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M O N T C L A I R

in the

E L E G A N T E I G H T I E S

the decade which saw

the greatest change in its history

by

G L A D Y S S E G A R

V O L U M E I

M O N T C L A I R P U B L I C L I B R A R Y

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D E D I C A T E D

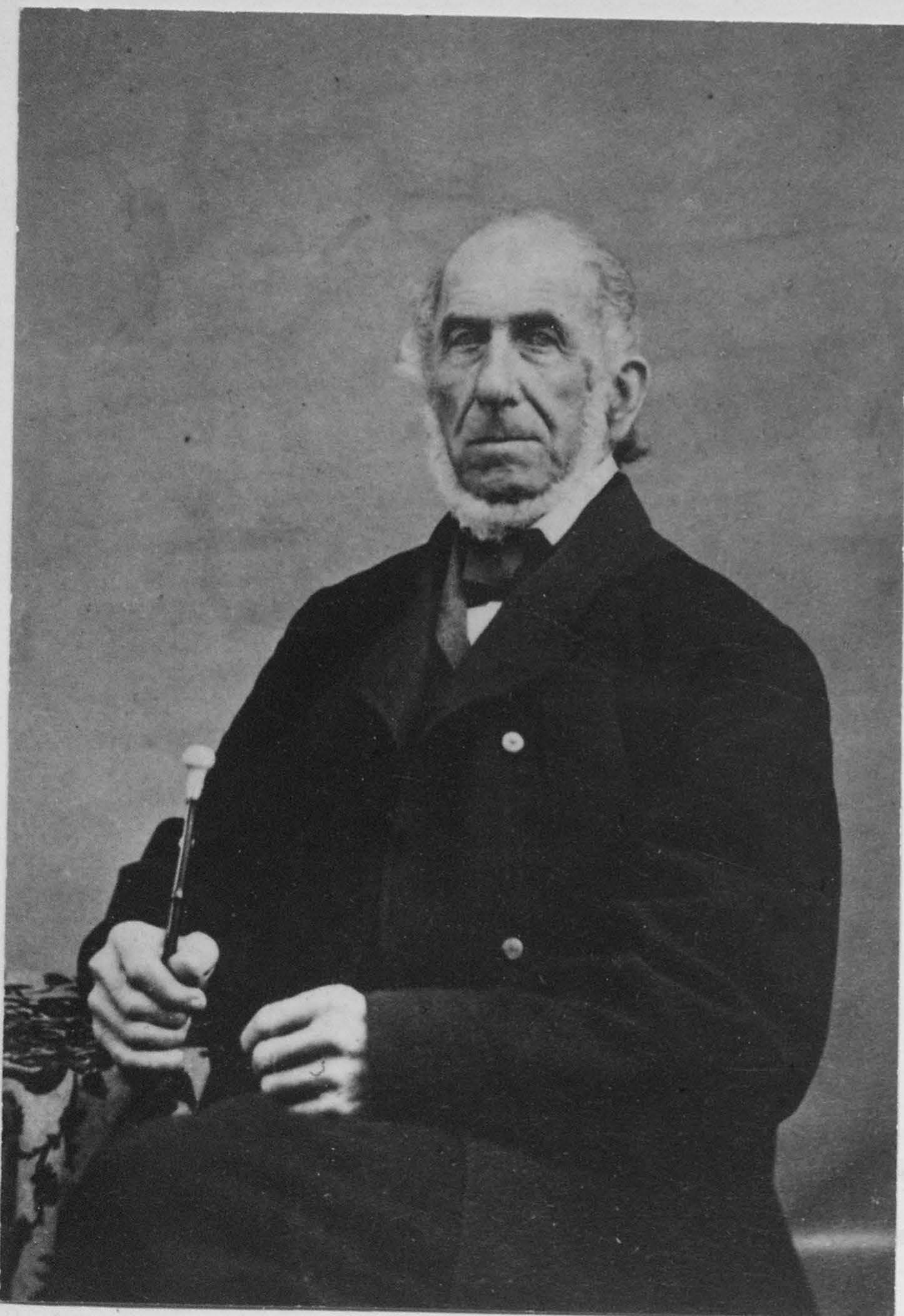
to Margery Quigley, without whose encouragement  
there would have been no book; to the Montclair  
Times, without which there could have been no  
text; to generous patrons, without whom there  
could have been no illustrations. G. S.

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Vol 1 P2  
Squire Zenas Crane (1793-1884) Justice of the Peace, Judge, and surveyor. For over fifty years he prepared the deeds for nearly every land transaction made in this vicinity. The "Squire" as he was called, was a great grandson of the original settler, Azariah Crane. His daughter, Frances J., married Dr. J. J. H. Love.



Voting was a ceremony in the past and campaigns were made memorable occasions. On election day in 1880, two old veterans, "Squire" Crane and "Uncle" Nathaniel R. Dodd, marched down Bloomfield Avenue to the polls, the former carrying a flag over his shoulder. He deposited his vote in the box, and Dodd cast the second vote. Quite a number of voters had preceeded them but all waited until the old men had cast their ballots. In district No. 1 some thirty or forty Democrats headed by a fife and drum marched to their polling place.

Presidential campaigns featured torch light parades, accompanied by the discharge of cannon which often broke windows. Residences were brightly illuminated whether on the line of march or not. Marching men appeared in showy uniforms. During the Harrison and Morton campaign the local group of 118 Negroes wore white shirts with blue trimmings and star-spangled collars, the initials H and M worked in a monogram in white upon a red diamond set in the sleeves; tricolor belts with gilt clasps; blue trousers with a broad white stripe down the seam; and blue helmets with gilt spikes, and, of course, they carried lighted torches. Democratic uniforms consisted of red helmets with white band bearing the names

Cleveland and Thurman in black letters, white shirts with blue fronts, white leggings and blue belts inscribed in white with the name of the club, "Washington Battery."

Township elections were held in the Spring. In that of 1888 there were cast 639 votes for the Republicans, 334 for the Democrats, and 99 for the Taxpayers. At the presidential election that Fall the total vote polled was 1,510: 810 Republican, 650 Democratic, 59 Prohibition. The township was divided into three separate school districts, each a law unto itself. Appropriations for school expenses was voted by citizens in meeting assembled and the taxes in each district varied accordingly. In 1887 those who resided in the central district paid at the rate of \$3.14, those in Mt. Hebron \$3.31, and those in Washington District, \$2.77. It was not until 1890 that the tax rate was fixed on the hundred irrespective of the district.

State laws governing townships required that the governing body be elected by qualified voters, that they be five in number and officially known as the "Township Committee." Other officials elected were a town clerk, an assessor and a collector of taxes, two judges and two inspectors of elections, two surveyors of highways, three men to hear complaints of taxpayers who were dissatisfied with assessments levied, four Justices of the Peace, two constables, two chosen freeholders, five road commissioners, and an overseer of the poor.

Each party, on its ballot, stated amounts for town expenditures which they pledged themselves to spend, if elected. One major expense to the town was the cost of caring for the poor who lived in the town-house, situated off lower Bloomfield Avenue. In 1882 it had seven inmates, and there were twenty-five outside who received supplies from the town-house. Charges of mismanagement at that time were investigated but not sustained. The next year the overseer asked permission to erect a high board fence around the premises so that he might control the movements of the inmates.

In 1881 a permanent counsel to the Township's Committee was appointed at a salary of \$300 per annum. The office of engineer was created in 1884. In 1886 the Committee organized a Board of Health consisting of the Committee, and Robert B. Harris and Dr. J. W. Pinkham. Dr. J. S. Brown was appointed Health Inspector.

The Township Committee met in hired rooms in the Hayden Building at 550 Bloomfield Avenue. During the eighties the following served on the committee, guided town affairs, and formulated plans for most of the great improvements to be introduced: Thomas H. Bouden, Stephen W. Carey, Isaac Denby, George P. Farmer, George Inness, Jr., James Owen, James B. Pierson, Jasper H. Rand, Shepard Rowland, Thomas Russell, Henry Speer, Warren S. Taylor, A. Eben Van Gieson, and John H. Wilson. They could not spend money as they wished but were curtailed in great measure by the state.

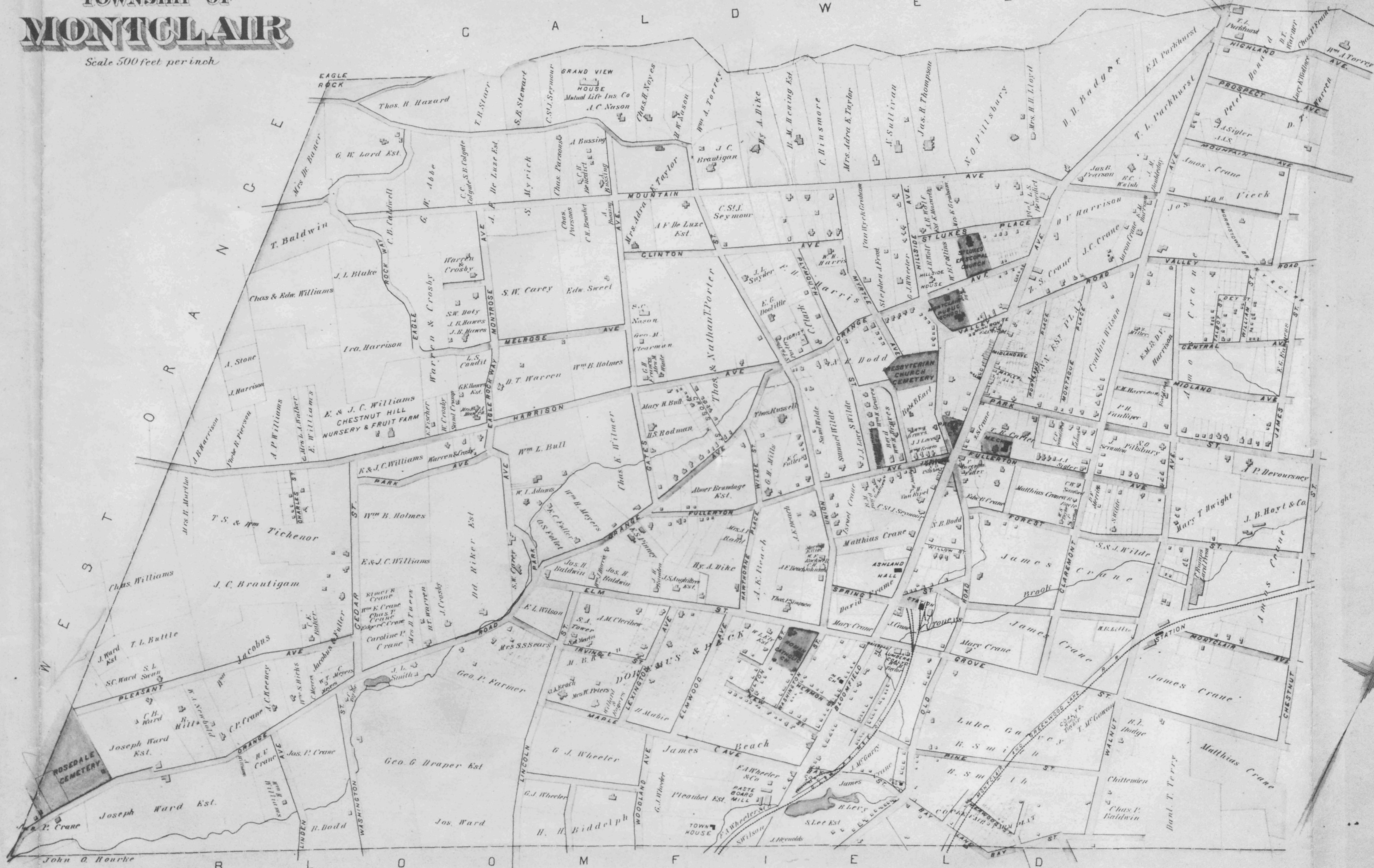
In 1883 local voters approved appropriations of \$3,000 for a lockup in Montclair and \$4,000 for public buildings. A lot at the corner of Valley Road and Bloomfield Avenue was purchased for \$4,500 in preparation for the future erection of a municipal building.

"The Democratic parade ... was one of the finest ever seen in Montclair. ...all of the 596 men in line presented a good appearance. ...People who are in the habit of sleeping sound o'nights, say after ten o'clock, will doubtless be glad when the campaign is over, and the campaign parader is relegated to private life." Montclair Times, October 13, 1888.



PART OF  
**TOWNSHIP OF**  
**MONTCLAIR**

Scale 500 feet per inch





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Contents

- VOLUME I : The Scene and the People
- VOLUME II : Homes: Exteriors; Interiors
- VOLUME III: Cultural, Civic, and Social
- VOLUME IV : Business; Transportation

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T H I S V O L U M E : I

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Most of the pictures in these volumes were given to  
the Montclair Library for its Local History File by  
descendants of old Montclair families or by the  
Montclair Times. All are believed, most are known,  
to have been taken in Montclair during the 1880's  
or to be pictures of Montclair people taken at that  
time.

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Vol 11 p 3

Left: Flyer "Montclair Versus Bloomfield" (date 1883). Right: Mrs. Zenas Squire Crane, the former Miss Maria Searing. She was married in 1821 in the old Bloomfield Hotel. She died on May 12, 1884. The Cranes lived on the north side of Bloomfield Avenue between Park Street and Fullerton Avenue.

MONTCLAIR VERSUS BLOOMFIELD.

Four Reasons why Montclair is preferable to Bloomfield as a Place of Residence.

FIRST: "There never was a case of Malaria known there"—although I did enquire of a physician who practices in Montclair if he had any cases of Malaria, and he said: "No; but I have plenty of cases that would be Malaria if the patients lived in Bloomfield."

SECOND: "Montclair is very healthful, being located on the side of Orange Mountain at an altitude of 220 feet above tide water, whereas Bloomfield is only about 150 feet. But somehow the statistics recently published place Bloomfield, I believe, considerably lower in the number of deaths per 1,000 inhabitants than Montclair."

THIRD: "Rents are high, thus securing only the best class of citizens as residents." But you must not gather from this that it costs any more to build here than in our parent town. Oh no! You have only to look at the assessed valuation for the present year (1883) to convince you that we are very economical in that respect: Montclair R. E. valuation, \$2,077,245; Bloomfield do. \$2,181,685. Thus you see Bloomfield has an assessed real estate valuation of \$104,446 in excess of Montclair, and of course that shows that our buildings do not cost as much, for the towns are about the same size. You see our forte is in keeping a high rent on cheap buildings.

FOURTH: "We have fine roads for driving and the greater portion of our citizens improve them, thus making a lively town, while Bloomfield is dead." Yes, we can turn out more horses and carriages, and furnish more houses on a small amount of money than any town in the United States! Behold the proof: We have about 1,000 voters; our personal property returned for taxation this year is \$193,755, or just \$193.75 for each voter. Personal property includes horses, carriages, furniture, libraries, watches, jewelry, etc. Now just go through our town and see if you don't think we buy our horses, carriages, furniture, libraries, watches and jewelry very cheap! Yes, we buy *very cheap* horses, carriages, furniture, libraries, watches and jewelry, for no one supposes we haven't made correct returns, nor that we owe for what we have. Bloomfield returned for taxation personal property to the amount of \$467,104, or \$467 for each voter, allowing the same number of voters as Montclair. "How shiftless!" No one supposes that those poor people who soil the hem of our garments as we pass and re-pass their town on the way to our business have more than double the value of horses, carriages, furniture, libraries, watches and jewelry than we! Why, then, do they make such returns? I suppose they are trying to convey the idea that we do not make proper returns of our property so as to show that Montclair is a pauper town and a burden to Essex County, throwing taxes onto other towns that we ought to bear. My brethren, we don't do it! neither do we make a scapegoat of our Assessor. We walk up squarely every year and make oath that we buy our horses, carriages, furniture, libraries, watches and jewelry for \$193 75 per voter, or that that is the value of them.

Yours,  
RESIDENT OF ESSEX CO.



Older women wore night caps and house caps variously called bonnets, capottes, and lappets.

PAGE 33..... 1886. NO. 1.....

**Montclair Township Tax.**

PRESENT THIS BILL WHEN YOU PAY YOUR TAX.

*Mr. Samuel J. Holmes*

Value of Real Estate.....\$ 1800

Value of Personal Property .....

Exemptions .....

Amount Taxable.....

RATE OF TAXATION VARIES IN DIFFERENT SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

Town, State, County and Road Board Tax \$2.36 on \$100.

Poll.....	100
Dog.....	
63 State, County and Road Board...@.63.	11 34

Poor.....	14	2 52
Gravel and Road Repairs.....	29	5 22
Hard Roads.....	20	3 60
Interest on Town Bonds.....	62	11 16
Incidental.....	26	4 68
Street Lighting.....	22	3 96
66 School.....	66	11 88
302 Assessment for Sidewalks.....		
Interest.....		55 36
Costs.....		
Cancelling.....		
Total.....		

Now due and payable at my office, in Hayden's Building, before the 20th day of October next.

The Commissioners of Appeal will meet at the Town Committee Rooms, in Hayden's Building, on the fourth Tuesday of September (28) ensuing, at 9 A. M.

MONTCLAIR, N. J., Sept. 1st, 1886.

E. C. FULLER, COLLECTOR.

TAXES UNPAID on October 20th, will be subject to 36 cents costs and an additional charge of one per cent. a month until paid.

N. B.—The law requires the Collector to record all taxes on real estate in the County Clerk's office, if not paid on or before February 1st, 1887.

The Collector will receive Taxes at his office, from October 1st to 20th, from 8 to 12 A. M., and 2 to 6 P. M.

Prompt payment of the above is particularly requested.

*Received the above Tax*

*E. C. Fuller* COLLECTOR

"Scarcely have people returned from the seashore and other summer resorts and have settled down into peaceful everyday life than do the wily politicians begin to set the wheels of their machinery in motion and renew the perennial contest for party supremacy." Montclair Times, September 7, 1889.



Vol 1

"Mr. and Mrs. Blank request the pleasure of your company on Tuesday afternoon, at three o'clock. Caudle. No presents are expected. Caudle parties are again in fashion." 1884. After a birth, when master or miss is about six weeks old and mother is ready to see her friends, she may signify by sending out cards for a "caudle party."



P9393

Mamma receives her friends in a tea gown or some pretty convalescent wrap, very often made of velvet or plush cut in the form of a belted-in jacket and skirt, or in a long princesse robe, elaborately trimmed with cascades of lace down the front.

The callers are offered a delicious dish "fit to set before a king." The caudle is a kind of oatmeal gruel, boiled "two days," with raisins and spices, and a fine old Madeira (some say Rum) added.

The baby is, of course, shown, but not much handled. Some people have the christening and the caudle party together, but of this, it is said, the Church does not approve.

Most people take their children to church to be baptized, and then give a party at home afterwards. Presents should be given at this time. Old-fashioned people give the baby some salt and an egg for good luck, and are particular that he be carried upstairs before he is carried down, and that when he goes out first he shall be carried to the house of some near and dear relative.

At the christening baby is shown off in a splendid robe very much belaced and embroidered. It is feared that it is a day of disturbance for him. Babies should not be too much excited; a quiet and humdrum existence, a not too "showy nurse," and regular hours are conducive to a good constitution for these little newcomers. Gay dresses and jingling ornaments for nurses are now frowned upon as being too exciting to little eyes that are looking out on a new world. The practice of making a baby ride backwards in a push-wagon is sternly denounced by physicians.

"Fashionable mammas who wish to give caudle parties should remember that in our harsh climate maternity is beset by much feebleness as to nerves in both mother and child; therefore a long seclusion in the nursery is ad-



P9394

Selection of god-parents is a delicate task. It is a very great compliment to be asked to stand in this relation. If the baby is named for one, a very handsome present is usually made; if not the godfather or godmother sends some little token of regard such as a silver cup or porringer, oral tooth-cutter or bells.



✓ 181 1

This very handsome reed baby carriage with removable sunshade trimmed with lace was the very latest thing in 1889. It is shown on the opposite page with its parasol removed. The bright-eyed young lady sitting upright is Dorothea De Forest.

P9295



vised before the dangerous period of entertaining one's friends begins.

The styles in baby carriages have always reflected the spirit of the times, and the eighties were no exception. Baby buggies of the Victorian period expressed the sentimentality of the era. Intricate woven baskets bounced on springs, above large wooden wheels. Lace ruffles, net ruffles, and muslin ruffles trimmed carriage sunshades which were modeled after the sheer, feminine parasols car-

ried by mamas. The interiors of carriages and parasols were lined with pink or blue silk, satin, or velvet. Within the basket rode his or her majesty, wearing a lace and ribbon trimmed bonnet, and a richly embroidered coat; and protected from the summer breezes by a lavish carriage robe.

"Let the caudle party wait, and the christening be done quietly in one's own bedroom if the infant is feeble. Show off the young stranger at a later date: An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."



These young masters belong to the period when "Little Lord Fauntleroy" had captured the imagination of mothers who inflicted upon rebellious sons ten years of age velvet suits, lace collars, long curls and sashes. Stockings were often red. Ringlets as a rule were not shown until boys went into pants.



P9396

P9397

Master Harry Reeves  
Present.

Willie Benion's compliment  
to Master Harry Reeves,  
requesting the pleasure  
of his company on  
Thursday aft. at two  
o'clock June 24<sup>th</sup> 1880

P9398



P9399

The tin types above show a little boy in dresses, followed by a photograph taken on July 20, 1882, just after he went into breeches. The word "present" on the invitation showed that the invitation was delivered by hand.



Florence Reeves, appears in each picture below: In the group, in the back row at the right; in the tintype, July 20, 1882, she wears striped hose and scalloped-topped shoes; on March 16, 1883, a long-waisted dress, with short ruffled skirt. The two later photographs were the work of Thomas whose studio was on South Fullerton Avenue.

99400



Fullerton  
MONTCLAIR



Parker

605 BROAD ST., NEWARK



Thomas

Fullerton A.  
MONTCLAIR,

Florence, and her brother Harry N., lived at 103 Claremont Avenue. They were the children of Charles I. and Sarah Reeves, and grandchildren of John N. Reeves whose home was at 82 Union Street. The family were actively engaged in the work of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



Florence was very proud of her tricycle which was propelled by the feet on treadles and steered by a hand lever. Because of the muddy or sandy roads and rickety side walks there was little opportunity to ride this outdoor toy. The first all steel tricycle did not appear before 1875.



p9405

Below is Florence seated between her parents. The father had evidently been attending to a household chore. He holds one of the low-crowned hard straw hats which made their appearance in the eighties. Typical of the

period were the foot-scraper, the lattice under the porch, and the woodbine which shaded the piazza and gave the family privacy.



p9406

Men seldom wore coats and trousers alike. Cutaway coats, with lighter trousers were proper for calling, for church, parties, weddings, at sport events, and even on Wall Street. Ascot ties or wide four-in-hands filled completely the space between high coat lapels and an upstanding white collar. Trousers were uncreased.



This young miss, when two or three years old, was taken on a trip to Coney Island where she had her tintype taken -- enlarged here. "For small children toys, simple ones or homemade, or those which they have helped to make, are the very best. Let boys have some kind of a workshop, and give girls a work basket, round end scissors, and a plenty of materials."



Let youngsters have musical instruments, pencils, patterns, and paints. Give them a boat if they are near a pond or creek. Let them go fishing and picnicing. Croquet ball and out-of-door games with a pole and bar for gymnastics, add much to the likelihood of keeping active children peaceably at home. Puzzles, dissected maps, checkers, chess, dominoes, the game of authors, fox and geese and jackstraws all help, with useful and pleasant books, to pass evenings, holidays and rainy days cheer-

fully; while they do their part in developing self-sacrifice, courtesy, ingenuity and quickness of thought.

Let the children have an occasional candy-pull, time of nut cracking, corn popping and apple roasting, life will move more smoothly for the whole family by the help of such occasions of mirth and social pleasure. In winter skates and sleds should not be denied: They are good for both boys and girls.

H. W. Beecher says that a boy that can bury a chipmunk after he is dead can plant a gladiolus. When they blossom, a boy is sure to be very proud of them. Every one admires the flowers and this admiration excites the boy's ambition. He generally gets horticultural fever and never recovers. From the Complete Home by Mrs. Julia McNair Wright. 1879.



Left: Edith Brautigam, March, 1880, age eight. Fashion demanded that the back of the skirt be the most important part of the dress, so by some method or other it was exaggerated. Waistlines were low. Children, like adults, dressed in over-elaborate discomfort. It was the period of scarlet flannel underwear and high-buttoned shoes.

P9408



The store most beloved by children was the Penny Shop, a small putty-colored building with pointed roof, which stood on the Old Road opposite the school buildings. One step led into a room which displayed all sorts of things dear to the hearts of the young.

When a child passed through the door, a bell rang, and out from her living rooms in back came the proprietress, Miss Mary Ellen Phipps. She was tall and full-busted, had large features and high color. She wore a black skirt and white shirtwaist, and her brown hair was strained back from her forehead to a knot on the top of her head, with a row of little spit curls across her brow. It is said that her placid expression never changed, nor was she ever heard to say a word which did not refer to her wares.

She was sometimes impatient with young customers who took at least ten minutes to decide how to get the most enjoyment for a penny. The marshmallow-filled chocolate mice with pink candy eyes were popular but one could buy only one for a cent. On the other hand, one could get for a like sum fifteen jelly beans, ten candy-coated peanuts, five cocoanut squares, or four caramels. Boys usually bought huge jaw-breakers or round all-day suckers which could be put in the mouth when one entered

P9409



school and used to distort the face, thus creating much amusement. There were also in the glass-covered counters, licorice shoe strings, pink candy bananas, and small pies which cost all of a nickel. Chewing gum was increasing in popularity but was seldom bought by girls because "nice children do not chew gum."

Parents in those days handed out pennies sparingly, so that their children would not form extravagant and wasteful habits. When one was the proud possessor of a dime, he or she repaired to the Penny Shop to purchase jacks, rubber balls on elastic, paper dolls, marbles and agates.

On one side of the shop was a counter where were sold things which held little interest for children: chewing and smoking tobacco, clay and corncob pipes and snuff. These were undoubtedly a source of income for the shopkeeper. Miss Phipps was assisted by Mrs. Tirzah Mahalah Crabb, an old lady who claimed that both her given names were mentioned in the Bible.

Above right: William Brautigam, Summer 1886. Fashionable tweed suits for small boys were made with the new Norfolk jacket. Lapels were rarely cut on boys' coats which fastened to the neck and were worn with white Eaton collars and Windsor ties. Tight fitting breeches reached just below the knee. Low crowned straw hats were new.



Left: Eva Yost, born September 11, 1883. Photograph by J. Rennie Smith of 727 Broad Street, Newark. Right: Miss Marion Bedell, 1884. Photograph by the fashionable photographer, Rockwood, 17 Union Square, New York City.

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P9411



P9412

Standing in the rear of this group are Fred Bedell (left) and Albert Crehore, a guest. They were about to graduate from Yale. Front row, left to right: Rayner Bedell, Lucy Parsons, Mary Crehore, Marion Bedell, Mrs. Edwin F. Bedell, and Elizabeth Bedell. Photograph by Helen L. Bedell, 1889.



The sixteen-year old miss shown at the left belonged to a prominent local family. Right: First three in the Order of Deaconesses established by the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1888. Belle A. Reeves, of Montclair, seated at left. Photograph taken in 1889.



FREDRICKS,

770 BROADWAY, N. Y.



Miss Canfield.

Miss Belle A. Reeves.

Miss Keeler.

The first three Deaconesses of America. 1889.



Knowlton Bros. Photographers, OFF. COURT HOUSE, Northampton, Mass.



Mora 707 BROADWAY, N. Y.

Stella Bogue at Smith College acting the part of the Spanish Gypsy in George Eliot's play of that name. Right: Mary Lincoln Adams in December 1886, when she was seventeen years old. She was the daughter of Washington Irving and Marion Briggs Adams whose photographs appear on another page.



Upper left: Mr. and Mrs. Samuel J. Holmes and son Charles, November, 1889. Upper center: Emelyn Wilcox, February 21, 1880. Below left: Howard C. Warren, son of Dorman Warren born in 1867. In 1889 he graduated from Princeton University where he was to be Professor of Psychology for 42 years.

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P9420



Upper right: Mary Ethel, daughter of William Hall and Sylvia Isabella Broadnax, and granddaughter of John Sigler. Mary was seventeen months old when photographed in 1884, and had graduated from the long dresses worn by infants. Below right: Mary when seven years old.



Top left: Paul Richards, 1885; right, James D. Brautigam. Lower left, Edward N. Benham, druggist, October 8, 1888. Right, John Beadle, son of Joseph Beadle, born July 4, 1862. He was twenty three years old when this photograph was taken, the spring he graduated from Yale University.

P9422



A. Bogardus, Photo.

872 Broadway, cor. 13th St. N.Y.

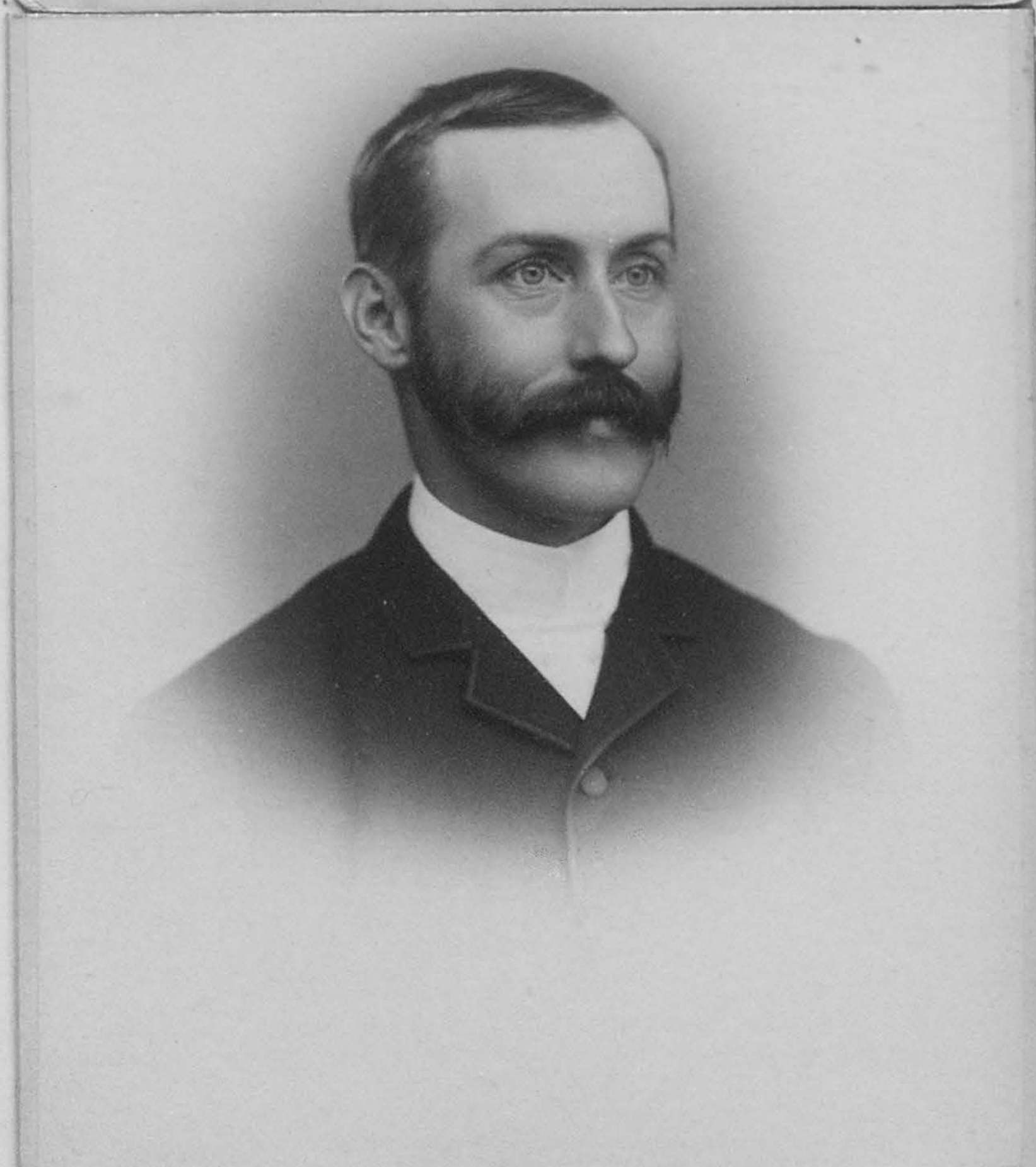
P9423



FREDRICKS,

770 BROADWAY, N. Y.

P9424



T.M.V. DOUGHTY

WINSTED CT

P9425



PACH BRO'S.

841 B'WAY, N. Y.

Sports coats, sacks and cutaways for men all shared the feature of high lapels, and were often edged with braid. Short covert-cloth topcoats with dark velvet collars were fashionable. Men and women wore oxfords in summer but changed to high shoes in winter, not only for comfort but to slim down one's ankles after the season in unconfining low shoes.



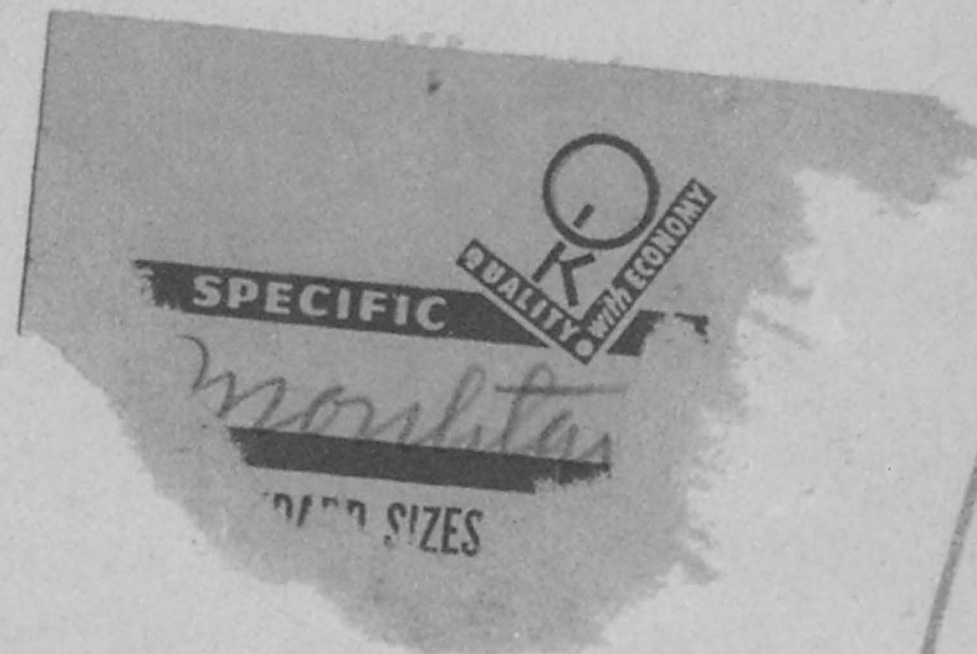




2317

Houses, Union Street (Gladys Seger's notation)

~~881~~



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1881/652

p 9730



Vol 1

Above: left, Helen Wilcox, June 28, 1885; right, Emelyn, sister of Helen, September 11, 1884. Below: left, Emily Snyder, May 1, 1886; right, Julia L. Snyder, sister of Emily. Emily and Julia, daughters of Theodore Snyder lived at 35 Clinton Avenue.

89426

89427



89428



FREDRICKS, 770 BROADWAY, N. Y.

89429



FREDRICKS, 770 BROADWAY, N. Y.

Preceding the years when tight throat-binders dominated the styles ladies dresses in the mid-eighties had open necks with pretty upstanding frills. Fine "book" muslin, trimmed with colored ribbons and artificial flowers was dressy enough for parties. In days of fussy dresses and no dry cleaning, it was a godsend to be able to wear washables in hot weather.



The pretty trim young lady shown at the upper left in the top tintype, and in the center of the middle one, is Susanne Sawyer. Gloves were worn on almost every occasion, their "absence showing a complete lack of breeding." Black was the predominating color not only on the street but also at balls, teas, and garden parties.

189430

189431



Miss Nettie Wright wears a lace underskirt with draped taffeta apron in front and a bouffant effect at the back arranged over a bustle. Between 1885 and '89 the bustle sticking out abruptly in the back assumed its most exaggerated form. Some were arranged with springs so that they folded up when the wearer sat or lay down.

Corseting was a very serious matter. Tightly laced stays pushed up the bust, pressed with cruel firmness upon women's internal organs and ribs, then curved out to show generous hips. Tight boned bodices were fastened to the neck by a close row of pearl, jet, brass, or gold buttons.

Although it was rumored in the middle eighties that tight lacing was injurious, not a woman wished to sacrifice style for the sake of her health. It was the increasing popularity of sports and games which brought about a gradual change. One could play croquet in long skirts but tennis required the use of feet and legs and room for breathing.



Tintypes: Top, left: Josephine Brautigam with Emily Snyder next to her, 1883. These young ladies are carrying handbags. This was not a common habit. Most ladies used instead pockets hidden in seams of their voluminous skirts. Middle, left to right: Daisy Wilson, Ella Sawyer, Susanne Sawyer. Bottom, left: Daisy Wilson; right: Ella Sawyer.

P 9433



This young lady wears a costume which shows the simplicity of the period following the age of hoop skirts and exaggerated bustles. The dress represents an early type of the new, moderate styles, the long skirt, resting on the instep, held out merely by a small wire support or full petticoats.



P 9434



P 9435



P 9436

Front hair was worn cut in a thick bang, usually frizzed. Fashion notes in a contemporary Montclair Times said, "A fringe on the brow of a graceful lady is a thing of beauty, and many faces will look bleak without it." One's back hair, or that of some one else, was piled on top of the head.

A sunshade was almost an invariable accompaniment of a lady's costume. The years 1885 and '86 saw a great fad for Japanese parasols such as this lady carries. "If a woman can't take her parasol to heaven when she dies, she won't be happy there. She will come back after it," said the local newspaper.



Left: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Van Vleck and children, October 9, 1888. Right: Family of Amory H. Bradford, minister at the First Congregational Church. Arthur leans against his mother, Clara sits on the hassock, Nell stands in the rear, and Stella is seated on the right. August 20, 1889.



William B. Holmes family group. In the front row are Edward H., Henry L., Mary H. Bull (Mrs. William B.) Holmes, George D. (a mephew), and William Buskirk Holmes. Back row: Caroline S. and William T. Holmes, and Mary G. Beckwith (a niece Mr. Holmes assisted in the development of the town and gave several streets their names.



Left: Marion Lydia Briggs Adams, wife of Washington Irving Adams who is shown at the right. Under the management of Mr. Adams as President and Treasurer, Scovill and Adams became the most influential and largest manufacturer of photographic apparatus in the world. Straw hats, such as Mr. Adams holds, sprang into popularity in the eighties.



This was an age of lace, a material which was used for shawls, flounces, collars, parasol covers, detachable undersleeves, pocket-handkerchiefs and even whole dresses. Every woman hoped to own at least one real lace collar -- for a "lady" was known by the genuineness of her lace. This was often worn with velvet.



Top, left to right: Theodore S. Snyder, summer of 1883; his sister, Emily L. Snyder; and a friend of the Snyder family, Miss Lily Platt, March 1883.

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Fredricks.

555 Broadway N.Y.

Renalt

815 BROADWAY



P9447

P9448

Left: Miss Mary Wilde, April 22, 1885. Mary was the adopted daughter of Samuel, who lived in the handsome stone house on Fullerton Avenue. Mr. Wilde was said to have the finest private library in the state of New Jersey. Right: Josephine, only daughter of J. C. Brautigam, and wife of Samuel J. Holmes.



In the photograph at the bottom of this page, on the left is Alexander D. Noyes, son of Charles H. Noyes, a New York merchant. The son attended Montclair High School and graduated third in his class at Amherst College in 1883. He chose journalism as a profession and became identified with the New York Tribune in 1883. Photograph taken June 2, 1885.



FREDRICKS, 770 BROADWAY, N. Y.



15th St. *Kidney*



GARBER, 747 Broadway, N. Y.

Center and right: Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Willard Butler. She was the former Miss Mary E. Wilcox of Adrian, Michigan. The doctor's clientele included many of the oldest and wealthiest families. He confined his practice to homoeopathy. It is said that his professional rivals were among his warmest friends. He owned a fine private library.



During the last years of the eighties the separate jacket grew plain, almost mannish, cut like a box-coat in front but in the back seamed to fit closely, with a flaring peplum. Cynthia (below at the left), wife of John Sigler, like many married women wore a cap in the house, but the fashion had gone out of style for the younger generation.

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J. H. Smith, 769 Broad St., Newark, N. J.



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P



Usual French Louis  
Sidney F. Wilcox - '80

P9458

Shown on this page: Nettie Broadnax (1869-1881). George Day Holmes when he was about to graduate from Yale University in 1890. He wears the Ascot tie introduced in the eighties, with a jewelled scarf pin in the center. The middle picture in right column is Florence Osgood Rand, daughter of Jasper R. Rand, April 1881.



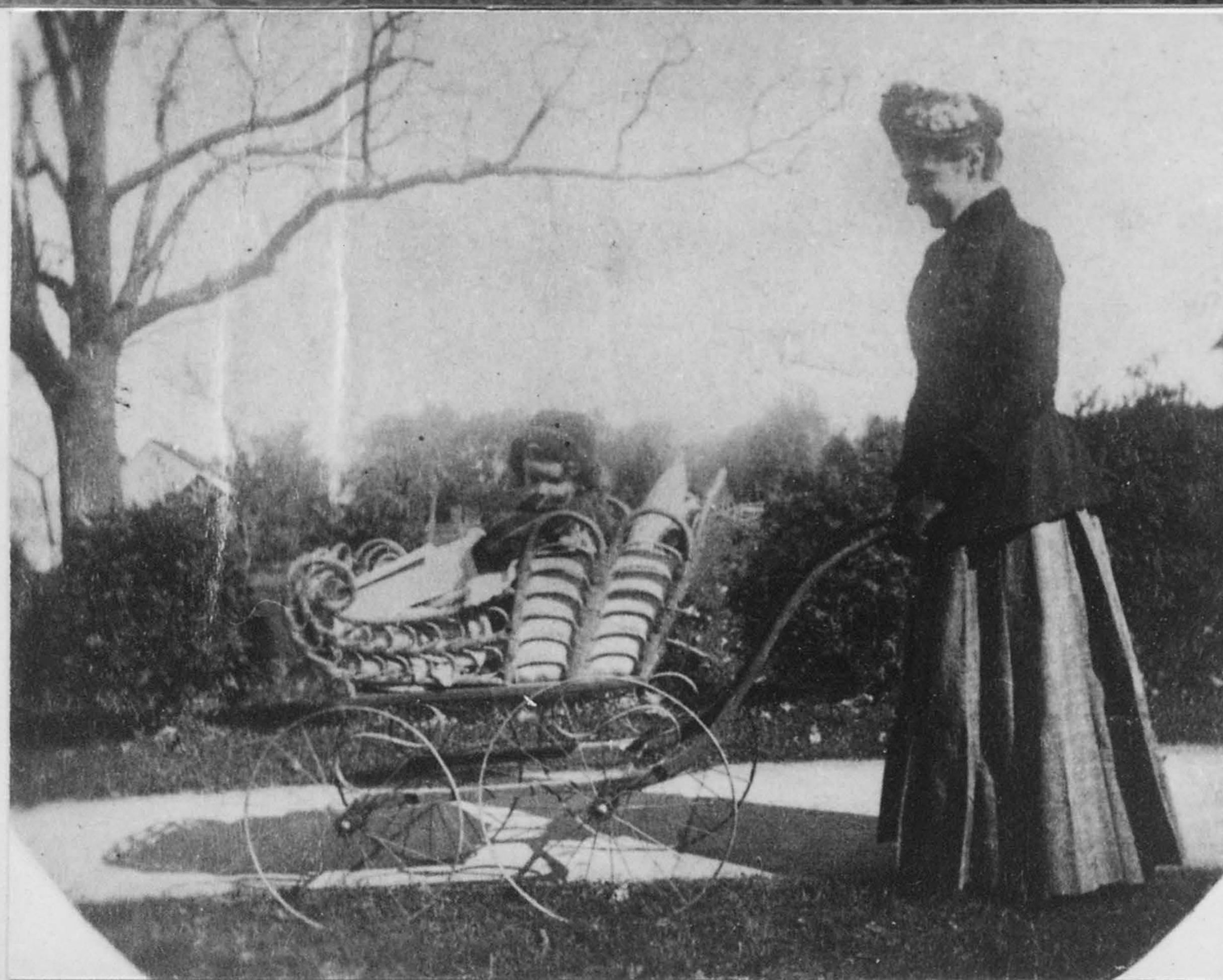
Mr. John G. Treadwell with Wilson and Bertha, children of his daughter Mary and Samuel Porter, May 2, 1881. Mary died in 1884. Right: Madame Agnes Littlejohn who in 1870 purchased a home on Watchung Avenue for herself and four sons, Harry, Frank, Sam, and Tom. Bottom left: Deacon Samuel Holmes and family, April 1886.



Right: W.I. Lincoln Adams, June 1882. "A shy boy should be trained in dancing, fencing, boxing; he should be instructed in music, elocution, and public speaking; he should be sent into society, whatever it may cost him at first, as certainly as he should be sent to the dentist's. His present sufferings may save him from a life long annoyance."



Mr. Carpenter, an English gardner, who made his home in the old Mt. Hebron school building after it was abandoned for school purposes. The building stood well back from the street at the south west intersection of Valley Road and Bellevue Avenue.



A proud young mother, Mrs. Starr Jocelyn Murphy, wheeling her eldest child in the newest style of wicker baby carriage. Mr. Murphy, a lawyer, was induced to settle in Montclair following his marriage to Julia Brush Doubleday, a daughter of John Mason Doubleday. The baby wears a plush hood trimmed at neck and face with beaver fur.



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Baldwin, "in excellent health and spirits," on their golden wedding day, October 14, 1885. Decorations for the occasion abounded in golden flowers. One hundred guests, received in a "cordial manner and with most hospitable entertainment," expressed congratulations with "respect which the couple so richly and justly enjoyed."



"You take this woman, whom you hold by the hand, to be your lawful and married wife; and you promise, and covenant, in the presence of God and these witnesses that you will be unto her a loving and faithful husband until you shall be separated by death."

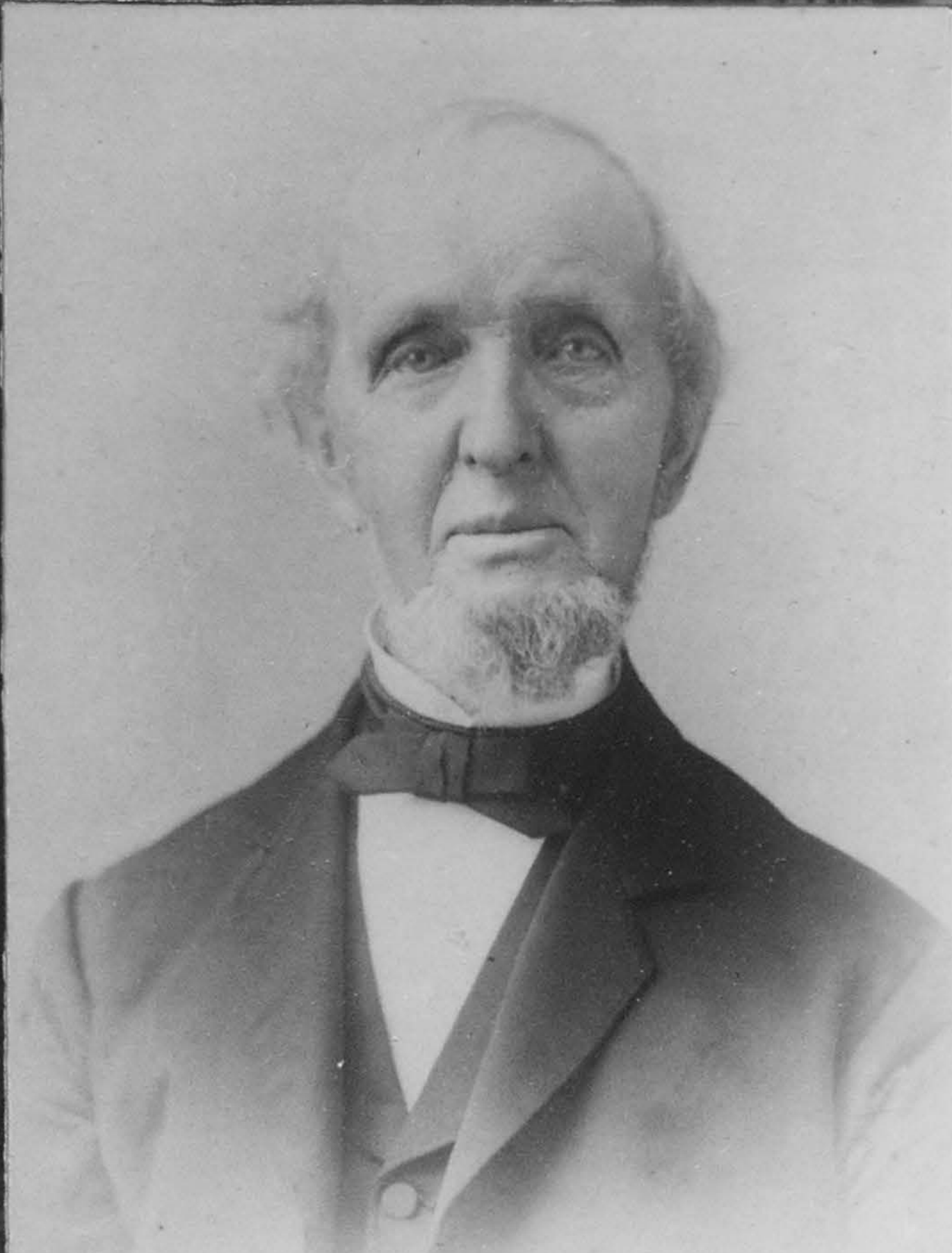
Among the guests, who separated at eleven P.M. were Mr. Jared E. Harrison, who had celebrated his golden wedding fourteen years before; and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Doremus, who were to celebrate fifty years of married life in February 1886. Many "elegant and valuable presents, tangible tokens of love," were received.



Henry and Pauline Niderhauser Yost in their wedding costumes. Notice the groom's high hat. The couple were married on April 19, 1888. Photographs by J. Kirk of Newark.

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Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Baldwin taken on their golden wedding day, October 14, 1885 by the Thomas Studio, Fullerton Avenue, Montclair. The Montclair Times carried an account of the celebration.



Left: Henry L. and Pauline Niederhauser Yost, photographed while on their honeymoon at Niagara Falls. They were married on April 19, 1888. Right tintype shows them at Waverly Fair in 1887 during courting days. They drove to the fair with horse and carriage, accompanied by Matilda Yost and Mrs. Fred Shrump. They were not engaged at the time.



On October 22, 1881 the Montclair Times reported "the most brilliant social event of the season, perhaps the handsomest affair of the kind ever witnessed in Montclair, was the marriage of Miss Helen Runyon Sullivan to Mr. William D. Baldwin, which took place in St. Luke's Church on October 19th, 1881." The chancel was tastefully decorated with palms and tropical plants, while in the main isle, half way between the entrance and the chancel, was erected a floral gate in two sections, which was composed of smilax and ferns, carnation pinks and French marguerites.

About noon the bridal party entered as the organ, "manipulated" by Mr. Archie Arthur of Brooklyn, sounded forth the joyous strains of a wedding march. First came four ushers, then two little maids of honor wearing white and carrying dark roses; after them came the bridesmaids carrying pink roses. They were dressed alike, their handsome costumes consisting of white damasse satin skirts, and camel's hair overskirts with trimming of swansdown, while their hats were of white beaver trimmed with long plumes of the "same color." The bride was richly attired in white satin with point-lace and long flowing veil. Her bouquet was composed of nephotis roses.

After the ceremony a bountiful menu was served at the bride's home by Delmonico of New York. The parlor and corridors were decorated with palms, rubber trees, and other beautiful plants, including a floral basket five feet long which graced the table. Floral decorations were executed by Mr. Alexander Michie. A band of music enlivened the whole affair.

Mr. Sullivan granted the press permission to look at the numerous costly presents. There were more than one hundred articles, consisting of "sets of china, paintings, bronzes, vases, candelabums, clocks, china plaques, and a number of beautiful and elegant presents." The bridal veil was the gift from an aunt, who ordered it direct from Paris.

There were more than one hundred and fifty vehicles in the line of carriages bringing the guests, thirty-five coaches of which were from the stable of Mr. H. Mullen who

managed the traffic. The bride and groom were driven to Neeark where they boarded a train for Philadelphia and other parts of the country. In November they sailed for Europe to remain for a year, making their home in Paris.

