

Top: Old Hotel at Stafford burned in 1917.
Center: Johnson Tavern, Le Roy, first white settlement west of Montgomery.
Bottom: Star Springs Hotel, Alabama.

"Pectoral Pills" Yield to Preventive Medicine

(Continued from page 55)

hole in the ground, fill it with hot stones, wrap the patient in a wet blanket and steam him over the heat.

"Agues" and "bilious fevers" prostrated most of the early settlers in this area. It was their belief that turning the soil and making openings in the forest brought on the "ague." They did not know that mosquitoes, which bred in the rampant swamps of that time, carried this malarial disease. Quinine became a standard remedy in 1823, when available. The disease, in most cases, was permitted to "wear itself out." The gradual drainage of the land helped control this disease.

Some doctors resisted the use of quinine. Dr. J. Califf advertised thus in the "Genesee Gazette," November 1, 1832: "This way for your pills. If those afflicted with agues and fever will avail themselves by calling on subscriber at his residence two miles north of Reynolds old tavern stand in Stafford he will convince them that the above mentioned diseases can be cured in less than two weeks without the use of Calomel. Arsenic, Quinine, or any mineral or vegetable poison and leave the patient in a healthy state. He likewise flatters himself that he can treat all curable diseases with equal success!"

Many graves were filled by tuberculosis, the "Great White Plague." Newly arrived immigrants, especially, went into a "decline" with this disease. Typhoid (called "bilious fever") took a terrible toll and smallpox swept over in almost yearly epidemics.

The country doctor's drugs, perhaps fortunately, were few. He made his own tinctures and infusions which he dealt out allopathically in large doses. Homeopathic practice, with its scaling down to very small doses of a large array of symptomatic medicines, came much later. The druggist was his saddlebag, the operating room the kitchen table. Anesthetics

were unknown until 1846 and many patients died of shock. Gangrene was expected after wounds were opened. Bacteria and disinfectants were unheard of until the third quarter of the nineteenth century.

How much was expected of drugs or "patent" medicines (many of which came to be made in this area) is shown by a doctor's advertisement: "Antiphlogistic Strengthening Plaster, safe for ague of the breast, acute rheumatism, burns, bruises, ruptures, scrofula, tumors, tooth ache, quincy, nervous headache, heart palpitation, or pain occasioned by infraction of the liver. Also Bilious Pills, Antidysenteric Pills, and Genuine German Tincture and Rheumatic Drops which counteracts all spasmodic diseases, such as asthma, cramps, convulsions, hiccough and lock-jaw."

More babies were brought by midwives than by doctors. Less than half the babies in those early years survived. One south-country mid-wife was called at night to a lonely cabin in the woods. When the baby did not come after several days, she asked to return home. The farmer loaded the two women and a churn of milk upon the ox sled and pulled them the several miles over a rocky trail. The churn overturned, but the mid-wife reached home in time to have her own baby and to deliver that of her friend.

One hundred years after the county was founded, the first hospital was opened, known as Batavia Hospital, later renamed Genesee Memorial Hospital. The foresight and energy which realized this milestone were the product of an earnest group of women who organized as the Women's Hospital Association and operated the hospital for many years.

In 1917, St. Jerome Hospital was opened, under the operation of the Sisters of Mercy. The original building was a gift to them from Mrs. Mary Rose Jerome and her daughter, Miss Rose A. Jerome. The first surgeon to bring cases to this hospital was Dr. William D. Johnson, who was to become, in 1931,

“Pectoral Pills” Yield to Preventive Medicine

President of the Medical Society of the State of New York, also a charter member of the American College of Surgeons. He had acquired training as a student of Dr. Morris Townsend of Bergen, one of the truly pioneer surgeons of America, one of the founders of the New York Medical Association (not the present State Society), and the outstanding surgeon of his time in this region.

Fifty years after the opening of the first hospital, both Genesee Memorial and St. Jerome Hospitals acquired new modern hospital plants on par with the very best. The financial support of the entire community made possible these greatly expanded facilities. Elaborate departments such as X-ray and Pathology, non-existent in 1902, are included, and services in medicine, obstetrics, surgery, anesthesia and emergency service, are now far advanced. Over 250 beds are available and over 40 physicians and surgeons are on call.

