

still living in Henrietta. Benjamin Bales removed in an early day to Ontario, Wayne county; and also the Barns and Parish families.

The first religious meetings held in town, were at the house of Moses Wilder, by circuit preachers: — Elder S. Puffer, Lacey, Fillmore. The first school on Wadsworth road, was opened in 1809, in a log school house that stood near Stephens' corners. The school was kept by Sarah Leggett. The first military muster in town, was in 1810. Joseph Bancroft was captain; ——— Hodge, who was killed at the battle of Queenston, was the Lieutenant. It was remembered that but few of the trainers had guns, and most of them were barefooted. A saw mill was erected in 1811 or '12, by Jonathan Smith.

In 1814, Elder Thomas Gorton settled on the river road. He had previously resided in Lima. A Baptist society had been organized two years previous, and meetings had been kept up, Deacon Briminstool generally leading in them. After Elder Gorton settled in the neighborhood, a block meeting house was erected. The Elder emigrated to Michigan in 1840. He had thirteen children who became heads of families. The first school on River road, was opened in 1810, by Lucy Branch, now Mrs. Solomon Nichols, of Cattaraugus county. A religious reading meeting was started in 1811, by the elder Mr. Sperry, on the State road, which terminated in the formation of a Congregational society, in 1815. A log meeting house was erected, but no stated preaching was maintained until the Rev. Wm. P. Kendrick was employed by the society in 1823. In 1833, the society was merged with another that had been organized in the east part of the town, and their present meeting house near the Academy was erected.

In 1813 or '14, a Baptist society was organized in the east part of the town, over which Elder John Finney was settled for several years. In 1827 the east and west societies were merged, and a house erected at Henrietta corners. Over this united church Elder Miner was settled until 1838, when a division took place, and churches were erected at West Henrietta, and in the east part of the town.

To the enterprise, and just appreciation of the cause of education, on the part of a few citizens of the town of Henrietta, the inhabitants of all this region were indebted for an early flourishing literary institution. Monroe Academy was projected as early as 1825. Before the close of 1826 a sufficient amount of subscriptions were obtained to warrant the erection of a building. The contract went into the hands of Benjamin Baldwin, a young merchant of the town; the Academy building was completed and the whole enterprise was fairly under way under the auspices of David Crane as Principal, in the winter of '28 '9. Among its most active projectors and patrons, were: — Luther C. Chamberlin, Richard Wilkins, Richard and Charles Dantels, Elisha Gage, Benjamin Baldwin, Abijah Gould,

Ozias Church, (father of the present Lieut. Governor,) of Henrietta, and Giles Bolton, of Rochester. Its success exceeded the most sanguine anticipations; its students soon numbering as many as 350. It continued to be a flourishing institution in all the early years of its existence, and supplied a local deficiency that had existed in the means of education; and only declined when similar institutions were rapidly multiplied in other localities.

Early settlers of Henrietta, other than those named: — Ebenezer Gooding, a son of the early pioneer in Bristol, Warren Burr, Roswell Wickwire, Elijah Little, Stephen Legget, Alfred Jones, Noble Dayton, Charles Baldwin, — Scudder.

The Pioneer settlement of Henrietta, owing to its secluded position, its heavy timber, and the prevalence generally of level lands and wet soil, to which was added years of questionable title; was slow and discouraging. As with all the rest of this region — but especially with that and several other localities — the "good time" came with the Erie canal; or when that great promoter and diffuser of prosperity had become a settled measure. The town is now justly ranked among the best agricultural towns of Western New York; and no where, perhaps, do farms bear a higher average value.

CHAPTER II

MORRIS' RESERVE.

The territory thus designated is bounded on the east by Phelps and Gorham's purchase; north by Lake Ontario; west by the Transit, or Holland Company's eastern line; south by the Pennsylvania line; — containing in all, not far from 500,000 acres. It was a reservation made by Mr. Morris, in his sale to the Holland Company, and afterwards sold in large tracts to others — principally to preferred creditors. The northern portion of it, the settlement of which will only be included in this connection, was divided into two tracts: — the "Triangle," and the "Connecticut," or "100,000 acre Tract."

THE TRIANGLE.

This is a tract, which as will be observed by reference to maps, has its base upon Lake Ontario, and terminates in a sharp point, a

bert Hall, — Douglass, Samuel Davis, and Hinds Chamberlin, were soon added to the new settlement east of the present village site. The Beaches removed to Niagara county where many of their descendants now reside. Deacon Hinds Chamberlin, who is named in another connection, came a young man to Scottsville, as early as 1795. He was elected a constable in 1798, for the whole region west of the River; first serving precepts issued by a magistrate at Avon; and afterwards those issued by Esq. Fish. As a road commissioner he laid out the first road west of the River, from Scottsville to Hall's corners. He married previous to 1800, the widow of Malcolm M'Laren, of Caledonia. He died in 1849, aged 84 years. Some reminiscences of his, will be found in Holland Purchase, p. 321; to a son of his, Mr. S. Chamberlin, of Le Roy, the author has been indebted for some farther reminiscences obtained from the early pioneer, previous to his death.* Mr. Davis became an early tavern keeper, a mile east of Le Roy. He was from Bloomfield; lived in early life with General Hall; married a daughter of Isaac Scott, the pioneer of Scottsville. He was murdered in his own house, in 1827 or '8, by James Gray, who was executed at Batavia. The father of Gray, who was implicated in the murder, was sentenced to the States prison, pardoned by the Governor, and died in Le Roy a few years since. The Grays were intoxicated; the immediate provocation was the refusal of Mr. Davis to give up a child of James Gray that was indentured to him.

Gen. Daniel Davis was a settler as early as 1801, and also became an early tavern keeper. He was an early military officer, succeeding Joseph Hewitt in the command of a company of militia; had attained the rank of Brig. General on the occurrence of the war of 1812; was killed at the sortie of Fort Erie.

Asa Buel was a settler soon after 1800; had held a commission in the Revolution; was a member of the Legislature of Conn.; died in 1825 or '6; a son was killed with Gen. Davis at the sortie of Fort Erie; a surviving son occupies the homestead.

The following list embraces the names of all who purchased land upon the Triangle, from commencement of sales until the close of 1809. Generally, it is the names of the early Pioneers, though in some instances, it is presumed, the purchasers, or holders of contracts never became residents. And it is also to be considered that many

NOTE.—In reminiscences of Le Roy, reference will be had to the whole town, without any distinction as to that portion of it which is on the Triangle.

*Mr. Chamberlin has forwarded to the author the first deed given for a farm lot west of Caledonia. John Johnstone, as the agent of William Hornby, conveys 100 acres of land in Le Roy, to Joseph Hewitt. The blank was printed by "L. Cary, Canandaigua." Mr. Hewitt paid for his farm thus early with the proceeds of a contract with Mr. Ellicott, for building the first bridge over Allan's creek, at Le Roy. He removed to Lewiston, Niagara county, in early years, where he became a successful farmer, and where his descendants now reside.

little south of Le Roy village. The peculiar shape had its origin in the north easterly direction it was necessary to give the west line of Phelps and Gorham's Purchase, in order to have it correspond with the course of the Genesee River, and be an average distance of twelve miles therefrom.* The tract contains 87,000 acres; embraces the towns of Clarkson, Sweden, and part of Bergen and Le Roy. Mr. Morris sold it to Le Roy, Bayard and M'Evans, who were then merchants of the city of New York. It was not surveyed until 1801. In the spring of that year, Mr. Ellicott, as agent for the proprietors, employed Richard M. Stoddard who then resided in Canandaigua, and had been in the employ of the Holland Company, to survey the tract; and after the survey he became the local agent for its sale and settlement.

