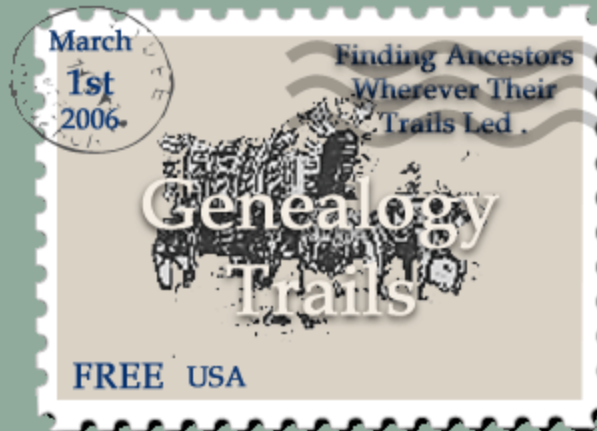


Monroe County New York



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History of the Towns and Villages Henrietta



Source: History of Monroe County, New York; Everts, Ensign & Everts; 1788-1877
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HENRIETTA

Ten years ago, the writer of this was riding in the stage from Rochester to Henrietta. Among the passengers was an elderly man going to visit some relatives in Rush. He hailed from Michigan, and had traveled much in that and other western States. He was much interested in Henrietta,--- a place he had never seen,---and made many inquiries about the village, and especially about Monroe academy. All through Michigan and the west he had met intelligent and enterprising men and women who had formerly lived in Henrietta or received their education in Monroe academy. He wanted to know what kind of a place Henrietta was. Evasive answers were given. He was told that the stage passed through the centre of the village, in full view of the academy, and he could soon see both for himself. Nearing the Four Corners, the academy and village were pointed out. The stranger's countenance showed a trace of disappointment. "Henrietta is not much of a place," he remarked, as we rode up to the only hotel and the full proportions of the village were apparent. "That," said we, "is where you are much mistaken. Henrietta is a good deal of a place, but not many people live there." This remark embodies the sentiments of all present and former citizens of the town.

SETTLEMENT

Long after Pittsford was a thriving settlement, what is now Henrietta was only known as the Woods of West-town. Heavy forests repelled settlement, and before Rochester had started it seemed remote from Canandaigua and Pittsford, the only accessible markets. In 1790, Major Isaac Scott received a grant of nine hundred acres, in the southwest part of the town, for his services, and commenced a settlement the same year, built a log hut, and cleared twelve or fifteen acres; but in 1792 he abandoned his clearing, and the tract was merged into that of the

proprietors. About this time the township was bought by William and Cornelius Charles Six, of the Hague, Holland, and soon after the latter became sole owner by the death of his brother. Mr. Wadsworth, while in Europe, secured the agency for its sale and settlement, but did not bring it into market until 1806, when Stephen Rogers surveyed it into farm lots. In the same year two settlements were begun, one in the east and the other in the west part of the town. Lyman and Warren Hawley came from Avon in the summer of 1806, and located on the John Bushman farm, southwest of the West Village. They built a log house, cleared sixty or seventy acres that summer, and sowed some wheat. At the same time Jesse Pangburn made a clearing near where the West Henrietta Hotel now stands. He was a bachelor, and in July, 1806, a party of hunters from Avon found him here on Sunday making yeast for bread which he was preparing to bake for his choppers. Two or three years later, he married the widow of Asa Baker, a Revolutionary soldier, who died leaving a large family of children. Some of these sons, Asa Jr., Leander, Remembrance, and Justus, were long residents of the town. Mr. Pangburn did not live many years. His wife long survived him, living with her children. One evening 1811 or 1812 she was chased by a wolf; she climbed a tree, called for help, and the wolf was killed. The east side settlement commenced on the north and south road, one and a half miles northeast of the village. Joseph Carne, of Pittsford, settled on the Isaac N. Dayton place. His son, Dr. Charles Carne, of Pittsford, born October 16, 1806, was the first white child born in Henrietta. Moses Wilder made a clearing on George Slode's farm, and planted the first apple-orchard in the town. Ira Hatch also made a clearing on J. Fowler's place at the same time. His wife was the first white woman in the town. Other settlers in 1806 were Charles Rice, Benjamin Boles, Moses Goodale, Thomas Sparks, George Dickinson, Selah Reed, Asa Champlin, Gideon Griswold, Asa Hull, Captain Joseph Bencraft, William Thompson, and Elias Wilder; and Orlando Brown and John Gould in West Henrietta. Several of these moved away in a year or two. In 1807, Jonathan Russell moved in, built a log house on land now owned by Jesse Fowler, near No. 2 school-house, and on January 16, 1808, his son Moody was born, the second male child in town. In April, 1807, a daughter of Hezekiah Sherwood was born near the Rush line, on Samuel Titus' place, opposite the Rush reservoir, when the mother died; and this is believed to have been the first death in Henrietta. Her body was buried in a fence-corner on the farm where she died.

Jonathan Wilder, ----- Parish, and Artemas Baner also settled in town, the two latter near the East Henrietta Baptist church. Phineas Baldwin came in the spring of 1807; his wife and sons, Jacob, Ansel, and Charles in the fall of the same year. Silas and Edward Dunkam settled on the Milham place in 1808. Between here and the village a bear was killed in 1810. In 1807 Asa Burr and wife moved from Connecticut to Avon, and in 1809 to Henrietta, where they settled on the homestead on the river road, now owned by Samuel H. Burr, who says that in 1809 there were but thirteen families in town, showing that many of the early settlers made their clearing before bringing their families. In 1809 some of the Sperry family came from Bloomfield, where they had been for some years. James Sperry came in 1812.

In 1810, John Brininstool settled on the river road, followed, the next year, by John Cook, Michael Brininstool, Charles Case, Isaac F. Nichols, Frederick Samples, Simon Moore, Charles Cosgrove, Ira McNoll, and Betternell Hitchcock. About 1810, John Spring located on the farm of W. Bullard and H. D. Tuttle. In 1811, Abijah Gould, John and Andrew Bushman settled in the west part, and William Leggett and his five sons, William Jr., Ira H., Franklin, Stephen, and Charles, in the east part of the town. Charles Leggett is still living, aged seventy-three, with an excellent memory of early facts and dates. Other early settlers on the river road were Barzilla and David Archer, Charles Daniel, an early blacksmith, where H. M. Webster lives, Harvey Miller, William Frazie, Timothy Torrance, and Daniel Bly. James Tinker, with his sons, John C. and James R. came in 1812. On the farm they bought they found Bishop Stillwell, an early settler, and, near the Pittsford line, George L. Valley, who in 1810 burned the first lime-kiln intown. In 1813, Captain Blodgett built a house on the back part of the Richardson farm, and David Scribner owned the part next the woods. One of the first distilleries was built on this farm.

Jonathan Smith, a Quaker from Vermont, built the first saw-mill in 1811, on the farm afterwards owned by John Gage. Two or three years after, Eager Wells built the second, on the Andrew S. Wadsworth place. He died soon after, and his brother Corwin succeeded to the business. At a later day another saw-mill was erected near Thomas Jackson's place. The streams of this town are all small, with low banks and little fall, affording very poor mill privileges. No flouring-mills have been built in town. Grist-mills were, however, accessible in Pittsford, Stone's, afterwards Marvin's, mills, and one near the river, on Mr. Post's place; also the Brown mills at the falls, in Rochester. A more serious difficulty was the lack of necessary articles, partly through the poverty of the people. In 1812 and 1813, and even later, the choppers in East Henrietta had to go to West Brighton to grind their axes, there being no grindstone nearer. Leather was necessary in the winter, but in summer most of the settlers went barefoot. About 1813, Richard Daniels bought ten acres, and built a tan-house on the brook near Jesse Fowler's residence. Settlers bought hides, had them tanned, and made their own shoes, or employed traveling shoemakers to make them. Mr. Austin, living near the Pittsford line, and Phineas Baldwin, were two of these shoemakers. They would call at a house and make a pair of shoes for each member of the family. It was called "whipping the cat." John Gooding was one of the first distillers on the road between Sherman hill and West Henrietta. He and his brother Ebenezer came in from Bloomfield in 1812. About 1810, Sidney Warner, a step-son of Asa Hull, built a log shop on the small stream south of John Robertson's house. He put in a turning-lathe, run by water-power in the spring freshets, when he would turn out a large amount of wood for chairs, spinning-wheels, reels, etc., and work it up during the summer. Subsequently, David Hedges established the same business at the village. In 1810 he bought one hundred acres, where the academy stands, built a log house, made a clearing, and pursued his trade. One September afternoon, in 1815, Mr. Hedges went into the dense woods north of his home to look for his cows. He found them near the Brighton line. Night coming on, he was pursued by wolves. The cows ran ahead and escaped, while he was obliged to take off his shoes and ascend a tree for safety. One of his shoes falling was seized and torn into shreds by the wolves, who remained until daylight, awaiting their prey. These were among the last wolves seen intown, as an increased bounty of ten dollars soon caused their extermination. In the north part of the town, for several years, quite a number of squatters subsisted by hunting, fishing, and trapping wolves for the bounty, the latter being generally spent for whisky.

