
The Arts Council of Rush, Henrietta and West Brighton, Inc., is pleased to have helped to make possible the publication of this long awaited history of Henrietta, New York.

Perhaps the wait was worth the while so that the publication could coincide with the Bicentennial of the United States. This is because the *Henrietta Heritage* touches on two important concepts regarding the Bicentennial, it contemplates the past and it is something of lasting value for the future.

Henrietta Heritage

By

Eleanor C. Kalsbeck
Henrietta Town Historian

Published 1977

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Henrietta Town Historian

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PREFACE

Man has always possessed an unquenchable thirst for knowledge. His curiosity has progressed from the ancients' immobile speculation concerning the Earth and astrological deductions of the heavens. In this highly developed scientific and technological age, his reaching for the stars has propelled him in his space ship well along in his preparations for his astounding journey. He has circled the Moon and walked upon it. He has viewed the Earth from afar, and found it beautiful, to rocket back in fiery, triumphant re-entry.

As we breathlessly follow his hazardous journeys to new frontiers, let us pause and review for a bit what he has already discovered about the Earth planet. More specifically, we are interested in the Genesee Valley, situated in western New York State.

The pioneers who chose Township XII, Range VII, of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase (to be named Henrietta), found their lands a part of the Genesee Valley. Its dense forests held the promise of rich farming conditions, so they began the task of making sufficient clearings for shelter, farmyard and crops. It is doubtful if those hardy souls, whose single purpose was to establish a farm home in the wilderness, ever wondered about the tremendous forces that carved this lovely valley, other than accepting it simply as a gift of their Creator. Geologists, however, have through their study of rock formation, land contours and composition, provided a fascinating account of the evolution of our Genesee Valley, the intricate and magnificent work of the two team mates, Nature and Time. Although we can only barely touch on the story they have to tell us, it is a part of our history and must be included.

VALLEY OF THE GENESEE

Genesee, the name given the ancient river and the valley through which it flows, was taken from the Indian word, "Gen-e-se-o," denoting "Beautiful Valley." The Indians, following the course of this river as they hunted and fished, discovered its six falls. Watching swift flowing water as it tumbled over the rocks and listening to the constant roar, they called it by the musical name of "Caschonchiagon," meaning "River-Of-Falls." The Seneca Indians found their chosen valley ideal for hunting, fishing and summer-time raising of vegetables and maize.

The geologist, at a much later date, delving into this fascinating, complex science, studied land and rock formations. He discovered evidence of the long, slow development involved in the making of the Genesee Valley. Geologists formed a time chart to divide the millions of years of the Earth's evolution, giving names to the various divisions. The rock records of the Genesee Valley cover a fraction in geologic time, though spanning millions of years. The geologic names for the two full periods involved in the carving of our valley, according to the rock record, are Silurian and Devonian. These two periods fall in the Paleozoic (Old Life) era. The name Silurian is derived from an old Welsh name, while Devonian is derived from County Devon, England, where it was first discovered.

Western New York was originally submerged under a shallow inland sea for millions of years. The bed rock therein is composed of layers of mineral matter which covered the bottom of this age old sea. Sea fossils may be found imbedded in these rocks. With gradual uplifting of the land and its emergence from the sea, it was exposed to atmospheric changes and erosion for tens of millions of years. With the coming of the Ice Age, New York State was covered by thick, heavy ice of the relentless Quebec Glacier, for hundreds of thousands of years; 50,000 years in the Rochester area.

Post glacial time, bringing us into the present era, following the receding of the ice sheet, re-exposing the land to atmospheric changes, has been calculated as perhaps tens of thousands of years. Relieved of the tremendous weight of the ice cap, the land rose slowly.

"And in the development of these nature chose for a tool, not the earthquake, or lightning to rent and split assunder, or the stormy torrent of eroding rain, but the tender snowflakes, noiselessly

falling through unnumbered centuries, the offspring of the sun and the sea Then after their grand task was done, these bands of snowflakes, these mighty glaciers, were melted and removed as if of no more importance than dew, destined to last but an hour."

John Muir, Naturalist.

So beautifully expressed in the above quotation, the fragile snowflakes, with their myriad shapes and designs, fell unceasingly in Quebec, Canada, over a great period of time. The deepening snow, covering all vegetation and high elevations, solidified into approximately ten thousand feet deep ice in some areas, and at least a mile deep in the Rochester area. Pressured southward by its great weight, it crept over New York State. It is not known how long this Ice Age lasted, but has been estimated as possibly 500,000 years. As the temperature rose, the snowfall diminished and the Sun's rays penetrated the thick edges of the glacier. Proof of its activity can be seen in the so-called "till," the rocks and stones bearing glacial marks which have been carried great distances to be dropped as the ice receded. Water, gushing in torrents from melting ice, left its "drift" behind, to form moraines, kames and eskers. (Kames are small hills or knolls formed of sand and gravel. Eskers are composed of ridges of gravel from beds of glacial streams.) Kame ridges have been noted south of the old Lehigh Station, west of the railroad tracks. Drumlins, the lovely hills which add so much to the scenic beauty of western New York State, were formed of compact till by the receding ice sheet. Standing firm against the weakening force of the melting ice, they can be found scattered about Henrietta: Search's Hill on Middle Road, one quarter mile south of Erie Station Road; Methodist Hill, W. Henrietta Road; Locust Hill Drive, one-eighth mile north of Jefferson Road; Liberty Hill, Lehigh Station Road; Telephone Road, two-thirds mile north of Martin Road; East River Road at junction of Brooks Road; Ward Hill, Ward Hill Road; and on the Rochester Institute of Technology campus.

Other evidence of the former glacier has been found in Henrietta. On the former Buyck Brothers farm on the south side of Lehigh Station Road, a huge rock stood, which without a doubt was a glacial boulder or "erratic," left behind by the ice sheet. Obstructing their farming efforts, it was finally destroyed by blasting with dynamite.

In an attempt to hand dig a well in the mid 1930's at the writer's home south of the Thruway, well diggers hit a "hard-pan" at least thirty feet deep. Left standing for a year until money was

accumulated for further drilling (during the Depression), the walls of the deep hole never caved in. Such hard-pans were caused by the great weight of the glacial ice, compressing the sub-glacial till.

*“Full many fair and famous streams
Beneath the sun there be,
But more to us than any seems,
Our own dear Genesee.”*

William M.C. Hosmer

The history of the Genesee River is as absorbing as that of the Genesee Valley throughout which it flows. It is believed the primitive Genesee had its origin on the south bank of the great Ontarian River, during the Devonian period, whence it flowed southward through the Irondequoit Valley. During millions of years following, there were changes in elevation, form of land surface, rock formation and temperatures that must have influenced the river's course. During Tertiary time the flow of the then large and vigorous Genesee was directed northward.

With the approach of the glacier, its northward flow became obstructed. The undefeated river once more turned southward. After an immense length of time, the giant ice sheet was vanquished in a losing battle with the Sun. Whereas, before the Glacial Age, our river had turned eastward, north of Avon, then turned north to the Irondequoit Valley, the former bed was now blocked with “rock rubbish” of glacial till. From its source in Potter County, Pennsylvania, over two thousand feet above sea level, the Genesee cut new canyons at Portageville, Mt. Morris and Rochester. From Avon it flowed due north, to empty into Lake Ontario. It forms the western border of Henrietta, where its flooding capacity is held to a minimum due to a recent modern dam built at Mt. Morris and its scientific control. The Genesee is the only Tertiary river to still flow in a northerly direction today. It is also unique, in that, in its northward journey, it passes over rock strata of the entire Devonian era, which is more completely detailed than anywhere else on the Earth known to geologists. It also contains both the entire Devonian and Silurian series, which cannot be claimed by any other river in America. Its canyons at Letchworth Park are breathtaking when adorned in Autumnal colors. Rightfully, the poets Hosmer and Swinburne have sung its praises.

NATIVE AMERICANS OF NEW YORK STATE

When the ice sheet melted away and the land had been warmed by the Sun, great hardwood trees and evergreens spread over the landscape. Fish in abundance filled the lakes and rivers. Bears, wolves, wildcats, deer and all the smaller animals we know today roamed the forests. Huge flocks of birds darkened the sky and nested in the tree tops, while waterfowl sought the marshes and lakes to breed their young.

Into this vast new wilderness, wandered the first nomadic hunters, exploring the lakes, rivers and valleys of central and western New York State. They gathered the wild vegetal food, fruit, berries and nuts, to supplement their diet of wild meat and fish. They cooked their meat often times by dropping hot stones into bark or skin receptacles, producing fire by striking flint on pyrite. Garments of skins were sewn with awls or needles of bone. They dwelt in wigwams covered with bark or skins. These were the Paleo Indians, who occupied New York State well over 10,000 years ago. This conclusion has been formed from the finding of fluted projectile points used in spearheads, found in the state, which are known to be of great age. Similar fluted points were found in the southwestern part of the United States, beside the skeletons of the extinct bison. The largest collection of fluted points in New York State were found in the western part of the state.

Within the Archaic period following were found the Lamoka and Laurentian Cultures. The Lamokan, of short stature, possessed somewhat refined features. His face was high and narrow, with narrowed head and nose. His was not the Oriental type face, which raises a doubt as to the Bering Strait route to America for all American Indians.

The Lamokans were so called after Lake Lamoka, Schuyler County, the main site discovered of these early archaic people. This site was explored by Dr. William A. Ritchie, State archeologist, when he was an anthropologist at the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences. It was concluded, from radio active carbon in the charcoal taken from sites of their ancient fires, that they dwelt here at least five thousand, five hundred years ago. Wild meats, including turkey and waterfowl, were eaten. They produced fire by a wooden drill rotated between their hands. Acorns were eaten, which they soaked, then ground with a stone mortar and pestle. They made fish hooks of bone, and with celts (stone axes) and stone adzes they worked with

wood. It is theorized they may have used these crude tools to hollow out logs to make a sort of dugout canoe. Another means of hollowing logs was by the use of fire.

The archaic Indians named Laurentians or Hochelagan, formerly from around Montreal and Quebec, drifted in small bands into New York State from Canada, possibly following the St. Lawrence Valley. Gradually they worked their way into western New York. At Montezuma Swamp, the foot of Cayuga Lake, and at Oneida Lake were found sites which yielded evidence of age long occupation. Unlike the Lamoka Culture, these people were stocky, with broad features. Whereas the earliest inhabitants buried their dead in a flexed position, the Laurentian was laid in extended position, or cremated, with the bones covered in a shallow grave. A body of a small child was found, a toy of stone clasped in its hand. Curled beside the remains of an infant, was a puppy, mute evidence of parental affection.

The Laurentian fished with nets, bone hooks and barbed bone harpoons. Perforated teeth of wild animals were worn as ornaments, and a decorated comb was found, made of antler. Eating utensils were also made of antler, as well, no doubt, as of wood. Points of ground slate and ground slate knives were used. Musical flutes formed of hollow bones of birds were discovered on Frontenac Island in Cayuga Lake. Similar instruments were used by the Lamokans. Carefully studying skeletons and artifacts from their diggings, archeologists have concluded the Lamokans were gradually absorbed by the Laurentians.

The Woodland Culture followed and has been divided into three periods, namely: Early, Middle and Late. Their way of life was more stable, for they developed a knowledge of agriculture to supplement their supply of food. Maize and beans were planted and grown. Not moving about as frequently, they devoted their leisure time and energy in artistic achievement. Bartering with Indians from the south, east, and west, gave them attractive and useful materials from other areas. These were wrought into knives, projectile points, cooking pots, axes, awls, and shaped into articles for personal adornment.

The Middlesex Culture, the name bestowed upon the Vine Valley site at the southeast end of Canandaigua Lake, was of the Early Woodland period. They fashioned pottery of crushed stone, which they decorated with a cord wrapped paddle. Two types of pipes were

made of stone or clay. One was of tubular shape, larger at one end than the other, with a small perforation; the other was a slightly bent elbow shape. Their dead were buried in a flexed position or cremated.

The Hopewellians, who were of a later period than the Middlesex, represent another Early Woodland culture. Found mostly in western New York, they were often referred to as the Mound Builders, because of the manner of burying their departed. Whatever the culture, as man has progressed in his way of life, he has pondered the mystery and meaning of death. Bound by ties of blood, affection and friendship, he gropes for a fitting way in which to pay his final respects. Instinct and yearning spark a belief in a Creative Power beyond his own short span of earthly existence. All that we know of the early eastern Indian here is what archeologists have interpreted from their findings and careful study, for he left no written record of his experiences.

The Hopewell Indians did not seem to follow a fixed form in their burial, as some were cremated, others were buried in a flexed position, some in extended position. Heaps of bones were also found within mounds. Often a stone vault was found within a mound, such as at Squawkie Hill, near Mt. Morris, where one of the Hopewellian leaders was interred. This advanced pre-historic culture buried many artifacts within the mounds, which provides an insight of their ability and way of life. Platform pipes, beaded ornaments, knives, broad projectile points, copper axes and cord-wrapped instruments for decorating pottery have been discovered.

The Point Peninsula Culture combined those of both the two previous mentioned cultures, as well as developing characteristic ways of their own in the Middle Woodland period. Peculiar to this culture were the cigar shaped pipes of stone and clay, bone daggers and varied harpoons, antler combs and shell beads. An outstanding wood carving tool made from a beaver's tooth with a wooden handle was found. They began to decorate their pottery with a single cord and also used a square toothed stamp for this purpose. The rims of their pottery pots, instead of being straight, were now shaped to slope outward somewhat. To the average person this may have little meaning, but the archeologist finds significance in the slightest change when comparing the development of the various cultures. The Point Peninsula Indians' burials were in a pit grave in a well defined burial ground.

The Owasco Culture in the Late Woodland era was the immediate predecessor of the Iroquois Indian. A gradual change in the cultural pattern has been noted by archeologists in this period. Although the Owascos as did the Point Peninsulans often established themselves along rivers in central New York State, they began to locate their villages atop hills, surrounded by palisades. There were marked similarities between the Owasco Culture and the Iroquoian, who followed. They were built physically alike; they both raised corn, beans and squash, storing their food in deep pits lined with bark and grass. Their artifacts and simple burials were similar. They hunted, fished, gathered nuts, wild fruits and edible plants for food. Their dishware was made of turtle shells and of wood. Deer skulls and wild turkey bones provided food utensils. Deer skins were cured and put together for wearing apparel.

It is not to be assumed that the various type Indians were found only where the sites were located for which their cultures were named. Artifacts and skeletons have been found throughout New York State, and no doubt many still lie hidden from view. Construction and road building have destroyed many sites.

When the Europeans arrived on our shores, they found the Algonquin, or Algonkian Indian, on Long Island and in the Hudson Valley.

Dwelling west of the Hudson River were the Iroquois tribes, one of which occupied the Genesee Valley. The Iroquois name, meaning "real adder," was bestowed on them by their eastern neighbors, the Algonquins. They called themselves "Ongwanohsioni," or "we longhouse builders." Their organization was truly remarkable for bands of people eking out a living in the woods, without a permanent town or city, or scribe to record their way of life. It became the task of the white man to listen to their legends and to study by various methods their cultures. Thus the early Iroquois people take their rightful place in history. It is a history shared by every locality.

Deganawidah, assisted by Hiawatha, were the legendary figures instrumental in founding the League of Five Nations, whose purpose was to unite the warring tribes into a peaceful nation. The Mohawk tribe was the first to listen and approve, though the chiefs were at first wary. After suffering various trials, the founders persuaded five Iroquois tribes living in New York State to join together. Those who didn't join were considered the enemy, to be vanquished, destroyed or absorbed. The Tuscorora tribe, who inhabited the Neuse River

area in North Carolina preceding 1700, after their expulsion migrated north. Settling among the Oneidas, they were adopted into the League, forming the sixth Nation.

About fifty chiefs met at Grand Council at Onondaga when occasion demanded to decide matters affecting the League. The number is still the same to this day. When an office of chief became vacant, it was promptly filled after careful selection. Chiefs held their exalted position for life, dependant on good behavior. They were chosen for their ability, wisdom, dignity and oratorical power. They had to possess a knowledge of their ancient faith, as well as civil duties. For five hundred years this system has not changed.

Their Confederacy was likened to the longhouse in which they dwelt. The guardians of the eastern door of the symbolic Longhouse were the Mohawks of Mohawk Valley. Their Iroquoian name was "Kanyengehaga", or "people of the flint." The "Oneyotgehagas" were the Oneidas, the "people of the standing stone." The Onondagas or Onontaga, meaning "on the mountain", were "Keepers of the Council Fire." The Cayuga or "Gayokwehonu" signifying "where they land the boats", like the Oneidas, were considered the younger brothers. They occupied the north and south walls of the League Longhouse. The Senecas, known among the Iroquois as "Onondewagaono," or "great hills people," were the "Keepers of the Western Door" of the symbolic Longhouse. The Senecas were the Indians who occupied the area west of Seneca Lake and the Genesee Valley.

The various tribes of the Iroquois were sub-divided into clans, named for animals such as the Bear, Wolf, Turtle, Deer, etc. Marriage into one's own clan was forbidden. After marriage, the couple resided in the longhouse of the new wife's family. The children born to them belonged to the mother's clan, taking their name. Marriages were sometimes arranged by the mothers of the couple involved. A good housekeeper and a good provider were considered ideal mates.

The building of a longhouse was a community project. Forked logs about ten feet high were set about five feet apart, then bound together by bark strips. Saplings were bent over to form an arbor-like roof. Poles were tied lengthwise across the roof, and bark covered the whole structure. Openings were left every twenty feet to allow smoke to escape from the fires. A woodshed at one end housed firewood. Pits were dug for refuse. After the arrival of the white man, the Iroquois built houses of logs for individual family life, with a single fireplace and stick or stone chimney. The longhouse was used for councils and various ceremonial gatherings.



Interior of a typical Iroquois longhouse, circa 1600. (Photograph courtesy of the Rochester Museum and Science Center; photograph by William G. Frank.)

The Iroquois male cleared the land for crops, and the women planted, cultivated and harvested. Maize, squash and beans were planted and were known as the supporters of life, sacred gifts of the Creator. Wild edible plants also contributed to their fare. Berries, fruits and nuts were gathered by the womenfolk. They also gathered wild herbs for medicinal purposes.

Moving to temporary camps in the woods in early spring, they tapped the maple trees for sap, to be boiled down into sugar. Later they moved on to gather wild birds eggs. Fishing parties were formed during the summer months when they fished with bone harpoons and nets. Hunting parties supplied game.

The women made pottery and clothing of deer skins, which were tanned with animal brains. Winter robes were made of various animal furs. During the summer months the men wore only a breech clout; the women a skirt, while the children wore no clothing.

Tools consisted of bone antler, awls, chisels, flint flaking tools, mat weaving needles, and hunting and fishing equipment. Bone beads, pendants and combs were fashioned. Later tools, clothing and ornaments of the pioneers were adapted, as well as cooking utensils and guns.

The Iroquois Indian was not unmindful of his Creator, as has been stated previously. Louis Henry Morgan, an ethnologist who wrote over 120 years ago, devoted a chapter of his book, *League of the Iroquois*, to the Iroquois' belief in the one Supreme Being. Although separated from the other cultures of the World, living so close to Nature, he sought and found his God. Chief Corbet Sun Down of the Tonawanda Reservation reminds us the white brother has one Thanksgiving, the Iroquois observed several. There was the Mid-Winter Ceremony, consisting of several days of thanksgiving. In the early spring, there was the Maple Sugar Festival; following soon was the Strawberry Festival. When planting time came they observed the Green Bean Festival. There was the Green Corn Festival, and thanks was given at their Harvest Festival. The sun, soil, dew, thunder, and lightning that brought rains, the moon that was their calendar – for all these things they gave thanks to the Great Creator, Giver of life. Chief Sun Down said that while the white man has Ten Commandments, the Iroquois had one hundred fifty-seven.

The coming of the European brought eventual sorrow and doom to the Iroquois Nations. New diseases and liquor wreaked havoc among them. Though they were aggressive warriors among the various Indian tribes, they were unequal to the organized warfare of the white invader, as they became caught between the French, English, and the American pioneers. Outnumbered and outfoxed, they were forced to retreat to reservations, where many chose to remain in order to preserve the identity and traditions of their people.

Much has been written of the Iroquois warrior and his conquests, but let us also remember the nobler aspects of his nature. Many of their attacks upon the early pioneers were spurred on by both the French and the British, as well as caused by injustices in their encounter with the white man.

It took centuries for the white woman to take her rightful place in our society, as well as to win the right to vote. The Indian woman of the Iroquois Nation was instrumental in choosing the chiefs. She attended the councils the chiefs held with the land speculators and was responsible for the serenity within the longhouse family.

The Iroquois was appreciative of oratory, listening for hours to the impassioned speeches of their chiefs. With eloquence they defended their rights in council with the white land seekers. It was a proud and rugged race of people that could exist as they did throughout our

long harsh winters. Their history is a part of our heritage; their young men have served side by side with the white man in armed conflict.

“I have no nation, no country, and I might say, I have no kindred. All that we loved and prized, and cherished, is yours. The land of the rushing river, the thundering cataract, and the jeweled lakes are yours. All these broad blooming fields, those wooded hills and laughing valleys are yours — yours alone. I wish I had the eloquence of ‘Red Jacket, that I might fitly speak of the wrongs and sorrows of my people. O, let your hearts be stirred with pity toward them, and when the spring violets blossom over my grave let not our memory perish with us.”

*Chief Strong
in Address on Red Jacket*

In order that we may heed this plea and include in our history evidence of early Indian occupation within the boundary of our township, the following information is given.

While working in the gravel pit on the Albert Vollmer farm on the West Henrietta Road, West Henrietta, in May 1928, skeletons of five pre-historic Iroquois individuals were found. One of the graves was excavated by staff of the Rochester Museum. It contained a flexed burial of an adult male Indian. The bottom of the grave was lined with charred bark and contained a raccoon humerus awl. Behind the head, an Iroquois pottery pipe, a trumpet type with decorated bowl, was found. Material recovered from this site is in the collections of the Rochester Museum and Science Center.

During the summer of 1934, steam shovels were removing gravel from the south side of Martin Road, one-quarter mile east of the junction of Martin and West Henrietta Road. Ten graves of pre-historic Iroquois were discovered at this time. The investigating committee of the Rochester Museum Staff included Dr. Arthur C. Parker, William A. Ritchie and Donald Ritchie. In the hand of one of the skeletons lay five bone awls. Two of the graves contained bar celts, one being the largest on record at the time from New York State. Material from this site is in the collections of the Rochester Museum and Science Center.

In April, 1950, additional material was taken about one hundred yards east-northeast of this gravel pit. Three skeletons, two males and one female, were found, as well as miscellaneous bone material. Two

pits contained layers of charcoal, apparently from fire remains that had been dumped therein.

In 1960 while Arthur Bushman was operating a bulldozer, removing fill from a low knoll on the Leland Bushman property at 633 Telephone Road, five burials of the Late Woodland Pre-Historic Iroquois were discovered. Dr. Alfred K. Guthe of the Rochester Museum and Science Center investigated. Two bone beads which were found were said to be near the skull of the largest individual. A flint fragment was also found at this spot.

An Indian village site was located on the Marvin Williams farm, later occupied by George Bean, and former home of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Polle (now owned by Rush-Henrietta Central School) on the West Henrietta Road. An Indian trail it is said crossed the Honeoye Creek north of the Indian village of Totiakton in Mendon. It ran west to an Indian village located at the present Pine Hill Cemetery in Rush then northwest to the Marvin Williams farm, where evidence of Indian occupation was frequently found.

A camp site was located just east of Sauger Creek, two miles southwest of West Henrietta, where fine arrowheads and pottery were discovered. This farm is now owned by Jasper Howlett and sons, on the West Henrietta-Scottsville Road.

Another site yielding pottery and finely chipped flints was located west of the small creek on the West Henrietta Road, just north of the bend in the road.

Evidence of camp sites was discovered on Red Creek west of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Station. Further evidence of occupation extended down the creek to Mortimer.

One and one-quarter miles southwest of the Erie Railroad Station in West Henrietta, northeast of Martin Road at the junction of two small brooks, remains of another Indian camp site were noted and recorded.

A burial site in a sand pit one hundred fifty feet north of the Rush town line in Henrietta, 200 feet from the Genesee River, was discovered. A skull and kettle were plowed up a couple of hundred feet east of these. Indian skeletons were exposed on the line of the Erie Railroad, 200 feet north of the Rush town line, West Henrietta.

Indian artifacts have been plowed up at other farms in Henrietta from time to time. The Roberts collection, given to the Henrietta archives by a member of the family, the late Mrs. James Woodruff, contains projectile points dating back to the Early Archaic period, 3500 B.C.

It was not uncommon for the Henrietta pioneer families to encounter Seneca Indians passing through the thick woods on a hunting and fishing trip. In the January, 1881 issue of *The Informer*, printed in Henrietta by Fred Strassenburgh, Charles Tompkins told a revealing story. He recalled the anecdotes told by Mrs. Jacob (Harriet) Fargo, daughter of Joel Scudder, pioneer. Indians frequently dropped in at the Scudder home. During the War of 1812, settlers were fearful of an Indian uprising. A noted Chief however, assured Mr. Scudder he would protect his family if the "hatchet was unearthed."

The bard of Avon, William M. C. Hosmer, in the last century, began "Yonnondio" with the following lines:

*"Realm of the Senecas! No more
In shadow lies the Pleasant Vale;
Gone are the Chiefs who ruled of yore,
Like chaff before the rushing gale.
Their rivers run with narrowed bounds,
Cleared are their broad, old hunting-grounds,
And on their ancient battle-fields
The greensward to the ploughman yields;
Like mocking echoes of the hill
Their fame resounded and grew still,
And on green ridge and level plain
Their hearths will never smoke again."*

BEARERS OF THE CROSS AND THE SWORD

The outline of the crucifix cast its faint shadow over the Genesee lands four hundred forty years ago when Jacques Cartier, under command of Francis I in 1535, explored the St. Lawrence River. At this period he learned of a river that flowed into one of the Great Lakes, after following its course through Iroquois territory.

Etienne Brule was a sixteen year old lad who accompanied Samuel de Champlain to America in 1609. Although illiterate, he possessed qualities which well fitted him for the life he was to pursue. Without fear, indured to hardship and fatigue, he travelled with the Hurons when Champlain returned to France for a short time.

Called the "pioneer of pioneers" by Frances Parkman, in 1615 accompanied by Huron warriors, Brule paddled his canoe into Lake Ontario. He was the first white man to view this large inland body of water. It is not actually known where he crossed the Genesee on this first exploration trip. They finally met a party of six Indians of the Seneca tribe, of whom four were killed and two captured to be tortured by the Hurons.

The following spring Brule himself on a return trip, separated from his party, was captured and tortured. Attempting to snatch the crucifix he wore about his neck on a thong, an Indian was warned by Brule of the calamity which would fall upon him and his people if he took this medal and killed his captive. At this instant a terrifying flash of lightning split the skies, followed by the deafening roar of thunder. The frightened Senecas scattered to their shelter, leaving Brule lying helpless in the downpour. The rain put out the fires of the torches and cooled his burning flesh. After the storm abated, the chief loosened Brule's bonds and took him to his cabin. He remained long enough to partially recover from his injuries, when he returned to the French village.

Permanent settlement was not a part of the French plans. They sought the fur trade and the profits derived to help finance New France.

Next on the scene of the white man's penetration of the Genesee Country, were the robed and hooded Jesuit missionaries. Filled with religious fervor, their ardor to convert the Senecas to Christianity knew no bounds. Brave and selfless, they persevered throughout

great hardship. Four missions were established here abouts. St. Jacques on Boughton Hill near present day Victor, then known as Gannagaro; St. Michel's was located two and one-half miles south of Boughton Hill at Gandagourae. LaConception ministered to the Senecas at Totiakton, near Honeoye Falls and St. Jean's at Gandachiragou, between Honeoye Falls and Lima.

This was in 1667, when Father Jacques Fremin, assisted by Father Julian Garnier and Father Pierre Ratteix, labored at Totiakton. These former sites have yielded much evidence of the work of these men of the Church. Black cassock buttons, rings and crucifixes were found. A lovely silver chalice was found at Totiakton.

The Jesuits went without question to their assigned destination, there to keep in minute detail a daily record of their life among the Senecas. These records were sent to Quebec, and from there to the main Order at Paris. When finally translated into English, the Jesuit Relations filled some seventy volumes, in which students of history were delighted.

I heard my father say, when I was a small child: "If Irondequoit Bay could talk, it would tell us many an interesting tale." Other than a few trees cut for firewood and drawn up an old log road by stone boat, the forest bordering the west side of the bay had not been too thinned. Along the "Hogs Back" trailing arbutus climbed. Later, lillies, jack-in-the-pulpit, and the more delicate and fragrant violets grew in large patches in the shade. In the fall the tall hickory and chestnut trees yielded bountiful crops. If one were rowing on the bay, one could reach over to pull up dripping water lilies. If sixty years ago Nature lovers found it captivating, how much more lovely must it have appeared in 1669?

For it was in August, 1669, that a fleet of canoes glided into the bay. Wooded slopes met the eyes of the occupants of the birch bark canoes; silence fell upon straining ears. This party of thirty-four men was headed by a young Frenchman, Robert Cavelier, sieur de la Salle. Two of his group were Sulpitian priests; Rene de Galinee and Francois de Casson.

Some men are born to seek far horizons and of such was LaSalle. Enrolled in the Jesuit order as a youth, he found the harsh rigorous training of that period far too confining for his restless independent spirit. He withdrew, to strike out on a daring adventure that was not to end until his death.

He lived for three years in New France near Montreal. During this time he listened to tales related to him by Indians which fired his imagination. A rich country they said, lay far to the west, wherein flowed a wide river which emptied into a warm gentle sea. He would find this land and the great river!

He knew of a certainty of the land of the Senecas and of the river that wound up from the south to mingle its waters in that of Lake Ontario. He was aware of the Jesuit missions established among the Senecas. He set forth, seeking as his eventual goal the Ohio River.

Did he land south of Float Bridge at the Ox-Bow, a favorite Seneca meeting place? Fearlessly he came in peace, and Galinee records a hospitable welcome accorded them by the Senecas. They bore gifts of fruits, corn and pumpkins. The Frenchmen gave them in return knives, awls, needles and glass beads. The next day LaSalle headed for the main village of the Senecas, accompanied by the Indians. The best cabin in Totiakton was offered them for their use. The following day approximately fifty chiefs met, lit their pipes and pondered the reason for this visitation. Father Fremin was absent, having left the day before to attend a conference at Onondaga.

LaSalle spent eight days with the Senecas, during which time poor Galinee found it difficult to eat the provisions set before him. His fastidious nature rebelled at hairy dog meat served in greasy dishware. He mentions a visit he and LaSalle made to Burning Springs in the Bristol Valley, which they found puzzling. The Senecas refused to provide a guide for LaSalle. Finally an Indian of another tribe arrived from the east and shared their cabin. He offered to guide them to his village. He said they would have no difficulty obtaining a guide there to lead them to the Ohio River. Thus ended the visit of LaSalle with the Senecas.

Another Frenchman paid a visit to the Genesee Country, via Irondequoit Bay, seventeen years later. He came not in peace, but armed for battle with the Seneca Indians. Many factions were involved which made governing New France difficult. As Governor, Count Frontenac faced many problems. European wars carried over to the new world, with the added hazard of dealing with a primitive people whose lands were being wrested from them. Count Frontenac felt he was hindered by the Jesuits, who frowned on his plans for a theatre and dances to bring cheer into the long northern winters. They cautioned him about giving the Indians brandy, which made them uncontrollable. The Governor wished control and settlement

by New France; the Jesuits task was to Christianize and civilize the natives. Count Frontenac was recalled by Louis XIV and replaced by DelaBarre, who had won a victory over the English in the West Indies. He proved wholly inadequate in dealing with the Iroquois, at the same time trying to keep his overly eager hands on large fur shipments. Nor was he successful in combating famine, disease and lack of motivation in his men in Indian warfare.

Louis XIV faced a problem: whom to put in charge of the interests of France in Canada! Another military man who had excelled in handling his cavalry unit in Austria came to mind. He bestowed the title of Marquis deDenonville upon Jacques-Rene de Brissay, born in 1638 in the town of Denonville, and appointed him Governor of New France. Filled with ambition and plans, he embarked in June, 1685 for Canada with his wife and two daughters.

Although the French and English Governors feigned friendship at first, it was of short duration. Denonville objected to the English harboring French deserters and outlaws who became valuable guides to the English of New York. The English Governor, Dongan, protested the plans of a French Fort at Niagara. Denonville sought permission of his King to execute any civilians who joined the English and did so at the first opportunity.

Denonville quietly prepared for an attack on the Senecas in western New York. Two hundred flat boats carrying over a ton apiece were readied. Heavily laden canoes forged ahead from Quebec to Kingston. The militia took a dim view of the planned attack for they were home loving men. Only when the Church upheld it as a crusade against the powers of Satan in the New World, did they grudgingly begin preparations.

On a June morning in 1687, they started out from Quebec, an army of nine hundred thirty militia and eight hundred thirty-two troops from France. More militia were added in Montreal, where they trained under Denonville's direction. Two hundred Mohawks living nearby joined them. Flat boats, batteaux and canoes again sailed forth. The rapids slowed and threatened their craft, wrecking two of the large boats. At times they had to carry the supplies on shore, dragging the large boats by hand.

Any stray Iroquois encountered were taken prisoners. The plan was to send the women and children back to the missions in Quebec

and the men captives to France to work as slaves in the galleys. The Frenchmen sent west during the past winter to recruit Indian allies to join in the attack, sent a messenger to the main flotilla as they reached Lake Ontario. A message was sent back to Niagara, directing them to meet Denonville at Irondequoit Bay at noon of July 10th. As they approached Irondequoit Bay, they saw the canoes and batteaux arriving from Niagara to join them. The Miamis preferred to travel along the shoreline. Though the Senecas had learned of the approaching French Army from the Onondagas and had watchers stationed on the hilltop, they remained hidden as Denonville and his forces landed. Only the Miamis, walking the shoreline, had seen them as they fled.

Despite setbacks, forging the river at the rapids, layovers due to winds and rains on Lake Ontario, this unusual assemblage of crafts and warriors arrived at their destination in a little short of a month. The next day while construction was begun on a stockaded fort, and thousands of loaves of bread were being baked, Denonville carried out a nasty execution. Marion, a Frenchman formerly denied permission to trade by the French, had been captured with English traders in the west. Given absolution by the priest who walked with him to the beach, he knelt down and was killed by a swift blow from a war club.

Two days from the time of their arrival, when the fort was completed, the battle line was formed. Militia in buckskin and homespun alternated with the regulars in olive green. The Indian allies in their warpaint assembled in tribal groups. There has long been a dispute as to which side of the bay they followed. Recently, maps have been found in France that stated they chose the west side of the bay. Their object was Gannagaro, a large Seneca village on Boughton Hill near present day Victor. Travelling about seven and one-half miles the first afternoon, they made camp. At dawn they pushed forward. The Indians wanted to stop as they were accustomed to "boil their pots" but were denied the privilege.

In Gannagaro, the warriors of the Seneca Tribe held a council as to their course of defense. The English Governor had warned them of the impending war, but he did not send aid. Runners carried the alarm to other Iroquois tribes, but as yet no help from that quarter had arrived. They were alone at this critical hour. Some of their warriors were away from the village. They sang, danced, applied war paint and worked themselves to a fevered pitch of excitement. A look-out scout bounded into their midst, warning of the long line of

armed warriors about to descend on their village. It is said some fled towards Honeoye, others to Canandaigua. Later three hundred returned to back the braves who chose to defend themselves and their village. Under the chief's command they reluctantly held back to listen to his plans. Divided in half, one group hid in the swamp, the other beside the trail with some of the women joining their men. The Senecas had the disadvantage in not knowing which of their villages would be the first in line of attack.

Denonville's scouts reported Seneca women working in the fields, but that the warriors could not be seen. He was not misled by the women stationed in the field. He gathered his forces and sent the Indian allies down the ravine. Reaching the bottom of the slope, they pushed through thick underbrush, when shots rang out as the Senecas attacked. On this humid July day, the silence of the wilderness surrounding Gannagaro was shattered with the wild shrieks of the Indian warriors and the roar of firearms. Veterans, watching in horror the naked, painted, howling Senecas descend upon them with swinging tomahawks, flung themselves to the ground in self-protection. The Ottawas, not noted for bravery, fled in unison. Those who faced the onslaught, fought hand to hand for their lives. The hillsides echoed the war cries of the enraged Senecas. The very trees seemed to tremble, and many a seasoned soldier's heart grew faint within his breast. The Mohawks stood their ground, for they also were noted fighters. In the mingling of the Indians, some allies were shot by the French in the dense smoke that permeated the battleground. Father Engelran, who wore his staunch faith as a shield, like some black robed angel, administered to the injured and dying, red and white alike. Finally he too fell with a bullet wound.

Dugay, aid-de-camp to Denonville, rallied Montreal militia and retreating Indians to back their ambushed fighting allies. As unexpected as the onslaught began, as swiftly it ceased. The Senecas gathered up their wounded brothers, brushed swiftly past the bewildered French and disappeared among the trees. Had the Senecas kept up their ferocious attack and had they been fortified by other Iroquois tribes, Denonville and his men would surely have met their doom. The Indians were more used to fighting in the thick woods than the French. Denonville had marched in his underwear because of the heat, but was none the less Commander. He drew his sword and ordered his remaining men to form. Somehow his courage was imparted to them as the call of trumpets and the beat of drums brought order out of chaos. His Indian allies wished to pursue the

fleeing Senecas. Denonville's men were exhausted from their long hot march over rugged terrain and from the battle. The army now sought a place near a good supply of water to pitch camp. The Indians carried on their revelry into the darkness of nightfall, when a summer storm put an end to it, to the French soldiers relief.

Denonville seemed to have minimized his losses in his official report. One reliable report stated ten Indians and one hundred Frenchmen died, with a score wounded.

Without further interruption from the Senecas, Denonville and his men moved from Gannagaro, to Gandougarae, now near Wheeler Station Road off Route 5 and 20, east of Route 64. From there they moved to Totiakton near Honeoye Falls. Although the Senecas had themselves set fire to Gannagaro, Denonville and his men destroyed whatever was left, including the crops. Finding pigs here, they roasted them, together with green corn, whereupon dysentery broke out among the men. At each successive Indian village they repeated their destruction. Denonville, a ruthless white commander, found the Indians possessed their own set of values and code of honor. They looked with dark disapproval on the destruction of food crops, given them by the Great Spirit. They would have no part of this as warriors. Denonville must have had his anxieties about the fort they left behind and his injured men. He wished to send them back to the fort, but the Indians refused to act as guides. They expressed their amazement that the Frenchmen never stopped to bury their dead, leaving them lay as they dropped.

At Totiakton, over one hundred longhouses, 30' x 50', were burned to the ground. The Seneca village south of Honeoye Falls was demolished, its food supplies wiped out. The Indian allies spread out, intent on their own separate warfare.

Denonville, dogged by bad weather, with many of the Indian allies heading homeward, began the return march to the fort, carrying the injured on litters. Unknown to him a large force of Iroquois was gathering at Canandaigua. His army camped overnight at Mendon Ponds, and on the 24th of July they reached the fort, two weeks from the time of arrival. For two days they rested, due to the exhaustion and illness of the men. One of the ships carried the injured, including the priest, and the most seriously ill, towards Kingston. Most of the Indian allies paddled off by themselves, despite the fuming Denonville. Still free as the wind, no white man could dictate to them for long; the battle was over.

As for the Senecas, they gazed in bitterness over the lake as the boats disappeared in the west. The burned sites of their former habitation were forsaken, and they proceeded to build new villages in more favorable locations.

*“The Father above thought fit to give
The white man corn and wine;
There are golden fields where he may live,
But the forest shades are mine.”*

Eliza Cook

The short sightedness of Denonville in his attack upon the Senecas was not in favor of the long range interests of New France, for the Indians leaned toward the English thereafter.

The last invading army to wind its way from Seneca village to village, reducing them to smouldering embers and destroying crops, was Sullivan's Army in 1779. With Washington's approval, the newly established Country chose this way to subdue the natives who had posed such a threat to pioneer settling. The Six Nations had been divided in their loyalties during the Revolution. The Mohawks sided with the King's men, as did the Cayugas and Senecas. The Oneidas backed the Americans, while the Tuscaroras and Onondagas remained as a whole neutral, though many of their warriors fought on the patriot side.

As Sullivan's men carried out their task of wiping out the villages of the Iroquois, they passed through the fertile valleys where "grass grew taller than a man's head on horseback." They saw the blue waters of the many lovely lakes, sparkling in the sun, and noted the heavily wooded hills surrounding them. The Senecas' crops were bountiful; their orchards, though not cultivated as today, thriving. The stony, worked out lands of interior New England suffered by comparison. They carried their memories of the Genesee Valley with them when they returned to their New England homes. The wilderness presented a challenge to the pioneer spirit of these men, exciting their interest and new hope for their future.

LAND SPECULATION

The war drew to a close with its attendant loss of life and hardships. The Indians were no longer a threat to pioneer settling. Land claims in western New York by both New York State and Massachusetts were based on Royal Charters. King Charles II granted the Duke of York lands reaching to the Pacific. The Indian claim came first of all, recognized by New Netherlands in 1618, who advised their colonists to pay the red men for their lands. New France laid claim to western New York for well over a century and a half. Both the Dutch and French claims were extinguished by English conquests. Land extending beyond the present western borders of the State were ceded to the United States Government by both New York State and Massachusetts.

They resolved to attempt to compromise, calling a conference at Hartford, Connecticut, November 1786. Massachusetts was granted the right to dispose of the lands, and New York State was granted jurisdiction.

The Hartford Treaty's negotiations were hardly concluded before speculators, eager to invest in this great stretch of forested land, were pressing their bids. A group of men, headed by Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, were the purchasers. Other members of this group were Robert Morris of Philadelphia, William Wadsworth and his cousin Jeremiah of Connecticut, Israel Chapin, William Walker and Judge James Sullivan. The latter had represented the interests of Massachusetts in the recent treaty.

Oliver Phelps of Granville, Massachusetts, was a native of Connecticut. He had been superintendent of purchasing of supplies during the Revolution. Later he held a number of political offices. Nathaniel Gorham, born in Massachusetts and now residing in Charlestown, also had filled several political offices after the war's termination. Although at first they had entertained plans of making individual land purchases, they felt it the wiser course to pool their interests, joined by the parties mentioned above. They purchased the whole 6,000,000 acres for about 300,000 pounds or about \$175,000, in Massachusetts currency, to be paid in three installments. This amounted to about three cents an acre. Fulfilling a requisite of the Hartford conference, they proceeded to clear the Indian title.

In May, 1788, their representatives arrived at Kanadesaga (Geneva) to arrange for a treaty with the Iroquois. They found them already in council with men representing the "The Lessee Company." This group had attempted to thwart the efforts of the Hartford Treaty. Composed of well-known men in political and social circles in New York, they had actually obtained a lease from the Six Nations for 999 years for all their lands in New York State for a paltry sum per year. Upon presenting the petition however to the Legislature later, it was rejected. Massachusetts also refused to recognize the legality of the lease. In view of their harrassment of the State with various actions, it is hard to understand why New York State settled a tract of land ten miles square in the Military Tract on members of this company.

In July of 1788, the Indians met with Mr. Phelps at Buffalo Creek, to discuss transferring title of their lands. When Mr. Phelps made known he was desirous of obtaining land west of the Genesee River, Red Jacket was eloquent in protesting such action. He said the Great Spirit had made the river the dividing line between the red man and the white; that he meant the land west of the Genesee River to be theirs forever. Seeing the Indians were not easily moved at this point, Mr. Phelps said he wished to build a mill for the benefit of the settlers at the Genesee Falls (now Rochester) and that the Indians would also benefit by using it. Reluctantly they agreed, no doubt thinking he would not need much acreage for just a saw and grist mill. They were astounded when it turned out to be a strip twelve miles wide and twenty-eight miles long, or about 200,000 acres. Having given their word, they held to their promise. In this they were more honest by far than the men who took such glaring advantage. The deed of surrender was signed by Red Jacket, Little Beard, Farmer's Brother and Joseph Brant, as well as containing the signatures of Cayugas, Mohawks, Onondagas, including seven squaws.

In Canandaigua in 1789, the Indians expressed their resentment at the handling of this whole affair. They felt they received only half of what they were led to believe they would be paid, for they thought it would be \$10,000. Timothy Pickering, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, met with them later and Cornplanter, accompanied by Seneca chiefs, went to Philadelphia after meeting with Pickering. There they discussed the situation with no less person than George Washington. Oliver Phelps produced affidavits to show that \$5,000 was the sum agreed upon, with an annuity of \$500. Whatever the situation at Buffalo Creek, this was all they ever received. Possibly by

smooth talking, he might have given the impression they would receive more. Perhaps under the influence of gifts and liquor they may not have realized how much they were sacrificing for this inadequate sum of money, for obviously they did not have the same conception of money the white man had. At any rate, it didn't hinder the purchasers any in going ahead in their plans. They conducted a land survey and opened up a land office in Canandaigua, the first of its kind in the United States. The original organization did not stay together after the fore part of 1789. They divided the lands amongst themselves; the largest tract being held by Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham.

Phelps and Gorham then found themselves faced with financial difficulties. The National Government assumed the states' war debts, and the value of Massachusetts currency nearly doubled in value. Land payments were delayed as Phelps and Gorham were forced by this turn of events to return all lands for which the Indian title had not been extinguished. In 1791 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts received the western lands and made a fair adjustment in the price of the land east of the Genesee River. In order to extricate themselves from debt, Phelps and Gorham were forced to sell the rest of the unsold land they held, with the exception of two townships, which they kept for themselves. Forty-eight townships had been sold previously.

Robert Morris, former Secretary of the Treasury during the Revolutionary War, was the purchaser. He had distinguished himself in that office during very trying times. Washington had found himself with a poorly clothed, poorly fed, penniless army. Robert Morris won capitalists of other countries to loan large sums of money largely through their trust in him. He also advanced money of his own to help win the war.

In purchasing Genesee Country land, he became possessor of about 1,300,000 acres of land for which he paid \$75,000, which amounted to approximately eight cents an acre. Mr. Morris had the land resurveyed, immediately recognizing discrepancies in the original survey. The pre-emption line was straightened on the east, which previously had eliminated thousands of acres of land belonging to the purchase. The western border survey had been equally erroneous, including lands that had never been purchased or sold. The so-called Triangle Tract was restored to the Indians.

ENGLISH INVESTORS

In the fall of 1790, Robert Morris sent his agent, William Temple Franklin, grandson of Benjamin Franklin, to England to interest purchasers in his American lands. Born and educated in London, trained in diplomatic matters by his sage grandfather for nearly a decade, Franklin felt he was well qualified for his present task. Carrying pamphlets describing the lands of western New York State, he drew the interest of William Johnstone Pulteney, a wealthy capitalist and friend, William Hornby, ex-Governor of Bombay, India, now retired, and Patrick Colquhoun. If it seems strange at first thought that lands in New York State should be purchased by Englishmen, we must realize our Country was in its infancy, and money was scarce. Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of Treasury, hoped to promote diplomatic relations with Great Britain and circulation of foreign capital within our borders.

Patrick Colquhoun had worked as a young man in Virginia and founded the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce in Scotland upon his return to the British Isles.

Sir William Johnstone Pulteney was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland. A lawyer and member of Parliament, he married the heir of the Earl of Bath. This brought him wealth and title. He possessed a faith in young America's development, which he followed with continued interest, occasionally making investments in American bank stock. He decided in February of 1791, in favor of the purchase of the Genesee lands. With William Hornby present, documents were prepared with Patrick Colquhoun as chief negotiator. The final agreement was to pay 75,000 lbs. or about \$275,000, amounting to twenty-six cents an acre, which afforded Robert Morris a fair profit. William Franklin informed the London capitalists that Robert Morris was to receive the money at once, but negotiations dragged through March and April. For one thing, a suitable agent had to be found to represent the London Associates in western New York. The laws of New York State prohibited foreigners from owning land therein. Relations in the meantime were gradually improving between United States and England, with the latter sending their first minister to the new Country.

Sir William Pulteney's share in the land enterprise was nine-twelfths, Hornby's two-twelfths and Patrick Colquhoun's one-twelfth, a reward of his efforts as negotiator.

The canny Scotsman, Colquhoun, had a clause inserted in the agreement to include one-fifteenth of the net profit of the Association to be shared by himself, Morris and Templeton. The two latter, however, withdrew their names and took an immediate settlement in regard to this clause. Colquhoun also introduced a man qualified to act as their American agent, Charles Williamson, another Scotsman. Patrick Colquhoun drove another sharp bargain with Williamson, who agreed to finance moving his family to their American destination, when he was to receive 2-1/2 percent commission, which was not overly generous. One's sympathies are inclined to be with Williamson, whose dreams and efforts were never wholly fulfilled. The Williamson family boarded the sailboat "Robinson" on July 8, 1791, which sprung a leak, waylaying them a month. They never put foot on shore at Norfolk until November 9th, seventeen weeks after boarding. This proved a costly trip, both financially and in the family's health. Eventually the Williamsons settled in their wilderness home in Bath, New York.

The young Franklin also found he was dealing with shrewd investors; however they agreed to make substantial payments in 1792 and 1793 to Robert Morris.

In western New York, 1791 was the year the first settler arrived in Township XII, Range VII, of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase, which was to become Henrietta. Ezekiel Scott made a clearing of about three acres on his nine hundred acres of land, in the southwestern part of the township. This tract was purchased directly from Oliver Phelps for 200 lbs., according to old records of deeds, on November 1, 1790.

Old histories give his name as Major Isaac Scott, but this is erroneous. The name appearing on the deed is Ezekiel and Catherine Scott. Former histories also state Mr. Scott received a land grant. According to the recorded deed, this is not so in regard to his Henrietta property. Military grants were not given west of Seneca Lake. Federal land grants were not given in New York State at the time.

Ezekiel Scott, the son of Hezekiah, was born November 12, 1734 in Farmington, Connecticut. He married Catherine Mills of Wallingford on June 23, 1763. They were the parents of four girls and five boys. Ezekiel served in the Revolution in three different campaigns and regiments from 1775 until 1780. In 1784 he joined the Connecticut Cincinnati Society, being listed as a Major, for which

he received a pension. His signature appeared as one of the witnesses to the Indians' signature on the Lessee's contract. Inasmuch as the pound was worth about \$4.50, and Major Scott paid 200 lbs. for nine hundred acres, it is possible Mr. Phelps made an allowance on the purchase price for some service rendered the agency. Lands were granted by Phelps and Gorham to a few men for helping clear the Indian title, for instance. Mr. Scott owned other lands at one time in New York State, as did his sons. The name LeVan, which appeared on an early Henrietta map, was the name of Scott's eldest grand-daughter, Sarah Scott LeVan, to whom he gave thirty-five acres of land.

Major Scott occupied his log house near the Genesee only two or three years, when due to illness they moved away. His tract of land was sold to John Wadsworth by 1800. Major Scott died intestate in Avon in 1803. His wife Catherine died there also in 1812. Although to date their graves haven't been located, a son George is buried in the Littleville Cemetery (South Avon), a small hidden hilltop site. Ezekiel Jr. also died in Avon, New York.



Henrietta Laura, Countess of Bath, for whom Henrietta is named.

Sir William Johnstone Pulteney passed away in Great Britain in 1805. His daughter, Henrietta Laura, Countess of Bath, for whom Henrietta is named, died in 1808. They were laid to rest in

Westminster Abbey. The following is a copy of the entry in *The Complete Peerage*, Vol. 11, pages 27-28, of England. Following this is an article appearing in the "Gentlemen's Magazine" of 1808, published in England after the Countess' death. Where dates given conflict, it would be wise to rely upon the Peerage account.

COPIED FROM "THE COMPLETE PEERAGE"

BARONY.

1. 1792.

EARLDOOM

XI. 1803 to 1808

1. **HENRIETTA LAURA PULTENEY** (formerly **JOHNSTONE**), spinster, only da. and h. of **WILLIAM PULTENEY** (formerly **JOHNSTONE**), afterwards (1794) Sir **WILLIAM P.**, Bart. (S.), by Frances, daughter and eventually sole heir of Daniel **PULTENEY** (who was son and heir of John P., next brother to William P., the father of William Pulteney, cr., in 1742, Earl of Bath, as aforesaid.), was born 26 December 1766, and baptized 29 January 1767, at St. James's Westminster. Having succeeded her mother on first of June 1782, in the Pulteney estates, she was cr., 26 July 1792, **BARONESS OF BATH**, Somerset, with rem. of that Barony to the heirs male of her body, and, on 26 October 1803, was Cr. **COUNTESS OF BATH**, Somerset, with a similar rem. of that Earldom. She married (spec. lic. at Fac. off.), 24 July 1794 at Bath House, Piccadilly, St. George, Han. Sq., her cousin, Gen. the Rt. Hon. Sir James Murray, afterwards **MURRAY-PULTENEY**, Bart. (S.), Col. of the 18th Foot, sometime Secretary at War, who on his marriage (when he was aged 30 and upwards and a bachelor) assumed the additional surname of Pulteney. The Countess died s.p., at Brighton 14, and was buried 28 July, 1808, from her house in Piccadilly, in the South Cloister of Westminster Abbey, aged 41, when her Peerages became extinct. Will probated Aug. 1808. Her husband enjoyed for life the vast Pulteney estates (about L. 50,000 a year), and died from an accident, 26 April 1811, at Buckenham, Norfolk. Will prob. 1811.

COPIED FROM "GENTLEMAN'S MAGAGINE", 1808

from Municipal Libraries

& Victoria Art Gallery, Bath, England
17-7-1965.

Peter Pagan, Director

to E.C. Kalsbeck, Henrietta

"At her house at Brightelmstone, Henrietta-Laura Pulteney,

Countess of Bath in her own right, and wife of Sir James Murray Pulteney, bart, the present secretary at war. She appeared to have had a presentiment of her approaching dissolution, from the following words which she uttered to her attendant soon after taking some refreshment: 'Mary, I am better today, and I shall not give you much trouble tomorrow; but watch constantly by me to-day, Mary; for to me it will be a day of great consequence.' Her Ladyship was the last representative of William Pulteney, Earl of Bath; and dying without issue, her title becomes extinct. On the death of her father, Sir William Pulteney, without a will, Lady Bath paid the sum of 6000 L. stamped-duties, for letters of administration, his property having exceeded 500,000 L. and that being the largest duty on any sum. Her remains were removed, on the 23rd, from her house in Piccadilly to Westminster Abbey, for interment. At one o'clock the procession moved in the following order:

Two porters on horseback.

Eight horsemen.

Two porters on horseback.

State lid of feathers, with black velvet drapery and heraldry.

A man on horseback, bearing a velvet cushion, with a coronet.

The state-coach, with six horses, decorated with coronets and escocheons.

The Hearse, drawn by six horses, covered with fine black plumes and adorned with rich black fringed draperies.

Fourteen mourning coaches and six; in the first were, as chief mourners, Sir John Johnstone and Mr. Murray. In the other carriages were the Earls of Darlington and Stair; Lords Kinnaird and Sidmouth; Sir David Wedderburne; Colonel Molesworth; Doctor Dyer; Messrs. Hall, Johnstone, G. Ferguson, Jones, Alexander, Adams, James, Morland, Herries, Cockrell, Hammersley, Bailey, Mason, and Sundies, after which followed, Nineteen private carriages, each with two servants, with black silk hatbands and black gloves; amongst them were those of the Countess of Bath, Sir James Pulteney, Lady William Pulteney, Sir David Wedderburne; the Earls of Darlington and Stair; Lord Kinnaird; and several carriages of the gentlemen who attended.

At two o'clock, the coffin was lowered into the new vault, close to the late Sir William Pulteney, in the West Cloisters."

THE LATE COUNTESS OF BATH

"Her Ladyship had many peculiarities and eccentricities, which, when they were the subjects of conversation, were not lessened by those who reported them, nor mitigated by any gentleness of terms in those who heard them. She associated very little with persons of her own rank, so that among them she had but few advocates. There was certainly something in her education peculiarly unsuitable to her rank, at least in its minor parts. By the early death of her mother, she was left almost entirely to the superintendance of her father, who, though he was allowed to possess good, if not superior abilities, and sound judgment, had a reserve and sternness, in his character which did not qualify him for the education of a young lady. Some of her peculiarities were probably derived from this source, as there was a shyness and reserve in her manner which made it difficult to be on terms of freedom with her; and she had no opportunity of acquiring what are called the ornamental parts of education. Nor was her manner altogether suitable to her rank, not being embellished with those interesting and engaging qualities which are seen and felt by everyone who has an opportunity of conversing with persons of distinction, in whom good sense is happily blended with polished manners. She gained, however, much useful knowledge, and in those affairs which may be called business, she was considered as expert, and was certainly persevering when she did apply to them. Perhaps those who attended her, unwilling to run the risk of offending, studied more to please and to indulge, than to instruct her, and in early life she was left much to her own will. It is true, that some who were placed about her were both capable and desirous of doing their duty, but unfortunately this was not till her habits had taken too deep root to be altered. Of her peculiarities she was herself very sensible, and more than once observed, that she believed people thought her very odd, and sometimes used a harsher term. In the dispensation of a portion of her large fortune, she showed much judgment, and was careful not to be imposed upon by misrepresentations. Those who paid her attention, or from whom she received any service, she rewarded with liberality. There never was occasion to use anything like adulation with her, though she knew what was due to herself. Many were the occasions on which her benevolence was displayed, both in a pecuniary way and when personal exertions, extremely disagreeable to her, were required. These objects of her kindness were not always blameless; but she would not desert them, till by a repetition of some offense they had

forfeited her favour. She was truly religious herself, and never countenanced those who slighted or neglected the duties of religion. In a word, whatever disadvantages resulted from the errors of her education, were essentially corrected by her religious principles. To dress she never paid much attention, and was often censurably neglectful in that particular. Her conversation was unaffected, but sensible, and always perfectly correct. The Right Hon. Henrietta Laura Pulteney Countess of Bath, Viscountess Pulteney and Baroness of Hayden, in her own right, was married in 1794 to Sir James Murray, now Sir James Pulteney, by whom she had no issue. Her Ladyship died on the 14th of July, 1808. She has left to Sir James Pulteney the income, for his life, of all her personal property, amounting to near six hundred thousand pounds. After his decease this immense property is bequeathed to her cousin, who was the wife of the Reverend Mr. Markham, son to the late Archbishop of York. That lady, the daughter of Sir Richard Sutton, was divorced some years ago from her husband, and lived, during several years, principally under Lady Bath's protection. The fortune is to descend to her children by Rev. Markham. Sir John Johnston, the Earl of Darlington, and Sir R. Sutton, all inherit very considerable estates. Her Ladyship's remains were interred in the west cloisters of Westminster Abbey, close to those of her father, the late Sir William Pulteney."

See page 356 for armorial bearings of Henrietta Laura, Countess of Bath.

**Courtesy: Municipal Libraries and Victoria Art Gallery, Bath, England.*

DUTCH PROPRIETORS AND THEIR AMERICAN AGENT

A deed recorded in the Ontario County Clerk's office in 1794, revealed a purchase of "one equal undivided third part of" Township XII, Range VII (Henrietta), between Charles Williamson of Bath, New York, (the London Associates' agent) and James Wadsworth of Geneseo, the purchaser. "In consideration of the sum of five thousand six hundred and fifty-six pounds, sixteen shillings lawful money of the State of New York." This was the price for an estimated 7,070 acres and 150 perches, "more or less." At this time two hundred acres of equal value with the average was to be granted for the support of religion and schools, and not to be included in the sale.

A second deed recorded in Ontario County in 1799, revealed a land transaction between Charles Williamson of the first part, and Abigail his wife, of Bath, New York, and Thomas Morris and James Wadsworth of the second part, for the sum of four thousand pounds for ten thousand acres in Township XII, Range VII.

A deed recorded in the Office of The Secretary of State, dated March 12, 1799, shows that James Wadsworth of Geneseo purchased 11,412 acres from Charles Williamson of Bath, for \$5,000. (dollars). In every other instance the amounts paid are recorded in pounds. Was this instance an error in recording? The Colonial pound was worth \$2.50 in New York State. Later, from 1789 to 1834 the United States pound was worth \$4.566.

James Wadsworth of Geneseo sailed to Europe in 1796 to acquaint himself with land investors and to secure agencies for himself. Born in Connecticut in 1768, he was a graduate of Yale College and had taught school in Montreal for a few years. His cousin, Jeremiah Wadsworth, interested James and his brother William in lands in the Genesee Valley. William's energies were directed toward the land itself and its cultivation, whereas James was to spend forty years in its sales promotion. He was recommended by Robert Morris to his English business associates. While in Europe he received a contract of Dr. Willem Six, statesman and capitalist of The Netherlands, and two associates, to secure lands and represent them as the agent. Thus lands of Township XII, Range VII (Henrietta), of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase, became the possession of Dr. Willem Six, Peter DeSmeth and John Samuel Coudere of Amsterdam, Holland. Because of a law prohibiting foreigners from owning lands in New York State, the title was to be invested in the name of the agent. In 1798

however, the New York State Assembly passed an "Alien Land Holding Act", enabling foreign investors to hold title to purchased lands. This act was for three years, but was renewed from session to session.

According to the contract between the Holland proprietor and the agent, the latter was to secure lands in the Genesee Country "at the least possible price." This Mr. Wadsworth had already accomplished, but he resold it to the Dutch investors at a tidy profit!

Later this contract, according to Mr. James Wadsworth in a letter written by him, was modified by himself.

On the 13th of March, 1799, James Wadsworth of Genesee (then) Ontario County, New York, transferred (according to an Indenture) in consideration of 10,000 pounds, eleven thousand four hundred and twelve acres in Township XII, Range VII, to Willem Six, Pieter DeSmeth and John Samuel Coudere of Amsterdam, Holland. On the 16th of March, 1799, an Indenture between Thomas Morris of Canandaigua, and James Wadsworth of the Town of Genesee, of the first part, and Willem Six, Pieter DeSmeth, and John Samuel Coudere of Amsterdam, Holland, of the second part, transferred in consideration of 10,000 pounds of lawful money of the said State of New York, land in the amount of 10,000 acres in Township XII, Range VII, (Henrietta). Thus the lands within the township were sold in two large tracts to the Dutch investors.

Township XII, Range VII of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase, first known as the West Woods of Pittsford and West-Town, then Henrietta (in 1817), is bounded on the north by West Brighton and on the south by the Town of Rush. The neighboring towns of Pittsford and Mendon form its eastern border. The western boundry is the ancient Genesee River.

The township was a part of Northfield, Ontario County, at the time of settlement. In 1772 Tryon County was taken from Albany County and included all the lands west of the Hudson River. In 1784 this name was changed to Montgomery County. Ontario County was separated from Montgomery County in 1789, and stretched from Seneca Lake to the state's western border. Genesee County was formed west of the Genesee River in 1802. By 1821 the County of Monroe was organized from Ontario and Genesee Counties. Our

County was named for James Monroe, then President of the United States.

The Town of Northfield included towns known today as Pittsford, Henrietta, as well as Penfield, Brighton, Irondequoit and Webster. Inasmuch as a town formed in 1788 in Richmond County had been named Northfield, Northfield in Ontario County was renamed Boyle in 1808. In 1814 the township was renamed Pittsford.

The following is a letter sent to Mrs. Eleanor C. Kalsbeck, Town Historian, from Jonkheer Dr. William Cornelis Six, former Chief of the Cabinet of the Burgomaster of the Hague, Holland. The Jonkheer is a direct descendent of Dr. Cornelis Charles Six.

'S-Gravenhage
Stadhuis (State House)

31 August, 1965

Dear Mrs. Kalsbeck:

I am now sending some detailed information concerning Dr. Willem Six and his younger brother my great-great-grandfather, Dr. Cornelis Charles Six.

The two brothers were born from the marriage of Dr. Willem Fabricius Six (1725-1807) and Alpheda Louise de Visscher (1738-1810). Although both were born in Amsterdam (Willem in 1761 and Cornelis Charles in 1772), they both had official functions later which necessitated their living for a length of time in the Hague.

Dr. Willem Six held a number of important offices during the period in which The Netherlands were very closely connected with France. For example, he was deputed by the Netherlands Government to participate in Paris in the peace negotiations between the two countries in 1795. Again, in 1803, also in Paris, he took part in the consultations during which the conditions were laid down under which the Batavian Republic would give aid to France in the war against England. In 1806 he became a Member of the Council of State of the Napoleonic Kingdom of Holland, and from 1808 to 1810 he was Minister to the Russian Court at Moscow. As a curiosity, it might be mentioned the Municipal Archives of the Hague show that from 1806 to 1810 he paid an annual sum for the patent granted to him to use hair powder. In 1811 he died in

Amsterdam as a result of an accident, which is described in the records in these words: 'Being out in the evening at about 9:30 P.M., he fell into the water, possibly as the result of sudden dizziness. His body was found the next morning (July 31) in the Keizersgracht.' He never married.

Dr. Cornelis Charles Six, Lord of Oterleek on Lagg Teylingen, was enobled in 1815 with the title of Jonkheer and awarded the Grand Cross in the Order of the Netherlands Lion, which he is seen wearing in the oil-painting of which a copy is enclosed. In 1820 he was created Baron by right of primogeniture. He married twice: first with Anna Helena Ter Borch from 1797-1815, and in 1821 until his death with Baroness Samuelle Theophile Gansneb, called Tengnagel.

Like his brother Dr. Cornelis Charles Six held a number of important public offices. For some time he was a member of the Amsterdam City Council and of the House of Representatives. Then after the fall of Napoleon and the return of the House of Orange to The Netherlands in 1813, he became Minister of Finance in the Government of the Kingdom of The Netherlands, a function in which he showed great ability as he succeeded in turning an 1814 budget deficit of almost FL. 18.000.000 into a surplus of about FL. 10.000.000. Moreover, as a result of his intervention, the high duties which had been levied on all private Dutch trade with America since the establishment of the West Indian Company were lowered and made equal to those operating for European trade. This step greatly contributed to the flourishing of the trade with the United States. In 1821 he became President of the Nederlandsche Handelmaatschappij (Netherlands Trading Company).

The union of Holland with Belgium in 1815 meant that for six months of every year the seat of the Dutch Government was in Brussels. From personal correspondence of Cornelis Charles Six with one of his friends it seems that the internal political situation was not particularly rosy in those days, because he said in one of his letters: 'The whole show makes me wish I was in my North American lands. He died in Utrecht in 1833.

Dr. Cornelis Charles Six was both great-great-great grandfather of Baron Willem Six van Oterleek, of Haarlem, born in 1927, the owner of the two enclosed copies of pastel drawings of the two brothers, as well as great-great-grandfather of myself, Jonkheer Dr. Willem Cornelis Six, born in 1902, and owner of the enclosed copy of the

oil-painting of Dr. Cornelis Charles Six. The two pastels probably date from the time in which the American possessions were obtained; the oil-painting, judging from the decoration being worn, was possibly painted in 1815, or shortly afterwards. The three pictures were the work of the English painter and pastellist Charles Howard Hodges, who was born in London in 1764, and died in Amsterdam in 1837, where he had worked since 1788.

Besides the above mentioned observation out of the personal correspondence of Dr. Cornelis Charles Six, no documents have been found referring to the North American lands.

I sincerely hope that with these details I have been able to supply you with sufficient information for your commemoration book. Your offer to send a copy to His Worship the Burgomaster has, I can assure you, been greatly appreciated.

I would also however, be most grateful if you could send me two additional copies, one for our family archives which are kept by my cousin Baron Willem Six van Oterleek, and the other for myself. For this favor I send our advance thanks.

Yours sincerely,

Chief of the Cabinet of the
Burgomaster of The Hague.

Copy of original in Henrietta files.



Dr. Cornelis Charles Six, Dutch Nobleman and
Early Township (Henrietta) Proprietor.



Dr. Willem Six of the Netherlands, Early Township (Henrietta) Proprietor.



Description of Six Coat-of-Arms[°] – escutcheon and pennants: blue; crescents, stars, fringes (to the pennants), peaks and tassels (to the lances), horse and ribbon: silver; casque: silver, mounted with gold (at the inside: red); torse and tarpaulins: alternately blue and silver; lances: brown; lion: natural colour (tongue: red); arabesque (on which the escutcheon rests): green; letters (on the ribbon): black (Stella Duce = under the guidance of the star – i.e., the star of Bethlehem).

[°]Courtesy: Dr. Willem Charles Six; 15th April 1968.

Articles of Agreement
(Courtesy: New York Historical Society)

Articles of Agreement, made this fifteenth Day of June, in the Year of Our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-eight, between M.M. Willem Six, and Hendrik Cornelis Serrurier, acting as well for ourselves, as for other persons to be concerned in this business, and answering for those persons, of the City of Amsterdam, on the first part, and James Wadsworth, now in the said City of Amsterdam, of the Town of Geneseo, in the County of Ontario, and the State of New York, and Adriaan VanderHoop of the City of Elburg, on the second part.

The said parties to those present, for themselves, their Heirs, Executors, Administrators, Assigne mutual by covenant and agree as follows:

Firstly.

M.M. James Wadsworth and Adriaan VanderHoop shall procure at the least price possible, the purchase of such tracts of land, situated in the Genesee Country as they shall judge to offer the best prospect of future advantages, either by resale or by letting them out to farmers.

Secondly.

Mr. James Wadsworth and Adriaan VanderHoop shall be at liberty to employ to such purchases as a Capital Sum of Eighteen Thousand Dollars, under the conditions and restrictions mentioned in the present Articles of Agreement.

Thirdly.

The Title to the lands to be purchased shall be examined by two of the Counsellors at Law of the first eminence and ability at New York, who shall be appointed to that purpose by M.M. John Murray and Son, correspondents of M.M. Willem Six and Hendrik Cornelis Serrurier as aforesaid.

M.M. James Wadsworth and Adriaan VanderHoop, shall not make any purchases whatsoever, but of such lands, whereof the Title shall have been declared by the said Counsellors at Law perfectly clear and unencumbered.

Fourthly.