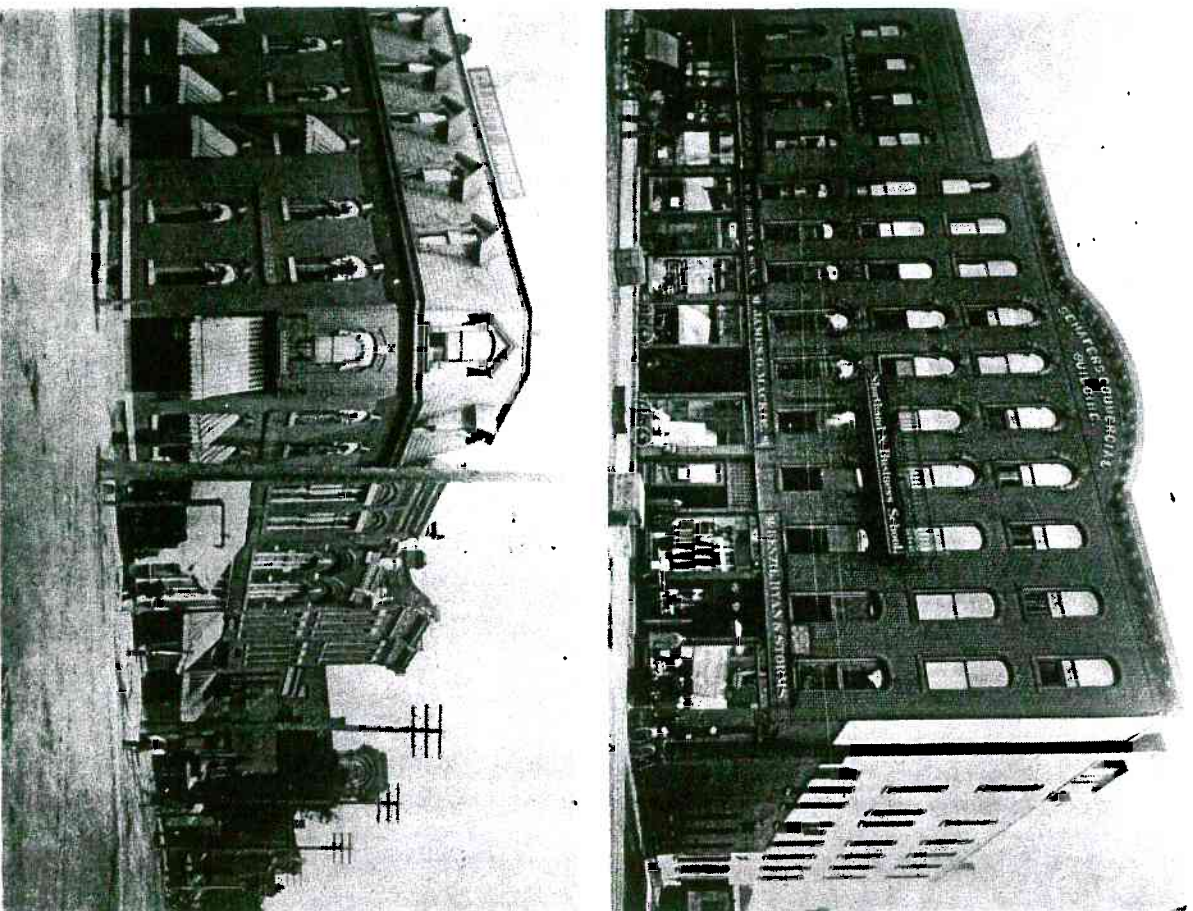
Today medical practice in Genesee County is forward-looking. With a solid backbone of general practitioners, better trained than ever before, and with more and better qualified specialists allied with them, Genesee County physicians are engaged in new activities which represent the latest trend. Three important elements of medical care and teaching are now related through new affiliations—Genesee Memorial Hospital with the University of Buffalo, and St. Jerome Hospital with Georgetown University.

Our hospitals provide the focal point wherein the work of general practitioners is joined with that of our own specialists in a suitable “workshop,” and there members of the teaching staffs from the large medical centers come to teach and to discuss problems and cases. Thus a constant liaison is maintained between the private practitioner, the community hospital and the large teaching centers with an exchange on information of benefit to all. The top expert and special facilities of the medical center are available to help on the rare or stubborn case; a new relationship is established between the medical school and the practitioner on a footing which gives the latter continuing education and keeps the former in touch with the day-to-day experience and problems of rural medicine. The standards of our hospitals are raised and their services enhanced, leaving very little in medical care which is not accomplished here in Genesee County.

In the modern field of preventive medicine, Genesee County is also pioneering. An organization called Regional Health, Inc., is earnestly seeking the means to a more positive approach to health, with consideration given to all the elements—housing, food, soil, water, living habits, human relations—the total environment which affects the state of health. The Board of Supervisors has this year appointed a Public Health Committee to give greater stress to this important field.

At the close of World War II, among the first of the country’s blood banks were established in each of the hospitals. They have been maintained with local initiative continuously.

Genesee County is Keeping the Door to health and modern medical care.



Top—The Schaefer’s Commercial Building, where the S. S. Kresge Co. store now stands, Main St., Batavia.
Bottom—The old Elicott House, corner of Elicott and Jackson Sts., Batavia.

