

CHAPTER XIX.

EDUCATION IN GENESEE COUNTY.¹

REVISED BY PROF. JOHN KENNEDY.

A record of the details of the early efforts to establish means for the education of the young in Genesee county unfortunately has not been very carefully preserved. Early school records were either poorly kept or not preserved at all, in many localities. In the eastern section of the State records which throw considerable light on the important subject have been preserved. The Dutch West India Company, which for a period of about fifty years completely dominated the Hudson valley, realized that its own interests and the interests of the colonies would be best subserved by fostering the cause of education. Consequently one of the first persons it sent over to New Netherlands after a trading post and little colony had been established at Manhattan was a schoolmaster—Johannes Megapolensis. This teacher was not only an instructor of the young, but a preacher and small farmer as well. The careers of most of the other early teachers corresponded with his in part. They not only taught school, but they did anything else, in conjunction with the practice of this precarious profession, which their hands found to do, in order to keep body and soul together.

With the end of Dutch rule in New York and the accession of the British a considerable improvement in educational affairs was brought about. While the Dutch permitted almost anybody to teach, or attempt to teach, the English required pedagogues, at first, to secure licenses from the governor of the colony.² The English government was very

¹ For much of the information contained in this chapter, especially for the data regarding the union free school system of the village of Batavia, the writer is indebted to a pamphlet published in 1876 by John F. Lay, Esq., for many years secretary of the Board of Education of Batavia. The more recent history of this system has been supplied principally by P. P. Bradish, Esq., the present secretary of that body. The other information regarding the educational institutions of the county has been drawn from various sources.

² The license granted to the first English teacher in Albany, a quaint document, read as follows:

“Whereas, the teaching of the English tongue is necessary to this government; I have, therefore, thought fit to give License to John Shutte to bee the English Schoolmaster at Albany; And upon condition that the said John Shutte shall not demand any more wages from each schollar

strict in regard to the qualifications of teachers. In the instructions given to Gov. Thomas Dongan in 1686 the following appears:

And wee doe further direct that noe Schoolmaster bee henceforth permitted to come from England & to keep school within our province of New York without the license of the said Archbishop of Canterbury; and that noe other person now there or that shall come from other parts bee admitted to keep school without your license first had.

The cause of education in the colonies was also enhanced by one of the orders of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, incorporated in 1701, relative to the qualifications of teachers:

1. That no person be admitted a Schoolmaster, till he bring Certificates, with respect to these Particulars following: 1. The age of the Person. 2. His condition of life, whether married or single. 3. His Temper. 4. His Learning. 5. His Prudence. 6. His sober and pious Conversation. 7. His zeal for the Christian Religion and diligence in his Calling. 8. His Affection to the Present Government. 9. His Conformity to the Doctrine and Discipline of the Church of England.

Previous to the Revolutionary War most of the teachers were men. But with the close of the Revolution the cause of education was rapidly advanced. The Regents of the University of the State of New York were incorporated in 1784, and in their report for 1793 they called attention to the benefits likely to accrue from the establishment of more schools in various parts of the State. In 1795 the Legislature, in response to the suggestion of Governor Clinton, appointed a committee to consider the subject. The report of this committee became a law. It appropriated fifty thousand dollars annually for five years for the general support of common schools. The act provided for the election of not less than three nor more than seven commissioners in each town, who had supervision of the schools of each town. The inhabitants in the different sections of the towns were authorized to meet for the purpose of procuring "good and sufficient schoolmasters, and for erecting and maintaining school houses in such and so many parts of the town where they may reside, as shall be most convenient," and to appoint two or more trustees, whose duties were defined by the law mentioned.

Early in the history of the State, lotteries were instituted by the State for the support of the schools. The first of these was that of 1799, when the sum of one hundred thousand dollars was to be raised, twelve

than is given by the Dutch to their Dutch Schoolmaster, I have further granted to the said John Shutte that hee shall bee the onely English Schoolmaster in Albany.

"Given under my hand, at Fort James, in New York, the 12th day of October, 1665.

"RICH'D NICOLLS."

thousand five hundred dollars of which was to go to academies and the remainder to commonschools. In 1805 a law was passed providing that the net proceeds of the sale of five hundred thousand acres of unappropriated State lands should be made a permanent fund for the support of schools, the proceeds to be invested until the interest amounted to fifty thousand dollars, when that sum should be annually distributed among the schools. In 1811 a law was passed authorizing the Governor to name five commissioners to report a system for the organization of the common schools. The commission appointed consisted of Jedediah Peck, John Murray, Jr., Samuel Russell, Roger Skinner and Samuel Macomb. The bill they reported became substantially the common school law which continued in effect until 1838. This law provided, in brief, that the several towns in the State be divided into school districts, and three commissioners elected in each town; that three trustees be elected in each district, to whom should be confided the care and superintendence of the school to be established therein; that the interest of the school fund be divided among the different counties and towns according to their respective population; that the proportions received by the respective towns be sub-divided, according to the number of children in each, between the ages of five and fifteen years; that each town raise annually as much money as it shall have received from the school fund; that the gross amount of moneys received from the State and raised by the towns be appropriated exclusively to the payment of teachers; and that the whole system be placed under the superintendence of an officer designated by the Council of Appointment. Gideon Hawley of Saratoga county became the first superintendent of common schools under this law, holding office from 1813 to 1821.

The founding of this system was an educational movement of tremendous importance to the State. Its benefits became instantly apparent. As Superintendent Hawley said in his second annual report, the greatest benefit of the system lay "in securing the establishment of common schools wherever they are necessary; in organizing them on a suitable and permanent foundation; and in guarding them against the admission of unqualified teachers."

In the year 1838 the sum of one hundred and sixty thousand dollars, of the annual revenue of the United States deposit fund, was added to the amount to be appropriated among the various school districts. Up to this time the increase in the number of school districts was as follows: 1798, 1,352 districts; 1816, about 5,000; 1820, 5,763; 1825, 7,642; 1830, 8,872; 1835, 9,865; 1838, 10,583.

Various important changes in the school law were effected from time to time. The subject of teachers' institutes was brought forward in 1842 at a meeting of the Tompkins County Teachers' Association, and the first institute in New York State was held at Ithaca, April 4, 1843. While the commission which framed the constitution of 1846 was at work a persistent effort to incorporate a paragraph providing for a free school system nearly succeeded. The friends of this important movement prepared a clause reading as follows:

The Legislature shall provide for the free education and instruction of every child of the State in the common schools, now established, or which shall thereafter be established therein.

The commission actually adopted the section by a vote of fifty-seven to fifty-three, whereupon a provision was added directing the Legislature to provide for raising the necessary taxes in the districts to carry out the plan. The convention then took a recess for dinner. At the afternoon session the clause relative to schools was referred to a committee of one, with instructions to strike out the last two sections relating to free schools. By this act the proposed measure was defeated.

November 13, 1847, the Legislature passed a law abolishing the office of county superintendent of common schools, directing appeals authorized to be made by law to be made to the state superintendent, and the annual reports of the town superintendents to be made to the county clerk. But the measure, for the time being, was disastrous to the welfare of the common schools. Consequently, on December 16, 1847, the various statutes relating to common schools were consolidated into one act, with several amendments. By the latter town superintendents were to hold office for two years; the library law was modified so that library money might be used for teachers' wages, provided the number of volumes in the library had reached a certain proportion to the number of children.

But the day of free schools was near at hand. March 26, 1849, the Legislature, after receiving the report of the state superintendent on this question, passed an act "establishing free schools throughout the State." The question, it was provided, was to be submitted to the people at the ensuing general election, and if a majority voted against it the act was to be void. Fortunately for the cause of education, the proposition was carried by the decisive vote of 249,872 to 91,951. Still the public was not satisfied with its own action. The practical application of the system met with widespread and intense opposition from

the start, and it soon became evident that the voters would have to be given an opportunity to repeal the law. Therefore the question of its repeal was submitted to popular vote in November, 1850; but the good sense and judgment of the people, or a majority of them, prevailed, and the proposition to repeal the law was lost by a majority vote of 25,088. By this act the free school system was established for all time—almost half a century ago.

In 1853 a law was passed providing for union free schools, authorizing the inhabitants of two or more districts to elect trustees and levy a tax on the property in the united districts for the payment of teachers' salaries and other expenses. The union free schools in Genesee county are noticed further on in this chapter. In 1856 the provision of the law of 1851 appropriating annually eight hundred thousand dollars was repealed, and a tax of three-fourths of a mill on the dollar on real and personal property was substituted for payment of teachers' wages. The rate bill was continued, and school commissioners, who previously had been appointed by boards of supervisors, were to be elected on a separate ballot. In 1867 the rate bill was abolished and a tax of one and one-fourth mills on the dollar was substituted. Since that time there have been many changes in the school law, but it is not desirable or necessary to note them here.

It is a misfortune to the present and future generations that the records of the pioneer schools in Genesee county were so meagerly kept, if kept at all; and still more unfortunate is it that in some cases there are in existence actually no official records. It is known, however, that as early as 1801 a log school house was built at Ganson's (now Le Roy), and that the first person to engage in instructing the youth there was Luseba Scott, who afterward became the wife of James Ganson. In 1802 she was succeeded by Phoebe Bates. In 1803 Mrs. Stephen Wolcott was in charge. In all probability this was the first school taught in Genesee county. In the year 1804 a frame school house was erected there by a stock company organized at Le Roy. This was the first frame school house west of the Genesee river. The first teacher employed there was a man named Pomeroy, who came from Albany. David Hascall succeeded him. The third school house in town stood opposite the old Lent tavern. It was used for the triple purpose of school house, church meeting house and Masonic hall for several years. The famous Round House¹, as it was known, was erected in 1825 by the

¹ See the chapter on Masonry in Genesee county.

Masonic fraternity at Le Roy. It was intended for use as a Masonic temple. But the local lodge became practically extinct upon the outbreak of the anti-Masonic agitation following the disappearance of William Morgan; consequently the Round House was never used as a Masonic hall. In 1828 the second story was converted into a school room and occupied by a select school until 1859, when it was razed to make room for the Universalist church erected in that year. In 1834 William Le Roy Annin of Le Roy, who in that year had been graduated from Harvard college, rented the Round House and opened a classical school. His efforts met with great success. Among those who studied under his supervision were many youths who became some of the foremost men of Genesee county. Later on schools were conducted successfully in the building by Messrs. Daniels, Olmsted, Whiting, Brooks, Reed, McCall, Beckley and others. The destruction of the Round House led to an immediate demand for another classical school, and the result was the founding of the Le Roy Academic Institute, to which more extended reference will be made later on.

The exact date of the establishment of the earliest school in Batavia cannot be learned from the records. Thomas Layton, the pioneer teacher at this point, located in Batavia in 1801, and soon afterward opened a private school "east of the land office." The next school of which any record has been left was that established in 1822 by Mrs. Benjamin H. Stevens, who continued it until 1849. Two private schools were opened in the village in 1825 by the Rev. James Cochran and Miss Gardner. A year later Messrs. Nixon and Stearns founded an institution known as the Batavia Academy. Reference to the files of the newspaper of that year (1826) shows that select schools were also conducted by Miss L. Starr, Mrs. Aikin, Mrs. Winchester, Miss Colton, Miss Deshon and Miss Plumb. In 1827 M. W. Fletcher and Mr. Hovey advertised that they would give instruction in all the common branches, and many advanced studies. In 1828 Horace U. Soper opened a private school, which he conducted successfully for several years. In 1829 Miss Colton's school passed under the management of Miss Blanchard. In 1832 and 1833 Mrs. Ford, Miss Burnham and H. H. Smead advertised for pupils. Lester Cross and E. C. Porter also advertised "select schools" in 1835. In 1841 Mrs. J. F. Ernst opened a boarding school at what is now 422 East Main street; and in the same year schools were also established by S. E. Hollister and C. N. Chandler. Mrs. Rathbone opened a private school in 1842; D. E. Walker

one in 1843; and Young and Oliphant one in 1844. In the latter year the Batavia Female Seminary threw open its doors, under the management of Miss Beardsley and Miss Smith.

In 1848 Mrs. William G. Bryan, who is still remembered by many residents of Batavia, some of whom were her pupils, established a successful academic school in the former residence of David E. Evans. This school was one of the best—perhaps the very best private school ever conducted in Batavia. The sons and daughters of many of the most prominent residents, and numbers from out of town, received their education within the walls of this time-honored building. After Mrs. Bryan's retirement Miss E. Y. Thrall taught in the same building, from 1875 to 1889. In 1864 a college preparatory school under the management of E. Wildman was opened in the village, but its career was brief and not successful, from a financial view point. In the same year a private school was established by Miss McCully. The well known Park Place School, the last of the more prominent and successful private schools of Batavia, was established in 1883 by Miss Ellen K. Hooker. In 1887 she was succeeded as principal by Miss Mary J. Stevens. In the meantime the union free school system of the village had advanced to a position where it was prepared to offer educational advantages entirely beyond those which might be extended by even the most carefully conducted private school having but one or two instructors. The inevitable result was the upbuilding of the public school and the decay of the private institution—and the career of the Park Place School ended, for the want of financial support, in 1890.

The first school in Alabama probably was that opened by Henry Howard in a log school house in 1817.

Charles Austin was the pioneer teacher of Alexander, but when he began his career there is unknown.

The first school in Bergen was taught by Harvey Kelsey, a graduate of Yale College. Within a few years after his advent Titus Wilcox, Joshua Field, Chloe Wright (daughter of Deacon Benjamin Wright), Lucy Hill and Elizabeth Pierson also conducted schools in that town. Just when Kelsey's school was opened cannot be learned. But it probably was between 1803 and 1805. In 1808 Hamilton Wilcox, who came from East Guilford, Conn., opened a school, which was largely attended. He was then but sixteen years of age. He continued teaching until 1813, when he joined the American army in the war of 1812-14. At Black Rock he received wounds from which he died.

Matilda Wedge, who began teaching in Bethany in 1808, is generally believed to have had the first school in that town. Aaron Bailey was the first teacher at Linden, beginning his school there in 1828. In 1832 the Genesee Manual Labor Seminary in Bethany was incorporated with a capital of twenty thousand dollars. Among the principals of this then novel institution were R. Whiting, who served from 1834 to 1841, and Joseph Hurty, who continued the school from 1841 to 1844.

The earliest school in Byron, if the records are correct, was that opened in 1810 or 1811 by Chester T. Holbrook. Nothing certain is now known of any other early schools in that town.

The first school house in Darien was erected in 1811 or 1812, but just where it stood or who presided therein as instructor is something which the present or future generations probably never will know.

Chester Scott settled in the town of Elba in 1817 and taught the first school there. The year in which it was opened cannot be ascertained. It is referred to, however, in 1820.

Esther Sprout's school, established in Stafford in 1806, is reputed to have been the first in that town. A little later Richard Radley conducted a private school in the building east of the Episcopal church. Between 1830 and 1835 a cobblestone school house was erected in the northwestern part of the town. It is still standing.

The earliest known teacher in Pavilion was Laura Terrill (or Tyrrell). When she opened her school is not known, but is believed to have been during the War of 1812. Other early teachers were Daniel Walker, Louis Moon, Mary Hill and Rodema Judd.

In 1811 Anna Horton began teaching in Pembroke. Hers doubtless was the first school opened in that town. Little is known of any other early schools.

We now come to the modern public school systems of the county and to other educational institutions which now flourish or have existed up to a comparatively recent period.

THE SCHOOL SYSTEM OF BATAVIA.

Among the early school records of the town of Batavia is a deed from Nathan Rumsey to Simeon Cummings and Libbeus Fish, dated September 2, 1811, conveying the premises formerly occupied by Mrs. Hascall, commonly known as the "old brick school house," now forming a part of Ross street at its intersection with Main street. This brick building was completed in 1811 or 1812. The lower floor was

arranged for occupancy as a public school, while the upper rooms were finished off for meetings of the local Masonic lodge. This building was the first brick structure west of the Genesee river.

