessna, nominees of the Democratic and Free Silver parties. The exciting contentions over local questions that had existed for ten years rose to a climax during his term as mayor, but he was firm and alert. He pressed the sewer contractors and urged on improvements and gave much of his personal supervision to every detail in that momentous period of local administration. Critics did not swerve him from his purpose and he stood loyal to the distinguished citizens whom he had appointed officials to carry out the spirit of the sewer and paving acts and the long delayed sanitary needs of Ithaca.

The common councils of 1895 and 1896 were composed of five Republicans and three Democrats, and yet Mayor Todd appointed Charles Green, Frank Cole and Charles Blackman, Democrats, chairman of three leading standing committees: highways, fire department and police and lighting. The excise question continued to disturb the city. Mayor Todd referred to it in his last address and indicated that the Raines Excise bill, then before the legislature, would be welcomed in Ithaca. It did come and put an end to the contentions over licenses in the city.

The Todd administration purchased a new steamer for Rescue Fire Company No. 2, made a new one of Sprague Steamer No. 6, and otherwise improved the fire department at an expense of $7,500. No administration since John P. Gauntlett's third term as president (1871) when the great conflagration changed the entire hand-engine system, has done so well by the fire department of Ithaca. Two new steamers and a hook and ladder truck were purchased and a building erected for Rescue No. 2 in 1871-2.

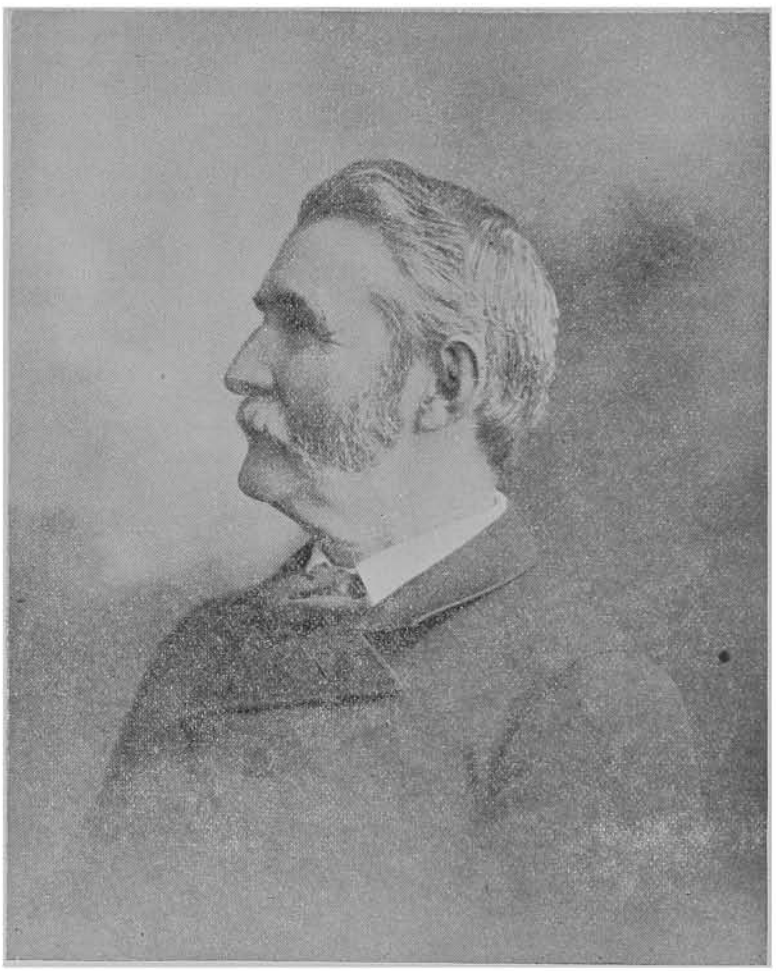
Mayor Todd appointed the first members of the Ithaca Fire Commission under the new act that created it. He appointed the committee of aldermen that compiled, prepared and corrected the present city ordinances, although in his annual address he accords his city attorney, Jared T. Newman, large credit for his acumen, wisdom and success in directing the committee.

During his term as mayor many of our citizens were idle and sought work in vain. The free soup house was popular in large cities and business in many lines almost at a standstill. The party he represented asserted that President Cleve-

land's low tariff or no tariff policy that found expression in the Wilson tariff bill brought on the stringency in financial centers and the hard times that followed.

The sewer system constructed during Mr. Todd's administration, with an outlet in the lake, is a success; and a complete refutation of the old assertion that was heard without contradiction in Ithaca for fifty years: "Ithaca is too low, too near the level of Cayuga lake to be sewered." No adverse criticisms are heard against the cost of its operation.

Mayor Todd first recommended to the Council the collection of all garbage or none, placed upon the streets in proper receptacles; for the poor as well as for the rich; he urged the building of stone walls along the banks of the creeks that flow through the city. He manifested his interest in the city schools by reviewing, in an annual address, their condition and the attendance of pupils and called attention to the need of school enlargements to relieve their over crowded attendance. In his last address he commended the patience and patriotism of the officials who served the city without salaries and assured them that criticism would change to praise as the years passed away. "At no time in the history of Ithaca have undertakings so large either in scope or expense been outlined or completed", he said. "In 1895 $165,000 were expended for permanent improvements; $278,000 in the two years, 1895-6. Our position is an enviable one compared to sister cities". His addresses were comprehensive, clear and instructive. The total expenses of his administration were about $500,000.



JOHN B. LANG—Sixth Mayor

JOHN B. LANG—SIXTH MAYOR

John Barr Lang was the sixth mayor of Ithaca. He had been active in municipal affairs and was a practical, selfmade leader in the industrial life of the village and city for thirty-two years. He was a trustee of the village in the Fourth Ward during the last year of the Platt's, the Sisson, the Howe and the first year of Charles J. Rumsey's administrations. Citizens who gave attention to local affairs had recognized his excellent traits of character and his talents for performing important official duties.