The property of the lands shall be common property, at common Risks, Benefits, and Expenses, to M.M. Willem Six and Hendrik

Cornelis Serrurier as aforesaid, and Mr. James Wadsworth, as will more fully appear hereafter, provided, nevertheless, that the title of the one equal and undivided moiety of the lands purchased shall be vested in the name of the said M.M. Willem Six and Hendrik Cornelis Serrurier, and that the title of the other equal and undivided moiety shall be vested in M.M. John Murray and Samuel Ward, or in case of decease, of one, then in the surviving of them, as Trustees. — The Declaration of Trust having to recite, that, provided Mr. James Wadsworth shall well and truly pay to M.M. John Murray and Son, the one-half of the purchase money with interest at the rate of 4% per annum, accruing therein, within the term of five years (as shall appear in the following Articles, that then the remaining unsold part of said moiety of the Lands shall belong to Mr. James Wadsworth. — But in default of the said one-half of the said purchase money and said interest, and every part thereof, being punctually paid within the time aforesaid, the said moiety shall belong and immediately be conveyed to the said M.M. Willem Six, Hendrik Cornelis Serreurier as aforesaid.

Fifthly.

As the Money, by which the purchases will be paid, shall be advanced wholly by M.M. Willem Six and Hendrik Cornelis Serrurier, as aforesaid, Mr. James Wadsworth shall give at every purchase, his Bond for the half of the purchase money.

This Bond shall be in behalf of Mr. Willem Six and Hendrik Cornelis Serrurier, as aforesaid, and delivered to M.M. John Murray and Son.

It will contain the obligation of repaying after the expiration of five years, since the date of the payments of the purchases, the half of the purchase money, with the Interest accrued in it, at the rate of 4% yearly; which interest therefore shall amount to 20% of the Capital sum.

Sixthly.

M.M. James Wadsworth and Adriaan VanderHoop are hereby appointed as the Agents of M.M. Willem Six and Hendrik Cornelis Serrurier as aforesaid, for the reselling or letting out at Leases of those Lands, and all other Business, arising from the Management of those Sales and Leases.

Seventhly.

The said Agents shall have the faculty of reselling the Lands purchased, or of letting them out, at rents to Farmers of the Country.

M.M. John Murray and Son and Samuel Ward, as well as Bearers of the power of Attorney of M.M. Willem Six and Hendrik Cornelis Serrurier, as aforesaid, for the one moiety, as Trustees for the other moiety, will be invested with proper powers to give the Title of the Lands, when the Sale, made by the said Agents, shall require a full deed and conveyance. — But in this case the Land shall remain mortgaged for the payment unpaid, and those mortgages, shall be vested in the names M.M. Willem Six and Hendrik Cornelis Serrurier as aforesaid. They shall equally be invested with proper powers of letting the Lands at leases, according to the Contracts made to that purpose.

Eighthly.

The Money proceeding from the Sales, or from the Leases, will be paid into the hands of M.M. John Murray and Son. — And the half of those Receipts will always go in diminution of the Capital Sum owed by Mr. James Wadsworth. — He shall moreover not pay any Interest from the very day of the Reimbursements.

As soon as the Money owed by Mr. James Wadsworth, and the interests shall have been reimbursed, the Agents shall only pay to M.M. John Murray and Son the half of their Receipts, either from the Sales or from the Leases and the other half will be paid out by the said Agents to Mr. James Wadsworth himself.

Ninthly.

As soon as the Agents shall have made any purchases, they shall acquaint M.M. Willem Six and Hendrik Cornelis Serrurier with it, sending over as soon as possible the Maps of the acquired property, with their Field notes, and all others as they shall deem necessary or useful.

Tenthly.

Every half year at the_____ of the Months of June and December, the Agents will send in to M.M. Willem Six and Hendrik Cornelis Serrurier a note of the Sales, that have been made, and also of the Leases, with_____ of the Stipulations of the Contracts.

Eleventhly.

They will also, twice in the year, at the end of the Months June and December, settle the accounts of their receipts and close them

by the remittance to M.M. John Murray and Son, of the Settled objects which may remain unclosed.

They will send copies of those Accounts to M.M. Willem Six and Hendrik Cornelis Serrurier as aforesaid.

Twelfthly.

If the Agents against all expectation, may become deficient in settling and closing those Accounts in the manner aforesaid, Messrs, John Murray and Son, and Samuel Ward will be at liberty to refuse to deliver Title of the Sales, or to approve the Contracts of the Leases, which afterwards might be made by the said Agents.

Thirteenthly.

At the expiration of five years, if the Party on the first part, or Mr. James Wadsworth will desire it, the remaining property shall be divided into two parts, which will be deemed on an average of equal value. — This Division shall be made by M.M. John Murray and Son; or such person as will be chosen by them on one part and Mr. James Wadsworth on the other. — In case of disagreement they shall choose an Umpire, who shall decide the points in contestation.

The two parts shall be divided by the Lot: The part which will go to Mr. Wadsworth shall be transferred to him, provided nevertheless that the money owed by Mr. Wadsworth shall have been paid off accordingly, to the stipulations of the fourth Article of the Agreement.

Fourteenthly.

As Mr. James Wadsworth is considering the advance of his half of the purchase money, on the terms aforesaid, as a reasonable compensation for the trouble of the Agency, he shall have nothing to bring in Account on this subject.

To Mr. Adriaan VanderHoop are hereby allowed:

1. A Compensation of five hundred Dollars a year for the first two years, which compensation will be paid out of the sum of Two Thousand Five hundred Dollars, mentioned in the following 15th Articles of this Agreement.

2. The property of a Farm of Hundred Acres, out of the Lands to be purchased, half flat Land, half other Lands, with which he is to be presented and invested with the Title as soon as possible,

without any purchase money to be paid by him.

3. *A Retribution of Ten % of the half of all receipts to be made on Account of the benefits on the resales or Leases of the Lands to be purchased, which retributing will be supported only on the side of M.M. Willem Six and Hendrix Cornelis Serrurier, as aforesaid.*

Fifteenthly.

Out of the sum of Eighteen Thousand Dollars, mentioned in the Second Article of this Agreement, there shall be appropriated a Sum of Two Thousand five hundred Dollars, to be expended in the Surveyings and other expenses, deemed necessary by the Agents to the complete Survey of this Enterprise; – provided the sum of five hundred dollars yearly allowed for the first five years to Mr. Adriaan Vander Hoop, to be comprehended under the said sum of Two Thousand five hundred Dollars.

The Agents shall not be at liberty to transgress the said sum of Two Thousand five hundred Dollars.

There will be allowed to the Agents the faculty of bringing in Account for their trifling expenses at most the sum of Hundred and Fifty dollars every year for the first five years to come.

Sixteenthly.

In face of the unhappy and unforeseen event of the death of Mr. Wadsworth, all sales or letting out of leases will be stopped, and the party on the first part, and his heirs shall have the faculty of claiming the division mentioned in the 13th Article of this Agreement under the conditions stipulated in the said Article.

Seventeenthly.

In all objects, respecting the said Agency, and not finally, settled by those Articles of Agreement, the Agents shall be bound to follow the directions to be given to them by the said M.M. Willem Six and Hendrik Cornelis Serrurier as aforesaid.

The Agents will keep up always by triplicate, a regular correspondence with the said M.M. Willem Six, Hendrik Cornelis Serrurier, as aforesaid and never suffer two monthly to pass away without writing to them and giving all such information as they may deem agreeable and useful.

In witness whereof the parties aforesaid have interchangably hereunto set their Hands and Seals this fifteenth Day of June in the

year of our Lord, one Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety eight.

*W. Six
H. Serrurier
James Wadsworth
Adriaan VanderHoop*

Signed, Sealed and delivered, The words and Son being first interlined in the Seventh Article; and Samuel Ward being first interlined in the Twelfth Article, Benefits on the being first interlined in the Fourteenth Article in the presents of

*C.C. Six (Cornelis Charles)
H.J. Swarth*

WEST-TOWN SETTLERS

To interest New Englanders in settling in western New York, James Wadsworth visited towns in New England, giving out handbills extolling the virtues of the virgin lands. He held small meetings where farmers would gather to hear him speak about the possibilities awaiting the pioneer farmer. He offered to exchange New England farms for farm land in the Genesee Country. The New England farms would be appraised and allowance made accordingly. His plan was to persuade a score of families to settle in a new township, who would in turn induce their friends and neighbors to follow. As soon as this occurred, he would double the price of land per acre. This would make up for the loss incurred on the wornout farms in New England. *Handbill from the office of Hon. James W. Wadsworth: "The lands in Henrietta are excellent and the 'settlement' very flourishing. The lots adjoining the Genesee River containing very handsome portions of timbered flats are put at five dollars per acre, the back lots are four dollars per acre."**

On the part of the New Englander immigrating west, many factors were involved. The top soil was gone on their stony farms which had been exhausted by poor agricultural methods. There were no markets for the inland farmers for the crops they did raise. Their sons, looking for farms on which to settle, found few productive ones available. The Embargo Act left countless sailors on dry land to add to the population. In western New York the pioneer saw a chance to improve the lot of himself and his family. Restless and independent, he perhaps longed to throw off all fetters, even in regards to restrictions of an orthodox religion. Many chose to journey to the land of bright promise.

Oftentimes the head of the family would first make the journey alone on foot or horseback. He would arrive at the land office where he would be put up until he could go over the maps with the land agent. After picking out a piece of land, he would be shown the contract and asked to sign. Furnished with a guide, he would proceed to his wilderness farm. The next step would be to erect a log shelter, clear from three to ten acres of land and plant a crop of grain. In the fall he would return to his family. While the ground was frozen and covered with snow, he would start out with his family with a sleigh filled with what possessions could be loaded on. Often an older child or his wife would sit in the driver's seat while he walked along beside, driving livestock. Small rivers would be crossed or ends of lakes at

*From *An Agriculture History of the Genesee Valley, 1790-1860* by Neil Adam McNall

this season for roads were much more passable than during the spring thaw. Some of the wayside taverns were acceptable by standards of that day, others crowded and unpleasant, due to bedbugs and lice. Sometimes families preferred to sleep in the open. Occasionally, ice would break while crossing a body of water, increasing the hazards of the long, cold journey.

The pioneers who came to Henrietta built their first log houses in the thick forest upon their small clearing, for it was then heavily wooded. As soon as a few families came, men helped one another in erecting their log houses. Stories are recorded of men passing through an area, stopping to help a lone homesteader raise his four walls. This seemed to be an accepted law of the frontiersmen, and it strikes a wistful chord in the writer, in this day of high pressure and individual competition, when so little time and thought is given to the well being of another. These log cabins once raised and roofed were heated with a large fireplace with a stone chimney or so-called "stick chimney," lined with clay. Snow would sometimes sift through the chinks between the log sides when clay would be used to fill the cracks. The cabin usually consisted of one or two large rooms and a loft above, reached by a ladder, where the children usually slept. If the family was large, it was not uncommon to have a "double" log house, of which at least two were known in Henrietta. Window openings were at first covered with a waxed paper. The dwelling was located with two factors in mind: Near a spring if possible for the water supply and near the road, or near where it might possibly be laid later on.



William "Bill" Utley, early Henrietta wood chopper.

There were two methods of ridding the farm land of trees to clear it for crops. Girdling (used also by Indians), or stripping a band of bark around the trees, cut off the life supply of sap, killing them. The Sun could then dry off the land. However dead tree limbs would often fall, injuring the farmer or his oxen, and forming an obstruction. Chopping them down was the method usually employed. A good chopper could usually fell an acre in seven to ten days. First however, he had to clear the "staddle," the underbrush and small trees, and pile this up. Care was exercised if the woodsman was wise, to have the trees fall parallel with each other, to aid in logging. Trees cut in May or June could dry out through the summer months. In the fall the settler would choose a windy day to burn the "slashing" or "foller." After the great smoking fire cooled off, the axe again was wielded by the strong armed woodsman to trim off limbs and chop the blackened trunks into 16' or 20' lengths. These would be hauled off and put in a pile to be burned. One early pioneer stated three men with a yoke of oxen could log an acre a day.

*"Oft did the harvest to their sickle yeild
Their furrow oft the stubborn glebe has broke;
How jocund did they drive their team afield;
How bowed the woods beneath their sturdy stroke."*

—Thomas Gray

Ashes would be gathered to be made into potash. This was the early settler's main cash product, and it was no exception in Henrietta. If a heavy rain occurred before the ashes could be saved, it proved no small disaster to the settler, for money was hard to come by. The ashes were leached and the lye from this was boiled in potash kettles until it formed a solid mass. This dark cake was called black salts and was usually sold in quantity to the ashery. There it was processed into pearl ash. Potash was used in cleansing wool, in dyeing and in making soap. It was shipped from Charlotte to Montreal, where it was shipped to European markets for manufacturing soap and glass. Twenty bushels of ashes made one hundred pounds of potash. James Lawless, an early settler (squatter) near West Henrietta Road at the Brighton line, operated an ashery. The late Mr. William Newton, an early resident of Pinnacle Road, quoted Mr. Lawless as saying: "One could always tell a potash boiler by his hair. The steam from the potash took out all the oil, and it was always dry and frizzy."

Another industry that held an important place in the economy of pioneer settling was the producing of charcoal. Wood from the heavy forests all about was used of course for heating and cooking, as well as for building purposes and rail fencing. Charcoal was in heavy demand by the blacksmiths, and the tinsmith required it also. Under date of February, 1872, Thomas O. Jones, in a letter to a city newspaper, referred to the many Henrietta pioneers who had slept in the open air while burning charcoal.

The procedure for making charcoal was lengthy, and required skill and vigilance on the part of the burner in charge. Dried kindling wood was first laid in a pile. Four foot lengths of wood were placed on end, centered around the kindling. This was repeated until the circle of wood measured about twenty feet in diameter. Over this another layer of wood was laid in a similar manner. Such a pit usually contained some thirty cords of wood. The next step was to cover the huge stack with dirt and sod. Holes were left here and there to provide a draught when lighting the fire, which was accomplished with torches at the end of long poles plunged into the completed kiln. When the fire was well started, the openings were closed. The flames were never allowed to break out, but were quickly smothered with applications of fresh earth. Thus a smouldering fire was kept for about two weeks. The watchman ordinarily had a leanto or cabin nearby, where he could prepare a snack to eat, or catch a wink or two of sleep when all seemed well. The approximate cost of a bushel of charcoal was fourteen cents. A cord of the wood yielded about thirty bushels. A pit of thirty cords would perhaps bring \$126.00, which would go a long way in the early days.

Permanent settling began on both the east and west sides of Henrietta in 1806. Lyman and Warren Hawley came from Avon in 1806, locating on what is now the Telephone Road. Jesse Pangburn, a bachelor, made a clearing where the Cartwright Hotel is located in West Henrietta. A party of hunters from Avon found him preparing yeast for a batch of bread for his woodchoppers one Sunday morning. Later he married Zilla Baker, widow of Asa Baker, a soldier of the Revolution who died in 1803, leaving a number of children. It is said about the year of 1811 Mrs. Pangburn was chased by a wolf one evening. Crying for help, she was forced to climb a tree. The wolf was killed when someone came to her aid. Mr. and Mrs. Pangburn are buried in the Bushman Cemetery on Telephone Road, West Henrietta. Orlando Brown and John Gould also settled in West Henrietta in 1806.

On the east side of Henrietta, a settlement was formed on the Wadsworth Road, near Stevens Corners (now Pinnacle and Calkins Roads). Joseph Came of Pittsford settled on property where the Winslow School stands. His son Charles, born in October, 1806, was the first white child born in Henrietta. He later became a doctor in Pittsford. His scientific equipment, with which he gave over 2,000 lectures, is now on display at Valentown, Fishers, New York. It is said Moses Wilder planted the first apple orchard on property which later became the home of George Slade on Pinnacle Road. Jonathan Russell, a Quaker, formerly of Farmington, New York moved here in 1807. He is shown on an 1831 map of farm plots as living in the 4th Range of lots. In 1807 a daughter was born to Hezekiah Sherwood living on land where Dr. John C. Burns resides at 5178 East Henrietta Road. The mother died and was buried in a fence corner on the place. This apparently was the first death in the township of Henrietta. Phineas Baldwin came and located in the spring of 1807 on the Wadsworth Road (now Pinnacle Road) near Calkins Road. This locality was referred to at times as the Baldwin Settlement. Mr. Baldwin's wife and three sons followed in the fall. The Baldwins had a blacksmith shop at an early date, which was replaced with a small stone blacksmith shop now used as a garage on the east side of Pinnacle Road, near Calkins.

John Brininstool and his wife Susannah came in 1810, settling on River Road. The cobblestone house on this road near the New York State Thruway was built by the Brininstools. John, who was an early road overseer, was said to be the first settler on the River Road. Isaac Nichols settled on the west side of this road near Lehigh Station Road. The Thomas Remingtons, who settled on the northern part of the River Road in Henrietta, were ancestors of the late Judge Harvey Remington, a well-known Rochester attorney.



Cobblestone home on River Road near the Thruway. Former home of John Brininstool, who came to Henrietta in 1810.

James McNall, born in Union, Connecticut in 1766, moved to Oneida County in 1806. Then in April, 1811, he came to Henrietta to settle on the River Road, the first house south of Lehigh Station Road on the east side.

Mr. McNall began his pioneer life by splitting rails at fifty cents per hundred, receiving for his labors, flour, pork and potatoes, which he carried to his home on his back. He sold his first crop of wheat for fifty cents a bushel. It is said when James III was drafted in the War of 1812, his father went in his stead saying "that since whoever went would never come back, it would be better to spare the younger man." After spending two years in the service on the Niagara frontier and at least part of the time as a Captain, he was scalped by the Indians near Fort Erie with his burial place unknown. James III, his son, entered the service in the War of 1812 transporting tents and military baggage from Avon to Buffalo by means of a horse and wagon, which service merited him a government pension in after years. He took part in the opening of the canal with its attending celebration in 1824 and was present when LaFayette visited Rochester in 1825. He told of watching Sam Patch make his fatal leap at upper Genesee Falls in 1829. His first wife was Polly Brininstool, a neighbor girl, who bore him four sons: Schuyler, James, Jacob and William. She died at the age of thirty-six. His second wife was Susan Reynolds, and their children were Mary, Stephen, Harriet and John. Mr. McNall lived to be eighty-eight years old and is buried with his wives in the Brininstool Cemetery on Erie Station Road.

Elijah Little was an early teacher in Henrietta. His wife was the former Mercy Webster. During the winters of 1812, 1813 and 1814, he taught in the east hamlet in a small log house. He also taught in a log house near Mrs. Stephen Leggett's. Mr. Little was an early road overseer, Highway Committee 1818. He was on the Subscription Committee for the new Academy, also on the Building Committee and Executive Committee 1825-1826, and a trustee; Supervisor of Henrietta during 1821, 1822, 1824, 1826, 1827, 1832, and 1833. His home is now occupied by Andrews Real Estate at 1900 East Henrietta Road.

Moses Sperry came from Bloomfield in 1813 and settled in the southwest part of West Henrietta. He had moved from Berkshire to Bloomfield in March, 1794, with his wife and seven children, when he was twenty-seven years old. He had been preceded to Henrietta by two or three years by some of his sons. One of his sons was James



1900 East Henrietta Road, former home of Elijah Little, early Henrietta teacher.

Sperry who with his wife Fannie Pixley came in 1812. As a young man James walked through the wilderness with his axe over his shoulder to Fairfield Academy in Herkimer County to obtain a higher education. He used his axe as a woodchopper to pay his expenses. James was a farmer and surveyor for Mr. Wadsworth for many years. He lived at the southwest corner of West Henrietta Road and Lehigh Station Road. However, James Sperry's house is no longer standing.

James Sperry's brother Joy, who married Mary Lamont in East Bloomfield, lived in early Henrietta and had several children. Three sons became Elders in the Mormon Church. There were two girls, Sara Abbott and Mary Ann Sperry. Mary Ann married Royce Oatman in Laharpe, Illinois. A financial panic in the mid-west in the 1840's forced Mr. Oatman out of business. After teaching for a time, he sought a kindlier climate, as he suffered from a back injury. They headed in a covered wagon with their seven children for New Mexico, traveling with a number of other families. At one point in Arizona, the remainder of the group decided to make camp with friendly Indians for the winter months. Mr. Oatman pushed on alone with his family. It was a tragic decision, for the father, mother and four of their children were massacred by a roving band of Indians on the Gila River, Arizona, seventy miles from Ft. Yuma, California. One fourteen-year-old boy, left for dead, managed to stagger back to the vicinity of the campsite. Friendly Indians fed him, tended his wounds and put him in the hands of his friends, who nursed him back to health. Thirteen-year-old Olive and Mary Ann, seven, were taken by the Apache band to their village. Later they were given to a

Mohave band, where the youngest girl died of starvation, leaving Olive disconsolate. Olive Oatman was held captive five years, when she was ransomed and taken back to the fort, where she rejoined her overjoyed brother. While in captivity, she and her sister were tattooed on the chin, a mark to signify slavery, which she bore the remainder of her life. She returned to this area, where she lectured and stayed with relatives in Henrietta and Chili. Olive married John Fairchild in 1865 and moved to Texas.

Martin Roberts of Eaton, Madison County, New York, born in Connecticut, came with his wife Anna and family in 1814, building a log house and barn near the creek on the south side of Stone Road. There being no road at the time, he hoped it would be cut through in time near his clearing. A short time after they settled, Mr. Roberts had to go to Canandaigua. He rode horseback, a bag of grain thrown across the horse's back. As he traveled he would blaze the trees through the forest, to mark his return trip. Toward night as his wife was busy about her family tasks, she saw the blanket at the doorway move. Three husky Indians stepped into the cabin. They handed her their guns, which she set up against the wall. They motioned they were hungry and wanted food. She had just enough food for herself and children until her husband's return, but she put before them everything she had. After they had eaten, the Indians stretched out upon the floor with their heads toward the fireplace and fell asleep. Little Martin III was frightened (he was seven years old) and he crawled under the bed. The poor mother remained awake all night, fearing the worst, for there was no food to give them in the morning. The Indians arose early the next morning and taking their guns, left in good humor, and no harm came to the little family.

When Stone Road was surveyed, Mr. Roberts found to his disappointment it would be cut through some sixty rods north of his buildings. He later built a frame house on the same side of the road, and in 1828 he had the fieldstone house erected at 260 Stone Road. The previous winter he drew his plans, and when spring came, a man, who spent the winter with the Roberts family, took the plans with him. The Williamson brick house which formerly stood on the corner of Winton and Jefferson Roads was built from these plans.

Ira Phillips received the contract April 10, 1828 for the Roberts dwelling which follows: "*said Ira Phillips for the consideration hereinafter to be mentioned (\$1600.), doth promise and agree to and with the said Martin Roberts to furnish the materials, build and completely finish for the said Martin Roberts a brick (later changed*



Brick house formerly on Winton Road, northwest corner of Jefferson Road. Built according to plans taken from Martin Roberts. (This house has been torn down.)



Martin Roberts Homestead, built 1828 at 260 Stone Road.

to fieldstone) dwelling house to be 29' x 37'. The walls to be 18' in height, and a cellar under the whole house not less than 7' high, cellar to be divided by brick partitions so as to form a cellar, kitchen, and milkroom. The body of the house to be divided into rooms as the said Martin Roberts shall direct, said house to be painted and penciled on the outside and inside painted, except the floor and to be 'completely' finished outside and in with suitable materials and a style of workmanship suitable for a good country house and finished by the first day of November next." Stones were gathered whenever and wherever they were found, many being drawn by oxen from the canal, then just completed.

Martin Roberts had six children in all, four girls and two sons.

John and Andrew Bushman settled on Telephone Road in the southwest part of West Henrietta in 1811. Mr. and Mrs. Leland Bushman reside in the cobblestone house built by their ancestor Andrew Bushman at 633 Telephone Road. It is said Andrew Bushman built a cobblestone house for each of his five sons.

James Tinker with his wife and children came in 1812, settling on Calkins Road (then Jackson Road) east of Pinnacle Road. The original purchase was 400 acres of land, on which were built two log houses. There were eight children, four boys and four girls. The log house was later replaced with the lovely cobblestone house one sees today at 1585 Calkins Road. These stones were picked up from the farm, sorted and graded for size. The careful laying of the tones of rose, brown, gray and black add a warmth and beauty to the home's



Cobblestone house at 633 Telephone Road. Former home of Andrew Bushman, early Henrietta pioneer.



Cobblestone house at 830 Telephone Road. Said to have been built for one of Andrew Bushman's five sons.



Abandoned cobblestone house, back in field on West Henrietta Road, near corner of Rush-Henrietta Townline Road. Said to have been built for one of Andrew Bushman's five sons.



Cobblestone house at 887 Telephone Road. Said to have been built for one of Andrew Bushman's five sons.

appearance. The mason was Michael McCanty. The wide door has six panels, with a wide fan-shape window overhead. Inside the entrance is a narrow spiral stairway which possesses its own beauty. The newel post is butternut, the rail mahogany and spindles are of pine. Window sill height paneling is composed of stained pine. The three main floor fireplaces are supported by a ten foot thick stone foundation in the cellar. These fireplaces back up to each other — one being in the livingroom, one in the dining room and another located in the parlor. The original iron andirons stand beside the livingroom fireplace. The crane and brick oven in this room were a part of the original kitchen where the late Grace Tinker did her excellent cooking and baking until 1897. There is an old clock upon the mantle with wooden works and delicate carving, that is about 140 years old, still keeping accurate time. The fireplace in the dining room possesses its original iron crane and kettle. On the opposite side of the wall is a fireplace with original brass andirons and fixtures. An old musket and powder horn hang from its mantle. Two rooms on the second floor also possess fireplaces. Six generations of the Tinker family have lived in this house. James Tinker, Malachi, and Adelbert and families compose the first three. Glen and Louise Tinker are the fourth generation, and their children and grandchildren form the fifth and sixth generations. The barn in good condition is the original one, still serving the Tinker family.



The Tinker homestead, built 1830 at 1585 Calkins Road.

Samuel Whitcomb, an early road overseer, settled on sixty acres of property located at 1987 West Jefferson Road, opposite Locust Hill, in 1814. He built a log house and several years later started work on the house which we see today. He completed the main portion and several bed chambers above. One day Mrs. Whitcomb went to the well to fill the oaken bucket. In some manner, she fell into the well and drowned. Mr. Whitcomb and members of the family were so grief stricken, they soon sold the property to Ambrose and Sarah Cornwell, Quakers. An Indian who had stayed with the Whitcombs, likely as a handy man, refused to leave the place and remained with the Cornwells until his death. His name was Timothy Goodbody and he was buried somewhere near the dooryard.

Benjamin Ware, was another road overseer in 1813, who lived at the corner of Pinnacle and Jefferson Roads. After living here about three years, he decided to return to Vermont to visit his parents. This journey was accomplished by walking. When he came to hills he would pass the stage coach, but on the level the stage would overtake him.

Abel Post of River Road came in 1813 from Vermont. In 1818 he was one of the school commissioners.

William Leggett and his wife Sarah Holland Leggett of Massachusetts were pioneers. Mr. Leggett came in 1810 and built a

log house. In 1811 he returned for his family. He served in the War of 1812 and was active in the early agricultural societies. Peleg Adams came from Vermont, settling on property on Winton and Jefferson Roads.

Isaac Noble Dayton, born in Arlington, Vermont, was an early teacher who came to Henrietta in 1809. The same year he married his wife Hannah, who was born in Chesterfield, Massachusetts. He married the second time Cynthia Malthy, formerly the wife of Grove Malthy. Isaac Dayton was a leader in the intellectual advancement of the young town of Henrietta and won the respect of many. He and his wives are buried in Wildwood Cemetery on Goodberlet Road, as are other members of his family.

Ann Taylor (later Mrs. William Reeve) came from England in 1819. When she and her mother and younger members of the family arrived in New York City, they expected her brothers William and George to meet them. Due to lack of money, they missed connections. George belatedly walked to New York City to visit them. When he prepared to return home, Ann declared she would walk with him. Despite his protests she accompanied him. On the second day she stopped to open blisters on her feet, then pushed on. They received an occasional lift but walked most of the way. They sold whatever keepsakes they had with them for food and lodging. They left New York City on December 4th, arriving in Pittsford Christmas Eve, having left Geneva at daybreak. Brother William in the meantime had obtained a team and sleigh and started for New York City. They discovered later they had all stayed in Geneva the same night, but at different lodgings!

Ann and her husband William Reeve are buried in the East Baptist Churchyard. After their marriage, they lived on a sixty-nine acre farm on Lot 22, Range 1 (so listed on an old tax roll), which extended over the Pittsford line.

In the close of 1811, land sales were halted when it was discovered the deeds had not been recorded in the office of the Secretary of State, as required by law. This was the year Willem Six of Amsterdam, Holland, died and his brother, Cornelis Charles Six, assumed proprietorship of this purchase. Mr. Wadsworth, the land agent of Geneseo, New York, advised West-Town settlers to use every means to improve their farms and to prepare to meet the purchase price as soon as the title difficulty could be straightened out.

In the meantime war clouds threatened. Napoleonic Wars shook the western world. In 1812 pressed by Congress, President James Madison backed Congress in a declaration of war between United States and Great Britain. Perhaps the English figured with France occupied elsewhere, it was a good time to strike, for they had been holding American seamen and seizing cargoes. West-Town pioneers, dressed in buckskin, many barefooted, for shoes were usually saved for winter, trained on land between East Henrietta Road and what is now Valiant Drive. Many were without guns but that didn't dampen their spirits! They were well represented in this conflict. George Beckwith's father died in Black Rock in 1813. Loren Converse died in service, and a Mr. Bartlett, hired man of Asa Hull, was shot accidentally by a sentry, leaving his little girl an unhappy orphan. Samuel Hibbard never returned; he had left for services with Jacob and John Hibbard. John Russell, buried in Maplewood, served with Lt. Col. William Warren's Regiment in Niagara County.

The following are buried in Tinker Cemetery on Castle Road, who served in this war: Charles Baldwin marched to Albany with patriots in charge of prisoners, serving under Captain Ira Wilson's Company, Col. John McMahan's Regiment. John Gage, also of Pinnacle Road near the present Methodist Church, was a fifer in Captain Joseph Wells Co., Colonel William Cook's Regiment. Elijah Webster, also of the same company, enlisted in 1814, serving two weeks. Martin Roberts II served in Captain Wells' Company for over a year. His discharge papers are a cherished possession of the Henrietta archives. "Doctor" (his name) Phillips served in the capacity of teamster. His sons James and Ira also served during the war. James under Lt. Colonel Saul Smith's 140th Regiment in 1814. The location of Ira Phillips' burial place is unknown.

Timothy Stone was in the battle of Sackett's Harbor and is buried in the East Baptist Churchyard. Elijah Little living on the East Henrietta Road, corner of Castle Road, served and is buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery.

Jacob Brininstool and James McNall of West Henrietta, participants in the War of 1812, are buried in the Brininstool Cemetery, Erie Station Road. Colonel Martin Joiner was in the Battle of Plattsburg. Lot Search Jr. helped defend Washington, D.C., during its crucial period.

In the history of *Society of Friends in Canada* by Dorland, the author tells of Sunderland Pattison Gardiner of Farmington, N.Y., a

Quaker preacher whose people moved to Farmington when he was twelve in 1814. He made this comment on the aftermath of the War of 1812: *“Business was deranged, men had lost confidence in each other, morals were lax and people had to a great extent, imbibed the spirit and feeling consequent upon war; hence intemperance, quarrelling, fighting, lawsuits ”*

DEEDS IN DOUBT

LAWS OF NEW YORK

37th Session

Chapter CVI

“An ACT for the relief of the heirs of William Six, and of the settlers on their lands in the town of Boyle, in the county of Ontario, and in the Town of Riga, in the county of Genesee.

Passed April 9, 1814

“WHEREAS it appears to the Legislature, that Pieter DeSmeth, John Samuel Coudere, and William Six, who resided in Holland, and were aliens, became the purchasers, some years ago, of twenty-five thousand acres of land, consisting of certain tracts in township Number Twelve in the seventh range, and township Number Two in the short range of townships; the said township Number Twelve, then being in the county of Ontario, and the said township Number Two, then being in the said county of Ontario, but now in the county of Genesee: That the said purchase was made on the faith of the act, entitled ‘an act to enable aliens to purchase and hold real estates within this state, under certain restrictions therein mentioned,’ passed April 2, 1793, the second section of which act declares, that all and every deed or deeds, conveyance or conveyances, to be executed in pursuance of that act, shall be recorded within twelve months after the day of the date of the same, in the Secretary’s office of this state, and that in default thereof, the grantees named in any such deed and conveyance, shall be considered in all respects as aliens, and the lands and tenements thereby conveyed shall enure to the use of the people of this state, and the third section of the act limits the operation of the act to the term of three years, from and after its passing, and no longer: That to carry the said purchase into effect, James Wadsworth, of the town of Geneseo, in the said county of Ontario, by deed bearing the date the thirteenth day of March, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine, conveyed one of the said tracts, lying in the said township Number Twelve, unto the said Pieter DeSmeth, John Samuel Coudere and William Six, as joint tenants and not as tenants in common, and the said James Wadsworth, also by deed bearing date the thirtieth day of March, in the year last aforesaid, conveyed another of the said tracts, lying in the said township Number two, unto the said Pieter DeSmeth, John Samuel Coudere and William Six, as joint tenants, and not as tenants in common, and the said James Wadsworth and Thomas Morris, of

Canandaigua, in the said county of Ontario, also by deed bearing date the sixteenth day of March, in the year last aforesaid, conveyed another of the said tracts lying in the said township Number Twelve, unto the said Pieter DeSmeth, John Samuel Coudere, and William Six as joint tenants, and not as tenants in common: That soon after the execution of the said several deeds of conveyance, the said proprietors put the said tracts of land in a course of gradual sales, by employing an agent to sell the same in farms to actual settlers; but no person was authorized to execute deeds for conveying the lands to the purchasers on the full payment of the purchase monies: That in consequence of the said authority to sell, the greatest part of the said tracts of land has been sold to settlers, who have made valuable improvements thereon at the expense of much time, labor and money; all which has been done in the confidence entertained by all parties, that no difficulties or impediments would arise, to prevent the execution of valid deeds of conveyance for the lands sold whenever the contracts for the same should be justly complied with: That all the said proprietors of the said tracts are dead, and that the last survivor was the said William Six, whose heirs have discovered that the said several deeds of conveyance, so as aforesaid, executed to the said Pieter DeSmeth, John Samuel Coudere, and William Six, have never been recorded in the Secretary's office of this state, as by the said action of the said act in that behalf is prescribed, and consequently that the said several tracts of land have escheated to the people of this state: That the neglect to record the said deeds of conveyance in the Secretary's office, agreeably to the directions of the said section of the said act has arisen from ignorance on the part of the said proprietors who were foreigners, or from mere inattention in them without any design willfully to refuse a compliance with the act: That a considerable part of the said tracts of land remains unsold, and all the contracts heretofore made for the sale of other parts of the said tracts are yet to be carried into effect by the execution of deeds, on the one hand, and the payment of the purchase money on the other; but no deeds can be executed nor monies be received, because of the said escheat: That the said proprietors have uniformly treated the settlers on the several tracts of land with a degree of liberality and good conduct, which has been very satisfactory to the settlers and beneficial to the public: That the heirs of the said William Six, will be materially injured, and the settlers on the said several tracts of land will lose their titles to their farms, and the benefit of all payments on account of their purchase monies, in case the state shall insist on holding the estate and interest vested in the people by the said escheat: Wherefore,

I. BE it enacted by the people of the State of New-York, represented in State and Assembly, That it shall and may be lawful for the heirs of the said William Six, to have the said several deeds of conveyance, so as aforesaid, executed by the said James Wadsworth separately and by him and the said Thomas Morris jointly, unto the said Pieter DeSmeth, John Samuel Coudere and William Six, recorded in the Secretary's office of this state, on or before the first day of June next ensuing the passing of this act, and the Secretary is hereby directed to record the said deeds on their being presented at his office for that purpose, within the said time; and for such service the Secretary shall be entitled to demand and received the customary fees of office.

II. AND be it further enacted, That such recording of the said several deeds of conveyance in the said Secretary's office, as by the preceding section of this act is authorized, shall have the like operation and effect in both in law and equity as if the said several deeds of conveyance had been recorded in the Secretary's office within twelve months after the respective dates of the same, according to the directions of the said second section of the act first above mentioned, and that such recording shall not have any other or greater operation and effect: And further, That from and after such recording of the said deeds of conveyance, the said several tracts of land shall be, and hereby are declared to be discharged and released, both in law and equity from the operation and effect of the said escheat.

III. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained shall be held or construed to vacate or make void any bona fide contracts or conveyances made of or concerning any part or parts of the said lands, by the said Pieter DeSmeth, John Samuel Coudere and William Six, or either of them, or their or either of their heirs or assigns; but that all such contracts and conveyances shall have the like force and effect, as if the deeds herein before recited, had been duly recorded according to the statute in such case made.

IV. And provided also, and be it further enacted, That all bonafide contracts held by any settlers on the said lands, for any parts of such lands, and on which the time limited for the purchase money shall have expired, shall be deemed good and effectual both in law and in equity.

V. And provided also, and be it further enacted, That this act, and also, the recording of the said several deeds of conveyance, as by the

first section of this act is authorized, shall absolutely cease to have any operation or effect in law or equity, except as hereafter is excepted, unless the heirs, devisees, or legatees of the said William Six, and his executors or administrators shall upon application for that purpose to the court of chancery of this state, within two years from and after the end of the present war between the United States and Great Britain, satisfactorily make it appear to the said court of chancery, that they, some, or one of them, both now and at the time of such application are, or is the only sole and legal proprietors or proprietor of such part of the said lands, as remains unsold, and of all the purchase monies due and to grow due on the contracts heretofore made for the sale of the said lands, to the settlers on the same, and that the said heirs, devisees, or legatees, and the said executors or administrators, or any or either of them, have not sold, conveyed or assigned or contracted to sell, convey or assign, any part or parts of the said lands or purchase monies to any person or persons whomsoever, but to settlers on the said lands.

VI. And provided also, and it further enacted, That due notice of the said application to the court of chancery shall be given to the Attorney-general of this state, whose duty it is hereby made to attend to the same in behalf of the people of this state, according to the course of the said court, in order that the interest of the people in the premises may be duly protected.

VII. And provided also, and be it further enacted, That in case this act, and the recording of the said several deeds of conveyance, as aforesaid, shall absolutely cease to have any operation or effect as aforesaid, from a failure on the part of the said heirs, devisees, or legatees, and the said executors or administrators, some, or one of them, to make it satisfactorily appear to the court of chancery, as before said, then, and in such case, the advantages and benefits by this act granted, and intended to be granted to the settlers on the said lands, shall be, and hereby are excepted from the consequences of such failure, and the said advantages and benefits are hereby continued and confirmed to the said settlers, anything herein before contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

VIII. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That the occupants of the said lands, the contracts for whose lots have run out by the operation of the time limited for the payment of the purchase monies thereof, and who have not received their title deeds, shall not be subject to the charge of any interest between the time when their contracts so run out, as aforesaid, and the time when the agent of the

said lands shall hereafter tender to them good and sufficient warranty deeds for their lots: And further, That the said occupants shall be, and hereby allowed, four years from the passing of this act for the payment of their purchase monies, with interest thereupon, from the time when good and sufficient warranty deeds shall be tendered to them as aforesaid."

Early historians tell us that Mr. Wadsworth prepared a petition, signed by the majority of settlers, which he presented to the Legislature. In it they asked that the proprietors be allowed to supply the omission of the record of deeds. The petition was granted. The deeds involving the sales of lands in Henrietta to the Holland proprietors were recorded, April 25, 1814 with the Secretary of State.

Two years later in May, 1816, James Wadsworth wrote Attorney Roulet in Philadelphia, complaining that powers enabling him to execute deeds had still not been received. He told of the settlers' great distress as *"their all was at stake,"* and that he, Mr. Wadsworth, was under great pressure. He felt the papers lay too long in the hands of a "Mr. Robertson" and that Mr. Six, busy with affairs in his own country, was perhaps not fully aware of the consequences of the long delay. In August, 1816, Mr. Wadsworth sent a letter to Mr. Six in Holland, asking that the necessary papers be forwarded without delay, granting the power to execute deeds. Before Mr. Six had time to receive this letter, the long awaited papers were received by his attorneys and a letter by Mr. Wadsworth. Duly processed by the laws of New York State, it was not until February, 1817 that the settlers began receiving their deeds.

In a letter in April, 1817 addressed to Cornelis Six, Mr. Wadsworth explained how the title became doubtful: *"The Lands were liable to escheat to the State — there were persons unprincipled enough to have views towards this escheat. The uncertainty of obtaining deeds retarded the settlement — prevented the introduction of more wealthy inhabitants and stayed for a number of years, the realization of payments from the sales."* In a paragraph in the same letter Mr. Wadsworth goes on to say: *"I requested Mr. Roulet to send you long since a copy of the 'act for the relief of the heirs of Willem Six and the settlers on the lands.' For fear that you may not have received it, I send herewith a copy of the last section of the Law,By the act referred to you will perceive that the class of contracts which are dated in June, 1807, ceased to draw interest from the time the last payment became due (1813) to the time deeds were offered to*

the settlers, in the last day of January, 1817." Inasmuch as the Holland proprietors were represented by both agent and attorneys, it is difficult to understand why the deeds had not been recorded and the title perfected years before it was finally accomplished.

After waiting and working on their farms throughout these worrisome times, one would suppose the pioneers of Henrietta could receive their deeds with deserved joy. Now it seemed they were criticized for "*clamoring for their deeds,*" and still greater financial burdens faced them. Be it remembered that they had just passed through the coldest summer (1816) ever recorded, when crop after crop was blackened with frost and snow. If the title difficulty was trying to the agent, his woes were not to be compared to the settlers, for they had a most difficult struggle at this time. Many were forced to abandon their clearings after their terrific endeavor to develop their land and provide support for their families. They were unprepared for the new terms put before them: asked to pay in full within a few months; or to pay in full for twenty acres at said prices with a new contract for all that remained unpaid at an advance of sixty-six per cent; or lacking payment, take new contracts at the increased rate.

The inhabitants of Henrietta formed a committee and appealed directly to the proprietor, through the attorneys at Philadelphia. The attorneys notified the agent, who in a letter justifies his action. In the winter of 1817, Mr. Wadsworth had visited Henrietta, calling a meeting of the settlers, telling them of the title being perfected and stated that inasmuch as they had been granted great indulgence, that now they were expected to meet their payments promptly. He felt it had been a friendly meeting, but later heard rumors to the contrary. Making several visits to Henrietta, he explained the course to be pursued and the necessity of their meeting payments and if they could not pay, the necessity of selling their improvements to such as could pay. "*The burden of their song to me is more time, more time.*" He told the settlers he was disappointed with their scanty remittances, considering all the trouble he had had with their incessant complaints on their not receiving their deeds.

He reminded the attorneys his procedure in regard to the increased contract price was the practice of other agents of other lands. He goes on to state: "*This measure, when first adopted is full of alarm to the settlers. They see at once that at length they must act with decision and it is for this, among other reasons, that it is the most salutary and indeed the only efficient mode of procedure that can be adopted.*" His letter continues:

"The settlement of Henrietta has been essentially injured by the great indulgence. The sales commenced in 1807. About 18 sales were made that year. These contracts expired in 1813. By the Law passed in 1814, the contracts of 1807 are exempted from interest from 1813 to the 1st of February, 1817, the time when deeds were offered; and they are also exempt from forfeiture, till the 9th of April next." (This is when he really lowered the boom.) "The sales subsequent to 1807 do not come under the operation of the law. I now say to these settlers whose contracts are forfeited, and to the purchasers of 1807; Mr. Six will indulge you to the 10th of April next: if you can't pay, sell to those who can pay, and if you don't pay on April 10th next, your lands will be put to you at the current price of wild land. This Mr. Six is not compelled to do, but he is disposed to be indulgent." The agent figured if the improvements were good, the land was worth two to three times what the settler contracted originally, and felt the collection of the debts had been left to his discretion. He further remarks: (in his letter to Six's attorneys),

"That if the settlers receive any encouragement of indulgence from Mr. Six or yourselves, or are encouraged to appeal to him or you, except through my office, there is an end to my usefulness or efficiency in my agency: they ought to be promptly informed that it is not to be expected that Mr. Six will interfere with the details of the Agency of which it must be supposed that the agents are best acquainted and the most competent to judge — that greater indulgence cannot be granted and that their payments will be enforced." He then assured the attorneys that his feelings would forbid anything like harshness or cruelty towards the settlers and that the settlers application as a committee was a matter of profit not humanity.

In August, 1817, he complains to Mr. Six of Mr. Roulet's encouraging the settlers to look to him for indulgence and not to the agent. He tells Mr. Six: *"In my regulations with the settler, when a long credit seems necessary from the circumstances of the case, he will expect to pay a larger sum per acre; and when he receives a shorter credit, a less sum per acre."*

A letter of July, 1818, states his pride in the list of payments he sent to the attorneys. In some manner or another, his methods seemed to pay off. For some (and there were many) hard cases, he extended the period of credit one week. Quote: *"On the first day of the second week, I shut down the gate. As the old contracts were*

then all deemed forfeited, I considered the first object of attention was to give new contracts upon the principal of \$10 per acre on an average. Two hundred contracts were executed and many more to be filled out.” (The town supervisor, Esquire Stevens, lost his wheat on which he relied for payments, when a mill in Rochester burned down. Mr. Wadsworth gave him a loan.) Many of the settlers were anxious to obtain deeds of at least twenty acres. As to the squatters, he told a lawyer in Canandaigua: *“I don’t care what you do with them, but don’t send them to me.”* Although he took a dim view of these fellows, many we are told remained to become outstanding members of the community. The head of a very outstanding family, Martin Roberts, was criticized by the agent for protesting the payment of interest, due to the long wait for a deed. However, he did pay it, honorable veteran that he was.

Jacob Fargo who came from Tinmouth, Vermont in 1808, settled in Ridgeland. In later years he told William Newton of Pinnacle Road, there was very little money circulating. He stated: *“Some succeeded in making their payments and obtaining their deeds, but more failed and new contracts with higher prices were made. Most succeeded eventually in making their payments and owning their farms, but some abandoned their clearings and went ‘west’ ”*

Mr. William Newton described the following incident told to him by Mr. Fargo: *“One spring when money was scarce and payments became due, some of the neighbors got together to see what could be done. On consultation it was found that amongst them they had money enough to make their payments, with a dollar over! It was arranged that Mr. Fargo should take the money to Geneseo, make the payments and use the extra dollar for his expenses. This could be easily done for taverns were ‘plenty’ and meals and lodging were twenty-five cents each. It would take two days, one day to go and one day to return. By taking his lunch with him for the first day, he would have enough for supper, lodging and breakfast at Geneseo and lunch on the walk home. So one morning, Mr. Fargo started early for Geneseo on foot, with the money in his pocket, taking his lunch and eating it on the way. He arrived at Geneseo about five o’clock in the afternoon. He was unaccustomed to a large town and not thinking it prudent to keep so much money overnight, he went immediately to Wadsworth’s office to make his payments. In counting the money, the clerk threw out a dollar counterfeit bill. This upset all Mr. Fargo’s plans, for that was all the money he had for his expenses. After considering the matter, he thought his best course was to be getting home as fast as possible, so he started back immediately,*

walking all night, stopping in Avon for a bowl of bread and milk, and getting home about daylight the next morning." Mr. Newton told him under the circumstances he should have asked Mr. Wadsworth to provide a place for him to stop overnight. Mr. Fargo said he had never begged and did not intend to begin then.

When Mr. Fargo first arrived, he chopped wood for a Mr. Ely in the northern part of West-Town. He earned one hundred dollars and was offered in payment land in Rochester. Mr. Fargo insisted on cash, in order to apply it on his fifty acres at Ridgeland, and then sold all his livestock to have enough to meet the payment demanded. Later he restocked his farm, paying less than what he had received in selling his own, buying from those forced to sell the last minute.

John Woodruff, who settled on the State Road (West Henrietta Road), north of Calkins Road, on a farm later owned by David Bailey, planted an orchard in 1811, and sold the fifty-acre claim in 1817 for a barrel or pork, said to be worth about \$30.

PROBLEMS OF PIONEERING

Early settlement on the east side of West-Town concentrated on Wadsworth Road (now Pinnacle Road). Here the east village first grew, until a road was laid to the "Genesee Falls" (Rochester) in order for the farmers to get their corn ground. According to Jacob Fargo, the first houses were built before the road (East Henrietta Road) was laid. The town of course had been laid out into farm lots, with each one building his house on his farm where it seemed desirable. When the first grist mill was built in Rochesterville, the settlers made a "bee" and cut a road from house to house. Mr. Fargo gave that reason for East Henrietta Road being so crooked. A woods road was cut to the townline from Rush in 1806, but it was several years before it was continued. The West Henrietta Road had been surveyed by the State and was laid from Arkport to the Genesee River. Mr. Wadsworth helped put the River Road through to the Genesee Falls in 1812.

Wheat, pork, whiskey, barrel staves and potash were shipped by 1808 from the port of Charlotte to Montreal. There was more to be made on potash from an acre, than on an acre of wheat. When wheat crops were good, the home market was flooded, and the farmer could not sell it. Because of the scarcity of cash, the barter system was used, farmers trading potash or wheat (if they'd accept wheat) for necessities. Much of the wheat was used for the manufacture of whiskey, which was more plentiful than beneficial. Corn was one of the basic crops, for it was easy to grow and provided "johnny-cake" and corn meal mush for the table and food for the cattle.

Pigs and cows foraged for themselves except in harvest, but had to be rounded up before nightfall because of the attacks of wolves and bears in the early days. In 1810 a bear was killed on the east side of town and its head was erected on a pole in the schoolyard. A wolf was killed in 1812 near the west village. A bounty of \$10 was paid to aid in their extermination. In 1815 David Hedges went into the dense woods adjoining his clearing, near the east village, to seek his cows. They had wandered as far as the Brighton-Henrietta townline. The cows plunged ahead as wolves pursued them when night fell. Mr. Hedges made a rapid ascent up a tree where he stayed until daybreak. One of his shoes fell off and was torn to shreds by the wolf pack. Fortunately they were about the last to be seen about town. Squatters, settled on land in the northern part of town, trapped the wolves for the bounty paid. After crops were planted, the pioneers would often set about to shoot the black squirrels, which seemed to

follow the land-breakers. They would destroy whole fields of corn. Bears with cubs would also demolish an acre of corn overnight. The wildcat "*could curdle the blood with its screechings in the night hours.*"

There were also enormous flocks of pigeons during the early days of settling. One pioneer counted as many as sixty nests in one tree. They were caught by huge nets strung on four tall poles and made good pot pies. If food was scarce due to crop failure or sickness, the meat of squabs after a bleak winter was a God-send. Deer provided venison upon occasion for the settlers' tables.

The earliest farmers were not familiar with the present day method of crop rotation. The medieval practice, handed down from father to son, was to follow the system of "grain, grass and fallow," which did not preserve the fertility of the soil. Nor did they always remove the manure from barnyards and spread it out for fertilizer.

But say what you will, the pioneer's spirit was as strong as his body. With all with which he had to contend, it would seem the most difficult was the so-called Genesee fever, which struck them down before the woodlands had been cleared and the land dried out. Easterners had been heard to refer to the Genesee Valley as the "valley of bones." It seemed to be a combination of malaria and typhoid, bringing on fever, headaches and dysentery. The cures were drastic; bleeding and opium no doubt hastening some of the fatalities. Doctors had little knowledge as to what the patient had or how to treat him. Some were afraid to call on a doctor and resorted to home cures until their constitutions conquered the depleting illnesses. Early cemeteries bear silent testimony to the difficulty of raising families to maturity. The farmer's wife had her own store of curatives: herbs, horehound, rhubarb root, calomel, snake oil for "rheumitis", snake gall pills and slippery elm, etc.

The years from 1806 to 1811 were productive, but more often than not wheat could not be exchanged for leather, so the settlers went barefoot. One early observer stated he had seen them shoeless "*long after the snows fell.*"

The years 1812 through 1816 were poor years for the pioneer families. The worst year to contend with for the farmer was the year 1816, which has been referred to as "*the year of winter.*" January was reported to have been very mild, but February ushered in a cold snap, and by April the cold increased. There was a frost every month

following. The 4th of July was cold enough to don overcoats. Wheat was harvested in September. One man, his wife crying, stormed: "*D— such a country! The frost killed the potatoes as they came through the ground. It caught the wheat in the milk. Now it has frozen the corn in the silk! D— the Genesee country!*" Families suffered from hunger during the following winter, and some left to seek a kindlier climate elsewhere.

Though other early settlers experienced a struggle with similar terms in other areas of the state, the pioneers of Henrietta had the added misery of not being able to obtain a clear title to their deeds for years. In sheer determination and singleness of purpose, most of them were able to hang on. Their love of the land, that provided their families with a livelihood, strengthened their endeavor. Neighbors working together, as demonstrated in the act of pooling their finances to meet their payments, besides being a smart move, was also comforting, binding them together as a townspeople. Patches of clearings in an immense forest, dotted with log houses and barns, were after a generation replaced with attractive farm homes. The growing prosperity was evidenced in the fine, fenced fields and improved stock. We must not minimize however the privation and struggle that went on, nor the personal tragedy involved with those who lost their farms after the back breaking task of clearing the woods and cultivating their lands. Though they were lost to this community, that they possessed the courage to begin again elsewhere, deserves our praise.

It has been stated by early historians that Mr. Wadsworth purchased the unsold lands soon after the title was perfected. Recorded deeds however, list Cornelis Charles Six as an owner as late as 1827. As previously stated, Jonkheer Six died in 1833.

The principal applied, at this critical period of the struggling West-Town settlers, was that land proprietors and settlers were entitled to an equal share of the increasing value of the developing farms. This gives no remuneration to the pioneers who alone developed the wet wilderness lands into the workable farms. Although other settlers in the Genesee Country were confronted with a similar situation, Henrietta was outstanding for the large number of families forced from their clearings. Those who managed to remain found the mills at Rochesterville an advantage. By 1825, shipping on the Erie Canal to markets in the east proved to be a turning point financially.

REGULATIONS IN RELATION TO HENRIETTA SETTLERS

All Persons who regularly hold Contracts for Lots or parts of Lots, not heretofore declared forfeited, and all regular Assignees who claim parts of Lots not less than 20 acres, will be considered as entitled to Deeds, provided they pay the balances on the Lots or the parts of Lots they respectively claim, before the 10th of April next.

To encourage the immediate payment of the purchase monies due Mr. Six, all persons who regularly hold Contracts for Lots or parts of Lots, will be considered as entitled to Deeds for as much as said Lots or parts of Lots as they pay for, provided it is not less than 20 acres, before the 10th of April next.

The rise of land, or the average price of Ten Dollars per acre, will be required for such Lots or parts of Lots, as before explained, as are not paid for by the 10th of April next, payable in 1, 2 & 3 years with annual interest. All resurveys to be at the expense of the Purchaser. Where parts of Lots are Deeded, the parts conveyed will be bounded by parallel lines.

In deciding the part to be conveyed, reference will be had to the accommodation of the Settler, and the Security of Mr. Six — Mr. Keating will be consulted before the regulations are absolutely adopted.

Mr. Keating approved of the above regulation - Sept. 1817.

The period of payment will be extended from the 10th of April next, to the first of June next: — Then to take effect on the principles above explained.

January 1818.

NOTICE TO HENRIETTA SETTLERS

The Agents of Mr. Six have received his instructions to close the Agency as soon as practicable. It becomes the duty therefore of the Subscriber to inform the Purchasers in Henrietta whose Contracts are dated in June last, that their payments will be enforced if not met with punctuality. Such Purchasers as cannot meet their payments, are advised to sell their improvements to more able settlers. The Contracts must be paid either by the present holders or by others — and the Subscriber hopes that the settlers will either pay themselves, or sell to those who can pay, and not subject him to the necessity of putting them to costs.

Geneseo 20: April 1819

NOTICE

The Contracts for Lands in Henrietta dated the 1st of June 1818 and on which no payments have been made, are declared forfeited, but Mr. Keating considering the reduced price of produce, has consented to give to the lawful occupants of the Lots on the Contracts for which no payments have been made, on condition of their paying on the 1st of March next one quarter of the balance then due a credit of three yearly installments for the remaining three quarters of the balance, with lawful interest annually. By this additional indulgence, a settler whose contract was forfeited upwards of a year ago, by paying 1/4 of the balance due the 1st of March next, of the remainder in three annual payments with interest as above, is safe. New Contracts will be given to those settlers who meet the payment of 1/4 of the balance, on the 1st of March next as above explained. Those settlers who cannot pay 1/4 of the balance due the 1st of March next, must be prepared to give up their possessions of the 1st of April next, with all the appurtenances as thereunto belonging – and notice is given at this time in order that those settlers who cannot pay as above, should not put in fall crops, and should be preparing to deliver up their possessions the 1st of next April.

This notice does not apply to those settlers who have made payments on their contracts: – they will be expected to complete their payments the 1st of June next to receive their deeds. The possessions of those settlers who have made no payment, and who do not meet the payment of 1/4 of the balance due the 1st of March next, will immediately after that period be offered for Sale by the Subscriber,

*(Signed) Cornelius Charles Six
by his Substitute
James Wadsworth*

Geneseo 10: August 1822

HENRIETTA BECOMES A TOWN

Because of the difficulties the early settlers had in not being able to get a clear title to their lands, they were at a great disadvantage at town meetings held in Pittsford. In 1816 residents of West-Town voted to hold the next town meeting at the schoolhouse in the east village. This angered the town fathers of Pittsford, and Simeon Stone made the bold statement there was not a legal voter in West-Town. Under the old State constitution, prior to 1821, only those who owned their land could vote. Mr. Stone challenged every voter at the polls as a non-freeholder. Forewarned, they came prepared, and many of them had obtained for one day a deed in fee for a small piece of land. Their vote was cast on the strength of this, and Samuel Felt, a postmaster and merchant of Pittsford, was elected supervisor mostly through the efforts of voters from West-Town. Matters grew worse and led to the separation of our town in 1818. They naturally resented the law which prevented so many from participation in voting and supported the new constitution of 1821.

In 1817 a town meeting was held in the east village of West-Town, but before assembling, Township XII, Range VII, was given the name of Henrietta, for Sir William Pulteney's daughter, Henrietta Laura, Countess of Bath, England. The first town meeting of Henrietta was held April 20, 1818. The following officers were elected:

Supervisor — Jacob Stevens; Clerk — Isaac Jackson; Assessors — Martin Roberts, Layman Hawley and Noah Post; Commissioners of Highways — David Dunham, Solomon Hovey and Elijah Little; Collector — Elisha Gage; Overseers of the Poor — Thomas Remington and Daniel Hedges; Constables — Roswell Wickwire and Elisha Gage; Commissioners of Common Schools — Justus Baker, Richard Daniels and Abel Post; School Inspectors — Jacob Stevens, Charles Sperry and Chauncey Beadle.

Twenty-four pathmasters, or overseers of highways, were appointed at this time, and a resolution passed that they also serve as fence viewers. They further resolved that *"hogs by being well yoked shall be free commoners and a penalty of fifty cents be exacted for every hog that shall be found running at large without them, which money to be contributed to the support of the poor."*

A vote was passed to raise a sum for the support of the common schools, equivalent to that *"received from the public."* A sum of \$100 was to be raised for the support of the poor. They also resolved

that a penalty of five dollars be imposed for every buck sheep found running at large from the first of September until the twentieth of November (during the harvest season). This money also was to be administered by the poormaster. The meeting was adjourned until the 1st Tuesday in April next at nine a.m. in the schoolhouse next to James Sperry's (Methodist Hill).

For years the town meetings were alternated between the east and west side of town. First held in schoolhouses, they switched to holding the yearly meeting in one of two hotels. The following lists a few instances, typical of the times, of cash received and disbursed in the young town:

1833	May — Received of Calvin Brainard \$7.00 which he delivered to me for a stray cow which he stated was sold by his son	\$ 7.00
1833	Paid overseer of poor in money received from Joel Clark balance due Town for stray cow	5.77
1837	Tavern license, Phillip Angevine	5.00
1840	Received of Ansel Hanks money due Town for stray cow	6.87
1843	Received of Elijah Little balance due poor funds from sale of stray sheep	7.87
1861	By cash paid to Samuel Smith for damages to sheep by dogs	6.25
1861	Cash paid Wesley Bly for aforesaid damages	36.00
1861	To O. W. Ellis damages	2.40

Many articles were lacking due to the poverty of the people. The streams of the town were small with low banks. There were no flour mills in West-Town. Jonathan Smith, a Quaker, built the first sawmill in 1811, on a tributary of Allen's Creek (Pinnacle Road opposite Castle Road). A couple of years later, Eager Wells built the second one on Red Creek near Lehigh Station Road, west of the east village. His brother Corwin ran the sawmill upon Eager Well's death.

In 1810 Sidney Weaver, a stepson of Asa Hull, built a log shop on a small stream south of Lehigh Station Road on Pinnacle Road, on a

branch of Allen's Creek. He put in a turning lathe, run by water power in the spring, and turned out large amounts of wood for chairs, spinning reels and wheels, working it up during the summer months. David Hedges established the same type business in the east hamlet where he built a log house, made a clearing and pursued his trade.

About 1813 Richard Daniels bought ten acres of land and built a tannery on the brook near Pinnacle and Lehigh Station Roads. The settlers brought hides, had them tanned and made their own footwear. When times became more affluent, traveling cobblers would be employed to make the family supply of footgear, which they called "whipping the cat." One Mr. Austin and Phineas Baldwin were two of this type shoemaker.

David Deming settled in 1816 on a hundred one acre farm on Bailey Road (the old Vollmer property). In 1820 he made the first brick in Henrietta. The bricks were first used for chimneys and ovens. The bricks used in the construction of the former Monroe Academy, the present U.S. Post Office at 3118 East Henrietta Road, and the old brick homes in the east hamlet without doubt came from Deming's brickyard, located one-half mile west of the east hamlet near the creek on Lehigh Station Road.

In 1820 there were six asheries in town. When the woods were pretty well cleared off, there was little need for them. There were also a number of distilleries.

Each spring, the pioneers tapped the maple trees and had a "sugaring off," the process of boiling down the sap for syrup and sugar.



"Sugaring Off", Peets Farm, Edgewood Avenue, Henrietta.

BLACKSMITH SHOPS

*"I see the smithy with its fires aglow
I hear the bellows blow
And the shrill hammers on the anvil beat
The iron white with heat."*

There were blacksmith shops scattered about the township. John Wise built a blacksmith shop in 1814 in the Baldwin settlement. Perhaps this was taken over by Charles Baldwin for he began in 1816, later replacing it with the cobblestone building still to be seen today on Pinnacle Road, near Calkins. Samuel Adjutant ran a blacksmith shop on the State Road (now West Henrietta Road) north of Methodist Hill, where he made wagons. Tiffany Hunn made bull plows of wood with wrought iron shares, to plow among stumps. These sold for ten dollars each at his blacksmith shop on Clay Road. Jacob and Peter Martin ran a wagon-making shop in the east village, later conducted by William J. Kimball and William Churchill.

Elisha Kimball had a shop where the firehouse stands in the east village. John Wagner, who lived on the northwest corner of East Henrietta and Lehigh Station Roads, was the blacksmith in this shop. The wagon shop was operated by Steve Norton. This building burned and was replaced by John McMillan. When he died, James Guess, a blacksmith and butcher, rented it from Mrs. McMillan. Abe Dean built a shop north of this building which James Guess also ran. When he gave up this business, Merrill Clark purchased the building, later selling the property to the fire company.

The 1856 map shows other blacksmith shops: one on the corner of Pinnacle and Reeves Road, a shop on the Lehigh Station Road near Liberty Hill, and one at Ridgeland on the East Henrietta Road. There was a blacksmith shop on the Carter farm on 1442 Pinnacle Road, made from the lumber from the third story of the Monroe Academy, when it was removed, in the late 1880's. It is possible some of the smaller shops were maintained on farms for the farmers' own use.

A Mr. Smith had a harness shop at 4085 East Henrietta Road the fore part of this century, and Silas Sherman had a harness shop.

Charles Daniels, in the very early days, had a blacksmith shop on the River Road, near the southwest border of the township.

The first blacksmith shop in West Henrietta was built in 1816 by Moses Swift, on West Henrietta Road near Telephone Road. Mr. Swift moved north of the village, selling his business to Mr. Fruitye, who in turn sold the property to the Williams brothers. Alexander and Joseph Williams, born in Lebanon, Connecticut, moved from Dryden, New York to Henrietta with their parents, Nathan and Temperance (Edgerton) Williams. After a short time, they moved to Batavia where the father pursued his trade as blacksmith. Alexander bought his time from his father and returned to Henrietta, where he worked at the blacksmith trade and attended school. He and Joseph commenced business in a log blacksmith shop on Middle Road, near the corner of Lehigh Station Road. At first shoeing oxen and supplying various needs of the farmers were their principal occupations. Then horse shoeing and wagon making were undertaken by the two brothers. In the early 1830's, they built the cobblestone blacksmith shop which stands today at 5393 West Henrietta Road. Besides shoeing of animals and wagon making, a foundry and steam saw mill were established by 1850.



Former cobblestone blacksmith shop at 5393 West Henrietta Road, established in early 1830's by Alexander and Joseph Williams.

In 1835 Alexander Williams withdrew from the partnership to establish a blacksmith and wagon making shop near his residence at 5711 West Henrietta Road. Joseph Williams continued in the cobblestone building, where at one time over fifty men worked for him. Some of the workers boarded at Mr. William's home, others occupied small homes nearby and on Brooks and Erie Station Roads. There was a long wing on the north end of the building, long since removed. The late Clark Stone said he remembered taking a horse

there to be shod and seeing two long lines of horses waiting for the blacksmith.



5000 West Henrietta Road. It is believed house built by Joseph Williams, early Henrietta blacksmith. (Style of roof has been changed.)



Blacksmith and Wagon Making Shop, on West Henrietta Road, south of Erie Station Road, established in 1835 by Alexander Williams. (This building is no longer standing.)

To construct the fine wagons which these men turned out, the workmen had to be skilled in their craft. There were plenty of trees in the woods in the young town from which to select timber for the lumber. After the woodchopper felled the trees, they were brought to the sawmill. A wheelwright was employed for constructing the wheels, which was pains-taking work. The blacksmith supplied the bolts and iron rims for the big wheels on wagons built for heavy



5711 West Henrietta Road, former home of Alexander Williams, early Henrietta blacksmith.

loads. With the arrival of the machine age, the activity of these shops slowly declined, where everything was done by hand. They filled a need in their day, and there was much satisfaction in a job well done. Farmers were pleased with well-built farm wagons and trim carriages drawn by a spirited horse.

In the late 1800's, Joseph William's business was purchased by William Smith, Charles Zornow's grandfather. Upon Mr. Smith's death, the property came into the hands of his daughter, Dorothy Smith Zornow. Upon her decease, it became the property of her husband George and son Charles Zornow, who sold it to Gordon Cartwright of Cartwright's Inn. It is now owned by Ray Hyland and Gus Werner, who lease it to Armand Lunnutti and Carl Borghi. The old landmark that has weathered some hundred and forty odd years, has been refurbished and is occupied as a restaurant known as the Carriage Stop.

Philip Kazmayer ran a blacksmith shop in 1915 on the West Henrietta Road. S.B. Longfellow also had a blacksmith shop.



Philip Kazmayer, West Henrietta
blacksmith.

TAVERNS IN THE TOWN

In 1810 John Acer of Pittsford purchased one hundred fifty acres of land and built a log house where he opened a tavern in the vicinity of the fairgrounds. Ebenezer Gooding, formerly of Bloomfield, ran the tavern after Mr. Acer returned to Pittsford. Jacob Stevens built a large frame hotel in 1817, about where Wegman's store now stands, which he ran approximately three years. Isaac Robinson, sometimes called "one-eyed Robinson", opened a log tavern south of the present Fire Department No. 1. This was occupied later by Jacob Baldwin and Richard Wilkins and was well known in its day.

New-Year's Ball.



Lewis
Stevens

THE Company of Messrs. Fox & Whipple
 are respectfully solicited at L. CHAMBERLAIN'S Assembly-Room, in
 Henrietta, on the 4th. of January next, at 12 o'clock, M. to partake in
 the amusements anticipated.

H. P. DANIELS, } Man'grs. { J. PIKE.
 J. NOBLE, } { S. DUNHAM.
 December 9, 1826.

Jarvis Sherman and Richard Wilkins built the first frame hotel in the east village near the present hotel site, 3115 East Henrietta Road. This was taken over by William Pierce, until Luther Chamberlain became the proprietor. It was owned by Alfred Williams in 1858, when it burned to the ground and was rebuilt by Mr. Williams. About 1880 Mr. McIntyre ran the hotel, and by 1890 Barney Rummel owned it. In January, 1895, the hotel was destroyed by fire. It was considered a nice appearing white structure with a cupolo on top and a porch running across the front. It was insured for \$3,000, but Henry Guersney who rented it wasn't insured and lost almost everything except a barrel of whiskey. There were rumors about at the time, that the fire was of incendiary origin. Barney Rummel built the present hotel. Abe Dean ran the hotel in 1898. Dan Haskins

purchased it from Abe Dean. When Mr. Haskins died, his wife Kitty took over its management and was an able operator, possessed of a firm hand and kindly heart. They were there during prohibition days. Al Burger purchased the hotel of Kitty Haskins, about 1941, and ran it. In 1957 Otis W. (Bill) Zavitz purchased it. Fee and Copeland took over in 1967.



Tally-ho on East Henrietta Road in front of Dean's Hotel in the east village.

There was a log hostelry on the east side of East Henrietta Road near the Rush-Henrietta Townline Road on the Titus farm. This was a stage stop.

Lyman Miller, a farmer, early road overseer and trustee in District No. 7 School on Methodist Hill, owned property on West Henrietta Road, near Bailey Road. He ran a large log tavern by 1817. He and Mrs. Miller, the former Celia Wheeler, lived in Henrietta for twenty years. Hiram Wheeler, their son, married Maria, the daughter of David and Sarah Deming.