EAST AND WEST VILLAGES

Until about 1815 it seemed probable that the village in East Henrietta would be where the Baldwins now live. Deacon Samuel Wise and family settled in 1812, on the place opposite Cyrus Baldwin's. John Wise built a log blacksmith-shop in 1814, near the old stone shop. Sidney Weaver's turning-shop, the first saw-mill, and Richard Daniel's tannery were near by. But a road had been made from the falls, running through the present village, where the first taverns and stores were built, and that determined the course of travel. John Acer, son of William Acer, of Pittsford, came in 1810, and bought one hundred and fifty acres, now owned by Samuel Calkins, north of the village. He built a log house where Mr. Porter lives, close to the poplar-trees, in which he opened a tavern. In one small room of the same building James Smith sold goods, which he had brought from Canandaigua, about 1812. This was the first store. John Acer also kept the first post-office, when John Webster, of Rush, carried the mail once a week from Avon. Acer soon after removed to Pittsford. He was succeeded by Ebenezer Gooding, who kept the tavern about three years. Aaron Acer bought one hundred acres where Hervey and Alfred Stone live. On the northwest corner of the latter's farm an old grave-yard once existed, where many of the earliest pioneers were buried. It has long since been plowed over, and the graves obliterated. The first store in Henrietta village was opened by Stephen Cody in 1813, where he settled the year before. It was a small one-story frame building, long since removed and used as a corn-house. Benjamin Baldwin succeeded Cody, and built the present brick store in 1824 and 1825, which he kept until his death in 1827 or 1828, when Elihu Kirby purchased it. Dr. James Lewis kept a small drug-store from 1824 to 1829 in East Henrietta. He was not a practicing physician,

though he dispensed medicine. He also kept the post-office after Charles T. Whiffs, where Samuel Calkins now lives, who succeeded John Acer as postmaster.

The rapid increase of population was indicated by the numerous small taverns which sprang up to accommodate the incoming settlers. Beside Acer's and Gooding's, a log tavern was opened by Isaac Robinson, or better known as "one-eyed Robinson," south of William J. Kimball's, which was afterwards kept by Jacob Baldwin and Richard Wilkins. It became a famous tavern in its day. Jarvis Sherman and Richard Wilkins built the first frame hotel, on the site of the present Henrietta House, afterwards kept by William Pierce a few years, followed by Luther C. Chamberlain. At this time the meetings of the Masonic lodge were held in this tavern, in an upper room, beneath the garret. Mrs. Chamberlain, being the original anti-Mason, had cut a hole through the plastering to the garret, and one night stationed a boy over it to watch for the secrets of Masonry and report to her. Making a noise, he exposed his whereabouts, when Roswell Wickwine struck at the hole with his sword, though doing no damage. The meeting was adjourned, after voting that the holding of lodges in the tavern with Mrs. Chamberlain in the building was inexpedient. The village, however, was stirred to its depths next day by her wonderful revelations; but, unfortunately for her success, her husband was a Mason. This was about three years before Morgan made his revelations. Soon after a store was erected, and the lodge moved to an upper room without a garret. In 1858 the hotel was burned, and rebuilt by Alfred White, who then owned it. He was succeeded by William Smith in August, 1867. Jacob Stevens built the large frame building where H. M. Calkins now lives, in 1817, and kept a hotel three years. Previous to this Stevens had purchased Elizabeth Wilder's place on the Corner northeast of the village, but, finding that the business would not centre there, he bought the Calkins place. But, the second enterprise not proving profitable, he sold to John Russell in 1821, and moved to Michigan. Dr. Jonah D. Simonds was the first physician in Henrietta. He came from Pawlet, Vermont, and settled in 1811, on land where the hotel now stands. From this he removed to a small brick house, north of the Corner, where he died in 1822, at the age of thirty-seven. One of his daughters is Mrs. Anson Lord, of Pittsford, and another Mrs. Havens, of Brighton. Dr. Beadle practiced a short time with Dr. Simonds, but soon moved away. Dr. Samuel Weeks and Dr. J. H. M. C. Hazeltine, brothers-in-law, succeeded him,---the latter in 1829, and remained until his removal to Rochester a few years ago. For many years he was the only physician in the town, with a practice extending into Rush, Pittsford, and Brighton. Dr. Robert Kelsey practiced some time in West Henrietta, until killed by the fall of a tree. Dr. A. Mandeville, of Rochester, resided here from 1845 to 1847. Drs. H. D. Vosburgh and Robert Lane followed Dr. Hazeltine in succession, and, since the latter's death, Dr. George Martin has been the resident physician; he and Dr. La Mont, of West Henrietta, are the only two in town at present practicing.

MANUFACTURES

The manufacturing interests of Henrietta are mainly comprised in the extensive blacksmith and wagon-making shops of Joseph Williams and Alexander Williams, in West Henrietta, and the blacksmith- and wagon-shop of William J. Kimball, in the East village. In very early days Charles Daniels had a blacksmith-shop near H. M. Webster's on the river road, and Samuel Adjutant another, where he made wagons, north of Methodist Hill. A blacksmith-shop stood at an early day on the Hunn place, where Tiffany Hunn made "Bull plows," which he sold at ten dollars each. They were made of wood, with wrought-iron shares, and designed for plowing among stumps. These, however, were small establishments and continued but a short time. The first blacksmith-shop in West Henrietta village was built in 1816, by Moses Swift, on the hill where Mr. Keyes lives. In a year or two he moved to the Williams shop, and sold to a German, named Fruitye, who in 1818 sold to the Williams Brothers. These men had previously built a shop on the southwest corner of the road, on land long occupied by T. O. Jones, near the swamp. For several years shoeing oxen was the principal business done in the village shops, but latterly they have done an extensive business, and, through the Messrs. Williams, have made West Henrietta what it is. They remained in partnership about fifteen years, when the accumulation of capital

enabled them to separate and set up two large establishments. They are a great change from the log blacksmith-shop in which the brothers commenced nearly sixty years ago.

A. Williams has also a foundry in operation, and a steam saw-mill. The wagon-shop conducted by William J. Kimball and William Churchill was commenced in a small way by Jacob and Peter Martin, about thirty-five years ago, from whom it passed to the present owners. David Deming settled in 1816 on the farm north of Methodist Hill, where he died. About 1820 he made the first brick in town. The first made were used for chimneys and ovens. The oldest brick houses in town---Monroe academy in 1826, and the brick store in the village---were built of brick made in this yard, some of which, the earliest manufacture, are of enormous size and solidity. The first store opened in West Henrietta village was about 1829, when Billings & Bush, sons-in-law of Lyman Hawley, purchased a stock of goods and commenced selling. They built the present store on the Corner. In 1831, Elihu and M. W. Kirby, of East Henrietta, established a branch store here, with Bentley Wheeler as manager. Mr. Wheeler afterwards became owner, and in 1847 or 1848 it was sold to Alonzo D. Webster, who continued it several years. The present proprietor, Marvin S. Williams, was a soldier in the late war, for which he raised a company. The first hotel here was kept by Henry Chapman in 1821. The present hotel was erected in 1831, by Edward Bush. He was succeeded respectively by Chauncey Chapman, John Webster, J. M. Cutler, and Wells Clark, present proprietor. Mr. Bush was also the first postmaster, appointed in 1831: prior to that time the mail was received from the east post-office. Chauncey Chapman held the office from 1835 to 1849, and Marion Williams at present.

Long before a store or hotel existed in this village, David Jeffords kept a grocery-store in an old log house which stood on the site of Orlow Beebe's residence. It had a good stock of goods and was largely patronized. Lyman Miller also kept a large log hotel, where George W. Kintz lives, north of Methodist Hill, as early as 1817. But of late years hotels have not been very profitable away from railroads, which have turned the tide of enterprise. The Genesee valley branch of the New York and Erie Railroad is the only line in the town, and its depot is too distant to benefit the village hotel. The Henrietta House on the east road is a popular stopping-place with parties who come from Rochester to visit the water-works reservoir on the Rush line.

