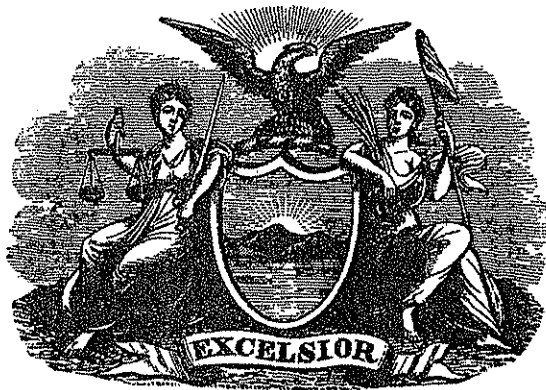


Excerpts from
HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS
OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK;
CONTAINING
A GENERAL COLLECTION OF THE MOST INTERESTING FACTS, TRADITIONS,
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES, ANECDOTES, &c.
RELATING TO ITS
HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES,
WITH
GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTIONS OF EVERY TOWNSHIP IN THE STATE.

Illustrated by 230 Engravings.

BY JOHN W. BARBER,
AUTHOR OF CONNECTICUT, AND MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS.
AND
HENRY HOWE,
AUTHOR OF "THE MEMOIRS OF EMINENT AMERICAN MECHANICS," ETC.

[Arms of the State of New York.]



[More elevated.]

NEW YORK:
PUBLISHED FOR THE AUTHORS,
BY S. TUTTLE, 194 CHATHAM-SQUARE.
PRICE, THREE DOLLARS
1841.

GENESEE COUNTY.

GENESEE COUNTY was taken from Ontario in 1802, and has since been much reduced by the formation of several counties from it; centrally distant from New York 321, from Albany 258 miles. This county pertains to the great plain of the west, and forms with Wyoming the highest portion of it. Upon the west, the streams run to Lake Erie, and on the east to the Genesee river: as in limestone countries generally, the streams are subject to much fluctuation. The soil is generally highly fertile, and produces as fine crops of wheat as any part of the state. By the recent erection of Wyoming county from the southern portion, this county is reduced to twelve towns, and a population of about 30,000.

The following is a list of articles and rates of wages, taken from a history of Genesee county, published in 1804, by Robert Munroe:

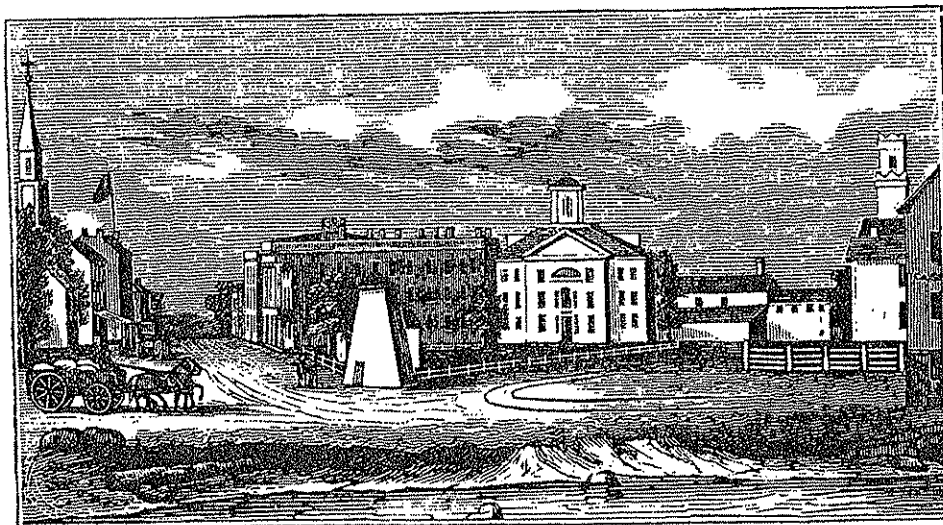
“Wheat from 62 cents to \$1 per bushel; corn, from 30 to 50 cents a bushel; hay, from \$6 to \$12 a ton; butter and cheese, from 10 to 16 cents a pound; a yoke of oxen, from \$50 to \$80; milch cows, \$16 to \$25; a pair of good working horses, \$100 to \$125; sheep, \$2 to \$4; pork, freshed killed in winter, \$4 to \$6 a 100 lb.—salted in Spring, \$8 to \$10; whiskey, 60 to 75 cents a gallon; salt, \$1 a bushel, weighing 56 lbs.; field ashes, 4 to 9 cents a bushel: 600 bushels may be manufactured into a ton of pot or pearl ashes, which has been sold at market at \$1.25 to \$1.50; and some persons by saving their ashes, or by manufacturing them, have nearly cleared the cost of improving land.

The wages of a laborer, \$10 to \$15 a month and board; a suit of clothes, made from \$4 to \$5; a pair of shoes, \$1.75 to \$2.50. Store goods are sold at very moderate prices, the expense of carriage from New York to Albany being about \$2 a hundred weight."

ALABAMA, taken from Pembroke and Shelby in 1826; from Albany 257 miles. The greater part of the town was in the Tonawanta Indian reservation, part of which was sold in 1827-8. The Indians have yet here, and in Niagara and Erie counties, a tract of 12,000 acres. Their village, containing about 300 inhabitants, is situated in this town. Alabama post-office is 12 miles NW. from Batavia. Pop. 1,798.

ALEXANDER, taken from Sheldon in 1812; from Albany 247 miles; drained NE. by the Tonawanta creek. Alexander, on the Tonawanta railroad, incorporated in 1834, has about seventy dwellings. Brookville is a small settlement, 6 miles south of Batavia. The Alexander classical school, in this town, was incorporated in 1834. Pop. 2,241.

