

GAZETTEER OF TOWNS.

ADDISON was formed as "Middletown," in March, 1796. Its name was changed April 6, 1808. A part of Troupsburgh was taken off in 1808; Cameron in 1822; a part of Woodhull in 1828; a part of Rathbone in 1856, and Tuscarora in 1859. It is an interior town, situated south-east of the center of the County. The surface is a hilly upland, broken by the valley of the Canisteo and its branches. The principal valley is about one and a half miles wide and is bordered by steep hillsides from 300 to 400 feet high. The principal streams are Canisteo River, Tuscarora, Elks Lick, and Goodhue Creeks. Goodhue Lake lies in the north-western corner of the town and covers an area of 500 acres. The soil is chiefly a clay loam, with strips of gravel and alluvium upon the streams.

Addison, (p. v.) situated on the Canisteo River, in the south-east part of the town, contains three churches, a bank, and several manufacturing establishments. Among the last may be mentioned the sash and blind factories of A. G. Crane and of C. W. Gillett, a hoop skirt factory, a tannery, a manufactory of steam engines, boilers, planing mills and circular saw mills.

The first settlement was made by Samuel Rice, in 1791. Reuben and Lemuel Searles, John, Isaac, and James Martin, Jonathan Tracy, William Benham, Martin Young and Isaac Morey, were also among the first settlers.

The first tavern was kept by Reuben Searles, on the "Lockerby Stand." George Goodhue built the first sawmill, in 1793, and William Wombaugh built another in 1805, and a gristmill in 1806. The first store was kept by Samuel Smith. The first birth was that of Stephen Rice, and the first marriage that of Brown Gillespie and Miss Gilbert. The first death was that of James Martin. William Wombaugh, William B. Jones, John and Stephen Towsley, and Rev. Tarathmel Powers, were early settlers.

The population of the town in 1865 was 1,819, and its area is 17,000 acres.

There are five school districts, employing nine teachers. The whole number of pupils during the last year was 633; the average attendance was 112, and the amount expended for school purposes, \$1,365.37.

AVOCA was formed from Bath, Cohocton, Howard and Wheeler, April 12, 1843. It was probably named from Tom Moore's "Sweet Vale of Avoca." By early settlers it was called *Buchanan*, or the *Eight Mile Tree*. It is an interior town, lying north-west of the center of the County. The surface is chiefly a broken upland, divided into two ridges by the valley of the Conhocton. The declivities of the hills are steep, and their summits are about 400 feet above the river. The town is well watered by the Conhocton River, flowing through it in a south-easterly direction, near the center, and its tributaries, Twelve Mile and Ten Mile Creeks, from the north, and Bennett's and Neil's Creeks, from the south-west. The valley of the river is about one and one fourth miles wide. The soil is a clayey and gravelly loam.

Avoca, (p. v.) situated in the valley of the Conhocton, is a station on the Buffalo, New York and Erie R. R. It contains two churches, an iron foundry, a flouring mill, several mechanic shops, and about 600 inhabitants.

Wallace (p. o.) is a station on the Buffalo, New York and Erie R. R.

Neil's Creek is a post office in the north-west part of the town.

The first settlement was made in 1790, by Michael Buchanan. He was established at this point by the agent of the Pulteney Estate, and kept "accommodations for travelers." Among the other early settlers we find the names of James Moore, Joel Collier, Asa Philips, James McWhorter, Finley McClure, Daniel McKenzie, Abram Tower, Jonathan Tilton, James Babcock, John Donahe, Richard and John Van Buskirk, Eleazur Tucker, Henry and Allen Smith, James Davis, Samuel W. Burnham and a Mr. Moody.

Michael Buchanan, 2d, was born in 1809, and Michael Buchanan died in 1811. James McWhorter and Widow Buchanan were married in 1812. Eleazur Tucker built the first sawmill, and Jonathan Tilton the first gristmill, in 1825. Joel Collier kept the first inn, in 1808, and Alonzo Simmons the first store in 1830. The first church (M. E.) was organized in 1827, at East Hill.

A hunter living in this town was annoyed by the proximity of the Indians to certain hunting grounds, and wished to dislodge them. Taking advantage of their great repugnance to labor, he cut a great many branches from the trees in the vicinity of their camp, bored holes in them, and after inserting a quantity of powder,

left them for the indolent redskins to gather and burn at their lodges. They were delighted at their good fortune in finding such a quantity of fire-wood prepared for them by some good spirit, they knew not whom. When gathered around the camp fire, an explosion started them, then another and another, hurling coals and brands in the faces of the unsuspecting savages, lifting the pot from the fire and hurling its contents into the basket of a sleeping papoose. Alarmed at this unaccountable phenomenon, and thinking the wood bewitched, they immediately abandoned the neighborhood, leaving the wily hunter in the full enjoyment of his forest rights.

The population of the town in 1865 was 1,853, and its area 22,000 acres.

There are in the town eleven school districts, employing twenty-four teachers. The whole number of pupils is 538, and the average attendance 232. The whole amount expended for school purposes in 1867 was \$3,718.14.

BATH was formed March 18, 1796, and named in honor of Lady Bath, the only child and heiress of Sir William Pulteney, of London. Pulteney was taken off in 1808; a part of Howard and Conhocton in 1812; a part of Wheeler in 1820; Urbana in 1822; a part of Avoca in 1843, and a part of Conhocton in 1852. A part of Urbana was annexed April 26, 1839. Savona was set off in 1859, and re-annexed in 1862. It lies a little north-east of the center of the County. Its surface is broken and hilly. The Conhocton valley extends south-east through the center, dividing the town into two nearly equal parts. The south half is a hilly upland, and the north half consists of a series of wide valleys, broken by several steep and isolated hills. The streams are Conhocton River and its tributaries, Five Mile and Mud Creeks from the north; and Campbell's and Stockton's Creeks from the south. The Crooked Lake valley extends north-west, and opens into the Conhocton valley at the village of Bath, 340 feet above the lake. The soil is chiefly a gravelly and clayey loam, with a deep alluvium in the valleys.

Bath, (p. v.) incorporated April 12, 1816, is situated upon the north bank of the Conhocton. It is a half-shire of the County. It commands the trade of a rich agricultural district, and has a manufacturing business of some importance. Besides the county buildings, it contains six churches, two banks, two newspaper offices, two carriage factories, and a union school. The Davenport Orphan Asylum, a fine structure, erected through the liberality of the late Col. Ira Davenport, is an object of admiration, and a monument to the benevolence and generosity of its founder. About forty female orphan children are enjoying in the Institution all the

comforts of a Christian home. The population of the village in 1865 was 2,383.

Kanona, (p. v.) situated north-west of Bath, is a station on the Buffalo, New York and Erie R. R., and contains two churches and about forty or fifty houses.

Savona, (p. v.) south-east of Bath, on the same railroad, contains two churches, a flouring mill and planing mill, and about 400 inhabitants.

Sonora (p. v.) contains one church and twenty or thirty houses.

The first settlement was made at Bath village in 1793, by Charles Williamson, land agent for the Pulteney Estate, with fifteen families, mostly Scotch and Germans. Among the first settlers were Dugald and Charles Cameron, two excellent specimens of Scotch character, both being distinguished for their intelligence, integrity, and other amiable qualities. Charles Cameron was the first to open a store in Bath, and was also the first postmaster, by appointment of Captain Williamson, who paid all expenses of transporting the mail once a week from Northumberland. Dugald Cameron was a clerk in the land office for some time, and was afterwards elected to the Legislature of the State. Andrew Smith, another Scotchman, had charge of the farming operations of Captain Williamson, having from thirty to fifty men in his employ. George McClure, a native of Ireland, but of Scottish descent, had charge of the building department. Mr. McClure and "Muckle Andrew," as Smith was called, were great cronies, both being bachelors. They were accustomed to meet at each other's apartments on Saturday evenings, to converse about the business of the week, drink, sing, and tell stories. Hector McKenzie was another Scotchman. Robert Campbell and Daniel McKenzie arrived about the same time. Henry and William McElwee, Frank Scott, Charles McClure, Gustavus and Brown Gillespie, and John Metler, with large families of children, were also among the first settlers. William Dunn kept a tavern, and was appointed High Sheriff after the organization of the County.

Mr. Henry McElwee, a young man from the north of Ireland, came here on New Year's Day, 1794, and gives the following account: "I found a few shanties standing in the woods. Williamson had his house where Will Woods has since lived, and the Metcalfs kept a log tavern above the Presbyterian church. I went to the tavern and asked for supper and lodging. They said they could give me neither, for their house was full. I could get nothing to eat. An old Dutchman was sitting there, and he said to me: 'Young man, if you will go with me, you shall have some mush and milk for your supper, and a deerskin to lie on, with your feet to the fire, and another to cover yourself with.' This offer was thankfully accepted. He accompanied the Dutchman to a little

log house which had no floor, made a supper of mush and milk, and slept soundly with his feet to the fire. The trees had been cut away sufficiently to admit of the erection of cabins and to open a road. The first clearing was made in the spring of 1794, being "Pulteney Square," and four acres behind the agent's house for a garden, for the cultivation of which he afterwards imported a gardener from England. The trees were cut close to the ground. A single pine was left standing in front of the agency house, trimmed up closely, only leaving a-tuft upon the top. It stood for several years, but was finally blown down in a storm.

The first saw and grist mills were erected by Capt. Williamson in 1793. Charles Williamson Dunn, born in 1795, was the first male child born in the town. The first tavern was kept by John Metcalf. It was built of pine logs, in two apartments, and one story high.

Mr. McClure first came here on horseback, through the forests, swimming creeks, and camping out or lodging in the cabin of some semi-barbarian. He returned to Northumberland, shipped his tools to Tioga Point, hired a few carpenters, and proceeded on foot to Bath, where they arrived in five days. To give Mr. McClure's own language: "One more trip was necessary before we could commence business, as our baggage would be landed at Tioga Point. There were no roads at that time through the narrows, on the Chemung, for wagons to pass with safety; therefore, eight of us started on foot for the Point. When we came within four miles of Newtown, we discovered a number of canoes owned by some Dutch settlers. I purchased four of them. One of them was a very large one which I purchased of a funny old Dutchman, who said his canoe 'wash de granny from de whole river up.'" They laid in provisions for the voyage, and a "full supply of the joyful." Their trip of twenty-four miles was made in four hours. Having shipped their goods, they commenced the return voyage against a strong current. Many times they were obliged to land and tow their canoes up the rapids by means of a long rope. In the Conhocton they were obliged to cut through piles of driftwood, making their progress extremely slow, and their labor excessively hard. The trip from the Point to Bath, fifty-six miles, was made in nine days. Previous to this time Captain Williamson had erected two sawmills on the Conhocton, near Bath, both of which were in full operation. Mr. McClure took charge of the building operations, and was erecting houses as fast as thirty or forty men with him could do it. Captain Williamson received visitors and business men from abroad, and entertained them sumptuously. At one time, expecting more company than his limited apartments would accommodate, he ordered a building, forty feet by sixteen, to be erected with all possible dispatch. It was completed in forty-

eight hours, and Mr. McClure received four hundred dollars for the job.

