

SENECA COUNTY HISTORY

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House of Joseph Wright, one of the owners of the Waterloo Distillery
presently the American Legion Home in Waterloo

ROMULUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The pioneer Presbyterian Church society of Seneca County was started in Romulus. According to the Manual of Churches and Pastors of Seneca County, the first meetings of the church were at the home of John Fleming who had come with his family and settled in the area shortly after 1790. He came with several other families from Pennsylvania and New Jersey who probably traveled north along the available water routes to the area.

There were no more than a dozen families in the county at that time. Usually the families had to conduct church services by themselves but there were occasional visits by itinerant preachers who continually braved the unknown to bring the "word of God" to those who were trying to make a home in the wilderness.

Those early ministers must have been a dedicated and hardy group of men. Traveling so many miles between the sparse settlements, they certainly had to spend many a night out in the open. The first Presbyterian minister to come to what is now Seneca County was the Rev. Daniel Thatcher, of Virginia who had been sent out by the General Assembly of 1795.

A small group of people gathered at the home of John Fleming and a Presbyterian Church society was formed with the help of Mr. Thatcher. John Fleming, Alla McMath and Henry Wharton were the first elders. For the next several years, the families had to be content with rare visits by ministers who were just passing through. They would meet at someone's home and conduct their own church service.

The present Presbyterian Church of Romulus was organized April 4, 1802 by the Rev. Jedediah Chapman, who also organized the Presbyterian Churches of Geneva and Ovid. He was from New Jersey and settled at Geneva about 1800. His first wife was Blanche Smith, a daughter of a clergyman. Her sister Mary became the wife of John Adams, the second president of the United States.

Chapman, born in 1741 was a graduate of Yale College. He was ordained and installed as pastor of the Presbyterian Church of the Township of Orange, N.J. July 22, 1766. He resigned from that church in 1800 and moved to the "lake country". His second wife was Blanche LeConte, daughter of Peter of New Jersey. They are buried in Geneva.

The first members of the church were: Alla McMath, Jesse Brewster, Henry Beers, Frederick Boganoar, James McKnight, Alche Huff, Elizabeth Van Court, Catharine Stottle, Sarah Karr, Mabel McMath, Hannah McKnight, James McKnight and Rachel Brewster. Alla McMath, Henry Beers and Jesse Brewster were ordained elders of the church. It became one of the members of the Presbytery of Geneva at its first meeting on Sept. 17, 1805.

The society was incorporated April 6, 1807. The first trustees were: John Fleming, Jr. Henry Gardner, Samuel McMath, Silas Allen, John Terhune and Jacob Lowden. The organizational meeting was at the house of David DePue with elders Henry Beers and Jesse Brewster, presiding.

The church society was still without its own minister but this was changed on Aug. 18, 1807, when the Presbytery convened to ordain and install the Rev. Church Mosher. No church had yet been built and the ceremony was held in a grove near the house of David Depue.



ROMULUS



There were now 27 members but this included both husbands and wives. Just like most of the other early settlers, they were all poor and struggling to exist. Despite this, the members voted to pay the Rev. Mr. Mosher an annual salary of \$300. He was certainly also provided with a house for his family and according to the custom at that time, church members also provided most of the needed provisions.

The first church deed in the Seneca County records was recorded in Book C., page 180. On June 22, 1807, Henry and Clemea Depue turned over to John Fleming, Silas Allen, Samuel McMath, John Terhune, Henry Gardner and Jacob Lowden, trustees of the First Presbyterian Congregation, two acres for \$40, in the southwest corner of the State 100 acres of Lot 68 in Romulus.

Church meetings were held in members' homes and it wasn't until Oct. 12, 1809 when the first church was dedicated. The building was unheated but services were in the building whenever possible. Foot stoves were brought from home and everyone remained bundled up during the service. If it became too cold, services would be a someone's home.

Mr. Mosher remained with the church for seven years and probably would have remained longer but certain circumstances forced him to leave. He was a well-educated man and an ardent Federalist. The War of 1812 was in progress and recruiters were going through the area trying to get men to enlist. Mosher preached against the govern-

ment for allowing the war to continue and this upset many of the members of the church. Even some who he considered his friends, turned against him and he was forced to resign.

He left the Romulus church in 1814 and the next year, the Rev. Moses Young, of New Jersey, was ordained and installed. He remained with the church until his death in 1824. This was his only church and 231 new members were added while he was minister. Sunday school was started during this period.

The next minister was the Rev. Morris Barton who was ordained and installed at the church on Dec. 21, 1825. Although he sometimes served at the Canoga Presbyterian Church, the Romulus church was his only pastorate.

The session records seem to indicate that Barton was a "hell and brimstone" kind of preacher. There were many disagreements between the minister and certain members of the church during this period. He resigned in February, 1846 and after he left the church, session minutes took on a much milder tone. He continued to live in the area and died Feb. 13, 1857. He is buried in Mt. Green cemetery.