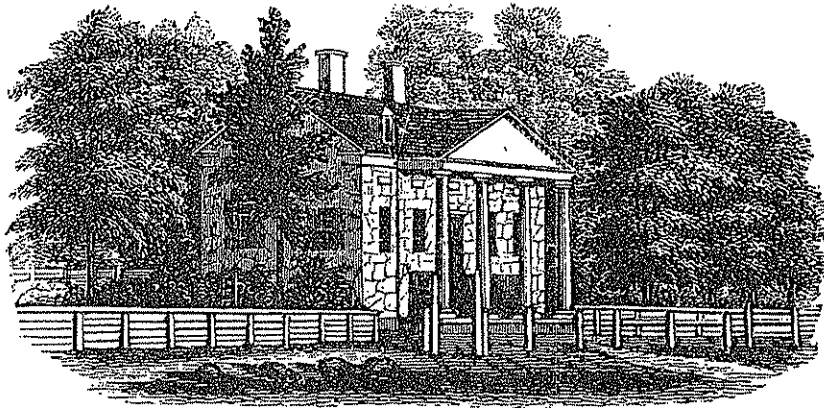
BATAVIA was organized in 1802; it has a level surface and is drained by the Tonawanta creek. Batavia, the shire village, incorporated in 1823, is laid out upon a plat about 2 miles square. The village is principally built on a single street upwards of a mile long, on the eastern side of Tonawanta creek, distant from Albany 244 miles, Buffalo 40, Rochester 34, Canandaigua 49, Genesee 29, Lockport 32 miles. Population of the town, 4,219. A railroad connects Batavia with Rochester.



Western view of the central part of Batavia.

The above is a western view of the central part of Batavia, as seen from the bridge over the Tonawanta creek, about 40 rods NW. from the courthouse seen in the central part of the engraving. The village consists of about 300 dwellings, many of which are finely constructed of brick. The spire of the Presbyterian church is seen on the left, the tower of the Episcopal on the right. The state arsenal is about a mile NW. of the courthouse. There are in the village,

1 bank, and 2 printing offices, and the office of the Holland Land Company. Dr. Dwight, who on his visit to Niagara Falls passed through Batavia in Oct., 1804, states that at that time it contained "from 20 to 30 houses; a considerable number of them built of logs; the rest small, and chiefly of one story. The courthouse, a well-looking structure, has three stories, the second of which is the county jail." He also says, "in the season when we were on the ground, so many persons were ill of the diseases common to this region, that those who remained well, were scarcely able to nurse the sick."



Office of the Holland Land Company.

The above is an eastern view of the office of the Holland Land Company in Batavia, about 80 rods northward from the courthouse. The state of New York, in 1786, granted the state of Massachusetts more than six million acres of her western territory, [see page 40,] which that state sold to Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, for one million of dollars. These gentlemen soon after extinguished the Indian title to a part of this territory; they surveyed it into tracts, denominated ranges and townships, and sold large parcels to speculators and actual settlers. In 1790, they sold nearly the whole of the residue of the survey, 1,204,000 acres, to Robert Morris, of Philadelphia, for eight pence the acre, who resold it to Sir William Pultney. Phelps and Gorham being unable to fulfil their contract in full with Massachusetts, compromised and surrendered that part of the land to which the Indian title was unextinguished; in consideration of which, the state relinquished two thirds of the contract price. In 1796, Robert Morris purchased from the state this portion also—extinguished the Indian title—sold off several large tracts upon the east side, and along the Genesee, and mortgaged the residue to Wilhem Willink, of Amsterdam, and 11 associates, called the "*Holland Land Company*." This company, by the foreclosure of the mortgage, acquired full title to the land, surveyed it, and opened their first land-office in Batavia in 1801. "Having sold a large proportion of the country, they, in 1805, conveyed the residue of the wild lands to several companies, who have undertaken to retail them."

"The Holland purchase was bounded on the east by a transit meridian line due north from latitude 42°, embracing the two western ranges of the county of Allegany, and with an offset, west, of two and a quarter miles, extending north to Lake Ontario, on the west line of Murraytown, Orleans county—two fifths of Allegany county, the greater portion of Genesee and Orleans counties, and all of Niagara, Erie, Chataouque and Cattaraugus," with the exception of some small Indian reservations.

Batavia has acquired celebrity from its being the place from which *William Morgan* was abducted in 1826, for attempting to reveal the secrets of *free masonry*. Morgan, it appears, was born in 1774, in Culpepper county, Va. His occupation was originally that of a bricklayer and stone mason. He removed from Virginia in 1821, and went to York, U. C.; from thence he removed to Rochester. From various misfortunes, he became quite reduced in his circumstances, and in the summer of 1826 he resided in the village of Batavia. While here, he became connected with D. C. Miller, a printer, for the purpose of publishing a work disclosing masonic obligations, secret signs, &c. Morgan, it appears, was a royal arch mason; and when the fact became known that he was preparing a work to reveal the secrets of masonry, many of the masonic fraternity became much excited, and appeared determined to put an end to his disclosures. For this purpose, his character was assailed in the public prints. In July, 1826, Morgan was arrested on a civil suit at Batavia, and gave bail; he was afterward arrested and hurried to jail, without time being given him to procure bail, and search was made at his lodgings for his papers on some pretended process, the sheriff in the mean time absenting himself. An attempt was afterward made to burn down Miller's printing office, where "*Morgan's Book*" was printing.

On Sunday, Sept. 10th, application was made to J. Chipman, Esq., a magistrate of Canandaigua, for a warrant to apprehend Morgan for stealing a shirt and cravat, which it appeared afterward he had only borrowed. The warrant being issued, the constable at Canandaigua, attended by five other persons from that place, immediately set out for Batavia, where they arrived in the evening. Early the next morning, (Monday,) Morgan was arrested and taken to the public house where the party had slept; an extra stage-coach was procured, and the party left Batavia for Canandaigua, with Morgan in their custody. Miller attempted to procure the release of Morgan just as the carriage was starting, but he was pushed aside, and the driver was urged to drive fast till he should get out of the county. Having arrived in Canandaigua, Morgan in the evening was taken before the magistrate who had issued the warrant, and was by him examined and discharged. One of the party then immediately applied to the same magistrate for a warrant against Morgan for a debt of about \$2, which he said had been assigned to him by a tavern keeper. Judgment was entered against Morgan for \$2.69, debt and costs, and an execution immediately issued. Morgan took off his coat, and

offered it to the constable to levy upon for the debt. The constable declined receiving it, and Morgan was committed to the Canandaigua jail the same evening, where he remained till the evening of the next day.