In 1796, when the County of Steuben was organized, Bath was made the County seat. The population increased more rapidly than the resources to supply their wants, and, consequently, the inhabitants were often in great straits. Pleasant Valley and Canisteo, as well as the more distant settlements, contributed to their support. Wheat was worth five dollars a bushel, and beef a shilling a pound. An old farmer paid two dollars and a quarter for a hog's head, "and it was half hair at that." During Court week the larders of Bath were speedily exhausted, and the more prudent of the jurymen provided for such an emergency, by taking with them a hunk of pork and a loaf of bread. The horse-racing, the theatre, and other amusements of this town, gave it an unenviable notoriety among the more sober and discreet inhabitants.

Mr. George McClure, whose name has already been mentioned, became a very active business man, and engaged in several important enterprises in connection with this and adjoining towns. In 1800 he opened a store in Dansville, and, during the winter, took in 4,000 bushels of wheat, and 200 barrels of pork, which he shipped to Baltimore on arks, the first that descended the Canisteo.* This enterprise proving a success, he purchased the "Cold Spring Mill" site, and erected a flouring mill, sawmill, fulling mill, and carding machine. The flouring mill, with two runs of stones, was completed in three months. He then sent out hand-bills through the surrounding country, offering a liberal price for wheat, delivered at Penn Yan, Danville, Bath, Pittstown, or at the mill, and during the winter took in 20,000 bushels, two-thirds of which he floured and packed at his mills. In the spring he shipped the flour to Baltimore, and the wheat to Columbia, on arks built during the winter, eight having been built at Bath, and four on the Canisteo. The enterprise was a success, and the net profits were sufficient to pay for all his improvements and expenditures on the Cold Spring property, though the site included one thousand acres of land. The next enterprise was the navigation of Crooked Lake. For this purpose he built a schooner of about thirty tons, to carry wheat from Penn Yan to the head of the lake. The schooner "Sally" was advertised as a regular trader, "The embargo to the contrary notwithstanding." For this mark of disrespect to the Administration, he was charged with a want of patriotism, and one portly gentleman, "whose corporation was much larger than his intellect," wrote him a very abusive letter. To this he replied, and concluded by saying that if Jefferson would not immediately raise the embargo,

* These arks were large flat boats, built of plank, and capable of transporting a large cargo down the stream. They were then sold and broken up for their lumber, being injured but very little. As they were not designed to be brought up the stream, a few men could navigate them, and transportation was very cheap.

he would dig a canal from Crooked Lake to the Conhocton River, and the next heard from the Sally would be that she had put into Passamaquoddy Bay, or in some other northern harbor, in distress. He continued his milling and also engaged in the Indian trade, in which for several years he was quite successful. In 1814 he sold out the Cold Spring Mills to Henry A. Townsend, and erected others at Bath. In 1816 he went to Baltimore with 1,000,000 feet of pine lumber and 100,000 feet of curled maple and cherry. He shipped his maple and cherry, and 500 barrels of flour, to Boston, and purchased a machine for spinning wool by water power. With this he returned and engaged in woolen manufacture, and did well until the tariff was reduced, when he was obliged to close up.

Early in January 1776, Col. Williamson procured a second-hand newspaper office, and William Kersey and James Eddie, soon after issued "The Bath Gazette and Genesee Advertiser." This was the first paper published in Western New York. Afterwards Mr. Kersey, who, as appears by his letter, was a Quaker, wrote to Col. Williamson, at Albany, for some new type, saying that the type brought from Pennsylvania, was "old and worn." "We, on considering the case, conclude it is best to have a sufficient quantity of new type to complete the office, so that we may do business in good fashion; therefore request that, in addition to the order by Capt. Coudry, thou may be pleased to send us as soon as may be, 200 weight of small pica or bourgeois. We have some encouragement to pursue the business, but many of our patrons complain of the badness of the print, and that not without sufficient cause." Authorities are somewhat conflicting as to the success of the enterprise in Bath. The State Gazetteer says that the paper, "in six months from its first issue, had reached a circulation of 1000 copies." It was published for several years, but the time of its departure is not known. In 1798, Col. Williamson said respecting the papers; "The printer of the Ontario Gazette disperses weekly not less than one thousand papers, and the printer of the Bath Gazette from four to five hundred."

Hon. Wm. H. Seward, in a speech to the members of the Legislature of the State of New York, made at the Astor House, March 22, 1851, refers to the great expectations of Bath, in the following language:

"Gentlemen: It seems to me that we can improve this festival occasion by considering how intimate is the relation between the City and State, how essential each is to the other. There is a town in the interior of the State, far away, in what was lately known as the secluded, sequestered part of it, Bath by name. Many of the representatives of the rural districts know it well, the members from Steuben can speak for it. Of this town I wish to speak. It is a beautiful, but quiet one, situated in the delightful valley, and

on the banks of the Conhocton, a tributary of the Susquehanna.— But those who know it well have remarked that it has a broad and magnificent plan, imperfectly filled out. There are houses on corners designating streets and avenues without inhabitants. In short it was laid out for a great city, but has long since renounced all ambitious pretensions. You do not know how this has happened. Well, if on your return to Albany, you will call on my excellent friend (Mr. Street,) the State Librarian, he will give you a small duodecimo volume, published in the year 1800, containing an account of a journey performed by an English gentleman, in the short space of six weeks, from the city of New York, all the way to Niagara Falls. That traveler visited Bath, then in the day-spring of its growth, and he recorded of it that it was destined to become the greatest commercial metropolis of the State of New York. The Hudson was only a short arm of the sea. It did not penetrate the interior far enough to take a hold of the trade of the country. Bath was to receive all of it that could be diverted from the channel of the St. Lawrence, and the market of Quebec, and send it down through the Conhocton and the Susquehanna, to Chesapeake Bay. Had that calculation been realized, Bath might have been a city like Albany, and New York would have been a city over which the President could have had but little ambition to preside.”

The population of Bath in 1865 was 6,247; its area, according to the last Supervisors' Report, is 53,000 acres.

The number of school districts is twenty-six, employing fifty-eight teachers. The whole number of pupils 1,573, and the average attendance 731. The amount expended for school purposes in 1867, was \$16,869.23.

BRADFORD, named from General Bradford, was formed from "Jersey," (now Orange, Schuyler Co.,) April 20, 1836. A part was annexed to Orange, April 17, 1854. It lies near the center of the east border of the County. Its surface is a hilly upland, broken by the valley of Mud Creek. Mud Lake is situated near the east border, in Schuyler County; its surface is 1,100 feet above tide, and the summits of the adjacent hills are 600 feet above the lake. The soil generally is a gravelly and clayey loam, better adapted to pasturage than to tillage.

Bradford, (p. v.) on the outlet of Mud Lake, in the north-east part of the town, contains a church, a grist mill, and about 300 inhabitants.

South Bradford, (p. v.) contains two churches and about 100 inhabitants.

The first settlement was made in 1793 by Frederick Bartles and John Harvey, from New Jersey, who located on the outlet of Mud Lake, at a place known in early days as "Bartles' Hollow."

Under the patronage of Captain Williamson, he erected a flouring and saw mill in 1795. While the hands were employed in erecting this mill, Benjamin Patterson was hired to supply them with wild meat, and was paid two dollars a day and the skins of the slain animals. In three months he killed nearly one hundred deer and several bears, and his companion named Brocher, about as many more. Bartles was an intelligent, generous, and hospitable man. His mill-pond covered about a thousand acres, and was filled with fish of various kinds, affording rare sport for the Bath gentlemen during the fishing season. Parties of pleasure were entertained by Mr. Bartles in the best style and free of charge. He possessed an inexhaustible fund of pleasant anecdotes, and his dialect being a mixture of Dutch and English, was very amusing. Mud Creek at this time was a navigable stream, and it was thought that the commerce of Mud Lake would require considerable of a town at this point, but the early expectations were not realized. In 1798 Mr. Bartles rafted 100,000 feet of boards from his mills to Baltimore. In 1800 he ran two arks from the same place, of which the following record was made by the County Clerk:

"Steuben County:—This fourth day of April, one thousand eight hundred, started from the mills of Frederick Bartles, on the outlet of Mud Lake, two arks of the following dimensions: One built by Col. Charles Williamson, of Bath, 72 feet long and 15 wide; the other built by Nathan Harvey, 71 feet long and 15 wide, were conducted down the Conhocton, (after coming through Mud Creek without accident,) to Painted Post, for Baltimore. Those arks are the first built in this County, except one built on the Conhocton, at White's saw mill, five miles below Bath, by a Mr. Patterson, Sweeny and others, from Pennsylvania, 70 feet long and 16 feet wide, which was finished and started about the 20th of March the same year."

"This minute is entered to show at a future day the first commencement of embarkation in this (as is hoped) useful invention,

By HENRY A. TOWNSEND,

Clerk of Steuben County."

Mud Creek has ceased to be navigable since the clearing of the forests, and the produce of this region seeks the eastern markets by canals and railroads. Among the early settlers were Henry Switzer, Samuel S. Camp, Abram Rosenberg, Thomas Rolls, Michael Scott, Daniel Bartholomew and Capt. John N. Hight. John Hemiup, John Schriener, Henry Axtelle, Ezekiel Sackett and one of the *Smith* family, also settled here at an early day.

The first birth was that of a daughter of John Harvey, in 1799, and the first death that of Mrs. Thomas Rolls, in August 1803. Frederick and Charles Bartles opened the first store in 1800, and

the first inn in 1806. The first school was taught by Mr. Smith, in 1810. Rev. E. Sanford was the first preacher in town, and Rev. Mr. Lazelle, (Bap.) who settled in town in 1816, was the first settled minister.

The population of the town in 1865 was 1,163, and its present area is 17,000 acres.

The number of school districts is six, employing fifteen teachers. The whole number of pupils in 1867 was 333, and the average attendance 139. The amount expended for school purposes was \$1,303.84.

CAMERON, named from Dugald Cameron, one of the first settlers of Bath, and afterwards an agent of the Pulteney Estate, was formed from Addison, April 16th, 1822. Thurston was taken off in 1844, and a part of Rathbone in 1856. It lies a little south of the center of the County. Its surface is a high, rolling upland, broken by the deep valley of Canisteo River, which flows south-east through near the center of the town. The soil is a clayey and gravelly loam.

Cameron, (p. v.) on the Canisteo, is a station on the Erie railroad, and contains two churches and about forty houses.

West Cameron (p. v.) contains a church and about twenty houses.

North Cameron is a post office.

The first settlement was made in 1800, by Richard Hadley, Phones Green, Samuel Baker and Ira Pratt. Joseph Butler, John Sauter and John Hollet were early settlers.

The first grist mill was built by Samuel Baker. John Hollet kept the first inn and Andrew G. Erwin the first store.

The population in 1865 was 1,439, and its area 27,000 acres.

There are ten school districts, employing eighteen teachers. The number of pupils is 492, and the average attendance 184. The amount expended for school purposes in 1867 was \$1,947.14.

