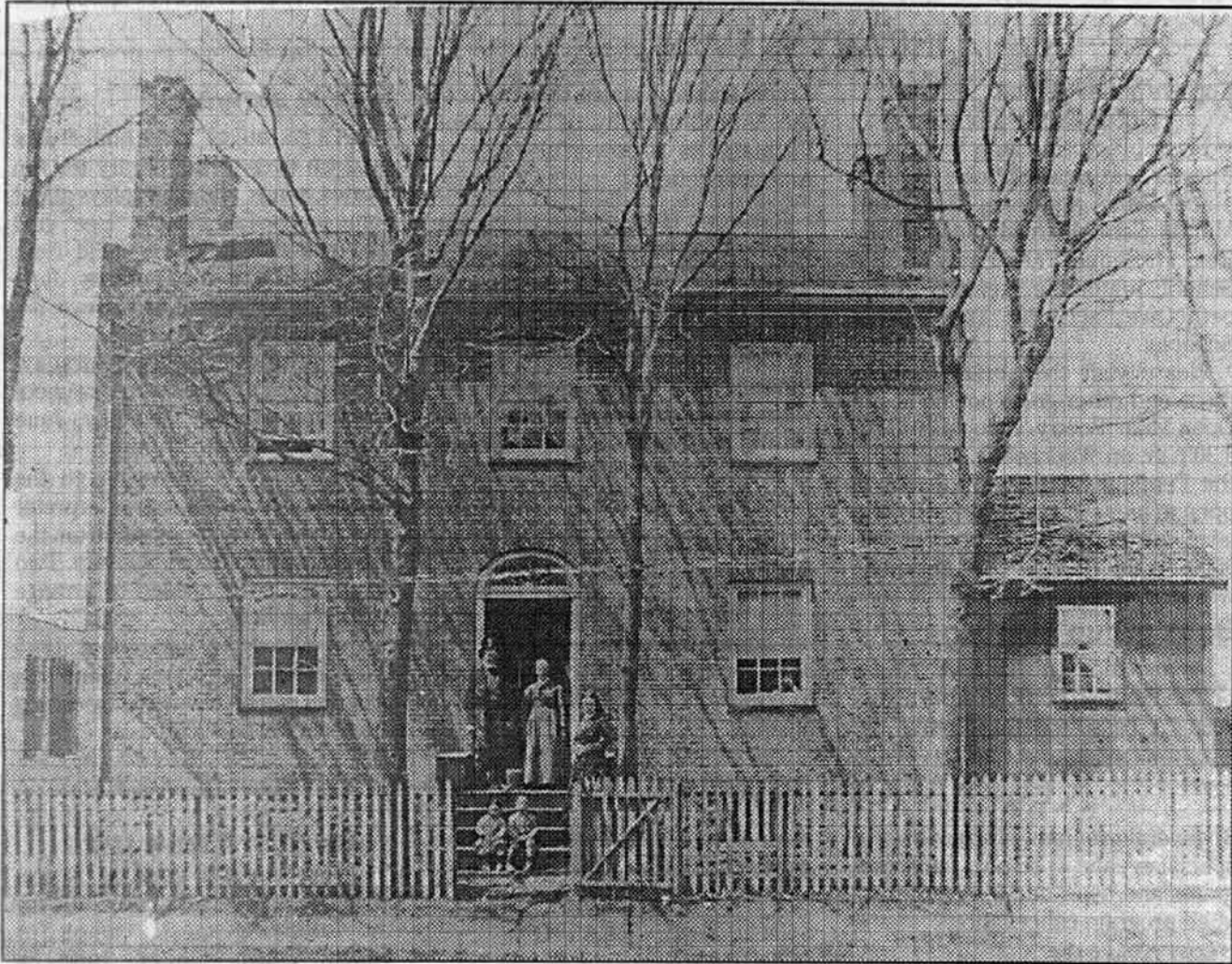


May 26, 1999

Penfield Post-Republican



SUBMITTED PHOTO/MAUDE FRANK

The Calvin Wooster Owen homestead in 19th-century Penfield.

A piece of Penfield's past returns

By Thomas B. Sudore

May 27 marks a special day in Penfield history.

The town will be presented with Calvin Wooster Owen's original diary and account book, in which he recorded his observations of 19th-century Penfield.

Linda Mattison Khan, a descendant of Owen, will present the diary



OWEN

at a public ceremony at 11 a.m. tomorrow at the Town Hall, 3100 Atlantic Ave. The ceremony is open to the public.

There is a lot to learn from the manuscripts, said town historian Maude Frank.

"The content is just exceptional," she said.

Owen's diary begins with his arrival in Penfield in 1815, and continues until shortly before his death, in 1883. He presents an overview of daily life during the pioneering days of the town, recording observations on religion, local and national politics, health practices, the Civil War, and social issues.

Owen also documents his life experiences as a carpenter, insurance

salesman, and real estate entrepreneur.

"These are very accurate details of the events of the time," Frank said. "He was very aware of his times and the historical significance of those times."

Although the town has had access to copies of the diary, the original manuscript had been held by members of the Owen family, who now live in New Hampshire.

Both books will be on display at the reception on Thursday. They will be preserved by the town and displayed throughout the year, Frank said.

"We would hope people appreciate this," she said. "It's a wonderful gift for the town to receive."

This section of diary begins May 9, 1853 and continues through Nov. 28, 1856 which is the beginning, but it "overlaps" a bit on dates with parts of the other type-written section, namely those pages numbered 1 - 20. The beginning of Pages 1 - 20 seem to be a synopsis but then continues on with some dates in 1853, 54, 55 and through to 1883. There seemed to be no way, therefore, to insert this section in with the other to make it one "diary".

CALVIN WOOSTER OWEN'S DIARY

1853-1883

These pages follow the typewritten pages that you have (Pages 1 through 20) beginning with

"The family of Nathaniel Owen
(grandfather of C. W. Owen) lived
and flourished etc. etc. etc.

and are number 21 through 35
plus 4 pages of inserts on the death
of Capt. Henry B. Owen following Pg. 26
and 3 at end.

-An active member of the Penfield United Methodist Church
-Serving in many capacities through the years.

1.

The following record is a miscellaneous summary of events and occurrences at the time. In Marine or sailor Phraseology, it would be called the Log, or Logbook.

By C. W. Owen of Penfield, N. Y.

1853

May 9th - I went to my son Henry at Bergen 18 miles west from Rochester, was about three days. Henry came down to the city with me to make some purchases of stock for our tin shop that he is conducting at Bergen.

May 11th - Crash at Buffalo. A large Brick building was under repair when it fell with a crash in the afternoon while some 25 workers were in it, some 20 were reported to be killed.

My neighbour Wm. C. Sherwood, having sold out in Penfield to his Brother Amoz has removed to the state of Wisconsin where his brother John now resides.

Very frosty this morning. Peach trees just beginning to bloom. Probably not forward enough to be destroyed by the frost.

May 16 & 17 - Quite warm at growing time -- 18, 19 - Cold rain storm accompanied with thunder and sharp lightning.

May 24th - In the morning Thomas L. Carson of Syracuse was at Penfield to address a Temperance Meeting for the purpose of forming a county Temperance "Carson League". Had a respectable meeting. He is holding meetings in several towns in the county, will be a county convention at Rochester 8th June next to organize the association.

May 25th - The weather continues quite cool, it has been a wet cold spring. There is not much corn planted yet, it would most likely rot in the ground if it was planted. Wheat looks very well.

May 26th - 6 o'clock P.M. It has been raining, almost continually & most of the time hard for the last 12 hours & there is no signs of stopping now. The presumption is that much damage will be the result. It will endanger running on Rail-Road from the softening of the ground, causing the giving way of the track.

May 31st - This day is fair and pleasant. The heavy rain storm mentioned yesterday passed off during the night & the prospect is more favorable for a more warm & settled weather.

June 8th - Monroe County Convention of Temperance men from different towns met in Rochester and formed the "Carson League" for the suppression of the Rum traffic & gambling, by endorsing the Law. I was a Director & delegate for Penfield. Elish W. Bryan was chosen a general Agent to attend all prosecutions. He has a salary of \$ a year.

June 17th - Wm. D. France was tried before J. C. Rich for selling Rum without a lisenche, a jury trial. It was clearly proved by a witness named Hacket that he bot Brandy & paid for it & some other had bot & paid & one of the jurymen Thompson had bot strong beer & wine, and so testified. And in view of the facts presented, which was conclusion to any reasonable man -- that jury returned a verdict of No cause for action. The jurymen were Wm. Loyd, F. Andrews, F. Adams, A. Chappelle, F. C. Thompson & Baker. The inconsistencies of me is absolutely is surprising.

June 18th - Saturday night about 11 o'clock the old (Lewis) store now occupied by J. Southworth, took fire from the explosion of a lamp, but by the prompt action of citizens the fire was put out, the flame proceeded mostly from the fluid. The history of the matter is briefly this,

the son Randle was filling a lamp on the head of a barrel of burning fluid -- he run the lamp over with fluid, it took fire in consequence; falling on the barrel & that having a small vent hole from which the gass was most likely issuing, took fire and run into the barrel, causing that to explode & some fluid running out which was on fire & was confined in a room & was soon got out. I deem it a sort of careless & reckless operation in filing the lamp there. Randle had one eye badly hurt, don't know yet but he may loose it. The probable damage to the building & goods will nat exceed \$25.

→ S. W. Alden (Methodist Preacher) has been in charge at Penfield nearly 2 years according to the rules of the Church. He will be removed at the next Conference which convenes the 17th of August at Elmyra in Chemung County.

1853 June 25th Saturday -Went on a visit with my youngest daughter Annette to East Carlton in Orleans County, distant about 40 miles from Penfield to visit my wife's sister Maria Clement, arrived there about 7 o'clock P.M. Went in a buggy wagen. The weather was so cold as to be unpleasant riding with an overcoat on. Stayed there until Tuesday morn it rained Monday so as to delay us one day. We went to our Sons in Bergen by way of Holly & Brockport. Got to Bergen about 3-1/2 P.M. We remained there till Wednesday noon, when we left for home where we arrived safely at 9 o'clock in the evening having been absent 5 days; found our family all well.

June 30th - Sent an order to Phelps Dodge & Co., N. Y. City for tin plate, sheet iron, wire and zinc for our tin shop at Bergen.

July 4th - At sunrise a national salute was fired at Penfield, N. Y. Previous arrangements having been made for a kind of Pic-Nic celebration by old & young. At ten A.M. we convened at the Methodist Church where some home speakers made some short addresses. Rev. S. Ainsworth & Dr. Townsend were the leading speakers. About noon we repaired to the orchard of A. Sherwood to partake of a picnic cellation provided by the citizens generly. General harmony & good feeling seemed to prevail. Disperced about 2 P.M. It should have been before stated that the weather was rather comfortable, not very dry or dusty. At 10 o'clock a flying cloud emitted a few drops of rain for 2 or 3 mins. Some fire-works were let off at night which made a good show.

The Rum Roudies in firing the cannon late at night over-charged it with wads & sand caused it to burst, none were hurt, remarkable too.

July 9th - This morning Mrs. Owen from carlessness fell down cellar, a trap cellar door being left open by her. Had a minute before comes out, at the time she was intent on looking for something on the shelf. When she made a plunge down. She dont seem to be very seriously injured, but some brusies in different places, and causing pain in her head from the going.

10th - Mrs. O is better, as regards her fall yesterday, no serious inqur resulting from it.

July, Tuesday, the 12th - This is my 55th birthday. Time has passed rapidly since I was 20. I dont realise its flight. My general health is comfortably good, but my local or viserial effection prevents me from doing any hard labor or excercise, the difculty being in my Back & Kidneys & of a cronic nature & in all probibility never will be cured, has been of many years standing.

Tuesday, July 19th - My son Henry and his wife came down from Bergen on a visit. They returned home on Friday 22 - daughter Jane went home with them to stay about a week.

3.

Last week 3 men went over Niagara Falls it seems that they had laid down to sleep in their boat some where above the falls it is supposed they were intoxicated at the time.

Thursday, July 28th - Daughter Jane returned from Bergen to day. Came to Rochester by R. Road & I went out to city with my wife to trade some, and to bring her home.

August 4th - My Uncle Thos. H. Kellog of E. Bloomfield visited me 18 hrs. has just gone. He was here 3 years ago. Since then he has been made a cripple for life, from a fall by which his hip bone was so broken that he will always have to go upon crouches - he is now 80 years old - he came partly to inform the widow Amaden that he had found some witnesses toward getting her Bounty land from government - but she had just learned from her agent Mudge of Rochester that he had rec'd her warrent for 40 acres.

August 13th 1853 - The last 3 or 4 days has been very warm weather, from 90 to 98 degrees in the shade. It is dry also - about the middle of this afternoon we had a little dash of rain; have been repairing the windows in dist. school house, preparatory to the school commencing next Monday under the teaching of Mr. John G. May, a stranger to us, but from appearances & report, we think him a good teacher - his is be paid \$40 a month.

August 14 Sunday - Rev. S. W. Alden closes his ministeries laboure here in the Methodist Church in Penfield to day; he has been here two years. He goes to Conference held at Elmira this week 17th - his discourse to day was a sort of review of church members & finances - he said there was 130 members on the book; & that general prosperity prevails; Church & Parsonage debts are provided for.

August 20th Sat. - I went with 3 of my children to Webster to pick black-berries distance was about 9 miles to Mr. Cunnings 1 mile East of the village, went into his farm lane with my buggy & continued north to his woods where we found the berries very plenty, but were in a perishing condition for want of rain, they were drying up on the stems & had not attained their usual size in consequence of drouth. We continued there about five hours, and obtained about 3 pecks, we got home before sundown. On the same ground of the Black-berries, there evidently been an abundance of red raspberries in the season of them.

Thursday, August 25th - I went up to my Son H. at Bergen and returned home the day following, brot with me a crock of butter for my family use. The price of butter in the city at this time is retailing at from 18 to 20 cents. I get it at Bergen for 14 cents. Very dry weather has lessened the usual quantity made, is the cause of the high price.

Saturday after I got home I was quite unwell all day with a steady head-ach - abstained from eating during the day & was much better the day after, could eat my allowance.

Saturday, August 27 - Parsons Powder mill at Allen Creek in Brighton blew up about 6/2 P.M. one person killed a man had just left before the explosion took place. I heard the report & could see the smoke from my house, some 2½ miles distant. The same works blew up some 2½ years ago. I think it was in March of 1849 when one man Archibald Ross was killed. This is the third blow-up of this same works that I have known, the first time I believe a man and boy was distroyd.

Sunday, the 28th August - Rev. C. L. Bown commenced his ministerial labors

4.

Penfield M. Church. He is what may be called a "smart" preacher. I should judge him to be about 32 years of age, he is deformed with clump feet. He has a wife, but no children.

Sept. 4th - About the 25th of last month a "comet" appeared in the N. West very suddenly, it had not been announced by any star-gazer or others - it is now disappeared again, its vision had been very short - the 3 last days has been extremely warm, probably 96 degrees.

Sept. 5th - To days mail brot me a letter from my brother Wm. Owen's widow (Elizabeth) of Staten Island saying that Brother died on the first of Oct. 1852, after about 1 week sickness. This is the first intimation that I have had of his death. It was very unexpected, I had written him a few days since & this is an answer to mine. I had proposed in own mind to have made him a visit this fall, but now all is uncertainty.

Sept. 10th - E. W. Bryan of Rochester, the prosecuting agent of Monroe County "Carson League" came out to Penfield to see the overseer of the poor preparatory to commencing suits against the Rumsellers. I went with him to see H. Whalen, he has authorised Bryan in writing to see & conduct the same. He will begin on Wm. S. France to day befor Esqr. Melvin of Webster.

1853 Sept. 30th - This is the return day of Peter Shoecrafts suit with the overseer of the poor of Penfield H. Whalen - the suit was commenced on the 21st by E. W. Bryan, agent. Shoecraft had obtained an order from Whalen to the court to stop the suit, but it was insufficient, a withdrawal must be done personally so that the issue was gained and then adjourned for 2 weeks. Bryan came out from Rochester & called on me to go with him & see Whalen to learn of him what he meant by his course. We went 6 miles to where we found him, he said that he should require Bonds of indemnity against any costs that might accrue. Bryan told he was willing to give bonds for any in failing to obtain judgement against the Rumseller, and now said he, "I want to know whether you Whalen, mean to withdraw the suit now begun against Shoecraft. Yes said W. I expect that I shall. Bryan then told Mr. W. that he should sue Mr. S. for the original part, and if he sustained the cause it would put the matter beyond a doubt & that if he then persisted in neglecting his duty he should present Whalen to the next grand jury. We then left Mr. Whalen; -- the truth is Whalen lacks nerve to oppose these rumsellers -- and if he is indicted, he is liable to a fine of \$250 & a few months imprisonment.

Oct. 4th - I have this day loaned on Mortgage to Mr. Laban Beach, Jr. \$400 made payable in 6 months from this date. The Mortgage is upon his house & premises. He has assigned his Policy of Insurance on house, with the mortgage. I have paid him \$200 down & gave my note for \$200 more payable in 60 days, he has taken the mortgage to Rochester to his wife for her to execute & there will leave it at the County Clerks office for record & I will pay the fee of same. On going to the Clerks office a few days after, I found that the mortgage was perfected & left as agreed on.

October 15 - This was to be the day for P. Shoecraft trial for violating excise law. Bryan, the agent, appeared ready for trial. Whalen, the overseer sent J. W. Wilson, his new agent to this court with an order for revocation to E. W. Bryan withdrawing from him any further authority to prosecute the Rumsellers of Penfield. An order was handed to Bryan by Stuart the defendants council. Wilson withdrew from the court not offering to procede in the suit any further. Thus this suit was abandone by the overseer through Wilson his special agent. Whalen was not present in person at any atage of the proceedings. In the evening of this same day Wilson brought about a sort of Sham or mock trial of Shoecraft befor.

5.

J. Baker, J.P. in the village. It was, I have reason to believe a very private transaction. The office of Baker is in the loft of B. Staring grocery. It is presumed that Shoecraft & Wilson agreed to get Baker into the plan to gain issue and go on with a mere sham trial. Wilson is said to be the only witness, as well as agent and council for the overseer, Whalen; I had subpoenaed Wilson in the case before A. G. Melvin at Webster; supposing that he might know of some violation, but he declared at the time (being the day before the trial) that he did not know of any violations by Shoecraft. And then in the evening offer himself as a witness in the issue that he had invited merely to prevent his friend Shoecraft from paying a penalty of \$100 which could be proved against him beyond a doubt.

I had shown Whalen 2 affidavits (Coveys & Drakes) stating the fact that each had bought and paid for liquors previous to the suit being commenced. These were shown him about 4 P.M. of the 15 Oct. and in the evening of this same day was this mock trial.

So Harvey Whalen has sold himself to the Rum power and influence in Penfield, poor fellow he lacks firmup to do duty as an officer. He is a professed Temperance man and is a member of the Baptist church.

1853 Oct. about the 10th I received a letter from my brother Joseph residing at Belvidere, Illinois said he was in prosperous condition, that his son Joseph was off to California some more than three ago and that he had not heard from him since he left home. It is most probably he's dead.

Thursday, 20th. Fire! Fire ! This morning about 5 or 6 o'clock, the woolen factory occupied by Levi Duncan, and owned by Wm. Wood & others & located near the Penfield Mills was entirely consumed by fire, together with the machinery, Duncan had an insurance of \$1600 on Machinery which is about 2/3 value and Wood had an insurance of \$1600 on the building, which will cover the cost.

It is supposed the fire took from a stove pipe entering the chimney near the roof, it took in the roof. It was first discovered by Doct. Gear about 1 o'clock at night on his returning from Rochester, he gave alarm it was put out as supposed, and was left, to be looked to by D. Treadwell, who was at work fulling, but the presumption is that he needed watching on account of his drunkenness, at any rate he was of no kind of use in saving the works. Mr. Duncan told me that J. W. Wilson, Henry Mann, E. W. Thompson and some others of same class were a gambling and drinking all night at Thompsons grocery on the night of the fire. They were in plain sight of the fire. This is the 3rd factory that has been burnt in about 10 years within 1/2 mile. Duncan was occupying 2 of them at the time of burning.

