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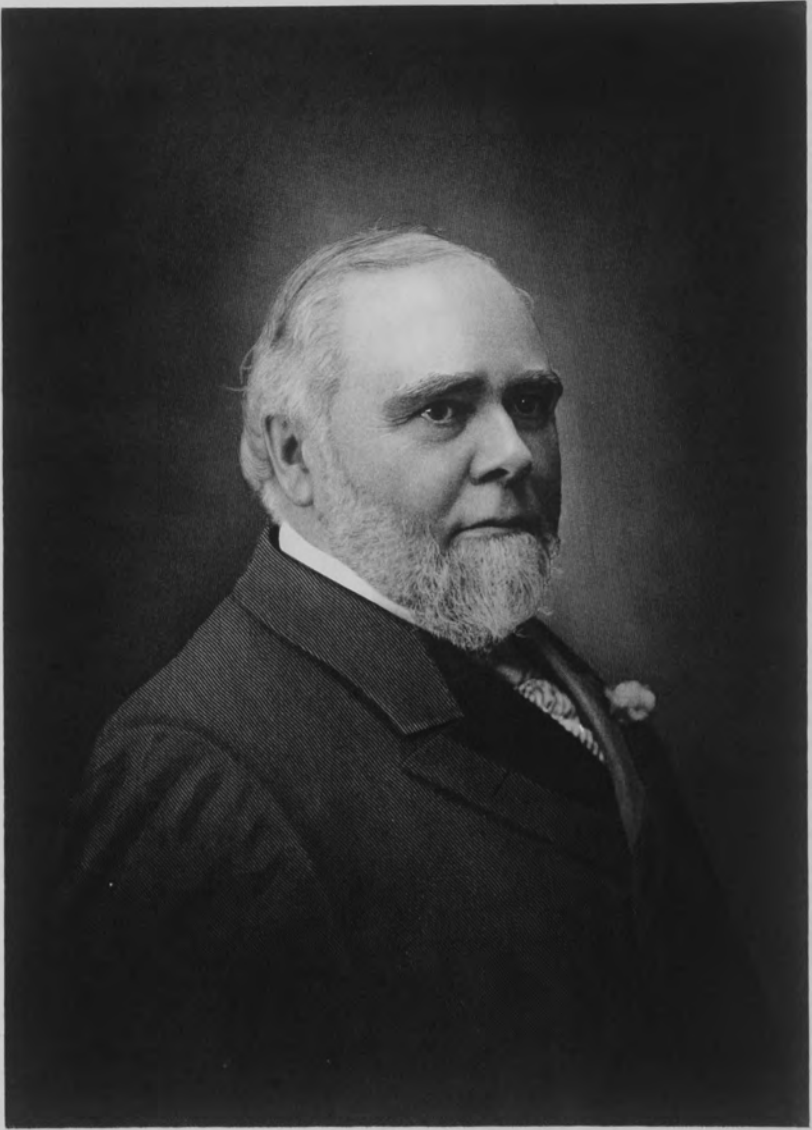
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*Campbell Brothers, New York*

*John M. Davy*



## Judge John M. Davy



WHEN THE history of New York and her public men shall have been written, its pages will bear no more illustrious name and record, no more distinguished career than that of Judge John M. Davy. If "biography is the home aspect of history," as Wilmott has expressed it, it is certainly within the province of true history to commemorate and perpetuate the lives of those men whose careers have been of signal usefulness and honor to the state, and in this connection it is not only compatible but absolutely imperative that mention be made of Judge Davy, one of the most able and learned members of the New York bar, who for seventeen years served on the supreme court bench.

Though born across the border, he is distinctively American in his thoughts, his purposes and his loves. He was born in Ottawa, Ontario, June 29, 1835, and in his infancy was brought by his parents to Monroe county. He is of English and Irish descent and his boyhood, youth and early manhood were passed in Mendon and Henrietta until he commenced the practice of law, when he removed to Rochester, seeking the broader field of labor offered by the courts of this city. He had almost completed his preliminary reading when, in 1862, he assisted in raising Company G of the One Hundred and Eighth Regiment of New York State Volunteers, and was appointed captain of the company by the recruiting committee of Monroe county, which was composed of Dr. Anderson, Judge Selden and others. L. B. Yale, who was at the same time appointed first lieutenant, objected to taking a subordinate position, whereupon Mr. Davy offered to exchange places with him, saying that he had enlisted through patriotic motives, and, if necessary, he was willing to enlist as a private. This was truly indicative of the character of the man who has ever placed his country's good before personal aggrandizement. The offer of exchange was accepted, and in August, 1862, Mr. Davy was commissioned by Governor Morgan as first lieutenant. With the regiment he went to the front and was in active service until the winter of 1863, when he was taken ill with typhoid fever and the attack left his health and strength seriously impaired, so that he was no longer able for field service. Accordingly he was honorably discharged in the spring of 1863.

After recovering his health Judge Davy resumed the study of law in the

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office of Strong, Palmer & Mumford, and was admitted to the bar that year in the same class with Justice William H. Adams, of Canandaigua, New York. Opening an office in Rochester, Mr. Davy at once began practice and his clientage rapidly increased, as in his law work he gave evidence of his ability to handle with masterly skill the intricate problems involved in litigation. He was soon recognized as a leader among the younger members of the Rochester bar. In 1868 he received the republican nomination for the office of district attorney of Monroe county, and during his term in that position he handled the large business of the office in a most conscientious and able manner. Declining a second nomination, he retired from office in 1871 with a most creditable record and took up the duties of a constantly increasing private practice.

From time to time he has been called from his private business interests to aid in conducting public business. Entirely unsolicited and without his knowledge there came to him from President Grant, in 1872, the appointment to the office of collector of customs for the port of Genesee, and therein he served until it became necessary for him to resign in order to enter upon the duties of congressman, having been elected to represent his district in the legislative councils of the nation. While in congress Judge Davy was a member of the committee on railways and canals, also the committee appointed to investigate the police commission of the District of Columbia. He voted for the electoral commission bill. He made but few speeches, but was an active and influential member. His speech against congress granting subsidies to railroads was a wise and statesmanlike effort. Studying all his points with care and with a thorough grasp of his subject, he showed that such means were in direct controversion to the fundamental law of the land, and an encroachment upon the rights reserved to the states. In the matter of the Geneva award bill, pertaining to the adjustment of the Alabama claims, he showed an equally nice sense of justice and a solicitude for the preservation of the national honor in an exact performance of the conditions expressed by the committee of arbitration in the distribution of the funds awarded. His whole congressional record showed a thorough knowledge of constitutional and common law, as well as practical and sound common sense concerning every public question that claimed his attention and consideration.

At the close of his congressional career Judge Davy devoted himself exclusively to the work of his profession. He was attorney for the East Side Savings Bank for fourteen years and was also attorney for a syndicate of New York capitalists in the Genesee Valley Canal Railroad litigations, in which his efforts were successful. He was likewise attorney for the West Shore Railroad Company and the North River Construction Company in the counties of Cayuga, Seneca, Wayne, Monroe and Genesee. He was also attorney for the Rochester & Lake Ontario Railway Company. While an active practi-



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tioner at the bar he argued many cases and lost but few. No one better knows the necessity for thorough preparation and no one has more industriously prepared his cases than he. His handling of his case was always full, comprehensive and accurate; his analysis of the facts clear and exhaustive; he saw without effort the relation and dependence of the facts and so grouped them as to enable him to throw their combined force upon the point they tended to prove. His briefs always showed wide research, careful thought and the best and strongest reasons which could be urged for his contention, presented in cogent and logical form and illustrated by a style unusually lucid and clear.

High professional honors came to Judge Davy in his election in the fall of 1888 as justice of the supreme court for the seventh judicial district. He was unanimously nominated by the republican party and later by the democratic party, while the prohibition party placed no candidate in the field. He received the largest vote ever cast for a justice of the supreme court in the district and after serving fourteen years he was again nominated by acclamation by both parties and served for three years, at which time he retired, having reached the age limit of seventy years, as imposed by the laws of the state. His opinions while on the bench showed great research, industry and care and challenged the approval of and commended themselves to the bench and bar. He frequently held court in the city of New York during his judicial career and rendered decisions in many very important cases. He is a member of the State Bar Association and for one term served as its vice president. At the conclusion of his last term of court in the city of New York, when the business of the court was ended, Attorney General Mayer made a speech complimenting him upon his record on the bench and voicing the regret of the legal fraternity of the state that his term of office was about to expire. District Attorney Jerome and other well known lawyers took occasion to express highly complimentary appreciation of the career of the Rochester jurist. When he retired from the bench a banquet was held in his honor and the guests had much to say concerning his professional and judicial career. Perhaps no better estimate of his official service can be given than in inserting the addresses delivered at a special term of the supreme court held in Rochester, December 30, 1905, when the bar took occasion to give public expression to the high regard in which Judge Davy is uniformly held.

Mr. J. P. Varnum said: "This being the last day of your Honor's official term as justice of the supreme court of this state, before you take final leave of the bench on which you have had a seat for the last seventeen years, and where you have so well, so faithfully and so conscientiously discharged the duties of your high office, the members of the bar of this county desire to mark the day by some open and public expression of the feelings and sentiments which they entertain towards you, both as judge and as man, and for

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that purpose Mr. Charles M. Williams has been requested to act as our spokesman, whom I now have the pleasure of introducing."

Mr. Charles M. Williams said: "If your Honor please, seventeen years of judicial faithful service deserves and demands respect and recognition. We come today to mingle expressions of congratulation and regret; congratulation, that you have attained three score years and ten in an active and useful life, conspicuous in the state, full of honor and of years; regret, that the judicial term for which you were elected is abbreviated by the limitations of the constitution of this state, which compels you to retire from the bench while in the full vigor of your faculties, with judgment ripened by experience, and with integrity and uprightness on the bench tested by years of service.

You bear your youth as yon Scotch fir,  
Whose gaunt line our horizon dims,  
While twilight all the lowland blurs,  
Hold sunset in their ruddy stems.

While you hold this ruddy glow of sunset, we recall that this day terminates twenty-five years of service to the people, to the state, and to the nation, as district attorney, as member of congress, and as a justice of the supreme court. Twenty-five years is a long period for personal character and influence to be woven with the history of a populous, a prosperous and a growing community. You began your judicial service in the old courthouse, you end it in the new; you tried, if we recall aright, the last case tried by jury in that old courtroom, where the benignant faces of the pioneers looked down upon you from the framed portraits, and you end it today, when a generation of younger lawyers look up to you and feel the impress and the inspiration of that integrity and uprightness which is held by the standards of tradition of an honorable and noble profession. Is it strange that memory shall come among us and open her box of brilliant colors of mellow recollection, and, placing them upon the tinted palette, take her brush and sketch upon the walls of this new temple of justice those invisible but yet imperishable forms and features who were your contemporaries when you first came to the bench? Of that brilliant company of justices of the supreme court, you, with one exception, are the only survivor. Judge Bradley, beloved, retired like you by reason of the limitation prescribed by the constitution, age. Macomber, Rumsey, Adams, have passed away, and Dwight, too, to that Higher Life, to study with the great Lawgiver face to face and receive inspiration from that fountain where absolute justice and right eternal prevail.

"Of the company of the bar who welcomed you to the bench you miss to-day, as you recall those personages, Angle and Bacon, Cogswell and Danforth, Stull and Van Voorhis and Yeoman, who prepared the way for the junior profession of the bar with their intelligence and pointed the way to the higher attainments and to the wise counsel of the exalted profession.



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This is neither time nor place to attempt a eulogy or an analysis of your judicial work. The records of this court, the records of this county and of the counties in this judicial district have recorded your labors, and the official reports of cases have printed the opinions which you have rendered and the weight with which they have been judged by higher tribunals of the state.

"But we would bring you today the rose-garland of gracious memory and of friendly appreciation. You leave the judicial ermine without spot or wrinkle, with no soil of meanness or touch of criticism upon it. Your courtesy, your kindness, your affability, your approachability, were among those thoughtful but beneficent offices which bind bar and bench together, and that come to us with the fragrance of the wind blown over sweet-scented flowers. You have held high the standards, the ethics and the morals of the profession. To you, the younger, as well as the older, members of the bar may look for an example of the just and the upright judge, with resolution and courage, yet withal tempered with the gentleness of sympathy and the kindness of mercy. We bid you joy and wish you many years of happy and of prosperous activity. While we wish you 'an age serene and bright, and lovely as a Lapland night,' yet we would welcome you to a life of active service at the bar.

Age has its opportunity no less than youth,  
Though in another dress,  
And when the twilight fades away  
The sky is filled with stars, unseen by day.

"And here, as we make our closing word and bid you adieu as you leave the bench, it is not 'Hail and farewell,' but the bar opens its ranks, and, as you retire from the bench, present arms, give salutation, and say 'Hail and welcome.' "

To which Justice Davy made the following reply: "Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Monroe County Bar: I greatly appreciate the manifestation of kindly feeling towards me personally and the exalted office of justice of the supreme court, which I have held for seventeen years. It is very embarrassing to listen to one's own commendations and it is more embarrassing to reply to them. When I entered upon my judicial career the members of the supreme court of the seventh judicial district were Justices Smith and Adams of Canandaigua, Macomber of Rochester, Dwight of Auburn, Rumsey of Bath, and Bradley of Corning, all of whom were men of great learning and ability, who graced the bench and were a credit and honor to the judiciary of the state. They have all gone to their final resting place except Bradley, who, at the age of four score years, is living a quiet and happy life in the city of Corning, surrounded by hosts of friends, and is honored and respected throughout the state. I am reminded also that that able and distinguished jurist, Judge Danforth, whom we all honored and esteemed so

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highly, has died since I went upon the bench. During that period the Monroe county bar has lost some of its ablest lawyers; Yeoman, Bacon, Stull, Danforth, Cogswell and Van Voorhis were great lawyers and stood high in the legal profession. No man can lay aside his judicial robes and the trust which he has held in the hearts of a gracious and confiding people for many years and feel that at all times he has met in the best possible way the requirements of that high judicial office.

"Seventeen years ago I received the high honor of having the unanimous nomination of the republican and democratic parties, and was elected without opposition. I went upon the bench untrammelled, and with a firm determination to honestly do my duty, and when fourteen years had rolled around it was more than gratifying to me to again receive the unanimous endorsement of both parties. It is very pleasing to receive this public acknowledgment from the members of the bar of the city of Rochester. In receiving your approbation on this occasion it is appropriate that I shall also make my acknowledgments to you, for I can say that if I have given satisfaction it has been largely owing to the learning and assistance of the bar. The character, ability and standing of the judiciary must in the future, as in the past, depend largely upon the character and influence of the members of the bar from which the judges are selected, and the best evidence of that ability will always be found in the respect with which the lawyers receive the legal conclusions of the judges. I think I voice the sentiment of the members of the bar when I say that the judges of the supreme court of this great state, with few exceptions, have been men of unstained reputation for personal integrity, and men of strict impartiality, who have always enjoyed the implicit confidence and respect of the community. Society cannot be maintained without tribunals to hear and determine controversies arising between individuals. The importance, therefore, of a capable and upright judiciary cannot be overestimated. The judicial tribunals are indispensable to the safety and well being of the people, which fact is attested by the extensive powers which are entrusted to them, and as long as judges are capable, conscientious and independent in the discharge of their official duties, they will command respect and their decisions be upheld. Judges take a solemn obligation to administer equal and exact justice alike to the rich and the poor, and however able and rich in learning they may be, they will fail in the discharge of this high duty if not endowed with honesty, courage and a sense of right. It avails nothing if a judge is calm, patient and able to see the right, if he is moved by popular clamor or prejudice.

"It has been frequently said that owing to the inflexibility of the law courts are sometimes prevented from administering justice between litigants. So far as my experience extends, rarely is this the case. If with capable counsel to aid the court injustice triumphs over right, the judge and not the law should bear the reproach. While we recognize the binding force of the rules



of law which have stood the test of reason and experience, both in this and other countries, there is a growing disposition on the part of our judges against sacrificing justice to technical rules of law, and with advancing intelligence we need have no fear that the judges coming after us will be less inclined to see substantial justice administered in the trial of causes.

"There are many who denounce our system of trial by jury. During my judicial experiences the instances are few where I have had reason to be dissatisfied with their verdicts. I regard the jury system an essential branch and part of the free institutions of our country. It is a cherished tradition, its roots strike down deep into the experience, the life and the heart of the people. In criminal cases there is no substitute for the jury that would be acceptable to the profession and the people. If judges would do their duty jurors would do theirs. Brief, pointed instructions, calling attention to the points at issue, will generally, so far as I have observed, be followed by satisfactory verdicts.

"Now let me say a word or two to the younger members of the bar, for whom I have always had the warmest and kindest affection. Let no young man choosing the law for a calling yield to the popular belief that fidelity and honesty are not compatible with the practice of law. My advice to the young man choosing the law for a calling is, to be honest at all events. If you cannot be an honest lawyer, resolve to be honest without being a lawyer. Personal character is one of the elements which go to determine the just rank of any member of the legal profession. You must not only be honest, but you must be industrious; labor and honesty are absolutely essential to success in the legal profession. I am one of those who do not believe that there is any decline in professional integrity or in the loyalty of the attorney to his client. I believe that the lawyer's influence is widening rather than lessening, and that never before since the legal profession became a distinct avocation has that influence upon the affairs of daily life been more direct and far reaching than at the present time. The lawyer has come to be the silent partner in the great mercantile establishments and manufacturing industries of the country; he moulds and shapes the management of our great corporations; his influence is felt in every avenue of business and legislative life; he cannot, if he would, escape these large responsibilities which pertain to the legal profession. We are living in a period of intense activity and social disorder. The great overwhelming problems of capital and labor, the relations of the corporate interests of the country to the people, these are problems of vital moment to every thoughtful man in every calling, and none more so than the legal profession, and especially the younger members of the bar. They are questions, not of the day, but for all time, and upon their wise solution depends in a large degree the future stability and safety of the republic. When I turn to the great judges whose names are woven into the warp and woof of the common law, and read the story of Coke and Hale and Kent and Story,

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or when I recall the great advocates whose geniuses have forever enriched the traditions of our profession, Erskine and Brougham in the mother country, our own Webster, Choate, Carpenter, Benjamin, O'Connor and Evarts, I am content that the record may be made up and the balance struck between the profession of the law and other avocations, and I dare say for the profession, not only here, but everywhere, that it may safely challenge comparison in its methods with all other professions in the world. I feel justly proud of the members of the Monroe county bar; it is an intelligent and accomplished bar and stands high all over the state; a large majority of its members are in the prime of life, and their future is full of hope and promise. They look to the rising sun. As for me, my work of life is nearly finished. I must now retire from judicial service and be content with the glory of the setting sun and the evening shadows, but during the remainder of my days I shall cherish with the warmest affection the memories of the lawyers of the Monroe county bar.

"With renewed thanks for the honors I have received at your hands and with a happy New Year greeting to each and every one of you, as justice of the supreme court I now bid you farewell."

Judge Davy has been called upon to address the public on many momentous occasions. At the time of the dedication of the soldiers' monument at Gettysburg on the 4th and 5th of September, 1888, to the memory of those of the One Hundred and Eighth Regiment of New York Volunteers who offered up their lives on the altar of our country, Judge Davy was chosen as orator. His address has been preserved in substantial form and is an eloquent tribute to the noble deeds and self-sacrifice of the brave soldiers in whose honor he spoke.

Judge and Mrs. Davy reside at No. 20 Buckingham street, Rochester, and his residence in this city dates from 1860. Mrs. Davy was the daughter of James Hodges, a wealthy farmer of the town of Henrietta, Monroe county, where she was reared. She bore the maiden name of Elizabeth S. Hodges and on the 22d of September, 1869, gave her hand in marriage to John M. Davy. They have three sons. Cassius C., who succeeded his father as attorney for the East Side Savings Bank, married Miss Hattie Mertie, of Oneida, who died several years ago. Burton H., who wedded Miss Minnie Aikenhead of Rochester, by whom he has two children, Elizabeth S. and James, was elected sheriff of Monroe county when only twenty-six years of age, being the youngest to fill that position in the county. He is now secretary and treasurer of the East Side Savings Bank of Rochester. James R. Davy, the youngest son, is now practicing law with his father, for upon his retirement from the bench Judge Davy resumed the active work of the profession.

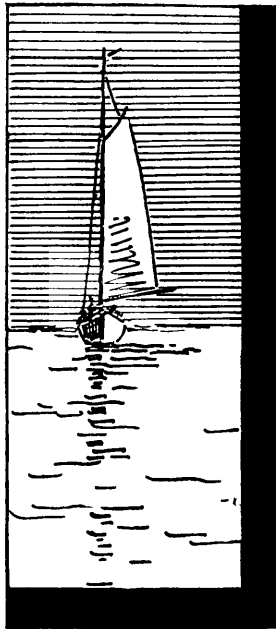
He and his wife are members of the Central Presbyterian church, in which he is serving as an elder. He is also a Knight Templar and thirty-second-degree Mason and belongs to Powers post, G. A. R., and to the Military Order of the Loyal Legion. He is likewise a member of the Genesee Valley



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Club. No man was ever more respected and no man ever more fully enjoyed the confidence of the people or more richly deserved the esteem in which he was held than does Judge Davy. The people of the state, recognizing his merit, have rejoiced in his advancement and in the honors to which he has attained. A gracious presence, a charming personality, profound legal wisdom, purity of public and private life and the quiet dignity of an ideal follower of his calling, combine to make him one of the most distinguished and honored residents of the Empire state.





Arthur M. Hartley

## Arthur G. Yates



THERE ARE found many men whose industry has won them success—men who by their perseverance and diligence execute well defined plans which others have made—but the men who take the initiative are comparatively few. The vast majority do not see opportunity for the co-ordination of forces and the development of new, extensive and profitable enterprises and therefore must follow along paths which others have marked out. Arthur G. Yates, however, does not belong to the designated class. The initiative spirit is strong within him. He has realized the possibility for the combination of forces and has wrought along the line of mammoth undertakings until the name of Yates stands, in large measure, for the coal trade. He is one of the leading operators in this great field of labor and well deserves to be ranked among the captains of industry.

His life record covers the period from the 18th of December, 1843. The place of his nativity is East Waverly, then Factoryville, New York, and he is a representative of a distinguished English family. His grandfather, Dr. William Yates, was born at Sapperton, near Burton-on-Trent, England, in 1767, and studied for the medical profession, but never engaged in practice. Being the eldest son in his father's family, he inherited the estate and the title of baronet. Throughout his life he was distinguished as a philanthropist. He was a cousin of Sir John Howard, the philanthropist, and Sir Robert Peel, the statesman, and was himself one of the most noted benefactors in England at that time. At his own expense he built and conducted an asylum for paupers and for the treatment of the insane at Burton-on-Trent. In 1792 he crossed the Atlantic to Philadelphia and was the first to introduce vaccination in this country—a work to which he devoted much time and money. In 1800 he returned to England, but soon afterward again came to America and from Philadelphia, in company with Judge Cooper and Judge Franchot and General Morris, he ascended the Susquehanna river to Unadilla, Butternut creek valley. On that trip he met Hannah Palmer, the daughter of a prominent settler, and after the marriage of the young couple they returned to England, spending two years in his native land. Having disposed of his estate, Sapperton, to his brother Harry, Dr. Yates came once more to the United States and purchased a large estate at Butternuts, now the town of Morris, Otsego

## Arthur G. Yates

county, New York, where he spent his remaining days, his death occurring when he was in his ninetieth year. He was widely respected and esteemed. He spent a large fortune in carrying out his benevolent ideas and many there were who had reason to remember him with gratitude for his timely assistance. He possessed the broadest humanitarian views and his kindly sympathy was manifest in a most generous, but unostentatious, charity.

Judge Arthur Yates, his eldest son, was born at Butternuts, now Morris, New York, February, 7, 1807, acquired a common-school education and in 1832 located at Factoryville, New York, where he engaged in merchandising and lumbering, extensively carrying on business along those line for thirty years. He was an active and enterprising citizen and did much to upbuild the beautiful village in which he made his home. In 1838 he was appointed judge of Tioga county, New York. He was prominent in financial circles, where his word was recognized as good as his bond. With banking and other business interests in Waverly he was actively connected, and was also prominent and influential in social, educational and church circles. His life was very helpful to those with whom he came in contact, and he enjoyed the unqualified regard of all. In January, 1836, Judge Yates was united in marriage to Miss Jerusha Washburn, a daughter of Jeba Washburn, of Otsego county, New York, and they became the parents of seven children. The Judge died in 1880, but the influence of his life and labors is yet felt for good in the community in which he made his home, and where the circle of his friends was almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

On the maternal side the ancestry of our subject can be traced back to Henry Glover, of Ipswich, England, who in 1634 emigrated to New Haven, Connecticut. The fourth of his six children was John Glover, who removed to Stratford, Connecticut. His son John removed from Stratford to Newtown, Connecticut. His third child was Benjamin Glover and it was through the latter's daughter Mabel that the line of descent is traced down to our subject. She became the wife of Dr. Nathan Washburn, of Newtown, Connecticut, and their son, Zenas Washburn, became a resident of Otsego county, New York. He married Nancy Northrup, the grandmother of our subject, their daughter Jerusha becoming the wife of Arthur Yates, of Factoryville, New York.

Arthur G. Yates, the fourth member of the family of Judge Yates, after acquiring a good education in his native town and as a student in various academies entered upon business life in Rochester in March, 1865, as an employe of the Anthracite Coal Association. He brought to the duties of the new position unflinching energy, laudable ambition and a determination to thoroughly acquaint himself with the trade in principle and detail. He remained with that company for two years and laid the foundation upon which he has built the superstructure of his present success. He began dealing in coal on his own account, constantly enlarging the scope of his activity until he is today



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one of the foremost representatives of the coal trade of the country. Gradually he has developed the business until his shipments have extended far and wide into northern and western states and into Canada. He has built immense shipping docks at Charlotte, the port of Rochester, and has purchased a leading railway in order to place the fuel upon the market. At an early period in his business career he became a member of the firm of Bell, Lewis & Yates, which was organized for the purpose of mining and shipping bituminous coal from Pennsylvania. Marked success attended the enterprise from the start, the firm becoming the largest producer of its class in the United States. As the shipments of the firm were largely over the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburg Railroad, Mr. Yates conceived and executed the plan of purchasing the line. Later he retired from the firm and while carrying on business individually at Rochester he became interested in the Rochester & Pittsburg Coal & Iron Company, which had been formed by certain stockholders of the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburg Railroad Company. It was not long after this that Mr. Yates associated with New York financiers, bought out the business of the firm of Bell, Lewis & Yates, thus greatly increasing his individual holdings. Since that time the combined business of the two firms above mentioned, together with the railroad affairs, have been managed by Mr. Yates with marked success.

At different times Mr. Yates has been identified with various corporate interests aside from those mentioned. He has served as director or in other official capacities in connection with various banking institutions of Rochester and was at one time president of the Rochester Railway Company. Since April, 1890, he has been president of the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburg Railroad. Many business concerns of the city have profited by his financial investment, his wise counsel and his sound judgment, but more and more largely he has withdrawn from other lines to concentrate his energies upon his mammoth coal business and his railroad interests. All affairs have been systematized until the maximum results are reached with minimum expense of time and labor. This is the real secret of success in any business—a fact which Mr. Yates thoroughly realized and toward which end he has constantly worked. His success is so marvelous that his methods are of interest to the commercial world and investigation into his career shows that his actions have ever been based upon the rules which govern unfaltering industry and unswerving integrity. Moreover, he has had the power to bring into harmonious relations various factors in business life, co-ordinating plans and forces in the development of enterprises of great magnitude.

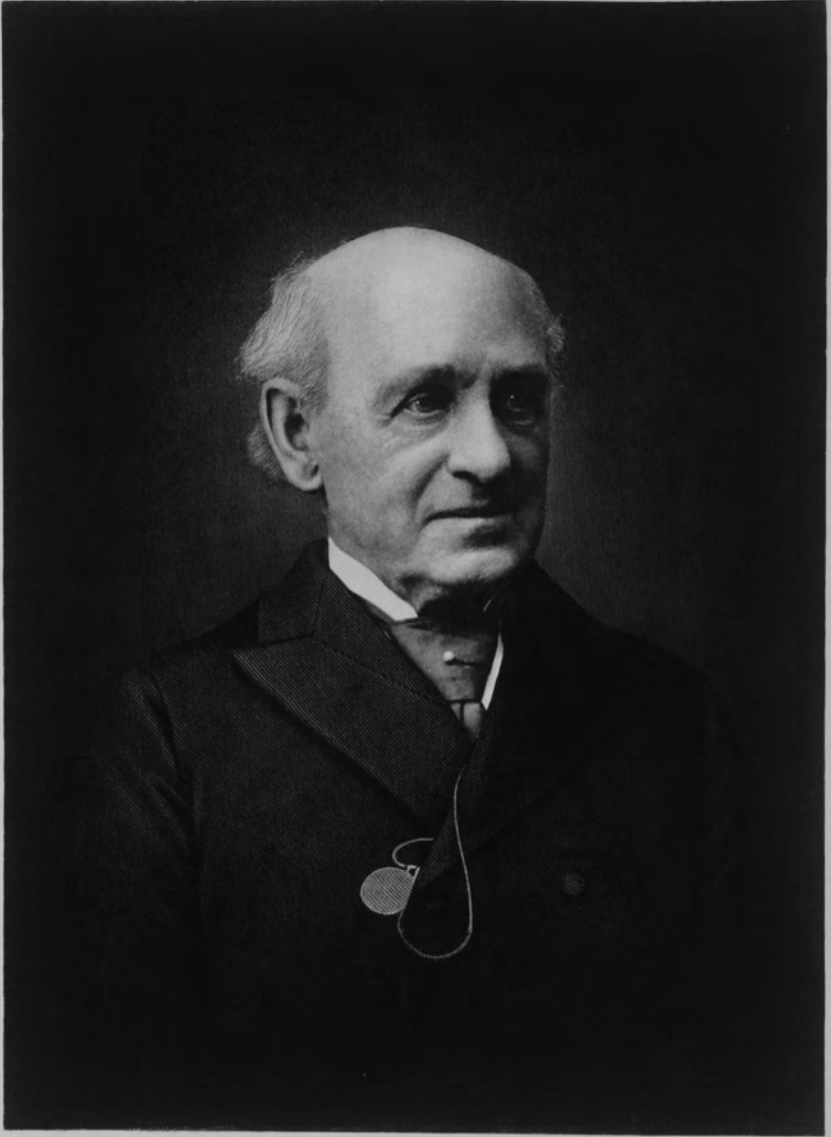
On the 26th of December, 1867, Arthur G. Yates was married to Miss Virginia L. Holden, a daughter of Roswell Holden, of Watkins, New York. Their family numbered five sons and a daughter, but Arthur and Howard L., the fourth and fifth members of the family, are deceased. Those liv-

Arthur G. Yates

ing are Frederick W., Harry, Florence and Russell P. Their attractive home on South Fitzhugh street is justly celebrated for its gracious and charming hospitality.

The family are communicants of St. Paul's Episcopal church, of which Mr. Yates is the oldest warden, having filled the position for more than three decades. At one time he was a trustee of Rochester University and he is a valued member of various social organizations, including the Genesee Valley Club, the Ellicott Square Club of Buffalo, the Duquesne Club of Pittsburg, the Transportation Club of New York and the City Mid Day Club of New York city. He is a man of kindly spirit, of generous disposition and of broad humanitarianism. The accumulation of wealth has never been allowed to affect his relations toward others less fortunate. While he has never courted popularity he holds friendship inviolable, and as true worth may always win his regard he has a very extensive circle of friends. The public work that he has done has been performed as a private citizen, yet has made extensive demands upon his time, his thought and his energies. His aid is never sought in vain for the betterment and improvement of the city. In his life are the elements of greatness because of the use he has made of his talents and of his opportunities, his thoughts being given to the mastery of great problems and the fulfillment of his duty as a man in his relations to his fellowmen and as a citizen in his relations to his state and his country.





*B. H. Clark*

## Brackett H. Clark



HISTORY is no longer a record of wars, conquests and strife between man and man as in former years but is the account of business and intellectual development, and the real upbuilders of a community are they who found and conduct successful commercial and industrial interests. In this connection Brackett H. Clark was widely known, being one of the directors and secretary of the Eastman Kodak Company from its organization in 1884 until his death. He was also financially connected with the Clark Paint & Oil Company, but not active in its management.

Mr. Clark was born in Salem, Massachusetts on the 17th of January, 1821. His youth was passed in that locality and for some time he resided in Virginia and in New York city prior to his arrival in Rochester in 1857. From that time forward he was connected with the business interests of this place. In the year of his arrival he began operating a stave factory at the corner of the Erie canal and Lyell avenue and engaged in the manufacture of staves until 1884. The length of his continuation with this enterprise proves its success. The business gradually developed along healthful lines and he enjoyed a liberal patronage. Each forward step he took in his career brought him a broader outlook and wider view, and having demonstrated his power and capacity in the business world, his co-operation was sought by the Eastman Kodak Company, which he joined upon its organization in 1884, becoming a director and secretary. To know the history of Rochester in the last three decades is to know the history of the Kodak Company. It has become the leader in this line of business in the world and one of the most important enterprises of the city, contributing not only to individual success but also to the growth and development of Rochester through the employment which it furnishes to many hundred people, Mr. Clark brought to his new work keen discernment and native intellectual strength, and as the years passed by he aided in no small measure in the marvelous development of this enterprise, which has now reached mammoth proportions.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Mr. Clark was married to Miss Lucretia Bowker, of Salem, Massachusetts, and a daughter of Joel Bowker,



Brackett H. Clark

one of the old Salem merchants. In their family were two sons: Daniel R. and George H.

Mr. Clark was a republican in politics. He held membership in Plymouth church, in the work of which he was much interested, contributing generously to its support and doing all in his power for its development. He served as a trustee and deacon and the value of his labor in behalf of the church was widely recognized by all who were associated with him in that organization. He was benevolent and kindly, was liberal in his views and possessed a charity that reached out to all humanity. His efforts toward advancing the interests of Rochester are so widely recognized that they can be considered as being no secondary part of his career of signal usefulness. His death occurred March 22, 1900, and thus passed away one who enjoyed to the fullest extent the confidence and respect of all classes of people. Mrs. Clark still survives her husband, residing in the home which he purchased at No. 199 Lake avenue, and she has reached the advanced age of eighty-six years.





*Hiram Sibley*

## Hiram Sibley



**G**REAT leaders are few. The mass of men seem content to remain in the positions in which they are placed by birth, experience or environment. Laudable ambition, ready adaptability and a capacity for hard work are essential elements of success and in none of these requirements was Hiram Sibley ever found lacking. It is not a matter of marvel, therefore, that he occupied a pre-eminent position among the builders of Rochester and the promoters of progress and development in various sections of the country. In fact his interests were so wide that he was a man not of one locality, but of the nation. The eminence to which he attained was due also to the fact that he had the ability to recognize the opportune moment and to correctly appraise the value of a situation and determine its possible outcome. It was these qualities that enabled him to enter upon his first great work in amalgamating and co-ordinating the forces that led to the establishment of the Western Union Telegraph Company. The history of the invention of the telegraph is too well known to need reiteration here. The great majority of the members of congress and the men prominent in the country doubted the worth of the ideas which found birth in the fertile brain of Samuel F. S. Morse. Not so with Mr. Sibley, and with wonderful prescience he recognized what this might mean to the country and his executive ability was brought to play in the organization of what is now one of the most useful and powerful corporations of the world.

No special advantages aided him at the outset of his career. On the contrary he was deprived of many advantages which most boys enjoy. A native of North Adams, Massachusetts, he was born on the 6th of February, 1807, and was the second son of Benjamin and Zilpha (Davis) Sibley, who were representatives of old New England families that had been founded on American soil at an early epoch in our country's history. He had comparatively little hope of acquiring an education but nature endowed him with a strong mind and keen discernment. He possessed, too, much mechanical genius, used every chance which he had for its development and before he had attained his majority was master of five trades. His mechanical knowledge and his skill proved an important factor in the substantial development of Monroe county. Years later, in an address made to the students of Sibley College, on a visit to Ithaca, he gave utterance to words which were typical

## Hiram Sibley

of his own life, saying: "There are two most valuable possessions, which no search warrant can get at, which no execution can take away, and which no reverse of fortune can destroy: they are what a man puts into his head—knowledge; and into his hands—skill."

Mr. Sibley used every opportunity to acquire both and therein lay the foundation of his wonderfully successful career. At the age of sixteen he became a resident of western New York, locating first in Livingston county, where for several years he carried on business as a wool carder, machinist and iron founder. In 1829 he came to Monroe county and the following year entered into partnership with D. A. Watson in the building and operation of a sawmill and factory for the building of wool carding machines. They also began the manufacture of agricultural implements, having the first blast furnace and machine shop in Monroe county. Around the new enterprise there sprang up a flourishing village which was called Sibleyville. In his business Mr. Sibley gave employment to eighty men but later he and his partner were called elsewhere by more extensive business interests and the town gradually sank into decadence, so that only the mill and shop mark its site at the present time.

Having been elected sheriff of Monroe county in 1843, Mr. Sibley removed to Rochester, where he afterward continued to reside. Previous to this time he had become deeply interested in the experiments of Professor S. F. B. Morse and Stephen Vail in telegraphy, and in 1840 had gone to Washington with Professor Morse and Ezra Cornell to secure an appropriation of forty thousand dollars from congress to build a telegraph line from Washington to Baltimore. They were successful in their mission and the success of the line and the subsequent development of telegraphic communication is now a matter of history. Quickly following on the successful establishment of this pioneer line several telegraph companies were organized but they met with financial disaster. With firm faith in the invention and with a keen foresight which recognized possibilities and the influence it would have upon the world's progress, Mr. Sibley bought the house patents and with other Rochester capitalists organized the New York & Mississippi Valley Printing Telegraph Company on April 1, 1851. The first hundred miles of the line were finished that year. Three years later the company leased the lines of the Lake Erie Telegraph Company. At this time Ezra Cornell was in possession of valuable grants under the Morse patent and controlled the Erie & Michigan Telegraph Company. Mr. Sibley then opened negotiations with Mr. Cornell and in 1856 the companies controlled by them were united by acts of the Wisconsin and New York legislatures under the name of the Western Union Telegraph Company. For ten years Mr. Sibley was president of the new company and for sixteen years a leading member of its board of directors. During the first six years of his presidency the number of telegraph offices was increased from one hundred and thirty-two to four thousand and the property



Hiram Sibley

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arose in value from two hundred and twenty thousand to forty-eight million dollars.

It was Hiram Sibley who projected the Atlantic and Pacific line to California and it was built under his direction and control. His associates were unwilling to undertake the enterprise as a company and Cyrus W. Field, Wilson G. Hunt, Peter Cooper and others, engaged in large undertakings at the time, whom he strove to interest in the matter, also deemed the project premature. With a persistence and confidence in the soundness of his judgment which were characteristics of the man, he then presented his project to congress and was heartily supported by Howell Cobb, secretary of the treasury. June 16, 1860, an act was passed encouraging the project and granting an annual subsidy of forty thousand dollars for ten years, and on the 22d of September his offer to construct the lines was officially accepted. The Overland Telegraph Company was organized in San Francisco and the two companies uniting their interests, the Pacific Telegraph Company came into existence. Five months later the line was open from ocean to ocean—ten years in advance of the completion of a transcontinental railroad! A profitable investment from the start, this line on March 17, 1864, was merged into the Western Union Telegraph system. Before the success of the Atlantic cable was assured Mr. Sibley was interested in a project to unite the old and the new world electrically by way of Behring strait. In the furtherance of that enterprise he made a visit to Russia in 1864-5, and was received most cordially by the czar, who assigned to his American guest the second place of honor at state functions, the French ambassador alone taking precedence of him. The Russian government entered into hearty co-operation with the American projectors for the establishment of the line, which would undoubtedly have been built had not the Atlantic cable been put in successful operation about that time.

In addition to his labors for the introduction of the telegraph, Mr. Sibley was largely instrumental in promoting other enterprises, for with wonderful foresight he believed in the rapid development of the western country. After the war, prompted more by the desire of restoring amicable relations than by the prospect of gain, he made large and varied investments in railroads in the south and did much to promote renewed business activity. He became extensively interested in lumber and salt manufacturing in the west and was the owner of nearly three hundred and fifty farms in Ford and Livingston counties, Illinois. At one time he possessed forty-seven thousand acres in Ford county alone and on his land he made splendid improvements of a substantial and extensive character. He also had a farm of three thousand acres near Port Byron, New York, and made it a model country seat, adding all the modern accessories connected with the life of the agriculturist. He also established a large seed-raising business in Rochester, with warehouses in this city and Chicago and undertook to supply seeds of his own importation and raising and others' growth, under a personal knowledge of their vitality and compara-

## Hiram Sibley

tive value. He instituted many experiments for the improvement of plants, with reference to their seed-bearing qualities, and built up a business as unique in its character as it was unprecedented in amount. He was president of the Bank of Monroe and connected with many other Rochester institutions that led to the upbuilding of the city.

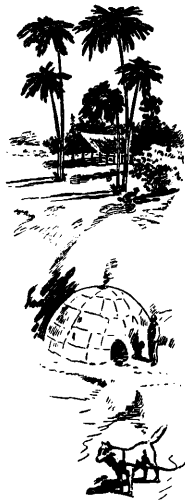
His broad humanitarian spirit, however, was manifest in many other ways. His deep appreciation of the value of education and his desire for the mental improvement of America was substantially manifest in a most practical way. He endowed a number of institutions for the promotion of learning and established Sibley Hall for the use of the library of the University of Rochester, at a cost of one hundred thousand dollars. He gave to it many valuable volumes and provided for the free use of the library by the public. He was one of the trustees to incorporate the Reynolds Library. He also endowed the Sibley College of Mechanical Arts at Cornell University at a cost of two hundred thousand dollars, and thus set in motion a movement of intellectual advancement, the influence of which is incalculable.

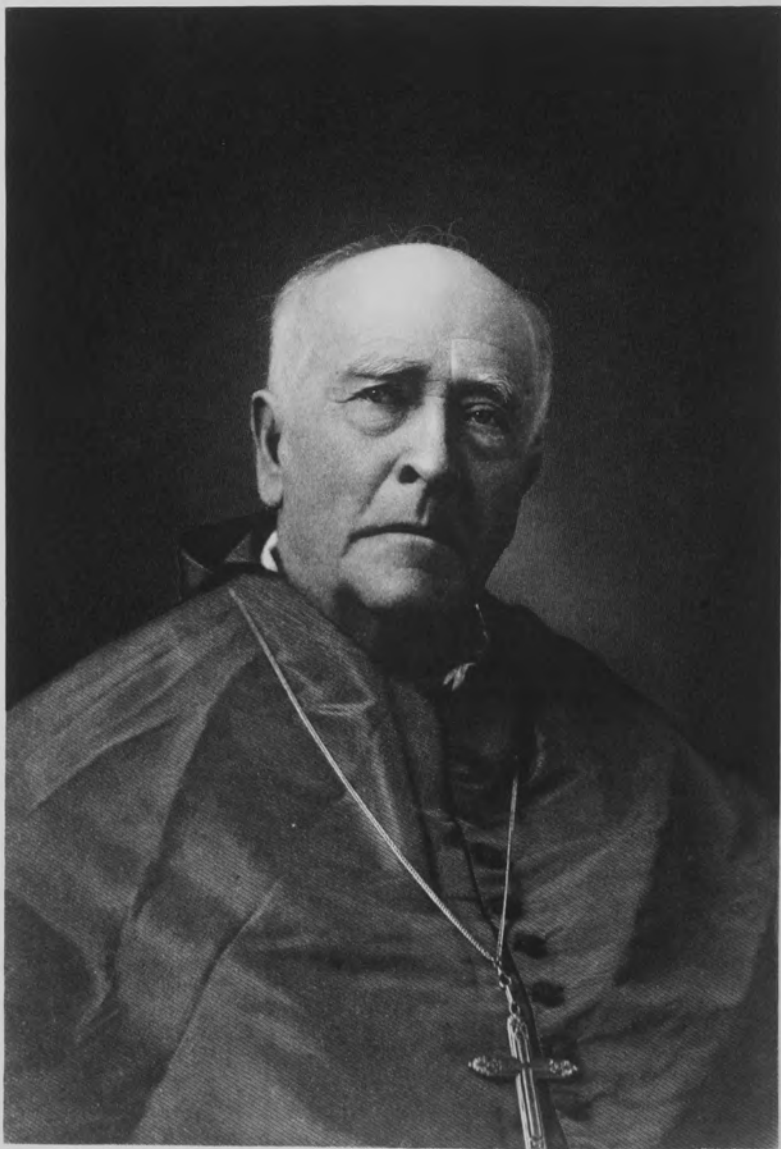
Mr. Sibley was particularly happy in his home life. He married Elizabeth M. Tinker, a daughter of Giles and Zilphia (Knight) Tinker, who were natives of Connecticut. Her father was a cloth manufacturer and furrier at North Adams, Massachusetts, and there he and his wife remained until called to their final home. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sibley were born the following named: Louise, who became the wife of Hobart F. Atkinson, and died in 1868, at the age of thirty-four, leaving two children—Elizabeth, wife of Arthur Smith, and Marie L., who married Harry H. Perkins; Giles B., who died at the age of two years; Hiram Watson, of Rochester; and Emily, the wife of James S. Watson. Like her husband, Mrs. Sibley delighted in doing good, and was long actively connected with the Church Home of Rochester, to which she was a generous contributor. This is a denominational establishment conducted under the auspices of the Episcopal church and was founded in 1868. Destitute children are there instructed and aged communicants have found an abiding place there. Mrs. Sibley also erected St. John's Episcopal church in North Adams, Massachusetts, her native village, at a cost of twenty-five thousand dollars, and a few years later she added a new chancel at a cost of twenty-five thousand dollars more. Her private charities and benefactions were many, for her heart was most sympathetic, and the worthy poor never sought her aid in vain. She has passed away and Mr. Sibley died July 12, 1888, after reaching the eighty-first milestone on life's journey, but as long as the history of America and its progress shall be recorded his name will be closely interwoven therewith for what he did in the promotion of its telegraphic and railroad interests and also by reason of his efforts for educational advancement. Of him a contemporary biographer has said: "He amassed wealth, but was most generous and helpful in his use of it. His association with one of the most important inventions the world has ever known

## Hiram Sibley

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would of itself class him among the foremost men of the nineteenth century, but his nature was so broad, his resources so great and his mentality so strong that his efforts in that line were but the initial step in a most active and useful career, whereby the world has been enriched materially, mentally and morally."





T. B. J. McQuaid  
Bishop of Rochester



## Bishop B. J. McQuaid



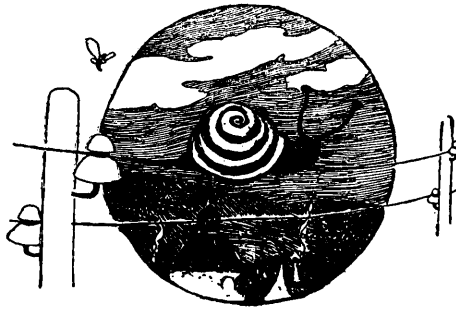
THE STORY of the Catholic church in the city of Rochester has been told at length elsewhere. It was in Rochester's earliest days a religious factor and at present presents a superb organization and great possibilities for civic and moral good. In the development of Catholicity the principal honor is due to Bernard John McQuaid. Unlike the earliest prelates of the Catholic church, Bishop McQuaid is an American. He was born in the city of New York on the 15th of December, 1823. As a boy he lived in New Jersey and in his father's house the Catholics of New Jersey held their first religious service. When a mere lad of fourteen he was sent to school to Canada, and for several years remained in a classical school at Chambly. Returning to New York he entered upon his ecclesiastical studies at St. John's Fordham. There he completed his theological course, and was raised to the priesthood in the old Mott street cathedral on the 16th of January, 1848.

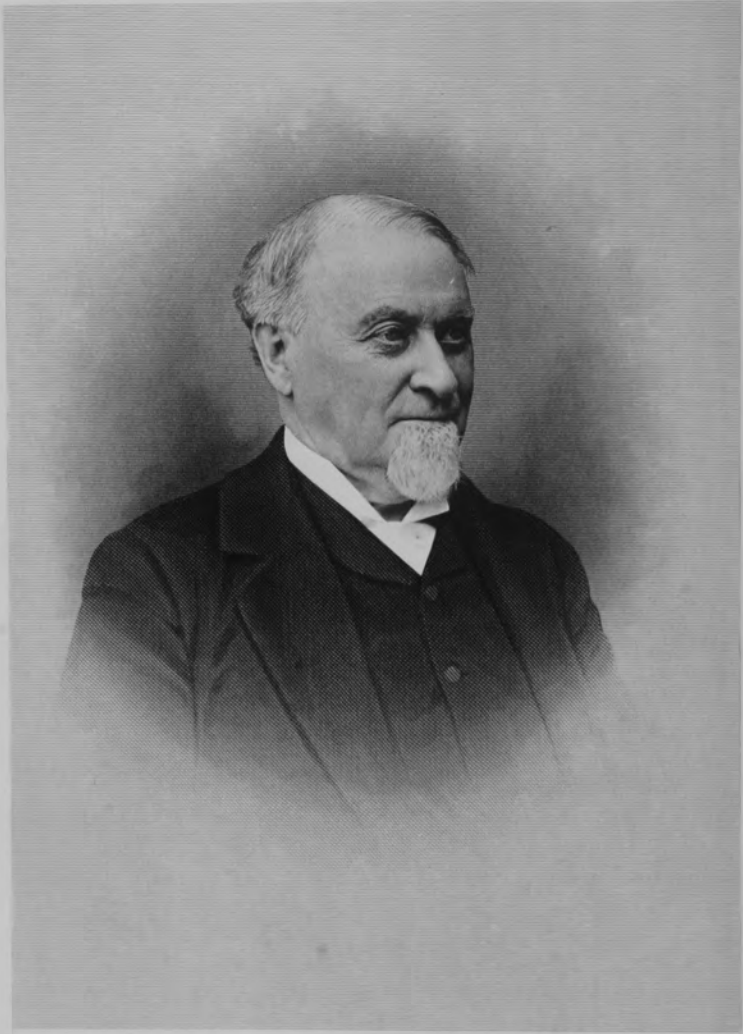
His first work in the ministry was in and about Madison, New Jersey. In 1853, when James Roosevelt Bayley was made first bishop of Newark, the young Father McQuaid was called to the rectorship of the new cathedral and made vicar general. Two great institutions, which remain in glory even to our time, owe their existence and their permanence to the efforts and the wisdom of Bishop McQuaid—Seton Hall College and Seminary and St. Elizabeth's College for Young Ladies. The latter school is also the headquarters of the great teaching order of the Sisters of Charity of New Jersey, which was established back in the '50s under the direction of Dr. McQuaid. In 1868 he was created bishop of Rochester and consecrated in the New York cathedral by Archbishop, afterward Cardinal, McCloskey, on the 12th of July. For upward of forty years Bishop McQuaid has been closely identified with the religious and civic growth of our city, and there is no Catholic institution here which does not owe its development, if not its origin, to his zeal and foresight. He has been particularly interested in the promotion of Christian education, and has written largely on this subject. In the early '70s he lectured throughout the United States on the education of the masses from the Catholic standpoint, and those lectures have been published in a volume entitled "Christian Free Schools."

The crowning work of his administration has been the erection of St. An-

Bishop B. J. McQuaid

drew's Preparatory Seminary under the shadow of the cathedral, and St. Bernard's Seminary for higher theological studies, situated on Charlotte boulevard. The bishop has been largely interested in the public and private charities of this section and particularly has he shown zeal in providing spiritual assistance to the inmates of the public institutions. He has been a member of the park board from its inception and has been second to none in aiding the park work. At the age of eighty-four years he is still hale and hearty and gives promise of many years of added usefulness.





*D. W. Powers*

## Daniel W. Powers



**A**S SOME one has expressed it, "to know Rochester is to know Powers." In other words, the name of Powers is inseparably interwoven with the history of the city, its commercial enterprise and business development, and Daniel W. Powers was the first builder of the modern business structure which is now a typical feature in every progressive city. The spirit of advancement which he thus manifested characterized him in all of his business undertakings and made him one of the most prosperous, as well as best known, citizens of Monroe county. Born in Batavia, Genesee county, New York, on the 14th of June, 1818, he was a son of Asahel and Elizabeth (Powell) Powers, who were natives of Vermont. On leaving New England they removed to western New York, establishing their home in this section of the Empire State when it was largely an unimproved district, giving little evidence of its present development and upbuilding. The father died about 1821 and the mother survived until the period of the Civil war.

Following his father's death Daniel W. Powers made his home with an uncle and his early experiences were those of farm life. He worked in the fields from the time of early spring planting until after crops were harvested in the late autumn, but the pursuits of a mercantile career seemed more attractive and at the age of nineteen he became a salesman in the hardware store of Ebenezer Watts of Rochester. For twelve years thereafter he was connected with the hardware trade, during which time the careful husbanding of his resources, together with the increase in his salary as his years and efficiency advanced, brought him capital that enabled him to engage in business on his own account as a banker and broker on the 1st of March, 1850. He made the announcement to the public through the columns of the paper that he would conduct an "Exchange business in the Eagle block, Rochester, one door west of the Monroe Bank in Buffalo street." The new enterprise prospered from the beginning. He gave close and earnest attention to his business and the public soon recognized that he was thoroughly trustworthy, reliable and competent, so that his patronage therefore increased and in years brought him a handsome fortune. His success in the undertaking is evidenced by the fact that on the site of his original office now stands the beautiful and substantial Powers fireproof building, the first as well as the finest and most celebrated of the great modern

**Daniel W. Powers**

commercial structures erected in the city. He continued to engage in the banking business until his death and was recognized as one of the foremost financiers of western New York, not unknown throughout the entire state and in other sections of the country. In addition to the Powers block he erected the Powers Hotel, scarcely equaled in the state outside of New York City. Mr. Powers was one of the best balanced because one of the most masterful of men. He rated his own powers and opportunities at their just worth and recognized the possibilities of every business situation. He never allowed anything to divert his attention from his business or to detract from the devotion which he gave to his clients' interests.

It was not alone through his private business affairs, however, that Mr. Powers became reckoned as one of the most distinguished and prominent citizens of Rochester. His labors were of the utmost benefit to the city along various lines of progress. He was one of the founders of the present park system and was a member of the commission which directed the construction of the city hall and the elevation of the Central Hudson Railroad tracks. Twice he served as alderman and his official prerogatives were exercised in support of valuable measures. The Rochester City Hospital found in him a stalwart friend and champion and for many years he was president of its board of trustees. He was likewise president of the board of trustees of the Home of the Friendless and a member of the board of trustees of the Industrial School. He was charitable and benevolent, giving freely of his means to ameliorate hard conditions of life for others and in all of his benefactions was entirely free from ostentation or display. He recognized individual responsibility and his charitable work was conducted as was his business—from a sense of duty, of privilege and of pleasure.

Mr. Powers was married twice. His first wife, who in her maidenhood was Miss Lucinda Young, died in early womanhood, leaving a son, Edward, who passed away in youth. In 1856 Mr. Powers wedded Miss Helen M. Craig, a daughter of the late John Craig of Niagara county, who was one of the early retired citizens of Rochester. He removed from Niagara county to that city and became the owner of extensive real-estate interests here. His birth occurred in New Hampshire, his father being Colonel Joseph Craig, who won distinction as an officer in the Revolutionary war. John Craig was united in marriage to Miss Rhoda Fassett and died at the age of seventy-seven years, while his wife's death occurred when she was seventy-one years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Powers became the parents of five children: Helen, the wife of J. W. Aitken of New York city; William C., a resident of New York city; Jessie, the wife of G. N. Perkins, and John Craig and Walter W., who make their home in Rochester.

Mr. Powers attained the Knight Templar degree in Masonry and was an attendant on the services of the Brick church, to which he gave liberal support. His was an especially well rounded character. While he achieved success in

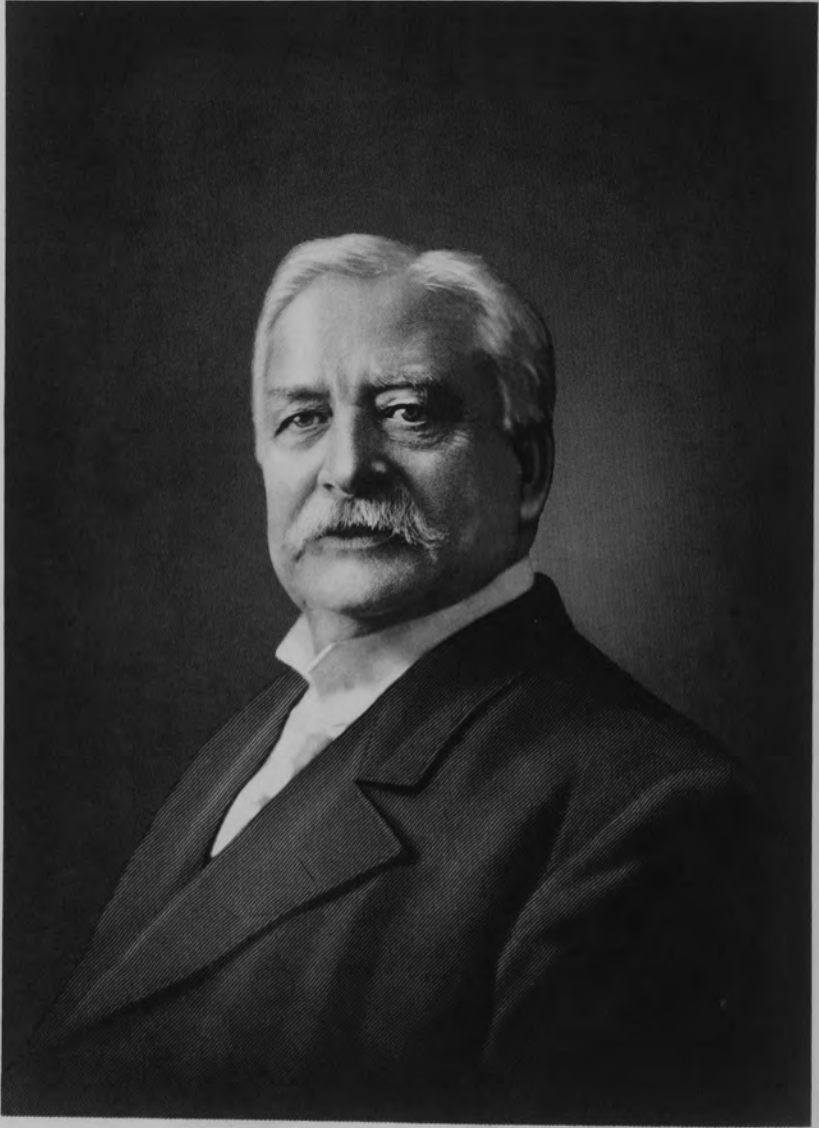


**Daniel W. Powers**

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business that would alone entitle him to distinction, his interests beyond this were most varied and extensive. He was a patron of art and the founder of the famous Powers Art Gallery, valued at more than a million dollars. His knowledge of artists and their work was very extensive and his judgment discriminating. The beautiful in form and color had great attraction for him and he possessed that breadth of mind which induces interest in all that is refining and elevating. At all times he kept in touch with the progress of the land, being a man of broad general information. He traveled extensively, going abroad several times and visiting many points of historic, modern and scenic interest in the old world, as well as in his native land. He was imbued at all times with the spirit of advancement and progress may well be termed the keynote of his character. In the counting house or the office he was regarded as a most level-headed business man, but when the call for aid was made he was found to be most sympathetic and charitable. If one met him in the galleries at home or abroad he might well have been judged a connoisseur of art and in social circles he was found to be a most genial and companionable gentleman. A resident of Rochester from early manhood, he was honored and respected by all and his name stood to the outside world largely as a synonym of Rochester's greatness and upbuilding.





Walter B. Duff

## Walter B. Duffy



FOR MORE than two-thirds of a century the name of Duffy has been found on the record of Rochester's active and successful business men. It is doubtful if in recent years any resident of the city has done more for its commercial development and for its progress along other lines than has Walter B. Duffy, vice president of the National Bank of Rochester, president of the New York & Kentucky Company, president of the American Fruit Product Company and director of the German Insurance Company, the Rochester Trust and Safe Deposit Company and the Pfaudler Company.

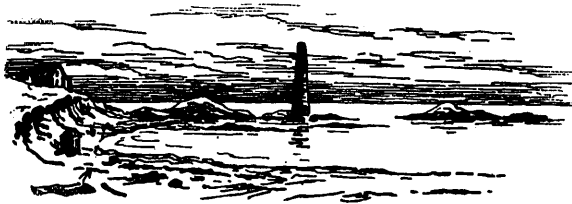
Born in Canada on the 8th of August, 1840, he was little more than a year old at the time of the removal of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Duffy, to Rochester. His early education was acquired in public school No. 6 and subsequently he spent two years as a student in St. Hyacinth College, near Montreal, Canada. Returning to Rochester, he again became a pupil in the public school and in 1856 he went to Toronto, where he devoted two years to study in St. Michael's College. Returning to Rochester, he entered upon his business career at the age of seventeen years in his father's store and continued with him until 1868, when he purchased the business. In the development of the enterprise Mr. Duffy has displayed the most modern and progressive methods. He has employed a system of advertising that has made Duffy whiskey known throughout the length and breadth of the land. This introduction to public attention, combined with the high standard of excellence always maintained in the product, has resulted in the development of one of Rochester's most extensive and profitable productive industries. Not alone has Mr. Duffy confined his attention to one line. On the contrary he has been watchful of business opportunities and has utilized the advantages which are offered in the business world. He is particularly prominent in financial circles, having been president of the Flour City Bank until its consolidation with the Commercial Bank and the German American Bank into the National Bank of Rochester, of which he is now the vice president. He is, moreover, a director of the Rochester Trust and Safe Deposit Company and of the German Insurance Company. He was a prime factor in the organization of the New York & Kentucky Company in 1900 and since that time has been its president. He is also the chief officer of the American Fruit Product Company, organized in 1904, and is a director of

Walter B. Duffy

the Pfaudler Company. He was the builder and owner of the National Theatre and the principal factor in building and financing the new Hotel Rochester. He was also the prime factor in the organization of the firm of Duffy & McInnerny, owners of Rochester's largest department store and other extensive financial and commercial interests. Complex business problems are to him easy of solution, because of his watchfulness of every detail bearing upon ultimate results, because of his marked ability in co-ordinating forces and because of the readiness with which he formulates and executes his plans.

In 1868 was celebrated the marriage of Walter B. Duffy and Miss Theresa O'Dea. They had nine children, five sons and four daughters: Dr. Edward F. Duffy, a resident of Yonkers, N. Y.; Claude, who died in infancy; Mary Theresa; Walter J.; Agnes A.; James P. B.; Harriet Jane Catherine, twin sister of James; G. Paul and Constance Josephine. The mother died in 1884 and in 1892, in London, England, Mr. Duffy wedded Miss Loretta Putman.

He is a communicant of the Catholic church and has done as much as any man in recent years for the improvement of Rochester. He is eminently practical and his plans for the city and its welfare have resulted in tangible improvement. He has been characterized as a "big brained, big hearted, courteous gentleman." Much of his time has been in recent years devoted to the betterment of conditions among the poorer classes and at all times he manifests a philanthropic spirit that gives ready response to a call for needed aid from individual, organization or municipality. Rochester acknowledges her indebtedness to him along many lines.





Eng'd by W.T. Barber Bklyn. N.Y.

Henry C. Brewster



## Henry C. Brewster



IT IS THE records of such men as Henry C. Brewster that stand as contradictory evidence of the statement, too often heard, that America is given over to the spirit of commercialism; that business and naught else claims the attention and efforts of our leading men. Rochester knows Henry Brewster as a financier of eminent ability, but knows him moreover as a public-spirited citizen, as a man of benevolences, of kindly purposes and high ideals. The great interests of the country at large—politics, the church and the charities—have made claims upon his attention, claims that he has fully met, and while the business activity and prosperity of the city have been greatly augmented through his labors, her public welfare has profited by his efforts and his history is one which reflects honor and credit upon Monroe county and the state at large.

Rochester may well be proud to number him among her native sons. The ancestral history is one of close connection with America through many generations. His parents were Simon L. and Editha (Colvin) Brewster. The father, who was born in the town of Griswold, New London county, Connecticut, in 1811, acquired his education in the common schools and afterward became connected with the business interests of his native town. For ten years he was there engaged in manufacturing and in his thirtieth year he removed to Rochester, New York, where for eighteen years he was a prominent representative of mercantile interests. On the expiration of that period he retired from business life in 1859, but four years afterward again took his place in the business world, being elected president of the Traders Bank in 1863. Two years subsequently this was re-organized under the national bank act under the name of the Traders National Bank and Simon L. Brewster continued as its president until his death, which occurred in August, 1898. He was, therefore, for more than a third of a century at the head of this important financial institution and under his guidance it took rank among the leading moneyed concerns of the Empire state. Its business covered every department of banking and its financial strength, based upon the well known reliability and business methods of its president and other stockholders and officers, secured to it a constantly increasing patronage. In 1844 Mr. Brewster was united in marriage to Miss Editha Colvin, a daughter of Hiram D. Colvin, of Rochester. She died in 1899.

The 7th of September, 1845, was the natal day of Henry C. Brewster, who

was reared amid the refining influences of a home of culture. Between the ages of six and eighteen years his time and attention were largely given to the acquirement of an education and he then became a factor in financial circles, entering the Traders National Bank in the fall of 1863. No parental influence smoothed his pathway or released him from the arduous work which constitutes the basis of advancement and success. It was personal merit that gained him promotion as he mastered the various tasks assigned to him in the different positions which he filled in the bank. He realized that there is no excellence without labor and in the years which followed he so thoroughly acquainted himself with the banking business that in July, 1868, he was chosen by the vote of the directors to the office of cashier, in which he continued to serve for more than twenty-six years. He was then elected to the vice presidency in the fall of 1894 and five years later succeeded his father as president of the Traders National Bank, since remaining at the head of the institution.

For forty-four years Henry C. Brewster has been a factor in financial circles in Rochester, his usefulness and activity constantly increasing as time has passed. He was for many years the first vice president of the Rochester Trust & Safe Deposit Company and for a considerable period was president of the Genesee Valley Trust Company, which was organized by him. In 1893 he became the founder of the Alliance Bank of Rochester and for nearly seven years served as its first vice president. He was the first president of the Rochester Clearing House Association, in which capacity he served for five years, and he became a charter member of the Chamber of Commerce, of which he has twice served as president, and for two terms he was its first vice president. As a financier he is known and honored throughout New York. In 1899 he was elected to the presidency of the New York State Bankers Association, which he had assisted in organizing five years before, acting as its vice president during the first year of its existence. He was also vice president of the American Bankers Association from the state of New York for five years. His course has ever been such as would bear the closest investigation and scrutiny. There is in him a native sagacity and a weight of character that well qualify him for leadership and command for him admiration and confidence. No trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree and in fact his entire career has been an exemplification of the old and time-tried maxim that honesty is the best policy.

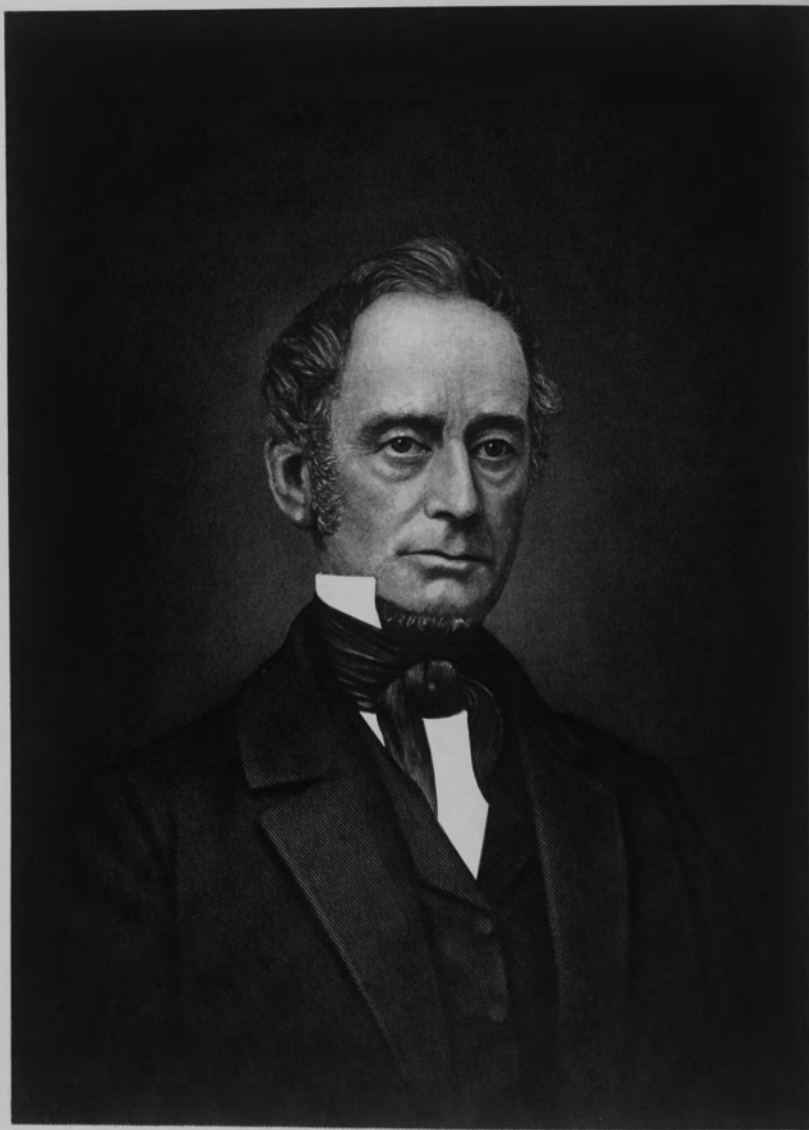
His broad humanitarianism has led to his support of various charitable and benevolent interests and, while report says that he gives generously in cases of need, he has always done so in a most unostentatious manner. In fact, he is opposed to display of any character and is never given to weighing any act in the scale of public policy. Principle has guided his conduct and shaped his course and his views of life are based upon a recognition of individual responsibility and the brotherhood of man. He has served as one of the trustees of St. Peter's Presbyterian church and is connected with the Rochester Homeopathic

## Henry C. Brewster

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Hospital as a member of the board of governors.. He acted as its first treasurer and has done much in the interests of that institution. Socially he is connected with the Genesee Valley and the Country Clubs of Rochester, while his membership relations also extend to the Union League Club of New York city and the Strollers Club of New York. In those societies which foster patriotism, historical research and an appreciation of the honor which is ever due to a worthy ancestry, he is also known. He is a member of the Society of Mayflower Descendants, being eligible by reason of the fact that his ancestry is directly traceable to Elder William Brewster, who crossed the Atlantic in the historic vessel which brought the first settlers to New England. He is likewise a member of the Society of Colonial Wars, the Sons of the American Revolution, the Society of the War of 1812, of Philadelphia, and the New England Society of New York. In his citizenship he has ever stood for advancement and improvement and is not unknown in political circles. On the contrary, he believes it the duty as well as the privilege of every American citizen to exercise his right of franchise and support those principles which seem most beneficial in bringing about good government. His stalwart republicanism and his well known devotion to high ideals in political life led to his selection in the fall of 1894 for representation in congress from the thirty-first district of New York. He served in the fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth congresses and during his first term was a member of the committee on coinage, weights and measures. The following term he was made chairman of the committee on the alcoholic liquor traffic and a member of the committee on invalid pensions. In 1900 he represented New York in the republican national convention, which placed William McKinley at the head of the ticket, and was an alternate at large in 1904. He was a member of the New York Chamber of Commerce for about ten years.

Most happily situated in his home life, Henry C. Brewster was married in October, 1876, to Miss Alice Chapin, a daughter of Louis Chapin of Rochester, and they have two daughters, Rachel A. and Editha C. Their home is the center of a cultured society circle and their friends are many. Mr. Brewster has never allowed the accumulation of wealth to affect in any way his manner toward those less fortunate and entrance to the circle of his friends is gained by character worth and not by material possessions. His associates know him as a most genial, kindly gentleman and, while he has made the acquaintance of many men distinguished in state and national affairs, he holds as his most priceless treasure the friendship and respect of his fellow townsmen, among whom his entire life has been passed and who are thoroughly familiar with his history from his boyhood down to the present time.



*Edward L. M.*

## Eberard Peck



EVERARD PECK was born at Berlin, Connecticut, November 6, 1791, and died at Rochester, New York, February 9, 1854. Having gone to Hartford, Connecticut, at the age of seventeen, he learned there the book binder's trade, and, having completed his apprenticeship, went from there to Albany, New York, where he plied his vocation for a few years. Not succeeding as well as he had hoped, he came to Rochester in 1816, bringing with him the implements of his calling and a small stock of books. Many of the incidents of his life have been mentioned in the first volume of this work in connection with the growth of the little hamlet, its expansion into a village and thence into a city. For the remainder it is deemed sufficient to give the following extract from an article in one of the daily papers at the time of his death:

"Seeing, through the discomforts and rudeness of the settlement, indications which promised a prosperous future, he set up the double business of book selling and book binding. Being prosperous in business he enlarged his facilities by opening a printing office and commencing, in 1818, the publication of the Rochester Telegraph, a weekly journal. He afterward erected a paper mill, which he operated with great success until it was burned. Mr. Peck left the book business in 1831. After three or four years, in which he was out of health—so that, for recovery, he was obliged to spend one or two winters in Florida and Cuba—he engaged in the banking business and was connected successively with the Bank of Orleans, the Rochester City Bank and the Commercial Bank of Rochester, being the vice president of the last named institution at the time of his death. Immediately on taking up his residence here Mr. Peck gave his warm support to the infant charitable and religious enterprises of the place, and from that time to this has been the devoted friend of all such institutions. To public office he did not aspire, but labors for the poor, the suffering and the orphan he never shunned. The successful establishment of the University of Rochester was in a large measure owing to his exertions in its behalf. The friends of the institution accorded to him merited praise, and they will ever respect his memory. Up to the time of his death he was a member of its board of trustees. He was one of the zealous promoters and founders of the Rochester Orphan Asylum. Our citizens have been accustomed to rely upon his judgment in all matters of moment pertaining to the common weal, and he



Eberard Peck

always exhibited a sagacity and solicitude for the welfare of the people which entitled him to the public confidence.

"He was thrice married—in 1820, to Chloe Porter, who died in 1830; in 1836, to Martha Farley, who died in 1851; in 1852, to Mrs. Alice Bacon Walker, who survives him.\*

"For more than two years past Mr. Peck has been suffering from a pulmonary complaint, and he spent the winter of 1852-53 in the Bermudas, but without obtaining relief from the disease. He has, since his return, been secluded in the sick room, gradually declining until he expired, surrounded by his wife and all his surviving children."

It may be not inappropriate to give as a reminiscence the following extract from an article in the Albany Evening Journal of February 21, 1854, by the pen of Thurlow Weed, then at the head of that paper, in which, after copying a long biographical sketch of Mr. Peck from the columns of the New Haven Daily Palladium of a few days before, Mr. Weed remarks:

"This deserved tribute to the memory of 'a just man made perfect' comes from one who knew the deceased well. The editor of the Palladium grew up under Mr. Peck's teachings and was long a member of his household, a household whose memory is hallowed in many grateful hearts." In another paragraph the editor of the Palladium alludes to our own relations to Mr. Peck, but in a spirit of kindness which excludes all but the following from these columns:

"Mr. Weed, of the Albany Evening Journal, began his career in the Rochester Telegraph office. He was a young man wholly without means when he applied for employment. We remember Mr. Weed's application as though it were but yesterday. Mr. Peck at first declined his offer, but there was something in Mr. Weed's manner that touched a sympathetic chord in Mr. Peck's bosom and he called him back and gave him the post of assistant editor, where he soon made the Telegraph one of the most popular journals in western New York.

"The heart upon which the memory of its early benefactor is engraven will glow with gratitude until its pulsations cease. We were, indeed, wholly without means and with a young family dependent upon our labor, when, thirty-two years ago we applied to Eberard Peck for employment. He did not really want a journeyman, but his kindly nature prompted him to an effort in our behalf. It was agreed that in addition to the ordinary labor as a journeyman in the office we should assist Mr. Peck, who had the charge of his book store and paper mill, in editing the Telegraph. But our friend did not content himself with giving employment. We enjoyed, with our family, the hospitality of his mansion until a humble tenement (tenements were scarce in Rochester in those days) could be rented. The compensation agreed upon was four hundred dollars per annum. That year glided pleasantly and peacefully away, teaching lessons to which memory recurs with pleasure and in forming ties that have linked

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\*Mrs. Alice B. Peck died December 2, 1881

Eberard Peck

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us in after life to dear and cherished friends. At the close of the year Mr. Peck added one hundred dollars to our salary, with expressions of confidence and regard which enhanced the value of his gratuity. And ever after, through whatever of vicissitudes and change we have passed, that good man's counsels and friendship have helped to smooth and cheer our pathway."





John M. Lee, M.D.

## John Mallory Lee, M. D.



**J**OHN MALLORY LEE, a native of this state, was born in Cameron, Steuben county, on the 29th day of September, 1852, and he is among the most prominent physicians engaged in practice in Rochester. He is descended from good old Revolutionary stock. His paternal great-grandfather aided the colonies in their struggle for independence and members of his family served in the late war of the Rebellion. The Doctor's grandfather was one of the early settlers of Steuben county, New York, where he carried on farming for many years, and there the Doctor's father, Joseph R. Lee, spent his entire life. He engaged in business as a contractor and builder throughout the years of his manhood; he also served as justice of the peace and was a deacon and chorister in the Baptist church of South Pulteney. In early life he married Miss Sarah Wagener, a daughter of Melchoir Wagener and a grand-daughter of David Wagener, who was of German birth and a Quaker. He removed from Pennsylvania to Yates county, New York, at an early day and became the owner of a large tract of land on which Penn Yan was afterward laid out. He was prominently identified with the development and up-building of the village, to which he gave its name, taken from "Penn" and "Yankee." He contributed the site for the cemetery and was the first white man to be buried there. His oldest son, Melchoir, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, moved to Pulteney in 1811, where he purchased a section of land and developed extensive milling interests. During her girlhood days Mrs. Lee attended the Franklin Academy at Prattsburg, New York, where she was graduated. She died in 1898 at the age of ninety-three years and long survived her husband, who passed away in 1861. They were people of prominence in the community where they made their home and were highly respected.

Left fatherless at the early age of nine years, Dr. Lee has practically made his own way in the world and success is due to his untiring efforts. He attended the schools of Pulteney, Steuben county; the Penn Yan Academy, and was also instructed by a college professor at Palo, Michigan, where he was employed as clerk in a drug store for three years. Under his guidance Dr. Lee was fitted to enter college and he graduated from the University of Michigan in 1878 with the degree of M. D.

He opened an office in Rochester in June, 1878, and engaged in general

John Mallory Lee, M. D.

practice for nine years, but finally decided to devote his attention to surgery and with this end in view he took post graduate work in the Polyclinic of New York city in 1889 and the Post Graduate School of New York in 1890, 1891, 1892 and 1894. He is to-day numbered among the most eminent surgeons of the state and has met with remarkable success in his practice. He assisted in founding the Rochester Homeopathic Hospital and its Training School for Nurses and was vice president of the medical and surgical staff of the hospital during the first ten years of its existence. He has also been surgeon, surgeon-in-chief and consulting surgeon at different times. In 1897 he established a private hospital at 179 Lake avenue and from the start success has attended his efforts in this direction.

Dr. Lee stands deservedly high in the estimation of his fellow practitioners and he has been called upon to serve in many positions of honor and trust, such as president of the homeopathic medical societies of Monroe county, of western New York and of the New York state society. He is a member of the Alpha Sigma fraternity, Ann Arbor chapter; president of the Alumni Association of the Homeopathic Department of the University of Michigan; an honorary member of the Homeopathic Medical Society of the state of Michigan; and a member of the American Institute of Homeopathy. He was also chairman of the legislative committee appointed by the State Homeopathic Medical Society of New York, which committee secured the appropriation for the establishment of the Gowanda State Homeopathic Hospital for the Insane, an institution which has accommodations for about nine hundred patients. The Doctor has been president of the New York state board of homeopathic medical examiners and the joint board composed of the three recognized schools of medicine. He is an associate alumnus of the New York Homeopathic Medical College, and belongs to the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Central New York; the Surgical and Gynecological Association of the American Institute of Homeopathy, the National Society of Electro-therapeutists, consulting surgeon to the Gowanda State Hospital and censor of the Cleveland Homeopathic Medical College. For several years Dr. Lee was associate editor of the Physicians and Surgeons Investigator and was one of the corps of writers of the Homeopathic Text-Book of Surgery. His original research and investigation have led to the preparation of many valuable papers and addresses which may be found in the transactions of these societies and the magazines of his school.

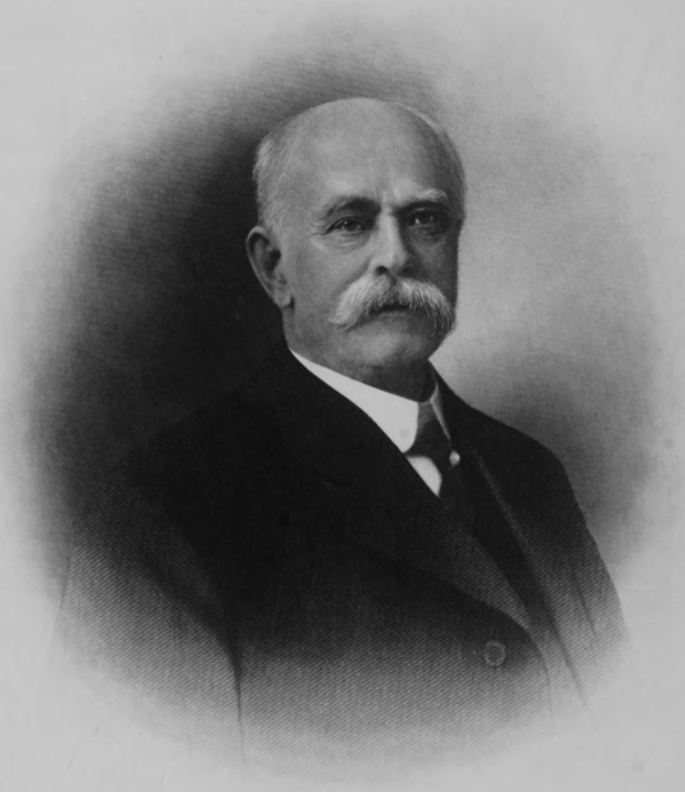
Dr. Lee was married September 28, 1876, to Miss Idella Ives, a daughter of Dr. Charles E. Ives, of Savannah, Wayne county, New York. She died October 11, 1897, leaving two children: Maud, the wife of A. Dix Bissell, of Le Roy, New York; and Carrie Elizabeth. On the 20th of June, 1899, the Doctor was again married to Miss Carrie M. Thomson, a daughter of the late John Church Thomson, of Battle Creek, Michigan.

In religious faith Dr. Lee is a Baptist; he belongs to the Baptist Social



Union, the Lake Avenue Baptist church and is a chairman of its board of trustees. In his fraternal relations he is connected with Corinthian Temple lodge, No. 805, F. & A. M.; Hamilton chapter, No. 62, R. A. M.; Doric council, No. 19, R. & S. M.; and Monroe commandery. He has attained the thirty-second degree in Scottish rite Masonry and is second lieutenant commander of Rochester consistory, and president of the Rochester Masonic Temple Association. He is also a member of Damascus Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.; Lalla Rookh Grotto, No. 113, M. O. V. P. E. R.; and the Rochester Masonic Club. He belongs to the Genesee Valley Club, the Oak Hill Country Club, and the Rochester Chamber of Commerce, and by his ballot supports the men and measures of the republican party. Although prominent socially his time and attention are almost wholly devoted to his professional duties and he has that love for his work which has been rewarded by success, so that he ranks with the ablest representatives of the medical fraternity in the state of New York.





*Geo W Archer*

## George W. Archer



WHILE a large percentage of Rochester's business men have been attracted to this city by reason of its pulsing industrial conditions and broad opportunities or have become factors in its active life in recent years there are also found among the prominent representatives of the commercial and financial interests those who have been identified with the city through long years and have not only been witnesses of its growth from a small town to a city of metropolitan proportions, but have been factors in its yearly development and progress. Such a one is George Washington Archer, who was born in Rochester, February 8, 1837. The family is of English lineage and the parents of our subject were John and Elizabeth Archer, the former reared in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, and the latter in Coventry, Warwickshire, England. There were three sons and five daughters of the family and three of the sisters of Mr. Archer are still living. The father was a contractor and builder and followed that occupation in New York city following his emigration to the United States in 1831. In 1834 he became a resident of Rochester, which at that time had not yet emerged from villagehood, and here he carried on business as a contractor and builder until 1857, erecting many of the substantial structures of an early day. He died in 1873 at the age of seventy years, while his wife survived until 1876 and passed away at the age of seventy-five.

At the usual age George W. Archer became a pupil in the public schools of Rochester and subsequently was graduated from Eastman's Business College. When a youth of seventeen he began learning the carpenter's trade in his father's shop and following the father's retirement in 1857 he entered the employ of his elder brother, Robert W. Archer, who had purchased the patent of a dental chair. In August, 1863, he accepted a position as bookkeeper at Petroleum Center, Pennsylvania, where he remained until June, 1864, after which he conducted a machine shop at Tarr Farm on Oil creek, Pennsylvania, until 1868, when the ill health of his brother caused him to return to Rochester. He then took up the brother's business of manufacturing dental and barbers' chairs and has since continued in this line. The business was conducted under the firm style of R. W. Archer & Brother until 1873, when the senior partner died and George W. Archer was then alone until January 1, 1881, when he admitted his brother, John W., to a partner-

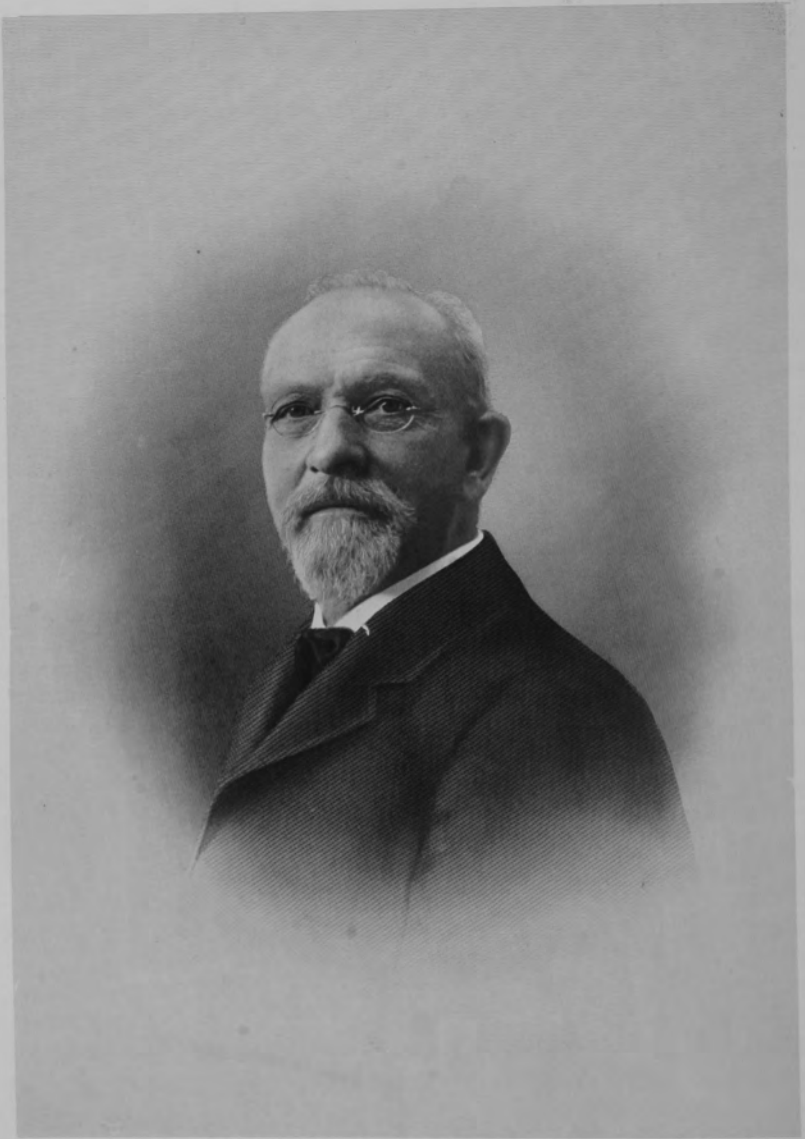
### George W. Archer

ship under the firm style of George W. Archer & Company. On the 1st of January, 1884, the Archer Manufacturing Company was incorporated and to the present time George W. Archer has been its president. The output of the factory, which is located at No. 9 North Water street, is barber, dentist, and surgeons' chairs and piano stools, which are largely the result of the inventive genius of the president.

A man of resourceful business ability, Mr. Archer has extended his efforts into various other departments of activity with equally good results. He has been heavily interested in oil production in Pennsylvania and from 1882 until 1884 was president of the Rochester Gas & Electric Company, of which he had previously served as treasurer. He was vice president of the Rochester Pullman Sash Balance Company and treasurer of the Vulcanite Paving Company and was president of the suburban railroad until it was sold. He has also been on the directorate of various other important business enterprises of the city which have benefited by his wise counsel and keen discernment in business affairs.

In 1865 Mr. Archer was married to Miss Augusta McClure. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, is president of the Rochester Driving Park Association and is a prominent member of the Genesee Valley Club and the Rochester Whist Club. His political views were formerly in accord with the principles of the democratic party and he served as alderman of the city from 1882 until 1884, while in 1886 he was candidate for mayor. He is at the present time affiliated with no political organization. Matters of citizenship aside from politics receive his earnest attention and his co-operation has been given to many progressive public movements. He stands today as one of the foremost citizens of Rochester by reason of his long residence here, by reason of his active, honorable and successful connection with its business interests and by reason of the helpful part which he has taken in promoting those plans and measures that have been of direct benefit to the city.





J. J. Baugh

## John Jacob Bausch



WHO WOULD have thought that when John Jacob Bausch landed in America on the completion of a voyage across the Atlantic from his native Germany in 1849 he was to become the founder of the leading optical business of the world. He was a young man with no pretensions to fame or fortune. On the contrary he was unknown in this country and his financial resources were exceedingly limited. He had been attracted hither, however, by the report that untiring labor soon brings substantial reward in America and a laudable ambition therefore prompted his removal from the fatherland to the United States.

