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PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

ANNUAL FESTIVALS

OF THE

PIONEERS OF ROCHESTER,

HELD AT

BLOSSOM HALL,

SEPTEMBER 30, 1847, AND OCTOBER 13, 1848.

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ROCHESTER, N. Y.:

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M. J. J.  
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# FIRST ANNUAL PIONEER FESTIVAL.

It having pleased a kind Providence to spare the lives of many of the first settlers, or Pioneers, of this our flourishing and beautiful city, it was suggested that the hardships and privations endured by them, should be commemorated in an appropriate manner by the survivors.

In accordance with this suggestion, several preliminary meetings were held by them, which resulted in the adoption of a series of resolutions, designed to control their future proceedings.

It was determined in the first place, to convene a *Social Meeting*, to be composed of Pioneers who had settled at, or who were born in Rochester, prior to the first of January, 1816, and who were then residents of the city or its vicinity.

After the adoption of resolutions expressive of their gratitude to God, for having preserved the lives and the health of so many of them, and also of their determination to conduct the proposed celebration on principles of Temperance, a Committee of Arrangements, composed of the following gentlemen, was appointed, viz.:

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| ENOS STONE,        | AARON NEWTON,     |
| HARVEY MONTGOMERY, | MOSES CHAPIN,     |
| SAMUEL G. ANDREWS, | JONATHAN PACKARD, |
| CHARLES J. HILL.   |                   |

At a meeting of the Committee of Arrangements, held at the office of the Chairman, Sept. 18, 1847, Col. A. NEWTON was chosen Secretary, and it was decided that the Pioneer Jubilee be held at the Blossom Hotel, on the 30th of that month.

At a subsequent meeting of the Committee, Messrs. Silas O. Smith and Hervey Ely, were added thereto. It was also resolved, that in the event of the death of a Pioneer, whose name should be enrolled as a member thereof, it shall be the duty of the survivors to attend the funeral of the deceased, in a body.

## FIRST PIONEERS' FESTIVAL.

The first meeting of the Pioneers, called for the purpose of commemorating the early settlement of Rochester, was held at Blossom Hotel, on Thursday, the 31st day of September, 1847.

The following gentlemen were chosen officers:

President—ENOS STONE.

Vice-Presidents—Hon. ASHLEY SAMPSON, RALPH PARKER, and OLIVER CULVER, Esqrs.

Prayer, by Rev. A. G. HALL.

A sumptuous dinner was prepared by the Messrs. BLOSSOM—themselves Pioneers and proprietors of

one of the oldest Hotels in the city—which was partaken of by the following gentleman:

| Name.                  | Age. | Where born.               | Arrival. |
|------------------------|------|---------------------------|----------|
| Enos Stone,.....       | 72   | Lenox, Mass.,.....        | 1810     |
| Hamlet Scramton,....   | 75   | Durham, Conn.,.....       | 1812     |
| Oliver Culver,.....    | 69   | Hartford, Conn.,.....     | 1805     |
| Jehiel Barnard,.....   | 59   | 9 Partners, N.Y.,.....    | 1812     |
| Silas O. Smith,.....   | 63   | New Marlbro', Ms.,.....   | 1809     |
| Jonah Brown,.....      | 58   | Green River, N.Y.,.....   | 1813     |
| Hervey Ely,.....       | 56   | W. Springfield, Ms.,..... | 1813     |
| H. Montgomery,.....    | 58   | Philadelphia,.....        | 1816     |
| Ralph Parker,.....     | 75   | Salsbury, Conn.,.....     | 1816     |
| Levi Brown,.....       | 62   | Green River, N.Y.,.....   | 1814     |
| Gideon Cobb,.....      | 57   | Paulet, Vt.,.....         | 1812     |
| Jonathan Packard,....  | 54   | Massachusetts,.....       | 1816     |
| George C. Latta,.....  | 51   | Seneca, N. Y.,.....       | 1811     |
| Adonijah Green,.....   | 57   | Kiskitom, N.Y.,.....      | 1811     |
| Ashley Sampson,.....   | 57   | Cornwell, Vt.,.....       | 1818     |
| Abner Wakelee,.....    | 57   | Greenville, N.Y.,.....    | 1815     |
| Ruluff D. Hannahs,.... | 63   | Bethlehem, Ct.,.....      | 1816     |
| Nathaniel Draper,....  | 57   | Washington, N. H.,.....   | 1818     |
| Anson House,.....      | 55   | Glasterbury, Conn.,.....  | 1816     |
| Samuel G. Andrews,.... | 49   | Derby, Conn.,.....        | 1815     |
| Moses Chapin,.....     | 56   | W. Springfield, Ms.,..... | 1816     |
| Everard Peck,.....     | 56   | Berlin, Conn.,.....       | 1816     |
| William Buell,.....    | 56   | Canada,.....              | 1818     |
| Aaron Newton,.....     | 55   | Cheshire, Conn.,.....     | 1817     |
| Jacob Graves,.....     | 60   | Westown, Mass.,.....      | 1816     |
| Dr. H. Carver,.....    | 55   | Providence, R. I.,.....   | 1816     |
| Wm. Brewster,.....     | 60   | Pratton, Conn.,.....      | 1816     |
| Enos Pomeroy,.....     | 56   | Buckland, Mass.,.....     | 1815     |
| Seth C. Jones,.....    | 47   | Madison, N. Y.,.....      | 1816     |
| Ebenezer Watts,.....   | 65   | Boston, Mass.,.....       | 1817     |
| Wm. W. Mumford,* 51    |      | Aurora, N. Y.,.....       | 1818     |
| Joab Britton,.....     | 67   | Westmoreland, N.H.,.....  | 1815     |
| John Veazie,.....      | 72   | Boston, Mass.,.....       | 1816     |
| Elisha B. Strong,..... | 58   | Windsor, Conn.,.....      | 1817     |
| Wm. B. Alexander,....  | 59   | Galway, N. Y.,.....       | 1817     |
| Eli Stillson,.....     | 74   | Newtown, Conn.,.....      | 1816     |
| S. H. Packard,.....    | 51   | Charlemont, Mass.,.....   | 1818     |
| R. K. Lothridge,.....  | 38   | Springfield, N. Y.,.....  | 1817     |
| L. A. Ward,.....       | 46   | Haddam, Conn.,.....       | 1818     |
| James H. Watts,.....   | 39   | Nantucket, Ms.,.....      | 1817     |
| Fisher Bullard,.....   | 53   | Uxbridge, Mass.,.....     | 1816     |
| Daniel Graves,.....    | 50   | Swansey, N. H.,.....      | 1818     |
| Ephraim Moore,.....    | 53   | Hollis, N. H.,.....       | 1817     |
| Elisha D. Ely,.....    | 34   | Hadley, Mass.,.....       | 1814     |
| Henry Barnard,.....    | 31   | Rochester,.....           | 1816     |
| Josiah W. Bissell,.... | 29   | Rochester,.....           | 1818     |

\* Died in Rochester, on the 9th of January, 1848, of an apoplectic fit.

| Name.                  | Age. | Where born.          | Arrival. |
|------------------------|------|----------------------|----------|
| Tho. Kempshall,.....   | 52   | England, .....       | 1813     |
| Horatio N. Fenn,.....  | 49   | Plymouth, Conn.,..   | 1817     |
| Erastus Cook,.....     | 53   | Clinton, N. Y.,..... | 1815     |
| Enos Blossom,.....     | 35   | Onondaga Co. N. Y.,  | 1816     |
| N. H. Blossom,.....    | 33   | Onondaga Co. N. Y.,  | 1816     |
| Wm. Miller,.....       | 56   | Saratoga, N. Y.,.... | 1815     |
| Alexander Ely,*.....   | 85   | W. Springfield, Ms., | 1817     |
| Alexander Britton,.... |      |                      | 1817     |
| Charles J. Hill,.....  | 50   | Woodbury, Conn.,..   | 1816     |
| Mitchael Loder,.....   | 49   | Santhsaem, N. Y.,..  | 1817     |
| Edward Barnard,.....   | 58   | Hartford, Conn.,...  | 1814     |
| Matthew Brown,.....    | 83   | Brookfield, Mass.,.. | 1818     |
| Charles C. Lunt,†...   | 79   | Newburyport, Mass.,  | 1819     |
| Preston Smith,.....    | 62   | West Springfield,... | 1813     |
| Thomas Barnard,....    | 52   | Pittstown, N. Y.,... | 1819     |
| Reuben Bardweil,....   | 83   | Deerfield, Mass.,... | 1818     |

\* Died in Rochester, June 15th, 1848, of apoplexy.

† Died in Rochester, March 2d, 1848, of old age.

On the return of the company from the dining-room to the spacious saloon, the President delivered the following address:

#### *Gentlemen and Brother Pioneers:*

Through a partiality, most grateful to me, and for which I beg to return to you my warmest acknowledgements, I have been honored with the highest seat at a festive board, prepared and furnished by those, yet remaining of the Pioneers of Rochester and its vicinity. But in assuming the post assigned me, I must be allowed to express a full consciousness of my inaptitude for the proper performance of its duties, as well as a regret that the duties of the chair had not been assigned to other and more competent hands. Regrets on this score are, however, now vain, and while I can promise my best exertions to meet your wishes on this truly interesting occasion, I am too deeply conscious of my deficiencies not to know that I shall be under the necessity of making large drafts on your kind forbearance.

On an occasion like this—one especially intended to brighten the chain of friendship by calling up memories of the past—a past, much of which, was but a war with the infelicitous incidental to the settlement of a new country—it may be expected that something of personal experience and recollection will be furnished by each of the participators in this festival. This expectation, it is hoped, will be more than realized through the relations of many of whom I am thankful to have met on this occasion; yet so far as it relates to myself, you will be compelled to take the will for the deed. A long acquaintance with you all, will supercede the necessity of stating my entire deficiency as a narrator, even of things personal to myself; hence, I am cheered by the reflection that little will be expected of me, beyond an honest endeavor to make this meeting conducive to the pleasure of the participants in its festivities.

The changes, gentlemen, which we have seen in the face of the Genesee country, and which we have aided to produce, since our first visits to it, have been most striking and important—such as few could have imagined possible within even the lapse of a century, much less in half of that period. In illustration of this, you will have the goodness to excuse a little egotism. I came into

this “breathing world” on the 13th of May, 1776, in the town of Lenox, Massachusetts, and in 1790, was sent by my father hitherward, to look after a land-purchase which he had made in township No. 13, called Brighton—including, then, a part of what is now Rochester, as is very well known. Charged with a supply of cattle and hogs, I, in company with others, started for the Genesee country, May 17th, 1790, and reached it in 27 days—finding my brother Orange, who had previously emigrated to this place. My father surveyed out what is now called Brighton and Port of Rochester, in 1809. After leaving Herkimer, there were but few traces of settlement westward—even Utica being unable to boast of any regularly built dwelling. We, on this occasion, put up at a “Block House,” more familiarly known as the “Post House,” and far behind the one in which we are at present assembled in all that pertained to creature comforts, as will readily be imagined. From Utica, a family had preceded us west, whom we found at what is now called Whitestown—White being the name of the Pioneer family. No road thence onward to Oneida but an Indian trail, and from there to Cayuga Lake, there was not a house to be found. At the latter point, the hardest draft was made upon our patience and stomachs—especially the last, as we were there from Thursday morning until Sunday evening, without having had the pleasure of tasting food. On the night of the last day named, we got to Geneva, having lain upon the ground the preceding twelve nights. But to be brief, my presence here to day is pretty good evidence that my first woods’ journey was safely performed, whatever may have been the privations and hardships attending it. At the time of which I speak, if my memory is not at fault, Ontario county extended from Herkimer to the western boundary of the State—a tract of country now presenting nearly a million of people. At the first organization of the county, some of which are denominated Town Officers, were residents at Utica, some at Canandaigua, particularly the “Town Clerk,” a Mr. Bates—and some at Buffalo! Strange as it may appear to us now, *then* it was a fact that the British were joint occupants with us, holding the forts both at O-wego and Young-town. Moved here in March, 1810. On May 4th, Jas. S. Stone was born—the first child born in the now city of Rochester.

Great changes have been wrought since the day of the Pioneers—changes not only as regards them, but the country they were the first to attempt to reclaim from the solitude of the wilderness.

Gentlemen, we are permitted to assemble to-day in a splendid and tasteful mansion, situated in a city of 30,000 inhabitants; yet it is within the personal knowledge of some of us when there was not a dwelling here—when the site of the city, or a large portion of it, was deemed an irreclaimable swamp, proper only as a resort for frogs and muskrats. No longer ago than 1789, the country known as the Genesee, belonged to Montgomery County, and it may well be doubted whether, at that time, there were men enough west of Rome, to have made up a company as numerous as the present! What do we see now—



or, rather, what does the census of 1840 show us? It shows Ontario County with, in round numbers, 43,000 inhabitants; Yates with 20,000; Steuben with 46,000; Wayne with 42,000; Livingston with 35,000; Allegany with 41,000; Monroe with 63,000; Orleans with 25,000; Genesee with 30,000; Wyoming with 30,000; Cattaraugus with 29,000; Chautauque with 48,000; Erie with 62,000, and Niagara with 32,000—making an aggregate of over 500,000 people! This astonishing change has grown up under our own observation, yet how hard is it fully to realize its extent, or grasp its probable consequences!

