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THE

LIVES AND REMINISCENCES

OF THE

PIONEERS OF ROCHESTER

AND

WESTERN NEW YORK.

BY JOHN KELSEY.

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PIONEER GALLERY OF PAINTINGS.

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INTRODUCTION.

PAINTING is unique among all the arts ; it involves the most diverse and opposite branches of knowledge, its range is wide as the universe. From the transcendental ideal, and the most fanciful flights of imagination, down to the rigid rules of logic, and fixed laws of mathematics and philosophy—it involves alike the principles of all.

The artist lives in the realms of fable and superhuman ideal, and weaves into his themes the attenuated morning mists, and evanescent rainbow's hues ; but still his hand is ever guided and his fancy chastened by the arbitrary rules of abstract science. No other art calls at once into requisition so many principles of æsthetics and science ; no other requires so finely poised proportions of imaginative intellect and profound thought.

A gallery of Art, whether considered as an object of sight seeing to the stranger, or a school for the amateur,—a place of resort for the holiday pleasure seeker, or a studio for the ambitious aspirant after fame, is an indispensable institution in every city. High art is an evidence of refined taste, affluence and leisure ; the absence of art is proof eternal of barbarism and ignorance.

Since the earliest history of man, attempts have been constantly made to delineate the human form. From the crude attempts and untutored mannerism of the Chinese, Egyptians and Indians, who painted a mere profile in one color, down to the ideal Greeks and studious Italians, who have still remained the arbiters of form and the models of taste, the art of portraiture has assumed an almost myriad variety of styles and directions. Through all time, and in all countries, art of some kind has left the records of its existence as a passion in the human breast ; and until man becomes extinct, must art exist, for it is but the expression of an inseparable part of his existence, and no more be lost, than his immortal mind.

Written language and drawing were probably coeval with the "divine art." The use of animate forms and hieroglyphics, was the only means of communicating ideas by writing ; this was practiced at a period as remote as the existence of the race. To the antediluvian tenants of the earth, painting was probably a sealed book.

The Phenecians claim the first successful efforts in coloring and grouping ; but the age and country in which painting as an art had birth is still a mystery. To Greece belongs the glory, immortal, of raising art to a height which well deserves the name. Religion, that universal human sentiment, prompted them to invest the "divine human" with appropriate grace and beauty. This was its high-born origin ; and it was cradled in infancy and nursed in youth by love and the Graces.

After the decline of art in Greece, the genius of painting lay prostrate, while the dust and mould of centuries had almost buried it in oblivion. But in the 13th century, arose the great Florentine Cimabue, and with his ascent, dawned modern painting, or the "Restoration of Arts." Soon after this era, there appeared in the

horizon a lone star, which was to eclipse all past, if not all yet to come; Michael Angelo, "the wonder of mankind," who was the tutelary guardian then, as he is now, the undisputed end of authority in three arts. His very beggars stood forth the "patriarchs of poverty," his children were men, his women goddesses, and his men were giants.

In later times, the Germans profited by the Italian schools, and, together with Holland and Flanders, covered square miles of old walls with crude, stiff pictures, which were hardly redeemed by a few good ones. Rubens and Vandyck, however, proved that Italy was not the only genial clime of art, and were successful competitors for fame with their mightiest masters.

The French school has a few great names, some of whom have displayed a depth of pathos and novelty of imagery, which escaped the genius of even Raphael himself. Painting in England had no character, until Henry VIII and Elizabeth invited foreign artists to the country; but even then it was kept at a low standard, by the narrow and immoral choice of subjects prescribed by the Royal libertine and his tigress daughter. Until Reynolds appeared, it remained without rank, and even now, British art has little claim to a great original style, which would form any parallel with the Italian: the genius of the people seems committed to commerce and politics.

A gallery of painting, if good, no matter by whom painted, is always a place for the cultivation of taste, and of mental enjoyment. Here, one may linger, forgetful of the avarice and worldliness of the noisy throng without,—we revive in imagination, the vicissitudes of joy and sorrow of each venerable man or youthful beauty, as they once threaded the mazy rounds of life's devious paths; we may read in the silver hair and furrowed visage, the records of each one's transit from youth to manhood and from manhood to the mere tradition of what he was. Nothing tends so much to link our memories to the past, as the likeness of old and familiar faces. As the sublime and lovely scenes of nature, elevate the senses and refine the soul, so the beautiful and true in art, soften the heart, and lead the imagination away in trustful and happy wanderings over ever fresh and flowery fields of innocent delights. As in the ever varying beauties of nature's limitless scenes, we are compelled to reverence and admire the incomprehensible author; so in galleries sacred to the arts, we are inducted into the treasure house of immortal genius, where we yield a willing tribute to the records of its vast creative powers. The breathing spirituality which looks down from the painted canvas, is evidence indisputable of the immortal nature of mind.

Painting transports the mind over the waste of centuries, and back through the long vista of dead ages, and exhibits therein heroes, saints, kings and beggars, standing up before us in all their individuality, like creatures of yesterday. The painter seizes upon the eye glance, the transient blush, the sigh of love, the pallor of fear, the dying agony, and makes them last for ages. One by one he surmounts each obstacle, rising in inspiration with his theme, until his canvas kindles into life and shines refulgent as the sun. His glory is now consummated, his enthusiasm subsides into a calm delight, as he reviews the myriad of difficulties his hand has overcome, and he feels the conscientious satisfaction that his achievement will be safe with posterity.

Could man feel the assurance of immortal fame, more than did Appelles, when he had concentrated in his Venus, the loveliness of all the Grecian beauties?

And here portrait painting claims advantage over poetry; it perpetuates the other-

wise lost corporeal beauties, and thus attains the highest point of art, being at once the most real, intellectual and imaginative. Poetry tells the whole story of an event or hero, and thus robs it of all the charms of mystery, while painting gives but a moment of time as the index to an age.

Portrait is as truly "high art," as it is the only true historic art; it is based upon truth alone, while scriptural, allegorical, mythological and martial pieces in groups, are mainly imaginary. They partake too much of fable to be taken for history; an episode in a man's life may be thus written, but he is surrounded by unusual circumstances and strange characters, and loses his individuality. Portrait alone can do full justice to the living and to posterity. Many of the most splendid historical paintings (considered as works of art,) are the most absurd falsehoods. Though they are of untold value, they teach no reliable history.

The portrait painter may proudly boast, "Halcibiades⁷ sat to Praxiteles and Pericles to Phridjæa."[†] So have thousands of great men since art was practiced, sat to painters. Washington would doubtless, sooner have trusted his physical character to his portrait painter, than to the artist of "crossing the Delaware." Napoleon's *personall* is more safely embalmed in his simple uncovered portrait at Versailles, than in all the immense battle pieces of Vandermullen, where he appears the brilliant centre figure of a vast throng of gory heroes. A life portrait of Venus, if such a woman there was, would be of more curious interest than all the fabulous ones that now hang in the Louvre and Vatican. A portrait of England's king who was never painted, would do more to rescue his name from forgetfulness, than all the groups at Hampton Court.

Art in America must succeed eventually, although at present it is but poorly patronized. We have little or no government patronage, and popular taste is too much bound to European art, to appreciate and pay home talent, however superior. But we have no castes here to shackle genius or prevent every man from pursuing the calling of his choice. Our scenery is fine for landscape, and no more brilliant skies exist beneath the sun. Facilities for travel and study in the east, are now abundant and cheap. Our artists need only to have better pay and more leisure, in order to paint good pictures. The American character is sufficiently nervous, imaginative and ambitious, to succeed in art.

We have yet too much of the wandering and speculative spirit; we are too nomadic in our habits to collect and keep pictures. A family possessing paintings, however valuable, may any day, throw them into the auctioneer's room and move to the far west, leaving behind their entire effects, their taste for art is also left, while they retain to the last their yankee tact for driving a bargain.

When homesteads are occupied by the same family from generation to generation, pictures and relics become fixtures of an estate, and are valued and preserved. In no country can paintings be preserved with more safety than in ours, we are not subjected to civil revolutions, like those of the old world. We are not liable to confiscations of public or private galleries, or to have them destroyed by the spoilers hand. We have already some good paintings and a few artists of character. Several fine galleries exist in the larger cities, and the nuclei of others are formed. Art in America will yet equal her agriculture and the useful trades, and all will compare favorably with those of any country.

† Alcibiades
+ Phidias

HISTORY OF THE PIONEER GALLERY.

THE Pioneer Gallery of Western New York, was commenced about four years since, by Mr. COLBY KIMBLE, of Rochester. The object of this great undertaking was truly a patriotic one, viz. to localize art, and perpetuate individual character. The collection contains nearly one hundred portraits from life, all of which the artist has painted with his own hand. This amount of labor which was performed in connection with other professional engagements, is justly considered herculean.

The number of portraits in the Gallery will be considerably augmented, as several portraits are now in progress, and several more are yet to be painted.

Correct likeness has been aimed at in all cases, and the success of the artist has been cordially conceded by the friends and relatives of each subject; the "Pioneer Society" also who have visited the gallery in a body, approve the pictures as correct, and many high encomiums have been paid these portraits by the best artists. One merit of the pictures is, that they are free from the sycophantic flattery of the times.

Art, as well as history, is too often the paid and partial recorder of the living age. History might not at present deem many of these names worthy to be written on her page; but those who best know the persevering and fearless characters of the pioneers of an unconquered wilderness, will accord them due respect. The shadow of these departing, venerable forms will often call up many an amusing and instructive anecdote of early days. Many of these men have characters which have left their mark on the age with distinctness, and their influence has by no means been circumscribed to the "Genesee Country," but is wide as our vast domain.

Who shall say the men who have purchased for us this "godly heritage," these luxurious and comfortable homes, have no characters. Men before whose hand the primeval forests fell prostrate, the red man and the wild beasts fled in dismay, and by whose magic touch have sprung into existence, cities, railroads, fleets and canals, where once no sound was heard but those of nature and her wildest offspring. Here, where the council fires of the savage once illumed the wilds, is heard the hum of busy industry, and here the arts and refinements of civilization are in profusion.

Do not the men whose footprints towards this, then "far west," were often marked in blood; who toiled, endured, suffered, that we might inherit ease and luxury; do not these men deserve one feeble tribute of respect? They are truly heroes, and are worthy the monument raised to their names. They are identified with our history, they have made history, they have lived history, and they belong to history. They will soon pass away, their dreamy tradition will soon be forgotten; the marble slab that chronicles their transit, will crumble; the printed page will lie closed and forgotten on the dusty shelf; but their names will be perpetuated and their forms preserved in perennial youth in the Pioneer Gallery, where they are safe for coming centuries. This gallery is truly a casket of jewels, of which Rochester is justly proud, and it should be preserved as a sacred pledge of grateful remembrance of the Pioneer Fathers.

MR. KIMBLE, the artist, has just claim to a few words of explanation, as the originator of so fine a collection of portraits of well known citizens. His style is bold and masculine, with a brilliancy of coloring and blandness of expression, which are at once approved by the mere amateur and the severest critic. He is comparatively free from the shackles and theoretical dogmas of the schools; and though he aims at effects in accordance with scientific rules, he is still the sworn pupil of nature, where she leads, he submissively follows; what his eye sees, his hand if possible, copies. Under his brush, the majesty of manhood is never sacrificed to the prettiness of a morbid taste; the dark furrowed brow of the old man, is never belittled by the pale shadows and rosy tints of childhood.

The negative nature of shadow, he thoroughly appreciates; his shadows are strong and effective, yet so soft and aerial as never to be observed, they give full strength and brilliancy to his lights, so that his end is attained, while the means are concealed; thus he achieves one of the grandest triumphs of art. His *chiaro oscuro* is in most beautiful harmony with the laws of reflexes; we are neither annoyed by glare of lights nor gloom of shadows. Government and subordination of parts, throughout an entire picture, are always properly regarded. While sufficient fascination of taste is displayed, no gaudiness of mere fancy is indulged in; *nature and truth*, are his practical motto.

Whatever of criticism may be passed on the Pioneer Gallery, its author, who is a man of acknowledged talent and industry, must justify the high expectations of community. Merit must ultimately triumph.

PREFACE.

THIS pamphlet is designed for a descriptive catalogue of the paintings of the Pioneer Gallery, and also as a book for historical reference in relation to the lives of the pioneers, and the early settlement of the Genesee Country. The biographical sketches have been written from statements obtained by personal interviews and correspondence with those who are now living. Such other authorities have been consulted as afforded reliable matter. The principal are TURNER, O'RILEY, and the published histories of Rochester.

Accuracy and equal justice have been carefully regarded in all statements. The book, as well as the gallery, will be enlarged and improved hereafter as much as practicable. The catalogue will be sold at a mere nominal price, so that visitors to the Gallery, as well as all others, may possess a copy. The next edition, if success warrant it, may be done up in a more substantial and tasteful style; more engravings will also be inserted. No pains or expense has been spared to make the Gallery and Catalogue what the public have a right to expect—it is a public enterprise and will be worthily carried out. First rate talent and mechanical skill have been employed in the work, and the proprietor is pledged to justify all reasonable expectations on the part of his friends and the public. The Gallery and Catalogue will always be accessible, and the affairs of the institution conducted on business principles.

TO ARTISTS.

ARTISTS from abroad, are cordially invited to visit the Pioneer Gallery, and make it a place of resort as often as they find it convenient. They are also solicited to send pictures for exhibition or sale; all such will be favorably hung, and carefully preserved and noticed, together with the artist's name, in the official catalogue. Portraits, landscapes, historical and all varieties of paintings in oil, which have merit, can be exhibited in this gallery to large numbers of persons from all parts of the country. It is designed to make it *the gallery* of Western New York. Additions will be constantly made; well lighted and spacious rooms provided, an annual catalogue issued, and the vogue kept up in all respects. The Gallery is in a central locality, and of easy access. Rochester is accessible by Railroad from all directions, and is always visited by many strangers, so that artists and others interested in such an exhibition cannot fail to be both pleased and profited by a visit.

No. 1. ENOS STONE.

MR. STONE was a native of Lenox, Mass., and was one of the first of the pioneers whose attention was directed to that portion of the Genesee Valley whereon Rochester was after founded. His original purchase, consisting of a farm embracing all the most densely populated portion of the city east of the river, was made at a very early period in the history of Western New York, but was not permanently occupied until about the year 1810, when he built upon it the first house in Rochester, on the east side of the river. His removal from the house of his childhood, and the state of so many advantages and improvements, was several years delayed by the unsettled state of the question of building a bridge across the river, at or near the point of his anticipated residence. It was finally agreed, that the settlers in Pittsford and Perinton, as well as such other adjacent communities as could be brought to countenance the measure, should petition the Legislature to pass an act, authorizing the construction of the bridge, and that Mr. Stone should aid and facilitate the object by attending at Albany, in person, during the session of that body. It is to be observed, that, by many members of the then Legislature, perhaps not possessing the largest views of the future development and resources of Western New York, and especially having no prophetic vision of a future third city in the Union, upon the then marshy grounds on which Rochester now stands, considered it a most outrageous and "extravagant folly" to tax the people for bridging in such an outlandish and "God forsaken place! inhabited by muskrats, visited only by straggling trappers, through which neither man nor beast could gallop without fear of starvation or fever and ague!"

However, by the influence of Mr. Stone, assisted by other influential friends of the project, the measure was passed by that body, and the building of the bridge was commenced in 1810, and

completed during the year 1812, at an expense of \$12,000. The success of this object determined the settlement of Mr. Stone upon his farm at that point, and gave immense importance to his purchase, which was divided into lots, in about seven years from that time. Mr. Stone died October 23, 1851, at the ripened age of seventy-six years. His wife, who was the daughter of Bryant Stoddard, of Litchfield, Conn., died about a year before him, aged seventy-three. James S. Stone, believed to be the only survivor of five sons of Mr. Enos Stone, born May, 1810, was the first white person who saw the light for the first time upon the soil now included in the city of Rochester. In the short period of twenty years from his first settlement at Rochester, such was the suddenly enhanced value of real estate, Mr. Stone became a very wealthy man. He shared, with others, the privations incident to new settlements; watched, with eager anxiety his little patch of corn, subject to the ravages of hungry bears; saw, with indiscrible feelings of solicitude, the last bit of meat disappear from the barrel, and the last grains of meal from the sack, and the last crum of bread from the table. Yet how wonderfully has Providence regarded the extreme exigencies of our early pioneers! On one occasion, in the history of Mr. Stone, he was without an article of food — the last dust of provision upon which to subsist for a day, when a fine large buck walked deliberately up from the bank of the river and presented himself in fair shot from the front door of his cabin, and the offering being opportune, as was the raven to our father Abraham in his extreme emergency, was duly accepted and appropriated with thanksgiving.

Still encouraged by the holy sentiments of endurance and hope, ere his hairs were scarcely gray, he saw blocks of buildings reared to his memory upon the soil whose trees had been felled by his own hands. In addressing his brethren of the "Pioneer Society," of which he was the president, Mr. Stone very aptly remarks: "Great changes have been wrought since the day of the pioneers — changes not only as regards them, but the country they were the first to attempt to reclaim from the solitude of the wilderness. Gentlemen, we are permitted to assemble to-day, in a splendid and tasteful mansion, situated in a city of thirty thousand inhabitants; yet it is within the personal knowledge of some of us when there was not a dwelling here — when the site of the city, or a large portion of it, was deemed an irreclaimable swamp. No longer ago than 1789,

the country known as the Genesee, belonged to Montgomery county. And it may well be doubted whether, at that time, there were men enough west of Rome to have made up a company as numerous as the present; yet the change is here. Brethren of the Pioneer Corps, it is befitting, ere we cease to compose a portion of the *half million* of human beings now dwelling in Western New York, that we should prepare some memorial of ourselves and times for posterity — something which shall not only preserve our names from oblivion, but shall present them autographically to those who may come after us, while we call up such personal reminiscences as shall interest the present and the future."

In addition to the autographical, we have the "personal reminiscence" of this departed pioneer, in the splendid, full length portrait No. 1.

No. 2. HAMLET SCRANTOM.

THIS venerable and aged pioneer was a native of Durham, in the State of Connecticut; and from that residence he emigrated to Lewis county in this State, where he remained until 1812. In his journeyings westward during the year 1811, he visited his Connecticut friends — the Wadsworth's — at Geneseo, and by them had his attention directed to the locality about Genesee Falls, as a place of growing future importance. The Eagle Tavern corner was at that time, the property of Henry Skinner of Geneseo; and this gentleman, as a further inducement for Mr. Scrantom to settle at that point, proposed and attempted to erect upon it a log house for his accommodation; but the work was broken off in consequence of the prevalence of the ague and fever among the hands employed to do the work. But those were days of generous hospitality, when every man, in his neighbor near or remote, found a brother, and a brother's house with the "latch string out." Mr. Scrantom was soon on the spot with his family, and having no house of his own, he was allowed such a shelter as the times afforded, in a small shantee belonging to Hon. Enos Stone, and nearly on the site of the present dwelling of Anson House. Here he resided until his

log house on the Eagle corner received its climax, in the shape of a tolerable roof, which was the desideratum during the "stop policy" of the ague and fever. Mr. Scrantom was an experienced and practical miller, and as such, found ready employ in the establishment of Bissell & Ely. He afterwards made some investments and purchase of property in the finest localities in and about Rochester. The lot on which is the store of O. L. Sheldon, and the site of the old Graves' tannery, were his purchases. In 1814, a time of constant apprehension of British invasion, Mr. S. bought a farm, designated as the Hawks' property, near Mount Hope, for which he paid four dollars an acre, and erected upon it a log house and resided there as a place of far less exposure. At the close of the war, however, he returned to his former residence and again engaged in the conducting of the milling business for the Messrs. Browns. More recently Mr. S. was employed as the agent of Culver & Maynard, in constructing the first locks at Lockport. In this, and in every other responsible position and relation in life, Mr. S. has been uniformly known as an efficient, upright man, and a true-hearted Christian. He took a lively interest in all the early religious organizations, and was one of the founders of St. Luke's church, and an exemplary member of the same to the close of his life. He was an esteemed member of the pioneer fraternity, and his funeral was attended by more than forty of those venerable men in a body. Mr. S. was not the earliest, but one of the oldest of the pioneers. Indeed, he is said to have been a trustee of the first school and the first school district ever organized in Rochester, and helped to clear the road which is now Buffalo street, through most of its length.

Mr. Scrantom died in 1850, at the age of seventy-seven. His wife is still living, and his sons remain in the city, on the spot where they were reared, to enjoy the institutions and privileges, whose corner stones their venerable sire has labored permanently to lay.

No. 3. OLIVER CULVER.

MR. CULVER's native town was East Windsor, Conn.; he removed with his father, at five years of age to Ticonderoga, thence to Orwell in the state of Vermont; from which latter place he came to the Genesee country in 1796, being then about 19 years of age. He made the journey from his home to Irondequoit Landing on foot and in company with Samuel Spafford, a native also of Vermont. They remained at the landing some six weeks, having no other society than a single Mulatto family, by the name of Dunbar. At the close of this period, a company which had recently purchased the Connecticut lands in Ohio, their surveyors and two families, came up the Lake in their boats. Messrs. Culver & Spafford according to previous arrangement, embarked in this expedition. The Company's boats were built at Schenectady, taken up the Mohawk to Oswego, up Lake Ontario, drawn round Niagara Falls, from whence they coasted along the south shore of Lake Erie. They found, at the mouth of Buffalo Creek, one solitary family, other than which there was not an inhabitant until they reached Erie. At this latter point they found Col. Seth Reed. At length the party landed on the present site of the city of Cleveland, and erected a small log house. They all returned to New England in the autumn of this year. Early the following spring, Messrs. Culver & Spafford, abating nothing of the spirit of adventure, left their home again; directing their steps to Irondequoit Landing, the then city of the west. At that point they hunted, trapped, and traded in furs, until the Cleveland settlers again returned, when they joined them on a second expedition. In the year 1797, they cleared and planted to corn about six acres, which is now the central portion of the city of Cleveland. During 1798, Mr. Culver was engaged in cutting a road from the boundary line of Pennsylvania across the purchase of the New Connecticut company. The year 1799 was spent

mostly at home, in his native state. In 1800 he purchased his present farm, where he now resides, cleared seven acres the first season and raised a fine crop of wheat. Apprehending, however, some difficulty in obtaining a valid title to the land, he went into the employ of Augustus Griswold, at Irondequoit, where he continued for three successive years. In 1804, Mr. Culver opened a store at Cleveland. His goods, groceries, and salt, were purchased at Schenectady and Salt Point, conveyed to Oswego, thence to Lewiston, on wagons to Schlosser, by water to Black Rock, and from thence on board "The Good Intent" — the first vessel built on this side Lake Erie — to Cleveland. These goods were designed for the Indian trade, the settlement in Pennsylvania, and exchanges in barter, with Detroit. From this latter place he could obtain whitefish, apples, and some other articles of produce; from the former, the inhabitants brought, on pack-horses, whiskey, cider, brandy, butter and cheese, and exchanged for salt at \$3,00 per bushel, and other articles of commerce equally extravagant in prices as contrasted with their present market value. He bought 15 yoke of oxen for 67½ barrels of salt, averaging 4½ barrels for each yoke, and drove them to Irondequoit. In 1795, Mr. C. returned by the lakes, in a bark canoe, carrying 4,500 pounds of furs. This was the fifth time he had traversed the Lakes in an open boat, not including one trip made in a larger boat. In addition to these voyages upon these internal seas, and in a craft of such frail texture, he made the same distance in 1798, by land, and at a time when there was no house between Buffalo and Ganson's, at LeRoy. This mercantile adventure settled up, Mr. Culver returned to his farm in 1800, secured a good title, and about 1805 became a permanent resident of Brighton. It is evident that our pioneer soon became possessed of considerable means, for, in the course of 7 years from this date, he was enabled to build a vessel — "The Clarissa" — of 47 tons burden, which he drew from Brighton, where she was built, to the Landing, with 26 yoke of oxen. In this schooner, Mr. C. made the port of Oswego over the same track and in the same storm in which two fine vessels had recently gone down with all on board. Mr. Culver stood at the helm of his own boat, kept her all night quartering the seas, and, when in the morning the wind veered to the north, blowing a violent gale, in a desperate exigency which leaves no alternative, in the teeth of such a storm as even Lake Ontario sees but few, he made the harbor of Oswego in safety. Hundreds, who

stood to view this exploit, in the rush of excited feeling, from the horribly foreboding to the rapturous admiration of noble daring, were ready to admit that the thing was so incredible, that to be believed it should be seen.