He was born in the town of Suessen, Wurtemberg, on the 25th of July, 1830. His education had been acquired there and he began his business career in the employ of his brother, a manufacturer and dealer in optical instruments, and there learned the trade which formed the groundwork of his career. For three years after his arrival in the United States he was employed in the cities of Rochester and Buffalo as a wood turner, but the loss of two fingers on his right hand forced him to give up the work and he immediately turned his attention to the manufacture of optical appliances. Small was the beginning and dark the outlook. There was little to encourage him and in fact many seemingly insurmountable obstacles arose from time to time but he possessed ingenuity and his ability to plan and to perform have constituted the foundation stone upon which he has reared the superstructure of a splendid success. His first enterprise was a daguerreotype studio, which he conducted in Reynolds Arcade in the city of Rochester and there in 1853 with his association with Henry Lomb as a partner in the business was the foundation of the present business laid. For this enterprise about sixty dollars was furnished by Captain Lomb. Manufacturing was carried on in a small way but the business was so unremunerative that both parties were frequently compelled to resort to their former trades to eke out a modest subsistence. When the war broke out the advance of gold enabled the struggling firm to compete successfully with the foreign manufacturers and a decided increase in the business followed, but the retail department was not discontinued until 1866, when exclusive right to the use of India rubber was secured, that material having been found very well adapted



John Jacob Bausch

for the manufacture of eyeglasses. In 1864, with the growth of the business, a factory was secured at the corner of Andrews and Water streets and the constantly increasing trade demanded another removal in 1868 to a still larger building at the corner of River and Water streets. In 1866, at the time of the incorporation of the Optical Instrument Company, the manufacturing department was separated from the sales department and Mr. Bausch becoming manufacturing agent remained in Rochester, while a branch office was opened on Broadway, New York, under the direction of Mr. Lomb. In the department of eye-glass manufacture the company have been pioneers and leaders. They have not only introduced the rubber eye-glass but made a change in the shape of the eye, adopting the oval instead of the round, which was then in use. Variety in style and finish was the next stage of improvement; an adjustable eye-glass was invented by J. J. Bausch early in the history of the concern and contributed much to the growth of the business. Lens grinding was begun in a small way in 1865 to meet emergencies arising from the delay in receiving orders from foreign manufacturers. Now they grind every kind of a lens from the simple spectacle lens to the finest the optician or scientist can demand. Machinery has been devised which performs the work with perfect accuracy and with great rapidity. It is of their own construction and in many cases patented. In 1876 the company began the manufacture of microscopes, which up to that time were produced almost entirely abroad. Their instruments today are in use in the laboratories of nearly all educational institutions of the land, as well as all the government departments. The photographic department was the next addition and here again they have attained the high efficiency which has always characterized their work.

In 1890 so great had been the progress made that an alliance with the world renowned Carl Zeiss Works of Jena became possible. The importance of this step is realized from the fact that Carl Zeiss stands for supreme technical skill and scientific attainment in the world of optics. As a result of this alliance the Bausch & Lomb Optical Company came into the possession of the formula of the celebrated Zeiss Anastigmat lenses with sole right of reproducing them in America. Three years later by virtue of this same arrangement they began the manufacture of the Zeiss Stereo field glasses. The next move of importance was the incorporation of the Bausch Lomb Saegmuller Company, for the manufacture of engineering, astronomical and other instruments of precision. Mr. Saegmuller, of Washington, who has a world-wide reputation as an instrument maker, removed his factory from Washington to Rochester and the entire output of the new company is handled by the Bausch & Lomb Optical Company. The gun sights and other instruments manufactured by the company are used by the government of our own and foreign countries, where they have proven their exceeding worth. The employes now number about eighteen hundred. The pres-

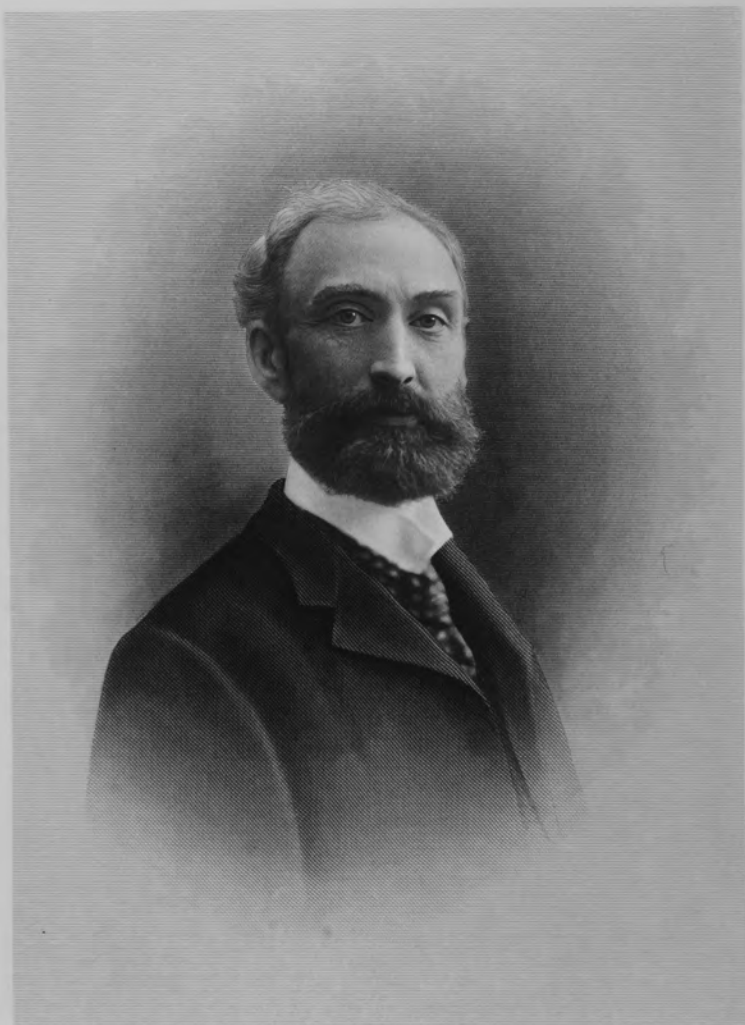
John Jacob Bausch

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ent floor space is about two hundred and twenty-five thousand square feet. When the additions and new grinding plant now in process of erection shall be completed the grand total of four hundred and fifty thousand square feet, about ten acres of space, will be occupied by the company. The constant aim of the founders and promoters of this enterprise has been to manufacture the highest quality of optical instruments and this resolve has made the business what it is today—the largest manufactory of optical instruments in the world.

Mr. Bausch was married to Miss Zimmerman and of their six children five are living: Edward, Henry, William, Mrs. Carl Lomb and Mrs. William Drescher. In politics Mr. Bausch is a republican, having stanchly supported the party since he became a naturalized American citizen. He is a member of the Rochester Club, but his interests and attention have been concentrated more largely upon his business than upon club interests. However, a genial disposition and uprightness of character have made him a favorite with all with whom he has come in contact. The splendid growth and development of his business is indication of his ability, enterprise and strong purpose and his record is one which reflects credit upon the city of his adoption.





*J. J. Mandeville*

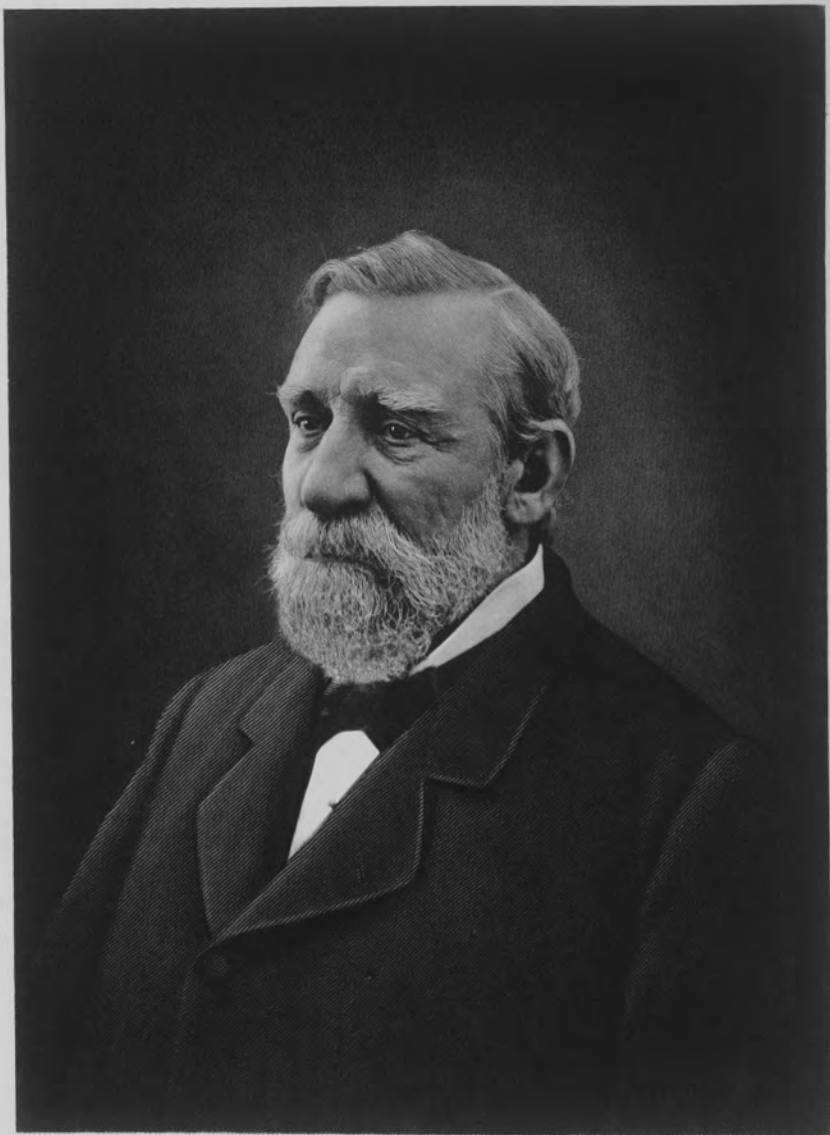
## Wilber J. Mandeville



WILBER J. MANDEVILLE, deceased, was born in Webster, Monroe county, New York, in 1852, and was a son of Edward Mandeville. He was reared in Rochester and completed his education in De Graff Military School. Throughout his entire life he was connected with the seed business, Rochester largely being a center for that line of commercial activity in the United States. He bought out the business of John Boardman in 1875 and admitted in 1879 his brother-in-law, Herbert S. King, to a partnership, under the firm style of Mandeville & King. This relation was maintained until the death of Mr. King in 1890, when he formed a partnership with Fred A. King under the same firm name. A few months before his death, in 1902, the business was incorporated under the name of the Mandeville & King Company, which still continues. Mr. Mandeville secured a very liberal patronage and prospered in his undertakings, using every energy to enlarge his business and make it a prosperous concern. He was only a child at the time of his father's death and was early thrown upon his own resources, so that he deserved much credit for what he accomplished.

Mr. Mandeville was married in 1876 to Miss Harriet King, a daughter of Jonathan King, who came to Rochester in 1825 from Massachusetts. Her mother was Sarah Sibley King, of Brighton. Her father settled on Sophia street in Rochester and cleared the land there, for at that time it was swampy. He continued to make his home upon that place throughout his remaining days and contributed in large measure to the substantial upbuilding of the city. His daughter, Mrs. Mandeville, is the only member of the family now living. By her marriage she became the mother of three children, Edna King, Lois Sibley and Arthur Wilber.

In his political views Mr. Mandeville was a republican, and he belonged to St. Luke's church at Rochester, in which he served as a vestryman. His life was in many respects exemplary and he enjoyed in large measure the confidence and esteem of those with whom he came in contact. In his business career he was found thoroughly reliable and trustworthy and all who knew him recognized in him the inherent force of character and capability which enabled him to advance from a humble financial position to one of affluence.



Patrick Barry

## Patrick Barry



**P**ATRICK BARRY was the son of an Irish farmer and was born near the city of Belfast, Ireland, in 1816. He received a liberal education and at the age of eighteen became a teacher in one of the Irish national schools. After having taught two years he resigned and resolved to make the United States his future home and country. Accordingly, in 1836, he came to New York and shortly after his arrival was offered a clerkship by the Princes, celebrated nurserymen of the period, at Flushing, Long Island, which he accepted. He remained with them four years, during which time he acquired a practical knowledge of the nursery business. In 1840 he removed to Rochester and in July of that year formed a partnership with George Ellwanger, which continued to the time of his demise. The firm of Ellwanger & Barry established, upon seven acres of ground as a beginning, what are now of vast extent and world-wide fame. "The Mount Hope Nurseries"—transplanted in every state and territory of the Union and in foreign lands — have made the impress of Patrick Barry's genius upon the face of the earth. His industry was one of genuine production of wealth from the soil. Its creations from nature have, in their fruits and flowers, and trees and shrubs, ministered to those senses of man whose gratification refines life and makes it enjoyable; and it is a pleasure to know that it was duly rewarded by a rich return.

While building up this great industry Mr. Barry acted well many other parts. His pen was not idle. To the instruction and influence flowing from it is horticulture much indebted for its advancement during sixty years in this country. Following many miscellaneous contributions to the literature of that particular field, Mr. Barry, in 1852, published his first popular work, "The Fruit Garden." The edition was soon exhausted and another and larger one followed in 1855. In 1852 "The Horticulturist" passed from the hands of Luther Tucker into those of James Vick, and was removed from Albany to Rochester in order that the lamented Downing, drowned in the "Henry Clay" disaster on the Hudson river, might be succeeded in its editorial chair by Mr. Barry, who conducted it several years and until its purchase by the Messrs. Smith of Philadelphia. Mr. Barry's chief and most valuable work, however, was his "Catalogue of the American Pomological Society," which is the accepted guide of American fruit growers and is regarded as standard authority



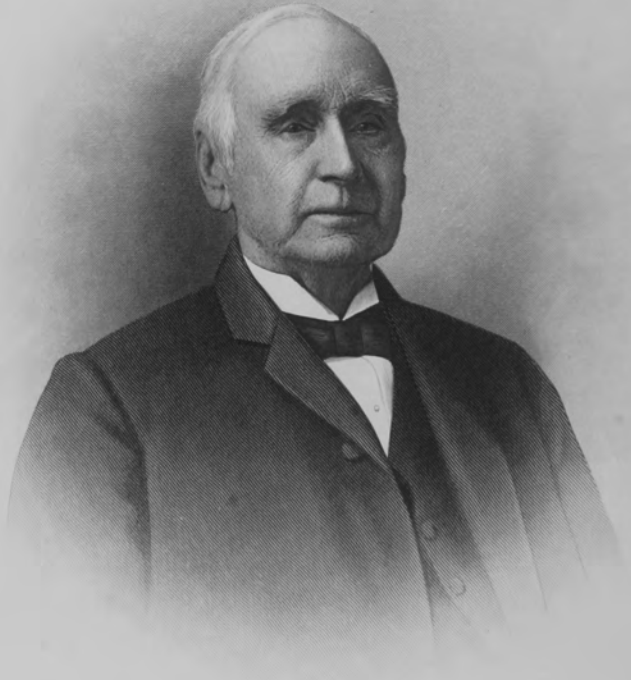
Patrick Barry

throughout the world. But outside of the nursery and the sanctum Mr. Barry was no less busily and usefully engaged. Regular in habit and methodical in action, he was enabled to perform duties as varied in character as they were successful in result.

For more than twenty years he was president of the Western New York Horticultural Society, which is the most prosperous and important of its kind in the United States. He was president of the New York State Agricultural Society and a member of the board of control of the New York State Agricultural Experimental Station. At times he filled offices of importance to the local community, such as alderman of the city and supervisor of the county and as frequently declined the tender of others. The Flour City National Bank, of which Mr. Barry was president and of which he was also a director nearly from the outset, was one of the largest and most prosperous of financial institutions of western New York. Besides the Flour City National Bank, Mr. Barry was prominently identified with many other important enterprises of Rochester, filling such positions as president of the Mechanics' Savings Bank, president of the Rochester City & Brighton Railroad Company, president of the Powers Hotel Company, president of the Rochester Gas Company, a trustee of the Rochester Trust & Safe Deposit Company, member of the commission appointed by the legislature to supervise the elevation of the Central Railroad track through the city, etc., etc. He aided largely in building up the central business property of Rochester, of which he was a considerable owner, and in developing the valuable water power of the lower falls of the Genesee river, connected with which he had large interests.

In all his walks Patrick Barry was an upright man—a model of industry, integrity and honor. No one in the city where he lived his busy and eventful life was held in higher esteem by his fellow citizens; and the life of no man in Rochester furnished a better example or stronger incentive to the youth of the present day who would make for themselves a spotless name and achieve enduring fame.

Mr. Barry married in 1847 Harriet Huestis, a native of Richfield, Otsego county, New York. Eight children were born of this union, six sons and two daughters. Five sons and one daughter, the eldest, have passed away; the eldest son and the youngest daughter are living. Mr. Barry died June 23, 1890, and while fruit growing remains an industry of the country his memory will be cherished as the promoter of valuable knowledge along this line. In his home city, where he was widely known, he had a very large circle of friends, and his own life was an exemplification of the Emersonian philosophy that "the way to win a friend is to be one."



*James Harris*

## James Harris



THE PEOPLE of Fairport and Monroe county are to be congratulated upon a character of such elevation and purity of purpose and such a devotion to the highest and best interests of the state as have been exhibited in the private and public life of James Harris. Although he has reached his eighty-sixth year, he is still alert and interested in the progress going on around him. As he looks back to his own boyhood and compares the thought and life of those days with what he sees today, wonderful, almost miraculous, the change must seem. He has ever been in harmony with this spirit of advancement and yet manifests an interest therein such as few men of his years possess. Descended from Scotch ancestry, whose sterling characteristics he seems to have inherited, he has ever commanded the respect and confidence of the business world and his social acquaintances and has ever been a recognized factor for good in the community in which he resides.

His paternal grandfather, William Harris, Sr., was a man of marked ability who became a leader in public thought and action in the community in which he lived. He wedded Mary Kilpatrick, who came of a distinguished family of the highlands of Scotland, the ancestry being traced back to the times of Wallace and Bruce. The emigration to America was made in 1802 and the first home was in a Scotch settlement established by Sir William Johnson in what was then Montgomery county.

William Harris, Jr., the eldest son of William and Mary (Kilpatrick) Harris, was married in April, 1806, at the age of twenty-two years to Sallie Shoecraft, the eldest daughter of John Shoecraft, who was a patriot of the Revolutionary war, enlisting from Ulster county, New York, and serving under General Washington. After American independence had been established he was married in Washington county, New York, to Betsey McKee, who was also of Scotch parentage, the family, however, being prominent among the early settlers of that part of New York, whence they afterward removed to Fulton county. The year 1806 witnessed the removal of William Harris, Jr., and his young bride, to the Genesee country. They were accompanied by her father and his family, and settlements were made in what is now the town of Webster in Monroe county. Mr. Shoecraft and his two sons were members of the State Militia at the time of the war of 1812. Intimately iden-

## James Harris

tified with the interests of this locality from its earliest days, both families were well known and much respected. The first organized school of the locality was taught by Mr. Harris in 1810 and he did much to promote the early intellectual development of the community. Removing to a farm in the town of Penfield, he there continued to reside until his death, which occurred in December, 1842. A contemporary biographer has said of him, "Endowed with the attributes of a fine nature and gifted with an unusual amount of intellectual ability, he was a man of rare judgment, of deep penetration and of great energy." He was often consulted on difficult problems and his opinions were generally accepted as conclusive. No man stood more firmly by his honest convictions and yet he was never harsh in his judgment of others nor did he ever adopt aggressive measures to influence another in accepting a view which he held. Any subject which he considered of vital interest was a matter of close study and investigation for him until he had determined what he believed to be a correct solution of the same. He held to the Presbyterian faith in religion and to the whig platform in politics. Community affairs were of deep interest to him and he was a co-worker in many movements and measures which proved directly beneficial to the town. He served for several years as assessor but was in no sense an office seeker.

Mr. and Mrs. William Harris, Jr., were the parents of eleven children but their eldest, a son, died in early manhood and the youngest, a daughter, in infancy. Of the others, Mary K. became the wife of Abner O. Osborn; Betsey M. married John M. Watson; Sallie became the wife of Albert Raymond; William was a successful farmer and the owner of the old homestead, upon which he died in September, 1886; Martha became the wife of Hiram W. Allen; and George F. and Robert, like the above named, have passed away. The only two living are James and Peter, who are connected with the agricultural interests of Penfield.

James Harris, at the usual age, became a pupil in the district schools near his father's home and afterward enjoyed the benefit of instruction during two terms in a select school in the village of Penfield. Reading and study at home also broadened his knowledge and he found in his father an able teacher, for Mr. Harris was a man of wide culture and took great interest in the intellectual advancement of his children. When nineteen years of age, therefore, James Harris had qualified for teaching and was employed as instructor in a district school. During the winter months for seven years he was thus engaged in educational work, while his summer seasons were devoted to assisting in the improvement of his father's farm. His standing in the community during early manhood is indicated by the fact that when he was but twenty-one years of age he was chosen for the office of justice of the peace and served in that capacity for four years. In later days he filled the positions of town clerk and town superintendent of schools and the cause of education has found in him a stalwart champion.

James Harris

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Other official service devolved upon him by his appointment, in 1843, by Governor William C. Bouck to the position of captain of a uniformed company of militia attached to the Fifty-second Regiment and later he was made major. He has always figured to a greater or less extent in those movements which tend toward progress in material, intellectual, political, social and moral lines, and his name is therefore interwoven with many of the facts which have left their impress upon the history of his community. In 1857 he was one of the incorporators of the old Penfield Seminary and throughout its existence served as a most efficient trustee, becoming the first president of the board and continuing in that office for about nine years. This institution was established when the public schools afforded instruction in only the lower branches of learning but when the establishment of schools for instruction in the higher grades rendered the seminary no longer a necessity in the community, Mr. Harris was made a member of the committee to procure the passage of a legislative act authorizing the sale of the property to the Penfield graded schools.

While thus associated with different public and private interests Mr. Harris also figured in commercial circles, having in 1850 established a general mercantile business, which he conducted with growing success until 1857. The owner of valuable farming property, he took up his abode upon what is the old homestead farm, east of the village of Penfield, on the 1st of April, 1866, and also owns two other farms in the locality, his holdings embracing two hundred and ten acres of valuable land devoted to the production of cereals and fruit. He continued to reside upon his farm until the fall of 1904, when he took up his abode in Fairport. From this place he superintends the management of his farms, which are actively conducted by his son, Charles L. At different times he has acted as administrator of many estates and has also been commissioner of the distribution of lands.

On the 1st of December, 1847, Mr. Harris was united in marriage to Miss Martha M. Pope, a daughter of William Pope, of Penfield. Mrs. Harris died January 1, 1880, leaving three sons and a daughter: James Darwin, now a farmer of Fairport; Robert, who died in 1887 at the age of thirty-one years; Mary K., at home; and George H., who is the junior member of the law firm of Werner & Harris, of Rochester, and who married Miss Hattie Higbie, of Penfield, by whom he has three children: Donald, Duncan and Adair. On the 21st of February, 1883, Mr. Harris wedded Mrs. Horace P. Lewis, a widow and a daughter of Charles Lacey, formerly of Poughkeepsie, New York. They have a son and daughter: Charles Lacey, who is a graduate of the University of Rochester and is now managing his father's farms; and Angie K., who was graduated from the Fairport High School in the training class and afterward taught in the Honeoye Falls schools, while in the winter of 1907-8 she is engaged in teaching in the Fairport school.

Politically Mr. Harris was reared in the faith of the whig party and it

James Harris

naturally followed that upon the dissolution of that organization he became a staunch republican. His stalwart patriotism has ever been one of his salient characteristics and whether in office or out of it, he has ever been loyal to what he has regarded as the best interests of the community and the country at large. In 1853 he was elected supervisor of Penfield by a large majority and had the honor of being elected to the office for fifteen out of the following twenty-two years. His position was by no means an equivocal one at the time of the Civil war. Stalwart and true in his advocacy of the Union, he did everything he could to promote its interests. Soon after the fall of Fort Sumter a special town meeting was called for the purpose of adopting suitable measures and appointing a committee of public safety, Mr. Harris being chosen one of the three members of the committee. In that capacity he served until again elected supervisor in the spring of 1864, when the business of the committee of public safety was placed entirely in his hands and so continued until the close of the war and during the reconstruction period which followed. In the discharge of his duties he manifested marked executive ability, keen foresight and thorough understanding of the situation and above all, an intense loyalty to the best interests of the county. With the co-operation of many of the leading citizens of the community he filled the town's quota without a single inhabitant being drafted, save a few who were drafted early in the war during the act conferring option of service or a payment of three hundred dollars each. His method was purely a business transaction. The call had been for one year men and the town offered a bounty of five hundred dollars to each volunteer. Realizing that men could be had for three years without increasing the bounties if the bonds were converted into cash he wisely discriminated in favor of the longer term of enlistment, raised the necessary money and filled the quota with three year men to the number of sixty-three and bonds were issued to the amount of thirty-one thousand five hundred dollars and when the war closed the state of New York, under the law equalizing bounties, paid back nearly two-thirds of this sum, or about twenty thousand dollars, to the town. In the management of these affairs Mr. Harris displayed splendid business ability and that the people recognized and appreciated the worth of his work was shown by the fact that he was continued in the office of supervisor for several years afterward. As a member of the board and chairman of its finance committee he was largely instrumental in promoting the law which changed the system formerly pursued in the county treasurer's office to its present status, involving not only the disposition of public moneys but of returned taxes as well. As he was the first treasurer elected after the passage of this law he put it into operation during his three years' term, which began on the 1st of October, 1876, and when he retired in 1879 his official service closed. He has not since consented to hold public office but yet remains a stalwart champion of all that pertains to the public good, to reform, progress and improvement. Few men of his years manifest the



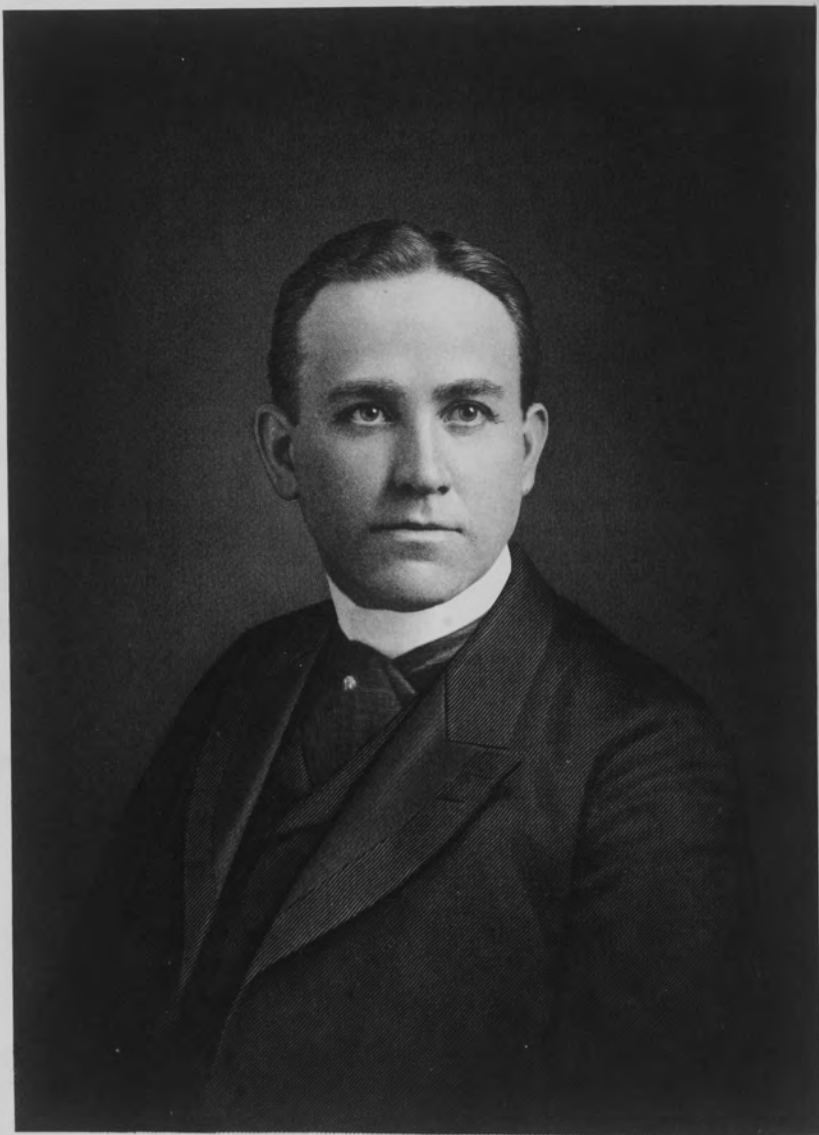
## James Harris

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interest which he displays in public life but in spirit Mr. Harris seems yet in his prime. His is the old age which grows stronger and brighter, mentally and physically, as the years pass and gives out of its rich stores of wisdom an experience for the benefit of others. He has for many years been a member of the Baptist church and he belongs to the Monroe County Historical Society and became a charter member of the Association of Supervisors and Ex-Supervisors of Monroe County, being unanimously elected to its presidency at its annual meeting on the 7th of August, 1895.

The subject of this sketch has always been a sturdy American character, possessed of stalwart patriotism and has the warmest attachment to our free institutions, being ever willing to make any personal sacrifice for their elevation. The public work that he has done has largely been of a nature that has brought small pecuniary reward and yet has made extensive demands upon his time, his thought and his energies. Opportunities that some have passed by heedlessly he has noted and improved for the betterment of the village and the state in many ways. He is extremely modest and unostentatious in his manner and all who know him speak of him in terms of praise. In his life are the elements of greatness because of the use he has made of his talents and his opportunities, because his thoughts are not self-centered but are given to the mastery of life's problems and to the fulfillment of his duties as a man in his relation to his fellowmen and as a citizen in his relation to his village, state and country.





*Myron L. Greene*

## Myron W. Greene



**M**YRON W. GREENE, who conducts a private banking and investment business in Rochester and acts as executor, administrator and trustee of estates and trust funds, has gained distinction in financial circles, and is a representative of one of the oldest and most prominent American families. He is the author of a family genealogy from 1639 to 1891. His grandfather, Nathan Greene, married Maria Greene, a descendant of John Greene, of Warwick, Rhode Island, to which line belongs General Nathaniel Greene, hero of the war of the Revolution and contemporary with General George Washington.

John Greene, of Quidnessett, Rhode Island, was fifteenth in descent from Lord Alexander de Greene de Boketon, who received his titles and estates A. D. 1202, head and founder of the "Greene line;" ninth in descent from Sir Henry Greene, Lord Chief Justice of England, who died in 1370; and on the "Capetian line" was twenty-fifth in descent from Robert the Strong, made Duke de France in A. D. 861; twenty-second from King Hugo Capet; and nineteenth from Hugh de Vermandois, the great crusader. In the Revolutionary war Samuel Greene of Rhode Island sent eight sons into the war, a record no one else ever equalled and Joseph Greene, of New York, volunteer, twelve years old, was the youngest soldier of the same war. The Greene family, so closely identified with the early history of Rhode Island, have enjoyed more state and civic honors than any other family within her borders, there being more Greenes in the state than of any other name whatever and extending over a period of nearly three hundred years of American history not one has been found to have ever been convicted of crime and not one who was a drunkard. The Greene coat-of-arms, with the motto, "Nec Timeo, Nec Spero," consists of three bucks trippant on an azure field, as it was borne by the founder of the line. The crescent, a mark of cadency, denoting the line of a second son, is used by all the Warwick and Quidnessett Greenes.

Ira W. Greene, father of our subject, was a native of Monroe county, New York, born at Greene's Corners, now Mann's Corners, in the township of Rush, on the 2nd of May, 1832. He was a man of distinguished presence and commanding influence in politics, although never aspiring or accepting office. For twenty-five years he was superintendent of the Sunday school

Myron W. Greene

and president of the board of trustees of the Rush Methodist Episcopal church, his father, Nathan Greene, having settled on a farm in this county in 1804. For many years Ira W. Greene carried on business as a farmer and dealer in live stock, coal and produce. He was also propagator and grower of choice field seeds and figured for many years as a respected and worthy resident of this county, being, at the time of his death, which occurred on the 22nd of June, 1905, one of the oldest native sons of the county. On the distaff side Myron W. Greene is also a descendant from an old pioneer family of western New York. His mother, who bore the maiden name of Hester Ann Ruliffson, was born in Henrietta, Monroe county, daughter of Isaac Ruliffson. She died in April, 1866. The father was twice married and by his first wife had three children, two sons and one daughter, and by his second wife he had two sons and a daughter.

Myron W. Greene was born at district No. 6 in the township of Rush, Monroe county, New York, November 26, 1864. Provided with good educational privileges he was graduated from the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary at Lima, New York, in the class of 1887, and became a member of the Genesee Lyceum Society. He became an active member and is now president of the board of trustees of this society. He is treasurer of the Alumni Gymnasium Association of the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary and further retains his interest in the seminary by maintaining a scholarship prize and prize for public speaking to members of the Lyceum Society. As a student in the Syracuse University, which he entered in 1887, he pursued a scientific course and was candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Science in the class of 1901. In 1888 he entered Williams College, Massachusetts, in the class of 1890. His broad intellectual culture well qualified him for an important position in the business world and following the completion of his education he entered the Bank of Honeoye Falls, Monroe county, New York, where he remained until 1892, when he became connected with the Rochester Trust & Safe Deposit Company, with which he remained until 1899, when he established a business on his own account for the conduct of a private banking and investment business. He deals in government, railroad and public service corporation bonds and has gained for himself a reputation as a financier of keen discernment and sound judgment.

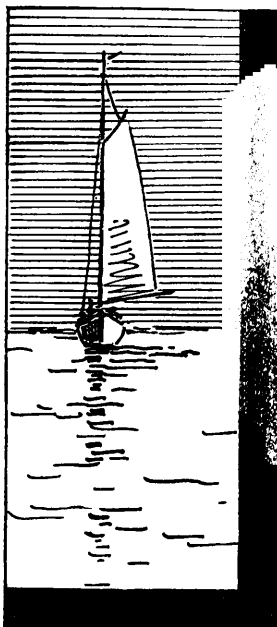
On the 27th day of April, 1900, Mr. Greene was married to Miss Nancy Laura Lancaster, of Leadville, Colorado. She was born in Laramie, Wyoming, February 22, 1877, daughter of George W. Lancaster. Unto this marriage have been born the following named: Lancaster Myron, born February 21, 1901; Norvin Ruliffson, born September 13, 1902; Zeta Priscilla, born March 2, 1904, and Nathan Ira, born March 6, 1906.

Mr. Greene is a member of the Zeta Psi (College) Fraternity of North America; also belongs to Frank R. Lawrence lodge, No. 797, F. & A. M., and Hamilton chapter, No. 62, Royal Arch Masons. In politics he is a repub-

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lican and is an active, helpful and consistent member of the Presbyterian church. While he has never figured to any extent in public life in connection with political interest he is nevertheless a worthy representative of an honored family, being patriotic in his devotion to American interests and is loyal in his support of those movements and measures which he deems will prove of benefit to the city, government or nation.





*V. J. Whitmore*



## Valentine F. Whitmore



VALENTINE F. WHITMORE is the president and founder of the firm of Whitmore, Rauber & Vicinus, most prominent general contractors of Rochester. In the present age it is the tendency to systematize all business interests to such an extent that a single individual is now at the head of industrial, commercial and financial interests which would have required fifty or perhaps a hundred men a half century ago to manage and control. It is the accomplishment of maximum results with minimum effort, the utilizing every force without waste and the employment of especially skilled labor for specific duties that has made the present condition possible. With the growth and progress that has been manifest in business circles during the past third of a century or more Valentine F. Whitmore has kept fully abreast and in fact has been a leader in this movement toward the centralization of management and control. He is, as president of the firm of Whitmore, Rauber & Vicinus, employing hundreds of workmen in the execution of contracts which makes their business the most extensive of the character in Rochester and western New York.

Mr. Whitmore is a native of Germany, born September 17, 1844, and at the age of five years came from the fatherland to the new world, the family home being established in Syracuse, where he acquired the major part of his education. In 1859 he started out to earn his own livelihood, being employed as water boy on public works in Syracuse. At the age of eighteen he came to Rochester and later became superintendent of construction on the canal and received a contract to repair the Erie canal. He worked on the canal for the late Lewis Selye until 1868, when he established the contract business, which under his guidance and the assistance of able associates has grown into one of the mammoth industrial enterprises of the city. He continued to do contracting alone for a time and on January 1, 1875, organized the firm of Whitmore, Rauber & Vicinus, with the late John Rauber and William Vicinus, which is now a stock company, with Valentine F. Whitmore as president; John N. Rauber as vice president; Lewis S. Whitmore as treasurer; William H. Vicinus as secretary, and Charles S. Rauber and Walter V. Whitmore as shareholders. All are equal shareholders. The rapid growth and development of the business has necessitated the enlargement of the force of work-

men from time to time until they now employ about seven hundred men. They have been awarded and have executed some of the largest contracts in the city, principally in street improvements. Their contracts include the Rochester waterworks conduit, which is twenty-six and one-half miles long and three feet, four inches in diameter, six hundred men having been employed by the firm in its construction. They are fortunate in owning their own limestone quarry, for their principal work is street and sewer contracting, cut stone and mason's supplies and interior marble work. Mr Whitmore is president and manager of the Rochester German Brick & Tile Company, and a stockholder of the Columbia Banking, Saving & Loan Association, of which he was at one time president, one of the organizers and founders.

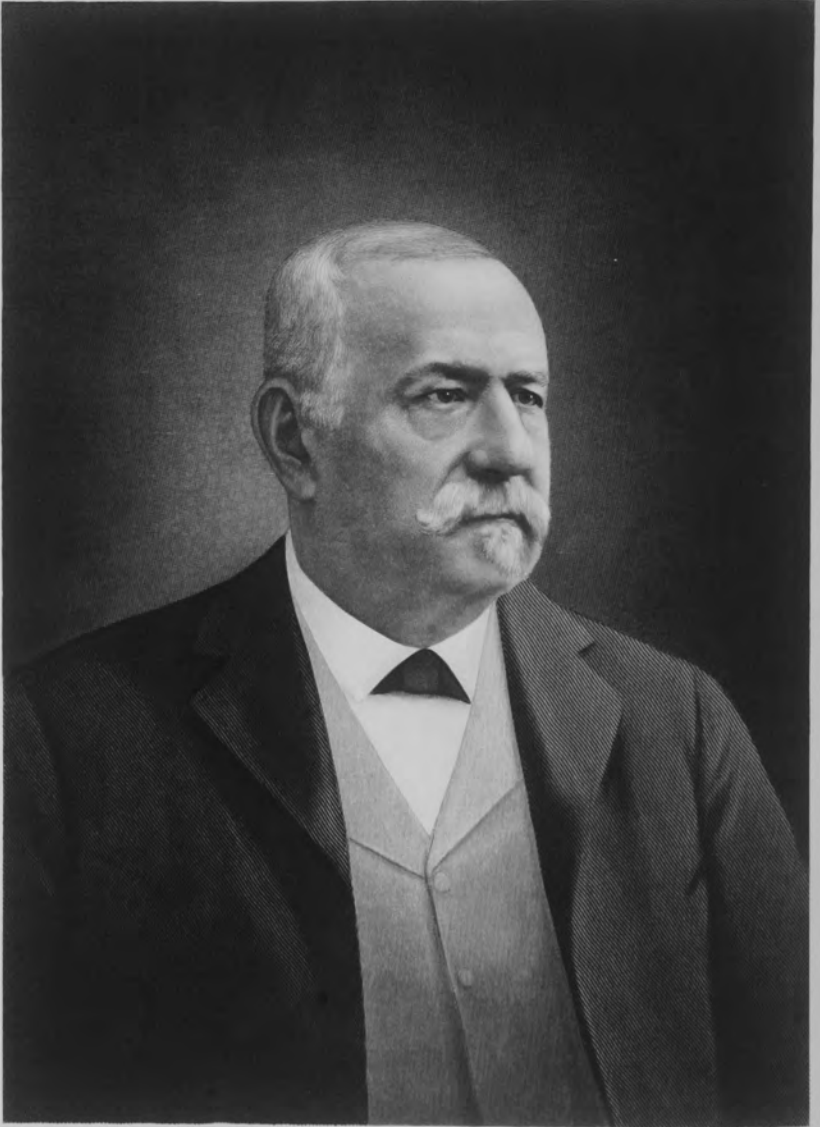
On the 21st of February, 1867, Valentine F. Whitmore was united in marriage to Miss Eunice L. Haight, and unto them were born three sons and a daughter: Lewis S. and Walter V., both of whom are married and have one son; Eunice, now the wife of William H. Vicinus, by whom she has two sons, and Homer G., who is also married and has one son. All of the family are connected with the business, the sons being active therewith and widely recognized as able, enterprising and successful business men.

In his political views Valentine F. Whitmore is a stalwart republican and has been somewhat active in local political circles. He formerly served for four years as school commissioner and for four years as alderman, and while he takes an active part in the city's welfare and upbuilding and in municipal progress and improvement, giving his influence in support of progressive public measures and lending his aid in substantial way to furthering the plans for the city's development, he yet prefers to hold no public office, desiring rather to concentrate his time and energies upon his extensive business. He is a director in the Merchants Bank and Genesee Valley Trust Company, and in other financial and industrial enterprises, having made judicious investment in different business concerns. His attention, however, is largely given to the extensive contracting business which had its origin in his laudable ambition and well defined plans and which owes its development in substantial measure to his executive force, keen discrimination and utilization of opportunities. From early youth he has been one of the world's workers and his success, so great as to seem almost magical, is attributable directly to his own labors.

Lewis S. Whitmore, eldest son of Valentine F. Whitmore, and treasurer of the firm of Whitmore, Rauber & Vicinus, was born in Rochester, January 21, 1869. After attending public school No. 13 he became a high school student, and he continued his education until, eager to become a factor in business life, he went to work with his father, remaining with the firm as an employe until admitted to a partnership in business under the present firm style of Whitmore, Rauber & Vicinus. As financial manager of the enterprise he has contributed to its splendid success and in business circles in Rochester has won for himself a most enviable name.

Lewis S. Whitmore was married in this city in 1896 to Miss Harriet E. De Garmo, and they now have one son, Lewis S., in his second year. They also lost two children in infancy. In his political views Lewis S. Whitmore, Sr., is a stalwart republican and has served as general committeeman of the thirteenth ward, taking an active interest in promoting the work of the party and in shaping its policy, so that success may be gained at the polls. He is a member of the Congregational church and an active representative of the Rochester Club. He is a broad-minded young man who, though concerned with the management of enormous business interests, has not narrowed his life down to the routine of daily duty in this connection, but has found the opportunity to meet his fellowmen on social and political planes, constantly broadening his nature by reaching out into those fields of thought and action which concern the general progress of the world and the trend of public advancement.





*Frederick Cook*

## Frederick Cook



**F**REDERICK COOK, who at the age of fourteen years was thrown upon his own resources, the parental home being broken up by the death of the father, attained through the inherent force of his own character, his strong determination and his close application to the duties that devolved upon him, distinction and honors in his adopted land. The penniless boy of fourteen became one of the most successful business men of the Empire state, served as secretary of state of New York and would undoubtedly have gained gubernatorial honors had he not declined. The multiplicity and extent of his business interests also made him one of the best known men of the state, while his activity extended to those concerns which touch the general interests of society in lines of progress, in social and benevolent interests.

The specific and distinctive office of biography is not to give voice to a man's modest estimate of himself and his accomplishments, but rather to leave the perpetual record establishing his character by the consensus of opinion on the part of his fellowmen. Throughout Rochester and the state Frederick Cook is spoken of in terms of admiration and respect. His life was so varied in its scope, so honorable in its purposes, so far-reaching and beneficial in its effects that it became an integral part of the history of Rochester and of the commonwealth. He exerted an immeasurable influence on the city of his residence; in business life as a financier and promoter of extensive industrial and commercial enterprises; in social circles by reason of a charming personality and unfeigned cordiality; in politics by reason of his public spirit and devotion to the general good as well as his comprehensive understanding of the questions affecting state and national welfare; and in those departments of activity which ameliorate hard conditions of life for the unfortunate by his benevolence and his liberality.

The life record of Mr. Cook covered the period between December 2, 1833, and February 17, 1905. He was born at Wildbad, a noted watering-place in the famous Black Forest district of Germany. The father hoped to give his son excellent educational privileges and sent him to one of the best schools of the whole neighborhood, expecting eventually to allow him to attend college, but the death of the father in 1846 completely frustrated this plan and Frederick Cook, then a lad of fourteen years, was obliged to provide for his own living.

## Frederick Cook

The family home was broken up and with no advantages of wealth or influential friends to aid him he started out to win life's battles. He possessed a courageous, determined spirit and when but fifteen years of age came to the new world to try his fortunes. He had a married sister residing in Buffalo, New York, at that time and made his way to her home. His youth had been passed in a country where all boys must learn a trade and according to this rule, with which he had been familiar, Frederick Cook resolved to acquaint himself with shoemaking. He did not find it congenial, however, and soon afterward secured employment with a butcher in Batavia, New York, where his close application and fidelity soon won recognition. His ability gained the attention of D. W. Tomlinson, the president of the bank of Batavia, who was also extensively interested in railroads, and because of Mr. Cook's knowledge of the German language Mr. Tomlinson procured for him a position on the Buffalo & Rochester Railroad, whence he was soon promoted to the position of conductor on an immigrant train on the Niagara Falls division of the Central Hudson road. In this capacity he aided many an immigrant from Germany in looking for a home and the corporation which he served, appreciating his services, soon made him a passenger conductor. He remained with the road for about twenty years, severing his connection on the 1st of January, 1872. That he enjoyed to the fullest degree the friendship, regard and confidence of his fellow employes and the patrons of the road was manifest by a gift from them of an elaborate set of solid silver plate.

One of the salient features of Mr. Cook's successful business career was his ability to recognize an opportunity. When once he believed in the possibility for successful accomplishment he utilized the advantage to the utmost and thus the scope of his activity was continually enlarged until he was known as one of the foremost representatives of commercial and financial interests in western New York. While in the railroad service he had become intimately acquainted with George M. Pullman, and when the latter organized the Pullman Palace Car Company, Mr. Cook invested the greater part of his accumulated earnings in that enterprise, the prosperous history of which is known to the world. Thereby he laid the foundation of his wealth. In 1852 he took up his abode in Rochester, and not only became closely associated with its business history, but also with its political life, but of the latter we will speak later on. He became closely connected with many enterprises that largely promoted the commercial activity and consequent prosperity of Rochester, at the same time adding to his business success. In 1874 he was chosen vice president of the Bartholomay Brewing Company, which was organized in that year with a capital of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. From the beginning until 1889 he served as vice president and was then elected president. His activity, however, was not confined to one or even a few lines, but embraced manifold business interests. On the 12th of January, 1876, he was elected president of the Rochester German Insurance Company, as a successor of Colonel Louis



Ernst, and so continued until his demise. On the 13th of January, 1877, he was elected president of the Rochester Driving Park Association, and under his capable management its financial interests were advanced from the lowest to the highest degree. On the 16th of May, 1878, he was appointed one of the commissioners of Mount Hope cemetery and continuously served in that office, and was chairman of the board from that time until his demise. His name became prominently known in banking circles, for in the fall of 1880 he was made a trustee of the Rochester Savings Bank and later chosen one of its vice presidents. On the 25th of March, 1882, he was elected president of the Bank of Rochester, the predecessor of the German-American Bank, and remained at the head of the institution until his life's labors were ended. In February, 1887, he was chosen to the presidency of the Rochester Title & Guarantee Company and upon the death of J. Lee Judson he was unanimously elected president of the Rochester Gas & Electric Company of Rochester. He was also president of the Rochester Railway Company, the Rochester Telephone Company and the Ohmer Fare Register Company. His career seems almost phenomenal and yet there was not in his business life an esoteric phase. His path was never strewn with the wreck of other men's fortunes, his whole course being marked by business integrity and probity, his success resulting from his close application, his keen discernment and his able management.

Distinguished honors came to Mr. Cook in his political life. If other men who have control of mammoth industrial and commercial enterprises realized that they owe a duty to their country and would enter into politics the welfare of the nation would be greatly augmented, for what the country needs is men in charge of its affairs who have keen foresight, business sagacity and sound judgment. The democratic party gained a valuable accession to its ranks when Mr. Cook became one of its stalwart supporters. The first political office he ever filled was that of excise commissioner of Rochester, to which he was appointed by Mayor John Lutes, on the 20th of April, 1870, but on account of ill health he resigned in 1872, and with his family made an extended tour over Europe. In the autumn of 1873, however, upon his return to Rochester, he once more took his place in the democratic ranks to labor earnestly and effectively for his party's growth and progress. When nominated for mayor he ran far ahead of his ticket, although Rochester is acknowledged a republican stronghold. On the 19th of April, 1872, Governor Hoffman appointed him judge advocate with the rank of colonel of the Seventh Division of the New York State National Guards, and on the 29th of July, 1875, he was appointed by Governor Tilden assistant adjutant general and chief of staff of the same division, but he resigned November 24, 1877, on account of the pressure of his private business affairs. In 1876 he went as delegate to the democratic national convention at St. Louis, when Samuel J. Tilden was nominated for the presidency and in 1880 he officiated in a similar capacity at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he served as vice president, representing the state of New York. In the spring

## Frederick Cook

of 1880 he was called to perform an important service in behalf of his adopted city, being one of the fourteen citizens appointed as a commission on behalf of Rochester to guard the public interests during the work of elevating the New York Central Railroad tracks inside the corporate limits. Politics engrossed a large share of his attention and he was regarded by his party as one of its best and strongest representatives. In 1885 he was nominated for the position of secretary of state and after a strong canvass and an exciting campaign, he was elected by a majority of more than fourteen thousand over Colonel Anson S. Wood. In this important office within the gift of the people, he served so acceptably that in 1887, at Saratoga, he was renominated and was re-elected over Colonel Frederick Grant by a plurality of seventeen thousand six hundred and seventy-seven, the highest given to any candidate on the democratic ticket. On the 1st of January, 1890, after declining a renomination as secretary of state, he retired permanently to private life and from that time until his death devoted his attention wholly to the care of his large and varied business interests. On the 31st of December, 1889, just before his retirement, Governor Hill, on behalf of himself and other state officers, presented Mr. Cook with a costly watch with chime attachments, while the clerical force of the office gave him a much prized collection of photographs, representing the employes during his two terms of four years' service. The party, however, still further honored him, when in the state convention of 1894 he was urgently solicited by a large majority of the party leaders to accept the nomination for governor of New York, but he declined to become a candidate. The probability was that he would have been elected had he accepted the nomination, for Frederick Cook was honored throughout New York and sustained a high reputation for political integrity and lofty patriotism, as well as of marked ability.

In 1853 Mr. Cook was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Yaky of Rome, New York, who died in 1864. The following year he married Miss Barbara Agne. His one daughter is now the wife of Augustus Masters MacDonell and is the mother of one son, Frederick Cook MacDonell.

Mr. Cook was one of the distinguished Masons of the city, belonging to the blue lodge, chapter, commandery and to the consistory, having attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite. He was likewise a member of the Rochester Maennerchor, which was organized in 1854 and of which he served as president in 1874-5. On the 24th of February, 1882, he became a member of the Liederkrantz. He was also a member of the Rochester Historical Society, the Genesee Valley Club, the Rochester Club, the Country Club and the Rochester Yacht Club, but it would be almost impossible to enumerate his connection with the many organizations which he represented. He was made an honorary member of Selye Citizens Corps Eighth Separate Company, N. G. S. N. Y., January 8, 1887, and of the Albany Excelsior Corps, January 26, 1888. In February, 1893, he presented to Peissner Post, No. 106, G. A. R., a hand-

somely bound memorial record book, one of the finest works of the kind in existence.

Along all lines of humanitarian action which tend to ameliorate the conditions of human life, Mr. Cook was a factor. In February, 1882, he was appointed by Governor Alonzo B. Cornell a manager of the Western House of Refuge and was reappointed by Governor Cleveland in 1883, while on the 29th of September, 1885, he was elected secretary and treasurer of that institution. In 1887 he was chosen a life member of the New York State Agricultural Society and on the 19th of December of that year he became corresponding member of the Oneida County Historical Society. On the 1st of June, 1891, he was appointed by Governor Hill as one of the managers of the Rochester State Hospital for a term of nine years, and upon the organization of the board was elected its president, and was re-elected each succeeding year until the office was abolished by law, when Mr. Cook was appointed a member of the board of visitation by Governor Odell. His private charities were numerous, yet no ostentation or display ever characterized his giving. He was especially helpful to young men who are ambitious and determined and who start out in life upon their own account empty-handed. Remembering his own struggles and trials in youth, he was ever quick to show appreciation for close application and to recognize ability by promotion as opportunity offered. For some years prior to his demise he took no active part in political work, his attention being given to the superintendence of his private business affairs and extensive investments. He held friendship inviolable and as true worth could always win his regard he had a very extensive circle of friends, his life demonstrating the truth of Ralph Waldo Emerson's statement that "the way to win a friend is to be one." The public work which he did was largely of a nature that brought no pecuniary reward and yet made extensive demands upon his time, his thought and his energies. Opportunities that others passed by heedlessly he noted and improved—to the betterment of the city and the state in many ways. He was unostentatious in manner, but all who knew him spoke of him in terms of praise. In his life were the elements of greatness because of the use he made of his talents and his opportunities, because his thoughts were not self-centered, but were given to the mastery of life problems and the fulfillment of his duty as a man in his relations to his fellowmen and as a citizen in his relations to his city, his state and his country.



*Hon. Freeman Clarke.*

*Eng. by H. B. Hall's Sons, New York.*

## Freeman Clarke



**F**REEMAN CLARKE, whose activities were of such extent and importance as to leave the impress of his individuality upon the history of the state, was during his lifetime numbered among the most prominent and honored residents of Rochester and since his death his memory has been cherished as one of the founders of the city's greatness, his labors contributing also in substantial measure to the development of the state. With wonderful foresight he seemed to recognize the value of a business situation or possibility and he wrought along lines of great good, but it was not alone in the field of business and finance that his name became known. He was recognized as one of the political leaders of the state and did much toward molding public thought and action in the middle of the nineteenth century. At all times he was actuated by high ideals of citizenship and of patriotism and his worth was recognized by the most distinguished political leaders of the land.

It was on the 22d of March, 1809, that Freeman Clarke entered upon his life record in Troy, New York, his parents being Isaac and Elizabeth Clarke. He was a descendant of some of the earliest Puritan settlers of New England. One member of the family, John Clark, of Ipswich, Massachusetts, was a founder of Norwich, Connecticut, where he removed in 1694. John Clark had six children. One of these, Isaac Clark, married Miriam Tracy, a granddaughter of Lieutenant Thomas Tracy, of Salem, in 1637, and through him is of Royal descent. Isaac Clark's second son, Oliver, born in 1714, married Elizabeth Freeman, a descendant of John Freeman, proprietor of Sudbury, Massachusetts, 1635, and moved to what was then the wilderness of western Massachusetts, settling near Westfield. Of his children, Zephaniah, born in 1752, married Zulima Cooley, a descendant of Benjamin Cooley, who settled in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1644. Zephaniah Clark removed with his family from Westfield to Williamstown, Massachusetts, and later to Poestenkill, New York, where he died, leaving a numerous family, the eldest of whom, Isaac Clarke, born in 1779, married Elizabeth Brown, and was the father of Freeman Clarke, born March 22, 1809. In 1827, when about nineteen years of age, Freeman Clarke became a resident of Albion, Orleans county, New York, where he engaged in mercantile and manufacturing pursuits. Even in early manhood he displayed remarkable prescience that enabled him to determine with

Freeman Clarke

accuracy the value of a business situation and to utilize his opportunities to the best advantage, so that whatever he undertook proved successful. He began operating in the field of finance in 1837, when elected cashier of the Bank of Orleans.

In 1845 Mr. Clarke arrived in Rochester and from that time until his death figured prominently in financial circles here. He organized and became president of the Rochester Bank, was chosen trustee and treasurer of the Monroe County Savings Bank and in 1857 was instrumental in organizing the Monroe County Bank, of which he became president and which at a later date was converted into the Clarke National Bank. His judgment was so sound, his enterprise so marked that his co-operation was sought for the development and furtherance of various financial and other business interests. He became not unknown in connection with railroad operation and was one of the first directors of the Rochester, Lockport & Niagara Railroad, now the Niagara Falls branch of the New York Central. At different times he was president and director of the Genesee Valley Railroad, was treasurer and director of the House Telegraph Company and a director of the Western Union Telegraph Company. As his operations extended he became recognized in New York city as one whose labors would prove a valued element in financial circles and he was chosen a trustee and subsequently the vice president of the Union Trust Company of New York, also one of the first directors of the Fourth National Bank of New York and one of the organizers and a director of the Metropolitan Trust Company of New York.

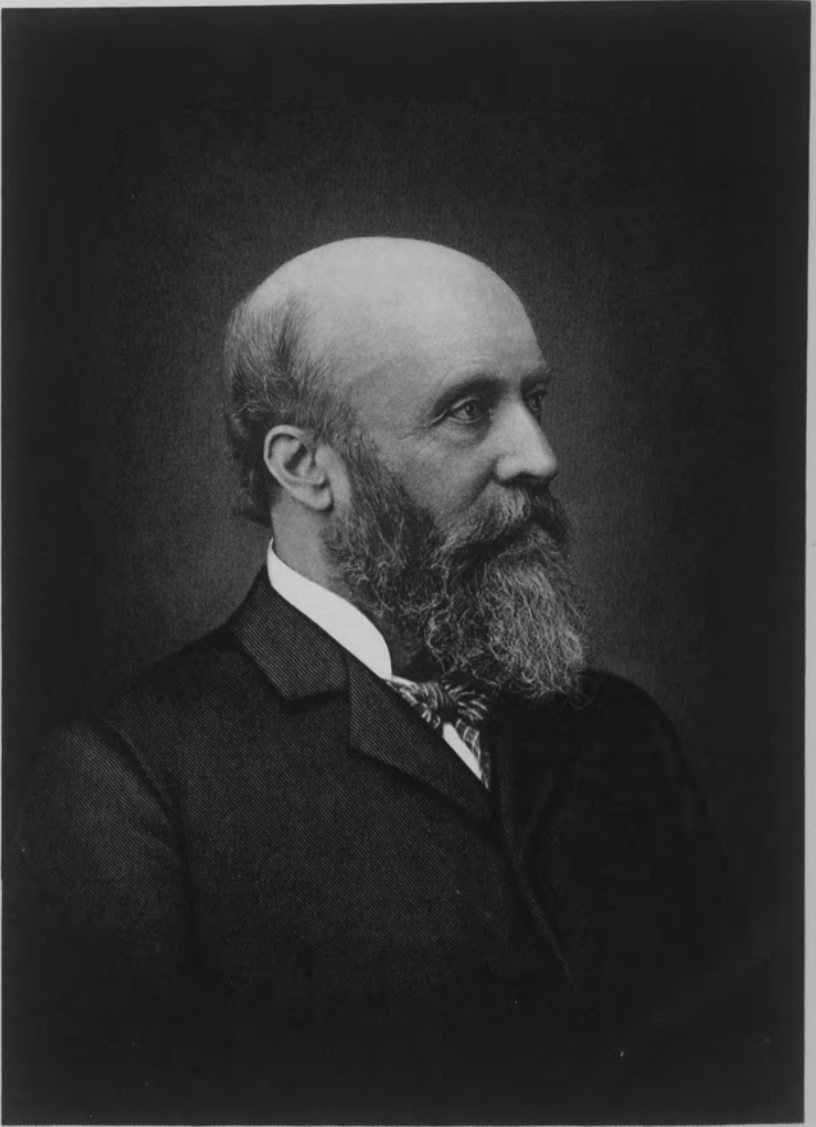
On the 28th of May, 1833, Freeman Clarke was married to Henrietta J. Ward, who was the youngest daughter of Dr. Levi Ward. She was born at Burgen, New York, October 2, 1814, and died at Rochester, October 30, 1890, while the death of Mr. Clarke occurred in Rochester, June 24, 1887. They became the parents of ten children, as follows: Levi Ward, who was born August 10, 1834, at Albion, New York, and died July 28, 1894, at Rochester; Elizabeth Jane, who was born at Albion, September 6, 1836, and died April 5, 1854, at Canandaigua, New York; Freeman De Witt, born in Albion, December 19, 1838, and died May 27, 1889, at Rochester; Henry Roswell, born June 1, 1841, at Albion, and died in Rochester, April 29, 1848; George Hunt, who was born March 15, 1843, in Albion; Francis K., who was born in Rochester, May 11, 1846, and passed away there on the 30th of April, 1848; Minnie Henrietta, who was born in Rochester, July 11, 1848; Caroline Susan, who was born in Rochester, December 5, 1850; Edward Smith, who was born December 25, 1853, in Rochester, and Isaac Sherman, who was likewise born in Rochester, January 21, 1856.

For more than half a century the parents traveled life's journey together. In the interim were many years of intense and well directed activity and particularly was Mr. Clarke known in connection with the latter days of the whig party and the earlier years of the republican party. In 1850 he was vice presi-



dent of the whig state convention and acted as its chief presiding officer. In 1852 he was a delegate to the whig national convention and two years later was chosen vice president of the first republican convention of the state of New York. In 1862 he was elected a representative from New York to the thirty-eighth congress, serving on the committees on manufactures and pensions. In 1865 he received from President Lincoln appointment to the position of comptroller of currency and during his incumbency some of the most important financial legislation of war times was enacted, including the organization of the national banks. In 1867 he was a member of the constitutional convention and in 1870 was elected a representative to the forty-second congress, where he did much important constructive work in committee rooms. He served as a member of the committee on foreign affairs and was ever a close and discriminating student of the political situation and its possibilities, bringing to bear in his public service the same spirit of insight and of mastery that characterized him in his business life. He served on the commission that had the Central Railroad tracks elevated in Rochester and he was a trustee of the University of Rochester. Local advancement and national progress were both causes dear to his heart and he had no sympathy with that spirit which sees in a public office opportunity for self-advancement or aggrandizement. He held to high ideals of citizenship and regarded a public office as a public trust. He was a statesman in his broad knowledge of affairs and a patriot in his devotion to the general good. Living in Rochester for more than forty years during the middle of the nineteenth century, which by reason of the war constituted a formative period in every state in the Union because of the new questions which came up for settlement, he stood among the leaders who looked beyond the exigencies of the moment to the needs and the possibilities of the future and labored not alone for the present generation. His business life, too, was one of intense and unwearied industry, bringing him into close touch with financial leaders of the Empire state, who recognized him as a peer.





*Charles T. Ham.*

## Charles Trafton Ham



NOT THE good that comes to us, but the good that comes to the world through us, is the measure of our success, and when judged in this light Charles Trafton Ham was an extremely successful man. He founded and developed one of the important industrial enterprises of Rochester, but it was not alone the extent of the trade which he secured that entitled him to distinction. The course which he followed in his relation to his employes might well serve as a model to the business man of the present, who regards results rather than means and frequently puts aside all thought of individual responsibility in his dealings with those who serve him. Mr. Ham was most highly respected by all of his employes and they knew that faithful, meritorious service would win promotion. He was quick to acknowledge the good in others and remembering the struggles of his own youth, did everything in his power to aid those who were honestly and diligently striving for advancement.

A native of Maine, Mr. Ham was born on the 25th of September, 1824, near Stateline, and also near Great Falls, New Hampshire. His educational privileges were somewhat limited, owing to the fact that financial reverses overtook his father, forcing him to start out in the world empty-handed when a boy of fourteen years. He began earning his living at farm labor, but later decided to learn the machinist's trade and to this end went to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and later to Great Falls, that state. At a subsequent date he was employed in the Hinckley Locomotive Works in Boston. He thoroughly mastered his tasks, continually broadening his knowledge along mechanical lines, and when twenty-three years of age became an engineer on a run between Lowell and Boston. While thus engaged he made a remarkable record, running the engine known as the Whistler at great risk to his own life, making a record of seventy-two miles an hour. Because of this feat he became known all over the country and "the boy and the Whistler" were for some time household words in engineering circles. This run was indicative of a strong trait in his character—to always keep ahead, to do in any line of business the best thing possible. Right after the Civil war he was appointed master mechanic of Little Miami Railroad, at the age of twenty-three years.

Subsequently Mr. Ham was engaged in the car foundry business with Morey & Company of Cincinnati, and afterward was appointed mas-

Charles Crafton Ham

ter mechanic for the Northern Cross Railroad, now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, with headquarters at Quincy, Illinois. From that place he went to the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad Company at East St. Louis and was there promoted to general master mechanic, acting in that capacity during the period of the Civil war. On account of ill health he then returned to New Hampshire, where he engaged in farming for three years, completely regaining his health during that period. He then took a position as superintendent of machine power on the New York Central Railroad, under Commodore Vanderbilt, and the work which he accomplished in that connection was of a most excellent and serviceable character. He completely reorganized the department, changing all the engines from wood burning to coal burning, and while filling the position he saved to the company over one million of dollars in this way. Commodore Vanderbilt gave him a large increase in salary and offered him more if he would continue, also agreeing to hire two assistants for him, but Mr. Ham wished to engage upon an independent business career, having already decided to embark in the manufacture of lamps. He joined James H. Kelly and the Kelly Lamp Company of Rochester was formed. Later he sold out and joined the firm of Ray, Marvin & Ham in Buffalo in the manufacture of headlights and steam gauges. This firm was afterward changed to Ray, Marvin, Ham & Bunnell, at which time they took in the firm of Parmelle & Bunnell, consolidating the two businesses. It was not long afterward when the entire business was removed to Rochester under the firm name of the Buffalo Steam Gauge & Lantern Company. Still later they bought out the Dennis-Wheeler Manufacturing Company of Chicago and also moved that business to Rochester. Mr. Ham acted as president for four years, on the expiration of which period he sold out and organized the C. T. Ham Manufacturing Company, manufacturing tubular lanterns and lamps and railroad lanterns. This company was organized in 1886, at which time Mr. Ham admitted his son and others to an interest in the business, of which he became president, his son, George W. Ham, secretary and treasurer, and John W. Orphy and Charles Bergener, manufacturing superintendents. The business was established on Allen street in the Bishop building and in 1890 was removed to the present location at No. 731 Oak street, their buildings now covering three hundred by one hundred and forty-five feet, while three times the amount of business is being carried on.

While a railroad man Charles T. Ham was considered the best mechanic in the service and was offered numerous positions as president of railroad companies, the principal one being with the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. He refused the offer, although the salary was very large and directed his energies into the channels of trade indicated. Mr. Ham was a man of very strong character, fearless in defense of what he believed to be right and never following a course that his judgment did not sanction as the honorable one between himself and his fellowmen. He was very charitable and considerate of his employes, paying every man what he believed him to be worth. He did not

Charles Crafton Ham

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wait to be asked for an increase of salary, but gave according to the merit of the individual. He could walk through the factory and apparently without looking would know just what each man was doing and how well he did the work. He never had a strike or any labor trouble and paid higher wages than other men in similar lines of business. He refused to enter into any agreement with competitors in regard to the prices to be paid his men and employes of other companies frequently sought positions with him. He deserved much credit for what he accomplished, owing to the fact that he was a penniless youth when he started out in the business world.

About 1842 Mr. Ham was married to Miss Mary Elizabeth Wentworth of Great Falls, New Hampshire, and they had seven children: George Washington, who died at the age of five years; Frederick, who died when a year old; Charles H., who died at the age of forty-two years; Edgar, who died when thirteen years of age; George William, now president of the company; Mary Elizabeth, the wife of Charles F. Crandall, an architect of Rochester, and Jennie, who died in infancy.

The death of the husband and father occurred September 27, 1903, when he had reached the age of seventy-nine years. His political allegiance was given to the democratic party and at all times he stood for progressive citizenship. He was actuated in all that he did by high and honorable motives and his every-day life commanded for him the respect and good will of all with whom he came in contact. It is not from the few conspicuous deeds of life that the blessings chiefly come which make the world better, sweeter, happier, but from the countless lowly ministries of the every-days, the little faithfulnesses that fill long years. It was in this daily performance of duty that Mr. Ham became known as one who contributed to the sum total of the world's happiness and advancement. While he prospered as the years went by, he never allowed the accumulation of wealth to in any way affect his manner toward those less fortunate. He had sympathy with those in his employ and it was this which won their loyal support. This lack of sympathy is the great cause of all the world's labor troubles. It causes the feeling that the employer is arrayed against those in his service, that class is against class. Those who served Mr. Ham grew to know that a sincere interest in his fellowmen prompted him to recognize their capability and to reward their skill and faithfulness. Such men are the real philanthropists of the world and if more would follow his example the question of capital and labor would be forever at rest.

## George William Ham



**G**EORGE WILLIAM HAM, in business his father's successor, was born in 1855, and in his youth received a thorough business training. Entering his father's employ, he was not favored because of this relationship, but went through the practical training of the factory in the same manner as any other employe. He applied himself assiduously to the mastery of every task assigned him and in the course of years became recognized as a strong business man. He has inherited those sterling traits of character which characterized his father in building up the industry of which George W. Ham is now the head. He is both president and treasurer of the company, while James Barnes is secretary; Fred McCutcheon, assistant treasurer; Charles Bergener, superintendent, and Charles W. Bergener, assistant superintendent. Mr. Ham is also president of the Seneca Camera Manufacturing Company and is the owner of large mining interests in California. He has made judicious investments and his business and property holdings are annually bringing to him a very gratifying financial return, which if it continues will gain for him financial independence.

On the 17th of February, 1876, George William Ham was married to Miss Alice Cora McCutcheon, a daughter of Robert McCutcheon, of Rochester. They have three daughters: Beula, at home; Florence E., the wife of John E. Hartfolder; and Ethel S., at home. The parents are members of the Baptist church and Mr. Ham is a Scottish Rite Mason. He is also connected with the Knights Templar commandery and with the Odd Fellows society. In politics he is a democrat in principle, but at local elections votes for the cleanest man on either ticket, being opposed to misrule in municipal affairs, desiring always a clean, good government. For thirty years he has been in business and, like his father, is looked up to as a model business man. He is energetic and determined and it has been not because of inheritance or any favoring circumstances, but because of close application and firm purpose that he has gained his present creditable position in the commercial world.





William L. Ormrod,

## William L. Ormrod



WILLIAM L. ORMROD, a man of prominence, is the owner of one of the most beautiful country estates in New York, comprising two hundred acres at Churchville. The land, naturally rich and fertile, has under the care of able supervisors, been rendered productive, while the work of improvement that has been carried on has made this estate one of the most beautiful in all New York. In the midst of grounds showing the high art of the landscape gardener, stands a magnificent palatial residence, equipped with every convenience known to the city home and supplied with all the furnishings and adornments that wealth can secure and refined taste suggest. While Mr. Ormrod feels a justifiable pride in his beautiful home, his interest also centers in large measure upon community affairs and his labors and influence have been potent factors in promoting public progress and improvement here.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, William L. Ormrod was born September 8, 1863. In the public schools of Cleveland he began his education, passing through successive grades until he became a high school student. At a youthful age he began his business career as telegraph operator in the old Forest City Hotel. In the evenings he attended the Spencerian Business College and in this way prepared for the practical duties of a business life. Abandoning telegraphy, he obtained a position as clerk and subsequently went to New Orleans, where he became clerk of the old St. Charles Hotel. A year later he was made manager of the Hotel Royal, and in that capacity remained in New Orleans for about ten years during the winter seasons, while in the summer months he was manager of the famous old Clifton House at Niagara Falls for nine years, and then entered into partnership with George M. Colbrun in control of the Monmouth House at Spring Lake Beach, New Jersey, which was the largest summer resort hotel on the Atlantic coast. This relationship continued for two years, when Mr. Ormrod retired from business.

On the 23d of October, 1899, was solemnized the marriage of William L. Ormrod and Miss Harriet E. Brooks, a native of Monroe county, New York, and a daughter of the Rev. Lemuel Brooks, a pioneer minister of this locality. In the year of their marriage Mr. Ormrod took up his abode in Rochester, becoming a heavy stockholder in the Flour City National Bank and having a voice in its active management. It was not alone private business interests,

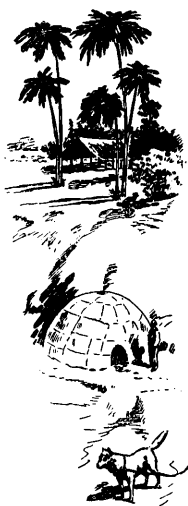
however, which claimed his time and attention, for in the study of interests bearing upon the city's welfare, he became deeply aroused concerning the smoke nuisance and was largely instrumental in agitating this question to a point where his efforts were finally crowned with success in its abolishment.

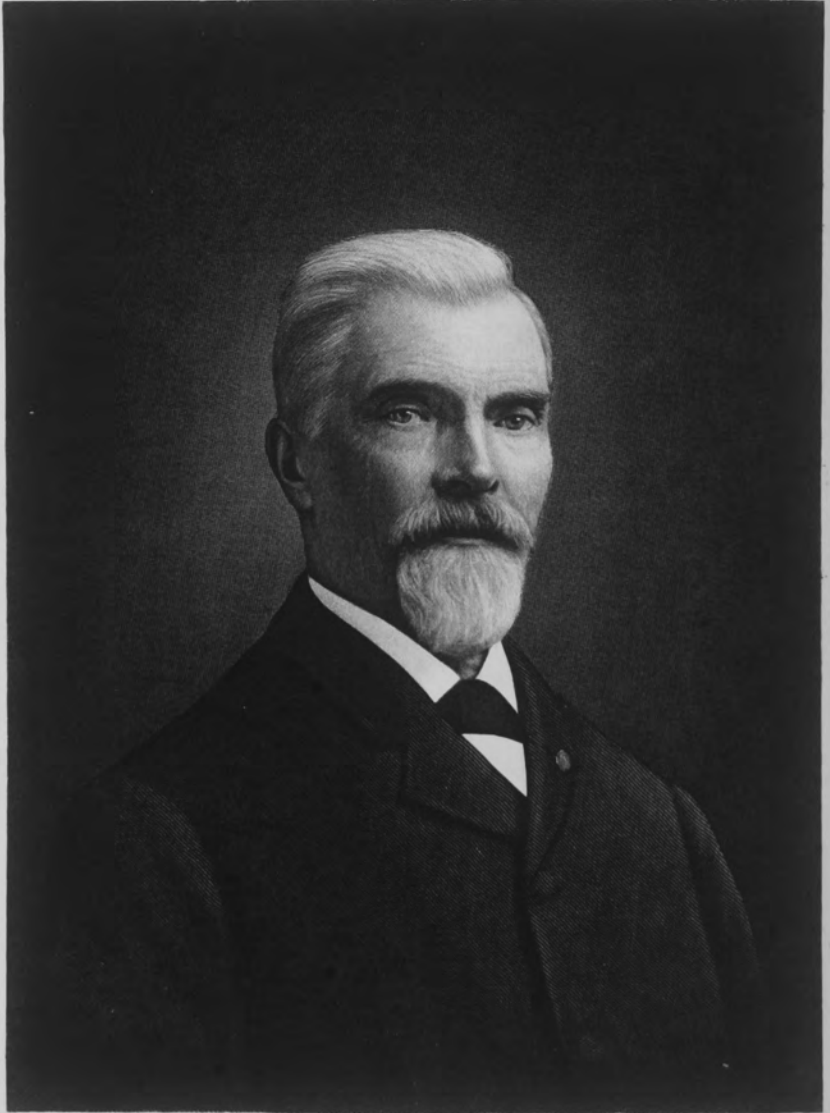
In 1905 Mr. Ormrod decided to take up his residence in Churchville, the birthplace of his wife, and purchased the fine property of Henry W. Davis, now deceased, comprising one hundred and forty acres of splendid land. (To this he has added sixty acres, making in all two hundred acres.) In the midst of this he has erected a magnificent residence, containing thirty rooms, thoroughly equipped with all modern conveniences. It is a beautiful home, ideally situated and lacking in none of the modern appointments which promote the comforts and ease of life. It is adorned, too, with many beautiful works of art and rich furnishings. He has fine stables upon his place and a fine herd of blooded Jersey cattle of seventy-five head. The raising of fine cattle is one of his chief interests and he owns some of the most splendid specimens of Jerseys to be found in the country. Indeed, his is one of the finest estates in this entire section of the country and is in full accord with the taste of the owner.

Since taking up his abode in Churchville, Mr. Ormrod has not only co-operated in the progressive measures and plans for its benefit and upbuilding, but has been the promoter of many of these, taking an active and helpful part in the town's development. He organized the telephone system, one of the finest and most complete in the state. He has been the constructor of the cable system, and his company was the first to adopt the continuous service plan, of any rural company. Because of the expense of building, his idea met with considerable opposition, but its practicability was soon demonstrated and numerous subscribers are now found upon the roll of its patrons. Mr. Ormrod is president of the company and was also an active factor in the development of the Churchville Light & Heating Company, organized in 1905, of which he is likewise the president. This modern idea also met with some opposition, but with persistent effort it was finally overcome and streets were piped and homes furnished with this modern convenience, the venture now proving a success. Ormrod Road, named in his honor, is a thoroughfare two miles in length, bordering his new home. It is an object of special interest to him, upon which he has at his own expense built an excellent new bridge at considerable cost. In 1905 Mr. Ormrod was elected township supervisor, in which connection he has labored persistently and effectively for the best interests of the locality.

In politics, Mr. Ormrod is a republican, taking an active interest in the party. He is an earnest worker in the Congregational church, in which he holds membership, contributing generously to its support. He is especially interested in, and recently presented a fine church organ to, the First Congregational church of Riga, the oldest church in Monroe county, where the Rev. Lemuel Brooks was ordained in 1828. Mr. Ormrod is a successful man, not only carrying forward to completion whatever he undertakes in a financial way

but also accomplishing what he undertakes for the good of the community. A man of large heart, easily approachable, he possesses a most benevolent spirit, combined with humanitarian principles and generous purposes. The question of public improvement would be solved if the men of wealth would follow the course Mr. Ormrod has pursued for the substantial development of Churchville. He has agitated good roads and it is through his efforts that the first state roads in the town of Riga are now under construction, namely, the Buffalo road from the east to the west town line, and the Ormrod road from the four corners in Churchville to Riga Center.





Henry Lomb

## Henry Lomb



**H**ENRY LOMB was born November 24, 1828, at Burg-haun, in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, where his father was a prominent lawyer of the district. His mother died when he was five, his father when he was nine years of age, and he had to leave his home when twelve years old to live with an uncle. With him he remained about six years, being apprenticed part of this time with a cabinet-maker. In March, 1849, when about twenty years old he sailed from Bremerhaven for America and after a voyage of forty-two days arrived in New York on the 1st of May. He left the same day for Rochester, expecting to meet friends there. Here he worked at his trade of cabinet-maker until 1853, when his friend J. J. Bausch offered him a partnership in his optical business, which offer he gladly accepted, appreciating, however, that the advantages he could bring to the business would be rather moderate, his financial possessions being limited to sixty dollars. The business was conducted as a retail optical store, Mr. Bausch and Mr. Lomb making, besides, occasional trips to neighboring towns, partly for the purpose of selling their goods and especially to make their business better known in the surrounding country.

In 1861, at the outbreak of the Civil war, he responded to the first call of President Lincoln and on April 23 enlisted in Company C., Thirteenth New York State Volunteers for a term of two years. At the first election of officers he was elected first sergeant, and later during the term of service promoted by the state authorities to first lieutenant and then captain of the company, serving with his regiment in the Virginia campaign of the Army of the Potomac until the expiration of its two years' time of service. Returning with it to Rochester in command of his company, he was mustered out with his regiment May 13, 1863.

After returning from military service Mr. Lomb resumed his previous business activities. He was married in 1865 to Miss Emilie Klein of this city. In 1866 the firm decided to dispose of its retail business and to give its entire time and attention to the manufacture of optical goods. The firm at the same time decided to make New York city the selling place for all goods manufactured, and Mr. Lomb went there as manager of the sales department of the business, Mr. Bausch remaining in Rochester as manager of the manufacturing department. From June, 1866, Mr. Lomb remained in New York until 1880, when



## Henry Lomb

he returned to reside in Rochester, it having then been arranged to concentrate all departments of the business in this city.

He has been living in Rochester since then, making himself useful in business where best he could and having the satisfaction of seeing the business grow and prosper, and having in 1903 the exceptionally great satisfaction, granted to so comparatively few, of celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of forming business connections between the two original partners, and to have on that occasion the great pleasure of seeing that the firm enjoys the hearty good will of its many employees.

Outside of his business Mr. Lomb has been mostly interested in matters of health, education, veterans of the Civil war, Grand Army of the Republic and associations affiliated with the Grand Army, the German-American Society and in some other charities.

He is a member of the American Public Health Association and offered through this association prizes for the best essays on the following subjects, for which the awards were made at the Washington meeting in 1885:

Healthy Homes and Foods for the Working Classes, The Sanitary Conditions and Necessities of School-Houses and School Life, Disinfection and Individual Prophylaxis Against Infectious Diseases, The Preventable Causes of Disease, Injury and Death in American Manufactories and Workshops, and the Best Means and Appliances for Preventing and Avoiding Them. In 1888 he offered another prize also through the same association on the following subjects: Practical Sanitary and Economic Cooking Adapted to Persons of Moderate and Small Means. All these essays have been published by the American Public Health Association, and large numbers of them have been distributed, to the great benefit of the people in different parts of the country. Mr. Lomb was elected a life member of the association at one of its annual meetings.

On the occasion of the celebration of the late Dr. E. M. Moore's eightieth birthday anniversary, Mr. Lomb proposed with others to organize on that day the Rochester Public Health Association, with Dr. Moore as its first president, which proposition was carried out shortly afterward in a public meeting and where Dr. Moore accepted the presidency. The association has by different means accomplished much good.

In 1885 Mr. Lomb assisted in organizing the Mechanics Institute and was elected its first president. After holding that position until 1891 he declined a re-election and has continued to be one of the directors since, working for the institute in various ways which seemed the most practical to him.

Mr. Lomb has established in the Mechanics Institute a scholarship entitled: The American Citizen Soldiers Scholarship, to give forever to the descendants of the veterans of the Civil war opportunities to obtain some useful instruction in some of the most practical classes of the institute.

For a number of years Mr. Lomb was also a member of the board of managers of the State Industrial School.

He was in 1884 elected chairman of the flower committee for Memorial Day, to which position he has been re-elected every year since. In that position he has had charge of the decoration of the graves of all soldiers and sailors in the different cemeteries of the city, and has thereby been able to assist in making the observance and work of Memorial Day, and also the records of the living and dead veterans of this section of the country—in the opinion of many outside Grand Army men and Sons of Veterans—the most practical and complete in the country.

In 1883 Mr. Lomb assisted in organizing the German-American Society on the occasion of the celebration of the second centennial of the first German colonization within the boundaries of the United States, which society under the long and self-sacrificing management of its late president, Frank Fritzsche, has been so beneficial in assisting the German immigrants as well as those who, from want of knowledge of the language and conditions of this country, needed help.





*John A. Stapleton M.D.,*

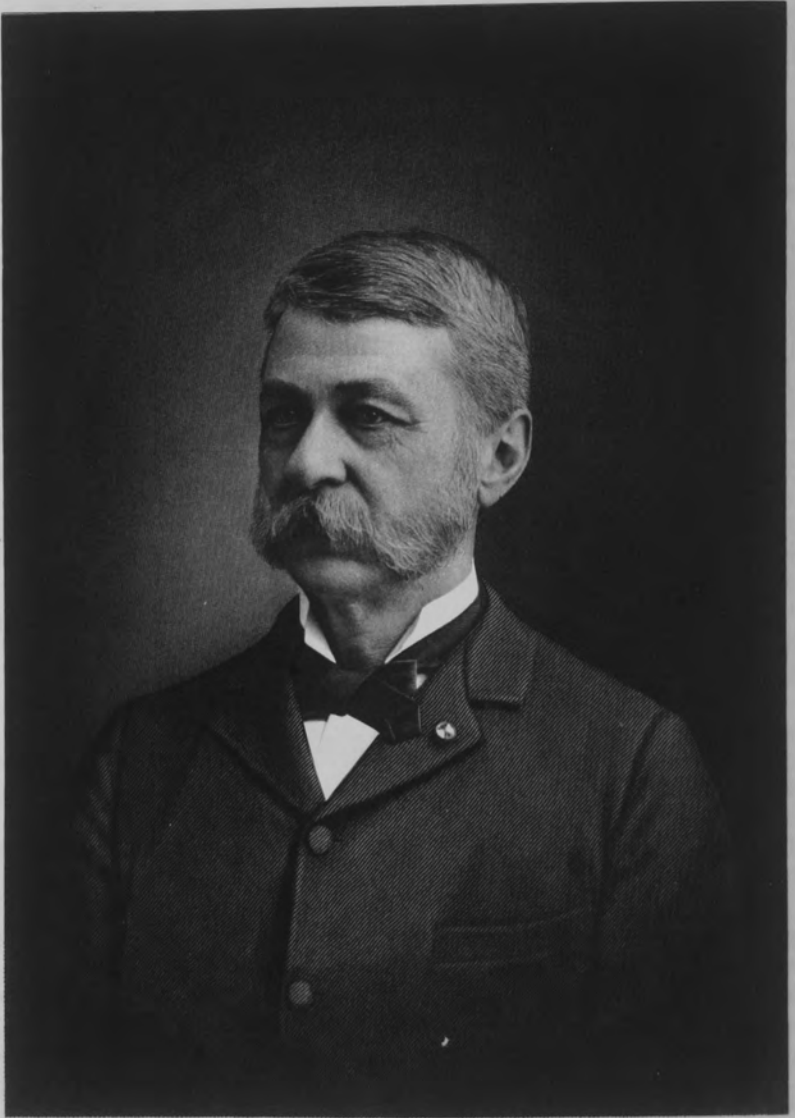
## John A. Stapleton, M. D.



**D**R. JOHN A. STAPLETON, a practicing physician of Rochester and surgeon for the police and fire departments, is a native of this city and the public and parochial schools afforded him his educational privileges. He began the study of medicine here and pursued his more advanced course in Buffalo Medical College, from which he was graduated in the class of 1891. He located for practice in his native city, where he has since continued, and his life record is in contradistinction to the old adage that "a prophet is never without honor save in his own country," for in the city of his birth Dr. Stapleton has gained distinction as an able and learned member of the medical profession, a fact which is further proven by the official duties which have been conferred upon him in the line of his chosen calling and by a large private practice as well.

During his college days he was connected with the Fitch Extant Hospital of Buffalo and after extended experience in that institution he was appointed resident physician to the Infants' Summer Hospital at Charlotte and was subsequently resident physician at the Rochester City Hospital. On his retirement from the last named he began private practice. He is now visiting surgeon on the surgical staff of St. Mary's Hospital, surgeon to the Rochester division of the Erie Railroad and has been surgeon of the police and fire department since 1900. In 1891-2 he was state sanitary inspector, having jurisdiction in nearly all of the counties of western New York during the great cholera epidemic. He is a member of the Monroe County Medical Society and a member of the Medical Society of the State of New York.

Dr. Stapleton is also well known and prominent socially. He is a member of the Rochester Club, of the Union Club and of the Oak Hill Country Club. His interest, however, centers in his profession, and in a calling where advancement depends solely upon individual merit he has gained a position of distinction, his ability, natural and acquired, placing him in the front ranks of the medical profession of western New York.



Myron Adams

## Myron Adams



THE LIFE of Myron Adams, "sweet, pure and noble," left its impress indelibly not only on the lives of those with whom he came in contact but upon the trend of modern thought. Many through his efforts have been brought into a clearer understanding not of creed, of dogma, of superstition or religion, but of Christianity. Gifted with wonderful mental power, he was a close follower of Him who came not to be ministered unto but to minister. For almost twenty years he occupied the pulpit of the Plymouth church in Rochester. Although his life span covered little more than a half century he lived to see the teachings which in his early ministry awakened strong opposition, in his later life endorsed by many who had formerly opposed him. He took no pride in this aside from the fact that the world was drawing nearer to the truth and was accepting the spiritual revelations of the gospel without attempting to establish the historicity or to accept with credence the traditional or the figurative.

Myron Adams, the youngest son of Myron and Sarah (Taylor) Adams, was born at East Bloomfield, New York, March 12, 1841. Following the completion of a preparatory course in Waterloo Academy he matriculated in Hamilton College as a member of the class of 1863. Less than two years after the beginning of the war he put aside his text-books to espouse the Union cause, enlisting with many other students of Hamilton in 1862 as a member of the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth New York Infantry, which was immediately ordered to the front. Sometime later he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in the signal corps of the regular army and served upon the staff of General Canby at New Orleans. In 1864 he joined Farragut and was at the famous battle of Mobile Bay, acting as signal officer on board the Lackawanna. In May, 1865, he was the bearer of dispatches to the war department, conveying the news of the surrender of the last Confederate troops east of the Mississippi river. He was offered the rank of major but refused it. Mere "honors" had no attraction for him. He believed in the worth of the man and public recognition, as such, possessed no value for him.

After his death he was honored by his old army comrades and the following was published at that time:

"A new Grand Army post is to be instituted in this city to-morrow even-

ing, to be called the 'Myron Adams Mounted Post, No. 640.' It is doubtless known to all our readers that all Grand Army posts are named after dead comrades. No living soldier is thus honored. It is especially appropriate that now the name should be chosen of that dear citizen of Rochester whom we freshly mourn, whose young life was consecrated to his country, and whose whole career was dedicated to the truth, as it was given him to see the truth. The new post honors itself in honoring the name of one so noble, so lovely, and of such crystalline purity of soul as was Myron Adams."

When the war was over Mr. Adams became a student in the theological seminary at Auburn, New York, and while there formed the acquaintance of Hester R., the daughter of Professor S. M. Hopkins, whom he married. One son was the fruit of this marriage, Samuel Hopkins Adams, who is now well known as a writer and journalist. He entered upon his pastoral work at the Union Springs (New York) Presbyterian church in 1868, and a year later accepted a call to the Dunkirk Presbyterian church, where he remained until he became pastor of the Plymouth Congregational church of Rochester in 1876. He continued to fill this pulpit throughout his remaining days and became a forceful factor in the life of the city, albeit one of the most modest, unassuming and retiring of men. His influence, however, will remain as a moving force in the lives of men long after the great builders of commercial and industrial enterprises, the promoters of great schemes of trade and profit will have been forgotten.