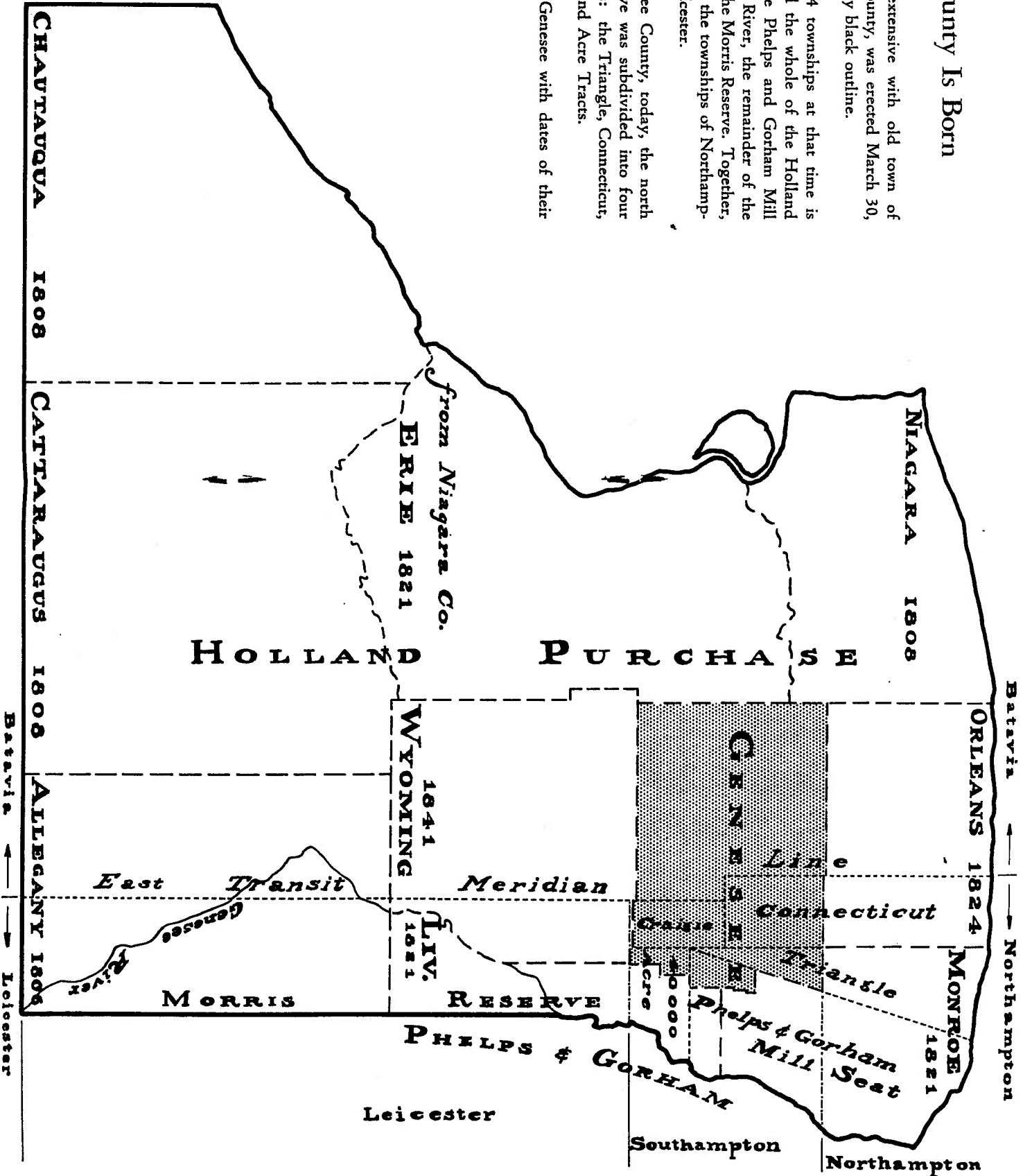
Genesee County Is Born

Genesee County, coextensive with old town of Northampton, Ontario County, was erected March 30, 1802. It is shown in heavy black outline.

Its subdivision into 4 townships at that time is shown. Batavia embraced the whole of the Holland Purchase. Except for the Phelps and Gorham Mill Seat west of the Genesee River, the remainder of the new county was known as the Morris Reserve. Together, these were subdivided into the townships of Northampton, Southampton and Leicester.

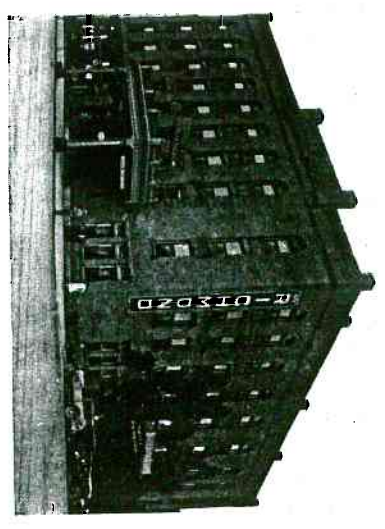
As pertains to Genesee County, today, the north part of the Morris Reserve was subdivided into four parcels and sold as follows: the Triangle, Connecticut, Craigie and Forty Thousand Acre Tracts.

Counties taken from Genesee with dates of their erection are shown.



Hotel Richmond

BATAVIA, NEW YORK



The famous old EAGLE TAVERN, a spacious three-story brick structure, built by Horace Gibbs, was first opened to the public on this site, on February 1, 1823, one hundred twenty-nine years ago. It was destroyed by fire May 30, 1834. The second Eagle Tavern was erected by a stock company and opened to the public December 25, 1935. It was named The St. James Hotel, and conducted by Captain Orrin C. Parker, lessee, until January 8, 1886, when it was destroyed by fire. The present Hotel Richmond was erected by a stock concern known as the Batavia Hotel Company. The Batavia Hotel Company failed and the Hotel Richmond was taken over by Mary E. Richmond, widow of Dean Richmond, and operated by Benjamin R. Wood, lessee, until 1910. It was purchased by George W. Watson, the present owner, and his father, the late William C. Watson, in 1905, and operated by M. J. Keogh & Bros., tenants until 1920.

The Hotel Richmond is a four-story, fire-proof brick structure, with 75 guest rooms, baths, elevator service, steam heat, telephones in all rooms connecting with outside, and where fine foods and choice liquors are served in the bar-room, dining-room and grill, every day during legal hours.

**"The Leading Hotel Between
Buffalo and Rochester"**

The Hotel, Richmond is operated by the present owner.

Manufacture Gives Way to Mass-facture

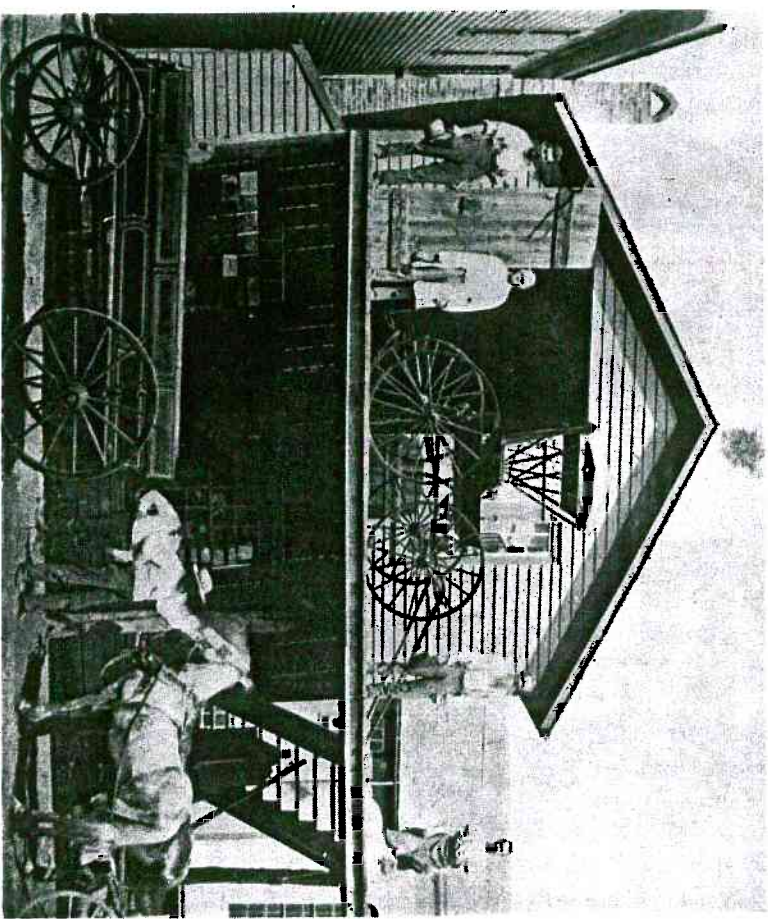
(Continued from page 63)