In November 1889 Miss Daisy Grace Wilson and W. I. Lincoln Adams were married in the Central Presbyterian Church. "The bride wore white Tuscan silk and carried a bouquet of daisies, and the maid of honor wore blue silk and carried carnations. While simplicity marked the entire service and its accessories, the floral decorations -- an effective arrangement of growing plants, with a gothic arch of tall and graceful palms over the clergyman, bride and groom -- and the easy and natural grouping of the entire party formed a living picture, the grace and comeliness of which was generally remarked, and the occasion may well be spoken of, in conventional phrase, as 'a beautiful wedding.'"

On September 24, 1889 a few friends and relatives witnessed the home wedding of Miss Amy Willmer and Mr. Charles K. Rogers of London, England. The bride was charming in white silk trimmed with duchess lace and wore a veil, orange blossoms, and pearls. She was gracefully given away by her father. At the reception an elaborate collation was served in his best form by Caterer Davis of Orange.

"Wedding cards this year (1887) are very plain and without ornament. The monograms of a few years ago have disappeared and there is no fancy work -- nothing but the cold type. Even at that they have been very scarce in Montclair of late." Montclair Times.

Below: Wedding picture of Samuel J. Holmes, who married Josephine Brautigam March 18, 1886.



Young Yost is dressed in fashionable European clothes, just having returned from abroad where he had spent four years studying architecture. Not being bethrothed, custom decreed that the lovers could not be seated side by side when photographed. In 1887 Yost was elected a Clerk of Elections, as well as Town Clerk.



Vol  
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Harris. She was Phebe L. Baldwin, a daughter of Joseph H. and Lydia Munn Baldwin, whose photographs appear on another page. Mrs. Harris wears here dark rustling silk made with pleated flounces and trimmed with jet passementerie. Mr. Harris wears gored congress gaiter shoes of soft kid with elastic webbing.



Mr. Harris was a son of William H. Harris, who because his wife's grandmother was born there, purchased in 1853 the Crane home, the first house built in Montclair. The estate had been inherited by Nathaniel Crane who in his will instructed that it be sold and the proceeds invested in trust for the support of ministers of the First Presbyterian Church.



Colonel Ezra De Forest in the uniform of the New York National Guard. Mr. DeForest and his father-in-law, Dr. Wilbur, had spent several summers here before 1886 when they purchased the farm at 465 Valley Road as a permanent home. Mr. DeForest was a leader in many local civic and religious enterprises, especially in Upper Montclair.

Montclair always furnished its quota of men to help execute the laws of the nation, suppress insurrection, and repel invasion. While the eighties saw no wars, during those years local men served in the National Guard. Above is Colonel Ezra DeForest, in uniform. He received his title upon reaching that office after many years of service in various capacities with the 23rd Regiment of the New York National Guard.

Colonel George A. Miller began his military career about the time he came to Montclair in 1873, and was rapidly promoted from private to Lieutenant-Colonel of the famous Twenty-second Regiment. He proved an efficient officer, a thorough disciplinarian, and withal was popular with rank and file. He participated in many exciting events of the times, including the railroad riots.

In 1885 twenty-two local veterans of the Civil War enrolled their names to organize a chapter of the Grand Army of the Republic. It was named the John M. Wheeler Post in honor of the oldest son of Grant J. Wheeler, the straw board manufacturer. John, a sergeant, was wounded in the battle of Fredericksburg and died the next day. A few years after its organization the press reported "Wheeler Post Piccolo and Drum Corps paraded the streets in their new uniforms and new helmets on Thursday evening on the way to the picnic of Hose Co.No.3. Drum Major Ward wore a tall bearskin hat which had in it a plume a foot high."

The Post held annual Campfires in Crane's Woods. Probably their first member to be lost by death was William Henry Areson who passed away in 1888. He was dressed for burial in his uniform and wore his G. A. R. and fireman's badges. During the funeral services the fire alarm bell was tolled.

A reunion of the Thirteenth New Jersey Volunteers was held in Montclair in 1889. Banquet menu: Chicken a la reine soup, bisque of crawfish, salmon chops, tartare sauce, potato Hollandaise, olives, radishes, celery, filet of beef, mushrooms, sweet potato croquettes, peas, army sherbert, chicken, lettuce, biscuit glace, cakes, fruits, nuts, raisins, coffee. Hearts throbbed and feet beat time to war-time strains of band music which accompanied the feast.



In June 1888 Wheeler Post held a memorial service. The stage was draped with a big forty foot flag and profusely adorned with flowers. On either side of the pulpit were stacks of muskets. G. A. R. members were "officially and physically" present. Forty singers were stationed on the platform, and 350 auditors filled the hall.



Below is Valley View, which was surrounded by evergreen and fruit trees. Here it is photographed from the south side. Mrs. Ezra De Forest is shown with her Newfoundland dog, Don. Below three summer guests at the house are seen in the fashionable dress of the day lavishly trimmed with contrasting material.

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In the days when women wore costumes such as these the sleeves were so skin tight that they had to put on their hats before they donned their bodices. The white cap worn by the little old lady in the figured dress was made of net and lace.



Left; Mrs. Ezra De Forest, the former Miss Mary Gordon Wilbur, daughter of Dr. Joshua G. Wilbur, of Brooklyn. Photographed before 1889. Right; Miss M. Louise Jones, a summer guest at the De Forest home, in the year 1887. She (she) "relaxes" with a book.



"When tripping over the pavement, a lady should gracefully raise her dress a little above her ankle. With the right hand, she should hold together the folds of her gown, and draw them towards the right side. To raise the dress on both sides, and with both hands, is vulgar. This ungraceful practice can only be tolerated for a moment, when the mud is very deep."

"If stormy weather has made it necessary to lay a plank across the gutters, which have become suddenly filled with water, it is not proper to crowd before another, in order to pass over the frail bridge."

"A married or young lady should never leave a party, even to go into an adjoining room, without either her mother or a married lady to accompany her." "Do not sing songs descriptive of masculine passion or sentiment; there is an abundance of songs for both sexes. If you are singing second, do not drag on, as it were, tread upon the heels of your prima; if you do not regard your friend's feelings, have mercy on your own reputation, for nine or ten in every party will think you in the wrong, and those who know you are singing in correct time will believe you ill-natured, or not sufficiently mistress of

the song to wait upon your friend."

"The most simple, natural, and unaffected way to invite a lady to take a walk is "Miss ---, we are about to take a promenade, will you accept my arm?"

"A lady offers a chair to a gentleman, but asks a lady to sit on a sofa. In winter, the places of honor are the corners of the fire-place. Your seat is considered inferior in rank in proportion as your hostess places you in front of the fire."

"Those who wear very tight stays complain that they cannot sit upright without them; nay, are sometimes compelled to wear them in bed."

"To wash black silk, warm some small beer and mix some milk in it; then wash your silk in the liquid, and it will give it a fine color."

"To suppose that great heat of weather will authorize the disorder of the toilet, and will permit us to go in slippers or with our legs and arms bare, or to take" nonchalant and improper attitudes, is an error of persons of a low class, or destitute of education. Even the weather of dog-days would not excuse this.



Interior in the Brooklyn Town home of Dr. Joshua G. Wilbur and his son-in-law, Ezra De Forest. The families of these two men made their summer home in Upper Montclair for several years and in 1886 moved out here for good. It was often said, because so many came here from that city, "If there had never been a Brooklyn, there could never have been a Montclair."

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Mrs. Ezra De Forest is shown above seated at the right on the steps of the piazza of their summer home, 465 Valley Road, Upper Montclair. The two other people in the picture, which was taken by Mr. De Forest, were guests. These interior pictures, also by De Forest, were time exposures of three full hours each.



Another interior view of Dr. Wilbur's town house. Notice the stuffed hawk which swings from the hanging lamp. "In place of the fire side, we have a stove, or a mantel-piece in which a register is opened, making about as cheerful and suggestively hospitable a chimney corner as a refrigerator."



The summer home of the Wilburs was known as "Valley View." It had a fine uninterrupted prospect of the mountain overlooking rich meadow lands. This photograph, which Mr. De Forest took near his home, shows Valley Road as it approached the grade crossing of the Greenwood Lake Railroad.



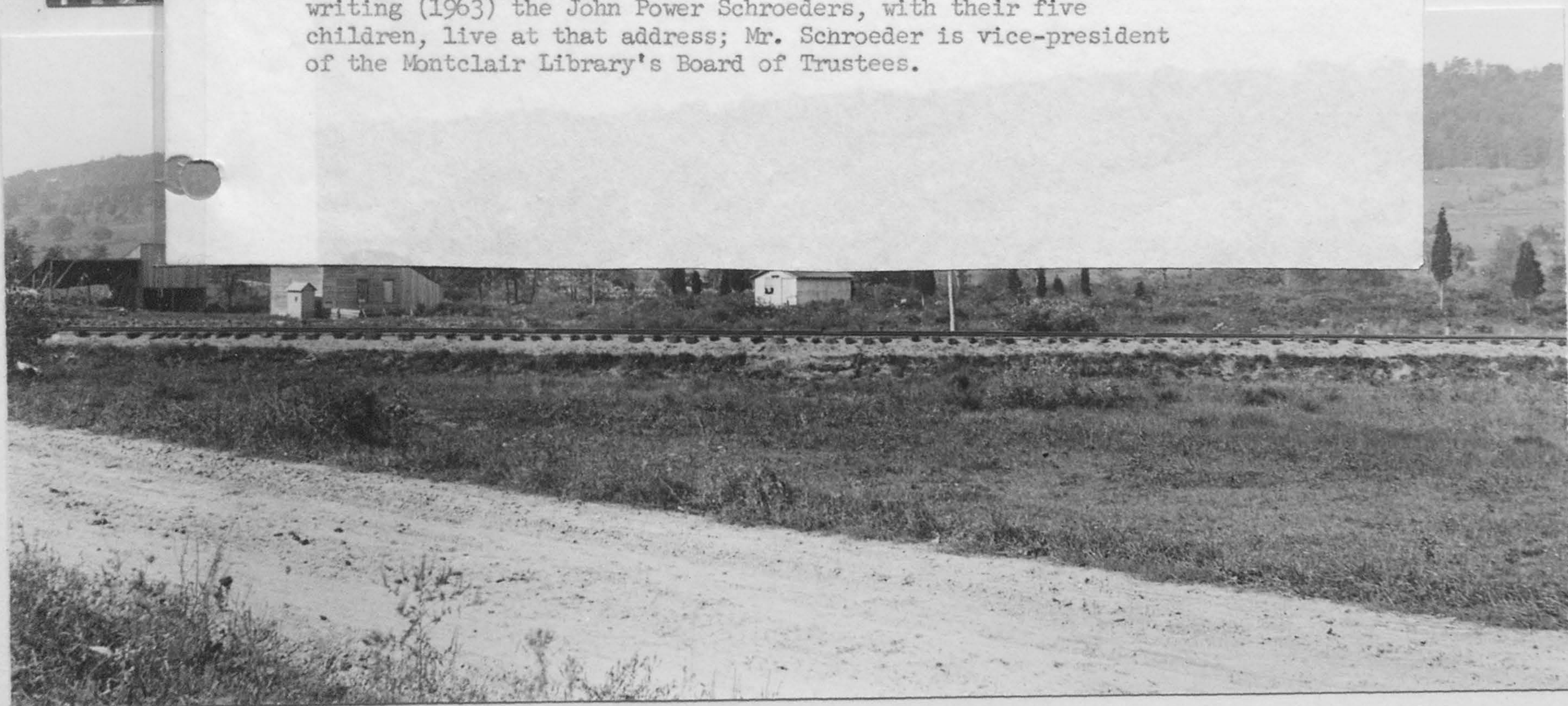
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Lower Photograph: The house on the hillside behind the tip of the tall pole was built by William H. Power in 1868 and later was sold to William Elder Marcus. The next house to the left, with front gable facing, is the William H. Power house, built in 1873. Both were on the upper side of Mountain Avenue. Through the section of meadow cut by the telephone pole we see Watchung Avenue running diagonally up the slope to Upper Mountain Avenue. Between and below the Power and Marcus houses, on the lower side of Upper Mountain Avenue, the Bauscher house is glimpsed, and, next on the left on this side of the Avenue, the Ramsay house.

In 1892, Arthur Schroeder married Eleanor Power and built a house in the meadow just below the spreading elm that stands in direct line with the pole partly hiding the Marcus house on the lower side of Upper Mountain Avenue.

During the 1880's, the Charles F. Drostes moved to Montclair from New York City. They first rented Mrs. Littlejohn's house on Watchung Avenue for one summer. The climate proved so beneficial, Mr. Droste decided to remain in Montclair. He rented a house on South Mountain Avenue, where his family lived while their home was built at 28 South Mountain Avenue, nearby. Mr. Droste named the place Hoburg, for his mother, Antoinette Hoburg, and was instrumental in the naming of Hoburg Place.

While the Drostes were spending their first summer in Montclair, in the Littlejohn house, Mrs. William H. Power frequently drove over from her Upper Mountain Avenue home to call, often accompanied by her young daughter, Eleanor. In 1917, Eleanor's son Harold Willmer Schroeder, married the Droste's youngest daughter, Charlotte. Later, in 1943 their son John Power Schroeder married Isabelle Badger, and the couple made their home at 127 South Mountain Avenue. At this writing (1963) the John Power Schroeders, with their five children, live at that address; Mr. Schroeder is vice-president of the Montclair Library's Board of Trustees.



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Stable of Dr. Joshua G. Wilbur who in the mid-eighties purchased the old house known as Valley View on Valley Road, Upper Montclair. In the house was a secret room where a former tenant in the house used to hide with her children when her husband came home intoxicated. The original purpose of the room had long been forgotten.



The Horse in Upper Montclair  
by Henry S. Germond, 2nd

The village people depended much on their horses for there was still farming to be done, with its plowing, haying, and harvesting, as well as errands to Montclair proper, trips to the blacksmith's shop, the wagon maker's and rides about the country for business and pleasure. From the high stepping, bob-tailed horses then in fashion, to the lowly pedlar's nag, there were horses of various degrees.

Mr. Thomas Bird's team of high spirited bay horses, driven by the trusty John in the two-seated depot wagon, was doubtless the best matched team in the village and required John's steady rein to keep them subjected. There was the old black horse of the Coopers, said to be over thirty years old, and the sorrel horse of Mr. Jacobus with his long carpenter's wagon.

Up near Montclair Heights Mr. Dittig owned a big horse named Jumbo, and Mr. Anderson, a white horse named Polly, a reliable animal, sound and kind. Will Parsons owned an old stallion, ex-race horse, Harry Felter; Sally, the white Hambletonian; and others of lesser pedigree. Sally was a fractious beast, given to balking, and when hitched with Bluette or Eliza to the plow, often gave Mr. Parsons much trouble.

Dr. Ayres of Montclair Heights was the possessor of Pet Gold Dust, and Mr. Daniels, the traveling butcher, also had a good horse raised by Mr. Parsons. These are all the village horses to serve the little community at that period which I now recall (1943).

For other modes of travel recourse was made to Taylor's or Van Giesen's livery stables in Montclair proper which were hard to reach in the early eighties before the advent of the telephone.

Montclair Times, October 23, 1880: "C. C. Corby, Harness maker. Every variety of Light-Trotting Barunche, Coach, Rockaway Buggy and Heavy Harness. Carriage Trimming. Mattresses of all kinds. A good assortment of Trunks. Bloomfield Avenue." (Adv.)



Vol 1  
Backyard and stable of the summer home of the Wilbur and De Forest families. Other pictures on this page show family guests; the young lady on the left being Miss Elsie Brown. The gowns with loose panel backs were probably a tea gowns intended for afternoons at home.

19488

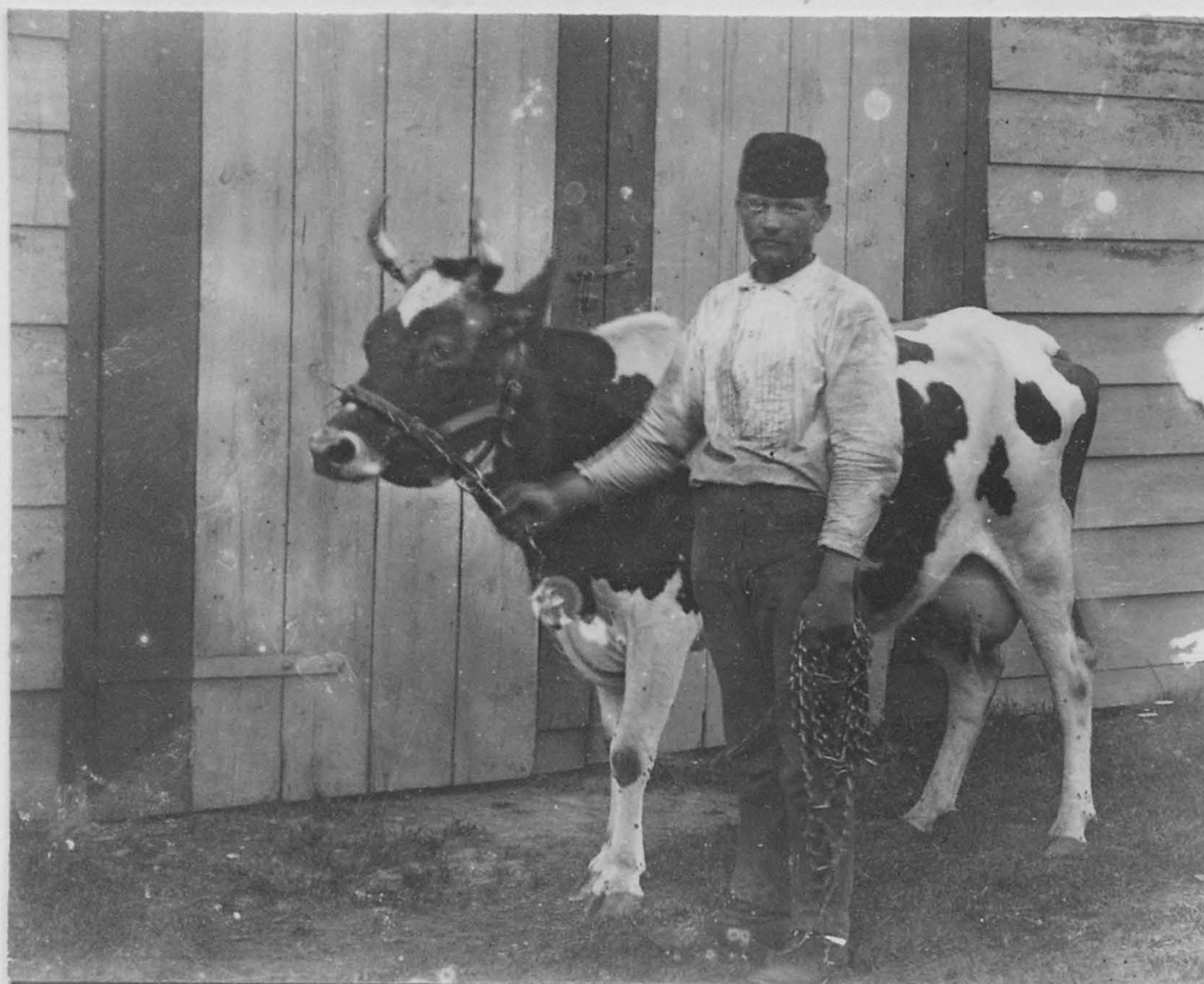


Here is Ezra De Forest taking a photograph of himself and two guests. The cord which connected bulb and camera is shown by his side. In the '80's only a few amateurs owned cameras. The pictures were taken on glass plates.



Jacob, the hired man in the Wilbur family, shown with Carrie the cow, who along with the dogs, cats, horses, and chickens came each year from Brooklyn to spend the summer in the lush pastures of Upper Montclair.

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P9489



Irish servants employed by the Wilburs and De Forests. On the left is Mary and beside her is Ellen. Ellen is also shown in the right picture. The family homestead had eight stoves and it required almost the full time of one maid to keep the fires roaring in winter time.



Carrie, a summer visitor to Upper Montclair, came from Brooklyn, New York. She spent several summers here with her owner, Dr. Joshua G. Wilbur, before becoming a permanent resident in 1886.



Hundreds of people flocked to Montclair during the summers of the eighties to "enjoy the cool mountain breezes together with the delightful and picturesque views." In the fall of 1881 the Montclair Times reported the past summer to have been of great profit to local hotels and boarding houses, at least fifteen hundred strangers having spent the season here. When the Grand View Hotel up on the mountain closed its doors on November first, its proprietor reported many rooms engaged for the next season.

The local and metropolitan newspapers advertised a variety of rooms and board as well as stables with board and service for horses. The Mountain House at the top of the hill on the main street was noted for its commanding location, "salubrious atmosphere," and "mountain scenery." Mrs. T. M. Conratt, a charming lady from Baltimore, was playing hostess to high class paying guests at a large private residence at 24 Mountain Avenue. The sign, "T. M. Speer, Sportman's Hotel" hung before an old farmstead on

Mountain Avenue at Montclair Heights and good fishing and gunning in its vicinity were promised. Game birds were said to be especially abundant around the railroad station.

Some families preferred to rent a cottage for the summer and in that case brought not only their horses, but in some instances, a cow and chickens. "Carrie" is known to have made the slow trip on foot to and from Brooklyn, not once but several times, before Montclair became her permanent home.

"Miss McIntyre, on Park street near Bloomfield avenue, rented us two rooms (in 1880), sitting and bed room, with about the best food I ever ate, for \$13. a week." Many of the families who came summering became so enamored of country life that they bought homes here, or stayed to build palatial or cozy year round residences.

"In Montclair everything is fresh, invigorating, pure." The town has "good air, good water (in prospect), good health, fine drives, fine walks and superb scenery, good schools and churches, and much in general to attract the visitor."



1011  
"To prevent hair from turning gray: one-half ounce sugar of lead, one-half ounce lac sulphur, one ounce glycerine, one quart rain water." "The head should be kept cool by using, occasionally, sage tea with a little borax added." "Tonic for the hair; two ounces of French brandy, two of bay rum and one ounce of the best castor oil."

P9490



For the complexion, bathe face morning and night with one pint cherry wine, one dram of benzoin gum in powder, one dram of nutmeg oil, six drops of orange-blossom tea. "The milky juice of the broken stems of coarse garden lettuce rubbed over the face at night, washed off in the morning with ammonia, is highly recommended."



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M O N T C L A I R

in the

E L E G A N T   E I G H T I E S

the decade which saw

the greatest change in its history

by

G L A D Y S   S E G A R

V O L U M E   II

M O N T C L A I R   P U B L I C   L I B R A R Y

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D E D I C A T E D

to Margery Quigley, without whose encouragement  
there would have been no book; to the Montclair  
Times, without which there could have been no  
text; to generous patrons, without whom there  
could have been no illustrations. G. S.

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Contents

- VOLUME I : The Scene and the People
- VOLUME II : Homes: Exteriors; Interiors
- VOLUME III: Cultural, Civic, and Social
- VOLUME IV : Business; Transportation

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T H I S V O L U M E : II

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Most of the pictures in these volumes were given to the Montclair Library for its Local History File by descendants of old Montclair families or by the Montclair Times. All are believed, most are known, to have been taken in Montclair during the 1880's or to be pictures of Montclair people taken at that time.

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Boarders in the year 1888 or '89 at Hillside House, then leased by Mr. and Mrs. Mahlon Cooper from A. R. Wolfe, previously the Hillside Seminary for Young Ladies. The little boy on the wooden velocipede is Benjamin F. Tillson. His mother stands behind him, and to the right of him sits Mrs. Cooper, with her husband beside her.

P 9541



Montclair, when the 1880 decade opened, was a real rural community with no modern improvements or conveniences. Everyone in the village knew everyone else and all had good times together. "The sound sense of its people had given it orderly government, excellent schools, flourishing churches under pastors of high quality, able physicians and many attractive families."

The large area in the northern part of the village, as well as the south end, was still devoted to farming. What was known as the lower neighborhood, the factory village along lower Bloomfield Avenue, was chiefly inhabited by unskilled laborers and their families. In all there were 5,147 inhabitants, 2,734 living north of Bloomfield Avenue, 2,413 south. There were about 1,000 boys and girls attending school.

The name Montclair had been adopted twenty years earlier, at which time newcomers in town having some influence with the Postmaster General had been able to have the name of the local post office changed from West Bloomfield to Montclair, a name unique in all America.

The first railroad connection, made in 1856, had brought an influx of New York and other business men who had bought little farms, hoping to enjoy the quiet repose of a healthy country village where a "case of chills and fever had never been known." (In 1861 there were eighty deaths in the community, a large number, until one remembers that many of these people were invalids who came here for recovery or prolongation of life.)

Montclair had seceded from Bloomfield in 1868, and had become a separate Township, holding its first

election on April first of that year. The breach was occasioned by the refusal of the citizens of Bloomfield proper to consent to the bonding of their part of town for the purpose of building a second railway, at a cost of \$4,000,000, to connect this country village of two thousand souls with New York City.

Between 1812 and 1860 the village, by popular designation, had been West Bloomfield, for when Bloomfield separated from Newark, the area which later became Montclair, fell within Bloomfield boundaries. No one knew when the locality received its first name, Cranetown, but Lafayette called the village Crane's Town, and General Washington wrote of it as Cranetown Gap. At the time these officers made Headquarters here they found somewhat more than twenty-five homes and an inn. Most of these houses were two rooms long and one story high, built of roughly dressed field stone. Red freestone, typical of later houses, began to be quarried in 1721, but was not then used for building.

The first house in these "outlands" was located near a spring on the northwest corner of what was to become Orange Road and Myrtle Avenue. It was built near the end of the seventeenth century, for in 1715 Deacon Azariah Crane spoke of himself as having been "settled for many years at the Mountain."

Azariah was a son of Jasper Crane, one of the founders of Newark and the head of one of the original families which in 1666 left their Connecticut homes to establish a "purer church and commonwealth", for they felt that they were being deprived of civil and religious rights for which they had emigrated to the New

Local Town expenses for 1880: Poor \$3,000, Roads \$2,000, Incidentals \$8,000, Gravel \$3,000, Bond suits \$2,800, Montclair School District \$14,204.17, Mt. Hebron \$659.77, Washington School District \$951.30. Taxable property at the time was valued at about two million dollars. Committee recommended expenditures of \$13,500 for the next year.



The village photographed from the mountainside in winter time by Randall Spaulding. Bloomfield Avenue is seen on the left. The First Congregational Church, St. Luke's Church, and the Public School are conspicuous. Directly over the top of the right hand tree of the foreground is seen Hillside House mentioned on the previous page.



World. A chief source of their discontent was the law which allowed persons not members of the church to vote and hold office. After the settlers landed on the site where the City of Newark would stand, Indian claims to a large tract of land were paid in full with commodities. Each family was assigned not only a town lot but an "up-land lott" on the mountain. Some of the lots lay in what was to become Cranetown, later named Montclair. These outlands first served as wood lots or pasturage, the journey out being made over rough Indian trails. About 1705 the Newark Town government laid out "Crane's Road" to the foot of the mountain, and journeys out could then be made in crude carts or on horseback.

The decade of the eighteen eighties was to bring great changes to the little village. "improvements being contemplated in 1880 proved that men of means and true enterprise had planted themselves here." It was said that any desirable public enterprise could be set in motion in the village if it was backed by good men and presented to the people in the proper manner.

The Montclair Times helped with such editorials as the following: "Our whole influence should be in favor of improvements judiciously and economically conducted, and not pursuit of the niggardly policy, which in the name of economy, 'often ruins to save', and which will stop the growth and development of the place, and thus injure the property owner, the mechanic and the laborer alike. Excessive economy is not frugality, while a wise expenditure in public improvements will 'like seed sown in good ground, bring forth fruit a hundred fold.' The most direct way of reducing taxes is to promote the in-

crease of taxable property. We should have good roads and perfect drainage. For the growth of our village, for the interest of all, vote for more expenditures."

Old farms, much as they "loved their ancient boundaries and shrank from the dissecting knife" were soon to lose their integrity. Surveyors' lines were to be stretched upon them, streets run across them. Fields were to become lawns in the midst of which would arise the merchants' mansions. The tapering knoll and green slopes of the mountain were to be crowned with stately architecture or neat cottages, and covered with shrubbery and blossoms. Visitors would see the taste and elegance which indicate proximity to a great city. Pretentious homes were to spring up on what a year or two before had been spoken of as "howling wilderness." Those purchasing farms would no longer consider them as fields and orchards, but as building plots. It would not be a question of improving the soil but of cutting it up to the best advantage.

By The end of the decade the Montclair Building and Loan Association was to be ready to advance money to those who wished to build on the monthly payment plan.

The Erie Railroad in a booklet issued about this time to prospective residents said that the town's educational, social, and political advantages were of the best. It promised that every taste and pocketbook could be gratified in the village. It listed the advantages of its miles of macadamized and gravelled roads, good sidewalks, eight churches, superior schools, public library, gas lighted streets, ample supply of pure water for public

"To let -- House on William Street -- \$9.00 per month. Apply to Wm. Jacobus, Real Estate Agent." "For Sale or Exchange for Smaller Carriage an Elegant Extension Top Phaeton three springs to seat four persons. Built to order for present owner." "For Sale, \$30.00 A single-seated Side-Bar Road Wagon, in good order; also single sleigh."



Scale 500 feet per inch

Scale 500 feet per inch





A summer view. The first firehouse and the fire alarm bell tower on Bloomfield Avenue date this as later than 1884. Below, left and right, house on Union Street; center, cottage on Park Street, home of Charles B. Morris. His son, George Perry Morris, graduated from Rutgers in 1888. He was later to become ghost writer for Woodrow Wilson.



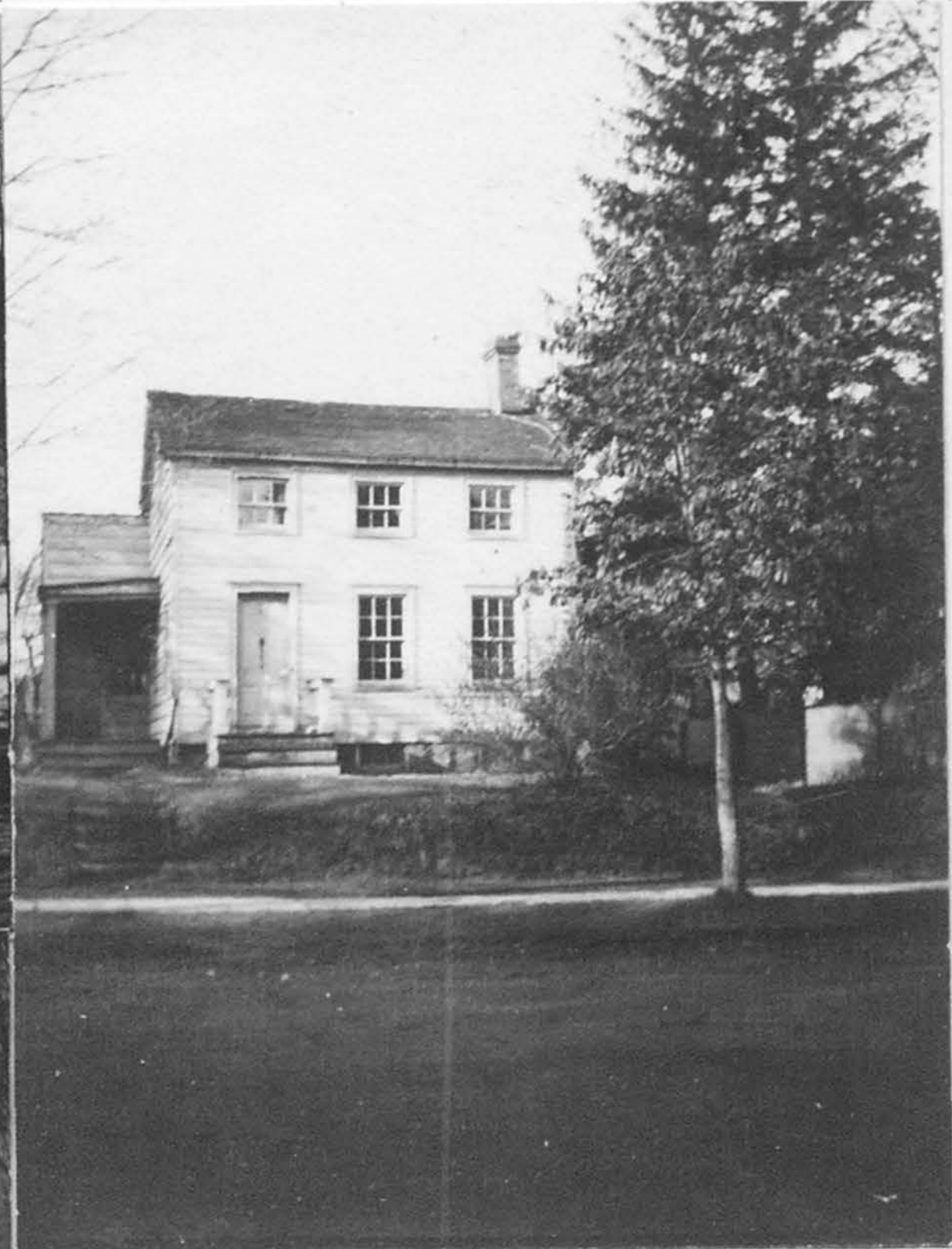
and private use, freedom from malaria, dry and pure air, excellent stores and markets, marvelous growth, brisk

building of modest homes, and natural beauty.

P 9491



P 9492



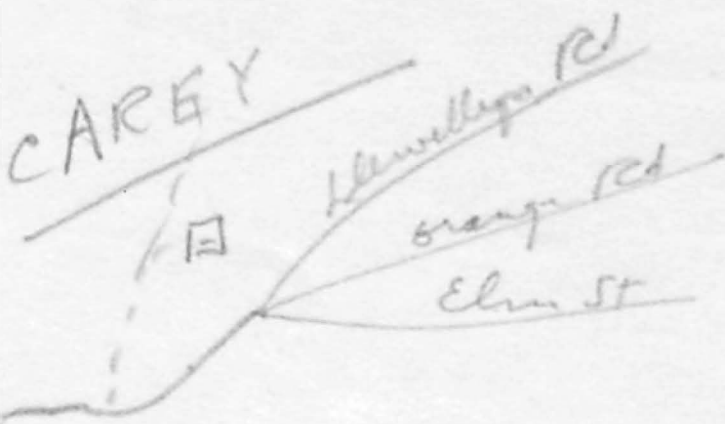
These cottages have "lie-on-your-stomach windows" placed close to the floor under the eaves. It is said that some New Jersey town long ago placed a tax on dormer windows as a means of raising revenue, so this type of little window became very common in small homes. The house on Union Street was the home of Charles Van Gieson.



no caption or description of upper center photo in lower row

---

Entrance to Stephen  
Carey place -





Left: Village center. Flagstone walks cross "hard-surfaced" Bloomfield Avenue, not then bisected by trolley tracks. In 1883 the town clerk advertised an ordinance already in force five years relative to fast driving on village streets. Right: Fullerton Avenue looking north between the Jacobus and Crane buildings, at Harrison's Market and Doremus' Store.



"Citizens complain of a dangerous bull roaming at large on the streets." "Perhaps the sprinkler does as well as could be expected but it is impossible to do all the work well with one cart." "The drive from Montclair to Upper Montclair is one of our pleasantest and most picturesque but has to be taken in fine and dry weather. In rainy times the road is almost impassable." "The upper part of Claremont Avenue is in a terrible condition for driving, either by day or night." "Weeds are in undisputed possession of not less than two-thirds of the

width of many, if not most, of the streets." "Three hundred feet of ditching at a cost of \$60 will be required to take care of the deep sink hole on Park Street."

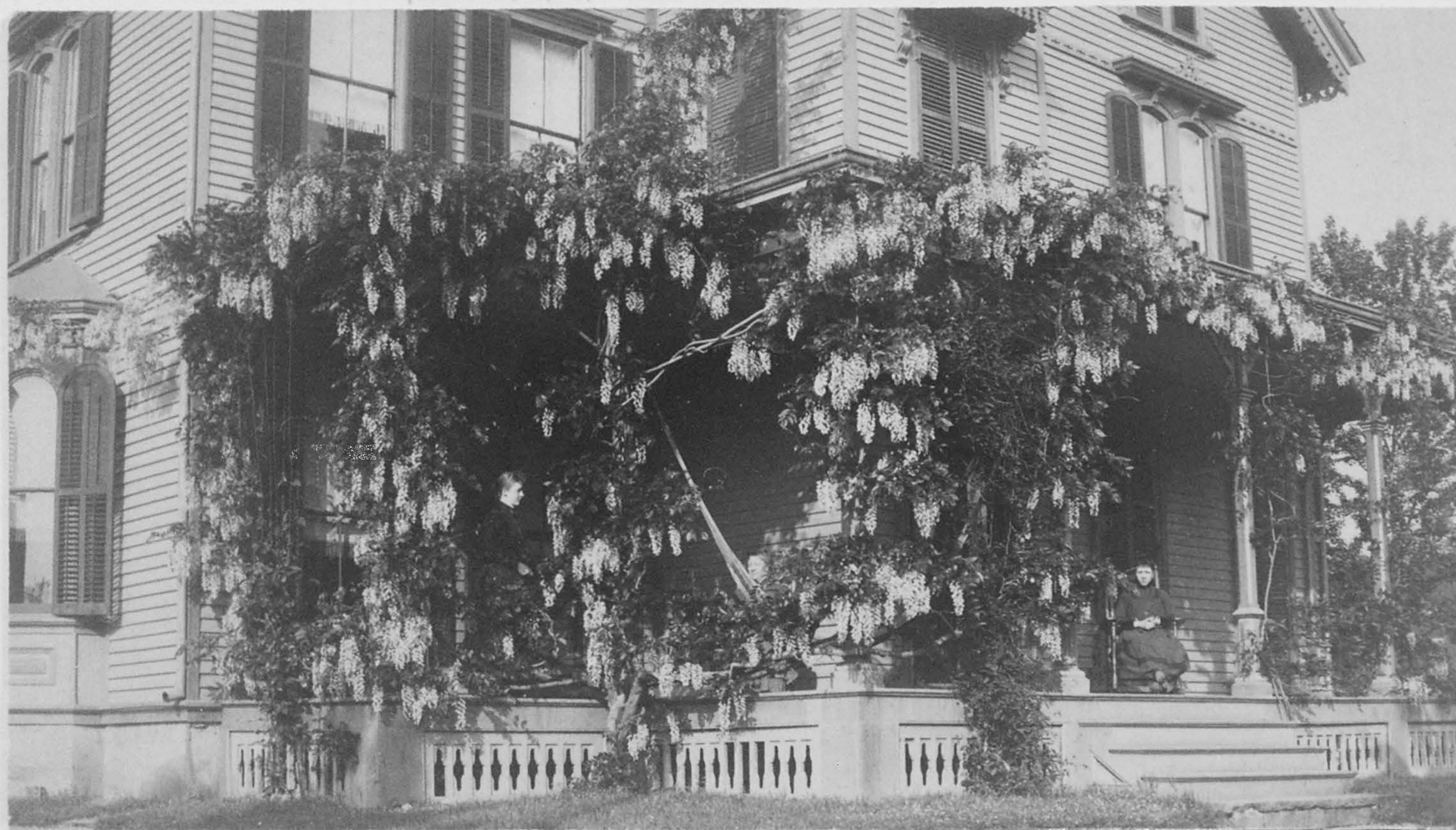
Such items in the local press indicated that the question most demanding the attention of the Township Committee in 1880 was that of roads. Everyone who drove, rode, hauled, or walked was flooding the Committee with petitions for improvements.



Mountain Avenue. In 1881 it ran from Eagle Rock Way across Bloomfield Avenue to Claremont Avenue where it turned west a block, and then continued north through Upper Montclair. By 1889 a continuation of the street running straight north of Bloomfield Avenue was called Lower Mountain Avenue. Photograph by Randall Spaulding.



Center photograph was taken from the second story of the public school by Randall Spaulding. William N. Taylor lived in the house in the foreground, which faced Orange Road. Beyond, on St. Luke's Place, is St. Luke's stone church with its open wagon-shed. Higher up is Mountain Avenue, the house with tower on the right, being that of N. O. Pillsbury.



The luxurious wistaria vine shown in full bloom in the top photograph decorated the house at 70 Park Street. Below is Toney's Brook as it ran through the woods on the property of John Howard Wilson on the north east corner of Park and Chestnut Streets. Homes in center photo: extreme left, Rev. Aaron R. Wolfe; above it, Nason; mansard roof, Denby.



Upper and center pictures, with lovely trees, are views of Church Street, taken near the junction with Mountain Avenue, looking east. The original square tower of the Presbyterian Church, with the newer more slender tower of the Church House, can be seen in the distance at the left of the roadway. Photographs said to have been taken by Randall Spaulding.



The George Washington Headquarters as it looked about 1888 when photographed by Edward Lyon. The well sweep, which is shown in an earlier picture on another page, had by then disappeared. Tradition has it that the large black walnut tree was already growing when Washington occupied the front and back rooms at the left of the door.



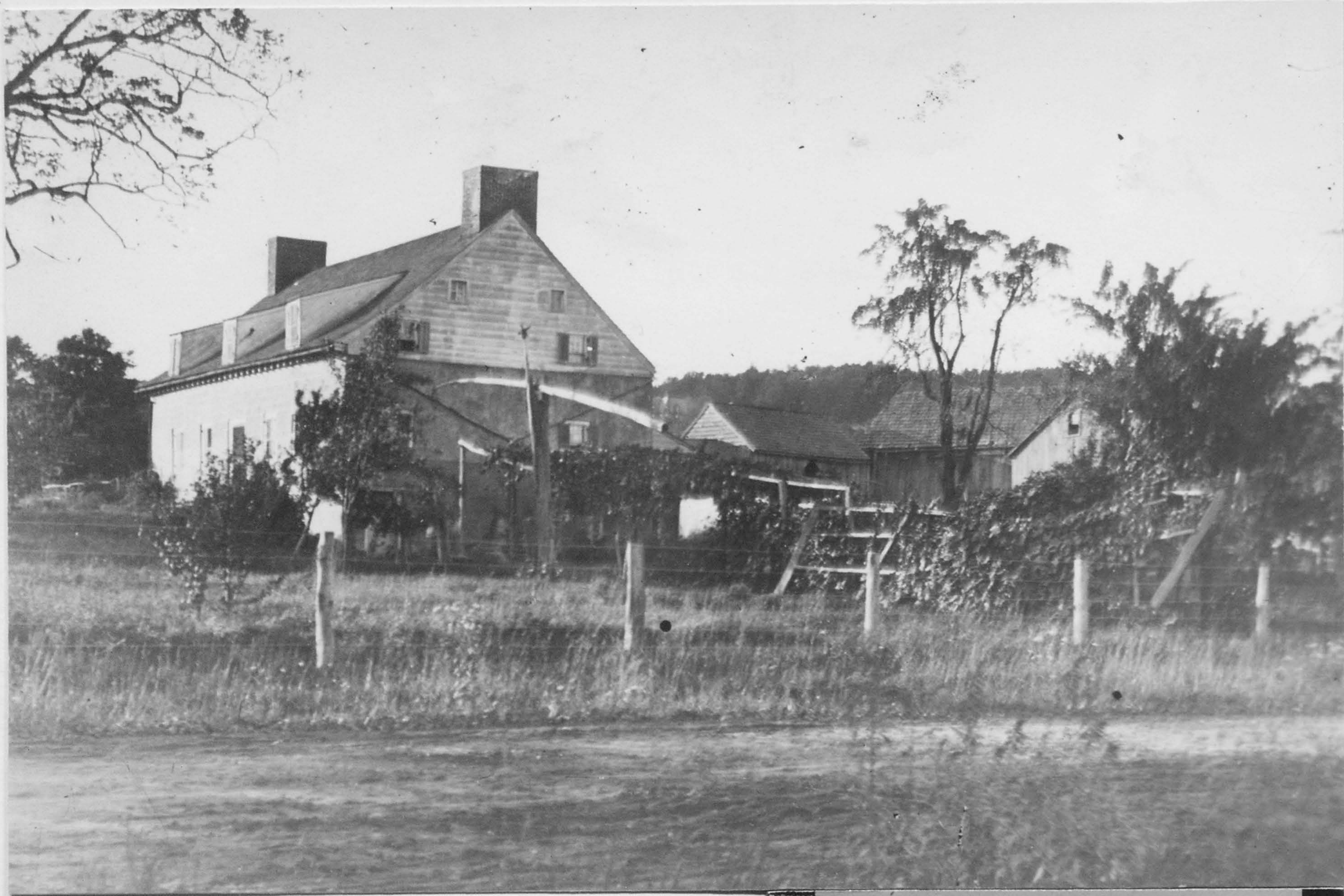
Church St. did not join  
with Mountain Ave

Upper picture is Church St  
looking east, from a point  
just east of Trinity Place,  
with Bradford Pl. showing  
as next road to right, where  
So Park now runs through  
from Blvd Ave on left.

Middle picture is taken  
from So. Mountain Ave.  
looking east down Hillside  
Ave (thence east on Church)



Montclair's most famous landmark, the old Crane homestead. It stood facing Claremont Avenue on the northwest corner at Valley Road. With the exception of a yellow stucco covering, it had been materially unchanged since the year 1780 when it was occupied by George Washington and his staff. Notice the old well sweep and the roadside field flowers.



The last of the Crane family to live in the old house was Alfred J. Crane, with his father, Amos, and his uncle, Stephen Fordham Crane. In the eighties Alfred was a young man interested in art, which he had studied while living in Europe and in China. As Montclair developed, he sold off the old farm for house lots, and, liking to live in more rural surroundings, moved to Milford, New York.

His father and uncle, Amos and Stephen, were sons of Oliver Crane, youngest son of William, whose father was Nathaniel, an original settler here. William was a Lieutenant in the Continental Army, and during the war owned this house in which Washington stayed. He is said to have built the house about 1700. It stood on a large tract of land given him by his father's will dated 1753. In its early days it was used as a public house, and is reported to have been the first inn for miles around.

Photograph taken by Jerome Coombs in 1884.



Alfred J. Crane with boys from his Sunday School class: Harris D. Murphy, Franklin Zeiger, and Arthur Rober. The picture was taken in the Crane family homestead in the very room said to be that in which George Washington slept on a pile of hay. Examples of Mr. Crane's art work hang on the walls. Photograph by Henry A. Strohmeyer.



Rear of little old house which stood at 108 Orange Road. The property remained in the Crane family until 1851, when it was sold to Stephen Paul for \$4,000. In 1855 it passed into the hands of Ossian L. Hatch, who maintained a deer farm on the grounds. In 1860 it was purchased by Henry Nason, who in 1863 sold it to Dr. J. Henry Clark of Newark.



The ell of this little cottage was probably one of the first houses to be built in Montclair. It was said to have been erected in 1723. The main part of the house, containing a cornerstone dated 1818, was supposed to have been added by Nathaniel Crane. The frame was of solid quartered oak sawed in the days when each settler was allotted a few days use of the mill to saw out his own timber.

The "best room" fireplace had a white painted Geor-

gian mantel, handsomely handcarved with the conventional sunburst made popular by the Adams Brothers, repeated in small proportions on either side above fluted pilasters.

In the eighties this was the home of Cordelia Ogden Clark, widow of Dr. James H. Clark. In 1881 a son, J. Henry Clark, graduated from medical college and began to practice in Newark. In 1883 he was appointed eye and ear surgeon at St. Michael's Hospital, and in 1886 was made Newark's police surgeon.



When these photographs were taken, the house was the home of the widow and children of Dr. J. Henry Clark. Notice the hitching post for horses, and the mounting stone which assisted one to step into a carriage or mount a horse. At the rear of the house stood a group of red barns and outbuildings.



Home of Matthias Crane. He was of the fifth generation removed from Azariah, the original settler. Mr. Crane was a farmer. He died at the age of 81 on July 1, 1882. April 19, 1884 it was reported "Howe and Parsons have sold the estate of Matthias Crane, corner of Bloomfield Avenue and Willow Street, to Mr. Theodore Mace of New York for his home.

P9508



This house on Eagle Rock Way (later 84 Llewellyn Road) was purchased partly finished by Samuel Wilde. He completed it and beautified the grounds. When this photograph was taken, in 1888, it was known as "Green Acre" and was the home of Decatur M. Sawyer. Grass cutting was not a problem when it was the custom to stake out the family cow on the front lawn.



This Crane home stood on the Old Road, with a flagstone walk leading from it to Bloomfield Avenue. This well proportioned, square wooden house with flat roof was a type much developed in the early post-Revolutionary period. Builders at that time began to finish interiors with carefully planned, elaborated detail.



Home of James Crane, son of Israel Crane who opened the first store in Cranetown about 1805. When Israel retired in 1830, James and two clerks took over the business as Frame, Pierson and Company. The old store building was torn down in 1880. When Israel was building this house to replace an old family homestead of colonial days,

his neighbors predicted that such wanton waste of hand-earned money as was involved in the design and finish of his new abode would bring the builder to ruin and the poorhouse, and "sarve him right!" But it did not ruin him and he lived and thrived in his new home until in 1858 he died at the ripe old age of eighty-four.



Charles H. Johnson built this comfortable home at 70 Park Street between 1870 and '75. During the eighties it was the home of Truman B. Brown, and the scene of a wedding when his daughter, Ella F., became the wife of Henry L. Crane. Their son, Leroy L. Crane, was born in the house. Henry was a grandson of Israel Crane who built the home shown above.



This photograph was taken by Randall Spaulding from the second story of Dr. Love's barn. The Love's garden appears in the foreground. Samuel Wilde's windmill is seen at the left. On the extreme right, nearest the foreground, is the old Crane homestead in which "Aunt" Polly Davis lived.



Samuel Wilde's estate was one of the show places in town. Mr. Wilde was a man of culture. One of his favorite studies was astronomy. He erected an observatory in his backyard and placed in it a powerful telescope. Here he invited public school students to observe the stars and planets.



Home of Albert G. Smith and family at 267 Grove Street. Mr. and Mrs. Smith had settled in Montclair as bride and groom in 1877. Notice the fashionable long parlor windows and the folding carpet chair on the porch.



Originally the home of Joseph Crane (1751-1832). In the eighties his grandchildren recalled childhood visits to the house: Its garret with spinning wheels; its cellar stored with apples, vegetables, and barrels of cidar; the kitchen with its odor of cookies and pies. The house was part frame and part stone. Photograph by Randall Spaulding.



The influx of negro people into Montclair began about 1870. The negro population at that time was about thirty-six, probably all of which had formerly been slaves. In 1870 a prominent family brought two or three servants from Virginia on trial. These proved very satisfactory, and other negroes learning of the better wages to be had up North, soon followed.

By 1886 there were about 500 here, most of them from Loudoun County. As a rule they were quiet, industrious, well behaved, church going people. They retained many of their old customs, but readily adapted themselves to the new environment. Most of them became house servants. In 1889 negro members of the Baptist Church owned real estate valued only at \$4,000, but the group were fast acquiring more property.

The photograph shows "Aunt" Polly Davis who lived in the Deacon Joseph Crane homestead, an old landmark on Orange Road at Plymouth Street. She was generally seen with a stick, which she used to keep off mischievous boys, or was found seated in her doorway smoking a clay pipe. She attended the second inauguration of Lincoln and for years after, never failed to take up a collection at the close of each Presidential election, to enable her to attend the coming ceremonies in Washington. Mrs. Frederick Harris once provided for the occasion a bonnet trimmed with purple pansies. Aunt Polly was heard to remark, "When Ah walks down Mars'chusetts av'nue wid dis year hat on, folks a'gwine to say, 'Here comes Mrs. Colonel Harris.'" When crippled with age a blind grandson used to push her about in a wheel chair. This made it possible for her to attend church until the end.

"'Aunt Polly' Davis, a very aged colored woman who has been a resident of Montclair for more than forty years, took a look at the town on last Monday, after hav-

ing been kept indoors for the whole winter. 'Aunt Polly' is an invalid and has to be moved about in a wheel chair; but she is pleased as she told the Times man, that she is 'still spry about the hands and the mouth.'" Montclair Times, April, 1904.

#### The Colored Church.

A meeting of the new colored church, was held on Thursday evening, at Watchung Hall. Rev. W. C. Dickerson, the pastor presided and made an address in which he exhorted his hearers, and gave them encouragement in their new work. A new board of trustees, including two gentlemen, who are members of the Montclair Methodist Episcopal Church was then elected.

Movements to organize a Negro church began in 1886 with a series of meetings held from house to house. In 1887 the congregation adopted the name Union Baptist Church, and began to meet regularly in halls. When Rev. William Perry was called in 1889 to be their pastor the total membership was about 46, with ten children attending Sunday School.



Travelling on Mountain Avenue, going north, one saw this old stone house on the west side of the road. It may have dated back to the Revolution when men were building stone houses two rooms long and one story high. In the house shown below lived an elderly couple, Mathias Riker and wife.