Yet the change is here—palpable and unmistakable, in visible nature, and if we consult no flattering mirror, we shall be compelled, willingly or not, to own that we too are changing—have changed. It is befitting, then, brethren of the "Pioneer Corps," that ere we cease to compose a portion of the half million of human beings now dwelling in Western New-York, that we should prepare some memorial of ourselves and times for posterity—something which shall not only preserve our names from oblivion, but shall present them autographically to those who may come after us, while we call up such personal reminiscences as shall interest the present and the future. For the accomplishment of this purpose, a book has been procured, in which each Pioneer will please write his name, birth, and birthplace; besides, furnishing for insertion in another portion of the record, such personal narratives of the early settlement of the country, as his memory can recall. By doing this, we shall confer present pleasure, as well as a great favor on the reading future.

Brethren, my task is done—poorly, I am conscious, but too sensibly so; but my consolation is that, however insipid I may have been, there is plenty of excellent wine—to speak figuratively—with which to carry on and close the feast. To the enjoyment of this I invite you, one and all, with my whole heart—the heart of an humble but true Pioneer.

After which, the following correspondence was read by MR. ANDREWS:

Col. A. NEWTON:

Dear Sir—Your note is received. I am too ill to expose myself to the public. I regret I cannot be with you; I have little hope of ever going abroad again. May God bless each and every one of you. MATHEW BROWN.

NEW-YORK, Sept. 27, 1847.

To the Chairman presiding at the Pioneer Festival:

DEAR SIR:—Finding that I shall not reach home in time to attend your Festival on the 30th inst., I desire to express to you, and through you to the Pioneers who may be assembled, my unfeigned regret that I cannot be present, as I had looked forward to the occasion with high anticipations of pleasure and profit. The feelings I entertain towards my early associates in the varied toils and experience incident to settling a new town in the desert—overcoming such obstacles as woods, swamps, fever and ague, bears, rattlesnakes, mosquitoes, and most other of the winged

tribe, added to all the privations—I say the feelings I entertain, are interesting and enduring.

With the following sentiment or thought, I close, in haste. Most respectfully yours,

CHAS. J. HILL.

*The latter Pioneers of Rochester*—Those enterprising and worthy citizens "who came to the rescue" after 1818, and the sons of the Pioneers, men qualified for the task of rearing the Superstructure of our thriving city.

ROCHESTER, Sept. 20, 1847.

To the President of the Pioneer Meeting:

DEAR SIR—Unforeseen circumstances have prevented me from joining in the festivities of this first public dinner of the Pioneers of Rochester. I well remember the 1st day of May, 1812, when I arrived in this now city of Rochester, and that it rained all day, and that the city then looked dreary, having not a single house or family on the west side of the Genesee.

I will now offer a sentiment, and am

Yours, truly, EDWIN SCRANTON.

*Our old and absent friend, Preston Smith*—The man who, in 1813, for want of a looking-glass, hung up his black coat on the outside of the window, and went inside and looked into it, and shaved himself.

Mr. President:

SIR—In the year 1806, I left the State of Connecticut, with my father, and came to Canandaigua, Ontario County. I returned to the same State in 1813. I came into this State, and on the 26th day of March, 1817, I removed my family to this place, where I have ever since resided.

In May, 1817, on motion of Samuel G. Andrews, now present, I was appointed 4th Corporal in an Infantry company, and subsequently to the command of the regiment.

In the year 1818, I rented the then wooden building, on the same ground which we now are, of Benjamin Blossom, father of our now host, and kept an inn; in 1819, was appointed Constable in the town of Brighton, which I held for seven years, and two years Deputy Sheriff, and for the last seventeen years have been Crier of the Monroe County Courts. A. NEWTON.

To the President of the Pioneer Society of Rochester:

SIR:—I have been much gratified at the proposal for a meeting of the early Pioneers of Rochester, and think that the occasion may be very profitable in gathering together incidents connected with the early history of your city.

I wish to submit for your consideration, the propriety of forming an association for the purpose of gathering information, and publishing such facts as may be connected with the early history of the Genesee country. And, as one of the old Pioneers, I would respectfully submit the following plan, for the purpose of ensuring the accomplishment of the object of such organization.

A meeting of the early Pioneers of the Genesee District, (say west of Cayuga Lake,) for the purpose of forming a Pioneer Society for Western

New-York, and that a President be chosen at such meeting: also a Vice-President for each county included in said district; and that such officers be chosen annually; and that no person be eligible who shall not have been, since the age of 21 years, for 40 years a resident of this county. And that each Vice-President have power to form a county society, subject to such regulation as may be deemed expedient by the original society.

And all papers containing the early reminiscences of the early history of each county, and all the contributions, manuscripts, &c., &c., be the property of each county society.

Various other plans might answer as well or better for such organization.

The main object is to rescue from oblivion the memory of those who have done so much to convert the howling wilderness into a residence fit for the occupation of Man, and have by their toils and privations left to their descendants such a goodly heritage as they now enjoy.

The above I submit for your consideration.

With respect, I remain yours,

D. MCKENZIE.

CALEDONIA, Livingston Co., Sept. 29, 1847.

O. CULVER, Esq., said he first visited the spot where Rochester now stands in 1796. That year and the two following, he was in the employ of the new Connecticut Company, and assisted the survey of their land in Ohio. They left one family at Cleveland, and one at Coneaut Creek, 70 miles apart. The company's boats were built at Schenectady, taken up the Mohawk to Oswego, up Lake Ontario, drawn round the Niagara Falls, thence to Cleveland! In '97, made a small clearing of 6 acres on the hill where Cleveland now stands, and built the second log house, which was the company's quarters. In the year '96, there were two log houses at Buffalo. In 1800, he left his father's, at Mount Independence, Vermont, for the purpose of settling at Cleveland. On his way he bought the farm he now lives on. In 1801, '2 and '3, he was in the employ of AUGUSTUS GRISWOLD, at Irondequoit Landing, then the city of the west. The TRYON farm, 3000 acres, was laid out in city lots, and an extensive ware-house, store, ashery and distillery, having been erected by TRYON, and a very extensive business being done there, no store nearer than Canandaigua. About this time, three persons established a store at Charleston, near Lima. In 1804, he went to Schenectady and Salt Point, for goods and salt, which were taken to Oswego, thence to Lewiston, teamed to Schlosser, thence in boats to Black Rock, thence to the first vessel built on our side Lake Erie, the Good Intent, to Cleveland; paid \$3 per barrel for salt from Black Rock to Cleveland. Most of it was conveyed on pack-horses, and exchanged at Cleveland, Maumee, Huron and Detroit, with the French and Indians for furs. In 1805, he established the first express in the western country. He carried the mail on skates from Cleveland to Huron, 40 miles in 4 hours, which can hardly be beaten now, except by telegraph.— He bought 15 yoke of oxen, for which he paid 4½ barrels of salt a yoke. They were driven to Irondequoit. He returned by way of the Lakes in

1795, in a bark canoe, with 4500 pounds of furs. It was the sixth time he had traversed the lake in an open boat, and once by land in '98, when there was no house between Buffalo and Ganson's at Le Roy. In 1800, he put in 7 acres of wheat on his farm. In the fall of 1805, he assisted in cutting out the road where Main street now is, from the Genesee river, to intersect the old landing road two miles, and was paid by the town of Northfield, 50 dollars. There was no dwelling here except a small log house, built by Col. Fisk, in connection with the "Indian Allen Mill," which stood where the City Mills now stand. The first bridge was built over the Genesee where Main street bridge now stands in 1811-12: before that time we forded the river above the rapids, in low water; and he has had hairbreadth escapes there in being washed over the falls with a load of grain which he had been to Braddock's Bay to procure with a sled and two yokes of oxen.

Mr. Culver related an incident of his narrow escape at this ford on a tempestuous night, when he had volunteered to carry medicine which was procured from Dr. Ray, of Pittsford, the then only Doctor nearer than Palmyra—to William Hinchu the first settler at the mouth of the Genesee, who had been bitten by a rattlesnake. He was carried down the river from this ford in the darkness, and saved himself by clasping the alder branches on the bank.

You, Mr. President, said Mr. C., built the first house on the east side of the river, and in 1813, we had not given up the belief that the Irondequoit Landing would be the port of Entry; every thing here was so forbidding and inaccessible. It was in that year that I built a vessel of 47 tons, on the farm owned by Roswell Hart, Esq., in Brighton, and drew it with 26 oxen to the Landing. It was a fine little craft—and I at the helm made the port of Oswego with her, where two heavy vessels manned by 24 men were both lost, and all on board found a watery grave.

You and I, continued Mr. C., did not expect to have seen a city of 30,000 inhabitants where we had so recently hunted bears successfully.

[The above is an imperfect sketch of Mr. Culver's very interesting details.]

Hamlet Scrantom, senior, one of the oldest Pioneers present, being called upon, mentioned a few incidents of the early settlement of Rochester. He came here in 1813, built a house where the Eagle Hotel now stands, and helped clear a road for some distance up Buffalo street. He had some encounters with snakes, and on one occasion decapitated a number that intruded into his new house.

Mr. Hannahs followed with another snake story, and gave an amusing account of the slaughter of 20 of the "varmin'ts," belonging to a den discovered by himself in 1816. They did not "hiss."

Mr. Barnard came here in 1812, put up a building 18 by 26 feet, which subsequently became the first tailor shop, the first shoemaker shop, and the first school and meeting-house. The first meetings were well attended. The Pioneers were

all good singers, and they did their singing after the old congregational fashion, as it should be now. The whole country round was a wilderness, and he often felt when wandering about on the Sabbath, like Alexander Selkirk, in his solitude.—Mr. B. related a snake story in which six "rattlers" suffered death under the Falls one Sunday, for which exploit he received six shillings bounty money from Squire House. He also related an adventure with a deer, in which the animal came off best, and suffered a captivity of three days.

Dr. Jonah Brown came here and commenced the practice of medicine in 1813. He located his office where the Bank of Rochester now stands. While visiting a patient near the Rapids, he barely escaped falling into the claws of a panther, which paid his respects to him as he was riding in the woods a couple of miles south of the city. Having heard that vocal music would keep the "critters" at a distance, he tuned up his pipes, but he would not vouch for the character of the music made on that occasion. He gave a vivid sketch of the sufferings of the sick, and stated that he has frequently been called upon to act as nurse, cook and doctor—whole families being down at the same time.

Mr. Culver, at the request of Mr. Ely, related his adventure with the Indians at Twelve Mile Creek, in which he received a blow with a tomahawk on the head, the scar of which, can still be seen; and also the particulars of the boufire, he and Mr. Ely made of six thousand votes sent from Canandaigua during the struggle for the division of the county.

Mr. Hervey Ely, who came here in 1813, gave a full account of the attack of the British upon the American works at the mouth of the river.—He was one of the party who marched to the defence of the place. As our readers are familiar with this action, we must for want of space omit the particulars. Judge Sampson called upon all who were present at that engagement to rise.—Messrs. Ely, Kempshall, Scrantom, Smith, Graves and Green, arose.

Mr. S. O. Smith came here in 1809, forded the Genesee by Major Stone's directions at the place where the new aqueduct now stands, got safely over, but fell into Indian Allen's mill race, and got out with difficulty. Mr. S. described the appearance of the "irreclaimable swamp" on the west side of the river, and spoke of the difficulty of improving the land and making it habitable. The mud was so deep in front of the Mansion House, that years after, when the stage from Canandaigua did not appear at the regular hour, the citizens used to inquire if it had sunk in the slough in front of the hotel.

Mr. Anson House, kept the audience in a tour by an amusing account of his early adventures.—He commenced digging and has been digging ever since, the street where his property (the Minerva building) is located, having been dug down the depth of one story in front and almost as much

in rear. His first pettifogging excursion was made on foot to Phelepstown. When appointed Justice of the Peace he had no coat, and was obliged to be "qualified" in Canandaigua in his shirt sleeves. He walked to that place and took the oath early in the morning before the people were stirring.

Mr. Pomeroy spoke briefly and earnestly in favor of a Pioneer Association which should collect the materials of the early history of Western New York.

Mr. Donald McKenzie, of Caledonia, an invited guest, followed in a few pertinent remarks on the same subject.

Mr. S. G. Andrews, said this occasion brought to his mind as a present reality, the incidents and actors in the stirring events which had been crowded into the brief period since he first saw Rochester, which was in the winter of 1815. He found here then about 25 houses, stores and shops; Ely's old red grist-mill; three saw-mills and a tannery: all the rest of Rochester was a native forest.—The Genesee was not then diverted to feed Erie Canals, or to turn mill-wheels; but a broad, deep river rolled its unbroken volume down the falls, sounding its solemn bass through the woods for miles—sending up clouds of spray through a well defined bow of promise to Rochester; and lodging its congealed particles upon the shrubs and trees, and hanging boughs on its bank, forming in frost work domes, grottoes, and grained arches, decorated with pendant lustres, and crusted all over with diamonds, which reflected the sun rays and sent them off in lines of light into the deep, dark wilderness. It was a scene magnificent beyond description—such as no modern eye can behold; for the Genesee river is devoted to other purposes.—Such was Rochester in 1815, with its 300 inhabitants. Now a beautiful city of over 30,000 population; over 30 churches and edifices for religious worship; as many public schools and institutions of education; over 4,000 houses; 100 mills and manufactories; and not only "the largest and the best manufactory of flour in the world."