The session records began on March 4, 1807 and one can see the growth in the church and community by reviewing these records for that first year of organization. Many of the early settlers can be traced these and other county records. Where did they come from? Did they stay in the area, or move on? In combining various records one can learn of their family relationships and the closeness of bonds between these early emigrants to the "Lake country".

On March 4, 1807, Jephtha Wade and wife were admitted to the church from Morristown, N.J. Also admitted that day were Mary Fleming from Ovid; John and Susanna Fleming, Clemena, wife of Henry Depue. The last named had been members of the church but now were examined for full membership.

On March 15, the Rev. David Higgins administered the sacrament and baptized Susannah Fleming and her six children. April 2, Jacob Bachman and wife Sally were examined for admission. May 1, the session met at the house of Henry Depue and appointed Jephtha Wade and John Fleming as elders.

May 29, William Brockway was voted in as a member with a letter from a church in Rutland. Also admitted were Henry Depue, Peter and Anna Wyckoff. June 1, the session met at the house of David Depue. A letter was presented by John and Lucinda Hood from Chillisqua, Pa. and from Deacon William Waldron from New Jersey. Also admitted at that time were Hannah, wife of Henry Gardner, Esther, wife of Silas Allen, Aletta Vreeland, wife of Jacob, and Sarah, wife of John Terhune.

In checking an Allen genealogy, one learns that Hannah, wife of Henry Gardner, Sarah, wife of Jephtha Wade and Silas Allen were brother and sisters. Also Esther, wife of Silas Allen and Henry Gardner, were brother and sister.

On June 4, Anna Wyckoff, an adult and 10 children of the members were baptized. For the next two months, there were no session records. This would be a time of great activity among farmers and so church had to

become of secondary importance.

Often wives would be the first to join the church. Several months after they were admitted one would find the name of the husband. Not all new members were listed in the session records. Among those who were mentioned were: Jacob Doremus and wife Esther; John Alexander and wife Rachel; Isaac Mather and wife Julia; William Businbark and Sarah; James Karr and Sarah.

There was also little church activity during the winter months. Occasionally there would be a baptism. On Nov. 18, nine children of Henry Businebark and one child of Agnes VanArsdale were baptized; on Feb. 6, a child of John and Lucinda Hood. In March, just one year after the session records began, there was a public lecture at the house of Isaac Whitehead and at the same time, six of his children were baptized.

One can learn some facts about the members through other county records. John Fleming, Jr. was named guardian for the children of Henry and Hannah Gardner when Gardner died. John Fleming, Sr. was born 1752 in Chester Co. Pa. His wife Mary Jackson was from Orange Co., N.Y. and they came to Romulus about 1790. He died Dec. 15, 1800 and is buried in the Bailey-town cemetery with other early members of the church.

John Fleming, Jr. who was also a trustee of the church, moved to Albion, Mich. in 1844 and died there in 1863. Alla McMath, another of the first elders of the church, died Oct. 17, 1804. His wife Mabel died in 1830. His son Samuel had emigrated to the west when Michigan was still a territory and he died there in 1826.

Frederick Boganoar, an early member

died in 1807 and was the first person to be buried in the church yard. David Depue was from Sussex Co. N.J. He was a pensioner of the Revolutionary War. Peter was his son.

Rachel Brewster, wife of Jesse died during the early years. In 1814, Jesse asked for a letter of dismissal for himself and his daughter Matilda. He settled in Sterling, Cayuga Co. and filed for his Revolutionary pension there. Jephtha Wade who was one of the surveyors of the early roads in Seneca County, died in 1813. His son Jephtha moved to Ohio and became an industrial giant in Cleveland.

AN UNSOLVED MYSTERY

During the fall of 1899, Reynold Seybolt, a pedlar who traveled through Seneca County, selling cheese from his horse and wagon was sand-bagged and nearly killed while un-hitching his horse in a shed. A few weeks later he was again knocked down by unknown assailants and then was thrown in a creek. His head came to rest on the bank and he was found later, unconscious but still alive. He said he did not know who had attacked him.

On Jan. 24, 1900, Seybolt was found hanging from a beam at the New York Central Freight office in Waterloo, dead. His hands had been tied behind his back and a gag put in his mouth. Village trustees offered \$500 reward for any information but as far as is known, nothing was ever learned about why or by whom he met his death.

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WOMEN OF JUNIUS WHO VOTED IN THE FIRST STATE ELECTION 1918

Elizabeth Avery
Cora Avery
Lillian Aumick
Mary Birdsey
Lucy Barringer
Mame Barnes
Olive Bump
Eva Baker
Grace Bennett
Lena Clark
Carrie Carman
Catharine Childs
Jennie Cuddeback
Gertrude E. Compson
Lena Crants
Florine Decker
Lottie Dadson
Clara Demerest
Florence Fisk
Harriet Fraker
Laura Fisher
Lena Gatchell
Lois Godfrey
Bertha Green