CAMPBELL, named from the Campbell family, who were early and prominent settlers, was formed from Hornby, April 15th, 1831. It is an interior town, lying south-east of the center of the County. Its surface consists of high, broken ridges, separated by the valleys of the streams. The declivities of the hills are generally steep and their summits from 300 to 500 feet above the valleys. The streams are Conhocton River, which flows south-east through the west part of the town, and its tributaries, Wolf Run, McNutt Run, Mead's Creek, Dry Run and Stephens' and Michigan Creeks. The valley of the river is about one and a half miles wide. The soil is a clayey and gravelly loam upon the high lands and a rich alluvium in the valleys.

Campbelltown, (p. v.) situated on the Conhocton, in the western part of the town, is a station on the Buffalo, New York and Erie Railroad, and contains two churches, a flouring mill, two large tanneries, several saw and shingle mills and about twenty-five houses.

Curtis is a station on the railroad.

The first settlement was commenced in 1806, by Samuel Calkins, Elias Williams, Joseph Wolcott, Rev. Robert Campbell and his son Archibald.

The first birth was that of Bradford Campbell, and the first marriage that of Asa Milliken and Rachel Campbell. The first death was that of Frederick Stewart, in 1806. Campbell and Stephens built the first saw-mill, and Campbell and Knox the first gristmill. Robert Campbell kept the first inn and Frederick Stewart the first store. The first church (Presb.) was organized in 1831. Rev. B. B. Smith was the first settled pastor.

The population of the town in 1865 was 1,794, and its area 22,000 acres.

There are eight school districts, employing sixteen teachers. The whole number of pupils is 614 and the average attendance 194. The amount expended for school purposes in 1867 was \$2,348.01.

CANISTEO was formed in March 1796. A part of Troupsburgh was taken off in 1808, Hornellsville in 1820, and parts of Jasper and Greenwood in 1827. A part was annexed to Troupsburgh in 1818. It is an interior town and lies a little south west of the center of the County. Its surface is chiefly a hilly upland, broken by the deep valleys of the streams. Canisteo River flows eastward through the north part of the town. Its valley is about one half mile wide, and is bordered by steep hillsides, 400 feet high. From the south the river receives Bennett's and Col. Bill's Creeks, both of which flow through deep valleys, bordered by steep hillsides. The soil is a clayey and gravelly loam.

Canisteo, (p. v.) situated on Bennett's Creek, in the north-west part of the town, is a station on the New York and Erie Railroad, and contains two churches, viz: Presbyterian and Methodist, an academy, two hotels, a large boot and shoe factory, employing about fifty hands, a gristmill, two sawmills, two planing mills, two stone mills, a spoke factory, a tannery, and about 500 inhabitants.

Adrian, (p. v.) on the New York and Erie Railroad, contains a church, a hotel, a sawmill and 25 houses.

Center Canisteo (p. o.) is a hamlet.

Bennett's Creek, *Allen's Station* and *Swale* are post offices.

The first settlement was made in the fall of 1789, by Uriah Stephens, Sen., and Richard Crosby, with portions of their families.

In 1788, Solomon Bennett, Capt. John Jameson, Uriah Stephens and Richard Crosby, from the Wyoming region in Pennsylvania, started on an exploring expedition to Steuben County. They

passed up the Chemung and the Conhocton, but finding no land to suit them, crossed over the hills and discovered the beautiful valley of the Canistota. This valley, about half a mile wide, was bordered by steep hillsides from 400 to 500 feet high, inclosing a forest of heavy timber for a considerable distance, but terminating in an open flat of several hundred acres, covered with grass "so high that a horse and his rider could pass through almost unperceived." The explorers decided to purchase two townships on the river, which included the open flats. In the summer of 1789, a company was sent to the flats to cut and stack hay for the cattle which were to be driven on in the fall. The first settlers conveyed their provisions, baggage and families, from Newtown, on a "Seven-ton boat," while four sons of Mr. Stephens drove the cattle along the shore. The ascent of the river was no easy task, as frequently they were obliged to cut away the trunks of trees and dams of driftwood to clear a passage for their boat. Sometimes they encountered rapids, where all hands were obliged to go on shore and tow their craft by means of a long rope. Having gained the upper flats, their cattle were turned loose to feast upon the luxuriant grass, while the pioneers proceeded to build a house of logs, twenty-six feet long and twenty-four feet wide. There was only one room below. Four fire-places were excavated in the four corners of the room, and, with plenty of wood, the settlers passed the winter quite comfortably. Two families spent the winter in this log palace, and in the spring two others were admitted, each occupying a corner and arranging their domestic affairs in their own way, with as much good humor as if their apartments had been separated by brick and mortar. In the spring of 1790, Solomon Bennett, Uriah Stephens, Jr., and Col. John Stephens, with their families, joined the new settlement. They immediately commenced breaking a portion of the open flats. Four yoke of oxen were necessary to force the old fashion plow through the thickly matted roots of this miniature prairie. After sowing their wheat and planting their corn, they constructed an enormous log fence inclosing about four hundred acres of land. From the present site of Bennettsville, down to the next township, about six miles, they laid out twelve lots across the valley and assigned them by lot to the several proprietors. The first house was built on what has since been known as the "Bennett" or "Pumpelly farm." Jedediah Stephens, John Redford and Andrew Bennett also settled here in the spring of 1790. Solomon Bennett was one of the leading spirits of the new settlement, and built the first gristmill on the Canistota in 1793. It stood on Bennett's Creek, about half a mile from its mouth. It was burned in a year or two. Before this mill was built the settlers carried their grain to Shepard's Mill, on the Susquehanna, nearly one hundred miles. After the burning

of the mill, Mr. Bennett went to New York to procure machinery for another, but became engaged in other business, and failed to supply the wants of his neighbors. George Hornell, (afterwards known as Judge Hornell,) settled in Canisteo in 1793, and was induced to build a mill on the site since known as Hornell's Mills. The settlers were so impatient for its erection that they turned out and prepared the timber voluntarily. Solomon Bennett kept the first store, and Jedediah Stephens the first inn. James McBurney, of Ireland, first came to Canisteo as a peddler; he bought "Great Lot" No. 12, in the lower township of Bennett, and other lands, went to Ireland, and upon his return settled some of his countrymen on his lands.

The first birth in the town was that of Oliver Stephens; the first marriage that of Richard Crosby and Hannah Baker, and the first death that of Henry Stephens.

The early settlers of Canisteo frequently recognized among the Indians who came to hunt in that vicinity, some of their old antagonists of the Wyoming; but old enmities were generally forgotten, and the savages and settlers lived together on the most amicable terms.

Under the old organization of Ontario County, the settlement of Canisteo was in the town of Williamson, which at that time embraced an indefinite amount of territory in Steuben and adjacent counties. Jedediah Stephens was the first Supervisor of that town, and attended the meeting of the Board at Canandaigua. The town meeting was held at the house of Uriah Stephens, and seven votes were cast. Solomon Bennett is said to have been the captain of the first military company organized in Steuben County. The following graphic description of the early settlers of Canisteo is taken from McMaster's History of Steuben County:

"A large proportion of the first settlers of Canisteo were from Pennsylvania, and had within them a goodly infusion of that boisterous spirit and love of rough play for which the free and manly sons of the back-woods are everywhere famous. On the Susquehanna frontier, before the Revolution, had arisen an athletic race, lovers of hard blows, sharpshooters and runners, who delighted in nothing more than in those ancient sports by which the backs and limbs of all stout-hearted youths have been tested since the days of Hercules. The eating of bears, the drinking of grog, the devouring of hominy, venison, and all the invigorating diet of the frontiers; the hewing down of forests, the paddling of canoes, the fighting of savages, all combined to form a generation of yeomen and foresters, daring, rude and free. Canisteo was a sprout from this stout stock, and on the generous river flats flourished with amazing vigor. Everything that could eat, drink and wrestle, was welcome; Turk or Tuscarora, Anak or Anthropophagus, Blue

Beard or Blunderbore. A 'back-hold' with a Ghoul would not have been declined, nor a drinking-match with a Berserkir. Since the Centaurs, never has there been a better specimen of a 'half-horse' tribe. To many of the settlers in other parts of the County who emigrated from the decorous civilization of the east and south, these boisterous foresters were objects of astonishment. When a 'Canisteer' went abroad, the public soon found it out. On the Conhocton they were known to some as the *Six Nations*, and to the amusement and wonder of young Europeans, would sometimes visit at Bath, being of a social disposition, and sit all day, 'singing, telling stories and drinking grog, and never get drunk *nayther*.'

The Indians were accustomed to come down from "Squakie Hill" several times a year to engage in horse and foot-racing, and other rude sports. At such times the uproar of their festivals made the valley appear like a den of maniacs. The Indians, though "quick as cats" and "limber as snakes," were not a match for their better trained and more experienced antagonists. On these festive occasions the Indians came down with all their households, women, children, dogs and horses, but conducted themselves with great civility, giving their hosts no cause for complaint. Elias Stephens was the great champion of the whites in the wrestling matches. No Indian in the Six Nations could lay him on his back. On one occasion a powerful young chief was brought by his tribe to test the strength of the Canisteeo champion. He had been carefully trained and exercised, and after "sleeping in oiled blankets" for several nights, was brought into the ring. Stephens clinched the young savage, and at the first round hurled him to the ground with a broken thigh. The chief's backers were very angry, and threatened to kill the victor, but the affair was finally made up, and the unfortunate chief was borne off on a deer skin, stretched between two poles. "Young America" was not slow in following the example of the fathers, either in contests with the red men, or in fishing and hunting, where the streams abounded in fish and the forests in game. The Indians sometimes made a military display, marching forth upon the flats to the number of three hundred warriors, in full costume, to exhibit the grand war-dance. They made a fire about eight rods long, and paraded around it with hideous chants and a great clattering of little deerskin drums. Elias Stephens, by his display of strength and resolution, became an object of respect to the Indians, who well knew that he dared to do all he promised. Fourteen men were once at work in Bennett's mill-yard, when sixteen of the savages came on whooping and brandishing their knives, and drove the men from the yard. Stephens was immediately informed of this raid, and said: "What! you fourteen let sixteen of the critters drive you out of the yard? Lord! I can whip a hundred Indians." Seizing a club, he hastened to the mill,

where the Indians were capering about and brandishing their knives in great glee. "Put up your knives, damn you, and be off, or I will beat all your brains out," exclaimed Stephens. The hilarious red skins put their knives in their belts, and walked away.

The population of Canisteo in 1865 was 2,132, and its area 34,000 acres.

The town contains sixteen school districts, employing seventeen teachers. The number of pupils in 1867 was 810, and the average attendance 288. The amount expended for school purposes the same year was \$3,313.25.

CATON was formed from *Painted Post*, (now Corning,) as "Wormly," March 28th, 1839, and its name was changed April 3d, 1840. It is the south-east corner town of the County. Its surface is a rolling upland, though not as uneven as most towns in the County. The forests have not been cleared to such an extent as in many of the towns. The streams are small brooks flowing northward. The soil is a clayey and shaly loam. Lumber is extensively manufactured.

Caton (p. v.) is situated near the center of the town, and contains three churches, two grist mills, several saw mills and about forty houses.

A temporary settlement was formed here in 1814, by Joseph and Charles Wolcott, but the first permanent settlement was made in 1819, by Isaac Rowley, from Bradford County, Pennsylvania. Stephen and Simeon Hurd settled in the town in 1821, Solomon Tarbox in 1822, and E. P. Babcock, Edward Robins and Henry Miner in 1823.