Mr. Riker, a farmer, kept pigs and hens. When counting out his eggs for sale to neighbors, he was often heard to mutter, "No friendship in business." He owned a big dog, kept him chained, and warned that he was fierce. Boys and girls kept at a safe distance. When the old man died the dog was found to be toothless.



Home of Munson and Eunice Force, south east corner of Mt. Hebron and Valley Roads. Eunice, born about 1808, was a daughter of John Sigler. In her later years she smoked a pipe "to soothe her toothache." This photograph, taken in the eighties, shows later occupants of the house, dressed in long fussy dresses, with croquet mallets in hand.

P9504



Marion Harland in 1883 describes a bride's new home in a chapter called "Nest-building." A bracket covered with birch-bark, on which is painted a thorny bough incrustated with lichens, is fastened on the wall between the front and back parlor doors. A gray trail of Spanish moss floats from it; upon it a benevolently complacent owl stands guard, a crotched branch interwoven by a vireo's nest projects upward.

Half drawn portieres of Turkey-red cotton hang in the parlor doors and at its windows. A sofa in a small room is expensive, clumsy, and as inconvenient in a small room as an elephant in a horse's stall. Etiquette forbids men to seat themselves upon it while ladies occupy chairs. People ought not to lounge in drawing rooms. What is needed is encouragement to conversation. Wicker chairs, painted black and gilded and three reception chairs black and gilt with rush bottoms stripped in white and scarlet are therefore substituted for a sofa. A round table is draped with an embroidered cloth; a bamboo easel supports an engraving with a pale blue scarf of soft wool draped over one corner. Pale blue is repeated in a silken banner screen and a trophy of Japanese fans.

A cluster of thistle balls, white and fluffy, are suspended by a scarlet cord from a gas fixture. A pale blue foot-cushion appliqued with scarlet, lies before the easy-chair. Curtain poles are covered with black velvet which sets off the brass rings which hold the draperies.

The floor is covered with ingrain carpet in a "dark old-gold tawny tint, like a bed of woodland moss on which successive frosts have fallen gently." A Japanese stand and an ebonized cabinet are wedding presents. Various pretty trifles such as girls delight in and gather to themselves by unconscious attraction are arranged on stands and mantel. A few choice books, the kind that suggest thought and discussion, rest on the table.

In the library is a lounge covered with cretonne with pillows of Turkey-red heaped into luxuriousness. A folded afghan falls over the head slope. A twist of red drapes a picture over the mantel, a plume of pampas grass behind it. Screens of trellised ivy hide the view of the clothes-yard. A round table wears a sweeping cloth edged with scallops embroidered in scarlet silk. A students lamp, a foot-rest, two or three magazines, a paper-weight show that the tired master is to be completely at home here. No two chairs in this room are alike: All were picked up at odd times and places by the bride who says that she "made a frolic of rigging them out."

Bedroom floors are stained and rugs of ingrain are laid there. The furniture is of native ash and poplar. In the servant's chamber are an iron bedstead, a good bureau, washstand, and rocking chair. Mamma's pupil sensibly reasons that the dust of sleeping apartments should be dislodged and expelled every day; that china figures, and vases, picture frames, and plaques, and dried grasses,

Eunice Sigler's six brothers and sisters were: Leah (who married John R. Speer and had three children); Mariah (married Bethuel Harrison and was the mother of six); Rachel (married John Vreeland); John (married first Matilda Speer, second Elizabeth Speer); Cynthia (wife of Joseph Broadnax, later of Thomas Jacobus); and Elizabeth (wife of David Force).



This Gothic cottage was the home of John Mason Doubleday, Esquire, one of the most respected citizens of Montclair. Mr. Doubleday's wife was the former Miss Julia Brush. Their home was on the corner of Claremont Avenue and Mountain Avenue. They were living in the cottage while planning to build an estate.

P 9505

V 61 V



and Japanese umbrellas collect flying particles which Professor Tyndall warns contain embryotic bacteria. If undisturbed they breed evil to human lives. Therefore the bedrooms have few ornaments.

The whole house is comfortable and pretty with no incongruous streakings of splendor.

Croquet introduced into the U. S. A. in the 1870's, became very popular. At the same time lawn tennis was making a bid for favor but it is said that croquet enthusiasts outnumbered tennis players 1,000 to 1. Ladies, especially, liked croquet. Their many petticoats were a decided hinderance when trying tennis, but did not handicap participation in this less speedy game which nevertheless kept them out in the fresh air where they could enjoy the company of young bachelors.

*The "small pictures" on right, see memo on fourth following leaf, reverse side.*



P 9506



P 9507

The small pictures show an old brown stone house, situated in Upper Montclair, formerly Speertown. The road connecting Speertown and Cranetown was laid out in 1768. It passed through the land of Peter De Garmo, Rineer Van Gieson, and Gideon Van Winkle. There is no doubt that the army used it frequently during the Revolution.



This modest home was of the Greek Revival period, as seen by its deep overhanging eaves, heavy cornice, and dentils -- those toothlike projections under the cornice. Porches were a feature of the period, and windows of the parlor were often lengthened so that they reached the porch floor. There were blinds of movable slats at the windows.

P9508



On the southside of Bellevue Avenue between Valley Road and Park Street there was just this one house, the Joshua Clark place, with its nine acres of farmland lying on both sides of Bellevue Avenue. The farm was occupied by the Parsons family who migrated here from Brooklyn about 1870.

The front of the house was approached by a semi-circular drive among hemlocks, pines, and cedars, with apple and pear trees nearby. There was a well of good water with its oaken bucket. A path led along the vegetable garden back about one hundred feet to a large barn. The barn's center housed the wagons; one side was for horses; the other served as cow stable. A little room in front was used by one of the four daughters, Addie

Parsons, as her studio for painting. Haylofts were overhead, and in the rear barnyard the milking was done. The middle portion of the barn was also used for threshing wheat, the men working with flails.

The son, Will Parsons, took up truck and stock farming for his health. He bred horses, owning an old racing stallion, wild and hard to manage, who was the sire of many neighborhood colts. Once when hitched to an old box wagon with wooden axles the stallion decided to show his displeasure at having to pull such a humble conveyance, so different from his race-track days. He suddenly stopped short and let out a kick which shattered the dashboard and sent the passengers hurtling to the ground.

The beautiful region known as Upper Montclair had as its southern boundary Watchung Avenue. "The surface of the country is high, almost unbroken upland, with a gradual slope from the mountain toward the east, this affording perfect drainage, and freedom from all malarious influences."



Family home of Samuel Judd Holmes, whose wife was S. Josephine Brautigam. They were married on March 16, 1886, and in 1887 built this house at 188 Park Street. The picture was taken May 30, 1888. It shows members of three generations. Note the wicker baby carriage with parasol, which was removed and closed when not needed to shade the baby.



Randall Spaulding, who was in charge of the public school, won a prize with the photograph below. Cloud effects were said to be unusual in pictures taken with the equipment of the period. Mr. Spaulding was the author of "First Lessons in Amateur Photography," published in 1885; and he made early experiments with color photography.

One of the subjects introduced in the school curriculum by Mr. Spaulding was nature study. He himself collected botanical specimens from Arizona and the Rocky Mountains for the Smithsonian Institution in 1883 and '86. He discovered at least thirty new species never previously recorded.



J. Castor Brautigam, whose business was paper and publishing, built this elegant residence on Mountain Avenue in 1872. Later it was rented to Roswell Smith, publisher, father-in-law of George Inness, Jr. It was while living here that Mr. Smith conceived the idea of St. Nicholas Magazine, The Century Magazine, and The Century Dictionary.



Mr. + Mrs. Charles F. Drost rented  
Mrs. Littlejohns house on Watchung Ave.  
for one summer. The climate was so  
beneficial that Mr. Drost decided to  
remain in Montclair and rented a  
house ( ) on So. Mt. Ave. while  
he built his home at 28 So. Mt. Ave.  
The place was called Hoburg and  
Mr. Drost was instrumental in putting  
through and naming Hoburg place  
(OVER)



after Mrs. Miller. Antoinette Horing.

- When Mrs. Drost Summned in the  
Little House on Watching Av.

Mrs. Wm. H. Power often called upon her  
driving down from the Power home  
on upper Mountain Av. As it came to  
pass, Mrs. Drost youngest daughter  
married Mrs. Powers Grandson,  
Harold Wilmer Schreder of 184 Upper  
Mountain Av. in 1917 + their son John  
Power Schreder lives  
at 141 S. Mt. + has +

children -



Sometime during the eighties Dr. John J. H. Love and family moved from the small house shown below into this home at 50 South Fullerton Avenue. The house had been built for Joseph B. Beadle. On December 18, 1869 a meeting had been held here, at which initial steps were taken to organize a local Congregational Church. Photograph by Dr. Leslie C. Love.



This house which Dr. Love acquired in 1862, stood on the south side of lower Church Street. At a later date it became the Montclair Club. In April of 1889 Dr. Love sold it for \$560. Cut into two parts, and moved to Orange Road, it became the home of Peter Heller. Notice the end chimneys with their recessed panels and mouse-tooth brick trimmed tops.

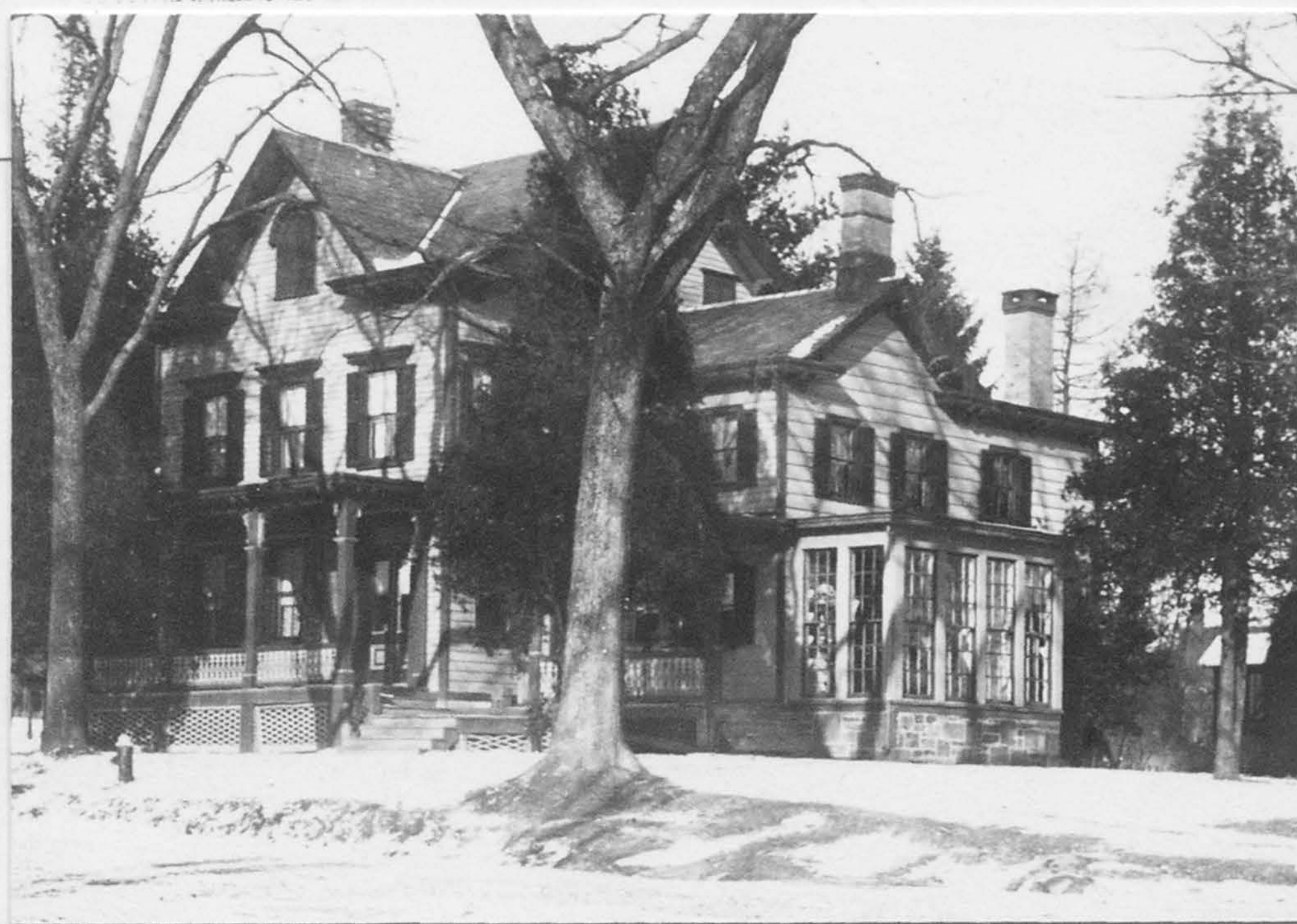


Joseph H. Baldwin (1808-1888) was born in this house which he later inherited from his father, John J. Baldwin. The latter was known as Captain because he had served in the War of 1812. The house stood on the north east corner of Orange Road and Elm Street. Joseph married Lydia A. Munn. Their children were Lydia D., Mary F., and Phebe L.



Residence of Caleb Baldwin, Esq.

The Baldwin family were among the original settlers of Cranetown, and were connected by marriage with the Cranes. They came to own so much property on Orange Road that the street was known as the "Baldwin Neighborhood." Joseph H. Baldwin carefully cultivated the large farm with fine fruit trees which he inherited from his father. The sale of famous Jersey cider and vinegar which he had made from the crops of his extensive apple orchard furnished a comfortable living. Sometime during the prosperous era of the eighties the house was modernized. The second story was heightened, the addition of an attic changed the roof line, and built-on porches, bay windows, and sun room altered the facade of the house.



These Baldwins were descended from John Baldwin, an original settler of Newark, where he served as sealer of leather, fence viewer, and surveyor. When John's grandson made his will in 1758 he owned a large farm on Orange Road in Montclair. His descendants were thrifty farmers, and public spirited citizens with much influence in village affairs.

19511



Samuel Crump's home built between 1883 and '85 was at 46 Highland Avenue. Among its many rooms, were four bathrooms and thirty clothes and cedar closets, a great luxury for those days. It cost over \$90,000. Mr. Crump had fourteen children, only six of whom lived to grow up. The Crump Label Company employed about 200 hands doing color printing.



## The Montclair Times

A. C. STUDER, Editor and Proprietor.

### TERMS.

Subscription—\$2.00 per annum, in advance.  
Single copies, at office of publication, or of news-dealers, Five Cents.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1889.

### THE OBSERVER AT HOME.

Beautiful residence in Montclair, N. J., for sale, 50x70, 600 feet above sea-level on the first Orange mountain, commanding view of five per cent. of the population of the United States, three rivers and nine cities; New York and Newark bays and the narrows in sight. Population 8,000. Macadamized roads, gas, city water, steam heat, etc. Suitable for residence, club, or sanitarium. Eight to seventeen acres. Construction of highest workmanship and material. Also seven acres adjoining for sale. Price moderate.

The above advertisement is taken from a New York paper. The Observer, having read and re-read it, concluded to take a drive over the mountain and have a look at the advertised place. The weather for several days seemed antagonistic to his plans. He concluded, however, to go between showers. It was a long time since he had been on High-

land avenue. He found the road excellent, the street lamps well arranged for dark nights, the trees abundant with their shade, the views superb, and when he finally reached the advertised place he was certain there must be some mistake. He took off his spectacles, wiped them and replaced them, and this little operation recalling him to consciousness he found he was still in this world, and had not been translated. Before him, stretching on and on, was a vast panorama of nature's glories. For a long time he gazed, then slowly turned and looked at the house, which, were it of stone, would be like his conception of a turreted castle. In France, such a house would be called a hotel. The broad and beautiful piazzas, the high tower, the handsome windows, the artistic architecture, the tall towers, the high elevation, and the broad and commanding outlook make it one of the most desirable of places. Your Observer has not the slightest desire to know other people's secrets, but he cannot understand why a

man who owns such property as this should ever desire to sell it. It certainly is as near Eden as one will ever get in this world. Of course, if our friend, Mr. Crump, for reasons of his own, insists upon disposing of his place, we hope he may be successful.

\*\*

FOR SALE—The beautiful residence, 50x70, built by Wm. Torrey, 600 feet above sea level: south, west and eastern exposure, commanding view of five per cent. of the population of the United States, three rivers and nine cities. New York and Newark bays and the Narrows in sight; gas, city water, steam heat, etc.; suitable for residence, club or sanitarium; construction of highest workmanship and material; 8 to 17 acres. Also seven acres adjoining for sale; price moderate. SAM'L CRUMP, Highland avenue, Montclair, N. J. 6-8-2m

In houses of this period it was a common practice to place stained or colored glass windows of odd shapes in queer positions so that they threw colored lights into rooms, halls, or onto stairways. A porte-cochere was a usual appendage to such mansions for fashionable turnouts were invariably found in the family stable.



This house was built on property which had originally been part of a large plot inherited by Noah Crane from his father, Nathaniel. The land was later owned by Lucy Stone, the feminist, who lived for a few years in this village, and in 1888 still owned a good deal of real estate here.

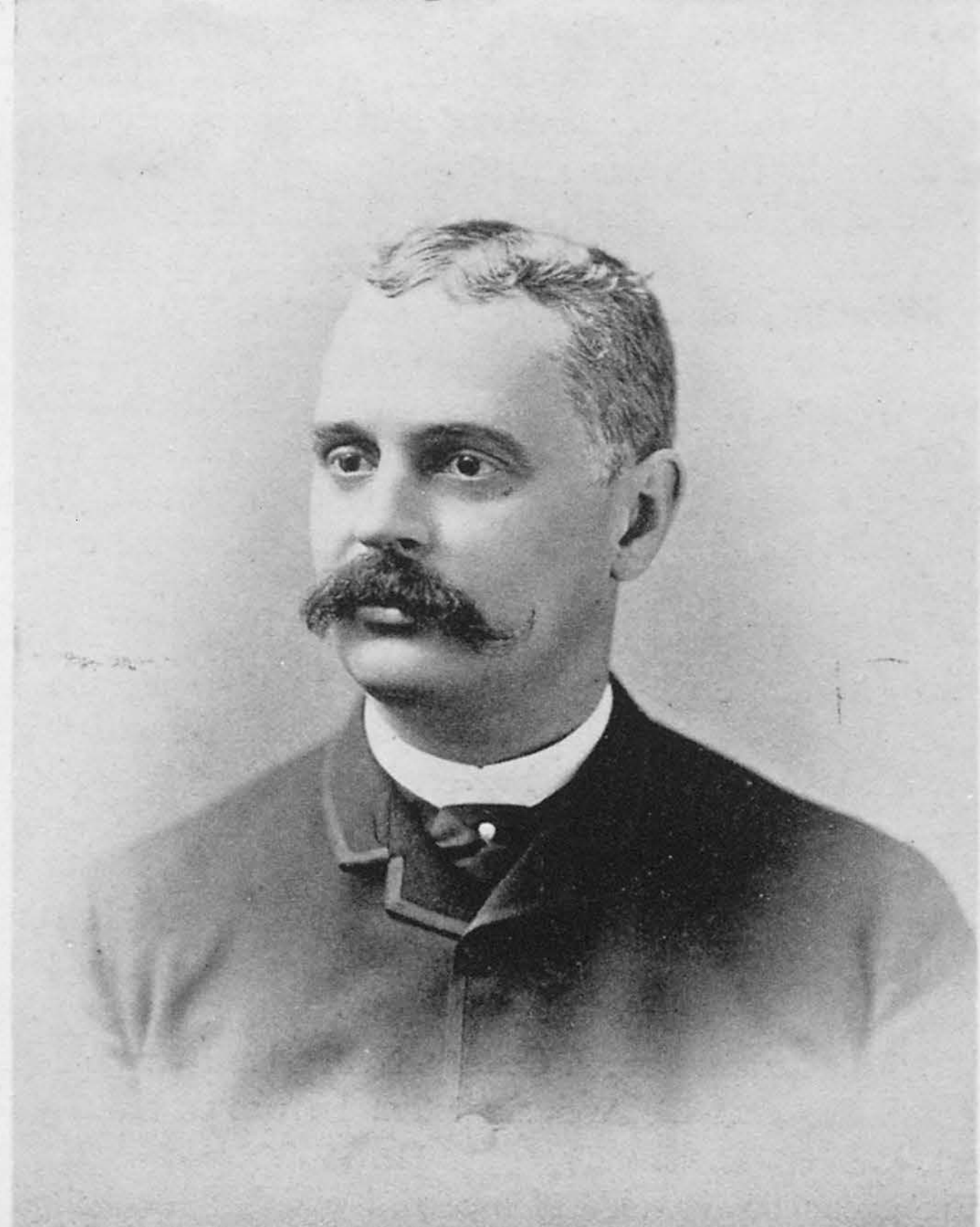
P9512



When John Howard Wilson bought a plot of land on Park Street (where George Inness School was later to be built) it was considered one of the most beautiful and romantic spots in the outskirts of town. On it he built this Swiss cottage which became much beloved by artists. The local press said it "provoked much discussion by its peculiar style, but however tastes may differ on that question, there will be no dispute about a statement that it represents \$8,000."

The old forest trees on the property were left standing. Skirting the plot flowed the same rippling brook where the Lenni Lenape Indians stopped long before to quench their thirst on their yearly journey to the sea.

Mr. Wilson became actively interested in national and local politics. He was elected a member of the Township Committee, became its chairman and was re-elected for many years. He devoted his time and talents unstintingly to public interests. During his administration, appropriations for public roads and streets were doubled. The successful establishment of the sewage system was largely due to his efforts.



"Mr. Wilson was a lawyer, about middle age, a man of average height and well proportioned, with a handsome face and with hair and mustache slightly grizzled and inclined to curl. He was rather a striking figure. His manner was alert and forceful, his ideas were decided and he was always ready to express them in clear and forcible language."



In the eighties there were men who directed town affairs, giving time labor and business experience without any compensation. Among those who deserve special mention because of devotion to public interests is Thomas Russell, whose comfortable and prepossessing home is shown below.

P9513



Many changes and improvements which took place in Montclair came into being with no cost to the taxpayers. Men who directed its affairs gave their time, labor, and business experience without any compensation whatsoever. Among those especially deserving of mention for his unstinted devotion to his home town was Thomas Russell, a leading merchant of New York City.

Mr. Russell was born in Scotland where he entered the employ of John Clark and Company, proprietors of Mile-End Spool Cotton, when sixteen years old. In 1856 he was sent to New York by his firm to assume entire charge of their business in this country.

About 1874 Mr. Russell was induced to make Montclair his home. He purchased property on Union Street and Orange Road, with a house which had been erected by Samuel Wilde. He made extensive alterations and additions to the house and beautified the extensive grounds where he planted oak and elm trees which he imported from

England.

The brook which ran through the property was dammed to form a pond which was made picturesque by a family of swan.

As a member of the Township Committee, Mr. Russell was greatly responsible for improved lighting of the streets and introduction of a water supply. During the town's most critical financial stress, Mr. Russell pledged his own private credit to meet the town's defaulted bonds until permanent arrangements could be made.

Mr. Russell was much beloved by children of the First Presbyterian Church where he was Sunday School Superintendent, a position to which he was elected in 1876, two years after coming to Montclair. He previously had served in a similar position as the head of the Sunday School of the Associate Reformed Church in New York City.

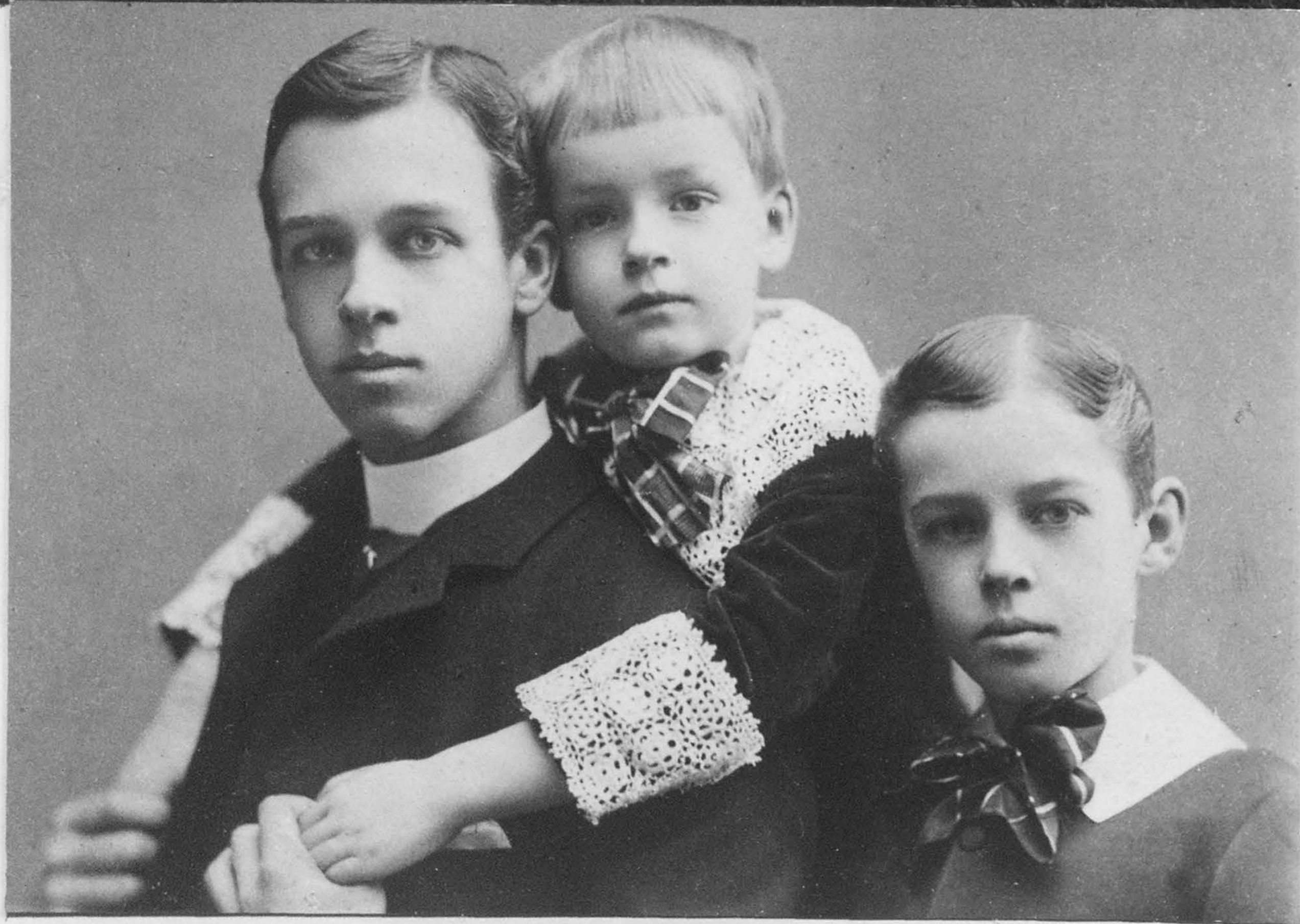


Mr. Russell's home was spoken of as "a quiet picturesque spot hidden among the trees, located on Union Street and Orange Road." What was his cow pasture was later to become part of Porter Park. The brook was dammed to form a pond but had to be drained as the vapour which rose from it was thought to breed malaria.

pg 514



pg 515



Mr. Thomas Russell's daughter Jean was to become the wife of Charles E. Burgess, the son of Edward Gyre Burgess. The photograph above, taken January 10, 1885, shows, left to right: Charles E. Burgess; Edward G., Jr.; and Herbert R., brothers.



Home of the Crocker family who lived at 20 Mountain Avenue. Mansard roofs of slate, shingles, or painted tin, dormered or with round windows, and decorated with ornamental iron crestings came into favor for more pretentious houses quite early. Notice the summer planting of foliage plants, and the hardy hydrangea within the circle of the drive.

P2516



Prior to 1880 houses were seldom considered obsolete as long as they were physically sound, but when men of wealth began to move into these suburbs, they often tore down colonial farmhouses which stood on desirable sites, and employed architects to plan homes which would suit their social position. New houses ranged in styles, including all variations of American Domestic, Classic Greek Revival, new Queen Anne, Swiss Chalet, French Chateau, English Gothic, and Norman castle. In nearly all these adopted plans, one rule held -- ornament was the chief aim of the builder.

The spectacular architecture of this era was crowded with mechanical lathe and jigsaw decorations, chimneys, gables, porches, balustrades, bay windows, stained glass, cupolas, conservatories, balconies, cast iron ornaments, columns, and all kinds of gadgets made of cut, turned, twisted, or tortured wood. These "rich" exteriors of upper class homes gave a foretaste of the splen-

dor of the interiors which were wainscoted, carved, curtained, cushioned, hung with pictures, crowded with furniture, and decorated with works of art which were completely detached from their surroundings and purpose. Emphasis was on the "picturesque" and requirements for every day living or playing were reduced to a minimum or artfully concealed.

The Crocker house shown above, which was built some time before the eighties', with its observatory tower, mansard roof, metal cresting, and curved-bottomed shingles, foreshadowed the later rage for jig-saw houses of great ostentation.

On September 21, 1881 the son, William H. Crocker, was married at the residence of the bride's mother, to Chattie, youngest daughter of the late Rynier Speer of Montclair Heights.

Ethel and Florence, daughters in the Crocker family, are seen in a trap arranged so that they sit back to back. All is in readiness for the daily drive to the station to meet their father and brother, commuters from New York. Notice the carriage lamp and the two hitching posts.



Vol 11

This "large and beautiful" Montclair Club House, 22 Church Street, was looked upon with great pride by the townspeople to whom club life was a novelty. It was very amusing to see, when the building was new, how few had any knowledge of sports or games. The Club is said to have made life a different thing for every lady and gentleman in the town.



This big busy social center was conceived in 1887 by a large group of professional and business men who felt the need of recreation after the worry, care, and anxiety incident to life during the day in the great neighboring city.

A grand house warming was held in the evening of October 12, 1889, with music by a Hungarian Gypsy Band. More than twelve hundred people were entertained and fed. In those days no such occasion was complete without one or two salmon three feet long, a few turkeys about twenty-five pounds each, some immense hams, great platters of chicken and lobster salad, and many other dishes, all meats and sweets being wonderfully decorated.

The ladies' gowns all had trains. One guest who wore a large hat with an ostrich plume twenty inches long had so little on the upper part of her body that as far as possible ladies avoided an introduction and men "took in the situation from the northwest corner of their eyes, and steered clear."

Those not favored with invitations to the party gazed at the brilliantly illuminated building and the long strings of coaches that double-lined the streets in every direction.

For many years to come the club was to be the scene of half the town's social gatherings, dinners, dances, parties, billiard and bowling tournaments, lectures, plays, and concerts. The music hall which held five hundred people involved an additional cost in building of \$10,000.



*Rear View of Montclair  
Club House*

Rear view of the Club which included bowling alleys and a beautiful music hall. "The bowling alleys are alive every evening with knights of the pin, who bowl away the hours right merrily, and in a manner that makes things hum." Montclair Times, December 14, 1889.



This spacious home stood on a lot which was to become 60 Plymouth Street when the latter was laid out. It faced Orange Road. The widow of Dr. J. Henry Clark carried out the doctor's wishes in building the house in 1871. She and her children lived in it at the time the picture was taken, but soon removed. Notice portrait bust of Dr. Clark.

P9517



The Children's Home Association, the first charitable organization in Montclair, was instigated by a sermon preached on a Sunday in the early part of 1881 by Dr. Bradford, in which he appealed to his hearers to become active in beneficent work. Miss Elizabeth Habberton, after the service, walked from her pew to the pulpit and said, "Here am I, what will you have me do?" Before she left the church she had enlisted the interest of several women of the congregation.

The group first rented the house shown in the above photograph. It stood on Plymouth Street and was owned by Mrs. J. Henry Clark. In nine days it was completely furnished, provisioned, and staffed, and twenty child guests had been installed. All denominations combined to bring about this phenomenal success, giving time, money, or treasures from their attics. Every expressman in town gave his services to get denoted furniture and supplies to their destination.

Dr. Bradford later described setting up an old four posted cord bedstead. While one post was held by an Episcopalian, another by a Presbyterian, the third by a Methodist, and the fourth by a Baptist, he roped the bed together, symbolic of the unifying work for which he was famous. Within three months one hundred and twenty children from New York had vacationed here and twelve local orphans had been provided with a home.

Mrs. Henry A. Dike was elected president of the society in 1883. She was an intelligent woman of rare poise and social position. These characteristics made it easy for her to interest people in the underprivileged children and to bring about such voluntary financial support for the Home that it was possible to purchase for its use a little house which stood on three acres of land on Gates Avenue.

"The 'Home' is not an asylum; the children are not uniformed nor numbered, and there is no tyrannical superintendent who keeps the children in constant fear of being punished for their slightest misdeeds ... Everything that greets the eye is suggestive of a domestic dwelling."



Beautiful home built in 1886 for Thomas Porter, a leading merchant of New York City. At the time Mr. Porter died, in 1890, he was President of the Cheshire Manufacturing Company; the Cheshire Brass Company; Barnard, Son and Company; the Patent Button Company; and the Vulcanite Manufacturing Company. Architect, H. Hudson Holly.

P9314



Cost of construction and repair of buildings in Montclair for the year 1881 totalled \$107,850. Less than ten years later, the town spent in one year \$850,000 for new churches, stores and residences.

Eighteen eighty-five was considered a boom year, ninety-one houses being erected at a cost of \$341,300. Among these were the Harry Fenn House on Mountain avenue, which cost \$7,000; Thomas Porter's Union street home (above), \$22,000; the William H. Power house on Mountain avenue, \$10,000; the P. C. Van Riper home, \$15,000. The S. W. Carey residence on Orange Road at Park avenue, some years old, was improved until it was called "worth visiting as a model of correct art."

All the new homes were not palatial, for in the local press a house on William street was offered to let for \$9. a month. Fullerton avenue, Plymouth street, and the Crescent bounded the farm of Mr. William H. Graves, with its large orchard and one house. On this property the owner erected thirteen handsome houses, some of the first to be built for renting.

In 1886 Mr. C. A. Hinck purchased fifty acres on Grove street near Walnut, and thereon built fifteen houses. In 1889, George Booth, the mason, erected a row

of brick tenements at the corner of Walnut and Forest streets, a project which was regarded with disfavor by residents in that vicinity.

Local builder Henry L. Yost advertised that he could erect a ten room house with modern conveniences for from \$3,500 to \$4,600. Jesse H. Lockwood, who resided on the Brundage estate on Orange road, furnished plans and specifications for all kinds of buildings, and supervised their construction. The architect George M. DaCunha in 1881 bought for \$15,000. the Broadnax farm of sixty-four acres in Upper Montclair, to be used as his home.

Some of the most beautiful houses in the township were designed by Frank E. Wallis. He combined colonial style architecture with modern improvements, creating a new and distinctive type of villa which became known as American Domestic. He had studied under and worked with leading architects but had new and original ideas of his own, and so became known as one of the pioneers, if not the originator, of this architectural style. His book "Old Colonial Architecture and Furniture," published about the time he came to live in Montclair, and his many articles appearing in journals, did much to influence public taste in favor of the colonial in preference to French villas and English Gothic houses.

As the eighteen hundred and eighty decade drew toward its end the Montclair Times said "Houses are going up not quite as fast as mushrooms but at a tolerably rapid rate." Huge sums of money were being spent upon houses which were doomed to be torn down by following generations which would have no use for them.



The Slayback house, built as a private home, was used as a hospital during the 1917 influenza epidemic. The Board of Education then used it as a community center for the Baldwin Street (later George Washington) School. The Minnie A. Lucie House replaced it on the same site to serve the same purpose, opening in 1930.

89519



89520



This photograph, taken in 1923, shows the very old farm house at 228 Grove Street as it looked when bought by Frederic G. Melcher, publisher. The Melcher family was to occupy it over a long period, during which time many new houses were built in the neighborhood.



After Gilbert and Sullivan's *Midado* was produced in 1885, no home was complete without a Japanese lantern or two hung in a nook or corner, or fans pinned on the wall. The rich collected rare Japanese prints and embroideries, while others bought screens, fans, sunshades, chinaware, and fancy tables and chairs made of bamboo and cane.

In the fire grate in the picture on the upper right hand is a "Rogers group," one of eighty some designs produced by John Rogers, sculptor. This piece belongs among his "genre" groups, which included his most popular work. His theory of art seems to have been the telling of a story, usually with pathos or humor. The groups were made of red plaster around a metal frame, and were dipped in grey paint. With the "gelatine mould" and bronze "master cast," they were reproduced cheaply, and Rogers sold over 100,000 copies in his life time. For the repair of the groups after the surface was cracked, bottles of refinishing color were sold.

P 9522



In an illustrated catalogue of electro-plated goods: "A fish-slice decorated with an engraved landscape, surrounded by acanthus scrolls; a rose, a tulip, or an apple doing duty as the handle of a teapot-lid; an egg stand designed in imitation of a wicker basket; a butter-cooler surmounted by that inevitable cow which fashion has consecrated for our breakfast tables, in order that we may never forget the source and origin of one of our most useful articles of food." "The substitution of electro-plate for real silver is now so common no apology for its use is required."



"The piano has become an essential part of life. Those who cannot play it stand outside a great company which cultivates it as an engine of social and home intercourse. In households where there is no piano we seem to breathe a foreign atmosphere." The only parts of a square piano which could express the style of its period were the legs and feet.



Rooms in the Brautigam home. Note the lighting devices: Hanging combination gas and oil fixture, table lamp with twin oil reservoirs from which extend arms holding the burners and shades, candles on the onyx mantle, small "astral" lamp on dining table, and portable glass lamps on the mantle.

19529

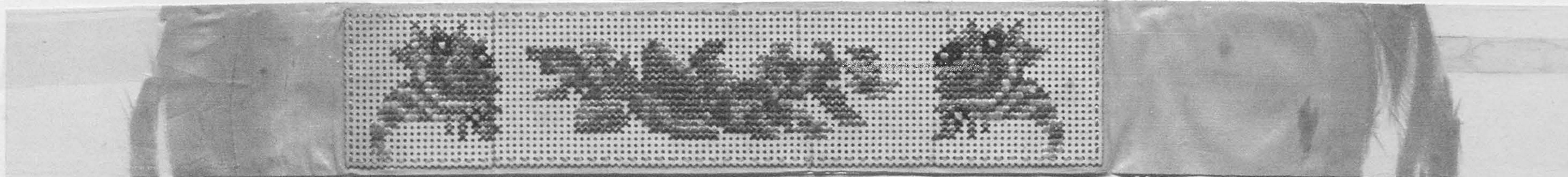


Wonderful was the fancy work of the Victorian era: elaborate tidies, bags, and scarves trimmed with tinsel, spangles, beads, and even melon seeds. Ladies tirelessly painted vases, china, and bottles; and gilded milking stools, dustpans, frying pans, and rolling pins to be used as ornaments trimmed with ribbon bows. Pictures seldom escaped a drapery of silk.

Decorators advised, "Nothing ought to be placed in the living room to diminish the cubic feet of air needed for the support of the occupants that cannot justify its presence by some actual service it renders to those occupants. There must be at least one sofa, one large easy chair, an ample table (the material center of family life), a bookcase, a cupboard, and smaller chairs." These chairs should be wooden, with seats and backs of cane, as they were more healthful than "stuffing." After these "wants" had been provided, it was suggested that the "chief nourishers of life's feast" be added: casts, pictures, engravings, bronzes, and books. One might have gasoliers, master-pieces made by Tiffany, but gaslight

was poor and so much trouble was ascribed to its action that many preferred to use the oil student lamp.

Whether to use rugs or carpet was a question. Rugs had novelty on their side and that was nine points in fashion's favor. It had been the style for dining rooms to be somber in color and decoration, as digestion was thought to go on better in the dark and in silence. In the early eighties people began to think that perhaps a pleasant room with good cheer at the table, might not give one indigestion. The dining table, chairs, and a sideboard were all the furniture needed. "No one would think anything wanting who should see the sideboard with even so little upon it as a dish of fruit, a few glasses and water bottles, and a few blue plates." The extension table should work so easily that it will "never cause a single ejaculation to escape the fence of the teeth of the handmaiden who pulls it open and shut." Settees were recommended for halls where "it is true their comfort will be wasted on messenger boys, book agents, the census man, and the bereaved lady who offers soap at merely nominal prices with the falsetto story of her woes thrown in."



"A room intended for repose ought to contain nothing which can fatigue the eye by complexity." It was suggested that the bedroom of the eighties have sunshine and an open fire, but be "free of the fixed washstand with its plumbing and drain pipes so apt to get out of order and so unasthetic as to looks.



Beside the necessary dining room furniture custom demanded in that room at least two easy chairs and if possible a comfortable sofa. On "dull winter evenings, many a cozy chat could be had after dinner" gathered about the glowing coal stove like the one in this picture. Dining room chairs were in square designs, nail head trimmed.

P 9525



The period from 1876 to 1890 brought forth the "Mediaeval mania," the "Queen Anne rage," "Neo Greek," and "Bentwood furniture," while styles still included "Eastlake." It was the "black walnut age." One writer spoke of a sideboard with its veneered panels, scrolls, columns, pillars and marble top, as "of the Grecian, Roman, German, French style."



The peacock, a favorite ornament, was sometimes stuffed, and trailed its long feathers from mantel or book shelves. If the entire bird was not obtainable, feathers were placed in Sevres or majolica vases, arranged with silk scarf on the piano, or were draped over picture and mirror frames. Easels were popular for the display of pictures.

P9527



"Unterwalden," high on Mountain Avenue near Gates Avenue, was the home of Otis and Mary Amelia Corbett, who came to Montclair in 1884. The house, painted red with green trim, stood on a five-acre lot. It contained a built-in organ. The Corbett children were William, Julia, Ethel, Amy, Elsie, and Marjorie. Mr. Corbett dealt in furniture in New York. Two photographs show the interior

P9528



This house was originally the home of Charles Parsons, the first editor to introduce illustrations into magazines. He organized the first exhibition of water colors in New York, and was a close friend of the foremost artists of his day. Many well known Currier and Ives prints were reproduced from his own water colors.



"Provided that there is space enough to move about, without walking over the furniture, there is hardly likely to be too much in the room." From "Art Decoration as Applied to Furniture," by Mrs. H. E. Spofford. There could always be found some space in the room which could hold two objects instead of one. P9529



of the home.

"The first calendar for 1890 received at the Times office is perhaps handsomer than any of those that are to follow. It was issued by our fellow-townsmen Mr. Otis Corbett, from his extensive furniture establishment, Nos. 148 to 152 West Twenty-third street, New York. The cal-

endar is artistically lithographed in soft tints, showing a cluster of red clover blossoms, from which bees are gathering honey. A pretty bow of pink satin ribbon adds to the beauty of the work, which, barring the imprint of Mr. Corbett's unique trademark, is free from advertising matter to mar the general effect." Montclair Times, December 7, 1889.

Mantels were draped with lambrequins of velvet ornamented with passementerie or embroidered in silk and trimmer with fringe. Wallpaper was often imitation leather, embossed in gold or silver. Brussels carpet, flowered and seamed, snugly covered the entire floors. The library was said to be the most impressive room of the Victorian home.



Samuel Wilde's elaborate brown stone house and its grounds were called "architectural and floricultural gems." His special pride was the library with its loft-mounted organ shown below. This room, extending from second story to the peak of the roof, resembled the interior of a Gothic church. Old and rare books covered two sides of the room.



Newel post in hall with sculptured figure holding a light. Below: exterior of house.

Mr. Wilde was a public-spirited citizen, with special interest in church and school. For twenty-five years no good work was started in the community which did not have his hearty support. In his library were held meetings which inaugurated and promoted the most prominent movements to better the Town. For example, on December 4, 1880 citizens met there to consider the question of starting a Y. M. C. A. for social and moral improvement

of young men. Organization followed this meeting.

Mr. Wilde collected old and rare books and prints. He experimented with photography. Astronomy was one of his favorite studies. He had an observatory erected in his backyard and placed in it a powerful telescope. His benevolence went far beyond his home town; many institutions both North and South were liberally aided by him.

The Wilde house stood on the west side of Fullerton Avenue. A foreign visitor once described it as "entirely un-American." It required three years to complete the building. Its Gothic decorations and furnishings were planned by Mr. Wilde himself. The master bedroom was two stories high with skylight windows of stained glass.



Gravestones in the burying ground of the Reformed Dutch Church at Stone House Plains, which began its work for God and man in 1802. Photograph by George French.

P9583



It is said that in 1880 there were about eight Dutch families farming the land in Upper Montclair, one family holding all of six hundred acres. They had good milk, fine cheese, rich butter, and fat hogs; also peaches, plums, apples, pears, and corn in abundance, because the soil was very productive. They were happy and contented, drinking Holland gin and smoking their long-stemmed, china-bowled pipes.

They read their Bibles, kept jolly and fat, married and were given in marriage, until in time they fattened the old Churchyard at Stone House Plains. They were not very progressive, but honest in their convictions. They may have been short-sighted and parsimonious but many times they cast their votes in the interests of frugality and economy, believing they were helping the overburdened taxpayer.

Epitaph of Rynier Speer.

'Mown not for me, my kindred dear  
I am not dead, but sleeping here.  
My debt is paid, my grave you see,  
Prepare yourself to follow me."

Epitaph of his wife, Maria.

'My flesh shall slumber in the ground  
Till the last trumpet's joyful sound;  
Then bursting chains with sweet surprise,  
And in my Savior's image rise."

Among the family names connected with the settlement of the north end of the village were Speer, Egbert, Van Gieson, Sigler, Garrabrant, Van Riker, Vreeland, Van Wagoner, Sip, Peters, Doremus, Van Winkle, and Jacobus. These outlands were called Speertown and Cliffside before they became known as Upper Montclair.



Left: Early home still in use in Upper Montclair during the '80's. Right: Bolwell home on Bellevue Avenue, a modern type of house built by newcomers; called "Queen Anne" style and painted a dark color in contrast to the familiar white of former years. Jennie Bolwell was the first woman in Upper Montclair to "go to business," "the talk of the town."



Upper Montclair, that portion of town north of Watchung Avenue, was still in the early 1880's sometimes called Speertown, an early name which had been bestowed in honor of its first Dutch settlers. It was still a land of broad pastures, orchards, meadows, uplands and woods, with no improvements except plank walks on one side of the streets near the center where a handful of houses and a small schoolhouse stood. There were still many old settlers in possession of their farms. It was said of these Dutch landowners that they never bought and never sold, never improved and never died. They retorted that "newcomers are fanatics and forever disturbing the peace."

In the seventies a very few families had moved out from Brooklyn or up from downtown, but real estate developments were not manifest; no plots of ground were laid out in building lots. Among the newcomers Dr. Morgan Willcox Ayers settled at Montclair Heights and was the only physician to care for a large area.

The village store was kept by a lady proprietor. A customer of the eighties lists some items of her stock: half a cheese kept under a glass cover, one cut ham and some salted bacon, cured herrings, large canisters from which were weighed out the tea and coffee, a few brooms and scrubbing brushes, wooden pails, half a barrel of sugar and a barrel of molasses. Hanging from the ceiling were bunches of tallow candles, lanterns and jumpers for the farmers. Soda crackers were weighed out from barrels, one always containing animal and bird shapes. Animals of larger size were one cent each or six for

five. Spotted leopards had comfits stuck here and there over their bodies; tigers and zebras were adorned with stripes from the brush of the artist at the bakery. Very large, more expensive animals had black currant eyes giving them a ferocious look which pleased boy customers. The post office was in this store. It was composed of a box about two feet square partitioned into pigeon holes.

A map dated 1881 shows no railroad station at Upper Montclair center, indicating that at that time the area was served only by the station at Watchung Avenue. We read that late in the decade "It is swampy on both sides of the track all the way from Claremont Avenue to Upper Montclair; and the alder thickets which line the way afford good woodcock shooting, especially near the railway station."

In 1889 the Montclair Times said, "Recognizing the fact that in the natural course of human affairs such things as butchers, bakers, barbers, blacksmiths and others possibly must some day be admitted in the rural precincts of Upper Montclair, it has been determined to cut a street along the track in the east side from Bellevue Avenue south for their accomodation."



Left: Home of William H. Littell at 581 Valley Road. Mr. Littell had a working knowledge of homeopathic medicine. His neighbors went to him, related their symptoms, and he prescribed remedies. Right: Upper Montclair Railroad Station and one track roadbed.



Vol II

Brown sandstone dwelling at 471 Valley Road, the main part of which was said to have been built in the late seventeenth century. The ell on the left was added in 1817, indicated by that date on the cornerstone which was to be removed years later and chipped out to make a watering trough.



During the eighties a typical descendant of the Dutch settlers, an old man named Israel Van Houten, was permitted to dwell in this brown stone cottage which had been built before the Revolutionary War. He was a social parasite, a bachelor who paid neither for board nor lodging, but frequently promised his hostess a silk dress which never materialized.

It was in the annex that Israel smoked, slept, and had his dreams. He usually sat in an armchair, tilted back, with the pride of his existence, two oleanders in tubs, before him. Here he smoked his pipe filled with his own home-grown tobacco, while very assiduously reading a periodical which culled the most sensational stories from dime novels and the Police Gazette.

Israel was of plethoric build, red faced, clean shaven (once a week), with blue eyes and suspicious features. Plump as a Christmas goose and encased in close fitting garments, he looked like an athlete's punching

bag. He was seldom seen to walk but it was said he could hobble with the aid of a stick.

Israel once told his neighbors that on the premises he had found pieces of flint, the same as formerly used to strike a spark before lucifer matches were invented as well as round and flag stones. He wondered where they all came from and said, "As I ain't never studied theology and don't know much about stones, I guess they jist a-grow'd." --Description from article by William H. Wood in "News and Notes" published in Upper Montclair in 1908.)

This house is said to have been built by a member of the Sigler family on a twenty-nine acre farm for which he paid ten cows and three horses. There were four rooms in the original unit, the two on the upper floor reached by a ladder. The beams were solid trees with bark removed; all joints were mortised or pinned, no nails used. Each room had its fireplace. The projection at the end of the ell covered the protruding Dutch oven.

House built with wooden gables, and walls of local brown sandstone. The window sills, chimney caps, hearthstones, and fireplace facings were of blue stone. The best room fireplace was finished with simple dignified moldings and uncarved mantle which were mid-eighteenth century in character.



In 1889, when Aaron Sigler died, this farmhouse fell into the possession of an unmarried daughter, Ellen Ann. She was Abraham Sigler's granddaughter. The Sigler family were among the earliest settlers in the north end of the town.

P9538



Aaron Sigler was born and lived all the years of his life in this house. Aaron was a son of Abraham Sigler.

Abraham Sigler in his will dated June 24, 1845, bequeathed to "my wife Phebe in addition to her right of Dower in my real estate, my Pew in the Church at Stone House Plains, the use of one room in the house where I now live, with furniture sufficient for her convenience, also the use of the ground now enclosed as a garden in front of said house, during her widowhood or natural life."

This house stood on the south side of Cueman Road (later to be lower Alexander Avenue). It was said that Phebe was a very poor cook but she was so jolly and such fun that everyone liked to visit there. Relatives from the Heights, Siglers and Speers who had intermarried, would pile into farm wagons or sleds drawn by oxen, and ride down to Aunt Phebe's for gay fun and frolic.

The main part of the house, which is seen at the right, stood with the far end toward the highway. The Sigler family, prominent in uptown affairs, owned large acreage thereabouts.



Aaron Sigler's wife was Caroline Vreeland. Their children were Ellen Ann, Amzi A., Isaac, Phebe (Mrs. Elijah Pierce), Melvin, and Jonas who died in infancy. Ellen Ann sold the property to William Hamilton who bought it for the purpose of conducting a dairy farm.



Left - "early home," etc,  
is the same house as  
that shown on reverse  
side of fourth preceding  
leaf, in the two lower  
right hand pictures

This house stood on  
west side of Upper Moun-  
tain Ave, diagonally across  
(NW) from Mountain Ave  
station of Erie RR.

See map of Montclair (1881)  
on following leaf - this is  
the house shown on  
"G. Speer Est." (next to  
Dittig farm, now town park.)

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M O N T C L A I R

in the

E L E G A N T E I G H T I E S

the decade which saw

the greatest change in its history

by

G L A D Y S S E G A R

V O L U M E III

M O N T C L A I R P U B L I C L I B R A R Y

1 9 4 8



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D E D I C A T E D

to Margery Quigley, without whose encouragement  
there would have been no book; to the Montclair  
Times, without which there could have been no  
text; to generous patrons, without whom there  
could have been no illustrations. G. S.