On the 12th of Sept., about 9 o'clock in the evening, the wife of the jailer, at the request of the plaintiff in the execution, consented to let Morgan out of the prison. As he was leaving the jail steps, he was violently seized by two persons; he struggled, and cried "murder," a number of times. Two other persons now came up, one of whom stopped Morgan's outcry by thrusting a handkerchief, or something similar, into his mouth. At a signal given by one of the party, a two-horse carriage now drove up; two of the party thrust Morgan into the carriage, and then got in themselves. This carriage arrived in Rochester about day-dawn the next morning. Another carriage was procured, and relays of horses were obtained. When the party arrived at New Fane, about 3 miles from Lockport, they sent to the sheriff of Niagara county, to assist them in getting Morgan into Canada. The sheriff accordingly left Lockport, attended the party, and assisted them in procuring horses, &c. They arrived at Lewiston about midnight; here another carriage was procured, and the party was driven to the burying ground near Fort Niagara. Here they left the carriage and proceeded with Morgan in their custody to the ferry, and crossed over to the Canada side. After conferring with a number of persons in Niagara village, Morgan was brought back, as arrangements had not been completed for his reception. This event it appears had been anticipated. Morgan was taken to the magazine of Fort Niagara, and locked in before day-dawn, on the morning of the 14th of September.

On the day that Morgan was put into the magazine, a royal arch chapter was installed at Lewiston, which event called together a considerable assemblage of masons from the vicinity. "In the evening, 20 or 30 persons came to the fort from Lewiston. About midnight, 7 persons, stated to be royal arch masons, held a consultation on the plain near the graveyard, as to the manner in which Morgan should be disposed of. The prevailing opinion among them appeared to be, that Morgan had forfeited his life for a breach of his masonic obligations, and that they ought to see the penalty executed by drowning him in the river; some of the company discovering a reluctance to go to such lengths, the project was abandoned at that time. On the night of the 15th, a similar consultation was held between four persons, but nothing was decided on. "As to the disposition of Morgan, after the evening of the 14th of September, nothing has yet been known judicially, but circumstances are strong, to induce the belief that he was put to death on the night of the 19th of Sept., 1826, by being cast into the depths of Niagara river."*

BERGEN, taken from Murray in 1818; bounds since altered. Ber-

* Report of Mr. Whittlesey and others, at the United States anti-masonic convention, held at Philadelphia, Sept. 11th, 1830.

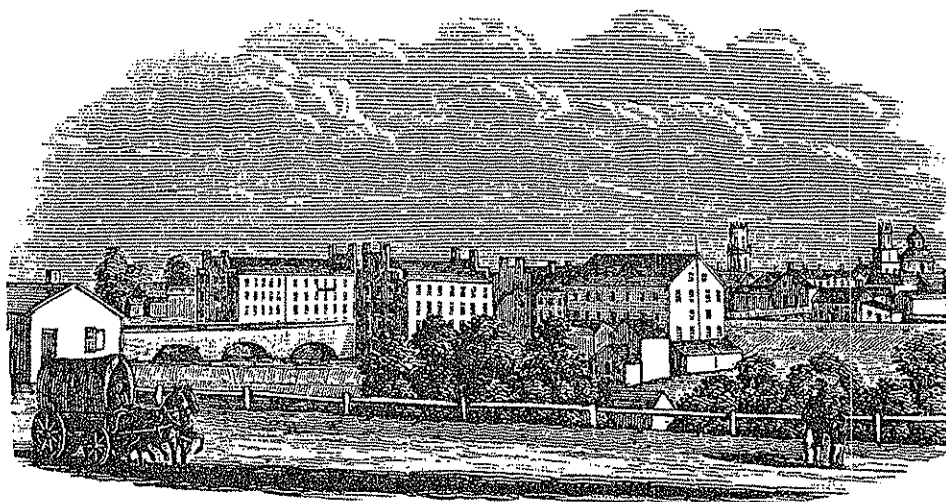
gen is a small village, 16 miles NE. from Batavia. North Bergen and Stone Church are post-offices. Pop. 1,835.

BETHANY, taken from Batavia in 1812; from Albany 241 miles. Bethany, 8 miles SE., Linden 10 miles S. from Batavia, Bennet's Settlement, and East Bethany, are small villages. Pop. 2,288. The Genesee Manual Labor Seminary, in this town, was incorporated in 1832—capital \$20,000, with a farm annexed.

BYRON, taken from Bergen in 1820; from Albany 247, from Batavia, NE., 10 miles. Byron and South Byron are small villages,—the latter of which is on the line of the Batavia and Rochester railroad. Pop. 1,908. In the SW. part of the town, sulphuric acid is produced in great quantities in a diluted and concentrated state, in a hillock 230 feet long and 100 broad, elevated 5 feet above the plain.

DARIEN, taken from Pembroke in 1832; from Albany 255 miles. Darien, 13 miles SW. from Batavia, and Darien Centre, are small villages. Pop. 2,406.

ELBA, taken from Batavia in 1820; from Albany 250 miles. Pine Hill, 6 miles N. from Batavia, Oakfield, and Careysville, are small villages. Pop. 3,161.



Eastern view of Le Roy Village.

LE ROY, named after Mr. Jacob Le Roy, a French gentleman from Paris, who was a large proprietor, was taken from Caledonia in 1812, and organized by the name of Bellona; from Albany 234 miles. Le Roy village was founded in 1810, by Mr. Le Roy, and incorporated in 1834. It contains 1 Episcopal, 1 Baptist, 1 Methodist, and 1 Presbyterian church, and about 260 dwellings, surrounded by ample lots and of very neat appearance. The annexed view was taken on the eastern bank of Allen's creek, near the Baptist church. The fall in the creek here, and in the vicinity, is considerable. At the village it is 18 feet; within a mile is another fall of 27, and within 2 miles a

third of 80 feet. South Le Roy is a small settlement, 12 miles from Batavia. Pop. 4,335.

PAVILION, organized in 1841. This township comprises the northern part of the original town of Covington, now in Wyoming county. Pavilion is a small village, 11 miles SE. from Batavia.

PEMBROKE, taken from Batavia in 1812; bounds since altered; from Albany 257 miles. Richville, 14 miles W. from Batavia, and Corfu, are small villages. East Pembroke is a post-office. Pop.