Mr. Stoddard had married the sister of Dudley Saltonstall, of Canandaigua, who took an interest with him in the purchase of 500 acres of the tract, which constitutes the site of Le Roy village. Mr. Saltonstall soon sold his interest to Ezra Platt, who was also a resident of Canandaigua, and one of the early Judges of Ontario. Stoddard and Platt, became the Pioneers of Le Roy, and all of the Triangle. Before the close of 1801 they had built a log house on the banks of Allan's creek, opened a land office, and were erecting mills at what was then called "Buttermilk Falls." Mr. Stoddard was sheriff of Genesee county soon after its organization; in all early years a prominent and useful citizen. His widow still survives, a resident with her son, Thomas B. Stoddard, Esq. near Irving, Chautauque county. The only daughter was the first wife of the Hon. John B. Skinner, of Wyoming. Mr. Stoddard died in 1810. Ezra Platt, who was at one period First Judge of Genesee, died in 1811; Elijah and George Platt of Le Roy, and Ezra Platt, of Ann Arbor, are his sons; Mrs. Stephen M. Wolcott, of Le Roy, is a daughter of Judge Platt.

This pioneer commencement has reference to the immediate village of Le Roy. Near the village, on the main road, east, it will have been observed, Capt. Ganson had succeeded Charles Wilbur in a public house in 1798. In reference to the whole town Mr. Wilbur was the pioneer. He was the first justice of the peace west of Caledonia. Removing from Le Roy, he located at the Cold Springs, near Lockport, becoming the first settler in all that part of Niagara county. His wife was a daughter of Deacon Handy, of West Bloomfield; a daughter, the first born in Le Roy, is Mrs. Standart, of Cleavland. Jesse and Philip Beach, Chapman Hawley, Gil-

*The survey of the Mill Tract was first made by Col. Hugh Maxwell. He ran twelve miles west from the river, and then due north to Lake Ontario. This being objected to by the Indians, the late Judge Porter ran a new line, which was as near an average of twelve miles distant from the River as a straight line would allow. In after surveys, west of this line, the tract which Porter's survey struck out from the Maxwell survey, became what has been termed the Triangle.

transfers of contracts were made, in which cases the names of the actual settlers may not appear:—

1801.

TOWNSHIP 1.
Dudley Saltonstall,
R. M. Stoddard,

TOWNSHIP 1.
Ebenezer Green,
Aaron Scribner.

1802.

TOWNSHIP 1.
Elias Underwood,
E. Bacon,
William Gilmore,

TOWNSHIP 1.
Abraham Russell,
Horace Shepherd,
Joshua Woodward.

1803.

TOWNSHIP 1.
Isaac Marsh,
TOWNSHIP 4.
Moody Freeman.]

TOWNSHIP 2.
Jacob Fuller.

1804.

TOWNSHIP 1.
Philemon Nettleton,
James Bates,
John Fordham.

TOWNSHIP 4.
Elijah Bloodgett.
TOWNSHIP 5.
James M'Casson.

1805.

TOWNSHIP 1.
Gaines Brown,
Jesse Foskett,
Cephas Fordham,*
Martin Kelsey,
James Bates,
James Griswold,
Daniel Le Barron,
Sylvanus Fairfield,
Joseph Mapes,
Ella Smith.

TOWNSHIP 4.
John Fowle,
Wm. Davis,
Simeon Daggett,
David Stanton,
Noah Owen,
Benj. Boyd,
Isaac Farwell,
John Farwell.

TOWNSHIP 5.
Abiged Sayer,
John Chapman,

1806.

TOWNSHIP 1.
Simon Pierson,
Joseph Pierson,
Oliver Bates.

TOWNSHIP 4.
Aretas Haskell,
Julius Curtis,
Samuel Chiswell,
Ebenezer Towle,
Sylvester Eldridge,
Noah Owen,
Olney F. Rice,
Carr Draper.

TOWNSHIP 2.
Roger Kelsey,
James Gano.

TOWNSHIP 3.
Jas. D. Mowlat,
Archibald McKnight,
Joseph Hopkins,
Levi Gilbert,
Gideon Orr,
John Ellis.

TOWNSHIP 4.
Wm. Spafford,
Samuel Farley,
Samuel Algru,

1807.

TOWNSHIP 1.
Oliver Bates,
James Bates,
Lockwood G. Hoyt,
Sylvanus Franklin,
Philo Pierson.

TOWNSHIP 3.
Ephraim Carter,
Bethuel Barron,
Amos Parks,
Uriah L. James,
Wm. James,
W. Stewart,
Elisha Slevant,
Benj. Skelton,
Elisha Ewer.

TOWNSHIP 2.
Abraham Davis,
Levi Russell Jr.,
Philip Conklin,
John A. Lacker,

TOWNSHIP 2.
Cyrus Thomas,
Dyre Thomas,
Joseph Throop,
Orange Throop,
David Johnson,
A. Bissell.

TOWNSHIP 3.
Aaron H. Kelsey,
Eber Griswold,
Wheaton Southworth,
Henry D. Gifford,
Jeremiah Hart,
Abner Lovejoy,
D. R. Peters,
Benj. Woodward,
Wm. Woodward,

TOWNSHIP 4.
Patrick Fovier,
Joseph Grover,
Wilbur Sweet,
Levi Leach,
Eli Glass,
Wm. Dickinson,
Anthony Case,
S. Bigelow.

1808.

TOWNSHIP 1.
John Richards,
Leonard Parmelee,
Wm. Wolcott,
Daniel Waite,
Nathaniel King.

TOWNSHIP 3.
Wm. Bentley,
Nicholas Lake,
Oramel Butler,
Simeon Gray,
Joseph Luce.

TOWNSHIP 2.
Benj. Wright,
Levi Ward, Sen.
John Ward,
Levi Ward, Jr.,
Betsey Whipple,
Wm. Munger,
John Wright,
Joseph Throop,
Polly Gifford,

TOWNSHIP 4.
Eldridge Farwell,
John Mallory,
Isaac Lincoln,
Eli Mead,
Wilbur Sweet,
L. W. Udall,
Robert Clark,
Robert Hoy,
Robert Brown,
Jas. M. Brown,
Oliver Hamlin,
Danforth Howe,
Macy Brown,
Eli Kandel,
Jonathan Mead,
Elisha Lake.

TOWNSHIP 3.
Wm. H. Munger,
Samuel Lincoln,
Johnson Bedell,
Amos Parks,
Edward Parks,

TOWNSHIP 3.
Amos Frink,
Alanson Thomas,
Isaac Howard,
Zadock Hurd,
Joseph Langdon,
Levi Merrills,
Joshua Green,
John Marshall,
Stephen Clark,

TOWNSHIP 2.
Joshua Green,
Daniel Guthrie,
Azariah Hayward,
George Orman,
Jacob Orman.

TOWNSHIP 3.
Reuben Stickle, Jr.,
Thos. W. Taylor,
Reuben Downs,
TOWNSHIP 4.
Isaac Holmes,
James Hoy,
Joshua H. Brown,
Walter Billings,
Orange Risdou.

The successor of R. M. Stoddard in the land agency, was Graham Newell, who was succeeded by Egbert Benson, Jr. The successor of the last named, was Jacob Le Roy, a son of one of the proprietors. In 1839, Mr. Le Roy returned to New York, and Joshua Lothrop who had been his clerk, succeeded him in the agency, which position he still retains; though the affairs of the agency are pretty much closed; the whole tract being sold, deeded, and paid for, with the exception of a small amount which remains in the form of loans.

The reader by a cursory examination of the list of early settlers, will observe that for the first few years, settlement of the Triangle beyond the immediate neighborhood of Le Roy, had a slow progress. In 1803, there were but two lots sold in Bergen; in 1804, but seven; in 1805, but twenty-one. In 1805, but three in Sweden; in 1806, but nine; in 1807, but twenty-six. In 1803, but one in Clarkson, in 1804, but three; in 1805, but twelve. And it is not to be presumed that all who purchased became actual settlers; in fact, many did not.