The first school meeting was held in this building December 1, 1813, under an act of the State Legislature passed in June, 1812, to establish common schools. School district No. 2 of the town of Batavia then included "all that part of the village of Batavia, east of an alley on the east side of lot 16, and on a line running south from the south end of said alley to the southern boundary of said village, the north half of lots 7, 9 and 11, sec. 8; north third of lot 1, sec. 12; lots No. 8, 10 and 12, sec. 8; lots No. 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, sec. 9; lots No. 2, 4 and 6, sec. 13, T. 12, R. 1."

The first "warning," issued by John Z. Ross, Ebenezer Mix and Isaiah Babcock, commissioners of schools for the town of Batavia, was dated November 25, 1813, and read as follows:

To Simeon Cummings: You are hereby required and directed to warn all the freeholders or taxable inhabitants of Dist. No. 2, a description whereof is above given, to meet at the Brick School House, in said district, on Wednesday the first day of December next, at one o'clock, P. M., by virtue of an Act entitled "an Act for the establishment of Common Schools."

Pursuant to this order Mr. Cummings issued a warning to the following persons:

Aaron Van Cleve, John Hickox, Ebenezer Cary, Trumbull Cary, David McCracken, Horace Gibbs, Richard Smith, Burrage Bristoll, Aden Glass, John S. Leonard, Baker Leonard, Nathan Graham, Sylvanus Graham, Ethan B. Allen, John Z. Ross, Charles Eggleston, Oliver Smith, Rufus Hart, Russell A. Dickenson, Winter Hewitt, Samuel Latham, Daniel B. Brown, Ephraim Brown, Elisha C. Hickox, Enoch Baldwin, Benjamin Graham, Peter Powers, John Glass, Dodridge Loomis, James Cochran, Libbeus Fish, Patrick Powers, Oswald Williams, James Williams, Samuel Houghton, Libbeus Perkins, Uriah Debow, Robert Wilson, John De Wolf, Roswell Graham, Benjamin Porter, Ebenezer Mix, Benjamin Blodgett.

At the first school meeting, held pursuant to the notice thus given, Simeon Cummings, Libbeus Fish and Daniel B. Brown were chosen trustees of the district, Richard Smith was chosen clerk, and James Cochran collector. They served until the annual meeting of 1815. From that time to March 1829, when the district was divided, the following served as trustees:

- 1815, Libbeus Fish, David C. Miller, Benjamin Allen.
- 1816, Simeon Cummings, George W. Harris, Oswald Williams.
- 1817, John Z. Ross, Aaron Van Cleve, Horace Gibbs.

1818-1819, Richard Smith, Benjamin Allen, Oswald Williams.
 1820, Libbeus Fish, Ephraim Chapin, Benjamin Allen.
 1821, Simeon Cummings, Johnson Goodwill, Oswald Williams.
 1822, Johnson Goodwill, John Z. Ross, John Allen.
 1823, William Seaver, Simeon Cummings, John Allen.
 1824, Trumbull Cary, Phineas L. Tracy, Orange Allen.
 1825-1826, Henry Brown, Daniel H. Chandler, Samuel Graves.
 1827, John A. Coffin, Nahum Loring, Lawrence Wilks.
 1828, Samuel D. Green, Elijah Lathrop, James Allen.

At a public meeting held at the brick school house March 28, 1829, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

“That the School District be divided at some point to accommodate the inhabitants of the district, and that four persons be chosen as a Committee to aid the Trustees, and that Hinman Holden, George W. Lay, Horace Gibbs and Oswald Williams be said Committee.”

In accordance with the recommendation of this committee and the trustees, the district was divided at the annual school meeting held October 12, 1829, by the passage of a resolution reading as follows:

All that part west of the street or alley called “Dingle Alley,” or Centre street, running between the house of Clement Carpenter and the blacksmith’s shop standing on James Cochran’s land north, and running south across Genesee street between the lands owned on the northeast corner by Chauncey Kirkham, and the land or house now owned by Mrs. Jacob S. Otto, to be known and distinguished as School District No. 12, and all that part of the old district lying east of the said streets to be still known and distinguished as School District No 2.

After the division of the district the following served as trustees of school district No. 2.

1829, Trumbull Cary, Silas Finch, John Lowber.
 1830, Libbeus Fish, David Gardner, Joel Dun.
 1831, Elisha Parmalee, Chauncey Kirkham, James P. Smith.
 1832, Aaron Van Cleve, John Lowber, John Allen.
 1833, Nathan Follett, E. C. Dibble, Jonathan Lay.
 1834, William Fitch, Joseph W. Coffin, Simeon Cummings.
 1835, Phineas L. Tracy, Luther Barker, Homer Kimberly.
 1836-1839, Ira Belden, Oswald Williams, David N. Tuttle.
 1840, Chauncey Kirkham, Phineas Moffett, Preston Durant.
 1841, James P. Smith, Levi Barnes, Stephen Tuttle.
 1842-1846, Homer Kimberly, Daniel D. Waite, Onan Dustin.

In 1839 Judge Taggart, one of the foremost champions of the cause of education for many years, made an effort to establish a union school system in Batavia. He drew up an act consolidating the two districts, which passed the State Legislature; but the inhabitants of Batavia evi-

dently were not quite prepared to take this important step, and they voted down a resolution to raise by taxation the money necessary to perfect the plan of consolidation. But seven years later, December 28, 1846, the inhabitants of the two districts, having voted for consolidation and the establishment of a union school system, elected these trustees: Daniel D. Waite, three years; Benjamin Pringle, two years; Augustus Cowdin, one year. Branon Young was elected clerk, John Griswold collector, and Isaac M. Joslyn librarian. March 20, 1827, Joseph Nixon had conveyed to David Evans, Trumbull Cary and John R. Cotes, Jr., as trustees of the Batavia Academy, the old academy lot adjoining St. James church. Here was established, at first, a select academy. Among the early instructors were Joseph Nixon, Robert Hoag and others. But in 1829 this property came into possession of the trustees of school district No. 2, and was occupied as a school house from 1829 to 1848, when the consolidation of the districts took place. There is in existence no records of the trustees of this old district, as far as can be ascertained.

January 20, 1847, the site of the first union school house was located on a lot on Liberty street known as the John Lowber lot. By an act of the Legislature passed March 28, 1847, the taxable inhabitants of consolidated school district No. 2 were authorized to raise money by tax for the purchase of a site and the building of a new school house. April 6 following it was voted to raise the sum of \$5,500 for the purchase of a site and the erection of a new building for the union school. The new building was occupied as a school house in the fall of that year, and during the year following the old brick school house and the academy building were sold and the proceeds employed toward paying for the new structure on Liberty street. The first appropriation, with the proceeds of this sale, proving inadequate, September 25, 1849, \$1,250 additional was voted to pay the debt and complete the building. November 3, 1853, the inhabitants voted that the school should be free and known as The Batavia Union Free School District No. 2. The number of trustees was also increased to six. From the date of the organization of the Union school to the establishment of the free school, the following served as trustees:

- 1847, David D. Waite, Benjamin Pringle, Wm. S. Mallory.
- 1848-1850, Benjamin Pringle, Junius A. Smith, Daniel D. Waite.
- 1851, Daniel D. Waite, Elias Foote, Corneal Ganson.
- 1852, Elias Foote, Asa A. Flint, Alexander Smith.
- 1853, Homer Kimberly, Charles T. Buxton, James A. Olds.

The development of the educational system of Batavia since the founding of the union free school in 1853 has been remarkable. Public interest was awakened about that time, and many efforts were made to improve the facilities of the school. In 1861, in conformity to an application therefor made by Seth Wakeman, Jarvis R. Smith, H. M. Warren, George Babcock and other trustees, the Regents of the University of the State of New York established an academical department in the school. The school continued to grow and improve in other ways. In October, 1866, school district No. 1, at the east end of the village, united with the union free school. April 25, 1872, at a largely attended public meeting held at Ellicott hall, the site for a new school house, embracing three acres of land near the geographical centre of the district was adopted by a vote of 178 to 62, and at the same time the sum of \$50,000 was appropriated for the purchase of the site and the erection of the new building. June 13 the board of education appointed H. I. Glowacki, H. U. Howard and John F. Lay a building committee to superintend the erection of the new edifice. July 17 following the site was purchased of Mrs. Tomlinson for \$4,500.

In the meantime the enemies to educational progress had been at work. As the result of their appeal, Hon. A. B. Weaver, then state superintendent of public instruction, on July 17, the day the site was purchased, set aside, as irregular, the proceedings of the meeting at which the sum of \$50,000 had been voted. But the friends of education were now thoroughly aroused, and at a second public meeting, held August 1, 1872, the same site was again adopted by a vote of 192 to 167, and the sum of \$40,000, together with the proceeds arising from the sale of the school house on Liberty street, was voted to be used to pay for the site already purchased and for the erection of a new building. In October the name of John Fisher was added to the building committee.

During the summer of 1872 the building committee had inspected a large number of new school buildings located in various places. After careful consideration they finally adopted the plans submitted by A. J. Warner of Rochester. Work upon the structure was begun that fall, but the severe weather of the ensuing winter caused delay until spring. In the meantime the board of education awarded the contract for the erection of the building to John Dellinger, for \$40,840. At the annual meeting held in October, 1873, the further sum of \$25,000 was voted to complete the structure. In June, 1874, the term closed at the union

school house on Liberty street, and thenceforward it ceased to be used for school purposes, having been occupied from 1848 to 1874.

The new building was opened on September 1, 1874. The dedicatory services were of unusual interest. Among those present were Dr. S. B. Woolworth, secretary of the Regents of the University of the State of New York, who delivered an address which was most appropriate to the occasion; Hon. L. A. Haywood of Warsaw; Judge Bangs of Le Roy; R. L. Selden, school commissioner of Genesee county; Dr. A. D. Lord, superintendent of the State Institution for the Blind; Prof. H. B. Buckingham of the Buffalo State Normal School; Prof. Briggs of Buffalo; Prof. N. F. Wright, a former principal of the school; M. C. Richardson, editor of the Lockport Journal; Judge Richard P. Marvin of Chautauqua county; Rev. W. Mallory, Rev. J. E. Bills, Hon. John Fisher, Judge Soper, William Tyrrell, William C. Watson; John H. Yates, a former pupil of the union school who delivered a poem untitled "The Living Age," and many others. Several highly interesting addresses were made. At their conclusion Major H. I. Glowacki, president of the board of education, delivered the key of the building to Prof. Gardner Fuller, principal of the school. This ended the exercises of the day.

With the completion of the commodious building on Ross street, it was the prevalent belief in Batavia that the school accommodations in the county seat were not only greater than necessary, but also that many years would elapse before any considerable increase in the accommodations would be necessary. How faulty these conclusions were is shown by the fact that within fifteen years the number of public school buildings within the district had been increased from one to seven. These schools are as follows: The schools on Pringle avenue, Washington avenue, Pearl street, West Main street, East Main street and William street.

The first of these schools was that located on Pringle avenue, which was erected in 1883 at a cost of over eight thousand dollars. Two years later the Washington avenue school was built. In 1887 the inhabitants of school district No. 4 in the town of Batavia voted in favor of consolidation with union free school district No. 2, and soon after the necessary steps for the union were taken. The school building then in use, a frame structure, still remains in use, though remodeled and enlarged, the only frame building in the district, the others being of brick. The school facilities of the district were still further increased in 1891 by the construction of three new school buildings, located respectively on

West Main street, East Main street and William street. These additions to the educational facilities of Batavia complete the public school system of Batavia, undoubtedly as excellent from every standpoint as that of any other village of equal size in the country, and superior from many view points to that of many villages or cities containing a much greater population.

Upon the organization of the union free school district in 1853 the number of trustees was increased from three to six. Since that year the various school boards have been constituted as follows:

1853—E. C. Dibble, president; Horace M. Warren, clerk; Homer Kimberly, Charles T. Buxton, James A. Olds, Rufus Robertson.

1854—E. C. Dibble, president; H. M. Warren, clerk; Homer Kimberly, Charles T. Buxton, Rufus Robertson, James A. Olds.

1855—Homer Kimberly, president; H. M. Warren, clerk; James A. Olds, Augustus Cowdin, Rufus Robertson, Charles T. Buxton.

1856—Homer Kimberly, president; H. M. Warren, clerk; Charles T. Buxton, James A. Olds, Augustus Cowdin, Rufus Robertson.

1857—Homer Kimberly, president; H. M. Warren, clerk and treasurer; G. B. Worthington, Charles T. Buxton, Augustus Cowdin, James A. Olds.

1858—Homer Kimberly, president; H. M. Warren, clerk and treasurer; Jarvis R. Smith, S. Wakeman, G. B. Worthington, Charles T. Buxton.

1859—Seth Wakeman, president; H. M. Warren, clerk and treasurer; G. B. Worthington, George Babcock, Augustus Cowdin, Jarvis R. Smith.

1860—Seth Wakeman, president; H. M. Warren, clerk and treasurer; John Fisher, George Babcock, Augustus Cowdin, Jarvis R. Smith.

1861—Seth Wakeman, president; H. M. Warren, secretary and treasurer; John T. Carr, D. W. Tomlinson, George Babcock, Augustus Cowdin.

1862—Seth Wakeman, president; H. M. Warren, secretary; Charles T. Buxton, treasurer; John Fisher, D. W. Tomlinson, Augustus Cowdin.

1863—Seth Wakeman, president; H. M. Warren, secretary; Charles T. Buxton, treasurer; Augustus Cowdin, D. W. Tomlinson, John Fisher.

1864—Seth Wakeman, president; H. M. Warren, secretary; Charles T. Buxton, treasurer; D. W. Tomlinson, John Fisher, Augustus Cowdin.

1865—Seth Wakeman, president; H. M. Warren, secretary; Charles T. Buxton, treasurer; M. H. Bierce, Wilber Smith, D. W. Tomlinson.

1866—Seth Wakeman, president; H. M. Warren, secretary; Charles T. Buxton, treasurer; D. W. Tomlinson, M. H. Bierce, Wilber Smith.

1867—D. W. Tomlinson, president; H. M. Warren, secretary; Tracy Pardee, treasurer; H. I. Glowacki, M. H. Bierce, Wilber Smith.

1868—D. W. Tomlinson, president; H. M. Warren, secretary; Tracy Pardee, treasurer; Joseph C. Wilson, William Casey, H. I. Glowacki.

1869—H. I. Glowacki, president; William Casey, secretary; Joseph C. Wilson, H. U. Howard, S. U. Main, Tracy Pardee.