Mr. A. related several incidents illustrative of the generous sympathy which prompted the ready helping hand among early settlers; and spoke of the influence and example of the original settlers of the Genesee country and this city. They were plain men; plain and unaffected in their intercourse, style of living, and manners, and that influence is acknowledged in the common and just saying, that "no species of dandyism can exist in Rochester." They were men regardful of religion and its institutions; their first work was to set up an altar in the wilderness, and to provide a place of religious worship, and their controlling influence is strikingly visible upon Rochester at this day.

Those men, said Mr. A., inscribed their own epitaph more durably than upon crumbling marble; for they impressed it upon the institutions, and interwove it with the manners, customs and fashions of a great community to be "seen and read of all men"—and if it might be deemed proper to name individuals among those, all so worthy of remembrance, with respect and gratitude, he would men-

on those of Oliver Gibbs, Elisha Ely, Frederick Clark, and Nath. Rochester, whose labors and example, not less than the others, contributed to the moral prosperity of Rochester.

Mr. Peck gave a very laughable account of one of the early militia trainings, in which there were about thirty men and two muskets. Mr. Barnard, the commanding officer, carried a ramrod for a sword. The music consisted of a real fife and half of a tobacco barrel for a drum. The speaker half insinuated that Mr. Erastus Cook, one of the Pioneers present, was the fifer on that occasion, but the gentleman, though he could not put in a positive denial, did not recollect the occasion distinctly.

Mr. P. went on to say: Although Rochester was, at the time he had spoken of, uninviting in its appearance, presenting more the aspect of a village of stumps and trees than of houses and people, yet the inhabitants were kind and courteous to each other, and hospitable to strangers. They seemed bound together by ties of friendship and of common interest, and were united in all their efforts to give character and respectability to the infant village. The foundation of its future prosperity had been well laid—the institutions of religion and morality had been firmly established, and the whole community, consisting of members of different sects and denominations, met and worshipped harmoniously in one congregation, while all contributed cheerfully to the support of the minister, a most worthy and excellent man who had been settled a few months previous.

The moral and religious influence thus early put forth, doubtless contributed much to the rapid growth and enduring prosperity of our new flourishing city, and it is not too much to hope that the same influence may continue to be felt in the rich blessings it has secured, when those who were engaged in these efforts shall be forgotten.

Mr. Gideon Cobb gave a very interesting account of the early settlement of the country. He passed here in 1812, and took up his abode in what is now Aurora, Erie county, where he was appointed an officer and erected defences to protect the settlement from an anticipated attack of the Indians. He returned to Rochester in 1813, and established the first public conveyance, a four ox team, which he ran to the mouth of river for two years. Used to get his provisions cooked once a week at Mrs. Culver's, except in warm weather when his beans and pork would become sour. Then he was obliged to supply himself twice a week. He finally got board with Willis Kempshall, at \$3 per week, and slept under the work bench. He cleared up North and Monroe streets. Once fell into the river where the market now stands, and struggled an hour before he received assistance, the inhabitants were so few.

Mr. Graves had but little to offer. He had 64 ague fits the first season of his residence here, and when he began to recover he could not procure a pound of pork in the whole country. Had never been confined but one day by sickness since.

Mr. J. Packard described the appearance of various portions of the city when he first settled here.

Judge Chapin regretted his inability to condense facts and incidents within his recollection so as to present them in an interesting manner. We had brought before our memories the name of early settlers, since deceased. He thought it highly proper, also, on this occasion to advert to others then resident here, and acting an important part in our then little community, but who had since removed. Among them were Capt. E. Ely, H. K. Bender, J. A. Granger, J. G. Bond, Dauby & Sheldon, G. G. & H. L. Sull, A. Hamlin, J. O'Jell, W. W. Jobson, E. Beach, D. D. Barnard, D. Sibley, M. P. Belknap, S. Close, A. Pumb, Bates & Tebb, B. Tinker, and many others whose names we have not written.

He proceeded to describe Rochester as it was in 1816. The principal settlement on Buffalo street was between the Eagle tavern and the bridge over Genesee river. The buildings were rows of small shops on each side of the street, mostly one story and a half high. Here and there was a building farther west on that street, and in that year the brush was burned to clear the street along in front of where the Court House and the Methodist Chapel now stand. A frog pond occupied a part of the Court House yard at the base of a high stone ledge. From the bathing house on west was a log causeway over a deep swamp, in which the forest trees were then standing; and on west of Washington street, there was an unbroken forest. State street had been cleared of trees, but the stumps were remaining. The forest came almost to the west line of the street, between Ann and Brown streets.

On the west side of Exchange street, a small framed building stood perched on a high ledge of stone about where Alling & Seymour's book-store now is; farther west was a dwelling-house on the site of the Bank of Rochester; then farther south, occasionally a small building. On the west side of this street were no buildings. A yard for saw logs occupied the ground of Child's basin.

On North Fitzhugh street, there was no settlement north of the site of the Baptist meeting-house. A cart track then led north to adjacent woods. From North Sophia street, on west beyond Washington street was an ash swamp filled with water the most of the year. The long pendent moss from the boughs of the trees in this swamp presented a picturesque appearance. The land south of Tromp street was a forest.

On the west side of the river was a small cluster of houses on Main and South St. Paul streets. From Mortimer street north, and from Clinton street east, and from Jackson street west was mostly a forest. A black walnut tree, magnificent for its size, stood on the north part of Dublin, not far northeast from the Falls, and attracted many visitors.

In 1817, he purchased and soon cleared the land of his present homestead. After he commenced living on this lot, his house was accessible only by a cross path leading through the woods from the present pump on Spring street. He has

seen wild deer come on to his premises, after he commenced residing there. In 1818, he cut and cleared a path from his house down Troup street to Sophia street.

He proceeded at some length to speak of the accommodations then furnished, and to contrast them with the present improved state of things. He alluded to the good fortune of those who were early enough on the Sabbath to get a seat in the small school-house in which the whole village met for public worship—called to mind the two taverns with their floors covered with beds to accommodate travelers, and the slab side walks occasionally laid by contribution, when the mud rendered the streets impassable. He referred to a memorable volunteer night watch, so noisy and riotous as to annoy more than they protected the village. He told anecdotes to illustrate the mode of living and the privation of the comforts of life. He spoke of the state of the arts and manufactures, and amused the company by producing a pair of dividers made from a beach chip with a penknife, by a settler in 1816, when a pair of brass dividers could not be found nor purchased nearer than at Canandaigua.

Mr. Seth C. Jones sketched his early adventures as follows:

Mr. President, those who have preceded me, have related so many hardships and privations, far exceeding any that I can relate, that I do not know that what I can say will be very interesting; however, I will venture to trespass a few moments on your patience, while I compare the past with the present. In the spring of 1816, I started from Madison to seek my fortune in the far West. I was 15 years old, a foot and alone, with my sack on my back. I wandered through woods and mud to Pittsford, where I arrived the 20th day of May, with a capital of two dollars, which, with two suits of clothes, composed all my stock in trade. At this time the only currency was shin plasters, which a man could travel out of credit in half a day. There I stopped and worked about two years. It was very hard work to get any money for labor at this time. In the fall of 1818, I came to Rochester to see what I could get to do. At last I made an agreement with Roswell Hart to cut a quantity of steamboat wood. I went into the hemlock woods about 2½ miles this side of the mouth of the river, built a shanty, pulled off my coat and went to work.—Pork being two shillings per pound, I thought I would commence by catching some fish, so I bought me a hook and line and set it. At night there was a large white looking fish, fast to the hook. I pulled him in and thought I had a fine prize. I dressed him and put him on the fire and cooked it until I thought it was done, but it was so tough I could not eat it. I put it on again, and the more I cooked it the tougher it was. I thought this was a poor speculation.

The next day there happened to be one of the Pioneers passing through the woods, and I told my fish story to him. Why, says he, it is a sheep's head! We never think of more than half cooking them, they are much better only part boiled. I thought I had better buy pork at 2s.

per lb. At this time there was no clearing between Carthage and the mouth of the river on the east side. After I got through with the job, I came up to the village, and went to cutting and selling cord wood, and getting building timber.—The best price I could get, was from five to six shillings per cord, handsomely piled up in the yards of the wealthiest citizens. The best price that I could obtain for the timber of the Court House, was 2½ cents per foot. So you see I had to do a good deal of hard work for little money. A kind Providence has changed the condition of many of us, as well as the country in which we live, and this change can only be realized by comparing the past with the present, and it may not be amiss in us to recount the trials and hardships we have endured, and the humble part we have borne in producing this from a howling wilderness to a flourishing city of about 30,000 inhabitants. May it be our part to help on this good work so well begun, and if we improve the advantages we possess, Rochester has but just begun to be what she will be in thirty years more if she maintains her integrity. With her churches and public schools, mills and machinery, and vast water power, all properly brought to bear, her course must be onward. I might relate many other incidents, but I will not trespass further at this time.

Mr. Alexander spoke of the character of the early settlers in the following style:

A stranger sitting here and hearing the history of the first settlers of this place, as related by yourself, Mr. Culver, Esq. House and others, who told some of the privations of this settlement, would immediately imagine to himself what was the appearance of this people; he would say that in the countenance of each would be depicted a tale of woe—sorrowful, haggard and abstracted people, all lamenting their unhappy fate, and begging that some kind providence would take them away.

But, sir, how different was the picture. I never met with so pleasant, cheerful, agreeable and apparently happy people, always ready to do each other a good turn, give and receive a good joke, no matter how tight the fit. A stranger would suppose that they fared sumptuously every day, and lay on beds of down. No murmuring in those days. As there was no place of amusement here, the lively and active dispositions of the people could always invent some way to pass off a dull hour agreeably—such as hopping, jumping, pulling at the sticks, running foot-races, &c. His Honor the Mayor, Dr. John, was famous for a foot-race. The only place for a race course that could be obtained without running over logs or around stumps, was the old bridge; several heats were taken by His honor the Mayor, on that course. Esq. House did not look as doleful as one would suppose from the situation he was in when I saw him on a wintry evening in 1817, in company with others, pulling at the sticks in the bar-room near where the present bar-room of this house now is. It commenced by the boasting of a man named Freeman, who had a roll of butter in his hat on his head; it was discovered by some of the company.

Immediately a match was made; two sat down, one with his back before a large bar-room fire, the pulling commenced, the one near the fire was pulled up, he brought in his man, he chose Freeman, the butter man; he was carefully placed before the fire; he pulled up his first man, another sat down—up he came after some struggle; the next came up, and the next, till each had had his turn; Freeman was always the conqueror. In the mean time, our much esteemed friend, now present, Col. A. Newton, who understood the joke, paid good attention to the fire. Freemen then got up, took the fore finger of the one hand and the thumb of the other, and wiping the butter off from his forehead, exclaimed, "*how I sweat!*"

In those days, there were no assaults and batterries; nor wrangling or fighting here, nor had we any till they began to work on the canal.

Mr. J. H. Watts, said, a migration from the Eastern States 30 years ago, was more of an event with our American people than at present.

Now families leave and traverse thousands of miles, and it is an every day occurrence. Of the times from 1800 to the period 1818, friends frequently took a farewell never expecting to meet, as it was thought a new country, wild beasts and natives were sure to embargo a return to the left homes of the east. The difficulties of travel were not easily overcome, and when my father wished to meet his family as he did at Cayuga Bridge, there was no stage or Railroad to convey him there. He wanted to see us and he came on foot. It was an adventure to come west more perilous than a voyage around the world is considered at the present day. No one thing conduced more to make the people one in feeling than the fact that here sociability was necessary, and the Pioneers all knew each other, worshiped God under one roof, schooled their children at the same school-house, and took an interest in each other's welfare.

Mr. President and gentlemen present, let me mention one circumstance to the lasting credit of one I wish was here present, who I will always honor. When my father reached Rochester, there were not as many stores or places of business as at present and there was but one place he could find to cover his head. You may all remember the Leavitt or stone building which has been torn down to make place for the Munger Block.\*

There my father found a convenient room to commence his business and live as best he could without his family for some time. In those days it was thought quite a place; there he continued until he found better quarters. What rent, think you, he was charged a week when he left it, after occupying it some time? Why, says *John G. Bond*, its owner, a good mechanic is of much use to our village. I shall make no charge for it, and neither would he take it. There were many such good hearted men. Who forgets Ira West, always respected in his day; and will not Dr. Mathew Brown be remembered here, who could not come from ill health, who would no doubt be

\*Mr. E. Watts is believed to have been the first worker of tin this side of Cayuga Lake, say in 1817, the first located at Rochester at any rate.

glad to join you and very many more who cannot be here? I tell you gentlemen, (and I may be said to be speaking praises to your faces,) I look upon the early Fathers of this city as Benefactors. You have given a character to it for morals and good order and laid out a city, and paid the taxes to improve it, and carved a foundation upon which succeeding generations may build and profit thereby.