The two vessels lost were the Julian, — a vessel in public service during the war, and which was wrecked at Pultneyville, Captain Snow and twenty-three men perishing. The other was a schooner from Sackett's Harbor. She was lost and one man drowned in attempting to make the harbor, which is now Port Ontario.

The Clarrissa, which deserves to be immortalized for posterity, was built in 1812 and 13. Mr. Culver subsequently built two other vessels at Irondequoit, — The Lavanchia and the Lady Culver.

Mr. C. is not a man who, from fear, dies many deaths. His courage has been pretty fairly tested in his encounters with the Indians, the marks of whose deadly weapons he still carries upon his person. At the call of humanity, he has, many times, voluntarily plunged into most frightful exposures. William Hencher, the first settler at the mouth of the Genesee, had been bitten by a rattlesnake, and in circumstances apparently to forbid relief from any quarter. Mr. Culver, however, procured medicine from Dr. Ray of Pittsford — the only Doctor nearer than Palmyra — and with it, attempting to ford the River in the night time, guided only by flashes of lightning, he was drifted down the stream into a deep eddy, from which he was saved by catching the alders and drawing himself on shore. — Mr. C. must have been a young man of great endurance and elasticity. He mentions of himself, that, on a certain occasion, in 1805, the mail-carrier being taken sick, he volunteered his services and transported the mail through, on his back, running on skates from Cleveland to Huron, a distance of 40 miles in four hours — a rate which the mail train, on the Central Road, would scarcely beat, at this day. Mr. C. has not claimed to be a political man, nor has he aspired to office; still he has shared liberally in the confidence of those who have known him best, has been once a legislator from his district — frequently supervisor, and has taken his turn in the Minor offices in his community. He has always been a man of active business habits, and, now in his fair and green old age, after the toils and endurances of three quarters of a century, his active mind and sprightly manner are more indicative of 40 than 75 years. He was a contractor for building the combined Locks at Lockport on the original canal; he built the first packet boat, as far west as

Brighton, and the fourth built for the Canal service; assisted in cutting away the woods and constructing the road, which is now Main street in Rochester, has lived his contemporaries into the period of sere decay, and yet himself and wife are still in the vigor of active life, moving about, and superintending a large estate. His two sons were buried years gone by; his only daughter is Mrs. L. D. Ely who still resides in Brighton.

Mr. & Mrs. Culver, in company with their young grand daughter, have recently returned from a visit to the Crystal Palace in New York, and also to their friends in New England. Over this mighty space, which, in their prime, was the journey almost of a month, they have been whirled and trundled in a few brief hours, and are just now set down at their home refreshed in memory's new creations, and better content to die, after having witnessed the wonderful productions of a wonder-working age, and after having looked in the faces of endeared friends whom they expect not to visit again in this world.

No. 4. JEHIEL BARNARD.

MR. BARNARD was born at Nine Partners, in this State; came to Western New York in 1812, and is still living at Ogden, at the age of sixty-five years. We find a short notice of this worthy pioneer in the early history of Rochester, and it is rather to be regretted, that in this connection, he has not furnished a more particular history of his life and times. We see him mentioned as the principal early tailor of Rochester, and also as having been elected one of the first five trustees of Rochesterville in 1817. This latter consideration is certainly a fair indication of the high estimate in which he was held by his contemporaries; and we doubt not, that a few moments attention to the subject, on his part, would furnish many striking and interesting incidents worthy to go upon record and to be read by posterity. Mr. Barnard was present at the first pioneer festival in Rochester, and enrolled himself among the members of that society, and has since taken an active interest in its advancement towards the consummation of its original object. At that meeting Mr. B. related the following incidents: in 1812 he put up a building eighteen by twenty-six feet, which subsequently became the first tailor shop, the first shoemaker shop, and the first school and meeting house. The first meetings were well attended. The pioneers were good singers and they did their singing after the old Congregational fashion, as it should be now. The whole country, he remarked, was a wilderness and he often felt, when wandering about on the Sabbath, like Alexander Selkirk in his solitude. He also related a snake story, in which six "rattlers" suffered death under the Falls, one Sunday, for which exploit he received six shillings bounty money from Squire House. At the same meeting Mr. B. mentioned a rencounter with a deer, in which the animal came off best, suffering only a captivity of three days. The remarks made at this meeting by Mr. B. and others, serve to develop the spirit

of the times to which they refer more than to acquaint us with the particular history of the men constituting that society. However, as indicative of the former, they are especially valuable, while at the same time, we are enabled to glean from them many facts which are pertinent to the latter. *That tailor shop* we shall have frequent occasion to mention as the business, religious, if not social centre, of much which appertains to the early history of the Rochester pioneers. It was *the* place of its day, and reminiscent from garret to cellar, that is to say, if it had a cellar.

No. 5. SILAS O. SMITH.

NEW Marlborough, Massachusetts, is the birth place of Silas O. Smith. From that place he emigrated as early as March, 1810, and settled at Hanford's Landing. He is one of the few survivors of that early period, who, after accomplishing his three score and ten years, has lived to witness the glorious development of the resources of the Genesee Valley, and the growth and unprecedented prosperity of Rochester. While yet engaged, to some extent, in the active duties of life, with mental and physical constitution unimpaired, he witnesses changes which it rarely falls to the lot of man to observe during the short period of his natural life. Silas O. Smith is the father of L. Ward Smith, late a representative in Assembly from Monroe county, now acting Adjutant General of the State; of George Hand Smith, M. D. of Rochester; and of E. Meigs Smith, also of Rochester. Samuel Stevens of Albany, married one of the daughters; to whom the other two are married, we are not informed. We add here *The Reminiscences* of this venerable pioneer, as furnished by himself for the "Pioneer History of Phelps and Gorham's Purchase."

"When I came to the country, the whole region was but sparsely settled. About the Upper and Lower Landing, the forests were but little broken. Where the city of Rochester now stands, it was a dense forest, save about half an acre of cleared ground, around the old Allan mill. In the spring of 1813, I built the first store in what was then called "Rochesterville." It was a wooden structure,

and stood next north of the Rochester Bank, on Exchange street. In 1814, I cleared three or four acres of ground on which the Court House, St. Luke's church, First Presbyterian church, and school house No. 1, now stands. I sowed it to wheat, and had a fine crop; the harvesting cost me nothing, as it was most effectually done by the squirrels, coons, and other wild beasts of the forest. Scarcely three years, however, had elapsed before this ground was mostly occupied with buildings, through the liberal policy of Col. Rochester, the acting proprietor.

The war of 1812 to '15, checked the growth and enterprise of the young village. The rumors of border warfare, and frequent turn-outs to meet the enemy, interfered much to interrupt its quiet progress. It was not until the peace of 1815, that the village may be said to have fairly commenced its growth; which from half a dozen families, now numbers 40,000 inhabitants.

In 1810, when at the Landing with a store of goods, I was often asked by travellers who threaded their way through the narrow paths of the forest, how I found sufficient customers to warrant any business enterprise. But people came there from a distance of even 100 miles with their teams and loads of pot ash to sell and exchange for their supplies.

Charlotte and Hanford's Landing had just began to contend for the ascendancy, when the war and fevers settled the contest, and located the village at Rochester; when the great falls, with their extensive water privileges, together with a fertile and healthy country, opened a field quite worthy of its enterprising pioneers; and did time, space, and recollections of the past admit, I should like to do justice to the memory of those active and praiseworthy men. For their perseverance and endurance during so many privations; I remember them with the highest esteem and honor.

I would add that Hanford's Landing was formerly called King's Landing. The earliest settlers there were mostly doomed to a death more terrible than the sword. Prostrated by fevers, there were times when there was none left with strength enough to bring water to the parched lips of the dying, or afford a decent interment to their remains. Their graves, more than twenty in number, could be counted in the woods near by.

Very rarely a missionary would pass through this wild and lonely region, administering the consolations of his faith. Sunday was not at all observed. I remember with pleasure, the Rev. Mr.

Parmalee, a Presbyterian, a good old man, who passed through and stopped at my house where he preached and baptised; afterwards continuing on for miles to find another house and repeat the same services. At the time he was suffering so much from ague and fever, that he was often obliged to dismount from his horse and lay down under a tree until the ague fit had left him, then arise and continue on his solitary journey.

At that early period we had no great partiality for any particular denomination of Christians; we were sufficiently glad to have any. Very providentially I had brought with me three books of Common Prayer; and while living at the Landing, fishing and hunting being the usual occupation of many of the new settlers on Sunday; the report of the rifle breaking the otherwise "Sabbath stillness of the day;" I obtained the assistance of John Mastirk, and in a small plank school house we commenced the beautiful ritual of the Episcopal church; and on each Lord's day read the prayers and a sermon. The plan was perfectly successful, for the services came to be attended from far and wide; and it formed the nucleus afterwards of St. Luke's, the largest church in this diocese. These were the first Prayer Books and Episcopal services used and held in this section of the country. — This very small beginning contrasts strangely with the present aspect of the various religious societies, and shows that the early settlers of Rochester, as well as the present inhabitants, were not entirely negligent in these matters which have had such beneficial influence upon the great prosperity of the city.'

No. 6. JONAH BROWN, M. D.

His birth-place was Green River in the State of New York ; from which town, he came to Rochester in 1813, where he still resides, being now over 63 years of age. He was among the first enrolled members of the Pioneer Society, and was present at their first Festival or Jubilee, held at the Blossom Hotel, in Rochester, Sept. 31, 1847. He was the earliest physician in Rochester. He commenced the practice of medicine shortly after his arrival, during 1813, having his office where the Bank of Rochester now stands. While visiting a patient near the Rapids, he barely escaped falling into the claws of a panther, which paid his respects to him as he was riding in the woods some two miles south of the city. Having heard that vocal music would keep the "critters" at a distance, the Doctor tuned up his pipes to the best advantage ; still he owns, that he is unwilling to vouch for the scientific character of the music, on that occasion. Whether the singing was good or bad, however, it is evident that the audience was quite out of taste and in the worst imaginable humor.

He gives vivid sketches of the suffering of the sick, in those days, rivaling anything we hear of the far west now. He says, that he has frequently been called upon to act as nurse, cook, and doctor — whole families being prostrated at the same time and not an individual in the family to do the business either of cook or nurse. It is to this circumstance, he admits, that he owes his pre-eminent skill, of which he is enabled to boast, in the culinary department. Women in their most perilous and critical circumstances have frequently been left to himself alone, and in the absence of their husbands, without the possibility of procuring other aid further than that of the family physician.

Dr. Brown's deed of the lot on Exchange street, where the Rochester Bank now stands, was the first deed given for real estate paid

for on the "100 acre tract." He procured board in the family of Deputy Sheriff Covert; but lodging was out of the question and not to be obtained for any price or earthly consideration. Through the entire winter of 1813 and '14, he slept when he was enabled to sleep at all, upon the floor, with his saddle-bags for a pillow, and his horse-blanket for a covering. He purchased in one instance, a cot and attempted to lodge upon that; but the thing was found to be utterly impracticable, in consequence of the cold, which treated the under side with too great familiarity, and left no adequate protection to the superincumbent, in the hour and article of his most perilous extremity; and hence, it became obvious, that the floor furnished the only ultimatum of resort from the nippings of Jack Frost. He was frequently called to visit the sick at Colonel Isaac Stone's tavern, and in passing through the bar-room, it was with the greatest difficulty, that he could grope his way, without treading upon the lodgers who were literally packed over the entire floor of the room.

He was in the practice of medicine about twenty-three years, became wealthy, has been and probably is at present worth over one hundred thousand dollars.

On one occasion, shortly after his settlement in the country, he started, in company with three others, in a double wagon, on a journey to Buffalo. They reached Lewiston the second night, started for Schlosser, now Niagara Falls, early the third morning, and before taking breakfast, saw neither dwelling, man, nor beast, except their own horses, until they had accomplished the first fifteen miles, when, about eleven o'clock, they discovered a log house and barn, the only buildings of any kind between Buffalo and Lewiston, on the regularly traveled road. Here was a woman and two children without food, and utterly destitute of any vestige of provender, hay, or straw for their half famished and jaded horses. Accidentally, however, one of their number discovered a few potatoes under the foot of the bed; these were roasted in the fire, four taken by their company, for which they paid one dollar, and four left for the woman and two children. At Buffalo they procured, from one of the three public houses existing there at that time, food for themselves, and, at another, one bushel of oats for their horses, for which they paid two dollars. The road ran all the way through an unbroken forest, and the mud much of the distance, seemed literally bottomless. This was in the month of June, 1815.

The Doctor relates an amusing incident of himself and a lady whom he was charged to deliver safely to her friends in Batavia, on an occasion of his early advent to this wilderness country. While crossing a deep slough, the poor wearied steed was found unable to wag with a big lumber wagon, and they two pressing so weighty upon it, and *stuck mid sides* in the most interesting part of the subject. The lady suggested, that there was no election, and to make good her escape was the only alternative. So, with the true heroic spirit which is so common to the sex, in all the great straits of human life, she made her way to the hinder part of the wagon, and deliberately proceeded to let herself down into the mud. Now came the hour of trial for courage, strength, and gentility. The untamed Indians were peeping out from the underbrush, from behind the trees, and from the hill side overlooking the scene, yelling, laughing, rolling, whooping and expressing all sorts of rapturous, boisterous merriment and fun, at the spectacle of white stockings, white under garments, and a white-faced female, now tugging at one foot and now at the other, pitching with one hand into the mud and then with the other, struggling the while for dear life in a mixed element of such fearful potency and of such treacherous consistency as to be utterly unbearable; and the Doctor, meantime, was up to his elbows and knees, to set it no higher, in this new field of practice, for which he could find no specimens or parallel cases in all the books and lectures, and was thoroughly swamped in the difficulties which thickened around him. Indeed, the more he resorted to his untaught energies, the deeper he sank in the mire of his bottomless position. But the lady survived and after became the wife of a very excellent man in the city of New York. She had no cologne water, and, if the Doctor had laid in the restoratives, he was, just now, in a dilemma as unnatural to his profession, as forbidding to any affectation to do the honors of Knight of the reticule. But there was clean water hard by and clean shoes and stockings in that snug little bundle in the old lumber box, and without fear of cold or cough from free ablutions, the comforts of a wilderness journey are readily restored.

Returning from Batavia, between Scottsville and Rochester, there were only three houses on the road, a log hut at Dunlin Hill, two further along, inhabited by McVean, other than these, there was only a shanty tavern at the rapids kept by Castle. There were only five families on the Rochester purchase. The two Stone's were

the only families on the east side of the River, with the exception of a log shanty near Mt. Hope. On the east side, there was no house between Rochester and Carthage, and only one at Carthage, occupied by a family named Rogers. In walking that distance, he has, not unfrequently, been obliged to alight from his horse or wagon to clear the rattle-snakes from the road; he could do this without danger, as they were stupid and inoffensive till provoked to resistance. He has seen Col. Stone spear fifteen of them in a spring morning, as they came out of the clefts of the rocks along the River.

No. 7. HERVEY ELY.

HERVEY ELY was the nephew of Justin Ely, of Revolutionary memory and of joint proprietorship in the 20,000 acre tract. Hervey was from W. Springfield, Mass., and, at the age of 22 years, in November 1813, took up his residence at Rochester. This was a little more than 40 years ago and shows Mr. Ely to be more than 62 years of age at this present time. In company with his brother Elisha and Josiah Bissell, he commenced a very limited mercantile business, at an early period, in a small building on the Hart corner. This firm soon began to extend their business, to meet the exigencies of the times and the increase of population. They procured men, provisions, and machinery from New England, fitted up, for a boarding house, a stable belonging to Silas O. Smith, and immediately set about erecting a saw-mill. This done and in successful operation, in 1817, they built "the Red Mill," with four run of stones, which may be designated as a pioneer mill, under the management of Hervey Ely—a Pioneer miller. From this small beginning, made in circumstances so comparatively unpromising, Mr. E. has lived to see the milling business of his locality expand in magnitude and importance far exceeding that of any other town in the United States, and probably in the known world. The stone mill of C. C. Winans, erected in 1822, was the work and property of our Pioneer; as also is that extensive establishment on the west side of the River adjoining the Aqueduct, and built during the year 1828. After doing active and efficient service in the milling business for

near 40 years, Mr. E. at this day, exhibits the enterprising spirit of his earlier years. We gather a tolerable idea of the comparative extent of his business from the shipping statistics on the canals.—These show him to have paid the largest amount of tolls, on his own property, of any shipper, with the single exception of the late Gen. Beach; and, of the entire revenue, for a period of ten years first succeeding the completion of the Erie Canal, he is represented as paying 1 3-4 and 1 1-2 per cent. He was one of the first, if not the first of all the millers, who, in 1828, set the example of importing western wheat to be manufactured at the Rochester Mills. He has sent to market in a single year, 80,000 barrels of flour, ground from his own wheat, and in his own mills. In his business, at least, Mr. E. must be reckoned among the few pioneers who have kept pace with the spirit of the age, and in this respect, abates nothing from the enterprise of the present generation.

At the first meeting of the Pioneer Society, Judge Sampson called on all those who were present at the attack of the British on the American works, at the mouth of the River, to rise. Six of those veterans were found to be present, among whom was Mr. Ely. The other five were Kempshall, Scrantom, Smith, Graves and Green. By a close inspection of his picture No. 7, it will be observed that Mr. Ely has more the appearance of a man of forty-five than of sixty-two years.

No. 8. JUDGE RALPH PARKER.

JUDGE PARKER was born in Salisbury, in the State of Connecticut, made his residence in Rochester in 1816, died January 22, 1852, at the advanced age of eighty years. He was a member of the pioneer association and took an active interest in its extension and the advancement of its original design. He was appointed associate judge in 1818, and after retiring from the bench, was elected justice of the peace, which office he discharged with fidelity during a term of years. The Judge was a modest and unassuming man, who sought more to please his friends, and to live in peace with all men, than to be deemed great, profound or brilliant. Much more could have been said of his virtues, if nothing respecting his frailties, had he sought to render himself conspicuous in public, as well as beloved in private and social life.

THIS early pioneer and adventurer was born in Pawlet, in the State of Vermont, from whence he migrated to the Genesee country just previous to the war 1812. He was a traveling pedlar of scythes and axes, and also, for a time, of hollow ware, until 1814, when he went into the employ of the Messrs. Browns, at Frankfort. He first settled at what is now Aurora, Erie County, where he was appointed an officer and erected certain defences to protect the settlement from an anticipated attack of the Indians. In 1813 he returned to Rochester, where he made his home. During this year he established the first public conveyance Rochester ever had, and kept it in fine running style for more than two years. It was a four ox team, and plied under his own energetic and efficient guidance, between the Landing and the city twice a week. Generally his lading was the merchandize of that primitive period. Of course, our pioneer teamster experienced the privations and hardships, not only of all who drive public conveyances, but of the exposures peculiar to those times. His fare was of the simplest, though of the most solid and substantial kind, consisting chiefly of pork and beans which were cooked and put up once a week, in the best manner of the kind and hospitable Mrs. Culver. This was all well during the cooler seasons; but as the poet says, "we all must work;" so, in the warm season, would the pork and beans; and, at such a time, they would bear "toting" but one trip, however industriously he might "lay to them." He finally succeeded in procuring board at Willis Kempshall's at three dollars per week, without charge for lodging, which was gratuitously furnished "under the work-bench." He cleared up North and Monroe streets; and, in the exposures incident more particularly to those times, he once fell into the river where the Market now stands, and so sparse were the inhabitants and so seldom a foot fall in that direction, that he struggled a full hour before any one

came to the rescue. Knowing where Mr. C. first opened his eyes upon the world, we should have but little difficulty in "guessing" that he would "whittle through the world," and from the homely primitive fare of pork and beans, graduate to the fattest productions of the Genesee Valley. Just as we should have predicted it has come to pass; he is one of the largest and best farmers in Brighton; is still at the age of sixty-three, vigorous, active and enterprising. It was he who built, by contract, at an expense of \$60,000, the new and splendid edifice for the courts and public offices of Monroe county.

No. 10. JONATHAN PACKARD.

MR. PACKARD emigrated from Hawley, Massachusetts, in 1816, and is now sixty years old. He was one of the first who established the silver-smith business in Rochester, and the only one of that early period, who still survives and continues to work at that trade. Mr. P. made the first stove pipe ever manufactured in Rochester, and assisted in making the first iron castings. He was elected trustee of Rochester in 1824 and 1830, and assistant Alderman of the third ward in 1836, and after was once elected Alderman. Mr. P. traces his family no farther back than his earliest grand-sire, who was also born in Massachusetts; and says that he glories in the fact of all his blood being republican. The first that was known of his ancestry was an infant exposed in the "pack-yard" of a crockery store in his native town. His family name, like that of Preserved Fish, who, in infancy, was picked up at sea, came naturally enough from his family origin, with the slight change of dropping a single letter—which is no uncommon occurrence in the ever varying orthography of names. "What's in a name?" This man is now a sovereign, fought for his country in 1812, and bears the proud and princely port of every honest, working freeman in this broad and happy land; and the many descendants of a hardy and intelligent and laborious generation will hallow it, among others of pioneer memory, and be thankful for what he was, more than for the particular cognomen which distinguished him from others.

No. 11

GEORGE C. LATTA.

GEORGE C. LATTA came to Rochester from Seneca, N. Y., in 1811, and is still living at Charlotte, aged fifty-seven years or thereabouts. He sustained a prominent position at the mouth of the river during the war of 1812, &c. He has always enjoyed the largest confidence of the community, which has been amply attested in the fact, that he has frequently held responsible positions, both at the hands of the general government and those of his own townsmen and immediate citizens. He has been collector of the port, justice of the peace, supervisor, and the latter two offices, at least, have been conferred upon him for several different terms. He has now retired on a farm, and is perhaps seeking by useful industry to cultivate those graces, in easy circumstances, which have so triumphantly carried him through scenes "which try men's souls."

No. 12. JUDGE ASHLEY SAMPSON.

JUDGE SAMPSON's native town is Cornwell, Addison county, Vermont; he graduated at Middlebury College, in the State where he was born, and studied law in the office and under the instruction of Col. Samuel Young, of Ballston. In 1817 he located at Pittsford, and commenced the practice of his profession in company with Simon Stone, 2d. He took up his residence in Rochester in the year 1819, where in less than four years, that is, in 1823, he was appointed First Judge of Monroe county, which office he resigned in 1825, and was re-appointed to the same position in 1838, and continued to discharge its duties until 1843. One term or more he held the office of justice of the peace in Brighton; and in 1844 was a representative in the Legislature from the county of Monroe.