Jeremiah Hascall removed from Canandaigua, where he had settled in 1800, to Le Roy, with his family, in 1805; having purchased a part of the present Murphy farm in 1802. He was a Justice of the Peace when his jurisdiction embraced all the territory west of Genesee river. He died in 1835, aged 96 years; his wife in 1834, aged 84 years. They had thirteen children, twelve of whom arrived at adult age. The surviving sons are:—David, Amasa, and Augustus P. Hascall, of Le Roy, the last named being the member of Congress elect, from the county of Genesee; John Hascall, of Kalamazoo, Michigan. Daughters:—Mrs. Wiard, of Le Roy; Mrs. Harvey, of Pike; Mrs. Austin, of Le Roy; Mrs. Knowlton, of Ohio.

James Austin was an officer of the Revolutionary army; settled first in Bristol; in Le Roy soon after 1800. He died in Bergen. His widow still survives, over 90 years of age. Mrs. Bissell and Mrs. Lee, of Bergen, Mrs. Allen, of Mendon, were his daughters. Nathan Harvey settled in Le Roy in 1802. He and Jeremiah Hascall were both engaged in opening what is now called the Brockport road. It was done at the expense of the proprietors of the Triangle. The road makers took camp equipage, and encamped as they progressed. Mr. Harvey died in 1839. Harmon Harvey, of Le Roy, and Nathaniel Harvey, of Allegany, are his sons; Mrs. Hiram Butler, of Le Roy, is a daughter.

Richard Waite was the Pioneer blacksmith; was an early officer of the militia. He still survives, a resident of Alexander. He is the father of the Rev. Richard L. Waite, of Cayville; Daniel D. Waite, editor of the Advocate, Batavia; Elisha Waite, of Adrian, Michigan; Mrs. Newton, of Alexander, is a daughter.

Stephen Stilwell was the Pioneer shoemaker; coming in with a

large family in the fall of the year, for the want of a better tenement, he was obliged to cover and make a small addition to a frame raised by Major Waite for shoeing oxen; in which he wintered, and began the shoeing of the new settlers. He was not only a shoemaker, but a preacher, and a famous coon hunter. One of a family of emigrants dying at Capt. Gansons, he preached the funeral sermon in the bar-room. This was the first death and burial in Le Roy.

The Parmalee family were early settlers. Col. Parmalee, of Wilson, Niagara county, is one of the survivors. Martin Kelsey, Timothy Hatch, Washington Weld, Isaac Marsh, Hugh Murphy, David Scott, Martin O. Coe, were in Le Roy previous to, and before the close of the war of 1812. Mr. Kelsey survives at the age of 70 years; Mrs. Elmore, of Le Roy, is his daughter. Mr. Hatch died in 1844; his widow still survives; M. P. Hatch, of Oswego, is a son of his; Mrs. Martin O. Coe, of Le Roy, a daughter. Mr. Weld died in 1849; Willard Weld, residing near Lockport, is a son of his; the widow still survives. Mr. Marsh died many years since; some of the family are residing in Bushville, near Batavia. Mr. Murphy settled first in Cambria, Niagara county; in 1810, changed his residence to Le Roy, purchasing the tract which now constitutes the fine farm occupied by his sons and daughters, bordering upon the eastern boundaries of the village. He died in 1826. David Scott was an officer of the regular army in 1812; now resides in Michigan. Mr. Coe still survives; George, Joseph and Charles Coe, of Le Roy, and William Coe, of Boston, are his sons. Dr. Ella Smith was the first settled physician in Le Roy. Dr. William Sheldon settled there in 1811, and has continued practice up to this period. William H. Sheldon, of Le Roy, who married a daughter of one of the early pioneers at Allen's Hill, Ontario county; Joseph Garlinghouse; Lucius Sheldon, of Le Roy; G. T. Sheldon, of Detroit, and Horatio Sheldon, of Wisconsin, are his sons. Dudley Saltonstall was the first practicing lawyer in Le Roy. Heman J. Redfield commenced practice there soon after the war of 1812; his students, while at Le Roy, were:—Seth M. Gates, of Warsaw, Lucas Beecher of Sandusky, Willis Buell of Zanesville, and Albert Smith of Milwaukee. John B. and Samuel Skinner, and John and Augustus Hascall, succeeded the early lawyers in practice there.

In 1810, the first building was erected exclusively for merchandizing. It was first occupied by George A. Tiffany, a son of one of the early printers at Canandaigua, and by ——— Johnson and Joseph Annin, in succession. Thaddeus Joy, so long and widely known, first as a teamster in the days of "big wagons," on the Albany and Buffalo road, then as a merchant, and in later years, in connection with transportation on the Erie Canal, was merchandizing in Le Roy as early as 1810. He went to Buffalo in 1823;

now resides in the city of New York. Judge Samuel De Veaux, of Niagara Falls, now one of the most wealthy and public spirited citizens of all that region, had been attached to the commissary department at Fort Niagara, and subsequently had commenced merchandizing there. The winter after the breaking out of the war, he removed to Le Roy, and was engaged in merchandizing there until after the close of the war. In some reminiscences of the war of 1812, which he has furnished the author, and which will form an interesting chapter in a volume now partly prepared for the press—"Sketches of the War of 1812 upon the Niagara Frontier,"—he pays a well merited tribute to the patriotism of the citizens of Le Roy, in that trying crisis; and especially names the circumstance of the furnishing of gratuitous supplies from that village and neighborhood, at a period of want and destitution upon the Frontier; and it but accords with the author's recollection of the patriotism of the citizens of that locality during the war.

A Presbyterian church was organized in Le Roy in 1812. The Rev. Mr. Tuller was the first to officiate; the Rev. Calvin C. Colton, author of the "Life of Henry Clay," was the first settled clergyman. The society erected a church in 1825. Previous to the organization of this society, religious meetings had been held in a barn near the present residence of Judge Brewster; and subsequently, in a school house opposite the residence of Col. Shedd. The Baptists erected a church in 1822. A Methodist society was formed in 1823, by Elder A. Seager. An Episcopal church was erected in 1826.

The Le Roy Female Seminary was founded in 1836. An association, the members of which were, A. P. Hascall, Samuel Comstock, Lee Comstock, Ezra Rathbun, S. M. Gates, Albert Brewster, Jonathan P. Darling, Alonzo S. Upham, Richard Hollister, William S. Bradley, and Enos Bachelor, purchased a private residence for the purpose of converting it into a literary institution. The Misses Inghams, having previously located themselves in the village of Attica, as an inducement for them to remove to Le Roy, the association took their property in Attica in exchange for the building and lot in Le Roy. The school was immediately started under their auspices, was flourishing, and has become, by their unremitting enterprise and perseverance, one of the best Female Seminaries in the State. Improving the grounds, and from time to time enlarging the edifice, it now has the imposing appearance of some of the eastern colleges. Few, if any, female institutions in the State have turned out more well educated graduates; many of whom are either at the head of, or teachers in seminaries in different portions of the United States; especially in the western States. One of the founders of the institution has become the wife of Mr. Phineas Stanton, a son of one of the prominent pioneers of the Holland Purchase, the late Colonel Stanton, of Middlebury.

The author is indebted to the venerable Simon Pierson, a surviving pioneer of the northern portion of the town of Le Roy—the neighborhood of Fort Hill—for many early reminiscences of that locality, especially in reference to the interesting ancient remains which has given to the spot considerable celebrity. The remains found at Fort Hill, were embraced in a previous work of the authors, and the public have been made familiar with the subject in other forms. Mr. Pierson's account of early settlement, the author cheerfully and thankfully makes available.