WATER-WORKS, ETC.

The people of Henrietta lost several thousand dollars by the failure of the old water-works company. Its reservoir was located one mile south of East Henrietta village. A vast amount of labor done upon it by the citizens of the town was never paid for. Its failure was ascribed to defective pipe. The highway, from the city line through Brighton, East Henrietta, and Rush, was badly cut up by this and other enterprises for several years. An attempt was also made to conduct the gas from the burning well in Bloomfield to Rochester, but it resulted in a disastrous failure, through defective pipe. A number of capitalists from Elmira lost more than one million dollars in this enterprise.

Most of the early settlers of Henrietta were poor. Nearly all the first purchasers took only an article of agreement, securing the land to them at a specified price. The time were hard, and there was little money to be had for any purpose. Payments as agreed were impossible. The proprietors took advantage of this condition of affairs, and advanced the price of land sixty-six per cent, unless paid by a certain day. Very many sold their claims; others abandoned them and lost all their improvements. As an instance, John Woodruff, from Bloomfield, made a clearing in 1810 on the farm now owned by David L. Bailey, planted an orchard in 1811, and sold the whole fifty-acre claim in 1817 for a barrel of pork, then worth thirty dollars. Jacob Fargo, near the Brighton line, was more fortunate. He came from Tinmouth, Vermont, in 1812, took up fifty acres, and went to chopping wood for Mr. Ely, between the river and South Clinton street. He earned one hundred dollars, and was offered land now in the city in payment, which he refused, as he wanted the money to pay on his fifty acres. To obtain the remainder, he sold every horse, cow, and other stock on the place. This made enough, and a little to spare, before the final day. He

went afoot to the Wadsworth agency at Genesee to pay the money. In counting it, three dollars were thrown out as counterfeit, which left him with six cents in his pocket to take him home. With this he purchased a bowl of bread-and-milk near Avon. Mr. Fargo restocked his farm more cheaply than he had sold, buying from those who deferred selling until necessity compelled them. After many of the earliest settlers had abandoned or been driven from their homes, the Wadsworths bought up all these unsold claims of the foreign owners. These difficulties measurably stifled immigration, and new-comers were chary of buying land.

Many of the early buyers succeeded in retaining a part of their original purchase, and securing farms of twenty, thirty, or forty acres. On the large unsold tracts in the north and west, squatters had located themselves at an early day,---between 1813 and 1820. Some became permanent residents and made valuable citizens, but the greater majority passed onward with the van of settlement, leaving no record. The fact that but few of the residents of Henrietta were freeholders was used against them at town meetings, where they were brought into conflict with the older and richer Pittsford settlement. In 1816 it was voted to adjourn the next town meeting to the school-house near the Stephen Cody place, which aroused the ire of the Pittsford people. Simeon Stone declared there was not a legal voter in West-town, as under the old State constitution, prior to 1821, only freeholders were legal voters. At the polls he challenged every Henrietta voter as a non-freeholder; but many of them had received, for one day only, a deed in fee of a small piece of land, and voted on that. Samuel Felt, an early Pittsford merchant and postmaster, was elected supervisor that year, mainly by the votes of West-town residents. The difficulties growing out of this led finally to the separation of the town of Henrietta in 1818. Their disfranchisement under the old constitution made the citizens of this town very zealous for the more liberal constitution of 1821, and contributed largely to confirm the Democratic ascendancy in town politics during the first twenty years of its existence. The division of the original town was most strenuously opposed by Pittsford, but the rapidly increasing western settlements in population rendered a new organization inevitable. In 1813 these settlements, though never officially named, were known as West-town. The early lists of road overseers will indicate the drift of settlement. Those of 1813 and their location were Charles Case, on the George Martin place; Benjamin Ware, on the homestead of his son, A. K. Ware; John Dodge, where Mary Ash now lives, who soon after moved away; David Dunham, father of Silas, Edward, and Daniel, on E. Milham's and Jesse Fowler's place; John Johnstone, in a log house on the cross-road, west of T. Newton; Simeon Perkins, a fifer in early training days, near De Witt's place; Jacob A. Fargo, who lived until a few years ago; Stephen Cody, first storekeeper in East Henrietta; Thomas Leet, south of the old reservoir; Thomas Tillotson, on the south part of Sherman Hill, whose father, Elijah Tillotson, was killed at a barn-raising; Daniel Chadwick, on Stephen McNoll's place; Egor Wells, on A. S. Wadworth's farm; James Sperry and Justus Baker, in the same vicinity; in 1814, Samuel Whitcomb, on the Daniel Cornell place; Asa Hull, where Cyrus Baldwin lives, from 1806; Artemas Barnes, near the East Baptist church; Chandler Huntington and Silas Tillotson, on Sherman Hill; Elijah Little, where Horace Little now lives, which was first settled by John Hibbard, followed by Samuel Cody and his two sons, Joseph and Stephen, in 1812; Robert Fisher and Isaac Sage, northwest of Methodist Hill; Lyman Miller and Seth Swift, brother of Moses, the first blacksmith, and Roswell Wickwine, south of Sherman Hill, with Asa Stannard and John Brininstool. In 1815, Jacob Baldwin, in the East village, was appointed pound-keeper. The road overseers this year were men who resided, until recently, in the town, and are well remembered. Among them were Amasa Aldrich, Daniel Olney, and John Garvin, east of John Hanks, near the Pittsford line; Sergeant Bagley, where James Stevenson lives; William Leggett, Jacob Preolt, an early blacksmith, George King, Remembrance Baker, and Samuel Dimock, on Methodist Hill; and Isaac Dimond and Michael Brininstool, on Hunn's place, Clay street.

FIRST OFFICERS

In 1817 the town meeting was adjourned to East Henrietta, but, before assembling. West-town was set off as the town of Henrietta. The first town meeting was held April 20, 1818, and the organization completed by the election of the following officers, viz.: Supervisor, Jacob Stevens;

Town Clerk, Isaac Jackson; Assessors, Martin Roberts, Lyman Hawley, Noah Post; Highway Commissioners, David Dunham, Elijah Little, Solomon Hovey; Collector, Elisha Gage; Overseers of the Poor, Thomas Remington, Daniel Hedges; School Commissioners, Justus Baker, Richard Daniels, Abel Post; School Inspectors, Jacob Stevens, Charles Sperry, Chauncey Beadle; Constables, Roswell Wickwine, Elisha Gage; and twenty-four Overseers of Highways, viz.: David Treat, Jonathan Ayers, Joseph Bancroft, George Adams, Samuel B. Perkins, Joseph York, Chandler Huntington, Sergeant Bagley, William Leggett, Ezra Howard, George Tanner, William Morford, Joseph Jeffords, Silas Remington, George King, Seth Roberts, George Sperry, Abner B. Sheldon, Barzilla Archer, Joseph Harris, John Camp, Thomas Jones, Elijah Tillotson, and Benjamin Landon. Isaac Jackson came from Fairfield, Herkimer county, in 1817, with his wife, Chloe Wood, and bought the farm on which he died. He was the town clerk seven years, and supervisor eleven years, besides holding other offices. His sons, Calvin W., Thomas J., Morris S., and Harvey, reside in town, the latter on the old homestead. Martin Roberts came in 1811, and was father of the late Hon. Martin Roberts, and grandfather of G. M. C. Roberts, of Henrietta. Abel Post came from Vermont in 1813, and settled on the river road; also Noah Post on the same road, on the site of the old Baptist church; Solomon Hovey where Marvin S. Williams lives; Roswell Wickwine on the S. Hovey place, on Sherman Hill; Elisha Gage, father of the late John Gage, where Raphael Lewis lives; Thomas Remington, on the river road; Chauncey Beadle, a tailor, in the Baldwin settlement; and David Treat, on the R. Latteridge place. Jonathan Ayers purchased John Dodge's place, and lived afterwards near Alfred Williams. Prosper Perrin subsequently lived there many years, along in a log house. Joseph Jeffords, father of Hon. Thomas J. Jeffords, of Rush, settled in 1812, on Clay street; also William Morford. George King lived near Stephen McNoll's; Seth Roberts where Frank Winslow lives; Abner B. Sheldon on David Ely's farm; Samuel B. Perkins where Joseph Williams lives; Jeremiah Yorks near Martin Roberts; and Thomas Jones in the north part of the town. His widow, Mrs. Ellis, is still living. In 1816, Elijah Utley, with his wife and ten children, settled on the farm long occupied by Samuel Utley. One son, William Utley, is still living; also the widow of Samuel Utley, now Mrs. Dr. Luckey, of Rochester. The large settlement of squatters was in this vicinity, who erected the rudest kind of log cabins, where they lived until driven out by purchases. Mr. Utley well remembers the names and location of many of them, some of which are recognized among the earliest settlers and are worthy of preservation. Beginning on the State road, near the Brighton line, they were James Lawlers, potash-maker, George Allen, Simeon Magoon, Hartshorn and Baldwin; Anson Beebe, Elijah Rose, on Noah Lake's farm; James Whitehouse, James Bliss, Noble Clark, Amos Wood, and James Gordon, where Hyatt lives; Robert McCloud, Hulbert Wilcox, and Lyman Wright lived west of the State road; Elihu Roberts on William Tanner's place; and Seth Roberts on the Winslow farm. Abraham Pease, a pioneer shoemaker, lived on the Thomas O. Jones farm. Lyman Pierson, who settled on the Wright Fields farm, west of No. 2 school-house, and Sheldon Pierson, on the hill on the east part of Jesse Fowler's farm, were early settlers. This hill was first squatted on, and a log house built, by Lyman Converse.

REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS

Besides Asa Baker, who died very soon after coming to Henrietta, several others among the early settlers were soldiers in the Revolutionary war. Major Gilbert, one of the pioneers in the west part of the town, received his title in the Revolution. Joel Clark, father of Jeremiah Clark, entered the army in 1781, with his father and older brother, as a drummer. Being only fourteen years old, he was too young unless he enlisted to serve through the war, which he did. He was born in Connecticut, but moved to Bloomfield in 1799, and to Henrietta in 1816, where he died, November 8, 1847, at the age of eighty. Robert McLond, a relative of the Sperrys, who lived north of Methodist Hill, and Lyman Wright, who lived north of George L. Beckwith's, were both veterans of the Revolution. Daniel Phillips, who settled in town in 1820, where he remained until his death, July 18, 1838, was a soldier through the war, and served with the Marquis de La Fayette. During the marquis' visit to Rochester in 1826, he recognized his old companion in arms, and called him by name.

SOLDIERS OF 1812

Henrietta was well and honorably represented in the war of 1812, in which many of her citizens took part. Jacob, John, and Samuel Hibbard, who lived on the Littles farm, went to the lines; Samuel never returned. Loren Converse died in the war. Nearly all the settlers went to the falls and the mouth of Genesee river, to repel the threatened attack on those settlements. One man, a Mr. Bartlett, who worked for Asa Hull, was accidentally killed. Challenged at night by a sentry, through carelessness or ignorance he failed to give the countersign, and was shot dead. He was a widower, and it is remembered that his little girl, Pattie Bartlett, only four or five years old, moaned bitterly because "papa did not come home." This is believed to have been the only casualty in the defense of Rochester and vicinity. The English vessels fired a few shots, but did not damage; yet "some one had blundered," a comrade was killed, and a little child was orphaned. The father of George L. Beckwith died in the army in 1813, near Black Rock. Samuel Cody, a cousin of the storekeeper, also died in the service. Dr. Phillips, a brother of the Revolutionary soldier Daniel Phillips, with his two sons, Ira and James, also served through the war of 1812.

EARLY SCHOOLS

In Henrietta, as in all western New York, the log school-house followed close upon the first settlement. Almost as soon as land was cleared and planted, to guard against starvation, the pioneer turned his attention to the education of his children, and the rude log school-house was erected as a necessary adjunct to his forest home. The families of pioneers were always large, and the early schools were crowded, especially in winters. The first school in town was in 1810, taught by Lucy Branch, on the river road. She was sister of Jefferson Branch, and married Solomon Nichols. Linus Evarts taught the following winter, and Polly Boughton the next summer and in 1812. In the east part of the town a log school-house was erected in 1811, one half-mile north of school No. 2, on the northeast corner. Its first teacher was Sarah Leggett, who in 1816 married Joseph Cody. Selah Dayton and Mr. Holmes taught the succeeding winters; the former subsequently moved to Penfield. It was burned in the fall of 1814, as was supposed, to conceal the theft of corn, stored there by Charles Rice, then living opposite. It was replaced by a frame building in 1816, on the site now occupied by No. 2. Horatio Titus was the first teacher in the new building, and Betsy Bacon the next summer. On Methodist Hill, Isaac Ellis was an early teacher, at ten dollars per month and board. In 1811, near the first log school-house, a bear was killed, and its head raised upon a pole in front, for the scholars to look at. It was an "object-lesson" in zoology, which none of them were likely to forget in a lifetime. Elijah Little was the first teacher in the East village. He taught in a small log building, on the site of A. B. Enoch's house, in the winters of 1812, 1813, and 1814. He also taught in a log house near Mrs. Stephen Leggett's. Isaac N. Dayton and Seeley Dayton were early village teachers, and at No. 2 Rufus C. Stevens and Daniel Marble, who lived opposite William Bullard's.

EARLY LIBRARY AND SOCIETIES

The settlers of Henrietta, though generally poor, were, as a class, of more than ordinary intelligence, and always ready to make any effort contributing to the intellectual and educational interests of the town. Through the influence of James Sperry, C. Baldwin, Elisha Gage, I. N. Dayton, George S. Beckwith, and a few others, a public library was organized in 1816. Each member subscribed an equal sum per year, and the books, carefully selected, were common property. Mr. Wadsworth, of Genesee, was a liberal patron. About the same time a debating society was organized in the west part of the town, which became one of the most powerful auxiliaries in the town for educational progress, intellectual discipline and growth of a whole generation. Its meetings were very largely attended, many coming from East Henrietta, and the adjoining towns of Rush, Brighton, and Pittsford, to take part in the intellectual contests. The society continued in full vigor more than twenty years, and exerted a powerful influence in stimulating thought. Among its active members were Jarvis Sherman, George L. Beckwith, Isaac Jackson, James Sperry, Orlow Beebe, and, not unfrequently, Judge Peter Price, of Rush. Other debating societies existed in the town, but this, lasting so many years, and directed mainly by

influential men, deserves recognition as a most potent element in making Henrietta the intelligent community which it has long been regarded.

MONROE ACADEMY

The early settlers, feeling the great want of educational advantages themselves, determined, as they prospered in life, to secure to their children better facilities; and, in keeping with adjacent communities, the citizens felt that a system of higher education, or graded classes, ought to be established at home. Through this feeling the Monroe academy originated. The first steps towards its formation were taken July 2, 1825, at a meeting of the "inhabitants of the town of Henrietta, together with delegates from the village of Rochester." when it was agreed to raise six thousand dollars in shares of fifty dollars each (afterwards reduced to twenty-five dollars). Elijah Little, L. C. Chamberlain, Richard Daniels, James Sperry, and Joseph Brown were appointed a committee to solicit subscription. By October 26 enough had been subscribed to warrant the undertaking, and another meeting was held, with Giles Boulton presiding, and Elisha Ely secretary. L. C. Chamberlain, Giles Boulton, Abijah Gould, John Garvin, and Osins S. Church were chosen a committee to locate the academy and to receive plans for building. The plan presented by Giles Boulton was adopted. On December 3 five proposals were received, the lowest at four thousand five hundred dollars, and the highest at eight thousand dollars. It was voted to locate the academy "on the stubble lot of Orange Hedges," two acres of which were given for that purpose. Elijah Little, Giles Boulton, John Garvin, Benjamin Baldwin, M. L. Angle, Luther Hovey, and L. C. Chamberlain were appointed a building committee, and Benjamin Baldwin collector and treasurer, to whom the contract was let for four thousand five hundred dollars. Sixty-two persons subscribed, in sums varying from twenty-five to two hundred and fifty dollars, and forty-seven to one-half share each, amounting in the aggregate, to five thousand four hundred and thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents; besides one hundred dollars donated by the Messrs. Wadsworth, of Geneseo, in conformity with their usual custom, in aiding public improvements in western New York. The gift of two acres by Mr. Hedges was the largest received by the institution. During the summer of 1826, the building was nearly completed, and on October 26, the same year, Daniel B. Crane, of Bloomfield, was selected first principal of the school, he agreeing to take four shares of stock as soon as appointed, and to procure in New York the necessary certificate. Jacob Gould, L. Ward, Jr., Giles Boulton, Elijah Little, Joseph Brown, Richard Daniels, and Abijah Gould were appointed an executive committee to secure a charter to fix the rates of tuition and appoint teachers, to petition the legislature for an appropriation, and to solicit additional subscriptions. Elisha Gage, O. S. Church, and Thomas Jones were appointed auditing committee.