1870—H. I. Glowacki, president; William Casey, secretary; Joseph C. Wilson, W. T. Bliss, H. U. Howard, S. U. Main

- 1871—H. I. Glowacki, president; John F. Lay, secretary; H. U. Howard, S. U. Main, W. T. Bliss, Miles H. Bierce.
- 1872—H. I. Glowacki, president; John F. Lay, secretary; H. U. Howard, S. U. Main, John Fisher, M. H. Bierce.
- 1873—H. I. Glowacki, president; John F. Lay, secretary; H. U. Howard, S. U. Main, M. H. Bierce, N. A. Woodward.
- 1874—H. I. Glowacki, president; John F. Lay, secretary; H. U. Howard, S. U. Main, John Fisher, N. A. Woodward.
- 1875—H. I. Glowacki, president; John F. Lay, secretary; H. U. Howard, William C. Watson, Nathan A. Woodward, John Fisher.
- 1876—President, John Fisher; secretary, John F. Lay; Hayden U. Howard, William C. Watson, Daniel W. Tomlinson, Horace S. Hutchins, M. D.
- 1877—President, Hayden U. Howard; secretary, John F. Lay; H. S. Hutchins, William C. Watson, D. W. Tomlinson, Wilber Smith.
- 1878—President, H. S. Hutchins; secretary, John F. Lay; Wilber Smith, D. W. Tomlinson, Theron F. Woodward, George Wiard.
- 1879—President, H. S. Hutchins; secretary, John F. Lay; George Wiard, T. F. Woodward, M. H. Bierce, Wilber Smith.
- 1880—President, H. S. Hutchins; clerk, Wayne H. Parsons; George Wiard, D. W. Tomlinson, T. F. Woodward, Carlos A. Hull, Miles H. Bierce.
- 1881—President, H. S. Hutchins; clerk, Marcus L. Babcock; George Wiard, M. H. Bierce, Carlos A. Hull, Wayne H. Parsons, William C. Watson.
- 1882—President, H. S. Hutchins; clerk, Marcus L. Babcock; George Wiard, Carlos A. Hull, Edward F. Wood, Wayne H. Parsons.
- 1883—President, H. S. Hutchins; clerk, Marcus L. Babcock; George Wiard, Wayne H. Parsons, Edward F. Wood, John Holley Bradish, Robert B. Pease.
- 1884—President, H. S. Hutchins; clerk, Marcus L. Babcock and J. W. Le Seur; Robert B. Pease, Levant C. McIntyre, George Wiard, Edward F. Wood, J. Holley Bradish.
- 1885—President, George Wiard; clerk, Philander P. Bradish; L. C. McIntyre, J. H. Bradish, Mrs. Adelaide R. Kenny, Mrs. Marion E. Sheffield, R. B. Pease.
- 1886—President, George Wiard; clerk, P. P. Bradish; L. C. McIntyre, Mrs. Adelaide R. Kenny, Mrs. Marion E. Sheffield, Robert B. Pease, J. H. Bradish.
- 1887—President, George Wiard; clerk, P. P. Bradish; L. C. McIntyre, R. B. Pease, Mrs. A. R. Kenny, Mrs. M. E. Sheffield, J. H. Bradish.
- 1888—President, George Wiard; clerk, P. P. Bradish; Mrs. A. R. Kenny, Mrs. Emily Tozier, R. B. Pease, L. C. McIntyre, J. H. Bradish.
- 1889—President, George Wiard; clerk, P. P. Bradish; Mrs. Emily Tozier, Mrs. A. R. Kenny, John M. McKenzie, L. C. McIntyre, J. H. Bradish.
- 1890—President, D. W. Tomlinson; clerk, P. P. Bradish; Mrs. Emily Tozier, Mrs. A. R. Kenny, John M. McKenzie, R. B. Pease, J. H. Bradish.
- 1891—President, D. W. Tomlinson; clerk, P. P. Bradish; Julian J. Washburn, Hobart B. Cone, John M. McKenzie, J. H. Bradish, R. B. Pease.
- 1892—President, D. W. Tomlinson; clerk, P. P. Bradish; J. H. Bradish, J. M. McKenzie, J. J. Washburn, R. B. Pease, H. B. Cone.
- 1893—President, D. W. Tomlinson; clerk, P. P. Bradish; J. J. Washburn, R. B. Pease, J. H. Bradish, J. M. McKenzie, H. B. Cone.

- 1894—President, D. W. Tomlinson; clerk, P. P. Bradish; J. M. McKenzie, R. B. Pease, J. H. Bradish, J. J. Washburn, H. B. Cone.
- 1895—President, D. W. Tomlinson; clerk, P. P. Bradish; J. H. Bradish, J. M. McKenzie, H. B. Cone, J. J. Washburn, R. B. Pease.
- 1896—President, D. W. Tomlinson; clerk, P. P. Bradish; H. B. Cone, J. H. Bradish, R. B. Pease, J. J. Washburn, J. M. McKenzie.
- 1897—President, D. W. Tomlinson; clerk, P. P. Bradish; H. B. Cone, J. H. Bradish, R. B. Pease, J. J. Washburn, J. M. McKenzie.
- 1898—President, D. W. Tomlinson; clerk, P. P. Bradish; H. B. Cone, J. H. Bradish, R. B. Pease, J. J. Washburn, J. M. McKenzie.

OTHER SCHOOLS.

The union free school system of Le Roy was organized in 1890. Thursday evening, August 21, 1890, the taxpayers and voters of school districts No. 1, 3, 4 and 10 of the town of Le Roy met in the opera house in Le Roy according to a call of the school trustees of the districts mentioned for the purpose of forming a union free school district. The following officers of the meeting were selected without opposition: Chairman, S. W. Skinner; secretary, Edwin D. Shepard; tellers, Frank E. Chaddock, W. E. Humelbaugh; inspectors, Melvin N. King, Stephen Loucks. Twenty-six voters were present from District No. 1, twenty-eight from No. 2, thirty from No. 4, and one hundred from No. 10. The resolution for consolidation was adopted by a vote of 298 to 81. August 29 another meeting was held, when the following trustees were elected to serve the union district: For one year, Arthur M. Artman, William Huyck; two years, Butler Ward, Archibald Sinclair; three years, S. W. Skinner, F. T. Wilcox, John Maloney. Prof. Charles T. Brace was elected principal of the new school in 1891, its first year, and Miss Emma Henderson assistant principal. In the meantime the new district had purchased the building formerly occupied by the Le Roy Academic Institute, which was occupied in 1891. In 1893 Prof. R. A. Kneeland was chosen principal to succeed Prof. Brace, who had resigned. Miss Henderson acted as principal for two years after Prof. Brace's retirement, and she in turn was succeeded by Prof. J. C. Benedict, who is still principal. In 1898 a commodious addition, of stone, was erected on the east side of the old academy building for the accommodation of the rapidly increasing number of students.

The Oakfield union free school was organized at a meeting held January 3, 1891, at which B. J. Chapman acted as chairman and George A. Isaac as secretary. The resolution to form a union free school district

was adopted by a vote of ninety-five to forty-one, and the following were elected the first trustees: John W. Heal, one year; Messrs. Hawes and Stevens, two years; Messrs. Griffin and Wright, three years. The building, upon which work was begun soon after the formation of the district, is a handsome brick structure of two stories, cost about seven thousand dollars, and has accommodations for about one hundred and fifty pupils. When the formation of the union district had been accomplished, the Regents of the University of the State of New York granted the application for a charter, making it a junior academic school. In connection with the school is a library of over six hundred volumes. Prof. Ray M. Lowry, who served the school as principal until 1897, was succeeded in that year by Prof. A. H. Downey.

The union school of Bergen was organized at a meeting held August 8, 1893, at which A. Arnold presided as chairman and D. J. McPherson acted as secretary. The resolution adopted provided "that a union free school be established within the limits of joint school district No. 7, in the towns of Bergen and Riga." August 15 H. H. Wilcox and D. J. McPherson were elected trustees for three years, Mrs. Spencer Wilcox and Mrs. S. E. Spencer for two years, and H. L. Gage and J. S. Gleason for one year. The school was admitted to the University of the State of New York in January, 1894. E. A. Ladd is principal of the school. For several years a private school known as the Bergen High School was conducted in Bergen by B. F. Hamilton.

The first meeting in which any action was taken to consider the changing of the Genesee and Wyoming Seminary of Alexander to a union free school was held January 19, 1886. On that occasion James A. North acted as president and Drayton Sprague as secretary. The chairman appointed Messrs. Green, Day, Sprague, Crosman and Chaddock a committee to confer with a committee to be appointed by the school district in reference to the occupancy of the seminary building for union school purposes. The result was the issuance of a call by R. C. Curtiss, trustee of District No. 2 and W. E. Moulton, trustee of District No. 6, for a special school meeting, which was held at the seminary building March 3, 1886. At this meeting Oel S. Kidder was elected chairman and Charles F. Lewis secretary. A resolution consolidating the two districts was adopted and the following trustees were elected: Sanford Riddle, Charles F. Lewis, Warren E. Moulton, Roswell C. Curtiss, Suel Chaddock, Jesse A. Hawkins, Charles J. Hawkins. These trustees elected R. C. Curtiss president and Charles F.

Lewis secretary. J. C. Shaddock was chosen as the first principal of the school. His successors have been Orson Warren, A. J. Glenny, W. Almond Andrews, J. L. Walthart, J. Howarth, E. A. Ladd and Perry H. Kidder, the present principal.

The union free school of East Pembroke was formed March 11, 1893, by the consolidation of District No 7 of Pembroke and District No. 9 of Batavia. John Mullaney was elected trustee for one year, E. A. Seamans and O. C. Uphill for two years, and O. G. Dennison and John Allen for three years. W. H. Dyer is now the principal of the school. The enemies of consolidation contested the legality of the proceedings for three or four months, but the friends of the new system finally won and the proceedings were declared valid.

Elba's union free school was organized May 25, 1897, J. A. Loveridge acting as chairman of the organization meeting and J. S. Wilford as clerk. William H. Hunn was elected trustee for one year, Walter A. Brockway and Charles D. Andrews for two years, and Arthur Barker and J. S. Wilford for three years. A. M. McIlroy is the present principal of the school.

April 22, 1898, the union free school at Byron Centre was organized within the limits of District No. 1 of the town of Byron by the election of Dr. A. Prince as trustee for one year, F. T. Miller and C. V. Doud for two years, and H. C. Norton and William D. Dibble for three years. A. H. Kneale was chosen as the first principal of the new school.

The South Byron union school was formed June 7, 1898, when E. J. Cook was chosen trustee for one year, Frank Flaherty and C. R. Kellogg for two years, and W. H. Philleo and C. H. Coward for three years. Levi C. Higley was selected for the first principal.

The Ingham University, originally Ingham Collegiate Institute, was incorporated at Le Roy in 1857. The institution was established at Attica in 1835 by Miss Marietta Ingham and a younger sister, Emily E. Ingham, who subsequently married Phineas Stanton. The Misses Ingham came from Massachusetts. In 1837 they removed their school to Le Roy and established it as the Le Roy Female Seminary, aided and supported by Samuel Comstock, Jonathan P. Darling, Seth M. Gates, Albert Brewster, A. S. Upham, Enos Bachelder, A. P. Hascall, Lee Comstock, Israel Rathbone, Richard Hollister and William S. Bradley. It was chartered in 1841. April 6, 1852, the whole establishment, costing over twenty thousand dollars, was donated by its founders to the Synod of Genesee, upon the conditions that a full collegiate course

should be established and a permanent fund raised for its support. The gift was accepted by the Synod and the name of Ingham Collegiate Institute bestowed upon the institution. The corporation created at this time consisted of the Rev. Charles N. Mattoon, Samuel Skinner, A. P. Hascall, J. B. Skinner, C. Danforth, Moses Taggart, Samuel Comstock, C. Comstock, Martin O. Coe, A. F. Bartow, Israel Rathbone, J. G. Bixby, Jonathan P. Darling, Albert Brewster, Phineas Staunton and Marietta Ingham. Twenty four trustees were appointed. The corporation was vested with the power to create a normal school, a seminary and collegiate departments, to appoint professors and teachers, and to grant diplomas. This school was thus in advance of all other female institutions in the provisions of its charter, as it was the first to introduce a college curriculum for the education of young ladies, and a charter giving it power to confer degrees. In this particular Ingham preceded South Hadley, Elmira, Farmington, Wells, Parker and Vassar.

Not satisfied with this material advance, the institution soon asked for a still higher rank by applying to the State for a university charter. This was at first refused on the ground of its inadaptability to a female institution of learning, a rank then unknown anywhere in the United States. But in the legislative session of 1857 so strongly was the matter urged that a university charter was granted; and in April, 1857, the name of "trustees" was changed to that of "counse'ors." In the same year the Rev. Samuel Hanson Cox of New York city was installed as chancellor, imposing ceremonies being held in the Le Roy Presbyterian church. Dr. Cox's high attainments were at once applied to elevate the standard of the institution, which soon became a model of its kind. Colonel Phineas Staunton¹ was temporarily elected vice-chancellor.

The property valuation of Ingham University as reported to it by the Regents of the University of the State of New York in 1875 was \$101,000. About 1885 the Alumni Association donated to the institution a large brick dormitory. After the granting of the university charter, the Legislature of 1861 was asked to give \$25,000 to the institution, but only one-fifth of that amount was secured. Further appeals to the public resulted in securing only \$1,400 more.

¹ Colonel Staunton was an artist of great ability and made this branch a specialty in the university. His father was a general in the War of 1812. Colonel Staunton was born in Wyoming, N. Y., and married Emily E. Ingham in 1847. He served as lieutenant-colonel of the One Hundredth N. Y. Vols. in the Rebellion. While accompanying a Williams College scientific expedition to South America he died at Quito, and was buried there.

The Synod of Genesee then relinquished its trust. In 1883 a new charter was granted, and a new board of trustees organized as follows: James H. Loomis, Henry N. Page, Charles F. Prentice, Schuyler C. Wells, William Lampson, Rev. W. W. Totherob, Butler Ward, Rev. Edward B. Walsworth, Nicholas B. Keeney, Augustus Frank, Rev. Herman C. Riggs, Augustus E. Miller, Edward C. Walker, Rev. Samuel Bowden, Rev. Amasa S. Freeman.

The Rev. Dr. Cox resigned the office of chancellor in 1863. He was succeeded by the Rev. Dr. Samuel D. Burchard, who served until 1872; Dr. Edward B. Walsworth, and Dr. W. W. Totherob. Mrs. Emily Ingham Stanton, the last of the early founders of the university, died in November, 1889, in her seventy-ninth year. She was the first woman in the country to conceive and carry out to a successful issue a university charter for female education. Soon after her death the institution began to lose its prestige and became a victim to financial depression. November 4, 1893, the property was sold to William Lampson for \$20,000, and the old university ceased to exist.

Cary Collegiate Seminary was founded at Caryville (now Oakfield) in 1840, mainly through the influence and by the means of Col. Alfred Cary,¹ in whose honor the institution was named. The corner stone of the main building was laid July 4, 1840. During the succeeding three years and a half the building was erected and equipped at an expense of about fifteen thousand dollars. In 1844 it was opened for students, with Warden Reynolds, A. M., as principal. From the beginning it attracted a large patronage, its enrollment for the fifteen years before the war of the Rebellion ranging from two hundred to three hundred students. Its principals and other teachers were men of character, who left their impress upon their students, many of whom afterwards became men of prominence. Among the teachers during that period were Rollins Richards, Rev. Bela Francher, Rev. E. N. Manley, Marion M. Baldwin, Rev. G. C. V. Eastman and Rev. H. V. Gardner.

During the Civil war the school suffered, as did most institutions of a similar character throughout the country. After the war, in 1865, the Rev. James R. Coe was head master for nine years, during which period the school was especially prosperous. The various rectors of St. Michael's church, with the exception of Rev. A. J. Warner, also served as head masters. R. H. Coe, a nephew of the Rev. James R. Coe, terminated a six years' principalship in 1889 to become president

¹ Colonel Cary died at Oakfield September 17, 1858, at the age of seventy-nine years.

of De Vaux College. His successor was the Rev. C. C. Gove, M. A., who is still at the head of the school. Before coming to Cary Seminary Prof. Gove had been engaged in educational work since 1874, when he was graduated from Middlebury (Vt.) College. He had been principal of the Monson Academy and the North Adams (Mass.) High School. At the time of his election to Cary, extensive repairs were made to St. Michael's hall, a building erected for the seminary in 1856.