Judge Sampson is a prominent member of the "Pioneer Society," and the chairman of its standing committee; but he declares, that

he congratulates himself more on having been a pioneer in the early temperance movements of 1827-8 and 9; that he was the honored agent in forming the first county society in Western New York; and being then in tolerable vigor of health, he was enabled, unquestionably, by the blessing of heaven, to accomplish great good in commencing and carrying forward that glorious enterprize. The Judge has stood perhaps second to no man at the bar in Western New York. Indeed, in his presence, at this late period of his life, broken down and enfeebled by paralysis, and having already numbered sixty-three years, you cannot but feel that he must have exerted a commanding influence over a court and jury. In his exhibitions of personal dignity, weight of character, and intelligent candor, he strongly reminds one of the late venerable Roger M. Sherman, of Connecticut, whose look at a jury and the expressive shake of a fore-finger had more to do with the issue of a critical case, than the spoutings and ravings of a first class pettifogger from morning until evening tide. He was the attorney for the complainant in the case of Rev. W. Van Zandt, of Rochester, who was charged with the crime of seduction. Judge S. became thoroughly convinced that Van Zandt was a guilty man, and succeeded in the face of a combined and powerful influence, as well as the pleadings of able and opposing counsel, in impressing the jury with the convictions of his own mind. The private and Christian character of Judge Sampson of course will remain a matter for posthumous record; but in reference to the latter, and as being beautifully and prominently outstanding, we would notice his remarks at a meeting of the bar, immediately succeeding the death of his old and tried friend, Vincent Matthews. They are as follows:—

“Mr. Chairman—The event we are met to consider and take action upon, has not come upon us suddenly, or by surprise, and may be thought therefore, to lack some of the impressive solemnity which attends an unexpected and afflictive dispensation. Death has been in our midst and taken away a most dear and esteemed friend. It has been said, that the deceased was fifty-six years in practice. I am regarded by associates, as an old man; and certainly my feelings go strongly in corroboration of this opinion, and yet, Mr. Chairman, I was born the year our venerable brother was admitted to the bar.

“In his death, crowned as it is, with years and honors, he resembled an ancient oak falling mighty and majestic to the earth,

after braving the storms of uncounted winters. He contended long with disease, but the last enemy, death, prevailed and he bowed his venerable head and died. His pure and useful life affords an impressive lesson to the profession. He confined himself mainly, though not exclusively, to the single object of professional pursuits. Sometimes, indeed, he listened to the call of his countrymen and entered public life; but he always returned with alacrity to his professional labors.

“One feature in his character I desire particularly to notice. He was a Christian. Though much occupied by his ordinary pursuits he did not neglect the higher interests of his soul. Even before he made a public profession, he was known often to leave his bed, not to prepare his briefs, but to peruse the oracles of eternal truth. In process of time he publicly acknowledged the Lord Jesus, and connected himself with the Episcopal church, to which his preferences inclined. He was no technical theologian, or mere sectarian.

“In a conversation I had with him a few days since, his eye lighted with unusual brilliancy, when I adverted to the glorious hopes of the Gospel, and he expressed his undoubting trust in the cross of Christ. To a friend who called upon him when near his end, he declared, that he relied solely upon the merits of Jesus Christ.

“In conclusion, I cannot conceal from my brethren of the bar, my solicitude, that we may one and all imitate his example, and that this bereavement may be sanctified to us all.”

No. 13. NATHANIEL DRAPER, ESQ.

MR. DRAPER is still living in Rochester, in the full enjoyment of his reasonable faculties and in the uninterrupted esteem and confidence of all who know him. He was from the town of Washington, in the State of New Hampshire, and became a settler in Western New York during the year 1818, or thirty-five year ago. He is now sixty-three years old, and so far as appears to the contrary, has the prospect of witnessing greater improvements, in some respects perhaps, in Rochester, than those which have already astonished his "wondering eyes." Mr. Draper's religious affinities are perhaps as strongly marked, if not more so, than those of most men of the same calling, circumstances and general character. He is a prominent member of the Methodist Communion, and in 1820 was elected one of the first five trustees of the M. E. church formed in Rochester in September of that year. In 1833 he was elected trustee of the Fifth Ward in the village of Rochester, and since that time has been two terms justice of the peace. He now owns and cultivates a fine farm near the city, Maple Grove, at once enjoying rural quietude, and the substantial conveniencies and advantages of a residence in town.

Previous to his settlement in Rochester, Mr. Draper spent seven years as a school teacher at White Creek, in Washington county, N. Y.; for several years after his settlement in Rochester, was engaged in the same calling. He has been personally engaged in building three M. E. meeting houses, and twice advanced all he was worth in the erection of these places of worship. He first superintended the building of what is now St. Mary's church — it being in fact the first meeting house owned by a society in Rochester — St. Luke's then a small wooden building, being erected the same year, 1820. He also superintended the re-building of the First Methodist church, corner of Fitzhugh and Buffalo streets; and in the erection of St. John's in 1822, invested four thousand

dollars, for the liquidation of which debt, his farm was subsequently sold. Since that time, his fortunes retrieved, have been again sacrificed in business connections with unreliable and improvident partners. He has now, however, in his own language, "property enough, more than ever before." His wife was Rachel Castner, a very estimable pioneer woman, and a worthy Christian. They began life poor, and whatever has fallen to their portion has been the result of providence smiling propitiously upon the unremitting toil of years, and amid all the reversions of fortune and trade. They never had any children, and consequently will leave all to the descendants of others, and to those institutions which they have helped to create. They have lived to do good, and their sun will go down with that of others whose "memory is blessed."

No. 14. COL. AARON NEWTON.

COL. NEWTON left the State of Connecticut, in company with his father, as early as the year 1806, and located at Canandaigua, Ontario county, where he remained until 1813, during which year he returned to his native town of Cheshire, Conn., from whence, after a lapse of some four years, on the 26th day of March, 1817, he returned to this country, and took up his residence in Rochester-ville, now the wealthy, populous and aspiring city of Rochester. There is only one frame now standing in the city, which was erected before Col. Newton's arrival, and that has been two or three times remodeled and modernized so as scarcely to be recognized as a primitive pioneer dwelling of 1817.

The Colonel figured somewhat in the military line in those days of commingling trials, endurances, simplicity, good-nature and fun. He first obtained the appointment of 4th Corporal in an Infantry Company, and subsequently was promoted to the command of the regiment. He gives, in his own graphic manner, many amusing and laughable accounts of the early militia trainings. He represents about thirty grotesque looking yeomany, "armed and equipped" to the full number of two rusty old muskets, the commanding officer

flourishing a ramrod, in place of a sword; the music consisting of a real fife and half of a tobacco barrel for a drum. Moreover, I am not right sure, that he mentioned an estimable citizen, now living in Rochester, as riding, at regimental training, an old mare with the colt following after. However that may be, we are sure of one thing, the Colonel himself always appeared on the martial field with the port and bearing of a freeman, a republican born, and proud of no distinction, except that received at the hands of democratic freemen.

In 1818, the Colonel rented a small wooden building of Benjamin Blossom, where he kept an inn. Inn keeping was followed in those days by very many of the inhabitants, and was considered a very respectable business, as requiring small investments and furnishing ready necessary supplies of food and drink, to say nothing of lodging to the way-worn and tired pilgrims. This was the site of the Hotel kept by the younger Blossom in 1847, and on which it was moved, in committee, the Colonel being a member, "that the proposed Pioneer celebration be conducted on principles of temperance," which was readily adopted in full committee of arrangements.

Col. Newton seems largely to have shared the confidence of his fellow citizens from the first. He has been nine years constable, one term Deputy Sheriff, thirteen years crier of the Supreme and County Courts, Collector in 1830, and is still crier of the U. S. District Court.

Undoubtedly, also the credit of having interested the early settlers of Monroe county and vicinity in the organization of a Pioneer Society, will be awarded to Col. Newton. If he was not the first to propose that measure, of which we are not certain, he nevertheless has wrought harder, and expended more time, energy, if not money, in consummating the plan, and interesting in it his contemporaries than any other man in Rochester; and we think that posterity will owe it to him primarily and chiefly, that the principal names of early occupants along the Genesee river have been grouped together and handed along down in a tangible form, under the regime of the "Pioneer Society," of which Col. Newton has been the only Secretary.

The Colonel still survives, active, vigorous, and to all intents, a man of forty, though now sixty-one years of age. He has out-lived his first wife by seven years, and is now living with his second.

He has two sons in business in Rochester and many friends in whose veins his own blood does not flow.

As late as the 12th of October, 1853, in full meeting of the pioneers, at their old quarters — the Blossom House — the following resolution was unanimously passed :

“Resolved, That the deep interest taken in this enterprise (the Pioneer Gallery) by Col. Aaron Newton, and his untiring labors so courteously and kindly bestowed, entitle him to our sincere thanks.”

No. 15. JACOB GRAVES.

MR. GRAVES was born in Westown, Mass. ; settled in Rochester in 1816, and is now sixty-six years of age. He came from Vermont to “the Genesee,” purchased a small tannery which had been built and put in operation by Kellogg Vosburgh. This establishment was owned and managed for some time by the firm of Graves and Works, but in later years under the proprietorship of Mr. Graves alone ; it has become a business of immense magnitude. It is now carried on by Jacob Graves and Brothers.

At the time of Mr. Graves' settlement, there were not five hundred inhabitants in all Rochester and its extensive suburbs, and not yet a meeting house or church edifice. The west side of the river was Genesee county, and the east Ontario county. Mr. G. started from Vermont, two hundred and fifty miles east of Albany, with \$1200 of silver coin in his saddle-bags ; he travelled on horseback to Albany, making nearly 100 miles a day, from the time he left Vermont till he arrived in Rochester, 550 miles distant from his home.

Mr. Graves was a trustee of Rochester in 1823, and was elected Alderman of the Fifth Ward at the first election under the city charter, in the spring of 1834. As Mr. G. observes that there was no church in 1816 in Rochester, it may be well here to add some remarks on the subject of worship, made by Mr. Hervey Ely, at the first pioneer festival. They are as follows : “The public worship of God on the Sabbath day, was first commenced in this place in the spring and summer of 1813, at the instance of two married

ladies — women of faith and prayer, Mrs. Scrantom and Mrs. Wheelock, when there were but eight or ten families in a district, now containing more than thirty thousand persons, applied to Mr. Jehiel Barnard and Mr. Warren Brown to conduct the meetings; these were first, and for some months after, held in an upper room of a one and a half story building on Buffalo street, about 22 feet long and 14 feet wide, owned by Mr. Barnard, the lower part being occupied by him as a tailor shop. The exercises of the meeting were extempore prayer, singing, and reading a sermon.

“After some months, the Rev. Daniel Brown, Baptist minister at Pittsford, and Rev. Mr. Parmelee, a Congregational or Presbyterian minister of Victor, came occasionally and preached to the people. It was in the autumn of this year, that the last acts of heathen worship in this place by the Indians were celebrated.

“The worship continued in Mr. Barnard’s buildings until the next summer, when a school house was erected, and our meetings were held in that. Soon our numbers increased so as to fill it to overflowing, when a temporary linter was added to the south side.

“The summer or autumn of 1814, Rev. C. Williams was employed to preach for us a few months. This was followed by the formation of the first Presbyterian church in the autumn of 1815, and the settlement of Mr. Williams as its pastor. From this date the records of the different churches contain their history.”

No. 16. HARTWELL CARVER M. D.

DR. HARTWELL CARVER was born in the State of Rhode Island, and on the 19th of July, in the year 1789. He is a direct descendent from John Carver, who came out in the *May Flower*, and landed at Old Plymouth in 1620. John Carver was made the first governor of the commonwealth, and was the great, great grandfather of Dr. H. Carver. When Dr. Carver was five years old, his father and family immigrated to the State of New York and settled in the county of Otsego, then a new country and but thinly inhabited. There being no schools for some years after, he had no opportunity of obtaining education until he was nine years old, and then he only attended school during the winters, as he worked on his father's farm during the summers. At the age of sixteen he took up h's line of march and went forth into the wide world to do and act for himself, determined to get an education and become a professional man. Sometimes he was engaged in business, then attending school at the academies, then teaching school, until 1813 he became a student at Hamilton College in Oneida county, which had but recently gone into operation. Previous to this time he had commenced the study of the law; abandoned it and commenced reading medicine. These studies he pursued during terms of school keeping and the spare time during such terms. He did not remain long at Hamilton College; some difficulty arising between him and the professors, which prevented his graduating. He left in the fall in time to attend a course of medical lectures; after which he went to New Haven, and became a member of Yale College. Here he soon became the favorite of President Dwight and Professor Day, whose kindness and extra privileges enabled him to carry on all his studies, attend lectures in [the medical department; and in the spring of 1816, he left old Yale with the honors of A. M. and M. D. He came direct to this county and commenced the practice of

physic and surgery at Pittsford, on the 21st day, of April 1816, having arrived on the 20th — the day before.

Being two thousand dollars in debt for his education, he went to work with more than common ambition, and cleared fifteen hundred dollars the first year from his practice. The second year's earnings enabled him to pay all his old debts at New Haven and elsewhere, build a small house, keep two horses, a good medical library and a fine stock of medicine. After practising six years, Dr. Carver went to New York and attended a full course of lectures, then returned and entered largely into the mercantile business — having a partner and stores at Buffalo, Lockport and Pittsford, and still practising his profession wherever he was. In the fall of 1825, he closed his business at Buffalo and Lockport and went to New Orleans, where he remained almost a year, then returning resumed his practice in Monroe county during the summers, and going south most of the winters, until the fall of 1831, when he left the first of October for France ; — went direct to Paris where he spent six months at the medical schools and hospitals, thoroughly reviewing all the branches of his profession. He then went to London with letters of introduction to the surgeons and physicians of St. Thomas, Guys, and St. Bartholomew's Hospitals and spent most of the summer in attendance at these and other scientific institutions of London. The following fall, winter, and spring he spent in traveling extensively on the continent. The next September he returned home and did an extensive practice, being called in all directions, for fifty and some times a hundred miles in every direction from his residence. In 1835 he proposed and brought before the public his plan for making a railroad to the Pacific Ocean, and claims to be the originator of that gigantic and sublime enterprise. For the last ten years he has spent much time and money in explaining to the country the feasibility and practical use of this improvement. For the last eight years he has had a memorial before Congress asking for a charter. In the fall of 1845, Dr. Carver moved to Rochester where he made it his home, when in this part of the country, for two years. It is now thirty-seven years since he came to this country, and during that time he has been absent from the country thirteen years. He has lived in New Orleans, Florida, Minnesota, Washington city, D. C., and Philadelphia ; while in New Orleans he has been engaged in many large and lucrative speculations ; has practiced his profession there, in Washington city, in Minne-

sota Territory, and Florida. He was in Florida when the Indian war first commenced, and acted as surgeon under Gen. Clinch, at the battle of Withlacouchey.

NOTE.—To the above autobiography, we would add the remark of Mr. Turner, that Dr. C. (being now 61 years old,) “though a wandering bachelor, would seem to be becoming a fixture now, as he is building the unique dwelling place that may be observed upon the outskirts of the pleasant rural village of Pittsford.”

No. 17. WILLIAM BREWSTER.

THIS early pioneer was born in Preston, Connecticut; came to Rochester in 1816, where he still resides, being now sixty-six years of age. He has long been engaged in the upholstering and cabinet ware business, which he still continues to prosecute with perseverance and energy.

He now lives with his second wife, and in possession of that peaceful quietude which results to the latter years of virtuous youth and honorable manhood.

One pioneer, speaking of the influence and example of the original settlers of the Genesee country and this city, says “they were plain men, plain and unaffected in their intercourse, style of living and manners, and that influence is acknowledged in the common and just saying, that ‘no species of dandyism can exist in Rochester.’ They were men regardful of religion and its institutions; their first work was to set up an altar in the wilderness, and to provide a place of religious worship, and their controlling influence is strikingly visible upon Rochester at this day.

These men inscribed their own epitaph more durably than upon crumbling marble, for they impressed it upon the institutions, and interwove it with the manners, customs and fashions of a great community to be ‘seen and read of all men;’ and among this class we claim to rank Mr. Brewster, whose modest virtues and industrious habits have had much to do in constituting Rochester what it is — ‘a city of intelligent, virtuous, hard working people.’”

No. 18. EBENEZER WATTS.

HE was born in Boston, Massachusetts; resided for some years in New Hampshire; came to the "Genesee country" in February, 1817; started the copper, tin and sheet iron business the same year, which was eventually expanded into an extensive hardware establishment. He was the first mechanic who established that business at Rochester, and the only one nearer that point than Cayuga lake. He is now seventy-one years of age, and mainly retired from active life. Mr. Watts is a man of strong native mind, enjoys the fullest confidence of those who know him; was elected treasurer of Rochester in 1833, and now at the close of three score years and ten, can confidently congratulate himself that his years of privation and toil have contributed no unimportant share in building the seminaries, rearing the school houses, establishing and erecting churches, in expanding and beautifying the social and religious institutions, in producing something from nothing, in short, in making Rochester what it is as contrasted with what it *was* in 1817.

Mr. W. remarks very appropriately, "I have shared with the group of pioneers all the privations of the early settlement of Rochester, and have had meted out to me by a kind Providence many of the bounties which this now fine country produces. May Rochester ever be a progressive city, and may the waters of its beautiful and majestic River be made to propel the machinery of industry and all its local advantages ever be used with profit and honor to those who shall succeed the early settlers.

"For one, when my days are all told, I hope quietly to rest near the spot where I have wielded the hammer of the mechanic and been engaged in the commercial enterprize of our city for a long period of time."

No. 19. ELISHA B. STRONG.

IN 1817 Mr. Strong settled at Carthage — a district lying farther down the River than Rochester proper, and yet embraced within the limits of the corporation. He came to this country from Windsor, Connecticut, in which town his sires before him were pioneers. Mr. S. was a graduate of Yale College, in the class of 1809, and before entering upon his professional studies he visited Niagara Falls, became interested in the wild and beautiful country along his line of travel, and finally fixing on Canandaigua as a place of sojourn, he entered the office of Howell & Greig as a student of the law. He was admitted to the bar in 1812, associated himself in business with William H. Adams, who after succeeded him at Canandaigua. During the year 1816, he purchased jointly with Elisha Beach, one thousand acres of land, being included in the district now known as Carthage.

Carthage, at the time of Mr. Strong's purchase and settlement there, though *to be the city* of Western New York, was a wild, worthless, uncultivated tract — houseless, bridgeless, roadless! The thousand acres had been occupied for some time by Caleb Lyon, the first and the after patroon of Lyonsdale, in Lewis county. He had influenced a few families to settle about Carthage and to erect a few "log cabins" on his own land, enjoying the pre-emption privilege of squatters. The best lands in all the region now designated as Irondequoit, were estimated at five dollars per acre, while the second and third qualities were selling for one dollar and from that to fifty cents the acre.

Mr. Strong was one of a joint stock company, who in 1817, projected and commenced a bridge across the Genesee River at Carthage. It was a work of vast enterprise and magnitude, considering the period of the project; and it would have proved a work of immense importance and great public utility, had it been constructed on such architectural principles as would have secured permanency. As

it was, it afforded crossing a little over a year and then fell of its own weight.

Judge Strong's original purchase, however, after yielding him for many years, very handsome dividends and many luxuries as a farm, cannot be considered as a bad investment, in a merely speculative point of view. Every dollar must have increased one hundred, and from that to one thousand fold, as every lot of one hundred feet front, must have realized to the proprietor from one to seven hundred dollars.

Judge Strong is now sixty-four years old, and though not the oldest of the pioneers of 1817, he has abundantly shared in the responsibilities and honors of his period, as any others of them have done. In 1819 and '20 he was a member of the State Legislature from Ontario county. When the application was made to erect, from portions of Ontario and Genesee, the new county of Monroe, Judge Strong was present at Albany, and succeeded by the weight of his influence, in the face of a strong opposition, in bringing the measure to a successful issue. This object was accomplished in 1821, and on the organization of the courts of the county, Mr. Strong was appointed First Judge, and continued in that office until succeeded by Judge Sampson.

In 1836, an amendment to the city charter allowed a supervisor to be chosen in each ward, and pursuant to this provision, Judge Strong the same year, was chosen to that office in the Fifth Ward. Up to this time, we are not aware, that his intellectual faculties or salutary influence have suffered the slightest abatement; but on the contrary, we shall expect him, aside from extra providences over which he has no control, to approach the grave of an aged pioneer in the matured development of that mental and moral manhood which everywhere characterizes the more immediate descendants of the New England Pioneers.

No. 20.

ELI STILSON.

MR. ELI STILSON was from Newtown, in the State of Connecticut; he came to Cayuga county as early as the year 1800, and was a pioneer surveyor, a pioneer school teacher, a pioneer advocate of common Schools, and exerted his influence in organizing such schools, at that early period, in Cayuga, Scipio, and the neighboring country. In 1816 he became an inhabitant of the town of Brighton, where he continued for some thirteen years or until 1829, when he removed to Rochester, on the east side of the river. He surveyed the most of that portion of the city, both of the lots and streets, and for a time was employed as the agent of Bissell & Riley, in carrying forward their enterprise in connection with their purchase of the Enos Stone tract. Mr. Stilson has four surviving sons, David Stilson and Eli L. G. Stilson, an attorney at Battle Creek, Michigan; Jerome B., division engineer upon the Erie Canal; George D., engineer on the Genesee Valley Canal; one daughter became the wife of Dr. Caleb Hammond, and another the wife of Gen. A. W. Riley, of Rochester, and a third the wife of Roswell Hart, of Brighton. Roswell Hart and Gen. Riley, each married second wives, daughters of Mr. Stilson.

This venerable pioneer still survives, at the advanced age of eighty years, the worthy sire of a third and fourth generation rising up to call him blessed.

No. 21 FISHER BULLARD.

MR. BULLARD became a resident in what is now Rochester in 1816; his native place is Uxbridge, Massachusetts; he is at this time fifty-nine years of age, consequently must have been a young man of twenty-two, when he settled in the "western wilderness," thirty-seven years ago. To him there has been but a day or more between the wild wilderness, inhabited by bears and infested by deadly reptiles, and the forest of palaces and churches, seminaries, asylums and manufactories. Col. Stone came into the country six years before Mr. Bullard, being thirty-five years old when he came, and died two years ago, at the advanced age of seventy-eight.—Hamlet Scranton came four years before Mr. Bullard and two years after Col. Stone, at the age of forty, and died three years ago, aged seventy-eight, having been in the country thirty-eight years. Oliver Culver was here in 1805, forty-eight years ago, was twenty-three years of age when he came, is still alive and unusually active and vigorous for one of his age. But there are very few pioneers in Rochester no older than Mr. Bullard, who, coming as adventurers and on their "own hook," have been so long in the Genesee Valley as he. The following from a communication of Mr. B. to the Pioneer Association, will give some idea of the difficulties and results attending his early business operations.

"In the year 1815, a company was incorporated by the name of "The Genesee Cotton Manufacturing Company," for the purpose of manufacturing cotton at Rochester. A few of the stockholders are now living (in 1848) in this vicinity, among whom are Enos Stone, Oliver Culver, S. O. Smith, M. Brown, F. Bullard and W. Kempshall.

"In the fall of this year they contracted with Russel Smith, of Hopkinton, Mass., to furnish the following machinery, viz: 12 throstle frames of 84 spindles each, and 2 mules of 192 spindles each, making in all 1392 spindles, together with all the necessary apparatus to operate the same.

"This machinery was put in a building erected for that purpose on Brown's race at the foot of Factory street. (since burnt,) and at the time I believe the only cotton machinery west of Whitestown, and on the building was hung the first bell west of the Genesee river. I came here in October of this year, and in the following spring the factory was ready for operation.