Deacon Hinds Chamberlin was a pioneer in this, as he had been in other localities. He broke into what was called the northern woods, built a cabin, and made an opening in the forest, in the neighborhood of Fort Hill, in 1801. In 1802, Alexander M'Pherson became his neighbor; John, James, Allen, and Alexander M'Pherson, jr., are his sons. In 1804, Francis Le Barron; descendants principally reside in Michigan. In 1804, Gideon Fordham. Also, in 1804, Philemon Nettleton; descendants principally reside in Michigan. In 1805, these five first settlers rolled up some huge basswood logs, at the foot of Fort Hill, near the brook, and made one of the rudest specimens of a backwoods school house. The first teacher was Andrew M'Nabb, a Scotchman; the second, Samuel Crocker; the third, Major Nathan Wilson; the last of whom died in 1813 of the prevailing epidemic; his son, Nathan Wilson, jr., died from a wound received in battle in the war of 1812; Stephen S. and Jared E. Wilson, of Le Roy, are surviving sons. Alexander M'Pherson died in 1833, aged 80 years; Francis Le Barron in 1832, aged 61 years; Philemon Nettleton in 1848, aged 72 years; Gideon Fordham in 1821, aged 77 years.

David Le Barron, Samuel Smith, Ebenezer Parmalee, Ishi Franklin, Abner Hull, Russell Pierson, Rev. Josiah Pierson, Philo Pierson, John Pierson, Simon Pierson, Sylvanus Franklin, Linus Pierson, were all settled in the neighborhood before the close of 1810. The first named died in 1829, aged 54 years; two sons are supposed to be with the Mormons at Salt Lake. The second died in 1829, aged 77 years; descendants reside in Michigan. The third died in 1847, aged 73 years; David W., Harlow and William Parmalee are his sons. The fourth died in 1843, aged 62 years; Warren, Watson, Henry, William and David Franklin, are his sons. The sixth died in 1815, aged 70 years; Luther and Adolphus Pierson, of Bergen, Edwin Pierson, of Chili, Willis Pierson, of Ogdens and John Pierson, of Careyville, are his sons. The seventh died in Bergen in 1846; Hamilton W. and Nelson Pierson, of Bergen, Carlross Pierson, of Ohio, and Josiah Pierson, of Mount Morris, are his sons. The eighth died in 1820; William Pierson, a lawyer in Kentucky, and David E. Pierson, a merchant in Cincinnati, are his sons. The tenth died of the prevailing epidemic in 1813, contracted upon the frontier, aged 30 years; an only son was drowned from

on board the S. B. Washington, on Lake Erie, in 1838; Mrs. Flint, of Batavia, is a daughter. The eleventh still survives, residing near Churchville.

David Franklin, a brother of Sylvanus Franklin, had come in previous to 1809. In March of that year, the two brothers, with their wives and two children, were descending the primitive road at Fort Hill, which ran along upon one side of a deep ravine, in a sleigh drawn by spirited horses. The horses became unmanageable, set off at full speed, and turning an angle of the road, the sleigh upset, throwing the whole party a considerable distance, with great violence; David Franklin striking a stump, and receiving an injury that he did not long survive. "This sorrowful accident," says Mr. Pierson, "threw a shade of gloom over our backwoods settlement; for it seemed as if we could hardly do without our neighbor Franklin, who was forward in every good word and work." This, and other accidents that had happened there, induced a change in the location of the road.

Touching the advent of our friend Mr. Pierson, he must be allowed to tell his story in his own humorous way.

REMINISCENCES OF SIMON PIERSON.

In October, 1806, in company with my brother, the late Rev. Josiah Pierson, of Bergen, and our families, I started from Killingworth, Conn., with a wagon load of household goods, bound for the Genesee country, which we then understood as embracing all west of Whitestown. I was then 28 years old, my brother 26. From Albany to Whitestown, we met a vast number of teams loaded with wheat for the Albany market. On the road, we met De Witt Clinton returning from a western tour. At Whitestown, there were three log-houses, one of them a tavern, kept by Mr. Baggs. We then supposed we had arrived at the western verge of civilization, and that we were now coming to a region—

"Where nothing dwelt but beasts of prey,
Or men as wild and fierce as they."

But which has proved to be a region where—

"The worthy, needy, poor repair,
And build them towns and cities there."

"They sow their seed, and trees they plant,
Whose yearly fruit supplies their want;
Their race grows up in fruitful stock,
Their wealth increases with their flock."

From Whitestown we passed on, I should think, about three miles, where there was a log school house, and where they were holding a meeting—it was Sunday—and they were singing the good old familiar tune—
New Jerusalem:—

"From the third heavens where God resides," &c.

We travelled on the Sabbath, because we were told that travellers had no home but the tavern; and that they were thronged on that day with those whose society would not contribute to a Sabbath day's rest; loafers they would be called now that we have got such a word. From Whitestown to Canandaigua, 112 miles, was a new turnpike, much of the way through the woods and very muddy. Once in ten miles was a toll gate where we had to pay 25 cents for poaching ten miles of road. On arriving at the outlet of Canandaigua Lake, we found a small grist-mill, said to have been built by one of our townsmen, Mr. Harris; who, it was said, had brought a half bushel of wheat on his back from Whitestown, for seed. I saw the old man on his return from the Genesee country. His friends in Connecticut had conjectured that the Indians would use him up, and that he would never reach home again.

At Genesee river, we had no way of crossing, but in a wretched scow. On the west side of the river, we saw many Indian huts, from the corners of which was suspended, by braided husks, large quantities of corn. An old Indian told us we were at "Canawaugus." I began to think of tomahawks and scalping knives. About four miles west of the river, we came to a log tavern kept by Major Smith. Here we found a small man with a very large wife. Says Major Smith to the small man:—"Is that woman your wife?" "Yes, sir," was the reply. Says the Major:—"How did you get across the river?—I should suppose that your wife would have sunk that old scow." "O," said the little man, "I went twice for her."

Arriving at "Ganson's settlement," now Le Roy, we found friends who advised us not to purchase land "down in the north woods," for, said they, "it will always be sickly there; and the region will never be settled." But having a brother and brother-in-law at Fort Hill, who had preceded us a few months, we resolved upon going there. Fort Hill was then covered with a dense forest of heavy timber from its base to its summit. Its appearance was that of gloom and solitude, except when enlivened by the music of the water rushing over the falls at Allan's * Creek.

Mr. Pierson is now in his 73d year; his surviving sons are, Philo L. Pierson, of Le Roy, and M. D. Pierson, of Dansville.

The prominent ancient remains in Le Roy, other than those at Fort Hill and its immediate vicinity, were upon a bluff, near Allan's creek, a short distance below the village. It was a mound, or tumuli in size, according to Mr. Pierson's recollection, who saw it in an early day, about that of an ordinary coal pit; others who saw it in an early day, think it was about 15 feet in height, with a base

* Mr. Pierson, in consideration of the unamiable character of the person from whom this beautiful stream is named, would change it to Mrs. Jemison's Indian name—"Ginisaga." Other citizens of Le Roy, would call it "Oakka," the Indian name for a stream coming out from between high banks. The latter name would only be applicable to the peculiar topography of Le Roy and its neighborhood. Desirable as some change of the name of the stream may be regarded, it would require the cooperation of those generally who reside upon its banks, in its whole extent; a conventional decision that the author has not ventured to anticipate.

of 30 feet. Trees were growing upon it 18 inches in diameter. The foxes in burrowing into it had brought out human bones, which led to an assembling of the early settlers, on a given day, in considerable numbers, who made several excavations in the tumuli, and disinterred a large quantity of human skeletons. They were the bones of all ages and both sexes; some of them judged to be considerable larger than the bones of the largest of our own race.

See Appendix to supplement, No. 2.

In a considerable area of the locality; especially in the immediate neighborhood of Fort Hill, many relics of ancient occupancy have been discovered; and occasionally evidences of French occupancy. During the Revolution, those who fled from the Mohawk to Canada, and made frequent journeys backwards and forwards upon the old Niagara trail, had favorite camping grounds upon the creek in the immediate vicinity of Le Roy village. They had left considerable plats of tame grass, which were very convenient for travellers when settlement was tending in that direction; attracting the deer from the surrounding forest, they were often killed in those little openings.