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Contents

- VOLUME I : The Scene and the People
- VOLUME II : Homes: Exteriors; Interiors
- VOLUME III: Cultural, Civic, and Social
- VOLUME IV : Business; Transportation

INDEX

T H I S V O L U M E : III

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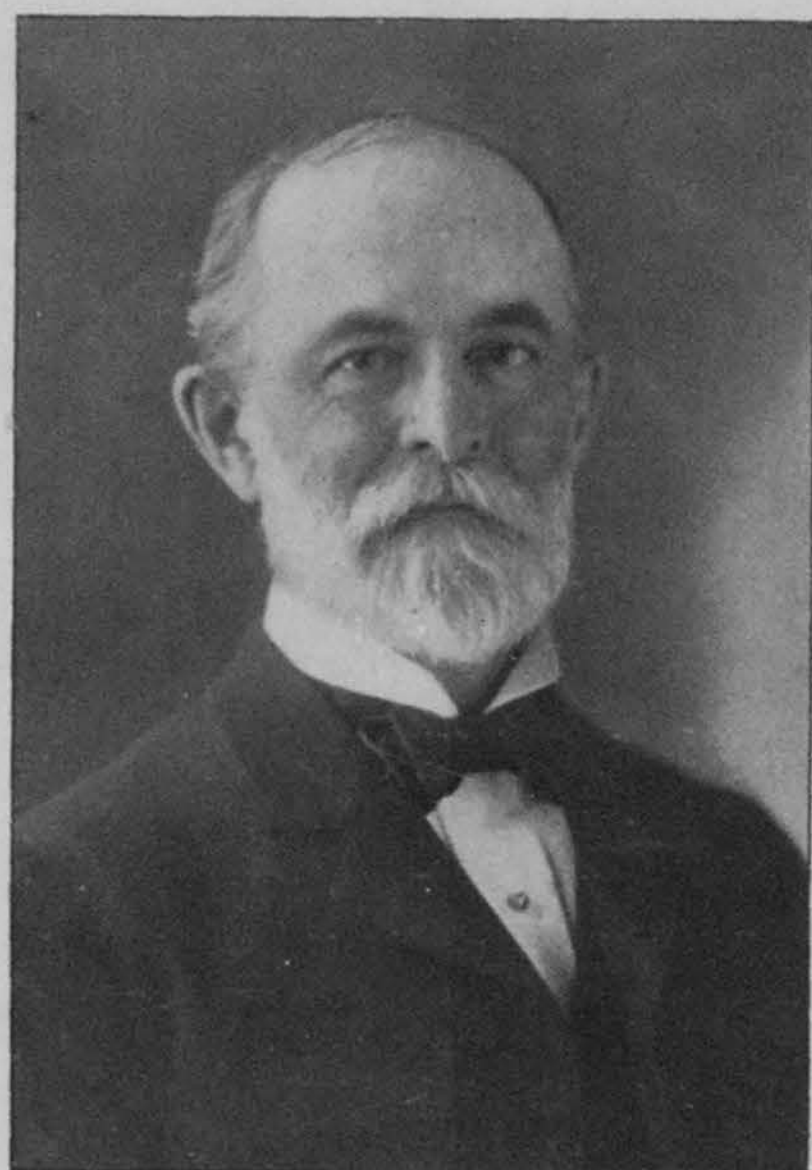
Most of the pictures in these volumes were given to  
the Montclair Library for its Local History File by  
descendants of old Montclair families or by the  
Montclair Times. All are believed, most are known,  
to have been taken in Montclair during the 1880's  
or to be pictures of Montclair people taken at that  
time.

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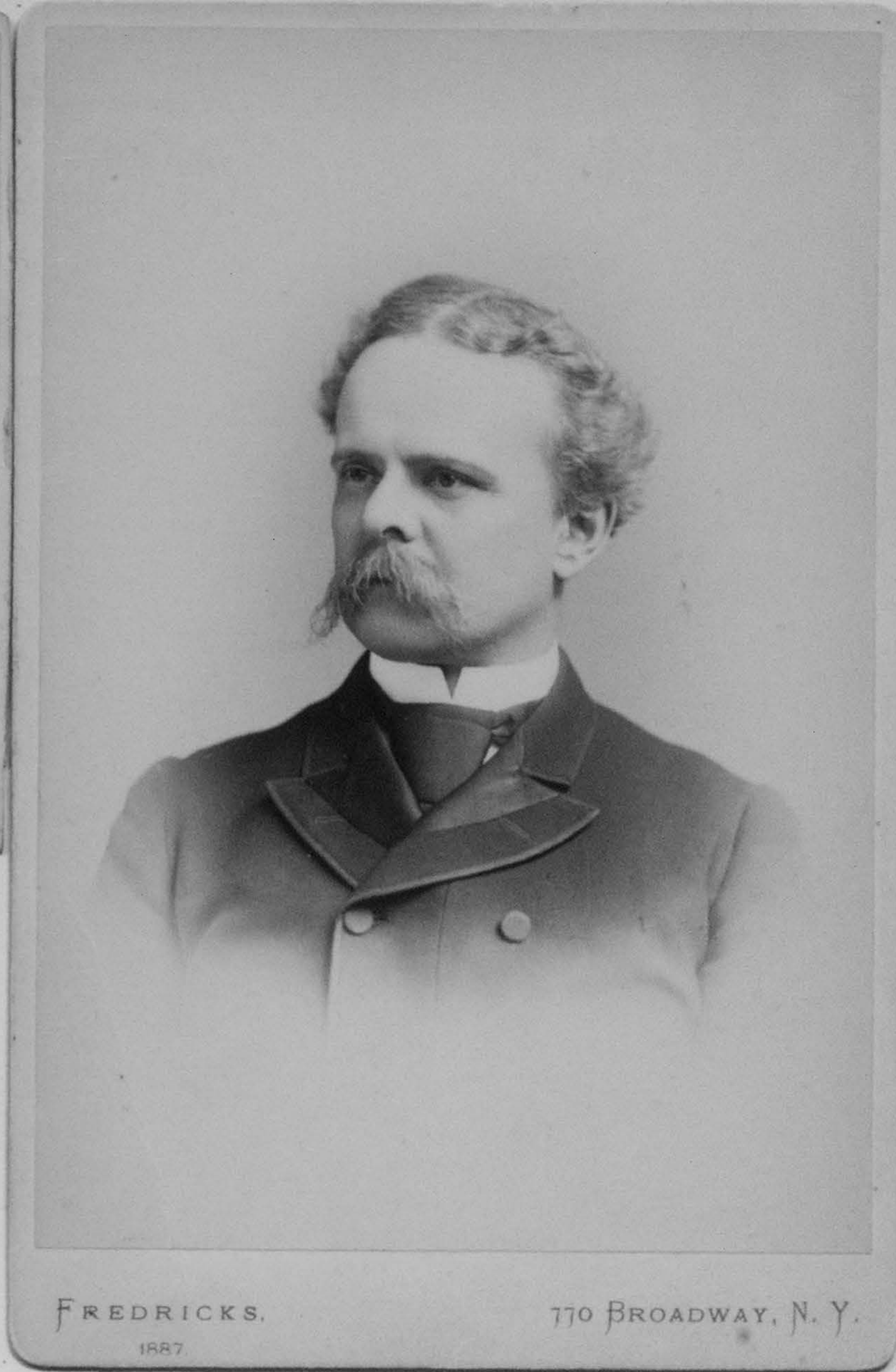


Left to right: Randall Spaulding, school superintendent and outstanding educator; John James Hervey Love, M. D., leading citizen and beloved family physician; and the Rev. Amory Howe Bradford, D. D., pastor of the First Congregational Church, whose opinions were quoted widely throughout this country and in England.

P9542



MR. RANDALL SPAULDING



FREDRICKS.

1887

770 BROADWAY, N. Y.

These three men have been called our City Fathers. Montclair to a large extent was to become what it did because of them. They set high standards.

Randall Spaulding came to supervise the schools in 1874, at a very trying time. He was deeply interested in science but every word he uttered which did not agree with Genesis was considered by many as heterodoxy of the worst kind. He immediately introduced new subjects and new methods, and raised the standards of the schools in every way. Some years later exhibits which he prepared for the Centennial at Philadelphia showed the world what Montclair schools were doing. Thereafter they and their principal were known everywhere among professional educators.

Dr. John J. H. Love came to Montclair in 1855 and soon became the town's general adviser, Fourth of July orator, and so forth, as well as its trusted and loved physician. He soon became a leading citizen because of his unselfish, untiring, and successful services to the community, both as a professional man and as a public-spirited citizen. He identified himself with every institution of lasting benefit to the town but his interest in education was foremost. Local schools probably contributed more to the prosperity, reputation, and growing population of Montclair than all other factors. Dr. Love is said to have done more to build up the schools than any other man. If measured in dollars and cents, his contributions exceeded those of any other citizen to all improvements made in the town. Such was the man's judgment and influence that few if any people in town had courage enough to start any movement without first consulting him.

Dr. Amory H. Bradford, as pastor of the First Congregational Church, did his whole life's work from graduation until death in Montclair, but his reputation and influence were country-wide. He was recognized as one of the most able and progressive preachers in America. His own congregation loved him as few ministers have

been loved. His church grew rapidly, soon becoming the second in size among Congregational churches in the state. He was a clear thinker, had great power of expression, employed a style of oratory which was slightly theatrical, but had the gift of driving his point straight home. He had a storehouse of anecdote, a story to fit every moral he wanted to emphasize. Dr. Bradford supplied the pulpit at the famous Plymouth Church in Brooklyn when Henry Ward Beecher was away, and the people there said they were willing for Beecher to extend his vacations at any time, under those provisions. Dr. Bradford was the first American ever invited to preach the baccalaureate sermon at Oxford University. He made frequent contributions to leading papers and periodicals on the great questions which were agitating the world, and was extensively quoted even in England. His first book, a volume of sermons, was published in 1888. As a local citizen he took the lead in most reform and educational movements, and was the chief founder of several cultural and benevolent societies which gave character to the community, making it known to the outside world.

"Personal elegance on the part of a gentleman requires the adornment of whiskers. There is nothing that so adds to manliness as a beard carefully and neatly kept." Most young men about town wore a longish drooping moustache without a beard. They dressed with a considerable amount of dandyism.



Schoolhouse in District No.8, the third building to be erected for school use in Montclair. "The old fences around the school property have been taken down and are not to be replaced." Montclair Times, August 3, 1889.



School in the central district, No.8, opened in the fall of 1880 with a registration of six hundred and an appropriation of \$13,000, ten thousand of which was for salaries. There were no free text books and supplies in those days.

The building in the upper picture housed the grammar and the high school departments; the building partly seen on the left had just been constructed for the use of the primary school. Five students graduated from the High School in 1881.

Washington School in District No.9, which originally had been erected for the education on Sundays of the mill children employed in the factories in the southeast end of town had been replaced chiefly through the energetic and indefatigable efforts of its principal, A. P. Kerr, who resigned in October 1881. It had fifty-six pupils, a falling off of enrollment due to the new parochial school which opened on August 30, 1881 with 179 children present.

District No.10, above Watchung Avenue, had eighty-six children of school age. Although this section had been invaded by a number of city families, it was still using its first little one room schoolhouse on Valley Road, at the corner of Bellevue Avenue. Three years later, in 1883, after many stormy meetings with much discussion and many angry scenes, progressive tax payers carried the day and voted to purchase a lot for a new school on Bellevue Avenue. There they erected a new brick building. Three teachers were employed, and the average attendance was eighty-five. By 1889 this school was so crowded some children sat three in a seat. The people of the neighborhood were called together and asked

to spend more money on the school. There was some grumbling, but most people felt that the children should be provided with sufficient elbow room and fresh air.

In 1888 a small building was erected on Cedar Avenue for the convenience of south end residents, and as the decade drew to a close, \$8,000 was voted for a schoolhouse on Chestnut Street.

School meetings in District No.8 were often lively affairs, for there were foes who made many attempts to abolish high school education. They packed the meetings with riff-raff and indulged in denunciations of what they called useless extravagances carried on at the expense of the poor for the benefit of the rich who could afford to send their children to high school, while the poor could



Cedar Avenue School for primary children opened on September 16, 1889, in charge of Miss C. M. Moorehouse. Contractors for the construction work were Samuel J. Carson, carpenter, and Amzi A. Sigler, mason. School windows looked out on a "panarama of pastoral loveliness:" huge oak, tulip, and sycamore trees, peach orchard, fence-enclosed hay fields.



Mr. Spaulding, an advanced thinker, was interested in the sciences and introduced nature study. He planned exciting field trips on which flora and fauna, as well as geology, were observed. This botany class is pictured in the woods at Little Falls in 1884. Its members carry, not lunch boxes, but tin vasculums for collecting specimens.



not, for text books had to be procured at private expense. Opposition finally died down, and by the end of the eighties not only the children of the well-to-do but also those of working men and women and small-salaried clerks began to attend the high school. Montclair then had the largest average attendance in the state.

During the eighties school standards were raised and new subjects added to the list of studies. Mr. Spaulding, the principal, is said to have been the very first public school head in the country to introduce manual training,

and to enrich the pupils' work by offering hand activities such as clay modeling. Girls were not allowed to take the latter work until three years after it was initiated but had to be satisfied with needlework. A commercial course as well as courses in household economy were introduced in 1889.

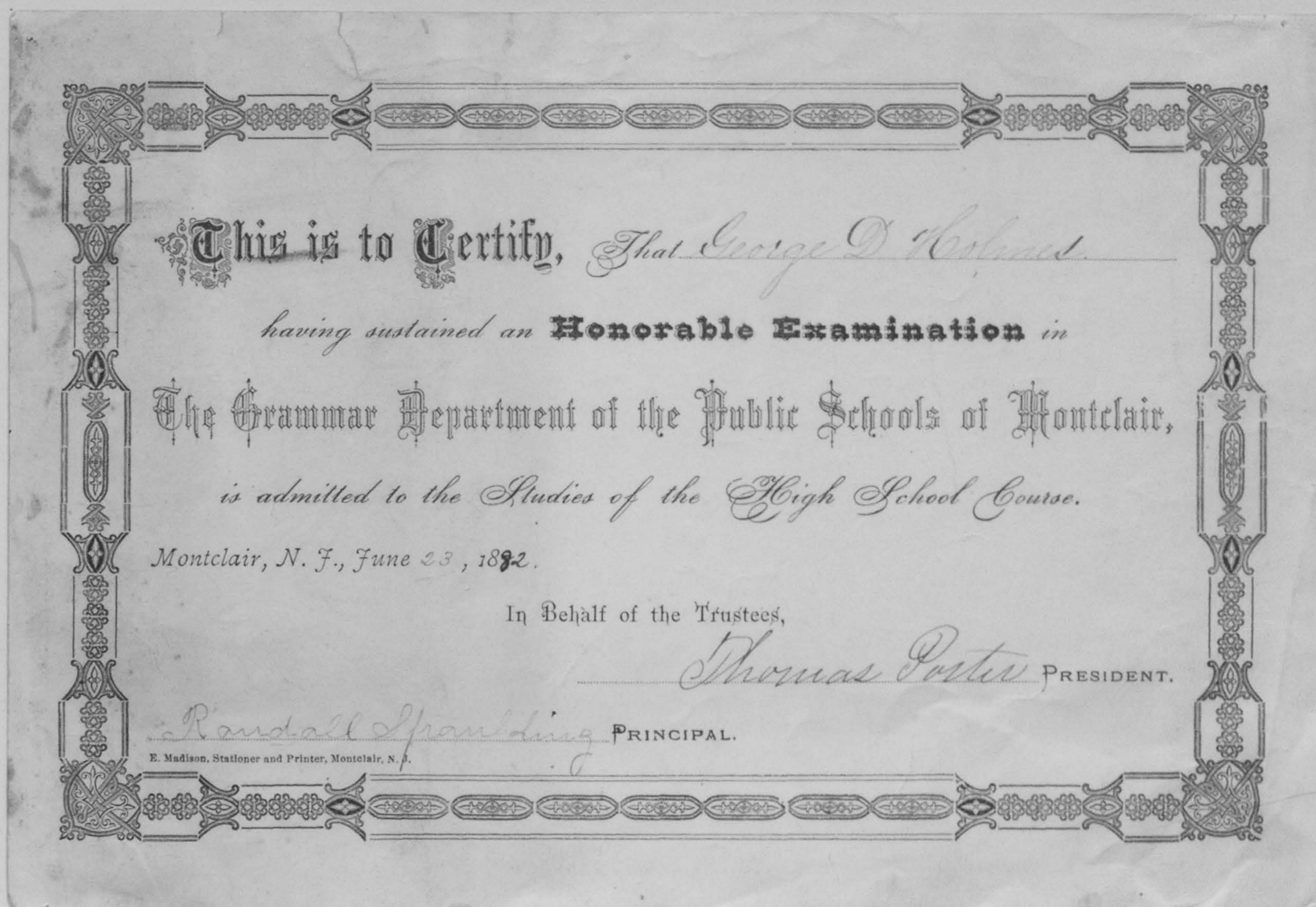
Mr. Spaulding secured the best teachers which could be hired. Trustees and tax payers kept pace with his ideas, and supplied liberal appropriations which helped to produce a school system said to have no superior in the country.



Class of 1884, Montclair High School. In the class were: Lucia D. Leffingwell; Eva Rouget; Ella Scribner Hopkins (who went to Smith College); George Wentz Harris, third from the left (Lehigh University); William B. Morris; Frederick W. Pearson; E. Wyllys Taylor (Harvard); Frances W. Cooper; Julia B. Doubleday; William B. Noyes (Amherst).



George D. Holmes, whose grammar school certificate appears below, was the recipient when he finished high school, of a bronze medal, one of the prizes established by Samuel Wilde to encourage greater proficiency in the various branches of study in the public schools.



Mt. Hebron school, shown above, was erected in 1827 on land given by James Van Gieson; abandoned in 1884. Below: The new Mt. Hebron school built in 1888. Three teachers were employed. The average attendance was 85. By 1889 it was necessary to enlarge the building in order to give all the children sufficient elbow room, fresh air, and heat.



Montclair Boys' School's original pupils, including Percy and Fred Allan, Eddy Burgess, Sumner Denby, Theodore Wallace, Jasper Rand, Fritz Guinn, Tom and George Russell, and Walter Power. Notice their shinny sticks. Headmaster MacVicar and E. Dow, his partner, until June 1889, also appear in the picture. Photograph by Herbert W. Wilde.

P9549



Montclair was to owe much of the wide-spread knowledge of its attractions to its private schools which drew students from all parts of the country. In 1887 some local fathers, wishing to make it unnecessary for their sons to attend public school or to go away from home, engaged J. J. MacVicar, a senior at Rochester University, to come to Montclair. He purchased the little frame building formerly used by M. C. Howard Wilson as the Montclair Institute for Boys and Girls, moved it to Clinton Street, near Plymouth, and placed it on hired land. Here he opened the Montclair Boys' School with sixteen pupils.

P9549

The school is said to have been equipped with a complete laboratory and a library of four hundred volumes. The new venture was such a success that the little building was outgrown within two years. In 1888 forty-five boys were "prepared for college, scientific schools, and business."

The sponsors of the idea made it possible to complete on Walden Place in June of 1889 a suitable school building intended to accommodate one hundred boys. The school was later organized on a military basis, took the name Montclair Military Academy, and adopted a uniform for students and officers. It became the means of bringing to Montclair some of its most influential families.



"Young ladies and children, of primary and higher departments," (pictured above) were attending "Fairview," Mrs. Fannie S. Bissell's private school at 60 Plymouth Street. "Physical culture combined with careful mental training" was stressed. Clara Bradford sits in the front row at the left.



Left to right: Washington Irving Adams, Commissioner of Public Roads, 1882. Arthur E. Bostwick taught science in the High School. Sarah J. (Mrs. William) Churchill came about 1870 to Montclair to teach vocal music in the public schools. She was one of the founders of the Montclair Children's Home.

p9550

p9551



p9552



p9553



p9554

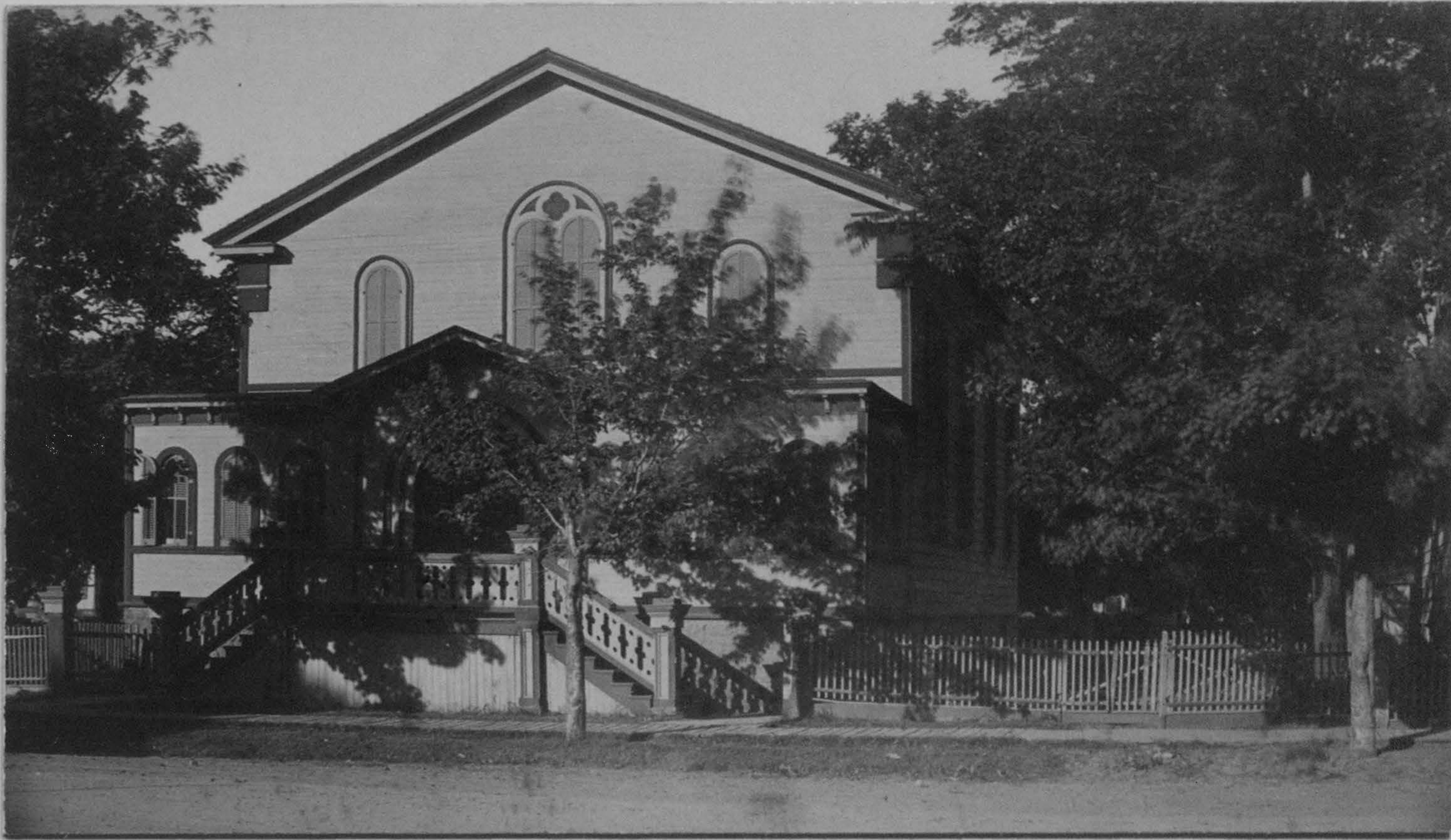
bottom left

George Penrice Farmer was one of the Town Committeemen during the funding of the town debt; he was also Commissioner of Public Roads. George Inness, Jr. served as one of the Township Committee. Jacob C. Brautigam had been a member of the first Township Committee elected after Montclair withdrew from Bloomfield and became a separate township. bottom right



V61 III

Methodist Church on Bloomfield Avenue, the first church building in Montclair. "Sunday was not puritanical in most families but it was a day set apart from the rest of the week. Streets were silent, games were laid aside, and the afternoon walk was about as far as outdoor entertainment was countenanced."



In 1880 Presbyterians paid their pew rent and worshipped in the dignified red sandstone church which stood at the junction of Bloomfield Avenue and the Old Road, but they could no longer lay their dead to rest in the burying ground on the south side of the road for the old cemetery had been abandoned to make way for improvements.

Most of the newcomers rapidly arriving in the village were aligning themselves with the Congregational Church, built seven years before on South Fullerton Avenue.

The Methodists had just moved up from lower Bloomfield Avenue into their handsome new house of worship on North Fullerton Avenue. A supper was given in celebration, the proceeds used for furnishings.

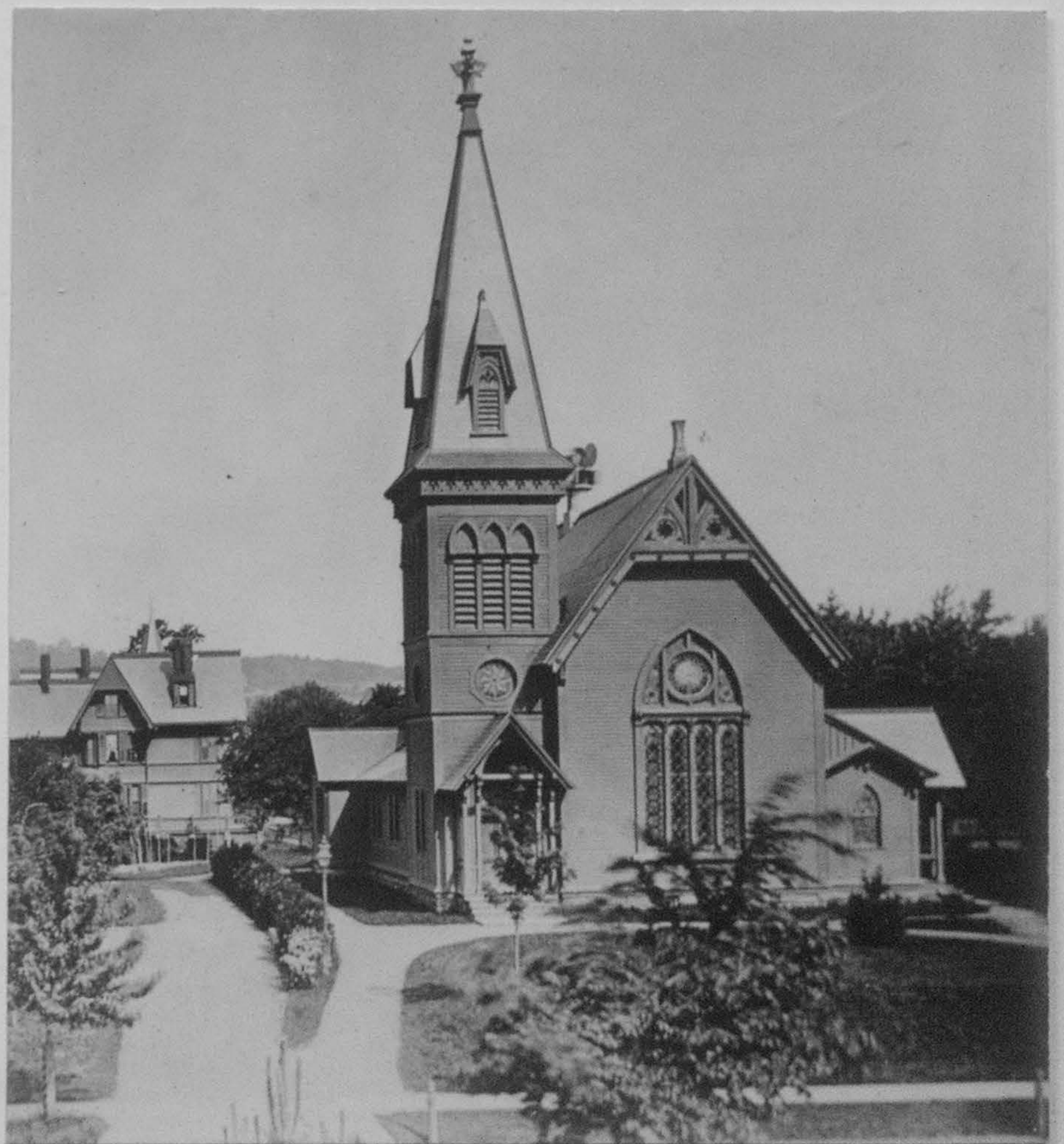
The Episcopalians were struggling to pay the debt on a Gothic stone structure on St. Luke's Place which was never consecrated, as their debt was never cleared. Before the end of the decade, they were to outgrow this building, and on June 13th, 1889 at an impressive service Bishop Starkey, assisted by thirty clergymen and fifty choristers, would lay with a silver trowel the cornerstone of a new church on South Fullerton Avenue.

Catholic communicants, most of whom were Irish or Italian, were increasing rapidly but, led by the sensible, sincere German priest, Rev. Joseph Mendl, still met in the crowded little church on Washington Street.

In February of 1880 the villagers of Upper Montclair had opened a small stone chapel, built as a cooperative movement to which land, labor, cash, trees and stones were contributed. Denominational difficulties arose and grew until only one family was left attending services and the building was closed for a few years. In 1887 the property was taken over by a newly formed Episcopal mission, St. James. In 1882 Upper Montclair Congregational-

ists called Rev. George A. Gates to their new church.

In 1881 the abandoned Methodist chapel on Bloomfield Avenue, reopened with a colored membership of twenty-five. In 1886 local Baptists formally organized with forty-three members, to meet in hired rooms.

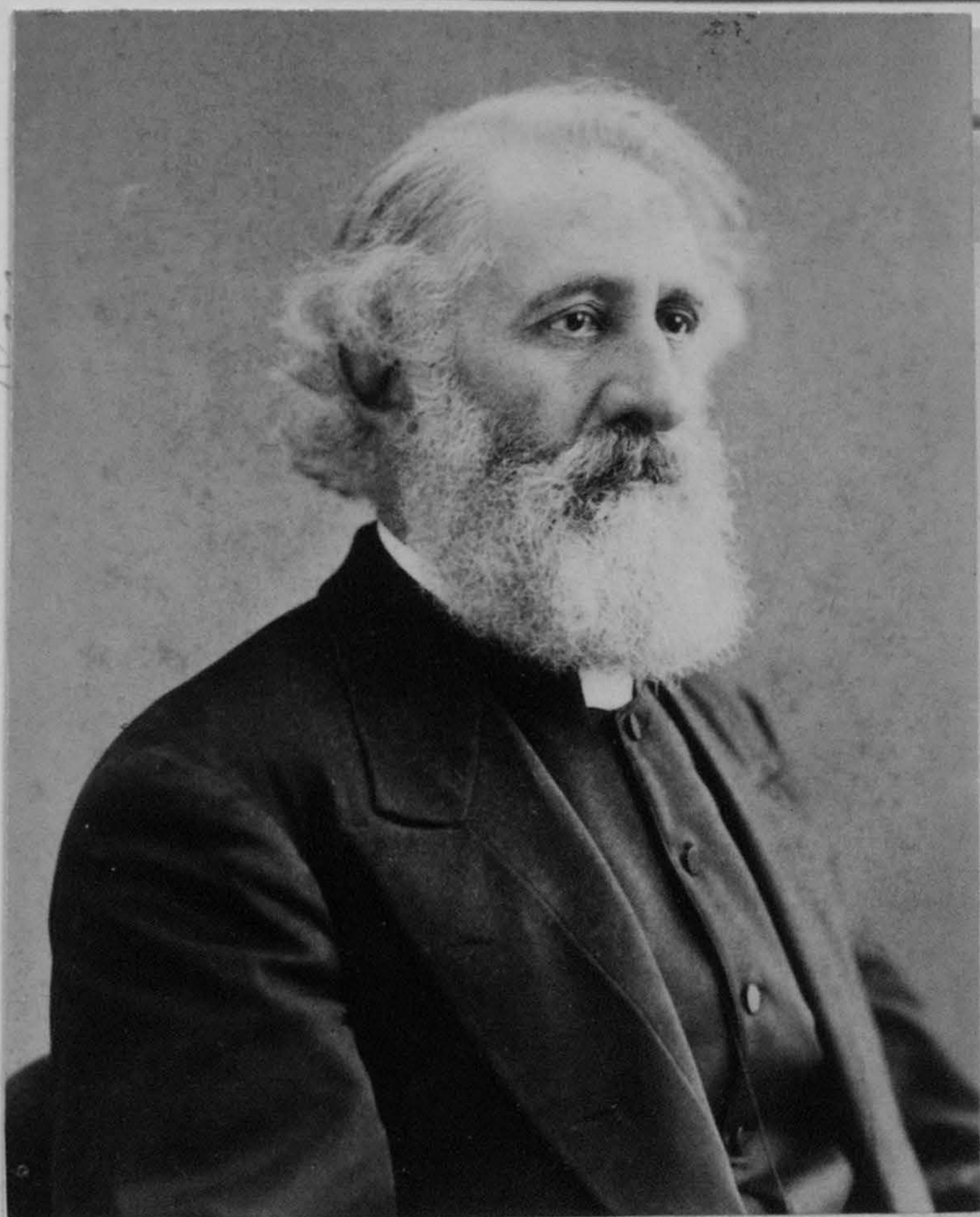


The Methodist Episcopal Church dedicated this new "handsome wooden structure" on North Fullerton Avenue December 14, 1879. The minister announced to his congregation by printed cards in September of 1881 that during the month the subject of his sermons would be "The Authoritative Record, its genuineness, its divine inspiration, its practical purpose."



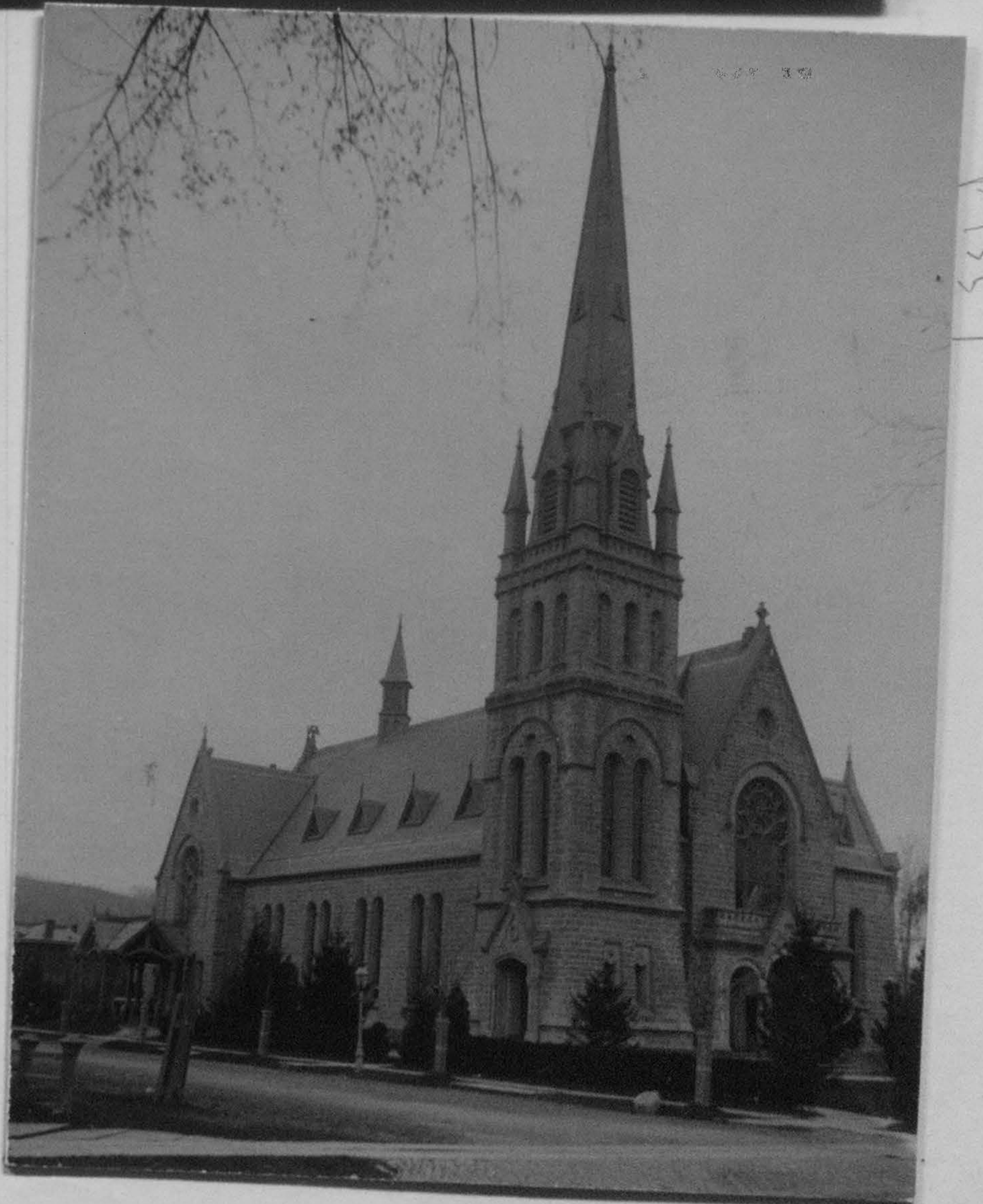
Trinity Presbyterian Church; opened for worship 1887, with Orville Reed as pastor. "Persons who, by mistake have taken 'Gospel Hymns' from the church during the recent union services are requested to bring them to Mr. Madison's bookstore. About forty copies are missing." Montclair Times, February 12, 1887.

P9555



A. BOGARDUS.  
872 BROADWAY

G. R. 18TH ST N.Y.

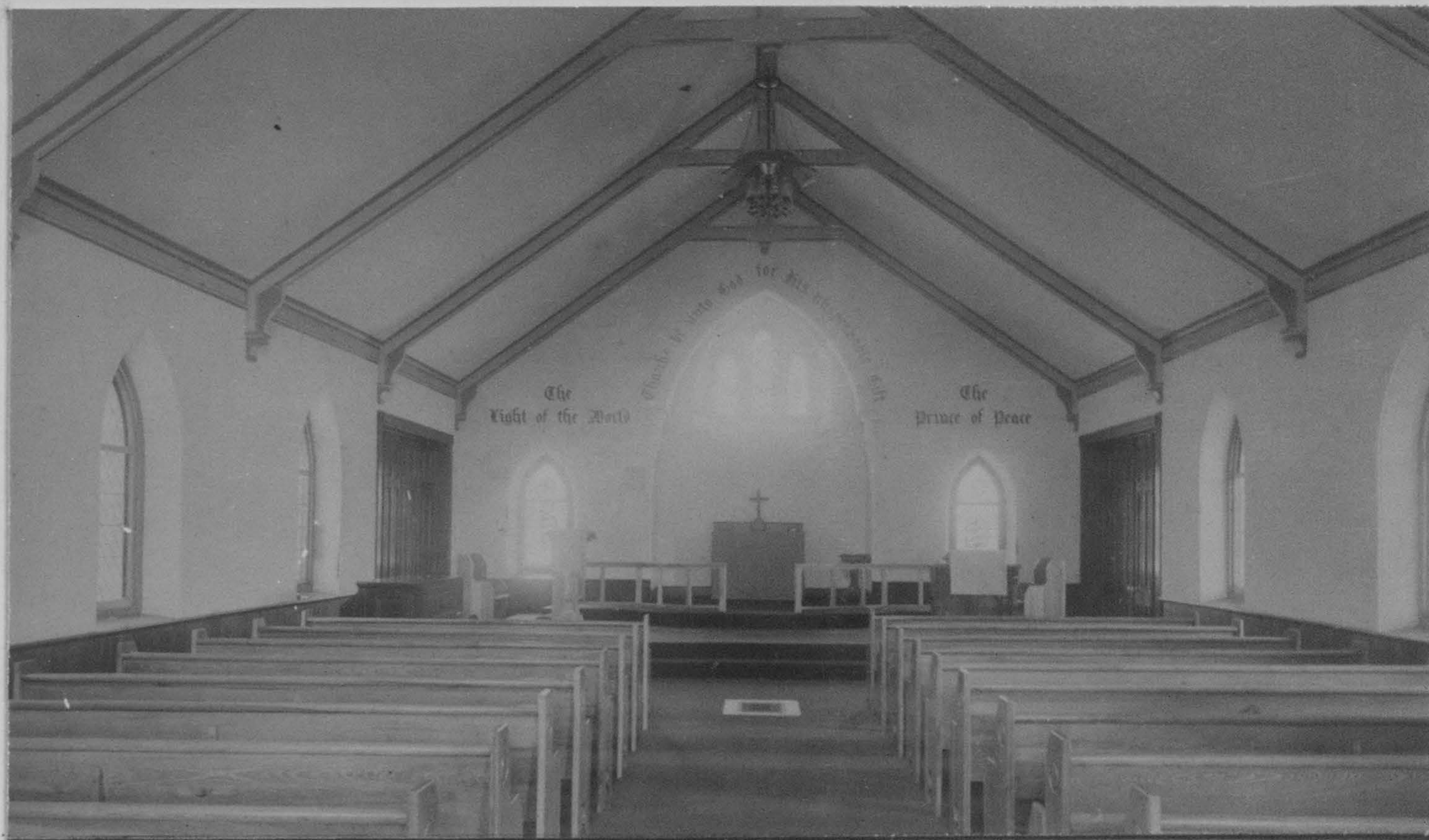


P9557

Rev. J. Romeyn Berry, D. D. accepted the call of the First Presbyterian Church in Montclair in 1870, and remained its pastor for seventeen years. During that time 532 persons were admitted to the church. Right: First Congregational Church, cornerstone laid May 30, 1872; dedicated October 15, 1873.



Interior of Cliffside Chapel, after it had become St. James Church, freshly furnished and properly arranged for the Episcopal service. In the original Parish Register there were thirty families recorded. Photograph taken in 1888.



On July 31, 1886 Joseph J. Synnott of Montclair was ordained a priest by the Archbishop of Brixen of Tyrol, Austria. He was to become President of Seton Hall College in 1896.

In 1886, a group broke away from the old Presbyterian Church. The next year while their chapel, named Trinity, was in course of construction on Church Street next to what had been the old Munn tavern, it was blown down in a gale.

In 1887 Montclair Presbyterians contributed \$1,500 for foreign missions, the largest collection taken by any church in the Presbytery. The following year Miss Imogene Stimers sailed for Guatemala as a Presbyterian missionary.

The Congregationalists completed their parsonage in 1889. The minister's study on the third floor, "his sanctum sanctorum," was finished in ash and furnished in blue. Near the end of the decade mission work was organized by his church on lower Bloomfield Avenue to serve those who were hesitant to attend more fashionable services up town.

Christian Union Church was said to be "the banner church in the United States for benevolent contributions in proportion to its membership." It was difficult at times, especially at evening services, to make its congregation realize it was time to go home. The sexton, when waiting became too prolonged, took matters into his own hands, and compelled an exodus by deftly blowing out the swinging kerosene lamps.



Left: Christian Union Church built on the Jared Van Glesen property, formerly the site of General Lafayette's headquarters. Right: Cliffside Chapel erected as a community church when Upper Montclair seemed too small to divide its denominations. Differences arose which reached the point where only one family, the Littells, attended services.



Vol III  
The Glee Club rendered "Rustic Coquette," "Lord Ullins's Daughter," "Lady Bird," "Evening Rest," "The Miller's Wooing," and "Boatman's Good-Night." Mr. Heinrich sang "The Linden Tree," "When Through the Piazzetta," "Row Gently Here, My Gondolier," and "Murmuring Zephyrs." Miss Powell played "Concert Militaire" and "Bolero" on the violin.

The Montclair Glee Club flourished in the eighties, sustained by a generous popular subscription from inactive members who were rewarded by the privilege of listening to two concerts each season.

It is said that the group's selections were from the works of well known composers and were rendered with skill, delicacy, good taste, and judgment. "The audience was a critical one, and showed their appreciation by frequent demonstrations of applause."

## FIRST CONCERT

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPEL,

MONTCLAIR, N. J.

Tuesday Evening, June 1st, 1886, at 8 o'clock.

SOLOISTS:

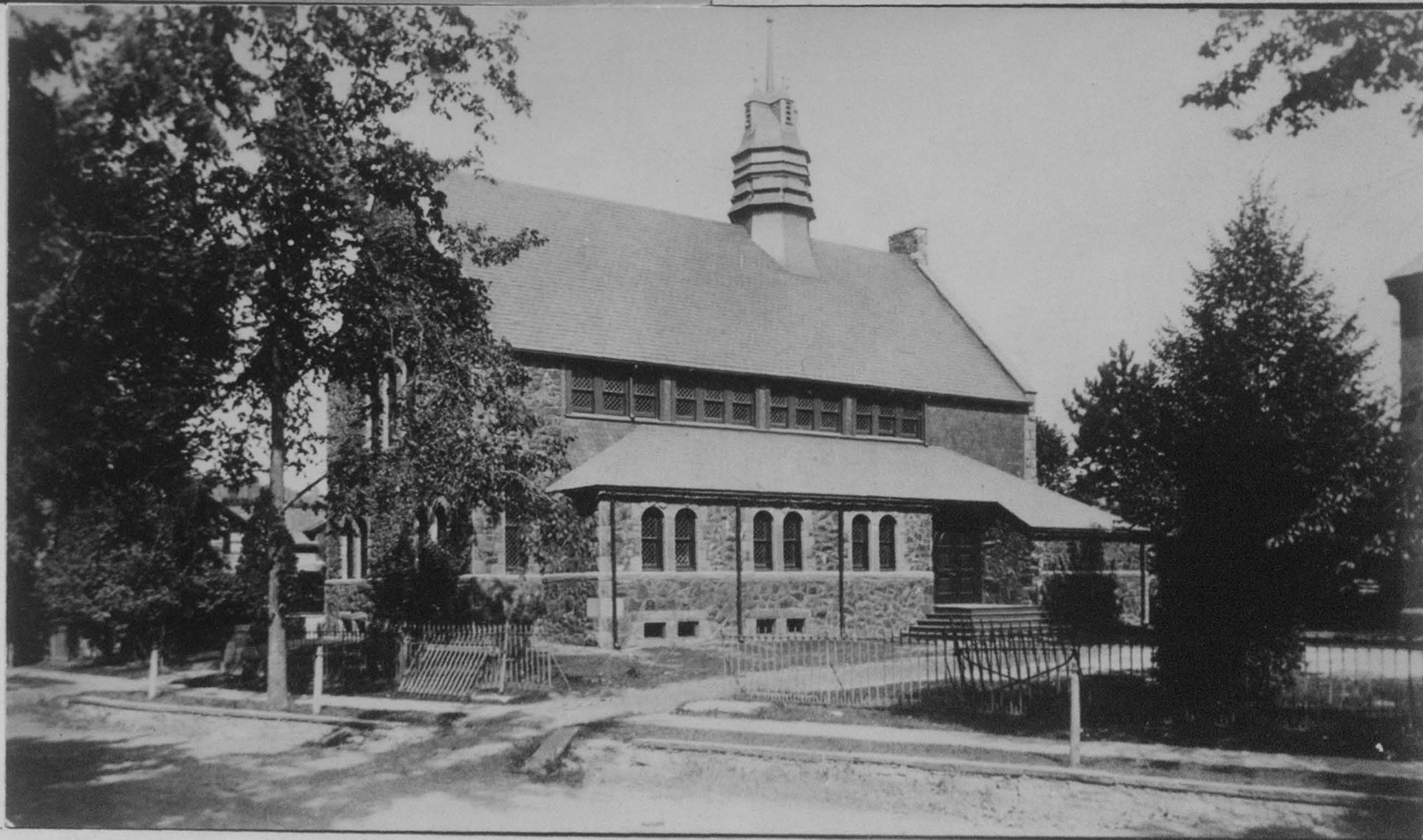
MISS MAUD POWELL, - - Violin.

MR. MAX HEINRICH, - - Baritone.

MR. A. E. GREENHALGH, *Accompanist.*

MR. E. F. FITZHUGH, *Conductor.*

MONTCLAIR TIMES PRINT



This handsome stone chapel, built in 1883, was arranged for all the social and Sunday School purposes of the First Presbyterian Church. Many cultural events, such as concerts and lectures, were also held here. The building stood on Church street, west of the church.



The Y.P.S.C.E. referred to in the Presbyterian Church bulletin below is the Young Peoples Society for Christian Endeavor which flourished all over the country for several decades before and after the turn of the century. The front and back of the Reunion Program, with its "In Memoriam" aspect, are shown above an open copy of the same printed piece.

"The first meeting of the newly organized 'Christian Union of Montclair,' will be held in Trinity chapel on Monday evening next. . . The gentlemen are requested to meet at 6 o'clock, as the ladies of Trinity, desire to furnish a collation before the transaction of business." "The deacons of the Congregational Church and their wives will hold a reception for all members of the church and congregation, in the chapel of the church, Tuesday evening, February 23, 1888, from eight o'clock until half past ten."

1870.

1880.

July 9, 1880. Montclair, N. J.

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And never brought to min' ?  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And days o' lang syne ?

In Memoriam.

ANNIE S. BAKER is the only one of our Twelve who, by reason of death, cannot meet with us to-day. She, more than any other, influenced the formation of this circle ; she was its center ; she attracted, one by one, the young people to herself and to the good influences around her, until the circle was complete ; and feeling its completeness, we hoped to perpetuate its sweet memories by our agreement to look forward, during the ten years, to this day.  
The joys, the experiences, the hopes of ten years ago are fragrant and delightful in our memories. Whether they be religious, social, or even domestic, as we contemplate them we ever see inseparably connected with them the sweet and smiling face of ANNIE S. BAKER. Perhaps most of us were influenced by her, directly or indirectly, to "lay hold on Christ," and the helpfulness and strength of her Christian character, example, precept and counsel, are a power in our lives to this day.  
ANNIE S. BAKER died Oct. 28, 1873, at Montville, Conn., at the age of thirty-eight. May our record be as full of quiet and genuine usefulness as hers, and may our reward be as sure.  
Let us, looking beyond these earthly meetings, helpful and happy though they be, strive to make our meeting there complete.

MONTCLAIR, N. J., July 9, 1870.

We, the undersigned, a circle of friends, having enjoyed so many happy hours together, both socially and spiritually, purpose, Providence permitting, to have a reunion ten years from date, at the house of Mrs. A. M. MADISON. Montclair, N. J.

GODFREY KELLER,  
E. AUGUSTUS COCKEFAIR,  
JOSEPH CARHART,  
JACOB H. FREDERICKS,  
ED. MADISON.  
CHAS. I. REEVES,

ANNIE S. BAKER,  
EMILY E. TAYLOR,  
KATIE HECKMAN,  
SARAH L. MADISON,  
M. ELLA GOMAN,  
MARIA L. TAYLOR.

TAKE THIS HOME.

FIRST

Presbyterian Church.

REV. W. F. JUNKIN, D. D., Pastor.

NOTICES

FOR WEEK COMMENCING JULY 7, 1889.

SUNDAY.

Morning Service. Subject: "Decalogue Given at Sinai," 10.30 a. m.  
Evening Service. Subject: "We Establish the Law."  
Rom. iii: 31..... 7.30 p. m.  
Church Sabbath School in Chapel ..... 12 m.  
Swedes' Sabbath School in Chapel..... 3.30 p. m.  
Consecration Meeting of Y. P. S. C. E., in the Church  
Parlor, beginning with Song Service ..... 6.30 p. m.  
Outside Leader. All young people are invited.

MONDAY.

The Y. P. S. C. E. will hold a Union Prayer Meeting this evening at 8 o'clock, in Trinity Church. Subject: "Eternal Life." John xvii: 1-4. Service of Song at 7.45 p. m. All young people cordially welcomed.

WEDNESDAY.

Prayer Meeting. Topic: "The Christian's Boldness in Prayer." Heb. x: 19-22..... Chapel 8 p. m.

FRIDAY.

Swedes' Prayer Meeting in Chapel..... 8 p. m.

Notices for the Bulletin must be handed to Mr. Raymond Pearce at the Post Office before 10 A. M. Saturday.

PROGRAMME.

JULY 9, 1880.

Assemble at Mrs. A. M. MADISON's, cor. Old Road and Grove Sts., at 10 A. M.  
11 A. M.—Ride, and visit to Washington Rock.  
12.30 P. M.—Dinner.  
2.30 P. M.—Social reunion of members, consisting of personal reminiscences, &c.  
6 P. M.—Tea.  
7.30 P. M.—Miscellaneous exercises.

"The Mite Society of St. Lukes Church met at the residence of Mr. Wm. H. Power, on Mountain Ave., on Tuesday evening --- The Montclair Times, January 1, 1881. The same issue of the Times reports on "Thursday morning the thermometer was down to ten degrees below zero."



First Presbyterian Church built of brown sandstone, cost \$16,000, dimensions 82 x 55. It was regarded as a building in size much beyond any future need of the town. When dedicated in November of 1856 the press said "A beautiful and well proportioned edifice ... looking as though its massive walls of solid masonry will outlive a thousand generations."