On December 23, 1826, a petition was drawn for a charter, with the following names as trustees, elected by the stockholders: Levi Ward, Jr., Giles Boulton, Elijah Little, Jacob Gould, Elisha Gage, Abijah Gould, Ezra Howard, Martin Roberts, Osias S. Church, Luther C. Chamberlain, Thomas Jones, and Charles Dannals. The new academy was opened, with great enthusiasm, in the fall of 1826, David B. Crane, principal, Miss Mary Allen, preceptress, and D. M. Crosby and Mr. Smith, assistants; and with between one and two hundred scholars. Early in 1827, John H. Thompson, of Rochester, delivered a temperance lecture in the academy hall, which was the first public meeting held there. The Congregational and Methodist societies held religious services here on the Sabbath alternately, at one dollar each meeting for the use of the hall. The board of trustees met regularly the first Mondays of January, April, July, and October. For several years Giles Boulton walked to Henrietta, from Rochester, to every trustee meeting. In January, 1828, the academy was rented to D. B. Crane for three years, at five hundred dollars per year; the trustees agreeing, if the attendance required it, to fit up the lower room for recitation for thirty dollars per annum additional, which was done at a cost of seventy dollars. At the expiration of Mr. Crane's contract he found he had expended two thousand seven hundred and eighteen dollars and seventy cents, and received three thousand one hundred and forty-eight dollars and ninety-six cents, leaving only four hundred and thirty dollars and twenty-six cents for three years work. During all this time the school had been full with nearly three hundred students, but tuition

rates were low and the expenses heavy. Ezra Howard, Giles Boulton, Richard Wilkins, D. B. Crane, and Jacob Gould were appointed a committee to consider a proposition of the Methodist Episcopal Conference to take the Monroe academy for a high school, which does not appear to have been acted upon, and the conference located their seminary and college at Lima. In 1830 Mr. Crane left the school, and the board engaged Oliver Baker as principal and William Crocker as assistant. In 1831 M. T. Leavenworth took the school, and in 1832 Mr. Crocker, at seven hundred dollars salary, with a lady teacher at three hundred dollars. In 1833 Mr. Burke taught one year, and was succeeded in March, 1835, by Rev. Jonathan Whittaker, who had one son and three daughters qualified to teach. But in April following he died, followed soon after by his wife. The Whittaker family continued the school several months after the father's death. From 1835 to 1838, Rev. O. S. Taylor, of Auburn, was principal. S. H. Ashman and Almon D. Corbin were both elected in 1838, but declined. E. D. Ransom, twenty-eight years old, finally became principal, and served three years, with Miss N. G. Barber as assistant. In 1841 the property came into the hands of E. Kirby, who deeded it to George Freeman, on condition that he should keep a school nine months in the year. In 1842 he deeded it in trust to James Sperry, Joseph Brown, Dr. J. H. McHazeltine, Silas H. Ashman, Henry Allen, Abbie C. Allen, and James E. Allen, for academical purposes. A new charter was issued to these as trustees, with E. Kirby, president, and Joseph Brown, vice president.

They contracted with Mr. Freeman to take the school for five years, and make what he could. He was a graduate of Dartmouth College, and had taught academics and high schools three years. William J. Sperry, a graduate of Oberlin, became first male assistant, and Harriet Allen was placed in charge of the female department, January 11, 1845, Jane W. Corey became preceptress, Joseph O. Hudnott, assistant in mathematics, and Sarah T. Stanwood, in the female department. In 1846, Mr. Freeman, by request, was released. The same year money was raised by subscription, and the subscribers assumed the title, with Jarvis Sherman and Orlow Beebe trustees. George W. Burr succeeded for one year as principal, and Mrs. Maria Hubbell as preceptress. In 1846, D. M. Lindsley became principal for two years, assisted by his wife and Miss Maria Enos. In 1849, E. R. Keyes, graduate of Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, became principal, assisted by Miss Jane O. Holbrook. November 30, 1849, Ellery S. Treat, who had taught twenty-five years,---sixteen in Rochester,---became principal for two years, assisted by Gustavus A. Gooding, a graduate of Dartmouth. In 1851, 1852, 1853, and 1854, William Crocker was again principal, assisted by Miss Jane Rogers, now Mrs. F. B. Shearer, of Pittsford, and Miss Clara L. Smith. In 1855, Rev. J. M. Parks had the school, with Miss Almira J. Parks, W. J. Gaston, D. Copeland, and Miss Schlosser as assistants; in 1857 and 1858, William T. Smith, assisted by Professor John C. Porter, Miss Rachel Carney, and Alonzo H. Lewis; since 1858, Rev. E. G. Hall, assisted by his wife, two years; also with Mr. Hitchcock, Martha A. Collier, Miss Richards, and Julia A. Tuttle, teacher of music; and later, William H. Whitney, Rev. J. M. Fradenburgh, Albert Allen, Miss S. C. O'Keefe, J. W. Watkins, Mrs. B. F. Dake, Joseph W. Davis, and Miss H. M. Dixon.

Since 1866 the academy building has been used for a union school, into which it was then changed. Districts Nos. 4 and 5 have been consolidated, and the property purchased by the public. Andrew S. Wadsworth was the last clerk of the last board of trustees of Monroe academy. The old bell, whose sound has called together and cheered so many, was in large part the gift of D. B. Crane, the first teacher. He first contributed fifty dollars, and afterwards gave fifty dollars more, taking two additional shares of stock as his only payment. Several thousand pupils have received their education in whole or in part here, and many have become prominent in the various avocations of life, while all have been made better citizens, and more useful to themselves and the world. In remembrance of what Monroe academy has done, it has been a success, and as the focus of ten thousand memories radiating from every quarter, land, and State, youth is renewed in tottering old age, and some half-forgotten tie of early days are revived. The ancient glories will never return, but it is yet useful as well as venerable, as being preparatory for a greater work, and the centre around which the sweetest memories will always

gather.

PROMINENT PUBLIC MEN

During the early years of its life Henrietta was entirely Democratic in politics, owing to local canuses. In later years it has been nearly evenly divided between the Democratic and Republican parties. The early organization of Monroe academy attracted to Henrietta many young men who in after-years became prominent in the history of the State. Hon. Sanford E. Church was in boyhood a resident of this town, coming here in 1821 with his father, Osias S. Church. When only six years of age, Mr. Church lived one year in the log house built by Jonathan Russell on Jesse Fowler's farm, in 1807, after which he removed to the south part of the village. In building the academy O. S. Church was a leading man, and one of the first trustees. His son, Sanford E., was a pupil in the first classes, and remained until 1832 or 1833, when he removed to Orleans county, where he has since resided. The people of Henrietta have watched with interest his advancement to the chief-justiceship of the State, to which he was elected in 1870 by ninety thousand majority. He was lieutenant-governor from 1850, four years, State comptroller from 1857 to 1860, and a member of the constitutional convention of 1867, besides holding other offices of honor. Matthias L. Angle was member of assembly in 1845; Hon. Martin Roberts in 1860; and Hon. M. W. Kirby, now of Rochester, in 1853 was State senator. John M. Davy, a former resident, was district attorney from 1868 to 1871, and a member of the Forty-fourth Congress. Hon. James L. Angle, son of M. L. Angle, has been member of assembly, and is a man of much political prominence. Hon. Jarvis Lord was educated here, but never a resident. Henry H. Sperry, son of Deacon James Sperry, was school commissioner of the eastern district from 1857 to 1860. He now resides in New York city, though he retains his residence in Henrietta. Isaac C. Seeley, for several years prominent in Georgia politics since the war, was a native of this town.