24th Oct. 5 P.M. It has been snowing steadily since about 1 o'clock this afternoon. It melts as fast as it falls. It is the first fall of snow this season.

I have just finished recovering the cistern which I reside and for Mrs. Gifford my landlady.

Mr. John Southworth died last evening of congestion fever brot on from a neglected cold of some 3 or weeks standing. His age was 65 years. He was a valuable citizen, was highly useful to society in many respects, is a public loss.

Oct. 28th. Last evening I signed a bond with A. F. Case as surity to A. Cole & M. E. Witter for \$617.00 to secure the faithful performance of said Case who is employed to sell and collect pay for fruit trees for said Cole & Witter. The sales were made in the counties of Otsego &

6.

Delaware. Case about the above amount in his care and is to make return about the 15 Nov. next. I have also trusted him with the use of my watch for the same length of time. I don't like this going but in such matters, if man lack the requisite qualification for such business, where responsibility is large, then let man do such business as they are qualified to do without requiring others to stand security.

Oct. 29th. David Vankirk of Wisconsin, a brother-in-law of Mrs. Owen, visited us last night. He came to Rochester on business with Mr. Hooker. He leaves for homeward today. He will visit some at Gaines on return. He is engaged in their nursery business in Wisconsin. He said that it is a good business.

Lucy Ann came home this afternoon from her brother Henry of Bergen, having been absent about two months.

Nov. 8th. Today is the State election of officers, not a governor chosen. The Whig party proper will most likely succeed, for the reason that the Democratic party are divided among themselves. They are denominated thinkers, one branch and Freesoilers or Barnburners in the other branch. Truth about it is the two dominant parties have become rotten to the core and it is quite evident that a reorganization of the parties will soon take place. About 4 inches of snow fell last night and is thawing today so that it is getting quite muddy.

Penfield, Nov. Thursday 24th. This Thanksgiving day in this state N. Y. also in some other of the States and the District of Columbia. I have just returned from church (Methodist) and Rev. McFarland, the Presbyterian Preacher, was the speaker of the day. He predated his discourse on 11th Chap. of Deuteronomy 2nd verse. He made a mully matter of it.

Nov. 29th 1853. I have just had a talk with Dan'l E. Lewis about our Fire engine matters. I make this memorandum in reference to the future doings in relation to what my happen. Briefly, the history of the matter is that in 1841 an act passed incorporating a fire company in the village of Penfield, N. Y. and D. E. Lewis, a citizen, was active in getting the company provided with proper machines and made a bargain and purchase of second hand engine of the corporation of the city of Rochester for the sum of \$450. He became alone responsible for same. Now to meet the payment to Lewis, a general subscription was circulated and all the members of the company was required to pay \$3 each, which Lewis says amounted to some \$325, which has been paid to him and that there now remains due him (Lewis) \$130, which sum is demanded from the company or the citizens, before he will release his claim. Lewis has got all the old papers relating to the engine, he having been one of the most active members and contributors in the concern.

In Nov. of 1851 Lewis became so involved by debts that he was obliged to make assignment, and that the engine might not be taken from him, he has taken more than usual care to keep the engine in his possession. Those persons present who heard Lewis make the declaration of his claims in the engine were B. How, W. H. Mann, J. W. Wilson, Charles Fellows, Henry Fellows, Jr.; G. G. Camp, Alonso Ryan and C. W. Owen. The Engine Room was built on the Presbyterian Church lot by consent of the Trustees, with the understanding that it should be removed when they should require it to be done, and that it should be used for the keeping of the engine.

The room was built by subscription and contributions by individuals both in labor and materials. Wilson and W. H. Mann were the principle actors in that part. It is a separate matter from the engine, and I suppose it does not properly belong to the trustees of the engine company.

Sunday Dec. 11, 1853. The weather is most unusually pleasant today and has been so for several days. Nearly this whole month of Nov. last was delightful weather for this season of the year. There was a meeting of

7.

the directors of the county "Carson League" yesterday at Rochester. The secretary, Mr. Bryan reported the condition of the Treasury to being in debt about \$200. That the towns had not generally paid the agreements on the stock noted, and that unless money was forthcoming the prosecutions of Rumsellers would have to stop.

In accordance of a public call for the citizens of this Penfield village to meet for the purpose of reviving the fire engine company, a goodly number of the younger portion convened at the engine room, last evening, and about 28 of the young men volunteered as members and then adjourned to meet tomorrow evening to perfect their organization. The old company having gone down so that there has been no meeting in about 3 or 4 years as firemen.

The Methodists in this place have decided to have a donations visit for their Preacher Rev. C. L. Bown, on Tuesday the 20th inst. to meet at the house of Amos Sherwood.

Dec. 21st Wednesday. According to arrangements, the donation visit of Rev. Charles Bown, was had last evening. The weather was very favorable and there was a light run sleying and a respectable company were in attendance, an excellent oyster supper was prepared for all. A dollar a couple was expected to be paid in money as a benefit for the preacher. I understand that the receipt was about \$75 cash. I don't think that other articles of property were offered. This is the first donation that I ever personally attended although I had before given without attending; my wife and two daughters were also present.

Sunday, Dec. 25th. This is Christmas. There is pretty fair s sleying today although the snow is light. Attended church today. Mr. Bown gave an excellent discourse suited to the day and which related to the birth of Christ, making two discourses of one subject.

1854 Jan. 1st. The New Year comes in on Sunday is fair and pleasant. The old went out with a very sunny fair day. The past week has been favorable weather and pretty good sleying.

Attended the Methodist Church all day. Listened to good sermons by the pastor C. S. Bown, whom I think is the best sermoniser that has been stationed in a length of time. This theme today was on the Brevity of Human Life, founded on a text in Job where says that "when a few years has come, I shall pass away and never return". The subject was well and faithfully applied to his hearers.

In the evening I attended the anti-slavery lecture of the Rev. Grovenor at the Baptist Church. There were present fair congregation. Grovenor is a Baptist preacher somewhat aged. He is a good sound speaker and I understand he is a Greek scholar and critic. It is understood that he will give more lectures here and also at Fairport and Webster.

Monday evening, Jan. 2nd. The day has been very cold and good sleying. I have been this evening to hear Grovenor's 2nd lecture. The Baptist preacher, Mr. S. Ainsworth, has not been in to hear Grovenor yet and I think him a sort of a time-serving, moral coward on the great reform questions of the day. He ascertained that a majority of this Baptist church were pro-slavery and so he has adapted himself to that part of his church, and about a year ago undertook in a course of lectures, to support slavery from the Bible. On the temperance questions, he takes up the Rumsellers argument, that the people are not prepared to sustain a prohibitory law. Well I hope that he is homest, but I greatly fear; it does seem to me that he is a trying to secure his bread and butter more than he is the good of man and the glory of God.

Monday, Jan. 16th. I went to city and took the R. R. car with a view of going up to my son Henry at Bergen. Soon after the train started I found I was on the train for the Niagara Falls by mistake. I got off at the

8.

first station and returned on the next train down. It was then too late to go there that night. I stayed with Cousin Orange in the city and took a train in the morning the 17th and went up and back the same day.

Sunday, Jan. 22nd, 1854. My Neighbor Adolph Banker died this afternoon. He leaves a wife and two children very poor. He had been ailing some years in the liver, his last confinement was about two weeks. He dropped off rather unexpected to his nearest relatives. Wm. Duncan died drunk on the 18th of Jan. age 77. Has been a hard drinker for years.

Today, the 25th Jan. Wm. H. Mann died a miserable drunkard of delirium tremers, after 4 days confinement, age 34, a victim of the Rumseller, and which is no more fatal than if he had been dirked years ago. P. Shoecraft and E. H. Thompson can come in for a large share of the destruction of these two men.

Jan. 26th. Yesterday my wife was attacked with symptom of fever. She had high fever during last night but had subsided this morning, but pains in the head and back, so that she keeps her bed today. I have not called any doctor, but I am treating her hydropathilly which I believe is the better model

Monday, Jan. 30th. Today my wife is up and about the house again and is seemingly about recovered from her sickness and my confidence in the water cure treatment is strengthened, as in her case there was no drugs used. Her fever was subdued in about two days by the use of water in its usual mode of application, and in this case it was applied in its simplists form. The attack was pretty severe and by taking it in the outset it was more readily subdued.

The weather for the last week has been very windy and cold, but not sleying. Today it is milder. There has not been much snow thus far this winter.

About a week ago a Female named Philkins gave 2 temperance addresses here at the Methodist church. They were written and of the first order of composition, she had a full congregation out to hear her. The Baptist & Presbyterian preachers refused to give or read her notice in their meetings. In Webster she was not permitted to speak from the pulpit and some Rowdies hissed her, but were put down by the sober.

1854 February 1st. This is the anniversary day of my marriage, twenty-five years having past since I committed matrimony, and I have no regret on the account. My son Henry and wife have just come from Bergen on a visit and who are intending their marriage anniversary day at her brother Nelson Case at Canandaigua, 4th Feb. this week, having been married two years.

2nd. I went this evening with all my family to witness at the Baptist Church a Panarama of what is called Uncle Tom's Cabin by Mrs. Stow. The subject is very popular at this time. There were twenty scenes on the canvass and they were decidedly rich in artistic skill, being very fine done. I never see natural scenery more beautifully represented on canvass. There was a pretty full attendance.

Sunday, Feb. 12th. Last Tuesday, the 8th, the Methodist Sunday School had a festival held at the Lecture Room. There were about 50 children present. Mr. Bown, the pastor in charge, gave them a suitable address, after which a picnic was served to the taste of all. There was not a very full attendance of adult persons.

The same evening I was taken unwell with an effection of the kidneys and throat ail. & a loosness of bowels. The next day I kept my bed, the 10th was better, throat continued sore. 11th still better and today I am still regaining, my back and throat much better. I have some dry cough.

Feb. 14th Valentines Day. It has been thawing this 2 days with some rain. The snow nearly gone, but there is an icy bottom which makes it very slippery walking.

Sunday, Feb. 19th. Mrs. C. Owen has been quite unwell the past week, with Rheumatism, but is now getting some better. Our Preacher Mr. Bown announced from the desk to his congregation today that the church debt of the Methodist Society is fully paid and all cancelled. This debt had been standing 10 or 11 years and since the erection of the church in 43.

Fri. Feb. 24th. Mr. John B. May, our district school teacher closed his services today, having taught 6 months, has rendered his good service being a good teacher, has been faithful in his labors, has given good morals as well as sincere. I have just heard that my counsin Grange Owen is in Rochester Jail for ill treatment of his wife and family. His wife having made legal complaint. He refuses to get bail or give bonds for his future good conduct. I am satisfied that his conduct is bad and insufferable, it is caused in part by his drinking rum. He has been growing bad for some time.

Monday, March 6th. The weather is quite fair, and has been so for a week past. Mrs. Owen is some better of the Rheumatism and is about the house at work most of the time. My daughter Jane has a sore throat today and is fevery this afternoon. I am suspicious that she has got the scarlet fever a-coming on - and there is some cases of it in this place. She went yesterday down to the creek to see some baptising and in a chilly air.

March 9th Thursday. I have just returned from my son Henry at Bergen. I went up there yesterday with Mr. S. Rose, who went to sonsult Dr. R. Andrews about the cure of a cancer on his underlip. Found all well. In the evening I attended a medical Lecture at the church. I should think he was of the Eclectic School and in this main, I think his matter correct and useful, his theme was on, or relating to the stomach. I brot home 24 pounds of butter, can get it up there for 16 cents which cost 18 cents here. The roads are getting very bad with deep mud. It is raining and thawing quite fast. The frost is deep in the ground. There is a man at Bergen named Shader who owns a house and lot which he values at \$1,000 which he offers to sell or exchange for my house and lot in same place. I paid \$400 for mine 3 years ago. I offered him \$500 in exchange and he is to write me soon if he accepts my offer. My opinion is that he will take my proposition.

My daughter Jane mentioned above has got well again. Her sickness did prove so serious as I expected it would.

1854 March 10th. An agreement was made with L. M. Drakes and his father present owner of a large building in the village of Penfield, to fit up the upper story for a public hall for any kind of meetings, and some weeks ago, and now it is thought best to raise the ceiling and form an arch, and to aid the Drakes with present funds. Mr. Williams and myself have promised to raise and pay them \$20 in addition to the \$50 that was to be paid at first contract, and the Drakes agrees that they will refund the \$20 or let the stockholders to the improvements of the hall, have the use or rents to that amount in addition to the one given under the first contract.

Wednesday, March 15th. My son Henry wrote me yesterday saying Mr. Shader of Bergen will exchange house and lot with me in that place for \$530 difference. I have returned an answer that \$500 was all that I should pay.

Silas Johnson, the blacksmith, was taken to jail yesterday for entering Shoecrafts Tavern House on the night of the 1st of this month.

He took nothing but a few segars.

I have been for about a week helping Drake about the Public Hall. We had a smart thunder shower this evening with very vivid lightning which continued for some hours. The weather is mild and pretty fair and the roads are settling. The frosts are about out of the ground.

Sunday, March 19th. It has been very windy for the last 40 hours, particularly on Friday night. It blew a gale during the night and it is quite cold, being a great change in the weather compared with the first of the week which was mild.

Mr. Sam Hunt died last night of gravelly effection after for years he had been intemperate too. He has been supported by the town for 5 years. He was one of the first settlers in town.

March 23rd. Snow fell yesterday about 2½ inches and it is all gone today. I am some hoarse with a cold today. Sam'l Miller was found guilty at present court, in getting money on a false pretence, it is said that he will appeal to the higher court.

March 30th. The weather has been cold and windy for many days past. It is milder today and seems more favorable. The thermometer for many days, fell to 18 or 20 degrees. About the first of this month the frost was nearly or quite out of the ground; but now it is frozen perhaps six inches.

Some cases of error in Medical practice, and particularly in the Alopahic School calls up serious thought sometimes. There was some years ago, a grand error with doctors in regard to allowing their patient have cold water to drink in time of a burning fever, it was strickly prohibited some 30 or 40 years ago, but that error has exploded long since. But to show how blindly tensious the faculty were about the drinking of cold water, I will relate a fact that occured in this town (Penfield) some years since. I was acquainted with patient after the circumstance I am about to relate. The Doctor (Duke) died before I came into town.

The patient's name was Calvin Clark. He was taken very sick with fever and had run some days; he had watchers one night who both fell asleep, which the sick man discovered. While he was burning up with a ragin fever he took advantage of the sleeper 'slipe of the bed & crep to a pail of water in the room & took two hearty draughts by puting his face into the pail, but not being satisfied yet, he undertook to tip the pail, & in his weakness to hold it tipped over & fell from a bench & dashed on him and in the fall roused up the watchers, and when they found what the sick man had been drinking cold water, they were alarmed for the consequences, posted off one of them for the Doctor in great hast. The Doctor came in haste and enquired what he (the patient) had been doing; the doctor without hesitation declared that he must die in a few hours and that any further doctoring was useless, & that he could do nothing to save him. The patient asked for more water then, that he wished to satisfy his thirst if he had got to die so soon. The Doctor said they might give what he desired, as it be no worse for him, so they gave all that he wanted. The Doctor went home expecting to hear of his death very soon. The Doctor on the next day not hearing anything from his patient's death, went up to see how it was with the patient. When lo and behold, the sick man was siting up in bed and in a gentle perspiration: the fever had left him & he began to recover from the time of drinking of the cold water. And after all the doctor was so blind with prejudices that he would not give the water any credit in the cure, which should have been entirely asscribed to use of water. But as I said before, this error of the Dr. is exploded, but they have many others that they cling t.

I am of the opinion that most, if not all of the remedies now used by the Alopahic doctors will be abandoned, or will be rejected by the

11.

people, for instance such arsenic, mercury & calomel, in all its preparations, Antimony; Sulphure, Corrosive sublimes & nearly the whole class of drugs and also the indiscriminate use of the Lancet. This Butchering System of Medical treatment has too long been tolerated.

It does seem to me that there would not be so much pain and suffering by the human family if there were no doctors in the world.

C.W. Owen

April 6th. I went up to Bergen yesterday & have returned today. Daughter Lucy went with me, she remained there with her brother H. where she expects to remain sometime. While there I settled with Dodge for house rents. Made an agreement with a Mr. Shader to lend him some \$300. I had some talk with him about exchanging house & lot with him & in case I should I shall have to pay him a difference of \$500, a part of which he will take in Doct. Andrews' note for \$62 which I hold.

In coming down on the cars to Rochester, we were delayed about two hours at a place called Goldwater, six miles west of the city, by reason of a coach car of an up-train running off the track in switching off, through the carelessness of a boy tending it.

Monday, April 10th. At noon. It rained some last night. It is now snowing fast & has been for 2 or 3 hours. I had calculated to have gone to Bergen today but I did not get money for Shader. I expect to go tomorrow.

April 12th. I have just returned from Bergen, went up yesterday. I found Mr. W. R. Shader, he was very glad to see me prepared to relieve him in his monetary wants. I lent him \$300 payable next October, took his note secured by an assignment of his land contract of house lot, and a promise of an exchange of lots with him by paying him \$200 more if I choose to make the exchange. Lucy is at Bergen, and says she will return home next week. The roads are drying fast since the heavy snow storm on Monday 10th.

Sat. 15th April. Snow fell last night, about 4 inches, it has been cold air 2 or 3 days, but it is milder today, the snow is melting fast. I let L. N. Williams have a due bill on John Cromby of Rochester for groceries for \$400 yesterday & he went out & traded it all but, for which I am to have what goods of W. that I may want at the wholesale prices & the balance if any therebe, is to be paid me in money for said due bill.

Sunday, April 16th. I attended the quarterly meeting of the Methodist today. Mr. Bown, the resident preacher, officiated. The presiding elder of this district did not come by reason of having to officiate at some other station, there being more meetings than there is Sundays in the term.

The snow did not all melt yesterday & it will not to day, as the air is somewhat chilly to day.

April 20th. Today has been pleasant & warm & vegetation begins to put forth, which is backward.

21st. Last night about 1 o'clock the Powder works at Allen Creek some 2 miles west of Penfield exploded for the 5th time to my knowledge. I have just returned from the ruins, the two grinding mills is what blew up & set fire to an old building, in which was stored some 2 or 3 thousand empty powder kegs, all burned. No person hurt, as none was present at the time. It is kept running nights alone when they are grinding the powder. I was told that about 1/2 tons of powder was destroyed this time. Nine months ago it blew up.

Saturday, April 22nd 1854. About noon today, Mr. Wm. Pope's horse barn was consumed by fire. The sillo & floor was saved in good order, the frame did not fall, except the rafters, although it was badly burned. It is said that Seth Millers 2 boys were in the barn with powder apperation & matches. And I suppose there is no doubt but they (boys) were the cause of its being fired. The barn was nearly empty, or was cleared out, except a few bushels of potatoes & they were presurved. Mr. Pope was absent at the time, had gone to the City of Rochester. The Barn was ensured in the Wayne County Mutual Company for \$100.

25th. By the request of Mr. Pope today, Mr. Wm. Fellows & myself took a view of the barn ruins to judge of the amount of loss. And after a survey of the premises, I estimated that the remains of the barn was worth for the purpose of rebuilding the sum of \$18. & Mr. Fellows said his estimate was somewhere between 15 and 20 dollars.

April 27th. This has been a very snowy day since about 9 this morning. It rained some last night and this morning till it commenced snowing. It melts about as fast as it falls. The Thurmometer stands at about 66 degrees. Wind is in the N. East. Yesterday it was warm & clear. I noticed L. Striker by letter of unpaid note. E. W. Thompson sued Wm. R. Thomas for a sawing bill of about \$7. They had a trial yesterday, by jury, the first jury disagreed & the second jury was called in the evening and they disagreed & this morning the 3rd jury is called in the same suit & they disagreed and the 4th was called who agreed on a judgment for Thompson late at night.

