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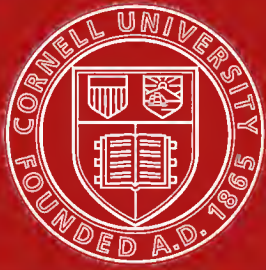


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"GRIP'S" VALLEY GAZETTE

Vol. III, No. 5 — 12 Numbers \$1

ALBANY, N. Y., JUNE, 1895

[Entered at the Albany Post Office as second-class mail matter]

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Social, Personal, Historical

TRADE AND NEWS.

Every copy a valuable Souvenir



HISTORICAL • SOUVENIR •



OF

**COBLESKILL
N. Y.**

Price, 25 Cents

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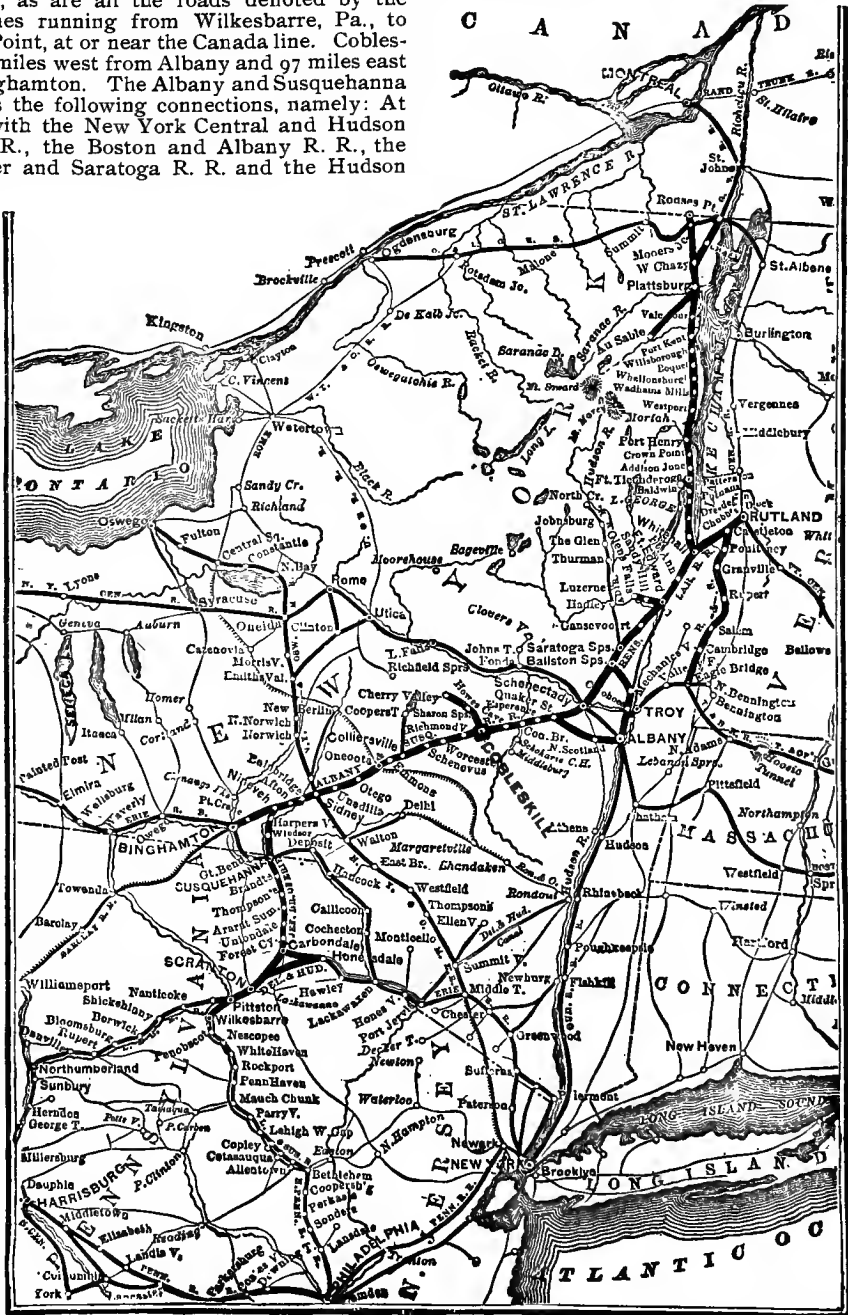
BIRDSEYE VIEW OF COBLESKILL, N. Y., FROM MT. OSCHALEGHE (LOOKING NORTH)

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Map Showing Location of Cobleskill, N. Y.

THIS map shows not only all of the state of New York lying east of Elmira, Seneca Lake, Geneva and Lyons, but also nearly all of Pennsylvania lying east of Williamsport and Harrisburg, a large portion of New Jersey, and a part of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont and Canada. By it it will be seen that **Cobleskill is in Central-Eastern New York**, on the line of the Albany and Susquehanna railroad, which road is operated by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, as are all the roads denoted by the heavy lines running from Wilkesbarre, Pa., to Rouse’s Point, at or near the Canada line. Cobleskill is 45 miles west from Albany and 97 miles east from Binghamton. The Albany and Susquehanna R. R. has the following connections, namely: At Albany with the New York Central and Hudson River R. R., the Boston and Albany R. R., the Rensselaer and Saratoga R. R. and the Hudson

River Boats; at Voorheesville with the New York, West Shore and Buffalo Ry; at Sidney with the New York, Ontario and Western R. R., and at Binghamton with the New York, Lake Erie and Western R. R. and the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western R. R. By the foregoing it will be seen that the connections of the Albany and Susquehanna R. R., on the line of which Cobleskill is located, are such that shipments can go forward promptly, in any direction, whether east, west, north or south.



Welch, Edgar Ludlum, 1855-



MISS CLARA KILTS.
MRS. CLIFFORD FRANCE.

MRS. T. I. EVERETT.
MISS STELLA WARNER.

"Grip's" Valley Gazette

VOL. III. No. 5

ALBANY, N. Y., JUNE 1895

12 Nos. \$1.00

[Entered at the Albany, N. Y., Post-office as second class mail matter.]

Historical Souvenir, Series No. 2



COBLESKILL - VICINITY

AND

ILLUSTRATED

"At Cobleskill popular interest in public improvement is thoroughly awake. Few villages of its size in the country have so extensive flagstone walks (over six miles in length), so handsome a drinking fountain on the public square, so general removal of front fences, so beautiful lawns around the neat and attractive homes, or so excellent water-works.

"The water system is owned by the village, and though the water rentals are extremely low they will ultimately pay the entire cost of the water-works, \$65,000.

"An electric light plant and sewerage system are in course of construction.

"The citizens heartily sustain the policy that is beautifying and building up their town."—*New York Tribune* (1891).

COBLESKILL, or "COBUS KILL," as the early settler called the place, is designated in the King's patent, dated August 14, 1761, by the Indian name (which we have copied accurately) of OSCHALEGHE. This instrument is now in the possession of Mr. Stanton Courter. The same spelling is found in all the early conveyances. The village of Cobleskill has a corporate charter granted by the legislature April 3, 1868. It is situated on the Albany and Susquehanna railroad, forty-three miles west of Albany and 100 miles east of Binghamton, at the junction of that road with the D. & H. (the lessee of the A. & S.) branch to Sharon Springs and Cherry Valley. The population is between 2,000 and 3,000 and increasing every year. It is supplied with pure water from the streams of the Catskills, stored in a reservoir on the crest of an adjacent hill, and conducted into the village with a fall which forces it above the loftiest building site in the village and in a powerful stream from a nozzle over the highest building. The village owns and operates the plant, greatly to its financial advantage. The streets are broad and shady, laid out with regularity and a view to increased population, and the walks are nearly all flagstone laid to a curb line and an established grade. The village assumes the care of all flag walks, an inducement not overlooked by property owners. The system of sewers, constructed recently at a cost of \$23,000, affords a perfect drainage into a running stream of water. The street lighting is by electricity furnished by a plant which also supplies a commercial circuit, lighting the public and private buildings to a considerable extent. The school is the point of pride to every person in the town. The corps of instructors comprise the principal and eleven assistants, and the departments are graduated from primary to academic; included in the latter are the classical, literary, scientific and advanced English courses, the former preparing the student for admission into any college of the state without further examination and the latter securing to the student who cannot enter college a thorough knowledge of the most essential of the higher English branches. There are very few better schools in the state and none better attended in

proportion to the supporting population. The cost of the building was \$25,000. The churches are modern structures, comparatively recently built, the attendance being usually large and the pulpits supplied with clergymen who are talented and are well supported. Then, too, there are good sound banking institutions, two ably edited weekly newspapers, retail business concerns which cut out competition from Albany and other places; four good hotels, two of them with all modern improvements (the four are represented in this souvenir), large wood and iron working establishments, lumber and furniture manufacturing, agricultural implement works, large contracting builders, marble and granite cutting and the finest gray limestone for building purposes in the country; a florist who ships considerably to the large cities; an agricultural association to which one dollar a year admits as member all residents of the county; and important steam grist and flour mills.

Cobleskill is the Market

for a large section of agricultural country, receiving and forwarding large quantities of dairy products, potatoes, apples, hay and straw, and hops. It is the headquarters for some of the largest buyers of especially hay and straw, fruit and hops. The latter constitutes, perhaps, the chief product of Schoharie county and Cobleskill is the home of most of the buyers. The freight reports of the village give something of an idea of the value of the hop crop every year at Cobleskill, but that doesn't show to what extent the business of the place depends on hops, because very much of the purchases by Cobleskill buyers are shipped from other points more readily reached for delivery; besides a large trade from hop growers who do not sell to Cobleskill buyers comes to the Cobleskill merchant. Freight reports for the Cobleskill office are as follows:

"Our records show the shipment of from 8,000 to 10,000 bales of hops yearly, equal to 133 and 166 ordinary car loads, respectively aggregating in the one case 1,440,000 pounds and in the other 1,800,000 pounds."

The Valley of the Cobleskill or Oschaleghe is watered by the stream of the same name which rises on the water shed ten miles west of the village, whence flows westward the streams contributing to the Chesapeake and eastward the currents that swell the majestic Hudson. The first settlers in the valley immediately about the village were mostly Germans who owned most of the land in fee. They were unlike the settlers in the adjacent valley [The Schoharie] who were Palatinates driven from the low countries by the Queen Anne wars and after tarrying on the Hudson at and about Livingston Manor, were finally forced to cross the Helderbergs with hand sleds or to follow the more extended paths along the Mohawk and the Schoharie rivers in search of security

upwards from the Mohawk 30 miles to the north, raised at the command of the warming influences of the early sun. Above and beyond he counts the blue nipples of the Adirondacks, watching them gradually disappear in the rising mists, soon to reappear in an unbroken horizon of distant mountains, behind a clear prospect of cultivated patches forming geometrical designs in colors as varied and perhaps more hazy than the coat of biblical Joseph. To the north-east appear the look-outs of the Vermont and western Massachusetts mountains, while to the east and south-east the crevassed sky line of the Catskills. Such a picture! Requiring a frame for the state of Rhode Island! A masterwork of Nature beyond the accomplishment of man! The merest dip into the wonderful creations of an all-wise Providence! A



T. E. DORNET'S RESIDENCE, W. MAIN ST.
J. H. CRANDALL'S RESIDENCE, GRAND ST.

H. T. DANA'S RESIDENCE, SUMMIT AVE.
E. S. RYDER'S RESIDENCE, SUMMIT AVE.

from persecution, and comfortable homes on the rich bottom lands of the Schoharie. Those people had every indignity inflicted upon them by the then colonial governor of New York, whose name—Slougher—became to them a synonym of reproach and vileness, an epithet in use down to the present time—purely local with Schoharie, and intended to convey the insult that is most quickly resented.

The Grandeur of the Scenery.

Cobleskill is one thousand feet above the sea. Ten miles southwest are the highest cultivated lands in the state. The farmer in the field or the summer pleasure seeker in his carriage beholds in early morning the milky white banners streaming

paradisial vision on any clear morning; and it costs but an easy trip from Cobleskill—that village which occupies the foreground, and into which we will now conduct the reader.

THE CORPORATION OFFICERS, 1895.

Trustees — DeWitt C. Dow, Martin D. Borst, Thomas E. Dornet, George W. Bellinger, Paul Heckel, William Reilly and Irving Van Voris.

Officers of the village:

President — D. C. Dow.

Treasurer — A. C. Kilmer.

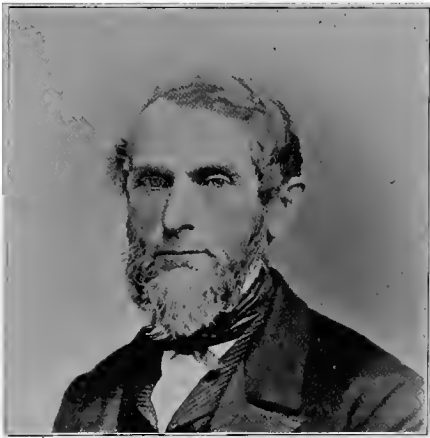
Clerk — William H. Golding.

Street Commissioner — Austin H. Sexton.

- Police*—J. M. Esmay.
- Finance Committee*—Irving Van Voris and William Reilly.
- Street Committee*—George W. Bellinger, and Thomas E. Dornet.
- Electric Light Committee*—Martin D. Borst and Paul Heckel.
- Board of Sewer Commissioners*—Hon. Watson Lamont, president; Lester A. Hodge, secretary; Willard Almy, George H. Hiller and Charles H. Shaver.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOL STAFF.

- Board of Education*—Mahlon S. Decker, president; Newton Young, secretary; Lester A. Hodge.
- Treasurer*—A. C. Kilmer.
- Academic Department*—W. H. Ryan, Ph. B., principal; Miss Emelyne Gardner, preceptress; Miss Rosa Thomas, assistant.
- Grammar*—Miss Mary Corry, principal; Miss Marion H. Imrie, assistant.
- Intermediate*—Miss Almeda Brown, fifth and sixth grades; Miss Anna E. Hazleton, fourth grade.
- Primary Department*—Miss Mabel L. Prevear, third grade; Miss Amelia Brown, second grade; Miss Forsyth and Miss Ettie M. Bornt, first grade.
- Vocal Music*—Miss Fannie Roscoe.
- Stenography and Typewriting*—Miss Susan Chesebro.



Charles Courter, was born in the town of Schcharie June 4, 1808. His educational advantages were such as the ordinary schools of the times presented. His energy and self-possession under the clerkship of Freeman Stanton, of Middleburgh, soon presented him at the front among the business men of the county. Relying upon his own resources he soon formed a co-partnership with Henry Shutts in the general mercantile business at Lawyersville and after a few years removed to Cobleskill and established a business of his own. He was one of the leading spirits in the conception, construction and completion of the Albany and Susquehanna railway, and was for many years one of its directors. He was always foremost in advancing the interests of the village to an improved condition. Mr. Courter, aside from his

local interests, was extensively engaged in many outside business enterprises of magnitude, which made him a conspicuous personage at home and in the largest business centers of the country. Mr. Courter died January 4, 1879, and is buried at Cobleskill.



D. C. DOW'S RESIOENCE, GRAND STREET.

COBLESKILL'S RAILROAD HISTORY.

[Contributed.]

Cobleskill station is located nearly 100 miles east of the Erie railroad at Binghamton and forty-five miles west of the New York Central at Albany, with a belt of country twenty miles wide intervening it and Palatine station on the New York Central on the north. The village of Cobleskill, prior to the construction of the Albany and Susquehanna railroad, occupied an isolated position in the great world of commerce which was being carried on in the Empire state. Landlocked by mountains on the south, with Cobleskill creek at their feet, the village reposed in the beautiful valley, only disturbed by the rumbling wheels of the slow stage coach. But all this was to be changed. Living in the towns between Albany and Binghamton were men who clearly foresaw the great advantages to be derived by building a railroad through the valley connecting the two cities and uniting the commerce of the west with that of the east. This resulted in the formation of the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad Company, which was organized at Oneonta in the year 1852. In the town and village of Cobleskill were men who appreciated the importance of this project and who came forward with their money and influence and devoted their time, their strength and mental powers to the building of the road. Prominent among these were Charles Courter, Joseph H. Ramsey and Minard Harder, all of whom became directors of the company and labored energetically in the enterprise until the road was completed to Binghamton in January, 1869.

Hail, men of noble thought and deed,
 Thy work fulfilled our greatest need;
 Accept the homage which we bring,
 Not thoughtless, light or trifling,
 But the sincere praise which swells and starts
 From the deep recess of thankful hearts.

Passenger and Freight Service.

The passenger building and freight house at Cobleskill were erected during the summer of 1864

and the station was opened for business on the first day of January, 1865. Col. Alonzo Ferguson, still a resident of the village, was appointed agent. This gentleman retained the position until the succeeding October when he resigned, and the present incumbent, Mr. H. T. Dana, then agent at Central Bridge, was transferred to this station. For many years Mr. Dana managed the freight, ticket and telegraph business of the station, but as the cares increased Mr. H. A. Moeller became ticket clerk and telegraph manager. He was succeeded by Miss H. M. Sullivan, who subsequently was made ticket agent. This lady resigned that position in December, 1883, and Miss E. M. Stevenson, the present efficient ticket agent and telegraph manager, became her successor. In the night telegraph service Mrs. C. K. Frasier, the present night operator, has held sway for many years, and faithfully performs her duties. In the freight office Mr. Dana is ably assisted by Mr. D. L. Rose as billing clerk and by his son, Seth W. Dana, as cashier.

Trains and Shipments.

From the commencement Cobleskill became a central point for the shipment of freight and an important passenger station. This position it has steadily maintained, ranking always among the foremost stations on the road. In 1860 the Cherry Valley, Sharon and Albany Railroad Company was chartered for the building of a road from Cherry Valley to Cobleskill. This road was completed and opened for business in June, 1870. Since that time Cobleskill has been the diverging point for the large number of visitors and summer tourists who yearly visit Sharon Springs to enjoy the beautiful scenery and receive the benefit of its mineral waters and sulphur baths. The opening of stations on this branch road at Hyndsville, Seward and Sharon Springs diverted a portion of the freight from Cobleskill, but such has been the increased development resulting from the building of the main line that the business of the station has been and is increasing yearly. For several years past the average monthly receipts of freight have been over 2,000,000 pounds and the out-freight 3,000,000 pounds, and so extensive the general business of the station that from 800 to 1000 cars are dispatched from the yard monthly. All the passenger trains stop at Cobleskill and such is the excellent service provided by the officers of the D. & H. C. Co. that three trips can be made from the village to Albany and return each week day, or one to New York or Boston and back within twenty-four hours.

* * *

Jay G. Cross, commission and retail merchant, is probably the largest buyer and shipper of country produce and flour and feed in the county. In the course of the year his shipments in butter and eggs alone constitute a considerable item in the trade of the town; and this is also true of flour and feed. His operations include delivery on special orders, regular shipments for the general market and the supply of dealers at any point. By the use of an adequate and properly arranged cellar he has been provided with cold storage sufficient for his purpose. A year ago he bought the Tingue property on West Main street. By enlarging the building he obtained a spacious retail store. By the construction of a large storehouse in the rear he is enabled to handle flour and feed in very large quantities. Mr. Cross was born in the town of Cherry Valley, Otsego county, N. Y., August 27, 1857. He worked on a farm until in 1886 he came to Cobleskill. For four years he was a clerk with G. R. Culver and then started in

business for himself. On October 16, 1881, he married Ellen, the daughter of Cornelius Van Valen, of Beard's Hollow.



D. C. Dow, president of the village of Cobleskill and foremost in the affairs of the town; the county treasurer and the cashier of the First National Bank, was born in West Fulton, Schoharie Co., Aug. 24, 1852. Subsequently his father, Daniel Dow, engaged in the mercantile business in Cobleskill, where the boys were afforded better than ordinary facilities for acquiring an education. The subject of this sketch spent two years as clerk in the store of Dow & Westfall, then found a position as clerk in the bank of which he is now the practical financier, becoming first the assistant and afterwards (July, 1875) the cashier. Mr. Dow is generally associated in every form of public enterprise which carries with it sound, conservative business methods, whether it be a local stock organization with a particular commercial object in view, or a society for the exclusive purpose of promoting the public welfare; in every venture in which he is connected safe, prudent counsels prevail and success invariably follows, entitling him to no small share of the credit which his associates cheerfully concede him. It is quite probable that few residents of the village of Cobleskill have larger individual financial interests in more diversified channels; these include the Middleburgh bank in which he is a director, and considerable real estate holdings. Mr. Dow, a democrat, is conspicuous in the counsels of the party organization of the county, although not in the popular sense an office holder. His qualifications as a financier led to his election as county treasurer in Nov. 1889 and his subsequent retention in that office; his customary activity in village affairs suggested his election as president of the board of trustees in which position he has served since January, 1889,—not as a representative of the party, but of the people; and the many local improvements during his successive administrations have satisfied that large majority of the residents who foresee individual prosperity in municipal advancement that he is the man which the occasion demanded for that honor. His fealty to democratic principles and prominence in the party dragged him into the counsels of this organization; there he stops in politics. He is a director of the Cobleskill Agricultural Association and the treasurer of the State organization of town fairs, holding the same position in the Schoharie Anti-Horse Thief Association. He is also a member of the local Masonic order. On May 26, 1874, he married Ida, the daughter of J. H. Tator, and their union was rewarded with three children, DeWitt C., Jr., Florence and Elizabeth.

T. E. Dornet, a member of the village board of trustees and for several years interested in all that promises the growth and improvement of the village, was born in North Easton, Washington County, N. Y., Dec. 5, 1851. His parents moved to Albany when he was an infant, and he attended the public schools of that city. In 1868 he entered the employ of R. F. Todd & Co., large commission merchants in Broadway, as bookkeeper, in which position he remained two or three years, then went out into the country as the buyer for the house. This took most of his time away from Albany and he found it more convenient to make his home in Cobleskill which is a central point for a large produce section. Six or seven years later he formed a connection with the house of Robert Schroeder, the largest dealer in hops in the world, with main offices in New York, England and Germany. Mr. Dornet's connection with this establishment continued for thirteen years and he had the entire management of the outside—the buying—business of the concern. When the firm retired from business Mr. Dornet continued dealing on his own account, and has since then done a large and increasing business every year. The territory he covers extends over the eastern and central counties and his shipments embrace consignments to foreign countries as well as the home market. He has made a point of buying the best quality even though commanding the higher market prices. He has served on the board of trustees five years and also full time in the fire department in the success of which he is much interested. He is one of the most active democrats in the county, having represented the town of Cobleskill on the democratic county committee for a number of years, of which he has served a long time as treasurer, also generally participating in party conventions. He is a member of the local Masonic lodge and the order of Red Men, in both of which he is active. In 1873 he married Emma, the daughter of Joseph Campbell, of Cobleskill, and their home is enlivened with two bright children.

FACTS AND PREDICTIONS.

[Contributed.]

It is a relief to escape the hurly-burly of metropolitan life, with its narrow thoroughfares crowded with a jostling multitude of people, its unsightly elevated railways, its inconvenient, stuffy, dark "flats," its ramshackle markets filled with bad smells and swarming with rats, its typhoid breeding sewers, its dirty streets, its gilded ignorance, its vice and crime, its incessant confusion and noise, producing general paralysis of the inner ear and its "modern juggernaut, the trolley car," whose speed neither mayors nor common councils seem able to properly regulate in these "fast" days.

It is a Relief

to sojourn amid picturesque and grand scenery, to look upon undulating elevations and magnificent hills, to inhale an invigorating atmosphere, to slake one's thirst from the purest water springs, to feast on the fresh products of the garden and farm, to recreate where the tempestuous babal of human tongues never reaches, to wander where wild flowers bloom, to hear the earliest and latest daily melodies of the songsters of field and forest and to stroll along the bank of a brook that comes from

"—— haunts of coot and hern:
And makes a sudden sally,
And sparkles out among the fern
To bicker down a valley."