The policy of the school has undergone some changes in late years. The primary and intermediate departments have been suspended, and work is now confined to the academic grade. The school is governed by a self-perpetuating board of trustees. The late Right Reverend Arthur Cleveland Coxe, D. D., bishop of Western New York, was president from 1877 to the time of his death in July, 1896. The value of the seminary property is fifty thousand dollars. The school is under the supervision of the Regents of the University of the State of New York. Among the prominent graduates of this excellent educational institution have been R. H. Coe, president of De Vaux College; Rev. C. F. J. Wrigley, rector of St. Mary-on-the-Hill, Buffalo; Rev. E. W. Worthington, rector of Grace church, Cleveland; Charles Baker, ex-member of Congress; Col. S. P. Moulthrop, principal of public school, Rochester, and many other gentlemen who have attained positions of dignity and responsibility.

The Bethany Academy was incorporated by the Legislature March 29, 1841. The incorporators named in the act were William Mitchell, Jonathan K. Barlow, Abel W. Page, Ira Wait, Charles Huntington, Nason Blood, Charles Kendall, Samuel Kendall, Reuben Kendall, Obadiah Walker, Roswell Frary, Luman Stevens, Nathan Rumsey, Israel E. Judd, Abram Chapman, Harvey Putnam, Elijah Herrick, Heman Brown, Edward Dixon, John Jenna, John Sprague, Sylvester Lincoln and William Darby, who were also designated as the first trustees.

The Genesee and Wyoming Seminary of the village of Alexander was the outgrowth of a public library founded in 1811 by Alexander Rea, Henry Hawkins, Colonel Brainard, Samuel Latham, jr., Harvey Hawkins, Noah North and Ezra W. Osborn, who became the first trustees. This institution was named the Alexandrian Library. In 1828 a literary society was formed among the patrons of the library. Soon after the citizens of that village began to discuss the practicability of a project to establish a classical school. As the result of this agita-

tion six thousand dollars was raised by subscription in 1837 for the purpose of building a school to be known as the Genesee and Wyoming Seminary. The expense of erecting the structure was seven thousand dollars, and Henry Hawkins magnanimously paid the deficiency of one thousand dollars from his private purse. The building was of stone, and E. T. Crooker and E. T. Benedict were the first principals. The school flourished beyond all expectations, the number of students within three or four years after it was opened being three hundred, its full capacity. By a foreclosure of mortgage, assumed by him at the time of his gift for the purpose of protecting the property, Henry Hawkins came into possession of the building in 1844. In 1845 he secured for the institution a charter from the Regents of the University of the State of New York, gave to it all the lands and buildings, and endowed it with four thousand dollars in money, his private library and his valuable geological cabinet. Less than three months later he died of smallpox. The Genesee and Wyoming Seminary continued as a private preparatory school for many years thereafter. In 1886 a union free school system was organized at Alexander, and the old seminary building was turned over to the village for the occupancy of the newly organized public school.

The Rural Academy at East Pembroke was incorporated by the Regents of the University of the State of New York in 1856. Rev. Mr. Horton, a Presbyterian minister, was its founder, donating land for the purpose, the fee to which was held by trustees so long as it was used for educational purposes.

The Batavia Business University was established in 1867 at No. 92 East Main street by W. W. Whitcomb. John M. McKenzie became associated with Mr. Whitcomb in the conduct of the school in 1885, acting as secretary and treasurer. It was then located in the Dodge building at the corner of East Main and Jackson streets. In the spring of 1890 Mr. McKenzie retired from the partnership and the school was moved to the Tomlinson block on East Main street by Mr. Whitcomb, who then became the sole proprietor. Two years later the school ceased to exist.

The Batavia Shorthand and Business School, located on the second floor of the Commercial building, is the outgrowth of a school of stenography and typewriting established in 1886 by Miss Sarah M. Blount, the principal and proprietor of the present school. In 1892 Miss Blount moved her school into its present location in the Commercial

building, at the same time adding book-keeping and some of the common branches to the curriculum. Miss Blount has capable assistants, and the institution in her charge is one in which the residents of Batavia have exhibited just pride.

THE NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.

The establishment of the New York State Institution (now school) for the Blind, was authorized by an act of the Legislature passed April 27, 1865. This act provided for the appointment, by the governor, of five commissioners to select a suitable site for the school. After the determination of a site by these commissioners, the governor, secretary of state and comptroller were required to appoint a commission consisting of three persons to contract for the erecting of buildings for such school on such plans and terms as they, in connection with the state officers, thought just and proper. The act also provided for the appointment of nine trustees to take charge of the school after its completion. The sum of \$100,000 was appropriated for the purposes of the act.

Immediately after the passage of the act, the governor appointed the following gentlemen to act as commissioners to locate the school: Hon. E. W. Leavenworth, Syracuse; Hon. B. F. Manierre, New York; Hon. James Ferguson, Ovid; Hon. O. K. Woods, Chazy; Hon. M. M. Southworth, Lockport. The board, after examining several competing sites in Central and Western New York, selected grounds in the village of Batavia, which had been purchased and presented to the State by the people of the village. In March, 1866, the following gentlemen were appointed commissioners to procure plans and superintend the erection of suitable buildings for the accommodation of the school: Hon. John Fisher, Batavia; Hon. John Van Horn, Lockport; Hon. Lloyd A. Haywood, Warsaw.

In the following June, this commission submitted to the governor, secretary of state and comptroller matured plans and specifications for the erection of buildings for the school. These plans were accepted, with the modification limiting the expenditure to \$200,000 and correspondingly reducing the capacity of the school.

August 21, 1866, the corner-stone was laid, attended by elaborate ceremonies under the charge of prominent citizens of the village. The principal address upon the occasion was given by Dr. Samuel G. Howe,

superintendent of the Massachusetts State School for the Blind. The buildings were completed and the keys of the same formally delivered by the building committee into the hands of the trustees of the school July 15, 1868.

The school opened September 2, 1868, with Dr. Asa D. Lord as superintendent. The board of trustees were fortunate in securing the services of Dr. Lord to take charge of the school and start it upon its mission. He had for twelve years been superintendent of the School for the Blind at Columbus, Ohio. His marked success in the conduct of of this institution first drew the attention of the board of trustees to him with the final result that he was persuaded to undertake the superintendency of the first State School for the Blind in the State of New York. During September, the first month of the school, forty pupils were registered, and in the first school year, closing in June, 1869, seventy-four pupils had been enrolled, sixty-four being in actual attendance at the close of the school.

As a very mistaken as well as harmful impression as to the character, aims and purposes of the school had become quite generally prevalent in the minds of the public, which has survived to some extent to the present time, Dr. Lord had the wisdom and foresight to make it clear in his first annual report to the board of trustees that the institution was not a home for the helpless, nor an asylum for the defective, nor a charitable institution of any character. The following is quoted from his first report:

The quotations from the law defining the objects of the institution which are given in the circular of the trustees appended to this report, state explicitly that it is not a hospital for the treatment of blindness, nor an asylum or home for the blind of any age, hence the mere fact that a person is blind, however needy or worthy he may be, gives him no claim to its privileges. Only those believed to be of suitable age and capacity to receive instruction, can be admitted as pupils, and any supposed to be such can be discharged whenever it is found that they cannot be profited by its opportunities. The institution is simply a school for blind youths in good health, of good character and habits, and of respectable intellectual abilities. In regard to this, the law is clear and positive, and no appeal to the sympathies of the trustees or officers for the admission of persons who do not belong to the class for whom it is intended can be regarded by them without a palpable violation of the law. This institution being thus purely an educational one, should be regarded as a part of the great system of public instruction sustained by the State, and intended to give to the blind the same advantages which New York has so long and so freely afforded to seeing children in its common and higher schools. As the blind cannot be so well taught in schools with other children, it is necessary in order to instruct them eco-

nominally, to collect them together, and in so doing the State provides for them board, lodging, etc., in addition to tuition, and its pupils are beneficiaries in much the same manner as those who attend the common and normal schools and other institutions which are sustained or have been liberally endowed at public expense.

Dr. Lord remained in charge of the school till his death in March, 1875. The seven years the school was under his supervision were years of growth and prosperity. Each year saw the number of pupils increase, until in 1875, there were 168 registered. As a scholar, a wise and skillful teacher, a kind and noble man, he gave unstinted service and finally his life to the school. The lives of hundreds of blind boys and girls were made brighter and better by his noble life and unselfish service in their behalf.

On the death of Dr. Lord, his widow was appointed superintendent. Mrs. Lord had been her husband's most able assistant in the work of the school from the beginning, and her success as superintendent most amply proved the wisdom of the board of trustees in appointing her to the position. She retained the position two years, resigning in September, 1877.

Mrs. Lord was succeeded by the Rev. James McLeod, who, after serving one year, retired and gave place to the Rev. A. D. Wilbor, D. D.

In 1883, Dr. Wilbor was succeeded by Arthur G. Clement as superintendent, under whose charge the school remained until 1893, when he resigned. He was followed by Frederick R. Place, whose services were dispensed with in February, 1895.

In April, 1895, Gardner Fuller was appointed superintendent by the board of trustees. Prof. Fuller had served for several years as superintendent of schools in the village of Batavia, and long before his appointment as superintendent of the institution had become recognized as one of the most competent and successful educators in New York State.

Thus in thirty years there have been seven superintendents. This frequent change has unquestionably not been for the best interests of the school. In the teacher's, as in all professions, the trained skill which is so essential to success comes only through actual experience.

Formerly, children were not admitted to the school until they were nine years of age. It is now the policy of the school to get as many as possible into the school under that age, even as young as five years. More can be done in the way of moulding and forming these blind boys and girls into normal boys and girls between the ages of five and nine

than in ten years after they have reached the age of nine. And in many cases it is all important to secure them at an early age in order to save them from the foolish and mistaken indulgence of the home circle.

In 1896, the Regents' examinations were taken in the school for the first time. All the classes, both in common and higher English, are now taking these examinations regularly. Instruction in typewriting was commenced in 1897 with most gratifying success. The school has now eight typewriters of the latest make, and several classes in typewriting, numbering some forty pupils in all.

In the last three years, the Legislature has made special appropriations amounting to more than forty thousand dollars for repairs, improvements and new buildings. In 1897, a new building costing nine thousand five hundred dollars, was erected for the accommodation of the tuning department and the boy's industrial department. This building meets a need that had long been seriously felt. The department of tuning, one of the most important connected with the school, had never had accommodations worthy of the name, and the boy's industrial department, broom-making, etc., was buried in the basement.

In this year, also, bay windows at an expense of one thousand eight hundred dollars, were erected on the east and west sides of the main building for the purpose of lighting up the long corridors extending east and west through the building. In the summer of 1898, a broad glass-enclosed piazza from twelve to sixteen feet in width and seventy-five feet in length was constructed on the east side of the school building as a place of exercise and recreation for the girls and the kindergarteners in stormy and inclement weather. These additions, bay windows and piazza, have not only added greatly to the comfort and health of the children, but have added greatly to the appearance of the building from an architectural point of view, relieving the long stretch of straight perpendicular walls that were suggestive of anything but home life within. There is now (December, 1898), nearing completion, a gymnasium forty-three feet in width by eighty-four feet in length. The outside walls are of first quality old gold Canandaigua brick. The facilities for physical training which this will afford when fully equipped will be of incalculable value to the pupils both physically and mentally.

Owing to the crowded condition of the school and the increasing number of applications for admission, the board of trustees will ask the Legislature of 1899 for an appropriation for the erection of an administration building, and a number of cottages connected with it, for the

accommodation of all the girls in the school. The present building will then be used for the boys exclusively.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT.

TOWNS.	Districts with School Houses in County.	Teachers Employed for Legal Term.	Whole No. of Children Attending School.	Aggregate Days of Attendance During School Year.	Value of School Buildings and Sites.	Assessed Valuation of Districts.	Public Money Received from State.	Amount of Money Raised by Local Taxation.
Alabama	11	11	350	38,424	\$ 7,615	\$ 735,643	\$ 1,348 15	\$ 2,078 20
Alexander	9	11	317	33,463	10,455	1,065,561	1,401 94	1,735 18
Batavia	12	43	2,120	253,931	185,750	5,268,144	6,454 40	24,036 78
Bergen	8	13	474	59,280	15,200	1,127,373	1,829 84	3,890 09
Bethany	11	11	314	30,847	7,595	867,265	1,275 65	1,972 79
Byron	8	10	295	36,709	8,800	1,121,208	1,200 28	2,660 02
Darien	13	13	399	38,498	8,265	1,266,116	1,510 65	2,193 08
Elba	9	11	300	33,363	7,450	880,045	1,294 15	2,719 09
Le Roy	9	21	767	94,186	16,520	2,898,851	2,551 60	6,802 62
Oakfield	8	10	354	40,052	10,825	731,380	1,377 43	2,669 78
Pavilion	9	11	291	31,770	9,500	976,510	1,281 21	3,589 27
Pembroke	13	16	558	56,114	11,925	1,170,364	2,067 18	3,353 19
Stafford	8	10	317	36,941	6,825	1,374,955	1,221 00	2,521 04
Total	128	191	6,856	783,605	\$306,275	\$19,484,075	\$24,813 48	\$60,221 22

CHAPTER XX.

MASONRY IN GENESEE COUNTY.¹

Batavia Lodge No. 475, Free and Accepted Masons, is the outgrowth or successor of several Masonic organizations, now extinct, the first of which, Olive Branch Lodge No. 39, was chartered in 1811. May 10, 1810, Isaiah Babcock of Batavia drafted a petition to the Grand Lodge asking for the institution of a lodge in this village, and this paper was signed by the following resident members of the Masonic fraternity: Ezra Platt, Tom Lemon, Richard Smith, Thomas Olcott, Lemuel Fos-

¹ Much of the information obtained in this chapter was taken from David Seaver's "History of Masonry at Batavia," published in 1891. The chapter has been revised by Charles W. Stickle, esq., secretary of Batavia Lodge No. 475, F. & A. M.

ter, Cyrus Griswold, William Rumsey, Bateman Fisk, Isaiah Babcock, Frederick A. Curtis, Sebe Brainard, Edmund Tracy, Isaac Marsh, Jason Munn and Isaac Lincoln. The petition was recommended by Genesee Lodge No. 130, of Avon. The latter lodge, however, was in arrears in its dues to the Grand Lodge, and the parent body decided that the warrant for the lodge at Batavia should not be issued until the lodge at Avon "paid up its dues." The latter organization soon after complied with the demand of the Grand Lodge and the dispensation sought was soon after granted. The petitioners originally intended to name their lodge Fredonian Lodge, but for some reason they decided to substitute the name of Olive Branch Lodge.

The dispensation for Olive Branch Lodge was issued March 9, 1811, and signed by De Witt Clinton, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. The new lodge was regularly instituted on May 30, 1811, at the tavern of William Keyes in Batavia, by Dr. Charles Little of Avon, past master of Genesee Lodge No. 130. The minutes of that historic meeting read as follows:

May 30, 1811.

Olive Branch Lodge, after having been duly installed in virtue of a Warrant of Installation, given by the Most Worshipfull, the Hon. De Witt Clinton, esq., Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York to our Worthy Brother Charles Little, for that purpose, met at the house of Wm. Keyes, in the Village of Batavia, on the 30th of May, A. L., 5811, and was opened on the first step of Masonry.

Present, the Worshipfull Ezra Platt, Master; Richard Smith, Senior Warden; Lemuel Foster, Junior Warden; Wm. Rumsey, Treasurer; Isaiah Babcock, Secretary; Sebe Brainard, Senior Deacon; Isaac Lincoln, Junior Deacon; Bateman Fisk, Matthew B. Eames, Stewards; Luther Cutler, Tyler.

Brethren present: Jonathan Hastings, Alexander Rea, Edmund Tracy, Josiah Risdon, George Cassick, Wm. Hastings, Cyrus Griswold, James Ganson, Abner Ashley, Othniel Field, Benjamin Allen, Solomon Lathrop.

The lodge then proceeded to business.

The petition of Parmenio Adams, praying the benefits of Masonry of this lodge, was read by the Secretary, who reported the receipt of \$8. On motion, ordered the same to be placed on file. The Entered Apprentice Lodge was dispensed with and that of Fellow Craft opened. The Fellow Crafts Lodge was dispensed with and a Masters Lodge duly opened.