My parents brought me here, and here would I always live with my family and be satisfied with its progress.

Like many of the older portions of the community, its younger branches have gone from us, and death has taken his share. When my mother with two children came here, we had no small difficulties in reaching our dwelling on South Fitzhugh street. Huge stumps of newly leveled trees stood in the way, and it was a long time before they disappeared in and about the corner of Fitzhugh and Spring streets. All the way up above the now Ladies' Academy, on Fitzhugh street, I, with many of the early boys of Rochester, went for chestnuts, and we had to go through the woods to get up to Cornhill, that now densely settled part of the town. I was amongst those who went to school in the "old school-house" that stood on the same site of the present No. 1 School-house. I remember it was said in those days that we had good teachers, who were more strict than are allowed at the present time, and furthermore that good scholars, proficient in the first rudiments, (the useful ones I mean,) were always reported by all visitors and examiners at our school.

I am pleased to join on this festive occasion with so many of the old men Pioneers—they who have given it a character for enterprise, good morals and order; and who have done as much in reclaiming Rochester from a forest and a solitude as all after generations shall be able to do. In following out the schemes to extend its limits and improve its many superior advantages of an inland town, may it never be known to retrograde, but let centuries to come but add memorials to its greatness, in all that ennoble man.

Allow me to touch a topic in which I have taken an interest. In the many improvements, none stand more prominent than our culture of fruits. Many will hardly credit the fact that an apple was much desired by one sick in our family in those early times, and not one was to be found in the spring of the year—now I need not tell you that our city furnishes (by the great attention paid to its culture) all fruits in abundance in their season. I undertake to say that in no clime can you find better and more of them, and the fame of Rochester is coupled with her fruits and flowers.

In conclusion, allow me to offer a sentiment. May the sons both absent and present, those who were born here and came here anterior to and within the year 1818, children of the early Fathers of this city, to so regulate their lives, that after generations may say, how near akin were Fathers and Sons of the early settlers of Rochester.

Before the separation of the Pioneers, on motion of Mr. Andrews, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting are

due to our Pioneer brethren, the Messrs. Blossom, for the sumptuous entertainment they have provided on this occasion.

Resolved, That this meeting is greatly indebted

to Col. A. Newton, for his activity and perseverance, and for the deep interest he has taken in all matters pertaining to the festival.

The meeting then adjourned.

## SECOND ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

Pursuant to published notice, the Pioneers of Rochester and its vicinity assembled at the Blossom House, on Thursday, the 12th Oct. 1848.

The meeting was called to order by the Hon. ENOS STONE, President.

On motion of Judge SAMPSON, a committee, (consisting of the mover, Judge BROWN, of Ogden, and D. MCKENZIE, of Caldonia,) was appointed to report officers for the organization of the meeting. Mr. SAMPSON reported, viz:

ELISHA ELY, President.

J. H. HOTCHKIN, } Vice Presidents

RALPH PARKER, }

CHAS. J. HILL, } Secretaries.

S. G. ANDREWS, }

Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. HOTCHKIN.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read

by Mr. HILL. The following communication from the Hon. ENOS STONE was heard, and on motion of Mr. ANDREWS, ordered printed with the proceedings.

BROTHER PIONEERS—In leaving the chair as presiding officer of this meeting, an honor you had conferred upon me, probably because I am one of the oldest of the Pioneers of Rochester and Western New York, now living, permit me to express in a plain manner my high sense of the compliment, and most sincerely to thank you for this manifestation of kindness. We have met on this occasion to speak of things that are past, and call to mind for each other the scenes and men of other days, that, to us who survive, are hallowed, and will become more interesting as the years and months number upon us.

I need not speak of the trials and privations experienced by many of us in the settlement of this western country, and this city in particular, nor point out to you the benefits that may have resulted from the humble means used by us in bringing about the great changes that are manifest in this neighborhood. A few years since, this was a howling wilderness, and woe and sorrow were the lot of many who pitched their tents hereabouts. Now, far and wide, the elements of social comfort abound. Where the scream of the wild beast, and the whoop of the savage were the terror of early settlers, the voice of peace and content is heard, and every year adds to the stock of permanent good to be derived from steady perseverance in improvement. The country has become populous, healthy, and to a great extent happy: and God forbid, that our course of pros-

perity and social enjoyment may ever be long or seriously interrupted.

On a similar occasion above alluded to, I dwell more minutely upon statistical and other facts to contrast our present with our former condition, and shall be glad to communicate to this meeting any information that may be desired of me on the subject of the present gathering.

In conclusion allow me to say,—let us who claim to be Pioneers, live in the bonds of good will and friendship towards one another, while for me there can be no greater source of happiness than to see you all prosper.

The following additional names were recorded:

| Name.                   | Age. | Where born.            | Arrival. |
|-------------------------|------|------------------------|----------|
| Russell Green, . . . .  | 71   | Norwich, Conn.         | 1817     |
| Benj. B. Blossom, . .   | 58   | Lenox, Mass., . . .    | 1818     |
| Jas. R. Hotchkinn, . .  | 67   | Cornwall, Conn., .     | 1801     |
| R. A. Wilson, . . . .   | 36   | Cooperstown, N. Y.     |          |
| Lyman Granger, . . .    | 55   | Suffield, Conn., . .   | 1797     |
| Wm. B. Brown, . . . .   | 64   | Connecticut, . . . .   | 1804     |
| Harvey Prindle, . . .   | 63   | New Fairfield, Ct.     | 1799     |
| Moses King, . . . . .   | 53   | Suffield, Conn., . .   | 1815     |
| Bradford King, . . . .  | 55   | Suffield, Conn., . .   | 1802     |
| Geo. W. Willey, . . . . | 81   | East Haddam, . . . .   | 1804     |
| Horace Scudder, . . .   | 52   | Brighton, N. Y., . .   | 1797     |
| Jacob See, . . . . .    | 68   | Greenwich, Conn.       | 1813     |
| P. B. Wilder, . . . . . | 47   | Rushford, Vt., . . . . | 1807     |
| Justin Gates, . . . . . | 51   | Springfield, N. Y.     | 1805     |
| Albert C. Way, . . . .  | 47   | Springfield, N. Y.     | 1801     |
| Donald McKenzie, . .    | 64   | Inverness, Scotland    | 1806     |
| Powell Carpenter, . .   | 78   | New York, . . . . .    | 1794     |
| Zachariah Lewis, . . .  | 57   | Connecticut, . . . .   | 1812     |
| Elisha Moses, . . . . . | 86   | Connecticut, . . . .   | 1810     |
| Schuyler Moses, . . . . | 49   | Connecticut, . . . .   | 1817     |
| William Wood, . . . .   | 72   | Bunker Hill, Mass      | 1809     |
| Micah Brooks, . . . .   | 72   | Cheshire, Conn., . .   | 1797     |
| Francis Brown, . . . .  | 28   | Rochester, N. Y., .    | 1819     |
| Henry F. Smith, . . . . | 28   | Rochester, N. Y., .    | 1819     |

Mr. Peck presented the following communication:

Esteemed sir: I shall be proud to be enrolled in the list of pioneers. I came from Bunker's Hill to Canandaigua in 1809. My grandfather and father owned about one-third of that celebrated soil. I was cradled there in 1777.

God preserve us in union and good fellowship, amen.

WILLIAM WOOD

To Mr. Peck, &c.

And Mr. Wood was invited to participate and record his name among the Pioneers.

Mr. Harvey Ely said: Some incidents connected with the first establishment of the public worship of God on the Sabbath day by the first settlers of this city, illustrate important principles and render their review of interest to this and other communities.

The public worship of God on the Sabbath day, was first commenced in this place in the spring or summer of 1813, at the instance of two married ladies, women of faith and prayer.—Mrs. Scrantom and Mrs. Whelock, when there were but eight or ten families in a district now containing more than thirty thousand persons, applied to Mr. Jehiel Barnard and Mr. Warren Brown to conduct the meetings; these were first, and for some months after, held in an upper room of a one and a half story building on Buffalo st., about 22 feet long and 14 feet wide, owned by Mr. Barnard, the lower part being occupied by him as a tailor shop. The exercises of the meeting were extempore prayer, singing and reading a sermon.

After some months, the Rev. Daniel Brown, Baptist Minister at Pittsford, and Rev. Mr. Parmelee, a Congregational or Presbyterian minister of Victor, came occasionally and preached to the people.

It was in the autumn of this year that the last acts of Heathen worship in this place by the Indians were celebrated.

When my brother and myself came here to reside in the autumn of 1813, we found fifteen or twenty families. They were then worshipping in the lower room of Mr. Barnard's building. We continued there till the next summer, when a school house was erected and our meetings held in it. Soon our numbers increased so as to fill it to overflowing, when a temporary linter was added to the South side.

The summer or autumn of 1814, Rev. C. Williams was employed to preach for us a few months. This was followed by the formation of the First Presbyterian church in the autumn of 1815 and the settlement of Mr. Williams as its Pastor. From this date the records of the different churches contain their history, I need not detail it nor give their numbers.

It is perhaps well to observe that till sufficient strength was gathered to successfully accomplish new organizations, christians of all denominations regularly met together for the worship of God, and all contributed from their scanty means (for we were all poor,) to its support, and mutually aided each other in the erection of the first houses of worship and the support of a preached gospel. A consequent spirit of harmony, peace and charity has ever been a distinguishing characteristic of the churches and congregations organized in this city.

Important principles are employed in this exhibition worthy of consideration and example.

The great encouragement it offers to all who commence, or go to dwell in new settlements, to begin with establishing the public worship of God on the Sabbath—it was done here and it was well done—truly of them it can be said in the words of our Savior "she did what she could," and He has most wonderfully blessed those early

efforts. They did not go abroad to ask for help to build a place to worship God, or to defray the expenses of supporting Ministers. They were content to assemble in such places as their scanty means would enable them to provide, and from their poverty they contributed to support their ministry.

I have no knowledge of any religious society in this place ever having received one dollar from abroad towards defraying the expenses of building churches or supporting Ministers.

Mr. Brown, of Ogden, was happy in the order of Divine Providence, to meet so many Pioneer friends on this occasion. He congratulated the meeting, on the continued growth and prosperity of the country, and related incidents of former days of interest. He said in attempting to ford the Genesee above the Rapids when he first came to the country, he was carried down the stream and miraculously preserved within a short distance of the great falls. He was one of the first settlers of Ogden, and his father preached the first sermon ever delivered at Rochester. He cut a road through the woods from his settlement to Braddock's Bay and gave descriptions of the great difficulties of that day.

We have found, said Mr. Brown, a pleasant land. Comforts and blessings are profusely scattered on every hand—the country has not changed—the obstacles to its enjoyments only are removed by enterprising hands. His neighbor, Mr. Willey, now present, and 82 years of age, cut the first tree as a settler in Ogden, and indited the first poetry. It is descriptive of the country then and now; and seems to have been addressed to the inhabitants of the town of East Haddam, Conn., whence Mr. Willey emigrated. It went to the

TUNE OF DELIGHT.  
Come and go along with me,  
And I will show you land,  
That lies in Genesee  
That aint all rocks and sand.  
That pleasant soil,  
Of fertile ground,  
Lies all around,  
That is worth awhile.

Mr. Andrews, said the following statistical facts of the olden days of Rochester, compared with its present condition, would, he believed, present a case of the growth and improvement of a city, unparalleled since those days when the wealth and labor of a kingdom were brought into requisition to enact them.

In 1814, Elisha Ely, Hervey Ely, and Josiah Bissell erected a merchant's mill at Rochester with 4 ran of stones—the first mill erected exclusively for that business. These gentlemen also built a small 1 story building for a store, on the corner of Buffalo and State streets. Mr. H. Ely came on to Rochester with his goods, and finding the building unglazed, he proceeded to Canandaigua 30 miles to procure a box of 50 feet of glass; being unable to find the article nearer.

In 1815, Samuel Hildreth, of Pittsford, commenced running a two horse stage between Rochester and Canandaigua twice a week, and private enterprise continued it once a week on the Ridge Road to Lewiston. The first religious society (Presbyterian) was organized this year under the charge of the Rev. Comfort Williams. The



mention of the name of our first Pastor—said Mr. A., will bring up to your memories that man of meekness and humility, as he went about doing good in the new settlement; one can almost see his quick step and active manner, on his walk to his *clearing*, at what is now the junction of the feeder and canal. The influence of his industrious example was every where felt. He was a Pastor upon the Apostolic plan, scarcely chargeable to any, for his own hands ministered mainly to his necessities. In his day no religious dissensions marred the harmony of religion. His works remain and follow him. Honored be the memory of the Rev. Comfort Williams.

In 1816, a post route was established "by authority" between Canandaigua and Lewiston, "by way of Rochester." A tavern was opened where the Arcade buildings now stands, by A. Reynolds, Esq. The first newspaper was published by Daubey & Sheldon, the "Rochester Gazette." The business of purchasing produce from the country was commenced, and about 7000 barrels of Flour were exported. The population of the village was 331. The quarterly receipts of the post office were about fifteen dollars.