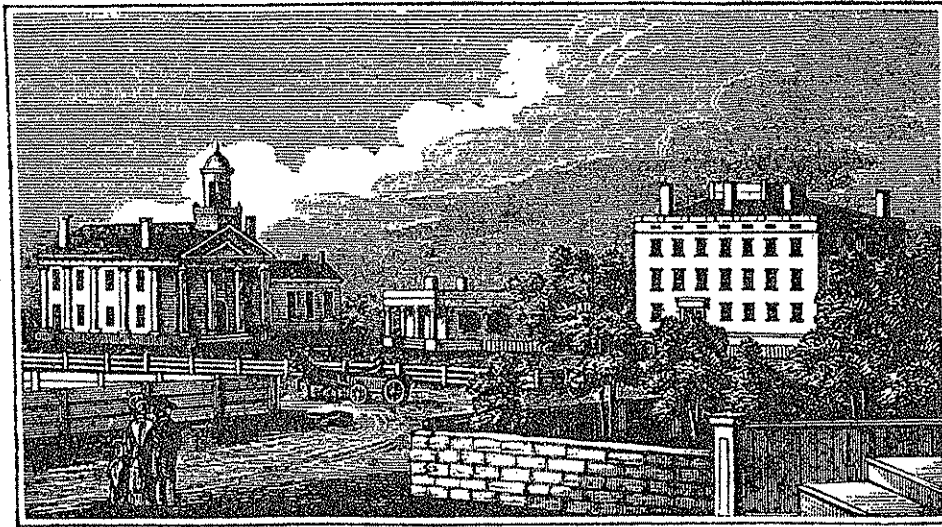
Dr. Dwight, who travelled through this town in Oct., 1804, notices the circumstance of his passing, when in this part of the state, through oak plains or *openings*. These grounds are described as having a varied surface, and in a great degree destitute of forests, but covered with grass, weeds, and shrubs of various kinds: he supposes these openings to have been caused by the Indians burning them over, to produce pasture for deer. The following is extracted from the 4th vol. of his Travels.

“When one of these plains is seen at a little distance, a traveller emerging from the forest naturally concludes, that it is the commencement of a settled country, and as he advances towards it, is instinctively led to cast his eye forward to find the village of which it is the outskirt. From this impression his mind will be unable to free itself: for the thought, though given up, will recur again and again, in spite of his absolute conviction that he is in the heart of an immense wilderness. At the same time a sense of stillness and solitude, a feeling of absolute retirement from the world, deeper and more affecting than any which he has even suspected before, will be forced upon him while he is roving over one of these sequestered regions. No passage out of them is presented to his eye. Yet though the tract around him is seemingly bounded everywhere, the boundary is everywhere obscure; being formed by trees thinly dispersed, and retired beyond each other, at such distances, as that while in many places they actually limit the view, they appear rather to border dim, indistinct openings into other tracts of country. Thus he always feels the limit to be uncertain; and until he is actually leaving one of these plains, will continually expect to find a part of the expansion still spreading beyond the reach of his eye. At every little distance, especially on the higher grounds, the view is widely, though indefinitely extended along the surface; and a little above where he looks through the stems of the trees, is bounded only by the horizon. On every side a multitude of chasms conduct his eye beyond the labyrinth by which he is surrounded; and present an imaginary passage back into the world, from which he is withdrawn; bewildering him with expectation, continually awakened to be continually disappointed. Thus in a kind of wild, romantic rapture, he wanders over these plains, with emotions similar to those with which, when a child, he roamed through the wilderness created in Arabian tales, or the imaginary regions spread before him in a dream. He is not only separated from all human beings, but is every moment conscious of this separation. Whenever he ascends one of the superior elevations, he seems to stand above the rest of the globe. On every side he looks downward; and beholds a prospect with many vistas, opening indeed around him, but conducting his eye to no definite object, and losing it in confusion and obscurity. His view is confined by neither forests nor mountains: while yet trees in a thin dispersion partly interrupt it; but at the same time discover, through their various openings, that it has no other limitation than the skirts of the heavens.—While he wanders on through this bewildering scenery, he cannot fail to remember, that on these plains Indians have lived, and roved, and hunted, and fought, ever since their first arrival from the shores of Asia. Here, unless they molested each other, there was nothing to molest them. They were the sole lords, the undisturbed possessors of the country. Here, therefore, he will call up before his imagination the secret windings of the scout; the burst of the war-hoop; the fury of an Indian onset; the triumphant display of scalps; and the horrors of the war-dance before the tortured and expiring captive. Whether these thoughts will be excited in the mind of any future traveller, I know not: in my own they sprang up instinctively.”

STAFFORD, taken from Batavia and Le Roy in 1820; from Albany 238 miles. Stafford Centre, 6 miles E. from Batavia, Morgansville 7, and Roanoke 9 miles, are small villages. Pop. 2,560.

ORLEANS COUNTY.

ORLEANS COUNTY was taken from Genesee in 1824. It is 24 miles long E. and W., and 18 miles broad N. and S. It is centrally distant from Albany 257, and from New York 302 miles. The summit of the mountain ridge extends across the county at an elevation of about 340 feet above Lake Ontario. Parallel with this, on the alluvial way, runs the ridge road. With these exceptions, the face of the country is generally level. The soil, mostly clay and argillaceous loam, is highly fertile. Grain is raised in considerable quantities. The Erie canal passes centrally through the county. The whole county was included in the grant to Massachusetts. The towns of Barre, Carlton, Gaines, Ridgeway, Shelby, and Yates, belonged to the Holland Land Company; whilst Murray, Clarendon, and Kendall, belonged to the Pulteney estate. The county was chiefly settled by New Englanders, and is divided into 9 towns. Pop. 24,995.



View of the public buildings in Albion.

BARRE, taken from Gaines in 1818; from Albany 260 miles. Albion, founded in 1823 by Nehemiah Ingersoll and George Standart, Jr., the county seat of justice, incorporated in 1828, lies near the centre of the county upon the Erie canal; from Albany, by the canal, 305, from Rochester 35, from Buffalo 58, from Lockport 28 miles. The annexed view was taken from the door of the Baptist church. The first building on the right, a large brick structure, is the Albion Female Seminary;* the small building in the centre of the engraving,

* Under the charge of Mrs. Caroline Achilles and Miss Sophronia Phipps, principals, and numbering about two hundred pupils.

is the county clerk's office. The building with a cupola is the courthouse, and the one partially seen in the rear, the jail. There are in the village 1 Presbyterian, 1 Baptist, and 1 Methodist church, the Orleans county bank, 2 weekly newspaper offices, and about 220 dwellings, many of them large, neat, and commodious. The surrounding country abounds in fruit. South Barre, 6 miles, and Barre Centre, 3 miles S. of Albion, are both small villages. Pop. 5,499.