28th April. The snow is supposed to have fallen 12" yesterday. I joined issue with Porter Buckly today for Widow Warren. He sued for Board bill. The snow has nearly melted off to day, that fell yesterday.

Sat. 29th April. Cold & snowing again to day, unpleasant weather, it is about 38 degrees; wet and muddy.

May 1st. Weather continues cool & some rainy last night. Today being the first monday in May, the Boards of Excise met in each town to consider the subject of granting Licenses to Rumsellers to traffic in liquors. The Ladies of this Penfield Village having procured some 300 signatures to petition against license, was presented to the Board of Excise; by a delegation of the Female Temperance Society. The following were the Committee: To wit Mrs. B. Whitehead, Mrs. S. Hall, Mrs. C. Owen, Mrs. A. Raymond, Miss B. Trip & Miss Fuller. They also presented a short address to the Board.

At the same time I submitted to the Board, in writing, the following proposition:

"Let Excise Boards consider the following Proposition"

First - that Gods works reveal his Character

2nd - The Rumsellers works reveal his Character

3rd - When you license a system, you license all its legitimate results

4th - The results of the Rum Traffic reveals the moral character of the Excise Board, as truly as that of the Rumseller himself.

5th - No mans moral character is better than the calling he pursues; so none is better than the calling he licenses, provided that has been fully discussed. No man placed on the Excise Board in Western New York can plead ignorance of the results of the Rum Traffic.

The above being true, any Board of Excise, giving a rum license, places themselves on a level with the meanest Rumseller."

Since writing the above, I have just learned that the majority of the Board decided not to grant any liquor license. The members voted as

13.

follows: to wit: J. Baker & W. Richards, for license; and J. C. Rich & J. B. Brown for no license & the Supervisor, Hanson Higbie gave the casting vote for no license. Thus ends the first lesson.

May 2nd. For the last 5 or 6 months I have been affected with a distress & bad sensation about the region of the heart, at indeffinate periods, sometimes while lying on the left side, it comes on and have to change by turning over, when it seems to abate. Days & weeks intervene sometimes between these distressed sensations. My conclusions about it, is that I have an affection of some of the surrounding membranes to the heart. A paroxiam is on me this morning. There is an increased action of the heart with heavy beats & somewhat tremelous.

Wed., May 3rd. The sensation of the heart ail is very light today. I went to S. Strowgers and got 26 fruit trees this day & took them by Railroad to Bergen 25 miles to set on my house lot there. It is cold & rainy in the afternoon. I left Bergen 4th May for home on the 8 o'clock train for the city. I walked up to "Bullshead" while in the city to collect a note from S. Striker of \$62., returned, went in to the court house, the Supreme Court is in session. When walking along the street, I very unexpectly met my wife & child, who was agoing home with her Brother Aaron Bebee to Lockport & Newfane in Niagara County on a visit for a few days. Aaron come to my home at night after I left & had to return next morning to Lockport.

On arriving home in the afternoon, I found my old uncle Thomas Kellog of E. Bloomfield at my house awaiting me. He had been there 24 hours. I had a good visit with him & he left for home the next morning, the 5th May.

My son Henry moved in to my house at Bergen on Thursday, the 4th, the day that I left & T. Dodge moved out of my house the same morning, While in the city today I got my Water Cure Journal that I had left previously to be bound, it was well done by M. C. Moore, cost of _____

Saturday, May 6th. Cold this morning. Thermometer stood at 35 degrees & a coold wind all day. Fruit trees are backward, none in bloom yet. Mrs. Carrie Baker had a slight shock of Palsy today.

Sunday, May 7th, '54. Cold yet though not quite as cold as yesterday. Some fears that the fruit is injured last night with frost, cant tell yet.

Monday 8th. Fair weather with cool drying air. Our Fire Comp. were out for exercise last Saturday & went down to the Stone Mill of S. H. Beach who gave them all the cider they wanted to drink. When they got as about as high as Poughkeepsie & some of the boys got as drunk as they need to be, & most of them were quite boisterous.

May 10th. The weather is warmer, the Mercury stands at 60 this morning. Benj. Roe, aged 64, and Mrs. Baker, aged 72, both of this Penfield village had an attach of Palsy on Saturday last. Mrs. B. is getting better but Mr. Roe is to appearance failing, he lays entirely stupid & unsonscious of surrounding objects. J. W. Wilson fell (yesterday) down the cellarway at Lewis Brick store and hurt him badly in the breast. My neighbour A. Becker is setting Hop yard of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres. The root is set, it takes about six bushel of roots for an acre. He buys the roots at a dollar a bushel.

May 12th. The weather is becoming more favorable for vegetation. Planting of gardens is now going on. Alex Cole and family started for Canada the 3rd of this month. I expect him to bring me some money when he returns. I woke taken with pain in my right bowel about 5 o'clock yesterday & held on more or less through the night & there is a soreness this morning. I omited taking supper & breakfast. Fasting under such

14.

cases very ascincial to relief. L. K. Williams' wife left home for parts unknown to him while he was absent at the city on the 10th past. There is a disagreement with them, she has taken her youngest child. My wife arrived home by stage from her visit to Brother at Newfane, Niagara County, after an absence of 8 or 9 days. She have a good visit, our younger child Annette, went with her.

Sunday, May 14th. Thermometer stands at 70 degrees this morning at 7. Mr. Roe who is mentioned above, died yesterday afternoon, he lived just a week from the shock of Palsy. I began yesterday to make a pattern for continuous cultivator for J. C. Rich. It is an experiment.

Tuesday, May 23rd. There was a light frost this morning. I think there was not sufficient forst to damage vegetation. Thermometer stood at about 50 this morning. A. Cole returned from Canada last Saturday. E. N. Thompson is sued this week for violation of Excise Law. He is called over to Fairport, by our Poor Master Mr. I. Sovet. I went to Fairport to day to see about getting Robbins, the mason to come here to plaster our Engine Hall. He could not come now.

May 25th. I went with my wife & youngest child to visit our son Henry at Bergen by Rail Road. While there we spent the afternoon 26th with Doct. Andrews at his residence. An Eclips of the Sun happened to day (26). It was not quite total, it was visible here. The day was very clear & pleasant, so that it was visible. It began to come on a few minutes before 4 P.M. & lasted about 2 hours. The horison looked gloomy apart of the time. I returned home to Penfield on Sat. 27th after having a fine visit.

FIRE! FIRE! FIRE!

Sunday morning May 28th. About 1 o'clock this morning, the alarm of fire was sounded in our village & on going out I found to my surprise the Tavern House of P. Shoecraft in the centre of the village was all on fire, it had made such progress before it was discovered that it could not be saved with the means at command. Therefore the building contiguous was watched & kept from taking fire. It was remarkable still atmosphere a more favorable time could not have been to save the other buildings from being fired. The upper current of air rather inclined to the North. The House was unoccupied at the time, Shoecraft having moved out of it in February.

In regard to the origin of the fire, there is some difference of opinion. The general opinion is, that it is the work of design, & some think that it may be the result of carelessness of some gambling operation going on there (but uncertain). The public, most likely, will never know the origin.

Thursday, June 1st. There was a light frost this morning. The air was cool all day yesterday. The Mercury stand at 44 yesterday morning early.

June 2nd. Cool this morning a little frosty in low ground. Went to the city to day with Drake to get lumber & to see about getting seats for our public hall. We found some at old M. E. Church, which is in course of taking down. The bad feeling in the region of the heart, had been pretty constant today. I just prepared a syrup to take prescribed by Dr. Andrews. I am in the habit of sleeping in a wet girdle or bandage & find it useful.

June 8th. I went to Rochester city with A. G. Tripp to attend the county Temperance "League" it being the annual meeting of the Town Directors. The Towns were not more than half representd in the convention.

We had a smart rain shower about 3 P.M. The day has been cloudy & comfortably cool.

15.

I made a written report to the County Temperance League for the Town of Penfield. The following is an abstract. To wit: There has taken \$57,000 in stock notes in my hands & about \$12,000 in the hands of A. G. Tripp on which there had been a percentage paid amounting to about \$24, \$2.50 had been applied to pay for printing for the Town society \$1.00 paid for witness fees in the rumseller prosecution, and the balance was paid to E. W. Bryan, the county Sec. The director adjourned to meet again on the 22nd June inst.

June 10th Saturday. Rainy last night, it has partially cleared off to day & is a growing time. My family health is comfortably good. Benj. Stottard, an Englishman living in East part of the village died suddenly last night, age 46 years. He was a drunken bloat and has been for years. He was up and about as usual during yesterday. The doctor was called in night but he was too far gone to be benefited & so he died in a few hours after he was thought to be ailing.

Painting - The Methodist Meeting House is now undergoing a repainting, it has been 12 years this season. The front, facing the west, had become much weather-worn. Three coats of Zinc paint will be put on the front & steeple and two on side. The whole outside painting contains (including the lecture room adjoining) eight hundred and five yards. Paint used in the repainting, 250 pounds zinc paint at \$9.00 per 100, 38 gallons oil at \$8. Cost of paint and oil \$60.50, labor 12 days at \$14 - \$21. Total cost \$81.50. (John Michael, Painter).

Friday, 23rd June. I have just returned from Rochester where I have been since Monday last with Cousin Orange Owen whose family is parted from him. He is keeping house alone. His son Franklin has involved him in debt by setting him up in the grocery trade about 15 months ago, with a capital stock of \$2,070. Frank has assigned the remaining goods to his father and myself in trust to settle and apply the avails for the purchase of the goods.

With the fixtures, there is about \$1100 left, the goods are worth about \$1000. Orange had mortgaged his house and lot to secure the payment of the goods, and the mortgage has been closed and the sale is to be the 8th of July next. I can't see but what the place must be sold, in spite of all that Orange can do, as the goods cannot be converted into money in so short a time.

4th July 1854. 6 A.M. warm. The Thermometer stands at 80 degrees. Sun shines clear, a little cloudy in the west. Was awakened about midnight by a serenading party, got to sleep again and was aroused about 4 by ringing of the church bells and some firing of guns. I was at Fairport yesterday attending the law suit against L. (H. or K.?) Williams for selling Rum. He was convicted on the evidence of Mrs. Gordon, and fined \$25 and costs before Van Buren. J. P. The prosecution was conducted by the agents of the Temperance League (E. W. Bryan).

3 P.M. Thermometer 94 degrees, a gentle breeze of air. Our Fire Comp. are a training about today. They have set up a small Liberty pole with a flag and seem to enjoy themselves. No drunkenness or quarreling, and no tavern in the place. 7 o'clock Cloud _____ some rain, wind rising. 8 o'clock rains a little. 9 o'clock rain ceased, had but little. The 4th has closed and in Penfield all is peace & quiet. Report says that 2 or 3 boys have been killed in city of Rochester today. I have no doubt that by accidents one way and another, that hundreds will see the last of earth this day as there have in times past. This celebrating the day with rum & powder as it usually is done is bad, for the reason that it keeps up a war-like spirit when we should cultivate peace and quiet.

Extensive preparations has been made for celebrating the 4th in Rochester City 8 miles from Penfield, and many have gone from here. I

rec'd today a long letter from I E Goodrich, M. Congress from Mass, accompanied by a printed copy of the constitution & Laws of a Union Emigrating Society. The object is to encourage the settlement of the New Territory of Nebraska & Kansas, with Anti-Slavery men, as Slave holders are pushing forward with their slaves to gain the ascendancy in the government of those places, they having just been organized under President Pierce.

July Sat. 8th. This has been the hottest day yet, the Mercury raised to 98 degrees in shade, 115 in sun. I attended the Mortgage Sale of Orange Owen dwelling in the city today. John W. Peckham was the Mortgagee and of whom I bot the promise after the public sale for the sum of \$2235. Eight hundred to be paid on the 1st Oct. next, gave my note, endorsed by S. Strowger and \$1435 to be paid in two years. Interest paid 1/2 yearly 1st Jan. & 1st July respectfully.

It is agreed that if Orange pays me, or in their words, if he re-pays me the purchase, together for all necessary service and expenses, it is to be reconveyed to Orange, at the end of two years, which will be at the time my payment falls due to Mr. Peckham.

I stoped with Orange from the 7 to 10th and attended at St. Peters Church on Sunday. The speaker appeared to be a young man, his oratory was pretty good, but his articulation was not loud enough for one to hear understandingly, so that I was not very greatly edified, has good Music.

Friday, July 21st. The Penfield Firemen have a barbicue this afternoon and design to have a dance tonight in our new public hall.

I went to the city this morning by R. Road up to Bergen to see Henry & stayed there till after dinner. A society of men called "Know nothings" had been formed there, and my friend Dr. R. Andrews and others induced me to join them, which I did, making the 13th member. It is secret in its operation and to act Politically in opposition to Roman Catholic in America. It has been instituted about 2 years since I first heard about them in the large cities on the seaboard.

The weather has been very warm for many days and dry too. The thermometer has ranged from 94 to 100 degrees in the shade.

Sat. Morn 22. The Firemens party yesterday was a good one, particular in the evening. I stopped in to look on them a few minutes. Our two daughters were there. The weather in the evening was some more favorable than it has been for days before.

Monday, July 24th. Silas Johnson was bailed from jail today, after a confinement of 4 months and 10 days as noted on the 15th March. His bail was Rundel, Mulner & Thompson, as I am told. The weather is dry & warm and is good harvest time. The spring crops never looked more promising than now in this section, particularly oats and barley.

July 27th. The weather continues dry but some cooler today. Our Public Hall is now ready for the seats. I talk of taking possession of the room and seat it myself. Drake is not able to procure the seats as he agreed. Mr. Aaron Houghton of Pt. Byron (a stranger) called on me today to have me take the agency of renting (and selling if I can) his house in this village & joins J. D. Scovil's lot on east. He will pay \$2 for my service renting and receiving pay _____. He directs me to get some repairs done on the house & charge the rents for same. This mans wife is crazy and at State Lunatic assylum. She is a sister of Whitney Sheldon's wife.

August 6th. There was a little sprinklin of rain to day, it has been warm & dry for many weeks -- I spent 3 days in the city last week with

17.

Orange. On the 3rd it was reported that there was 6 deaths of cholera. The health of the city is considered good on the whole. The harvesting about done & the weather has been good. The grain has been got in dry & good, the weavel has done some damage to the wheat crop. The crop is generally good -- oats and barley was never better in this section. Corn looks well now but wants rain. Potatoes will fail unless the rain comes soon. Some pieces are dead now, some new potatoes are in market now. They sell at 8/-

August 7th. It is cooler today than it has been for some weeks. A case of cholera is now under treatment by Doctors Dryer & Cady, the patient is John S. May, a school teacher & boarding with A. S. Clark. I have been with him some time this forenoon. It is the first case of cholera that I have seen. He had been attending a State school convention at Oswego last week, came home, was taken with a looseness of the bowels yesterday morning, which increased in severity, till it has got to the 2nd stage of cholera. At this time (noon) Tuesday, 8th, May died about 2 today, in much distress. He became deaf and blind & entirely insensible befor death, some hours.

The deaths in Rochester are about six in a day by cholera. There has been some persons of repute that has died, but the principle number of those that have died of cholera are of the intemperate & filthy part of persons. Cholera is more general this year than it has ever been before in America.

August 10th. Dry & dusty yet, no rain. John C. Strowger has died today. He was taken with cholera morbus 11 days ago & typhoyd fever which has been fatal under the calomel system of treatment by Dr. Gear.

August 11th 1854. There is some prospect of rain this morning. Another death by cholera last night in this place. It was a Dutch woman living in Covey's house. She was taken yesterday morning & died about one o'clock this morning. Cholera seems to be more general this year than ever before in this county, much of it is caused by improdence in diet in eating grown vegetables (unripe).

4 o'clock P.M. It now begins to rain, wind in the north.

8 o'clock P.M. It rained but little & has stoped.

August 12th. I went to the city today to attend a political county convention, to choose delegates to State Convention to be held at Saratoga Springs next week. I left before the close on account of the slate leaving. Henry Ward, Jr. & Mrs. J. Lapins came out in the stage for me. Ward has been living at Buffalo since Feb. The funeral of my neighbor John Strowger was attended this afternoon in the Masonic order.

August 15th. Dry weather yet, the late potatoes will be nearly a failure on account of the drouth, also corn will be a short crop. I shingled one side of Houghton house to day with sawed shingles bot of Norton at 16/- per bunch. They lay well but they will not last as well rived shingles. I forgot to day in connexion with the painting of the M. E. Church that the front steps & platform was made a new, the timbers having rotted so that the steps gave way. M. S. Rood rebuilt them for \$35 and painted same.

Sunday, August 20th. No rain yet. I think that I never know the surface of the earth as dry as at this time. There has not been rain of any consequence since about the 28th of June, when there was a powerful fall of rain of about 8 hours.

It was announced in church to day that Capt. Dan Wilson would be brot here tomorrow for burial. He died a few miles west of Rochester, probably at his son's in Kendall. He was an old settler of this town. I have known him about 39 years, he came here in 1808 & was 84 years old.

18.

21st. I have just come from his funeral. They stopped at the Baptist Church. He died on Sat., 19th. They arrived here at 9 AM & had come about 40 miles with the corpse.

August 21. Last week on Tuesday, E. Worthing's barn was burnt about 2 or 3 PM. It took fire by fire being blown several rods from a burning lot of brushes, the wind being strong at the time. His loss is said to be about \$450. No insurance. The fire was set by Lewis Brewer, who will doubtless have to pay for the loss. Another barn burnt on Friday night last, in the north part of Perinton. It was Gilbert Benedict's. This was one of design. Mr. Benedict was overseer of the poor & had been prosecuting Rumsellers for violation of Excise Law & for that reason had carried a hostility among the Rum roudies and burning & destroying property of Temperance men is common among that desperadoes - it's a Rum argument. Mr. B's loss is believed to be about \$1100. and was partially insured.

August 22nd. Death. Today the funeral of Dan Darling wife, she that was Caroline Kelly, is attended at the Baptist Church in this village (Penfield) died of consumption contracted by her own improvidence by exposure or otherwise. She was a renegade about town, would be out at all times & weather. She has married about 6 or 8 months ago & how she has conducted herself since then I don't know. She died in Rochester & is brought here for burial.

It continues dry and dusty yet. Such a long dry time I never knew. Our cisterns are mostly dry & some of our wells have failed & others nearly so - vegetation of all kinds are suffering with the drouth.

24th August. It continues dry yet. Last night we had an Exhibition & Lecture on electricity at our new Public Hall by Mr. Swift, a traveling lecturer. He explained & illustrated the so called "Mysterious Roping" performed by the agency of Electricity.

B. Frank Owen come from home to my house last even to have me go to the city to day to settle some material with his Father.

Sat. 26th. I have just returned from the city. We have made sale of the stock of groceries of B. F. Owen, sold to Wm. Goodwin on North St. for \$891.79.

We had a smart rain this evening, after nearly an uninterrupted drouth of 56 days. Everything growing has suffered for rain.

August 28th, 1854. The weather is fine & agreeable since the rain on Sat. last. The Rev. Charles L. Bown is returned to this station again. He officiated yesterday in the M. E. Church here in Penfield. His wife has been ill some months with an internal tumor & will not get better of it in all probability.

29th. It is quite warm again. 88 degrees. A man died yesterday at Allen's Creek of Cholera. The disease known is believed to be on a decrease generally. There much of Bowel complaint in our county this summer, much more than in ordinary years.

Thursday, August 31st. After 2 or 3 days of very warm weather, it is much cooler to day, it rained a shower last night. A roudy sort of a law suit is going here between J. Scutt, complainant against C. Drake for an assault & battery. It appears that Drake & Sam Still broke into Scutt's house about day light on Sunday morning 20th of this month and beat Scutt badly. I don't know how the matter will end, but it seems to me that it might prove a serious affair for Drake if it is pressed to the extent, more on account of entering the house as he did, it being rather saucy business to brake into house in the manner he did.

19.