In 1817, the lands on the east side of the River were laid out in building lots. The village of Rochesterville was incorporated, and the first officers under its charter, were Francis Brown, William Cobb, Everard Peck, Daniel Mack, and Jehiel Barnard. Hastings R. Beaden, Clerk, F. F. Bachus, Treasurer.

There are now at Rochester twenty Flouring Mills, with over one hundred runs of Stones. Forty daily, weekly, and semi-weekly mails arrive and depart. Forty churches and religious societies. The quarterly receipts of the P. O., are \$5000; the third largest in the State. Four daily and eight weekly newspapers. There were manufactured here in 1847, over 700,000 barrels of Flour. And the present population is believed to be between 35 and 40,000.

R. A. Wilson would speak as a representative of pioneers. His grandfather on his mother's side was a member of the Legislature of New York during the revolution—for the County of Montgomery, which then comprised all of the State of New York north and west of the County of Schoenectady. Mr. William Clark an uncle of his mother, visited us at Rochester in 1825, and talked familiarly of events he had witnessed in the old French war, was a soldier under Gen. Braddock and shared in his defeat. In 1809 his father, who had been employed by Brant to erect a Council House, crossed the Niagara River, forded the Genesee River at the Rapids, and after wandering through the western and northern States settled at Rochester, invested his property in village lots, and carried on the business of house building to the close of his life. The only thing he recollected of the olden time, was the system of revolving between the two sides of the River between Brighton and Rochester, and the races that almost daily occurred between unfortunate debtors and constables; the Genesee River being the boundary of two Counties, Batavia being his destiny on one side, and Canandaigua the other.

Mr. JACOB GRAVES related his early experience, in coming to Rochester in 1816, when he purchased the site of his present extensive tannery with \$1000 in silver, which he brought all the way from the Southern State line, across the mountains, to Schoenectady, Canandaigua, and this city, in his saddle-bags.

Mr. RAPHAEL BEACH spoke in his turn.—Considering himself one of the youngest Pioneers in the Company, he had no experience to tell that would compare with what others had to say.

Capt. MINER told of bringing to Rochester from Albany, in 1812, the first Mill Irons that were ever put up here, for Francis Brown. The mud was so deep at the present site of the Eagle Tavern, that the irons in the bottom of his wagon got wet and rusted. He also told of the practice in that day of sending convicts to the Salt Works to work out their time, instead of to the County Jail, the prisoners having the choice of punishment.

Messrs. H. PRINDLE, FRANCIS BROWN, SIMEON LEWIS, S. C. JONES, and NATHANIEL DRAPER, also spoke as called upon.

Mr. LEVI A. WARD, after a very complimentary notice of JOHN MAUDE, Esq., an intelligent English traveler, who visited what is now Rochester, in 1800, related at some length incidents of his early life, when living with his father, (from 1807, when he came from Connecticut,) in the present town of Bergen, then called Northampton. We would be glad to give a full report of the interesting remarks of Mr. W. but find ourselves overran with the great amount of matter upon our hands. All listened to what he said with great interest.

Gen. MICAH BROOKS also occupied the full time allowed to each speaker, in recounting the legislative history of the settlement in the Genesee Country. Gen. B. came to this Country as early as 1796, and in '99 became a freeholder.—In 1808, after the division of Genesee County, he was elected a representative in the Legislature. He related the action taken in laying out roads at that period, and the incipient steps taken in building the Erie Canal. Gen. B.'s remarks were highly interesting, and duly appreciated by his brother Pioneers.

[Letter from John G. Bond, Esq.]

NILES, Berrien Co., Mich., Oct. 7, 1848.

Dear Sir: I have just received your kind note of Sept. 26th, communicating to me the *special invitation* of the Committee of Arrangements of the Rochester "Pioneers," to attend their annual meeting at the Blossom Hotel, on the 12th of October next. I feel extremely grateful for this polite and kind remembrance. I have ever felt proud of having been one,—although a humble one indeed, of the early pioneers of the now beautiful city of Rochester. My affections even early enlisted in her growth and interests—there has not been a place since my removal from the Granite State, New Hampshire; (in 1815) which I have more loved, and whose people I have held in greater esteem, than the good people of Rochester. The beauty of its locality—the pretty river—river of cascades,—good soil, and climate,—

general fine scenery, and every thing connected with its site,—afforded me pleasure and happiness—and my heart is ever filled with sorrow, when I reflect that circumstances or fate rendered it necessary for me to remove away farther west—but it was so decreed by Heaven, and *Him* who never errs, that I might exert my humble efforts to assist in founding and building up other villages—Lockport, and Niles, in the Peninsular State—the latter place will, I predict, be my last pioneering, and my tenement of clay will rest shortly on the romantic and beautiful bank of the St. Joseph. I am claimed, I believe, as one of the early pioneers of these very important and beautiful settlements—one fine city and two pretty villages.—Rochester city, Lockport and Niles.

I sometimes smile when reflecting of past scenes, and what has happened in olden times. About the commencement of your place, and when I was a citizen—I occasionally heard remarks which had been made about me, and my character—this was as early as 1815, '16, '17, and 1818—they would remark, as I was afterwards informed, that on most matters Mr. Bond was reasonable and sane,—but when the subject of the future growth and improvement of Rochester were introduced, he was prone to predict that in a quarter of a century, or less,—the City of Rochester would contain a population of some 20,000 inhabitants—that in fact I was a monomaniac and insane on that particular subject—now you have some 30,000, perhaps more. Alas! how blind we often are, as to the future, whether for good or evil. I have often reflected how fortunate and blessed you were in the first settlement of your place by having some dozen or more of religious, moral, highly civilized, and enterprising families—the descendants of the Pilgrims of New England—mixed with some *equally excellent families* from the middle and southern States of our happy Union. The seed then sown, God has greatly blessed—and you are now become great in population and wealth—highly respectable for learning, also in the arts and enterprising—and will still go on, in progressing, perhaps in a compound ratio. That this may be, you have my best wishes. Rochester is now one of the best built cities in the West, and perhaps, in America.

I extremely regret that circumstances will not permit me to join you in your celebration, of Rochester Pioneers, this year, but if God should spare my life for a few more years, and I have health and strength—I shall hope, and may be so fortunate as to be with you in some future celebration of the Pioneers.

You will please present my affectionate regards, and high respects to those citizens—"Pioneers" who may be present at the festive board, and all others, who may not be able to do so—who are still residing in your midst and neighborhood.—They are all well remembered by me with great esteem and affection. Also present my best regard to your family; and to yourself, believe me when I say, that I still remain, as ever,

Your sincere friend, and humble servant,

JOHN C. BOND.

ENOS STONE, Esq., Chairman of Committee.

[Remarks from James H. Watts.]

Mr. President: The happy effects of the first meeting of the "Early Pioneers of Rochester" have exhibited themselves frequently since that time. Many have been the pleasant greetings and communications with those I have met who were amongst the early settlers.

Letters and papers have been sent me from old friends in which they have alluded to our meeting and organization, and you may depend that the proceedings of this day will be sought for by thousands of the American people, and others, who have lived in our goodly city and known the body of men so truly termed Pioneers.

I venture to assert that a stronger attachment for any one place does not exist than is had by almost all persons who have lived in Rochester and I pride myself in the thought that we have, a good name in the land.

Progress is so engrafted upon every thing that has existence here that we cannot fail to be known in our enterprizes, and many have been the wonders experienced that so many circumstances of an interesting character could have been connected with the early settlement of a new country. I need not say that the "Pioneers" immortalized themselves in their first meeting—congratulations that so many are spared to "meet again" certainly will prevail—no doubt my seniors will allude to those who have gone from us the past year—"Pioneers" to a land to which we are fast hastening.

The younger portions of the association will undoubtedly feel the lesson that the elder branches are dropping off, and with them ere long our old men will be dead, and their places can never be filled. May we, the young men, ever keep up this yearly gathering so long as we shall last, and *be the last* to forsake the way of our Fathers.

I for one shall be a listener at this celebration—preferring reminiscences from others, especially *Elders* in the cause.

Mr. WATTS was necessarily absent from the meeting—but he says his heart and best wishes were for the welfare of the Pioneers.

[Letter from Augustus Porter, Esq.]

NIAGARA FALLS, Sep. 28th, 1848.

ENOS STONE, Esq.—

Dear Sir: Your letter of the 26th instant, as Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements of the Pioneers of Rochester, is received, in which you invite me to attend your Annual Celebration at the Blossom Hotel, on the 12th of October next.

For this mark of kindness and respect I tender them my sincere thanks. Nothing would afford me more pleasure than to attend this celebration, as it would give me an opportunity of seeing the early settlers in and about Rochester, among whom I might see many of my old acquaintances—but the state of my health and the infirmities of age forbid it. My age, should I live until the 18th of January next, will be eighty years.—You say at the close of your letter, that should I be unable to attend, some incidents of early settlements to be read on that occasion, are requested.

In conformity with this request, I will, so far as my memory serves me, give you some account of the first personal knowledge I had of the country in and about Rochester, and of the first settlers.

I first came into the Genesee country in the year 1789, from Salisbury, Connecticut, in the capacity of a surveyor, at twenty-one years of age. I came from Schenectady on a batteau up the Mohawk river to Fort Stanwix, from thence by Wood Creek, the Oneida Lake and Seneca River, to Geneva; from thence to Canandaigua on foot by an Indian trail, and thence by an Indian path to East Bloomfield (Township No. 10—4th range). Here I found Mr. Jonathan Adams, from Massachusetts, with a large family of sons and daughters who had just arrived and were engaged in erecting log houses. I then commenced my labors as surveyor, and lotted this town, and spent the whole of the season in lotting three other towns, and running the outlines of a number of other townships in what is now Steuben County, and returned to Connecticut in the Fall. The next Spring I again came to Bloomfield, where I built a Saw Mill on Mud Creek. The latter part of the season I was employed by Jonathan Fasset to survey Township No. 13: 4th Range (now the Town of Penfield). This I ran into large farm lots, except some 20 or 30 acres lying on Irondequoit Creek, which was run into about twelve hundred lots, called City lots.

At this time there were living Simon Stone and Israel Stone, at the place where the Village of Pittsford now stands. They were the original proprietors of the Township, having purchased it of Messrs. Phelps & Gorham, and selected this spot to commence their settlement from its being directly on the Indian path leading both from the Irondequoit Landing and Falls to Canawagus, (now Avon.) and from there being at the place a very fine spring. There were, also, several other persons living in the town—among them I recollect a Mr. Nie and Paul Richardson, who a few years after became the husband of Mrs. Israel Stone, whose husband had died.

In No. 13: 4th Range, (Penfield) there was a Mr. Lusk, from Richmond, Massachusetts, living near the Irondequoit Landing, and a Mr. Allen living on the north side of the West branch of the Creek where the road leading from Rochester to Pittsford, crosses. Mr. Orange Stone lived in Township No. 13: 7th Range, (now Brighton,) at the same place where he died a few years ago, by the handsome Elm Tree and Big Rock. Mr. Chauncey Hyde lived a short distance west of him.

This town was purchased by a company from Lenox, Massachusetts, in the year 1789—'90.—Among the names of the first purchasers I recollect Capt. John Gilbert, William Walker, Caleb Walker, old Mr. Stone, Father of Orange and Enos Stone, Mr. Northrop, Col. Chauncey Hyde, Prosper Polley, A. Egleston, and perhaps some others. Old Capt. Gilbert was the surveyor who lotted the town in 1789, with whom I became acquainted that year (an excellent, worthy man). He told me at that time that those of the proprietors who had seen the town, were disappointed and dissatisfied with the quality of the land gen-

erally, and with the great Marsh of the Irondequoit, and a large Swamp at the south-west corner, and that they intended to sell out as soon, and in the best way they could—and most of them a few years after, did sell to Mr. Phelps.

This year, 1(789,) Capt. Caleb Walker surveyed Township No. 12: 4th Range, (now Perrinton,) into lots. He and his brother, Col. Win. Walker, purchased this town, and Glover Perrin with his family settled there, where they lived for several years before any other settler came in, and until Mrs. Perrin became partially deranged, when they removed to Pittsford, where he resided until his death. Caleb Walker died at Canandaigua in 1790. This Township Colonel Walker sold to Daniel Penfield, and in 1797 Mr. Penfield sold to Doctor Duncan, a Scotch gentleman, who left it to his son, who lately lived at Canandaigua.

In 1789, Ebenezer Allen, (then known as Indian Allen, from his having two squaw wives,) had agreed to purchase a Mill site at the Genesee Falls, and that year erected a small Grist Mill on or near the place now known as Child's Basin—the site was to contain one hundred acres. In the year 1790, Ebenezer Hunt and others purchased of Phelps & Gorham 20,000 acres of land in Township number one, short Range west of Genesee River, which was bounded west and north by the north and west lines of the township, east by Genesee River, and south by a line parallel with said north line, and so far distant therefrom as to contain said quantity, excepting, however, and reserving one hundred acres which had been previously sold to Ebenezer Allen. The recognition of this sale to Allen, in the deed by Phelps & Gorham to Ebenezer Hunt and others, is, as far as I know, the only evidence of title that Allen ever had to that 100 acres. In 1791 I was at Allen's Mill, and the only person that I found living at or near that place, was a Mr. Dugan, a brother-in-law to Allen, who was attending the Mill.