First Methodist Church decorated for Christmas 1884. Contributions valued at \$45 from the Sunday School for the poor or the minister, including a barrel of potatoes, surround the tree. In 1888 the church installed a new type heating apparatus, guaranteed to warm the church in fifteen minutes, and to remove impure air.



The First Presbyterian Church with its dignified tower dominated the village center. It faced east, standing between the Old Road and Bloomfield avenue, enclosed by an iron fence, and surrounded by trees. People were just getting used to the name "Bloomfield," the road having been known as The Turnpike since it was laid out in 1806.



The Village Improvement Society held its first meeting in 1878, its object being to promote the planting of trees along the streets. The group recommended, as being best adapted to the soil and climate of this section, elm, Norway maple, sweet gum, and tulip trees. The photograph below shows young trees set along Claremont avenue, tree planting for which was promoted by a committee of two, Mr. E. M. Harrison and Miss A. Hawes.

The Society's constitution provided that "every person over fourteen years of age who shall plant and protect a tree... or pay the sum of one dollar annually, shall be a member." Children might pay twenty-five cents or do the equivalent amount of work. The Society made certain fixed rules for planting and protection of the trees.



"Jessie H. Lockwood has commenced the erection of a cottage on Clairmont avenue next to Mr. Charles Reeves's. (The latter is first on the right in the photograph). When completed it will be occupied by the owner, Mr. Charles Goman." Montclair Times, August 20, 1881.



It was said of the first Montclair Charity Ball, "At ten o'clock there were more than 250 persons present, and everything was in full play. The rink was invisible and in its stead was a brilliant room built up of drapery, and thronged with dancers and spectators in every variety of rich costume."

# Montclair Charity Ball

will be given at

*The Rink Building, Montclair, N. J.,*

*On Monday Evening, Feb. 13th, at half-past eight o'clock,*

*under the patronage of*

Mrs. W. D. Baldwin,	Mrs. S. W. Carey,	Mrs. J. B. Hawes,	Mrs. Theo. Porter,
Mrs. C. H. Benedict,	Mrs. Israel Crane,	Mrs. R. B. Henning,	Mrs. John Porter,
Mrs. W. B. Berry,	Mrs. D. L. Cruikshank,	Mrs. Geo. Inness, Jr.,	Mrs. C. D. Reynal,
Mrs. S. G. Burgess,	Mrs. J. E. Dodge,	Mrs. C. H. Johnson,	Mrs. S. S. Root,
Mrs. S. A. Bradley,	Mrs. A. C. Durbin,	Mrs. H. B. Keen,	Mrs. G. W. Sheldon,
Mrs. Ogden Brower,	Mrs. Wm. Fellowes,	Mrs. J. R. Livermore,	Mrs. H. G. H. Tarr,
Mrs. A. F. Brown,	Mrs. Robt. Tulton,	Mrs. W. S. Marcus,	Mrs. W. W. Underhill,
Mrs. A. T. Campbell,	Mrs. F. W. Gwinn,	Mrs. R. G. Lark,	Mrs. T. C. Wallace,
Mrs. W. V. Carolin,	Mrs. W. A. Houghton,	Mrs. W. K. Tower,	Mrs. L. C. Washburn,
			Mrs. F. M. Wheeler.

"The village of Montclair being near enough to the big cities to catch the fever of growing life, and far enough off to be able to see and gauge the importance of new ideas," began to form various social agencies which soon outgrew the "swaddling clothes of youth" and became part and parcel of its life.

In 1887 the first charity organization in Montclair was started. A few ladies formed a non-sectarian group which they called the Home Society. The part of the work most liberally supported the first years of its existence was the fresh air work, which consisted of a series of picnics to give New York mothers and children of the slums a long happy day in the country, with refreshments of sandwiches, cake, and milk with "thick yellow scum on top of it." Picnickers, many of whom had never before ridden behind a horse, were met at the depot by big stages, or by carriages sent by lady members.

The Society also conducted a local Girls' Club, supplying reading matter, games, instruction in music, and physical culture lessons; and a Day Nursery, where mothers who went out to work could leave their children, knowing that for the small sum of ten cents a day each child would receive three meals, kind care, and supervision. Besides this, the Society conducted a sewing class and a cooking school, sent flowers to city hospitals and settlements, fostered kitchen gardens, and agitated in favor of temperance. Their chief local aim was to teach the poor, in a practical common-sense way, how to help themselves.

It was soon shown that organized work was more economical and satisfactory than indiscriminate private

charity. In 1889 to prevent confusion with its sister charity, the Children's Home, the group adopted the name Altruist Society, a word already identified with them as they had issued a periodical bearing the name.

Early in 1889, preliminary plans were made to hold a second Charity Ball in the skating rink building. This brought forth protests from some of the churches and social agencies who stated that they preferred to raise money for their needs in other ways. They felt that "liberally disposed citizens" would make generous offerings without recourse to methods which by many were considered detrimental to religion and the higher things in life. Patronage of a public ball by eminent citizens was cited as an example of sanction for public dances which "have immoral tendencies."

In spite of opposition the ball was held and was a huge success financially and socially. The rink, comfortably warmed for the occasion, was decorated with coats of arms and streamers of red, white, and blue bunting radiating to every part of the hall. Between these draperies shone light from several hundred wax candles and large Japanese lanterns. The ladies among the three hundred and fifty guests wore beautiful and elaborate costumes. Proceeds netted about \$500.

Henry Geisemair's eight piece orchestra from New York was so irresistible as to keep the floor constantly occupied by couples dancing the lanciers, waltz, polka, schottische, galop, york, and Virginia reel. Ladies were elegantly and brilliantly dressed in silks, satins, laces and flowers.



The Citizens' Committee of One Hundred took preliminary form at a meeting of townspeople held at the residence of Samuel Wilde on January 19, 1883. Montclair at the time was suffering from the "evil of an over-plus of liquor saloons." Each member subscribed \$25 to be used to create a healthy public sentiment in regard to the use and sale of liquor.

**EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE.**

A. H. SIEGFRIED, *Pres.*  
JOSEPH HELLEN, *Sec'y.*  
A. B. HOWE, *Treas.*  
JOHN R. HOWARD,  
THOMAS RUSSELL,  
ISAAC DENBY,  
C. H. JOHNSON, JR.,  
E. P. BENEDICT,  
D. F. MERRITT,  
A. A. SIGLER,  
JOHN H. PARSONS,  
SHEPARD ROWLAND,  
R. M. BOYD, JR.,  
WM. WINSLOW AMES,  
C. S. OLCOTT.

*Montclair, N. J., February 15, 1893.*

*Mr. A. B. Howe*

*To The Citizens' Committee of One Hundred, Dr.*

Subscription for the year 1893,

**\$5.00.**

Received Payment,

*A. B. Howe, Treas.  
Feb. 27. 93*

Payable to A. B. HOWE, Treas.

In 1883 there were sixteen licensed saloons in Montclair, one to every 196 villagers. In order to secure a license to sell liquor a man had only to get twelve to sign an application, and to present it accompanied by forty dollars to a county judge in Newark. He could then proceed to do business in any dark corner -- the more out of the way, the more business.

Unlicensed saloons were fast appearing. Violations of peace and disorderly conduct on the part of liquor sellers and their victims were increasing. Many of the working class were kept poor because most of their money was spent in the saloons.

The Citizens Committee of One Hundred, an indefinite number of representative men, was self appointed to better the town by protecting it "as far as possible, from the evils growing out of the excessive use and the unrestricted sale of intoxicating liquors by insisting upon a strict observance of the law under license of which the business in intoxicants is carried on." By patience and tact they were able to create a healthy public sentiment in relation to the use and sale of liquor and were able to enforce to a large extent the laws regarding its sale.

They morally and financially backed the meetings held by Messrs. Maybee and English where such an interest in temperance was aroused that the total abstinence pledge was signed by at least a thousand people, including two who had previously sold beer and ale. The latter proceeded home and destroyed all their stock. After the meetings the directors of the Crump Company resolved not to print labels for any intoxicating drinks, not even cider, nor any advertising matter connected therewith.

Public opinion was definitely influenced by the local committee, with the result that the liquor business became "much more respectable and considerate." The number of licensed saloons was reduced from one to every 196 villagers in 1883 until the ratio was one to 357. In 1889 receipts from all liquor licenses were \$750. It is said that saloon keepers reached the point where they vied with

each other to see who could run the most respectable place.

A cold water drinking fountain for "man and beast," placed by the Women's Christian Temperance Union on the principal thoroughfare, had a beneficial effect. The saying is that it often led man to follow the example of beast, and quench his thirst with nature's beverage rather than by stimulant prepared by man.

**Why Mealey Was Punished.**

Patrick Mealey, who was convicted of selling liquor without license, will probably discontinue the business. At any rate it would seem as though the "saloon business" were exceedingly unprofitable when, during the course of a year, a man must pay \$200 and cost, amounting to more than \$400 in all, simply because he has not obeyed the law.

Mealey's place was carried on under a "Government license;" no license at all, but simply a customs tax under which spirituous or malt liquors may be sold in quantities not less than a quart, though the liquor or beer can not be consumed on the premises. The obstacle was easily surmounted by the owner of this place. He had a convenient door to a conveniently located room directly adjoining and in the same building, where in his patrons were in the habit of drinking by the glass what they had bought by the quart.

For a time this yielded Mr. Mealey quite a revenue, and no one was "any the wiser for it;" but alas, the Citizens' Committee of One Hundred got to work, and by diligent effort the proprietor of the place was convicted, with the result as above stated.

Judge Kirkpatrick, before whom the case was tried, expressed himself as follows in the course of his charge to the jury:

The proof is, that adjoining the bar-room of

this defendant, and communicating with it by a door, was a room which was rented by a man named Daly. Beer was sold by the quart in this bar-room, and the persons buying it were told that if they could get the consent of Mr. Daly they might repair to the adjoining room and dispose of the beer by the glass; and Mr. Daly testified that he had given such permission to gentlemen, who testified here that they had done so—Mr. Holzner and Mr. Paxton, and I think he mentioned one or two others. Holzner's testimony is that he bought this beer by the quart and after he had bought it, as I understand him, he took it into Tom Daly's, which adjoins Mealey's saloon, with a door between. He said, "Mealey said I couldn't drink it on the premises, but if I could arrange with Daly I could go in his place and drink it. I went again into Daly's when Daly was not there. We sat down where there was a table and chairs." He also testified that when he went in there to drink he found other persons there drinking their beer in the same way; and he testified that on one occasion he saw as many as five or six persons there drinking. He testified that the glasses out of which these people drank were furnished by Mealey. And the testimony of Mealey was, with regard to that room, that it was Daly's room, when Daly was off about his work this door was sometimes locked, but more often open. It was used for the convenience of these people that bought it by the quart to retire there and drink it by the glass.

It appears strange that Mealey should have pursued the course he did. He is in all other respects a man of good repute, has been employed as coachman in some of the leading families, and is not regarded as a bad character. It is to be hoped that he may see the folly of selling without license in future, or of violating the law in any degree.

Chas. Scharfenberg gave notice that upon receipt of his license to sell liquor, he would display the American Flag from the front of his hotel on Bloomfield Avenue. This he did. Mr. Crump to express disapprobation, for three days caused the flag at his factory to be hung at half mast with stars turned toward the earth.



Montclair had a Board of Health consisting of the Township Committee, ex officio, a Health Officer and a Health Inspector. The Officer was a physician; the Inspector, a medical student or a recently admitted practitioner. On May 18, 1886 they adopted the Ordinances printed below.

## HEALTH ORDINANCE.

An ordinance for the protection of the public health, and for the prevention of nuisances.

In accordance with the laws of New Jersey, a Board of Health for the township of Montclair has been organized, consisting of the Township Committee, the Assessor and the Township Physician.

Aided by the co-operation of citizens, the Board will endeavor to secure for the township all those sanitary conditions which the enlightened public opinion of the day demands; conditions which are rapidly becoming essential to the growth and prosperity of all places, especially those which, like Montclair, depend for their thrift, upon a regulation of healthfulness.

This reputation, so well established and so well deserved, can be kept only by careful observance of sanitary regulations.

All complaints concerning nuisances should be made in writing to Dr. R. P. Francis, Sanitary Inspector. Anonymous communications will not be noticed.

Acting under the advice of Hon. John L. Blake, counsel for the township, the Board have passed and hereby promulgate the following ordinances:

Be it ordained by the Board of Health of the Township of Montclair.

I. That it shall be the duty of every owner, tenant, lessee or occupant of any lot or parcel of land in the Township of Montclair, on notice in writing, given or by direction of the Board of Health, promptly to remove from such lot or parcel of land, any rubbish, garbage, carcass, offal, or other refuse or waste, or any other substance or thing, solid or liquid, offensive to smell or injurious to health.

II. No person shall suffer or permit any slops, dirty water, greasy or soapy liquid, or any liquid offensive to smell or unwholesome, to stand upon or flow over the surface of any ground, or to flow, percolate or ooze from any land or premises owned or occupied by him or her, into or upon any street, gutter, sidewalk or public ground in this township or into or upon any adjacent land and premises, public or private; nor shall any person throw, place, or caused to be thrown or placed any offensive or unwholesome substance or matter, in or upon any street, sidewalk, gutter or public ground in this township.

III. No owner, agent, lessee, tenant or occupant of any house, building or any part of any house or building, shall allow any drainage from said house or building to run into any drain, or conduit which shall discharge into any brook, stream, spring or pond, nor shall the drainage of any house or building be discharged into any pit, sink or cesspool having an overflow which discharges into any brook, stream, spring or pond, or upon any open ground, swamp, bog, sunken lot or other ground, public or private, within this township. No house, store or stable drainage or other offensive liquid waste shall run into any disused well, either directly or through the overflow of any cesspool, privy vault or other receptacle for liquid or solid refuse matter.

IV. No owner, agent, lessee, tenant or occupant of any house or building, or part of any house or building, shall discharge the drainage of said house or building into any cesspool, pit, sink or vault which the Board of Health shall declare a nuisance.

V. No part of the contents of any sink, vault, privy or cess-

pool, nor any garbage, offal, carcass, rubbish or other refuse matter which, by decomposition, can or may become offensive to smell or injurious to health, or created or tend to create a nuisance, shall be dumped, thrown, deposited or placed or allowed to remain upon any street or public place, nor upon any lot or place in said township, whether said lot or place be opened or enclosed, without the written permission of the Board of Health of this township.

VI. No owner, agent, lessee, tenant or occupant of any land within this township shall deposit or allow to remain upon the surface of said land any night soil, cesspool or vault matter, offal, garbage or refuse of an offensive character, other than stable manure, without first obtaining a license from the Board of Health, which shall designate the boundaries of the land which may be used as a dumping ground for such matter. Such license will be issued on condition that the person receiving them shall not make or permit any nuisance and may be revoked whenever in the judgment of the Board of Health, a nuisance is created. Dumping or allowing to be dumped on any land within this township, of night soil, cesspool or vault matter, offal, garbage or refuse matter, of any offensive character, without such license is hereby forbidden, and is declared to be a nuisance.

VII. Every person who shall engage in business as a scavenger, or who shall empty cesspools, privies or other receptacles for offensive refuse must first obtain a permit from the Board of Health, and shall strictly conform to all its requirements as a condition of being allowed to retain such permit.

VIII. No milk which has been watered, reduced, adulterated or changed in any respect, or which is unwholesome, shall be sold or offered for sale by any person within this township.

IX. No person or persons shall establish or carry on within this township any trade or business which is or may become detrimental to the health of citizens.

X. No person or persons shall establish or carry on within this township any kennel, stable sty or pen, for pleasure or for profit, which is a nuisance to citizens owning or occupying adjacent or contiguous property, or residing in the neighborhood.

XI. No person shall bring or cause to be brought into this township a case of contagious disease originating elsewhere.

XII. Physicians practicing in this township shall report to the Secretary of the Board of Health all cases of contagious disease occurred under their notice, or which they shall be called to attend, giving such particulars as are necessary to a proper understanding of the danger involved and stating in their judgment what measures are needed to prevent the spread of contagion.

XIII. Penalties from \$10 to \$100 are hereby prescribed for the violation of any section or provision of this ordinance. And every person who shall violate any provision of this ordinance, who shall do anything in this ordinance forbidden to be done, or neglect, omit or refuse to do anything in this ordinance required to be done, shall on the determination and judgment of a Justice of the Peace of the county of Essex pay the penalty as determined by said Justice of the Peace, according to law.

But the Board of Health may, if they deem it advisable, remit the whole or any part of such penalty.

Adopted May 18, 1886.

JOHN H. WILSON,

*Chairman of Board of Health.*

ROBERT B. HARRIS, *Secretary.*

The problems most often presented to the Board concerned waste water and cess pools. The adoption of the ordinances were followed by township arrangements with George Fitzgerald allowing him to pump out cesspools and remove sewage at the expense of private owners, and a similar agreement with Fentzlaff and Wolff, the "Odorless Excavator" men.



1625 Vol III  
Fourth of July parade in 1888, celebrating both Independence Day and the completion of the town water supply system. The parade is crossing the village center, its brass band approaching Baldwin's Drug Store. Down South Fullerton Avenue can be seen the tower of the First Congregational Church. Photograph by Selah Young, Jr.



While natives were satisfied to obtain their water supply from springs or the well with its sweep and oaken bucket, newcomers from the city demanded modern improvements which meant at least one bathroom in the house. They usually obtained water from driven wells, had it pumped into the house by the coachman or gardener, and stored it in a tank in the attic; whence it was distributed by gravity. In 1881 during a drought, water was sold on the streets for twenty-five cents a barrel.

The organization of the local fire company made people realize the need for a less uncertain source of water than springs and wells. In 1883 the Township Committee called a special meeting to consider the matter, but the question "Who is going to pay for it?" prevented any action. People continued to drink well water and occasionally a death occurred from typhoid. In 1885 the Committee decided on a pure water supply and began to investigate from what source it could be obtained.

In 1887 a popular vote was taken. The no-water party mustered 118 votes, while 577 voted in favor of a

town water supply. A contract was made with a private company which opened a well on Watchung Avenue, pumped water to a tank on top of the mountain and delivered it through mains. The water was tested and pronounced remarkably pure and palatable, excellent for all sorts of domestic use.

William L. Doremus, on North Fullerton Avenue, was the first to introduce water into his home. That year one hundred and fifty-four property owners applied for water connections. By 1888 twenty-two miles of pipes had been laid and two hundred and twenty-eight hydrants placed. Montclair consumers were then said to be using more water per capita than New York City.

The parade pictured here was held on the Fourth of July, 1888, in celebration of the completion of the water works. The town's four fire companies and invited guests paraded in full dress uniforms. Captain H. G. H. Tarr, who played a leading part in developing the water supply, rode the leading horse.

"The Montclair Water Company was directed to lay 1,000 feet of water main, and erect two hydrants on Cliffside avenue (Upper Montclair) for the purpose of supplying that locality with water." Montclair Times, May 18, 1889.



16-75  
Italian laborers laying sewer pipes across the village square. Looking up Church Street, one sees on the left the Jacobus Building and on the right, the First Presbyterian Church. Right: A hen house with outdoor privy attached.

P 9562

P 9563



lic water supply, not from the danger of impure water upon health, but because of fire protection.

The Township Committee felt that they had no power to allow a private company to open streets to lay sewer pipes. Cesspools continued in use, householders hoping they would not overflow, or at least not be noticed if they did. Mr. Fitzgerald, the Negro who operated the first sewerage cart, and Fentzlaff & Wolff, proprietors of the so-called odorless tanks, continued to drive their conspicuous and unpleasant apparatus about the streets with contents which had been dipped or pumped out of cesspools for private individuals. The town ignored the whole question.

In 1889 conditions came to the attention of outsiders and the Engineering Record published an article which said "Montclair has reached that stage of development where it is absolutely necessary to abandon the primitive, rural methods of sewerage disposal which have hitherto served it and devise ways and means for abolishing the nuisance and avoiding the dangers which are inseparably connected with the present cesspool system." This item, reprinted in the local paper, opened people's eyes to the dangerous situation which had grown worse with the greatly increased amount of water used after the town water supply was turned on. The state had in the meantime passed a law which gave the Township Committee power to contract with a private company to lay and care for sewer pipes. This they prepared to do.

Dr. John Warren Pinkham, whose portrait appears on the opposite page, was appointed first Health Officer during the period when the village was changing from the country to the town way of life. He was able, with comparative ease and dispatch, to deal with such visible nuisances as half-buried dead horses, puddles and gutters full of standing sink-drain water, unsanitary pig sties, cow sheds or chicken coops, but when he began to agitate for a town system of sewerage disposal he met with much opposition. He warned that wells should be remote from cesspools and filthy deposits. He said the microscope showed that water was often swarming with small creatures which might be a source of disease or even death, but people found this hard to believe when the water looked to the naked eye pure and clear.

Public opinion finally admitted the need for a pub-

"The year 1885 marked a distinct advance in the status of health protection, for in this year the legislature was brought to see the importance of better legislation to enable townships to help themselves." In 1886 they passed a new law giving Township Committees broader powers, among them the right to lay down and care for sewer pipes in public streets.



17  
 "The change from country to town life does not occur without pain. Sometimes it was a backward neighbor who had kept pigs and probably had no suspicion that his neighbors did not like the odor. Some people persisted in dumping garbage in public places and hens were kept, even in well developed neighborhoods."



"The Cottage of the Gentleman That Pays the Rent, Montclair, 1879," an original etching by L.U. Yale. This was a gift to Dr. John Warren Pinkham, with a "Merry Christmas." In the words of the donor it "represents Mr. Riker's pig pen and a willow tree thereunto adjacent."

At the time the gift was made Doctor Pinkham was waging war in the interest of public health. People in the village who had always kept pigs or chickens did not realize that they might endanger someone's health if the pens and coops were not far enough removed from wells. It was about this time that disease-bearing germs were discovered by the medical world, but because they could not be smelled by the nose, or seen by the naked eye, many found it hard to believe in their existence, and laughed at Dr. Pinkham's threat of cholera or typhoid.

P9565



John Warren Pinkham, M.D.

Doctor John Warren Pinkham came to Montclair in 1867. He soon achieved a reputation as a skillful physician with a lucrative clientele. Much interested in sanitary science, he contributed articles on the subject to medical journals throughout the country. In 1885 his rules for avoiding an epidemic of cholera were printed in pamphlet form.



Left: Mrs. Ogden Brower, April 1, 1887. She had been living in Montclair for three years. She wears a green broadcloth suit trimmed in Persian lamb and braid, and a fashionable small bonnet held on by a ribbon under the chin, finished by a bow. Right: Samuel J. Holmes, September 1887.



Dr. Clarence W. Butler  
By Helen Peck Young

We came to Montclair from New York to live during the latter half of the 'Eighties.' At least three prominent doctors were then established in this community, Dr. J. J. H. Love, Dr. John W. Pinkham, and Dr. Clarence W. Butler. Because our father, Selah Young, Jr., was a homeopathist, he naturally called upon a physician of the so-called "new school" to attend the family when any of us fell ill. It therefore became my pleasant lot to sample Dr. Butler's "sugar pills" from the time I was six years old.

Our stepmother, a bride at the time, said that the good doctor's early criticism of us as small citybred children was that we were dressed up too much and ought to get out and play in the dirt. Result: a delightful innovation in the line of mudpies and gardening which considerably extended both our horizon and our laundry.

Dr. Butler was Montclair's first homeopathic physician and he had a large practice when we arrived. His house and office were at No. 33 South Fullerton Avenue where his brown carriage-stone at the curb revealed the name "Dr. Butler" on one side.



The doctor was a handsome, forceful man, always wearing a wide-brimmed hat, and driving a span of horses. When sent for, he opened the front door, if unlatched, and walked right into the house without ceremony; he never had any time to waste when there was sickness. Because my sister was in quarantine on the occasion of her eighth birthday, he brought her a beautiful book of fairy tales, thereby forever endearing himself to our hearts. With no children of his own, he took time for such kindly acts and so won our loyalty and admiration.

He could be highhanded, too. Overtaking our father, still weak from a siege of "La Grippe," on the way to the railroad station, Dr. Butler stopped his horses and took him in beside him. Our father caught no train that day, for the good doctor drove him home and put him to bed instead. There was no use arguing with such a man!

In later days of preventive measures, it was interesting to note that a certain hillside resident paid Dr. Butler by the year to keep his daughter in good health. Hattie was a delicate girl when young and did not go outdoors much, so Dr. Butler used to stop for her with his carriage, whenever he could, and take her with him on his rounds. An interesting health investment that brought good returns.

Samuel C. G. Watkins, D. D. S., whose medical bill appears on the opposite page, settled in Montclair in 1876 and soon had a good practice. His profession honored him by making him President of the Alumni Association of Boston Dental College in 1886, and President of the New Jersey State Dental Society in 1889.



19  
Dr. Clarence W. Butler, a homeopathic physician, unless engaged in politics was as "uncomfortable as a fish out of water." He was a Democrat in the land of Republicans; an independent free thinker in a town of Presbyterians and Congregationalists. He always wore wide-brimmed hats and drove a span of horses.



Dr. Anna Louise Smith graduated from the Woman's Medical College of the New York Infirmary on May 25, 1886. Two years later she opened an office at 50 North Fullerton Avenue in Montclair, where she was to carry on her profession the rest of her life.

Many stories have been told of Dr. Butler's anonymous gifts to people whom he found in need. A barrel of flour, or sugar, or a ton of coal, had a surprising way of arriving at the homes of the unfortunate -- apparently out of the blue! He had a warm place in his heart for school teachers, whom he regarded with special favor, and he charged them nothing for his services. Their appreciation in those days of meager salaries was genuine.

From the mid-west Dr. Butler had brought with him physical vigor, as well as a free and independent spirit. By some people he was openly criticized as being too self-assertive and outspoken, and doubtless there was good ground for such criticism. Certain faults generally accompany the very virtues which he possessed. With the people whom he liked, however, he was always genial and friendly.

It is said that when Dr. John J. H. Love came out as the head of the Republican group in Montclair, Dr. Butler switched his politics and came out as head of the Democratic party -- "perhaps in order to be equally important!" A wave of unpopularity which did not advance the doctor's personal interests probably followed so drastic a move.

Dr. Butler once attended a youth who had formerly worked in a Montclair store, but had gone to Fairfield when threatened with "consumption." Recovering from an intestinal malady, the young patient told the doctor that he had a desperate longing for some peaches. "Well," said the physician, "if you are going to die anyway, you might as well have some," so he went out and bought him a beefsteak and a basket of peaches. The patient eventually recovered, strange as it may seem. When the young chap asked the doctor for his bill, he was presented with a photograph of the doctor instead and told that Fairfield was "outside of his professional district" and therefore he could not accept a cent for his services.

The family physician was a great institution in those days and he came very close to his people. Grateful parents sometimes named a baby for him and children pointed him out, saying "There goes Dr. Butler," as he drove by on errands of mercy. Little folks were born under their own rooftrees in that age and if they turned out to be spindling youngsters who could not stomach the hearty breakfasts prevailing then (oatmeal, lamb chops, beefsteak and potatoes), Dr. Butler prescribed egg-nogs between meals and so built them up.

OFFICE HOURS: 10 1/2 to 10 A. M.  
7 to 8 P. M.

CHURCH STREET.

BILLS RENDERED QUARTERLY.

MONTCLAIR, N. J.

Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 1887

M & S C 97 Matkin

To W. B. BERRY, M. D., Dr.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

June 1<sup>st</sup> to date last discomd  
23.40

Bill renders June 1<sup>st</sup> to 56.70 \$80.10

RECEIVED PAYMENT,

W. B. Berry

Other physicians: Dr. James S. Brown, one of the first to operate for appendicitis; Dr. Charles H. Shelton, a homeopath, came here in 1883; Dr. Richard C. Newton, an army surgeon with the rank of Captain; Dr. Richard P. Francis, graduated from the local High School in 1877, took his medical course at Harvard, and returned home to practice in 1888.



20 Vol III  
"Sunset, Montclair, from the Artist's Window" by George Inness, landscape painter. "His magnificent ardor lent to his canvases an almost magical power and charm which defy all analysis. Among American landscapists he came to occupy the first place by common consent." Dictionary of American Biography.



The most distinguished citizen living in Montclair was one of America's great landscape painters, George Inness, who came here in 1878 and was to make this his home until his death in 1894.

The years which preceded the move to New Jersey were difficult. More than once he was forced to borrow his son's watch to pawn in order to pay the rent. But success and complete recognition, such as few artists experience in their lifetime, were to come. A large canvas selling for five thousand dollars created much interest and brought new patrons who were to make large collections of his work.

With the financial struggle over, the artist bought the old Mapes homestead on Grove Street in Montclair, built a studio, and retired to paint unhampered. During his last years he developed great breadth of technique and produced his best work. At the time of his death his powers were at their full and he was treated royally wherever he went; but to the end he remained a plain, simple hearted man.

He was very absent-minded, always in another world. Once when asked how many children he had he replied, "I don't know; Lizzie will be here soon, she knows." When

he lived in Montclair his grandchildren were little tots. He would meet them on the street and the children would hail him, "Hello grandfather." He would say, "Ah, hello, little girl, whose child are you, George's or Helen's?"

He lived for his art. He never knew or cared how he looked. He hated new clothes as he hated the barber and the dentist. His wife would order for him three or four suits at one time, and when she thought it necessary would remove the old ones while he slept, and put new ones in their place. But try as she might he was always extremely careless about his appearance.

At the zenith of his career his income reached twenty thousand dollars a year, a fortune in those days.

On the next page is a rear view of the studio used by George Inness and his sculptor son-in-law, Hartley. Entrance was through the annex on the right which served as dressing room and store room for properties used by models. The second floors of the Inness and Hartley homes were connected by a covered passageway over 100 feet long, hung with paintings.



2-1 Vol III

The Photographic Times said "George Inness is the most prolific and eminent landscape painter of his time. This is the almost unanimous verdict of artists, critics, connoisseurs, and collectors ... the greatest experimenter in modern art, whether in this country or in Europe." Photographed in his New York studio by Edwin B. Bennett.



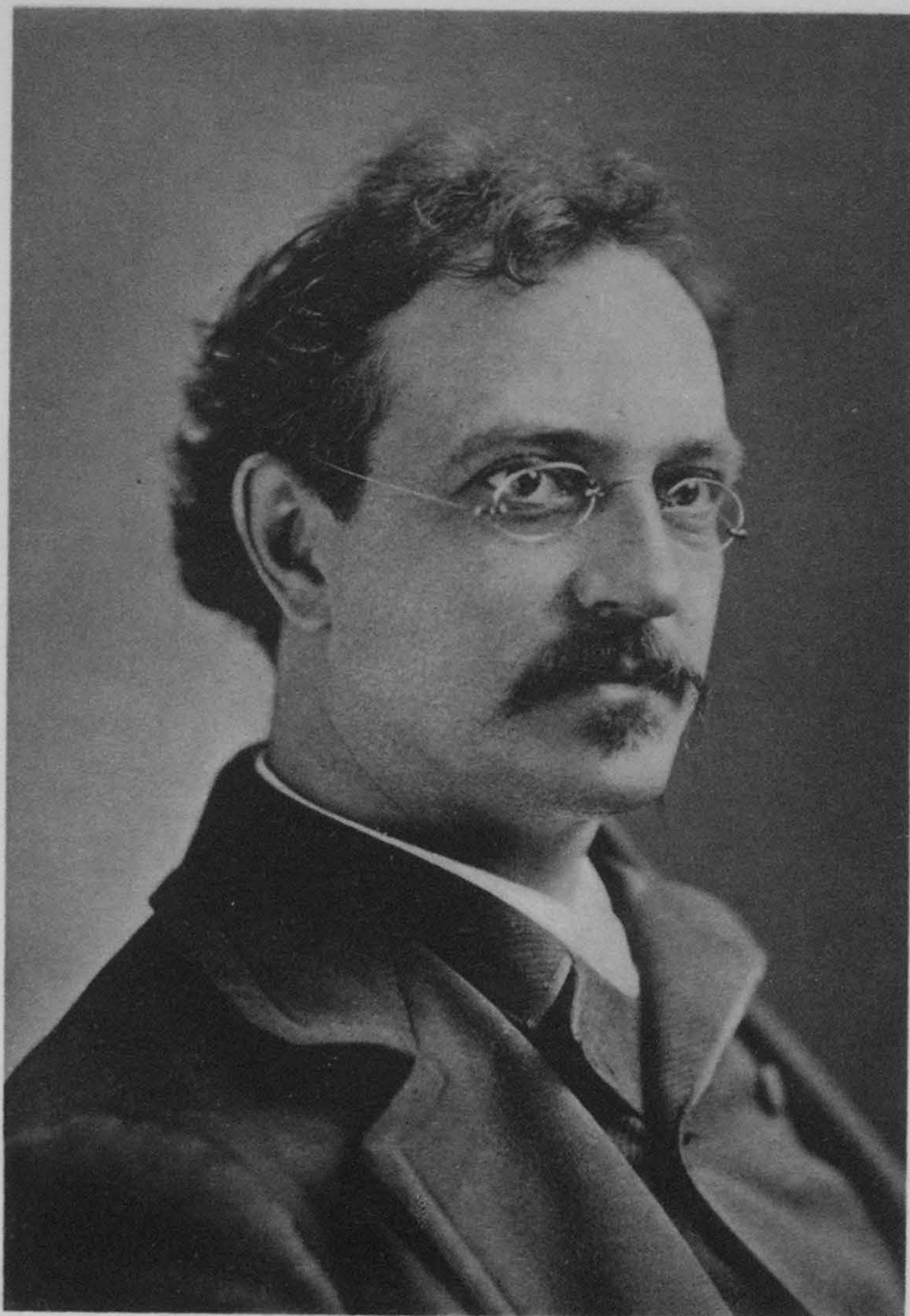
Yours Respectfully  
Geo. Inness



When Inness came to Montclair in 1878 he boarded at the Hotel. Later he rented a little cottage on Grove Street, where he and his son used two small outbuildings as studios. His pictures soon began to sell, so Inness bought the old Mapes place (below) on Grove Street, which he enlarged and occupied in comfort the rest of his life.



23  
George Inness Jr.'s most important contribution to the world of art was his biography of his great father, "Life, Art, and Letters of George Inness," the Century Co. 1917. This preserved many homely facts and reproduced in halftone thirty-eight Inness paintings and a portrait in oils of Inness by his son.



*Geo Inness Jr*

George Inness, Jr. was overshadowed by two towering men, his father and his father-in-law. His father and he were very different in temperament and ability, which frustrated the younger man for many years, but after his father's death he returned to his native Paris, painted for five years, and established himself as an artist in his own right.

George Jr.'s early childhood had been spent in Paris, Florence, and Rome, where his father was then studying. After the family's return to America, they suffered extended hardship until the father was finally recognized and able to sell his work.

At nineteen George Jr. had a studio in Boston briefly, then returned to his family and was employed chiefly in magazine illustrating for New York publishers.

In 1878 the Innesses moved to Montclair, where they rented a small "cottage" on Grove Street. The following year George Jr. married the daughter of Roswell Smith, founder and president of the Century Company, New York publishing firm, a man of great wealth. Smith not long afterward bought a landscape by George Inness, Sr. for \$5,000, which brought the artist sudden recognition and marketability. B. Altman was among a number of wealthy men who quickly became his patrons.

George Inness, Sr. "became one of America's greatest artists . . . Someone once asked Inness if he had pupils. He replied, 'I have had one for a long time, and he is more than enough for me. The more I teach him the less he knows, and the older he grows the farther he is from what he ought to be.'" ---Jackman, American Arts, 1928.

Smith also built a prepossessing house in Montclair for George Jr. and his daughter. It is shown on a page toward the end of this volume as one of Montclair's chief social centers of the period.

The Montclair directory of 1908 is the latest to list Elizabeth Inness, widow of George Sr., 151 Grove, and George Jr., Roswell Manor, Walnut Crescent. The same directory notes that Jonathan Scott Hartley (sculptor of note, who had married George Jr.'s sister) had removed to New York. Until nearly that date the Hartleys had lived in a house adjacent to the senior Innesses, at 159 Grove Street. The two homes were both sizable, bought after Inness Sr. became prosperous. They were connected by a long second-story passageway and stood about where the nurses' home of Mountainside Hospital now stands (1959). The 151 Grove Street home had been called "the old Mapes place" before Inness bought it. Mary Mapes Dodge, first editor of St. Nicholas Magazine, which was founded by Roswell Smith, was a near relative of this Mapes family and often visited here, it is said.

George Jr. spent his later days at Cragmore, New York, where he died. There are interesting photographic portraits of him in his biography of his father, and in the National Cyclopaedia of American Biography. He also appears as captain of the Fat Man's Baseball Team in a photograph in the Library's collection--although his figure scarcely justifies the membership.

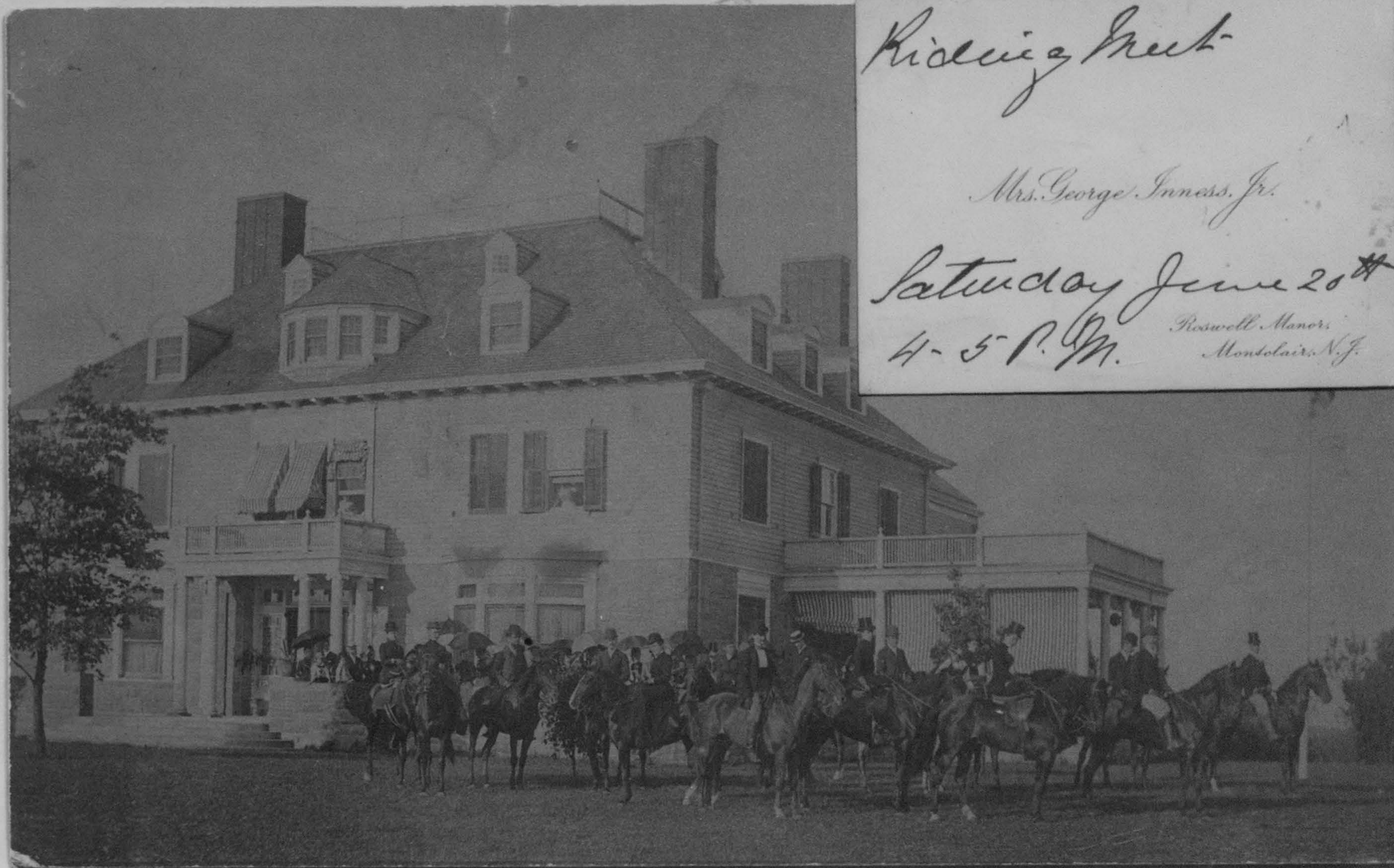
The two following notices doubtless refer to George Jr.'s father and mother:

And now Mr. Inness is complaining because the firemen did not allow his barn to be entirely consumed and save him the bother of tearing it down. ---Notes About Town, Montclair Times, March 31, 1888.

Messrs. Southward & Parsons have signed contracts for introducing steam heating apparatus in the residences of Mr. John Hogan, on Highland avenue, and Mrs. E. M. Inness of "The Pines," on Grove street. ---The Montclair Times, June 9, 1888.



23 Vol III  
Riding meet at Roswell Manor, home of George Inness, Jr.; and an original invitation. Rides were held on Saturday afternoons, on moonlight nights, or in the early morning. It was the custom for the hostess at whose house the meet was held, to invite a party to see the riders off. Photograph by E. E. Higgins.



Roswell Manor, a dull yellow colonial style home, was built about 1887, by Roswell Smith for his daughter and son-in-law, George Inness, Jr. The house had thirty-one large rooms. It stood on eight acres of lawn sloping to Claremont Avenue. It cost not less than \$60,000. In September of 1888 the Innesses announced that receptions would be held in their new residence on Thursday afternoons and evenings during October and November.

One of the social functions given in the house in 1889 was a dance. The hardwood floors of the dining room, library, reception room, and hall, cleared for the occasion, made a beautiful surface for the gay fete. Favors were handsome silk badges painted by the host, also silk sashes for the gentlemen, and banjoes for the ladies.

No pretentious house of the period was without an "Oriental" room. Mr. Inness made no exception to the rule, decorating his smoking-room in that style. In contrast to the delicate colorings used in the rest of the house, here he used rich tones. Woodwork was deep reddish brown ornamented with pale yellow, giving the effect of box-wood inlaid upon walnut. Tiled dado, painted recess, and wall panels were in Moorish design, in dark blue and dull rose. A warm sepia was introduced in the cartouch above the sofa which was strewn, like an Eastern divan, with many-colored silken cushions. A number of ostrich eggs, suspended in net bags, hung from the ceiling.

George Inness, Jr., besides being a famous painter, found time to actively participate in local social life

and athletic events, and politics, and to take interest in "embellishing his luxurious home with the best examples of original work in sculpture, bric-a-brac, and the handiwork of his fellow co-laborers."

During a year while he was serving as a public official, his right to do so was questioned because of his place of residence. His opponents made the claim that he did not live in Montclair. He resigned at once and the episode became the sensation of the hour. A careful survey, however, proved that the town line ran through Mr. Inness' house, giving him the right to choose his official address. He preferred to remain in Montclair, withdrew his resignation, and continued to serve the town as volunteer fireman and in other capacities.

There was no serious domestic problem in connection with such large houses. Ladies in want of help could be supplied by calling Mrs. E. Moriarity's Employment Office where male and female help with good references was always on hand at short notice. The fact that wages were low meant that ample help could be kept.

To a large extent families employed Irish servants, some of whom served the same family devotedly for years, often never working anywhere else. Some might eventually leave to be married, but they would always fly back to their "family" in times of sorrow, and they always remembered anniversaries and birthdays.

"Hare and hounds" gave zest to the sport of riding before live foxes were used. A lady and gentleman would represent the hares, and would ride away through difficult places across country pursued by the other horsemen and horsewomen who followed paper clues. The first "in at the death" was awarded a sprig of evergreen to represent the "brush."



24 Vol III  
The most conspicuous figure in the picture of this riding meet is Ogden Brower about to mount "Sportsman." "By special request the meets have been extended to and including Christmas. Frost will, of course, prevent hunting, but if the ground is soft by noon of the day of the meet, the hunt will always take place."

P9569

The Montclair Equestrian Club, after practicing cross country galloping for a few years and holding hare-and-hound meets, was won over to the fascinating sport of fox hunting, and changed its name to the Montclair Hunt. The Club was unusual. Unlike any other hunts in this country it was instigated by a woman, "an enthusiastic lady equestrian," Florence Wilmer; secondly, more than half its membership "consisted of young ladies fond of exercise in the saddle."

By the spring of 1880 the Hunt's pack of beagles had been replaced by twenty-seven imported foxhounds, which were quartered in new kennels at the east end of Walnut Street. These quarters were models of neatness and design. Charles Cushing "a great dandy and always beautifully turned out" was obtained as Huntsman, his son as Whipper-in. At this time the name Essex County Hunt was adopted as the membership had broadened.

Each fall as soon as crops were harvested men in pink coats and ladies in close-fitting habits on side saddles followed the hounds for hours along country roads, across farms, and over fences. Townspeople turned out in numbers to see the start, and many trailed along in buggies hoping to be in at the kill.

The Montclair Times reports a meet in October of 1881. "After some plucky riding at the finish, the brush was awarded to Miss Thompson of Montclair. The run was not a long one, but it was exciting and interesting. The fox took to the mountains, over which he crossed, followed by the hounds at full cry. Fences and ditches were all alike to the riders as they took the jumps in fearless style. There was some fine riding especially by the ladies of whom there were several. There were over twenty riders in at the death." These equestriennes evidently showed the success Huntsman Cushing had made of his lessons in horsemanship.

In November the same year the hounds had a very fine run, and killed twice. The first fox was a wild one whose line the hounds struck while running through a cover; the second, a "bagman" who gave the pack a good burst of three miles before they "broke him up."

The sport increased in popularity. Early in 1883 the Club had over one hundred and fifty members, including a number of ladies. Its meets became the center of social life in this part of New Jersey; its list of members read like a local social register.

Invitations appeared on "delicate pink tinted paper." "Weather permitting, there will be a special meet for a fox hunt on Christmas ... For benefit of lady riders and others the first part of the hunt will be on a 'drag' scent over a carefully selected country, after which a fox will be drawn from cover." Rendezvous: Schoolhouse.



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Young people in Montclair were devoted to horse-back riding and other social pastimes. In 1876 a group of married couples, maidens, and bachelors formed a riding club. During spring, summer, and fall the Club held regular meets. In winter they had social evenings every fortnight with reading, recitations, vocal and instrumental music and dramatics.

19570



The young lady with derby hat was Miss Jean Russell, daughter of Thomas Russell. Mr. Fred Harrison holds her horse. Next to Harrison was Frederick Merriam Wheeler. The girl with the high silk hat, seated on the white horse, was a daughter of the Rev. William Finney Junkin, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. Her brother, Francis T. A. Junkin, wearing a white neckerchief, stood by the head of her horse. To the right of Junkin was George Inness, Jr., seated to the right of Inness, Mr. Junkin. Also in the group were Arthur Schroeder, Nellie Powers, Mrs. D. D. Duncan, and Miss Tarr. The gentleman wearing the light high hat was Robert Boyd.

19571



Right: "On Mr. Paul Babcock's sail down the bay" were Miss Strong, Ellie Junkin, Tom Porter, Susie Boyd, Mr. and Miss Stockwell and Stella Christie.

After a few years, when the Club took up fox hunting, some members still preferred to keep up the sport of horse-back riding. They reorganized their group into the Equestrian Club, holding regular meets, usually on Saturday afternoons. The picture shows one of these meets. Taken by E. E. Higgins, Jersey City.



26  
 From left to right: Frederick H. Wood, Rose Crane, Julius Torrey, and Julie Miller. Young ladies were only slightly handicapped by having to hold up their long, dragging skirts while playing tennis for they were not expected to run for the ball. It was patted gently back and forth over a high net stretched across the lawn.



High School tennis players in the summer of 1889. Among the group are R. C. Spaulding, Nell Bradford, Hattie G. Elliot, Willie Hadwen, Harry Reeves, Julia Corbett, Cornelia Ward, and Morrill Greene. Arthur Bissell sits in the front row at the left, and next to him is Charles H. Miller of Forest Street.

In 1885 a group of about one hundred started the Montclair Lawn Tennis Club. They laid out courts near the southeast corner of Fullerton Avenue and Union Street. There they held tournaments which attracted players of national reputation who competed for valuable prizes offered by the club.

"There are many points in favor of tennis to commend it to popular favor. It is a game for both ladies and gentlemen, with equal chances in favor of the ladies carrying off the palm. The exercise is not of an exhausting character, and affords the ladies a training in easy and graceful movements."

In 1880 The Journal of Social Science said in speaking of the unchaperoned diversion of the game croquet, "If as some detractors have intimated, it has given opportunity for flirtation, it has more than made amends by teaching the fair sex that a lovely afternoon can be pleasantly and profitably spent out of doors."

The great annual social event was the "Harvest Home" held for the benefit of the Christian Union Church. In 1889 it featured: hot and appetizing dinners, milk fresh from cows, presided over by maids in checked aprons and sunbonnets; vegetable carts drawn by oxen; tents containing articles imported from foreign countries for the occasion; a country store selling everything from tooth brushes to soft soap; a variety of entertainments in tents. As day closed calcium lights and colored lanterns furnished dazzling illumination. Proceeds very nearly reached the sum of \$1,000.



Perhaps the most popular outdoor amusement which was indulged in by ladies and gentlemen was archery. Ladies' costumes for exercise with the bow and arrow might "be more brilliant than the ordinary walking dress, and should be made short enough for convenience in movement."



Lawn tennis reached America in 1874 one year after it originated in England. It really was "lawn" tennis as shown by this picture. Edward Winslow is playing opposite Bartlett P. Lyon, his cousin, and W. A. Burnett, a guest. The court was marked off on a lot at the north east corner of Claremont Avenue and Park Street. 1888.



naturally depends in a great measure upon the manner in which it is conducted. With this end in view Mr. E. F. Totten, the manager of the rink, has prepared a series of rules and regulations which, he intends, shall be strictly observed in every particular.

Among these rules are the following:

Not more than two skaters will be allowed to skate together, as it obstructs the floor.

No tagging, pushing, tripping, racing or similar amusements will be tolerated.

Skaters should all move in the same direction. Do not stop even for an instant, except to assist a lady.

Ladies and others desiring assistance of any sort, are expected to make their wants known to the manager.

The manager reserves the right to refuse admission to any person whom he deems distasteful to the patrons, and refuse skate checks to such persons as he thinks advisable.

All who visit the rink are supposed to be ladies and gentlemen. Any conduct unbecoming to such will be followed by a prompt and urgent request to leave the rink.

A cheerful compliance with the above rules as well as the unwritten ones, which good breeding dictates, will be appreciated by the manager.

building is to be lighted by eighteen large lamps, having an illumination power of three gas jets each. In the centre of the building a music plat-

form is suspended from the trusses, from which a brass band will discourse appropriate musical selections every evening. The force of attaches

comprises ticket sellers and receivers, skate clerks, instructors and boys to adjust skates to the feet of patrons. The success of such an enterprise

These skaters are on Crane's Pond, a small body of water situated behind the home of James Crane on the Old Road. Older boys ventured farther away from home and skated long distances on the Morris Canal. The houses seen in the background stood on Forest Street. Photograph taken about 1888.



The stone house with Mansard roof was built in 1859 for Henry Nason, using trap rock from the cliff in the rear. He was a newcomer and was said to have been the pioneer on the mountain slope. In the eighties the house was occupied by Nahum Sullivan. The white house on the left is said to have been built by the first commuter to live in the village.



This coasting party was assembled at the head of Hillside avenue on February 22, 1885. Notice that the gentlemen almost without exception wore their derby or bowler hats, in those days a popular style with the man in the street. One man in the center of the group is wearing a high silk hat. It is said that some men wore such headpieces habitually.

In January 1888 the Township Committee adopted a resolution prohibiting coasting on streets with the exception of Union street and Claremont avenue between seven and ten o'clock P.M. No bobs were allowed unless occupants sounded a horn constantly.

Another winter sport enjoyed by old and young was sleighing. There were straw rides, particularly on moonlight nights, when a dozen couples would nestle in the straw in the bottom of a great sleigh or pung heaped with blankets and buffalo robes, and drive out to some country inn for doughnuts and coffee and perhaps square dancing.

In summer ladies reclined lazily in hammocks or perhaps went in for archery or croquet dressed in tight draped skirts which hid the ankles, little ostrich trimmed hats, sometimes holding a small parasol over the head. In 1879 a number of young ladies founded a local walking club, it being thought that exercise, if moderately indulged in, might prove beneficial. Ladies and children developed grace and strength by taking twelve lessons in physical culture from Mrs. Bissell. In the Morris Building Miss Belle Bovee held classes in elocution, deportment, and aesthetic gymnastics. T. George Dodworth was teaching the latest dance, the Polo Quadrille from France.

Big picnics were a popular type of entertainment. A day in 1888 saw the village deserted; Hose Company No. 3 was having a picnic; five hundred Knights of Honor were taking an excursion; and two hundred colored people made the trip to Greenwood Lake, reaching home at one o'clock in the morning, delayed because the engine ran over a cow.