During and after the Civil War, however, industry came into its own. The locally-made wooden plow with its tip of iron fashioned by the cross-roads blacksmith, gave way to the bustling factory with not only its iron plow, but its harrow, mower, reaper, binder, husker, combine, sprayer, and tractor of today. The cast iron and malleable casting is giving way to the die casting. The old cast iron cook stove and furnace bow to the gas or electric range, space heater or deep freeze of today. In exchange for these modern appliances, we supply onions, celery and potatoes from our

superb mucklands, apples and fruits from our orchards, milk from our herds, or alfalfa from our meadows. And to make all this vast array of electric appliances possible, we produce insulators and plastics.

With our magnificent forests gone, we are less prodigal in our use of wood. We import paper to fashion into cartons and shipping containers. We transform the limestone from our quarries into building blocks as well as into broad arteries of commerce and runways for aviation. We burrow into the earth for building materials of gypsum. We place a network of gas and oil pipelines beneath our fields.

We fabricate all sorts of things to satisfy human wants and concoct palatable packaged mixtures for the daily menu.



Tompkins Wagon Shop, Pavilion, in 1870, on the site of the Pavilion State Bank

Manu-facture Gives Way to Mass-facture

And not content with this, we compound aphrodisiacs and remedies for many of the ills to which man is heir.

In many ways, through Industry, we have eased life's burdens. In others we have paid a terrific price through increased tensions and the irreparable loss of self reliance through enforced dependence on factors beyond the individuals' control.

But this is the Twentieth Century!

Ellicott Proved His Devotion

Labor difficulties, high wages and weather beset this area with the construction of its first building, in 1801. In a letter to Paul Busti, general agent for the Holland Land Company, Joseph Ellicott describes the difficulties which surrounded his building of the sawmill without which the City of Batavia and the Genesee County villages could not have been launched.

As site for the sawmill, Ellicott chose the bend of "the Tonawanda," as it was "central to the settlements," he hoped would spring up. No one with sufficient capital offered to build it, so Ellicott undertook it in the name of the company, supervising the job himself. Ellicott wrote:

"The season proved uncommonly wet, the creek which in consequence was constantly swollen with floods, prevented us from commencing the foundation and placing the timbers of the dams until the beginning of October last.

"In consequence of frosty nights the water became cold and it is difficult to prevail upon the hands employed to work in that element, more especially as the great part of them had been either afflicted with fevers and agues, or were then in a convalescent state, but the timber for that object being prepared

and the great inconvenience the settlement would undergo if we should fail in the completion of the business this season, rendered it indispensable that its execution should not be delayed.

"Carrying into effect the erection of this mill dam has been the severest piece of duty since my remembrance, as it was impossible to prevail upon the hands to risk their health unless I was willing to risk mine, and then not without high wages."

For the most part, wrote Ellicott, "not a day elapsed Sundays included (he spelled Sunday with a small "s"), that I was not from my knees to my waist immersed in water."

Successful at last, "we had the satisfaction to see the water falling over the dam in a beautiful cascade 90 feet in breadth." Timber used amounted to 8000 running feet, the smallest piece being 10x12 and the largest 10x18 inches. It required until January 1st to put the mill in operation.

"Nothing but conviction of necessity for erection of a saw mill at this place," Ellicott told Busti, "could have induced me to expose myself in this manner. For had not the saw mill been erected during the late season the progress of the settlement would have been retarded another season."

Such was Joseph Ellicott's devotion to the cause of Genesee County settlement.

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Papa Held the Purse Strings



Human nature hasn't changed much in 115 years—but customs have. A quick study of an old leather-bound ledger, dated 1832, shows this to be a fact. When Henry Hawkins of Hawkins & Co., Alexander's first store, wrote down in flowing Spencerian script (with shaded capital letters) the financial transactions of each day, he little realized that he was recording, in condensed form, the life of the times.

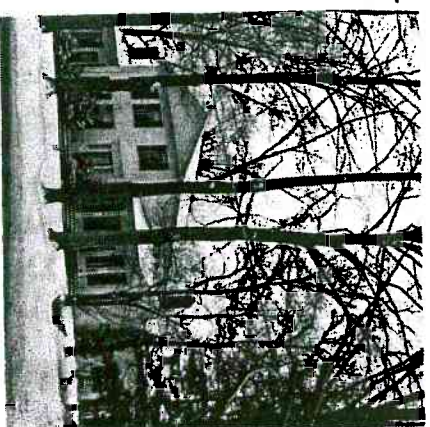
For instance, it is axiomatic today that woman is the buying sex. Not so in 1832. Whatever was needed, the men bought it. H. & Company made careful note of who did the actual buying for each account.

On September 3d, Warren Beckwith came in with a typical shopping list. He bought thirty pounds of maple sugar for \$3.00 (maple was the most popular sugar; brown sugar at eight cents was bought occasionally; loaf sugar, 22 cents a lb., rarely); two yards of gingham, 63 cents; a spool of thread, six cents; two tin pans, \$1.13, and five yards of diapers, 94 cents.