Allan's creek has a fall of over sixty feet, within the corporate limits of Le Roy village; thus creating a durable and valuable water power, in the midst of a rich agricultural region, where it is much required. It takes its rise from springs in Wyoming county; passes through Warsaw, Middlebury, Covington, Bethany, a corner of Stafford, Le Roy, and Wheatland, discharging into the Genesee river at Scottsville. It furnishes mill power at Gainesville, Warsaw, Pavillion, Bailey's mills, Roanoke, Northrup's Factory, Tomlinson's mills, Le Roy; a mile below Le Roy, Albright's, (now Finch's) mills, Garbutville, and Scottsville.

Le Roy having been erected from Caledonia in 1812, when the war spirit was rife, it was named Bellona; afterwards, and in better taste, it assumed the name of one of the original proprietors of the Triangle. William Sheldon was the first supervisor, Thomas Tufts town clerk. Other town officers:—David Le Barron, Philo Pierson, Benjamin Ganson, Ella Smith, John Ganson, Asa Buel, Zalmon Turrell, David Bidecum, Harvey Prindle, Richard Waite, Levi Farnum, H. Graham Newell, George Terry, Amasa Hascall, Jeremiah Hascall. At first State election, in 1813, for Governor, Daniel D. Tompkins had 123 votes, Stephen Van Rensselaer, 24.

It will be observed by the preceding list of names, and periods of settlement, that the settlement of what is now Bergen had but commenced along in 1804, '5 and '6. The early road was the north and south road already mentioned. The road from where Rochester now is to Batavia, was not opened through Bergen until 1810. The town was organized in 1818. Those whose names follow, were

early pioneers, other than those already named some of them among the earliest:—

Levi Bissell,
Alexander Bissel,
Patrick Fowler,
Timothy Hill,
Joel Wright,
Stephen Everts,
David G. Everts,
Phineas Parmalee,
Nathan Field,
Jonah Buell,

Uriah Kelsey,
Jedediah Crosby, [his
son Luther, a present justice
of the peace in Bergen,
was the first born
in the town.]
Wickham Field,
Uriah Crampton,
Ashbell Crampton,
Samuel Bassett,
Harvey Kelsey,

— M. Wright,
Jacob Spafford, Sen.,
Nathaniel Spafford,
Aaron Arnold,
Oliver Avery,
Samuel Butler,
Abel Fuller,
Bela Munge,
Jesse Barber,
James Munger.

LEVI WARD.

Dr. Levi Ward was a native of Killingworth, Conn., a son of Levi Ward. He studied his profession with Dr. Jonathan Todd, of Guilford, and marrying the daughter of Daniel Hand,* settled in practice in Haddam, in 1790, where he continued until 1807, in which year he emigrated to the Genesee country; his family then consisting of his wife, and four sons, and four daughters. He was accompanied by his brother, John Ward, and his family. The emigrants arrived at Le Roy undetermined as to their location; falling in with R. M. Stoddard, the then agent of the Triangle, whom they had known in New England, they were induced to cast their lot with a few old neighbors who had preceded them, in what was then called the "north woods;" then mostly a dense, heavily timbered forest, rugged in all its features; now the smiling and prosperous agricultural neighborhood, contiguous to the Rail Road station in Bergen. Finding temporary quarters in the newly erected log house of Daniel Kelsey, Dr. Ward erected a small framed house, covering it with cedar shingles, and using rived cedar for siding. The Dr. quaintly observes, that even that manner of building was ahead of the times, and in a region of log cabins, was deemed somewhat aristocratic. His brother erected a log house; both went to clearing land, but it took about a year to make an opening sufficient to see out without looking up.

It was on Saturday when the emigrants arrived at their new home in the wilderness; accustomed to a regular attendance upon public worship, the first business was to provide for religious exercises; a meeting was agreed upon at the house of a new settler; 14 or 15 persons convened from their scattered woods homes; prayers

* Captain Hand was an officer of the Revolution, a highly respected and useful member of society, a professor and promoter of religion. He died at an advanced age, in Guilford, the place of his birth.

were made, a sermon was read, and Mrs. Ward says they "had excellent singing."^{*}

For nine years Dr. Ward was one of the active and prominent Pioneers of his locality; an efficient helper in all there was to be done in the backwoods, in religious and school organizations in, the opening of new roads, &c. Coming to the new region, to be the founder of a new home for himself and his large family, rather than with reference to the practice of his profession, his practice was only to the extent that the absence of other physicians in the new region made necessary. To the labor of clearing heavily timbered land, and subduing a rugged soil, was soon added, as will be observed, a land agency, which made him the founder, or agent of settlement in his immediate neighborhood. In 1811 he was appointed an agent or commissioner, to settle the accounts of the commissioners who had constructed the primitive bridge over the Genesee River, upon the site of Rochester. There was no mail routes, or post offices north of the main Buffalo road until 1812. In that year, Dr. Ward interceded with the then P. M. General, Gideon Granger, and obtained from him authority to transport a weekly mail from Caladonia, via Riga, Murray, Parma, Northampton, to Charlotte, at the mouth of the Genesee River. His compensation was the net proceeds of letter and newspaper postages collected on the route. It was provided in the contract that the P. M. G. would appoint deputy post masters, in any locations the contractor should designate, which were seven miles distant from each other. The plan was put in successful operation. Routes were extended by Dr. Ward, upon the same terms, along on Ridge Road to Oak Orchard Creek; from Clarkson corners through Sweden, to Bergen; from Parma through Ogden and Riga to Bergen; from Bergen to Batavia.† This system continued until 1820, supplying the early convenience of mail facilities to a wide, sparsely populated region when it was superseded by the ordinary contract system.

In the war of 1812, in an exigency of anticipated invasion, and a want of arms, Dr. Ward collected all the muskets, rifles, cartouch boxes and bayonets in his neighborhood, and delivered them to Col. Daniel Davis for the use of his Regiment. Twenty-one muskets, and cartouch boxes, and bayonets, and four rifles; ‡ and besides all

^{*} In the same year a Congregational Church was organized, the second one west of Genesee River. The Rev. Allen Hollister, ministered alternately to this church and the one organized in Riga. The Rev. Harmon Halsey, now a resident of Wilson, Niagara county, was an early settled minister. Dr. Levi Ward and Uriah Crampton are among the few who survive of the earliest members of this church.

† Pretty liberal time was allowed, corresponding with the condition of primitive roads. It was stipulated that the mail should "leave Caladonia every Monday at 8 A. M., and arrive at Charlotte on Tuesday, by 4 P. M."

‡ It has been before remarked that a large proportion of the Pioneers of the Genesee country had been officers and soldiers of the Revolution. Most of the muskets collected in Bergen, belonged at the time to those who had used them in that contest for national independence.