The first church (Presb.) was organized in 1832, and Rev. Benjamin Harron was the first settled pastor. The first birth was that of Shepard Hurd; the first marriage that of Oliver Woodworth and Elizabeth Hurd; and the first death that of a child of John Rowe. Bennett Bruce built the first grist mill; Samuel Wormly kept the first inn, and W. D. Gilbert kept the first store. Edward Robins taught the first school.

The population in 1865 was 1,543, and its area 23,000 acres.

There are twelve school districts, employing twenty-two teachers. The whole number of pupils is 480, and the average attendance 160. The amount expended for school purposes in 1867 was \$1,968.80.

COHOCTON was formed from Bath and Dansville, June 18th, 1812. A part of Avoca was taken off in 1843, and a part of Wayland in 1848. It is situated on the north border of the County, west of the center. The surface is mostly a hilly upland, separated into ridges by deep and narrow valleys. The principal streams are Conhocton River, flowing southerly through the cen-

ter, and its tributaries. The soil is chiefly a slaty and gravelly loam.

Liberty, (Cohocton p. o.) on the Conhocton River, is a station on the Buffalo, New York and Erie Railroad, and contains two churches, a carriage factory, a saw mill, a manufactory of shingles, lath &c., and a population of 200 to 300.

North Cohocton (p. v.) contains a church and about 35 houses.

Bloods is a hamlet and a station on the railroad, one mile from North Cohocton.

The first settlement was made soon after the settlement of Bath, by Joseph Biven, who was sent there by Captain Williamson to keep a tavern. He settled at the point known as the "Twenty-two Mile Tree," and subsequently as "Biven's Corners," now Blood's Corners. Richard Hooker, James and Aruna Woodward, were the next settlers. In 1805 or 1806, Joseph Chamberlain, of Herkimer County, settled on the "Davis farm," near Liberty Corners. His household consisted of a cow and a dog, and all his property, except his ax, was contained in a small pack. His style of living, in its simplicity, would rival that of the old philosopher who lived in a tub. For a milk pail he cut a notch in a log, and driving the cow astride, milked into the notch, then crumbed his bread into the same and ate with a wooden spoon. In the following year, Levi Chamberlain, Capt. Jonas Cleland, Joseph Shattuck and Deacon Horace Fowler settled in this town. Timothy Sherman, James Barnard, Samuel Rhoades, Jesse Atwood, Isaac Morehouse and Charles Burlingham were also early settlers. The Brownsons settled at Loon Lake at an early day. Abraham Lint settled at Lint Hill in 1789, and about the same time the Hatches, the Ketches and others.

The first marriage was that of Joseph Biven and Sarah Hooker, in 1798, and the first birth that of Bethiah Hooker, their child, in 1800. The first death was that of Richard Hooker, February 10th, 1801. Jonas Cleland built the first saw and grist mills, in 1808; and Joseph Shattuck kept the first inn, in 1809. Sophia Trumbull taught the first school, in 1810. The first settled minister was Rev. Elisha Brownson, (Bap.) in 1811.

The population in 1865 was 2,614, and its area 25,000 acres.

The town contains twelve school districts, employing 29 teachers. The whole number of pupils in 1867 was 728, and the average attendance 275. The amount expended for school purposes was \$3,621.13.

CORNING, named from the Hon. Erastus Corning, of Albany, was formed as "Painted Post," March 18th, 1796. Its name was changed March 31st, 1852. Erwin and Hornby were taken off in 1826, and "Wormly" (now Caton,) in 1839. A part was annexed to Erwin in 1856. It lies on the east border of the

County, south of the center. The wide valley of the Chemung, extending north-west and south-east, through near the center of the town, and the lateral valleys, divide the uplands into rounded hills and narrow ridges. The principal streams are Chemung River and its tributaries, Borden, Post, Narrows, Clump Foot and Wihfield Creeks. The soil upon the hills is a heavy, slaty loam, and in the valleys a fine quality of sandy and gravelly loam, occasionally intermixed with clay.

Corning, (p. v.) incorporated September 6th, 1848, is situated on the south bank of Chemung River, in the west part of the town. It is a half-shire of the County. The Chemung Canal, the Blossburg and Corning Railroad and the Buffalo and New York and Erie Railroad, terminate here, and the village is an important station on the New York and Erie Railroad. It contains seven churches, a union school with academic department, three banks, six hotels, two newspaper offices, several manufacturing establishments and about 5,000 inhabitants. Immense quantities of coal and lumber are shipped from this place to different parts of the country. In May 1850, a most destructive fire occurred, destroying entirely the business part of the village. About one hundred buildings and large quantities of lumber were consumed in a few hours. The work of re-building immediately commenced, and was prosecuted with vigor, so that in a short time good, substantial and elegant buildings occupied the places of those so recently destroyed.

Knoxville, named from Judge John Knox, and situated on the opposite side of the river from Corning, contains one church and about 500 inhabitants.

Gibson is situated on the north side of Chemung River, one and a half miles east of Corning, at the head of the Chemung Canal Feeder.

Centerville is a small village about one mile west of Knoxville, and contains about 200 inhabitants.

The first settlement of this town was made near the village of Corning, in 1788, by Frederick Calkins and Benjamin Eaton. Calkins was from Vermont, and was the first farmer of Steuben County. After living there alone for a time, he went East for his family, and was absent when Phelps and Gorham's surveyors made their advent, which accounts for the omission of his name in Judge Porter's narrative. Township number two of the second range was purchased of Phelps and Gorham, in 1790, by six men, Frederick Calkins, Justus Wolcott, of Eastern New York; Ephraim Patterson, of Connecticut; Silas Wood, Caleb Gardner and Peleg Gorton. They paid eight cents an acre for the township. The old town of Painted Post comprised the present towns of Hornby, Campbell, Erwin, Corning, Caton and Lindley. The

earliest settlers were the proprietors, (except Silas Wood,) and Eli and Eldad Mead, David and Jonathan Cook, of New Jersey; Judge Knox, of Eastern New York; Benjamin Eaton, Elias Williams, Henry McCormick, Hezekiah Thurber, Bradford Eggleston, Samuel Colgrove, John Berry and others, who settled in the town from 1790 to 1793. Jonathan and Warren Rowley settled in 1794; James Turner and Caleb Wolcott in 1795; George McCullick and Benjamin Patterson in 1796, and Nehemiah Hubbell in 1798.

The first birth was that of James Calkins, November 24th, 1790; the first marriage that of Benjamin Gorton and Rachel Wolcott, in 1794; and the first death that of Ichabod Patterson, in August 1794. Ichabod Patterson built the first saw mill, and James Henderson the first grist mill, in 1793. Benjamin Eaton kept the first store, in 1791. He went for his stock to Wattle's Ferry, (now Unadilla Village,) in a canoe, with a man and boy. At that place he purchased another canoe, and returned with his fleet lader with goods to Painted Post. Samuel Colgrove taught the first school, in 1793, and John Warren conducted the first religious services the same year.

The population of Corning in 1865 was 6,724, and its area 24,300 acres.

There are fifteen school districts, employing fifty-three teachers. The whole number of pupils in 1867 was 2,315, and the average attendance 814. The amount expended for school purposes the same year was \$10,645.96.

DANSVILLE, named from Daniel P. Falkner, an early and enterprising citizen, known as "Captain Dan," was formed in March, 1796. Parts of Cohocton and Howard were taken off in 1812, a part of Wayland in 1848, and Fremont in 1854. A part was annexed to Sparta in 1822, and a part of Cohocton was re-annexed April 26th, 1834. It is the north town on the west border of the County. The surface is mostly an upland, divided into ridges by the narrow valleys of the small streams. The declivities of the hills are steep and their summits are from 300 to 400 feet above the valleys. The streams are the head branches of Canaseraga Creek, flowing north, and of Canisteo River, flowing south. The soil is a sandy and gravelly loam in the east and north, and gravel underlaid by hardpan in the south-west.

Rogersville (South Dansville p. o.) is situated in the central part of the town, and contains two churches, the Rogersville Academy, the Rogersville Union Seminary and a population of two or three hundred.

Burns is a station on the Buffalo and New York City Railroad. *Doty's Corners* is a post office.

The first settlement was made in 1804, by Isaac Sterling and Samuel Gibson. James, John and Major Jones, Frederick Fry, William Ganong, Thomas and Nathaniel Brayton, Tisdale Haskin, Thomas and John Root, Joshua Healey, Charles Oliver, Joseph Phelps, Elisha Robinson, William C. Rogers and Jesse Bridges, were some of the early settlers.

Robert Fuller built the first saw-mill, in 1820, and Handy and Miller the first grist-mill, in 1825. Isaac Sterling kept the first inn, in 1806. The first school was taught by James Jones, in 1811.

The population in 1865 was 1,980, and the area 30,000 acres.

The number of school districts is seventeen, employing seventeen teachers. The number of pupils attending school during the year was 766, and the average attendance 236. The amount expended for school purposes was \$2,319.34.

ERWIN was named from Col. Arthur Erwin, of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, an officer in the Revolutionary war, who purchased the township of Phelps and Gorham. It was formed from "Painted Post," January 27th, 1826. Lindley was taken off in 1837, and a part of Corning was annexed in 1856. It lies west of Corning, in the south-east part of the County. Its surface is about equally divided between high, rolling upland, and the low valleys of the streams. The summits of the hills are 400 to 600 feet above the valleys. Tioga and Canisteo Rivers unite in the south-east part of the town, and Tioga and Conhocton in the north-east part, forming the Chemung River. The valleys of these streams are from one to two miles wide. The soil upon the hills is a shaly and clayey loam, and in the valleys it is a fine fertile alluvium. A large part of the town is still covered with forests. The lumber trade is extensively pursued.

Painted Post, (p. v.) situated at the junction of Conhocton and Tioga Rivers, is a station on the New York and Erie Railroad, and the Buffalo, New York and Erie Railroad. It contains three churches, a bank, a hotel, a sash, blind and door manufactory, a foundry and machine shop, a grist, saw, and plaster mill, a manufactory of hemlock bark extract, and about 800 inhabitants.

Coopers Plains (p. v.) is a station on the Binghamton, New York and Erie Railroad, and contains two churches, a hotel, and about 300 inhabitants.

About one mile south-west of Painted Post, the gang-mills of Fox, Weston & Brownson are located. They manufacture about 10,000,000 feet of lumber, 3,000,000 shingles and 4,000,000 lath annually. Their lumber yard covers about sixty acres.

William Harris, an Indian trader, settled at Painted Post in 1787, or previous to that. The Indians manifested much zeal in promoting the establishment of a trading post at the head of the

Chemung. They assisted him in erecting his cabin, carrying logs to the proposed site, and after the store was opened, patronized him to the extent of their ability. Previous to the arrival of Harris the people were obliged to go to Tioga Point, nearly fifty miles below, for their supply of the necessaries of life. After remaining here for a few years, Harris returned to Pennsylvania. David Fuller, Eli Mead and a Mr. VanNye settled in 1791-92, and Samuel, Frank and Arthur Erwin, Captain Howell Bull and John E. Evans, a few years later.