There was an obvious reason for this buying policy. When Paul White made the mistake of bringing his wife and daughter with him to shop, he was re-lieved of \$6.25 for 16 yds. circassian (the most popular cloth that year); \$6.75 for nine yards India Lustring; \$2.44 for six and one-half yards cambric; \$1.13 for a traveling basket. Other essentials of 1832, "New Look"—lace, ribbon, edging, shawl, "Prunelle" shoes (\$1.56), gloves, pearl buttons, comb, veil, pins, linen, and tape made a total bill of \$26.37. For himself Paul managed a white cravat at fifty cents.

Throughout the ledger, which extends from August 23, 1832 to February 11,

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Van R. Hawkins paid \$3.75 for six days work on this house in 1832. The trees cost \$1.50. Now the Harrington home in Alexander.

1833, it is apparent that the menfolk had an eye peeled for a bargain. They were quick to snap up a "remnant"—the modern woman's delight.

Sally Phelps was the only woman who came in repeatedly, and she always bought dress materials. She either was unusually opulent, or else she was the local dressmaker.

The changeless quality of human nature is shown in the subtle merchandising technique of Hawkins & Co. On August 30th, Rodney Wadsworth was charged nine cents a pound for 12 pounds of maple sugar. The next day, H. & D. Lothrop were charged eight cents each for two pounds, while the price to Mrs. Beckwith, who had ventured upon man's territory was hiked to ten cents.

What we call the holiday season today, was, apparently, no time for levity at the turn of '33. Neither Christmas nor New Year's caused so much as a ripple in the lists of "boughten goods" sold over the counter—molasses, sheeting, sole leather, nails, lamp oil, thread, and spices being among the most purchased items. The store kept open both holidays, with the usual trade. (Continued on page 69)

Papa Held the Purse Strings

(Continued from page 67)

There was a liberal sale of liquor throughout the year. Whiskey could be had for 38 cents a gallon, cordial, 25 cents a vial and rum, \$1 a gallon. Brandy was \$1.56 for 1 1/4 gallons.

If you were a gallant swain in 1832, you might buy the little woman a pair of ivory side combs for 19 cents. Or, if you got a fair price that year for hogs, you might even fetch home a silk kerchief, the most popular item of a frivolous nature, for as much as seventy-five cents. Or you could settle for a cotton one at 25 cents.

The Hawkins inventory was varied and up-to-date. Dennis Chaddock got his half a pound of snuff for 13 cents. A chamber cost Peter Rensen 38 cents, but Chaddock paid only 31 cents. A shaving cup cost 25 cents. The same one might bring \$5.00 today. A candle mold was 61 cents. Tobacco was nine cents for 1 1/2 pounds. Tea was much in demand, in spite of costing \$1.00 a pound, while coffee at 19 cents a pound was seldom called for.

Only one deck of cards was sold that year—to Van Rensselaer Hawkins—for 38 cents. In those days an umbrella would have cost you \$1.75—but you could get six edged twifflers for only 38 cents.

Eggs cost ten cents a dozen and butter 12 cents a pound!! Wheat brought \$1.00 a bushel, although Peter Rensen lost \$1.60 on fifty bushels he had H. & Co. sell in Brockport. Daily wages in 1832-3 would set the modern breadwinner back on his heels.

For services to Van. R. Hawkins, Solomon Hawkins received \$1.25 for two days digging potatoes, \$2.50 for four days laying mortar, \$2.50 for four days of graveling the sidewalk and around the store, \$3.75 for six days on the house contract, and fifty cents for sifting hayseed.

There were no rent ceilings then, but Mrs. Phelps boarded V. R. Hawkins' wood chopper for two weeks for a total cost of \$2.50.

The Hawkins family was nothing if not businesslike in financial dealings among its members. On August 30th, Henry received \$1.00 for laying Van R.'s wall. Van R. then paid Henry 27 cents more for 1 1/2 pounds screws and a glass door knob. That same day, Rudolphus settled up an old bill of ten cents for postage, while Harvey shelled out 75 cents for one yard of corded calico and 56 cents for a "bred" pan. Not to be outdone, Henry put 25 cents in the till for two gallons of cider. Later in the day, V. R. presented Rudolphus 25 cents for hauling wood.

The most expensive single item on the books was a Wickwire and Newton mahogany sideboard for Tryphena Hawkins which cost \$65.00. The glamour note of the season was when John Estabrook came all the way from Alden to buy his wife five pair of "kneet" drawers. The scandalous price was \$7.81.

Among the most loyal patrons of Hawkins & Co. were (aside from the Hawkinses, themselves), Philo Porter, Moses Page, Royal Moulton, John Van de Bogard, Ephraim Knapp, John Riddle, Warren Beckwith, Isaac Parish, Henry Waite, Aid Garfield and Zebulon Zee. The descendants of many of them live in the Alexander area today.