Mr. Lang had presented the first resolution in the Board of Trustees to install a sewer system in the village and manifested an earnest and intelligent interest in that subject. His reputation as a conservative and practical man of business added weight to the project that had been deemed impracticable by the public in general. He was not classed among the learned and speculative theorists.

He owned and personally conducted a large and important manufacturing plant and was extensively known. He had been proposed for mayor for years and seemed to be a logical candidate of his party. His nomination for mayor in 1897 was brought about by people of all local parties, but principally by working men and mechanics of the Republican pary. Silent and patriotic, he was ready to serve his fellow citizens if called upon to do so.

The Democrats nominated Charles Green, a young alderman of the Third Ward, and a business man of excellent standing. But Mr. Lang was in the public mind and no man could have defeated him. He received 337 votes more than were cast for Mr. Green, 1,275 more than Clayton Crandall (Free Silverite) and 1,313 more than John Hook (Prohibitionist). The Democrats had not yet recovered from the effect of the election and the non-partisan administrations of Henry A. St. John and Clinton D. Bouton, although the Republicans had recovered their party unity and had elected their candidate, Leroy G. Todd, two years before. Mr. Lang had been chairman of the Republican city committee and aided materially in preserving his party's organization.

His personality was popular and exercised a strong influence. He is gentle in manner, deliberate and reflective, but firm and confident. He is open hearted and kind with his employes and conspicuous for his respectful consideration of opponents and their criticisms. His language indicates a systematic book learning that he never received because he has been a close observer of others and a reader of standard literature; and thus shows a well informed mind. He is an attractive companion and conversationalist.

He is devoted to his business, is a natural mechanician and can perform any of the work in his machine, boiler, blacksmith and pattern shops and his foundry and enjoys the knowledge and talents which distinguish him in that line. He is also one of the most active and rugged men of his age in the State.

Mr. Lang is lovable and winning not only by reason of his gentleness and modesty, but by his consistent and practical religious life. He is of mixed Scotch and French ancestry, as his father's name, Cornelius Lang, and his mother's, Ann MacArthur, show. He was born soon after their arrival in the United States. He is French in feature and Scotch in sentiment and both French and Scotch in thrift and industry. He contends that one cannot be a true American who does not bear a heart full of

respect and affection for the land, history and traditions of one's ancestors, and particularly for the Scotch to whom North America owes so great a debt for a large share of every thing that is good and meritorious within her boundaries. Americans will generally approve of his contention for nearly all old American families descended from ancestors who emigrated from the countries whose shores are washed by the North and the Irish seas.

Cornelius Lang was a native of Paisley, his wife, Ann MacArthur, of Glasgow where they were married. The ancestral history and legends of the Langs and MacArthurs are colored with Gaelic romance and highland life; enriched with the wit and religious ferver, the patriotism and valor that have furnished themes for scholar, poet, preacher, orator and historian wherever civilization has become established and Gaelic literature has followed; themes that find in John B. Lang an eloquent expositor.

Cornelius Lang was a cotton-mill superintendent who emigrated to Philadelphia, Pa., where he pursued his vocation and later "sent for" his wife. He removed to Paterson, N. J., and to Stockport, near Kinderhook, N. Y., on the Hudson, and to Great Barrington, Mass. John was born in Stockport in December, 1833, and removed with his family to Great Barrington in 1835. He attended the "plains school" in that famous village until he was 12. The old school house still stands and is an object of veneration for many of its old pulpils.

In 1845, at the age of 12, and until 1850, when 17, he was a clerk in a general store in Great Barrington. He was an apprentice in a machine shop in Hartford, Conn., from 1850 until 1853 when he removed to Philmont, Columbia county, N. Y. In 1854, he returned to Hartford as a machinist, in shops owned by Joseph S. Curtis. The latter purchased from a man from Ithaca, a design or patent for a calendar clock that proved imperfect because it did not register the leay-year and was imperfect in other details.

Mr. Lang again removed to Philmont in 1859 where he constructed of steel a shoe pegging machine from a wooden model designed by a Methodist clergyman. The machine was run by hand and its speed proved too slow to meet the demand of the rapidly progressing Yankee trade. But the machine became the basis for the pegging machinery that soon revolutionized the manner of manufacturing shoes and boots in America.

In 1861 Mr. Lang removed to Pittsfield, Mass., to take charge of the machinery of a large factory that made blue cloth for the use of Union soldiers and remained there until the Civil War was ended and the demand for blue clothing had decreased to small proportions. In March, 1865, he made a visit with his wife to her brother James Patterson in Ithaca. Mr. Patterson induced him to visit and inspect the village machine shops with a view to purchasing an interest in one of them. The inspection and urgent advice of Mr. Patterson resulted in a partnership between James Reynolds and Mr. Lang to be put into operation in the latter part of the year. The Reynolds foundry was in the rear of the lots now occupied by the Masonic block (Rumsey, Blood and Schuyler buildings) on South Tioga street.

After remaining in Ithaca one week Mr. Lang returned to Pittsfield until the fall when he removed to Ithaca for a permanent residence and the beginning of his successful career as a leader in its industrial life. In 1870 the Reynolds & Lang plant was removed to its present site on East Green street, No. 117, 119, 121. At various times it has been enlarged and furnished with new machinery and is one of the extensive manufacturing industries of the city.

Mr. Reynolds died in 1891. His widow became owner of his property and carried on his business until she died in 1894, when Mr. Lang purchased the Reynolds share in the plant, including the real estate it occupies. In 1902 he took into partnership his son-in-law, Ernest D. Button. The firm is now Lang & Button. Its special output is traction engines of such modern design and stability that they are in demand in and shipped as far away as Greece, Mexico and the British possessions.