At this time there was living at the mouth of Allen's Creek, old Mr. Sheffer, who had purchased the farm on which he lived of Ebenezer Allen in 1789—and came there the next year. This was a farm which Oliver Phelps gave to Allen for his services while Mr. Phelps was negotiating with the Indians for the purchase he made of them in 1788. Allen then lived on the farm, and from him the Creek took its name.

The first settler between Sheffer's and the Falls as far as I recollect, was Col. Josiah Fish, who settled at the mouth of Black Creek, and for several years was the Supervisor of the town of North Hampton, which embraced the whole of that part of the State of New York, which lies west of Genesee River.

In 1789, Hugh Maxwell, while employed by Phelps & Gorham, surveyed the tract known as the Mill site Tract, into townships, and in doing so, he committed an error by running the west line due north and south, and the outlines of the townships within the tract, in conformity with that. It was afterwards corrected by running the west line on a course corresponding with the general course of Genesee River. This I ran in 1792. This corrected line, which is N. 22 E., accounts for the obliquity of some of the township lines.

In 1797 I surveyed the 20,000 acre tract above referred to, into lots, and laid out the village lots at Hanford's Landing. At this time a settlement commenced at that place by Gideon King, Zadock Granger and others. At the same time I laid out the Allen hundred acres, conformable to the description given in Phelps & Gorham's deed to E. Hurt and others. This directed that the centre of the tract, up and down stream, should be the centre of Allen's Mill, and laid out in as near a square form as the windings of the river would permit. Old Mr. Hinshor at this time lived at the mouth of the river, on the west side, and Col. J. Fish lived at and attended the old Allen Mill. In 1798 Eli Granger built a small schooner, at Hanford's Landing. I was at that time one of the proprietors of the 20,000 acres, and E. Grauger came to me and told me of the ridge of land now known as the Ridge Road, and proposed to go and explore it through to the Niagara River, provided I would employ a man to go with him and furnish them with provisions—which I did, and on his return he gave what has since proved a correct account of this remarkable road.

Yours respect'y, AUG'S PORTER.

[Remarks of Moses King, Esq.]

Mr. President: My Father came here in 1796, and I think manifested more energy than his sons—for he sent his goods by water, down the Connecticut River, up the Hudson and Mohawk into Oneida Lake, then Lake Ontario and up the Genesee to the Landing—now called Hanford's, then King's—and by their arrival had constructed the dug way, so that his goods were delivered at his residence. He made the road down the deep Hollow—opened the road to the Lewiston Ridge, and lived but 10 months in 1815. George Hill and I spent evenings piling and burning brush in front of the Court House, and during the summer the brush and stumps got on fire on the north of Buffalo Street and corner of Fitzhugh, and raged with such fury that it called out all the inhabitants to preserve the few dwellings then erected and erecting along State Street.

[Remarks of C. J. Hill, Esq.]

Mr. Hill said: He came to this place quite young in 1816—came alone, having then no relatives in this part of the country—he came solely as an adventurer. He would detain the meeting but a very short time, especially as he saw before him so many *Fathers*—more remarkable Pioneers, who had experienced so much more of interest to the meeting—he would say, however, as the privations of a new settlement were very frequently and justly alluded to, that there were *luxuries*, also, incident to that state of society, at any rate, it was so in the early days of Rochester.

He would speak of the fact, that the early Pioneers came here with very little property, having in that respect, little or "nothing to lose, but every thing to gain," hence the scope for *hope* and sanguine expectations in an eminent degree—that was a *luxury*.

Again, who that was here does not remember the kindly sympathy, the feeling of mutual accommodation which was a leading characteristic of

our early settlers—was not that a *luxury*? and one which has sadly decreased with our growth—as is found to be the fact in every place, as it passes from infancy to manhood.

He would also allude to the luxury which was enjoyed thirty-two years since in this City, now containing between thirty and forty thousand inhabitants, of the entire population then worshipping God, from Sabbath to Sabbath, in a one-story building, about 15 feet by 24—there being but one congregation and place of worship, and that the only *school house*.

For *New-Englanders*, there was another luxury—I allude to the fact that the "heat and burden of the day," in subduing the forest and rearing up this new city, was, to a great extent, borne by adventurers from their *Father Land*, and not only so, but happily for the future moral character of the place, these sons of New England very generally brought with them the principles and habits which have always so favorably distinguished the land of the *Puritans*.

Finally he would mention but one other among the luxuries peculiar to our infantile state, viz:—that notwithstanding the large participation of New Englanders in the enterprizes and vicissitudes of our early forming State, other States, and even Foreign lands were well represented—and what he had here to note as of peculiar interest, was the fact that, notwithstanding this seemingly heterogeneous collection, they were in a remarkable degree of one heart and mind regarding the essential elements of society. They readily united in a practicable demonstration of the importance of morality and intelligence, as well as enterprize and untiring industry, in laying the foundation for after generations to build upon.

Mr. R. D. HANNAHS, said he built and run the first Boat on the Genesee River in 1818—and gave interesting details of early settlements.

Mr. JOAB BRITTON, gave an interesting account of his life and adventures in the Genesee country, a life full of vicissitudes by land and water.

Mr. J. PACKARD, stated the fact that Rochester in its early day whatever else it might have of troubles—never had musketoes—gave interesting details of early times. He made the first stove pipe manufactured in Rochester, and assisted in making the first Iron Castings.

Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. SAMPSON, Mr. WARD, and Mr. MCKENZIE, were appointed a Committee to prepare and revise the proceedings for publication.

On motion of Col. NEWTON, the Executive Committee of the former year were re-appointed.

After eloquent remarks by Judge SAMPSON in regard to the importance of giving a substantial and useful form to the acts and doings of the society, Mr. WARD moved that the Executive Committee report a plan at the next meeting of the Pioneers, for the permanent organization of a Historical Society of Western New York, which was adopted, and Messrs. SAMPSON and WARD were added to the Committee—the Committee consisting of Enos Stone, Harvey Montgomery, Sam'l G. Andrews, Moses Chapin, Aaron Newton, Jno.



was happy to see in the Chair an old friend, whose presence reminded him of days gone by, when 40 years ago he was a corporal under his command, in old Berkshire, Mass. His native place was Cape Cod, within 40 miles of old Plymouth Rock. In the year 1778, his father, with a large family, took a vessel on the south side of the cape and sailed for Hudson, now a city on the North River in this State. He there hired wagons to carry his little effects to the town of Lenox, Berkshire Co., Mass. In the year 1811, said Mr. B. ENOS STONE, and he that was Col. STONE, of this place, came to the blacksmith shop of my boss with whom I then was serving an apprenticeship to the trade of Vulcan, and with him made for them the second set of saw-mill irons that were put in use for this city of Rochester. ENOS STONE then offered to give me any spot I should choose on this side of the river, if I would come when my term of service expired.

In the year 1817, my father and I came here and upon this ground where we now are, occupied by the children of a deceased father. B. BLOSSOM, Sir, I here stand to-day, by the good providence of God, as the representative of the Blossom family, now the elder. In 1818, my father with his numerous family started for Brighton with his carriage, and in it ten persons, and I with two teams, a 6 cattle and 4 cattle team, drove by two hired men for the far west as then called. I walked all the way on foot save 5 miles before I arrived at Palmyra. I was 16 days on the road, and traveled the last day from old TROUP'S tavern, 5 miles east of Palmyra. My father wished to know of me how the teams traveled the last day. I told him better than any one day. Well, said he, I supposed they would; for, said he, Mr. ALLEN was praying for you all the day. This was the Rev. SOLOMON ALLEN, who was the first minister of Brighton and who first organized a church in this town.

My father purchased what was then called the Spafford property, in Brighton, and on it dug up the stumps and built the house which goes by the name of the old Blossom House.

I am now living upon the same place where we first settled, with the same old shop, in it the same tools that I bought when I was 21 years of age, the same old bellows with as good lungs as when new and blows as good a blast as she did 37 years ago in old Massachusetts. I am now able to perform as good day's work over the old anvil, save a little eye sight, as when I was a boy of 21 years of age. I am now, sir, 58.

BRIGHTON, Oct. 11, 1848.

ENOS STONE, Esq., *Chairman of the honorable body of Pioneers of the City of Rochester and its vicinity*—Sir: As my health at present is such that I am unable to attend your annual meeting, which I regret very much, I take this method to inform you and your honorable body, that I came in company with my father from the town of Phelps, near the east part of Ontario county, to the town of Brighton, near the west part of said county, in the fall of 1815. We chopped about an acre and built a log house on the farm now owned by Mr. SCHANK. We then returned to Phelps to winter, and on the 3d day of May, 1816,

we arrived in the said town of Brighton, and I have not been absent from said town one month at a time since. I saw several bears and frequently heard the wolves howl and bark on the Pinnacle. I had several batts with rattle-snakes, but the hardest battle I ever had was with Mr. Ague-and-fever, which lasted about three months every day; and through the assistance of a kind Providence I conquered all.

Yours respectfully,  
ABNER BUCKLAND.

LE ROY, (Fort Hill,) Oct. 10, 1848.

COL. A. NEWTON—Sir: I am too old to attend the Pioneer Jubilee and too illiterate to write any thing that will amuse or instruct. Being now 70 years old, I cannot expect to make much improvement. I offer a few lines, which are at your disposal, of course.

I came into this town in Nov., 1806, (42 years ago,)—started from Connecticut 20th October. At Whitestown, (now Utica,) were three log houses, one of which was a public house and kept by a Mr. BAGGS. From Whitestown to Canadaraqua, 112 miles, was a new turnpike, much of the way through the woods and very muddy.—Crossed Genee river in a wretched scow at Canawagus and plunged into the woods 5 miles north of Ganson's settlement, (now Le Roy.) We were advised not to go into that dense forest of heavy timber and a putrid atmosphere, for it would never be settled and we would have the ague; but finding a brother there, who came on the June before, concluded we would try it. Found our brother down with the ague and home-sick enough; but hearing that the ague never killed any one, and that their health would be better when they got over it, concluded to risk it. And now then ten thousand wants rushed to our astonished vision. We wanted the trees cut down and burnt up, and fences made; we wanted log houses to shield us from the storms of winter and summer; we wanted boards, nails, and glass; we wanted roads cut through the woods instead of marked trees; we wanted log bridges made to keep our horses and wagons from sinking; we wanted school-houses and meeting-houses built; we wanted to send our children to school, and when Sunday come we wanted to go to meeting, (some of us I mean,) but we had no meeting-house and no minister. After a while a minister arrived, and then we wanted funds, for we were but a feeble band; and finally, by uniting with a few pioneers in West Pultney, (now Riga,) we succeeded in securing the services of a minister; and then we wanted him ordained in the good old way. To do this we had to send an express to Canadaraqua to purchase some brandy and loaf sugar for the momentous occasion; and then we wanted a place to meet to attain our musical powers, and hearing of a new frame barn in West Pultney, just put up by Mr. AMASA FROST. (this barn is still standing.) the singers agreed there to meet for improvement, and there, on the loft on both sides of the barn floor, we had seats erected for the choir, where we poured forth melodious strains in anticipation of the approaching ordination day. And here I want to notice a lady whom they called Mrs. DENSMORE; what became of her I know not.

She appeared to possess powerful musical talents as well as poetic.

I trust I shall be pardoned this digression, as I began by enumerating our wants on our first arrival, but they were without number, and our immediate wants I had overlooked or forgotten.—Whole-ome bread and water were among the most important items. Wells of water we had none, and if there were any springs of water we knew it not, nor where to look for them; consequently we had to take our pail, dipper, and strainer to a puddle of water red with soaked forest leaves, strain out the wiglers and fill the tea-kettle; in fact, we could hardly distinguish it, by the appearance, from good old hyson; but we got our pay in fever and ague. I had drunk brackish water before and did not think this would hurt me, and the mystery is that any of us are now alive. For meat, wild game was plenty, such as bears and wolves, owls and rattle-snakes; likewise deer were plenty, but we had no rifles, time, or patience to spare—squirrels and pigeons were mostly used.

I obtained two bushels of smutty wheat from a Scotchman. As I had no where to wash or dry it, and hearing of a grist-mill down at the springs, owned by Mr. JOHN MCKAY, (now Caledonia,) I took my wheat on my horse, rode down Allen's Creek 7 or 8 miles, when I came to a dark dense forest (now Mumford) of evergreens. I thought it was a cedar swamp growing on a hill. Near the center of this swamp, as I took it to be, I found a small hut, which I entered, for I was very cold, it being late in November, 1806. Here I found a good fire, and the owner with several workmen, was at dinner. I found the owner liberal, interesting, and intelligent. He told me his name was DONALD MCKENZIE—that he was building a tulling-mill and making preparation for wool carding and cloth dressing. I told him who I was and from whence I came, and after the family had dined he asked me to sit by the table and partake of a farmer's cut, and if ever I ate with *gusto* it was then. That act of kindness from Mr. MCKENZIE will never be effaced from my memory. I got my wheat ground and got home in the night. On examining my flour next day, behold, it was as black as my boots and about as eatable; but never mind, it won't kill us, for hope keeps the heart whole.