Florence Avery
Marjorie Avery
Lottie Burgdorff
Cora Brignall
Anna Benedict
Carrie Burch
Mary Bump
Jennie Barnum
Grace Buckley
Edna Cross
Lillian Compson
Emma Clark
Antoinette Closs
Martha Clark
Anar Cosad
Juliet Dean
Elizabeth Decker
Anna Eklund
Lottie Ferris
Helen Fisk
Blanch Fisk
Caroline Garrett
Lena Greenwald
Jennie Groescup

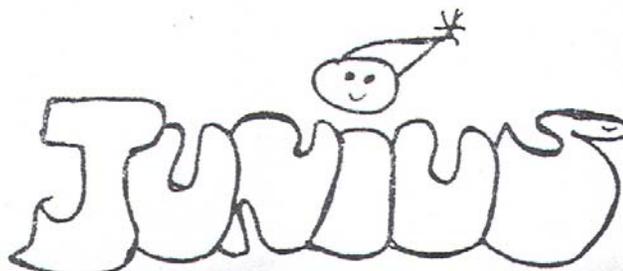
Eva Avery
Flora Armstrong
Elizabeth Birdsey
Martha Buisch
Mable Barnes
Jennie Beck
Susie F. Bulson
Agnes Barnum
Lottie E. Compson
Edith Childs
Jennie Cross
Lillian Cottrell
Mary Carlett
Myrta Carlett
Lulu Compson
Leonora Donnelly
Ladusky Deming
Bessie Edgett
Mary Fisk
Carrie Fisher
Sarah Fisk
Jane Godfrey
Jessie Green
Priscilla Groescup

Ethel Groescup
 Nellie Groat
 Ella Haight
 Evalina Hemlich
 Mary Hatcher
 Grace Hay
 Mary Hansen
 Sally Hill
 Maranda Knox
 Florence Kittle
 Hattie Lash
 Ellen Lundy
 Loretta Laube
 Clarar Laube
 Jennie Lang -
 Anna Morehouse
 Beatrice Manktelow
 Flossie Morey
 Ellen Maloney
 Hannah Newmiller
 Lia G. Paine
 Libbie Poulton
 Larrisa Porter
 Mary Peters
 Amelia Pierson
 Lizette Quinn
 Jennette Ritter
 Rebecca Rackmyer
 Augusta Riedsdorph
 Mae Sheradin
 Ella Sheradin
 Leone Snyder
 Daisy Serven
 Etta Scribner
 Rosa J. Serven
 Edith H. Smith
 Lulu M. Story
 Lillian Swetman
 Genevieve Thorn
 Mary Timmel
 Carrie Tuttle
 Alice Terbush
 Larine Turner
 Bertha Van Riper
 Delia Wheeler
 Rose Wadhams
 Myrtle Waite
 Anna Wilson
 Louise Youngs
 Anne Zacharias

Alice Guest
 Bessie Haight
 Jennie Harris
 Saloma Heimlich
 Mattie Hampton
 Hazel Hoffman
 Jane Hill
 Lola Johnson
 Katharine Kraft
 Nellie Langdon
 Flora Lundy
 Mary Lowrey
 Clarell Ladirce?
 Rose Lape
 Charlotte Milk
 Lena Marshall
 Sadie Maloney
 Belle Marshall
 Mina Mosher
 Teresa Orman
 Elsie Pierce
 Florence Petteys
 Jennie Phillips
 Anna Paine
 Josephine Riedsdorph
 Cora Rickon
 Lena Rogers
 Alta Rackmyer
 Johanna Ritter
 Anna Sherman
 Libbie Smith
 Leora Sutherland
 Lottie Serven
 Nettie Serven
 Alice Skinner
 Jennie Story
 Mary Smith
 Myrtle Taylor
 Elizabeth Thorn
 Florence Thorn
 Anna Tyman
 Sarah Turner
 Mary Tulett
 Lelia Van Wickle
 Lena Wheeler
 Jennie Weaver
 Helen Wheeler
 Cora Wintermute
 Lillian Yackel

Amanda Gibbs
 Margaret Hauck
 Mary Hoffmire
 Libbie Hill
 Alena Hansen
 Kate Hensinger
 Carrie Hill
 Elizabeth Keltz
 Edna King
 Lydia Lash
 Helen Lundy
 Harriet Lampson
 Ella Lutz
 Bertha Lang
 Elizabeth Morrin
 Charlott Marshall
 Bessie Mills
 Fennie Manwaring
 Lottie McWharf
 Eliza Odell
 Edith Platt
 Mable Pierson
 Mina Pierson.
 Ann Paine
 Ella Reynolds
 Edith Rickon
 Lettie Rhodes
 Nellie Rickon
 Grace Serven
 Mary E. Snyder
 Sarah Smith
 Ida Story
 Jenny Scott
 Ella Serven
 Frances smith
 Diantha Stevenson
 Bertha Snyder
 Caroline Taylor.
 Philena Thomas
 Carrie M. Tyman

Hattie Turner
 Anna Ulrich
 Florence Wadhams
 Naomi Warren
 Adell Wait
 Ethel May Yackel
 Ethel Wilcox
 Nina Yackel



WATERLOO

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WATERLOO DISTILLERIES

Early county records show that there were distillers throughout Seneca County practically from the beginning of settlement in the area. Taverns abounded through the county and it was not feasible to bring beer, whiskey and other liquors from long distances. Transportation was a problem in those early years and soon a number of distillers established businesses, along with the fulling and flour mills.