In the west hamlet, Henry Chapman kept a hotel in 1821. This is now the residence at 5694 West Henrietta Road of Mrs. Craig Nelson, who is a descendant of the Chapman pioneer family. This former early hotel has been renovated and equipped with modern facilities. The upper floor, which was a former ballroom, has been partitioned into bedrooms. The fiddler's seat still remains in the upper hallway.



5694 West Henrietta Road. Henry Chapman kept a hotel here in 1821.

The second hotel to be erected in West Henrietta village still stands at 5691 West Henrietta Road and is known today as Cartwright Inn. Town meetings, dances and town elections were once held in the large upper room. This hotel was built in 1831 by Edward Bush, who sold it to Chauncey Chapman, a son of Henry Chapman. He was succeeded by John Webster and J.M. Cutler. Isaac and Marge Rulifson, who followed Mr. Cutler in this hotel, were succeeded by Charles Sibley in 1859. Wells Clark was the proprietor in 1865. Mary



Hotel built in 1831 at 5691 West Henrietta Road

Bushman ran it in 1878 and James Wilkinson in 1881. It was said Mrs. Wilkinson was a "praiseworthy" cook who served excellent meals. In 1884 this old tavern was known as Gilmore's Hotel, which in 1891 was operated by David Green, and by 1895 was Ryno's Hotel. In 1899 William Rafferty was the proprietor. In 1922 William Myers purchased it from J. Burns. When the National Prohibition Act was in effect in 1920, the building was used for auto repairs and a service station. When the law was revoked, the building was remodeled once more as an inn.

In 1949 Gordon Cartwright purchased the historic building. This old inn, that was once patronized by stage coach passengers, now enjoys a patronage greater than it has ever experienced in the past.

Westminster Park, located on the Genesee River at 3821 East River Road, acquired its name in the latter part of the nineteenth century. The deacons and congregation of the old Westminster Church, located on West Avenue, Rochester, had a picnic on the grounds, and with much formality, they named the place Westminster Park. The property belonged to the Quirk estate until the Fergusons took possession in 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Will Ferguson at first rented twenty-two acres by the river from the Quirk farm and built a refreshment stand. They sold ice cream and soft drinks, etc. A large pleasure boat would come down the river and stop for folks to picnic. Later the Fergusons built a dance hall. Mr. Ferguson was a teetotaler, and some patrons would go out to the car and drink from their private store. He would have none of that, and if he caught on, would go out and take the bottle away from them! When their son Roy took over, things changed and liquor was sold. An up-to-date recreation building with dining rooms and a dance hall was built. Today it is called Elliot's Nest.



Half-Way House at 2065 East Henrietta Road, former stage coach stop.

There was a stage coach stop known as the Half-Way House at 2065 East Henrietta Road, meaning – half way between Rochester and Henrietta.

The former Oscar Meisenzahl home at 3650 West Henrietta Road was the American Hotel in the early 1900's. This home was recently torn down.

BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

David Jeffords ran the first store on the west side of Henrietta, in an old log house on the east side of Methodist Hill, West Henrietta Road. His store was well stocked and he enjoyed a large patronage of the early settlers. Billings and Bush, who were sons-in-law of Lyman Hawley, opened a store in 1829 in West Henrietta.

Elihu Kirby, proprietor of the general store in the east village, opened a branch in West Henrietta with his brother Micajah in 1831, erecting a brick building on the site of the present general store at the northwest corner of Erie Station Road and West Henrietta Road. Bentley Wheeler ran the store. Mr. Wheeler purchased the business some time later, selling it in 1848 to Alonzo D. Webster. Marvin Williams purchased this store for \$3,200 from Mr. Webster, the deed being recorded February 15, 1868. On July 25, 1881, Marvin and Gertrude Williams sold the two-thirds interest for \$3,333 to James C. Jones. On the same date, Fred Buckley purchased a one-third interest for \$1,666. The deed read: *"excepting rights of rooms over the Brick Store and privileges conveyed from Marvin Williams and wife to Robert Martin, John Brininstool and Isaac Rulifson, Trustees of F. & A.M. Henrietta Lodge No. 526 and their successors. But if the above rooms should be abandoned by the Lodge for Masonic purposes, then the undivided 2/3 of said rooms are hereby conveyed."*

In 1897 one of the first telephones in Henrietta was installed by Townsend Hallock of Rush. It connected Dr. Walker's residence with the store in West Henrietta. It was a six-sided little box, little larger than a dinner plate, according to the late Mrs. Jones. It was placed high on the wall near the front window. When anyone wished to use it, they climbed on the counter and called the doctor by rapping on the center of the box with a little mallet! After waiting a bit, the call would be answered.

Jarvis Sherman ran a meat market in this commercial block in West Henrietta.

The brick store in West Henrietta burned to the ground in 1905. The Belle Telephone linemen, rooming at Rafferty's Hotel, formed a bucket brigade and were credited with saving the village from further conflagration. Jones and Buckley conducted their business in the Grange Hall while a new building was being constructed, on the site of the former building. Members of the Masonic Lodge helped finance the construction of the second floor.



General store on the northwest corner of West Henrietta Rd. and Erie Station Rd. (This structure burned to the ground in 1905.)

Upon the death of Mr. Jones in 1914, his son, Alfred Russell Jones, succeeded him in the business of Jones and Buckley. The younger man was a graduate of the University of Rochester in 1910. His marriage to Lillian Roberts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Clarence Roberts of West Henrietta, was solemnized in June, 1917. Alfred R. Jones entered the United States Military service in 1918. Because of ill health he removed to Asheville, North Carolina, in November, 1919. While returning home with his wife on March 21, 1921, he passed away on the train as it neared Washington, D.C.

Howard and Earl Chase purchased the store and house directly north, October 9, 1919, and in 1921 Howard brought out his brother's interest. At the time the Chases purchased the store, the advertisement appearing in the "For Sale" column stated the merchandise included boots, shoes, auto accessories, hardware and groceries. The premises included a gas station, the ten-room house next door, barn and icehouse. Howard Chase ran a meat market in the early 1920's in a section of the block. A soda fountain was installed about 1925, where many farm folk enjoyed a fine treat. Later this was occupied as a bakery, barber shop, beauty parlor and realty office. A rear room was used by the Rochester Telephone Company at one time, where a number of telephone operators were installed. When this office was vacated in 1927, Mr. Chase installed a poolroom.

Mr. Chase ran the general store forty-seven years, aided at various times by his wife, the former Cornelia Price of Rush, and his three growing sons. Dean Kazmayer also clerked in this store. Cheerful and courteous, Mr. Chase retired in 1966, when he leased the general store to Ted Gerkens. When he left, Willie Jackson operated the store. When Mr. Jackson left, Luciano Vantatorie ran a pizza shop for about a year. Mr. Robert Wilson has occupied the store since 1973.

John Smith brought a stock of goods from Canandaigua in 1812, which he sold in a small room in Acer's tavern on the East Henrietta Road. Stephen Cody kept a store in a one-story frame building in the east hamlet. Benjamin Baldwin succeeded Mr. Cody and built the brick store in 1824-1825 now occupied as the U.S. Post Office at 3118 East Henrietta Road. The frame store he vacated, was later moved and used for the storage of corn. When Mr. Baldwin died, Elihu Kirby purchased the store in 1828. Some of the following items copied from an 1844 account book of Elihu Kirby's General Store are interesting to contemplate:

Buckskin gloves	\$.56	5/8 yd. Wegan	\$.10
3 yards Jean	.27	1 bombazine stock	.50
3/4 yd. twist	.03	1 pocket knife	.94
1/2 dozen eggs	.06	1 axe	1.50
1 Fig (ured) Cravat	.75	1 package tobacco	.02
1 silk handkerchief	.63	1/8 gallon lamp oil	.13
1 lb. nails	.06	1/2 lb. cotton yarn	.14
1 bottle Sweet's Linament	.50	1 whip	.75
1 dozen shirt buttons	.10	3-1/2 yds. fine cambric	1.20
1 snuff box & pencil	.04	1/2 lb. Y.H. Tea	.38
1 gallon molasses	.47	1 gallon lamp oil	1.25
20 yds. sheeting	2.00	Paid Anna Carter 5 weeks work	5.00
10 yds. shirting	.70	Paid James Buckman Threshing	
1 doz. axe helves	3.00	75 bushels Oats 2-1/2 c.	1.88
1 lb. pepper	.16	Paid E. Dikeman 23 lbs. cheese	1.44
5 yds. cotton flannel	.68	Paid for 5 bu. oats	1.00
14 lbs. loaf sugar	1.96	Bought 12 doz. eggs	.84

Above courtesy of
the late Mrs. John Calkins

Hazelton and Calkins ran a grocery store in the brick building about the time of the Civil War.

Alexander Enoch leased the store between 1868-1874, when T.O. Jones bought it. The late Ethel Calkins said T.O. Jones asked Mr. Enoch to leave, but it apparently was not convenient for him to do



Home of Elihu Kirby, early Henrietta storekeeper. This house was on south/east corner of East Henrietta Road and Lehigh Station Road.



Marsh and Griffin General Store at 3118 East Henrietta Road. so immediately. Whereupon Mr. Jones built an addition on the north side of the building and opened a store. Alexander Enoch subsequently built a two-story frame building on the northeast

corner of East Henrietta and Lehigh Station Roads, which he opened as a general store. Later this building was moved to the present 1679 Lehigh Station Road. It is occupied as a two-family apartment.

T.O. Jones was listed in 1872 as dealing in dry goods, groceries, crockery, Queensware and glassware, Yankee notions, etc. He also dealt in produce. Queensware of course was Wedgewood china of cream in color.

In 1889 Marsh and Griffin took possession of the brick store. Later Morris Griffin ran the store alone until Fred Feasel joined him in its operation. When Mr. Griffin retired, Floyd Feasel joined his brother Fred in the general store. Floyd Feasel and Morris Griffin died in 1941, when Fred Feasel purchased the building. Robert Norget in 1945 purchased the store, which he modernized into a self-serve cash and carry superette. His wife Mary assisted him in the business. The Norgets sold to Edward and Mary Nowack in 1948, who continued running the superette until 1961. At this time they remodeled the premises to accomodate their ice cream parlor. The Nowacks occupy an apartment on the second and third floors. In 1971 the U.S. Post Office was moved from next door into more commodious quarters in the former ice cream parlor at 3118 East Henrietta Road.

The Chapin Block at 3130 East Henrietta Road, just south of the present Post Office, served the community in various capacities. In



Floyd and Fred Feasel in their general store at 3118 East Henrietta Road.

1890 Mr. Dates had a shoe and harness repair shop upstairs. Betsey Secor had a room for the Loyal Temperance Legion in a room downstairs. There was a milliner shop in the 1890's in this block.



Chapman Block at 3130 East Henrietta Road.

W. Edward Fretts used the lower floor of the Chapin Block for a market for years. There was an icehouse directly east of the building. They cut the ice in Mendon Ponds and drew it in bob sleighs, packing it in saw dust. This supplied them with ice for the summer months. Mr. Fretts used to go to Livingston County to purchase steer, driving them back to Henrietta on foot. He pastured them down by the Lehigh Station Road. There was a slaughter house at the back of the lot where they killed and dressed the beef. Later he used a slaughter house east of what is now the Winslow residence at 3490 East Henrietta Road, on the north side of the drive, near the barns. He had three men working for him: Ed Gilbert, John Sipperly and Steve Connolly. Ed Fretts delivered meat through Henrietta, West Henrietta, Rush and the Association Grounds; the area between Mt. Hope and South Avenue, south of Highland Avenue. He had a cart fitted for carrying meat and drove a team of "mustangs." At one time he owned two very large steer that he exhibited around at the County Fairs.

James Guess took over the business, giving a reception on March 30, 1900. Other men who ran a butcher shop here were Clark Stone, Harry Wood, Marvin Smith and Ted Carter. Mr. Smith's mother, Hattie Fretts Smith, worked for her brother and also helped her son.

His wife, Jeannette Smith, also helped in the butcher shop. There was a barber shop upstairs for years in the Chapin Block. When Harry Wood left the Chapin Block, he built the one-story building and ran a meat market where James Sweeney's plumbing and electrical store was later located, at 3170 East Henrietta Road. Mr. Sweeney began business in 1933, purchasing the property about 1935. He retired in 1970.

The late Retta Feasel set up her variety store in the Chapin Block after the meat market closed. She ran the Suburban Shop until 1954, when the building was sold to Gerald and Mary Hoke. Mrs. Hoke and her aunt, Henrietta Carroll, ran the Country Store until 1957. The U.S. Post Office then moved from across the road, and remained in this block until 1971. The interior being renovated to accommodate postal demands. The U.S. Post Office moved into the Nowacks' building at 3118 East Henrietta Road in 1971.

A Red and White store was located on East Henrietta Road in a small building (no longer standing) between the old Firehouse No. 1 and the gas station around 1930. Mr. Frank Warth was the manager and Mrs. George Lohr was clerk. In 1932 Mrs. Floyd (Rhett) Feasel ran a variety store in this building. When she moved across the road into the Chapin Block, Evelyn Burger ran a beauty parlor for a time in the vacated store. A short while later the U.S. Post Office was moved from the general store to this location on the west side of East Henrietta Road.

William Lightfoot built the general store near the corner of East River Road and Jefferson Road, West Henrietta, in 1934. Later it was purchased by Elizabeth Lloyd and Bernice Root. Robert Cooper is the present owner.

There was a store and post office at Ridgeland, just south of the railroad tracks, on the east side of East Henrietta Road. Mr. G. David Miller, a former resident of Ridgeland, stated this store existed before 1890. His uncle was the storekeeper when men wore high leather boots and barrels of salt were stacked alongside of the store. A Red and White store was also located there in later years.

There was a vinegar house around 1858 on the southeast corner of East Henrietta and Goodberlet Roads. In 1872, A. Holcombe and Son manufactured cider and vinegar in East Henrietta. In 1920-1935, Mr. Konig (King) had a cider mill on Middle Road.

Mr. Samuel Calkins and son John, who both resided on the East Henrietta Road, began a coal and produce business in Henrietta in the mid-eighteen-nineties. When S.U. Calkins retired, John Calkins



Store and Post Office on East Henrietta Road, at Ridgeland near the railroad tracks. (This building has been torn down.)

continued the business until 1955. His son Richard had also been in the business with him for a number of years.

George Miller of Ridgeland, East Henrietta Road, ran a coal and feed business from 1890 until 1930.

Peter Spacher had a cider mill and coal business near the railroad tracks, at Red Creek (Mortimer) on the Brighton-Henrietta Townline Road.

There was a cider mill at one time just north of the Good Shepherd Church. This was later the site of a gas station, owned by the Preston family about 1930. Albert Kusak bought the property and two of his sons, Casimer and Stephen, attended the station. Stephen later became a crack World War II pilot, flying over the Hump. He now runs a first-class resort on an island near Spain.

A cooper shop is shown on the 1858 map on the Martin Road, near the West Henrietta Road. Very often a farmer would carry on his trade during the winter months after farm work tapered off following the harvest season. Barrels were made tight for liquids and

slack for dry materials. Barrel staves had to be seasoned for many months. Wash tubs, churns, sap buckets, water pails and butter firkins were all products of the cooper's hand labor.

In 1855 through 1867, there was a nursery on the Chase (Castle) Road, where Daniel Chase and Lyman Otis conducted the business under the name of Chase and Otis. They also dealt in livestock, produce and lumber. In the spring of 1867, they moved their lumber business to Rochester, locating on Court Street between the race and the river. About fifteen years later, the firm of Chase and Otis Lumber Company purchased the lumber stock of H.H. Edgerton and located on five acres of land at South St. Paul Street (South Avenue). It was at this location on July 28, 1885 that a spectacular fire of suspicious incendiary origin occurred, drawing an immense crowd of people. At the time Mr. Chase was in Henrietta, and his partner Mr. Otis was in Saginaw, Michigan. A general alarm brought out all the fire fighting equipment in the city. The fire started in a barn, but quickly spread to the lumber, crossed the river to the property of Whitmore, Rauber and Ficus and to yards of the State. Damage to the amount of \$50,000 was suffered by the firm of Chase and Otis, who carried \$21,000 in fire insurance on their "island" lumberyard.

The widely known firm of Ellwanger and Barry Nursery possessed one hundred thirty-four acres of land on the East Henrietta Road for a period extending from 1880 to 1920. The late Charles Roth for whom the first Rush-Henrietta Central School was named, worked as a youth for this nursery at the Henrietta location.

George Leonard of 1871 Lehigh Station Road sold nursery stock for over fifty years. He began his business in 1909 in Brighton, moving to Henrietta in 1926. Now in his eighties, he is proud of the Leonard Coat of Arms, which occupies a place of honor in the living room of his home. His late wife, Margaret, was a Beckwith before marriage.

The late Edward Swift, Sr., of 3224 East Henrietta Road, opened a nursery in 1947 in the east village. The Swifts formerly lived in Dansville where Mr. Swift was in the nursery business with his father. Mr. Swift passed away in 1961, when his son and namesake, Edward, Jr., took over the business.

Oscar Meisenzahl purchased a farm at 3650 West Henrietta Road in 1921 and operated a dairy farm. In 1928, Mr. Meisenzahl built a dairy and operated milk routes as well as the farm. As his six sons



Former American Hotel in early 1900's, at 3650 West Henrietta Road. Later home and dairy farm of Oscar Meisenzahl. (Recently torn down.)

matured, they worked for their father, entering business with him. Mr. Meisenzahl retired in 1951, when his sons, Caspar, Walter, Martin and Oscar continued the business. Robert and Roy formed a partnership separately, doing business under the "B. and R. Dairy." A dairy bar was built on the premises, where ice cream and dairy products were dispensed. In December, 1974, the Meisenzahl Dairy closed its doors.

Arthur Kalsbeck was born in Warga, Friesland, Netherlands and came to Henrietta from Rochester with his wife Eleanor in the spring of 1930. He operated a dairy farm for a year at 3224 East Henrietta Road, where the Swift Nursery is now located, working up a milk route in Henrietta, Rochester, West Brighton and Chili. He purchased his milk bottled and pasteurized from Scottsville for about nine months. In January, 1931, Mr. Meisenzahl began pasteurizing for Mr. Kalsbeck, who is a licensed milk dealer and member of the Rochester Milk Dealers Association. He conducted business with the Meisenzahls for forty-three years.

Bly Martin ran the G.L.F. for many years in a building located beside the railroad tracks on Erie Station Road, West Henrietta. This building burned to the ground when Mr. Martin's daughter, Eleanor Naven, lived there with her family. Mr. Naven's mother lost her life in this tragic blaze which occurred January 13, 1964.

F.B. Pease Company, manufacturers of food processing machinery, is located at 1450 East Henrietta Road at Ridgeland. It was founded in 1875 by Mr. Warren Pease's grandfather, Franklin Beech Pease, when it was located in Rochester. In 1917 Walter M.

Pease, Franklin's son, took over this company and moved to Henrietta in 1927. It was first known as the Pease Ladder Company, producing other wood products such as potato graters and apple graters. In 1925 they began the manufacture of apple paring and coring machines. In 1954 they discontinued making ladders. This manufacture of food processing machinery has become a major business, international in scope. The founder's grandson, Warren F. Pease of Rush is now the owner. This company has the distinction of being the first modern industry in Henrietta.

High Point Mills began operation in 1946. It is a corporation of Zinter & Sons, who manufacture lawn and garden fertilizers under the trade name of "Turflin Fertilizer." They are situated at 1225 Lehigh Station Road, near the railroad. This building was formerly used as a beanhouse, where they processed beans. It was later used to store cabbage when John Calkins bought cabbage from farmers and shipped it by carload from this location.

TEMPLES OF WORSHIP

It took a great deal of faith in the Almighty and in oneself to start out in midwinter with one's family and earthly goods in a covered wagon for a wilderness home. Distances which can now be covered within several hours by car and less by air, took well over a week to a month, depending on the location of the former home. Old friends, an established town and church affiliation must have been sorely missed. Letters, costly and slow in delivery, helped keep in touch, but did not fill the lack of the spoken word. Thus we find the early pioneers in West-Town gathering in homes to worship God, taking first steps to establish a church of their faith.

Quakers

Among those who made the trek westward to settle finally in Henrietta were about thirty Quaker families. A meeting was held in 1820 here, and a Preparative Meeting was established, 10th Month, 1825. This was a branch of the Rochester Meeting. The Friends built a meeting house on farm property on Calkins Road donated by John Russell, a member. In the business meeting 7th month, 1828, Jesse Eddy and Aaron Webster were appointed to raise a subscription in order to obtain the cost for fencing the burying ground, near the meeting house. (This was located on the north side of Calkins Road, opposite what is now the Lochner Building on the fairgrounds.)



Former Quaker meeting house, built circa 1826, on the north side of Calkins Road, across from the present fairgrounds. (This building is no longer standing.)

In the 12th Month, 1828, Elijah Pound and Judith Coleman presented their proposition for marriage and it was sent on to the Monthly Meeting (Farmington). The Monthly Meeting is the executive business meeting of the Society of Friends. This area was part of the Farmington Quarterly Meeting and the New York Yearly Meeting until the Genesee Yearly Meeting was established in 1834.

In 1828 a division occurred among Quakers throughout the United States. It has been credited to Elias Hicks. One reliable source, a Quaker, has stated a man coming from England by name of Thomas Shiltoe, visited meeting after meeting. After a half-day's work, he left dissension and division. The two factions were known as the Orthodox and Liberals, or Shiltoeites and Hicksites. The Orthodox were the ones to leave as a rule, while the Hicksites remained in the meeting house. There were the two groups in Henrietta. Where did the Orthodox meet thereafter? It is possible there was a Quaker Meeting House at 4745 East River Road, before the Methodist-Episcopal Church met there. Some descendant of an early family of Henrietta told the present occupant, Mrs. Davis, that it had been a Quaker Meeting House and that the location was called Piety Hill. The property has never been in the name of any religious group. The land was no doubt given to a group for as long as it was used for religious gatherings.

Friends residing in the northwestern part of Mendon attended the Henrietta Meeting of Friends on Calkins Road, until the Meeting in Mendon was formed in 1833.

Daniel Quimby was the preacher, living not far from the meeting house on East Henrietta Road. A preacher is "acknowledged," not appointed. The service is conducted in "silence," any member may speak when moved to do so.

The Henrietta meetings languished, and in 1849 the meeting house was sold by the Liberal or Hicksites, to Hiram Calkins, and many of the congregation moved or joined the Mendon society.

The old meeting house was moved and used as a farm building by succeeding owners. In 1912 during a severe wind storm, the large barn on the property was blown down, but the old former meeting house withstood the gale. Stalls were hastily installed within, and farm horses were sheltered in the sturdy building until a new barn could be raised by Will McNall. Harold McNall, his son, lived on the farm after his father retired. The farm was later owned by Louis Levine.

By 1911 only two upright fieldstones remained to mark the site of the Friends burial ground on Calkins Road. About 1960, three stones could be discerned sinking in the ground, covered with weeds. Construction workers found evidence in 1965 of it having once been a burial ground. Descendants of several Quaker pioneer families live in Henrietta today.

East Baptist Church

The first religious group to organize in Henrietta was a Baptist society on the east side of the township. This was June 12, 1812, and settlers attended from a wide area. The society thrived, its membership by 1815 was seventy-three, numbering one hundred eight by 1817. They met in one another's homes and in schoolhouses. In July, 1827, they joined forces with the Second Baptist Church, and together they were called the United Henrietta Baptist Church. A division occurred, with the First or East Baptist group, continuing services in the brick church in the east village until 1841, when they sold this building to the Methodist-Episcopal



East Baptist Church on Reeves Road, corner Pinnacle Road, built 1876.

Society. The East Baptist group built a frame building on Reeves Road with a parsonage and burial ground, meeting in a brick school until their church was completed.

At midnight on September 18, 1871, a fire was discovered. Most of the furnishings were saved, such as the organ, pulpit, seats, etc. The following Sabbath, people gathered in their carriages under the sheds as Brother Graves preached to them, standing in the churchyard. He chose for his text: Isaiah 64:11; "*Our holy and beautiful house where our fathers praised Thee is burned up with fire, and all our pleasant things are laid waste.*" That afternoon three new members were baptized in Mendon Ponds. For two succeeding Sundays, church services were held in Rush. Then Sister Miles opened her home and services were held there for six Sundays. It was proposed that a floor be laid in the new sheds, whereupon money was raised and a floor installed. Sunday school was held in the sheds for several years, meeting at four o'clock in the afternoon when an occasional sermon would be given. When attendance increased sufficiently, a building committee was appointed and money was raised to finance the building of a new church. The dedication took place July 4, 1877. It is said William Wood was the builder, with Joseph Carter doing the mason work.

Many of the early east side families attended this church. The late Dr. Floyd Winslow was a member, as well as his mother, Belle Stone Winslow, and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Stone, who were active participants in the life of the church. Harvey Stone was a deacon for over forty years. The Reverend Otis Wheeler had been pastor for over twenty years in this century. David Siefert is the present pastor.

A Centennial was observed in the fall of 1943 of the church congregation's occupancy of that site. A photograph of the church appeared on the program with the following poem written by Mrs. Arthur Kalsbeck.

*One hundred times the woodbine donned her dress
Of ruby red to catch the eager eye,
One hundred times man watched in breathlessness
Gay Autumn boldly primp and beautify.
The seasons have not changed their wondrous ways
In all this while, nor has the heart of man;
An inner urge is born to thank and praise
The One who placed us in His perfect plan.*

*Upon this chosen spot where two roads meet,
This little church has stood for many years,
Its aging walls enclose a sweet retreat,
Where men may bring their hopes, their joys and fears.
Another hundred years this church shall know,
And feel through all, His ceaseless blessings flow.*

West Henrietta Baptist Church

In 1813 a second Baptist society was formed on the River Road with the assistance of Elder Weaver of Mendon, who had conducted services occasionally in pioneer homes on the west side of town. Later Elder Thomas Gorton settled on this road, arousing religious zeal in this little group. On February 25, 1815, they gathered at Josiah Nichols' River Road farm home, where they read their articles of faith and covenant together. They solemnly agreed to maintain them with the help of God. The fourteen charter members bestowed the name of the West Baptist Church of Pittsford on their new organization. When the town of Henrietta was officially organized, they renamed their church the Second Baptist Church of Henrietta. Invitations were issued to six churches to sit in council to recognize them as a church of Christ. On this occasion they held their meeting at the home of Joseph Tucker, with representatives from churches in Pittsford, Caledonia and Avon present. Elder Gorton became pastor of the church in May, 1815. Regular services continued in homes and the schoolhouse, until 1818 when a block house was erected.

In June, 1827, a committee was appointed to meet with representatives of the First Baptist Church of Henrietta to make arrangements to unite both churches. They united in July, as previously stated, and were known as the United Henrietta Baptist Church. A brick church was built on the site of the present Trading Post at 3160 East Henrietta Road. Dissatisfaction arose in 1829 between them, but they continued on together for a time. On February 8, 1838, several members met at Isaac Nichols' house to consider withdrawal and reorganizing in West Henrietta. Thirty-five names appeared on the petition to the United Church stating their purpose. On the 3rd of March, they met in the West Henrietta schoolhouse to once more write their articles of faith and belief. They met again on the 17th to approve the articles and named their church the West Henrietta Baptist Church.

The building was erected the same year and stands today serving a Baptist congregation as of old. Well not quite the same, for in those



West Henrietta Baptist Church on northeast corner of West Henrietta Road and Erie Station Road, built in 1838.

days, church discipline was very strict. Men were called before the congregation for missing a church service or playing cards in a tavern. Women were called on the carpet for gossiping and saying unkind things about one another. Only acts of necessity and mercy were to be indulged in on the Lord's day. Before one member could obtain a letter of transfer to another town, he had to return and express his regrets for moving his household goods on Sunday! Members were admonished to have family prayers and Scripture reading daily. This was another practice common for many years among devout people of various denominations.

In the late nineteenth century, the church was heated by two coal stoves. A square wood stove heated the session room. When a social was held, a cook stove on castors was rolled out, a fire was made in it (after connecting the stove pipe) and coffee was made. Planks stretched across saw horses served as a table. In the early 1890's, a furnace was installed, later replaced by a steam boiler. By 1910, new Sunday school rooms were added. In 1915, at the time of their Centennial observance, a pipe organ was installed with the help of the Andrew Carnegie Fund. The Lodge and Dunn brothers of Scottsville, members of this church, sang as a quartette, singing in other towns, as well.

A Sunday school wing was added in 1917, and a new parsonage built in 1956. In 1965 the church celebrated their Sesqui-Centennial. The Reverend Lee Anglin is the pastor.

Henrietta Congregational Church

At the organizational meetings of the early Congregational Church in Henrietta, the following was recorded by the clerk:

"A meeting of the inhabitants of the west part of the Town of Pittsford, residents of the said Town duly notified and holden at the Schoolhouse near James Sperry's, the tenth day of February, One thousand Eight hundred and Eighteen, for the purpose of organizing a religious society.*

Voted that this society shall take the name of Manville.

Voted that Moses Sperry, Henry Chapman and Linas Everts be the trustees of said society.

Voted the meeting be adjourned till the first Tuesday in February next at six o'clock P.M., at the same place which shall be the 'annual' meeting".

Linas Everts, Clerk

**James Sperry lived on West Henrietta Road,
corner Lehigh Station Road*

October 15, 1818

*"A meeting of a number of the inhabitants of Henrietta and members of this society convened at the house of William Ellis for the purpose of building a log meeting house for the Congregational Church and Society in Henrietta and agreed to proceed to build it on land** belonging to John Jones. Agreed it should be done by subscription."*

(Signed) John Gooding, Clerk

***On Middle Road*

Constitution

December 1st, 1819

“Whereas a society was formed in the Town of Henrietta the tenth day of February, One thousand Eight hundred and Eighteen agreeable to the statute of this State by the name of Manville Religious Society, and whereas it is expedient that it should be known who belongs to said society in order that its concerns may be the better managed and that some salutary rules should be adopted for the regulations of its members. Therefore we the subscribers do adopt this instrument for the above purpose and consider ourselves morally and religiously bound to observe such rules as a majority of our members shall adopt providing they are not opposed to the Statute by virtue of which said society was formed.

Article 1st: Every person subscribing to this instrument shall have an equal vote in all meetings, relating to this society and all questions at any regular meeting thereof shall be decided by a majority of those present except in the alteration of this Instrument in which case two thirds shall be necessary.

Article 2nd: The society shall not have the power to tax its members but all money raised for the benefit of the society shall be by subscription!”

The names of fifty-three men were signed to this declaration, among them appeared names of well-known early residents such as Henry Chapman, Moses, James, George and Charles Sperry, Joseph Tinker, John Carter, John and Thomas Jones, Matthias E. Angle, Danford Stone, Chester Gunn and David B. Crane.

As early as 1812, several years before this group formally organized, Moses Sperry had read sermons sent him by his former pastor. Sometimes he would preach a sermon himself, as did Deacon Ellis in the schoolhouse.

Of interest to present day readers is evidence of the barter system resorted to in lieu of ready cash during this period. In the Society expense account, in the building of the log meeting house on Middle Road, the following entries were recorded:

<i>John Gooding by boards for meeting house</i>	\$21.95
<i>John Gooding for shingle nails</i>	1.69
<i>John Gooding on two gallons of whiskey on M.H.</i>	.50
<i>Ebenezer German by 13 days work on meeting house at 2 bushels of corn per day</i>	8.12
<i>John Bales by 4 days on meeting house</i>	2.00
<i>Nathan Marble by 15 bushels of 'lyme'</i>	1.88
<i>William Ellis by team work</i>	2.75
<i>Martin Edgerton by brick, logs and team</i>	1.75
<i>Warren Burr 1½ days masoning</i>	1.50
<i>John Gooding by 2 bu. corn to German</i>	.62½
<i>John Jones by 10½ gal. whiskey</i>	2.63
<i>John Gooding by 24 bushels corn to Ebenezer German at 50 cents for carrying it to Rush</i>	8.00

A special meeting was called on June 24, 1824, when it was voted to hire the Reverend Mr. Kendrick for one year. And that also if a sufficient sum be raised "*to hire him it is understood that he preach at the schoolhouse near L.C. Chamberlain in proportion to the money subscribed by those who wish to have him preach there,*" and "*the remainder of the time at the Meeting house.*" The school near Chamberlain's must have been the former brick school on Lehigh Station Road directly back of the hotel in the east hamlet. The Monroe Academy had not yet been erected.

John Jones made the fires before the congregation met in the log house, until he was killed by a falling tree. In 1826 the Reverend George P. King, under the patronage of the American Home Missionary Society, served in Henrietta.

A meeting was held in the log meeting house on Middle Road as late as 1831, when a lot was purchased of the Monroe Academy. A frame church was erected on Lehigh Station Road in 1832. William Crocker, assistant to the Principal of Monroe Academy, in writing to Oliver Baker, former Principal, in February, 1832 stated: "*The Society commenced building the Meeting house under favorable circumstances, and everything relative to the church goes on in unity and love.*" In December of 1832, James Sperry wrote the following letter to Oliver Baker, former Principal of the Academy:

*Oliver Baker
Yale College
New Haven, Connecticut*

Henrietta, December 26th, 1832

“My dear brother Baker, when you were at Henrietta last I saw you but a minute and was in such a hurry and had so many things on my mind that I could not converse with you but half a minute – in fact, I said so little to you, that when you were gone I was ashamed that I had not spent more time with you and ascertained how you got along in your journey towards Heaven, but so it was and it can't be helped now. And I am now in so much haste that I shall not be able to say half as much as I want to on the subject, and only object of my letter, for I am in so much haste, that I have or had absolutely sat down to write without any paper. Now for the subject or object of this letter: – We barely hinted about a minister for this place and if I remember right, you said you could or would send us just such a one as we want here. I have no doubt but you know better than I do what kind of a minister we want here, but lest I should set too great a value on your judgment, I will describe the man. We want a man of first rate talent – well instructed in the doctrines of the Cross, with special gifts in speaking in extemporaneous remarks, a mind of his own though not dogmatical, one who has an extensive acquaintance with human nature, and knows all the secret windings of a wicked and depraved heart – Has a good share of common sense, is easy of access, and yet knows how to maintain a suitable and proper dignity – is not timorous nor afraid of lions, – knows his own business and will attend to it faithfully, and let other folks business alone and above all is a man of ardent piety, and has undertaken to preach the gospel because he loves the cause of his Divine Master and is willing to obey His commandments. – Has not been governed in his preparation for the ministry by a man pleasing and a time serving spirit – Is willing to seek at all times the interests of Christ's Kingdom, and depend upon His promise for the addition of all necessary things – Has no desire or wish to be at ease in Zion.

Could we obtain such a servant of God, our worldly substance, or as much of it as is necessary is at his disposal – and he never shall need or lack the necessary things of this life – Everything seems now to be ready here for the cause of Christ to be advanced and to triumph here in meekness over opposition – Now if you know of a man who comes anywhere near answering the above description and who will come and labor with us for good, write me immediately and let me know when he will come – We have now Mr. Andrews living in Pittsford without a charge, laboring with us who will continue his labors until we are supplied with a Pastor. Now if you know of a man who will come, and who answers, send him along immediately. If we

should happen to be supplied, which is doubtful, there are a number of fields open in this region – where laborers are wanted – East and West Mendon are vacant besides other places – in fact as you go west calls for faithful ministers thicken.

Now then don't neglect to attend to this immediately – and whether you succeed in finding one or not – write and let me know how it is. My family are all well. Respectfully your brother in Christ

James Sperry.”

After reading the foregoing letter, one might wonder if the good Mr. Sperry thought of all the characteristics desired in a new minister, or if members of the ministerial committee may have contributed suggestions. At any rate, it reveals much in human nature as now, demanding well nigh perfection in their shepherd, and allowing some leeway for members of his flock.

Under June 25, 1833, the Congregational Church was taken under the charge of the Presbytery of Rochester, and the next month the Reverend Roswell Murray was installed, serving until 1835. (In 1801 it was arranged by the two denominations under the “Plan of Union” whereby the Congregational churches could install Presbyterian ministers, at the same time maintaining their own form of government.) In 1838 a salary of \$400 was guaranteed the minister. Minutes in 1844 told of putting slips up for sale to the highest bidder for support of the preacher. These were pew rentals and it was common practice in the early days of the church to charge pew rental. Pew rental or bidding was still in effect in 1866 for the clerk made the notation: *“the bidding was lively and very harmonious, a kind and cheerful spirit pervading. The amount realized from the sale of slips was between \$600 and \$700.”*

On Saturday evening, January 26, 1867, about eight o'clock, according to the *Union Advertiser of Rochester*, fire broke out in the Congregational Church of Henrietta. There was a young people's meeting in the session room at the time. When the flames were discovered, they were beyond control and soon spread to all parts of the building. People in town responded quickly and moved most of the furniture from the church. A dwelling nearby was threatened as were the church sheds, which caught fire several times but were doused with water. Fortunately the wind blew the flames away from the Monroe Academy. It was decided the fire originated in a lamp hung near the ceiling in the lower hall. There was no insurance, the

loss being estimated at \$2,500. The city dwellers noticed a phenomenon during the fire. They beheld a bright streak of light in the sky over the burning edifice. A young man described it saying, *"it looked like a crack in the heavens."*

On the twenty-ninth of January, three days later, a special meeting was held at Academy Hall. They received an invitation of the Methodist congregation to share their house of worship half of the time. This invitation was accepted gratefully. The Congregationalists decided to hold evening meetings and also voted unanimously to build a new house of worship. They found in looking into the matter, that the Society was already incorporated since 1818, as the Manville Religious Society. The name was changed at this time to the First Congregational Church of Henrietta, which had been in use for some time. In order to cut costs, the Society pledged to deliver all materials, to construct the cellar and underpinnings and furnish materials whenever possible. The new church was completed within the year.

In 1874 they considered the feasibility of uniting the Congregational and Baptist congregations, a move with which



Congregational Church, built in 1867. Note sheds on right for horses. (This church, which has been torn down, was located at approximately 1676 Lehigh Station Road.)

everyone was in favor. The Sunday school reorganized with Harvey Stone, of the East Baptist congregation, elected Sunday school superintendent. (This was during the period the East Baptist Church congregation was without a church building, due to fire.)

In 1877 the Reverend George Strassenburgh was issued a call to become pastor. It was voted to pay him \$650 yearly and to ask the Home Missionary Society for an additional sum of \$150 to be added to his salary. He was also to receive four-weeks vacation.

In the fall of 1916, the Methodist congregation united with the Congregationalists. Thereafter they were known as the Union Congregational Church. They held a Centennial week from Sunday, November 26th through Tuesday, December 5th, 1916. The Methodist church building was used as a parish house until a kitchen and fellowship hall was added to the rear of the Congregational edifice.

In 1961 the Union Congregational Church affiliated with the United Church of Christ.

The picturesque old Congregational Church served the community long and well. The expanding congregation and Sunday school realized they had outgrown it and needed a larger sanctuary and classrooms. Funds were raised to finance the new church, to be located on property at 1400 Lehigh Station Road. The old church was torn down to make way for the new apartment building, erected at 1676 Lehigh Station Road, in 1966.

The cornerstone of the new church was laid May 8, 1966, in an ancient ritual conducted by New York State Grand Lodge leaders of the Masonic Order. Dignitaries attending were Raymond Beardsley, vice-moderator of the Genesee Valley Conference of the United Church of Christ, the Reverend Philip Scott, State executive minister of this denomination, and Chief Justice Clarence J. Henry.

The old church building lives only in the fond memories of the older generation.

The Reverend David Donner is pastor.

Evangelical Lutheran Reformed Church

The first Evangelical Lutheran Reformed Church in the Rochester area was organized and dedicated in 1834. Services were held at the residence of Elder Samuel Mook, lay preacher, at 5040 East



Former residence of Elder Samuel Mook, built circa 1830 at 5040 East Henrietta Road. Evangelical Lutheran Reformed Church services were held here.

Henrietta Road. This is the former home of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Hines and was built about 1830. A three-quarter acre of land was set aside in a chestnut grove for burial purposes if parishioners so desired. Services were held here until 1856, when the Reverend Mook was instrumental in organizing a similar group in Rush. There they met in the Thomas schoolhouse, where the Rush Town sheds are located, until 1863, when with the Reverend Mook as pastor, they built a new church.

The First Universalist Church Of Henrietta

On October 3, 1877, a parcel of land containing one-half acre was conveyed by Chauncey Chapman and wife, to the trustees of the First Universalist Society of West Henrietta. For a time they held meetings in the West Henrietta Baptist Church. By 1882 they had built their own church and were holding regular services in it on Erie Station Road. This church continued to function for some ten years.

Early Methodist-Episcopal Churches

Circuit ministers of this denomination came to Henrietta in the early days of its settlement. Meetings were held at the home of Moses Wilder on Wadsworth Road (now Pinnacle Road) and at Solomon Hovey's on Middle Road.

The First Methodist-Episcopal Society was formed at Mr. Hovey's about 1822. Soon after organizing, the congregation met at the home

of Calvin Brainard, who had purchased 400 acres of land at Methodist Hill, West Henrietta Road. Mr. Brainard and several members of his family are interred there.

The second society, before organizing, met in a brick schoolhouse on the south side of Lehigh Station Road, west of the corner of East Henrietta Road. This Methodist Society was organized about 1826 when the Monroe Academy was completed. Meetings were held in Academy Hall until 1841.

A third society of the Methodist-Episcopal Church of this town was organized on the River Road in West Henrietta about 1830. A small house of worship was erected at the end of Brooks Road. This is occupied as a residence today.

The second society, in the east village, purchased the church building of the Baptists, a brick structure with a balcony. This was condemned and torn down, when the Methodists built a new frame church on the same site. This building is now occupied by the Trading Post at 3160 East Henrietta Road.



Former Methodist/Episcopal Church at 3160 East Henrietta Road, built 1868.

The new Methodist-Episcopal Church was dedicated July 19, 1868. The contract for masonry, carpentry, materials and painting was let to the preacher, the Reverend J.T. Arnold, for \$4,350. A bell, weighing over a thousand pounds, was purchased for about \$40. It had a very pleasing tone and could be heard for miles. The total cost of construction including the architect's fee of \$100 and furnishings was \$6,000. This was raised by contributions.

East Henrietta Road and River Road Methodist-Episcopal Churches shared a pastor until 1863. The church in the east village then maintained a resident pastor until 1888, when Rush and Henrietta became one charge, until 1896. The following insight into bygone days and ways of the Methodist-Episcopal Church in the east village was contributed by the late Ethel Welt Calkins (Mrs. John):

“How many remember the old inscription over the pulpit, printed in blue letters a foot high, in the form of a semi-circle? ‘HOLINESS BECOMETH THINE HOUSE, OH LORD, FOREVER.

Before there was any instrumentation in the church, the hymns used to be pitched from a tuning fork in the hands of Jefferson Branch. He sat with other male members of the congregation in the front seats, where they acted as leaders. Finally an organ was purchased, and the choir was directed by Professor Bishop. He taught music, conducted singing schools, and played the violin. Most of the members of the choir were also his private pupils. Some members questioned as to whether or not it was proper for Professor Bishop to play the violin in church. Some wag retorted he didn't see why the Devil should have all the good music!

Camp meetings in the form of evangelistic services were held in Perry's barn on Methodist Hill and later once a year at church. Another form of devotional service was the Love Feast. At this time bread and water were passed, when only members were allowed to participate. Most of the younger generation left, enjoying a visit in the sheds.

Another custom was the tolling of the bell upon the death of a member. One stroke of the bell represented a year of the deceased's age. After tolling the age, the bellringer would cause the bell to strike one for a man and two strokes for a woman. It was also tolled when the funeral procession approached the church, and when leaving, three quick strokes would be given. (This bell was sold when the church doors closed and was taken to Albany.)

In administering Communion, members advanced to the altar and knelt, when they were all served from the same silver goblet, containing unfermented wine.

Church socials were held in homes, where everyone ate their fill at suppers. Sometimes maple sugar socials were held, at an individual cost of \$.10 (ten cents) as were the suppers. As much as \$70 a year was raised in this manner."

In 1847 (under Disciplinary claim) the estimate for the preacher's salary was \$216.00 for the year. Other allowances were: keep for cow and horse, \$75; table expenses and wood, \$40; traveling expenses, \$10; and house rent, etc., \$30; totaling \$371. The cost was divided between the East Henrietta and River Road churches. The last pastor was paid the yearly sum of \$500 with house.

It was increasingly difficult to maintain two separate churches in a small village. Parishioners decided after serious consideration, to join forces with the Congregational Church in the east village. The union was consummated August 14, 1916.

Many well-known families in Henrietta attended this Methodist-Episcopal Church. Their children were baptized here and are now grown up with children and grandchildren of their own.

There was a Sunday school held on the West Henrietta Road in 1900, known as the Bailey School.

Lutheran Churches Of West Henrietta

In the fall of 1880, the Reverend G. Heidler of St. John's Lutheran Church of Rochester was called to conduct a funeral service for Mr. J. Demmler, a German farmer living in West Henrietta. Following the service, he was requested by several men present to hold German Lutheran services in the village. A congregation was organized; their Constitution giving their name as The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Unaltered Augsburg Confession. The first entries in the record book are in the German language, as is the first Constitution. Among the organizers were Carl Dell, Fred and Christ Stallman, Gus Schwasman, John Smith, John Shaw and others. The first services were held in 1880 in the Methodist Church on the River Road. Later they rented a schoolhouse in the heart of town for \$5.00 per Sunday, where services were held for three years.



Former Concordia German Lutheran Church. (Now used as a residence at 803 Erie Station Road).

In 1884, the Reverend John Muelhauser of Rochester served the congregation for three years, followed by others. The growing congregation felt the need of a church of their own. In 1890 land was purchased on Erie Station Road in the village from Chauncey Chapman. Christ Stallman received the building contract. The Concordia German Lutheran Church of the New York Ministerium was completed with church sheds and a parsonage. This church grew and prospered until discord occurred. A dozen progressive English speaking families sought to have the English language spoken at their services. They withdrew from the German church, appointing a building committee to purchase the abandoned Universalist property. This building had been rented out for public gatherings and dances. On the second day of February, 1902, the new Lutheran Church, named St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church, was dedicated. A parsonage was purchased the same year from the Baptist Church. The German Lutheran congregation continued for a time, but with its diminished numbers, finally disbanded. Many in



St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 789 Erie Station Road, West Henrietta.

time joined the new church. Their original building has been used for many years as a residence and at present is the home of Mrs. Helen McGrath and her son at 803 Erie Station Road.

St. Mark's recently purchased seventeen acres of land for future expansion.

Ridgeland Baptist Church

A church group was formed in Ridgeland many years before a church was built, evidently meeting in the District school at times. In 1895, the Sunday school was held in the school building. A frame church was built on the west side of East Henrietta Road in 1901, on land granted for this purpose by Mrs. Frank (Daisy) Pike. The old by-laws stated church services must be held there at least once a year. Buggy sheds were built behind the church. (There was a community icehouse behind the sheds.) The church was non-denominational; the ministers were students from the Baptist Seminary. The church was closed for a time, then reopened for a short time. After a second period of vacancy, Donald Coyle held services in the former Evangelical Church of Ridgeland. This minister came in 1936 and

was ordained here in 1937. Under the leadership of the Reverend Coyle, the church was redecorated, new pews replaced folding chairs, and new stained glass windows were installed. Rededication services were held July 17, 1937, with the Reverend Richard Sloman of the West Henrietta Baptist Church delivering the dedication sermon. It was known as the Ridgeland Community Church.



Ridgeland Church on west side of East Henrietta Road, built in 1901; burned down in 1939.

Four days before Easter, April, 1939, this little church burned down. Easter services were held by the congregation in the Pease Ladder Company. Later services were held in the District school until funds were raised for building a new church edifice. The church was erected on the east side of East Henrietta Road, just north of the Brighton-Henrietta Town-Line Road, in West Brighton. This new church also burned down shortly after being completed and a third church was built on the site. Shortly after the new fireproof sanctuary was finally completed in 1968, the State informed the Ridgeland Church that it would have to move. In May, 1973, the State took title. The building committee and the pastor found and purchased Ridgeland's new ten-acre property site on Beckwith Road. The church that started out in Henrietta is now back in Henrietta. The property on Beckwith Road (the old Beckwith residence) was formerly occupied by the Living Faith Center.

Baptist Bible Church

On July 10, 1966, at 31 Florendin Drive, Henrietta, the first service of what was to be the first Baptist Bible Church of Monroe County, was held in the family room of a rented home, with

seventeen in attendance. The Reverend Claude I. Hine, his wife Muriel and four children had moved from the small community of Marietta, New York, with a vision of building a Baptist Church in Henrietta.

Services were held Sunday mornings, Sunday evenings and Wednesday evenings with increasing interest and numbers, when it was decided to organize after three months. A week of special prayer service was held beginning September 26, 1966, with the Reverend Lloyd S. Ledbetter as the evangelist. On Thursday, September 29th, the formal organization was held and the Reverend Claude Hine was called as the pastor. A parsonage was purchased on the corner of Golden Rod Lane and Bailey Road. The double garage was remodeled and the congregation began to hold all their services there beginning January 8, 1967.

Growth continued, numbering in the sixties during January, 1968, despite the frigid weather. Missionary work was supported by the church, and contributions were made to the Baptist Bible College of Springfield, Missouri, and the New York State Baptist Bible Fellowship. The latter group hoped to establish other local independent Baptist churches in the State and in the northeast.

In December, 1970, this group moved to new quarters at 260 Beckwith Road. This church has been disbanded.

Good Shepherd Church

The first Mass was celebrated in the parish by Monsignor Thomas Connors on Sunday, July 16, 1911, in the home of Misses Friedell on 1605 Lehigh Station Road. Two trustees, Leo Krenzer and James Kavanaugh, were elected and a piece of the Dikeman farm was purchased for the site of the church. The cornerstone of the edifice was laid October 1, 1911, by Bishop Hickey. Due to a sudden rainstorm, the first sermon was given in the Dikeman barn, now the rectory garage. The topic of the sermon was: "*The Sower went out to sow his seed.*" The Bishop returned the following February 12th to dedicate the building on East Henrietta Road.

The "seed" fell on fertile ground. The parish began with thirty-five families and in 1975 had approximately 1,700. In 1957 the parishioners conducted a financial drive and built a school consisting of nine classrooms and a gymnasium. They invited the Sisters of Mercy to come and teach their children and purchased the John



Good Shepherd Church on East Henrietta Road, built 1912.

Buyck home at 3318 East Henrietta Road as a convent. The school began in the fall of 1958 with about eighty pupils; the rest of the edifice was rented to the Rush-Henrietta Central School District for one year, as they were short of classrooms. As the parish expanded rapidly another addition was added in 1964; seven classrooms, a library, kitchen and a chapel capable of seating 600 people. At the same time the convent was enlarged to accomodate more Sisters. Sister Mary Timothy was the first principal; Sister Mary Conrad was the next administrator. Sister Carolyn Knipper is principai in 1976. In 1975, the school had 439 pupils.



Good Shepherd School, 3288 East Henrietta Road.

Today services are held in the church proper and also in the school chapel. Bishop Kearney split the parish in 1960 and built Guardian

Angels, the boundry being Calkins Road. Recently, the diocese has purchased two pieces of property for future parishes; one piece of land on Beckwith Road and another piece on Stone Road. When these parishes will be activated will depend upon numbers and needs.

At one time, Good Shepherd parish had a "satellite" chapel in the Genesee Valley Fire House at 15 River View Drive. Mass was first said there by Monsignor Joseph Vogt on Sunday, October 30, 1949. The quasi-chapel was called St. Blaise's Chapel. This chapel was closed approximately five years ago.

Monsignor Connors was rector of the parish for only about one year; then Father Silke, Victor Hurley and Raymond Lynd succeeded in order as pastors. The Reverend George Vogt, who succeeded Father Lynd, is now retired, and the co-pastors are Father Robert Miller and Father Roy Kiggins. Father Vogt is Pastor Emeritus.

Genesee Valley Methodist Church

The Genesee Valley Methodist Church is located at 70 Bailey Road in West Henrietta. It was founded December 6, 1951, as a non-denominational church. They met in the Genesee Valley Fire Hall on River View Drive for nine years and were known as the Genesee Valley Community Church. In November, 1959, they became affiliated with the Methodist denomination. A year later, on November 27, 1960, they consecrated their one-story, frame chapel which seated 150 people. The church had a registry of 201 members, with a Women's Society of Christian Service, a Chapter of Methodist Men, a Girl Scout group, and a Sunday school.

On January 28, 1968, when the chapel become free of debt, a dedication service was held with Bishop Ward of Syracuse attending. A planning committee was appointed to study the building of the church sanctuary. The chapel was so constructed that it could be converted into a parsonage.

In 1969 a fund raising crusade was begun to erect a church building. In November, when the building was nearly completed, a blaze erupted. The next day a group of church members gathered to clean up the smoky remains. Rebuilding started immediately, the \$45,000 loss covered by insurance. On a Sunday in May, 1971, the rebuilt church was dedicated. The Reverend Douglas Fox was welcomed as the new pastor, Sunday, June 16, 1974.

Pinnacle Lutheran Church

After conducting an inspection of the suburban development in Henrietta, the Missouri Synod of the Lutheran Church made a recommendation to the Mission Board of the Eastern District that a full-time pastor be called. The first service was held at the Gannett Youth Barn on September 6, 1956. On June 9, 1957, organization took place with forty-three communicants.

The congregation of Pinnacle Lutheran Church broke ground for their new church Sunday, August 11, 1957, on three acres of land at 275 Pinnacle Road. By January 26, 1958, the attractive new brick and concrete block edifice was dedicated in an impressive ceremony at the morning service. In the afternoon a service of praise was held, the sanctuary being filled to capacity. Ground was broken on June 7, 1964, for a new educational wing, which was completed and dedicated January 24, 1965. Members prepared for the dedication in a forty-eight hour period of continuous prayer at the chancel. The wing has rooms for heating and electrical units, a kitchen, church school classes, a nursery and large gatherings. A ladies society divided into circles, a couples club, vacation Bible school, a Cub Pack, and Boy and Girl Scout troops are among the activities sponsored by this church. The Reverend Delbert Tiemann has been the pastor.

Pilgrim Holiness Church

In 1957 the Reverend J.N. Jump came from Utica to establish a church. For over a year he worked long hours daily and into the evening, overseeing its construction and performing manual labor on the Pilgrim Holiness Church. Pastors and laymen from other Pilgrim Holiness churches, even as far away as Boston, also gave of their time and energies to its building. This cut the total cost by \$20,000. The materials were pre-cut, obtained through the Christian Enterprises, Inc., of Indiana, designed by Joseph H. Kimbel, architectural consultant to Christian Life magazine. Cedar wood from the West Coast was used on the exterior and in the interior on archways. Furniture including pews are of mahogany from Africa. Money for materials was advanced from churches in the New York District of the denomination.

Dedication took place Sunday, December 6, 1959, with five families as charter members. The Reverend William F. McCulley of Utica and the Reverend James Payne of Syracuse from their respective Pilgrim Holiness Churches participated in the ceremonies.

The address for the dedication was given by the District Superintendent, the Reverend O.L. Fay. The Reverend Roy Carnahan of the Church of the Nazarene and Don Cook, then Town Supervisor, also participated.

The Pilgrim Holiness Church merged with the Wesleyan Methodist in June, 1968. The Reverend Ray Haingray is pastor.

John Calvin Presbyterian Church

A discussion was held at the Henrietta Civic Center (old Monroe Academy) December, 1958, concerning the formation of a new Presbyterian church in Henrietta. Representatives of the Rochester Presbytery and of the Federation of Churches of Rochester and Monroe County were present, as well as the chairman of the Presbytery church extensions and national missions. Five acres of land for the church site had been donated and set aside two years previously at Ward Hill and Church Hill Roads by Harold Reitz, Sr., builder and member of Central Presbyterian. The following September in 1959, services and Sunday school were held at the American Legion Hall, Middle Road.

On May 15, 1960, the group officially became a Presbyterian Church, when eighty-four charter members were recognized. Election and ordination of Elders took place, and members approved the selection of the name John Calvin for their church. This in honor of the early founder of their denomination. A manse was recently purchased near the church site.

The Reverend William Holmquist, former associate minister at Central Presbyterian Church in Rochester, organized and served the John Calvin congregation. He was installed as pastor Sunday, October 2, 1960.

In January, 1961, architects were engaged to make plans for the new edifice. Detlew Kohlstaedt, an architect associated with Stickney Associates, received his degree in Hamburg, Germany, where he helped restore old historical church structures and designed new ones. In working on the plans for the new Henrietta Presbyterian church, he was assisted by Louis Konoff. As with many new churches today, its design is contemporary. Ground breaking ceremonies were held in mid-May, 1962, with construction beginning shortly afterward.

On Christmas Eve of 1962, the John Calvin Presbyterian Church congregation observed the birth of Christ in their first church home. The exterior of the edifice is of redwood with rough-hewn cedar shingles. The structure consists of a fellowship hall, classrooms, church office, study and kitchen facilities. Church services are held in the fellowship hall which seats over 250. Ming blue walls rise to a cedar roof supported by arches. A large rough-hewn cross hangs above the chancel. The cost of the church unit is estimated at \$115,000. Members of the congregation worked in their spare time painting walls, staining the redwood exterior and laying tile floors in the classrooms. General Contractors were W. and J. DeJonge Company.

The long days of planning and hard work behind them, the dedication took place Sunday, February 10, 1963, at an eight o'clock service. That evening Harry Berry, moderator of the Rochester Presbytery, as well as other church leaders were present at this happy occasion. A reception followed the services. Dr. John W. Heister is the present pastor.

It might be interesting to tell here of an early visit to our town by a Presbyterian minister. Some time prior to 1811, it is said that the Reverend Solomon Allen of the Pittsford Presbyterian Church preached a missionary sermon to his congregation one Sabbath, after which they took up a collection of \$10, "*to send the gospel to the heathen.*" After keeping it in his possession for some time, one of his deacons advised the Reverend Allen to preach to the destitute people of West-Town (Henrietta). He did so for two Sundays, appropriating the \$10.00 for his missionary effort.

Christview Methodist Church

The first meeting of a group of people who were to organize this church was held November 30, 1958, in an old farmhouse at 174 Pinnacle Road. In May of 1959, they were officially organized with twenty-nine members. At this time they held services in the Gannett Youth Barn on East Henrietta Road, and the parsonage was located in the farmhouse. On Sunday, November 22, they held a Family Night supper in these temporary quarters. Following the supper, Dr. Hanford Clossen, District Superintendent, presided over a short business meeting. This was for the purpose of voting for an official name for their church. Property had been purchased on Pinnacle Road, and the name they chose was Christview Methodist Church.

Ground was broken at a ceremony September 18, 1960. Following construction, on Sunday, June 18, 1961, at eight p.m., a consecration service was held. Plans consist of three more units to be built at a later date. The pastor is the Reverend John S. Savage.

Temple Beth Am

A meeting was held March 6, 1958, with the purpose of forming a Jewish community in the Henrietta area. Dr. Joseph Noble, Director of the Bureau of Jewish Education, was one of three distinguished guests who attended, at the Henrietta Civic Center, in the Academy building. Adult Hebrew and Bible classes were started in May of the same year.

A new Jewish congregation was formed by this group in May, 1960, at a meeting held at the Pinnacle Lutheran Church. They affiliated with the United Synagogue of America, a Conservative denomination. A year later, in June Beth Am congregation voted on buying a site for a synagogue. At this time they met at the Gannett Youth Barn. In September a decision was made to purchase four acres of land on East Henrietta Road, south of Lehigh Station Road. A city wide fund drive was conducted by the four-year-old congregation in 1964 to aid in reaching their financial goal. Definite plans were made for building. Friday night services were now held at Ely Fagan Post of the American Legion headquarters on Middle Road.



Temple Beth Am, 3249 East Henrietta Road.

Plans were approved and a ground breaking ceremony was held November 14, 1965, on the site at 3249 East Henrietta Road.

On April 22, 1966, the congregation gathered for the last time at their temporary quarters from where they drove in cars to their new temple. The torahs were transferred; the sacred scrolls were carried into the new Beth Am Temple by George Litsky, president, and Herbert Morris, past president. After placing them in the ark, the eternal light, symbol of truth and the presence of God, was kindled just before sundown in the rite. Dr. Noble preached the sermon which followed.

In 1960 the congregation had been the recipients of generous gifts from a fifty-six year old Jewish synagogue at 37 Rhine Street, Rochester, which was torn down due to urban renewal. Their ark, two torahs, prayer books, two silver electric candelabras, lecturns, beautiful crystal chandelier, hymn books, and dishware were passed on to the new Henrietta congregation.

The temple contained a combination sanctuary and social hall, classrooms, kitchen and heating plant. Dedication took place May 5, 1968.

On Friday morning, November 6, 1970, about 12:40 a.m., neighbors in the vicinity of Temple Beth Am heard a "Boom," saw a flash, and the synagogue caught fire. Everyone was shocked and saddened for someone had planted a bomb at the rear of the building. It broke every window, tore two holes in the rear wall and tore part of the roof off. Interior damage was extensive.

By March, 1971, Don Cook presented Dr. Joseph Noble and Mrs. Morris Ganon with a \$1,200 check, made possible by contributions from organizations and Henrietta people.

Eventually the building was expanded and a permanent sanctuary was added. The new temple was dedicated April 8, 1973. It is striking, resembling a tent, with the large window in front denoting the "tree of life."

Guardian Angels Church

The Guardian Angels parish in Henrietta was created due to the exceedingly rapid growth of the area, causing overcrowded conditions in the Good Shepherd parish. For two months in the

summer of 1961, the new congregation attended Mass at the Carmelite Monastery on Jefferson Road. Larger quarters were obtained at the Genesee Valley Regional Market on Jefferson Road. The Reverend John Kleintjes became pastor of the new parish.

Each Saturday, after tradesmen left, a group of church members prepared the meeting room for worship service. Produce stalls were moved against the walls and pews were lined up in their place. Women cleaned the room thoroughly. An alter was set up and arranged with candles and crucifix.

A thirteen-acre plot was purchased on 2059 East Henrietta Road. Foundations for the church and school were laid before winter set in. The spring of 1962 witnessed construction work begun in earnest. The eight-classroom school was ready for the fall term. Masses were held in the new Guardian Angels Church October 21, 1962.



Guardian Angels Church and School, 2059 East Henrietta Road.

A Solemn Blessing of the new church and school was held Sunday, May 26, 1963, at four o'clock. Most Reverend James E. Kearney, D.D., Bishop of Rochester, celebrated a Pontifical Low Mass and preached the sermon on this very special occasion.

The Reverend Richard A. Hart is the current pastor.

First Christian Church

The First Christian Church, organized in 1887, was formerly located at 619 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, New York, for thirty-five years. When the decision was made to move to Henrietta, a six-and-one-half acre site was purchased at 982 Pinnacle Road. The ground breaking service was held in July, 1959.

The congregation dedicated their new church November 20, 1960. The building had a large fellowship hall, an education wing, a kitchen and a pastor's office. As with many new church buildings today in a growing community, it was designed with future expansion in mind. Should the need arise a permanent sanctuary would be built, and the existing building would become part of the fellowship hall.

The First Christian Church belongs to a religious body of some 10,000 congregations with approximately 2,000,000 members. Founded in 1809 in America, they are known as the Christian Church, Church of Christ, or Disciples of Christ.

Services were discontinued in 1969. The church building was sold in the fall of 1970 to the Calkins Road Baptist congregation (now Pinnacle Road Baptist congregation).

The Pinnacle Road Baptist Church

In the early summer of 1967, a group of young people from the First Baptist Churches of Atlanta, Georgia and Bowling Green, Kentucky, came to Henrietta and conducted a Vacation Bible School and Religious Survey of the area.

As a result of their work, a Bible Study Group began in August, 1967, in the homes of the people interested in forming a new church. The first regular worship service was held on September 11, 1967, and the group was named First Baptist Chapel of Henrietta.

The chapel was sponsored by the Rochester Baptist Church, and Jim Jones from the Rochester church served as lay pastor until August, 1968. At that time, the Reverend Joe H. Oliver was called as pastor, continuing to the present date.

In November, 1968, more than five acres of land were purchased at 1233 Calkins Road. Constituting services were held on January 11, 1969, and the name was changed to Calkins Road Baptist Church. Services were held at the American Legion Hall, Middle Road, until the new building and property at 990 Pinnacle Road were purchased.

October 1, 1970 marked a new era in the history of this congregation. For the first time in its history the congregation had a church building in which to worship. The building, purchased from another denomination, along with four and one-half acres and asphalt parking for 100 cars, is an attractive first unit that will

provide for 125 in Bible study and eventually up to 260 for worship. On February 28, 1971, the building was formerly dedicated.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Thirty-one and eight-tenths acres of land were purchased on East Henrietta Road just south of the New York State Thruway for the future site of an Episcopal church on July 5, 1961. On October of 1962, a number of meetings were held with the Rt. Reverend Dudley Stark, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of the Rochester area, to discuss plans for organizing with some thirty-two residents of Henrietta. The name for the future church was to be St. Peter's Episcopal Church. On December 26, 1962, the Reverend Charles Bollinger was appointed Vicar by Bishop Stark. The first services were held February 3, 1963, at the American Legion Hall on Middle Road. One hundred twenty-seven attended, including thirty-four children.

Bishop Barrett, the new Bishop, approved St. Peter's as an organized Mission in May, 1963, and it was accepted into union with the Diocesan Convention.

By June of 1964, building committee was elected; and in March, 1965, it was decided to begin immediately with the building, when a building fund drive was conducted.

On Tuesday evening, on St. Peter's Day, June 29, 1965, a ground breaking ceremony was held. The now retired Bishop Dudley Stark of York Harbor, Maine, journeyed here to officiate, accompanied by the Venerable T. Chester Baxter, Arch Deacon. Dudley Stark, Jr. was chairman of the mission's building committee.

Construction began by November 1, 1965, after some delay. Progress was slowed by weather and shortage of labor, but by June 29, 1966, a class of thirty-two was confirmed in the nearly finished Parish Hall, by the Rt. Reverend George W. Barrett.

The former Bishop Stark again attended St. Peter's Church when it was dedicated October 16, 1966, in an impressive ceremony. The services were opened by the Opening of the Door. The parishoners gathered inside facing the door. The warden closed it and waited beside it. The bishop and other ministers in vestments approached the church door, where they knocked three times, saying:

“Open me the gates of righteousness that I may go into them, and give thanks unto the Lord.” Whereupon the warden opened the door, answering: *“This is the gate of the Lord, the righteous shall enter into it.”* Then the bishop with his pastoral staff, marked the threshold with the sign of the Cross, saying: *“Peace be to this House, and to all who enter here; in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. AMEN.”* The procession entered the church stopping inside of the door. Meanwhile the Canon of Rochester said the Antiphon: *“This is none other than the House of God, and this is the Gate of Heaven.”* Then the 122nd Psalm was said responsively with the people. Following this was the ritual of the Blessing of the Font, the Pulpit, the beautiful stained glass Cross, the Blessing of the Alter, and the Parish Hall. The Blessing of the Light in a candle lit ceremony by the bishop, followed by prayer and benediction and presentation of the keys closed the services.

The Reverend Peter Courtney is pastor.

Jehovah's Witnesses

Formed on February, 1965, the Jehovah's Witnesses met temporarily at the Camp residence at 301 Valiant Drive. In 1967 they moved to the second floor of the building on the northwest corner of West Henrietta and Erie Station Roads.

Ground was broken July 22, 1971, for the 30' by 72' one and one-half story structure in English Tudor style on Beckwith Road. It is composed of brick, stucco and stained trim. Many volunteered work to keep costs low.

On January 13th and 14th, 1973, the church was dedicated.

Southside Church of Christ

One of the comparatively new churches in Henrietta is the Southside Church of Christ, which began meeting at 63 Manordale in April of 1967. The group later met in the Y.M.C.A. (Monroe Academy) at 3044 East Henrietta Road. Bible classes were held each Sunday afternoon at one o'clock and worship at 2:00 p.m. The church purchased several acres at 1484 Calkins Road. Excavation was started in 1968, with construction beginning in 1969. It was completed at basement level the summer of 1972. By July, 1973 the edifice was fully completed.

The congregation was started by a group of people who came in the spring and summer of 1967, from fourteen states, in a movement known as "Exodus Rochester." The purpose of the exodus movement was to start a congregation of the Church of Christ in an area where churches of Christ are few in number.

The Reverend Alfred F. Hartwigsen is the minister.

Henrietta Regular Baptist Church

In the spring of 1972, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Bingham (now living in Denton, Texas) wrote the Fellowship of Baptists for Home Missions, Elyria, Ohio, for a possible home missionary to start a church. In June, 1972, Gary and Nancy Newhart, Fellowship of Baptists for Home Missions, Missionaries, looked over the area and in October 1972, weekly, Thursday night, Bible studies were conducted by Mr. Newhart. During which time the name Henrietta Regular Baptist Church was chosen and basic church structure was taught and discussed. Three families attended, with two or three more families added when word was received about the Bible study. Faith Baptist Church of North Chili, New York, was the sponsoring church.

January 7, 1973, Sunday services were started, meeting in the Xerox Corporation Cafeteria. The congregation later moved into the Henrietta Y.M.C.A. (Monroe Academy). In April, 1973 the church adopted the Constitution, officially declared themselves a church and voted to fellowship with the Empire State Fellowship of Regular Baptist Churches, Newark Valley, N.Y., and the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, Des Plaines, Illinois.

In July, 1973, 3.82 acres of land were purchased at 1125 Calkins Road; in September 1973, breaking service was held; and in October 1973 construction on a church building was started by the church people. On February 13, 1974, the building was occupied, even though it was not completely finished. When the building was completed, a dedication service was held on November 10, 1974. Gary E. Newhart is the pastor.

Macedonians

The Macedonians obtained land on Telephone Road in 1969. They began to build their church May, 1974. There are about one hundred ten families involved. In 1975 the edifice was completed. The Reverend John Galozski is pastor.

It is interesting to note the similarities as well as differences in the early and present day churches. The pioneer church was heated with a fireplace, then with wood stoves. They had no running water and not even oil lamps until 1840. They drove with horse and carriage to church, and with sleigh during the long cold winter months, a lap robe tucked about them. More than once a cutter would tip over in the snow drifts. They were separated from their relatives in the east and faced a life of hardship and toil on the farms they wrested from the unbroken forest. They sought one another's companionship as they planned ways and means to raise a sufficient sum to pay the minister's salary. Much of their social life centered about their church. Their stern faith was a source of strength in times of sickness and stress.