People who Live in Cities

are crowding into the suburbs for air, light and health, and into villages for permanent residence when not too remote from their place of business. Large cities are becoming each year more and more like huge furnaces in which the best mental



REV. THOMAS T. EVERETT, D.D.,
PASTOR ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH.

and physical vigor of the people are consumed. Cobleskill offers one of the most desirable spots imaginable for those who can afford to escape from the narrow streets, stifling air and stunted life of a large city. It has a multitude of fine building sites which will double in value in a comparatively short time, and facilities for erecting buildings from barns to palaces. Come and see for yourself.

It is Unnecessary to Review

"ancient history" in this article, to describe the "good old times" when the original settlers in this vicinity passed a sequestered, pastoral existence and lived in more or less physical and moral ripeness and were governed in their daily lives by visions and dreams. Time has changed the conditions of

"—— a hundred years ago."

For many decades Cobleskill, which should begin with a K if there is any truth in the accepted story of its origin, was an unimportant locality in Schoharie county. It was once a suburb of Lawyersville, but when the Delaware and Hudson railway came Cobleskill and Lawyersville changed places. It is not a mere village of quiet respectability, but a rural town of enterprising business activity with a most promising future before it. When the three-year-old boys of to-day are full fledged citizens Cobleskill will rank with Gloversville, Amsterdam and Schenectady. Geographically this is inevitable. My readers, perhaps, are not aware that there is a map in the office of the N. Y. C. and H. R. R. R. showing a proposed railway from a point on that line running diagonally through several counties to a point on the West Shore R. R., intended to cut off the round-about travel to New York via Albany, and to open up the vast area of country through which it will pass. Cobleskill appears as a prominent station on that map.

Cobleskill is Rural but not Rustic.

It leads Schoharie county in population, financial capital, banking and insurance, volume of

trade, wage earners and wages, and in intelligence and morals it is *fin de siècle*. It may excite a little jealousy to say this, but we can afford to overlook that. Jealousy is a mental weakness and furnishes considerable amusement. Let us smile at jealousy and conceit and pass on our way.

Cobleskill is Supplied with Spring Water

from a splendidly built reservoir, 240 feet above the town, having a capacity of 110,000,000 gallons. It cost \$65,000 and covers twenty-eight acres. Cobleskill has an excellent High School, admirably situated, costing \$26,000, with an average attendance of 400 scholars, one-fourth being non-residents. It has a complete sewerage system covering the entire place, built at a cost of \$21,500. It has five handsome churches with free seats and intelligent congregations. It has electric illumination for highway and house from 1000 incandescent burners. It has one of the finest fair grounds in the state. It has a well equipped Fire Department. It has ably conducted Masonic, Odd Fellows', Red Men's and other lodges. It has a faithful and patiently toiling Woman's Christian Temperance Union. It has democratic and republican organs, both conducted on the line of sound modern journalism. It has two first-class banks with a large loan and deposit account, which means "business." It has five well appointed and carefully conducted hotels which are popular with the traveling public. It has about 100 stores of various kinds. Its railway facilities and freight accommodations are good. Its business men are enterprising. It has no squalor nor slums. Its homes are neat and many are beautiful. It has as lovely lawns as any in famous New England. It has three and a half miles of well made streets, bordered with shade trees, and seven miles of well laid flagstone sidewalks.

When a Sculptor Makes a Statue

he begins with dirt. He has a few rude sticks for a frame and then he puts on the clay and roughs out the general form. Then he works for symmetry, and lines, and grace, and proportions, and at last he puts on the finer touches, and then the whole effort is transmitted into the glowing marble or bronze. So this beautiful place, where God has cast our lot, began with dirt. From mere earth sprang into form the crudest beginnings. Everything was at first rude and rough in outline. But intelligence, skill, patience and industry have succeeded in evolving out of all this preparatory work one of the most beautiful towns in the great commonwealth of New York.

"Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air."

But Cobleskill's days of obscurity are past. Her loveliness and value are becoming widely known. Nestling in the lap of her majestic hills that are one season of the year bannered with fluttering emerald leaves, at another robed in rich russet, tinted with flaming crimson and flecked with gold, and at another standing in naked glory beneath the dun skies of the winter, she bides her time in the future when her place on the map will be indicated by the usual "county seat" designation. That is bound to come in the due course of events.

T. T. EVERETT,

Pastor Zion Lutheran church.

Hon. John Van Schaick, a leading practicing attorney, and ex-state senator, was born in the town of Sharon in 1840. He attended school in Charlotteville and prepared for college at East Hampton, Mass., immediately entering Williams' College. At the close of his college life, he first taught school; afterwards read law with district attorney Young at Cobleskill, attended the

Albany Law School from which he duly graduated, and in 1864 was admitted to the bar, since then continuing to practice in Cobleskill. In 1872-8 he served as school commissioner. He represented the Ulster-Greene-Schoharie district in the state senate in 1884-5. He was one of the organizers of the Cobleskill Agricultural Society and was its president and superintendent for a number of years. He is a member of the Holland Society (from its inception) and a vice-president for the Schoharie district; also a charter member of the Red Men and was their first sachem, and a member of the local lodge of Masons, having taken thirty-two degrees. The senator was for years very active in Schoharie county politics, but in later period has devoted his entire attention to his practice.



Hon. Watson Lamont, county judge and surrogate, assumed the duties of that position January 1, 1894, and in every respect has proven competent and judicially impartial in all his renderings; a fit incumbent to maintain the high character which a long succession of able men have given to the bench in Schoharie county. Judge Lamont was admitted to the bar in 1877. His wide acquaintanceship in this county, his recognized ability as a lawyer, his marked capacity as a public speaker and his general popularity conceded him to be the logical successor to the outgoing incumbent, with whom, during all the time of his practice at the bar, he had been associated. The judge was born in Middleburgh, Schoharie county, July 30, 1852. His father, General Lamont, a gentleman of high standing and the descendant of a famous colonial family, died several years ago. The subject of the present sketch resorted to the occupation of district school teacher to obtain means for self-support while engaged in the study of the profession he had chosen. In 1871 he entered the law office of his brother, the Hon. William C. Lamont. In the meantime he took an active part in the local political campaigns of the county, distinguishing himself at an early age as a vigorous and fluent speaker. The presidential campaign of 1876 found him on the stump in behalf of the national democratic ticket. Since then he has not failed in an important political contest to assert the principles of the party and its claims for the suffrage of the people from the platform regardless of personal sacrifices. His services are often called for on public occasions, whether it be to address a school or a literary gathering and it has been his rule to respond cheerfully. He was married to Harriet A., the daughter of Albert Son, on January 24, 1877, and the result of the union is a circle of two boys and two girls.



Minard Harder, the widely known manufacturer of agricultural implements, was born in Germantown, Columbia Co., N. Y., December 5, 1822. His father, Peter I., and mother, Catherine Lasher, were natives of that county. On March 3, 1823, they moved to the town of Summit, Schoharie Co., and settled where the post-office and village of Eminence have since sprung up. There both parents died and are buried. Minard Harder entered the store of his uncle, Philip H. Lasher, of Tivoli, Dutchess Co., N. Y., in February 1838. In April 1840, he entered the employ of Philip Rockefeller as clerk, in Germantown, N. Y. One year later he returned to Schoharie Co., N. Y., to take charge of the store of Dr. John B. Rossman, at Richmondville. In July 1843, Mr. Harder began the business career in Cobleskill which has continued uninterruptedly for fifty-two years, bidding fair to continue for years to come. He first engaged in the capacity of a clerk in the store of the late Charles Courter, where he remained until

locality, and on his suggestion, it was named Eminence, which, in view of its high altitude is a very appropriate name. And he was made its first postmaster.

In February 1853, Mr. Harder returned to Cobleskill and formed a co-partnership in general trade with Mr. Charles Courter, whom he had formerly served as clerk. In April 1857, the latter retired from the business, his interest passing into the hands of his partner. In May 1859, Mr. Harder and his brother Reuben purchased the machine shop of Mr. David Anthony, at Cobleskill, which formed the nucleus for the present Empire Agricultural Works, the products of which are distributed to almost every part of this country and some in foreign lands. The long continuance of this business, considerably over a third of a century, under the ownership and management of the present proprietor, and the manner in which it has been conducted, has inspired such a degree of confidence in the public mind that it is not an uncommon thing to receive orders from distant points for large amounts, accompanied by advanced pay for the same.

Mr. Harder is a republican, was chairman of the County Committee for several years and presidential elector in 1872, casting his vote for Grant and Wilson. In June 1873, he was appointed postmaster at Cobleskill, which office, during the ensuing year, was made a presidential one, the commission for the same being received from President Grant in December 1874. In December 1878, near the close of his term, Mr. Harder decided not to accept a re appointment, and in February 1879, on the appointment of his successor, retired. He was also postmaster at Carlisle and supervisor of the town of Summit. He was active in aiding in the bonding of the towns to assist in the construction of the Albany and Susquehanna railroad, a result which has well paid the towns for their investment. Was elected a member of its board of directors in September 1867, and having served continuously up to the present time, with the exception of one year (September 1868-



Photo by Niles

MINARD HARDER'S RESIDENCE AND AGRICULTURAL WORKS.

April 1846, when he began business for himself at Carlisle, having in the preceding January (the 29th), married Emeline E., the daughter of George W. Porter of Lawyersville, N. Y. Two years later, in April 1848, on account of ill health, Mr. Harder disposed of his business at Carlisle and removed to the town of Summit, where he carried on a mercantile business for about five years, in a store erected for his own use, upon his father's farm, the scene of his boyhood days. Realizing the necessity of mail facilities, Mr. Harder procured the establishment of a post-office in that

1869), Mr. Harder, who is now in the 27th year of his service, has the distinction of having served the greatest number of years of any member of the board of directors of said road.

Mrs. Harder died January 12, 1895, and is buried in the Cobleskill Rural Cemetery. Their daughter, Hattie, died January 30, 1866. They have four children living: George D., who is associated with his father and has been for nearly all of his business life, Mrs. E. S. Ryder and Mrs. Irving Van Voris, all of Cobleskill, and Miss Jennie, who resides at home with her father.



Charles H. Shaver, president of the First National Bank of Cobleskill, is one of the few men of the village whose business interests are identified with its early days and whose success in life has advanced hand in hand with the progress of the town. He began trade here in 1852, at a time when the local tradesmen depended more on barter than a cash basis for the disposal of their goods. Under a wise and careful management his business flourished, and, foremost as he was in local affairs, Mr. Shaver became widely known in the county. He first placed coal in the Cobleskill market on the opening of the Albany and Susquehanna railway, and from a small beginning has built up a large coal trade. To this business his attention is principally confined. He was born in Guilderland, Albany Co., Dec. 25, 1827. When he first came to Cobleskill he purchased the general mercantile business of Alonzo Ferguson. This he conducted on Grand street until ten or eleven years later, when in company with Mr. Charles Courter he constructed the block of buildings at the corner of Main and Grand streets, including the First National Bank, and extending east to the Hotel Augustan. Mr. Shaver then opened a hardware store in the new block which he continued until three years ago when he disposed of it. The construction of those buildings was then regarded as the beginning of a business activity for Cobleskill. Among the enterprises in which

Mr. Shaver is engaged is the First National Bank of which he was one of the organizers and has been ever since a member of the board of directors. Though a strong republican in a democratic town Mr. Shaver has served as supervisor. He is a member of the Cobleskill lodge F. and A. M., and a steward in the M. E. church. Miss Salina, the daughter of Peter Hynds, of Hynds ville, and Mr. Shaver were married in 1851. Their daughters

are Mrs. John Van Schaick, of Cobleskill, and Mrs. George B. Greenslet, of Glenn Falls; Miss Blanche, who is now at home, and Miss Ella S. who is at college at Northampton. Stanton C., their only son, is at the head of the firm of S. C. Shaver & Co., shippers of hay.

George H. Hiller, attorney and counselor-at-law, served two terms, 1884-90, as district attorney of Schoharie county during a period when considerable special business before the courts exacted much time and attention of the prosecuting officer. He has practiced law in Cobleskill for nearly twenty years and has served as justice for a considerable period. He was born in Sharon October 2, 1844. His father, John F., a prosperous farmer of that town, descended from the Hillers whose family history is closely interwoven with the early days of the county. Mr. George Hiller has one sister and two brothers. He began the study of law with Hon. Wm. H. Young at Lawyerville, and was subsequently for four years with the Hon. John S. Pindar at Cobleskill. He was admitted to practice at Albany January 14, 1876. He married the daughter of Rev. G. W. Hemperley, of Cobleskill, October 21, 1879, and they have one son. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge No. 394 and the John L. Lewis Chapter No. 229, both of Cobleskill.

The Firm of Dillenback & Almy, druggists, was organized March 1, 1890. The business was founded in October, 1867, by Jonas Dillenback, who is a duly licensed pharmacist. In the large fire of August, 1873, the place of business was



Photo by Niles

C. H. SHAVER'S RESIDENCE, GRAND STREET.

totally destroyed, but with celerity and enterprise was re-established on the old site in the present massive three-story stone and brick structure, built by Mr. Dillenback and first occupied by him, March, 1874. On March 1, 1881, Charles Rowe assumed a half interest. He was succeeded by Willard Almy. Jonas Dillenback is a descendant of an old family who date back to the early settlements of the Mohawk valley. Mrs. Helen E.



THE DILLENBACK & ALMY BUILDING, MAIN STREET.

Photo by Niles

Dillenback, to whom he was married in February, 1868, is a member of the Spraker family, an equally well known and fully established line from a distinguished lineage. She was the daughter of Ephraim B. Spraker, of Spraker's Basin. Mr. Dillenback was born in the town of Minden, Montgomery county, February 27, 1843. At the close of his school days he entered the drug store of Babcock & Gregory, Fort Plain. This was in 1861 and he remained there until the spring of 1865, when he went to Chicago with Reed & Co., wholesale druggists. In 1867 he located in Cobleskill, where he has followed a successful business career, interesting himself in the public affairs of the village. His connection with the John L. Lewis Chapter, R. A. M., is marked with the unusual record of twenty consecutive years in the office of secretary. He is a member of the Temple Commandery No. 2, K. T., Albany, the Uniformed Rank; a trustee in the cemetery association and a member of the Lutheran church. The children are: Mrs. Dr. Wm. D. Shaffer, of Livingstonville; Miss Nellie E., assistant teacher at Howes Cave; Miss Ethel, a student at the Normal, Oneonta; Miss May A. and Miss Lulu, and Carl Spraker and Lemuel Cross Dillenback, who are at home.

Willard Almy was born at Charlestown June 2, 1854. Upon leaving school he traveled on the road selling goods. This pursuit he continued for more than thirteen years with marked success. In 1889 he entered into copartnership in the business in which he has since continued. For one year the firm was known as Dillenback, Rowe & Almy. In 1890, as above stated, Rowe retired,

leaving the two remaining partners with equal interest in what has become a large business, not alone in drugs but in the preparation and packing of hops for medicinal purposes. Mr. Almy has charge of this branch and the shipments extend to all parts of the United States. Mr. Almy was married to Emeline, the daughter of B. R. Prosser, of Carlisle, February 22, 1877. Mr. Almy is a member of Cobleskill Lodge No. 394, F. & A. M., in which he holds the position of senior warden, of John L. Lewis Chapter No. 229, R. A. M., in which he holds the office of king, and of Temple Commandery No. 2, Albany.

This is one of the largest drug stores in the county. The prescription department is in charge of Mr. W. N. Bailey, a licensed pharmacist, and great care is exercised in compounding prescriptions.



George M. Palmer occupies a leading place among the successful attorneys in this section of the state. We do not affirm more than we have often heard expressed by lawyers who will bear us out in saying that there is probably no attorney within several miles of Cobleskill who has a larger practice or who has been more generally successful. Mr. Palmer is a self-reliant, independent, aggressive and convincing advocate, trying his own cases, and invariably a winner; his practice in all courts extending to a large clientage in adjoining counties; and not only that, but in sitting as counsel, and in a considerable surrogate's practice, as well as in the trial of criminal cases; also as administrator or in the management of estates he has made an excellent reputation. Mr. Palmer's ambition to succeed in his chosen profession places that object above all others and the success he has achieved is due to his indefatigable and untiring efforts and his loyalty to the cause he champions. His services are often demanded as a speaker in political campaigns and on public occasions generally when he is usually ready to comply—seldom able to escape the delivery of Fourth of July or Memorial Day orations during the past twelve years. He was born in Richmondville, Sept 20, 1857. His father was James Palmer, a former resident of Albany county. Educated in the public schools and the State Normal School at Albany he was graduated from the latter institution in 1877, on which occasion he was one of the class orators. One year later he entered the law office of the late Judge Holmes, and in Jan. 1882 was admitted to the bar, since then continuing his practice as before referred to in Cobleskill. He is a member of Cobleskill Lodge F. and A. M., of which he has served as

Master Mason, the secretary of the fire department in which he is interested, and is active in all public matters, contributing to the support of the churches and other benevolent institutions. In fact his ability as a speaker deserves more than a passing notice. He is a clear, forcible and eloquent orator whose frequent addresses throughout the country have been the means of getting the people

by men, honest and true, who do their work for nothing; where it owns and operates the water works and supplies an adequate sewerage, with more officers to do more work for the same salary; where public records are open for public inspection all the year; where business is conducted on business principles by men who are willing to share profits with customers! Yes, sir; I am



GRAND STREET
LOOKING SOUTH FROM ELM.

ELM STREET
LOOKING WEST FROM GRAND.

in the habit of calling upon him on all occasions. There is nothing studied or forced in their composition or delivery and he holds in deep interest all his hearers.

IMPRESSIONS? WITH PLEASURE!

[Contributed.]

"Give my impressions of Cobleskill for publication in the *SOUVENIR*?" Certainly, with pleasure. "Something condensed and precise," you say? Very true; vague and indefinite impressions are out of place in such a publication. "You want facts?" You shall have them. To begin:

speaking of Cobleskill, N. Y., "the Parlor Village of the Empire State," as the *Times* puts it. "Healthy?" I should say it was. How could it be otherwise. Why—those bacteria and microbia, or as the doctors call them, "micro-bacteria," are all thrown into pipes, caught in traps, and flushed to death in their subterranean passage to the creek. Then look at those beautiful mountains. Now steep and precipitous, now gently sloping to the valley! Those hills are a constant source of delight to the eye. Snugly nestling among these elevations in a broad fertile basin, with its wide streets, stately maples and elms, stone sidewalks, palatial residences, lies this beautiful village. Could any place for its size be grander or more healthy? Forsooth! Go to! Impossible!

"You want Information

concerning the churches?" We have five. All fine, modern structures and well supported. I think for a growing town they are fairly friendly toward each other. If occasionally they provoke one another it is always to good works. Sunday is a model day in this town. Quiet and restful. Those who do not attend church—most of the people do—hide themselves away behind one of the *religious papers* published in New York city. Our High School is the Mecca for instruction in the county and the regions beyond.

About Horses?

This is a thriving market for them. Some good local stock too. I've been out of the horse business for the past few years. Read the bulletin boards or drop into any of the stores in the evening if you wish any instruction as to names and pedigrees.

Temperance, Did You Say?

How do we stand on the temperance question? Solid, every time. O! there may be some slight abuses but where are there not? "Many fires?"



REV. H. H. MURDOCK, PASTOR M. E. CHURCH.

It is a delightful experience to live in a community where the inhabitants speak well of their town and people; where there are no rings, no combinations, no suspicions of public dishonesty, no distresses from monopoly, no sham aristocracy; where the town owns the fair grounds, officered

No, not in recent years. Poor business for the fire bugs in this town. Why look at our water system! Then, too, we have a first-class fire department. No, fires are unpopular in this town. All the companies have new suits, I believe, and make a fine appearance. We are justly proud of them.

We have one "park," but no public library. We have a fine site but no mon— O! that's all right. Don't mention it. I always like to speak well of my own town when I can do so conscientiously. Good day. Call again.—HENRY H. MURDOCK, pastor M. E. church.



THE A. B. BORST BUILDING, DIVISION STREET.
Photo by Niles

A. B. Borst, Furniture Dealer, Upholsterer and Undertaker, founded his business in the spring of 1874 in what is known as the "Courter Store." By prompt attention, polite and courteous treatment and by combining the two branches of business, he is enabled to make prices that command patronage, whereby he has built up a steadily increasing trade. For over twenty years this well known merchant has been catering to the needs of the people and has grown to be considered a public necessity. He has outgrown his quarters several times and his present immense warehouse on Division street is none too large to store away the enormous quantities of parlor, chamber, library, kitchen and dining room furniture. In dimensions the store is 40x90, with three floors and basement, giving a floor area of over 14,000 square feet. This, we believe, is the largest and finest furniture store between Albany and Binghamton and is so arranged as to display to the best advantage the varied array of costly and useful articles kept in stock. Mr. Borst carries as fine goods as can be found in the market. He also deals in plainer and less expensive goods, so that the wants of all are equally consulted and all classes are enabled to gratify their needs. Most of the goods are put together and finished in the store. We have examined his goods, both in the white and finished, and do not hesitate in saying that to these facts, viz., conscientious workman-

ship and superior finish, Mr. Borst owes much of his success. It may be safely said that there are no goods put upon the market that are superior to his. In the undertaking department a full stock is carried of general funeral furnishings and Mr. Borst assumes the entire charge, furnishing all necessary articles and superintending burials from the house to the grave. Mr. Borst, it is needless to say, does a very large business all over the country and such has become his reputation that it is well known by all that everything he sells is sure to be as represented. Mr. Borst is a native of Cobleskill and has resided in the village all his life. He has been in the business twenty years and for twelve years was chief engineer of the fire department, doing much to make that branch of the service what it is to-day—efficient and praiseworthy. Mr. Borst has served as a member of the board of trustees for several years and has always taken an active part in furthering the interests of the village. He with the late Wm. N. Roberts were the prime movers in a project which gave to Cobleskill the finest system of water works to be found in the state. Mr. Borst is not only a successful man from a business point of view, but is a prominent and respected citizen and has done much in making Cobleskill the prosperous, thriving and energetic village that it is to-day.



Marcus Angle, a prominent hardware merchant of Cobleskill, is probably as widely known in this and adjacent counties as any other citizen of this village. The beginning of the Cobleskill Agricultural Society owes much to him and the few associates who conceived and executed the project. Mr. Angle is one of the two members of the present board of directors who have continued in that capacity from the beginning and who have done much towards its success. He was born on the old Angle homestead at Lawyersville, Schoharie Co., Feb. 7, 1825. That was the business point of the county then; now a suburb of Cobleskill. Mr. Angle removed from the farm to this village in 1887. On Nov. 15, 1894 he purchased the hardware business of F. S. Rose on Main street. This is the principal hardware and implement business in this part of the county. The Angle family was among the earliest settlers in the Schoharie and Cobleskill sections, and the name has descended to many living families. Marcus Angle and Susan, the daughter of George Tator, of Mineral Springs, were married in 1858. Their children are Mrs. O. F. Nelson and William G., who is associated with his father in business. He is an elder in the Lutheran church and is deeply interested in its welfare.



Stanton Courter, Manufacturer and Builder, the son of Charles Courter, was born in Cobleskill Feb. 23, 1839. He was educated in the Schoharie

Cobleskill. He assumed the duties of cashier and continued in that position for twelve years, when he withdrew and proceeded to Pensacola, Fla., for the purpose of looking after the large lumber and railway interests of the firm in which his father was interested, where he remained during the years of 1878-9. The Florida interests were subsequently sold to an English syndicate. Upon his return from Florida Mr. Courter succeeded to the manufacturing and lumber business of Courter & Overpaugh. The plant has since been practically rebuilt and enlarged and supplied with new machinery for working in lumber and manufacturing furniture, turning out material for building, and dressed lumber for all purposes. Mr. Courter contracts for buildings complete and has put up many of the finest residences in this locality. He organized the Courter Electric Company for lighting the village, supplying the corporation and residences with lights, which has proven a success.