When he first entered the Reynolds & Lang partnership a contract was made with Judge Wells, who owned the village waterworks. A rotary pump was affixed by the firm to an artesian well that existed about at the southeast corner of the present Blood building, now occupied by John E. McIntosh as a billiard hall, No. 109 North Tioga street. The water from the well was pumped into the water mains and distributed to the people who depended upon it for a water supply. After two years the pump was removed to the Hollister shops where the Driscoll Brothers & Company's planing-mills and carpenter-shops now stand.

Mr. Lang was married in 1855 to Frances Patterson, of Glastonbury, Conn. She died in 1897. He was married in 1900 to Martha, daughter of the late Obediah B. Curran, of Ithaca, a prominent druggist, financier, citizen and founder of the Ithaca Savings Bank.

He has been a trustee and treasurer of the First Baptist Church for many years. He has found it a pleasure to serve the church in its well known activities. One of his intimate friends recently said: "John Lang's genuine, practical religion has been applied to his business affairs and has held him from amassing large wealth. He makes his charges with The Golden Rule. When his silent heart lies on the bier before the altar of his church his eulogist will not find it convenient to direct attention to the floral display around the casket. The rainment of the departed soul will be more beautiful than the wilting leaves and fading hues of bud and blossom and foliage."

Four Republicans and four Democrats composed the Common Council in 1897, two Republicans and six Democrats in 1898. He appointed equal numbers of both parties on all standing committees both years, and in 1897 he appointed Democrats chairmen of leading committees.

He recommended the framing of city work contracts so that only Ithaca workmen should perform city labor, and thus avoid the importation of cheap outside workmen into the city to the exclusion of home labor. The city contracts were drawn according to his commendation and gave great satisfaction to the laboring men of Ithaca.

He recommended and urged the purchase from the St. John estate by the city of the house and property adjoining the city hall on the north. At a special election the purchase was ordered by a large majority. It is now known as the City Hall Annex.

He continued Jared T. Newman city attorney, and was in close and friendly relations with every member of the city's official boards and commissioners during his term. At the close of 1897-8 he extended his compliments to them all for the uniform courtesies and consideration they had generously accorded to him during the solutions of trying and exasperating problems upon which men would naturally differ and the public become impatient.

The grand abutments and brick-paved bridge over Six Mile Creek for Cayuga street were builded; and 3,000 feet of 24 inch sewer mains were laid from Linn street through Tompkins street and thence to Fall Creek which removed an old cause of complaint by many inhabitants.

The city continued its municipal improvements during Mayor Lang's administration. Professor Robert H. Thurston, chairman of the finance committee in the Common Council, reported for the committee that 18670 square yards of concrete and brick pavement had been constructed during the year at a cost of $45,000, being fifty per cent. more brick paving than any other administration had procured in proportion to the sum expended for paving. In Mayor Lang's farewell address at the end of his two-year term, he said: "We have made even a better financial showing in 1898 than in 1897."

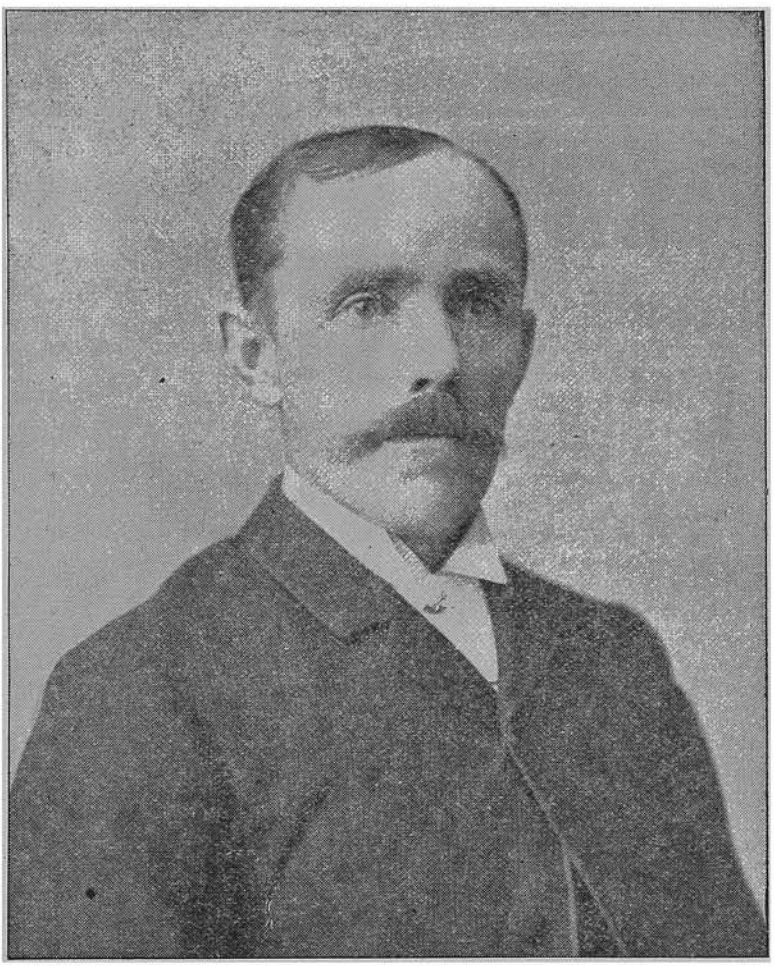
He vetoed a resolution of the Common Council to expend $4,000 in opening the Ithaca end of the West Shore Boulevard, but he approved a resolution adopted by the Common Council afterward to spend $2,000 for that purpose. The actual cost of the work when completed was $1,950. The opening of that "boule-

vard" was hailed with pleasure by the city and with enthusiasm by city owners of summer cottages on the west shore of the lake and developed that locality rapidly.

He urged the Common Council to have the old Cayuga street iron bridge that was removed to Plain street so changed that no rods or under-trusses should be left below the roadway to be struck by ice when the frozen creeks were breaking up. His position was not sustained by the aldermen and the ice swept the bridge away and ruined it in the winter of 1901. Plain street has now only stone abutments to show where the bridge once stood.