The village had woods where one could go nutting or fields where wild flowers could be gathered. Property owners along the line of Pearl Brook were taking steps to protect the trout in that stream from greedy people who fished with nets. Town officials were making war on the sling shot. The Montclair Times predicted, "We may yet see our belles on bicycles. London ladies ride them at the doctor's recommendation."

In 1885 the roller skating craze struck Montclair. Fifteen hundred people attended opening night at the rink. In the early eighties a Camera Club began to "snap things."

Evening fun consisted of parlor entertainments, games of euchre or whist, and amateur musicals. Occasionally a popular entertainer came to town for a performance in Montclair Hall. Such was Mrs. Tom Thumb with her little carriage and four black Shetland ponies.

There was a rising interest in sports. The Montclair Athletic Club on November 2, 1880, at their baseball and football grounds on Myrtle avenue, corner of Mountain avenue, held competitive games -- running, walking, hammer throwing, putting the shot, and a tug-of-war. Gold and silver medals were awarded. When this lot was sold for building, the group laid out a baseball diamond on Hinck's property along Christopher street.

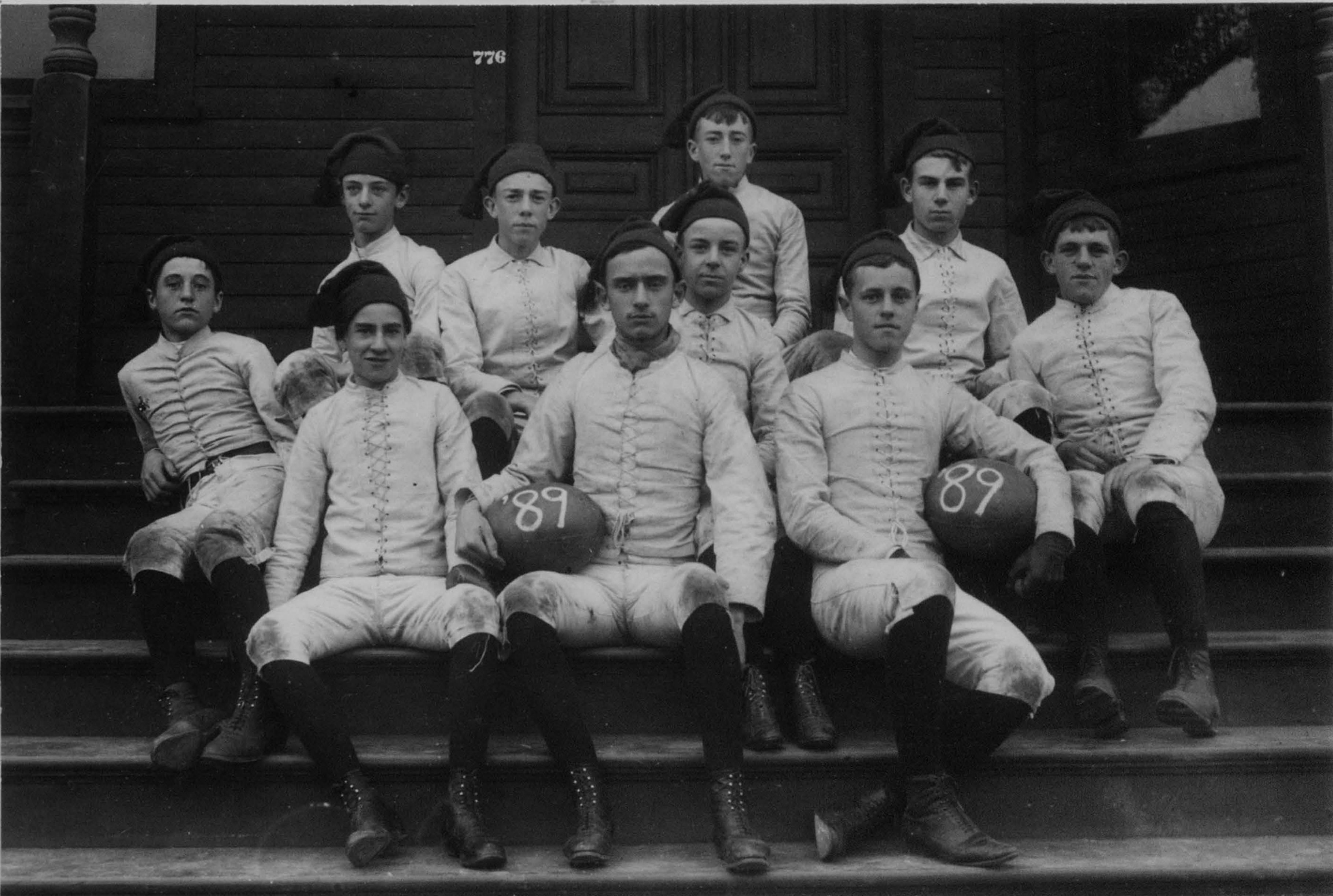
Coasting was a sport which appealed to adults as much as to children. They used double-rippers, each comprised of two sleds placed two to six feet apart and connected by a long seat for the riders. In 1880 after the snow was packed down even the main streets could be used for coasting in the evenings for there was then little traffic to interfere.



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McVicars Junior Football Team in natty suits and tasseled stocking caps which they wore in 1889. Front, from left to right: Fred Allen, Billy Junkin, George Bradley, Thomas F. Russell, Charlie Tan. In the center of the group is Sumner Denby. Back row: Joe Van Vleck, Fritz Gwinn, Frank Carter, Theodore Wallace.

99575



THE POPULAR AMUSEMENT.

Opening of the Montclair Roller Skating Rink on Monday Evening Next.

Reprinted from THE TIMES of March 28, 1885.

On next Monday evening the Montclair Roller Skating Rink, which has been erected on Bloomfield avenue, will be thrown open to the public. The building is not strictly ornamental either on the interior or exterior, but is admirably constructed, and well adapted for the uses for which it is intended. The entrance is on Bloomfield avenue where the ticket office, skate rooms and separate skate adjusting rooms for ladies and gentlemen are also located. Upon entering the visitor is at once impressed with the vastness of the structure. The floor measures 70 x 160 feet and is the largest that has ever been laid in Montclair, while the uninterrupted skating surface of 50 x 150 feet equals that of almost any rink in the country. The floor is a good one and was constructed in the following manner: a floor of ordinary material was first laid; upon this was spread a thickness of ordinary waterproof tarpaper



of the wood; on the paper was placed the skating surface consisting of two inch strips of hard maple flooring, closely joined and mitred so that the skater may turn all corners without skating against the grain, a feature which is highly spoken of by all experts in roller skating. Three rows of seats elevated above each other, on each side of the entire length of the building will give spectators a good view of the floor. At night the

99576

During the decade of the eighties the craze for roller skating swept the country. Equipment was inexpensive, it was not difficult to learn how to skate. Rinks became social centers where men, women, and children circled about, usually to the music of a band. The sport offered relief from the ennui of parlor life.



Skating was an outdoor sport which appealed to both sexes. But the female skater was advised to take fast hold of the coat tails of her gentleman partner and to maintain a rigid position. If her partner was a dextrous glider, she would thus enjoy all the pleasures of the sport without tiring herself with fatiguing exercise.



Above is Crane's Pond, a small body of water which lay behind James Crane's home on the Old Road. It was well known to small boys who frequented its pretty shores in summer to angle for shiners and bull fish, or to snatch an occasional swim -- although the spot was becoming a

little too public for that sport. "He was a backward youth who did not at least acquire the 'dog-paddle' in a summer month." In winter it made a handy skating surface for young and old, male and female. The pond remained until about 1890.



"At picnics ladies should provide the luncheon or dinner, and invent whatever they can in the way of enjoyment for the gentlemen. It is the duty of the gentlemen to procure flowers, carry baskets, to make arrangements for providing music, games, boats, and whatever else is needed to add to the pleasure of the day."



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The supper party pictured below was given on February 22, 1888. Among the guests were Mary Wilde, Mary Wilson Adams, Daisy Wilson, Mary Hannah, Bessie Clapp, Elliott Clapp, and Edward Holmes. At supper parties hot dishes included oysters fried or scalloped, chicken and game; cold dishes were boned turkey, chicken and lobster salad, and raw oysters.

P9577

P9577



Below (left) is a group of young people at Flat Rock celebrating Election Day on November 6, 1888. In the group are Jennie Hegeman (Mrs. William Sutton), Julia L. Snyder, Elizabeth Johnson (Mrs. Oliver Huckle), Edith Clapp, Jaques Hegeman, Elliott Clapp, John Pratt, Jim Gilbert, and Robert M. Boyd. W. I. Lincoln Adams took the picture. His portrait is attached in the small circle.

Above (right) are sportsmen and sportswomen from the High School graduating class of 1889. Seated from left to right are Fred S. Hall, Julie Miller, and Stella Bradford. William J. Sampson is shown with his bicycle.

"Afternoon parties are held from four to seven o'clock in the afternoon. They are 'Morning Receptions.' A sufficient number for a quadrille sometimes remain after most of the company have left. A lady should not wear low-neck dresses nor short sleeves, but should be dressed in demi-toilet, with or without bonnet." "Hospitalities on Sunday are not in good taste. It is a day of rest rather than a day for entertaining, and waiting upon guests." "To shine at the dinner table requires much conversant practice with polite life. A gentleman should never lower the intellectual standard in conversing with ladies. He should consider them as equal in understanding with himself." "Every gentleman should know how to row, as it is a knowledge easily acquired. It is polite to offer a friend the 'stroke' oar, as it is regarded as the post of honor."



Above, right: Sandy Noyes, Lucy Bouden, Charles Noyes, Emily Snyder, Josephine Brautigam, and others, boating in 1885 on Greenwood Lake. The steamboat "Montclair" made regular trips to several landings on the lake -- which was said to be scarcely inferior in picturesque beauty to Loch Lomond. Young ladies of those days were careful of complexions.



32  
 Parlor entertainment. In the back row left is a young man whose sir name was Elliott. Next to him is Mrs. David Holmes. In front of Clapp stands Julia L. Snyder. Her sister Emily poses at the extreme right.

P9590



There were "five crows sat on a tree,  
 And they were black as crows could be.

Said one old crow unto his mate,  
 "What shall we do for grub to eat?"

"There lies a horse on yonder plain,  
 Who's by some cruel butcher slain."

"We'll perch upon his bare back-bone,  
 And pick his eyes out one by one."

Note the  
 rustic  
 settee



The girls singing "We are five crows" are, left to right, Emily L. Snyder, Florence Birdseye, Jennie Noyes, Florence Shafer, Meta Dorr. They were holding a concert on September 18, 1888 at the home of Miss Birdseye. Right is Murdock Robertson with bagpipes.



33  
Active members of the Ladies' Vocal Club: the Misses Alice Bouden, Mary Babcock, S. and E. Benedict, K. and E. Conradt, F. and E. Clapp, Ada Doremus, Augusta Groesch, Stella Livermore, May and Grace Morrison, Nellie Marvin, Helen B. Mills, T. Place, J. M. Robb, Emily Snyder, and Florence Shafer.



*The honor of your presence is requested at the  
Second Montclair Assembly.  
Montclair Hall.*

*Tuesday evening, April 15<sup>th</sup> 1884, at nine o'clock.  
Under the patronage of  
Mrs. W. D. Baldwin, Mrs. H. A. Dike, Mrs. W. H. Power,  
Mrs. W. L. Bull, Mrs. F. W. Guinn, Mrs. F. W. Wheeler,  
Mrs. J. H. Wilson.*

LADIES' \* VOCAL \* CLUB.

FOURTH SEASON, 1886-1887.

FIRST PRIVATE CONCERT

Thursday Evening, February 17th, 1887.

At 8 o'clock.

IN MONTCLAIR HALL.

\* \* \* \*

SOLOISTS:

MR. FRANCIS FISCHER POWERS, - Baritone

MR. VICTOR HERBERT. - Violoncellist

AT THE PIANO,  
MR. LOUIS R. DRESSLER.

AT THE ORGAN,  
MR. EGBERT J. PINNEY.

CONDUCTED BY  
MISS AUGUSTA LOWELL.

Cradle Songs of Many Nations,

WITH

SCOTCH AND ENGLISH BALLADS,

*Under the direction of the Ladies of the Upper  
Montclair Congregational Church,*

FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 14TH, 1886

AT EIGHT O'CLOCK,

IN MONTCLAIR HALL.

Mrs. F. B. Littlejohn, Accompanist.

The married ladies in the Club were the Mesdames or Mmes. Louis E. Bliss, Frank E. Cowtan, J. H. Denby, F. W. Dorman, H. D. Guillanden, C. H. Hutchins, Herbert Lloyd, W. G. McKinley, R. G. Park, Charles Van Vleck, J. H. Walker, Charles E. White and Selah Young.



Left to right: Miss Charlotte T. Weeks, Starr J. Murphy, Mrs. Arthur E. Bostwick, Miss Lucy R. Bouden. With the exception of Mrs. Bostwick, these all acted in the two farces, given on the stage of the old Montclair Hall, which inspired the formation of the Montclair Dramatic Club. Mr. Murphy, a director, was on the Plays Committee.



Parlor entertainments consisting of amateur theatricals, music, reading, charades, and tableaux were common in the eighties. Larger public performances were often given for benefit of charity, library, or church.

The presentation of two unpretentious farces given for the benefit of the Children's Home in the spring of 1889 suggested the organization of the Montclair Dramatic Club. Actors, managers, and invited guests formed the nucleus of the group. They planned to give the town the opportunity to see "Public representations by our local amateur talent." The opening of the new Montclair Club House afforded the first adequate setting for plays. Other existing "Halls" simply had platforms at one end; scenery and accessories had to be improvised in a primitive manner.

The first club production, "Randall's Thumb," by W. S. Gilbert, was given in the new town club on November 1, 1889. Careful rehearsals, beautiful costumes, and prominent names in the cast aroused much interest. They even received favorable comments from New York critics. One of the best known scene painters in New York prepared a series of garden exteriors, rock effects, and seaside views for the production. The hall was crowded to capacity. The only "fly in the ointment" proved to be the women in the audience, who wore hats. This made the front and extreme rear rows of seats the only points of full observation. As this custom was common in most halls, it was accepted with good nature.

In return for the courtesy of the use of the club hall, the Dramatic Club tendered a benefit performance to the Montclair Club. Seats sold for \$1.50 and \$2.00 and netted more than \$200. Proceeds were "applied to defraying the cost of the handsome drop curtain and scenery with which the club hall has been fitted." The acting talent of George Inness, Jr. was discovered at this performance.

In the future all seats for productions were to be for subscribers only. Active members, gentlemen, paid

three dollars annual dues; ladies, one dollar. Associate members were to subscribe the yearly sum of five dollars, and were entitled to four tickets for each show.

Thomas Jefferson, actor son of the famous Joseph I. Jefferson, was an active member of the group. The "charming personality" of Miss Josephine F. Rand was first made known on the local amateur stage.

First Subscription Performance  
Monday, November 11, 1887

RANDALL'S THUMB, A Comedy in three acts, by W.S. Gilbert

#### Cast of Characters

Dr. Trotway . . . . .	Mr. R. M. Boyd, Jr.
Joe Bangles . . . . .	Dr. C. A. Marvin
Randall . . . . .	Mr. A.D. Noyes
Buckthorpe . . . . .	Mr. Starr J. Murphy
Edith Temple . . . . .	Miss J.F. Rand
Miss Spin . . . . .	Miss Mary M. Clark
Mr. Scantlebury . . . . .	Mr. D.B. Hunt, Jr.
Mrs. Scantlebury . . . . .	Mrs. D.D. Duncan
Mr. Flamboys . . . . .	Mr. A.E. Bostwick
Mrs. Flamboys . . . . .	Mrs. A.E. Bostwick
Cumming . . . . .	Mr. A.T. Taylor
Clench . . . . .	Mr. James A. Ryan

Act I Gardens of Beachington Hotel  
Act II The Clump Rocks  
Act III Gardens of Beachington Hotel

At the Club's first subscription performance critics said the "bride and groom episode of Mr. and Mrs. Bostwick was particularly entertaining." Mrs. Bostwick's photograph which appears above is of a later period. Mr. Arthur E. Bostwick was later to be Librarian of the St. Louis Public Library, but was then a local school teacher.



35  
Joseph Jefferson, great American actor, while never a resident of Montclair, often visited his children here and appeared on the local stage. His son, Thomas Lockyer Jefferson, lived at 68 Hawthorne Place with his actress wife, Eugenie Paul. Thomas was on the stage with his own company, making the Jefferson family actors for six generations.

9  
IT IS PROPOSED by several residents of Montclair to organize a Club for the discussion of themes of current interest in Literature, Philosophy, Politics, Science, Art and Religion; a Club which will not only tend to develop home talent, but also bring to thoughtful people in our community "prominent thinkers and workers in various fields of human research."

The meeting for organization will be held on Tuesday evening, December 3d, at eight o'clock,

*in Congregational Chapel*

If you desire to co-operate in such a movement, you are cordially invited to be present.

*A. H. Bradford.*

*J. B. Carter.*

*J. R. Howard.*

*Edmund Madison.*

*W. F. Jenkins.*

*A. E. Postwick.*

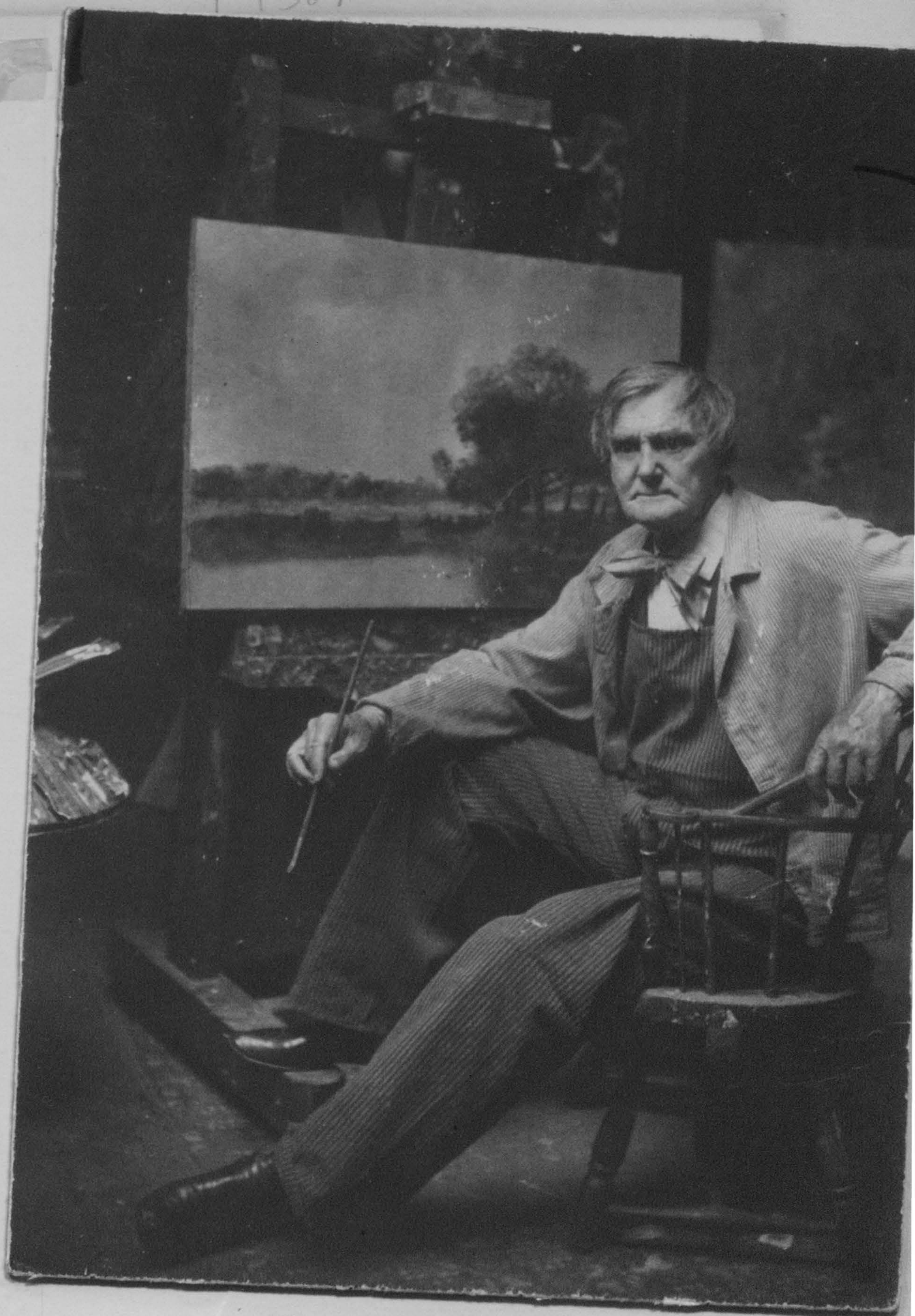
*E. B. Goodell.*

In 1883 there started a series of local gatherings with the object of studying English and American authors. With a smile at the absurdity, the group came to call itself "The Literary." It met fortnightly in the Congregational Church.

The outgrowth of this cultural movement was the Outlook Club, launched by Dr. Bradford on a stormy December evening in 1889 with an attendance of seventy-five. Its ambitious object was to be the "discussion of themes of current interest in literature, philosophy, politics, science, art, industry, and religion."

For many years under its auspices the nation's recognized leaders came here to give their programs: debates, addresses, musical entertainments, and so forth, usually in Montclair Club Hall.

The famous actor Joseph Jefferson was to lecture on their program one evening. At that time his son was a resident of Montclair. During the day, Mr. Jefferson appeared on the stage of the club, explaining "I always want to know what I have to do and where it must be done." He was shown to his chair and some one went through the motions of introducing him. He then arose and proceeded to the desk, and stood a few moments facing an imaginary audience, after which he departed, satisfied. In spite of all his experience, he said he always took pains to make special preparation for each appearance.



After 1889 Jefferson spent the summers at "Crow's Nest" near Grover Cleveland, his friend, on Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts, and the winters on his plantation in Louisiana or at his home in Palm Beach. He inherited his father's love for painting and also for fishing. He spent much of his leisure indulging in these hobbies. In his later years he was much in demand as a lecturer, for in spite of his complete lack of formal education, "he had formulated the laws of his art and could express them with apt phrase and illustration."

Above, is an original invitation to the meeting at which the Outlook Club was organized. The completion of the Montclair Clubhouse made such a group possible giving them an adequate meeting place. The Club's hall seated 500, could be hired by any respectable group, and was always well filled or even crowded when the Outlook had it.

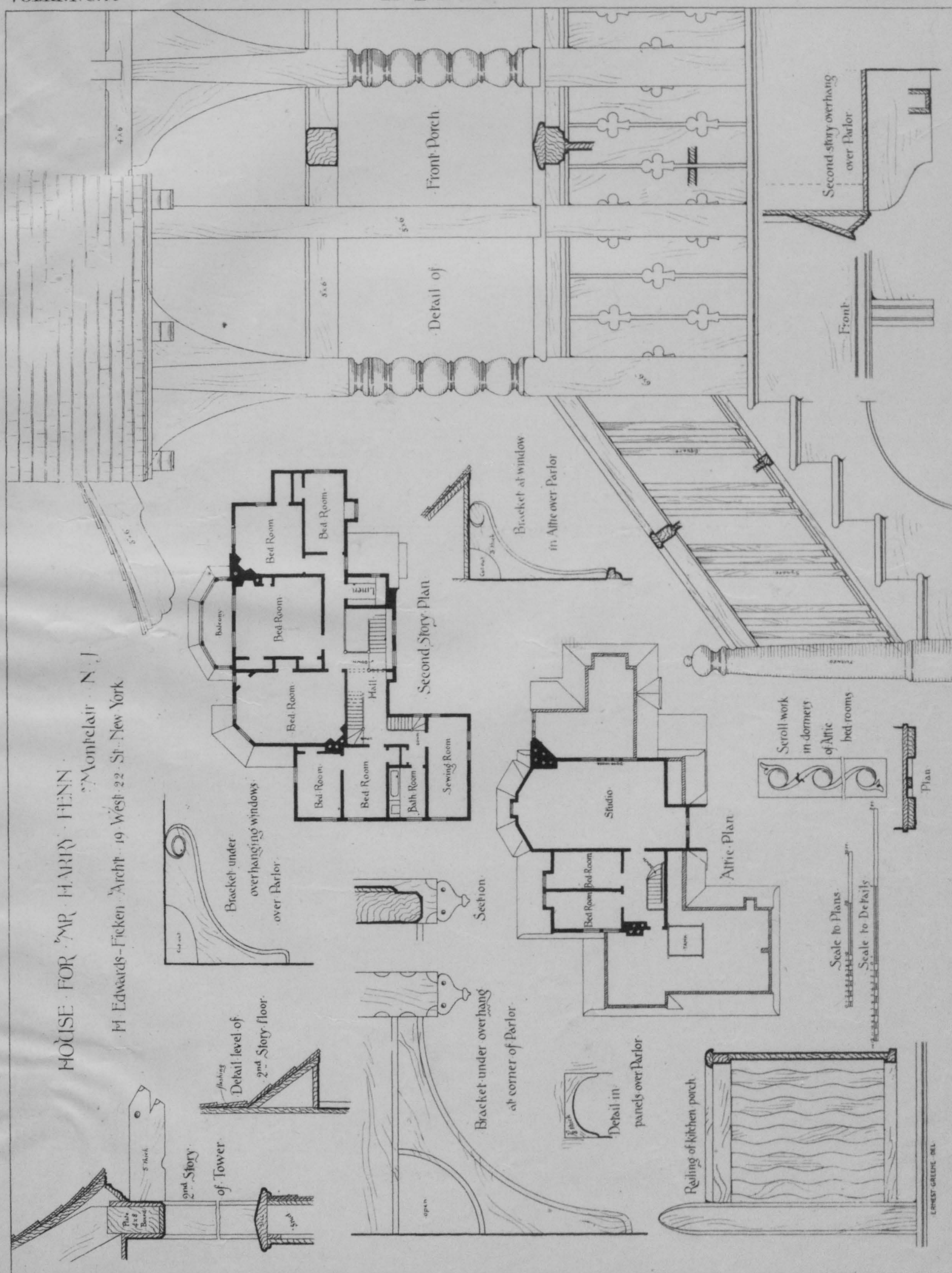


BUILDING.

HOUSE FOR MR. HARRY FENN

Montclair · N. J.

H Edwards-Ficken Arch't 19 West 22 St. New York



"Picturesque America," a book made up of Fenn's drawings, was so successful Fenn was persuaded by its publishers to produce "Picturesque Europe," and then "Picturesque Palestine, Sinai, and Egypt." The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography (1896) states, "He resides in Montclair, N.J., where he has built a handsome residence."



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P9589

Below in costume for amateur theatricals, which were a popular form of amusement for young people, are Susanne Sawyer, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Bostwick, and Ella Sawyer. A great deal of fun was had dressing up and playing parts.



"In the more pretentious home the hall may be planned large enough to be used as a sitting-room, or adapted for a music room. This would facilitate, by screening off one end of this hall, the presentation of private theatricals which in the country in winter are a resource that is inexhaustible for young people."

**GRAND SPELLING MATCH**  
AT PILLSBURY HALL  
MONDAY EVENING APRIL 12,  
AT EIGHT O'CLOCK,  
**TICKETS, 25 CENTS.**

A Confidence Game  
November 9, 1888

*Synopsis of Scenes.*



**ACT I.**

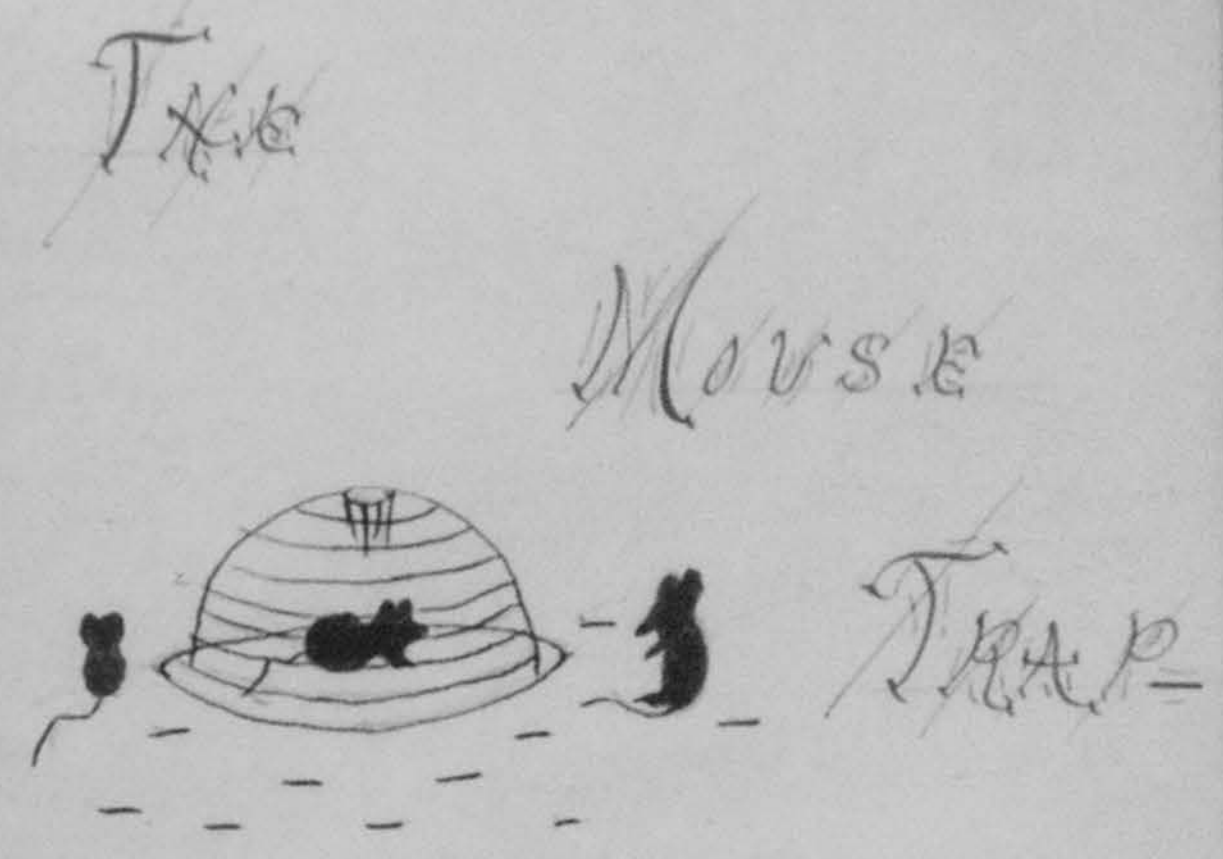
A Room in Friend Benjamin's House.  
TIME—Evening.

**ACT II.**

The same place, three months later.  
TIME—Morning.

*... Cast. ...*

PHILIP HAYWARD, the Confidence Man,  
MR. A. F. REICHELT.  
BENJAMIN ALLEN, a wealthy Quaker,  
MR. JOHN PRATT.  
PATIENCE ALLEN, his Wife,  
MRS. W. L. GUILLAUDU.  
RUTH DEXTER, their fashionable married Daughter,  
MISS STELLA A. LIVERMORE.  
HANNAH, their unmarried Treasure,  
MISS LOUISE HERRICK.  
LORD VALENTINE FEATHERFLUFF, a Live Lord,  
MR. W. L. GUILLAUDU.  
LIEUT. FLEMMING, from West Point,  
MR. JAS. W. CUNNINGHAM.  
PROMPTER—MRS. CHAS. E. VANVLECK.



*Sunk 21,  
1888.*

**The Mouse Trap**

Scene: Mrs. Somers' Drawing Room  
Time: The Present  
Dramatis - Personae:

Mr. Campbell . . . . .	a lawyer . . . . .	Fred S. Hall
Mrs. Somers . . . . .	a widow engaged to Campbell . .	Alice C. Bussing
Mrs. Roberts . . . . .	Campbell's sister . . . . .	Grace R. Walker
Mrs. Miller . . . . .	a caller . . . . .	Stella S. Bradford
Mrs. Bemis . . . . .	a caller . . . . .	Julie P. Miller
Mrs. Curwen . . . . .	a caller . . . . .	Bessie T. Harris
Jane . . . . .	a maid . . . . .	Maud I. Greener

Play was given by High School Juniors (class of 1889)  
in honor of Seniors (class of 1888).

*"Dr-RAT-E!"*

On April, 1884, Miss Elizabeth Cruttenden's dancing class held a reception in Montclair Hall, fifty masters and misses participating. "Pupils were noticeable for their gracefulness of carriage and ease of movement, an accomplishment desirable in the family circle, at school, in the drawing room, or in the dance."



38 ✓ III  
 New popular songs of the eighties: Where Did you Get That Hat, Strolling on Brooklyn Bridge, Five Cent Shave, Funiculi-Funicula, I'll Take You Home Again Kathleen, Spanish Cavalier, We Never Speak as We Pass By, There is a Tavern in the Town, Clementine, Johnny Get your Gun, Love's Old Sweet Song, My Dad's the Engineer, Songs My Mother Taught Me.

19590



Susanne  
 Sawyer  
 in profile

**Floor Manager,**  
 —White Rosette and Gold Tassel—  
**LOUIS FRANK.**

**Ass't Floor Manager,**  
 —White Rosette and Silver Tassel—  
**CHARLES THOMA.**

**Floor Committee:**  
 —Red Rosette and Gold Tassels—  
 WILLIAM FRANK,  
 JOHN COOPER,  
 JAMES McDONALD,  
 WILLIAM TURNEY.

**Reception Committee:**  
 —Blue Rosette and Silver Tassels—  
 ROBERT MILLS,  
 EDWARD DOSSENBACH,  
 HERMAN FRANK.

**SECOND**  
**Annual Ball**  
 —OF THE—  
**Montclair Brass Band,**  
 —TO BE HELD AT—  
**Montclair Hall,**  
**THANKSGIVING EVE, 1882.**  
**MUSIC BY APPELL'S ORCHESTRA.**

**OFFICERS:**

EDWARD DOSSENBACH,	President.
JAMES McDONALD,	Vice-President.
CHAS. THOMA,	Secretary.
RUDOLPH PRAHST,	Treasurer.
LOUIS FRANK,	Leader.

*The pleasure of your company  
 is requested at a Sociable at Miss  
 Anna M. Doremus', Bloomfield  
 Ave. Tuesday Evening, Dec. 9th.  
 Montclair, Nov. 28th.*

Among the dances listed on the above ball programme of the Montclair Brass Band are Les Lanciers, the Polka, the Mazurka, the Quadrille Basket, the Schottische, the Ladies Schottische, the Quadrille Star, the Waltz, the Waltz Quadrille, the Quadrille Caledonians, the Polka Redowa, the Virginia Reel, the Varsoviennne, the Quadrille Nine Pin, the March, the Quadrille Cheat and Jig, the Polka, and to end the evening, the Waltz Home-Sweet-Home -- followed by the significant line, "We part to meet again." The thirty dances scheduled are broken midway by an intermission.

"Frank Butler requested the committee to take action in regard to the Montclair Brass Band playing in Dunlap's Laundry, thereby annoying the neighbors. On motion the clerk was instructed to notify the band to arrange their music business so as to annoy the neighbors as little as possible." Minutes of the Township Committee, June 17, 1884.



39 Vol III  
 "There has been a movement lately toward the stately bows and courtesies of the past. A lady silently courtesies when introduced, a gentleman makes a deep bow without speaking. We have had the custom of hand shaking but perhaps the latest fashion in ceremonious introduction forbids it."



"Gentlemen in going from one house to another on the first day of the year in Montclair, are too often greeted with baskets hanging on the door knobs." So said the Montclair Times. The baskets, meant to hold calling cards, were a gentle hint that the lady of the house was not receiving callers.

New Years had formerly been one of the gayest days in the year. It was not unusual for gentleman to make one hundred calls in a day, "working" early to late. Ladies would stay at home and make great preparations for them, competing to see who would serve the best food and get the most callers.

The Times often published a list of ladies who would receive and added "Of course no one will suppose that these ladies solicit callers any more than if they had issued 'At home' cards, nor will any gentleman call upon them without previous acquaintance." Gentlemen were not asked to take off their overcoats or to be relieved of their hats. Each one took about five minutes in which to wish a Happy New Year, to mention the weather, and to utter the compliment which every man paid a lady, "How remarkably well you are looking today," when he was off

again. By 1889 the local press reported that 'New Year's callers have become like angels' visits, few and far between."

Charles Brautigam,  
 February 22, 1880,  
 age 21 years and  
 8 months



"As the hairy face lost favor, so did the frock coat which had been deemed the only attire in which a 'serious-minded man, with a proper sense of his origin and destiny, and correct feelings about popular government could make his appearance in a lady's parlor'."



For La Grippe the following remedy was recommended in the local newspaper in 1889: A snuff made of a dram and a half of powdered sugar, a dram and a half of roasted coffee, finely powdered, and three grains of menthol, thoroughly mixed, should be drawn into the nostrils as far back as possible every hour or half hour.



The sorry world is sighing now;  
 La Grippe is at the door;  
 And many folks are dying now  
 Who never died before.

Newton MacIntosh

A novel innovation of the early eighties was sleeping pajamas, which some men adopted for night wear instead of the long nightshirt with slashed sides.



41 Vol. VII  
Left group includes in the rear at the left Frank Leffinwell, Town surveyor, his siter Lucia in the center, and his wife at the right in the front row. Holmes is wearing one of the striped blazers, introduced in the eighties, and very much the thing for summer junketing.

P9593



Infants in arms wore long, full dresses. It required  $2\frac{1}{2}$  yards of goods to make even a night dress for a small baby. Dainty outergarments were of nainsook, lawn, or muslin, trimmed with embroidered eedgings, insertions, tucks, and lace. At christenings especially, baby must be shown off in fine robes much belaced and embroidered.

The older girl in the family group below is elegantly dressed in silk which is shirred, draped and pleated. The younger the child, the plainer the dress in this group but such was not common. Even quite small children were usually dressed in fussy clothes, imitating their elders.



Ella Sawyer, central figure in the right picture above, wears one of the popular black knitted jerseys important in the wardrobe of young ladies. They fitted the figure from neck to hips like a glove, and were worn over a draped, pleated, or gathered skirt. In front of Ella is her sister Susanne, and at the right their father, the Rev. Dr. Rollin A. Sawyer.



412  
The "Literary Rose Buds" on the steps of the Wilde home in 1884. J. Strong, E. Clapp, M. Kelly, S. Harrison, A. Wier, K. Scranton, Bertha Boyd, Lou Bouden, J. Noyes, M. Mitchell, E. Still, S. Van Riper, Mary Wilde. Photograph by Randall Spaulding.



The girls below: Belita Walsh, Julia Watkins, Josie Hewitt, Myra Collard, Flossie Mockridge, Grace Hooe, Eva Porter, Jennie Peake, Madeline Denison, Nina Prussia, Sadie Odell, Martha Louvriier, Josie Watkins, France Ward, Hattie Hutchinson, Mabel Smith, Rosa Hutchinson, Muriel Webb, Susie Williams, Grace Hewitt, Elizabeth Dunlap,

Lily Hooe, Louise Douglass, Lottie Daness, Lizzie Daness, Ethel Newton, Elsie Cutts, Flossie Felty, Helen Porter, Edith Weller, Lula Bianchi, Edna Hutchinson, Mamie Douglass, Clara Temple, and Alice Smith. The three boys who appear are Tom Peake, Jimmy Walker and Ned Snow.



These "Sunbeams," a Presbyterian "mission band of little girls all under twelve, raised last year \$420 for missionary causes, besides sending a great many beautiful gifts to the flower missions of New York City." From church report dated May 1889. The photograph (June 1889) includes three boys because their mothers led the Mission Band.



21 43  
Relaxation on Saturday night in the eighties. The gentleman is reading the day's issue of the Montclair Times. Note that the front page is largely devoted to advertising.



At the opening of the eighties the Montclair Times made its appearance each Saturday. The four page sheet was about three years old, but was still struggling to survive, and its owner therefore was not able to follow his personal convictions and make it a Republican organ. He, Augustus Charles Studer, was not only owner and editor, but also publisher, reporter, compositor, bookkeeper and everything but "devil." The subscription was \$2.00 a year, and the office was on "Bloomfield avenue opposite the Morris Building" (the latter block the best known location in town because it housed the Post Office).

Most of the news was derived from three institutions in town -- the Church, the school, and the Township Committee; and the editor himself admitted that it made rather dry reading, but he promised to spare no labor to render the paper varied and interesting, newsy and chaste." In "Notes about Town" appeared the following: "Let no man complain that he don't get his five cents worth in the Times. It is worth five cents to know that nothing of interest has occurred within a week."

By 1884 circulation had reached 1,000 among a population of about 6,000. With the use of much boiler plate,

the pages were increased to six. In 1888, when Jacobus finished his new store on the southwest corner of South Fullerton avenue and the Old Road, the newspaper office was moved to larger quarters on its second floor.

In 1889 the circulation had climbed to 1,300. The column "Notes about Town," which included the "personals," had grown from six or eight items to two or three columns. While early issues had carried feature stories about the fight for good roads, a safe water supply, fire protection, sidewalks, street lights, and so forth, there now appeared reports of cultural activities, lectures, concerts, and social affairs. Most of the great reform movements which had been earnestly advocated in the press had become well established.

For a very few years a rival journalistic sheet, "The Montclair Register," was supported by the local Democrats. Just before the end of the decade publication of "The Montclair Herald" was begun. It was sponsored by the Democrats and Independents.

The "Montclair Press," a very bright little amateur weekly, was published from 1889 to 1891 by two boys, James and Arthur Owen, sons of Town Engineer Owen. It gained quite a circulation and contained many interesting items. The boys set the type themselves and printed the paper upon a small press in their father's barn, doing all the work after school hours. A feature that interested the older people was the department known as "Topics by His Nibs," the contributions for which were from the prolific pen of Engineer Owen. The Press grew almost into the sphere of regular journalism, and had gained much popularity when it was discontinued, much to the regret of its many patrons, because of the death of the older brother.

Advertisements in the Montclair Times offered first-class fresh cow; automatic gaslights; Brewster wagon; coupe harness; Plymouth rock chickens; seed potatoes; Dusenbury harness; Black Polish fowls; two-seated phaeton; rockaway; side-bar buggy; croquet sets, 90¢ to \$5.00 per set; hats and bonnets; a 24 acre farm; cutter and two robes; elocution lessons; mountain strawberries; pair of well matched carriage horses; Mark Twain's new book, "The Prince and the Pauper;" Cory furnaces (over one hundred in use in Montclair); the Montclair Tooth Brush, everyone warranted; fresh gas and ether given by the dentist, Dr. S. C. G. Watkins; carpet beating; Francisco's milk and cream from stock fed on strictly sweet feed, hay, and pasture, in sealed glass jars; fine reed baby carriage lined in silk plush with satin parasol for \$10.67, reduced from \$16.00; Dr. John R. Howard's new book for sale by William R. Green (1888); ladies gloves at fifty cents a pair; reliable, healthful and economic baking powder, manufactured locally by R. D. Platt; one unsurpassed lot of seven acres, commanding a view of five per cent of the population of the United States (New York Sun says sounds exaggerated but its truth is supported by facts); latest novelty in toilet soap to be seen at Mr. Doremus' store in the forms of red and yellow apples labelled Spitzbergen, Fall Pippin, Sheep's Nose; fall and winter board with every home comfort; jobbing promptly attended to at Warren S. Taylor's Planing Mill on Grove Street; the Monitor Oil Stove, with which one can cook for five persons at a cost of ten cents a day.

"Local events should be chronicled which can be compiled in a future history of the rising generation; and the business community should be heard from through this medium. In all civilized communities a newspaper has of late years been considered a public necessity and we can conceive of no reason why Montclair should be an exception."



44 Vol III  
Augustus C. Studer, founder of the Montclair Times, first came to Montclair from his native Newark as a two-year-old, but soon, due to cholera in the region, was taken to Thun, Switzerland, where the castle of Thun had been the family's ancestral home. His elementary school years were spent in Switzerland.

## MONTCLAIR TIMES.

Published Every Saturday.

A. C. STUDER, - - Proprietor

Terms.....\$2.00 Per Year,

Strictly in Advance.

ENTERED IN THE POST OFFICE AT MONTCLAIR, AS  
SECOND-CLASS MATTER

Office: on Bloomfield Avenue,  
OPPOSITE MORRIS' BUILDING.

All communications must be addressed  
to A. C. Studer, Proprietor THE MONTCLAIR  
TIMES.

BUY YOUR

BOOTS, SHOES and GAITERS,

-OF-

WILLIAM JACOBUS.

Cor. Church street and Fullerton avenue.

BURT'S SHOES A SPECIALTY. sep20-tf

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1881.

SEVERAL New York and Newark papers published horribly exaggerated accounts of the highway robbery in Cedar Grove. One had as a caption: "Sicilian Brigands in Montclair!" while another was headed:—"Montclair Bandits Rob a New York Merchant—One Hundred Armed Men in Pursuit of the Robbers."

### HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

A Resident of Cedar Grove Attacked on the Van Gieson Gap Road: Gagged and Robbed of \$108.

Mr. Chas. Marshall is a salesman in the employ of Peyton & Peyton, No. 21 East 15th street, New York, and lives near Cedar Grove, on what is known as the Van Gieson Gap road.

On his return home on Saturday evening of last week, he followed the course of a narrow path which winds through the woods from the Greenwood Lake railroad station, to the vicinity of his house, and, as is his custom, carried a number of parcels containing purchases made in the city. He had gone about half way when he noticed two men crouching behind some bushes, and in another instant, a third man sprang from behind a cedar tree, where he had been hiding, and threw about two ounces of red pepper into his face, while the others threw him on the ground. One of the ruffians informed Mr. Marshall that they did not intend him any harm, but that they wanted his money.

In one of his pockets, Mr. Marshall had a copy of the Evening Telegram, and fearing that his cries for help would arouse the neighborhood, one of the rascals folded the paper and thrust it into his mouth.

The thieves then took Mr. Marshall's purse containing \$108, of which \$98 belonged to the firm, at the same time threatening him to lay still if he valued his life. In his vest pocket the gentleman had 99 cents which was not taken, nor his watch, though the chain was broken into four pieces.

The robbers then turned and fled toward Montclair, followed by Mr. Marshall, who being almost blinded from the effects of the pepper and completely exhausted from the desperate struggle, was unable to pursue them but a short distance. He hastened home, and in the evening was driven to Dr. Love, of this place, where his eyes were dressed.

No clue has been found to the perpetrators of the outrage, though the conductor of an evening train on the D. L. & W. R. R., observed three suspicious characters board the cars, at Montclair, on Saturday evening, and thinks that they must have been the highwaymen.

1885

## INDEPENDENCE DAY

### ORATION.

By the Times, the Leading Journal.

Should you ask me why this concourse,  
Why this pageant and procession  
Of the people of the village,  
Who have gathered here together,  
On this pleasant day in Summer;  
I should answer, I should tell you,  
'Tis to celebrate the birthday  
Of a great and glorious country,  
Of a nation made of heroes,  
Made of freemen and of heroes.  
Therefore have the people gathered,  
Gathered from their stores and workshops,  
Stopping their accustomed labor,  
Closing all their business places.  
All the grocers and the plumbers,  
All the dry goods men and butchers,  
The confectioners and painters,  
The tin roofers and the feedmen;  
Those who deal in drugs and nostrums,  
Dealers in boots, shoes and slippers,  
In tobacco, pipes and pipe stems;  
With the stationers and barbers,  
And the livery stable keepers;  
All the carpenters and masons,  
Milkmen, jewelers, harness makers,  
And the hardware men and bakers;  
All the architects and lawyers,  
The court officers and judges,  
And the dentists, the tooth lifters:  
All the trades and the professions,  
In the line are represented.  
There are citizens on horseback,  
With a medicine-man to lead them,  
There are veterans scarred in battle,  
Men who fought to save the Nation.  
All the clubs have here assembled,  
All societies and lodges,  
The police and fire departments,  
And the Democrats and Blaine men,  
With their batteries, their cannon—  
But alas! where are the Mugwumps?—  
All our townsmen are parading,  
For our old men have discovered,  
That the people of all cities,  
Of all villages and hamlets—  
Everywhere except "West Bloomfield,"  
Keep this day with great rejoicing.  
Therefore was this poem written,  
Therefore has the poet labored,  
Very hard the poet labored,  
All night long he sat and pondered,  
With an aching head he scribbled;  
That he might compose his epic,  
For the TIMES, the leading journal  
Of this thriving, bustling village;  
That in future generations,  
When Montclair shall be a city,  
Be a great commercial city,  
And the TIMES shall issue daily,  
Semi-weekly and tri-weekly;  
Our grand children shall remember  
How their ancestors discovered  
That the Nation had a birth day,  
That July the Fourth was famous.

Like most local papers of its day the Montclair Times originally carried much news of regional, national, and international import, with a comparatively small area given to the limited number of homely and highly human news notes about Montclair and its people. Its local advertising is of great interest for the light it throws on the type of life of the period, and on the persons and institutions here.

The support of the paper was contributed to largely by Newark advertisers, who occupied most of page one in all the early issues. Nevertheless, the local advertisements are among the most interesting items. The following excerpts are representative. "Buy your boots, shoes, and gaiters of William Jacobus on Church street and Fullerton avenue"; "Carpenter work done at fifteen-cents per hour"; "Situation wanted --- By a young man, Swede, to take care of horses or cows . . ."

A. C. Studer's enthusiasm for music brought Montclair its first symphony concert, led to his work with Walter Demrosch in developing children's orchestras, and to his daughter Edith's studies under famous pianists here and abroad. Later his son and daughter-in-law were important in extending music presentation and appreciation in the region.



43  
V8 III  
Cheap "Libraries" of 1875-1893 comprised several series of paper dime and half-dime novels. While they sold in great numbers, only two titles became really best sellers, one of which was "Seth Jones," written by Edward S. Ellis, who came to live in Montclair. It's initial sale was 450,000 copies, and it was reprinted in other editions for years.

A little building on South Fullerton avenue held the book collection of the Montclair Library Association, which was supported by subscriptions and fund raising entertainments. It is said that the first public theatricals in Montclair were given to raise money for the Library.

Bertha Trippe, the Librarian, had been appointed in 1879 at an annual salary of \$100. The manuscript catalogue was being completed, a concert given for that purpose having netted \$151. Subscriptions were being withdrawn, due largely, it is said, to the enormous increase of cheap literature being sold at newstands and in shops. In view of the feeble support from the public, the Board -- Dr. John J. Love, John H. Pratt, Israel Pratt and his wife -- voted at their meeting in February of 1880 to close the Library after March first except for one day each week.

In 1880 the Association had 144 stockholders, owned 3,000 volumes, and reported 4,893 books lent the previous year. On the morning of February 28, 1880, their little building burned to the ground, but the book collection was saved. At their annual meeting in May it was reported that a settlement had been made with the insurance company, leaving cash on hand amounting to \$1,104. They also had 2,192 books, 243 bound and unbound numbers of the North American Review, 9 of Saint Nicholas, 31 volumes of Appleton's Journal, 8 Scribners, 3 Popular Science Monthly. They were subscribing to Saint Nicholas, Scribners, Harper's Monthly, the Montclair Times, the Nation, and Harper's Bazaar. They owned one closet, two tables, eight chairs, one stepladder, two window shades and some lamps. The books were housed temporarily in the Morris Building and were being lent for home use.

A committee appointed at this time to investigate laws relating to free libraries reported at a meeting held in the Wilde House that under existing laws no transfer could be made to public libraries. As the group's assets were constantly diminishing and they found it difficult to obtain a librarian, it was decided to put the books into the custody of the Board of Education. A teacher assumed the responsibility of lending books to the community, and the custodianship of the catalogue, one table, one wardrobe, one inkstand, one bust of Washington, and eight chairs. They lent their stove to the Firemen's Association. In May of 1888, it was reported that during the past year 1,400 volumes had been borrowed by 240 persons.

In Upper Montclair in 1885, Mount Hebron School had a library of between one hundred and two hundred volumes selected with a view to general circulation in the neighborhood. A fair held that year raised \$50 which entitled the trustees to claim an additional \$10 allowed by

One of the flash hits of the Eighties was "Robert Elsmere," by Mrs. Humphrey Ward. It was printed by Macmillan in editions ranging from 50¢ to \$3. in price, and by pirating "libraries" was sold for from 20¢ to \$1.25. One firm gave it away as a premium with a bar of soap. Lew Wallace's "Ben-Hur" started slowly and remained full-priced.

## TWO GRAND AMATEUR Dramatic Entertainments

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE

# Montclair Library,

WILL BE GIVEN AT

## MONTCLAIR HALL,

ON

WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 5th,

AND

FRIDAY EVE'G FEBRUARY 7th.

