

This history of the town of Stamford was completed by Charles D. Griffin about 1880. It was reprinted by the Stamford Historical Society in 1988. At present, (January 2006), Anne Willis (607-652-7839), village of Stamford Historian, has a limited number of the reprints for sale. I have typed the four chapters that contain the personal sketches of the early residents. They were not in alphabetical order in the original version. --*Clarence Putman, January 9, 2006*

## **A HISTORY OF STAMFORD**

BY CHARLES D. GRIFFEN  
1811-1887

Chapters 11-14

YOUNG READER.-Three generations of men have passed away, and the fourth is on its march through the course of time, since the white man established his abode on the soil in our town, while the foot-prints of the Indian were not effaced, and whose forms lingered around, and whose images oft haunted the pioneer in the dreams of his midnight slumbers. THREE GENERATIONS OF MEN! Who were they? Does curiosity prompt the inquiry, or is it a desire for knowledge-a desire to know who advanced into and removed the forest from this uneven section composing our town? You have read of Cicero, of Mark Anthony, of Caesar, and other men that were numbered in the generations of their time, in the ages that are past, and now please tell me who your grandfather was, and your great-grandfather, and your great-great-grandfather, and where did they live? You can't? Do you know more of Caesar, and Anthony, and Cicero, who lived so long before your great-great grandfather, than you do of your own ancestors of only three or four generations, that have so recently passed before, and of whom you are a descendant? Your town is not a century old yet, but still you may be surprised that so many persons have lived in it in so short a time. Turn to the list in the appendix and see the number that have toiled to make it what it is. These are the stable ones only-the men who have, not only made your town appear in its present condition, but, year by year, contributed from their earnings towards the cost of maintaining our government. This array of names does not contain all, for in it those drones who infest all sections have no place. They are merely human beings of little worth-the suckers of society. Whoever has his name on this list has it on the roll of honor, and shall we pass by such a roll and leave it unnoticed? Then as you scan their names, also remember the period of their generation, the condition of the town at the time, their unceasing labor to procure a livelihood and also to have their names on such a roll, and then divest yourself of the foppery of the day and ignore that weed that so needlessly projects before your face, the pence of which, when added to other mites of useless expenditures, help to make a fortune for, and a more real gentleman of yourself.

A list is here given of the number of persons whose surnames are five and over in number and also the number of the same name remaining on the list of taxpayers in 1878.

Total number of tax- In 1878			Total number of tax- In 1878		
payers and names			payers and names		
14	Adams	4	8	Lewis	2
5	Andrews	—	11	Lyon	5
8	Bennett	2	6	Lampert	2
11	Beers	—	11	Maynard	6
6	Baldwin	—	13	McDonald	1
7	Burroughs	2	5	McPherson	—
9	Blish	4	6	McPhail	—
19	Barlow	6	6	McKenzie	1
6	Bush	2	5	McFarland	—
5	Cummings	—	8	McLean	2
9	Clark	2	6	McGregor	2
11	Cowan	8	5	Miller	1
8	Canfield	3	5	McLaughlin	1
9	Churchill	2	5	Murphy	2
7	Champlin	1	5	McMurdy	5
6	Dingy	—	9	Nesbitt	2
23	Foote	6	5	Olmstead	2
7	Fuller	2	13	Palmer	1
75	Grant	13	12	Rose	5
5	Graham	—	8	Reynolds	1
19	Griffin	10	7	Rich	4
10	Gould	2	7	Ryer	3
6	Gilbert	1	15	Stewart	4
5	Hayes	—	10	Smith	1
6	Hotchkiss	—	12	Silliman	4
6	Hubbell	—	5	Scott	—
9	Hill	3	12	Sturges	2
10	Higbie	5	11	Squire	1
6	Hait	3	22	Taylor	6
5	Hume	1	6	Thompson	2
9	Hanford	3	9	Thomas	3
8	Judson	2	5	Webster	—
9	Jennings	1	5	Warren	1
5	Johnston	—	7	Wood	3
7	Johnson	2	6	Wetmore	2
14	Lamb	5			

The greatest numbers of one family name are-Barlow, 19; Foote, 23; Grant, 75; Griffin, 19; Stewart, 15; Taylor, 22.

Few parts of a history of a new and wild locality are more entertaining than that giving the names and the incidents of the people who first enter the gloom of the forest and expose the soil to the warming rays of the sun that it might bring forth food. There are a variety of classes in all the new localities as well as in the older, as to the pursuits for a livelihood, and while one with his gun, day after day, traverses the hills and mountain ranges and returns home weary with nothing as a compensation for his labor, another takes his ax and fells the trees of a century's growth, and as the rays of the setting sun is leaving the mountain tops, he sees the reward for his toil in the opening he has made where his further labor will give him a variety of food. The various temperaments and the amount of energy that form the component parts of men, incline

them to the pursuits they follow, and the man that ranges the mountains is as weary at the close of the day as he who has used the ax, yet which labor is of the more real worth? And as the settlement grows older the same classes continue, for as the aged pass away their sons become actors in their stead, and they diverge into different channels, and while one diligently gives his time to the cultivation of the soil, another gives his time and strength to casting stones from one point to another, and then casting them back again with his associates, and at night is weary yet perhaps cheerful, because he has had a good day of enjoyment, and nothing more for his reward-he has produced nothing and reaped nothing. At one man's door there is no wood save a limb or some brush, at another's door is a good pile of wood ready for use; in one man's garden is a good growth of weeds, in another man's garden is a good growth of vegetables-the reward of the labor of one is a good time, the reward of the other is plenty of the good things of life. One man has no time nor money for the benefit and improvement of his locality; another uses part of his money for various improvements and feels recompensed therefore in the transformation of his section into a more beautiful appearance, and the general benefit to its citizens. Another class of persons is of a migratory nature, and as improvements advance they, like locusts, are passing over, beyond and beyond and thus pass their days and their years, having no real contentment in aught else. Their names are remembered by their acquaintances of their own generation and locality, and but little beyond, for their abiding places are not long enough to make a lasting impression. But a knowledge of the permanent ones, who subdue and beautify a new country with a few historical anecdotes as an indication and illustration of character, becomes enticing because of its nearness, and also because of its receding continually away into, and forming a past age.

THE ADAMS' were Connecticut people and came into the town in its infancy, and the name of Stephen Adams is found in the documents of the town under date of 1795, and he lived in the Roses Brook valley on Lot No. 28 in Great Lot 41, and his name disappeared from the list between 1805 and 1810.

AARON ADAMS, NATHAN ADAMS, AND ABEL ADAMS were taxpayers in 1801, but not in 1805. Abel Adams obtained a title of Lot No. 105 in Great Lot 41 on the first of August, 1795, which is now included within the limits of the town of Bovina. Samuel Adams was a taxpayer in 1801 and 1805, but not in 1810.

JOSEPH ADAMS was the only one of the name who remained long in the town. He came in 1797 and located on lot No. 97, east of the Town Plot, and was a sincere and honest man of good habits and good economy, and said: "If a man would labor one-half of each week day in the year he could obtain a good living for his family." He prospered in his business and after many years of labor unfortunately he was suddenly seized with a disease of the brain which produced immediate insanity, and though in the strength of manhood it weakened in a few days, and with a pleasant countenance he lay in the embrace of death on the sixth of September, 1819, at the age of 63 years.

SEYMOUR ADAMS was a resident taxpayer in 1801, if not before, and in 1803 sold his farm to Isaac Bennett and at sometime between 1805 and 1810 went west (as it was then called) to Tompkins County. The time of his death is not ascertained, but his widow, Theodotia Adams, died in Danby, Tompkins County, April 20, 1855, at the age of 76 years.

SMITH ADAMS was a son of Joseph Adams and lived on a part of the farm owned by his father, and possessed the good qualities of industry and honesty, the latter to an extent seldom found among the generality of men, as the following circumstance illustrates: Many years ago each farmer went to New York City with his butter and sold it himself. In those days the butter was carried to Catskill in wagons, when it was placed on board of a "sloop" and transported to New York City. The scheming city purchasers would come on board of the sloop as it lay at the wharf with their butter tryers, and noticing the size of the dairy and the appearance of the packages, would inquire who owned such a dairy, and as the owner was usually near it, a

price would be agreed upon, provided the butter suited the customer, who, when opened, would generally find some fault, saying it was too fresh, or too salt, or a little strong, etc. The fault found with Mr. Adams butter by the buyer was, "it was too salt." He replied, "I told our folks it was too salt." This was characteristic of the man, for he would use no deception, and wanted no more for a commodity than its value. He was plain in his attire, void of vanity, a relator of good stories and fond of social enjoyments. His life terminated on the fifth of August, 1870, when at the age of 73 years.

DANIEL ANDREWS was a native citizen of the town, an enterprising farmer and highly esteemed for his ability and integrity. He held various official positions in town, and was supervisor in 1857, 1858 and 1858, and was appointed a railroad commissioner in 1866, and his life terminated on the twenty-first of September, 1871, at the age of 58 years.

HENRY ANDREWS, usually called Harry, was not a tax-payer till after 1815. He was a blacksmith and resided for several years in the Town Plot, where he made the old style of wrought iron plow points which were the only kind in use in those days and gave much employment to the blacksmiths. He was a short, firmly-built man with a mischievous smile on his face when telling a good story, of which he was fond as many social men. He died February 24, 1857, at the age of 70 years.

SAMUEL ANDREWS settled on the north part of lot number ten in great lot 41, about two miles below Hobart, in 1794. He was one of the stable old farmers whose efforts were attended with success, and he fulfilled the duties of life till old age came on him, and paid taxes in the town over half a century and then went to his rest on the tenth of October 1838, when 72 years old.

ELIJAH BALDWIN, a son of Caleb Baldwin who was a Captain in the army of the Revolution and a resident of Newtown, Fairfield County, Conn., came to Stamford on horseback, and arrived on the twentieth of February, 1792, and settled in the Township. While a youth in his minor years he was occasionally called into service at his native place for a short period at a time, during the war, and the spirit he imbibed during those exciting times remained with him through life, and the events of those days were topics on which he loved to converse, and while so doing his straight and aged form would grow more straight still, and the fire of those times would kindle in his eyes; and when he spoke of a cannon ball from a ship of the enemy that glanced along past him, he seemed almost a boy again. His occupation was shoemaking and farming, and he lived an honest, virtuous life, and went to his rest on the twenty-sixth of September, 1841, at the age of eighty years.

JOHN R. BALDWIN was born in Stamford, and during several years of his minority made his own way in life by diligent labor, during which he established a reputation that served him as a pass to the confidence of men, and soon after arriving to the years of manhood was associated with Charles Griffin in the mercantile business under the firm name of Griffin & Baldwin, and continued a member till in 1848. At the time of the great excitement on the death of Osman N. Steel, a deputy sheriff, whose blood, unatoned for under the laws of the state, still lies at the door of persons in disguise, he was elected Captain of the second company of one hundred men called into the service of the state under the proclamation of Governor Wright, and acted as such until order was restored in the county and the force was disbanded. He was elected a justice of the peace by the Democratic party in 1847, and supervisor in 1849. After leaving the mercantile business he purchased the Delaware House in Stamford village, where he remained until the spark of life suddenly waned on the seventh of March, 1850, when at the age of 37 years and three days. His funeral services were under the charge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he was a member, and his was the first burial under the superintendence of that order in the town.

PHILO BALDWIN was from Connecticut and became an inn-keeper at Stamford village in 1813, in the

tavern built by Lemuel Lamb, which is now a part of the Delaware House. During his lifetime the tavern was the only one and a half story in height and a small red building. The wagon-house then stood wholly in the street as the street now is, and gave the road a more circular course and the street a less pleasant appearance. His death took place September 20, 1822, and his years in number were fifty-six.

RANSFORD BALDWIN was a Connecticut man and became a tax-payer in the town in 1801 or before, and continued one until after 1815. He kept a public house on the west side of the river in Hobart, and was a non-resident while the Delaware River formed the town line through the village. He sold his tavern stand and purchased a place on the west side of the Delaware just outside the limits of the village of Stamford where he resided several years, but changed to Hobart where he died on the fifth of May, 1854, at the age of 86 years.

JOSEPH BANGS located on Lot No. 179 in the eastern part of the Town Brook valley, where he carried on the blacksmith business in connection with farming, and when the schoolhouse and church(after one was built) were not occupied by the circuit preachers on the Sabbath, he would discourse to the people with an energy of feeling that touched their hearts, till solemnity reigned in the countenance. He was void of the vanity of pride that puffeth up, and humbly clothed himself in linen and woolen manufactured in his own dwelling, and in the heat of summer he was not ashamed to labor for his Master in the pulpit without a coat, but dressed in brown tow cloth pants, a home-made woolen vest, and linen shirt, and without a neck handkerchief, and thus garbed, he forced upon the minds of men those truths that touch the soul and lead them in the ways of purity and truth. They were given in comely, and yet plain and simple language and speech, without a display of words that often contain much sound but less sentiment. He thus followed on in life till near 1830, when he changed his residence to Michigan. He preached to his neighbors on the Sunday before he started on his journey, taking the words of Paul for his text: "Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you." The text itself is a sermon when fully contemplated, and it seemed so appropriate for the occasion, and the discourse fell with such force on the people that the inner feelings were portrayed in the countenance and the breath seemed hushed as if in fear of disturbing the flow of truth and affection. It was an affecting scene of separation in life, and there were many sorrows because of his departure. He was a man of piety and worth, and of pure social virtue. He officiated in the burial service of many of his neighbors, and also performed the rites of the marriage ceremonies for many. At one time he officiated in the latter ceremony at his own house. A young man became enamored with a young lady whose parents lived on Lot No. 96, and as the mirror reflects the rays of the sun, so the feelings of the young man were reflected back in the countenance of the young lady, and being in unity of spirit they agreed to be bound in the bonds of matrimony. Delays are said to be dangerous, so it was agreed that the young man should go up to Mr. Bangs', and if he was at home he was to return to the brow of the hill and whistle, when the young lady would go to him, and they to Mr. Bangs' and be married. The dominie was at home-the young man whistled as agreed upon-the lady hastened to him-both appeared before the dominie and were married. After the ceremony, the young man asked "how much he charged." Mr. Bangs said "he never made any charge but let the people give him what they were a mind to;" that "some gave him two dollars, and some three dollars." The young man asked if "seventy-five cents wouldn't answer." Mr. Bangs said, "Yes, give me what you've a mind to." The young man then asked if "he would take potatoes;" then he and his bride went home with happy hearts.

LEMUEL BANGS' name is found in the documents as early as 1794. He was a blacksmith, and for a time carried on the business in the Town Plot on the north side of Irish Street near a small brook, and east of Scotch Street. Some, if not all his sons, were initiated into the art, but they changed from the business of hammering iron and became preachers, but one, who both hammered and preached. They may be said to have been a family of preachers, and preachers of notoriety, and though not favored with a course through

college, they were favored with enterprising spirits, which, united with their faith in their calling, gave them a force of character that manifested itself in the flow of sentiment to their hearers. Their names were Nathan, Herman, Joseph, and John Bangs. Lemuel continued a taxpayer till after 1805.

NATHAN BANGS was born in Stratford, Connecticut in 1778, and came to Stamford when about thirteen years old on foot, with an elder brother. In later years he became impressed with leading a life of religious purity, being awakened thereto under the preaching of those Methodists, whose energies urged them to the extreme limits of the settlements, as they made their western progress into the forest which had so recently been the Indian domain. He became one of the preachers of that denomination, and in 1808 was a rider on the Delaware Circuit with Robert Dillon. The Delaware Circuit (White's Annuals of Methodism in Delaware County) was formed in 1794, and "embraced all the territory adjacent to the Delaware and its tributaries from the head-waters to a point about a hundred miles down the river." In 1832 this circuit had "thirty-three preaching places and required two hundred and fifty miles travel to fill the appointments." Heman Bangs was also a rider on this circuit with Stephen Jacob, in 1815, and John Bangs with Ira Ferris in 1823, and with Bezaleel Howe in 1824, and again with Noah Sullivan in 1832. John Bangs in his "Memoirs" says: "On this circuit there were some very long and tedious routes, I often being obliged to ford the Delaware River. Once, in particular, my wagon came apart in the river. Miles and miles have I traveled on Delaware Circuit without coming across a single human being, and not meeting with any signs of life except occasionally a chip-squirrel." Nathan and Heman Bangs spent the later years of their lives in New York City and other eastern towns or cities. John Bangs gave his time to preaching till late in life. In 1821, 1822, 1829, 1835 and 1845 he was on the Jefferson Circuit, and in 1837, 1846 and 1837 on the Charlotte Circuit; in 1838 on the Bloomville Circuit; in 1841 on the Kortright Circuit, and in 1848 on the Franklin Circuit. He closed the labors of his life in February 1848, at the age of 69 years.

BURR BARLOW came into the town with his father's family when a boy, and was a taxpayer in, if not before, 1805, and resided on lot No. 10 in Great Lot 41, which is in the Delaware Valley. He held several town offices and was esteemed a good and honest man. He lived a peaceful life, which was brought to a close on the twenty-second of December, 1864. His years were 84.