He subscribed in 1893 for stock in the Ithaca Conservatory of Music and was one of its directors for several years to aid in securing its success. He is treasurer of the beautiful East Lawn Cemetery and was for fourteen years a member of Cayuga Fire Company No. 1 and follows its career in the fire department with unabated interest.

He is preparing for a visit to the scenes of his birthplace and to its nearby Kinderhook where, during his early boyhood visits from Great Barrington, Martin VanBuren kindly welcomed him to the VanBuren manor and told him stories of a president's trials and triumphs in Washington while upholding the honor and dignity of the Republic. After Kinderhook he will visit Great Barrington and do reverence to the old school "on the plains" where, at the age of 12 he was graduated into the world to combat for himself and to fulfill the promise he solemnly made to President Van Buren: to become a good citizen. He has kept his promise and shares the reward. When he visits those scenes of childhood, of boyhood and early manhood he can hold his head erect and with conscience and truth declare that he has aided in erecting and embellishing villages and cities and has never consciously uttered a word or performed an act discreditable to his progenitors, to his country or to himself. He has done much to elevate the moral and advance the material conditions of Ithaca.



WILLIAM C. ELMENDORF—Seventh Mayor

WILLIAM C. ELMENDORF—SEVENTH MAYOR.

William Conrad Elmendorf was nominated for mayor by a Democratic convention in 1899 as a working man and as a representative of the working men of Ithaca. It was the first time that such a nomination was made by the Democratic, Whig or Republican party for the presidency or mayorality of Ithaca. It was the result of a canvass made for his nomination by his fellow workmen who presented his four years of service as alderman from the First Ward as proof of his sympathy for workingmen and his merit as a public official.

His Republican opponent was Leroy H. Smith, a popular industrial leader, business man and alderman from the Fourth Ward during the preceding administration. Mr. Elmendorf received 276 plurality.

He was elected alderman in 1895 by one plurality and in 1897 by 153 over his Republican opponents. As an alderman he had manifested notable activity in behalf of the working classes; in reducing the number of hours constituting a day's labor on the city works, in maintaining the old ten hour day wages, and in other ways advancing their interests and privileges.

He assumed his official duties as president ex-officio of the Sewer Commission, and member ex-officio of the Board of Health and Paving Commission and was always in attendance at their meetings. He established a custom of giving a regular attendance in the city hall for hearing complaints or requests from citizens who wished to visit or do business with him as mayor.

He was the first nominee of his party to be elected as head of the municipal ticket in 10 years and, as his party demanded, made radical changes in local administration. Not a person was reappointed to office by him who had been appointed by any of his predecessors; the only inferential exception being a distinguished Republican alderman from the Fourth Ward, Professor Robert H. Thurston, whom he retained as chairman of the finance committee of the Common Council. Only two Republicans were members of the Common Council in 1899 and 1900.

Mayor Elmendorf was noted for performing several acts that created dissentions among members of his party. One was a peremptory order to the acting chief of the police, John Conley, that closed every public or known gambling room in the city. The best element of all parties earnestly praised that order and the strict performance of it by Chief Conley. Another act was his order to put a stop to prize fighting matches, a sport that had become popular in the city. He refused permits to traveling street fakirs to carry on their business in Ithaca. General praise followed that act. He antagonized members of the Sewer Commission who held over from former administrations by granting permission to newspaper representatives to attend all meetings of that commission; and particularly to the Journal representative who published full reports of the minutes and proceedings of that commission for the information of the public.

He waged a battle to have Chester C. Platt, his recently appointed city clerk, elected clerk of all the commissions and Board of Health to "have one center of municipal information as a public convenience." Mayor Elmendorf won the battle. It has settled into a custom that has been adopted by succeeding administrations without any question or contest from any source.

He led the agitation for a hand broom brigade to sweep the paved streets and appointed men who were physically unable te perform other heavy day labor; but allowed them reduced compensation.

Mayor Elmendorf aided in installing drinking fountains on State street and in DeWitt and Thompson parks; the renumbering of the houses and buildings of the city by making every 25 feet front a number and each square begin with a hundred number. He advocated the purchase by the city of the water works plant for $350,000, the price agreed upon by President E. M. Treman and the Common Council (The taxpayers defeated the proposition by 18 when submitted to them at a special election). He inaugurated a new system of book-keeping by the city clerk and caused an expert examination of the financial records of several past years of the Common Council and the city commissions which resulted in finding discrepancies and the payments to the city of important amounts from former officials.

He advocated the adoption of a curfew ordinance for Ithaca while he was mayor; closed a low concert hall connected with a drinking room in the First Ward and put an end to that class of resorts.

During Mayor Todd's administration his city assessor, William McKinney, made a careful personal investigation of, and visit to, every separate piece of real estate in the city and readjusted the assessment roll in part, but he resigned before it was completed. Mayor Elmendorf appointed Jason P. Merrill city assessor. He had been Assessor McKinney's assistant and took up the work of assessment and completed it as Mr. McKinney and himself had begun it under Mayor Todd. The system proved popular and a relief to the poorer class of taxpayers. It is still maintained by Assessor Merrill, and continues to give general satisfaction.

He vetoed, at the request of many petitioners, a resolution granting a franchise to a new telephone company, but it was repassed over the veto by the necessary two thirds vote of the Aldermen. The new company builded the new plant and forced a much improved telephone service in the city.

Mayor Elmendorf led the movement that resulted in the paving of several streets with concrete and bricks by day-labor and foremen employed by the Paving Commission and with bricks purchased by the commission from the Newfield brickyards. It was performed as well as by contractors and perhaps in more substantial manner as to concrete, and answered the demand of the public. The surveyor's monuments in the principal streets were reset in 1900 by Surveyor Kirk P. Crandall, an eminent civil engineer and resident of the city.