Mr. Adams was what the world has been pleased to term an independent thinker. When his judgment, resulting from close and earnest study, found fallacy in any teaching or doctrine, he renounced it and in unmistakable terms. When he came to accept the verity of any vital idea he proclaimed it. From the beginning of his pastorate he attracted attention and from the first displayed what the conservative term eccentricities of theological opinion. In the Presbyterian church of Dunkirk he was observed as an independent and vigorous thinker, always rewarding the attention of his hearers by his forceful, original way of putting things. From the beginning of his ministry he was a student, a searcher for truth; and when his investigation brought to him some doubts concerning the doctrines of the presbytery he continued his studies and though it brought down upon him the criticism of brethren whom he dearly loved in the Presbyterian church, he fearlessly proclaimed his views. He was steadily growing into a dislike of ecclesiasticism and rigid orthodoxy. He felt more and more hampered as a Presbyterian and it was with a feeling of relief that he received and accepted the call from the Plymouth Congregational church of Rochester.

Here Mr. Adams entered upon work in a congregation of intelligent and cultured men and women who were in hearty sympathy with him in his positive rejection of certain orthodox dogmas. He came to reject utterly the dogma of everlasting punishment. In explanation of this he remarked that



his experience on the field of battle and amid the carnage of the great fight of Mobile Bay, when scores of men fighting bravely for their country were swept out of life in an instant, made the thought that any such men were only plunged into "fiercer flames below" impossible to him. Nor did he believe in plenary inspiration. Upon these charges he was called before the Ontario Association in the closing months of the year 1880. Upon their charge he stood self-confessed. He freely acknowledged that he did not know the answer to some questions but he did believe firmly and fully in the infinite love and goodness of God.

After this action of the church Mr. Adams went on to develop more fully the theological ideas which he already held in the germ. He believed in evolution, not of the materialistic but of the theistic kind, that the world from the beginning has been going through a process of development that is bringing it nearer to truth and to the conception of the purposes of Christianity. Throughout his ministry his preachings set forth the truths of the universal Fatherhood of God and the duty of man in his relations to his fellowmen.

Mr. Adams was not gifted with that executive force and power of co-ordination which results in the upbuilding of a large church. He was not even an eloquent pulpit orator, yet he spoke vigorously, earnestly and decisively upon those subjects which seemed to him of vital interest to mankind. He never sought to upbuild his church by an attempt to make himself popular with his parishioners. On the contrary he was rather reserved, desiring that those who attended his services should come to hear the great truths which he uttered than because of any personal interest in him. His sermon was robust in thought and in expression rather unconventional, yet admirable for its originality and vigor.

"He was an advanced thinker," said one who knew him intimately, "along ethical and sociological lines, who in his absolute sincerity and freedom from prejudice in search for the truth was almost without a peer. His opinions were formed not according to rule laid down by theological seminaries or by any other influence but by the conclusions which he had reached himself after a careful and accurate survey of the grounds of belief. He had an eminently logical, trained mind, which looked thoroughly into all sides of a question and then went straight to the root of the matter, and in forming his opinions no fear of consequences deterred him in the least." He had an extreme dislike of cant and religious affectation of all kinds. Simplicity pervaded his whole life. He never attached to his name the letters indicating the Doctor of Divinity degree which was conferred upon him by a collegiate institution, nor did he wish others to use it.

At his death Dr. Landsberg said: "In nature's realm he received a training which neither academy nor college can supply, which develops the intuition of the prophet and the poet, which expands the imagination and which made his sermons and even his ordinary conversation so rich in striking illus-

Myron Adams

trations that none ever became tired of listening to him and none ever could listen without receiving fresh knowledge and noble impulses for purity and goodness." Mr. Adams had a most hearty love of nature. He rejoiced in the beauties of sky, of plain, of woodland, of river and of lake, and his summer vacations at Quisisana on the banks of Owasco lake were periods of rare happiness to him. He rejoiced in butterflies and beetles, in the tiny manifestations of life as well as in the great beauties of nature, and found much pleasure in microscopic investigation, possessing for some years a fine instrument which he afterward presented to Hamilton College. He was an active member of the Rochester Academy of Science and for several years its president. He believed in utilizing all of his individual forces, his physical as well as his mental powers, and in him the "dignity of labor" found expression. He obtained genuine delight from the use of tools and constructive work of that nature and could build a house or boat, as well as give scientific classification to insect life. His reading and investigation covered the widest possible range. He spoke before the Fortnightly Club, of which he was a member from its organization in 1882, upon the most varied subjects, including Schopenhauer; Henry W. Grady's Side of the Southern Question; Coleridge and Inspiration; Milton and Vondel; Hymenopterous and Human Society, or Bees, Ants and Humans, Socially Considered; The Persecutions of the Quakers; Theorists; Biography; Socrates; and others. His opinions were given to the world through two published volumes—"Continuous Creation" and "Creation of the Bible," and the title of the former perhaps is the best exponent of his own belief.

In manner Myron Adams was one of the most gentle and most kindly of men. In everything he was singularly unselfish and no one ever applied to him in vain for aid. All who came in contact with him had the greatest admiration and respect for his wonderful intellectual attainments and at the same time were deeply impressed by the kindly, loving nature which he showed to every one. While passing far beyond the many in mental realms, he retained the spirit of the light-hearted boy. Always with ready answer and often with quick wit, his replies were nevertheless kindly and considerate and even when he felt called upon to condemn a course of action or of thought he manifested the utmost spirit of charity and of love for those whom he thus opposed. One of the Rochester papers at the time of his death said editorially: "It is not a conventionalism to say that the death of Myron Adams is a severe loss to this community; it is the exact and feeling expression that will come to the lips of every person that knew him. The extinction of a life that has for a quarter of a century been making for liberality of thought and righteousness in conduct leaves a void that can never be filled in the same way. There remains only the sweet remembrance of its presence and the strong impulse to high thinking and doing that it always exerted. But this is a most precious heritage—one that will be deeply and reverently cherished." There was

## Myron Adams

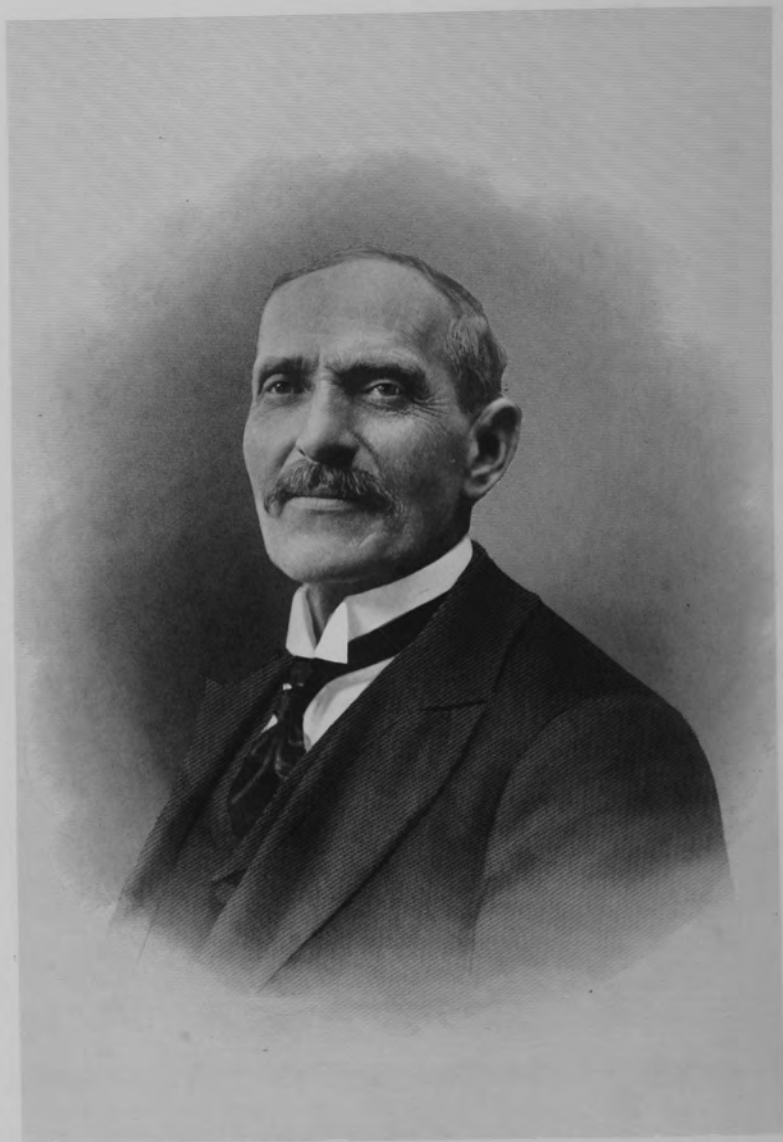
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such a unanimity of opinion concerning the superior mentality, the integrity of purpose and the high ideals exemplified in Mr. Adams' life that perhaps this review cannot better be closed than by quoting from two other editorial writers in the Rochester press. One of them said:

"Myron Adams' life was singularly true to the noblest ideals. As scholar, soldier, minister of the gospel, he delved and struck and taught for the uplifting of men. He was a soldier of conscience who left the halls of learning at Hamilton College to fight for an idea. He was among many who left that institution with the inspiration of liberty and the faith of true Americans in the ideas of the fathers, who broke away from all trammels and put trust in the masses of men. Myron Adams was honest and just with himself as with every man. He claimed for himself what he granted to everyone, the right to think, to examine in the light of reason, experience and research. Early attracted to the observation of natural phenomena, Mr. Adams had seen what he considered a better interpretation of the ways and purposes of the all-wise Creator than could be gleaned from ancient men who attributed to Him human passions and revenge. It was in his trust in the great verities of human life and of nature that he found strength and surpassing peace."

Following are excerpts from the tribute of the other writer: "In attempting to give an idea of him to those who knew him not we should say that Mr. Adams was the most distinctively American of the men we have known. In his way of looking at things, in his way of doing things, in his way of saying things, in his consideration for the rights of others, in his easy maintenance of his own rights, in his candor of thought, in his reticence of emotion, in his quaint fun, in his fertility of resource, in his moral strength, in his mental alertness and power, he was the flower and fruit of the farm life of the north. Among the affectations of modern city society and in the discussion of great controversial themes, he seemed to carry with him the suggestion of the lilac blossom, the orchard and the meadow. You felt at once the reality of the individual and recognized his opinions as ultimate human facts, not faint conventional echoes. Without knowing it, he was a type of Americanism; and, unconscious of the glory, he bore upon his forehead the chrism of sacrifice with which the great Civil war had touched its soldiers."





*Louis W. Maier*

## Louis W. Maier



LOUIS W. MAIER, who for many years was associated with the business interests of Rochester, was perhaps even better known through his connection with public affairs of the city. He possessed a kindly spirit and generosity that made him most widely known, his beneficence being one of his strong and salient characteristics. His birth occurred in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1836, and when nine years of age was brought to the United States by his parents in company with five sisters and one brother, while one brother remained in Germany. The family home was established in Rochester, where he acquired his education in the public schools and was reared.

When he arrived at years of maturity Mr. Maier was united in marriage to Miss Anna Mary Kiefer, of Rochester, a daughter of William F. and Salome (Oberst) Kiefer, who were natives of Prussia and of Switzerland respectively, and in early manhood and womanhood came to America. They were married in Rochester and unto them were born five children, of whom Mrs. Louis W. Maier was the second in order of birth. Both Mr. and Mrs. Kiefer were members of the Catholic church and died in that faith, the former at the age of fifty-three years and the latter at the age of fifty-eight, their remains being interred in Holy Sepulcher cemetery at Rochester, New York. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Maier were born seven children, of whom two died in early life: Frank J., who passed away in 1876; Lewis V., who died in 1895. The others are William F., Edward J., Fred J., Mrs. Joseph T. Otto and Eloise.

The father was very prominent in public affairs in Rochester and at one time he was foreman of the chair factory of the Western House of Refuge. He was a director of St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum for many years, in which connection he did much to improve the condition of the children who were left to depend upon the world's bounty. He belonged to the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association and also to the Catholic Benevolent Legion. He was widely known for his charity and beneficence, being prompted in much that he did by a spirit of broad humanitarianism.

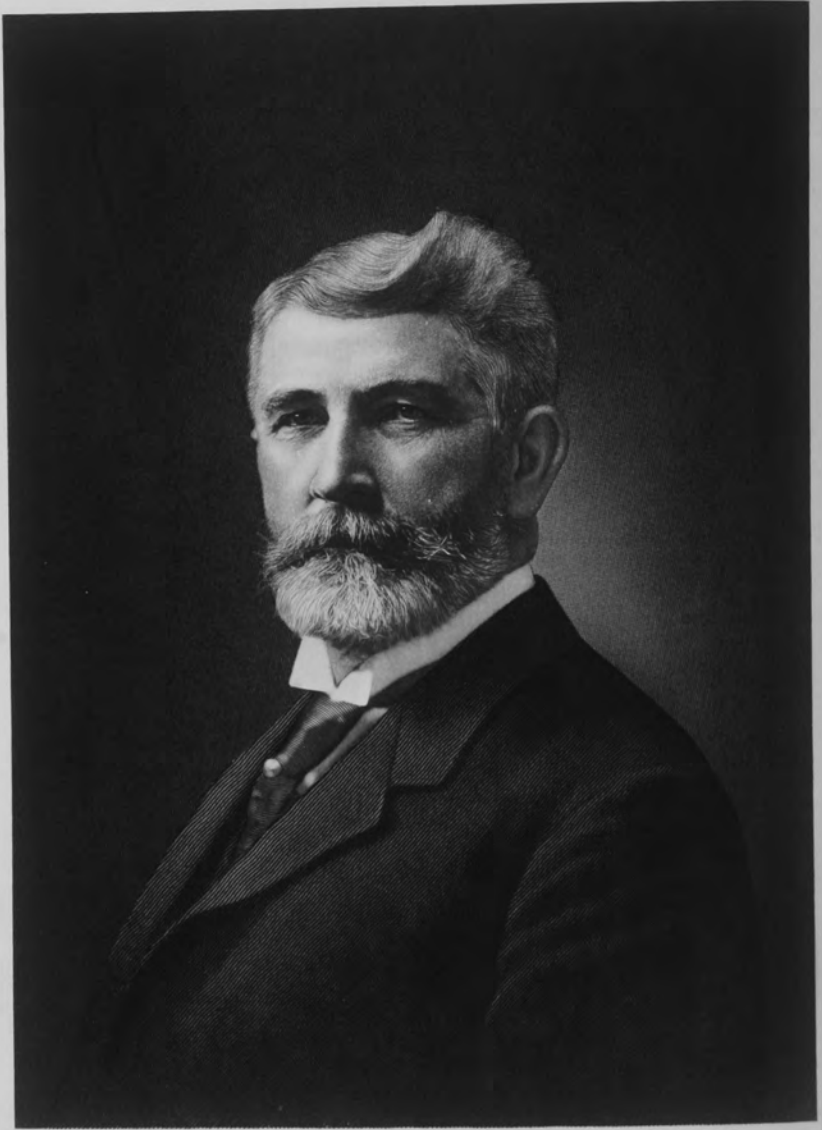
In his business life Louis W. Maier was well known. He engaged here in the undertaking business and was one of the first men of the city to do any embalming. In 1875 he formed a partnership with Valentine Foehner in the undertaking business at No. 5 North Clinton street and in 1884 pur-

Louis W. Maier

chased his partner's interest. He erected his place of business at No. 150 Clinton avenue North in 1893 and since his death the business has been conducted by his sons, William F. and Edward J.

In 1874 he built a home at No. 50 Buchan Park, where he resided up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 20th of September, 1902, and Rochester mourned the loss of a citizen whom it had come to know and honor. His name became synonymous with good works and kind deeds, and he found his happiness to a large extent in providing for the welfare and comfort of others. Surely he realized in full measure the biblical truth, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Those with whom he came in contact in social relations found him a faithful friend, while to his family he was a devoted husband and father, and it was at his own fireside that his loss was most deeply felt, although his death was the occasion of wide-spread regret to all who knew him.





*Daniel C. Murphy*



## Daniel B. Murphy



DANIEL B. MURPHY, working without ostentation or display for the benefit of mankind and the improvement of various conditions detrimental to the welfare of one or more classes, has come to be recognized as one of the most practical reformers of the country. In Rochester he is known as an enterprising man and successful merchant, being a member of the firm of Burke, FitzSimons, Hone & Company, but elsewhere in the state and throughout the nation he is known as one whose labors are largely actuated by the spirit of humanitarianism, and never by a desire for publicity or honors.

Mr. Murphy is a son of Maurice and Anastasia Murphy, and was born at Bombay, Franklin county, New York, July 23, 1848. He has one brother and one sister, with whom he shared parental training and care. In early youth he attended the village school and worked on his father's farm, and later was a student in the State Normal School at Potsdam, New York. Subsequent to this time he taught in different district schools of Franklin county for five winters, the summer seasons being devoted to agricultural labors. He next became principal of St. Mary's school, at Dunkirk, New York, for the years 1871, 1872 and 1873, and during the succeeding two years was principal of the cathedral schools of this city.

Tiring of teaching and thinking to find a commercial career more congenial, Mr. Murphy, in 1875, entered the employ of Burke, FitzSimons, Hone & Company as an entry clerk. His ability and fidelity soon won promotion and he became head bookkeeper. In 1886 he was given an interest in the business and on January 1, 1891, he was made a full partner. In his business life he is practical and energetic, readily mastering the problems that come to him in this connection and contributing largely to the success of the house.

Mayor Cutler of Rochester recently appointed Mr. Murphy a member of the reorganization committee of the United States Independent Telephone Company, which was capitalized at fifty millions of dollars and bonded at fifteen millions of dollars. This large plant met with financial disaster, and a committee consisting of Daniel B. Murphy, Walter B. Duffy and Harold P. Brewster, was appointed to reorganize and place the same on a paying basis, or dispose of it in the interest of the bondholders and stockholders. Mr. Murphy is president of the Individual Underwriters' Association of the United States, whose financial responsibility exceeds that of the Bank of England.

Daniel B. Murphy

Mr. Murphy is now a member of Corpus Christi Catholic church, after having been a trustee of the Catholic cathedral for a number of years. He is independent in politics and has been mentioned several times as a candidate for mayor of Rochester by both parties but has declined to run. It has been the public recognition of his deep interest in community affairs and his practical and effective methods in dealing with problems bearing upon municipal reform and progress that has led both parties to desire his service in the position of chief executive of Rochester. His membership relations along social lines connect him with the Fortnightly Club, the Genesee Valley Club and the Oak Hill Golf Club.

The depth of his nature, his philanthropic spirit and his kindly interest in all humanity are manifest in the active work he has done to ameliorate certain hard conditions of life and to bring about needed reform in other lines. He has been one of the managers of Craig Colony for Epileptics at Sonyea, New York, since 1898—a state institution which at the present time cares for over twelve hundred patients. He is president of the New York State Conference of Charities and Correction, composed of eighteen state charitable institutions and fourteen state hospitals, and also all other semi-public and private charitable institutions of the state. Every year delegates from all over the state meet to confer and in 1907 there were eight hundred and thirty-seven delegates, full quota, present. Mr. Murphy delivered an address at the convention at Albany, which awakened wide-spread attention. In speaking of this, the Albany Press Knickerbocker said, "Daniel B. Murphy gave some facts in relation to the treatment of consumptives that should set Governor Hughes thinking." In this connection, in his annual address, Mr. Murphy said, "I desire to register here an emphatic protest against the cruel, if not criminal, negligence of our state in caring for its indigent consumptive wards. It is well understood that this dread disease, consumption, is more deadly than war, but modern science has demonstrated that it can not only be controlled, but that it is a preventable and curable disease. We are at times much concerned at the devastating plagues that visit distant lands, but we are apparently indifferent to the fact that the scourge of the great White Plague is ever at our doors. Not less than fourteen thousand of its unfortunate victims march annually in solemn tread to the grave; or, to be exact, the official record shows that there were fourteen thousand one hundred and fifty-nine deaths in 1904, fourteen thousand and sixty-one in 1905 and fourteen thousand and twenty-seven in 1906. Commissioner Porter of the department of public health of this state, in an address before the conference of sanitary officers of the state about a year ago, stated: 'More deaths occur from tuberculosis than from typhoid fever, diphtheria, whooping cough, measles, scarlet fever and smallpox combined.' It is also estimated by this official that this disease causes two hundred thousand deaths annually in the United States; this exceeds the average annual deaths of both armies during the four years of our Civil war. That sad conflict closed

over forty-two years ago, and there is still mourning in the land, and a pension roll of one hundred forty-one million, four hundred sixty-four thousand, five hundred and twenty-two dollars and ninety cents, attesting the destruction of human life nearly half a century ago. What are we, as a state, doing to avert this terrible sacrifice of human life? It is gratifying to note that some of our large cities have already awakened to a realization of their responsibilities and are now conducting suitable hospitals for the care of a limited number of incipient and advanced cases of tuberculosis. It is well that the work of prevention and cure is now taken up, but it would have been better if some activity in this direction has been manifested years ago in compliance with the repeated demands of this conference. It is a matter of record that each of the preceding conferences rang out the cry of alarm throughout the entire state, yet, as a commonwealth, we have not adopted any concerted action or determined upon any measure to control this agency of certain death to so many thousands of our citizens. I am satisfied that there is a large element of human sympathy in mankind, and it needs only an awakening to arouse it to an intensity of action that will brook no delay in granting a full measure of justice and charity to the afflicted members of our common family. Let New York's proud pre-eminence among the sisterhood of states rest on the consciousness that her highest ambition is to faithfully conserve the health, happiness, peace and contentment of all her citizens."

Mr. Murphy is a charter member of the National Association of Credit Men and was one of the prime movers in its organization at Toledo, Ohio, in 1896. This association has a membership of about ten thousand of the ablest financial men in the United States. He returned home from that conference and organized a local association in Rochester, which is noted over the country as one of the strongest in existence. He was also chairman of the investigation and prosecution committee of the national association, which raised ten thousand dollars for the prosecution of fraudulent debtors. He is a trustee of the Rochester Chamber of Commerce and was nominated and elected its president, but refused the honor on account of the manifold duties devolving upon him in other connections. He was recently the guest of honor at a large banquet of the New York Conference of Charities and Correction and he has made many notable addresses and speeches on different occasions, many of these having been printed and used as a powerful argument in support of the cause advocated. His speech against Governor Odell's policy in reference to the control of state hospitals for the insane caused universal comment and was used throughout the gubernatorial campaign, being in large measure the means of keeping politics out of state charitable institutions. His address before the Rochester Credit Men's Association on April 17th, 1900, attracted wide attention throughout the United States and was endorsed and adopted for circulation by the business literature committee of the National Credit Men's Association and sent throughout the country, the subject being, "The

Daniel B. Murphy

Object and Possibilities of Credit Men's Associations." The address before the Buffalo Credit Men's Association was also adopted and ordered printed.

Mr. Murphy has made many other notable addresses, including one to the Rochester Retail Grocers Association, May 26, 1902; to the graduates of St. Mary's School, Dunkirk, New York; to the Rochester Chamber of Commerce on raising the salaries of the local public school teachers. His speech on the magnitude of failures startled business men throughout the country. In his speech before the Chamber of Commerce, in which he vigorously protested against the demand of the Rochester Railway Company to compromise its share of the payment of street pavement claims, he stated that, "inasmuch as it has been determined that this is a valid and legitimate claim against this railway corporation, its collection should be enforced to the last farthing, including interest." This forceful presentation of the facts convinced the city authorities that it was their duty to collect the amount of indebtedness, which was three hundred and eighty-six thousand dollars, instead of accepting one hundred and forty-six thousand dollars in compromise.

While a most public-spirited man, Mr. Murphy prefers to work in the ranks rather than hold office. He has his hand constantly on the public pulse, studying conditions and working for the healthfulness of the body politic.

In July, 1874, Mr. Murphy was united in marriage to Miss Mary B. Gavin; of this union eight children have been born, six of whom are living. He has traveled extensively, through Europe, also visiting Egypt, South America and other countries. On a trip to the Bermudas in 1903 he was shipwrecked on the Madiana, which went ashore, but he was rescued without injury. He was also at Martinique sixty days before the ill fated city of St. Pierre was destroyed by volcanic eruption in 1902. Mr. Murphy has many pleasant memories of different trips to Europe, when courtesies were shown him by Justin McCarthy, John Dillon and other members of the working house of the English legislative body. Unmindful of the honors of office, he has nevertheless won the honor and respect of his fellow-men wherever his work is known and his influence is felt.



*L. C. Taylor*

## George C. Taylor



**N**O RESIDENT of Fairport is more uniformly esteemed and respected than George C. Taylor, whose activity has touched the various lines which contribute to the material, political, intellectual and moral development of the community. There has also come to him the attainment of a distinguished position in connection with the great material industries of the county and he is now successfully engaged in the manufacture of patent medicines and flavoring extracts.

He was born in Cato, now Meridian, Cayuga county, New York, September 20, 1835, his parents being Alonzo L. and Lona (Potter) Taylor, of whose family of eight children George C. alone survives. The father was born in Norwalk, Connecticut, and was there reared, learning the trade of a hatter. In early life he was a schoolmate of and workman with P. T. Barnum, the great showman, of whom he became a close personal friend. As a young man he removed to Auburn, New York, to work at his trade and in Cayuga county was married. Later he engaged in the hat business in Cato and in 1848 removed to Ira Hill in the same county, where he resided up to the time of his death, which occurred in May, 1861. He served as constable and deputy sheriff of his county for fourteen years and it was he who captured the negro Freeman, the murderer of the Van Ness family of Auburn in the late '40s, the history of which is well known in connection with criminal annals in New York. During the later years of his life Mr. Taylor was engaged in the manufacture of patent medicines and peddled his own product. This was the foundation of the present extensive business built up by Mr. Taylor after the death of his father.

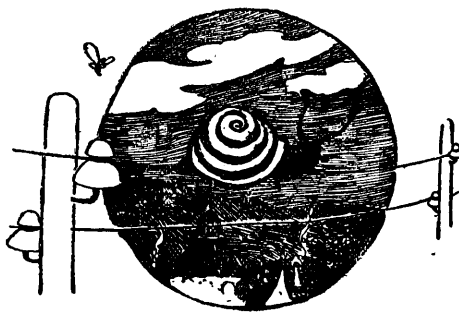
George C. Taylor was reared under the parental roof and acquired a public school education. He succeeded to the business upon his father's death and in 1868 removed to Fairport. During three or four years after the close of the Civil war business was slack in all departments of industrial and commercial activity and it was not until 1871 that the enterprise assumed proportions of any magnitude. From this time on, however, the volume of trade has steadily grown and Mr. Taylor's power was felt in the manufacture of proprietary articles for the drug trade, in which line he has been very successful. His efforts have been so discerningly directed along well defined lines of labor that

George C. Taylor

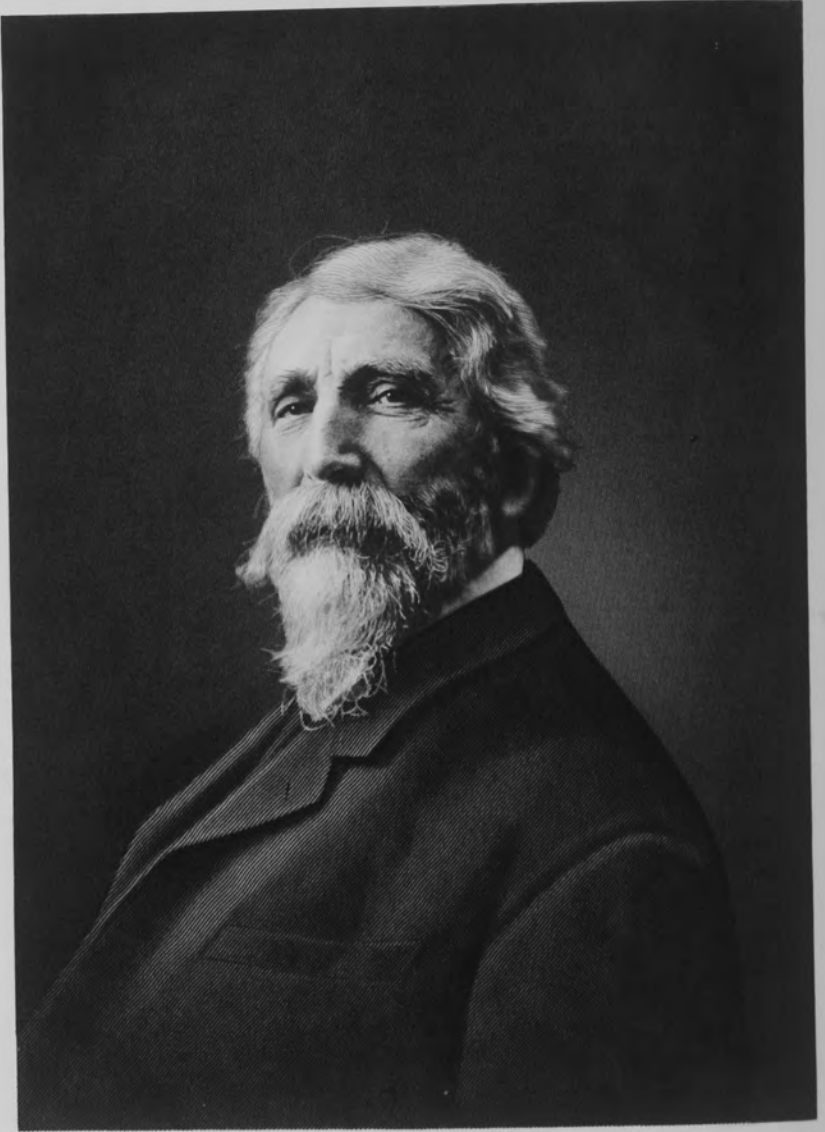
he seems to have realized at any one point of progress the full measure of his possibilities for accomplishment at that point.

Mr. Taylor is not only controlling a business of magnitude but is recognized as one of the best known men of this section of the state. A gentleman of sterling character, he is classed as a model citizen of Fairport. He never tastes either liquor nor tobacco and is strictly temperate in his life, never running to extremes in any particular. In politics he is a democrat but he accords to others the right of forming their own opinions.

In 1862 was celebrated the marriage of George C. Taylor and Miss Wealthy A. Fuller, of Springboro, Crawford county, Pennsylvania. He belongs to no church or societies but is a most liberal supporter of all church and charitable work. The consensus of public opinion regarding Mr. Taylor is altogether favorable. Young and old, rich and poor, business and social associates, all speak of him in terms of high praise, and he is a man whom to know is to respect and honor.







*John Van Voorhis*

## John Van Voorhis



OF THOSE who knew the Hon. John Van Voorhis were called upon to name the strongest characteristic of his useful and honorable career, by the consensus of public opinion fidelity would be the response. His loyalty to his home, his friends, his city and his country, to his beliefs and his convictions made him trusted wherever known and gained him the unqualified confidence of the lowly and those high in the councils of the nation, of the distinguished members of the profession in which he figured so prominently and of those with whom he came in contact through the ties of friendship. His strong intellectual endowments, well directed, made him a leader at the bar and in republican ranks in the state of New York and never was he known to waver in his allegiance to a cause he espoused, for his championship was ever based upon a belief in its righteousness.

John Van Voorhis, a native son of New York, born in Decatur, Otsego county, October 22, 1826, was of Holland lineage, descended from Stephen Coerte Van Voorhees, who was a son of Coert Alberts of Voor Hees (so called because he lived before the village of Hees, in Holland, hence the origin of the surname. In April, 1660, Coert Alberts was a passenger on the ship *Boutekoe* (spotted cow) which sailed for the new world. He was accompanied by his wife and seven children and settled at Flatlands, Long Island, where he purchased from Cornelius Dirksen Hoogland nine morgens of corn land, seven of woodland, ten of plain land and five morgens of salt meadow for three thousand guilders; also the house and house-plot in the village of "Amesfoort en Bergen" (Flatlands) with the brewery and all the brewing apparatus. He died at Flatlands in 1702.

One of his grandsons, Johannes Coerte Van Voorhis, removed to Fishkill, Dutchess county, in 1730, and purchased a farm of twenty-seven hundred acres, for six hundred and seventy pounds sterling. Before his death in 1757 he changed the spelling of the name to its present form, which has since been retained by his descendants.

John Van Voorhis, of this review, was the great-grandson of Johannes Coerte Van Voorhis and the son of John Van Voorhis, who was a farmer and a local preacher of the Methodist church. He was reared upon the old home-

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stead farm and acquired such education as he could obtain in the common schools, through the school library and a few terms spent at Genesee Wesleyan Seminary at Lima. He was seven years of age at the time of the father's removal to Otsego county and after residing for a few years in the town of Scott, Cortland county, and in the town of Spafford, Onondaga county, he became a resident of Mendon, Monroe county, New York, in March, 1843. He took up his abode upon a farm at Mendon Center and in the summer months aided in the work of the fields, while in the winter seasons he taught in the district schools of Victor until 1850. In the summer of that year he became a law student in the office of John W. Stebbins, of Rochester, and in the succeeding winter taught Latin and mathematics in the East Bloomfield Academy. He was connected with that institution until the spring of 1852 and in the meantime continued his law reading as opportunity offered until in December, 1851, he successfully passed the examination that secured him admission to the bar.

Mr. Van Voorhis began in law practice in Elmira in 1853 as a partner of Hon. Gilbert O. Hulse but in 1854 became identified with the Rochester bar. Here he soon won recognition as a lawyer of wide learning, of thorough familiarity with the principles of jurisprudence and of notable force in argument and in the presentation of his cause.

In 1858, Mr. Van Voorhis was married to Frances Artistine Galusha, a daughter of Martin Galusha and a granddaughter of Jonas Galusha, who was for nine successive terms governor of Vermont. Soon after his marriage he purchased the home on East avenue, where he lived for many years. For a long period the law firm consisted of his brother, Quincy Van Voorhis, and himself, while later he admitted his two sons, Eugene and Charles, under the firm name of John Van Voorhis & Sons.

From the beginning of his connection with the bar Mr. Van Voorhis maintained a prominent place in the ranks of the legal fraternity and as an attorney for the plaintiff or defense he was connected with almost every important litigated interest tried in the courts. His ability, too, well qualified him for official service, he was from the beginning of his residence here a prominent factor in public life, being first elected a member of the board of education from the old Fifth ward in 1857. In 1859 he was appointed city attorney and in 1863 received appointment as collector of internal revenue from President Lincoln. He was a delegate to the republican national convention which renominated Lincoln in 1864 and was ever a stanch supporter of the martyred president. In 1878 and again in 1880 he was elected to congress but was defeated in 1882, when there was a democratic landslide. In 1892 he was once more chosen to represent his district in the national law making body and upon the close of that term he retired from active political life. He was one of the most earnest workers on the floor of the house, connected with much of the constructive legislation which finds its inception in the committee rooms. An indefatiga-

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ble worker for his constituents, Rochester owes to him its public building at the corner of Church and Fitzhugh streets. He made a desperate fight for this, one of his first public acts, in the forty-sixth congress being the presentation of a bill for a public building at Rochester. The bill was reported favorably by the committee on public buildings, but the house was democratic and he was unable to pass it. Elbridge G. Lapham, of Canandaigua, who was one of the house leaders, opposed the bill vigorously on the ground that Canandaigua was less than thirty miles from Rochester and had a United States courthouse. When the forty-seventh congress met in December, 1881, Mr. Van Voorhis again presented his bill and secured its passage in the house after a long and strenuous contest. In the interim Mr. Lapham had been elected United States senator and in the upper house he again opposed the measure even more vigorously than he had before. He was supported in his opposition by the late Charles J. Folger, secretary of the treasury, who lived at Geneva and was interested in Canandaigua's efforts to prevent Rochester from obtaining sessions of the United States court. Congressman Van Voorhis enlisted the support of Senator Warner Miller and the late Senator John J. Ingalls, of Kansas, until finally, after the bill had brought about a factional line-up in the senate, it was passed over the heads of Senator Lapham and Secretary Folger. Every member of congress for twenty-five years before that time had fought in vain for a public building for Rochester and the success of Mr. Van Voorhis was notable.

During his congressional career and as an attorney he was a champion of the rights of the Seneca Indians and it was largely due to his opposition that the claim of three hundred thousand dollars of the Ogden Land Company against the lands of the Indians was defeated. In 1895 a council of the Seneca nation was held on the Allegany reservation and resolutions of thanks to Mr. Van Voorhis were adopted. The resolution was engrossed and framed. The parchment on which it is written is decorated with a tomahawk and a pipe of peace and bears the nation's seal. It was always regarded by Mr. Van Voorhis as one of his most valuable possessions.

For half a century Mr. Van Voorhis remained an active practitioner at the Rochester bar and attained marked distinction. He was thoroughly informed concerning all branches of the law and his practice extended beyond the borders of New York. He was particularly strong in argument and in the presentation of his cause, which he ever contested with the qualities of a warrior. His ready sympathy was easily enlisted in the cause of the weak and oppressed and when he once espoused a cause it received his untiring efforts to the end, regardless of the fees accorded him. He was deeply interested in young men who were starting out in the profession, was always ready to assist and encourage them and they entertained for him the greatest admiration and sincerest affection, feeling that they had lost a stalwart champion and friend when he passed from this life.

Too broad minded to confine his attention and interest to his home local-

ity or even to his state, he was concerned in all matters of national importance and in those events which were framing the history of other nations. He firmly believed in the cause of the Boers in South Africa, gave to them his ready sympathy and addressed many public meetings in their behalf, being one of the speakers at the great Boer meeting held in the city of New York. He was equally ardent in his championship of Cuban independence and thrilled an audience with his presentation of the question at a large mass meeting in Rochester. He continued one of the world's workers until called to his final rest October 22, 1905. Perhaps no better proof of the initial statement of this review that one of his strong characteristics was his unfaltering fidelity may be best shown in quoting freely from the statement of many of the public expressions that were made at the time of his demise.

The Monroe County Bar Association adopted the following memorial: "Hon. John Van Voorhis died at his home on East avenue, in the city of Rochester, on the 20th day of October, 1905.

"Mr. Van Voorhis was born in Decatur, Otsego county, New York, October 22, 1826. He was of Dutch descent, his earliest ancestor in this country, Stephen Coerte Van Voorhees, having emigrated from Holland in the year 1660 and settled at Flatlands on Long Island.

"In 1843 Mr. Van Voorhis removed with his father's family to Mendon and since that time had been a resident of Monroe county with the exception of two years spent in the city of Elmira. His early education was obtained in the common schools, in the East Mendon Academy and the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary at Lima, New York. He came to Rochester in 1848, entered the office of the late John W. Stebbins as a student of law and was admitted to the bar in 1851. In 1853 he opened an office in the city of Elmira but removed to Rochester in 1854, and from that time until his death had been continually engaged in the practice of his profession in this county. In 1854 he married Miss Frances Artistine Galusha, a daughter of Martin Galusha, of Rochester, and a granddaughter of Jonas Galusha, who for nine successive terms was governor of the state of Vermont.

"Mr. Van Voorhis during his lifetime filled many public offices to which he was elected by his fellow citizens. In 1857 he was a member of the board of education of the city of Rochester; in 1859 he was the city attorney; in 1864 he was a delegate to the republican national convention at Baltimore; from 1879 to 1883 he was a member of congress from this district and again from 1893 to 1895.

"His life had been active, strenuous and full. He had no advantageous aids in making his career. What he has achieved he has achieved by his own labor and efforts.

"As a lawyer his practice was largely in the courts and he had been engaged in many important and hard fought cases which reached their final decision in

the court of last resort. His practice was large, at times reaching into other states.

"His clients were for the most part individuals; corporate interests he seldom represented and he may with justice be described as the people's lawyer. He possessed ample knowledge of the law and had large experience and great ability in the trial of causes. His fearlessness in asserting his client's cause and his persistence in pressing it to a final conclusion were marked characteristics of the man.

"To his clients he gave his best efforts, the benefit of his large knowledge and large experience, with untiring diligence worked for their interest.

"Mr. Van Voorhis possessed a strong personality in keeping with his massive form and powerful and striking features that made him the most picturesque member of our bar. He thought vigorously and expressed himself with vigor. In the heat of conflict, somewhat brusque in manner, he was at heart kindly. He will be remembered by the members of the bar as a strong man and an able lawyer, and in social intercourse as a genial and pleasant companion.

"Full of years the last of his own generation of lawyers, he rests from his labors."

The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle said editorially:

"Mr. Van Voorhis was a born fighter, a fighter who never took an unfair advantage of an adversary, but who never gave up a battle until the issue was finally adjudicated. When he was assured that his cause was just, he would never admit the possibility of ultimate and final defeat. It has been often said of him that he was a loyal friend; he was at the same time a stalwart and vigorous adversary. In common with all truly strong men, he was positive in his likes and in his dislikes; but at the same time he was generous towards all with whom he came into professional conflict. But he always stood for that which he regarded as right, and stood steadfast to the end, and his friendship was abiding. He was trained in the school of integrity, and he had no patience with departures from the path of uprightness in which his course unswervingly lay, through the world that now is to that world which is to come.

"It was perhaps in his home life and in his library where Mr. Van Voorhis shown the brightest. He never gave up his early friendship for that which was noblest and best in literature. Fortunate in his early studies of the classics, he could always retire from the strife of the bar and the political arena to communion with his favorite authors; a communion which he loved to share with his friends. Although, as has been said, he never relinquished the active duties of his profession, with the later years of a more than usually successful life came leisure and opportunities for travel and purely literary enjoyment which were more infrequent in the earlier portions of a long and strenuous career.

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"As a friend and counselor of the younger members of his profession, and indeed of other professions, Mr. Van Voorhis will be long and gratefully remembered. When sought, his advice and assistance were always lavishly bestowed, and many men largely owe their success in life to his wise and timely advice.

"It was vouchsafed to John Van Voorhis to come down to the close of a long and well spent life in the full possession of all his mental faculties. With him there was no fireside period, in the common acceptation of the term. His sun set suddenly. To him came not the partial mental eclipse which sometimes clouds the closing days of men who were physical and mental giants among their fellows. The end found him in the buckler and armor which his friends and his antagonists knew so well."

The Rochester Evening Times said editorially:

"At the ripe age of seventy-nine, in full possession of his remarkable mental faculties, Hon. John Van Voorhis, one of Rochester's foremost lawyers, characterized by his virility of thought, his forcefulness and his sturdy independence, passed suddenly away yesterday, leaving a vacancy in the city's public life that cannot be easily repaired.

"Mr. Van Voorhis was a giant mentally and physically. When he was once convinced, the cause which attracted his support was fought for earnestly but fairly until the conclusion of the issue was reached. His wonderful mental courage, his disregard of influence, his unwavering devotion to the interests of the people rather than special interests or classes were logical products of his Dutch ancestry.

"In public life Mr. Van Voorhis was the stalwart champion of his adopted city. He left his imprint in the halls of congress, where he is remembered as the best legislator Monroe ever sent to the national capital. In the practice of his profession he achieved a country-wide distinction. As a scholar and student, in his own library, he showed a side of his character that was particularly attractive to his intimates. As an advisor of young men, and as their steadfast friend, if they deserved his friendship, Mr. Van Voorhis will be sincerely mourned and his loss as a counselor will be keenly felt.

"Strong in his loves, undying in his hatreds, but fair in both, Mr. Van Voorhis made countless friends and some enemies. All, at his death, will pay him tribute that truly great citizens strive for—HE WAS SINCERE."

The Post Express of Rochester said editorially:

"Mr. Van Voorhis was a man of great intensity and made both friends and enemies with remarkable ease. He was bold and vigorous in speech, defied parliamentary usages and restraints, drove straight at his mark, affected to care nothing for the feelings of antagonists, made no objections whatever to savage thrusts in return, and delighted in intellectual conflict. It was inevitable that he should fall into difficulties occasionally in the heat of public debate,



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and that enemies should rise up against him, in congress and out of it. It is very doubtful, however, if these enemies long cherished their resentment, and probably all enmities created amid political strife were forgotten long ago. It is certain that Mr. Van Voorhis was always ready to forget and forgive, and his last years were those of peace and content. While he was active in public affairs he made many friends, and these he clung to with hooks of steel, was fond of their companionship, and loved to serve them.

"He was a successful lawyer who permitted nothing to sway him from the interests of his clients. He believed in knock-down blows and delighted to give and take. If he lacked diplomacy and suavity, he excelled in directness and loyalty. During the later years of his life he participated but rarely in legal battles, being content to watch them from afar; but to his last days he was conspicuous as a friend of the Indians of Western New York, appeared frequently in court in their defense, joined heartily in the efforts to protect them from the avaricious whites, visited Washington in their interest, made arguments before the senate and house committees, kept his old friends informed as to what was going on—men like Allison, Teller, Hale, Hoar and Platt of Connecticut in the senate—and strove earnestly, without thought of compensation or reward, to protect the innocent from outrage and wrong. His ceaseless effort in their behalf was characteristic, for he loved justice, hated wrong, and never dodged a fight. One of the fine features of his character was that he never dealt a blow in malice or harbored the slightest animosity toward his opponents, either at the bar or in politics. He was rugged and leonine in appearance, but within beat a warm and loving heart."

Of him Charles E. Fitch, state regent, and for a long time editor of the Democrat & Chronicle of Rochester, wrote as follows:

"A stalwart form is smitten. A strong heart has ceased to beat. For fifty years he was a leader at the bar; from the birth of the republican party he was prominent in its councils, honored by and honoring it; throughout he was associated with the activities of this community. If he may not be called great, he had the qualities that inhere in greatness; he was direct in purpose, candid in speech, resourceful and resolute in act, unflinching in courage and generous in success. If, in the heat of conflict in his profession or in politics, he, who hated meanness and abhorred hypocrisy, was severe in address, there lurked no malice in his thought, and he cherished few resentments. He caused no wound that he would not gladly heal. If he made foes, he would resolve them into friends, where no issue of principle was involved; and he attached friends to him as by hooks of steel. As he was self-reliant, he was also helpful. He was one upon whom others leaned. Many are they who will to-day note the kindly offices he rendered them.

"As a lawyer he was learned, skillful, assiduous and absolutely devoted to the interests of his clients. Confident in his case, and assured of its justice, apt in the trial thereof and specially gifted in the cross-examination of perverse

or reluctant witnesses, he gained many triumphs at "NISI PRIUS," but it was in the appellate courts that he chiefly excelled, for he knew the law and its application, and seldom failed to turn victory into defeat in the last review.

"As a politician he believed in his party, because he believed in its principles. From devotion to its creed he never swerved, as loyal to it in its reverses as in its prosperities. For years he labored for it zealously and indefatigably and without reward. In the maturity of his years and the fullness of his power, he was commissioned to represent his district in the national congress, and no man ever represented it more ably or faithfully than did he. In speech never elaborate, in debate he was potent and often crushing to his adversary. He exalted his political faith and knew no compromise with wrong. He made a national reputation for terseness and vigor of utterance, and for integrity in civil administration in accordance with the leading of the party which redeemed the republic and accomplished its weal. And not less did he serve his immediate constituency than the country. Pensions for the veterans of the war, needed appropriations for public improvements, and the varied interests of his district testify to his diligence.

"In his retirement from public life, and in a measure from the arduous duties of his profession, as the advancing years admonished him to rest, he ripened into charming companionship with all who came within the circle of his acquaintance. In conversation he was fascinating, drawing not only upon reminiscence, but upon stores of literature with a knowledge of which he was not generally credited. All asperities had ceased and all contests had ended. His closing years were serene. He dies full of years and of honors, and it will be long before he will be forgotten by the profession he adorned, the country he served and the city in which he lived so long."

Rev. S. Banks Nelson, D. D., paid a beautiful tribute at the funeral exercises. It was in part reported by the press as follows:

"John Van Voorhis is dead, but we need not place a broken column on his grave. He was a man who put the cap on his own column, and then stepped off the superstructure into the glorious hereafter. His life in some senses was not even a broken arc. To him we may not apply that old simile of a ship wrecked on the shoals of time, a decrepit body and a mind approaching senility. For he raised anchor, hoisted his pennant, and waving us adieu, sailed away with his hand in that of his pilot."

Speaking of Mr. Van Voorhis' mentality, Mr. Nelson said:

"He was keen and he was witty, but his wit was so keen and polished that his blade never bore away a heart sting and his bon mots sent a ripple over the faces of his hearers. His very dumbness as he lies here is eloquent and bespeaks strength. No one ever thought of John Van Voorhis without associating him with strength.

"When Mahomet died one of his followers rushed out of the tent and drawing his sword threatened to run it through any one who should declare that

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Mahomet was dead. The Jews could not believe that Elijah was dead; they thought it impossible that any one so brave and great could die. When Moses died they refused to believe that he had passed away, not deeming it possible that he could be dead for more than a day. This is a thought that runs throughout sacred history and a thought that runs through profane history from the beginning to the present day, and it is a natural thought that it is impossible for the great and good to die. This universal instinct itself declares man's immortality.

"Leave John Van Voorhis out of the affairs of the city of Rochester and what a different complexion they would have. We are thankful that he was sent as a representative of this district to the federal government at Washington, for we know that our affairs were looked after by a man of character and principle. In the church, too, his influence was felt. He believed in the necessity of the Christian pulpit and was an ardent friend of every faithful preacher of the Gospel."

Dr. David J. Hill, United States minister to the Netherlands, on learning of his death, paid a beautiful tribute to his memory which reads in part as follows:

"'Once a friend always a friend,' was his motto so long as a man deserved his friendship. No lawyer ever more unreservedly committed his whole soul to the cause of his client, and it was one of the secrets of his success. In the unremunerated good offices of private friendship it was the same way. He believed in his cause, he believed in his friends, he believed in the triumph of right, and did all in his power to promote it. In return, his friends believed in him, and they never misplaced their faith. Sincerity, loyalty, straightforwardness, unselfishness,—these are the qualities that shone in the character of John Van Voorhis and made him seem noble as well as true to those who really knew him. This is the tribute I would lay upon his grave,—'Here sleeps the soul of loyalty.'"





*Henry Nettleton Smyser*

## Captain Henry Nettleton Snyder



NO MAN was ever more respected or more fully enjoyed the confidence of the people, and none ever deserved such respect and confidence than Henry Nettleton Snyder. In his lifetime the people of his state, recognizing his merit, rejoiced in the advancement and in the honors to which he attained and since his death, which occurred in Clarkson, in 1904, the people of Monroe county have cherished his memory. He was one to whom was entrusted important public service and in the discharge of his duties he appreciated the responsibility which rested upon him and his worth was therefore widely acknowledged.

Captain Snyder was born in Clarkson, Monroe county, New York, May 24, 1831, the only child of Adam and Sallie (Whitney) Snyder, and a grandson of Henry and Hannah (Vermilya) Snyder. The father was born in Westerlo, this state, June 15, 1800, while the mother's birth occurred in Watertown, Connecticut, December 29, 1798, and their marriage was celebrated April 20, 1820. The Whitney family was founded in this country by Sir Randolph de Whitney, a grandson of Eustace de Whitney, who accompanied Richard Cœur de Lion on his crusades, where he distinguished himself.

Captain Snyder pursued a course of study in Brown University, at Providence, Rhode Island, from which institution he was graduated in 1855, and the following year he filled the chair of professor of mathematics in the seminary at Sunbury, North Carolina. In 1857 he entered the law department of the University of Albany, in Albany, New York, and upon being admitted to the bar located for practice in Chicago, Illinois, where he remained during the succeeding four years. His business interests, however, were interrupted by his service in the Civil war, when, in 1861, he raised a company of volunteers and was mustered in as its captain, serving throughout the struggle to preserve the Union. He participated in the different campaigns in the southwestern and gulf states and at the close of the war settled at Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he engaged in merchandising, this being his business connection until 1874. During his residence in that city he acted as alderman and was elected by the republican party as a representative from Hamilton county to the state legislature. In connection with his other business interests he was also the editor of a paper in Chattanooga. He was likewise for twenty years

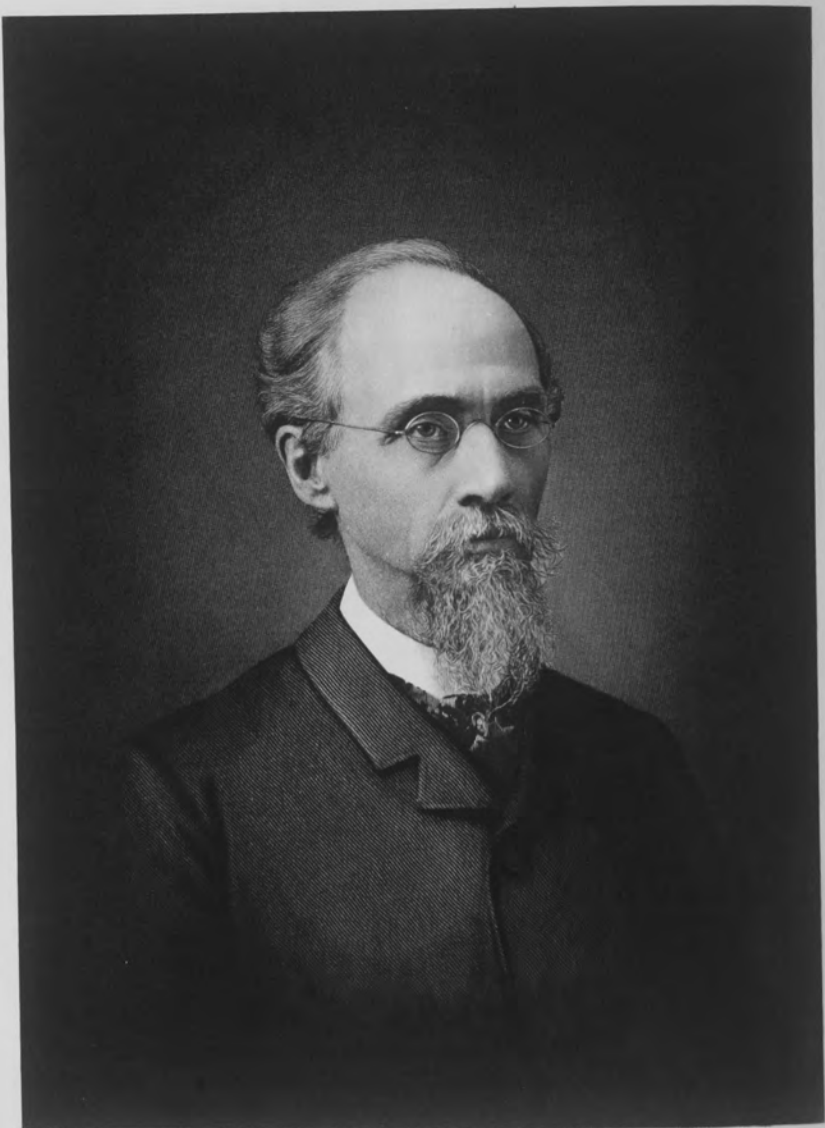
## Captain Henry Nettleton Snyder

pension examiner at Washington, D. C. Captain Snyder remained in the government employ until 1903, when he returned to Monroe county, where he owned a farm of eighty acres in Clarkson township, located about a half mile east of the village of Clarkson on the Ridge road, which at one time was an old Indian trail. This property was settled by his parents. Here his death occurred in 1904, and thus passed away one of the old and highly esteemed citizens of Monroe county.

It was in 1876 that Captain Snyder was united in marriage to Carrie Eugenia Lyman, a daughter of H. F. and Catherine Lyman, farming people of Unadilla, Michigan. Mrs. Snyder received her education in the schools of Michigan and after reaching womanhood went to Chattanooga, Tennessee, to visit an aunt, Mrs. Lucretia Arnold, who resided on Lookout mountain, and it was during her sojourn there she formed the acquaintance of the gentleman whom she later married. Their marriage was blessed with five children: Sarah L., who is the wife of E. C. Fowler, a resident of Clarkson, where he is now serving as justice of the peace; Catherine, who is engaged in teaching in the schools of Washington, D. C.; Lyman W. and Carrie, twins, who died in infancy; and Gladys Vermilya, who is attending the Brockport Normal School. Mrs. Snyder is the sixth in order of birth in her father's family, the others being: Frank Lyman, who lives in Jackson, Florida; W. C., R. and A. R. Lyman, who are engaged in the newspaper business in Jackson, Michigan; Flora, the wife of Friend Williams, a resident of Stockbridge, Michigan; and Clarence and William H., who died at an early age.

Mrs. Snyder is making her home on the farm which was left her by her husband and in the community where she resides she is esteemed by all who know her by reason of her many excellent traits of heart and mind, and all sympathize with the household in the loss of the husband and father, whose death was the occasion of deep regret not only to his immediate family but to a host of warm friends. At his death, a personal friend, Julius Heidenreich, a millionaire of Chicago, who was accompanied by a daughter and a granddaughter, came to pay his last respects to one who in life had been a devoted and faithful friend, and in a touching speech spoke of the many excellent and commendable traits of Captain Snyder.

The Captain was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, exemplifying in his life the teachings of that organization, while with his old army comrades he maintained pleasant relations through Farragut post, G. A. R., at Washington, and also Army of Cumberland. He was a member of the Masonic order, in which he attained the Knight Templar degree, and also affiliated with the Loyal Legion at Washington, D. C. Through the long years of the Civil war he followed the Union banners on southern battle-fields and in private life just as loyally advocated the principles which he believed would advance the welfare of his state and county. A native son of Monroe county, his name was closely interwoven with its early development and later progress, and his memory today is cherished as that of one who made the world better for his having lived.



*Daniel Holmes.*



## Daniel Holmes



**D**ANIEL HOLMES, now practically living retired, was the pioneer lawyer of Brockport and for many years a prominent attorney of the Monroe county bar. He is a native of West Bloomfield, Ontario county, New York, born September 11, 1828, and has therefore reached the seventy-ninth milestone on life's journey. His parents were Daniel and Susan (Hale-Stuart) Holmes, natives of Massachusetts, who, removing westward about 1812, settled in Ontario county, New York, where they cast in their lot with those who were reclaiming a frontier district for agricultural uses. The father served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812 and participated in the battle of Buffalo. The maternal ancestry of Mr. Holmes was represented in the Revolutionary war, the grandfather, Thomas Hale, being a drummer boy at the battle of Bunker Hill.

Daniel Holmes was reared at Allens Hill, New York, his father being proprietor of a hotel at that place for a number of years. After mastering the elementary branches of learning he prepared for college at the Brockport Collegiate Institute and received his university training at Yale, which he entered in 1846. He is numbered among the alumni of 1848, having been graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Subsequently in 1853 he received from the University of Rochester the degree of Master of Arts, and in the fall of the same year was admitted to the bar, for which he had previously prepared. He immediately began the practice of his profession in Brockport, where he has resided continuously since, having been in practice here for more than a half century. He was the pioneer lawyer of the town and his ability enabled him always to maintain a place in the foremost ranks of its legal fraternity. In recent years, however, he has retired from active practice to enjoy well earned ease.

In early manhood Daniel Holmes was united in marriage to Miss Mary J. Hawes, of Brookfield, Massachusetts, of whom extended mention is made in following pages. Theirs was an ideal relation, their mutual love and confidence increasing year by year as they met together the joys and sorrows, the adversity and prosperity, the disappointments and the pleasures which checker the careers of all. Closer grew their friendship as time went by, the desire of each being always for the best interests and happiness of the other, but on the 6th of October, 1907, they were separated through the death of Mrs. Holmes.

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Mr. Holmes still continues to reside in Brockport, where for many years he has figured prominently in community affairs. For thirty years he served as justice of the peace of Brockport, his decisions being strictly fair and impartial, so that he "won golden opinions from all sorts of people." He was also clerk of the village for twenty years and in community affairs was actively and helpfully interested, and is secretary and treasurer of the State Normal School at Brockport.

Mr. Holmes is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Monroe lodge, No. 173, A. F. & A. M., of which he is a past master. He also belongs to Daniel Holmes chapter, No. 294, R. A. M., and to Monroe commandery, No. 12, K. T., of Rochester. He is senior warden of St. Luke's church at Brockport. He is also a member of the Empire State chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution and a member of the New York State Bar Association. He is one of the oldest attorneys of Monroe county and while his professional career gained him rank with the leading lawyers of Brockport he has also been well known because of his activity in connection with the interests bearing upon the general welfare of society and the upbuilding and improvement of the community.





Mary J. Holmes

## Mrs. Mary J. Holmes



WITH ONE exception the works of no American novelist have been so widely read as those of Mrs. Mary J. Holmes, and Brockport was proud to number her among its citizens, but while her name was a household word throughout the length and breadth of this land, in her home town she was loved for personal traits of character that endeared her to all with whom she came in contact. She was the wife of Daniel Holmes, whose sketch precedes this. In her maidenhood she was Miss Mary J. Hawes, of Brookfield, Massachusetts, a daughter of Preston Hawes, a man of rare mentality, while from her mother she inherited a love of poetry and of fine arts. When but three years of age she began to attend school, studied grammar at the age of six, and began teaching school when but thirteen years old. Her first article was published when she was only fifteen years old. Very early in life she manifested rare ability for story telling, entertaining her young companions with tales of her own invention. Her precocity has been borne out by the work of her later years, for there is perhaps no American author whose works are more widely read than those of Mrs. Mary J. Holmes.

Over two million copies of her books have been published and the demand for all of them continues unabated. The annual sale amounts to almost a hundred thousand copies and no better proof of their merit and popularity could be given. A list of her published works includes the following: *Tempest and Sunshine*, *English Orphans*, *Homestead on Hillside*, *Lena Rivers*, *Meadow Brook*, *Dora Deane*, *Cousin Maude*, *Marian Grey*, *Darkness and Daylight*, *Hugh Worthington*, *Cameron Pride*, *Rose Mather*, *Ethelyn's Mistake*, *Millbank*, *Edna Browning*, *West Lawn*, *Edith Lyle*, *Mildred*, *Daisy Thornton*, *Forrest House*, *Chateau D'or*, *Madeline*, *Queenie Hetherston*, *Christmas Stories*, *Bessie's Fortune*, *Gretchen*, *Marguerite*, *Dr. Hathern's Daughters*, *Mrs. Hallam's Companion*, *Paul Ralston*, *The Tracy Diamonds*, *The Cromptons*, *The Merivale Banks*, *Rena's Experiment*, and *The Abandoned Farm*. As an author she had a most happy career, with none of the trials which fall to the lot of so many writers, and her publishers have always been her friends. G. W. Carlton and later Dillingham had charge of the sale of her books. Her first novel, *Tempest and Sunshine*, was published in 1854 and since that time her writings have been constantly on the market. With the possible excep-

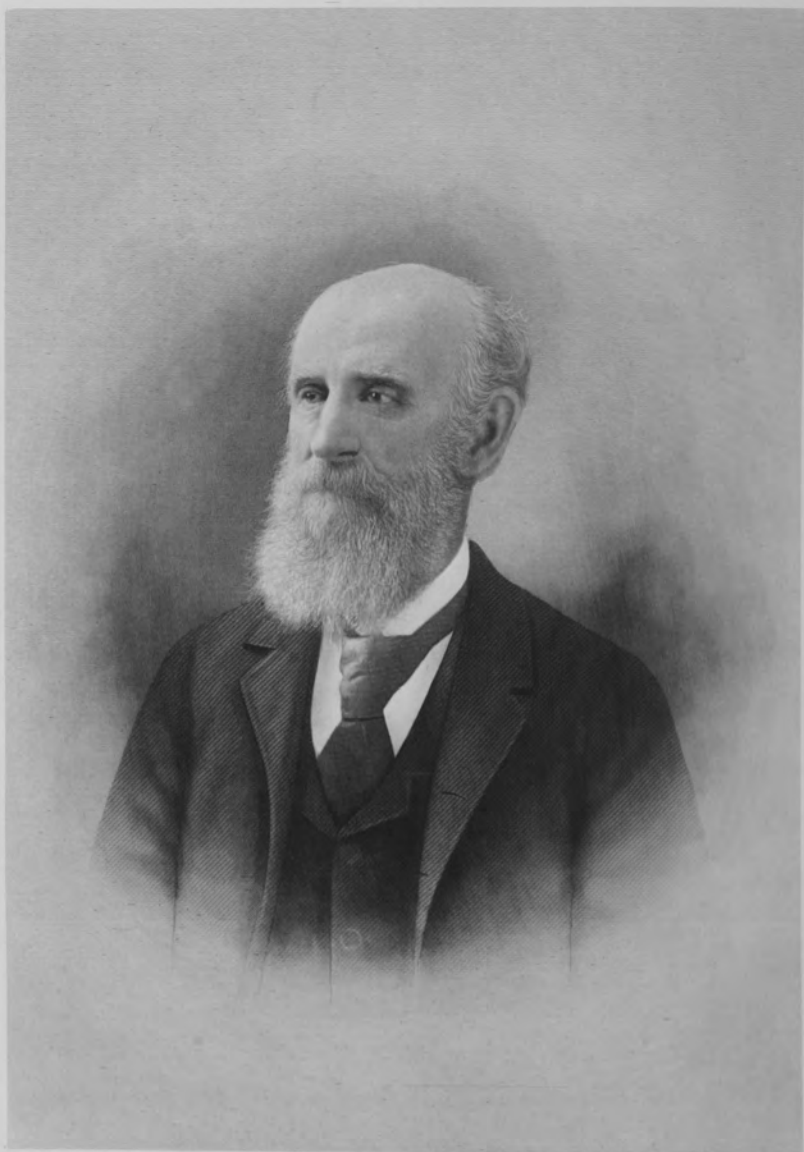
Mrs. Mary J. Holmes

tion of Mrs. Stowe, no American woman has reaped so large profits from her copyrights, some of her books having attained a sale of fifty thousand copies.

In commenting on this, the Brockport Republic said, "Her success as an author is said by some to be the result of her power of description; others assert it was her naturalness, her clear concise English and the faculty to hold the reader's sympathy from the beginning to the end; others attribute it to the fact that there was nothing in her works but what was pure and elevating. We who know her best, feel that all this has made her the successful writer that she was."

Mrs. Holmes was deeply interested in benevolent works in Brockport and in those organizations which promote culture, charity and patriotism. She was president of the Brockport Union Charitable Society and vice regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She was indefatigable in the founding and sustaining of a free reading room and did everything in her power to promote knowledge and culture among the young people, of whom she was particularly fond. She often talked to them concerning art and foreign travel, on which subjects she was well versed, she and her husband having made various trips abroad, visiting the noted art centers of the old world. As a hostess she was charmingly gracious and hospitable, having the ready tact that enabled her to make all guests feel at home. Her benevolence was also one of her strongly marked characteristics. In early life she made it her plan to give one-tenth of her income to charity and this she did ever afterward. St. Luke's Episcopal church, of which she was a member, is greatly indebted to her for its prosperous condition. Her charitable work, however, was done quietly and few people knew the great amount of good she did. She cared not for public recognition of her benevolence, content in the consciousness of having aided a fellow traveler on life's journey. While she had thousands of admirers throughout the country, in her home town where she was best known she was much loved by the people among whom her daily life was passed.

The summer of 1907 was spent by Mr. and Mrs. Holmes at Oak Bluffs, Martha's Vineyard, and while on the return trip Mrs. Holmes became ill. After improving to a slight degree she insisted on continuing the journey but lived for only a brief period after she reached Brockport, passing away on the 6th of October, 1907. Perhaps no better testimonial of the regard in which she was held in Brockport can be given than by quoting from a local paper, which said: "During the many years of Mrs. Holmes' residence in Brockport her influence for good has been constant and unvarying, and every enterprise that made for the welfare of the village received her most hearty sanction and support. With charity toward all, with malice toward none, she moved among us the very embodiment of precious kindness. And so, in thousands of ways her death will prove an inestimable loss to this community, and today nearly every household is shadowed by a personal grief. 'She went to her death wearing the white rose of a blameless life.' The world is the poorer for her going."



Alfred B. Potter

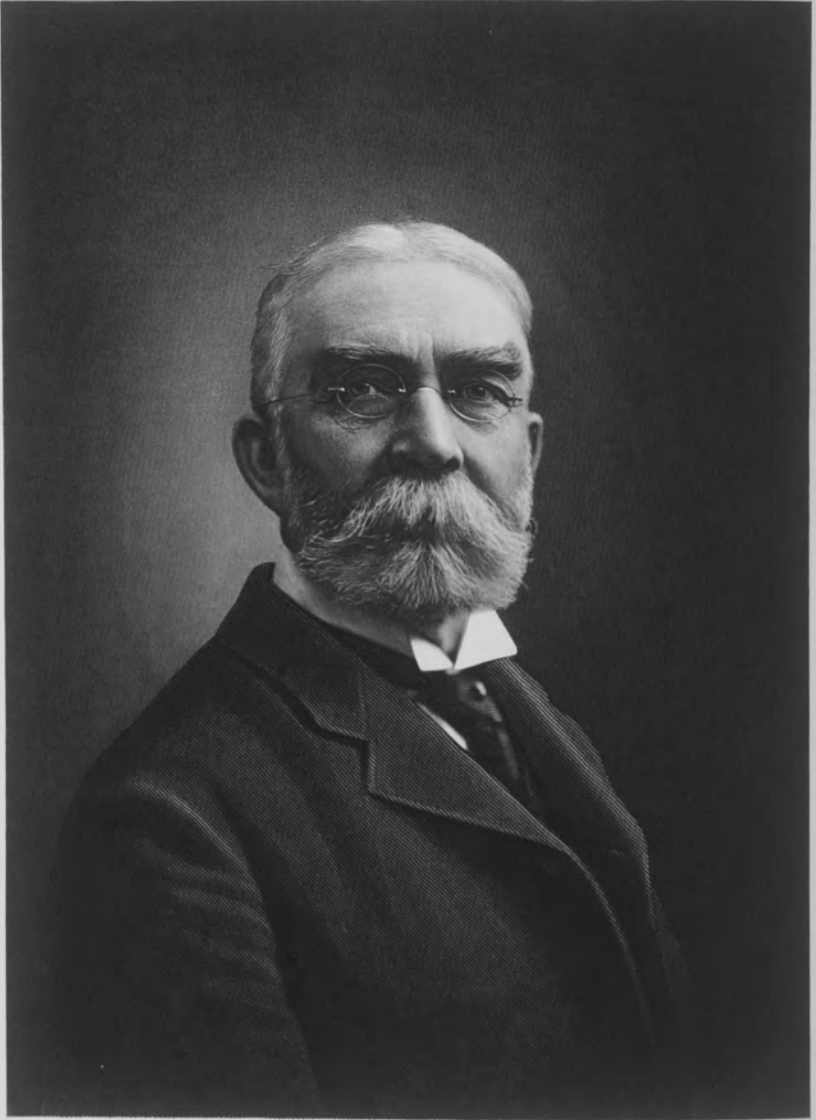
## Alfred Benedict Potter



ALFRED BENEDICT POTTER was born in Pittsford, New York, February 16, 1833, and was the youngest son of the late Henry S. Potter, of Pittsford and Rochester. Removing to the latter city when a young boy, he lived there until 1864, when he married Hulda A. Thayer, of Lakeside, New York. Mr. Potter and his wife then located in Fairport, where he resided until his death, which occurred at Potter place, August 11, 1896. He is survived by his wife and three children: Mrs. Walter Howard, of Rochester; Bertha L. Potter and Frederick T. Potter, of Fairport.

Mr. Potter was one of the substantial and prominent men of Fairport and was an active factor in all church work, much of his time and influence being used in that direction. A most liberal and public-spirited citizen, he sustained intimate relations with all business, educational and spiritual work, his life characterized by progress in all those directions. He was found as a wise counselor and an earnest and efficient worker whose influence, like the widening circles of the sea, will ever be felt in the community. None could have other than sincere respect for the courteous, large hearted man, so stanch to defend and maintain what he believed to be right and so ready to respond to every good cause that called for assistance. His sweet, unostentatious, gentle manner won him friends on every side. To know him was to respect and honor him. It is said that success is not measured by the good that comes to us but by the good that comes to the world through us. Viewed in this light, Alfred Benedict Potter was a most successful man. He seemed to know just when and how to put forth his efforts to accomplish the results desired, and his aim was always toward progress and betterment. He gave much thought to those conditions of life which indicate the trend of the world, and the weight of his influence was ever on the side of reform and improvement. A memorial tablet to his memory has been placed in the Methodist Episcopal church, which is a fitting and appropriate remembrance of the life of Alfred Benedict Potter.





*Clinton Rogers*

## Clinton Rogers



THE PEOPLE of Rochester are to be congratulated upon the character of such elevation and purity of purpose and such devotion to the highest and best interests of the state as has been exhibited in the private and public life of Clinton Rogers. No one has ever been more respected in the city nor ever more fully enjoyed the confidence of the people, or better deserved such respect and confidence. Although he has reached the age of seventy-four years, he is still the guiding spirit in extensive business interests which have been developed from the smallest possible beginnings to extensive proportions.

A native of Massachusetts, Clinton Rogers was born on the 3d of December, 1833, in the town of Wales, in Hampden county, his parents being Joel and Mary (Shaw) Rogers. The family numbered four sons and two daughters, of whom three sons are yet living, Clinton Rogers being the youngest. His great-grandfather, as an American soldier, fought at Bunker Hill and at Lexington.

Clinton Rogers acquired his education in the common schools and entered business life as a salesman in his brother's general store in Wales, where he remained for two years, when he removed to Worcester, Massachusetts, at the age of twenty years. He also spent two years in business in that city, on the expiration of which period he came to Rochester, where he arrived at the age of twenty-two. Here he was first employed as clerk for Wilder, Case & Company, for two years, and at the age of twenty-four established a carpet store, together with J. H. Howe, under the firm name of Howe & Rogers, in March, 1857. They had practically no capital at the outset of their career as merchants and when they secured their first bill of goods from the Lowell Carpet Company, this firm's representative remarked that the company had never extended credit on the basis of so small a capital before, but would in this instance on account of the two partners' splendid recommendations from previous positions. In the early days of their enterprise they employed three men. The extent and growth of the business is indicated by the fact that their employes now number between seventy and one hundred, so that their business has increased more than tenfold. Their store has always been located on State street near Main, and in the beginning they occupied a store thirty

Clinton Rogers

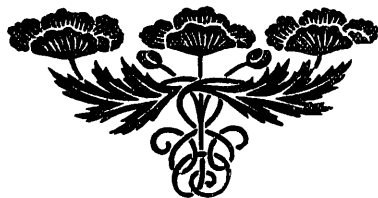
by one hundred feet. Now they have the entire building at Nos. 80 and 82 State street, utilizing five stories for the sale of their goods, besides having two large warehouses. About ten years ago the firm was incorporated and some stock sold to a few of the old employes as a reward for long service. The relation between the original partners continued until about four years ago, when Mr. Howe died. His son has taken an active interest in the business since his father's death, but Clinton Rogers, although now seventy-four years of age, attends daily to the conduct of the business and is as active as in former years. He has never regarded any point as too inessential to claim his time and attention if it would contribute to the growth and upbuilding of the business, and year after year he has wrought along modern lines until today he is at the head of one of the most important commercial interests of western New York. Business has been secured in accordance with old and time tried maxims such as "there is no excellence without labor" and "honesty is the best policy." Mr. Rogers has not confined his attention alone to the carpet trade but on the contrary has enlarged the sphere of his activity, and his labors and influence have been potent elements in the successful conduct of various other business concerns. For over forty years he has been a director of the Trader's National Bank and financially interested in many other corporations.

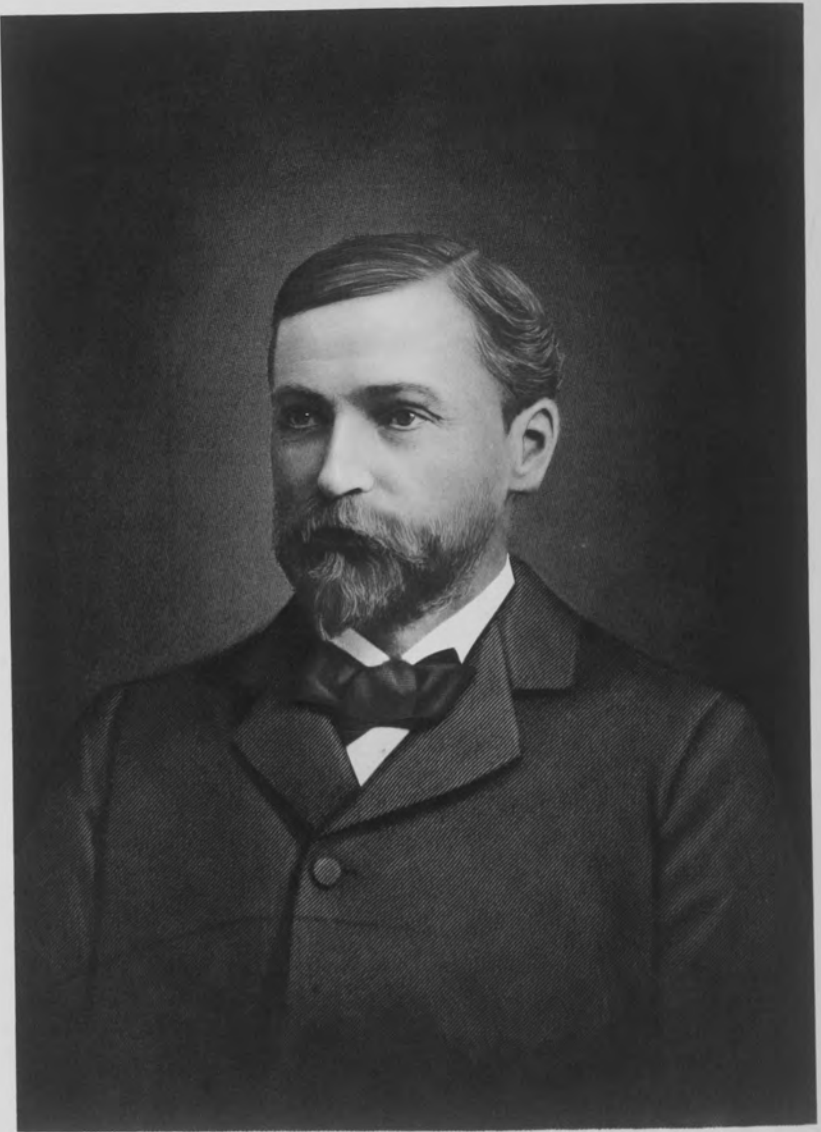
On the 23d of August, 1876, Mr. Rogers was married to Miss Fannie C. Rochester, a granddaughter of Colonel Nathaniel Rochester, the founder of the city and daughter of Henry E. Rochester. Four children were born unto them: Fannie Beatrice, at home; Alice Montgomery, the wife of Dr. Joseph Roby; Rochester Hart, who has recently graduated from Harvard Law School; and Helen, at home.

Mr. Rogers is a very prominent, active and influential member of St. Luke's Episcopal church. He has been a vestryman for twenty years and warden for nine years, and has been a most liberal contributor to the church and various charities. He is also deeply interested in the cause of education and puts forth earnest, effective and far-reaching effort for the promotion of church and educational interests. His political support is given to the republican party. He is identified with various civic and social organizations of Rochester, and was president of the Chamber of Commerce in 1905, at which time he succeeded in putting through the smoke ordinance. He was one of the founders of the Chamber of Commerce and from the beginning has been most active in its work toward introducing and upholding all those interests which are a matter of civic virtue and of civic pride. He has been president of the Rochester Historical Society for the years 1906 and 1907. He likewise belongs to the Genesee Valley Club, the Whist Club and the Country Club and is greatly interested in golf. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and in his life has exemplified the beneficent spirit of the craft.

Mr. Rogers owns and occupies a fine residence at the corner of Spring

and South Washington streets, where he has lived for thirty-one years. He owns a fine collection of steel engravings, which he purchased in France on one of his trips abroad. He has visited various foreign countries as well as points of interest in his native land, gaining that broad knowledge and culture which only travel can bring. No one more greatly deserves the somewhat hackneyed but always expressive title of a self-made man and as a result of his close application and energy actively applied he is today one of the most prosperous citizens of Rochester. His name is synonymous with honesty, and his word is as good as any bond ever solemnized by signature or seal. His methods in every relation bears the closest investigation. He stands as a high type of American manhood because of native intellectual force, of well developed talents, of keen insight, of strong purpose and of unfaltering determination. His sturdy integrity and honesty of principle have led him to despise all unworthy or questionable means to secure success in any undertaking or for any purpose, or to promote his own advancement in any direction.





*Demy Wray*

## Henry Wray



**H**ENRY WRAY, whose life record proves that there is no discordant element between success and honesty, figured for many years as a leading and prominent business man of Rochester, where he owned and conducted the first brass foundry established in that city. The business was founded by his father and continued by the son under the name of the Henry Wray Brass Foundry. The family name has figured prominently in industrial circles here for over sixty-five years and has always stood as a synonym for business integrity, enterprise and successful accomplishment.

Henry Wray was a native of Poughkeepsie, New York, born October 10, 1841. His parents were Henry and Marie (Mosher) Wray, the latter a native of Dutchess county, New York, and the former a native of Derby, England, in which country he remained until nine years of age, when he and two brothers sailed for America. They landed in New York city, where Henry Wray, Sr., secured employment, remaining in the metropolis two years. At the age of eleven years he went to Poughkeepsie, New York, where he was employed for several years and later engaged in various business enterprises there on his own account until 1842, when he came to Rochester. Soon after his arrival here he established the foundry which was the first brass industry here. In addition to its conduct he also engaged in the locksmith business and soon afterward further extended the scope of his labors by the manufacture of headlights. All three branches of the business prospered but the business of the brass foundry grew so rapidly that he was compelled to sell out the other two lines in order to give his undivided attention to its conduct. He centered his energies upon this business in which he continued throughout his remaining days, making it one of the leading industrial concerns of the city. He was, moreover, a man of high principles, manly, honorable conduct, and in every relation of life commanded and deserved the respect and confidence of those with whom he was associated. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he was a most generous contributor toward the building of the Cornhill Methodist church, while to all charitable and benevolent interests he was most liberal. He recognized every man's individual responsibility toward his fellowmen and always had a hand down reaching in order to lift up those less fortunate than himself.

Henry Wray

Henry Wray, of this review, was only a young lad when brought by his parents to Rochester. He was reared among the refining influences of a good, Christian home and was a student in early boyhood in the public schools, passing through successive grades until he became a high-school student, and acquired a good education. He received practical business training under the direction of his father, whom he joined in the conduct of the foundry and displayed special aptitude in mastering the business in principle and detail. Upon his father's death he became manager of the foundry and under his guidance the business continued to increase. It was developed along modern business lines in harmony with conservative methods that insured safety in its conduct and yet did not preclude progressiveness. The company manufacture all kinds of brass goods, brass moldings, brass and composition castings and other goods of the same nature, and the output was, and is, sent to all parts of the country, for since the father's death the sons have continued in charge of the business, which is now carried on under the firm style of Henry Wray & Sons, brass founders. It was incorporated and the plant is located at Nos. 193 and 195 Mill street.

In 1862 Mr. Wray was married in Rochester to Miss Cornelia F. Martin, a native of this city and daughter of William H. and Salvina B. (Clark) Martin, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Massachusetts. Her father came to Rochester at an early day and throughout the remainder of his life here followed the mason's trade, which he had learned in early manhood. He took many important contracts, built the old Eagle Hotel and many of the other brick structures of the city of an early day. While in charge of the brick work and tunnel at West Point he became ill with cholera and died suddenly. His wife survived him and died in Rochester in 1894.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Wray was blessed with seven children: Ella Alling, now deceased; William Henry, who is vice president of the Henry Wray & Sons Company, and who married Elsie C. Joiner, their home being at No. 22 Lorimer street; Edward M., who died in infancy; Mary G., the wife of John M. Stull, a prominent attorney now assistant corporation counsel of Rochester with offices at No. 46 City Hall; Charles F., who is secretary and treasurer of the company and married Helen Strong; Lois, who is the wife of Rev. John Barber, minister of the Calvary Baptist church of Erie, Pennsylvania; and De Los H., who is also interested in the brass foundry and resides with his mother.

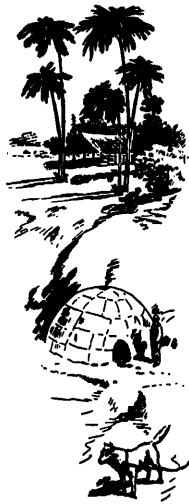
Mr. Wray was for six years a member of the board of education at Rochester and was deeply interested in the intellectual progress of the city. He was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity. A good Christian man, he took much interest in church work, both he and his wife being members of the Central Presbyterian church. They were also interested in the People's Rescue Mission and did much to promote its work and the accomplishment of its object. In fact Mr. Wray stood for all that is just and honorable in busi-

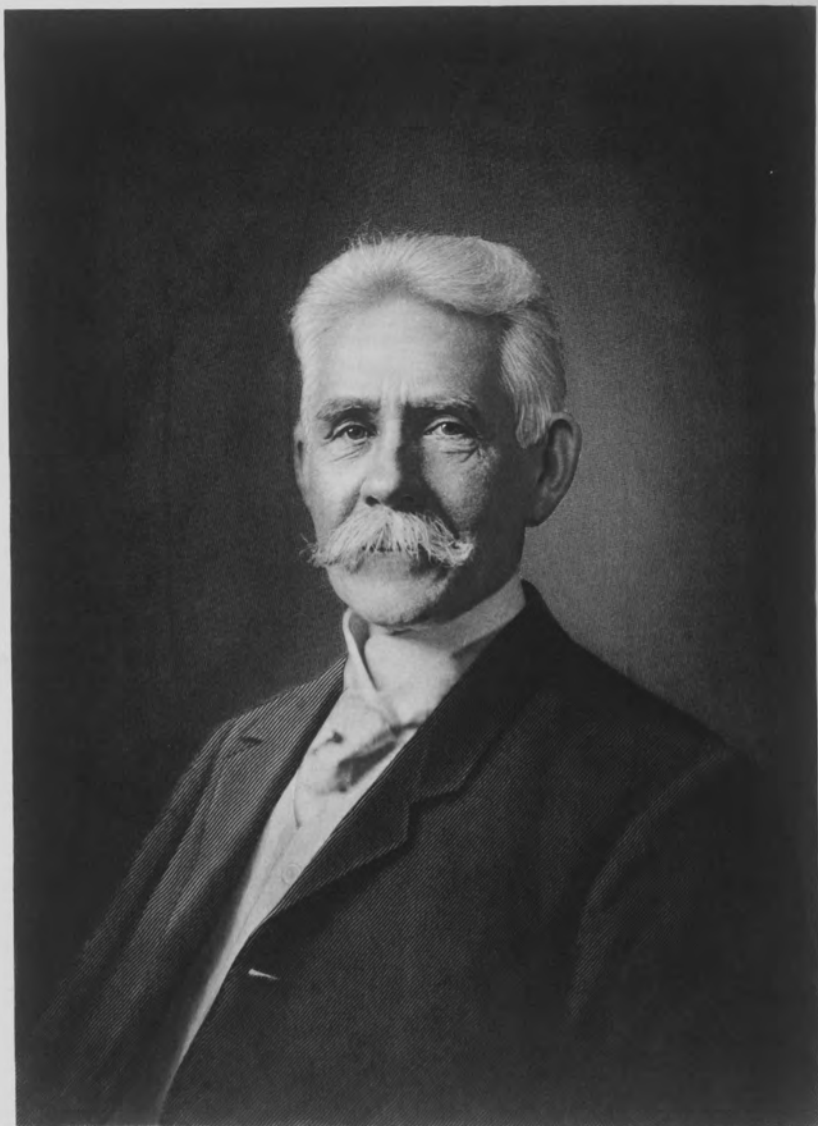


Henry Wray

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ness, for all that is helpful and considerate in man's relation with his fellow-men and for all that is generous and liberal in his treatment of the unfortunate. He and his wife traveled quite extensively, visiting many sections of interest, and Mrs. Wray has a large collection of relics picked up in their travels. She owns a beautiful home at No. 44 Lorimer street, where she and her son now reside. By all who knew him Mr. Wray is remembered as one who was actively and commendably interested in the welfare and development of this section of the state. He was a man of enterprise, positive character, indomitable energy, strict integrity and liberal views. He persevered in pursuit of a persistent purpose and gained a most satisfactory reward. His life was exemplary in many respects and he had the esteem of his friends and the confidence of those who had business relations with him.





C. A. B. Lambert

## A. B. Lamberton



NOT SO abnormally developed in any direction as to be called a genius, Alexander B. Lamberton, however, has been one of the most active men of Rochester, identified for many years with its business interests and its public concerns, nor is he unknown in scientific circles. He is now president of the park board and in this position as in other instances he has given tangible proof of his interest in and fidelity to those plans and measures which are promulgated for the public weal. He is pre-eminently a man of affairs and one who has and is still wielding a wide influence. A native of Ireland, he was born in Rich Hill, County Armagh, on the 28th of February, 1839. Early records dating from about the tenth century show that the family was originally of French descent. The ancestral history of a less remote period gives account of three brothers of the name who emigrated from Scotland and settled in the north of Ireland, in or about 1666, one of the brothers locating in Londonderry county, one in Giant Causeway and the other near by. Many descendants of the family are yet living in the north of Ireland. William Lamberton, grandfather of A. B. Lamberton, was born in 1775 and was married in 1802 to Elizabeth Garrick. They settled at Market Hill in County Armagh and there William Lamberton died. His widow and her nine children, with the exception of one son, Alexander, came to America in 1830.

Alexander Lamberton, father of A. B. Lamberton, of Rochester, was born in 1808, acquiring a good education in Ireland, and after attaining his majority engaged in merchandising at Rich Hill in County Armagh, where he remained until 1839. His mother and the other members of the family had previously come to America and in the year mentioned he, too, crossed the Atlantic. For many years in this country he devoted his life to the ministry of the Methodist church and died in Clinton county, New York, in 1878. Unto him and his wife were born five sons and three daughters, William, George, John, Verner, Alexander B., Elizabeth, Sarah and Mary.

In early childhood A. B. Lamberton was brought to the United States, acquiring his early education in the common schools of New York. Subsequently he improved the higher educational facilities offered in Auburn Theological Seminary and in the University of Rochester. Having determined to devote his life to the ministry he was for two years pastor of the Tompkins

A. B. Lamberton

Avenue Presbyterian church in Brooklyn, New York, but failing health obliged him to abandon his cherished plans and turn his attention to business life.

Coming to Rochester in 1864, Mr. Lamberton entered industrial circles here as proprietor of a lumberyard and planing mill on the site of the Rochester House, at Exchange and Spring streets. For a number of years he continued in the lumber trade and has had various other business interests, owning at different times much valuable property, as he has improved his opportunities for judicious and profitable investment in city realty. For many years his attention in business lines has been given to the supervision of his investments and he is now well known as a capitalist of Rochester. He has for some time been a member of the board of directors of the East Side Savings Bank and is now serving as its vice president.

His public service, however, has brought him a still wider acquaintance in his business connection and for many years he has been known as the friend and stalwart champion of every movement and measure that he has deemed beneficial to the city. It was through his influence that the first swing bridge in the state was built over the canal at Exchange street. At all times unfaltering in his loyalty to his honest convictions, he accepted the candidacy for mayor of the city, for state senator and member of congress when he knew that his party was in the minority and that there was no hope of election. He stood for its principles and it is a matter of general knowledge that nothing can swerve him from a course that he believes to be right. Never hasty in his judgments, his opinions are the result of careful consideration, formulated by a well balanced mind and his endorsement of any public measure always wins to it a liberal following among those who rely upon his views as sound and practical.

