

## THE TOWN OF GLEN.

The town of Glen was formed from the town of Charleston, on the 10th day of April, 1823. On the first Tuesday in the month, the town organization was formally completed by the election of the following board of officers: William Putman, supervisor; Ebenezer Green, clerk; James Voorhees, Thomas Van Derveer, and Jacob F. Starin, assessors; Jacob F. Lansing and Henry M. Gardenier, commissioners of highways; Elijah Mount and Christian Enders, overseers of the poor; John C. Van Alstine and Howland Fish, commissioners of schools; Cornelius C. Van Horne, inspector of schools; Abraham Aumack, collector; John C. Smith, William L. Hollady and Bement Sloan, constables. The name of Glen was chosen in honor of Jacob Saunders Glen, one of the principal residents, who had a land grant of ten thousand acres, comprising a considerable part of the town, and was also the proprietor of a large store, now occupied by J. V. S. Edwards, within the present village of Glen. Mr. Edwards is also the occupant of the old homestead which was erected by Mr. Glen, in the year 1818. The surface of the town is hilly, but the soil, a clayey loam, is very productive. Formerly the attention of the farmers was largely devoted to the raising of cattle for dairy purposes, and numerous cheese factories throughout the town attest the extent to which this industry was carried. Latterly, however, on account of the high price obtainable for hay, the farmers have sold their cows, and the business of the cheese factories has shown a marked falling off.

Aurie's creek, which flows into the Mohawk, and Irish creek, a tributary of the Schoharie, are the principal streams of the town. Numerous attempts have been made to obtain iron, but these efforts have not been attended with any marked success. A chalybeate spring, a mile east of Glen village, is about the only natural curiosity to be found in the town. One other, however, should be mentioned, namely, the steep bank upon the west side of the Schoharie creek, a little below Mill Point. This bluff retains the name by which it was called by the Indians—*Ca-daugh-ri-ty*, or "perpendicular wall." The hill of which this is one face ends all round in similar steep banks, and is about fifty feet high, with a diamond-shaped area of some three acres. It is level on the top, and presents a very singular appearance as seen from the hills to the south-east. It is visible for many miles along the bank of the Schoharie.

The spring above mentioned furnishes a small but steady stream in all seasons and weathers, flavored with iron and sulphur. A succession of bubbles of gas rises with the water from the earth. The water is cool and refreshing. Animals are very fond of it, and at the settlement of the county, the resort of deer to this spot made the vicinity a famous hunting ground. The water is considered to have medicinal value in cutaneous diseases. Man and beast, however heated, may drink it freely without harm.

### FORTUNES OF THE PIONEERS.

In 1722 and 1725, Lieutenant John Scott and his son took patents for the lands between Aurie's creek and the Yates and Fonda line, near where Fultonville stands. Aurie's creek was so named by the Dutch, with whom Aaron is Aurie, after an old Indian warrior named Aaron, who lived many years in a hut standing on the flats on the east side of the creek. The adjoining village of Auriesville was named from the stream. Early in the last century, three brothers named Quackenboss emigrated from Holland to the colony of New York. One of them remained at New York city; the other two went to Albany, and one of them, named Peter, removed to Scott's patent shortly after it was located. He settled near Aurie's creek, on the

site of the Leslie Voorhees place of recent years. Mr. Quackenboss had several children grown up when he arrived in this country, and David, his elder son, after a courtship on the John Alden plan, married Miss Ann Scott, a daughter of the Lieutenant, who commanded Fort Hunter, and also settled on Scott's patent. A young officer under the command of Lieutenant Scott, had requested Quackenboss, then in the employ of his superior, to speak a good word for him to Miss Ann, which he readily promised to do. The fact of his own partiality for the maiden, however, came out more strongly in his interview with her than the suit of her military admirer. She was all the better pleased, for she preferred the agent to the principal. Learning this, he proposed, and was accepted, and in due time the twain were made one. Their son John, born about the year 1725, was, it is believed, the first white child born on the south side of the Mohawk, between Fort Hunter and the neighborhood of Canajoharie.

About the year 1740, a colony of sixteen Irish families was planted, under the patronage of Wm. Johnson, afterward baronet, on lands now owned by Henry Shelp, a few miles south-west of Fort Hunter, once a part of Corry's patent.

Several years after, when they had built huts and cleared some land, a disturbance arose between the Indians of New York and those of Canada, and the immigrants, fearing trouble, broke up their settlement and returned to Ireland.

Previous to the Revolution, Richard Hoff and Marcus Hand had erected dwellings and cleared land on the west side of the Schoharie, about four miles from Fort Hunter. During the war these houses were plundered and burned by the Indians. The family of Hoff made good their escape, and Hand was absent in Florida.

John Ostrom settled in the town in the latter part of the Revolution. His son Stephen, who still lives on the original homestead, was a colonel in the State militia in his younger days. Matthias Mount came into the town at the same time with John Ostrom, from the State of New Jersey. At this time the country was all new, and they were obliged to cut their way through the woods.

Isaac Conover was born in 1759. He served through the Revolution, with four of his brothers, having moved into the town of Glen two years previous to the breaking out of the war. Cornelius Conover, the father, built a block house when he first settled, to protect himself from the Indians. His barns, filled with grain, were burnt during the Revolution, by a tory named Van Zuyler. Abraham, son of Isaac Conover, is still living on the farm, where his father died in 1846. Seth Conover, another of Glen's pioneers, came from New Jersey and settled in the town about the year 1785. John Hyner, sr., who was born about the year 1789, should also be numbered among the pioneers.

Andrew Frank, another early resident of the town, was born in the year 1776. His death occurred in 1843. Adam Frank was one of the Revolutionary patriots, and in the party who killed George Cuck in the spring of 1780, in the house of John Van Zuyler, the tory mentioned above, and who lived just south of the house occupied, within thirty years, by Maj. James Winne. Cuck himself was a notorious tory, born in the neighborhood, who had fought with the British during the war, and was at the time lurking in the neighborhood to carry off the scalps of two prominent patriots, Capt. Jacob Gardiner and Lieut. Abraham D. Quackenboss, which he knew would sell at a high price to the British patrons of the traffic. A daughter of Van Zuyler having revealed to her whig beau the presence of Cuck at her father's house, a dozen patriots, under the lead of Lieut. Quackenboss, proceeded as soon as possible to the place, and

forcing an entrance, demanded the scalper. Van Zuyler denied that he was in the house, but on searching it he was discovered, and undertaking to defend himself was shot dead. Van Zuyler was taken prisoner and thrown into the Johnstown jail, having been briefly suspended by the neck near the present village of Fultonville, on his way thither. Adam Frank's son, Frederick, was born in 1793, and was a soldier in the war of 1812.

J. R. Van Evera was one of the early settlers in Glen, and helped clear up the country. His son, Peter, born in the town in 1803, has been supervisor four terms.

John Van Derveer came from New Jersey and settled in the town in the year 1798, and served during the war of 1812. His father served his country in the war of the Revolution.

John Edwards settled in the town about eighty years ago. He came from Columbia county, and was eighty-six years old at the time of his death. Henry Siltmer was born in the town of Johnstown in the year 1795. His son, Michael, now a resident of Fultonville, was born in the year 1818. John Vedder, born in Glen in 1787, was commissioner of highways for twenty years. John O. Vedder, his son, was also born in the town, and has resided in it all his life. He has been supervisor for two years and highway commissioner for a number of years.

Peter M. Vrooman settled in the town of Glen in 1837, coming from Schoharie county. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. Gilbert, a son of Peter, came into Glen with his father, and still lives on the old homestead. The barn on Gilbert Vrooman's place was the second barn built after the Revolution, for several miles along the valley.

John H. Voorhees settled in the town about the year 1789. Jacob Schuyler, born in 1791 in New Jersey, moved to the town of Florida when very young, and while still a young man came into Glen. He contributed much to the building up of the churches. Another who took interest in the churches and schools of the town was David Wood, who was born in the town of Root in the year 1804; moved into Glen in 1833, and started a hotel at Auriesville. He managed this tavern for forty years, and was justice of the peace for thirty years. Jacob Pruyn, who moved into the town in the year 1833, was supervisor for one term. Victor C. Putman and his son, Abraham V., were also early settlers.

Christian Enders, mentioned as one of the first overseers of the poor, brought the first piano into the town, for the use of his daughter, who went to New York to take lessons.

#### THE DEVELOPMENT OF BUSINESS CENTRES.

A few years before the Revolutionary war Abraham D. Quackenboss built a brick store on his farm, about two miles below the site of Fultonville. Here, until the breaking out of the war, he carried on a large trade with the Indians and the settlers in the vicinity. The brick were made on the premises, the soil in that locality being particularly adapted to the purpose. This store was the trading post for the Indian tribes in the vicinity, and Quackenboss made many warm friends among the red-skins by his straightforward dealings with them. When the war broke out, the Indians tried to persuade the trader to go with them to Canada, but he refused to do so. They then made a solemn agreement that neither he nor any of his property should be harmed by them. During one of the incursions of the British and Indians they halted at the store, and helped themselves to the contents, but did not destroy any property, and left the building unharmed. A man named Harrington, who was formerly in the employ of Quackenboss, remained behind and fired the store. When he informed the Indians, in a spirit of bravado, of what he had done, they were so incensed at what they considered a violation of their compact, that they determined to kill him—and, in fact, one enthusiast did bury his tomahawk in Harrington's shoulder—but milder counsels prevailed, and he was permitted to live.