The voting machine was adopted by the Common Council during his term as mayor but nearly received his active opposition and veto. He did not approve of it nor veto it. It was one of the municipal matters upon which people differed with intense feeling, and continue to do so until the present time.

Mayor Elmendorf proved to be a popular official in delivering addresses in public affairs. He was never represented by proxy when he was in the city. He was very popular with church people and made his speeches ring out with high moral sentiments.

He was an active member of Sprague Steamer Fire Company No. 6, and an earnest supporter of the fire department; a member, communicant and official of the State Street Methodist Episcopal Church, and a conscientious and consistent Christian in his daily life. He was active in procuring additional playgrounds for children.

He is a member of four Masonic lodges: Candor Lodge of F. and A. M.; Eagle Chapter of Ithaca; the Knights of Perfection of Ithaca and St. Augustine Commandery Knights Templar. He first became a Mason through a curiosity inspired by the severe criticism of a clergyman against Masonry and its customs, but was so highly edified by its fraternal and social obligations that he became one of its most active supporters.

He is a member of the Knights of Pythias; of the organization known as the Red Men and of the extensive and rapidly growing order the Knights of the Maccabees.

In Mayor Elmendorf's farewell address to the Common Council before its dissolution in March 1901, he reminded his successor, Mayor-elect William R. Gunderman, before he introduced him to the council as mayor, that no president of the village nor mayor of the city had been re-elected since 1885, a period of 16 years. He added with an intensity of feeling that affected his political opponents as much as it touched his personal and political friends, that he hoped that no other mayor would be forced to feel the ingratitude and opposition of men whom they appoint to most important salaried offices in the city such as he had experienced during the recent canvass and election that had ended in his own defeat. He had as mayor of the city, chief of police under the city charter, member of the Paving Commission, president of the Board of Health and of the Sewer Commission performed his duties as he deemed it his duty to perform them and retired with the good will of that class of citizens whose good will was worth having by a citizen guided by high morals and conscientious scruples.

William C. Elmendorf is descended from a Holland emigrant, one of the early settlers in the Hudson river valley. The family became prominent in its moral and industrial development. One of them was proprietor of a hotel in Rondout, now Kingston, and the property is still known as the old Elmendorf hotel site. Conrad Elmendorf, William's grandfather, was a soldier of in the War of 1812. Two of his sons, John and Charles, were volunteers in the Civil War. John was killed in battle.

During the Revolution and the contentions that led to it the Elmendorfs were very patriotic in military and civil affairs The particulars of the family career in those remote times are not yet known to our subject or to his relatives in this vicinity.

William's father, Cyrenius, was a carpenter by trade. In middle and later life he was a master bridge builder for railroad companies in southern and central New York. He was also a bridge contractor and accumulated wealth which he lost in his adventures as proprietor of a tannery in Candor. He contracted in 1860 to furnish leather to a Boston firm for five years at stated prices. The Civil War from 1861 to 1865 caused a great advance in the price of raw hides and, as the Boston firm demanded the fulfillment of the contract, the result was inevitable to a man as honest as Cyrenius Elmendorf. He returned to bridge and car building.

William's mother was Hannah M,, daughter of William Lewis, of Pine Bush, Orange county, N. Y., a woman of gentle disposition and high moral character. She died when William was young. His relatives assert that he inherited her moral and amiable characteristics.

He was born in Phillipsport, Sullivan county, N. Y., in 1856 and removed with his grandfather Elmendorf and his father and mother to Ithaca and thence to Candor, N. Y., in 1858. He was educated in the Candor academy and the Poughkeepsie Business College where he took a full course in the commercial department. But he preferred mechanical to commercial pursuits and served the Erie Railroad company, the Lackawanna Railroad company, the C. W. Hunt Co. and the Lehigh Valley Railroad company until he became master-mechanic of the Ithaca Street Railway company in 1894. After a service of about six years with the Ithaca company he was made superintendent for about eighteen months when (August 1902) he resigned and accepted the position he now holds; master-mechanic of the Youngstown, Ohio, and Sharon, Pa., Electric R. R., a position of great responsibility, with headquarters at Sharon.

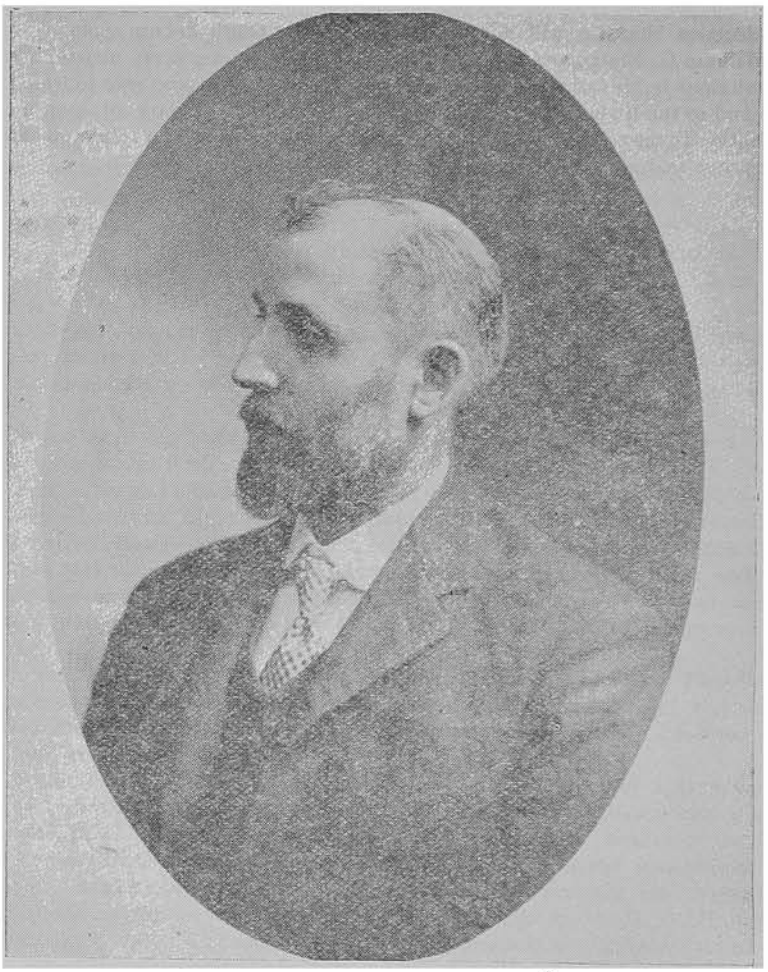
Mayor Elmendorf was respected and loved by all of his co-laborers in Ithaca and his resignation was deeply regretted by them. He was kind to them and very considerate of their welfare and their interests. He was credited by them with being a high class expert in his line of business and a natural mechanic, "like his father before him."