David Fuller kept the first inn. It is described by one of the early settlers as composed of round logs, one story high, and divided into two apartments. "Fuller, the landlord, was a good natured, slow and easy sort of a man, but his better half, Nelly, was a thorough going, smart, good looking woman, and much admired by gentlemen generally." The first school was taught by John E. Evans, in 1812.

The population in 1865 was 1,982, and the area 23,400 acres.

The town contains six school districts, employing seventeen teachers. The whole number of pupils attending school the last year was 712, and the average attendance 216. The amount expended for schools in 1867 was \$3,443.45.

In the summer of 1779, a party of Tories and Indians, under the command of a Loyalist named McDonald, and a renowned Seneca war-chief named *Hiakatoo*, returned from an incursion into the Susquehanna settlements, bringing with them a large number of men, women and children, as prisoners, and a large number of their own warriors, wounded. At the confluence of Tioga and Conhocton Rivers, Captain Montour, a fine young chief, and son of the famous Queen Catharine, died of his wounds. His comrades buried him upon the bank of the river, and erected above his grave a post upon which were painted various symbols and rude devices. This monument was known throughout the Genesee forests as the *Painted Post*. It was a landmark well known to all the Six Nations, and was often visited by their braves and chieftains. This account of the origin of the Painted Post was given to Benjamin Patterson, the hunter, by a man named Taggart, who was carried to Fort Niagara a prisoner, by McDonald's party, and was a witness to the burial of Captain Montour, or at least was in the encampment at the mouth of the Tioga at the time of his death. Col. Harper, of Harpersfield, the well known officer of the frontier militia of New York in the Revolution, informed Judge Knox, of Knoxville, in this County, that the Painted Post was erected over the grave of a chief who was wounded at the battle of the Hogback and brought in a canoe to the head of the Chemung, where he died. The post was standing many years after the settlement of the County, and the story goes that it rotted down at the butt, and

was preserved in the bar-room of a tavern till about the year 1810, when it disappeared unaccountably. It is also said to have been swept away in a freshet.

FREMONT, named in honor of John C. Fremont, was formed from Hornellsville, Dansville, Wayland and Howard, Nov. 17th, 1854. It is an interior town, lying north-west of the center of the County. Its surface is a hilly upland, forming a part of the dividing ridge between the Conhocton and Canisteo Rivers. Its streams are small brooks. The soil is chiefly a shaly loam derived from the disintegration of the surface rocks.

Fremont Centre (Stephens' Mills p. o.) and *Haskinville* (p. o.) are hamlets.

There are in the town two churches, two hotels, one grist-mill and four saw-mills.

The first settlement was made by John B. Rathbun, Amos Baldwin and Sylvester Buck, in 1812. John A. Buck, Joel Everett and Daniel Atherton settled in the town in 1813-14; Francis Drake and a Mr. Taylor in 1815; and Solomon and Levi Gates, Robert Kilburg, Daniel Upson, Samuel Sharp, Nehemiah Luther, Lemuel Harding, Stephen Holden and Edward Markham in 1816.

The first marriage was that of John A. Buck and Rebecca Baldwin, August 24th, 1815; the first birth that of Charles E. Buck, Nov. 12th, 1816; and the first death that of Mrs. Amos Baldwin, Dec. 21st, 1815. Daniel Upson built the first saw-mill, in 1816, and the first grist-mill, in 1819. The first school was taught by Lydia Everett, in 1819. The first religious services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Ford, in 1814.

The population of the town in 1865 was 1,011, and its area 19,000 acres.

There are eleven school districts, employing eleven teachers. The whole number of pupils was 431, and the average attendance 181, during the last year. The amount expended for school purposes in 1867 was \$1,887.47.

GREENWOOD was formed from Troupsburgh and Canisteo, January 24th, 1827. West Union was taken off in 1845, and a part of Jasper was annexed in 1848. It lies upon the west border of the County, south of the center. The surface is chiefly a rolling upland. The principal stream is Bennett's Creek, which flows northerly through the east part of the town, in a valley from 400 to 600 feet below the summits of the adjacent hills. The soil is a gravelly and clayey loam.

Greenwood (p. v.) is situated in the eastern part of the town, on Bennett's Creek, and contains a church and about forty houses.

Rough and Ready, (p. v.) near the south border, contains about a dozen houses.

West Greenwood is a post office.

The first settlement was made by Christian Cobey, John H., Ezra and Phineas Stephens, in 1820. Eleazer Woodward, John H. Hoyt, H. Carr and Lewis Ordway settled in the town in 1822.

The first birth was that of Charles C. Stephens; the first marriage that of Hiram Putnam and Lucinda Stephens; and the first death that of Ezra Cobey. The first grist-mill was built by Col. John Stephens, and the first inn and store were kept by Levi Davis. The first school was taught by Sarah Carr.

The population in 1865 was 1,163, and the area 26,000 acres.

There are twelve school districts, employing thirteen teachers. The whole number of pupils in attendance in 1867 was 579, and the average attendance 212. The amount expended for school purposes was \$2,354.48.

HARTSVILLE was formed from Hornellsville, February 7th, 1844. It lies upon the west border of the County, south of the center. The surface is a hilly upland, broken by the deep valleys of its streams. The valley of Bennett's Creek extends along the east border, and Purdy Creek flows east through the north part. The steep hillsides bordering these streams are from 400 to 600 feet high. The soil is a shaly and clayey loam.

Hartsville Center, (Purdy Creek p. o.) situated on Purdy Creek, near the center of the town, contains about twenty houses.

The first settlement was made in 1809, by Benjamin Brookins. Joseph Purdy settled in the town in 1810, and a Mr. Blake in 1815. Thomas Williams, Joshua Davis, and men by the name of Satterlee and Neff, settled in 1818; William D. Burdick and Perry Potter in 1819; Daniel P. Carpenter, Frost Powell, Joseph Thompson, John and Robert G. Martin and a Mr. Hudson, in 1822; Casper VanBuskirk and William Ellison in 1823.

The first birth was that of Sarah A. Carpenter; the first marriage that of Robert G. Martin and Mary A. Gleason, and the first death that of an infant child of Ebenezer Mather; these all took place in 1823. Daniel P. Carpenter opened the first store, in 1825, and built the first saw-mill, in 1828. Henry Frisbie kept the first tavern, in 1849, and Miss Z. A. Purdy taught the first school, in 1826.

The census of 1865 gives the town a population of 995, and an area of 23,000 acres.

The number of school districts is ten, employing ten teachers. The whole number of pupils in 1867 was 390, and the average attendance 148. The amount expended for school purposes in 1867 was \$1,573.01.

HORNBY, named from John Hornby, an English landholder, was formed from "Painted Post," (now Corning,) January 27th, 1826. Campbell was taken off in 1831, and a part was an-

nexed to Orange, (Schuyler County,) April 11th, 1842. It lies near the center of the east border of the County, and has a high, rolling surface, intersected by deep, narrow valleys. Dry Run flows through the north-west part, and Post and Borden Creeks in the south, all tributaries of the Conhocton and Chemung. The soil is a shaly and clayey loam, of excellent quality.

Hornby Forks (Hornby p. o.) contains two churches, several manufactories and about thirty houses.

The first settlement was made in 1814, by Asa and Uriah Nash, from Otsego County. Jesse Platt, John Robbins and Edward Stubbs settled in the town in 1815; John St. John, Amasa Stanton, James S. and Hiram Gardner, Chester Knowlton and Aden Palmer in 1815-16; Benjamin Gardner, Isaac Goodell, Aaron Harwood and John Sayer, in 1818.

The first birth was that of George Stanton; the first marriage that of John Bidler and Miss Platt, in 1816; and the first death that of John Stanton. Ezra Shaw kept the first inn, and Hon. A. B. Dickinson the first store. Mr. LaFevre built the first mill, and James C. Leach taught the first school.

The census of 1865 gives the town a population of 1,193, and an area of 22,300 acres.

There are twelve school districts in the town, employing twenty-four teachers. The whole number of pupils attending school during the year 1867 was 492, and the average attendance 177. The amount expended for school purposes was \$1,799.48.

HORNELLSVILLE, named from Hon. George Hornell, one of the early settlers, was formed from Canisteo, April 1st, 1820. Hartsville was taken off in 1844, and a part of Fremont in 1854. It lies near the center of the west border of the County. The surface is chiefly a rolling upland, divided into two nearly equal parts by the Canisteo valley. This valley is from one to two miles wide, and is bordered by steep hills from 400 to 500 feet high. Canacadea and Crosby Creeks, tributaries of the Canisteo, flow through deep valleys from the west. The soil generally is a clayey and gravelly loam.

Hornellsville, (p. v.) situated at the junction of Canisteo River and Canacadea Creek, is an important station on the New York and Erie Railroad, and is the southern terminus of the Buffalo and New York Central Railroad. It contains five churches, viz: Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, Episcopal and Roman Catholic; nine hotels, two banks, two newspaper offices and several mills and manufactories. The Canisteo Agricultural Society has a fair ground of seventeen acres in extent at Hornellsville. The population in 1865 was 3,536.

Arkport, (p. v.) on the Buffalo and New York Central Railroad, contains a church and about 300 inhabitants.

The first settlement was made by Benjamin Crosby, in 1792. Elias Stephens and George Hornell settled in the town in 1793; Elijah Stephens in 1794; Christopher Hurlbut and Nathan Cory in 1795; John and Hugh Carney in 1796; Reuben Crosby in 1797, and James Jones in 1790.

The first birth was that of William Stephens, in December, 1792; the first marriage that of Reuben Crosby and Jenny McQueen, in 1799; and the first death that of a child of Judge Hornell. Judge Hornell built the first saw and grist mills, and kept the first store and inn. The first school was taught by Abigail Hurlbut, in 1796. About the year 1800, Christopher Hurlbut ran the first ark, laden with wheat, that descended the Canisteo, and about the same time, John Morrison ran the first raft. The honor of piloting the first ark out of the Canisteo is also claimed for Benjamin Patterson.

The population of the town in 1865 was 5,338, and its area 32,000 acres.

The number of school districts in the town is thirteen, employing eighteen teachers. The number of pupils is 1,732, and the average attendance 422. The amount expended for school purposes \$4,956.11.

HOWARD was formed from Bath and Dansville, June 18th, 1812. A part of Avoca was taken off in 1843, and a part of Fremont in 1854. It is an interior town, and lies a little north-west of the center of the County. Its surface is mostly a rolling upland, forming a part of the dividing ridge between Conhocton and Canisteo Rivers. The streams are all small, flowing into the Conhocton or the Canisteo River. In the north-east part are two small ponds. The soil is chiefly a heavy clay loam.

Howard (p. v.) contains two churches, two hotels, three stores, two wagon shops, a tannery and several mechanic shops, and about forty-five houses.

Towlesville (p. v.) contains two churches, several mechanic shops, and about twenty houses.

Beuna Vista (p. o.) contains a church and about a dozen houses.

Goff's Mills (p. o.) is a hamlet, and

South Howard is a post office.