The by-laws of Genesee Lodge being read, on motion, ordered that the W. Master be requested to appoint a committee to revise the same and report their proceedings at the next meeting. Whereupon the W. Master appointed brothers Richard Smith, William Rumsey and Isaiah Babcock said committee.

Voted that the next stated meeting of this lodge be on Wednesday evening next succeeding the second Tuesday of June next, at 6 o'clock P. M.

The several lodges were then closed in due form.

The early meetings of Olive Branch Lodge were generally held at the public taverns, no regular headquarters having been furnished. Aaron Van Cleve, sheriff and proprietor of an early tavern, set apart a commodious room in his hostelry which was used as a lodge room for some time after the first two meetings, which were held at Keyes's tavern. September 2, 1811, the trustees of the Batavia school district, in conjunction with a committee from Olive Branch Lodge, purchased a lot on the north side of Main street, at the corner of Ross street, for five dollars. Nathan Rumsey, the original owner, stipulated in the contract for the sale that a two-story brick building should be erected upon this lot within one and one-half years, the lower portion of which should be occupied as a school and the upper portion as a Masonic lodge room. The local members of the Masonic fraternity subscribed funds toward the erection of the building, but the War of 1812 caused a delay in the construction of the edifice, which was not completed until the winter of 1813-14. February 28, 1814, the lodge held its first meeting in its new quarters.

Up to the spring of 1813 the lodge had been working under a dispensation. But in response to a petition, the Grand Lodge, on May 20, 1813, granted a full charter to "Olive Branch Lodge No. 215," in which Richard Smith was named as first worshipful master, Lemuel Foster as first senior warden and John Zenas Ross as first junior warden. The lodge was formally instituted under the complete warrant December 21, 1813, at which time the first meeting under the new charter was held. According to the minutes of that meeting,

A Master Lodge, being duly opened and dispensed with, and that of Past Masters duly opened in virtue of a charter granted by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, dated in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, and in the year of Masonry five thousand eight hundred and thirteen, empowering certain Brethren therein named and their associates to hold a Lodge in the town of Batavia, to be distinguished by the name or style of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 215. Present, Bro. Frederick A. Curtis, R. W. M.; Lemuel Foster, W. S. W.; James Ganson, W. J. W.; John Latham, W. Treasurer; Thomas Olcott, W. Tyler. Brother Richard Smith received the degree of Past Master and was conducted to the chair by W. Bro. Ganson and duly seated by R. W. Bro. Frederick A. Curtis. The lodge was then closed in due form.

December 21, 1813. Olive Branch Lodge met at the lodge room in the Village of Batavia. Present, Richard Smith, W. M.; Lemuel Foster, S. W.; John Z. Ross, J. W.; Edmund Tracy, T. P. T.; John Latham, S. P. T.; Wm. Sheldon, S. D. P. T.; Isaac Lincoln, S. D. P. T.; Frederick Fitch, J. D. P. T.; Blanchard Powers and Bate-man Fisk, S.; E. Tracy, Tyler. Brethren present: Samuel Latham, Elijah Gray,

Levi Farnham, Jason Munn, James Ganson, Thomas Olcott, Frederick A. Curtis. The petition of Uriah P. M. Monro being balloted for the same appeared clear. The Lodge was then closed to meet on the 27th inst. at 2 P. M.

Olive Branch Lodge now being a fully matured, permanent organization, the members became very zealous and active and the lodge consequently prospered. According to the by-laws adopted, "Wednesday before the full moon" was selected as the time for regular monthly communications. The fees for admission were: Eight dollars for the first degree, four dollars for the second and four for the third. The annual dues were fifty cents, payable one shilling quarterly. Each member also paid the stewards twenty-five cents additional as "evening dues for refreshments," except at special meetings, when the candidates were expected to pay the bill for the evening entertainment. The by-laws also provided that the secretary should be paid two shillings for every petition filed, whether the candidate was accepted or rejected. The brick school house and lodge room, contracted for in 1811, was now finished and made ready for occupancy. The first session of the lodge was held therein February 28, 1814. Even at the first meeting it was evident that the new quarters were inadequate; consequently the lodge frequently convened at the taverns of William Keyes, Paul Knowlton, Doddridge Loomis and John S. Leonard in Batavia, and in the famous inn of Worthy L. Churchill, which was located on the road to Stafford, about three miles east of the court house. August 1, 1816, the lodge appointed Richard Smith, Benjamin Allen and Blanchard Powers a committee to confer with the other proprietors of the school building relative to buying or selling their respective rights in the structure. Whether they succeeded or not does not appear upon the records of the lodge, but the latter body abandoned its quarters in the school house¹ and the building was used in the future exclusively for school purposes. That the school district refused to buy out the right of the lodge in the premises in 1816 is evident, however, from the fact that on May 8, 1842, the lodge, then located in Bethany, decided to sell the right of Olive Branch lodge in the building to the Batavia lodge of Odd Fellows for twenty-five dollars. Whether this sale was ultimately consummated does not appear, but it is known that the building was used as a school house until 1854, when it was sold to William S. Mallory, who converted it into a dwelling house. It subsequently was demolished.

In 1819 Olive Branch Lodge was nearly disrupted by internal dissen-

¹ This was the first brick building erected in the village of Batavia.

sions and the institution of new lodges, which numbered among their members numerous Masons who formerly had affiliated with the Batavia organization. In 1815 Le Roy Lodge No. 260 was formed at Le Roy. In 1816 Allegany Lodge No. 277 was instituted at South Pembroke (now Darien), and Rising Star Lodge No. 317 was instituted at Attica. Besides these, lodges had also been organized at Sheldon, Middlebury and Warsaw. Later on lodges were also formed in the towns of Byron, Alexander, Stafford, Bergen and Covington. Consequently, despite the enthusiasm among the members of the craft at Batavia, the membership decreased so rapidly that there soon remained hardly enough resident Masons to hold a session. Yet the meetings were continued in various places in Batavia and Bethany.

The last meeting of Olive Branch Lodge at Batavia was held December 14, 1820, when these officers was elected: W. M., Abner Ashley, Bethany; S. W., Uriel Spencer, Bethany; J. W., Kelsey Stone, Batavia; treasurer, John Nash, Batavia; secretary, Josiah Churchill, Bethany; S. D., Hezekiah B. Pierpont, Batavia; J. D., William R. Thompson, Batavia; stewards, Jonathan Gregg, Bethany; John Wilson, Bethany; tiler, Z. Howe, Bethany. The first meeting at Bethany was held April 5, 1821, at the tavern of Cornelius J. and Jedediah Lincoln.

According to the action of the lodge on November 2, 1820, it was intended that the removal of the organization to Bethany should be nothing but a temporary step, for the express purpose of keeping the membership up to the highest possible figure; and it was expected that at the end of three or four years the lodge would be strong enough to move back to Batavia and there continue to work. During the succeeding four years, from 1820 to 1824, a number of Masons removed from other places to Batavia, and the resident members of the craft began to discuss the return of the lodge's headquarters to the county seat. By 1824 fully fifty Masons lived in Batavia, and for many of them it was inconvenient to attend the sessions at Bethany. Consequently the Batavia brethren made formal application for the right to resume sessions regularly at Batavia. But the Bethany brethren insisted upon having a lodge of their own, though conceding practically everything else asked. The result of the movement was a compromise, whereby the Bethany brethren were permitted to retain the old name and warrant, while the Batavia brethren kept possession of all the funds and effects for the purpose of organizing a new lodge under a different name. The records of the meeting of Olive Branch Lodge November 8, 1824, show the following action:

Voted, That Olive Branch Lodge be and remain in the town of Bethany for time immemorial, and that this Lodge recommend to the Grand Lodge the granting of a charter for the brethren of Batavia.

Also voted, That the new Lodge (to be known as Batavia Lodge) shall have all the funds of this Lodge (Olive Branch Lodge) up to the first Wednesday in December next, and the furniture, except the jewels.

On the same evening a petition was then drawn up and signed by fifteen brethren asking for the formation of Batavia Lodge, in which William Seaver was named as First Worshipful Master. Blanchard Powers as First Senior Warden, and Richard Dibble as First Junior Warden. The requisite recommendatory certificate was then formally endorsed, and the following day the documents were forwarded to the Grand Master. Later on nearly twenty other members of Olive Branch Lodge transferred their affiliation to the new organization.

Thus ended the career of Olive Branch Lodge in Batavia. After a career of several years in Bethany it was finally removed to Le Roy, where it still exists. This, the first lodge of Masons in Genesee county, numbered among its members many of the most substantial and influential men of the day. The following is an accurate list of all those who were connected with it from the time of its institution to the year 1820, and of the Batavia residents initiated up to 1824, when the Batavia members withdrew for the purpose of organizing a new lodge:

Original petitioners—Ezra Platt, Isaac Lincoln, Isaac Marsh, Tom Lemon, Thomas Olcott, Jason Munn; Le Roy; Richard Smith, Lemuel Foster, William Rumsey, Isaiah Babcock, Batavia; Sebe Brainard, Edmund Tracy, Alexander; Cyrus Griswold, Frederick A. Curtis, Sheldon; Bateman Fisk.

1811-1812—Othniel Field, Benjamin Allen, Dr. John Zenas Ross, Luther Cutler, John Latham, Abel Wheeler, Dr. Winter Hewitt, Samuel Peek, Rev. Isaac Jones, Dr. David McCracken, Richard Godfrey, Dr. John Hubbard, Blanchard Powers, Uriah P. B. Munro, Batavia; George Cassick, Mathew B. Eames, Alexander Rea, Josiah Goodrich, Pardee Brainard, Samuel Latham, Alexander; Buel Brown, Solomon Lathrop, Abner Ashley, Jotham Bisbee, Jehiel Mitchell, Bethany; Jonathan Hastings, William Hastings, Darien; Judge John H. Jones, Cuylerville; Joshua Green, Byron; Levi Farnham, Le Roy; Daniel Andrews, Michael Andrews, Parmenio Adams, Thomas Cooley, Attica.

1814—Benjamin Butterfield, William Whitman, John Lamberton, Joel Thompson, Asa Fuller, Ephraim Towner, Asahel Wright, Doddridge Loomis, Charles G. Eggleston, Charles S. Rumsey, Calvin Houghton, Benjamin C. Adams, Abel Bigelow, Jonathan Scott, Batavia; Newcomb Demery, Levi Thompson, Norman Brainard, Noah North, Suel Fisher, Alexander; Dr. Benjamin H. Packard, Liberty Judd, Roswell Lathrop, Rev. William Barlow, Bethany; Elijah Cheeney, Pavilion; Gaius B. Rich, Attica; James Stage, Stafford; Otis Bramin, David Riddle, Moody R. Freeman, Erastus Crosby, Dr. Robert H. Henderson, residence not given.

1815—Thomas H. Clark, Jeremiah West, Oliver B. Smith, Norman Shepard, Dr. Orris Crosby, James McKain, jr., George E. Martin, Seymour Kellogg, Benjamin

Porter, sr., Benjamin Porter, jr., Jacob Hall, Gurdon Huntington, Capt. William Hull, James Hoyt, Asahel Powers, Batavia; Phineas Stevens, Le Roy; Joseph Wilder, Attica; Calvin Barross, Bethany; James Cronk, Amherst; Nehemiah Tracy, Alexander; Elisha Godfrey, Stafford; Henry St. John, Reuben T. Baker, Samuel McDougall, William Coffee, Eber Decow, John Easterbrook, Robbins Stillman, Ebenezer Pratt, Abner Colby, John H. Redstone, residence not given.

1816—Dr. Ephraim Brown, Benjamin Blodgett, George W. Blodgett, Moses Beecher, John F. Cary, Samuel Lake, John Richardson, jr., Samuel J. Grannis, Thomas D. Campbell, Silas Frisbie, Henry O. Bronson, Batavia; Job Cole, David Goss, East Pembroke; Eden Foster, Stafford; Jasper Bennett, Bethany; Erastus Barrett, Alfred Peck, Edward Taylor, residence not given.

1817—Daniel Tisdale, Rev. Samuel Johnson, Milton W. Rogers, John Showerman, Levi Kimball, James Cawte, Batavia; Henry Rumsey, Josiah Churchill, Joseph Towner, Dr. Daniel Rumsey, Elisha Walker Rumsey, Bethany; Joseph Harris, residence not given.

1818-1819—Rev. Elisha House, Hezekiah B. Pierpont, Leicester Stone, Elijah Spencer, Jabez Howe, Kelsey Stone, Lyman D. Wood, John Nash, William R. Thompson, Batavia; Heman Nelson, Alexander; Uriel Spencer, Bethany.

1820—William F. Lake, Thomas G. Green, Peter Daw, Batavia; Jonathan Gregg, John Wilson, Z. Howe, Bethany; Amos Wright, Peter Richardson, Zachariah H. Royce, residence not given.

1822-1824—John Chatfield, Rev. Levi S. Ives, Henry Tisdale, Alfred Pember, John Wills, John Getty, William Purcell, Adams Getty, Israel Webber, Ephraim Powers, Batavia.

The following residents of Batavia were initiated at Bethany in 1840-1842: Michael McDonald, Stevens T. Crane, Dr. Thomas T. Everett, Dr. James A. Billings, Richard S. Blennerhassett, Lucas Seaver, Dr. William H. Webster, Duane Patterson, Daniel M. Seaver, Eli Todd Lewis. These were initiated at Le Roy in 1848: William H. Preston, William H. Moody, Sanford S. Clark.

Following is a complete and accurate list of all the officers of Olive Branch Lodge and the years of their service:

Masters—1811, Ezra Pratt; 1812-1814, Richard Smith; 1815, Lemuel Foster; 1816-1817, Blanchard Powers; 1818, John Zenas Ross; 1819-1820, Blanchard Powers.

Senior Wardens—1811-1812, Richard Smith; 1813-1814, Lemuel Foster; 1815, John Z. Ross; 1816, Edmund Tracy; 1817, Charles S. Rumsey; 1818-1819, Eden Foster; 1820, Ephraim Towner.

Junior Wardens—1811-1812, Lemuel Foster; 1813-1814, John Z. Ross; 1815, Blanchard Powers; 1816, Charles S. Rumsey; 1817, Benjamin Allen; 1818, Benjamin Blodgett; 1819-1820, Abner Ashley.

Treasurers—1811-1815, William Rumsey; 1816, Benjamin Allen; 1817, Benjamin Porter, sr.; 1818, Abner Ashley; 1819-1820, Noah North.

Secretaries—1811-1815, Isaiah Babcock; 1816, Richard Smith; 1817, Thomas H. Clarke; 1818-1820, Samuel Lake.

Senior Deacons—1811-1814, Sebe Brainard; 1815, Benjamin Allen; 1816, James McKain; 1817, Gurdon Huntington; 1818, Norman Shepard; 1819, Gurdon Huntington; 1820, Kelsey Stone.

Junior Deacons—1811-1814, Isaac Lincoln; 1815, C. G. Eggleston; 1816, Jacob Hull; 1817, James Cawte; 1818, James McKain; 1819, James Cawte; 1820, Uriel Spencer.

Stewards—1811-1814, Matthew B. Eames, Bateman Fisk; 1815, Calvin Houghton, Abner Ashley; 1816, Benjamin Porter, jr., Norman Shepard; 1818, Asahel Powers, Moses Beecher; 1818, Levi Kimball, James Cawte; 1819, Asahel Powers, John Showerman; 1820, Hezekiah B. Pierpont, Leicester Stone.

Tilers—1811-1814, Luther Cutler; 1815-1817, Levi Thompson; 1818-1820 Jonathan Scott.