Rum is at the bottom of the whole matter. One other thing is connected with it & that is Scutt had Crakes concubine (an old drunken prostitute) for a lodger that night & all concerned was drunk.

Friday, Sept. 1, 1854. Family health is quite good, six children at home. The price of produce has been for months & will in all probability continue to be for months to come, very high in prices. The general price of wheat, the staple article in this section, is selling this week for \$2.13 per bushel - Corn 6/-, Beans 14/-, Potatoes 6 to 8/-, Butter 18 to 22 cents per pound & scarce at that, in consequence of the drouth. The grapes had dried up. Most kinds of fruit is plenty this season. The articles of family groceries are moderate in prices, sugars are considered low. The price of common boarding is about 20/- per week.

Penfield Sunday Sept. 3rd, 1854. Yesterday was excessively warm, stood at 90 degrees in shade. Then was some rain fall during the last night & is cool to day, though pleasant. The East Genesee Conference was held at Geneva this year & is to be held next year at Dansville in Livingston County.

Old Drake, mentioned earlier has left & gone to parts unknown, and I think he'll not return, its a good ridance for this place, as his morals are bad. 6 P.M. - R. B. Wright has just started for New York, to purchase goods for his Stock making.

Friday, Sept. 8th. After about 2 months of excessive hot weather, it is becoming some cooler these two days. The mercury has lowered to about 75 degrees to day. The appearance indicates rain soon. While I was in the city of R. yesterday about 4 or 5 o'clock there was an alarm of Fire & I learned that the Rail Road car house containing 8 or 10 locomotives at the time & the wood shed was burned. Estimated loss \$80,000. & located on East side of the River on North & Hudson Streets. The cholera in the city has nearly subsided.

I learned from S. Adams yesterday for the first time that Orange Owen's Corn Hill property of house & lot is to be sold on Mortgage next week on Wednesday, amount due is about \$352. & costs. The place is supposed to be worth 5 or 6 hundred dollars.

Thursday, Sept. 14th. My son Henry and his wife came down from Bergen to day on a visit. It has been very rainy to day. I was at the city yesterday and I bid off a lot sold on Mortgage given by Orange Owen & wife to S. Adams. I paid \$421 for it, gave back a Mortgage for \$300 due in one year from 13 Sept. The lot is said to be worth \$600.

16th. Philo Clement & wife & child came today on a visit. She is sister of my wife. They return home to Carlton on Monday next. Son Henry returns to Bergen on same day. Clement says that the weavil has nearly destroyed the wheat crop in section this season.

Wed., Sept. 20th. I have just returned from Canandaigua 24 miles distant, where myself & wife went yesterday to visit my brother Joseph's wife & daughter Caroline who are down from Belvidier Town in Illinois. She will return home about the first of next month. I wished to see her & learn more about that country. She speaks very favorably of it.

Sat. Eve. Sept. 23rd. A few men, say about 23, were instituted by Mr. Parker & J. W. Stebbins of Rochester, a society of the Order of Limited Americans called by some the "Know Nothings". The persons were some of the most reputable citizens of this village.

Sunday, Oct. 1. Last week Tuesday I went with Alex Cole to Auburn to attend the Anti-Nebraska & the Temperance Conventions. One succeeded the other in 2 days. Each of them were large & Respectable gatherings.

20.

Each put in nomination for governor the same man, to wit, Myron H. Clark of Canandaigua. While there I stoped with the family of Mr. Pulsiver whose wife & daughter of my Sister Olmsted. Before returning home I went to the Town of Cato 11 miles north of Auburn to visit my Sister Olmstead & her family. I stoped one night with them & left there about 9 A.M. & took the cars near Weedsport and arrived at home about 2 P.M. on Friday.

Today some trouble was apprehended from Roman Catholics in opposition to the Baptising of a girl who had recently been & had renounced Romanism. Her Father & family are most deadly hostile toward her, threatening to kill. A large number of men convened to oppose anything of a hostile movement. But hapily she was Baptised & all was quiet & there was no opposition made.

Wednesday, Oct. 11th. Fihe day. There was a little rain fell last. Self & wife went to Rochester to day. I went to A. Frost nursery to get some price of fruit trees for Brother D. Vankirk of Wauheeha in Wisconsin. Got a cataloge of trees & prices & have enclosed it with my letter to him by tomorrow's mail. O. Owens & wife's lawsuit began today. My daughter Lucy is subpoenaed there witness, the cause is a family disagreement & is tried by a Referee agreed on by the parties. The wife sued for a separation & a partition of property.

Sunday, 15th Oct. '54. The weather is cold & snowed some. This morning the mercury stands at about 40 degrees. Lucy came home Sat. night from the city. Says Orange & wife closed their evidence on Saturday & the council will sum up the case this week & submit the case to Judge Humphry, the Referee for his award immediately. The rain has not been very heavy this fall as yet. The Summer having been so extremely warm & dry led me to think that we should have a very wet fall season, from the fact, that one extreme of weather generally succeeds the other. Old Rochard Still of this village (Penfield) is said from appearances be near to death this day. He is about 80 years. He has been out and around till within few days ago.

Sunday, Oct. 29th. The weather has been very pleasant during the past week. On Tuesday last the 24th I purchased the Brick House & lot in village (Penfield), the premises formerly built & occupied by Ira Mann, in which he resided 24 years. The house was built in 1828. Mann sold to John Maginis of Rochester, and Maginnis sold to David B. Cottrel who has dwelt in 2½ years. It was sold on the 18th of this month by foreclosure of Cottrel's mortgage. Mr. L. W. Burbank of Rochester bid it off for the amount of dues & costs which amounted to \$656. I bot of Burbank for the same he gave, price down of \$300 & gave a mortgage for \$56 payable the first of next Oct. I bot it for the purpose of saving the amount of \$145 which was in a 2nd Mortgage on the same premises.

On the 26th last past, I sold the two city lots formerly owned by my Cousin O. Owen, to General Jacob Gould for a farm lot of 72½ acres situated in the Town of Parma in this county and about 12 miles west of Rochester on the Ridge Road. My 2 lots was estimated at \$2,500 & the farm at \$65 per acre, which amounts to \$4712.50

My lots was encumbered for \$1700 - and the farm lot is encumbered by a Mortgage to the Bank for \$1500 payable in ten years.

By yesterday mail I received from David VanKirk a letter and order for fruit trees, want me to procure nearly \$200 worth & see them shipped to him in Wisconsin. I shall go tomorrow to Frost Nursery in the city.

Monday, Oct. 30th. I have been to city to day & made the engagement for Mr. Frost & Co. to fill Vankirk's order for fruit trees & they promise to have them shipped in 3 days by Railway to Buffalo & from there by Steamers to Milwaukee.

21.

Thursday, Nov. 2nd. Weather is becoming colder. I went to city to day to attend a county convention for Nominating officers.

Sat. Nov. 11th. The weather is mild & has been so since Tuesday. Our State Election was held on Tuesday the 7th and the weather & road were quite favorable. There was no excitement during the day. The Polls were held in our new Public Hall. There is no Tavern in this place now.

Nov. 10th. I went out to the city and found that Orange Owen had got all his furniture removed to Parma & was going himself the next day to reside. The result of the election cannot be ascertained yet. There were four candidates running for governor as follow: Myron H. Clark (Whig & Temperance man), Daniel Ullman (The United American or Know Nothing as they called), Horatis Seymour, for re-election, is the Rumsellers man & Grun C. Bronson, a Democrat, and will get the least no. of votes.

Nov. 25th. It is ascertained that M. H. Clark is elected for the next Governor of this State, and the friends of good order have reason to rejoice at the result. Clark's majority is reported to be only about 300 over Seymour the next highest. The vote of the State was nearly as follows: 469,390, of which Clark rec'd 156,795, Seymour 156,501, Ullman 122,277, and Bronson 33,830. We now expect to have a prohibitory Liquor Law passed early in the next Legislature.

Nov. 31 Thursday. This Thanksgiving day in this State. Religious service was held in the Baptist Church to day & Rev. C. S. Bown (Methodist) was the speaker & he gave an excellent discourse touching on several items of topic Slavery & Intemperance in particular. The weather was cold & windy. The Mercury stood at about 20 degrees.

Dec. 1. Not as cold as yesterday but snowing in the evening some. In the morning of the 2nd the snow is about 8 inches deep & the sleys slip about freely. I went to the city to day on a sley with Sherwood & Becker to procure seats & furniture for the new public hall of Crippen & Dodge. A new organization of men was organized to day, the number engaging first is about 22. The object of the order is to oppose Roman Catholics, Slavery & Intemperance. About 2 weeks ago a young woman living in Rochester City stepped out in the evening saying that she would return in a 1/2 hour, has not returned nor heard from since by her friends & great excitement prevails in the city in consequence of her disappearance. She is supposed by some to be murdered. Her name is Emma Moore & lived on North Street.

Tuesday, Dec. 5, 1854. Snow Since last Saturday the snow has fallen about 2 1/2 feet deep and is not stoped yet. It is the greatest fall of snow at any one time that I ever knew to come in December. It is not extremely cold though it is blustering.

6th. The snow said to be about 3 ft. deep & promises of more.

8th. It was calm yesterday. It is snowing again. My son Henry & wife arrived here by stage to day from Bergen & will return home on Saturday 9th.

9th. The Council of U. Americans opened their new hall for meetings last night. We had two visiting friends from Rochester in our council. Their object for being with us was rather inquisitorial, although they were treated civilly & I think they went away with the impression that some of the "Spirit of '76" was alive among us. Morse & Meserve were the Inquisitorial Committee for this county, whose business it is to require

22.

a submission to the implicit dictation of the Grand Council, right or wrong in all matters of voting (politically). They will find that all men are not ready yet to sacrifice honest principle & be governed by a few wireworking demagogues.

Wed. Dec. 20th, 1854. Cold. This is probably the coldest morning of the season as the mercury stands at zero or 0 at 6 o'clock & is a calm & good sleighing. Last week it was thawing of the snow some 2 or 3 days so that it became spongy walking. Orange Owen came to my house last week the 14th and stayed one night & the 15th I went with him to city to settle his matter with Lawyer S. Adams who had sued him for fees to the amt. of some \$200 but a settlement was agreed on by paying \$130, in Wm. Goodwin's note due 1 May next. Today the Methodist Society here in Penfield are to have a Sunday School Festival, to be held in the Lecture Room of the Church. A preacher from Rochester is to address the children on the occasion. His name is Runey.

P.M. The Festival is over & we had a social good time. Mr. Runy gave a good impressive address to the school which was listened to with good attention by all.

Friday, Dec. 22nd. Good sleighing & cold weather. The mercury stood at 6 this morning. My wife's Brother Aaron Beebe from Newfane stayed with us night before last. He came down to the city on business. Henry Paddock late of this town but for the last two years of Cold Water, Michigan, was killed last week by the accidental discharge of his gun while in chase for a deer with some friends, an artery was ruptured in his thigh causing him to bleed to death in a short time. P.M. It is just reported here that Mr. Austin's dwelling house situated (up the dugway hill on the city way road) was consumed by fire this forenoon.

1855 Jan. 1st. Fair & pleasant, the mercury is a little above the freezing point. The Wheeling on the main reads is good. Some snow of the late great fall is lying in drifts about the lots & fences. The young folks of this village got up a dance in the evening at the New Hall and is said to have been a civil affair.

Jan. 2nd. This day is quite fair as yesterday.

Wed. Jan. 3rd. Fair & thawing, pleasant as spring day. Explosion of the powder mill 2 miles west of me on Allen Creek owned by Burbank, yes, it was one of the grinding mills, no lives lost. The workman had just stepped out a moment before. It happened about 1/4 before 9 A.M. I see the smoke rise immediately after hearing the report. It is said that some 600 pounds of powder was burned. On hearing the report, my first thought was that it was a heavy piece of cannon discharged.

It is suspected that some individuals in this place formed a new Council of United Americans or "Know Nothings". If it is so, there are seceders from a council that was formed in Sept. last. It is believed that A. Becker, A. Sherwood, W. Tracy, E. R. Weaver are the leaders in this move. They first convened at our new Hall, but finding some there they did not want, they repaired to the district school house where they were in session late at night. I have not heard the result yet of their doing.

Rioters. On Tuesday, Jan. 16th, 1855 some individuals belonging to a secret political organization commonly known as "Know Nothings" to gain possession of a council room that they had voluntarily left & held their meetings at the school house in the vicinity. About half of the members would not engage in the cabating of the riotious seceders but continued to meet at their usual place of meeting who at last agreed not

23.

to have anything more to do with the seceders and not allow them to occupy the room as they desired afterward. In consequence of which a number of the bolters resolved to force an entrance to the hall of council room, and about 8 o'clock on the above evening, they went from the school house where they were in secret conclave, to the furnace building of Crippen & Dodge, the upper part of which was the council room, and broke in the lower door. Then they went upstairs and broke the door to the room and took a temporary possession. Many citizens, young men and boys hearing of the rumpass rushed to the scene of disturbance, and the room was soon filled with members and outsiders. The company stayed there about 1½ hours when they began to disperse and by 10 o'clock all had retired quietly. The principle actors in this riotous action were as follows: A. Becker, A. Sherwood, W. G. Tracy, E. K. Weaver, Charles Strowger, W. D. Strowger, Walter Dryer, C. G. _____, E. Lamb, A. Cook, Wm. Hip, J. W. Wilson, Graves & others. The presumption is that it will result in a long course of law suits, as one has now began and the end is beyond conjecture.

Thursday, January 18th. A law suit was commenced against myself, A. Cole, P. Dodge & E. Crippen by E. K. Weaver who complains that we are depriving him of a joint tenancy of certain rooms rented for meetings of the society of "Know Nothings". It was brot before James Vanburen of Fairport. I went to day and joined issue and adjourned a week. This matter grows out of the difficulty mentioned above.

Jan. 25th. The above mentioned cause was disposed of to day. The trial was opened & 2 witnesses examined. When the question of title came up, which throws it out of the jurisdiction of a Justice's court & the plaintiff withdrew his complaint which ended the matter for the time being. The defendants got Mr. Hopkins of Rochester for Council.

Sunday, January 28th. The snow is about a foot deep, it fell yesterday & day before. Yesterday morning was very blustering & snowy. It was so very bad to go to Fairport 3 miles to meet my neighbor A. Becker to answer him in a suit which was dishonest. I bought him for \$2. Cheap enough if I can find out my neighbor for that price, it is best to buy him. Becker never sit up any claim or demand before he died & we were seeing each other almost daily. This demand was trumped up out spite towards half this community from the fact that Becker volunteered to bring a load of benches from the city for a society of "Know Nothing" of which Becker was then President. I gave my time with him in getting them; but Becker got into trouble in the council & was much disliked & which cased a split & a division of the old council. Becker was among the seceders. At the time I was acting Treasurer of the council so B. singled me out to pay for that which he declared at the time would not cost us anything on his part & for which he sued me. To save myself trouble of litigating in a tegious snow storm, I bought him for two dollars; does any one bid more I wish to get rid of so mean an animal.

Wednesday, Jan. 31st, 1855. We have about 12 or 15 inches of snow which makes excellent sleying with pretty good air, say about 24 degrees. The rioters spoken of before are now crying for quarters since a suit is commenced against 12 or the principals before named. We offer peace by their paying us about \$10 which they made us costs, and they had better a \$100, than this matter take its course in law, for we have ascertained quite clearly that they had premeditated acts of ciolence, which they afterward perpetrated.

Tuesday, Feb. 6th. This day will long be remembered on account its extra-ordinary coldness. It will be referred to as the cold Tuesday. Its equal in severity has not been known in some 30 years. The mercury fell to 23 degrees below 0 in Monroe County and in many places in the States it fell to from 30 to 40 degrees. It had been quite freezing

24.

cold for some days before but not much wind at this time. Good sleighing at this time.

The 7th was less cold. The mercury rose to about 10 to 14 below.

22nd. The weather continues very cold with good sleighing & has been for some weeks. The snow thaws a little about 2 days since the month came in. To night we are to have an oyster supper & Ball in our new Town Hall, the profits if any there be to apply on the debt of finishing said Hall.

Feb. 23rd. The Ball is past. It was a cold night. There was about 56 couples present -- old and young who seemed to enjoy themselves well & seemed satisfied with the entertainment. I have lost money in the operation.

28th. This is the last day of the month and the weather is cold. This has been a cold month. The mercury stands to day from 12 to 20 above & the sleighing continues excellent.

Son Henry & wife returned home ward from their visit at New Hartford & arrived here on Sat. 17th & stayed til Monday. Went to Webster & then home to Bergen on Thursday.

Sunday, Mar. 4th, 1855. The three past days fine weather, rather of the melting mood, particularly to day, of the snow. A few days like this will stop our good sleighing of which we have had a good run this winter. Dr. J. Gates of Rochester gave two lectures this past week on the subject of Magnetic Psychology, giving demonstrations by subjects. The first meeting was generally satisfied that it was a true science. At present there is great mystery about it that can't be comprehended by the majority. I am satisfied that some persons can be brought under the control of another person in a magnetic state. The whole action & movement are at the will of the operator.

In regard to the Native American party, which is now better known as "Know Nothings" at present who are a secret political party & was got up to counteract foreigners & Romanism, there is no doubt that it was started in all honesty of purpose, as the Foreign Immigration of Catholics is very great & who become voters too soon for the good of the American interest. To oppose which this order was originated. But the organization soon fell into the hands of dishonest politicians. Unprincipled men became its masters and diverted it from its purpose -- to meet combination by combination & to render it for the interests of all political parties to give position & prominence to native born, rather than to foreign born aspirants. This was what it was designed to be in its; that is not a political party, but a combination of men of all parties, to compel political parties to make proper nominations.

But what has it become? Is it an institution to which a free and honorable man should or can belong? No sir, when he comes to understand its designs & the character of the men into whose hands it had fallen. The great mass of those who are in it are honest. They went into it to aid in the accomplishment of a good purpose, but they cannot remain it longer.

Tuesday, March 19th '55. I with my daughter Lucy went up to Bergen on business with my son Henry & others. The day was one of the windiest that we have had this winter. It was a perfect gale all day & with all. I returned on the 21st. Lucy remained till next week.

Friday, March 30, 1855. This day I finished moving into my house, the late residence of Ira Mann, which was built by him about 27 years ago. I did some of the inside joining 24 years this past winter. Mr. Mann occupied it about 24 years. He sold it 3½ years ago to Professor

25.

Maginis of Rochester. He sold it to Dav. B. Cottrell 3 years this March & Cottrell failed to meet payments & the mortgage was foreclosed last Oct. by a Mr. G. W. Burbank of Rochester for \$656 of which I bought it paying him that sum. I had a 2nd mortgage on it, which induced me to buy it. The premises are much out of repair, having been badly used by Cottrell, the last occupant. This month has been a very cold one, probably as cold & snowy as the month of Feb. commonly is in this county. We have had a long & cold winter and about equals in intensity of cold, as it was hot last summer.

Saturday, April 21st. Self & wife went to the city today to make some purchases of dry goods & groceries, also to meet Orange Owen there. I bot a pair of horses of Sam Garlick for Orange to use on our farm in town of Parma. I paid \$135 in Wm. Goodwin's note which falls due the 1st of Sept. next. My wife's sister Louisa and her husband S. R. Clement of Newfane, came to my house on a visit to day.

April 24th. Brother Clement left this morning for home. Yesterday N. S. Hall was killed at Canandaigua by Rail car running over him. His body will be brot here for burrial. He had recently set up in law business at Bloomsfield. He leaves a wife & child, poor, she will have to return to her father (N. Fellows) in this place.

April 25th. Miss R. A. Donovan of Rochester lectured here this evening on temperance & the Liquor Law, which was made at the last session of the legislature. She is good public speaker for a female. She is employed by the Female State Temperance Society. She urged the importance of having the law enforced to the letter, which is no doubt important.

Monday, May 7th 1855. Quite cool today. Wind in North. Fire feels comfortable. It is about as cold as a year ago today. Vegetation is very backward & not much planting done yet.