The first settlement was made in 1806, by Abraham Johnson. Reuben and Abraham Smith, Abel Bullard, Jacob and Thomas Bennett, Charles McConnell, Simeon McMurty and Mr. Colgrove, settled in the town in 1808; Samuel Baker, Joel Bullard, Benjamin Bennett, Ephraim Rumsey, William Allen, Daniel N. Bennett, Jonas and Seth Rice and Nathan Corey, in 1810-11; and Simeon Bacon, William Goff, Israel Baldwin and Rufus Halsey, in 1812.

Arethusa Bullard was born in 1809, which was the first birth; and the first death was that of Mrs. Rowley, who died the same

year. Henry Kennedy built the first saw-mill, in 1809, and James Vaughn the first grist-mill, in 1810. The first inn was kept by Benjamin Bennett, in 1816.

The population of this town in 1865 was 2,373, and its area 36,000 acres.

The number of school districts is sixteen, and the number of teachers employed seventeen. The whole number of pupils is 861, the average attendance 328, and the amount expended for school purposes in 1867, \$3,569.48.

JASPER, named from Sergeant Jasper, who was noted for his courage at the battle of Fort Moultrie, South Carolina, June 28th, 1776, was formed from Troupsburgh and Canisteo, January 24th, 1827, and a part was annexed to Greenwood in 1848. It is situated near the south-west corner of the County. Its surface is a hilly and broken upland, the highest summits being nearly 2,000 feet above tide. The streams are small brooks, and the soil is a slaty, gravelly and clayey loam.

Jasper Four Corners (Jasper p. o.) contains two churches and about 250 inhabitants.

West Jasper is a post office, and

Jasper Five Corners is a hamlet.

The first settlement was made in 1807, by Nicholas Botzman, Ebenezer Spencer and William Wooley. Adam Botzman and Andrew Craig were also early settlers.

The first birth was that of Sally Botzman, and the first marriage that of Samuel Gray and Polly Simpson. Nicholas Botzman kept the first inn, and Amanda Smith taught the first school.

The population of this town in 1865 was 1,678, and its area 31,000 acres.

It contains fifteen school districts, employing fifteen teachers. The whole number of pupils during the last year was 582, and the average attendance 213. The amount expended for school purposes in 1867 was \$2,386.88.

LINDLEY, named in honor of Col. Eleazar Lindley, was formed from Erwin, May 12, 1837. It lies upon the south border of the County, east of the center. Its surface is a hilly upland, broken by the deep valley of Tioga River, which extends through the town from north to south, near the center. The summits of the hills are from 400 to 600 feet above the valley, and covered to a great extent by forests. The valley is about one mile wide and is bordered by steep hillsides. The soil upon the hills is a heavy, shaly loam, and in the valleys a rich alluvium. A large part of the surface is still covered with forests. Lumbering is extensively pursued.

Lindleytown, (p. v.) on Tioga River, is a station on the Blossburg and Corning R. R., and contains a church, a tannery, a grist-mill, several sawmills, and about twenty houses.

Erwin Center, (p. o.) situated on the R. R., near the north border of the town, and also on the river, is a hamlet.

The first settlement was made in 1790, by Col. Eleazur Lindley, from New Jersey, the original proprietor of the town, upon the Tioga Flats. He was an active officer of the "Jersey Blues" during the Revolutionary war, and had, previous to 1790, rode through the "Genesee Country" to find a tract of land where he might establish himself, and gather his children around him. The unhealthiness of the regions around Seneca and Canandaigua Lakes, prevented his settling in that region, and he chose a tract less promising for agricultural purposes, but one that promised freedom from the diseases to which the more fertile northern plains were subject. His colony consisted of about forty persons, who, with their goods, were transported to the Susquehanna. At Wilkesbarre these were transferred to boats and poled up the river, while the horses and cattle were driven along the trails or rude roads upon the bank. They arrived at their place of destination June 7, 1790. Plows were made and the river flats were immediately broken; the season was too far advanced for corn, but a great harvest of buckwheat was secured. Buckwheat, milk, and game constituted their food the first winter. "Old Pomp," a negro, made himself useful by pounding buckwheat in a mortar, from the time the ice closed the river in autumn till spring removed the embargo and allowed the transportation of grain in canoes to Shepard's Mill. Old Pomp seems to have been a skillful hunter as well as miller, if we credit the report handed down to us, that he *killed four bucks at one shot*, as they stood in the water.

Colonel and Mrs. Lindley were members of the Presbyterian Church, at Morristown, in New Jersey, and in this new settlement the Sabbath was strictly observed. Traveling missionaries were cordially welcomed, and when none of these was present to conduct the religious services, Col. Lindley himself would read a sermon. In 1793 he was elected a member of the Legislature, and while attending the session of that body, died in New York. Col. Lindley was accompanied to his new home in the Tioga Valley by his two sons, Samuel and Eleazur, and by his sons-in-law, Dr. Ezekiel Mulford, Ebenezer Backus and Capt. John Seely.

The first birth was that of Eliza Mulford, August 10, 1792; the first marriage, that of David Cook, Jr. and Elizabeth Cady; and the first death, that of Col. Eleazur Lindley, in June 1794. Joseph Miller taught the first school, near the Pennsylvania line, in 1793; the widow of Col. Lindley kept the first inn; and John P. Ryers, the first store. The first sawmill was erected by Col. Lindley,

The population in 1865 was 940, and its area 23,000 acres.

There are four school districts, employing nine teachers. The number of pupils in 1867 was 364, and the average attendance 92. The amount expended for schools in 1867, was \$1,184.21.

PRATTSBURGH, named from Captain Joel Pratt, one of the first settlers, was formed from Pulteney, April 12, 1813, and a part of Wheeler was taken off in 1820. It is centrally situated upon the north border of the County. Its surface is a hilly upland, broken by the valleys of several small streams, flowing in a south-westerly direction. The principal streams are Five Mile, Ten Mile and Twelve Mile Creeks. The valley at Prattsburgh village is 1,400 feet above tide, and the hills are from 300 to 400 feet higher. The soil is a gravelly and clay loam.

Prattsburgh, (p. v.) situated in the eastern part of the town, was incorporated December 7, 1848. It contains two churches, the Franklin Academy, and several manufacturing establishments.

Riker's Hollow (p. o.) is a hamlet.

The first permanent settler in this township was Jared Pratt, a nephew of Captain Joel Pratt, from whom the town was named. He and his wife came here in the spring of 1801, and for about two years and a half constituted the only family in the town. It was several miles to the nearest neighbor; there was no road except a mere trail, and for miles a dense forest surrounded them. To obtain flour for their bread, Mr. Pratt would fill a bag with grain, lay it across the yoke of his oxen and drive eleven miles to Naples, the nearest mill. Mr. Pratt continued to reside here till his death, in 1840. In 1799, Captain Joel Pratt, from Columbia County, came to Steuben and purchased several thousand acres of land in township No. 5, range 3, in the present town of Wheeler. He cleared one hundred and ten acres and sowed it with wheat. He afterwards returned to Columbia for his family. In 1802, becoming dissatisfied with his purchase, he was permitted to exchange it for a tract in township No. 6, in which purchase William Root, of Albany County, joined him. In the sale of this township two hundred acres were reserved for the support of a resident clergyman. Captain Pratt was a Congregationalist, and intended to establish a church of that order in this new settlement. With this view, he required every person to whom he sold land to give a note to the amount of fifteen dollars on each hundred acres purchased, payable within a given time, with legal interest annually till paid to the Trustees of the Religious Society which should be formed. Rev. John Niles, a licentiate of a Congregational Association, settled in 1803 on a lot of eighty acres, given him by Captain Pratt as an inducement to settle. The Sabbath after Mr. Niles' arrival he held religious services at the house of Jared Pratt, being the first held in the town.

In the winter of 1804, William P. Curtis, Samuel Tuthill, Pomeroy Hull and Salisbury Burton, with their families, settled in the town. Noah Niles, Cyril Ward, Aaron Bull, Enoch Niles, Harmon Fowler, Rufus Blodgett and Stephen Hall, all originally from New England, settled in 1805-6. Isaac Waldo, Judge Hopkins, John Hopkins, Dea. Ebenezer Rice, Robert Porter, Dea. Gamaliel Loomis, Samuel Hayes and others, arrived about the same time. The first extensive clearing in Prattsburgh was one of seventy acres, including the Public Square of the village, made in 1803, under the direction of Captain Pratt.

The first frame building erected in the town was a barn, by Joel Pratt, Jr., in 1804. This was a sort of resting place, for several years, for families just arrived, sometimes half a dozen at once taking up their quarters here till their own homes were arranged. It was also the place of religious worship previous to the building of the first church. The first merchants of the town were Joel Pratt, Jr. and Ira Pratt, and the first hotel keeper was Aaron Bull. The first child born was Mariette Pratt, in 1802, and the first death that of a daughter of William P. Curtis, in 1804. The first marriage was that of Isaac Pardee and Patty Waldo, in 1806. The first school was taught in a church by Horace Bull, in 1806-7. The first mill was erected on Five Mile Creek, by Robert Porter.

The Congregational Church was organized in 1804, consisting of eleven members. The first church edifice was erected in 1807, it was a framed building and stood at the south-east corner of the public square. Some were disposed to build it of logs, but Capt. Pratt was greatly opposed to that, and "retorted upon the Society the anathema pronounced against those who dwell in ceiled houses, while the temple of the Lord laid waste." Captain Pratt, under whose direction and encouragement the town was settled, continued to reside here till his death, in 1820, greatly respected, and esteemed by all who knew him.

Judge Porter was for many years one of the most prominent citizens of the town, holding at different times all the most responsible offices in the gift of the people of his town.

Rev. James H. Hotchkin, author of "The History of the Presbyterian Church in Western New York," was for many years a citizen of Prattsburgh; he died Sept. 2, 1856. He was the son of Beriah Hotchkin, a pioneer missionary, graduated at Williams College, in 1800, studied theology with Dr. Porter, of Catskill, and removed to Prattsburgh in 1809, where he labored twenty-one years. "He had a mind of a strong masculine order, well disciplined by various reading, and stored with general knowledge. The doctrinal views of the good old orthodox New England stamp, which he imbibed at first, he maintained strenuously to the last, and left a distinct impression of them wherever he had an oppor-

tunity to inculcate them. His labors through the half century were 'abundant' and indefatigable. He had the happiness of closing his life in the scenes of his greatest usefulness."

The population of Prattsburgh, according to the census of 1865, was 2,606, and its area 34,000 acres.

There are seventeen school districts in the town, employing thirty-four teachers. The whole number of pupils in 1867 was 672, and the average attendance 328. The amount expended for school purposes the same year was \$2,914.38.

PULTENEY, named from Sir William Pulteney, the former owner of the Pulteney Tract, was formed from Bath, February 12, 1808. Prattsburgh was taken off in 1813, and a part of Urbana in 1848. It lies upon the west shore of Crooked Lake, and is the north-east corner town of the County. The surface is a rolling upland, from 700 to 900 feet above the surface of the lake. The declivities along the lake are broken by numerous narrow ravines formed by small streams. The soil is chiefly a shaly and gravelly loam, and in some parts, near the lake, it is clayey.

Harmonyville (Pulteney p. o.) contains two churches and about twenty houses.

Bluffport (South Pulteney p. o.) contains about the same number.