We have things today of which they never dreamed. Our churches are heated with oil or gas boilers. Electricity provides illumination and heat for modern kitchen ranges. We ride in comfort in heated cars that whisk us in a short time to our destination.

New people have once more moved to Henrietta from distant places. Although we have a greater abundance of cash, the costs of living have sky-rocketed by comparison. When people who share a common belief organize a congregation today, they too face financial problems. They still must sacrifice, work and wait until their plans materialize. The same type of determination and cooperation exists, as well as the need for faith. This is the spiritual heritage our forefathers gave us.

Great strides have been made today toward understanding one another's way of worship. Religious prejudice has lessened, and we have been able to communicate and work together more harmoniously to accomplish common goals. With an open mind we have been able to see the beauty in the various forms of worship. This freedom of worship was also given us by those who wrote the Constitution of the then new Country.

EDUCATION THROUGH THE YEARS

The first to introduce free schooling to children were the Dutch in New Amsterdam. In 1633 the three R's were taught. When the English took possession in 1674, they established a more exclusive form of education, by way of Latin Grammar schools and Kings College. The frontiers had no system of education. The wealthier parents hired tutors.

In 1784 the Regents of the University of the State of New York were established. Their main duties were to found and charter colleges, and to incorporate academies and supervise them. "An Act for the Encouragement of Schools" was passed in 1795 with a State grant of \$50,000 per year for five years. Literature lotteries replaced the grant in 1801, in providing money for education. In 1805 the State Legislature sold one-half million acres of state land. The interest on the invested money created a school fund and was divided among the school districts.

In 1786 the legislature directed the surveyor general to set aside one plot of land in each township for "Gospel and schools." In the deed of our township we find the following: "*200 acres granted for support of religion and schools, of equal value with the average in said township XII, Range VII.*"

A State Superintendent of Common Schools was appointed in 1812. Three school commissioners were elected at the annual town meetings. Their duties were to superintend the schools and divide the town into school districts. Several school inspectors were chosen. They certified teachers, visited the schools at least once every three months and kept in touch with district trustees.

State funds were allotted to counties and towns according to population. The money was divided among the school districts according to the number of children attending to the age of fifteen. In addition, the town raised by taxes each year an equal amount of money, which was used to pay the teachers' salaries. The rate bill took effect in 1814, under which each family sending children to the

district schools paid according to the number of children going to school, plus the number of days in attendance. Those with large families, or for any reason finding themselves in destitute circumstances, could be exempt from paying this fee by applying for release. Mention was made, in an old Henrietta district minute book, of a family being excused from paying the rate bill here.

Inasmuch as school was not compulsory, children often stayed at home for various reasons. The older boys in particular dropped out by April for spring plowing and were occupied helping on the farm until late November. More often than not, the winter term did not begin until mid-November or the first of December. A man would be hired to teach the winter term, as he was considered better equipped to handle the older boys. Women taught during the summer months, receiving less pay than the menfolk.

In 1849 the State enacted a law establishing free schools. This was followed in 1853 with the Union Free School Act, which provided for the merging of two or more districts. A higher standard of education could be maintained by combining their income. A school board was elected to take the place of former trustees.

A law was passed in 1843 providing for a County Superintendent. His duties were to visit schools and advise trustees and teachers on school matters and to license teachers.

The Office of State Superintendent was abolished in 1854, the Secretary of State taking over his duties. Other changes in effect were the appointing of County School Commissioner in 1856 and the elimination of the Rate Bill in 1867.

This gives a picture of the development of the school system in the Empire State.

In the year of 1843, there were five log schoolhouses still in Monroe County. Of the district schools visited, there were 106 single privies, 58 doubles and 81 with none whatsoever.

In 1866 Luther Curtice, School Commissioner in Monroe County, in making a report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction of New York State, felt that the libraries in district schools in Monroe County were much neglected. He said it would be an improvement if

the money could be spent for school apparatus. He spoke very well of our Monore Academy.

In 1883 the school commissioners were issued the following bulletins: to advise new structures when needed; that coal produced more even temperature and circulation of air. Blinds, curtains, paint, whitewash and paper were to be used unsparingly. Library books were to be hauled out of hiding, dusted and used! Library money was to be used for library books only. Globes, a dictionary and a large blackboard were to be a part of the school's equipment.

In 1884 teaching of physiology and hygiene was required by law. In 1916 physical training in schools was made a requirement. This was the year that each school district employed a competent physician as a medical inspector.

This gives us a comparison of the district schools with the modern large schools of 1975.

The first log schoolhouses contained the barest of necessities. A fireplace provided heat, and it depended on where one sat whether one was warm or cold. The seats were made of slab into which holes were bored and sticks driven into them for legs. Desks were made by holes bored into the sides of the building at a determined height into which sticks were driven. Over these, wide boards were laid, smooth side up. The floors were of rough boarding. Many schools suffered from poor lighting and ventilation.

The traditional dunce's stool was placed beside the teacher's desk, for those who cut capers or would or could not learn. Most of the men teachers did not believe in "sparing the rod and spoiling the child." Various methods of punishment were used, a switch, or standing in a corner, etc. A water pail and dipper were provided for drinking, but there was not necessarily a well on the property. Water was often carried from a nearby farmyard. If the pail was too full, more than one lad must have arrived with a cold soaked foot during the winter months, unless he wore boots. The earliest students must surely have gone barefooted to school during the summer.

Families were expected to board the teacher in proportion to the number of children sent to school. This was calculated in the teacher's salary.

The supply of fuel was a problem in all the district schools during this early period. From one-fourth to one cord of wood per pupil

was exacted at first. Later on, the school district would obtain their supply of wood from the lowest bidder, as a rule.

There were twelve school districts in Henrietta in 1820, the school population being 786. In 1835 there were thirteen districts and 700 children of school age. In 1895 eleven districts were reported with 588 children.

Until formal establishment of the Town of Henrietta, the school districts were laid out by officers elected in Pittsford and numbered accordingly. Afterward the districts were apparently renumbered.

District No. 1

District No. 1 School, sometimes referred to as the Gage School, was located on the east side of Pinnacle Road, south of Jefferson Road. The last frame school, of which we know, was built in 1859 and is now occupied as a residence at 72 Pinnacle Road.



District #1 School, built 1859, at 72 Pinnacle Road.

George Roberts, the son of Martin, who was born in the fieldstone house at 260 Stone Road, tells in an old scrapbook of a closing exercise in the Gage School. Prizes for good deportment and spelling were given by the teacher, Mr. Henry Tillotson. After this presentation, the pupils gave him two lovely silver goblets, which he accepted with some emotion, in an appropriate farewell speech.



Class (circa 1870) with teacher, Mrs. Thompkins at District #1 School, 72 Pinnacle Road.

In 1915 an article appeared in a Rochester newspaper, in which a former pupil of the 1840's reminisced of bygone school days in District No. 1 School. Lyman Otis, city treasurer, and his brother Harrison, who had worked for the *Democrat and Chronicle* for over fifty years, were mentioned, as well as the aforesaid George Roberts, Town Clerk of Henrietta for many years. Another old schoolmate, Frank Tibbetts, died of typhoid fever in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, during the Civil War in 1863.

The male teacher was paid \$17.00 a month for the winter term, whereas the woman teacher was paid at the rate of ten shillings a week during the summer months.

During the twentieth century a lively interest continued to be manifested. Repairs were kept up and annual meetings were well attended.

District No. 2

School District No. 2 erected the first log schoolhouse in the township in 1809, near Calkins Road on Pinnacle Road (then Wadsworth Road). This schoolhouse was burned in 1814 and

replaced in 1816 with a frame structure. This in turn was replaced with a cobblestone building.

The following was recorded at the annual meeting of the school: *“At an annual meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of school district number second in the town of Henrietta held pursuant to adjournment at the schoolhouse on the third day of October 1836.*

- First – voted Joseph Brown chosen moderator*
- 2nd – voted George W. Brown clerk for the ensuing year*
- 3rd – voted Elisha Gage serve as trustee*
- 4th – voted Eben Gooden serve as trustee (“Eben” was Ebenezer Gooding.)*
- 5th – voted Samuel Smith serve as trustee*
- 6th – voted Write Field serve as collector*
- 7th – voted a tax of twenty dollars and interest from October 31st 1837 to Isaac N. Daton for land in quantity to the amount of one rod each way more than the present lease of school house lot on said Daton giving to the district a warantee deed of the above land described.*
- 8th – voted a tax of three dollars to procure and record said deed.*
- 9th – voted to build a new schoolhouse during the summer of 1837.*
- 10th – voted to build the house of cobble-stone and the chimney of brick.*
- 11th – voted to raise by tax of two hundred dollars for building the school-house.*
- 12th – voted the fifty dollars raised to “repare” the old school-house be applied in addition to the two hundred dollars voted to be raised for building a new school-house except what shall be necessary to fix the old school-house for the present winter.*
- 13th – voted the trustees be authorised to dispose of the old school-house to the best advantage during the ensuing season for the benefit of the new school-house.*
- 14th – voted the trustees be authorised to measure and set the bounds to the site.*
- 15th – voted to ajourn this meeting to the first Monday in October 1837 at six o’clock P.M. at the same place.*

The above minutes read and approved. Dated Henrietta Oct. 3rd at school district No. 2d A.D. 1836.

(Signed) Joseph Brown Moderator
George W. Brown, Clerk”

And at a special meeting called the 26th day of March, 1837, the following was voted upon:

- 1st — voted Eben Gooden serve as chairman*
2nd — voted Eben Gooden be a committee to circulate a subscription for to obtain money for a district library and if there is not ten dollars subscribed, we take no other measures to obtain the same until this meeting is dissolved."

By the second day of October, 1837, the cobblestone school was not fully completed. Those who attended the meeting were somewhat disturbed, stating if he did not finish it within two weeks, the trustees would finish the house and call "*upon Mr. Fields for the damages.*" An extra tax of \$50 was raised for defraying added expenses. Mr. Fields evidently finished the construction. After the school site and building were paid for, they had a balance left of forty-six cents!

In 1873 it was voted to raise \$400 to repair the cobblestone school. Repairs deemed necessary were floor timbers and flooring, walls plastered, new windows and blinds, a new roof, and privies.



District #2 School, built 1875 on northwest corner of Lehigh Station and Pinnacle Roads.

It was decided three iron rods should be run through the schoolhouse to hold the walls together with iron straps on the outside walls. Two months later, they met and rescinded these



Recess at District #2 School.

resolutions. They voted to obtain land on which to build a new schoolhouse. In 1875 a frame schoolhouse was built on the corner of Lehigh Station and Pinnacle Roads. An amount of \$550.00 was set for the new building, using the cornerstones from the old cobblestone house, which was torn down. The old District No. 2 schoolhouse is now occupied as a dwelling. It is an interesting contrast to the new modern schools built close by today.

District No. 3

District No. 3 located on the west side of Pinnacle Road, south of Reeves Road, on the former Alfred Lincoln property, was No. 14 school of Pittsford, Ontario County, in 1816. On February 16th of that year, the district meeting was held at the home of David Dunham, at one p.m. After Mr. Dunham was appointed moderator, and Sylvester Morris as clerk, they appointed Mr. Dunham, Chandler and Joshua Huntington as trustees, with Daniel Hayden as collector. After selecting a site, they voted to build a log schoolhouse, with five windows, tight floors and shingle roof. A sum of \$119.00 was to be raised by tax, and the building let to the lowest bidder.

In 1825 this loghouse was replaced with a new brick schoolhouse twenty-six by twenty-four feet square. This had six windows, white ash plank floor and a front porch. Two hundred-eighty dollars was raised for its purpose. In 1835 fifty-five children attended this brick



District #3 School at 1400 Pinnacle Road.

school. In 1847 the library money was used to help pay the teacher. In 1850 they voted to negotiate with District No. 13 for uniting, but nothing resulted. In 1855 this district consolidated with District No. 13. They pondered for three years over which school to use and what to do with the remaining one. A new school was built sometime after 1858 on the east side of Pinnacle Road. This is now occupied as a dwelling at 1400 Pinnacle Road.

District No. 4

Some time after 1820 the first schoolhouse known as District No. 4 was built at Ridgeland (East Henrietta Road). This was mainly accomplished through the efforts of Matthias Angle, whose son James was "*quite a lad*" at the time, having been born in 1818. The maps of 1852, 1858 and 1872 show a school located on the east side of the road. An old minute book of the annual meetings of the district reveals in 1881 a school site, five times twelve rods in size was purchased for \$150. Money raised for the purpose of building the schoolhouse was \$700 including masonry. One hundred fifty dollars was raised to cover the cost of seats, painting, fence and out-buildings. The purchase of a stove, fuel and incidental expense were to be covered by a sum of sixty dollars. One hundred dollars was for teachers' wages. At this time the district was referred to as District No. 11. By 1903 it had become District No. 10.



District #4 School was located on the west side of East Henrietta Road, next to the railroad tracks at Ridgeland. (This building was recently torn down.)

In 1895 at the annual meeting in August, it was moved that non-resident scholars pay a sum of \$3.00 per term for tuition. A resolution was also made *“declaring it to be the sense of the meeting that the school house be not used for religious meetings other than Sunday school meetings! . . . Carried.”*

In 1921 arrangements were made to purchase at least forty-five single seats and a number of rear seats as found necessary. Non-residents were to be charged a tuition of \$12.50 for a term of six months. They were not to be accepted unless resident pupil attendance numbered less than thirty-five. By 1922 resident pupils numbered forty-six with two non-resident children attending. This was felt more than one teacher could consistently teach. Arrangements were made to look into sending pupils elsewhere or building a new school. Here the interesting story ends on this school for the present, as minute books of the earliest days and those after 1922 are missing to the general public. The minute book in possession of the Henrietta archives was the gift of G. David Miller, a former resident of Ridgeland. His father, the late George Miller, was active in the affairs of the district over forty years, being elected to various offices. Miss Hagaman (later Mrs. Fred DeWitt) and Grace Barger were early teachers in District No. 10 school. The late Mrs. Roy Reeves and Bernice Cassidy also taught there. This schoolhouse was recently torn down.

District No. 5

In 1812-1814 Elijah Little was the first teacher in a little log school on the site just south of the former Monroe Academy. District No. 5 School was later located in a brick building on the south side of Lehigh Station Road, just west of the present Mobil Gas Station. A dirt road used to run parallel with the East Henrietta Road for a short distance in the village and came out beside the schoolyard. When Monroe Academy became a Union Free School, this school building was no longer needed. A second story was added and it was used as a dwelling, until a few years ago when it was torn down.



District #5 School was located on the south side of Lehigh Sta. Rd., just west of East Henrietta Rd. (This building has been torn down.)

District No. 6

School District No. 6 was located at 4330 East Henrietta Road, a short distance south of Erie Station Road, next to the old reservoir. The present building, now occupied as a residence, was built of brick in 1882. The late Clark Stone said he knew of three children attending at one time that suffered from tuberculosis. People thought the brick walls were not "*too healthful*", but drinking from the water pail with one dipper did not help matters any! This school was closed in 1944, and the children transported to the village by auto, until centralization.



District #6 School, built 1882 at 4330 East Henrietta Road.



Students in 1923 at District #6 School.

District No. 7

District No. 7 School was located on Methodist Hill, West Henrietta Road. The old district school minute books of annual meetings date back to 1819. David Deming, who ran a brickyard in 1820, was moderator at the earliest recorded meeting, and James Sperry, surveyor and farmer, was the clerk. In 1821 a special meeting was called when it was resolved Joseph Jeffords built a schoolhouse for the sum of seventy-five dollars to be done in a good and

workman-like manner. Eight cords of good hard wood were to be furnished for the use of the school, by the first of December. It was to be cut into suitable lengths and no person receive credit for same until it was cut as directed and measured by the teacher. Those who did not deliver their cord of wood at the specified time were to be charged one dollar a cord.

In 1828 a brick schoolhouse was built for the sum of \$353, including desks, a surrounding fence and double-door outhouse. The school was thirty feet by twenty-four feet.



District #7 School was located on the west side of West Henrietta Road on Methodist Hill. (This building has been torn down.)

In 1834 it was stated if any refused to board the teacher, the trustees would be authorized to board and charge the same to the delinquents.

In regard to discipline, it was resolved *“that we recognize the right of all teachers employed by the trustees to use corporal punishment to enforce their rules in the school, to the same extent that parents ought to exercise it in governing their children at home.”* Large scholars who continued to disobey the rules would be turned out of school.

In 1860 it was decided to build a new schoolhouse, the amount of money to be raised was \$620. Later \$225 extra was added to this sum. This school was still in existence when centralization took place, but was later torn down.

District No. 8

The West Henrietta Fire Department now occupies the old District No. 8 School at 774 Erie Station Road. In 1866 the preceding school was sold for \$23.01 and a new two-room school was built. Expenses at that time, including desks, stools and arm chair, building and building materials, a load of coal, wood, bell and door key were \$2,453.48. A West Henrietta resident said when she attended this school, the small girls would take their lunches and sit in the middle of the road to eat. There they could see what was going on down the road.



Former District #8 School at 774 Erie Station Road, built 1866.

In 1926 a new two-story brick school (now a laundry and maintenance building for the Rush-Henrietta School District) on 649 Erie Station Road, west of the village, was erected for an elementary school. An appropriation of \$45,000 was made in March that year for the school construction. The exterior was of cut stone and crushed brick. General contractors were Hoffman Construction Company.

When centralization took place, this building was sold to the Town of Henrietta for town hall purposes. When the new town hall was built, it was sold to the RHCS District.



Former District #8 School, 649 Erie Station Road, built 1926.

District No. 9

The second log schoolhouse in the township was erected on the River Road near Bailey Road in 1810, according to an 1850 History by Orasmus Turner. In the old district minute book of May, 1818 of School District No. 9, we find the following entry:

“Resolved that we prepare a log Schoolhouse by the fifteenth of June next, comfortable to teach a summer school in. Resolved that the said Schoolhouse be set near the south-east corner of Lot No. 9 in the River range. Resolved that the said Schoolhouse be twenty-four feet long and twenty-two feet wide.”

In 1819 the minutes read as follows: *“Resolved that all those who refuse to comply with the rules of this district to sustain a school by subscription shall be debarred from any privilege in the school. Resolved that the Trustees draw a subscription paper and circulate it immediately. If they can obtain twenty scholars, have school commence the first of December and continue for three months. Resolved that each one who sends to the school shall board their equal proportion according to what they shall sign or send.”*

The next entry under April 10th, 1820 softens the one of 1819 a bit: *“Resolved that the Trustees have power to exonerate any person or persons from their school tax if they shall consider it expedient.”*

In 1822 they received of commissioners \$15.97 for the year 1822. In 1829 a stove was purchased to heat the school. In 1833 the trustees voted to raise \$300 for the purpose of building a schoolhouse; also that each scholar furnish one-quarter of a cord of wood prepared for the stove to be delivered by the first day of December. This is when the winter term began. In 1839 they considered buying a new stove, but voted instead to repair the old one.

In 1839 school library regulations were set up. Books could be drawn the first Saturday of each month at six p.m. A fine of six cents was imposed for tardiness; a book lost or destroyed had to be paid for by the parents.



District #9 School was located on the west side of River Road, near the end of Bailey Road. (This building has been torn down.)

In 1855 five hundred dollars was raised by tax to build a new schoolhouse. By 1872 the schoolhouse underwent "*a thorough state of repairs.*" The west side of the school was made the front; new seats were installed when new floors were laid. Four ventilators were installed; foundations were repaired; the school was redecorated inside and out. The school yard was fenced and two new privies built.

In 1921 repairs were again made. Whether a new school was built or not during this time is not recorded. The year of 1929 saw

electricity installed. The budget of 1931 included the cost of digging a well.

The late, petite Lucy Perry Woodruff, much loved resident of West Henrietta, was a teacher in this school in the last century. She was warned about the unruliness of the school, for they had locked the previous teacher out one day. Unruffled, she took over her duties, and in her serene, kindly way, she experienced no trouble whatsoever. She met with some of her former pupils occasionally in the later years of her life.

In 1941 it was decided to maintain the district school for the first three grades and send the rest to District No. 5 in Henrietta. In 1947 the district closed the school and became a part of the R.H.C.S. system. The building suffered a fire and was later torn down.

District No. 10

The earliest minutes available of the district school located on 5344 East River Road at the corner of the West Henrietta-Scottsville Road, are those of 1858. This was first known as District No. 10. In 1875 the school standing at the time was moved to the center of the yard, new desks were installed, and extensive repairs made at a total cost of \$765. In 1876 the School District No. 10 was changed to District No. 4. In February of 1888, a special meeting was called to consider building a new school to replace the one that burned down. The new school, twenty-six feet by forty-two feet, was to be built for not more than \$800. The cost actually came to \$1200.



District #10 School (later known as #4) at 5344 East River Road.

In 1940 the district decided to send pupils of the seventh and eighth grades to Scottsville High School. This arrangement continued until 1955, when they joined the Rush-Henrietta Central School District. District No. 4 (originally known as No. 10) school building is now occupied as a residence.

District No. 11

The first District No. 11 School was located at the junction of Middle and Calkins Roads. In October, 1829, they voted to build a new schoolhouse (the minutes apparently do not go back to the beginning of district school). The trustees reported: Amount of money received by them from commissioner of common schools for the year of 1829 was \$14.12.

<i>Paid towards the winter school ending March out of above named sum –</i>	\$ 9.42
<i>Assessed to the inhabitants sending to the winter school</i>	38.97
<i>Paid teacher</i>	48.00
<i>For glass, nails and putty</i>	.39
<i>Paid towards the summer school ending Sept. residue of public money</i>	4.70
<i>Also assessed to those sending to the summer school</i>	15.45
<i>Teachers wages</i>	20.00
<i>Broom</i>	.15

The whole school year was seven months.

Wells Springer was moderator in October, 1831, meeting with Issac Jackson, Renselaer Terry and John Jones who were nominated as trustees. In 1835 Calvin Jackson bid off on the cord wood at 9 shillings, 6 pence a cord. In 1839 a school library was set up, with subscriptions ranging from \$1.00 to \$.12. Mr. James Wadsworth of Geneseo contributed \$5.00. T.O. Jones also served as clerk for a number of years.

In 1852 the District No. 11 merged with School District No. 7 on Methodist Hill.

The 1872 map shows a District No. 11 School on the West Henrietta Road opposite 6631 West Henrietta Road. The late Orrin Todd attended this school. The school building was later used as a shop on the farm of Albert Vollmer.

In the 1880's Ridgeland School was known as No. 11.

MONROE ACADEMY

Seven years from the time the Town of Henrietta was organized, the inhabitants met to consider building an academy. This was the year the Erie Canal opened, bringing with it a promise of better days. A meeting was held the first week of July, 1825 when it was decided to raise \$6,000 in shares of \$50 (later changed to \$25.00). L.C. Chamberlain, the hotel keeper, James Sperry, surveyor, Joseph Brown, Justice of the Peace, and Richard Daniels composed the subscription committee. By late October another meeting was scheduled to report enough money had been subscribed to enable them to complete building plans. Sixty-two people had subscribed in various amounts. Giles Boulton, a property owner in Henrietta, drew up acceptable plans. A site was chosen, when a little over two acres of land was purchased of Orange Hedges in the east hamlet on East Henrietta Road for \$206. Bids were accepted with Benjamin Baldwin being awarded the contract as the lowest bidder at \$4500.

In the month of June, 1826 a "bee" was held when men of the town gathered to clear the plot of ground, which they completed by nightfall. Accounts vary as to where they obtained bricks for construction. Inasmuch as there was a good brickyard a half mile from the hamlet, it is doubtful they went to Canandaigua to haul them.

The three-story brick boarding and day school was ready to open its doors in the fall of 1826. David B. Crane was chosen principal with two male assistants, and Mary Allen as preceptress. Mr. Crane was asked to take four shares in the school and it is said he also contributed a substantial sum toward the purchase of the bell. A charter member of the Congregational Society, he had been a resident of Henrietta at least eight years. Two days before Christmas, fifty-one men signed a petition for a Regents charter. Giles Boulton presented it in Albany sometime in March, 1827. After deliberating, the charter was granted under the name of Monroe Academy and sent during the month of July of that year. This was the first incorporated academy built west of Canandaigua in this area. An often repeated statement in the past, "*west of the Hudson*" was extravagant and since proven in error.

The petition stated a Lancastrian school would be conducted. This system was introduced by an Englishman, Joseph Lancaster. He arrived in America in 1821, petitioning the Legislature to enact a law authorizing his system to be used in academies of the state. Miss Allen, writing of her experiences in later years, explained this form of education. It was a monitorial system and conducted in the following manner: Miss Allen had charge of sixty young women. The



Monroe Academy, East Henrietta Road. Built in 1826. (This structure recently burned down).

scholars were all seated in two large rooms at their desks which faced the teacher. Their slates faced them, let through "*an aperture in the top.*" The teacher sat at her desk upon a rostrum. On her desk in the shape of a T stood a frame under which was written in large letters, "*ECCE SIGNUM.*" After prayers, the sign was turned in a certain way, then every scholar rose, another turn and the students laid their left hands upon their slates; at the next turn, they took their books from under their desks, and again faced around. Then walking entirely around the room, each scholar took his or her place in a class of six or eight, formed in a square about the monitor. This was all accomplished without one word from the teacher; then the buzz and hum of study began.

Every scholar endeavored to become a monitor. Every monitor was desirous of becoming an excellent teacher. One teacher was in charge of the whole class, upon whom the monitor could call for advice. At the end of the period, the bell rang for silence and pupils returned to their seats at the same given signals. The monitors retired to another room, where they received instruction from professors for the next day's assignments, and another group of monitors took their place for further study with the pupils. One would imagine this saved much physical energy on the part of the teacher, despite the rigid control. It was determined the monitorial arrangement was not satisfactory in conducting mental and moral science classes. These classes were conducted by the professors from seven until nine in the morning. The majority of the scholars were between the ages of fifteen to twenty-five, with but a dozen below that age; the youngest being seven.

(CIRCULAR)

To the Students of *the*
Albany County High School }

FELLOW-STUDENTS:

Since the institution of Temperance Societies, their effects have become familiar to all, and their importance to individuals, to families, and to the community, is now generally acknowledged. On the one hand, the evil of Intemperance has been determined, both in the sources from which it derives its origin, and the nature of those consequences which are shown by daily experience. On the other, the great Reformation effected by Temperance Societies is rapidly advancing—widely diffusing its salutary influence and securing permanent benefits, by exterminating the evil. Yet, before the great end can be completely attained, those deeply rooted prejudices which time and custom have confirmed must be entirely destroyed. The extent of the reformation must equal the extent of the evil. And, indeed, the combined influence of youthful efforts must be fairly and ardently calisted.

The experiment has been made. Already have the Students of some Colleges, Academies, and other institutions, formed societies for the suppression of the evil of Intemperance; and the beneficial results that have attended their efforts, have surpassed their most sanguine expectations. The society of the Albany Academy was formed at the commencement of the present year; and its progress warrants the hope, that the beneficial influence which it produces will long remain. We therefore, earnestly recommend the subject to your consideration. Hoping that, from a conviction of its importance, you will immediately organize a similar society and commence a vigorous, systematic and united action.

1830

WILLIAM E. BLEECKNER,
EDWARD E. BUNKER,
ALLAN CAMPBELL,

} Committee in behalf of the Temperance
Society of the Albany Academy.

*The principal of this institution is requested
to read the foregoing in presence of all the students
and to contribute his exertions to aid in forming a
Temperance Society among them
Jan 1831*

There were three departments in both the male and female quarters, divided as follows: Introductory, Junior and Senior Departments. Subjects in the Senior Department covered a wide range, including Latin, Greek and French languages, bookkeeping, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, ancient geography, history, "rhetoric," philosophy and chemistry, etc. Tuition for the Introductory course was \$1.50 per quarter of 12 weeks, for the Juniors, \$3.00; and Seniors, \$5.00 for the same period of time. Students were taxed to help pay for fuel. Board ran from eight to twelve shillings a week, and books could be obtained at cost.

Miss Allen was particularly fond of the fact she taught one lad, whom she appointed a monitor, working with him to develop his confidence. He later became a well-known lawyer and was elected Lieutenant Governor of New York State. His name was Sanford E. Church. He later thanked her for her encouragement.

Miss Allen felt that on the whole the students conducted themselves very well. There were about three hundred or more, many

from wealthy families, from an area extending from Syracuse to Buffalo. Occasionally they required a guiding hand, such as the time a group had weekly suppers at the hotel. The hotel keeper asked Miss Allen to speak to them, and she did so, for she feared the influence of drink upon their later lives. Attended with some excitement, the girls formed a Temperance Society, and not to be outdone by the girls, the young men organized a Young Men's Temperance Society in 1828. They participated in 1829 in the march through Rochester when the Monroe County Sunday schools held their first observance.

During one summer, the students asked for a holiday, choosing to go to Avon Springs for a dinner party. Accompanied by the teachers, they rode in a long line of carriages to Avon. Upon arrival in the dining room, they all stood, when at the sound of a whistle, they dropped suddenly into their seats. The other guests, surprised, applauded. Though this type of discipline would be frowned on today, many notable persons were graduated from this school throughout the years, all with fond memories of their days spent there.

The Academy was rented to Mr. Crane for three years in 1828, at \$500 a year. Upon request, the trustees fixed up an extra room for recitations for an additional rent of \$30 a year.

The following appeared in a 1828 issue of *The Album*:

MONROE HIGH SCHOOL

Henrietta

This Institution has commenced the Spring term under more favorable auspices than usual; The Regents of the University of the State having granted it \$400, upon receiving a report of its successful operation during the past year; and the real merits of the system of teaching, when thoroughly conducted, being more extensively known. Of its merits, however, perhaps we cannot give better proof, than that we have in the year last past, qualified about 25 young men as teachers of common schools, all of whom have received a very considerable accession to their usual monthly wages; it being known peculiarly of this system to qualify students to instruct others.

The Greek, Latin, and French languages, Mathematics, and etc., including an entire academical and collegiate course of studies, will continue to be taught in the

Male Department,

upon the terms, and by the divisions, mentioned in the Prospectus for this school. to wit: ---

Introductory Department

Alphabet, (taught on sand), spelling from Lancasterian Boards, reading, writing on slates, elements of Arthmetick as far as through

the first four rules, elementary branches of grammar and georgraphy, the latter principally taught from Maps, at \$1.50 per quarter of 12 weeks.

Junior Department

Spelling by dictation, reading, penmanship, arthmetick through proportion, continuance of Georgraphy, projection of maps, English grammar to Syntax, composition, elocution, linear drawing, elements of natural history, taught by lectures upon emblematical paintings, at \$3 per quarter of 12 weeks.

Senior Department

Grammar, georgraphy, and arthmetick complete, use of the globes, Italian, bookkeeping, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, mensuration, navigation, surveying, conick sections, dialing, explanatory lectures on chemistry, natural philosophy, and astronomy, elocution, composition, mental philosophy, ancient georgraphy, antiquities, history, rhetorick, Latin, Greek, and French languages, at \$5 per quarter of 12 weeks.

Gymnastics occupy a small portion of each day's session in each male department.

Female Department

Owing to the number of young ladies that I have attended during all seasons of the past year from the neighboring counties, I have procured a female teacher to assist in conducting the female department, separate from the male, according to the plan of the New York High School. From the very satisfactory testimonials Miss Allen (the lady whom I have engaged) brings from Professor Eaton, and from gentlemen of note in Vermont, and from my own knowledge of her attainments since she commenced teaching in this school, and her experience in the business, I expect to be able to give satisfaction to parents who may favour me with their patronage. The great lack of seminaries in this section of the country, where young ladies have an opportunity of acquiring (in addition to what is termed a good English education) those more accomplished branches which add interest to the female character, is too notorious to need comment. As far greater attention is paid to female education at the present day, than has hitherto been, we presume to expect that the peculiar advantages which are offered at this institution (in the healthfulness and retirement of its location, and the acknowledged pre-eminent advantages of the monitorial system) being duly considered by the parents of young ladies who are desirous of acquiring an accomplished education, will greatly increase that patronage we have already thankfully received.

The number of students in attendance (male and female) has ranged during the past six months from 90 to 120, and from the

increased literary advantages now offered to both males and females, and the very low terms on which they are offered, we have reason to expect a great increase of this number.

The Trustees have been at a very heavy expense in elegantly fixing up a separate room for the ladies, with extensive paintings for Botany, Natural History, and etc., calculated to render the place an interesting one. A court in rear of the building will be handsomely prepared the ensuing month, as a place for suitable recreation for the ladies, to be daily conducted by the instructress, in place of the gymnastick exercises introduced among males by this system of teaching.

We have hitherto met with some difficulty in the business of boarding; this, however, is now completely obviated. There are two boarding houses regularly established expressly for females, where the young ladies will be under the particular guardianship of the instructress; and ample accommodations for boarding boys are in readiness for their reception.

The branches that are peculiarly taught by a lady, will of course be entirely conducted by the female teacher; in all other branches I shall myself assist.

The price of board with the other accompanying advantages, is as low as can be afforded at any other institution in the country. And the price of tuition, as will be seen by comparison, is far lower.

The daily regulations for attendance are as follows: The bell rings at six o'clock in the morning for prayers, after which the students who are boarders, return to their boarding houses until eight, from which the session is held till twelve, then from one till three. In the evening the boarding houses are regularly visited by some one of the teachers. On the Sabbath, all are required to go to such church as parents wish. The branches to be taught in the female department of the school, and prices of tuition are as follows:

Introductory Department

The same as those in the male department.

Junior Department

The same as in male department, together with delineating and painting maps, history, and plain needlework.

Senior Department

All the other branches mentioned in the male senior department, to which the ladies may wish to attend, together with Botany, Ornamental needlework, including all kinds of lacework, drawing, painting on paper and velvet, fancy and alum work.

Students in the male or female department are promoted to the next higher department when their improvement demands, and from that time pay accordingly. There are no vacations in this school, consequently any student, male or female, can enter at any time, and their term will be counted from that period.

The necessary books will be hereafter furnished by E. Peck & Co. and by Marshall & Dean at Rochester.

D. B. Crane, Principal

Monroe High School, Henrietta, Monroe Co., N.Y. April 18, 1828.

The Monroe High School having been under the successful superintendance of Mr. Crane the year past, the Trustees take pleasure in giving their approbation to the foregoing circular.

April 29.

Levi Ward, Jr.
President of the Trustees.

Dr Crane left Monroe Academy and established a school for boys in 1831 on the west side of the Genesee River in the old Episcopal Church on Buffalo Street in Rochester. A committee was appointed at the termination of Dr. Crane's contract to consider an offer of the Methodist-Episcopal Conference to conduct Monroe Academy as a high school, but this was not acted upon. Oliver Baker, a graduate of Yale College, took charge of the Academy for a year.

A letter dated November 7, 1830 was received by Mr. Baker from the President of Monroe Academy, Giles Boulton, which read as follows:

"Dear Sir:

The Board of Trustees met yesterday at the Monroe Academy, and passed a resolve to employ you as Principal of the Institution at the salary of \$500 per annum, and I was requested to inform you of the same . . . at the same time it was determined that as soon as Mr. Crane could hear from his counsel at Auburn, an agreement would be made with him so that you could commence by the 29th November instant. It was also resolved to engage Mr. Crocker as Assistant, and a committee was appointed to ascertain how soon he could make it

convenient to attend. I learnt that he had been at Henrietta since you were there, and expressed his approbation with the anticipated arrangement which the Board confirmed at their meeting yesterday. Of all which, agreeably to promise, I hasten to inform you, and deferring the details until I have the pleasure of seeing you, I remain,
Respectfully yours,

*Giles Boulton,
Pres. Monroe Academy."*

"Agreement between the trustees of Monroe Academy of the first part, and Oliver Baker of the 2nd Part:

The trustees engage him, the said Oliver Baker as principal of the academy, for one year, from the 29th of November 1830, at the salary of \$500 per annum, payable quarter yearly as the same becomes due.

The said Oliver Baker agrees to serve the said trustees faithfully and assiduously in the capacity of teacher of the dead languages, mathematics, and by devoting his whole time to that business alone – teaching except Sundays and every second Saturday.

The Trustees consent there shall be two vacations yearly of two weeks each, viz from 1st to 15th of April and from the 15th to 30th of November. The said Oliver Baker agrees to keep a just and faithful account of all the tuition fees and furnish bills of same to the collector of the Board of Trustees. He will also keep the books as heretofore practiced in said school and make out the annual report for the regents of the University.

The said Oliver Baker also agrees and binds himself to see that the windows and the rest of the building are kept. Accidents by fire and other effects of the elements excepted – in the like good order as they now are – and to enforce the observance of the by-laws touching the regulations of the school.

In witness whereof the parties have hereunto set their hand and seal the 24th November, 1830.

G. Boulton on part of the Trustees of the Monroe Academy, party in resolution of Authorization.

Oliver Baker."

Henriet Academy.

Henrietta, 20th Nov. 1830.

This Institution which has been so successful since its establishment in 1826, is still open for the reception of students; but Mr. Crane's term of engagement being about to expire, the Trustees beg leave to inform the stockholders, and the public that they have engaged Mr. Oliver Baker as principal, who will take charge of the academy on the 29th inst. assisted by Mr. Wm. Crocker, who is advantageously known as Mr. Crane's assistant in the High School department for some time past. The system of the High School which has been in this instance successfully pursued with some modification and improvement will continue to be followed up in the present arrangement. Mr. Baker is a graduate of Yale College, and comes with high recommendations from several professors in that institution. The public are already acquainted with the terms of tuition, board, and the advantages of the retired location of the academy in the village of Henrietta. The only addition that the Trustees have to make to the notice already published is on the subject of vacations, of which there will be two in the year, to wit: from the 1st to the 15th of April, and from the 15th to the 30th of November. The Academy is furnished with a Chemical apparatus, and lectures on chemistry will occasionally be given without any extra charge.

By order of the Board of Trustees.

G. Boulton, President.

James Sperry, Secretary.

On the thirtieth of November, 1830, Orville Baker wrote the following very interesting letter to his brother Otis at Yale College:

"Dear Brother Otis:

Perhaps you have censored me for not writing sooner but floating about as I have been I could not well speak of myself at all and chose to wait rather till the time came when I might write with some certainty, as to my condition, hopes and prospects. The circular (enclosed) will tell you the story as far as it goes. I must fill out the

picture by speaking of my history since I wrote to you on my first arrival in Rochester. I called the only man I knew in that place to show me the village, telling him I would be leaving by boat some time in the morning for the west, possibly for Kentucky. I looked about with him; saw the Genesee Falls, the aqueduct, through which the waters of the River Genesee pass under the canal. I bid my friend (Mr. Wadsworth) adieu. I was waiting for a boat at the hotel, and thought to myself I would take one more look at the aqueduct. In my _____ peregrinations I accosted a man whom I met (probably a mechanic) from whom I elicited some information in regard to the high school at Rochester. He referred me to Mr. Atkinson the secretary of that institution and advised me to see him. I have much gratitude to this modest stranger though I know not his name. Went to see Mr. Atkinson and found him. Asked him if he supposed a school could be established in this village provided the teacher was a man of energy, prudence and the requisite qualifications. He replied in the affirmative. I showed him my letter from Professor Lillema (?). Mr. Atkinson went out and introduced me to some other gentlemen among whom was the great Josiah Bissel, the chief mover of The Pioneer Line of Stages. I found in this latter gentleman a great deal of the compound Salt termed generally impudence and good nature. I was urged to take board in Rochester a week and by that time I could determine what to do at least. Mr. Atkinson recommended me to a boarding house which was as distinguished for its kindness to me as a family ever was or could be to a stranger. I remained my week and fixed on the day for going on to the west. I ought to tell you that the unmarried lady of the family I was in is a distinguished female teacher in this western country — left the school at Henrietta last spring and is in that at Rochester. Mr. Benedict the Principal of that school became my best friend (Miss Allen excepted) and was determined I should not go to the west. He spoke of impossibilities which weighed against me, etc. I was determined however to go. The morning I was to leave I received a message from the president of this institution at Henrietta, requesting me to call at his office down in the village. I did so. I found him going that day to Henrietta and he proposed that I go with him and see the place, etc. They offered me a fair price for my labors the coming year, five hundred dollars to be paid quarterly. The trustees were to meet in two weeks from that time and the contract could not be completed before their time of meeting. I accordingly agreed to go to Cambria and secure from them a communication, then I did so. Visited Brother Jonas, went with him to the falls (Niagara) to the deep cut in the Welland Canal, to Forts George and Niagara. As soon as I heard from Rochester I returned.

Yesterday Mr. Crocker and myself commenced our school with 19 scholars. Today we had twenty-six, another from out of town tonight.

This Academy cost no less than ten thousand dollars. Yale College cannot boast of a building one-half as elegant. I find everything about it is calculated on a most liberal plan. Mr. Crocker is an unpolished business man and as near as I can judge now has very much the same ideas of government as myself. They give him four hundred dollars per annum. Henrietta lies seven miles south of the village of Rochester, a township of the most fertile soil in the world perhaps. The people here are not as refined as in New England nor as moral: They have inferior religious instruction and are very crabbed about paying the minister. One of the trustees of this academy, a real infidel undertook to tell me before we had made out the agreement in black and white, that it was not expected that the teachers would use any religious influence. I replied that if they tied my hands in that point I would not keep their school. Fortunately I learn that eight or nine of the trustees are good men and are ready to say if I don't use sound moral influence, I shall not be popular with them. I have only to say that this school is a _____ and after I had loitered about and spent nearly all my money if I had not obtained the place that I have, should have been in a dreadful dilemma. Excuse my haste.

Oliver Baker."

The above letter was written without paragraphing, possibly to save space.

According to correspondence of Oliver Baker, many students after leaving Monroe Academy, taught school, and it was not uncommon for many of them to seek further education after teaching for awhile.

The early principals were either ministers or possessed a deep religious nature. Correspondence between teacher and brother, or former friends and pupils portrayed great concern over their own or another's relationship to God and eternal salvation of the soul. For professing Christians of that era, this was not uncommon.

Dr. Jonathan Whitaker, a graduate of Harvard College, was another outstanding educator in Monroe Academy in the mid-1830's.

The following are the names of the young gentlemen who were students of Monroe Academy in the year ending October 29, 1831.

Charles H. Weeks	Henrietta
Almon D. Corbin	Henrietta
Andrew H. Campbell	Rush
Seargent Bagly	Henrietta
John B. Treat	Mendon
Stephen Colvin	Henrietta
M. Rudolph Hill Patwick	Henrietta
Nelson Young	Marion
William Davis Webster	Henrietta
Horatio N. Wheeler	Bristol
Henry H. Norton	Elba
P.P Roots	Mendon
Benjamin Ellicot	Shelby
Abraham B. Lincoln	Henrietta
John More	Rochester
William Sperry	Henrietta
Alfred Gully	Henrietta
Irvin S. Gully	Henrietta
David Kelly	Rochester
John L.	Rush
William Case	Rush
Thomas Pool	Victor
Jacob Smith	Mendon
Curtis C. Gates	Bloomfield
Horatio West	Henrietta
William B. Corbin	Henrietta

Names of Students attending Monroe Academy during the year 1832:

MALE DEPARTMENT

Robert Gilbert	Henrietta
William Bemis	Henrietta
John Bemis	Henrietta
John Ward	Montezuma
John Church	Livonia
John M. Butler	Henrietta
George Sargeant	Henrietta
Jeremiah Clark	Henrietta
Gardner Robison	Henrietta
Samuel Butler	Henrietta
Luther Hovey	Henrietta
Hiram Hovey	Henrietta
John Pike	Henrietta

Jeduthun Freenan	Parma
Ferdinand Wheeler	Henrietta
Nelson Shattuck	Henrietta
William Gale	Sodus
Andreso Ellicott	Shelby
Lincoln Dickinson	Henrietta
Perrin C. Goodale	Henrietta
John Goodale	Henrietta
Albert L. Jackson	Henrietta
Herman Tuttle	Henrietta
Alfred Tuttle	Henrietta
Oringh Stone	Brighton
Tracy McCracking	Rochester
Thomas H. Taylor	Henrietta
Ira Post	Henrietta
Albert Stone	Henrietta
John Court	Mendon
Allen Harris	Henrietta
Elmore Dennis	Henrietta
Hanson Howard	Henrietta
John Carr	Henrietta
Thomas Pixley	Henrietta
John Henry Pixley	Henrietta
George Pixley	Henrietta
Charles Swain	Henrietta
Leonard Swain	Henrietta
Ansel Adams	Henrietta
Otis Lake	Rush
Cyrus Sherman	Henrietta
Samuel Russel	Henrietta
Warring Lating	Victor
Sanford E. Church	Henrietta
Joseph A. Brown	Henrietta
Jesse Hughs	Pittsford
John W. Reed	Henrietta
Joseph M. Weeks	Henrietta

FEMALE DEPARTMENT

Emily Wilkins	Henrietta
Maria Wilkins	Henrietta
Elisa Kelly	Henrietta
Lucetta Bemis	Henrietta
Sarah Dickenson	Henrietta
Elisa Snider	Henrietta

Orpha Ann Robertson	Henrietta
Amelia Church	Henrietta
Electa Roberson	Henrietta
Mary E. Stone	Henrietta
Sarah Ann Cobb	Henrietta
Jane Church	Henrietta
Betsey Pike	Henrietta
Harriet M. Snider	Henrietta
Celia Briggs	Henrietta
Ellen Chamberlin	Henrietta
Susan Gale	Sodus
Elenor Robenson	Henrietta
Mary Post	Henrietta
Helen Wilder	Henrietta
Harriet Carr	Henrietta
Cynthia Wilder	Henrietta
Amelia Sophia Jackson	Henrietta
Emiline Dan	Henrietta
Sarah A. Dan	Henrietta
Sarah Ann Sperry	Henrietta
Luch P. Howard	Henrietta
Hannah B. Eddy	Henrietta
Joanna Eddy	Henrietta
Sarah Davis	Henrietta
Maria A. Collier	Victor
Mary D. Ramsdell	Perinton
Caira Wilkins	Henrietta
Levantia Partrige	Victor
Sabrina Cole	Mendon
Harriet Armstrong	Pittsford
Mary More	Rochester
Abigail Sperry	Henrietta
Maria Gully	Henrietta
Martha Gully	Henrietta
Rebecca Brown	Henrietta
Hannah E. Bell	Henrietta
Catherine Conover	Victor
Eunice Farr	Victor
Susan Treet	Henrietta
Harriet Lawrence	Lima
Augusta Stuart	Penn Yan
Sally Tenejek	Henrietta
Florella West	Henrietta
Hannah M. Thalimer	Henrietta

In 1866 at the request of the Board of Trustees, Monroe Academy was chosen by the New York State Board of Regents as one of the academies for public instruction of teachers. In 1870 the deed of the Academy building and grounds was transferred to the trustees of the Union Free School of District No. 5. The Honorable Martin Roberts, former member of the State Assembly, presided.

An article printed in *The Informer* on Thursday April 22, 1880, published by R.J. and F.A. Strassenburgh of Henrietta read as follows:

"The present condition of the Academy is now, and has been for some time past, such as to attract the thoughtful and serious attention of certain of our citizens. It is a building which has rendered valuable service and as an educational institution has an honorable record. But like all material things, it shows very forcibly the marks which accompany age, and with age, in its case something of neglect. Considered from a sanitary stand point, it is an important question to examine, whether it is a suitable place in which scholars and teachers should be obliged to convene. That it is prejudicial to their health there can be little doubt. The malarial odours which constantly rise from its damp and mouldering parts are proof enough of this. It is evident that something needs to be done. And perhaps the best thing to do is to take down the old building, and put up a new one, in keeping with the present wants of the community. What do you say?"

Viewing this from nearly a century later, knowing that the building was used as a school for seventy-two more years, this was indeed an interesting comment.

In 1883 the battlements on the north and south sides of the building were removed, the bell tower and chimneys repaired. In 1886 Stephen Norton removed the third story and roof for \$75. The late Clark Stone said Mr. Norton gathered a number of men with crowbars and at a given signal they all "heaved ho" and lifted the third story off. A new roof and cornice were built for eight hundred thirty-two dollars.

In 1914 medical examinations were listed in the expense account. A Junior High course was established in 1919. Electricity was installed in 1922, and a fire escape was built in 1923. A drinking fountain and lavatories were additions made in 1929.

In 1926 Henrietta High School was admitted by the Board of Regents as a full four-year high school, with elementary grades also covered. A commercial course was added in 1932, and in 1939 a home economics department was organized.



Henrietta High School (former Monroe Academy). Note that the third story had been removed.

These are only sketchy details of a school that held such fond memories for so many people who spent their school days under its roof. From 1826 when it was established as an academy, until the first Rush-Henrietta Central School was opened to all in 1952, one hundred twenty-six years all told, this old building was used for school purposes. The late Dr. Floyd Stone Winslow attended as a lad and was a principal here in the early part of the twentieth century. Bessie Mason (the late Mrs. John Gridley) and Samuel Nelson Zornow taught here. Bert VanHorn was a principal here, and Peter Muirhead, who is now Assistant Commissioner for Higher Education in the United States Office of Education in Washington, D.C., was principal of Henrietta High School from 1937 to 1944. Dr. John Parker was the principal from 1944 until centralization. The long records of teachers and students will not permit printing.

The Centennial Celebration in 1926 was organized by the Dolan Class and other citizens of Henrietta. Dinner was held on the Academy lawn, with games, addresses and dancing filling the long eventful, happy day.



D. J. Dolan, Principal (1889 - 1891) at Union Free School (former Monroe Academy).
Memorandum of Hiring, dated July 14, 1891, stated that D. J. Dolan was to be engaged to teach "at a weekly compensation of twelve dollars."



Anna Kidder, Teacher, Union Free School.

The Dolan Class was named in honor of Mr. D.J. Dolan, who was the principal of the old Union Free School during 1889, 1890, and 1891. The school then consisted of two classes, with Mrs. Anna Kidder teaching the lower grades and Mr. Dolan the higher grades with strict discipline. The Dolan Association celebrated with a yearly picnic for years. In 1934 the invitations were extended to all those who attended the school prior to its becoming a high school. One of the later events was held at Sunset Lodge at the country home of Dr. Floyd Winslow, on East Henrietta Road.

In 1915 the total receipts for the schools in Henrietta were \$8,068.28, the disbursements were \$7,777.45, leaving a balance of \$290.83. By way of comparison the total receipts for 1938 were \$43,477.07. The disbursements were \$45,255.67, with a balance in the red of \$1,778.60, for the year.

*ALMA MATER Henrietta High School
1939*

*"Our strong bonds can ne'er be severed
True our hearts will be
Far surpassing wealth or prestige
Our dear school 'tis thee.*

*Now we vow to always cherish
Alma Mater dear,
All the care, the counsel, kindness
Which were given here.*

CHORUS:

*Henrietta, pledged to thee
Our love will ever be.
Time can never dim the memories
Of our trust in thee."*

The Henrietta Civic Center occupied this brick building for recreational activities. In 1960 it was taken over by the Y.M.C.A.

In the *Henrietta Post*, March 14, 1974, the town historian, Eleanor Kalsbeck, wrote a brief history of the Monroe Academy. Boys were seen playing around the old school that night. About midnight, a disastrous fire broke out, which destroyed the cherished old

building. The historian managed to save a few old bricks, set one hundred forty-eight years ago. Town officials were working through The Landmark Society to make it a National Landmark. One of the sad facts is that Americans travel in the European countries, ohing and ahing at the ancient landmarks there, but cannot wait to tear down our own!

RUSH-HENRIETTA CENTRAL

Both Henrietta and Rush realized the growing need for adequate housing of our school children. After meeting and talking over these needs and the possibility of centralization, arrangements were made for voting on centralization. Articles pro and con appeared in the *Rush-Henrietta Herald* during the month of August, 1938. Voting took place September 9, 1938, when the proposition was defeated 653 to 421. It was too bad, for at this time there would have been a Federal grant amounting to about \$148,000, and State aid for \$45,000, leaving a balance of \$136,500, to cover the cost of the new central school.

It was on November 14, 1946, at a special meeting at the West Henrietta Grange Hall, that the people of the Rush and Henrietta School Districts voted their approval on the proposed Rush-Henrietta Central District by an overwhelming vote of eighty-one per cent. At this meeting a board was elected to carry through the wishes of the people. At that time fifteen districts were united in the centralization set-up, and about 1952 a large portion of another district requested that they be included. Henrietta District No. 4 was annexed in the fall of 1955, and Brighton No. 4 was included in the spring of 1955. George Yackel, Principal of the Rush School, was chosen Principal of RHCS District, with John Parker Vice-Principal.

The operation as a Central District under its elected board began functioning July 1, 1947. A great deal of planning had to be done in order to make the best possible use of the existing buildings and to provide transportation of pupils. A site was chosen at 4000 East Henrietta Road, containing sixty-five acres. On February 22, 1949, eighty-one per cent of the voters approved the choice at a cost of \$15,000. In September, 1949, eighty-two per cent of the voters cast their vote in the affirmative on a one-story school building to house 1,000 pupils. The bond issue, covering the cost of equipment, landscaping and building, was for \$1,475,000.

While the school was under construction, elementary school children, from grades one through seven, attended the Rush School

and the West Henrietta Elementary School. Eighth graders and high school pupils attended Henrietta High School in the old Academy. Space was utilized in the Rush Town Hall and two district schools. Rooms in the Rush Methodist Church and in the Union Congregational Church in Henrietta were also used for classes. A cafeteria serving simple meals was maintained in the Henrietta church dining hall.

A cement block building next door to the Henrietta High School was rented for use for shop and agricultural classes.

The Rush School suffered a fire while pupils waited for their new central school, in April, 1948. The children marched out quickly, with no one injured. Fire and smoke damage was repaired, and the children finished the school term. William Gillette, President of RHCS Board, suffered a heart attack while working cleaning up after the fire.

Five hundred elementary school pupils entered the new Rush-Henrietta Central School on East Henrietta Road, November, 1951. In February (Tuesday) 12, 1952, the high school pupils were admitted. It was quite a contrast with its fifty-one classrooms, auditorium, gymnasium, cafeteria and library.



Charles H. Roth (now) Senior High School, 4000 East Henrietta Road.

On May 22, 1952, our splendid new school building was dedicated. It was the first school in New York State to cover grades from kindergarten through the twelfth grade, all on one floor, and the first in the State to be radiant heated. Many school boards, faced with the same type problems we had, visited our school. Four Japanese representatives, including a Vice-Superintendent of the Board of Education in Otsu, a technician for the Board of Education of Nagoya, and a representative of Ministry of Education in Tokyo,

as well as a chief engineer for the Okayama Board of Education, were guests of our State Department of Education. They were among the many very interesting visitors of our new school.

Today this school is merely taken for granted, but then, every department and room, from the auditorium to the bus garage, were objects of intense interest. We toured the school for at least one and one-half hours.

A week-long dedicatory program was held beginning May 18th, on a Sunday evening. Mrs. Caroline Gannett, a Regents member, New York State Commissioner of Education Lewis A. Wilson, and Chancellor of the State Board of Regents, John Myers, were among those who attended. On Friday, May 23, 1952, the Regents Chancellor, John F. Myers, spread mortar on the cornerstone which was dedicated that day. We had the distinct honor of being the only school in the area visited by the New York State Board of Regents, who paid their first official visit to Rochester at this time. Dr. John Parker became principal in April, 1952, when George Yackel resigned. This school has since been named for Charles H. Roth who worked so faithfully for the RHCS School District.

The number of students attending the Rush-Henrietta Central School District in 1949 was 616. Upon entering the new modern central school in 1952, with a new kindergarten established, the number totaled 848. In 1954 there were over 1,200 bussed to school.

Suburban Heights area was in need of a school. The site given by Mr. Wilmot was approved in a vote taken February 21, 1955, after a rejection in late December, 1954. Approval was given March 15, 1955, for a new elementary school to be built, the bond issue being for \$940,000. The new school when completed in 1957 was named for the late William Gillette, former President of the Rush-Henrietta Central School Board. This one-story brick building, consisting of twenty classrooms located on Groton Parkway in the northeast section of Henrietta, was dedicated February 4, 1957.

The board continued to carefully watch the attendance increase. Even with the new Gillette school approaching completion, they realized more space would soon become imperative. The board approved a site, on the East Henrietta Road opposite Jeffords Road in Rush, during the month of January, 1956. On April 24, 1956, the taxpayers of the RHCS District were again in accord with their school board in building another new elementary school.



William Gillette Elementary School, 100 Groton Parkway.

Construction began in the fall, on a school patterned after the Suburban Heights School. In September, 1958, Monica Leary School was formally dedicated. It was named for a former beloved woman in Rush, the wife of the late Dr. James Leary. Mrs. Leary was active in many organizations in Rush, was a member of the school board and of St. Joseph's Church, and expressed great interest in children.



Monica Leary Elementary School, 5509 East Henrietta Road.

With sub-division growth in Henrietta continuing to expand at an amazing rate, on May 7, 1957, residents eligible for voting in the district were asked to consider a \$3,846,000 building program. This included a new elementary school to be built in the River Meadows-Riverview Heights area on East River Road, and a new Junior High School on the corner of Pinnacle and Lehigh Station Roads. This vote was defeated, and again on June 21st. New school projects about Monroe County and the State were being similarly rejected for various reasons. About this time school enrollment increased to over 3,000 students. A Citizens Committee was formed to study building and educational needs of the RHCS District. With their findings and suggestions, the Board of Education formed new proposals in a three point program.

Part 1 – Immediate construction of a twenty-one room elementary school.

Part 2 – Enlargement of the existing main building and converting it to a 1200 student secondary school covering grades seven through twelve.

Part 3 – Modernization and enlargement of the West Brighton elementary building.

On March 25, 1958 voters approved of a plan for constructing a new twenty-one room elementary school on a site situated at 755 Pinnacle Road near Lehigh Station Road. The bond issue was estimated at \$1,250,000. This school held its dedication February 7, 1960 and was named for the late Dr. Floyd Stone Winslow. Dr. Winslow was a physician and surgeon who was born in Henrietta of a pioneer family. He was coronor's physician in Rochester for many years. He was also former president of the New York State Medical Society, and of the Monroe County Medical Society, as well as a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, and a former Principal of Monroe Academy.



Floyd S. Winslow Elementary School, 755 Pinnacle Road.



Crittenden Elementary School, 2657 West Henrietta Road.

In late October, 1958, approval was sought and won for a \$950,000 Bond issue to cover enlargement of the main building and Brighton District No. 4 (Crittenden Elementary School, \$200,000) at 2657 W. Henrietta Road.

In the fall of 1959, the administration of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District occupied the renovated farmhouse on Lehigh Station Road for office space. This had been purchased two years previously. In December, voters approved the building of a new Junior High School on Lehigh Station Road at an estimated cost of \$1,750,000. A vote taken in January 1960 for including a swimming pool was rejected. This school was constructed on a one-story plan, with three wings extending from a central area, at a cost of \$1,400,000. Dedication of this Junior High took place in May, 1961. It was named Carlton Webster Junior High School, in honor of a late, much respected English and Drama teacher of the District.



Charlton Webster Junior High School, 2000 Lehigh Station Road.

The same month a vote was held to decide on the purchase of a site for a new elementary school in the Wedgewood tract. This was approved and the voters were again called to the polls on December 12th to vote on construction of the school. This school was completed and dedicated the first of May, 1963. A fall-out shelter was built under the corridors, with entrances from classrooms and schoolyard.

David B. Crane is the name given this school at 85 Shell Edge Drive, in honor of the first principal of Monroe Academy. The cost of this school approximated \$1,200,000.

An elementary school site of fifteen acres at 133 Vollmer Parkway, West Henrietta, and another of 44 acres off Erie Station Road, West Henrietta, were approved and acquired the fore part of



David B. Crane Elementary School, 85 Shell Edge Drive.

May, 1962. In August construction began to provide additional space for offices in the Administration Building. The RHCS budget rose this year to over \$3,000.00.



R.H.C.S. Administration Building, 2034 Lehigh Station Road.

In late February, 1963, district voters approved construction of a second Junior High School, to be built in West Henrietta. This was to be a three-story brick building composed of twenty-six classrooms,

cafeteria, gymnasium and fall-out shelter. There are also science rooms, shop rooms, home economics and art classes. The school was completed in the fall of 1964. When dedicated it was named for the late Henry Burger of Henrietta who had faithfully served as school clerk for some twenty-six years and also as vice-president of the school board. The cost of the Burger School was \$1,650,000.



Henry Burger Junior High School, 639 Erie Station Road.

In the spring of 1963, the District School Board bid \$25,000 on the old town hall in West Henrietta, the price received ten years before from the town. With the taxpayers approval, this building was converted to a maintenance center with laundry facilities for laundering gym suits and towels used by the physical education classes.

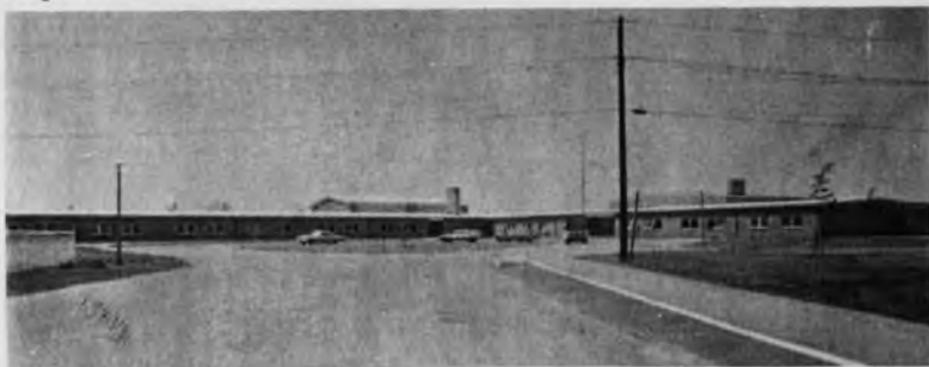
In 1960 school enrollment was 3,798 pupils. By 1963 it had jumped to 5,465. The assessed valuation of property in Henrietta at this time was \$3,568,067, an increase over the year before of \$520,054. The school tax in 1963 in Henrietta was \$35.72 per thousand, showing an increase of \$3.43 over the previous year. The population explosion in Henrietta and new homes built in the Town of Rush, presented a constant problem to the Rush-Henrietta Central School Board and administrators.

Contracts were awarded in April, 1964, on a new elementary school to be built in the Maplewood tract in West Henrietta, after voters approved its construction in a vote taken in January. The



R.H.C.S. Maintenance Building, 649 Erie Station Road.

bond issue for \$1,275,000 provided for twenty-eight classrooms for about 800 pupils from kindergarten through sixth grade. This school was completed at an actual cost of \$1,250,000, in the late summer of 1965, and dedicated November 5th of that year. Supervisor Don W. Cook and Lester Foreman, Monroe County School Supervisor, sealed the cornerstone. The school was named for the late Mrs. Ethel Fyle, a native of Rush who taught elementary grades for thirty years in Henrietta. Mrs. Fyle, who retired in 1954, was a much loved and respected teacher.



Ethel Fyle Elementary School, 133 Vollmer Parkway

In 1964 the assessed valuation of Henrietta property rose a \$1,000,000, with the school tax rising to \$42.07 per thousand. December 17th saw another gathering of voters to approve a school site of some fifteen acres, west of East Henrietta Road and south of Lehigh Station Road. They also voted on construction of a new

elementary school to house students in the Wedgewood South tract where 345 new houses had received the Town's approval. It is interesting to compare the cost of the first land purchase of the centralized district with this site. The sixty-five acres of land for the first centralized school in the Rush-Henrietta District were purchased for \$15,000. In 1965 the district paid \$32,000 for fifteen acres on Authors Avenue. The new school opened for the fall term in 1966 and was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies November 10, 1966. It was named for the late Emma Sherman, a native of West Henrietta, who devoted her life to teaching schools in Henrietta. Many of her former pupils were invited to the dedication service, at 50 Authors Avenue.

Remodeling was undertaken on the first bus garage and the industrial arts area at the Roth High School at 4000 East Henrietta Road in 1965. A bus repair facility and parking area at the maintenance building location were undertaken. Voters approved additions to the Winslow and Gillette Elementary Schools in 1965. The school budget for the district was adopted for \$5,496,410, for the year.

Brochures were mailed to residents of the Rush-Henrietta Central District in March, 1966, calling their attention to the need of a new high school. In June of 1965, the site was approved on the south side of Lehigh Station Road between East Henrietta and Pinnacle Roads. Voters approved the School Board's plans and an approximate \$6,315,000 bond issue. This building was planned to keep step with changing educational methods. The wings are two and three stories



Emma Sherman Elementary School, 50 Authors Avenue

high. (The Charles H. Roth School was converted to an elementary and junior high school.) The new school was named for James Sperry, a leader in the cultural life of pioneer Henrietta. Miss Elizabeth Vail of Albany, a descendent of James Sperry, attended the dedication.



James Sperry Senior High School, 1799 Lehigh Station Road

The Rush-Henrietta Central School Board's plans to enlarge the Administration Building were vetoed in September, 1966, and again in March, 1967. The administrators were forced to rent a house in order to provide necessary office space. A new school site, on Calkins Road east of Pinnacle Road, was approved.

Due to the housing development in the Eagle Ridge tract in West Henrietta, the necessity of a new school once again loomed before the District Board. Put to a vote February 20, 1968, a bond issue for \$1,945,000 to cover cost of constructing a new elementary school was passed, three to one. Superintendent John W. Parker made the following comment: *"Henrietta is growing so fast and the percentage of school-aged children is so great, as it stands now, we're building a school a year."* Plans included twenty-four classrooms, three kindergartens, a music room and a library. It has a "cafetorium" (a cafeteria and auditorium combined), a kitchen and gymnasium, health room and general offices. Conference and group instruction areas were also included in the plans. This school was dedicated April 12, 1970, and named for Mary K. Vollmer, a former teacher in the district. The Honorable Frank Horton, U.S. Representative, presented the flag to the standard bearers.

Dr. Parker who served in Henrietta for thirty-four years retired in 1968. His interest, untiring efforts and dependability cannot be questioned, and he will be greatly missed by many. A testimonial dinner for Dr. Parker, held at Vince's Fifty Acres, was attended by over five hundred people.

Dr. Richard TenHaaken took over the supervisory role of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District, followed by Dr. Raymond Delaney.

On April 1, 1969, a school bond issue for \$13.3 million, said to be the largest ever presented in a school district in Monroe County, was defeated. It seemed to be the result of a taxpayers' rebellion due to increased County and Town taxes. It was to have covered the costs of a 2,100-student high school, a 2,800-student elementary school and an addition to the Administration Building. The vote was 4,393 to 2,065. This was the largest turnout of voters in the Rush-Henrietta School District history to date. On May 27th, a proposal was again presented to the voters of the district. Broken down into three separate proposals, it was as follows: A high school at a cost of 8.9 million on West Henrietta Road, south of Telephone Road, where the district owns sixty-one acres. One elementary school at a cost of about 1.95 million on the Tinker property on Calkins Road. Also one elementary school near the Crittenden School or behind the Roth School on East Henrietta Road. An addition to the Administration Building at an approximate cost of \$495,000. This bond issue was rejected by the voters.

In 1975 Roth School was converted to a senior high school. The cost for renovation was \$2,607,000.

Rush-Henrietta Central School District

Administration Building

2034 Lehigh Station Road

Dr. Raymond R. Delaney, Superintendent of Schools

Burger Junior High	639 Erie Station Road
Crane Elementary	85 Shell Edge Drive
Crittenden Elementary	2657 West Henrietta Road
Fyle Elementary	133 Vollmer Parkway
Gillette Elementary	100 Groton Parkway
Leary Elementary	5509 East Henrietta Road
Roth Senior High	4000 East Henrietta Road
Sherman Elementary	50 Authors Avenue
Sperry Senior High	1799 Lehigh Station Road
Vollmer Elementary	150 Telephone Road
Webster Junior High	2000 Lehigh Station Road
Winslow Elementary	755 Pinnacle Road

Rochester Institute of Technology

Rochester Institute of Technology, which in 1968 moved to its all-new 1,300-acre site in Henrietta, is a collegiate institute offering specialized courses of study in professional and technical areas. The Institute is composed of the Colleges of Applied Science, Business, Fine and Applied Arts, Graphic Arts and Photography, Science, General Studies, the Evening College, and the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. Its courses lead to the degrees of Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.), Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.), Master of Science (M.S.), and Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.).

Rochester Institute of Technology is chartered by the Regents of the University of the State of New York and registered by the State Education Department. It is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. It is a member of the American Council on Education and the Association of Colleges and Universities of the State of New York.

The Institute is a very old school. It had its beginnings in 1829 through the efforts of Col. Nathaniel Rochester and others who started the Rochester Athenaeum for the purpose of improving the cultural life of the frontier village of Rochester through forums, concerts and lectures.

Rochester industries which developed in succeeding decades were of a type that required highly skilled technicians and supervisors. In 1885, under the leadership of Capt. Henry Lomb, a group of industrialists founded Mechanics Institute to provide technical education to meet this need. In 1891 the Mechanics Institute merged with the Rochester Athenaeum and the school became the Rochester Athenaeum and Mechanics Institute. In 1944 the name was changed to Rochester Institute of Technology.

One of the pioneers in technical education, the Institute was among the first to offer such courses as mechanical drawing, home economics, photography, printing, and crafts, and since 1912 has been one of the proponents of the cooperative or workstudy plan. The Institute's curriculum has steadily moved with the times and its programs have enlarged in scope and depth as it left the more restricted vocational approach of the Mechanics Institute and added professional and general studies for a complete and balanced education at college level.

Rochester Institute of Technology has a new and expanded campus specifically designed for its educational purposes. The campus is bounded by East River Road, Bailey Road, John Street, and Jefferson Road. Residence halls and apartments for married students are located within the campus area. Parking lots for commuting students' cars are provided.

R.I.T. is a private, gift-supported institution, non-denominational and coeducational. More than 3,600 full-time students and 9,700 evening students make up the student body, which, while predominantly from New York, represents forty-two other states and twenty-one other countries. There are some 19,000 alumni.

NTID

The National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) was created because of the need for educational opportunities for the deaf in technical fields. Many persons felt that the deaf could succeed in semi-professional and professional employment in science, technology and the applied arts if given a specialized education.