In three or four weeks after my family arrived, my wife was taken down with the ague, and on one occasion, while groaning, writhing, stretching and yawning under the malady, the puppy set up a tremendous barking under the bed; and I what could the matter be, when lo! and behold, a famous great rattle-snake was under the bed, which was soon dispatched, but not until he had shown us his musical talents. But I did not blame the snake, for our floor was made of split logs, and many of us had nothing but the ground. A young man in my employ caught a rattle-snake while reaping wheat where Stone Church now stands, about the first of August, put it in a box in the granary, where it lived till the 7th of January following, without eating or drinking. He was very fleshy when caught, much of which he lost by long confinement, but lost none of his spite or venom. He was four feet six inches long, and I have never seen one more than four feet six or seven inches in length, though I have measured

perhaps hundreds. I have preserved a great many of their galls for their medicinal qualities by wetting and rolling them in common pulverized chalk, and by request sent them to our family physician in Connecticut. By the multitude of bones found in the crevices of the rocks near Fort Hill, it is evident that when they become old they crawl away, dea up and die; but what their ages, who can tell? for an old one has commonly lost half or two-thirds of his rattles, which is plain to be seen by those remaining, and I much doubt whether their ages ever can be determined by the number of their rattles. But I did not think of writing a snake story.

The first general training I attended was held in the month of October, 1807, at the log house of a Squire LABOURN, somewhere north of Scottsville, I should think, in the town of Wheatland. Our regiment was commanded by Col. JOHN ARCHIBOXON of Braddock's Bay, on Lake Ontario. To describe the fantastic appearance and ludicrous movements of this mass of human beings, is beyond my power of description. Suffice it to say we got home alive.

The first town meeting I attended was at (now called) Caledonia. The second town meeting I attended was on beech ridge, (now Sweden,) two miles south of Brockport, at the house of Mr. DUNSHA.

In 1808, hard times for money—began to raise some smutty wheat—did not get our money from the east—embargo times—a President to be elected. O! how it tried men's souls. A gentleman at the east wrote to his friend here, to know the political situation of this new country. The following is the reply:—"Our political situation reminds me of the declaration of a sailor whom a farmer hired to plow in a field with a yoke of oxen and an old mare called Jenny. While the sailor was absent for a drink of water, his team got in much disorder and confusion—some had kicked in and some had kicked out of the traces—each wanted to go their own way and make all the others follow. Jack finding it impossible to get them straightened out and make them go the way he wanted, called lustily for his master, who came puffing. What's the matter?—what's the matter, Jack. Gosh, mas-a! matter enough, I guess. Why the larboard ox has got on the starboard side—old Jim is run foul in the riggin'—the plow's on her beam's end—and they are all going to the devil stern foremost."

The following g names were among the principal settlers (pioneers) in West Pultney, but probably not in the order in which they arrived. They were mostly from Massachusetts, and emigrated in the years 1805, '6, '7, '8, and so on:—Capt. Sam<sup>l</sup> Church, Esq. Elihu Church, Jesse Church, Mr. Samuel Baldwin, Esq. Brewster, Amasa Frost, Dea. Frost, Capt. Hill, Mr. Morse, Mr. Furuer, Joseph Thomson, Mr. Holbrook, Mr. Shepard, T. Gay, Mr. Apthorp, Mr. Bingham, and many others whose names I do not now recollect, most of whom are fallen asleep. Those near Bergen Corners who emigrated about the same time, mostly from Connecticut, were the following:—Dea. Levi Ward, Dea. Benjamin Wright, Dea. Timothy Hill, Dea. John Ward, Dea. Pittman Wilcox, Dea. Josiah Pierson, Mr. Ashbel Crampton, Bela Munger, Doct. Levi Ward, jr.,

Joarib Field, Samuel Butler, Alexander White, John Gifford, Jacob Spafford, Wheaton Southworth, Stephen Everts, David G. Everts, and some others, most of whom are gone.

These words and lines are from the pen  
Of a poor old man, three score and ten :  
If they will pay for reading them,  
He'd only say, Amen—amen.

Please send me a book, should you make one,  
and oblige  
SIMON PIERSON.

Mrs. D. K. CARTER, a pioneer, sent the following, which was read:—

DAVID K. CARTER came to Rochester, March 10, 1814, and settled in a house where Avery & Burke keep store. In 1817, D. K. CARTER, in conjunction with ABNER HOLLISTER, built the old Mansion in Rochester—the first three story building ever built in this place. The first Masonic Lodge, I think, was instituted in that building shortly after its completion. DANIEL MACK kept it for a public house. In December, 1817, the first courts were held in the Mansion House after Monroe County was erected. D. K. CARTER, in December, 1817, removed on to lot No. 13, on the east side of the river. He died August 27, 1828.

PRATTSBURGH, Sept. 23, 1848.

Dear Sir: I am a minister of the gospel, in connection with the Presbyterian church. I came into Western New York in the fall of the year 1801, and settled in West Bloomfield, where I remained between seven and eight years. I then removed to Prattsburgh, in the county of Steuben, where I now reside. My residence in Western N. York has been longer than that of any other Presbyterian minister. The history of Western N. York is one most interesting in many respects. It is the commencement of a new era in the history of new settlements—the history of one of the most interesting parts of the habitable parts of the world. Its civil history ought to be written by some one who would give himself to the work, and spare no labor in the collection of materials and compilation of the work. An interesting and useful volume of the biography of the departed pioneers of Western N. York might be compiled, which might honor their memories and keep alive the recollection of their achievements. Could not something be done at the meetings forward these objects? Yours, with the highest respect,

JAMES H. HOTCHKISS.

HON. E. STONE.

ROCHESTER, Oct., 1848.

Gentlemen: The following sketch, relative to cotton manufacturing, perhaps may be interesting to many.

In the year 1815, a company was incorporated by the name of "The Genesee Cotton Manufacturing Company," for the purpose of manufacturing cotton at Rochester. A few of the stockholders are now living in this vicinity, among whom are ENOS STONE, OLIVER CULVER, S. O. SMITH, M. BROWN, F. BULLARD, and W. KEMPHALL.

In the fall of this year they contracted with RUSSEL SMITH of Hopkinton, Mass., to furnish the following machinery, viz: 12 throstle-frames of 54 spindles each and 2 mules of 192 spindles

each, making in all 1392 spindles, together with all the necessary apparatus to operate the same.

This machinery was put in a building erected for that purpose on Brown's race at the foot of Factory street, (since burnt,) and at the time I believe the only cotton machinery west of Whites-town, and on the building was hung the first bell west of Genesee river.

I came here in October of this year, and in the following spring the factory was ready for operation.

I had anticipated much difficulty in starting, as we were at least 140 miles from any place where experienced hands could be obtained. But before we were ready, three or four large families of operatives came here from the Black River country, which furnished us with all we wished.

There were many obstacles yet to encounter, and little progress was made. The prices we had to pay for such things as we must have and the difficulty with which many of them were obtained, may be seen in the following:—

We paid 30 cts. per lb. for cotton in New York and \$2,75 per hundred for transportation. I paid Mr. SILAS SMITH \$5 a gallon for common lamp oil, 25 cts. per lb. for chalk; and when I had used all the oil Mr. SMITH had, I had to go to Canandaigua for a supply; there I could buy at wholesale for \$3,75 per gallon. I paid as high as \$35 per bbl. for poor prime pork, and dealt it out at 20 cts. per lb.

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

### THE BANK OF UTICA

*Promises to pay the Bearer on demand*

THREE 3 CENTS.

By order of the Board of Directors.

Jan. 1, 1816.

3cts.

T. Colling.

Under such embarrassments as these we continued to operate until January, 1818, when the internal and external difficulties of the company prevented further operations, and writs, executions, and injunctions were substituted for cotton spinning. The whole effects of the company in the hands of the sheriff. Calls were now made on the stockholders to pay the balance due on their stock or forfeit what they had paid. Almost all preferred to forfeit what they had paid and "be off"—a few paid up their stock in full, with the understanding that when sold by the sheriff they would have it bid in, and in so doing they could save their property and make their stock of full value. A person was so authorized, and the whole property was struck off to him at a mere nominal sum.

This, as might be supposed, created more law, and the whole matter was before the Chancellor. In this state, things remained until the fall of 1821,



when AMOS ALLCOTT leased the whole premises. He run until his death, and afterwards his sons, S. S. ALLCOTT & Co., continued to run it until they built the front part of the building where CADY & Co. now own.

Doct. BROWN sold the factory lot to S. O. SMITH in 1827; the same year he sold the machinery to the Messrs. ALLCOTT. The machinery was removed to Messrs. A.'s new building, where they add'd some looms and other machinery, and run it some time.

In 1831, Mr. E. F. SMITH purchased it from the Messrs. A., and added to the building and machinery to the amount of 2000 spindles, and looms in proportion. In 1835, Mr. SMITH made a stock company with it, retaining about one-half to himself, which he subsequently sold to Messrs. STRONG. In this way it was run about two years by a Mr. LAMB, when it was again seized with its old complaint and stopped.

In 1846, Messrs. CADY & Co. purchased the factory, then containing but about 1000 spindles, with the looms and other machinery that had been in use formerly. They now have running about 4000 spindles, turning out about 600,000 yards of heavy sheetings annually and employing about 80 hands, two-thirds of which are females. Most of the old machinery has been taken out and new substituted.

About the year 1830, Mr. WM. RATHBUN & I. N. CROSBY erected a cotton factory in a building in rear of the mill recently occupied by I. F. MACK as a flouring mill. Satinett warps was their principal article of manufacture. After the failure of Mr. RATHBUN, the machinery was sold and removed to Bloomfield.

In 1846, Mr. SETH C. JONES commenced manufacturing in his large new building which he had previously erected for that purpose near the falls. Messrs. JONES & CHAMBERLAIN have now in operation 5000 spindles, 113 looms, and turn out more than 1,000,000 yards of cloth annually.— They employ about 140 hands, two-thirds of which are females.

The above is respectfully submitted, hoping it may be of interest enough to be placed among the minutes of the Pioneer Association.

With respect, yours, &c.,  
FISHER BULLARD.

On the 13th of June, 1813, I first saw Rochester. I stood awhile on the bridge and soon made up my mind that this was my future home. The October following I returned from Massachusetts with men to build a saw mill on the West side of the river, very near a small log cabin erected by the persons who built the bridge. There were so few families that board could not be had. At the suggestion of Enos Stone, Esq., and Isaac W. Stone, I cleared out the cabin which was then occupied as a stable by S. O. Smith, Esq., who kindly gave it up for my use. J. W. Stone procured me a housekeeper, and the mill was completed in December. We thought the easiest way to get rid of the cabin would be to burn it; we accordingly set it on fire, and it required our utmost exertions to prevent its burning the mill.— With the assistance of our neighbors it was finally saved, although several times on fire. At this

time there were, I believe, but two dwelling houses on the west and two on the east side of the river.

I think it was in April, 1814, an eighteen pound cannon and a four pounder, the latter of brass, were sent by General P. B. Porter to the care of Capt. (afterwards Colonel) Isaac W. Stone. It required seventeen yoke of oxen to draw the eighteen pounder through from Culver's to this place, such was the state of the roads.— With the cannon came powder and ball. We soon collected some powder in the village, and had a few rounds very much to the amusement of all of us. It was suggested that we should see what effect a ball would have. The cannon was placed on Main street at the corners near Blossom's Hotel. On the rise of ground very near the residence of the lamented Gen Mathews, a large limb about 40 feet from the ground, was cut from a tree, which left a white spot for our target. I went rather clandestinely to Capt. Stone's barn, got a ball and intended getting it into the cannon without his noticing it. He observed it, however and said I ought not to waste the public property in that way. I replied, "never mind, Captain, we will find it again." "Find the devil," said he. Enos Stone and Frederick Handford acted as chief engineers, and myself as assistant. All things being ready, the cannon was fired. The ball struck the tree about 4 feet below the mark. The top quivered a moment and fell. This was our experience in gunnery. The boys soon brought us the ball, so that the United States lost nothing by the operation.