For a number of years he was one of the managers of the State Industrial School, in which connection he did important service in promoting this eminently worthy public institution. In about 1900 the legislature passed an act enabling the city to create a public market and Mr. Lamberton succeeded Charles H. Babcock as its president and is now acting in that capacity. On the 8th of June, 1901, he was honored with election to the presidency of the Chamber of Commerce and that his administration was entirely satisfactory to its members is indicated by the fact that he was offered the presidency for the second term. He refused, however, because it has been the rule of the Chamber of Commerce to elect for but one term. He has done much for the park system of the city, having been elected park commissioner in 1894, since which time he has served on the board, while in 1902 he succeeded Dr. Moore as president and has since occupied that position. Under his administration the parks have undergone improvements in many directions. He was instrumental in establishing the band concerts, a feature which has been greatly appreciated by the poorer people of the city. He brings to bear in the discharge of his duties as president of the park board the same spirit of

deep interest and progressiveness that has characterized him throughout his entire life in every work that he has undertaken.

In 1864 Mr. Lamberton was united in marriage to Mrs. Eunice B. Hussey, a daughter of Charles R. and Eliza Starbuck, of Nantucket, Massachusetts. His wife died March 18, 1898, leaving three daughters: Martha Hussey, of Rochester; Eunice S., now the wife of Isaac Kaiser, a resident of New York city; and Mary, the wife of Charles A. Hone, living at Bisby Lake, New York.

Aside from social pleasures resulting from his large circle of friends, Mr. Lamberton has found relaxation and absorbing interest in field sports and outdoor life. His fishing and hunting expeditions have led him into the most famous game regions of America but it has not been his ambition to distinguish himself by the mere amount of game or fish he could bring into camp. He was an early advocate of fish and game protection and of forest preservation, and his contributions to the press on these subjects have been many and interesting. As vice president of the National Association in the protection of game and chairman of its committee on nomenclature, he wrote a monograph of uncommon scientific value on game birds, quadrupeds and fish of North America. In 1875 he introduced the first brook trout artificially propagated into the northern woods, having liberated fifty thousand fry in the Fulton chain lakes. He was one of the first to urge the state to establish a forest preservation in the Adirondacks, and it is now a matter of general regret that his advice was not followed at the time. Mr. Lamberton at once gives the impression of alertness, enterprise and strong force of character. Always courteous and chivalrous, displaying deference for the opinions of others, it is yet known that his loyalty to his beliefs cannot be shaken. He regards a public office as a public trust and at all times holds friendship inviolable.





L. H. Chase

## Lorenzo S. Graves



**L**ORENZO S. GRAVES, who is now numbered among the honored dead and who for many years was a leading manufacturer and one of the most prominent residents of Rochester, came to this city in 1859. He was afterward connected with several of the leading productive industries here and finally became one of the large stockholders of the Otis Elevator Company, with which business he was associated throughout his remaining days. He achieved such a goodly measure of success that his methods are of interest to the commercial world and in an analyzation of his life work it will be found that he based his business principles and actions upon the rules which govern industry and strict, unswerving integrity.

A native of Massachusetts, Mr. Graves was born in Southboro, July 18, 1831, his parents being Watson and Fanny (Dench) Graves, the latter a descendant of old Revolutionary stock. The father was born and reared in Southboro, Massachusetts, and while a young man he learned the boot and shoemaker's trade, following the same at Southboro during the early part of his life. He then removed to Ashland, Massachusetts, where he lived retired during his later years. His widow afterward made her home with her son and while visiting her daughter in Newark Valley she passed away.

In taking up the personal history of Lorenzo S. Graves we present to our readers the record of one who for many years figured prominently in connection with the industrial development of the city. He acquired his preliminary education in the public schools of Ashland, Massachusetts, and completed his studies in the school at Amherst, Massachusetts. He was living in Worcester, that state, at the time of his marriage to Miss Eliza G. Coffin, an old school-mate. Her father, Captain Moses Coffin, of Nantucket, Massachusetts, was a blacksmith and cooper by trade but followed the sea for many years. After leaving the sea he settled in Willimantic, Connecticut, where he was employed in the first paper mill in that state. Subsequently he removed to Ashland, Massachusetts, where he resided until 1851, when he became a resident of Springfield, Vermont, where both he and his wife passed away. Their daughter Eliza became the wife of Lorenzo S. Graves and unto this marriage was born one son, Fred B., who married Frances Oswald and resides at No. 5 Lorimer street, Rochester. He is now superintendent and manager of the Otis



**Lorenzo S. Graves**

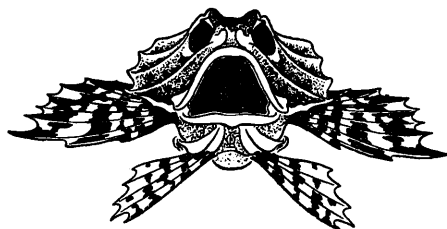
Elevator Company. Mr. and Mrs. Graves also reared an adopted daughter, Ida L., who is now the wife of Charles H. Chase, a nurseryman residing at No. 76 Richmond street.

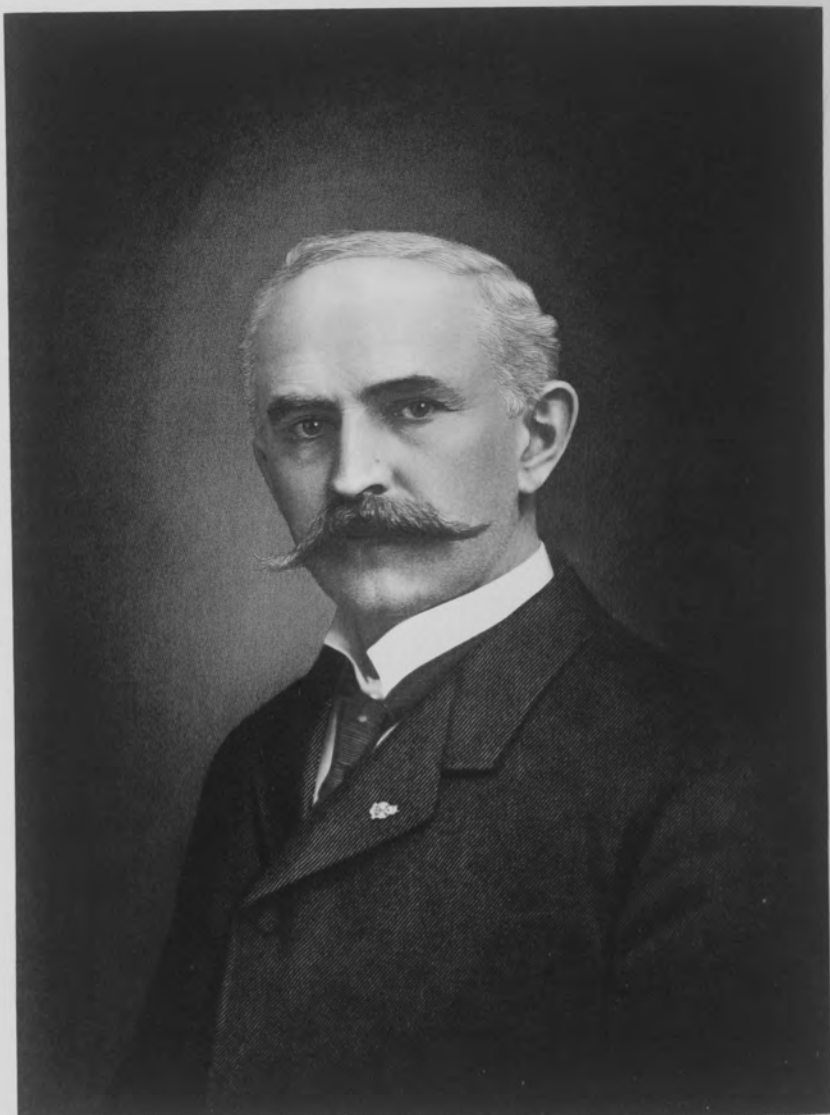
In early manhood Lorenzo S. Graves learned the shoemaker's trade with his father, making as high as twelve pairs of boots per day, so expert had he become at hand labor. Upon his removal to Rochester in 1859 he began working as a shoemaker in the employ of a Mr. Churchill. After a brief period, however, he turned his attention to teaming and a little later, in 1860, he gave to the world as the result of his inventive genius and study the Graves sole cutter, a machine for cutting leather soles. He then began the manufacture of the same, his factory being located on Mill street. He also engaged in the manufacture of paper cutters and shoe machinery and was very successful in both lines, continuing the business for a number of years and winning a creditable place as a substantial representative of commercial interests here. At length he decided to engage in the building of elevators and the Graves Elevator Company was formed, and the present large factory now operated under the name of the Otis Elevator Company was erected at Nos. 198 to 210 Commercial street. From the beginning the enterprise grew rapidly until several hundred men were employed on the construction of all kinds of passenger and freight elevators which were shipped to every section of the country. This became one of the largest productive industries of the city. It was developed along progressive, modern business lines, not only meeting but anticipating the needs of the trade in this direction, and Mr. Graves continued at the head of the concern until 1901, when he sold his interest to the Otis Company, at which time the firm name was changed to the Otis Elevator Company, of which the son is now superintendent and manager. The father then retired to private life. He was always a very busy man and in his earlier years his evenings were devoted to study and investigation, especially along architectural lines. His experiments resulted in inventions which gained for him a prominent place in the business world. He certainly deserved much credit for what he accomplished and justly earned the proud American title of a self-made man, for he had a capital of but a few dollars when he and his wife arrived in Rochester. The years passed and his industry and ability made him one of the well-to-do citizens. His success may be ascribed to his positive, determined pursuit of business and to the fact that he was a man of unflinching commercial integrity.

After retiring from the field of manufacture Mr. Graves, accompanied by his wife, traveled quite extensively, visiting many points of interest in this country and also making three trips to Europe. They likewise visited the Holy Land and various sections of Asia. Mr. Graves was always deeply interested in historic research and during their travels he and his wife gathered many interesting relics of all kinds in various parts of the world, Mrs. Graves now

having in her home two large, fine cabinets well filled with shells, stones and other interesting relics of their trips.

In his political views Mr. Graves was a stalwart republican who took much interest in the party and its growth. He was frequently solicited by his friends to become a candidate for office but always refused. He built a large and beautiful residence at No. 257 Lake avenue, where his widow yet resides. There in the spring of 1903 he became ill and his death occurred on the 21st of April, 1905. Mrs. Graves belongs to the Central Presbyterian church. Theirs was a most congenial married life and the very close companionship made the death of the husband an almost unbearable blow to Mrs. Graves. His loss was also deeply felt throughout the city where he had resided for more than forty-five years—honored as one of its leading business men and prominent citizens. He was one of the ablest and best known manufacturers of Rochester, was genial in manner and, though his time was largely occupied by the details of extensive business interests, he always found time and opportunity to devote to those of his friends whose calls were purely of a social character. He was a thorough exemplification of the typical American business man and gentleman.





*Hungerford Smith*

## Jay Hungerford Smith



**J**AY HUNGERFORD SMITH, of Rochester, New York, is the founder, promoter and upbuilder of what is today the most extensive and best equipped plant in the world devoted to the preparation of fruits and fruit syrups for soda fountain use. The business is conducted under the name of J. Hungerford Smith Company. He has displayed in his business career such fertility of resource, marked enterprise and well defined plans as to deserve classification with the "captains of industry" who are controlling the trade relations of the country. Moreover, he is further entitled to distinction from the fact that he is a worthy scion of his race. Fortunate is the man who has back of him an ancestry honorable and distinguished and happy is he if his lines of life are cast in harmony therewith. The ancestral history of the family to which Mr. Smith belongs is indeed a creditable one and the record is one of which he has every reason to be proud. The line is traced back to England, as follows:

(I) Silas Smith, born and married in England, came to America with the "Plymouth Company" and settled at Taunton, Massachusetts.

(II) Silas Smith (2), son of Silas Smith (1), married Hannah Gazine, daughter of Daniel Gazine, who came over with the London Company. Their children were: Isaac; Elijah; Silas; Cornelius; Elkanah; Bial; Samuel; Hannah, who died in Oneida county, New York; Rachel; and Sally.

(III) Samuel Smith, seventh son and child of Silas (2) and Hannah (Gazine) Smith, served in the Continental army during the Revolution. He married Abigail Wright, daughter of John Wright, and died at Henderson, New York, April 17, 1827. Their children were: Amasa, who died at the age of one and a half years; Daniel; Mary; Abigail; Sylvester; Lydia; Polly; Samuel, Jr.; Sally; Mercy; Anna; and Amasa (2). Of these children Abigail married Rev. Elisha P. Sangworthy, of Balston Springs, New York; Sylvester married Nancy Kniffin, of Rutland, New York, March 19, 1806; Lydia married Sylvester Skellinger; Polly married Dr. William Priest; Sally married Samuel Mills; Mercy married Henry Millard; Anna married Jonathan Ruff; Amasa (2) married Sally Sykes of Watertown, New York.

(IV) Daniel Smith, born in Spencertown, Columbia county, New York, February 26, 1775, was educated in the common schools, was a farmer by occupation and in 1802 came to Ellisburg, Jefferson county, and spent the

Jay Hungerford Smith

summer there "clearing lands." In the fall of that year he went to Schuyler, Herkimer county, where he married, and in December, 1803, with his wife and infant daughter, came to Rutland, Jefferson county, and purchased a farm near Burr's Mills. Two years later he moved to Hounsfield, same county, purchased some land and erected a sawmill, the place being known for some time as Smith's Mills, later Camp's Mills. From Hounsfield he returned to Rutland, purchased another farm, built a frame house, where he lived until 1818, when he purchased and removed to a large farm in Rodman, where he spent the remainder of his life, and which is still owned by his descendants. He was a lieutenant in the war of 1812-14, and distinguished himself by his bravery at the battle of Sackett's Harbor, when their house was practically a hospital for sick soldiers.

Daniel Smith married Susan Holmes, of Keene, Cheshire county, New Hampshire, who, for some time previous to her marriage, lived with her aunt, Mrs. Lucy (Holmes) Wheeler, wife of John Wheeler, of Keene, New Hampshire. Their children were: Abigail, born November 6, 1803, who passed away March 14, 1854; Laura, who was born January 30, 1805, and died in 1891; an infant son, who was born August 1, 1806, and died the same day; Nancy M., who was born September 1, 1807, and passed away February 1, 1887; Almira H., whose birth occurred May 2, 1809, and who died December 25, 1896; Daniel, born February 26, 1811, who was called to his final rest December 19, 1813; William P., who was born February 7, 1813, and died January 5, 1899; Daniel, Jr., born March 19, 1815, who passed away August 2, 1896; an infant daughter, who was born April 19, 1817, and died the same day; Susan H., born May 6, 1818; Lucy Ann, whose birth occurred September 15, 1819, and who died March, 1900; Eveline M., born May 2, 1821, who passed away March 13, 1905; Emeline L., born September 10, 1823; Mary M., born May 5, 1825, who died August 14, 1845; Nelson Slater, born July 11, 1827; Martha Jane, born June 19, 1829, whose demise occurred October 12, 1867. Daniel Smith, Sr., died March 11, 1854. His wife, Susan (Holmes) Smith, died August 5, 1864.

Thomas Holmes, father of Susan (Holmes) Smith, was born in Woodstock, Connecticut, in 1756, and died in Wethersfield, Connecticut.

The following items were copied from "Record of Connecticut Men" in War of Revolution, State House Library, Boston, Massachusetts. Thomas Holmes enlisted May 15, 1775, discharged December 17, 1775. Ninth Company, Second Connecticut Regiment, Colonel Spencer, Captain John Chester, of Wethersfield. This regiment was raised on first call for troops by state in April, 1775, marching by companies to the camps about Boston, it took part at Roxbury and served during the siege till expiration of term of service. Detachments of officers and men were in the battle of Bunker Hill and with Arnold's Quebec expedition September to December, 1775. His name appears in list of Knowlton's Rangers, 1776, Connecticut, by Lieutenant Colonel

Knowlton. He was detached from Wyllys Connecticut regiment and was taken prisoner at surrender of Fort Washington, New York island, November 16, 1776. Thomas Holmes, of Wethersfield, sergeant in Captain Whiting's company, Colonel Webb's regiment, enlisted March 1, 1777, for the war. Colonel Webb's regiment was one of sixteen infantry regiments raised at large for "Continental Line" of 1777 and served in Parson's brigade under Putnam the following summer and fall. In October crossed to west side of Hudson and served under Governor Clinton of New York, for a time. In summer of 1778 was attached to Varnum's brigade and went to Rhode Island commended in battle there August 29, 1778. Wintered in Rhode Island, 1778-9. In the fall of 1779 marched to winter quarters at Morristown, New Jersey. Assigned to Stark's brigade at battle of Springfield, New Jersey, June 23, 1780, and during summer served with main army on the Hudson. Thomas Holmes was sergeant in Captain Riley's company, Wethersfield, Third Regiment, Connecticut Line, 1781-83. Recorded as paid from January 1, 1781, to December 31, 1781. Sergeant Thomas Holmes is reported as a Revolutionary pensioner on list of Connecticut pensioners in 1818. His name is among pensioners dated 1832 and recorded as residing in Hartford, Connecticut. His name appears on list of pensioners as returned in census of 1840. Residence, Wethersfield, Connecticut, age eighty-four. His name appears on list of applicants for pension on file in county clerk's office, Hartford, Connecticut. Residence Wethersfield.

Thomas Holmes married Tamar Harris, and their children were: Sally, who married Eldad Granger; Lucy, who became the wife of John Wheeler; John; Mary; Rachel; Joseph; Lydia, who married Ashael Cleveland, in Buffalo, about 1814; Abigail, who became the wife of Jonathan Slater, of Champlain, New York; and Susan, who married Daniel Smith, afore mentioned.

(V) William Priest Smith, born February 7, 1813, at Hounsfield, New York, died January 5, 1899. He was educated at Rodman, New York. He was at one time colonel of the old time Thirty-sixth Regiment, New York State Militia, which was composed of men from Jefferson and Lewis counties. After his marriage he removed to St. Lawrence county, engaging in the business of manufacturing lumber, and became the owner of valuable farming and timber land. He served as justice of the peace and supervisor, being chairman of the board of supervisors. Later in life he was for three successive terms elected associate judge of the county court. In politics he was a republican from the very organization of that party and by his voice, efforts and vote contributed to its success. William P. Smith married July 9, 1843, Sarah Porter Hungerford, born April 18, 1823, who traces her ancestry to Sir Thomas Hungerford, who in 1369 purchased from Lord Burghersh, Farley Castle, county of Somerset, England, which castle for more than three hundred years continued to be the principal seat of his descendants, down to 1686. Sir Thomas was steward for John of Ghent, Duke of Lancaster, son of King

### Jay Hungerford Smith

Edward III, and in the thirty-first year of that king's reign was elected speaker of the English house of commons, being reputed to be the first person chosen to that high office. He died December 3, 1398. His son, Sir Walter, afterward Lord Hungerford, K. G., was the first to adopt the crest of a garb, or wheat-sheaf, between two sickles erect, with the motto "Et Dieu Mon Appuy" (God is my support). This has since been the crest of the Hungerford family.

John Hungerford, a lineal descendant of the above named, resided at Southington, Connecticut, where he died December 24, 1787. He served with distinction in the colonial wars, holding the ranks of ensign, lieutenant and captain. He took an active part in the siege of Crown Point on Lake Champlain. His son Amasa served in the Revolutionary army, participating in the battle of Bennington, where he served as colonel. His son, Amasa, Jr., was the father of Sarah (Hungerford) Smith, was enrolled as one of the "minute men" in the war of 1812. He resided in Henderson, Jefferson county, New York, and was a prosperous farmer and widely known. At one time he was interested in ship building at Stony Point on Lake Ontario. He died December 18, 1859, aged seventy-nine years.

Mr. and Mrs. William P. Smith were attendants at the Baptist church. They had eleven children, as follows: Lois Elizabeth, married William G. Brown and passed away December 10, 1882. Amasa Daniel, chemist and druggist of Manchester, New Hampshire, married Josephine L. Jones on the 18th of September, 1883. Annie Eliza died February 26, 1873. Frances Sally died January 12, 1899. George William, attorney and counsellor at law of Keeseville, New York, wedded Harriet P. Wells on May 19, 1887. Jay Hungerford, Ph. C., manufacturing chemist, president of J. Hungerford Smith Company, resides at Rochester, New York. Mary Louise died March 27, 1857. Jennie Venila, of Manchester, New Hampshire, married Edgar Ellsworth Castor, May 9, 1894. Joseph Brodie, vice president and general manager of the Manchester Traction, Light & Power Company, of Manchester, New Hampshire, was born April 6, 1861. Frank Robbins, manufacturing chemist of Toronto, Ontario, married Ada Margaret Perkins, May 6, 1903. May Lillian, of Manchester, New Hampshire, is the youngest member of the family.

J. Hungerford Smith was born at Fine, St. Lawrence county, New York, February 20, 1855, and after obtaining a common-school education in Richville, New York, he pursued a course in the Hungerford Collegiate Institute prior to entering the University of Michigan, from which he was graduated in 1877 with the degree of Pharmaceutical Chemist. In 1880 he entered the wholesale and retail drug business at Ausable Forks, New York, and the enterprise proved a profitable one. His skill and interest in chemistry led him to experimenting with fruit syrups with the idea of improving the various beverages dispensed from the soda fountains, and he thus became the originator of cold process true fruit fountain syrups, now so universally used. He is the



recognized authority on fruit syrups in the world and his efforts and experiments have led to a high degree of perfection. Removing to Rochester in 1890, Mr. Smith organized the J. Hungerford Smith Company and began the manufacture of "True Fruit" syrups, which are today known throughout the world. He has been the president from the beginning and the splendid success of this enterprise, now grown to mammoth proportions, is attributable to his efforts. The syrups have won the highest awards at various expositions and the sale is not confined to this country but includes export trade. The company owns their elegant factory buildings on North Goodman street, having one hundred and fifteen thousand square feet floor space. The plant is splendidly equipped with everything needed to promote perfection in manufacture, and the sales of the house more than double those of any other enterprise of the character in the world.

Mr. Smith was married on the 17th of May, 1882, to Miss Jean Dawson, of Ausable Forks, Essex county, New York, a daughter of John A. Dawson. Their children, six in number, are: James Hungerford, Anna Dawson, Florence (who died in infancy), Jay Elwood, Lois and Helen Hungerford.

Because of the prominence which Mr. Smith had attained as a chemist and pharmacist, he was appointed when only twenty-eight years of age one of the five members of the state board of pharmacy and served eight years. He is a republican in politics but without desire for official preferment as a reward for party fealty. Deeply interested in Rochester's welfare and progress, he co-operates with all the progressive movements for municipal improvement instituted by the Chamber of Commerce, of which he is a member and trustee and in other ways gives his aid and influence to the city's development.

He is vice president of Cascade Lakes Club, in Adirondack preserve, director of Masonic Temple Association and president of Masonic Club of Rochester, and one of the best known Masons in this state. He was raised in Richville lodge, No. 633, F. & A. M., in 1880; demitted to Frank R. Lawrence lodge, No. 797, in 1892; and served as worshipful master in 1897-8. He is a member of Hamilton chapter, No. 62; Doric council, No. 19, R. & S. M.; Monroe commandery, No. 12; and Rochester consistory, S. P. R. S., of which he is now commander in chief. He received the thirty-third degree A. A. Scottish rite September 15, 1896. He has again and again been a member of the grand lodge; was senior grand deacon in 1898; chairman of committee on work and lectures in 1899, introducing two important additions to the monitorial work which are now a part of the ritual. He was commissioner of appeals of the grand lodge 1905, 1906 and 1907, and has been the grand representative of the grand lodge of Canada from the grand lodge of New York since April, 1900. He is now a custodian of the work.

His interests are varied and each organization, enterprise or movement with which he becomes connected feels the stimulus of his indefatigable energy and progressive spirit. His opinions carry weight in social, fraternal and

Jay Hungerford Smith

political circles and in business life he has attained a measure of success that classes him with New York's most prominent manufacturers.

In the Scottish rite especially, his dramatic ability has had free scope and won ready and glad acknowledgement. Many of its degrees have been illuminated by a new meaning because of his talent in adding those details which are not to be found in rituals—but in the master mind. Under his administration the rite has grown not only in numbers but its personnel has taken on a luster which shines throughout the state, judges, lawyers, clergymen and physicians have been led to give him such a support as has lifted Scottish rite Masonry in one empire jurisdiction into a prominence that has demanded and received a fitting recognition.

His administration has opened the way for Masonic advancement and Masonic distinction. The lines of national boundaries have been wiped out, and Mr. Smith has received well merited honors from the official leaders in the grand lodge of Canada, bearing the title and consequent honors of grand representative. Masonry counts him one of her most highly esteemed sons and Masonry has written his name on the pages of her history in characters that time cannot fade nor years forget.





Wm B Miller

## William B. Miller



WILLIAM B. MILLER, who devotes his time and energies to farming and stock-raising in Chili township, was born in Gates, Monroe county, New York, March 18, 1853. His parents were Ransom and Fannie (Warner) Miller, the latter a sister of Judge Warner's father. The paternal grandfather, Eli Miller, came from Connecticut to Rochester when the present city contained only one house. Since that time the family has been identified with the development of the county in various phases of its growth and activity. Eli Miller bore his share in the work of reclaiming this district for the purposes of civilization. He settled where the Monroe county poor house now stands, owning and operating a farm there, his time and energies being given to general agricultural pursuits until his life's labors were ended in death. He married Miss Polly Loomis and to them were born five children, three sons and two daughters, all of whom have now passed away.

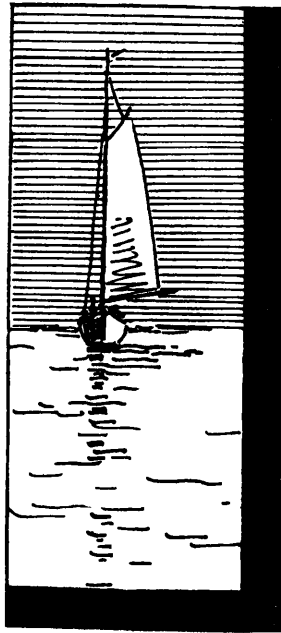
Ransom Miller, father of William B. Miller, was born on the site of the Monroe county poor house at what was then the old family homestead and spent his boyhood and youth in this part of the state, the educational privileges afforded him being those offered by the common schools. Having arrived at years of maturity, he married Fannie Warner, and they reared six sons and a daughter. Ransom Miller spent most of his life in Gates but his last years were passed in Rochester.

William B. Miller began his education in the public schools of Gates and afterward attended the Williams Business University. He has spent his life as a farmer and in association with his brother, Milton M. Miller, he bought a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres in the center of Chili township. This he cultivated for a number of years but eventually sold that property and in 1891 came to his present place of residence. This he has greatly improved and now has one of the finest farm properties in the township. His landed possessions aggregate two hundred and sixteen acres and he carries on general farming and stock-raising, making a specialty of the raising of thoroughbred Shropshire sheep and Poland China hogs, all registered, some of which have been imported from England. His opinions are largely regarded as authority on the matter of sheep-raising and he is well known as a representative of the live-stock interests of the county.

William B. Miller

In 1884 Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Ida M. Voke, who was from Chili township and was a daughter of William Voke, who came to Monroe county from near Portsmouth, England, crossing the Atlantic with his parents in 1833. His father was Edward Voke, a shipbuilder, who, coming to the new world, established his residence in what was then the town of Rochester with little indication of the advantages of the city. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Miller have been born two sons and a daughter: William R., who was born in April, 1885, and is at home; Lotta A., who was born March 12, 1887; and Alfred V., born in September, 1889.

Mr. Miller votes with the republican party but has no desire for office, preferring to concentrate his time and energies upon his business affairs, in which he is meeting with signal success.





*Wm. F. Beck*

## William Farley Peck



WILLIAM FARLEY PECK, of Revolutionary ancestry on the father's side, of Pilgrim descent on the mother's, was born at Rochester, New York, February 4, 1840, the son of Everard and Martha (Farley) Peck. After studying at private schools in this city, he went to boarding school in Connecticut, whence he returned in 1857 to enter the University of Rochester. Having remained here one year, he went to Williams College, where he was graduated in 1861 with the degree of A. B. He then studied law in the office of Danforth & Terry, in this city, for one year, going afterward to the State Law School at Albany, where he was graduated in 1863 with the degree of LL. B. and was a little later admitted to practice at the bar of Monroe county. He did not, however, enter actively into the legal profession but was soon drawn into journalism, which, with its kindred forms of writing, became his life work. After a short experience upon the Express (now the Post Express) he became, in 1867, the city editor of the Democrat. Going thence on to the Chronicle he was the telegraph editor of the latter journal during the whole of its existence, from November, 1868, to December, 1870, when the merger of the paper into what became the Democrat & Chronicle threw him out of a position. He soon became the editor of the Sunday Tribune—a portion of the time as part proprietor—and continued in that capacity until, some twenty-five years ago, he abandoned the field of direct journalism. Since that time he has devoted himself to writing of a desultory character, such as club papers, articles for the magazines and more particularly for encyclopedias and biographical dictionaries, besides preparing several works covering the local history of this region—the "Semi-Centennial History of Rochester," published in 1884; a comprehensive sketch of the city and of the county, in "Landmarks of Monroe County," 1895; "A History of the Police Department of Rochester," 1903; and, finally, this "History of Rochester and Monroe County," 1907.

The following are the organizations with which he is connected and is more or less prominently identified: The Fortnightly, a literary club of which he was one of the founders; the board of directors of the Rochester Athenaeum and Mechanics Institute, of which he has been the corresponding secretary from the beginning; the board of managers of the Rochester Historical Society, of which he has always been the recording secretary; the board of trustees of the



**William Farley Peck**

Reynolds Library, of which he is the secretary; the Society for the Organization of Charity, of which he is one of the vice presidents; the Unitarian church; the Genesee Valley Club, of which he was one of the charter members; the Rochester Whist Club; the Genesee Whist Club; the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York; the Society of the Genesee, in New York city; and corresponding member of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society.





Engraved on Steel, 200 x 250 x 100, 1/2 inch, 1/2 inch

*W. H. Moore*

## Wilson H. Moore



**S**UCH WAS the personal worth of Wilson H. Moore, such his business activity and his public-spirited devotion to and labor for general good, that the news of his demise brought with it a sense of personal bereavement to all with whom he had been associated either in business, political or public relations. His birth occurred in the town of Clarkson in 1859, upon the farm belonging to his father, James M. Moore. There he was reared to the age of eighteen years, pursuing his education in the public schools, while upon the homestead he was carefully trained in habits of industry, integrity and progressiveness. He possessed in unusual degree the creative spirit, recognizing the possibilities for the co-ordination and utilization of forces to evolve new conditions and introduce broader fields of activity in the business world. In 1878, while still a resident of Clarkson, he established the Newspaper and Magazine Subscription business which bears his name and from the beginning the new enterprise met with success. So rapidly did the business increase that in 1882 he removed it to Brockport to secure better facilities, and at the time of his death he undoubtedly conducted the largest business of that character in the world. Mr. Moore was the first to develop and introduce the clubbing system of subscribing for magazines, by means of which circulations were multiplied, and good reading furnished for American homes at reasonable prices.

Having given proof of his capacity for capable management and keen business discernment, his labors were sought in other fields and in 1888 he joined with substantial business men in the purchase of the Ham-Rogers shoe factory, which was in a bankrupt condition. Then was organized the Moore-Shafer Shoe Manufacturing Company. So great was the ability he displayed in the management of this enterprise and so pronounced its success that a new and larger building was necessary, leading to the erection of the extensive brick factory near the Central station in Brockport. The business has been constantly and steadily developed along progressive lines and is one of the most important sources of revenue in Brockport's industrial circles. Mr. Moore was also a large stockholder in the Brockport Piano Company and in the wheel works of this village.

Intricate business problems he solved readily and saw through the complexity of a business entanglement or involved situation the course leading to

a successful outcome of the same. He was not swayed by passion or prejudice and hence his opinions were based upon reason and a careful consideration of the questions and conditions at hand. He was, however, a man of intense and positive character, never occupying an equivocal position, and it was his unfaltering energy displayed in business that caused a breakdown in nervous and physical forces, resulting in his death.

In 1887 Mr. Moore was united in marriage to Miss May Scranton, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Scranton, of Brockport. Besides the wife two children were left to mourn the loss of the father, Helen and Henry, both at home with their mother.

The Brockport Republic in an editorial which appeared at the time of his death gave a very accurate estimate of his character as follows: "His was a positive character if ever there was one. What he believed, he uttered; what he believed in, he did, and he spoke his beliefs and did what he deemed to be his duty in the most positive and forceful way possible. Such a man could not have failed to impress himself upon the life of the community in which he lived nearly all his life. Mr. Moore has been an active and aggressive factor in the activities of Brockport." He was, moreover, recognized as a stalwart champion of any movement for the general good, whether along business, social, political, educational or moral lines.

He was a member of the State Normal School Board and a vestryman in St. Luke's church. Nature and culture vied in making him an interesting and entertaining gentleman. Aside from his superior business ability there were other qualities which rendered him a valued citizen of his community. He was stalwart in his friendships and devoted to his family and at all times was actuated by a strong spirit of fidelity to what he believed to be right, manifesting the utmost conformity to a high standard of commercial ethics.





*Philip H. Yawman*

## Philip H. Yawman



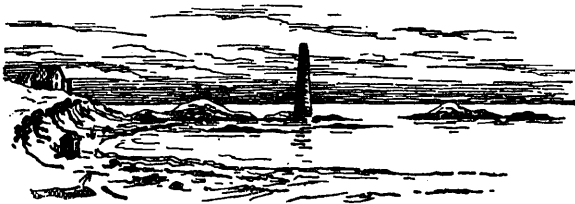
ROCHESTER, with its pulsing industrial activities, its excellent shipping facilities and the various advantages derived because of its favorable situation near the Canadian border as well as in regard to trade interests in the United States, is continually drawing to it important business concerns and its native citizens, recognizing all of these elements for success, have also been among the founders of some of the most successful enterprises here. To the latter class belongs Philip H. Yawman, president of the Yawman & Erbe Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of office specialties.

He was born in Rochester, September 1, 1839, and was educated in the schools of this city and of Scottsville, to which place his family removed in his youth. His father, Nicholas Yawman, was born in Schmidtweiler, Lorraine, in 1816, and came to America with his father and four brothers in the year 1832. He was a cooper by trade and for some years was connected with industrial life in Rochester, but is now deceased. His wife, Mrs. Anna (Gorman) Yawman, died during the infancy of her son Philip. Two uncles of our subject are yet living: John Yawman, residing in Scottsville at the venerable age of eighty-eight years; and Philip Yawman, of Rochester, eighty-six years of age. There are also three surviving brothers and two sisters.

After attending the public schools Philip H. Yawman joined his father in the cooperage business in Scottsville and subsequently learned the machinist's trade. In 1880 he entered into partnership with Gustav Erbe, a mathematical instrument maker. They began the manufacture of microscopes, at first employing only five workmen, but gradually they enlarged and extended the scope of their business, first to include the manufacture of novelties and later the manufacture of office devices for the old Clegg, Wegman, Schlicht & Field Company, which was later changed to the Office Specialty Company. Eventually the firm of Yawman & Erbe bought out the latter company and then sold out their metal working business to the Art Metal Construction Company of Jamestown, in which they are still, however, financially interested. Business was begun in 1880 on Exchange street, followed by a removal to what is now South avenue to secure enlarged quarters, and in 1885 to the present location on St. Paul street. They own their building here and have a most thoroughly equipped plant, supplied with all the modern machinery for the production of

the manufactured product. Their output is sold throughout the United States, also in Mexico, Canada, South America, the Australian colonies, Great Britain and various points in Europe. From the beginning the trade has constantly grown and the firm now enjoys a business which is indicative of the spirit of enterprise and progress which characterizes its founders and promoters.

In 1863 Mr. Yawman married Miss Mary C. Webber, who was born in Rochester in 1839, and unto this union nine children have been born, as follows: Cecelia M., Mrs. Marie Antoinette Hafener, Mrs. Julia A. Heislein, Mrs. Cora Y. Hahn, Aloysia, Eugenia, Josepha, Francis J. and Victor.







*Engraved by Campbell Brothers, New York*

*Garry Brooks*

## Garry Brooks



NO HISTORY of Monroe county would be complete without mention of Garry Brooks, who is today the oldest citizen within her borders. He reached the century milestone on life's journey on the 5th of July, 1906, and his mind bears the impress of the early historic annals of the country. He has lived to see the country emerge victoriously from three international wars and one great civil strife. The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of his birth, said: "In all Monroe county, perhaps in all western New York, there is only one man who can say this morning that his life has covered one hundred years, and he is Captain Garry Brooks, of Fairport, who rounds out a full century of years today. When he first saw the sunlight in Connecticut, Rochester was not yet on the map; indeed, six years were to pass before the first house would be erected upon the site of what is now a rich and powerful city. The Erie canal, upon which he was to travel in later years, was only a dream in the minds of men who were looked upon as being mildly insane; the second war with England was more than half a decade in the future; the American clipperbuilt ship, the swiftest commercial sailing craft the world has seen, was yet to come; the first steamboat, Fulton's Clermont, was only begun; steam railroads were utterly unheard of and a quarter of a century was to pass before the locomotive would become an accomplished fact in America; forty years before the telegraph would come into general use, and the span of a man's life, three score years and ten, before spoken words would be heard through what men now call the telephone. Fifty years were to pass before the republican party, of which Captain Brooks has been a member for fifty years, would put its first presidential candidate into the field. Tippecanoe had not been fought, Illinois had not yet become a territory and the western frontier was not far from where Cleveland and Detroit now are. Those were the ancient days, and yet Captain Brooks is today, on his one hundredth birthday, as hale and hearty as many men twenty years his junior. His eye is clear, his mind is unclouded and the grasp of his hand is as strong and cordial as it was twenty-five years ago."

It is not only compatible but absolutely imperative that mention be made of Garry Brooks in this volume. A native of Connecticut, he was born in New Milford on the 5th of July, 1806. The Brooks were Crusaders from

Garry Brooks

Normandy who planted the standard in the Holy Land and came into England with William the Conqueror. Ancient English records say the family of Brooks or Brooke issued originally from the house of Latham or Leighton in Cheshire, England. The name has been spelled in various ways: Brooks, Brookes, Brook, Brocke, Broocks, Brooke and Brukes. The Brooke family of Whitechurch, Hampshire, England, was represented in the latter half of the sixteenth century by Richard Brooke, gentleman, and his wife Elizabeth Twyne. The brasses of Richard Brooke and his wife Elizabeth are surrounded by the Brooks arms. The coat of arms: on a cross engrailed, per pale, gules, a sable; crest: a brock or badger, proper. The bodies of Richard Brooke and his wife Elizabeth, of Whitechurch, lie in the old churchyard. Their son, Thomas, born in 1553-4, married Susan Forster and died in 1612. Thomas Brooke was a barrister at law in the Inner Temple and sat for Whitechurch in the Parliament that summoned to meet at Westminster, March 19, 1603-4. He was the elder brother of Lord Robert Brooke, who received the Connecticut grant. Among the children of Thomas and Susan Brooke was John Brooks, who came to America. He was born in Cheshire, England, in 1615. In 1639 he was a signer of the first covenant of New Haven. He was one of the earliest settlers at Wallingford, Connecticut, of which New Cheshire was a part, in 1670. He died at Wallingford, Connecticut, in 1690 or 1695 and made his will nine days before his death. William Brooks came as passenger on the *Matthew* of London, May 21, 1635, aged twenty-five years. He was probably a brother of John Brooks. The latter was married in 1640 to Sarah Osborn, widow of John Peat, or Peet, who came to America in the *Hopewell*. She was a daughter of Richard Osborn, of New Haven and Fairfield, Connecticut. Among their children was John Brooks, born January 31, 1643. He purchased his first land in Stratford, Connecticut, March 18, 1678-80. He came from New Haven with his brother Henry and was at Wallingford about 1723, later removing to Stratford.

The next in the line of direct descent is Benjamin Brooks, who was born at Stratford, Connecticut, October 27, 1685, and there died December 30, 1745, at the age of sixty-one years. He was married March 12, 1712, in Stratford, to Mary Fairchild, who was born in Stratford in 1691 and there died in 1740 at the age of forty-nine years. They had seven children, the third of whom was the Rev. Thomas Brooks.

The birth of Rev. Thomas Brooks occurred October 26, 1719, at Newtown, Connecticut. He was a graduate of Yale College and was ordained as first minister at what was called Newberry Society, September 28, 1758, the church being gathered at the same time. In 1788 the name was changed to Brookfield in honor of its first pastor. It is credited to the memory of good Pastor Brooks that his ministry continued through a period of forty-two years. He continued to reside in Brookfield until his death, which occurred September 13, 1799, when he was eighty years of age. His first wife, Han-



Engraved by Campbell Brothers, New York

Mrs G Brooks

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nah Lewis, was born at Stratford, Connecticut, April 15, 1735, and died April 17, 1769, at the age of thirty-four years. He afterward married Sarah Burrett. On the headstone in the ancient cemetery at Newtown, Connecticut, near the present village of Hawleyville, Fairfield county, appears this modest record: "In memory of the Rev. Thomas Brooks, who departed this life September 13, 1799, aged eighty years. 'Mors niti vita est.'"

"Oh mortal wander where you will,  
Your destiny is cast.  
The rising stone and verdant hill  
Proclaim your destiny at last."

On the second headstone is inscribed: "Here lies interred the body of Mrs. Hannah Lewis, first wife of Thomas Brooks, who died April 17, 1769, aged thirty-four years. Born 1735." A third headstone bears the inscription: "Here lies interred Rebecca, the wife of Rev. Thomas Brooks. Died June 13, 1805, aged seventy-nine years. Born 1726."

The ancestry of Hannah Lewis, first wife of Rev. Thomas Brooks, is traced back through several generations. William Lewis, a native of England, came to America on the ship *Lion*, landing at Boston, September 16, 1632. He settled at Cambridge and removed to Hartford, Connecticut, in 1636, becoming one of the original proprietors. In 1659 he removed to Hadley, Connecticut, and was representative in 1662 and for Northampton in 1664. His wife Felix died at Hadley in 1671, and in 1675 he removed to Farmington, Connecticut, where he died in 1683 at a very advanced age.

His only son, Captain William Lewis, was born in England and came with his father to America on the *Lion* in 1632. He lived successively at Cambridge, Massachusetts, at Hartford and at Farmington, Connecticut. He was, in 1665, 1667 and 1674 approved by the court as captain of the Farmington Traine Band. He was also deputy there in 1689 and 1690, the latter year being also the date of his death. In 1644 he married Mary Hopkins, daughter of William and Mary (Whitehead) Hopkins, at Stratford, Connecticut. After the death of his first wife Captain William Lewis, of Farmington, wedded Mary Cheever, daughter of the famous schoolmaster, Ezekiel Cheever. He had ten children by his first marriage and one son by the second marriage.

Benjamin Lewis, the first of the name at Stratford, Connecticut, was born at Wallingford in 1650 and removed to Stratford in 1676. He was married to Hannah Curtice, who was born February 2, 1654, and died at Stratford, Connecticut, in 1728. She was a daughter of Sergeant John and Elizabeth (Wells) Curtice. Her father, born in England in 1613-14, served in the Swamp fight December 14, 1675, and died December 2, 1707. His wife died in 1681-2.

Deacon Edmund Lewis, born in Stratford, Connecticut, in 1679, died in 1757. He was married May 21, 1702, at Stratford, to Mary Beach, a daugh-

Garry Brooks

ter of James Beach and a granddaughter of John Beach. Mrs. Mary Beach Lewis died in 1756 and Mrs. Sarah Lewis, second wife of Deacon Edmund Lewis, died in January, 1792. The children of the first marriage were: Sarah, born in 1704, the wife of Ephraim Burrett; Edmund, born October 3, 1710; Hannah, in 1712; and Martha, in 1716.

Of this family Colonel Edmund Lewis was the father of Hannah Lewis Brooks. He was born in Stratford, Connecticut, October 3, 1710, and there died May 14, 1757. He was married there in June, 1729, to Sarah Burrett, who died in Stratford in June, 1756. Their children were: Ebenezer Lewis, born March 9, 1730-1; Edmund Lewis, January 4, 1733-4; and Hannah, April 15, 1735. After losing his first wife Colonel Edmund Lewis wedded Frances Keys, a widow, who died December 14, 1768.

Samuel Lewis Brooks, son of Rev. Thomas Brooks and the father of Garry Brooks of Fairport, was born in Newtown, Connecticut, in 1753, and died in Penfield, Monroe county, New York, January 3, 1849, aged ninety-six years. He settled at Penfield before 1806. That the Brooks family were prominent in the pioneer village is indicated by many of the old records. The first Presbyterian church there was organized February 7, 1806, with Thomas Brooks, Jr., and Esther (Burr) Brooks, as among the original fifteen members. There are no records of pastors previous to 1816, in which year Lemuel Brooks, son of Samuel Brooks, was installed, serving to 1829, while his uncle, Thomas Brooks, Jr., was deacon of the first church and ruling elder in 1814. There were forty-one by the name of Brooks participated in the Revolutionary war from Connecticut. Captain Samuel Lewis Brooks was one of the heroes of the Continental army and commanded a battery of artillery under Washington at West Point. Later he served under General Lafayette and was with the latter during the siege of Yorktown and the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. He lived to enjoy the fruits of liberty for more than two-thirds of a century. His first enlistment in the army in June, 1776, was for a year, and in June, 1777, he re-enlisted for six years. He served as gunner, being discharged in June, 1783, at West Point, New York. He served under Captain Robert Walker, Captain Jacob Reed, Colonel Elmore, of Connecticut, and Colonel John Lamb. On the 23d of April, 1818, at the age of sixty-two years, he made application for a pension, which was allowed. At that date he was a resident of New Milford, Litchfield county, Connecticut, but in 1824 removed to Monroe county, New York, where he died in 1846. It is a noteworthy fact that the combined lives of Rev. Thomas Brooks, the grandfather, Captain Samuel L. Brooks, the father, and of Garry Brooks, cover the period from 1719 to 1907, of one hundred and eighty-eight years.

Captain Samuel L. Brooks was married to Pheba Beers, who was born in 1761-2 in Danbury, Connecticut, and died January 9, 1848, at the age of eighty-six years in Penfield, New York. They had four children: Lewis, Lemuel, Ellis and Garry. Of this family Lewis Brooks, born in 1793, died at Roches-



ter, August 9, 1877. He came to Monroe county from Connecticut in 1822, at the age of twenty-nine years. He was exceedingly modest and retiring in disposition and rarely confided his affairs to others. He first engaged in Rochester in the manufacture of woolen cloth and later followed merchandising. In 1844, with Asa Sprague, he built Congress Hall. His investments were in good railroad and like securities and he also owned much valuable property in Rochester, his last years being devoted to his investments and the supervision of his real estate. He was a great reader, well informed and much interested in historical and scientific matters. He never accepted but one office, serving as alderman in 1827 in the first common council of Rochester. He was charitable to an eminent degree and almost literally followed the precept not to let the left hand know what the right doeth. His benefactions to the poor and needy were almost numberless and to different educational institutions he gave generously, the Lewis Brooks Museum of Natural Science of the University of Virginia being named in his honor in recognition of a gift of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars to the institution. Rev. Lemuel Brooks, born in Brookfield, Connecticut, in 1797, died in Churchville, New York, September 21, 1881. His wife, Mrs. Maria Brooks, died in Rochester. Rev. Brooks devoted his life to the ministry and to work for mankind, and, after the death of their brother Lewis, he and his brother, Garry Brooks, each gave twenty-two thousand dollars to complete the museum in the state of Virginia.

In the maternal line the ancestry of Garry Brooks can be traced back to Captain Richard Beers, Jr., who had a brother, James. Both were residents of Gravesend, County Kent, England, and James had two sons, James and Anthony. He was a mariner and died in 1632, after which his brother, Captain Richard Beers, with the two sons of James Beers, came to America, locating at Watertown, Massachusetts. Captain Richard Beers was an original proprietor of Watertown; freeman, March 16, 1636-7; selectman, 1644 to 1675; representative thirteen years, 1663 to 1675. He was a captain in King Philip's war and was slain by the Indians at Northfield, Massachusetts, September 4, 1675. His will was probated October 5, 1675, his entire estate to go to his wife Elizabeth. The eldest of their seven children was Elnathan Beers, who was born in 1648 and died in 1696. In 1681 he married Sarah Tainter, who was born November 20, 1657. They had five children, their eldest son being Elnathan Beers, who was born February 17, 1680-1. He was married in 1727-8 to Anna Beach and their third child and second son was Peter Beers, who was baptized in April, 1734. The place of his birth was Stratford, Connecticut, and there he was married April 13, 1758, to Eunice Booth. They had seven children: Anna, born in 1759; Sarah, born June 30, 1760; James, April 23, 1762; Rachel, in August, 1764; Pheba, who was baptized February 18, 1767; Peter, who was baptized March 21, 1769; and Ashbel, in April, 1782. It was Pheba Beers of



## Garry Brooks

this family who became the wife of Captain Samuel Lewis Brooks and the mother of Garry Brooks.

Garry Brooks is today the only survivor of his father's family. At the usual age he became a public-school student in Connecticut, but when still quite young started out to make his own way in the world, being but a lad when apprenticed to a tailor in Litchfield to learn the cutter's trade. Before he had completed his apprenticeship his parents removed to western New York and purchased a farm in what is now the town of Penfield, Monroe county. When his term of indenture was ended Garry Brooks joined his parents in western New York, making the journey to this point by way of the Erie canal. He landed first at Fullamtown, a port on the canal between Fairport and Rochester and which was then larger than Fairport. Almost immediately he went to live with his parents on the farm, where he remained continuously until his retirement from active life in 1867, since which time his residence has been in Fairport. He comes of a race in whom the warlike spirit in defense of honest convictions has ever been prominent and the soldier instinct showed itself in Garry Brooks while he was yet a boy. Following his removal to Monroe county he became identified with a militia company and rose through various grades, eventually becoming captain. The soldiery at that time were termed minutemen from the fact that they were likely to be called forth at a minute's notice to enter upon active service. In consequence it was necessary for an applicant to pass a government inspection and examination before he was admitted to the militia and after his acceptance he had hard work in learning the manual of arms and mastering military duties. Four or five times each year there were "general training days," when several companies would assemble at a given point for further instruction under field officers. Captain Brooks mastered all the details and it is said that his company went through its paces more like regulars than militiamen. It is one of the Captain's cherished memories that in 1835 he won a silver cup and pitcher for having the best drilled company in western New York. The state also presented him with a gold mounted sword.

It was about this time that Captain Brooks was united in marriage to Miss Emma Chauncey, a direct descendant of Charles Chauncey, the celebrated president of Harvard College, who died in 1672. Mrs. Brooks was born and reared in Connecticut but at the time of her marriage was living with her parents a short distance west of Rochester. She remained a faithful companion and helpmate to her husband for many years but they were separated by death on the 26th of October, 1889. They had four children, three of whom survive: Lewis S., who resides on the west side of Main street at the summit of the hill at the south end of Fairport; Mrs. Fanny L. Harris and Mrs. Emma J. Saleno, also of Fairport.

Captain Brooks had two brothers, Rev. Lemuel Brooks, of Churchville, and Lewis Brooks of Rochester. At the time the construction of what is now

the main line of the New York Central into Rochester was contemplated, the three brothers became interested in the project and were instrumental in securing most of the right of way for the proposed railroad between Rochester and the Wayne county line. The three brothers were also greatly interested in higher education and gave liberally for the support and maintenance of several educational institutions, including Oberlin College, Berea College, the University of Virginia, Lake Forest University at Lake Forest, Illinois, Tabor College of Iowa, and also the Auburn Theological Seminary. Captain Brooks likewise joined with others in building the Penfield Academy and has ever been a staunch friend of the cause of education in Monroe county. Moreover, he has stood for development and improvement along other lines resulting beneficially to the county and his efforts have ever been of a practical, resultant character. Seventy-five years have passed since Captain Brooks proudly cast his first presidential vote. He has regarded it as the duty as well as the privilege of the American citizen to exercise his right of franchise and upon the organization of the republican party he championed its cause and has since been one of its staunch advocates. His is indeed a notable career, not only by reason of longevity but also by reason of the fact that there is so little that can be said against him. No life is absolutely free from mistakes but none have ever questioned the honesty of his motives or his fidelity to a course that he has believed to be right. He is a broad-minded man, has always looked upon the world from the bright side of life, has made the most of his opportunities, has used his powers to an unusual degree for the benefit of others, and now in the late evening of life can look upon the past without regret and toward the future without fear.

When asked what he would most like to say on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of his birth Captain Brooks took up a small hymn book that was published in London, and turning to one of the hymns said:

"I think that this hymn best expresses my thoughts at this time." This is the hymn:

When we survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Lord of glory died,  
Our richest gain we count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all our pride.

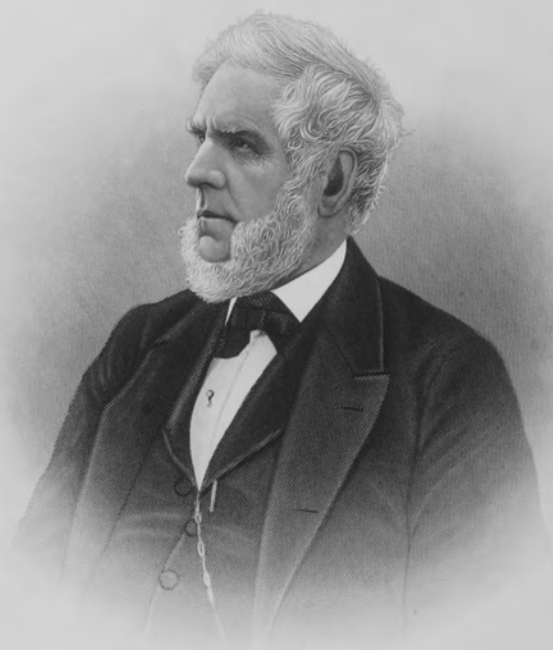
Our God forbid that we should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ, our Lord;  
All the vain things that charm us most,  
We'd sacrifice them at his word.

There from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flowed mingled down;  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Garry Brooks

Were the whole realm of nature ours,  
That were an offering far too small;  
Love that transcends our highest powers,  
Demands our soul, our life, our all.





Aaron Erickson

Eng'd by H. B. Hall, New York

## Aaron Erickson



AMONG THE names of the men that stand out prominently on the pages of Rochester's history is that of Aaron Erickson, who contributed in substantial measure to the upbuilding of the city, where he located in pioneer times. His life record extended over seventy-four years—years fruitful in successful accomplishment, years fraught with good deeds and crowned with honor and respect. The birth of Mr. Erickson occurred on the 25th of February, 1806, in Allentown, New Jersey, within sight of the historic battlefield of Monmouth, and he represented one of the old and prominent families of the state. His father served with the American army in the attainment of independence through the Revolutionary war. He was the youngest of several children and in the comfortable home of his parents his boyhood and youth were passed, but the desire to test his own strength and to develop the latent powers with which nature had endowed him led him to leave home when a youth of seventeen years and 1823 witnessed his arrival in the then little town of Rochester. He took up his abode with C. H. Bicknell and entered business life as a worker at the machinist's trade in the manufacture of axes and similar commodities. The industry, close application and determination which are the basis of all success brought to him prosperity in the undertaking and he often pointed with pride to the fact that he made with his own hands the iron yoke that swung the bell in the old St. Luke's church.

Mr. Erickson had been a resident of Rochester for but four years when he established a home of his own through his marriage to Miss Hannah Bockoven, of Lyons, New York, and soon after erected a dwelling on Clinton street, where the young couple were at home to their friends, the number of whom increased yearly as the circle of their acquaintance widened.

It was about this time that Mr. Erickson withdrew from the machinist's trade and began the manufacture of potash at Frankfort. His patronage increased rapidly and he was soon in control of what was considered at that time a very extensive business. Laudable ambition, however, prompted him to enter still broader fields with larger opportunities and greater scope for his industry and business sagacity—his dominant qualities. Therefore, abandoning the potash manufactory, he became a dealer in wool and morocco on Water street in Rochester, forming a partnership with Ezra M. Parsons. Their busi-

ness developed along substantial lines until the firm became the largest buyers of wool in this section and in 1850 Mr. Erickson established the famous wool house of Erickson, Livermore & Company at Boston, which rapidly became the leading enterprise of this character in the country, conducting a mammoth business.

Each forward step in his career brought him a wider outlook and his ready recognition of opportunity constituted one of the strongest elements in his business advancement. He had been engaged in the wool trade for three years when he organized and opened the Union Bank, capitalized for five hundred thousand dollars. From the beginning he was its president and the institution enjoyed a prosperous existence under that name until the spring of 1865, when it was converted into a national bank under the title of the National Union Bank. In the following year, however, Mr. Erickson purchased the bank and established in its stead a private banking house under the firm name of Erickson & Jennings. The admission of George E. Mumford to a partnership led to the adoption of the firm name of Erickson, Jennings & Mumford and under this style the business was conducted for twelve years. Mr. Mumford withdrew in May, 1879, and was succeeded by A. Erickson Perkins, a grandson of Mr. Erickson, which partnership existed until the death of the bank's founder on the 27th of January, 1880. Mr. Erickson's strict integrity, business conservatism and judgment were always so uniformly recognized that he enjoyed public confidence to an enviable degree. For many years he was also a director in the Park Bank of New York city and was a member of the board at the time of his death.

Mr. Erickson left no son to carry on his work, for his last surviving son, Aaron Erickson, passed away at Revere, Massachusetts, in August, 1871. In the family were eight children but only three daughters survived the father: Mrs. W. S. Nichols, of Staten Island; Mrs. Gilman H. Perkins, of Rochester; and Mrs. W. D. Powell, of New York. In 1842 he builded his home on East avenue and he lived to witness its transformation into one of the most beautiful thoroughfares of the city. The home was ever characterized by the most gracious and liberal hospitality and through more than a half century the name of Erickson figured prominently in the social circles of Rochester.

As Mr. Erickson's success increased so did his charities and benefactions grow and expand. Few men have realized as fully as he did the obligations and the responsibilities of wealth. He did not believe in that indiscriminate giving which fosters vagrancy and idleness but no case of real need ever sought his assistance in vain and many gifts were spontaneously made whereby the poor and unfortunate were direct beneficiaries. A man is admired but is not loved for his successes; he is loved for his good deeds and it was the kindly spirit, the generous sympathy and the great helpfulness of Aaron Erickson that so endeared him to his fellow townsmen and caused his memory to be enshrined in their hearts, although a quarter of a century has come and gone

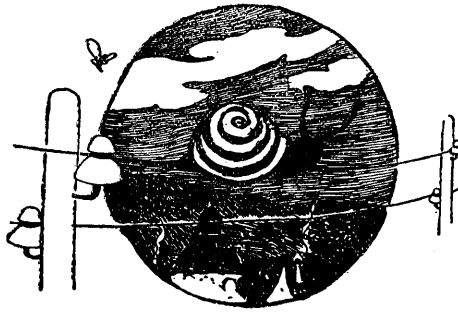
since he was an active factor in the world. He found genuine delight in helping young men to make a start in the business world. His employes recognized that faithfulness and capability meant promotion as opportunity offered and when they left his service he ever gladly spoke the word of recommendation and encouragement which enabled them to take a forward step in the business world. Many organized charities received his timely assistance. He was president of the board of directors of the City Hospital for years and occupied that position at the time of his demise. He gave freely to the different benevolent organizations of Rochester and to many other institutions situated elsewhere. The Industrial School and the Institute for Deaf Mutes found in him a generous friend, while his deeds of charity, unknown save to himself and the recipient, were innumerable. Few men have been so unostentatious in their giving but Mr. Erickson found his reward in the pleasure that came to him in helping a fellow traveler on the journey of life.

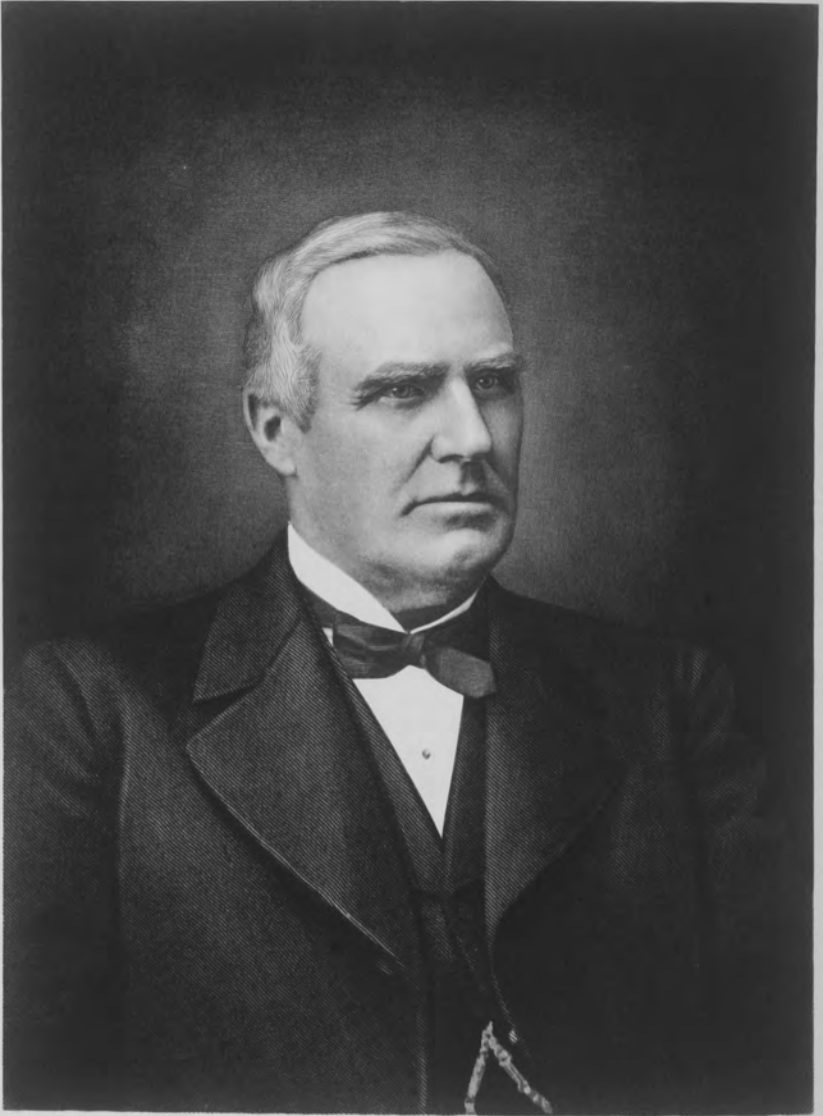
To one of such breadth of nature as Aaron Erickson matters of citizenship are always of deep interest. It would be impossible for such a man to enjoy the protection of a government, to benefit by the municipal interests and not give return in co-operation in the various movements and plans tending to promote local advancement and national progress. He was never a politician in the commonly accepted sense of that term, yet he filled some local offices, regarding it as his duty to perform such service as he could for his fellow townsmen. He was alderman for one term from the old fifth ward and was both alderman and supervisor at different times from the seventh. In 1860 he was appointed, with the late Amon Bronson, a commissioner to erect bridges at Clarissa and Andrew streets over the Genesee river and the manner in which the work was accomplished is a monument to the thoroughness in which he carried out the trusts imposed upon him. To the last he was always intensely interested in his city and in those things which are a matter of civic virtue and civic pride. In his later years he retired to a large extent from active participation in business but his nature was such that want of occupation could have no attraction for him. His later years were given to the development of those strong intellectual tastes which were ever with him a marked characteristic. Throughout his entire life he was a student of the signs of the times, of the great sociological problems, the governmental questions and of the sciences, especially in their practical adaptation for the benefit of mankind. He was an earnest student of horticulture, pomology, floriculture and the natural sciences, and he delighted in the society of men of intellect and was regarded as their peer and often their superior. His mind was enriched with knowledge gained both from travel and extensive reading. In 1869 he visited Palestine and ascended the Nile. He also visited the various European countries and his last summer was spent on the continent. In an analysis of his character to determine the motive springs of conduct, one must accede the fact that in all things that he accomplished he was prompted by the spirit of true Chris-



Aaron Erickson

tianity. During his early residence in Rochester he became a member of St. Paul's church and after its destruction by fire in 1846 he joined St. Luke's church, with which he was identified until his demise. His was not that religion typified by dogmas and creeds, but the religion which found expression in the faithful performance of the duty at hand, that sought to overcome wrong by right and the false by the true. One of nature's noblemen, he stood four square to every wind that blows and his memory remains as a benediction and an inspiration to those who knew him.





*John A. ...*

## Luther Gordon



**F**EW MEN of Brockport were more prominent or widely known than Luther Gordon, who for a quarter of a century was prominently identified with the commercial and banking interests of that city. He was a man of keen discernment and sound judgment and his executive ability and excellent management brought to the concern with which he was connected a large degree of success. Moreover, he displayed in the conduct of his business interests those traits of character which ever command regard and confidence and he belonged to that class of representative American citizens who promote the general prosperity while advancing individual interests.

A native of New York state, Mr. Gordon was born in Rushford, February 8, 1822, and inherited many of the sterling characteristics of his Scotch ancestry. The founder of the family in America was his grandfather, James Gordon, who was born in the land of hills and heather and was a son of James and Kastorn (Davis) Gordon, of Lead, Perthshire, Scotland. Leaving his native land, James Gordon, Jr., crossed the Atlantic when a young man and landed on the shores of the new world, June 15, 1775, becoming a resident of Epping, Rockingham county, New Hampshire. His sympathies being with the colonists in their struggle for independence, he joined the American army and served with distinction until honorably discharged from service at the close of the war, July 1, 1782. He married Miss Jerusha Tarbell, at Groton, Massachusetts, and they became the parents of seven children, namely: Thomas, Kastorn, James, Tarbell, William, John and Wilson. The father of this family died at Rushford, New York, on the 9th of December, 1844, at the advanced age of ninety-two years.

His son, John Gordon, the father of Luther Gordon, was born in Caven-dish, Vermont, on the 4th of August, 1790, and in early manhood was united in marriage to Miss Harmony Woodworth, a native of Connecticut, by whom he had five children, James, Luther, Walter, Matilda and Wilson. Leaving New England in the early part of 1809, he came to the Empire state. In company with the Gary brothers he then made his way to Allegany county, being one of the first to locate in that region, and on the 12th of June, 1809, he and William Gary felled the first tree ever cut in the town of Rushford, New York. He continued to make his home there throughout the remainder of his life and died February 12, 1842.

## Luther Gordon

Luther Gordon was reared to manhood in his native town and after his father's death started out to make his own way in the world. Forming a partnership with Henry White, he leased a furnace belonging to Samuel White, and after operating it for seven weeks he purchased the entire plant, which he at once began to enlarge and improve in order to meet the growing demands of his trade. At the end of eight months it was completed and in full operation. Seven months later he sold the business to Mr. White with the understanding that he would not again engage in that line of business in Rushford. In the meantime Mr. Gordon had invented the well known Genesee plow, which constantly grew in popular favor and was extensively manufactured in his foundry. Later he turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, erecting two buildings and opening two general stores in the year after his retirement from the foundry business. He then continued in mercantile lines with marked success for fourteen years. At the same time he was also interested in the live-stock business, buying and driving stock to the eastern markets through the summer months for sixteen years, while in the winter seasons he devoted his attention to the lumber trade. These enterprises also proved profitable, as he never depended upon agents but personally transacted his business affairs, giving to each detail due consideration and care.

It was in 1856 that Mr. Gordon embarked in the lumber business at Brockport, New York, purchasing the interests of Boswell and Walker in the firm of Boswell, Walker & Hood, while five years later he became sole owner. He then erected an extensive steam sawmill and steam planing-mill in Brockport and purchased several hundred acres of timber land at Portville, Cattaraugus county, New York, on which he built another sawmill, carrying on an extensive wholesale lumber business. Disposing of his property in Rushford in 1858, he brought his family to Brockport, where he had erected an elegant residence, continuing to make it his home until his death, which occurred in March, 1881.

In the meantime Mr. Gordon had extended his business interests into other fields and in all met with gratifying success. In partnership with George S. Weaver, of Albany, New York, he leased a large sawmill at East Saginaw, Michigan, in 1860, and there manufactured lumber which he shipped to Brockport and various other points. Two years later he bought a half interest and after four years' ownership sold it to the Flint & Marquette Railway Company. The extension of his lumber interests led to the erection of a large sawmill at Sterling, Michigan, in the ownership of which he was associated with his brother Walter, and there they manufactured lumber on an extensive scale, taking the raw material from a tract of pine timber land of nearly seven thousand acres which they owned. They made extensive shipments to the eastern markets and the business proved a very profitable one. Mr. Gordon also had a steam mill and gristmill at Holley, New York, and operated all of these mills up to the time of his death. He was ever watchful of opportunities, quick to

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note and utilize a possibility and his executive force and keen discernment led to a marvelous success. Mr. Gordon also extended his lumber interests in 1867 to the building of a sawmill on the Allegany river, four miles above Olean, New York, and there gave his attention largely to the manufacture of hemlock and hardwood lumber. In the early days of his operations as a lumber merchant he dealt largely in Rochester, selling a great portion of his lumber to the agents of Anson Brown. In 1873 he disposed of his lumber business in Brockport to Ellis Garrison and Charles Benedict but after three months, in connection with his brother, James Gordon, repurchased the business, which was then carried on under the firm style of Luther Gordon, Brother & Son.

In the meantime Mr. Gordon had become equally well known as a financier and owned a controlling interest in the National Bank Association which was organized in Brockport in 1863. In fact he was largely instrumental in the establishment of this institution and was made its president. His adaptability for finance was soon acknowledged and in moneyed circles he displayed most sound judgment, placing the institution upon such a practical and safe basis as to give it an enviable position in the financial world. He remained at the head of the bank until his death and it is today one of the institutions which stands as a monument to his business ability.

As a financier Mr. Gordon ranked among the ablest and in business affairs was prompt, energetic and notably reliable. He was watchful of all details and of all indications pointing toward success and the prosperity that crowned his efforts was the merited reward of a life of industry. He started out when a young man of eighteen years without capital or influential friends to aid him but, brooking no obstacles that could be overcome by honest effort, he worked his way steadily upward until he left the ranks of the many and stood among the successful few—a man honored and esteemed wherever known and most of all where best known.

On the 24th of April, 1848, in Allegany county, Mr. Gordon was married to Miss Florilla Cooley, of Attica, Wyoming county, New York, who after a happy married life of almost twenty-one years, died in Brockport, New York, February 8, 1869. Their only son, George Cooley, became a worthy follower of his father in the business world and a most honored citizen of Brockport, so that the name of Gordon has long figured conspicuously and prominently in connection with the business development of the history of the city.



*Silvanus M. Perkins*

## Gilman Hill Perkins



WHEN DEATH claimed Gilman Hill Perkins on the 16th of November, 1898, Rochester mourned the loss of a citizen whom it had long known and honored, whose life had constituted an integral chapter in her history and whose memory is cherished as one whose influence was ever on the side of the city's substantial development and growth along business, intellectual and moral lines. He was born in Geneseo, March 4, 1827, and in the spring of 1832 went to live with his grandmother in Bethlehem, Connecticut, owing to the death of his mother when he was but four years of age. Two years later when his father married again he returned home. He began his education in the schools of Connecticut and after returning to Geneseo was for three years a pupil in the district school there. Between the years 1837 and 1842 he was a student in the Temple Hill Academy but left school at the age of fourteen years to enter business life. The first money which he ever earned came to him during the periods of vacation for service in the county clerk's office in comparing mortgages and deeds for Samuel P. Allen, afterward a resident of Rochester. He also folded the Geneseo Republican for Mr. Allen, its editor, on Saturday afternoons for nearly a year, for which work he received twenty-five cents per week. This was long prior to the time when invention attached folders to newspaper presses. On permanently leaving school at the age of fourteen years Mr. Perkins entered the book store of John Turner, where he worked for six months at twelve shillings per week. He had been in the store only a few weeks when his employer died and at the age of fifteen he assumed the management of the store and was given entire charge for half a year.

Mr. Perkins arrived in Rochester on the 19th of March, 1844. He was the possessor of two suits of clothes and three dollars in money. At nine o'clock in the evening he had left Geneseo as a passenger on a stage coach, arriving in Rochester at eight o'clock the following morning. The city was small and of little commercial or industrial importance as compared with its present conditions but Mr. Perkins saw here the opportunity for business advancement. He sought and secured employment in the wholesale grocery house of E. F. Smith & Company, where he remained until the spring of 1847, when he was compelled to leave on account of ill health. He then secured a situation at the "Old Red Mill," owned by Harry B. Williams. This gave him less



arduous employment and enabled him to spend much time out of doors in driving about the country buying wheat. His health improved in this way and in 1848 he re-entered the employ of E. F. Smith & Company as clerk, gradually working his way upward until on the 1st of January, 1852, he was admitted to a partnership in the business. Later the firm style of Smith & Perkins was assumed and subsequently that of Smith, Perkins & Company. At the time of his death Mr. Perkins had for many years been president of the firm. There was nothing spectacular in the growth of the business. It came through laborious effort during the long years and was one of the marked instances of successful business development on the solid basis of merit. As president Mr. Perkins carefully controlled its interests, watching the markets and the indications of trade and ever maintaining a commercial policy that was unassailable from the standpoint of integrity and fair dealing.

His efforts were not confined alone to the wholesale grocery business, however, for he became a valued factor in the promotion and conservation of many leading business enterprises of the city. In 1879 he was made a trustee of the Rochester Savings Bank and so continued until his death. He was an officer and director of the Union Bank from 1858 and a trustee of the Rochester Trust and Safe Deposit Company from 1888. Upon the organization of the Security Trust Company in 1891 he became one of its trustees and was also a director of the Genesee Valley Railroad and the Rochester Gas & Electric Company.

When a young man enters into the life of any community his actions are closely watched as an indication of character and purposes and his reception in business and social circles is determined thereby. Mr. Perkins had not long been a resident of Rochester before the consensus of public opinion became favorable and throughout the years he grew in the respect and confidence of his fellowmen and there was naught in his life to disturb their perfect trust. During the first seven or eight years of his residence here he attended the First Presbyterian church and during a part of that time was a member of the choir. In 1852 he took a seat with John Rochester, William Pitkin, Edward Smith and Frederick Whittlesey in one of the old box pews at one end of the choir in St. Luke's, where he had his seat until his marriage. He served as a vestryman of St. Luke's from 1858 until 1869 with the exception of the years 1864-5. In 1869 he was chosen a warden of the church and so continued until his death. He was, moreover, deeply interested in the various activities of the church and in much charitable and benevolent work. He served as a trustee of the State Industrial School, was a trustee of the City Hospital and also of the Reynolds Library. He took a deep and public-spirited interest in community affairs and aided in the furtherance of various projects for the public good. He was a member of the Hemlock water works commission, which furnished the city its first pure water supply, and in 1892 he was chosen a presidential elector on the republican ticket. He was a

## Gilman Hill Perkins

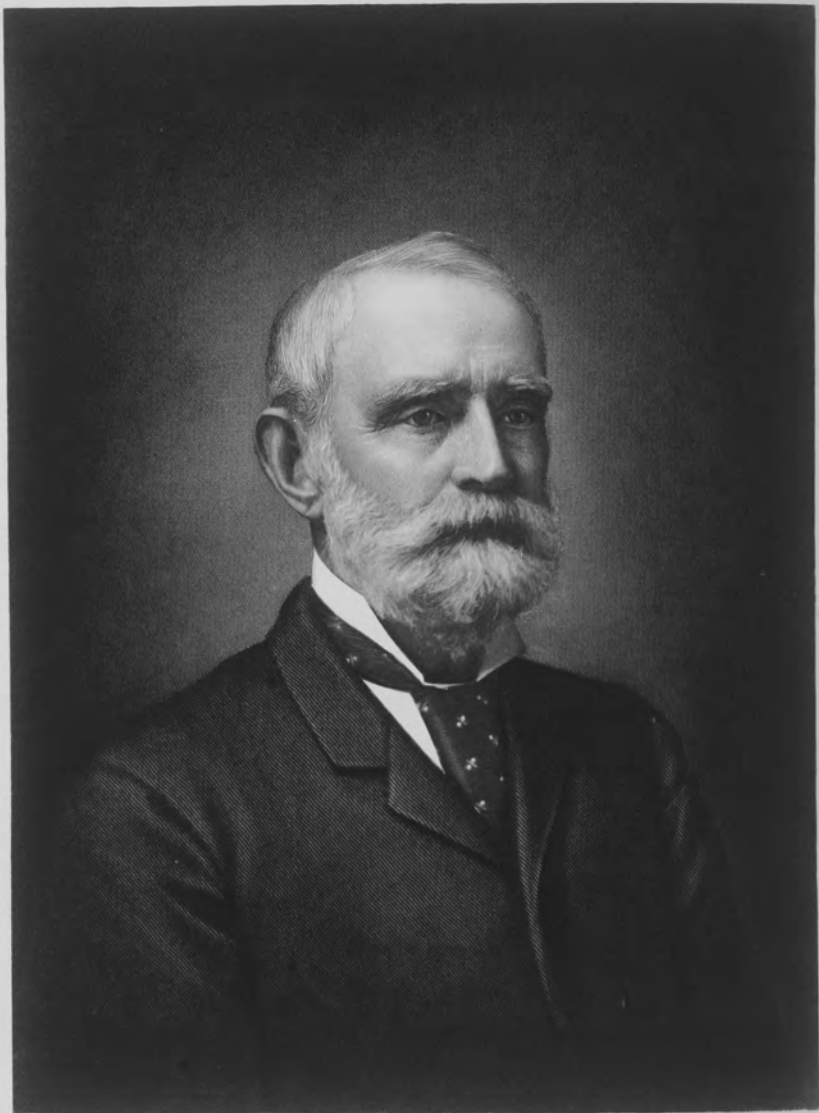
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member and one of the founders of the Genesee Valley Club and at one time served as its president.

In 1856 Mr. Perkins was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Erickson, a daughter of Aaron Erickson, and theirs was largely an ideal home life. They became the parents of four sons and four daughters and the following still survive; Erickson and Gilman N., who are prominent business men of Rochester; Carolyn, now Mrs. Thornton Jeffress; Berenice, Mrs. H. V. W. Wickes; and Gertrude, Mrs. John Craig Powers.

Mr. Perkins ever held friendship inviolable, while the best traits of his character were reserved for his own fireside. At his death expressions of regret were heard on every hand throughout Rochester and wherever he was known and resolutions of respect were adopted by the trustees of the Rochester Savings Bank, the directors of the Union Bank, the trustees of the Union Trust Company, of the Rochester Trust & Safe Deposit Company and of the vestry of St. Luke's church, with which he had been identified for more than forty years. While he was a remarkably successful business man and contributed in large measure to Rochester's advancement in this direction, it was his personal traits of character, his kindness, his geniality, his consideration and his unfaltering honor that endeared him so closely to those who knew him. "Not the good that comes to us but the good that comes to the world through us is the measure of our success," and judged in this way Gilman Hill Perkins was pre-eminently a successful man.





Truly Yours  
D. S. Morgan

## Dayton Samuel Morgan



DAYTON SAMUEL MORGAN was born in the town of Ogden, Monroe county, New York, November 19, 1819, and died in Brockport, this county, April 9, 1890. He was the sixth in descent from James Morgan, the first American ancestor of the family, who was born in Wales in 1607, and with two younger brothers, John and Miles, sailed from their native country and arrived in Boston, Massachusetts, in April, 1637. John, the next younger brother, was a high churchman, and, disliking the austerity of the Puritans, left Boston in disgust for more congenial society and settled in Virginia. Miles, the youngest brother, who was born in 1615, soon after arrival associated himself with a party of which Colonel William Pyncheon was at the head and founded the settlement of Springfield, Massachusetts.

James Morgan, the first American ancestor, finally located in the settlement of Pequot, which, by an act of the general court or colonial assembly at Hartford, March 11, 1657, was named "New London, in memory of ye renowned city of London," making his final abode on the east side of the Thames river, in what has since been named the town of Groton. He was one of the townsmen or selectmen for several years, and one of the first deputies sent from New London plantations to the general court at Hartford, May session, in 1657, and was nine times afterward chosen a member of that grave and important assembly, the last in 1670. His associates and compeers composing the general court or colonial assembly in May, 1657, when he was first chosen, as shown by the family records, were:

John Winthrop, of Pequot, governor;

Thomas Welles, of Hartford, deputy governor.

Magistrates—John Webster, of Hartford; Captain John McCullick, Hartford; Samuel Wyllys, Hartford; Captain John Talcott, Hartford; Major John Mason, Saybrook; Daniel Clark, Windsor; Nathan Gould, Fairfield; John Gosmore, Southampton, L. I.; John Ogden, Southampton, L. I. Deputies—George Steele, of Hartford; John Welles, of Hartford; Richard Butler, of Hartford; William Phelps, Windsor; William Gailord, Windsor; Richard Trott, Wethersfield; John Deming, Wethersfield; Jonathan Brewster, Pequot; James Morgan, Pequot; Mathew Canfield, Norwalk.

James Morgan seems to have impressed this carefully selected body of men

with a high sense of his sterling honesty and integrity of character, as it appears that in a controversy between the general court and the New London plantations regarding boundaries and jurisdiction it was ordered that the matter should be submitted to three arbiters, mutually agreed upon. New London at once named its own townsman, James Morgan, really a party in its own interests, but, nevertheless, the general court as promptly accepted him and without naming another agreed to submit to his sole decision, which, when made, seemed to have satisfied all parties.

The father of Dayton S. Morgan, Samuel Morgan, married Sara Dayton in 1816, of the New Jersey family of that name. He settled in the town of Ogden, Monroe county, being a prosperous miller and farmer. Here Dayton S. Morgan was born, being the only son of these parents, his mother dying soon thereafter. In the financial reaction of 1836, Samuel Morgan became overwhelmed and lost his property. He also became broken in health and survived but a short time. Dayton S. Morgan was then seventeen years of age and was obliged to make his own career. He had secured such educational benefits as could be obtained from the district schools of that time. After his father's financial reverses, by in turn teaching district school and studying hard at night, with great struggle and deprivation he finally obtained a course at the Brockport Collegiate Institute, which institution later became transformed into what is now the Brockport State Normal School.

Dayton S. Morgan secured his first regular employment as a clerk in the Erie Canal collector's office. It was his first intention to prepare for a legal profession but finally decided it would take too many years of unprofitable application, being obliged to earn his own living. In 1840 he decided to adopt a business career and in 1841 secured his first position. The following year he became associated with E. Whitney, a merchant of Brockport, who for those times was doing an extensive business, retailing dry goods, buying grain, etc. His ambition to succeed and his perseverance and application had gained for him a reputation as "a young man who was bound to succeed," to the extent that in the spring of 1844 he was invited to enter into a partnership with William H. Seymour, a merchant of Brockport, and one of the wealthiest men of that section at that period. Mr. Morgan had been able to save only a few hundred dollars and stated this fact in answer to Mr. Seymour's proposition, but the reply was that it was not his money that was sought, but rather his ability and application. The firm of Seymour & Morgan was then founded and in connection with a large mercantile business established the Globe Iron Works in Brockport and began the manufacture of stoves and agricultural implements. In the following year, the Hon. E. B. Holmes, of Brockport, member of congress, while in Washington met Cyrus H. McCormick, of Walnut Grove, Virginia, who was attending to the taking out of patents on a reaping machine of his invention and told him of the Globe Iron Works at Brockport and the character of the men in charge, advising him to go there. This

he did, bringing for the inspection of Seymour & Morgan his reaping machine. It was extremely crude, having no driver's seat, the plan for raking off the grain being by a man who should walk beside the platform of the machine. The gearing for operating was very imperfect and the cutting sickle was but a thin strip of steel on the front edge of the platform, serrated reversely every four or five inches of its length; yet though so crude, immature and imperfect, it was a machine with which it was possible to cut grain when all conditions were favorable. Trials were made which suggested various improvements. The machine was cut down here and strengthened there and generally brought into better form. A saddle was provided for the men to sit astride, who used an ordinary hand rake in removing the grain from the platform but the driver walked or rode a horse alongside the machine. The experiments and negotiations resulted in an arrangement whereby Seymour & Morgan engaged themselves to build a quantity of Mr. McCormick's reapers, as improved, for the harvest of the following year. In pursuance there were built at the old Globe Iron Works by Seymour & Morgan, one hundred of these reapers for the harvest of 1846, the first quantity of harvesting machines ever built by one concern, put upon the market and sold, and thus the historical fact was established that the old Globe Iron Works at Brockport, Monroe county, New York, became the first reaper factory in the world.

The firm continued the manufacture of these machines until 1848. They then introduced a machine of their own design, known as the "New Yorker," which gained a world-wide reputation. For the harvest of 1851 they ventured to make five hundred of these machines and the people then wondered how and where they could all possibly be sold. At this time Mr. Morgan purchased Mr. Seymour's interest in the patents that controlled this reaper and licensed other manufacturers to build for specified territory. The quadrant shape platform, today still universally used on reaping machines, was brought out by the firm and other manufacturers licensed. In connection with it and other inventions, Mr. Morgan was obliged to bring several suits for infringement, some of which became famous, involving very large sums of money and were not finally determined until reaching the United States supreme court at Washington. In these litigations wide attention was attracted. Men of prominence, some of whom became particularly so in the affairs of the nation, were associated as counsel. Among these were Abraham Lincoln, Edward M. Stanton, who became secretary of war during the war of the Rebellion; William H. Seward, who was New York's whig governor in 1838; Judge Henry R. Selden, of Rochester, and others.

In all these patent litigations Mr. Morgan was finally successful. Eventually Mr. Morgan became sole owner of the concern which was subsequently incorporated under the name of D. S. Morgan & Company and continued as its president and active head up to the time of his death. A few years thereafter this large company, the outgrowth of the pioneer of its kind, bowed to

Dayton Samuel Morgan

the march of progress of the day and became absorbed by combination with other interests. After disposing of its manufacturing interests the corporation which Mr. Morgan founded erected in the heart of the city of Buffalo, New York, the first so-called steel constructed office building built in that city, one of the most complete in the country, known as the D. S. Morgan building.

Mr. Morgan also became interested in various railroads and at one time served as vice president of the central branch of the Union Pacific Railroad Company. He was also one of those originally interested in organizing in 1869 the Central Crosstown Street Railroad in New York city. He was a large and judicious investor in real estate and acquired much farming, timber and city property. Convinced of the future of Chicago, he purchased in 1872 the five hundred acres of land upon which that city's suburb, West Pullman, is now built. This tract he retained up to the time of his death.

Personally, Mr. Morgan was quiet and unassuming in manner, refusing political preferment and avoiding publicity. While a man of great dignity, he was affable and approachable and always glad to receive suggestions from any one in his employ. He possessed unusual will power, undaunted tenacity and a high order of business talent, with honesty and pureness of purpose. At the time of his death he was president of the Brockport State Normal School board, a vestryman of St. Luke's Episcopal church at Brockport, a member of the Rochester Historical Society. During his lifetime he performed many acts of charity in helping others whom he deemed deserving. Such he always performed without ostentation, avoiding publicity and many important acts of consideration for others were unknown until revealed after his death by those benefited. Indicative of his character, when he had acquired a competence, many years after his father's financial reverses and death, he reimbursed to those the losses which had been incurred through his father's misfortune.

In 1864 Mr. Morgan was married to Miss Susan M. Joslyn, of Brockport, who survives him and resides in The Homestead, the old family residence in that village. Their children are George D. Morgan, William P. Morgan, Sara Morgan Manning, Susan Morgan Macy, Henry Morgan, Gifford Morgan and Gladys E. Morgan.





*M F Knapp*

## Moses Knapp



**M**OSES KNAPP was a well known and prominent representative of industrial interests in Rochester for thirty-five years, carrying on business as a painter and decorator. He attained a degree of skill and proficiency in this line which brought to him a very liberal patronage and gained him a reputation unsurpassed by any who followed the same business in Monroe county. Mr. Knapp was born in New York city in 1843 and died March 13, 1906, at the age of sixty-two years. When fourteen years of age he went to Stratford, Connecticut, and in the year 1864 came to Rochester, being then a young man of twenty-one years. Here he learned the trade of painting and decorating, became an expert in his line and in the course of years developed a very extensive business as a contractor. His work was seen in some of the finest homes and business houses of the city, his ability being of the highest order, while his proficiency was a matter of uniform knowledge throughout his adopted state.

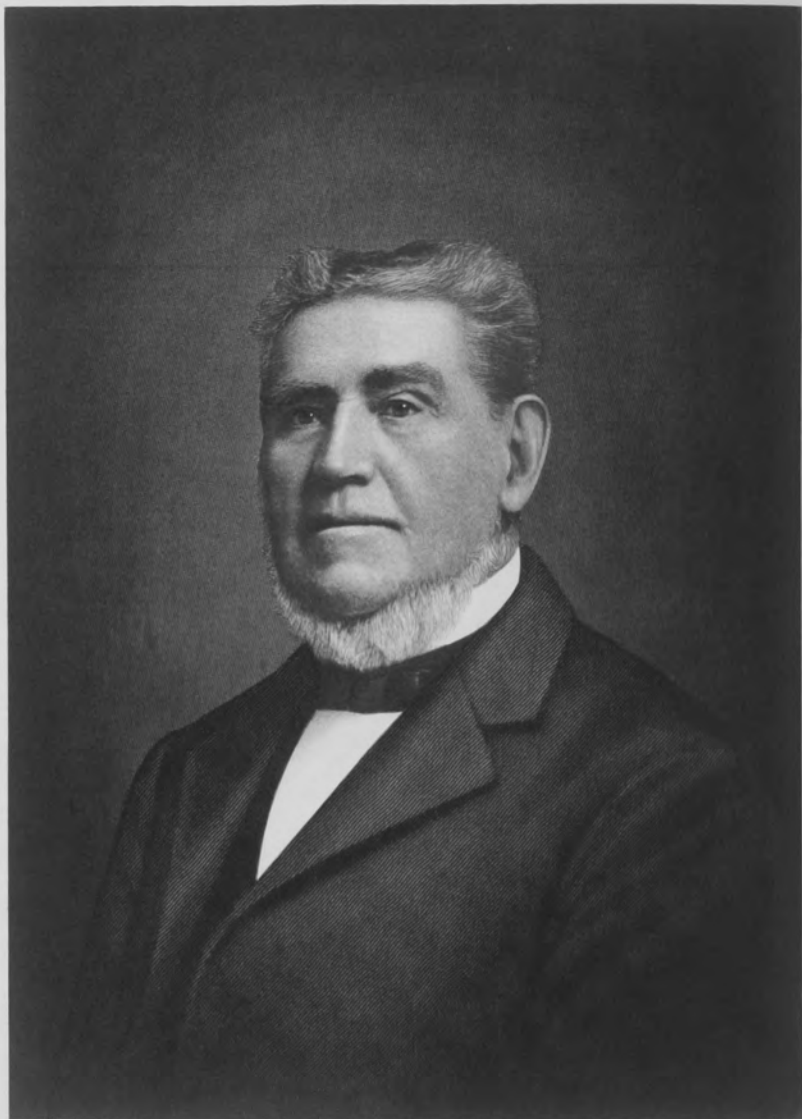
In 1891 Mr. Knapp was united in marriage to Miss Nellie M. Benedict, of Perinton, New York, and they became the parents of four children: Gertrude, Moses T., Nellie and Elmer.