NTID is the only national postsecondary technical program for the deaf. It is also the first effort to educate large numbers of deaf students within a college campus planned primarily for hearing students. NTID was established through Public Law 89-36 in 1965 by an Act of Congress.

NTID is located on the 1,300 acre campus of Rochester Institute of Technology in Henrietta, N.Y. RIT was chosen as NTID's sponsoring institution in 1966 because of its long history of success in technical education.

The first group of seventy students enrolled at NTID in 1968. The present enrollment of more than 550 students represents almost every state in the United States.

NTID's basic mission is to provide for postsecondary deaf students, the opportunity to prepare for and to pursue semi-professional and professional level educational programs in science, technology and applied arts that lead to successful employment in business, education, government and industry.

Funded by Congress through the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, NTID operates as a training center to assist in

the preparation of qualified professionals to instruct and serve the deaf nationwide. It also functions as a forum for research and development to push forward the frontiers of knowledge of the education and communication skills of deaf people.

NTID's new facilities were dedicated on Saturday, October 5, 1974. The new \$27.5 million three-building complex, consisting of an academic building, residence hall and dining commons, is designed to meet the distinct learning needs of deaf students and to supplement existing facilities on the RIT campus and will provide postsecondary technical education for 750 deaf students each year.

"LEAD THOU ME ON"

Scattered within the east, west, north and south corners of the Township of Henrietta, lie the quiet little plots set aside by our forefathers for the last resting place of the remains of their dear ones. May no further desecration occur from senseless vandalism, nor any covet for mercenary reasons these peaceful retreats! Blessed and hallowed by the love and tears of family and friends, may they ever remain a fitting memorial to our departed. Soldiers of our Country's wars, and those who kept the home fires burning, lie within their boundaries. Our lives have been enriched by their humble contribution in life.

Laws of the State strictly govern expenditures of both the town and cemetery organizations in caring for rural cemeteries. As costs of



Busham Cemetery, Telephone Road, West Henrietta.

living rise sharply, it becomes increasingly difficult to maintain these properly by the few who volunteer to undertake this difficult task. It is the hope of the writer that a better way will be found to work this problem out as a people with a joint heritage and responsibility.

The Bushman Cemetery is located on the Telephone Road, West Henrietta. The first-known burial was in 1813. Three soldiers of the Revolution and one Civil War veteran are buried there. One hundred twenty known burials with markers are located within this little cemetery.

The so-called Brininstool Cemetery is located on the north side of Erie Station Road, near the East River Road, West Henrietta. One hundred thirty inscriptions have been taken from existing stones by the historian, at the time all the cemeteries were done in this manner. The oldest inscription is that of 1820, with two participants of the War of 1812 interred and two of World War I. One headstone for a World War II soldier has been erected for a serviceman buried in Florence, Italy.



Brininstool Cemetery, Erie Station Road, near East River Road.

Riverview Cemetery is located on a hill on the east side of East River Road, West Henrietta, north of Lehigh Station Road. As far as can be ascertained, ten who served in the War of 1776 were buried in this little cemetery; and one who participated in the Mohawk War, under Captain Samuel Bradstreet. Four men who took part in the War of the Rebellion were laid to rest on this pleasant hillside and

one World War I soldier. There are 161 inscriptions recorded on stones.

There is a private burial plot on top of Methodist Hill on the west side of the West Henrietta Road, West Henrietta. Calvin Brainard, a pioneer Methodist minister, and several members of his family are interred here.

A pioneer burial ground was located on the northwest corner of the late Alfred Stone farm at 3420 East Henrietta Road. This had disappeared long before 1876. There also used to be a small cemetery on the southeast corner of Pinnacle and Calkins Road.

The Friends Burial Ground on the north side of Calkins Road, about opposite the Lochner Building, long uncared for, has disappeared. Quakers usually marked the graves with a simple fieldstone or plain marker during the last century. About fourteen years ago, three stones could be discerned, sinking into the earth in a pasture.

On a hilltop on the south side of Goodberlet Road, near Pinnacle, is another cemetery, which is in need of a new name. It has been referred to as the Brown Cemetery although no Browns are buried there. The land was taken from the David Dunham property and deeded to about 56 trustees, each of whom gave fifty cents towards the purchase. The historian calls it Wildwood Cemetery. Simon Perkins is buried here with his wife Betsy and four children. He was a fifer in the training for the War of 1812. An infant daughter of theirs was buried here in 1812, another in 1822, still another was buried four days before its father in 1826. A son died at the age of nineteen. Although this cemetery is often weed grown, it is a pleasant location, and some 45 inscriptions have been recorded.

*"Silently the snows
Of winter spreads a white puff,
Shielding Earth's old scars."*

—Eleanor C. Kalsbeck

In the East Baptist Churchyard are some thirty-eight known burials, on the corner of Pinnacle and Reeves Road. Timothy Stone, who fought in the Battle of Sackett's Harbor in the War of 1812, is buried there. Captain Abijah Gray, who was commissioned to raise a Company of Sharpshooters for the Civil War, is also buried here.

*“Veiled in mystic flight –
Splendid the dawn awaiting,
Weep not, at parting.”*

On the East Henrietta Road on the southeast corner of Calkins Road, is a small cemetery known as the Whitaker Cemetery. Twenty-four inscriptions were taken from existing stones. Jacob Capron, one of the founders of the First Christian Church in Broadalbin, New York, was visiting Amos Ross in Henrietta when he died. His was the first-known burial in this cemetery in 1826. The plot was deeded by Elijah and Mercy Little, March 1, 1826, to a number of trustees residing in Henrietta, including Amos Ross. Several of the men were later interred in the Tinker Cemetery on the Chase Road (now Castle Road). The Reverend Johnathan Whitaker and his wife Mary were originally buried in the Whitaker Cemetery but were later removed to Mt. Hope Cemetery. He was principal of Monroe Academy in the mid-1830's. A graduate of Harvard College and a Federalist, he opposed the War of 1812. When hostilities commenced however, he sustained the government. A minister in Sharon, Massachusetts for nineteen years, he invited one hundred of his parishioners to go with him from Sharon to Dorchester Heights to aid in building the fort. Without distinction of party, they went willingly. After peace was restored, the Reverend Whitaker was invited to deliver an address, when a great multitude gathered. According to his son Edgar, “this was one of his happiest memories, well calculated to promote good feeling and patriotism among the people.” Women descendants have been accepted as U.S. Daughters of the War of 1812 on his record. A chapter in Phillipsburg, Kansas is named in his honor.

The pioneer cemetery located on Castle Road has been called the Tinker Cemetery. This no doubt is for the large Tinker family monument that graces its entrance. There are 105 known burials in this cemetery. The earliest being in 1810. Six veterans of the War of 1812 are buried here, and two of the War of 1776. A Colonel David Otis (of the old state militia) and Captain Daniel Olney are also interred here. One cannot read these old stones without learning something of the lives of those who rest here. One leaves with the conviction these pioneer cemeteries should be well preserved as an important part of the town's history.

In 1917 Helen Cornwell Balmer of Lansing, Michigan, wrote the following lines in a poem of some thirteen verses upon receiving an article printed in the paper about this cemetery:

*"But when your little paper came
My heart was lit with sudden flame.
For on its pages there I read
Among the list of sainted dead.*

*A well known and an honored name
Of Revolutionary fame;
Of my great grand-sire old and gray,
Who long years since had passed away*

*And left to us who now remain
A legacy – an honored name;
And sacred be his resting place,
Where sleep so many of his race.*

*May we, while yet we live on earth
Honor those heroes for their worth,
And may it be our greatest pride
That they 'for love of country died.'"*

—Helen Cornwell Balmer

Last but not least, is Maplewood Cemetery, located on Middle Road, north of Lehigh Station Road in Henrietta, New York. This is Henrietta's largest cemetery with over 1500 known burials. Two Revolutionary soldiers are buried here. Joel Scudder served in 1805, according to the Veterans Service Bureau. Captain John Russell served one year in the War of 1812 in Niagara County. Two veterans are buried here who served in the Mexican War. Lt. Abram Lincoln, who attended West Point and died in Palatka, Florida in 1852 is also buried here. Twenty-four Civil War veterans are buried in Maplewood. World War I veterans whose remains rest here, number eight. Four men who served in World War II are interred in Maplewood Cemetery.

The earliest death recorded on a headstone in this cemetery was in 1790, when Isaac Pixley, husband of Abigail, died in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Mrs. Pixley later married James Root. Whether Isaac Pixley was living here, and whether he was buried in Great Barrington, is not known. In those days, it would seem he would have been buried in Great Barrington if he died there. Henrietta was not established as a settlement in 1790. There was a burial in this cemetery in 1811, and two in 1813. There are doubtless many burials without headstones.

Records were not too well kept before 1900 for any of the cemeteries. Many veterans of the various wars may have moved away. A Joel Fox was a Revolutionary War soldier who lived here, but his burial place is unknown. Joel Clark, a drummer boy in the Revolution and a Henrietta resident in his later days, is buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery. Several Civil War veterans who went from Henrietta are buried in Mt. Hope.

*“There is a plan far greater than the plan you know;
There is a landscape broader than the one you see.
There is a haven where storm-tossed souls may go –
You call it death – we, immortality.”*

Author unknown.

EARLY CULTURAL AND SOCIAL SOCIETIES

The cultural growth of the town was advanced through the efforts of several men in 1816. James Sperry, George Beckwith, Elisha Gage, Charles Baldwin and Isaac Noble Dayton were active with several others in organizing a public library that year. Books were selected with every member subscribing a specified sum each year, with Mr. James Wadsworth of Geneseo giving \$5.00 towards the project.

A debating society was formed on the west side of town the same year, and the meetings were very well attended. The debates wielded a strong and constant educational effect on the community for over twenty years. Folks came from Rush, Brighton, and Pittsford to participate in the intellectual contests. Jarvis Sherman, Orlow Beebe, Isaac Jackson, and Judge Peter Price of Rush, as well as those previously mentioned on the library committee, were active members. Other debating societies were organized in Henrietta but this particular society carried on for the longest period of time.

INDEPENDENCE BALL.



THE COMPANY OF

Mr. Martin Robert and Lady

is respectfully solicited at R. Wilkins' Assembly-Room, in HENRIETTA, on Wednesday the 4th of July next, at 2 o'clock P. M.

J. L. Berly,

R. Grant,

L. Hazard,

MANAGERS.

J. M. Butler,

E. Pelton.

HENRIETTA, JUNE 21, 1832.

Twenty men of Henrietta met in the fore part of April, 1824, for the purpose of organizing a Masonic lodge. Their charter was issued by the Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York in June, 1824, for Henrietta Lodge No. 380, F. and A.M. Their meetings were held in the ballroom of Chamberlin's Hotel in the east village. In the winter of 1825, Mrs. Chamberlin, overcome with curiosity, stationed a boy in the attic over the lodge hall, after cutting a hole in the ceiling for him to watch the proceedings. He made a noise and was discovered, whereupon Roswell Wickwire struck at the opening with

his sword. Roswell Wickwire was Senior Warden and acting Master Pro-tem, the office of Master being vacant by death of Ebenezer Gooding. The meeting was adjourned after voting to hold future meetings elsewhere. After meeting in a private home and in another hotel, they built a hall over the general store across from Chamberlain's Hotel. The Masonic Hall was the third story of the brick store built by Benjamin Baldwin.

Three years later, William Morgan of Batavia caused a great commotion, when due to personal dissatisfaction, he revealed secrets of the Masons in a book. Mr. Morgan found himself in great trouble, and the whole affair had far reaching effects. Because of a great deal of expense incurred in building a new hall and antagonism stirred up over the episode of Morgan, Henrietta Lodge No. 380, F. and A.M., turned in their charter.

In the spring of 1862, the Henrietta Lodge No. 526 was formed and granted a charter by the Grand Lodge. They met for five years in the lodge rooms in the east hamlet, when they moved to a hall over the Marvin Williams general store in West Henrietta.

In 1905 this building was destroyed by fire. Jones and Buckley, merchants, rebuilt the cellar and first story. The Masons built the second story with roof. They occupied these rooms for their meetings under this arrangement until 1959, when they bought the Grange Hall for a Masonic Temple. Howard Chase bought their interest in the store building. The newly renovated Masonic Temple on Erie Station Road was dedicated October 24, 1961.

The early farmers of Henrietta were eager to participate in the early fairs. James Sperry was president of the first recorded meeting of the Monroe Agricultural Society in 1823. John Fargo had the best acre of corn that year. In 1825 Jonathan Russell won first premium in plowing an eighth of an acre with oxen without a driver! The year of 1825 saw Henrietta farmers winning eighteen of the seventy-seven premiums awarded. J.H. Robinson was president of the Monroe County Agricultural Society in 1845, and treasurer in 1849. Stephen Leggett was president in 1855 and again in 1865. Mahlon D. Phillips was secretary in 1866.

Henrietta farmers held a meeting December 23, 1854, when the Henrietta Town Agricultural Society was organized. A constitution was adopted and officers elected. Isaac Jackson was elected President; D.L. Bailey, Vice-President; Ashman Beebee, Secretary; and Martin Roberts, Treasurer. An executive committee consisted of

Stephen Leggett, Martin Roberts, H.D. Rulifson, T.E. Winslow and T.O. Jones. Funds and membership increased by solicitation of a committee. Their first annual fair provided much competition and interest, with premiums awarded for livestock, vegetables and field crops. Bouquets and exhibitions of the womenfolk received much praise and attention. The following list of entries shows the interest expressed in this endeavor, the success of their first fair, and some of the farmers who participated. It gives a picture of the type stock, vegetables and field crops raised in Henrietta. Farmers of Henrietta also exhibited in the County fairs, winning awards with cows, bulls, steer and working oxen.

HORSES Class II Matched and Single Horses

One Pair of Horses: H.M.S. Beebee, E. Gooding, A. Mackey, T.W. Groton, E.C. Chapman, H. Sherman, Alexander Williams, Martin Roberts and Mr. Jackson.

PREMIUMS AWARDED

Best Stallion	Meigs Bailey	\$2.00
2nd Best Stallion	Barna E. Bundy	1.00
Best Mare and Colt	M. Case	2.00
2nd Best Mare and Colt	David H. Richardson	1.00
Best 3 year old Colt	Charles Leggett	2.00
2nd Best 3 year old Colt	E. Beebee	1.00
Best 2 year old Colt	John Mook	2.00
2nd Best 2 year old Colt	Orlow Beebee	1.00
Best Yearling Colt	T.W. Gordon	2.00
2nd Best Yearling Colt	H.C. Ely	1.00
Best pair matched horses	Martin Roberts	2.00
2nd Best pair matched horses	A. Mackey	1.00

CATTLE First Class

Best pair Working Cattle	William Dunn	\$2.00
2nd Best pair Working Cattle	H.D. Fulifson	1.00
Best pair 3 year old Steers	S. Leggett	2.00
2nd Best pair 3 year old Steers	E. Sperry	1.00
Best pair 2 year old Steers	Martin Roberts	1.50
2nd Best pair 2 year old Steers	Martin Roberts	1.00
Best pair Yearling Steers	Martin Roberts	1.50
2nd Best pair Yearling Steers	Hugh Quinn	1.00

SWINE

Best Sow and Pigs	Ashley Colvin	\$2.00
2nd Best Sow and Pigs	T.O. Jones	Vol. Rural New Yorker
Best Boar	S. Leggett	2.00
2nd Best Boar	E. Little	Vol. Rural New Yorker
Best Four Pigs	Martin Roberts	2.00
2nd Best Four Pigs	E. Little	Vol. Rural New Yorker

Vegetables

Best Bushel Potatoes	Luther Hovey	\$\$.50
Best Six Beets	E.H. Murray	.25
Best Six Carrots	H.G. Otis	.25
Best Six Cabbages	S. Leggett	.25
Best Pumpkin	S. DeWitte	.25
Best Squash	A.S. Tibbitts	.25
Best Watermelon	Martin Roberts	.25

Field Crops

Best Barrel Winter Wheat	Harvey Stone	\$2.00
Best Barrel Spring Wheat	T.O. Jones	Vol. Rural New Yorker
Best Barrel Corn	E. Beebee	Vol. Rural New Yorker
Best Barrel Barley	E. Beebee	Vol. Rural New Yorker
Best Barrel Oats	H.G. Otis	Vol. Rural New Yorker
Best Barrel Timothy Seed	H.H. Sperry	Vol. Rural New Yorker
Best Barrel Clover Seed	Martin Roberts	Vol. Rural New Yorker

Also see chapter entitled "Spanning the Centuries" later in this book for information on early organizations.

RAILROADS AND TOLL ROADS

Gradually, as conditions improved, many fine farm homes replaced the log homes. The Erie Canal supplied a means of shipping produce and grain to markets, at least until grain shipped from western states cut prices in later years. By the time the first railroad cut through Henrietta, the ban on their carrying freight had been lifted. This had been enforced to protect the Erie Canal's interests.

In 1851 the Rochester and Genesee Valley Railroad was organized to construct a railroad from Rochester to Avon. Work was begun in 1852 with the railroad opening to Avon in 1854. After a short period of time, it was leased by the New York, Lake Erie and Western Railroad for a term of ninety-nine years. This is now known as the Erie Railroad and runs through West Henrietta. Isaac Jones, a Quaker from Pennsylvania, was stationmaster. He and his wife Julia had two daughters, Jeannette and Jessie.



Former railroad station, Erie Station Road.

The West Shore Railroad extending from New York City to Buffalo was completed in 1884. For one brief year of strong competition with the powerful New York Central, the West Shore struggled against a rate war. The year ended with a large deficit of over a half million, and the West Shore Railroad failed. It was absorbed by the giant competitor, the New York Central. This railroad cut through the northern part of town.

The Rochester and Honeoye Valley Railroad came into existence in 1892. This railroad was taken over by the Lehigh Valley Railroad, whose previous terminal had been at Geneva. The station in Henrietta is located on Lehigh Station Road, one mile from both East and West Henrietta Roads.

The first stations were built in 1884 in Ridgeland and Red Creek, when the West Shore was completed. The Red Creek Station (now Mortimer) was located near the crossing of the West Shore tracks and the Erie Railroad Company tracks. The stationmaster was John P Halpin. He was stationmaster from 1892 until 1954, when he retired at the age of seventy-nine, witnessing the first passenger train through and the last gas double car in 1949 on the Lehigh Valley Railroad.

A tower was built at Mortimer in 1913-1914. In the late-1800's the railroad buildings in Mortimer totaled eleven, including a toolhouse and a large bunkhouse for workmen. Mortimer is believed to have been named for Mortimer F. Reynolds, a well-known man who owned a farm in the vicinity. Mr. John Virgilio has a railroad museum at Brighton-Henrietta Town Line Road, West Henrietta, and heard much railroad lore from Dr. Lynch and John Halpin.

One of the unceasing problems of the early farmers was the necessity of keeping the roads in passable condition. Besides going "to mill and to meeting," the farmers had to draw their crops to market, barter at the general store, pick up occasional mail, or stop at the tannery, the ashery or blacksmith shop. When the hard work eased off during the long winter months, it was a common occurrence for neighbors to visit one another's home, often staying for "tea." This was the evening meal, consisting of cold meats, hot biscuits, various preserves, pie and cake, served with the best china. Like as not, it was preceded by a word of thanks to the Creator and Provider of this bounty. An old diary of the Roberts family tells of their cutter tipping over twice in snowbanks on a ride from Pinnacle Road to West Henrietta, for such a visit.

In December, 1827, a notice appeared in a Rochester newspaper of a "Publick" meeting of delegates from the towns of Henrietta and Rush, which was held at the house of Luther Chamberlain in Henrietta. John Webster of Rush was appointed chairman and Ozias Church of Henrietta was chosen secretary. Six members from each of the towns attended; the stated object of the gathering was to devise ways and means for a permanent road from Rochester to Websters

Mills (Rush). The article stated the road was made of such materials that it could not be made a good road without additional lasting materials. The expense it was felt, could not be met by the inhabitants living on or about the road. It was resolved that the convention recommend a meeting of delegates from several of the towns interested in improving the road, either from the County of Monroe, Livingston or Ontario. The following meeting was to be held at the house of Warner Hastings in Rush at ten o'clock a.m., December 22, 1827. A "vigilance" committee was appointed for the purpose of giving notice to interested towns.

The notice was duly printed, occupying a full column in the tiny print of the day. It stated the road was rendered almost impassable in the rainy seasons, and during the seasons "*when market for produce was best. No road from Honeoye to Rochester is so much traveled.*" The article went on to say: "*It is now the boast of this part of the country, that no turnpike gate west of Canandaigua exacts a fee of the traveler, but owing to the important location of this road, unless a permanent improvement of it be made by the united exertions of those interested, it will doubtless soon be made by some incorporated company and consequently cease to be a free road.*" The notice was signed by Messrs. Chamberlain, Church and Joseph Brown.

On May 12, 1846, the Legislature of the State of New York passed by a two-thirds vote an act to incorporate the Henrietta Plank Road Company, for a term of twenty-one years. The plank road was to commence at a fork in the road in Brighton "*at a tavern kept by J.M. Woolcott,*" then south for four and one-half miles on the State Road (now West Henrietta Road) leading to Henrietta and to Dansville. The surface of the road was composed of timber and plank, eighteen feet wide.

Road commissioners were John H. Robinson, Elihu Kirby and William Wright of Henrietta. The plank road was actually seven miles in length. The sale of stock in Henrietta began November 26, 1840, with Samuel Utley, Micajah Kirby and David Richardson as commissioners.

Roswell Wickwire and Alexander Williams were among the directors for the year 1851-1852. Roswell Wickwire was president for two years, with Alexander Williams remaining a director.

The following tolls were proposed:

A vehicle drawn by one horse — 10 cents
A veicle drawn by two horses — 12½ cents

If more than two horses— 3 cents additional for each horse
A horse and rider — 6¼ cents
Every horse or mule without a rider or head of cattle or half a score
of sheep or swine — 1 cent
The fine for not paying toll was \$10.

The duration of a plank road was not considered to be over ten years at the longest. As the years passed, gravel was thrown over the sunken planks. Farmers really had a bad time with a heavy load, some taking it upon themselves to attempt to repair the road in the worst places, in order to pass.

It was not uncommon for farmers to sign a petition that they might work off their taxes on their section of a road in Henrietta before the days of paved roads. In 1879 a petition was received by the Commissioners of Highways from the inhabitants residing in the vicinity of the West Henrietta Plank Road: *“To the Honorable Board of Road Commissioners of the Town of Henrietta: We the undersigned inhabitants of said town do respectfully desire and request the said Commissioners that we may be set off and assessed to work our highway labor or tax on West Henrietta Plank Road as it will be the best good for the greatest number. Most respectfully,*

*Jacob Winslow, James Deniss,
George Smith.”*

Another petition received by the Commissioners read as follows:

“We request your Honorable body that we may have the privilege of doing highway tax upon the Rochester and Hemlock Plank Road. As in duty bound we will ever pray.

*D.H. Richardson, Maria Lucky,
Jacob Fargo, C.M. Starkweather, Jr.,
Stephen Murray.”*

One read:

“I request to be appointed overseer of said Road District. D.H. Richardson.”

The Rochester and Hemlock Lake Plank Road Company was organized February 1850, with a capital stock of \$45,000. This was

what is now known as the East Henrietta Road. In 1852 an act for release of this corporation from continuing construction of the road was passed in April. Nearly twenty-five miles of road were completed at the time.

This was a stage route and had been for years. The road was divided into two lanes at the tollgate, one lane being for ordinary travel. A bar was dropped to let a load of hay or produce pass through. The lanes were roofed at the tollgate, and a small house was located close to the west lane of traffic. There was a tollgate near the present location of the Monroe County Hospital. For years Mr. John Doe was the tollgatekeeper. Another tollgate was located opposite Ward Hill Road, near Cedar Swamp. The late Mrs. Calkins told an interesting story in regard to this tollgate. Her mother and Aunt Emily as girls, rode in a democrat wagon with a team of horses to singing school held in the Methodist Church on East Henrietta Road. When singing school was dismissed and the girls went to get the horses and wagon, they had disappeared. They started to walk home to Williams Road. As they passed the tollgate, they inquired if the tollmaster had seen any horses without a driver. He answered: "Yes, they went through here on a gallop and never stopped to pay the toll!" When they reached home after a four and one-half mile walk, the run-a-way team stood quietly in the farm yard! Later the little toll house was moved to the southeast corner of Ward Hill and (4790) East Henrietta Roads and is now used as a residence by Mr. and Mrs. Glen Bushman.

In 1879 the Board of Supervisors of Monroe County granted the stockholders of The Rochester and Hemlock Lake Plank Road Company an extension of their charter for fifteen years, to expire the latter part of January, 1895.

In 1870 Road Districts were arranged and numbered by the commissioner of highways at a meeting held at William Smith's hotel in Henrietta. Forty-one districts were numbered, and overseers appointed.

EARLY PIPE LINES – WATER AND GAS

In 1858 an old private company tapped Honeoye Creek, laying a wooden pipe line to Henrietta. A reservoir was built on the west side of East Henrietta Road, just past Erie Station Road, back of the brick school building (No. 6). They did not install air valves, and when the water gushed in, the system collapsed.

In 1872 the City of Rochester decided to use Hemlock Lake for their water supply. This project took two years or so; the water began to flow about 1875. Mt. Hope Reservoir (Highland Park) and Rush Reservoir were built at this time. Ditches were dug by hand, mostly by Irish workmen. When a third conduit was laid in the mid-1890's, the work was performed by Italian laborers. They had a large camp located by the old Joel Clark house, which was one-half mile west of the Herbert Clark residence (originally located on East Henrietta Road, opposite Goodberlet Road). Another camp of 300 was located on the Holcombe farm (now Swift Nurseries in the east village). The late Mrs. John (Ethel Welt) Calkins said a fourth conduit was laid and completed in 1919.

A private company was formed in the last century to bring natural gas from Bloomfield. Their efforts failed dismally, with consequent loss of investment to southern-tier stockholders, when the pipes leaked, proving wholly inadequate.

REBELLION

The abolition movement in the 1830s found many supporters. Henrietta folk attended the meetings held in Rochester. The American Anti-Slavery Society sent travelling lecturers about the country forming societies. Charles Stewart Renshaw, a convert of the noted evangelist Finney, though coming from a background of slavery supporters in the South, backed this movement. He began his lecture tour in Henrietta November 21 and 22, 1836. Because of poor weather conditions there was but a small turnout at the meetings. Antoinette Brown, who lived as a child on Pinnacle Road in the fieldstone house near Goodberlet Road, lectured against slavery, after becoming the first theologically trained woman minister in the United States.

During the period escaped slaves from the South made their hazardous journey toward freedom in Canada, there were stations of the Underground in Henrietta. A staunch supporter of this cause was James Sperry of West Henrietta Road. The story was told in *The Informer*, a newspaper published by R.J. and Fred, the teenage sons of the Reverend George Strassenburgh of Henrietta, in 1879-1880. They tell of a black man who made his way to Deacon Sperry's from a nearby woods, at a time when the fugitive slave bill was in force. "But the sturdy Deacon recognized a Higher Law than that created by an earthly tribunal." After dark the next evening, the closed carriage of Deacon Sperry drove toward Rochester, where the escapee was entrusted to the care of others who helped him on his way. Within twenty-four hours "he was breathing the free air of Her



James Sperry



MRS JAMES SPERRY

Majesty's Dominion. Deacon Sperry was a terror to evil doers, and a strong tower in defense of the down-trodden and oppressed."

On the East Henrietta Road, near the present Suburban Heights, was another Underground station, at the farm home of Dave Richardson. "Uncle Dave" was over two hundred fifty pounds in weight and measured over six feet tall. Though good-natured, he was not one with whom to become overly aggressive. He could easily hold a pursuer in his arms until a harbored slave made good his escape.

Tradition of the locality tells of another stop located in West Henrietta village on the east side of West Henrietta Road. This attractive cobblestone house was the former Abel Post dwelling. A secret room at grade level with barred and shuttered windows was found when the Stanton family remodeled the dwelling. This strengthened the belief it was used to hide slaves fleeing toward Charlotte harbor.

At a Republican meeting in Henrietta on a Thursday evening preceding the Lincoln/Hamlin election, Wells Springer was chosen chairman and Ashman Beebee, secretary of this gathering. The following platform was adopted:



Former cobblestone residence of Abel Post, at 5582 West Henrietta Road.

“Whereas the great issue now before the American people is, not whether the slaves at the south shall be made free, but whether the freemen of the Republic shall be made slaves, and:

Whereas this issue has been forced upon the country by a perfidious and wanton violation of plighted faith, by passing the Nebraska Bill contrary to the known and expressed will of the people, at a sacrifice of their cherished sovereignty by a reasonable usurpation of the Federal Government, by wresting the ballot-box from the acknowledged and appointed sovereigns of Kansas — by denying them the freedom of the Press; by denying them and us the right to make and unmake our own laws — and by denying, with repeated insults to the freedom of speech, the right to complain of, and redress these wrongs, therefore, be it resolved —

That, inasmuch as these our violated rights, are the same vital-national rights for which our Fathers struggled, we will repel with scorn the pitiable charge of secessionism, and like them, rally without distinction of party, to the defence of these our national liberties.

Resolved, that those minions of slavery, who basely charge the responsibility of imagined disunion upon the only men who resist to the last the driving of that disunion wedge (the Nebraska Bill) do but sultify themselves and insult the intelligence of free men; and that as patriots we resent the insult and despite the insulter.

Resolved, that as the heritage of our ancestors was consecrated to Freedom, both by their blood and by an ordinance of Jehovah, we will resist the admission of another slave state, or the desecration of another foot of free soil.

Resolved, that we press the ‘war to the knife, and the knife to the hilt, against every attempt to gag the freedom of speech, or to wrest the ballot box from the rightful sovereigns of the country.

Resolved, that we will adhere through life to the dictates of an enlightened conscience; and repudiate all demoralizing obligations, which unconditionally subject one’s political action to the unknown decisions of a clique, council, or convention.”

Another large meeting was held at the hotel in West Henrietta, with speakers from Rochester. Delegations of “Wide-Awakes” were present from West Rush, Pittsford and Scottsville, accompanied by the Clifton Brass Band. Martin Roberts, President of the Henrietta Lincoln-Hamlin Club, called the meeting to order.

The speaker Clavin Huson, stated the only way to set the question of slavery forever at rest was to elect Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency, and vindicate the rights of free territories. The crowd was

too large for the hall and held a part of their meeting out of doors. Speakers from Rush, Scottsville, and Henrietta also participated. The Clifton Brass Band paraded the village after the meeting, with nearly a thousand people giving round after round of applause and cheers for Mr. Lincoln.

The McClellan Club (Democratic) of Henrietta raised a hickory pole at West Henrietta Saturday, October 8, 1864, at two o'clock p.m. The meeting was addressed by W.B. Bowman and L.H. Hovey.

The list of Henrietta men serving during the Civil War numbers one hundred thirty-two, of which twenty-six either died or were killed in action. A touching letter received by Mr. Amos Tibbetts April 22, 1863, upon the death of his son, reads thus:

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

"Dear Sir:

I am called upon to perform one of the most painful duties that I have had to discharge since I left home. It is to notify you that your son Frank breathed his last yesterday afternoon at a quarter past four o'clock, of typhoid fever. His sickness was short, as is apt to be



Frank Tibbetts of Henrietta. He died in the Civil War at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

the case with those taken with that disease. Frank has been acting as Corporal in my section of the battery, ever since the company organized; and I feel it my duty to say, that I did not have in my section, or under my charge, a more moral and conscientious young man, or one more prompt to discharge his duty. Never have I heard an oath pass his lips, and his word was considered as good as an oath. Never was he roving about with the rough, vagrant class; but he seemed to choose a better class of boys for his associates. There is much more I feel called upon to say in justice to your son, but I am just recovering from a sickness of four or five weeks (typhoid and bilious fever), and I find myself very weak; added to this, my father just arrived from home .

I regretted not being able to visit him before his death, but I have no doubt but he died with a sure hope of reaching Heaven. Father said he had not witnessed a scene in many a day which made him feel as sad as the burying of Frank. When father returns I will send you a few lines by him. Yours, most truly, George P. Davis, Lieutenant, 18th Battery, N. Y. S. V."

The Tibbett farm was located on Winton Road, and the above letter in print was found in an old scrapbook of the Roberts family, which is part of the archives. Evidently in his last moments, Frank asked that his body be sent home, and within ten months, this apparently was done for he is buried in the Pittsford Cemetery. A eulogy appeared in *The Evening Express*, written by the town poetess, E.S.T., at the time.

A letter* was written in the summer of 1862 by M.W. Kirby, to a friend in Erie County, where he makes a comment concerning the state of affairs as they appeared to him:

"Our national troubles seem to darken rather than brighten – what the end will be is difficult to say. The administration seems to be frightened and I think not entirely without cause. Our currency is getting in a very bad state – some think our Government script will get to be as bad as Confederate script. I think not, but will doubtly continue much below the specie basis. I hope and trust that Providence will so rule that we may soon see the end of our troubles.

(signed) M.W. Kirby"

At a special Town meeting of Henrietta, August 27, 1864, it was resolved that "to fill the quota of this town under the call of the President on the 18th of July 1864, for five hundred thousand men, *Courtesy Mr. & Mrs. Frank Lamberton

the bounty of five hundred dollars to be paid to each of those who shall volunteer or furnish a substitute mustered into the service of the United States for one year." A bond was issued for the amount of \$24,500 in September to cover the bounty cost. This was a procedure followed during the Civil War. Alexander Williams and Lyman Otis were instrumental in securing substitutes in New York City, for young men wishing them.

The following account is given of the experiences of a Henrietta man, during the Civil War:

MEMORIES OF THE CIVIL WAR BY TRUMAN H. ROBBINS
1861-1862-1863

"Thinking my family would like to know what part of the Union Army I was in and the battles that I was in I thought I would write down some of the principal events. I enlisted at the age of twenty-two on the 16th day of December 1861 in Company I, 13th Regiment, New York. I volunteered for the unexpired time of the Regiment which was two years. Troops recruited in April were sworn into the State's service for two years and the United States' service for three months. Many of the boys deserted after the first Battle of Bull Run which was the only battle they were in before we joined them.

We left Rochester the 6th day of January 1862 for Washington and were sent to Fort Cochran opposite Georgetown near the Potomac River where we lay till the 10th day of March when we received our guns, doing our first guard duty. Here we had to drill every day and once a week we had to drill regimental drill, sometimes brigade drill. On the morning of the 10th of March we started for Fairfax Court House, the rain coming down in torrents all day. The distance was about eighteen miles from Washington but it seemed as though we would never get there – mud was deep and sticky – so many traveling over it. We arrived about five o'clock and pitched our tents. We stayed there two or three days when we were ordered to Alexandria. There we took boats going down the Potomac River and crossed the Chesapeake Bay. We could see Mt. Vernon, the tomb of Washington on our right going down the river. We passed the time going down shooting wild ducks, the river being covered with them, but we did not get any if we killed them as we could not stop.

We arrived at Fortress Monroe under the protection of its guns, over night landing at the village of Hampton which had been burnt

by the rebels a short time before leaving nothing but brick walls. We went into camp close by, staying a day or two when we again started up toward Richmond, marching to Big Bethel thence to Yorktown, where we found our further progress blocked by rebel forts and earthworks. General McClellan sat down to a seige before Yorktown our Corps being on York River and Wormley Creek where we laid just one month. Having arrived on the 4th day of April, the second night we were ordered out to do our first picket duty in a heavy, cold rain storm. We were in a piece of woods in range of the rebel fort and their pickets were out a little way from ours. I was on the reserve so did not have to stand on post but they would not let us put up any shelter or build a fire and we had to keep very still so as not to draw the firing from the enemy. I found a big tree that leaned some and I stood leaning against it or sitting all night wet through to my hide. We were glad when morning came. After daylight I thought I would like to take a look at the rebel fort so went out to the edge of the woods and was looking out of the bushes when a bullet struck the ground close by my side. It was the first bullet that was meant for me. I tried to find it and the boys helped but could not find it so we did not tarry long for fear we might get another. About nine o'clock we were relieved by other troops and we went back to camp to dry our clothes and make some coffee.

I was out on picket there many times but was not shot at only once. This time the rebels came out of their works with one division of infantry having a battery with them shooting a few shells into the woods where we were stationed. I was out on the out post the fartherest off of any of them. A lieutenant of the Second Maine Regiment was in command of the first reserve and ordered us in but he was so scared that he did not wait for me. I, supposing he had fallen back onto the second reserve, went over where we had left it in the morning but did not find him there, he having gone the other way. The boys with him got into a swamp and were covered with mud from head to foot. Going up to our Lieutenant Colonel who was in command, I told him how it was. He looked at me enough to look me through to see if I was telling the truth, finally saying I could stay there. When off duty we used to go bathing in Wormley Creek which was salt water. It used to be an old oyster bed and we used to fish oysters and clams out when the tide was out and they tasted the best of any I ever ate.

So the time passed until the second of May when we were ordered out to dig a riflepit close to the rebel works, one half being on guard while the other half dug the pit and had it nearly completed when

the rebels heard us and fired one bullet at us. We had orders to fix bayonets and it made such noise that they opened on us pretty sharp. We were ordered to retreat which the boys executed without much ceremony tumbling over each other. I shall never forget that sight — some were so scared they did not know what they were doing. If I had been shot the next minute I could not have kept from laughing and was one of the last to get back on that account. We went back to camp soon and the next night the same party was ordered out to finish it. After we had climbed over our breast works, General Martindale, our Brigadier, stood at the beginning of the pit and as we filed past him said, 'Boys, I am going to shoot the first man that runs tonight', and he looked as though he meant it. The pit was finished without any mishap and then we returned to camp. The next morning our troops went on to Yorktown, the rebels having left during the night.

The spot where Washington stood when Cornwallis surrendered was marked by a block of granite about three feet square and the boys got to chipping off pieces for keepsakes so they put me on guard to preserve it. Our regiment took the boat for West Point leaving me behind. I was relieved at night and took another boat but did not join the regiment until some time the next day. We lay at West Point a few days and then we marched to White House Landing which is at the head of York River, it branching there forming the Little and Big Pamunkey Rivers, where we stayed a few days, going from there to Old Church where we again went into camp staying there sometime. While there, we were ordered to Hanover Court House. Our Regiment and the Sixth Pennsylvania Lancers going by a circuitous route while the rest of the corps went another way. The distance was about twenty-five miles.

Our pioneer corps sunk a ferry boat belonging to the rebels by chopping holes in her. We could hear the booming of cannons all day long before we got any where near the battlefield. When we did arrive we were ordered down on the right of the line but before we got in position we were ordered back and pushed to the extreme left at double quick. The skirmish line was thrown out and advanced into a piece of woods. We were following not ten rods behind expecting the rebs were in the woods but they were not. It was about fifteen rods thru the woods and as we came out on the other side we went up a little knoll. As we gained the top the rebs saw us and opened on us with musketry. The most of us dropped down onto the ground for a minute then we up and at them being under fire forty-seven minutes. When the rebs gave way we charged across the field after

them getting their knapsacks and found some of them had been in the act of getting their supper when they discovered us and left it on the fire cooking when they retreated. When night came we had one hundred prisoners.

It was night again and we laid down for the night but did not have long to rest before our first Lieutenant was ordered to cross a ravine and surround a house, we having heard that some more rebs were there. We crossed opposite, dividing and circling round it but the bird had flown. We found four or five guns and that was all. We went back to where the rest of the regiment were and slept until morning. I went over to the house in the morning with some of our boys. It was a doctor's house. They left in such a hurry that they left everything even dishes half washed on the table, dishpan and all. I got a teacup that I used until about the time I came home. I think it got broke coming home. After a day or two we went to Old Church and stayed there quite a number of days drilling, picketing and finally starting across the country to Gaines Mill. It is hard for me to remember the dates writing from memory so long after the events but the main dates are correct. The rebs captured my knapsack, also my diary that I had kept.

On the 26th of June I was ordered to go with the regimental teams to dispatch station as guard, the rebel cavalry having passed around through there a few days before. At night when we got back we found the regiment had been ordered to Mechanicsville where the first fighting of the seven days began then falling back to Gaines Mill after dark. We were ordered to retreat which we did with the wagons traveling all night without stopping to feed, crossing the Chickahominy Creek in the early morning, going into camp where we lay until the 28th. The regiment overtaking us there in the afternoon we again started out through White Oak Swamp, traveling till after dark. Sometimes we halted and stacked our guns but we did not break ranks as we were expecting an attack from the rebs. Our cavalry came through making quite a noise in the night and gave us quite a scare, every man had his gun in his hand quicker than you could say 'Jack Robertson.

Going back to the Battle of Gaines Mill, the day before our Regiment were in the front line of battle posted in a ravine and the rebels could not see them until they advanced to the brow of the hill. As they came down the hill our boys would open on them. Five different lines of battle were cut to pieces and driven back, our regiment getting one rebel flag, but they broke our line just before

dark by troops giving away, each side of our Brigade, the rebels being on three sides of our brigade when they retreated. They fell back with the rebs close to their heels. The boys passed through the second line when the Irish Brigade and the Sixth Pennsylvanians charged and drove the rebs back giving our boys a chance to reform their line and retreated all night overtaking the wagons as I said before.

We arrived at Malvern Hill in the forenoon of the 30th. We had lost our knapsacks, tents, overcoats and everything, only what we had on our backs so my tentmate, Andy Wilson, and I went down to the woods to get some bushes to shelter us from the intense heat of the sun. I took hold of a little tree to bend it down so Andy could cut off the top when he told me to let go quick which I did for there was a big snake in the top hanging by the tail ready to strike me. We soon dispatched him. We got our bushes and returned to camp and had finished our bough house when orders came for us to move out on to the front. We were taken out about one mile. We got behind an old rail fence which we took down and laid in front of us making quite a breastwork for us. When we started it did not seem as though we could put one foot before the other but the bands all struck up with some lively music. It seemed as though every band in the army was playing for our benefit and it did cheer us up so that I did not feel tired at all. We laid on our arms all night ready for the rebs but they did not molest us. When morning came our folks had formed a line of battle about twenty-five rods in front of us planting batteries on the brow of the hill with infantry to support them and leaving us back. We ate our hardtack and then moved to the left laying down in a wheatfield, the wheat standing in shocks. I got two bundles, put them in front of me and had quite a nap although the bullets were flying over our heads. Between three and four o'clock in the afternoon we were ordered on to the extreme left of our army, there being a space of half or three quarters of a mile along the James River where there were no troops and the gunboats lying there throwing shells over into the reb line. We were ordered down in there to see what was going on. The ground was covered with scattering second growth of pines but we found everything all right. After marching around in the bushes for an hour or so, we marched back to our troops on the hill. As we reached the foot they saw us and thinking we were rebels, as they had been expecting a flank move by rebs, opened on us but we were down low. The balls went over our heads without doing us any harm. They soon found out their mistake. It was getting dark also. They took down the line and halted us behind one of the battery and the firing ceased about nine o'clock. After which Peter Peet and I thought we would go and get

some smoked meat, he having got some in the morning out of a smokehouse. We went off across the lot nearly a mile but when we got there it had been all gobbled up so we had to go back without any. We had divided our hardtack the day before with the 18th Massachusetts Volunteers of our Brigade, they being out on picket when the army fell back from Gaines Mill and did not get up with us until the 30th and the wagons where we could not get to them so we were short of rations and did not have much for supper that night. When Peter and I got back the regiment had gone, the army being on the retreat. It began to rain about this time coming down in torrents and as there were troops passing we fell in with them marching all night in mud knee deep almost and the morning was no better only we could see to pick our way a little better. We built a fire twice to cook some coffee. Sometime in the afternoon we ran on to our Orderly Sargent who gave us two hardtack a piece which tasted good, I can tell you.

We arrived at Harrison's Landing about four o'clock and found most of the boys in the mud three or four inches deep where we stayed that night, going to the woods and getting boughs to throw down. On them we slept, being nearly tired out having been on the march for seven days and nights only now and then getting a nap as we halted for other troops to get out of our way or drive the enemy out of the way. They moved us into a pine woods. There we had a dry place but we had to huddle pretty thick to make our camp equipage do us all until we could draw a new supply which was not long. We stayed there until about the sixth of August. We layed about one mile from James River where we would go most every day when off guard duty to watch the boats and take a bath. Here we drew the first soft bread we had eaten since we left Fort Cochran. We also got onions, potatoes, lots of fresh beef so that we had high living. Andy and I had a two-quart basin that we would cook our fresh beef in and put our potatoes in with rice seasoned with onion. Our Lieutenant Colonel had a friend come to see him, and he not being at home, the Lieutenant Colonel came down to see Andy and took dinner with us. He said it was the best dinner he had eaten in the Service and he was an old soldier too. But those times could not last and about the fifth of August we were again on the tramp going by forced marches to Newport News which is at the mouth of the James River. I had the bottom of my feet all scalded so that the blood would prick through every day and the calf of my legs would be so sore it did seem as though I could not step on them mornings. I went to the Captain one morning and he gave me a pass to start out ahead which I did and when the Regiment caught up with me I had

got limbered up so I kept up with them. We took boats arriving at Newport News, our boat stopping at Aqua Creek but the most of them went to Alexandria. We took the cars to near Falmouth. There we went on another tramp towards Washington but there was about a week that we did not march far in a day. Our division was cut off from the rest of the army. We would go four or five miles then turn round and go back. The next day we would go some other way with the same result but finally arrived at the battlefield, Manassas or Bull Run as some call it, joining our corps in front of one of the gaps through the Blue Ridge where Fritz John Porter, being our Corps Commander was ordered to attack the rebs coming through to fight Pope, he having an army that had been operating independent of General McClellan, who was ordered to send his troops to help General Pope.

General Porter formed his line of Battle as I said before, in front of the gap, planted his batteries throwing the 13th regiment out on the skirmish line. We went out nearly half a mile when we got orders to halt and the rebs watching us ran a gun or two out threw a few shells over our heads and a few bullets into our ranks without doing us much harm. We laid down on the ground without firing a shot expecting orders to advance but they did not come. We could hear the musketry on our right all day where heavy firing was. We could hear the troops cheer when they would make a charge and could tell which side was charging there being a difference in the way they would yell. There we layed all day without doing anything. Fitz Porter was ordered to make his attack at half past four which he did not obey and was court marshalled and dismissed from the service. He was reinstated by Congress some years after the war. I always thought that it was a just sentence or else he should have been hung but there were jealousies between the Generals of the different armies at that time for fear one would get more honor than the other. The rebels were allowed to whip ours in detail when if we had turned in and helped the first day it seemed to me it would of been better. But be that as it may we did nothing.

After dark we were withdrawn and upon getting back found the rest of the corps gone. We did not have any hardtack for our supper nor any chance to make coffee. About twelve o'clock they gave us four hardtack apiece. Andy Wilson and I ate our supper and breakfast then and there, on the march to that part of the field where the fighting was done the day before. We arrived in the morning. After a while we were thrown forward into the front line of battle. The 25th Regiment of our brigade thrown out on the skirmish

line but it was some time after noon before we were ordered forward, the 25th driving the rebel skirmishes into a piece of woods. We were ordered to charge them and drive them out which we did. We halted in the woods for a short time where quite a number of our boys were killed or wounded, our company having two killed there. We did not halt long as the rebels were shelling the woods and the limbs and shells were flying in all directions.

Orders came to charge again going through the woods which were ten or fifteen rods, then over an open field that was raked with by cross fire from the enemy, they having artillery planted to our right on quite a hill and their infantry posted behind a railroad in our front that was breast high. We charged up to within about four rods of them and began firing. I had fired my gun once when I was shot in the mouth, the ball lodging in my throat. The other regiment only got fairly out of the woods when they were forced to retreat, the rebs making it hot for them. That left us alone and the rebs turned their attention on us. It has always been a mystery to me that a man got out of there alive.

When I came to after being hit, I came near choking, my throat filling up with blood and the ball being in there. I laid down on my face and cleaned out my throat. I could see the balls and pieces of shell striking all around me. I looked for my tentmates, Andy Wilson and Ed Harriman, but neither of them were there. I, thinking perhaps they were shot, picked myself up and started for the woods. As I did so an officer called. I, thinking he was calling me back, turned and showed him my face. He told me to go on, he did not mean me. I looked the other side of me then and saw another soldier had started to retreat. He was not wounded. In going back I thought of what the man I used to live with (Oliver Benedict) told Andy and I when we bid him goodby on leaving home to go to Washington. He said, 'Now boys don't get shot in the back!' I expected I would the way the balls whizzed past me but I had got my portion it seemed. I got back into the woods without any more mishaps when I met Peter Peet. He helped me back until I met Andy. The boys said after the battle that I had not moved more than three feet from where I laid down before a piece of shell struck the spot I had left. Getting back through the woods I was very tired and told Peter I wanted to sit down and rest. There was another soldier behind a big tree. Pete told him to let me lie down there and a shell bursting close by hit him. I told Pete we would move on. After meeting Wilson he took me back to the place our doctors had fixed up for the wounded and left me while he went to find the doctor. He was back in a minute and said we would have

to get out of there as the rebs had been driven back. It did not seem as though I could move having had nothing to eat nor did I care much what became of me but he got hold of me and got another soldier on the other side of me and we retreated about two miles when we came to another line of battle our folks had formed. They would let only one man through with one that was wounded. I took Andy and we must have fell back three or four miles more when we came to an old house with lots of wounded men. Andy put me in there and I laid down on the floor and slept the rest of the night as it was quite a while after dark when we got there. In the morning Andy came bringing a doctor with him, who on examining my wound took a pair of scissors out of his pocket and cut a little piece of skin in my mouth. Five of my teeth came out in one chunk.

Andy finding that the regiment was close by got me up once more and went where they were. I was so hungry I did not know what to do but I could not eat anything. Andy was going to make me some coffee and had just got the fire going when our regimental doctor came along and spying me wanted to know what I was there for in that shape. Andy told him as I could not talk, my tongue having been cut when I was wounded. Our ambulances were passing all the time. The doctor stopped one and put me into it, so I lost my coffee. Our mail carrier wrote home that day that half of my face was shot away. It did look bad, I suppose, being swollen terribly it felt bad enough at any rate. My clothes were covered with blood from head to foot, I having bled terribly and I was weak from the loss of so much. I rode all day until some time after dark when we arrived at Fairfax Station where we were unloaded. There were lots of people there tending to the wounded. One lady gave me some coffee and the only way I could get it down was to take a little in my mouth, throw my head back and let it run down. Sometime before morning I was put on the cars and we started for Washington where we arrived the next day between three and four o'clock in the afternoon. There also the people met us with baskets filled to overflowing with good things to eat. Everything you could think of most they had but I had to content myself with a little coffee until an old lady came along with some gruel which was thin and I managed to let some of that run down but it was slow work.

I was sent to Georgetown to a hospital there where I stayed a couple of days. Then they sent me to another hospital North of Washington where I stayed about a week when I was again put on the cars and sent to Bellevue Hospital in New York City. The people along the railroad would meet us, when we would stop, with baskets

filled with eatables. One old lady came by the car window where I was looking out, stopped, looked at me and put her hand into her pocket taking out her handkerchief gave it to me and told me to put it around my face which I did for I could not refuse it. The tears coming to her eyes and I don't know but mine started. On arriving at South Amboy, we were transferred to a tugboat and taken across the bay and up the East River to the hospital. The first two weeks I could not eat anything but spoon victuals. I stayed there until I got convalescent then I was sent to Fort Hamilton, down the harbor where I got my supper and breakfast. The coffee was made in the kettle where the meat had been cooked. We could skim the grease off the top of it and all we had to eat was boiled salt pork and bread. I got homesick and made up my mind to get away the first chance I got which was not long after breakfast. I went to the pier where the boats stop and found a tug going to South Amboy so I got on and went over. There I took the cars, sleeping that night in Baltimore on the bare floors with nothing to cover over me. The next morning I started for Washington. Upon arriving there I found out that the regiment was at Sharpsburg on the upper Potomac. I took the cars again that day for Harpers Ferry getting there just at dark. Having run across one of our regiment on the cars we bunked together that night. It being dark we did not know where to go. We went down back from the railroad on a side hill, scraped some leaves together for a bed and laid ourselves down to sleep having only one overcoat to cover us both which he kindly shared with me, I having none. We both shook when we got up in the morning. I saw the ground was covered with Rochester papers so I hurried down to the railroad to ask if any of the New York State troops were about there. They told me that the 140th Regiment laid about a mile from there so I went down to see them and got my breakfast and saw many of my old acquaintances from Greece, the town from which I enlisted. They had been out but a short time.

The summer of sixty-two we had a home guard and we used to drill once a week and our captain had raised a company for the 110th Regiment taking most of the Home guard company with him, so after staying with them a short time I started to find some one who knew the way to our regiment and was lucky to run across one of our own wagons that had come down after something the day before. I had no trouble finding my way and when the boys flocked around me glad to see me back with them again I got over being homesick. After a few days they gave me another gun, I having lost mine when I was wounded. I did not stop to pick it up, all I thought of was to get away myself.

It was on the 30th day of August that I was wounded and on the 23rd of October I woke in the night coughing. I thought I would choke to death, when up came the bullet out of my throat and I felt relieved. I did not know what it was at first but I hefted it, thumped it on to a piece of crackerbox that we used to write on and then I awoke Andy and told him I had just coughed up the ball. He would not believe it until he took it down to the Guard House where we had a light. I began to feel better after that got out of there. I could eat without stretching my neck back. The second week I was in Virginia I was taken sick with the bloody dysentery and was excused from duty four days. I had a boil on my wrist so I could not handle my gun and was excused from duty two days for that and they are the only times except when I was wounded that I was not fit for duty while in the service, not being away from the regiment only about five weeks when I was wounded. As I said before, the boys were glad to see me back and I was glad to get back for I think I would have died had I stayed at Fort Hamilton.

It was not many days after I got back before we were again on the march going to Harpers Ferry where we crossed the Potomac River on a pontoon bridge, then the Shenandoah going under the points of rocks close to the Potomac to Shenandoah Valley which we went up going back to Washington, past the old battlefield of Bull Run, thence to Falmouth where we went into winter quarters as we supposed. But it was not to be for on the 12th of December we again broke camp but this time we did not have far to go — Only about two miles as we laid close to Fredericksburg where we crossed the Rappahannock River on pontoon bridge. We did not do much on the 12th only to take positions near the bridge. The rebels tried to keep our troops from laying the bridges and we had to shell the city to drive them out. They would get behind houses and shoot our boys when they laid them but our artillery soon drove them back. One regiment crossed in boats so we soon got troops enough across to clear the city. That was on the morning of the 13th of December. Our regiment crossed about noon, the morning being foggy we did not move very early. They took us up through the city and formed the line of battle on the outskirts of the town, the rebel artillery shelling us all the time and it was three o'clock before we were ordered forward to charge. Mary's Heights where the rebs had earthworks thrown up behind which they had taken shelter. We advanced about one half mile out of the city, the ground being level until we got to within twenty-five rods of the rebs then we came to a rise in the ground where we stopped and went to firing. I being corporal was detailed that morning on the color guard so I was not

with my company, they being on the left of the regiment, the colors in the center, that being the most dangerous place as you can see the colors in battle when you cannot see anything else, the smoke settling down to the ground about ten feet high. Between the shells, grape and canister, with the bullets flying around thick as hail stones we charged up. Being in a charge is something that one who has passed through will never forget nor can he describe the scene through which he has passed so as hardly to give anyone to understand one half the horrors of war. I had forty-four rounds of ammunition and had shot it all away but a round or two when darkness put an end to the firing.

About five o'clock a division of Pennsylvanians came up to take our place and should have passed in front of our division leaving us in the rear to be withdrawn but they stopped in our rear instead and their officer could not get them to move. Our officers then passed the order along our line to fall back and leave them in front. As we got up to execute the order they got up and started with us. It looked one spell as though the whole line would go into a panic but one officer halted our division and the others went off the field leaving our division to hold the ground. After dark they brought up ammunitions and filled up our boxes. This was on Saturday, the 13th of December, 1862. The part of the line where we laid could not be seen by the rebels when we sat down so we used to lay down and load then get up and fire and drop down again. I had spilled some powder under the muzzle of my gun and a little German behind me would not get up to fire but lay there shooting close to my head and all the sparks from his gun touched off the powder on my gun. It burnt my eye wipers all off and I thought for a moment that I was shot. I got up and told him if he did not get up into the line with me, I would run him through with my bayonet. He got up. All day Sunday we laid there on the ground without any chance to make coffee or cook anything else. Sunday morning when I awoke there was a dead man on both sides of me so I could touch them, so I moved up out of there a little as I did not like the company. We were all right as long as we sat down. Just as soon as one was foolish enough to get up and show himself the rebels posted behind trees and a stone wall would fire on him and I saw many of our boys shot that day. One Johnny reb seemed to be posted behind a brick house and his bullets used to come in our direction and came pretty close to us so ten of us boys got all ready to shoot. We all jumped up together and fired and then dropped down. There was quite a shower of bullets whizzed over our heads but that one did not trouble us much after that.

Sunday night we were withdrawn about eleven o'clock and taken back to the city where they gave us a ration of whiskey to keep us from catching cold and we cooked some coffee. After daylight they took us down under the bluffs of the river, they being twelve or fifteen feet high. There we cooked some pancakes, the boys getting the flour up in the city out of the stores and also some salt fish. That night they again took us up into the city forming us on the Main Street where we laid on our arms until about eleven o'clock when we were ordered across the river. The rain was coming down hard. Our regiment had just got across the bridge when an orderly rode up to our Colonel with orders to cross back again. He said it was not his turn to be detailed but the orderly said that the General sent special orders for his regiment to cross so back we had to go wet through. They took us out onto the outskirts where we had formed our lines of battle Monday and halted us. They took five of us from Company I and put us out still farther. We were out there when it began to break day. An orderly came out there on horseback and wanted to know what we were doing there. We told him we were on picket. Then he said, 'Boys you had better get across the river as the rest of the army have gone.' I told him that our regiment was back there a little ways. He told me they had gone so we thought we had better be getting out of there. We went down to the bridge where we had crossed before but they had taken it up. We could see them crossing at the other one so we went back up on to the Main Street and started up there. The 5th New York was the last regiment to cross and we went over with them, our regiment having passed over just ahead of them. When we got on the Bluffs the rebels were coming into the city where we had been on picket. When we were running up the street we saw one woman, the only one I saw in the city. She said, 'Run you Yankee devils, I like to see you run. We were in too much of a hurry to stop to talk to her.'

We went back into our old camp that we had left on the 12th. There we stayed until the 20th when we started out again. It began to rain as usual when the army was on the march and we only got out about five miles when the artillery and wagon trains got stuck in the mud, our corps being rear guard. They gave the army all the whiskey they wanted and I never saw so many tipsy men in my whole life as I saw there in one day but few of the boys caught any cold. They had to carry provisions out on the backs of mules to the troops in the advance. After staying there two or three days we turned back and went into our old camp once more. When we first went into camp there it was near quite a piece of woods where we used to get our wood to burn but we had cut them all down. We had

to carry our wood on our backs nearly a mile so they moved us into a side hill where we fixed up winter quarters. We dug out the bigness of our tents, about 18 inches deep, building up on the top poles and banking it up. Then we built a fireplace out of stones and plastered it with red clay making the chimney out of sticks Cobhouse fashion, plastering the inside with the clay which would become as hard as brick so that we had very comfortable quarters. We did not have very much picket duty to do.

I got a pass one day to go over to the 108th regiment to see some of the boys that I was acquainted with, they being about three miles from our camp. When I returned at night the regiment had been ordered out on a scout. They had to ford the river while they were out and were gone three days with just enough left in camp to guard the camp so I had to go on guard which was better than wading the river. I think I was out on picket but once that winter and that was just before we came home in April. We were out three days that time. The first day I was out on the outpost and then I could go back to an old log house where we had a fire, it being within call of the posts. The picket was divided into three reserves. The second day we had to stand on post also but we were not out so far. The third day we did not have to stand on post. The last night it snowed about a foot and we did not have any shelter. In the morning when we woke up there was nearly a foot of snow on top of our blankets but we came out as warm as toast. We went back to camp that morning and dried our blankets.

The last of April we drew eight days' rations with the rest of the army and about the first of May the rest of the army started out on another tramp. On the third day of May we started for home taking the cars at Stoneman's Switch (the name of our camp) to Aqua Creek, then by boat to Washington Landing in the Navy Yard. When we left our camp we could hear the booming of cannons all day and we were very much pleased to think we were not in it. We slept one night in Washington and one in Elmira, four of us going to a hotel. That was the first feather bed I had seen in the seventeen months that I had been a soldier and I could not go to sleep until we took it off and opened the windows as we were not used to light rooms. Then we went to sleep. They were going to hold us in Elmira until we were mustered out which would have been and was some days so we paid our fare to Rochester and had the satisfaction of going home to stay until the 13th when we got our discharge papers and were free once more."

May 13, 1863

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS OF HARVEY PATTERSON

Excerpts from letters of Harvey Patterson of Henrietta, who was a soldier in the Civil War. (Only copies of the letters were available and some parts were not legible).

My Dear Wife:

I received your kind letter last Sunday. I am well as can be expected. We are on the march. Where we are going or what our destination is we know not. We got to this place Sunday night and have been here ever since. General McClellan is relieved of his command of the Army of the Potomoc. General McClellan is ordered to report at Trenton, New Jersey, and we are here yet. How long we shall stay we do not know.

We started from Harpursburg a week ago last Thursday night. Have been on the march most ever since and carried over. Have parcels with us. We have not seen a reb yet but have heard the beginning of cannon almost every day. By the time that Father gets here, boy tell Father that he had not better start until he hears from me again. I think that we are on the road to Richmond and if we are he cannot get to us. I do not think that we shall go. I think that we are going to have a winter campaign. I think that we are going down to take the capitol of the Confederacy. If we do not, I shall have a pretty hard time of it. There is about four hundred thousand soldiers here going somewhere. I saw all the Generals yesterday. He took his leave. They had the soldiers drawn up for miles along the road when he left. We had some dried fruit that was sent from Henrietta. It was very good. Do not send more. I want to write more but have not room. My love to the children and all other friends. Write soon quickly.

H. Patterson

While I am writing I can hear the cannons very plain. It is quite a piece from here.

* * * * *

Dear Sarah:

I received your letter last night. Was very glad to hear from you. It seems that it has not been but three or four weeks but time flies fast here. Sunday before I _____ we have been here in this camp two weeks. You wanted me to tell you how I felt about it. What I

thought about my ever coming home again – that is not for me to say. Sarah I may never see you again and I may. I hope that I will.

I have written to _____. Tell him that the boys feel first rate. There is no quarrelling in the regiment. There is not many officers in the regiment but what is like very well. Here is three lieutenants that ought to be kicked out, but they are not our officers. We like all of our officers first rate. I have got to go. I have been out on drill parade and now I will try and finish this letter.

* * * * *

Harper's Ferry - September 27, 1862

Dear Sarah:

I told you in my last letter that I would write the first opportunity that I had. I will now try and do so. We have just past through a scene that I never wish to witness again. Although I was not frightened in the least we left our camp ground September and marched about two miles and about half past nine we engaged the enemy. Our regiment fought about four hours without flinching a might. They were then called from the field. They drove the rebs from the field and then another regiment took their place and followed them up. I was over the field and such a sight I never saw. The rebs lay thick in some places and scattered all over the fields for miles around. The line of battle contended for many miles in length and with as our men killed up with them.

There is a great many reports about the rebel array but you can't place any confidence in them. There is a report that General Lee has gone to Washington to sue for peace but I do not believe it. I think that they want to get a chance to fortify in some place where they can take the advantage of us. I think that they begin to think that they are whipped by the way our recruits are coming in. They are coming in every day by thousands.

One regiment is out on picket today, all but a few that are not well. There are some that are not very well. Finn has got a hard cold and hasn't gone out picket. Fred is well. He has gone out on picket, will be back tonight. I have received three or four letters from son and expect another tonight. I can't say how many I have written about all that I have had a chance _____ as before. Hug the children for me. Yours in haste,

H. Patterson

* * * * *

Boliver Heights October 9, 1862

Dear Sarah:

I have been waiting for over three long weeks to receive a letter from you. I do not know what to think about it. I sometimes think that you think because I did not write to you when we was on that long march and not until after the battle that you either think that I am sick or am wounded and cannot write and you are waiting to hear from me. But Sarah, I am neither sick nor wounded yet but feel as well as you could imagine, that I could after such a march and such a battle as we went through. You never saw me when I was as poor as I am now. I think that I have not been so poor in fifteen years as I am now. It is not because I do not get enough to eat, nor is it because I have to work so hard. I will tell you what we draw for our rations. Pork, beef, sugar, vinegar and hardtack, salt buns, hardtack is our treat. There are crackers about three inches square, some of them are very hard. You cannot take one in your hands and break it in two pieces if it would save you but we manage to break them up in small pieces and then we can chew them. We cook our own victuals. We have got a spider. I am cook. I fix the meat and leave the grease in the pan, then break up a lot of crackers.

Sarah, the rebs are not out of sight yet. Their pickets are within three miles of us. Our calvary get shot. Gets shot at almost every night. Our regiment was out on picket last Saturday night and Sunday. We had a great deal of fun. Our pickets had been fixed in the same place and we was wide awake all night and there was cattle, dogs, skunks passing by all night and every time we would cock pieces and get ready to fire and behold it would be some four-legged animal instead of a grayback.

Now Sarah, I will tell you what I want you to send me. Father wrote to me that he's coming down here and I want you to make me over pair of woolen shirts. Some good ones that you will not send me poor ones. I would like to have a vest and a pair of scissors. I will not mention any more for Father. Abraham says that_____ but I think that it is a foolish thing to keep so many men here, idle when it is so good weather but they need men enough here to hold this place and we may all stay. I cannot tell. We have not had any mail since a week

ago last Sunday, and we expect it every day. I must close this thing up now. I want to see the children very much. Give my love to them and take a goodly share to yourself. Tell all my friends I think often of them and hope they do the same for me. Yours in haste.

H. Patterson

* * * * *

Dear Sarah:

I received your kind letter three days ago. Was very glad to hear from you. I am not very well, nor I have not been in some time. I have got the rheumitism so that it is hard work for me to get around. The most of the regiment spent their Christmas very foolishly. They got whiskey from some source or other, I do not know where. There were three Irishmen in our Company that was pretty drunk in other companies they were guarding all night. We shall very likely be here a few days. They want to have us on the march soon.

We have enough to eat most of the time on the road. We shoot hogs and kill chickens and steal honey. But we do not have butter to eat with it. I would go better if we had some but we are forced _____. Here we now under penalty of death.

I should like it much better but the boys say that I am a first rate cook. You can tell Liz that she is right about calico being rather dark down here. The most of the women that we see here are neglected.

I have not seen but very few good looking white women since I came away from home. Fringe are very fashionable here in the army and I had one I should wear it but I have not got more money to get one south if I wanted one_____. You wanted to know how much money I lost. I'll tell you I lost \$25.00. I have not had any in three only what I borrowed but I want some very much. Everything a soldier here_____ one dollar will not go a great way. I want you to send me \$10 in a letter the next time you write me. We shall not get our pay in two months yet and I cannot live without money here. Send the treasure notes. Tell Father to send \$5.00 for I do not think that Father can get where we are in some time yet. Not before January but I do not know. I have sent some traps home by Ira Williams. You must not let the children have them to play with. They are all dangerous things. They contain powder. The knife I want to be very careful with and not break it.

That look I got off the battlefield of Antietam will fit the gun, that I have got with a little fixing. These caps we use on these guns you cannot get them there. I want them saved. I have got two hundred more now and if I had a place to carry them I could get a thousand.

H. Patterson

** * * * **

Camp Upton Hill

I will now tell you where we lay and then close my letter. You look on the map and you can find it. We lay about eight miles from Harper's Ferry n/e and about one mile from Boonsville west on the bank of a little river. I don't know the name of it. There are two little streams. I think that they will have another fight tomorrow direct the same as before. Write and tell me how the children are. Tell them that I am well and hope they are the same. Also from your husband, H. Patterson

** * * * **

Seems so when we went into action I had my eyes stretched to their uttermost capacity; gun cocked and ready to fire without any order. The bullets whizzed all about our heads; but I cannot say that I was afraid but I think that should become more so now, then I was before. Today we could see the smoke of the guns. They seemed to be about two or three miles distant. While I have set here writing, there has another regiment gone off to our right. I think that they have gone to reinforce our men. Some of the men say that they hear the cannon get to their ears. Better than mine are if they can. I will now tell you what kind of a position we now occupy. We are on a very high hill. We can look to the front for miles. It is a very beautiful country. If the timber was all cut down we could see the enemy a great way off. I told you in my last letter that there was 50,000 soldiers here. There is another thousand so I am told and _____ and we knew that our men was disputing the ground with the rebels for about an hour. There was constant firing then and it ceased altogether for a time. We know not what to think but soon we heard the sounds of our guns that the rebs had retreated, the time continued for an hour longer then it ceased altogether. It is now about one o'clock and our army has not returned yet. They are either taken, or else they tend to hold the position they now occupy. I hope in all mercy that there never will be another such a battle as

there was at Antietam. When I first heard those guns this morning, it made me shudder all over for a few minutes to think what some of those brave men were coming to. But Sarah, soldiers do not think anything about dying or anything else but shooting who or at least I did not have time to think about anything.

* * * * *

Dear Sarah:

There was one solid shot struck within one rod of Harve. Some of the boys saw when they begin to fall all around us. They just got back yesterday morning. They was not from our town.

Wednesday our general gave the order to march to the field of action. We had eighty rounds of annunition to the man. We started, every man seemed willing to go. The enemy about half past nine we marched up within 20 rods of them before we fired a shot. We was lying flat on our bellies and the balls and shells flying over heads like hailstones. Harve was lying by my side. He was struck with a miny musket ball in the right side of the head about an inch back of the temple. I see he was hit. He very soon began to shake. I told the Colonel that he was wounded. He told me to take him off the field. I felt his head and I see that it was a spent ball. It went into his head about a half inch. I took the ball out and the blood ran quite freely. We took him off the field, dressed the wound and I have not rejoined the regiment. I have heard that there was two or three letters for me but I have not got them yet. Harve is a great deal better today. There was three killed out of our company. James Snow for one, the rest I do not know their names. There was eight or ten wounded. The rest of the company is hunting up the fleeting rebels. I do not know where they are. Our major was killed – he was shot.