"I had anticipated much difficulty in starting, as we were at least 140 miles from any place where experienced hands could be obtained. But before we were ready, three or four large families of operatives came here from the Black River country, which furnished us with all we wished. There were many obstacles yet to encounter, and little progress was made. The prices we had to pay for such things as we must have and the difficulty with which many of them were obtained, may be seen in the following:—

"We paid 30 cts. per lb. for cotton in New York, and \$3,75 per hundred for transportation. I paid Mr. Silas Smith \$5 a gallon for common lamp oil, 25 cts. per lb. for chalk; and when I had used all the oil Mr. Smith had, I had to go to Canandaigua for a supply; there I could buy at wholesale for \$3,75 per gallon. I paid as high as \$35 per bbl. for poor prime pork, and dealt it out at 20 cts. per lb.

"Money was scarce. The company was embarrassed and disheartened, having paid all their available means out for their buildings and machinery, they had neither money nor credit to operate their machinery with; and what made it still worse, the currency of the country was no better than the rest. The following is a specimen of the circulating currency:—

THE BANK OF UTICA,
Promises to pay the Bearer on demand,
THREE 3 CENTS.
By order of the Board of Directors
Jan. 1, 1816. *D. Collins.*
3 Cts.

Under such embarrassments as these we continued to operate until January, 1818, when the internal and external difficulties of

the company prevented further operations, and writs, executions, and injunctions were substituted for cotton spinning. The whole effects of the company in the hands of the sheriff. Calls were now made on the stockholders to pay the balance due on their stock or forfeit what they had paid. Almost all preferred to forfeit what they had paid and "be off" — a few paid up their stock in full, with the understanding that when sold by the sheriff they would have it bid in, and in so doing they could save their property and make their stock of full value. A person was so authorized, and the whole property was struck off to him at a mere nominal sum.

Mr. Bullard has buried four children; his wife and two daughters are still living, one daughter being the wife of George J. Whitney, an extensive miller in Rochester.

No. 22. DANIEL GRAVES.

MR. GRAVES came to Rochester from Swansey, New Hampshire, in 1818, being then twenty-one years of age. He evidently encountered a chapter of experience on his first introduction to the country, which he will not be likely to forget for many a long year, if his life should be spared. "He had *sixty four* ague fits the first season of his residence here, and when he began to recover he could not procure a pound of pork in the whole country." The Dutchman's boy "ven he pit hiself mit de rattlesnake, could eat noting put jis a leetle tea, and sthan up upon his elpows in de ped and cryth wather! wather! wather! for forty day and more;" but the first thought of a man just recovering from his sixty-fourth ague fit, especially a man like Mr. Graves, who had never been sick before, and "but one day since" and hopes never to be sick again, would be a demand for pork! pork! pork! Then if the pork, like "spirits from the vasty deep," will not come, how does the stomach, "swept and garnished" fifty times over, make one rapid excursion to the land of butter and honey and then fall back on despair! To be sick, without care, without a physician, without a friend is bad; but to get well of the fever and ague and not have the food your very soul craves, is indescribably dreadful!

Mr. Graves is not only a man of good health and remarkable

exemption from periodical disease ; but his reputation before the world as a Christian is equally uniform and unexceptionable. He is an efficient and reliable member of St. Paul's church, and living and walking by faith and prayer, his eyes dimming on the developing beauty, grandeur and magnificence of Rochester, which his own hands have helped to produce ; sure we are that his last days will afford a condition for him mightily improved upon his first year's residence and suffering in the same locality.

No. 23. ERASTUS COOK.

MR. COOK established silversmithing and watch repairing in Rochester, as early as the year 1815, in which business he is still engaged. He was born in Clinton, New York ; emigrated with his father to Onondaga very young, and remained there for twenty years, until he exchanged that residence for a locality of swamp and fever and ague, in Western New York, in 1815. Mr. Cook is now sixty years of age. We find him noticed by O'Reilly as having been elected assistant alderman of the fifth ward in 1835 ; whether he has held other office, the history of the times saith not. In an early account of a militia training, already referred to in a notice of another pioneer, where there were about thirty men, two muskets, a half tobacco barrel drum, and a real fife ; it is more than half insinuated that on the same memorable occasion, Mr. Cook was the fifer ; but, if it is still true, that our pioneer " does not distinctly recollect the occasion," of course, it is not a circumstance to be insisted on. It would only indicate a strong predilection for martial music, if it were true ; but, if otherwise, it would be a strong case of that mental equilibrium which is remarkable for the endowment of " keeping cool" on stirring occasions.

Mr. Cook started from Pompey, Onondaga county, by stage, with his trunk and tools, and his sign, intending to settle at Batavia ; but, at Avon, he was apprised of the fact, " that Batavia was a very wicked place," and, more than that, " his horses would be obliged to swim the Genesee flats in order to get there." These two circumstances, especially the former, determined him to visit

Rochesterville, of which he had heard before and while at home. His first location in business was before a window in Jehiel Barnard's tailor shop, on the present site of the Arcade, in Rochester. Here he hung out that identical sign which may now be seen in his possession, and which posterity will regard as the ancient, venerable "figure head" of a business, which honestly pursued and judiciously economized; has brought credit, intelligence, and even wealth to the home of a venerable pioneer and his dutiful family.

No. 24. CHARLES J. HILL.

THIS gentleman is now about fifty-seven years of age; has an air of sprightliness and youth which creates the impression in the mind of a stranger, that he could not have been in Rochester in 1816, when, as yet, its site was a swamp without a drainage and an almost unbroken forest, without human inhabitants. Such a man, we would think, should be old and bowed down and gray-headed, and the great grand sire of a grown up generation, instead of a youthful, active, business man of fifty-seven years. Is it possible, that, at the age of twenty and twenty-one, this man should have cut the underbrush, cleared away the logs, burned the rubbish, dug ditches and constructed log-bridges, where now is the county court house, the Arcade and post office, the splendid stores and churches and a busy, teeming population of more than forty thousand!

Mr. Hill was born in Woodbury, Connecticut; came to Rochester alone, having no relations in this part of the country, and solely as an adventurer. Though young he did not, like too many youthful adventurers, divest himself of his early training, religious associations and moral inculcations, as soon as he passed the boundaries of the "land of steady habits;" but the character he had formed at home he took along with him to "the west," and we believe still cherishes it, as the nucleus of all that he has built upon it. In his remarks before the Pioneer Association, he very happily alludes to the luxury enjoyed in Rochester thirty-seven years ago, when the entire population worshipped God, from Sabbath to Sabbath, in a one story building, about 15 feet by 24, in one congregation and one

place of worship — and that the *only school house*. Another fact he mentions, as fraught with promise for the future, “that the ‘heat and burden of the day,’ in subduing the forest and rearing up this new city, was, to a great extent, borne by New Englanders, adventurers from their father land ; and these sons of New England, very generally brought with them the principles and habits which have always so favorably distinguished the land of the Puritans.”

Mr. Hill is a remarkably industrious man. Perhaps it would not be deemed extravagant to say, that, since 1816, he has wrought more hours than any man in Rochester. He is one of the enterprising millers of this “city of mills,” and now of the firm of C. J. Hill & Son. He has also been a leading merchant in Rochester ; first, in the firm of Leavitt & Hill ; second, C. J. Hill, by himself, and third, Hill & Peet, and in all these relations, doing a heavy and extensive business. He built the first store of any great extent, and this was 100 feet in length, and the upper room rented for the first County Clerk’s Office. The goods with which to stock this, then magnificent establishment, were from thirty to thirty-five days in coming from Albany, on six horse teams.

In 1821, in company with Mr. Leavitt, Mr. Hill erected on Fitzhugh street, the first brick building in Rochester, which is at present occupied by Mr. William Alling. Mr. H. lived in this same house for thirty years, reared a family of four children, and never had a case of fever during that period of years.

Mr. H. has shared liberally in those offices which have been the prerogative of the people. He was Trustee of Rochesterville in 1822 ; Supervisor at the second city election in 1835 ; County Clerk from 1844 to 1847, and Mayor in 1842. He also held a commission of Quarter Master of the 23d Division N. Y. State Militia in 1823. At this time the law required the Major General to review one or more Brigades each year, accompanied by his staff. This order would require him to traverse, in the discharge of his office, several counties in each year. One year the review commenced at Oak Orchard Creek and closed up at Honeoye Falls.

Daniel D. Barnard, late minister to Vienna, was in commission during the same period. Mr. Hill joined the staff of Gen. Mills, not so much in deference to any particular military taste which he inherits, as with the expectation, that such a position would substantially exempt him from the discharge of military duty ; and,

hence, he "sought the peerage as much, no doubt, as the peerage sought him;" and instead of remaining at home, "*in otium cum dignitate*," or attending to his business as plain men love to do, our hero was bound "to tote," year by year, upon his broad shoulders, the superincumbent weight, sweat, dust and honor of high officials, through a dozen counties, more or less! Under such circumstances, he could only find solace or relief in the sentiment, "uttered or unexpressed," at every tramp of his noble steed, "our sufferings is intolerable!"

No. 25. MITCHELL LODER.

MR. LODER was born in North Salem, New York; settled in Rochester in 1817, and is now fifty-five years of age. Mr. Loder came one year after Mr. Hill and is two years younger than he; so that, in fact, he was a younger adventurer than most of those who came to the country "on their own hook," being at that time only nineteen.

Mr. Loder has reared a respectable and intelligent family of sons and daughters and the wife of his youth, sufferings, and varying fortunes is still with him in the enjoyment of their strikingly improved condition. Mr. L. has been, as he still is, a strong, influential and reliable man. He has occupied several responsible public positions in which his fidelity has suffered not the slightest deduction. He has been Collector, Supervisor in 1851; assistant Alderman of the 4th ward in 1836, and was one of the building committee of the new County House for the county of Monroe.

The pioneers of Rochester are mostly plain, intelligent, industrious men, and modest in some respects, to a fault, as we think; and it is this modesty, where it does not degenerate into negligence, which mightily detracts from the ability to say of them that which posterity will feel desirous to know.

Mr. Loder, on his first arrival, was located some time at Carthage and boarded in the family of Mrs. Collins, sleeping in the attic of her log cabin upon straw, and in the winter having a buffalo robe for a covering, and in stormy nights an extra mantle of

pure snow. He was present and helped to raise the original bridge, at the head of what is now called Buell Avenue. This bridge "consisted of an entire arch, the chord of which was 352 feet, and the versed sine 54 feet; the summit of the arch was 196 feet above the surface of the water. The entire length was 718 feet, and the width 30 feet, besides 4 large elbow braces, placed at the extremity of the arch, and projecting 15 feet on each side of it." It was warranted to stand one year, and it preserved its guarantees from harm, and had ten days in which to take responsibilities on its own credit and then "busted up." So fell the hopes of Carthage. "*Sic transit gloria, mundi!*" And no wonder, as remarks our historian, as the women are the hope of the state, and there were only three at that time in that settlement of three hundred men.

North Brighton was then known as Northtown, and was settled by a few families on the bank of the River. These families were very poor and were occasionally visited by our pioneer, in company with Elisha Ely, for the purpose of assisting them in their sickness and extreme destitution. The children would hide from the presence of their benefactors, in hope of concealing their nakedness. One family of seven had not a garment of clothing, except what was worn to partially cover the father and mother, the five children being as destitute of a garment as Adam and Eve in their primeval condition. The inhabitants, in their sickness, could not sustain themselves and most of them were transported as paupers to the towns from which they had emigrated.

Mr. Loder has been in the mercantile business in Rochester for more than twenty-five years, has experienced its reversions, its "ups and downs," for better and worse, as he says, and in 1850 retired from business, and now by the practice of prudence and industry, he is enabled to live upon his accumulated fortune, in a style not inferior to that of other men of his calling and class in society.

THIS early pioneer was from West Springfield; settled here in 1813, and is now sixty-eight years of age. He bears an unexceptionable character; has been Assessor of the city, and we think, has held other stations of office and trust under the city charter; but we are not distinctly informed on that point. Mr. Smith has seen the worst, but we hope not the best of Rochester. He was on the ground when it was almost an unbroken wilderness. At that time there was no organized church, no meeting house, no school house; the wild orgies of Indian worship were practiced still; only fifteen families of whites were on the ground, no bridge, no village, no post route; but it was the western verge of civilization and just skirting the region

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

But this dark frowning wilderness, then so far from the home of civilization, has become the region where —

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

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

No. 27. RUSSEL GREEN.

THIS venerable pioneer was born in Norwich, Connecticut ; came to "the Genesee" in 1817, and is now living in Rochester, at the advanced age of seventy-seven years. Mr. Green is a member and an officer in the first Presbyterian church ; is generally esteemed. He has also a family of excellent taste, reputation and religious character. The church of which Mr. Green is a worthy member, is the oldest religious society in Rochester. It was organized in August 1815, some eighteen months previous to Mr. Green's arrival. It had, at first, sixteen members ; was formed by a committee from the Presbytery of Geneva, and Oliver Gibbs, Daniel West, Warren Brown, and Henry Donnelly were chosen elders, and Elisha Ely, clerk. The first pastor was Rev. Comfort Williams, who was installed in his office by Geneva Presbytery in January 1816, and continued to discharge the duties of the pastorate until June 1821 — about four years and a half. The after bishop and pastor of this church — Rev. Tryon Edwards — in a thanksgiving discourse, remarks : "In 1815, when this congregation was organized, it was the only church in a tract of about four hundred square miles! The second meeting of its session was held on Brighton Ridge, no church meeting was legally called, unless notice had been sent to the settlements on the Ridge, in Gates, and in the east part of the town of Brighton!"

No. 28. HARVEY PRINDLE.

THIS worthy pioneer was born in New Fairfield, Connecticut ; came into Western New York as early as 1799, and still resides in Rochester. He is sixty-nine years of age, and very young for a pioneer of 1799, — one of the earliest of those now living ; and longer in the country than any one, whose history here precedes him, by six years. He has numbered already fifty-four years here ; while the next earliest settler — Oliver Culver, has only been a resident for a period of forty-eight years. But Mr. Culver came a man of twenty-seven, and Mr. Prindle a boy of fifteen. The latter gentleman, however, has the experience of a youth in a desert land ; while the former has only that of the riper years of manhood. The recorded associations of youth and childhood, matured amid the wild forest scenes, in hearing of the savage yell, the cry of the panther, the growling of the bear, and in circumstances of distress and suffering, interdicting all hope but that which is inseparable from filial confidence, would engage an intensity of interest which all the manly deeds of honor, adventure, and of daring have ever failed to excite. This same Mr. Prindle, who, in his youth and even ripened years, lighted the surrounding forest with burning, smoking, crackling brush, now provides the means, on the same ground, for lighting with gas a forest of houses, stores, palaces, and public places throughout the beautiful City of Rochester.

No. 29. DONALD MCKENZIE.

I, DONALD MCKENZIE, was born in Bali-Dru, of Fordarroch—parish of Duvlochity, on the banks of the bonnie river Nairn, near the town of Inverness, in Scotland; latitude 57 degrees 57 minutes north, on the 27th day of March, in the year 1784. My father farmed Bailli-Brier of Druimboy, till about 1794, where I learned a little of the shepherd life, among rugged mountains and clear beautiful waters. I went to school during the winter, but learned no English until after my father was established society school-master of Ley's, three miles south of Inverness, and three miles from the noted muir of Colloden, in the vicinity of which, he was born a few week's previously to the battle. He taught this school forty years; and died when over ninety years of age. His pious instructions and poetry will long be remembered, as he had many pupils who are now scattered in different parts of the world. In 1798 I taught the parish school of Strath Herrich, near the Fall of Fyres, for three months. In 1789 and 1800, I studied the different branches of mathematics with Rev. Mr. Alexander Denoon, in the Royal Academy of Inverness, and land surveying in the field, with my employer, William McKenzie, L. S., in Ross-shire; and Nair. On the 19th of August, 1801, sailed through the Pentland Frith to Thurso, in Caithness. On this noted day I commenced a daily memorandum book of the doings and thinkings of myself, in imitation of my worthy employer, and continued it in one way or another since. During the winter of 1801 and 1802, we surveyed the commons of Caithness, in Highland dress; though north nearly sixty degrees. In June, 1802, I was engaged as Deputy Post-Master in Lochcarron, one year; when there were but 220 post offices in Scotland, and only two between it and North America in the Isles of' Sky. Single postage there varied from 6 to 11 pence sterling in Britain. In July, 1802, I was promoted to be clerk and

deputy factor of the estates of Sir Hugh James, of Lochalsh and Kintail, and statistical clerk for drafting the militia soldiers — but I became disgusted with the politics of the time, which caused me to retire from my honorable and profitable situation, and return home to my parents — when I resolved to leave the father land, and I sailed from Greenoch in May, 1804, and arrived in the city of New York August 11th. On my first landing in Water street, I filed into a procession, being the funeral of my countryman the Honorable Alexander Hamilton. After spending about two weeks in the land of liberty in search of employment in my own trade, as a land surveyor or clerk, I got soon disgusted with such pitiable offices, and resolved to learn the cotton, silk and woolen dyeing, in the city, and I spent the year 1805 in the second Woolen Factory in Connecticut, in the town of Norwalk, Fairfield Co., which I reluctantly left to visit my numerous connections in the unknown Indian country, named Genesee. I was resolved to settle in Kentucky until after I went to work at my trade in Mendon, where I made the discovery that this Genesee Country was good enough for me. On my first sight of the big spring creek and the land I now live on. I said to myself, being then alone, I will make this my home. and soon after secured it by borrowing a dollar to make out the article. June 16th, 1806, I was planting potatoes for self, on my Uncle John McKenzie's farm, on which day was the great total eclipse of the sun. On Jan. 28th, 1807, I commenced hauling logs, for building my clothing shop at John & Robert McKay's, Lower Falls, now named Mumford, where there was no an inhabitant then, but the lonely sawyer in that dense forest of evergreens, which I admired more than the dusty crowded city of New York with its yellow fevers and many other diseases, which recalled to mind what some poet said,—

*—— High dreaming bards have told
 Of times when worth was crowned and faith was kept;
 Ere friendship grew a snare, or love waxed cold,
 Those pure and happy times — the golden days of old."

In August 1807, I commenced custom work in the woolen manufactory, being the first to engage in the business west of Genesee River.

1807, politics ranged between 90 and 100. I was opposed to the British order in council and Milan decrees and United States embargo, each equally foolish, as it destroyed our first prospect of

good market. June, 1808, I visited my connections in Canada and Niagara Falls. In 1809, August 3d, I married my Yankee wife, Hannah Hincer, at the mouth of the Genesee river, on the spot that the light house now stands on. I built the first frame house in Mumford.

The above, it will readily be observed, is Mr. McKenzie's account of himself, in a form autobiographical. It may not be amiss to add a few words gathered substantially from Mr. Turner's "Pioneer History." Donald McKenzie may be considered the earliest resident pioneer of the locality. In the cloth dressing business, at Mumford, he was the pioneer in all the Genesee Country west of the river. His early customers were distributed over a territory that now constitutes ten counties. The venerable Simon Pierson, of Le Roy, in the "proceedings at the Pioneer Festivals," gives a graphic account of his first milling advent to Caledonia. "I took my wheat on my horse," says he, "rode down Allen's Creek seven or eight miles, when I came to a dark, dense, forest of evergreens, which I took to be a cedar swamp on a hill. Near the center of this swamp, as I took it to be, I discovered a small hut which I entered, for I was very cold, it being late in November. There was a good fire within and the workmen were at dinner. I found the proprietor liberal and intelligent. He asked me to sit by the table and partake of a farmer's cut, and, if ever I ate with a *gusto* it was then, and that act of hospitality from Mr. McKenzie will never be effaced from my memory."

This enthusiastic, kind-hearted, Scotchman still survives, after a long, active, and useful life, — a good specimen of the energetic and persevering pioneer character. He is a man of strong native talent, a retentive memory, and few men in Western New York are better versed in the history of the early settlement of "The Genesee Country." He is now seventy years of age. His surviving sons are William, Daniel R., of Indiana; John, Simon, and Joseph, upon the homestead. Daughters became the wives of Daniel M'Naughton, of Wheatland, and Hector M'Lean, of Rochester.

No. 30. DUDLEY ROOT, ESQ.

MR. ROOT was born in Hebron, Tolland County, Connecticut ; located at Saratoga, N. Y., in 1812 ; came to Sweden, Genesee County, in 1817 ; he is still living, aged about fifty-five years. He had visited Sweden two years previous to his final settlement there, and purchased 175 acres of land at seven dollars per acre, cleared, cultivated, and lived on that same farm for thirty years.

Great dearth of provisions prevailed in all sections of the country during 1817, and so severe was the famine, that food could not be obtained, in anything like an adequate supply, for any amount of money which could be offered. Mr. Root traveled on foot to West Bloomfield and purchased a few pounds of pork at $18\frac{3}{4}$ cents per pound, and, at the same time, procured wheat, at one dollar eighty-seven cents a bushel. His peas and other grain for seeding, was carried from four to seven miles on his shoulders. At the same time, when meat could scarcely be obtained at any price, and great inconvenience, if not suffering was experienced, the deer were very common, everywhere straying about unmolested. The settlers had no guns and were too busy, clearing their farms and cultivating their crops, to use them, if they had possessed them. About 1820, they began to raise wheat, and, by carting it to Rochester, which took two days, hard driving, and hard fare, they could find market for it at thirty-eight cents per bushel.

No. 31. COL. EASTMAN COLBY.

THE COL. is still living ; but bears in his person, the evident marks of an early settler, of hard service done, and suffering endured in rearing the institutions of civilization, education, and religion ; from beginnings which promised nothing ; unless to the eye of faith, but a premature and unnatural death in a country which frowned defiance to the endurance, courage, and energy, of the hardest sons of a hardy and invincible race.

He was born in Salisbury, Hillsboro County, N. H. ; and is now 68 years of age. He came to this county in 1804, at the age of 19 years, and settled at Ogden. On the second of January, while clearing his road through the town of Warner, he cut off both bones of his leg, and was, consequently, detained a month or more from prosecuting his journey.

The Colonel was twelve years under commission ; commanded Regiment 168, of 46th Brigade of New York Militia, and resigned his commission in 1822, drawing for military services, forty acres of land.

He was called to Niagara in Dec. 1813 ; served about one month a company of Light Infantry, and was then discharged. When the report of the taking of Fort Niagara reached Rochester, he made the distance from that point to Lewiston, in forty-eight hours ; and was, consequently, at Lewiston at the time of the burning of Buffalo. The head quarters being at Hard Scrabble, between that point and Lewiston, many had been murdered by British scouting parties, whose bodies it was necessary to gather up and bury.

At Niagara, a Company of Horse, which was hastening to the aid of their companions in arms, was mistaken for the enemy. Colonel Colby ordered his company to "make ready," and in another moment of time, hundreds would have fallen, only that the familiar face of his friend, in command of the supposed enemy,

uddenly revealed to the delighted gaze of our Colonel. Instead of *such a meeting* as foes in arms are wont to witness, there was an hour of joyous congratulation; a scene of exultation.

While holding the plough in the field, the Colonel heard the signal guns, heralding from the mouth of the Genesee, in every direction, the threatened danger, and, instantly dropping the reins in the furrow, exclaimed, "Father, my country calls!"

No. 32. ABELARD REYNOLDS.