Compliments of

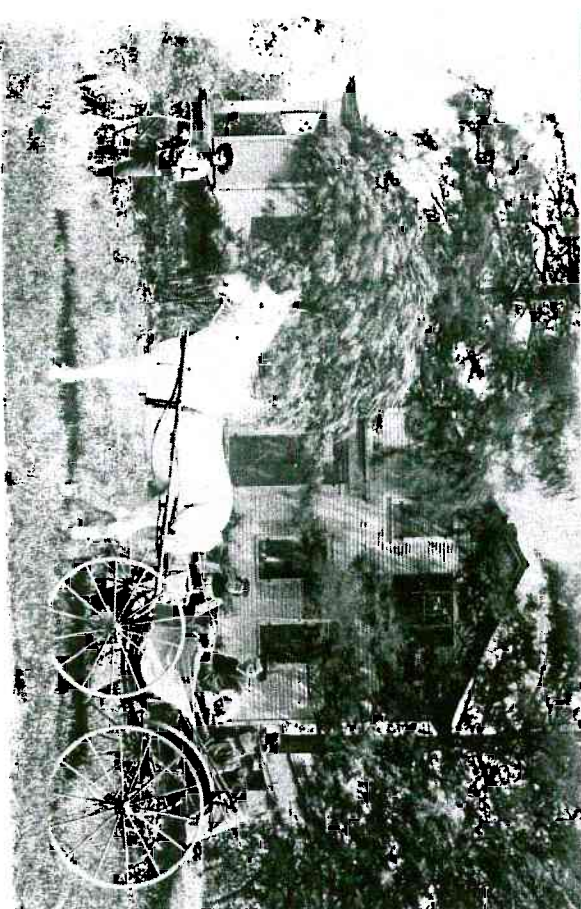
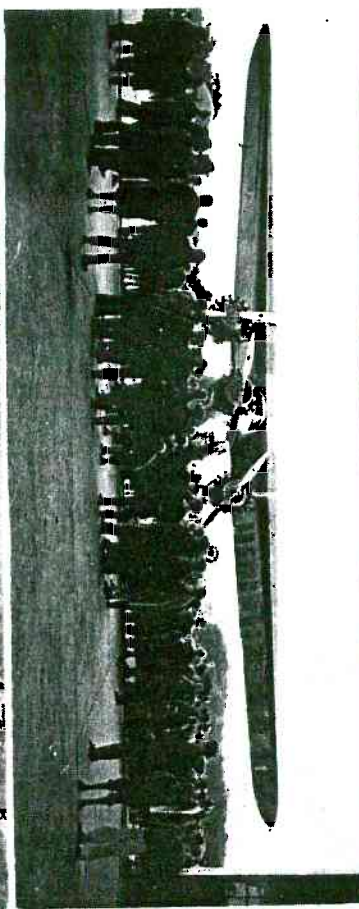
Graham Manufacturing Co., Inc.

BATAVIA, N. Y.

Compliments of

JELL-O

A Division of
GENERAL FOODS CORPORATION
LE ROY, NEW YORK



Top: Amelia Earhart's "Friendship" arrives at Donald Woodward Airport, Le Roy, 1932.
Bottom: The Cow Nineties era.

The Slow of Foot at Last Takes Wing



When Sullivan's soldiers started back to the Genesee country as settlers, they found the way to be "as difficult as the way to heaven." This was due largely to the wretched roads which at first were mere Indian foot trails.

The first settlers came over these foot-wide trails which wound westward, avoiding the clearings and penetrating, (for safety's sake) the deepest part of the forest.

In 1801, Joseph Elllicott hired the White Chief (so-called because of his white-feathered head dress) to hack a route through the almost impenetrable forest from Batavia to Vandeventer's (east of Clarence), where it met the main trail. Using his tomahawk as a surveying instrument, White Feather completed his survey in five days, stating that

he had "found good ground and that many places he passed through did his heart good on account of the beauty of the land."

The following summer Elllicott laid out a wagon road over this marvelously straight course and this is, today, Route 5, Elllicott Street (Route 63) and two roads north were built by 1803. Hinds Chamberlain had opened a wagon trail from Avon to Ganson's tavern in 1798, but the trail between Le Roy and Stafford was often impassable. It was said that Jacob Coe salted away a tidy sum by pulling freight wagons out of the mire in the Stafford swamps.

The so-called "Genesee Pike" was completed to Buffalo from Albany in 1813. It was the pride of its builders but a harried traveler describes it: "This substitute for a road is composed entirely of the trunks of trees, laid down layer (Continued on page 73)



Farrow, 1857. N. B. Keown, Dr. F. C. Taylor, Mr. Clement and Dr. S. Ed. Jr.

The Slow of Foot at Last Takes Wing

(Continued from page 71)

on layer, till a solid but rugged platform is elevated above the level of the marsh. The logs are piled upon each other without any kind of squaring or adjustment, and the jolting of the wheels from one to another is perfectly horrible." These "corduroy" roads often completely submerged in the swamps.

Long after the present Route 20 was laid out in 1810, Cornelius Whiteman, a pathmaster of Pavilion, was forced in time of freshets to pull the log road back into place with oxen. Over these roads the main body of the early settlers came, and also the stage coaches. These made at best 8 to 10 miles per hour.

During its first quarter century, Western New York produce was sent East mainly over the waterways — down the Susquehanna to Philadelphia or Baltimore, or to New York via the Mohawk, and the Hudson.

Each advancing type of travel — the stagecoach, the canalboat, the railway, motor vehicles or airplanes — set the rhythm of the age it dominated.

The first great impetus to commerce for Western New York came with the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825. Although 18 miles away, the present Genesee County found it a great boon. Value of products spurred upward now that a less arduous and expensive method of transportation eastward had been found.

The first railroad in Western New York was built to save distance on the canal, which wound in and out from Rochester to Buffalo over an 85 mile course. The Tonawanda built a railroad in 1837 to connect Rochester and Batavia. A road from Buffalo to Attica was built in 1840, another from Batavia to Attica in 1843. In 1853, seven little roads between Albany and Buffalo were consolidated into the New York Central.

Dean Richmond of Batavia, who became vice-president and then president of the New York Central, "won his way

to the front rank of his generation by sheer energy, hard work, and a genius for overcoming obstacles and making circumstances the servants of his will. He was the first American railroad man to advocate the laying of steel rails. A large order was sent to England, but did not arrive until after he had died. In 1864 he refused nomination for the presidency of the United States.