The people of Ithaca, including the press, held him in high esteem as a citizen and as an official of the street railway and emphatically expressed their sorrow at his departure from Ithaca.

In 1880 he was married to Miss Elizabeth V. Hornbeck, of Montague, N. J. She died in 1899. The Common Council served as pallbearers at her funeral as a tribute of respect for Mayor Elmendorf and to the memory of a lovable wife and mother and an amiable, Christian woman.

The Elmendorf residence, comparatively a new one, is near the western boundary line of the city on Elm street, from which the family will remove to a new residence that is being erected for its use in Sharon. He praises Sharon but declares that he will cherish Ithaca as one of God's beauty spots.

William C. Elmendorf is refined and gentle in his manners; chaste, modest and religious in his tastes; generous and open-hearted; firm and true to friend and duty and to the highest ideals of manhood. He finds the poetry of motion and inspiration in electricity, enjoys his vocation and uses his opportunity and talents to improve and advance the world.



WILLIAM R. GUNDERMAN—Eighth Mayor.

WILLIAM R. GUNDERMAN—EIGHTH MAYOR

William Reuben Gunderman, eighth mayor of Ithaca, descended from Dutch ancestors. His great-grandfather, Conrad Gunderman, sr., a Jersey farmer, was a veteran in Washington's army and was credited with having a charmed life, thirteen bullets having pierced holes through his clothing during the battles in which he took part and he not being wounded or harmed by any of them; a refutation of the superstition relating to the number 13, at least in this generation. Conrad Gunderman, jr., won distinction as a captain in the same army. His son, William A. Gunderman, William R. Gunderman's father, bade good bye to the paternal roof in Essex county, N. J., when a youth and found employment on a large farm in tbe town of Elmira, N. Y. At the end of three years he was appointed foreman of the farm and after two years more he was started by his employer in the business of buying cattle for the New York and Philadelphia markets on his own account.

It was a very important business and until spacious cattle cars traversed the territory between the Great Lakes and New York Bay on railroads, he purchased herds in eastern Ohio and western New York and drove them on foot to the markets, rarely returning without substantial profits upon his investments of capital and labor. He purchased a farm in Danby, Tompkins county, N. Y., but he made farming only an avocation and continued the buying, fattening and selling of cattle as his vocation. He became a money-lender and the wealthiest resident and largest land owner in that township that was once very tbriving, progressive and influential.

Entertaining stories are related by his old neighbors, and residents of Danby, descriptive of the intelligence and performances of his shepherd dog Pete and his horse Harry that served him more effectively than any two men could have served him while collecting and driving his herds to the faraway markets. Pete led the herd, like a drum-major before a regiment. Harry followed the herd and kept it moving by biting the cattle that loitered. They both knew the regular feeding and resting places along the routes.

Their master won a wager of $100 when Pete and Harry drove, unaided, eight steers tbrough the principal tboroughfare of Ithaca in a manner equal to that of experienced men. Pete took the lead to protect his charges from mischievous boys and from other dogs. Harry followed the steers, drove them at a good pace and kept them from turning corners into other streets. Mr. Gundermau, the stakeholder and several men followed leisurely on a sidewalk. Pete performed a similar act with a score of wild western steers for two miles in upper Broadway, New York, without Harry's aid. Pete so pleased a prominent cattle buyer who witnessed the act that he offered Mr. Gunderman $100 and raised it to $200, to $300, to $400 and to $500 for him. But Mr. Gunderman answered that he was not for sale. Pete was afterward lured to Newfield and poisoned by an enemy of his master, to avenge a fancied grievance. Sufficient proof against the person who administered the poison was sought carefully and persistently for years by Mr. Gunderman who intended to retaliate, but he failed to procure it.

Mayor Gunderman's motber was Lucy Woodford, daughter of Reuben Woodford, of Danby. She was a saintly woman and died at the age of 37. Reuben Woodford was a farmer and removed to North Hector where he became prominent as a

merchant and dealer in lumber and as a generous friend of religious societies. Mayor Gunderman was named after his father William and his grandfather Reuben.

He was born in 1856 in Danby, on the homestead farm now occupied by his brother Frank D Gunderman. He was educated in the village school and Ithaca academy. At the age of 14 he abandoned the farm and accepted employment as a laborer in the village of Ithaca under Gideon McClune, the village path-master. But he soon removed from Ithaca to live with George Hopkins on the latter's farm, several miles northwest of Ithaca and remained with him three years. He was clerk in a store in North Hector, Seneca County, N. Y., for one year, after leaving the farm.

In 1874 he removed from North Hector to Chippewa Falls, Wis., where he was employed in a flouring mill which he left to become deputy postmaster. In 1880 he was attacked with typhoid fever. Physicians declared him to be beyond their aid and that he would die of the fever. In his worst condition his father made him a visit and against the vehement protests of the people of Chippewa Falls, in the month of December, carried him to a railway train and brought him back to the Gunderman home in Danby where the future mayor of Ithaca rapidly recovered from the fever.