MARTIN Kendig, Jr. built the first one in what became Waterloo sometime between 1794 and 1797. Two others were soon in operation in the immediate area; one located in Seneca Falls was owned by Jacob P. Chamberlain and another in Waterloo owned by Joseph Moody.

On Oct. 13, 1824, an advertisement appeared in the local newspapers whereby Castle and Gennett, distillers informed the public they would instruct distillers in the art of distilling spirituous liquors of various kinds; gin, brandy and whiskey. Those interested could visit either Chamberlain's or Moody, where Philip Castle would be of service.

Early in the 1800's John Watkins had come to Waterloo. He built a grist mill on the Island and was the major industrialist of that time. In 1851 John Alleman bought the grist mill on the lower island and converted it into a distillery.

Prior to that time, Levi and Thomas Fatzinger had built a distillery which could handle 60 bushels of grain a day. Business was good and they enlarged the business until the plant could distill 600 bushel of grain a day. With the opening of Alleman's distillery, Waterloo became a major force in the making

of distilled spirits.

By 1868, Alleman's distillery was the property of Crobaugh and Pontius, for on Oct 9, 1868 they sold their business to Burtis and Brown of Auburn. The distillery had not been in operation for some time, but Fatzinger's was still going strong. He now had two partners, Mickley and Snook.

These men also had a brewery. They had recently built a new malt house. On Oct. 16, 1868, the wall of the malt house, recently built near the canal was forced out by the pressure of barley stored in the new building. Over 1,000 bushel of grain went into the canal.

In January, 1870, Frederick C. Brehm who was a candle and soap maker on the edge of the village, built a steam distillery and cider mill but this was just a small operation compared to the Island Distillery operated by the Fatzinger Brothers.

The Fatzinger Distillery was taken over by John Tracy of Albany and in 1870 he built a new distillery at the cost of \$40,000. A second business was carried on in conjunction with the making of whiskey. Cattle and swine were brought to the island, fenced in and fed the residue after the grain was used to make the whiskey.

This second line probably helped the distillers, Tracy and McIntyre from going under in the summer of 1874. On July 8, the distillery burned down. The fire was confined to the wooden part of the building which was part of the original Watkins Mill and was nearly 70 years old, one of the oldest buildings in the village. Damage was estimated between \$40,000 and \$70,000. About 20 men were put out of work, at least for a time. The

distillery was then running 500 bushel of grain a day. Work was started right away to rebuild the plant, This time it would be of brick. By December 1878 the distillery was running 1,000 bushel of grain a day.

With such a busy enterprize it is difficult to understand how just two months later, in February, 1879, Thomas A. McIntyre, owner of the Island Distillery had to make an assignment to Charles D. Morgan of Waterloo. There must have been mismanagement of funds for he listed his liabilities at more than \$83,000 and his assets at just over \$55,000. An inventory of the property fixed the value at \$85,585. Business continued as usual and in May, 1879, an advertisement noted that the Island Distillery was the largest grain distillery in New York State.

Whiskey and other spirituous liquors have never been considered a necessity and government taxes have always been a major expenditure. During 1878 the Island Distillery paid \$210,010 in taxes to the United States government and in the Feb. 3, 1882 newspaper, it was noted that during the time the distillery was under the ownership of McIntyre, it paid the United States Treasury a revenue of 12 million dollars.

Whether it was the influence of many temperance society that sprang up in the late 1800's or competition from other distilleries, probably a combination of both, but the Waterloo plant came upon hard times during that period and was closed. Late in 1897 after being closed for several years, it was re-opened as the Columbia Distillery. Hoffman & Ahlers of Cincinnati, Ohio, were the new owners.

In 1898 the company was owned by Joseph Wright and his son J. Germaine Wright. Germaine was the inventor of the distilling yeast used by the distillery. It was soon running 500 bushel of grain a day and were able to produce five gallons of liquor with one bushel of grain. By 1899 the plant was using about 750 bushel of grain a day.

Operational costs and taxes took a greater share of the profits of the distilleries. Added to this was the upkeep of the buildings and equipment, barrels and shipping. The distiller could only count on a profit of about 11 cents per gallon. Animals were no longer kept at the site but the refuse was sold to farmers to feed cattle. It sold for 10 cents a barrel. One of the barrel makers for the distilleries was Christian Marshall in South Waterloo who made about 125 barrels a week for the Columbia Distillery.