Yesterday I went up on the battle field. Such a sight I never before witnessed. Never wish to again. Hundreds of dead rebs lay all over the field and such a stench you never smelt. The ground was covered with dead rebs and implements of war. Our regiment captured the colors and one hundred twenty-five prisoners. If we both live to see each other again, I can tell you more about it.

* * * * *

The population of the Town of Henrietta in 1865 was 2,207. At that time there were 14 stone dwellings, 22 brick, and 404 frame

houses, besides 8 log houses. There were still 54 working oxen on the farms. There were 3,507 acres of unimproved lands within the township. There were 4,334 plowed acres, with about 3,800 acres in pasture, 3,743 acres of meadowlands and some 1,335 acres of land in fallow. This was a fine farming community as you can readily see, with about 2,800 acres of winter wheat and some 1,300 acres of oats produced. There were also some 1,900 acres sown to Indian corn, with rye, barley and buckwheat also grown to some extent.

There were 1,075 acres of potatoes grown in 1865, with peas and beans running 260-290 acres respectively. A few acres were put to raising turnips, with a small amount of flax and hops grown, and some tobacco. There were a large number of apple orchards; the grape vineyards producing 1,755 gallons of wine. Some maple sugar and honey were also produced.

Livestock care consumed considerable time and attention of the farmers. They were proud of their horses, of which there were 903, two years and older. There were 861 milk cows, with a large amount of butter and cheese made. Pork was a mainstay in the farm home; the pigs in 1865 numbering at 1,000. There were many flocks of sheep, with 16,300 horn (over 100 lambs killed alone by dogs). Poultry in 1865 was valued at \$3,000. Egg production was probably not as high compared to today, with present day methods of confining laying hens in lighted chicken houses.

After the war drew to a close, life resumed the quiet pace of a rural community. In 1868 a cornet band was formed at East Henrietta, numbering fourteen performers, with Captain C.W. Davis as leader. The instruments were of silver and were imported. This cornet band, composed of energetic young men, played at various civic functions, entertainments, picnics, and Fourth of July celebrations. The two latter usually were held in Roberts Grove. The Independence Day observance was a big affair, with well-known speakers, food, games and fireworks in the evening. Featured once was a greased pig race, the winner keeping the slippery animal!

EARLY PHYSICIANS

Among the early doctors in Henrietta was Dr. Jonah Symonds, the first on record to serve in Henrietta. He came from Pawlett, Vermont in 1811 and set up practice in a small brick house on East Henrietta Road, just north of Lehigh Station Road. Dr. Symonds died at the age of thirty-seven. Dr. Beadle practiced a short time with him and then moved elsewhere. Dr. Weeks followed. Dr. James Lewis ran a drug store and extracted teeth in the Chapman Block at 3130 East Henrietta Road. Dr. Phineas Royce of Henrietta in the 1820's was a member of the newly formed Monroe County Medical Society.

Dr. James Harvey McClary Haseltine came in 1830. He was born in Epsom, New Hampshire, September 18, 1800. He married Syrene Tucker in 1829, and they came to Henrietta in 1830. Dr. Haseltine built the large frame house, now owned by Mrs. William Williams on 1605 Lehigh Station Road just west of East Henrietta Road. This was a showplace for years, set in a grove of elm trees, with a small office near the side of the road. (This house was later remodeled, changing its appearance). Dr. and Mrs. Haseltine had two children, Harvey and Elisa (Mrs. Dewitt Ellis). The doctor moved to Rochester in 1871 and died in 1874.

Drs. H.D. Vosburgh and Robert Lane followed and Dr. George Martin. Dr. James LaMont who settled in West Henrietta in 1873 was a physician and surgeon, born in Staffordshire, England. Dr. Charles Walker came to West Henrietta in 1882. He built the house at 5628 West Henrietta Road now owned by Harland Love. Dr. Walker died in 1905. Dr. James A. Ames, born at Cedrington, Ontario, Canada, was a doctor in West Henrietta who served in the Medical Corps in World War I. He died in 1926 and is buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery.

Dr. James Fellows practiced in East Henrietta in 1883 and Dr. A.H. Hutchins. Dr. G.H. Doan is on record in 1906 and Dr. O'Dell in 1908, also Dr. P.D. Carpenter.

Dr. Douglas Bly was born in West Henrietta in 1824. He attended the Medical College of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, graduating in 1851. He received a degree from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Paris, France. His practice was established in Rochester after his return from Europe in 1854. He discovered an antidote for strychnine poisoning on which he gave a paper at the 12th Annual Meeting of the American Medical Association in Louisville, which he attended as a representative for the Monroe County Medical Society.

Dr. Bly also invented and patented an artificial limb which he manufactured in Rochester and later in New York City. The demand for this limb, about the time of the Civil War and after, was great and factories were established in several large cities in the South for its manufacture.

He was also successful in the purchase and operating of oil fields in Pennsylvania. After his marriage in 1870, he conducted a large real estate business with his father-in-law, Chauncey Perry. Dr. Bly passed away in the spring of 1876, leaving an infant son by a second marriage.

The following was taken from Peck's History of Monroe County (1895):

"MASON, DANIEL G., M.D. was born in Walworth, Wayne County, in 1855, a son of Horace G., a native of Vermont, who came to Wayne County in an early day, and for many years engaged in the manufacture of wagons and carriages in Walworth. He also held many offices of public trust. By his wife, Phoebe Knapp, he had two children, Henry R. a farmer of Marion, Wayne County, and Dr. Daniel G. The parents died in 1877 and 1884 respectively. Our subject first attended the school of his native village, then Marion Collegiate Institute, and was for a time engaged in the drug business. In 1876 he entered the Medical Department of the University of the City of New York, graduating in 1879. He then formed a partnership with his preceptor, Dr. Samuel Ingraham of Palmyra, and in 1881 removed to Henrietta, where he has established an extensive practice. He is a member of the Rochester Pathological Society, and the Monroe County Medical Society. He is also connected with the Central New York Medical Association, and is a Mason. In 1879 he married Ida M., daughter of Deacon Harkness of Marion, and they have two children, Bessie and Floyd. Mrs. Mason is an active worker in the Congregational Church of Henrietta."

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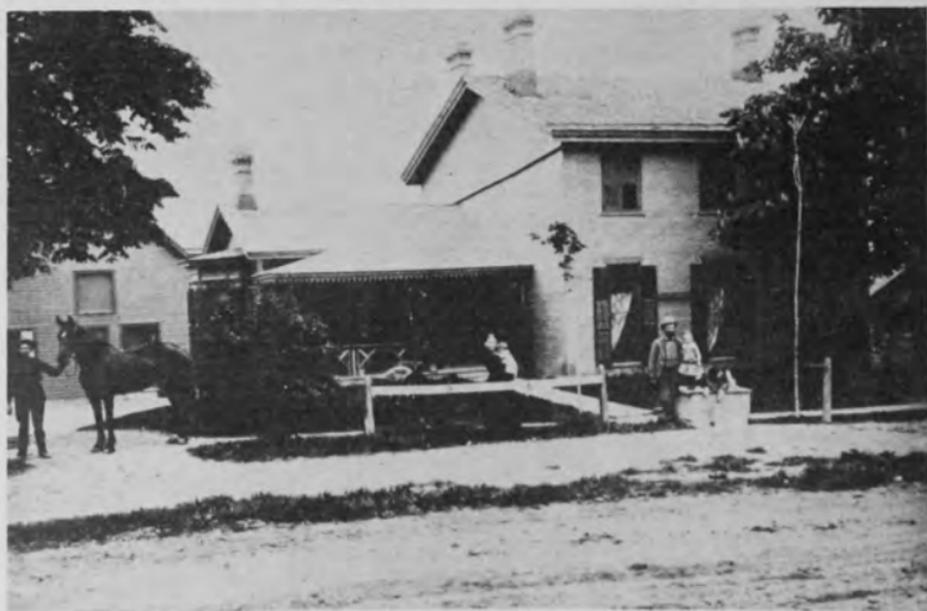
Dr. Mason according to his daughter, the late Mrs. John Gridley, had a chance to buy a practice on South Plymouth Avenue and move to Rochester. His colleague, Dr. Zimmer, upon discussing it said: "Daniel, if I could be as close to a people as you are to yours, I would never leave them nor exchange it for the city." And he never did!

The following are thoughts of an earlier day, written by Bessie Mason Gridley and given us for the Henrietta Historical Files. Told in

her delightful manner, we are taken back to the days when Dr. Mason practiced here. Days that, due to the way of life then, folks seemed drawn closer together; drawing upon their own talent for



Daniel G. Mason, M.D., Henrietta physician.



Dr. Daniel G. Mason with wife and children, Bessie and Floyd, in front of their home at 3059 East Henrietta Road. To the left is Dr. Mason's groom, Mr. Batzing.

entertainment as a community, helping one another in their hour of need. What was lacking in scientific knowledge, had to be filled in with sheer faith. I wonder – Have we lost a strength of spirit, in our driving quest for knowledge of earthly things?

“You will notice Dr. Daniel Mason was born in Walworth, and attended Marion Collegiate Institute, which gave the equivalent of a high school education to students from quite an area. There he met his future wife.

I think Bellevue Hospital must have been connected with the University of the City of New York for I know he did his practice internship there. When I was about sixteen years old, he went back to Bellevue for a summer refresher course in surgery. I remember Mother went with him and they made a delightful vacation of it – one of the few they ever had – visited Atlantic City, too.

He had great admiration and respect for Dr. Ingraham and was fortunate to begin his practice with him and under his guidance. Autograph albums were very popular at that time. He looked eagerly for what Dr. Ingraham had written in his. This was it: ‘Daniel, Be Merciful to Fools!’ At first, he was keenly disappointed but soon came to realize what a profound bit of philosophy his old preceptor had given him.

Desiring to establish his own practice he bought the home and practice of Dr. George Martin in Henrietta December 16, 1879, married my mother December 24, 1879 and moved in.

After their wedding, they came to Rochester by train from Marion, New York, and the next day took the stage coach to Henrietta. (There was a toll gate somewhere in the vicinity of Iola.)

The brick house at 3059 East Henrietta Road was gloomy indeed with its dark painted exterior and equally dark interiors. The narrow four-pane windows were the height of a highback chair, the wall paper was black or grey with a gold figure. The downstairs rooms were heated by two enormous fireplaces and a wood stove in the kitchen-dining room. A hand pump drew water from the cistern to a small iron sink in the corner. Upstairs was another fireplace in the front bedroom. There was only the brick part of the house with three bedrooms and a closed stairway, except for a ramshackled old shed at the rear of the first floor. The cellar however was a summer kitchen with its own fireplace, two pantry storerooms with great

wide board shelves from floor to ceiling — the walls plastered and board floors. Under the south living room was a large fruit cellar.

Immediately set to work to let in light and air. Put in long French windows to replace the four-paned ones. Replaced the fireplaces with cherry coal stoves and made the rooms bright and cheerful with light wall papers and paint; the floors comfortable with ingrain carpet over a heavy layer of clean straw.

House cleaning meant something in those days when the stoves were taken down in Spring and polished and set up in the Fall. Carpets taken up and beaten. The old straw replaced with fresh before they were tacked down again.

Almost immediately upon their arrival in Henrietta, an epidemic of measles broke out in the area, and he was given entree to a great many of the homes, so he never experienced the anxious period of hanging out his shingle only to wait for his first patients.

His practice grew rapidly until he was covering a large territory. It became necessary for him to have a 'hired man' to care for the horses, do some of the driving and act as handy man in house and garden.

Of necessity he kept good horses, at least three, and several carriages and of course a sleigh. He soon built a barn large enough to accommodate horses, and all equipment with a harness room for oiling and repairing harness, drying blankets, etc., a loft for hay, straw and feed with a barn cellar where he kept a cow, pig and chickens.

All roads were plain dirt roads, dusty in summer, up to the hub in mud and/or clay in Spring and Fall — and an unbroken expanse of snow in Winter until sleighs had worn a path which soon developed 'Thank-You-Ma'ams' which would break your back and maybe the sleigh if you drove faster than a walk. He was very fond of his horses and when they returned after such grueling days, he saw to it that they were rubbed down, blanketed, fed, etc., before he and the man ate their final meal for the day.

For Mother prepared at least four good hearty hot meals for them: 1— Early morning breakfast and off on the first trip; 2— Mid-morning lunch and off on the second; 3— Mid-afternoon lunch, office hours and off on the third trip; 4— Late dinner and home for

the night unless an emergency call came in which took them out again for perhaps all night.

There had been three meals for us children to coincide with our school hours, so Mother averaged about seven meals a day. And there were days at a time when we didn't see our father, because we were in bed when he left in the morning and when he returned at night. So, Mother had a 'hired girl' who helped out with the house work and care of us children, relieving her somewhat to act as secretary, nurse or in whatever capacity she was needed.

Housekeeping – in addition to routine care of a house meant canning all fruits and vegetables possible, putting down a crock of salt pork, another with eggs in waterglass – or a pig or lamb or side of beef which some patient might have brought in as credit on his doctor's bill. It meant barrels of apples and potatoes in the cellar. It meant filling and cleaning all the oil lamps and lanterns every day. It meant sweeping carpets and floors with a dampened broom to keep down the dust.

In the office, Mother was able to dispense many pills, cough medicines, etc., for which patients came and didn't need to wait to see the doctor. For all doctors filled their own prescriptions. He had an apothecary chest with many small drawers filled with powders and pills, and above it row upon row of glass bottles which would be antiques now.

Mother made the basic brown sugar syrup for cough medicines by the gallon, kept an assortment of rolled bandages on hand. As we children grew older we helped roll them. And many an evening we sat at the dining table filling little capsules with guinine, putting a tiny pill on top and then fitting on the cap. It was impossible to get rid of the bitter taste of the quinine on our fingers and our school mates frequently told us they didn't like to sit next to us because we smelled so of medicines!

Out-door toilets, flies, lack of many modern sanitary aids made dysentery one of the dread summer diseases. Typhoid fever was common and too often fatal and diphtheria!

I remember when he was called in to care for a case of black diphtheria which another doctor had given up. There was no hope of saving the patient a boy about my age. And for once Mother's spirit broke and she felt terribly unreconciled to his going – exposing

himself and us. Of course he went; of course she would not have kept him from going, but in great distress of mind she asked God to give her some message, some help. She opened her Bible at random and her eyes fell upon this verse: 'NO PLAGUE SHALL COME NIGH THY DWELLING.'

Pneumonia was another dread disease in which he was so successful that his reputation for it spread abroad. Before the days of oxygen, blood transfusions and all the modern methods of treating it, and when doors and windows were tight closed from Fall to Spring, he insisted that the windows be open, that whoever might be caring for the patient, wear as many overcoats or wrap up in as many blankets as necessary to keep from freezing – but the patient must have fresh air. It was a very revolutionary thought for the day.

In severe illnesses where much depended upon nursing care, the patient's recovery was often due as much to his camping right there as a nurse as it was to his knowledge as a doctor. And Mother might be in the home, too, comforting and helping the family – or sending in huge loaves of homemade bread – or cookies or whatever. My grandmother once said Mother made enough ginger cookies every year to shingle a roof!

Hospital service was not commonly available in my childhood. Patients were cared for at home. Even surgical cases. My father performed many minor surgical operations in his office or the patient's home. He removed a cataract for my grandfather in the office at home successfully.

All babies were born at home. Broken arms, legs were set, tonsils were removed. His splints were always handy. One summer evening we were at supper, when a man came to the door with a broken arm. He had fallen from one of those old high wheeled bicycles right in front of our house. One surgical case stands out in my memory. Gladys Griffin's mother developed appendicitis. Realizing that she was very ill, my father immediately called Dr. Zimmer one of the outstanding surgeons of Rochester who decided to operate immediately on the Griffin's kitchen table. Mother helped to make the kitchen as sanitary as possible and kept boilers full of boiling water going over home, etc. The patient died because she had a ruptured appendix for which there was practically no hope of recovery in that day.

There was no telephone in Henrietta until I was sixteen or seventeen years old. I entered Brockport when I was sixteen and I

recall my father's taking me up to the hotel to see one which had just been installed in the hall for public use. Not too long after that I was called from class to the Principal's office. I was scared stiff and even more so when I found I was to talk over the 'phone to my folks, who were worried because I had left home with a cold. Lack of a telephone added much to my father's burden of trying to reach promptly all the patients who wanted him: and to Mother's too in helping people track him down. She knew his itinerary and when someone came to the office asking that he come to their house, she would give him directions on how to follow him up until he caught up with him, in which case my father might be able to make his house that day.

Several of my father's families lived beyond the Genesee River on the Scottsville side. When the river flooded, such families would send someone in rowboat to the nearest house across the river on dry land; borrow a horse and buggy to go get my father; row him across to see his patient – and then repeat the journey to take him home again.

Henrietta was a sleepy little village in those days when one listened to the clop, clop of horses hoofs on the road and looked to see who was passing. We had several hitching posts and a horse block out front to accomodate patients who drove up for an office call. Mother sometimes had her sewing machine carried out under the horse chestnut tree in front, so she could enjoy fresh air while she did the quantities of sewing necessary for the family. There were no 'ready mades'. One did one's own sewing or hired a dressmaker.

My father and mother stressed fresh vegetables and fruits in a day when most folks didn't. Whenever he drove in to Rochester, we looked eagerly for what he might bring home. I remember particularly the perfectly delicious oranges which were sold very cheap by Curtice Company (think after the thin outer rind had been removed for making orange extract). They were first quality, beautiful fruit – but would not keep long, so were sold very cheap. We ate them as freely as apples.

It was a treat to drive to Rochester especially if we saw the firehorses and equipment go by – from the windows of the Chapman House where we usually met after our shopping.

Mt. Hope Avenue was a deep sand hill, very difficult for horses to pull thru. It was therefore a very likely spot for 'hold-ups.' Someone

attempted to stop my father there one dark night. He was driving a strong powerful horse whom he had named 'Boreus' because she could go like the wind. He pulled out his whip and gave 'Bo' a clip, and she sprang away.

He tried to keep up with new trends in medicine thru books and magazines. Went in for monthly meetings of the Medical Society, was president of the Society at one time.

Very occasionally he and Mother would go in to the Lyceum Theatre. But mostly towns furnished their own entertainment and social life.

Henrietta was fortunate in having old Monroe Academy for its school – since the second floor contained a good sized hall with a stage for home talent plays, and a kitchen for serving suppers.

The Dramatic Club put on very good things. When I was six or seven years old, they conceived the idea of engaging a temporarily unemployed actor from New York City to revamp the stage and design new scenery. While my parents never did any acting, they were always active in promoting community affairs. So we fed and housed the man for the weeks he was in Henrietta. He designed a lovely woods scene with great trees painted on sliding partitions – called flies – which could be moved on or off stage in their own grooved channels. There was also an indoor set and a street set of a brick house, wall and windows – which could be let down well to the front of the stage leaving just room for a speaker or singer to carry on while the setting for the next act was being arranged.

When the work was all done, this actor directed local talent in Uncle Tom's Cabin, taking part of Uncle Tom himself. It was quite a pretentious thing and attracted people from nearby towns. Sadie Sipperly was Eliza and Floyd, my little brother, was her little boy in the scene where she fled across very realistic blocks of ice. Blacked up, he was a cute little tyke, and every evening at the close of that scene, the front curtain was dropped and someone rolled a big orange across the stage, which he caught because he had been a good boy!"

ANTOINETTE BROWN BLACKWELL

The following account was written by Antoinette Brown Blackwell and sent by her grandson, Horace Beebe Robinson, for the Henrietta archives.

Country Childhood

“New England ancestry of several generations is an inheritance which one may accept with cheerful satisfaction. My father, Joseph Brown, and his father, Joseph Brown, were both born in Thompson, Connecticut. My grandfather served from the very beginning of the Revolutionary War until its close and was made a non-commissioned officer. His health was greatly impaired by the hardships he had undergone and after some years he became partially paralyzed and nearly helpless. At this time my father’s elder brother, William, who had already become a physician, had left home to practice his profession and my father, next in age hoped to become a minister and was studying in the family of a neighboring clergyman while he waited for the moving of the spirit in true conversion, feeling that the human desire should be augmented by a special sign from Heaven. When my grandfather became an invalid, since the other children, two boys and two girls, were considerably younger, my father felt it his duty to return home and become the caretaker and manager of the farm.

My father’s marriage occurred soon afterwards and my mother cared for my grandfather tenderly until his death. My mother was Abbey Morse, of a substantial old Connecticut family, the seventh generation from Samuel Morse, Puritan, who came to this country in ‘the good ship Increase’ in 1635. She was a natural business woman of much executive ability, able to carry through any undertaking. If she had lived in modern times, she would certainly have been a power.

My father left his young wife and three children to serve for a time in the War of 1812. A few years later, he sold the Connecticut farm, and, partly through the influence of his brother William, who had settled in Pembroke, New York, a small town between Rochester and Buffalo, my father decided upon Henrietta as a desirable home for his growing family. He purchased about one hundred acres of land, with a double log house of six rooms, and later added two adjoining farms of about forty acres each. To this new home my father took his growing family, then consisting of his mother, wife, my aunt,

Eliza Brown, and four children, two boys and two girls. They traveled in a prairie schooner, moving slowly and often stopping by the way. I was born in the log house at Henrietta, New York, on May 20, 1825, a seventh child in a family of ten children.

One of my earliest recollections is the large kitchen with its loom in one corner, at which the older women wove nearly all the home garments, the reel and the spinning wheel in another corner, and the large old fireplace where all of the cooking was done. I can clearly remember my first visit, taken with my oldest sister, where I spent the night, sat on a little chair on the grass, played with a little dog and ate cake. When we returned home we found a new baby sister. She was a little less than two and a half years my junior. My sleeping place in the log house was with this little sister in a trundle-bed, which in the daytime was rolled under the bed of my father and mother.

When I must have been about five years old, I learned Pope's universal hymn, or part of it. The door of my sleeping room had a heavy cleat across the lower part, and I remember climbing on that and swinging as a child does on a garden-gate. One morning when everyone else had left the room, I began swinging and singing at the top of my voice:

*'Father of all, in every age,
In every clime adored,
By saint, by savage and by sage,
Jehovah, Jove or Lord!'*

repeating the sonorous last line again and again. This brought the entire family, the children eagerly crying out 'Nettie Brown, you're swearing, you're swearing.' I stopped in horror, protesting that it wasn't swearing and couldn't be swearing for it was a hymn. I remember today the amused and understanding look on my father's face. We had one family of neighbors whose boys were more or less profane, and we had been taught that swearing was extremely wicked.

In my sixth year, we moved into a new stone house (now 1099 Pinnacle Road) a short distance from the log house on the same side of the road. On the day of the moving we children were required to remain at the old house until most of the furniture had been taken over, with the promise that we should help by each bringing something. The toddling baby was given a tin coffeepot, which he

held in both his hands while my sister and I took hold of his arms, each of us holding a full pail in our free hand, and then we marched in a row down the hill to the new house, making a little fete of the moving.

The new house was supposed to be still more or less damp in parts, and my aunt and several of the children slept in the large open attic. The room was so pleasant that we chose to sleep there for several years. At this time the Millerite excitement with the expectation of the end of the world was much discussed. Although none of my family believed in the theory I heard it talked about, and one night I was awakened from sleep by the sound of heavy teams rolling one after another past our house on the frozen ground. The almost empty room echoed with the sound and I trembled with the belief that the end of the world had really come. Too frightened to cry out, I lay terror stricken until the startling roar passed by.

The month of May was one of many family birthdays. We had three in succession, mine coming first, my brother's on the next day and my father's on the third day. My brothers used to tease me by pretending that I was a day older than my brother and two days older than my father. I remember pondering on this problem — I knew they were wrong, but was unable to see my way out of the dilemma.

Letter writing was much less practiced then than now. Each letter cost twenty-five cents to the sender. There were no envelopes and New England economy covered the inside of the carefully folded and sealed sheet with fine writing to get its money's worth. Once when my oldest brother was away at school, my father had written him a letter which for some reason was read aloud to the family. One sentence was 'Nettie is the same loquacious little prattler.' The long word was a startling one and a teasing big brother told me that a 'prattler' was just like a 'Tattler. This criticism from my father really hurt me and when this was discovered they began to comfort me so that I finally understood that it might be almost a compliment and not a rebuke, but the phrase has lingered in my mind for over eighty years.

When my second teeth were coming, there seemed hardly room for one of them and Dr. Hazleton, our family physician, decided that if one tooth should be taken out the others would find plenty of room. Accordingly I was taken by my father to Dr. Lewis. He kept a small variety store in the village but his business consisted chiefly in

pulling teeth; his implements a sharp knife and a turnkey, by which the tooth was screwed out. I can just remember the little shudder and the resolve to be very brave as I took the chair and opened my mouth, and then the terrible wrench. Both men praised me, which was some comfort, and when the pain was better my father asked me what I would like him to buy for me. The tempting bottles of red and white candy were in the window and I answered innocently 'I should like a stick of candy.' Both men laughed so impulsively that I was glad to hide my face and wonder what I had said which seemed so absurd. We never had been treated too frequently nor abundantly to candies, but on that occasion my father nearly emptied the jars of candies, giving them to me without a word, and that evening at home we had a festival of sweets for the children.

When I had learned to count as far as thirty the elder children were always confusing me with the forties, fifties and sixties, and I was never able to reach the hundred quite correctly. One morning, when my aunt and I were still dressing in that attic room, she explained to me that fifty meant five tens and that I must follow along with the units. From that moment I could really count.

One day I came home from school to the new house, swinging my sun bonnet by the string, to find a number of old women in deep scoop bonnets in the garden with my mother and my aunt. One very old lady laid her hand on my head, saying 'How old are you, little girl?' 'Five years old', I replied. 'And I am one hundred and five', said the old lady. At a social gathering in that region many years later, I retold the story and one of my hearers said 'That was my grandmother.' The inhabitants of the neighborhood were noted for their longevity.

In my earliest recollections of the farm, much of it was still heavily wooded and in other parts the large old stumps gave a great deal of trouble. When the corn was young and juicy, many little animals came to the cornfields to share the feast. This led to 'possum hunting. Dogs, boys and men all went out in great glee, often bringing home one or two fat 'possums. The feast of fat wild meat stuffed and baked in the great brick oven was most delicious. The cornfields came up near the doors and made hiding places for the children. There was a large 'sugar bush' as the grove of sugar maples was always called, and the spring sugar making was a yearly festival of great interest to the children. A little hut was built in the bush, where some one slept at night and a little fire was steadily kept under the sap kettles. It was delightful to put on thick mittens, heavy

clothing and stout shoes and run out to the bush to see them tap the trees, to drink the sap, to see it carried to the large boiler in pails from a yoke worn over the shoulders, and to watch the boiling down of the sap to syrup or sugar. What a luxury to spread the hot syrup on snow where it could be worked over and drawn out like molasses candy! It was much more delicious than cane sugar candy, especially when visitors came to help us eat it. We roasted potatoes in the ashes and either roasted eggs or boiled them in the hot syrup, and sometimes even brought out the corn-popper and added corn to our feast.

Once one of my brothers gathered a mass of hay and climbing a tall dead tree tied the bunch to the dry limbs, and on a dark night set the whole ablaze. The neighborhood far and wide was aglow, to the delight of many and the alarm of a few.

We had at first a natural wheat farm. Later the land was so much exhausted by this crop that it was almost impossible to raise wheat on it and, as the forest diminished, the new land was steadily put into wheat. The fences were all old Virginia rail with zig-zag corners. In these we built our play houses, both at school and at home. In harvest time, when the men were drawing wheat and hay into the barn, as swine and other animals often roamed the streets, we children were made useful by sitting in the gaps in the fence to ward off intruders. We were all fond of school, but it was a delightful vacation to sit one in the barndoor and one in the gap, making visits to each other or reading stories instead of going to school. Most of us preferred to help father outside of the house rather than mother inside.

The men of our family were dignified gentlemen of the old school. Uncle William was a favorite, who often visited at our house and I was greatly impressed by his long words and high sounding prayers, one beginning 'Omnipotent and transcendent Deity.' He had a daughter who had become blind through some infection of the eyes. Little Susan was a sweet cousin about my own age and we loved dearly to exchange visits with her. There was a little half brother two or three years younger than his sister who was inclined to tyrannize over her, making her give up her little chair for his whim and other childish things of the same kind. Our whole group of little sisters were up in arms at this injustice, none of us could do enough for little Susan and we were inclined to turn a cold shoulder to the little brother, although he could not have been more than five years old. And all our lives our hearts were made tender toward the blind for love of this child cousin.

Uncle William one day introduced into our family a friend of his, a Mr. Manchester a widower with grown children, who to the great astonishment and amusement of all the children proceeded to sue for the hand of our Aunt Eliza. Aunt Eliza was over forty and seemed to us children as old as Methuselah, and the courtship and wedding was a most unexpected and interesting event.

My father took a weekly political paper The Rochester Democrat, a religious paper The Evangelist, and every reform paper that he knew of, among others The Moral Reform Journal edited by women in New York. We had The National Era from its earliest beginning. This was the anti-slavery paper, in which Mrs. Stowe afterward published Uncle Tom's Cabin.

My father was a justice of the peace and there were so many small controversies that he had a regular court room at the house and nearly every week held many sessions. I have as an heirloom a bureau surmounted by a secretary with a lid dropped down upon the top of the bureau. This piece of furniture was supplemented by a high stool so that my father could either stand or sit while he held court.

Our house had a partially enclosed wood-house, in which was a well enclosed by a curb, with a windlass and double chain of buckets. High above the windlass was an open attic running the length of the wood-house. A ladder usually stood against the wall, and, quite unknown to the family, we often climbed up. I generally went first, then the sister older helped one little child up the ladder while I reached down a hand and when she was safely up, placed her on some planks laid over the rough ceiling. After all the little ones were brought up, we played house, sometimes all creeping almost over the well, holding to each other and looking down, fearfully, into the dangerous depths. If some one came to draw water we remained as quiet as mice. It was a delightful game until, probably because of discovery, the ladder disappeared.

At the back of the house the cellars were nearly on a level with the first floor. They ran into a hill and a flat roof of boards extended down with a gentle slope nearly to the ground. Here we often played 'farms and farm houses, building the houses of blocks and fencing in the farm lots with sticks and boards. Large yellow and brown caterpillars were shut in for oxen and sometimes toads and other small creatures were added to the livestock. The houses were ornamented with flowers and greenery.

Near the low roof was a large old tree-trunk hollowed out and fed by a pipe from the roof. It was used for a watering trough for horses. Here we floated chips and other mimic vessels and watched the bright yellow, white and many colored butterflies and birds come down to drink.

The most charming of all playgrounds was the forest itself, through which we wandered day after day. One of my delights was to steal away alone and lie on the grass or leaves looking up at the blue sky, or in the evening at the moon or the stars as they came out one after another. It seemed as though I had found a new heaven and a new earth.

Of course we had chickens and hunted eggs, and often had special pets among the chickens. At one time we had a blackbird with a split tongue and we labored faithfully, although unsuccessfully, to make it talk. A dog named Turk helped take care of the children. My youngest brother had a small dog, Lion, much petted by the children and especially precious to us after my brother's death. It was frolicsome and not very well trained, and it had a bad habit of rushing out and barking at passing horses. When this became almost unbearable, and a rumor had arisen among us that neighbors were threatening to shoot the dog, my father one day followed it with a whip, evidently in a mood to punish it severely. Poor Lion fled to the house and crouched down beside one of my little sisters. The child threw herself entirely over the body of the little dog, shielding it with her arms and saying not a word as she looked up pitifully into my father's face. He stood with the raised stick in his hand, his face softened, tears sprang to his eyes, and he turned away.

We loved the young calves even after they had grown to be cows. One of my childish ambitions which I was able to realize was to wean some of the calves when they were taken from their mother and taught to drink milk for themselves. Warmed skimmed milk was prepared and I put my fingers into the calf's mouth and held its head down to the milk. It would first drink sucking my fingers; gradually I would withdraw my hand and the calf would go on drinking for itself. The feel of the little calf's rough mouth on my small fingers comes back vividly to this day.

We also partially tamed various squirrels and chipmunks. Little 'Brighteyes', a chipmunk who lived in a stone wall, would come out and look at us whenever we began to talk to it, to sing, or to recite something, but it would dance back again if we stopped speaking.

Lambs and colts were petted friends, and we often brought up the cosset lambs which followed us about until they were grown sheep. An old horse almost past service was allowed to wander about feeding on the grass by the roadside. It would sometimes disappear for days foraging for itself and then return home to be received with pleasure and pettings. We thought little pigs were extremely pretty but were not fond of the mothers, living in muddy styes, eating unsightly food, and sometimes breaking out of bounds and making trouble besides damaging gardens and cornfields.

To have these pretty gentle creatures disappear, and especially to know that they were to be put out of life or sold, was a cause of real suffering to young and old. We children found it impossible to enjoy eating any part of a chicken which had become to us an individual to be loved and fed from our own hands.

At one time the Government tried to promote the cultivation of silk worms and offered to supply eggs to any one who would undertake the experiment. We had one large and flourishing mulberry tree, which had been planted before my father's time and grew in a pasture some distance from the house. We children were eager for the novelty and agreed to gather the leaves. Shelves were prepared in a small room, the eggs were hatched and the whole family liked to watch the worms eat the leaves. They generally began eating at the edges, their mouths opening and their heads lifting in a peculiar way. When they began to weave the cocoons, that too was interesting. But to scald the poor creatures when they were quietly tucked away in their cocoons was so distasteful that they were often left to gnaw their way out and spoil all prospects of silk making. The experiment was not a money making success to us and was soon abandoned.

Fruits and fruit trees were less subject to destruction by insects than today. The virgin land was more productive for all kinds of vegetation and the enemies of plant life much fewer. 'Old crookback' was a favorite friend. It was an apple tree which had become much bent in its childhood and had formed a large head. Even a small child could easily climb this tree and as it was of thrifty growth it would sometimes hold four or five children at once. It was a lovely shady place for one child to go alone and enjoy a quiet hour of reading. Another tree produced fruit on some of its branches in which the same apple was partly sweet and partly sour, sweet stripes or layers and then sour, and so repeated. The apples were light in color, partly greenish, the other part much yellow, so that we knew at a glance

which part would be sweet and which sour. We children believed this phenomenon was produced by carefully splitting two grafts of equal size and binding the two split faces together before grafting them together into the tree.

We children took great interest in the occasional household labors, which added greatly to the variety of farm life. I recall the making of tallow candles in the kitchen. Two chairs were laid down on their faces some distance apart, connected by two long parallel poles. The candle-wicks had previously been hung upon round sticks, a dozen or more on a stick and these were hung across between the two poles. A kettle of boiling mutton tallow was brought and one stick at a time was lifted off, the wicks dipped into the tallow and that stick hung back in its place, and so on until the whole long line had been once dipped. This operation was repeated until the candles had grown large enough to be allowed to cool and put away. We children watched the operation with enthusiasm, and although, to our great regret, we never could be permitted to dip the candles, we were sometimes allowed to have short wicks and little sticks of our own and make candles for ourselves after the others were finished. Later we had a set of tin candle moulds.

Another operation was the yearly making of soap. A barrel of wood ashes was set upon logs, water was poured in at the top and a pan was placed below it to catch the lye as it dripped out from the bottom of the barrel. Then the accumulated grease, which had been saved from the various culinary processes, was put into a large kettle, the lye was poured over it, and a vigorous stirring commenced. After a time a clean soft soap was made and occasionally a pot of it was carried on into a hard soap.

One of the current industries of the neighborhood was the dyeing of yarn, which was afterward made into clothing. We had an old blueing pot, a dark brown dye made of butternut shells or bark, and several other dyes of a brighter color – one was a purplish hue, made of poke berries. At one time my mother had a large quantity of different colored yarns which she herself wove into woolen cloth, which was afterward manufactured into the children's dresses. We and all the children at school thought it extremely fine and there was enough of it to last for several years, one child often taking the outgrown dress of an older one. In the summertime we wore cotton clothing, sometimes the colored product of home manufacture, sometimes a cheap calico purchased at the store.

At that time the preserving of fruit in bottles was not customary. Instead, we dried in the sun or before the fire apples, pears, plums, peaches and pumpkins, the pumpkins being pared and hung in sliced rings from poles or laid upon earthen platters. We made sweet preserves with sugar enough to keep them from fermentation. There was always a high brown earthen pickle jar of cucumbers made in the fall and smaller vessels of pickled onions, beans and other vegetables.

We had a long cheese room, with shelves, and at some seasons of the year cheeses were made in a large tub, the white curd beautifully attractive. We enjoyed seeing it, eating some of it and drinking the sweet whey. We watched the curd which was cut into pieces, drained and put into the round cheese moulds. Another treat was to be allowed to go into the cheese room and see the cheeses rubbed and turned after they were taken out of the moulds. They were generally covered with a thin cloth to preserve them and once every day rubbed over with some preparation of lard and turned from one face to another so that all might dry evenly. These cheeses were in part eaten at home, but many of them were sold in Rochester.

There was also butter making in a large old fashioned churn with a dasher which moved up and down. When we were old enough to lend a hand that operation was not especially attractive, but it was pleasant to see the golden butter taken out, worked over and after a time made into balls or long rolls.

Then there was the baking. The large old fashioned brick oven was heated carefully until it was the proper temperature and the drawing out of the mass of red coals was a rather fearful and sometimes startling spectacle which had its own fascination. Afterward large batches of bread, pies, a cake, often a roast of meat or a pot of beans were put in the whole shut up until they were baked. The pies and cakes were always placed at the front and taken out first.

In these days it is thought that the farm is a place for a dull and monotonous life. To me it is in memory, and I believe it was then, a place of perpetual variety and it looms up in my memory like a far off fairyland.

We had two large apple orchards and smaller fruits of many kinds. I can remember the ground almost covered with delicious peaches which it would not pay to market, and we children were privileged to throw away any peach which did not prove of first quality after it was bitten. We had peaches, early and late; plums, white, blue and

purple; pears of several varieties, and cherries, gooseberries and currants. Fruit gathering was often made a family pastime. Dozens of large apple barrels standing under trees, boys up in the trees with baskets, little girls picking up the fallen fruit, and my father putting away carefully into barrels, presents one of the vivid pictures of that attractive past.

Another picture is an evening when the large family was gathered about the table with its several tallow candles, the older children studying their lessons, the women of the family sewing or reading, one brother with an iron candlestick with a hook at the top hung over a chair, slate in hand ciphering, my father with two kitchen chairs turned on their faces and an old scythe suspended between them, he seated at one end of it with a large basket of corn at his side, shelling it upon the edge of the scythe. The cobs were thrown to one side and eagerly seized upon by the smaller girls for cob houses. Soon a tall brother left his books and made us a mimic church with a long cob for the steeple, the whole so tightly pressed together that we could lift our little meeting-house by its steeple, and when it finally fell apart the scattering of the cobs was another source of merriment.

Wood was so abundant in those earlier days that it was almost a relief to see it disappear in a glow of light in the great open fireplace in the kitchen. This was the day of the tinder-box, before lucifer matches had been invented. Our method was to keep the fire for a month together in cold weather. At night the large partly burned back log and a few half burned sticks were packed together, the whole covered with ashes. In the morning it was raked over and made alive again. But at long intervals the fire would burn itself out before morning, and on such an occasion one of the boys would go with a long handled warming pan to gather live coals from a neighbor and start the fire afresh. This warming pan was used in winter to iron the beds smoothly between the sheets making it warm for the children and I suppose for the grownups.

The weather was often very cold and we had only the kitchen fire and a stove in the other large room on the ground floor. The heating pipe went up through the ceiling into the room of father and mother and warmed the sheet-iron dummy, which kept the room comfortably tempered. The little girls brought their clothing into mother's room to dress in the morning, but the older and hardier boys braved the cold as best they might. I remember the arrival of the first tin oven, which was placed before the fire to bake the bread

and meat. I can also just recall the pushing out of the long iron crane and the hanging upon it of the roast of beef, mutton or sometimes venison. This was to be slowly turned to the fire while the dripping fell into a pan below. This was an infrequent way of cooking. At last there came the regular cooking stove and the large fireplace was closed up, and about the same time came lucifer matches.

We generally had one maid of all work, sometimes a neighbor's daughter and at other times brought out from Rochester. She also was a member of the family. It was a thoroughly democratic neighborhood, where none was rich and none was very poor. Visiting, not over frequent, was entirely informal, the women simply dropping in for an afternoon without sending word in advance. Other work was put aside and sewing or knitting taken up and the afternoon chatting began. When about time for tea, a quick fire was built, cream biscuits were put into the oven, the table was laid with the company dishes, and sauces and relishes were provided. There were always preserves, probably one kind of cake and tarts or cookies, sliced meat or dried beef, and sometimes a custard pie. This, with a few variations, was the tea in every family.

My father and mother had extremely different temperments. My father was just over medium height, rather inclined to stoutness, fond of reading and not over fond of manual labor. My father as justice of the peace was known as 'Squire Brown' pronounced 'Square' and was sometimes known as 'Deacon Brown,' when he was no longer a magistrate. I can never recall anyone's speaking of him as 'Mr. Brown,' except my own mother; she always spoke to him and about him in that way; he in turn speaking to and of her as 'Mis Brown' the Yankee way of pronouncing the marriage title. They were people of the old school, never 'Joseph' and 'Abby' to each other, at least in the presence of their children.

My mother was tall, thin and extremely energetic when in her usual health. My oldest sister was more than twenty years older than the youngest, so that there was generally a baby in the family and her life was never an easy one, although she superintended her family even when in feeble health. She never seemed very fond of ordinary housework, but I think she really delighted in weaving, as much as we did in watching the flying shuttles and the growth of the web. The routine of cooking and dishwashing is in itself distasteful, but the steady growth of anything new has a charm all its own. I can quite understand how my mother enjoyed the making of something

new and attractive. The repetition of even the noblest truth, continually harped upon for the good of others, becomes almost a burden to one's own soul. I remember her carding wool into rolls, but I never recall seeing her spinning yarn.

My eldest sister was thrown from a carriage when a young girl, and the sprained shoulder continued to give her trouble throughout her life; for that reason she did not spin, and I think none of my younger sisters learned. I learned, and liked very much to measure off the right length of the roll and see it draw out to the desired thickness. The girls were all taught to knit their own stockings and mittens, the little ones first learning by knitting garters. In the fall we had our daily stint of knitting, so many times around before we were allowed to play or read. We also sewed patchwork, hemmed towels, and learned on over-seams and hemming of sheets. Sewing was always my destination, although the two older sisters enjoyed it and the one nearest my own age was fond of fancy work and the making of pretty things. When an uncle gave us several jointed wooden dolls with china heads, my sister was able to make them pretty dresses quite to our mutual satisfaction. These were our first 'store dolls' and I must have been nine or ten years old at the time, although previously we had loved our rag dolls, home made with painted faces, red cheeks and dark hair and comfortable to cuddle up with in bed.

When I must have been about twelve or thirteen years old, my father added a new and smaller farm to our possessions. It had a delapidated house which had been occupied by a family of girls and it seemed a marvelous thing to us, they were going away to that far distant west, the State of Michigan. The old house soon disappeared, but on that farm there was a beautiful little brook with green banks on either side and at the back there were still trees and woods, which gave us new and delightful rambles. That little stream has now entirely disappeared and our farm is now four or five farms, each with its own houses, and on one was built a creamery.

On our original farm when it was purchased was a distillery, and some provision in the deed prevented my father from hindering the making of whiskies for a certain length of time. As soon as the lease expired (before my remembrance), he destroyed the old still. It was in the neighborhood of a lovely natural spring, but we children always looked upon the region with awe, as having a bad tradition. My father had become so incensed over the scenes around the old still that he and all his family became ardent temperance advocates. He was once planning to build a large new barn and all the neighbors

said to him 'You can never raise that barn unless you give the men something strong to drink!' His answer was 'Then I shall never have this barn raised. No whiskey shall ever be given on this farm as a beverage. At that time all buildings were raised with the help of the neighborhood. My father was determined and went about among the church members, getting a rather picked group of men. As the time approached, there was a wonderful sense of cookery through the house, and on the morning of the raising the odor of coffee filled the air, mingling with the smell of frying doughnuts, the other cooking having been done earlier. Large tables were spread under the trees, loaded with food, and tea and coffee were ready at the right time. The men ate and drank with zest and good humor, the great beams were lifted heroically, and the whole barn was properly 'raised.' When the wheat harvest increased to larger dimensions, a like prophecy was made 'You will never harvest the wheat without the help of strong drink.' But various drinks were made of water, vinegar and molasses, spiced and flavored, which the children carried out in pails to the harvesters. The men drank freely and did their work satisfactorily. So much for the pluck of a determined spirit! While the barn was building, the men took their meals in the house and during their absence my youngest brother, one sister and myself would run out to the new barn, climb up the ladders and trot around the highest beams without accident, I going as high as I dared and looking with envy at my older brother and sister on the ridge pole.

I was always fonder of outdoor than indoor work and I loved to tread the hay or feed the threshing machine. Once I begged my father to allow us to ride the horse to plough the corn between the rows, and as no boy was available, he reluctantly consented. At the end of the first row the horse stepped down a little decline which was covered by tall grass, and most unexpectedly I slipped over his head. My father said 'now go home,' and that was my only experience as a ploughboy. Summer after summer I was accustomed to go down to one of the meadows some distance from the house to let the cows out of the pasture. They could make their own way home, but I often did walk back with my arm about the neck of a favorite cow.

At other times, I would join my brother doing farm work not far away. At the close of the day's work, he would unharness his team, put me on the back of one of the horses and we would ride home, half a mile along the road. Once my brother, who happened to be in haste, suggested that he ride rapidly on ahead, I to follow at leisure on the other horse. We started satisfactorily, but when he was

disappearing over the top of a steep hill and I was at the bottom, my horse decided to join its mate and I was unable to hold him. He went on up the hill, along the road and around the corner with increasing speed until he brought up at the barn door. My feet, both at one side, dropped suddenly to the ground. Every bone in my body seemed driven into my brain. I think a little more violence would have ended life itself. A neighbor reported the speed at which I passed her house and I was forbidden to ride alone but afterward horseback riding became a favorite pastime.

I was allowed by my father to take the place of one of the men with the threshing. The home-threshing machine was turned by the horses going around in a circle and I was allowed to build up straw stacks, or at haying to put hay in the mows. For such services, my father insisted on paying me. It was delightful to earn this first money, and equally so to spend it on my own dresses, with a feeling of personal independence. My youngest brother was five years my senior. It was convenient to have a little boy about the farm, and I was that little 'boy.

My father was always desirous of having the best and newest machinery both in the house and on the farm. I remember a corn-sheller, a machine turned by a crank; on the top was a hopper into which the ears were poured, the crank was turned and the corn and cobs thrown out upon the barn floor, the corn to be afterwards gathered up and taken to a mill about a half a mile away; a toll of meal was paid to the miller for grinding, and the remainder was brought home, often bran and meal together. Sometimes it was fine meal and sometimes samp, but it always had to be sifted before using. A little later came a machine for cutting up corn-stalks and other coarse fodder, thus enabling the cattle to eat much more of it than would otherwise have been possible. My father said that the machine paid for itself in a year.

In the house we had washing machines and whatever was supposed to be of assistance to the women. At a later date there was brought into the house a spinning-jenny. It had nearly or quite a dozen spindles. By moving some mechanism, the top slid back on rollers, drawing out a long thread, which was then twisted by hand and reeled onto the spindles. Sometimes a thread broke and then the whole mechanism was stopped until the break was mended. This was never a favorite method of spinning in the family. I am not sure that the spinning-jenny was not taken on trial with a possibility of return if not approved. This was about the time when the factories began to

destroy home industries of that class and soon after our clothing was no longer home spun or woven."

* * * * *



Antoinette Brown Blackwell, first ordained woman minister in the United States, was born in a log house on property at 1099 Pinnacle Road.

Antoinette Brown attended the district school and Monroe Academy. At the age of fifteen she taught school. She had beaux, one young man in particular, Hezekiah Perkins, proposed to her but she refused kindly, for she had a secret goal in mind. She asked her father if he would aid her in attending college. He explained he had all he could manage to educate her brothers. Antoinette returned to teaching and within three years had saved enough to fulfill her dream. Her brother William had attended Oberlin College, becoming an ordained minister. Her father drove her in the carriage to where she boarded a packet boat on the Erie Canal where she began her journey. Upon arrival at Oberlin after the long slow journey, she was accepted in the Ladies Literary Course as a junior.

She met Lucy Stone, the suffragette from Massachusetts. They became close friends and one day persuaded a professor to allow



Childhood home of Antoinette Brown Blackwell at 1099 Pinnacle Road. She was the first ordained woman minister in the United States.

them to hold a debate. The Women's Board was shocked, putting a stop to such unladylike behavior. Lucy and Nettie then formed a secret society for women students which met in the woods, where they could practice public speaking.

When Antoinette completed the Literary Course, she applied to the Oberlin College Board for admission to the Theological Course. She also wrote asking her father for financial support. Both requests caused consternation. Her father and brother refused to send money, feeling her course would only bring her unhappiness when she entered the ministerial field. The majority of the board was astounded and disapproving. Two of the members however reminded the others of Oberlin's Charter, which had no barriers as to race, color or sex. Inasmuch as they were unable to change her mind, they allowed her to attend theology classes as a resident graduate, but would not permit her to register. Not being the rebel Lucy Stone was, she accepted conditions as they were, proving herself an able student. She was not allowed to participate in graduation, nor was she issued a license to preach. In spite of much disapproval, Antoinette left Oberlin a theologically trained woman preacher, the first in the United States. A young minister with whom she had fallen in love, wished her to marry him and share his life as a missionary, but Nettie refused sadly. Her heart's desire was to have a little flock of her own, in this country, not in a far off place.

After returning home, she attended a National Women's Rights Convention in Massachusetts at the urging of Lucy Stone. She

worked in the slums of New York City awhile, then traveled as a paid lecturer in several states, speaking on women's rights, abolition and temperance. Sometimes the audiences were receptive, and then again a crowd would be rude. Traveling conditions added to her hardships. During her lecture tours, she met many well-known people of her day, whose association proved stimulating and rewarding.

After hearing her lecture in New York City in 1853, Horace Greeley, publisher of the *New York City Tribune* and his editor, Charles Dana, offered Miss Brown \$1,000 plus board and room to lecture Sundays in Metropolitan Hall. Grateful for this compliment, she explained she yearned for a small flock of her own, where she could share their joys and sorrows and teach them of a 'loving God.' Her friends understood, and within two months, she received a call from a small Congregational Church in South Butler, New York.

Antoinette Brown was installed and ordained with appropriate service in the Baptist Church in South Butler, even though it was cold and rainy and the roof of the Congregational Church leaked. A number of her friends attended the ceremony. Dr. Herriot Hunt, an early woman physician, Gerrit Smith and the Reverend Channing, as well as reporters from the *New York Tribune* attended. The Reverend Luther Lee of Syracuse preached the ordination sermon. After a solemn charge was given, Antoinette raised her hand in benediction upon her own congregation.

She was sent as a delegate for the South Butler Society to the World's Temperance Convention in New York City. Her credentials were accepted, but when she attempted to speak, pandemonium reigned. She was shouted down, not by ruffians, but by her male fellow clergymen. She waited two days on the platform, and on the third day a resolution was passed barring women from it. Horace Greeley summed up the situation wryly thus: "*And this was a World's Temperance Convention! As for what the convention has accomplished it has completed three of its four business sessions. The results may be summed up as follows; first day, crowding a woman from the platform; second day, gagging her; third day, voting she should stay gagged. Having thus disposed of the main question, we presume the incidentals will be finished this morning.*"

Although her congregation overcame objections to a woman minister, Antoinette's way was not smooth, for her creed of a loving God and her sex prevented her from attaining a closeness to her flock, for which she had longed. The belief of a wrathful, punishing

God still held sway in the minds of many, and despite her endeavors, she could not break its hold. The sad deaths of a young lad and the tiny babe of an unwed young mother, coupled with rigid attitudes, nearly crushed her compassionate spirit. Although she challenged their stand, they were reluctant to listen longer. Then came the news that her friend, the Reverend James Teft, had died in Liberia. She left South Butler in the summer of 1854 and returned to Henrietta for a summer's rest.

She visited the Blackwell home in Ohio at the invitation of Samuel Blackwell, whom she had met in South Butler. Later she returned to New York City, where she again worked in the slums, including the women's prison, the Tombs and Blackwell Island. She wrote a series of articles on social conditions which were published by Horace Greeley.

When Antoinette Brown was thirty years old, she returned to her farm home to be married to Sam Blackwell. Her father, a justice of the peace, performed the ceremony. It was a happy marriage, blessed with six children, five of whom reached womanhood. Lucy Stone was a sister-in-law, as well as Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman to graduate as a medical doctor.

When duties of family permitted, she continued to preach and lecture, though far less frequently, for she had found fulfillment with her family. At the age of seventy-eight she visited the Holy Land, bringing back water from the River Jordan with which to baptize her grandchildren. When she reached eighty, she visited Alaska. At eighty-three Oberlin College bestowed upon her the Doctor of Divinity degree. She was very happy to receive it, for she held no resentment because of their early attitude. When she was ninety years old, she preached her last sermon in the Unitarian Church in Elizabeth, New Jersey, where she had been pastor for fifteen years. She had written ten books, the last one at the age of ninety-three. She cast her first vote in a Presidential election when she was ninety-five; the first election opened to women. She had blazed a trail, along which many countless young women were to follow. She passed from this Earth at the age of ninety-six after a long exemplary life. South Butler and Henrietta share with pride the heritage she left us, with all of America.

HENRIETTA FOLKS

News reaching Henrietta Christmas of 1872 cast a shadow over the normally happy holiday season. Coralin Jackson Rice, aged twenty-two, only daughter of Morris and Julia Jackson of West Henrietta Road (north of Methodist Hill), was killed with her husband, Wilbur Rice, only son of James Rice of Titusville, Pennsylvania, while returning from their honeymoon.

The terrible accident occurred on the mail train on the Buffalo, Corry and Pittsburgh Railroad. The engine had passed a high trestle over Goose Creek near Prospect Station near Corry, when a broken flange on the tender wheel caused the baggage car and coach to plunge off the trestle, landing on their tops, the coach tilted to one side. The coach started burning at both ends with passengers trapped inside. Many were wounded, and a tragic loss of lives swiftly followed. No water was to be had, and only two axes were at hand to persons waiting at the nearby station. Snow thrown upon the flames made little impression. Rescuers passed a rope into the coach through a small opening and tugged some persons out. Some were so charred parts of their body snapped from their trunks. Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Rice lost their lives but were identified. After services at the West Henrietta Baptist Church, their remains were buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery, where a beautiful monument, with eight red granite columns topped by an angel, was erected in their memory.

* * * * *

An outstanding family of the last century were the Cornwells, who were Quakers. Sarah (Halstead) Cornwell's ancestry could be traced back to the Duke of Haddon Hall, England. There his daughter secretly joined the Quakers and fell in love with an English nobleman, who also followed this religion, though secretly. When they married, they were dismissed from their families. They came to America, finally settling in Cayuga County. Sarah Halstead's father was a Quaker minister.

Ambrose Cornwell's grandfather Samuel, with his brother Matthew, came from Cornwell, England, and organized a chandler's shop in Brooklyn, where they outfitted sea going vessels. They had a sloop in which they made frequent trips to Albany, where they purchased supplies for their shop from the farmers. Samuel was attracted to the beauty of Armonk on the Hudson, where he purchased a farm and built a house. The Cornwell brothers took no active part in the Revolution because of their Quaker belief. Samuel

however, turned his ships chandler shop into an Army supply base, where he assisted in supplying food and equipment to Washington's Army at Valley Forge. Ambrose Cornwell was raised on the farm at Armonk. He heard reports of the eloquence of Jonathan Halstead, the Quaker minister of Cayuga County; where he attended one of his meetings. It was there he fell in love with Miss Halstead, the minister's daughter. They were married, a copy of their Quaker wedding certificate being on file in the Henrietta archives. They lived on a farm in Rush for a year, when they purchased sixty acres from Samuel Whitcomb, on Jefferson Road, opposite Locust Hill. Their farm and home (at 1987 Jefferson Road) cost \$1,080 at the time.



Pioneer Home of Sarah and Ambrose Cornwell, Quakers, at 1987 Jefferson Road. First part of house was built by Samuel Whitcomb.

Ambrose and Sarah Cornwell's children received their elementary education in one of the upper rooms of the house which had been converted into a classroom by Mr. Cornwell. A grown cousin of the children was their tutor. At about the age of twelve, the children attended District School I, where they studied algebra, geometry, English literature and rhetoric, history and geography.

* * * * *

The following is a copy of the last will of pioneer Martin Roberts, whose remains were laid to rest in Tinker Cemetery on Castle Road (then Chase Road) two months after he made his will:

I Martin Roberts of the Town of Henrietta, County of Monroe, and State of New York having been brought into existence by the overruling hand of an allwise Being and continued here for a length of time and received many comforts and enjoyments of this life for which thanksgiving, and praises are due, and being sensible that the time of my desolation is drawing nigh, I, here fully resign myself into the hands of the same allwise Being to be disposed of as seemeth Him good, and now make this as my last will and testament.

Firstly, I do give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Anna the use of one equal third of all the lands and buildings that I am now in possession of during her natural life.

Secondly, I give and bequeath unto my daughter Annwiller Gunn fifty dollars as a compensation for her service rendered to me after she was of age and the further sum of one hundred dollars to be paid in a note which I now hold against her husband to that amount.

Thirdly, I give and bequeath unto my daughter Ester Wells the sum of one hundred dollars to be paid in a note which I now hold against her husband to that amount.

Fourthly, I give and bequeath unto my daughters Caroline, Amanda and Maryann each the sum of two hundred dollars to be paid to them when they shall marry or become of lawful age and I further give them the use of the west chamber and bedroom as long as they remain unmarried.

Fifthly, I give and bequeath unto my son Marvin fifty acres of land to be taken off of the east end of Lot Hundred Eight in the first Range of Lots in said town to be divided by a line running parallel to the east line of said lot to be at his disposal when he shall become of lawful age.

Sixthly, I give and bequeath unto my son Martin all my personal estate and I further give and bequeath unto my son Martin all the remainder of my real estate subject to the widows dower and such exception as is above mentioned. Also I will and ordain that the Executors of this my last will and testament shall after my decease pay the legacy above bequeathed and shall have the Guardianship of my minor children.

Lastly, I hereby appoint my son Martin Roberts and Daniel Olney my sole and only Executors of this my last will and testament given

under my hand and seal at Henrietta aforesaid this twenty-third day of December in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and twenty-eight.

Martin Roberts

*Witness: Elisha Gage
James Phillips
Miner Brown*

The following documents were given to the Henrietta archives by the Roberts family:

Camp near Brownville, November 4th, 1813

This may certify that Lieutenant Martin Roberts is hereby honorable discharged from the service of the United States for this campaign by order of Brig-Gen Collens.

P. Schuyler, Captain

Samuel Dutton, Lt. Colonel

* * * * *

Received Madison November 20th, 1813 – of Lieut. Martin Roberts sixteen dollars and eighty cents in full for my services as a drummer in Capt. J.P. Schuylers Company of Militia detached for the services of the United States by the United States by Gen Orders of the 14th Sept. last.

C.L. Cowhp

* * * * *

One of the outstanding leaders in the agricultural community of Henrietta was Martin Roberts, born in Eaton, Madison County, New York. He was the small boy who crawled under the bed during the Indians' visit to their log home on Stone Road. After his father's death in 1829, he took over the duties of the farm at 260 Stone Road. In 1830 he married Francis Whipple of Pittsford, by whom he had three children. They had two sons, M. Marvin and George H.C. A daughter Helen married Mahlon Phillips.

Mr. Roberts was an excellent farmer who held special pride in his stock. He exhibited his fine yoke of oxen at various fairs in western

New York. One pair, of the Devon breed, dark red in color and weighing nearly 4500 pounds, took first premium at three State and four County fairs. His Devon Steer took first prize at the Elmira State Fair in 1855, at Syracuse in 1858, and at Rochester in 1862.



Honorable Martin Roberts, II.



Honorable Martin Roberts, II with prize-winning oxen.

A cattle dealer who had heard of this yoke of oxen capturing the prizes at the fairs, decided we would capture one of them. He looked around until he found a fine pair of steer, bought them and exhibited them in competition with Mr. Martin Roberts.

The testing time came, a wagon load of pig iron was procured and the cattle dealer's oxen were hitched to the wagon. They pulled, but the wagon would not move. Finally it was given up, the oxen were taken from the wagon, and Mr. Roberts' oxen were hitched on to it.

In doing this, he used a rope but left it slack. The ground was soft from recent rains. The wheels had settled down in the soft earth until the mud had covered the tires. The wagon stood on a side hill. When all was ready, Mr. Roberts told the oxen to start. They made a move, the wagon did not stir, but the rope was broken in the pull.

A chain was procured and put in place of the rope. Just at this time, Bill Ayers, the trainer of the steer came along, so he took the matter in hand; and the third time trying, the oxen pulled the wagon out and started it going. He said that the load must be weighed, so it was taken to the scales and found to weigh 7,170 pounds! Bill wanted another ton of pig iron added to the load, but there was no more to be had.

The oxen were raised by Martin Roberts, and when they were one year old, he was offered two hundred dollars apiece for them.

Mr. Roberts was a member of the Monroe County Agricultural Society, holding various offices in it. At the time of the New York State Fair in Rochester, October, 1862, he was on the committee representing the Monroe County Society and was Superintendent of the Forage Department.

In 1860, Martin Roberts was elected as Representative of the Eastern District to the New York State Assembly, serving one term, declining the nomination the second term.

Operating the home farm for thirty-seven years, in March, 1866, he purchased the 116 acre farm at 990 Calkins Road for \$12,000, from Ashley Colvin (later owned by the late George Koehler). This was considered one of the finest farms in Henrietta, with one hundred acres of cleared land and sixteen acres of woodland. For years community gatherings were an occasion of enjoyment for many Henrietta residents and were held in Roberts Grove during summer months.



Home of Martin Roberts, II and Family, after March, 1866, at 990 Calkins Road. This house has been extensively changed.

HARVEST PARTY

YOURSELF AND LADY ARE RESPECTFULLY INVITED TO ATTEND

SOCIAL HOP,

To be given at the Grove of Hon. Martin Roberts, on THURSDAY
EVENING, AUG. 19, 1869.

BILL \$1.00.

ROCHESTER EXPRESS PRINT

On Christmas day 1871 at noon, while feeding corn stalks into a machine run by horse power, Martin Roberts' sleeve caught, and his right arm was drawn into the knives. Tendons and flesh from his shoulder to elbow were torn from the bone. Dr. Lane of Henrietta and two doctors from Rochester were called to attend his serious injury. He died of his wounds January 10, 1872, mourned deeply by all who knew him. Notices of his death appeared in several papers. Eulogies in the form of poems were also published.

George M.C. Roberts, one of the sons of Martin Roberts was born on June 28, 1836, in the Stone Road home. He attended school at District No. 1 on Pinnacle Road and Monroe Academy. He also attended Wilson Collegiate Institute in Niagara County in 1855. He often rode a horse, "Old Grey," to Monroe Academy. Like all farm boys in his day, he helped with the numerous farm chores, working along with his father, brother and hired men. He helped with fence building, plowing, cultivating, hoeing corn and mowing. He raked, cradled and bound grain; and drew wheat and picked berries; helped with the bee hives and aided his father in washing the sheep with tobacco. The farm boys went squirrel hunting, and upon one occasion a hired man gave George a woodchuck, which he chained to a barrel coop.

One 4th of July, George stayed overnight with Lyman and Harrison Otis. They arose at midnight and fired the anvil and George's cannon until daybreak. Then they drove to the train in Rochester and went to Medina to spend the day with friends.

One day when the temperature was sixteen degrees below zero, while returning home from Monroe Academy, the frost nipped him. He froze both big toes, his thumbs, first finger and his ear. "*Most of the boys that day froze their ears,*" he stated.

He would often start out a day ahead of his father to take the oxen to the County or State Fairs, sometimes accompanied by a neighbor. Once the oxen were taken by train to Elmira to the New York State Fair. Upon another occasion the oxen were driven to the Monroe County Fair at Brockport, stopping overnight in Spencerport. Of course they captured first prize!

George M.C. Roberts married Helen Chase, daughter of Daniel and Lydia Chase, April 26, 1859. They resided at 959 Calkins Road. A Republican like his father, he was town clerk for many years. The couple celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in their home in the east village at 3067 East Henrietta Road where they had moved following retirement. When George died at the age of ninety-one, he was survived by his daughter, Miss Florence Roberts and a son M. Clarence; also a granddaughter, Lillian Roberts Jones.

* * * * *

M. Clarence Roberts married Mary Ellen Warren of West Henrietta. He was Civil Action Clerk in the County Clerk's office for ten years,

beginning in 1898. The position of Naturalization Clerk was created by the Board of County Supervisors, and Mr. Roberts was appointed Naturalization Clerk, although he had previously taken care of all the work of the Naturalization Bureau. His classes were large and many papers were processed during World War I.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Clarence Roberts had one daughter, Lillian F. Roberts, a graduate of Lima Seminary and the Cumnock School of Oratory, Northwestern University. Married in 1917 to Alfred R. Jones of West Henrietta, she was widowed in 1921.* Active in the Republican party, she won recognition and praise at a political gathering with her address on candidates night in 1924. She went on to address other meetings in western New York. She was Vice-Chairman of the Monroe County Republican Committee in 1926 and was elected as representative to the Republican Women's State Executive Committee that year. The same year she was elected County Purchasing Agent, an office which she held for four terms, when she married Dr. James Woodruff of Rochester. The late Mrs. Woodruff had been a generous donor to the archives of Henrietta.

*See earlier reference to Alfred R. Jones under Chapter entitled "Business Enterprises."

* * * * *

Joel Clark was born October 10, 1767. He went as a drummer boy in the Revolutionary War with his father and older brother. He was only fourteen years old and enlisted to serve through the war. Born in Connecticut, he moved to Bloomfield in 1799 and to Henrietta in 1816. He died November 8, 1847 at the age of eighty and is buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery.

He was a farmer and lived about one-half mile west from East Henrietta Road, directly in line with Goodberlet Road. The foundation of his former home can still be found out in the field.

His son, Jeremiah Clark, built a home right on East Henrietta Road, directly across from Goodberlet Road. This house was recently torn down.

* * * * *

Benjamin Schuyler, who came to Henrietta in 1829 and settled on East Henrietta Road, was the great-grandson of Philip Schuyler, who



Joel Clark, Drummer Boy in the Revolutionary War. He settled in Henrietta in 1816.

came with two brothers, Jacob and Peter from Holland. They possessed thousands of acres of land along the Mohawk River. They were the original settlers in Albany, and Philip was its first mayor. Benjamin's grandfather Jacob was an excellent frontiersman and guide, who spoke seven Indian dialects. He was a captive during the Revolutionary War, spending three years imprisoned at Niagara, Canada. Jacob had a son David, who was the father of Benjamin, born in Madison County, and raised by his Aunt Margaret upon the death of his mother, Maria Woliver Schuyler. In 1830 Benjamin married Anna Sternberg, daughter of William and Margaret Schuyler Sternberg. They were the parents of Emily, who married William Newton, son of the early Henrietta pioneer Thomas Newton.

* * * * *

William and Rachel Works Lincoln of New Hampshire settled in Rochester about 1825, where William was engaged in the meat market business. They moved to Pinnacle Road (south of Goodberlet Road) where Mr. Lincoln died in 1832, leaving five children. Mrs. Lincoln died in 1840. Their youngest son George devoted his life to



Former home of Jeremiah Clark on East Henrietta Road, directly across from Goodberlet Road. (This house has been torn down).



Former home of Harvey Stone at 3490 East Henrietta Road. His descendant, Dr. Philip M. Winslow, now resides there.

farming. In 1848 his Aunt Eliza Works, a sister of his mother, kept house for him. She was born in 1794 and lived to be 105 years of age, maintaining her physical and mental well-being to the admiration of all who knew her.

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Dr. Philip M. Winslow of 3490 East Henrietta Road is the fifth generation descendant of several Henrietta pioneer families.

The first Winslow in this area moved to Henrietta in 1823. He was Jonathan Winslow, Sr., who was born in Bristol County, Massachusetts of the well-known colonial Winslow family. He and his wife, Rhadogoway Anthony Winslow, are buried side by side in the Riverview Cemetery on East River Road, West Henrietta. Jonathan, Sr., purchased his farm land from James Wadsworth of Geneseo. The red brick home which he built still stands on the north side of Lehigh Station Road, West Henrietta, just west of the Erie Railroad lines. He had several children, and he and at least two of his sons served on the school board of District No. 7 for many years. His third son, Francis Edward Winslow, married Rebecca Murray (the daughter of Samuel Murray) in 1843. Francis Edward Winslow was a farmer and was the highway commissioner of the town. This couple had only one son, Francis Marion Winslow, born in 1845. He grew up on the family homestead in West Henrietta and married Lucretia Belle Stone in 1864. Lucretia Belle was the daughter of Harvey Stone and his second wife, Mary Ann Bundy Stone.

Harvey Stone came to Henrietta in 1828. He purchased and cleared land where the Winslow family now resides at 3490 East Henrietta Road. His father, Timothy Stone, moved here a few years later from Connecticut and resided across the road. Harvey Stone's first wife died from complications of childbirth when his only son, Alfred, was but an infant. He married Mary Ann Bundy six months later. They had several daughters, and both lived long and active lives. They died in 1901 after being married fifty-eight years. Harvey was the Superintendent of the East Baptist Sunday School for over fifty years and served as "Overseer of the Poor" for the township. Both his wife and daughter, Lucretia Belle, were teachers before marriage.

Belle and Marion Winslow had two sons, Oscar and Floyd. The younger son Floyd, grew up in the family homestead, attended school in the Academy building, later attending Geneseo Normal School. He served as school principal in Henrietta (Union Free



Former home of Jonathan and Rhadogoway Winslow at 450 Lehigh Station Road, West Henrietta.