It was asserted by all who knew the family that nobody but William A. Gunderman would have thought of or ventured to perform such an act with a son so near to death with fever. But William A. Gunderman was an extraordinary man. Several times afterward William R. Gunderman returned to Chippewa Falls to reside, but he was driven back home again every time by illness incurred in that town.

In 1889 while he was operating a grist mill in Danby and speculating in grain, fruits and vegetables the mill was destroyed by fire. He immediately removed to Ithaca and began the storage business and as a shipper of and dealer in grains and fruits in the capacious elevator and storehouse building on the Cayuga Inlet owned and operated for many years by Timothy S. and Josiah B. Williams; Henry W. Sage and Merritt L. Wood; Merritt L. Wood and William W. Esty and last by William W. Esty. He is still engaged in business in that building.

In 1881 he was married to Kate E. daughter of David and Marie Mac Pherson Mulks and sister of Omar D. Mulks, of Slaterville Springs, Tompkins county, N. Y. Their residence has been, since 1892, No. 333 West State street. He owns the large Pugsley farm, in Danby, upon which he passes most of the harvest season each year.

He has never joined fraternity organizations although of a social, humorous and companionable nature. He was a member of Sprague Steamer fire company No. 6 from 1895 until elected a member of the Protective fire police in 1903. He is a Congregationalist and a close friend of the Rev. William Elliot Griffis, D.D.

The serious expression shown in the accompanying portrait scarcely reflects his friendly, gentle and sympathetic disposition. His friendships are many and firm. His relations with the people and public officials were specially cordial and pleasant during his entire term as mayor.

The Republican party leaders had settled upon him as a nominee for mayor several years before his nomination which occurred in February, 1901. He was reluctant to enter public or political life because so modest and diffident. He was a personal friend and admirer of Mayor Elmendorf whom the Democrats had renominated. He received 180 plurality over Mayor Elmendorf. The Common Council contained four Republicans and four Democrats during his first year and five Republicans and three Democrats during the second year of his term as mayor He vetoed only one resolution during the term, passed by the unanimous vote of the Common Council in 1902, to raise the regular city budget from $45,000 to $55,000. He approved legislative acts to allow the Common Council to bond the city for $20,000 to liquidate contingent debts of other administrations and for $25,000 to replace bridges that were swept away by floods in December, 1901 and in February, 1902.

A litigation begun in 1900 by Mayor Elmendorf's city attorney, Edward J. Mone, was conducted by him and George S. Tarbell, Mayor Gunderman's city attorney, and former City Attorney Jared T. Newman, as counsel, during Mayor Gunderman's term, to test the legality of the 30 cents per foot sewer tax laid against abutting property owners by the Sewer Commissioners in 1896, the contestants alleging that it was assessed in unjust proportion and contrary to the original intent of the sewer act and of the people who voted for bonding the city for the sewer plant. The courts sustained the city officials and the assessment. It ended the contention, but not the bitter feeling that arose out of that assessment.

The ten-year paving commission ended in March, 1902, its last work being upon West State, South Meadow, North Geneva, Tompkins and Cascadilla streets and Railroad avenue.

A ten-year contract with the Water Works Company was entered into by the Common Council in 1902, but was not approved by Mayor Gunderman until important concessions were cheerfully granted by the company at his request and added to the contract adopted by the aldermen. The company immediately began to enlarge and improve its water plant and install 100 extra street hydrants for fire-fighting purposes, at reduced rates, but with improved service and increased hydrant pressure on East Hill where hundreds of houses and business buildings were being erected outside of the old water works zone, a district that demanded extraordinary and very expensive additional pumping power.

Mayor Gunderman generally attended the city clerk's office afternoons for the hearing of requests and complaints and gave much of his time and attention to the duties and business of his office. In that regard he enlarged upon Mayor Elmendorf's custom. He adopted the latter's policy of having his city clerk, Arthur G. Marion, elected clerk of all official bodies of which the mayor is a member, and met with no opposition in maintaining that policy.

He seldom sat with the paving or sewer commissions or health board, of which he was a member, acting upon the theory that they had been appointed to conduct the business of those departments of the city government and should be permitted to do it. By pursuing such a negative policy he avoided taking part in the contentions that had arisen and been continued in those bodies for several years. He assumed the same position toward the police department and seldom asserted his authority or prerogatives as chief of police under the city charter. Mayor Elmendorf, in 1899, appointed him a member of the Fire Commission; he in returning the compliment resigned the office, after being elected mayor, and appointed former Mayor Elmendorf to fill the vacancy

In 1902 a second well organized and enthusiastic movement was made by the advocates of municipal ownership of public utilities to have the city own its water works system. The public water and gas plants had been sold by their owners. The new owners opposed the sale of the water plant to the city, influenced by people who opposed the placing of the control of the plant in the power of certain leaders of the municipal ownership party. It was asserted that those leaders had importuned and secured an offer of sale of the plant in 1900 for $350,000 and then reversed their position and vehemently opposed the purchase when it was submitted to a vote of the taxpayers. The defeat of the proposition to purchase for $350,000 by the small majority of 18 was credited to them and remained a very bitter memory. The new water company was joined by hundreds who had voted for the sale during Mayor Elmendorf's administration and they, added to the opponents of municipal ownership and of further bonding the city, gave a majority of 135 against the proposition to purchase in 1902. The price paid for the plant by the new company was said to be much larger than $350,000, and the people believed that they could not purchase it for $400,000 in 1902. They charged the failure to purchase at $350,000 upon the leaders who first drew the city into the exciting contention.