JABEZ BARLOW was a resident taxpayer between 1805 and 1810, in the Town Brook valley, and most of his time on Lot No. 83. He burned many large pits of charcoal, some of which produced 3000 bushels. The smoke of the burning pits often filled the valley with smoke. He was a hard working farmer and showed no mercy to his own strength, only supporting it by the daily use of that which is now not thought a necessary support of the system, but his strength yielded to the effects of his years of labor and he ceased from them.

JESSE BARLOW was a taxpayer before 1810, and lived on a farm at the head of the Roses Brook valley over forty years, and died October 14, 1854, at the age of 65 years.

JOHN BARNETT for many years was a resident of Roxbury, when he sold his farm and settled below Hobart, between 1830 and 1840. He was a reliable man, and peaceable in his ways in life, and was peculiar in his purchases of stock. After examining them and learning the price, if in his estimation it was too high, there was no bantering but he would turn away saying, "They aint wut it." If all men pursued the same course much time would be saved and less lies told. He died June 5, 1863, at the age of 76 years.

ABIJAH BEERS came from Saratoga County in 1812 and settled in the Town Brook valley south-east of the town plot. He was a tailor by trade and cut and made clothing for the people for several years, having a place of only nine acres of land. He had seven daughters all of whom found husbands in their own locality, and one son. His life ended towards 1830.

ANDREW BEERS was the first supervisor of the town of Stamford after its erection and when it composed a part of Ulster County. He took the oath of office before Patrick Lamb, a justice of the peace, on the third day of April, 1793. He was re-elected the two following years, but ceased to be a tax-payer before 1805, and changed his residence to Catskill, where he was the author of an almanac for many years which was a reliable and popular one, the title page of which always denoted the work as being "By Andrew Beers, Philom." Sarah Beers, his wife, died while he was a resident of Stamford, and was buried in Hobart. Her death occurred on the sixteenth of April, 1803, at the age of 46 years. The date of his death has not been obtained.

STEPHEN BEERS was a native of Stratford, Conn., and came to Stamford with his father's family previous to 1794. His father settled in the Township valley, and mention is made in old records of "Beers Grist Mill," and "Beer's Saw-mill on the town Brook," in 1796. Stephen was a justice of the peace in 1802, and was a resident of the town for some years, but before 1810 removed to Danby, Tompkins County, where he was a respectable and an honorable citizen till the time of his death, which was on the seventeenth of August, 1846, aged 75 years.

TRUMAN BEERS was residing in the town in 1792 on the east side of the highway opposite of "the old schoolhouse on the green" and his neighbors on the north were the Lambs and Daniel Clark, the sites of whose residences are now in the village of Stamford. He was a man much esteemed, and in after years he moved to Stamford village and built a two-story house with a square roof, which has since been changed, and is now the residence of S.B. Champion the proprietor of the Stamford Mirror. He died on the twenty-second of February, 1828, at the age of 72 years, and was buried at Hobart.

DANIEL R. BENNETT was a son of Isaac Bennett, and spent his short life at his father's residence in the Town Brook valley. He was a young man of good habits and possessed the esteem of his townsmen, who elected him to the office of justice of the peace in 1844, and supervisor in 1846 and again in 1847, but his days were numbered early, and were closed on the twenty-third of December, 1847, when only 32 years of age.

ISAAC BENNETT was born in Connecticut and came to Stamford with his father's family when a lad, and became a real estate owner by purchasing lots Nos. 85 and 99 of Seymour Adams on the thirtieth of September, 1803, and at different times enlarged his farm by other purchases. He was a good farmer and successful in his pursuits, a man of good judgment, and pleased with a good story, at which he would laugh a laugh that was contagious. He had the esteem of his townsmen, was supervisor in 1831, but not an aspirant for office, preferring the pleasures of his agreeable home rather than official honors, and the income from the productions of his farm instead of official emoluments. His health was poor for several years, and his life closed on the fifteenth of April, 1864, at the age of 87 years.

AARON BLISH was one of a number from Connecticut who settled in the Roses Brook valley about 1790 or before. He was a hardy pioneer and possessed a good physical and muscular frame and a will and energy to use it. He was a man of good abilities, and discharged the duties of various offices in town, among which was that of supervisor in 1817 and again in 1818. He was a good farmer, a good citizen, and a tax-payer for fifty years or more. He quit the scenes of life on the fourth of March, 1843, at the age of 73 years.

AARON BLISH, 2D, resided in Stamford from early boyhood, and when a young married man he went to California during the gold fever rage, where he acquired a few thousand dollars, and then returned and bought a farm in Stamford village, but at midlife was called from it on the sixth day of April, 1858, at the age of 36 years.

NOVATUS BLISH, RODERICK S. BLISH, ARISTARCHUS BLISH, AND LEWIS BLISH were sons of Aaron Blish. Novatus Blish was a blacksmith by trade, but in 1829 bought of Capt. John Griffin his farm and store in the Town Plot, where he carried on the mercantile business many years with Orrin Griffin, Charles Griffin and Hector L. Stewart as partners at different periods, and also continued the smith and farming business during the same time, but his life was suddenly shortened by falling on a ladder that entered his body by which death ensued on the sixteenth of November, 1848, at the age of 53 years. He was an active business man and greatly missed by his patrons of the town. Roderick S. Blish was a blacksmith and carried on the business in the Roses Brook valley for several years, and then moved to Prattsville, where he continued it through life, which ended December 8, 1872, when at the age of 73 years. Aristarchus Blish remained on the homestead with his father, and after his death continued the farming business during the time of his life, which terminated on the eleventh of November, 1872, at the age of 76 years, when the community lost an honorable man.

JAMES BOGGS became a resident after 1815, on Lot No. 103, north side of the Town Plot, where he died on the fourteenth of March, 1848, at the age of 73 years.

JOHN BOGGS was in the town when young, and at different times pursued cabinet-making, and was a carpenter and undertaker and farmer, and previous to his death resided beyond the town limits, but within the corporate limits of Stamford village. He for many years was a deacon in the Presbyterian Church, and left for his reward on the seventh of December, 1877, at the age of 69 years.

HARRY BRISCO became a resident of the town a little before 1820. He was a boot and shoe maker, and was the first one in the town that crimped the upper leather of cowhide boots and made the legs with side seams and welt, and sewed on the inside. Previous to that time all cowhide boots were cut with a vamp having a tongue that extended upward into the leg of the boot in front, into which it was neatly fitted and then sewed with two waxed threads on the outside of the leather, the edges of which were placed against each other, and which when sewed made a raised seam. By thus making the front part of the boot with a vamp sewed into the leg the angle in front was shorter than in the crimped leg, and the leg of the boot was in one piece and sewed up behind with a seam on the outside. The improvement in the appearance of the boot pleased the young men, and he had plenty of employment. The cost of making boots in the old style, when the employer furnished the material, was one dollar and one dollar and twenty five cents per pair, but he charged one dollar and fifty cents per pair for crimped boots. He married and became a taxpayer in 1820, and built a house on Lot No. 4 in the Town Plot, where he resided till after 1831, when he moved to the lower part of the county, and died on the seventh of April, 1872, at the age of 76 years.

WILLIAM BROCK was a taxpayer in the town about thirty years, and resided in the lower part of the Roses Brook valley, and followed farming for a livelihood, and finished his many years on the eighteenth of April, 1878, at the age of 85 years.

JAMES L. BROWN came into the town from Schoharie County, and carried on the wool carding and cloth manufacturing business for many years at Stamford village. He was a quiet, peaceable man, and ceased from his labors on the first of January, 1875, at the age of 62 years.

ROBERT S. BROWNELL commenced his business life as a farmer in the town of Kortright, which he followed for several years, and then moved to Stamford village and kept the Delaware House for some time. He was elected supervisor in 1860, but was not an office seeker. His earthly existence terminated on the thirty-first of October, 1879, when at the age of 68 years.

GEORGE BUNNELL, son of Virgil Bunnell, was an active young man of good habits, and was clerk in a



store in New York City some years, and afterwards commenced the mercantile business in Bloomville, but his days were shortened, as the sand in the glass of life ran out on the fourteenth of January, 1854, and his years numbered only 36.

VIRGIL BUNNELL was a taxpayer before 1830, and possessed good business faculties, had a good farm in Roses Brook valley, well off for worldly goods, held several town offices, was rather sober in his general appearance and finally his mind became troubled through fear of want, and he received but little enjoyment for many years, and his fears were quieted by death on the nineteenth of October, 1859, when 75 years old.

ARCHIBALD BURGESS settled in the lower part of the town on the place recently occupied by James McGillivrae, as early if not before 1796, and his name was off from the roll before 1810, but Mary, his widow, was a taxpayer till after 1820.

FRANCIS BURRITT'S name is found in the documents of the town in 1795. He resided on lot 175 in the upper part of the Town Brook valley, a part of which was also occupied by Amos Norton. After many years, the soil became unproductive in wheat, and he wanted to go west where he could raise wheat and have "butter toast," and in 1830 he moved to Erie County, Penn., a journey then greater than to go to California now. He and his wife were both short, thick-built persons, and rode to the school-house to meeting in splint-bottom kitchen chairs set in his one-horse lumber wagon, which were then taken out and carried in for their seats during the service. He was a good Methodist man.

ANDREW BURROUGHS was a son of Daniel Burroughs, and a physician. He practiced awhile in Pennsylvania, then changed to Stamford village, where he continued a few years, and then moved into Greene County, where he finished his days on the eighteenth of January, 1869, at the age of 50 years.

DANIEL BURROUGHS AND CURTIS BURROUGHS resided on the John Stewart farm, about a mile and a half south of Stamford village, between 1805 and 1810. One resided on that part now owned by John D. Minor, and the other on that part occupied by Stewart's sons. Daniel in after years sold his farm and bought another at the head of the Roses Brook valley, where he resided the remainder of his life.

DAVID B. CASE was a merchant for several years in Delhi, and while the New York & Erie Railroad was being built he became a sub-contractor for a grading of a certain section, which proved to be a business with which he was less familiar than with the mercantile business, and he was a loser, and became embarrassed in his business, and sometime thereafter he moved to Stamford village, where he kept the Delaware House for awhile, and previous to 1860 moved to Indiana or Illinois, where his life closed on the thirty-first of May, 1873, at the age of 69 years. He was a tall man and full of fun the whole length.

JEFFREY H. CHAMPLIN was born in the State of Rhode Island, and when about five years old came with his father's family to the south part of the adjoining town of Jefferson, and when of age he taught school in Stamford village, and about 1837 or 1838 commenced the mercantile business in Stamford village in company with E.D. Cowley, under the firm name of Cowley & Champlin, after which he was in the same business in Harpersfield for a time, and having been a farmer's son he bought a farm in the eastern part of the town, where he resided till about 1856, when he sold his farm, and in April, 1858, became the successor, both in the mercantile business and as post master, of Charles Griffin in Stamford in Stamford village for a few years, after which he was a merchant in Rondout about four years, and then commenced the mercantile business in Stamford again, where a great misfortune befell him in the loss of his store and his entire stock of goods by fire, on the tenth of February, 1869, by which the accumulated earnings of his whole life were swept away and he left with a burden of three thousand dollars on his shoulders and nothing save his muscular strength and energy to aid in its removal. But he with a pick, a shovel and barrow, alone

commenced clearing away the rubbish, and fixed the foundation for a large and commodious building, which was completed and filled with goods, thus showing that though a man fall, if he has been an honest man, he has a credit, by a prudent use of which he may rise again. He diligently pursued his business until he had acquired means nearly sufficient to cancel indebtedness, and was just endeavoring to lay up a little sum for the wants in the last days of life, when, oh, how sudden the summons came! On the twenty-fourth of October, 1877, he left home on the afternoon train for New York City, intending to stay with a friend in Rondout over night, and had reached that friend's house but a few minutes when he lay in the embrace of death, and the people of Stamford were shocked by a telegram giving information on his death. He held various town offices, was a justice of the peace when in Harpersfield, was a justice of the sessions, and in 1869 he was elected a justice of the peace in Stamford, in which office he was continued until his death. By his honesty and integrity he obtained the confidence of his acquaintance, and that confidence he never betrayed. The length of his life was 65 years.

NICHOLAS N. CHAMPLIN was a farmer and occupied the farm now owned by A.L. Churchill in the eastern limits of Stamford village, and held various official positions in the town. He was elected a justice of the peace in 1852, and finished his course in life on the first day of April, 1856, at the age of 65 years. He was a kind neighbor, and trustworthy in his various positions in life.

CHARLES G. CHURCHILL was a son of James Churchill at Stamford village and at times pursued shoemaking, painting and farming. He became the owner of the first Stamford Seminary building and built that part which is now the Hamilton House, as the Seminary boarding hall, then sold and bought a thirty-five acre farm in the village and built the residence now owned by B.E. Smith; then sold out and bought in Prattsville, where the sands of life ran out on the sixteenth of April, 1874, at the age of 56 years. He was active in his life, but too changeable in his pursuits to obtain very much more than a good livelihood.

JAMES CHURCHILL became a resident when young, and taught the district school in Stamford village; was a taxpayer before 1820, and made boot and shoemaking and painting his chief business, and was released from the labors of life on the fifth of September, 1843, at the age of 57 years.

GEORGE CLUM was a one-armed man, and a tax-payer in 1830 or before and was a resident until the time of his death on the tenth of August, 1843. His occupation was that of a miller which he followed in Hobart. He was elected town clerk in 1831 and held the office for four years in succession.

ANDREW COWAN was born in the town, and resided on different farms; held official positions; was supervisor in 1851, after which he became a non-resident, and died on the third of November, 1877, at the age of 70 years.

HECTOR COWAN became a taxpayer in or before 1805, and resided on the farm occupied by John Cowan in the Town Brook valley, where he closed his years on the ninth of April, 1843, at the great age of 93 years. His name has continued on the tax-roll through his descendants up to the present time, without any middle letter or suffix to distinguish them.

JESSE F. COWLES was a resident taxpayer in or before 1830, and was engaged in the mercantile business with Thomas Montgomery under the firm name of Montgomery & Cowles, in Stamford village, and afterwards carried on the business in his own name. He moved to Fishkill, Dutchess County, for a few years, and then returned to Stamford. He was elected a justice of the peace in 1833, and then again in 1841, and was an officer in the Presbyterian Church for many years, and died December 30, 1858, at the age of 57 years.

MARSHALL COWLEY was a son of William Cowley and a grand-son of St. Leger Cowley. The grist mill which had been moved from the machine shop of W.A. Cowley to the site where Cowley's mills are, was operated by Marshall Cowley after he became of suitable age, but one night when he was absent, his dwelling and mill were both consumed by fire. This was a loss to the people as well as to Mr. Cowley, and for their own benefit by having the mill rebuilt, and to aid Mr. Cowley in doing so, a subscription paper was started as follows: "On the third of April instant, the dwelling house and grist mill of Mr. M. Cowley of Stamford, were wholly consumed by fire, together with about 500 bushels of grain in the mill. All the household furniture, clothing and provisions were entirely consumed, not an article saved, the family being absent-the loss estimated at about \$2000," after which followed an appeal for aid. The fire occurred on the third of April, 1824. Here is displayed a trait of character so unusual that it is worthy of both a record and an imitation. As soon as Mr. Cowley was able, he went to the people who had aided him by their donations, and paid back the money he had received, except to those who refused to take it. Such acts give a luster to the lives of those that perform it, though they may not be free from faults and imperfections. They are like the sun-clouds may intervene, but still it shines. He led a useful life, loved political and other arguments, had a good memory, was well posted in the events of the time, and quietly died in his sleep on the twentieth of June 1878, at the age of 70 years.

ST. LEGER COWLEY, of whom mention has hereinbefore been made, and who was taken prisoner below Bloomville, after the close of the war returned and settled within the present limits of the village of Stamford, and his residence was about 20 rods south-west of Wm. Cowley's machine shop. He built a mill about thirty rods below the said machine shop, the mud sills of which still remain there. His last will bears the date of "September thirtieth, seventeen hundred and ninety-six," and was proved before Anthony Marvine, surrogate for the county of Delaware, "In the year of our Lord, on the seventh day of August, seventeen hundred and ninety-seven, and of our Independence the twenty-second." This shows that his death took place within a year after the making of his will, but the exact time of his death is not known, nor the number of his years. On the twenty-seventh of October, 1791, he bought the land on the east side of the Delaware where Cowley's saw mill now stands, of Col. John Harper, the deed of which was acknowledged before Joshua Brett, judge of the Delaware County Common Pleas, on the twenty-fourth of June, 1799 (The deed was not acknowledged till after Cowley's death). On the twenty-sixth of October, 1791, Daniel Clark conveyed to him by a deed of conveyance, "All the pine timber on six hundred acres of land, for the sum of five shillings and one-fourth of the boards, scantling or other square timber that shall be actually sawn from the pine timber hereby intended to be granted." He built a saw mill on the site bought of Col. Harper, around which was a great quantity of the pine he had bought of Clark. This tract of six hundred acres then owned by Clark was originally obtained by Col. Harper for services in connection with the Indians. St. Leger Cowley's will was the first one proved in the county after its erection. He purchased lot No. 217 in the Harpers Patent of Col. John Harper, on the second day of October, 1775, which was only six years after the granting of Harpers Patent. He gave towards the building of the first church in Harpersfield, "Ten pounds and one thousand feet of pine lumber."