HE was from Pittsfield, Massachusetts; came to Rochester, in 1812, where he still resides. He is now sixty-eight years of age. His early business was that of a saddler. His first purchases were lots twenty-three and four, where the Arcade now stands, upon which he built the first framed house erected on "the 100 Acre Tract." In November, 1812, just one year previous to getting his family settled, he was appointed Post Master, of which office, the nett proceeds, for the first half year, was three dollars and forty-six cents. He was the first saddler, the first Post Master, the first Magistrate, and the first inn-keeper on the "Hundred Acres," or the original site of Rochester, on the west side of the river. In 1838 he was elected Alderman of the First Ward, and, in 1820, first Trustee of the M. E. Church, organized the 20th of September of that year. He has also held the office of State Legislator. His son, Mortimer F. Reynolds, was the first born in Rochester after it was organized under a village charter. Another son, Wm. A. Reynolds, is the present proprietor of the Arcade, erected, in 1828, by his father, upon his original lots. This building may be considered as a model structure and, as such, has recently been studied and transferred to other towns—in one instance, at least, in the village of Watertown, Jefferson County, N. Y., it has received a very exact imitation. The change, which has been wrought upon this site since Mr. R. first saw it, certainly approaches nearer the magical and unaccountable than any instance of "Rochester Knockings" to which we have had occasion to refer. At that period, it was hard *knocking* that called out any signs of civiliza-

tion. The old Allan Mill, the unoccupied cabin hard by, and the half finished bridge over the river, were all *knocked* the wrong way; and, whatever there might have been of intrinsic excellence and promise in the sub-stratum, as Mr. R. says, "it all lay concealed amid chaotic confusion." Still, by dint of energy, courage, and the appliance of hard and unflinching hands, within a period of forty years, this remarkable transformation has been wrought out. Now, that small plot of ground upon which, with Col. Stone's "oxen and stone boat," "he drew stone from the bed of the river, laid a foundation 24 by 36 feet, and erected a frame upon it," is now producing an annual rent which is exceeded only by that of a few spots of equal size, in the most favorite localities of the largest cities in the Union."

It may be pertinent to remark, that Mr. Reynolds sought out a locality for himself, with a discrimination and business sagacity creditable to the later experience of forty years, and which have ever characterized his far reaching and enlightened policy. He did not decide, before he left New England, at what particular point, or even in what State he would fix his residence; but he "prospected" with a view to obtain the "richest diggings!" He traveled in Ohio and first determined on settling in Trumbull, in that State. Returning, by the way of "Genesee," he was strongly recommended to visit Charlotte, which, it was represented, "was destined, at no distant period, to become a place of unrivalled importance." On his way thither, from Bloomfield, he encountered in the midst of the deep forest, near the bank of the Genesee River, the veteran pioneer — Enos Stone, by whom he was strenuously importuned to survey the "dismal swamp," the site of the future Rochester, and especially to purchase a lot. After fording the river, according to direction, heading his trusty steed towards the "large sycamore tree on the opposite bank," he explored the country as far down as the mouth of the river; returned to Rochester, and, instead of selecting, as his future residence, "the clean up-land woods, where he could see to shoot a deer at the distance of thirty rods," he pitched upon the most "undesirable and forbidding spot that language can describe." How deep beneath the surface, the richest veins may run.

No. 33. WILLIAM WILBER.

MR. WILBER became a settler in the county as early as 1815; was born in Saratoga county, N. Y., from which place he emigrated to "the west" at the age of twenty-four years. He still resides in Rochester; being now sixty-two years old. Mr. W. has not only shared the common lot of the pioneers of 1815 in clearing away the forest, making a new settlement, enduring hardships and privations as a citizen in the midst of scenes wild and new; but he has done hard service for his common country. He was a resident of Ontario county as early as 1810, and in 1813 volunteered in the Rifle Company of Capt. Fuller, and in that connection served under Gen. McClure until the close of the year, at which time, the company was discharged at Fort George. On their return, the discharged volunteers passed through Rochester, and Mr. W. had a fair opportunity to observe that the place was too poor to furnish a crum of bread to a worn and weary soldier. Col. Isaac W. Stone kept a tavern, but had on his premises nothing to offer his hungry guests except a drink of whiskey of which he had just received "two jugs" from Bloomfield. The generous patriotism of our pioneer was not a whit abated by the sufferings of this campaign; but, in 1814, he again volunteered and was serving under Gen. Brown on the occasion of his memorable military chef d'oeuvre at Fort Erie during the month of September of that year. The British had commenced a line of batteries at a point near Black Rock, and were extending them in a circuitous direction towards the lake and above Fort Erie, intending by that means to shut in that fortress and preclude the possibility of escape to every American soldier; and this object was well nigh accomplished, when, on the 17th of September, the day being thick and lowering, the General seized the favorable occasion for making this remarkable sortie, which by the aid of a British deserter, was executed with such admirable dexterity, that one division of eight hundred men, having gained undiscovered the rear of the batteries, commenced the attack, and by their first volley, gave signal to the

division still occupying the front of the enemy, and in front and rear, the British received a fire so unexpected and deadly, that they were driven from their batteries nearly to Black Rock, and only for the closing in of night, the destruction of the enemy must have been complete. As it was, more than 1,000 were killed and 300 taken prisoners, while the loss on the American side could not have exceeded half that number. Gen. Peter B. Porter was taken prisoner during the engagement ; but succeeded in effecting his escape and again joining the Americans. Gen. Drummond, the next morning sent in a flag of truce, desiring a cessation of hostilities for twenty-four hours, until he could bury his dead. The burying, however, was only partially accomplished, when, during the succeeding night, he broke up his encampment and retreated with such secrecy, that he left one of his own sentinels on duty. This soldier, when daylight revealed to him an English army *missing*, from sheer chagrine at his position, surrendered himself to the Americans. Mr. Wilber has recently received, at the hands of the government, in consideration of his services in the war of 1812, a land warrant for eighty-five acres of the public lands unsold.

No. 34. JARED NEWELL.

MR. NEWELL was born in 1776, in the town of Monson, Massachusetts ; was a short time in the armory at Springfield ; removed, after his marriage in 1805, to Granby, Connecticut, where he was engaged in the mercantile business in connection with Judge Pettibone of that State. He was, for a term of years, a member of the Connecticut Legislature from Granby, and also from Hartland, of which town he was a later resident and a somewhat extensive merchant.

Mr. Newell was not strictly a pioneer, having arrived in Rochester after 1820 ; but we must, at least, assign him a place among the elders of the city. In 1837 he was elected supervisor of the 5th ward, and in 1845-6, he was chosen a member of the Common Council ; also, in 1848, one of the board of health, in which office he continued up to the time of his death.

In 1832 Mr. Newell established carpet manufacturing in the

Globe Building in Main street; after about two years the establishment was destroyed by fire, and Mr. N. suffered a total loss, having no insurance. After the rebuilding, he again commenced the same business, and a second time was completely burned out, but without loss being fully insured. Mr. Newell died suddenly the 26th of March, 1853, at four o'clock in the morning, at the advanced age of seventy-seven years, respected by all, beloved by many, venerable in years; thus passed one of the city fathers.

No. 35. GEN. JACOB GOULD.

MR. GOULD was born in Boxford, Essex County, Massachusetts, February 10, 1794. His father, Captain Jacob Gould, was a native of the same town. His grandfather, of the same name and place, was lieutenant of the militia, in the American Revolution, and was occasionally on duty. His mother was a Peabody, from the adjoining town of Middletown, in which and in Danvers, and in the now city of Salem, reside many of the same name, having descended from the same ancestry; some of whom are extensively known as most successful, as well as honorable in the commercial world.

At the age of sixteen, it was determined by his parents who were poor, but respectable, that their son should be a shoemaker, and he was accordingly apprenticed to serve a year at that trade with a man living a mile distant. Being successful in his first efforts at the business, he was continued in it for more than two years, until threatened with a pulmonary affection, he was transferred from the shoemaker's bench to West Bradford Academy, which he attended for one quarter of the year 1812. During the three years succeeding this period he taught in Common District Schools, until the spring of 1815, when he took charge of the English department in Union College Grammar School, which he successfully managed for four years. Leaving this position, he took up his residence in Rochester, where he, at first, engaged in the business of manufacturing and selling shoes. This was continued for more than twenty years, and connected with an extensive wholesale trade in leather, Mr. Gould's became one of the first establishments of the kind in all Western New York.

Occasionally he was honored with office — his military career was of a character peculiar to those times. In 1824 he was elected captain of a nearly lifeless artillery company, but as he never intended to do things by halves, he by his energy, revived the spirits of those already enlisted, which had the effect to encourage others, so that a handsome company was soon the result. Some difficulty the winter following, at a court-martial, caused an application to the adjutant-general for a division of the regiment, which was promptly made.

The subject of this sketch was elected colonel. The same process in another quarter caused a division of the brigade; before the colonel's commission arrived he was duly elected brigadier general, and in that capacity appeared before a regiment the same fall.

The winter following, a major-general had to be appointed by the governor and senate. Here a principle had to be settled causing no little trouble. The subject of this sketch was a few days the senior brigadier, and had held a commission but a little over a year, while the junior brigadier was an old officer of more than twenty years' service, and claimed the appointment from Governor Clinton and the senate on this account; it was settled, however, and has since been referred to as a precedent governing subsequent action in similar cases, that Mr. Gould was entitled to the appointment, which he received, going from a citizen to that of major-general of artillery in less than two years.

In 1829 he was appointed, by President Jackson, collector of the customs for the district of Genesee, and re-appointed; and again appointed by President Van Buren.

Soon after this he resigned the office to attend with more diligence to his private affairs.

In 1836 he was elected president of the Rochester City Bank; held the office two years, and then resigned. Subsequently, when some difficulty arose in said institution, he was invited to its presidency again, which office he held until all trouble was past. He was twice elected mayor of the city of Rochester, which was incorporated in 1834.

In 1845, unexpectedly to himself and friends, he was appointed U. S. Marshal for the Northern District of New York, by President Polk, which office he held four years.

To show the energy with which these duties were performed, it may be stated, that there were more convictions for counterfeiting

coin, robbery of the mails, etc., during his term, than for twenty years previous. In his duties he was ably sustained by the court, and especially by Judge Allen, of Oswego, the U. S. District Attorney, and George W. Clinton, Esq., of Buffalo, his successor in office.

At present he is the financial officer of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank of Rochester, a bank under the general banking law of the state.

The difference between the subject of this sketch and many others, has been a perseverance in whatever was undertaken, until all obstacles were overcome, and success complete.

His labors and efforts have not been confined to his own family and relatives. For many of these he has done much; but he has educated, and helped to educate many, and also to establish the deserving in business. In all these efforts a desire to do good has been apparent, and results might be cited showing that these labors have not been in vain.

In religion, the subject of this sketch has been always decided. He united with the Presbyterian Church in Schenectady in 1817; was superintendent of the Female Sabbath School just established in that city, and afterwards in Rochester; was for a number of years an active elder in, and still continues his connection with, the First Presbyterian Church in Rochester, to which he took a letter when he left Schenectady, in 1819. At that time it was the only church of any denomination in Rochester; now there are nearly or quite one hundred. He built, in 1825, the first good dwelling-house, and is now living in the same, in Rochester, that has been suffered to remain and occupied by its owner and builder in a city of now over forty thousand inhabitants. What progress! what improvement!—from a wilderness to a beautiful city in a little over a quarter of a century!

The times are portentous. What is now done in minutes formerly took days, and even weeks, to accomplish.

The subject of this sketch has taken part in the improvements as they passed—has been connected with most of them, and still continues to apply himself as steadily and perseveringly as in his youth: *it is his habit*. How necessary that early habits be correct! Learn to assume responsibility in youth, then it will become easy in riper years and in old age not to be a burthen.

As a man and a citizen his character is above reproach. His

cheerful disposition and courteous manners endear him to a large circle of acquaintances. As a husband and father he possesses the deep affection of his family.

No. 36. AARON VANCLEVE.

MR. VANCLEVE was born December 12, 1768, in the Township of Hopewell, in the county of Huntodon, in the State of New Jersey. His father dying when Aaron was only four years old, his guardianship devolved upon his elder brothers, John and Philip, the latter of whom, being himself a coachmaker, designated his ward and younger brother for that trade, which he commenced acquiring when about fourteen years of age. His wife, whom he married in 1791, was the daughter of Benjamin Stevens, and sister of Judge Stevens of Batavia. In 1795 Mr. V. went to Buffalo and joined the company of Joseph Ellicott, in cutting the "Western Transit Line," which enterprize was consummated the 29th Oct. 1799. Returning, at that time to New Jersey, from which State he had not yet removed his family, he still continued to reside there during a period of ten years. On the 28th of February 1809, he moved to Batavia, where he still resides; and in September of that same year was appointed under Sheriff and Jailor of Genesee county. In 1810 he was also appointed assistant Marshall to take the census of the county, which at that time, comprised all the territory west of Genesee River to the Niagara line. He occupied also, for some months during 1810, a position as Clerk in the Land Office, and on the 14th of March 1811, received the appointment of High Sheriff for one term. In 1814 he was designated, under James Madison's administration, as principal Assessor of the 25th district of New York, comprising eight westerly counties. In 1820 he was again commissioned to take the census of the county; and again in 1830 assistant Marshal to take the census of the eight northerly towns of the county. Mr. V. has been mostly in discharge of some public office since his residence in Western New York.

He is now a man of ripened years, having passed his eighty-fourth year on the 12th day of December, 1852. He has reared an intelli-

gent and enterprising family of sons and daughters. His eldest daughter, however, died some six months after his settlement at the west. One son has been for some years a successful and favorite captain of a Lake Steamer and is at present joint proprietor in a line of Steamers on Lake Ontario.

No. 37. JOHN B. ELWOOD, M. D.

MR. ELWOOD was born in Montgomery County, State of New York, in the year 1792; made his residence at Rochester in January, 1817; he is still living, "having been in practice nearly forty years — years of usefulness and something of eminence in his profession; while in other respects, he has maintained a prominent and influential position. Infirm health, a few years since, induced him to make a winter's residence in Florida, where he met with a serious accident with which the public were made familiar at the time, and from which he has mostly recovered."

Dr. Elwood pursued his professional studies mainly with Dr. White, of Cherry Valley — a physician of reputation world wide — was the first of his profession, who settled at Rochester, and, as is usual in the early settlement of a country, encountered the hard work, the incessant application, the day and night jaunting, the exposure and suffering incidental to such circumstances, in the pioneer days of "Genesee." Though confessedly a man of intellectual strength and at the head of his profession, having chiefly retired from practice, his services, for a few years past, have been less sought after, except as counsel in cases critical and of doubtful interpretation and issue.

Dr. Elwood was chosen Treasurer of the corporate village of Rochester in 1827, and in one instance, at least, since the city charter was obtained, has been elected mayor; but in these cases and all others of public promotion, it is well understood, that the office has sought him and not he the office.

No. 38. CHARLES M. LEE, LL. D.

MR. LEE was born at Lyme, County of New London, Connecticut, October 1st, 1790. At the age of fourteen, he emigrated from Lyme to Clinton in Oneida County, N. Y.; read law with Gold & Lile, of Whitesboro, near Utica, and in the same county; in 1811, at the age of twenty-one, he was admitted to the bar and commenced practice in Utica, where he continued until the spring of 1821, at which time he removed to Rochester, where he still practiced in the legal profession, till June 1852, when he retired from its active duties. The honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him by Wabash College, in April, 1850.

Mr. Lee is still living, at the age of sixty-three, portly, fresh and unusually young in appearance, for a man of his years. He has sustained a very respectable reputation as a lawyer and has unquestionably grown very wealthy, as well from the avails of his profession, as from other sources of pecuniary advantage.

Mr. Lee was once a candidate for the mayoralty of Rochester, and lost his election on the ground, it is believed, of his having procured stone and other materials for a beautiful fence about his yard from the State's Prison at Auburn. This of course, in a country of free and equal rights, he enjoyed the largest liberty to do; and abstractly the thing could not involve the first idea of wrong. Still the hard working, honest and honorable mechanics of the State of N.Y. both of country and town, have from the first, entertained an invincible dislike of State monopoly, and especially of bringing their productions in competition with that of State Prison convicts. Hence while Mr. Lee had a right to import the materials for his fence from Auburn prison, much as they respected him as a man and a citizen, in the circumstances of the case, the democracy claimed that they had a right to keep him inside that fence when it was built, or at least to erect such a fence about the mayoralty as would

guarantee a monopoly of that office to the patrons of free and honest industry.

Still, in justice to Mr. L., it should be said, that no man in Rochester perhaps has been more uniformly characterized as a generous, philanthropic, kind hearted benefactor. The wants of the poor have been as liberally and as freely supplied from the avails of his charity, as from any source as ample, and at the same time, circumscribed, as all munificence is, by personal views and inherent prerogatives.

No. 39. JONATHAN CHILD.

MR. CHILD is mentioned in "The Pioneer History" by O. Turner, Esq., as being originally from Orange County, Vermont. He came to Utica in 1806, as a school teacher, and after engaged as a clerk to Watts Sherman, a widely known merchant of early years, and uncle of the Albany banker of that name. In 1810 he came to Charlotte and established himself as a merchant, though doing business, at first, on a limited scale. He next joined Benjamin Gardner in business at Bloomfield. He removed to Rochester in 1820, and soon after entered into an engagement extending through a term of years, upon the heavy rock cutting through the mountain ridge at Lockport, in the construction of the Erie Canal. To his business as contractor, he added, at Lockport, one of the earliest mercantile establishments in that locality. He was one of the original proprietors of the old Pilot Transportation line upon the canal. He still survives at the age of sixty four years. His wife, who was the daughter of Col. Rochester, died in 1850. His life has been one of activity and enterprize. His early career, as a business man may be said to have been entirely successful, but he after became the subject of severe reverses. The material of his enonomy, however, was of the usual pioneer cast, which, when hardest pressed, exhibits most of its elastic tendency, and instead of being crushed by the tide of misfortune, he is now in the active management of his extensive business, stirring, sanguine, and persevering, as in middle life.

In 1827, the second election under the new village charter of

Rochester, Mr. Child was chosen Trustee of the Third ward ; again in 1830, he was elected to the same office and in the same ward, in place of J. Packard declined ; and in 1834, at the first election after the city charter, Jonathan Child was chosen Mayor of Rochester. On the 23d of June, in the following year, however, Mr. Child presented his resignation of the mayoralty. His reasons for this step had reference to the fact of " the conflicting views entertained by himself and the Common Council respecting the licensing of groceries and taverns to sell spirituous liquors." Mr. C. remarks in his letter of resignation to the board, " it becomes incumbent on me, in my official character, to sanction and sign these papers" — (licences.) " I am constrained to act according to my own solemn convictions of moral duty and estimation of legal right in all cases connected with the office entrusted to me. When I find myself so situated in my official station as to be obliged either, on the one hand, to violate these high obligations, or on the other, to stand in opposition to the declared wishes of a large majority of the board, and through them of their constituents — my valued friends and fellow-citizens — I dare not retain the public station which exposes me to this unhappy dilemma. I therefore, now most respectfully resign into your hands the office of Mayor of the city of Rochester."

Mr. Child is a leading member of St. Luke's Church, and one of its original numbers ; and we think the above described position and the language held with reference to the resignation of the mayoralty and the reasons for that measure, sufficiently indicate the spirit of a man whose sense of right and moral consciousness are to him of more importance to be preserved inviolate, than the retaining of the highest official station after the loss of self-respect, and the approbation of Him who rules the rulers and will " judge the judges."

THE ancestors of Mr. Harris came from England and settled at Providence, Rhode Island, the second year of Sir Roger Williams' Colony. Mrs. Harris, the wife and companion of his youth and age, is of French descent; she was from Whitestown, in the State of New York, and cousin of William O. Butler of Ohio, and Benjamin F. Butler of New York, and also of the late Silas Wright of the same State. Mr. Harris was born in Edenborough, Saratoga County, N. Y. February 8th, 1799; moved to Genesee County, on to the Holland Land Purchase, in the month of January, 1812 — at a time when all that tract was a dense and unbroken wilderness. In the spring of that year, on the declaration of war between the United States and Great Britain, a brother four years older, and who had scarcely passed his sixteenth year, was drafted into the United States service and stationed at Buffalo — a point which was deemed to be particularly exposed, from its border locality. He was in the contest which was waged to obstruct the landing of the British at Black Rock in 1814, which, though not entirely successful in preventing the landing, was a contest so long and resolutely maintained, on the part of the Americans, as effectually to cover the retreat of the inhabitants of ill-fated Buffalo, and in such order and with such precaution, that they left nothing over which the enemy might gloat, except in the burning of the town. Hearing of this disaster and apprehending the overrunning of the entire section by the British and Indians, the family of Mr. Harris, with the other families and the inhabitants generally, fled through the woods and concealed themselves, as best they could, until it was deemed safe to return to their homes. In August of this year, the father of Orrin Harris died at Fort Erie. At the time of his death, he was only fifty-seven years old, and had previously possessed an iron constitution; but the exposure and hardship incidental to his circumstances brought him suddenly down to an early forest and

soldier's grave. Orrin was, the succeeding spring, placed with a Mr. Parsons of Attica, with the intention of his becoming a tanner and currier; but the breaking up of the business on the part of Mr. Parsons, and the necessities of his family at home, consisting of a widowed mother, a sister, and a younger brother, were deemed sufficient reasons for his return. He was not yet eighteen years of age; but at this early period, circumstances laid upon him burdens that might have crushed a framework matured with years. His father was supposed to have left considerable property, but it was so connected in business that it never inured to the benefit of the family, and consequently their support devolved upon this son, who at this period of great scarcity, wrought four and five miles from home, bringing the avails of his labor to his mother on his shoulders at each stated return. This younger brother became a minister of the Gospel, and in discharge of the duties of that profession, died a missionary to the Indians on Flint River station, March 1850. In the matter of privation and suffering, Mr. Harris has not been without some experience. He reckons himself to have had the billious fever not less than twelve times, the cholera in 1852, and his usual share, meantime, of those complaints "which flesh is heir to." He has buried nine of a family of fourteen children — one of whom, a boy of twelve years, was drowned in the Genesee River, a little below the Falls, in 1838. Mr. H. united with the Baptist church in Rochester in 1833, under the ministerial charge of Rev. Eleazor Savage, at which time it consisted of fifteen members, and their meetings were held in the old court house. His wife and five children, now living, are also members of the same church.

No. 41. ORSAMUS TURNER.

MR. TURNER was born in Pittstown, (now Richmond) Ontario County, July 23, 1801. His father, Roswell Turner, who was a son of Reuben Turner, of Killingworth, Connecticut, emigrated to Ontario county, settling near Pitts Flats, on the Honeoye Lake, in 1795, where he was soon joined by his wife's two brothers, the late Gen. Peter Allen and the Hon. Nathaniel Allen, the latter of whom gave the name to what is now "Allen's Hill," Ontario county.

In 1804 he removed with his family to what is now the town of Sheldon, County of Wyoming, becoming the pioneer settler of that town, and in fact, of all the region now embraced in the western portion of Wyoming, southern portions of Genesee and Erie, and all of Chautauque, Cattaraugus and Allegany counties. His son, Chipman P. Turner, of Black Rock, Erie county, was the first born male child, of white parents, in all the region above designated. He opened his own road, 13 miles west of Warsaw, at which place was his nearest neighbor during the first year of his residence in the wilderness. He helped erect the first school house in all the region named, and in his own house the first religious services were had. He died in 1809; his wife, whose maiden name was Catharine Allen, died in 1817.

Orsamus Turner was an apprentice to the printing business, in the office of the Palmyra Register, and finished his apprenticeship in the office of the Ontario Repository at Canandaigua. In August, 1822, he became the proprietor of a paper that had been established a few months at Lockport, Niagara county, which place was then just rising into existence, the creature of the Erie Canal. He was the editor of that, and newspapers in which it was merged, (the last of which is the present Niagara Democrat,) for over twenty-five years.