After the close of the war a store was opened by John Rossa in the residence of Quackenboss. This was the only store in the town until John Smith established one at the site of Glen village in 1797. Shortly after this, or about the commencement of the present century, Robert Dunbar kept a store at Auriesville. Before the canal was built Jeremiah Smith established a store here, where he carried on an extensive trade, and had, in connection with this business, a distillery and an ashery; he was also an extensive purchaser of grain and produce. John C. Van Alstine traded at the same place from 1814 to 1855. Auriesville was the first

point at which any collection of houses worthy of the name of a village in the town of Glen was formed.

Aurie's creek, in the eastern part of the town, affords excellent water-power for milling purposes, and the early settlers were quick to take advantage of it. The first saw and grist mill in the town was erected on this creek by Peter Quackenboss, shortly after the close of the Revolution. It stood about a quarter of a mile from Auriesville, and remains of the old race-way can still be seen. This was the point to which farmers, from many miles around, brought their grain, as it was convenient to Auriesville. At this point there are now two hotels, one store, a blacksmith shop, and a school-house. The population of the village numbers about 200.

The next settlement made was Log Town, so called from the fact that all the houses were built of logs. At present only a blacksmith shop remains of the business formerly carried on there.

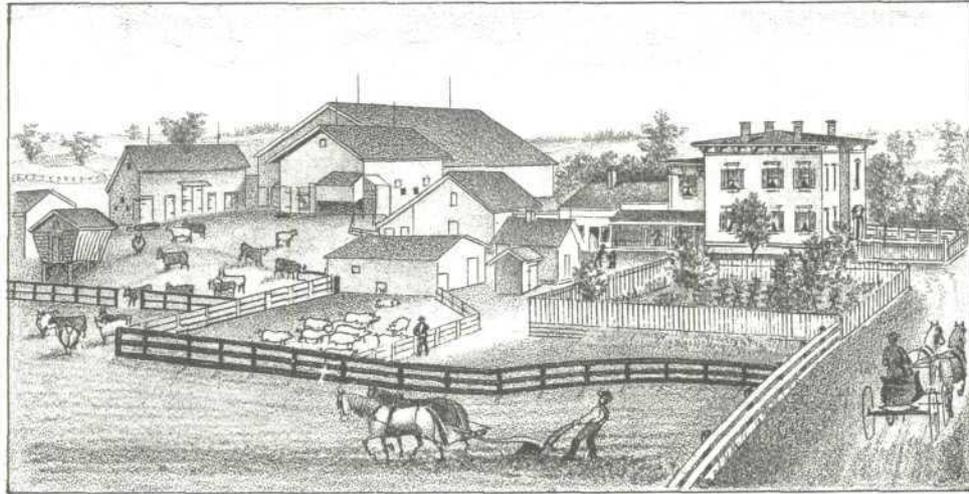
The village of Glen, the next point at which business life centered, was called, in its earlier days, Voorheesville, from the fact that Peter Voorhees owned a large store at the place. The first merchant at this point, however, was John Smith, who began business about the year 1797. At present the village contains two churches, a Reformed Dutch the first church in the town, and one known as the True Reformed, a secession from the Dutch church; two hotels, the principal one, the Cottage Hotel, owned and occupied by John E. Hubbs; two stores, the post-office being established at the principal one, kept by J. V. S. Edwards; the cigar manufactory of Hubbs, Putman & Keigher; the steam saw and grist-mill of Putman & Talmadge; the tannery of Joseph Noxon; the wagon-shop and blacksmithing establishment of Isaac Talmadge, and a cheese-factory. Glen, although it is situated four miles from the canal, and further still from the railroad, is a very thriving place.

The first Reformed Dutch church of Glen was organized in the year 1795. On February 5th of that year the building of a church edifice was begun, but it was not fully completed until the year 1814, although services were held in the building before that time. Edward Jenks was the first pastor, and Peter Vrooman was one of the deacons for many years. When the project of building the church was first undertaken, it was proposed to erect it in the settlement of Log Town, and logs were cut for the purpose, but it was afterward determined to locate the church at Glen. This building was used for religious purposes until the year 1842, when it was purchased by J. V. S. Edwards, and by him removed to his farm and converted into a store-house. A new church edifice was erected on the old site, which remained until the year 1876, when it was destroyed by fire. In the same year the building at present in use was erected.

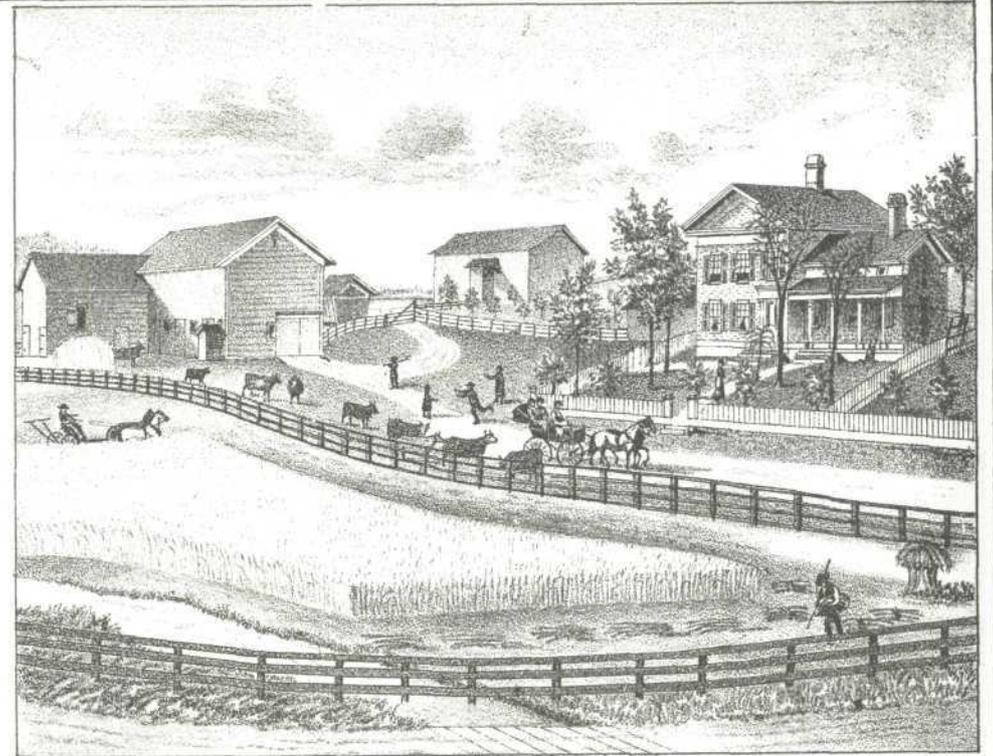
MILL POINT, on Schoharie creek, was another collection of houses, and necessarily a business centre in early times. A German of some means, named Francis Saltz, having settled on the east bank of the creek, about the middle of the last century, joined with one "Boss" Putman in purchasing the Shucksburg patent of twelve hundred acres, across the creek in the present town of Glen. Saltz took the half of the patent farthest up stream, from which he sold the site of Mill Point to a son-in-law named McCready; the next farm back of this to another son-in-law, George Young; a third farm to his grandson, Francis Frederick, and a fourth to Michael Marlett, who married Peggy Frederick. The two hundred acres remaining Saltz offered to deed to Peter Crush, if the latter would marry his youngest daughter, a cripple, unable to walk. Crush accepted the offer, and having built a house on the tract, carried his wife to it on his back. They spent their days on the place, and left it to their only son, Francis.

It was Francis Saltz who is said to have got a mill-stone from Sir William Johnson for a song. One of his sons-in-law, named Philip Frederick, proposed to build a mill on his place (since called Buchanan's Mills, in Florida,) there being none nearer than the one at Fort Johnson. Mr. Johnson, having a mill-stone not in use, Saltz bought it on two years' credit. When he repaired at the end of that time to Fort Johnson to make the payment, he was urged to sing for the entertainment of "some grand company there visiting." Saltz, though a famous singer, was diffident about performing before such a select audience, and only consented on condition that his creditor would forgive him the debt he came to pay. Johnson said he would do so if the singing suited him. Several songs were sung without producing the desired effect on the creditor, and Saltz, concluding he was not to get off so easily after all, produced his wallet, singing:

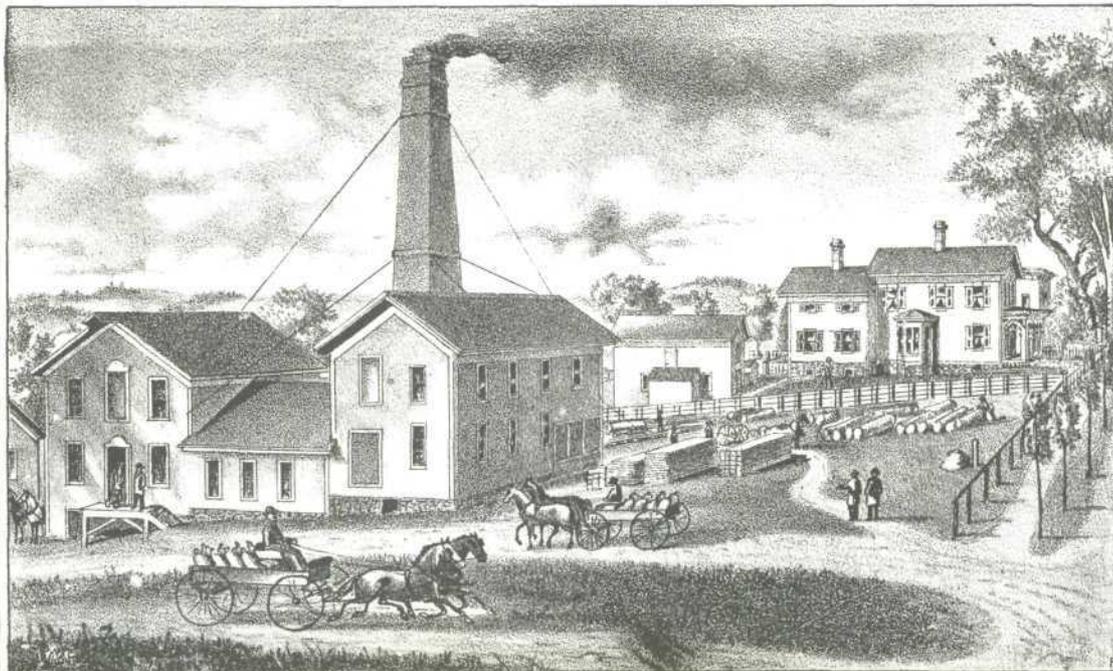
"Money bag, money bag, you must come out:  
The man he will be paid!"



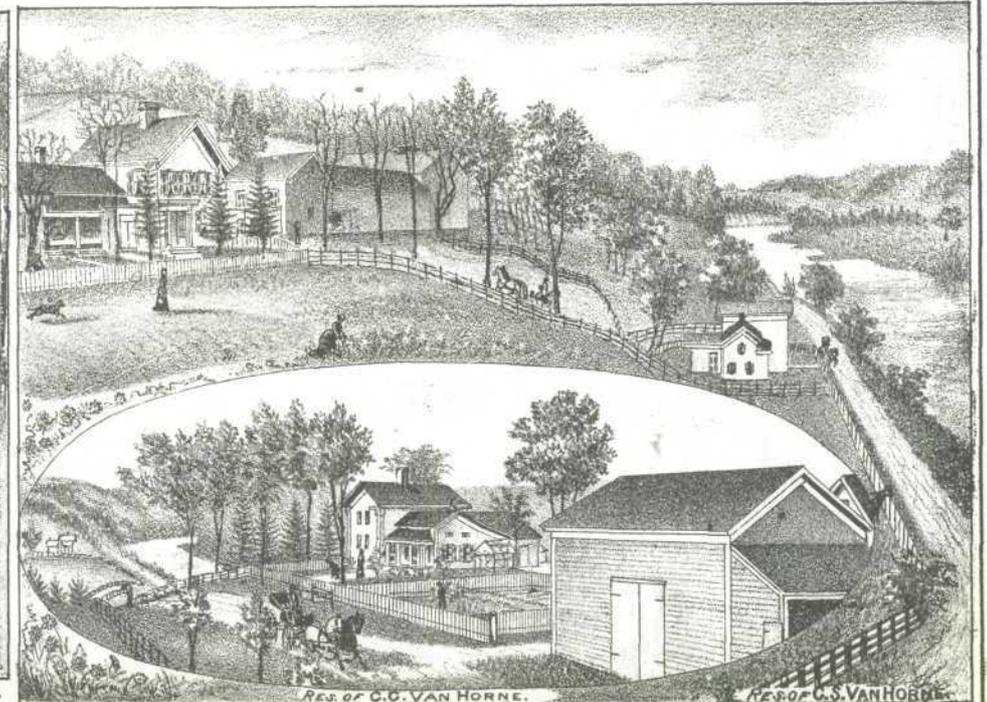
RES. OF REUBEN FAILING, TOWN OF MINDEN,  
MONTGOMERY CO. N.Y.



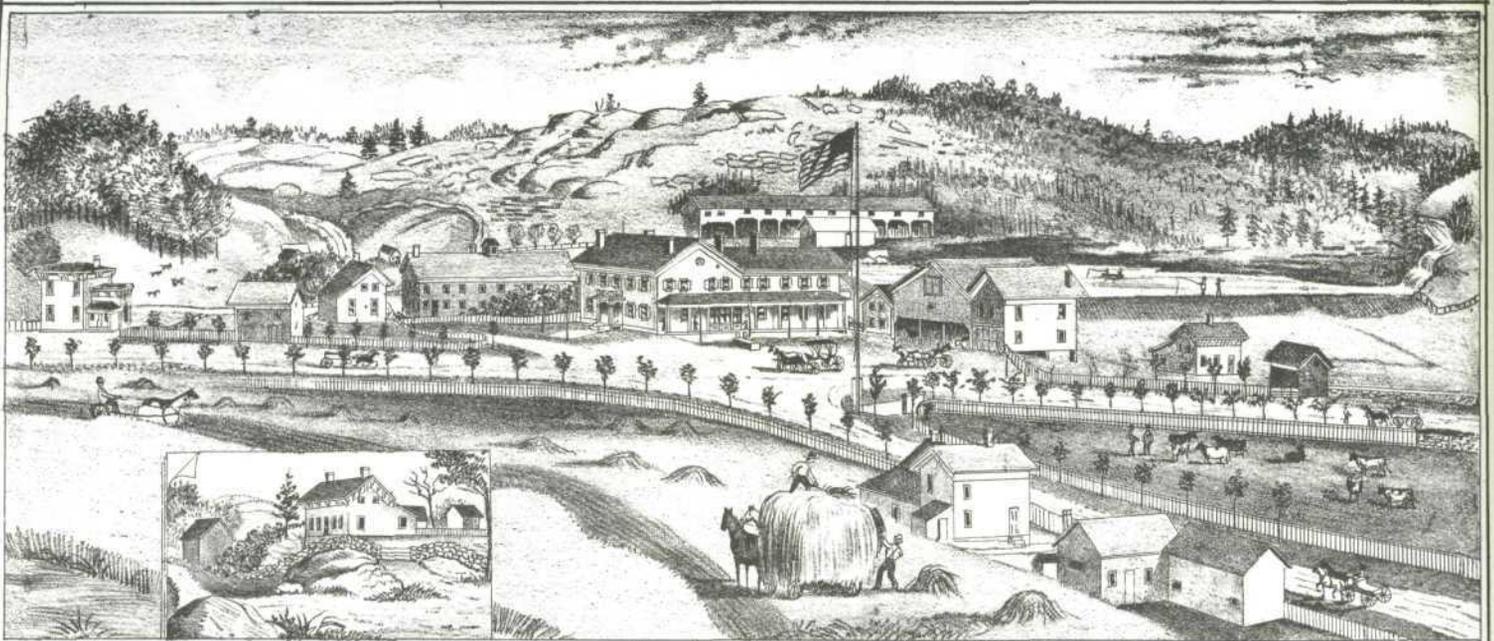
RES. OF JOHN P. VAN EVERA. TOWN OF ROOT,  
MONTGOMERY Co. N.Y.



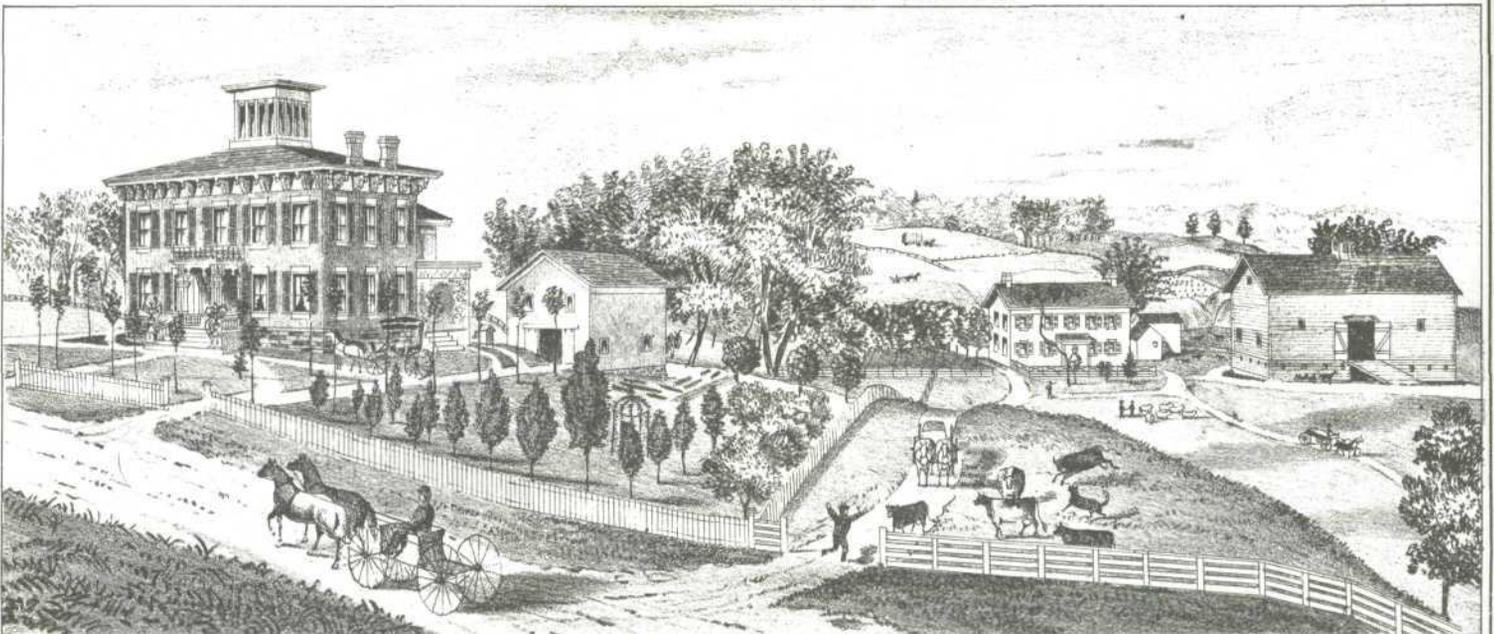
GLEN STEAM, GRIST AND SAW MILLS.  
PUTMAN AND TALLMADGE PROP'S. RES. OF W. H. TALLMADGE.