*On which occasion will be presented the well known Irish Drama entitled*

## HANDY ANDY.

To be followed by the Laughable Farce

## Ici on parle Francais.

Single Admission Each Evening, One Dollar. Children 50 Cts.

Tickets may be procured at the Door, or at Madison's Book Store.

Course Tickets Expire on Wednesday Evening.

DOORS OPEN AT 7.30 O'CLOCK,  
CURTAIN RISES AT 8 O'CLOCK.

ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY PROF. GIESEMAN.

N. B.—No Postponement on account of the Weather.

the state for the purchase of books.

### A PUBLIC LIBRARY.

A properly endowed public library is always a blessing. It should be the place where the mechanic can find books pertaining to his craft; where the lover of art and literature can find what he cannot afford to buy; where the professional man can go for books of reference; it should be, as it would be, the center of the thought of the whole community. A beginning in this line was made years ago, but it has dragged along a feeble existence; and not half the persons in the town know that there are here already nearly 2,000 well selected books available for general use. For want of a better place to

keep them they are tucked away in a corner of the already crowded school building. If some man should erect a suitable building, and then provide a proper endowment so that that library could grow, the town would soon begin to feel the pulses of a new life. I envy the man who sees, and is able to take advantage of this golden opportunity; who says to himself "Well, if the town does not realize its privilege I will do the work myself." If there is the man within the sound of my voice who will do that, I tell you the day is not very far distant when all the people will rise and call him blessed; and wreath his name with loving and grateful remembrance.



46  
The Montclair Press was a little amateur weekly which two boys, James and Arthur Owen, sons of town engineer Owens, began to publish in 1889. It had quite a circulation for it contained many newsy items. The boys set the type themselves and printed the paper upon a small press in their father's barn.

## Christmas Number OF The Montclair Press.

Vol. 2. December 21, 1889 No. 7.

This is the first Christmas The PRESS has ever seen, yet thanks to our patrons the little "weakly" has developed into one of the great institutions of America, a free "PRESS." In spite of old Winter's backwardness in coming forward and putting on his Christmas garments, and the doleful predictions of a green Christmas, we, in anticipation of good times to come hope that all others will have the same, and a merry Christmas, and a happy New Year.

Burglars held high revel in Mr. Bordin's house on the corner of Hawthorne Place and Fullerton Avenue last Tuesday evening, about 8:30. The house was entered by an upstairs window, while the family were below, and the daring robbers made a clean sweep. All the jewelry, watches and other valuables, amounting to nearly \$1000 were gathered up, and carried off at leisure. The plan might be adopted with great success in many houses where the upper rooms are left unguarded every evening.

Mr. F. Drescher is erecting a fine residence on the corner of Valley Road and Clairmont Avenue.

The D. L. & W. R. R. Co. are contemplating the erection of a new station on the Montclair branch, between Roseville and Watsessing.

### THE MONTCLAIR PRESS,

Published every Saturday morning by the Owen Bros. at 151 Midland Ave. Price 1 cent. Advertising rates can be obtained from carrier.

J. W. OWEN, Editor.  
A. E. OWEN, Manager.  
St. James' Episcopal Church of Upper Montclair has been enriched by the presentation of a handsome new altar, the donor of which desires to be unknown. A considerable sum of money has also been donated. The new parish is in a flourishing condition under the able priest Mr. Heywood.

The roadway of Valley Road has been macadamized the entire width opposite Congregational Church at Upper Montclair.

Newman Hoot's horse created a slight excitement in Bloomfield Avenue yesterday morning, but recovering himself in time was arrested for obstructing the public highway.

The front of William McDowell's grocery store on Bloomfield Avenue, has been repainted.

The Montclair Dramatic Club will hold a benefit performance to the Montclair Club in the new Music Hall on Friday, December 27th.

This afternoon the ladies of the First Presbyterian Church will hold an apron and cake sale in the chapel from two to six o'clock.

Christmas decorations have appeared in the windows of many of our store keepers.

The examinations of the Public School were held on Wednesday and Thursday.

Park Street, north of Walnut Street, has been repaired by filling up the worst mud holes with gravel.

Mr. Sanford's house on Park Street, near Munn Street, is being repainted.

The gutter in front of the Bank is being relaid.

Work is progressing rapidly on 10th Mr. Doremus's and Mr. Spencer's new buildings.

The happiness of the Second Class at the beginning of vacation was considerably spoiled by announcement that Miss Hayward who for the past two years has been a greatly loved teacher of that class, was about to leave on account of ill health.

### G. H. HAYDEN, PAINTER And Decorator!

ARTISTIC WALL PAPER DECORATIONS  
A SPECIALTY.

Bloomfield Avenue,  
Near Midland Ave. Montclair, N. J.

THE  
MONTCLAIR PHARMACY,  
Cor. Church St. and Bloomfield Ave.

D. H. BALDWIN,  
DRUGGIST & CHEMIST,

Pure Drugs,  
Medicines and Chemicals  
at Reasonable Prices.  
Established Seventeen Years.  
MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY

The Nashville Tennessee Jubilee Singers held a performance in the Montclair Club Music Hall, last Thursday evening.

A social club was organized Thursday evening composed of nineteen charter members of the Montclair Hook and Ladder Company.

In spite of the cloud which hovered over Montclair all yesterday, a goodly assembly collected in Mrs. Davis's parlor to feast both eyes and palate on the pretty things therein placed. Very pretty things were offered at low prices, and the lady—[?] Visitors in the afternoon were very much disappointed at the non-appearance of the Phonograph, which was ushered in finally at about five o'clock, with no attendant where with to "get it a going." At the eleventh hour, that is about 7:30 it was kept busy by the people who wished to hear the wonderful invention. We hope that Mrs. Davis will have realized all she expected, which from her efforts in starting and carrying on the fair, deserve.

DELICACIES FOR THE HOLIDAYS,  
Mr. Philip Doremus is receiving weekly from Florida, Prime Sweet Oranges and Mandarins. He has also a fine stock of Malaga Grapes, Raisins, Nuts, Figs, Dates French Prunes, etc.

I. SEYMOUR CRANE,  
Dealer in  
GENERAL HARDWARE  
Housefurnishing Goods,  
Stoves, Heaters and Ranges,  
Plumbing, Tinning and Gasfitting  
Paints, Oils, &c.  
Corner of Bloomfield and Fullerton Avenues.  
Montclair, N. J.

Wallace Weeks,  
PAINTER  
AND PAPERHANGER.  
Artistic Wall Paper Decorations  
A SPECIALTY  
Fullerton Avenue,  
Near Bloomfield Ave. Montclair N. J.

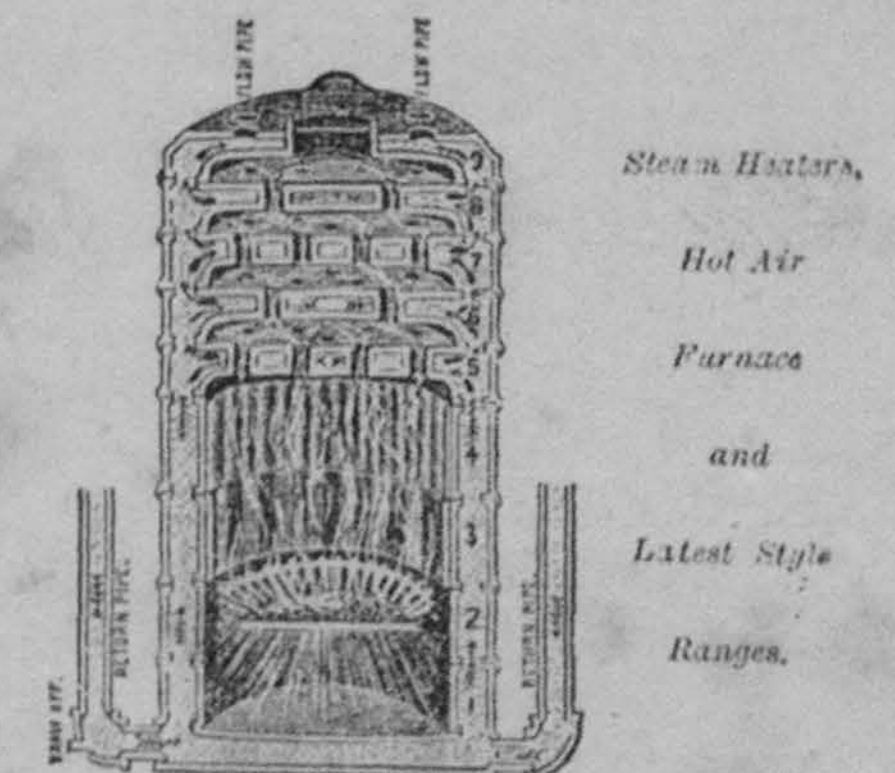
Any one could tell that it was drawing near Christmas by merely asking the superintendents of the Sunday Schools how many new scholars had joined the school lately.

A Christmas Fair and Festival will be held at the Saint Mark's M. E. Church on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings of next week.

Mrs. Henry A. Dike, widow of the late Mr. Henry A. Dike, died at her residence on Fifth Avenue, New York, last Monday.

Mr. Vaughn Darress, formally station agent of the N.Y. & G.L. R.R. has opened an express office in the store in Pillsbury's Building formally used as an auction room.

Southward & Parsons  
STEAM and SANITARY  
ENGINEERS,  
—Plumbers and Gasfitters,—  
TIN AND SHEET IRON WORKERS.



Post Office Box 255,  
321 Bloomfield Avenue.  
MONTCLAIR, N. J.

James Owen came to Montclair in 1872, and the same year became Town Engineer. He later served as Township Committeeman and on the School Board. He was chairman of the school committee which introduced technical education. It was said that this was the first public school in the United States to adopt that system.



47 Vol III

Park Street between Claremont Avenue and Walnut Street looking north, photographed by Edward Lyon. The wistaria-draped porch was at the home of John T. Weeks and wife, Emogene, 95 South Mountain Avenue. Children: Mary (shortly to become first librarian of the public library), Clara, Charlotte T., Willet E., and Eleanor F.

P9599



Many authors and publishers have represented Montclair in the world of books. In 1882 a sixteen year old lad, John Barnes Pratt, began commuting from here to a job with A. S. Barnes & Company in New York.

John received from Mr. Barnes, his uncle, the following letter. "My son has charge of the factory and I have asked him to take you and give you employment. You will be able to show what your capabilities are during my absence. Your success as a clerk or merchant will depend upon yourself. You must be ready to take hold and do what your hands find to do, and after you become familiar with your duties you must act without being told. Keep your mind on whatever you have to do and always try to do it well, avoid mistakes. As your wages must be small, you will get your meals and lodging at my house, and take your lunch for noon with you from the house. Your evenings should be spent profitably either reading or studying in your room, or attending religious meetings or lectures. I would recommend that you join the Young Men's Christian Association, where you will be thrown into contact with the right kind of young men. On the Sabbath attend the Clinton Avenue Church, sit in my pew and join your cousin Alfred's Bible Class. Set your standard high and work up to it. This is the critical period of your life -- as you start now, so you will be likely to go."

This advice was probably heeded, for Mr. Barnes <sup>Pratt?</sup> lived to become the sole owner of the concern. His early work as shipper and clerk entailed arduous duties as at that time there were no stenographers, typewriters, telephones or electric lights. Presses were fed by hand; primitive binding machinery was run by hand and foot.

From the Montclair Times  
of June 8, 1889

**A**S we exhibit with p which grew on our own home vines, so we present for consideration to-day a couple of choice clusters of fruit from Montclair's artistic vine, knowing full well that this community appreciates such fruit and will feel specially interested in it because it is ours.

"Thoughts," by Miss Grace Seymour, is a series of pen and ink sketches with little pansy heads everywhere present to form a typical frame for the conception of some master mind in the realm of thought. A beautiful booklet indeed, and worthily printed and bound. 50c.

"Montclair," by W. I. Lincoln Adams, suggests delightful rambles with a camera through the nooks and corners of beauty which abound in our lovely town. It is a series of delightfully grouped photogravures and almost every scene can be readily located by any one who is familiar with our wooded hills. The page showing the entrance to our Sabbath homes is surely an artist's work, and the glimpse of the school belfry is just as cute as it can be. This work is rather an edition de luxe, for there are but 150 copies for sale. Price \$4.00. But my space is gone and I have just commenced.

E. MADISON,

Montclair, N. J.

BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER.

Townsmen John Raymond Howard, of Fords, Howard, and Hulbert of New York, published in 1880 the first English translation of the classic prose-poem "Aucassin et Nicolette," under the title "The Lovers of Provence." The firm also inaugurated the subscription success, the "Beacon Lights of History," and were the publishers of Henry Ward Beecher.



48 ✓ III  
The first local switchboard was established in the Yost home at 962 Bloomfield Avenue in 1882. It was a small 50 line switchboard of the magneto type, with six instruments in working order in Montclair. This made the village one of the earliest communities in the county to have telephones.

your ear and address person called.

"If you do not immediately hear his voice, the delay -- except in rare cases -- is owing to his failure to promptly answer the call. Therefore hang up the receiver, press in the button, and ring again, then put the receiver to your ear. Speak in moderate, clear tones, with the mouth three or four inches from the transmitter. Loud speaking jars the mechanism of the instrument and produces a confused sound. When through do not fail to hang up the receiver and call off, pressing in button and turning the crank briskly."

In 1887 the original switchboard was moved to the second floor of Mullen's Livery Stable. In December 1889 there were fifty-five subscribing to this local service. It was not until 1896 that connections could be made with distant cities beyond New York.

The village had for some years been in connection with the outside world by telegraph. When sending a message one had a choice of three offices: The Atlantic and Pacific was located in the Morris Building; Western Union, in the D. L. & W. railway station, employed three messengers who delivered within one mile; and Miss E. C. Platt managed the business of the American Union Company in the Post Office. In spite of all this competition, service was poor and slow. New York business men were much annoyed when important messages lay in the offices undelivered while a whole day elapsed.

In 1877 a telegraph office had been opened in the depot at Upper Montclair. Previously villagers had paid a dollar to have messages delivered from down town. This office was operated by the post-mistress, Mrs. Raymond; or, as the newspapers said, "Mrs. Raymond will officiate at the key." The telegraph office closed temporarily each day while Mrs. Raymond's class of infants, called "Buds of Promise," was in session.

The first telephone conversation in Montclair was no doubt heard over the real Edison telephone installed at one of the "Harvest Home" fairs. Publicity for the event claimed that the new invention was able to "convey messages in all languages."

In May of 1879 it was reported that a project was under way to connect Montclair, Bloomfield, and Caldwell by telephone with the New York office of Samuel Crump's Label Press office where messengers would be employed to deliver messages to any part of the big city.

The first local house phone was installed in Mr. Crump's home on Orange Road. In the earliest telephone directory available for this section, dated April, 1880, issued by the Gold and Stock Telegraph Company, he was the only Montclair resident listed. That was true also in the list of suburban subscribers of the Metropolitan Telephone and Telegraph Company issued for the two years following. In 1881 The Mansion House proudly advertised that it was in direct communication by Bell Telephone with Mullen's Livery Stables at both railroad stations.

Making a call required patience. According to instructions in the 1883 directory one must "Press in the button and turn the crank briskly; unhook the listening telephone and put it close to your ear, when central office will inquire 'What number?' Give central office your number and number of person wanted, and, upon receiving the answer 'All right' hang up the receiver and wait till your bell rings, then place the receiver to

Above :  
Miss Matilda Yost  
Right :  
Miss Elizabeth S. Yost

Montclair Times, 1889: "After January first the Times will be on the telephone." "People who want to telephone to the Greenwood Lake depot to know the time of the departure of the next train must now refrain, as the telephone is out for good." "A third messenger has been installed at the telegraph office at the D. L. & W. Railway station."



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M O N T C L A I R

in the

E L E G A N T   E I G H T I E S

the decade which saw

the greatest change in its history

by

G L A D Y S   S E G A R

V O L U M E   IV

M O N T C L A I R   P U B L I C   L I B R A R Y

1 9 4 8

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D E D I C A T E D

to Margery Quigley, without whose encouragement  
there would have been no book; to the Montclair  
Times, without which there could have been no  
text; to generous patrons, without whom there  
could have been no illustrations. G. S.

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Contents

VOLUME I : The Scene and the People

VOLUME II : Homes: Exteriors; Interiors

VOLUME III: Cultural, Civic, and Social

VOLUME IV : Business; Transportation

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T H I S V O L U M E : IV

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Most of the pictures in these volumes were given to  
the Montclair Library for its Local History File by  
descendants of old Montclair families or by the  
Montclair Times. All are believed, most are known,  
to have been taken in Montclair during the 1880's  
or to be pictures of Montclair people taken at that  
time.

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Philip Doremus' store on Bloomfield Avenue was built in 1871 on the site of his father's store which was established in 1811. "His stock was always of the highest standard and especially adapted to the wants of the wealthy classes who were his patrons." His home with covered well and picket fence stands close by facing the Old Road.



This store and homestead of Philip Doremus, the merchant, occupied the block between North Fullerton Avenue and the Old Road. On the left are seen the hay scales. The store carried a heavy stock of general merchandise, groceries, crockery, hardware, farm machinery, medicines, seeds, etc. Mr. Doremus had inherited the business from his father who established it in 1811, and enjoyed a large trade as a result of honest dealings over a period of many years. Therefore Doremus felt no need to advertise in the local press whose columns listed the specialities of his competitors.

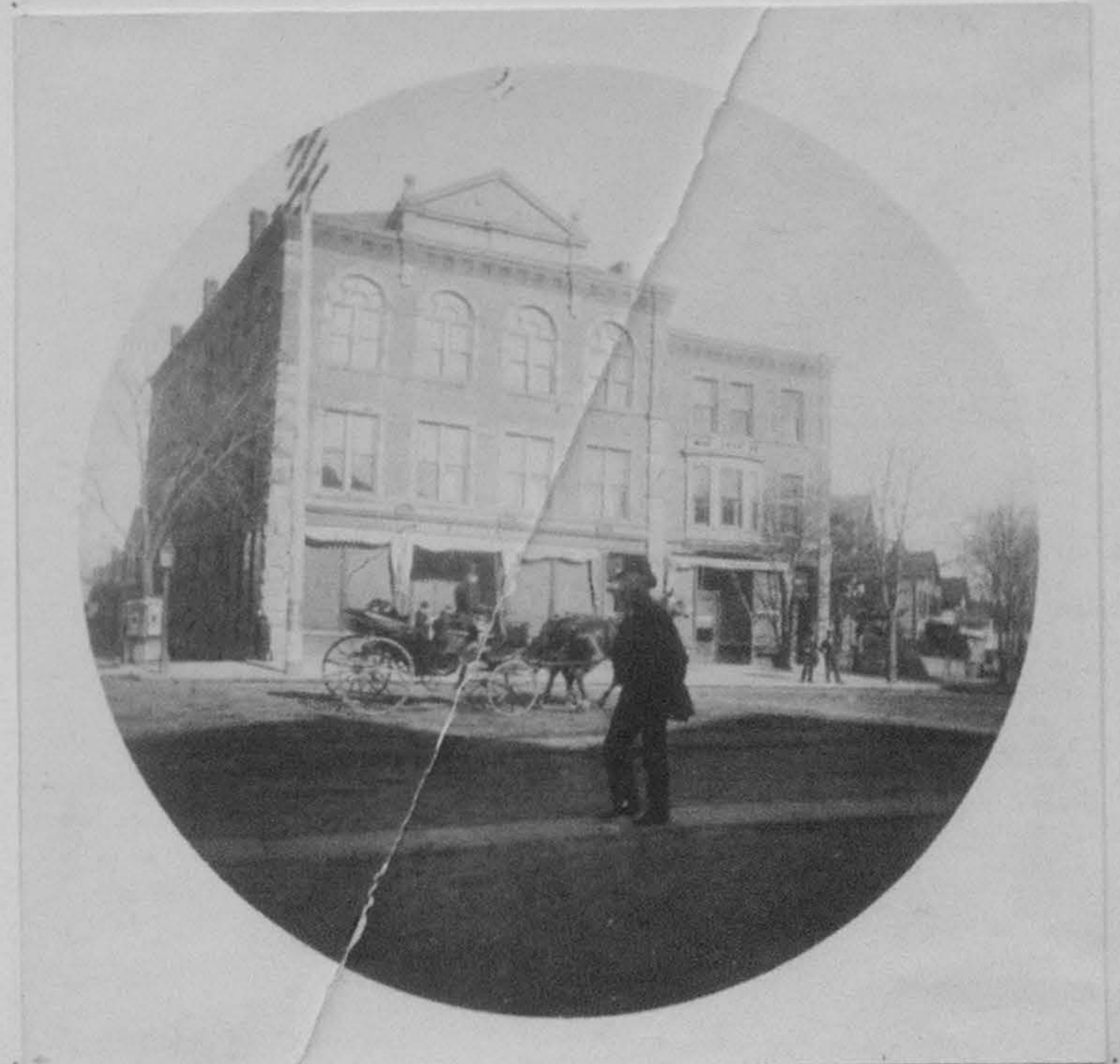
On Bloomfield Avenue, Richter V. McDowell sold fancy and staple groceries; J. M. Sutphen, meats and fish; J. G. Crane & Son, hardware and stoves. Douglas' Empire Store, a new well-lighted building at the corner of Park Street, sold groceries, dry-goods and feed. Harris Brothers, of the Bee Hive, in winter months advertised chest shield undershirts and double seated kidney protector drawers. E. Madison, the bookseller, featured new style birthday cards, text books, and magazine subscriptions. Houliston's Restaurant and Oyster Saloon suggested "Take home a fry in a box." John Goman was agent for the light-running New Home Sewing Machine.

Philip Keller, the barber, had recently erected a red brick building at 450 Bloomfield Avenue. Prices at the old family shoe store of William Doremus were modest: boots, one dollar; rubbers, one quarter; shoes, twenty-five cents up. William Hughes, better known as Billy the Tailor, had been established since 1869. His Prince Alberts sold for from eighteen to thirty dollars. Robert Earl delivered ice from his house at the pond on Church Street made by damming Toney's Brook at the Crescent. J. D. Keyler, at his undertaking rooms, supplied brides with new furniture and renovated old pieces.

Mrs. A. Maynard told the world "No two hats or bonnets will be trimmed alike." Lou Taylor at 612 Bloom-

field Avenue sold fancy and dry goods, including a full stock of corsets, muslins, prints, cambrics, calicoes, etc. His shop was called the town's first real dry goods store. Increasing sales of ready made ladies' and children's outer garments showed that less sewing was being done in the home.

John Rush, newsdealer, sold out in 1889 to Hooe Brothers. Business men on their way to the depot snatched the morning paper from their little stand near the Morris Building. B. W. Jacobus sold vegetables, fish, oysters and poultry. Prescriptions were filled and soda water dispensed by rival pharmacists, A. M. Benham and D. H. Baldwin. George Romer mended wagons at his shop on the Avenue.



Mr. Doremus planned his new brick store (above) to be substantial, convenient, and handsome. The entire building was steam heated. When finished in 1889 at a cost upward of \$30,000 it was called a decided ornament to the town and a lasting monument to the public spirit of its owner. Architect, Paul Botticher of Newark.



Built for Edward E. Wright in 1889. At the right a bit of the Mansion House is seen; on the left, one of the earliest brick buildings in town. Richter V. McDowell's grocery occupied the main store in the block; next, the Montclair Steam Laundry; beyond that a tobacco store, indicated by the wooden Indian. Notice hitching posts and carriage blocks.

P 9601



P 9602



Business block built by Christopher Andrew Hinck about 1886. The building stood on Christopher Street, which was laid out and improved by Mr. Hinck and named for him. There were then less than a dozen houses on the older nearby Grove Street, where the family lived. Mr. Hinck allowed the local ball team to lay out a diamond on his lot.



3 Vol IV  
This photograph of the Morris Building was taken before May of 1888 for on that date George Dipley took over the central store for the purpose of making and repairing shoes. Between 1880 and 1886 that space had been occupied by the post office and one of the telegraph companies.



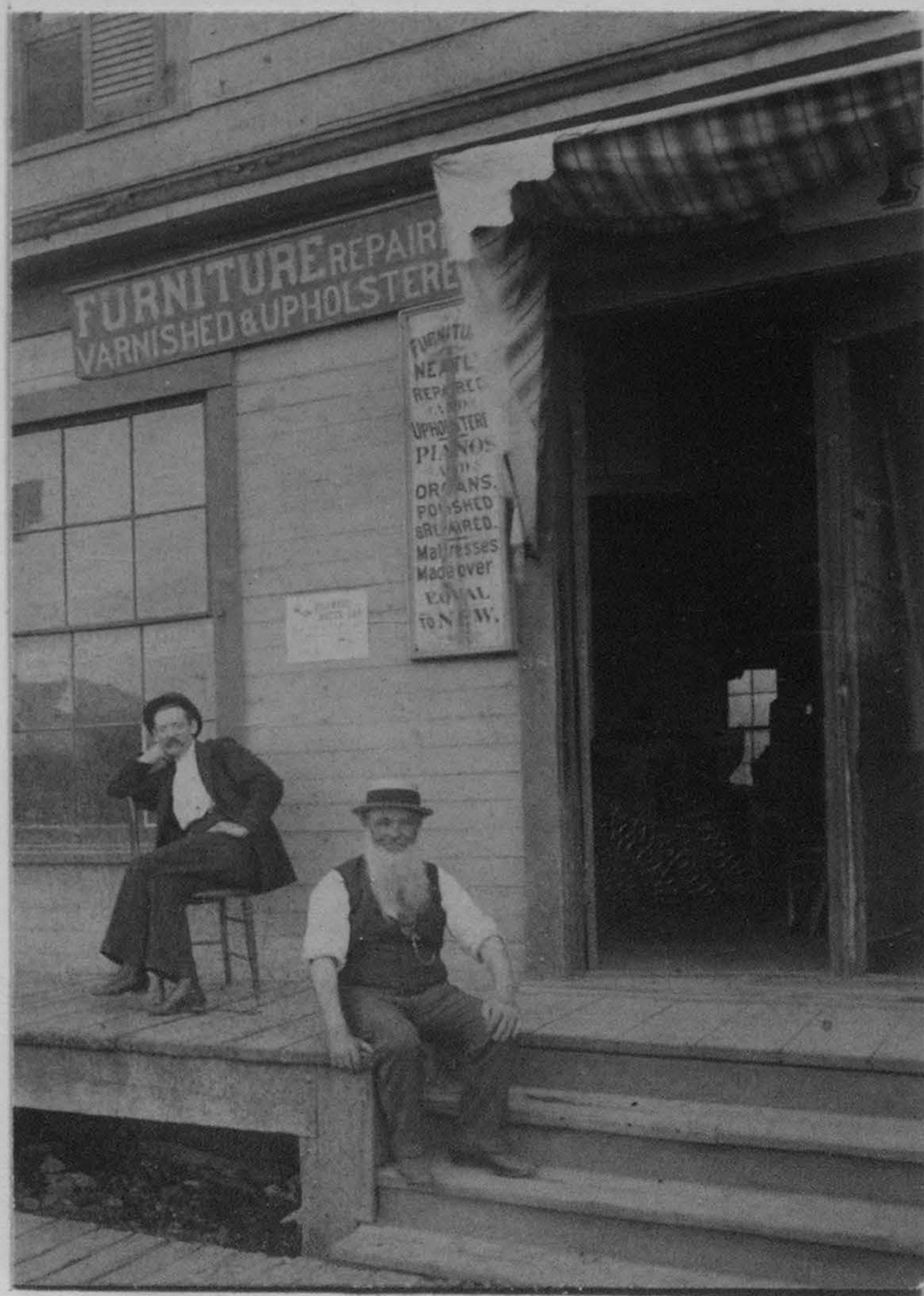
A wooden Indian on the sidewalk at 608 Bloomfield Avenue made it plain that William Delhagen sold tobacco and snuff. In 1881 Ira Seymour Crane bought out the hardware business long established by William S. Morris at the junction of the Old Road and Bloomfield Avenue. In 1889 Hiram B. Littell sold his coal and wood business to J. Harry Connor. At the same time Charles W. English was selling lumber and mason's material from his yard opposite the Greenwood line depot. A. S. Wallace conducted a florist business on North Fullerton Avenue, and on Harrison Avenue was the Williams' Nursery. William Jacobus advertised boots, shoes and gaiters. At Quong Mee Sing's laundry gentlemen's collars, cuffs, and shirts took on new lustre. The Chinese laundrymen wore bright blue suits, funny shoes, and their hair in pigtails.

In 1881 all grocery stores, including the Montclair Cooperative Society, agreed to close at half past eight every night except Saturday.

The Morris Building (above), when erected in 1878 by Deacon William S. Morris, was considered the most handsome business block in town. It occupied a conspicuous site, the triangle formed by the intersection of the Old Road (latter to be Glenridge Avenue) and Bloomfield Avenue.

Mr. Morris ran a tinsmith, hardware, and plumbing shop and manufactured plows. In 1880 he sold his business to Jacob R. Ditmars, who died within a year, when the business was taken over by I. Seymour Crane and his father.

In September of 1884 the Township Committee gave permission to Mrs. Josephine Brown to occupy the Old Road at Bloomfield Avenue as was necessary for transaction of her business of running a fruit and paper stand. John Rush later took over this business, and in 1889 sold it to the Hooe Brothers. Notice the stand at the left of photograph.



Mr. Becker, seated on the steps of his shop, where he repaired and upholstered furniture, polished and repaired organs and pianos, and made over mattresses equal to new. The small placard on the shop advertised an excursion to the Delaware Water Gap. Frank Jacobus sits on a chair on the stoop.



4 101 10  
James Harry Connor was a native of Montclair, and attended school here. Soon after he finished his studies, he went to work for Hiram B. Littell who ran a coal yard. Within a few years, in 1889, Connor bought out the business. The Company's office (below) was located off Bloomfield Avenue at Bay Street.

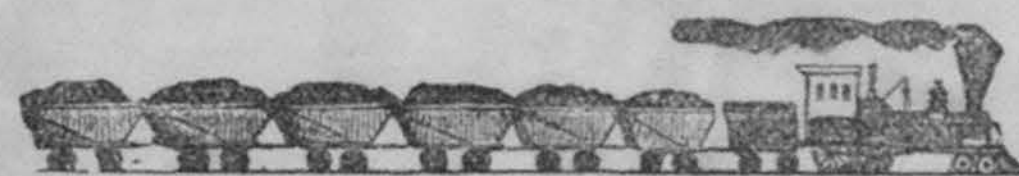


In 1880 there were about forty storekeepers and business men engaged here in various occupations; in 1888 there were "not less than 125, to wit, blacksmiths, five; barbers, three; bakers, three; butchers, seven; books and stationery, three; carpenters, ten; coal and wood, four; carriage makers, three; cigar and tobacco, three; druggists, three; dry good and millinery, five; flour, feed and grain, three; florists, three; furniture, one; fruit and vegetables, three; grocers, eleven; harness, two; hardware, three; hotels, two; jewelers, three; lumber and masons' materials, one; label factory, one; livery stables, four; laundries, two; masons, seven; newspapers, two; newsdealers, two; plumbers and gas fitters, five; painters, six; planing mill, one; picture frames, one; restaurants, two; real estate, five; shoes, five; tailors, two; upholsterers, two; undertakers, one; well drillers, two; wheelwright, one." Montclair Times.

Below: Harrison's new market, Bloomfield and Fullerton Avenues; an outdoor bulletin board, 1886.



"William M. Taylor would respectfully inform the citizens of Montclair and vicinity that he is now selling COAL! ... for low prices in the yard, For Cash. Kindling Wood by the cord or barrel. Pine, Spruce & Hemlock Lumber, and all kinds of building material. Grove St., rear D. L. & W. R. R. Depot."



## MONTCLAIR COAL YARD.

Walnut St. opposite Montclair Depot.

The undersigned has opened a new Coal Yard, as above, and is now ready to furnish the citizens of Montclair and vicinity with the

**Very Best Qualities Of  
Hard Lehigh & Free Burning Coal**

all prepared for family use, by the

**CAR LOAD OR SINGLE TON.**

**STOUT'S FULTON A SPECIALTY.**

Customers buying by the Car Load will receive  
Gross Tons.

**HICKORY, OAK AND PINE WOOD**

By the Cord, or sawed and split for kindling.

**LIME**

For Building and Agricultural purposes.

**SAND & GRAVEL**

By the Car or Wagon load.

Branch Office with Wm. H. Harris, Real Estate  
Agent Opposite D. L. & W. R. R. Depot Montclair.

**HIRAM B. LITTELL.**

MADISON'S PRINT, Montclair.



5 Vol IV  
In 1881 J. G. Crane and Son were advertising "the Monitor Oil Stove! economical, durable, compact, cheap, no trouble, no smoke, no ashes, no dust. You can cook for five persons at a cost of ten cents per day." Purchasers who expressed themselves thoroughly satisfied included Mrs. A.C. Studer, Dr. J.W. Pinkham, Mrs. R.B. Harris, and Mrs. Wm. H. Ketchum.



The young flocked to Baldwin's handsome Drug Store (below) in afternoon or early evening. In 1881 Baldwin installed a new Tuft's Arctic Soda Fountain of colored marble, silver trimmed. Its upper portion was decorated with a large plate glass mirror, a bronze statuette, and a gilt chandelier. In summer it could keep cool seventy-

five glasses of soda, and from it in winter hot soda, flavored with lemon, chocolate, tea, or coffee, was dispensed, a treat not heretofore obtainable in town. In 1888 it was said "Ice cream soda is one of the new drinks dispensed at the soda fountain in Mr. Baldwin's drugstore."



The Jacobus Building stood on the southwest corner of South Fullerton Avenue and the Old Road. Baldwin's drugstore occupied the store on the left; Madison's stationary store the center, and Jacobus' shoe store the quarters on the right. On the upper floor "Montclair Hall," and the offices of A. Van Gieson, Counselor at Law and Master in Chancery.



76 Vol 10  
 One of the early Italian newcomers in the village is shown here shining shoes in front of Harrison Brothers' market, which became so prosperous that in 1888 the owners built a three story brick building covering their entire lot. There they had the latest refrigerators and other convenient contrivances for displaying their stock.



In a paper once read before the Waldensian Society, Miss Eleanor French told the story of the first Italians to come to Montclair. "Montclair decided the time had come to introduce city water. A group of one hundred Italians was engaged to do the necessary digging. There were few houses on Midland Avenue in those days, and so it happened that these men lived in quarters built on an open lot on this street. In the evenings they built large bonfires and sang around them. Their voices could be heard blocks away, and people would come hurrying out of their houses and walk slowly up and down the street to enjoy the music.

"In Latin countries it is the custom to sing a hymn as the sun rises. These men were roused early and with pickaxes over their shoulders were ready to start out to walk to the place of their day's work at just about the time a crimson sun came over the horizon. Their leader was some unknown Caruso. In the hush of a newborn day rose his high tenor voice. Then a refrain in which all joined to the accompaniment of tramp, tramp, tramp of marching feet. The scene was dramatic, the music of rare beauty."

Miss Helen Peck Young writes, "The foreign population was negligible in the eighties and I can recall with what astonishment I first saw Italian laborers digging on Bloomfield Avenue. Some wore bright magenta kerchiefs tied about the neck and a few of them had gold earrings

in their ears. Their flashing dark eyes, unfamiliar language, and natural excitability struck me with force. They were hard workers too. Their wives came around sometimes to gather young dandelion greens from private lawns, and even our despised burdock plant they regarded as a delicacy, and took home to cook in olive oil."

In speaking of town improvements under way in the eighties, Mr. Edwin Goodell says that the unskilled labor was done by Italian immigrants hired from padrones and quartered in barracks. They came by the hundreds and many of them never went away, but more came to join them in making homes here. In August of 1887 these workers struck for \$2. a day pay but were defeated. To add to their earnings some of them turned bootblacks on Sunday and scoured the town for customers with but little success, it is said.

While digging one Italian was asked by a townsman, "What are you doing?" The foreigner replied, "Water - a-pipe-a, a-work-a."

Approaching the market from the west on the flagstone sidewalk is Marianne (Mrs. Levi) Miller, of 172 Claremont Avenue, with her three year old granddaughter, Gertrude Miller. Photograph was taken in 1886, with the watermelons and pumpkins seen in the shadows of the store indicating that it was autumn. Mrs. Miller sang with a local quartet.



7  
Farmhouse and barn at 230 Valley Road, purchased in 1880 by Abram Pye Haring; formerly known as the Beatty Farm. Note the split rail bars in barway posts at the left, and the well curb with roof in the front yard. Mr. Haring was a town hero. His record in the War of the Rebellion was one of remarkable and gallant achievements.



248  
Ton's Brook, an insignificant stream, was used in early days for manufacturing purposes. It furnished sufficient power to run two or three mills, giving impetus to the growth of the new settlement. As early as 1695 Thomas Davis was given "liberty to set up a saw mill." About 1812 Israel Crane and others built mills where cotton and woolen goods were made.



In 1827 the Crane mill was leased to Henry Wilde who came from England bringing weavers who are said to have made here the first plaid shawls woven in America. This picture was taken near Claremont and Greenwood Avenues, looking east, about 1884, by Charles Goman, of 107 Claremont Avenue.



8  
Colored lithograph printed by the Crump Label Company. A colored lithograph is drawn on the grained surface of stones with a grease crayon. A separate stone is needed for each color. Each stone, after being inked, is printed on paper, one color at a time. Crump was one of the very first to apply the method to commercial uses.



Samuel Crump in 1875 removed his extensive works for the manufacture of illuminated labels and show cards from New York, and built a factory near the Greenwood Lake railroad station in Montclair. This explains the name "Label Street."

A contemporary issue of the metropolitan newspaper "Daily Graphic" said that a visit to the plant would "re-pay the curious and inspire one with a new admiration of the unlimited power of human invention." The location was described as being "situated in a remote portion of the town and of no hindrance to the growth of the residential center. Probably not over one fiftieth of the local residents would know of its existence were it not for its sonorous whistle which not only calls its employees to and from their duties, but also blows all fire alarms."

The company did pioneer work in label printing and color lithography, and is said to have been one of the first, if not the first, in our country, to print colored

labels for canned tomatoes. They also made waterproof wall paper. The factory was about 150 by 525 feet, and employed about two hundred hands.

Mr. Crump was one of the first employers in the country to establish a profit sharing system with his employees, and yet he had labor troubles. In 1886 nineteen pressmen went out on strike, and either then or shortly after demanded a nine hour day. In 1888 fifty percent of a \$7,000 dividend was divided among one hundred and sixty-one of his two hundred hands.

Mr. Crump sold one of the four color printing presses of his own invention to a firm in Glasgow, and several workmen went over to set it up and show the Scotch how to run it.

In 1887 the State Legislature passed an act to prevent the pollution of streams. This brought about the indictment of J. G. Wheeler & Co. of Montclair whose mill

"The first annual sociable of the Crump Label Press employees was a very enjoyable affair, with the one drawback, that the number of gentlemen more than doubled that of the ladies." "On Monday the Crump Label Press was closed, owing to the death of one of Mr. Crump's sons, and on Wednesday afternoon another one died."



The J. D. Mockridge Company was founded in 1857. Their first location was on Bloomfield Avenue, north of Park Street. Later they were located at 21 Greenwood Avenue. The company manufactured to order all kinds of horse drawn vehicles.



was on Toney's Brook. The firm had long carried on a successful business, manufacturing straw board for paper boxes. These goods had previously been made by hand and dried in the sun, but Mr. Wheeler invented a process for making a continuous sheet of straw board and, by means of steam rollers, drying it at the same time. This enabled him to produce goods in excess of the home market (8 tons a day) and he was able to work up a large export trade. Board which previously sold for \$40 a ton became worth \$140 a ton.

At the time the paper plant was purchased, Toney's Brook furnished fifty to seventy-five horsepower, but the rivulets which supplied the stream had been di-

verted and the mill had been obliged to resort to the addition of steam power.

Facts, supported by chemical analysis, proved that because of the large amount of lime and other cleaning agents used in the manufacturing, the water left the mill cleaner and purer than before entering it. The Company, however, felt that they had been subjected to annoyance, if not real persecution, and decided to close the mill and move away.

One of the everyday sights on Montclair streets of the eighties was Mrs. Frederick Merriam Wheeler riding in her ladies' driving phaeton. The latter had rattan work sides on the seat, a sweeping dash, and a fringed parasol supported by a rod fastened to the back of the seat. The coachman, wearing a high silk hat, occupied a little seat in the rear.



10  
Bank of Montclair, Opening Day Accounts, June 1, 1889, page 1 of Deposit Book which each depositor signed. Peter H. Van Riper owned the building in which the Bank began operation. S.C.G. Watkins was the only dentist in town when he arrived in 1876. G.H. Hayden, a member of Montclair Hose Co.1, owned the block where the Township Committee met.

DATE	Number	SIGNATURE	RESIDENCE	INTRODUCED BY
1889		Childrens Name Book		
June 1	1	Eleanor E. Decker Treas.		
	2	P.H. Van Riper		
	3	Abraham Ruper		
✓	4	H.C. Watkins	This was our first depositor.	
	5	G.H. Hayden		
	6	The New York Store	W.M. Glover Prop.	
	7	S.W. Carey Jr.		
	8	Louis Harris		
	9	W. D. Waukech		
	10	Wm. Huntington	See P. & B. Book Page 21	
	11	E. Madison		
	12	Andrus B. Howe		
	13	W. F. Junkin	See P. & B. Book MAY 31 1895	

S.W. Carey was a member of the New York Produce Exchange. He founded the freight brokerage firm of Carey, Yale and Lambert. Louis Harris ran a dry goods store. Edward Madison owned the stationery shop. Andrus B. Howe was in the real estate business. William F. Junkin was a newcomer, having just been called to be pastor of the First Presbyterian Church.



// Vol IV

Bloomfield Avenue about 1888. From right to left: Doremus old grocery store, lamp post at the south-east corner of Fullerton Avenue, Harrison's Market, empty lot, homestead of Zenas S. Crane. Setting telegraph poles along the Avenue had been a hazardous job. Workmen were stoned by people who opposed changes or new ideas.



The first local financial institution to function here was the Montclair Building and Loan Association, organized in 1886. Its board included, as well as those engaged in various lines of business, a physician, a lawyer, a foreman in Crump's printing works, a gardener, and a blacksmith. The organization came to be called the "greatest boon that ever struck" the town. It taught people to save their money and in a surprisingly short time many families in modest circumstances were owning their own homes.

The Bank of Montclair opened its doors on the first of June in 1889. Previous to that time, it was often absolutely impossible to obtain change for a five dollar note in the village. Business men had to bank in Newark. It was the custom of storekeepers to stand in front of their shops and watch for someone going on the noon train who could make deposits for them.

Dr. Watkins tells that after being in town only six days, he was stopped one morning by three business men and asked to take their money and bank books to Newark. He says "the combined deposit was \$575. They did not and could not have known anything about me, and I gave them no receipt. They simply trusted me. It goes to show what confidence the people of Montclair had in one another in those happy days."

Several unsuccessful attempts to organize a bank had failed, but as the number of inhabitants and businessmen increased a bank was seen as an absolute necessity.

Men of sterling character gave for the good of their town unstinted time and interest in laying the foundation of the new institution. With much effort they secured, in cash subscriptions, the then princely sum of \$25,000 which was necessary to start the enterprise.

The bank opened for business on the ground floor of Van Riper's brick building at 430 Bloomfield Avenue with a capital of \$25,500. At the end of six months four hundred and six accounts had been opened by customers who had deposited \$1,387,685.55.

The new bank soon became a place where everyone felt at home. Men liked to stop there for a short errand on the way to the train and housewives were delighted to find how easy it was to pay their bills by check.

## BANK OF MONTCLAIR

Montclair, N. J., March 18, 1889.

A meeting of the subscribing stockholders of the Bank of Montclair, for the purpose of adopting By-Laws, the election of Directors, and of Inspectors to serve at the annual meeting next year, and for the transaction of any other business necessary for completing the organization, will be held at the office of Mr. E. B.

Goodell, on Bloomfield Avenue, Montclair, on TUESDAY, April second, A. D., 1889, at four thirty (4.30) o'clock in the afternoon.

(Signed), P. H. Van Riper, Philip Doremus, Paul Wilcox, J. R. Rand, Thos. Russell, S. W. Carey, E. G. Burgess, A. B. Howe, T. W. Stephens, Benj. Graham, J. P. Kirlin, E. B. Goodell, J. R. Howard, J. R. Livermore, Benj. Strong, W. W. Egbert, A. Bussing, G. H. Mills, Seelye Benedict, Ogden Brower, S. C. G. Watkins, J. W. Pinkham, L. Harris, F. J. Drescher, C. A. Maldens, I. Seymour Crane, A. C. Ryan, E. A. Bradley, W. Y. Bogle, A. A. Sigler, E. C. Fuller.

Montclair Times  
March 30, 1889

Stephen W. Carey, Wm. D. Van Vleck, Andrus B. Howe, Abraham Bussing, and Peter H. Van Riper were all members of the first Board of Directors of the Bank of Montclair. Jasper R. Rand was elected president, William D. Van Vleck, vice-president, and T. W. Stephens, cashier. The character and financial strength of the men interested insured its success.



12  
John Murphy and Raymond S. Pearce occupied this grocery store, which stood on the northeast corner of Valley Road and Bellevue Avenue. They opened their doors in 1889. The photograph was taken by Edwin H. Littell soon after they went into business.

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"His picturesque little real estate office, corner of Valley Road and Bellevue Avenue, being complete, and ready for business, Mr. W. H. Parsons, who supposing that the land would not soon be wanted, had agreed to move upon thirty days' notice, has already been notified, and must pick up his house and walk. He will put his office on some other lot in the immediate vicinity and a frame building will be put up on the corner to be occupied as a grocery by Mr. John Murphy and Mr. Raymond Pearce." Montclair Times, November 2, 1889.

The new store is shown above. Raymond, who holds the horse with delivery wagon, was set up in business by his father, Elijah Pearce. Raymond's mother was Phebe, daughter of Aaron and Caroline Vreeland Sigler. The Sigler family had long been established in Upper Montclair where they owned extensive farmlands.

Raymond, when shown in the picture, was nineteen years old. He is dressed in what looks more like a calling costume than a work outfit. His striped pants were of long, citified cut, but were worn uncreased as was the custom in those days. His coat was cut in frock or cut-away style, worn with a high buttoned vest, a stand-up collar spread apart in front, and the popular tie of the day, a wide thick four-in-hand.

Pearce and Murphy both wear derby, or bowler, hats with high crowns and rolling brims. Young Pearce has a

face bare of adornment, but Murphy sports bush side whiskers, known as "Dundrearys," continued right around his jaw in a fringe of beard.

Mr. Edwin H. Littell of Valley Road rented space in the store for carrying on his business of insurance and real estate. Note the sidewalk made of narrow boards.



Before the days of telephones, the grocer called at homes for orders and delivered on his next round in a wagon with a covered top. A heavy iron weight fastened by rope or leather rein to the horse's head was dropped to the ground to hold the horse while calls were made.



13 V81 IV

This is Toney's Brook running south under the stone bridge on Claremont Avenue. That street was bordered with a split rail fence. Photograph by Charles Goman of 107 Claremont Avenue. Below, the Morris Canal.



The Montclair Weekly Journal of April 18, 1876 had the following to say about the Montclair Hotel which stood on the southeast corner of Bloomfield Avenue at Valley Road. "About the year 1850, after amassing a fortune, Captain Munn sold it, or as he expressed it, 'gave it away' to Sylvester Slater, Esq., who in time improved and enlarged it. This gentleman, noted as an excellent landlord, ran it successfully for a number of years, amassed a fortune, and in 1865 sold it to the present proprietor, who made extensive improvements, and lately refurnished it thoroughly, so that today it stands as one of the best appointed and best kept country hotels in the state."

This proprietor was Edward E. Wright. The main entrance to the hotel faced Valley Road, and on its right were the private living quarters for Mr. Wright's family. To the left of the main door was the game room with its billiard tables; also accommodations for card, domino and checker players. Famous New Jersey apple and peach brandy or common every day beer were served to gentlemen at the tables by dumb-waiter from the bar in the basement below. Beyond the billiard room was the big public parlor with black walnut furniture, marble topped tables, and flowered Brussels carpet. From the mantle piece hung a dark green felt lambrequin trimmed with mottled red plush, wormlike tassels, and goldenrod, sumac, and nasturtiums embroidered in chenille. From gilded, black walnut cornices at the long windows, hung magenta curtains, looped back by big brass tie-backs. Large steel engravings, hanging from the molding by tasseled cords, decorated the walls.

On the ground floor, beside the barroom, were a barbershop, kitchen, and dining room with its cane-seated black walnut chairs and oval tables each with its pressed



glassware and castor for condiments. Here the winter sleighing parties or summer tallyho loads which drove from Newark and Jersey City, making the hotel their objective, supped on suckling pigs, turkeys, or great hams. After supper there was country dancing.

The twenty-four sleeping rooms were furnished with inexpensive cottage suites decorated with painted flowers, birds, or snow scenes; and of course there was the washstand with its crockery toilet set. Floors were covered with Japanese matting in summer, and in winter with ingrain

The Morris Canal ran near the eastern boundary of Montclair. It was rural scenes such as these that brought hordes of summer boarders to the village of Montclair. Many of these families took such a liking to the fresh air, wide open spaces, unspoiled woodlands, and pastoral meadow lands, that they stayed on to make permanent homes here.



14  
When the Turnpike, later Bloomfield Avenue, was laid out, the Hotel established by Captain Joseph Munn in 1802 at the corner of the Old Road and Valley Road moved to this building which he erected a few yards to the north on the new highway, a toll road. Photograph taken before 1880.



carpet laid over spread straw.

In October of 1880 the hotel name became "The Mansion House." It was probably at this time that Wright sold out to W. R. Courter. The Montclair Times of December 31, 1881 says: "W.R. Courter, proprietor of the Mansion House, has made it one of the best places of resort for the driving public. There are enclosed sheds for the horses, and handsome parlors and retiring rooms for ladies and gentlemen. The delicacies of the season are found on the lunch table. Yesterday the bill of fare embraced duck, chicken, chicken sandwiches, cold tongue, corned beef, cheese and crackers, pickles, nuts, apples, and Florida oranges. This was not a special spread but can be found at all times by pleasure drivers. From the number of turnouts yesterday there it is evident that the tide of pleasure driving is turned that way."

In the fall of 1888 a further improvement was added for the comfort of guests, a "Florida System" steam heating plant was installed. Winter guests were chiefly transients, but during the summer important Newark or New York families came to spend the season.

Notice the Indian painted on the side of the nearby grocery store, and the old pump at the street intersection. Heated horses drawing heavy loads up Bloomfield Avenue often halted here to rest, and the bartender would come out, pump a pail of water, and pour it over the horses and cool them.

Toward the end of the decade, with other changes in ownership, the character of the establishment changed, and days of disrepute were foreshadowed. The proprietor made connections with the famous gambling house of Canfield. His wife, who had seen better days, spent many hours pouring over a box of old letters written to her by Robert E. Lee, then at West Point, when she was a Southern belle.

Records of the period also mention the Washington Hotel on the Old Road, Charles Leist, Proprietor; Grand View Hotel high on the mountain, H. Wayne Ellis, Manager; and the Central Hotel on the southwest corner of Valley Road and Bloomfield Avenue. In 1884 the Township Committee decided that four hotels were sufficient for the needs of Montclair.

"Edwin C. Fuller, Town Collector, and Robert Harris, Assessor, testified that another hotel in Montclair was necessary for the transient public. Mr. Harris said that on two occasions he had friends visit him, and owing to lack of hotel accommodations they were required to sleep on the floor at his house." Newark Daily Advertiser, September 10, 1884.



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"On the summit of the Boulevard, at an elevation of over 500 feet is situated the Mountain House (below), for many years a popular summer resort, commanding a full view of New York City, Brooklyn, Staten Island and all the intervening territory." S.R.Parkhurst, Proprietor. Many Montclairites received their first impression of Montclair while living here.



"Boarders Wanted -- Parties wishing board or families wishing suites of rooms will find excellent accomodations at Mrs. Hollbrook's on Mountain Avenue, at Winter prices." Montclair Times, September 21, 1889.



Ashland Hall (above), which was located on the west side of Bloomfield avenue downtown, was a boys school from 1845 to 1860, and afterwards a boarding house. The farmstead at the right was the home of Matthias Crane, a direct descendant of the original local Crane family. He was a farmer.



26  
Village from the mountain slope, with the First Congregational Church in the middle distance at the end of Plymouth Street. The nucleus of the long house at the extreme left center is said to have been the first house built in Montclair. Two large houses in line with the church, to the right, were those of Dr. J.J.H. Love and Samuel Wilde.



In 1881, far sighted citizens were considering the question of local parks. An un-named gentleman, who had recently purchased the six acre Riker estate, wished to turn that portion of it which led into Eagle Rock Way, into a public park. He offered to deed it in trust to the Town provided it would be cared for and kept in good condition.