Mr. Turner is the Historian of Western New York — the author

of the two works, the "Holland Purchase," and "Phelps and Ham's Purchase." Public spirited, devoted in long and active years, more to the public than to his own immediate interests, he is identified with the whole progress of improvements in Western New York, and especially the Erie Canal. He was the author of the memorial in reference to the enlargement, which was adopted by two hundred delegates assembled in Rochester from all the western counties of the State, in the winter of 1836-7; an exposition of the interests of the State, as connected with that great work which had an important influence in bringing about the earliest enlargement movements.

No. 42. LEVI WARD, M. D.

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 consisted 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 some-

* 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.

what 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; fourteen or fifteen persons convened from their scattered woods homes; prayers 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 Caledonia, 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

* 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.

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 superceded 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 the powder and balls of the new settlement were put in requisition. In another crisis, at the requisition of Major Gen. Hall, a company of exempts, or "silver grays," were raised in Bergen, and Dr. Ward was elected to the command of it.

While a resident of the State of Connecticut, Dr. Ward was for several successive years a delegate from the County of Middlesex to the medical convention at New Haven and Hartford, and an active and influential member of the same; and soon after removing into the State of New York, was elected President of the Medical Society of the county of Genesee, and in 1813 was chosen a delegate and attended the State Medical Convention at Albany, from said society.

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 rattlesnack had but just had notice to quit — he has survi-

† Pretty liberal time was allowed, corresponding with the condition of primitive roads. It was stipulated that the mail should "leave Caledonia 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.

ved 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 Caledonia; a Colonel of Militia in early years, and an early Merchant of Rochester; died in 1838, aged 45 years. Another son, Daniel H., died 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 thoroughfare, the Buffalo Road.

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.

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

No. 43. JOHN H. THOMPSON.

MR. THOMPSON was a native of Hartford, Connecticut; came to Rochester in 1821 and established the looking glass business, in which he still continues, and in circumstances of marked improvement upon 1821 and 2. Corresponding with an acquaintance on the subject of locating at Rochester, he was duly notified, that his business "would do well to starve upon;" but there could be no possible chance of living by it. However, as there was nothing doing in that line west of Utica, and already 1500 inhabitants at this point, it was deemed not visionary to try the experiment of manufacturing some means by which a man, even in a new country, might "see himself as others see him;" and especially so, in as much as it was a matter undisputed, that a portion of the male inhabitants, who had outlived the period of "beardless youth," were in the habit of shaving, when the rules of propriety required that

operation to be performed, by looking in water, a larger portion with an instrument against which the life would be adequately guaranteed without mirror or eyes, and an other part yet by hanging a black coat against the outer side of the window, and into this dark foreground, at as short a focus as possible, intently gazing, they did slash and carve and tug, until the outer castle was carried, and blood and tears did flow "commingling down." But now it is said that scarce a third of a century has passed when only the "better half" of the inhabitants of Rochester, looking into Thompson's mirrors, behold the daughters of those "excellent pioneer wives" to whom, in the exercise of their "heroic fortitude, self-denial, fidelity and energy, their husbands attributed, under Providence, a large share of the success that had crowned their efforts."

Mr. Thompson has figured very respectably in military life; he has been captain and is now, we think, colonel of N. Y. State Artillery, in both which capacities, he has applied himself to the subject with that discrimination, tact, and spirit and advancement which are confessedly characteristic of his versatile and active mind.

However, office either civil or military, is not the sphere in which Mr. T. has sought to distinguish himself or to develop his taste or capacity, unless it should be in that position of Superintendent of the Poor, which he has occupied for the last fifteen years, and in the discharge of the duties of which office there is the finest field for the full play and exercise of the genius of a tactitian, the acuteness of a lawyer, and the remorselessness of a desperado, behind and in close proximity to which qualities there flows the deep resistless current of human sympathy, which in its restive, active, surging, perpetually seeks the surface through this tissue of borrowed airs.

In the enterprises of benevolence, in seeking out new channels of usefulness, in providing the means for carrying forward great schemes of philanthropy, we think Mr. Thompson peculiarly at home and in his native element. Hence we find him in the first S. S. Union meeting, in the first Bible meeting, when Josiah Bissell jr. broached the glorious enterprise of giving the Bible to every family in the United States, and in the first meeting in which the same bold Christian patriot proposed the plan of establishing the "Pioneer Line of Stages," as a means of preventing the desecration of the Sabbath by the traveling public. Mr. Thompson was also the first President of Rochester Sabbath School Association, and has fully

justified his interest in the Sunday School by being the constant, the indefatigable, and very successful Superintendent for a period of twenty-five years, of the Brick Church School which is the largest in Rochester, except that of St. Luke's. As elder in the church, superintendent of the Sunday School, or the Poor, we are satisfied, if, in every station, the generous moral manhood, the soul that feels "another's woes," expands to the outline of our conceptions; we have an outline, a conception of model nobility and greatness, and he who understands the powers of his own soul, and is constantly exerting them to bless mankind, by drying up the fountains of sorrow and sin, and creating by his own energies an atmosphere of love wherever he moves, can alone approximate to our idea of true greatness. Mr. Thompson is now fifty-four years old.

No. 44 JUDGE POWEL CARPENTER.

THIS venerable Pioneer emigrated from Westchester County, N. Y., and located near Cashong creek, on Seneca Lake. He came alone, a single handed adventurer, and was alone in that settlement, excepting two families, one of whom had been on the ground some three or four years. Judge Carpenter cleared away the trees from a small plat of ground, and rolled up some logs or poles in the form of a cabin, and then went to Pennsylvania and brought back with him into the wilderness, from that State, a young wife and a small stock of household furniture. They two, made more thoroughly one by the force of circumstances, came up the Susquehanna on a Durham boat, the Judge working their passage on the river; crossing over to Catherinestown, they came down the lake to Cashong in a batteau. The wife who occupied this primitive cabin, is among the few surviving pioneers of that early period.— Judge Carpenter, while living at this location engaged in the making of potashes, and pursued the business for several years, until the market became depressed and the business so involved, that it required about one half the value of his farm, over and above the proceeds, to meet the expense of freight and commission on his ashes.

Mr. Carpenter settled at Scottsville, or in that immediate neigh-

borhood, in 1804. He purchased from the original proprietor, Isaac Scott, in 1818, nearly or quite the entire site of the present Scottsville. In 1825 and '26, in connection with Abraham Handford, he created a water power with a fall of 19 feet, by means of a race in which he conducted the water from Allen's creek, one mile and a quarter. To this circumstance, more probably than to all others, the beautiful village of Scottsville, owes its prosperity, if not its existence. Judge Carpenter had ten sons, of whom six are now living, and three of them pioneers in the State of Michigan. Judge Ira Carpenter of Scottsville, is also one of the six surviving sons.

Judge Powell Carpenter was one of the first Judges of Monroe County on its first erection into a county in 1821. He died Jan. 5th, 1853, at the advanced age of 83 years. He possessed remarkable elasticity and vigor, both of body and mind, up to the period of his last sickness. Mr. Turner remarks: "there are probably not twenty persons living, who were adult emigrants to the Genesee country, previous to 1795." Judge Carpenter was a veteran of four score years and more, whose illustrious example of perseverance, endurance, and uniform kindness and integrity, give him the prominence of a model Pioneer.

No. 45. LEBBIUS ROSS.

MR. ROSS is still living at Penfield, New York, where he settled as early as 1801. He came from Massachusetts, the state in which he was born, and is now sixty-two years of age; he is a member of the Pioneer Association, a practical farmer, a good citizen, an honest man whose history to be hereafter written, will bear the consideration of posterity.

No. 46. JUDGE MOSES CHAPIN.

MOSES CHAPIN was born in West Springfield, Mass., May 2d, 1791. In the year 1807, he entered Williams College, and in 1809 he transferred his College relation to Yale College, at which institution he graduated in September, 1811. He then passed the year 1812 in London county, Virginia, and commenced the study of Law under the direction of Augustine G. Monroe, Esq., a nephew of President Monroe and a practitioner at Leesburg. In 1813, he entered the Law School at Litchfield, Conn., then flourishing under the direction of Judges Reeve & Gould. Before the close of that year he removed to Albany where with some interruptions he continued the study of the Law until August, 1816, when he was licensed as a practitioner in the Supreme Court.

In the Fall of 1813, he engaged in the Albany County Clerk's office, of which he had the care for two winters during the absence of the Clerk, Hon. John Lovett, who then represented Albany County in Congress. In 1815, the Albany Academy was founded and he consented to take charge as Instructor of one of its three departments where he continued one year.

In 1816, after he obtained license as an Att'y, he left Albany and sought a place of settlement in the western part of the State. Being attracted by the location and prospects of Rochester, he commenced his residence there in October, 1816. No very flattering inducements for a young professional man could be seen. There were already six lawyers in this infant settlement, viz: John Mastick, Hastings R. Bender, Anson House, Roswell Babbitt, Enos Pomeroy and Joseph Spencer. The Genesee River was the separating line between the counties of Ontario and Genesee. The Courts were held at Canandaigua and Batavia. Rochester contained then but about 600 inhabitants. Most of the business was transacted in temporary shops on both sides of Buffalo street between the Eagle Tavern and the river. But even at that early day it

was confidently calculated that Rochester was soon to be the centre of a new County, and was destined to be a town of great agricultural, commercial, and manufacturing resources.

At that time the settlement was closely skirted by the forest which extended in every direction. In 1820 Mr. Chapin erected his dwelling house in Troup street, which then seemed to be at an almost impassable distance from the centre of active business, and was reached by a serpentine path through the woods from the corner of Spring and Sophia streets.

In 1820, Mr. C. was elected as one of the trustees of the village of Rochesterville and by a re-election continued a trustee for two years. For two or three years commencing in 1820, he officiated as Clerk of the Board of Trustees. In 1825, he commenced a term of service as Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Monroe county. In October 1823, he was appointed a Justice of the Peace and was on active duty in that office a term of eight years. In 1825 he was appointed first Judge of Monroe County and presided in the courts until March 1831.

Since the expiration of that office, except that for an official term, he performed the duties of an Examiner in Chancery, he has devoted himself wholly to the practice of his profession, in which he is now engaged.

Judge Chapin is now 62 years of age, and still in the successful practice of his profession and with as much apparent elasticity of spirit and ready adaptation, as when just on the sunny side of forty. In his own reminiscences given before the Pioneer Association, the Judge remarks, that "he has seen wild deer come on to his premises after he commenced residing upon his present premises. In 1818, he cut and cleared a path from his house down Troup st. to Sophia." He speaks also, on the same occasion, of "the frog pond which occupied the Court House yard, and of a long causeway over a deep swamp, on west of the bathing house, in which the forest trees were then standing, and of an unbroken woods west of Washington street. State street had been cleared of trees, but the stumps were still remaining. The forest came almost to the west line of the street, between Ann and Brown. He spoke also of the state of the arts and manufactures, and produced a pair of dividers made from a beech chip with a pen-knife, by a settler in 1816, when that article manufactured from brass could not be found nor purchased nearer than Canandaigua." These illustrations give some idea of

Rochester in 1816, and of Pioneer life in western New York, as contrasted with that state of refinement, convenience, intelligence and improvements of that now splendid city of the Genesee Valley.

No. 47. JUDGE WILLIAM BUELL.

MR. BUELL was a native of Canada from whence he came to Rochester in the year 1818, and has since resided near the city where he owns and works an extensive farm. He has been one of the Associate Judges of Monroe County; is a man of strongly marked features, of a vigorous mind, good health, and a large athletic frame, which, in its earlier days, like Sampson, could have shouldered the gates of a city as easily as a modern dandy his walking stick. In clearing the present Buffalo street, he is said to have received the then extraordinary sum of two dollars a day for steadying the plow drawn by four yoke of oxen and a span of horses,—a feat of athletic dexterity which no other man in the region of that mighty swamp could perform.

Judge Buell is now sixty-two years of age, not a grey hair dishonored, and without a natural prospect, that his well trained and nicely educated family will bring those hairs down with sorrow.

The Judge is also characterized as a man of noble generosity. It is said, in his praise, that, on one occasion, he proposed to the friends of a poor widow to pay him one thousand dollars, and, for that consideration, to cancel a mortgage of three thousand dollars, which he held in good demand as against the widow's property, which, had it been fully exacted and foreclosed, would have left her utterly without the means of support. Such acts of benevolence are not recorded, in the face of a living man, for the purpose or intent to excite the vanity in which the human mind loves so freely to luxuriate, but rather, for the higher reason of making just commendation of a quality which underlays some human structures, and in its natural workings, elevates and swells them into those magnanimous proportions which pertain alone to nature's noblemen. There are some instances, in life's great straits, which the generous soul gathers up and nurses them until they, in turn,

dissolve the ligaments which tie up the selfish spirit, and by the power of their claims upon humanity, draw out those agencies which God seems peculiarly to have raised up for that purpose upon those errands of philanthropy towards which the many of our world have no heart.

No. 48. EPHRAIM MOORE.

MR. MOORE was born in Hollis, N. H., April 26, 1794, and came to Farmington, Ontario Co. in Oct. 1816, where he remained about six months, then removed to Rochester on the 8th of March, 1817, where he has since resided. He was a journeyman cooper and wrought at that business about a month after his arrival, and then opened a grocery and provision establishment and afterward a variety store, which he kept for ten years at the "east end of the bridge, where they used to lead the horses down to the river to water." During this period, he associated with the mercantile, the coopering business, which he conducted on a large scale, making from 30 to 35,000 barrels a year. He has occasionally owned and managed two or three farms in connection with his other already extended business. After the first ten years in the grocery and fancy store at the end of the bridge, he was in the dry goods business on the bridge, and, in this branch continued until as late as 1840, and since that period has carried on the farming and coopering business exclusively, until quite recently. In February 1853, he sold a small farm of 45 acres, situated on the Lyell road, in Gates, adjoining the city, for \$250 per acre, which cost him only \$42 per acre, about 19 years previous to that time.

Mr. Moore was elected Trustee of the Third Ward, in which he still resides, in the year 1828; was four successive years Poor-master of the town of Gates, which came to the centre of the river, from the west side; in 1831 he was elected one of the Superintendents of the poor for the County of Monroe; in 1832-3 & 4, he kept the Monroe County Jail, and during the latter two years, was deputy Sheriff, as also during 1845 & 50. Mr. Moore, as deputy for Monroe, experienced the satisfaction, on the memorable first of March, 1832, of liberating from close confinement fifteen debtors

and more than that number who were *on the limits* for the same *crime of being in debt, without the means of paying!* These men, without a provision of law for the furnishing of their daily bread, and depending upon the sympathy of the Deputy for the pittance of food which the law affords to the burglar and the murderer, were in a happy case, when brought out to the free light of a state relieved of the barbarous code which subjects a virtuous citizen to the punishment of the vilest and most abandoned of our race, and, in thousands of instances, makes the honest poor man the slave of the extortioner.

The Pioneer wife of Mr. Moore, who was Miss Mary Chapman, and whom he married June 1, 1817, in the log cabin of her father, the eldest of eight sisters, is still living. She has been the mother of six children,—four sons and two daughters; the youngest son Ephraim H., died at the age of fourteen. The eldest son, John C., is a book-binder in Rochester and unmarried. George Moore has been clerk with his father and is still at home; Wm. C. is Teller in the Commercial Bank in the city of Rochester. Each of the daughters have married their second husbands. Mary Jane married first J. C. Ackley who died in S. C., and for her second husband, George W. Wyman, a clothing merchant at Akron, Ohio. Caroline Elizabeth married Horace Brinton, also a merchant of Akron, Ohio, and after his death, for her second husband, Geo. P. Wolcott, of Rochester.

Mr. Moore is still one of the Directors of the Commercial bank, of the Union Bank, and a Trustee of the "Monroe Savings Institution;" otherwise, he is mostly retired from business, and comfortable in the quiet possession of a snug fortune, and in his house in Fitzhugh street, which he built in 1821, as a residence for himself. He is a worshiper at St. Luke's, of which church his family are members.

No. 49.

JAMES SIBLEY.

MR. SIBLEY was born in Thompson, Connecticut, spent most of his boyhood as a farmer, with Col. Timothy Sibley, of Massachusetts, and on becoming of age, joined himself to Stephen Sibley, of Great Barrington, as an apprentice to the clock making and silversmith business. After serving his time at this trade, he was employed to work at the same for the term of two years in the city of Albany. In 1803 he came to Canandaigua, and with a small stock which he had brought mostly on his back from Albany, set up business for himself at that point, where he continued until 1836, and then removed to Detroit, where "in wild cat times, when the money in circulation would not keep over night," experiencing some difficulty in meeting his financial engagements and necessities, he concluded to make the best of a bad exchange and return to Canandaigua. He finally made an experiment of western life in Michigan, at Ann Arbor, where he resided three years, at the end of which period, he returned to this state and located at Rochester and here wrought at his trade until 1850, when, having accumulated an ample living, he retired from business, and now lives in quietude at the age of 74 years, and in excellent health and spirits, as we should judge when made acquainted with the uniform and temperate habits of his life. Mr. S. is a leading member in the Methodist Episcopal church, and sustains the enviable reputation of sincerity and consistency in his professions of integrity and piety. His pioneer wife whom he brought with him from Albany has some time since gone to her rest. Mr. Sibley has raised 8 children and enjoys the unspeakable satisfaction of seeing them mostly living and in circumstances of respectability to cheer the heart of declining years of parentage.

No. 50. ISAAC WARING.

HIS native place was South East, Putnam county N. Y., he was born the 10th day of April, 1783, and lived near his birth place, until he moved to what was then called Brighton, and now Irondequoit, where he still resides amidst the blessings of a home laboriously earned and now quietly possessed. *Nihil mortui nisi bonum*; and not less of the living is worthy to be said, especially in cases, where as much is known.

No. 51. MATTHEW MEAD.

MR. MEAD was born in the town of Greenwich, Horse Neck,—Connecticut, and was 60 years old the 17th day of June, 1853. He arrived in the limits of the present Rochester on the 21st October, 1813, being then between 20 and 21 years of age. Mr. Stoddard, of Litchfield, with whom he had been and was still apprenticed to the blacksmith trade, moved in at that time bringing all his effects on two heavy wagons in company with which, our pioneer walked every rod of the wild and tedious distance. There were, at that time, two houses on the east side of the river, one belonging to Col. Isaac W. and the other to Enos Stone. Mr. Stoddard, the ward of young Mead, was brother-in-law of Enos Stone and occupied his old house, after Mr. Stone moved down near the river into his new house. After about 8 months, which finished up the period of his apprenticeship, Mr. Mead hired out as a journeyman for fifteen months or more, and then set up the business for himself, on the corner of Buffalo and Front streets, and, after some years, moved up

where the "old pump" used to be, and soon after, some 26 years, discontinued that trade and went into the manufacturing of the French Burr Millstones, from which he also retired at the end of two years, and "since that has been standing around to see folks get rich." Meantime, however, Mr. Mead was overseer of the poor, during the first year of the cholera in Rochester, and also during the two years 1830 and '31 preceding that period. He has also been assessor and held various minor offices; but, being unpresuming and without any particular aspirations that way, he has left the public positions to those whom he has deemed more capable of discharging their duties and has been quite satisfied with the quietude of home. His pioneer wife, who was a Moody and came from Vermont early with her father, is still living. Her Mead has no children, never has had any, which we believe is a solitary instance of the kind, among all the married pioneers whose history we have heretofore sketched. Mr. M. has an ample fortune, and as he has uniformly "done his part" in sustaining the institutions of society, we have no occasion for apprehension in reference to the final disposition of that fortune. The money has been "earned by hard knocks" and many a swing of the mighty sledge hammer, and when it has ceased to sustain a cheerful old age, it will still contribute to bless posterity. Mr. M. had the fever and ague about twelve years after he came to Rochester; further than that, he has experienced very little sickness, either before or since; he is now hale, his step firm, and few of his hairs turned grey. He is a worshiper at St. Luke's church and when that frame, so firmly packed and strongly braced, shall be taken down, we shall hope to see the spiritual expand to proportions far more glorious than the frail and perishable.

No. 52. AZEL ENSWORTH, M. D.

DR. ENSWORTH resides with his daughter, Mrs. Campbell, at Buffalo. He is the oldest member of the Pioneer Society, being now in his ninety-fourth year. He was born in Canterbury, Connecticut, and settled in Rochester in the year 1816. The medal which appears in his likeness, is worn by the Doctor as the oldest surviving member of the Pioneer Association.

The first courts of the county of Monroe were held at the house of Dr. Ensworth. He resided at that time in a very comfortable framed dwelling, which he disposed of, and in connection with his son Russell, since dead, built up the Eagle Block, which proved a ruinous speculation. Hamlet Scrantom had previously owned the lot on which that block now stands, and had built upon it a small log house. It was transferred by him to Henry Skinner, who built about the year 1815, in addition, a two story framed building, the frame standing unfinished. In this condition the property was purchased by Dr. Ensworth for a sum not exceeding \$2500. Skinner was bound to finish off the frame and to put it in good inhabitable condition as a public inn. The present Eagle Hotel succeeded to these improvements, and involving the Doctor beyond his means to pay, he has since remained comparatively poor.

His character has ever been that of a candid, upright man, and an exemplary member of society and of the church. His other daughters, besides Mrs. Campbell, were Mrs. John Shethar and Mrs. Rufus Meech. It is believed also, that he has one son still living, and who resides in New York.

No. 53. HORACE D. SCUDDER.

HE was born in the town of Brighton, as now called, in the county of Monroe. His father moved from Lenox, Massachusetts, to this county about the year 1790.

Mr. Scudder claims to be the oldest male child, born of white parentage, in the township of Brighton, the oldest resident born in the town, and the oldest male resident born in the county of Monroe. He has resided in the same place of his birth, with the exception of eight years; has always been a farmer, and occupied the same farm during forty-two years.

He has a great taste for music and possesses considerable skill as a drummer; has been drum major of four Regiments at the same time. In 1850 played thirty-seven days; was at that time a member of the "Martial Band" attached to the Greys of the city of Rochester; was the first drummer ever enrolled in the town of his birth, and in 1813, although not liable to be called into service, volunteered several times to go to the mouth of the River, to fight, if necessary, for his country and his fire-side.

He was in Brighton when Rochester had no framed house, shot a deer near where now stands the Blossom Hotel, and two others in what is now the city of Rochester.

He married young, being at that time only twenty years of age. He has no brothers living. Five sisters are still living.

No. 54. CAPTAIN ELISHA ELY.

ELISHA, son of John and Abigail Ely, was born in West Springfield, Mass., on the 27th day of April, 1784. When eighteen years of age, he removed to Pittsfield, in the same State, and in 1805 was married to Hannah Dickinson, of Hadley. They had ten children, only four of whom, Hannah B., John F., George H., and Samuel P. Ely, are still living; George and Samuel are engaged in the flouring business in Rochester.

At the age of twenty-four, Mr. Ely was elected Captain of a militia company in Pittsfield, and from this circumstance, he was ever after known as Captain Ely. Mr. E. came early to Rochester, that is to say, in the fore part of the summer of 1813, when there were but three dwellings on the west side of the River. In the autumn of that year, he erected a saw-mill on the site where Indian Allen had formerly had a grist mill. He also built a store the same year on Hart's Corner, opposite the Eagle Hotel. This store was occupied by the firm of H. Ely & Co. The company consisting of Hervey Ely, Elisha Ely, and Josiah Bissell, jr. During the year 1814, the same firm erected the "Red Mill," at the west end of the bridge, and put it in operation with four run of stones. They were also extensively engaged in building in various parts of the then village of Rochester. Mr. Ely was from the first, actively engaged in the establishment of schools and churches — himself and Mrs. Ely being members of Rev. Comfort Williams' church, — the first ever organized in the vicinity.