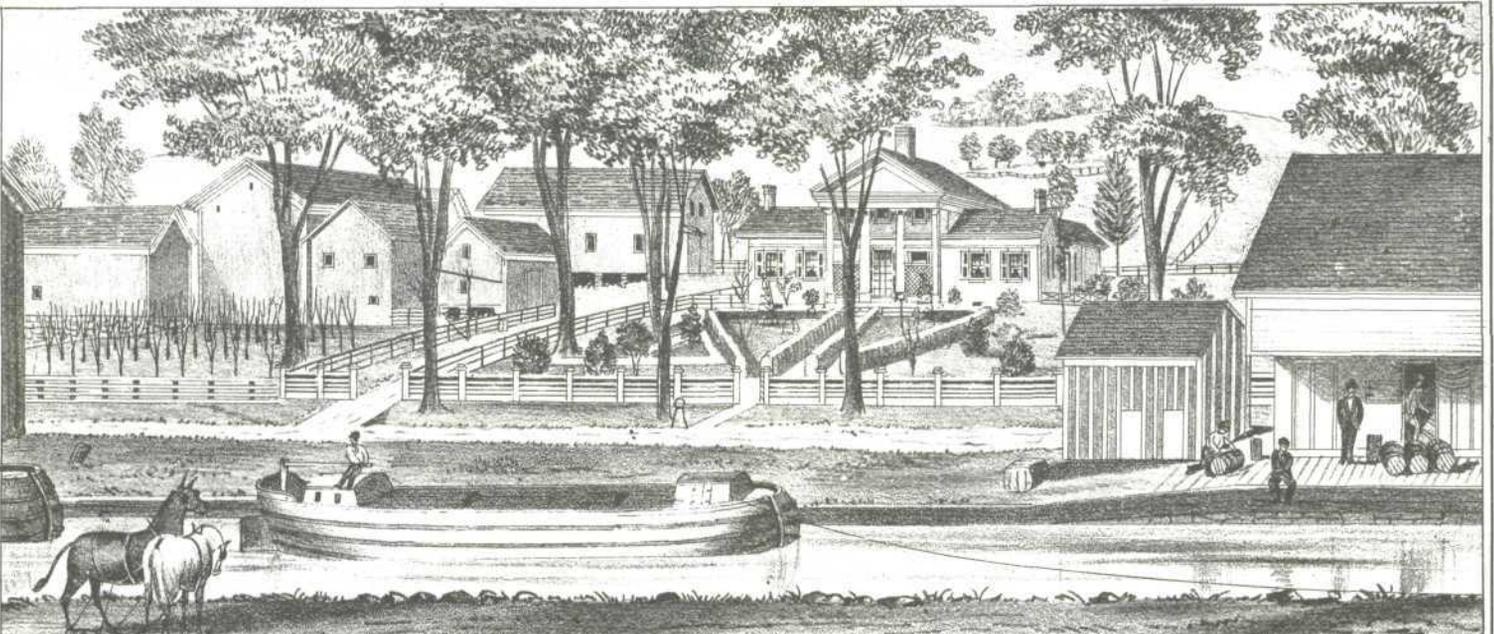
RES. OF C. C. VAN HORNE. RES. OF C. S. VAN HORNE.  
RES. OF SCHUYLER VAN HORNE NEAR MILL POINT, TOWN OF GLEN, MONTGOMERY Co. N.Y.



RESIDENCE, MILL, TENANT HOUSES etc. of **JOSEPH KECK**, Kecks Centre, Fulton Co, N Y.



MAPLE SHADE Res of **H. T. E. BROWER** Town of Mohawk, Montgomery Co., N. Y.



Res. of **VICTOR A. PUTMAN** Auriesville, Glen Tp. CANAL STORE, WAREHOUSE etc. Montgomery Co., N. Y.

Guests and host, at this, joined in a burst of laughter; the latter expressed himself suited and the German took his money back with him.

There was a family named Coss among Saltz's neighbors, and both the parents falling sick and dying, he took their children to his house for care. When one of them had become a young lady of eighteen, Saltz, then a widower of ninety, fell in love with and married her. All the neighborhood was invited to the wedding, and it was a gay time in the old Dutch fashion. The sequel was hardly as gay to the aged bridegroom, for his youthful bride ran away in a year with a hired man, incidentally taking the old man's money, which was in silver and kept in a hair trunk ornamented with fancy nails. This trunk is now owned and used by C. C. Van Horne, aged eighty-four, who is a great grandson of Saltz; and it is as nice as when the second Mrs. Saltz skipped away with the hired man and the silver. It is not related that the old man pined for his graceless companion; but during the few remaining years of his life, he would sometimes sit down and count over his silver money, doubtless thinking bitterly of that which was spirited out of the hair trunk. These last years he spent with his grand-daughter, Mrs. Cornelius Van Horne. At his death, she, according to the custom of the day, baked for all his friends—some two hundred—who were expected to attend the funeral, but the creek was so high that only the pall bearers, in two canoes, crossed it; they buried the aged man on his old homestead, of which he had never obtained any title.

The homestead of Cornelius or "Boss" Putman, who united with Saltz in the purchase of the Shucksburg patent, was near the hill on the bank of the Schoharie, whose steep front toward the creek is called "Cadaughtrity." Of his five sons, Francis, John, Victor, Henry and Peter, the last kept the homestead. He was a boy at the time of Johnson's descent on the valley in the spring of 1780, and was staying over night with a son of Barney Hansen, at the latter's house near Tribes Hill, in the present town of Mohawk. The lad was not harmed, but his clothes were carried off by the Indians who sacked the house. He followed up the marauders, and found his clothes, which they had thrown away at various points along the road to Col. Visscher's. The latter's house had been fired by the savages, who had butchered the inmates, but the flames had made small progress, and were extinguished by young Putman with a tub of sour milk which he found in the house. In the autumn of that year, Johnson, accompanied by Brant, made his second foray upon this part of the Mohawk valley. Coming from Schoharie over Oak Ridge, Brant's Indians, after burning the houses of Marcus Hand and Richard Hoff, west of Mill Point, proceeded to Cornelius Putman's. His family had fled across the creek and he, on the approach of the enemy, after letting out his hogs, concealed himself near enough to his buildings to see the enemy plunder the house, bee hives, and hens' nests, and after feeding on eggs and honey, set fire to the buildings and stacks and depart, one of the Indians having laden himself with tobacco from the barn. The only destructible property that remained was a stack of peas, a hogshead of wheat, which had been hid in a shanty in the woods, against such an emergency, and the hogs, which Mr. Putman had the forethought to turn loose. With these the family began life anew, building a log house, which was ready for occupancy before winter. Peter Putman left this place to his adopted son, Putman Van Buren, and he to his son Martin, who still owns it. Mr. Putman built a large brick house for his adopted son, and made many other improvements on the estate, but himself always lived in his old house, and in winter drove his white-faced sorrel horse before a paneled box-cutter, with a back about a foot higher than the owner's head, as he sat against it, he being a short man. He was a thrifty business man and accumulated a good property.

The farm next below that now owned by Mr. Abram Van Horne was for a long time owned by Barney Van Buren, sen., who now lives on the place with his sons Barney and Daniel, and whose 90th birthday was celebrated Jan. 16, 1878, his wife being then 87. The next farm below Van Buren's was settled by Harmanus Mabee before the Revolution, and at the time of Johnson and Brant's incursion, was in the possession of his son Peter H. The buildings were burned by the barbarians, and seven fat hogs were killed and left in the pen. The Mabee lands are now owned by the grand-children of Peter H., having always been in the family.

Cornelius Van Horne came from New Jersey, and after working a while for Philip Frederick, married his daughter, Eve, and took up the farm on the Glen side of the falls in the Schoharie, clearing the land and building on it. This farm was the northeast corner lot of Corry's patent. He and his brother, Henry, were patriot soldiers in the Revolution. They fought at Oriskany, and Cornelius was one of eight who carried Peter Conover

from the battlefield, where he had a leg shot off; four of them carried him for a time, when they were relieved by the others.