WILLIAM COWLEY was a son of St. Leger Cowley and rebuilt the mills north of Stamford village known as Cowley's Mills. The grist mill at first was built on the east side of the Delaware, but was burned and the second mill was built by his son on the west side. William Cowley resided in a small log hut which stood in front of the saw mill, and in 1792 or 1793 bought a farm adjoining and comprising the greater part of Lake Utsayantha and just outside of the Stamford town line, and while building a house on it moved from his log hut by the mill into the house with William Holliday, who then resided on the west side of the lake, where John B. Griffin now resides, and after completing his house moved into it and resided on the place during the rest of his life. He selected a place on his farm for burial; also prepared the inscription to be cut on his tombstone, and on it is the following sentence: "To generations yet unborn-Know ye, that this composed of part of lots No. 1 and No. 2 in great lot No. 51, Hardenburgh Patent, was first occupied in 1791 by him

who lies beneath.” He was an honest man and a strong opponent to slavery; a reader of Thomas Paine’s writings, and his desire to hold a discussion with the dominies was very strong. He preserved a military suit he had worn in former times, and one Sunday morning, a few years before his death, he dressed in his military garb, took his musket and attended the morning service at the Union Church. In the afternoon he attended again, and when he entered he walked nearly the whole length of the aisle, wearing his chap-eau-bras on his head, and entered one of the side seats and sat down. The services had not commenced, but many people had assembled, and as he turned to take a survey of the audience, the writer not wishing to be noticed looked in another direction, but he, in order to be recognized, gave three heavy raps on the seat, which attracted the attention of all, and after making a graceful bow appeared satisfied. He tarried but a little while, when he arose and with a military air walked down the aisle, took his gun and went home. Had he been divested of his greatest peculiarity, Christian men would have found but little fault with him. He died suddenly, when returning home from the village in the afternoon of Sunday, the eighth of September, 1850, at the age of 81 years.

JOHN L. CROCKER resided many years ago in the vicinity of Stamford, and then went to Georgia where he had a plantation, but during that lamentable struggle between the North and the South, he, like most of the Southern planters, suffered pecuniarily, and after its close was in charge of a plantation about twenty miles down the Savannah River below Augusta for some years, and then moved back to Stamford, and ended the vicissitudes of his life on the eleventh of June, 1875, aged 70 years.

ALEXANDER CUMMINGS was a resident before 1796, and continued a taxpayer till 1830, or after, and resided on Lot No. 101, north of the Town Plot, and was the old Scotchman who talked Habrew before the college student, hereinbefore mentioned.

ALEXANDER DALES was a taxpayer from or before 1840, and continued one till the time of his death, on the twentieth of May, 1878, when the town lost an honorable man. His years were 70 in number.

JOHN DALES was a farmer and resided in the upper part of the Roses Brook valley, and was a taxpayer in or before 1810, and for forty years or more years thereafter, when his name was no more written on the lists of the town.

JOSEPH DARLING resided twelve or fifteen years in the north part of the Town Plot, where John K. Grant now resides.

SOLOMON DARLING lived where the Stewarts live, which was formerly owned by Curtis Burroughs and was included in the farm of the late John W. Stewart at the time of his death. He left soon after 1830.

NOAH DAVENPORT was a resident of Harpersfield for some years and moved to Stamford after 1820 and purchased a farm in the east part of the village and for several years was engaged in the mercantile business, and also kept the post office, and was a plain man of the old style. His industry, frugality and economy procured him all the necessary means for doing business, and with money besides. He indulged in no extravagance in dress nor style and his plain appearance in his homespun clothing, and the amount of money in his pocketbook created a suspicion in the minds of some city merchants that he had not come honestly by it and he came near being under arrest. His relation of the circumstances would always cause his sides to shake with laughter. After leaving the mercantile business he loaned money to such as could give good security and was one of the wealthiest men in the town. A hundred thousand dollars were not necessary at that time to give a man the reputation of being rich, but if he owned a good farm with comfortable buildings and some money besides, he was called rich, and a man in such circumstances with the plain necessities of life, and free from extravagance and vanity, was more wealthy in spirit than those of the

present day, who, with possessions much larger, are swelling in pride as though it were a substantial necessity. The writer aided in the appraisal of his personal estate which was valued at \$15,197. He left it on the thirteenth of August 1840, at the age of 82 years.

HIRAM DENNIS was the son of Captain Dennis, who lived on the road running from Stamford village to Hobart on the west side of the Delaware, and just after crossing the river; was a merchant in Stamford village for a few years, and soon after 1830 went south, where for a time he was in charge of the lands on a plantation, and his life came to a close in Alabama on the sixteenth of May, 1845, at the age of 40 years.

BENJAMIN DOOLITTLE moved onto Lot No. 48 in the Town Plot between 1815 and 1820, where he resided until his death, when his son Benjamin Doolittle, Jr., occupied the place until after 1830, when he sold it and moved away.

CHARLES DUNCOMBE also lived in the east part of the Township, and his name is found under date of 1795, and he continued a resident while he lived. He died April 18, 1818, in his 71st year.

DAVID AND JOHN DUNCOMBE were brothers and both were taxpayers in 1805, and were residents till in the spring of 1830, when they moved to Wattsburgh, Erie County, Penn. The Duncombes all lived near each other and were a good set of people. David and John Duncombe and Philip Sines were the chief hunters of that part of the town, and often went out after deer together. While two would stand on the runways of the deer, which were well known to them, the other would go to some distant point and drive along the mountainside by shooting such games as he might see, and by making a noise to start the deer and thus continuing till he came to the others. They killed many in this way, and sometimes four or five would bound along, one behind the other, but the rifles of those days were single shooters and it was a good one that was reliable for a twenty-five or thirty rod shot. In following a road across the mountain home, after a day's hunt, about sundown, a bear crossed the road before them and John's rifle being loaded he fired, but the bear kept on his course and John started on a run in a course parallel with the bear, and loading his rifle as he ran, fired the second time before the bear was out of range. They did not get the bear, but it marked its path with blood. John was more of a narrator of hunting yarns than David, and would entertain one a long time with hunting stories. At one time, an old buck that was not fatally wounded made a charge upon him and being close to a large pine stump they circled around and around until he had loaded his rifle, when he fired, and the deer could pursue no longer. They were members of the Methodist society and David was class leader many years, and the weekly prayer meetings were held at his house. He was a very exemplary man and more guarded in his speech than John. The latter, in speaking of the depth of mud in the beaver-dam in Roxbury, said he had thrown a stone in and "see it go down twenty feet." David was standing by and mildly said, "John, I guess that ain't so."

THOMAS DUNCOMBE lived in the eastern part of the Town Brook valley, and his name appears in the papers of the town in 1794 and disappeared from the tax list after 1815.

ALEXANDER EASTON spent a number of the earlier years of his life "on the ocean wave," and his brother, William Easton, a merchant in New York City desirous of having his brother live on the land instead of having a home on the rolling deep, purchased a farm of Amos Griffin, on the east side of the Town Plot, and Alexander begun a farm life about 1833. William lived but a few years, when the farm by will became Alexander's, on which he lived the rest of his life. He died August 22, 1869, at the age of 75 years.

ARCHIBALD FALCONER became a resident in 1806. He emigrated from Scotland, and landed in New York City where he worked at his trade as a saddler for a few years and then came to Stamford and settled

on lot No. 180, in the north-east part of the Town Brook valley; some years after he built a new house with glass in the windows about 10x14 inches or larger, which at that time was one of the “wonders” as few if any buildings had glass larger than 6x8 inches. He was a very agreeable person in conversation and very particular as to his posture both in sitting and standing. When sitting, his body was straight, his feet placed squarely on the floor, his legs were precisely perpendicular from the ankle to the knee, and his face when in conversation was graced with a pleasant smile, his language was very precise, and his gesture when conversing was a gentle bowing of the head and body. He used the old Scotch snuff but did not soil his fingers with it, as for many years he used a goose quill shaped like a tooth pick, though not pointed, and in after years he had a small silver spoon which was a present from his son, the bowl of which would hold the quantity he wanted for one nostril and was taken at one snuff. It was filled again and applied to the other nostril and taken in the same manner. He was sensitive and quick in temper, which, when at its height, was violent, and many laughable incidents occurred which indicated the foibles in his disposition, but they were only foibles, and who is free from them? One of his sons was a member of the firm of Cushman and Falconer, wholesale dry good dealers in New York City, but the firm was changed by the death of Falconer about 1834. Archibald Falconer was a tax-payer in the town nearly forty years. He died December 7, 1842, at the age of 76 years.

CHARLES FOOTE when about eleven years old was deprived of a parent by the death of his father, who left the family with but little of this world’s goods, and Charles went and lived with Amos Griffin, and was trained in economy and perseverance, and being possessed of energy he grew into life in after years a self-made man. He possessed good habits, and as he advanced in years he acquired the means to make life comfortable. Void of both military and political aspirations, he pursued the life of a farmer and drover, and as age advanced he changed his residence to the village of Hobart, where for many years he enjoyed life, clouded only by the loss of his offspring, yet brightened by the hope of re-union, until at last he too started on his final journey on the twelfth of May, 1875, at the age of 73 years.

DANIEL FOOTE came from Fairfield County, Conn., in or before 1793(as his name appears in the records of that date) and settled in the Township valley. He held various offices in the town, and was honest in all of the business transactions of life, and was a good citizen, but for many years was unable to perform hard labor. He was slim, with small limbs and used to enjoy telling the following story: In summer he wore light calfskin shoes often without stockings, and on a warm day, as he sat in his room much affected by the heat, and more by the flies that bit his ankles and crawled up his trousers legs, an old-style tin peddler’s wagon was drawn up before his door. The Yankee got off from the wagon and entering the house asked if he wanted to buy any tin-ware. Mr. Foote said he did not unless he had a pair of tin boots. The peddler seeing his ankles said he had, and went to his wagon, returning with a candle mould. The joke pleased the old gentleman much. He kept bees for many years, and was the custom of those days, made metheglin, a drink that was very agreeable to the taste, and one that was very likely to deceive those that are unacquainted with its intoxicating powers. A minister, who had not been a resident long, called on him a few times, and after some acquaintance he showed his hospitality by setting a pitcher of metheglin and a tumbler on the table, and asked the dominie if he would take some. The dominie poured out some and on drinking found the taste so agreeable that he poured out some more, and eventually found that it he “was nae fou” he “just had plenty.” Being ignorant of its strength the act is to be “winked at” and it was by Mr. Foote, for when he related it he laughed till both eyes nearly closed. He laid down the mortality that held his life on the twenty-seventh of July, 1840, at the age of seventy-eight years.

GEORGE FOOTE was a taxpayer in 1801 or before, and continued one till 1820, and Cyrenus Foote’s was on it in 1820. They carried on wool carding and cloth dressing for many years in Hobart, and some years later the manufacture of cloth was carried on by Messrs. Booth & Chatham to a considerable amount at the same stand, but about 1846 it was suddenly stopped by the burning of the factory and all its contents.

The present furnace and machine buildings are on the site of the "old factory." George Foote was a man of considerable business and at times owned some of the lots in the town, and he had an ashery, mention of which is found under date of 1804. He also owned the grist mill in Hobart, mention of which is found under date of 1806. After living a year beyond the usual time named as the period of life, he died June 20, 1820, aged 71 years.

GEORGE B. FOOTE was a steady, respectable man, and resided on the west side of the Delaware at the lower end of the village of Hobart, and was a farmer who possessed much more honest worth than vanity or deceit, but the cord of life in him was weak, and it broke on the third of September, 1864, when he was only 56 years old.

JABEZ FOOTE was a taxpayer in 1810 and lived on Lot No. 13, on the east of English and north of South Streets in the town plot, where he carried on the coopering business as well as farming until after 1830, when he sold his place and moved to Erie County, Pennsylvania. He was one of those persons others often take pleasure in vexing in various ways, not for a serious injury, but for a laugh at their irritation. He had a patch of fine watermelons, among which was an unusually large one, and on a bright moonlight night Mr. Foote and his wife were visiting and did not return home till near midnight, and after putting out his team he went to see if his melons had been disturbed, and lo! They were gone. He jumped onto his horse and ran it to a neighbor's for his aid in ascertaining who the perpetrators of the deed were, but his neighbor was not at home. He then rode to another and another neighbor's, but all were absent, and it seemed ominously strange to him that so many of his neighbors should be from home at that time of the night. The circumstances were so indicative, that the neighbors agreed to meet at his house some evening and settle the matter. He had a plenty of currants on his place and made a good supply of currant wine. The neighbors met as per agreement and to have everything smooth they bought wine, first one then another buying a pitcher full, and Mr. Foote had to join with them in drinking, and as often as the pitcher was emptied, it was refilled, until it became laborious to get up and down the cellar stairs after it, and another pitcherful being called for, and feeling unable to perform the task, he said to his wife: "Come Lucia, you go, I can't." In order to fill their host each neighbor became full, and some rested by the side of a stack of hay till morning, instead of by the side of their wives in bed.

JOHN FOOTE was a taxpayer in or before 1810 and resided in Hobart and carried on the blacksmith business. He had a shop by the side of the town brook south of the village where he had a trip-hammer which was operated by water power, and manufactured scythes. He resided in that village until the time of his death which took place on the twenty-fourth of April, 1834, at the age of 50 years.

ORRIN FOOTE was a native citizen of the town, and for many years a merchant in the village of Hobart, under the firm name of Foote & More. Having a taste for military honors, he held various official positions in the state militia up to that of colonel of the 87th regiment of infantry. He was supervisor in 1839 and in the four years following, and was a Member of Assembly in 1846. Prior to 1860, he went to Alexandria, Va., for a time, and then returned to New York City and became a merchant, and died July 18, 1873, at the age of 74 years.

PETER FOOTE was a Connecticut man and a taxpayer between 1805 and 1810. His farm was on the north side of the Town Plot and along the road leading north from Scotch Street in the Plot. He died on the twenty-first of April, 1846, at the age of 88 years.

WILLIAM FOOTE had the possession of his father's farm some years before his aged father died, and remained on it during his own life, which closed on the twenty-eighth of October, 1869, at the age of 80 years, and the farm is now possessed by William B. Foote, a son of the latter, and grandson of Peter Foote.

WILLIAM S. FOOTE was born in Stamford, and when of age followed the tin and sheet-iron business, with which, in later years, he carried on an extensive hardware business, all of which were continued till death placed the seal of silence on him, and closed his intercourse with the people of the world. He was an accommodating business man and full of energy, and bound his customers to him by his desire to please, and often benefited them more in the sale of goods than he did himself. When his life went out it lessened the light of the business life in his native village. He was town clerk in 1849, 1851 and 1852, and supervisor in 1871 and 1872, and also one of the railroad commissioners of the town, and for many years previous to and at the time of his death was post master in Hobart village. He died March 2, 1880, at the age of 56 years.

HENRY FORMAN resided in the lower part of the town and was a taxpayer in or before 1815, and till after 1850, when his name no longer appeared on the roll.

AYRES FULLER became a resident of the town sometime after 1815, and bought a farm about three-fourths of a mile south of the Stamford post office. He was a tidy farmer and contented with a good living and pursued the even course of a farm life till age rendered him incapable of labor, when he spent much time in reading the words that inspire a hope of a new life, and his aged form attained its rest on the sixteenth of March, 1862, when in its 90th year.

HUGH GEMMEL was a resident on Lot 21 in Great Lot 41 in the Roses Brook valley in 1805 or before, where he resided till after 1830, when he died, and his son Hugh Gemmel, Jr., lived on it during his life, which closed on the sixth of March, 1878, at the age of 75 years, making a continued possession of the premises for about three-fourths of a century. During the anti-rent excitement his feelings were strong in favor of the cause, as he truly believed in the invalidity of the titles of the landlords, but which has not yet been made invalid through the courts, though the effort to do so has left many stranded near if not on the shoals of bankruptcy. Mr. Gemmel possessed good abilities, and retained in his memory the kind as well as the unkind acts of others.

ARCHIBALD F. GILBERT was born in Stamford and chose a different vocation from the other male members of his father's family, and after going through the courses of study in Amherst College, studied for and became a minister in the Presbyterian denomination. Some years after he was the principal of the Stamford Seminary. It was while principal of the Seminary that a circumstance took place that illustrates his profanity. On Saturdays there was no school, and one Saturday he was at a farmer's barn in the village for a load of hay. As he was fixing a heavy chain around the tongue of the sleigh to have it ready for binding, he pinched his fingers badly and cried out "Oh!" and giving them a rub with the other hand, said in a low voice: "I'd rather be in the school-room." It would become others to be profane only in the same way. From Stamford he went to Prattsville as pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church, where he remained till the sixteenth of June, 1866, when his years were numbered and were only 41. He was a good speaker and in his sermons were no narcotics, and therefore there were no sleepers in his audience.