Mayor Gunderman, like his predecessor, delivered his own speeches at public conventions and public functions. They were admirable in style and character. His address of welcome to the State convention of the Woman's Christian Tem-

perance Union in the State Street Methodist Episcopal Church, in 1902, was a noble tribute to woman and to ber efforts to redeem the hnman race. It was hailed with joy by tbe members of that organization throughout tbe State. His address at an Emancipation Day celebration by the colored people of the State in Ithaca, the same year, was received witb tbe same spirit. Tbe bishops, delegates and clergymen who held tbeir annual conference in African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in Ithaca, in 1902, were welcomed by him in a speech which the presiding bishop declared was the first sincere and whole-hearted (and also the best) address of welcome and encouragement he had ever heard uttered by a white man to congregation or conference of colored men, north, south, east or west.

His two-year term was cut sbort nine weeks and ended on the last day of December, 1902, by an act of the legislature that changed the time of holding municipal elections in the city from March to November. This change incensed many people of all parties who held him responsible for it although he was in no manner connected with its enactment. It had been recommended by his party at a mass caucus and was added to the otber contentions and questions that he had inherited from former administrations, and rendered his official position personally burdensome and unpleasant. He was anxious to see the party name some other man as his successor so that he might retire to private life. He bad been faithful to his duties and generous with his time and money to the city.

The two floods of 1901-2 were very destructive and terrifying. the first one coming at midnight without warning to the city. The second flood roused the inbabitants to action. Mayor Gunderman appointed a citizens' committee consisting of former president Daniel W. Burdick, Jared T. Newman, Esq., former Mayor Henry A. St. John, Aldermen Francis M. Rites and Walter McCormick, Professor and former Alderman Charles L. Crandall and Charles E. Treman, to investigate the causes of tbe floods in Ithaca, and to recommend to the Council remedies for the future protection of the city from similar floods; the report of tbe committee to include the legal effect of the city taking any hand or part in walling, dyking or changing the width or character of tbe streams that flow through the city; and also to recommend any law that should be passed by the Legislature to carry out the wishes of the public and recommendations of the committee. This committee was aided in its deliberations by a large committee of lawyers who volunteered their services for that purpose.

The report of tbe committee was exhaustive and comprehensive and based upon Mr. Newman's report as chairman of the committee of lawyers. The subject is profoundly important, of never-ending interest to every resident of Ithaca and remains unsettled because no action was taken upon it.

The report asserts that the city cannot assume autbority over the city streams, until it owns them, without assuming and becoming liable for damages to property and person caused by resultant overflows, and declares that legislation may confer authority upon the Common Council to control the streams and avoid tbe liability already mentioned. The committee of lawyers probably based its opinion upon the legal principle that non-navigable streams are generally owned by riparian or abutting property owners. This report is on file with the city clerk.

Mayor Gunderman asserted in his last annual address that "not one house of ill repute now exists in the city," and gave credit for it to the police department. It was a very new and commendable condition of the moral character of the city, from a police view point as well as from other view points.

His recommendation to tbe Common Council to lay macadam pavements on the city streets, outside of the business districts, has been extensively adopted, and is popular at the present time.

As mayor of Ithaca he was sensitive to public criticism, conservative, kindly and respected. He administered its official affairs to the satisfaction of his party and of the public. A modest and private citizen when elected to that position, he retired as a prominent and historical factor, during a very trying and conspicuous

period in the development of Ithaca, "regretting," he said, "no act that he had performed, no word that he had uttered and was proud of his record."

Large and permanent public improvements were carried forward during his term. The total receipts and collections of the city officials were, approximately, $280,000. The Paving Commission expended $60,000 during 1901, the last year of its existence. The total public or municipal expenditure in 1902 was about $150,000, nearly 1,292 times greater than the $113 that was expended by the first president, Daniel Bates, in 1821. Ithaca contained about 1,000 inhabitants in 1821 and about 14,000 in 1902, exclusive of 3,000 non-resident students. The per capita tax under President Daniel Bates was 11¼ cents and under Mayor Gunderman, in 1902, nearly $10.40. This difference in the per capita tax of 1821, compared to the tax of 1902, was not so great as was the difference between Ithaca in 1821 and in 1902. It was a change accomplished during the lapse of 81 years, a difference that no man now known to Ithaca can remember or portray to this or to any future generation.

During Mayor Elmendorf's term Edward G. Wyckoff purchased a large tract of farm land north of Fall Creek Gorge and opposite the University campus; erected three steel bridges over the gorge; extended the street car tracks and electric lighting wires through the new tract; builded and removed into a Colonial mansion upon a commanding ridge; elaborately embellished the tract with avenues, trees and his own grounds with trees shrubs, lawns, flower gardens, drives, promenades and terraces; erected handsome new residences; laid gas and water mains and sidewalks through the avenues; mapped the tract into building lots and named it "Cornell Heights." The lots have been nearly all sold by Mr. Wyckoff to a very desirable class of purchasers and home builders, principally Cornell University professors.

During the second year of Mayor Gunderman's administration The Cornell Heights Land Company, a corporation consisting of Edward G. Wyckoff, Jared T. Newman, Charles H. Blood, John H. Tanner and Charles H. Hull, purchased 100 acres adjoining Mr. Wyckoff's; constructed avenues, leveled knolls and otherwise improved the tract in harmony with Mr. Wyckoff's plans, at an expense of $40,000. The company has sold the larger part of it in smaller parcels to the same desirable class of home builders and investors.

In 1892 Messrs Newman and Blood (law partners in the city) purchased from Herman Bergholtz 400 acres of the Robert Renwick tract adjoining Cornell Heights on the north and named it "Cayuga Heights." The three tracts extend 1½ mile north and south, and ½ mile east and west. Prominent landscape gardeners and civil engineers aided the owners in perfecting their plans, one of their main purposes being the opening of these almost unknown and inaccessible suburbs and improving them with avenues and residences worthy of their original character; an undertaking both difficult and costly. All of Cayuga Heights and part of Cornell Heights are outside the city; but their noble bluffs, magnificent plateaus and beautiful slopes will perhaps soon be within our municipal jurisdiction.