During the Revolutionary war, Sylvanus Wilcox settled the farm next to Van Horne's, directly above the falls. He came from Connecticut. After his death, his claim as a tenant of Clark and Corry was sold, and the family scattered. A daughter, named Betsey, became a missionary to the Dakota Indians, and has lived among them over fifty years, having married a Baptist minister of the name of Merrill. They have had great success in civilizing and christianizing these savages. The Cornelius Van Horne farm is now leased by C. C. Van Horne, a son of Cornelius, who has always lived here.

The first settlers here had to take their grain to Albany for milling, and at one time it took thirty skipples 22 1-2 bushels of wheat to buy a bushel of salt, as that was a commodity the settlers must have. Getting it at this extortionate rate, they naturally made the most of it; when they salted their butter the brine was saved for seasoning other victuals.

There was no physician in those days, and Mrs. Matthew Van Horne officiated as nurse and good Samaritan in general to the neighborhood. Mounting a horse behind the messenger who came to ask her services, she rode away through the wilderness to the relief of the distressed; or if a wagon was used, it was a heavy affair with no tongue, so that on reaching the brow of any considerable hill it was necessary to take a large pole in tow to prevent the vehicle running away with the team. A quantity of poles were kept at such spots, the team which drew one down a hill for its protection having to snake it back on the return. This precaution was only taken on the higher hills, as it was counted a poor horse that could not keep out of the way of the wagon on a low one.

One Sabbath during the war, the Van Horne family went to Fort Hunter to meeting, leaving the house in possession of a negro girl named Gin, whom Cornelius had bought. She took the opportunity to reach for the sugar-bowl, which the prudent Eve, knowing the servant's proclivities, kept on the top of a high cupboard. Gin not only brought down the sugar, but everything else about the cupboard, smashing all the dishes, which she disposed of by sinking them in the creek. On the return of the family she created a great excitement by reporting that the Indians had been there, carried off the dishes, and upset the cupboard. The cause of the misfortune, however, soon came out. The Van Hornes kept sheep, and Eve must always wash them; which she did sitting in a canoe and manipulating the wool, the "men folks" wading in with the sheep, and holding them as often as the washerwoman was ready for one.

Abram Rulifson came from New Jersey after the Revolution, and bought the McCready farm at Mill Point, on which he built a mill, which he afterward sold to Simon and Peter Mabee. They enlarged the mill, and dug a new ditch through the "blue bank," at the place where the ditch still runs. About the year 1800, a bridge was built over Schoharie at Mill Point, below the blue bank and opposite Voorhees' lane; it had log abutments, cribbed together. It was swept away after standing four years, and in 1805 another was built farther up stream. This was so low that at high water driftwood lodged against it, and carried it off six years after its construction. In 1812, one was built on better principles, still higher on the stream. About the opening of this century, Samuel, Henry and Jacob Van Dorn kept a store at Mill Point. They sold out to Cornelius Hoff and John Hand, who traded here until 1820, when the bridge was partly torn away by high water and ice. The Mabee brothers added to their grist mill a saw mill, a fulling mill and a woolen factory, all of which Joel Faulkner subsequently bought for \$10,000. In 1822, Peter Martin established a ferry opposite the John Voorhees residence, and David Austin and Frederick Rulifson kept a store here; but the ferry boat was swept away by a flood and ice, and the store was given up. One was then kept for a time near the mills.

The Faulkner mills and outbuildings were burned down in 1857. The saw-mill and grist-mill were rebuilt, but were destroyed by fire in the spring of 1861, together with some adjoining buildings. They were once more rebuilt, in improved style, only to be burned down again, two years later. In 1864 a store was established by J. S. Faulkner, who has kept it to the present time. A cider-mill started by David Faulkner in 1870 created an extensive market for apples, but it escaped the flames only three years. A bridge has been built over Irish creek, at its mouth, giving the farmers of the south-eastern part of Glen and the eastern part of Charleston, a more direct road to Auriesville, where 40,000 tons of hay, besides the surplus grain of this region, were shipped in the autumn of 1877. Garret Putman

once built a grist and saw-mill on Irish creek, back of the Faulkner farm, but it lacked water power most of the year, and was abandoned. Simon Veeley built a tannery and shoe shop on land leased of Putman, but gave it up, and Jacob Hoff obtained possession of the concern.

#### ACCIDENTS AND DISASTERS ON SCHOHARIE CREEK.

At an early day a bridge was built across the creek at the falls, the timbers supporting it being let into the slate rock. A few years after, at a time of high water, a large tree came rushing top-foremost down the stream, and part of its branches passing above the floor of the bridge, the structure was torn from its fastenings and swept away.

About 1834, John J. Wells established a ferry at Buchanan's mills. One year, during the spring floods, four men went out in the scow that served as a ferry boat to catch drift wood that was floating down. The rope across the stream, with which the boat was connected by a pulley, gave way at its eastern end, and being hastily made fast to the scow, the latter drifted across to within three rods of the Glen shore. Before it could be drawn to the bank, a floating tree struck it, and breaking the rope, set the craft adrift in the furious current. The crew took to the water, two swimming ashore, and the others reaching land by the aid of planks, though one of them had a narrow escape. Two years later the rope broke one dark night when Peter Williams was on board with a loaded sleigh. He detached the team and drove them overboard, and then struck out for land, which he succeeded in reaching. A search with lanterns was made for the team, and the horses were found on the Florida side, one dead, but drawn to shore by the other, the harness having held them together.

Wells owned some mills and other buildings, among them a large barn, with a foundation wall twelve feet high, on the bank of the creek. The spring freshet one year undermined the wall; the great barn rolled over into the creek and went sailing away, convoyed by a company of hogs and hens on cakes of ice. Mr. Wells' distillery and plaster-mill were also ruined.

In the spring of 1822, when the ice was very thick and frozen tightly around the supports of the Mill Point bridge, there came a sudden thaw and rain, and the neighbors, hearing that the ice had started up at the falls, gathered at the bridge to witness its fate. While they were watching anxiously from the western bank, a stranger in a sleigh drove on to the bridge at the Florida end. The crowd shouted to warn him of his danger, but, misunderstanding their cries, he only drove slowly and carefully. Seeing that he persisted in crossing, a young man named Alexander Voorhees ran over the bridge, and, leaping into the sleigh, plied the whip. This brave and energetic action barely saved the traveler, for the bridge was in motion as the sleigh left it, and it soon went to pieces.

Oct. 4, 1868, a flood broke over the bank at Mill Point, and swept across the flats to the mills, carrying away fences and saw-logs, and doing considerable other damage. The same thing occurred April 19, 1869, when the old ferry-house was left surrounded by water, and Charles Strever and family, who occupied it, were confined to the second story all day. Strever, however, consoled himself with the contents of a cider barrel which had floated out of the cellar of Nelson Overbaugh, a mile above the falls, and drifted within his reach; and is said to have been rather tipsy when taken off with his family at night in a large broom-wagon, which was with great difficulty got to the house. The flood left a number of fish in the cellar from which it took the cider.

On the 7th of June, 1874, a terrific whirlwind laid most of Mill Point in ruins. It started on the flats east of Henry Mabee's house, and took a southeasterly direction through Martin Van Buren's woods, twisting the tops off the trees; then, crossing the creek and a field, it cut a swath about ten rods wide through Henry C. Pettengill's heavy pine woods. From this point it recrossed the creek exactly over Mill Point, unroofing the mill, and completely wrecking an adjoining shed and horse barn filled with broom-corn. Five horses in the barn strangely escaped uninjured. The saw-mill, and a large dry-house filled with broom-corn, were also entirely ruined, the latter being twisted flat to the earth; a broom shop, James Faulkner's dwelling and three others, his store and blacksmith shop, every building of David Faulkner, and two houses of Henry Soady, were unroofed, and every tree was twisted off where the full force of the tornado was felt. Pieces of slate from the roof of the mill flew so swiftly as to cut through the siding of buildings, and stick fast in trees. As the

whirlwind for a third time crossed the creek, it took clothing and hats well over into Florida, and mowed down trees on the bank of the creek. Crossing the creek between William Voorhees' and Daniel Blood's, it came to the woods of Daniel McClumpha. Here it seemed to rise, taking only the tops of the trees, and so passed away. In a few minutes it had traversed a path a mile in length, with Mill Point for its centre. A torrent of rain accompanied it, seriously damaging the unroofed buildings and their contents.

Strange as it may seem, not a creature was hurt. The catastrophe occurred on a Sunday afternoon, when the inhabitants of Mill Point had repaired to the school house, half a mile distant, to hear a sermon by the Rev. Mr. Mitchell. He was a guest at one of the wrecked houses, and climbing from the ruins went to the school-house to fill his appointment. The services proceeded as far as the sermon, but the minister having begun that with an announcement of what had happened, found it impossible to hold his audience, the people being too anxious to learn the shape of their property. The meeting was dismissed, and those who had attended betook themselves to the scene of ruin. Mill Point was completely covered with trees and lumber. The people were busy for a week in securing their exposed property. By their enterprise and perseverance, however, they restored the waste places so rapidly that the next year found Mill Point as prosperous as ever.