In 1899 the New York and Kentucky Distillery Co. bought the plant in Waterloo. G. Paul Duffy, son of Walter B., one of the major stockholders moved to Waterloo to manage the plant. The company was first called Kentucky then Duffy's Distillery. It began the manufacture of Duffy's Malt Whiskey, sold by the trade name of "Seneca Chief". One of the old buildings of the original business had been sold. Located on the canal in back of the Presbyterian Church it was used for the manufacture of snow shovels by Augustus Clark, great grandfather of Dick Clark, the television personality. Later it was owned by M.F Pratt who built hay racks and bowling alley beds. The building was destroyed by fire in February, 1904.

In 1905 the distillery purchased the old Methodist-Episcopal Church located at the corner of Virginia

COVERT

and Elisha Streets. The cupola was removed and the building was used to store gin, apple brandy and other liquors.

The distillery business in Waterloo was brisk and profitable. The Walter B. Duffy Co. purchased three acres of land in South Waterloo at the eastern end of Race St. now Kendig from Edward Lux, a butcher, who had his slaughter house in that area.

Duffy's planned to build another distillery on the site. Although he still owned the Island Distillery, this would be a separate corporate organization. By 1911 the two distilleries in Waterloo paid \$1,540,000 in taxes for the year.

Success was again short-lived. PROHIBITION was becoming a familiar word. In 1915 only Fayette, Waterloo and Seneca Falls voted to continue the sale of liquor. All other towns in the county voted dry.

On April 3, 1916, a fire started in an elevator shaft at one of the warehouses of the Industrial Distillery. A tank of high-proof spirits with 1,000 gallons ready for shipment was dumped into the river to prevent any possible explosion. This highly combustible material would have resulted in a major catastrophe had it exploded.

With Prohibition in force, only industrial alcohol was permitted to be sold. Federal investigators of the Bureau of Internal Revenue began an undercover job which resulted in the largest case of forfeiture ever to take place in the United States as a result of the Dry Law.

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Five New York City men formed a corporation with headquarters in Syracuse, called the Standard Solvents and Chemical Co. It was to act as agent for the Waterloo Distillery for the purpose of making false records to cover the shipment of alcohol. From October to December in 1926, about 4,000 drums of alcohol, supposedly denatured alcohol were shipped under false freight bills, labeled honey, sauerkraut, vinegar and lubricating oil.

On Oct. 22, Federal officers seized two car loads of alcohol at the Lehigh Valley Railroad yards in Waterloo. The cargo destined to be shipped to Chicago and Chester, Pa., was marked junk and rags. It contained 5,000 gallons of pure alcohol. The diverted alcohol amounted to approximately 208,000 gallons and was worth over a million dollars.

The Waterloo Distillery was raided on June 22, 1927 by George Golding, a prohibition agent who later worked out of Chicago. The trial began on April 25, 1928, in Buffalo and the district attorney said it was the most complete conspiracy that had ever been developed in this country. One hundred and two witnesses were called to testify. Many called by the Federal government were garage owners who supposedly had been sold industrial alcohol. All swore they had never received anything from the company.

On Dec. 20, 1928 a verdict was returned at a Buffalo Federal court. The property of the Waterloo Distillery Corporation, plant and contents valued at \$1,250,000 was forfeited to the government. The verdict gave the government 28 acres of land, building, equipment and contents. It was claimed that the bonded warehouse contained 3,500

drums of pure grain alcohol, valued at over a million dollars.

In 1930 a libel suit was leveled by the Federal government against the distillery and it was upheld. The five men from New York City had been found guilty and each had been sentenced to 18 months at the Atlanta Penitentiary in Georgia.

For several months armed guards, some with machine guns, patrolled the grounds of the distillery and its nine buildings. In June 1931, 1,000 drums with 55 gallons each were shipped to navy yards in Virginia, the arsenal in Dover, N.J., and the medical division of the Army at Brooklyn. A large quantity was also sent to the National Museum at Washington, D.C.

In 1933, a group of Buffalo and Rochester men headed by Henry M. Naylon, acquired title to the site of the distillery. It was the same group of men who had owned and operated the business before prohibition. G. Paul Duffy, former president and manager of the plant said he planned to have the plant ready as soon as possible after the repeal of the 18th Amendment.

These plans never did materialize. Any whiskey still in the warehouse after prohibition was sold and the distillery never reopened.

The whiskey trade in Seneca County started at the very beginning of the settlement with small stills scattered throughout the county. It ended the same way. During the 1920's and early 1930's, there were a num-

ber of raids on various restaurants. In 1920 a 500 gallon still was found by police east of Border City in the Town of Waterloo. In 1924, a complete brewery and winery with a secret cellar room was discovered by Federal agents in Covert. A truck load of booze, including 75 cases of home brew, 54 cases of wine and 15 barrels of cider were taken while approximately two truck loads were destroyed on the premises. All the liquor was found in the secret room.

In 1928, the largest still ever found in this area was uncovered in one of the elegant cobblestone houses, on Route 98, towards Phelps, just west of Five Points. The house had been empty for some time.

A 7,000 gallon still was found in Varick in 1930. It had the capacity to produce 750 gallons a day. Also found at that location was a 10,000 gallon vat filled with mash and an empty 12,000 gallon vat.