In his political views Mr. Knapp was a republican, interested in the growth and success of his party. He was also a stalwart champion of the cause of temperance and did everything in his power to suppress the liquor traffic, realizing fully that it is one of the greatest detriments to the country and to the development of honorable manhood. Of domestic tastes, fond of his home and family, he found his greatest pleasure at his own fireside and was never more content than when ministering to the happiness of his wife and children. He belonged to the Independent Order of Good Templars, as a member of Washington lodge, and was connected with a number of societies for the promotion of business interests. He held membership in the Builders Exchange, was vice president of the Master Painters Association of Rochester and a member of the International Association of Master House Painters and Decorators of the United States and Canada. He was constantly alert to the interests of his business in its artistic lines as well as for its financial results, and he had a keen eye for beauty of form, color and effect. The excellence of work executed under his direction gave him prominence among men in his line of business in

Moses Knapp

the country. Moreover, his business probity and integrity were above question and he was a man whose social, genial nature made him well liked by all. Mrs. Knapp now resides at No. 89 Park avenue, Rochester, where she owns a nice home.





*Hiram Rogers*

## Hosea Rogers



IN THE early part of the nineteenth century there was to be found a log house standing on the east side of the Indian trail on the exact spot where the Delos Polly house now stands on North St. Paul street in Rochester, directly opposite the old No. 8 school building, and it was in this primitive home that Hosea Rogers was born on the 17th of January, 1812. He thus entered upon a life record which covered ninety-two years. In his old age he recalled many incidents of his birthplace and the noticeable features of its surroundings. The walnut trees still standing on the ground are the ones which his father preserved when he cleared the land. The little house, a story in height, was nearly square and was constructed of hewn logs, the cracks stuffed with sticks and clay, the broad door of rough boards furnished with wooden latch and string. Two square windows of glass lighted the interior when the door was closed, but in pleasant weather it stood wide open. There was a big fireplace to heat the little cabin and the floor was made of split logs until later a rough board floor was put down.

The parents in this pioneer home were Ezra and Betsey (Beckwith) Rogers, who came to Monroe county from Massachusetts about 1810. They were possessed of all the sterling attributes which characterized the old-time New Englanders and were well qualified to take up the task of making for themselves and their family a home in the then wild Genesee country. Hosea Rogers was the youngest of five children, the others being Diodat, Betsey, Ezra and Caroline.

During those early days, when Hosea Rogers was an infant, the British fleet appeared at the mouth of the river and displayed its big guns. The men seized their arms and started for the lake, while the women and children fled into the woods. All that locality was then heavily timbered and Mr. Rogers' early recollections were of the primitive wilderness. Deer was still to be seen in the forest and even after Mr. Rogers was old enough to hunt they were frequently killed. Bears, too, made raids upon the farmyard in search of pork. Indians were almost constantly about the neighborhood but occasioned little trouble to the settlers.

The educational advantages which Hosea Rogers received were very limited. There was no schoolhouse in the neighborhood but the settlers deter-

Hosea Rogers

mined to have a school and employed a young lady teacher. The first school was held in his father's house, the teacher boarding round among the pupils. The methods of instruction were oftentimes crude but Mr. Rogers made good use of his opportunities and as the years advanced learned many practical lessons of life. He also developed a strong and rugged constitution and at the same time became a man of indomitable perseverance and untiring energy. In those early days it was necessary in purchasing property to take the acknowledgment of a deed before a justice and then record it at Canandaigua, the county seat. As Mr. Rogers' father had undisputed possession of his farm, the necessity of recording a deed was not apparent and as time slipped by the matter was forgotten. When several years had passed, however, and property of that locality was sold, Mr. Rogers, Sr., lost possession of the place on which he had lived from 1809 and on which he had made many improvements. He then bought an acre and a half of land on Norton street, built a house, and, being a furniture maker by trade, he put up a small shop and began the manufacture of chairs, his elder sons getting out the crude material from the surrounding woods, while he turned it into form on a small foot lathe. He then started for Canada with his product, where he disposed of his chairs. Soon after his return to New York his death occurred and the support of the family fell upon his elder sons, who were imbued with all the worthy characteristics of their race.

It was by his elder brothers that Hosea Rogers was reared and during much of his life he was connected with the sea either in a direct or indirect way. At the age of fifteen years he went as a sailor upon the Great Lakes and for ten years followed that life, rising through all the grades to the position of master of a vessel. His brothers built and ran the first vessel plying between Rochester and Chicago and of this craft he had charge as captain in 1834. In his youth there were no steam tugs to tow vessels in windless waters and it was seldom a vessel could sail up and down the Genesee river without assistance from the shore. The first vessels, therefore, on the river were towed up and down the stream by men who walked in the Indian path, but in time cattle took the place of the men on the tow path. Mr. Rogers many a time walked over the trail with the vessel's cable over his shoulder and he lived to see the wonderful development in navigation. About 1825 his brothers built the schooner Jeannette at Carthage landing, and it was one of the first vessels to pass from Lake Ontario into Lake Erie in the spring of 1830, Mr. Rogers then being before the mast. In 1831 his brothers built the *Aurora Borealis*, of which he became captain in the spring of 1832. He was afterward in command of the *Indiana* and in the fall of 1833 took charge of the *John Grant*, these two vessels also being owned by his brothers.

In talking of those days Mr. Rogers once said: "In the fall of 1833 I took charge of the *John Grant* and I shall never forget my last voyage that season. We came down from Toronto the 12th of November in a pretty heavy gale

which carried away my spanker boom; in the afternoon I ran into Charlotte for repairs. Happening to meet my brother Diodat on the pier he immediately put in a new spar and I left port about sundown with a fair wind, which soon began to increase. By ten o'clock we had our hatches battened down and every loose thing on deck was swept overboard. The gale became terrific and we hardly expected to outlive it. Suddenly there was a cry that the heavens were falling as the great dome above us was filled with shooting stars. We had no intimation of the auroral display and coming as it did at an hour when every nerve was strained and every sense alive to the dangers of the elements, the scene was particularly impressive. The shower lasted several hours, if I remember correctly, but at no instance during its occurrence did I dare cease my vigilance and the exercise of my greatest skill to keep the vessel in her course. We battled with the elements and watched the unprecedented fall of stars until the morning of the 13th when daylight ended the wonderful display." Captain Rogers also made an early trip to Chicago by way of the lakes from Buffalo, landing there when the western metropolis was a frontier town, old Fort Dearborn still commanding the mouth of the creek, while Indians were as numerous as white people. In 1836 Captain Rogers purchased a farm of eighty-five acres in what is now the town of Irondequoit and in that year was married and settled on his farm, which remained his home from that time until his death. Later he sailed for two years but returned home to take charge of his farm.

Soon after locating thereon he became interested in the building of sailing vessels, for which business his long experience upon the lakes well fitted him, as he had gained a thorough knowledge of all kinds of sailing craft as well as the laws that governed inland sailors. When he entered the field of boat building he was therefore well qualified to meet the requirements of the times and he built in all fourteen vessels, some at Charlotte and others in Ohio and Michigan. During all of these years, however, he continued to operate his farm. The Captain was also actively identified with the business interests of Rochester until the 1st of January, 1902. In 1896 he became interested in the Phelps & Rogers Lumber Company on Warehouse street, which does an extensive business. This company was incorporated in 1901 with Captain Rogers as president, and he filled that position for one year or until the 1st of January, 1902, when he resigned, although he continued his connection with the company up to the time of his demise. He also owned the site occupied by the lumberyard and had other business and residence property in the city. Up to the last he possessed great strength of both body and mind and in connection with the operation of his farm attended to collecting his rents and other business in the city.

Captain Rogers was married, in October, 1837, to Miss Polly Van Dusen, who died January 25, 1871, and on the 1st of May, 1873, he wedded Miss Mary J. Lyon, of Albion, New York, who departed this life May 25, 1875. He

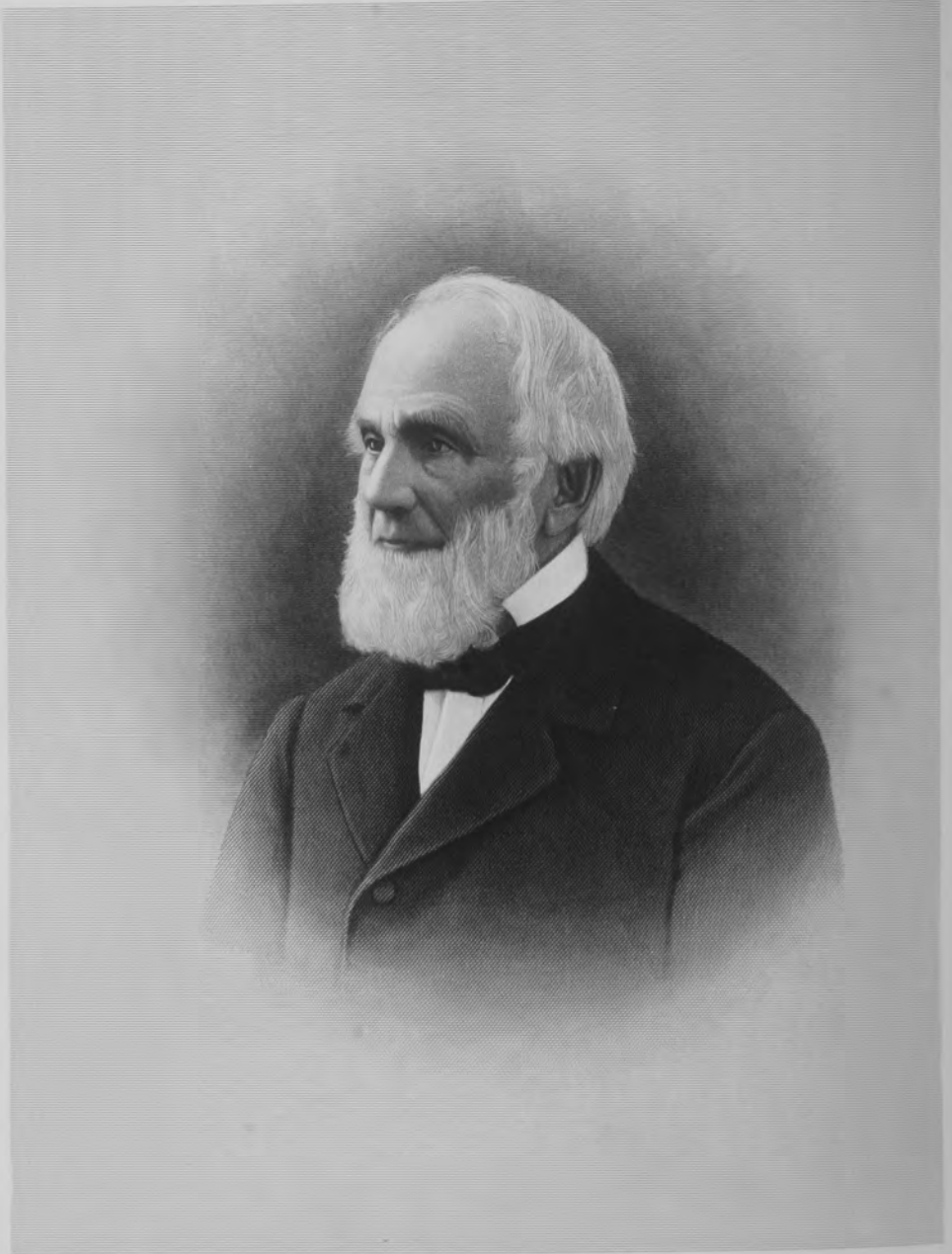


Hosea Rogers

was again married February 2, 1876, his third union being with Miss Asenath Scholfeld, of Port Colborne, Canada, whose grandparents came originally from England. Her grandfather, John Scholfeld, was a farmer by occupation and a veteran of the war of 1812. He died in 1866. Her father, James Scholfeld, was collector of Port Colborne, Ontario, for thirty-three consecutive years and died in 1889. Unto Captain Rogers and his third wife were born five children: Polly M., at home; William H., of the Genesee lumberyard, who married Carrie D. Rollison and lives in Rochester; Luella A., Ezra S. and Alida J., all at home.

Captain Rogers was a democrat in his political views. The family hold membership in the Presbyterian church and the Captain's father was deacon of the first church of that denomination in this locality, it being located in that section of the city which was then called Carthage. The death of Captain Rogers occurred on the 14th of December, 1904, when he had reached the very venerable age of ninety-two years. He was one of the first white children born in Rochester and in fact the city of today had at that time no existence, although the present boundary limits include the site of his birthplace. He lived to witness almost the entire growth and development of the city and for years figured as one of its prominent, influential and honored business men and residents. He had no aspiration for office but he did everything in his power to promote general growth and progress and his was a most useful and honorable life, winning for him the high regard, trust and good will of all with whom he came in contact. In fact his life history is inseparably interwoven with the history of Rochester and the development of Monroe county and no work of this character would be complete without an extended mention of him. He was one of the city's fathers and builders, acquainted with the story of its progress—an active factor in its growth. He possessed a strong nature, a kindly spirit, and his life was actuated by high, manly principles, and when he was called from this earth Rochester mourned the loss of one of its most valued and representative men.





*Joseph Field.*

## Hon. Alfred Ely



**H**ON. ALFRED ELY, deceased, of Rochester, was one of the distinguished attorneys of western New York and the varied interests of citizenship, of civic life and intellectual and moral development all claimed his attention and received his co-operation. He figured prominently in political circles as well and twice represented his district in congress. His career was one of activity and usefulness and, gifted by nature with strong intellectual powers, he used his talents to further high aims and lofty purposes and left the impress of his individuality for good upon the city and state in which he made his home. He came to Rochester in 1836, a young man of twenty-one years, and was thereafter a resident of the city until his life's labors were ended in death.

Mr. Ely was born in Lyme, Connecticut, February 15, 1815, his parents being Charles and Elizabeth Ely, who throughout their entire lives were residents of the Charter Oak state, living most of the time at Ely's Ferry on the Connecticut river. Both died, however, at Lyme.

Alfred Ely acquired a public-school education in Essex county, Connecticut, and in Lyme, followed by a course of study in Bacon Academy at Colchester, New London county, Connecticut, where he had for a classmate the late Chief Justice Morrison R. Waite, of the United States supreme bench. A liberal literary education served as an excellent foundation upon which to rear the superstructure of professional learning and in 1836 he came to Rochester, where he began preparation for the bar as a law student in the office of Smith & Rochester, who were among the most eminent attorneys of the state. In his student days Mr. Ely was patient and persevering and mastered the principles of his profession with great care. He was admitted to the bar in 1841 and entered at once upon the practice of his chosen calling. No dreary novitiate awaited him, for in a comparatively short time he had built up a large practice and his forensic powers were recognized by the profession and the general public. He first had an office on Main street opposite the Powers block and afterward removed to the Elwood block. He became attorney for the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad, also the Buffalo & Rochester Railroad and was specially qualified for these positions by reason of his intimate and accurate knowledge of railroad law. He was also attorney for many extensive firms doing business in the city. He was particularly strong as

Hon. Alfred Ely

a counselor, displayed great familiarity with the rules of practice, prepared his cases with great thoroughness and care, was accurate in his mastery of all the points in a case and his pleadings showed oratorical power and an unquestioned logic in his deductions.

Mr. Ely had not long been a resident of Rochester until the weight of his influence was felt in public affairs and it was a generally conceded fact that he was found on the right side of every question. He stood firm in support of his honest convictions in political circles as well as in other walks of life, and in 1858 he was called upon to represent his district in the thirty-sixth congress. He received endorsement of his course during the legislative sessions of that body by re-election in 1860 and he thus served during a very momentous period in the history of the country. At the time of the Civil war he stood loyally by the Union, aided in the raising of troops and felt the deepest interest in the northern soldiers and the success of the Union cause. At the first battle of Bull Run he was present to aid in the Union cause and, being taken prisoner, was incarcerated for nearly six months in Libby prison, during which time he was subjected to severe cruelty. While there he was indefatigable in his efforts to alleviate the sufferings of his fellow prisoners. He came to know just what southern prison life meant and to realize as few of the civilians in the north what were the experiences and hardships of the soldier at the front. He did a most valuable work in behalf of the Union troops as opportunity offered and in an indirect way through the publication of his well known book, "Journal of Alfred Ely, a prisoner of war in Richmond." This volume was written in his usual pleasing style and had a very large sale. It was an influence in the mitigation of the harshness with which prisoners of war were treated, for it brought to the country a knowledge of the methods which were practiced by the keepers of those southern prison pens. In 1862 Mr. Ely returned to Rochester and entered again upon the active practice of law, in which he continued until the latter part of his life.

In 1840 was celebrated the marriage of Alfred Ely and Miss Caroline L. Field, a daughter of Joseph and Lydia (Glover) Field, natives of Taunton, Massachusetts, and of Dorchester, that state, respectively. Mr. Field was a very early settler of Rochester and became a prominent and wealthy citizen. He began business here as a miller but soon became interested in railroads. He was a director and large stockholder of the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad and was an active factor in the construction of that line between Rochester and Syracuse and also between Rochester and Buffalo. He became a director and one of the principal stockholders in the Flour City Bank, with which he was thus identified from its organization until his death. He was likewise connected with many other business interests which proved strong and potent elements in the development and growth of the city. His worth and prominence were indicated by his fellow citizens in their choice of Mr. Field for the office of mayor of Rochester on two different occasions. So pop-

Hon. Alfred Ely

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ular and honored was he in the city that at the time of his second election he was made the candidate of both parties. Faultless in honor, fearless in conduct and stainless in reputation, his memory remains as an example and inspiration to all that knew aught of him. Both he and his wife passed away in Rochester and the city mourned the loss of one of its most distinguished, able and devoted men.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ely were born four children, but all are now deceased. Joseph F. Ely, the eldest, was a graduate of law and died in New York city when a young man. Charles died in infancy. Caroline Lydia became the wife of Albert Steinbarger and died soon after her marriage. Elizabeth died in childhood.

The death of the husband and father occurred on the 18th of May, 1892, and his remains were interred in the beautiful Ely mausoleum in Mount Hope cemetery at Rochester. He had continued in the practice of law until within a short time of his death. His life was indeed a busy one, as he was always occupied with some interest or another relating to his professional career or to the city's welfare. He largely had a statesman's grasp of affairs concerning political interests, for he was a deep student of the issues of the day, the sources from which they sprang and the probable outcome. His investigation led him to give earnest support to the principles of the republican party as most conducive to good government. He was equally active and effective in church work, holding membership in St. Luke's church, of which he was long a vestryman and to which his wife also belongs. The Ely home at No. 126 Plymouth avenue is one of the most attractive in the city. Here Mr. Ely and his wife resided for over fifty years and Mrs. Ely yet remains there. She has a number of fine paintings of her honored husband. His library was one of the most extensive and valuable in western New York. He possessed marked literary taste and with the master minds of all ages was largely familiar through his wide reading and research. He possessed excellent oratorical gifts and was frequently called upon to address public gatherings, while as a writer he was equally fluent and forceful. His life record is made up of good deeds, of a kindly spirit, of professional activity and honor. He held friendship inviolable, but while he was known as a prominent citizen and loyal friend, his best traits of character were reserved for his own home and fire-side.



Edgar H. Curtice

## Edgar N. Curtice



THE FINANCIAL and commercial history of Rochester would be incomplete and unsatisfactory without a personal and somewhat extended mention of those whose lives are interwoven closely with its industrial and financial development. When a man or select number of men have set in motion the machinery of business, which materializes into a thousand forms of practical utility, or where they have carved out a fortune or a name from the common possibilities, open for competition to all, there is a public desire, which should be gratified, to see the men so nearly as a portrait and a word artist can paint them and examine the elements of mind and the circumstances by which such results have been achieved.

The subject of this review finds an appropriate place in the history of those men of business and enterprise in the state of New York whose force of character, whose sterling integrity, whose fortitude amid discouragements, whose good sense in the management of complicated affairs and marked success in establishing large industries and bringing to completion great commercial undertakings, have contributed in an eminent degree to the development of the resources of this noble commonwealth. The great army of employes and the magnitude of the business which he controls both attest the marked ability of Edgar N. Curtice, whose name is known in trade circles wherever civilization has left its stamp.

He was born in Webster, Monroe county, on the 9th of December, 1844, a son of Mark Curtice and a descendant of one of the oldest colonial families. His ancestry is traced back to Henry Curtice, who was one of the original grantees of the town of Sudbury, Massachusetts, in 1638. His son, Lieutenant Ephraim Curtice, born March 31, 1642, was a noted frontiersman and famous Indian scout. Ephraim Curtice, son of Lieutenant Curtice, was born in Topsfield, Massachusetts, in 1662 and became the father of Ebenezer Curtice, born in Boxford, Massachusetts, August 31, 1707. The latter's son, Jacob Curtice, was born March 21, 1730, in Topsfield, Massachusetts. He wedded Mary Stiles, a native of Boxford, Massachusetts, and from Boxford removed to Amherst, New Hampshire. He and five of his sons valiantly fought for American independence in the Revolutionary war, Jacob Curtice enlisting at Amherst in 1775 and serving until the close of hostilities. Jacob



Edgar N. Curtice

and Mary Curtice had nine children, of whom Ebenezer, the fifth, was born in Amherst, New Hampshire, June 9, 1760. He married Sarah Parker, and removed to western New York. He was among the earliest settlers of this part of the state, locating at Bloomfield, New York, in 1789. In 1792 he removed to Webster, then a part of Ontario county, where his remaining days were passed. He died August 22, 1832, and was buried in Lakeside cemetery in Webster. His wife died August 16, 1847, in her eighty-third year. Mark Curtice, the father of Edgar N. Curtice, was the youngest of the eleven children of Ebenezer and Sarah (Parker) Curtice. He was born in Windsor, New Hampshire, October 17, 1808, and died in Webster, Monroe county, New York, November 9, 1880.

Mark Curtice's wife, Elmina (Goodnow) Curtice, daughter of Simeon and Sarah (Griffin) Goodnow, was the first white child born in what is now the town of Webster. She was born July 3, 1812, and died March 26, 1888. Simeon Goodnow came to Monroe county from New Hampshire in 1810. He was born in the old Granite state in 1787 and died November 20, 1826, and he was buried in Lakeside cemetery at Webster. He was a son of Calvin Goodnow, who was born February 15, 1752, in Westboro, Massachusetts. Calvin served in the Revolutionary war from Rindge, New Hampshire, and also from Amherst, New Hampshire. The Goodnow family in America is descended from Edmund Goodnow, who came to America on the ship *Confidence* in 1638.

In the family of Mark and Elmina (Goodnow) Curtice were five children. Delia, who was born in 1833, became prominent in educational circles, acting for more than twenty-five years as principal of different public schools in Rochester, most of this time being at the head of No. 20. She was a woman of superior mind, highly respected and loved by all. Her death occurred in 1903. Albin B., the second child, was born in 1838 and died in December, 1886. Simeon G. was born August 13, 1839, and died February 7, 1905, after long connection with the extensive business now conducted under the name of Curtice Brothers Company. Edgar N. is the next of the family. The surviving daughter is Belle Sophia, the wife of the late A. B. Wolcott, and is now a resident of Rochester.

Edgar N. Curtice was educated in the common and advanced schools of Webster and in what was known as Satterlee's Institute in Rochester, completing his course when about twenty-one years of age. He then joined his brother, Simeon G. Curtice, who about three years before had embarked in the grocery business on a small scale in what is known as the Flatiron building at Main, North and Franklin streets, Rochester. This was in 1865. There they continued until 1868. They removed in that year to the building at the corner of Water and Mortimer streets, and commenced the canning and preserving business, which has grown steadily to the present extensive enterprise. The business continued in this location until 1872, when the demand

for increased space compelled the Curtice Brothers to build at No. 200 North Water street, the new structure being used for canning and preserving on a larger scale. In 1880 they bought the land and erected the buildings now occupied by the company, which from time to time have been enlarged in order to meet the growth of the trade. In 1887 the business was incorporated under the name of Curtice Brothers Company, with a capitalization of two hundred thousand dollars. Simeon G. Curtice was the president; Edgar N. Curtice, the vice president and treasurer; and Robert A. Badger, the secretary of the new corporation. In 1901 the business was reincorporated under the same name and the same officers, and with a capitalization of one million five hundred thousand dollars, showing thus a more than seven fold increase in the fourteen years. On the death of Simeon G. Curtice in 1905, Edgar N. Curtice was made president and treasurer; Henry B. McKay, vice president; and Robert A. Badger, secretary.

The Curtice Brothers Company is one of the largest producers of high grade food products in the world, and contributes much to the fame of the Flower City as a commercial center. Its products are found in the markets all around the globe, being recognized as goods of the highest quality, and the company has difficulty in meeting the increasing demand made upon it. Each year has shown the necessity of increased acreage to supply the fruits and vegetables needed for the business, until now the company contracts for the yield of over eight thousand acres in farm and market garden products from some of the most famous and fertile lands in the world—notably the valley of the Genesee. The company owns and operates three plants, the parent plant in Rochester, one in Vernon, Oneida county, New York, for vegetables and one in Woodstown, New Jersey, for tomatoes. The Rochester factory not only carries on all sorts of canning and preserving, but also manufactures the cans for use in all its factories. At Rochester also are the administrative offices. It is essentially a Rochester concern. This immense enterprise pays out annually very large sums of money to its employees and to the farmers who grow the fruits and vegetables used in the business. It markets its products all over the world, as has been said, and the profits of this enormous business come back into Rochester to increase the wealth of its citizens and the resources of the banks.

Each of the company's plants is equipped with the latest and most perfect mechanical appliances, securing the highest degree of cleanliness and most sanitary conditions. Over twenty-five hundred employees are at work in the factories in the busy season, and a still larger number are engaged on the farms in producing the fruits and vegetables needed for the business.

The world-wide fame of the "Blue Label" ketchup, soups, preserves, jams, jellies, meat delicacies, etc., is simply a recognition of the efficient methods, the constant watchfulness, and the wise management of the vast enter-

Edgar N. Curtice

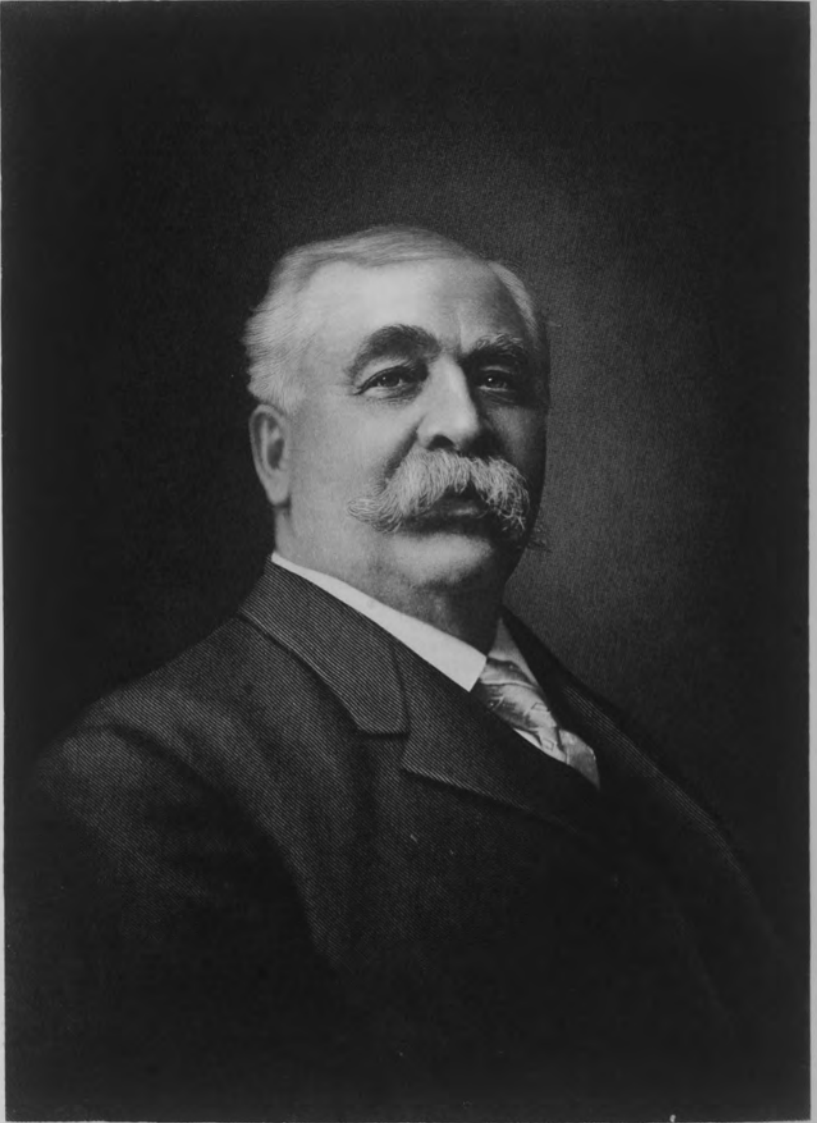
prise of which Mr. Curtice is the head, and of which he and his brother have been the creators.

Edgar N. Curtice was married in 1876 to Lucy E. Gardner. Their only son, E. N. Curtice, Jr., born in 1878, died in 1905, in which year the death of Mrs. Curtice also occurred. Louie Belle, a daughter, is the wife of Frederick Edwin Bickford. Agnes Eloise, another daughter, is the wife of Dr. Volney A. Hoard.

Mr. Curtice is a member of various clubs and social organizations, among them the Genesee Valley Club, the Rochester Whist Club, the Country Club of Rochester and the Oak Hill Country Club. Deeply interested in the welfare and commercial development of Rochester, he has been a member of the Chamber of Commerce since its organization, and he is also a director of the National Bank of Rochester and of the Fidelity Trust Company. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, and he is identified with the Sons of the American Revolution.

Such, in brief, is the life history of E. N. Curtice, a man remarkable in the breadth of his wisdom, his indefatigable energy and his fertility of resource. One of the prominent characteristics of his successful business career is that his vision has never been bounded by the exigencies of the moment, but has covered as well the possibilities and opportunities of the future. This has led him into extensive undertakings, bringing him into marked prominence in industrial and commercial circles. A man of unswerving integrity and honor, one who has a perfect appreciation of the higher ethics of life, he has gained and retained the confidence and respect of his fellowmen and is distinctively one of the leading citizens, not only of Rochester, but of the Empire state, with whose interests he has been identified throughout his entire career.





*J. C. Lauer*

## Frederick C. Lauer



**F**REDERICK C. LAUER was born in Rochester, New York, August 17, 1845, his parents being Frederick C. and Margaret Elizabeth (Walter) Lauer, natives of Prussia, Germany, and of France respectively. In 1833, when a youth of eleven years, Frederick C. Lauer, Sr., came to America with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Christian Lauer, who located on Brown street in Rochester, while subsequently they removed to Grove street, where they spent their remaining days. Christian Lauer followed the shoemaker's trade for some years and afterward worked as a stone-mason. His death occurred when he had reached the age of eighty-two, and his wife passed away at the age of eighty-three. They were the parents of six sons and two daughters, of whom one is yet living: Margaret, the wife of Christian Frank.

Frederick C. Lauer, Jr., was reared to manhood in Rochester and learned the mason's trade, in which line he began contracting after he attained his majority. Subsequently he became a street contractor and constructed a number of the streets in Rochester. He always took a commendable interest in public affairs, especially along educational lines, and for two years was a member of the school board. He also figured in military circles as a member of the state militia and his political allegiance was given to the whig party until its dissolution, when he joined the ranks of the new republican party. He held membership in Valley lodge, F. & A. M., and both he and his wife were members of the Lutheran church. His death occurred in 1895, when he was seventy-five years of age, while his wife passed away in 1876 at the age of fifty-four years. In their family were seven children, four sons and three daughters, of whom five are yet living: Frederick C.; Caroline C., the wife of George F. Tichenor, of Manchester, Kansas; Adelia and Amelia, twins, the former the wife of Frederick Wanamacher, of Rochester, and the latter the widow of a Mr. Koerner, of Rochester; and Edward C., a railroad contractor of this city.

Frederick C. Lauer, whose name introduces this record, has spent his entire life in Rochester and is indebted to its public-school system for the educational privileges he acquired. He began working for his father at the age of fifteen years, learning the mason's trade and eventually taking up contract work as his father's partner. After his father's death he continued the busi-

Frederick C. Lauer

ness alone until 1906, when he admitted his sons, Walter F. and George W., to a partnership under the firm name of F. C. Lauer & Sons, and in 1907 the company was incorporated under the firm style of F. C. Lauer & Sons Company. There stand as monuments to his skill and enterprise a number of the fine buildings of Rochester, and in association with S. W. Hagaman, under the firm name of Lauer & Hagaman, he was extensively engaged in business as street and sewer contractors. The firm during its existence did most of the important work of that character in the city. Mr. Lauer also became president of the Vulcanide Paving Company, which was organized in 1888 and does most of the asphalt paving of Rochester. He assisted in organizing the Rochester Lime Company and succeeded Horace May to the presidency. He likewise owns some valuable farming property in this county and extensive land holdings near the Montezuma marshes, between Clyde and Savannah.

On the 20th of November, 1872, Frederick C. Lauer was married to Miss Christine Steinhauser, a daughter of Jacob and Barbara (Smith) Steinhauser. They became the parents of three sons: Walter F., Edward T. and George W. The second son died in infancy. Walter F. married Amanda Strauchen and they have four children: Edwin S., Frederick Charles, Franklin Albert and Elizabeth Elsie. George W. married Fannie A. McAllister and they have one daughter, Christine Frances. The sons are now associated with their father in business and are enterprising young men.

Mr. Lauer is not unknown in military circles and for a number of years served as captain of Company G of the New York National Guard. He and his wife are members of the Church of the Reformation, with which he became identified on its organization. He belongs to Valley lodge, No. 109, F. & A. M.; Ionic chapter, R. A. M.; Monroe commandery, K. T.; and has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite in Rochester consistory. He is likewise a charter member of Koerner lodge of Odd Fellows and of the Knights of Calvin. His political allegiance is given the republican party, and he has been called to various local offices, having served at different times as supervisor, alderman, school commissioner, member of the executive board and member of the board of health. He has never been a public man in the ordinary sense. He has held some offices, the duties of which have been discharged with the utmost fidelity and promptness. Aside from this, however, through the business enterprises he has conducted the public has been a large indirect beneficiary and at the same time he has exerted his influence as a strong, steady, moving force in the social, moral and industrial advancement of the community. A contemporary biographer has said: "His strict integrity and honorable dealing in business commend him to the confidence of all; his pleasant manner wins him friends; and he is one of the popular and honored residents of his native city."



*Frederick Miller*



## Frederick Miller



**T**HERE IS perhaps in this volume no history which serves to illustrate more clearly the force of determination and persistent purpose in enabling one to rise from a humble financial position to one of wealth and affluence than does the record of Frederick Miller, now deceased, who for many years was a prominent business man of the Flower City. For over a half century he was engaged in the brewing business here and was the founder of the Flower City Brewery. He was also well known in local military circles and in connection with other business enterprises. Mr. Miller was born at Oberlinxweiler, Germany, January 28, 1822. His parents, George and Elizabeth (Baker) Miller, were also natives of that place and resided upon a farm there until 1834, when the family sailed for America. They came direct to Rochester but only remained here for about a year and then removed to the middle west, settling in Cook county, Illinois, the father purchasing a farm about twenty-one miles from Chicago. Later he returned to Rochester, where both he and his wife died.

Frederick Miller of this review began earning his living as a waiter in the hotels of Chicago for a few years. At the age of eighteen he was apprenticed to a carpenter, William Jones, who paid him one dollar per week and board. His term of apprenticeship continued for three years, during which time he assisted in building some of the finest residences in Rochester, together with schools, churches and other public buildings. He helped to build the Trinity Evangelical church on Allen street, of which he became a member, continuing as such throughout the remainder of his life. As a contractor and builder he did important work in the improvement of the city and many fine specimens of the architecture of an earlier period still stand as monuments to his thrift and handiwork.

In 1852 Mr. Miller turned his attention to another field of business. He established a small brewery on Brown street, where he employed a number of men. He continued the business there until 1861 but in the meantime his trade had constantly increased until it had reached such proportions that he was obliged to have larger quarters. He therefore purchased the site upon which the Flower City Brewery now stands on Lake avenue and there built a larger plant. He conducted the business on his own account until 1882,

Frederick Miller

when the Miller Brewing Company was organized, of which Mr. Miller was made president, with Rudolph Vay as vice president, Solomon Wile secretary, and Moses Hays, treasurer. More stockholders were admitted from time to time. The business still continued to increase and later the name was changed to The Flower City Brewing Company. Mr. Miller was the principal stockholder in the same and retained his connection with the business throughout his remaining days. Three times was the plant destroyed by fire. It was first burned in 1869, again in 1876 and the third time in 1886, so that he had to rebuild each time. In 1893 Mr. Miller determined to retire from active work but he still remained a stockholder and director of the brewery until called to his final rest. He was succeeded by John C. Enders, who has since been president of the brewery.

Frederick Miller was three times married. He first wedded Christine Hertel, who died in Rochester in 1867. There were ten children of that marriage, of whom six are now living, all residents of Rochester, namely: Frederick, William, George, Christine, Mrs. Mary Haap and Mrs. Catherine Hermann. For his second wife Frederick Miller chose Louisa Hertel, who died in 1876. There were five children of that marriage, four of whom are yet living. These are Amelia, Albert, Julius and Arthur. For his third wife Mr. Miller chose Miss Emily Fuchs, a native of Wayne county, New York. In 1886 Mr. Miller and his wife made a trip to Europe, visiting his native country and various other points of interest during the three months which they spent abroad. At a later date he again visited the fatherland.

Mr. Miller made an excellent record in connection with the public interests of the city. He was especially well known in military circles. Having a fondness for the life of a soldier, he helped organize the Rochester German Grenadiers and was made captain of the organization in 1840. A few years later it became part of the Fifty-fourth Regiment. At the time of the draft riots in New York, Captain Miller's company was called into action, a request being sent from New York to have the Rochester company go to that city to restore order. At Albany the company was ordered to proceed no further and for a long time was stationed at the capital to protect the public buildings, which were threatened. When the National Guard of New York state was being re-organized in 1873, Captain Miller was made captain of the cavalry and two years later was commissioned a lieutenant colonel. Mr. Miller was also a volunteer fireman, belonging to the first hook and ladder company of Rochester.

His political allegiance was given to the democracy and for five terms he represented his ward on the board of supervisors, being first elected in 1876, again in 1885 and once more in 1886. His official duties were discharged with a sense of conscientious obligation that showed his loyal interest in the welfare and progress of the city. Mr. Miller was also an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he attained the Knight Templar degree.

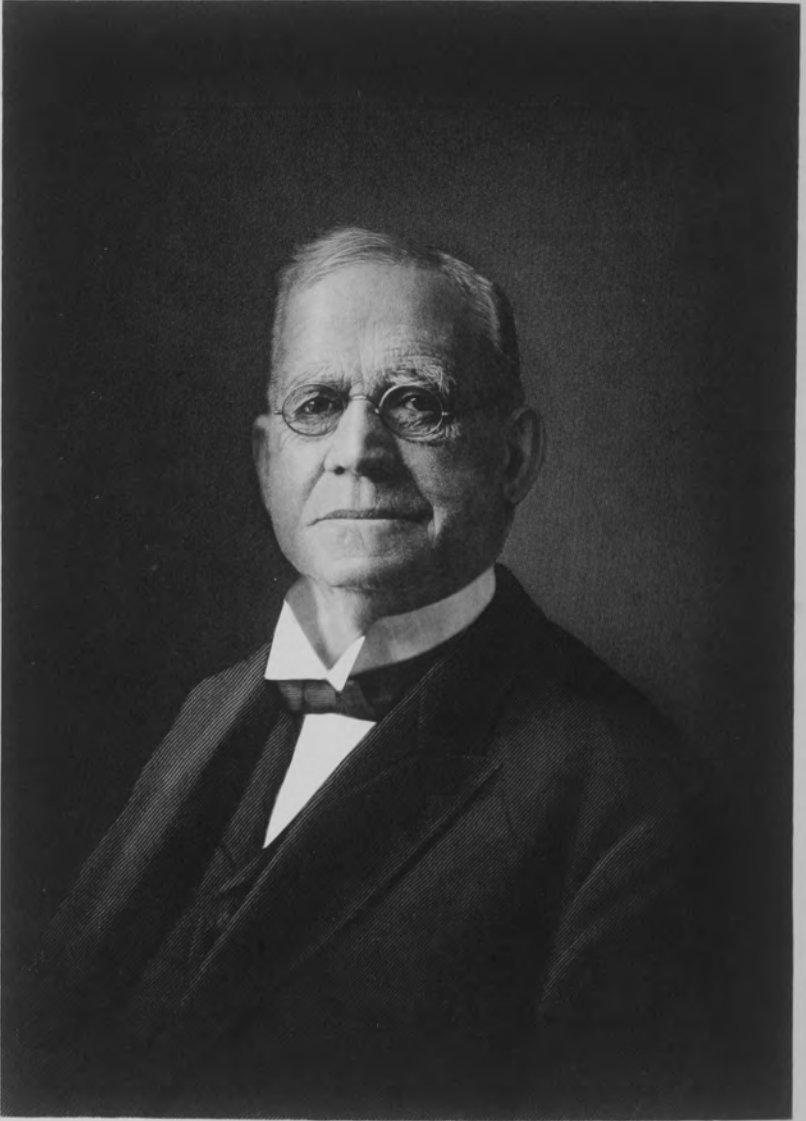
## Frederick Miller

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He built the residence where his widow and children now reside—a commodious and beautiful home at No. 416 Lake avenue. They also have a nice summer home on Keuka lake, where they spend the warm months.

The death of Mr. Miller occurred on the 11th of April, 1906, and was the occasion of deep and unfeigned regret, for he had long been recognized as a prominent business man, much interested in the upbuilding of Rochester. For over fifty years he had figured in its commercial circles and in connection with many public events. He was, moreover, a splendid type of the self-made man who is not only the architect but the builder of his own fortunes. He early started out in life on his own account and faced difficulties and obstacles which would be utterly disheartening to many, but he possessed a strong, resolute spirit and as the years passed by he so improved his opportunities and utilized his advantages that he made for himself a prominent place in the business world.





*Geo. B. Smith*

## George B. Smith



VARIOUS important industries and business undertakings have felt the stimulus of the aid, co-operation and wise counsel of George B. Smith, who at this writing is living retired at the venerable age of ninety years. He came to Rochester in 1833 and few have longer resided in the city, his memory going back to the time when it was a small town of little industrial and commercial importance. He has seen the extension of its borders to accommodate its growth and has witnessed its development into a business center with ramifying interests reaching out in all directions and bearing no little influence upon trade conditions at large. Mr. Smith is a native of Burlington, Vermont, born on the 1st of June, 1817. His father, Peter B. Smith, died before the removal of the son to the Empire state. In one of the old time log school-houses of Vermont George B. Smith acquired his education and in the winter of 1833-4 he and George B. Harris carried papers for his brother, Sydney Smith, who was at that time publishing a paper in Rochester. This brother was the first police justice of the city and in other ways was prominently connected with public interests.

In the spring of 1834 George B. Smith secured a clerkship with John B. Dewey, working for four dollars per month and boarding himself. He continued in that employ until the spring of 1837, when he removed to Michigan but after eighteen months spent in the Wolverine state he returned to Rochester. He then clerked for David Moody until 1842, when in connection with L. E. Gould he bought out the Moody grocery store and the firm of Smith & Gould continued business for eighteen years. Throughout this period his financial resources were increasing by means of a constantly enlarging trade. On retiring from the grocery business Mr. Smith turned his attention to the coal trade, in which he became a partner of John B. Dewey, later, however, selling out to the firm of Dewey & Davis. He then became a member of the firm of Smith & Roberts, wholesale dealers in coal, and they developed a business of extensive proportions, in which connection they built the Genesee docks on the river to facilitate shipping. They did an extensive shipping business to Chicago by way of the lakes under the firm style of H. C. Roberts & Company, and when Mr. Smith's connection had continued in this enterprise for some years he retired and became connected with the operation of a blast

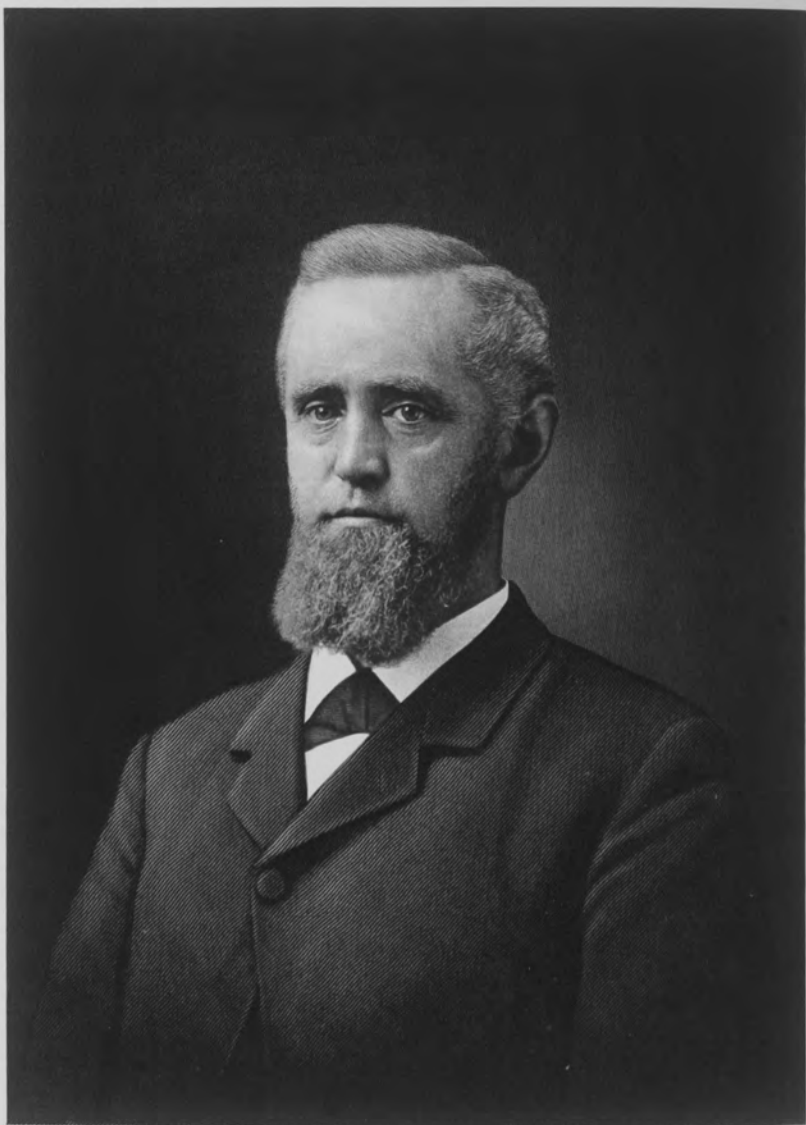
George B. Smith

furnace. He was director and president of a company engaged in the manufacture of pig iron but finally sold out about 1902. During his active life, in 1880, he was one of the promoters of the Bay Railroad, became one of its first directors and was later vice president but subsequently the road was sold to a syndicate. His business interests were ever of such a character as contributed to general progress and upbuilding as well as to individual success and he did much to further the interests and welfare of the city, his co-operation being never sought in vain in behalf of Rochester.

Mr. Smith was married in early manhood to Miss Caroline A. Broome, a native of Connecticut and a daughter of Horatio Gates Broome. It was in honor of her grandfather and his brother, Samuel and John Broome, that the county of Broome, New York, was named. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith were born a son and daughter: Henry B., who is now in the coal business at No. 39 Fitzhugh street; and Mary E., who is with her father. The son served as a soldier of the Civil war and now draws a pension in recognition of the aid which he rendered the government. The wife and mother, Mrs. Caroline Smith, died in October, 1906, when nearly ninety years of age, and thus death terminated a happy married relation which continued for over sixty-two years.

The home which Mr. Smith occupies was purchased by him a number of years ago. He is still a very active man and his mental alertness is remarkable. He can remember as if but yesterday seeing General Lafayette in Vermont when the French marquis was visiting this country. In politics he is a stalwart republican. In his business life has been manifest much of the spirit of the initiative. Many men seem capable of carrying out ideas and plans formulated by others but not in instituting new measures or enterprises. Mr. Smith, however, has established a number of business interests which have proven profitable and is one to whom Rochester owes not a little for its present commercial prosperity. In all of his undertakings he has been eminently practical and, moreover, sustains an unassailable reputation as one whose probity has ever been above question.





*Squire Teal*



## Squire Teal



**S**QUIRE TEAL, for many years a prominent representative of industrial interests in Rochester, who assisted in establishing an industry which still endures, was a native of England, having been born in Yorkshire, October 1, 1837. His father, James Teal, was a machinist and inventor of no little skill and was likewise an expert in clock-making, the clock in the tower of St. Peter's church in Sowerby remaining to this day a monument of his skillful workmanship. All of his six sons inherited more or less of their father's genius, and his son Squire perhaps to an especial degree. At the age of fourteen the latter entered a machine shop at Sowerby Bridge in Yorkshire, where he served an apprenticeship of seven years.

In the year 1859 Mr. Teal came to Rochester and soon after his arrival entered the employ of John Greenwood, who then conducted a machine shop on Mill street. About this time Mr. Greenwood began experimenting in barrel machinery and found in Mr. Teal an expert machinist who was peculiarly fitted to make a practical application of his ideas along that line. In 1865 a machine for making slack barrels was perfected and a patent obtained therefor.

Mr. Teal now entered into partnership with Mr. Greenwood, and the firm, under the name of John Greenwood & Company, made the manufacture and sale of barrel machinery their chief business. For a number of years they had a monopoly of the business in their line, their slack barrel machinery being the first invention of its kind, and the business of the firm grew rapidly and was profitable to its owners. About the year 1874 the business was removed to Nos. 122, 124 and 126 Mill street, where it was continued with great success until after the death of both members of the firm.

Mr. Teal was a sufferer from pleurisy for several years before his death, and in the year 1893, desiring to leave his estate in as convenient a form as possible for his family, he sold his interest in the business of John Greenwood & Company to his partner, Mr. Greenwood. The latter continued the business alone until January 1, 1900, when, because of ill health, he resold the same to the Teal estate, and a corporation was formed by those interested therein under the name of the Rochester Barrel Machine Works. In the year 1903 the demands of the business had so increased that more commodious quar-

### Squire Teal

ters, and better adapted to the manufacture of machinery, became necessary. Accordingly a large building suited to the purposes of the corporation was erected on St. James street, where the company still carries on the manufacture of barrel machinery, besides the business of manufacturers of machinery in general, Mr. Teal's only son, Arthur R. Teal, and his brother, Crowther Teal, being the active managers.

On the 1st of May, 1866, Mr. Teal was united in marriage to Miss Frances Smith, a daughter of George Smith, a farmer living in the town of Riga, Monroe county. Four children were the fruit of this union, three of whom survive their father: Ella M., Elizabeth and Arthur R.

Mr. Teal attended the Brick church and lived a consistent Christian life. His political support was given to the republican party and he always voted for its men and measures. He passed away January 19, 1894, after a residence of more than a third of a century in Rochester, during which time he worked his way upward from a comparatively humble financial position to one of affluence. There was not a single esoteric phase in his career, his life ever being as an open book. He was diligent in business, loyal in citizenship and faithful in friendship, while in his home he was a devoted husband and father.





*James Cunningham*

*Atlantic Publishing & Engraving Co. N.Y.  
Photo by Kent, Rochester, N.Y.*

## James Cunningham



**J**AMES CUNNINGHAM, whose business activity and breadth of view concerning industrial questions led to his classification with Rochester's captains of industry, left a monument to his memory in the extensive carriage manufactory which is today one of the leading productive enterprises of Rochester, now conducted under the name of James Cunningham, Son & Company. His record reflected credit alike upon the land of his adoption and the land of his birth. He was born in County Down, Ireland, in December, 1815, and lost his father when but four years of age. The mother with her five children afterward came to America, settling first at Cobourg, Canada.

James Cunningham, the fourth son, was educated in the country schools and when not busy with his text-books was employed at farm labor. He early manifested a decided inclination for working in wood and developed unusual talent for designing. Leaving the farm, he became employed at carriage-making in Canada, but wishing to see more of the country he paid a visit to an uncle, who was an architect in New York. After spending a few weeks in this state he passed through Rochester on the return trip and for a brief period worked in this city. He then again went to Cobourg but had become convinced that the United States offered superior advantages for business advancement. He therefore determined to try his fortune across the border and in 1834, at the age of nineteen years, returned to Rochester, where he learned the carriage-making trade in all of its branches. His ambition, his determination and his diligence gained for him successive promotions as his ability and skill increased, and in 1838 he became a member of a firm of carriage manufacturers operating under the name of Kerr, Cunningham & Company. This was the beginning of the present extensive enterprise, which now constitutes one of Rochester's most important business concerns. After some time he bought land on Canal street, where he long resided and where the James Cunningham, Son & Company carriage manufactory is now located. Additions have been made to the original purchase until the grounds include four acres and the works are among the most extensive of this character in the world. In 1847 Mr. Cunningham built the first of the present factory buildings and others have been added as necessity has demanded in order to meet the growth of the trade. The product soon gained a high reputation for

## James Cunningham

excellence and durability and the business grew rapidly. Mr. Cunningham not only gave supervision to the work of financing the enterprise but also to the mechanical labor and as the result of his study and investigation, combined with inventive genius, he invented several machines which simplified the constructive process and at the same time brought forth better work than had previously been secured by the old-time methods. Year by year saw an increase in the business, the company not only following the lead of others but introducing many new styles in carriage manufacturing as well as improved methods in construction. Mr. Cunningham continued in business to a ripe old age but in 1881 formed a stock company and transferred the management of the enterprise to younger men, being succeeded by his sons and son-in-law, the former having been trained to the business and thus were well qualified to take up the work which their father laid down. His was a well merited rest, the fitting reward of years of earnest, unwearied and honorable activity. His relations with his workmen were always those of a considerate, just employer, quick to recognize faithfulness and capability on the part of one who served him.

Mr. Cunningham was married in early manhood to Miss Jennings. The surviving children are: Mrs. Charles H. Wilkin, Mrs. R. K. Dryer, Joseph T. and Charles E. Cunningham. The father, James Cunningham, died at his home in Rochester, May 15, 1886. It is not alone as a most successful manufacturer that his memory is held in esteem, for he displayed many splendid traits of character which endeared him to those with whom he was associated. He was a friend of charitable and benevolent institutions, contributing liberally to their support and in all matters of citizenship he stood for needed reform, for progress and improvement. Advancement might well be termed the watchword of his life. It was manifest in his business, his social and his public relations. He wrought well for his day and for succeeding generations and seemed to have accomplished at any one point in his career the possibilities for successful accomplishment at that point.





Chas. A. Baker

## Charles S. Baker



CHARLES S. BAKER, a man of broad mind, of kindly purposes and high ideals, with whom contact meant elevation and expansion, passed away on the 21st of April, 1902. Such was the force of his character, the strength of his mentality and the breadth of his nature that the news of his demise came with a sense of personal bereavement to the great majority of those who had known him. He had friends among the prominent and the lowly, the rich and the poor, throughout the entire country. All who knew him respected him, but in Rochester, where he was best known, he was loved as few men are loved. A native of Churchville, Monroe county, Mr. Baker was born on the 18th of February, 1839, the youngest son of James and Catherine Baker, the former a carriage manufacturer, who came from England in an early day. In the village schools Charles S. Baker acquired his early education. Said one who knew him well: "His parents bequeathed to him the riches of virtuous training and example, a happy temperament, high aspirations, untiring energy and a love of righteousness for its own sake. The fruitage of these qualities during all his years brightened, stimulated and blessed not only his own life but the lives of a great multitude of his fellows, brought into close or even casual relationship with him." After a struggle in his youth to secure an academic education, he was sent to the Caryville Collegiate Seminary in 1854 and the following year was entered as a pupil in the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary in Lima, New York. During the winter of 1857-8 he taught school in Leroy. Coming to Rochester to study law in the spring of 1858, he accepted a position in the law office of Danforth & Terry, where he remained until his admission to the bar in December, 1860. He was a very successful attorney of Rochester for many years, displaying keen analytical power, logical reasoning and clear deductions in the practice of his chosen profession. His first partner was John H. Jeffries and in later years he was associated with his son, William J. Baker, having an office in the Powers block at the time of his death. He prepared his cases with great thoroughness and care and his legal learning was manifest in the strong presentation of his cause before the courts.

Mr. Baker had been engaged in practice for only a brief period when the Civil war was inaugurated. Hardly had the smoke from Fort Sumter's guns cleared away when at the first call for volunteers for the Union army he offered



Charles S. Baker

his services to the government, enlisting in April, 1861, as a member of Company E, Twenty-seventh Regiment of New York Infantry. He went to the front as first lieutenant and the first battle in which he participated was the first battle at Bull Run, in which he was so disabled as to necessitate his return home. He then resumed the practice of law and when not serving in the general assembly of New York or in congress he was continuously connected with the work of the courts. He never regarded his oath on being admitted to the bar to support the constitution of the Union and the constitution of the state and to discharge the duties of his profession to the best of his ability as a formal matter but as a solemn vow, which he sacredly kept.

At a meeting of the members of the Monroe county bar held to take action on the death of Mr. Baker it was said: "As a lawyer he was well read, skillful and adroit. His office was a model of method, order and neatness. It was as an office lawyer that he excelled. The antagonisms, the contentions, the contradictions, the disputes, the personalities, the ill temper and the friction which sometimes accompany a litigated practice had no charms for him. His superiority was seen in his office when in personal contact with his clients and his associates at the bar. The courtesy with which he treated everyone was one of his marked characteristics. He did not encourage needless litigation. He sought to harmonize differences, to bring men together and took the broadest view of his duty toward his clients. No one who came into connection with him as a lawyer failed to honor him for his broad spirit, for his firm integrity and for his elevated conception of the trust reposed in him as an attorney and counselor, visited by one in distress or in trouble and in search of advice. As a friend he knew no faltering. Those who knew him well, who were admitted into the inner circle of his life, came to see in him noble qualities of mind and heart, which will always cause them to remember the man, Charles S. Baker, with affectionate regard."

As the years passed Mr. Baker became recognized as one of the distinguished members of the republican party of New York. In youth, as in maturer manhood, his broad and sympathetic nature led to his cordial identification with the party in its struggles to prevent the further extension of slavery and enlarge the area of freedom. He was never narrow or intolerant in his partisanship, but cordially recognized patriotism and merit under whatever name they were found. He took great interest in the questions and issues of the day, giving careful study to such, and his firm support of his honest convictions led him to become an influential factor in republican ranks. He was supervisor of the eleventh ward for two years and of the ninth (now the tenth) ward for four years. At one time he was president of the board of education and served for two terms as school commissioner. During the years 1879, 1880 and 1882 he was a member of the New York state assembly and for the years 1884 and 1885 was an active and influential member of the state senate. From that position he was transferred to the larger field of action

Charles A. Baker

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in Washington, being elected by large majorities to the forty-ninth, fiftieth and fifty-first congresses. As a member of the house of representatives he served upon some of the most important committees, especially distinguishing himself as chairman of the committee on commerce when six new states asked for and gained admission to the Union. No man who ever represented Rochester either in Albany or in Washington has shown greater willingness or capacity in the service of his constituents. In the national capital he was untiring and remarkably successful in securing pensions for worthy veterans or the widows and orphans of those who had fallen and could present legitimate claims upon the government. This seemed to him a labor of love. In this work there was for him no politics, no creed, no race. The poor appealed to him with a force even greater than the rich.

While Mr. Baker was thus attending to details and matters of local interest, he was concerned also in larger affairs of state. He possessed the gift of initiative to an unusual degree. He dared any form of leadership that occurred to him and at Albany was largely instrumental in pushing forward the legislation which established the state railroad commission. The states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Wyoming gave public acknowledgment of their indebtedness to him for their admission into the Union when in 1890 he traveled through the west, being everywhere enthusiastically received and entertained. In Washington, as in Albany, he took a deep interest in the transportation question and was the author of a bill creating the interstate commerce commission.

The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle said of him: "Mr. Baker was of notable and impressive physique. Large and commanding in stature, with a face in which sagacity, benevolence and kindness were singularly blended, with a manner at once both dignified and genial, he was sure to attract attention in any company. He not only made friends, but held them to him by the compelling power of genuine sympathy and helpfulness. It is doubtful if, when he was at the height of his congressional career, any man in Washington had more personal friends, of all parties throughout the country, than he. Stanch as the staunchest in his republican principles, he never permitted his partisanship to interfere with his personal relations, and when the democracy was in control of the executive and legislative branches of the government Mr. Baker could, without compromising his republicanism, secure as many favors at Washington as if he had been a democrat. He enjoyed the confidence and respect of President Harrison and had an intimate personal as well as political friendship with President McKinley."

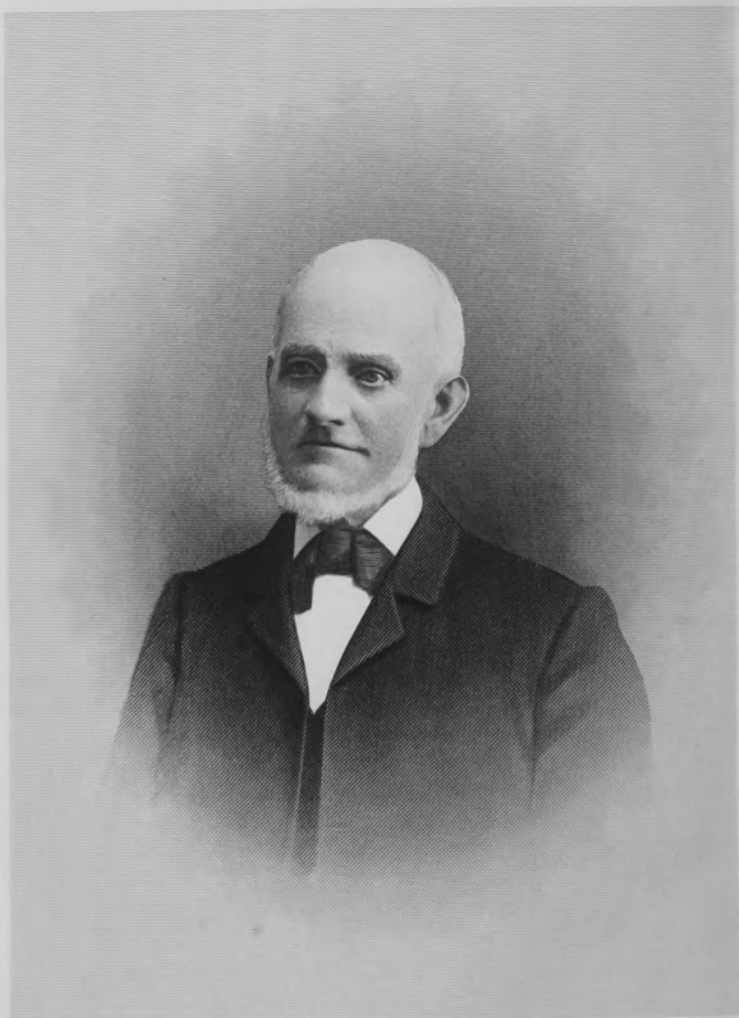
Mr. Baker was married June 22, 1861, to Miss Jane E. Yerkes, who was born on Plymouth avenue, Rochester. She is the only living daughter of Silas A. Yerkes, who removed from Philadelphia to Rochester in 1820. She has one brother living in the west. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Baker were born five sons: Charles A., a resident of Washington, D. C.; Leigh Yerkes, a prac-

Charles S. Baker

ting physician of the same city; Cornelius B., who is engaged in the banking business in Kansas City and who married a daughter of Ex-Governor Morrill, of Kansas; William J., an attorney with offices in the Powers block in Rochester; and Harold H., a practicing physician of this city. Both of the sons who are physicians are graduates of the University of Michigan. The only daughter of the household died in infancy. In his family he was a devoted husband and father and at his own fireside the sweetness of a rare soul found its most fitting and loving expression.

Mr. Baker was a Master Mason and also belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He organized Corinthian lodge of Rochester and served as worshipful master for two years. He was likewise a member of the Loyal Legion and George H. Thomas post, G. A. R., thus maintaining pleasant relations with his old army comrades, many of whom he assisted in material ways. He was an elder in the Central Presbyterian church in Rochester at the time of his death and was ever a most earnest Christian man, whose life was actuated by high and honorable principles and who at all times lived in conformity with his professions. In the church he took a most active and helpful part and at all times gave his support to those movements which advance justice, truth and right. When death claimed him resolutions of sympathy and respect were passed by the different lodges with which he was connected; the alumni association of Livingston Park Seminary, which his wife attended in girlhood; the Infants' Summer Hospital, to which he had been a generous contributor; the board of supervisors and the board of education; while hundreds of letters were received by the family. All contained an expression of appreciation for the rare beauty and strength of his character and the great usefulness of his life.

One who knew him well wrote: "In all the multiplied activities of his fruitful life his energies, means and influence were always thrown upon the side of justice, mercy, truth and righteousness. The wealth of his great nature and the genial companionship of his warm, generous heart drew to him the rare and sweet friendship of many who took high rank in the various departments of church, state and literature, as well as others closely identified with the financial growth and prosperity of our great country. He allowed no differences of creed or party to mar these friendships but took the best of each life that touched his own. Conspicuously useful as he was in public affairs, it was as husband, father, brother and friend, within the cheery and sacred precincts of his own home, that the rare sweetness and all embracing love of his large and noble nature were most richly bestowed."



*Alfred Perkins*

## Alfred Perkins



AT THE TIME of his death Alfred Perkins was one of the oldest residents of Irondequoit township, not only in years, but also in the length of his connection with that part of the state. He passed away at the age of eighty-four years, after long and active connection with business interests that made him well known throughout his part of the county. A native of Connecticut, he was born in 1820 and was a son of Abner Perkins, who in 1822 came with his family to Monroe county, settling first in Rochester. Soon afterward the family removed to Webster, Monroe county, where he spent his boyhood and youth, amid the pioneer conditions which existed here.

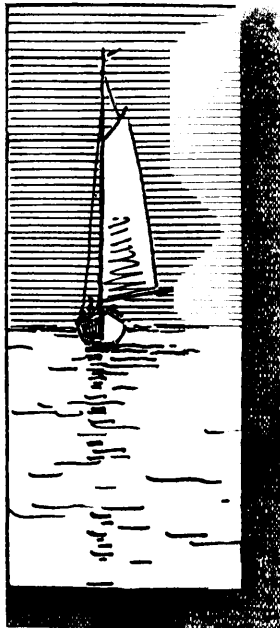
After his marriage he removed to Chautauqua county, New York, where his wife's people were living, but after one year they returned to Monroe county and settled in Carthage. He lived for fifty-seven years in the home in which Mrs. Perkins yet resides, purchasing that property on the Ridge road and continuing to make it his home until he was called to his final rest. For many years he conducted a bus line, carrying passengers from town and steamer, in which connection he was well known.

Mr. Perkins was married twice. He first wedded Mary Ball, who with two of their daughters was drowned June 13, 1868. There were two other children by that marriage: Andrew Perkins, who is living in Penfield; and Mrs. Clinton Towle, of Webster, New York. After losing his first wife Mr. Perkins was married, November 22, 1870, to Miss Sarah J. Forrest, a daughter of David Forrest, who came from Massachusetts to Monroe county at a time when land was selling for only five dollars per acre. Unto them were born five children, four of whom are yet living: Oliver H., Mrs. Francis P. Towles and Mrs. Adelia J. Gregory, all of Rochester; and Ira D., who married Lulu Baetzel, of Rochester, by whom he has one son, Earl Theodore, now six years of age. Ira Perkins resides with his mother on the old home place, where at one time the father owned thirty-eight acres of land, while the place still contains ten and a fourth acres, devoted to gardening.

From the organization of the republican party Mr. Perkins gave to it his stalwart support. He belonged to the North Street Methodist church and his life was ever honorable and upright—in harmony with his professions—while his influence was ever given on the side of improvement and public

Alfred Perkins

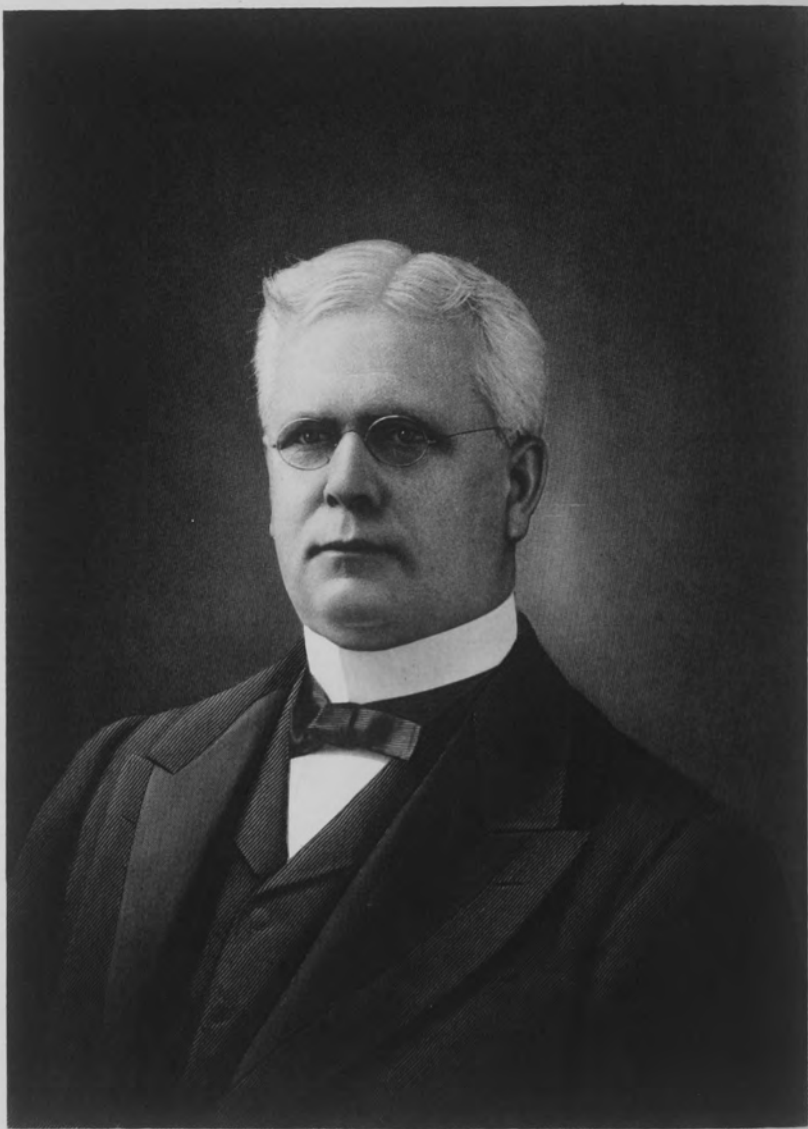
progress. He possessed a genial, kindly spirit, was fond of company and was a general favorite with those who knew him. His acquaintance was a wide one and all esteemed him for his genuine worth. He died in October, 1905, and thus passed away one whose life history was closely allied with the interests of the county and who had been a witness of its growth and development during the greater part of his lifetime. Mrs. Perkins is also a member of the Methodist church and is very active in its work. She has been president of the Ladies' Home Missionary Society and for three years was president of the Ladies' Aid Society of the church. She has also been active in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and has always thrown the weight of her influence on the side of right, justice and truth.





*Mrs S. J. Perkins*





*Mark D. Knowlton,*

## Mark Dean Knowlton



MARK DEAN KNOWLTON, deceased, whose inventive genius and executive ability in business largely revolutionized the trade of paper box machinery, was born October 5, 1840, at Milford, New Hampshire, his parents being Samuel Dean and Nancy J. (Shattuck) Knowlton. His father was a shoemaker and retail dealer in shoes. The son acquired his early education in the common schools of Milford and afterward attended the Milford Academy to the age of sixteen years, when he put aside his text-books and went to Nashua, New Hampshire, to learn the trade of blacksmithing and carriage manufacture.

Subsequently he had an opportunity to purchase a paper box manufactory and while he was totally unacquainted with the business he availed himself of the chance offered and his ready adaptability, which was always one of his strong characteristics, enabled him soon to thoroughly acquaint himself with the business in principle and detail. This step was the initial one in the path of progress that eventually made him one of the best known paper box manufacturers of the east. For a time he was located in Worcester, Massachusetts, and in 1866 he disposed of his business interests in Nashua and removed westward to Chicago, where he continued in the paper box manufacturing business until the great Chicago fire, in which he lost practically all that he had. At a time when despair with many overshadowed courage and determination Mr. Knowlton with resolute spirit faced the situation and with notable energy set to work not only to retrieve his lost possessions but also to assist others. At that time he and his family were living at South Evanston, where, by the way, he held the only public office in his career—that of justice of the peace. While Mr. Knowlton's business was consumed in the flames, his home still remained to him and he did much toward assisting others who had lost their homes as well as their business interests. Following the fire he located on the west side, where he resumed operations in paper box manufacturing, but again he was burned out and once more practically lost all. Afterward he joined the W. C. Ritchie Company. He soon built up a good trade and success attended his efforts. While associated with that firm he gave much of his time toward completing the invention of his machine for paper box manufacture, on which he had been working. At length he completed

## Mark Dean Knowlton

the machine and placed upon the market an invention which later revolutionized the entire trade.

In March, 1892, Mr. Knowlton disposed of his business interests in Chicago and came to Rochester, where under the firm name of Knowlton & Beade he started the manufacture of machinery for making paper boxes. This connection continued until May, 1904, when Mr. Knowlton bought out his partner's interest and continued under the style of M. D. Knowlton Company. Being a man of great inventive genius, he patented a number of appliances and machinery all used in paper box making, and was widely known as an inventor of great ability, largely giving his time to the business, which was later organized as a stock company. From the beginning it proved a profitable undertaking, reaching large and important proportions. His daughter, Miss Annie Dean Knowlton, possesses remarkable business powers and executive ability and with her brother she was named as executrix of the estate. The brother, Fred Kirk Knowlton, is now the vice president of the company. Mr. Knowlton was also the principal owner of the stock of the Auburn Ball Bearing Company. This still constitutes a part of the estate and the business is practically managed by Miss Knowlton with her brother's assistance.

On the 5th of October, 1864, Mark D. Knowlton was married to Miss Abbie E. Currier, a daughter of Alfred and Abbie (Worcester) Currier, of Massachusetts, her father being a railroad man. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Knowlton were born four daughters and a son: Annie Dean, Grace E., Hattie Gertrude, Fred Kirk and Ola. The son pursued his education at Purdue University and Columbia College, and married Elizabeth Kent Stone.

The officers of the company are now M. D. Knowlton, president; Fred Kirk Knowlton, vice president; Annie Dean Knowlton, treasurer; and Mrs. F. K. Knowlton, secretary. The business has developed eightfold since it was organized in Rochester and employment is now furnished to over one hundred operatives in the factory. It has been marked by no decline since the death of the father, owing to the marked executive ability and keen business discernment of his daughter, who had been so closely associated with him in its conduct.

Mr. Knowlton was a man of fine personal appearance, as well as of marked strength of character and intellectual ability. He was a republican but was never active in politics. He served as one of the trustees in the Central Presbyterian church, to which he belonged. Without special advantages at the outset of his career and in the face of two disastrous fires Mr. Knowlton as the architect of his own fortunes builded wisely and well, gaining not only success but also an honored name by reason of the straightforward business principles which he ever followed. The family are also members of the Central Presbyterian church. The mother and daughters reside at No. 6 Granger Place, where they have a fine residence. Miss Annie Dean Knowlton greatly resembles her father in personal appearance as well as in the splen-

did business qualities which he displayed. Mr. Knowlton was very devoted to his family, being pre-eminently a home man, and while his loss was felt in business, church and social circles, it came with greatest force to the members of his own household, to whom he was ever a devoted husband and father.





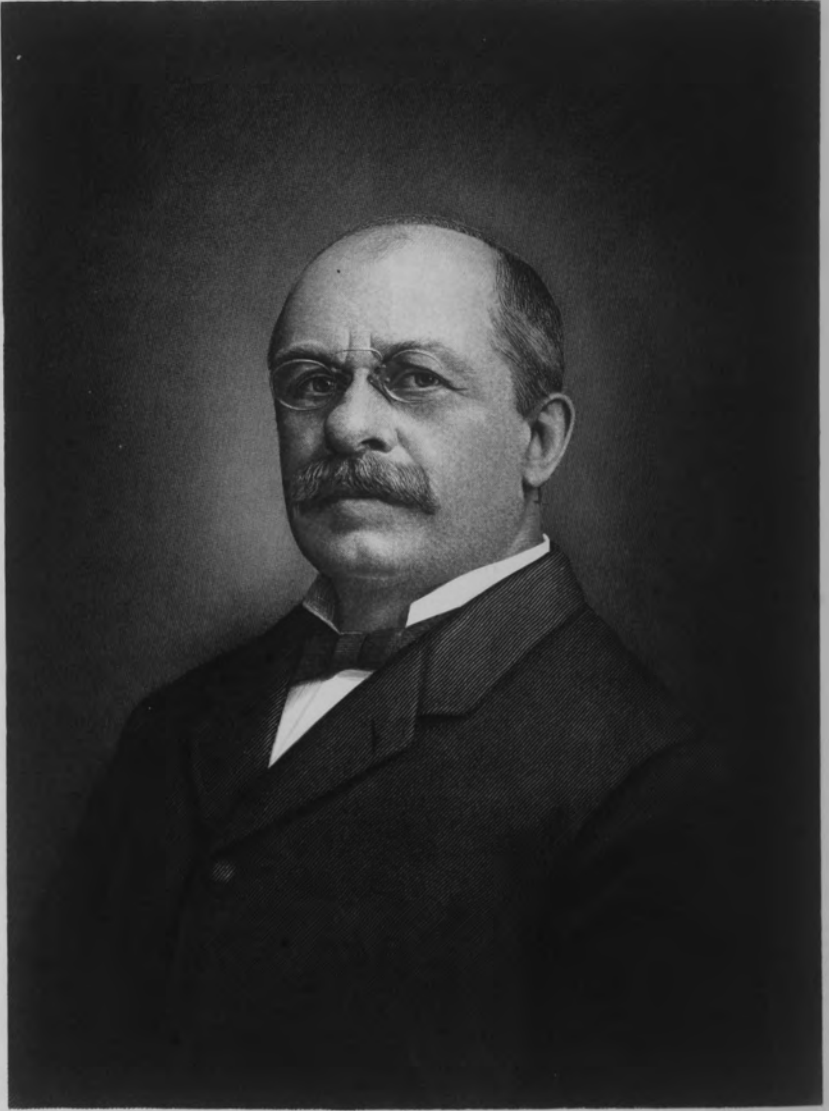
Geo. P. B. Duffey.

## James P. B. Duffy



A LARGE PERCENTAGE of Rochester's successful business and professional men are numbered among her native sons, for the growth of the city, with its enlarging possibilities and opportunities, have afforded scope for the labors and ambitions of those who have grown to manhood here. Mr. Duffy is numbered among the younger attorneys of the Rochester bar. He was born November 25, 1878, in this city, his parents being Walter B. and Theresa (O'Dea) Duffy. He attended the Nazareth Hall parochial school and the Rochester Free Academy, after which he became a student in Georgetown University of Washington, D. C., from which he was graduated in the class of 1901 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He then entered Harvard Law School and was graduated in June, 1904, with the degree of Bachelor of Law. In the fall of the same year he was admitted to the bar and was associated with the firm of Perkins & Havens until its dissolution in March, 1907. Mr. Duffy then formed a partnership with James B. Perkins and Joseph McLean under the firm name of Perkins, Duffy & McLean, which is now one of the leading firms of Rochester.

In October, 1905, Mr. Duffy was appointed a member of the school board to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Dr. George G. Carroll, and although a democrat he was elected to the same position in November of that year on the republican ticket. His term on the school board will not expire until the 31st of December, 1909. He has taken a great interest in athletics and outdoor sports and had the honor of rowing with the Georgetown University crew at Poughkeepsie and the Harvard University crew at New London. He is a member of the Rochester Bar Association and along more strictly social lines he is connected with the Genesee Valley Club, the Oak Hill Club, the Golf Club, the Irondequoit Canoe Club, the Friars Club, the Rochester Yacht Club and the Athletic Club. He is a member of the cathedral and is one of the cathedral ushers.



*Geo. W. Siegmüller.*



## George N. Saegmuller



**A**LTHOUGH a resident of Rochester for but a brief period, George N. Saegmuller has gained distinctive recognition as one of the leading manufacturers not only of this city but of the country, having shown a marked capacity for the successful conduct of affairs of great breadth. He is today a partner in one of the most successful and extensive productive industries of the city—the Bausch, Lomb, Saegmuller Company. A native of Germany, he was born in Bavaria, on the 12th of February, 1848, and is a son of John L. and Babette (Bertholdt) Saegmuller, who were likewise natives of that country.

George N. Saegmuller was reared in the fatherland and attended the technical school at Erlangen and graduated from the polytechnic school at Nuremberg. In accordance with the laws of the country he rendered military service as a member of the regular army, serving as one year volunteer in the 14th regiment at Nuremberg. Having acquainted himself with mechanical engineering he afterward spent four years with Thomas Cook & Son in England, who was one of the most eminent instrument makers of that time. In 1870 he came to America, locating first in Washington, D. C., where he lived for thirty-five years. He there was associated for a time with Wurdemann, and was later in charge of the instrument division of the United States coast survey, during which time he began the manufacture of astronomical and engineering instruments under the firm name of Fauth & Company. For years he obtained the optical parts for his instruments from Bausch & Lomb Optical Company, with whom his relations were always most cordial. Hampered in his efforts to expand his business by the limitations imposed by the city and by lack of manufacturing facilities available there, in 1905 he came to Rochester, removing his factory here and forming with the members of the Bausch & Lomb Optical Company a new corporation known as the Bausch, Lomb, Saegmuller Company. They manufacture all kinds of astronomical and engineering instruments which they send to all parts of the world.

At the present writing the Bausch, Lomb, Saegmuller Company have become an integral part of the Bausch & Lomb Optical Company, in which association they are joined by the Carl Zeiss Works, of Jena, Germany. This association extends to one another the benefits of their business organizations, scientific developments, formulæ, shop methods and experience and is

George N. Saegmuller

formed for the purpose of giving to the scientific world optical apparatus of the greatest perfection attainable. The association went into effect January 1, 1908.

On the 29th of April, 1874, Mr. Saegmuller was married to Miss Marie Jane Vandenburgh, a daughter of Gilbert and Sarah (Van Hoes) Vandenburgh. They have three sons, John Leonhardt, Frederick Bertholdt and George Marshall.

Mr. Saegmuller is the inventor of many instruments and has made many improvements upon existing ones. To engineers he is perhaps best known from the Saegmuller patent solar attachment for engineering transits, by means of which the astronomical meridian can be obtained with an accuracy before undreamed of. He invented the stardials or finding circles for use on astronomical telescopes, the governor for chronographs, which has come into universal use, and also constructed a machine for grinding fine levels automatically. Professor Ferrel of the United States coast survey conceived the idea of a tide predicting machine which Mr. Saegmuller constructed in an ingenious manner. This apparatus still does duty in the department. At the suggestion of Admiral, then Captain, Sampson, he developed the telescopic sights which, now in general use by the United States navy, have enabled our gunners to make such remarkable records in marksmanship.

Liberal educational advantages brought him the broad and comprehensive knowledge of the great scientific principles which underlie his present business interests. Prompted by laudable ambition he has made gradual advancement and each forward step has brought him a wider outlook and enlarged opportunities until he stands today as one of the most distinguished representatives of his department of manufacturing enterprise.





J. C. Van Epps ---

## Mrs. Sarah House Van Epps



MRS. SARAH HOUSE VAN EPPS is one of the notable figures in Rochester's history, residing at No. 69 Westminister road. She has now passed her eighty-sixth milestone on life's journey and in spirit and interests seems a much younger woman. With faculties scarcely impaired by the stress of years, possessing a keen sense of humor and a deep interest in the things that go on about her, she is a most entertaining and interesting companion. Mrs. Van Epps is a daughter of Anson House, who was born in Glastonbury, Connecticut, July 14, 1790. His father, Eleazer House, removed to Lewis county, New York, about 1800, when he founded the hamlet of Houseville and erected and kept the historic tavern which is still standing and at which King Joseph Bonaparte was hospitably entertained while locating his lands and starting his unfortunate French colony not far distant.

Anson House, the father of Mrs. Van Epps, on arriving at years of maturity married Lucinda Blossom, who was born in Lenox, Massachusetts, May 25, 1801. Her father, Ezra Blossom, served in the Revolutionary army in defense of the New England coast, was afterward a captain of militia and became one of the first settlers of Brighton, Monroe county, where for years he conducted a well known tavern in which house Anson House and Lucinda Blossom were married. They established their home in Rochester, from which place he on a hot summer day walked to Canandaigua, in his shirt sleeves, to be admitted to the practice of law. He also served as justice of the peace and amusing stories are told of scenes in his court. His sense of humor and justice was proverbial and on one occasion he prolonged the examination of a man who was accused of stealing rolls of butter by keeping him near the open fireplace until his guilt became manifest to all present by the tell-tale goods escaping from beneath his hat. Mr. House afterward abandoned the practice of law, becoming interested in real estate. He purchased the valuable piece of land running from Minerva alley to South St. Paul street and from that corner to the store opposite Cook's Opera House. On that spot he erected the then famous Minerva Block, and Minerva Hall was at that time the largest assembly hall in Rochester. This entire block was destroyed by fire on the night of the celebration of the laying of the Atlantic cable. Anson House died in 1864, and his wife survived him until 1883.

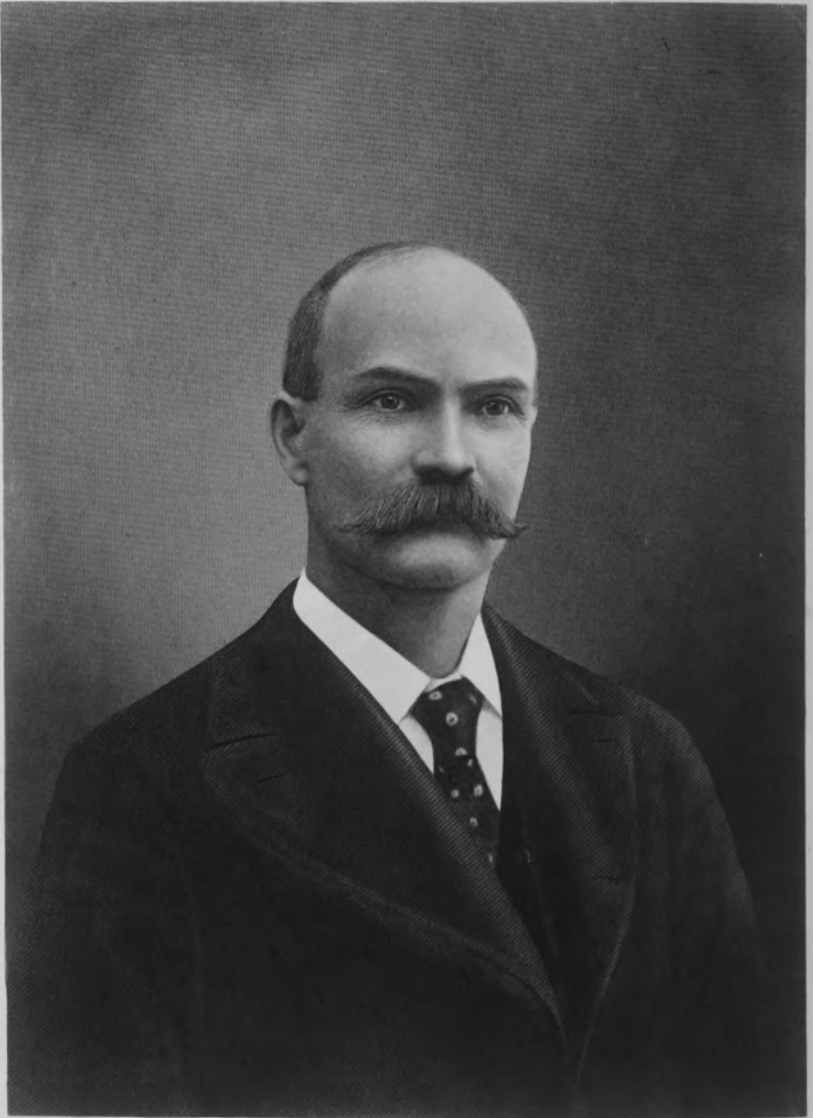
Mrs. Sarah House Van Epps

Mrs. Van Epps was born March 28, 1821. She began her education in the old high school taught by Professor Dewey and Miss M. B. Allen, and afterward attended Miss Seward's Female Seminary. On the 18th of May, 1840, she gave her hand in marriage to John C. Van Epps, of New York, with whom she traveled life's journey for forty-four years, when they were separated by the death of the husband, who passed away in Rochester in 1884 and was laid to rest in the cemetery at Brighton.

John C. Van Epps was of Dutch descent, whose forbears at an early date settled in the Mohawk valley. In his youth he started out for himself and went to Albany, where he read law and in due course of time was admitted to the bar to practice his profession. After his marriage he removed to Rochester, where he became well known among his legal associates, owing to the conscientious manner in which he guarded the interests committed to his charge. He was faithful to his clients but never forgot that he owed his highest allegiance to the principles of his profession. In the course of time it fell to him to accept the management of Mrs. Van Epps' large real-estate interests and his later years were devoted to that business.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Van Epps gained a wide circle of friends and the home of Mrs. Van Epps is yet a favorite resort with many residents of Rochester and of Monroe county. She is remarkably well preserved for one of her years, and on the eightieth anniversary of her birth gave a reception at the home, entertaining a large company of friends. She has been a witness of the growth and development of this part of the state for more than eight decades and relates many interesting incidents of the early days in Monroe county. Well does she deserve mention in this volume with the representative residents of Rochester.