the powder and balls of the new settlement were put in requisition. In another crisis, at the requisition of Major General Hall, a company of exempts, or "silver grays," were raised in Bergen, and Dr. Ward was elected to the command of it. Though the company saw no service, no marching orders having been received, and no invasion extending as far as that locality, the muster roll is copied, exhibiting as it does Pioneer names, and shewing who were willing in that crisis to waive a legal exemption and engage in the defence of their country:

| Levi Ward, Jr. <i>Capt.</i> | John Ward, | <i>Private.</i> | Martin Richmond, <i>Private.</i> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Jesse Barber, <i>Lt.</i> | Jesse Munger, | " | Nathan Rogers, |
| Amos Hewitt, <i>3d Lt.</i> | Samuel Taggart, | " | Isaac Baker, |
| Joseph Langdon, <i>Ensign.</i> | Joseph Lord, | " | Dennis Magden, |
| Calvin Wells, <i>Sergeant.</i> | Lodowick Wright, | " | Abner Phelps, |
| Reuben Langdon, | William Crowell, | " | Orange Throop, |
| Wheaton Southworth, | Jehoida Page, | " | Joshua Green, |
| William Peters, | John Dulap, | " | Moses Brown, |
| Leonard Tuttle, <i>Corporal.</i> | Asa Williams, | " | William Shepherd, |
| Benj. W. Elsworth, | Theophilus M. Fenn, | " | Linus Kelsey, |
| John Colman, | William Jones, | " | Samuel Throop, |
| John Dibble, | Benham Preston, | " | John T. Freeman, |
| John K. Larkins, | Anassa Walker, | " | Asa Merrills, |
| Wm. H. Ward, | Cyrus Walker, | " | Josiah Buel, |
| Mesic. | Samuel Hammond, | " | Wm. Buel, |
| James Munger, <i>Drummer.</i> | Joshua Wright, | " | Adin Hurd, |
| Simon Frerson, <i>Fifer,</i> | James Tillofson, | " | Amos Chamberlin, |
| Benjamin Wright, <i>Private.</i> | Amos Allen, | " | Samuel Tillofson, |
| Josiah Pierson, | Elijah Loomis, | " | " |

Dr. Ward was for six or seven years the supervisor of his town, and at one period one of the Judges of Genesee county.

In 1817 he changed his residence from Bergen to the village of Rochester; thus becoming a Pioneer in a new locality, with which he has been prominently identified in most of its history of rapid progress. One of the first to break into the wilderness region north of the old Buffalo road—he has survived to see it become one broad theatre of agricultural wealth, comfort and prosperity. One of the first to cast his lot in a primitive village, while the forest was yet but partially cleared away; where the wolf, the bear, the deer and the rattlesnake had but just had notice to quit—he has survived to see it become the fifth city of the Empire State; to see it a scene of unsurpassed business activity and enterprise; endowed with religious and literary institutions, and all the evidences of substantial progress, intelligence, and refinement.

He is now in his 80th year; the wife and mother, who accompanied him in his primitive advent, nearly of the same age. With the sands of life running low, yet blessed with a more than usual exemption from the infirmities of age, enjoying all of temporal blessings, in the midst of a large circle of their descendants, they are calmly and serenely awaiting the summons to depart from the theatre of life, upon which they have so well performed their parts.

The eldest son, Wm. H. Ward, who was P. M. at Bergen, the

first north of Le Roy and Caladonia; a Colonel of Militia in early years, and an early merchant of Rochester; died in 1838, aged 45 years. Another son, Daniel H., died in 1846, aged 50 years. Surviving sons, are:—Henry M. Ward, a resident of Illinois; Levi A. Ward, an Ex-Mayor of Rochester; Ferdinand D. W. Ward, a returned Missionary from Madras, in the East Indies, author of a work entitled "India and the Hindoos," now a settled minister at Geneseo. Daughters, are the wives of Silas O. Smith, Samuel L. Selden, Charles L. Clarke and Freeman Clark, of Rochester. A deceased daughter was the wife of Moses Chapin; she died in 1823, aged 25 years. Another deceased daughter was the wife of Daniel Hand, a prominent and successful merchant in Augusta, Georgia; she died in 1839, aged 35 years.

The father of Dr. Ward, who followed him to the Genesee country in early years, died in Bergen in 1838 at the advanced age of over 92 years. The brother, John Ward, survives, a resident of Bergen, aged 81 years; his surviving sons are, Martin, Abel, John, Philo and Horatio Ward.

The northern portion of the Triangle, Sweden and Clarkson, began to be settled in 1804, '5, or rather land contracts were taken in those years, and it is presumed that actual settlement soon followed, though it progressed slowly, as in all the region north of the then principal thorough-fare, the Buffalo Road.

Dr. Abel Baldwin, is one of the oldest surviving residents. He was a native of Norwich, Vermont; studied medicine with Dr. Nathan Smith of Hanover, N. H. Dr. Thurber, of Riga, Dr. Nathaniel Rowley, of Clarkson, Dr. Jacobs and the late Dr. Bemis, of Canandaigua, were his fellow students. Dr. Baldwin settled in practice in Saratoga county in 1807—in 1810 first visited the Genesee country—in 1811 removed to Clarkson. Practicing medicine only in the earliest years, he opened a public house in 1815, at what was then called "Murray Corners," now Clarkson village. He erected the first framed tavern house on the Ridge Road; travel upon the Ridge had then become pretty brisk—Falls travel had begun to take that route; the house of Dr. Baldwin being about half way from Canandaigua to Lewiston, was a prominent halting place. In fact, Clarkson Corners, at that period, and up to the final completion of the Erie Canal, in reference to all the northern region, was a prominent locality. Dr. Baldwin continued a landlord until 1825, when he was succeeded by Mr. Silas Walbridge; he is now an enterprising and successful farmer. He was an Elector of Pres-

NOTE.—It will give the reader some idea of the slow progress of settlement in all the region between the old Buffalo road and Lake Ontario, to learn, that as late as the war of 1812, so little was known of that best of all natural highways in the world, the Ridge Road, that a large army, with heavy artillery, camp equipage &c., the destination of which was Lewiston, actually diverged from the Ridge at Clarkson, and went via Bergen and Batavia.

ident and Vice President, in 1832. Mrs. Baldwin also survives; an only daughter is the wife of Henry R. Selden.

REMINISCENCES OF DR. BALDWIN.

When I moved into the country in 1811, with my family, we were ferried over the Genesee river at Rochester; the Ridge road was only cut out wide enough for a wagon track; the streams were crossed by means of log bridges. Upon the present site of Clarkson village, there were three log-houses; and in all, perhaps, thirty acres of land cleared. James Sayre was the Pioneer of the locality; in fact, the first settler on Ridge, in what is now Clarkson and Murray, and I think, Parma. He had selected this spot on account of a fine spring, before any thing was known of a continuous Ridge road. Sayre, who had taken up considerable land, sold his contracts and removed. Beside him, I found here:—David Forsyth, who remained here until 1849, when he removed to Michigan. Deacon Joel Palmer had just commenced tanning and currying in a rude primitive establishment, the first upon all the Ridge road. He still survives, a resident of Clarkson; Joel Albert and John Palmer, of Clarkson, are his sons. Dr. Nathaniel Rowell had preceded me a few months, and was in practice among the new settlers. He was from Hanover, N. H.; died in 1826; Hopkins Rowell, of Clarkson, is his son; two other sons are clergymen in New Jersey; Mrs. Henry Smith and Mrs. Danforth are his daughters. Eldridge Farwell had located here, but removed soon, and became the Pioneer of what is now Clarendon, erecting mills there. Eldridge, Geo. and Horace Farwell are his sons. West of the Corners, on the Ridge, John and Isaac Farwell, brothers of Eldridge, had settled. The saw-mill of the afterwards Judge Eldridge Farwell, in Clarendon, made the first boards had in all this region, and his was the pioneer grist-mill, excepting a small log mill the Atchinsons had erected on Salmon Creek. We had our first milling done at Church's mill in Riga.

In all the region north of Ridge, in what is now Clarkson and Murray, Moody Freeman was the Pioneer. He was originally from Hanover, N. H.; had pioneered his way all along; had been the proprietor of the town of Ellisburg, Jefferson county; and one of the earliest settlers of Broadalbin, Montgomery county. He made his solitary home two miles north of the Corners, at the centre of the township. He was an early Justice of the Peace; a man of more than ordinary natural abilities; was an early backwood's lawyer, or pettifogger. There was in Clarkson, north of Ridge, beside Freeman, in 1811:—Eratus Haskell, who had taken up land upon which there were salt springs—and set up a few kettles, and was boiling salt for the new settlers. Haskell was a captain of militia in the war of 1812; was at the sortie of Fort Erie. He now resides in Joliet, Illinois. Stephen Baxter settled in that neighborhood in 1811, and also engaged early in salt boiling. He still survives, and has a large number of de-

scendants in the neighborhood. John Nowlan was also settled in the Freeman neighborhood; still survives, over 80 years of age.