Photo by Niles

STANTON COURTER'S LUMBER WORKS AND FURNITURE FACTORY.

and the Fort Plain academies and in the Buffalo Commercial College, graduating from the latter institution in about his 20th year, and proceeding to Chicago where he was associated with the great lumber firm of C. Courter & Co., for two years. This was the centre of a large lumber trade and the firm conducted a very large business, turning out their products from their own mills located in the timber districts of Michigan. Mr. Courter subsequently entered the firm of Rogers, Courter & Co., large railway operators in Milwaukee, where he remained until they disposed of the Milwaukee & Western railway to the St. Paul Railway Co. The latter secured the services of Sherburne S. Merrill, who remained as their managing officer until his death, and Mr. Courter accompanied him in a confidential capacity. The name of Russell Sage appears as a principal factor in the above mentioned transfer of the Milwaukee & Western railway. Mr. Courter returned to Cobleskill in 1864 and in company with his father organized the First National Bank of



STANTON COURTER'S RESIDENCE, MAIN AND GRAND STS.
Photo by Niles

The above is an old colonial residence — one of the oldest in the village of Cobleskill. The rooms and halls are spacious, and the ceilings high. There are many rare papers and books stored away in the archives of the Courter mansion.

Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church.—In 1708 a dozen families, fleeing from the invasion of the lower Palatinate by the French, reached London in a destitute condition. Among the number was Rev. Joshua Kocherthal, a Lutheran minister, who petitioned the London Board of Trade "in behalf of himself and the poor Lutherans, to be transported to some of ye Majesty's plantations in America." Under the patronage of Queen Anne the party embarked on the ship "Globe" and arrived at New York on New Year's day 1709.

The title page of Rev. Kocherthal's record bears this inscription: "Begun by me, Joshua, of the valley of Concord, commonly called Kocherthal, the first minister of the German Church of New York." From these frugal and devout Lutheran immigrants came the pioneer settlers of Schoharie county.

For many years after the settlement of Cobleskill the Lutheran families were without a pastor or any stated place of worship. They met, however, in private houses and held religious services which consisted in singing the old German hymns, prayer and reading suitable books of devotion. Rev. Kocherthal made frequent visits and administered the rites of the church up to the time of his death, Dec. 27, 1719.

One of Kocherthal's daughters, Benigna Sibylla, married Rev. William Christoffel Berkenmyer who succeeded to the pastorate of the German Lutherans along the Hudson river and adjacent country in 1725.

Rev. Peter Nicholas Sommer, of Hamburg, Germany, became the pastor of the Lutheran church at Schoharie in 1742 and soon after gave his attention to the near-by German settlements; among those that he visited regularly were New Durlach (now Sharon) and Cobleskill. Congregations were organized at both of these places in 1754, and the records show that Rev. Sommer preached at Cobleskill March 3, 1758, and administered the Lord's Supper. Rev. Sommer died at Sharon Oct. 27, 1795, after many years of earnest, faithful work in the upbuilding of his beloved church. He has very properly been called "the pioneer of Lutheranism in Schoharie county."

For several years the settlements of New Durlach, New Rinebeck and Cobleskill formed a sort of church union or pastorate, and at one time the Lutherans of New Durlach and Cobleskill constituted one congregation under the title of "The Lutheran congregation of Cobleskill and New Durlach." This connection was severed in 1789.

Some time during the summer of 1793 Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Cobleskill was organized, for on Sept. 24, 1793, Lambert Lawyer decided to the trustees of the "Lutheran church called Zion of Cobleskill" one acre of land, on which the congregation immediately began the erection of a church.

The site was a knoll in the centre of the town on the north side of the public highway. The church was about 40 by 50 feet in size, built of brick and surmounted by a tower on which was marked in iron figures the date of construction, 1794. The

church was the finest in many miles around and for seventy years stood as a monument of the zeal and piety of the congregation through whose liberality and perseverance its building was made possible. It was remodeled and rededicated Feb. 18, 1846, and in 1872 was torn down and on its site was erected the Russell block.

For many years one pastor served the churches of Cobleskill, Schoharie and Middleburgh and following this connection, which ended in 1833, the congregations of Cobleskill, Richmondville, Sharon and New Rinebeck formed one pastorate. In 1847 another division was made, the pastor of Cobleskill serving only the Richmondville church, and this continued till 1871.

During the seventh session of Hartwick Synod, which was held at Cobleskill in Sept. 1837, the "Female Association of Hartwick Synod" was formed at the house of "Aunty" Shaeffer, its object being the education of missionaries. This was the first female missionary society organized in the Lutheran church in the United States; and it had the honor of sending to the Mission in Guntoor, India, Rev. Walter Gunn, the first missionary ever educated in the Lutheran church in this country. Rev. Gunn arrived at Guntoor in June



ROBERT CLIFFORD FRANCE,
3 years old, March, 1895.

LEMUEL CROSS DILLENBACK
5 years old, April, 1895.

GERTRUDE SHAFER,
4 years old, Jan., 1895

1844 and died at the Mission in July 1851.

The congregation, having outgrown its church home, resolved on June 18, 1867, to build a new church. The work was at once entered upon and the corner stone of the present large and imposing structure was laid Aug. 21, 1867, and the church dedicated July 1, 1868. It has a seating capacity of 700, is handsomely furnished and lighted with electricity. Its cost was \$36,000, exclusive of the organ which cost \$2,150.

Having sold their parsonage a few years previous, the congregation bought, in 1893, a lot adjoining the church and built a new parsonage at an expense of \$9,000. It is one of the most complete minister's homes in central New York and was a fitting work with which to close the hundredth year of the church's existence.

The following is a complete list of pastors from 1793 to 1893:

- Rev. Frederick H. Quitman, D.D., 1794 to 1798.
- Rev. Anthony T. Braun, 1799 to 1801.
- Rev. Augustus Wackerhagen, D.D., 1805 to 1816.
- Rev. John Molther, 1816 to 1818.

Rev. George A. Lintner, D.D., July 1819 to Nov. 1833.

Rev. William H. Watson, Feb. 1834 to Nov. 1842.

Rev. James Leffer, Nov. 1842 to June 1843.

Rev. James Fenner, 1843 to Aug. 1844.

Rev. Augustus L. Bridgman, Nov. 1844 to Oct. 1846.

Rev. Martin J. Stover, Oct. 1846 to April 1852.

Rev. Sylvander Curtis, May 1852 to Feb. 1855.

Rev. Phillip A. Strobel, Nov. 1855 to March 1858.

Rev. Henry Keller, Nov. 1858 to March 1861.

Rev. Ira S. Porter, April 1861 to April 1867.

Rev. Alonzo P. Ludden, May 1867 to Oct. 1871.

Rev. Charles P. Whitecar, Dec. 1872 to Dec. 1873.

Rev. Sylvanus Stall, D.D., June 1874 to Feb. 1877.

large company had filled the hall the scene was one long to be remembered. The church has a membership of over three hundred. Its church building is one of the finest in the interior of the state, and with the parsonage its property is second to very few in city or country."

The Rev. Dr. Everett came from St. Matthew's Lutheran church, Brooklyn, N. Y., to Zion's Lutheran church, Cobleskill, in the fall of 1893. He is an indefatigable worker and the church is making a steady growth under his ministry. He is in constant receipt of invitations to lecture and fills as many engagements as his pastoral work will permit. The following sketch appeared in *Platform and Pulpit Echoes*, a Philadelphia periodical, a few years ago: "Rev. Thomas T. Everett, D. D., is a native of



IN THE HELDERBERGHS—PICNIC ON KANJEARAGORE.

Rev. George W. Hemperly, March 1877 to March 1884.

Rev. Willis S. Hinman, July 1884 to June 1888.

Rev. William E. Hull, Aug. 1888 to March 1893.

Rev. William H. Singley, D.D., March 1893 to Sept. 1893.

Rev. Thomas T. Everett, D.D., Oct. 1893—present incumbent.

This, in outline, is the history of Zion's Lutheran Church up to its centennial anniversary which was duly celebrated Aug. 20-28, 1893. Of the centennial exercises the *Lutheran Observer* had this to say: "The exercises began on Sunday morning and the evenings of the following week were devoted to services in the interest of the various organizations of the church. The crowning event of the anniversary was the banquet held in Union Hall. On six large tables running the entire length of the hall, and one placed at their head for special guests, over four hundred covers were laid amid beautiful flowers; and when the

New York. He was born in Peekskill, Westchester county, and subsequently removed with his parents to New York city, where he resided until he passed his majority. He comes of old Dutchess county stock of a sturdy and thrifty type. Before he became of age he was placed with J. and E. Brooks, of the *New York Evening Express*, when that newspaper was printed on the corner of Wall and Nassau streets. There he received his first lessons in journalism, a profession which he successfully followed in New York and Pittsburgh. In 1863 he retired from newspaper life and entered the Christian ministry. After a course of instruction in one of the oldest and best theological seminaries in this country, he became a popular pastor and preacher in New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania. In 1881 the degree of Doctor of Divinity, *causa honoris*, was conferred upon him by the Washington and Lee university of Virginia. In 1883 he was tendered the post of private secretary by Governor Pattison,

of Pennsylvania, which he filled with high acceptability. The same year he was elected Recorder of the State Board of Pardons, which office he held for the full quadrennial period. As a preacher he reveals culture, earnest thought, genuine humanity and a deep love of the truth. On the lecture platform he is a lecturer, not a preacher. He displays his resources to advantage; is magnetic, humorous, eloquent and popular. He understands the art of putting an audience *en rapport* with himself. Everybody who has heard him speaks in his praise. He is unpretentious, generous-souled, full of sterling integrity, level-headed, and stands squarely on his own merit among men. Socially he is a courteous, genial, communicative, witty and dignified gentleman. He possesses a good brain, a generous heart, a large manhood, a ripe Christian character and takes a broad-gauge view of men and things."

The First National Bank.

A SOUND FINANCIAL INSTITUTION WITH A LARGE SURPLUS.

This bank was organized in February, 1864, with a capital of \$100,000. The incorporators were the leading business men and financiers of the county, men of means and ample individual credit. The business of the bank was conducted on conservative lines and each succeeding annual statement has shown a marked gain in its resources, until at the present time its surplus and undivided profits are in excess of that of the other institutions of the county combined, viz., \$100,000. Eleven years afterwards, in 1875, when

ary, 1888, and has continued to the present time. The board of present officers are: C. H. Shaver, president, J. H. Tator, vice-president, and D. C. Dow, cashier: who with Orville Hodge and Judge Watson Lamont constitute the board of five directors.



James H. Crandall, well known in the state as a representative republican and a leading citizen of Cobleskill, is retired from mercantile business, in which he made a success, but is not altogether relieved of considerable property interests which occupy much of his time. He was born in Charleston, Montgomery county,

May 1, 1834, and began teaching district school early in life, at the same time taking tuition classes from which he realized more than from the then meagre salary paid teachers. His first extensive investment was in a farm, where for two years he followed that calling. On April 19, 1861, he retired from farm life and on February 3, 1863, opened a general mercantile business at Sloansville, Schoharie county. Disposing of this on April 14, 1882, he soon after went west. From that time up to the present he has been more or less interested in prosperous ventures in Iowa and Nebraska, which have called him west year after year. These included the erection and operation of grain elevators and not a few real estate transactions, all of which have developed through the foresight, business tact and good judgment of Mr. Crandall himself, until now they represent large valuations. In 1884 he located his home in Cobleskill, where he has more generally been useful and active in his party—one of the

counselors and leaders of a political minority in the county—and has become more widely known as one of the party lieutenants in the state. He represented the Harrison administration in the Cobleskill post-office, serving from April 17, 1889, until after Cleveland's inauguration in 1893—a full term. He is, usually on the county and district committees and a delegate to the various conventions. For many years he was secretary of the county committee, and for two terms a member of the board of supervisors. He represented the local congressional district in the



FIRST NATIONAL BANK, MAIN AND GRAND STREETS.

D. C. Dow became cashier, the deposits amounted to \$80,000. To-day they are about \$470,000. The first board of directors were: Charles Courter, president; Minard Harder, C. H. Shaver, Alonzo Wakeman and J. R. Herrick. Mr. Shaver is the only one of that board who is a director at the present time and has been continually from the first. Stanton Courter was the first cashier. Charles Courter was succeeded as president in 1879 by J. R. Herrick, father of Judge D. Cady Herrick, of Albany. Next was Charles H. Shaver, who assumed the duties of that position in Janu-

Republican National Spell Binders' Association, which was organized in New York, after Mr. Harrison's election, with Chauncey M. Depew at its head. He was married in 1888 to Kate B. Wakefield, his first wife who was Amanda L. Schuyler, having then been dead several years. There are five children living, all well situated, viz. Mrs. W. F. Carpenter of Des Moines, Iowa, the wife of a prosperous miller and financier; Mrs. D. F. Wilbur of Oneonta, whose husband, congressman-elect for the 21st dis-

Mr. Borst has been identified with all measures of public interest and for the public good, particularly with the success of the Agricultural Association, of which he is the treasurer and has been for 18 years. He began trade with Granville Rockefeller, at Barnerville, and was subsequently clerk for H. I. Willsey at E. Cobleskill. He was then with the firm of Johnston & Field, Cooperstown, and afterwards in the clothing business at Schoharie which he sold out to Joseph W. Taylor. He was with Lamont & Mead, a whole-



ENTRANCE AND GROUNDS COBLESKILL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

trict of this state, is extensively engaged in raising fancy stock and is one of the most extensive farm proprietors in the state; W. J. Crandall, of Firth, Nebraska, who is interested in grain and milling operations, and Miss Jennie B. Crandall a graduate (1895) of the Boston Conservatory of Music. One child, Nellie B., died in her twenty-eighth year.



Martin D. Borst, a village trustee, member of that board for the past twelve years, and president of the water board from its first organization, was born on a farm in the town of Cobleskill, Oct. 27, 1840. His business in groceries is one of the longest standing in the village, he having been located at his present place for seventeen years.

sale notion house at Albany, and for two years was a member of the firm of George Kennedy & Co., wholesale dry goods. About 23 years ago he was in company with Mr. E. S. Ryder, opened the "Regulator" at Cobleskill under the firm name of Borst & Ryder. This business continued five years; afterwards for one year he was one of the firm of Shaver & Borst, grocers. Then began his business career alone which he continued successfully for the past 17 years. Mr. Borst is a 32d degree Mason, for many years Master of the Cobleskill Lodge, No. 394, and High Priest of the John L. Lewis Chapter, No. 229; also member of the De Witt Clinton Council and of Temple Commandery No. 2, of Albany. Mrs. M. D. Borst is the daughter of Halsey Bailey of Schoharie. Corey H. Borst, the eldest of the children, is in the grocery business at Oneonta. Myria and Florence are at school.

Jerry Widomen, the grocer on West Main st., opened his place of business March 1, 1891, putting in a large stock of groceries, crockery and wall paper. He has succeeded to a large trade, serving his customers in a conscientious manner and making friends through his eminently fair dealing. He was born in Eminence, Feb. 20, 1856, and during the early part of his life followed the calling of blacksmith, being engaged in that business for a few years with his brother. On Sept. 15, 1879, he married Miss Kate, the daughter of Stephen Hitchcock of North Blenheim. Mr. Widomen since coming to Cobleskill has launched out in a considerable business, which bids fair to rival older houses. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, the Good Templars and the Red Men.

Cobleskill Agricultural Society

THE HISTORY OF ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE STATE.

WHENEVER any organization is created, established and maintained which has for its object the betterment of mankind, it deserves the sympathy, encouragement and support of every right-minded person. The Cobleskill Agricultural Society comes prominently under the classification which we have mentioned. From its inception it has enthusiastically and energetically labored to promote the best interests of agriculture, horticulture and the household and mechanic arts, and so pronounced has been its success that it has permanently and indelibly fastened itself into the history of the county. The project of establishing an agricultural society had for some time been considered. The Cobleskill *Index* had for two years advocated the enterprise. A number of public-spirited gentlemen labored unitedly in the same direction. At a meeting of citizens held at Hotel Augustan Feb. 19, 1876, Peter Lawyer was made chairman and G. W. Bellinger secretary. John Van Schaick stated the object of the meeting. Messrs. M. Cohn, J. J. Dickinson, G. W. Bellinger and Jas. A. Warner were appointed a committee on permanent organization. John Van Schaick, Charles Holmes and John S. Pindar were appointed a committee on articles of association and by-laws. Marcus Angle, David S. Mann and Clinton Nethaway were appointed a committee on expense. A circular letter signed by M. Cohn, J. J. Dickinson, M. D. Borst, Jas. A. Warner and G. W. Bellinger called for a mass meeting in Opera Hall, March 4, 1876. This meeting was largely attended. The proposed constitution was presented. Beside the gentlemen whose names we have mentioned there were present, and taking part in the proceedings, J. M. Foster, Richmondville; L. H. Jackson, Sharon Springs; P. A. Angle, Carlisle; M. W. Stevens, Sloansville, Henry Smith, J. S. Knox, Jared Van Wagenen, Severenes Brown and others. Permanent organization was effected and W. C. Lamont was elected president, G. W. Bellinger, secretary, and M. Cohn, treasurer. At another meeting, held in Opera Hall on July 8, the by-laws were adopted. And thus a giant was born. The date of the first fair was Sept. 20, 21 and 22, 1876. The Eldridge track was leased. There was not a building on the grounds. A tent was hired, under which all exhibits were displayed, excepting live stock. Thus, without a dollar capital stock paid in, simply the honor, integrity and right motives of those in management, the Cobleskill Agricultural Society

presented itself to the public. From the beginning it was understood that every dollar of indebtedness incurred, either in way of necessary expenses or in premiums offered, should be paid, even to the last cent. There never was a thought of payment of premiums on per cent. according to loss, as is customary in such cases. There was good faith on the part of those in management—dollar for dollar and a fair, square deal at all times. The principle of liberality in dealing with the public has been a characteristic of the society from its inception, and it rules in the management of to-day. The Cobleskill Agricultural Society has experienced unparalleled success—there never has been a failure. The display, the management and the attendance have told the story. Grounds^s have been purchased and beautified; buildings have been erected, debts have all been paid and there is money in the treasury. There is no abatement of interest, and the society has not yet reached the full measure of its strength and usefulness. All this has been accomplished without the aid of outside help. Not a cent of money from the state nor an eleemosynary dollar has the society ever received. It stands solely upon its own merits, striving always to faithfully serve the public and to make men better and happier. The last annual, in all essentials which constitute a successful exhibit, eclipsed all its predecessors, and that is saying a very great deal. It was an astonishing! The officers are already astir, and even now measures are being instituted, having for their object a "bigger and better" fair than the exhibit of last year. The date of the next fair is Sept. 23, 24, 25 and 26, 1895, and until after that time just what the record will be can only be conjecture. Judging by the past it cannot fail of satisfying the most exacting.

The list of officers for the year 1895 is as follows:

President—O. F. Nelson.

First Vice-President—Stanton Osterhout.

Directors—O. F. Nelson, Stanton Osterhout, Marcus Angle, D. C. Dow, J. J. Dickinson, G. W. Bellinger, Peter Tingle, M. D. Borst, Rens. Dieffendorf, L. T. Fox.

Treasurer—M. D. Borst.

Secretary—G. W. Bellinger.

General Superintendent—J. J. Dickinson.

Superintendent of Privileges—L. T. Fox.

Superintendent of Trotting Department—M. Angle.



CLIFFORD AND STANTON FRANCE, PROPRIETORS.
(Harvesting Hops.)

THE IMPRESSIONS OF A YEAR.

[Contributed]

Having had less than a year's residence within the limits of this the "parlor village" of New York state, I can speak with sober appreciation of its merits. Before coming I had had a high recommendation for the town from a former resident. My year's acquaintance has not disappointed the expectations then aroused. First of all, the place is comparatively new and free from the time-honored rookeries that mar the outward aspect of so many towns that have age as their chief

railroad between Albany and Binghamton and with such far-famed attractions as Saratoga and the Catskills within easy reach, and Sharon Springs, Cooperstown and Howe's Cave just at hand, Cobleskill is already a center for residence and a depot for supplies to a wide reach of surrounding country.

And Prosperity has Brought its Attendant Blessings.

Five well-equipped churches minister to the spiritual needs of the population; one well-organized Union school supplies mental training to the children and youth; and moral and fraternal societies co-operate with able representatives of every desirable business and profession to meet the material needs and to secure the moral tone of the place. Lastly, the briefest sketch of impressions may not omit mention of the friendly character of the townspeople. A stranger need not be lonesome for long. Cobleskill's democratic society knows only one standard—that of worth, and everyone can find friends by showing himself friendly. If these impressions seem flattering they are not overdrawn, and a short experience will fully attest what has been claimed for the "parlor village" of the Empire state.

CHARLES MAAR, M. A.

Pastor Reformed Church.



Rev. CHARLES MAAR, M. A., Pastor Reformed Church.

endorsement. Cobleskill presents a well-kept appearance, for its buildings are modern and the owners take peculiar pride in keeping up their property. Add to this the unfenced stretches of velvety lawn and we have all the material for a perfect picture, as far as appearance goes.

But Cobleskill is Just as Attractive

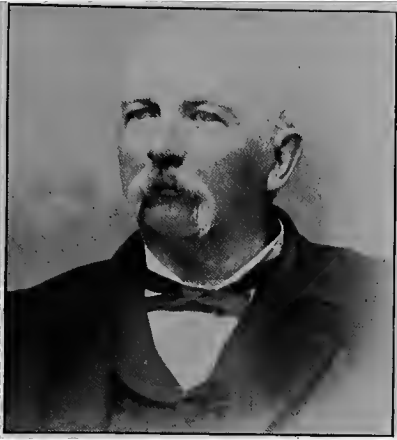
in other essentials. A sewage system, an unailing supply of pure water and electric lighting supply the prime conditions of health and comfort to every home. These things in connection with the pure air of its elevated situation, with the beauty of the evergreen hills that rise on every side and with the enchanting prospects from many points of outlook, leave little to be desired in natural or acquired advantages. No wonder the town is rapidly becoming the metropolis of the county. Lying on the main line of

Paul Heckel, for four years a member of the village board of trustees, came to Cobleskill in 1869 and started in the bakery and confectionery business in a small way. By thrift and integrity Mr. Heckel has built up a business from which he realizes a substantial competence. The business soon "grew out of" the original quarters and Mr. Heckel built a block on property which he purchased on Division street. The lot is one of the best situated on the main thoroughfare from the depot. It has a frontage of 90 feet and depth of 116 feet. The block, which he constructed for the principal reason that his business demanded it, is 28 feet front and 50 feet deep and has two stories. In the rear is an L. This property is kept up in a manner which shows thrift and enterprise. Mr. Heckel was born in Breslau, Prussia, May 10, 1840. He was early taught the trade of plain and fancy baker and confectioner and upon arriving in New York in 1863 he found remunerative employment working at his trade in that city, Brooklyn and Albany. He is a member of the local Masonic Lodge and Chapter and the improved order of Red Men. He is regarded as one of the citizens of the village who sacrifice more or less their private resources for the advancement of the place.

The Farm of the Hon. Wm. C. Lamont.

INTERESTING DESCRIPTION OF A WELL KNOWN COUNTRY SEAT NEAR COBLESKILL, N. Y.
—A HERD OF FAMOUS GUERNSEYS—REGISTERED STOCK AND HIGH BRED POULTRY.

ON January, 1894, the office of County Judge and Surrogate of Schoharie county passed from the hands of the incumbent who for sixteen years had honored the people and himself in the conduct of the affairs of that trust. That gentleman who, after long years in the public service, including terms in the Legislature, had retired to the comforts of private life and whose sole future aim was to prosecute farming with the same mark-



WILLIAM C. LAMONT

ed success that he had practiced law, is the Hon. William C. Lamont. The writer of this sketch visited the Lamont farm at the time of the year when the ground was being prepared for planting and sowing. A ride of two miles upon high ground overlooking the valley in which is located the village of Cobleskill, passing through the northern suburb of the village and coming out upon a stretch of rolling table land, brings to view the buildings and fertile acres which it is a pleasure to visit. The home of the Judge is a large, white house surrounded by stately trees and looking across a sweeping lawn to the highway. The in-

terior has the air and comfort which the mind attaches to the homestead of colonial days, when hospitality was the mistress who ruled supreme above all else — spacious rooms, high ceilings and more than all modern comforts not customary in a country house, such as the fully equipped bathrooms, with hot and cold water on tap, flush sanitary arrangements, and a large private library embracing the best known volumes of ancient and modern writers, not to mention the Judge's private law library. The farm includes 200 acres of rich soil, with a large pasturage and very productive hay fields. There is, too, that deep, black earth, which produces the cereals very largely; also large orchards and extensive gardens. While hops are cultivated to a considerable extent, they are really an incidental crop. The farm skirts both sides of the highway for a half mile and within its area are two additional farm dwellings which are kept up in good taste, one occupied by Henry Lamont and the other by one of the farm hands. The management of the farm by the Judge is reinforced by his two sons, Edward and Henry S., the former making his father's home that of himself and family. To describe fully and in detail the varied interests of this country seat would require more space than is at our disposal. We have undertaken, however, within prescribed limits, to give the reader a fair idea of one of the best stock and harvest farms in Schoharie county. It is doubtful if the plans provided for the care of stock are second to those of any other farm in the State. It is only fair to state, *en passant*, that the care of the household is in the hands of Mrs. Edward Lamont, who entertains the guests on the farm — the Judge and his friends — with becoming hospitality.