*Cornelius A. Nichols.*

## Cornelius A. Nichols



CORNELIUS A. NICHOLS has since 1887 served as postmaster at Chili Center, New York, where he is also prominent as a merchant, carrying all kinds of farm implements, fertilizers, coal, produce and apples. Mr. Nichols is a native son of Chili Center, his birth having here occurred May 20, 1858, being a son of Job and Catherine (Haines) Nichols, both of whom were natives of Oxfordshire, England. The father emigrated to the new world in 1850, locating on a farm of thirty acres in Chili Center, and was here engaged in business as a farmer and gardener. Of the eight children of the family only three now survive: Cornelius, of this review; Henry, who resides in Chili township; and Jason, a resident of Coldwater, New York.

Cornelius A. Nichols was educated in the public schools of Chili Center and began to make his own way in the world at the early age of fourteen years. He was variously employed until 1876, when he began work as a painter, having in the meantime learned the trade. In this connection he did an extensive business in general painting as well as carriage and sign painting and he had several men in his employ. In 1886 he opened a store, which he has since conducted, carrying a full line of agricultural implements as well as fertilizers, coal, produce and apples. He has built up a large patronage in these various commodities by reason of his straightforward business methods and his reasonable prices. He has also since 1887 served as the efficient postmaster at this place, the duties of the office being conducted in prompt and able manner. Mr. Nichols owns a fine store building and warehouses besides three acres of ground and in the upbuilding and development of his home locality he has ever taken a deep and active interest.

Mr. Nichols was united in marriage to Miss Fannie M. Smith, a native of Livingston county, this state, and a daughter of Henry Smith. Their marriage was celebrated in 1880 and has been blessed with two sons and a daughter, Cornelius A., Jr., James Craig and Ruby E., all still under the parental roof.

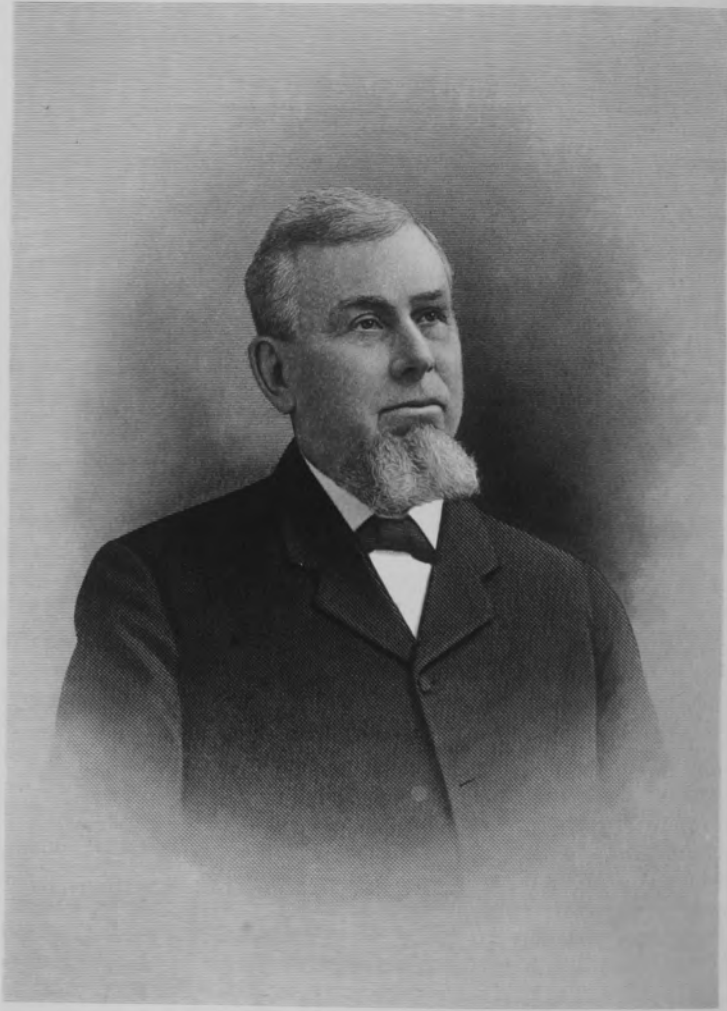
In politics Mr. Nichols is a republican and for six years served as supervisor, while for eleven years he filled the office of town clerk. Fraternally he belongs to the Red Men and the Knights of the Maccabees and is also identified with the Grange, of which there is a membership of two hundred and



**Cornelius A. Nichols**

twenty-five. He belongs to the Baptist church at Chili Center. Mr. Nichols is truly a self-made man, for, starting out in life at an early age, dependent upon his own resources, he has gradually worked his way upward until he has gained that success which is ever the sure reward of diligence, perseverance and industry, while as a public official, as a business man and as a private citizen he enjoys the good will and high esteem of all with whom he is brought in contact.





C. B. Meyer

## Charles C. Meyer



**A**LTHOUGH born across the water, Mr. Meyer has spent the greater part of his life in Rochester and his career is identified with the history of this city, where he has acquired a competence and where he is an honored and respected citizen. He may well be termed one of the founders of the city, for he has been the promoter of many of its leading business enterprises. He has earned for himself an enviable reputation as a careful business man and in his present connection, as in former business undertakings, he has through his prompt and honorable methods won the deserved and unbounded confidence of his fellowmen.

Mr. Meyer was born in Germany, January 8, 1831, a son of Andrew and Frederica (Winter) Meyer, the latter a native of Leopold-Haven. The father was a shipbuilder by trade and in July, 1836, emigrated with his family, consisting of wife, four sons and four daughters, from Baden to the United States. The trip across the Atlantic required forty-nine days and after reaching Albany, New York, they made their way by canal to Rochester, where they landed in the evening and on account of being unable to secure hotel accommodations for the night were obliged to sleep on beds out of doors. The father continued his work at boatbuilding after his arrival in this city and here spent his remaining days, his death occurring in 1861.

Charles C. Meyer is one of four sons, his brothers being Frederick, Philip and John, all of whom learned the boatbuilder's trade under the direction of the father. Our subject was a little lad of five years when he accompanied the family to the new world and in the schools of Rochester he acquired his education. After learning his trade he and his three brothers engaged in the boatbuilding business and at one time owned all the boatyards in the city with the exception of one. In 1861 he was engaged in a business of this character on Meigs street near the bridge, building canal boats of regular size,—ninety-seven feet in length and eighteen feet in width, to draw six feet of water. He had in his employ a large number of men, and continued the enterprise with great success until 1887, when he discontinued the enterprise and engaged in the real-estate business. He had previously purchased five acres of land near the canal, this being worth five hundred dollars per acre, which he used for his boatyards until the time he discontinued that enterprise. He then

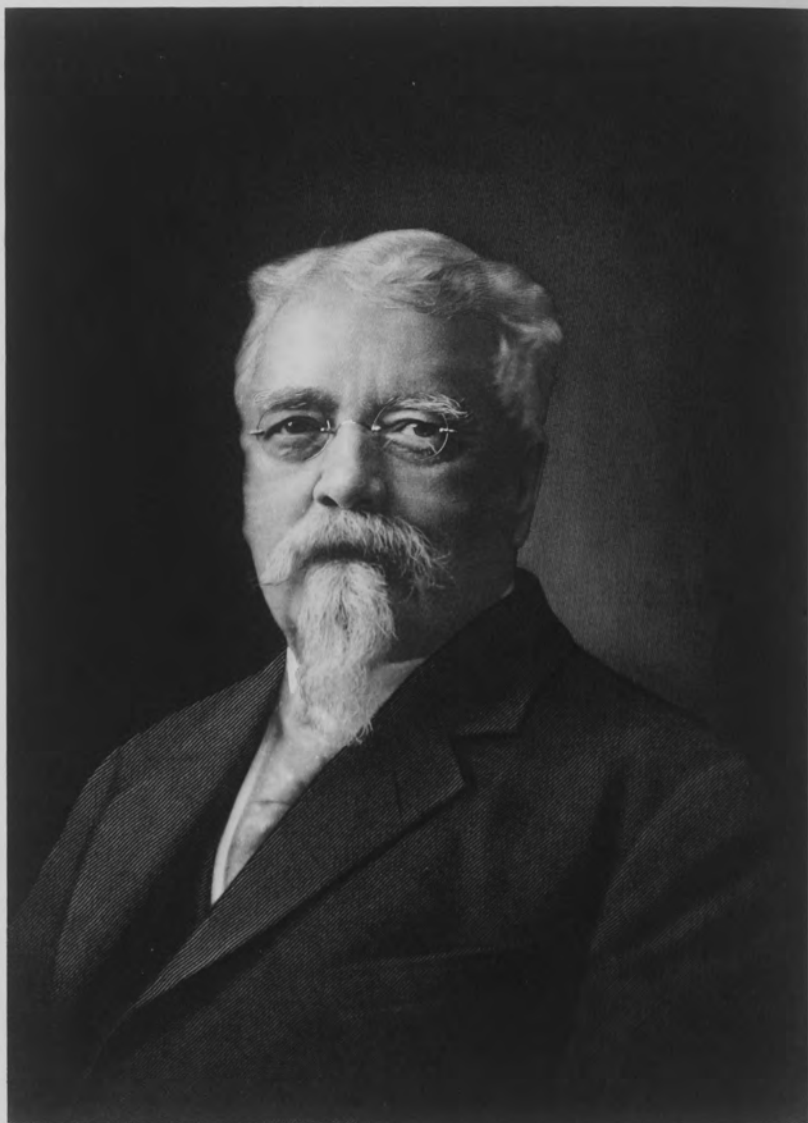
Charles C. Meyer

built a number of houses on this tract and has sold off many of these but still owns several. In 1865 he erected a large brick house, two stories in height, which at the time was considered one of the best houses in the city. He is still operating in real estate and his long connection with the business enables him to readily place the right value upon property. He has ever been watchful of all the details of his business and of all indications pointing toward prosperity and from the beginning his business has rapidly developed until he is today numbered among the substantial men of this city. In addition to his real estate interests he also at one time was engaged in the operation of a sawmill but is now giving his entire time and attention to his property interests.

In 1853 Mr. Meyer was united in marriage to Miss Phillopeno Damm and unto them were born one son and four daughters: Mrs. Amelia C. Herzberger; Edward C., a resident of Oregon; Mrs. Elizabeth Gordon, of Boston; and Mrs. W. C. Taylor and another daughter, both deceased. Mr. Meyer was again married January 9, 1890, his second union being with Miss Susan R. Arnold, and after her death he married her sister, Miss Ida S. Arnold, on the 26th of February, 1895.

Aside from his business interests Mr. Meyer has found time to devote to public affairs, having served for five terms as supervisor, while for one term he acted as alderman of the seventh ward of Rochester. In his fraternal relations he is identified with the Masonic body, and he is a charter member of the Church of the Reformation, to which he has ever been a liberal contributor. Few men are more prominent or more widely known in business circles in Rochester than Mr. Meyer, for from an early period in its development he has been identified with the business and industrial life of the city and through capable management and close application has worked his way upward until he now occupies a place among the substantial and well-to-do citizens of Rochester, his adopted city.





*Henry A Strong.*

## Henry A. Strong



ONE OF ROCHESTER'S native sons, Henry A. Strong was born on the 30th of August, 1838, of the marriage of Alvah and Catherine (Hopkins) Strong. In his boyhood and youth he was a pupil in the public schools, and at the time of the Civil war, in 1861, Mr. Strong was appointed assistant paymaster in the United States navy, serving for four years. At the close of the war he returned home and became identified with his uncle, Myron Strong, in the manufacture of whips, eventually purchasing his uncle's interest. He became associated with E. F. Woodbury, which relation continued until 1889, when he disposed of his interests in that line. In the meantime he became connected with George Eastman in the manufacture of dry plates and films. The partnership was formed in December, 1880, under the firm name of Strong & Eastman. In October, 1884, the Eastman Dry Plate & Film Company was organized with Mr. Strong as president, and today the extensive business is conducted under the name of the Eastman Kodak Company. Wherever the camera is in use the name of Eastman is known. The business of the house far exceeds that of any other establishment of a similar character in America and the company not only enjoys a domestic trade of mammoth proportions but also a large export trade. The name of the Eastman Kodak Company has become almost synonymous with that of Rochester, having for some years been one of its largest and most profitable industrial enterprises. The business has been developed from small beginnings and the success of the house is attributable in large measure to the fact that the company has adopted every modern invention and improvement that leads to perfection in the manufacture of kodaks and camera supplies. In every department of this vast business are men who are experts in their line and through the co-ordination and organization of forces as manifest by those who are at the head of the business in the executive department there has resulted an enterprise of which every citizen of Rochester is proud. A man of fertility of resource, readily recognizing and improving opportunity, Henry A. Strong has been sought in connection with the conduct and management of many important business enterprises. He is now president of the Rochester Button Company, president of the United States Voting Machine Company and a director of the Alliance Bank, the

Henry A. Strong

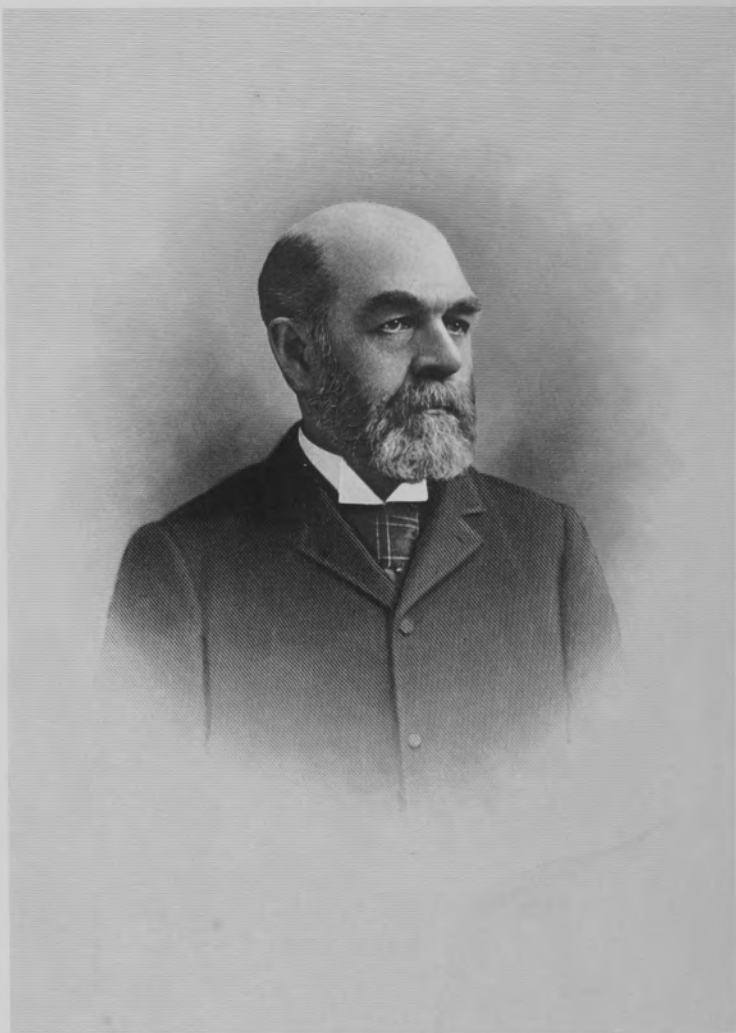
Monroe County Savings Bank and the Security Trust Company. He is likewise interested in various other financial and commercial institutions.

Mr. Strong was married in Niles, Michigan, on the 3d of August, 1859, to Miss Helen P. Griffin, a daughter of Robert I. Griffin. They became parents of two sons and two daughters: Gertrude, the wife of Henry L. Achilles; Herbert, who died in infancy; Helen, the wife of Ex-Governor George R. Carter, of Hawaii; and Henry G., a prominent business man of Rochester.

Mr. Strong is a stalwart advocate of republican principles and while he does not concern himself with petty politics he is interested, as is every true American citizen, in the great questions which affect the welfare of the country at large. Ever willing to do even more than his share for the betterment and uplifting of Rochester, his generous aid can be counted upon to further any progressive public movement for the material, intellectual, æsthetic and moral progress of the city. In 1907 he presented to the Rochester Theological Seminary a magnificent building, which was given the name of the Alvah Strong Memorial Hall in honor of his father, who was one of the early and prominent citizens of Rochester. There has not been a single esoteric phase in the career of Henry A. Strong, who has spent his entire life in this city and whose record is as an open book. His business methods have neither sought nor required disguise and in the legitimate channels of trade he has gained a splendid and well merited success.







*P. C. Reynolds*

## Platt C. Reynolds



**P**LATT C. REYNOLDS, deceased, who for a third of a century was an editor and journalist in Rochester and was regarded throughout the country as one of the ablest writers upon horticultural subjects, was born in Dutchess county, New York, in 1826. He was ten years of age when he removed to Palmyra, New York, with his parents, Isaac and Sarah (Ellison) Reynolds. He remained a resident of Palmyra from 1836 until 1859 and completed his education in the schools there. He afterward removed to Plainfield, New Jersey, where he engaged in the fruit-growing business until 1864, and his broad, practical experience as well as his wide study and research made him authority on subjects of which he treated in his journalistic work.

Mr. Reynolds came to Rochester on leaving New Jersey and here again engaged in fruit growing, following this pursuit for some time with excellent success, while for twenty years he was agricultural and horticultural editor of the American Rural Home of Rochester. For a long period he was also secretary of the Western New York Horticultural Society and was present at the semi-centennial celebration of that organization in January, 1905. His writings and his efforts proved an important influence in promoting the fruit-growing interests of the state, bringing a knowledge to the general public which might be accomplished in this direction and of the best methods to be followed. For several years he was horticultural editor of Green's Fruit Grower and not only did he write extensively on the subjects of the farm, the garden and the orchard but was also a practical agriculturist and horticulturist and often delivered lectures at farmers' institutes, presenting in practical form those subjects which were and are of interest in the tilling of the soil or the production of grain and fruit crops. He was a frequent and valued contributor to Green's Fruit Grower, the Examiner, the New York Tribune, the Ohio Farmer, the New England Farmer, the Country Gentleman and other agricultural papers and his writings are widely read and copied in other publications. He was continuously a student of those interests bearing upon the questions which he treated and had most thorough knowledge of both a practical and scientific character.

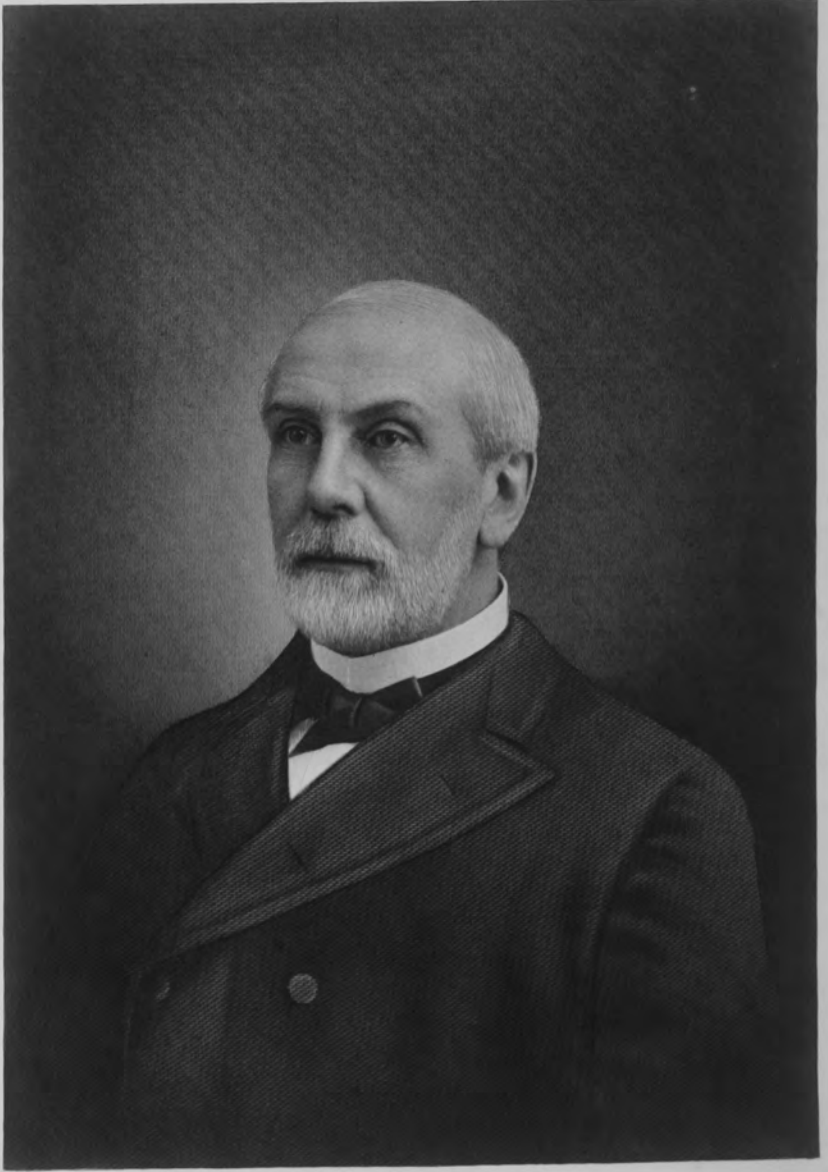
On the 23d of November, 1846, Mr. Reynolds was married near Palmyra, New York, to Miss Julia Barnes, a native of Ontario county, New York, and

## Platt C. Reynolds

they became the parents of four children: Mrs. Nina Brewington, living at home; Francis Garton, deceased; Mrs. Florence Whitney; and Augustus, at home.

In his political views Mr. Reynolds was always a strong republican, studied closely the attitude of the two great parties upon the momentous questions which came up for settlement and his position was that of firm conviction and a belief in the justice of his cause. He was a faithful, frequent and conscientious advisor and was kind and courteous to all. By nature he was quiet and unassuming and his strong mentality and studious habits led him to be classed with the thinkers of the age. In fact he was called the traveling encyclopedia of invention and his broad knowledge made him the peer and valued associate of those most prominent in agricultural and horticultural circles throughout the country. He built a fine home at No. 35 Meigs street, Rochester, about seventeen years ago and there resided until his death, which occurred April 13, 1905. His widow still resides there. In his demise the nation lost one of its ablest men whose widely felt influence was a potent factor for good and for material development, while his genuine personal worth endeared him to all with whom he came in contact in his social relations.





Oscar Craig.

## Oscar Craig



IN THE history of the legal profession in Rochester mention should be made of Oscar Craig, now deceased, who was a prominent attorney of that city for many years, continuing in the active practice of law here from 1859 until his demise, which occurred on the 2d of January, 1894. He was one of the native sons of the Empire state, his birth having occurred in Medina, Orleans county, New York, November 14, 1836. His parents were Joseph and Elizabeth (Herring) Craig and after their marriage they resided in Medina, New York, for several years, the father being engaged in general merchandising there. He afterward brought his family to Monroe county, New York, and resided on a tract of land near the town of Brockport, where he engaged in farming until his death. His wife has also passed away.

Oscar Craig obtained a public-school education at Medina until he was seventeen years of age. A careful consideration of the various avenues of life open to young men led him to determine upon the profession of law as a life work and he went to Schenectady, New York, where he entered upon the study of law in the Union College. He spent two years as a student there and graduated with the class of 1856, after which he returned to Medina and continued a student in the law office of Mr. Servous at that place for a short time. He was likewise a student in the law office of Mr. Parker in Buffalo for three years and the fact that he had an uncle in Rochester influenced him to become a resident of this city in 1859. Here he concluded his course with Judge Strong and entered upon the practice of his profession.

Mr. Craig was married in 1861 to Miss Helen M. Chatfield of New York city, a daughter of Levi S. Chatfield, who was also a prominent attorney and resided for several years in Otsego county, after which he removed to New York city. Prior to that time he was made attorney general for the state and acted in that capacity for four years. He resided in New York city for several years, after which he retired from active practice, making his home in Elizabeth, New York, until called to his final rest in 1884.

When Mr. Craig came to Rochester he opened a law office and engaged in practice with Judge Strong for a time. Because of impaired health he then left the city for a few months and upon his return opened an office in the Powers building, where he practiced for a few years. He then became attorney

Oscar Craig

for the Monroe County Savings Bank and moved his office to that building and was the local representative of that institution for several years. He was the attorney who drew up the bill for the transfer of the inmates of the poor house to the state hospital. He had an extensive clientage which connected him with litigation of a prominent and important character and at the bar he displayed a wide and thorough familiarity with the principles of jurisprudence in various departments. He was ever an earnest worker, neglecting none of the various duties which fall to a lawyer in the preparation of a case in the office or in the presentation of his case before the court. He was regarded as a safe counselor and able defender of litigated interests and for many years was accorded a prominent position at the Rochester bar.

Mr. Craig was also a factor in public life and was especially concerned with those interests which worked for the welfare and upbuilding of the city and the advancement of beneficial and charitable movements. He was well known in philanthropic circles and was a member of the state board of charities, of which he served as president for fourteen years, receiving appointment to the board from Governor Cornell and acting as its president at the time of his death. He did not associate himself with any political party but gave his support where he believed the best interests of the city demanded it. Both he and his wife were faithful and consistent members of the First Presbyterian church, in the work of which he took an active and helpful part, serving for some time as elder. His life was honorable, his actions manly and sincere, his ideals high and his principles commended him to the unqualified respect of all with whom he came in contact, so that his name is honorably enrolled upon the list of Rochester's prominent dead. He died at his home at No. 33 South Washington street, where Mrs. Craig still resides. It was built in 1816 and is one of the oldest residences of the city—a landmark which for more than ninety years has been a mute witness of the growth of Rochester and the changes which have brought about its present conditions.





*George H. Ellwanger*



## George H. Ellwanger



**G**EORGE H. ELLWANGER, author and scientist, was known in Rochester as secretary of the Ellwanger & Barry Nursery Company, but his reputation extended throughout America and many foreign countries in connection with his authorship. His life work was of the utmost value to his fellowmen in that connection and his writings yet find ready sale. George H. Ellwanger was a native of Rochester, born July 10, 1848, being the eldest son of the veteran horticulturist, George Ellwanger. Undoubtedly natural predilection, inherited tendency and early environment as well as particular talent and interest in that direction led to his selection of a life work. His preliminary education was continued under private tutorship during a five years' sojourn in Europe, and he also studied at the University of Heidelberg and the Sorbonne in Paris. Always deeply interested in the study of horticulture and floriculture, his investigations were carried far and wide into the realms of scientific research, while his experiments brought him the practical knowledge that materialized in a thousand beautiful forms in his gardens. The character of his business is indicated by the fact that he was for a number of years secretary of the Ellwanger & Barry Nursery Company. At one time he was editor of the Rochester Post Express. Aside from this, however, much time, thought and attention was given to his writings and he was a frequent and valued contributor to various horticultural papers of Europe and of America. He wrote largely for the Garden and for In Flora and Sylva, two English publications. He is the author of *The Garden's Story or Pleasures and Trials of an Amateur Gardener* (1889); *The Story of My House* (1891); *In Gold and Silver* (1892); *Idyllists of the Country-Side* (1896); *Meditations on Gout, with a Consideration of its Cure Through the Use of Wine* (1898); Editor of *The Rose*, by H. B. Ellwanger, revised edition (1893); *Love's Demesne, A Garland of Contemporary Love Poems* (1896), two volumes; *The Pleasures of The Table, An Account of Gastronomy From Ancient Days to Present Times, With a History of Its Literature, Schools and Most Distinguished Artists* (1902). At the time of his demise he was working on the second revision of *The Rose*. The Garden story brought as high as eighteen dollars per volume in England and is to be republished.

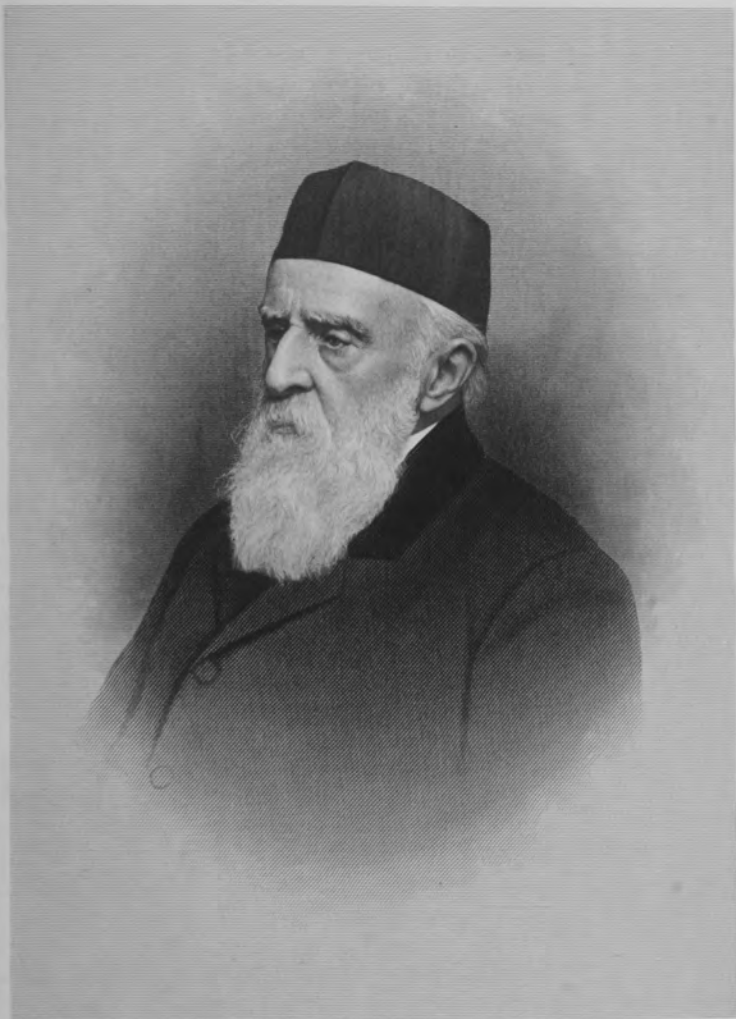
\* Mr. Ellwanger had the largest collection of tea roses in America, pos-

George A. Ellwanger

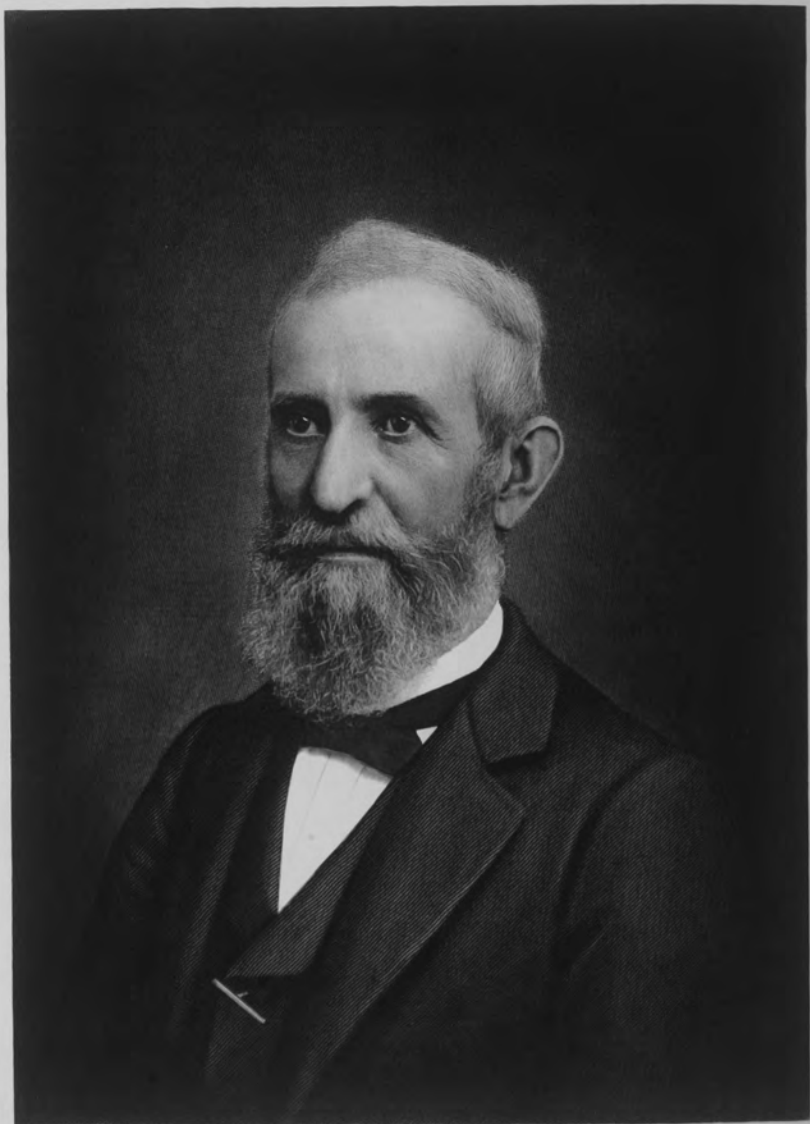
sessing over four hundred varieties, and was regarded as the great American authority on the standard rose. He was an honorary member of the National Rose Society of England, a member of the Authors Club of New York and of the Pundit Club of Rochester, the oldest literary club of America. The degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him by the University of Rochester.

On the 13th of November, 1874, Mr. Ellwanger was married to Miss Harriett Stillson, who was born in East avenue, Rochester, a daughter of Rev. Jerome B. and Harriett (Lawton) Stillson, who were natives of the Empire state. Her father was a son of Eli Stillson, a prominent pioneer of Rochester, who removed from Connecticut to Scipio, New York, in 1802 and came to Rochester in 1817. He was a civil engineer and assisted in the survey of the Erie canal. His son, Rev. Jerome B. Stillson, was born in Scipio, New York, in 1812 and was brought to Rochester by his parents when five years of age. He began teaching school at the age of eighteen, both studied and taught in the high school and afterward attended Yale University, where he took up the study of civil engineering. He assisted in the survey of the western division of the Erie canal for its enlargement in 1834-5 and he was awarded many contracts for railroad construction in New England and New York. He afterward went to Chicago, where he had a contract for the erection of the government buildings there from 1851 until 1860. After the outbreak of the Civil war he went to the front with the Young Men's Christian Association boys and following the close of hostilities he was engaged in the real-estate business in Chicago for some years. Later returning to Rochester he spent his remaining days in this city, where he died July 2, 1903, at the venerable age of ninety-two years. Following the war he was ordained as a minister of the Episcopal church and was the founder of St. Peter's church of this city.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ellwanger were born three children: Florence Cornelia, the wife of Boyd Watson, an attorney of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; Laura Brooks, the wife of Alexander Otis, an attorney of Rochester; and Julia Stillson, who is attending Mrs. Dow's school at Briar Cliff Manor, New York. The family circle was broken by the death of the husband and father April 23, 1906. His death caused a distinct loss to the world. His life may well be termed a successful one because of the fact that he contributed to the world's progress in scientific lines and to its pleasures derived from literary sources. He stood as a man among men, honored wherever known and most of all where best known.



*J. Stillson.*



W E Miles

## William Emmert Miles



WILLIAM EMMERT MILES, deceased, was for many years during an active business career a resident of Rochester, his native city. He was born in 1830 and acquired his education in the common schools while spending his boyhood days in the home of his parents, William and Catherine (Emmert) Miles, who at an early day in the development of western New York, settled at Victor. Later they removed to Maryland, establishing their home at the birthplace of the father. William E. Miles left school at the age of sixteen years and entered business life in the employ of his brother, who was a contractor. Before he had attained his majority, eager to see the world and attracted by the discovery of gold in California, he made his way to that state in 1849, sailing around Cape Horn. He remained in California for some time and soon after his arrival took advantage of the opportunities that offered for work at his trade. He secured immediate employment and only a brief period had passed when he started out in business for himself, becoming one of the foremost contractors of that day in the locality in which he lived. Many important contracts were awarded him, including one of the building of the state house at Olympia, Washington, which is still standing. He continued to engage in contracting and gold mining on the coast for about sixteen years and met with creditable success in these undertakings.

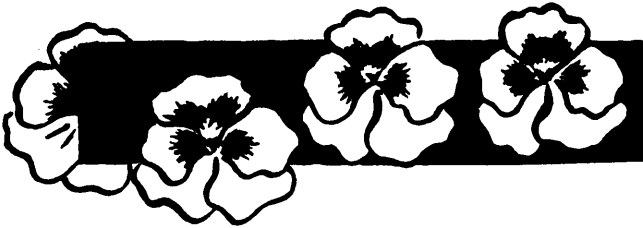
With a desire to return to his native city Mr. Miles gave up business interests in the west and came again to Rochester, where he established a large factory for the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds, his business interests in California having brought him the capital that enabled him to thus become connected with the productive industries of Monroe county. He was first located on Aqueduct street, where he remained until his buildings were destroyed by fire, when he, with a brother, bought land and built a factory on Water street. There he continued in business and as the years passed his patronage increased, reaching extensive proportions. He was actively engaged in business up to within a few months of his death, which occurred in 1899. His business life was one of honor and integrity and the record contained no esoteric phase. His methods were always open and above board and he won his success by reason of the excellence of his output

William Emmert Miles

and also owing to the fact that his business integrity was combined with unflagging enterprise and diligence.

In 1873 M. Miles was married to Miss Cora Booth, who was born in 1847, a daughter of Ezra B. and Hannah L. (Alworth) Booth, the former a native of Vermont. Her maternal grandparents came to Rochester at an early day from their home in Dutchess county, New York. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Miles, of whom three died in infancy. The others are: Edward B., who is a graduate of the Dental College at Baltimore and now practicing his profession; Catharine L., at home; and Mrs. Ruth H. Witherspoon, of Rochester.

Mr. Miles was a stalwart democrat, and though he never sought the honors or the offices of that party, he always gave his assistance to it in every campaign. Like all who walk through life on a higher plane than the great majority of his fellows, his companionship was select rather than large, but the many who looked up to and respected him realized as fully as did the few who were near him that a true man had lived and passed on.





James E. Holcott



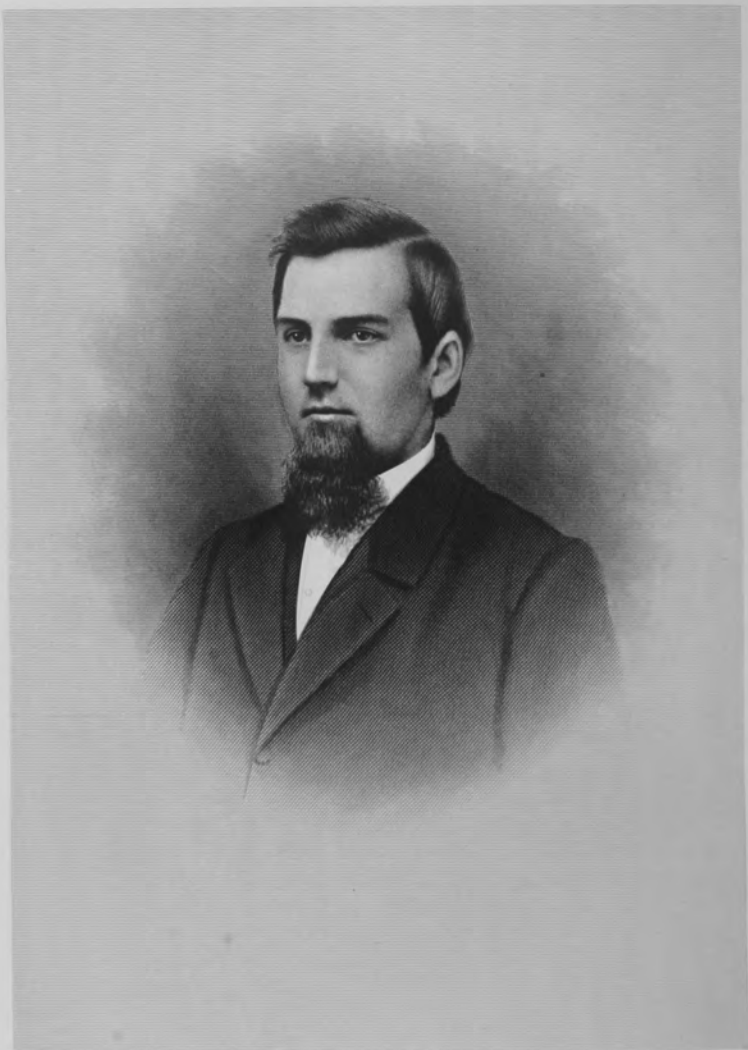
## James E. Wolcott



JAMES E. WOLCOTT, whose sudden death at Norfolk, Virginia, November 24, 1906, caused a feeling of wide-spread regret in Rochester, of which city he was a life-long resident, was born in the year 1850, his parents being G. P. and Caroline Wolcott. The public schools of Rochester afforded him his early educational privileges, and he also attended Professor Satterlee's school. When twenty-one years of age he entered the distilling business and was active in the management of the James E. Wolcott & Company distillery at the corner of Clarissa and Wolcott streets. He continued in that until 1901, when he disposed of his interests to the New York & Kentucky Company. For a number of years he had been connected with the financial interests of the city and was a director of the Genesee Valley Trust Company and of the Traders National Bank. His opinions regarding financial and other business matters were considered sound and his ideas concerning management and expedience were often received as conclusive.

Mr. Wolcott was married in Rochester in 1874 to Miss Ida J. Chase, and unto them were born three children: C. J. and G. B., both of Rochester; and Mrs. F. E. Clawson, of Ridgeway, Pennsylvania. Mr. Wolcott was a great lover of a thoroughbred horse and always owned one or two. He was connected with the Gentlemen Drivers Association and greatly delighted in a brush on the Rochester speedway, in which he was interested. He became a well known figure there and the statement that any horse belonged to James E. Wolcott was sufficient guarantee of its worth and high bred qualities.

In Masonry he was prominent, belonging to Rochester lodge, No. 660, F. & A. M.; the Monroe commandery, K. T.; and to the consistory, in which he attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite. His life was in harmony with the spirit of the craft. He possessed a social, genial nature, which won him warm friendships. His death resulted suddenly of apoplexy at Norfolk, Virginia, when he was fifty-six years of age. His loss was felt in business circles as well as among his many friends, he having a very wide acquaintance in Rochester, of which city he was a life-long resident.



*Lewis B. Davis*

## Lewis Bissell Davis



IN THE ROLL of Rochester's dead, who were at one time active, respected and influential residents of the city, appears the name of Lewis Bissell Davis. He was born in Gainesville, New York, on the 10th of April, 1842, and was a son of Joel G. Davis, a farmer by occupation who, putting aside agricultural pursuits, turned his attention to the milling business, in which he continued until his death on the 26th of February, 1900. He passed away at the home of his son H. Wheeler, in Rochester. Lewis B. Davis was indebted to the public schools for his early educational privileges, and later he spent one year as a student in Oberlin (Ohio) College. He then joined his father in the milling business in Gainesville, and in 1865 removed to Aurora, Illinois, where they established a milling enterprise. After some time spent in the middle west they returned to Rochester and in partnership with James Hinds purchased the Washington Mills, which they conducted with success until the plant was destroyed by fire.

On the 12th of May, 1863, Lewis B. Davis was united in marriage to Miss Julia M. Palmer, who was educated in Gainesville Seminary, completing a three years' course there by graduation. She is a daughter of E. W. Palmer, who was born January 15, 1811, in Jefferson county, near Watertown, and in early manhood married Miss Laura Woodruff. He was a tanner by trade and lived in Gainesville. He had four children, Mary, Julia, William and Emma, all of whom are now deceased, with the exception of Mrs. Davis. Following her graduation, Mrs. Davis continued under the parental roof up to the time of her marriage.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Davis were born four children, William E., Lewis B., Mary Elizabeth and Henry Wheeler, all of whom have passed away. The eldest son, William E., was a lawyer of Rochester, who won distinction at the bar. He was educated in Harvard and manifested marked ability in the practice of his chosen profession. The second son, Lewis B., married Clara Drake and had three daughters, Alice Palmer, Edith Drake and Mildred. He gave his attention to the manufacturing business and died on the 30th of October, 1898. Mary Elizabeth pursued her education in the schools of Rochester and made her home with her mother until called to her final rest on the 4th of March, 1904. Henry Wheeler died at the age of seven and a half years.

**Lewis Bissell Davis**

Throughout his entire life Lewis B. Davis, whose name introduces this review, continued in the milling business and displayed close application and an aptitude for successful management. He was always reliable as well as energetic in his business career and won an excellent reputation for straightforward dealing. In his family he was a devoted husband and father, reserving the best traits of his character for his own fireside. His friends, however, knew him as a man of genuine personal worth, true to every trust and with excellent qualities of heart and mind. He died on the 3d of September, 1892.





Andrew Wallcut

## Andrew Wollensak



THE MEASURE of what man accomplishes is not the height to which he has attained but the distance between the starting point and the position he has now reached. Reared in this way, Andrew Wollensak has made an excellent record, for he arrived in Rochester practically penniless and today is owning and conducting an extensive and prosperous business in the manufacture of photographic shutters and lenses. He is one of the strong and influential men whose lives have become a beneficial part of the history of this city. Tireless energy, keen perception, honesty of purpose, a genius for devising and executing the right thing at the right time, joined to every-day common sense, guided by great will power are his chief characteristics and therein lies the secret of his success.

A native of Germany, he was born in Wiechs, on the 13th of November, 1862. His paternal grandfather, Andrew Wollensak, died in Germany at the advanced age of eighty-two years, after devoting his active life to the blacksmith's trade. His wife, Helena Wollensak, died in middle life and he afterward married again. He had four sons by his first marriage, all now deceased, and by the second marriage there were four sons and one daughter, of whom one is yet living, Stephen, of Berne, Switzerland.

John Wollensak, the father, was born in Germany and learned and followed the carpenter's trade. He wedded Elizabeth Bollin, a daughter of Johan Bollin, a laborer, who died in Germany at the age of seventy-eight years, while his wife, Mrs. Barbara (Mohr) Bollin, was eighty-four years of age at the time of her demise. They had three daughters and two sons, of whom Matthias, of Undterhallau, Switzerland, is still living. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Johan Wollensak were born twelve children, six sons and six daughters, of whom three survive, Andrew, John and Victoria, the latter the wife of John Hecks. The parents were members of the Catholic church and both died in their native country, the father in 1880, at the age of fifty-seven years, and the mother in 1874, at the age of forty-two years.

Andrew Wollensak was reared in his native country and attended the public schools to the age of fourteen years, when he left home to learn the trades of a millwright and machinist. He was employed in that way until he came to America, crossing the Atlantic in November, 1882. He settled in Roches-

Andrew Wollensak

ter, where he was employed at his trade for a time and then entered the service of the Bausch-Lomb Company, continuing in their optical factory for sixteen years, during which time he won successive promotions until he became foreman, acting in that capacity for four years. He left that establishment in June, 1899, and began business on his own account in the manufacture of photographic shutters and in 1903 he further extended his labors by taking up the work of manufacturing photographic lenses. The business was established on a small scale. He employed but one boy, but the excellence of his output soon attracted attention and brought him more orders until in the enlargement and growth of his business he now furnishes employment to one hundred and thirty people. He is the inventor of several photographic shutters. The building where he manufactures his goods is six stories in height and he occupies the fifth and sixth floors. His goods are sold throughout the entire world and the trade is constantly increasing.

On the 3d of January, 1884, Mr. Wollensak was married to Miss Frances Noll, a daughter of Joseph and Barbara (Trabert) Noll. They have one daughter, Emma. The parents are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Wollensak has been a trustee of St. Michael's for the past sixteen years. His fraternal relations extend to the Knights of St. John, the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association, St. Anthony's Benevolent Society, the Badischen Benevolent Society and to the Society of St. Michaels. In politics he casts an independent ballot. He has never been a public man in social or political life but has been quite prominent in church circles and there is no good work either in the name of charity or the advancement of religion which does not find in him an earnest and material helper.

Furthermore his example is most commendable and worthy of emulation in business life. When he arrived in Rochester he had but five cents in his possession. He was a stranger in the city but since coming to this country he has been without work for only one day. He was ambitious, willing to take up any task that would yield him an honest living, and his ability and trustworthiness were soon proven. As the years have passed he has realized his ambition to make his name known throughout the world in connection with a business of large extent and importance. His success may be ascribed to persistent, determined pursuit of the business and to the fact that he is a man of honesty and integrity.





Stephen S. S. S.

## Adolph Nolte



**A**DOLPH NOLTE, president of the Hydro Press Company, manufacturers of hydraulic machinery, was born in Rochester, July 11, 1866. His father, Adolph Nolte, was a native of Germany, connected with the aristocracy of that country and in its schools he acquired a liberal education. He took part in the students' rebellion of 1841 and was obliged to leave Germany to escape punishment at the hands of the government. He then enlisted with the French Legions and went to Algiers, Africa, where he became an officer, and thence to America, settling in Rochester. In the same year he founded the Rochester Beobachter, still existing as the Abendpost, of which he continued as editor and publisher for many years. His scholarly attainments found exemplification in its columns and he was regarded as one of the ablest and most fearless writers of his day. A champion of the cause of liberty, when the Civil war began he organized Company C of the Thirteenth Regiment of New York Volunteers and went out as its captain. Thus he fought under three flags,—the German, the French and the American. For nine years he was a trustee of the Soldiers' Home. He did much to mold public opinion, especially among the German-American citizens of Rochester, and inculcated among his fellow countrymen a love for their adopted land and loyalty to its institutions. He was one of the organizers of the German Turn Verein, a society which still exists. His death occurred in 1893. The wife, Mrs. Margaret Nolte, was a daughter of John Sattler, a contracting mason, who had charge of the construction of the piers of Vincent street bridge. This was the first iron bridge built in Rochester and was a marvelous undertaking for that day.

Adolph Nolte, Jr., acquired his education in the public schools of this city and entered business life as an employe in a machine shop when not quite sixteen years of age. His evenings at home were devoted to study that he might acquire a technical knowledge of machinery, and throughout his entire life he has been connected with machine shop work. He has been employed in many shops and on all kinds of machinery manufactured, thus acquiring through practical experience and through his technical studies a very broad knowledge of his business in all of its branches. To Mr. Nolte is due the invention of many valuable machines and machine improvements. When only eighteen years of age he invented the first positive washing machine, while in

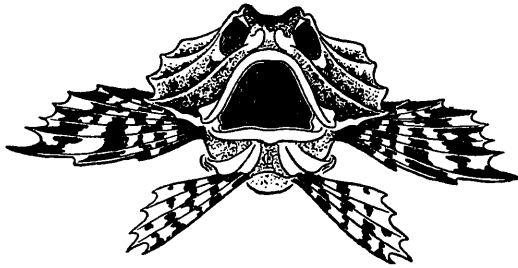
Adolph Nolte

the employ of the Sprague Laundry Company. One of his most important inventions was the first and only practical machine for grinding the edges of lenses. This has proved to be invaluable in the manufacture of optical and camera lenses and is today used throughout the world. An illustration of his wide range of knowledge in his distinguished field of endeavor is to be seen in the fact that his inventions include some of the most delicate machinery used in the manufacture of optical goods to the fifteen hundred ton hydraulic press, which is one of the present products of the company of which he is now president. His latest invention is a hydraulic press for removing both wheels of a locomotive or car instantaneously—the first machine of this kind on the market.

In 1902 Mr. Nolte entered the employ of the Schaffer Manufacturing Company as a machinist and was almost immediately thereafter made foreman. A year and a half later he was promoted to superintendent, which position he held until the death of John O. Brewster, president of the firm, in June, 1906, when, having in the meantime become a large stockholder in the business, he organized the Hydro Press Company, with a capital of seventy-five thousand dollars and purchased the business of the Schaffer Manufacturing Company. He was then elected vice president and manager, which position he held until January, 1908, when he became president, still continuing as manager. The Schaffer Manufacturing Company was organized in 1869 as a small job shop, opened by a Mr. Badger, who was the first man to build a hydraulic press in America. It was a small machine, with a pressure of twenty tons, which in those days was considered enormous. The original pattern for this machine is still in possession of the company. There are in the factory at present three presses of six hundred tons pressure and another of fifteen thousand tons, which shows the progress made in hydraulic presses in the past thirty years. At the death of Mr. Badger the business was purchased by Jacob Schaffer, who conducted it until his death in 1903, when the Schaffer Manufacturing Company was organized by Frederick Cook and others. The business had never been greatly successful up to this time and employed only four workmen when Mr. Nolte entered the shop, but under his management it has grown rapidly until employment is now given to forty-two machinists and the enterprise is considered one of the most important manufacturing industries of the city. All of the machines made in the shop have been constructed according to Mr. Nolte's ideas and under his own patents.

On the 27th of April, 1887, occurred the marriage of Adolph Nolte and Miss Elizabeth Klein, a daughter of Adam Klein, a wagon and carriage maker of Rochester. They have five living children, Elmer, Adelle, Gladys, Mildred and Lucile. The son is a machinist. One daughter, Lillian, died July 14, 1907. Mr. Nolte is a member of the International Congress of Inventors, the Knights of Malta and of the Rochester Turn Verein, of which his father was

founder. His political allegiance is given to the republican party. His entire life has been passed in Rochester and he has attained to a creditable place in business circles, while his sincere and unfeigned cordiality have won him the friendship of many.





G. F. Bennett

## George F. Barnett



GEORGE F. BARNETT, of whom it was said, "He was one of the strongest and most useful characters in the community," was for more than three score years and ten a resident of Brockport and had passed the ninety-third milestone on life's journey when he was called to his final rest. His life record began in Bridgewater, Oneida county, New York, in the year 1804, and there he spent the days of his boyhood and youth. He arrived in Brockport in 1826 and from that time until his death was one of its most respected and worthy residents, his usefulness and influence as a citizen increasing as the years passed by. In his earlier life he was engaged in business as an architect and builder and in 1840 he entered the service of the McCormick Harvester Company. It was through his skill that the reaper manufactured by that firm was made a success. After about five years' connection with that company he entered the employ of the Seymour & Morgan Company, retiring at the dissolution of that partnership and entering into business for himself. In 1850 he established Agricultural Works in Brockport and continued an active factor in commercial circles until 1886, when he retired from business cares and responsibilities and spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of well earned rest.

In 1828 Mr. Barnett brought his young wife, Catherine Lyell Thorpe to Brockport. She proved to him a true helpmate and is yet lovingly remembered by all who knew her. Mr. Barnett purchased land and built the house in which they lived happily for so many years. Of their five children, three are yet living: Mary H. and Frances C., who made their home with their father; and James M. Barnett, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who is president of the Old National Bank.

In his political views Mr. Barnett was a whig and subsequently a republican and staunchly supported the principles of his party. His life was at all times actuated by his Christian faith and his career was one of helpfulness to his fellowmen. One who knew him long and well and enjoyed his friendship for many years said: "As a man he was a representative of that sterling class of early settlers whose uprightness, truth and honesty, whose appreciation of educational and church privileges and devotion to our free institutions have imparted special and distinguished character to western New York and made it a great factor in the history of the country during a most eventful period.

George F. Barnett

Mr. Barnett, while of a genial, kindly disposition, was level headed, true and sturdy, and had the happy faculty of getting upon the right side of questions and issues that demanded his decision and quietly but firmly maintaining the ground he had taken. He was a man who trained his children to love and honor the principles he maintained and exemplified. He had a sympathetic eye for struggling integrity and merit and there are many hearts that have warmed with gratitude at the remembrance of his helpful hand."

Another has said of him: "No man has wielded a more powerful influence for good in this whole region than he. Simple honesty, unvarying gentleness, combined with executive ability of a high order, were especially prominent traits of his character and gave him such a standing among business men of western New York that his advice was constantly sought by them. It was in his home, however, that the brightness and cheerfulness of his disposition particularly shone."

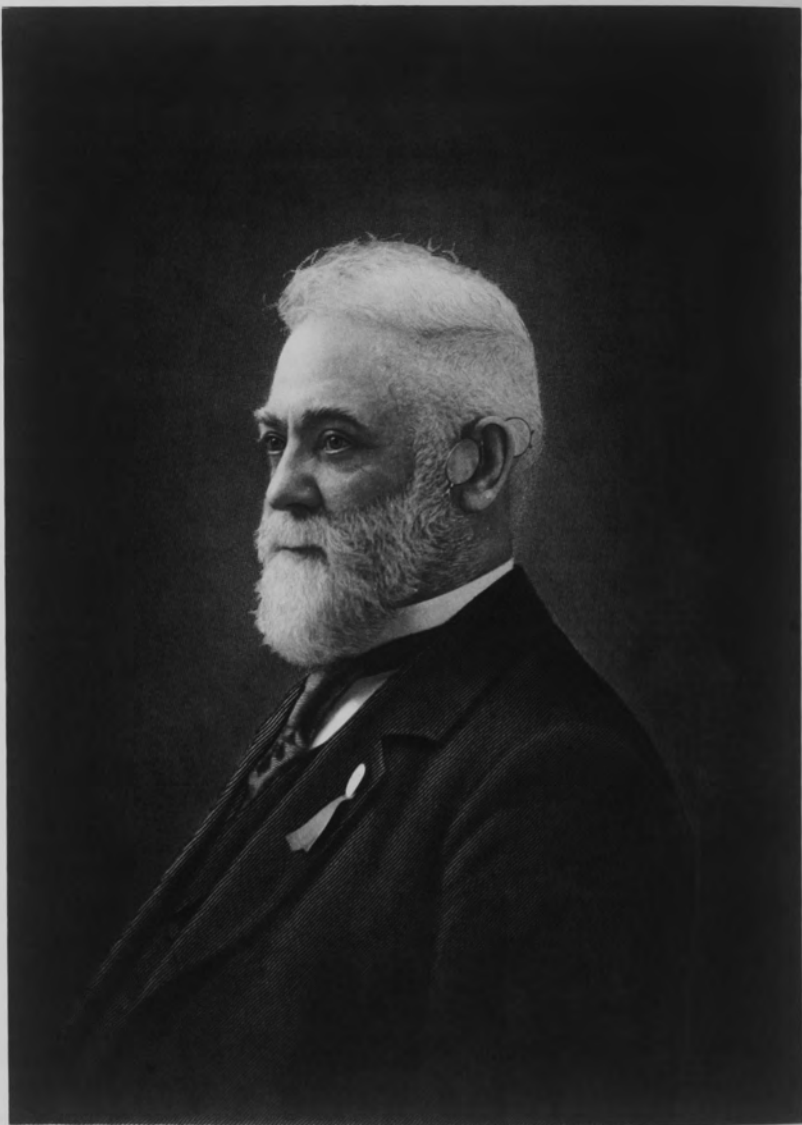
He enjoyed life to its very close. He had the keenest appreciation for what others did for him and a spirit of sincere thankfulness to his Maker for the many hours of happiness that were vouchsafed to him. As his strength failed in the evening of life, back to his lips came the hymns of his boyhood and in the dim twilight his voice was often heard singing "When I can read my title clear," "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," "In the Sweet Bye-and-Bye" and other hymns.

He was one of those who shed around him much of the sunshine of life by reason of his hopeful spirit, his consideration, his kindness and his desire that all should advance. Well may his friends, in recalling his memory, breathe the sentiment

His life was gentle and the elements  
So mixed in him that Nature might stand up  
And say to all the world: 'This was a man.'







Yours truly  
J. B. West.

## Jonathan B. West



**J**ONATHAN B. WEST was an inventor of note, well known abroad and in America. He was born in Lakeville, New York, April 30, 1833, and passed away October 22, 1900. He enjoyed the ordinary educational advantages incident to his native state but he had within himself an originality which took its own way to success. As a child he was always busy working out his own ideas, both in play and in school. This element in his nature was encouraged by his parents and teachers and he spent his life as an inventor, following the talent which was so early manifest. As a young man he invented an automatic broom handle machine and a water meter, the patent of which he sold in France. In 1870 he invented the first machine for setting tires cold and called his invention the West tire setter. Today when the automobile is a common vehicle it is interesting to note that the subject of this sketch built the first one in this city. On a trip to Europe in 1894 he found many new ideas relative to the automobile, so that when he returned he perfected his machine and built one for delivery purposes. Among his minor inventions is that of a screw driver, a machine for embroidering and a needle for the same purpose. He was a man who spent his life in his home and was a representative of our best type of American manhood and chivalry. Though he made many trips abroad, where he sold his patents, it was in America that he was always interested in working out his ideas. By perseverance, determination and honorable effort he reached the goal of prosperity.

A large part of his success he attributed to the abundant support and help given him by his wife, who still carries on his business, although it was merged into a stock company before his death. Mrs. West bore the maiden name of Cornelia Grenelle and was born and educated at Saratoga, New York. She and Mr. West were married by the Rev. Dr. Shaw. She is a Baptist in religious belief, and has taken an active part in the work of the church for thirty-four years. Mr. West attended church with her. He was a member of the Chamber of Commerce for some time.



*Geo. Hunt Clark*

## George Hunt Clarke



**G**EORGE HUNT CLARKE, president of the Racquette River Pulp Company, was born in Albion, Orleans county, New York, April 15, 1843, a son of Freeman Clarke, who arrived in Rochester in 1845 and became prominent in the financial world, being the founder and president of the Rochester Bank and an officer and director in numerous other banking and railway companies. His wife was a daughter of Dr. Levi Ward, one of the earliest settlers of Rochester. George Hunt Clarke prepared for college at the once famous military school conducted by Samuel and Edward Pierce, and afterward attended the Rochester University from 1861 until 1863. At the outbreak of the Civil war he became one of the organizers and a charter member of the Union Blues, a local military organization, in which recruits were instructed. In 1865 he was appointed aid-de-camp with the rank of major, commissioned by Governor Hoffman and assigned to duty on the staff of General John A. Williams, commanding the National Guard of New York. He occupied that position until the death of General Williams in 1873.

Mr. Clarke entered business life in 1865 in a clerical position in the Monroe County Bank of Rochester, where he remained until 1873, when he went to St. Louis, Missouri, and reconstructed the Martindale & Eddy Zinc Works, rebuilding the entire plant and establishing a successful business. In 1874, in connection with John Horton, he rebuilt the extensive iron furnaces at Port Lyddon, New York, and then went to Fullerville, St. Lawrence county, New York, where with A. J. Bixby he constructed and operated the extensive charcoal furnaces. Some years later he organized the Racquette River Pulp Company, of which he is now president.

Mr. Clarke has been an active worker in Masonry in Rochester, belonging to the blue lodge, chapter and commandery, and has also taken the degrees of the Scottish rite and the Mystic Shrine. He is an honorary member of the supreme council of the thirty-third degree for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of United States of America. He belongs likewise to the Rochester Club, the Rochester Whist Club and other social organizations.



Abner Knapp

## Homer Knapp



**H**OMER KNAPP, contractor and builder of Rochester, was born on the 29th of March, 1858, in Steuben county, New York, his parents being George W. and Caroline (Haskell) Knapp, the former a native of Delaware and the latter of New Hampshire. In early boyhood he began his education as a public-school student in his native county and later he attended the Free Academy at Corning, New York, where he completed a course by graduation in 1876.

His initial step into the business world acquainted him with the trade of carpentering and later on he also learned the mason's trade, about three years being spent in this way. During this time he also enjoyed additional school advantages.

At Corning, New York, Mr. Knapp entered upon an independent business career as a contractor and builder, doing mason work as well as carpentering and in fact constructing the house from cellar to garret. He has made his home in Rochester for twenty years and since 1888 has been associated with its building operations as a contractor. Having demonstrated his ability in this direction, various important contracts have been awarded him and beautiful residences, fine churches and substantial business houses are proof of his knowledge of the business and his painstaking care in the execution of the work. He has also been awarded contracts on various public buildings and has become well known for his faithfulness and trustworthiness. He erected the Masonic Temple and built the Curtice and Strong residences besides his own home at 202 Parsells avenue and many others. He is now president and was one of the promoters of the Composite Brick Company, of Brighton, manufacturers of brick, cement blocks and concrete work.

Mr. Knapp is well known in republican circles and while his aspirations are not in the line of political preferment he does what he can for the interests of his friends who seek advancement in official lines. He belongs to the Builders' Exchange; to the Carpenters' Association, of which he was president for two years; and to the Columbia Rifle Club, while fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias and the Masons, his membership being with Genesee Falls lodge, No. 507, F. & A. M., while in Rochester consistory he has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite, and is a member of Cyrene commandery, K. T.

Homer Knapp

In 1884 Mr. Knapp was married to Miss Mary E. Graham, of Corning, a daughter of Joseph Graham, and they have become the parents of two daughters, Emma J. and Mildred H., the family being now well known in Rochester, where they have lived for two decades. Mr. Knapp has never sought to figure prominently before the public aside from his business, content to exercise his energies in performing the daily duties of the workaday world, and because he has been honest, because he has done his work faithfully, never taking advantage of the necessities of his fellowmen in a business transaction, he has gained a large measure of success.







Stanton C. Langelow

## Stratton C. Langslow



THE LINE of differentiation which separates the successful from the unsuccessful is found not so much in the possession of opportunities on the one hand or the lack of them on the other as in the use which is made of them. It is only as the individual develops his latent qualities and strengthens his talents by use that he comes to be recognized as a strong individual factor, his powers setting him apart from the great majority as one whose work entitles him to recognition and to success. The wise use which he has made of the advantages that he has enjoyed have gained for Stratton C. Langslow the prominent place now accorded him in Rochester's business circles.

He was born in New York city on the 3d of July, 1857, but has been a resident of Rochester from the age of three years and acquired his education in the public schools here, while spending his boyhood days in the home of his parents, Henry A. and Catherine M. (Cardiff) Langslow. He is descended from English ancestry, being a grandson of Captain Richard Langslow, who for about twenty years served with the rank of captain in the military forces of the East India Company. In 1817 he visited the new world and made an extended tour of the United States. During his travels he kept a journal, which is now both curious and valuable and which graphically illustrates the pioneer life and notable scenes enroute. He traveled after the primitive manner of the times by stage or boat or by private conveyance. His son, Henry A. Langslow, was born within twelve miles of London, England, November 16, 1830, and in 1849 crossed the Atlantic to America, landing in Nova Scotia. He went first to Prince Edward's Island and afterward spent a year in Boston, Massachusetts, subsequently taking up his abode in New York city, where he carried on various business interests for ten years. In 1850 he married Catherine M. Cardiff, a native of Charlottetown, Prince Edward's Island, and they became the parents of five children: Henry Richard and Thomas Walter, now deceased; Louis A. G.; Stratton C.; and Helena M. All were born in New York city, and in 1860 the father brought his family to Rochester, where he was mainly engaged in the furniture business until his demise. In 1875 he became connected with the furniture firm of Burley & Dewey, predecessors of the I. H. Dewey Furniture Company, of which Mr. Langslow was vice president until January, 1885, when he and his son, Stratton C. Langslow, withdrew.

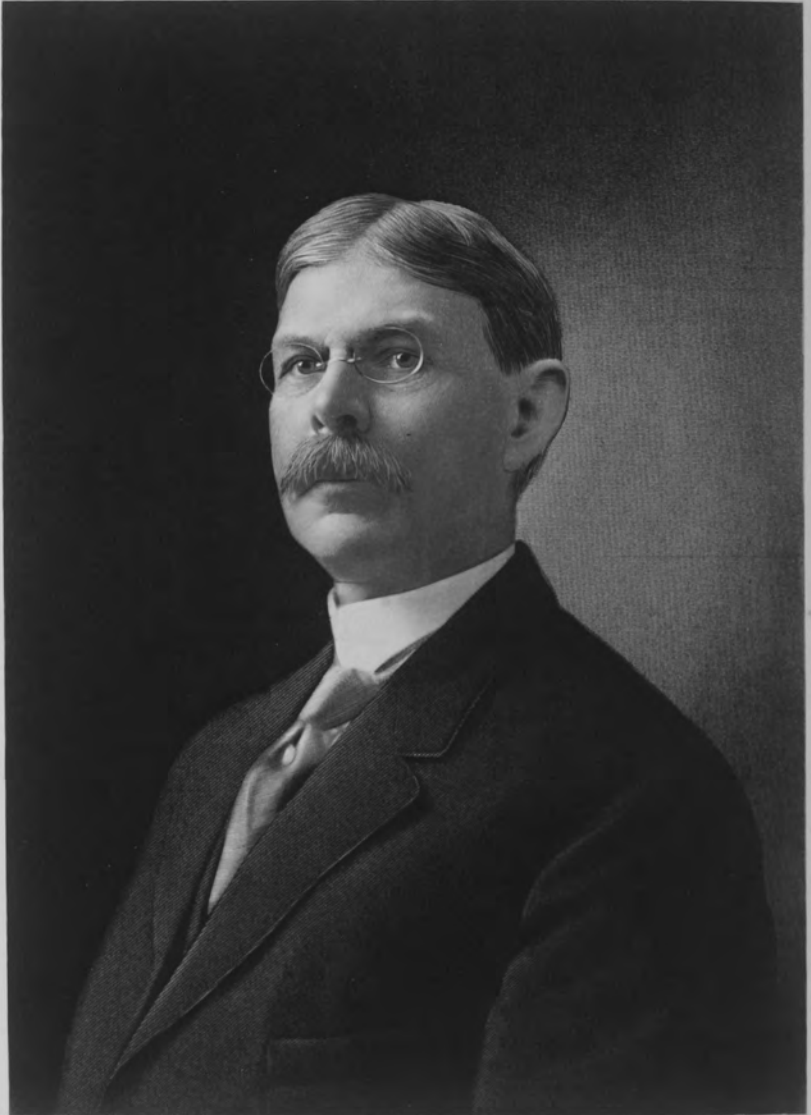
Stratton C. Langslow

The early entrance of Stratton C. Langslow into business life was as traveling salesman for the firm of Burley & Dewey, furniture manufacturers, with whom he remained for several years, when they were succeeded by the I. H. Dewey Furniture Company, Mr. Langslow maintaining his association with the latter until 1885.

From the first he showed remarkable ability to handle men and to get the maximum of productive labor from them, at the same time holding their respect and affection. This combined with the force and ceaseless energy of his work brought him his first successes. As stated he and his father withdrew, and the firm of Langslow-Fowler & Company was organized. The senior partner was a man of broad practical experience in business and Stratton C. Langslow had had more than twenty years' experience in connection with the manufacture and sale of furniture. From the beginning the new enterprise prospered and has long since attained very extensive proportions. Upon his father's death he became his successor in the business and by his far-sighted and conservative, though extremely progressive policy, has steadily increased the yearly volume of business to the current year's production of over six hundred and fifty thousand dollars' worth of furniture and giving employment to four hundred and fifty hands. The manufactured output because of its excellence and durability has been in constant demand and shipments are made by the company to all parts of the country.

Stratton C. Langslow was married in 1883 to Miss Mary E. Thompson, a daughter of John Thompson, of Ironton, Ohio, and they now have two children, Harry R. and Helena M. For almost a half century the name of Langslow has figured in connection with the furniture trade in Rochester and the record has at all times been characterized by conformity to a high standard of commercial ethics, while the old and time tried maxims, such as "honesty is the best policy" and "there is no excellence without labor" have constituted the working basis of the business.





Howard A. Bannock

## Howard A. Barrows



HOWARD A. BARROWS is a descendant of that sturdy Connecticut type of humanity that fought for independence in the colonial war and that has ever rebelled against any form of bondage. He was born at Le Roy, New York, August 10, 1855, and received his education at Batavia, New York. When a mere boy he was employed by the Union and Advertiser Company of Rochester, as mailing clerk. He did his work so well that he was quickly promoted to head bookkeeper, a position he filled with so much credit that he was offered and accepted a similar position on the Indianapolis Sentinel. In a few months his former position at a better salary was offered him and he returned to Rochester, which city has since been his home. His first connection with the clothing business was with the manufacturing firm of Wile, Stern & Company, who had been impressed by his energy and solicited him to accept a position of trust and responsibility. He very soon developed a special aptitude for the clothing trade and attracted the attention of L. Adler Brothers & Company, with whom he became connected in 1885, when he was yet a young man. Ten years later he was admitted to membership in this progressive and successful house, and for several years has been one of the directors whose judgment and advice as a directing force in the steady growth of the business have been fully recognized and appreciated.

Mr. Barrows has charge of the extensive New England trade of the house in connection with his personal work in the manufacturing department. He believes in and practices the policy of strict integrity and has been doing it so many years that he has earned the confidence of his customers to an unusual extent. It is said that he has never lost a desirable account for the reason that men to whom he sold goods found by experience that they could rely on what he told them as well as upon the clothing he sold them; and there has, consequently, grown up between him and them a bond of strong personal friendship, as well as of pleasant commercial relations that holds them together year after year. His personal ideals of merchandising harmonize perfectly with those of L. Adler Brothers & Company, thus making his business connection pleasant as well as profitable.

In 1903 Mr. Barrows saw the possibilities of the retail end of the clothing business in Rochester and bought the McFarlin Clothing Company, of which he

Howard A. Barrows

is president and treasurer. No sooner had he acquired possession than he began systematically to enlarge the company's facilities for doing business. In 1906 the business had grown to such magnitude that the whole building was secured, giving ample facilities for more than doubling the sale of fine clothing, so that, today this store is the largest distributor of distinctly fine clothing in Rochester. Here, too, the keynote of his success has been the gaining of and keeping the confidence of people who buy clothing, the name of the house being a synonym for honesty and a "squaredeal."

Though very active and energetic in his business affairs Mr. Barrows believes in recreation, mostly of the fresh air kind, and is interested in vigorous outdoor sports. He is socially inclined also, and is a member of the Genesee Valley Club, Masonic Club, Punxsutawney Club, Batavia Club, Rochester Yacht Club, and in the Masonic order is a member of Valley lodge, Hamilton chapter, Monroe commandery, Knights Templar, and Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

Howard A. Barrows married Miss Anna Ridley. Their children are Alice Ridley, William Peters, Mary Alexander, Elizabeth and John Barrows. Their home life is characterized by the strongest attachments, each for the others, and a broad spirit of comradeship peculiar to homes guided by a man whose whole life has exemplified the attributes of justice, tolerance and kindliness.

Mr. Barrows has done more than the usual amount of hard thinking. To every problem of life he has applied energy, common sense and thought. He believes that any young man who is fairly endowed with natural intelligence and who has sufficient ambition to stimulate his action and his thought, can achieve success. His own success as a merchant is the result of patient trying and applying the lessons of each year to the work of the next, along with which has gone the erection of a substantial structure of character; so that when he surveys the past he finds few regrets. On the other hand, while he enjoys rationally the material comforts of life, the most enduring reward of his work as a business man he considers to be the respect and esteem of his fellowmen, the real, honest personal friendship and confidence of those with whom he has come in contact.



*J. H. Reynolds*



## Thomas J. Reynolds



THOMAS J. REYNOLDS was born in Springwater, Livingston county, New York, in 1850, and died October 19, 1902. His life record, compassing fifty years, constituted a period of untiring activity crowned with a large measure of success by reason of his important and extensive connections with business interests. He was reared in the place of his nativity and completed his education by study in Lima Seminary. At the age of nineteen years he started out in life on his own account, going to Lavonia, where for six years he was engaged in the produce business. In the fall of 1882 he turned his attention to the lumber trade and began furnishing ties and bridge timber for the construction of the railroad between Binghamton and Buffalo. He bought thirty thousand acres of timber land in Kentucky, which his widow still owns, and he also had large tracts of timber land in Pennsylvania and furnished lumber under contract for many important railway systems, including the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western, the New York Central, the Erie and other roads. He became a resident of Rochester in 1885 and had his offices in the Wilder Building, being one of the first to occupy that structure. As the years passed by he developed a lumber business of great magnitude, becoming one of the successful lumber merchants of this part of the country. He was also president of the Pyramid Silver Mining Company in New Mexico, was interested in mining at Kettle Falls and was recognized as one of the progressive men of his day. In his life he displayed an initiative spirit. There are many men who can successfully execute the carefully laid plans of others but there are comparatively few who can institute new methods and develop a business along original lines. Mr. Reynolds was regarded as a man of broad capabilities, who formed his plans readily and was determined in their execution. One of the strong elements in his success was that he recognized the fact that the present and not the future holds his opportunity. Neither was he afraid of that laborious attention to business which is one of the essential elements of success. Indolence and idleness were utterly foreign to his nature and his close application, strong purpose and laudable ambition constituted the foundation upon which he builded his splendid prosperity. During the greater part of his connection with the lumber trade he had his office in Rochester first in the Wilder Building and afterward in the Chamber of Commerce. His interests,

**Thomas J. Reynolds**

however, called him to various parts of the country and he became widely known in business circles.

While living in Lavonia, New York, Mr. Reynolds was married to Miss Mary Augusta Keyes, a daughter of Alvin C. Keyes, of Lavonia, who resided at that place for about forty-five years. He was a contractor and builder. His wife, Mary Jane Egbert, was born in Lima, New York, in 1832, and is still living, making her home with her daughter, Mrs. Reynolds, who also has five brothers residing in Rochester. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds were born two sons. Walter Wheeler, the elder, was educated in Lima Seminary and the Keuga Lake Military School. He won his diploma in law in Kentucky and is now practicing in Georgia. He is married and has one child, Alice M. Thurlow J. Reynolds, the younger son, also received his education in Lima Seminary and in Keuga Lake Military School. He is now in Kentucky, supervising the lumber interests there for his mother.

In 1885 Mr. Reynolds erected in Rochester the present beautiful home which his widow has occupied for twenty-one years. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Lavonia and Mrs. Reynolds and her younger son are now members of Christ church in Rochester. In politics Mr. Reynolds was a republican. He also attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite in Masonry and was very active in the work of the craft. He also belonged to the Rochester Club. While he attained pre-eminent success in business, his time and interests were by no means entirely concentrated upon his commercial pursuits. He was a man who held to high ideals and his life was most notable in its varied relations. He was always genial and approachable and won the kindly regard and friendship of all who knew him. A man honored, respected and esteemed wherever known, and most of all where he was best known, his memory is still held as a sacred treasure by those with whom he came in contact. He was always willing to devote his wealth and energies to any feasible undertaking that would increase the prosperity of the city and add to the comfort of its inhabitants. His life was assuredly a success and while he accumulated a large fortune he used only such means as will bear the closest scrutiny. Although a man of wealth he was unostentatious in a marked degree and in this age when anarchistic and socialistic doctrines are inflaming the masses, the demeanor and actions of such men as he do more to quench the fire of envy and malice than all other means combined. While his life was not filled with thrilling incidents, probably no history published in this volume can serve as a better illustration to young men of the power of close application, honesty and integrity in insuring success.



Carl Henry W. Schlicht

## Henry N. Schlick



IN THE LIFE history of Colonel Henry N. Schlick there were many creditable chapters, setting forth an example that is indeed worthy of emulation. Death, which came to him suddenly, deprived Rochester of one of its popular residents and prominent business men. He was born in Dansville, New York, in 1841, and was reared in that city, acquiring his education in its public schools. At the outbreak of the Civil war, much interested in the attitude of the south and the questions which brought on hostilities, he became a pronounced advocate of the Union cause and enlisted as a member of Company K, One Hundred and Thirtieth New York Volunteers, afterward called the First New York Dragoons. For three years he served with the army, winning distinction at the front and working his way upward from the position of private in the ranks to captain of his company within a comparatively short time. He participated in over twenty of the leading engagements in the early part of the war and was always noted for his fearless defense of the old flag and the cause it represented. At the battle of Todd's Tavern he served as aid-de-camp to General Gibbs, who was in command of the Third Brigade and during this campaign earnestly commanded Company H in several engagements. In the battle of Newton he was severely wounded in the right elbow and while recovering from his wound he was stricken with fever, necessitating his remaining in the hospitals at Baltimore and at Minneapolis for some weeks. When he was able to leave the hospital he was put on detached service and sent to Springfield, Illinois, where he had command of a detachment of cavalry, and soon after his removal to Illinois' capital he was appointed acting assistant adjutant general of that post. Colonel Schlick was in Springfield at the time of the burial of Abraham Lincoln and was one of the officers chosen for the military escort at the funeral service. He continued in the army until the officers of his regiment were mustered out of service July 18, 1865. He was always deeply interested in military affairs and never ceased to take an active part in such, although he was not again connected with the army.

After leaving Springfield Colonel Schlick went to Wellsville, Allegany county, New York. He had previously been connected with the grocery business in Dansville and he continued in the same line in Wellsville. In community affairs he became quite prominent, exerting considerable influence in

Henry M. Schlick

molding public thought and action there. For two years he filled the office of trustee, was foreman of a fire company and from the position of assistant chief was promoted to that of chief of the fire department.

The year 1885 witnessed the arrival of Colonel Schlick in Rochester, where he continued to make his home until his death, twenty years later. Here he turned his attention to the coal business as a retail merchant, continuing in that line up to the time of his death. He won a large and liberal patronage as a dealer in coal, his business methods being strictly reliable, while his enterprise and diligence served as forceful elements in his success. Colonel Schlick, however, was not only known as a merchant but also won distinction in military and social circles, and his active life and personal worth made him one of the most popular residents of Rochester. He has taken a very active part in the Catholic organizations of the city and for sixteen years was colonel of the First Regiment of the Knights of St. John. For many years he served as general commander of the third division of the Memorial day parade. He maintained pleasant relations with his old army comrades who wore the blue upon southern battle-fields through his membership in Marshall post, G. A. R., and he has been honored in Grand Army circles throughout the state as shown by his election to commander of the Grand Army of New York. He was also a member of the brigade staff of the local post and held other positions of prominence.

Colonel Schlick was first married to Miss Mary Goettschal, who died in 1895. He was married in 1898 to Miss Elizabeth A. Guhmann, of Rochester, a daughter of Jacob Guhmann, who was born in Alsace, Germany, and at an early day came to Rochester. He was connected with the New York Central Railroad in this city for a long period. Both he and his wife are now deceased. In their family were six daughters, all yet living in Rochester. Unto Colonel and Mrs. Schlick was born a daughter, Marie Josephine, whose birth occurred in January, 1899.

In his political views Colonel Schlick was a stalwart republican, who took a most active and helpful interest in the work of the party, being recognized as one of its leaders in this city. He served as one of the trustees of St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum and as commissioner of Hemlock Lake, and his fraternal relations extended to the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association and the Knights of St. John. He was most devoted to his family, considering no sacrifice on his part too great if it would promote the welfare or enhance the happiness of his wife and daughter. He built for them a beautiful home at No. 141 North Union street, where they still reside and he also erected a residence on Central avenue.

Death came to Colonel Schlick suddenly. On the night of April 11, 1905, he attended a meeting of commandery No. 9 of the Knights of St. John, and while returning to his home fell dead at the corner of Main street East and North Union street. He was a man of fine personal appearance and soldierly

bearing, tall, straight and dignified when occasion required, yet at all times genial and courteous. His was one of the largest funeral services ever held in the city in years. A great concourse of people gathered to pay their last tribute of honor and respect to one whom in life they had known and loved. The commandery of the Knights of St. John, of which he was the colonel, attended three hundred strong, in full uniform. Marshall post was also splendidly represented and the Knights of Columbus sent a large delegation. After solemn requiem mass was celebrated at St. Joseph's church the remains were taken to Dansville, his boyhood's home, for interment. Years will pass, however, before the memory of Colonel Schlick has faded from the lives of those with whom he was closely associated. Wherever known he commanded regard and won warm friendships, and throughout his life he was noted for loyalty, whether upon the battlefields of the south or in some quiet position, where it was merely a matter of his own conscience and his own self-respect. His life record contains many obvious lessons which may well be followed by those who knew him, and indeed he left the impress of his individuality upon many with whom he came in contact.





Thos. F. Mahon



## Thomas F. Mahon



**T**HOMAS F. MAHON, now deceased, was for many years actively associated with the business interests of Rochester and steadily worked his way upward to a position of affluence and prominence, his commercial integrity and capacity being widely recognized. He was born in Newark, New Jersey, June 30, 1861, and his life record covered the span to March 10, 1907. His father, John J. Mahon, was a tailor by trade and removed from Newark to Rochester during the early boyhood of his son Thomas. Both he and his wife are now deceased. Thomas F. Mahon acquired his education in the schools of Rochester and after attending the high school pursued a business course. Entering commercial circles, he was first employed in the office of the firm of Burke, Fitz-Simons & Hone, and subsequently he was with the Stein-Bloch Company for twenty years, first acting as bookkeeper and afterward becoming financial manager. His long connection with the house indicates in no uncertain manner the trust and confidence reposed in him, as well as his ability in the discharge of his duties. On leaving that firm in 1899 he became connected with the Hickey-Freeman Company and a year later he engaged in business on his own account as a wholesale dealer in leather under the firm name of Mahon & Company at No. 90 Mill street. He was not long in building up a good business and in fact his trade constantly increased until he was in command of an extensive patronage and had a branch office in Cincinnati, Ohio. In the establishment and control of this enterprise he displayed keen business discernment, unfaltering energy and strong purpose, and as the years passed he became recognized as one of the leading merchants of Rochester.

Mr. Mahon was married to Miss Minnie Judge, a native of Rochester and daughter of Patrick Judge. Her father is now deceased but her mother is still living in this city. Mr. Mahon left eight children, of whom Rose Marie was a daughter of his first marriage. The others are Gertrude, Adrian, Lillian, Lois, Gerald, Oswald and Dorothy.

Mr. Mahon gave his political support to the democracy, and although he never sought or desired office he was ever a public-spirited citizen and gave active and hearty co-operation to many movements for the public good. He belonged to St. Mary's Catholic church, of which Mrs. Mahon is also a member, and was identified with the Knights of Columbus. Wherever known he

**Thomas F. Mahon**

was greatly esteemed because of his progressiveness in citizenship, his enterprise in business and his loyalty in social circles. He had the confidence and trust of his business associates but his best traits of character were reserved for his own home and fireside, and in his family he was a devoted husband and father, considering no sacrifice too great on his part if it would promote the welfare and happiness of his wife and children.





*L. S. Brooks, New York*

*L. S. Brooks*

## Lewis S. Brooks



**L**EWIS S. BROOKS, now living in well earned ease in Fairport, was in former years largely connected with the mining of coal and with general agricultural pursuits. He is one of Monroe county's native sons, his birth having occurred in Penfield on the 13th of April, 1853. His father, Garry Brooks, was born July 5, 1806, in New Milford, Connecticut, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Brooks, were also natives of that state. The family is of English lineage and was founded in America by Thomas Brooks, who on coming from England settled in Connecticut. The town of Brookfield was named in his honor and he there preached in the Presbyterian church for a half century. He was a graduate of the theological department of Yale College of the class of 1754. His son, Samuel Brooks, was a soldier of the Revolution under Generals Washington and Lafayette, being with the latter at Yorktown. He afterward followed carpentering throughout his active business life and died at the advanced age of ninety-six years.

Garry Brooks was reared and educated in Connecticut and learned the tailor's trade in Litchfield, that state. In 1826 he joined his parents in Monroe county, New York, and after living for some time in the town of Penfield removed to Fairport, where he still lives—a centenarian. He married Emma Chauncey, daughter of John Chauncey, of Connecticut, and of their four children three are living: Fannie, Lewis and Emma, all of Fairport. Garry Brooks is a republican and in religious faith a Congregationalist. He takes an active part in the evangelistic and school work of the church and has contributed largely to the support of Oberlin College, conducted under the auspices of that denomination. While living in the town of Penfield he joined with others in building Penfield Academy and has ever been a most stalwart friend of the schools.

Lewis S. Brooks spent his youth on his father's farm in Penfield and was a lad of fourteen years at the time of the removal of the family to Fairport. His public-school education was supplemented by study in Eastman's Business College of Poughkeepsie, New York.

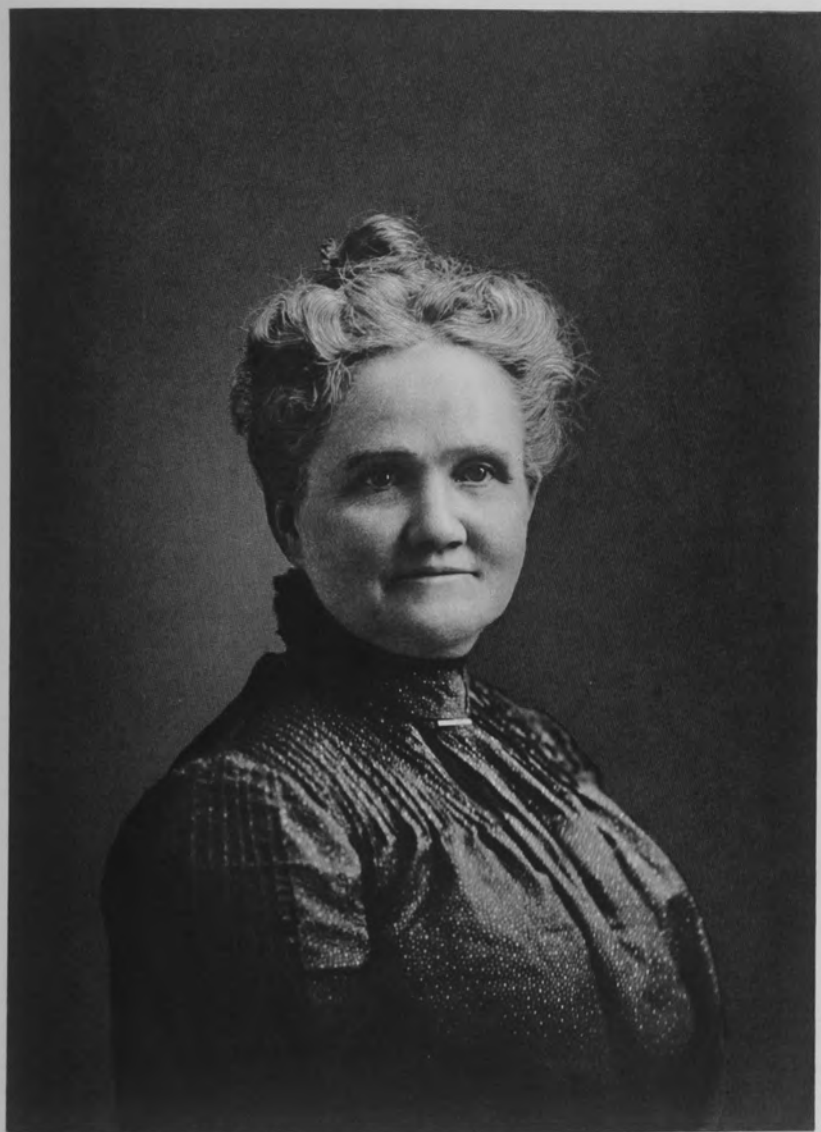
In early manhood Lewis Brooks wedded Miss Mary McMillan, the ceremony being performed at the home of her uncle, Jesse B. Hannan. They later removed to Illinois, where they resided from 1877 until 1889, Mr.

Lewis S. Brooks

Brooks being regarded as one of the substantial business men of Smithboro and that portion of the state. For a number of years he was there interested in the mining of coal, being vice president of the Smithboro Prospecting & Mining Company, which operated a large tract of coal lands, having contracts for the coal used by the Vandalia system during the superintendency of the late Colonel Hill. However, through much of his life he has given his time and energies to stock-raising and farming and for the purpose of engaging in the former he owns the Prospect View farm, comprising three hundred and seventy acres of the finest land in the state. He was one of the charter members of the State Horticultural Society of New York and has always felt a deep interest in everything pertaining to advancement in farming and fruit-growing lines. In later years he has transacted his father's business as well as looking after his own properties and has displayed great executive ability and keen discrimination in the work.