BENJAMIN GILBERT in his younger days lived in the east part of Harpersfield, at the old mill site above Hobart, but became a resident of Stamford on or before 1820, and spent the rest of his life in town, except about three years, during which he resided at Amherst, Mass. He was a social man, and almost a boy among his own boys, yet requiring their obedience. Age may enfeeble the physical abilities of such men, but their social faculties are always young, and he enjoyed a joke with his children as well as with others, and was always willing to accept one in return. But the social faculties at last have to yield to the effects of age on the physical system, when all become quiet in death. He died January 22, 1872, at the age of seventy-three years.



EBENEZER GILBERT was a resident tax-payer of the town between thirty and forty years and resided on a farm adjoining the present limits of the village of Stamford. He was captain of a company of militia, and held several town offices among which was that of justice of the peace for a term of four years from the first of January, 1837, after which he moved to Catskill and was a butter buyer and kept a small lumber yard. He died January 19, 1870, at the age of 77 years.

JESSE GILBERT was born in the town, and when a man purchased the farm occupied by himself and Henry Pratt, his father-in-law, at the head of Town Brook valley, where he continued several years, and then began the mercantile business in the village of Stamford in company with Ambrose Stevenson, and although apparently possessing a vigorous constitution, yet the change from a farm life to the confined life of a merchant was so great that it had an effect in diminishing the strength of his physical system, and on the fourth of October, 1863, it totally surrendered to the sapping power of disease, when only 40 years of age.

HUGH GILLESPIE was of foreign birth, and became a resident of the town about the year 1830. He lived in the eastern part of the Town Brook valley for many years, a prosperous farmer, and later in life left the farm in possession of his son, Alexander, and purchased a house and lot in the village of Hobart, where he resided at the time of his death, which was the ninth of June, 1868; aged 65 years.

JOHN GOODENOUGH, JR., resided in Harpersfield several years, and then in Stamford in various places; was a taxpayer a few years, and resided a part of the time in Stamford village near the railroad crossing on Main Street. He worked much as a day laborer, and none was more faithful, and the last years of his life were passed on a small farm in the east part of the town of Harpersfield, where he died on the thirty-first of July, 1875, at the age of 73 years.

CILLICK GOULD was born in the town and pursued a farm life on Lot number 24 in Great Lot 41 in the Roses Brook valley, and was a taxpayer nearly thirty years, and then his life went out on the twenty-first of March, 1864, when at the age of 61 years.

ISAAC GOULD was a resident of the town in 1789, and his name is found in the documents of the town in 1794, and it remained on the tax-list until his death on the fifth of January, 1823, aged 57 years.

TALCOTT GOULD's name appears in the records of the town in 1795, but he was a resident as early as 1789, and his name disappeared from the tax roll before 1805, either by death or removal.

ALEXANDER GRANT, JR., was a native of Scotland, and was there united in marriage with Jane Thompson, on the twentieth of November, 1787, after which he left the "auld countrie" and came to New York and on to Stamford in 1789, and located on the farm now occupied by the widow of Alexander I. Grant. In after years the Grants were many, and among them were several by the name of Alexander, and to designate him from the others he was often called left-handed Sandy, because he played on the violin left handed. He was an amiable Scotchman, with a sprinkling of fun in his disposition, and his descriptive power in speaking of his team as follows: "The black mere is the best mere in the world, but the bay mere is far superior." He lived a peaceful life and died April 29, 1832, at the age of 70 years. His widow survived him about thirty-seven years, and died on the tenth of April, 1869, at the great age of 105 years.

ALEXANDER GRANT, 3D., also usually called black Sandy, on account of his very black hair and beard, was a native of Scotland and became a taxpayer in the town between 1801 and 1805, having located in the eastern part of the Town Brook valley on Lot No. 94, where he prospered as a farmer and finally became the owner of four eighty-four acre lots, a considerable part of which was good grain soil, and the fields of

grain when they had assumed a golden hue presented a beautiful appearance when the beholder was on the other side of the valley. He was proud of his family connections in the "auld countrie," one of whom was a general in the English service, and when speaking of him usually closed by saying: "An' I tell ye, it's a divlish honor to have a general in the family." He was straight and of medium height, and after his step became slower and he walked with a staff to aid him in carrying the weight of his years, the writer heard him saying in a feeble and mournful tone to a neighbor: "I have a plenty of good rye bread, and a plenty of pork, but no appetite to eat it." And thus it is with man; he gathers in, and gathers in, but the time cometh when the fruits of his labor no more strengthens his frame and he glideth away and is no more.

ALEXANDER T. GRANT was a son of Alexander Grant, Jr., (called left-handed Sandy, one of the first settlers), and always resided on the homestead of his father, and was of genial, social abilities, and a good player on the violin, producing soft, sweet music, and increased his number of friends through life, which after some years of suffering, was closed on the twenty-sixth of February, 1877, at the age of 69 years.

ALFRED B. GRANT was born in Stamford, and worked for some years at the carpenter business, and during the last years of his life he kept a public house in Hobart, and died on the eight day of August, 1872, at the age of 55 years.

ANGUS GRANT was born in the town and lived on Lot number 237 adjoining the farm of his father, until the time of his death, which was on the twenty-first of February, 1859, when at the age of 41 years.

DAVID GRANT, son of Captain Donald Grant, Jr., was born in the town, and during the last years of his father's life worked his farm, and after his death became the possessor of it, and died February 21, 1871, when 62 years of age.

DONALD GRANT, JR., usually called Capt. Donald, was a taxpayer in 1805, and continued one near 60 years. He resided about two miles south of Stamford village, on the road leading to the Town Plot, where his days were numbered on the eighth of November, 1863. The number of his years were 82.

DONALD W. GRANT became the possessor of the Stilson farm and continued on it while he lived. He was captain of a company of militia, and he left his possessions on the fifth of December, 1862, at the age of 55 years.

DUNCAN GRANT was a son of "Captain Jim on the hill," and lived to the years of bachelorhood before he married, after which he resided on lands in the Town Plot. He was attentive to business, an officious politician but not an office seeker, a good farmer, and left his possessions on the twenty-eight day of February, 1859, at the age of 60 years.

DUNCAN J. GRANT came with his father, who was here before 1793, and located in the Town Brook valley, about a mile or more east of Hobart. Duncan J. Grant was a constable in the town for many years and also a deputy sheriff, and was the sheriff of the county in 1834, 1835 and 1836. He also carried on farming, but preferred official business and therefore was not a number one farmer. His life closed on the nineteenth of October, 1867, at the age of 80 years.

JAMES GRANT'S name appears in the papers of the town under the date of 1793, and he continued a taxpayer, till between 1815 and 1820. He was elected supervisor in 1809, and died March 25, 1820, aged 69 years.

JAMES GRANT, JR., usually called "Captain Jim on the hill," to designate him from other Grants, located

on Lot No. 75 in the north side of the Town Plot in 1799, and was a good and industrious farmer, and held official positions many times, and was a taxpayer over forty years, and until the wheels of time rolled him to the point where he dropped from life, which was on the twenty-seventh day of September, 1847, when at the age of 76 years.

JAMES A. GRANT, JR., was born in the town and for a time pursued the mercantile business in Hobart, and held the office of town clerk in 1850, and of supervisor in 1854, but the thread of life gave way on the seventh of December, 1863, when at the age of 38 years.

JAMES P. GRANT was also a son of Peter Grant, was a taxpayer in or before 1810, and resided on a farm adjoining and on the west side of the Town Plot, where he continued till his death on the nineteenth of March, 1860, aged 75 years.

JOHN D. GRANT first resided on lot No. 91 in the Town Brook valley, and was a tax-payer in 1810 and till between 1830 and 1840. He was unfortunate in the death of his wife, and his circumstances rendered it needful to look up another after a proper time. His next intended lived across the narrow valley from his residence, and just at dusk on a Sunday evening he started across the fields to visit his lady, but he had a tame deer that followed him, and he did not wish it to accompany him to see his other dear and tried to drive it back, but the animal was disobedient and refused to return, so he got a whip and commenced whipping it, and the deer, not having a broom like many other dears, struck with its foot and tore his pants down so badly that he was obliged to return home with his tame deer, to his own and the disappointment of his other dear. He afterwards sold his farm and located lower down the valley. He was a very timid man and schemes were planned for the appearance of ghosts in white sheets by having an accomplice with him who feigned fear and would lead to some other point where the ghost would again appear.

JOHN F. GRANT was born in the town, and in manhood was captain of a company of light infantry, and a merchant in the village of Hobart for several years, but the Messenger overtook him December 8, 1870, at the age of 55 years.

JOHN K. GRANT was born in the town, and after attaining to the years of majority had poor health for awhile, which prevented him from performing hard labor, and he held several offices in the town, but eventually made farming his business for several years, and was a good one, and possessed the confidence acquaintance-lived a peaceable life, which was closed on the thirtieth of November, 1875, at the age of 73 years.

PETER C. GRANT resided at the west side of the Town Plot and adjoining the place of his birth, where he followed farming, but his days were cut short on the thirty-first of July, 1859, when only 48 years old.

PETER P. GRANT was a son of Peter Grant, a brother of left-handed Sandy, who settled in 1789 on a farm adjoining Sandy's. Peter P. was a carpenter, and played on the violin, from which he produced a great volume of sound, and was the chief player at the dances for a long time. He was a captain of a volunteer company that was organized in 1823, the dress of the members of which was a Scotch plaid coat and white pants, and a plate and white feather on the hat, in which, when the dress was new, they made a fine appearance. He afterward was colonel of the regiment and then general of the 25th Brigade, and a taxpayer till after 1830.

ROBERT GRANT was a resident in or before 1800. He was a native of Scotland and on coming to Stamford located in the east part of the Town Brook valley, on Lot No. 92, where his son, William R. Grant, now resides, and was a steady and an industrious man, and continued a taxpayer till 1820 or after. The

writer, when a small boy, went to Mr. Grant's with one of his parents, and Mr. Grant showed him a glass cane and wanted him to walk with it, but it was too heavy to handle in walking. Mr. Grant died on the nineteenth of July, 1828, at the age of 74 years.

SWETEN GRANT was a taxpayer in 1805, and some years after lived where Novatus M. Blish now lives, and later on the north side of the road beyond Samuel M. Taylor's as you pass over the mountain towards Roxbury, and afterward bought the place where Mr. Canfield now lives near Bassett's, in the town of Harpersfield, where he remained several years and then moved to Albany, where he lived the rest of his years, which terminated on the twenty-first of August, 1871, when at the age of 85 years.

AARON GREGORY was a tailor, and resided in the village of Hobart. He would go to the residences of the farmers when they had got their cloth from the "fulling mill," as it was then called, and cut and made a year's clothing for the farmer and his boys, thus going from house to house. He wore a single-breasted coat with a narrow standing collar on it, and his hair was a foot or more in length, and combed back and braided and hung down behind him in a cue. He had a great dislike to cats, and one could enter the room where he was, although it was unseen, but he would instantaneously stamp, and scat! scat! scat! and spit, as though really distressed, and wherever he worked poor puss was kept out during the time. He was a taxpayer in 1815 and after, and died November 18, 1823, at the age of 71 years.

AMOS GRIFFIN was a native of Fairfield County, Conn., and came to Stamford about or soon after 1800, and was a taxpayer in 1805. He purchased lot No. 100 situated outside yet adjoining the town plot, where he resided till in 1832 or 1833, when he sold that farm and bought one on the west side of the Delaware, about a mile below Hobart, where he resided the remainder of his life. He held various town offices and was a supervisor in 1829 and in 1830. He was a farmer who delighted in all kinds of good stock, and the poor ones had no abiding place with him. He had the esteem of all who knew him for his virtues and social qualities rendered their esteem permanent, and his memory still lives in the minds of his acquaintances. His life closed on the fourteenth of August, 1869, at the age of 88 years.

HETH GRIFFIN was a native of Fairfield County, Conn., and purchased lot No. 88 in the Township valley, the deed of which bears the date of the twenty-seventh of February, 1793, but he did not leave his native place till in April, 1794, when he commenced the labor of clearing the timber on his farm. He sold off one-half of his lot to John M. Olmstead, and in 1801 bought ten acres off from lot No. 85, and in 1807 twelve acres more off from the same lot. A little later he bought lot No. 150, containing one hundred acres, and later still the one hundred acre lot No. 156. He selected an excellent soil for wheat and rye, some of which yielded good crops for eleven consecutive years without the use of fertilizers, and when seeded to grass was in good condition. He was not of the most robust of the early settlers, but performed a great amount of labor. He was one of the early settlers that was entertained with a wolf concert composed of the greatest number of canine vocalists ever known in that locality. A wolf having found game gave a signal call for help, which came in from every direction, and surrounded and secured a deer about thirty rods from his house, where they kept up their revelry in hideous songs till near morning. Their numbers were so great that Paint, the old wolf dog, who would have delighted in a single combat with one, crawled in by the inner side of the jamb of the huge fireplace and trembled with fear. The next morning the snow on about three-fourths of an acre was packed down like the road-track, and no vestage remained of the deer but the hair. Game was plenty, and the end of his barn retained the holes of fifteen buck-shot that entered it from being in range of a deer he shot as it passed between him and the barn. The old "Kings Arms" as it was called, carried the date of its make, which was 1762, and it was powerful two ways and laid out every male member of the family but one whose courage was not equal to the requirements necessary to withstand its force. It still exists in part-it has a new stock-the barrel has been shortened, and it is less powerful both ways. In its younger days Mr. Griffen killed forty-four pigeons with it at one shot. Foxes were troublesome

to the poultry, and on a Sabbath morning the depredations of one caused him to think he could do worse things than shoot the fox, and he took his gun and was proceeding to effect his purpose as one of the old, faithful circuit preachers rode along on horseback, who, seeing the man with a gun, thought it his duty to reprove him for such a violation of the Sabbath and said, "Where are you going with that gun?" The reply was in a low tone of voice, "Hold your tongue you devil, you, you'll scare the fox." Several times he arose in the night and went with his gun to drive the wolves off from his own and neighbors cattle, and also to shoot a bear that would be carrying a hog off. For more than a dozen of the last years of his life he was unable to labor, and his wearisome years finally ended on the fifteenth of November, 1824, at the age of sixty-six years, during which he lived an honest and an obliging man.

JOHN GRIFFIN was born in Fairfield County, Conn., and when a boy came to Stamford and resided awhile with his uncle, Heth Griffin, and then with David C. Wainwright, an uncle on his maternal side. Having been deprived of his father in his early years his energy was prompted to action through necessity or else become a partial dependent on his relatives, which was not congenial with the natural spirit within him, and he manfully struck out to contend with the events of his life and overcome the hindrances that so often stand in its pathway as discouragements in obtaining its comforting necessities. After becoming of age he by his honesty and energetic industry became possessed of an ability and influence that enabled him, in 1817, to start a store in the Town Plot, the site of which was a few rods west of the present residence of Novatus M. Blish, and on the same side of the street; and in a few years he bought of Sweten P. Grant a part of the land now included in Blish's farm, and then moved his store across to the north side of the street, where Blish's old store now stands, and also built an ashery, which was profitable both for the making of potash and the benefit of the leached ashes as a fertilizer for his land. He continued the mercantile business till about 1829, when he sold both the farm and store to Novatus Blish, and bought John Duncombe farm in the east part of the Town Brook valley; but his energy could not be confined to farming alone, and not long after he sold the farm to Hugh Gillespie, and moved to Hobart, where in the spring of 1832 he again commenced the mercantile business with Orrin Griffin under the firm name of J. & O. Griffin. He gave but little of his time to the store, preferring an active outdoor life and was ready for the purchase of wood, butter, and other productions of the farm, and drove stock to market in all kinds of weather, which he continued to do late in life, and when the inclemency of the season would have discouraged many men of less years and made them contented to stay by the fireplace at home. But his was an active will, and as long as the physical system was able to sustain the force of action it generated so long must the mechanical action continue, and it resulted in an abundance of the necessities of life. He was honest in all his business transactions, and obtained and retained the confidence of those with whom he had business intercourse. He was jovial in disposition and social intercourse, yet sensitive to a dishonorable imputation, and which was not kept back but was manifested so plainly as not to be misunderstood. He was supervisor of the town in 1825 and 1826, and a Member of Assembly in 1836. After being an active and influential member of the town for sixty years of his manhood, the physical powers of his system were no longer animated by the force of will, and the spirit of life left the tenement on the twenty-ninth day of June, 1867, when at the age of eighty years.

JOHN GRIFFIN, JR., was born in the town and kept the homestead of his father, Heth Griffin, and made farming his occupation in life, at which he was number one for his time. He was prompt in his business transactions, and truly honest in all his dealings, and scorned the hiding of an imperfection in any article; was fond of social enjoyment, and perfectly willing to give a harmless joke as well as to receive one. He lacked not for the needful things of life, possessed good habits, used no tobacco, and filled the measure of his days on the nineteenth day of March, 1867, aged 64 years.

ORRIN GRIFFIN was born in the town, and after laboring on the farm during the years of his minority, he entered into the mercantile business with Novatus Blish under the firm name of Blish & Griffin for the term

of three years, after which he removed to Hobart, and in 1832 was associated with John Griffin in the same business, under the firm name of J. & O. Griffin, with whom he was in business for several years; and with Baldwin Griffin, under the firm name of O. & B. Griffin, and after that continued in the business in his own name during the rest of his life. He was town clerk in 1829 and 1830, supervisor in 1837 and 1838, and a member of assembly in 1842. He possessed a military spirit and held various positions until he became general of the 25th Brigade in the sixth division of the militia of the State. He possessed courage and ability for a good officer in active service, and at the close of his life was greatly missed as a business man. He died on the thirty-first of July, 1854, at the age of 50 years.