The most unusual find was in 1921, when police discovered a cache of hard cider, at least 22 barrels in the basement of the county jail, at Waterloo. Federal officials took possession and everything was taken out of the building and dumped in the sewer. Under-sheriff James O'Conner was removed from office.

First hand accounts in the newspaper recalled complaints of the neighboring residents who were unhappy about the smell. Not all the barrels contained cider, some had varnish and old paint and it took some time to clean up the mess left by the federal officials.

TYPE

FAYETTE

PIONEERS

THOMAS BEADLE: He was born in Smithfield, R.I. Mar. 3, 1756. He was the son of Thomas and Phebe Inman Beadle. When he was about six the family moved to Amenia, NY and later to Easton on the east side of the Hudson River.

During the Revolutionary War he served in the 13th Regiment, Albany County Militia. Also serving in same regiment were his brothers, Joseph, Daniel and Mishael. His father, although about 65 years old at that time, also served.

He purchased 100 acres of Lot 54 in Junius in 1797, from Stephen N. Bayard and one month later bought all of Lot 54 from Robert Troup. He had settled on his lot by 1800 with his wife Anna and sons Jonathan, Loammi, Zeruah, Thomas and Daniel. Children, born in Seneca County were daughters Mary and Susanna and son Thompson.

In 1804 he was appointed overseer of the roads and in 1813 was named constable. Early justice papers show that several people owed him money and he in turn owed others. The last suit filed under his name was on May 13, 1814. On Sept. 8, 1813, a deed was recorded whereby Lewis Birdsall, sheriff, sold Lot 54 to Charles Thompson for \$300. Samuel Perry claimed that Beadle owed him \$1,860. On Aug. 7, 1815, Anna Beadle, administrator for Thomas filed a charge in justice court. No record remains to show the exact date of death.

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ALEXANDER COVENTRY: He was born in Hamilton, Scotland and studied medicine there. After working at his profession in hospitals in

Scotland he emigrated to America and settled on a farm near Hudson, in Columbia Co. He became interested in the land of the Military Tract and decided to visit the area. He kept a journal of his travels.

He started from Hudson on May 23, 1791 with a man named John Cully. They arrived at Owego on June 18, and reached the head of Cayuga Lake, three days later. He put bells on his horses and let them loose. They wandered away and it was several days before he could continue his journey. On July 1, he arrived at what is now Aurora and spent a few days there with Oliver Phelps.

Apparantly Indians were still in the area because he wrote of visiting with Steel Trap, chief of the Cayugas on July 6, at what is now Union Springs. After leaving there he proceeded to Cayuga, crossed on the ferry operated by John Harris and James Bennett and continued across what is now Seneca County, and ended his journey at what is now Geneva.

He remained only one day before returned to Hudson but he must have been impressed with what he saw for he immediately sold his farm at Hudson and purchased Lot 11 in Romulus from Nicholas Fish, a former officer of the Revolution and then adjutant-general. He later also purchased half of lot 17 in Romulus and over 1,000 acres of land in Ontario County.

He returned to his farm on Seneca Lake the following year and named it Fair Hill. Although a great deal of biographical information is available regarding Dr. Coventry, little is known about his time spent in Seneca County. He was elected overseer of the poor in Romulus in

1795, he left and settled in Utica in 1796. He continued his practice of medicine and also was a farmer . He was president of the New York State Medical Society from 1823 to 1825 and was one of the founders of the Oneida Co. Agricultural Society. He died on Dec. 9, 1831 in Utica. Apparantly some members of his family remained in Seneca or Ontario Co. His son Dr. Charles Coventry, was one of the founders of the Geneva Medical College, now Hobart, and for many years was one of its most prominent professors.

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BENJAMIN DEY: He was probably the first of the numerous members of the Dey family to settle in the area. He was recorded in Romulus in the 1800 census and the first deed recorded in his name was on Mar.6, 1791. He was from Passaic Co., N.J.

He was either one of the early land speculators or he was assigned by the government as an agent to sell the land after the formation of the Onondaga and Cayuga Commission. He is listed as the grantee and grantor of many of the early deeds for Seneca Co.

Early histories of Seneca County have little mention of Benjamin Dey. The Romulus Town records show he was commissioned a justice of the peace in 1799.

It is from the early Geneva newspapers, still preserved on microfilm that one can establish his importance to the early development of the county. In April 1812 he was nominated to the Assem-

bly and in May 1812 he was admitted to practice law in common pleas court of Seneca County. In April 1813 he was appointed master in chancery.

Dey was involved in the development of the area, notably after been chosen a director of the Seneca Lock Navigation Co. and in January 1815 he applied for incorporation of the company.

According to the Geneva newspaper he died in Romulus, March 24, 1819. Apparantly his wife was already deceased for his son, Benjamin, Jr. was named his administrator in 1822.

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PHILIP EDINGTON: was born, probably Pennsylvania in 1750. He was the son of John Edington, who died in 1793 in Bedford, Pa. Both men served in the Revolutionary War. Philip participated in the Battle at Trenton. He and his wife Eleanor Hunt and family were in Seneca Co. by 1800.