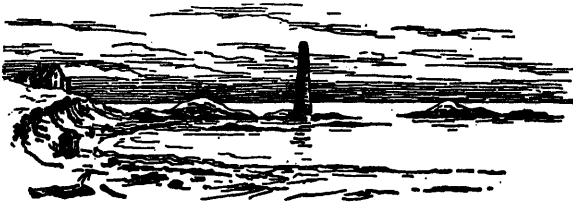
Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brooks have been born nine children. Chauncey Garry, who now resides on his father's farm near Pittsford, married Cora Hunt, a daughter of William Hunt and a native of Branchport, Yates county, New York. Unto this marriage have been born two sons, Garry and William. Fannie F. is a graduate of Wells College of the class of 1902, where she won the degree of Master of Arts and also obtained a degree from Trinity College at Durham, North Carolina, and is now a teacher in the high school at Rochester. Jesse L., a former student in the Fairport high school and a graduate of Eastman's Business College, is now connected with the Rochester electric light plant. Emma S., who pursued a classical course in the Fairport high school and after her graduation took a post graduate course there and also attended Elmira College, is now the wife of J. Hunter Black of Genesee, New York, at present surrogate clerk and now pursuing a course in law. On the occasion of their marriage four generations of the family were present, including her grandfather, then one hundred years of age. Ethel M. was educated in the Fairport high school and resides at home. J. Willard is a student in the high school. Earl V. is a student in the Rochester Business University. Mary L. is attending the Mrs. Hake preparatory school in Rochester. Harold S. died at the age of two years.

The home of the family is a large and attractive residence, splendidly situated on a natural building site, commanding a fine view of the village and presided over by Mrs. Brooks, who is a most accomplished and charming hostess. Mr. Brooks is an earnest advocate of republican principles and while in Illinois served on the county republican central committee and wielded a wide influence in county and state politics. In 1882 he became a member of the Presbyterian church at Greenville, Illinois, but there is no church of that denomination in Fairport, so he attends and supports other denominations here. He is a Christian gentleman of high principles and genuine personal worth and throughout his entire life he has ever endeavored to do unto

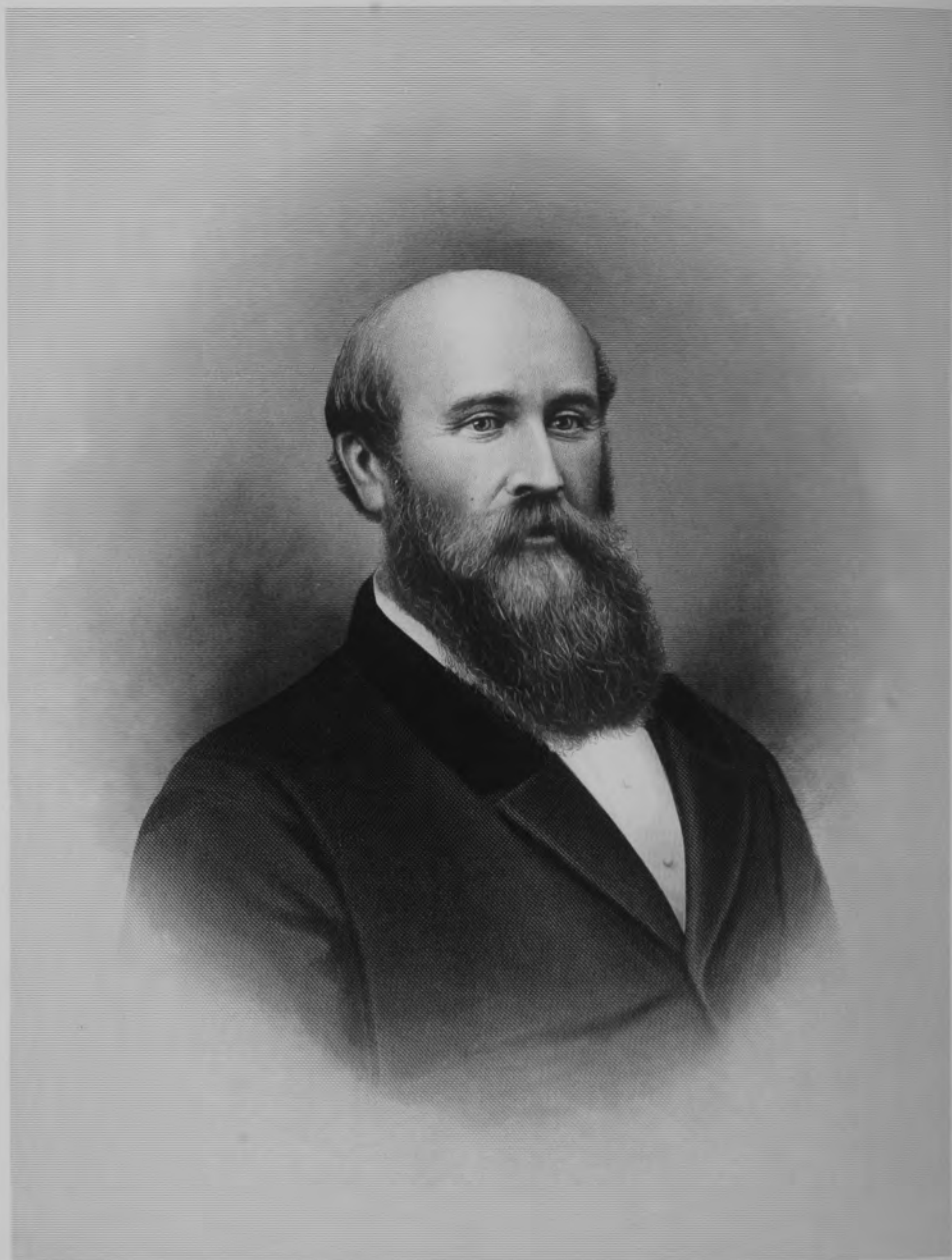


Mary MacMillan Brooks.

others as he would have them do unto him. He recognizes the fact that Christianity is not a matter of Sunday observance but of daily living, and this truth he manifests in all his relations with his fellowmen, being ever just, considerate and kindly.







Geo. H. Thompson

## George H. Thompson



GEORGE H. THOMPSON figured for many years as one of the most prominent, able and successful business men of Rochester and as a contractor and builder he enjoyed peculiar distinction as a prime factor in the mammoth operations of the past twenty years—a period marked by an entire revolution in building operations here. He was also connected with much railroad construction and his labors were an important element in the material development of this portion of the city. The birth of George H. Thompson occurred in Rochester in 1823, and his education was acquired in the public schools. He early learned the carpenter's trade and possessed much natural mechanical ingenuity and ability. He entered upon his various duties as a construction and building contractor with admirable equipment and carried out his projects with such industry that he is credited with the erection of a number of the finest structures in Rochester. He built the Lima & Geneva Railroad and the Pine Creek Railroad, also the crosstown road that runs through Rochester and the Penut Railroad in Buffalo. He constructed forty-six miles of the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburg Railroad and the elevated tracks of the New York Central Railroad. He was also the contractor and builder of the Savings Bank of Rochester, the House of Refuge, the New York Central Railroad station, the Barry block, and the Kimball tobacco factory, the immense retaining wall being an engineering feat within itself. These and many others are the principal ornaments of their respective neighborhoods, pleasing to the eye and constructed with conscientious regard for real utility. He had three thousand men working under him and there was never anything of the overbearing taskmaster in him. On the contrary he was well liked by all who served under him and by all with whom he had business relations either as contractor or employer. In connection with his extensive building operations he was one of the directors of the Monroe County Bank, becoming associated with that institution in 1884.

Mr. Thompson was also prominent in the Masonic fraternity, having attained the thirty-second degree. He held membership in Valley lodge, No. 109, A. F. & A. M., in his life exemplifying the beneficent, helpful spirit of the craft, which is based upon mutual kindness and brotherly interest. He was also a member of Point Lookout Club. In politics he was a strong repub-

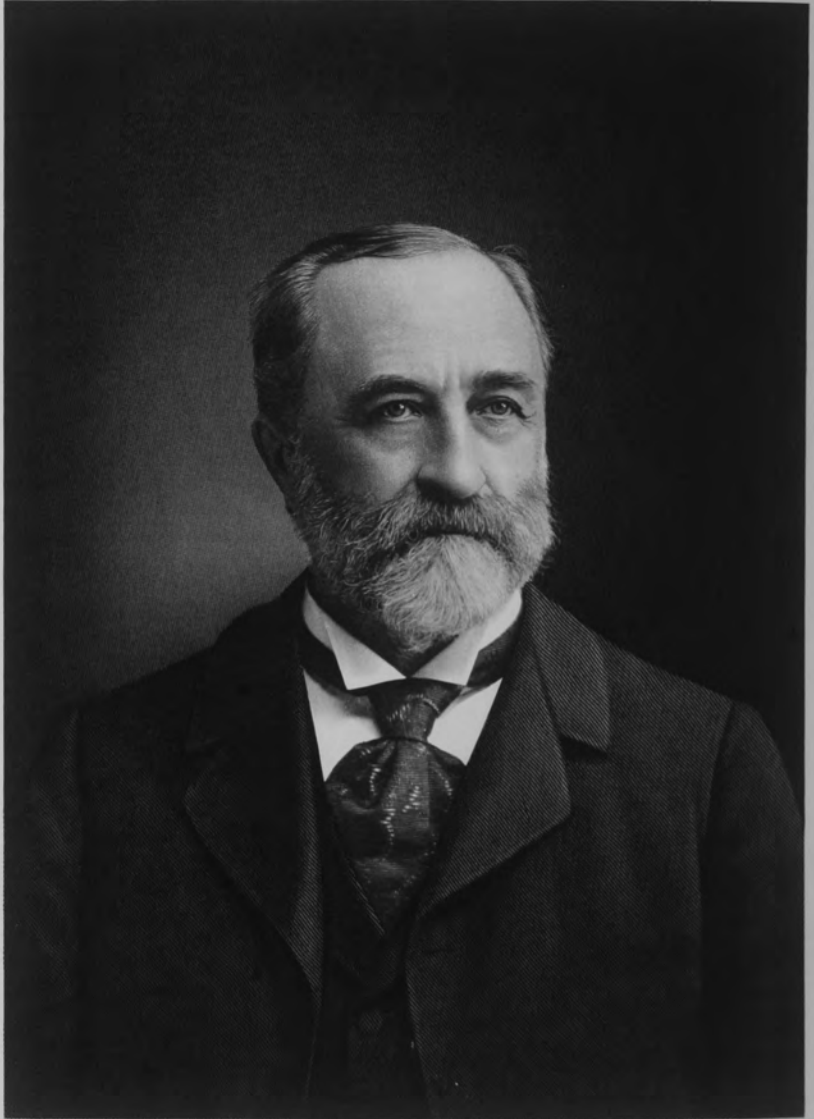
George H. Thompson

lican, unfaltering in his allegiance to the party and doing all in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence. For several years he served as a commissioner of Mount Hope cemetery.

On the 21st of January, 1875, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage to Miss Carrie L. Menter. They had an adopted daughter, Jennie M. Thompson, whom they reared, and who is now the wife of David Z. Morris, a son of the Rev. Dr. H. W. Morris and a prosperous young business man, now nicely located in Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson also adopted a son, Dr. G. M. Thompson of this city, who is a prominent man in Rochester, engaged in the general practice of medicine and surgery and located on East avenue. He is also a member of Valley lodge, No. 109, A. F. & A. M.

The death of Mr. Thompson occurred June 28, 1884, and the community thereby lost one of its representative, worthy and distinguished citizens. He made for himself a splendid record and an untarnished name in business circles. His career was remarkably successful, chiefly by reason of his natural ability and his thorough insight into the business in which as a young tradesman he embarked. His strict integrity, business conservatism and judgment were so universally recognized that he enjoyed public confidence to an enviable degree and naturally this brought him a lucrative patronage, so that through times of general prosperity and general adversity alike he witnessed a steady increase in his business until it became one of the most flourishing in its line in the city of Rochester. Conscientiously and industriously he executed the contracts given to him and prosperity resulted. In the social circles in which he moved he was known as a companionable, kindly gentleman, of genial nature, while in his family he was a devoted husband and father, putting forth every possible effort to enhance the welfare and promote the happiness of his wife and children. Mrs. Thompson still survives her husband and is yet living in Rochester, occupying a leading position in the most prominent social circles of the city.





*P. E. Huntley*

## Byron E. Huntley



**B**YRON E. HUNTLEY, who died in 1906, at the age of eighty-one, was for a long lifetime one of the foremost business men in western New York. Of Scotch ancestry, he inherited those sterling qualities of untiring perseverance and incorruptible honesty which began to tell in the very beginning of his business career. Added to these was an intuitive knowledge of human nature, a marvelous tact in the management of men, a keen foresight of the shifting tides of the business world and of their significance, and a boldness in enterprise which was not inconsistent with a wise and cautious conservatism. Mr. Huntley was the son of Dr. Lyman Huntley, a surgeon in the United States Army in the war of 1812, and of Alma Upson Huntley. He was born at Mexico, New York, February 6, 1825. While still a boy he removed with his parents to Fairport and in 1844 to Brockport. Here he entered the Brockport Collegiate Institute and later began his college course at Madison University, now Colgate University, located at Hamilton, New York.

The failure of his health, however, compelled a change of plan and he entered the office of Fitch, Barry & Company of Brockport. This firm soon became the manufacturers of the McCormick reaper, the forerunner of the great harvester manufacturing industry of the world. In this machine Mr. Huntley became deeply interested and was soon made a member of the firm.

Various changes in his business relations took place during the next few years, but in every instance it became evident that the field of his activity was to be that of the manufacture of agricultural implements. In the meantime his qualities as a business man were becoming daily more conspicuous and his genius for organization was revealing itself. In 1871 the evolution of business brought into existence the Johnston Harvester Company, of which Mr. Huntley was from the first the leading spirit.

In a day when the field of American industry was largely limited by our own shores, he looked farther and saw a vast untried field beyond the sea. Crossing to the continent of Europe, he soon saw the realization of his dreams. Without difficulty he established European agencies and from that day forward the machines of the Johnston Harvester Company have been pushing their way. In France, Germany, Russia, Australia, in the Orient and in Africa the Johnston harvesting machines have become known. For more



Byron C. Huntley

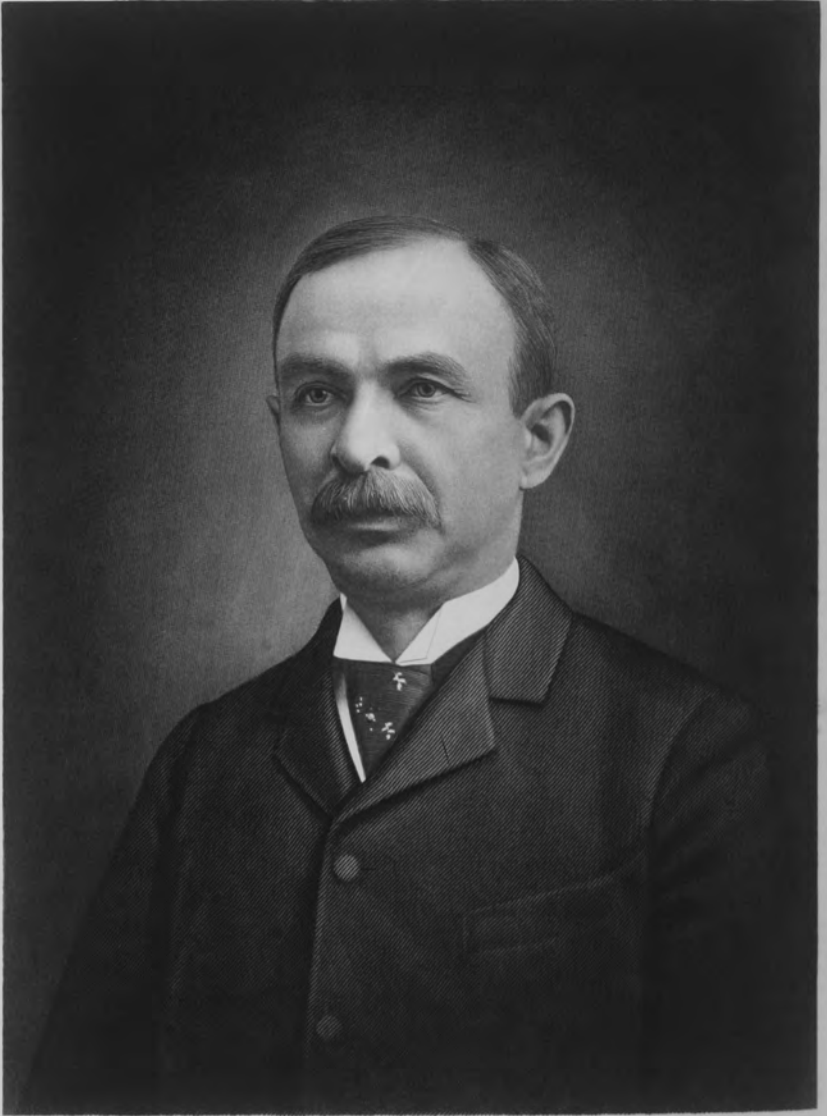
than thirty years Mr. Huntley made an annual trip to Europe in the interests of the company. He is said to have been better informed on the European business in American harvesting machinery than any other manufacturer in the United States. Indeed so highly were his services as a pioneer in the introduction of American machinery to foreign lands regarded that the German royal family became greatly interested and the Emperor Frederick attended the first field trial near Berlin in person. But a still greater honor came to Mr. Huntley in 1901, when in recognition of his distinguished services in introducing American labor-saving machinery into France, he was decorated a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor by the president of France.

In 1881 the extensive factory at Brockport was totally destroyed by fire and the company then rebuilt its works at Batavia, where shipping facilities were much superior to those at Brockport. Here the company has steadily grown until its many buildings occupy a vast area, and its facilities for production and shipping could hardly be surpassed. Mr. Huntley became the president of the company in 1891 and held that office until the day of his death.

But it was not merely as a business man that Mr. Huntley was known on both sides the Atlantic. He was a philanthropist as well. He made money not to hoard it or to lavish it but to invest it wisely for the welfare of his fellowmen. He was always generous of instinct and in later years gave large sums to public and to private benevolent enterprises.

The extent of his benefactions will never be known, for he was as modest as generous and often gave very large sums only on condition that no record of the gifts should be published. To the missionary societies of the Baptist denomination, of which he had been a faithful member from boyhood, he was a constant giver. To the Rochester Theological Seminary he gave not less than one hundred thousand dollars. The home of the Young Men's Christian Association of Batavia was his gift. To the Batavia hospital he not only gave generously from year to year, but shortly before his death he established for it an endowment fund of ten thousand dollars. On the same day he endowed the First Baptist Church of Batavia with an equal amount. Many struggling churches in Western New York and in the new states of the west were helped to their feet by his generous hand. Many poor families in Brockport and in Batavia have been mysteriously aided at critical times by some unknown friend and have never learned who their friend was.

Mr. Huntley was stricken with something like apoplexy while at his desk in the winter of 1902. From that moment his business career was at an end though he lived for nearly four years from that time. His death took place at Batavia, September 28, 1906, and his body rests in the Lake View cemetery at Cleveland. He will be remembered as a sagacious and successful business man, a humble Christian gentleman and a large-hearted and generous-handed philanthropist.



*S. Hurlice*



## Simeon G. Curtice



THE MAN who recognizes opportunity and then bends every energy toward the accomplishment of his purpose wins success. There is no secret method by which prosperity is attained. Its basis is always effort—unrelaxing effort,—a statement which finds verification in the life record of Simeon G. Curtice and thousands of other successful men. In the death of Mr. Curtice on the 7th of February, 1905, Rochester mourned the loss of one whom it had come to respect and honor as a most able business man and worthy citizen. His name was a familiar one in trade circles, not only in this country but in foreign lands as well, and the extensive business which he and his business associates developed contributed in substantial measure to Rochester's industrial and financial activity.

Mr. Curtice was born in Webster, New York, August 13, 1839, but spent the greater part of his life in Rochester. He was a son of Mark and Elmina (Goodnow) Curtice, and was thus a direct descendant from Henry Curtice, who was one of the original grantees of the town of Sudbury, Massachusetts, in 1638; and from Edmund Goodnow, who came to America in the ship *Confidence* in 1638. These facts are fully set forth in the genealogy of the Curtice family given in the sketch of Edgar N. Curtice.

Simeon G. Curtice attended the common and advanced schools of Webster, New York. After finishing his school life in Webster he became a clerk in the general store of William Corning, an old time merchant of Webster, with whom he remained for three years. He then removed to Rochester and entered the Collegiate Institute under Professor Benedict. In 1862 he concluded his studies and then established himself in the grocery business in Rochester in the old flat iron building at Main, North and Franklin streets. In 1865 he was joined by his younger brother, Edgar, and they adopted the firm name of Curtice Brothers. Thus began a business association which continued until his death. It was in a room above their store that they commenced the canning of fruit in a small way, experimenting with the preserving of various fruits. In the autumn of 1868 they sold their grocery business, and purchased the property at the corner of Water and Mortimer streets and devoted themselves entirely to the canning and preserving of fruits and vegetables. The rapidity with which their products found favor on the market

Simeon G. Curtice

led to the demand for increased space, causing them to purchase land and build on North Water street between Andrews and River streets. In 1880 the demand for still further increased space led them to buy the land and erect the buildings which the company now occupies. From time to time these new buildings have been enlarged in order to meet the constantly increasing demand for their products. In 1887 the business was first incorporated as the Curtice Brothers Company, with a capitalization of two hundred thousand dollars; Simeon G. Curtice was chosen president; Edgar N. Curtice, vice president and treasurer; and Robert A. Badger, secretary. In 1901 the business was re-incorporated under the same corporate name and with the same officers, but with a capitalization of one million five hundred thousand dollars, showing thus an increase of more than sevenfold in fourteen years. In the course of these years the enterprise to which Simeon G. Curtice had devoted his life had developed into one of the greatest industries of its kind in the world and there is probably not a hamlet or village in the entire country in which the name of Curtice Brothers is not known and recognized as a guarantee for high standards. In connection with his manufacturing interests Mr. Curtice was a director of the Commercial Bank. In all of his business life he displayed an aptitude for successful management and a ready ability for solving intricate business problems. Starting as he did, with small beginnings, he continually broadened the scope of his undertakings and accomplished a steadily increasing success. He was a man of untiring energy, of great business courage and of uncommonly sound judgment. He found in the faithful performance of each day's duties strength and power for the labors of the succeeding day. As has been already said, he died on the 7th of February, 1905.

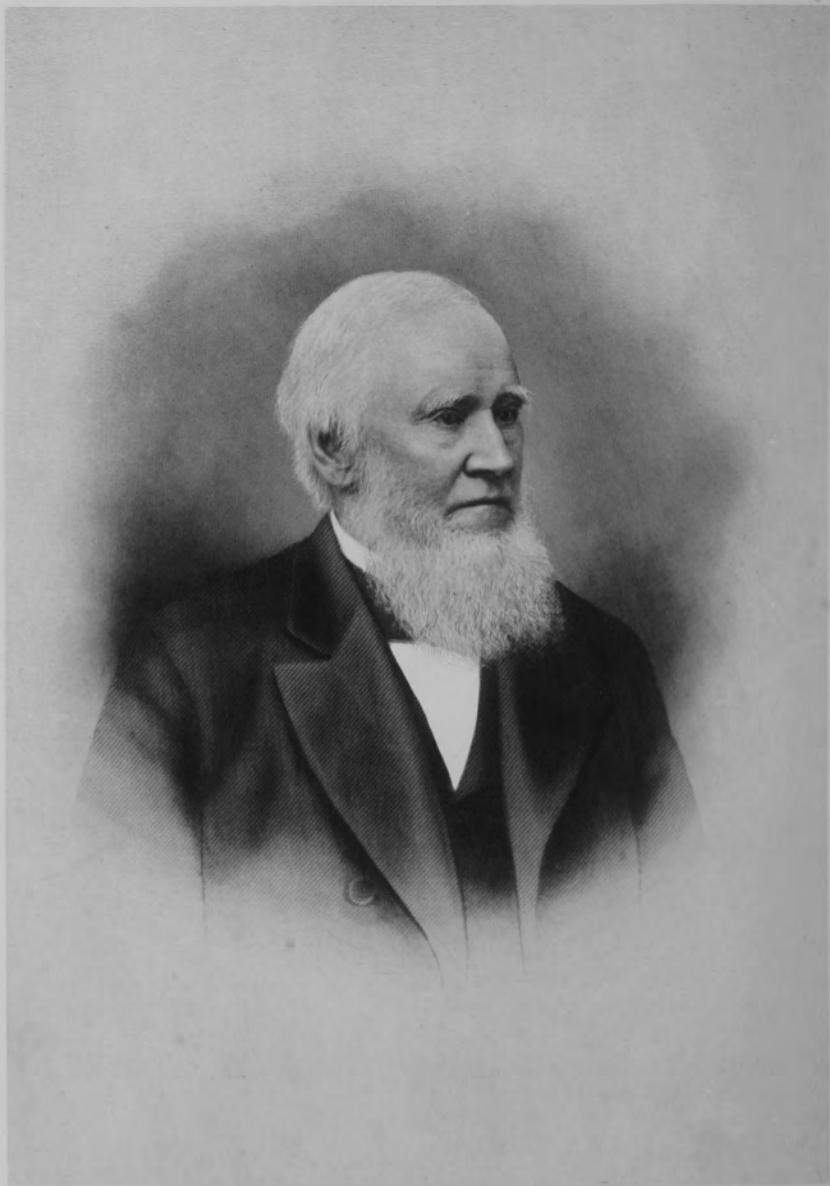
On the 5th of January, 1881, Mr. Curtice was married to Miss Christine Roodenburg, a native of Holland. Mrs. Curtice died in May, 1884, leaving besides her husband, one daughter, Grace C. Curtice, who still survives her father.

Mr. Curtice was one of the charter members of the old Windsor Club, which later became the Rochester Club, of which he continued an active and prominent representative for many years. He was also a member of the Chamber of Commerce and a firm believer in the growth and future of Rochester, doing everything in his power for the upbuilding of a greater city, his labors proving effective and far-reaching. He was a man who loved his business, was wide-awake and alert for every opportunity, possessing, moreover, a determination and spirit of perseverance that enabled him to carry to successful completion whatever he undertook. He loved the business career for its own sake, as well as for the success it brought to him. In business circles he commanded the highest admiration and goodwill of his contemporaries and in other relations of life gained the unqualified respect of those with whom he was brought in contact.

America has made wonderful advancement along all lines of activity

through the latter part of the nineteenth and the early part of the twentieth century and Mr. Curtice belonged to that class of enterprising, public-spirited citizens whose efforts kept Rochester apace with the universal progress and upbuilding. His name is enrolled among its leading men and his work was so clearly interwoven with the city's history that no volume purporting to treat of Rochester and its growth would be complete without the record of Simeon G. Curtice.





*Henry S. Potter*

## Henry Sayre Potter



HENRY SAYRE POTTER was born in Galway, Saratoga county, New York, February 14, 1798. He was the oldest of four children born to Nathaniel Job Potter and Mary Sayre, and was of the seventh generation in the male line from Nathaniel Potter, who came from England in about the year 1635 and settled at Portsmouth, Rhode Island. On his mother's side he was of equally sturdy colonial English stock, Mary Sayre being a descendant of Thomas Sayre, who came from Bedfordshire to Lynn, Massachusetts, about 1637. In 1801 his parents moved from Galway to a farm of one hundred and twenty acres between Seneca Falls and Cayuga lake, occupying a small log house. Seven years later the family moved to Canandaigua, where the father kept a hotel for two years, dying in the year 1810. The mother then moved her family back to the farm, where for two years young Henry did farm work summers and attended school the short winter terms. In 1812 he became store boy for Ebenezer Hale of Canandaigua. In 1814 he was clerk in Samuel Hildreth's branch store at Williamson, New York, remaining there nearly two years. During this time he was intrusted to drive a team alone on the long journey of more than two hundred miles to Albany, and to return with a load of merchandise. He had a great love for horses and they became his chief source of pleasure and amusement throughout his long life. He also taught school one winter and pursued his studies as opportunity afforded. In 1818 Mr. Potter removed to Pittsford, New York, where he resided for thirty-two years. During the first four years of this time he was a clerk in the store of Sylvanus Lathrop, and then for four years he was a partner, buying out Lathrop in 1826. During the next twenty years, until 1846, he owned and conducted alone a large business of general merchandising, laying the foundations of his future fortune. Mr. Potter was married in 1824, to Harriet Benedict, daughter of Thomas Benedict and Mary Dunning. Six children were born of this marriage, all but one of whom survived both their parents.

The most active and successful period of Mr. Potter's life began with his removal to Rochester in 1850 at the age of fifty-two years. In 1851 he became one of the organizers, incorporators, directors and largest stockholders of the New York & Mississippi Valley Printing Telegraph Company with a capi-

tal of three hundred and sixty thousand dollars. He was elected its first president and entered as a pioneer with great vigor and enthusiasm into this new enterprise, which was ultimately to make the fortunes of so many Rochester families. This company was the original Western Union Telegraph Company, and the parent company into which scores of smaller companies throughout the country were gradually merged and combined over a period of many years. By a special act of the New York state legislature, passed April 4, 1856, the name of the original company was changed to The Western Union Telegraph Company. Mr. Potter served as president continuously for more than five years from April 2, 1851, till July 30, 1856, when he declined re-election and was succeeded by Hiram Sibley, who served for the next nine years until July 26, 1865.

James D. Reid in his volume on "The Telegraph in America," after mentioning the organization of the company in April, 1851, says: "Of course, nothing was so essential, after the glamour of organization was over, as money. Few of the parties were the possessors of great wealth, even in its then restricted sense. The subscriptions were somewhat limited, and their payment, partly because of a rising jealousy of the advantageous position seen now to be held by the owners of the patent, was not prompt, and, to some extent, doubtful. But money was absolutely necessary. To secure funds, the holders of the patent interests, who had thereby acquired a large issue of stock, very wisely determined to part with a liberal amount of their interest to induce the subscribers to pay up in full, and so to enable the company to start operations with vigor. Henry S. Potter, a rich, active, stirring citizen, had subscribed ten thousand dollars. To him an additional ten thousand dollars of stock—twenty thousand dollars in all,—was issued. He was then elected president of the company. This was very adroit action, and Mr. Potter entered into his duties with much zeal. About eighty-three thousand dollars of stock was thus discreetly distributed among desirable men who would give strength and character to the enterprise, and all subscriptions were promptly paid. With the sinews of war thus provided, the work became lively."

Mr. Potter early became interested in the banking business in Rochester. He was one of the incorporators of the Eagle Bank in 1852 and served continuously as a director in that bank and its successors until the time of his death. This bank and the Manufacturers Bank were consolidated in 1859 into the Traders Bank, a state bank; and in 1865 this was reorganized into the present Traders National Bank. During his lifetime he was the largest single stockholder in this bank and in the Flour City National Bank, the two largest and strongest banks in the city. He was also a large stockholder in the New York Central, the Harlem and the Lake Shore Railways, his activity in the telegraph business having brought him in early and close relations with the Vanderbilt railway interests.

In politics he was a whig in his early life and later a republican. He and

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his family attended the Presbyterian church. He was a life-long earnest advocate of total abstinence; during the period of his youth and early manhood, such principles required great firmness and seriousness of character, considering the social customs then prevailing. The largest building which he owned is at the corner of State and Andrews streets and still bears in prominent letters the name he gave it—H. S. Potter's Temperance Building. He died at his residence on South Fitzhugh street, January 9, 1884, at the age of eighty-six years.







*J. P. Allen*

## Frederick P. Allen

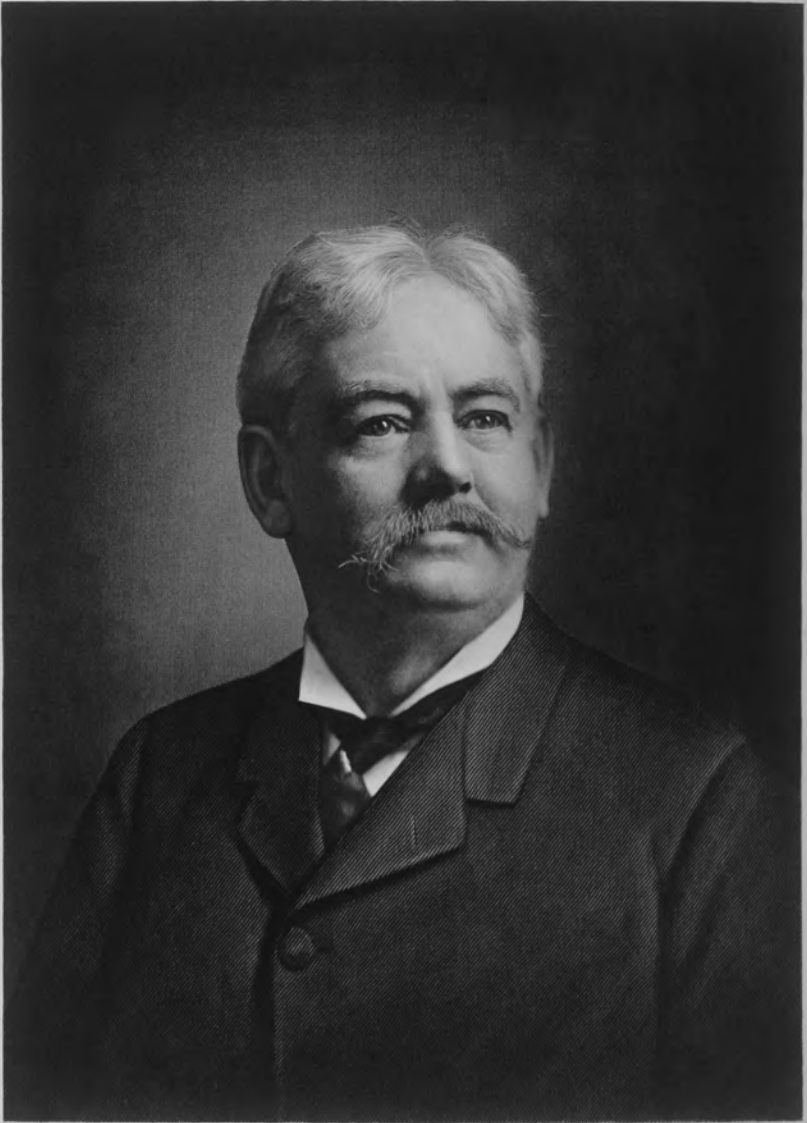


**F**REDERICK P. ALLEN, whose name is on the list of Rochester's honored dead, was for a long period closely associated with the moneyed interests of the city, being identified with the German American Bank at the time of his death. He was born in Rochester on the 26th of February, 1853, and was a son of Samuel P. Allen, of this city. He acquired his education in Rochester and was graduated from the school conducted by Mr. Satterlee. When he

had put aside his text-books he turned his attention to the banking business, accepting a position as teller in the Traders National Bank, where he remained for a number of years, thoroughly acquainting himself with the business. On leaving the Traders National Bank he became associated with the German American Bank as cashier, with which he was connected up to the time of his demise. He became well known in financial circles as one thoroughly familiar with the banking business in every department and in Rochester his opinion was largely considered authority upon questions of interest to the banking world.

Mr. Allen was married in 1874 to Miss Caroline Clarke and unto them were born two daughters and one son: Henrietta; Mary Allen; and Freeman Clarke Allen, who is manager of the Concrete Block Works and is also treasurer of the Hollister Lumber Company, and a member of the firm of Beckley, Allen Realty Company. He has thus become a prominent factor in the business life of the city and he is also well known socially, being a member of the Genesee Valley Club and the Friars Club.

Frederick Allen was likewise a member of the Genesee Valley Club and he belonged to St. Peter's Presbyterian church. In politics he was a stalwart republican, with firm faith in the principles of the party, which he believed to be most conducive to good government. He died May 2, 1905, at the age of fifty-two years, having spent his entire life in Rochester, where his record was as an open book. There was not one esoteric phase in his career and his strongly marked character enabled him to leave the impress of his individuality upon public life.



Campbell Brothers, New York

W. P. DeLany

## William F. Balkam



WILLIAM F. BALKAM, residing at No. 7 Strathallan Park, Rochester, is a native of Boston, born February 5, 1849. His paternal grandfather, John Balkam, was twice married and died when well advanced in years. His son, Gilbert Balkam, was a native of Maine and was engaged in shipbuilding at Robbinston, Maine, prior to 1860. He then retired from business life, spending his last days in Boston, where he died in 1888 at the age of seventy-eight years. He married Susan Dutch, whose father was a man of considerable prominence. Mrs. Balkam survived her husband and passed away in Robbinston, Maine, in July, 1906, in her ninetieth year. The father was prominent in political circles, serving as a member of the Maine legislature, and in early manhood he commanded a regiment in the Aroostook war. Their family numbered four sons and two daughters, of whom four are yet living.

William F. Balkam spent his early boyhood in Maine and afterward went to Boston, where he resided until 1873. His education, however, was largely acquired in the schools of Maine. In January, 1873, he came to Rochester as superintendent of Bradstreet's agency and in 1885 he became the treasurer and business manager of the Union and Advertiser. There he remained until the fall of 1898, successfully controlling the business. He was also interested in the New York & Kentucky Company, a large distilling and medicine company, of which he was director and secretary. He held the same position in the American Fruit Product Company until February, 1905, and he is now president of the Menihan Company, makers of women's shoes, and the Winslow Mining Company, while in other corporations and business concerns he is financially interested. His connection has been extended into various fields of commercial and financial activity and he was a member of the organization committee of the Guardian Trust Company at New York city and is director in the National Bank of Rochester. For two years he was president of the New York State Associated Press and for several years a member of its executive committee.

Politically Mr. Balkam is a democrat in principle and was a member of the executive committee of the Albany conference which supported the democratic ticket except for governor in 1906. He has figured prominently in the

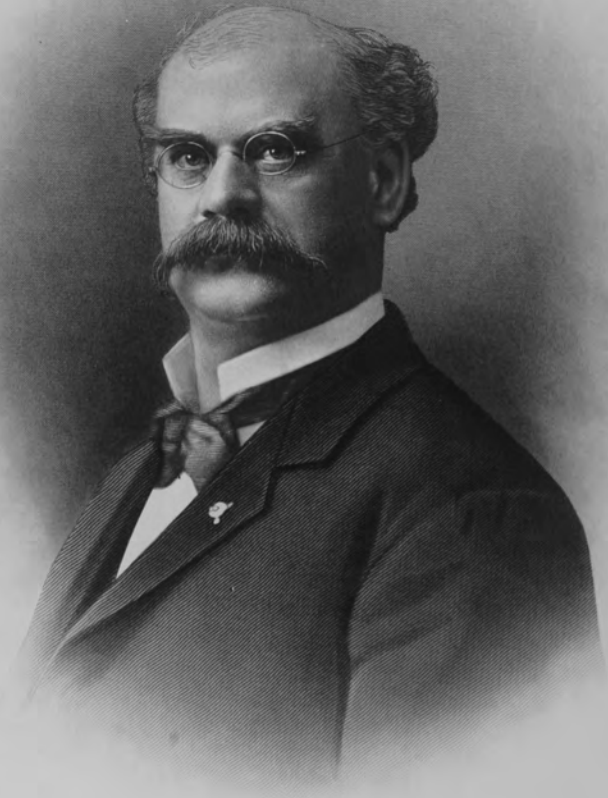
William F. Balkam

ranks of his party, serving for several years as a member of the democratic state committee and its treasurer for four years.

On the 30th of August, 1875, William F. Balkam was commissioned captain of the Twenty-fifth Brigade of the Seventh Division of the New York National Guard by Governor Samuel J. Tilden. His social relations extend to the Genesee Valley Club and the Country Club, while fraternally he is a life member of Monroe commandery, No. 12, K. T., and is also a member of the Rochester Historical Society.

In June, 1877, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Balkam and Miss Jennie Van Zandt, a daughter of the late Maxcy N. Van Zandt and his wife, Almira J. (Woolverton) Van Zandt. Mr. Balkam has a beautiful home on the upper waters of the Neversink river in the Catskill mountains, where he spends his summer seasons, owning three or four miles of fine trout fishing including the famous Biscuit Brook. He is a lover of that sport, the woods, the birds, the brooks and the fields, nature making strong appeal to him.





Wm. Kasle

## William Karle



WILLIAM KARLE, possessing an ability that has enabled him to overcome obstacles which to others might have been insurmountable, has steadily worked his way upward until he is today at the head of the Karle Lithographic Company, one of the largest and most important enterprises of this character in Rochester. It was established in 1879 and incorporated in 1904, and from the beginning William Karle has been the guiding spirit in its destinies. He was born in Rochester, New York, September 19, 1854. His father, George Andrew Karle, a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, had become a resident of this city in 1846, at the age of twenty years. In his native land, ere his emigration, he had learned the cabinet-maker's trade and followed that pursuit for some years in Rochester, after which he engaged in the hotel and restaurant business on St. Paul street, near the present site of the Osburn Hotel. His business interests, his enterprise and his social qualities made him well known here during the middle part of the nineteenth century. He was a member of the German Protestant church and died in 1870 at the comparatively early age of forty-nine years. His wife, Mrs. Juliana (Durst) Karle, of Bavaria, Germany, came with her parents to Rochester in her girlhood days and was married in this city in 1850. She survived her husband for more than a quarter of a century, passing away in 1896. They were the parents of three sons, George, John J. and William.

William Karle attended a private German school of Rochester and acquired a particularly fine education in the languages and the sciences. In 1871 he became connected with the lithographing business in the employ of Muntz & Company, and when he had become thoroughly acquainted with the business in every department he entered into partnership with Louis Ennecker and in 1879 opened an establishment of his own on a small scale, starting with a capital of only three hundred dollars, which he had saved from his earnings, after meeting the necessary expenditures for his own support. He continued in this business until today it is one of the large concerns of the city, occupying a mammoth six-story structure located on Central avenue from No. 276-288 and No. 60-76 on Chatham street. In 1898 the company erected this building according to their own plans, suiting the requirements of their business. It is a pressed brick structure, well lighted and admirably adapted for the uses to



William Karle

which it is put. The business was carried on in the original building until 1904, when it was found entirely inadequate in its floor space to accommodate the trade and they then added a building over half the size of the original one, so that they now have a structure one hundred and twenty by one hundred and twenty feet, and six stories in height. It is built along modern lines of construction for light and fire proof protection. The company makes a specialty of fine color and commercial work, folding boxes, posters, show cards, labels, steel die printing, embossing, transfer ornaments, letter and bill heads, checks, bonds, etc. Their color work is up to the highest standard and the greater part of their business is done in that line. They have ten lithographic printing presses, two of which are two color presses. The building occupied by the company is one of the most up-to-date in the entire country. It is improved with the latest mill construction, so that in case of fire a very small damage would be done. All of the flooring is four inches thick, so that it would be almost impossible for fire to penetrate more than one floor. Their machinery, too, is of the very latest type. One hundred and twenty-five people are given constant employment here and the work turned out by the company is the very best obtainable. In 1904 the business was incorporated with William Karle as president; William J. C. Karle as secretary and treasurer; and George J. Hafner as vice president. All these men possess well known business ability, so that the success of the firm is a well assured fact.

In 1878 William Karle was married to Miss Mary Eyer, a lady of German birth, who was reared, however, in Rochester. They have two children: William J. C., who is now associated with his father in business as secretary and treasurer of the company; and Amelia Mary, now Mrs. Heydweiller, of Rochester.

Aside from his other business interests Mr. Karle is a director of the Mechanics Savings Bank of Rochester. He is very prominent in Masonry, being one of the best known and valued representatives of the craft in this city. He is a member of Germania lodge, No. 722, F. & A. M., of which he was master for two terms. He is a member of Hamilton chapter, No. 62, R. A. M.; Monroe commandery No. 12, K. T.; the Rochester lodge of Perfection; Rochester Council of Princes of Jerusalem; Rochester chapter of Rose-Croix and Rochester Consistory, S. P. R. S., thirty-second degree. He also is a member of Damascus Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., and of Germania Chapter No. 72, O. E. S., of which he has been patron a number of years. He has every reason to be proud of his record in Masonry and though of German birth has done active and effective work both in English and German lodges. In other fraternal societies Mr. Karle is a member of Humboldt lodge, No. 138, I. O. O. F., a charter member of Teutonia encampment, No. 55, I. O. O. F.; a charter member of Germania Rebekah lodge, No. 80, I. O. O. F., and a member of Grand Canton J. W. Stebbins, No. 2, I. O. O. F. In Odd Fellowship Mr. Karle has held the highest offices to be attained outside of the grand lodge

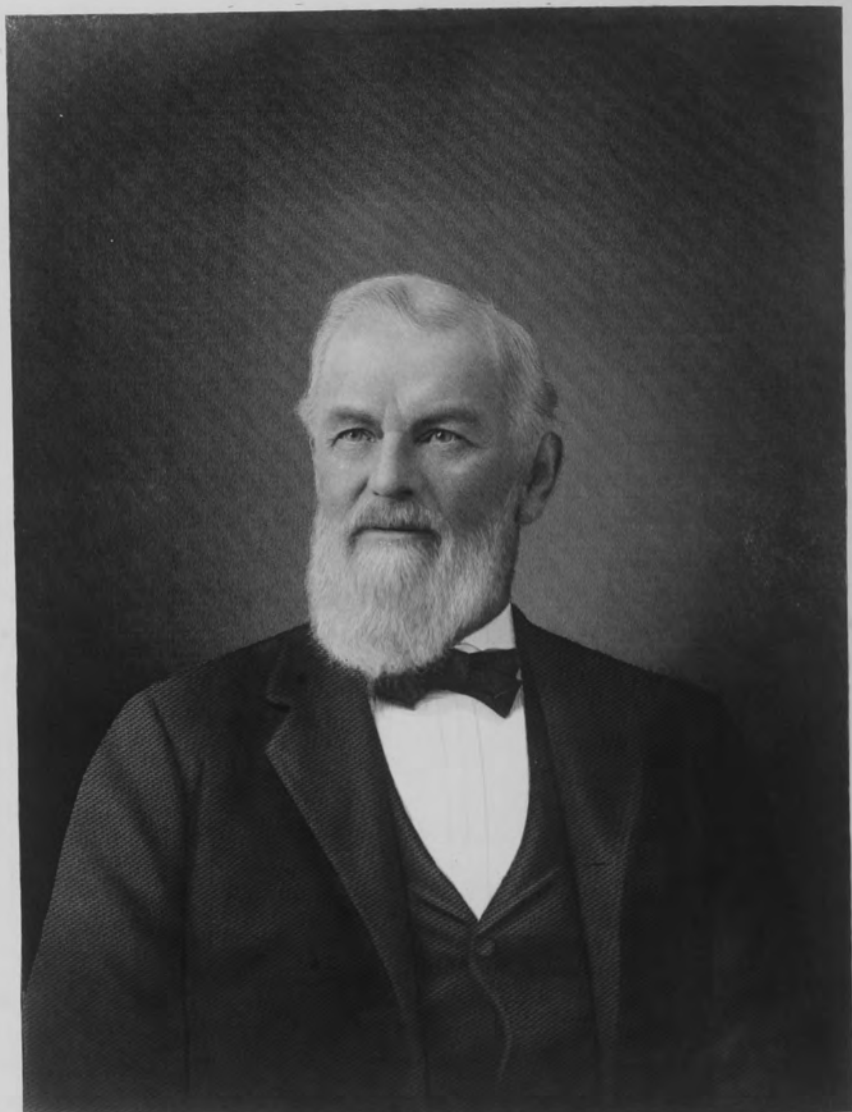
William Karle

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and in some instances having performed the ritualistic work in both the German and the English languages in the same day. Mr. Karle is also a member of Bluecher lodge, No. 93, Knights of Pythias. At all times his life exemplifies the beneficent spirit of these orders and he is thoroughly familiar with their tenets and their teachings. He is one of the directors of the Masonic Club and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Karle is a man of fine business ability and commanding presence, who stands high in social and industrial circles. Moreover, he deserves much credit for what he has accomplished, having been both the architect and builder of his own fortunes. Of marked activity, energetic, honest, far-seeing and public spirited, he has operated continuously and by the stimulus of his exertions has aroused the enterprise of others, while through this means he has added to his own labors and furnished to hundreds remunerative employment. He started out at a small salary and in a comparatively insignificant position but like other brainy, energetic young men who have left their impress upon the magnificent development of the city, he did not wait for an especially brilliant opening. Indeed he could not wait, and his natural industry would not have permitted him to do so, even if his financial circumstances had been such as to make it possible. As an employe he performed all the duties that devolved upon him conscientiously and industriously and in the course of time was enabled to start in business for himself. Like other business men, he may not have found all the days equally bright but the threatened disaster has ever seemed to serve as a stimulus for renewed effort and success on his part. His strict integrity, business conservatism and judgment have always been so universally recognized that he has enjoyed public confidence to an enviable degree and naturally this has brought him such a lucrative patronage that through times of general prosperity and general adversity alike he has witnessed a steady increase in his business until it is today one of the most flourishing in its line in Rochester.





Josiah H. Wild  
4

## James Henry Wild

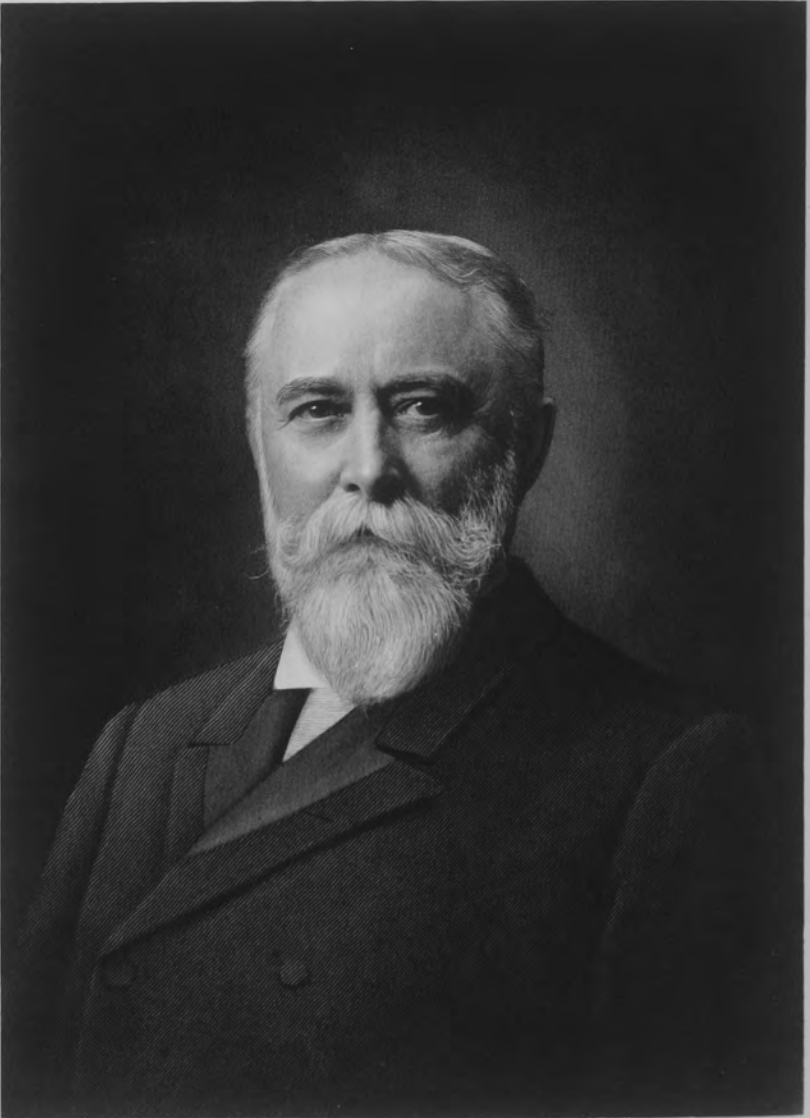


**J**AMES HENRY WILD, now deceased, was well known in Rochester for a long period because of the annual visits which he paid to the city. Indeed he was a merchant here in early manhood and later he never failed to come to Rochester at least once a year, maintaining his friendship with many of its leading residents. He was born in Stockport, New York, on the 9th of November, 1815. James Wild, his father, was a manufacturer of cotton cloth and continued in that business throughout his entire life. He married Miss Jane Henry, and while they spent the winter months in New York city, they maintained a summer home at Stockport.

In early life James Henry Wild became a factor in the business circles of Rochester, being one of the first general merchants in this city. He conducted a store here at a time when Rochester was a town of little commercial or industrial importance and his labors contributed to its business growth. He left here, however, in the '30s, going to New York, but he spent a part of each year here throughout his remaining days. He was very fond of fishing and hunting and indulged his love of those sports in the northern woods.

In 1842 Mr. Wild was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Medbury, in Rochester, and unto them were born five children: Anna E. M. and Joseph Medbury and three who died in infancy.

Mr. Wild was deeply interested in political questions and upon the organization of the republican party became one of its stalwart advocates. He did all in his power to promote its growth and insure the adoption of its principles and his labors in its behalf were effective and far-reaching. For several years he was in the government employ in New York. He took an active interest in public affairs and served as senator for one term. He attained to the very venerable age of ninety-two years, passing away on the 8th of January, 1907. Throughout his entire life he had lived in the Empire state and was closely associated with its interests of a business and public nature. He possessed the genial disposition and kindly spirit of the old school gentleman nor was he without that human interest in his fellowmen which promotes friendships and awakens regard.



*R. Adams*

## Reuben A. Adams, M. D.



**D**R. REUBEN A. ADAMS, who in the medical profession of Rochester ably represents the noted New England family from which he sprung, was born at Marion, New York, April 3, 1841. There he passed his boyhood and received his education, at first in the public schools and later at Marion Collegiate Institute. In August, 1862, Dr. Adams enlisted in Company D, One Hundred and Sixtieth Regiment New York Volunteers, and went to New Orleans with

General Banks' expedition, serving under him throughout the Louisiana campaign, including the siege of Port Hudson. Later he fought under General Sheridan in his famous engagements in the Shenandoah valley, participating actively in fourteen battles in all. He was wounded at Fort Bisland, Louisiana, and Cedar Creek, Virginia; and when mustered out of service at the close of the war he received the exceptional honor of a letter of special commendation personally signed by every surviving officer of his regiment. The Doctor has received rare and valuable presents, and "Thanks" from the imperial household of Japan for services to a prince and distinguished officers of the Japanese navy and army; but this letter and its endorsements he prizes above all similar things he possesses, and of it he is justly proud.

Returning from the war, Dr. Adams took up his medical studies at the Homeopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania, and graduated from the Hahnemann Medical College of Philadelphia, March 4, 1868. In July of that year he established himself at Churchville, New York, where he practiced his profession successfully until May, 1873. Weary of the hardships of a country practice and ambitious for a field presenting greater possibilities, he then moved to Rochester, where he rapidly acquired a large business and took rank with the most prominent and esteemed physicians. In 1874 he served as city physician, being one of the first homeopathic physicians to occupy that position. On April 1, 1883, he formed a partnership with Dr. V. A. Hoard that terminated December 31, 1886; and July 1, 1889, Dr. Myron H. Adams became a partner, this connection being dissolved January 1, 1893.

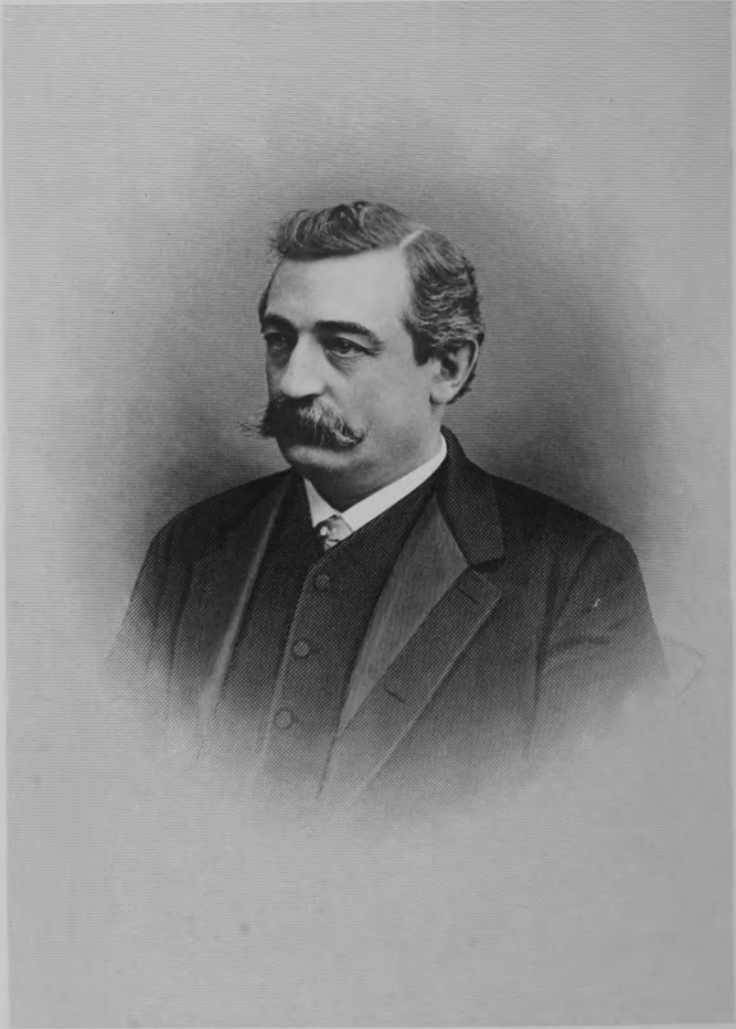
Dr. R. A. Adams has been president of the Monroe County Homeopathic Medical Society, vice president of the Rochester Hahnemann Society and vice president of the New York State Homeopathic Medical Society. He is a member of the Central New York Homeopathic Medical Society and of the Amer-

ican Institute of Homeopathy, and has been consulting physician on the staff of the Rochester Homeopathic Hospital since its incorporation in 1887. He is a member of George H. Thomas post, No. 4, G. A. R., and is proud to have taken part with that post in the original presentation of a fine United States flag to each of the thirty-five public schools of Rochester, thus starting a patriotic custom that has extended pretty generally over the United States and greatly stimulated patriotism and loyalty in the school children of our country. Dr. Adams is also a member of the Monroe commandery, No. 12, K. T., and Rochester consistory, in which he has taken the thirty-second degree in Masonry. He belongs to the Rochester Club and various other social, professional and business organizations.

During the last thirty years Dr. Adams has been an aggressive, though always a consistent and conscientious worker for the advancement of homeopathy. In his work and words he has long been an effective advocate and uncompromising defender of his medical faith. He is recognized as one of the leading representatives of that school of practice in this section of the country. For more than twenty-four years he occupied the same office on Fitzhugh street but is now located in the Powers building and is still actively engaged in his professional work, though taking time to direct the general management of a large grain farm in North Dakota and extensive orange groves and English-walnut orchards in southern California. He finds his principal recreation and diversion from the tension and consuming demands of an active practice in occasional visits to these estates.







*Amos H. Cobb*

## Amos Hubbell Cobb



**A**MOS HUBBELL COBB, deceased, was a pioneer in the canning industry in this state and through much of his life was connected with the business, eventually purchasing a canning factory at Fairport, of which he was owner from 1881 up to the time of his death, ten years later. In his business life he was known for his enterprise and unfaltering integrity and his well defined labor brought him gratifying success. He was born in Greenville, Greene county, New York, September 28, 1840, and was a son of Tyler Perry and Catherine (Hubbell) Cobb. When ten years of age Amos H. Cobb went to Camden, Oneida county, New York, where he made his home with his cousin, Ezra A. Edgett, later of Newark, New York, whom he assisted in planting the first field of sweet corn ever used for canning in New York state. Camden was the seat of the origin of the canning industry in this state. Later Mr. Edgett founded the Wayne County Preserving Company, today the oldest established factory of that character in New York. Amos H. Cobb remained with his cousin until a young man, when he went to New York city, where he was connected with Kemp, Day & Company and U. H. Dudley & Company, both houses being well known in the canned goods industry. He remained with the latter firm until 1868, when he entered the paper commission business as a member of the firm of Goodwin, Cobb & Company. They did an import business, having offices in New York and Liverpool, England, and were the first to import soda ash into this country by steamer. In 1881 Mr. Cobb removed to Fairport, purchasing of Ezra A. Edgett the canning factory, which the latter had established in 1873 as a branch of the Wayne County Preserving Company, of Newark, New York. He operated the factory for ten years, or up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 27th of August, 1891.

In 1864 he had married Angie Hodgman, of Fort Edward, who survives him and still resides in Fairport. Since the death of her husband the business of the Cobb Preserving Company has been carried on by Mrs. Cobb and her sons. The family numbered five children, all yet surviving, namely: Frederick D. H. Cobb, of Rochester, treasurer and manager of the Cobb Preserving Company; George Watson, who is vice president of the Cobb Preserving Company and secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Sanitary Can Company; Amos H. Cobb, of Rochester, secretary of the Cobb Preserv-

Amos Hubbell Cobb

ing Company; Clarence S. Cobb, of Fairport, also connected with the business; and Angie Cobb Shepard, the wife of Stanley Shepard of Rochester.

The sons had a splendid example in their father, who was a man of enterprise, marked business discernment and of unfaltering reliability. As stated, he was connected with the development of the canning industry in New York and after going to Fairport was an important factor in its industrial interests. An analyzation of his life work shows the possession of many sterling traits which commended him to the confidence, trust and good will of his fellowmen.





Lee Richmond

## Lee Richmond



LEE RICHMOND, associated with several of the important composite elements which go to make up the sum total of Rochester's business activity and prosperity, was born in this city, August 29, 1863. His father, Daniel Richmond, a native of Sweden, Monroe county, New York, was a canal engineer, who started in the work as rodman and was successively assistant and division engineer in charge of the construction of the middle and western divisions of the Erie canal. He also became greatly interested in the manufacture of salt at Syracuse and developed a profitable business in marketing the saline products so largely produced in Onondaga county. After 1872 he was associated with J. Nelson Tubbs in the building of the water works at Syracuse and was supervisor of the Mount Hope reservoir. His private business interests were largely of a character that contributed to general progress and upbuilding as well as to individual prosperity.

Daniel Richmond was a stalwart democrat, giving inflexible allegiance to the principles of the party. In Masonry he attained the Knight Templar degree and in religious faith he and his family were Unitarians. He possessed a genial, social nature, was positive in his convictions, impulsive, warm hearted and loyal in his friendships. Few men had more warm friends than Daniel Richmond and his unfeigned cordiality and sincere interest in his fellowmen made him popular in the various social and club organizations with which he was identified. He belonged to the Rochester Whist Club and to various other societies. He married Laura C. Comstock and to them were born two children, Lee Richmond and Mrs. Hall, both of Rochester.

The son was a pupil in the public and high schools of Rochester, completing his course by graduation. Early in his business career he was for two years an employe of the John Fahy Dry Goods Company, after which he entered the employ of the Weaver & Goss Hardware Company as receiving clerk. In 1886 he became a partner in the Weaver, Palmer & Richmond Company, of which he is now secretary and treasurer. His identification with the hardware trade covers more than two decades and his executive force, keen business discernment and energy constitute salient elements in its success. In their business the company aims at the highest standards in the character of its materials and in its service to the public, and meets competition in a rivalry

## Lee Richmond

of merit rather than in a war of prices. The relations of the house with the public and with other business houses are above reproach. The business is managed by men who understand the trade themselves and who know how to develop the latent capacity of their employees. It is their pride not merely to increase in sales but to improve in character, personnel and service, and so approach an ideal business standard.

Lee Richmond, however, figures not alone in the hardware trade, his enterprise and industry proving an element in the conservation of the interests of the Union Coarse Salt Company and the Western Coarse Salt Company of Syracuse, of both of which he is president, and of the Fidelity Contract Company of Rochester, of which he is the vice president. His standing in business circles is indicated by the fact that he was honored with the treasurership of the Rochester Credit Men's Association, in which capacity he has been retained for many years.

In 1888 Mr. Richmond was married to Miss Josephine Southwick, a daughter of T. T. Southwick, of Rochester, and they have two children, Laura and Marion, aged respectively eighteen and sixteen years and now students in the high school. Mr. Richmond belongs to Yonnondio lodge, No. 163, F. & A. M.; to Hamilton chapter, R. A. M.; Monroe commandery, K. T. He has also taken the degrees of the York rite and the Mystic Shrine. He is captain of the Genesee Canoe Club and belongs to the Rochester Club and to the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Richmond is a man of fine personal appearance, whose great popularity is indicated by his host of friends in the city where almost his entire life has been passed and where he has so directed his energies as to obtain substantial and enviable recognition in the business world.





J. B. Roe



## Joseph B. Roe



**J**OSEPH B. ROE is now living retired on the Roeside farm in the town of Penfield, Monroe county, after many years of active and successful connection with business interests. He was born upon the farm where he now resides June 27, 1842. His father, Joseph Brewster Roe, Sr., was born in Long Island, New York, and in Butler, Wayne county, this state, was married to Charlotte Wisner, a daughter of Moses Wisner, who was one of the early settlers and pioneer farmers of Wayne county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Roe were born seven children but the subject of this review is the only one now living. The father followed farming in Wayne county until 1835, when he removed with his wife and two oldest children to Monroe county, purchasing the farm Roeside upon which his son and namesake is now living. In 1845 he removed to the village of Penfield, where he engaged in the milling business for some years. He then removed to Rochester, where he remained for three years, after which he returned to the old farm, where he died in March, 1858, at the age of forty-eight years. His widow long survived him and died at the home of our subject in Detroit, Michigan, in 1891, at the age of seventy-eight years.

In the common schools of Penfield township, Joseph B. Roe, of this review, acquired his early education, which was supplemented by study in the Penfield Academy. For five years following the time when he became twelve years of age he spent the summer months in taking cream to a confectioner in Rochester and in carrying other market products to that city. At the age of sixteen he was left fatherless and the management of the home farm devolved upon him and his older brother Jerome. When eighteen years of age he was obliged to abandon farm work on account of ill health and went to Brantford, Ontario, where he entered the employment of an uncle, being engaged in the selling of fanning mills to the farmers. After a few months, however, he returned to Monroe county, and secured employment in Moulson's provision store in Rochester, but, after a brief period, he identified himself with the nursery business, with which he was connected for three years, delivering and selling nursery stock. For the succeeding three years Mr. Roe conducted the old farm, as his brother had married and left the place.

Joseph B. Roe

On the 4th of June, 1867, occurred the marriage of our subject to Miss Maria Allen, of Williamson, Wayne county, New York. For a few years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Roe resided on the home farm and then went to Michigan, where Mr. Roe became a member of the firm of F. W. Beers & Company in the publication of county atlases. In 1874 he removed to Portland, Michigan, where for fourteen years he was one of the firm of Maynard, Allen & Company, bankers of that city. He also engaged in general grain and produce business for six years as a member of the firm of Maynard & Roe, and on the expiration of that period he purchased his partner's interest and continued in the grain business alone for eight years, carrying on a more extensive trade in grain and produce than any other dealer in that portion of the state. He would buy any thing which the farmer raised and could sell him any thing he wanted to buy. In 1875 he became a member of the Detroit Board of Trade, but in 1887 he had to abandon the grain business on account of ill health. He never expected to be again able to enter commercial circles, but after recuperating in northern Michigan for a year he sold out his banking interests and removed to Detroit, where he became actively engaged in the grain and commission business, becoming one of the best known representatives in the state; in fact, the name of J. B. Roe was known throughout Michigan and he met with excellent success in his undertakings, but in June, 1900, he retired from business, owing to ill health, and returned to the farm. He leases his land, but still makes his home at the old place, in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. In politics Mr. Roe is a democrat, and socially he is connected with the Masonic fraternity, belonging to both the blue lodge and chapter.

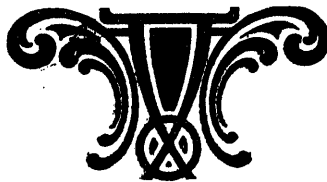
Unto Mr. and Mrs. Roe have been born two children: Helen Orrena, who died in 1880, at the age of five years; and J. Ethleen, who is the wife of Herbert F. Caswell, of Portland, Michigan. Mr. Caswell is one of Portland's successful business men, being manager and treasurer of the Verity Caswell table manufactory of Portland. Mrs. Caswell is of a literary turn of mind, being prominent in all church work and president of the literary organization of the place. They have two children, Orrena Frances and Mildred Roe.

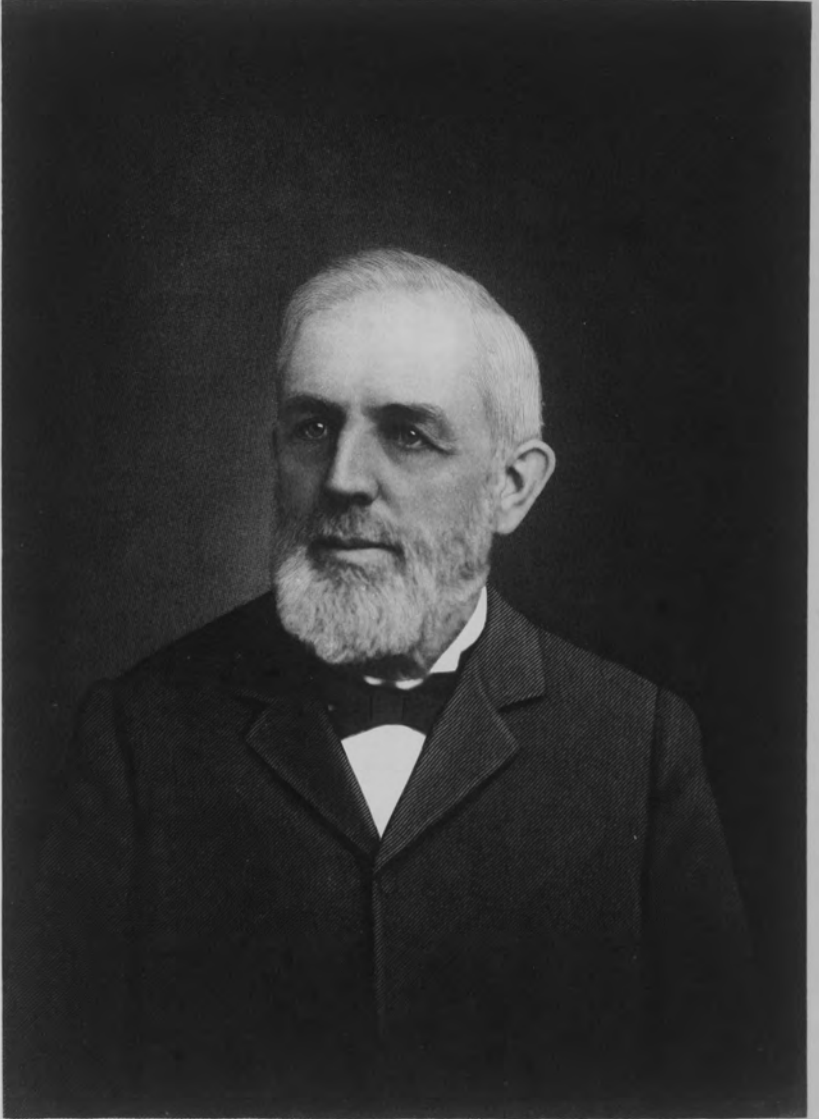
Mrs. Roe was born August 6, 1845, in Williamson, Wayne county, New York. Her father was Peters Allen, a prosperous farmer of that place, having removed there in his early manhood from Dutchess county, New York. He died at the age of fifty-five. Mrs. Roe's mother bore the maiden name of N. Jane Maynard and was a native of Williamson, New York. She gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Allen in 1840 and survived him many years, passing away in 1906, at Roeside, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roe, at the advanced age of eighty-five. They had but two children, their son being Captain E. M. Allen, a banker living in Portland. Mrs. Roe received her early education in the common schools of the township, passing from there to Marion Collegiate Institute, Wayne county, New York, and then to Brockport Collegiate Insti-



*Mrs. J. B. Roe.*

tute, Monroe county, New York, graduating from the latter in 1864 as valedictorian of her class. From that time until her marriage she was a popular teacher. Upon moving to Portland, Michigan, she became one of the charter members organizing the Ladies' Literary Club of the place and was its first president. Her influence was widely felt in the Methodist Episcopal church to which she and Mr. Roe belonged, she being president of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and organizer of the Mission Store under the management of the Ladies' Aid Society of said church. Upon moving to Detroit she still continued her church work, having a bible class of young married people, numbering seventy-two, and also for many years was corresponding secretary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of Detroit district. Voluntarily she took up hospital visitation and for three years hardly missed her weekly visits to the patients, carrying flowers and reading to them. For many years Mr. and Mrs. Roe had a summer home at Bay View in northern Michigan, the Chautauqua of the west, and had been identified with the literary and educational work there. In 1897 Mrs. Roe accepted the position of field secretary of the Bay View Reading Circle and was instrumental in organizing a large number of literary circles in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. Upon retiring to the old homestead, Roeside, she was made secretary of New York state and many circles in the state look to her as their organizer. Mrs. Roe is at this writing an invalid, but, by her pen, still continues to some extent her literary work.





Franklin Miles

## Franklin Miles



AT AN EARLY period in the development of Rochester the Miles family, of which Franklin Miles was a representative, was founded in this city and for many years he figured in its industrial activity, one of the strongest and most influential firms being that of W. E. & F. Miles, manufacturers of sash, doors and blinds. Born in Bloomfield in 1832, he was a son of William and Catharine (Emmert) Miles, who at an early day in the development of western New York settled at Victor. Later they removed to Maryland, establishing their home at the birth place of the father. Franklin Miles attended school while spending his boyhood days under the parental roof and at the age of eighteen years came to Rochester, where he entered business in connection with contracting and building. He was thus associated with the substantial improvement and development of the city and later he became identified with his brother, William E. Miles, in the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds, under the firm style of W. E. & F. Miles. This relationship was continued until 1899 and was characterized by a continued growth in business, resulting from the high standards that were ever maintained in correct materials used, in the methods of manufacture and in service to the public. The firm met competition in a rivalry of merit rather than in a war of prices and paid to the high grade of workmen employed a legitimate share of the profits which their talents brought to the business. The relations of the house with other business houses were ever above reproach and measured fully up to the standard of honorable dealing. Franklin Miles continued an active factor in the management and control of this profitable industry until 1899, when he disposed of his interests, after which he enjoyed merited ease in a well earned rest up to the time of his death, which occurred August 2, 1907.

In 1854 Mr. Miles was married to Miss Sarah Fay, who died in 1871, and in 1876 he married Miss Agnes E. Crouner, of Rochester. Soon after the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted in the Thirty-third New York Volunteer Infantry and when his term of service expired joined the Forty-ninth New York Regiment, remaining in the army until hostilities ceased. In politics he was independent and without desire for political preferment. He became prominent and prosperous in business life. He was a man of domestic tastes, quiet and unassuming in manner but the genuine worth of his character gained for him the trust and respect of those with whom he was associated.



Engraved by J. K. Campbell, N.Y.

M. H. Cleveland



## Merritt A. Cleveland



**P**ROMINENT among the business men of Brockport is Merritt A. Cleveland, whose family have for many years been closely identified with the history of the country as engineers, contractors of railroads, canals and other public works. He was born at East Hounsfield, Jefferson county, New York, and is one of a family of six children, of whom four are still living. His father, Philander Cleveland, was also a native of Jefferson county, his ancestors being among the pioneers of the Black river valley. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Mercy Richardson and was a daughter of Stephen Richardson.

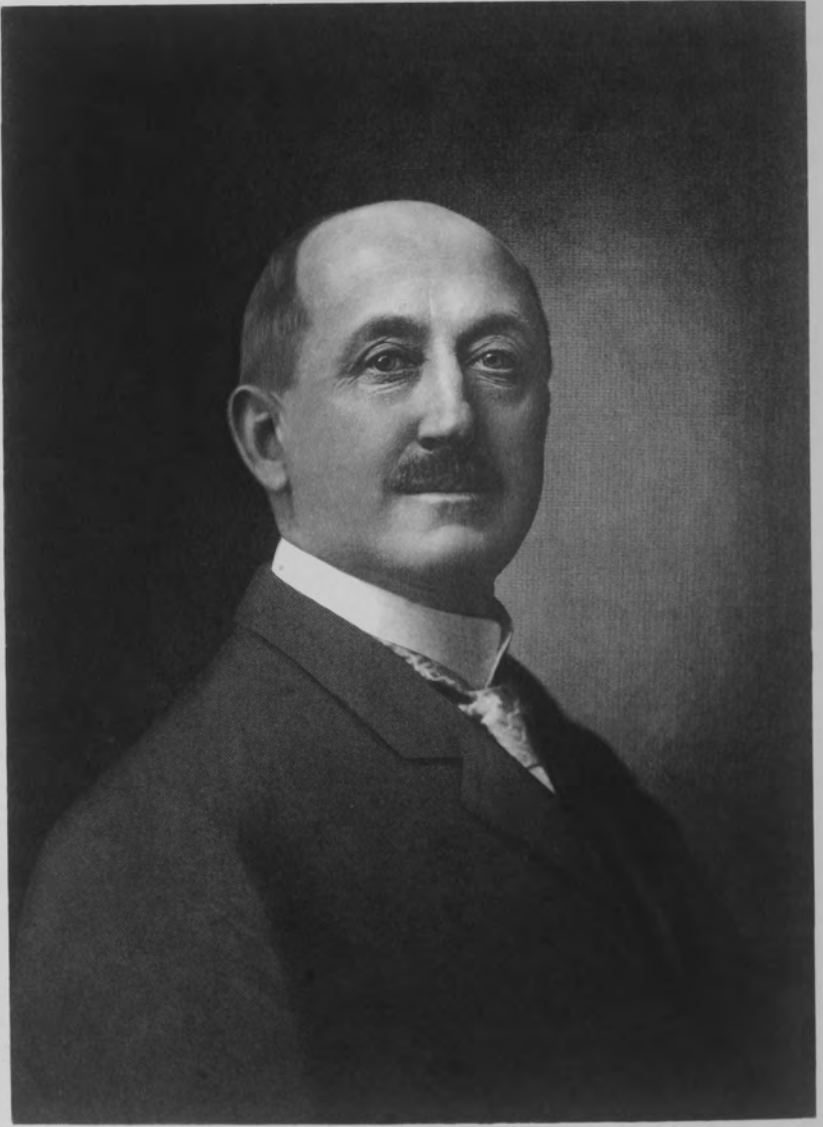
During his boyhood Merritt A. Cleveland attended the common and private schools at East Hounsfield, Brownville and Dexter and was also a student in the Watertown high school. In 1870 he became connected with the engineering corps of the Carthage, Watertown & Sackett's Harbor Railroad and later was appointed division engineer of the Lake Ontario Shore Railroad. In 1873, as engineer, he took charge of the construction of the Kingston & Pembroke Railroad in Canada, and the following year, as a member of the firm of Hunter & Cleveland, completed the Lake Shore Railroad. The year 1877 the firm of Hunter & Cleveland was changed to Hunter, Murray & Cleveland, who engaged in the construction of the locks and works at Port Colborne, Welland, Port Dalhousie and other points along the route until the completion of the Welland canal. In fact the firm were among the largest contractors in that enormous work. They also built a portion of the Murray canal connecting the bay of Quintie with Lake Ontario, and engaged in deepening and improving many of the harbors along the lakes. In 1883-4 the firm of Warren & Cleveland built the Pittsburg, Cleveland & Toledo Railroad in Pennsylvania and Ohio, which is now a part of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad system. In 1888 the firm of Murray & Cleveland entered into contract with the Dominion government to build the Gallops canal around the Gallops Rapids, which is a portion of the system of canals to make the St. Lawrence river navigable for large vessels. Since then Mr. Cleveland has been continuously engaged in improving the St. Lawrence route for the Dominion.

In 1875 Mr. Cleveland married Miss Ellen E. Smith, a daughter of Oril Smith, of Sodus, New York, and to them were born four children: Milo, Helen,

**Merritt A. Cleveland**

Harold and Florence. Since 1884 the family have made their home in Brockport. Mr. Cleveland has ever been watchful of every detail of his business and all indications pointing toward prosperity. He has gained wealth but it was not alone the goal for which he was striving, for he belongs to that class of representative American citizens who promote the general prosperity while advancing individual interests.





*F. S. Mulchay*

## Timothy S. Mulchay



**T**IMOTHY S. MULCHAY is a strong and successful business man of Rochester. He started in life in a humble capacity but the development and exercise of his latent powers of energy have gained him a position of distinction, winning for him that tribute of admiration and respect which the world instinctively pays to the man who plans his own advancement and accomplishes it in spite of difficulties, obstacles and competition. He has been the promoter of many mammoth business transactions and is now secretary of the Rochester, Corning & Elmira Railway Company and secretary of the Rochester Southern Construction Company.

A native of Phelps, Ontario county, New York, Mr. Mulchay was born August 30, 1859, a son of Daniel and Ellen (Shannon) Mulchay. The father, a native of Limerick, Ireland, came to the United States in 1849 and settled on a farm in Ontario county. He is now living retired at Phelps. His wife is also of Irish nativity. Five of their six children are yet living.

At the usual age Timothy S. Mulchay, enjoying no special advantages in youth, was sent as a student to the district schools of his native county, later attending the public schools of Phelps until he completed the high-school course by graduation. That ended his mental training under instruction but a receptive mind, a ready recognition of real values and an appreciation of opportunities have brought him that broader knowledge that cannot be gained from text-books but must be learned through practical experience. He made his initial step in the business world as a school teacher and for thirteen years followed the profession, being principal at different times of the public schools at Dundee, New York, at Brighton and at Rochester. He afterward went to South Dakota, where he became an extensive dealer in real estate, at one time owning more land than any man in that state. He then became interested in Mexico property and conducted some extensive and important real-estate operations there. One deal embraced the sale of four hundred and forty-six thousand acres, or two entire counties in Mexico, the land which he sold being now the site of the great dam which is in course of construction by the Mexican government. His successful accomplishment of one undertaking after another brought him enlarged opportunities and greater scope for his marked activity and enterprise. He has been the promoter of large railway and land interests

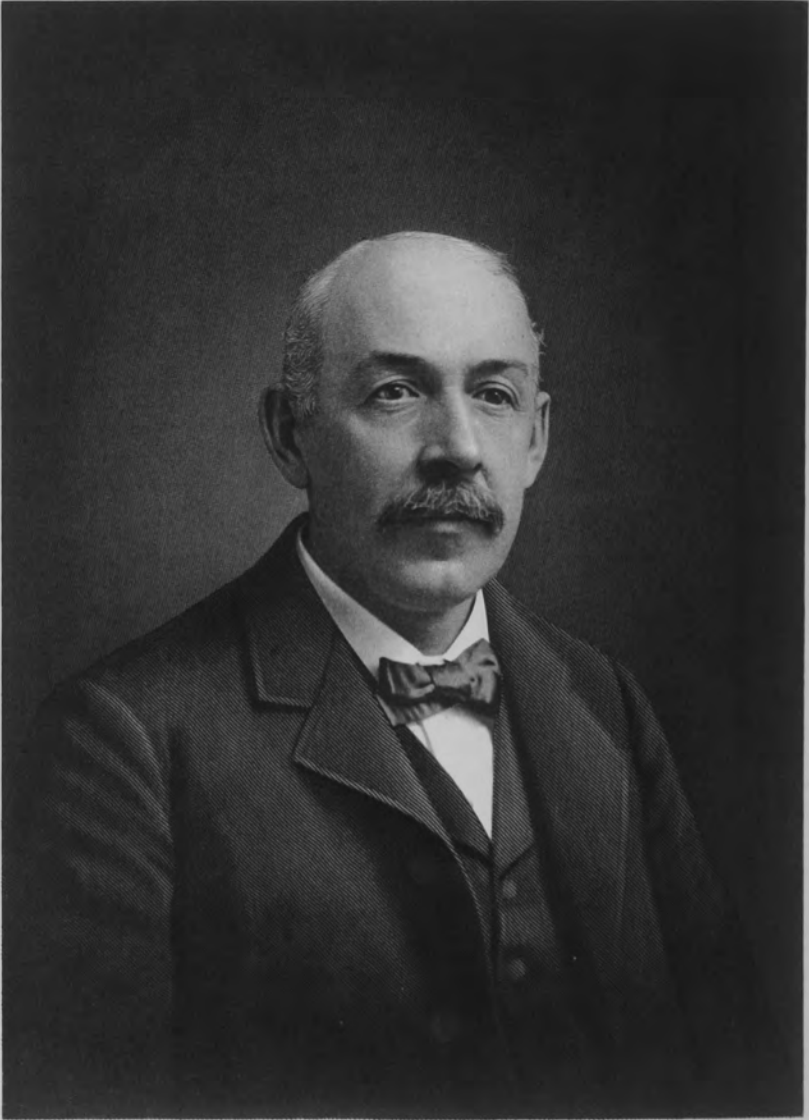
Timothy S. Mulchay

and is at present secretary of the Rochester, Corning & Elmira Railway, an electric line, and secretary of the Rochester Southern Construction Company, now building a twelve million dollar electric road from Dansville to Cornell, New York. He is also a director, stockholder and secretary of the Pilot Mountain Mining Company, operating gold mines in California; a director and stockholder in the Weaver Coal Company of Rochester; and in many other enterprises of great usefulness and broad scope. Taking cognizance of the distance between his starting point and the heights he has reached in the business world his record seems phenomenal and yet it but represents the fit utilization of the innate talents which are his. Opportunities that others have passed by heedlessly he has noted and improved until he seems to have realized at any one point in his career the possibilities for successful accomplishment at that point. In all things he has displayed an aptitude for successful management and his operations in various parts of the country have contributed in substantial measure to general progress and upbuilding. For sixteen years he has maintained his office in Rochester and his home in Phelps, New York.

On the 29th of December, 1885, Mr. Mulchay was married to Miss Ella I. Parrish, a daughter of Lyman Parrish, of Phelps, representing one of the old and prominent families of that place. They have four children: Ella M., the wife of George Lutes, of Waterloo, New York; Iva O., who is now preparing for college; George V., who is preparing to enter Yale; and Charles T., who at the age of fifteen years is attending school.

Mr. Mulchay is an active member of the Catholic church at Phelps, belongs to the Rochester Commercial Club and to Elks lodge, No. 24, of Rochester. While he has achieved remarkable success in business he has retained a kindly, generous nature, that in this age of marked commercialism is too often lacking. He is a generous contributor to many worthy charities and realizes and fully meets the responsibilities of wealth.





*Caryell Brothers New York.*

B. H. Bacon.



## Byron H. Bacon



**B**YRON H. BACON, who established and conducted a substantial productive industry of Rochester and continued an active and honored factor in business life in the city until his death, was a native of Leroy, New York, and after acquiring a good education was engaged in the furniture business in his native town for a number of years. In 1891 he began the manufacture of medicines which were placed upon the market under the name of the Byron H. Bacon medicines. His output included, as the principal remedies, the Celery King and Dr. Otto's Cough medicines which were sold by agents and advertising wagons all over the country, covering nearly every state in the Union, with main offices at No. 187 West avenue in Rochester. Mr. Bacon gave nine years of his life to the conduct of this business which grew in volume until it had reached extensive and profitable proportions. The business is still carried on under the name of the Bacon Medicine Company and employment is now furnished to thirty people in Rochester.

Mr. Bacon was married to Miss Amelia Echlin, of Leroy, New York, who was born in Canada, and they became the parents of three sons; Harold A., Goodell Weles and Ronald Henry. Mr. Bacon was a man of domestic tastes, devoted to his family, and found his greatest pleasure at his own fireside. He considered no personal sacrifice on his part too great if it would promote the welfare and happiness of his wife and children and he was a man who was well liked and respected by all. His widow has since become Mrs. Van Dusen and she resides at No. 42 Oxford street, where she owns a beautiful home, her three sons being still with her.





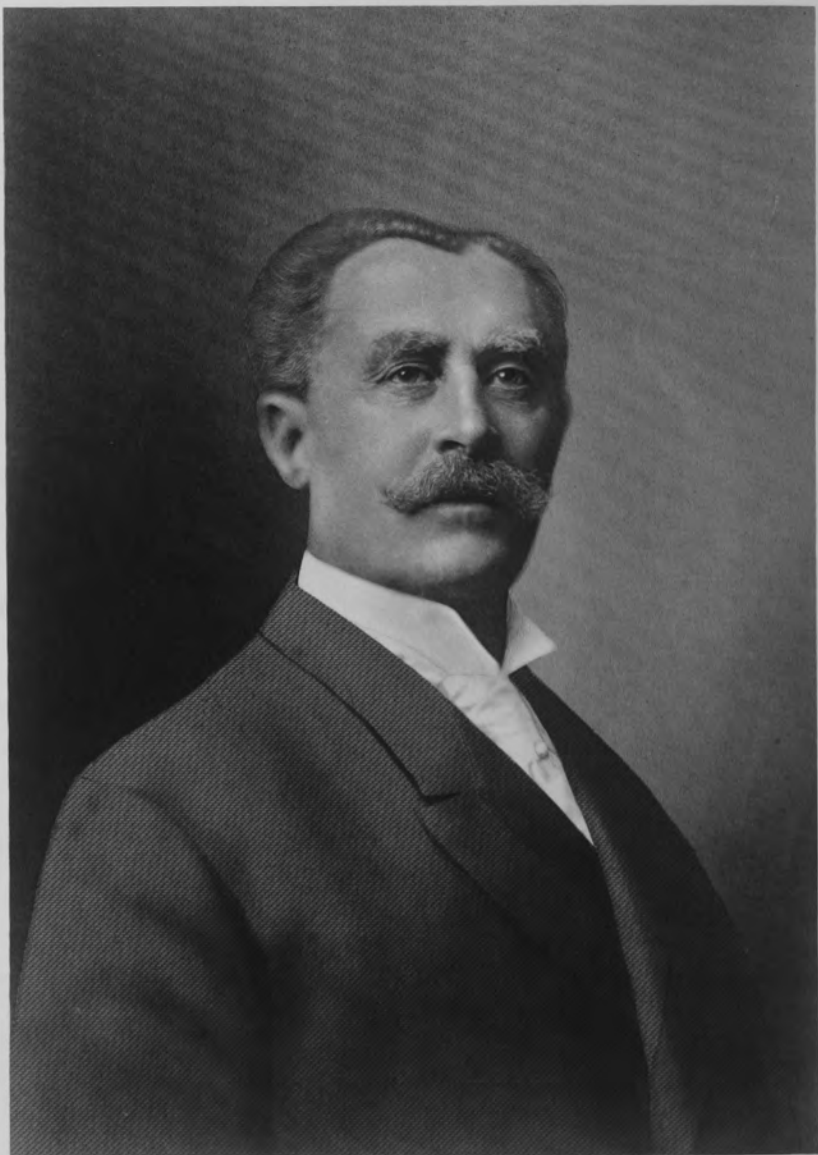
W. D. Hayes

## William D. Hayes



WILLIAM D. HAYES, general manager of the Travelers Insurance Company, of Rochester, in which connection he has secured a large clientele, was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, July 12, 1857. He was educated at the Normal School of Potsdam, and after putting aside his text-books he went to California, where he spent four years in the mercantile and mining business. Upon his return to the Empire state he settled at Albany and was assistant manager for the Aetna Insurance Company for four years, while in 1890 he came to Rochester as manager of the Travelers Insurance Company and has since occupied this position. He has thoroughly acquainted himself with the insurance business in principle and detail and has increased the business of this office from a small beginning until it has developed into one of the most important offices outside of the city of New York, having a number of agencies throughout western New York which are under his supervision. He occupies offices in the Granite building, one of the best office buildings in the city.