CARLTON, originally named Oak Orchard, and taken from Gaines and Ridgeway in 1822; from Albany 265, from Albion centrally distant N. 8 miles. Carlton is a small post village, and West Carlton a post-office. Pop. 2,242.

CLARENDON, taken from Sweden in 1821; from Albany 251 miles. Clarendon is a small village 9 miles SE. from Albion. Pop. 2,261.

GAINES, taken from Ridgeway in 1816; bounds since altered; from Albany 260 miles. Pop. 2,431. Gaines, 3 miles NW. from Albion, incorporated in 1832, has about 60 dwellings. Eagle Harbor, 3 miles west of Albion, and Gaines Basin, 1½ miles north, both on the canal, are small villages. Fairhaven is 2½ miles north of Albion. West Gaines is a post-office.

KENDALL, the NE. corner town, was recently formed from Murray; centrally distant NE. from Albion 10 miles. Pop. 1,682.

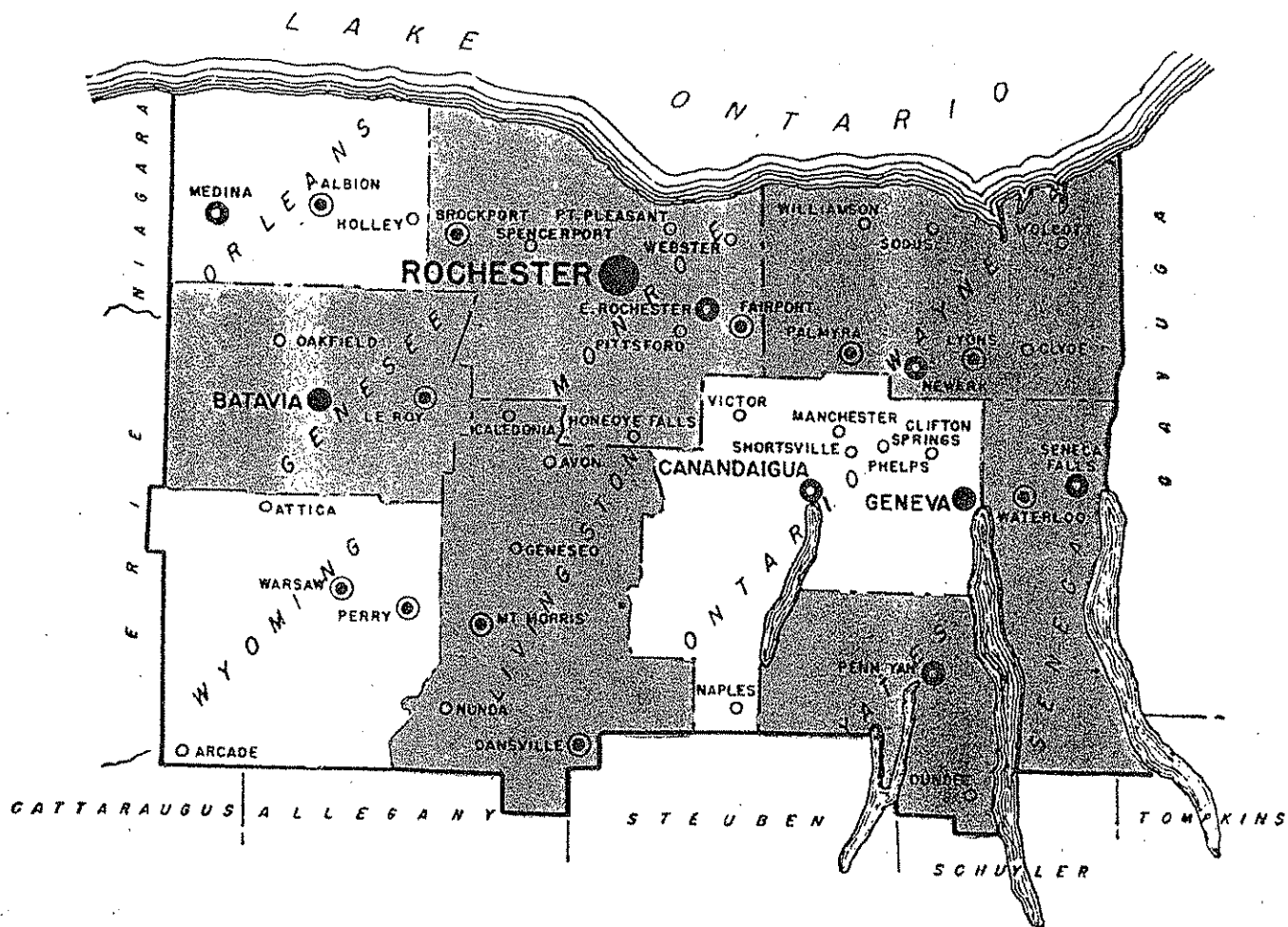
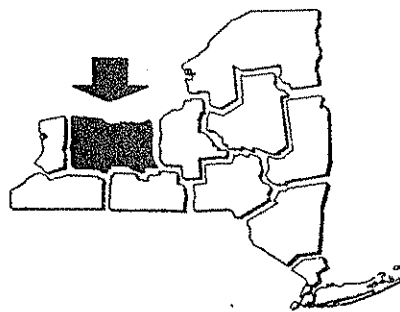
MURRAY, taken from Gates in 1808; from Albany 245 miles. Pop. 2,678. Holley, 10 miles east of Albion and 25 west of Rochester, was founded in 1823 by Elisha Johnson. It has about 350 inhabitants. A short distance east of the village is the Holley embankment, one of the greatest on the Erie canal, elevated 76 feet above the creek. North Murray, Scio, and Sandy Creek, are small villages.