PROMINENT EARLY SETTLERS AND INCIDENTS

The pioneers were an active and hardy race, and, before the canal was built, women and children were brought in wagons and the men walked. Sometimes the men walked back to visit friends. Benj. Ware did so, after he had been here about three years, to see his parents in Vermont. Part of the way there was a stage, but he managed to keep ahead of it most of the time, especially in hilly country. Up and down hill he could outwalk it. On the level surface it would pass him. The most remarkable feat of pedestrianism was performed by Mrs. Wm. Reeve, now living, in her seventy-fourth year. She came from England in 1819, having been preceded by her brothers three years, who had settled in Pittsford. With her mother and younger children she arrived in New York that fall, and expected her brothers, George and William Taylor, to meet them with wagons, but they could not raise money to come. George then started on foot and walked to New York to see his mother and sisters, whom he found nearly without money. When ready to return, his sister Ann (Mrs. Reeve), then a girl of sixteen, said she would accompany him, and, despite his protests that she could not perform the journey, she did. The second day after starting she stopped to open blisters which had formed on her feet, and then walked on. They got a few chance rides, but most of the distance was walked. Having but little money to obtain food and lodging, one article after another of family relics was parted with. The journey was made in three weeks and one day, from December 4 to December 25, walking forty-two miles the last day, from Geneva, which they left at daylight, to Pittsford, where they arrived at nine o'clock at night. Mrs. Reeve says if the journey had been to Rochester, she would have walked it before stopping. They found the elder brother had procured a team and sleighs, and started for New York two days before, and were all in Geneva the same night. Mrs. Reeve is still active and vigorous, and the fine estate which she and her children own is the fruit of enterprise and sagacity, supplemented by much hard work. Her husband, Wm. Reeve, was also a native of England, emigrating in 1816. He took a job on the new canal, which he worked until he married, when he removed to the homestead, where he died. Wm. and Thos. Reeve, of Henrietta, John Reeve and Mrs. E. Fishbeck, of Pittsford, and Mrs. W. Mellows, of Henrietta, are children of the couple. Among other prominent citizens identified with the improvements of the town are Alex. B.

Enoch, whose residence, built by Elihu Kirby, occupies a part of the original academy lot, and who came from Virginia at the beginning of the recent war, Thos. O. Jones, who owns the original Kirby homestead, and is a son of Thomas Jones, pioneer of 1816, and Samuel Russell, who built the fine residence occupied by his son, Le Grand C. Russell, where he died December 15, 1863, at the age of sixty-three. He settled in town in 1818, where his father, Hezekiah Russell, soon after died. Isaac Noble Dayton probably left the greatest impress upon the earliest infancy of the town. He was from Vermont, and married his wife, a lady of exalted worth, in 1809, the year he settled in Henrietta. A man of culture, and a large reader and thinker, he was foremost in every movement for the intellectual advancement of the new community. He died, universally respected, in 1857. Dr. David D. Dayton, of Geneva, New York, is his eldest son, and was born in a log cabin in the woods of Henrietta, June 9, 1811. Another son, Benj. B. Dayton, rose to eminence at the St. Louis bar, and was law partner of Hon. Henry S. Geyer, of the U. S. Senate. He lost his life at the Gasconade railroad accident in Missouri, in 1857. His two daughters were Mrs. Sarah N. Ladd, still living, and Mrs. H. Clapp, who died in Adrian, Michigan, the past year. Dr. Phillips, another prominent veteran pioneer, settled here in 1814. He was born in Massachusetts, April 23, 1768, married in 1786, reared eleven children, and died September 19, 1860, at the age of ninety-two, in Orleans county, where he had removed in 1840. His wife died September 2, 1839, at the age of eighty-four. The old Captain Reed place, now owned by Wm. Williamson, was settled before 1810 by Peleg Adams, from Vermont. It was longest owned by Captain Daniel Reed, from whom it got its familiar name. Angus Shaw, a Scotchman, and father-in-law of the present owner, bought it in 1857. After his death in 1858, Mr. Williamson bought out the interest of the heirs. Caleb Sherman, from Vermont, settled on Sherman Hill in 1818. His sons, Jarvis, Erastus, Caleb, Jr., Cyrus, and Hiram, all became prominent citizens of the town. Andrew Snyder, from Columbia county, settled here in 1827. He bought the farm of John Whipps, and a large tract of land west of East Henrietta.

SUPERVISORS AND PRESENT TOWN OFFICERS

The supervisors of Henrietta, from its organization to the present year, 1876, are as follows, viz.: Jacob Stevens, 1818 to 1820, both inclusive; Elijah Little, 1821 to 1822; Lyman Hawley, 1823; Elijah Little, 1824; James Sperry, 1825; Elijah Little, 1826 to 1827; Isaac Jackson, 1828 to 1829; Joshua Tripp, 1830 to 1831; Elijah Little, 1832 to 1833; Isaac Jackson, 1834 to 1839; Elisha Gage, 1840; Matthias L. Angle, 1841 to 1842; Isaac Jackson, 1843; Micajah W. Kirby, 1844; M. L. Angle, 1845; Wells Springer, 1846 to 1847; Alexander Williams, 1848; Wells Springer, 1849; Alexander Williams, 1850; Ezra Howard, 1851; Isaac Jackson, 1852 to 1853; Samuel Hoyt, 1854; Ashman Beebe, 1855; Wells Springer, 1856; Alexander Williams, 1857; Jarvis Sherman, 1858, but resigned, and Warren Diver, 1858 to 1859; Jerome Keyes, 1860; Wells Springer, 1861; Jerome Keyes, 1862 to 1863; Alfred A. Stearns, 1864; Jerome Keyes, 1865 to 1868; William C. De Witt, 1869 to 1870; Robert Martin, 1871 to 1874; Samuel Calkins, 1875; and Samuel Beckwith, 1876.

The town officers elected for the present year are as follows: Supervisors, Samuel Beckwith; Town Clerk, Frederick Backley; Justices of the Peace, Warren Caswell, Thomas O. Jones, William J. Kimball, Robert A. Martin; Assessors, Everett F. Terry, Hiram Dunn, Artemas K. Ware, Judson E. Williams; Commissioners of Highways, George C. Terry, Samuel H. Burr, James H. Marcy; Overseers of the Poor, Harvey Stone, Milton Brooks; Collector, George A. De Witt; Constables, John H. Perry, John F. Mahr; Board of Town Auditors, Hanson D. Rulifson, Daniel M. Diver.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HENRIETTA

This was the first church society in the town, and was organized in the east part, on June 10, 1812, six years before the town itself was organized. It embraced most of the settlers in a wide neighborhood, and rapidly advanced in prosperity. In 1820 one hundred and fifty-three persons had subscribed to its covenant, embracing many whose names are inseparably connected with the early history of the town. It was very prosperous under the ministration of Revs. Daniel

Brown, Reuben Tenney, Elder Evans, and Joseph Maltby. In 1815 it had increased to seventy-three, and in 1817 to one hundred and eight. The largest number of active members ever reported was in 1832, when it reached one hundred and thirty-two. It was then in the zenith of its strength and prosperity, since which it has gradually decreased, and now only numbers thirty. The pastors succeeding Rev. Mr. Maltby were Rev. J. Monroe, 1822; Thomas Gorton, 1827; J. S. King, 1827; Hawley Miner, 1830; Eli Stone, 1836; H. Wightman, 1837; H. Stanwood, 1838; John F. Bliss, 1839; R. Tenney, 1841; H. Stanwood, 1842; W. D. Corbin, 1846; Job Leach, 1848; John Witholl, 1849; and from 1852 to 1862 students from the theological seminary, followed by R. P. Lamb, 1862; and R. H. Weeks, from the latter part of 1862 to 1866; since which Rochester Seminary students have supplied the pulpit. The deacons of the church have been Moses Clark, Samuel Wise, J. P. Corbin, Grove Maltby, John Maxwell, Michael Brininstool, Luther Hovey, Amos Corbin, Josiah Keyes, Jeremiah Keyes, Timothy Stone, Benjamin Tripp, and Harvey Stone; and the clerks, Silas Dunham, Isaac Sage, Wm. Durfee, Anselm Baldwin, J. P. Corbin, Luther Hovey, and James Stevenson. The first house of worship was erected in 1831. It was built of brick, and located in the East village. In 1841 it was sold to the Methodist Episcopal society, and two years later a frame building was erected in the southeast part of the town, with a parsonage. This church was burned September 18, 1871, incurring a loss of three thousand dollars, with no insurance. A new structure has been erected the past season, which is not yet complete. In the interval, after the church building was consumed, sheds were erected for holding meetings, in which a flourishing Sabbath-school was maintained. Michael Brininstool, an eminent Christian and zealous Baptist, was one of the most efficient supports of the church in its early life. He was a pioneer of 1811, and was present at its origin. He often held and conducted its services in private houses.