His purchases of Lot 29 in Romulus were recorded in 1800 and 1802. He served as fence viewer in Town of Washington (Fayette) in 1802; path master of District 10 in 1803 and commissioner of highways in 1806.

His son Aaron died Feb. 11, 1813; wife Eleanor, Jan. 8, 1813 at 63 and Philip died Oct. 16, 1815 at 66. They are buried in Burgh Cemetery, Fayette. His probate papers showed he was survived by only son, James; daughters, Mercy, wife of Jonathan Burroughs and Rachel, wife of Casper Yost., also a number of grandchildren.





NICHOLAS HUFF, was born in 1754 in Hillsborough, Somerset Co. N.J. He was a twin and he and his brother Richard served with the militia of Somerset Co. They enlisted in 1776 and served for the duration of the war. Nicholas was wounded at the battle at Germantown, Pa.

He was first placed on the pension roll in 1808, possibly because of his wounds and continued receiving a pension. The brothers were also in the battles of Bound Brook, Millstone and Monmouth. When he re-applied for his pension in 1832, he noted that he had lived in Ovid for 38 years.

He bought part of Lot 20 in Ovid from Elkanah Watson. He was first appointed overseer of highways in Ovid in 1797. In 1800 he was named fence viewer and continued in these two positions off and on until 1820. In the 1840 census he was 84 and lived with P.J. Huff, probably Peter.

He died March 5, 1845 at 87. His wife Jane died July 25, 1836. Richard Huff, died July 30, 1843 at 86. His wife Elizabeth died Dec. 26, 1839 at 80. In youth, war service as pioneers of Seneca County, the brothers were together. They and their wives are all buried in Gospel Lot Cemetery in Ovid.

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MARTIN KENDIG, JR. was a descendant of a Swiss emigrant of the same name who settled in Lancaster Co. Pa., about 1710. He came to this area of New York State with his father in 1793, just one year after Samuel Bear had settled at Skoi-Yase. His father settled in Benton, Ontario Co. and Martin, Jr. opened a sheet iron and tin shop in Skoi-Yase and made pewter spoons. A few years later he also

opened a distillery. He married Leah Bear, sister of Samuel in December 1797 and they lived in an apartment located in the distillery. It was east of the mill built by Samuel Bear on what is now Washington St.

In 1802 he was town clerk of Washington and in 1803, commissioner of highways. In 1804 he purchased a farm outside of the village on Lot 3 in Fayette and served a number of years as fence viewer and commissioner of highways.

He was captain of the militia during the War of 1812. His company was twice drafted during the war but was never called out to take part in any engagement. From 1812 to 1815 he was in charge of the estate of Elisha Williams.

In 1814 he built a frame house on the south side of East Main Street, east of the present post office. This was just a temporary home for in 1817 he moved to the brick building on the northeast corner of Main and Virginia Streets. The building is still standing. The building was used for years by the First National Bank of Waterloo and later, an addition was put on the front and a store and offices were added.

His wife Leah and son John both died on Oct. 11, 1820 of typhus fever. He and Leah had eight children. In addition to John, the sons were: Daniel S. and Samuel. The daughters were Matilda who married Richard P. Hunt, Ann Eliza, Samuel Birdsall; Susan, John T. Townsend; Lucretia, Sexton Mount and Lucinda, William D Perrine.

In 1823 he married Mrs. Anna Townsend of Milo and moved there. He had two sons by that marriage, Henry and Martin. He died in Milo, Sept. 20, 1839 at 68.

IN MEMORIUM

RUDOLPH DE MILLO, 51, of Seneca Falls died Sept. 13, 1986. Buried St. Mary's Cemetery, Waterloo. He was born in Waterloo and was a veteran of the Korean Conflict.

STEPHEN MUMFORD, 38, died in Florida, Sept. 17, after being hit by a car. He was buried in Florida. He was born in Seneca Falls, son of Paul and Bettyjane Mumford, Sr. He was a lance corporal in the Marine Corps and served in Vietnam. He received a Purple Heart Medal and several other commendations during his term of service.

WILLIM M. LOVALLO, 65, of Seneca Falls, died Sept. 27. Buried in St. Columkille Cemetery. He was born in Port Chester, son of Angelo and Lucy Romanello Lovallo. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Air Force.

FRANCIS P. HOAGLAN, 73, of Ovid, died Sept. 30. He was born in Romulus, son of Edward and Julia McNaney Hoaglan. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. Buried in Union Cemetery, Ovid.

JOHN J. HIGH, 71, of Waterloo, died Oct. 14. Buried in Restvale Cemetery. He was born in Seneca Falls, son of William H. and Mary Beach High. He served in World War II, in both the European and Pacific theaters. He was awarded the Bronze Star in 1944 and in January 1945 was captured as a prisoner of war in Germany.

H. THOMAS CHRISTOFFERSEN, 79, of Ovid, died Oct. 13. He was buried in Union Cemetery. He was born in Brooklyn, son of Ole and Helene Halvorsen Christoffersen. He was a

veteran of World War II.