RIDGEWAY, taken from Batavia in 1812; bounds since much altered; from Albany 267 miles. Pop. 3,257. Medina, situated in a flourishing country on the canal, incorporated in 1832, 10 miles west of Albion, is a thriving place. There are here 1 Baptist, 1 Methodist, 1 Presbyterian, 1 Episcopal, and 1 Catholic church, and about 1,000 inhabitants. A railroad connects this place with Richfield, 12 miles distant. Knowlesville village, on the canal, 6 miles west of Albion, has 1 Presbyterian, 1 Methodist, and 1 Baptist church, and about 80 or 100 dwellings. Oak Orchard, 9 miles NW. from Albion, and Ridgeway Corners, 13 miles NW. from Albion, are small villages.

SHELBY, taken from Ridgeway in 1818; from Albany 260 miles. Ellicott's Mills, 13 miles SE., Shelby's Basin, on the canal 13 miles W., and Millville, 10 miles SW. from Albion, are small villages. Pop. 2,697.

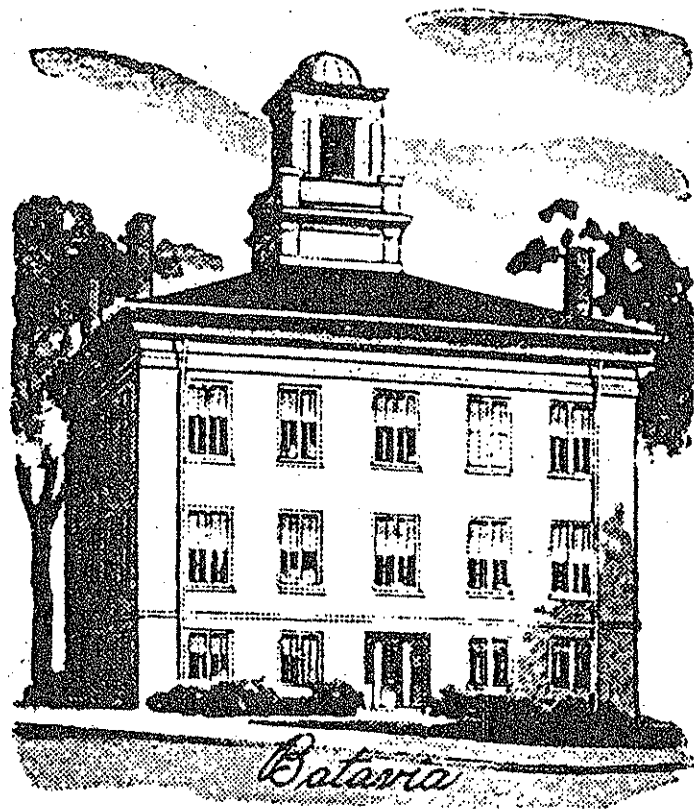
YATES, originally named Northton, and taken from Ridgeway in 1822; from Albany 270 miles. Lindon, 14 miles NW. from Albion, and Yates Centre, are small villages. Pop. 2,248.

Rochester Area



KEY TO POPULATION, 1940
CITIES AND VILLAGES

●	100,000 - 500,000	●	10,000 - 25,000
●	50,000 - 100,000	●	5,000 - 10,000
●	25,000 - 50,000	●	2,500 - 5,000
		○	1,000 - 2,500

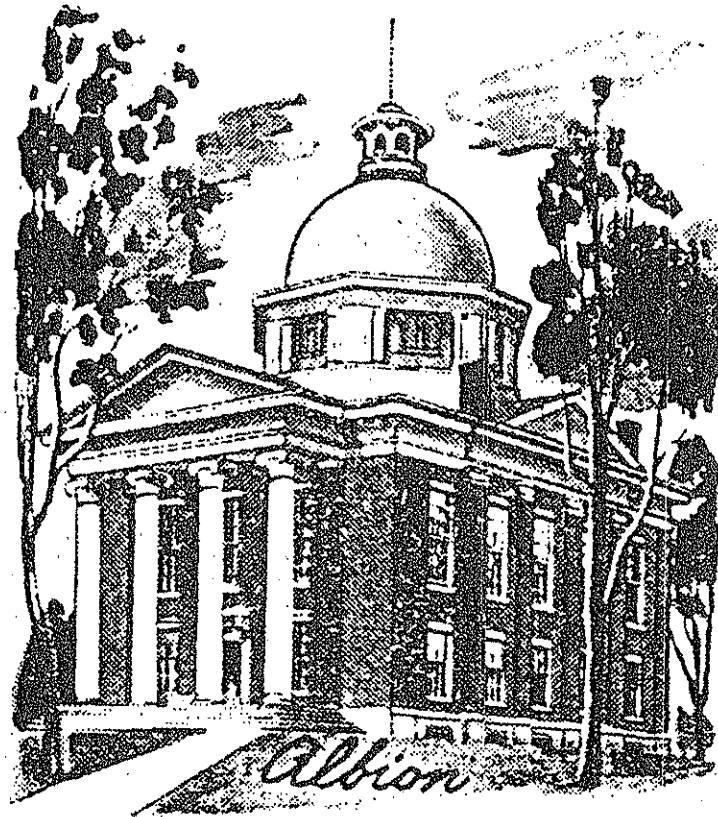


Genesee County

Established March 30, 1802

The name of the county, formed from part of Ontario, was taken from the Indian word Gen-nes-see (meaning "beautifully valley") for the section through which the river flows. Although eight counties have been formed from the original Genesee, Batavia has remained the county seat from the first. The law which made it the shiretown called upon the Holland Land Company to donate one acre of land and erect a proper building for the county court, which was done in 1802. That frame building served until 1841, when it was replaced by the present Greek Revival structure of Lockport limestone.

Area—501 square miles; population (1945)—44,934



Orleans County

Established November 11, 1824

Both Adams and Jackson were proposed as names for this county formed from Genesee but Orleans was final choice. Courts were first held at Gaines but Albion boosters were determined to have the county seat. So they dammed a swimming hole, built a mill and entertained the commissioners who were to make the selection. Filled with hard cider the solons were taken out to see the great wheel turning as a sign of local industrial progress; then just as the little lake ran dry, they were hustled away! The brick courthouse in the park took its present form in 1858.

Area—396 square miles; population (1945)—26,963

Excerpts from

NEW YORK

A GUIDE TO THE EMPIRE STATE

*Compiled by workers of the Writers' Program
of the Work Projects Administration
in the State of New York*

1940

A L B A N Y

SPONSORED BY NEW YORK STATE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS · NEW YORK

Birthplace of the stringless bean and home town of Jello, LE ROY, 13.4 m. (869 alt., 4,386 pop.), is a thriving village on Oatka (Ind., an opening) Creek, with more than its share of fine old post-Colonial houses, most of them grouped on Main Street adjacent to the one-block business section.