The petition for the formation of the new lodge at Batavia bore date November 8, 1824, was officially recommended by Olive Branch Lodge, and bears the signatures of the following brethren, who thus became the charter members of the new lodge:

William Seaver, master; Blanchard Powers, senior warden; Dr. Richard Dibble, junior warden; Richard Smith, treasurer; Richard Martin, secretary; Dr. John Z. Ross, Dr. Ephraim Brown, William R. Thompson, Benjamin C. Adams, Ephraim Towner, John Wills, Benjamin Porter, sr., Orange Allen, Samuel Graves, Alfred Pember.

A dispensation for the new lodge was granted April 30, 1825, by Grand Master Joseph Enos, and June 8, 1825, the Grand Lodge granted a permanent warrant of constitution under the name of Batavia Lodge No. 433, F. & A. M. The first meeting of the new lodge was held August 15, 1825, at the Eagle tavern of Bissell Humphrey, located on the site of Hotel Richmond, on the southeast corner of Main and Court streets. On September 20, following, Dr. John Cotes was initiated into the first degree, he being the first person to be made a Mason by the new lodge.

Early in the winter arrangements were made for the installation of Batavia Lodge. This event was first arranged for December 13, but for some reason a postponement was had until December 19, when the ceremony occurred in St. James Episcopal church. A procession formed in front of Humphrey's tavern at eleven o'clock in the morning, under the direction General Ephraim Towner, marshal of the day. Headed by a band the body proceeded to the church, where the following programme was carried out: Instrumental music; prayer; Masonic Ode by the choir, under direction of H. Gifford, choirmaster of St. James church; address by Rev. M. Smith; instrumental music; consecration

of the lodge; chant—"Cantata Domino"; installation of officers; vocal music, "Strike the Cymbal;" benediction.

Soon after the institution of Batavia Lodge came the mysterious disappearance of the notorious William Morgan, an event which is referred to in detail in preceding pages. In the exciting times which followed for several years the lodge met only at intervals, and then usually with great secrecy. As this event marks the most important epoch in the history of Masonry in the United States, the following complete list of the members of the lodge in 1826, the year of Morgan's disappearance, is given. It is worthy of notice that but two members of Batavia Lodge ever renounced Masonry—George W. Harris, who was expelled August 15, 1826, and subsequently married the widow of William Morgan, and Samuel D. Greene, who was expelled February 8, 1827. The other members of the lodge at this time were:

William Seaver, Blanchard Powers, Dr. Richard Dibble, Dr. Ephraim Brown, Richard Martin, Richard Smith, Dr. John Z. Ross, William R. Thompson, Benjamin C. Adams, Samuel Graves, Orange Allen, John Willis, Benjamin Porter, sr., Alfred Pember, Ephraim Towner, Henry Brown, Rev. Lucius Smith, Johnson Goodwill, John Lamberton, Peter Daw, John S. Ganson, Dr. Jonas S. Billings, Cotton Denio, Leicester Stone, Benjamin Allen, George E. Martin, Joseph Clark, Jabez Harve, Nathan Townsend, Daniel Latimer, Daniel Tisdale, John Showerman, Kelsey Stone, Benjamin Blodgett, Dr. John Hubbard, Philo W. Stocking, Alba Burnham, John Chatfield, Dr. John Cotes, Nathan Follett, Charles C. Church, Joseph W. C. Coffin, John Foote, Wray T. Palmer, Amos P. Parker, Nahum Loring, Frederick Follett, Benjamin F. Towner, Hezekiah D. Platt, Ezekiel King, Joel Chandler, Joseph Nixon, Ebenezer Mix, Simeon C. Steele, Joseph Baker, Jason Grattan, Silas Finch, Daniel H. Chandler, Abner Pratt, Lyman Swift, George Metzger, Lewis Swift, Parley Paine, Simeon Cumings, Samuel C. Holden, Joseph W. Churchill, Horace Seaver, Phineas Dodge, Phineas Silsby, Thomas McCully, John Wilson, George L. Davis, Benjamin Stetson, Robert Clark.

In 1826 Batavia Chapter No. 122, Royal Arch Masons, came into existence. Rev. Lucius Smith was its first high priest, William Seaver its first king and Henry Brown its first scribe.

June 25, 1839, Batavia Lodge forfeited its charter, and for three years Masonry was a dead letter in Batavia. Meantime a large number of lodges had become extinct, by reason of the anti-Masonic agitation following the Morgan episode, and the Grand Lodge renumbered the ex-

isting subordinate lodges. By this act Batavia Lodge became No. 88, and its first meeting as such was held June 1, 1842, at "Holden's upper sitting room," Brother Eden Foster presiding. These officers were at that time elected: Master, Ebenezer Mix; S. W., Thomas McCully; J. W., Joel Allen; treasurer, Abiel W. Ensign; secretary, Daniel M. Seaver; S. D., Stevens T. Crane; J. D., Joseph N. Perry; stewards, Horace Eells and Jabez Howe; tiler, Richard Austin.

Meantime the lodge had met at various places—sometimes at Holden's tavern, sometimes at O. T. Fargo's tavern, which stood about midway between Batavia and Alexander, and sometimes at the Genesee House. In January, 1844, headquarters were established in the old "Cobblestone block," where most of the meetings were held until 1847, when the lodge again surrendered its charter. This dissolution was brought about principally by internal dissension. The warrant was taken away November 9, 1847.

The principal officers of Batavia Lodge No. 433 with the years of their service were:

Master—1825-1828, William Seaver.

Senior Wardens—1825, Blanchard Powers; 1826-1828, Henry Brown.

Junior Wardens—1825, Richard Dibble; 1826-1828, Jonas S. Billings.

Treasurers—1825, Ephraim Brown; 1826-1828, Richard Smith.

Secretary—1825-1828, Richard Martin.

As Lodge No. 88, Batavia Lodge had the following officers:

Masters—1842-1843, Ebenezer Mix; 1844, Eden Foster; 1845, Joel Allen; 1846, Dr. Guy B. Shepard; 1847, Joel Allen.

Senior Wardens—1842, Thomas McCully; 1843, Eden Foster; 1844, Joel Allen; 1845, Guy B. Shepard; 1846, Joel Allen; 1847, Horace M. Warren.

Junior Wardens—1842, Joel Allen; 1843, John Wheeler; 1844, Daniel M. Seaver; 1845, T. T. Everett; 1846, M. C. Townsend; 1847, Hector Humphrey.

Treasurers—1842, Abiel W. Ensign; 1843-1846, Hector Humphrey; 1847, Stephen Wilson.

Secretaries—1842, Daniel M. Seaver; 1843, Kelsey Stone; 1844, George G. Blodgett; 1845, Eden Foster; 1846-1847, B. G. Tisdale.

Senior Deacons—1842, Stevens T. Crane; 1843-1845, Elias M. Chapel; 1846, Horace M. Warren; 1847, Horace Eells.

Junior Deacons—1842, Joseph N. Perry; 1843, M. C. Townsend; 1844, A. W. Ensign; 1845, Eli Woods; 1846, Bradley G. Tisdale; 1847, Francis Bush.

Stewards—1842, Horace Eells, Jabez Howe; 1843, Horace Eells, J. B. Tillon; 1844, Preston Durant, Josiah Patterson; 1845, H. Narramore, Cyrus Pond; 1846, Preston Durant, Cyrus Pond; 1847, Orrin Frink, Cyrus Pond.

Tilers—1842-1843, Richard Austin; 1844, M. C. Townsend; 1845-1846, Francis Bush; 1843, Preston Durant.

After the dissolution of Batavia Lodge No. 88 the fraternity in Batavia were without an organization for about three years. Nevertheless interest in Masonry had been kept up almost equally with what would have obtained with a large body working regularly. The personal differences among some of the members of the now defunct lodge having died away steps were taken by the resident members of the fraternity to secure a warrant for a new lodge. In December, 1850, a petition for the institution of a lodge to be known as Fisher's Lodge,¹ and designating Cyrus Pond as the first master, Horace M. Warren as senior warden and Stephen A. Wilson as junior warden, received the signatures of Cyrus Pond, Horace M. Warren, Stephen A. Wilson, Hector Humphrey, Bradley G. Tisdale, Sanford S. Clark, Reuben Wentworth, Augustus Cowdin, Nelson Stevens, Oliver B. Smith, Barnum Bliss, William H. Moody, Josiah Patterson, Duane Patterson, Jerome Patterson, Andrew Martin, Alexander Martin and James Martin. Pursuant to this petition a dispensation for the organization of the new lodge was granted by Nelson Randall, deputy grand master, and the first meeting of Fisher's Lodge No. 212 was held December 17, 1850, in the old Cobblestone block, which occupied the site of No. 67 Main street. While Fisher's Lodge was technically a new organization, it was essentially a revival of Batavia Lodge No. 88, which had disbanded to allow certain personal differences among rival claimants to the same office to heal. The first candidate initiated by the new lodge was Edgar C. Dibble, a prominent lawyer of Batavia, who was also the first to be raised to the degree of master mason. After working under the dispensation for two months the lodge received a full warrant, under which its first meeting was held March 4, 1851. The degree of master mason was conferred upon Hiram Deuel of Alabama March 18.

Fisher's Lodge prospered from the start. In 1852 the headquarters were removed from the Cobblestone building to the Odd Fellows' hall, which had been erected in that year. Hector Humphrey, a member of the lodge, died June 5, 1855, and on the following Sunday his body was interred in the village cemetery with full Masonic honors. The occasion was a notable one by reason of the fact that it was the first time that the local fraternity had formally appeared in public since the memorable celebration of St. John's Day in June, 1827.

Fisher's Lodge enjoyed a successful career for a period of eight years, when suddenly came a rude awakening, followed by the collapse and

¹So named in honor of Lillie Fisher, one of the early residents of the town of Alexander.

death of the organization. For some hidden reason, members whose names were unknown had studiously blackballed all candidates for Masonic honors, no matter how worthy they were. It therefore becoming apparent that the lodge as it then existed could not enjoy a healthy growth, it was decided to surrender the warrant and organize a new lodge. On April 5, 1859, the lodge ceased to exist. Those who served in its various offices were as follows:

Masters.—1851, Cyrus Pond; 1852, Horace M. Warren; 1853, Edgar C. Dibble; 1854, Kimball Ferren; 1855, Gad Worthington; 1856, Horace M. Warren; 1857-1859, Stephen A. Wilson.

Senior Wardens.—1851, Horace M. Warren; 1852, Edgar C. Dibble; 1853, Kimball Ferren; 1854, Horace M. Warren; 1855, E. A. Fargo; 1856, Kimball Ferren; 1857, Orrin Dewolf; 1858, Benjamin Pringle; 1859, Orrin Dewolf.

Junior Wardens.—1851, Stephen A. Wilson; 1852, Kimball Ferren; 1853, Gad Worthington; 1854, E. A. Fargo; 1855, W. Sutherland; 1856, Orrin Dewolf; 1857, Smith Frost; 1858-1859, S. B. Pierson.

Treasurers.—1851, Hector Humphrey; 1852, J. C. Wilson; 1853, Horace M. Warren; 1854, George W. Miller; 1855-1856, H. T. Cross; 1857, T. C. Kimberly; 1858, H. T. Cross; 1859, A. H. Towne.

Secretaries.—1851-1852, John Eager; 1853, Smith Frost; 1854, T. C. Kimberly; 1855, David Seaver; 1856-1857, James A. Olds; 1858-1859, David Seaver.

Senior Deacons.—1851, Edgar C. Dibble; 1852-1854, Elias Foote; 1855, Stephen A. Wilson; 1856, Ira Backus; 1857-1858, Benjamin Brewster; 1859, Orrin S. Clark.

Junior Deacons.—1851, Kimball Ferren; 1852-1853, D. C. Colony; 1854, W. Sutherland; 1855, William Bush; 1856, Benjamin Brewster; 1857, A. H. Towne; 1858, David Y. Smith; 1859, James C. Palmer.

Stewards.—1851, J. C. Wilson, George W. Miller; 1852-1853, Calvin Rich, Le Roy Leach; 1854, Calvin Rich, William Bush; 1855, Benjamin Brewster, Foster Clark; 1856-1857, Calvin Rich, George Burdett; 1858, Calvin Rich, Caleb T. Gifford; 1859, William Bush, George B. Kemp.

Tilers.—1851-1853, Sanford S. Clark; 1854-1859, Frederick J. Oswald.

Hardly had the death knell of Fisher's Lodge been sounded when the initial step toward the organization of its successor was taken. An hour or two after the members of Fisher's Lodge had voted to surrender their charter several of those who had been members met at the law office of Hon. Benjamin Pringle and drew up a petition for a charter for a new lodge, to be known as Batavia Lodge. This paper named Benjamin Pringle as the first master, Kimball Ferren the first senior warden and Marcus L. Babcock the first junior warden. The petition bore the signatures of these three men and Horace M. Warren, George Babcock, Horace B. Ferren, Joseph Clark, Abiel Bowen, George Bowen, Augustus Cowdin, Gad Worthington, George B. Kemp, David Y.

Smith, John B. Wentworth, Samuel B. Pierson, George W. Miller, Nelson Stevens, Alvin Pease, William Mann, Orlo R. Clark and Albert R. Warner. April 7 John L. Lewis, grand master, granted a dispensation for the formation of Batavia Lodge, and April 9 the first meeting was held at the office of Judge Pringle.

The first formal business session of the new organization was held April 12 at a lodge room then located in the brick building on the southwest corner of Main and Jackson streets. At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge in June following a warrant was granted and the lodge given the name of Batavia Lodge No. 475, F. & A. M.. But in accordance with the prevailing custom of the parent body the charter was dated July 4. July 12, 1859, the lodge was formally instituted and its officers installed in the lodge rooms on Main and Jackson streets. The first person to be initiated was Homer Bostwick, who received his first degree July 19, 1859. The first Masonic funeral was that of Eden Foster, a veteran Mason of 1816, and past master of Batavia Lodge No. 88, which occurred September 13, 1859. The first annual election of officers occurred in December, 1859, when the following were chosen: W. M., Horace M. Warren; S. W., Samuel B. Pierson; J. W., David Y. Smith; treasurer, Nelson Stevens; secretary, Weeden T. Bliss; S. D., Homer Bostwick; J. D., George Merritt; tiler, Frederick J. Oswald.

Beginning with the year 1860 the lodge enjoyed a successful career, which has continued without interruption for a period of nearly forty years. Its members include not only a large number of the representative citizens of Batavia, but also many residents of the towns of Alabama, Alexander, Bethany, Byron, Darien, Elba, Pembroke and Stafford.

When Batavia Lodge No. 475 was first organized it met regularly in the third story of the brick block at Nos. 87 and 89 Main street, corner of Jackson, the property owned by the local lodge of Odd Fellows. Soon after headquarters were removed to the Champion block, Nos. 26 and 28 Main street. These quarters soon becoming inadequate, on March 1, 1865, the organization secured a twenty years' lease of the entire upper portion of the building located on the corner of Main and State streets, formerly used as a hotel—the old Genesee House, built in 1834 by Truman Hurlburt, sr. Over two thousand dollars was expended by the lodge in remodeling and furnishing the rooms, which were the finest in Western New York for many years. The new hall was dedicated with great pomp and ceremony on St. John's day, June

24, 1855. Three days later the lodge held its first session in its new home, where it continued to meet regularly for a period of twenty years.

But Batavia Lodge continued to prosper and gain in numbers until even the commodious quarters on Main and State streets became inconvenient and inadequate. In 1880 Hon. Edward C. Walker began the construction of the Walker block, located on Main street east of Park avenue. The building was completed in the fall of that year, the third floor having been fitted up exclusively for the use of Batavia Lodge, and under the direction of a committee of that organization. On New Years eve—December 31, 1880—the Knights Templar gave their ninth annual reception in the new hall.