Tuesday, 8th. It snowed some last evening & this morning it is raining fast. Wind East - cool. Am painting some on my house & making other repairs on my house. P.M. It began snowing about 8 this morning and continued to fall fast till about one o'clock this afternoon when it turned to rain again & continued to snow & rain 24 hours quite steadily.

About 5 this afternoon the Powder mill at Allen Creek & in sight of here exploded killing 5 men employed there. The same works blew up on the 3rd of last January. None was hurt at that time. This is the 4th time these mills have blown up within 6 years and about 8 times since 1824. Arch Ross was killed there 6 years ago this spring.

May 30th. This has been a very warm day, the mercury stood 90 at noon in the shade. The ground is getting dry; wants rain very much. I am doing some work on I. H. Woods house, making some additions to it.

June 1st, '55. The mercury stands at 72 this morning at 5 o'clock, it is cloudy & sprinkled a little. Am troubled with Rumatic pains in the right shoulder for a few days and am bathing in cold water for relief.

June, Wed. the 15th. Son Henry came home from Bergen to day for short visit, will return tomorrow. I have done several days work I. Wood within 3 weeks. Have about done for him.

1855 June 21. Warm pleasant day. It rained mostly all day yesterday. My wife & two boys went to the city today to trade. Had Mr. Whitehead's horse & ^{my} buggy. I worked in my shop making a water vat or reservoy for Mr. B. Arey and am employed part of the time for some days past in repainting the window sashes in my house. They have been much used 27 years & have never been only primed & are badly weatherworn on the outside

26.

I am putting a coat of side first composed of glue, soap, whiting. cut in water, with a little oil, which renders it better than a coat of oil paint, for the reason that it fills up & closes the pores better than paint.

Last Monday Eve we had a Temperance meeting in the Brick church when J. W. Stebbins of Rochester was present as speaker. He discussed the subject of the prohibitory Liquor Law very ably & satisfactory to the friends of the law. At same time we formed a town temperance league by making choice of officers. Daniel Fuller, Jr. President, Wm. Pope vice P., James Harris, Secretary & C. W. Owen, Treasurer for the ensuing year & which will be auxillary to the county league. We propose to see the law is enforced in this town (Penfield).

July 4th Wednesday. Cloudy this morning & the mercury was at 70 degrees. I had made arrangement to go with my family to the city to celebrate the birthday of our nation's Independence. Accordingly about 8 o'clock AM. myself, wife & four children started off for the city. The Temperance folks of the county had previously prepared for a demonstration for inauguration of the prohibitory Liquor Law which goes into full effect on this day. A procession was formed & marched through some of the principle streets to Washington Square where it was prepared for Public speaking. The principle orator was Mr. Burleigh of Albany, who is a strong man in argument. His theme was the right of the people to have equal laws for protection against all wrong, applying it to the Liquor Law, and the constitutionality of the measure. He gave a grand presentation of the whole matter, summing up that if the constitution was deficient to allow proper protection laws, why then amend it & make it what it should be. Isaac Seely of Henrietta took the stand after Mr. Burleigh and gave us the most comical and amusing Characture of the old License system that I ever heard pronounced by man. The exercise was interspersed with vocal music by G. W. Clark & others & closed about 1 o'clock. Soon after it commenced raining, which lasted about a hour when it cleared off warm & fair and about 5 o'clock we started for home where we arrived before sun set, well pleased with the transaction of the day. The weather through the day was comfortable & bearable to what is usually is on that day, as it is generally very warm and dusty.

Friday night, July 6th. Beer drinking spree at J. E. Staring's grocery, the company is said to be (by one of their number) Jonathan Baker, J. W. Wilson, Herman Hopkins, Hiram Auchampach, Burton Baird, Lemuel Fullam, T. H. Darling. They are noisy & even boisterous, so much as to disturb the sleepers nearby who got up to see what the fuss was.

July 9 & 10. I was attending County Court as a witness for A. Cole in the case of the Hindoo Society braking into the furnace Hall last winter. Cole got a verdict in his favor, for \$132 against 12 defendents, among them are A. Becker, E. Sherwood, J. M. Wilson, E. K. Weaver, Tracy, Fullam, Dryer, L. Strowger, Hipp, Cook.

July 11. News has just come from Wisconsin that A. Sherwood is dead there, gone out there to visit, took sick & died suden 10 dayds from home. He resided at Penfield, N. Y. His wife here is almost distracted in consequence.

July Sunday 15th. The funeral sercice of A. Sherwood who died suddenly a few days since a journey west was held this afternoon at Methodist Church in Penfield, C. L. Bown, preacher. There was full house present. Text: Job 14 Shall man "live again". The mercury was up to some 92 at mid day. Had a smart rain this afternoon between 4 & 5. I began papering my south room yesterday, it was the first room papering that I have done.

27.

July 20th. Cool & some rain today. For some few days back has been very warm. Mercury about 95 in shade and 110 in the sun. Son's wife came down from Bergen day before yesterday & will remain here till Monday. Expecting son Henry tomorrow. I made a deed today of the village house & lot that I sold by contract some 7 years ago. He has just paid for it \$550. & int. \$213.91 making a total of \$763.91.

Monday, July 23rd. This forenoon has been very rainy. Henry (my son) arrived from Bergen about 10 this forenoon, came by R. Road to Fairport, walked from there. Came the whole distance in about 3 hours. He will return tomorrow.

I partially sprained my right anle this morning & jambed my left foot last Friday so that both together make me something of an invalid just now, but am hobbling about & don't expect to be confined long.

August 4th. Jackson Martin expects to leave town the first of next week for Wisconsin to remain a length of time. Don't know how long, and has left with me the following notes & accts. for collection, which I am to account for on return when called for, to wit:

Sam'l Strowgers note date July 1st '55 for 2 months for \$121.

R. S. Staring noted dated 26 Apr. '55 \$365 & one for \$110 28 Aug.

E. R. Crippen note Feb. 15. '55 due 1 Oct. next

J. C. Rich note due in Dec. next

F. Gear note July 31 '55 due in 1 month for

James Coughlin's Bond due first Oct. next for

Total

475.

15.

4.

7.

45.

667.

Staring's 2 notes has been returned to Martin August 12 '55.

Sunday, August 19th. Cold this morning almost a frost. Our new Methodist preacher just from conference officiated today for the first time in this place. I should think that he is a fair speaker. He anunciates clearly & is tolerably fluent in his address. Myself & wife visited our Son Henry at Bergen last week. We went up Thursday 16th. Our daughter Lucy & her man J. Martin accompanied us on the cars. They continued along on their way to Wisconsin where she expects to spend some time at her Uncle Vankirks at Wakeehaw village. Son H. intends to go west next month in search of a residence. His brother-in-law Case goes for the same purpose.

Wednesday, Sept. 12, 1855. The Sunday School for the M. E. Church went to Webster today to join their school in a festival occasion. My family went. Some six several schools united on the occasion, which made a large gathering. They had a fine time of it & arrived home about dark.

Powder. The Powder Mill or works on Allen Creek in Brighton which is in sight of Penfield blew up this afternoon about 6 o'clock. There was four sharp explosions caused by the several shops or works. It had not been rebuilt long since the blow up on the 7th May last. This time there were no workmen killed for the reason that they had left off work. This is, I think, the 7th time that it had blew up since my knowledge of it and is believe it the sixth time within 7 years.

Sept. 17. My sister Ablenor Gilberts of Cato came today on a visit, also her son Moses with her. The son will return home tomorrow & Sister will remain a few days. I received a letter from our daughter Lucy today. She states from Wisconsin at her aunt Sarah Vankirk -- all well & that her aunt will start in a week on a visit to this state to her relatives.

Sat. Sept. 22nd 1855. I attended a county convention to organize in this (Monroe County) a new Political Party under the name Republican and which

28.

is destined to become a National party of the free states. The principal plank of its platform is opposition to Slavery & its extention. It is made up mostly from the old Whig party but it takes many from the Democratic party too. The Whig party which is now about down has been in existence since about the year 1834 - about 21 years, which is about as long as any party has lived in this state. This will be a remarkable year in the Political history of the U. States. The meeting today was numerously attended by delegates from all the towns in the county. G. W. Pratt, President, J. W. Stebbins & Cogswell were Secretaries.

Monday, Oct. 1st, 1855. Wet this morning. It was rainy during the night. I went with my Sister Gilberts to Railroad at Fairport. She leaves for home in Cato after a visit with us of two weeks.

We received a letter from our son Henry last week. He had just returned from the Illinois Country where he designs to remove to this month. He is engaged to go into the tinware business in company with his wife's brother N. Case. They are to establish at Fulton City, Whiteside County, Illinois, situated on the East & left bank of the River Mississippi, 134 miles directly west from Chicago.

The Republican State Convention met at Syracuse on the 6th Sept. & fully organized a state political party. At the same time & place the old Whig party disbanded & fused with the Republicans and made a state nomination of State officers which I think will be elected.

Oct. 11th. My uncle Thomas Kellog of Bloomfield made me a visit last night & left for home this morning. He has been a cripple in his hip caused by a fall about 5 or 6 years ago. He is in his 83rd year and is quite smart & intelligent. I have been making some repairs on our School House today. This morning was fair but before noon a rain storm came up, is cooler since.

Monday, Oct. 15, '55. My son Henry & wife left us this morning for Bergen today & tomorrow they leave there for their future home in Fulton, Northern Illinois, and it is uncertainty about our ever meeting in this life again. By the present Railroad rout the distance is supposed to be about 700 miles from Rochester, and the passage can be performed in about 2 days.

Oct. 16. Sarah Vankirk, my wife's youngest sister, who resides in Wisconsin, arrived here today on a visit. She has already made her visit to her friends in Niagara County and expects to leave here in a day or two for her home in company of her neighbor Mr. McCall.

Oct. 20th. A Republican political discussion held at the furnace hall this evening. J. W. Stebbins & Isaac Seely of Rochester were the speakers and Stebbins is engaged to speak at Lovets Corners again on the 30th inst.

Oct. 24th. I mailed \$1.65 for John H. Darling to the Montgomery Insurance Comp. Joseph Spruker (treasurer) and one dollar bill & 65 cents in postage stamps on account an assessment on his premium note for losses by fire.

Watson Purkins has sold his little place here and is a going to remove to Michigan next week and Gifford Fuller is agoing to take his place here having bought it, or rather they have made an exchange of places.

Oct. 26th. I have received this evening a letter from my son Henry who had just arrived at his new home in Illinois in safety & was preparing to commence business. His furniture & tools had not got along although they were forwarded some days before he started.

29.

Oct. 28th '55. It began to snow 25th afternoon and continued to snow for about a day & half & a part of the time it fell quite fast, but melted nearly as fast as it came. The weather was so cold as to freeze much, great quantities of Apple & potatoes were not gathered. It has been a wet & bad weather this Fall for getting the Fall crops.

Fire. The large barn & contents of F. Mattison in East Penfield was consumed by fire in the night of the 26th, loss estimated about \$2500. The fire is supposed to be the work of design by some unknown person, but suspicion rests on Alonzo Bettis (?), difficulty having existed between them.

Sat. Nov. 10th. I returned this evening from Bergen. I went up yesterday to settle some matters of our tin shop & business which was left by Henry. I went with horse & wagen to bring home some things. On my way up I called on my Cousin Vandevere in Ogden & dined with the family. Stopped about 2 hrs. Arrived at Bergen about 4 P.M. I put up with Dr. Andrews. I employed all my time in settling what I could until noon today when I started for home, leaving some notes and accounts with Ephrum Andrews to collect for me. I Had T. H. Woods horse to go with. I brought home some old traps such as tin ware, stove pipe, desk baskets & such like.

The result of the general election in this State has turned in favor of the Know Nothings as they are called or American party.

For a few days past it has been fair good business weather & the farmers are improving. it as the fall crops are not half secured yet, by reason of the bad weather. It is said that the potatoes rot is going on quite extensive in many sections. The market price now is 3/ per bushel for the best varieties. I have bought for that price.

Sunday, Dec. 2nd '55. This and 3 or 4 days just past has been fair good weather. The mercury stood at noon up to 55 degrees. Went to the city yesterday as witness for J. C. Rich. While there I deposited in Union Bank \$19 to the credit of I. H. Prescott for the Wayne County M. Insurance Company and shall send the certificate by mail to Newark. I received a letter from my son Henry of Fulton, Illinois says that he is doing good business in above & tin business. Sold \$500 in a month. The Widow Gifford has gone to Virginia to spend the winter with her daughter S_____ a few miles from Georgetown.

Dec. 15th The weather has been mild & good nearly all of this month so far & good part of the time it has been fair & pleasant, but one little flurry of snow just covered the ground. A. Cole & myself went to Henrietta today to see Mr. Durfee Chase to purchase some 20,000 apple roots for grafting. He was gone to the city to which place we followed & found him. He agreed to sell us the above amount and would delivery them in Pittsford in about two weeks from the R. Road. They are grown near Geneva. The price is \$5 per thousand at Pitts.

On my return home today Wm. Hammond called on me & paid me \$31.50 on his note & same time I returned to him a \$5 note on the Lewis County Bank which had failed more than a year ago & before I took it.

Christmas Dec. 25th '55. (Tuesday) The weather mild, the mercury ranges about 28 to 30 degrees. Began snowing last night about dark & at sunrise this morning the snow was about 5 inches deep. The roads are rough & frozen, so that the sleighing is not good although some sleighs are moving & some wagons. This month has been very open & most of the time it has been very pleasant & fair. There has not been but one little flurry of snow before this season & the indications are favorable for an open winter. Last Sunday Logan, Douglas & Watkins, colored men, were the speakers of an Anti-Slavery meeting held in the Brick Church in this village.

30.

Some mean scamp had previously put some obstructions in the above pipes, so that caused great smoke, the cause was discovered & removed in time for the meeting.

Sunday, Dec. 30th. The weather is cold & good sleighing since Christmas having been 3 or 4 flurries of snow since the night before Christmas. There is about 10 inches of snow now. Some days last week the mercury was as low as 7 degrees above & some strong winds.

Wm. Freeland of this village has exchanged his place here for city property with Mr. Osborn and he is agoing to break up housekeeping & will board out, has vended off his furniture last week. I think he has missed it in this operation. I bot of him a set of kitchen chairs for 6/-

Sunday, January 13th, 1856. This has been a stormy day. Began to snow last night and has continued about 24 hours. Only 10 persons were at the M. E. Church to day, by reason of severe snowstorm. It has been good sleighing since Christmas & most of that time it has been very cold, especially the 7, 8, & 9th January. The mercury fell 10 degrees below zero.

I have made Articles of agreement & dated the first of this month of a partnership with Alexander Cole to engage in the nursery business: and am preparing this winter & will set out grafts next spring. We propose to locate such nursery near Ingersol in Canada-West. On Friday evening of last week S. Strowger house took Fire but was extinguished, the damage I have heard said was about \$25. There were no wind at the time otherwise he must have been burned out. It is supposed to have been fired by stovepipe in some way.

Friday, Feb. 1, 1856. This is 27th anniversary of my marriage. Having expanded a wider life on Sunday the first day of Feb. 1829 and have no regrets to make in the matter, but have reason for gratulation. The weather at this time is much like that of '29 being extremely cold. We now have had four weeks of good sleighing & the prospect is favorable for a continuance of sleighing. We have not had any Jan. thaw this year.

Monday, Feb. 4th. The weather is very cold, the mercury is down to zero & last eve it was 3 degrees below.

Jackson Martin returned from the west last Saturday the 2nd where he went the 11th of August last accompanied by our daughter Lucy who has not come with him. I have not had an interview with him yet & he has not called on me, as it might be supposed that he would, under the circumstances in which he is placed.

I am procuring roots & acions for grafting fruit trees in comp. with Alex Cole. We intend starting a nursery in Canada next spring. We have got 40,000 roots on hand at a cost of \$5.50 per 1000 of I. Banker and acions will cost us from 8 to 12/- per 1000 & are scarce at that, in consequence of the many that are in the business.

Sunday, Feb. 25, '56. I spent last week in the city attending County Court as a jury man. The entire time of the court was spent in criminal causes & the court is expected to continue about two weeks longer. George Munger presiding. I get board with my old neighbor Ira Manns -- 2 or 3 days last week it thawed some, and the first thawing days we have had in about 9 or 10 weeks. We have had the longest cold weather that remember of having in this country in 40 years that I have been here.

Monday, March 10th. The mercury was 4 degrees below zero at sunrise this morning. So far this has been the coldest winter known in the memory of old inhabitants. I commenced my grafting last week. John King is my grafter & is a workman at it. I pay him 80 cents per 1000 & he pays for board. I do all the winding. He simply sets the grafts.

31.

March 11th. Some Show men or Mountebaks by the name Stuarts & called the Sebtt Brothers came here to exhibit their fooleries. Wm. Thomas & myself went into their Hall & demanded their License. They had none. We forbid their performance which disturbed them some. They sent their agent (Williams) to get a license of A. Hibie Esq. -- He gave a vital permit, When R. W. Southworth made anwritten complaint to Higbee in an hours after & Higbee refused to give a warrant, thereby making himself liable for indictment.

Monday, April 14, 1856. My brother Joseph Owen of Belvidere, Illinois came on a visit to me. He had made a visit to our sister in Auburn. He left for Canadaigua the 15th where his daughter lives. Son-in-law Wm. Purkins out with him. He intends visiting our brother Arminius in Michigan on his return home.

June 26th 1856. I wrote to Alex Cole in Canada where we have started a nursery this apring & I talk of selling to Cole my half; that my account of outlay & service in the enterprise amounted to \$461.00 but that I would sell to him for cash down \$450, or for \$500 in two equal annual payments secured by some responsible mans note on interests. Also I said that the furniture that he left me was not worth more than 2/3 the value he put on it, and that I wished him take it & apply it to my credit in the nursery busdunt.

Nov. 28, 1856. This evening Cole came to my house in Penfield & I made sale of my half of our nursery in Canada. I assigned to A. Cole my contract & received in consideration for my interest a promisory note for \$500 made by Daniel Harris of Canada and payable in two years. Also Cole gave me his note for \$72 due next June for private account between us. This Dan Harris has bot into the nursery with Cole & Cole says that he got of Harris \$2,000 for what I have sold for \$500.

The following record of my brother Armenius Owen's family is obtained of his wife Almira who is now at my house on a visit from Michigan where they have lived since 1834 and is on her way to Massachusetts to visit her friends. She will leave here tomorrow morning August 14, 1860 after spending 4 or 5 days with us.

Children of Armenius & Almira Owen

Almira	Aged 29	Married Norman Mabee
Lucida	27	Gilbert Allen
James A.	25	
Wm. Calvin	24	Died during war while on sick furlough 1864
Mary E.	22	Married Theodoro Allen
George W.	20	
Joseph F.	16	
Lucy Jane	15	
Charles Wesley	14	Married Belle J. Allen of Toledo
Caroline	12	
Henry Calvin	9	

My sister Phebe Hull left three children as follows:

George Hull

Rinaldo Hull - died at about 5 years old

Phebe Hull (2nd) born in year 1832 - Married Lorin Robinson.

He died & she has been a widow about 5 years & is now engaged as a teacher in Detroit seminary, August 1860

C. W. Owen

In different handwriting:

Dec. 5, 1913. A letter just received from Charles Wesley Owen, editor of the Quincy, Michigan Herald says that his mother Almyra Luich Owen died May 8, 1862 and his father Armenius died Oct. 1879. Father buried in Manchester, Michigan. Almyra lived in Toledo, Ohio, Lucinda died June 1911, Mary died in 1909, Lucy Mary (believe this should have been Lucy Jane) died in 1910. Caroline lives in Seattle, Washington, Joseph died at Toledo in 1888. George lives in Norfolk, Va. Other boys all dead.

Children of Charles W.:

1. A daughter Quincy $\frac{1}{2}$ twice married, now at home
2. Wilber Allen, Toledo - married
3. Charles Wesley, Toledo - " 1 son, 4 daughters
4. Iola Belle, Quincy - in college

The family of Nathaniel Owen (grandfather of C. W. Owen) lived and flourished about the time of the American Revolution, had a large family of children whose names follow below, are in their order as year as my knowledge goes.