In the late 1870's Nicholas B. Keeney and his son, Calvin, of Le Roy, by cross-fertilizing some 40 or more bean plants over a series of years, weeded out all but the stringless pods, thus bringing to the market beans minus strings.

The LE ROY MANSION (*private*), 23 E. Main St., a massive, two-story post-Colonial stone house with stucco surface, was erected before 1812 as a land office by Egbert Benson. Jacob Le Roy, whose father had purchased a tract of 85,000 acres, came in 1821 as second land agent, enlarged the office, and opened a general store. Daniel Webster is said to have courted Caroline Le Roy, who became his second wife, on the broad back porch of the house.

The JELLO PLANT (*adm. by recommendation only*), North St., just beyond the railroad tracks, looks more like a group of private residences than a factory. The formulae of Jello flavors are carefully guarded secrets, and visitors see only the packing operations. Automatic machines select wax paper, cartons, and the proper flavors, and wrap the packages in two seconds each.

At 17.5 m. (R) are the EGG-LAYING TEST FARMS (*open*), where western New York egg-laying tests, sponsored by the State College of Agriculture, Cornell University, are held to determine and increase the fecundity of various poultry breeds. The tests have resulted in several world records. When they were started in 1931, the average was 189.9 eggs for 1,547 birds; by 1937 the average had increased to 227.8 eggs for 1,703 birds. In the latter year a new individual record was made for New Hampshires with 316 eggs, and a pen of 12 White Leghorn pullets averaged 305 eggs.

Midway between Rochester and Buffalo, BATAVIA, 23.4 m. (890 alt., 17,222 pop.), is a lively industrial city and a trading center for a wide

agricultural area. Leading industrial products are plows, ladies' shoes, paper boxes, shoe dyes and polishes, and flavoring extracts. Italians and Poles make up about one-third of the population.

Historically, Batavia is noteworthy as the 'capital' of the Holland Land Purchase. In 1801 Joseph Ellicott, surveyor and subagent for the company, built a land office at the junction of the old Genesee Road and Tonawanda Creek, where two great Indian trails crossed, and where four State highways meet today. Ellicott proposed naming the place Bustia or Bustville, for Paul Busti, the company's general agent; but the latter objected to the ferocious sound of the word and proposed Batavia, the name of the Dutch republic to which the proprietors belonged.

In 1802 James Brisbane, great-grandfather of the late Arthur Brisbane, was commissioned postmaster; the old Brisbane homestead is now the city hall. In those days mail was often sent collect; one Batavia woman, receiving a collect letter and lacking cash to pay for the postage, shouted, 'Hold that letter, Mr. Brisbane, while I skin a calf.' The first tavern was opened opposite the land office; the second, the 'Old Snake Den,' run by Stephen Russell at the present corner of Main and State Streets, advertised: 'We have clean sheets, only slept in a few times since new.'

Despite the rapid growth of neighboring Rochester and Buffalo, Batavia prospered, first as a farm trade center, later, with the development of railroads, as an industrial city and distribution point.

In OLD BATAVIA CEMETERY, Harvester Ave. between the Erie and New York Central Railroads, are the graves of Joseph Ellicott (*see below*) and a number of Batavia pioneers, and the MORGAN MONUMENT, erected in 1880 by the National Christian Association Opposed to All Secret Societies. When William Morgan (1775-1826) was denied membership in a Masonic lodge in Batavia, though he claimed previous membership in Rochester and Le Roy, he threatened to reveal the secrets of the order. After a series of arrests he was secretly carried off to Fort Niagara, where all traces of him were lost. A hue and cry was raised through the countryside, and a movement was set on foot to break the power of Free Masonry; tinged with patriotic and religious sentiment, it took form as a political party. For several years the vote of the 'infected district,' as this part of the State was called, determined the results of State elections. In the presidential campaign of 1828 the Anti-Masonic party polled 33,000 votes. Some time before the election a man's body was washed up on the shore of Lake Ontario and was identified as Morgan; when informed that the identification was doubtful, Thurlow Weed is reported to have said that it was 'good enough Morgan till after the election.' Morgan's fate has never been definitely determined.

The WIARD PLOW PLANT, Swan St. between the New York Central and Erie Railroads, manufactures plows, rakes, weeders, harrows, wheelbarrows, lawn mowers, and other farm machinery. The company was organized in 1804 by Thomas Wiard in East Avon; his first invention, the 'bull plow,' a wooden plow with wrought-iron points, was made by hand for pioneer farmers in western New York. The factory was moved to Batavia in 1876.

The RICHMOND MANSION (now the Children's Home), E. Main St., a large, gray-painted brick building with a pedimented portico of four Greek Ionic columns, was built by Dean Richmond (1804-66), bluff, forceful native of Vermont, grain elevator operator, banker, politician, and president of the New York Central Railroad. In his day the lavish interiors included a dining room famous for its yellow damasked walls and yellow velvet carpets; one of the baths had solid silver fittings. One of Richmond's emoluments as railroad president was to have all trains of the road, even the fastest expresses, stop at Batavia. According to tradition, Richmond's handwriting was so illegible that a dismissal notice written by him, with only the signature easily legible, was used by the dismissed employee as a free pass on the railroad.

The CARY MANSION, corner of Main and Bank Sts., is a gray-painted post-Colonial brick house built in 1817 by Trumbull Cary, a Batavia pioneer. The three-bay central block is flanked on each side by wings that are masked by the two-story Ionic-columned porches of the Greek Revival period. The graceful, elliptical-arched doorway exhibits the Scamozzi Ionic capitals favored in the earlier style.

The GENESSEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, Main St., erected in 1841, is a Greek Revival structure in Lockport limestone which eschews the temple form for a square cupolaed mass, probably reflecting the design of the first frame courthouse, which stood to the east of the present building until it burned in 1918.