SAMUEL GRIFFIN was either born in the town or brought in when an infant, and experienced the labors required to change the aspect of a new section of the county, and about 1820 bought Lot No. 156, on which he built a log house and commenced life as a married man. During the winter after moving into his house he was honored by the last serenade given by the wolves in the east part of the town. His house was at the north end of his farm, and the woods on the east side of his farm and for about half the width of it came to within about twenty rods of the house. In the fore part of the night three wolves passed up on the north side of the mountain range which is south of the Town Brook valley, and followed the belt of timber on the east side of his farm, down near to his house with an occasional series of prolonged howls that fell not charmingly on the ear in the night season. He had a flock of sheep lying under hovels which were at the ends of his barn, and hearing the wolves coming nearer and nearer, knew the danger the sheep were in, and was soon out of bed a-loading his flint-lock musket, after which he took a tin lantern (the tin lantern was a piece of tin with small oblong holes in it, bent round like a tube, cone shaped at the top, with a swing tin door on the side, and without any glass) with a tallow candle in it and went out to protect his sheep. The noise of the wolves had scared the sheep and they ran across the fields to an adjoining farm where he found them with his neighbor's sheep, whom he called up, and they secured both flocks on the barn floor. He then returned home honored with their strains of music, the producers of which were near, but not sufficiently so to be seen by the light of a tin lantern in a dark night. They remained until about four o'clock in the morning, when they closed their pipes and moved up the westerly slope of the mountain and took lodgings inside of a fence that surrounded a stack of hay, where they lay till after daylight, when they were seen going to the woods. In the morning it was seen that they had been within six rods of his house. That night was the last time the writer heard the howl of a wolf. Mr. Griffin, after a few years, sold that farm and purchased another at the northeast corner of the Town Plot, where he resided several years, then sold again and purchased the tannery in Hobart, where he carried on the tanning business till his death, which occurred on the fourth of August, 1846, at the age of 52 years. He was a hard-working and a strictly honest man, and went to his rest with many friends to cherish, but no enemies to scoff at the remembrance of him.

DANIEL HAIT was a son of Ezra Hait and continued on the homestead of his father many years.

EZRA HAIT was a resident in the town in 1793, if not before, and settled on Lot No. 9 in the Delaware Valley, where he spent the rest of his life, which closed on the eleventh of May, 1849, at the age of 89 years. It was the loss of his flour which was stolen from Rose's mill that caused the thief to suffer the penalty of the law both in the stocks and at the whipping post, of which mention has before been made.

STEPHEN HAIT, a son of Ezra Hait, was born in Stamford, and was a man well-informed in the early incidents of the town, as well as in the current events in general, of good mechanical genius, and resided at the upper end of the Roses Brook Valley, was a farmer of good reputation, and a taxpayer for forty years or more, and ceased to live on the third of July, 1868, at the age of 71 years.

BENJAMIN HALL was a resident in the town in or before 1794, and was a taxpayer in the town till after 1810. He resided in the Town Plot on lot No. 45, a ten-acre lot lying north of Irish and east of English

Streets, which are now discontinued. His dwelling was on the summit of the hill, the site of which is now known by a few apple trees that stand as monuments indicating the place of his home. He was buried in the cemetery that formerly was where the residence of Hon. F.R. Gilbert now is, and when by an act of the Legislature that cemetery was discontinued, and the remains of those therein interred were removed, his were in a pretty good state of preservation, and a hole in the back of the skull of the size of a musket ball indicated an operation by trephining. His bones were removed to the present Stamford cemetery.

J. WAKEMAN HANFORD was a son of Dr. Thomas Hanford and was born in the town, and in his youth was a clerk in the store of Charles E. Perry, in Hobart, and by his facilities for and close attention to business became a partner at the old stand in Hobart, under the firm name of Perry & Hanford, and afterwards bought out his partner and continued the business the remainder of his life at the same place. He was both cautious in and attentive to his business, which are two qualities that tend to the prosperity of the business man. Long credits were given in those days, and the man who was lacking these qualities would make but little advancement in accumulation of wealth, and might find embarrassment very near. He was an active political worker in the town, but not an aspirant for office. He finished his useful life on the tenth of December, 1861, at the age of 51 years.

DR. S. BRUNDAGE HANFORD, a young physician of much promise, practiced in Hobart for a time, but "the lamp of life" went out on the sixteenth of May, 1842, at the early age of 28 years.

DR. THOMAS HANFORD was a practicing physician in the village of Hobart(then Waterville) sometime between 1805 and 1810. He was called a good doctor in his time, and used the simple remedies of his day, the chief cathartics being salts, senna, jalap, and sometimes rhubarb. Were an old practitioner of his day to enter the office of an M. D. of this time he might be startled as he viewed the labels of the various extracts and compounds, and the chemical productions and the combinations of the present time, and were such an one to read of the healing effects and the virtues of the various patent medicines(so called), he might think it useless to form a co-partnership with Death, as from the testimony given he might think Death's power over mortality had passed away, and that the physical as well as the spiritual part of man must live forever. And were he to visit the various cemeteries and see how fast the gathering in has been, would he not say: "O fools! Why did you die, when life and health were within your reach?" But could he continue a little longer to test the virtues of them all, he might cry: "Fool that I am to be thus gulled, and now I die again." The doctor was rather full in his physical formations, and his rides were almost wholly performed on horseback. A good portion of wit and a love of fun entered into his composition, which are the associates of a social disposition. His life terminated suddenly by a fall from his horse on the fourth of December, 1825, when at the age of 49 years.

NATHANIEL HIGBIE was a farmer who resided at the upper end of the Roses Brook valley, who gave his time to his occupation, and after 90 years of life it passed away on the twenty-sixth of September, 1870.

CYRUS HINMAN lived on the farm now occupied by his son, Chauncey, where he passed many years in a peaceful manner, winning the esteem of his acquaintance thereby, and when a little past the midway of time allotted to man, his life on the third of September, 1833, left the body when in its 44th year.

In 1805, there were four taxpayers in the town by the names of John, Philo, Eliphalet and Daniel Hotchkiss, and in 1810, John and Eliphalet and another by the name of Libeus were taxpayers. Jay Gould, in his history of Delaware County, says two men by the name of Hotchkiss lived on Roses Brook, near the Cillick Gould place, and "discovered a fresh wolf track on the snow, and immediately determined to go in pursuit. They prepared their guns and ammunition and started on the track. After following it part of a day they found the wolf had crawled into a hollow tree that had broken off and fallen directly down a steep hill. Into

this crooked tree there was no way of leveling their guns so as to fire at the sheep stealer with any chance of success. Being very anxious of securing their game, and having no axe to cut the tree, one of the hunters entered head foremost, with his gun to pilot his way; after getting to a crook in the tree, he made room enough to admit a little light, and when he saw the glaring eyes of the wolf before him, in this position he leveled his gun and fired, and then retreated to the open air as fast as possible. After reloading, he again entered the tree and felt his before him with his gun; finding that all was still, he returned near enough to touch the wolf with his rifle. As he gave no signs of life the hunter reached forward with his hand, got hold of his ears and dragged the wolf out after him.” There were no taxpayers by the name of Hotchkiss in 1815.

WILLIAM HOLLIDAY was not a resident of Stamford, though represented as having lived in the eastern part of Delaware County, which is a mistake, though one that might have easily been made at the early period at which he settled on the western bank of Lake Utsayantha, which was in 1791. A decade had only just past after the time the Indians lay in ambush on the very site on which he built his house, where he slept over the soil where they lay in waiting for their pursuers, and trod where their footprints had been made when they shed the blood and blotted out the lives of two of their pursuers. It was easy to be mistaken, as the county of Delaware had not been formed when Mr. Holliday resided there, therefore he may have supposed that he had resided in the eastern part of Delaware County, when in fact it was then in Albany County and now in Schoharie County. His house stood by the side of the wood-house where John B. Griffin now resides, and a hollow of the old cellar of his house was leveled off less than ten years ago. His residence was only a few rods outside of the present Delaware County line, and later occupants have been deceived by supposing the county line to have run through the centre of the site of the house. This might have easily been supposed from the course of the county line as it approaches the lake from the east. The place where he resided was on Lot No. 1 in the Straasburgh Patent, and the most southerly point of the patent. Here Mr. Holliday commenced an opening in the forest, on the bank of the lake, which soon gave him a pleasant prospect of the little water and of the mountains beyond. He lived here but a short time before Dugald McIntyre settled on lands adjoining him, which are now in Delaware County, and William Cowley on lands adjoining him on the other side. Mr. Holliday is said to have moved from this place to the present town of Colchester, where he died on the twenty-first of February, 1854, at the age of 104 years. His early settlement near the line of the town, and his great length of life seem to entitle him to a place in the history of the town, and also as the site of his residence must remain a historic one, because of its having been on the battle-ground at the lake.

SAMUEL HOLLOWAY spent thirty or more years of his life on the farm near Stamford village where Richard VanDyke now lives, and after selling the same to the latter moved to Erie County, Pa., where he finished the last of life.

DR. CALVIN HOWARD resided in Hobart and practiced the healing art over twenty years, and then changed residence to Delhi, where he resided the remainder of his life. He was a good physician, a great reader of the daily or weekly papers, and firm in his political principles as a Whig, and his mind was much employed in thought, and sometimes almost to forgetfulness in leaving medicine for his patients, and once, to the oiling of his garment in consequence of not taking a small package of butter from his pocket, which he pressed between himself and seat, which circumstances only caused a little merriment. He was a respected citizen, and his earthly life ceased on the nineteenth of May, 1873, when 81 years old.

ISAAC HUBBELL was one of the first settlers and took a title of Lot No. 25 in the Roses Brook valley, bearing the date of August 1, 1791, but his name disappeared from the roll between 1801 and 1805.

PATRICK HUGHS was born in Ireland and came to Stamford before 1830, was a wagon-maker and resided in Hobart about thirty years, and his life ceased on the tenth of May, 1858, at the age of 57 years.



JOSEPH HURD resided in the town as early as 1795, if not before, and his name is found as a witness in many of the deeds given during the early years of the town. For a time he lived in a house that stood westerly of the present residence of Timothy L. Montgomery, and at that time the road ran higher up the hill with quite a rise from the saw-mill, but was afterwards changed to the present line. He afterwards lived at the south side of the Town Plot on the west side of the road leading to the head of Roses Brook, but his name disappeared from the tax list between 1810 and 1815, though he was a resident after that.

EBENEZER JENNINGS was one of the stable old farmers in the Roses Brook valley, was a taxpayer before 1810, and for several subsequent decades, and at last yielded to the Power that overcometh all on the first day of August, 1860, at the age of 76 years.

PETER JENNINGS settled on lot number 112 in Great Lot 41, and acquired a title on the first of December 1793. His farm was in the Roses Brook valley, and his name was not on the list in 1815.

BURTON JUDSON resided in the Town Brook valley and on the summit of the hill east of the Methodist Church where a few maple trees yet remain as memorials of a residence long since gone. He was a man who some would call a teaser, while his wife, who was a member of the Episcopal Church, was of a more nervous temperament. Some rods from his house was a spring run which produced early feed, and in which his cow got down, and being informed of her situation, he started, followed by his wife, to get her up. As he, in advance, followed along the foot-path his wife urged him along faster, and he to remind her of both faith and duty, began to make supplication by repeating sentences from the litany and keeping a moderate step as he went along as though haste would not be a manifestation of faith. His better half knowing the insincerity of his pretensions, and thinking the life of their only cow in danger, could endure the existing state of circumstances no longer and abruptly broke in upon his supplications with "Step, d\_\_\_ you, step." Mr. Judson's name is not on the tax list in the years given in the table.

JOHN B. JUDSON settled in the town on lot No. 104 about 1800. The land around his building lay descending westerly, and the east end of his house was one and a half story and the west end two and a half stories high, thus forming a basement at the west end. Along the front was a piazza from which was a pleasant view. The lads and lassies of those days occasionally assembled there, and as the "fiddle" pounded forth the good old "Hornpipes", "The Highland Reel", "Money Musk," "Cheat the Lady," and other like tunes, with nimble steps kept time with the music with an energy that indicated their enjoyment. There was no mawkish sensibility in their manners, and though not polished in schools of trained politeness there was a truthfulness of heart that shone with a luster that dims the training of art which is so often a cloak of hypocrisy. Mr. Judson had a neighborly appearance in his physical facial formation by the nearness of his long curved nose and his projecting up-turned chin, which seemed in harmony with each other. He possessed considerable influence and had the comforts of life, which was closed on the twenty-first of December, 1829, when aged 70 years.

SAMUEL JUDSON was from Connecticut and resided by the side of Lake Utsayantha in the town of Jefferson, on the corner lot of the Straasburg Patent until 1833 or after, when he became a resident of the town of Stamford and within the present limits of the village, where he lived until the time of his death, which took place on the twenty-seventh of June, 1850, when at the age of 81 years. He was an old-style farmer, attentive to his business, prudent in his expenditures, successful in his accumulations, plain and homely in his dress, temperate in his habits, short and imperative in his supplications, as the following circumstance illustrates: During a very hard south wind as he was in the chamber of his house and the shingles began to fly he shouted out, "Lord God! Mortal man! Hold on!! Hold on!!!" He possessed a large farm at the time of his death, and about sixteen thousand dollars in notes, bonds and mortgages. He pos-

essed one admirable trait of character-that of minding his own business instead of other people's.

SAMUEL JUDSON, JR., was born just outside the town limits in the adjoining town of Jefferson, but moved into the town with his father, and about 1836 commenced the mercantile business, in which he continued about twenty years with but little advancement in the acquisition of wealth, but on the death of his father, in 1850, he became the possessor of a farm and several thousand dollars in bonds, est., which he enlarged in amount, and in his will gave five hundred dollars each to the Methodist and Presbyterian Societies of Stamford village toward a bell for each church, provided each society would raise an equal amount for that purpose; he also gave the sum of fifteen hundred dollars for a library provided the people would raise an equal amount for the same purpose. He also remembered the freedmen in his will, but none of that legacy hath yet warmed or clothed them, nor has it enlightened their minds. He died on the eighteenth of August, 1870, at the age of 61 years.

DENNIS KENNY was a resident taxpayer in the northeast part of the town between 1820 and 1830, and was of Irish nationality, and a steady, quiet man, and when nearly eighty years had passed over him he slept in death, which was on the fourteenth of July, 1847.

JOHN KING was a resident in the Roses Brook valley before 1830. He was of foreign birth, a good citizen and faithfully performed the duties of life till on the eighteenth of November, 1873, when at the age of 78 years life was not.

EDMUND LAMB's name appears in 1801, and he may have been a resident previous to that time. His name disappeared from the list after 1830.

EDMUND LAMB resided in the lower part of the town and was a taxpayer over forty years, had a good reputation, and closed a long life on the eighth day of February, 1875, at the age of 81 years.

PATRICK LAMB'S name is found in the town documents under the date of 1793, and was the third person who held the office of supervisor in the town after its erection; his term was in 1798, and was elected again in 1799, and again in 1804 and in 1806, and was a Member of Assembly in 1800, which shows that he had the confidence of the people of his time. His name was dropped from the list after 1830 having been on near fifty years. Susanna, widow of Patrick Lamb, died October 30, 1860, aged 96 years.

WILLIAM LAMB, with his sons, Lemuel, John and Charles, came about or before 1790, and settled on the site of the old Samuel Judson house, just south of the present residence of Noah P. Judson, Delaware Street, in Stamford village, and at which place in after years two highways crossed each other, making four corners. At this place, in later years, a store was kept in one end of the house by the sons. This was the second building erected in Stamford village. They also built an ashery and manufactured potash. In still later years, they kept a public house on the present site of the Delaware House, and John Lamb was a supervisor of the town when it was a part of Ulster County(1796) and the first supervisor after it was included in Delaware County, and a Member of Assembly in 1803. William Lamb's name was not found under dates after 1801, nor John Lamb's after 1805, and Lemuel and Charles Lamb's names disappeared after 1820. Charles moved to Missouri, where he died December 3, 1858, at the age of 76 years.

HUGH LEAL was a tax-payer in 1815 if not before, and his name remained on the assessment roll in 1860 and perhaps later. He resided on lot No. 209 at the eastern extremity of the Town Brook valley. Was a well-read man in the news of the day as well as in history. He had many years of poor health. Removed to the town of Kortright where he spent the remainder of his days.

DR. JOSEPH LEAL was born in the town and was a practicing physician in Stamford village for a time, and then moved to Moresville, where he was overcome by the power which he tried to defeat in others, on the seventh of July, 1862, and only at the age of 38 years.

DAVID LEAMING was a soldier of the Revolution, and a pensioner, as shown by the certificate of the secretary of war hereinbefore given. He was a tax-payer in the town in or before 1810, and remained one till after 1820, when he answered to his last roll call.