The first six are correct without a doubt, and they lived in Sheffield, State of Massachusetts in 1775 (to wit)

Joseph, Samuel, Sally, William, Minor, Livicy, Nathaniel, Warren, Oladine, Orange, Ira & Henry. And at this time when I make this record (March 1854) the above named are all dead, my Uncle Minor above was the last died.

C. W. Owen

32.

Extra pages of miscellaneous items as follows: (see original
zeroxed copies for context)

Syracuse Insurance Co. Certificate dated May 26, 1856 made out
to C. W. Owen

Invitation to Donation Visit at residence of Rev. Thomas Bellamy
Tuesday, Dec. 24 (dated Dec. 19, 1850)

Invitation to Donation Party for Rev. Charles L. Bown, at the
house of Amos Sherwood, Tues., Dec. 20 (dated Dec. 6, 1853)

"No Nothing" Party - Preliminary Obligation

Questions

Final Pledge

Dated: Jan. 4, 1855 - Benjamin Howe

Argument against Bank Monopolies - 1844 C. W. Owen

have been taking & threatening all kinds cecession & desolution of the Union of the States. About the 18th Oct. last a John Brown & 17 others commenced a civil war on Slavery at Harpers Ferry in Virginia. He failed was taken, tried for murder & treason, was convited & hung on the 3rd of Dec. after & the others hung 16 Dec. 2 more yet to try now in jail.

1860 Feb. 4th. Today I was chosen a trustee of the M. E. Church in Penfield to hold three years turn. I have served in that capacity one or two turns heretofore, one of which was during the building of the church in 1842-3.

My wife was taken with accute Rheumatism the forepart of Winter which confined her to her room some weeks. I have treated her case with simple means & is recovering slowly, such this kind of ailment is slow to get over.

March 4th. About the time my wife began to move about house my son C. Wooster was attacked with accute Rheumatism, from exposure to cold & now has been confined to the room about 4 weeks, but is getting some better. Have not employed any Drug Doctor thus far.

March 7th, 1860. Married This evening my 2nd daughter Elisa Jane, to Wm. H. Dancy, Rev. C. L. Eown officiating. Dancy was born of English parents & is a common farm laborer & Poor but seems to possess some spirit & ambition, so there is hope that he will try to be & make something in the work in which he has just begun. How natural it is for us to be aspiring, for I confess that I should have been better pleased if she had made -- I forbear saying which I was going to -- for it is useless now.

June 24th, 1860. My son Henry's wife is now in town just come from Fulton, Illinois where they reside. She comes on a visit after an absence of four years and will not return home untill after the middle of Sept. In this time she will visit her Mother at New Hartford near Utica.

Sept. 10th, '60. My Brother's Armenius Owen of Michigan, his wife Almira, returned this evening from a visit to her relatives in Mass. She stoped with us 3 or 4 days befor she went East from Penfield. She was gone East some 4 weeks & while there she visited my two Brothers-in-law S. Pettee & H. Belcher. Brother Pettee resides in Sheffield & Brother Belcher in Salisbury, Conn. Belcher has engaged in farming business. His former business was Iron making & is called a Bloomer. His two sons (now 38 and 40) years old) continued with him. My sister-in-law leaves here for home in the west tomorrow morning.

Great Eclips, July 18th, 1860. This recuring Eclips I first time witnessed the 16th June 1806, I were then 8 years old. It was a gloomy affair in this lattude as it was a total darkness for several minutes. Astromimers tell us that this Eclipse occurs once in a little over 18 years & will occur twice more in that space of time, and then it will not appear again in 12400 years. May be so. The dark track, or total obscuration was in the northern regions and about Hudson Bay. A party of scientific men shiped in America & went north to see and to make scientific observations in regard to it.

Feb. 1st 1861. This day makes the 32nd anniversary of married life. I refer to it with a degree of satisfaction in reviewing the past; I have no regrets to make. We continue to reside in Penfield village in same house that we have occupied the last 6 years. My family health has been usually good since last spring. I have only 3 children living at home nc

my 2nd son C. Wooster commenced learning the tinners trade with E. Follet in Town of Ontario some 16 miles off in Nov. last. I will note here for future reference the fact that 7 of the Southern Gulf Slave States have by conventions ceded from the Federal Union, on account of Slavery. It causes great excitement & angry discussions through the Nation & there is no knowing what will be the result of it. One thing that has hastened this rupture in the South was the Election of a Republican President (A. Lincoln) & a northern man, last fall.

The members of congress from seceding states are withdrawing & gone home. They are trying to form a Southern Confederacy. The rebels are arming seizing all the federal property in their States.

The year 1860 may be reconed fruitful in nearly all kinds of agricultural products in the United States. It was especially so in western New York. The Fall was rather weter than usual, which made it bad in securing the Fall crops. Fruits were very plenty of nearly all kinds.

March 1, 1861. The winter season is gone & in this section we have not had much depth of snow at any time; and yet there has been a fair run of sleighing, much of it has been on sleet & ice making a hard bottom with a little snow occasionally made good slipping. The weather has been pretty steady cold; the most freezing point of thermometer here was about 18 or 20 degrees below zero & which is believed to have destroyed our Peach crop this season. It is said that when the Mercury in the thermometer falls 12 degrees below zero the Peach bud is destroyed or blasted.

March 28th My son-in-law Jackson Martin, from Illinois, came to me & stayed 2 days. He is going to Albany with cattle to market. He is in the droveing business in Illinois. He called on us on his return & stoped one night & left for home about 29th.

April 6th. My son Wooster went back to his trade to day after spending some 5 or 6 weeks at home, not having much shop business to do in the time. In regard to weather of the month of March, it has been cold, stormy & unpleasant. Report says that my neighbour J. B. Scovil has just got the appointment of Post Master for this Penfield village and most likely he has obtained it through our congressman, Mr. Alfred Ely. We have just bot a first class cook stove. Its name is "Good Samariton" have had in use about a week & like it so far. The fuel may be wood or cole, it cost \$25 without any kettles etc.

Sept. 1, 1861. As was intimated in March in regard to Peaches, there is an entire failure in Western N. Y. Very few cherries - no plums - no currants - half crop of Apples - grapes are tolerable fair - grain crops generly good - oats, abundant - Wheat is affected with weavil to some extent, it is the best crop that we have had in ten years on account of ravages of the weavil -- Corn is backward, if frost holds off it will be good.

The Civil War, which broke out last April on the part of the Southern Rebels, account of Slavery extention by the slave states, increases in magnitude daily. It is said there is some 400,000 soldiers on both sides now in the field. Several battles has been. The blloodest was on Sunday the 21st July at Bulls Run in Va., where some 3000 were slain on both sides. The Federal Government is making large preparation to subdue the rebellious states as soon as may be. It is sad times, but I believe there is a providence in this whole matter, and I moreover think that good will come out of it, for I believe that before the thing is done with, it will bring about the destruck-tion of the cause of the war, & that is Slavery.

January 1st, 1862. My family enjoying usual health. Only my two youngest children are living at home. Son Henry resides in Manchester 25 miles East of me, Lucy in Illinois, Jane a half mile off, C. Wooster continues

in Ontario, 16 miles distant learning tin trade, and Wilbur continues in city yet. How common and how soon families are separated in this world. Eight years since we had 9 in family and at this time we are reduced to 4. How sad the reflection, that in a very brief space of time we shall all pass off to another mode of existence. Very little snow has fallen yet this season. A week ago there was 2 or 3 days light sleighing, but is gone.

Sat. Feb. 1st, 1862. Another year of a married life has just closed, my 33rd year, and it may be useful to review the past, consider the ways of for our improvement. My family health is about as common; there has been many cases of measles in this village this winter.

The sleighing has been very good several days past. There is not more than 10 in. of snow, which makes fine sleiding.

The "Rebellion in the slave states continues as fierce as at any time. The union troop are preparing to make a fatal strike very soon from appearance. There was a late battle in Kentucky, resulting in favor of the union side. The Rebel general Zollo Coffey was killed by a Colonel Fry of Kentucky (about 500 killed on both sides.)

Feb. 6th. This day The Baptist Church in Penfield was dedicated the 3rd time since the house was first built. It was built at first in 1823 & located at "Breesees Corners", so called, about 5/8 mile East of main village. In 1839 the House was taken down & moved to its present site in the village and put up, the steeple modified, and the house made 10 ft. longer. The cost of moving & rearing & finishing in good stile is said to have cost about \$4000.

The third improvements was made during the past summer. Jacob Hardick was the contractor & builder. The whole inside was gutted & reversed the order of seat & pulpit. Have added a Lecture room in the rear 20 x 35 ft. & in good order. Excavated under house & put in 4 furnaces to warm the church. The whole cost of the improvement I understand to be \$3100. At time of dedication it was announced that the debt was provided for. They have a good & commodious audience Room.

Sunday, Feb. 1st, 1863. I now make my annual record which is the day on which I was married 34 years ago. I cannot realize the flight of time, as it does not seem half so long. Perhaps one reason is that it has passed quite pleasantly, no jarring elements has been thrown in way. Therefore I have no regrets in that direction. The family health has been usually good and the public health has been generally good, as far as I can learn.

Our Civil War continues as fierce as at first. Some of the most bloody battles ever fought have occurred during the year past. My oldest son Henry has been in the firing since last August, is in the 126 Reg't N.Y.S. Volunteers. My son-in-law Wm. Dancy enlisted & went in Sept. last in the 140 Reg't N. Y. Volunteers, for 3 years each. Son Henry was taken prisoner in Sept. at Harpers Ferry & immediately paroled but is now in the fire again, has been promoted to the 2 Lieutenancy, he went in as orderly. My Brother Armenius 4 sons in the Army from Michigan State.

Three children at home, Dancy's wife is one of them, in the absence of her husband. She has a young child. The other two are Harvey & Annette. Wilbur is in Rochester 8 miles, serving in a victualing house. Wooster is at Ontario 16 miles, work at the tinning business & Lucy is in Northern Illinois yet.

The year past has been a very fruitful one in all kinds of vegetable productions generally. Fruit of all kinds have been abundant. Apples & peaches never more so. Merchandise of nearly every kind has been steadily advancing in price. Cotton goods that two years ago sold for 10¢ per yard now sells for 50 cents & sugars have advanced one half in

in prices. Gold sells at a premium of 48 per ct. at this time & is still tending upwards.

Up to this time there has not been but very little snow this winter. The weather has been mild, very much like the winter of 1825. I reshingled the M. E. Church in this village last June. The former roof had been on 20 years. The roof is much too flat to endure long, the old shingles were much rotted in places & was getting quite leaky.

Penfield, Monroe County, N. Y. Feb. 20, 1863

Lilliputian Marriage

Have just been reading a newspaper account of the Marriage of Charles S. Stratton; more popularly known as General Tom Thumb, of Barnum notority. The wedding came off at Grace Church, New York City, on the 10th ult. in great splendor, attended by the official and Elite of the "upper crust". Tom is a native of Bridgeport, Conn. The Bride is Lovina Warren of Massachusetts. Tom is 25 years of age, is 22 inches high & weighs 33 pounds. Lovina is 21 years of age, 22 inches high & weighs 30 pounds. They are undoubtedly the smallest married couple on record. Tom is said to be Rich & traveled largely for his exhibition by Barnum, the great showman. The said couple is said to profess fair common intelligence.

Battle. The great battle of Gettysburgh in South Pennsylvania was fought the 1st, 2nd and 3 of July 1863 between Gen. Lee's rebel army & Gen. Mead of the Federal Army. There was about a 100,000 men in each army. The slaughter was horrible on both sides. The Rebels were beaten at all points and fled into Virginia.

My son Henry was in the battle & got a slight flesh wound on the left arm. His colonel & Capt. were killed & many others in same Reg't. the 126th N. Y. Henry obtained a furlough for 10 days & came home arriving in Penfield July 11th accompanied by his wife from Utica & remained till the 15th.

On Monday night 13th my sons Wooster from Ontario & Wilbur from Rochester came home on visit to their Brother Henry who had been gone in the army about a year. Henry is a first Lieutenant Comp. H, 126 Reg't & most likely he will be advanced to Captaincy at this time. 6 or my 7 children were at home & such a union of my family in all likelihood I shall never see again in this life as I am 65 years.

Feb. 1st, 1864. Another anniversary day of my married life has come and another year has passed pleasantly. My family has enjoyed general good health and have been prospered in our doings. My family is the same that it was a year ago. The ravages & desolation of Civil War continues with unabated severity. It is horrible to contemplate the loss of life & property.

Feb. 5, 1864 Today my son-in-law Dancy returned from the army, is discharged on account of poor health, having been palsied in his legs brot on no doubt from drugs given for fever by those army doctors who kill more men than bullets do.

May 20th '64. I have just learned by the newspaper that my Son H. B. Owen was instantly killed in Battle on the 10th inst. at Spotsylvania, Va. leading his company in a charge against the Rebels. He fell in the firing line & his men had not time to rescue his body at the time & they were repulsed so that his body could not be obtained at all, and we shall never know how or where he was buried. The Chaplain wrote that if his body could have been gotten, it would have been embalmed & sent home, but under the circumstances at the time, it could not be got from the enemy's lines.

Well, perhaps it matters but little where the boy lies, the immortal part is of the most important, and we hope it is well with him as he had lived a good moral & upright life. I understand that he was highly respected by the Regimental men & officers. He was a Captain of Comp. H, 126 Reg't. 3rd Brigade, 1st Division & 2nd Army Corps commanded by Major General Hancock, which Corps done the greatest fighting during the Campaign of 1864 under General Grant.

Robert Fulton of New York made the first Steam Boat & put it in operation in Aug. 1807.

Morse's Electric Telegraph was made public and put in operation in 1837, but was not fully established until about 1843 or 4. The nomination of J. K. Polk for President was sent from Baltimore to Washington 40 miles.

A Brief sketch of a Biographical Character & Military services of Capt. Henry B. Owen; a copy of which has been filed in the Bureau of Military Statistics, of the State of New York in Feb. 1865.

Henry Beecher Owen was born January 4th, 1830 half a mile south of the village of Penfield, Monroe County, N. Y. His parents & Grand Parents are Americans & of the New England stock, and are English decent. Henry's school days were spent in the village of Penfield; his school privileges were limited to the common public school system, but his application to study were such that he acquired a fair business education. At the age of about 17 years he was apprenticed to John P. Parson of Penfield to learn the tinners trade; after serving out his time at the trade; he sought a place for his business & opened a shop in the Town of Bergen about 18 miles west of the city of Rochester, N. Y. in the summer of 1850, where he continued business about four years.

Henry was married on the 4th Feb. 1852 to Miss Crissy Case at New Hartford near Utica at which place the bride was living with her Mother & Step Father Mr. Wilmot. Her previous residence or nativity was Penfield.

In the Fall of 1855 Henry closed business in Bergen and removed to Fulton City in Northern Illinois. This is on East bank of Mississippi River. Here he commenced business again in company with his Brother-in-law N. Case, and continued there until the spring of 1861 when he was solicited by C. Salsbury of Manchester, N. Y. who was engaged in a flourishing commercial business in that place; to leave the west and come back East and engage in business with him. He did so & continued in business about a year. At this time the great Southern rebellion was raging, and men & means were wanted & called for to put down the infernal rupture.

Before going into his military life, I will say some more of his civil. His married life has been, I believe, very agreeable. Harmony prevailed in all their domestic relations. They never have had any children.

His Grand Father Wm. Owen was a regular soldier three years in our Revolutionary War; and at its close in Dec. 1783 was honorably discharged by General Knox, and he arrived home to his Fathers in Sheffield, Mass. The day before he was twenty years old; he entered the service as private, and for correct soldierly conduct was chosen a sergent, which was at that time deemed as honorable as a Captain is in this times. For these services he obtained a Pension under the first act of Congress, passed in 1818 & which was continued to him till his death in 1833. Henry B. Owen's general character was without blemish. His morals were always of the first order, never using any profane or vulgar language.

He was associated with the "Sons of Temperance, Odd Fellows and Free Masons". At about the age of 18 he made a profession of Religion. He was honest & upright in his deals with men.

As above stated he was residing in the vicinity of Manchester, Ontario County, N. Y. at which place a volunteer camp was being raised for U.S. service & under the command of Capt. Oren J. Herendeen, Henry B. came to the conclusion that his country needed his services; when on or about the 10th of Aug. 1862 he enlisted in said company and immediately he was appointed first or orderly Sergeant. The Comp' was joined to the 126 Reg't. N. Y. S. Volunteers which was raised in Wayne & Ontario Counties & organized at Geneva and put under the command of Col. Elikam Smith. The said comp' was M. H. (?) On or about the 22nd of August 1862 the Reg't left Geneva for the field on the Potomac and they arrived at Harpers Ferry in the course of 4 days. There they came under the command of that drunken & believe to be traitorous Col. Miles of Bulls Run battle notoriety. In the Battle of Harpers Ferry on the 14 & 15th following the 126 Reg't was engaged. Henry & his comp' was in a rifle pit from Saturday night till Monday morn, when Col. Miles ordered a surrender. Henry's 2nd Lieut. & a private was killed at his side by an unexploded shell, if it had bursted Henry & many others would most likely have been killed.

After the surrender was ordered, but before the Rebels stoped firing, a Rebel shot hot the traitor Miles, giving a mortal wound of which he died in a few hours.

All the senior soldiers were immediately Paroled, and sent to Camp Douglass at Chicago, Illinois; where they continued till about Dec. following; when they were exch. and sent to the front again. They were camped near Union Mills in Virginia and were put under the command of General Hientselman during the winter of '62 & 3. Their principle duty during the winter was Picket guarding; the location at that time was deemed a rather perilous one on account the gurrilles. The 2nd Lieut' being killed as before stated, Henry B. was advanced to that office by commission bearing date Nov. 24th, 1862; and soon after the first Lieut' died, when Henry B. was again advanced to fill that vacancy, which commission is dated March 24th, 1863. The campaign opened in the spring of '63 with the Battle of Chancellerville in which the union army withdrew to the north of the Rappahannah river & then came the rush of the Rebel Army to the North invading Maryland & Pennsylvania when our army made the famous three days forced march which kept between our Capital & the Rebel army. General Hooper & Mead led our army & R. E. Lee the Rebel, the two continuing forces met at Gettysburgh in Penn' and fought a dreadful battle. The Rebels were beaten & driven back to Virginia greatly demoralized. The Battle was continued three days on the 1, 2, & 3 of July 1863.

In this Battle the 126 Reg't took a prominent part & many of them were killed & wounded; among the killed was their Col. Sherill and Capt. Herendeen of Comp. H and Lieut. Owen was wounded by a rifle ball on the left arm, and soon after the battle Henry obtained a furlough & came home to recruit & visit.

On his return to the field new responsibilities devolved upon him as a commandent of his company, and which was faithfully performed; and to the satisfaction of his men, for in good time they made choice of him for their Captain and in due time was commissioned, which bears date Oct. 7th, 1863. As before stated, the Rebels fled back to Virginia persued by the union army to the Rapidan River where they entrenched. Several skirmishes came off before reaching that point, in which

Henry's company bore a part, especially about Bristo Station in Culpepper County. Our army took position on the Rappahannah river a few miles north of the Rebels and here the two armies stood face to face during the winter of '63 & '64. About the first of May General Grant having come in command of the Potomac army, once having reorganized it during the winter, the 126 Reg't was put into the 2nd Corps and under the command of General Hancock. The necessary preparations being made, the Union Army broke camp about the first of May '64, crossed the Rapid Ann River and pitched into Rebels lines and then commenced a series of Battles of the most bloody character, and continued from day to day for weeks together. It was in the hard battle on the 10th of May that Capt. H. B. Owen fell, killed by a Rifle ball, having passed through the hard battles of which is the wilderness & had got on the banks of the River Po. near Spotsylvania in Virginia. Capt. Owen fell within the enemy lines, and his company being hard pressed at the time he fell, his men had only time to get his watch, sword and pocketbook and left his body, which has never been obtained, and it is not known what disposition had been made of it.