The HOLLAND LAND OFFICE MUSEUM (*open summer afternoons, adm. 10¢*), W.Main St., erected by Joseph Ellicott in 1804, is a simple gray limestone building with a white wooden portico with four Roman Doric columns. Ellicott himself probably designed this graceful Roman Revival structure; its quiet dignity is closely akin in spirit to the Ellicott mansion (Goodrich House) built in Buffalo in 1823. Owned by the Holland Purchase Historical Society, the museum contains among its exhibits period rooms, early farming tools, uniforms, and local records.

The Holland Purchase included practically all of New York State west of the Genesee River, some 3,300,000 acres, sold in 1793 by Robert Morris to a group of Dutch capitalists who in turn financed the undertaking by selling shares. In 1797 Morris extinguished the Indian title by the Big Tree Treaty, and the sale was consummated. Joseph Ellicott was hired to survey the territory and lay out townships and in 1800 was appointed company agent. He was instrumental in the founding of scores of towns and villages, including Buffalo, but his especial pride was Batavia; 'I intend to do all I can for Batavia,' he said, 'because the Almighty will look out for Buffalo.'

The NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND (*open 10-12, 2:30-5 daily*), corner of State St. and Richmond Ave., comprises a group of Victorian buildings set in landscaped grounds. Originating as an asylum under the State Department of Charities, it now is a school of regular academic standing under the State Education Department, with instruction extending through high school and including courses in music, home economics, and rug and basket weaving.

In the center of CHILDS, 30.1 *m.* (425 alt., 75 pop.), is the COBBLESTONE CHURCH, erected by the First Universalist Society in 1834. Three of the houses are also made of cobblestones. The principal cost in cobblestone construction was labor; the water-worn stone were found in glacial drift, remnants of the Ice Age. The stones were graded for size through holes bored in a plank. The builder laid one row of cobblestones, and while it dried went on to work on another house; sometimes the stones were laid in alternate rows of large and small, sometimes in herringbone pattern.

The apple-growing hamlet of GAINES, 31.3 *m.* (426 alt., 130 pop.), is named for General E.P.Gaines, who during the War of 1812 held Fort Erie for nine days against the siege of Drummond's British troops.

It is related that one of the pioneer settlers hired an old sailor, whose first assignment was to 'hitch up that span of oxen and the horse and go out and snake some logs.' Unaccustomed to land navigation, the elderly gob soon returned to the farmhouse, waving his arms and yelling: 'Pipe all hands! The larboard ox is on the starboard side, old Jan's in the riggin', an' the hull things goin' to hell starn foremost!'

In ALBION, 33.5 *m.* (519 alt., 4,651 pop.) the SNIDER PACKING PLANT (R), at the eastern village limits, consists, except for the brick main building, of long, low wood structures. This plant cans principally tomatoes and peas. The tomatoes are sorted and thoroughly washed, and the skin is loosened in scalding water. On the peeling tables girls peel off the skin and remove the cores with sharp knives, then place the tomatoes in cans, which are closed, cooked, and labeled—ready for the market. The plant also freezes peas and beans with the Birdseye system, invented by Clarence Birdseye.

The PULLMAN MEMORIAL UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, Main St. and E. Park Ave. is a low brownstone building designed in a modified Gothic style, with a vitrified tile roof. It stands on the site of the home of George M. Pullman (1831-97), born in Brocton, Chautauqua County, who was a cabinetmaker in the village from 1848 to 1855. It was probably here that, disgusted with the dirt, discomfort, and inconvenience of early passenger cars, he conceived the idea of a car with the luxuries of beds and upholstered seats. Pullman made his first cars in Chicago in 1858, using the olive-green paint and cherry wood trim that are still characteristic of Pullman cars. He sold to Webster Wagner (*see Tour 11*) the right to use his patented folding berths on Wagner's palace cars on the New York Central, but sued him for infringement when he sold his cars to the Michigan Central. Pullman donated land and money for the construction of this church.

In MEDINA, 43.6 *m.* (530 alt., 5,861 pop.), and vicinity, the local red Medina sandstone, used in Federal farmhouses, Greek Revival residences, Gothic Revival churches, and Second Empire business structures, gives a

piquant flavor to all these styles. Two or three buildings in gray limestone, the normal building stone in the Rochester area, look ill at ease in the village. The Medina sandstone was quarried in the vicinity from the early days of settlement until late in the nineteenth century.

Besides the usual canning plant, Medina has several iron foundries. The population includes a large percentage of foreign groups, including about 1,000 Poles.

The H.J. HEINZ PLANT, Park Ave., a collection of rambling wooden frame structures and two-story brick buildings, makes a number of the 57 varieties—vinegar, pea soup, celery soup, and strained vegetables for infants and invalids, and cans prunes, carrots, and creamed diced potatoes.

The demand for labor in this fruit- and vegetable-growing and canning district fluctuates sharply with the season: in the spring and summer there is work to be done in the orchards and gardens; during the harvest, employment reaches a high peak both in the fields and in the canning plants, and workers are brought in from metropolitan centers; but as soon as the harvest is in the cans, employment drops rapidly and many of the workers are left stranded for the winter.

About three miles west of BERGEN, 18.4 *m.* (600 alt., 656 pop.), are the BERGEN SWAMPS, 15 miles long, an irregular marl bed surrounded by a dense cedar thicket inhabited by blacksnakes, deer, and rare birds; to the botanists it is interesting for its white orchids, small white lady's slipper, black chokeberry, fringed polygala, true and false miterwort, gold-thread, bog violet, starflower, swamp valerian, twinflower, Labrador tea, dwarf cornel, bog cranberry, pitcherplant, and other rare plants.

On FORT HILL (L), 23.5 *m.*, a point of land at the junction of Fordham's Brook and Allen's Creek, was a fortified Indian stronghold; archeologists have found skeletons, pottery, beads, stone axes, and arrowheads; one of the pipes found here 'consists of a face having slitlike eyes and mouth, a long rectangular nose so modeled that it appears to look out from a hood with a triangular opening.'

LE ROY, 26.6 *m.* (869 alt., 4,386 pop.) (*see Tour 11*), is at the junction with State 5 (*see Tour 11*).

Along the road, young, immature orchards rise beside the scarred stumps of older orchards that have been cut down. At 32.1 *m.* is the junction with US 20 (*see Tour 8*).

A single crude timber derrick near the road north of PAVILION, 34.6 *m.* (941 alt., 425 pop.), is all that remains of the development following the natural gas boom that started here in 1879.