Mr. Hayes is a member of the Rochester Club and of the Oak Hill Country Club. He was married May 15, 1883, to Miss Nellie M. Hale of Norwood, St. Lawrence county, New York. They have one of the beautiful residences in Rochester, located at Willow Pond on East avenue, and its gracious hospitality makes it the center of a cultured society circle.



*F. A. Maselli*

## Frank A. Maselli



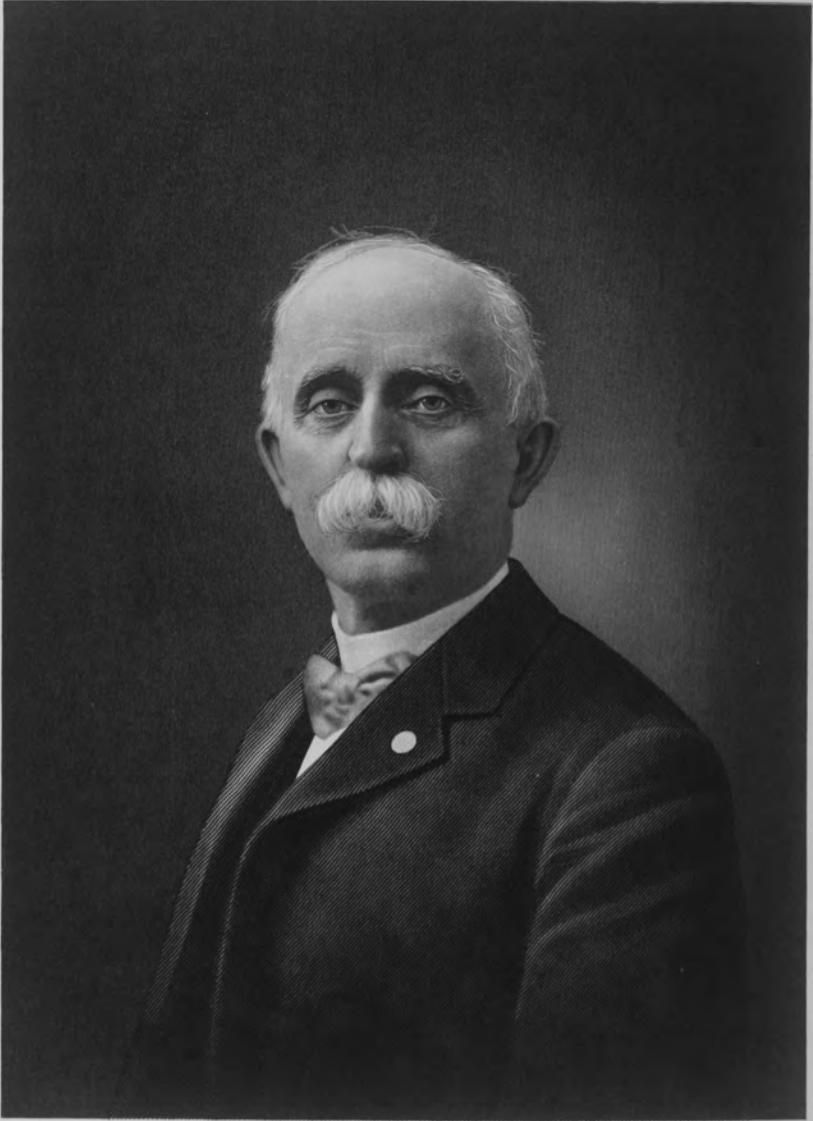
**F**RANK A. MASELLI, a general contractor of Rochester, was born in Pescolanciano, Italy, on the 15th of April, 1855. His parents were Domenico and Giacomina (Carosella) Maselli, both deceased. He acquired his education in the schools of his native city. After remaining in business with his father for some time beneath the sunny skies of old Italy, Frank A. Maselli came to the new world in 1880 and immediately entered upon active connection with the contractor's business here. His patronage has been chiefly in railroad and public works contracting and has called him to all parts of the United States. He took up his abode at Rochester in 1905 and since that time has been engaged on the construction of the portion of the barge canal near this city. His contracts have been of a large and important character, demanding a comprehensive knowledge of the scientific principles which underlie mechanical engineering, combined with a practical experience. He has now been engaged in the contracting business for twenty-six years and is recognized as one of the most prominent representatives in his line. He has done considerable work in the west for the Union Pacific and the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Companies. He also took a contract near Steubenville, Ohio, for the Wabash road, consisting of over two million cubic yards, and recently completed for the Western Allegheny near New Castle, Pennsylvania, a large job. He now has under way sixteen miles of grading for the Lake Erie & Pittsburg branch of the Lake Shore Railroad in Ohio. This is difficult road construction and the contract is such a one as is only awarded where the utmost confidence is had in superior ability and executive force. Mr. Maselli also has recently taken a contract for the construction of three and one-quarter miles of the new state barge canal through a very level country just west of Rochester and east of the junction of the old canal. Two and a half miles are in a heavy rock cut running from twelve to thirty-six feet deep and covered with a layer of earth from two to twelve feet deep. On account of the large rock excavation involved—one million three hundred and fifty-six thousand cubic yards—this contract was selected as one of the first to be let to test the practicability of completing the canal within the one hundred and one million appropriation. The contract was let in May, 1905, and actual construction was begun on the 19th of June of that year. The barge contract is a part of the sixty mile level

**Frank A. Maselli**

from Lockport to Rochester, requires no locks, having only one-tenth total change of elevation of grade. New conditions faced Mr. Maselli in the building of the canal but he has proved himself adequate to every demand made upon him. His broad scientific knowledge has been brought to bear in the practical construction. For a mile near the west end of the contract the rock proved to be too soft for channeling and other plans had to be instituted in order to meet this condition. Special machinery has been contrived for the work and in building this canal Mr. Maselli is achieving an engineering feat which is awakening the attention and admiration of expert engineers and contractors throughout the entire country and in foreign lands as well. In addition to his contracting interests Mr. Maselli is a director of the National Bank of Commerce.

Mr. Maselli has been married twice. He first wedded Miss Rosa Andrews of Erie, Pennsylvania, and after her death wedded Mary Hill of Richmond, Indiana. He has two children, a son and daughter. Fraternally Mr. Maselli is connected with the Odd Fellows, the Elks and with several Italian societies and is a member of the Rochester Club. In his religious faith he is a Catholic and in political belief is a republican, being a stalwart advocate of the principles of that party, although he has never sought nor desired office. He feels that he made no mistake in leaving his native country and seeking a home in the new world, for here he has found excellent business opportunities and as the years have gone by has gained an enviable position as a general contractor. He has long since left the ranks of the many to stand among the successful few, his ability and energy carrying him far beyond the average contractor and gaining for him business of importance and magnitude.





W. Martin Jones

## William Martin Jones



WILLIAM MARTIN JONES, a distinguished lawyer, widely known as a leader in the cause of temperance and more recently through his labors in connection with the effort to establish an International Court of Arbitration, was born in Manlius, New York, July 24, 1841. His father, Thomas P. Jones, was a native of Builth, Wales. His mother, Lodoiska Butler, was born at Crown Point, New York, and was a relative of the late Benjamin F. Butler. She was a woman of strong personality and marked ability. While Mr. Jones was very young his parents moved to Knowlesville, New York, where he spent his early youth. Having been graduated from the Albion Academy, it was his intention to attend Yale College but at about the time he was ready to enter this institution, the Civil war broke out, and, becoming acquainted with Edwin D. Morgan, the war governor of New York, he acted for two years as his private secretary while Mr. Morgan was United States senator. In 1864 he filled the position for some time of private secretary to William H. Seward, then secretary of state, and to his son, Mr. Frederick W. Seward. His efficiency in this position led to his promotion to the position of chief clerk of the consular bureau in the state department. This position told heavily on his health, as it was often necessary for him to remain at his desk until long after midnight, preparing instructions to United States representatives who were stationed all over the world, watching Confederate blockade runners, and guarding the interests of the Republic under alien skies. While filling this position, information many times came to him of plots against the government and the lives of its officers, all of which information he duly conveyed to the proper officials. On the evening of Good Friday, 1865, he was present in Ford's Theater, sitting within twenty feet of President Lincoln, when the latter was assassinated.

In 1866, the war being ended, Mr. Jones was appointed United States consul at Clifton, Canada, his resignation from the consular bureau having been accepted with regret by Mr. Seward. During the five years of his consulship he occupied his leisure hours reading law and upon his retiring from this office in 1871, he established himself at Rochester, New York, and was admitted to the bar, where he soon attained a prominent position, and some of his cases are now quoted as authority throughout the country.



At the age of ten years Mr. Jones became a Cadet of Temperance and later joined the Sons of Temperance. In 1867 he entered the Independent Order of Good Templars and became a leader in that body. In 1879 he was made grand chief Templar of New York state, which office he held for four consecutive years, and for seven years he was treasurer of the International Body of Good Templars. Although a republican in politics, he came to believe that the prohibition movement was the paramount issue of the time, and after the failure of the republican party to redeem its pledges made at the Richfield Springs Convention in 1882, he gave his support to the prohibition party and ran for office on its tickets when to do so was only to invite ridicule and persecution. In 1885 he was a candidate for attorney general and in 1888 a candidate for governor of the state of New York upon that ticket. In the following campaign he received the largest prohibition vote ever cast in New York state, running ahead of the national ticket. In the free silver campaign of 1896, Mr. Jones took position, with many others, in favor of the gold standard, and the prohibition party failing to adopt any platform upon any question other than that of prohibition, and believing that the republican party was at last coming to recognize the merit of the temperance movement, he again gave his support to the republican party and stumped the state of Michigan in opposition to Hon. John P. St. John, who had been the prohibition candidate for president of the United States in 1883, and who was then speaking in favor of free silver.

The early experience of Mr. Jones in diplomatic matters and his intense interest in international questions led to the formation of views of a decided character on the subject of international peace, and he was always an advocate of a system of international arbitration. At the time of the dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela in 1896, after the declaration of President Cleveland that England would have to settle her difficulties without encroaching upon the Monroe Doctrine, and when war seemed imminent between the United States and England, much discussion arose in regard to the settlement of the dispute by arbitration. Mr. Jones' sentiments on this subject were well known, and at a meeting of the New York State Bar Association he was chosen as a member of a committee of nine, appointed for the purpose of considering the question of arbitration between Great Britain and the United States. Hon. Chauncey M. Depew and Prof. John Bassett Moore of Columbia University were appointed advisory members of this committee. At the first meeting of the committee Mr. Jones set forth his views and pointed out the difficulties attending arbitration where the litigants only are arbiters, and strenuously advocated the establishment of a "permanent international court of arbitration" composed of representatives of several nations. At that meeting he and Hon. Walter S. Logan, of New York, were chosen as a sub-committee, charged with the duty of devising and presenting to the full committee a plan for such a court and the duty of drafting the desired resolutions fell

upon Mr. Jones. He accordingly prepared a report which was successively approved, without alteration or amendment, by the sub-committee, the whole committee and the Bar Association itself at a special meeting called to consider the matter. A committee was then appointed to present the memorial to the President of the United States. This was done April 21, 1896, by Hon. Edward G. Whitaker, president of the Bar Association, Judge William D. Veeder, chairman of the committee, and Mr. Jones. The ablest journals of the day commented favorably on both the memorial and the report and the Albany Law Journal published both in full and closed an extended editorial with these words: "We believe the plan of the Bar Association is well devised and properly considered and it should be, if nothing more, at least a step toward some practical result." The memorial is as follows:

**"TO THE PRESIDENT:**

"The Petition of the New York State Bar Association respectfully shows:

"That impelled by a sense of duty to the state and nation and a purpose to serve the cause of humanity everywhere, your Petitioner at its annual session held in the City of Albany on the 22d day of January, 1896, appointed a committee to consider the subject of International Arbitration, and to devise and submit to it a plan for the organization of a tribunal to which may hereafter be submitted controverted international questions between the governments of Great Britain and the United States.

"That said committee entered upon the performance of its duty at once, and after long and careful deliberation reached the conclusion that it is impracticable, if not impossible, to form a satisfactory Anglo-American Tribunal, for the adjustment of grave International controversies, that shall be composed only of representatives of the two governments of Great Britain and the United States.

"That in order that the subject might receive more mature and careful consideration, the matter was referred to a sub-committee, by whom an extended report was made to the full committee. This report was adopted as the report of the full committee, and at a special meeting of the State Bar Association called to consider the matter and held at the State Capitol in the City of Albany, on the 16th day of April, 1896, the action of the committee was affirmed and the plan submitted fully endorsed. As the report referred to contains the argument in brief, both in support of the contention that it is impracticable to organize a court composed only of representatives of the governments of Great Britain and the United States, and in support of the plan outlined in it, a copy of the report is hereto appended and your Petitioner asks that it be made and considered a part of this Petition.

"That your Petitioner cordially endorses the principle of arbitration for the settlement of all controversies between civilized nations and it believes that it is quite within the possibility of the educated intellects of the leading Powers of the world to agree upon a plan for a great central World's Court, that, by the common consent of nations, shall eventually have jurisdiction of all disputes arising between Independent Powers that cannot be adjusted by friendly diplomatic negotiations. Holding tenaciously to this opinion, and, conscious that there must be a first step in every good work, else there will never be a second, your Petitioner respectfully but earnestly urges your early consideration of the subject that ultimately,—at least during the early years of the coming century—the honest purpose of good men of every nation may be realized in devising means for the peaceful solution of menacing disputes between civilized nations. Your Petitioner therefore submits to you the following recommendations:

William Martin Jones

"First: The establishment of a permanent international Tribunal to be known as 'The International Court of Arbitration.'

"Second: Such court to be composed of nine members, one each from nine independent states or nations, such representative to be a member of the Supreme or Highest Court of the nation he shall represent, chosen by a majority vote of his associates, because of his high character as a publicist and judge and his recognized ability and irreproachable integrity. Each judge thus selected to hold office during life, or the will of the Court selecting him.

"Third: The court thus constituted to make its own rules of procedure, to have power to fix its place of sessions and to change the same from time to time as circumstances and the convenience of litigants may suggest and to appoint such clerks and attendants as the Court may require.

"Fourth: Controverted questions arising between any two or more Independent Powers, whether represented in said 'International Court of Arbitration' or not, at the option of said Powers, to be submitted by treaty between said Powers to said Court, providing only that said treaty shall contain a stipulation to the effect that all parties thereto shall respect and abide by the rules and regulations of said Court and conform to whatever determination it shall make of said controversy.

"Fifth: Said Court to be open at all times for the filing of cases and counter cases under treaty stipulations by any nation, whether represented in the Court or not, and such orderly proceedings in the interim between sessions of the Court in preparation for argument and submission of the controversy as may seem necessary, to be taken as the rules of the Court provide for and may be agreed upon between the litigants.

"Sixth: Independent Powers not represented in said Court, but which may have become parties litigant in a controversy before it, and by treaty stipulation have agreed to submit to its adjudication, to comply with the rules of the Court and to contribute such stipulated amount to its expenses as may be provided for by its rules or determined by the Court.

"Your Petitioner also recommends that you enter at once into correspondence and negotiation, through the proper diplomatic channels with representatives of the governments of Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia, The Netherlands, Mexico, Brazil and the Argentine Republic for a union with the government of the United States in the laudable undertaking of forming an International Court, substantially on the basis herein outlined.

"Your Petitioner presumes it is unnecessary to enter into further argument in support of the foregoing propositions than is contained in the report of its committee, which is appended hereto, and which your Petitioner has already asked to have considered a part of this petition. Your Petitioner will be pardoned, however, if it invite especial attention to that part of the report emphasizing the fact that the plan herein outlined is intended, if adopted, at once to meet the universal demand among English speaking people for a permanent tribunal to settle contested international questions that may hereafter arise between the governments of Great Britain and the United States.

"While it is contended that it is wholly impracticable to form such a tribunal without the friendly interposition of other nations on the joint invitation of the Powers who unite in its organization, it is very evident that a most acceptable permanent International Court may be speedily secured by the united and harmonious action of said Powers as already suggested. Should obstacles be interposed to the acceptance by any of the Powers named by your Petitioner, of the invitation to name a representative for such a Court, on the plan herein generally outlined, some other equally satisfactory Power could be solicited to unite in the creation of such a Court.

"Believing that, in the fulfillment of its destiny among the civilized nations of the world, it has devolved upon the younger of the two Anglo-Saxon Powers, now happily in the enjoyment of nothing but future peaceful prospects, to take the first step looking to the permanency of peace among nations, your Petitioner, representing the Bar of the Empire State, earnestly appeals to you as the Chief Executive officer of the government of the United States, to take such timely action as shall lead eventually to the organization of such a tribunal as has been outlined in the foregoing recommendations. While ominous sounds of martial preparation are in the air, the ship builder's hammer is industriously welding the bolt, and arsenals are testing armor plates, your Petitioner, apprehensive for the future, feels that delays are dangerous, and it urgently recommends that action be taken at once by you to compass the realization of the dream of good men in every period of the world's history, when nations shall learn war no more and enlightened Reason shall fight the only battles fought among the children of men."

**AND YOUR PETITIONER WILL EVER PRAY.**

Attested in behalf of the New York State Bar Association at the Capitol in the City of Albany, N. Y., April 16th, 1896.

ED. G. WHITAKER, President.

L. B. PROCTOR, Secretary.

A copy of this memorial was addressed to the Queen of England and copies of it were sent to the heads of various governments, including the Czar of Russia, and to prominent people throughout the world. When, in 1899, the Czar issued his call for a disarmament conference, to be held at The Hague, another meeting of the New York State Bar Association was called and a committee, of which Mr. Jones was chairman, was appointed to draw up resolutions relative to the subjects to be discussed by such proposed conference. This committee at once recognized the fact that the proposition for disarmament alone was impracticable, but that nations, while fearing to disarm lest their enemies be secretly increasing their armament, would still be willing to arbitrate their disputes, and it was apparent to them that the first step toward universal peace must be the establishment of a court to which all nations might turn for the adjustment of their differences, and that such a court, once established, its influence and power would surely grow until eventually the disposition would become universal to abide by and perhaps to enforce its decrees and disarmament would follow. It was accordingly decided that a memorial be addressed to the Czar of Russia and to the President of the United States, recommending the creation of such a court. The memorial prepared in accordance with this resolution was identical with that presented in 1896 to the President of the United States, and an address by Senator Depew and one by Hon. Edward G. Whitaker were appended to it. This memorial, having been duly presented to President McKinley and to the representative of the Czar, copies of it were transmitted, through the department of state of the United States, to the various delegates at The Hague conference, where it afterward became known as "The American plan." The idea of international arbitration was not new and Americans generally had for many years been known to be in favor of it, but it was this

**William Martin Jones**

plan that was prominently before The Hague Conference and that was eventually largely followed in the organization of The Hague Court. At first the idea of arbitration met with much opposition, especially from the Continental representatives. It is related that a certain continental delegate at that conference, being unable to read the memorial in English, asked an Englishman to tell him what it was, and when it had been duly explained to him, he threw up his hands in disgust at the idea and declared he was going home at once. When the court was finally organized there was much misgiving and many doubts were expressed as to its success but several nations have taken advantage of its existence and settled their disputes through it.

While living at Washington Mr. Jones became affiliated with the Masonic order and was for many years a member of Monroe Commandery, Knights Templar, at Rochester. He was also a member of Valley Lodge, F. & A. M.; and of the American, New York State and Rochester Bar Associations. He was a member of the Mohonk Lake Peace Conference; of the Bibliophile Society of Boston; of the Society of The Genesee; of the American Peace Society and of the National Geographic Society. In 1904 he was a delegate from the State Bar Association to the International Congress of Lawyers and Jurists at St. Louis.

On July 5th, 1871, Mr. Jones was married to Miss Gertrude M. Nicholls at Buffalo, New York, who having both education and ability, proved of great help to her husband. Four children were born to them, of whom one died in infancy. The remaining three, Gertrude Minnie, William Martin and Abram Nicholls are still living with their mother at Rochester.

Mr. Jones died May 3rd, 1906, after an illness of a year, and was buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery, at Rochester.





Henry J. Fitz.

## Henry J. Utz



HENRY J. UTZ, senior member of the firm of Utz & Dunn, manufacturers of ladies', misses' and children's shoes, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, March 28, 1850, a son of Andrew J. and Margaret (Schmidt) Utz. The father died in Germany and the mother came to the United States of America in 1880 and remained a resident of Rochester until her decease in December, 1906, when she was eighty-four years of age. In his native country Henry J. Utz attended school and learned the shoemaker's trade, after which he came to the United States of America to test the truth of the favorable reports which he had heard concerning the opportunities and advantages of the new world. He was eighteen years of age, when, in 1868 he arrived in Rochester, where he has since made his home. For some time he worked at his trade on the bench and was afterward employed in different shoe factories at Rochester, thus acquainting himself with the manufacturing business in detail. With the savings from his earnings he was at length prepared to start manufacturing in a small way for his own account. Having made the acquaintance of William H. Dunn, his present partner, who was then engaged in the retail cigar business, an agreement was made to engage in the slipper manufacturing business, Mr. Dunn agreeing to come in when he had disposed of his cigar business. The business was started in September, 1881, on Water street, and Mr. Dunn joined same the following January. By hard work, careful attention to detail, and by Mr. Dunn's ability as a trade winner and a salesman, thus providing a market for the product, the business increased and prospered. Later the manufacture of ladies', misses' and children's fine shoes was undertaken, and the firm is today probably the largest in that line in the city of Rochester, their output including such famous makes as the Acme Cushion shoe, St. Cecilia, Little Wanderer, etc. Their trade not only extends to all parts of this country, but also embraces a large export business. They turn out thirty-five hundred pairs of shoes daily and employ eight hundred people. They occupy eighty thousand square feet of floor space, and their products are of a high class of material and workmanship.

Mr. Utz is a member of Zion's German Lutheran church. He is also identified with the Rochester Club and Rochester lodge, No. 660, F. & A. M.





Geo. D. Hale.

## Professor George David Hale



PROFESSOR GEORGE DAVID HALE was born in Adams, Jefferson county, New York, on the 27th of March, 1844. His parents were Abner Cable and Sally Ann (Barton) Hale. The first American ancestor in the paternal line was Thomas Hale, the glover, who came from England in 1637 and settled at Newbury, Massachusetts, where he died December 21, 1682. The grandfather, David Hale, was senior member of the first mercantile firm in Adams, New York, and was also captain of a troop of cavalry in the war of 1812. From a very early period in the development of Jefferson county the family was connected with its progress and upbuilding. Abner C. Hale, the father, followed the occupation of farming at Adams.

Professor George D. Hale, spending his boyhood days under the parental roof, in 1870 was graduated from the classical course of the University of Rochester. Three years later that institution conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts. He is a member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon and of the Phi Beta Kappa, two college fraternities. Professor Hale needs no introduction to the readers of this volume, for he is known personally or by reputation to every resident of the city and also to a large extent throughout this and other states by reason of the fact that his students have gone abroad into all parts of the country, bearing in their lives the impress of his individuality. The Hale Classical and Scientific School, which he conducted in this city from 1871 to 1898, is recognized as having been one of the most excellent institutions of learning in the state and among its graduates are men who are now prominent in the public and business life of Rochester. Thoroughness has always been his motto and he has ever held high the standard of educational proficiency. Kant has said, "the object of education is to train each individual to reach the highest perfection possible for him" and the spirit of this statement has been a dominant factor in the work done by Professor Hale during these years. Moreover, he is recognized in educational circles as an authority on mathematics and as one who stands as a leader in his profession because of the high ideals which he has ever held and the unfaltering effort he has made to reach them. He is identified with several of the leading societies for the advancement of knowledge, being a member of the National Educational Association, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science,

**Professor George David Hale**

also of the National Geographic Society and the Rochester Society of the Archæological Institute of America. Of local societies, he is identified with the Genesee Valley Club and with the Country Club. His political preference has always been for the republican party and while he has been a student of the great issues and questions bearing upon the welfare of state and nation, he has always been without political ambition.

On the 29th of December, 1875, Professor Hale was married in Rochester to Miss Mary Elizabeth Judson, a daughter of Junius and Lavenda (Bushnell) Judson. They have two daughters, Edith Harriette and Elizabeth Lavenda Hale. Professor and Mrs. Hale are members of the First Baptist church of Rochester, in which he has served for many years as a trustee, being also prominently identified with the general interests of the Baptist denomination in this city. He has been a generous contributor to many public and charitable works and his influence is always on the side of that which promotes intellectual development, æsthetic culture and moral progress. He has given many years of an active and useful life to the cause of education and has attained wide distinction in the field of his chosen labor. Nor has he been denied the substantial benefits which should ever arise from industry. He is at present identified with the business interests of the several Judson companies of this city, in which he is both director and stockholder.





*Geo. A. Gordon*

## George Cooley Gordon



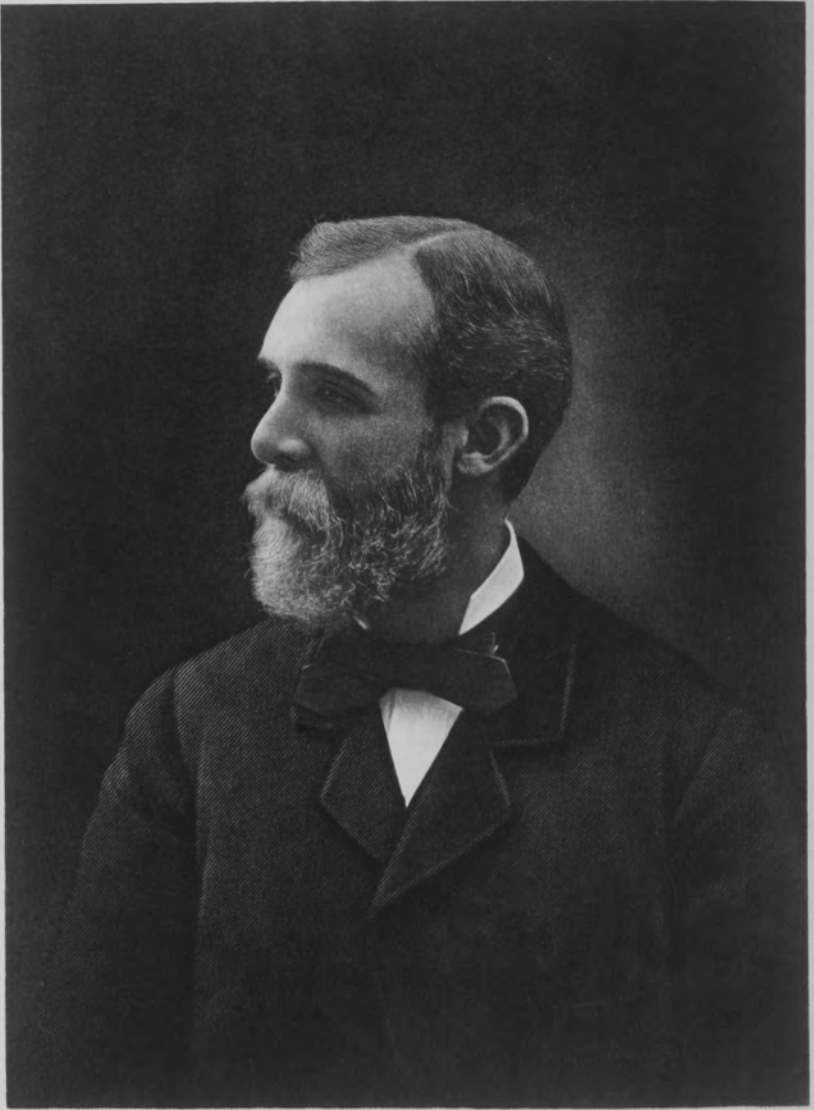
ON THE ROLL of Brockport's honored dead appears the name of George Cooley Gordon, who for years was recognized as a man of great strength of character, of high purpose and lofty principles. His activity and energy left their impress upon the community where for many years he was a leading business man. As a member of the firm of Luther Gordon & Son he was closely associated with the lumber industry and at the time of his death was also president of the First National Bank, president of the Brockport Loan and Building Association and a trustee of the Fidelity Trust Company, of Buffalo, New York. His life record began in Rushford, New York, on the 1st of July, 1849, his parents being Luther and Florilla (Cooley) Gordon, who are mentioned on another page of this volume. He was nine years of age at the time of the removal of his parents to Brockport, where he attended the Collegiate Institute, his education being further continued in Rochester Academy. On attaining his majority he joined his father in the lumber business, the latter being one of the most extensive dealers in that line in this part of the state, and they carried on business under the firm name of Luther Gordon & Son. Unlike many young men who have the opportunity to enter upon a successful business established by a father, he made it his purpose to thoroughly familiarize himself with the business, working persistently and earnestly to acquaint himself with every detail, and his usefulness soon proved a potent element in the success which attended the vast and varied business interests of the firm. The son assumed full control upon the father's death in 1881 and in the management of affairs displayed most excellent judgment. He enlarged and extended his operations and in all displayed most sound judgment, which was rarely, if ever, at fault. He succeeded his father as president of the First National Bank of Brockport and held that position throughout the remainder of his life. At the time of his death he was also president of the Brockport Loan & Building Association and trustee of the Fidelity Trust Company of Buffalo, New York. Energetic, progressive and thoroughly reliable, he won the unqualified confidence of all with whom he came in contact either in business or social life and in his death the community mourned the loss of one whose value had long since been proven and whose genuine worth endeared him to all who knew him.

George Cooley Gordon

On the 18th of October, 1873, Mr. Gordon was united in marriage to Miss Ida M. Hooker, a most estimable lady, to whose wise counsel and aid he contributed much of his success in life. They became the parents of five children, namely: Luther; George Cooley; William H., who died in infancy; Fred H.; and Thomas C. Mr. Gordon died at his summer home at Beachwood Park, on Lake Ontario, August 25, 1898, and his death was widely and deeply mourned, for through his varied business and social relations he had made many warm friends who esteemed him highly for his genuine worth.

In early life Mr. Gordon was a democrat but became a republican during President Cleveland's second term and ever afterward supported that party. Political honors had no attraction for him, but as a public-spirited citizen he never withheld his support from any enterprise which he believed would advance the general welfare or promote the interests of his fellowmen. Over the record of his business career or private life there falls no shadow of wrong, for he was ever most loyal to the ties of friendship and citizenship and his history well deserves a place in the annals of his native state. Mr. Gordon realized fully the obligations which devolve upon man in his relations to his fellowmen. He was instrumental in promoting all that tended toward the betterment of Brockport. He was ambitious for the city's good and brought to public interests the same devotion and energy that he manifested in his private business affairs. Moreover, he was charitable, kindly and benevolent, giving generously of his means to those in need and withholding the hand of aid at no time when he believed that his assistance would prove of benefit. He did not believe in the indiscriminate giving which fosters vagrancy or idleness, but he possessed in full measure "the milk of human kindness" and his spirit was one of helpfulness, based upon broad humanitarian principles.





*L. Ward Clarke.*



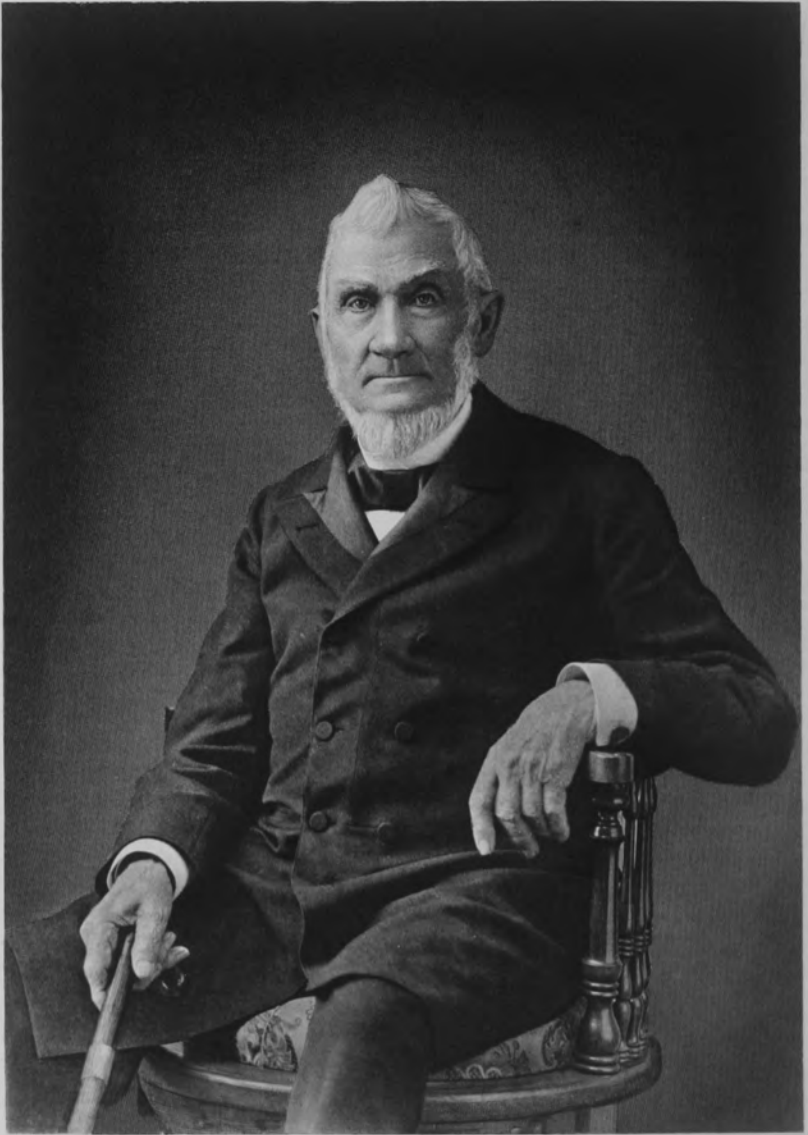
## Levi Ward Clarke



PROMINENT among the list of Rochester's honored dead is Levi Ward Clarke. Born in Albion, New York, August 10, 1834, he was the eldest son of the late Freeman Clarke, who was for many years the recognized head of the financial world of Rochester. Levi Ward Clarke prepared for college at the Clover street school of this city and at College Hill, Poughkeepsie, New York, but owing to severe illness was unable to enter college. About 1857 his father established the Monroe County Bank, afterward the Clarke National Bank, and in 1865 on accepting the office of comptroller of the currency under Lincoln, his son succeeded as its president, being at the time the youngest bank president in the United States. His skill in managing the affairs of the bank was universally recognized and established his reputation as one of the leading business men and financiers of the city. From banking Mr. Clarke became interested in the newspaper business, establishing with others the Rochester Printing Company, publishers of the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle and remaining treasurer of that company until the close of his life July 28, 1894.

Mr. Clarke was a generous friend of the charitable institutions of the city. He was one of the founders of the Rochester Club and was its president for a number of years, he was also a member of the Genesee Valley Club, the Whist Club, the Rochester Yacht Club, the Union Greys and of several New York Clubs.

On the 18th of July, 1861, he was married to Miss Mary E. Hall, a daughter of the late John Meigs Hall, of Wallingford, Connecticut. The later years of his life were spent in the enforced retirement of failing health; but were devoted to reading, study and to countless deeds of charity and thought for others—the promptings of a generous, unselfish and kindly nature. Honored and respected by all, his death was a loss to the city where he had spent so many years of his active and useful life.



Wm H. Seymour

## William H. Seymour



**W**HAT A REMARKABLE record was that of William H. Seymour! His life span covered one hundred and one years and to a wonderful degree he retained his mental and physical faculties. On the occasion of the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of his birth his mind seemed as alert and active as it had in former years, and his memory excited the surprise and admiration of those present, when without a moment's hesitation, he replied to a question concerning a Shakespearian quotation which others present could not give. The years of his earthly pilgrimage covered a most important epoch in the world's progress and he was not only a witness of the wonderful things accomplished in the business world, revolutionizing methods of living, but was also an active participant in the work which made the history of the nineteenth century notable. He became a resident of Brockport in 1823, and for eighty years maintained his home there, a fact which renders it imperative that mention be made of him in this volume.

Mr. Seymour was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, on the 15th of July, 1802, and was a representative of the descendants of Richard Seymour in the fifth generation. That the family was one of the earliest in the colonial settlement of America is indicated by the fact that the name of Richard Seymour appears on the town records of Hartford, Connecticut, in 1639. It is also inscribed on a monument erected to the memory of the first settlers of Hartford in the churchyard of the old Center Congregational church, now hidden behind modern business blocks, while the ground is kept under lock and key. Speaking of his life history, in 1898, when ninety-six years of age, Mr. Seymour said that the combined ages of himself and his four direct American ancestors in the paternal line were four hundred and twenty years, an average of eighty-four years each, while on the maternal side the longevity was equally remarkable. His father, Samuel Seymour, and his uncle, Moses Seymour, were valiant soldiers of the Revolutionary war and were afterward known as captain and major respectively. When American independence was achieved they engaged in business together in the manufacture of hats in Litchfield. Moses S. Seymour was the father of Hon. Henry Seymour, canal commissioner of New York during the construction of the Erie canal, and his son, Horatio Seymour, was afterward governor of New York. Others of the fam-

William H. Seymour

ily left the impress of their individuality upon business interests and public life.

William H. Seymour spent his early youth in Litchfield and always felt the warmest attachment for the place of his birth and was ever interested in hearing about the friends of the early days. He visited there at intervals, paying his last visit in 1880. Business opportunities brought him to New York, his elder brother, James, having been for some time in the employ of their cousin, Henry Seymour, the canal commissioner at Pompey, New York, as a clerk, and eventually followed the line of emigration to western New York and established a general store at Murray Four Corners, afterward Clarkson, in Genesee county, with his cousin, Henry Seymour, as a silent partner. When the business had been established there William H. Seymour joined his brother in 1818, when about sixteen years of age, to act as clerk, and afterward became a partner in the store. On the completion of the Erie canal to Brockport they removed their business to that place in 1823. James Seymour purchased the land now lying east of Main street, while that on the west side was owned by Hiel Brockway, for whom the town was named. James Seymour became not only well known in commercial circles but also attained considerable political prominence and was the first sheriff of Monroe county, following which he removed to Rochester, the county seat, and not long after his term of office expired he became cashier of the Bank of Rochester and subsequently its president.

William H. Seymour, however, continued at Brockport as proprietor of the mercantile store which they had established in 1823 and also extended the scope of his activities to the purchase and shipment of grain. He likewise served as postmaster under President Andrew Jackson, having the office in his store. During a part of this time Joseph Ganson and subsequently Hollister Lathrop were associated with him in business. Sometime prior to 1844 D. S. Morgan was admitted to a partnership and a year or so later Mr. Morgan, Mr. Seymour and the latter's brother-in-law, Thomas Roby, established a foundry business for the manufacture of stoves and other castings. This was the initial step into a line of business which later became one of world wide importance. Mr. Roby died in 1847 while a member of the firm, the partnership, however, being continued by Mr. Seymour and Mr. Morgan. It was after the establishment of the foundry that Mr. Seymour became interested in the manufacture of reapers. Several reaping machines had been invented in Great Britain during the early part of the nineteenth century but none went into practical operation except the one produced by Rev. Patrick Bell in Scotland in 1826, of which, however, only two or three were made. Early in the '30s Hussey and McCormick brought out their machines and developed them sufficiently to do practical work in the field. A few of each were made and sold but no regular manufacture of either had been established until 1846, when Seymour, Morgan & Company of Brockport built the first hundred machines

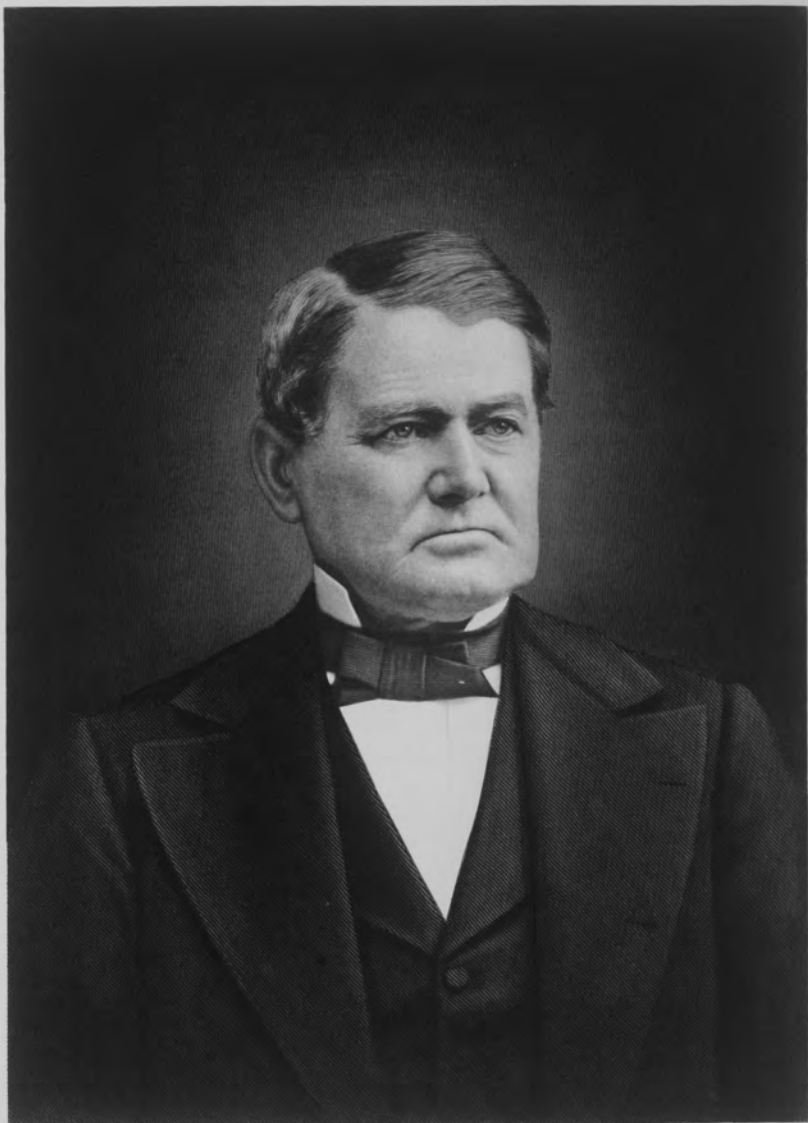
for Cyrus H. McCormick. Shortly prior to this time Mr. Seymour had been told that when Mr. McCormick was in Washington getting a patent on the seat on his machines, he was informed by D. Burroughs that his brother-in-law, Mr. Backus, of Backus, Fitch & Company, of Brockport, would most likely manufacture his reaper for him. In the preceding fall, he also learned Mr. McCormick had brought his reaper to Backus, Fitch & Company and had it tried in cutting wheat. It had no seat for the raker, who walked behind and raked off the sheaf. In the succeeding winter Mr. McCormick brought his patterns for castings to Backus, Fitch & Company, but as they could only make a small number he called on Seymour, Morgan & Company, then engaged in the manufacture of stoves and they agreed to make for the harvest of 1846, one hundred of these reapers, which had a seat for the raker. Mr. Jenner made the patterns for the castings, Mr. McCormick directing in the construction of his first machine, as he brought no machine to the firm to serve as a pattern. During the succeeding year they made two hundred reapers for Mr. McCormick but feeling that they could not agree to pay his patent fee of thirty dollars on each machine they subsequently began the manufacture of a reaper brought out by George F. Barnett, which they believed did not infringe on Mr. McCormick's patent. They built three hundred that year and were sued by Mr. McCormick, so abandoning that invention they began to manufacture reapers after plans perfected by Mr. Seymour, the new machine being known as the New Yorker. Mr. Seymour obtained a patent on this and made five hundred of the machines when he was restrained by an injunction granted by Judge Nelson of the United States court to Mr. McCormick, who bitterly contested the right of any other manufacturer to place reapers upon the market. However, to the firm of Seymour, Morgan & Company belongs the credit of being the first regular manufacturers of reapers in the country. In February, 1857, Mr. Seymour disposed of his interests in his patents on his reaper, yet reserving his rights so far as they might be necessary in the manufacture of self-raking reapers, to D. S. Morgan for his interest in a farm in Hamlin. He continued at the head of the iron foundry business, however, until 1875, when he withdrew from the firm and became interested in the manufacture of lumber and its sale in connection with his son Henry. The new enterprise prospered and he thus continued in business until 1882, when he retired to private life, enjoying a well earned rest throughout his remaining days.

Mr. Seymour was married in 1833 to Miss Pixley, of Columbia county, New York. Unto them were born five children, of whom only three grew to maturity: Hon. Henry W. Seymour, who died in Washington, D. C., leaving a wife and one daughter; Helen, now Mrs. W. B. Sylvester; and James H., who is unmarried, and resides at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

After his retirement from business Mr. Seymour lived quietly in Brockport, taking occasional journeys with one of his children until 1895. When

eighty-one years of age he went abroad with his children, spending five months in travel in Great Britain, Germany, Italy and France. When eighty-six years of age he visited England again with a daughter and son-in-law, and in 1893 he spent the summer at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. For many years he found pleasure and recreation in billiards and whist, attaining much skill in both, while his leisure was devoted to reading, which covered a wide range. His memory concerning the works of his favorite authors was remarkable, his quotations culled from various sources often exciting the surprise of those with whom he was conversing. In 1900 he was elected an honorary member of the National Association of Agricultural Implement and Vehicle Manufacturers in recognition of his importance as a factor in establishing one of the country's greatest industries.

In retrospection he could go back to the time when the farm implements were such as had been in use for hundreds of years—the wooden plow, the brush drag, or the Roman harrow, with wooden teeth; the hoe for planting and cultivating; the scythe and hand rake for harvesting hay; the hand sickle for cutting grain; and the flail for threshing. He lived to see a complete revolution in the methods of farming with the invention and introduction of machinery and he was ever an interested witness of the changes that occurred in other departments of life, indicating progress and improvement. It hardly seemed possible that in 1903 there yet lived a man who was living when George III was yet on the throne of England. He was ten years of age when the second war with Great Britain was begun and a youth of thirteen at the time of the battle of Waterloo, and he well remembered incidents connected with both. One of the most notable events in his life history was the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of his birth. It was made a gala day in Brockport. The entire village united in an expression of good will and honor to him. On that day the church bells pealed out a greeting in strokes of ten from each tower, thus registering the hundred years. Neighbors and friends decorated their homes for the occasion, while the flag was unfurled on the town hall in his honor. From far and near came friends to express their congratulations and delight that he had been spared to the venerable old age, including a delegation from his natal town, Litchfield. Many choice gifts were bestowed upon him, including a century plant, while an appropriate centerpiece for the table was composed of one hundred sweet williams, bordered with rosemary "for remembrance." One hundred years of Christian living had made him a most honored man. At the reception held in the afternoon there gathered people from every walk of life, for his friends were numbered among the young and old, the rich and poor. One of his old workmen said on that occasion, "I worked for you steady, sir, for forty years and I always got my pay," while a similar expression came from a friend and neighbor: "In all the years Mr. Seymour has lived here no one ever could say a word against him. His name stood for absolute integrity." He lived to pass another milestone on life's journey and on the 6th of October, 1903, was called to the home beyond.



*Henry W. Davis*



## Henry W. Davis



**T**HERE ARE men who in business life have attained remarkable success who will be forgotten long before the memory of Henry W. Davis ceases to be cherished by those who knew him while he was still an active factor in the world's work. This was not because he won for himself a fair measure of prosperity nor even because he figured prominently in the public life of the community in which he lived but because he possessed many lovable characteristics and manly qualities that gained him the highest esteem of friends, neighbors and all with whom he came in contact. He was a native of Massachusetts, born in 1807. At the age of nine years he went with his father's family to Galway, Saratoga county, New York, where he remained until 1827. In that year he arrived in Monroe county, which was regarded as a frontier district of the "far west." Making his way to Pittsford, he there found employment with Henry S. Potter, as a clerk, and for a few years remained in Mr. Potter's employ. That constituted the beginning of his successful business career. When about twenty-five or thirty years of age he became identified with the old Rochester Bank as exchange cashier and for a quarter of a century continued in that position, thus figuring prominently in financial circles of the city. On the expiration of that period he removed to Churchville, taking up his abode upon a farm, where he made his home until his death, which occurred in 1884. It was about the year 1852 that he removed from the city and from that time forward he was actively and prominently associated with agricultural interests. His carefully managed business affairs won him a gratifying measure of success and he became recognized as one of the foremost agriculturists of his community.

Mr. Davis was also prominent and influential in public life. He was active in the ranks of the democratic party, closely adhering to the principles set forth by its earlier leaders. He was supervisor and also represented his district in the general assembly, where his course was characterized by the utmost devotion to duty. He regarded a public office as a public trust and was ever most loyal to the confidence reposed in him in his election.

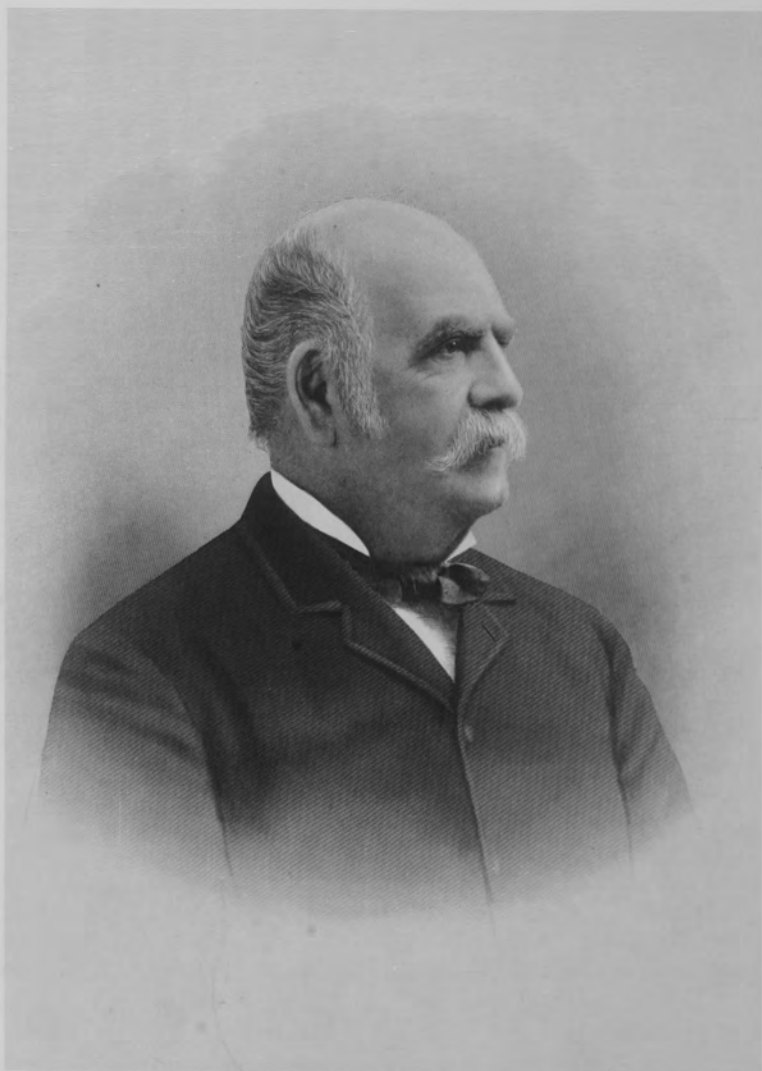
Mr. Davis was married to Miss Sarah Louisa Selkreg, and unto them were born six children, of whom only one is now living, Mrs. Albert D. Stone, of

Henry W. Davis

Churchville. She was married in 1875 and has one living child, Mrs. Frank T. Sage, of Rochester.

Mr. Davis departed this life in 1884 and was laid to rest in Churchville cemetery. He was an earnest Christian man, holding membership in the First Presbyterian church and his life displayed many qualities that endeared him to those with whom he came in contact. He was frequently spoken of among his friends in terms of appreciation and praise. He was generous in spirit, manly in thought and action, albeit a strong man of decided opinions and unfaltering in his defense of what he believed to be right. His residence in the county covered almost six decades and thus compassed the period from early pioneer development to that of modern day progress and upbuilding.





Henry S. Hobard

## Henry Stead Hebard



A LIFE OF GREAT activity and large usefulness was terminated when in 1890 Henry S. Hebard passed away. He figured prominently in the financial and business circles of Rochester and the state as president of the East Side Savings Bank, as proprietor of extensive marble works in this city and as president of the New York Mutual Aid Society. His life record began at Saugerties, Ulster county, New York, March 10, 1827, but for more than a half century he was a resident of Rochester and left the impress of his individuality upon its business development and its public interests. His father, Zebulon Hebard, was a licensed local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal church. His mother was Mrs. Martha (Inman) Hebard, a native of the Empire state.

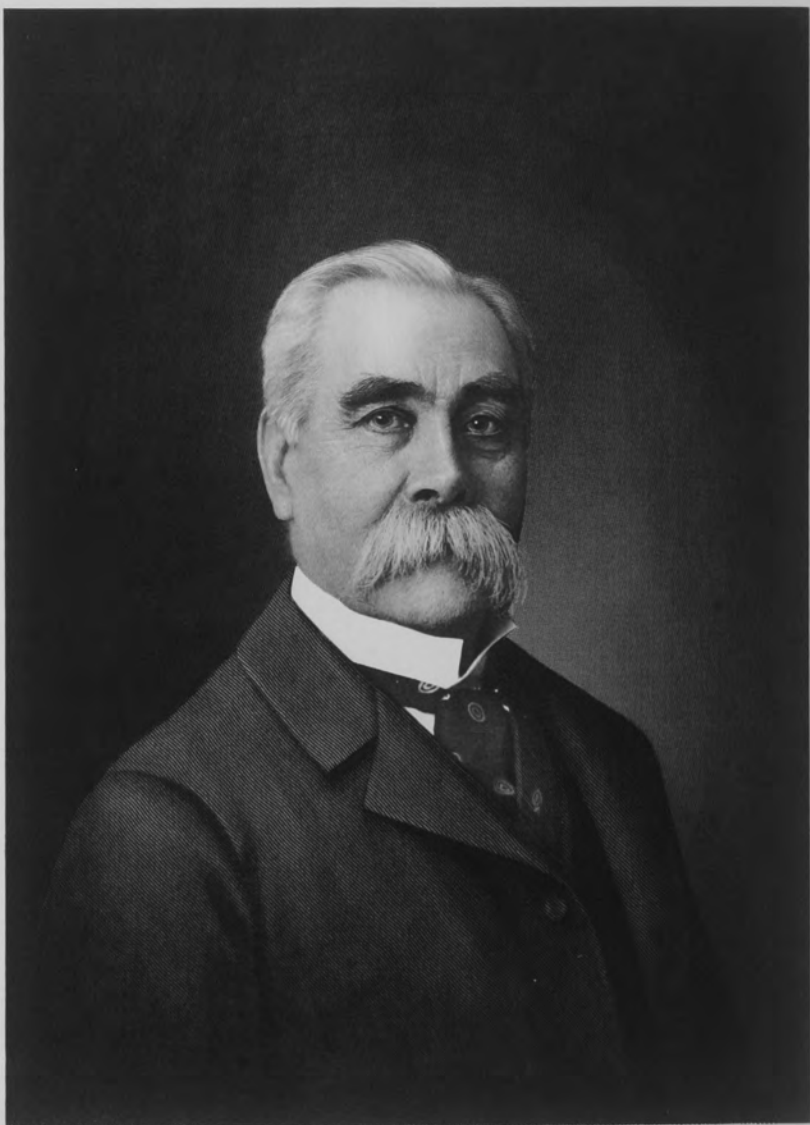
In his boyhood Henry S. Hebard accompanied his parents on their removal to Rochester, where he acquired a public-school education and at the age of nineteen years he entered upon his active business career, wherein he was destined to rise to greatness, as a clerk in his father's marble works. He continued to act in that capacity until given an interest in the business, which under his management and ownership grew to large proportions, as he became recognized in Rochester and throughout western New York as a substantial citizen and capable business man, his intense and well directed activity leading to splendid results in industrial circles. The marble works were established in 1831 by Zebulon Hebard, his father, who continued as proprietor of the business until 1845, when the firm of Z. Hebard & Sons was organized. The business was thus carried on until 1858, when it became the property of the firm of Hebard & Graham, so continuing until 1867, when Henry S. Hebard became, and afterward remained, sole proprietor. Having become recognized as a forceful factor in business life, his co-operation was sought in other lines and he became the third president of the East Side Savings Bank, which was organized in 1869 with Pliny M. Bromley as the first executive officer. The second president was William M. Emerson, then state senator, who held the office for a single year, when he was succeeded by Mr. Hebard, who continued at the head of the institution until his death. He was also a director of the New York Mutual Aid Society, which was incorporated August 17, 1881.

It was not alone the signal success which Mr. Hebard achieved in business

Henry Stead Hebard

that made him a notable figure in Rochester, for his public service alone would entitle him to distinction as one of the representative men of the city. His political views were embodied in the platform of the republican party and he served as a member of the state central committee. He was elected alderman from the fourth ward in 1857, 1859 and again in 1861. He also served as a member of the old volunteer fire department, to which he belonged until its discontinuance in favor of the paid system. Mr. Hebard was foremost in advocating the establishment of a paid department, having, while alderman, with another member of the city council, introduced a resolution for its establishment. Mr. Hebard's interest in city affairs also extended to the department of public works and he became an active and helpful member of that board. He also served for one term as supervisor and in 1865 he became a member of the first police commission, serving in that capacity for eight years and assisted in laying the foundation for the present police department. In 1873-4 he was a member of the board of public works and in 1875 was chosen supervisor, in which position he served for one term, refusing re-nomination for the succeeding year. In 1880 he was a presidential elector and voted for Garfield and Arthur. After Arthur succeeded to the presidency he offered Mr. Hebard appointment as postmaster but he declined. On the 13th of February, 1890, his name was sent by President Harrison to the senate as appointee for the position of postmaster and the appointment was confirmed but Mr. Hebard did not enter the office, as his death occurred less than a month later. He was twice nominated for mayor of the city without solicitation and was for many years a member of the board of managers of the Western House of Refuge, now the State Industrial School, and one of its presidents. For several years he was a member of the board of managers of the State Industrial School and for one year was president of the board.

In 1853 Mr. Hebard was married to Miss Harriett M. Hazen, a daughter of Charles Hazen, of Martinsburg, New York. They became the parents of seven children. Mr. Hebard, in connection with his other public work, was president of the board of trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church. Honored and respected by all, there was perhaps not another citizen of Rochester who occupied a more enviable position in the regard of his fellow townsmen. He was closely associated with the city's growth and the interests and needs developed thereby. He desired that Rochester should keep apace in all of its improvements and in its varied municipal interests with other cities of the country and was a guiding spirit in bringing about progressive and valued results. He died in 1890 but the worth of his work will not cease to be felt until the public movements which he instituted have reached their full fruition in the life of the city.



Samuelson

## Samuel Sloan



ROCHESTER'S greatness as a business center is attributable in large measure to citizens who came here about the middle of the nineteenth century and wrought along lines of development and improvement, working for the general good as well as for individual prosperity. To this class belonged Samuel Sloan, and his advancement in the business world was attributable not so much to his possession of unusual qualities as to his unfaltering exercise of the powers and talents which were his. He was at the time of his death president of the Mechanics Savings Bank and also at the head of an extensive wholesale business, dealing in plumbers', steam fitters' and engineers' supplies.

A native of the north of Ireland, Samuel Sloan was born near Belfast, in 1828, and was a son of Timothy Sloan. He acquired his education in his native country and when a young man of twenty years sought the broader business opportunities of the new world, crossing the Atlantic to the United States in 1848. Soon after his arrival in New York city he secured a position in the first wholesale dry-goods house on Broadway and there engaged in the Australian shipping business. He remained in New York until it became necessary for him in the interests of the firm to go to Melbourne, Australia, where he remained for six years.

In 1860 Mr. Sloan again came to this country and almost immediately established his home in Rochester, where he engaged in the steam and gas fitting business in partnership with R. E. Sherlock, the firm style of Sherlock & Sloan being assumed. This connection was continued with mutual pleasure and profit until the death of Mr. Sherlock twenty years later, when Mr. Sloan became sole proprietor. The business had been developed into a wholesale concern for the sale of plumbers', steam fitters' and engineers' supplies and the trade had constantly increased until the volume of business annually transacted was represented by large figures. The house, too, had always been known for its straightforward methods and the policy thus inaugurated at an early day has always been maintained.

Extending his efforts to other fields, Mr. Sloan became a prominent factor in financial circles and as president of the Mechanics Savings Bank and a director in the Genesee Valley Trust Company was thus identified with the



Samuel Sloan

business interests of the city up to the time of his demise, which occurred September 1, 1903.

In the religious and benevolent life of his city, Mr. Sloan always took a prominent part and his deeds of unassuming charity and words of kindly counsel and encouragement are treasured in the memory of many. For more than thirty years he was an elder in the Central Presbyterian church and was closely identified with its development and progress. He was one of the board of directors of the Rochester City Hospital and also one of the original trustees of the Reynolds Library and in the welfare of both institutions he always displayed a deep interest.

Mr. Sloan was first married in 1865 to Miss Mary Eveline Vosburgh, of Lima, New York, whose death occurred in 1882, leaving one son, William E. Sloan, who has succeeded him as the head of the large business which he built up. His second wife, Mrs. Hanna Curtis Jones, of Owego, New York, to whom he was married in 1885, died in 1897.

In all that pertained to municipal progress in varied lines and which contributed to a city's growth, prosperity, improvement and normal development, Mr. Sloan's influence was actively felt and he was ever ready to give both his personal services and his financial assistance toward furthering the material and moral welfare of the city of his adoption. As a business man he made a record which any man might be proud to possess, for upon a very meager foundation of capital possessed on his arrival in America he built a goodly fortune and at the same time maintained an honored name.





*Henry C. Wisner*

## Henry C. Wisner



ABOUT THE middle of the last century one of the most prominent firms in this city was that of Brackett, Wisner & Palmer, which for many years conducted a large crockery business on State street, first in the old Ellwanger & Barry building and afterward at the corner of Church street, where, under another but similar title, it is at present located. Of this firm the most active and influential member from the beginning was the one who forms the subject of this sketch. Henry Clark Wisner was born in Mt. Morris, Livingston county, at the old State street home, on the 29th of June, 1834, and died at his Oxford street home, in this city, December 20, 1906. Having lived in his native village till he had reached the age of sixteen years, young Wisner removed in 1850 to Iowa City, where he engaged in the crockery business, in which he became quite successful. In 1857 he was married—by Rev. Mr. Clark, of Lyons, Iowa, at the residence of John P. Reznor, near Clinton in that state—to Elizabeth Rosanna Reznor, who was born in Ashland, Ohio, October 8, 1838, and died in Colorado Springs, November 14, 1894.

After residing in the west for a few years Mr. Wisner returned to this state, coming to Rochester in 1858, in consequence of an advantageous proposition that had been made to him by James Brackett, who was afterward president of the Rochester Savings bank, to engage in his old line of trade in this city. A partnership was at once formed, as noted above, which met with unvarying prosperity during its continuance. In 1867 Colonel Brackett retired from the firm and five years later Mr. Wisner bought out the interests of the remaining partner, George Palmer, running the business alone after that till near the close of his life. In spite of the incessant activity thereby demanded he filled for twelve years, from 1883 to 1895, the office of president of the Consolidated Fruit Jar Company of New York, that branch of trade having been largely developed by his exertions, and afterward was president of the Poughkeepsie glass works.

Wearied at last by half a century of labor he retired in 1905 from active control of the business, turning it over to the Henry C. Wisner Company, in which concern, then formed, he was the principal stockholder. From that time on, his health slowly failed till, on the 20th of December, 1906, he suffered a stroke of apoplexy, from which he was not able to rally. He had three

Henry C. Wisner

children: Frank Porter Wisner, born May 28, 1867, now living in this city; Harry Reznor Wisner, born January 15, 1870, who died in 1893, and Elizabeth Lucy, wife of Richard Franchot, now residing at Niagara Falls, who was born February 4, 1876. He was an upright citizen, shedding around him the best of influence and leaving an example to be followed by those who knew him.

As these local sketches of men of prominence in our city, which is yet small enough for all to be neighbors in the good old-fashioned meaning of the word, are chiefly of value to the friends and families of the subjects of these lives, a few words as to the wanderings of the earlier generation may be of interest. Leaving their pleasant home among the mountains of Switzerland, near Geneva, two brothers came over about 1620. The Dutch authorities, who were then in possession of the New Netherlands, granted to these Wisner brothers a large tract of land on Long Island, which was occupied by their descendants till the English came into control in 1684. The new rulers seem to have refused to recognize the title of the Wisners, so that they lost their property and migrated from that region, one branch going south, while those with whom this notice has to do moved to Orange county, where the family flourished for more than a century. One member of it, Henry Wisner, was a member of the Continental Congress and would have been one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence had he not been sent home through the influence of General Washington, to supervise the manufacture of powder for the Continental army. After the Revolutionary struggle had come to a successful termination, our branch of the Wisner family moved from Goshen to Aurelius, in Cayuga county, about 1800, and at the latter place five sons were born in the family homestead, all of whom were professional men and all achieved distinction in one way or another, one of them becoming the "war governor" of Michigan, while another was one of the judges of the highest court in that state.

Another one, Reuben Porter Wisner, perhaps the most distinguished of all of them, remained through life much nearer home. Born on the 1st of March, 1810, he was from early childhood devoted to reading and study. As a further occupation of his mind he was addicted to the habit of attending the criminal trials that took place at Auburn, where he was specially attracted by the eloquence of William H. Seward. Forming the acquaintance of that great lawyer, he became a clerk and student in his office, where he applied himself with such diligence that he was soon admitted to practice at the bar of Cayuga county. About that time, in 1830, he married Sarah Clark, who was born at Goshen, December 19, 1807, and who a little later removed with her husband to Mt. Morris, Livingston county, where she died September 6, 1850. Shortly after his location in his new home he formed a partnership with Samuel H. Fitzhugh, under the name of Fitzhugh & Wisner, which speedily sprang into prominence as one of the most successful and celebrated law firms in west-

ern New York. But, although his practice was remunerative and its duties were arduous, he was more than once called upon to fill public office. Having been twice chosen as justice of the peace he was in 1840 elected by the whig party to the assembly, where, as a member of the judiciary committee, he often came in contact with his former preceptor, who was then governor of the state. Retiring from political life at the end of his term in the legislature, he devoted himself more closely than ever to the practice of his profession, though that did not, after all, embrace all of his activities. Ardently interested in the success of the Union during the Civil war he was, in 1864, appointed colonel of the Fifty-eighth Regiment, to guard the Confederate prisoners at Elmira, and a little later he was for some time the president of the Rochester, Nunda & Pennsylvania Railroad. But these positions were subsidiary to his real occupation, and for many years before his death, which occurred in the family homestead at Mt. Morris on the 22d of October, 1872, he was, by virtue of his talents, his eloquence and his legal erudition, generally recognized as the leader of the bar of Livingston county. Besides one son, Frank, who died before him, he left three children, Charles, Minnie and Henry C. Wisner, the last named being the subject of this sketch.





*Cornelius R. Parsons*

## Hon. Cornelius R. Parsons



**S**O VARIED in its phases and so broad in its usefulness and in its activities was the life of Cornelius R. Parsons in its relations to Rochester and his fellow-men that words seem inadequate to tell the story of what he accomplished and to what an extent the city is indebted to him. He served as its chief executive for fourteen consecutive years,—a record scarcely equaled in the history of the country and as such he stood for progress, reform and improvement. His business life was also marked by steady advancement and in him there was a consecration to labor which is one of the ideals toward which the leaders of the world are striving. In all things he was guided by high purposes and lofty principles and characterized by a conscientious performance of the task that lay nearest to his heart. Whatever he found to do he did with his might and the honor which men paid him and the respect in which he was uniformly held were the freewill offerings of an enlightened people. Rochester honors him as one whose record reflected credit and honor upon the city. Fearless in conduct and stainless in reputation his memory remains as a benediction to all who knew him and should serve as an inspiration for years to come to those who were associated with him in any walk of life.

Mr. Parsons was a native of the Empire state, having been born in York, Livingston county, on the 22d of May, 1842, and was a son of the Hon. Thomas Parsons, who was a native of Berkshire, England. The father received somewhat meager educational privileges and at an early age began earning his livelihood as a shepherd but the elemental strength of his character was soon manifest and his strong nature gave promise of future accomplishments. In 1832, when eighteen years of age, he determined to seek the broader opportunities of the new world and crossing the Atlantic he located in the rich valley of the Genesee, where he at once sought employment and for four years worked as a farm hand in Wheatland, Monroe county, where he received the munificent salary of seven dollars per month. In 1836 he became connected with the business activity of Rochester and was employed in various ways, in all of which he indicated an adaptability and trustworthiness. He was not only industrious but frugal and gradually acquired some capital, so that he at length was able to avail himself of the facilities for engaging in the lumber trade offered by the district on both sides of Lake Ontario. His business along



**Hon. Cornelius R. Parsons**

that line gradually expanded until he became one of the most extensive merchants and exporters in this part of the country, procuring supplies, especially of oak and other heavy timber, from land which he purchased from time to time and which was largely located in Canada.

His extensive business interests drew public attention to Thomas Parsons, and that he possessed qualifications that fitted him for office and for leadership in political circles was evident. Accordingly, in 1851, he was elected on the democratic ticket to the office of alderman from the sixth ward of Rochester, and in 1853 and again in 1857 he represented the tenth ward in the city council. In 1858 he became a member of the state legislature and was the originator of the pro rata railroad freight bill, designed to compel the railroad companies to carry freight for local shippers as low, proportionately to distance, as the rates charged to citizens of other states. This caused much opposition in railroad circles but the measure was zealously advocated by Mr. Parsons and the bill was engrossed for a third reading and only failed for want of time. Under the agitation of the grievance thus begun and continued by others in after years these discriminations were essentially modified. Disagreeing with his party on the national questions, he sustained the administration of President Lincoln and in 1865 was elected by the republicans to the state senate by a large majority. As a member of the canal committee he carefully fostered the waterways of the state and his mercantile experience rendered his opinions of value on all commercial questions. He was a member of the committee on engrossed bills and on privileges and elections. In the assembly he was an active working member, a fearless defender of what he believed to be right, and his course in behalf of the best interests of the state won him the gratitude and respect of people throughout New York. Entirely unsolicited by him, he received the appointment of collector of the port of Genesee and in 1868-9 filled that position with the same faithfulness which ever marked his official career. At his death in 1873 he left a widow and five children, the former a daughter of Richard Gorsline, while the latter were Cornelius R., Clifford W., Frank G., Julia L. and Charles B. Parsons. The eldest son, James W., who had been engaged in the lumber business for a number of years and was a member of the common council of Buffalo, died in Erie, Pennsylvania, a month before the father.

Cornelius R. Parsons was only three years old when brought to Rochester and from that time his life history was interwoven with the city's development along all those lines which promote municipal virtue, which strive after public progress and which advance the welfare of the individual. In his boyhood he was a public-school student and afterward attended Vosburg's Academy, which had been established by John R. Vosburg for the purpose of preparing pupils for mercantile pursuits. Later he joined his father in the lumber trade and was active in the growth of a very extensive business. His trade had largely increased and the business which was at first confined to

western New York had extended not only to the important American markets but also to Great Britain, to which country he sent large exports of lumber. He had a mill near the upper falls of Rochester and other manufacturing establishments, so that the details of purchase, manufacture, sale and export required unceasing attention at widely separated points. The lumber was mostly obtained from the forests of Canada and the father largely spent his time there, leaving his son, Cornelius R. Parsons, to superintend the important and varied interests of the firm in Rochester. After his father's death he continued the business, with which he had grown familiar in all of its departments, considering no detail too trivial for his attention, while at the same time capably directing its most important affairs. The qualities of close application and unflagging industry, combined with his keen foresight and sound business judgment, enabled him not only to control an enterprise of gigantic proportions but also to extend and enlarge this and therefore he amassed a fortune, but his kindly and helpful nature was never warped thereby and the most envious could not grudge him his prosperity so generous was he with his means in aiding movements which resulted not only to the benefit of the individual but also of the city.

The same qualities of thoroughness, mastery and progressiveness which characterized Mr. Parsons in his business life were also manifest in his official service and made his labors of the utmost value to Rochester. He entered public life when only twenty-five years of age, being elected in 1867 to represent the fourteenth ward in the city council, where he served so capably that his first term was followed by re-election. He was chosen by the council to act as its presiding officer and his promptness, accuracy and knowledge of parliamentary law as displayed in his rulings won him high encomiums from those who have the city's welfare at heart. He was later again elected alderman and chosen presiding officer in 1870 and on the expiration of his term his colleagues expressed their appreciation of his services by a valued testimonial. As an office holder he studied closely the situation into which his official prerogative brought him into connection and in all things he was actuated by a strong sense of duty and a fervent desire for the welfare of the municipality. His record was so honorable and his services so valuable that in 1876 he was elected by his party as chief executive of Rochester and was six times re-elected, so that his incumbency covered a period of fourteen years. Abraham Lincoln said: "You can fool all of the people some of the time, and some of the people all of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time." This statement finds exemplification in no place so largely as it does in politics. History relates incidents of where unworthy men have secured office but when the public becomes cognizant of the fact of their unworthiness their political death is assured, and therefore no higher testimonial of capability and faithfulness can be given than the fact that one is retained in a public office to which he is called by the vote of his fellowmen.

It was the highest tribute which Rochester could pay to Mr. Parsons and his worth. The duties of the office were no sinecure, for Rochester had become a city of much commercial and industrial importance, bringing about the intricate and complex problems of government which always arise with the city's growth and development of its varied interests. He took up the work, however, with the same spirit of determination that always marked him in his business life. He made it his first duty to thoroughly acquaint himself with the situation, studying out its possibilities and all the time working toward the ideal by the use of the practical means at hand. His worth had already been proven in the city council. In the higher position which came to him of broader opportunities he put forth his efforts so effectively that not only every department of the city's service was benefited thereby but the general progress and welfare were advanced and every avenue of life indirectly felt the stimulus of his labors and purposes.

Still higher official honors awaited Mr. Parsons in his election to the state senate in the fall of 1891. He represented the largest district in the commonwealth and again he received the endorsement of public opinion in re-election in 1893, and in 1895 received the increased majorities of his home ward—the twelfth in Rochester giving him alone a plurality of nine hundred and three at the latter election. In 1896 he was appointed chairman of the committee on commerce and navigation and was a member of the committee on insurance, railroads and public education. Again he was called to the same office by popular suffrage in 1898 and during the session of 1899 was appointed chairman of the committee on insurance and was a member of the committee on railroads, commerce, navigation and public education. In 1900 he was elected for a fourth term and during the following session was made chairman of the insurance committee and placed on the former committees. Mr. Parsons left the impress of his individuality upon the deliberations of that body and its work and at his death, which occurred January 30, 1901, the senate issued a handsome memorial volume of about fifty pages, containing a fine steel portrait of Mr. Parsons. This volume was called *Proceedings of the Senate and Assembly of the State of New York on the Life, Character and Public Service of Cornelius R. Parsons* and bearing date, Albany, February 18, 1901. The committee having in charge the preparation and publication was composed of Timothy E. Elsworth, William W. Armstrong, George P. Malby, Thomas F. Grady and John F. Ahearn. In this work were proceedings at the New York Legislative Reporters' Association upon the death of the Hon. Cornelius R. Parsons. There was a special meeting held in the capitol, January 13, 1901, to take action upon the death of the senator from the forty-third district, at which the president responded and several of the correspondents spoke feelingly of his life in general, his genial personality and lovable disposition, as well as his amiability and undeviating courtesy, his kindness of heart, his solicitude for the welfare and interests of others.

Fortunate in his home life, Mr. Parsons was most happily married on the 6th of October, 1864, to Miss Frances M. Whitbeck, a daughter of Dr. John F. Whitbeck, a distinguished physician of Rochester. Three children came to them, but the only son, Warner Parsons, died in the spring of 1879. The daughter, Mabel W., became the wife of G. C. Cochrane, of Rochester, and they are the parents of three children, Craig Parsons, Cornelius Rice Parsons and Jean. Ethel M., the younger daughter, is the wife of Frank Clinton Trotter, of the firm of C. W. Trotter & Sons, manufacturers of refrigerators.

Theirs was a most beautiful home life, in which mutual forbearance, kindness and love were the dominant features. Although so active in business and public affairs, Mr. Parsons' interests centered in his home and his greatest happiness was found at his own fireside. He held membership in St. Peter's Presbyterian church, of which Mrs. Parsons is also a member, and he was one of its trustees. He gave freely of his means to its support but did not consider his obligation ended there and labored as earnestly for its upbuilding and the extension of its influence. He lived a life in consistent harmony with his professions and he also manifested the beneficent spirit upon which is founded the Masonic and Odd Fellows societies, with which he affiliated. He was very active in advancing the work of the Semi-Centennial Celebration held in Rochester June 9 and 10, 1884. In a brief and pertinent address he opened the literary exercises on the former day and he delivered the address of welcome to Governor Cleveland and his staff and other guests at the reception on the second day. He also proposed various toasts at the banquet held in Powers Hotel. In the performance of these duties he secured the unqualified approval of his fellow citizens, who recognized that much of the success that made the celebration an important event in Rochester's history was due to him. He was no orator in the sense of appearing frequently before the public as a speaker and yet when he did so he never failed to elicit the attention and awaken the interest of those who heard him. He presented his subject in an interesting, entertaining and instructive manner, showing his thorough understanding of it and his friends were again and again surprised by the breadth of his wisdom, the depth of his knowledge. He was a student but not a book worm. He believed that knowledge was not valuable for itself alone but for the use to which it could be put in the world's work. He therefore made it a purpose to master every subject which claimed his attention and he displayed most comprehensive understanding of those subjects bearing upon municipal interests and business life and upon the great sociological and economic questions of the country.

One of the strong traits of character manifested by Mr. Parsons was his love of children and on Sundays there would always be a crowd upon his porch or in his home to listen to his stories and enjoy his genial good nature. He possessed a genial disposition and he had, as a noted lecturer has expressed it, reached the high humor in being able to see the comicality of his own situa-

Hon. Cornelius R. Parsons

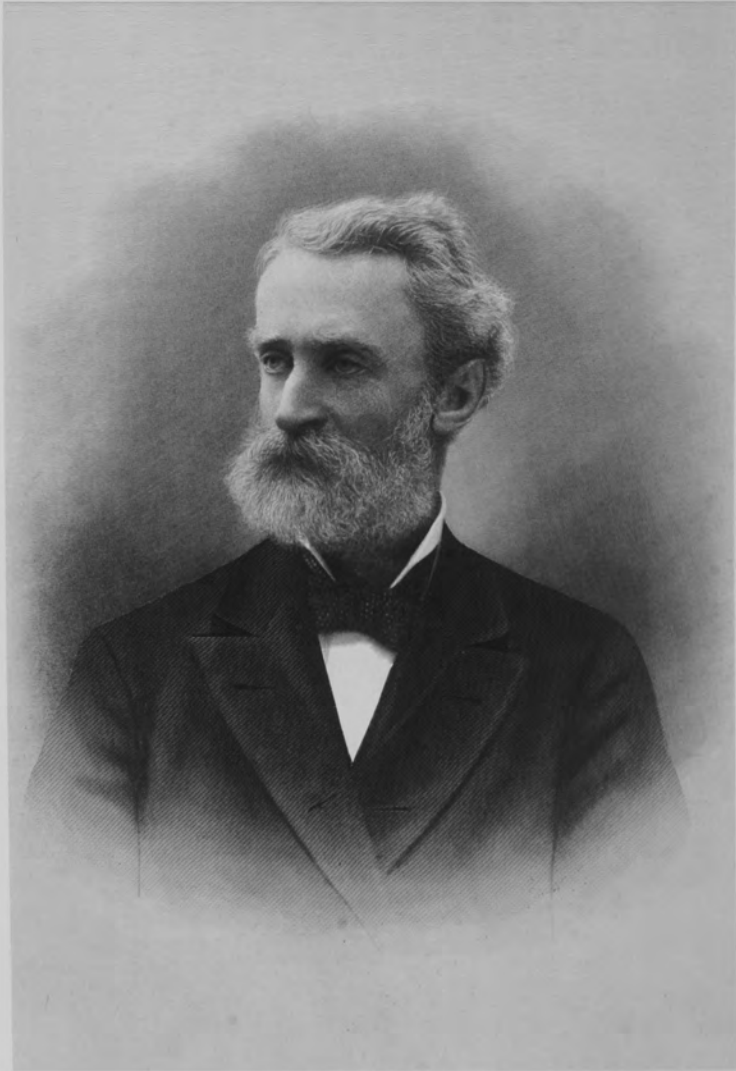
tion. In other words, he enjoyed a joke upon himself as well as upon his companions and his humor was ever of the most kindly character, being accompanied by no cutting sarcasm or keen, hurtful wit. In fact consideration for the feelings of others was one of his strong characteristics and was manifest in a ready sympathy in the joys and sorrows of those around him. Such was his personal popularity and such his personal magnetism that his appearance to address the people was the signal for tumultuous enthusiasm. His was a sturdy American character and a stalwart patriotism and he had the strongest attachment for the free institutions of his land, being ever ready to make any personal sacrifice for their preservation. While undoubtedly he was not without that honorable ambition which is so powerful and useful as an incentive to activity in public affairs, he regarded the pursuits of private life as being in themselves abundantly worthy of his best efforts. His was a noble character, one of the subordinates of personal ambition to do good and sought rather the benefit of others than the aggrandizement of self. Endowed by nature with high intellectual qualities, to which were added the embellishment and discipline of culture, his was a most attractive personality.

The news of the death of Mr. Parsons brought with it a sense of personal loss and bereavement to the great majority of Rochester's citizens. It was felt among his business associates who had come to recognize in combination with his keen insight, his strong purpose, his unflinching integrity; it was felt in political circles where no charge was made against him of corruption or dishonesty but where all knew him to be an open foe, standing for a certain course of action which he believed to be right and most conducive to the general good; it was felt among the policemen of Rochester, who since his service as police commissioner knew him to be a friend, working for their best interests; it was deeply felt in club life and social circles but most of all in his home, for the best traits of his character were ever reserved for his own fireside.

Perhaps no better summary of the life and character of Mr. Parsons could be given than in the presentation of the following memorial: "The Union League Club, deeply regretting its loss occasioned by the death of its highly valued member, Hon. Cornelius R. Parsons, does hereby humbly express its sincere sorrow and extend its heartfelt sympathy to his bereaved family. The wise counsel, fatherly kindness and material assistance received from the lamented senator will ever be treasured by this organization. As a public servant his superior judgment and keen perceptibility, coupled with a purity of purpose and nobility of action, challenges comparison. A grander combination of the various elements essential to success in life is rarely found so harmoniously and effectively assimilated in one person as found expression in the every day life of Cornelius R. Parsons. He had courage and fortitude and perseverance beyond the majority of mankind, while the current of his actions was pervaded by an unceasing flow of courtesy, gentility and deferential demeanor that won him the esteem and confidence of all with whom he had

intercourse. As a citizen his whole life has been an exemplary career of purified refinement, moral and religious rectitude worthy the emulation of all persons desirous of rising in the scale of human excellence. Living, he was an important factor in the development of human industry, intelligence and all the better elements of progressive civilization; dying, he leaves an unbroken, unblemished record of spotless integrity chiseled into imperishable existence by the industry of his own head and hands and the rectitude of his own heart. But amid all his business activity he carried his home in his heart, and unto his cherished family circle he sacredly centered the sunshine of his heart's best affection. He was true to his country, true to his party and true to himself. But the good man is gone! And a profound regret for the public loss is the proverbial expression, while the gentle tear of recollection finds easy access down many a hardy cheek unused to such a visitor: 'If eternal happiness be the reward of tenderest love, unobtrusive action and kindest charity, blessed be the spirit which once animated the earthly form of Cornelius R. Parsons.' "





*B. D. M. Apsind*



## Byron D. Mac Alpine



**B**YRON D. MAC ALPINE was born in Kinderhook, Columbia county, New York, on the 14th day of March, 1824. His father, Daniel MacAlpine, was born on the 8th day of September, 1792, and resided at Kinderhook until 1830, when he moved to Monroe county, New York. Having purchased a tract of land near Pittsford he resided in that village with his family until his decease in 1884. Byron D. MacAlpine received his early education in the public schools

and by private tuition until he entered upon the study of law in the office of his elder brother, Belden R. MacAlpine, a prominent attorney of Rochester, New York. He was called to the bar in 1849 and entered upon the practice of law in Rochester, where he attained eminence in his profession, and eventually became prominently identified with the financial affairs of the city. He was one of the founders of the Rochester Trust and Safe Deposit Company, also of the Alliance Bank and served as a director of both institutions and as vice president of the latter to the time of his death. He was also a director of the Traders National Bank and of the Flour City National Bank, taking an active and influential part in the management of those corporations.

Mr. MacAlpine possessed many qualities of heart and mind that endeared him to all who had relations with him. Though not of vigorous constitution he spent much time and energy in ameliorating the conditions of his less fortunate friends and acquaintances. He knew the value of self-help and spent a great part of his years in giving advice and counsel to those who lacked business capacity to manage their affairs. He gave his time unstintingly to the needy and distressed and he was the means of rescuing many from embarrassment and want, performing noble service without hope of any other reward than the consciousness of doing good in his generation.

Mr. MacAlpine was twice married, his first wife having been Mary A. Reynolds, a daughter of Abelard R. Reynolds, a name historic in the annals of Rochester, and most prominent among the city's early settlers. The issue of this marriage was one daughter, Clara L., who married Colonel Charles O. Shepard.

Mr. MacAlpine's second wife was Miss Susan J. Potter, who was born in Pittsford, Monroe county, New York, on the 7th day of June, 1835, being a

Byron D. Mac Alpine

daughter of Henry Sayre and Harriet (Benedict) Potter. Two children were born of this marriage, Reynolds P. MacAlpine and Florence MacAlpine.

The death of Byron D. MacAlpine, which occurred December 4, 1894, caused deep regret among the many people with whom he had business and social relations in life and who cherish his memory with affection.

Mrs. Susan P. MacAlpine survived her husband fourteen years, and departed this life January 29, 1908, deeply and sincerely regretted by hosts of loving friends.



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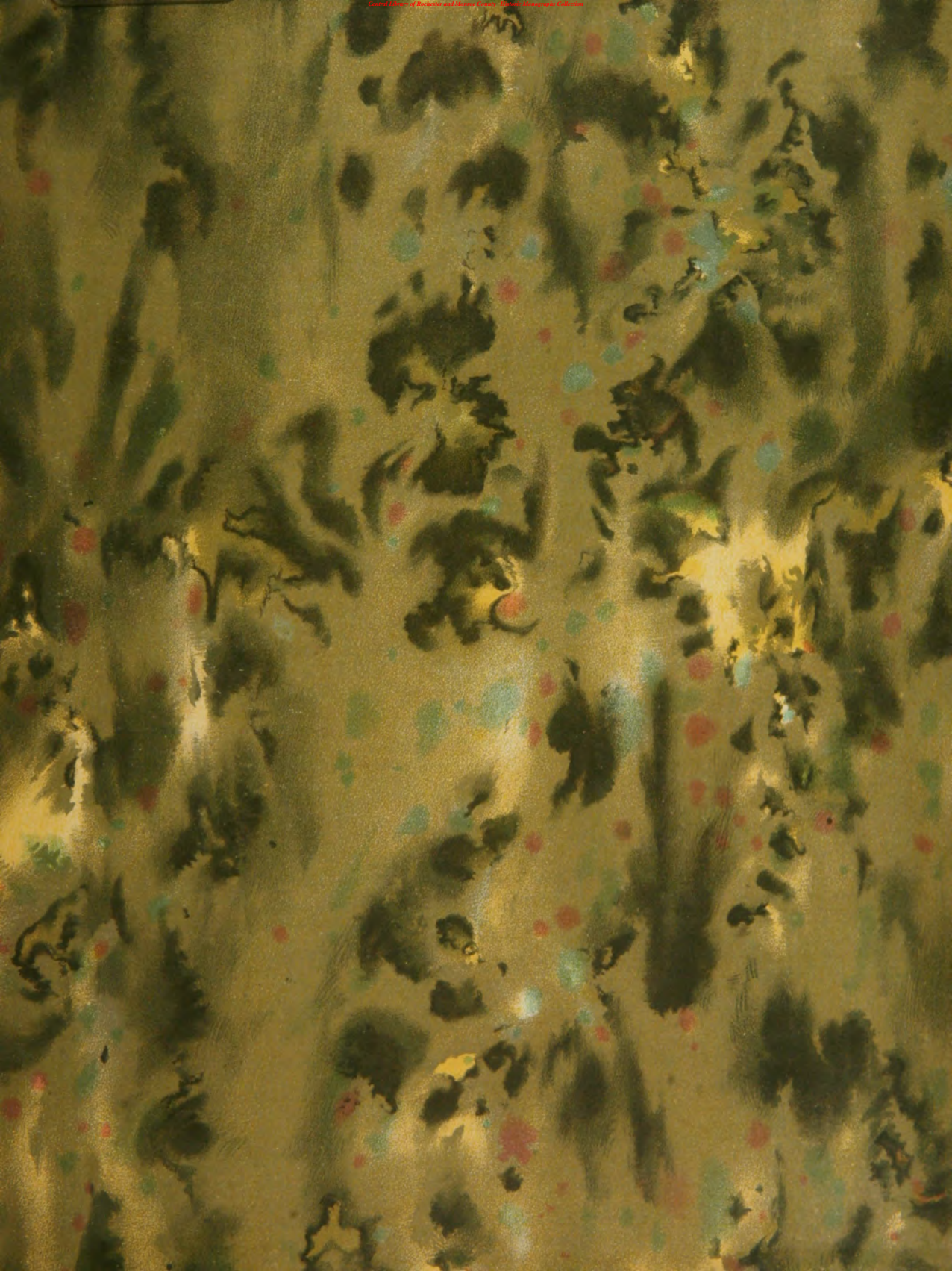
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