The war of 1812 stopped all settlement and improvement. There was a constant state of excitement and alarm; many new settlers broke up and left the country. The Ridge road was a thoroughfare for troops passing to and from the Frontier. When Lewiston was burned, many families came and wintered along on Ridge road; the families of the late Sheldon Thompson, of Buffalo, Joshua Fairbanks, Mr. Townsend, and Dr. Smith, stopped in Clarkson. A company of riflemen was raised in this vicinity, commanded by captain Stewart; went upon the frontier, and at one period at the mouth of the river; they acted mostly as minute men. There were besides, militia drafts and volunteering during the war.

Immediately after the war, settlers came in rapidly. The Ridge road may almost be said to have settled in its whole extent west of Genesee river, in 1816. Previous to that, there was but few settlers upon it; especially in Monroe and Orleans.

The first town meeting of Murray, was held at the barn of Johnson Bedel, about four miles south of Brockport. The Pioneer of Brockport and its neighborhood, was Rufus Hammond. His farm embraced a part of the northern portion of the village. He had been settled five or six years when I came; had an orchard and a considerable improvement. He had formerly lived in Avon; died in 1824; Shubel Hammond, of Clarkson, is his son. Either Mr. Hammond or Mr. Freeman raised the first crops in this region. I raised the first framed barn; Isaac B. Williams the first framed house, upon the site of the present brick tavern. I omitted to name Mr. Williams, as one who was here previous to 1811; he was the Pioneer blacksmith. He removed to Hartland, where he died several years since; William Williams, of Clarkson, is his son.

In 1817, a considerable settlement had been made at Sandy Creek, on the Ridge—15 or 20 families, perhaps—in which year, Henry McCall and Robert Perry built mills there; raising a dam and overflowing 15 or 20 acres of timbered land. A sickness that pervaded every household in the neighborhood, soon followed; in one season, in a population of about 100, there were 27 deaths. The settlers from other neighborhoods had to go there and take care of the sick, as there were not well ones enough there to do so;—it was a neighborhood of gloom and desolation. The mill dam was taken down, and the sickness disappeared.

The first settler at the mouth of Sandy Creek, was a Dutchman by the name of Strunk. When I first visited the place in 1812, he had died, and I presume, for there were several deserted log houses. Billings removed to Canada. After that, settlers would come in by water, and after remain-

NOTE.—Salt springs break out all along on the slope north of Ridge—generally about three miles distant. They break out from the Clinton Group, which is next above the Medina Sand Stone. In the early settlement of the country, salt was manufactured near Lockport, Medina, at Oak Orchard, in Clarkson, Parma, Holley, Webster, Ontario and Sodus. The salt was usually afforded at about a dollar per bushel. The weakness of the brine forbid competition with the works at Montezuma and Salt Point, when the Erie Canal was finished; and the business, in fact, had begun to decline previous to that.

ing a short time, would be taken sick, and have to be brought out to the older settlements on ox-sleds. The first permanent settler in that locality, was Alanson Thomas, at the head of still water. He purchased a saw-mill that Le Roy and Bayard had built there in 1820; to which he added a grist-mill. Thomas sold out to a community of Fourites.*

The whole region between Ridge and Lake, and more especially, perhaps, in Murray, Clarkson and Parma, was as forbidding as any that stout hearted Pioneers ever ventured to break into. Its settlement was attended with long years of hardships and privations; many changes of inhabitants occurred before there was a permanent population. It was heavy timbered, mostly a wet soil; when the timber was removed, openings made, the heat of summer suns would engender disease. Those who lived along on the immediate shores of the Lake, or on the Ridge, not in the immediate vicinity of ponds or marshes, would generally escape; the scourge would principally prevail where openings had been made in heavily timbered wet lands. Sickness would generally commence in August, and continue until winter; it was by no means fatal; where there could be even good nursing, the proportions of deaths to the number of cases would be small; but at times sickness would be so pervading, that good nursing could not be had. It was a common thing to bring whole families out of the woods upon ox-sleds.

Speaking from observation and experience, my advice would be to all those who are settling a new timbered region, to select the most elevated sites for their residence, and leave several acres of timber standing for the few earliest years about their dwellings; and what is of still greater importance, if they have not good springs of water, dig wells to begin with, and thus avoid the poisonous surface water, which is of itself a pregnant source of disease in new settlements in the forests.

A log school house had been erected, and a school was in operation, when I came there in 1811. Our first settled minister was the Rev. John F. Bliss; the Rev. Mr. James, of Albany, was settled here in 1825 or '6.

No where in a wide region of prosperity, has there been a greater change than in the locality that Dr. Baldwin embraces in his observations, north of the Ridge. Even the Pioneers, stout hearted, sanguine as their anticipations must have been, in reference to the ultimate value of the land, to have endured what they did, could hardly have anticipated the sources of agricultural wealth that through so many trials and difficulties they were developing. The soil they were not strong handed enough to drain; that they could but imperfectly cultivate while the stumps and roots remained in it; and which gave them but poor returns for the labor, is now dry, subdued, its surface mould mingled with the rich elements that lay hid-

* The whole thing has been a failure. The principal leaders were —Simeon Daggett, Dr. Theiler, Thomas Pound. Many dwellings were erected, and a population of about 300 gathered there. The community broke up after an experiment of two years.

den its sub-soil; and no where does the earth make more bountiful returns for the labor bestowed upon it. It has become a region of high priced and desirable farms. The sites of bark covered log houses and thatched hovels, have now upon them comfortable and even luxurious brick and framed farm houses, and all the appointments of flourishing farming establishments. Good common roads and even plank roads have taken the place of the wood's roads through which the pioneers plodded—more than half the season waded through mud and mire—and over which some of them, as we have seen, and their families, were carried by the good Samaritans of the older settlements, who would find them in the dark recesses of the forest, prostrated by disease.

Asa Clark, the father of Gustavus Clark, of Clarkson, was from East Haddam, Conn., emigrated to Genesee in 1802; soon removed to Avon, where he resided until 1830. He died at Sandy Creek in 1834, aged 76 years. His sons were:—Asa Clark, who resided in Avon until 1828, when he removed to Sandy Creek, where he was a merchant for many years. He was a representative in the State legislature of Orleans, in 1834, '5, had been a Presidential Elector in 1828. He still survives, at the age of 66 years. George W., and Charles Clark of Buffalo, are his sons. Erastus Clark, of Lima, who in early early years was the mercantile partner of James K. Guernsey, and afterwards established in the mercantile business by himself in Lima. He still survives; a son and a son-in-law, are his successors in business. Gustavus Clark, who as early as 1806, was a clerk with Minor & Hall, at Genesee; afterwards a clerk of James K. Guernsey in Lima, under whose auspices he commenced business in Clarkson, where he has resided since 1815, and where he still resides. His wife, who still survives, was a daughter of John Pierson, one of the pioneers of Avon; Edwin E., of Clarkson, and Bushrod W. Clark, of Buffalo, are sons of Gustavus; an only daughter is the wife of W. L. G. Smith, of Buffalo. He was a representative from Monroe, in the Legislature, in 1825; and was the first President of the Bank of Orleans; an early Supervisor of Clarkson, and more recently, a magistrate. The daughters of the elder Asa Clark, became the wives of Robert M'Kay, of Caladonia, Ephraim Chapman, a pioneer in Portage county, Ohio, and Chandler Pierson, of Avon.

REMINISCENCES OF GUSTAVUS CLARK.