Stock and Buildings.

The reader now having obtained a fair idea of the farm generally, will find much of interest in



BIRDSEYE VIEW OF THE FARM OF WILLIAM C. LAMONT.

that department which commands much favor from the judge. We refer to live stock. The conveniences are modern and the stables commodious. The cattle are largely full-blooded Guernseys with a sprinkling of Jerseys. The average number of milchers is about thirty, and their rich productions are delivered on contract to the creameries. The judge has planned for the care of his stock with particular attention to every detail. The barns consist of a main building 65 x 80 feet, with a wagon house 57 x 31 feet attached to the west end, and a shed 20 x 40 on the east side. A remarkable feature is that the main building rests upon the face of a large lime rock which provides not only a firm support for the foundations, but a solid floor.

pools under the barn. The supply of water is from springs pouring into separate reservoirs in the cattle and horse stables. The interior connections between all parts of the big barns are such that the care of the stock and the preparation for field work or driving upon the road are entirely under cover. The milk cooler is a spacious underground apartment with good ventilation and running spring water, entered directly from the barn and as sweet and wholesome as though it were on the opposite side of the farm, the slope of the interior leading away from it. By means of chutes and slides, hay and grain are lowered from above; by means of conductors, water can be obtained in various parts of the buildings. Box



RESIDENCE AND BARN, WILLIAM C. LAMONT'S FARM.

Upon this is laid a concrete, forming passageways extending the length of the stables, and gutters or sluiceways in the rear of the cattle. The latter stand on firmly laid plank, and are secured by means of the self-bolting revolving stanchions. Inside of the cattle stables is perhaps the largest silo in the country, having the capacity of 250 tons. The horse stables are located on the floor above, with a direct entrance to the wagon house on one side, to the barn floor on the other and to the cattle stables below. The capacity of the hay mows is 200 tons, and the granaries 100 tons. The drainage of the whole premises is complete, the slope of the gutters and the yards adjoining, carrying all excrement and surface waters well away from the barn without leaving anything standing and making it impossible to work into

stalls provide ample enclosures of greater security. Tool houses and hay scales complete this hurried description.

Blooded Leghorn Poultry.

The poultry is no small consideration with the Judge, who is very much of a poultry fancier. The poultry-house is 145x115 feet, with interior wire enclosures and provided with the best arrangements for separating and cleansing. The favorite breed of fowl is Brown Leghorn, with a smattering of White Leghorn. By means of an incubator, it is possible to double the average supply annually, the accommodations being for 600 fowls. Referring again to the cattle, it should be stated that the group shown in one of the accompanying illustrations include three heifers eligible to registry and one already duly registered. The

barns and poultry houses are built with a view of durability. Standing on bed rock and covered with slate roofing, they are as stable as buildings can be constructed.

The Fruit.

Speaking of the orchards, to which great care is given and in which there is displayed a knowledge of grafting which has accomplished the best results, it is, perhaps, not too much to say that the fruit marketed has seldom failed to yield a flattering revenue. The orchard comprises ten acres, three of which are plums. The Judge did most of the setting out and grafting.

The Family Sketch.

In conclusion, a brief sketch of the owner of this farm, a gentleman so widely known in the state,

active part in local political campaigns, he finally consented to a nomination, equivalent to an election, as democratic candidate for the assembly of 1859. The following year he removed to Richmondville, and in 1868 to Cobleskill. His career as County Judge began January 1, 1864, and continued two terms, then four years each. He represented the twenty-fifth district (the counties of Schoharie, Delaware and Chenango) in the state senate in 1876-7. The Judge made his presence in that august circle known on more than one occasion, and the trim and well-groomed senator more than once bowed to defeat at the hands of the farmer from Schoharie. The latter, after a pitched battle, succeeded in getting through an



W. C. LAMONT'S REGISTERED GUERNSEYS—PART OF THE HERD.

is not out of place, William C. Lamont was born in Charlotteville, the town of Summit, Schoharie county, N. Y., November 26, 1828. With an academical education, he began life as a school teacher and, in 1849, resorted to the study of law in the office of Abraham Becker, South Worcester, Otsego county, N. Y. Mr. Becker was, in his day, a distinguished lawyer of great ability, and it was with him that the Judge completed his studies preparatory to his admission to the bar at Owego, in June, 1852. The latter speaks in high terms of the attainments of Lawyer Becker, and it is undoubtedly due in a large measure to the example and kindness shown by that gentleman, as well as the advantages derived from his legal standing, that Judge Lamont achieved the success in law which he did.

The Lawyer and Legislator.

Upon his admission to the bar the latter began the practice of law at Charlotteville. Taking an

appropriation for the removal of the remains of David Williams of revolutionary fame, from Albany to Schoharie counties and the erection of an appropriate monument, which marks the grave of one of Andre's captors at Schoharie. The Judge was returned to the county judgeship by appointment from Governor Hill, and served from February, 1887, until January 1, 1893. Judge Lamont's wife was the daughter of Nicholas Becker, a family connected with the early days of the county and descendants of the revolution. They were married January 19, 1853. Mrs. Lamont, a lady of rare grace and a companion with whom the Judge traveled the highway of life forty-one years, died August 19, 1894, lamented by a wide circle of friends, and was buried in the Cobleskill cemetery. The Judge is surrounded by the two sons and their families, the only children they had, and three grandchildren, Maggie E., the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lamont, and Hattie and Clarence, the children of Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Lamont.



George W. Bellinger was born in Cobleskill. He received the advantages of a good common school education. In the year 1865 Oswald Burnett, returning from the army, came to Cobleskill and opened on the third floor of the building now occupied by Marcus Angle, the first regular photograph gallery in town. Mr. Bellinger learned the art from Mr. Burnett and soon purchased the gallery. He enlarged the business which he successfully conducted until the 13th of August, 1873, when his place of business, then located in the place now occupied by Drs. Fox & Brown's dental parlors, was destroyed by fire. In September 1873 Mr. Bellinger purchased the Cobleskill *Index*, which he has since edited and published. The *Index*, under Mr. Bellinger's management, has been several times enlarged, the subscription rates reduced from \$1.50 to \$1.00 per year, the circulation increased from 800 to nearly quadruple that number and the amount of reading matter advanced about eight fold. In the year of 1882, the *Index* being forced from the quarters it then occupied, Mr. Bellinger purchased the "Squire" Lawyer property, corner of Main and Division streets, moved the old house and erected a new structure, and the *Index* was duly installed into new quarters and a permanent home. Mr. Bellinger looks back with keen satisfaction to the 23 years of hard labor which he has given to the *Index*—to the consequent help which he has thus been able to extend to individuals, to the aid which he has afforded worthy public objects and village enterprises and, politically, to the democratic party, the principles of which the *Index* is a loyal exponent. Mr. Bellinger was early interested in the Cobleskill Agricultural Society. Personally, and in the *Index*, he urged the establishment of the association. He has been a member of the board of management since the inception of the society in the year 1876, and for a like period he has served without even a thought of compensation as secretary, and as yet he experiences no abatement of interest. He regards with pardonable pride his interest in and his labors for the Cobleskill Agricultural Society, which he considers not among the least of the different public offices which have engaged his attention. He is a member of the board of village trustees, serving in his second term; and has for many years been a member of the board of directors of the Cobleskill Rural Cemetery Association, of which he is secretary and treasurer and has been for three years. He was one of the projectors of the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank, and is a stockholder and a member of the board of directors. Mr. Bellinger is united in marriage

with Miss Minnie, the only daughter of the late Hon. and Mrs. F. P. Moulton. One son, book-keeper in the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank, and Miss Maud S. a pupil in the high school, are the children.

Distance of Stations on D. & H. from Albany.

Delmar.....	6.56	Maryland.....	70.03
Slingerlands.....	7.03	Cooperstown J'ct.	75.34
Voorheesville....	10.89	Colliers.....	76.37
Meadowdale.....	13.93	Oneonta.....	81.71
Altamont.....	17.20	Otego.....	89.68
Duane.....	24.19	Wells Bridge....	94.07
Delanson.....	26.83	Unadilla.....	98.85
Esperance.....	30.96	Sidney.....	130.33
Schoharie J'ct....	35.34	Bainbridge.....	108.49
Central Bridge...	36.24	Afton.....	114.36
Howe's Cave....	39.25	Nineveh.....	118.81
COBLESKILL..	44.76	Harpersville....	120.30
Richmondville...	49.99	Tunnel.....	127.05
East Worcester...	56.93	Osborn Hollow..	132.54
Worcester.....	61.57	Port Crane.....	135.57
Schenevus.....	66.57	Binghamton.....	142.59



Le Roy Becker, M. D., was born at Central Bridge March 12, 1869. He is the descendant of the Becker family, so closely connected with the events which make up the early history of the Schoharie valley. The Beckers settled in the neighborhood of Central Bridge and for many years conducted the large grist mills to which the settlers carried all their grain. Dr. Becker was educated in the district schools and at Hartwick seminary. He studied medicine with Dr. Hiram Becker, Dr. McDonald of Albany and Dr. F. P. Beard, of Cobleskill. He was granted the diploma of the Albany Medical college, dated April 27, 1892. For a few months he practiced at Seward Station, pending a favorable arrangement for locating in Cobleskill, which followed in November, 1892. Until April of the ensuing year he practiced with Dr. Miller. Since then he has practiced alone and with flattering success. In June, 1894, he was chosen vice-president of the Schoharie County Medical Society. He is an Odd Fellow and a member of the Independent Order of Red Men; also medical examiner for the latter order and for several insurance companies. He is the village health officer. On April 11, 1895, he married Jessie E., the daughter of Mahlon Decker, of Cobleskill.

O. F. Nelson, the president of the Cobleskill Agricultural Association and one of the directors of the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank, located in Cobleskill in 1891. Securing a pretty building site on an elevation overlooking the Cobleskill valley from the north, he erected a spacious residence which attracts the eye from any road entering the village. The display of taste and the love shown for the beautiful are plainly observed in the site and the architecture selected and in the terraces and landscape gardening which beautify the grounds. The view from the piazzas, sweeping east and west until shut out by distant hills, is alone a great inducement for building such homes as that of Mr. Nelson. This gentleman sought retirement from multiplying cares accompanying large and growing business interests in Amsterdam. He found in Cobleskill a social circle and a business activity which appealed to his inclinations and he soon became personally active in public matters. Mrs. O. F. Nelson is a daughter of Mr. Marcus Angle, a well known townsman, hence Mr. Nelson did not come as a stranger. He was born at Stillwater, Saratoga Co., April 23, 1836. At fifteen years of age he obtained employment in the retail grocery of P. V. Fort at Albany in the capacity of an all around boy. Five years later he occupied the position next to the proprietor and the sixth year was a member of the firm. Then he began business for himself in a grocery in Albany. Three years later, and covering the same period of time, Messrs. Fort and Nelson conducted the Clermont Hotel, Fulton st., New York. In 1863 the latter began business in Amsterdam as a dealer in coal. He reached out year after year adding many other interests, including lumber, wood and malt, and he operated considerably in real estate. In 1871 he went into the manufacture of knit goods, and later took as partner Mr. J. C. Miller, his son-in-law. His interests in that line of industry increased yearly until, at the time of the great struggle between the mill owners and organized labor, he found himself placed on the executive committee of the mill owners. His interests included the McCowatt



O. F. NELSON'S RESIDENCE, SUMMIT AVENUE.

mill which he had a hand in building; also stock in the First National Bank of Amsterdam and in the Amsterdam street railway, in both of which he was a director. In Cobleskill he devotes time to the Agricultural Association, the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank, in which he is a director, and the Lutheran Church in which he is a trustee. He is greatly devoted to the breeding of poultry and pigeons, of which he is a fancier, and to the culture of fruit and flowers to a considerable extent, all of which occupy most of his time wholly as a means of recreation.

John P. Hubbard, the proprietor of the railroad eating house, purchased the business which had long been established and took possession Sept 1, 1894. He at once recognized the need of a place for refreshment at all hours, and lunch is served at any time, day or night, in the best manner. The service provides the best prepared lunches cold or hot, at one-half the usual railroad price. It is a great accommodation both to the traveling public and the townspeople.



Dr. Franklin Pierce Beard, a leading practicing physician and surgeon of this village, with a wide and successful practice in the county, was born in the town of Jefferson, Schoharie Co., Nov. 29, 1852. His father, Jacob L., a prosperous farmer and mechanic was descended from Schoharie Co. people, and his mother was a Wilsey, of Warnerville. Dr. Beard received a common school education and at an early age began the study of medicine with Dr. Cornell, of Richmondville, afterwards studying with Drs. Spaulding of Summit, and Wood, of Jefferson. He was graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1875. He practiced in Eminence two years and in 1876 went to Summit where he pursued a lucrative practice for ten years. He located in Cobleskill in 1886 and has built up a large practice here. In March 1872 he married Miss Alice Chickering and they are blessed with five children. The oldest, Claud G., is a farmer, John J. is studying medicine at Albany, David and the two daughters Leona and Mildred are at home. The doctor's business has not permitted much attention to politics, but he is an active democrat and has served three terms as coroner and one term as supervisor for the town of Summit. He is a member of the Cobleskill

Masonic Lodge, No. 394. The doctor's profession requires all of his time, taking him over a considerable stretch of country, but he is interested in farming, and is the owner of about 90 acres in the corporation of Cobleskill and a farm of 76 acres on Fulton Hill, adjoining a farm of 200 acres which the doctor gave his oldest boy. The doctor has invested in village real estate including the lots on the Elm street extension west of the Catholic church which are eligible sites for handsome residences and also a business block in the village of Summit.

Hon. John S. Pindar was for many years the democratic leader of Schoharie county. He served in the forty-ninth congress from the Herkimer-Otsego-Schoharie (24th) district, and controlled the appointments in a manner which reversed the usual order, leaving him a remarkably small personal opposition and enabling him in subsequent campaigns to draw together a following that proved a controlling factor in the district. In the fall of 1890 he defeated the Hon. Frank Arnold and served in the fifty-second district to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the Hon. David Wilbur. Congressman Pindar served on the county committee for thirteen or fourteen years and cemented all party interests, constituting a bulwark against which the opposition was powerless to effect the least impression. He enlarged the town representation in the county committee, thereby carrying out his personal inclinations for a liberal and broad representation of the people in the direct management of parties. At the time Judge Mayham ascended to the supreme court bench Congressman Pindar declined the appointment of county judge and surrogate. He was frequently a delegate to national and state conventions and invariably the leader in county and district conventions. He was born in the town of Sharon in 1835, and by industry and perseverance earned the means to carry him through his studies. In 1862-'5 he read law with Young & Ramsay at Lawyersville, and in the latter year was admitted to the bar at Albany, subsequently being admitted to practice in the highest courts of this country. In 1867 he began practice in Cobleskill and from that time has succeeded in his profession to the extent of becoming widely and favorably known as a successful counsellor and advocate. In 1880 he first stepped into politics and his record is that of a clean-handed self-respecting politician who practices only fair and honorable dealings with associates and a square and open contest with



Edwin Bradley Hard, editor of the *Times*, came to Cobleskill eight years ago and purchased the *Herald*, the office having been closed for about a month and in the hands of the sheriff, who was the acting editor in charge. Within two weeks after Mr. Hard's arrival on the scene he had thoroughly renovated the property, changed the name of the paper to the *Times*, and from a list of less than three hundred had increased the circulation to over 2,000 copies per week, and the paper now ranks among the brightest and most newsy in the county.

Editor Hard informed the writer that as near as he can remember he made his first appearance on earth at Charlotteville, N. Y., and that as a starter in the way of an education he was taught several things at the New York Conference Seminary in Charlotteville, since which time he has been attending the college of life, and is enjoying himself so well that he intends to postpone his graduation as long as possible.



CLIFFORD AND STANTON FRANCE, PROPRIETORS — CUTTERS AND SHIPPERS.

opponents. Mr. Pindar stands high in the order of Masonry. He has considerable farm interests to which he devotes his leisure. He married Miss Maggie P., daughter of Hon. John F. Hiller, of Sharon, deceased. Their children are Mrs. Charles H. Shaffer, George Pindar and Miss Kate Pindar of Cobleskill, and Mr. Edward Pindar, of Albany.

He is not only a pleasing and forcible writer but a practical printer as well, having served an apprenticeship and learned the mechanical as well as the editorial part of newspaper work, so that he is familiar with all the details of the business and owns one of the best equipped country offices in the state. Mr. Hard was employed on the *Gazette* at LeRoy, N. Y., for several years, from which

place he went to Syracuse where he spent three years in daily newspaper work on the journals of that city. From Syracuse he went to Chatham, N. Y., where he remained four years, acting as associate editor of the Chatham *Courier*.

He is a member of Cobleskill Lodge No. 394, F. and A. M., a charter member of Otsgaragee Tribe of Red Men, and first assistant foreman of Tivoli Hose company. He possesses a genial disposition, is wide-awake and enterprising and never can do too much for a friend.



John S. Hutt, one of the largest commission merchants in produce in the county, was born in the town of Sharon April 13, 1848, and has been engaged in the business for upwards of twenty years, locating in Cobleskill in 1888. He married Emily, the daughter of George B. Badgley, of Schoharie, June 16, 1872. He is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellow orders and the Red Men, and is an active republican. In Cobleskill he began a large warehouse business in hops and general produce and has dealt extensively in fruit having facilities for storage which are second to none in the state.

Dr Peter Andrew Allen, a leading physician of Cobleskill, was born in Tockhannock, Columbia county, December 4, 1838. His father, Jeremiah, a native of Columbia county, now a resident of the town of Summit, is in his 90th year. His mother, who was Catharine Norton, is a native of Dutchess county. Dr. Allen begun the study of medicine March 1, 1859, at West Fulton. He continued his studies pursuing a course of lectures in 1860-2 and on February 22, 1862, graduated from the Medical College of Philadelphia. On October 5 of the same year he married Miss Lavina Perry and located at North Blenheim where he practiced until 1867, when he removed to Lawyersville. On April 8, 1878, his wife died and during the fall of 1882, he located in Cobleskill where he has since practiced with much success. On October 18, 1882, he married Miss Loretta E. Newman of Hudson. Dr. Allen is an elder in the First Reformed church and has been from its organization. He is the treasurer of the Eclectic Medical Society, in the Susquehanna district. He is a democrat and has taken an active part in local politics but never so far as to hold office, the pressure of his profession not permitting.

C. G. Manning, manufacturer and dealer in harness and appurtenances, was born in the town of Glen, Montgomery county, Dec. 7, 1846, and on

April 3, 1870, he came to Cobleskill, entering the employ of J. Borst, who was doing a considerable business in that line. On Jan. 19, 1885, Mr. Manning purchased the business of A. J. Niles which he has continued to carry on to the present time in the same building at the junction of West Main and Grand streets. It is a large store with ample shop facilities and from time to time the business naturally increased as the result of the addition of stock and the expansion of manufacturing conveniences offering the patrons a wider range of selection, including both custom and factory made goods. Few stores in villages of the size of Cobleskill are better stocked in harness, saddlery hardware and that line of goods. Mr. Manning indulges his inclinations by branching out considerably in turf goods. These are his study and, it may be said, his specialty in which he has been successful. Mr. Manning and Jane, the daughter of Josiah Borst, were married June 11, 1873. They are members of the Lutheran church. He belongs to the Cobleskill Lodge No. 394 F. and A. M., and the order of Red Men.



Dr. Charles K. Frazier, the son of David Frazier, M. D., a physician of high standing and forty-seven years' practice in Cobleskill, is one of the best known in the medical profession in the county. He was born in Cobleskill October 17, 1850, was educated in the public schools and the Albany Academy and studied medicine with Dr. Armsby, graduating from the Albany Medical College in 1873. For the first two years after receiving his diploma he practiced medicine in Waverly, N. Y., afterwards pursuing his profession at Big Flats, Chemung county, near Elmira, N. Y. The doctor has been called upon to figure in local politics. Being an ardent democrat from the time he was old enough to vote, he became active in various campaigns, attending conventions and caucuses. He was a delegate to the state convention of 1877 at the time that Horatio Seymour refused the nomination for governor, necessitating the return of all the delegates to Saratoga and the subsequent nomination of Robinson who was elected. Dr. Frazier married Miss Rosalie L. Camp of Campville, Tioga county, N. Y., in 1874 and removed to Cobleskill in 1878. Here the doctor has built up a good practice. Though having little time for politics he accepted the appointment of coroner in deference to the fact that it came from his friend of early days, Gov. Hill, and was made to fill an unexpired term. Twice since then he was chosen by the electors to stay in the office. He has also served as town clerk.

Farmers' and Merchants' Bank.

Incorporated 1893.

Authorized capital \$200,000.00. Paid in capital \$50,000.00.

The stock of this bank is widely scattered among representative business and professional men. The officers rank among our best citizens. They have, of their own efforts, made a success of their own business. They are honest, conservative, attentive to business and possess good judgment and financial status, qualifications necessary in establishing public confidence such as the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank has enjoyed from the opening of its doors. The motto of this institution is uniform courtesy and like favors to all; and the steadily increasing business leads to the belief that its efforts to faithfully and honestly serve the public are receiving liberal recognition. The banking quarters are centrally located, tastefully decorated and finished in natural wood; also provided with a Herring-Hall-Marvin Co.'s burglar-proof safe, with time lock and automatic device encased in a fire-proof vault with twenty-two inch



PRESIDENT, DAVID HUBBS.

John R. Becker, the cashier, is the son of the late James Becker, and was born in Cobleskill, N. Y. Closing school studies he engaged as book-keeper for F. M. Fox, manufacturer of Colliers, N. Y. Later, he moved to Richmondville, where for ten years he acceptably served as cashier of the Richmondville Bank. He was twice elected supervisor, against a largely adverse political majority. He resigned the cashiership of the Richmondville Bank to accept a more lucrative similar position with the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank. He enjoys the full confidence of the bank officials and the public generally.

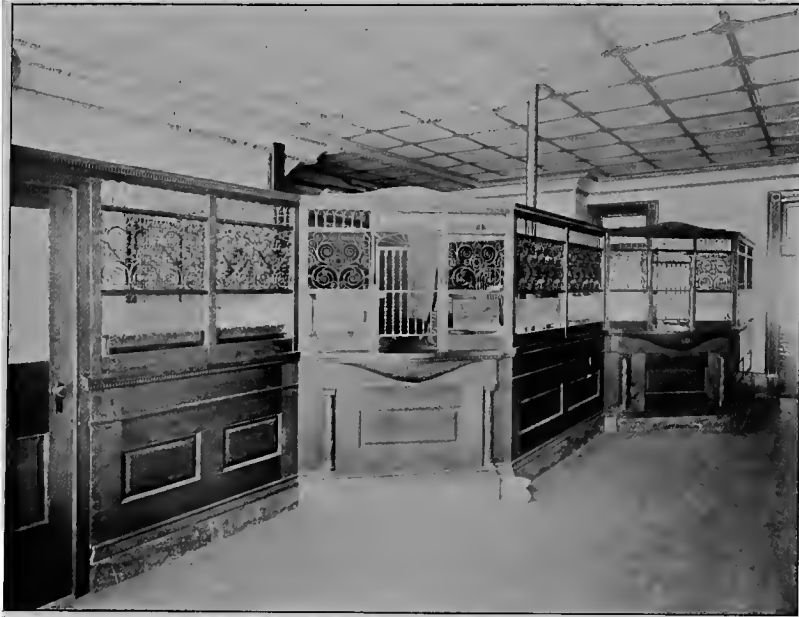


Photo by Niles INTERIOR FARMERS' AND MERCHANTS' BANK, MAIN STREET.

walls. The directors are: President, David Hubbs, Cobleskill; Vice-president, Jared Van Wagenen, Lawyersville; and Clifford France, Oscar F. Nelson, George W. Bellinger, Morris Cohn, Judson Burhans, Cobleskill; Wellington D. Becker, Central Bridge; Alexander McMillan, of Grosvenor's Corners.