March 26, 1867, Batavia Lodge took the steps necessary for incorporation, naming Horace M. Warren, Homer Bostwick and David Seaver as the first trustees.

Following is a complete list of the officers of Batavia Lodge No. 475 from its organization to the year 1898:

Masters—1859, Benjamin Pringle; 1860, Horace M. Warren; 1861, Samuel B. Pierson; 1862, Homer Bostwick; 1863, Kimball Ferren; 1864-1868, Horace M. Warren; 1869, Anderson D. Tryon; 1870, Oliver C. Stone; 1871, Horace M. Warren; 1872, Edgar G. T. Adams; 1873-1875, Elonzo N. Stone; 1876-1877, John Thomas; 1878-1880, Uri Scott; 1881, John H. Ward; 1882-1883, Edwin Darrow; 1884-1885, Llewellyn C. Lorish; 1886, Elonzo N. Stone; 1887, Uri Scott; 1888-1891, Alexander Hays; 1892-1893, Willis D. Sanford; 1894, W. J. Barr; 1895, William T. Mylcrane; 1896, George E. Perrin; 1897, C. B. Austin; 1898, H. P. Maddock.

Senior Wardens—1859, Kimball Ferren; 1860, Samuel B. Pierson; 1861-1862, David Y. Smith; 1863, Joseph Booth; 1864-1865, Homer Bostwick; 1866, Charles Henshaw; 1867, George Merritt; 1868, Anderson D. Tryon; 1869, David Seaver; 1870, Harry Wiard; 1871, Edgar G. T. Adams; 1872, Elonzo N. Stone; 1873, F. M. Jameson; 1874, George W. Griffis; 1875, John Thomas; 1876, Alvin J. Fox; 1877, Alvin Pease; 1878, J. M. Hamilton; 1879, Orrin C. Parker; 1880, John I. Lown; 1881-1882, F. C. Campbell; 1883, L. C. Lorish; 1884, A. G. Gage; 1885, Uri Scott; 1886-1887, John I. Lown; 1888-1889, B. F. Showerman; 1890, Willis D. Sanford; 1891, Safford E. North; 1892-1894, W. T. Mylcrane; 1895, F. H. Hagadorn; 1896, C. B. Austin; 1897, H. P. Maddock; 1898, J. C. Richardson.

Junior Wardens—1859, Marcus L. Babcock; 1860, David Y. Smith; 1861, Homer Bostwick; 1862, Joseph Booth; 1863, George Merritt; 1864, J. M. Showerman; 1865, L. J. Macomber; 1866, George Merritt; 1867, Anderson D. Tryon; 1868, David Seaver; 1869, O. C. Stone; 1870, Edgar G. T. Adams; 1871, Elonzo N. Stone; 1872, A. D. Waldo; 1873, George W. Griffis; 1874, A. H. Brown; 1875, Alvin J. Fox; 1876-1877, Uri Scott; 1878-1879, John I. Lown; 1880, F. C. Campbell; 1881, Edwin Darrow; 1882, C. W. Tallman; 1883, M. Rourk; 1884, J. M. Hamilton; 1885, John I. Lown; 1886, J. M. McKenzie; 1887, H. J. Brown; 1888-1889, George E. Perrin; 1890,

A. W. Caney; 1891, E. A. Swanson; 1892-1893, W. J. Barr; 1894, F. H. Hagadorn; 1895, George M. Neel; 1896, H. P. Maddock; 1897, C. B. Squires; 1898, Charles W. Stickle.

Treasurers—1859-1861, Nelson Stevens; 1862-1863, George W. Miller; 1864-1868, George B. Kemp; 1869-1882, Orlo R. Clark; 1883-1887, John H. Ward; 1888-1891, Wilber Smith; 1892-1898, Elonzo N. Stone.

Secretaries—1859, Trumbull C. Kimberly; 1860, W. T. Bliss; 1861-1863, Horace M. Warren; 1864, C. H. Kirkham; 1865-1866, A. G. B. Sleeper; 1867, David Seaver; 1868-1875, A. R. Warner; 1876-1877, J. A. Mackey; 1878-1880, Wilber Smith; 1881-1882, Homer Bostwick; 1883-1897, Charles W. Stickle; 1898, L. C. Lorish.

Senior Deacons—1859, Samuel B. Pierson; 1860, Homer Bostwick; 1861-1862, E. P. Morse; 1863, David Y. Smith; 1864-1865, W. T. Bliss; 1866, Harry Wiard; 1867, J. M. Showerman; 1868, O. C. Stone; 1869-1870, Elonzo N. Stone; 1871, B. Kinner; 1872, John Thomas; 1873, A. H. Brown; 1874, John Thomas; 1875, Uri Scott; 1876, J. M. Hamilton; 1877, C. V. Hooper; 1878, John H. Ward; 1879, F. C. Campbell; 1880, John Thomas; 1881-1882, L. C. Lorish; 1883, A. B. Lowe; 1884, Elonzo N. Stone; 1885, H. A. King; 1886, H. J. Brown; 1887, E. A. Rial; 1888-1889, Willis D. Sanford; 1890, C. M. Robson; 1891, W. T. Mylcrane; 1892, B. F. Showerman; 1893, F. H. Hagadorn; 1894, George M. Neel; 1895, H. P. Maddock; 1896, C. B. Squires; 1897, J. C. Richardson; 1898, E. R. Thomas.

Junior Deacons—1859, D. Y. Smith; 1860, George Merritt; 1861, J. M. Showerman; 1862, George Merritt; 1863, William Bliss; 1864, C. H. Knill; 1865, E. Wiard; 1866, William F. Robe; 1867-1868, A. D. Waldo; 1869, E. G. T. Adams; 1870, George E. True; 1871, J. M. Hamilton; 1872, F. M. Jameson; 1873, T. H. Sanford; 1874, A. J. Fox; 1875, J. M. Hamilton; 1876, John I. Lown; 1877, F. C. Campbell; 1878, R. B. Pease; 1879, D. Buchanan; 1880, L. C. Lorish; 1881-1882, M. Rourk; 1883, F. A. Moreau; 1884, H. A. King; 1885, D. Buchanan; 1886, E. A. Rial; 1887, E. A. Swanson; 1888-1889, A. W. Tyler; 1890, A. J. McWain; 1891, W. J. Barr; 1892, J. M. Pickett; 1893, G. M. Neel; 1894, H. P. Maddock; 1895, C. S. Shaul; 1896, J. C. Richardson; 1897, J. F. Hall; 1898, Harry Burrows.

Stewards—1864, Orlo R. Clark, S. O. Dulmage; 1865, L. A. Marsh, G. L. Wolcott; 1866, Anderson D. Tryon, C. H. Reynolds; 1867, O. C. Stone, N. L. Nobles; 1868, B. Kinner, N. L. Nobles; 1869, H. S. Hutchins, L. L. Tozier; 1870, C. B. Smith, H. B. Cone; 1871, M. H. Bailey, F. M. Jameson; 1872, A. M. Edwards, George W. Griffis; 1873, John I. Lown, Alvin J. Fox; 1874, Uri Scott, S. D. Hinman; 1875, J. A. Mackey, S. D. Hinman; 1876, W. M. Tompkins, F. C. Campbell; 1877, D. Buchanan, James Drake; 1878, Edwin Darrow, Edward Dow; 1879, L. C. Lorish, E. A. Swanson; 1880, J. A. Mackey, A. J. Patterson; 1881, C. W. Tallman, Charles R. Gould; 1882, D. Buchanan, J. B. Neasmith; 1883, A. J. Patterson, John Freidley; 1884, A. J. Patterson, J. W. Gardner; 1885, A. J. Patterson, W. P. Simpson; 1886, E. A. Swanson, E. A. Darrow; 1887, E. A. Darrow, A. B. Lowe; 1888, A. C. Olmstead, A. T. Miller; 1889, Safford E. North, A. J. McWain; 1890, Andrew Hiller, A. B. Lowe; 1891, Andrew Hiller, O. Cooley; 1892-1893, H. P. Maddock, C. S. Shaul; 1894, C. S. Shaul, G. S. Nicol; 1895, G. S. Nicol, W. A. Acker; 1896-1897, W. A. Acker, L. W. Hahn; 1898, A. J. Harper, E. C. Hawkins.

Tilers—1859-1862, F. J. Oswald; 1863-1864, H. S. Morse; 1865-1881, W. H. Brown; 1882-1887, Andrew Hiller; 1888-1898, W. H. Brown.

Western Star Chapter No. 35, Royal Arch Masons of Batavia, was instituted March 29, 1813, during the first year of organized Masonry in Batavia. The following have served as high priests of the chapter:

1813, William Markham; 1814, Justin Smith; 1815, Orange Risdon; 1816, Daniel White; 1817, Orange Risdon; 1818-1823, Blanchard Powers; 1824, John Brady; 1825, Daniel White; 1826, Calvin Holbrook; 1827-1830, Blanchard Powers; 1831, Ebenezer Mix; 1832-1848, Blanchard Powers; 1849, Azor Curtis; 1850-1852, Thomas C. Ladd; 1853-1854, Horace M. Warren; 1855, Kimball Ferren; 1856-1859, Edgar C. Dibble; 1860, Kimball Ferren; 1861, Benjamin Pringle; 1862, Kimball Ferrin; 1863-1865, David Seaver; 1866-1867, Homer Bostwick; 1868-1869, J. M. Showerman; 1870-1872, Walter S. Lewis; 1873-1881, Elonzo N. Stone; 1882, Homer Bostwick; 1883, D. W. Tomlinson; 1884-1885, Elonzo N. Stone; 1886-1887, George P. Bowen; 1888-1889, J. M. Showerman; 1890-1891, Ashton W. Caney; 1892-1894, Clarence B. Austin; 1895, George M. Neel; 1896, W. D. Sanford; 1897-1898, George E. Perrin.

Batavia Commandery No. 34, Knights Templar, of Batavia, was chartered September 26, 1865, with these officers: Eminent commander, David Seaver; generalissimo, John R. Anderson; captain general, Albert R. Warner; prelate, Horace M. Warren; senior warden, James M. Willett; junior warden, J. M. Showerman; treasurer, Charles H. Monell; recorder, Henry Todd; standard bearer, L. Judson Macomber; sword bearer, L. P. Bickford; warder, E. G. Flanders; captain of guard, Henry Agar; sentinel, William H. Brown. The principal officers of the commandery since its organization have been:

Eminent Commanders—1865-1868, David Seaver; 1869, Horace M. Warren; 1870-1871, James M. Showerman; 1872-1873, Albert R. Warner; 1874-1877, O. C. Parker; 1878-1879, George W. Griffis; 1880, Daniel W. Tomlinson; 1881-1882, George P. Bowen; 1883-1884, Lucien R. Bailey; 1885, Augustus N. Cowdin; 1886, L. Sidney Crooker; 1887-1888, O. C. Parker; 1889-1891, Willis D. Sanford; 1892, Ashton W. Caney; 1893-1894, W. T. Mylcrane; 1895-1898, H. J. Burkhart.

Generalissimo—1865, John R. Anderson; 1866-1868, Welden T. Bliss; 1869, James M. Willett; 1870-1872, Elonzo N. Stone; 1873, Lucien R. Bailey; 1874-1877, George W. Griffis; 1878, G. H. Robertson; 1879, D. W. Tomlinson; 1880, George P. Bowen; 1881, Lucien R. Bailey; 1882, George P. Bowen; 1883-1886, James C. Young; 1887, D. W. Tomlinson; 1888, Linus G. Steele; 1889-1891, Ashton W. Caney; 1892, George E. Perrin; 1893-1894, H. J. Burkhart; 1895-1896, C. B. Austin; 1897-1898, James C. Young.

Captain Generals—1865-1868, Albert R. Warner; 1869, Oliver C. Stone; 1870, A. R. Warner; 1871-1872, L. R. Bailey; 1873, O. C. Parker; 1874, John Thomas; 1875-1877, George H. Robertson; 1878, D. W. Tomlinson; 1879, George P. Bowen; 1880, L. R. Bailey; 1881-1882, James C. Young; 1883, William M. Tompkins; 1884, A. W. Cowdin; 1885, L. Sidney Crooker; 1886-1887, Linus G. Steele; 1888, W. D. Sanford; 1889-1890, Warren P. Simpson; 1891, George E. Perrin; 1892, A. T. Miller; 1893-1895, F. H. Hagadorn; 1896, George J. Russell; 1897-1898, Charles Pratt.

Prelates—1865–1868, Horace M. Warren; 1868–1888, Homer Bostwick; 1889–1898, Rev. Pierre Cushing.

Senior Wardens—1865–1868, James M. Willett; 1869–1871, Charles H. Kirkham; 1872, E. G. T. Adams; 1873, George W. Griffis; 1874, E. G. T. Adams; 1875–1880, James C. Young; 1881, John Thomas; 1882, John H. Ward; 1883, A. N. Cowdin; 1884, L. S. Crooker; 1885, L. G. Steele; 1886, I. D. Southworth; 1887, A. N. Cowdin; 1888, A. W. Caney; 1889–1890, Alexander Hayes; 1891, A. T. Miller; 1892, W. T. Mylcrane; 1893, George J. Russell; 1894–1896, W. D. Sanford; 1897, George D. Williamson; 1898, H. C. Senn.

Junior Wardens—1865–1866, J. M. Showerman; 1867, C. H. Kirkham; 1868, J. M. Showerman; 1869–1871, E. G. T. Adams; 1872, W. S. Lewis; 1873, John Thomas; 1874, James C. Young; 1875–1878, R. C. Marsh; 1879–1880, John Thomas; 1881–1882, W. M. Tompkins; 1883, L. S. Crooker; 1884, John H. Ward; 1885, E. N. Stone; 1886, Charles D. Stone; 1887, W. D. Sanford; 1888, Alexander Hayes; 1889–1891, A. J. McWain; 1892, H. J. Burkhart; 1893, J. N. Champion; 1894, George J. Russell; 1895, G. D. Williamson; 1896–1897, C. B. Squires; 1898, F. F. Weiss.

Treasurers—1865–1873, Charles H. Monell; 1874–1876, Albert R. Warner; 1877–1882, A. N. Cowdin; 1883–1887, D. A. McDonald; 1888–1894, I. D. Southworth; 1895–1897, H. A. Morse; 1898, G. D. Williamson.

Recorders—1865–1871, Henry Todd; 1872–1897, Frank M. Jameson; 1898, Charles W. Stickle.

Standard Bearers—1865, L. Judson Macomber; 1866–1867, W. B. Pickett; 1868, Homer Bostwick; 1869–1871, R. C. Marsh; 1872, M. H. Bailey; 1873–1878, James M. Hamilton; 1879–1884, Isaac Huyck; 1885, W. D. Sanford; 1886–1887, James M. Hamilton; 1888, Andrew Hiller; 1889–1891, John F. Kurtz; 1892–1896, Charles Pratt; 1897–1898, Thomas W. Dowd.

Sword Bearers—1865–1867, L. P. Bickford; 1868, O. C. Stone; 1869, C. B. Smith; 1870–1871, Charles H. Tilney; 1872, O. C. Parker; 1873–1874, R. C. Marsh; 1875–1877, George P. Bowen; 1878, E. N. Stone; 1879–1883, John I. Lown; 1884, James M. Hamilton; 1885, R. G. Egbert; 1886, W. D. Sanford; 1887, C. D. Stone; 1888, James M. Hamilton; 1889–1890, C. B. Austin; 1891, G. W. Palmer; 1892, F. H. Hagadorn; 1893, S. B. Durfey; 1894–1895, C. B. Austin; 1896, Charles W. Stickle; 1897, H. C. Senn; 1898, E. A. Freidley.