Dr. Floyd Stone Winslow, Teacher; later Physician. He was a descendant of Henrietta pioneer families.

School) before he went on to Cornell University Medical School. He practiced medicine for fifty years in Monroe County, with many honors coming his way. He served as town and school health officer

for over twenty-five years in Henrietta. He also served as the County Coroners Physician.

Dr. Floyd S. Winslow was married in 1907 to Catherine McKay, a teacher and also a graduate of Geneseo Normal. Their only child, Philip, was born in 1911. Philip grew up in Rochester, attended Cornell University, receiving his Medical degree from the University of Rochester School of Medicine. Upon returning from active duty during World War II, he engaged in the private practice of Orthopedics. He and his wife, the former Daisy Wood of Coral Gales, Florida, have lived in the family home in Henrietta since their marriage in 1946. They have three children, Floyd II, Sally and Dorothy.

Dr. Philip Winslow's eldest son Philip is living in Lebanon, Kentucky, son of his first marriage to Cornelia Winslow.

Alfred Stone, Harvey Stone's son, had two sons, Bert and Howard Stone, who like their father and grandfather operated farms on the East Henrietta Road. Howard and Katherine (Masten) Stone also had two sons, Gordon and Harvey, who reside in Henrietta.

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From *The Informer*, published by R.J. and F.A. Strassenburgh in Henrietta, July 15, 1880:

Orlow Beebee Old Residenters

"Among the men of energy, prominence and personal ability long known to the people of Henrietta, Orlow Beebee occupies a front position. Born in East Bloomfield, he was joined in the bonds of matrimony to Miss Laura Swan in his 28th year. Two years afterwards he moved to Chili, and the following year he moved to 'Methodist Hill' in the center of Henrietta, where he resided till his death.*

He was a man of fine presence — tall, well-formed and of commanding appearance. His dark flashing eye and quick decided movement denoted a man of great personal power and undaunted will. When fairly aroused his stentorian voice could be heard over a mile issuing orders to his boys and hired men. 'Charles — you go and get that log-chain, Come, start!' His rule was 'for no boy of mine to let the grass grow under his feet, but to start on the run.' He was

*East side of West Henrietta Road



Residence of Orlow Beebee, 4490 West Henrietta Road (on the east side of the road, at the peak of Methodist Hill). This house has been extensively remodeled.

quick as a flash himself, and he expected every one about him to be the same.

His first wife became the mother of twelve children, three dying in infancy. Alma, the surviving eldest was a tall, dark haired beauty and in her maidenhood enjoyed the reputation of being the belle of the town. She used to lead the soprano in the old Congregational church. Her father sang bass, and occupied the position of chorister during a period of some twenty years. He possessed a deep, round voice, and always beat time with his right foot – the steady, triphammer stroke of which could be plainly heard all over the church. Alma was married to John Springer, and they, with their interesting family are now living in the village of Henrietta.

The next surviving child was Maria who, with her sister Elizabeth formed the lady principals to a double wedding in 1854 – the first named becoming the wife of Benjamin D. Titus, and 'Lib' taking for her life-partner Elijah Cox of Mendon.

Laura, the younger daughter, was a fascinating beauty, and from the time that she was fourteen till she reached the age twenty (when she was married to Jarvis Newton) she probably had more beaux than any other three girls in town. She could play, sing, crochet, talk to half-a-dozen sighing swaines at once, and make every fellow think that HE was the favored individual.

There were five boys: Livingston – commonly called 'Link', a tall slim, curly haired manly fellow, standing first in his class at the

old Monroe Academy, and commanding the respect of all who knew him. Charles, the second son was deliberate and slow motioned. He despised farming, and on the 4th of July and other 'play days' used to go to Rochester and loiter about the Depot and 'Round-house' talking with the engineers and looking at the shining machines. He became an engineer in the West. Eugene, the third son, was more like his father — quick and impetuous. He became a dentist. Byron and George the younger boys also engaged in business in the West.



ORLOW BEEBEE.

Orlow Beebee used to figure at nearly all the large auctions in Henrietta and vicinity for a number of years. But he was most in his element at 'moving Bees.' Encased in the second story front door-way of a building mounted on runners, with a string of forty ox teams attached to the front end of each runner — then Orlow was in his glory. Tall, erect, with flashing eye and a voice like General Jackson's, he would roar out 'All ready — straighten up that rear string of oxen, gee off a little, that's it, a little more, now then, all ready — go ahead!'

Mr. Beebee used to be fond of telling that he could take five men and wash fifty sheep and plant ten acres of corn in one day. To see

him at the head of a gang of men planting corn was a rare treat. He used to have 'Link' riding the horse and Ben Edmunds holding the marker. Orlow, with a hoe in his right hand, would make one dab at the spot designed for the hill of corn, give a rapid 'chuck' with his left hand full of corn, and in would go the seed, sometimes one kernel and sometimes a dozen. Then came the single 'diff' with the hoe by way of covering the grain, followed by a stampment on the hill, but frequently a foot ahead of it — and on would go Orlow, like a steam engine, with 200 pounds of steam on, occasionally looking round and yelling out in tones that frightened the poor Irishmen nearly out of their wits: 'Come — come — what is you bout back thar?'

At the age of fifty-two his first wife a most estimable lady, died. Subsequently he married Miss Emma Boulten of Philadelphia by whom he had three children. Her frail constitution proved unable to stand the trying duties of a large family and about ten years later she too entered into that 'rest prepared for the people of God.' His last wife was a widow lady from Rochester, who survives him.

Mr. Beebee was a member of the Congragational church in Henrietta, and three of his children were also members — Maria, 'Lib' and 'Link', who were converted at a revival held in the old brick Methodist church. Mr. Beebee was very regular in attending the services on Sunday and also the weekly prayer meeting. He was a man of marked influence both in the church and among his neighbors, and Henrietta has lost in him one of her ablest citizens."

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An article appeared in *The Informer*, amateur newspaper published by R.J. and F.A. Strassenburgh in 1881 in Henrietta, entitled *An Old Resident Gone*; it read as follows: "Uncle Jesse Fowler has passed away. He has, after a life of toil, exposure, self-denial and accidents entered into rest. Born in May 1806, he passed through the usual fortunes and experiences of infancy, youth and school boy life, and early evinced a liking for books and literary research. In 1835 he was joined in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Ann Hill, a young lady of gifted mind and cultured tastes, residing in the Town of Pittsford. They took up their residence on what is known as the Fowler farm, one mile east of the village of Henrietta. They here lived nearly half a century in the peaceful pursuits of a farmer's life. Prosperity rewarded their faithful

endeavors, and as years rolled by, a group of merry hearted children gathered around them.

William James, the eldest is a journalist by profession and was for several years connected with the Rochester Express. He is one of the best short hand reporters in New York State."

The youthful editor went on to tell of Hannah Maria, Jesse Fowler's eldest daughter, who became the wife of Benjamin Titus. Sarah Ann, her sister, wrote for the press and was educated along musical lines. George Albert, a young son, lived on the home farm.

Jesse Fowler was injured some twenty years before his death in an accident when a wagon load of wood ran over him. Six months before his death, he was held up near Mt. Hope Cemetery and nearly killed by highwaymen, from which he never fully recovered. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler's lives were touched by sorrow, for of eight children, two sons died in infancy. Two daughters, a three year old and a ten year old, died within a month of each other.

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A family geneology of the Martin family of West Henrietta was recently updated by the late Howard Martin formerly of 6073 East River Road, West Henrietta. Mr. Martin generously gave the Town archives copies of his work and a family reunion photograph. Many old Henrietta families are included in this record.

James K. Martin, third son of Killian and Millicent Sibley Martin, was born in 1797. James, one of eleven children, of Irish and English descent, was seventeen when his father died. He worked hard to help keep the family together. Four and one-half years later, in March 1819, James and his wife Fanny Bristol Martin, her sister and husband, and his two younger brothers, ages nine and thirteen, started for this area from Rensselaer County. With two old horses and a new lumber wagon and all their goods, they were overtaken one hundred miles west of Albany with a heavy snowstorm. Transferring their possessions to a wooden shod sleigh, they pressed forward, arriving within thirteen days at Black Creek, in Chili, New York, with but little money.

They set up housekeeping in a house vacated by squatters, who had torn off half of the shake roof. As was usual in those days, the whole family was taken with Genesee Fever the first summer. James

hadn't had time to raise wheat, so they existed on corn bread. He had raised some hogs, but when it came time to butcher, he had no salt for preservation of the pork. No money was to be had for labor. However he chopped wood for Judge Sibley for one-half bushel of wheat for a days work. In all, he put in sixteen days for which he was paid eight bushels of wheat, which he had to thresh and clean, taking three more days. For nineteen days labor he received two dollars when selling the wheat in Rochesterville. He purchased one-third barrel of salt with it to make salt pork.

James kept a cow over the winter, using the milk for her keep. In the spring he bought the cow. He raised a steer and purchased a mate to break for a yoke of oxen. He raised eight dollars toward its cost of eleven dollars, giving his note for the remaining three dollars. In 1821 they moved to West Rush, where they lived for four years. His mother, two other brothers and two sisters came on to live here also. His mother was an expert weaver, taking in work to help support the family.

The first winter after James' arrival, he returned from Chili to Rensselaer County on foot, a journey which took six days. A well-to-do resident of Chili was also making the journey to Albany with a two-horse sleigh. James Martin asked if he might ride with him. He was informed he could for a certain consideration. Lacking it, the only alternative was to make the journey afoot. Starting about the same time, the sleigh passed him. James arrived later at the tavern and started earlier the next day, when the sleigh would again pass him. All things considered, one would be inclined to think the man making the trip on his own power the better man of the two!

James Martin's home was the haven of his mother and younger brothers and sisters until the latter married. They went out to work when old enough, but returned in time of sickness and for holidays. In 1825 the family moved to a farm of one hundred acres in West Henrietta, which cost James ten dollars an acre. He cleared this farm largely by his own hands. They shared at first a double log house. In 1839 they moved to their new house, where he resided until his death.

James and Fanny Martin had thirteen children; their first, Lorenzo, born in 1819, married Emeline Frost in 1844. Lorenzo and Emeline Martin had eight children. Their eighth, Frank, was born in 1857 and married Myrtie H. Rice in 1889. They were the parents of Howard U. Martin, born in the fall of 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Howard

Martin were the parents of Robert and Russell. Robert Martin also lives on East River Road, West Henrietta, and works for the Town; Russell teaches at Cornell University.

James Martin, the first Martin to settle in Henrietta, gave each of his sons a farm and helped his daughters also. This he accomplished it is said by rigid economy, good judgment and hard work!

The Martin family held yearly family reunions from 1895 until 1949, when they were discontinued.

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Members of the Chase family who reside in Henrietta today are descendents of Benjamin and Phebe Barnard Chase, Quakers, who left Chatham, Columbia County, to settle in Williamson, Wayne County, New York. From Williamson they moved to Henrietta, New York. A piece of property owned by Benjamin in Williamson, according to an old deed, was to be used as a site for a Quaker Meeting House.

Daniel, a son, was born on a farm in Chatham, July 6, 1813, moving to Williamson with his family. Before he "reached his majority" he served one winter as deputy superintendent of the Monroe County Almshouse. He married Lydia Cornwell, also a member of the Society of Friends in Henrietta, where they lived for many years. At his death at the age of seventy-five, he left four grown children: Oscar B., Willet E., Helen (Mrs. George) Roberts, and Mrs. B.P. Smith. Willet's son, Frank Chase, married Dora Lyday; they were the parents of Howard, Earl and Orson Chase.

Earl and Ora Lincoln Chase of 1200 Middle Road are the parents of the late Frank Chase and Helen (Mrs. Daniel) Larry of Martin Road, West Henrietta. Howard married Cornelia Price of Rush. They have three married sons, George Chase of Martin Road, David Chase of Erie Station Road, and Selden Chase of 5874 East Henrietta Road, Rush. The grandchildren of Earl and Howard Chase are the sixth generation living in this area.

The Chase family has held reunions since the beginning of the century.

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Thomas Newton was a native of Lincolnshire, England, born in 1783. He worked at an early age, becoming a foreman on a 1500 acre

farm in England. There he often rose at two a.m. The men did chores while the women made breakfast, which consisted of rye or whole wheat bread and meat, with a pint of ale. At five a.m., they were expected to be in the fields. A lunch would be sent out, and dinner was ready by two p.m.

Thomas arrived in America in 1822, spending two years in Albany, assisting in the construction of the Erie Canal. In 1824 he married Elizabeth Bladen, who was born in Derbyshire, England. They traveled from Albany in a one-horse wagon, taking seven days. They settled in Henrietta, living in a house on 1150 Pinnacle Road, opposite Goodberlet Road.

A son, William Newton, was educated in the district school and Monroe Academy. He began teaching when he was seventeen years old, teaching eight winters. Later he sold trees for Ellwanger and Barry Nursery and was in Savannah, Georgia, when George Brown was hanged. He didn't tarry for it was unsafe for a Northerner. William Newton married Emily Schuyler of this town; she also having taught school. They lived on Pinnacle Road.

In 1865 the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D.C., sent him some Probstier oats, the variety having come from Hamburg, Germany. From the small quantity mailed him, in several years he was raising a large amount. By advertising and exhibiting at fairs, he sold and distributed them through nearly every state and territory in the Union, where they were raised extensively. Previous to this introduction, the oat crop was poor, and rolled oats were not manufactured. Mr. Newton also experimented with and sold large quantities of the first commercial fertilizer that came into western New York. He was justice of the peace for over thirty-five years.

He had a remarkable memory in 1921, at the age of eighty-six. He could recall when pigeons were so numerous in this area, having once seen three long strings of them flying east as far as the eye could see. He recalled seeing 300 to 400 of them being bagged by net at one time. During the days of Prohibition, he remembered back to a time when there were many "stills" heareabouts, where "moonshine" was made. He could recall four distilleries within a few miles of his early home. If a farmer didn't have ready cash for whiskey, he took a bushel of corn along. This made four gallons, of which the distiller would keep half. The corn was worth about fifty cents a bushel, and the whiskey sold for twenty-five cents a gallon. He said when a

person made a call and he was not treated to a drink of whiskey, he took it as a sign his company was not wanted. Wine and beer were not plentiful, and lager beer was unknown. The State Legislature passed a Prohibition Act in 1850, which was never enforced and was repealed the following year, according to William Newton.

Decendants of William Newton live in Rochester. Descendants of Thomas Newton, his father, still live in Henrietta. Helen (Mrs. Louis) Viola and children of 1955 Pinnacle Road, and Donald Frank Newton and children of 1572 Lehigh Station Road are descendants of this early Henrietta family.

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Sanford E. Church, son of Ozias S. Church, was born at Milford, Otsego County, New York, in April, 1815. His family moved to Henrietta when Sanford was a small boy. He attended Monroe Academy and was mentioned earlier as the boy his teacher, Mary Allen, worked with to overcome shyness. He taught school in Henrietta several terms, when at the age of twenty-one he moved to Albion, where he served as Deputy County Clerk three years and studied law. He was admitted to the Bar at the age of twenty-five. A year later he was elected a member of the State Assembly, being the youngest member at the time. In 1846-47, he was elected District Attorney, and in 1850, he was elected Lieutenant Governor of the State on the Democratic ticket by a majority of 8,000. In 1852 he was reelected, and in 1857 he was elected Controller.

In 1867 he was elected Chief Judge of the State Court of Appeals, which he held until his death in 1880. In 1868 he was New York's "favorite son" at the Presidential Convention, receiving the State's votes on the first ballot.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanford E. Church (Anna Wild) had two children, a boy and a girl. The information above was received by letter in 1962 from his great-grandson, Sanford B. Church of Albion, New York.

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Mahlon D. Phillips, son of James and Almira Fitch Phillips, born in September, 1835, in Henrietta, became Post Master of the New York State Assembly in 1866-67 and clerk of the House of Representatives, of the 34th Congress.

Mr. Phillips was married to Helen Roberts, the daughter of the Hon. Martin Roberts and Mrs. Roberts. Mrs. Phillips died in 1872. Mr. Phillips later remarried and moved to Brighton. He had a large collection of autographs of well-known men, including one of Washington Irving. These he collected in the form of "Free Franks," a privilege given to certain people by an Act of Congress in 1775. Free Franking was first granted in England in 1660 and continued there some 180 years. These laws were enacted in the United States from time to time for over one hundred years extending the privilege to various members of the governmental branches. Some thirty-three "Free Franks" addressed to Mahlon Phillips are now in the hands of collectors.

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Stephen J. Warren was born November 23, 1865 in the Town of Rush, New York, the son of Sarah Jane Bushman Warren and Benjamin Warren. About 1870 he moved with his parents and sister, Mary Ellen (later Mrs. Clarence Roberts) to a cobblestone farm house formerly belonging to his grandparents, Jacob and Mary Snapp Bushman on Telephone Road. In 1879 the family moved to West Henrietta village, which was to remain thereafter his home town.

Mr. Warren was graduated from the Rochester Business Institute in 1886 and from Genesee Wesleyan Seminary in Lima, New York in 1889. He was admitted to the Bar in 1892 and went into the office of Hubbell and McGuire. In 1893 he became Assistant District Attorney, and in 1898 was elected District Attorney of Monroe County, an office he held for nine years. He was a member of the law firm of Warren, Shuster, Case and Halsey and a practicing lawyer over sixty years. It is said he won 98% of the cases he tried. He was a 32nd Degree Mason, Scottish Rite, and was very active in political and social groups.

Mr. Warren was married in 1894 to Ida M. Ryno of West Henrietta. They had one daughter, Helen Rowe Wittmaack (Mrs. H. Fred).

Ida Ryno Warren was born on Middle Road, West Henrietta, and was a descendant of the Ryno and Post families, both pioneer settlers here. She attended the Seminary in Lima, New York. She was an active member of the West Henrietta Baptist Church and organized the junior choir. She was instrumental in founding the Baraca Class and was a member of the Order of Eastern Star. At the

age of fourteen she played piano and cornet in her father's orchestra which performed in the Rochester area. As a young woman, a minister of her church asked her to take a large class of boys and see what she could do with it. It was a challenging and satisfying experience. In later years, whether they were soldiers, mailmen, schoolteachers, businessmen, farmers, or serving their town in some office, they never forgot the days in Sunday school together, or their teacher, Ida Warren.

In her eighties, Mrs. Warren entertained nearly twenty of her former "boys" in her home in 1962. She passed away in 1964 at the age of eighty-nine.

Mrs. H. Fred Wittmaack of Rochester, the former Helen Warren, reflects the capabilities of both her parents. Upon the unexpected death of her first husband in 1951, she inherited a family pulp mill located in Thorold, Ontario, Canada. The then mother of two girls of high school and college age, she accepted the challenge. The superintendent of the mill was also a woman and widow of the former superintendent. She was shocked and skeptical about the new president of the company attending an all man convention of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association at Montreal. But the new president, being an American from Stateside, who wished to learn more about the wood pulp business, took her superintendent along; each attending sessions pertaining to her particular field. When the chairman addressed the large group of men with a lone woman in their midst, he said: "Our lady and gentlemen"; every man in the room rose to his feet. She was the only woman in Canada to run a pulp mill.

The mill was the oldest privately-owned wood pulp mill in Canada, and though the smallest, it produced twelve tons of ground wood pulp each day. Though some predicted it wouldn't last three months, production increased 20% the first year, under her management.

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It is said the Beckwiths for whom Beckwith Road was named, could trace their family genealogy back to two Kings of Scotland. The article on lineage appeared in a St. Louis, Missouri paper in 1897, when a Warren Beckwith whose father, Warren Sr., was born in Henrietta, married the granddaughter of Abraham Lincoln. Her father, Robert Todd Lincoln, unlike his father, had high social aspirations and was not too happy that his daughter had eloped with

her young man. The Beckwith genealogy traced various branches of the family to many prominent families in the United States, as well as England.

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At one time the Reverend David Charles Hughes was a minister of the East Baptist Church, Henrietta. He wore a high silk hat and drove a fine pair of high-stepping "ponies" around during the late 1860's or 1870's. His young son, Charles Evans Hughes, sat primly beside him as he drove about making pastoral calls. Later this son, after graduating from Brown University and Columbia Law School, carved a distinguished career as a jurist and statesman. He taught at Cornell University for two years in the early 1890's. He served two terms as Republican Governor of the State of New York from 1906-1910. Following this he served as Associate-Justice on the United States Supreme Court from 1910-1916, when he ran for President against Woodrow Wilson, losing by twenty-three electoral votes. Wilson, however, appointed Hughes head of the Draft Appeals Board in New York City and later chief of a special commission to investigate the national aircraft industry. Under President Warren G. Harding, he served as Secretary of State. He sat on the bench of the permanent Court of International Justice at the Hague, from 1928-1930, when he was appointed Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

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John M. Davy was born in Ottawa, Ontario, in June, 1835, coming to Rochester when six months of age. Soon after their arrival, his father enlisted in the Mexican War, leaving his wife with three small children.

The home was broken up, and young John grew up in the family of Benjamin Tripp in Mendon and Pinnacle Road in Henrietta. He attended the district school and Monroe Academy, working on the farm during the summers. As a young man he studied law in the Rochester office of L.H. Hovey. During the Civil War he was appointed Captain in the 108th Regiment, Company G. A man who had been appointed 1st Lieutenant objected, whereupon John Davy offered to exchange places with him, saying he had enlisted to serve his Country. His offer was accepted. He contracted typhoid fever as did so many in this war and was honorably discharged in 1863. He resumed his study of law and was admitted to the Bar. In 1868 he became District Attorney of Monroe County. In 1871 he declined

renomination, preferring private practice. In 1872 he was appointed Collector of Customs by President Grant. Two years later he was elected a member of the 44th Congress.

He served as Supreme Court Justice of New York State for seventeen years. It is said he was a gentle, kindly soul who possessed a rare gift of sympathy. If he could help it, he never allowed young attorneys to be badgered and embarrassed by older ones in court. He would put at ease the inexperienced and aided them as much as he could as presiding Justice.

Justice Davy was married to Miss Elizabeth H. Hodges of Henrietta, daughter of a wealthy, well-known family. They were the parents of three sons, Cassius, Burton and James Davy.

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James Lansing Angle was born at Ridgeland in Henrietta, December 19, 1818, the son of Mathias Angle. He attended "when he was quite a lad", the local district school, as stated before, built mainly through the efforts of his father. He attended school winters, working on the farm the rest of the year. He also attended Monroe Academy and Lima Seminary. He taught school in the district school he had attended as a boy. At twenty-two, he studied law in Rochester offices; he was admitted to the Bar at the age of twenty-seven.

In 1854 he represented the city in the New York State Assembly. During his term of office, the question of women's suffrage was brought before the Legislature, and he was chosen chairman of the committee working on this problem. Mr. Angle drafted the report, recommending denial of the prayer of the petitioners. However, at the same time the report presented an act known as the "Married Women's Act," which secured a married woman's earnings to her own use. It also required her permission in apprenticing and appointing a guardian of her children.

In 1858 Attorney Angle served as City Attorney in Rochester and in 1863 he was chairman of the Board of Supervisors. He served as Supreme Court Justice of New York State from 1877 until 1890, when he retired. Judge Angle married Eleanor Eaton in 1846, by whom he had three children, a son who died in infancy, James M. Angle, and Anna M., who married Ludwig Schenck. Mrs. John (Louise)

Wenrich formerly of East Henrietta Road, wife of the late well-known artist, is a descendant of Judge Anglé.

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Myron T. Bly, son of John Bly of East River Road, West Henrietta, was a graduate of Genesee Wesleyan Seminary and the University of Rochester. He paid his own expenses while acquiring his education. While at the University of Rochester, he worked as a reporter on the *Rochester Morning Herald*, later becoming editor of the *Sunday Morning Herald* until his graduation. During his senior year, he won the college's highest literary prize. He studied law upon leaving and was admitted to the Bar in 1882. During his study of law he published a series of articles on "Milling Law and Legislation" in the *American Miller* in 1881. Other articles were published, including two text books on law and economics for use in academies. Attorney Bly spoke at the Centennial of Monroe Academy in 1926.

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Harvey Remington was born in Henrietta in 1863, the son of William Remington. William was born in a log cabin that his father Alvah erected when he came from Vermont in 1817. The Remingtons originated in Yorkshire, England, in 1637. Harvey worked to put himself through college and attended Genesee State Normal School and Union University, graduating in 1887. He was judge of the Municipal Court from 1896-1897. He was president of the Board of Trustees of Keuka College and president and treasurer of the Baptist Educational Society of New York. He was also a member of the Executive Committee of the New York State Baptist Missionary Society and served the Colgate-Rochester Divinity School as trustee and president, as well as on the Executive Committee. Judge Remington was a trustee of the Baptist Home of Monroe County in Fairport, New York. He was a 32nd Degree Mason and was active in the Empire State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, of which he was president in 1919. He was also president of the Rochester Historical Society from 1918-1921. Judge Remington was a director and served as secretary-treasurer of Maplewood Cemetery of Henrietta for many years until his death in 1949. He married Agnes Brodie of Caledonia and had a family of five boys and two girls.

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Another minister's son who lived in Henrietta became a well-known personality in the business world. The Reverend George Strassenburgh lived in the east village with his family in 1879-1880. As previously mentioned, his two teenage sons Fred and Robert, published a little weekly paper called *The Informer*. This cost the subscriber two cents a copy! It included news items about the town and of Henrietta folks, as well as items of interest concerning the country and issues of the day. The cost of printing was covered by advertisements. This was good business training for the lads, who attended Monroe Academy and the Henrietta Congregational Church of which their father was pastor.

Their father was born in Scotland where their grandfather had settled at the age of fifteen, having migrated from Danzig, Germany. The Reverend Strassenburgh moved to Canada with his English wife Elizabeth Ann (Tucker) where Robert J. was born in Amherstburg, Ontario in February, 1864. After the Civil War the family moved to New York State and to Henrietta.

Robert entered Buffalo State Normal School but had to drop out because of financial reasons. He worked for a druggist in Rochester for one dollar a week and board. He believed, it was said, in the saying, "*let patience have her perfect work.*" He was confident he would own a business of his own. At the age of twenty-three, he formed a partnership in the drug business. They operated a successful drug store under Robert Strassenburgh's management. In 1894 he withdrew from this arrangement to devote his full time to the manufacture of drugs, which he distributed to retail drug stores. He soon had to seek larger quarters and employed a clerk who solicited orders from physicians. The response was overwhelming, and the clerk had to help in the laboratory to fill the orders. Mr. Hilton F. Snider became an associate of Mr. Strassenburgh, and within a year they built a new laboratory with separate wholesale and retail departments. In 1901 the firm incorporated under the name of R.J. Strassenburgh Company, when it became a manufacturing concern, eliminating the retail interests. In 1912, R.J. Strassenburgh Company moved to 195 Exchange Street, Rochester. Before this the firm had become nationally known.

Mr. Strassenburgh served one time as an organizer of the American Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association and the American Surgical Trade Association. Mr. Strassenburgh took a keen interest in educational and charitable projects. He served as trustee of Keuka College and was a director and president of the board of the Baptist

Home in Fairport. He was an active member of the First Baptist Church of Rochester, New York, for nearly forty years.

He enjoyed social contacts and was a member of a number of fraternal organizations. Robert Strassenburgh married in 1888 and had two boys and one girl. In March of 1928, Mr. Strassenburgh was killed by an auto in Los Angeles while crossing a street, and his wife was injured.

* * * * *

Today when there is much emphasis on the need for a college education, the record of the men mentioned does not seem unusual. However, it speaks well for men coming from a farming community in the last century and for the community itself, that they made a fine mark in the world. This does not minimize the efforts of the many good farmers whose lives were spent raising food to feed their families and their fellowmen. We would not get very far if it were not for the food they supplied. Their lives were a constant gamble with the weather, to say nothing of the blights and pests affecting crops. It took faith in himself and Providence each year to accomplish his work. Aside from the award of good years, was the love of working with the good earth, in the out of doors on his own fine lands.

* * * * *

William Dunn moved to West Henrietta about 1830 from Pennsylvania, where he was born in 1805. His original purchase in town was a farm of one hundred fifty acres on Moore Road. Later the acreage was increased to two hundred seventy-five. William Dunn married Matilda Search, who was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Her father, Lot Search, Jr., was a soldier of the War of 1812. Her grandfather, Lot, Sr., was a Revolutionary War soldier who fought in the battles of Monmouth and Brandywine. Seven sons and one daughter were born to them: James, Hiram, Robert, Wesley, Byron, Frank, William and Mary. Each of the sons helped with the work on the farm and instead of wages, received a farm of his own when he married.

Robert, one of the sons, born in 1842, attended Lima Academy, later travelling west to settle in Fruitport, Michigan for a time. He entered a partnership in a lumber business, which he left to become a fireman on the Chicago and West Michigan Railroad, becoming an engineer within two years. In 1874 he married Caroline Thorp and

returned to West Henrietta in 1875 to take up farming. Two sons and two daughters were born to the Robert Dunns: Marvin in 1876 and Leroy in 1878, Ruby, 1879 (later Mrs. Everett Darrohm of Rush) and Flora, born in 1885. Flora married Dr. Gifford Truesdell of Warsaw, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Dunn were active members of the West Henrietta Baptist Church. Mr. Dunn also being a Mason.

LeRoy Dunn, son of Robert, married Blanche Haley, daughter of Timothy and Keziah (Chapman) Haley. They lived on the farm at 280 West Henrietta-Scottsville Road, where LeRoy had always lived. For years he operated a poultry and dairy farm. Mr. Dunn was a life member of the West Henrietta Baptist Church, a member of the Grange and a Mason for more than fifty years. He remembered his Grandmother Search telling how as a little girl, she carried her shoes to the church, where she sat down on the steps to put them on, thus keeping them from the dust of the road.



Former Dunn Farm, 280 West Henrietta-Scottsville Road.

LeRoy and Blanche Dunn had one son, Robert, born in 1906. Robert married Gertrude Williams Corbin, also of pioneer Henrietta families. Until the property was sold to Riverton, they resided on the home farm on the West Henrietta-Scottsville Road. The farm had been enlarged and devoted to crops such as corn, wheat, beans, peas and potatoes. Robert and Gertrude Dunn have one son and two daughters, Robert, Barbara and Molly, and five grandchildren.

Barbara is now Mrs. Thomas Steinhoff and lives in Norwood, Massachusetts. Molly, a former teacher in the Wheatland-Chili School system, married the Reverend Richard Hood, Greece, New York. Robert F. Dunn and wife, the former Judith Gearing of Chatham, New York, reside in Scottsville.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dunn, Sr., have in their possession two Civil War canteens. One belonged to Timothy Haley, father of the late Mrs. LeRoy Dunn. The other canteen was that of Marvin Williams, the grandfather of Gertrude Dunn.

* * * * *

Lot Search, born in 1791, was the son of Lot Search, Sr., a Revolutionary War soldier who was in the battles of Monmouth and Brandywine. Lot Search, Jr. volunteered his services in the War of 1812 and assisted in defending Washington, D.C.

He married Sarah Scout of Buch County, Pennsylvania. Their children were Matilda, Henrietta, Wesley, Lewis, Lucinda, Edward and Jane.



4711 East River Road. Former home of Lot Search, a veteran of the War of 1812.

The records show that a Mr. Lot Search and wife Sarah purchased twenty-five and a half acres from Mr. Isaac Nichols in 1825, at what is now 4711 East River Road. The original part of this house was



Wesley Search came to Henrietta with his family at the age of four in 1826. He became one of the town's leading citizens.

probably built sometime between 1816-1825. Other wings were added as needed.

In November, 1932 William Edward Metzger and wife Mary Rose (now deceased) acquired the home and two acres of land from Albert Baker, former Sheriff of Monroe County. Mr. Metzger is now eighty-five years old and a very gentle, kindly individual.

Wesley Search, born in 1822, was one of the leading citizens in town. He married Polly Hovey, a daughter of Luther Hovey of Massachusetts, who was born in Henrietta in 1822. Their children are Lewis, Electa, Martin and twins, Isabell and Charles. Wesley Search lived at what is now 208 Brooks Road. Donald Yost now lives on this farm.

* * * * *

Daniel Quimby was born in Westchester County, March 9, 1778. He was the son of Moses and Bathsheba (Pell) Quimby, a descendant of William Quimby who came to America in 1639. Daniel first married Anna, daughter of David and Naomi Halstead of Harrison, New York. Secondly he married Deborah Powell. He was the father of seven children, four girls and three boys.

Daniel Quimby was a Quaker preacher who, when not attending the duties of a local Meeting, traveled quite extensively in the ministry, especially in the eastern states. The family lived on the old Richardson-Peterson farm on East Henrietta Road, just south of the present Hollybrook Road. (This house is no longer standing). In 1830 Daniel requested a certificate of unity for a religious visit in the southern and western states. A plan to pay a religious visit to the inhabitants of Great Britain, Ireland, Holland and Norway was not carried out. It was said his wife Deborah was accustomed to remaining at home to care for the children and the home. Should he return cold and wet from his long journey, she would unharness the horses and stable them and he would find a cheerful hearth and a hot supper awaiting him. She also entertained frequently for his benefit.

In 1840 the Daniel Quimbys moved to Mendon, purchasing a farm on Clover Street near the entrance of Mendon Ponds Park. Deborah was appointed an Elder in 1845, in the Quaker or Friends Meeting there. She passed to eternal rest June 19, 1851. Daniel died December 27, 1858.

One of their sons, Henry Quimby married Sarah Turner. This marriage was outside the Friends Society and he was "disowned" by the Society. He was for a short time a furrier in New York City, returning to the farm at Mendon with his family. Henry and Sarah Quimby had three boys and one girl. By his second marriage to Maria Sternbergh, he had one daughter.

One of his sons, William Crocker, born in 1838, married Nancy Jane, daughter of William and Minerva (Post) Ryno. They had a son Henry and three daughters, one of whom died in infancy. One of their daughters, Sarah Minerva married Samuel T. Jones, son of T.O. Jones and Samantha Titus of Henrietta. They had six children: Byron Quimby, Wylan, Garnet, Carroll, Corrinne and Jennie. Jennie married Leonard Buyck and they lived for many years at 3067 East Henrietta Road; in later years, they moved to 1618 Lehigh Station Road.

* * * * *

Mrs. Harold Carter, Sr. (the former Marjory Terry) is descended from two pioneer families in Henrietta.

On her mother's side, through family records, the family can be traced to Samuel Titus, who married Lydia Luce. A son, Benjamin F. Titus, born December 2, 1821, married Anne Maria Beebee, born in 1833, daughter of Orlow Beebee of Methodist Hill, West Henrietta.

They had six children, three boys and three girls. They lived at 5178 East Henrietta Road, building the lovely house (recently renovated by Dr. John Burns), while they lived in a log house. Benjamin Titus remarried, upon the death of his first wife, marrying Hannah Maria Fowler. Hannah, born in 1838, was the daughter of Jesse Fowler. Two boys were born of this marriage. A daughter (by his first wife), Clara Lucy Titus, born in 1865, married M. Irvin Terry.

On Mrs. Carter's father's side, Rensselaer Terry was born in 1794. He married Polly Conkling, born in 1798 on Long Island. They settled on Clay Road and were the parents of eight children. George, born in 1823, married Minerva Campbell. Their son Irvin and wife Clara were the parents of Marjory, an only child. Harold and Marjory (Terry) Carter of 2964 East Henrietta Road have two grown children: Harold Carter Jr., who lives at 4715 East Henrietta Road in the Terry homestead, and Melva (Mrs. Philip) Rupert of 4665 East Henrietta Road. There are seven grandchildren.

A copy of the original contract shows the Terry homestead to be built by one Andrew Ingraham in 1879, for George Terry, replacing the older house. The carpenter was to be paid \$1,500, furnishing all materials above the cellar wall, except sand for plastering. He was to use all suitable materials from the first dwelling which was torn down. The owner was to board all hands working on the house raising. Mr. Ingraham, the builder, was to finish off the milkroom, cellar and make a wood box.

* * * * *

Mrs. Craig Nelson (known as Mae to her friends and neighbors) lives with her son Charles at the southeast corner of West Henrietta and Erie Station Roads. She is the descendant of several early pioneer families of Henrietta. Her mother, Ella May Chapman, married Charles H. Flansburg. Ella May and her sister, Hallie Lucinda, were the daughters of Henry Chapman, II and Cornelia Fenner Chapman. Cornelia Fenner was the daughter of Daniel and Lucinda Fenner, whose lovely home was the cobblestone dwelling on the northwest corner of West Henrietta and Brooks Roads. Henry Chapman II, was the son of Lucinda Tillotson Chapman and Chauncey Chapman (postmaster, 1835-1849). Chauncey's father was Henry Chapman I, who built the house in 1821 in which the Nelsons reside. Chauncey lived in the house after his father died.

Solomon Hovey, Mr. Charles Flansburg's maternal grandfather, was highway commissioner in the year 1818. He had two daughters,



Cobblestone house at 5121 West Henrietta Road. This is the former home of Henrietta pioneers, Daniel and Lucinda Fenner.

Chloe Almira and Sarah Hovey. Chloe Almira was Mrs. Nelson's grandmother.

The late Mr. Craig Nelson and his wife Mae had three children, Charles, Doris (the late Mrs. William Greer) both of West Henrietta, and Janet Carrick of Avon. There are ten grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. Charles Nelson's son Gary, is a Lt., J.G. in the United States Coast Guard and has spent tours of duty at both the North and South Poles.

* * * * *

Elizabeth Perry Williams (Mrs. Chevelier DeWitt Williams) of 3167 East Henrietta Road was a former schoolteacher in Henrietta High School and also a postmistress for a number of years. She is a direct descendant of Elnathan Perry, a former Revolutionary War soldier, who settled in Rush with his wife, Christina McDonald, and family in 1806.

Elnathan Perry's father was "pressed" into service and being unable to take up arms, his son went as a substitute at the age of sixteen, serving over six years. He served at Bennington, Saratoga,

Monmouth, Eutaw Springs and Valley Forge. He was at Cherry Valley at the time of the massacre as well as being in a number of other campaigns, including the Sullivan expedition.

After the war, he left his New England farm with his wife and five children, in 1806. Passing through Lima, they met two wagon loads of people returning to Vermont. They tried to discourage him with tales of hunger, wild animals and Indians. Elnathan Perry decided to look around first before giving up. A Colonel Morgan offered him free use of a new log house and provisions to tide the family over, to win them as neighbors. He bought one hundred acres of land along Honeoye Creek for he had not had an adequate supply of water in Vermont.

Neighboring pioneers helped him build his log house and when they were settled, gave them a house warming with games, song and dance.

It was not uncommon to see a party of Indians passing through. One Indian stopped to have an aching tooth attended. Seeing some red peppers hanging, he asked for one and stuffed it against the offending tooth!

One night a "panther" (wildcat) followed Mr. Perry home through the woods from a school meeting. At first he thought it was a calf, but when he walked toward it, it crept away. Then he thought it was some young fellow trying to frighten him, calling to him to come out and he "*would whip his bones bare!*" Upon reaching a clearing, he found it to be a huge "panther." He ran to get his gun, but it disappeared. Only his lighted lantern flashing kept the animal from springing upon him.

Captain Perry visited Rochester when LaFayette stopped at the time of the opening of the Erie Canal. An officer teased the Captain saying LaFayette would not condescend to recognize a mere former private. When LaFayette shook his hand, Captain Perry reminded him of the time at Yorktown "*under the muzzle of British guns*" when LaFayette had asked a young soldier to hold his horse for him. When he returned, he gave the soldier a coin, saying, "*drink to my health in the morning.*" The General recalled the incident and gave Captain Perry such a hearty welcome that it filled his heart with happiness.

Elnathan Perry and his wife, Christina (McDonald), had eight children. A son George Perry married Penelope McHardy, and they had seven children. They settled atop Methodist Hill, on West Henrietta Road, in the attractive cobblestone house. A son John married Minerva Jackson. Their son Walter married Myrtie Kramer of West Henrietta, and they had a son John. James Perry was born in the cobblestone house. He married Dora Wild of Baltimore, Maryland. Their daughter, Elizabeth Perry, was also born in the cobblestone home. She married Chevelier DeWitt Williams. Two children were born of this marriage, Dora (Mrs. Harry D. Smith) and Chevelier Jr., of Lehigh Station Road. Elizabeth Williams has five grandchildren.



Cobblestone house at 4495 West Henrietta Road (at the peak of Methodist Hill). This is the former home of George and Penelope Perry.

* * * * *

SPANNING THE CENTURIES

EXHIBITION
HONOR ACADEMY

EAST HENRIETTA,

THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 31st, 1853.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

A. F. WRIGHT, E. Q. COX,
H. B. HASELTINE, F. J. DONNELLY,
M. D. PHILLIPS.

MUSIC.

Introductory Address, (original)..... R. G. Wilbur.

MUSIC.

Latin Oration..... H. J. Colwell.
Eulogy on Dr. Franklin..... L. J. Bundy.
Christ and the Tempest..... W. H. Crocker.

MUSIC.

TRAGEDY—LADY OF THE LAKE.

Roderick Dhu..... F. Leggett.
King James..... A. P. Wright.

MUSIC.

National Character..... L. N. Tyler.
Advantages of Education..... J. B. Barnes.
Home and its Prospects, (original)..... H. P. Corbin.

MUSIC.

FARCE—KILL OR CURE, (In three scenes.)

Mr. M. Midman..... E. F. Donnelly.
Mr. Brown..... H. B. Haseltine.
John, (Outler)..... F. Stone.
Apothecary..... W. H. Crocker.
Mrs. Brown..... Miss M. E. Cox.
Betty..... C. Phillips.

MUSIC.

Triumph of mind, (original)..... W. J. Fowler.
Address to the American Youth..... J. H. Young.
Formation of Character..... N. Dana.

MUSIC.

COMEDY—KISS IN THE DARK.

Mr. Solin Pettibone..... Mr. E. Q. Cox.
Frank Fathom..... Mr. R. G. Wilbur.
Mrs. Pettibone..... Miss H. G. Wright.
Misty..... Miss A. A. Brainard.
Unknown Female..... Miss L. A. Curtis.

MUSIC.

The Progress of the United States, (original)..... M. D. Phillips.
America, her example..... M. H. Cornwall.
Ireland..... G. M. Roberts.

MUSIC.

BOX AND COX—A Romance of real life.

John Box..... A. P. Wright.
James Cox..... F. Leggett.
Mrs. Bouncer..... M. Sherwood.

MUSIC.

Duties and Prospects of New England..... H. Cornwall.
Coloquy by the Ladies.

MUSIC.

Valodictory Address, (original)..... A. P. Wright.

MUSIC BY PERKINS' BRASS BAND.

There were no radios or televisions to supply passive entertainment within the homes. Winter weather discouraged frequent trips to Rochester. Local talent provided entertainment. Programs referred to as "exhibitions" were given at Monroe Academy through the years, when participants presented one act plays, readings and musical selections.

CELEBRATION
—OF—
WASHINGTON'S BIRTH-DAY,
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
Henrietta Cornet Band
AT THE
ACADEMY HALL, IN EAST HENRIETTA, ON
Saturday Evening, February 22d, 1868.

THE FOLLOWING GENTLEMEN HAVE BEEN APPOINTED
OFFICERS FOR THE EVENING:

J. M. DAVY, *President.*
Vice Presidents.

H. H. SPERRY.	JUDSON E. WILLIAMS.
ORLOW BEEBE.	T. O. JONES.
REV. G. R. MERRILL.	ALONZO HOLCOMB.
WILLIAM SMITH.	G. W. PERRY.
HON. MARTIN ROBERTS.	JEROME KEYES.

ORDER OF EXERCISES.

MUSIC.
PRAYER.

LA BALLADINE, (*Lysberg*), Miss M. BLENNERHASSETT.
INTRODUCTION, BY THE PRESIDENT.

ROCK OF LIBERTY, (*Quartette.*)
ORATION.
MUSIC.
SELECTIONS.

A literary society by the name of "Henrietta Lyceum" was organized in Henrietta in the late fall of 1855. Officers were elected and a lecture committee was chosen. The Reverend O.M. Daggett of Canandaigua was engaged for the opening lecture, his subject being "Major Andre."

PUBLIC EXHIBITION.

THERE WILL BE

A PUBLIC EXHIBITION IN THE

Henrietta Union Free School,

— ON —

Tuesday Ev'g, April 5th, 1851

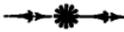
PROGRAMME.

MUSIC,	"Song of Welcome,"	- - - - -	School.
DEBUT,	Welcome,	- - - - -	Seven Little Girls.
DECLAMATION,	"The Frog"	- - - - -	Roy Holcomb.
MUSIC,	- - - - -	- - - - -	Malone's Band.
DIALOGUE, "Hamlet and the Ghost."			
Hamlet,	D. Miller, full blown Yankee.	- - - - -	Ghost, H. C. Dikeman
DIALOGUE,	"The German Emigrant."	- - - - -	Four Amateurs.
MUSIC,	"Little Buttercup."	- - - - -	Kitty Jones.
DIALOGUE, "Glad New Year."			
6 Faries,	Old and New Year, 4 Seasons, 12 Months. All Representa-	- - - - -	tive characters.
TABLEAU.			
MUSIC,	"Home by the River."	- - - - -	Quartette.
DECLAMATION,	"The News Boy's Debt."	- - - - -	S. Leggett.
DIALOGUE,	"Man of Nerve."	- - - - -	Three Amateurs.
MUSIC,	"No home to Shelter Her."	- - - - -	Bell Springer, with chorus.
DECLAMATION,	Old Man.	- - - - -	Siddie Strassenburgh.
DIALOGUE, "Unappreciate I Genius."			
Mr. Brown,	Fred A. Strassenburgh.	- - - - -	Mrs. Brown, Corn A. Wheeler.
	Billy, Jennie B. Tompkins 3 Children.	- - - - -	
MUSIC,	- - - - -	- - - - -	Sadie Stone.
ORATION,	"Hoosier Congressman."	- - - - -	H. J. Brown.
MUSIC,	"Bonnie Dearrie."	- - - - -	Prof. Cross.
DIALOGUE, "Courtship under Difficulties."			
Miss Fannie Hull,	Bell Springer.	- - - - -	Azariah Hull, F. A. Strassenburgh.
Mr. Smool,	E. K. Walsworth,	- - - - -	Pat Mulravy, P. Quinlain.
MUSIC,	"Good Night."	- - - - -	Quartette.
DIALOGUE, "Matrimonial Advertisement."			
Mary Cole,	Florence Roberts.	- - - - -	Jack Cole, George Harrington.
Grandma Cole,	Bell Springer.	- - - - -	Aunt Martha Gordon, Corn A. Wheeler.
	Uncle Cyrus Gordon,	- - - - -	E. K. Calkins.
ORATION,	"The Harvest of Rain."	- - - - -	Prof. Cross.
MUSIC,	Song for the Close of School.	- - - - -	School.

INTERMISSION MUSIC, MALONE'S BAND.

Doors open at 7 o'clock. Commence at 7:30

GENERAL ADMISSION 5cts. CHILDREN UNDER 14, 10cts.

ACADEMY HALL,  EAST HENRIETTA.

Friday and Saturday Evenings, April 8 and 9, 1887,

—THE—

Henrietta Dramatic Club

WILL PRESENT THE CEMEDY IN THREE ACTS, FROM
CHARLES DIGKENS' CHRISTMAS STORY,

THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH.

—With the Following Cast of Characters.—

JOHN PERRYBINGLE.....	GEO. H. TOMPKINS
MR. TACKLETON.....	WM. H. MURRAY
CALEB PLUMMER.....	WM. A. LANDERS
STRANGER.....	E. K. WADSWORTH
DOT.....	JENNIE B. TOMPKINS
BERTHA.....	BELLE SPRINGER
MRS. FIELDING.....	ALLIE MARSH
MAY FIELDING.....	FLORENCE MURRAY
TILLY SLOWBOY.....	MATTIE DIKEMAN
SPIRIT OF THE CRICKET.....	EDNA STONE

The Entertainment will conclude with a Farce, Entitled



CAST OF CHARACTERS.

MR. GOLIGHTLY	W. A. LANDERS
CAPTAIN PHOBBS.....	GEO. H. TOMPKINS
CAPTAIN SPRUCE.....	E. K. WADSWORTH
MORELAND	WM. H. MURRAY
MRS. MAJOR PHOBBS.....	ALLIE MARSH
MRS. CAPTAIN PHOBBS.....	BELLE SPRINGER
SALLY.....	JENNIE B. TOMPKINS

Doors open at 7 o'clock, Performance at 8.

ADMISSION, 15 CENTS.

PROCEEDS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

ST. JOHN & FLEMING, PRINTERS, 32 SOUTH ST. PAUL STREET, ROCHESTER.

In 1878 the Henrietta Literary Society gave Uncle Tom's Cabin, in Academy Hall, which received much favorable comment. This was followed that winter by an equally successful production entitled Ticket of Leave Man, which was also given in Honeoye Falls. Uncle Tom was given again in 1889. The late Mrs. John Gridley (Bessie Mason), Dr. Mason's daughter, told of her small brother Floyd taking part in the latter. After the cast took a final bow, someone stood in the wing and rolled an orange out to the little fellow, much to his delight.

This was a favorite form of entertainment, enjoyed by those participating, as well as by those who filled the auditorium. Musical accompaniment was furnished by Henrietta musicians. Plays were given by various groups throughout the years, often to raise money for worthy causes.

The Macabees was a fraternal order, providing social activities for the townspeople. Their yearly picnic on the Academy grounds was looked forward to eagerly, when all the folks turned out to enjoy the event. An outstanding feature of the day was a bicycle race around the village square. Youths sped forward in the race as the girls stood on the sidelines cheering and urging them on.

The Henrietta Self Culture Club organized in 1900. Items about their activities appeared in *The Church Ledger* printed for Henrietta and West Brighton by the Henrietta Methodist-Episcopal Church. It was very well attended; the members engaging in debates on such subjects as "Resolved, that the English are not justified in making war against the Boers." The affirmative was taken by Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Mason and Mrs. Braman. The negative was championed by Messrs. Hubbard, Calkins, Mason and Harding. They held discussions, readings on current books, poetry and travel. In May the general subject was "Village Improvement", and plans were made for a strawberry festival. The proceeds of the festival were used to purchase rustic seats for the Academy park. The athletic committee secured grounds for a tennis court; another committee considered plans for new walks. They held their annual banquet in Academy Hall, which was decorated with greens, bunting and flags. The tables were bright with a profusion of flowers, laid with their best linens, silver and china. Dr. Daniel Mason, Dr. Walker, John Calkins, the Reverend Taylor, Helen Stone and Mrs. Wadsworth were among the speakers.

There was a Good Templar Lodge flourishing in Henrietta at the turn of the century. They were pledged not to make, buy, sell, use or furnish intoxicating liquor in any form.

Musicals were given in West Henrietta in the early 1900's. Miss Lillian Roberts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Clarence Roberts, was a very attractive, gifted young woman trained and talented in music and oratory. She gave occasional recitals in West Henrietta and in Rochester.

Bicyclists from Rochester, numbering over seven hundred, rode out to Henrietta, gathering on the Academy lawn one fair spring day in the 1890's. Bicycle paths of cinders were built from Rochester to Rush, and paths led from Rochester in other directions. A license was issued at a cost of twenty-five cents, which helped towards upkeep of the paths.

On this particular occasion one Sunday afternoon, "wheelmen and wheelwomen" rode the bicycle path from the city, after having been given the command to mount. With a bugler in the forefront, the fast riders took the lead. District Attorney George Forsyth and Assistant District Attorney Stephen Warren, a native of West Henrietta, participated. Hosts were the Henrietta Bicycle Club members, with a committee of ladies in charge of the picnic tables. An arch of flags and flowers beautified the Academy grounds, where the cyclists gathered. About five o'clock the enthusiastic group gathered in Academy Hall, "to get in trim" for the return journey, by dancing. Sheriff Frank Hawley helped provide dance music with his fiddle. By seven o'clock Rochester bicyclists returned by train or via their "bikes."

There was a one-half mile race track on the south side of Lehigh Station Road, behind the general store in the east village where folks gathered to watch the finest horses in the farm community compete upon occasion, often of a Sunday afternoon.

There is nothing that has come to light to indicate the effect upon Henrietta of the panic of 1881, save the decided dip in the census figures. This state of affairs followed the death of President James Garfield from an assassin's bullet. It was a tragic ending for the Horatio Alger hero, born in a log cabin, who during his youth was a "driver" on the Erie Canal. He rose from this humble beginning to become a language professor, college president, state senator, major general, and finally to the Presidency of the United States.

—The—
Rochester School of Oratory

81 South Fitzhugh Street, Rochester, N. Y.



LILLIAN F. ROBERTS, Reader.

GRADUATE OF

Cummock School of Oratory, Northwestern University.

Troubled times continued over a period of years. In 1895-1896 crop failures and mortgage foreclosures occurred. It is possible some inhabitants of Henrietta sought work in Rochester, while others may have moved westward.

The farmers of Henrietta continued to grow grain, though the wheat crops were not in such great quantity as in earlier days. Potatoes and cabbage of a fine quality were shipped by railroad. The possibilities of dairy farms were recognized and developed, as the years passed.

In regard to census figures, it may be well to state here that most farmers of German origin settled in Henrietta after 1850. The reader will note German speaking families organized the Lutheran church in West Henrietta.

The historian Peck stated that in 1792 there were two ship loads of German males indentured to the Genesee Land Company for six years of service for an annual wage of \$34.50 (Spanish dollars), \$4.00 to be returned to the company. They were given twenty-five acres of land, a cow, calf, pig and chickens. By the nineteenth century, voluntary immigration took place by the 1830's and increased greatly by 1850-1860 into western New York.

A number of Italian farmers came during the twentieth century. The late Emidio Tirabassi came to Henrietta when he was a young man in the early part of this century. His son, John Tirabassi, is the owner of Tirabassi's Farm Market at 5575 West Henrietta Road. It is said Carmine DiMartinis introduced Pascal celery to this area, coming to Henrietta in 1920. The Violas, Pirrellos and Autovino families are among the families who came in the 1920's to settle on farms in Henrietta. Thrifty and hard working, second and third generations of these families continue to live here. The rich muck lands yield fine market garden crops in the hands of these skilled farmers.

The Henrietta Grange No. 817 was officially organized in 1896 on the 16th day of April with twenty-seven charter members. James S. Frost was elected the first master, serving four years. Membership increased by forty-nine new members the first year. For about eight years the Grange held meetings in the Masonic Hall over Jones and Buckley's general store in West Henrietta. On June 2, 1904 the members decided to build a Grange hall in West Henrietta, which was accomplished that year. Plans included a kitchen and diningroom in the basement, the first floor was the assembly room with stage, cloak

room and a small office. The second floor consisted of the lodge room where Grange meetings were held twice a month. The assembly hall and dining hall were rented out for dances, public gatherings and dinners. Cost of the building was approximately \$10,000. Dedication services were held in the spring on the tenth anniversary of its organization. Services were held in the afternoon at two o'clock for members, and another in the evening at eight o'clock for the public.



Former Grange Hall, built in 1904, on the south side of the Erie Station Road, just east of West Henrietta Road.

A special Jubilee program was held April 20, 1911 for a mortgage burning, when 313 members were listed on the program. The highest membership was in 1932 with a total of 486. In 1968 there had been twenty-four Masters, with ten living, and there were 172 members, with seventeen Golden Sheaf members representing fifty years as Grange members. The late Lucy Woodruff, who passed away in 1967, was a charter member. The member in 1968 with the greatest number of years to her credit in the local organization was Mrs. Blanche Schwartz, who became a member May 5, 1904. The present master is Delos Barber.

Although Henrietta is no longer predominately a farming community, members of the Grange continue to enjoy the social aspects of membership and its precepts.

Many of the farmers living in the northeast section of Henrietta were members of Brighton Grange No. 689. Records date back to 1890. Meetings were first conducted in members homes and then in

West Brighton Chapel, Mt. Hope Avenue. In 1929 this Grange disbanded, some joining in Pittsford and others in West Henrietta.

In 1903 a macadam road was laid on the West Henrietta Road, and a concrete road sixteen feet wide was built in 1912.

In 1910 the State contracted to pave the East Henrietta Road from the city line to the hamlet of East Henrietta. It was completed in 1911, when it became a State Road. In 1916 the East Henrietta Road between Henrietta and Rush was completed.

Gradually the automobile replaced the horse and buggy or sleigh as a means of travel, although they were not the closed, heated, high speed cars we know today.

Old methods of keeping the town's roads in repair no longer sufficed, when farmers with their teams of horses repaired their section or broke it open after a snow storm. Modern mechanized equipment now keep the town roads in good repair and open during winter months.

A very interesting letter appeared in the *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* addressed to the Editor, April 16, 1919, written by a West Henrietta resident, Mr. B.G. Wedd, who resided on John Street. Entitled "Reminiscences of Road Construction," it read in part as follows:

"Sir: People who were riding over the splendid improved Henrietta road know very little about the condition of that road forty years ago. (about 1879). The road was formerly a toll road and planked from Rochester to Henrietta. Owing to the advance in the price of lumber it was abandoned. It soon became from bad to worse. I have seen wagons sink to the axle wheels and had seen farmers tear off the boards of the fences, lay their grain bags on them, move on a few feet and then load up and go on. I saw Commissioner Duffy, of Brighton, drop a yard of gravel in a hole and saw the water and mud close over it so that none of it could be seen. Having some produce to market, I asked a prominent resident of Henrietta what was to be done. He thought a moment and then said: 'You will have to wait until it freezes up. I did not wait. I organized a little force at Mortimer - Fulmer, Spraker, Diver, Renner, Wies and Smith. We drew gravel from the Pinnacle for one week; picking and shoveling our own loads, feeding our teams and ourselves where we happened to be at noon, the town of Brighton graciously paying 12½ cents per

yard at the gravel bank. We repaired about one quarter of a mile, and the people living on that highway gave us no assistance, which took all the enthusiasm out of us. I then called on the newspaper offices in Rochester and asked for a little assistance. They said: 'Why don't you build your own road, we build our streets.' I then drew up the first road bill that was ever sent to the New York Legislature, as a general act. The bill was sent to Albany through Mr. F.A. Deffendorf of Fairport. It was read and printed and referred to the Committee on Good Roads. The bill failed to become a law, two of the committee voting for it and three against it.

About two years after this we had the Barnard amendment to the Highway law. I thought I saw an opportunity then to have the Henrietta road improved. I canvassed the towns of Henrietta and Brighton with a petition receiving the signatures of the prominent residents, a copy of which was handed to Mr. C.G. Starkweather, supervisor of Henrietta, and also to A. Emerson Babcock, supervisor of Brighton. A day was appointed by the supervisors to discuss the Barnard amendment. People from all parts of the county were present. The late W.C. Barry made a very interesting address. He spoke of the benefits to be derived from the use of improved roads, also speaking of the good roads of Europe as he had seen them. Mr. J.A.C. Wright spoke of the fiscal part of the matter, showing how we could build up the roads by long time bonds, and be using them while we were paying for them. Mr. Wright was very enthusiastic in his address. He paced the platform up and down, his arms swinging with gestures as he drove his arguments home.

A few years later we had the Higbie and Armstrong act, by which all our improved roads are built. In conversation with A. Emerson Babcock he informed me that my action with the Board of Supervisors in regard to the Barnard amendment was largely instrumental in giving us the Higbie and Armstrong act, as Red Creek and its branches is the drainage of the Henrietta road. I caused a commission to be called and appointed to repair and deepen that creek under the drainage act. A commission was appointed consisting of Austin Crittenden, James E. Edmonds and Samuel Pike, of Brighton, also David Bailey of Henrietta. The commission informed me that over one thousand acres was reclaimed which grew nothing but swale grass and upon which now grow the finest of crops down to the creek banks."

Mr. Wedd was one man who was not willing to accept wretched traveling but was willing to do something about it in an attempt to

improve the road. His action and perseverance evidently had far reaching effects, benefiting countless farmers and their families.

There was a flurry of excitement among the women of Henrietta during the approach of spring in 1910. On March 12th, thirty-four women, who were blood relatives of Masons, met in the Masonic Hall in West Henrietta, preparatory to organizing a Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star. Right Worthy Sophie Paul of Rochester conducted the meeting. Twenty-three additional women added their signatures to the petition. On April 29th, the chapter was organized and a supper was held in the hall.

On November 12, 1910, Henrietta Chapter No. 475 of the Order of Eastern Star, State of New York, was duly constituted, with thirty-one charter members, in the presence of Grand Officers of the 13th District. At the following meeting it was decided to hold regular meetings on the second Wednesday at three o'clock in the afternoon, instead of on a Saturday. This was later changed to an evening meeting. From 1915-1917 the Chapter tried meeting twice a month, as is customary, but decided on holding their meetings once a month.

On November 12, 1960, the Henrietta Chapter, No. 475, celebrated their Golden Anniversary, with a banquet at the West Henrietta Baptist Church. Membership today consists of individuals residing in Henrietta, Rush, Brighton, Honeoye Falls and Rochester, who meet the second Wednesday of each month at the Masonic Hall on Erie Station Road.

The Henrietta Branch of the American Red Cross was organized June 18, 1917. This followed closely on President Woodrow Wilson's and Congress' declaration of War on Germany in April of that year. Residents of Henrietta have supported Red Cross programs through the years and have contributed to drives and the blood bank.

A comparatively small number of young men entered the service of their Country during World War I, about forty in all. Henrietta being a farming community, many were kept busy on the farms producing crops for food requirements. Womenfolk knitted warm garments to send to the "Yanks" overseas. Wheat, meat and sugar were rationed and coal was hard to come by. James Warner, minister of the West Henrietta Baptist Church, made this plea: *"America is at war. We here in West Henrietta must lend our every effort in support of this great cause. It is a war to end wars! It is a war to make the world safe for democracy. Our boys must go and fight and we at*

home must sacrifice to aid them in their battles." By 1918, the war was ended, and people wept with happiness on that first Armistice Day, here at home.

In 1922-1923 electricity was made available to the residents of Henrietta. Aside from the two small hamlets of East Henrietta and West Henrietta, the town remained a quiet, pretty rural community.

After surviving the severe depression which followed the crash of the stock market of 1929, and bank failures following in the 1930's, we were plunged into World War II, when Pearl Harbor was attacked December 7, 1941 by the Japanese. A long list of Henrietta young men and women served in the various branches of the Armed Services of the United States. At home gas, meat, butter, heating oil and other products were rationed. Business concerns exchanged rural routes for city routes whenever possible. Henrietta's farmers continued to sow, cultivate and harvest their varied crops. When our young men returned, some were left behind, never to return in life. Thus does the history of mankind repeat its errors in bloodshed and grief.

In 1947 the Monroe County Fair Association purchased sixty acres on the East Henrietta and Calkins Roads. The Barn, home of the Gannett Youth Club, was erected at the entrance of the Fair Grounds the same year. It was the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gannett and was opened May 16, 1947 as a night club for young folks. Here they could dance, drink soft drinks and milk at the "bar," in a wholesome atmosphere. Representatives from schools in Monroe County were invited to act on the advisory council, while six boys and four girls acted on the committee. In late 1961, arrangements were made to lease the Barn for use in connection with Henrietta's recreational program. It was renamed "The Farm." This was discontinued in 1965 when plans for a youth cabin in Henrietta Memorial Park were developed and carried into effect. The Barn edifice has since burned down.

An airport was located at the junction of East Henrietta and Jefferson Roads as early as 1938, known as the Genesee Valley Airport. It was owned and operated at first by Irving Herman. Later operators were Bert Lewis and Bob Wilson, who extended the airport to Clay Road. It continued in operation until about 1947.

The Hylan School of Aeronautics was located at 3440 West Henrietta Road, extending along the south side of Jefferson Road.

Ray Hylan, a well-known licensed pilot, was the owner and operator, having located here in 1939. Besides instruction, chartered trips could also be arranged from this field. This school was closed and Mr. Hylan moved his facilities to the Scottsville Road address in June of 1973.



Ray Hylan School of Aeronautics, formerly located on the South/East corner of West Henrietta Road and Jefferson Road.

NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY

The Governor Thomas E. Dewey Thruway, whose main line cuts across New York State from Buffalo to New York City, is 426 miles in length. Other Thruway sections bring the total mileage to 559 miles. This is a modern superhighway, the longest toll superhighway in the world, built at a cost of approximating one billion dollars. Sections of the New York State Thruway were given names for old Indian trails: the Iroquois Trail, between New York City and Buffalo; the Erie Path, between Buffalo and the Pennsylvania border; the Mohican Path is the New England Section in Albany and Columbia Counties; the Tuscarora Path is the Niagara Section in Erie and Niagara Counties. It is a part of the national network of Blue Star Memorial Highways, which honor members of the United States Armed Forces who served in World Wars I and II and in Korea.

This four-lane superhighway cutting through the southerly section of Henrietta with two lines for traffic in either direction, is separated by a wide grassy mall. The West Henrietta Road Exit, the only one in Monroe County, was opened June 24, 1954 by Governor Thomas E. Dewey.

The dedication started with cutting a ribbon at Intersection No. 26, Lowell. From there a cavalcade of cars proceeded west over the 115-mile stretch of completed highway to the West Henrietta Exit. The delegation headed by Governor Dewey had luncheon at Syracuse. At a banquet at the Powers Hotel, Rochester, Governor Dewey pressed a button to activate buzzers at each of the fourteen completed interchanges. Barriers swung aside and the first toll traffic passed onto the highway.

LIBRARIES – 20TH CENTURY

In 1933 Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Feasel, proprietors of the Suburban Shop, 3130 East Henrietta Road, established a free library in their little store. They gave one hundred books of their own and purchased another hundred volumes. In 1936 after conducting paper drives, they purchased another hundred books from a second-hand store. It was such a pleasant experience for neighbors to drop in, make a purchase, borrow a couple of books and chat awhile with friends. Through the depression years, many townspeople and others contributed books to the free library until there were over 1,000 books in the collection. Books from the Union Congregational Church library were also added to the Suburban Shop Library.

In 1940 Mr. and Mrs. Feasel appealed to the Town Board for financial support for the library, which had nearly overgrown their small shop. Not having the backing of an organized committee at this time, no action was taken. Mrs. Feasel continued to operate the library until about 1950, when an ice cream parlor was added to the Suburban Shop's attractions.

On January 29, 1957, the director of "A Better Henrietta Inc.," Robert Kugler, reported that the board of directors was interested in learning of the members' desires in regard to establishing a public library in Henrietta. This was the second meeting of this organization. After some discussion, the group voted in the affirmative to appoint a library committee to work on this project. This committee met on the evening of February 15, 1957 at the home of Mrs. Bailey Burritt. An informal meeting, the committee prepared a list of twenty-one names representing various organizations throughout the township. These people were invited to serve on the "Citizens Committee to Establish a Henrietta Library." Officers elected March 8, 1957 at a meeting held at the Civic Center were: Mrs. Walter Campbell, Chairman; Robert Kugler, Vice-Chairman; and Mrs. Bailey Burritt, Secretary. Whereupon the fact-finding committee of "A Better Henrietta Inc.," declared itself dissolved. A public informational meeting was held May 21, at the Rush-Henrietta Central School on East Henrietta Road.

Some sixteen sites were considered, including the Grange Hall on Erie Station Road. The first week in June 1957, a formal request for the creation of a Henrietta Town Library was presented to the Henrietta Town Board. At this time, the annex of the Civic Center was mentioned as a possible location, it being closest to the heaviest

populated area at the time. The Henrietta Town Board asked for a budget estimate, inasmuch as they would create and provide financial support for the library.

A special election was held October 14, 1957, at the Town Hall in West Henrietta. The vote was on the resolution: "*Shall the Town Board of the Town of Henrietta create and establish a public library, and expend therefore in 1958 a sum of money not to exceed \$8,000 and expend annually thereafter a sum of money not to exceed \$4,500, said moneys to be raised by general Town taxes.*" Those who turned out to vote, passed the resolution two to one, (124-62). The library location was determined in favor of the annex of the Civic Center. Harold Hacker, director of the Monroe County Library System, acted in an advisory capacity. By December, 1957, books were on order and donations requested.

The committee spent many long hours redecorating and painting the library room, and making and installing book shelves. Necessary supplies were often donated by generous and interested residents, including 700 books. Those books which could not be used were sorted out and sold and the money used for new volumes. Open House was held from two until six, Saturday, March 22, 1958, with refreshments served to over 250 visitors. This was just a little over a year from the first organized effort. Mrs. Edward Hannay of Rush, wife of the Methodist minister, was the first appointed librarian. John Bradbury, a high school librarian in the Pittsford Central School, was the assistant. The official opening of the library occurred Wednesday, March 26, 1958. Library hours were from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. and from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Saturdays it was open from 12:00 until 4:00 p.m. A check for \$129.69 was donated from former members of the Dolan Class Alumni Association of the old Henrietta Union Free School.

In 1960 the library room was enlarged by knocking out a partition leading to the attached empty room. Mrs. Florence Holzshuch began work as full-time librarian, August, 1960, replacing John Bradbury, acting librarian since Mrs. Hannay moved from the vicinity.

Dissatisfaction was expressed with the library quarters in 1961 by Mrs. Campbell; it being too hot during the summer months and drafty in the winter time. Mrs. Esther Kroeger of Greece, New York, replaced Mrs. Holzschuh in 1961. Mrs. Kroeger, a capable and understanding person, now resides in Henrietta with her family.

“Friends of the Henrietta Library” was organized in the fall of 1962, their purpose being to assist wherever needed. They held book sales, serviced shut-ins, and held book reviews. In 1966 this organization disbanded.

In 1963 a permanent charter was granted by The State Board of Regents to the Henrietta Library, replacing the temporary charter under which it functioned.

In April, 1964, the library was moved into the new Henrietta Town Hall on Calkins Road. The attractive quarters were four times as large as the former location. A full-time children’s librarian was engaged at this time. In 1967 a part-time young adult librarian was engaged, to assist in the library. At present (1975) there are three full-time professional librarians, four clerks and five pages.

THE GENESEE: SHIPPING—BRIDGING

The Genesee River has been contemplated in various ways, according to its moods and the moods of those viewing it. The geologist reached back into the ages, seeking to discover when and how it was born, and what mighty forces influenced its determined flow. The native red man fished along its banks and followed the river by canoe and footpaths from its source to its mouth at the lake. The poet pictured its beauty and mystery in song and rhapsody. Talented writers have penned colorful tales of both the river and the folks who have lived and died in dwellings along its winding course.