THE WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST CHURCH

A second Baptist society was organized, on the river road, in 1813, with the assistance of Elder E. Weaver, of Mendon, who, for some time previous, had conducted the services of that denomination occasionally in private houses. In 1814, Elder Thomas Gorton, a Baptist preacher, came into town and settled on that road, and through his zealous efforts a new impetus was given to religious interests. In 1815 the second regular Baptist church was organized from this society, with seven constituent members, viz.: Rev. Thomas Gorton, Mrs. Thomas Gorton, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Brininstool, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac F. Nichols, and Samuel Parker. Regular services were held in school and private houses in the vicinity, until 1818, when a block-house was erected for a house of worship. This was the first church edifice erected in town, and was of the most primitive construction. Elder Gorton became its first pastor, and continued to act until 1827, when it was united with the First, or East Baptist church, and the two together became known as the United Henrietta Baptist church. In 1830, however, through local causes, a division occurred, and a reorganization was attempted by the original members to secure an independent church more convenient to that vicinity. But, after fruitless efforts to hold meetings, the plan was abandoned and the church dissolved. In 1838 the West Henrietta Baptist church was set off and organized from the United Henrietta church, as it was still called, with which the members of the disbanded church united. The first members were Michael Brininstool, Isaac F. Nichols, Samuel Dimmock, Jacob Brininstool, Thomas Pitcher, Garrett Van Buskirk, John Boree, Daniel Bly, Noah T. Leet, Leander Baker, Isaiah Keyes, Elmore G. Terry, Elder Daniel Brown, Alfred Goodale, Lancaster Gorton, James McNoll, David Bushman, Leonard Bullard, and Chandler Maltby.

The present church edifice in West Henrietta was erected the same year, previous to which its services were held in the original structure. Rev. Thomas Gorton, pastor of the old, was instrumental in the formation of the new organization, of which he continued pastor two years, and was succeeded, respectively, by Revs. H. Miner, Solomon Goodall, A. C. Kingsley, H. Leavenworth, T. Fuller, A. W. Valentine, George Webster, C. G. Ferguson, I. E. Howard, J. Bennett, W. D. Corbin, W. Entwistle, W. Holt, D. Morse, Uriah Gregory, and S. W. Culver. The deacons of the church have been J. Keyes, L. Search, Elijah E. Nichols, and I. Keyes; and the

church clerks, Horatio Corbin, William Durfee, Mosley Search, and Charles J. Smith. Of late years this church, like the East Baptist church, has been supplied by students from the Rochester Theological Seminary. During the ten years between 1852 and 1862, some of the students who have preached, especially in the East church, have become known throughout the country, prominent among whom are remembered Revs. Lemuel Moss, R. A. Patterson, George F. Pentecost, R. McNoll, J. C. Hyde, C. B. Crane, and A. M. Duboe. Elder Thomas Gorton, the first and for the longest time pastor of the Baptist church of West Henrietta, married Hannah Straight, of Mendon, by whom he had thirteen children, who became heads of families. He removed to Michigan in 1840.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF HENRIETTA

The first preaching and religious services held in what is now the town of Henrietta was some time prior to 1811, by a Presbyterian minister, and was the result of the first missionary effort of that church in Pittsford. The authentic account states that Rev. Solomon Allen, of the Pittsford Presbyterian church, preached a missionary sermon one Sabbath to his congregation, who made a collection, amounting to ten dollars, "to send the gospel to the heathen." In the excitement of the time it was forgotten that there were then no means by which the money could be sent to its destination, and ten dollars would not send a missionary to any foreign shore. After keeping it in his possession several weeks, Mr. Allen, by the advice of one of his deacons, preached two Sabbaths to the destitute people of West-town (Henrietta), and appropriated the ten dollars for his services.

These efforts were followed, in 1812, by other religious meetings, at which Deacon Moses Sperry read sermons furnished by his former pastor in Connecticut. These were supplemented by occasional preaching by himself and Deacon Ellis, in the school-house near the latter's residence. A strong interest was soon evoked among the prominent members of that and the Congregational order, and the importance of associated action in maintaining regular religious services in the vicinity was recognized; and in 1816, in the same school-house, the present Congregational church of Henrietta was organized. Only a few of the constituent members are known, but the names of those preserved, prior to 1820, besides Deacons Sperry and Ellis, are Betsy Stannard, Fanny Sheldon, Polly Burr, Hannah Kelsey, Asa Munn, Olive Remington, Polly Gooding, William Ellis, Lorinda Burr, David Deming, Sally Deming, Margaret H. Jones, Elizabeth Brown, Mary Ellis, Amos Edgerton, Levi Jackson, Isaac Seeley, William Sternberg, Nancy Titus, Lydia Gillett, Sally L. Tinker, Matthias L. Angle, and Mary Angle. One of the most prominent men in organizing the new church was Rev. John F. Bliss, who, a few years later, became a Baptist and pastor of the Baptist church. He and Rev. George P. King preached occasionally in the school-house, but there was no regular preaching until 1823, when Rev. John Taylor commenced preaching one-half of the time in the log meeting-house, which had just been erected on the road near the centre of the town, south of Thomas O. Jones' former residence,--- a location chosen on account of being central, and supposed at the time to be the most convenient for the east and west settlements. It was, however, abandoned after a few years, and its meetings removed to the East village, where they were mostly held in the Academy hall, alternating with the Methodists. There were no considerable accessions to the church until the great revival of 1831, which commenced in Rochester, under the preaching of Rev. Charles G. Finney, and extended through the whole of western New York, when twenty-five new members were added, among them James Sperry, Ebenezer Gooding, and Joseph Brown, who became active and substantial members. With these accessions the society felt strong enough to build a house of worship, and in 1831 a lot was purchased of the trustees of Monroe academy for two hundred and fifty dollars, upon which their second church edifice, with sheds attached, was erected the same year.

In 1865 these buildings, upon which there was no insurance, were entirely consumed by fire, and in the year following the present structure was erected. The pastors of the church, succeeding Rev. George Taylor, have been, respectively, Revs. W. P. Kendrick, John Thollemer,

R. G. Murray, from 1833 to 1835, now living in Detroit, Michigan, Edward Wheeler, A. Sackett, Silas H. Ashman, Orlow Bartholomew, William Bryant Brown, S. W. Streeter, from 1848 to 1857, and now in Austinsburgh, Ohio, Albert Worthington, Byron Bosworth, and George R. Merrill. Since Mr. Merrill left, the church has had no regular pastor for any long time. Rev. Messrs. Hazeltine, Van Auken, Dewey, Lillie, Plant, Atchinson, and Bennett have preached for longer or shorter periods, as occasion offered. By the removal and death of many of its leading members the church has been much weakened. Rev. Joseph Brown, one of its early members, is said living, the oldest man in the town. He was born May 31, 1784, settled here in 1819, and has been prominent in the history of the church and town; was magistrate many years, and active in establishing Monroe academy. Rev. William B. Brown, once pastor of this church, and now of the First Congregational church of Neward, New Jersey, is a son; and Rev. Antionette Brown Blackwell, the first ordained female preacher in the country, now living in New York city, is a daughter.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL SOCIETIES OF HENRIETTA

Ministers of this denomination came into Henrietta at a very early day, holding services wherever convenient to the settlement. Long prior to them, however, religious meetings were held occasionally at the house of Moses Wilder, and at Solomon Hovey's, in West Henrietta, where the residence of Marvin Williams now stands. Elders James Badger, S. Puffer, A. W. Fillmore, J. Lacy, and Palmer Roberts were the principal early preachers,---the latter preaching at Mr. Hovey's house.

The first Methodist Episcopal society of Henrietta was formed at this place about 1822. It was soon after removed to Methodist Hill, so named from Calvin Brainard, a pioneer Methodist preacher, who purchased four hundred acres of land and settled at that place and early became active in the religious interests of the town. The second society, which was formed in East Henrietta village, does not seem to have been organized until about 1826, when the Monroe academy was built, although regular preaching had for several years been held in the village school-house, and no house of worship was erected until many years afterward. The new society held one weekly service in the Academy hall until 1841, when it purchased the brick church in the village, erected by the Baptist society ten years before. This was used as a house of worship until 1868, when the present fine structure in the East village was erected, at a cost of eight thousand dollars. Meanwhile, a third society of the Methodist Episcopal church of Henrietta was organized on the river road, by the members living in the west part of the town, in the year 1830, and a house of worship soon after erected. It is impossible to give a complete history of these churches, or list of preachers, on account of the very indifferent records of each. The names of the pastors, in order, as far as can be ascertained, are as follows, viz.: Revs. James Hemmingway, Asa Cummings, W. F. Rowe, Philo Woodruff, Daniel Anderson, William M. Ferguson, Gideon Laning, Jacob Scott, George Taylor, Oliver Bartlett, Cyrus Story, Henry Wisner, Oliver Doolittle, Gideon D. Perry, Michael Seager, L. B. Castle, Samuel Parker, Amos Hard, S. A. Baker, William H. Sampson, Alexander Farrell, Reuben E. Foot, J. B. Alverson, R. T. Hancock, Joseph Chapman, A. W. Fillmore, W. W. Mandeville, M. Barker, J. M. Parks, J. K. Tinkham, Mr. Benson, Sylvester Judd, S. McGerald, W. A. Runner, Mr. Chapman, D. Hutchins, J. C. Hitchcock, John Spinks, J. T. Arnold, S. B. Crozier, J. T. Humphrey, H. J. Owen, and Darius S. Skillman.