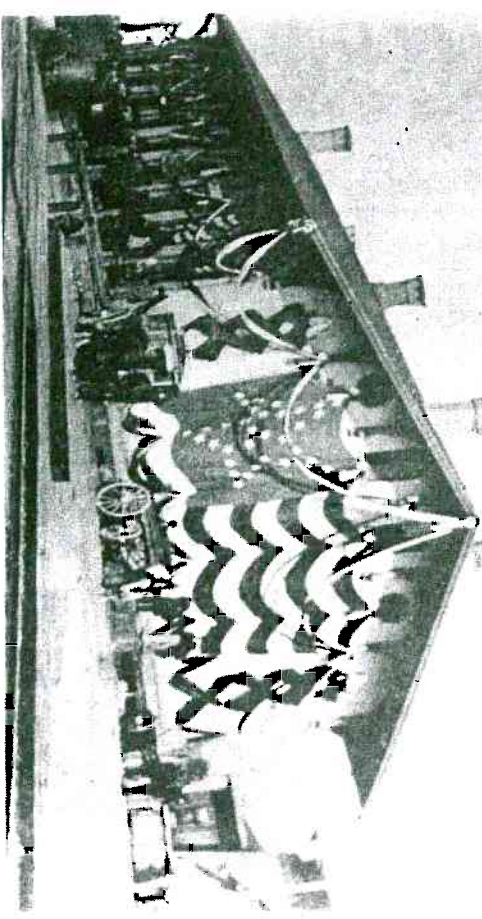
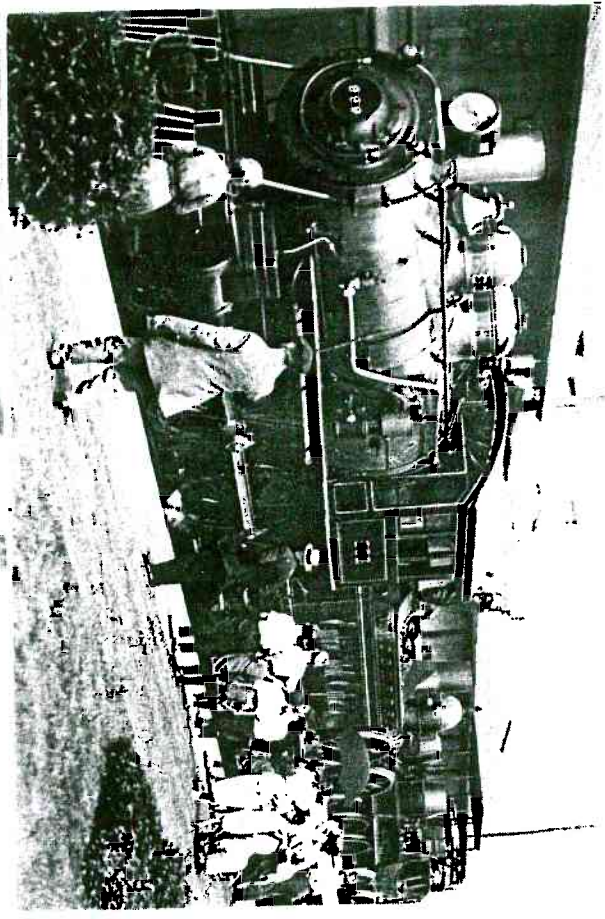
By mid-century, the railroads had given another great impetus to Western New York life. The fire-belching monsters roared twenty to thirty miles an hour across the land while every hamlet dreamed of having "the railroad" and of becoming a metropolis. Communities by-passed went into decline. Every Genesee County town, however, can be reached by rail.

By 1850 a plank road between Batavia and Oakfield had been surveyed. There was discussion of one from Le Roy north on the Lake Road. The original road had been a gift of the proprietors of the Triangle Tract.

By 1905 Macadam roads were in vogue and the State Highway Department for their improvement had been organized. 1952 looks to superhighway building.

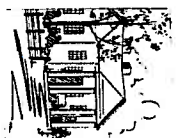
Streamliner passenger and freight trains, local, state and interstate motor transportation have been supplemented by air travel. All Western New York turned out in 1928 when Amelia Earhart's famous ship, "Friendship," was bought as flagship for the Donald Woodward air fleet in Le Roy. Roads were jammed two weeks later when the county's greatest air show was presented. In 1952, Genesee County has its second airport. It is proud, also, of its Flying Farmers.

Along with progress in transportation, has come development and progress in communication. From the courier boys' fleet of foot, in 1802, the sleek, white packer boats of the canal, that carried mail, and were hauled by three horses always on a trot, and the mail trains of 1902, have come private and public telegraph, telephone and wireless communications.

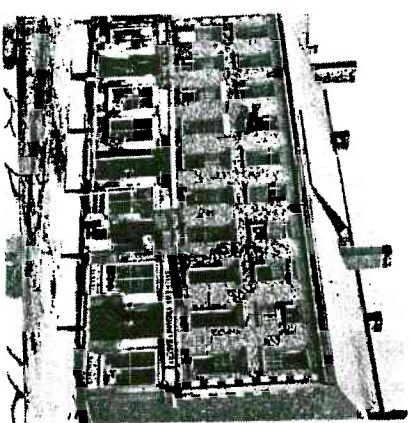


Top: The car of a connecting "Pullman" in an operation at Batavia in 1931. Bottom: The so-called "Balloon" built in 1802, which took the Dean Richmond's "stage" train in 1853.

Free People Demand a Free Press



One of the greatest hardships of early Genesee County families was lack of news from back home. There were no newspapers, no post offices or mail facilities. Whatever mail came through was due to kindness of a passing traveler. It was especially difficult for those of New England origin to be so cut off from the world about them. Back home, they collected in groups about the post office to hear the gossip of far and near.



Cobblestone Block—The Batavia Daily News was first printed here.