MARTIN LEET resided on Lot No. 4 in Great Lot 41 at the mouth of Roses Brook, where he carried on the mercantile business for several years. In this locality was formerly a post office by the name of Roseville. Mr. Leet was town clerk for seven years in succession in and after 1808, and again four years in succession in and after 1816, and at some time thereafter he changed his residence to another part of the county, and his life terminated on the nineteenth of December, 1866, at the age of 87 years.

BRADLEY LYON was one of the Roses Brook farmers whose early days were surrounded by the woods of the valley, and who held on to life for 74 years, when it departed from him on the sixth of September, 1865.

WALTER LYON with his wife and a child one year old started from Connecticut in company with John Polly and his wife, for Stamford with an ox team and arrived there in (some say 1789 and others 1791). This, then, long journey is said to have taken eighteen days to accomplish it, and a part of the way they were guided only by a line of marked trees. They settled in the Roses Brook valley, and coming at that early time knew well the hardships of a pioneer life and year by year saw the change in the appearance of the country, and also the increase in the comforts of life, but on the nineteenth of March, 1829, he ceased from his labors when at the age of 60 years.

ROBERT S. MARSHALL was a son of Dr. Marshall of Kortright, and after completing his studies for the practice of medicine he located in Hobart not far from 1830, where he continued to practice till the gold excitement of California lured him from his home, family and patients, and he left for the accumulation of wealth, with the expectation with returning with a sufficiency to make life easy and pleasant. But it was not his fortune to do so, for a summons came, the call of which he could not delay, and on the twenty-ninth of December, 1850, he answered it.

GEORGE WASHINGTON MARTIN moved from Patchin Hollow to Stamford village about 1856, where he carried on the blacksmith business. He was supervisor in 1863, and in 1867 he moved to Prattsville, where he kept an inn until his death, which occurred August 16, 1869, aged 48 years.

ANTHONY MARVINE'S name appears in the documents of the town under date of 1808, and if not a resident before that time, he resided just outside of the town line on the west side of the Delaware, and while there was appointed Surrogate on the twentieth of March, 1797, before whom the will of St. Leger Cowley was proved on the seventh of August, 1797, and as before stated was the first will proved in the county of Delaware after its formation. Mr. Marvine held the office of Surrogate during his life. He moved to Hobart, from his first place of residence on the west side of the Delaware, and lived near the Episcopal Church, in the house which has been known as "Marvine House" for three-fourths of a century. At the time of his death, 1810, he had a family of eight children, all minors, which were left to the care of his widow, who braved the cares and labors of life until all were educated and had attained to the age of men and women and were able to care for themselves, and then, on the twenty-eighth of February, 1854, Mrs. Abigail Marvine, the parental guardian of those children, ceased from her labors, and in peace of mind through an abiding faith entered into the sleep of death in the eightieth year of her age.

STEPHEN MAYNARD was a native of Bedford, Westchester County, N. Y., and before his settlement in the town looked this wild section over as far down the Delaware as near Delhi, and being suited with the place usually known as the "Frisbee Farm," this side of Delhi, he agreed on the price to be paid for it and returned for his family. Previous to this, Daniel Clark had become owner of a tract extending a mile easterly from the Delaware River at Stamford village, and borrowed the money Maynard had with him, agreeing to pay it when Maynard returned with his family to go to his place down the Delaware. But when Maynard came with his family he was unable to get the money of Clark, and not desiring to lose it bought a part of Clark's tract and located on it. He was much disappointed in not being able to go to the place he selected, but being a man of will he commenced cutting away the timber for a site for his hut, but when digging for a foundation was much discouraged, thinking he had bought many stone and but little soil. It was in 1794 that he commenced to disturb the growth of timber that for all previous time had been sustained and reproduced by nature, and which through his efforts receded farther and farther, but the soil with which he was so disheartened gave him a plenty of food and his flocks yielded him raiment, and he trained up his family in the honest ways of their father, and when he had fulfilled the duties of life, and had seen his section changed from a forest to a closely inhabited one, on the third day of November, 1823, his heart ceased to pulsate, having then numbered 63 years, and his remains were interred on his farm just north of the railroad, and John Wesley Maynard, a grandson, is now the occupant of the old homestead.

GEORGE MCCALL moved into Stamford from the adjoining town of Kortright, and lived on the farm on the northeasterly side of the road from the "old school house on the green," previous to 1860. He was a deacon of the Presbyterian Church in Hobart, and in speaking of that society, said: "There are four deacons in the church, and a divil of a one of 'em can pray but myself." In speaking of his wagon, he said "there was one thing very peculiar about it-it was paid for." He died on the first of June, 1874, at the age of 63 years.

ALEXANDER MCDONALD resided in the lower part of the town and was a man that possessed the good opinion of the people, and held various official positions in the town; was elected supervisor in 1848, and again in 1850, and was discharged from all the duties of life on the twenty-fourth day of July, 1865, at the age of 57 years.

ALEXANDER MCDONALD, SR., was a resident in the town in or before 1794, and continued a taxpayer till his death on the tenth of January, 1828, aged 83 years.

ALEXANDER MCDONALD, JR., was a taxpayer from or before 1801, till his death on the tenth of December, 1826, aged 63 years.

ALEXANDER DUNBAR M'DONALD, a son of Duncan McDonald, Esq., a few years after he became twenty-one went to California, and having good business habits he obtained employment in San Francisco, and acquired a large property, but impaired his health, and was obliged to leave his earnings on the fourth of October, 1875, at the age of 56 years.

ANGUS MCDONALD was in the town with his father's family when a child and therefore was a beholder of the changes of the town from a wild to a cultivated tract, as well the succeeding of generations, and long braved the toils of life in the Town Brook valley, east of Hobart, and was a taxpayer over half a century, when his spirit departed from its tenement on the fourth of May, 1878, at the age of 90 years.

DUNCAN MCDONALD came in the town with his father, when a boy, and about or before the erection of the town, and was a justice of the peace for fifteen years or more. He lived on a farm about midway between Blish's store and Hobart, but unable to labor for many years, during which he enjoyed not the

comforts of rest and sleep upon a bed because of the asthma. He was a trustworthy man, and died on the fourteenth of January, 1854, at the age of 67 years.

DANIEL MCGILLIVRAE was an early settler in the town and a taxpayer in or before 1801, and in 1804 acquired title of Lot No. 17 in Great Lot 41 in the lower part of the Delaware valley, and closed his life August 28, 1805, at the age of 76 years.

DANIEL MCGILLIVRAE, JR., was a taxpayer in the town in 1801, and resided at the lower end of the town; was supervisor in 1815, and again in 1816, and a man highly esteemed, and quit the scenes of life on the twenty-first of November, 1853, at the age of 78 years.

CHARLES MCGREGOR was a Scotchman and married Jennett, daughter of William Shaw, and during life lived on the place he bought of Donald Rose. For some reason he felt a little "riled" with his father-in-law, who not very long after became deceased. In those days the grief of men for the loss of a relative was manifested by a long strip of black crape which was put around the hat and fastened behind with the ends left flowing eight or ten inches in length. Death softens a hardness of feeling, at least sufficiently to allow conformity to custom, and McGregor had his hat trimmed with the badge of grief. He soon after passed a neighbor of his father-in-law, who knew the previous state of feeling, and seeing the crape flowing in the rear he accosted him by saying, "McGregor, what have you got there?" looking up at his hat. "O, Hypocrisy! Hypocrisy!" was the truthful reply. And were all men thus truthful, how often the same would be said under like circumstances.

ROBERT MCGREGOR was a son of Charles McGregor and lived on a farm at the northeast corner of the town plot and died there previous to 1870.

ROBERT MCGREGOR was born in the town and when of age bought Lot number 104, where he resided at the time of his death, on the fourteenth of May, 1868, at the age of 56 years. He was an industrious man.

KENNETH MCKENZIE was a tax-payer in or before 1810 and had a farm in the Town Brook valley about half a mile before Blish's store, where he had a mill and ground grain for the people, and one day in each year was devoted to the grinding of salt, notices of which were previously posted in different places in town. He was a quick spoken man, and had a habit of repeating a few words of a sentence. The time for grinding was on the twenty-fourth of July, and Dr. Hanford, who had a taste for fun, changed one of the notices so as to have it conform to his manner of speech, viz.:

"July instant, twenty-fourth day,  
Bring your salt, your salt you may;  
To the mill, the mill of mine,  
It shall be ground, ground fine."  
His name was off the list after 1820.

WILLIAM MCKENZIE was a resident in 1795 if not before, and continued one till between 1815 and 1820, when his name disappeared from the roll.

ARCHIBALD MCLEAN was a native of Scotland and became a resident of the town in 1805. He settled at the head of Roses Brook valley and was a tax-payer till after 1815.

CHARLES MCLEAN was a son of Archibald McLean and bought a farm at the head of the Town Brook valley in 1810, where he resided until the time of his death, which was on the tenth day of July, 1839, at the age of 54 years.

JOHN MCLOUGHLIN was a native of Ireland, and mixed a little with the disturbances in that country towards the close of the eighteenth century and through good fortune made his exit from there and landed in N.Y. City. He did not become a resident of Stamford till 1814 when he settled on Lot No. 235 in the northeast part of the Town Brook valley. He was a rope maker by trade and continued the business in connection with farming. In political principles he was strongly Democratic, and was full of quick Irish wit that caused many to laugh. He died January 10, 1851, aged 76 years.

WILLIAM MCLAUGHLIN settled on lot number 240 sometime after 1820, and performed much labor in clearing up his farm, and after several years his nervous system became affected and he passed many years without being able to labor and therefore sold his farm and purchased a small place at South Kortright, where he resided through the rest of his life. He frequently related his meeting with a bear. His cows ranged the woods on the side of the mountain, and often near milking time he was obliged to go after them. One time about sundown as he was passing along through the woods, just as he was close to a fallen tree that lay across his course, he saw a bear with two cubs near by, and the bear discovering him at the same time gave a signal sound, when the cubs quickly climbed up a tree, when the bear with a growl advanced to the fallen tree before him and put her fore paws upon the tree with a continued growl. He was so frightened that he dare not run, but stood like a statute-not even winking. The bear after awhile seeming to think him harmless, walked back and gave another signal, when the cubs let loose their hold and dropped to the ground and followed the old bear off, which was a great relief to the frightened man. He died October 20, 1865, at the age of 67 years.

Paul McPhail was an early settler in the town and lived on the east side of the Delaware River, near the lower end of the town, and his name was on the tax list in 1801, and until after 1820, when it was left out of the roll.

ALEXANDER MCPHERSON was an early settler in the town and lived on the south side of the Delaware, opposite of Bloomville, and his name was on the tax list in 1801 and until after 1820. He was one of the jovial old Scotchmen that enjoyed the festivities of that social people that were so highly elated by the sound of the bag-pipes and other musical instruments-and it is said that when a marriage took place in his family the dance was kept up for near a week. A lively set were those jolly old Scotchmen.

JAMES MCRAE was an early settler in the east part of the Town Brook valley and was one of the two settlers who asked of the land owner a leave that he might be able to start a new farm. His name is found in the town records in 1796 and he continued on his farm till neat 1830, when he sold his place and moved to Michigan. He was faithful in his farming business, was a good neighbor and enjoyed a glass of good liquor, but did not frequent the ditch. He almost always rode on horseback, but did not lose his foothold in the stirrups though at times he swayed like a reed in the wind. He would not be aided in mounting a horse, and when he drank it was alone and not with another, and he did not offer another a temptation by asking him to drink. He possessed a good vocabulary of words and his phrase was grammatical, yet often contained so many high-flown words that the understanding of the less learned was often puzzled. His farm comprised lot No. 74.

JOSIAH MEIGS was a resident cabinet maker in Hobart about forty years, was a man of good morals, and void of political aspirations, choosing the meek ways of life, rather than the ways of vain popularity, and left this life in the hope of a better one on the nineteenth of December, 1867, at the age of 83 years.

LEVINUS MONSON was a lawyer who resided in Hobart for many years, having commenced the practice of law there not far from 1820. He was a well-educated man, but rather stiff in his manners; was supervisor

in 1823 and 1824, and his ability procured him the appointment of Justice in the Sixth Judicial District of the State, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Justice Morehouse, and his life ended on the twenty-fourth of September, 1859, at the age of 70 years.

THOMAS MONTGOMERY became a resident of the town between 1825 and 1828, having previously lived in the town of Roxbury. He purchased the premises now known as the Delaware House, which he greatly improved, and to which he gave the name, and also purchased the store opposite, moved the wagon-house back, effected a change in the line of the road now known as Academy Street. He carried on the mercantile business in company with J.F. Cowles, under the firm name of Montgomery & Cowles, and had an ashery for the manufacture of potash; was appointed post master soon after becoming a resident, which office he held till 1844, when he sold his real estate and moved to Prattsville, Greene County, where he resided during the remainder of his life, which terminated on the fifteenth of February, 1869, at the age of 78 years.

THOMAS MURPHY was a son-in-law of Dennis Kenny, and bought his farm, on which he built a new house in the summer of 1856, but possessing a weak constitution he, when well prepared to have the comforts of life, had to leave them, as his summons came on the second of December, 1856, when about 45 years old.

WILLIAM NESBITT, SR., was a taxpayer in the town before 1810, and his name was off the list after 1820, and his sons, George and William Jr., were taxpayers in or before 1820. They lived at the upper end of the Roses Brook valley, and were good citizens. George Nesbitt died June 1, 1857, at the age of 65 years, and William Nesbitt Jr., died in July, 1865, at the age of 71 years.

JOHN ODELL became a taxpayer in the town previous to 1840, and continued one for over thirty years; was a farmer and quiet citizen, and died March 22, 1870, at the age of 75 years.

DAVID OSBURN was a resident in 1795, and remained a taxpayer until after 1810, when his name was on the list no longer.

PETER OSBURN was a Connecticut man, and a soldier in the Revolution, and his name is found in the papers of the town under the date of 1793, and in 1805 occupied a part of lot No. 16 in Great Lot 41, where he resided till after 1810, when he moved into the town of Kortright, where he died in March, 1819, at the age of 88 years.

JESSE PALMER was a resident as early as 1795, and settled in the lower part of the town on Lot No. 6, in Great Lot 41, and was a taxpayer till after 1820, when his name was no longer continued on the list. He died December 28, 1824, at the age of 69 years.

NEHEMIAH PALMER was a taxpayer nearly fifty years, and his last farm residence was in the Town Brook valley, a mile or more east of Hobart.

DAVID M. PECK was a resident in Hobart for several years, and carried on the furnace business till about 1860, when he sold out and went to California, and died December 11, 1868, at the age of 38 years.

JOHN M. PECK, a brother of David Peck, also resided in Hobart for awhile, then went to California, where he was successful in accumulating wealth, but his health was poor, and after a tour to Europe he visited Stamford, then returned to California, soon after which he left his possessions, and his life closed on the eighteenth of January, 1879, at the age of 49 years.

MOSES L. PENDLE was a taxpayer in 1805, if not before, and lived in the village of Stamford a little northwesterly of the present residence of James Harper. He was a player on the violin and made music for the "merry dancers" for many miles around, and was very fond of a social glass, and for a part of his life was what some would call hard. But he became convinced of the evil of his ways and turned therefrom and became a preacher and a practicer of righteousness. Although "the believing wife sanctified the believing husband," there were some events that indicated that his wife was not wholly sanctified through his belief. One Sunday, just as he was going to preach, she wished him to get a piece of meat out of the smoke-house, and as he went for it, she followed, and while he was getting it down she shut the door and fastened him in, thus preventing him from fulfilling his appointment. At another time, when a meeting was being continued in the place, some ministers stayed with him through the night, and after the evening services he told his wife they would have a light supper before retiring, and she hastened to comply with his request, and in a short time returned and told him their supper was ready. On entering to partake of their meal, they found several lighted candles on the table, but no food.

SETH PERKINS was a merchant in the village of Hobart for several years, and when the California gold fever was raging in this section he became a subject, and started for that place with high expectations of obtaining enough for this world's use in a short time, when life would be free from the labor of accumulation. But however high our hopes may run they often are not realized. He had advanced some way on his journey and the ship that bore him along had turned its prow towards the desired haven, but it could not transport the spirit of life to it. He became ill, and when in 18 deg., 20 min. north latitude, and 103 deg., 40 min. west longitude, the ship's company gathered on the deck and the body of Seth Perkins was slid into the Pacific Ocean at eight o'clock in the forenoon of the second day of July, 1850, and then had he possessed the gold of Ophir it would have availed him nothing. Could men but cultivate contentment when blessed with the comforts of life, how greater would be their enjoyment. He died at half-past three o'clock on the morning of July 2, 1850, at the age of 36 years, just at the mid-way of life, and how quick the great deep embraced his remains.

CHARLES B. PERRY became a resident in the town about or soon after 1805, and lived in the village of Hobart, and mention is made of "Perry's Store" in the documents of the town under the date of 1807. He pursued a mercantile life and the manufacturing of potash for many years. He held various official positions in the town, and was elected supervisor in 1811, which office he held four years in succession, and again was re-elected to the same office in 1820, and held it for three years more, and helped pay the taxes for forty or more years, and then moved to another part of the State. He was an honest and a candid man, and retained the confidence and respect of his acquaintances; was a firm supporter and a member of the Episcopal Church in that place.