Warders—1865–1867, E. G. Flanders; 1868–1869, E. N. Stone; 1870–1871, C. B. Smith; 1872, George W. Griffis; 1873, James C. Young; 1874, G. H. Robertson; 1875–1877, D. W. Tomlinson; 1878, George P. Bowen; 1879–1883, James M. Hamilton; 1884, L. G. Steele; 1885, J. M. Hamilton; 1886–1888, W. P. Simpson; 1889–1890, A. T. Miller; 1891, H. J. Burkhart; 1892, George J. Russell; 1893, G. D. Williamson; 1894, A. W. Caney; 1895–1896, H. C. Senn; 1897, F. F. Weiss; 1898, E. R. Mueller.

Captains of Guard—1865–1867, Henry Agar; 1868, R. A. Kneeland; 1869, A. G. Collins; 1870–1871, W. S. Lewis; 1872, J. M. Hamilton; 1873–1875, W. M. Tompkins; 1876–1877, W. J. Tyler; 1878, C. H. Reynolds; 1879–1881, W. H. Brown; 1882–1890, Andrew Hiller; 1891–1892, Orville Cooley; 1893, Herman Schafer; 1894, H. C. Senn; 1895–1896, F. F. Weiss; 1897–1898, W. A. Acker.

Sentinels—1865–1884, William H. Brown; 1885–1886, Andrew Hiller; 1887–1898, William H. Brown.

Transit Lodge No. 363, F. & A. M., was organized at Stafford in October, 1825, with Dr. Samuel S. Butler as master, Eden Foster as senior warden and Jacob Wade as junior warden. The lodge rooms were dedicated in September, 1825, upon which occasion Rev. Lucius Smith of Batavia preached a sermon. The lodge died out after an existence of a few years, and the charter has never been revived.

The history of Free Masonry in Le Roy dates from the year 1815, four years later than the date of the institution of the first lodge in Genesee county—Olive Branch Lodge of Batavia. January 7, 1815, the grand master of the Grand Lodge of New York State granted a dispensation to James Ganson, Orange Risdon, Levi Farnham, Hugh Murphy, Salmon Butler, Levi Beardsley, Elisha Severance, Thomas Tufts, John Gilbert, Frederick Fitch, Daniel Biddlecome, John Richards and Paul E. Day to organize a lodge to be known as Le Roy Lodge. Of this lodge the first officers were: Master, Orange Risdon; senior warden, James Ganson; junior warden, Levi Farnham. The new lodge held its first meeting February 16, 1815. At the meeting held on March 8 following Daniel Le Barron was initiated, he being the first person to be made a Mason by this lodge.

At the meeting of the Grand Lodge on June 11, 1816, a full warrant or charter was granted, and the new branch was officially designated as Le Roy Lodge No. 260, F. & A. M. For a period of eleven years the organization was prosperous, the membership at one time being as high as one hundred and fifty, many of them being among the most influential residents of the eastern part of Genesee county. The anti-Masonic agitation brought about by the disappearance of William Morgan resulted in disaster to Le Roy Lodge, in common with most others in New York State and elsewhere, and the institution went down, surrendering its charter September 19, 1827. For nearly twenty years thereafter no organization existed, and meetings of the brethren occurred very infrequently and with no regularity whatever. In the meantime Olive Branch Lodge No. 39 had been kept barely alive by the members of the craft in Attica and Bethany. This lodge was originally instituted at Batavia, whence it had been removed to Bethany in 1821, while operating under its original number, two hundred and fifteen.¹ In July, 1845, it was removed to Attica. But no benefit resulted from the change of base, and almost utter inactivity marked its career for the ensuing eighteen months. At this juncture Lucius Parks,

¹ A full history of this lodge appears in the history of Masonry in Batavia.

William Sheldon, Azor Curtis, Thomas C. Ladd, Consider Warner, Orator H. Kendall, Daniel Biddlecome and others, who had remained true to their principles, succeeded in their well directed efforts to secure its removal from Attica to Le Roy.

The first meeting of the lodge at Le Roy was held January 27, 1847, with Lucius Parks presiding as master. The first candidate initiated was Patrick Hasset, who became a Mason at the second meeting, held February 24. From that date to the present time the lodge has enjoyed a career of great prosperity and growth. June 22, 1870, its semi-centennial was celebrated at Starr hall in Le Roy. At the banquet at Central hall which concluded the day's festivities, covers were laid for one thousand persons, including many men of prominence, some of whom came from distant parts of the State. On that occasion the W. M., W. S. Brown, delivered a historical sketch, and R. W. John R. Anderson made the principal address. William H. C. Hosmer of Avon read an original poem, written especially for the occasion.

Connected with Olive Branch Lodge is Le Roy Chapter No. 183, Royal Arch Masons, which was organized December 12, 1864. John R. Andrews was the first high priest, C. Fitch Bissell was the first king and Marcus L. Babcock was the first scribe. The remaining charter members were John Butterfield, William Sheldon, Lucius Parks, Consider Warner, Orator H. Kendall, Albert Brewster, William Barnett, Nelson Thayer, William M. Irish, Charles Cravens, Thomas C. Ladd, William M. Tompkins, Robert F. Stage and Robert McKay.

The early Masons of Le Roy were enthusiastic to a degree that was unusual in those days. Not satisfied with meeting in rooms rented for the purpose, they decided, in 1825, to build a Masonic temple for their uses. The first meetings of the first lodge had been held in the village school house, and in the ball room of the ancient Ganson tavern. They had paid a part of the expense of the erection of the school house, but they soon wearied of it. The Round House, as it was known, erected in 1825, was intended by the Masons to be used as a temple. The building was circular in shape, made of brick, and forty feet in diameter. The upper room, on the third floor, was designed to be used for the performance of the sacred ceremonies of the order. In front of the building stood a square tower, also three stories in height, surmounted by a belfry nearly twenty-five feet high. The total height of the edifice was about seventy feet. Hardly had the building been completed, however, when the case of William Morgan began to excite the nation.

resulting in the collapse of the local branch of the Masonic order. Consequently the remarkable Round House was never used for the purposes for which it had been intended. For many years the lower room was used for the Sunday meetings of the Congregational society and for other public meetings and lectures. In 1828 the second story was converted into a school room and occupied by a private school until its demolition in 1859 and the erection of the Universalist church on its site.

CHAPTER XXI.

THE PRESS OF GENESEE COUNTY.¹

Though the number of newspapers published within the limits of Genesee county is now comparatively small, about thirty publications of this character have been issued in this county since its organization. The first of these was the *Genesee Intelligencer*, established at Batavia in the spring of 1807 by Elias Williams, which was the first newspaper to be published at any point west of the Genesee river. Its career was brief, publication being suspended in October of the year in which it was founded.

The *Cornucopia* was first printed in Batavia in the spring of 1808 by Benjamin Blodgett and Samuel Peck. It was discontinued in 1811.

The *Republican Advocate* was established in Batavia in 1811 by Benjamin Blodgett and David C. Miller. It soon passed into the hands of Mr. Miller and was published by him until 1828. It was then successively in the hands of Charles Sentell, Charles W. Miller, Edwin Hough, Andrew W. Young, Lewis & Brown, C. C. Allen, Waite & Cooley and Daniel D. Waite. It 1854 it was merged in the *Genesee County Whig* and was issued by Kimberly & Goodrich as

The *Republican Advocate* and *Genesee County Whig*. In 1855 Mr. Goodrich withdrew, and the name was changed to

The *Republican Advocate*, which was continued by J. H. Kimberly until 1857, when the office passed into the hands of D. D. Waite, one of the former proprietors.

¹ The names of papers still published are printed in italics; the names of extinct newspapers in roman.

The Daily Advocate was commenced in May, 1859, by D. D. Waite.

The Spirit of the Times was founded in Batavia February 13, 1819, by Oran Follett. In May, 1825, it was sold to his brother, Frederick Follett, who continued its publication until August, 1836. It was successively published by Nelson D. Wood, Frederick Follett, Lucas Seaver, William Seaver & Son, and Charles Hurley until 1856. In the latter year Andrew J. McWain purchased the Genesee Herald, then printed at Le Roy, moved the material to Batavia, and in January, 1857, continued its publication under the title of

Genesee County Herald and Spirit of the Times. From 1858 to 1860 a paper called the

Daily Herald was published. *The Spirit of the Times* dropped the Herald name in 1860, when Henry Todd bought out the paper. The latter published the Times until January 1, 1886, when his son, Charles E. Todd, and A. H. Thomas became the owners. April 15, 1889, Mr. Thomas and Joseph F. Hall succeeded to the business. Joseph F. Hall afterward purchased the paper. January 1, 1895, Mr. Hall disposed of it to Frances S. Hall, his wife. March 19, 1895, the paper was purchased by E. Kirby Calkins and David D. Lent, who are still the proprietors.

The People's Press was established in Batavia in 1825 by an association, with Benjamin Blodgett as editor. It was afterward issued by Martin, Adams & Thorp, by Adams & Thorp, and by Adams & McCleary. It was subsequently merged in the Spirit of the Times and for several years was published as

The Spirit of the Times and the People's Press by Follett & Adams and others.

The Morgan Investigator was published at the office of the Republican Advocate in Batavia during the Morgan excitement of 1827, and continued about a year.

The Masonic Intelligencer, instigated by the same excitement, was published for about the same period from the office of the People's Press, in Batavia.

The Farmers' and Mechanics' Journal was established at Alexander November 4, 1837, by Peter Lawrence. In June, 1840, it was removed to Batavia, and issued as

The Batavia Times and Farmers' and Mechanics' Journal, by Frederick Follett and Peter Lawrence. Soon afterward the former became sole proprietor, and published it until September, 1843, when it was sold to Lucas Seaver and was merged in the Spirit of the Times.

The Temperance Herald, monthly, was issued from the office of the Spirit of the Times, in Batavia, by Lucas Seaver, from March, 1842, to March, 1843.

The Le Roy Gazette was established in 1826 at Le Roy by J. O. Balch. It was successively issued by Starr & Hotchkiss, Henry D. Ward, Richard Hollister, Rufus Robertson, F. Goodrich, Seth M. Gates, Martin O. Coe and Cyrus Thompson, until 1840, when it passed into the hands of Charles B. Thompson. The latter continued in control until 1884, when he sold the paper to George E. Marcellus and George W. Hand (as Marcellus & Hand). In 1887 Mr. Marcellus purchased his partner's interest, since which time he has been sole proprietor.

The Genesee Republican and Herald of Reform was established at Le Roy in 1829, and was published for about two years by Freeman & Son.

The Le Roy Courier was established at Le Roy in the spring of 1844 by Edward Bliss, and was published about a year. Mr. Bliss resuscitated it in 1853 and published it for a short time thereafter.

The Genesee Courier was established at Le Roy in 1870 by George M. Howe, who has continued its publication as sole proprietor and editor to the present time.

The Genesee Herald was established at Le Roy in 1854 by William C. Grummond. In January, 1857, it was removed to Batavia and published by A. J. McWain for a short time.

The Le Roy Democrat was established in December, 1852, at Le Roy, by Henry Todd. In November, 1853, it was removed to Batavia and its name changed to

The Batavia Democrat. In December, 1856, it passed into the hands of John Bergen, by whom it was changed to

The Genesee Weekly Democrat, which was subsequently purchased by R. S. Lewis and merged in the Progressive Batavian.

The Genesee County Whig was established at Batavia in 1852, by Kimberly & Tyrrell, and was published by them until 1854, when it was merged in the Republican Advocate.

The Le Roy Advertiser was founded April 1, 1857, by Thomas B. Tufts. It was discontinued in July, 1858.

The Progressive Batavian was established in Batavia in 1868 by R. S. Lewis. The latter purchased the Genesee Democrat and merged it in the Batavian. He conducted the latter paper as proprietor and editor until January, 1896. It was then purchased by Griswold &

McWain, who conducted it one year, at the end of which publication was suspended.

The Daily News was established as a morning paper in Batavia June 25, 1878, by Mix Brothers & Bradish. Soon afterward it was enlarged from four to five columns and was published in the afternoon. There were occasional changes in the management until 1881, Malcolm D. Mix continuing his connection with the paper in the meantime however. August 15, 1881, G. S. Griswold and A. J. McWain purchased the paper and are still in control, issuing the paper every afternoon except Sunday. The Daily News is the only daily newspaper now published in Genesee county. It has a daily circulation of over 5,000 copies, larger, it is claimed, than that of any other daily paper in the United States published in a town no larger than Batavia.

The Bergen Herald was established in May, 1879, by F. M. Merrill.

The Le Roy Times was founded at Le Roy in 1880 by Frank H. Morgan. It was afterward owned by the Le Roy Times Company. September 4, 1894, it was sold to George E. Marcellus and merged in the Le Roy Gazette.

The Morning Call, a daily paper, was established in Batavia in January, 1882, but its publication was discontinued about Christmas of the same year.

The Fireside Journal was established at Oakfield in 1887 by Mr. Van Hoesen. Publication ceased in 1889.

The Morning Advertiser, daily, was established by George B. Herick in Batavia June 1, 1888. Its publication was suspended about six weeks later.

The Oakfield Reporter was founded at Oakfield in 1889 by B. H. James. In 1890 E. B. Gregory purchased the paper.

The Bergen Star was established in April, 1889, by George W. Grames.

The Sun, a weekly paper, was started in Batavia in February, 1890, by L. C. Parmer and M. A. Weed.

The Bergen Enterprise was founded April 25, 1896, by A. A. Roberts. July 28, 1898, it was sold under chattel mortgage foreclosure to G. A. and R. I. Page of Batavia. They sold it to the American Type Foundry Company, who rented the plant October 31, 1898, to W. H. Dietrich.

The Corfu Enterprise was started at Corfu by A. A. Bloomfield & Son, May 19, 1898. December 1, 1898, it was sold to Myron S. Pike of Akron, the present owner.

CHAPTER XXII.

CIVIL LIST AND STATISTICS.

Following is a list of the principal officers serving in Genesee county since its organization, as they appear on the records in the office of the county clerk; also State and national officers residing in Genesee county. The names of the principal town officers will be found in the Gazetteer of Towns:

FIRST JUDGES OF COMMON PLEAS.

1806, Joseph Ellicott; 1807-1811, Ezra Platt; 1812-1820, John H. Jones; 1821-1822, Isaac Wilson; 1823-1826, John Z. Ross; 1827-1829, William H. Tisdale; 1830-1835, Isaac Wilson; 1836-1840, William Mitchell; 1841-1845, Phineas L. Tracy; 1846, Edgar C. Dibble.¹

SURROGATES.

1804, Jeremiah R. Munson; 1805-1814, Richard Smith; 1815-1820, Andrew A. Elliott;² 1821-1839, Ebenezer Mix; 1840, Harvey Putnam; 1841-1844, Timothy Fitch; 1845, Samuel Willett.³

COUNTY JUDGES AND SURROGATES.

1847-1850, Horace U. Soper; 1851-1854, Edgar C. Dibble; 1855-1858, Joshua L. Brown; 1859-1866, Moses Taggart; 1867-1869, Charles Henshaw;⁴ 1870-1881, Lucius N. Bangs; 1882-1888, Myron H. Peck; 1889-1898, Safford E. North.

JUSTICES OF SESSIONS.⁵

1847, J. M. Halcomb, William M. Sprague.
 1849, James S. Stewart, Thomas Riddle.
 1850, German Lathrop, Miles Wallace.
 1851, John D. Safford, Charles S. Cone.
 1852, John D. Safford, William Barnett.
 1853, Wheaton S. Miller, John C. Cranston.

¹ The Court of Common Pleas was abolished by the constitution of 1846.

² Did not qualify.

³ By the constitution of 1846 the offices of County Judge and Surrogate were consolidated in Genesee county.

⁴ Randolph Ballard was appointed in 1870 to succeed Henshaw, deceased.

⁵ The constitution of 1846 abolished the office of Associate Judge and created the office of Justice of Sessions, two being elected from among acting Justices of the Peace of the county.