Peltonville, in the northern part, and *Gulicksville*, a landing on the lake, are hamlets.

The first settlement was made on "Bully Hill," by John Van Camp and D. Thompson, in 1797. Some of the other early settlers were Samuel Miller, G. F. Fitzsimmons, John Block, James and George Simms, Henry Hoffman, Abraham Bennett and Shadrach Norris. Samuel and Nathaniel Wallis, John Ells, William White, James Daily, Erastus Glass, Harmon Emmons and Seth Pierce arrived in 1806.

The first marriage was that of Christopher Tomer and Jane Miller, in 1809, and the first death that of a child of James Daily, in 1806. Melchior Waggoner built the first saw-mill, in 1810, and the first grist-mill in 1814. Shadrach Norris kept the first inn, in 1807, and Augustus Tyler the first store, in 1808. The first school was taught by Polly Wentworth, in 1808. Rev. Ephraim Eggleston, the first settled preacher, removed to the town in 1805.

The census of 1865 gives the town a population of 1,387, and an area of 19,000 acres.

There are ten school districts in the town, employing twenty-two teachers. The whole number of pupils in 1867 was 333, and the average attendance 159. The amount expended for school purposes the same year was \$2,226.17.

RATHBONE, named from General Ransom Rathbone, who settled in the town in 1842, was formed from Addison, Cameron and Woodhull, March 28th, 1856. It is an interior town, lying just south of the center of the County. Its surface consists of a high, rolling upland, broken by the valleys of Canisteo River and a branch of Tuscarora Creek. The upland is from 300 to 400 feet above the valleys. Naked and precipitous ledges of rocks crop out on the hillsides along the valleys. The soil is a shaly and clayey loam upon the hills, and alluvium in the valleys.

Rathboneville (p. v.) on Canisteo River, is a station on the Erie Railroad, and contains a church, a flouring mill and about 40 houses.

West Addison (p. o.) and *Cameron Mills* (p. o.) are hamlets.

James Hadley and William Benham were the first settlers, in 1793. Among the early settlers we find the names of Isaac and Jonathan Tracy, Martin Young, William Morey, Moses Powers, Zephaniah Townsend, Thomas Maybury and Samuel Colgrove.

Isaac Tracy built the first saw-mill, in 1806, and Lemuel Benham kept the first inn, in 1804. The first store was kept in 1842, by General Rathbone.

The population in 1865 was 1,464, and its area 22,000 acres.

There are ten school districts, employing twenty teachers. The whole number of pupils in 1867 was 586, and the average attendance 186. The same year the town expended \$2,383.47 for school purposes.

THURSTON was formed from Cameron, February 28th, 1844, and named in honor of William B. Thurston, a land owner. It is an interior town, and lies a little south-east of the center of the County. Its surface is chiefly a high, broken upland, forming a part of the dividing ridge between Conhocton and Canisteo Rivers. The summits of the hills are from 500 to 600 feet above the river valleys. The principal streams are Stockton's Creek, in the north-west, and Michigan Creek in the south, flowing in deep, narrow ravines, bordered by steep hillsides. The soil is a shaly and gravelly loam.

Merchantville, in the east, *Bonny Hill*, in the north-east, and *Risingville*, (p. o.) in the west, are hamlets. *Thurston* and *South Thurston* are post offices.

The first settlers were William Smith, Luke Bonny and Anderson Carpenter, at Bonny Hill, in 1813. Amos Dickens settled in 1814, and Joseph Fluent in 1817. The first settlers at Aldrich settlement were William Jack, Samuel Fisk and Thomas Aldrich, in 1823.

The first birth was that of Irena Smith, in 1813, and the first marriage that of Joseph Fluent and Fanny Dickinson, in 1818.

The first death was that of Anderson Carpenter, killed by the falling of a tree, in 1817. The first school was taught at Bonny Hill, by Caroline Vinan, in 1818, and the first store was kept by Harlow Sears, at Merchantville. The first religious society (M. E.) was formed in 1814. Rev. Buel Parker was the first preacher.

The population in 1865 was 1,176, and its area 23,000 acres.

There are ten school districts, employing twenty-one teachers. The whole number of pupils in 1867 was 475, and the average attendance 193. The same year the town expended for school purposes \$1,977.12.

TROUPSBURGH, named in honor of Robert Troup, agent of the Pulteney Estate, was formed from Middletown (now Addison,) and Canisteo, February 12th, 1808. The town was reduced somewhat in territory in 1827 by taking off parts of Greenwood and Jasper, and in 1828 it was still further reduced in size by taking off a part of Woodhull. A part of Canisteo was annexed in April, 1818. It lies upon the south border of the County, west of the center. Its surface consists principally of a hilly upland, broken by the deep valleys of small streams. The highest summits are 2,500 feet above tide, and are the highest in the County. The principal stream is Troup's Creek, flowing south. The soil is a slaty and clayey loam.

Troupsburgh Center, (Troupsburgh p. o.) situated on Troup's Creek, near the center of the town, contains an academy and about twenty houses.

South Troupsburgh (p. v.) contains about 100 inhabitants.

East Troupsburgh (p. o.), *West Troupsburgh* (p. o.), and *Young Hickory* (p. o.) are hamlets.

Samuel B. Rice, from Connecticut, was the pioneer settler of this town, in 1805; he located a little east of the center of the town. Peter Young and Peter Dolson, from Addison, settled near Mr. Rice, in 1806. Lieutenant Reynolds and Jonathan Rogers settled at the same place in 1809; George Martin in 1810, and James Works in 1811.

The first child born was Polly Young, and the first marriage was that of Zebulon Tubbs and Sarah Rice; the first death was that of Jeremiah Martin. Abner Thomas taught the first school, a little east of Troupsburgh village; Lieut. Reynolds kept the first inn, four miles from the center, and Ichabod C. Leach the first store, two miles from the center. George Martin erected the first grist-mill, at Troupsburgh village. The first religious society (M. E.) was formed at the house of Samuel Cady, by Rev. Parker Buell, the first preacher.

The population of this town in 1865 was 2,100, and its area 38,000 acres.

There are sixteen school districts, employing seventeen teachers. The whole number of pupils in 1867 was 760, and the average attendance 253. The amount expended for school purposes was \$2,337.94.

TUSCARORA was formed from Addison, December 13th, 1859. It includes township number one of the third range of the Phelps and Gorham purchase. It is situated on the south border of the County, east of the center. The surface is a hilly upland, broken by the valley of Tuscarora Creek in the north-west part.—The streams are all small. The soil is chiefly a clay loam, with gravel and alluvium along the valley of Tuscarora Creek.

South Addison, (p. v.,) in the north part, contains about twenty houses.

Addison Hill is a post office.

The settlement of this town was commenced about 1792 or 1793.

The census of 1865 gives the town a population of 1,523, and an area of 23,000 acres.

The number of school districts in the town is twelve, and the number of teachers employed twenty-five. The whole number of pupils is 572, and the average attendance 193. The amount expended for school purposes in 1867 was \$2,600.72.

URBANA was formed from Bath, April 17, 1822. A part was annexed to Bath in 1839; a part of Wheeler was annexed May 3, 1839, and a part of Pulteney, April 12, 1848. It lies at the head of Crooked Lake, north-east of the center of the County. Its surface is divided by Pleasant Valley, a continuation of Crooked Lake Valley, into two series of highlands, rising from 800 to 1,000 feet above the lake. Cold Spring Creek rises in this valley, flows north-east and empties into the lake. The soil is alluvium in the valleys, and upon the hilltops a heavy, gravelly loam. From their sheltered situation, the slopes of the hills descending to the south and east, are well adapted to the culture of the grape. In 1857 thirty acres were devoted to vineyards, and the success was so great that the number of acres was doubled in 1858. There are about two thousand acres in the town, with a south and east inclination, adapted to this purpose. The town is noted for the production of a superior quality of very fine wool.

Hammondsport, (p. v.,) at the head of Crooked Lake, was incorporated June 12, 1856, and contains six churches, the Hammondsport Academy, three hotels, several manufactories, and about 900 inhabitants. The "Urbana Wine Company," organized with a capital of \$250,000, is employed in grape culture and the manufacture of wine. Their vineyards are capable of producing 300 tons of grapes annually. This Company manufacture a superior quality of wine. "The Directors of the Company pledge their

personal reputation that their wines are pure." J. W. Davis is the President of the Company. The "Pleasant Valley Grape Growers Association," is an organization for the promotion of horticulture and pomology. A Fair is held annually, T. M. Younglove, President.

North Urbana (p. v.,) contains two churches and about twenty houses.

Cold Spring is a hamlet.

The first settlers of Pleasant Valley, in this town, were William Aulls and Samuel Baker. Mr. Aulls was from the southern part of Pennsylvania. He made the first clearing and built the first house in the Valley in the spring of 1793, and in the fall of the same year removed his family to the same place.

Samuel Baker was a native of Connecticut. When fifteen years of age he was taken by the Indians and remained a prisoner till released by the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga. He afterwards enlisted in Col. Willett's corps, and served for a time in the army. Previous to 1793, Mr. Baker had spent several years of pioneer life in the valley of the Tioga, but not obtaining a satisfactory title to his land, and having heard from Harris, the hunter, of a beautiful valley in Steuben County, selected a farm of three hundred acres in Pleasant Valley, built a house upon it, and in the following spring removed his family from the Tioga. He resided here till his death, in 1842, at the age of 80. He was for several years Associate and First Judge of the County Court.

In 1795 the whole Valley was occupied. Beginning with Judge Baker's farm, and going towards the lake, the next one was occupied by Captain Amos Stone; William Aulls, Ephraim Aulls and James Shelter occupied the next farms. The other farms between Hammondsport and the lake were occupied by Capt. John Shether, Eli Read, William Barney and Richard Daniels. Most of these had been soldiers of the revolution. Of Captain Shether it is said, he was, during the war, a Captain of Dragoons, and had the reputation of being an excellent officer, and a favorite of Gen. Washington. He lived on his farm at the head of Crooked Lake, in good style, and fared sumptuously. He was a generous, hospitable man, and a true patriot.

For many years the settlement in Pleasant Valley was the most prosperous and one of the most important in the County. The soil was very productive and yielded a supply for the inhabitants, and furnished much food also for the less fortunate inhabitants of Pine Plains, as Bath was called. An old settler of Pleasant Valley gives the following account of Bath:

"If it had not been for the Valley, the pine plains would have been depopulated. After Court had been in session two or three days, you would see a black boy come down here on a horse, and

with a big basket, foraging. He would go around to all the farms to get bread, meat, eggs, or anything that would stay life. Bath was the hungriest place in all creation. You couldn't trust a leg of mutton to anybody but the land agent."

Cold Spring Valley was occupied by Gen. McClure in 1802. He erected mills and kept them in operation till 1814, when Henry A. Townsend took possession of the Valley and resided in the "Cold Spring House" till his death, in 1839. Mr. Townsend removed from Orange County to Bath in 1796, was elected County Clerk in 1799, and continued to hold the office till 1814. Mr. Lazarus Hammond removed from Dansville to Cold Spring in 1810, and afterwards resided near Crooked Lake till his death. He was Sheriff of the County in 1814, and afterwards Associate Judge of the County Court.