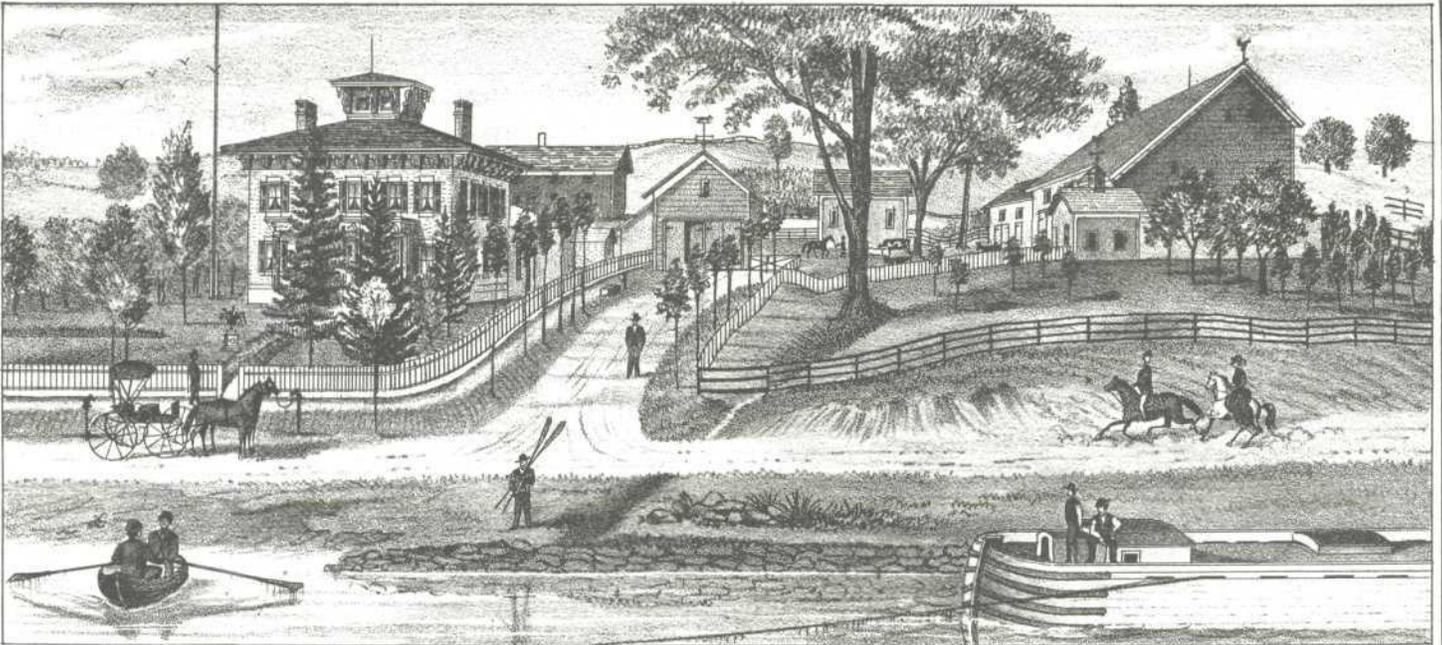
In olden times a dangerous dugway skirted the so-called "blue bank," near Mill Point. It was a narrow track, and having for a time no railing, was the scene of several perilous accidents in which, however, no loss of life occurred. One of them, at least, had a humorous phase. Jacob Van Horne undertook to drive by this point with Mrs. Cornelius Van Horne and another lady in his wagon. One of the horses took to kicking, and both of them, with the vehicle, went off the bank. The driver and the younger lady managed to jump out, but Mrs. Van Horne, as well as the horses, brought up in a bed of soft blue clay at the foot of the declivity. Her eyes and mouth were filled with the mud, and she was motionless and silent. One of the men who came to the rescue remarked that she was dead, and they had better leave her and attend to the living woman, who was hurt and screaming with pain and fright. The old lady's ears were still open, it seems, and hearing this obituary remark, she spit out a mouthful of clay and shouted, "I aint dead yet!" She was not, indeed, but lived to startle a worthy laborer, named Snyder, who was employed at setting posts for a railing to protect this very spot. He had just finished a toilsome job on a large white oak post as Mrs. Van Horne came up the hill, unobserved by him; and leaning his spade on it, stepped back a little, took off his hat, wiped his sweaty forehead, and said aloud, "There! that's good enough for the devil, and what's good enough for him, is good enough for any one!" "Why, Mr. Snyder?" inquired the old lady. "Hello!" said the workman, as he jumped round; "I didn't see you. How you scairt me!" The solidity of Snyder's work was shown in connection with a breakdown which happened at this point some time after. The team getting loose from the wagon, backed over the verge, one each side of the big white oak post, and the neck-yoke catching on that, the horses were suspended until the men, despairing of getting them back, cut them loose and let them slide to the bottom, where they landed without serious injury.

About seventy years ago a whirlwind started near the Hoff farm, west of Mill Point, and swept down the east side of the valley, opposite the buildings now owned by Abram Van Horne, felling a swath of timber ten rods wide on his farm, rising above the woods, however, before it reached the Schoharie. The fallen timber belonged to Peter Putman, and he allowed the poor people of the neighborhood to carry it off for firewood, with which it furnished them for years. The land thus cleared lay waste until 1877, when the first crop was raised on it by Mr. Van Horne.

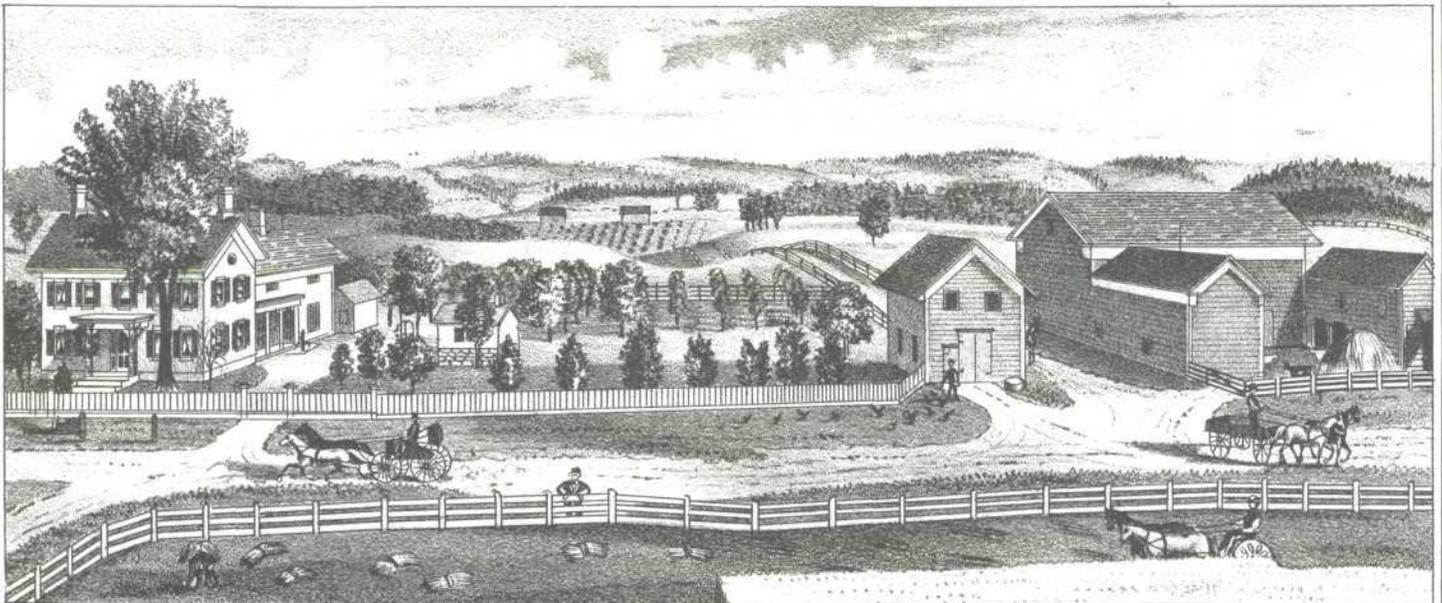
In January, 1828, William Newkirk, with his daughter, her cousins Nancy Newkirk and Maria Marlet, and a Mr. Chase, attempted to drive across the Schoharie on the ice opposite the Putman homestead, on the way from Fultonville to the Newkirk place, on the east bank of the creek. The ice broke and the whole party was drowned. The bodies of the three girls were found the next day, and were buried in one grave. The corpse of Mr. Chase was recovered a week later, but it was two months before that of Mr. Newkirk was found near Van Dorn's mills.