On the 14th day of May, 1814, the British fleet, commanded by Sir James Yeo, and consisting of seventeen sail, appeared off the mouth of the Genesee River. About fifty of Porter's volunteers were then present at that point, under command of Major Isaac Stone, who was then the only inn keeper in the village of Rochester. Major Stone immediately, on the appearance of the fleet, des-

patched a messenger, calling upon all the male inhabitants, who were able to bear arms, to repair as speedily as possible to the mouth of the River. Only one man remained with a team for the purpose of carrying away the women and children in case the dwellings and bridge should be burned by the British in the event of their effecting a landing. The whole number who received arms and ammunition from the U. S. military stores at H. Ely & Co.'s, including the men from what was then known as Frankfort, was sixty. While at the mouth of the River, Capt. Ely, Capt. Francis Brown, and others barely escaped falling captives into the hands of the enemy.

During this year, Capt. Ely was appointed justice of the peace for the county of Ontario. He after represented the town of Brighton in the board of supervisors of that county, and on the organization of the county of Monroe in 1821, he was appointed its first surrogate, and in the fall of 1822, he was elected County Clerk for the term of three years.

In 1832, Mrs. Ely died of that dreadful scourge, the cholera. From the first appearance of the disease in Rochester, to the time of her death, her unremitting energies were devoted to relieving the suffering and dying, and though a woman of habitually firm constitution, her strength proved insufficient for the discharge of those burdens with which her benevolent and sympathetic heart was perpetually taxing her. She was a devotedly Christian woman; and during the prevalence of the pestilence, up to the day of her death, held a prayer meeting at her own house, every morning at nine o'clock.

In 1834, Capt. Ely moved to the State of Michigan, where he has since resided. On the organization of the county of Allegan, he was appointed, by the Governor and Council of the Territory of Michigan, associate circuit judge, and under the State Constitution, was elected the first Judge of Probate. In 1835, he was elected to the State Legislature, and for four successive years, represented the county of Allegan satisfactorily to his constituents and honorably to the State. He was chairman of the committee on internal improvements; at the time one of the most important in the Legislature. In 1851, he was elected Regent of the University of Michigan for the term of six years, and is at present the incumbent of that office.

Capt. Ely was married again in the year 1837, to a Miss Ann

Garrison, a lady said to possess great personal worth and excellence of character.

On a recent visit to Rochester, the Captain left his portrait for the Gallery of Pioneer Paintings, and if he comes no more to visit the scene of his early pilgrimage, he shall remain with those of his compeers, "who were not born to die."

No. 55. MICAH BROOKS, ESQ.

MICAH BROOKS was a son of David Brooks, A. M., of Cheshire, Conn. The father was a graduate of Yale College. He belonged to the first quota of men furnished by the town of Cheshire; entering the service first as a private soldier, but soon becoming the quarter master of his regiment. He was a member of the legislature of Connecticut, at the period of the surrender of Burgoyne, and a delegate to the State Convention that adopted the U. S. Constitution at Hartford. After his first military service, he alternated in discharging the duties of a minister and then of a soldier — going out in cases of exigency with his shouldered musket; especially at the burning of Danbury and the attack upon New Haven. After the Revolution, he retired to his farm in Cheshire, where he died in 1802.

Micah Brooks, in 1796, having just arrived at the age of twenty-one years, set out from his father's house to visit the new region, the fame of which was then spreading throughout New England. After a pretty thorough exploration of western New York, he returned to Whitestown, and visited the country again in the fall of 1797, stopping at Bloomfield and engaging as a school teacher; helping to build his own log school house. Returning to Cheshire, he spent a part of a summer in studying surveying with Professor Meigs, with the design of entering into the service of the Holland Company. In the fall of '98, he returned, and passing Bloomfield, extended his travels to the Falls of Niagara on foot, pursuing the old Niagara trail; meeting with none of his race, except travellers, and Poudry, at Tonawanda, with whom and his squaw wife, he remained over night. After visiting the Falls — seeing for himself

the wonder of which he had read so imperfect descriptions in New England school books, he went up the Canada side to Fort Erie, crossing the river at Black Rock. The author gives a graphic account of his morning's walk from Black Rock to where Buffalo now is, in his own language, as he is quite confident he could not improve it:—"It was a bright, clear morning in November. In my lonely walk along the bank of the Lake, I looked out upon its vast expanse of water, that unstirred by the wind, was as transparent as a sea of glass. There was no marks of civilization upon its shores, no American sail to float upon its surface. Standing to contemplate the scene—here, I reflected, the goodness of a Supreme Being has prepared a new creation, ready to be occupied by the people of his choice. At what period will the shores of this beautiful Lake be adorned with dwellings and all the appointments of civilized life, as now seen upon the shores of the Atlantic? I began to tax my mathematical powers to see when the east would become so overstocked with population, as to be enabled to furnish a surplus to fill up the unoccupied space between me and my New England friends. It was a hard question to solve; and I concluded if my New England friends could see me, a solitary wanderer, upon the shores of a far off western lake, indulging in such wild speculations, they would advise me to return and leave such questions to future generations. But I have often thought that I had then, a presentiment of a *part* of what half a century has accomplished." Walking on to the rude log tavern of Palmer, which was one of the then, but two or three habitations, on all the present site of Buffalo, he added to his stock of bread and cheese, and struck off again into the wilderness, on the Indian trail—slept one night in the surveyor's camp of James Smedley, and after getting lost in the dense dark woods where Batavia now is, reached the transit line, where Mr. Ellicott's hands were engaged in erecting their primitive log store house.

Renewing his school teaching in Bloomfield, in 1799, he purchased the farm where he resided for many years. It was at a period of land speculation, and inflation of prices, and he paid the high price of six dollars per acre. Boarding at Deacon Bronson's—working for him two days in the week for his board, and for others during haying and harvesting, he commenced a small improvement.

Returning to Connecticut, he kept a school for the winter, and in the spring came out with some building materials; building a small

framed house in the course of the season. In 1801 he brought out two sisters as house keepers, one of whom, as has been stated, became the wife of Col. Asher Saxton, and the other ——— Curtis, a settler in Gorham. In 1802 he married the daughter of Deacon Abel Hall, of Lyme, Conn., a sister of Mrs. Clark Peck, of Bloomfield.

He became a prominent, public spirited, and useful pioneer. — Receiving in one of the earliest years of his residence in the new country, a military commission, he passed through the different gradations to that of Major General. Appointed to the office of justice of the peace in 1806, he was an assistant justice of the county courts in 1808, and was the same year elected to the Legislature from Ontario county. In 1800, he was an associate commissioner with Hugh McNair and Matthew Warner, to lay out a road from Canandaigua to Olean; and another from Hornellsville to the mouth of the Genesee River. In the war of 1812, he was out on the frontier in two campaigns, serving with the rank of Colonel. In 1814 was elected to Congress. He was a member of the State Convention in 1822, and a Presidential Elector in 1824. He was for twenty years a Judge of the Ontario county courts.

In 1823, he purchased in connection with Jellis Clute and John B. Gibson, of Mary Jemison, commonly called the White Woman, the Gardeau tract on the Genesee River. Selecting a fine portion of it for a large farm and residence, on the road from Mount Morris to Nunda, he removed to it soon after the purchase. The small village and place of his residence is called "Brook's Grove."

Gen. Brooks is now seventy-seven years of age, retaining his mental faculties unimpaired; as an evidence that his physical constitution holds out well, after a long life of toil and enterprise, it may be remarked that in the most inclement month of the winter 1850, '51, he made a journey to New England and the city of New York. His present wife was a sister of the first wife of Frederick Smith, Esq. of Palmyra, and of the second wife of Gen. Mills, of Mount Morris. His sons are Lorenzo H. Brooks, of Canadea, and Micah W. Brooks, residing at the homestead. A daughter is the wife of Henry O'Rielly Esq., formerly the editor of the Rochester Daily Advertiser, and P. M. of Rochester; now a resident of New Y., widely known as the enterprising proprietor of thousands of miles of Telegraph lines in different States in the Union; another, is the wife of Mr. George Ellwanger, one of the enterprising proprietors

of Mount Hope Garden and Nursery ; another the wife of Theodore F. Hall, formerly of Rochester, now of Brook's Grove. He has two unmarried daughters, one of whom is a well educated mute, and is now a teacher in the deaf and dumb institution at Hartford, Connecticut.

The history of Micah Brooks furnishes a remarkable instance of a man well educated, and yet unschooled. The successful teacher, the competent Justice and Judge — as a member of our State and National councils, the drafter of bills and competent debater — the author of able essays upon internal improvements, and other subjects — even now in his old age, a vigorous writer, and a frequent contributor to the public press — never enjoyed, in all, a twelve months of school tuition ! The small library of his father, a good native intellect, intercourse with the world, a laudable ambition and self reliance, supplied the rest.

No. 56. JUDGE JOSEPH SIBLEY.

JOSEPH SIBLEY settled in the Valley of the Genesee as early as 1804, and in the course of two years after, located in the town of Rush. He was originally from Rensselaer county, in the State of New York. He came into this then western wilderness a young man, without fortune, without capital, and with no other prospect of success, than that which is promised by an indomitable spirit of perseverance, vigor of health, strength of courage, and unwavering fortitude. The moral heroism to look difficulty and danger in the face, boldly and undismayed, was peculiarly the characteristic of this early and distinguished pioneer. Where comparatively strong minds would have fallen back in despair, and firm constitutions would have gone down under repeated shocks of adversity ; he has been like the old oak that has planted its roots deep in the clefts of the rock,

“The firmer he roots him, the ruder it blows ;”

and now, as spirited and as elastic, as when just on the sunny side of forty, he lives to witness the magic scenes which, under the guidance of a gracious Providence, far reaching minds have devised and hard hands have wrought out.

Judge Sibley, in 1812, changed his residence from Rush to Riga, and was among the first who let the sun-light into the thick forest in the vicinity of Churchville. He after established himself in the milling business on Black Creek, in the township of Chili. He was a volunteer in the war and was in the frontier service under command of Col. Swift. He has been supervisor of Genesee and Monroe; a member of the State Legislature, five years a canal superintendent, and collector of the port of Genesee.

The Judge has recently suffered a severe affliction in the death of his only surviving son, Horace J. Sibley, Esq. He has reared a family of ten children, of whom only two daughters now remain, Mrs. John P. Stull, of Rush, and Mrs. James McGill, of Cincinnati. His wife, to whom he was married in 1807, is still living.

No. 57. MRS. JONAH BROWN.

MRS. BROWN was born in the year 1790, at Pittsfield, Mass. Her father's name was Strong, and her own name Huldah M. She came to Rochester with her sister, Mrs. Abelard Reynolds, in 1813, and continued to make her home with Mrs. Reynolds, until 1816, at which time she became the wife of Doctor Brown. Mr. Reynolds kept a tavern and held the office of post master. At some seasons it was difficult to obtain the necessary help, and Mrs. Brown's services were occasionally brought into requisition as bar-tender and post mistress. In 1814 she kept the first school organized in Rochester, using for a school house Enos Stone's barn, which was after superceded by the ever memorable tailor's shop of Jehiel Barnard, a back room being appropriated to this worthy purpose. The school was made up of some fifteen or twenty pupils, a part of whom attended from a distance of three or four miles, and others, and perhaps the greater portion lived within convenient walking distance.

At the period of Mrs. Brown's settlement in Rochester, and for some time during her residence with her sister, there were only two unmarried ladies in Rochester and to them it was more a condition of single solitude than of "single blessedness." At the best, the pioneer women were much alone, and when not alone, exposed to

the society of visitors whom they might justly dread. The sufferings, the trials, the burdens borne can scarcely be realized even at so short a distance removed from the scene. To the next generation, their history may seem more a tale of fiction, than a description of practical, every day life of fathers and mothers, whose foot prints are scarcely yet effaced from the soil they have been wont to tread. A mother in a new country, in the midst of war and pestilence and sometimes of dreaded famine! If Mrs. Brown could give us the history of her experience, in the deep and varied emotions of her own maternal heart, we should be in possession of that unwritten chapter which posterity is least likely to appreciate, because far removed from those circumstances which originated that experience and gave to it its peculiar point and distinctive energy.

No. 58. MRS. DAVID K. CARTER.

MRS. CARTER was born in Berkshire county, Mass., in the year 1789; her maiden name was Elizabeth Hollister. Her father, when she was seven years of age, emigrated to Clinton, in Oneida, N. Y., and from there he removed, after a residence of a few years, to Adams, in Jefferson county, where she was married in 1808 to David K. Carter, of Massachusetts.

After her marriage, Mrs. Carter resided at Lowville, in Lewis county, until 1814, at which time she moved to Rochester. When she settled here, she recollects only the families of Enos Stone, Col. Isaac Stone, Abelard Reynolds, Hamlet Scramton, Israel Scramton, Mr. Skinner, and Elisha Ely. The only plastered room in the place, was the cellar kitchen of Mr. Reynold's house occupied by gentlemen boarders. The next Sabbath after she arrived she attended church with her husband in the famed tailor shop of Jehiel Barnard. She recollects that Mr. Harford read the Episcopal service on the occasion, Silas O. Smith gave out the Psalms, Mr. Barnard and Delia Scramton were the principal, if not the only singers. During this summer, the Rev. Chancey Cook, the brother-in-law of Mrs. Carter, visited Rochester, and preached two or three times. He after settled at Lima, subsequently at Pittsford, and was a member of the Genesee Presbytery for nineteen years.

The churches and schools, being the great desideratum with the early settlers, all felt their necessity, and without distinction of sect, united in the promotion of those objects. At the organization of the first school, the children were found to be too few in number to justify the employing of a teacher, unless assistance could be obtained from others besides the parents of the pupils. There were, in this exigency, eight bachelors in the community who generously proposed each to pay for a pupil, as if they had one to attend the school.

Mrs. Carter has one daughter and five sons. The eldest son is a lawyer, but has been compelled to abandon his profession, on the account of weakness of the stomach. The second son, Harleigh, is also a lawyer in Michigan, and has been twice elected to the Legislature of that State. The third, David K., is also a lawyer, resides in Stark county, Ohio, and has been four years a member of Congress. James B., is a farmer in Wisconsin. George H., was admitted to the bar at Columbus, Ohio, and soon after became a California adventurer, located at Sacramento city; was chosen by the people District Attorney for the sixth Congressional District, which office he has filled for three successive years, at a salary of five thousand dollars a year. Elizabeth M., married Dennis McCarthy, of Syracuse. He is the present Mayor of that city, and has been a member of the New York Legislature. Mrs. Carter lost her husband in the month of August, 1828, and has since remained a widow. When a poor Roman matron was tauntingly asked to exhibit her jewels, she pointed to her noble sons, and exultingly said, "these are my jewels." If we are prepared to write the history of the children, when we are made acquainted with the parentage, by parity of reasoning, Mrs. Carter's worth should not be mistaken, when that of her children is written. Indeed, if such have been all the pioneer matrons of Rochester, its moral preeminence among the cities of the Union, its rapid growth and improvements, social and intellectual advantages, and its future glorious prospects, need occasion little surprise to those who are accustomed to connect causes and effects in their relations to the history of any people or community.

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No. 59. MRS. HANNAH SCRANTOM.

HANNAH SCRANTOM, widow of Hamlet Scrantom, was a native of Durham, in the State of Connecticut. She was born in 1774. Her maiden name was Dimock. She lived at home with her parents until twenty years of age, when she became the wife of Mr. Scrantom. In 1805, they moved to Turin, in Lewis county, Northern New York, where they remained until 1812, at which time they settled at Rochester. Mrs. Scrantom and one sister are the only survivors of her father's family of nine children.

Remembers that two or three little shantees constituted Rochester at that period. Capt. Isaac Stone kept his tavern in one of them, and in another Mr. Enos Stone and family inhabited, and in a small lintel or addition on the back of Enos Stone's shantee, and subsequently in a log house where is now the Eagle Hotel, Mr. Scrantom lived, until he built a framed house on Buffalo street, near where the bridge crosses the river.

Mrs. Scrantom bears the marks and infirmities of four score years. In her day, she has been a woman of great activity and endurance, as were most of the pioneer women of this country; and we probably should not err in allowing to her fully the excellencies of her class. As a mother, her children pronounce her blessed, as kind hearted, sympathising, friend of the poor, as an exemplary Christian matron, and irreproachable in all the relations of life; we think her a model which posterity may advantageously study and safely pattern. Life's sands with her are almost run, and when she lies down to rest, it is to be hoped that this rapid, stirring age will at least, affectionately cherish the memory of those to whom it owes so much.

No. 60. MRS. ENOS STONE.

MRS. STONE was Clarissa Stoddard, daughter of Bryant Stoddard, of Litchfield, Conn. ; was born 1778, married in 1802 ; moved from Lenox, in Massachusetts to Rochester in 1810. She was the mother of nine children, only four of whom are now living. Her son James, now one of the supervisors of Monroe, born in 1810, fourth of May, was the first son of white parents born on the east side of the river in what is now the city of Rochester. She died in 1850, respected and beloved for her many virtues, and will long be cherished and remembered, as one of the excellent pioneer women who may be said to have lived exclusively for posterity. Mrs. S. was an exemplary and devoted communicant of the Episcopal church, and died in hope of " a better country."

No. 61. MRS. ABELARD REYNOLDS.

MRS. REYNOLDS was Lydia, daughter of Mr. King Strong, who was an early pioneer settler of Pittsfield in Mass., where Mrs. Reynolds was born in the year 1786. She was married to Mr. Reynolds in 1810, and moved to Rochester in 1813, during the month of February.

The first funeral she attended, was that of a Mr. Dierenere, at his house near where the red mill now stands. There was no funeral service of any kind, as there was no clergyman here at that time, and no one present who was willing to attempt to make a prayer.

Her husband was sick three months in 1813, and was most of the time deranged. Dr. Brown remarks, that it was no uncommon occurrence for persons attacked with ague and billious fevers, the

prevailing diseases of the new settlements, to be deranged through the entire run of the complaint; that, in his own case, even after he was supposed to have entirely recovered and was able to be about his practice and business, he was, in fact, utterly incapable of managing his affairs with propriety, and actually entered into some transactions which very much embarrassed him, and which, in the full enjoyment of his reasonable faculties, he would have reprobated in a moment.

Mr. Reynolds undertook, during the next season, to equip a small company of soldiers; but previous to receiving his pay, they left for Buffalo, which rendered it necessary for him to go there in person. He, at the same time, had occasion to cross over to the Canada side and could not return till after the battle of Chippewa, at which he was present. The roar of artillery was distinctly heard by Mrs. R. during the whole engagement, and while the very ground was trembling like an aspen, her own heart seemed almost to cease its beatings for anxiety. She was in the basement of her house, with only her child William, who was then three years old, when a fierce and athletic Indian rushed into the midst of the room, brandishing his keen and glistening knife. Haply, however, she maintained her presence of mind, and summoning up the courage of desperation, and looking him steadily in the eye, she succeeded in diverting him from the evident purpose of his visit. That night, in which she remained in the house with her child, was one of fearful forboding and of incalculable length.

Mrs. R. remarks, that they were, at one time so straitened for provisions, and so destitute of means, that it was seriously contemplated to sell off a portion of their land. In this extremity the "tailor's shop" was the last resort, and Mr. Barnard furnished her with work, for which he was willing to pay, and did pay her fifty or sixty dollars during the year, which very much relieved their necessities. Provisions were very high and difficult to obtain at any price. Her tea she procured from Canandaigua, at eighteen shillings a pound. Previous to her settlement here, Mrs. R. had been a long time in feeble health; but fortunately for herself and family, this western climate acted like a charm upon her constitution, and her health was firm and uniform amid all her exposures and endurances.

Mrs. Dunham brought the mail, once a week, on horseback, from Canandaigua, her husband being contractor with the government.

Mrs. Reynolds is an exemplary member of the first Presbyterian church in Rochester, professing the faith in which she was taught in her childhood, and giving promise of living yet a good while to do good and to adorn the doctrine of God her Savior.

No. 62. ADDISON GARDINER.

MR. GARDINER was born in Rindge, New Hampshire; during his boyhood he lived in Boston, Mass., from whence his father removed to Manlius, Onondaga County, N. Y. He was a pupil at Aurora and Fairfield Academies. He pursued his law studies in Manlius, and after being admitted he came to Rochester to practice his profession;—this was about the year 1822. Soon after he commenced, he was appointed Justice of the Peace, which office he held two or three years.

In 1827, he was appointed District Attorney of Monroe County, and held the office till 1829, when he was appointed Circuit Judge. In this capacity he served till 1837 or 1838, when he resigned to resume the practice of his profession, which he continued until the fall of 1844, when he was elected Lieutenant Governor of this State. He is a democrat in politics, and was elected with Silas Wright. He was re-elected at the next Governor's election, but resigned in 1846 to assume the duties of Judge of the Court of Appeals. He was elected under the new Constitution, and for the longest term, viz. eight years, and is now chief Judge.

Judge Gardiner has long maintained a high standing at the bar; he is a politician of influence and shrewdness, but not ambitious. He sustains the character of a man of strict integrity and honor. He is plain and unostentatious in manner, and is in all respects a substantial and exemplary citizen. He is not, at present, a resident of Rochester, having moved to a beautiful country seat, about one mile west of the city, where, during the intervals of courts, he spends his time with his family, in study and the cultivation of a small farm. He is in the enjoyment of good health, regular and active in his habits, and fond of the quietude of retirement.

This sketch of Judge Gardiner's life, though brief, was obtained in part from himself, and in part from an intimate acquaintance. It is very incomplete in detail. We are well aware that Judge

Gardiner would disapprove of all extravagant laudation or intimate remarks on his life or character, and he is, moreover too well known to require more than the briefest memoir; what we write, will neither add to, nor diminish his reputation; we aim simply at facts.

No. 63. WILLIAM WOOD.

MR. WOOD, the subject of this memoir, has a marked and somewhat eccentric character. He is, evidently, of the opinion that a local memoir, is not sufficient to secure his immortality,—he is, therefore, so little ambitious to have it written that he does not choose to give, for that purpose, all the details of his eventful and interesting life. What we have obtained was by personal interview and solicitation. He was born in 1776, at the foot of "Bunker Hill;" which was then owned by his father. He was then a Boston boy, and received his education in that city. At the time of the "Embargo," he was a merchant; since that time he has been engaged in establishing all sorts of libraries in the United States and Europe.

He was the originator of Merchant's and Mechanic's Libraries; he has also established libraries for merchants, clerks, sailors, prisons, literary societies, &c. He established his first library in Boston, on Washington's birth day, February 22d, 1820. He also established several libraries in New York city, the first of which was the Mercantile Library, containing at present 32,000 volumes. He established the first Mercantile Library in London, England.

His plan for opening a new library, was to go into a place and make known his intentions, and solicit subscriptions and donations of books. In this worthy enterprise he often met with coolness and opposition. These, however, are the best stimulus to an ardent advocate of a good cause, and never discouraged him; he never failed, from Boston to New Orleans, to accomplish his end.

He has visited Europe five times, and was engaged in mercantile business two years in London. A few years since, he conferred the "Wood Medal" upon the President of the "Pioneer So-

ciety of Rochester;" this medal is of gold, and is worn by the presiding officer at each annual meeting.

Mr. Wood was brother-in-law to Mr. Gorham, known in pioneer history as one of the partners of "Phelps and Gorham's Purchase." Mr. Gorham married Mr. Wood's sister. Mr. Wood, however, singular as it may seem, has always lived a bachelor. But totally unlike most celibates, he is a fully developed man in all his moral, mental and physical qualities; he possesses uncommon cordiality, convivial powers, warm sympathies and a fondness for children and youth. He is the friend and adopted grandfather of all who know him; and while he assists and instructs them, they cheer his childless age and reciprocate his kind impulses with the sincerest affection of their nature. Although he never sustained the tender and interesting relations of husband and father, he comprehends well the meaning of all those endearing appellations. Woman he esteems and regards with the feelings of a philosopher and a gentleman; and children he looks upon like a father and philanthropist.