The first child born in this town was Samuel Baker, jr.; the first marriage that of Jonathan Barney and Polly Aulls, in 1794; and the first death that of John Phillips, in September of the same year. Eliphalet Norris taught the first school, at Pleasant Valley, in 1795; Caleb Chapman kept the first inn, at North Urbana, and Henry A. Townsend the first store, at Cold Spring, in 1815; John Shether built the first sawmill, in Pleasant Valley, in 1795, and Gen. George McClure the first gristmill, at Cold Spring, in 1802; Elder Ephraim Sanford (Bap.) preached the first sermon, at the house of Mr. Baker, in 1795.

The population in 1865 was 1,711, and the area 24,000 acres.

The number of school districts is eleven, employing eighteen teachers. The whole number of pupils in 1867 was 415, and the average attendance 175. The amount expended for school purposes the same year was \$3,235.77.

WAYLAND, named from Rev. Dr. Wayland, of Rhode Island, was formed from Cohocton and Dansville, April 12, 1848. A part of Fremont was taken off in 1854. It is the most western town upon the north border of the County. The surface is an upland, rolling in the north, and moderately hilly in the south. It forms a portion of the watershed between Susquehanna River and Lake Ontario; and its highest summits are from 1,600 to 1,800 feet above tide. The streams are small creeks and brooks. Loon and Mud Lakes are situated in a valley in the south part of the town, and their waters flow in opposite directions. The outlet of the former is subterranean for half a mile, and where it comes to the surface it is of sufficient size to form a valuable mill stream.—The soil in the north is gravel and muck, and in the south a shaly loam.

Wayland (Wayland Depot p. o.) is situated in the north-east part of the town, and contains about 40 houses. It is a station on the B., N. Y. & E. R. R.

Perkinsville is situated two miles south-west of Wayland, and contains two churches and about thirty houses.

Patchen's Mills is a hamlet.

The first settlement was made in 1806, by Adam Zimmerman, at the depot. The north part of the town was settled by Captain Thomas Bowles. Among other early settlers were John H. Miller, David Brown, Stephen Hicks, Thomas Begole, Solomon James, Elisha Brownson, Isaac Willey, Walter and Dr. Warren Patchen, Benjamin Perkins and Samuel Draper. No road passed through the town except the ancient one from Bath to Dansville. The settlers were generally poor, and suffered the hardships incident to a new country. Rev. E. Brownson relates the following among other hardships of the early times:

"In 1815 there was a scarcity of bread. I went through the towns of Springwater, Livonia and Sparta, and thence to Dansville, in search of grain for sale, and none was to be had in those towns, nor in Western New York. People had to hull green wheat and rye for food. I found a field of rye on William Perine's farm which was thought nearly fit to cut. I went home and got some neighbors, and, with oxen and cart, went and cut some of it, threshed it, and took it to the mill and had it mashed, for it was too damp to grind, and thought ourselves the happiest people in the world, because we had bread."

The first sawmill was built by Benjamin Perkins, and the first grist mill by Dugald Cameron and Abijah Fowler, in 1816. Samuel Taggart kept the first inn, in 1827, and James L. Monier the first store, in 1830. The first school was taught by Thomas Wilbur, in 1811.

The population in 1865 was 2,621, and the area 25,000 acres.

The number of school districts in 1867 was twelve; the number of teachers employed thirteen; the whole number of pupils was 945, and the average attendance 186. The town expended for school purposes in 1867 \$1,855.42.

WAYNE, named in honor of General Anthony Wayne, was formed as "Frederickstown," March 18, 1796. Its name was changed April 6, 1808. Reading (Schuyler Co.) was taken off in 1806; Orange (Schuyler Co.) in 1813, and Barrington (Yates Co.) and Tyrone (Schuyler Co.) in 1822. A part was annexed to Tyrone, April 17, 1854. It is situated upon Crooked Lake, on the east border of the County. Its surface is a rolling upland, from 400 to 500 feet high, descending abruptly to the lake. Little Lake, lying upon the east border, is a beautiful sheet of water. The soil is a gravelly and slaty loam, underlaid by hardpan.

Wayne, (p. v.,) locally known as "Wayne Hotel," is on the line of Tyrone, (Schuyler Co.,) and contains three churches and about forty houses.

Wayne Four Corners is a post office.

The first settlement was made in 1791, by Zephaniah Hoff, Henry Mapes, Widow Jennings and Solomon Wilson. Enos, Joseph and James Silsbee, Abraham Hendricks, Joshua Smith, John Holdridge, Elijah Reynolds and Ephraim Tyler were among the early settlers.

The first birth was that of Elizabeth Wixon, November 6, 1793, and the first marriage, that of Ephraim Sanford, Jr., and Julia Hoff; James Silsbee kept the first store, and Enos Silsbee the first inn. The first school was taught by Nathaniel Frisbee, in 1797.—Rev. Ephraim Sanford (Bap.) was one of the first settlers, and for many years the only clergyman in town.

This town is the smallest in the County, both in extent of territory and population. In 1865 the population was 814, and its area 13,000 acres.

There are five school districts, and ten teachers employed. The whole number of pupils in 1867 was 227, and the average attendance 95. The amount expended for school purposes was \$1,220.65.

WEST UNION was formed from Greenwood, April 25, 1845. It is the south-west corner town of the County. Its surface is a broken and hilly upland, and the highest summits are from 2,000 to 2,400 feet above tide. Large forests still remain standing in the town. Bennett's Creek is the principal stream; it flows north through the town near the center. The soil is a heavy slaty loam. Lumbering is extensively carried on.

Rexville (p. v.) contains a hotel, a carriage shop and three stores.

Wileysville (p. o.) is a hamlet.

West Union is a post office.

The first settlement was made in 1822, by Abraham N. Olmsted, at Rexville. The greater part of the land embraced in this town was owned in England, and by heirs under age; this was one cause of the late settlement. Fred Hauber, William Buryer and William Bray, from Delaware County, came in 1823, and located near Rexville. John Wiley, William Fisher and Benjamin Wilks settled at Wileysville in 1849.

Uriah Stevens taught the first school; Charles Rexford kept the first inn, and Walter B. Olmsted the first store, at Rexville; John Wiley built the first saw and grist mill, in 1849-50. The first church (M. E.) was formed at Rexville in 1831.

The population in 1865 was 1,382, and the area 23,000 acres.

There are ten school districts, employing ten teachers. The number of pupils is 490, and the average attendance 166. The amount expended for schools in 1867 was \$1,349.26.

WHEELER, named in honor of Captain Silas Wheeler, the first settler, was formed from Bath and Prattsburgh, February 25th, 1820. A part of Avoca was taken off in 1843, and a part of Urbana in 1839. It is an interior town lying north-east of the center of the County. Its surface is a high, rolling upland, broken by the valleys of Five Mile and Ten Mile Creeks and of several small lateral streams. The soil is a shaly and clayey loam, well adapted to grazing and tillage.

Mitchellville, in the south-east part, contains about twenty houses; and *Wheeler Center* (Wheeler p. o.) contains a church and about twenty houses.

The first permanent settlement was made in 1799, by Captain Silas Wheeler, a native of Rhode Island, but recently of Albany County. Captain Wheeler was a soldier of the Revolution; he was with Benedict Arnold in his perilous march through the forests of Maine, and at the assault of Quebec, stood near Montgomery when he fell. He was four times taken prisoner, twice by land and twice upon the high seas, as a roving privateersman. After his second capture, on the coast of Great Britain, he was confined in jail at Kinsale, Ireland, and condemned to be hanged as a pirate. He escaped by the aid of a friendly Irishman, and of the distinguished orator and statesman, Henry Grattan. Mr. Grattan procured for him a passport, protected him from press gangs and the police, and secured for him a passage to Dunkirk, in France. Captain Wheeler's first trip to mill is worthy of record, as it gives an insight into the hardships and privations of the new settler. There were at this time three mills in the neighboring towns, viz: at the Friend's Settlement, at Naples and at Bath. The mill at the last named place had suspended operations, for the reason that there was nothing to grind. Capt. W's first business was to make a cart, which he did after the most primitive style. The wheels were sawn from the end of a log of curly maple; the box was made to correspond; and with a yoke of oxen attached to this vehicle, he started for Naples. Two pioneers went before with axes to clear the road, while the Captain, with his bovine vehicle, bouncing over logs and stumps, and floundering through the bushes, followed. The first day's march was six miles, the second brought them to their place of destination. Captain Wheeler was famous throughout all the land for his anecdotes, and many an otherwise weary hour has been beguiled by listening to his adventures. He died in 1828, aged 78.

Nathan Rose, William Holmes and Turner Gardner settled in the town in 1799, and Col. Jonathan Barney and Thomas Aulls in 1800. Philip Martle, Otto F. Marshall, and others named Bear, Fervol and Rifle, were among the early settlers. The "Gulf Road" to Bath was opened by Capt. Wheeler, and the "Kennedyville Road" was opened a year or two afterwards.

The first birth in the town was that of William, son of Jonathan Barney, Nov. 1st, 1801; and the first death was that of the same child, December 1st, 1802. Hon. Grattan H. Wheeler was a party to the first marriage. Captain Wheeler built the first saw-mill, in 1802, and George W. Taylor the first grist-mill, in 1803-4. John Beals kept the first inn, in 1820, and Cornelius Younglove the first store, in 1835. The first school was taught by Uriel Chapin. Rev. E. Eggliston (Bap.) was the first preacher.

The population in 1865 was 1,297, and the area 28,000 acres.

The number of school districts in the town is eleven, employing twenty-one teachers. The whole number of pupils is 356, and the average attendance 143. The amount expended for school purposes in 1867 was \$2,029.78.

WOODHULL, named in honor of Gen. Nathaniel Woodhull, of the Revolution, was formed from Troupsburgh and Addison, Feb. 18, 1828. A part of Rathbone was taken off in 1856. It is the central town on the south border of the County. Its surface is a hilly upland, a large extent of which is still covered with forests. The principal stream is Tuscarora Creek, which flows east through the northerly part of the town. The soil is a clayey and gravelly loam. Lumbering is carried on to some extent.

Newville (Woodhull p. o.,) is situated on Tuscarora Creek, and contains three churches, four stores, a tannery, three wagon shops, and several other mechanics' shops.

Hedgesville is a hamlet.

The first settlement was made in 1805, by Stephen Dolson, Daniel Johnson, Patrick Breakhill, Bethuel Tubbs and Samuel B. Rice. Caleb Smith settled in the town in 1808.

The first birth was that of Polly Smith; the first marriage that of Levi Rice and Cynthia Tubbs, and the first death that of Benjamin Tubbs. Caleb Smith built the first gristmill, in 1805; Ichabod S. Leach kept the first inn, and Josiah Tubbs the first store. The first school was taught by Abner Thomas. The first church (Pres.) was organized in 1830; and the Rev. Mr. Pomeroy was the first pastor.

The population of this town in 1865 was 2,130, and its area 33,000 acres.

There are sixteen school districts, employing thirty-four teachers. The whole number of pupils in 1867 was 841, and the average attendance 278. The amount expended for school purposes the same year was \$3,065.39.