David Hubbs, president, was born in the town of Root, N. Y. In the year 1867, in connection with his brother-in-law, Freeman Mereness, he built the Mansion House, Sharon Springs, the patronage of which he widely extended, displaying keen foresight, business energy and robust integrity. He served two years as president of the board of village trustees and two years in the school board. In the year 1889 he retired from active business and took up residence in Cobleskill, where his genial character attracts friends and his rugged integrity commands respect.



CASHIER, J. R. BECKER.

The Methodist Episcopal Church.—While Methodism has been an efficient religious agency in this section of the country for more than a hundred years, it was the middle of the present century before an organization was formed in this village. At that time a few Methodist families had settled here and in 1852 regular preaching services were held. Finding it impossible to hire a church they decided to build. Rev. Elisha Watson, Abram G. Diefendorf and Minard Harder were appointed a

\$2,600, was dedicated October 4, 1855, by Rev. Stephen D. Brown. During the pastorate of Rev. D. W. Gates in 1866-7, the church building was enlarged and extensive repairs made. Capt. W. B. Calkins was chairman of the committee having the matter in charge. It is worthy of note that Minard Harder, Chas. H. Shaver and Jamieson Chesebro, the first trustees, are still living as honored and respected citizens of our community. In the spring of 1893 at a business meeting of the official board, E. S. Ryder, G. D. Harder and Rev. H. H. Murdock, the present pastor, were



BAPTIST CHURCH,
W. Main St.

THE M. E. CHURCH,
Chapel St.

LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PARSONAGE,
E. Main St.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND RECTORY,
Elm St. and Washington Ave.

THE UNION SCHOOL,
Lark and Union Sts.

THE REFORMED CHURCH,
W. Main St. and Washington Ave.

committee "to circulate a subscription for a new church in Cobleskill village." In the meantime preaching services and class meetings were held for a time in a wagon shop, then in the house of John S. Schermerhorn and finally in a large room fitted up for the purpose in the home of Minard Harder on Grove street. In this room the Sunday school was organized about 1854 with Jamieson Chesebro Superintendent, and Chas. H. Shaver, Secretary. At a meeting of this society held in their place of worship October 2, 1854, a regular Methodist Episcopal church organization was effected and David Face, Henry Ottmann, Charles H. Shaver, Minard Harder, John S. Schermerhorn and Jamieson Chesebro were elected trustees. The first church building, costing about

appointed a committee to secure subscriptions for a new church, the estimated cost of which was to be from \$20,000 to \$25,000. In less than three months, the committee reported \$15,000 pledged. A Building Committee was at once appointed consisting of E. S. Ryder, Chairman; M. S. Decker, Treasurer; C. H. Shaver, Dr. H. H. Fox, Clifford France, Sylvester McDonald, G. D. Harder, Sanford Myres and Wm. L. Hawes. At the laying of the corner-stone, which occurred on October 9, 1893, over 500 subscribers to the building fund were on the list. July 1, 1894, was a triumphant day for Methodism in Cobleskill. On this day the new church, costing \$25,000, was dedicated, free from debt. Rev. I. B. Ives, D. D., of Auburn, and Rev. J. H. Coleman, D. D., presiding elder, preached.

The church, situated on Chapel street, a combination of stone, brick and shingles, together with its handsome organ and modern conveniences is the finest church structure in Schoharie county. Its seating capacity in all departments is between seven and eight hundred. Its present membership is 320. During the pastorate of R. H. Robinson, the parsonage on Elm street was built making a pleasant and commodious home for the pastor; the building is free from debt. The Trustees: George D. Harder, President; Wm. L. Hawes, Francis France, Sanford Myres, Irving Van Voris. The Stewards: Minard Harder, C. H. Shaver, M. D. Decker, Chauncy P. Boorn, Geo. Hoseldon, C. B. Jones, Dr. H. H. Fox, John Van Voris (deceased April 6, 1895), Louis Hess (deceased March 15, 1895), Sylvester McDonald, Stanton Shaver. Class leaders: Peter S. Clark, Franklin Shafer and Henry Bellinger. Junior league: Mrs. H. H. Murdock, Superintendent; Edna Diefendorf, Pianist; May Rowley, Secretary.

The following is the list of pastors from the time of organization:

J. Connor and Joseph Cope, 1856-1857.
S. S. Ford and D. W. Gould, 1858-1859.
Alvin Robbins and W. J. Sands, 1860-1861.
Aaron Hall and F. T. Hanna, 1862-1863.
Abel Ford, 1864-1865.
D. W. Gates, 1866-1867.
Horace L. Grant, 1868-1871
R. H. Robinson, 1871-1873.
T. D. Walker, 1873-1876.
W. H. L. Stark, 1876-1878.
Milton Tator, 1878-1880.
John S. Bridgeford, 1880-1881.
Delos Cronk, 1881-1882.
Samuel Meredith, 1882-1884.
James L. Attwell, 1884-1887.
Thomas A. Griffin, 1887-1892.

Ladies' Aid Society: Mrs. Clifford France, President; Mrs. Stanton Shaver, Vice-President; Anna Hoseldon, Secretary; Mrs. Cora Braley, Treasurer.

Sunday School Officers: Superintendent, E. S. Ryder; Assistant Superintendent G. D. Harder; Secretary, Jessie Van Schaick; Treasurer, Frank Ryder; Librarian, Harry Hess; Superintendents Primary Department, Mrs. E. S. Ryder and Mrs. Seward Shafer.

Epworth League: Louis N. Brown, President; Franklin Shafer, First Vice-President; Miss Osia Hoseldon, Second Vice-President; Miss Estella Lawyer, Third Vice-President; E. S. Ryder, Fourth Vice-President; Charles Limmer, Treasurer; Mrs. Louis Brown, Secretary.

W. F. M. Society.—Miss Sarah Larkin, President; Mrs. John Van Voris, Vice-President; Mrs. E. S. Ryder, Secretary; Mrs. Francis France, Treasurer.

Rev. Henry H. Murdock, A. M., the present pastor, came from Valley Falls, N. Y., and took charge of this church in the spring of 1892, and has just entered upon his fourth year. Mr. Murdock was born in Richmond, Berkshire county, Mass., October 3, 1858. He took a four years classical course in Troy Conference Academy, Poultney, Vt., and was graduated in 1881. In the fall of the same year he entered Syracuse University and was graduated in 1885. While in the University he served a term on the editorial staff of the *University Herald*. He was also one of the editors of the *Onondagan*, a junior publication. He is a member of the Delta Upsilon Greek letter fraternity. Mr. Murdock joined the Troy Conference in 1885, and was ordained elder in 1889. He has preached at Averill Park, North Hoosick and Valley Falls, all in Rensselaer county. Mr.

Murdock is very happy and contented in his present pastorate having gone through the trying ordeal of a church building project, without a scar. He believes in Cobleskill and the people believe in him. On August 28, 1885, he married Miss Myra C. Ashton of Pittsfield, Mass. They have three boys: Herbert H. age nine, Allen W. age five and Willis C age two. Rev. Murdock preaches every second Sunday in the afternoon at Warnerville. During the past year improvements to that church to the amount of \$800 have been made. For two years he has been president of the Troy Conference Epworth League.



David Chambers, republican supervisor of the town of Cobleskill demonstrated his popularity a year ago by reversing a democratic majority of 300 and carrying the town by 43. He was born in the town of Carlisle, Schoharie county, N. Y., on June 11, 1837. At 12 years of age he begun school in the town of Cherry Valley, Otsego county, N. Y. In 1860 he settled on the farm where he has since continued successful agricultural pursuits ranging a period of 35 years. The farm comprises 116 acres of splendid grazing and tilling lands, including a maple grove which produces annually a large yield of sugar. The chief productions are hops and hay but Mr. Chambers is largely interested in sheep and raises a considerable flock of Shropshires.



L. W. Baxter, one of the circle of younger lawyers who constitute to a large extent the bar of the county of Schoharie, was born in the town of Sharon, the county of Schoharie. In 1879 he was graduated from Hamilton College with distinguished honors. Shortly afterwards he was admitted to the bar and has been in active practice in law ever since, a profession to which he is exclusively devoted. Mr. Baxter is an eloquent advocate and a sound lawyer. In ancient craft Masonry he stands among the foremost, and is at present the High Priest of John L. Lewis Chapter No. 229, R. A. M.

Drs Fox and Browne enjoy a large practice in dentistry, give to social affairs more than a passing notice and are widely known. Dr. Luther T. Fox, senior partner, was born in Sharon, Schoharie county, N. Y., August 11, 1835. At the age



DR. L. T. FOX.

DR. L. T. BROWNE.

of sixteen years he began studying with Dr. S. C. Brownell at Erie, Pa., and seven years later located in Cobleskill where he has since continuously applied himself to the profession with that close study and assiduity that have profited both himself and his patrons and sent from his doors eight students to build up a successful business of their own. Dr. Fox is much interested in all that promises public advancement and his social and fraternal obligations are many. The latter include the Cobleskill Lodge F. & A. M. of which he was W. M. for three years; the John L. Lewis chapter R. A. M. (first High priest in which he served seven years); the De Witt Clinton Council R. & S. M. and Temple Commandery K. T. both of Albany; and the Valley Lodge I. O. O. F. of Cobleskill. He is trustee in the Lutheran church, director in the Cobleskill Agricultural Association, and executive committeeman in the Rural Cemetery Association. The doctor and Mrs. Fox (a daughter of John Brown of Cobleskill) enjoy the companionship of a daughter in their pleasant home on Grand street.

Dr. Leslie T. Browne, born in Delhi, Delaware Co., N. Y., was educated in the Delaware Academy, and at 17 years of age began the study of his profession with his father. He traveled extensively as demonstrator of specialties of merit in the mechanical branch of dentistry, returning to active practice three years ago. Like his partner, Dr. Browne finds time for social and fraternal duties. He is active in the local lodge, F. & A. M., and in the Order of Red Men. On November 29, 1893, he married Daisy Catharine, the daughter of Warren J. Browne.

The firm was organized September, 1894, and the interim has brought them increased business.

Their dental parlors, which compare favorably with many of greater pretensions, are arranged en suite, including reception and two operating rooms overlooking the street, a laboratory, and a room for administering anæsthetics and odontometer. The latest and best apparatus, and most comfortable operating chairs, including dental engines, lathes, etc., constitute the best and most complete equipments for all classes of work.

William H. Murphy, Builder.—The construction of public and private buildings that has been going on in Cobleskill and adjacent towns to a large extent in recent years, has in a large measure been done by local builders, and probably W. H. Murphy has had as large a share of the work as any other man. Very many of the finest buildings are the product of his workmen, some of them shown in this *SOUVENIR*; for example, the residences of E. S. Ryder and T. E. Dornet, the large stock barns of Judge Lamont, nearly all the residences on one entire side of Washington avenue, the Reformed and the Catholic churches, the exhibition buildings on the fair grounds, John Hutt's large ware-house and Munson's shirt factory. Mr. Murphy is a large contractor, not only in buildings, but in interior finishings in natural wood and all sorts of constructions. During the past five years he has branched out very largely in supplying builders' materials. Constructing a large factory on Union street five years ago, and equipping it with power and machinery, Mr. Murphy now furnishes everything in wood used for construction purposes, as well as dressed lumber for the trade. His reputation, acquired in the character of work shown in the best buildings, is first-class. Mr Murphy was born in Cobleskill,



WM. H. MURPHY, MANUFACTURER AND BUILDER, UNION STREET.

November 1, 1846. At 19 years of age, he began work as a carpenter for Peter W. Karker, afterwards following the trade he had chosen, under various employers for seven years, when he became a contractor as well as builder, and an employer of a number of men. He is a member of the Cobleskill

Lodge No. 500, I. O. O. F. and of the Lutheran Church. His inclinations for farming have led him to investments in that direction, and he owns a splendid farm in the town of Cobleskill, adjoining that of Judge Lamont.

J. J. Dickinson, a well-known commission dealer in produce and hops, came to Cobleskill in 1861, and from that time he took an active part in all affairs that promised public improvement and general welfare. Being in line with the predominant party of the county, Mr. Dickinson was often called upon to render efficient service. He has served three years as Surrogate's Clerk, two terms as Treasurer of the county, and two years as Supervisor. Mr. Dickinson, one of the promoters of the Agricultural Association, is to-day the General Superintendent, which position he has held for the past five years. He is also a director, being one of two men who were members of the charter board and who have held the position continuously since then. He was Chairman of the executive committee the first five years. A great deal of personal effort devolves on the General Superintendent, and very much of the success of the association is probably due to the good fortune experienced in the selection of men for that position. Mr. Dickinson was engaged for five years in the mercantile business with John M. Dean; since engaging in the commission business, in hops and other produce, in which he has secured many large consignments, destined to Boston and New York parties. He is a native of Oneida county and came to Cobleskill in 1861.



A. M. Empie, the superintendent of Stanton Courter's manufacturing and building interests, is a practical mechanic and builder of many years' experience, making estimates and figures on all work. He was born in the town of Sharon, Schoharie county, September 30, 1835. His father, John I. Empie, was one of the old family of that name whose ancestors were among the early settlers of the town. Mr. Empie at sixteen years began his apprenticeship and at twenty years was taking contracts for himself. In 1868-'71 he was superintendent for Hannas & Salisbury at Richmondville and two years following for Phinney & Little at Cooperstown. In 1873 he engaged with Courter & Overpaugh, Cobleskill, and has remained at the same place since. He is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows' local lodges and the Red Men. He was first married October 29, 1855, to Mary E. Butler of Roseboom, who died a number of years ago. His present wife was Miss Marion Chamberlin, of Franklin, Delaware county.

They were married January 9, 1868. Mr. Empie's children are Judson R., of Gloversville, Leslie, of West Troy, Mrs. Lester Hodge and Miss Lillie Empie, of Cobleskill, and J. William Empie, of Bayonne, N. J.

Mr. Charles Sandherr, who succeeded to the meat business of Taylor & Son, has had an experience as a practical butcher for over a period of eleven years in the largest cities of the country and he proposes to show the people of Cobleskill how to serve cuts in the most approved manner. The meats are dressed daily and prepared to the best advantage of the customer, being served in the style which only the butcher who has catered to the large metropolitan trade understands. There is but one way of properly cutting roasts and the experience of a great many people is that every butcher has not learned that fact. What is more tempting than a savory steak? And yet how many consumers, after paying a top figure, find bitter disappointment over that very popular cut of meat? The new market, located in Mrs. Wood's building, on West Main street — or, rather, the new butcher in the old popular market — will cater to the best trade and the business will be conducted on the plan of order and cleanliness, and only wholesome meats will go out from that place. Mr. Sandherr, who is not unacquainted with Cobleskill people, took possession April 1st. He has many friends who will patronize him and he will take care that they are well pleased with what they get.

The First Baptist Church.—This church was organized in a private house on South Grand st., October 25, 1885. The first pastor was Rev. J. M. BERRY. There were eight charter members, two more joined the same day. Since that time, the church has purchased a lot on the corner of Main and Grove streets, and erected a very neat and commodious church edifice. The present membership numbers 146. The pastor is Rev. O. J. KINGSBURY, who has but recently entered upon the pastorate here. He is a young man of marked ability, and may be considered quite an accession to the ministerial talent of the village. The church has a thriving and interesting Sunday school, a Young Peoples Society of Christian Endeavor, also a Junior Y. P. S. C. E. The officers of the church are: *Deacons*—A. M. Abbott, Aaron Esmay, Ira D. Rickard and Jay G. Cross. *Trustees*—Elmer H. Lawyer, Jay G. Cross and Newton Young. *Chief clerk*—Newton Young. *Surperintendent of Sunday school*—Newton Young. *Assistant superintendent of Sunday school*—Wm. D. Treadwell. *President of Y. P. S. C. E.*—John Bisset. *Vice-President of Y. P. S. C. E.*—Frank Palmatier. *President of Junior Y. P. S. C. E.*—Anna M. Treadwell.

John F. Wright, the leading manufacturer and dealer in harness in the county, began business for himself in April, 1893, in the J. Borst building. When Ryder, Lefevre & Co.'s new and large buildings were erected, Mr. Wright gladly relinquished his old quarters to secure a comfortable and attractive store in the new building. Harness making has been his trade for twelve years, and by manufacturing for the market and for local custom, also handling factory goods, he is able to supply goods in all styles and at all prices. His stock comprises robes, blankets, harness dressing, saddlery hardware, etc. Mr. Wright is a native of Otsego county. By close and careful attention to business he has prospered and is one of the promising younger business men of this town.

The firm of **Borst & Burhans**, merchants and custom millers, was organized September 1, 1888. The two members are Charles J. Borst, who has personal charge of the production, and Judson Burhans, who attends to the business. Their mill, located on a pleasant site in the upper part of the

large section growing buckwheat, where they buy directly from the farmer and the grain is delivered at the mill, they are able to afford their customers great advantage in prices. Their trade in Sure Rising buckwheat flour is consequently very large. The mill is fitted with improved machinery and has a capacity of 125 barrels of flour and a car

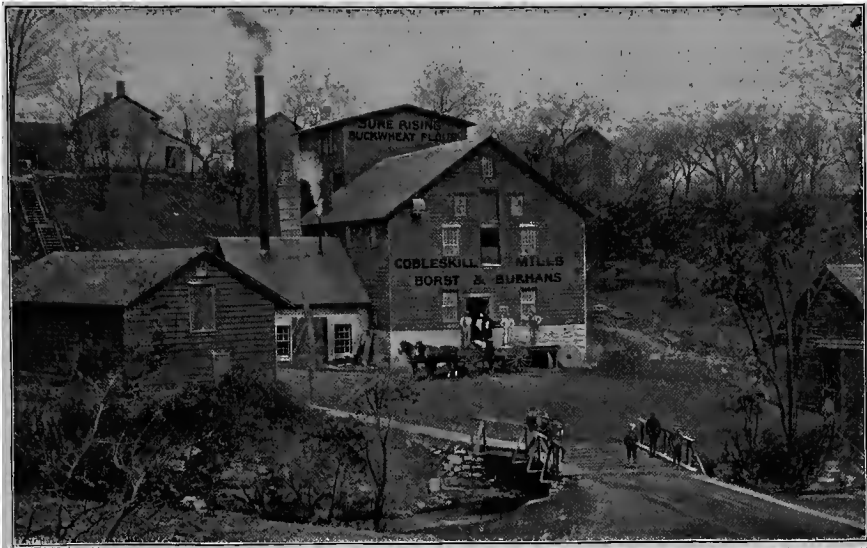


Photo by Meinertzh

THE MILLS OF BORST & BURHANS.

village, has been established for many years. The custom work in flour and feed covers a wide range of country. They are large grinders and shippers of a special brand of buckwheat flour prepared by themselves and having a considerable output. Located as they are, in the midst of a

load of feed daily. Mr. Burhans is a conservative business man, whose dealings are based on equitable principles, and whose attention to the trade all over the country has been fruitful of splendid results. Mr. Borst is a practical miller of many years' experience.

Howard Henry

Fox, D. D. S, who is engaged in a large practice, was born in Carlisle, Schoharie county, N. Y., January 21, 1859. His parents, James H. Fox and wife Lavina, daughter of Jacob H. Kniskern, were natives of the county. He studied dentistry with L. T. Fox, Cobleskill, for five years, from July, 1882. He was subsequently in charge of the office of Dr. Turner at Newark, N. J., and afterwards with Dr. Russell in New York. He pursued a two years' course in the New York College of Dentistry, graduating in 1889. On April 1, of the same year, he located in Cobleskill, opening a commodious and fully equipped office for all grades of dental work, where he has made a flattering reputation and built up a steadily increasing patronage. He married



STANTON FRANCE'S RESIDENCE, GRAND ST. CLIFFORD FRANCE'S RESIDENCE, CHAPEL ST.
Photo by Niles

Miss Elnora, the daughter of Philip H. and Catharine More, in Cobleskill, on April 25, 1888. He is steward in the Methodist Church, and fully identified with its interests.

"GRIP'S" VALLEY GAZETTE

VOL. III, No. 5 Albany, N. Y., June, 1895 12 No.'s \$1.00
"GRIP," Publisher, Office 403 Clinton Ave.

A Monthly Gazetteer of Social Events and Affairs in General in the Empire State.

A Local Hotel Record and Guide with more than one hundred of the Best Hotels on the list.

Publisher and Designer of *Mementos, Souvenirs, Favors, Menus*; Designs for Advertising Purposes for all Kinds of Business; Summer Resort and Hotel Stationery of New and Unique Designs; Everything in plate and paper that is new and rich, and where beauty is not sacrificed for economy.

"Please Say that 'Grip' Told You!"

OUR SOUVENIR PUBLICATIONS.

This month our space is devoted to the enterprising and consequently thriving village of COBLESKILL. Our issue for November, 1894, illustrated Middleburgh and that production was received by the public with flattering acknowledgments. Its circulation extended all over the United States and we can refer to Middleburgh business men to prove that strangers were brought to that town for the first time in their lives as the result of receiving copies of that SOUVENIR; and that is what every town wants, viz: an influx of strangers who will become self-sustaining citizens. We are sure that this SOUVENIR will give just as much satisfaction and prove equally productive in advertising a lively village to the wide, wide world. We desire to add a word of endorsement. Cobleskill is a town of industrious, well to-do people. As one writer to-day says, there is no squalor—no slums in the village. As a rule bills are settled promptly and courtesy is the rule in trade.

In conclusion we desire to acknowledge many obligations to friends who have cheerfully assisted in getting up this SOUVENIR and to return thanks for the general encouragement and patronage we have received. To the weak minded who can not see over the pair of bars that shuts them into their own little pasture we say, with the rest of this SOUVENIR, farewell! au revoir! we have no time to wait for you. "GRIP."

In the following business directory there may be here and there an omission. When we were soliciting orders we found two or three who declined supporting the SOUVENIR on the ground they were about to go out of business or leave Cobleskill. Of course they don't belong in a directory. They are officially presumed to be out of business.

THE COBLESKILL DIRECTORY.

MANUFACTURES AND PRODUCE.

Minard Harder, agricultural works—George D. Harder, bookkeeper; Ina Karker and Miss Cook, stenographers; Sanford Myers, foreman.

Courter Electric Co.—S. H. Pullman, Electrician; George Vosburgh, engineer; E. Kilts, supt. of lines.

Stanton Courter, Furniture M'fr and Builder—A. M. Empie, supt.; Benjamin L. Shafer, bookkeeper.

W. H. Murphy, M'fr and builder—Charles A. Wieting and William Darrow, bookkeepers.

S. L. Munson shirt factory—James N. Borst, foreman.

Borst & Burhans, millers—C. J. Borst and Judson Burhans, prop's; Louis Brown, bookkeeper.

The **Wieting Quarries**—Wm. Reilly, lessee.

The **Brandenstein Quarries**—John Brandenstein, prop.

A. B. Borst, m'fr furniture and undertaking—Inez Borst, bookkeeper; W. A. Hurst and Monroe Borst, assistants.

Hay Cutting and Shipping—Stanton Shaver & Co.; Clifford and Stanton France.

Hop Buyers and Shippers—John H. Tator, T. E. Dornet, J. J. Dickinson, Seward Shafer, J. L. Bergh.

Hops and Produce—J. S. Hutt.

Pressed Hops—Dillenback & Almy, prop's; George Casper, foreman.

J. R. Wright, harness m'fr—Charles Williams.

C. G. Manning, harness m'fr—Oscar Hurst.

George W. Shaver, harness m'fr.

S. C. Schwartz, cigar m'fr—Albert Schwartz.

John Mack, cigar m'fr—William Moore.