Benevolent enterprises constitute his glory and happiness. From the condition of the merchant prince, to the forlorn prisoner, his large views comprehend and encircle all. Many a rich merchant sits now in the Mercantile Library in Astor Place, and engages his leisure hours in reading books of his procuring. Many a tempest tossed sailor retires to his hammock, to read some instructive book, bearing on its blank page "William Wood," while he far away o'er the sea is still soliciting aid in their behalf. Many a Merchant's clerk is detained in his room, and away from evil influences and associates, by books from their own library. And many a poor prisoner reads his bible and eats his christmas dinner in his lonely cell, from the large open hand of "the prisoner's friend;" and finally, many a culprit incarcerated in Canandaigua, has blessed the day when justice overtook and consigned him to the prison walls, where Mr. Wood was instrumental in his reformation.

Mr. Wood has long been a resident of Canandaigua, and the intimate friend of Mr. Grieg of the same place, and to their united efforts, that beautiful village owes many of its charms and conveniences. Mr. Wood is a man of education and general reading, and acquainted with the world. He is unostentatious and easy in his manners, temperate and industrious in his habits, and in the enjoyment of fine health and use of all his faculties. He reads with-

out spectacles, walks with elasticity and firmness, writes an elegant hand, and converses with all the ease and fluency of youth.

If we are too lavish of praise, we beg to be pardoned, and will assume all the blame; but if such a character is not worthy of commendation and historical remembrance, then the Temple of Fame should close her door to all political demagogues, military homicides and mad poets; and the scroll of human history should be rolled up forever. *Fiat justitia, ruat coelum.*

No. 64.**JOHN GREIG.**

JOHN GREIG is now known throughout Western New York, as a man of extensive means, munificent charities, and philanthropic views. He is a native of Scotland; his father was a lawyer and a resident of Moffat, Dunfriesheir; he was also a farmer of considerable wealth. The subject of this notice was educated in the more elementary branches in his native parish. After which he was a pupil in the high school of Edinburgh. In 1799, at the age of eighteen years, he emigrated to America, in company with Mr. John Johnston, in pursuit of fortune. A spirit of adventure was doubtless a strong impelling motive to this enterprise. For a time after his arrival, he lived in New York city, and also in Albany; from which latter place he removed to Canandaigua, N. Y., his present residence. Here he studied the profession of the law, in the office of Judge Howell, and was admitted to the bar in 1804.

He formed a partnership with his old preceptor, and in 1806 was appointed agent of the estate of Hornby and Colquhoun; this agency he stills holds at the present time—a remarkable evidence of his fitness and probity. He continued the practice of law in connection with Judge Howell, until 1820. In the meantime, his aim and attention were much engaged by the sale of extensive tracts of western wilderness. By industry and method, however, he managed to acquire an enviable reputation as a lawyer, and was much esteemed in social life. He is still held in grateful remembrance by the pioneer fathers of this region, for his kind and gene-

rous conduct towards them, in the difficulties incident to the acquisition of their new homes.

About 1820, Mr. Greig was appointed President of the Ontario Bank, as successor of Mr. Gorham; this office he still holds. In 1825 he was appointed one of the Regents of the University, and is at present Vice Chancellor. In 1841-2 his personal popularity and known business habits gave him the election to Congress. He is at present, one of the Directors of the Western House of Refuge, in Rochester, N. Y. His age is now seventy-two years, and he is in the enjoyment of excellent health, and the full use of his mental faculties.

In his extensive business operations, most judiciously managed, he secured a vast fortune, by which he has accomplished a good amount of good to his fellow men. He visited his native country and other parts of Europe several times since his residence in the home of his adoption. By temperance and regularity in all his habits, he has preserved beyond the period allotted to man, a hale and vigorous constitution, a cheerful, sympathetic disposition, and a bright and happy old age.

Mr Greig was largely endowed by nature, both mentally and physically. He has well justified the expectations entertained of him in early life; and by a long and virtuous life of industry, he won the esteem and gratitude of his fellow country-men, and secured to himself a tranquil and happy evening of life. He has left his mark on the age, and posterity will rescue his name from forgetfulness.

No. 65. MILLARD FILLMORE.

MR. FILLMORE was born at Summer Hill, Cayuga County, N. Y., on the seventh of January, 1800—he is therefore about fifty-four years of age. His father was a farmer, originally from Vermont; he was, and still is, a farmer, at a venerable old age; he resides in Erie County, N. Y.

The early education of M. Fillmore was limited to the elemen-

tary branches taught in the district schools of the country. But being of a studious turn of mind, he easily mastered all his studies, and acquired considerable knowledge of history and miscellaneous matters. At the age of fifteen his education in the schools was finished. His father's pecuniary resources being limited, he was compelled to seek in manual labor, the means of his own support. He was accordingly apprenticed to the business of wool carding and cloth dressing, in Livingston County, N. Y. He is said to have arrived at his new home, a gratified passenger on a load of dye-wood. He soon after removed to a village near his father's home, where he pursued his trade. He spent his leisure hours in reading books from a small circulating library; his reading was necessarily confined to a few books on history, biography, literature, travels, and science. And probably to the attentive perusal of a few books, he owes much of his studious and reflective character, and his compact, logical mental powers, for which he is distinguished.

He early manifested that kind and degree of talent which enabled him, by cultivation, to engage successfully in and fully comprehend the more weighty affairs of men. By the advice, and under the patronage of Judge Walter Wood, of Cayuga County, he engaged in the study of the law. His patron generously advanced him the means to prosecute his studies with facility, confident his timely assistance would be like bread cast upon the waters; and most fully were his anticipations realized, and his hopes justified.

While pursuing his law studies, he, like many other students of the professions, adopted the calling of school teacher during the winter months; he employed, meanwhile, his leisure hours in the study of legal lore. In 1822 he removed to Buffalo, N. Y., where he was admitted to the bar, after one more year.

Feeling that diffidence common to inexperienced youth, he chose to commence the practice of his profession in the country, rather than encounter at once the opposition and competition of the city. With this view, he located in the village of Aurora, near the home of his boyhood. His success in the community which had watched his upward progress for years,—far exceeded his expectations. A good business and an enviable reputation soon followed from his exertions, and he was substantially established in his profession.

In 1826 he was married to Miss Abigail Powers, who was the

amiable and intellectual daughter of a clergyman of the village. Three years after this he was elected to the State Assembly, and was re-elected for three successive years. While in the Assembly, he was an active advocate for the abolition of imprisonment for debt; and he was at all times distinguished for his prudent, independent and energetic action in the affairs of the State. In 1830, he was admitted as councillor in the Supreme Court, and again removed to Buffalo. Here he formed a law partnership with one of the leading members of the bar, and maintained a high standing as an advocate. His first election to Congress, took place in 1832. In this capacity he served with ability and satisfaction to his constituents, but without special distinction. In 1836 he was again elected, when he fully established his reputation for statesmanship.

He was, during this term, chairman of the committee on Ways and Means; an important crisis occurred in which he sustained himself with dignity and éclat. At the close of this term he retired from public life to his home and the practice of his profession.

In 1844, the New York delegation in the Whig National Convention voted for him for the Vice Presidency. The same year he run for Governor of the State, against Silas Wright; in this contest he suffered his first and only defeat. In 1847, he removed to Albany, to accept the office of Comptroller, which office he held till 1849, when he resigned to assume the duties of Vice President of the United States. Fifteen months afterwards he was by the death of President Taylor, called to the chair of President. In this office, the most honorable and responsible the American people can confer on any man, he gained the entire confidence and esteem of men of all parties. The close of this term brings his history down to 1852, when the reins of government most unfortunately for the country, passed by accident into the unsteady and feeble hands of the present faithless incumbent.

Here ends for the present, the public life of one of the most popular and able statesman of our time. No comment on his career is necessary; all eulogy would be out of place and fulsome. His life and character are well known and appreciated, and his fame is secure with posterity.

One moral we may draw from his distinguished and useful life, viz. the direct connection between ability and worth, and lasting fame.

No. 66. JAMES WADSWORTH.

JAMES WADSWORTH was the son of John N. Wadsworth, a native of Connecticut, who purchased a large tract of land of Messrs. Phelps and Gorham. James and William, the two sons, was born in Hartford. They emigrated to the "Genesee Country" in company with a relative, Col. Jeremiah Wadsworth, and settled at "Big Tree," now Geneseo. James was a graduate of Yale College, in 1787, and for two years after was a school teacher in Montreal, Canada. His father was now deceased, and had left a moderate fortune to his three children; the affairs of the estate was entrusted to the care of the elder son William.

He commenced his journey to the then far west, with an ox team, across prairies, accompanied by three or four domestics, while James came by water to the head of Canandaigua outlet. They arrived at Canandaigua after a long and tedious journey, and went to Geneseo, their destination and new home.

They were now far from friends and civilization, in a dense wilderness, without house or shelter, until they erected a rude cabin with their own hands. But one white man resided in the vicinity at this time.

James Wadsworth, the special subject of this notice, being a man of cultivation, was better adapted to the business of the world, and to financial affairs. On him, therefore, devolved the business of buying and selling, and land agencies. The winter of 1790, he spent in Connecticut, and on his return in 1791, he was admitted by Judge Phelps, to practice as an attorney. The principal sales of their farm, which was of vast extent and very productive, were cattle for the Philadelphia market. At a late period they raised wool, tobacco, mules, hemp—which they made into ropes, and kept an extensive dairy.

In 1796, James sailed for Europe, for the purpose of selling land

for himself and other large owners. In this enterprise he had the encouragement of many of the first men of the country, and his tour was attended with satisfactory success; he returned in November, 1798. He was ambitious to possess a large estate, and although largely identified with all pioneer enterprises, he was a much less useful man to community than if he had divided and sold off his large estate, as this would have given many more men a permanent interest in the soil and the improvement of the country. He gave considerable attention to scientific agriculture, and popular education; he assisted Orville Taylor in establishing the "District School Journal," and Judge Buel of Albany, in the "Cultivator." He was also active in establishing district school libraries. He appeared to have but little taste for official stations or popular politics.

William Wadsworth lived a bachelor, and died in 1833, leaving all his property by will to his brother James' children. James died at Geneseo in 1844, aged seventy-six years. He left two sons and two daughters, the eldest of whom married Martin Brimmer, ex-Mayor of Boston; she died in 1834. The second daughter married Mr. Murray, the son of a Scotch nobleman; he was soon appointed to a diplomatic station in Cairo, Egypt, where his wife accompanied him, and died the first year. The elder son William, died a year or two since; and the only survivor of the children, James S. Wadsworth, is now a resident of Geneseo, N. Y.

James Wadsworth, the subject of this memoir, was distinguished for his general benevolence and his enlarged views of political economy; he was a diligent and punctual business man, and reputed just and honorable. He was at times humorous and talkative, and again reserved and somewhat austere. He was proud of his estates, fond of fashionable life, and mingled with much good society. His residence was surrounded with parks and gardens, and decorated with pictures and other luxuries, in European style. He had by nature a strong mind and physical constitution which he guarded with great care.

Although not a great man, he was still a remarkable character in many respects, and one of the most decidedly substantial citizens in any community. His influence was marked and salutary in his immediate circles. His name must long be remembered, and his works identified with the local history of this State. The name of Wadsworth must remain one of the great names in the Genesee Pioneer History.

No. 67. NATHANIEL ROCHESTER.

NATHANIEL ROCHESTER was of English descent; his family settled in Westmoreland, Va. where he was born in Feb. 1752. His opportunities for education were limited, and his attainments in after life were mainly such as related to business and commercial affairs. At the age of twenty years he entered into mercantile business; three years after he enlisted in the U. S. service, and soon received the commissinn of Colonel.

In 1775, he was elected a member of the provincial convention of North Carolina. In 1776, Col. R. was again a member of a convention at Halifax. After the close of the war, he commenced mercantile business in Philadelphia, and soon after removed to Hagerstown, Maryland. In 1778, he married the daughter of William Beatly. In 1800 he visited the Genesee Country, and purchased the "hundred acre lot," on part of which the city of Rochester now stands. In 1810, he became a resident of Dansville, Steuben County, N. Y. In 1822, he was elected a member of the Assembly; four years after, he removed to this city. He held at different times various offices of trust; was an active business man; he was engaged in milling business, banking, and land speculations, until near the close of his life. He died in May, 1831. He was regarded as a plain, active, business man, and one of the principal builders of the village, which derived its name from his family.

NOTE.—The portrait of Judge Phelps has been generously contributed to the Pioneer Gallery by William Wood, Esq., of Canandaigua, but the materials for his biography could not be obtained in time for this edition; in the next, however, his together with that of Augustus Porter, Esq., and several others will be furnished.

OUR PIONEERS,*

"Fortes Creantur, fortibus et bonis."

BY WM. H. C. HOSMER.

Thanks to the Son of Art, whose hand
Has nobly labored to portray
The features of that gallant band
Who pioneered for us the way.

Bold forest tamers : they have scared
The wild beast from his savage den,
Our uplands to the sunshine bared
And clothed with beauty hill and glen.

And never in the battle's van
Have men at death more calmly smiled
Than our first settlers, who began
The work of culture in the wild.

The perils of a frontier life
They braved with breasts of iron mould,
And sternly waged victorious strife
With famine, thirst, and pinching cold.

They vanish from us, one by one,
In Death's unlighted realm to sleep,
And oh ! degenerate is the son
Who would not some memorial keep.

Whose sordid heart yearns not to save
A transcript of their reverend faces,
When the dark curtains of the grave
Have closed around their coffin cases.

The car of steam is thundering by
The place where blazed their cabin fires,
And where rang out the panther's cry
Thought speeds along electric wires.

They toiled, that we the prize might share,
They conquered, that we might possess,
Converting to our Eden fair
The terrors of the wilderness.

*Suggested by a view of Kimble's Pioneer Portrait Gallery, Rochester.

The Bard, with soul to beauty wed,
Is filled with rapture to behold
The portraits of the mighty dead
That crowd the galleries of old.

While the weird light of painting warms
The pictured canvas on the walls,
Attended by majestic forms,
The solemn past unlocks its halls.

I deem those hearts of little worth,
In view of such a pageant bright,
And lodged in frames of common earth,
That wake not to a wild delight.

Lo! Power resumes his ancient reign—
Wrecks change to cities on the shore,
All that was *dead* revives again,
All that was *lost* is found once more

The martyr at the stake still bears
Unflinching witness to the truth,
And Freedom's sacred apostle wears
The glory of a second youth.

And the "gray fathers" who have laid
An Empire's deep foundation here,
In life-like tints should be portrayed
When generations disappear.

While heirs to win as pure renown
By their example taught, endeavor,
Their honored faces should look down
From consecrated walls forever.

THE subscribers, early residents and pioneers of Western New York, acknowledging our obligations to the Supreme Being for having so long preserved our lives, and being desirous to cherish and promote our mutual attachment arising from our early association, and still further to cultivate reciprocal good will and kindness; and also to do what we can to recover and perpetuate a knowledge of interesting facts and incidents connected with the early history of Rochester and of Western New York, have formed ourselves into a Society, to be denominated the "Pioneer Association of Western New York." and have adopted the following

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This association shall consist of persons, who, at any time previously to the first day of January, 1820, were residents of Western New York, and who shall signify their wish to become members by signing this Constitution.

ART. 2. The officers of this Association shall be a President, two Vice Presidents, a Secretary and Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of three persons, who shall be chosen annually, by ballot, by a plurality of all the votes cast. The powers and duties of the officers are indicated by their respective titles.

ART. 3. The Association will hold an Annual Meeting on the second Tuesday of October, in each year, at such hour and place as shall have been designated by vote of the Association, or by the Executive Committee, for the election of officers and for the transaction of other business. Special meetings may also be called either by the President or the Executive Committee.

ART. 4. In order to defray contingent expenses, and (if need be) occasionally to relieve the necessities of a poor member, every person on his admission to membership, shall pay to the Treasurer the sum of fifty cents, and the like sum at each Annual Meeting.

ART. 5. The Treasurer shall report at each Annual Meeting, a statement of all receipts and expenditures. No money shall be paid out by him except pursuant to a vote of the Association or a resolution of the Executive Committee.

ART. 6. If any member of the Association shall be guilty of habitual intemperance, or of other grossly immoral conduct, he may be expelled by a vote of two-thirds of all the members present, at a regular meeting.

At the last meeting of the Pioneer Association, the following resolutions were passed.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society of Pioneers are eminently due to Mr. KIMBLE, for the design, and the production of a Gallery of Portraits of Pioneers, and for the urbanity of his deportment in all his intercourse with us.

Resolved, That the portraits painted by Mr. KIMBLE, abundantly prove his eminent skill as an artist, whose merit will not fail to be appreciated by coming generations.

Resolved, That the deep interest taken in this enterprise by Col. AARON NEWTON and his untiring labors, so courteously and kindly bestowed, entitle him to our sincere thanks.

The following officers of the Association were chosen :

President—ASHLEY SAMPSON.

Vice Presidents—OLIVER CULVER, ABELARD REYNOLDS.

Secretary—AARON NEWTON.

Treasurer—MOSES CHAPIN.

Executive Committee—WM. C. BLOSS, C. J. HILL, MITCHELL LODGE.

The Association then adjourned.

ROCHESTER, Aug. 2d, 1854.

TO MESSRS. KELSEY AND OTHERS.

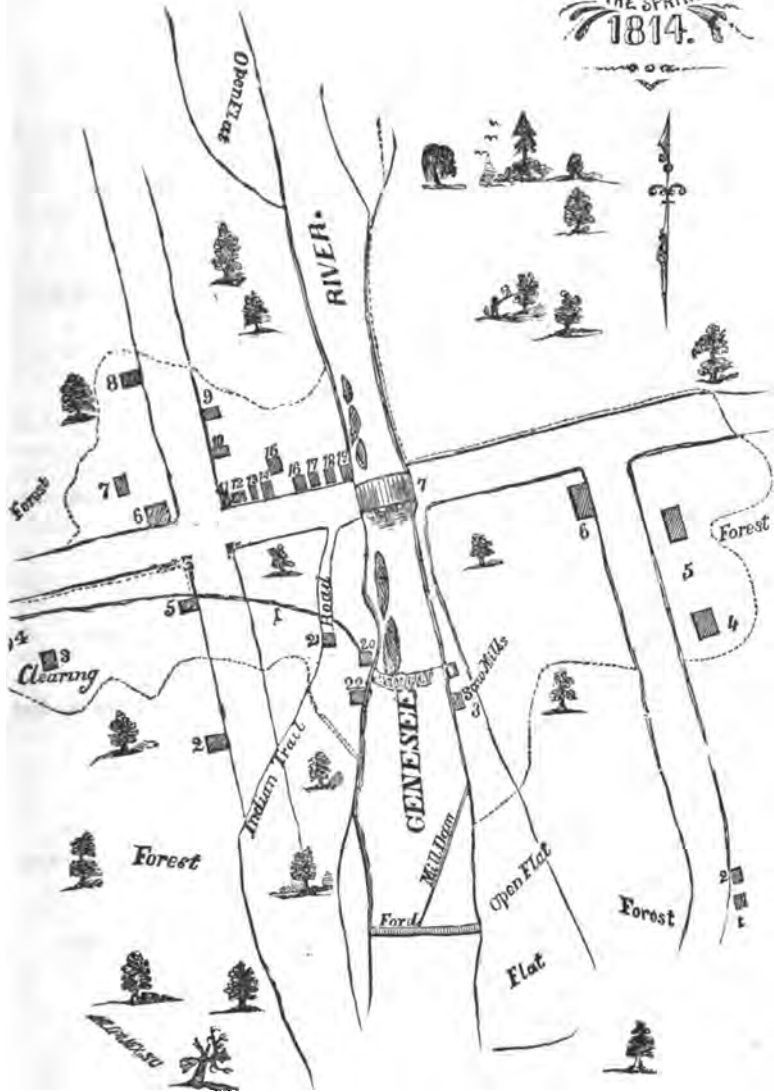
Dear Sirs :—Aggreeably to your request we have prepared a profile or map of Rochesterville (the now city of Rochester) as it was in March, 1814. We have not done so without feeling the mutability and instability of human recollection. More than forty years having now elapsed since this vision was presented to our boyish eyes ; and while we are tracing out the lines marked by our memory in years when we could hardly picture to ourselves a hope that we should this day walk among the living in a populous city, the one-twentieth of whose faces we hardly recognize ; all this passed before us now like a dream of a night or like a tale that is told. We believe that we have placed upon the map all the dwellings, business houses, mills, &c., that were erected in what was then called Rochesterville, together with the names and business of each occupant.

Further, if you would not think it going beyond our duty comprised in your request, we as the sons of two of the persons named, would be happy to bear testimony and record the following ; as it may be the only opportunity we may ever have of making honorable mention of those we never ceased to love and reverence. We do not speak of one, but of all the persons here named. We have been acquainted with them and their children to the third and even the fourth generation, and yet we have never known an instance in which they or their posterity were ever convicted or even accused of crime ; if we could give any higher testimony of their moral worth, and their fitness to found a great and mighty city, we would do so. We have long desired that in some way a record might be made of those who first gave life and animation to our city. And your Pioneer Picture Gallery seems to us to be the means by which that great and good end will be attained, and this has induced us the more willingly to contribute our mite. A hundred reminiscences pass before us that we would be glad to here recite, if we had time and you had space for the matter.

Very Respectfully your obedient servants,

EDWIN SCRANTOM,
PHEREDUS CARTER.

MAP
of
ROCHESTER
IN THE SPRING OF
1814.



KEY TO THE MAP.

WEST SIDE OF THE RIVER.

1. The strata of rock that dips out the South side of Buffalo Street.
2. House owned and occupied by Orin E. Gibbs, M. D.
3. School house, District No. 1, built Spring of 1814.
4. Lime Kiln.
5. Silas O. Smith's Store.
6. A frame owned by Henry Skinner, now the Eagle Hotel.
7. Log house built by Hamlet Scramtom, Esq., miller, occupied by Henry Skinner, joiner.
8. Ira West's store.
9. Abram Stark's grocery and dwelling house, (brick maker.)
10. John Mastick's Law office.
11. Hervey and Elisha Ely's store.
12. Abelard Reynold's new house, (saddle and harness maker.)
13. Abelard Reynold's house and shop.
14. Jehial Barnard's tailor shop, used also on Sunday as a place of religious worship.
15. New house occupied by Hamlet Scramtom, Esq.
16. House occupied by Wheelock, joiner.
17. House occupied by Aaron Skinner, school teacher.
18. House occupied by David K. Cartter, Esq., carpenter and millwright.
19. James B. Cartter's blacksmith shop.
20. Saw mill raised March 11th, 1814, by Hervey and Elisha Ely.
21. Log house built by Horvey for himself and hands while constructing the first bridge across the Genesee River.
22. Ruins of the old Allen or King's mill.

EAST SIDE OF RIVER.

1. First framed house occupied by Enos Stone, farmer.
 2. Old plank house occupied first by Enos Stone, afterwards by Hamlet Scramtom, Esq.
 3. Saw mill owned by Enos Stone.
 4. First tavern in Rochester, owned and occupied by Col. Isaac W. Stone.
 5. Col. Isaac W. Stone's barn.
 6. Enos Stone's new house.
 7. Bridge across the Genesee River.
- D.W.