#### THE EARLIER AND LATER HOTELS.

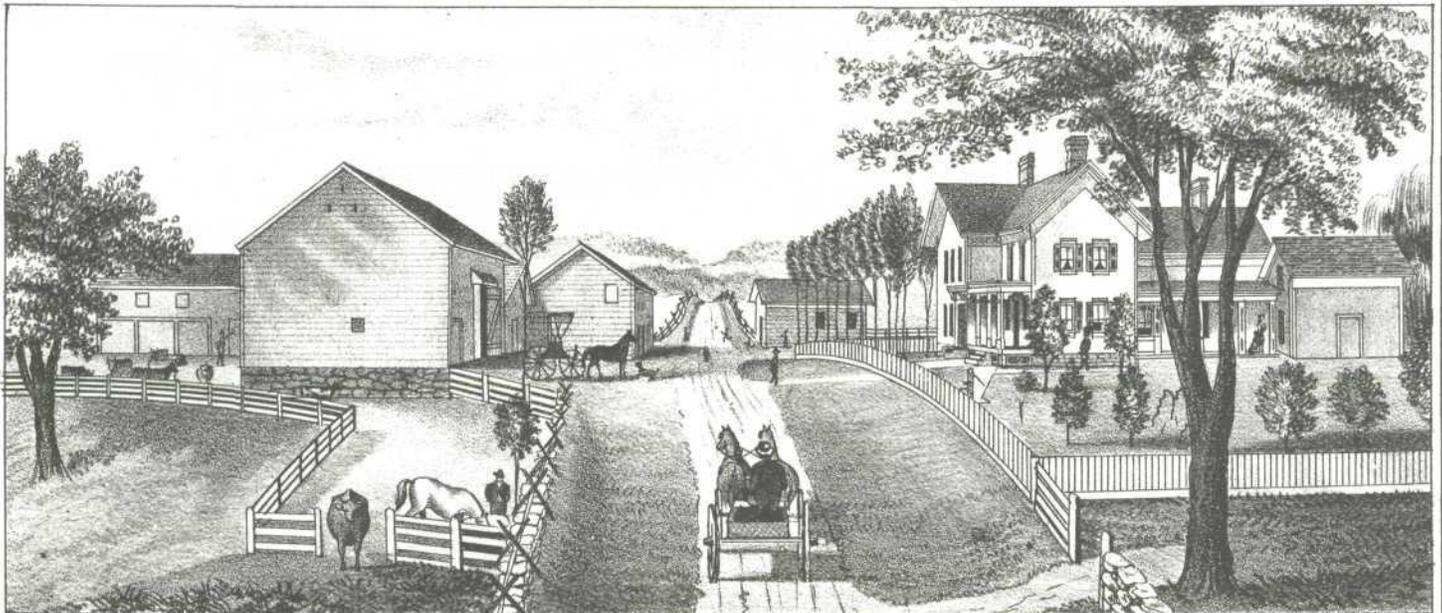
The full history of the hotels which have arisen, declined and fallen in the town of Glen, would of itself fill a volume.



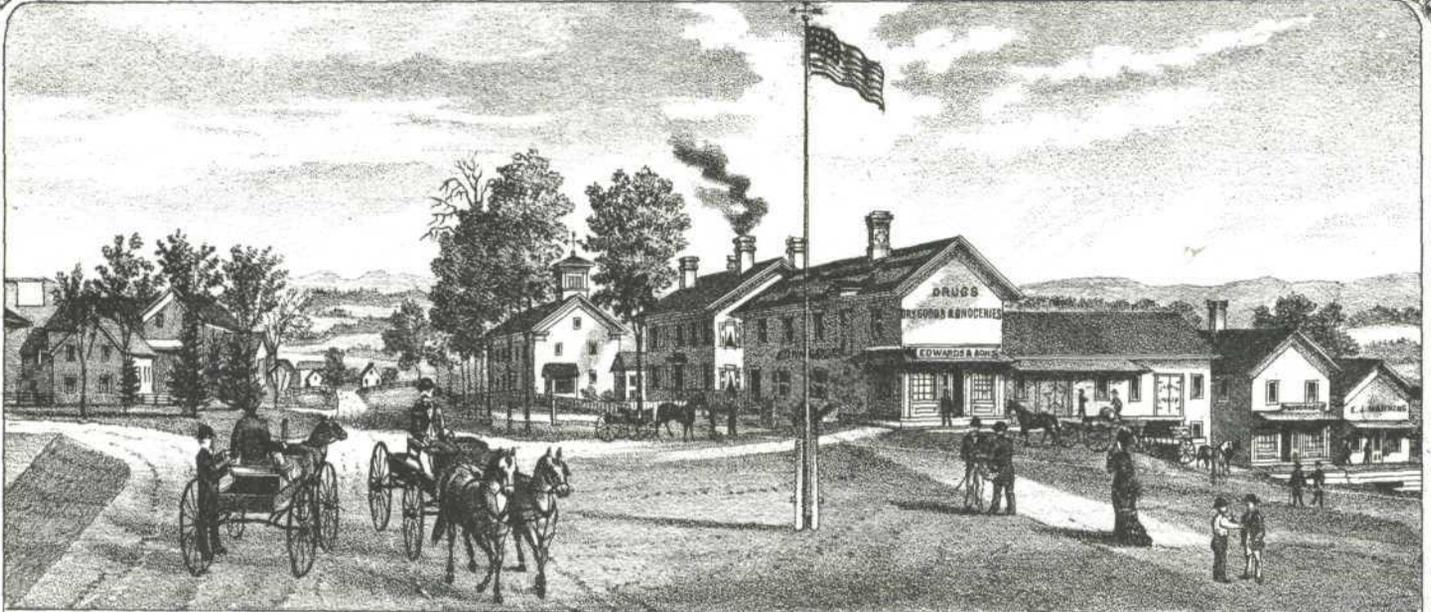
Res. of **JACOB H. STARIN**, Fultonville, Montgomery Co., N. Y.



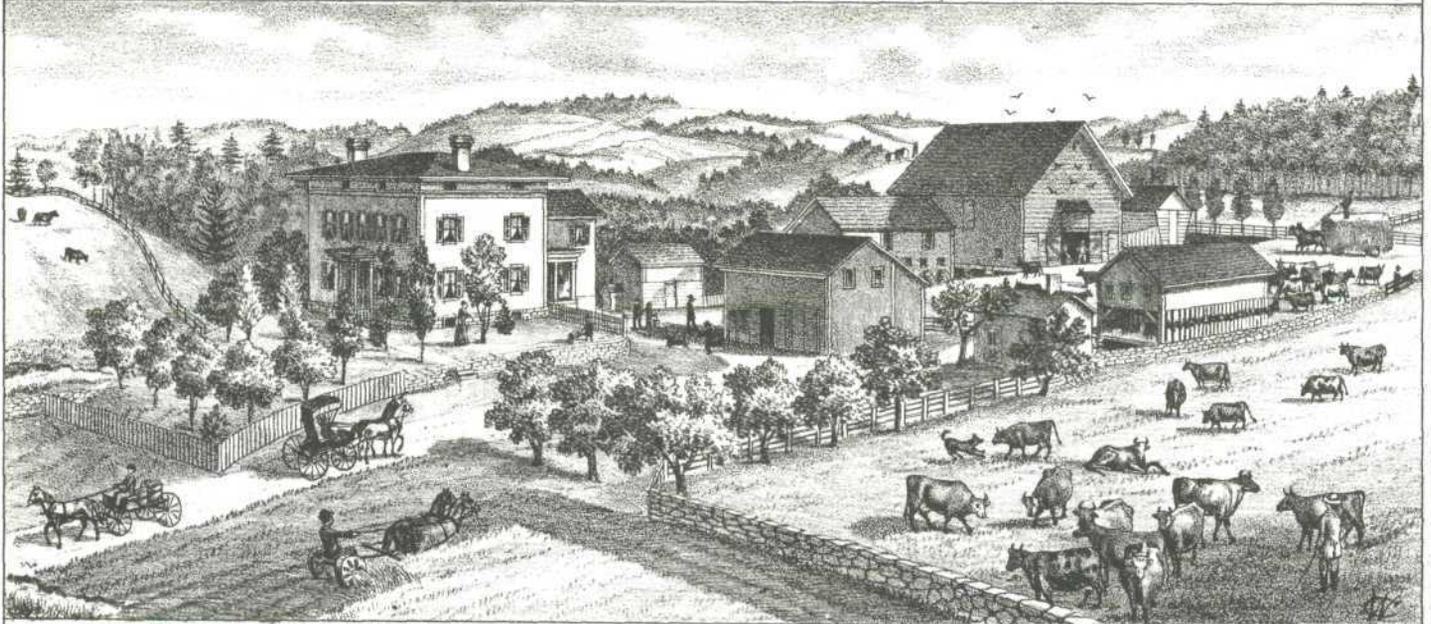
Res. of **RICHARD WINNE**, Town of Glen, Montgomery Co., N. Y.



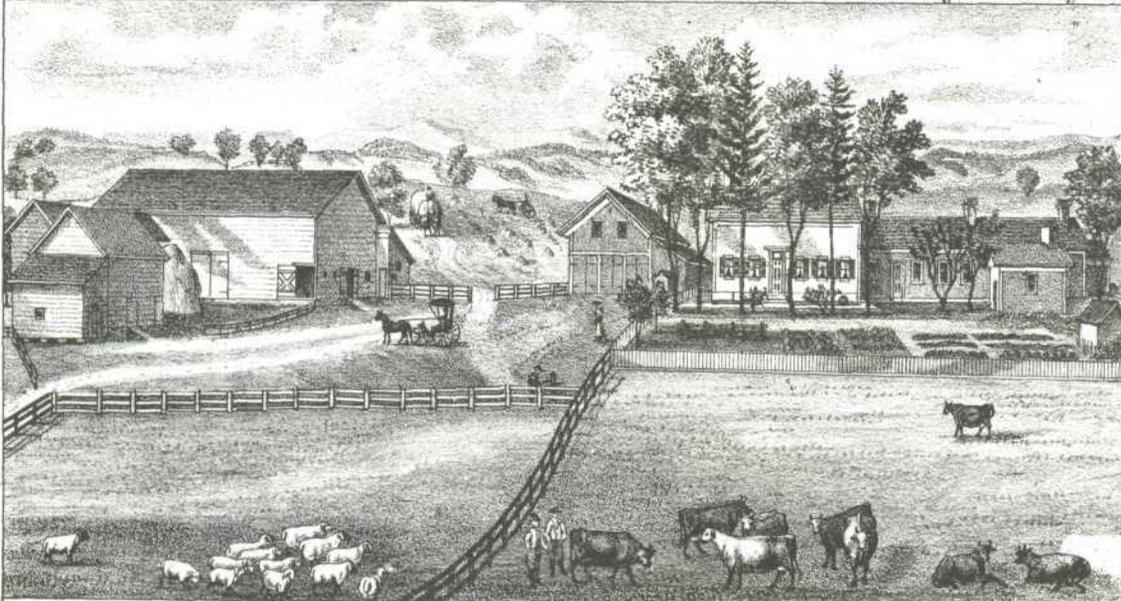
Res. of **DAVID FRANK**, Franks Corners, Town of Mayfield, Fulton Co., N. Y.