When I came to Clarkson, in 1815, the Ridge road was but little travelled for want of bridges; my first load of goods broke most of the bridges down from Rochester to Clarkson, and the team was obliged to return to Lima via the south road and Le Roy. That road had been opened before

the Ridge road was travelled at all. My first principal business was to pay part goods and part cash for black salts and pot-ash. Henry M'Call, a brother of Judge M'Call, of Allegany county, had been first engaged in mercantile business in Clarkson; and Joshua Field, now of Brockport, had also been merchandizing here. James Seymour was the successor of Field. All of these had been engaged in the manufactory of pot-ash; in fact, that was then the staple production of all this region. It was the first available means that the new settlers had to pay for store goods, or to raise a little money; it was a great help to them; I hardly know how they could have got along without it. It was a period when but few of the settlers had raised any grain to sell. The new settlers would put up a few rough leaches, and generally make black salts; those who were strong-handed enough, and could raise kettles, would make pot-ash. Upon lands where beech maple and elm predominated, the ashes would almost pay for clearing. Many times when a new settler was under the necessity of raising money, or stood in need of store trade, he would go into the forest, chop down maple and elm trees, roll them together, and burn them, for the ashes alone, without reference to clearing. The proceeds of ashes have supplied many a log cabin in this region with the common necessities of life, in the absence of which there would have been destitution. Our pot-ash was taken to the mouth of the Genesee river and shipped to Montreal. I have sold it in Montreal for as high a price as \$305 per ton. Lumber, the getting out, purchasing and shipping of oak butt staves, was the next considerable business after that of pot-ash, and helped the new settlers along until we had the Erie Canal, and a surplus of grain to send upon it to market.

The Ridge road was much improved soon after 1815, by the erection of substantial bridges over the streams. A post route was established from Canandaigua to Lewiston, in November 1815. At first, the mail was carried in a small wagon, twice a week. In 1820, daily coaches were put upon the route; travel increased rapidly; for a few years before the canal was completed, there were coaches almost continually in sight.

Lyman Warren, settled upon the Ridge, in east part of Clarkson, in 1817; still survives, at the age of 80 years. He is the father of

NOTE.—In May, 1807, Mr. Wadsworth urges Mr. Troup by letter, to encourage the manufacture of pot-ash; says it will be a great help to new settlers, and encourage them to clear their lands; and adds, that Mr. Murray has authorized him to buy two kettles for the inhabitants of "Fairfield," (Orden). In December of the same year, he writes to Mr. Troup:—You can hardly imagine what a spring the two pot-ash kettles I have sent to Fairfield has given to the clearing of land, and what a great accommodation it is considered by the inhabitants. The situation of the inhabitants in this part of the country has really been distressing; a farmer might have 1,000 bushels of wheat in his barn, and yet not be able to buy a pound of tea! Till of late, the merchants have begun to take wheat for goods, but at a very low price. "I fully believe that the profits a farmer can make from the ashes on an acre of timbered land, is greater than the profits on an acre of wheat. I much wish that some mode could be hit upon to convince Lady Bath how much the value of her estate would be enhanced by facilitating the transportation of pot-ash and hemp to Montreal." [This has reference to some change in the British revenue laws.]

Capt. Henry Warren, who has been for many years the popular manager of one of the Rochester and Buffalo canal Packets. At the period he located upon the Ridge, there were settled in north of his locality, in what was called the "north woods," three brothers: Adam, Henry and James Moore. They were Irishmen; neither of them survives; there are many of their descendants in the neighborhood; John and Thomas Moore, early settlers of Lockport, were the sons of Adam. The Hoy family, also Irishmen, were settled in the same neighborhood; the old gentleman died in 1838 or '9; his sons were: James, John, and Robert Hoy; many of the descendants reside in Clarkson. It was pretty much a wilderness north of Ridge in 1817. There had settled along the Ridge in Clarkson: Eli Annable, who is now living; had come in previous to war. John H. Bushnell was the Pioneer of the neighborhood; died about five years since; widow still survives; Sidney and John Bushnell are his sons; he was a supervisor and magistrate. Ebenezer Toll, removed to Gaines, where he died about fifteen years since. The first tavern keeper at Ladd's corners, was ——— Huysott; Reuben Downs was an early tavern keeper east of Ladd's corners. John Philips, afterwards sheriff of Niagara, kept a tavern in the neighborhood in an early day.

The village of Brockport, was one of the creations of the Erie canal, and is of course not embraced in the Pioneer period. Previous to the construction of the canal, there was at that point—upon the site of one of the most flourishing villages in Western New York—but the farm houses of Rufus Hammond and Hiel Brockway. The village started up under the auspices of Mr. Brockway, and to his extraordinary enterprise was much indebted in all its early years. He was a native of Lyme, Conn., settled first in this State at Cattskill, about the year 1800; emigrated to the Genesee country in an early day, and was a resident first in Geneva and then in Phelps. Soon after the war of 1812, he removed to the then town of Murray, afterwards Sweeden, and purchased the farms of two or three of the early settlers, at the rate of \$12 and \$15 per acre. The site of Brockport and its vicinity was then but a region of log houses and small improvements. The locality had no other advantages than of being the point where a main north and south thoroughfare crossed the canal; and of being in the centre of a region which promised to become, as it has, one of the richest agriculture districts of Western New York. The village took a rapid start after the canal was completed, and has had a steady and uninterrupted growth.

In addition to other early enterprises, Mr. Brockway was engaged extensively in the packet boat business; first putting on boats between Rochester and Buffalo in opposition to the old packet-line from Utica to Buffalo; then filling up the portion of that line west of Rochester with his own boats in connection with that line. He made Brockport the central locality in reference to packet boat

operations at the west; infused a new spirit of enterprise into the business; and to him, in fact, have the travelling public been largely indebted for the superior packet boats, and their excellent management, that have for a long series of years been enjoyed upon the western section of the Erie canal. To part with them and their excellent managers, most of whom have been educated in the school of Mr. Brockway, (and he was a shrewd judge of men as well of horses, and of the best model of boats,) will seem like parting with old friends; and yet the event would seem to be near at hand, for soon the shrill notes of the steam whistle will be heard along the line, where their horns have so long sounded; and haste, speed, regardless of comfort, is the order of the day.

Mr. Brockway died in 1842, aged 67 years; of a large family of children—13 in number—but 4 survive: Charles M., and Nathan R. Brockway, Mrs. Dr. Carpenter, and Mrs. Elias B. Holmes.

A portion of the village has grown up on non-resident land that James Seymour purchased about the time the canal was constructed. Mr. Seymour was an early merchant in the village; the President of the bank of Rochester; was the fortunate owner of the land on which the capital of Michigan was located; and is now a resident there.

The town of Sweeden was pretty generally settled before the construction of the Erie canal, but a large portion of the farms had been but recently commenced. When the town was organized, in 1821, there were 330 inhabitants liable to assessment upon the highways. The first supervisor was Silas Judson, the town clerk, Major M. Smith; other town officers: Joshua B. Adams, Chauncey Staples, Abel Gifford, Levi Branch, Zenas Case, Oliver Spencer, Zenas Case, Jr., Samuel Bishop, Levi Pond, Sylvester Pease, Daniel J. Avery, Joseph S. Bosworth, John Reeves, Peter Sutven, Joseph Randall. The early physicians of village and town, were:—Daniel J. Avery, the father of Daniel J. Avery of Sweeden, ——— Millican. John B. Elliott, Elizur Munger, Davis Carpenter, M. D.

Levi Pond settled in Sweeden in 1817, purchasing a farm in the north part of the town; still survives. He has filled the several offices of deputy sheriff, constable and collector, and in 1833 was one of the representatives of Monroe in the Legislature. He is the father of Elias Pond, late collector of the Genesee District.

THE CONNECTICUT, OR "100,000 ACRE TRACT."

Robert Morris sold this tract to Andrew Cragie, James Watson, and James Greenleaf, for \$37,500. Oliver Phelps purchased an equal undivided half of it in 1794, which he conveyed to De Witt Clinton in 1095; it reverted, and Mr. Phelps sold his interest to the