RICHARD PETERS was one of the early settlers in the lower part of the town, being a resident in 1795, and pursued a farmer's life nearly forty years, when he moved to Onondaga County for many years, then to Cortland County; then returned to Bloomville, where he finished his life on the sixth of March, 1853, at the age of 80 years.

JOHN POLLY came to the town in 1789 and before the time of its erection and his name continued on the roll till 1820 or after. He settled in the Roses Brook valley, and held various town offices, and his name is found in documents of the town as early as 1794.

JAMES PUDNEY became a resident about 1812, and was a taxpayer before 1820, and resided in Stamford village, where he kept a public house for a time, and then, being a first-rate mechanic, he made wagons, sleighs, fanning mills and smutters, and was the builder of the first Stamford Seminary building, and then



kept a public house in Harpersfield for a time, after which he sold his property in Stamford, and in 1853 moved to Taylorsville, Indiana, where he died on the twenty-fourth of November, 1856, at the age of 64 years.

JAMES REDFIELD is shown to have been a resident in 1795, by the records of the town. He was a peaceable quiet man, pleasing in appearance, mild in conversation, and one of nature's gentlemen. He closed his long and quiet life at his residence at the head of Roses Brook valley, on the twenty-first day of August, 1858, at the age of 91 years.

JAMES G. REDFIELD, if not a native of the town, came with his father James Redfield, in early childhood, and after attaining to the years of manhood held various town offices; was justice of the peace in 1827 and for several years thereafter; was supervisor in 1827 and in 1828, and a Member of Assembly in 1829, and before 1840 had changed his residence to the town of Delhi, where his life closed on the thirty-first of January, 1872, at the age of 80 years.

GEORGE W. REEL had his nativity in the town of Stamford, and after attaining to the years of manhood he followed the carpenter business in connection with farming, but a little after the midway of life his physical powers yielded to the destroyer of mortality, and his ceased on the eighteenth of July, 1854, when at the age of 41 years.

JOHN REEL was forced to serve in the army in Germany, and was a member of one of the corps that George III hired of the German Government to aid him in the subjugation of his rebellious colonies, and these hired troops were known as the Hessians, a name originating from the number of provinces which composed the territory of the government with the prefix, Hesse, preceding the name of the province, as Hesse-Cassel, Hesse Darmstadt, etc. At the disastrous defeat of the British forces at Trenton, where it was said: "Heaps on heaps the slaughtered Hessians lie,

Brave Green beholds them with a tearful eye,"

He was made a prisoner, and after the close of the war he loved the people and the country against whom he had been obliged to fight to well to return to his native land, and he wandered into the state of Connecticut and there married Sarah Hayes, from whom he was separated by her death in 1799, after which he married Antha Payne and became a resident of Stamford on the twenty-fourth day of February, 1807, and settled in the Town Plot, where he finished his course in life on the twenty-seventh day of May, 1827, when at the age of 68 years. There are no male descendants living, and the name will soon become extinct.

WILLIAM REEL was a taxpayer in the town about forty-five years, and resided on the east side of Scotch Street, between Irish and North Streets, in the Town Plot. He was unfortunate in early manhood by reason of sickness that terminated in one of the worst of fever sores on his leg just above the ankle, that always continued painful and was a hindrance in the performance of many kinds of labor, but by frugality and an industry to the extent of his ability he obtained a good and honest living. He was several times constable and collector, was pleasant in conversation, mild in disposition, and his wearisome mortality obtained its rest on the twenty-fifth of September, 1853, at the age of 65 years.

JAMES RICH was an early resident of the town on Lot No. 8 in Great Lot 41, nearly opposite of South Kortright, where he pursued a farmer's life till the time when his days were numbered, which took place on the tenth of July, 1857, when at the age of 66 years. He was an honorable man and a highly esteemed citizen.

BURR ROLLINS was born in the town and resided in the Roses Brook valley, where he lived the life of a quiet and peaceable man. He held official positions in the town several times, and was a taxpayer over fifty

years, and died on the twenty-eighth of March, 1874, at the age of 77 years.

DONALD ROSE was a Scotchman and resided in the east part of the town and on the farm now owned by Daniel McGregor, from 1805 or before till after 1820. He was a member of the Presbyterian society whose church was opposite of South Kortright, and maintained his love and zeal by walking with the older children and his wife from his home to the church, a distance of near nine miles and back again, nearly every Sunday in the mild part of the year. The children carried their shoes in their hands each way, and put them on before they arrived at the church. Such zeal must bring a reward. He sold his place to Charles McGregor and moved from the town.

HUGH ROSE was an early settler in the town and was a resident at the time of the Revolution. He was a native of Scotland, and a man of energy and ability, and at that time is said to have favored the cause of his former sovereign. He was honored by his townsmen with the office of overseer of the poor at the first election after the formation of the town; was elected supervisor in 1807 and again in 1808, and after living 86 years, his flesh on the seventh of November, 1824, was no longer animated with the spirit of life and began its change to dust.

HUGH ROSE, JR., was a taxpayer in 1801 and about forty years after. He lived in the Roses Brook valley and was one of the stable men of the town; early held official and closed the actions of life April 27, 1840, at the age of 67 years.

JACOB SCUTT moved into the town from the adjoining town of Roxbury, and lived in and near Hobart, and was a taxpayer in the town about or more than forty years. His business was farming until quite advanced in life, and having a strong physical force or system the flame kept burning till on the sixth of April, 1869, when it went out and left a body 86 years old. He was a quiet and an honest man.

WILLIAM SHAW and his wife were born and married in Scotland and came to Stamford and settled on lot No. 98 in 1802. He built an arch and brewed his own beer for a number of years. He was a strong-built man and would grab an ox by his hind leg, saying: "Ye no go from me except ye leave yur leg in me han." He died April 20, 1823.

SAMUEL SHEARER was a taxpayer in 1815, and how long before and after that time is not definitely ascertained, but private papers show him to have been a resident in 1808 and 1816. At some time during his residence in the town he was out a cooning with some other men one night, who thought it was proper to take a little "preventative" with them to guard against the injurious effects of the night atmosphere. Shearer, whether he deemed it necessary or not, took a pretty large dose. The others, liking fun, told Shearer there was a coon up in a tree, and as they could not see to shoot it, he must climb the tree and catch it. He commenced the task and succeeded in getting up among the branches, when the others called out: "You got him, Shearer?" "No," he replied, "but I see his tail s-c-whish around the tree." As there was no coon there, he must have been as Burns described himself when looking at the moon:

"To count her horns, wi a my pow'r  
I set my sel';  
But whether she had three or four,  
I could na tell."

He became a member of the Arien Church and was baptized in the Town Brook, northwesterly from the church in the Township, but did not prove faithful to his vows, and gave as a reason that, "he was dipped with his head down stream."

BURR SILLIMAN, who was an infant when Isaac Silliman, his father, came to Stamford, when he became

a man settled on Lot No. 181 in the east part of the Town Brook valley, where he resided until the weight of years pressed more heavily upon him, when he sold his farm and located in the village of Hobart, where he resided till on the second of December, 1873, when at the age of 80 years the vital spark left the body cold in the embrace of death. He was Captain of a company of militia and for a greater part of his life a member of the Methodist Church.

EBENEZER SILLIMAN was a taxpayer in the town between 1805 and 1810, was a farmer and also a painter, and his name is continued on the list in 1830, which was after his death, but was continued probably because of his estate. His life was suddenly closed from a fall from the gable end of the house of Captain John Griffin, when painting on the twenty-fourth of September, 1824, when 57 years old. Novatus M. Blish now resides on the same premises.

ISAAC SILLIMAN, SR., settled on a farm near the "old school house on the green" in 1792, and his time of labor for clearing up a new farm was hardly a decade ere he ceased from it and left his wife and small children to struggle on still longer, which was on the twenty-eighth of September, 1803, when 47 years old.

ISAAC SILLIMAN, JR., when a man settled on a farm adjoining the place of his deceased father, where he farmed it and also became a butter buyer, in which he was so enthusiastic that he would often ride around and call people up in the night to buy their butter, and in later years his mind became partially unsound, and a trustee was placed in charge of his property until he died, which was on the thirtieth of January, 1863, at the age of 70 years.

DUNCAN SINCLAIR was born in Scotland, but left the land of his birth and came to New York City, and not long after, to Stamford, and located on Lot 119, which was in its entire wild state, and situated in the northeast part of the Town Brook valley, in 1808. He held office in the town at various times, and like most of the citizens of that time enjoyed a good brandy or gin sling, but did not become helpless through its effects. But on going home one night after the family were all in bed he carefully placed his boots, which were wet, too near the fire to dry them and burned the toes. On putting them on the next morning he said to his wife: "Great Lather, woman! Great Lather! Burn the toes off when they are too short already!" He lived on his farm till quite aged, when he sold it, and after some years the spirit was relieved of its "mortal coil" on the twelfth of March, 1865, at the age of 90 years.

PHILIP SINES, previously mentioned as the person who caught a wolf, was a tax-payer in 1805 if not before; resided at the eastern part of the Town Brook valley, and married the daughter of Lemuel Bangs, who was the father of a family of which the male members were preachers. While game continued plenty he gave a portion of his time to hunting and trapping, and received several bounties on the wild animals he killed. He continued a resident till after 1830.

JAMES SMITH was a highly esteemed and an honorable man, who resided at the upper end of the Roses Brook valley, and was a taxpayer before 1820 and until after 1830, when he moved to Virginia, where he finished his course in life on the sixteenth of November, 1871, at the age of 82 years.

PHILANDER SMITH was a tax-payer in the town in 1801, if not before. He was a practicing physician and resided on the site now occupied by Mrs. Wycoff near the Presbyterian Church in Stamford Village. His ride extended a long distance and was performed on horseback, with large saddlebags laid across the saddle, filled with powders, pills, roots, herbs and drops for curing of his patients. He, as was the custom of those times, guarded against disease in his own system by the use of preventives given him wherever he called, the withholding of which in those times would have been called mean. Men sometimes made use of by-words in their conversation, and the doctor's by-words were, "I'll be blamed." The doctors in those days

made their own pills, and he made a quantity and placed them out the door to harden, and his old rooster came along and took the whole lot at a dose, unseen by the doctor till he was swallowing the last. The doctor, surprised and provoked at the loss of his pills, exclaimed, "I'll be blamed if you don't \_\_\_\_\_." But the rooster only cackled and crowed the more cheerily for having taken the dose. Mr. Smith moved to an adjoining county about 1829.

ABRAM D. SMYTHE was a resident taxpayer in or before 1815, and resided in Hobart. He was a lawyer and held the office of justice of the peace for several years and was town clerk for eight years in succession. He was also a surveyor and had the business for many miles around. He was only medium in stature, possessed good business facilities, had a gentlemanly appearance, and finished his earthly career on the twelfth of March, 1838, at the age of 52 years.

JOHN B. SPENCER was a lawyer residing in Stamford village, and became a taxpayer after 1815, and in 1819 was elected Supervisor of the town, but was not a resident many years after 1820, being district attorney in 1821.

SAMUEL SQUIRE being in the town from boyhood to old age saw the old generation of settlers pass away and their places filled by another, many of whom had little knowledge of the preceding ones; also saw the change in the appearance of the farms, as well as their decrease in their number through consolidation; saw the old log dwellings decay, and the comfortable farm houses arise in their places, surrounded by yards and fences, as if within was an enjoyment that greatly exceeded that of the first settlers, and yet the joy not always abounds in costly dwellings but far more often where contentment reigns. He settled at the head of Roses Brook valley just east of the notch, and his years ended December 29, 1826, having numbered eighty-one.

SELAH M. STEVENS bought the place in Stamford village, where the Mirror office now is, of Nehemiah Whitney, on the second of September, 1834, where he kept a public house over thirty years. He bought other lands that made him a farm, and was a quiet landlord, a good neighbor and an obliging citizen. He sold his tavern stand and bought another residence in the village, where he continued till his life was ended by that miserable affliction, a cancer. He died January 25, 1878, at the age of 78 years.

AMBROSE STEVENSON carried on the boot and shoe making business for several years in Stamford village, and in 1863 engaged in the mercantile business with Jesse Gilbert as a partner, under the firm name of Stevenson & Gilbert, and was post master for a while, and then sold out and moved to Moresville, where he kept a public house; from there he moved to the State of Delaware, and from there to Otsego County, N.Y., where he died on the twenty-eighth of June, 1871, at the age of 50 years. His remains were brought and deposited in the cemetery in Stamford village.

DANIEL STEWART was born in Scotland and came to Stamford with his father in early boyhood, was a bright boy, and in manhood had good business faculties, which at times were somewhat clouded by that which dulls the senses for a time, and during which men sometimes appear loathsome, and which should warn others against a gratification of a taste that so often overpowers the brightest intellect and tarnishes the lustrous good of men's nature. He held official positions in the town, and was a Member of Assembly in 1853, sometime after which he changed his residence to Clinton County, and was a Member of Assembly from that county in 1869, during which he tarnished the honor of his office by the acceptance of money for his vote for a bill, which like many others became a law through venality, and afterwards boasted of his ability to obtain a greater sum for his vote than another who was less versed in the amount of various sums men use to obtain the passage of laws for the benefit of themselves or their corporations. These acts are dark clouds that overshadow the honor of the position of many who sit as statesmen or law-makers in our

legislative halls, and seem to verify as a truth the statement that "With the talents of an angel a man may be a fool," and show

"How wisdom and folly meet, mix and unite,  
How virtue and vice blend their black and their white."

He afterward returned to Hobart and commenced the mercantile business, but his days suddenly shortened, and he died on the twelfth of July, 1877, when only 52 years old, leaving men to query, "Why hath worth so short a date?" and "Why so clouded in its time?"

JAMES STEWART, of whom mention has before been made as having been subjected to contributions demanded of him, found his situation so unpleasant that he with his family left his place in the Town Brook valley and moved to or near Catskill, where he remained until the close of the war, and where he done service for the colonies, after which he returned again to Stamford and commenced anew the labors of subjugating the forest for the sustenance of life. The author remembers the statement made by the early settlers that Mr. Stewart and his wife made four hundred pounds of maple sugar in one season by working both night and day in boiling the sap in a small dinner pot and a dish kettle, and did not undress and go to bed for three weeks. He raised a reputable family and lived to see them established in the honorable and useful pursuits of life, and on the twenty-fourth of February, 1823, he entered the sleep of death at the age of 75 years.

JAMES STEWART, JR., was a son of James Stewart, and was born in the Town Brook valley, when it was specked only here and there with a clearing, and endowed by nature with a retentive memory and an acquiring mind he became one of nature's nobleman without the educational advantages of the present time. Through his own abilities he mastered the various branches of an English education and the higher ones without a teacher, and gave to others who so desired instruction therein. His services were of importance to the town in the regulation of taxes on the lands of both the residents and non-residents, and he knew the occupant of every lot and the number of it. He was ever making progress in information, and few, if any, excelled him in mathematical questions, and in the last days of his years he wrote an interesting article on a theory of the "drift." His townsmen appreciated his honesty and ability and honored him with the most important offices in the town. His useful life suddenly closed on the first of November, 1861, at the age of 74 years.

JAMES A. AND WILLIAM A. STEWART were brothers and came to Stamford with their mother from Scotland, and settled in the Town Brook valley in 1806. Catherine Stewart, the mother of James A. and William A., died November 18, 1826, at the age of 92 years. These two men spent their lives as bachelors, and performed their own labors both in the field and in the house. They learned the art of cooking and making butter many years before the death of their mother, and after her death employed no female help in the house. The making of the bread was usually done by James, and of the butter by William, which usually brought the highest market price in New York City. Their house was a place of resort for both old and young, male and female, and they were pleased with their visitors. Their lives ran evenly along and towards their last years Alexander Stewart, a nephew, and his family came from Scotland and resided with them, and being a stone mason he built them a new stone house, in which Samuel K. Taylor now resides. The two bachelor brothers were separated by the death of James in April, 1851, when at the age of 84 years, and William followed him to the shadow of death in May, 1853, also at the age of 84 years. Their lives were together and their years alike.

WILLIAM STEWART was a son of James Stewart, in the Town Brook valley, and was the first child born within the limits of the town, being born on the first day of September, 1776, a little less than two months after the declaration of independence of the United States. On the eleventh of December, 1800, he married Penuel Grant, daughter of Peter Grant, and commenced a farmer's life in the Town Brook valley, where he

resided several years, and then moved to Jefferson village, where he was in the mercantile business for a time, and in 1820 moved to the Westkill valley, into a log hut, and in six weeks time had a new framed house completed, and finished his labors on the nineteenth of August, 1842, at the age of 65 years.

JEREMIAH STILSON was an early resident, and was a taxpayer in 1805, and continued one over forty years. He was unfortunate in having earth cave in upon him in a well, which injured him so that ever after he walked bent forward, and when riding on horseback he was bent well down toward the horse's neck. His farm was at the northeast corner of the Town Plot, on which he had a one and a half story house, the entire covering of which, both sides, ends and roof, were shingles. His name passed from the tax list after 1830.