FRED L. SORENSEN, 55, of Seneca Falls and Waterloo, died Nov. 3. Buried in Maple Grove Cemetery. He was born in Seneca County, son of George E. and Pauline E. Bissell Sorensen. He was an Army veteran of the Korean Conflice, a former Deputy Sheriff and a Waterloo village patrolman.

WILLIAM C. APPELL, 69, of Palmyra, died Nov. 17. Buried in Newark Cemetery. He was born in MacDougall, son of William and Ruth Appell. He served in the Army in the European theater during World War II.

ARNOLD M. AVERY, 69, of Auburn, formerly of Waterloo, died Nov. 21. Buried in Auburn. He was a veteran of World War II.

LEONARD T. BOYES, 91, of Interlaken, died Nov. 27. Buried Lakeview Cemetery. He was born in Kansas, son of Warner and Anna Hodgkinson Boyes. He was a charter and life member of the Interlaken American Legion.

HAROLD VAN TASSEL, 75, of Waterloo, died Nov. 30. Buried Claverack, NY. He was a retired senior master sergeant. in the Air Force with 23 years of service. He served in World War II and the Korean Conflict.

FREDERICK M. KRIEGER, 70, of Ovid, died Nov. 30, in Florida. Buried Lakeview Cemetery. He was a World War II veteran serving as an infantry sergeant. He was born in Tanganyika, British East Africa.

DR. ROY E. WALLACE, 78 of Seneca Falls, died Dec. 2. Buried in St. Columkille Cemetery. He was born in Buffalo, son of Elwin L. and Julia Levi Wallace. He began his medical



INTERLUKEN 53

JACK C HARTZELL, 62, of Waterloo, died Dec. 8. Buried Maple Grove Cemetery. He was born in Timblin, Pa. son of Ray O. and Beulah A. Reichard Hartzell. He was an Army veteran of World War ii

Andrew J. Wood, Phelps, 22, to Ann Maria Beers, Waterloo, 28, by Franklin Rogers, JP, Jan. 23, 1847 in Junius.

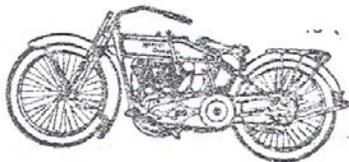
ELMER J. PORTER, 63 of Lodi, died Dec. 4. Buried West Lodi Cemetery. He was born in Caywood, son of Elmer G. and Celia Smith Porter. He served as flight instructor in Army Air Force during World War II. He was assessor for the Town of Lodi.

Benjamin Scott, 26 to Lydia ?, 27, both Fayette, by Rev. Mr. Shaw, Fayette, Dec. 29, 1846.

Elisha Morgan, 23 to Mariane Brindige, 21, both Fayette, by John Shaw, in Fayette, Jan. 29, 1847

Garry Post, 24 to Elizabeth Maynard 18, both Fayette, by Rev. Perrington in Mentz, Feb. 2, 1847.

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Walter G. Bennett, Ovid, 28, to Lucinda Wilkins, Farmerville, 24, by Rev. William McCarthy, in Farmer, Feb. 1, 1847.

Charles E. Swift, Auburn, 27, to Josephine Almy, Farmerville, 20, by Rev. Jno. M. Austin, in Auburn, Feb. 24, 1847

Oliver C. Smith, Covert, 27, to Amanda Harris, Ovid, 24, by Rev. Mr. Little, in Lodi, March 4, 1847

Charles Overshire, 56, to Dorcas Tracy, 57, both Lodi, by John H. Sabin, JP, Lodi, Jan. 3, 1847

William J. Smalley, 54, to Hannah Williams, 19, both Lodi, by John H. Sabin, in Lodi, Jan. 27, 1847

William Fletcher, 22, to Elizabeth Van Lew, 21, both Lodi by Rev. Hamilton in Trumansburg, Feb. 3, 1847

Robert Cross, Phelps, 35, to Henrietta Strong, Tyre, 28, by Samuel H. Gridley, in Waterloo, Jan. 28, 1847

THE RECORDS OF 1847-48-49

MARRIAGES:

Theodore Dowers to Elizabeth Huff, both 21, in Ovid by Rev. Benjamin Warren, 1/6/1847

James F. Bennett, 23 to Eliza D. Saunders, , 21, both Ovid, by Rev. A Gilpin, in Groton, Feb. 3, 1847.

Alanson Russell, 20 to Catherine Ellis, 15, both Ovid by Rev. Benj. Warren, in Ovid, Feb. 4, 1847.

Jarvis L. Southerland, 25, to Emily Northrup, 25, by Rev. Lewis B. Southerland, in Junius, Jan. 20, 1847

James S. Stevenson, Junius, 32, to Ann Eliza West or Nest of Rose, 24, by Franklin Rogers, JP of Junius, Jan. 20, 1847

George Decker, 27, to Martha Magee, 21, both Tyre, by Harris, in Junius Feb. 17, 1847