Wm. Hayes, broom m'fr.

T. S. Smith, monumental works—Jesse Smith, foreman.

Mr. McMaster, wagon maker.

L. D. Calkins, m'fr agricultural implements.

Ira D. Rickard, foundry.

R. T. Schermerhorn, carriage m'fr.

Henry Bellinger, carriage m'fr.

Alexander Hallenbeck and Charles Hallenbeck, carriage m'frs.

J. H. Fredericks, cider m'fr.

FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL.

Hon. Watson Lamont, county judge and surrogate.

Post Office—L. C. Holmes, postmaster; George Bittner, Agnes Trigg, clerks.

M. C. Griggs, Agt. National Express Co.

Robert E. Sternbergh, school commissioner.

The Index—G. W. Bellinger, editor and proprietor; C. A. Benedict, foreman; M. R. King, John Hyser, Blanche K. Borthwick, compositors.

The Times—E. B. Hard, editor and proprietor; F. A. Linster, foreman; Charles Uttman, Una Stillson, Harriet V. B. Sexton, compositors.

First National Bank—C. H. Shaver, pres.; J. H. Tator, vice-president; D. C. Dow, cashier; A. C. Kilmer, Teller; W. W. Simmons, bookkeeper; Miss Sutter, stenographer.

Farmers' and Merchants' Bank—David Hubbs, pres.; J. R. Becker, cashier; V. M. Bellinger, Teller.

Attorneys at Law—W. C. Lamont, John S. Pindar, Watson Lamont, George M. Palmer, John Van Schaick, Charles H. Holmes, G. H. Hiller, L. W. Baxter, Albert Baker, W. H. Golding.

Physicians—Lemuel Cross, E. E. Lawyer, F. P. Beard, P. A. Allen, LeRoy Becker, C. K. Frasier.

Dentists—Drs. L. T. Fox and L. T. Browne, Dr. H. H. Fox, Dr. Clarence Fox.

Insurance—Frank P. Mann, A. Ferguson, C. P. Boorne, B. Burnett, J. L. Osterhout, Gideon Young.

J. H. Meinerth, photographer—Harry Hess, assistant.

W. L. Niles, photographer—George Hess, assistant.

W. D. Wentworth & Son, photographers—Harry Wentworth.

Frank Duncel, undertaker.

Hotel Augustan—Charles Brady, prop.; Ambrose Schwinler, Clement St. John, clerks.

Commercial Hotel—A. C. Lewis, prop.; A. J. Haynor, clerk.

United States Hotel—Wm. J. Kilts, prop.; Jason Kilts, clerk.

Exchange Hotel—J. M. Devaney, prop.

American Hotel—C. T. Conover and Wm. Graves, prop's.

Charles Limmer, florist.

W. Bender, decorator.

A. G. Derra, decorator.

Dr. Wadsworth, veterinary surgeon.

Dr. H. H. Brunnel, veterinary surgeon.

MERCANTILE.

Ryder, Lefevre & Co., dry goods and clothing—E. S. Ryder, Lester Hodge and Leland Hodge,

buyers, and L. T. Lefevre, bookkeeper (the firm); Miss Jessie Van Schaick, cashier; E. E. Sweetser, cutter; Harris Greenwald, John D. Zeh, Fred Van Laarhoven, C. D. Christman, Frank Shafer, Mrs. Addie Allen, Mr. Eckerson, clerks.

M. Cohn & Son, dry goods—Virgil Cohn, junior partner and bookkeeper; Miss Dora Cohn, cashier; George Sullivan, Verner Skinner, Percy Young, clerks.

Newton Young, dry goods—Mrs. Newton Young, clerk.

Marcus Angle, hardware—W. G. Angle, bookkeeper; Ward Snyder, clerk.

A. G. Stilson and M. D. Stilson, hardware—L. D. Letts, clerk.

Irving Van Voris, hardware—Frank Palmatier and Frank Palmatier (curious co-incidence in names), clerks.

Dillenback & Almy, drugs—Jonas Dillenback and Willard Almy, prop's; Willis Bailey, prescription, and Stanton Dickinson, clerk.

Charles Jones, baker.

Charles Sandherr, meat market—Floyd Eldridge, clerk.

Louis Dresselt, meat market—Charles Dresselt, Wm. Dresselt, clerks.

T. J. Eldredge, wholesale liquors.

W. W. Schuyler, livery.

C. G. Mallett, notions—P. S. Clark, Harriet Collins, Stanley Wentworth, clerks.

James Brownlee, clothing.

David Rich, clothing—Austin Wilbur, clerk.

Nelson Shafer, jeweler—Herman Dipher and William Shafer, clerks.

Clarence Shafer, jeweler.

W. H. Davis, boots and shoes—Miss Nellie Davis, clerk.

Levi Kilts & Sons, boots and shoes—L. W. Kilts and Harry Kilts.

Mrs. E. S. Walker, milliner—Catherine Huyn, Addie Simmons, Mary Conroy, Lizzie Mallon, Mrs. J. H. Leeds, assistants.



Photo by Meinertzh

THE OSCHALEGHE (OR COBLESKILL) VALLEY.

Reed Hogan, drugs—Harry Wickham, prescription, and Smith Collyer, clerk.

C. H. Shaver, coal.

John L. Osterhout, coal.

M. D. Borst, grocer—Frank Sutphen, clerk.

George E. Dow, grocer—Charles H. Shaffer, Marcus Wetsel, clerks.

J. G. Cross, grocer—Ed. Purcell, clerk.

J. Widowmen, grocer—Rufus B. Eldredge, clerk.

G. R. Culver, grocer—James Foland, clerk.

S. W. Lawyer and Hiram Tator, flour and feed—Henry Timmerman, Ralph Dutcher, clerks.

Decker & Hiller, grocers—M. S. Decker and Fenton Hiller, prop's—George Chickering, clerk.

Lee Young, grocer.

S. Bornstein, furniture and crockery—Pierce Mead, clerk.

Azro France, grocer—Veeder France, clerk.

W. D. Treadwell, grocer—William Thatcher, clerk.

J. H. Pangburn, music—Miss Minnie Pangburn, clerk.

Paul Heckel, baker.

Mrs. L. G. Braley, milliner—Lillian Empie, Flora Borst and Miss Bishop, assistants.

Mrs. E. Pattridge, milliner—Miss Dresselt and Miss Ryder, assistants.

P. G. Van Schaick, news and books—LeRoy Warner, clerk.

L. A. Garrett, plumber—Harry Letts, assistant.

M. Van Auken, barber—John Glode, assistant.

Addison Van Auken, barber—Harry Karker, assistant.

J. W. Simmons, barber—Floyd Simmons, assistant.

Vincent Florio, fruits.

Joel Conover, billiards—Frank Conover, clerk.

Wm. McCrossen, laundry.

Mrs. Lillian Ball, restaurant.

Shoemakers—Horace Williams, Henry Hoffman, Edward Cole, Dennis Ryan, L. H. Lavalle.

Bottlers—D. D. Hart, William Helm, Pierre Dwelley.

Dressmakers—Miss Libbie Limmer, Miss Ramsay.

Blacksmiths—Casper Turk, James Linster, Jr., William Kennedy & Son.

A Successful Newspaper.

INTERESTING DESCRIPTION OF A WIDEAWAKE, PROGRESSIVE JOURNAL—THE COBLESKILL TIMES.

In the past seven years there has been a marked improvement in the development of newspaper energy in Cobleskill, due in a large measure to the pace set by the editor and proprietor of THE TIMES. In the spring of 1886, when Edwin B. Hard took possession of the plant it was known as The Herald. From that period, every step forward in the development of local enterprise has been tinned to the marshalling notes of the perceptive and thoughtful policy of THE TIMES. The owner and editor of that paper set the example by making steady improvement in his own enterprise. The form and style of the paper were improved, the make-up simplified, to better enable the reader to discover what he was looking for; a new dress of clear, handsome type followed; then came new presses, afterwards a new jobbing outfit; and at last the most complete and finest equipped weekly newspaper in this section of the state, which is now printed from a new Cottrell cylinder, impressing and folding 1800 complete newspapers an hour. New and enlarged quarters were demanded, and the lower story of the Borst building on Division street was fitted up especially for THE TIMES, and to-day a more comfortable and better home for the paper could not well be found. THE TIMES first called attention to the necessity of

and yet is consistent and faithful to republican principles. It is the designated official republican paper for the county. THE TIMES has shown commendable enterprise in original selections which have given its columns a literary flavor and a strong individuality. Among the bright and clever writings which attract wide attention, are the spicy serials of Squire Tompkins, written especially for THE TIMES. It is a picturesque description of local current events, throughout the county and well known figures in county politics, written much after the style of the once famous Cross-Roads writings which had a national reputation, and which in the way of humor it in many respects rivals.



Robert E. Sternberg, the school commissioner for the second district of the county of Schoharie, was first appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Thomas E. Finegan on January 1, 1893. He was elected in November of the same year for the term beginning January 1, 1894, and terminating December 31, 1896. His residence was in the town of Seward at the time he received the appointment, but after his election he moved to Cobleskill, which place he makes his headquarters. He was born in Seward July 28, 1865. His father, John H. Sternberg, is the descendant of an old family which settled in the county in the early days. The old homestead has passed from generation to generation and is still in the family. The Sternbergs were prominent in the early history of the county. The mother of Mr. Sternberg descended from an equally historic family, the Eldredges, who trace back their lineage to Robert Eldredge, who was supervisor of the town of Sharon in 1821-4, 1834-6 and 1840; also member of assembly in 1826 and 1831 with Martinus Matice, of Middleburgh, and Daniel Hayer, Jr., of North Blenheim, and received the appointment of Assistant Judge of Common Pleas in 1832. Judge Eldredge was an associate with John C. Wright, and was born in the town of Sharon in 1795, and died in December, 1848. The subject of our sketch was educated at Hartwick Seminary and at Cornell University, graduating from the latter institution in 1890 with the degree of B. L. He taught school in Bluepoint, L. I., afterwards returning to Cobleskill. His activity and zeal in promoting the work of educating the young and in looking after the proper conduct of the schools in his district has thus far marked his official life to an extent which is observable in the high grade of the district schools under his charge. On December 6, 1893, he married Marie Louise, the daughter of Lambert Snedecor, of Bayport, L. I.



"PLEASE HAVE A TIMES, SIR!"

a public water supply, a system of sewers, clean streets, a public fountain and other improvements, all of which followed as the result of persistent agitation by that paper. Pointing out the natural beauties of Cobleskill, THE TIMES placed at the head of its local department, the pertinent title "The Parlor Village." Its widely extended circulation, and liberal advertising and jobbing patronage are apparent to all. In a county so strongly democratic, the success of THE TIMES has been most remarkable. Not offensively partisan, dedicated first and last to the public weal, THE TIMES commands the respect and confidence of the public,



W. L. Niles, artist and photographer, whose productions are quite largely represented on the pages of this *SOUVENIR*, owns one of the best studios between Albany and Binghamton. He succeeded Winans in 1891, and has since built up a prosperous business. This he conducted for three years in the Conover block. On April 1, 1894, he purchased the Will Bouck property on Main street, now known as the Niles building, the second story of which he has since then occupied. This studio has, from time to time, been equipped with modern apparatus, the latest and best lenses, new and artistic backgrounds, improved burnishers and other paraphernalia of the most approved pattern. Mr. Niles has been under the instruction of one of the best Albany photographers, and he works in crayon, oil and water colors. He was born in Otisco, Onondaga county, on November 29, 1868, but has been a resident of Cobleskill from his infancy. His father, Allen J., a native of Onondaga county, was engaged in the harness business in Cobleskill for a number of years and is now traveling in the nursery line. His mother, a daughter of Adam Snyder, is a descendant of a family which was closely connected with the early history of Schoharie county. She owns a valuable property in the village, which was originally the Adam Snyder estate, and which includes the Niles' residence on North Grand street.

Chas. Limmer, Florist.

CUT FLOWERS FOR PARTIES, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS—SPRING BEDDING PLANTS.

This business has been established for eleven years and through an experience of several years Mr. Limmer has been able to place at the disposal of the people of Cobleskill and vicinity as complete and pretty selection of the products of the greenhouse as can be procured of any greenhouse in the country. His buildings are provided with all the modern facilities. They are the largest greenhouses between Albany and Binghamton and as a matter of fact not only supply many of the large towns on the line of the Susquehanna road, including Cooperstown, Sharon Springs and other important places, but furnish largely the Albany market with choice cut flowers. This goes to show that Mr. Limmer's flowers compete with the best products of the larger greenhouses. The summer visitors, who in large numbers spend the seasons in the Susquehanna valley resorts, look to these greenhouses for their flowers and ornamental plants and are as well provided in that line as they could be by sending home, obtaining their floral tributes fresh from the beds daily. During the winter seasons decorations for social events in the numerous smaller towns along the Susquehanna road come from these greenhouses, where many and pretty designs are made up as elaborately as may be desired. Mr. Limmer's trade in funeral pieces is increasing every year. He makes fancy bedding work in ornamental plants a specialty, displaying much ingenuity in that line. Finding the requirements of the trade increasing Mr. Limmer is planning for greater accommodations by adding another greenhouse for the purpose of making more of a special feature of violets; also including some of his specialties such as carnations. He has a large trade in vegetable plants for furnishing gardens with tomatoes, cabbage, cauliflower, pepper, celery, egg plants, etc.

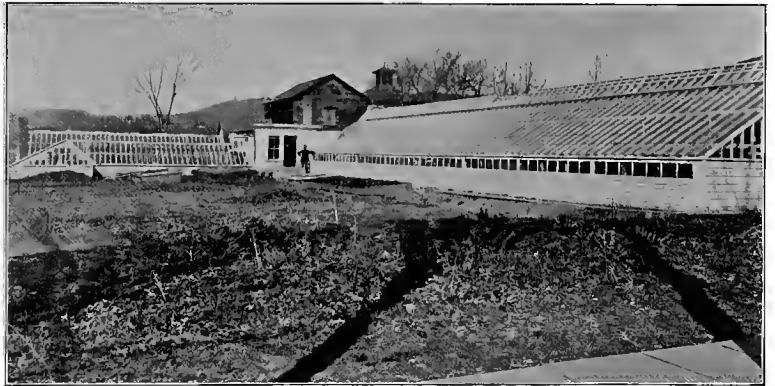


Photo by Niles

CHARLES LIMMER'S GREEN HOUSES, GROVE STREET.

The Godfather of Cobleskill is mentioned in Roscoe's history by the name of Jacob Kobell, who, it is said, built a mill on the stream afterwards called after him, Kobell's Kill—the Dutch for creek. Roscoe says the oldest writings found, dated 1728, mentioning the creek as the boundary of the original grant, calls it Cobus Kill, "or as the Indians call it, Ots-ha-le-ga." In the introduction to this *SOUVENIR* is what we accept as the proper Indian name, because we get it from the earliest conveyances. Roscoe speaks of other names from which Cobleskill is taken—according to tradition—such as Cow Bell, Cobble's Kill, etc.

The Otsgaragee Tribe, I. O. R. M., No. 199, has seventy-five members and for three months past, under the present administration of affairs, has enjoyed an era of unprecedented prosperity. It was organized January 11, 1892 and John Van Schaick was its first sachem. The tribe has a plethoric wampum belt and expensive buckskin paraphernalia and regalia. The wigwam is luxuriously furnished, moquet carpets, etc., and the tribe is out of debt. The officers are: C. Schwartz, Jr., sachem; L. C. Brown, Senior sagamore; L. T. Browne, Junior Sagamore; J. F. Wright, Keeper of Wampum; John Van Schaick, Chief of Records.



THE INDEX BUILDING, MAIN AND DIVISION STREETS.

St. Vincent De Paul's Church.

The present pastor is the Rev. Robert Craig, who in the course of nine months has built this beautiful little church and rectory. The Rt. Rev. T. M. A. Burke, Bishop of Albany laid the corner stone of the church on the 12th day of August, 1894. On the following Christmas it was opened for Divine worship and formally dedicated on the 30th day of May, 1895, by the Rt. Rev. Bishop of Albany, assisted by several of the reverend clergy. The interior decorations, furniture, electric light, etc., are a fair sample of the excellent taste and workmanship of home talent and speak well of the enterprise of the people of Cobleskill. On account of the few and scattered Catholic families in this section the present priest of this parish has to minister to the worshippers in the Catholic faith in a very large extent of adjacent country including the villages of Schenevus, Worcester, Schoharie, Central Bridge and Delanson. The parishioners are proud of the progress they have made, having in a short time acquired a church property valued at \$10,000.

Frank M. Dunckel began business in Cobleskill in 1886, in the undertaking line. Since then he has increased his facilities by the addition of the latest paraphernalia for the last offices paid to the deceased. Calls upon him come from neighboring towns to that extent that with the pressure upon his services in Cobleskill he is kept busy very much of the time. It was not customary in smaller towns to provide more than the simple, ordinary conveyance to the grave until he inaugurated the present regime by the expenditure of a considerable sum in a hearse highly finished and with the sable decorations which constitute the requirements of modern times in larger towns. His business was located two years at Central Bridge. After coming to Cobleskill it became more extended because he was more centrally located and has proven a success. He is a native of Central Bridge, where he was born May 5, 1859.

George E. Dow, a successful merchant of the village, was born in West Fulton, Sept. 24, 1857. His father, D. J. Dow, was a prosperous merchant of that place, afterwards at Sharon and later in Cobleskill. Mr. Dow began his clerkship with Dow & Westfall on April 1, 1875. Westfall subsequently retired giving place to George Dow who succeeded his father in the business on March 4, 1885, and has since then continued it alone. Mr. Dow has built up a large trade in crockery, glassware and wall paper, his place of business being in the Russell Block on Main street. He married Nettie, the daughter of Bradford Wetsel, on May 20, 1885. He is a member of the Cobleskill lodge No. 394, F. and A. M. Mr. Dow is largely interested in the future growth of the village and his business is the leader in that line in the county.

E. F. Gilmore, is one of the best known representatives of the marble and granite business traveling in Schoharie county. He is a practical workman, having been in the business 19 years—the past six years on the road. He represents Temple Bros., and is able to furnish the best work. His own personal popularity has made him many friends and secured him a strong personal following. It is probable that he has sold in Schoharie county altogether 600 monuments, including many large family shafts, among which may be mentioned the William S. Shaver family monument and that constructed by the order of Mrs. G. W. Bellinger to the memory of her father, F. C. Moulton, both in the Cobleskill cemetery; also the ex-Gov. Bonck and the W. S. Albro family monuments in the Middleburgh cemetery. Mr. Gilmore's headquarters are at Schenectady where he can be communicated with by mail.

The Floral Route.—Every station improvement on the D. & H. involves a pretty plot of flowers. At Delanson, on the Susquehanna division the flower beds are especially attractive. At Oneonta the company places a pretty boutonniere in the hands of every lady passenger on the through trains.



M. D. BORST'S RESIDENCE, W. MAIN STREET.
Photo by Niles

The tendency in modern railroading is to beautify the scenes passing like a panorama before the eyes of the passengers. The grand, magnificent scenery along the D. & H. is greatly heightened by the gorgeous flower plots that are being cultivated at the stations.

The Reilly-Wieting Quarries.

THE BEST LIMESTONE FOR BUILDING IN THE STATE.

THE Reilly-Wieting quarries are located on the face of a long, rolling slope a mile and a half north-east of the village of Cobleskill, on the farm owned by the Wieting Bros., and were opened by Mr. Wm. Reilly, lessee, who has since continued to work them greatly to the advantage of both owners and himself. These quarries are an important factor in the enterprises of the village, if not indeed of the country. The fact is that in opening them Mr. Reilly has developed one of the main deposits of what is known as the Upper Helderbergh limestone. In consulting state authority with reference to the building stone of this state (the Bulletin of the New York State Museum, Vol. 2, No. 10) we find the limestone formations of the upper Helderberghs classified as among the best of the crystalline rocks. In the tables carefully prepared for that work showing the stratification there is not one of the several areas of limestones found throughout the state so evenly embedded in the bosom of mother earth for quarrying as that of the Upper Helderbergh; and those who have quarried this

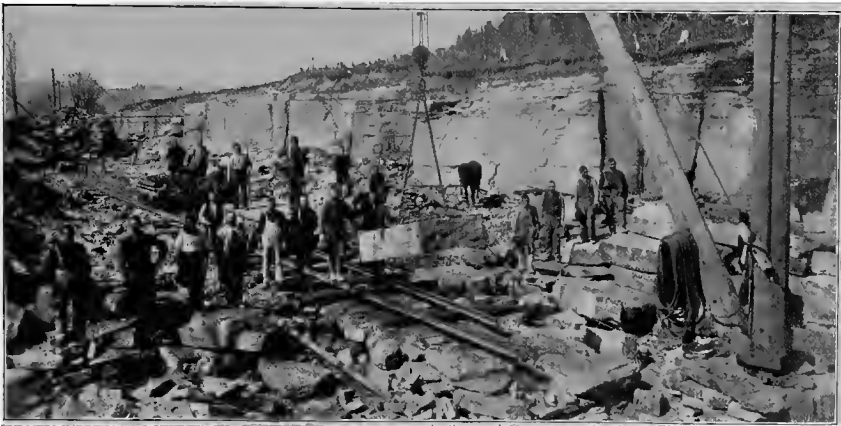
test of heat that limestone can withstand; the same authority discovered by a series of tests in which this stone was submitted to "repeated and rapid changes of temperature from 32° F to 212° F" that "it came out entirely unchanged." We will show the least absorption of stone to be limestone, of all classes; second, Cobleskill, of all limestones; viz:—The N. Y. State Bulletin, Vol. 2, No. 10, p. 37, says: "The absorptions per cent in the several classes ranging over several tests; viz:

	Per ct.	Per ct.
Granites.....	0.066	—1.55
Marbles.....	0.08	—0.16
Limestones.....	0.07	—0.14
Sandstones.....	0.82	—5.48

Second—The relation of porosity to specific gravity, viz:—The Cobleskill stone in a table of fourteen limestones designated by their geographical locality is shown to absorb the least number of pounds of water per cubic foot with two exceptions, and its ratio of absorption compared with its specific gravity is the greater of the three stone, viz:—

	Specific gravity.	Per cent. of absorption of water.
Cobleskill, Schoharie Co.....	2.7139	0.109
Chaumont, Jefferson Co.....	2.7153	0.070
Canajoharie, Mont. Co.....	2.7387	0.070

—Bulletin, N. Y. S., etc.



THE REILLY-WIETING LIMESTONE QUARRY.

stone find a practical confirmation of this proposition. We look to the same authority for this statement that "Limestone of the Upper Helderbergh epoch is a valuable building stone;" also that "the aggregate output of the quarries in the Upper Helderbergh limestones exceeds in value that of any other limestone formation in the state," (see page 213). On page 249 we find the following local reference to the grey, sub-crystalline variety quarried by Wm. Reilly, which is cut and dressed for dimension work: "Specific gravity, 2.7139; weight in pounds of one cubic foot, 169.13; per cent. of lime Ca O., 53.86; equivalent amount of calcium carbonate, 96.18; per cent. of magnesia Mg. O., 0.12; equivalent amount of magnesium carbonate, 0.25; per cent. of water absorbed by dry stone, 0.109; per cent. of loss when acted on by carbonic acid gas, 0.010; pounds per cubic foot gained or lost under treatment with carbonic acid gas, 0.017; per cent. of loss when acted upon by sulphurous acid gas, 0.130." In comparing the relative value of this with the other limestones we observe the following facts in favor of the Cobleskill stone: It is found in layers of remarkable regularity in thickness, and it quarries on lines running almost exactly at right angles; "it is unaffected, apparently," quoting the above mentioned authority, "by alternate freezing and thawing, and it is calcined at a high heat (1200°—1400° F.);" this is regarded as the highest

How the Stone is Quarried.