Now and then, a torn newspaper came wrapped around a half pound of tea. This was eagerly read, passed around, and saved to read again. We can picture the excitement in the young settlement on the Bend of the Tonawanda when the first issue of "The Intelligencer" came off the press in 1807, five years after the new County was founded. Elias Williams had bought some "useless" type and an old press, and, after patching these up, produced his first issue on a half sheet of medium size and with 100 subscribers. It had three columns of advertisement from the Holland Land Company, one elopement and one runaway apprentice boy for whose apprehension a bag of bran was offered. Before the year was over, Williams went to Alexander to see a military review and never was seen again.

Benjamin Blodgett and Samuel Peck brought out "The Cornucopia" in the Spring of 1808 and this continued until 1811. "The Republican Advocate," published by Blodgett and David Miller, took its place. It changed hands in 1828 and lasted until 1854.

Oran Follert started "The Spirit of the Times" in 1819, selling out to his brother, Frederick, in 1825. The latter, followed by Lucas Seaver, William Seaver and Son, and Charles Hurley published the paper until 1856.

Benjamin Blodgett had not lost the taste for printer's ink and tried again in 1825. His "People's Press" lasted until 1830 when it merged with "The Spirit of the Times." Both names were used for several years, after which the "People's Press" was dropped.

Those early papers were vastly different from the efficient, impersonal news sheets of today. Most of them were frankly partisan in news as well as editorial columns. Many were short-lived because their partisan usefulness had ended.

Local news was absent in the early papers. Everyone knew the news at home. Why write about it? In this area, far from the seaboard, news consisted of reprints of distant happenings copied from Eastern papers which had found their way westward. The names of ships which had brought news from Europe always were mentioned.

Advertisements filled more than half of the three quarters of the paper, monopolizing the entire front page in many cases. The local physicians were heavy advertisers. "Fine paints, patent medi-

W. S. HAYES
 THE GREAT HISTORY
 OF THE
 UNITED STATES
 BY
 W. S. HAYES

THE GREAT HISTORY
 OF THE
 UNITED STATES
 BY
 W. S. HAYES

THE GREAT HISTORY
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 UNITED STATES
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 W. S. HAYES

THE GREAT HISTORY
 OF THE
 UNITED STATES
 BY
 W. S. HAYES

Barnum's unique advertisement dominated "The National Democrat" of 1858

LYMAN J. GROTH

Distributor of

PHOENIX BEER & ALE • BALLANTINE BEER & ALE

Phone: East Pembroke 2315 East Pembroke, N. Y.

Compliments of . . .

A. CHMIELOWIEC & SONS

450 Ellicott St.
Batavia, New York

Compliments of . . .

NATIONAL GYPSUM CO.

AKRON, N. Y.

Compliments of . . .

THE G.L.F. SERVICES

of BATAVIA

Free People Demand a Free Press

(Continued from page 75)

cines, perfumery and surgeons instruments" all are found in the ad of "Doct. F. Fitch," in the Le Roy Gazette of May 16, 1826. He, typically, sold a variety of offerings in order to make a living. He adds this note, "All those indebted to Doct. F. Fitch or to the shop for medicine and articles had previous to the first day of Jan. will do well to call on said Fitch and settle same immediately."

Such chatty memos among the ads apparently took the place of personals for there were none. Marriages and deaths were duly noted, but births came along too rapidly, apparently, to be newsworthy. Legal notices were, however, in evidence.

The Le Roy Gazette began publication in 1826 with J. O. Balch and continued with eight others successively until 1840. Then Charles B. Thomson came from Washington and took over as editor until 1884 when he sold to George E. Marcellus and George W. Hand. Mr. Marcellus carried on alone from 1887 until 1912.

In 1912, Edward M. Perkins, editor of the "Le Roy News" bought the venerable paper and it became a family corporation called "The Gazette-News." This paper now has the outstanding record of 126 years of continuous publication, with 90 years editorship under two men.

Following the Morgan affair of 1826, two publications came out for a short time, the "Morgan Investigator," from the office of the "Republican Advocate," and the "Masonic Intelligencer" issuing from the office of the "People's Press."

The "Le Roy Republican & Herald of Reform" was published by Freeman & Son, in 1829, for about two years, with Orestes A. Brownson as editor.

At Alexander, Peter Lawrence began publication of the "Farmers' and Mechanics' Journal" in 1837, but moved to Batavia in 1840 and continued publication as "The Batavia Times and Farmers'

and Mechanics' Journal" until 1843, when it merged with the "Spirit of the Times," under Lucas Seaver, who had begun publishing a monthly paper called "The Temperance Herald" the year before.

Edward Bliss started "The Genesee Courier" at Le Roy in 1844, and continued about a year. It was revived in 1853 for a short time.

"The Le Roy Democrat" started in December, 1852, moving to Batavia in 1853, where the name was changed to the "Batavia Democrat." Three years later, Harry Wilber took charge under the name of "The Genesee Weekly Democrat," continuing until February, 1868.

R. S. Lewis came from Warsaw that year, took charge and changed the name to the "Progressive Batavian," merged it with the "Genesee Democrat." It then came out as "The Batavian" and was continued by Mr. Lewis until January, 1896, when it was purchased by Griswold and McWain and was published one year.

"The Genesee County Whig," started at Batavia in 1852 and was published two years by Kimberly & Tyrell. It then merged with the "Republican Advocate," the names combined for one year, when the name of the "Genesee County Whig" was dropped.

William C. Grunmond of Le Roy started "The Genesee Herald" in 1854, and in January, 1857, it was removed to Batavia and published by A. J. McWain until his death in 1860. It was sold to Henry Todd who published it as the "Genesee Herald and Spirit of the Times."

Later the name "Genesee Herald" was dropped, and it continued as the "Spirit of the Times," in the hands of several successive publishers until it appeared as the "Batavia Times," and as such continued until September, 1946, just one year less in continuous publication, than the "Gazette-News" in Le Roy.

"The Genesee Daily Herald" was published from the office of the "Spirit of the Times" for two years, ending on November, 1860. It was the first daily