The churches of East Rush, East Henrietta, and the river road belonged, until quite recently, to the same charge, and ministers preached alternately in each. In 1863 the East and river road charges were separated, and the church building of the latter was transferred to the German Methodist, residing in the west part of the town. Religious services have been held there occasionally since, but at irregular intervals.

THE QUAKER SETTLEMENT AND SOCIETY OF HENRIETTA

Quite an extensive settlement of Quakers existed in town, north of the East village, from about

1820 to 1845, prominent among whom were John Russell, John Whippo, Isaac Colvin, and others. A society was early organized among them, and a meeting-house soon after erected, on land donated by John Russell for that purpose, about three-fourths of a mile north of East Henrietta village, and now owned by H. M. Calkins. Occasional services were held here until 1846 or 1847. About 1840 the Quaker settlers began selling their farms and moving to Mendon, where there already existed a strong settlement of these people. One of their latest preachers was Daniel Quimby, who conducted meetings here until about 1843, when he sold his farm to David H. Richardson, and also removed to Mendon; within four years he was followed by nearly all those remaining. The building in which they met was pulled down more than twenty years ago.

Source: [History of Monroe County, New York; Everts, Ensign & Everts; 1788-1877]

Historical Record Of Our Patrons For Monroe County

Henrietta

* Abbreviations used in this record.--b. born; s. settled; est. established; st. street; ave. avenue; blk. block.

Beckwith, Geo. L., farmer, b. Fredericton, N. B.; s. 1815.

Beckwith, S., farmer and supervisor, b. Monroe co., N. Y., 1831.

Brininstool, Jacob, farmer (resides on the farm on which he settled in 1811), b. Schoharie co., N. Y., 1793.

Beebee, Orlow, farmer, b. Ontario co., N. Y.; s. 1811, died Jan. 29, 1877.

Brooks, Milton, farmer, b. Ontario co., N. Y.; s. 1819.

Burr, S. H., farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; b. 1822; p. o. add. West Brighton.

Bly, John E., farmer (resides on the farm on which his father settled in 1818), b. Monroe co., N. Y.; 1820; p. o. add. Rochester.

Bailey, David L., farmer, b. Middlesex co., Conn.; s. 1827; p. o. add. Rochester.

Brown, Cyrus E., farmer and agricultural dealer, b. Chenango co., N. Y.; s. 1869.

Bycraft, Thomas B., farmer and blacksmith, b. Lincolnshire, England; s. 1849.

Baldwin, Chas., farmer, b. Oneida co., N. Y.; s. 1796.

Baldwin, Chas. A., farmer and blacksmith, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1835.

Benedict, Oliver, farmer and blacksmith, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1843.

Barnes, Isaac L., farmer and blacksmith, b. Tioga Co., N. Y.; s. 1872.

Church, Sanford E., Chief Justice New York State, b. Otsego co., N. Y.; s. 1815; p. o. add. Albion, Orleans co.

Chase, Willet E., farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1844.

Calkins, Hiram M., farmer and fruit-grower, b. Schoharie co., N. Y.; s. 1831.

Clark, J., farmer.

Corbin, Mrs. Harriet, farmer, b. Madison co., N. Y.; s. 1814; p. o. add. Rochester.

Clark, Wells, proprietor of West Henrietta Hotel, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1813.

Caswell, Warren, farmer and justice of the peace, b. Cattaraugus co., N. Y.; s. 1861.

Dunn, William, farmer, b. Montgomery co, N. Y.; s. 1822.

Ely, David, farmer (resides on the same farm on which he settled in 1816, b. Hampden co., Mass.; p. o. add. North Rush.

Enoch, A. B., dealer in dry good, fine groceries, tea, coffee, and general mechandise, b. Wirt co., W. V.; s. 1864.

Gage, John, farmer, b. Bromfield, Mass.; s. 1820.

Gage, John F., farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1851.

Haley, Timothy, commission dealer, b. New York, N. Y.; s. 1852.

Hiatt, John, farmer, b. Osfordshire, England; s. 1831; p. o. add. West Brighton.

Jackson, Thomas J., farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1820.

Jeffords, Morrisson, farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1806.

Jones, Thos. O., farmer, justice, and insurance agent, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1817.

Klimm, Joseph, wagon-maker, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1858.

Kimball, Mrs. Louisa, retired, b. Franklin co., Vt.; s. 1815.

Keyes, Mrs. Jerusha, farmer, b. Windham co., Conn.; s. 1823.

Keyes, Daniel E., general, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1840.

Ladd, Sarah H., farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1819.

Lincoln, Geo. W., farmer, b. Saratoga co., N. Y.; s. 1824.

Little, Horace, farmer and stock raiser, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1814; p. o. add. West Brighton.

Lothridge, Robert, farmer, b. Chautauque co., N. Y.; s. 1838; p. o. add. Rochester.

Lincoln, Barton M., farmer and stock-raiser, b. Windham co., Vt.; s. 1824.

Lamont, James, physician and surgeon, b. Statfordshire, England; s. 1873.

Longfellow, J. G., farmer, (resides on the same farm on which he settled in 1817), b. Waldo co., Maine.

Lake, Noah, farmer, b. Dutchess co., N. Y.; s. 1834; p. o. add. West Brighton.

Milham, Edward, farmer and hop-grower, b. Sussex co., England; s. 1866.

Mellows, Mrs. Jane, farmer, b. Hampshire, England; s. 1822.

Martin, Morris J., farmer, b. Rensselaer co., N. Y.; s. 1829.

Mack, Harry, farmer, b. Livingston co., N. Y.; s. 1873.

McNall, James, farmer, b. Toliand co., Conn.; s. 1811.

Nichols, Mrs. Lois C., farmer, b. Cortland co., N. Y.; s. 1840.

Newton, William, farmer and stock-grower, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1835.

Phillips, James, b. Saratoga co., N. Y.; s. 1811.

Phillips, Mahlon D., farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1836.

Patterson, Thos. J., farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1826.

Ruliffson, Harmond D., farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1824.

Reeve, Thomas, farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1826.

Reeve, Fred G., farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1838.

Robertson, John, farmer and stock dealer, b. Edinburgh, Scotland; s. 1850.

Russell, L. C., farmer and agricultural dealer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1846.

Roberts, Geo. M. C., farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1836.

Search, Lewis, farmer, b. Bucks co., Pa.; s. 1825.

Smith, Chas. J., farmer, b. Cortland co., N. Y.; s. 1855.

Slackel, John, farmer, b. Byran, Ger.; s. 1852.

Smith, William, proprietor of Henrietta Hotel, b. Montgomery co., N. Y.; s. 1857.

Sperry, H. H., farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1819.

Stevenson, James, farmer, b. Sussex co., England; s. 1831.

Slade, Geo., farmer, b. Fall River, Mass.; s. 1839.

Sherman, Almon, farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1834.

Sherman, O. B., farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1830.

Starkweather, C. G., seed-grower, b. Otsego co., N. Y.; s. 1835; p. o. add. Rochester.

Terry, Rensselaer, b. Livingston co., N. Y.; s. 1794.

Terry, Geo. C., farmer and stock-raiser, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1828.

Terry, E. F., farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1828.

Woods, Catherine M., farmer, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1832.

Williamson, William, farmer, b. Huntingdonshire, England; s. 1855.

Williams, Judson E., farmer and stock-raiser, b. Schoharie co., N. Y.; s. 1840.

Williams, Mrs. Maria, farmer and stock-raiser, b. Genesee co., N. Y.; s. 1829.

Winslow, T. E., farmer, b. Cayuga co., N. Y.; s. 1822.

Williams, A., carriage and wagon manufactory, established in 1822, and farmer, b. Windham co., Conn.; s. 1818.

Williams, Marvin, merchant. A general stock of dry goods, groceries, boots, shoes, and hardware, b. Monroe co., N. Y.; s. 1838.

Williams, Joseph, manufactory of carriages, wagons, and agricultural implements, steam saw-mill, b. Windham co., Conn.; s. 1818.

Williams, Affias, wife of Joseph Williams, b. Chittenden co., Vt; s. 1808.

Source: [History of Monroe County, New York; Everts, Ensign & Everts; 1788-1877]

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