In addition to the eminent authorities herein quoted very little need be said. The Cobleskill stone retains its freshness of color remarkably well. It is quarried easily by means of the Knox system which prevents radiations from the centre of the drill, securing lines of fracture true to the dimensions required and direct to the desired point. The blocks are taken from the quarry in thickness ranging from 8 to 30 inches. The apparatus, drills, etc., are operated by steam soon to be supplanted (as regards operating the drills) by compressed air. The rock is loaded on narrow gauge flat cars and conveyed by gravity to the yards adjacent the D. & H. freight tracks, there to be readily loaded for shipment or dressed as the case requires. The quarries seem inexhaustible, having a superficial extent of 100 acres with an opening of a quarter of a mile along a face of uncovered rock with an average thickness of 25 feet. These stone have been used in all large work on the D. & H. railroad and its branches being used altogether by that company, the engineer of which has pronounced it to be of the very best; also on the Hawk street viaduct, Albany; the R. R. bridge at Ft. Edward, N. Y., and different locks on the Erie Canal. It will pay builders and contractors to communicate with Mr. Wm. Reilly, Cobleskill, N. Y.

H. J. Staley of Carlisle, the assemblyman from Schoharie county in the legislature of 1895, is one of the best known democrats in his town. He has



served in the board of supervisors for eight years and been faithful to the interests of the people he represented. He was born in Carlisle March 24, 1837 and educated at Carlisle seminary. He taught school seven years and has since been a farmer. He has held the office of inspector of elections, assessor, commissioner of highways. In the legislature he was member of these committees: Taxation and Retrenchment and Internal Affairs.

THE REFORMED CHURCH.

[Contributed.]

Both branches of the Reformation churches, the Lutheran and the Reformed, were well represented among the first settlers that came into the Schoharie region in 1709 and later. The valley of the Cobleskill began to receive the new comers about the middle of the century and such as were of the Reformed faith received occasional ministrations in their homes from Domine Schuyler. At other times they attended stated service at either Schoharie or Seward. After the Revolution a house of worship was built at Rhinebeck by the combined efforts of the people at Sharon, Rhinebeck and Cobleskill, and both Lutherans and Reformed used the building up to the year 1800. As the families that held the Calvinistic doctrine increased in and about Cobleskill, they found it possible to build for themselves. A Reformed church was accordingly erected in the village in 1810, and the pulpit was supplied by the pastors of Schoharie and Middleburgh. Lack of prosperity or some other difficulty made it necessary to reorganize in 1827. This was done June 24th under the direction of the Rev. Wm. Evans. Recurring difficulties caused a disbanding of the members and sale of the property (the present postoffice building) in 1855. For thirty years following no society existed in Cobleskill. July 5, 1885, the Rev. J. G. Fagg began Sunday afternoon services in Union Hall. His energy and genius soon gathered a congregation and on the 26th of January following a Reformed church was once more organized. The combined influence of Mr. Fagg's work and the founding of a Baptist society about the same time were soon manifested among the churches by a general revival of religious interest, resulting in a thorough renovation of the Lutheran church and in an entire new and handsome equipment for the Methodists. Of former pastors:

The Rev. J. G. Fagg resigned after two years of service to accept an appointment as a missionary of the Reformed church at Amoy, China. Compelled to return last year, he accepted a call and is now located at New Paltz, N. Y.

The Rev. E. J. BLEKKINK served the church efficiently for six years, resigning May 1, 1894, to accept an urgent call to Trinity Reformed church, Amsterdam, N. Y.

Pastor:— Charles Maar, A. M.; *Elders*: P. A. Allen, M. D., M. Burnett; *Deacons*: M. Hubert, Clifton Smith. The church has also a Woman's Missionary Society, a Sewing Circle and a flourishing Endeavor Society.

Sunday School Officers: M. Burnett, Superintendent; Ralph Dutcher, Assistant; Jessie Hubert, Librarian.

Endeavor Society Officers: Ralph Dutcher, President; Frederika Eldredge, Secretary; Clifton Smith, Treasurer.

Women's Missionary Society Officers: Mrs. May Hiltz, President; Mrs. Clifton Smith, Secretary; Mrs. M. Burnett, Treasurer.

Sewing Circle Officers: Mrs. Charles Maar, President; Mrs. Edward Karker, Treasurer; Miss Nellie Stautenberg, Secretary. * * *

The Rev. Charles Maar, A. M., pastor of the First Reformed Church of Cobleskill, was born at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., during the war and received his education at Rutgers College and New Brunswick Seminary, finishing his theological study at Auburn Seminary with the class of '92. His first pastorate was the Sand Beach church, Auburn, N. Y. He was called to this village last summer.

Peter S. Clark, a veteran of the late war, a prominent republican of the county and a popular social leader, is a widely known business man. He has led a hopeless minority into many local campaigns, having been candidate for county clerk, also for supervisor. He fought the battles of the Union from Bull Run to Gettysburg, when he was discharged on account of disability from a bullet wound, but that did not keep him away from the front as long as Richmond held out. He was born in Schoharie Jan. 26, 1842, the son of Napoleon Clark and wife, Roxiana, who was a daughter of Pelet Netherway. The father of Peter Clark descended from that sturdy German race who first settled in Schoharie county and turned the wilderness into a garden. The remains of the elder now



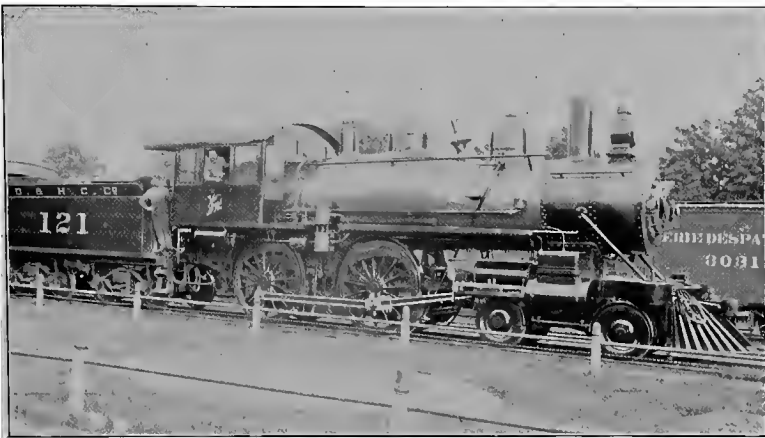
GEORGE HARDER'S RESIDENCE, ELM STREET.

sleep in the cemetery of the old stone fort. At the age of 17 Peter S. Clark graduated from the Schoharie Academy. He taught school one year and on Oct. 16, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Co. I in the 76th N. Y. The command was attached to the 2d brigade, the first division of the first corps of the Army of the Potomac. William P. Wainwright was colonel of the regiment, and John E. Cook, of Middleburgh, captain of the company. Mr. Clark served with that fidelity which was re-

warded by more than the usual speed of promotion, passing as he did through the various ranks—jumping ten non-commissioned officers—was appointed second sergeant, then orderly sergeant, second lieutenant, first lieutenant and captain—afterwards recommended for lieutenant-colonel of the regiment. Capt. Clark, after having been under fire, in different battles, fifteen days, led the first company into, and opened, the battle of Gettysburg, Pa., on the morning of July 1st, 1863, where he fought at great odds and was severely wounded while endeavoring to wheel his company to the right to face a rebel regiment trying to flank him. He lay upon the field while the two lines charged and recharged and fired their volleys of bullets over him. Nearly three-fourths of his men were killed or wounded in less than two hours. He was a prisoner in the hands of the rebels until he was recaptured at the close of the third day of the fight. The wound crippled him so that a discharge became necessary and for nearly two years he used crutches. Mr. Clark enjoys the honor of having accompanied the Army of the Potomac in all its campaigns up to the fight at Gettysburg. Although an unserviceable cripple with an honorable discharge in his pocket Capt. Clark continued with the army on

living are Mary, wife of Dr. C. A. Sternberg, of Gloversville, Claude A., Charles S. and Timothy.

The D. & H. Locomotive No. 121, is one of a lot of three designed and built for that road by the Schenectady Locomotive Works, to be used on the heavy and fast Saratoga and Montreal summer trains. No. 121 was first run on the Susquehanna division where she displayed "a pair of heels" on more than one occasion which places her in the front rank of first-class cannon ball passenger engines. The D. & H. people are yearly adding to their facilities for getting the tourists to and from all famous summer resorts in New York, Vermont and Canada on quick time, and this new lot of locomotives is among the latest and best means of accomplishing that purpose. It was shown by trial that 121 is a model of first-class workmanship in every respect and that she will make time with heavy trains. We have room for the principal figures only, giving something of an idea of the size of 121. The engine is practically all steel and an anthracite coal burner. In designing the engine the builder's aim was to give the largest amount of grate and heating surface with the least possible amount of weight. To effect



THE POWERFUL AND SPEEDY, 121 D. & H. C. R. R.

Photo by Meinertzh

horseback, and was among the first who entered Richmond, the day of the evacuation. Here, for a while, he conducted a store, and soon after the close of the war went to Texas and conducted a trader's store on the Rio Grande, opposite Reynosa, Mexico, among as desperate a set of cutthroats as ever lived, made up of a mixture of Spanish and Indian, speaking the Spanish language. He was never a moment without a loaded seven shooter lying in sight and within easy reach on his counter shelf. He returned to Schoharie, N. Y., and in May, 1866, married Annie M., only daughter of Dr. Alexander Crouse, of Schoharie. He then opened a general store which he conducted until April 1878, during which time he built several houses and stores and in various ways helped beautify the village. April 3, 1878, he was appointed postmaster and served seven years, until Cleveland became president, when he resigned and came to Cobleskill, where with the exception of one year (in Philadelphia, Pa.) he has since resided and done business. He was Commander of Post Lawyer, No. 18, is now, and has been, nearly all the time he has lived in Cobleskill, foreman of Active Hook and Ladder Co.; is President of the Board of Health. He is also a member and Class Leader of the M. E. Church. Capt. Clark's family now consists of wife and four children. The eldest, Lizzie C., died in her 22d year. Those

this and at the same time reduce the counterbalance needed in the wheels, very light forms of pistons, cross-heads and connecting rods are employed; and the driving wheel centres are also of a light but strong pattern—of cast steel weighing 600 pounds less each than ordinary cast iron centres of the same dimensions. The reduced weights in the revolving and reciprocating parts and corresponding reduction of weight in counterbalance together with light wheel centres, driving boxes, etc., make a very easy engine on the track, no harder than the ordinary eight-wheel locomotive, having 9,000 pounds less weight, or 75,000 pounds on the drivers. The weight of the engine in working order is 123,500 lbs.; diameter of driving wheels 68½ inches; diameter of truck wheels 33 inches; diameter of cylinders 19 inches; stroke of piston 24 inches; size of steam ports 18 x 1½ inches; exhaust ports, 18 x 3 in.; diameter of boiler 60 inches; working pressure 180 lbs. per square inch; number of tubes, 288; fire box, 132⅞ inches long, 40¾ inch wide and in depth 68½ front and 55½ back; coal capacity of tender, 8 tons; water capacity, 4,000 gals.; weight of tender empty, 39,500 lbs. The engine is fitted with American outside equalized brake on all drivers, operated by air, and Westinghouse automatic air brake on tender and for train; 9½ in. air pump; engineer's air signal; consolidated steam heating apparatus.

The Largest Store on the Line.

EIGHT COMPLETE DEPARTMENTS UNDER ONE ROOF—HANDSOMELY FINISHED INTERIORS.

THE members of the firm of Ryder, Lefevre & Co. are E. S. Ryder, R. T. Lefevre, Lester A. and Leland Hodge. The business was founded in 1872 by E. S. Ryder and M. D. Borst. The latter retired in 1877 and was succeeded by George D. Ostrum, who in turn withdrew in 1880 in favor of R. T. Lefevre. Mr. L. A. Hodge became a member in 1884, and his brother Leland completed the present organization in 1892. The present building is a large, handsome three-story and basement structure built of stone and brick, with a frontage of 75 feet and a depth of 110 feet; having a floor area of over 12,000 feet. The building properly consists of two stores connected with arches on the first floor and with undivided areas on the upper floors. The front of plate glass is second to none on the Susquehanna road while the business of the firm is probably larger than that of any other store between Albany and Binghamton. Entering the store we find the interior highly finished in natural wood. In a central position is the cashier's desk in communication with all departments by a cash carrier system. Heavy balustraded stairs lead to the upper floors and the basement. In the latter, which is

as light and commodious as the rest of the store, are found the carpets and rugs and the tapestry departments; on the main floor in the west store are the hat and cap and men's furnishing and the shoe departments; in the east store the notions and dry goods; in an annex is the custom tailoring and cutting department with experienced workmen; in the rear of the east store are the offices and in the rear of the west store the cloak department. The entire upper floor is devoted to ready made clothing. This makes the eight departments, each a complete store in itself. As in all large department stores the business is systematized. Each member of the firm has a special task, viz.: Mr. Ryder is the buyer for all but the men's furnishing and the shoe departments in which Messrs. Hodge, who are the general managers in the store, are the buyers. Mr. Lefevre has charge of the finances and the books.

The new store was opened on Saturday, Sept. 22, 1894. Each year the business had increased

until the enlarged quarters were necessary. Now it seems that still more room will soon be needed. One feature of the business is the large retail shipments to adjacent towns, trade carried on almost wholly by mail. Letters bringing in requests and replies carrying away samples; answers accompanied by checks and money orders; packages per the very next express or mail conveying the purchases—shopping by rail—two cents for postage, several dollars for value received and not a penny for railway fare.

Mr. Ryder the senior member was born in Warnerville Oct. 21, 1849. He graduated from the Schoharie academy, served an apprenticeship in a wholesale dry goods store in Albany and came to Cobleskill in 1872. He was president of the school board which constructed the present school building. He married Miss Alice the daughter of Minard Harder, May 16, 1887.

The Mail Order Business.

This firm represents what is known in the large cities as the "department store." It is the only large department house that we can mention between Albany and Binghamton. It certainly is the *largest*, if not the *only one*.

Its system of mail orders, to which reference has previously been made, is far ahead of any similar plan adopted by any competitor, not excepting the Albany stores. By this arrangement, the details of which are, we believe, original with Ryder, Lefevre & Co., a customer can sit down at her desk and in a few words tell the firm that she wants to look at their silks. The next mail brings a full line of silks into her parlors. Do you believe it? A full line? Certainly. The samples are all described with that same courtesy and clearness for which the clerks in this store are noted. She spends two cents more in ordering. That makes four cents. She encloses ten cents in stamps to have her purchases mailed to her. If the package costs only eight cents, or six cents, or four cents, she is notified that there is to her credit two cents, or four cents or six cents, whatever the case may be. Why, Ryder, Lefevre & Co. supply the best trade outside of Schoharie county in just that way and not even Albany has any show.



RYDER, LEFEVRE & CO.'S BUILDING, MAIN STREET.

J. E. and W. W. Schuyler, proprietors of Pine Lake stock farm, which consists of 150 of the choicest acres in this county, are both widely known among horsemen and in driving and breeding circles. They are large handlers of the best bred horses and contribute to the private stables of many New Yorkers who are looking for fancy carriage teams. The latest that was shipped by them to New York was a pair of magnificent roadsters of the Wilkes produce—"Judith" and "Lady Lawrence." On the Schuyler farm are to be found many excellent Kentucky bred, which the Schuyler Bros. bring east to a considerable extent both for road and breeding purposes. The average number of registered thoroughbreds in their stables from year to year is from twenty to twenty-five, not exclusively from the blue grass section but often selected from the best eastern studs. "Elmer Wilkes" the famous stallion which fell into their hands when two years old and which they lost two years ago after giving him a track record of 2:28, was a famous example of what Schuyler Bros. have accomplished with Kentucky stock. Among others were "Ashland Pilot" and "Capt. Stone." They purchased the former when a year-

been for more than seven years. He was born in Charleston, Montgomery Co., N. Y., Dec. 14, 1852. Several years ago he went to Cincinnati where for twelve years he engaged in the hotel business, being at one time one of the proprietors of the then famed Gibson House. Mr. W. W. Schuyler devotes his whole attention to the celebrities of the farm and to his stables in the village of Cobleskill, very often attending to commissions for the purchase of fine stock, which his wide acquaintanceship through the east and west enables him to do to an advantage. He was born in Charleston, Montgomery Co., June 18, 1848. For ten years he was in charge of the Pavilion stables at Sharon Springs and for two years following, 1875-6, managed large New York stables. In 1878 he bought the livery business in Cobleskill of Namon Little, but the following spring disposed of it and during the boarding season of 1879 was again in his former place at Sharon Springs. In the fall of that year (1879) he returned to Cobleskill and bought the R. T. Schermerhorn interest in the Hotel Augustan livery, constituting the firm of Fuller & Schuyler. In Feb. 1881 Mr. Schuyler succeeded to Mr. Fuller's interest and conducted the livery alone until 1888 when he



VICINITY — SCHUYLER LAKE — OLD RED BRIDGE.

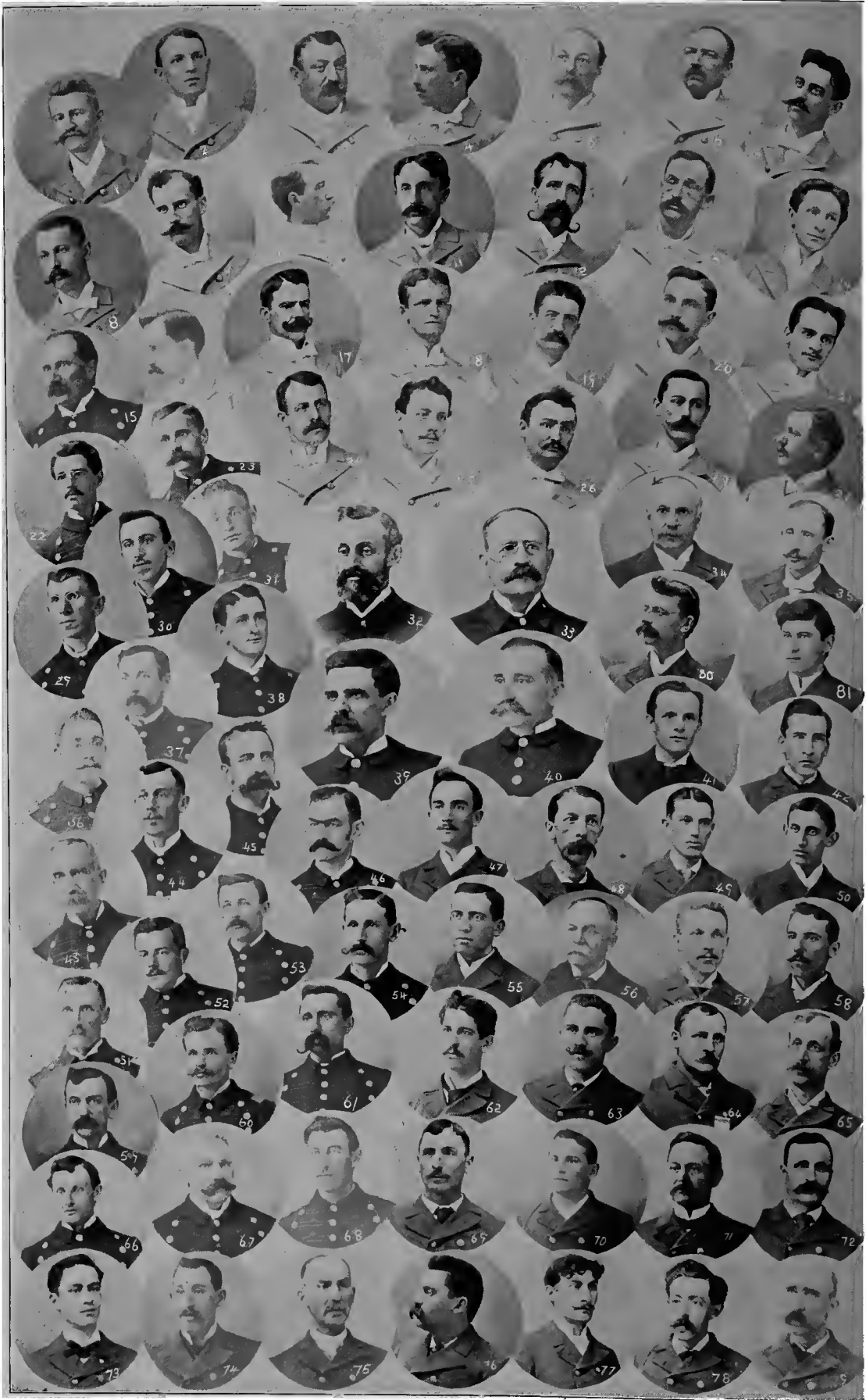
ling, and the latter when three years old. They now have two promising stallions, "Percy S.," by Red Wilkes, a chip of the old block—a handsome bay three-year old from W. C. France & Son, Lexington, Ky., and "Prince Alfred," a large stocky, well proportioned bay from A. B. Darling, of Ramsay, N. J. The breeders on the Schuyler farm duly registered, are "Fable" from the Fashion farm, Trenton, N. J., and "Julietta," "Phoebe Walker" and "Juliet," of Kentucky strain. Schuyler Bros. are large handlers of thoroughbred Jersey cows. In a recent transaction in which they purchased a herd from Myron Rechtmyer, of W. Richmondville, for A. B. Darling, Ramsay, N. J., they secured 12 head of registered stock for which the compensation was \$1,000. The herd included six cows, three 2-year old and three yearlings.

The Jersey herd of record breakers in milk, quality test, now at the farm is headed by "Presentation," a high grade animal which gets its name from the fact that it was a presentation to the Schuylers from A. B. Darling of Ramsay, N. J.; the milchers are "Coomassie," "Anna Larkin," "Dido Pogus," "Bonnie Moll" and "Lucy of Clover Lawn."

Mr. J. E. Schuyler gives his personal attention largely to the hotel business, although in the course of the year he buys and sells in the interest of private stables an occasional team. He is connected with the Fifth Ave. Hotel, N. Y., and has

purchased the present Schuyler stables and business at the Commercial Hotel of Perry Lyons, which he has since greatly improved in the style of horses and vehicles, making it a livery second to none in the county. He was married to Ophelia the daughter of Herman Schuyler of Sharon Springs on Feb. 5, 1879; they are of different families. Mr. Schuyler's aged mother, Emma M., lives in comfort with her daughter Mrs. J. W. Merenus at the farm. She was born March 14, 1828. Her husband D. W. Schuyler was born July 6, 1824 and died Sept. 19, 1888. Mrs. Merenus was born Dec. 30, 1850.

J. Henry Hoffman is one of the few remaining members of the earliest fire companies in the village. He is a thorough enthusiast in volunteer fire matters and was one of the most active in the organization of the first established company which marked the era of volunteer fire service. He circulated the paper for the enrollment of the members and was chosen the first foreman. In recent years he was active as a fireman always devoting much personal attention to those matters. He would like the service yet, but his advancing years have rather incapacitated him. He has a picture taken in the early uniform showing how the first firemen of the village dressed for duty. Mr. Hoffman came from Canojoharie in 1862. We are much indebted to him for records of the early history of the department.



THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF COBLESKILL, N. Y.

KEY TO THE GROUP OF FIREMEN.

[EXPLANATORY—In grouping and numbering the 81 portraits in the accompanying plate of firemen, the order of position was inadvertently disarranged. The numbering is from left to right beginning the upper left hand corner. The members are grouped by companies, the *Tivoli's* occupying the upper position with the *Courter's* on the left and the *Active's* on the right. Nos. 80 and 81 will be found to the right of the department officers.]

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS.