At the time of his death Captain Owen was $34\frac{1}{2}$ years of age. On the 8th day of Nov. 1864 his wife caused grave stones to his memory to be set up in the first grave yard in Penfield, N. Y. with following inscription.

"My husband Capt. Henry B. Owen, was killed in the
Battle of Wilderness, Va. May 10, 1864 at 34 years."
"He gave his life to His Country".

* * * * *

Rebellion

The great Southern Rebellion virtually closed the 8th April 1865 when the Rebels under General Robert Lee surrendered to General Grant in Virginia, and in a few days later other Rebel armies surrendered, one after the other. The rebel president Jef' David fled from City of Richmond, was persued by union soldiers & captured in Georgia, brot to Fort Monroe & confined, with some of his cabinet officers. The Rebellion continued four years; and such a destructive war of Life & property was never known. And it all grew out of Slavery, and was begun by the southern states; eleven of which ceded from the union. But they lost all. Slavery ended with the war.

Abraham Lincoln was President during the war, and was assassinated by Booth in the evening of the 14 April 1865, while attending a theater in Washington City -- the nation mourned his loss, he was the next Best to General Washington.

* * * * *

Burned

The great wooden Rail Road Birdge over the Genesee River at Portage was entirely burned up in the early morn of May 6th, 1875. It was supposed to be fired by a spark from a passing train about one o'clock. The Bridge was built about 1850. It was 800 ft. long & 234 feet high from the bed of the River and cost \$175,000; was the greatest wooden bridge in the world.

Friday, Feb. 1, 1867. It will be seen that I have not made any family record in some years through careless neglect. This day being my

38th anniversary day of wedded life, I refer to it with a degree of pleasure, while many look back to that day of marriage with regret. With me it is otherwise; to me it has been a source of much happiness. Myself & family have enjoyed good general health the last 2 or 3 years. My wife has at times experienced some Rheumatic symptoms but not to confine her. We have now but one child living at home for a year or two. Harvey, the youngest son having been employed on the Street Rail road cars in Rochester during the time but he has quit that business and is at home this winter and going to School at the Seminary here in Penfield. Harlan P. Gage is the teacher & is from New Hampshire State.

My children are located as follows: Lucy A. Martin in Fulton, Illinois where she has been the ten years past. Wooster in Ontario as usual. Wilbur's married in Oct. of 1865 Mary and went west to State of Iowa where he now resides and is employed as ticket agent on a Railroad there. Daughter Jany Dancy was in the City of Rochester, Harvey & Annette is home which makes the 6 living. The widow of my son Henry was married again last October to Charles Thurston of Montpelier, Vt.

I reside in Penfield, N. Y. & same dwelling that we have occupied 12 years past.

The infirmities common to old age are creeping on me. Am now 68½ years of age. For a few days we have had a large fall of snow & last month Jan. has been a cold month unusually so.

The last season was a poor fruit season. I have not known apples so poor & few in 50 years. There were some Peaches & plums -- grapes were cut by frost in spring & caused a failure.

Jan. 1st, 1868. Through the indulgent & goodness of our Heavenly Father I am yet living & enjoying a measure of comfortable health; also my family health is generally good. My two youngest children have been with me the past year. Harvey clerked it in a grocery store of E. Bardwell a few months the past summer but is attending school this winter at Seminary. My daughter Lucy continues to reside in Fulton, Ill. and Jane is in Rochester. Her husband is employed on the N. York Rail Road. Son Wilbur who want to Iowa to live returned to Rochester last Spril & engaged on the Street Rail Cars as a conductor. Son Wooster continues in town of Ontario, New York in the tin business & is much respected the e for his steady, temperate & industrious habits. He built him a new & good shop last summer which cost about \$900, finishing the uper part for a dwelling. The large Stone grist Mill of Mr. Livingston in this village has been changed the past year into a Paper Mill. The material is straw of which the paper is made & is used for news paper printing. It commenced operation in Oct. last & are a doing a large business. The last fall has been the dryest that has been since I came into this county 52 years, a large number of the wells entirely failed of water. The paper mill was all burned up in evening 17 Oct. 1868. It was running at the time. Loss some \$60,000.

Penfield, N. Y. Dec. 25th, 1869. By the goodness of our Heavenly Father I enjoy life & comfortable health. My children & family health has been usually good since the last & above record was made & their several residences are the same as last mentioned.

We had a family gathering today at my Son Wilbur in City of Rochester. Children all present except our oldest daughter who resides in Illinois. We had a social pleasant time & returned home 8 miles by night. Son Harvey was home from Lima school during vacation. Our youngest daughter Annette is the only child residing at home. I was seriously afflicted early last Spring with Sciatic Rheumatism which keeps me confined some 2 months. The 6th of Oct. I sprained my ankle, which has kept me in the house most of the time since.

Feb. 1st 1870 Another anniversary day of my wedding life has come and it seems a proper period for reflection of the flight of time & which I can't realise that 41 years has passed of wedded life, but so it is. I could not wish to have the relation been otherwise & of course I have no regrets on that score. By referring to back page see about how our children are scattered. Self & wife are enjoying comfortable general health. There has been about 7 days of rather light sleighing thus far this winter but it has been good wheeling much of the time.

Thursday, Feb. 17 Today the M. E. Church of Penfield has been re-dedicated. The sermon by the Rev. F. G. Hibbard, D. D. The weather was fine and the house was crowded with hearers. This church was built in 1842 & 3, is good stile & finish, but at this time our circulating Preachers who are as much for keeping in the fashion & changes of the times, moved for remodeling & enlarging the house; set to work to have it done & our preacher in charge Rev. A. S. Baker commenced & got some \$4000. subscribed about the last of Sept. and made contracts for the work about the first of October. Bought an addition to the old lot of John Weaver and had the house moved some more than its width to be central & had a new Lecture Room built connected in the Rear. Put in Steam boiler for warming the house, that cost \$750. The audience Room made 12 ft. longer, old gallery taken out & an orchestra made in its place, repainted outside & in -- seats all cussioned & all quite nice & pleasant. Son Harvey came home from school at Lima to witness the performance. Daughter Annette was not at home as was expected, from Brighton.

Friday, 18th Feb. Rainy in the morning early, but it began to snow fall at 7 o'clock. Continued to snow hard all day & drifted some. The first snow of much consequence this winter thus far. Son Harvey returned to Lima today in the storm on wheelers. Had a bad time of it.

Another year has passed since my last record & I am yet on the stage of active life, enjoying tolerable good health of one of 72½ years. I find the infirmities consequent on age are upon me. This is Sunday, Feb. 5th, 1871, and would here acknowledge the goodness & the many blessings & mercies received during the past year and would offer thanks & praise to our Heavenly Father for these benefits. My wife enjoys tolerable health, but is afflicted with Rheumatic & Nervous affliction. I am loosing the sight of one eye, is supposed to be of the nerve.

My family relations continue about the same as has been for 2 or 3 years. Our daughter Annette only at home. Son Harvey continues at Lima Seminary School & is very studious making good progress. Son Wilbur continues work in Rochester on Street Rail cars at \$12 per week. He has bought a house on Fitzhugh St. & made improvement. I worked for him about two months last May & June on the house. Son Wooster the tinner continues business in Town of Ontario and has been there about ten years. The general health in this section has been good the past year. The various farm crops have been quite good, fruit never more abundant; particularly of apples & grapes.

There has been a suicide in this town (Penfield) the past year, first was Frank Bryan by Poison, George Mullener by Poison, Wm. Worthing by hanging & John Weaver cut his throat. Three of them occurred on Sundays, the first was in Feb. & last one the 20th Nov.

Up to this time we have not had but little snow. Ground is bare now. Several deaths have been in town last year which may be found

recorded in another book where I keep deaths & marriages.

Orrissa, our former daughter-in-law Son Henry's wife, is now with us on a visit from Vermont, is well & hearty as a buck. The last 6 months has been an awful time of slaughter of men in battle between the French & Prussians. France made war first & they have been dreadfully whipped. The report has just come that the City of Paris has capitulated after a Bombardment of several weeks. Their Emperor Napolian is a prisoner, an armistice for 3 weeks is settled & most likely peace will be the result.

Thursday, Feb. 1st 1872. This being the 43rd anniversary day of my wedded life, it seems fitting that a review of the past is appropriate. I have abundant reason for thankfulness to our Heavenly Father for life, tolerable good health & multiple blessings & bounties that have been bestowed on us. Myself & wife enjoy comfortable health with quietness & peace. Our family circle continues the same as years in the past. My brother-in-law Henry Belcher of Salisbury, Conn. died in Jan. last age 76 years. Our daughter Annette is the only child now with me. Son Harvey is attending a course of Studies in the Syracuse, N. Y. University having graduated from the General Seminary at Lima in July last & at the first opening of the University 28th of August.

My son Wooster of Ontario enlarged his store & shop last summer. I assisted in the joiner work about six weeks.

Saturday, Feb. 1, 1873. Another year of wedded life 44 has come and gone & on such occasions it is well to review the past and as to Social conditions of life, I have nothing to complain of, and very thankful that I have enjoyed so much of health. I find infirmities consequent on age are coming on me, am much more feeble than a year ago, partly by reason of a slight stroke of Palsey on the 12th of Sept. last, renders me feble in the limbs & my articulation is much affected.

My wife has her usual health, being somewhat affected with Rheumatic pains. Our children are same as last year. Lucy in Illinois, Son Wooster in Town of Ontario, doing same as last year at Tin Smith. Son Wilbur in Rochester & Bookkeeping for Howe Sewing Machine office at \$60 per month. Daughter Jane Dancy lives next door to me, since last May. Her husband is to work on Rail Road now 6 years since. Son Harvey is Syracuse University in his 2nd year. Annette is at home most of the time.

The winter weather thus far has been much of the time very cold & is thought the Peach bud is destroyed for fruiting.

Sunday, Feb. 1, 1874. Another year of my life closes. 45 of my married life; and in the review I see nothing to report having enjoyed my usual amount of health, though somewhat affected with the kidney ail. which has troubled me a number of years. My wife enjoys about her usual health, being somewhat nervous and some neuralgia, which is very fashionable and popular ailing in these times.

Our children are all gone to set up for themselves, 4 of them are now residing in the city of Rochester, two have married in the year. Our youngest daughter was married the _____ of last Feb. and son Wooster 18th Dec. in Ontario where he has lived some 13 years and is engaged in the tin business. Son Harvey is in the University of Rochester this school year and is the 3rd year of college life. W. Dancy, my son-in-law built himself last summer a new house in Rochester on Channing St. in the Northeast part of the city.

Weather cold and a light snow on the ground. The winter has been open thus far; had but little sleighing and not generally very cold so far. The past season was generly productive of crops in the

fruit line, Peaches were cut off, apples was a short crop. Other fruits were a plenty.

Henry Baker, my son-in-law, started from Rochester two days ago for Michigan to secure his bounty land & begin a dwelling house. His lot was located last summer by an agent. It is a new county lately named Roscommon & town same name and is 90 miles west of Saginaw.

Sunday 22nd Feb.

Baker has just returned; his wife stayed with me in Penfield some two weeks.

Tuesday, 24th They have just gone to their home in the city; the weather today is pleasant, was very windy yesterday.

Feb. 18th, '74. Was notable day in the afternoon in Rochester City in the exhibition of their new water works used in _____ fires. It is constructed in the Holly manner & did throw a 5" stream of water 250 ft. high perpendicular and it was a complete success.

My son C. Wooster was married the 18th of last Dec. to Emma Feroster (?) in the Town of Ontarios sum 15 miles from Penfield. She is of English parentage & aged 22, my son 32½ years. From what I seen of her after an acquaintance of a week, I should think her a good & kind housewife, was brought up a farmer's daughter & used to labor.

Penfield, March 1st, 1874 A very remarkable occurance has happened in Rochester City this afternoon. A cattle train on the R. Road was nearing the bridge over the Genesee River it was seen that one of the cars containing 17 head of cattle rumbling along by reason of one wheel was broken & while on the bridge the car broke loose from the others and fell into the river. The cattle were soon let out into the water, some 3 ft. deep & shores are such by reason of walls, they could not be got out. The Company sold them in a lump sale for \$250 to some bucher. Ropes was fasted on them & pulled into the main strong current & floated over the Falls some 90 ft. high & taken out below. Five came out alive. It was supposed that some 12,000 lookers on were present, alarger crowd than when "Sam Patch" jumped off the falls on the 13th Nov. 1829 which proved to be his last jump.

July 12, 1874. This is the 76th birth day of C. W. Owen, whose general health is good excepting some lameness of the back which has troubled me for many years. I don't know which is the cause, in the spine, or the kidney -- can do some light work at my trade (joiner) have done some \$50 worth in season. My wife is 65 & also enjoys comfortable health. Our children have all left for themselves. Our Son Wilbur, wife & children came yesterday for a short visit of 24 hours. He lives in city of Rochester 8 miles distant.

August 30th Myself & wife returned home yesterday from a visit to our son C. Wooster of Ontario, made an 8 days visit. Weather very dry; vegetation suffering for want of rain.

Dec. 1st, '74. The weather of the last month has been very fine & good for farm work not much rain & was very dry.

Feb. 1st, 1875. I am priviliged with life & health to record another anniversary of married life, being the 46th. Myself & wife are in good common health for aged people. Children all married & left us. The last one married was Son Harvey last Nov. who is now employed in the Ministry of the M. E. Church. He gained Conference last Sept. & stationed at East Henrietta, N. Y. He will graduate from the Rochester University next June. Our children are living & doing much the same as

University of Rochester.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL

COMMENCEMENT.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1875,

CORINTHIAN HALL, 9:50 A. M.

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Class of 1875.

Candidates for the Degree of A. B.

GEO. ALLEN,
FRED. CARMAN,
J. SLOAT FASSETT,
WM. S. GILBERT, JR.,
MARCUS HIRSHFIELD,
NELSON C. HOLT,
J. WEED MUNRO,
HARVEY J. OWEN,
FRANK H. ROWLEY,
WM. S. STICKNEY,
JAMES W. WHITE,

JULIUS A. BASSETT,
HENRY A. DUNOG,
SPENCER H. FREEMAN,
ADDISON GILMORE,
L. ENNETT HOLT,
A. FRANK JENES,
THEODORE OUTWATER,
GARNETT PENDLETON,
GEORGE R. STEARNS,
FRANCIS R. WELLER,
FRED. W. YOUNG.

Candidates for the Degree of B. S.

HIRSH D. HUNLBURT.*

GEORGE L. ORDWAY.

Committee of Award for the Davis Prize Medals.

THE REV. S. S. CUTTING, D. D.,

CHARLES E. FITCH, ESQ.

C. P. MERRINAN, ESQ.

*Deceased.

E. W. Owen & wife were prize.

146

ROCHESTER UNIVERSITY.

25th ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES 1875
 The twenty-fifth annual commencement exercises occurred this morning. The members of the Alumni, the officers of the University, and the graduates, formed in procession at the Second Baptist Church, and marched, headed by HADLEY'S Band, to Corinthian Hall, reaching there shortly after half-past 9 o'clock. The Committee of Award for the Davis Prize Medal, consisted of Rev. S. S. CURTIS, D. D., CHARLES S. FITCH, Esq., and C. C. HUNTERMAN, Esq.

A large audience filled the Hall and the exercises were opened by prayer, by Rev. Dr. CHARLES DEWITT BRIDGEMAN, of Albany.

After music by HADLEY'S Band Dr. ANDERSON called the first speaker, HARVEY JAMES OWEN, of Penfield, whose subject was "The Elements of Power in Mohammedanism." After speaking of its large numbers, and powers, he said that one reason of its great power was in its adaptation to the Eastern mind; and the unquestioning doubt of the Mohammedan worshiper in the Koran. The address was very substantial in nature, and remarkably correct. The vitality of Mohammedanism was greatly due, he said, to the great truths which Mohammed borrowed from purer times.

Mr. OWEN has a good delivery, and really deserved the hearty applause which greeted him at the conclusion of his address.

Class of 1875

last year/ The harvests & fruits of the past year has been abundant; financially it has been dull times for manufacturers & trade.

Monday 12th July 1875. I am again privileged to record another natal day making the 77th and am enjoying tolerable good health for one at my age. My wife has been unwell a few days from torpidity of the kidneys.

My son-in-law H. Baker bought & engaged in running the mail stage from Penfield to Rochester City 8 miles. Began the 18 May last. He moved in and boards with me as one family. Jesse Dancy died last Saturday of cancer in the stomach & is buried today at Fairport. Weather is fair & very pleasant.

Feb. 1, 1876. This day being blest with comfortable health am enabled to record the entrance to the 47th year of weded life. My dear wife is quite active & laborious. My daughter Jane E. Dancy died last September & interred in Penfield Cemetary. She leaves 4 young children, the youngest about 6 years old. Her age was 39-1/3 years. My other 5 children remain the same as mentioned heretofore.

This winter thus far has been remarkable mild open weather. Have been only a very few inches of snow, not though for sleighing. My daughter Annette has been very sick with fever ten weeks & is now must ageting about again.

Oct. 10, '76. Fire About 11 o'clock last night a fire broke out in the basement of the Town Hall (Penfield). Another large Hotel adjoining & Wallace Hipps grocery were burned & J. B. Scovil shop was town down to save Jones Brick Store. Whole loss some \$7 or \$8000.

Feb. 1st, 1877. This day is the 48th day of my married life. In reviewing my life scenes I cannot see anything to regret. I have been blest with comfortable health, also my wife has had good health most of the time. For a few days just at this time she is laboring under a cold which I hope to throw off. Our youngest daughter & husband (Baker) lives with us yet. He runs the stage to the city. Son Harvey is stationed at Alexander, Genesee Co. this year. Our other children continued as heretofore noted. This winter thus far had been very hard for snow storms. We have had about 3 ft. deep snow; and sleighing since about first of December. The last season was very fruitful. The potato crop was poor, by reason of the Bug destruction of the tops.

Sept. 21, 1877. The season has been favorable for crops. All kinds are good as to grain. No frosts in this section yet. The apple crop is short, but other kinds of fruit is good. The potatoes is fair crop. They sell for 35 cents a bushel. Last spring potatoes sold for 11/ per bushel.

My wife's brother Orvin Beebe of Wilson Niagara County made us a visit last week.

My right shoulder is becoming stiff so that I find it difficult to write.

Jan. 1, 1878. My shoulder continues to stiffen and a slight tremor of the hand is percepable.

Feb. 1, 1878. This day 49 years ago I was married at the age of 31 past and have enjoyed the association and no regrets to make. One more year if life should continue will make our "Golden Weding" but we surity of life, especially at my age (79½) years. My health & wife is quite good for which reason am thankful. We have had but very little snow this winter untill to day. Yesterday & last night there fell some 16 ins. November & Dec. was warm for the reason. Our daughter Annette & family lives in the house with me, seperate rooms.

1878 May 1 Waihave had a remarkable mild soft winter & spring weather. It is about as the spring of 1834. Apple trees to day are in full bloom. The season is full two weeks early than common. I have just bought a ready made frock coat & a pare of pants, and in all probability will be the last that I shall ever need, as age 80 years can't expect to.

Weather, May 14th. In 1834 or just 44 years ago, we had frost and snow some 12 in. deep & make lively sleiding during the day. Saw logs was hauled to the mill and to day we have had 3 frosty mornings - don't know yet how much damage is done.

1879 Jan. 1st. Pleasant day fair; good sleighing. Watch-night was held at the Methodist Church last night. The quires location in the church was changed yesterday from the front to the North side of the Desk. Last Aug't self & wife visited our Son Harvey in Town of Walworth, and went from there to Son Wooster in Ontario. Was about 10 days -- And in Oct. last went on a visit to Newfane in Niagara County, among my wife's brothers & sisters. Went & returned by Railway. Had good time, absent 10 days. Apple crop very abundant. Cider makers bought apples for 8 cts. a bushel & sold cider for a dollar a barrel; being less than has been for many years. Farm crops good and abundant except potatoes. They have been damaged by the Bug very much -- I find my arm & hand grows worse for me to hold the pen to write.