It was soon known that the British fleet was on our coast, and that it was at Oswego. Capt., now Col. STONE of Porter's Volunteers, was commissioned to raise a regiment of Dragoons.— He had recruited about 50 men with whom he went to the mouth of the river. He directed the eighteen pounder to be sent there and the four pounder to Deep Hollow Bridge. On the Sabbath we threw up a breastwork on the south side of the bridge, loosened all the plank which were pinned down, and finished our work in the evening. About sundown on the 14th of May, 1814, I received a message from Col. STONE, saying the British fleet were in sight, and requesting me to notify the inhabitants; but that we need not come until the next morning. About 11 o'clock P. M., another messenger came requesting us to come immediately. Hey & Co. had previously received 50 muskets and 3000 fixed ammunition; these were distributed among the inhabitants as far as was necessary. Each man took 24 rounds of cartridge. At that time there were but 33 men in the place; one was left to cart off the women and children if necessary, and another declined to go. The cart was the only conveyance in the place. About 2 o'clock in the morning we started. It rained fast and was very dark; the roads were exceedingly muddy. We arrived at the mouth of the river soon after daylight in the midst of a fog. The lake was perfectly calm, and we could distinctly hear the British boats rowing about in various directions. An old boat was lying near which had been used as a lighter. Col. Stone proposed to Capt. Francis Brown and

myself to take some men, and see if we could not capture some of the British boats. Six seamen were soon found to man the oars, and twelve volunteers with muskets were stowed out of sight in the bottom of the boat. Capt. Brown stood upon one thwart and myself upon another, and then with muffled oars we put to sea. At the point a centry had been placed who hailed us. We did not answer and he fired. The ball passed between Capt. Brown and myself and struck the water beyond us. We rowed on, lowly and noiselessly into the lake. When we were one mile or more, a gun was fired from shore, and soon another and another. We lay too conjecturing what it could mean. The fog was disappearing very rapidly; we soon could see Colonel Stone on his white horse, and beyond us the top masts of the fleet which lay at anchor in a line up and down the lake. Directly the fog had entirely disappeared, and we lay within the range of the guns of the whole fleet, 17 sail in all—We turned and rowed slowly towards the shore. Soon a twelve oared barge was in pursuit of us and gained on us very rapidly. We feared they might have a swivel on board and they were so near us that we could distinctly count their oars. After a moment's consultation, we concluded to head our boat for Irondequoit. The object was to give our 18 pounder on shore, an opportunity to fire upon the pursuing boat. Brown observed to me, "well Ely, I believe we shall have to go to Halifax." I replied, "it looks very much like it." Jehiel Barnard, now of this place, raised his head, and with compressed lips said, "I hope you will let us fight first." We had not gone far towards Irondequoit before the British boat stopped. Brown observed, "they think there is some trap." We stopped rowing—they soon commenced again, and we too. They pulled a few strokes and then turned towards the shipping, and we to the mouth of the river. The guns from the fleet could have sunk us at any time.

About 10 o'clock a flag of truce put off from the flag ship of the enemy. Col. Stone asked me whether I was used to receiving a flag of truce. The answer was, "No." Capt. Brown was asked; the reply the same. Col. Stone then told Browns and myself to do the best we could—adding, "don't let them come into the river—don't let them land at all—their feet shall not pollute our soil." Up the lake, a little above the mouth of the river, a very large tree had fallen into the lake where there was sufficient water for the boat to lie along side. We went out on the tree and tied a white handkerchief to a stick. The boat came along side; the officer, who was in full dress and a splendid looking man, proposed going on shore. We told him our orders were positive, by this time 12 armed men made their appearance on the shore of the lake. The officer bearing the flag said, "Is it your custom to receive a flag of truce under arms?" We told him he must excuse us, as we were not soldiers but citizens; we however requested the men to return. He then said he was commanded by his Excellency Sir JAMES YEO, to say that, "if we would give up the public property, private property should be respected." He then produced a paper signed by

quite a number of citizens of Oswego, the contents of which, as near as I can recollect, were that, as the government had left a large quantity of stores and munitions of war at that place, without adequate force to protect it, they would not risk their lives and property to defend it. It was arranged that Brown should stay with the flag officer and I return to our commander, Col. Stone. I delivered the message and read the paper above alluded to, which the officer had handed me with a pledge to return it when read. Col. Stone rose and said, "Go back and tell them that the public property is in the hands of those who will defend it."

Soon after the flag had returned to the ship a gun-boat was seen coming from the fleet, towed by four boats. After a short consultation, Judge JOHN WILLIAMS was requested to select 12 good riflemen, and take a position under a ridge of gravel thrown up by the waves at the point on the east side of the river. A small boat was sent up to the turn of the river, out of sight of the enemy, to ferry the men across. Soon we saw them crossing the marsh through the tall grass, and placed in the desired position—all laying on the ground, from which they were to rise on a given signal from Col. Stone. Browns and myself were to occupy our position in the boat. Our twelve men were again selected, with six sailors to row the boat. The object was to let the gun-boat get within reach of the riflemen, and then that we should go and capture her. The Lieutenant having charge of the cannon had positive orders from Col. Stone not to fire till he was directed. By this time the gun-boat was in 30 or 40 rods of where we wanted her. The boats towing her opened to the right and left, and she fired a six pound shot, which fell into the river several rods below the store-houses. The moment they fired our cannon was discharged, and with it went all our hopes. Col. Stone was standing within ten feet of the cannon. He turned, drew his sword, and I believe would have done serious injury had not his arm been arrested. The first gun from the gun-boat was evidently a trial shot. She would undoubtedly have come a little nearer the shore had we not fired, and if so we should have assuredly captured her. She was a vessel of from 90 to 100 tons, sloop rigged. I hardly know whether the incident is worth relating, but at the moment it was extremely exciting, for we considered the gun-boat already our prize. She then fired 15 or 20 sixty-eight pound shot, which did no injury except one which struck one of the store-houses. Where they struck the ground they turned up a deep furrow, sometimes several rods in length. Some of the balls were used in this city a long time afterwards in breaking stone for buildings.

Soon after this occurrence, Gen. PORTER arrived. About 4 o'clock P. M. another flag was seen coming from the fleet. Gen. PORTER sent Major DARBY NOON, his aid, to receive it. The demand then was that if the property was not surrendered he would land his army and 400 Indians and take it. Gen. PORTER answered, that if he chose to send his troops and Indians ashore, we would take care of them, and that if they sent another flag he would fire upon it. Gen. PORTER appeared to be very indignant at the threat contained in the message from the enemy.

Perhaps I ought to mention that Col. HOPKINS called out his regiment. Some companies came from the west side of the river, and many in small parties, so that the second day at night we had 6 or 800 men. There was plenty of pork, flour, and whiskey, but nothing else and we were without utensils for cooking. I well recollect Esq. SCRANTON as belonging to the same mess with me. We used to mix flour and cold water in little cakes and bake them on a common shovel. We roasted our pork on sticks over a fire, and drank water for coffee. The thought never occurred to any of us belonging to Rochester, that we could send home and get food.

It will be recollected that at this time the temperance reformation had not begun in Western New York. It was considered quite unhealthy to drink Genesee water without whiskey, and the salt pork without vegetables made the men exceedingly thirsty. The result may readily be conceived. I saw a Captain the third morning throw aside his sword and military coat, and fight with one of his own men. It was a well contested battle. The Captain at length conquered his man, which was of course his undoubted right under military discipline.

The third morning the fleet hoisted sail and stood down the lake, and we went to our homes.

I am deeply impressed with the contrast in our condition in the years 1813—14 and yours now. A populous city has sprung up from the wilderness. I see the palace-like dwellings of some of your citizens where the humble cabin of the early settler stood. The spire of one of your splendid churches rises towards heaven near the spot where rough boards sheltered us while we worshiped God. Systematic education of the young has taken the place of the meagre instruction in our first school-house. Some of the men who were then young together, have been spared to see this day. The Providence which has watched over our city has permitted the "Pioneers" who remain to rejoice in its present prosperity, while they meet to commemorate the trials of its early days, and to do honor to the memory of those who have passed away. ELSHA ELY.

The President announced that a gentleman who had been present at the Meeting to day had presented a small silver medal as an earnest of a suitable gold medal, which he proposed to have prepared in season for the next Annual Festival. This medal, according to the wishes of the liberal donor, is to be worn by the eldest of the Pioneers; and at his death to be presented to the then eldest, and to take that direction as long as any of the Pioneers remain.

Although the President did not announce the name of the donor, we think we betray no confidence in stating that WILLIAM WOOD, Esq., of Canandaigua, a name connected with much that is kind, benevolent, and liberal, was the gentleman who presented the medal.

The absence of all descriptions of "strong drinks" detracted nothing from the enjoyment of a feast which was only surpassed by that participated in during the forenoon, at which "fat things" abounded.

After the dinner was completed, the party returned to the parlor, where they remained until the sun's declining rays were reflected in the eastern sky, when they departed, each to their home, bearing with them none but the most agreeable reflections.

### The Dinner.

At half-past two o'clock dinner was announced, by sounding the horn, as in olden times, and to this day is the custom among the farmers in this section. About seventy five gentlemen sat down at tables literally groaning with excellent viands, prepared in the superior style of "mine Hosts," the Blossoms. The following Bill of Fare was amply discussed by the guests.

### Oyster Soup.

#### FISH.

Boiled Salmon, Baked Salmon.

#### BOILED.

Turkey, Oyster Sauce, Ham,  
Chickens, " " Tongue,  
Mutton, Corned Beef & Cabbage

#### GAME.

Wood Cock, Partridge,  
Quail, Snipe.

Oyster Pies, Chicken Pies.

#### ROAST.

Beef, Veal,  
Pork, Chickens,  
Boned Mutton—(presented by F Bullard.)  
Turkey, Lamb.

#### VEGETABLES.

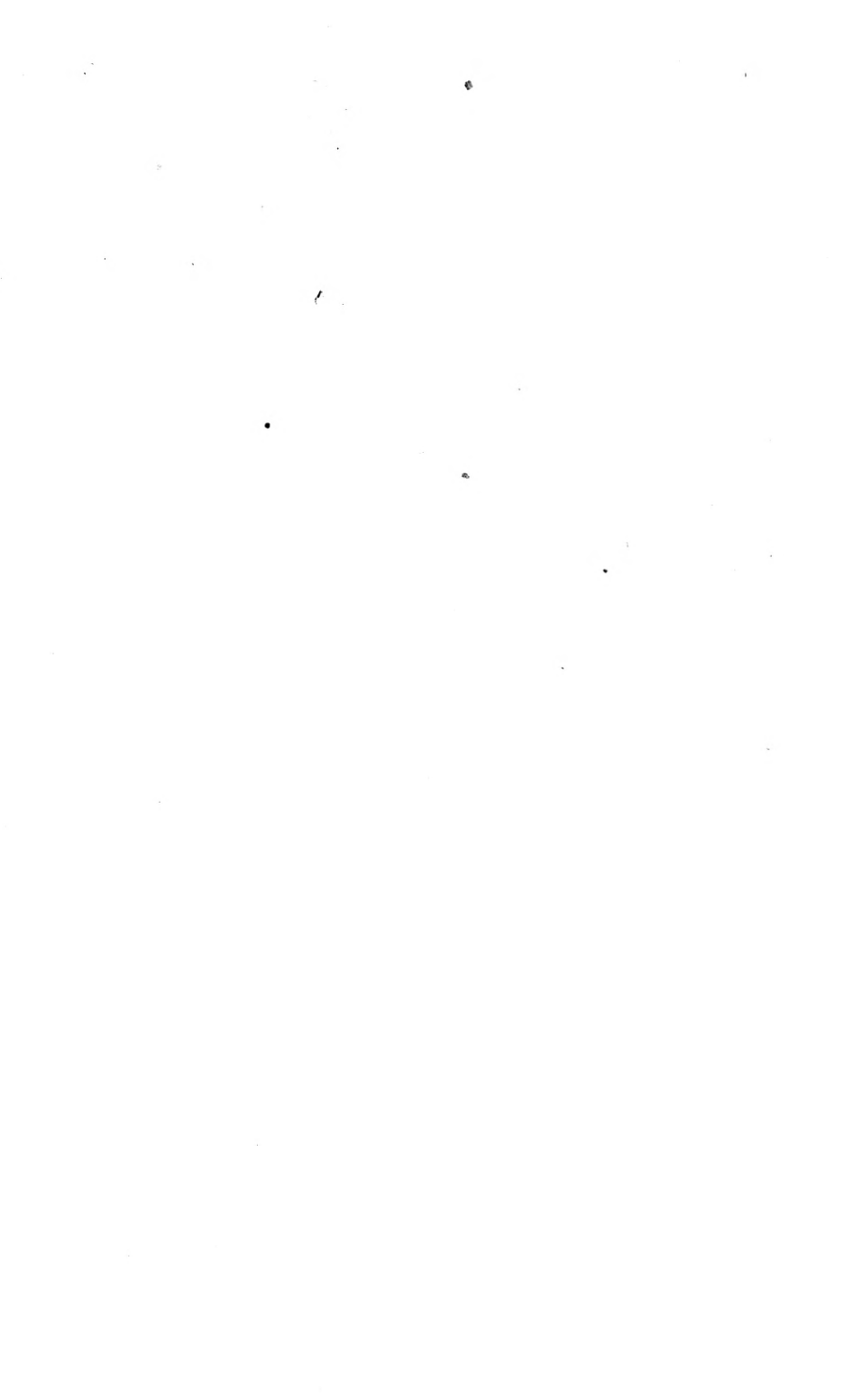
Potatoes, Parsnips, Turnips, Onions, Corn.

#### PASTRY.

Pumpkin Pie, Custard Pudding,  
Mince Pie, Chantree Pudding,  
Apple Pie, Plum Pudding,  
Raspberry Tarts, Rice Pudding.

#### DESSERTS.

Apples, Pears, Grapes, Almonds, Raisins, Charlotte de Russ, Ice Cream.









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