Res., Store, etc. of **J. V. S. EDWARDS & SONS**, Glen, N.Y.



Res. of **HIRAMI LIGHTHALL**, Town of Ephratah, Fulton Co., N.Y.



Res of **PETER VAN EVERA**, Town of Glen, Montgomery Co., N.Y.



**Peter Van Evera**  
RANDALL, N.Y.

One of the first taverns was kept by Wm. Quackenboss, at Auriesville, about the year 1797, but John Starin established one at Fultonville shortly after the Revolution. About 1795, the post road from Albany terminated here, and Starin's son Myndert carried the mail weekly from his father's tavern to Johnstown, horse-back or on foot. The public house kept by Starin was destroyed about ten years ago. It was situated upon the south bank of the river, a short distance east of the present location of the bridge. Another of the early landlords was Van Name Van Epps, who rented the building owned by Peter C. Yates, and kept a tavern for several years. This building is still standing on the south side of the Mohawk, almost directly north from the steam saw-mill. John Starin was succeeded by his son Myndert Starin. When the Erie Canal was in process of construction, almost every house near the line of the work was a "tavern." Most of these extemporized hotels only existed while the canal was building, although some of them were kept up thereafter, and did quite a thriving trade with travelers on the canal. Among others which came into being about this time, was one of which Richard Hughesen was the proprietor. The building, a small frame structure painted red, is still standing.

Peter Fonda kept a tavern about a quarter of a mile below that of John Starin, and John Gardinier one as much further down the river, while Rynier Gardinier kept one at the same distance still further east. Several other small places of entertainment for man and beast were established along the south bank of the canal from 1825 to 1828, but those mentioned above were among the principal ones.

From this time on until the year 1868 the only hotels at Fultonville were those established along the bank of the canal for the accommodation of the boatmen. In that year John A. Perkins came from Charleston, and established a public house in a frame building on the site of the hotel now occupied by him. He remained here until the spring of 1875, when he sold out to William Lowry, who kept the place until the fall of 1876, when the hotel was destroyed by fire. After the old building had been burned, Mr. Perkins built the present brick edifice.

The Starin House was erected by the present owner, H. J. Donaldson, in 1875. The hotel forms part of the Donaldson Block, the most showy building in the village. The landlord is J. E. Marsden, and the hotel is handsomely fitted up in every part.

The Cottage Hotel at Glen, conducted by John E. Hubbs, has been established for a long time, and always has a full complement of guests.

#### SCHOOLS.

The first school in the town was kept in the house of Abraham D. Quackenboss. It was opened immediately after the close of the Revolutionary war, and was taught by John Hazard. This, at that time, was the only school for many miles around. About the commencement of the present century, however, school districts were established, and school-houses built about six miles apart. One of the first school-houses built in the town was the "Sand Hill" school-house; it was situated on the hill, a short distance northeast of the residence of Mr. B. Gardinier. The next one above on the line of the canal was at Stone Ridge. The citizens of the town of Glen may congratulate themselves on having the neatest looking school-houses to be seen in the county.

The High School at Fultonville is under the able charge of Mr. J. K. Anderson, assisted by Miss Kate Jones and Miss Helen Brown.

One of the school-houses of old stood on the border of Garret Putman's farm on the "river road," near Mill Point. Here old Master McCready reigned supreme for many years with a toughened beech whip. About 1820, a new school-house was built at this point, over which Ransel B. Young presided for several years. He kept order by the whip, and was very severe when he had been drinking; this characteristic finally caused his removal. Master Hudson then got the school. He was a more judicious manager; seldom using the whip. He would, however, make the refractory pupil stand on one foot, or hold out an armful of books; and for severe punishment he had a way of standing a long bench up at an angle, with one end in the scuttle-hole overhead, and making the unhappy urchin climb it. If the youngster slipped back, he came in violent contact with the vibrating palm of the pedagogue. It was vain for the luckless pupil to try to escape at the upper end of the bench, for it too nearly filled the scuttle to leave any exit there. The performance must have been huge fun for all the school but one; but for that one it was a "cruel and unusual punishment," which probably ceased with the retirement of its

inventor. That educator having a sore toe one winter, moved a bunk-bed into the school-room, and had the children bring his meals by turns. After Master Hudson came Master Bentley, an excellent teacher and highly esteemed. Then Emily Loomis taught three years acceptably, and of late nearly every year has found a new teacher. In 1858, a new school-house was built, being made large enough to accommodate religious meetings and Sabbath-school.

#### POST OFFICES.

The first post office in the town of Glen was established at Glen village, and Cornelius H. Putman appointed postmaster, May 19th, 1823. His successors, and the dates of their appointment, are as follows: Jacob Burton, May 30th, 1828; Harmon P. Maybee, April 6th, 1833; William A. Kelley, April 15th, 1834; John Hanchet, January 19th, 1835; Adam Smith, September 17th, 1849; Alonzo Putman, March 4th, 1856; William H. Steinberg, May 16th, 1857; Phillip Pruyne, August 24th, 1857; John Visser, April 18th, 1862; John V. S. Edwards, January 8th, 1863; Joseph Noxon, November 12th, 1873; Tunis Van Derveer, December 4th, 1873; and Edward Edwards, March 31st, 1874.

The post office at Auriesville was established, and Allen H. Jackson appointed postmaster, January 26th, 1824. Since that time postmasters have been appointed as follows: John Hand, May 31st, 1827; John Van Alstine, March 22d, 1831; William Irving, November 20th, 1852; David Wood, August 12th, 1856; William Irving, March 26th, 1862; and John N. Putman, May 5th, 1873.

The first postmaster at Fultonville was William M. Gardinier, and the office was established December 12th, 1832. The office has since then been filled as follows: Cornelius Gardinier, August 2d, 1841; William Shuler, August 15th, 1843; John H. Starin, June 15th, 1849; William Shuler, July 14th, 1853; and Giles H. Mount, May 16th, 1861.

The post office at Mill Point was established, and James J. Faulkner appointed postmaster, February 13th, 1874, and he has held the office ever since.

#### THE OLD STOCKBRIDGE CHIEF.

The sad fate of the aboriginal race on American soil is typified by that of the aged Indian, Elijah Pie, who, after being in his time one of the lords of the land, died about 1840 at the county poor-house. He was once chief of the formidable Stockbridge tribe, but was too favorably inclined toward the whites to please his warriors, and a younger and more ambitious and warlike aspirant supplanted him. He thereupon removed to the Mohawk valley, where his mother was brought up and was buried. "Me want be near mother's grave," said he, and leaving his Massachusetts home and his tribe about 1825, he erected his wigwam on the farm owned by Abram V. Putman, about a mile southeast of Auriesville. There, for some fourteen years, he spent a solitary life, supporting himself by making baskets, brooms, and other Indian wares, which he exchanged with the neighbors for the necessaries of life; for he was an honest man and would not be beholden to any man, while he could care for himself. At length, however, he was disabled by rheumatism, and taken to the county-house for proper care. "Me die soon," he said. "Indian no live long with white man." His words were prophetic; he did not long survive his humiliation, and he had spoken as truly of the fate of his race as of his own.

#### PERSONAL SKETCH.

PETER VAN EVERA, a son of John B. Van Evera, was born in the town of Canajoharie, at Mapletown, March 23d, 1803. He was educated in a common school, and at the age of twelve, became a clerk in John Taylor and Co.'s store at Mapletown, where the trading in the town was then about all done. The town meetings were also held there. At seventeen, Mr. Van Evera began teaching school, and after teaching three years, returned to his paternal homestead, and helped his father on the farm. February 17th, 1825, he married Nancy Leonardson. March 15th, 1826, he rented a farm in the town of Glen, on which he remained as tenant twelve years. He subsequently purchased it, and has resided on the farm ever since. He made farming his sole business until the year 1867, since which time he has lived retired on the old homestead. He is now the owner of 1,400 acres of land, over 800 acres being in the towns of Root and Glen, the remainder lying out of the county. He was elected supervisor for the years 1849, 1850, 1851 and 1853. This aged couple have had five sons and five daughters. Mr. Van Evera possesses a large amount of native shrewdness and a clear perception of human nature, which has contributed towards his success in life.