Riparian pioneer farmers, their golden wheat fields ripening for harvest, considered the Genesee River as a means of floating the grain to Rochester for marketing, for roads were often impassable. The State, in a series of three enactments from 1813 to 1828, declared the Genesee to be a public highway. They made no appropriation however, to aid the farmers and rivermen in smoothing the course for commercial navigation from the south. Storage warehouses were erected at Mt. Morris, Geneseo, Avon and Scottsville. Rafts fourteen feet by eighty feet, with small cabins providing shelter, were constructed.

The late Edwin P. Clapp, a storekeeper in North Rush, who talked to many old rivermen still living in 1890, gave detailed descriptions of the rafts, patterned after those arks which piled the Susquehanna at an earlier period. Boatmen had to be rugged and quick to prevent disaster in guiding the heavy raft or boat to a stop. When the water level was high, a daring raftsman and crew would run a raft loaded with lumber between the feeder dam (1838) and the dam at Court Street, without mishap.

Durham boats, owned often by millers, made frequent round trips each spring and fall. Cleated running boards on each side allowed "shovers" to walk to and fro, pulling the boats upstream. Truly they were the giants of the Genesee, to have borne the fatigue of such strenuous labor on the often sparse fare, pushing the flat boats up the capricious river.

Besides flour, lumber, potash, shingles, hoops and gravel were transported by the Genesee River to Rochester. Boat owners gave their crafts colorful names; no doubt the crew's pride in them and their skill caused many a fight between rival boatmen.

In the summer of 1824, Sanford Hunt began shipping pine lumber, ashes and other products from Nunda to Albany, by his canal boat, "Hazard." The same year a seventy-seven foot canal boat, the "Erie Canal," commandeered by Captain Bottle, steamed up the Genesee River from Utica to Avon and Geneseo. Townsmen extended a hearty welcome to the adventurous captain. Fallen trees and rubbish impeded the large boat's progress, however. A smaller, rear-wheeled steamboat, "The Genesee," made the trip from Geneseo to Rochester as far as the canal feeder for a couple of seasons. It carried, besides its crew, passengers, and was used for towing riverboats, towing as many as three at one time.

When the Genesee Valley Canal was completed in 1840, the river was no longer needed for shipping purposes. The early pioneers of Henrietta, whose lands bordered on the Genesee, must have often witnessed the various type crafts with crew and cargo floating by or being poled slowly upstream. I have not learned by word or record of freight shipped by Henrietta residents via the Genesee River, although Rush and Scottsville used this method of transportation. Deacon Brininstool, a resident of the East River Road, referring to the early days of settlement on the west side of the township, stated they would sometimes go down the river to fish.

The first bridge north of Hartford (Avon) to cross the Genesee River was completed in 1812 in Rochesterville at Main Street. A wooden bridge was built between the towns of Wheatland and Rush in 1830.

A bridge between Henrietta and Wheatland was constructed in 1849, several hundred feet north of the present West Henrietta-Scottsville Road. In 1857 floods washed it from its pile foundations. This bridge was replaced in 1860, with a whipple truss bridge with cast iron arch and wrought iron chords. The stone abutments were connected with arches. In 1892 high waters damaged the bridge and it was closed to traffic. In 1895 a steel bridge was built across the Genesee River to connect the road leading from West Henrietta to Scottsville. This bridge is narrow for today's vehicles, admitting only one car at a time, and has recently been closed.

The Board of Supervisors of Monroe County in 1859 appointed a Bridge Committee to report on the depth of water near the residence of J.K. Balentine's and estimate the cost of a bridge. The committee reported the depth of water at ten feet, the banks as twelve feet above the water. The cost of a wooden bridge was estimated as

\$6,000 and an iron bridge at \$9,000. The Board of Supervisors decided that the interests of the County required a bridge across the Genesee River at this spot. The Board appropriated the sum of \$5,000 to assist the inhabitants of adjoining towns in its construction, stipulating the bridge to be built, including piers, abutments and superstructure "as the bridge recently built by Mr. DeGraff between West Henrietta and Wheatland." The \$5,000 was to be paid when the bridge was fully completed and paid for, with the exception of said sum. By October 19, 1860, the bridge had been completed in accordance with the above resolution, a committee representing the towns of Henrietta, Brighton and Chili having contracted with Mr. DeGraff to build the bridge. An order was drawn on the County Treasurer upon direction of the Board of Supervisors for the sum of \$5,000.

The minutes of May 16, 1873 of the Monroe County Board of Supervisors disclosed the fact that "Ballentine Bridge between Brighton and Henrietta on the east, and Chili on the west side of the Genesee River" had been removed owing to its unfit condition. Inasmuch as the traveling public demanded a bridge at this location, a committee of six was appointed to look into the matter relating to the bridge and the approximate cost of reconstruction and to ascertain the value of part of the old bridge that might be salvaged. The committee was to report their findings at the annual meeting of the Monroe County Board of Supervisors.

On November 6, 1873, the special committee submitted its report. They found the superstructure had been carefully removed by the Commissioners of Highway of Chili, Brighton and Henrietta, and was piled up, one-half on each side of the river. The iron was reported in good condition and suitable for reuse. The bridge had been taken down because it threatened to collapse. The abutment on the west side was good but due to the current of the river tending toward the east bank, this abutment had been washed away to a considerable extent. The conclusion was drawn that the abutments were insufficient, and they had contributed largely to the destruction of the bridge. With extensive repairs, the middle pier was decided to be sufficient to build upon. The estimated cost of building with the old pier was \$5,000, and with a new pier \$7,000. Taking three votes, the amount voted to pay towards aiding the three towns toward the cost of the bridge was reduced from \$1,000 to \$500. This bridge was completed in 1874.

In 1913 a new bridge was recommended at a meeting of the Monroe County Board of Supervisors. Bids were received, and Lupfer

and Remick, being the lowest bidders, received the contract to construct the new Ballantyne Bridge. A bridge expert from Albany was called in for consultation and employed to inspect material and steel construction. He also gave a final report on completion of construction. His fee was based on \$1.20 per net ton of material, based on shipping rate as it left the shop, which amounted to some \$290. The final cost of this bridge was \$45,000.



Ballantyne Bridge (Replaced in 1962).

In 1962 a new modern bridge was completed. Built by the LeChase Construction Company, it is a four-lane bridge built a short distance north of the old bridge and is lined up with Ballantyne Road west of the Genesee River. Five hundred forty thousand pounds of steel were used in its construction, taking two years to erect. The cost of construction was \$468,000, with cost of approaches \$288,000. This expense was shared equally by New York State and the Federal Government.

The ancient river that came to grips with the Ice Age and carried out its determination to flow north again, still presents a barrier to heavy traffic. It is entirely possible that during continued development of Henrietta, more and better bridges will be constructed to carry the heavy traffic flow.

The Genesee River was not always as tranquil as it appears today. During heavy rains, or following a quick thaw after heavy snows, the

old Genesee would rise swiftly, its muddy waters hurling ice cakes and huge tree trunks northward. It overflowed its banks twenty-six times from 1785 to 1927, inclusive. The late Myron Bly, attorney, who in his youth lived on the Fred Krenzer farm, told of the great 1865 flood. With his father he rode in a rowboat down the East River Road, passing the Benjamin Remington farm, where 150 sheep were drowned. On the Brighton-Henrietta Townline Road, they rescued an elderly couple from their cold attic. In the parlor of the small house, the couple's horse and cow drowned. They had been sheltered there, hoping to save them from the angry waters. The Bly rowboat made its way down Exchange Street to the Reynolds Arcade on Main Street. They rowed right into the Arcade and picked up their mail from a box.

Timber from up river, jammed with lumber, and dead animal carcasses were at the aqueduct and at the bridge. The river raged on, seeking an outlet, and destruction followed. That St. Patrick's Day was long remembered.

Lesser floods came and went over the years. In 1927, 27,400 cubic feet flowed per second; 1936, 26,100 cubic feet per second; 1940, 31,500 cubic feet per second; 1942, 32,500 cubic feet per second; 1945, 24,200 cubic feet per second. In 1950, during flood tide 31,200 cubic feet per second gushed northward. Construction began on the Mt. Morris Federal Flood Control Dam about April 1, 1948. Its estimated cost at the time was \$25,000,000. The dam is 1,003 feet in length and 216 feet in height. The drainage area covers 1,077 square miles. The capacity of the reservoir is 337,000 acre feet.

The Mt. Morris Dam was completed November 1, 1951, and by November 3, 1951 engineers began storage of water in the reservoir. Dedication services were held June 26, 1952. This is the story of the Genesee River and of man's efforts to use its water for power and recreation and to keep it flowing within its banks.

ORGANIZATIONS

The earliest volunteer fire department was formed in 1736 in Philadelphia at the suggestion of Benjamin Franklin. They supplied their own handsewn leather buckets and linen salvage bags. The bucket often bore the owner's name upon it.

The first means of aid in fire fighting in Henrietta was the bucket brigade. If a fire occurred when folks were attending church services, the services were dismissed, for everyone hurried out. Women prepared hot coffee and refreshments for the weary fire fighters. The means of summoning the volunteers has changed. At one time the village of East Henrietta had a large train wheel, which someone struck with a mallet. Later the late Dr. Leigh Norget, veterinarian, rang the Academy or church bells. When a fire siren was installed, Mrs. Norget answered calls on their telephone and gave the siren alarm. She never left the house with the telephone unattended, but would hire someone to take calls, if she went out.

The late Dr. James H. Taylor, veterinarian and insurance agent, Morris Griffin, merchant, John Calkins and Edward Fretts each donated \$100 for fire equipment. Mr. Fretts loaned his horses for use during need, and they were hitched up to a lumber wagon. The firemen used a hand pump which took four men to operate.



Former Fire House for Henrietta Fire Department #1 on East Henrietta Road in the Village (Present Fire House is on this site).

Henrietta Fire Department No. 1 was officially organized November 7, 1907. Its first piece of equipment was a two-wheeled trailer with two-tank machine. The tanks were later mounted on an old Ford truck, housed in the remodeled-blacksmith-shop firehouse. When in later years Dr. Norget was chief, he spent many days' labor on the equipment. Fred Feasel was secretary for forty years and could remember when the first man to arrive at the station house with a team of horses, hitched up and drove off to the fire.

On the evening of August 6, 1946, twelve women met at the residence of Margaret Tobey for the purpose of discussing forming a Ladies Auxiliary of Henrietta Fire Department No. 1. The chief objective of this organization was to aid the firemen in every possible manner. Their immediate concern was to furnish the firehouse kitchen. Membership was to consist of mothers, wives and adult daughters of firemen.

The first regular meeting was held September 10, 1946, with twenty women in attendance. Officers elected at this time were as follows:

President	—	Mrs. William Miller
Vice-President	—	Mrs. Paul Tobey
Secretary	—	Mrs. Carl Voigt
Treasurer	—	Mrs. Richard Calkins
Chaplain	—	Mrs. Paul Caswell

The first meetings were held in members' homes, until increased attendance necessitated gatherings in the firehouse. The 1968 membership roll numbered thirty-two. Auxiliary members serve refreshments to firemen engaged in fighting major fires. They also conduct rummage sales and hold dinners which provide needed funds to carry out their projects.

West Henrietta Volunteer Fire Department was organized in the year 1925 with fifteen charter members. The brick school building at 774 Erie Station Road, east of the West Henrietta Baptist Church, was vacated when the new school was erected west of the corners. The old school was donated to the Fire Department by the school district for use as a firehouse. At the first meeting held March 17 1926, the following officers were elected: William E. Myers, President; Craig J. Nelson, Vice-President; A. Frank Lamberton, Secretary; Harry Howitt, Treasurer; Howard Chase, Fire Chief; and William R. Myers, Assistant Fire Chief.

The sponsor for the new West Henrietta Volunteer Fire Department was the Village Improvement Association which contributed over \$700 toward purchasing the fire truck. In 1928 a second fire truck with pumper was purchased by the Town Board. The firehouse has been remodelled from time to time to meet their needs, a new addition just recently made.

The Ladies Auxiliary of West Henrietta Fire Department was organized February 12, 1946 with twenty-five members. The officers elected at that time were: President, Mrs. Boehme Balsh; Vice-President, Marvie Gruschow; Secretary, Harriet Smith; and Treasurer, Gertrude ("Trudy") McNall.

The early minutes include these words: *"It shall be the duty to aid the Fire Department in every possible way, to instill good fellowship in the community and to aid in charitable work as we are able."* Members are composed of firemen's wives and immediate family. An attic sale held by auxiliary members was the principal means of raising money in the late 1960's.

The Genesee Valley Volunteer Fire Company was organized in 1940. Their first chief was Tom Preddy. Other members were Lew Alderson, Richard Kensil, Lloyd Colburn, Al Reed, Peter Cody, Theodore Treuthart, Charles Burgesser and Larry Odell.

The following year, their firehouse burned down. Firemen were hampered in battling the blaze effectively, due to the extreme cold temperature freezing the water. For seven years their equipment was kept at Chief Preddy's residence. Finally they drew up their own plans, cleared the ground behind the site of the original house, and began building a new firehouse. Carnivals and benefits were held to raise money. The volunteers led by their President, Ted Treuthart, spent every spare moment, including several hours evenings working together on erecting a new firehouse. About forty workers appeared each night. When at last it was finished, a new shiny fire truck was purchased. When the first floor of the building was finished, they began on the second floor, planned as a community hall and kitchen. Residents of the area contributed towards a bond to finance this project. A wonderful spirit of unity was manifested in this endeavor, besides the regular duties that are performed by volunteer firemen.

The three foregoing fire companies are a part of the Henrietta Fire District of Henrietta. There are three additional firehouses in the District, one on Commerce Drive, one on Jefferson Road near

Baughman Construction Company, and one on Pinnacle Road. The Town of Henrietta owns all fire fighting equipment.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Genesee Valley Fire Department was organized March 11, 1941. Those elected to office were President, Mrs. Vincent Dembroski; Vice-President, Mrs. Carl Board; Treasurer, Mrs. George Katsampes; and Secretaries, Mrs. Edward Eckleben and Mrs. Leon A. Klehamer.

Charter members other than the officers were: Mesdames William Humphries, A.C. Mee, Frank O'Hare, Sue McIntyre, Lloyd Colburn, Marianne Schmidt, Edoide Blackburn, Ann Makewski, Virginia Keta, Mildred Avery, Helene Klumpp, Neil Johnson, Clarice Eastman, Robert Seeley, Arlene Greene, Sophie McCarthy, Harry Secombe, H.A. Withee, Harold Lynch, E.E. Butterfield and E.O. Alderson. Charter members still active are Mrs. E. Alderson, Mrs. Lloyd Colburn and Mrs. Leon A. Klehamer.

Total membership in 1968 was thirty-two, with ten ladies who are life members, with twenty or more years of active service to their credit.

The main object of this organization is to be of help to the firemen of the department, supplying food for the Emergency Food Truck and for all major fires. A Christmas party is sponsored for community children by the Fire Department and Auxiliary. A chicken barbecue each year is also jointly sponsored. The Auxiliary is active in many local projects, offering aid to needy families as well as sponsoring Campfire Groups. They also provide gifts and food packages to local servicemen, to day nursery schools, patients in hospitals and convalescent homes. Baked food and rummage sales constitute the auxiliary's money-making endeavor.

* * * * *

A number of residents of Henrietta met the fore part of 1962 to discuss plans to provide volunteer ambulance service for Henrietta. An organizational committee was selected and met at Al Dorren's home March 3rd.

The evening of March 6th found forty-one residents assembled to learn of tentative plans and for further discussion. The crew chief for the Greece Volunteer Ambulance addressed the group, outlining action to be undertaken before service could go into effect. Sheriff

Albert Skinner and town leaders were present at the town hall meeting. Members comprising a temporary ambulance committee were announced by Al Dorren, chairman.

Meetings were held in May and August, and by November a 1951 ambulance was purchased for less than \$600. Volunteer ambulance personnel were being trained. Al Dorren resigned as President, and Robert Childs took his place.

Within a year from the initial effort, despite obstacles, ambulance service went into operation February 15, 1963. Due to limited trained personnel, volunteer service was offered from 6:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m., weekdays, with twenty-four hour service Saturdays and Sundays. Ambulance headquarters were located in an old service station at 3019 East Henrietta Road. Various plans for raising funds were initiated, and a new ambulance was purchased in the late fall.

Under campaign chairman, Thomas Hall, a door-to-door fund drive was conducted in mid-February, 1964, which netted approximately \$12,000.

Inasmuch as the lease expired on the Henrietta Ambulance temporary quarters, plans were formulated to erect permanent quarters. A ground-breaking ceremony was held August 7th at the newly acquired site at 280 Calkins Road, and construction began immediately. By October the building neared completion, and volunteer service women held a house warming shower to help provide needed furnishings. An official dedication of the completed headquarters of the Henrietta Volunteer Ambulance Service was held February 7th, with twenty-four hour service beginning the following week. Ted Halpin headed the annual fund drive at this time.

The year of 1966 found Sy Kurlan heading the Henrietta Volunteer Ambulance Service fund drive. Carl Alexander was elected to replace Mary Killeen as President with a number of excellent members in a supporting role. The mortgage on the headquarters was paid off, which was no small accomplishment, made possible by the volunteer contributions solicited by tireless workers.

After the annual fund drive in 1967 under direction of Mr. Kurlan, a new ambulance was purchased. From a group of thirty trained volunteers in 1962, the Henrietta Volunteer Ambulance Service in 1968 had one hundred fifty men and women who served in various capacities, filling positions of drivers, medics and dispatchers.

Pre-school children may often be seen, lunching or napping and playing together as young mothers gather to volunteer their time during the day. No matter how serious the need, the ambulance is quickly on its way, due to the unselfish service of these individuals.

* * * * *

The Silver Fox Boy Scout Troop No. 1 was formed in Henrietta in 1913. The Reverend Ernest Davis was Scoutmaster; the troop was sponsored by the Methodist-Episcopal Church on East Henrietta Road. Members of this early troop were Karl and Harry Bartholomay, Miller Green, Albert Fellows, Lindley Burger and Earl Smith.

In the fall of 1930, a Boy Scout Troop was formed in West Henrietta, under the sponsorship of the West Henrietta Baptist Church. Dean Swift, Field Executive of the Monroe-Orleans Council, organized the troop. The charter was granted to Troop No. 159 in February, 1931. The Directors were Fred Baumgartner, Sherman Patrick, Raymond Wood and Craig Nelson. The troop was composed of twenty boys ranging from the ages of twelve to fifteen. Their Scoutmaster was Adam Gilliland, with Chester and Lester Macomber Assistant Scoutmasters. The boys entered a float in the Independence Day parade in town, went on hikes, and participated in the traffic count on West Henrietta Road for the County Planning Board.

In March 31, 1939, a Boy Scout Troop was organized in West Henrietta, holding their meetings at the West Henrietta School. This group was sponsored by the Rush Post of the V.F.W., and Major Barrett T. deLambert, U.S. Army, retired, became their Scoutmaster. The Rush Post presented a stand of colors to the troop at its formal institution May 12, 1939. Twenty-four boys paid registration fees, and it was anticipated the number would increase in order to have three full troops. Ralph Spence was selected as Senior Patrol Leader and William Young and John Tirabassi as Patrol Leaders of the two patrols, which were named: First Patrol, Indian Head, and Second Patrol, Flaming Arrow Patrol. In March, 1940, the troop was rechartered with National Headquarters with the same sponsoring group. In 1939 the West Henrietta firemen sponsored a Boy Scout troop in River Meadows, presenting the colors in April, 1939.

In 1968 there were nine Cub Packs, numbering five-hundred and thirty-six boys; eleven Scout Troops with a total membership of four

hundred seventy-five; two Explorer Posts with a membership of twenty-seven.

* * * * *

The first Girl Scout Troop in Henrietta was formed June 21, 1926. Mrs. George Finnigan (then Helen Sweeney), Mrs. John VanOstrand and Mrs. Irving Stymus were leaders. Mrs. Charles Manhart took about twenty girls to Conesus Lake one summer. The troop was discontinued in 1929.

A Girl Scout Troop was formed in West Henrietta under the leadership of Gertrude Dunn about 1930, sponsored by the West Henrietta Baptist Church.

In March, 1939, a newly formed Girl Scout Troop met at Henrietta High, under the direction of Miss Morgan and Mrs. Spafford, schoolteachers.

Troop No. 266 was organized in 1946, with Mrs. Thomas (Marge) Owen and Dorothy Hanks Brown as leaders and was sponsored by the Union Congregational Church.

In 1968 there were forty-five troops in Henrietta, including seventeen Brownie Troops with an approximately eight-hundred and seventy-five girl membership.

In 1975 there were thirty-four troops with six hundred eighty-four Girl Scouts.

* * * * *

The first group of Campfire Girls was organized in October, 1955, in Henrietta by Mrs. Wayne Wiegand. The 1968 population figures were as follows: twenty-four groups of Blue Birds, numbering two hundred and twenty-nine girls who were second and third graders in school. Campfire girls, ranging from fourth, fifth and sixth grades make up twenty-nine groups composed of two hundred and thirty-eight girls. There were four groups of junior highs, with twenty-nine girls in attendance. The one Horizon Club consisted of eight senior high girls. One hundred fifty-four adults were engaged in leadership, sponsorship and assistants with this organization in Henrietta.

* * * * *

The 4-H Club, its name symbolizing Head, Heart, Hands and Health, was organized in 1913-1915 in New York State, and in 1923 in Monroe County.

There were nineteen groups in 1968 in Henrietta; fourteen all-girl membership clubs, three boys' clubs and two of mixed groups. Excellent work has been done in this field and Henrietta has been well represented in County, State and Nation.

In 1957 Mary Ann Bartholomay was the National Cherry Pie Baking Winner. Upon her return she was greeted at the airport by County Manager Gordon Howe; Peter Barry, Mayor of Rochester; Don Cook, Henrietta Supervisor; and Supervisor of the Rush-Henrietta Central Schools, Dr. John Parker; as well as many others. She presented the Town Board with two of her delicious pies, and while in Washington, D.C., left a winning pie for President Eisenhower.

Two other winners of National honors were Linda Broadbent and Nancy Jo Leaton, winners of National scholarships in the overall achievement program.

Gary Leaton was the New York State 4-H winner for an experimental horticulture project in 1967.

Henrietta has had a number of County and State contest winners, among the girls through the years, and shared in the pride of each one.

* * * * *

Henrietta women were active in Home Bureau units since 1919. Now called the Co-Operative Extension Association; in 1968 there were four groups in Henrietta. At that time, the Henrietta Day Homemakers met in the Genesee Valley Fire Hall, West Henrietta. The Mapledale Unit held their meetings at Ethel Fyle School. The Pinnacle Group met in Carlton Webster Junior High School. A unit called The Group met in one another's homes.

* * * * *

The Henrietta Child Study Club organized in 1933 on the east side of the Township of Henrietta. The Small Fry Club was formed by mothers of the younger children in September, 1943. The club on

the west side of Henrietta is known as the West Henrietta Child Study Club. Still another child study group is known as the "Belles and Beaus."

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The Ely-Fagan Post of the American Legion was organized April 19, 1935. Officers were officially installed May 18, 1935, at the Grange Hall, West Henrietta. A parade formed at the cobblestone garage (now known as Carriage Stop), which marched to the Grange Hall. The Cooper Marine Post drill team acted as official escort to Post charter members. The world champion ritual team of Forty and Eight instructed the Post officers in the duties of their office.

Frank M. Ely was born in West Henrietta, entering World War I on May 27, 1917, at the age of nineteen, attaining the rank of Sergeant. He was honorably discharged February 13, 1919. He died August 7, 1932 in West Henrietta, New York.

Arthur V. Fagan was born in Rush and entered World War I on February 24, 1918, aged twenty-three. He received an honorable discharge as 2nd Lieutenant, November 29, 1918. He died September 23, 1919, in Rochester, New York.

Originating with World War I men, the Post grew to include veterans of World War II and the Korean conflict. The veterans of the Ely-Fagan Post met in the cobblestone garage on West Henrietta Road and the Brooks Gun Club on East Henrietta Road for a time. In 1939 they purchased the former Methodist-Episcopal Church building at 3160 East Henrietta Road, which was being used as a parish hall by the Union Congregational Church. In 1955 the Ely-Fagan Post bought one and one-half acres on the east side of Middle Road, north of Lehigh Station Road, where ground was broken the latter part of the year. An attractive new Post headquarters was erected. A number of Henrietta's new church congregations have used their hall for temporary headquarters at various times.

The Ely-Fagan Post Auxiliary was chartered in 1938. Early meetings were held in the homes of members. Later meetings were held in the old Methodist-Episcopal Church at 3160 East Henrietta Road. Their monthly meetings are now held each month at the new Post home on Middle Road.

A smorgasbord dinner was held in 1968 at the Post home to honor three charter members, namely: the late Margaret Ely, widow of Frank Ely, one of the veterans for whom the Post was named; Eva McHargue and Mary Dorfner. Five twenty-year members were also honored at this time: Catherine Stone, the late Ada Posson and Retta Feasel, Jessie Kenny and Helen Goodburlet. These women have all worked diligently for the benefit of the Auxiliary.

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The Rice-Hallick Post, No. 5465, of the Veterans of Foreign Wars was formally activated when thirty veterans of Henrietta, Rush and Honeoye Falls were initiated December 2, 1956.

The Women's Auxiliary, No. 5465, of the Rice-Hallick Post of the VFW was organized and new officers were installed December 2, 1957. Membership in the Auxiliary consists of wives, widows, mothers or children of veterans. The Junior Girl's Unit was instituted December 2, 1960.

* * * * *

In 1962 the Town of Henrietta observed the Civil War Centennial. A Centennial Committee was organized some six months ahead. There was a Centennial Ball held at the Rush-Henrietta Central School on East Henrietta Road. A large parade was held the following day. This was the Sunday preceding Memorial Day. Participating groups formed at the Genesee Valley Market and proceeded down East Henrietta about three and one-half miles to the school. Floats, fire departments and their auxiliaries, organizations in town and visitors from other towns made an impressive and colorful display. Decendants of Civil War veterans, representing the Union and Confederate Armies, were honored guests.

* * * * *

The Henrietta Branch of Operation Morale was organized November, 1966. It began with the Women's Society of Christ View Methodist Church and a few of their friends. In November, 1967, it developed into a community wide project. Most of the local churches and many service organizations supported this endeavor.

Cheer packages were mailed to those serving in the Armed Forces in Viet Nam three times a year; at Christmas, Easter and the 4th of

July. Many of the servicemen wrote letters back expressing their appreciation, making the work of sending cookies, candy, Kool-aid and instant drinks a most worth-while endeavor.

* * * * *

In 1953 a group of fifteen men organized to form a Civic and Youth Center. Their officers were President, Jack G. Lubelle, attorney for the corporation; Vice-president, Lester Howland; Secretary, George K. Green; and Treasurer, John H. King. Dr. Floyd S. Winslow was also among the early organizers. The old Monroe Academy was purchased by the Henrietta Community Civic Center, Inc., for recreation headquarters.

A recreation committee was appointed in 1955, and in 1957, Dr. Winslow, then President of the Civic Center, announced the appointment of Roy McLean as recreational leader. A Senior Citizens group was organized and met at the Center. In 1961 the Y.M.C.A. purchased the old Academy building for a Henrietta unit of the Monroe Branch of the Y.M.C.A. The non-profit group of civic-minded people who backed this movement, and prevented the old Academy building from being sold for commercial purposes, disbanded. Many prominent people were active in the support of the Civic Center. The late Lewis Case, attorney, was its last president.

Many organizations were sponsored by the recreational committee: Art and drama clubs, garden clubs, and clubs for youth and grown-ups, with which all are familiar, but which space will not permit listing.

Tage Klinga, a native of Sweden, was appointed recreational leader of the Town of Henrietta in 1960. The Swedish gymnastic classes which he introduced have been popular and have received much publicity and acclaim.

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Locust Hill Country Club is pleasantly located at 2000 Jefferson Road and has been in Henrietta since 1927.

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The Rush-Henrietta Rotary Club was organized April 29, 1953. They received their charter in 1954. Membership in this branch of

the world-wide organization provides fellowship and an opportunity to participate in service to the community, through various channels. Rotarians have sponsored Boy and Girl Scout Troops, biddy baseball and basketball, student exchange programs, scholarships and other worthy projects.

* * * * *

The Henrietta Lions Club was organized in February, 1957, forming a fraternal bond among businessmen of Henrietta. They were chartered May 6, 1957 with a total of twenty-nine members. The first President was David Dalrymple.

Service projects have included free eye examinations and glasses to needy children; the donation of a Goldman Perimeter Projector (for glaucoma detection) to the Strong Memorial Hospital Clinic in Rochester, New York. Hearing devices were given to the Rochester School for the Deaf. Funds have been made available for assistance in eye operations. They have sponsored musical scholarships for talented high school students. Contributions have been made toward the building of the youth cabin at Henrietta Memorial Park.

* * * * *

Starting in November of 1971, a series of informal meetings were held to start a local arts council. The purpose of starting an arts council was to develop a united voice for the arts in our community, to establish contacts with the Arts Council of Rochester and similar agencies, and to support existing arts events or develop programs where missing. It resulted in an open meeting to the public on March 14, 1972. All who were interested in the formation of an arts council were invited by mail and public announcement.

Following the open meeting which supported the idea of an arts council, an acting board of directors was established consisting of:

Mrs. Charles Bixby
Dr. Raymond Delaney
Marvin Eisenstein
Karen Elzenga
Stan Heinemann
Ericka Hill
Giles Hobin
Robert Jennette
Joan Kalsbeck

Lyn Lillard
Penny McClelland
Richard McCrystal
Kathy Meleo
Marvin Meyer
Pat Murphy
Tom O'Brien
James Starkweather
Florence Summerhays

A list of "Founders" was established and an invitation was sent to 200 residents to become founding members or contributors. At the same time a constitution was developed and action to incorporate was begun.

By July 11, 1972, a logo was designed by Tom O'Brien and adopted by the Council, its official name was also approved.

Founders Day was held at the Rochester Institute of Technology on November 16, 1972, and the Council was incorporated by the State of New York on December 6, 1972, as a not for profit corporation.

Since then and to date the Council has worked to meet its stated purpose, "to sponsor and encourage cultural and educational activities in Rush, Henrietta and West Brighton." They have sponsored a Saturday live theatre for children, reaching to date a total audience of approximately 5,000 children. They have also sponsored quilt shows, piano festivals, a community chorale, a series on local history, a Bicentennial Country Fair and Family Day, and group attendance to concerts, plays and ballet.

The current board of directors for the year 1975-76 are:

Dr. Raymond Delaney

Joanne Frazier

Shirley Hewitt

Giles Hobin

Janet Holmes

Robert Jennette

Joan Kalsbeck

Richard McCrystal

Marvin Meyer

Henry Peris

Marcia Schottmiller

James Sebaste

James Starkweather

STEPS IN DEVELOPING THE TOWN

In the early spring of 1925 three men inspected the river site a mile south of Ballantyne's Bridge, deciding the mile frontage on the Genesee River was ideal for summer cottages. On Decoration Day 1925, the summer tract opened. The following year several cottages were being occupied as year around houses. Others were built as permanent dwellings, and in time the River Meadows Improvement Association was formed. Through the efforts of this organization street pavement, electricity, mail delivery and other improvements were brought into being.

Riverview Heights, just north of River Meadows, began about 1928, but did not develop to any great extent until about 1938, for these were the Depression years.

The Town Board adopted a budget system in 1942 with the Town clerk receiving the taxes. The Zoning Board was organized in 1945, dividing the township into commercial, industrial and residential areas. The Zoning Board was voted upon at a meeting in the Grange Hall, with an overwhelming majority in its favor. In 1948 the town approved of its employees joining the State Employees Retirement System and being covered by the Blue Cross and Blue Shield program.

Henrietta along with the rest of the Nation was beginning to recover from the effects of the Second World War. In order to invite any major housing development or industry to Henrietta, city water had to be made available and a sewage system installed.

Some of the older residents had invested considerable money in drilling a well, purchasing an electric pump or pumps, piping in the water, and sometimes providing a cistern for laundry and bathing purposes, as well as adequate septic tanks. On the property of the writer, an eighty-five foot well was drilled, producing a fine water supply, while across the road a twenty-five foot dug well supplied drinking water. Some well water in town did not taste good however. As late as 1947, residents were known to obtain drinking water from a neighboring well, by the pailfull. People today are astounded and think that way of life "quaint." I myself hesitated to exchange the wonderfully soft wash water caught from the welcome rains, and the clear cold satisfying well water brought from earth's depths for chlorinated water. But sometimes the electric pump did get "moody," and the cistern had to be cleaned regularly. During a dry

spell the cistern was "dry as a bone." Detergents had not yet contaminated the drainage systems. I remember while visiting a neighbor, I drew a glass of water and drank it down, not realizing until it was gone that the peculiar taste was due to the fact it was cistern water! No ill effects were suffered, but I did mark my own faucets for the benefit of visitors. I have never enjoyed drinking a glass of water as much as I did when it came from our deep well.

In 1954 city water was made available, and in 1956 a sewage system and plant was installed in Henrietta. Gas pipes were laid and many homes are heated with it.

**MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN HENRIETTA
through 1967**

Name	Developer	Date Begun
River Meadows		1925
Riverview Heights		1928-1938
Suburban Heights	Wilmot	1954
Pinnacle Heights	Wilmot	1956
Camelot Hills	Joyce Construction	1958
Royal Meadows	Kheel	1958
Belmanor	Kelleck	1958
Lamplighter Colony	Scag's Homes	1959
Lehigh Manor	Belmanor Homes	1960
Wedgewood Park	Wincast Associates (Kheel)	1961
Wedgewood Park	Joyce Construction	1961
Mapledale Manor	Belmanor Homes	1961
Indian Hills	Indian Hills Development	1961
Beckwith Heights	Alfonso DiNardo & Son	1964
Southern Hills	H.L. Reitz & Son	1964
Lamplighter South	Scag's Homes	1964
Wedgewood-on-the-Green	Joyce Construction	1964
Wedgewood-on-the-Green	Wincast Associates	1964
Greenfield Village	Joyce Construction	1965
Eagle Ridge	Indian Hills Development	1966
Southview Estates	Ryan Homes	1966
Glen Acre Heights	Lida Properties	1967
Trout Spring Farm	Caldwell and Cook	1967

RIVERTON

The Riverton area has been in the past and the majority of the land continues to be devoted substantially to farming and related agricultural activities.

Efforts to develop the project area began in the mid-1960's, when a local attorney-real estate developer assembled approximately 600 acres north and south of the New York State Thruway and sought to have the site rezoned for the development of planned residential and commercial activities to be known as Genesee Village. However, due to community opposition, he was unable to obtain rezoning from the Town of Henrietta. Thereafter, he enlarged the group to include Stanndco Developers, Inc., and finally, in 1969, Robert E. Simon, Jr., pioneer developer of the new town of Reston, Virginia, and Howard J. Samuels joined the group. After serious consideration, the developer determined that much of the community opposition to Genesee Village, which related to phasing, was legitimate. The project was enlarged to 1,500 acres, the concept of Genesee Village abandoned, a planning consultant retained, and a new community plan prepared which called for each phase of the development to be consistent with overall ratios of building types and to provide for industrial and commercial uses to increase the tax base.

In early 1970, Mr. Simon was elected as President of the new company, now known as Riverton Properties, Inc., and in March of that year Andrew A. Goldman was hired as Executive Vice-President. Goldman began putting together a team of staff and consultants to prepare a detailed physical plan to apply for rezoning of the land and to seek financial support for the new community.

The Monroe County Planning Council developed a model Planned Unit Development (PUD) Ordinance which, if enacted by a township, would permit development in a way that would assure an adequate economic base for a new population. On July 15, 1970, the Town of Henrietta passed its PUD ordinance and on July 16, 1970, the developer's application for PUD zoning was submitted.

In September, 1970, the community received its first major local financial support when a loan agreement was signed with the Sibley Corporation.

In November of 1970, the company made an application for \$10 million of guarantee assistance from the Federal Government under

the New Communities Program to develop a project on the 1,500 acres of land assembled to that date. As a result of economic feasibility analyses, the government encouraged the developer to expand the project to 2,300 acres and enlarge guarantee assistance to \$12 million.

In May of 1971, a public hearing was held on the Riverton rezoning application, and in July of that year, PUD zoning was granted. In August, Milton Karz, the original owner, sold his interest to five local investors: Henry M. Hamlin, Burton August, Charles August, Sheldon Lane and Manuel D. Goldman.

In November of 1971, an Offer of Commitment for \$12 million of guarantee assistance was made to Riverton under Title VII of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970. Riverton was the first new community in the northeast to receive such Offer, and in May of 1972, the Offer was accepted and \$12 million of debentures issued.

Site preparation began immediately, and in July, 30,000 people toured the site, viewed plans, and celebrated the birth of the new community. Later that month, Andrew A. Goldman was elected President of the company and Robert E. Simon, Jr., assumed Chairmanship of the Board of Directors.

In September, Riverton's Executive Offices located on the site, and in October of 1972, ground was broken on the first housing units. By June of 1973, the community was open to the public, with the first residents moving in the next month. Phase I recreational facilities were in place for the first residents.

1974 saw the development of the following major areawide facilities: February — opening of the Children's Center; June — Riverton Medical Center opens; July — public opening of Riverton Oakes Golf Course.

In the midst of this activity, the developer had made application to the Federal Government for additional guarantee assistance to ease the heavy burden of front end cost in an economy which had already begun to slow down. In May of 1974, a second Offer of Commitment, the first such to be issued nationally, was issued for \$7 million of guarantee assistance.

Failure to complete negotiations on the Offer caused the company to close its doors on November 15, 1974. On November 25, 1974,

the company reopened with the completion of its contract with the Federal Government for the first \$4 million of guarantee assistance. Howard J. Samuels was elected Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer. Henry M. Hamlin became President.

As of early 1975, 350 housing units were complete or under construction, and over 850 persons lived in the first phase of the new community.

INDUSTRY & COMMERCE WOODED

Representing a revolutionary concept in shopping, South Town Plaza on Jefferson Road, West Henrietta, is a large shopping center which opened November, 1956. The contractor was Vasile and Son, Inc. Shoppers on opening day walked from one end to the other, happy to have this plaza so near home with plenty of space in which to park cars. There were free gifts for grownups and children. The grand opening concluded with a fireworks display, featuring a Christmas theme, which was appropriate to the season.

Well-known stores are represented: Sibley's, The National, J.C. Penney Co., Sears, Scrantom's, and numerous others. There are supermarkets, banks, discount stores and a drug store. Every conceivable need seems to have been anticipated. For those who wish to park but once, South Town trolley bus wends its way to and fro. South Town Plaza supplies employment for many people and is co-operative about providing working experience for students. It attracts business to Henrietta from surrounding areas.

Suburban Plaza is located on the East Henrietta Road in Henrietta. Supermarkets, a drug store and numerous small shops supply the needs of the neighboring community daily.

The Miracle Mile is the name given to the Jefferson Road stretch that lies between the West Henrietta and East Henrietta Roads. Developed by Emil Mueller, along this strip may be found many former Rochester factories that moved here in order to have more room for expansion.

The General Electric Company's Electronic Sales Operations Division is located at 600 Jefferson Road. They came to Henrietta in 1956.

McKesson-Robbins, Inc. opened their warehouse and office in 1958. They are wholesale druggists, located at 633 Jefferson Road.

Roehlen Engraving Works, located at 675 Jefferson Road, began operation in Henrietta January 2, 1960. They manufacture steel engraving rolls and engraving steel plates used in many industries for embossing.

Rochester Gas and Electric Company dedicated its Operations Center to Joseph T. Haftenkamp May 5, 1955. Its modern structure in an attractive setting is found at 700 Jefferson Road.

The R.J. Strassenburgh Laboratories moved to Henrietta in the spring of 1958, locating at 755 Jefferson Road. They erected a modern brick and glass plant especially designed for the needs of pharmaceutical manufacture. It is zone conditioned for regulation of temperature and humidity to fit the varying needs of offices, laboratories and manufacturing areas. Internationally known, the excellence of their products is based on modern research, equipment and procedures. An interesting mosaic of ceramic tiles catches the visitor's eye in the entrance way of the building. Extending about one hundred feet along one wall, the mural depicts pharmaceutical history and is the work of the well-known artist, Franz Wildenhain.

A \$2,000,000 research addition was dedicated in June of 1965. This concern became a division of Wallace-Tiernan, whose headquarters are in East Orange, New Jersey. As previously stated, the founder of Strassenburghs lived for a time in Henrietta as a teen-aged lad. One of the founders of Wallace and Tiernan, Martin F. Tiernan, grew up on a farm in Greece, New York. Members of the Strassenburgh family are officers in the Henrietta division. This facility is now a division of Penn Walt.

Photostat opened in the fall of 1956 at 811 Jefferson Road. It is now a subsidiary of Itek, who purchased it in 1959. They are manufacturers of photographic copying equipment, apparatus, accessories, developer and fixer.

The Genesee Valley Regional Market may be found at 900 Jefferson Road. It was organized in 1951 by New York State as a non-profit corporation. Its site was chosen because of its close proximity to the New York State Thruway, plus easy accessibility to a railroad for long distance shippers and local farmers. The market started functioning in 1956, providing ideal facilities for long-term storage. Farm products hauled in one day, can be packaged and ready for sale in New York City within twenty-four hours. The farmers conduct a retail market twice a week for benefit of folks seeking "direct from the farm" products. Although this market experienced a setback at first, it is now thriving.

The Rochester Telephone Corporation built a large Operations Center at 3441 West Henrietta Road in 1959.

Friden is one of the newcomers, having located their local Sales and Service Center at 1200 Jefferson Road, in September, 1967. A subsidiary of Singer Company, their products are business machinery of all types.

Wilmot Castle Company of 1777 East Henrietta Road moved to Henrietta in 1957. They manufacture equipment: sterilizers for doctors' and dentists' offices and hospitals. They also produce medical lights, bacteriological equipment, major surgical operating lights and similar equipment. They became a division of Ritter in 1959, and in 1965 Ritter-Pfaunder (Sybron).

Pfaunder Permutit, Inc. purchased an eighty-five acre site at 999 Lehigh Station Road in 1960. A modern Technical and Research Center was erected and dedicated in 1962. There have been two additions built since the dedication ceremony. In 1965 Ritter and Pfaunder consolidated, and they are now incorporated as Ritter-Pfaunder (Sybron).

The Schlegel Manufacturing Company moved to Henrietta in 1957, settling east of East Henrietta Road at 1555 Jefferson Road. Founded in 1885, it is family owned. They first made trimming for carriages, hearses and caskets. They also made binding for women's long skirts of the gay nineties. Today they manufacture industrial textiles such as weather seal insulation for storm doors and windows, railroad cars, ships and airplanes. They also make wool polishing buffers, nylon blood filter tubing for transfusions, and some wire cloth products.

The Xerox Information Systems Division at 1350 Jefferson Road opened in 1966. ISD deals in the graphic communications field. The engineering, manufacturing and marketing facility operates Xerox Reproduction Service Centers throughout the Nation.

RIVER WOOD KODAK MARKETING EDUCATION CENTER (MEC)

A circular drive leads to the reception and administration building. From the curb, a bridge with a steel canopy leads the visitor to the main entrance. Straight ahead, is the unusual picture wall – its panels are movable so that the wall can be converted from a display space that serves as background for photographs to an expanse of wood, metal or fabric.

Once you move beyond the reception center, you are aware of the open feeling in the office area. Due, in large measure, to the carefully planned “interior landscaping” by the Skidmore, Owings & Merrill firm. The three floors of office space, plus the first level media center and storage area, house the 180 member MEC staff. Other than the central core of the building, there is not an interior office wall in the whole building. Instead, work areas are defined through furniture groupings – specially designed modular pieces that can be assembled for desks, bookshelves, and files, plus space dividers no higher than five feet. If you glance out the window walls in this building, you see the exposed steel grill balconies, weathered to a rich brown, that serve a dual purpose as a sunscreen and a convenient perch for window-washers.

As you move from the reception area to the seminar of classroom building, you see the importance and ingenious design – of the sturdy towers that connect one part of the Riverwood complex to another. These towers not only provide passage for larger groups of people moving from one building to another, but also house the ‘Service Centers’ for MEC: elevators; winding stairways; intake and exhaust for air conditioning; rest rooms; public telephones; and maintenance stations.

The seminar building incorporates many unusual design features. On the first two levels, for example, the large central core of the building holds an auditorium, with tiered seating for 112 people. In addition, there is a fully equipped motion picture studio, like the best of those used by Kodak customers, complete with a glass-enclosed observation deck that makes the facility ideal for its primary teach-learning purpose.

Much of the instruction in the motion picture studio is devoted to how to make films for TV broadcast. Thus, with sound-recording and duplicating facilities, plus a complete Telecine chain, the programs

offer participants the opportunity to learn how to obtain the maximum quality from film products in the broadcast medium. These features, together with the processing equipment in the laboratory, enable customers to develop skills in the full production cycle — from original photography to TV broadcast to the home screen.

On the third level there are four adjoining seminar rooms, each with tiered seating for twenty-four. Each room has a turntable stage that allows the instructor to rotate anything from a two-ton piece of equipment to a complex display into and out of the lecture area with the flick of a switch.

Flexibility is the keynote. The four rooms share a common projection area at the rear, with the latest equipment for slides, motion pictures, sound tapes, and lighting control. A sophisticated panel at each lectern allows the speaker to start and stop projection, modulate sound, raise or lower lights, and rotate the stage. The rest of the classroom building, with the wall-to-wall carpet for sound control and visual appeal, lends itself to a completely flexible arrangement of conference space, using any multiples of the basic module: six feet by six feet.

The outlets for heating and air conditioning, as well as for lights and electricity, have the capacity for easy rearrangement, too. The movable walls, which fit into ceiling channels, were specially designed for the Center. Not only are they lightproof and sound-insulated, but they also incorporate convenient fixtures for hanging the portable blackboards, bookcases, bulletin boards, and projection screens needed for each newly created classroom space.

As you come into the laboratory area, think of the challenges inherent in designing flexibility into space that requires not only heating, air conditioning, lights and electricity, but also items as hot and cold water, drainage, nitrogen and compressed air.

Kodak's research of needs in the laboratory area showed that the basic dimension should be three feet by three feet that is, ranging from the size of a one man darkroom and expanding, in multiples of three feet by three feet, to a large workshop for several dozen people. The module is smaller than that for the seminar building because of the greater flexibility required: L-shaped labs, for example; long, narrow areas of three feet by nine feet, unusual room sizes to conform to critical dimensions demanded by a variety of processing and printing equipment.

The imaginative and useful solution that meets the design requirements works like this: Each floor contains an enclosed shaft that runs vertically through the center of the building lengthwise. Every twenty-one feet, on each floor, there are covered trenches that branch outward from the center shaft, carrying all the necessary lab utilities. The lightproof, movable walls — combined with pre-plumbed sinks and portable modular cabinets — provide, Kodak feels, just about the ultimate in laboratory versatility. It means, for example, that they could revamp a photofinishing lab into a complex micrographics workshop — overnight.

Other facilities of special interest in this building include: Industrial Radiography Laboratory: three rooms, enclosed by reinforced concrete walls up to two and one-half feet thick, and under concrete ceilings covered by five feet of earth. This space forms an underground extension of the first level of the lab complex, housing medium to low voltage industrial x-ray equipment as well as radioisotopes. It enables Kodak to offer not only a Basic, but also an Advanced School of Industrial Radiography. The latter course is heavily oriented toward practical applications of radiographic techniques in the laboratory. In addition to x-ray equipment at Riverwood, Kodak has gamma capability.

Four Professional Photography Studios: two have large windows for daylight photography. One is all white for high key work. One is all black for making pictures with maximum color saturation. All have high ceilings.

Chemical Mix Rooms: on the third level, where the carefully compounded chemical supplies are mixed and then distributed, via the trunk lines in the central shaft, through the building.

To get to the dining pavilion, individuals use the brightly lit and carpeted underground concourse. A feature of the pavilion is the two story window wall that overlooks the river and rolling woodlands. There's lunchtime cafeteria service, as well as a more formal buffet, with tiered seating for 148 and ground-level tables to serve another 220. A large projection screen can be lowered in front of the window wall for film and slide showings. This facility, with interior brickwork, warm-toned wood trim, dark brown carpeting, and modern butcher-block oak tables, is also a convenient and pleasant spot for large group dinner meetings.

Information regarding MEC was provided through the courtesy of the Kodak Marketing Educational Center.

MODERN MOTELS

The old inns and taverns of yesteryear are largely being replaced with the new luxurious motels. The Trenholm Motel opened December, 1956, just north of the New York State Thruway entrance on West Henrietta Road. Later, this was sold to Gordon Realty, and in February, 1966, the Sheraton Gatehouse purchased it.

The Monterey Motel and Restaurant started as The Patio in 1948. In 1956 it opened as a motel, near the Brighton-Henrietta Townline Road on West Henrietta Road.

Ground was broken August 20, 1959, for the Country Squire Motel, on an eighty-eight acre tract at 4950 West Henrietta Road at the Thruway entrance. Within a year it was ready to open. In May, 1962, it opened under the new management of Holiday Inns of America, Inc. The picturesque barn that stood beside the swimming pool was given to Amish folk, who came and dismantled it carefully, piece by piece. They transported it to their home in the Conewango Valley, where they rebuilt it.

Howard Johnson operates one of their restaurants and motor lodges at the corner of West Henrietta and Jefferson Roads.

The Highlander Motel, on Methodist Hill, West Henrietta Road, opened in 1960 and is another attractive motel not far from the Thruway.

The Rowntowner Motor Inn with 150 rooms on Jefferson Road opened for business in 1969.

The Inn on the Campus opened in 1972. It is on Jefferson Road very near RIT. In 1973 it became known as the Hilton Inn on the Campus. It has 175 rooms, plus a banquet room.

The Marriott Inn, on the West Henrietta Road, the old site of the Walter Perry farm, was dedicated Wednesday, July 17 1974; a \$5,000,000 structure.

PARK AND BANDSTAND

In October, 1961, the Town of Henrietta purchased sixty acres of open land south of Calkins Road just east of the Town Hall for use as a park. The cost of the tract was \$102,000, toward which the State paid \$76,500, the Town paying the remainder. Plans were immediately made to develop the park, which is known as Henrietta Veterans Memorial Park.

In 1966 a bandstand was constructed in the park, partially financed with federal funds, and in part by David Quigley and Julian Kheel, building contractors. The concrete structure includes a stage, a special shell, dressing rooms and a storage room.

A dedication program was held the latter part of June, 1966. The young members of the Rush-Henrietta Athletic Association baseball leagues marched in the parade. The Rush-Henrietta High School Band gave a concert, as did the Monroe County Parks Band. Wedgewood Bowl was dedicated at 8:30 p.m. Honored guests included Wilbur Wright, New York State Director of Parks; Monroe County Board of Supervisors Chairman, Leonard A. Boniface; Rochester City Manager, Dr. Seymour Scher; and the late Albert Skinner, Sheriff; accompanied by Don Cook, Supervisor.

TOWN GOVERNMENT

When the Henrietta Town Board discontinued meeting in the two hotels, they met in town officials' homes. The first official welfare office was located in a room in the building occupied by High Point Mills on Lehigh Station Road, near the Lehigh Valley Railroad. A town office was located from 1937 until 1942 at 1243 Lehigh Station Road. From 1942 until 1946 the Henrietta Town offices were located at 1249 Lehigh Station Road, now the residence of Mrs. Fred Stever. Old District No. 9 school house on the East River Road near Bailey Road, was headquarters from 1946-1952. By a nearly three to one vote taxpayers of Henrietta rejected proposals to construct a town hall in 1948. Although nearly 1,000 taxpayers were entitled to vote, only 203 turned out to cast their vote at the Grange Hall in West Henrietta. The Town of Henrietta purchased the former District No. 8 school building on Erie Station Road, west of West Henrietta Road. The rapidly expanding town required increased services, and town officials and employees were crowded and inconvenienced in the schoolrooms.

On October 24, 1962, town residents approved purchasing a site adjoining the Memorial Park on the south side of Calkins Road and erecting a new town hall. The plans included space for the Henrietta Library. The Town garage was to be a separate building, at the rear of the property. On June 19, 1963, Henrietta Town officials gathered as Don W. Cook, Supervisor, broke ground for the new office building. Corgan and Balestiere were the architects.

A formal dedication program was held Sunday, June 14, 1964 in the beautiful modern Henrietta Town Hall. A concert on the main entrance court was given from 2:00 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. by the Rush-Henrietta High School Band, conducted by Richard McCrystal, Director. The dedication program was held in the main meeting room from 2:30 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. Supervisor Don W. Cook presided. The Rice-Hallick Post, V.F.W., presented the Color Ceremony, following which the RHCS Band played the National Anthem. The Reverend George Vogt, Pastor of the Church of the Good Shepherd, gave the invocation. Honored guests were introduced by Supervisor Don W. Cook: Monroe County Manager, Gordon A. Howe; Vice-Mayor of the City of Rochester, Mario J. Pirrello; Franklin Miller, Chairman of the Henrietta Library Board; Harold Hacker, Director of Monroe County Library System.

The key presentation was made by Wenner Spitz, General Contractor, which was accepted by Vincent Haggett, Town Clerk. Thomas C. Hall, Councilman, accepted a plaque which was presented by Architects Corgan and Balestiere.

A flag was presented by the Ely-Fagan Legion Post and was accepted by Lucien Morin, Councilman.

The Reverend Delbert Tiemann, Pastor of the Pinnacle Lutheran Church, gave the prayer of dedication. Dr. Mark Ellingston, President of Rochester Institute of Technology, gave the principal address. Following this was the retirement of Colors. The Rush-Henrietta High School Band gave a rendition of "Hail Henrietta," composed by John W. Cummings. The dedication program ended with the benediction, offered by Dr. Joseph Noble, spiritual leader of Temple Beth Am.

A concert was given in the downstairs meeting room by the Rush-Henrietta Central School Orchestra, at which time a reception was held with refreshments served.

For all those who worked for many years in makeshift quarters, this was truly a rewarding and happy occasion. Today the Henrietta Town Hall is a busy place, with various departments functioning in coordination.

As is inevitable with the passage of time, there have been changes in personnel. Don Cook, who was Supervisor through much of the town's growth, is now New York State Assemblyman. Lucien Morin ran successfully for County Legislator and is now County Manager.

An increasing work load, due to the rapid development of Henrietta, has necessitated drawing up plans for expansion of the town garage and office space. The Henrietta Library also needs more space for continued growth.

In 1962 Henrietta's legal status was that of a First Class Town. Previous to this we had been classified as a Second Class Town. In both classes, the Town Board is the legislative and governing body. When we were a Second Class Town, the Justices of the Peace also held legislative powers. In First Class Towns, Justices of the Peace are restricted to judicial duties and do not sit on the Town Board. Their duties are to conduct trials and to carry out other judicial duties. The Town is governed by a Town Board consisting of four elected Councilmen and one elected Supervisor.

In 1966 the services of Metcalf and Eddy, Engineers and Planners, were secured to develop a Master Plan for the further development of the Town of Henrietta. The cost of this study was financed largely by the Federal Government, the remaining third of the cost was shared equally by the State and Town. The representatives of the engineering firm worked closely with the Town Council and Planning Board. A detailed study was made of existing land use, population, economic factors, subdivision and business and industrial locations. On this background they based three alternative plans. The final phase of the Master Plan was submitted in 1968. It is a detailed but absorbing and challenging report on long range planning of our rapidly growing town.

In January, 1974, a Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Henrietta was approved by the Town Board.

The Town of Henrietta, whose rambling acres of farmland encompassed two small hamlets and were the mainstay of the farm families for one hundred thirty years, is no longer an agricultural town. The answer as to how much will remain farmland lies in the future.



Henrietta Town Hall and Library, dedicated June 14, 1964.

SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWN OF HENRIETTA

Year	Supervisors	Party	Address
1818	Jacob Stevens		
1819	Jacob Stevens		
1820	Jacob Stevens		
1821	Elijah Little		
1822	Elijah Little		
1823	Lyman Hawley		
1824	Elijah Little		
1825	James Sperry		
1826	Elijah Little		
1827	Elijah Little		
1828	Isaac Jackson		
1829	Isaac Jackson		
1830	Joshua Tripp		
1831	Joshua Tripp		
1832	Elijah Little		
1833	Elijah Little		
1834	Isaac Jackson		
1835	Isaac Jackson		
1836	Isaac Jackson		
1837	Isaac Jackson		
1838	Isaac Jackson		
1839	Isaac Jackson		
1840	Elisha Gage		
1841	Matthias Angle		
1842	Matthias Angle		
1843	Isaac Jackson		
1844	Micajah W. Kirby		
1845	Matthias L. Angle		
1846	Wells Springer		
1847	Wells Springer		
1848	Alexander Williams		
1849	Wells Springer		
1850	Alexander Williams		
1851	Ezra Howard		
1852	Isaac Jackson		
1853	Isaac Jackson		
1854	Samuel Hayt		
1855	Ashman Beebee		
1856	Wells Springer		
1857	Alexander Williams		

1858	Warren Diver (Jarvis Sherman resigned)		
1859	Warren Diver		
1860	Jerome Keyes		
1861	Wells Springer		
1862	Jerome Keyes		
1863	Jerome Keyes		
1864	A.A. Stevens		
1865	Jerome Keyes		
1866	Jerome Keyes		
1867	Jerome Keyes		
1868	Jerome Keyes		
1869	William C. Dewitt		
1870	William C. Dewitt		
1871	Robert Martin		
1872	Robert Martin		
1873	Robert Martin		
1874	Robert Martin		
1875	Samuel U. Calkins		
1876	Samuel Beckwith		
1877	Marvin Williams		
1878	Marvin Williams		
1879	Marvin Williams		
1880	C.G. Starkweather, Jr.		Ridgeland
1881	C.G. Starkweather, Jr.		
1882	C.G. Starkweather, Jr.		
1883	George J. Green		
1884	George J. Green		
1885	Almon F. Nichols		
1886	Almon F. Nichols		
1887	Almon F. Nichols		
1888	Almon F. Nichols		
1889	Almon F. Nichols		
1890	Charles E. Green	D	
1891	Charles E. Green		
1892	C.G. Starkweather, Jr.	R	Ridgeland
1893	C.G. Starkweather, Jr.		
1894	C.G. Starkweather, Jr.		
1895	C.G. Starkweather, Jr.		
1896	Marshall Todd	D	West Henrietta
1897	Marshall Todd		
1898	Pryor F. Martin	R	West Henrietta
1899	Marshall Todd	D	West Henrietta

1900	Marshall Todd		
1901	Marshall Todd		
1902	Pryor F. Martin	R	West Henrietta
1903	Pryor F. Martin		
1904	C.G. Starkweather, Jr.	R	Ridgeland
1905	Pryor F. Martin	R	
1906	Pryor F. Martin		
1907	Pryor F. Martin		
1908	Frank O. Todd	D	
1909	Frank O. Todd		
1910	Frank O. Todd		
1911	Frank O. Todd		
1912	Daniel Harrington	R	West Henrietta
1913	Daniel Harrington		
1914	Daniel Harrington		
1915	Daniel Harrington		
1916	Daniel Harrington		
1917	Daniel Harrington		
1918	Daniel Harrington		
1919	Daniel Harrington		
1920	Daniel Harrington		
1921	Daniel Harrington		
1922	Homer E. Benedict	R	West Henrietta
1923	Homer E. Benedict		
1924	Homer E. Benedict		
1925	Homer E. Benedict		
1926	Homer E. Benedict		
1927	Homer E. Benedict		
1928	Homer E. Benedict		
1929	Homer E. Benedict		
1930	Homer E. Benedict		
1931	Homer E. Benedict		
1932	Homer E. Benedict		
1933	Homer E. Benedict		
1934	William C. Robert	D	West Henrietta
1935	William C. Robert		
1936	Homer E. Benedict	R	West Henrietta
1937	Homer E. Benedict		
1938	Thomas O. Owen	R	Henrietta
1939	Thomas O. Owen		
1940	Thomas O. Owen		
1941	Thomas O. Owen		
1942	Thomas O. Owen		

1943	Thomas O. Owen		
1944	Earl Chase	R	West Henrietta
1945	Earl Chase		
1946	Earl Chase		
1947	Earl Chase		
1948	Earl Chase		
1949	Earl Chase		
1950	Earl Chase		
1951	Earl Chase		
1952	Almon C. Kramer	R	Henrietta
1953	Almon C. Kramer		
1954	Almon C. Kramer		
1955	Almon C. Kramer		
1956	Don W. Cook	R	Henrietta
1957	Don W. Cook		
1958	Don W. Cook		
1959	Don W. Cook		
1960	Don W. Cook		
1961	Don W. Cook		
1962	Don W. Cook		
1963	Don W. Cook		
1964	Don W. Cook		
1965	Don W. Cook		
1966	Don W. Cook		
1967	Vincent Haggett	R	West Henrietta
1968	Vincent Haggett		
1969	Vincent Haggett		
1970	John Nichols	D	Henrietta
1971	John Nichols		
1972	Robert Oakes	R	Henrietta
1973	Robert Oakes		
1974	Robert Oakes		
1975	Robert Oakes		
1976	John E. Kelly	D	Henrietta

CENSUS
Henrietta

1820	—	2,181
1825	—	2,145
1830	—	2,322
1835	—	2,215
1840	—	2,085
1845	—	2,219
1850	—	2,513
1855	—	2,144
1860	—	2,249
1865	—	2,392
1870	—	2,280
1875	—	2,230
1880	—	2,243
1890	—	2,135
1892	—	2,141
1900	—	2,062
1905	—	1,959
1910	—	1,972
1915	—	2,083
1920	—	1,794
1925	—	2,127
1930	—	2,142
1940	—	2,728
1950	—	3,385
1960	—	11,598
1963	—	16,342
1964	—	17,726
1968	—	24,879

POSTMASTERS OF HENRIETTA

Established on April 20, 1818

John Acer was the first Postmaster before 1818.

<u>Postmasters</u>	<u>Date of Appointment</u>
Charles T. Whippo	April 20, 1818
Luther C. Chamberlin	August 27, 1823
James Lewis	September 29, 1830
Elihu Kirby	March 14, 1836
Miles Lyman	June 10, 1841
James H. McHaseltine	September 27, 1841
Elihu Kirby	January 11, 1845
Joel B. Jones	February 28, 1849
Myron H. Monroe	April 24, 1851
David C. Chapin	May 15, 1852
Mathias S. Angle	January 20, 1853
Edward W. Wadsworth	March 21, 1857
Harvey B. Hazeltine	March 20, 1861
Thomas O. Jones	January 18, 1865
Sherman DeWitt	December 26, 1876
Cornelius S. DeWitt	January 5, 1877
Cora M. Jones	February 3, 1879
Samuel U. Calkins	October 20, 1885
Morris T. Griffin	April 2, 1890
John E. Sweeney	April 14, 1894
Morris T. Griffin	April 23, 1898
	(last pre-1930 entry)
Elizabeth Williams	July 1, 1937
Helen S. Finegan	April 1, 1945
Helen B. Santay	December 28, 1965

POSTMASTERS OF WEST HENRIETTA

Established on July 29, 1830

<u>Postmasters</u>	<u>Date of Appointment</u>
Edward E. Bush	July 29, 1830
Chancey Chapman	September 2, 1835
John M. Culler	July 7, 1849
Bentley Wheeler	December 28, 1852
Roswell Woodward	June 14, 1854
Alonzo D. Webster	November 18, 1854
Jarvis Sherman	March 20, 1861
Hiram Sherman	April 13, 1861
Marvin Williams	August 14, 1865
Frederick Buckley	December 6, 1887 (last pre-1940 entry)
Margaret Ely	February 1, 1940
John D. Remelt	March 3, 1961
Monica B. Fratter	August 7, 1964
Paul J. Ennis	November 18, 1966

At one time, there was also a post office in the general store in Ridgeland.

In 1900 Emerson Chase began delivering mail as a rural mail carrier on the east side of Henrietta and continued until 1917 when he resigned. Raymond Feasel, Sr., took over as "mailman," a position he held for forty years and three months. Ray's route included a corner of Pittsford and a small section in Mendon and Brighton area.

*Today we come to clasp your hand
For forty some odd years have flown
Since you first joined that faithful band,
Whose kindly deeds are little known.*

*In ancient days, Phidippides
With news of war, fleet footed sped,
He ran to tell of victories,
Then at the people's feet fell dead.*

*A century or so ago
Within the borders of our land,
The pony riders faced the foe,
On mountain pass and desert strand.*

*Bill Cody and Wild Hickok rode
While Indians their trail pursued,
A daring thrilling episode
Midst quiet ranks of servitude.*

*You served in horse and buggy days
Through winter's storm and summer's heat,
When drifted snow blocked country ways
And biting winds would numb your feet.*

*You carried letters from the boys
We know, in World Wars I and II,
You'll never know the sudden joys
That reached so many hearts through you.*

*Yes, we are glad to clasp your hand
For many years so swiftly flown,
Since you first joined the happy band
A U.S. mailman – on his own!*

By – Eleanor C. Kalsbeck

The above poem was written, upon request, for Mr. Feasel's retirement reception.

Mail delivery in West Henrietta began about the same time in 1900. Early carriers were Roy Hoppough, Dr. Vincent Walker, son of Dr. Charles Walker, and Frank Lambertson, who delivered mail from 1910 until he entered the service in World War I. It is said Mr. and Mrs. H.U. Martin were instrumental in setting up the first route when they canvassed the west side of town, contacting all rural residents to be included on the mail route.

HENRIETTA RESIDENTS

New York State Assembly

Elihu Church	1834
Micajah Kirby	1836
Moses Sperry, Jr.	1844
Mathias L. Angle	1846
James L. Angle	1854
Martin Roberts, II	1861
Samuel Stone	1893
Charles Smith	1900
Don W. Cook	1967

New York State Senate

Micajah Kirby	1852
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Henry Sperry
State School Commissioner of Eastern District
Member of the House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.,
during the Civil War.

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Also see references to the following individuals:

James L. Angle - page 277

Sanford E. Church page 273

John M. Davy - page 276

Charles Evans Hughes page 276

Mahlon D. Phillips - page 273

Stephen J. Warren - page 274



Charles Smith of West Henrietta, Representative, New York State Assembly.



Henry H. Sperry of Henrietta, Member of the House of Representatives, Washington, D. C. (during President Lincoln's term).



The Honorable Don W. Cook was elected Henrietta Justice of the Peace in 1952 and Supervisor of Henrietta in 1956, a position which he held until January 1967. He was elected to the State General Assembly in 1967 and has continued to be re-elected each term since then.



County Manager Lucien Morin was on the Henrietta Town Board from 1961-1965. He was elected to the County Legislature in 1966, 1967, 1969, 1971. In 1972 he resigned the Legislature to become County Manager.

EPILOGUE

There is increasing emphasis today on advanced scientific and technological education. Rochester and Henrietta form an industrial area which includes many nationally and internationally known business and manufacturing enterprises. Qualified men of varied skills and professions sought homes for their families in the suburbs, which offered pleasant living conditions plus good modern schools.

Families from various social, economic, religious and educational backgrounds found homes within their means, varying from low to medium price range in Henrietta. No longer limited to New England and the east coast, they have emigrated from all other America and foreign countries. In consequence, real estate sky rocketed, and many farmers made an enviable profit when selling their property. Speculators realized an even greater profit. Developers, building numerous housing tracts, had their hey day.

Old barns, weathered by the decades, were torn down and some old houses destroyed by demolition or fire. Trees and woods were uprooted. Thus it is in the name of progress that a productive farming community is quickly transformed into a suburban town of ever increasing population. It is essential that the needs and contributions of older residents be recognized, though they may be in the minority, even as are certain ethnic and economic groups.

The span of life on this earth is short. In youth we are mostly unmindful of it, sometimes frittering golden hours away. The pioneers of Henrietta, hampered by lack of money and conveniences, faced the task of subduing the wilderness with courage, determination and relentless labor. It is fascinating to discover bits of evidence of our forefathers' way of life, living right here in Henrietta, but in a different age and manner. Their land sustained them, from log house to fine fenced in farm homes. Come bitter cold and ceaseless snows, drouth or heavy rain, they made the best of it. Battered by baffling fevers, thankful for returning vigor, the farmer could feel: "*I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul.*" When evening shadows fell, he closed his eyes in sleep, confident of the watchful care of his Maker.

What can we derive from our history? We find it is a continuing process, evolving from a dimming past into the fast pulsed present.

What the future holds, we cannot know, but we will help shape it, for good or ill.

To scorn the bygone days and reject the present will not build a better tomorrow. Competitiveness has reached an all time high, yet it need not be ruthless. Each individual needs to respect the rights of another, whether it be his property, his rightful work and offering, or his well-being. Constructive goals should be aimed in fairness, not destruction and desolation. The children of a bygone age who played or worked all day on the farms and in woodlands have gone on. Today's children often face the problems of uprooting and lack of adequate play space. Born into a restless age: where to go? what to do? Recreational leaders and organizations strive to provide an answer to their needs.

The world's youth may not end wars today. With proper guidance and good education, used wisely, perhaps their adult leadership will aid in abolishing conflicts tomorrow.

Henrietta is a part of this State, Country and the World. What we do here, like the waves moving out to sea, our actions reach out and beyond, touching countless lives. Will they reflect the bright light of a new day? The good in a history we should perpetuate, the wrong eliminate in a new tomorrow.

Eleanor Crane Kalsbeck
Henrietta Town Historian
and
Author of *Henrietta Heritage*

FROM: J. P. BEHRAE-LITTLE, M.A., F.S.A., F.R.S.
RICHMOND HERALD

The College of Arms.
London, E.C.4.
City EC2B 1310

1st April, 1958

Dear Mrs Kalebeck,

I am afraid that we are not allowed to photograph the records of the College of Arms, but I enclose a very rough sketch of the armorial bearings of Henrietta Laura, Countess of Bath.

If you would like a fine certified painting of these arms prepared, this can always be done at a cost of 55 dollars.

Please let me know if I can help you further.

Yr. sincerely
J. P. Behrae-Little
Richmond

Mrs. Kalebeck

Arms of Lady Bath.