- 32 Chief, Edgar S. Ryder
- 33 Asst. Chief, Louis C. Holmes
- 39 Sec'y., G. M. Palmer
- 40 Treas., John Mack

TIVOLI HOSE CO.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 12 Foreman, M. Van Auken | 11 1st Asst., E. B. Hard |
| 16 2nd Asst., W. W. Simmons | 19 Sec'y., W. A. Hurst |
| 18 Treas., S. C. Shaver | 1 H. S. Kilts |
| 2 S. Collyer | 3 F. M. Duncel |
| 5 W. W. Schuyler | 6 J. M. Esmay |
| 8 L. W. Kilts | 9 C. T. Conover |
| 13 G. E. Dow | 14 B. L. Shafer |
| 20 C. H. Shaffer | 21 F. P. Mann |
| 25 V. M. Bellinger | 26 F. C. Gordon |
| 28 A. Schwindler | 27 C. Hallenback |
| | 4 L. Becker |
| | 7 W. H. Golding |
| | 10 S. France |
| | 17 P. C. Stillson |
| | 24 C. J. Borst |

COURTER HOSE CO.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 61 Foreman, S. S. Myers | 53 1st Asst., F. Warner |
| 52 2nd Asst., L. Mott | 60 Sec'y., J. Hyser |
| 15 H. Mattice | 22 W. L. Niles |
| 29 E. H. Lawyer | 30 C. Myers |
| 36 D. Karker | 37 J. P. Hubbard |
| 43 H. W. Bellinger | 44 W. Gleason |
| 46 J. D. Zeh | 51 S. Warner |
| 59 L. A. Hodge | 66 H. France |
| 68 J. Monohan | |
| | 23 L. Radcliffe |
| | 31 W. Karker |
| | 38 A. G. Derra |
| | 45 A. Van Auken |
| | 54 J. F. Wright |
| | 67 J. W. Simmons |

ACTIVE HOOK AND LADDER CO.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 56 Foreman, P. S. Clark | 71 1st Asst., T. S. Smith |
| 64 2nd Asst., J. Linster | 83 Sec'y., C. Schwartz |
| 57 Treas., C. H. Shafer | 84 W. M. Schoolcraft |
| 35 G. A. Benedict | 80 C. D. Christman |
| 41 A. Schwartz | 42 C. Cooper |
| 48 J. Widoman | 49 C. Smith |
| 55 W. B. Shafer | 58 S. B. Walford |
| 62 R. Golding | 65 L. A. Garrett |
| 70 C. Dresselt | 72 H. Moore |
| 74 G. McLaughlin | 75 R. T. Lefevre |
| 77 F. A. Linster | 78 M. D. Stilson |
| | 69 J. Mackey |
| | 73 H. H. Hess |
| | 76 G. Hess |
| | 79 J. Cooper |

THE COBLESKILL FIRE DEPARTMENT.

[Contributed.]

The first fire company of which we can learn was organized long before the village had its charter, some time near 1856. It was called ENGINE COMPANY No. 1. Among its members were such names as D. D. W. France, John Henry Overpangh, Jerome Kromer, Jethro Shafer, Josiah Borst, Jeremiah Borst, Henry Smith, Alonzo Ferguson and Philip Moore. In 1864 old No. 4 hand engine was purchased from the city of Albany through the efforts of Chas. Courter, and a new company was organized Aug. 27th, 1864, called ENGINE COMPANY No. 2, with the following complete list of officers and members: *Trustees:* Chas. Courter, Chas. H. Shaver and Sanford J. Thatcher. *Foreman,* J. Henry Hoffman; *1st asst.* Henry C. Cook; *2d asst.* Peter Lawyer; *Secretary,* George W. Smith; *Treasurer,* Luther T. Fox; *Pipeholder,* David Lawyer; *asst.* David Sternberg. *Members:* S. J. Thatcher, Alonzo Douglas, George Shaffer, John Griffin, Abram B. Borst, Irving Shank, Warren J. Brown, D. D. C. Westfall, Wessell Collier, Peter Coburn, Jr., Stanton Courter, Levi S. Schemerhorn, L. J. Merrihue, Silas W. Borst, Oscar Hurst, James N. Boyce, German C. Boyce, Alex. Hallenback, Jacob N. Russell, Wm. Hutton, Jacob H. Hutton, A. K. Brown, Edmond English, John H. LeRoy, J. B. Vedder, Edmond Purcell, John Moore and Martin Swart. This organization also acted as a hose company until 1867, when TIVOLI HOSE COMPANY was organized. The cart, called the "Spider," now used by Tivoli Hose Company originally

came from Philadelphia, and was purchased by Tivoli Hose Company of the city of Albany in 1867. The following are among those who were members at that time: Forman, Alonzo Douglas; Peter E. Borst, J. Humphrey Wilbur, Wm. H. Weeks, Martin L. Van Wie, Chas. K. Frasier, Demos. L. Holmes, John Borst, Lewis C. Holmes, Chas. Burhans, Walter Diefendorf and James N. Borst.

The Present Efficient Fire Department

was organized April 10th, 1869, by act of the village trustees (President, Chas. Courter; Wm. Shafer, Peter Lawyer, Chas. Holmes, D. D. C. Westfall, Wm. H. Young and Wm. B. Calkins). It consisted of two companies, STAR ENGINE No. 1, formerly known as ENGINE COMPANY No. 2, and TIVOLI HOSE. On May 16th, 1872, ACTIVE HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY was organized and a truck costing \$1,000 was purchased for them by the village trustees in June 1873. The following persons were members of this company at its organization: Forman, Pierce Dwelly; asst. foreman, Melvin Letts; Sec'y, Wm. H. Weeks; Treasurer, Edgar S. Ryder; Tillerman, T. J. Eldredge. The members were: Joel Conover, Thos. B. Farrell, Alex. McPhail, Thos. E. Dornet, R. L. Osterhout, Wm. H. Maxwell, Geo. Coombs, R. T. Schermerhorn, John Heinsburgh, Chas. H. Pixley, John Murphy, H. B. Lightbody, L. D. Letts, Richard Coates, Robt. Cornwell, Jay B. Bender, A. G. Stilson, Judson Diefendorf, John M. Dean and Virgil W. Kling. At the completion of the water works in 1887, STAR ENGINE COMPANY was disbanded and reorganized as COURTER HOSE No. 2. The hose cart for them was purchased of the city of Binghamton. The fire department has one annual meeting, the last Wednesday in December, and each company has monthly meetings. The companies are all finely uniformed and are a credit to the village. On May 1st, 1869, the election of Abram B. Borst as the first Chief Engineer and James N. Borst as asst. engineer, was confirmed by the village trustees. These persons have been Chief Engineers:

ABRAM B. BORST, 1869 to 1882, with the exception of 1874, when Jonas Dillenback was Chief.

- D. C. Dow, 1882-83.
- M. A. BAKER, 1884.
- J. M. ESMAY, 1885-86-87.
- R. T. SCHERMERHORN, 1888.
- CORY H. BORST, 1889-90.
- WM. T. MILLER, 1891-92.
- F. M. DUNCKEL, 1893-94.

The present officers for 1895 are:

- Chief Engineer*—EDGAR S. RYDER.
- Asst. Engineer*—LEWIS C. HOLMES.
- Secretary*—GEORGE M. PALMER.
- Treasurer*—JOHN MACK.

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Volunteers. He was born in Coxsackie June 16, 1831, and was engaged in trade in that village for several years before and after the rebellion. Local improvement in village affairs commanded a portion of his time and means, and he was an active member of the Volunteer fire service, in which he served in official positions. On Sept. 1, 1884, he moved to Cobleskill and since then has done the business of the village in his line. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Grand Army of the Republic.

THE BIG FIRE OF 1873.

[Contributed.]

Cobleskill does not "point with pride" to her big fires. Yet the facts remain that a distinctively disastrous and distressing conflagration has visited Cobleskill. Of such magnitude was the conflagration that the date is strongly impressed on the annals of the town. The Board of Village Trustees were in session and Trustee A. C. Smith had but just advocated the establishment of cisterns in the street as a precaution against fire and, evidently to emphasize his individual independence and consequent unselfish interest as an advocate, had informed the board that he had just constructed a cistern under the "National Hotel," of which he was proprietor, that already

P. G. Van Schaack, book seller and stationer, was just after the war a politician of considerable local prominence in Greene Co. His home was at Coxsackie and there he served in various civic positions by appointment, active for a long time as officer of the courts, and for more than two years keeper of the Four Mile Point light house under the appointment of President Johnson. Mr. Van Schaack served in the army until carried from the field and unable to return owing to disability from a wound which he received in Gettysburgh. He laid five months in the hospital at Newark, N. J., and on Dec. 9, 1863 received his discharge. His enlistment was in Aug. 1862 in the 120th N. Y.



held sufficient water to easily extinguish any fire that might happen about his premises. Vain boasting and unfounded confidence! Mr. Smith had hardly finished his argument when the alarm rang out, and the "Big Fire" of Aug. 13, 1873, was fairly under way.

The Blaze Started

in the east wing of the hotel barns, in the hay loft, and its progress was most astonishing. So fierce was the flame and so rapidly did it spread that the Star Engine company, which had hauled its machine into the rear yards to connect with the tank just constructed, was obliged to flee with barely time to save the machine. The engine was taken to the Courter tank at the intersection of Main and Grand streets, where the stream but little vexed the mighty soaring flame, which leaped high into the heavens and threw out its lurid light over the country for miles. Reaching the drug store of Jonas Dillenback the conflagration was fed by alcohol. Kerosene and other inflammable liquids added power to fiery, leaping tongues of flame, until the blaze of light attracted the attention of people at Richmondville, six miles away, and at other points at even a greater distance. Against a giant of such force one feeble hand engine was useless, and the devouring element continued, until its strength exhausted by its own herculean efforts and with nothing more upon which to feed, died out, leaving a blackened ruin in the place of valuable property, and testing the courage and finances of those who had fallen

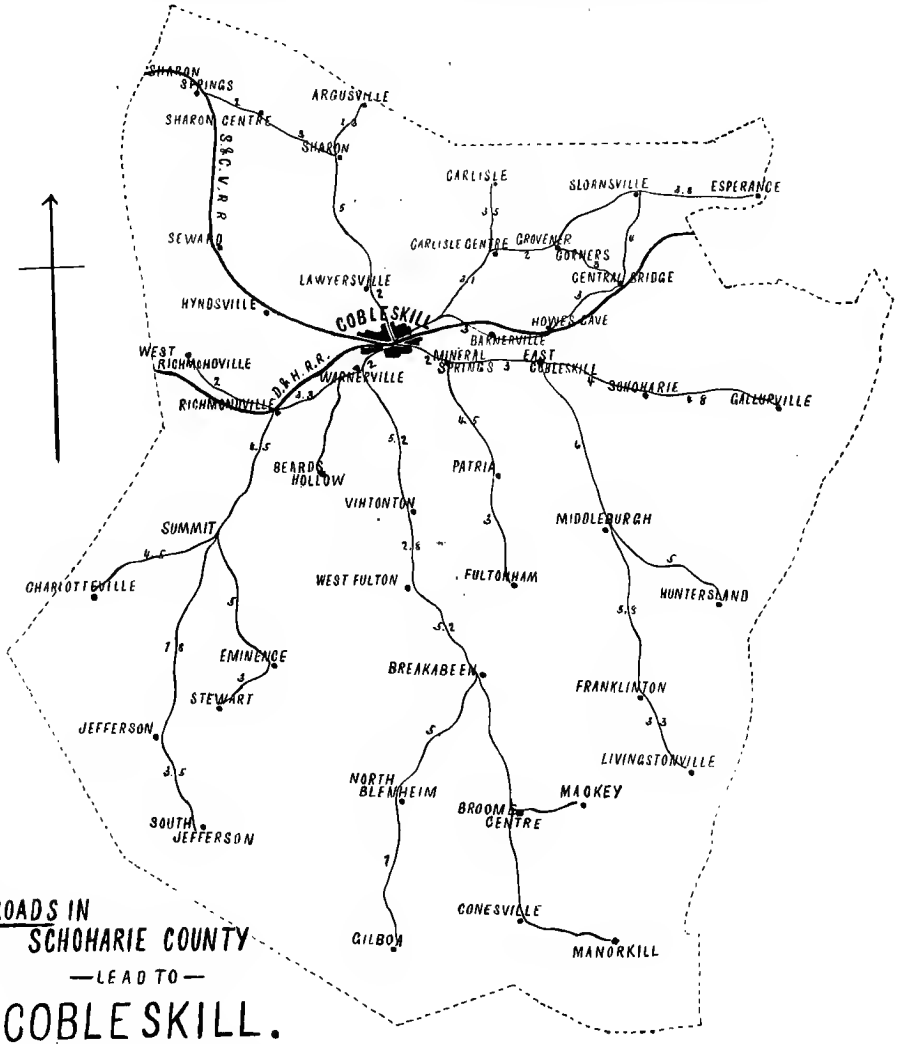
victims to its relentless greed. To add distress o torture, a heavy rain set in and any articlest carried safely from burning buildings into the street, were either damaged or utterly ruined.

The old National Hotel,

in part constructed of brick and in part builded of wood, was entirely destroyed and most of its contents consumed, as were also the extensive stables and barns connected with the establishment. The residence of John G. Hall, a double front two-story frame residence, and a frame building belonging to and occupied by Jonas Dillenback, were also burned, as well as the whole of the interior woodwork of the Russell Block, then in course of construction, and which was nearly, or quite, ready for the roof.

The Amount of Damages

sustained because of the fire has escaped the memory of the writer. It must have been somewhere between \$75,000 and \$100,000. Those who suffered loss showed true grit and courage. At once efforts were instituted looking toward re-building and in due season imposing brick structures supplanted the old wooden buildings which fell victim to the fiery element. What was a heavy loss to individuals in the end proved an advantage to the general architectural appearance of Main street. But little trace of the "Big Fire" yet remains, and memory and the record have to be consulted in order to picture again all the horrors and miseries of the night of August 13, 1873.—GEORGE W. BELLINGER.





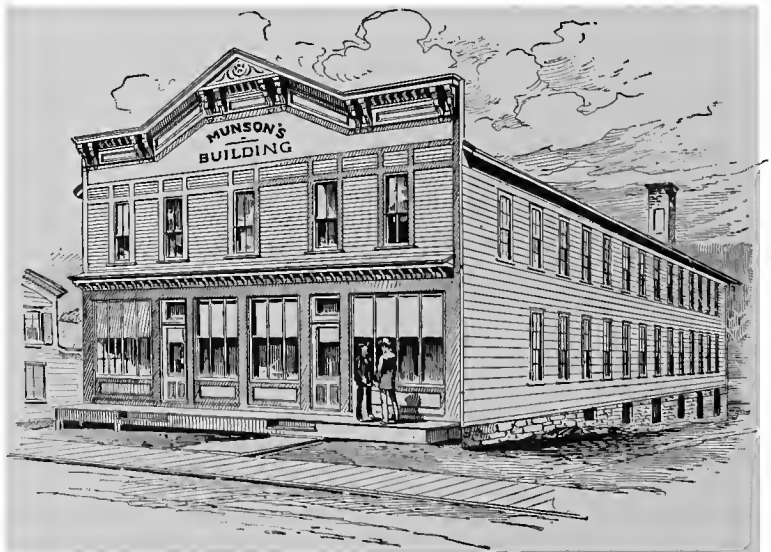
Samuel L. Munson, the large Albany shirt manufacturer, established the Cobleskill branch in 1889. Here are employed 150 men and girls and are located 125 machines for making shirts. It has been of vast importance to the village of Cobleskill, and while but a stem of the big Albany industry, gives employment to more people and pays more money to employes than any other local industry. The Albany or main establishment is located in a massive fire-proof building built of brick and stone, five stories high and with a frontage of 70 feet and a depth of 145 feet. It was built expressly for the business with not only every convenience for manufacturing, but with every regard for the comfort and safety of the employes. The building was opened on Dec. 1, 1885, with a grand reception which the local press described with many favorable comments. The offices and workrooms are elaborately furnished. In the manufacturing department

are employed about 500 workmen and there are altogether sixteen salesmen who travel all over the United States; and in addition there are offices in New York, Baltimore and San Francisco. The business was founded Feb. 28, 1867, under the name of Munson, Richardson & Co.; afterwards conducted by Munson & Dwight and since then by Mr. Munson. The latter was born in Huntington, Mass., June 14, 1844. He received a good education and a large preliminary business experience in Boston.

James N. Borst, foreman in Munson's shirt factory, enjoys the fullest confidence of Mr. Munson, who says that



the direction of the affairs of the Cobleskill branch could not be placed in better hands. Mr. Borst was born in Cobleskill Feb. 7, 1842. His trade is that of a carriage trimmer. His father, Jeremiah Borst (deceased), was a prominent business man of the valley. Mr. Borst married Amelia the daughter of Peter Brewster of Cobleskill in 1862.



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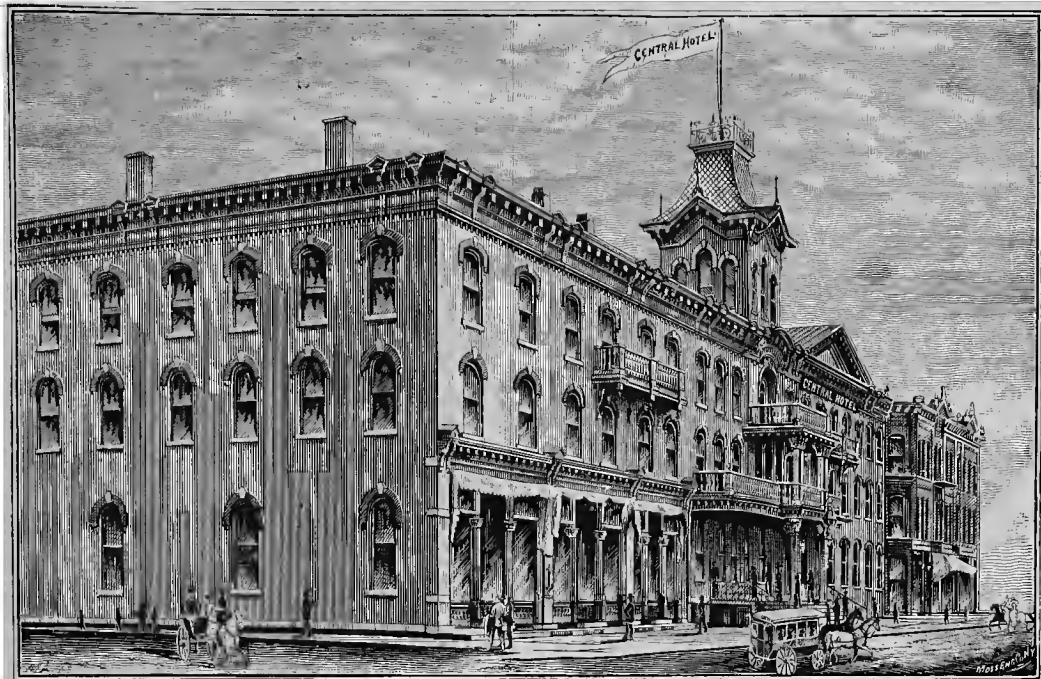
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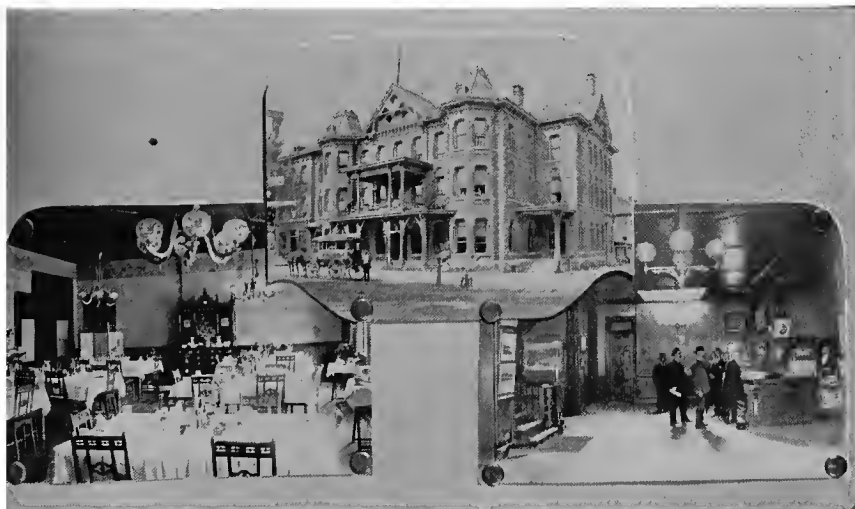
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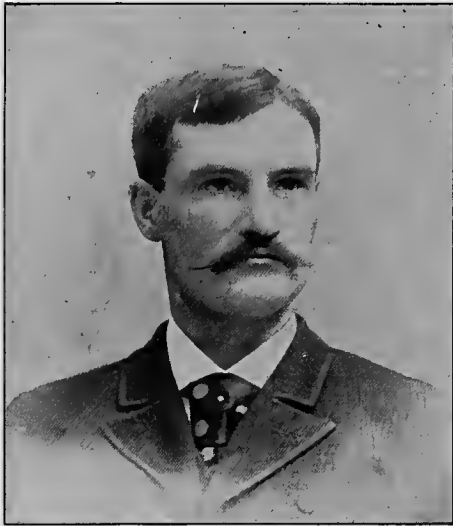
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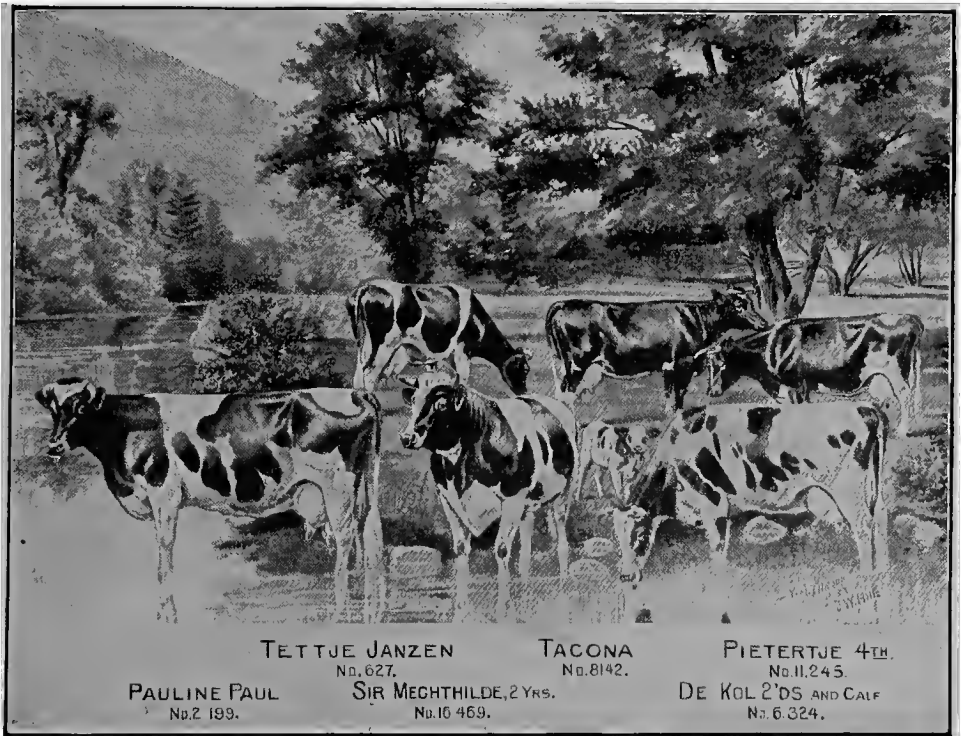
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sire's dam of bull is 32 lbs. 10 oz.



Individual Register and Records:

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TACONA, No. 8142, H. H. B., at 8 yrs. Butter record, at 6 yrs., 30 lbs. 2 ozs. in 7 days.

TETTJE JANZEN, No. 627, D. F. H. B., at 10 yrs. Butter record, at 8 yrs., 30 lbs. 9 ozs. in 7 days; 4 lbs. 4 ozs. in 1 day.

PIETERTJE 4th, No. 11245, H. F. H. B., 481, A. R., at 7 yrs. Butter at 6 yrs., 26 lbs. 14 ozs. in 7 days; 104 lbs. 2 ozs. in 30 days; 200 lbs. 9 ozs. in 60 days; 453 lbs. in 150 days.

Champion 3 yr. Old of the World—DE KOL 2ds, Queen and calf, No. 6324, H. F. H., 1 B., 662, A. R., at 5 yrs. Butter record, at 3 yrs., 28 lbs. 7 ozs. in 7 days; 14.47 lbs. milk to 1 lb. butter.

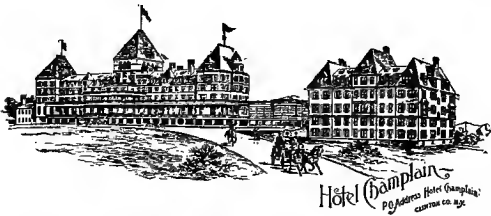
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