1879 Feb. 1st. This day is the fiftieth anniversary of my Marriage. We had a family reunion of 4 of 5 living children with wives and grand children. 11 grand children pr sent, had a good visit. Son Wooster resides in town of Ontario, Wilbur in Rochester, Harvey in Walworth; Annette in a part of my house.

1879 Feb. 1st. My cousin Orange Owen of Rochester I have found to be a dishonest raskal aknave taking advantage where ever he can; I don't believe he has an honest hair in his head.

I went in to help him in his trouble with his wife. She got a divorce from him. I advanced money for his benefit between \$3000 & \$4000; took a deed of some city lots for security and let him have the possession for 21 years, beginning in 1855.

Last July I commenced a suit in the Supreme Court for the possession the whole property is worth \$5000. He would fight it through to the last end, perhaps 3 or 4 years and I being old, over 80, it was thought best to compromise at this date. I yield him 3 lots & keep 4 lots. The whole 7 lots would not pay me with interest for 21 years. He has had the whole use of lots all the time. I deed to him the above date. No doubt but what I should win but would cost 3 or 4 hundred dollars & be without the use in all that time; and my life is uncertain must get my evidence in or lose all.

1879 May 17th. My wife's niece Miss Ella Clement of Newfane, Orleans Co. has just started home aftervisiting us one week -- the first time she had visited us, she seems to be a good girl 25 years old.

Moses Gilberts, son of half sister Ablenor O. Gilberts of Town of Cato, Cayuga Co., N. Y. made me short visit of one day on Aug. 22-3, 1879. He is in his 62 year old.

Sister Louise Clement of Newfane, Niagara Co., N. Y. visited at Penfield in June 1880.

On or about the middle of Oct. 1879 I was taken with the accute Rheumatism in my Hip & lower back bone called lumber regions & was very painful part of time. I have been confined to my room now the 15th January some 12 weeks; and 11 weeks on crouches to get to bed in _____;

Am still confined to the house. Don't know but when I shall be able to get out, my age $81\frac{1}{2}$ is against my recovery very soon; -- my wife's health as good as usual.

1880 Feb. 1. This is my wedding day of 51 years this evening & feel the need of help more than ever in my helpless condition. See the above paragraph. The arm no better & having more pain than at any time.

July 12th, 1880 This day I am 82 and have not fully recovered from my sickness as noted above; my lower joints are weak yet that I can't walk, can hitch around in my arm chair; have been confined to room 9 months; have had the ciatica and niuralgia or nerve ack. Life was dispered off at one time. The Dr. made 135 visits. Don't know yet what his charges will be.

Feb. 1st, 1881. This day begins the 52nd year of my marriage & I am $82\text{-}3\frac{1}{4}$ years of age. am yet confined to the house. Gaining health & strength very slow. My son Wooster & wife visited us 3 days ago from Ontario Town, 15 miles off in Wayne Co.

Doctor Tannir New York fasted 40 days last year & lived after it; and Miss Duel of Iowa City fasted 47 days & died. She had not spoken in 2 or 3 years.

Another man in Checaugo fasted 46 days in 1881.

Saturday, July 2, 1881. The President James Garfield was shot by Charles Guitane in forencor. at the Maryland & Potomac Depot some 9 miles from Washington. The bullet remains in his body, 16 days ago. The President is likely to recover & live & if he lives the assasin will be imprisoned 10 years; if he dies the assasin will hang. Great simpathe is expressed for the president by the people generly.

Sept. 19, '81. President Garfield died this day & taken to Cleveland for burial.

Jan. 1882. Guitan has just had trial in Washington & found guilty of Murder & to be hung next June. Was hung 30 June 1882.

1883 Feb. Sunday 18. Rather mild weather 3 or 4 of former days been thawing. The Mercury stood 15 degrees; snow on ground was light & water;

Feb. 1, 1882 This day is the 53rd year of my marriage. For the last two years or more I have been out of health, and am now an invalid, or cripple. Have incured a large Doctors bill; my wife has done the chores in the time; had nothing to feed but ourselves; wife has been generly well. She has served me well & faithful. No snow at this date and the weather is rather mild.

Two murders have occured in this county this summer. Both have tried and both sent to prison for life; one named Hincly; the other was Fredric A. Duchman; Hincly was Irish nearly 70 years old.

Feb. 1, 1883 54 years have passed since my marriage day with Clarissa Beebe. At that time I was $31\frac{1}{2}$ years old and my wife was $20\frac{1}{2}$ old so that I was 11 years older. I have no reason to complain of that act; she has born 9 children; 4 of them have died; as far as I know 5 are living to day, all married and making a home for themselves, from 8 to 300 miles apart from me. My youngest daughter lives in a part of my house. I am now some over $84\frac{1}{2}$ years & find that my labors are about done. Some over 3 years ago was taken with Neuralge in my hip, which rendered me an invalid ever since.

Feb. 4, Tuesday. Rather pleasant after a cold night. I am more unwell today, having a nervous prostration in my left side; can't read good.

12 Feb. 1883. I am so palsied. Very help-
less. Have to have support of some kind to walk the floor; my hand
trembles so that I can't write intelligent as you see here.

15 Feb. Palsied. 6th this month am crippled for life I fancy. Am
invalid for life; our grandchildren as follows:

At this date:

Lucy A. Martin	3 living	2 dead
Jane Dancy	4	
Wooster Owen	2	
Wilbur F. Owen	6	
Harvey Owen	1	1
Annette Baker	3	1
	<u>19</u>	<u>4</u>

C. W. Owen died March 8, 1883

STATE OF NEW YORK.

BUREAU OF MILITARY STATISTICS,

173 STATE STREET,

Albany, May 27th 1864

DEAR SIR:

The Bureau of Military Statistics established by the Legislature is now engaged in collecting for preservation a personal and statistical history of the services rendered by the Volunteer Regiments of this State in the present War.

It is proposed to obtain a full biography of every commissioned officer that has entered the service from this State, to be preserved as a permanent record in the Archives of this Bureau. That these biographies may be full and authentic, I desire to place the subject of each in the hands of some person competent, from personal acquaintance or otherwise, to furnish a just and complete record, together with such conclusions as may be drawn from the career of the individual.

Permit me to ask, therefore, if you will write for this purpose a biographical sketch of

the late Capt. Henry B. Owen

This sketch should embrace his full name; time and place of birth; names and nationality of parents; whether married or single, and if the former, the name of wife prior to marriage; names of children; degree of education; residences and occupations prior to entering the military service; offices, civil or military, previously held; personal description, and a complete account of his military services, together with such other remarks as you may be pleased to add.

The length of the sketch is left entirely at the option of the writer. "Form B," enclosed, may be used if preferred.

If in your possession, or readily obtainable by you, you are also requested to furnish a *photographic or other portrait* (3 x 4 inches size desirable), together with any *newspaper articles, pamphlets, or memorial volumes* referring to his career.

It is desirable that the biographical sketch be prepared with as little delay as possible, and forwarded to this office.

The Legislature having made no appropriation for that purpose, it is impossible to offer or promise any compensation for the service asked at your hands; but I shall esteem any labor that you may perform in this matter as a contribution to an object in which every citizen of the State should feel a deep interest.

Should the Legislature hereafter authorize the publication of the data now being collected, some revision may be deemed necessary, with a view to render the sketches furnished uniform and consistent with the plan then adopted, but the authorship of the sketch will be stated, and the original paper, in all cases, will be carefully preserved.

Will you have the kindness to answer this circular, indicating your willingness to perform the task requested, or, if you find it necessary to decline, place the papers enclosed directly in the hands of some friend of the person named above.

With much respect, your obedient servant,

To Calvin W. Owen, Esq.

Penfield, N.Y.

Lockwood L. Doty

Chief of Bureau.

*In accordance to the above I wrote the following sketch of
my son, and sent a copy to the above office*

On the Death of Henry B. Owen

At a regular communication of the Fulton City Lodge, No 189 A.F. & A.M. held a their Fall Meeting, 18th 1864

The Committee appointed in regard to the death of Mrs Henry B. Owen reported as follows

Resolved. That in Memory of our departed worthy Bro the members of this Lodge wear the usual Masonic badge of mourning for thirty days and that the Lodge room be draped in mourning the same length of time Resolved. That we tender our heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved wife of our departed Bro and to his relatives in this hour of their affliction Resolved. That a copy of these proceedings be presented to the wife of the deceased and that they be published in this

Fulton Weekly Journal

JAMES MCGOWAN
W. L. Dwyer }
Leander Smith }

Attch John Phelps - Secy

Below is attached a printed
copy of a letter from the Chaplain
to Capt. Owen's wife, written
while her husband was at New Hartford,
It was printed in Utica N.Y.

NEW HARTFORD, N.Y.,
June 1st, 1864.
To the friends of the late Henry H. Owen.
I have heard the following record of the death
of H. H. Owen, of New Hartford, Captain of Co
H, 129th Regt. N. Y. S. V., who fell in an attack
upon the enemy's works at Spotsylvania, some time
last week. In behalf of his wife,

A. J. Nathan,

Is the friend, near Spotsylvania, C. H.,
May 12, 1864.

Mrs. H. H. Owen—Dear Madam:—It is a
very painful duty to send you the sad intelligence of
your noble and excellent husband's death. He fell
a victim to rebel bullets while gallantly leading on
his company in a charge upon the enemy's works.
It was my pleasure to know and to be most intimate-
ly associated with him during this most trying cam-
paign (as we worked together) and I can most
charitably speak in testimony of him as an efficient
officer, a courageous and courageous gentleman, pos-
sessing an excellent heart, free from the vices
prevalent among many.

He bore a very high character, both among officers
and men of the regiment for high moral principle,
uprightness and integrity, as well as executive abil-
ity, and in his death we have sustained an irrepara-
ble loss. But, alas! what is our loss, compared
with yours? You have lost a husband, we an offi-
cer, comrade, friend. Long years will fail to heal
the wound this cruel war has inflicted upon your
heart, but allow me in this sad hour to point you to
the only true source from whence can flow true
consolation. The blessed Saviour can and will com-
fort you with that which it is not in the power of
mortals to do. May you find in Him the grace you
so much need to bear you up while suffering from
this terrible bereavement. His effects, all save his
clay, have been saved. His body could not be recu-
ered from the enemy; had it been we should have
had it embalmed and sent home. His watch,
sword and pocket-book will be forwarded to your
address at the earliest opportunity.

My humble sympathies I extend to you. May
that God whose ways are so often wrapped in mys-
tery furnish every consolation needed in this trying
season. I remain, with sincere respect and esteem,

Your friend, T. SEYMOUR HARRISON,
Chaplain 129th Regt. N. Y. S. V.

On the Death of Henry H. Owen.

At a regular communication of the Fulton
City Lodge, No. 189, A. F. & A. M., held at their
Hall, July 18th, 1864.

The committee appointed in regard to the
death (July 1st, 1864) of H. H. Owen, present your report.

Below is an editorial article
cut from the Rochester Evening
Express of May 27th 1864

REMARKS ON CAPT. OWEN.—Among those who
died in the late war upon Lee's hill at
Spotsylvania on Wednesday, May 12, was Cap-
tain Henry H. Owen, of Company H, 129th N.
Y. Regt. of the Civil War. Owen, of Penfield, in
this county, and a relative of Mr. George Owen
of this city. He enlisted when Col. Sheridan's
129th regiment was raised, in Wayne and On-
tario counties, and which left Geneva in June,
1862, entering as Sergeant of Company H, and
being steadily promoted for his soldierly quali-
ties to the Captaincy. Capt. Owen was taken
prisoner with his regiment in the unfortunate
Harper's Ferry affair, where Col. Miles surren-
dered that stronghold to the enemy. The pris-
oners were paroled by the rebels, and the gov-
ernment sent them into camp at Chicago, to
await an exchange. This was effected during
the winter, and Capt. Owen rejoined the Army
of the Potomac in time to participate in the
movements culminating in the battle of Char-
cellersville, on the first days of May, 1863. He
participated in Hooker's famous march, by
which in three days he transferred the Potomac
Army from its lines on the Rappahannock into
Maryland, keeping between Lee and the Capital.
Capt. Owen fought at Gettysburg, where he was
wounded. Here the 129th relieved itself of the
stigma which clung to it from the disgraceful
surrender at Harper's Ferry, for which, how-
ever, it was in no way to blame. At Gettys-
burg the regiment threw itself upon the enemy
in an impetuous and irresistible charge, with
the battle-cry of "Here come the Harper's Ferry
Cowards." Since, when the enemy have heard
that pealing cry, they know the 129th was in the
extreme front, where the sharpest work was be-
ing done, and where danger was the
thickest.

Capt. Owen was born in Penfield village in
January, 1830, and spent all his life there, his
parents still residing there, and where he leaves
a young wife to mourn his loss. He was a young
man of exemplary qualities, and won the respect
and esteem of all his acquaintances. From the
first outbreak of the rebellion he took a warm
interest in the Union cause, and took the first
favorable opportunity of proving his sincerity
by taking up arms in his country's defence. He
has fallen in the "bleeding front," where heroes
only are found, face to face with the enemies of
his country and of freedom. The name of
Captain Henry H. Owen will be another name
that Monroe county will inscribe upon
her roll of honor, to be handed down to poster-
ity as the most precious memento of her history.

HEZEKIAH CALVIN WOOSTER

was one of the earliest American Methodist ministers. The field of his short but wonderful labors, was in Canada. He was a man of Abraham's faith, and his prayers seemed directly to enter heaven, and prevail with God. He carried with him an increasing spirit of prayer. Often at midnight would he rise and call upon God, while the inmates of the house where he made his temporary abode, were awed by the solemn voice of his supplications ascending amidst the silence.

Such was the method of his spirit, and the potent, resistless power of his appeals to the wicked, that few of them could stand before him, they would either rush out of the house, or fall to the floor under his word.

He traveled about three years in Canada, preaching almost daily, and with a power seldom equaled in the history of the Christian ministry. There was indeed, in his word, an energy almost resistless. The dwellers in the wilderness, long destitute of the means of religion, heard with amazement his overwhelming eloquence, and often fell in these forest congregations, like dead men, under his word. Baugs, in his history of Methodism, says: "Such was the holy fervor of his soul, his deep devotion to God, his burning love for the souls of his fellow-men, that he was the happy instrument of kindling up such a fire in the hearts of the people wherever he went, particularly in Upper Canada, that all the waters of strife and opposition have not been able to quench it. The grace of God wrought mightily in him." "O, what awful sensations," exclaims the writer, "ran through the assemblages, while Calvin Wooster, and others of like spirit, were denouncing the just judgments of God against impenitent sinners, in such pointed language as made the ear to tingle and the heart to palpitate."

Dr. Baugs says: "At a quarterly meeting in the Bay of Quinte circuit, as the preacher commenced his sermon, a thoughtless man in the front gallery, commenced, in a playful mood, to swear profanely, and otherwise disturb the congregation. The preacher paid no attention to him until he was in the midst of his sermon, when, feeling strong in faith and the power of his might, suddenly stopping, he fixed his piercing eye upon the profane man, then, stamping with his foot, and pointing with his finger at him with great energy, he cried out, 'My God! smite him!' He instantly fell, as if shot through the heart with a bullet. At that moment, such a divine afflatus came down upon the congregation, that sinners were crying to God for mercy in every direction, while the saints of God burst forth in loud praises to His name. Similar instances of God's gracious presence were not uncommon in those days in that country, as they have been related to the writer on the most unquestionable authority.

It is authentically recorded, that when so fatigued as not to be able to speak above a whisper, his whispered utterance, conveyed by another to the assembly, would smite them like a trumpet, and fall with such power on the attention of the hearers that stout-hearted men were smitten to the floor; and his very aspect is said to have so shone with the divine glory that it struck conviction into the hearts of many who beheld it.

The rigors of the climate and the excess of his labors injured his health, and he passed on to his home, and lay down to die; but before his spirit left the body it seemed already in heaven. He was asked when his power of utterance was almost gone, "If his confidence in God was still strong?" "Strong! strong!" was his whispered but exulting reply. When he was fast declining, and death was almost in view, he exclaimed that "the nearer he drew to eternity, the brighter Heaven shined upon him." On the 6th of November, 1798, he passed into the heavens.

REV. JOSEPH BERRIDGE,

At a regular communication of the Fulton City Lodge, No. 139, A. F. & A. M., held at their Hall, July 13th, 1884.

The committee appointed in regard to the death of Bro. Henry B. Owen, reported as follows:

Bro. Henry B. Owen was born in Penfield, N. Y., January, 1820—was the son of Calvin W. Owen. He became a resident of Fulton City, Ill., in 1855, and resided there until 1861. On the 19th day of January, 1857, he was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, in Fulton City Lodge, No. 183, A. F. & A. M., having been prior thereto entered and passed in said Lodge. His true appreciation of that time honored institution, won for him the heartfelt esteem of its members—by reason of which, he became connected with almost every office of the Lodge.—As Master of the Lodge, he was greatly beloved.

In the year 1861, he left for his own native town, Penfield, N. Y., accompanied by his wife. From the first outbreak of the rebellion, his heart was on fire with the love of liberty—and proved his sincerity by taking up arms in defence of his country. He volunteered in Company H, 12th Regiment, N. Y. Vols., which left Geneva, in that State, June, 1862. He was appointed Sergeant, and soon became Captain of said company, was taken prisoner at Harper's Ferry, on its surrender by Col. Miles; paroled; sent to Chicago, and exchanged in the winter following, soon after which, he rejoined the army of the Potomac, fought in the battle of Chancellorsville, on the 1st day of May, 1863; participated in Hooker's famous march, met the rebels in the memorable struggle of Gettysburg. Here he proved his fidelity to his country—and shed his blood (being wounded) on that memorable field of battle. On the 18th day of May, 1863, a terrible assault was made (at Spottsylvania) on the rebel Lee's left—here Bro. Owen fell a martyr to his country. He fell in the front of battle, where heroes fall, and where else could he have fallen, than at the post of duty, where he was ever found? At no other place could he have fallen. And in as much as Bro. Owen has sacrificed himself upon the altar of his country in the cause of Liberty and Eternal justice, and laid off his jewels as a true and faithful Mason, and gone to the Grand Lodge on High.—

1862. His regiment, the 10th Maine, was in the front of the line at Antietam, where he was severely wounded, being steadily promoted for his bravery to the Captaincy. Capt. Owen was prisoner with his regiment in the winter of Harper's Ferry affair, where Col. Miles considered that stronghold to the enemy. The rebels were paroled by the rebels, and the regiment sent them into camp at Chambersburg as well as exchange. This was in the winter, and Capt. Owen spent the winter of the Potomac in time to participate in movements culminating in the battle of Gettysburg, on the first days of July, 1863, which in three days he transferred the Army from its lines on the Rappahannock to Maryland, keeping between Lee and the Army. Capt. Owen fought at Gettysburg, where he was wounded. Here the 10th relieved the 1st division which came to it from the disaster at Harper's Ferry, for which, however, it was in no way to blame. At Gettysburg the regiment threw itself upon the enemy in an impetuous and irremediable charge, with the glory of which comes the Harper's Ferry disaster. Since, at least the enemy have heard that Gettysburg, they know the 10th was in the extreme front, where the sharpest work was being done, and where danger was the thickest.

Capt. Owen was born in Penfield village in January, 1830, and spent all his life there, his parents still residing there, and where he leaves a young wife to mourn his loss. He was a young man of exemplary qualities, and won the respect and esteem of all his acquaintances. From the first outbreak of the rebellion he took a warm interest in the Union cause, and took the first favorable opportunity of proving his sincerity by taking up arms in his country's defence. He has fallen in the battle's front, where heroes only are found, face to face with the enemies of his country and of freedom. The name of Captain Henry B. Owen will be another name that Monroe county will inscribe upon her roll of honor, to be handed down to posterity as the most precious memento of her history.