EBENEZER STURGES was one of the early settlers in the town and located on Roses Brook valley and his name is found in documents of the town in 1795, and he continued a tax-payer till sometime after 1805.

GEORGE STURGES in his youthful days resided in Roxbury, and then after marriage lived on Lot No. 96 in the Town Brook valley, and was a farmer. After the death of his father-in-law, John M. Olmstead, he lived on his place, on which he built a saw-mill and continued his business till his life closed on the twenty-eighth of August, 1872, at the age of 73 years.

GEORGE STURGES of Roses Brook, was a farmer of good habits and a man of merit; was supervisor in 1833, and his name disappeared from the list of taxpayers sometime after 1840.

SAMUEL STURGES AND PERRY STURGES were both tax-payers in 1801, and Samuel continued one till after 1815, and Perry till after 1820.

SETH S. S. STURGES resided in the Roses Brook valley and kept a small store in one end of his house for several years. He was a tax-payer in 1815, and his name was on the list in 1850.

ELIAS TAYLOR was a son of Thomas Taylor, and when of age settled on the east half of Lot No. 154 in the Town Brook valley in or before 1815, where he resided near thirty years, and then moved to Pennsylvania. All of the early residents lived in log houses for awhile, and he did also, but the chimney in his house differed from those in most of the houses of the kind. The chimney from the foundation was laid in clay mortar and had no jambs but simply laid up in a straight perpendicular wall to where it went through the roof, where supports were run from one rafter to another, which served as a foundation on which rested three sides of the chimney top, while the fourth side rested on the perpendicular wall that served as a chimney up to that point. The chimney top was made of sticks of wood laid in clay mortar on this foundation and carried about two feet above the roof, and thickly coated with mortar both outside and inside. The perpendicular wall comprising the chimney was about eight feet long, and the hearth was large, and wood four and six feet long could be burned if desired. It was a fireplace that could be surrounded by many in a half-circle, and warmth was nearly equal all round the half-circle, as no jambs prevented the heat from the ends of the fire entering the room. The opening through the chamber floor was large, and the opening at the top of the chimney was large and let light into the chamber and also into the lower room, and a person sitting at an ordinary fire could look up out of the chimney top at sky, stars, or clouds without changing position. The room for the escape of the smoke being thus ample, it gently rose from the fire and made its exit through the top and was soon dissolved in the outer air. The baking was done in an oven built of stone and clay mortar, which stood a little way from the house, and also in a cast-iron bake kettle which was used in the house. This kettle was made with a flat bottom sixteen or eighteen inches in diameter, with legs under it about three inches long, and the sides of the kettle were about six inches high. The lid or cover to the kettle was of the same diameter, and a little oval on top, with a turn-up about two inches wide at the edge, and in the centre of the cover arose a small half-circle for a handle to move it by, with the tongs if hot or

with the hand if it was cold. The kettle had a bail by which to move it, and when used in baking coals were taken from under the forestick on the iron "peel" and placed at one side of the fireplace, and the bake kettle with its contents was set over the coals, and on the cover of the kettle more coals were placed, and thus was the baking done, and many a loaf of bread, and cake, and pieces of meat, and dishes of pork and beans, and Indian puddings were cooked in this manner and made a luscious meal.

But little crockery was in use in the time of the first settlers and their plates were either of wood turned so as to resemble a plate, and called a trencher, or else were of pewter, and as the cupboards were open in front the pewter plates were set up singly on edge and gave the cupboard of a tidy housekeeper a neat appearance, for such a housekeeper always kept her plates polished so they looked like silver. The most beautiful sight to the hungry boy was the large pewter platter, when rounded up with the light and steaming crust of a pot pie. This platter was about the size of a milk pan and about two and a half or three inches high, and also polished so as to resemble silver. The drinking vessels in many families were basins filled with water, two or three of which were set on the table, and each person drank out of the one nearest, several drinking out of the same one. The tables were made with a frame with boards fastened on the top and projecting a little beyond the frame all around, and in many families the table was set without a cloth. If pudding and milk formed the meal, a pan of milk was set in the centre of the table, and sometimes the kettle of pudding was set on, and each helped himself. If green peas or beans were had they were emptied into a large dish in the centre of the table, and each one with their spoon dipped and ate out of the same dish. The meat was often cut up into mouthfuls on a trencher, and if eggs were cooked they were laid on top of the mouthfuls of meat which would be in a dish of suitable size, and then cut up into mouthfuls and mixed with the meat, in which case no individual plates were placed on the table, but each one with a fork eat from the same dish. If potatoes were warmed up they were placed in like manner. Thus lived the pioneer settlers who removed the timber from the soil of the uneven elevated tract that is contained within our town.

HEZEKIAH TAYLOR came in the town with his father while a boy, and when a man partly cleared a farm at the east end of town, but preferring other business he left farming and took up the coopering business and resided in the Town Plot where he continued it during his life, which ended on the sixteenth of April, 1860, at the age of 64 years.

LUTHER TAYLOR spent nearly if not quite all of his life in the town, and for over half of a century paid his proportionate share of the taxes for schools, for town, county and State expenses, and for the last forty years or more resided on the farm in the Town Plot that was occupied by Frazer before the war of the Revolution. He held office in the town several times, among which was that of justice of the peace. His strength of life held out well, but at last entirely failed on the eighteenth of December, 1880, after he had numbered four-score years.

THOMAS TAYLOR was a resident in 1793. He located on Lot No. 96 in the Town Brook valley, where he continued during his life. His residence was a small log house of one room and a chamber, which remained standing till some time between 1820 and 1830. He was a taxpayer about twenty years, and died between 1810 and 1815. His widow, Anna Taylor, survived him till after 1820.

ZALMON TAYLOR came in 1802 and settled on Lot No. 87 in the Town Brook valley. He followed farming and occasionally carted goods for the merchants, and during or soon after the war of 1812, he carried General Leavenworth, then a colonel, to Sacketts Harbor in a sleigh, the relation of which was quite an interesting history to the boys of that time, as well as his description of the Black River country with its immense depth of snow, and also his description of the attack on Sackett Harbor. He became a member of the Arian Society, also called "Christians," and as it had no church in the Township, services were held at the school-house and at his dwelling, and in the summer often in his barn, where there would be many people, especially when the rite of baptism was to take place, which was by immersion in the Town Brook

down in his pasture. After the sermon the priest would start from the barn with handkerchief tied on his head, and with a hymn-book in his hand, leading the procession, singing from the barn to the water where the ceremony was performed. There were several whose bodies were laid under the surface of the water at that place. The writer recently rode along there, but there were no indications of its ever having been a place of purification, and the bed of the stream through the whole field was as changed as the people of the valley who once stood upon its banks and beheld the performance of the act that was acquiesced in through faith and in obedience to the law, yet not withstanding the change, memory again unfolded the scene, and there portrayed the countenances of the meek and humble penitents, as each severally waded into the limpid water, and again saw one laid under its surface and raised from it though it was a bust of marble, and another of a nervous temperament tremulously settled down then raised again trembling and led to the shore, while another, perhaps, came up strangling, while the countenances of the crowd were varied, some seemingly to feel the solemnity of the occasion, others as if joying, as it were, in the birth of soul into righteousness, while others only had the vacant stare, or else simply expressed a look of curiosity-but the floods of later years has filled the depths in the stream and covered its banks with gravel and the water flows in rippling currents of uniform depth, and thus like time continually passes on. One of the preachers had service in the schoolhouse one evening, and took for his text: "And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken; and on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder." The speaker was of more than medium height, and was dressed in a long swallow-tailed coat; the bottom of the waist of the coat, and the pants extended a long way up to meet the vest. He stood with the back of his chair before him, and his speech as he advanced in his discourse was in a "sing-song style," and he illustrated his text as follows: "When I was a little b-o-y, my daddy used to lay stone waa-ul; he'ud set me to chinking up the little ho-ils, and bime by he'ud lay on a grate big stone that 'ud crush 'em all into the arth again. So 'twill be with you my breth-er-i-n-g." Father Taylor's house was the preacher's home when they were in that valley, and they were kindly received by him. He was only of medium height, and quite corpulent, and therefore wore his pants low in the waist, which required a long vest to intersect his pants, and the pockets of the vest hung low down he acquired the habit of placing a hand in each vest pocket when talking, and also when viewing anything that it was not necessary to handle. Most of the preachers rode on horseback, but one came in a sulky with a chair seat of wood and uncushioned. The horse was soon in the stable eating his feed and the preacher went to the house for his. About a rod from the barn was a high stone wall that supported one end of a hovel under which his cattle sought shelter. The ends of the thills of the sulky were put up on the wall and Mr. Taylor stood with his hands in his pockets viewing it for some time, and then climbed up in it, with the thills at an angle of about 35 degrees, and in order to try the wood springs that supported the seat he sat down heavily, and had no sooner struck the seat than the thills performed a circular motion through the air and he performed the same evolution a pumpkin would in like circumstances. He was not so much injured by the roll as the sulky was-for that was minus the back of the seat. In the later years of his life he sold his farm and bought a small place in the Town Plot, where he closed his life on the twenty-ninth of June, 1839, at the age of 70 years.

ABRAHAM THOMAS became a resident of the town about 1802, and settled on the farm at the mouth of Roses Brook which is still known as the Thomas farm, where he kept a public house for many years, at which the town meetings were held from 1811 to 1819, inclusive. He was town clerk four years, and supervisor in 1810, was a good farmer and a reputable man. He raised a family of seven boys and three girls, who proved to be citizens worthy of their respectable parents. Many of the trainings were held there, and not far from 1820 two regiments of militia and a squadron of cavalry assembled there for a general parade and review, all in one field. Those were great days for the boys, of which the writer was one, and had a good view of a fight between a long and a short man just outside the door-yard fence and by the side of a potash kettle full of water. Mr. Thomas died in October, 1848, at the age of 75 years.

ABRAHAM THOMAS, JR., a son of Abraham Thomas, was a worthy man of genteel manners and



prepossessing appearance, and commanded the esteem of his fellow men. He was elected a justice of the peace in 1832, and supervisor in 1844 and in 1845, and was suddenly called away in the prime of life on the eighteenth day of July, 1854, at the age of 49 years.

DEWITT THOMAS, a son of Abraham Thomas, was a farmer for several years. He was elected justice of the peace in 1845, and held the office of sheriff for a term of three years, commencing January, 1847. In after years he had a position in the custom house in New York City, and died on the twenty-fourth of April, 1875, at the age of 65 years.

JOHN B. THOMAS, son of Abraham Thomas, unmoved by political aspirations, pursued the honorable employment of farming, in which he was educated during his minor years, and which he followed through life. He resided on Lot No. 19 in Great Lot 41, which is the lowest farm on the east side of the Delaware in the town. He died on the twenty-third of April, 1870, at the age of 75 years.

JOHN THOMPSON was born in Scotland, but became a resident in Stamford not far from the time of its organization as a town, and his name is found under the date of 1795, and he was a taxpayer until after 1820. It is said he lived to an old age, and in the last years of his life was obliged to use crutches to support his aged frame, though he then retained a buoyant spirit, that, at the sound of the violin, would force the old frame to rise on the crutches with which it supported itself, when the rheumatic limbs danced as the fiddle sounded out the old Scotch tunes that so electrified that class of men that their aged limbs seemed supple, and the elated spirit gave the cheek the glow of younger years. He resided in the Delaware Valley nearly opposite of Bloomville.

WILLIAM TROTTER was of foreign birth, a weaver by trade, and settled in Hobart some time before 1840, where he continued his occupation for many years. He was post master for a time, was elected justice of the peace in 1843, and ceased from all labor on the eleventh of May, 1854, at the age of 67 years.

DAVID C. WAINWRIGHT was from Fairfield County, Conn., and became a resident of Stamford about 1797, or before that time. He located in the Town Plot, and at that time the roads were mostly pathways picked out through the woods and mainly denoted by marked trees, and it was some time before the few household goods he possessed arrived at the place of his location, and necessity compelled a substitute, though rude and rustic, and a pine stump sawn off on the top constituted his table, on which was placed the scant yet delicious food—more delicious because of its little variation and small quantity to meet the requirements of the systems strongly braced by the inhalation of the atmosphere passing through the foliage of the trees so full of nature's life. He made rustic seats, and began the labor, the pursuit of which gave him a plenty of the comforts of life. He established a small tannery and carried on the business for several years, when he changed his residence to Hobart, where he continued the business till quite advanced in years, when he sold his real estate and moved to Albany. His was an active life, and his mind was active, the thoughts of which were often, when alone, expressed in words of converse with himself, and no slothful man found occupation long around him. A day laborer, whom he engaged to work for him, after eating a hearty meal leaned back in his chair and stretched while at the table, which Wainwright thought denoted inactivity and quickly told him: "There, you can go home. I don't need a man that stretches at the table to work for me." He died in Albany.

ABEL WATKINS was a resident previous to 1794, and his residence was the place at which the town meeting was held that year. He lived in the Town Plot on the northwest corner of Irish and West Streets, and was a taxpayer in the town about forty years.

GROVE WEBSTER, if not born in the town, was in it in his early childhood, and well new the labors that

were required of a boy in the days of the early pioneers. He became a taxpayer previous to 1815, and resided on Lot No. 28 in Great Lot 41, in the Roses Brook valley, where he resided until after 1840, when he sold his farm and moved to Elk Creek in the town of Delhi, where he resided until his death on the twentieth of May, 1875, at the age of 87 years. He was supervisor of Stamford in 1835 and again in 1836, but made farming his main business in life, and performed the duties faithfully.

JOSHUA WEBSTER was a resident within the present limits of the town when it was included in the town of Woodstock in Ulster County. He was elected Supervisor in 1800 and held the office four years in succession. He was a taxpayer in the town until after 1810, when he resided for awhile in an adjoining town. Jay Gould, in his history of Delaware County, relates the following circumstance, which is given in the historian's own language: "At that early period ministers in Delaware County were a rarity, and these Connecticut people were brought up in a strict Sabbath day keeping, and before they had started preaching the inhabitants would meet on Sunday at some central house in the neighborhood, and the deacon of the settlement would read some old sermon they had brought with them. On one occasion they had met for this purpose at Deacon Webster's; he had read the text and was proceeding with the sermon, when his black man, by the name of Amos, suddenly appeared at the door, showing his ivory, and addressing his master, the deacon: 'Massa, Massa, dar is a fine, fat buck in the barnyard with the cattle!' The old deacon took down his rifle (an old chunk rifle), stepped to the door and raised it to his eye. Bang! went the rifle, and down went the deer. The deacon told Amos to keep his eye on him a little, and then replaced his rifle and resumed his sermon. The next morning Esq. Webster received a polite note from Justice Rose, setting forth the charge against him and inviting him to call up and pay the fine." He died October 6, 1830, aged 80 years.

JAMES WETMORE, JR., was a resident in the lower part of the town near forty years, and retained the esteem of his acquaintance until the end of his life. He died on the second of April, 1866, at the age of 83 years.

PLATT WHITLOCK became a resident of the town previous to 1810, and farmed the land for his bread, and he who draws from the earth instead of drawing from his fellow men by fraud and cunning, that which brings a supply for all the real wants in life, obtains an independence which is unknown to those sycophants who disdain to cultivate the soil, but precariously seek their bread in other ways without directly aiding in its production. He was a taxpayer in the town towards half a century, and died on the twenty-first of January, 1854, at the age of 72 years. Charles Whitlock, his son, now owns the farm, to which he has added many acres, and produces good quantities of butter and cheese for the rest of mankind.

ZACHARIAH WHITNEY was a tax-payer in the town previous to 1805, and resided on what has been usually known as the Clove Road. He was a man of courage and determination and somewhat impulsive, and would fearlessly stand in his own defense. His name continued on the list till 1849. He went the way men journey sooner or later, and left his place in life to be filled by others on the twenty-second of October, 1849, at the age of 85 years.

DAVID M. WOOD was only in medium circumstances, but an honest man, and a taxpayer in 1850, 1860 and 1870. He had a large family to the male part of which were given names of persons of notoriety, viz; Andrew Jackson, James K. Polk, Zachary Taylor, and to a daughter the name of Jenny Lind. James K. Polk Wood went to aid in preserving the unity of our country, and yielded his life in the endeavor in front of Petersburg, Va., on the eighteenth of June, 1864, where a little mound of earth over his body on that field was his monument. David M. Wood died December 31, 1870, aged 70 years.

SHERWOOD WOOD was a native of Connecticut, and was one of the militiamen that was called into service in the war of 1812. He moved from that State into the town of Harpersfield, where he resided for a

few years, and then moved to Stamford and located at the head of Roses Brook valley, and soon after moved to the village of Stamford, where he resided the remainder of his life, which was finished on the thirtieth of August, 1875, at the age of 82 years, after having been a taxpayer in the town over 40 years. His main business was boot and shoe making, and there was no deception in his work, there was no pieced soles, no stuffed heel lifts, but his work was like the man, honest in every part. Years ago customers furnished their own material, and carried whole sides of sole and upper leather to the shoe-maker, which was left with him to made up when they needed articles, and they had no fears that he would appropriate a part of it for the mending or making of other people's shoes, and had any one been so impertinent as to have intimated such a thing it would have pleased him to have them never enter his door again.