An editorial in the Montclair Times said that the property was well adapted for that purpose, having one of the finest groves of large trees in the town, many of them probably a hundred years old. The column said that if such a beautiful spot could be preserved it would become a pleasant neighborhood feature and suggested that other enterprising gentlemen might set aside ground in other localities for the same purpose. It added, "It is almost impossible now to secure a park in the centre of the town, because of its cost, but two or three such breathing places as this are practicable, and would be a benefit to every citizen and property holder."

No action on the matter was taken. There seemed no need for public playgrounds because, "There was an endless stretch of vacant lots that seemed to the boyish eye as limitless as the Argentine pampas or the Western prairies." It seemed to most people a useless extravagance to give up valuable real estate to make mere parks. This was "ridiculous as anyone can see for no lady would be seen walking in a public park." "Besides, the whole town is really a park."

In 1889 "Observer at Home" in the local press wrote: "Has it never occurred to the citizens of Montclair that there are in our village a few plots of land which ought to be given or secured for public purposes? The Observer refers to the vacant lot on Depot street, between the

railroad stations, also to the land on Grove and Walnut streets, bounded on one side by the railroad, then the triangular plot in front of the residence of Mr. Thomas Russell and some of the unoccupied ground on Plymouth street, near Orange road. These pieces of land are all desirable for small parks; they ought to be secured immediately and converted into ornaments for the town.

"The common in Bloomfield is worth a hundred times its cost, and some such park or parks in Montclair would be equally valuable. There may be no available land in the centre of the town for a large park, but there are certainly many choice places for small ones, which could be made exceedingly beautiful.

"In Europe the country stations are usually made attractive and inviting. Small pieces of ground covered with verdure, and in their centre fountains or large vases of bright flowers are common sights to the tourist as he goes whirling through the country. Could not our Montclair stations be made more attractive? Let us convert all available ground into parks; plant flowers and ever have in mind the desire to make our village beautiful."



In a sermon preached on April 9, 1887 Dr. Bradford called the attention of his wealthy parishioners to their opportunity to invest some of their riches in a community park for the use and amusement of the villagers. "God has blessed us with prosperity, now let us seek for opportunities to make our success a blessing to those who have less than we have."



17 Y01 14  
This photograph taken before the house at 103 Claremont Avenue shows the type of board sidewalk in common use on village streets. The boards often flew up and tripped one. "The Winter season is coming on, and sidewalks are daily growing beautifully worse," with "every probability of damage to life or limb before the Winter shall pass." 1881.



Public complaints about the condition of the sidewalks were harassing the village magistrates. True, they had recently passed a resolution against the pasturing of goats, horses, or cattle on the sidewalks; and farmers and laborers in cowhide boots did not mind mud; but newcomers from the city objected to soiling their fine shoes. The thirty miles of plank walks, which the town had boasted of eight years before, had been attacked by rust and decay. Nails stuck up to menace shoes and even toes. Loose planks would suddenly spring up to bar the way in a dangerous manner. Other planks had disappeared; some had broken between sleepers, leaving holes to trip the unwary.

In short, sidewalks were either non-existent or shabby, decrepit and dangerous. Landowners of vacant lots were paying anxious visits to lawyers to inquire about owner's liability for accidents. Complaints were being addressed to the Township Committee and were being printed constantly in the public press.

"One of the advantages of living in Montclair at the present time is the delightful uncertainty of indulging in pedestrianism." "During every rain the sidewalk in front of the Presbyterian Church property on Bloomfield Avenue is submerged and practically useless. It should be raised, widened and put in good shape generally."

The laws governing the town gave the authorities no right to spend money on sidewalks. Taxpayers in outlying sections did not want to pay a share in the cost of sidewalks which would be laid only in the more built

up parts of the village, and be of no use to them.

In the fall of 1881 John H. Parsons of Montclair was elected to the state legislature. He drew up a state law on sidewalks, and this was passed in 1882. The village was then divided into three sidewalk districts. District two voted fifteen thousand dollars and district three, twenty thousand dollars, to repair and lay walks; but the district north of Watchung Avenue was to make no improvements for some years. The cost of the work was assessed against the land which it adjoined. The First Presbyterian Church collected \$529.37 to pay for the laying of walks along its property.

Work progressed slowly and often met opposition. When it was proposed to lay a new plank walk on Cedar Street, one taxpayer protested, saying that the grass sod in front of his house was good enough for anyone to walk on. It was shown, however, that small children attending the new Cedar Street school could not pass through the high grasses, weeds, and brush which lined some parts of the street. It was voted, therefore, to lay the new walk.

In 1888 the clamor was "How soon will flag walk be laid on Church Street?", one of the main travelled roads. There was proud boasting when three thousand feet of four foot flag walk was completed on Park Street between Bloomfield Avenue and Chestnut Street. Gradually old and dilapidated walks were removed, others repaired, and new flagstones or planks laid, so conditions which had been the source of discomfort and complaint were overcome and getting about on foot became easier.

"I should like to give the footpath running from Mountain Avenue to Clinton Avenue to the town. I should like to have the path perpetuated for the convenience of all who might wish to use it." Mrs. L. M. Dike, February 2, 1889. The path was accepted and was named Dike's Lane.



In 1885 Alsworth Brothers were paid \$30 a week for a wagon which watered Bloomfield Avenue to lay the dust. Merchants along the way and persons who drove to and from trains paid the cost. Roads were repaired by ploughing the edges and scraping the soil into the center -- the next hard rain washing it back to the gutters again.



Bloomfield Avenue, a county road, had been paved some years before with Telford, which was worn out. Streets were clouds of dust in summer, and in spring so deep with mud that rubber boots were often sucked off the feet and out of sight. A two horse load of coal was once sunk up to the hubs at the corner of Bellevue Avenue and Valley Road for two whole days. And the newspaper reported at one time that mail could not be delivered in some parts of the village because the postman could not get across the street.

Petitions for grading and gravel increased at every Township meeting, as the rapid growth of the village caused a great increase in traffic, resulting in added injury to the streets.

Public opinion finally brought results. In 1886 it was voted to begin to grade and macadamize or gravel at least the main arteries of travel: Bloomfield Avenue, Spring Street, Fullerton Avenue, Valley Road, and Church Street; and the dual hearts of town: the village center, and the plaza at the D. L. & W. depot. An appropriation

of \$5,000 was made for the work.

New streets also were laid out, trees being sacrificed in the process. Private citizens dedicated land to the town for new roads or continuance of old ones. Among them, William H. Graves gave The Crescent, and Julius H. Pratt the continuance of Spring Street (later to be called Elm Street).

John C. Doremus was authorized to put up street signs at a cost of \$125. By 1889 there were forty miles of streets, ten of which had hard surfaces of some sort. The appropriation that year reached \$8,000. It was planned to continue the work at the rate of one mile a year.

Further safety measures were assured by an ordinance forbidding the pasturing of horses or cattle along the streets, and henceforth if animals had to pass to and from pastures over highways, they must be led by ropes.

"Mr. Wood presented a petition for surveying and laying out Label Street and Montclair avenue, and the Township Committee appointed Sunday, the 23rd inst., at four o'clock p.m., as the time and the corner of Label street and Montclair avenue as the place for the Commissioners of Public Roads to meet and consider the petition." May, 1889.



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Laying cornerstone of St. Luke's Church, June 13, 1889. "The elite of Montclair, irrespective of denominational affiliations, were present. Everyone was happy and sociable. Suddenly the inspiring air, 'Onward Christian Soldiers' voiced by the clear treble of the visiting choir of fifty male voices from St. Mary's Church, Brooklyn, was heard."



In the year 1880 anyone venturing afoot on the streets after nightfall probably carried a stout stick in one hand and in the other a swinging lantern. The town's only automatic gas lamp, standing in front of the Presbyterian Church, was that year purchased and moved by Thomas Russell and henceforth was to illuminate Union Street instead of Bloomfield Avenue.

It is true Bloomfield Avenue was lined with lamp posts, a reminder of brighter nights following 1873, when a progressive Township Committee had placed on important street corners one hundred and eleven gas lights. Three years later something, probably a false idea of economy or protests from outlanders who objected to being taxed for improvements which only benefited those in the center of town, caused the gas to be turned off and the streets returned to darkness.

In the spring of 1881 Bloomfield Avenue was again lighted, the Committee having appropriated \$1,000 for that purpose. They had decided that the natural attractions of Montclair without improvements would not induce strangers to become purchasers of real estate. The re-lighted lamps bespoke a coming era of growth and prosperity. One hundred and fifty dollars was appropriated to light Upper Montclair.

By 1883 there were 48 lamps on Bloomfield Avenue, 10 on Elm Street, 8 on Fullerton Avenue, 6 on Walnut Street, 11 on Park Street, 6 on Mountain Avenue, 2 on Eagle Rock Way, and one each on Spring, Union, and Washington Streets.

In 1885 thirty-eight new lamps were added and it was decided to light them every night in the year from "moon to moon," that is, eighteen nights each month. On dark, stormy nights, when the moon was expected to shine, the lamps remained "cold."

By 1887 two hundred and sixty lamps had been installed but there were thoroughfares still in darkness. The annual report of the Township Committee for the year ending in March of 1888, stated that thirty lamps had been added during the year, and recommended an appropriation of \$5,500 for lighting the streets the next year. Each light cost the town \$169 a year. Some oil lamps were in use where no gas mains had been laid.

In September 1889, the Montclair Gas and Water Company advertised to receive bids for lighting, extinguishing and keeping clean the street lamps: two hundred and eighty-six lamps to be lighted at early candle light and put out at one a.m. every night; fifty lamps on Bloomfield Avenue to be put out at daylight. It was not until 1891 that all the lights burned as late as one o'clock and not until 1894 were they lighted on all nights, regardless of the phase of the moon.

The decade closed with the Township Committee having voted down electric lights as many of the townspeople whose opinion carried weight dreaded electricity because of its dangers. Three people had been killed in New York through this agency and they were unwilling to risk such accidents in Montclair.

"Mr. DaCunha, as is his custom, defended the extreme North end in the matter of the new oil lamps recently ordered. He wanted a few placed north of Bellevue Avenue. Going upon the principle of asking for more than he thinks will be awarded to him, he usually takes what he can get. In this case he got nothing, but hopes to do better next time."



20 Nov 1914

This stagecoach was not countrified. One rode in a similar vehicle if travelling up Broadway or Madison Avenue in New York City. In the winter the floor was covered with straw to keep the feet of the passengers warm. Seed from the straw which sifted into the cracks of the floor sprouted in summer and grew into little green plants.

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located at both depots, advertised "Carriages and stock first class throughout to let at all hours. Fine coaches for weddings, and parties furnished at short notice. Horses kept on livery." If one preferred to patronize William H. Taylor, and hire a good rig, a coach, phaeton, or buggy for business or pleasure, he had only to call at the latter's stable opposite the D. L. & W. Railroad depot.

In 1889 the Liverymen's Protective Association formed for the purpose of establishing a uniform rate for hacks. This specified a double charge for going to the top of the mountain because of the wear and tear on the horses. The Township Committee ruled that not more than twenty-five cents could be charged below Watchung Avenue, and not more than fifty cents for each passenger riding

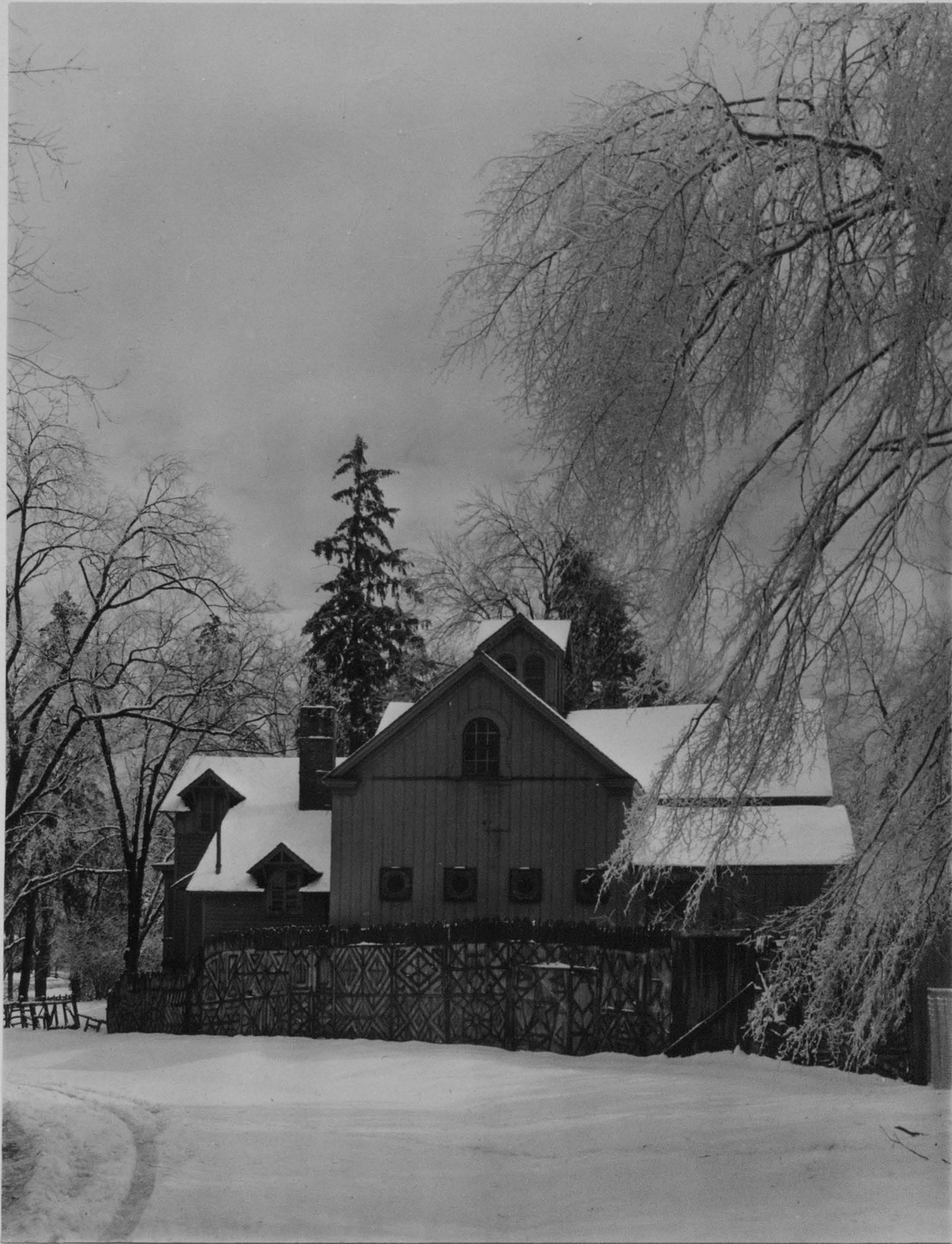


Dr. John J. H. Love (right) in fur cap, wrapped in his buffalo robe, riding in a light sleigh, known as a speeding cutter. If typical of the eighties it was painted black and trimmed in red and gold. The spanking horses which draw it are circled with ringing sleigh bells. They are passing St. Luke's Church on St. Luke's Place. The sleigh is on Orange Road which stands



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Stable of "Brooklawn" on Orange Road, purchased in 1871 by Stephen W. Carey. He spent thousands of dollars for improvements to the property including rustic fences, arches, and bridges. It is said that no two panels in his fences were ever exactly alike.

P9613



north of that street in the horse-drawn cabs.

Horse cars ran from Newark to the Montclair line, and there were met by two stages which ran to the Mansion House twice daily.

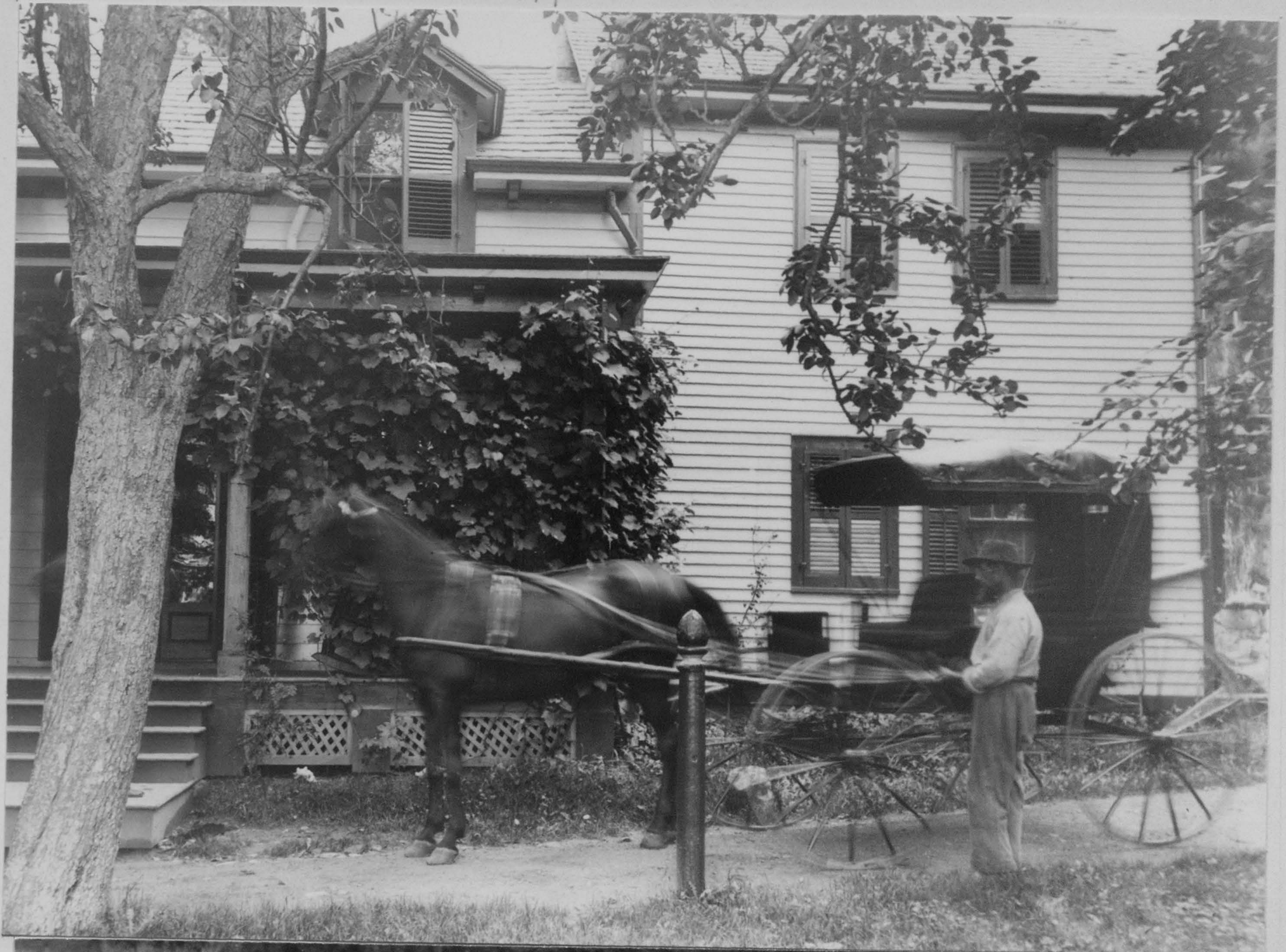
A stage coach made two trips each day to Orange, the fare twenty-five cents a round trip. In 1888 Mr.

Tilly, proprietor, offered this stage line for sale, as he had engaged in more lucrative business. Morning and evening trains were met by a two horse stage from Caldwell, in winter replaced by a sleigh in which passengers huddled under buffalo robes.

Mr. Carey started work with a shipping firm in New York, when thirteen years old and continued his connection there for forty-nine years. Some of the most important changes and public improvements in Montclair were due in great measure to his sound judgement and civic interest. A man of means he was able to do much for the town.



22  
This is the hired man at "Valley View," with Nellie. In the early part of the eighties Nellie lived in Brooklyn and came to Montclair each year to spend the summer until her owners, the Wilbur and De Forest families, in the mid eighties made Montclair their permanent home. Nellie lived to be thirty-three or thirty-four years old.



While on a pleasant drive to Brookdale from Upper Montclair. "Polly" Coombs (Mrs. S. A. Fox) is driving. W. D. Pad-dock (who was to become a sculptor), aged eleven, sits on the back seat. H. S. Germond 2nd, aged thirteen, holds "Vick." The group were summering here from Brooklyn. Photographed by J. W. Coombs, August 1884.



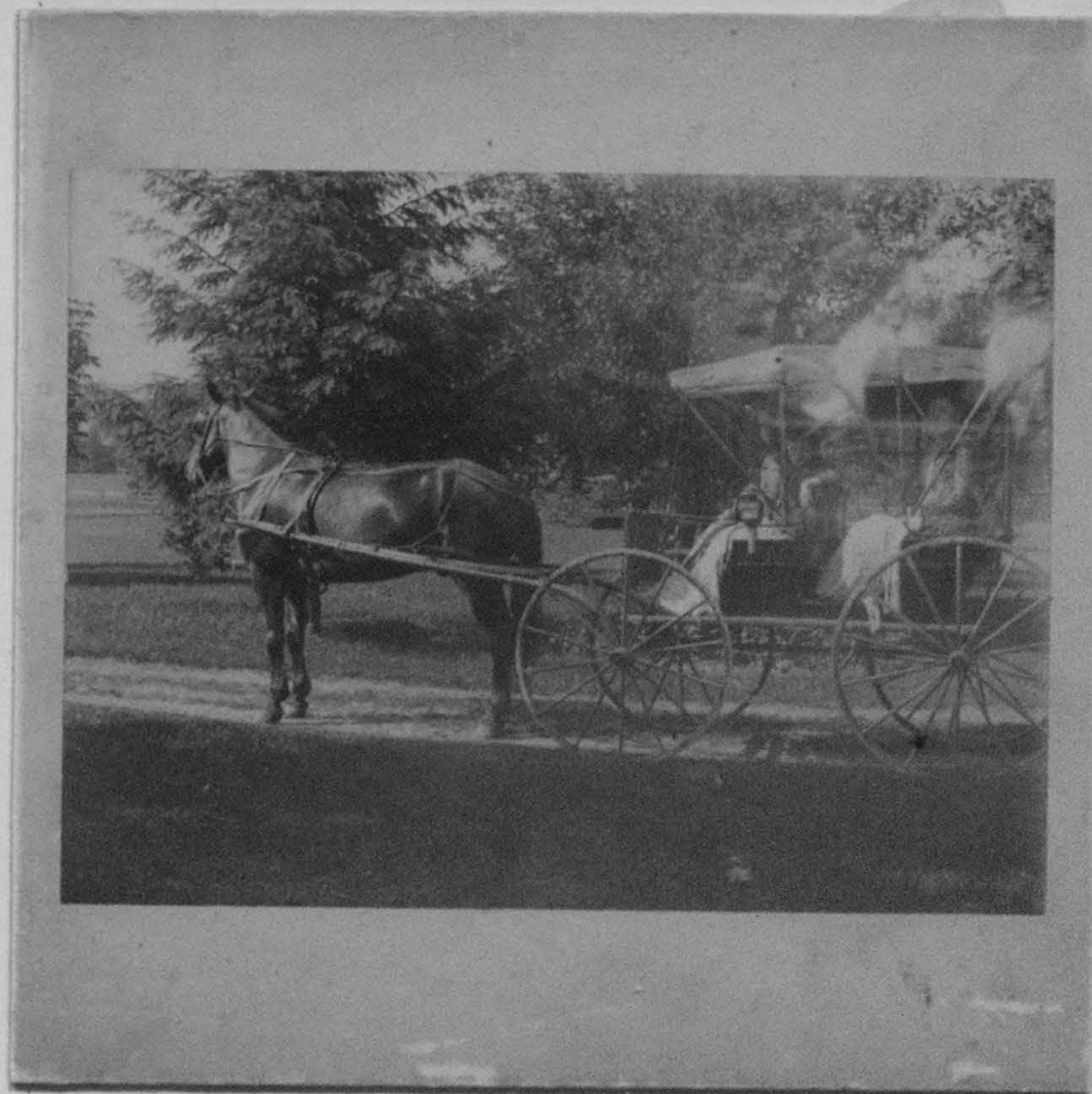
Every family who could afford it had a cart with goat or poney for the children. At upper right is James Smith, Irish Protestant coachman, employed by the W. Harrison Baylis family.



Rides were taken for pleasure or errands: Back into the country to buy chickens, to sell produce or to make a trade of some kind, or to the blacksmith's shop. Travel was slow over the narrow, sandy roads. Carriage rides, through stretches of woods past occasional small houses with pigsties, sun flowers, shy children and apple trees, were made to see the Falls at Paterson, passing the locomotive works where newly constructed engines could be viewed; to Little Falls, Great Notch, Brookdale, and sometimes to Montrose, where fashion appeared at outdoor games with high-bred horses in polished harness, and coachmen and footmen in livery. On the Morris Canal, the slow moving boats propelled by mules at the end of a long rope were a picturesque sight, the boats usually carrying coal, the housewives on them often hanging out the family wash of vari-colored clothes.

In the fall there were long drives to Waverly Fair which necessitated an early morning start. But the longest drive of all was to New York City. The lonely "meadows" had to be crossed, and that always involved the fear of holdups.

Upper Montclair made its contribution to the comfort of the horse as shown by the following advertisement in the Times, February 12, 1887: "Broken Stone from Cliffside Quarry, Upper Montclair, N.J. Any Size. Any Quality. References -- Thos. Russell, Thos. Porter, J.R. Rand, R.M. Boyd, E.A. Bradley, Jos. Van Vleck, E.A. Van Riper, and many others. The record of 14,000 feet of roadway laid in Montclair since July 1st, 1886, proves the superiority of Trap Rock for this purpose. During the winter and early Spring, my Foreman, Peter McKenna (who has laid 20,000 feet of Stone Road for me in the last 15 months) will take charge of or make contracts for all kinds of grading or making of Stone Roads. C.E. McDowell, Bloomfield, N.J."



Above is family carryall belonging to Hiram B. Littell, whose home was on the east side of Valley Road not far from the center of Upper Montclair. Mr. Littell was treasurer of the Village Improvement Society. His name appeared often in connection with civic and religious town affairs.



24 Vol 10  
This passenger type locomotive built by Rogers Locomotive Works of Paterson, New Jersey, for Levis and Kennebec Railroad in Maine, was returned to the builders during the 1873 panic, because unpaid for. Sold to the New York and Greenwood Lake Railroad, it was delivered March 30, 1874 and became "Bloomfield," Engine No.3.



Property owners of Montclair Township in 1880 found themselves with a staggering debt which threatened everyman's home. Some years before, they had issued bonds to finance the construction of the Montclair Railway, later known as the New York and Greenwood Lake Railway, instigated because of the poor equipment and services of the Morris and Essex line.

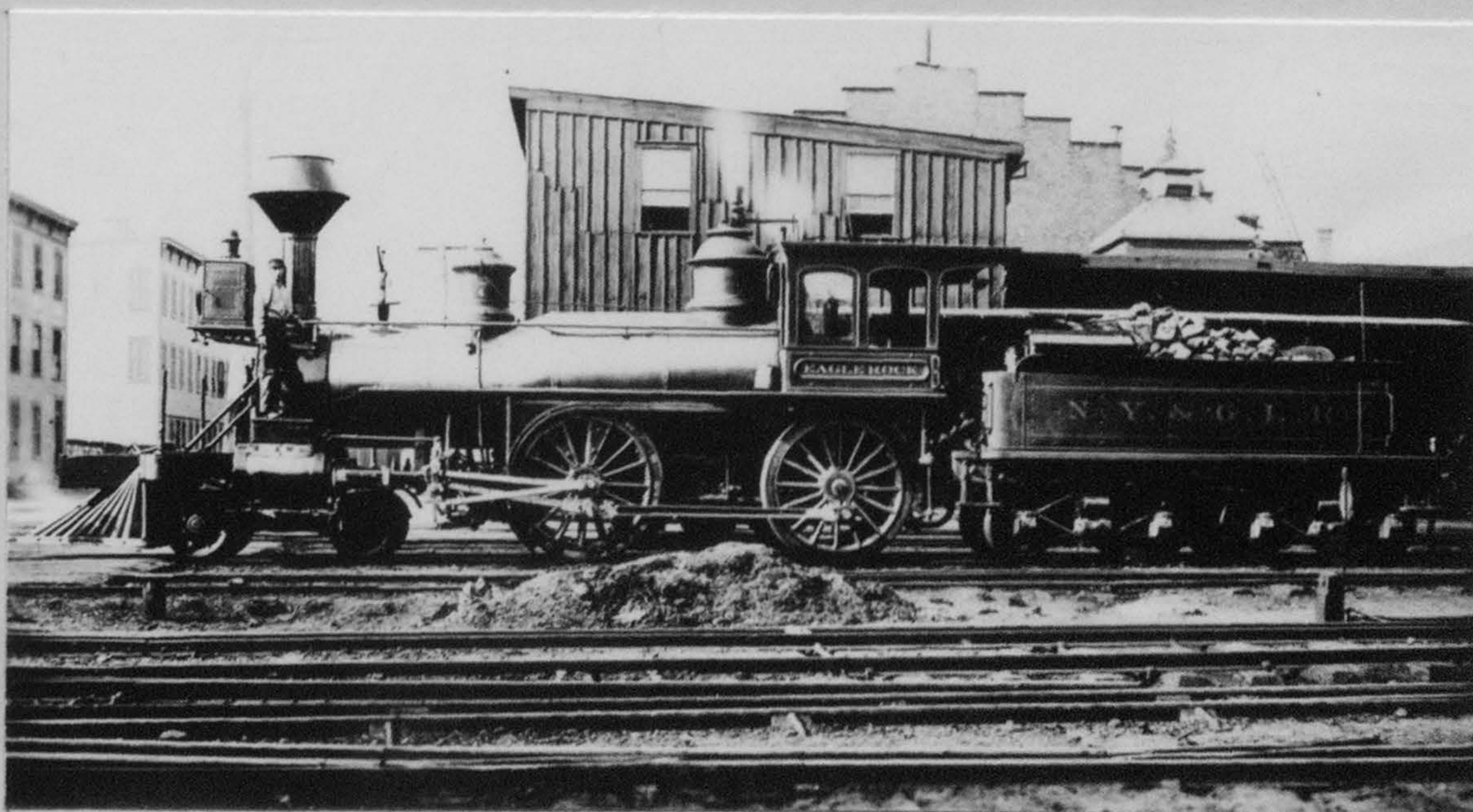
The road soon became insolvent, due to the financial crash which involved the whole nation. The township was thus deprived of the means with which to pay interest on the bonds. The original issue plus interest at seven per cent amounted to \$400,000. There was no way to pay the interest except by regular taxation of property and no Township Committee had the courage to order such taxation.

Holdings of the defaulted bonds finally became convinced that the town did not mean to pay, and took the matter to the courts. For ten years town appropriations had to include money for fighting the law-suits. In 1883 the Supreme Court decided that the debt was immediately payable, all property public or private being liable. At this crisis, it was fortunate that the Township Committee included such men of financial means and prestige as Thomas Russell, Stephen W. Carey and George P. Farmer. They and others quietly went about buying up all the bonds available, planning to reissue them at a lower rate of interest. This took money and the town had none, so these men in effect put their private fortunes at the disposal of the town. Early in 1884 all coupons had been paid, bonds reissued, and the town's credit restored.

Costly as the experience was, it had been profitable as a whole. It opened up much of the town which had formerly been woods or farm land. In 1883

real estate which previously sold for from \$150 to \$1,000 an acre, was resold for \$1,000 to \$3,500 an acre. Three hundred commuters who had formerly paid \$13 a month for railroad tickets were paying \$6.50. Traveling time for the trip to New York had been reduced twenty-five minutes each way for five hundred passengers whose time was worth \$3 per day. Many of these were bankers or big business men of New York City.

The train shown at top of page stands in front of the station at Upper Montclair, having approached from the north over the single track of eighty pound steel rails which were laid in 1879 to replace iron rails. The one house clearly seen was that of Thomas H. Bird, built in 1881. Photograph said to have been taken in 1888.



"Eagle Rock," locomotive No.7, built in 1864 by Rogers for the New Jersey Railroad and Transportation Company. It was later sold to the Pennsylvania Railroad and finally to the New York and Greenwood Lake Railroad. This photograph of it was taken at Provost Street, Jersey City, on August 18, 1885. Courtesy of Thomas T. Taber.



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Montclair Times, September 24, 1884: "We have seen on an old map of West Bloomfield an illustration of the D. L. & W. R. R. depot as it appeared in 1856 and being impressed by the beauty of its architecture we were at first inclined to publish it, but it turns out we find the venerable structure appears today precisely as it did twenty-five years ago."



About 1866 "a widespread and deepseated feeling on the part of commuters that the railroad on which everybody depended for reaching his everyday business and thus, as it were, for his daily bread, was taking advantage of its monopoly and of the necessities of the people, not only by overcharging for commutation tickets, but also by denying conveniences and comforts." This dissatisfaction was the reason for the building of a second road, the Greenwood Lake Railroad, which got its line running early in 1873.

In the years that followed, railroads all over the country were receiving unstinted abuse from towns because of the lack of consideration for passengers. Montclair was no exception. The D. L. & W. was said to be getting an annual revenue from local people of \$150,000; yet in 1887 the Montclair Times said their "cars are stuffy and uncomfortable and lighted with tallow candles. The railroad station in this place is about the meanest, dirtiest old shed that ever served the purpose of freight and passenger business combined on any railroad in the country.

It is infested with rats which come out in the evening and play tag under the settees of the dingy and miserably kept waiting room. Passengers bear it all with more or less good nature and the company is ever ready to let well enough alone."

John P. Pratt recalled "The cars were heated in winter by coal stoves at each end, and lighted by kerosene lamps suspended from the roof. Some of the cars of early vintage were lighted by huge candles set into the center of the roof. One morning we commuters were gladdened by the sight of pairs of lamps set at intervals in the roof of the car, providing more light than was customary. Above the lamps were 'smoke consumers' in the shape of inverted spittoons."

In the middle of the eighties the rival Greenwood Lake Road increased its number of trains, vastly improved its rolling stock, doubled its speed, adopted a sliding scale of tariff to commuters, and inaugurated fifty-book tickets. Many commuters began to use this line and to boycott its predecessor. This startled the older road into making improvements. Old cars were remodeled, windows enlarged, and cozy seat cushions provided. In November 1885, a new station was opened, elegant and convenient, with a porte cochere on its south side. It cost at least \$50,000.

By 1889 there were forty trains running daily each way between Montclair and New York. This was double the train service that the village was getting at the beginning of the decade. On Sundays there were two trains each way, and on Saturday nights a midnight "theatre" train.

The photograph of the first railroad station in Montclair shown above was taken in 1880. The Erie depot shown below was built in 1879.



"The Greenwood Lake Railway Company have warmed their hearts toward the people of Montclair as they are going to place gravel on the plaza in front of the depot. The site of the plaza may be discerned by the curious traveller from the metamorphic specimens of rock laid to designate its boundaries." Montclair Times, October 1, 1889.



26  
 "There is an admirable tendency noticeable everywhere in town for the removal of road and line fences." Montclair Times, 1889. This photograph shows Henry S. Germond, Sr., a summer boarder. It was taken by Jerome W. Coombs with a Scoville box camera in 1884. Wicker suites of furniture for cottage parlors were very stylish at this period.

P9620

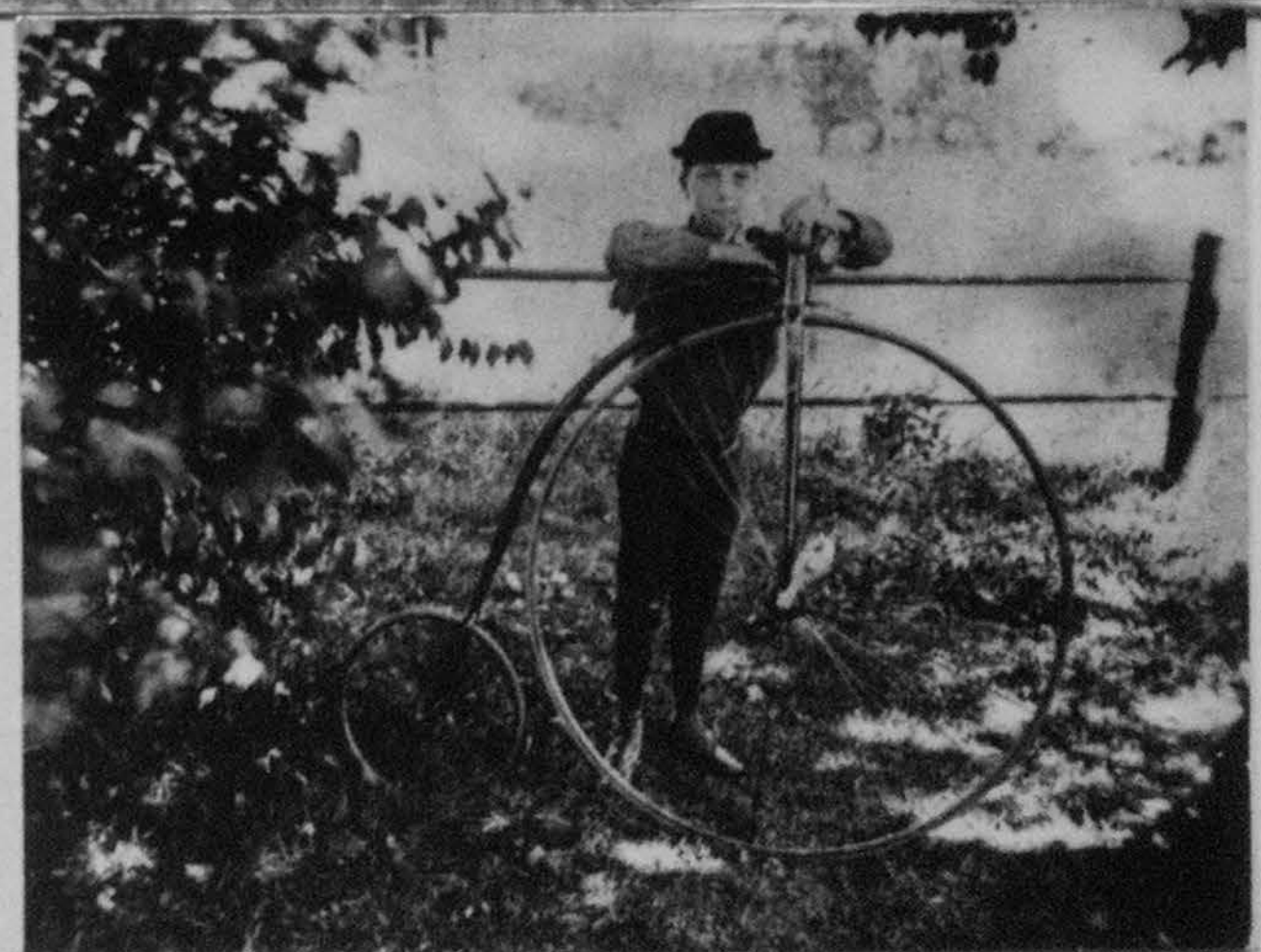


This Horstman Ideal 42" bicycle was the prize possession of thirteen year old Henry S. Germond, 2nd, who is shown beside it. Bicycles with steel spokes and rubber tires were not a common sight in those days (1882) and as the family coach, on the way to Montclair with the bicycle tied on top, drove from Brooklyn to Chambers Street ferry, it was the object of much curious staring.

Henry was probably the first bicyclist to appear in Upper Montclair where little riding could be done anyway because of the mud and the sandy or heavy dirt roads. However there was always the one board sidewalk.

Henry was the envy of all his playmates, who asked, "How fast can you go?" He replied that it was easier to go fast than slow without falling off. The following summer he found that some of his boy friends had wheels of their own. Louis Van Giesen was the first, next Rob

P9621



Anderson. Fred Cairns acquired a wooden boneshaker with iron tires; and a little later Phil Young appeared with an "Expert Columbia."

The first bicycles to be manufactured in America were made in 1878. The riding of a bicycle had not passed entirely from the field of derision even in 1888, the year the safety model and drop frame for women were adopted. A year later appeared the most important of all modern improvements on the bicycle, pneumatic tires.



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Terminus of the D. L. & W. Railroad in Montclair. In 1880 the original station was still in use. "It was a large wooden affair of ten-inch boards standing on end with one or two strips nailed over the cracks." It served both as ticket office and freight station. It was heated by pot stoves in each room. In the immediate vicinity were livery stables.



229622



Above is the elegant new station which the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad built in 1885. Hacks, grocery wagons, surreys, and a two-horse stage coach await an incoming train. It is said that forty or fifty carriages could be seen here almost any late afternoon waiting for commuters.



Postal delivery man photographed in 1892. Back row, left to right: Charles Jacobus, George Romer, Thomas Kaveny, Benjamin H. Deeths, George Dipley; seated: William C. Neiderhaus, holding special delivery boy, Louie Bowlby, on his lap; William Gallagher, the substitute. Dipley and Kaveny had replaced William B. Williams of the original six.



In the old days the postmaster changed with an alteration in national politics and usually changed the location of the office. During Hayes' presidency Charles Sanford gave out the mail from his shop on the south side of Church Street. Here people gathered to gossip while the two incoming daily mails were sorted. In December 1880 he moved the office to the Morris Building.

In 1883 the Post Office's business increased twenty per cent over the previous year. In 1886 William Jacobus was appointed postmaster. He transferred the office to 440 Bloomfield Avenue. The fast growing population demanded more service. By 1888 there were eleven incoming and outgoing mails daily instead of two. Sixty-two unclaimed letters were advertised by Postmaster Jacobus in the Montclair Times for August 11, 1888. Mr. Jacobus's energetic ways helped to increase the income of the office to the point where the village was entitled to free delivery of mail.

In 1889 Washington ordered the postmaster to select six intelligent, healthy, active men of good reputation for industry, honesty, and sobriety to carry the mail, south of Chestnut Street only, at \$600 per annum. Streets were named. F. N. Moffat and Company were paid \$300 for numbering the houses and making a town map according to government specifications.

On January 1, 1890 the proud postmaster started his six men on their rounds, one delivery daily. Of the six, Weeks had been a house painter; Billy Williams, a noted negro minstrel entertainer. Romer, Jacobus and Niederhouser, having been telegram messengers, were chosen because they knew where everyone lived. The carriers wore helmets and regulation uniforms, cadet gray trimmed in black braid, made by Stoutenburgh of Newark. The local press said: "Just think of the postman coming around and bringing duns, invitations and all those pleasures of life just like the milkman. Write to your friends immediately and tell them about it."

"Thirty letter boxes of the latest pattern for our free mail delivery were received by Postmaster Jacobus yesterday." "Some of the store keepers on Bloomfield Avenue anticipate a falling off in the general traffic with the introduction of free mail delivery which it is claimed will keep many regular purchasers at home." Montclair Times, November 30, 1889.



First space assigned the police officers was a lockup containing three cells, located in the twenty-foot square base of the wooden fire alarm bell tower which was built by Frank A. Smith for \$303. The first truck house, shown in front of the tower, built for the Hook and Ladder Company at a cost of \$300, was simple but weather proof.



The only officers to exercise the functions of police were the elected or especially appointed constables, who gave slight protection. What could be expected of them, when fees in justice cases were restricted to fifty cents? Besides the time spent in making arrests and attending court to testify, taking the prisoner to Newark cost forty-eight cents. The constables felt that two cents did not pay them for their trouble, especially when they were called to make arrests at unreasonable hours of the night.

In April of 1880 J. J. Norman was engaged at the rate of \$6 a week to patrol Bloomfield Avenue each night from eight to eleven o'clock from the lower end of the Morris building to Hughes blacksmith shop. This protection was abandoned a few months later, for the town felt too poor to afford it.

In 1881 burglaries occurred in the Congregational Church and in the Church of Our Lady; and thieves entered the Methodist Church and carried off one hundred yards of carpet. That year the town purchased for Constable Dodd handcuffs, nippers, and a club. Two special officers were detailed to eliminate Sunday ball playing in the village; and Vaughn Davis, supplied with a badge, was appointed special constable stationed at the New York and Greenwood Railroad station.

In 1883 the constables were measured for frock coats and doeskin pants to be supplied according to list price, \$15.50 and \$6, met by a town appropriation of \$138. They were reminded that these clothes as well as their overcoats belonged to the Township. The next year they were supplied with rubber boots and suitable hats.

Burglary and damage by marauders was increasing

as houses of the well-to-do became more plentiful, so twenty-five members of the volunteer fire department were sworn in as special police for the suppression of tramps and disorderly persons during the daytime absence of most of the male population.

In 1887, the town again curtailed expenses, retaining only one officer, who was left to do night duty. This was probably James McNamara who is said to have been put in uniform in 1884 or '85 and to have patrolled the streets for several years at night assisted by two Newfoundland dogs. Township records for April 17, 1888 report Daniel Logan and William Dunlap appointed policemen, and Michael Kane made special officer for Saturday evenings and Sundays. On April 25 the official record shows appointment of Hugh Turner and the official standing of James McNamara (Big Jim Mack) established.

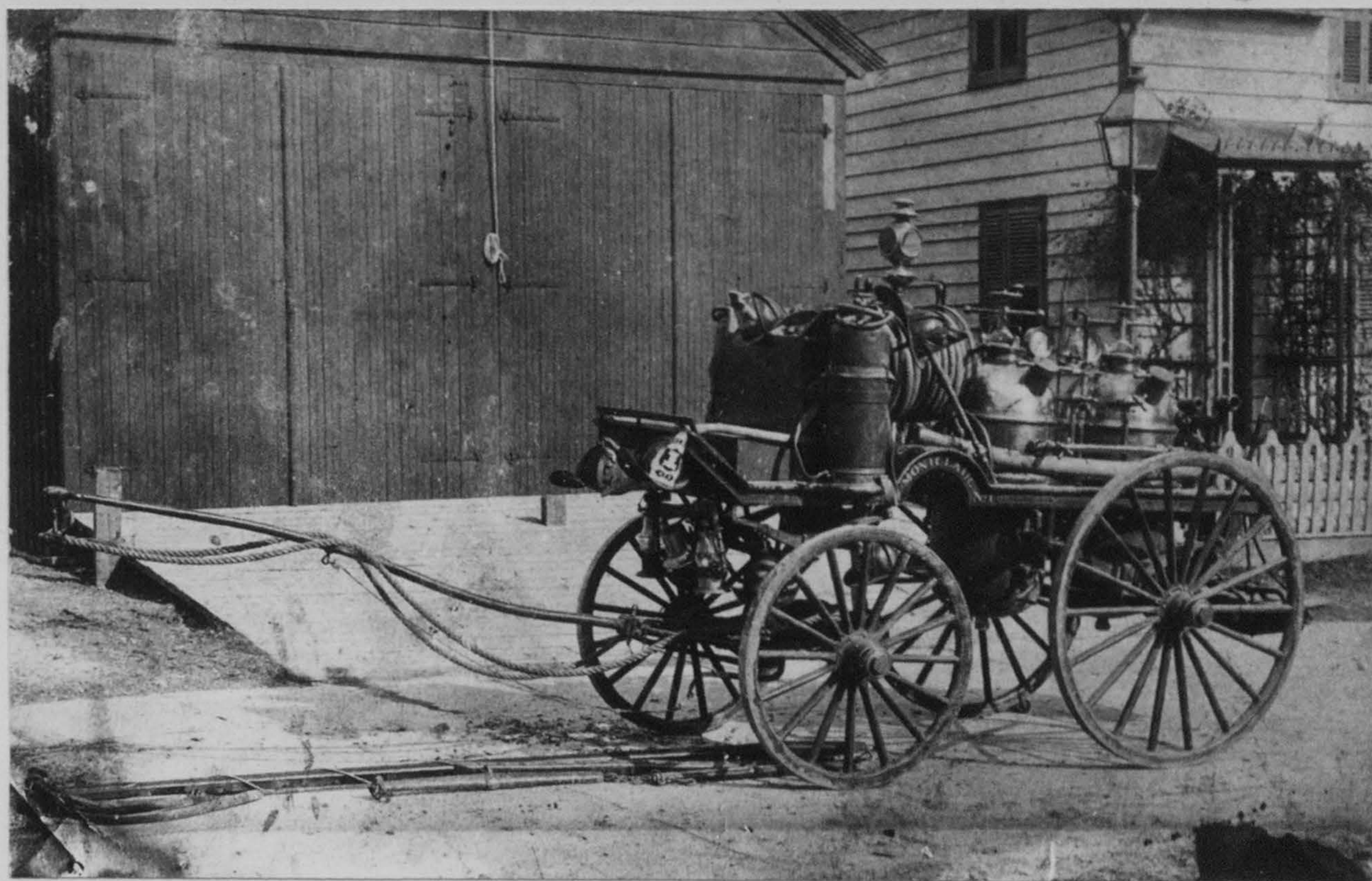
The 17 by 17 foot room at the base of the fire alarm tower, with two locked cells, was equipped with roll-top desk and hammock for the Reserveman. He was on duty twenty-four hours a day with one hour off for each meal. Although the cells had bunks and bedding, no janitor being provided, cold made the place uninhabitable and prisoners were allowed to go home nights.

In 1889 policemen's pay was increased to \$60 a month. That year there were one hundred and sixty arrests; for disorderly conduct, vagrancy, malicious mischief, larceny, assault, and wife beating. The village was more a thoroughfare than most neighboring towns. It was near the Penitentiary whose discharged inmates wandered this way, and often stole even clothes from the line. As the number of such petty burglaries was on the increase, the Township Committee recommended for 1890 an appropriation of \$2,700 for police protection.

"The Township should furnish a suitable court room ... The number of civil suits especially is increasing..... litigants are compelled to dispose of their cases in such restricted quarters as may be furnished by the justices, who receive no ... expenses incidental to the transaction of the public business." Montclair Times, September 7, 1889.



30  
Second-hand, four wheeled, double-tanked Babcock chemical fire extinguisher. To make sure of competent men to handle it at every alarm, the chief detailed for that duty eighteen men who were likely to be in town during the day as well as night. The apparatus could be drawn by men or by horses after December 1884 when a \$40 harness was purchased.



When fire broke out, the usual village scenes were enacted; loud screams of alarm to arouse the neighbors, much frantic running hither and thither, daring acts performed to save furniture and belongings, most of which were futile, and finally a few cooler heads doing effective work to save nearby buildings by pouring upon their roofs buckets of water passed from well or stream by a "bucket line," while the house afire burned rapidly to the ground.

In 1880 the citizens voted to appropriate \$1,000 from tax funds for the detection and conviction of incendiaries but not a penny of this money could be spent to prevent or put out fires. A number of serious conflagrations finally brought property owners to the realization that protection of some sort against fire was vital.

A self-appointed committee called together a group of leading citizens who formed a volunteer Hook and Ladder Company. They bought their own uniforms and raised the money to purchase truck, ladders, fire extinguishers, axes, and buckets. This group included doctors, lawyers, artists, dentists, engineers, and business men. Such was the group that it was a common thing to hear a millionaire Wall Street broker politely ask a hundred thousand dollar dry goods merchant to assist with the ladder.

In October of 1883 the truck, hitched to one of Mullen's furniture wagons, attended its first fire on the premises of Joseph Nathan of Gates Avenue. The second purchase of equipment, the second-hand Babcock chemical extinguisher, arrived in March, 1884. It was a machine of formidable proportions, with two brass tanks holding fifty gallons each. It was drawn by hand or horses. The men, called the "comical" detail, who "ran" with it, often arrived at the conflagration so exhausted that they had to lie down on the ground to get their wind before beginning their work. If a horse was handy at the livery stable, he drew the apparatus and his owner was paid two dollars for his services.

On April 24, 1884 the group took possession of a small weatherproof building erected at the corner of Valley Road and Bloomfield Avenue as a home for the apparatus. The front room houses the truck and engine; the back room was a "tastefully decorated parlor" for the firemen's social hours. That summer a bell for alarms was hung in a tower which later burned on March 9, 1886. The bell was unharmed and was rehung in a new tower one story higher.

In 1887 the old chemical "colossus" was abandoned and taking its place was a new hose carriage, of the crane neck type, resplendent in a wealth of silver ornament, with three signal lanterns with lights of colored glass, three bells, two torches, two clay pipes, two plume or bouquet holders, and four service lanterns.

Hose Company No.1 to run with this jumper, was formally organized in August of 1887. A contract for building it a fire house was awarded in May 1889 to A.C. Hortsch whose bid was \$788. Late in 1889 it opened the house with dancing in its carriage room. The meeting room on the upper floor was nicely carpeted, furnished with handsome chairs, and decorated with elegant chandeliers, but the walls were still devoid of pictures or ornaments.

Excelsior Hose Company No.2 was organized to protect the south end of town, with a \$250 Rumsey new styled, four-wheeled hose carriage, handsomely ornamented. Twenty-three new members formed Washington Hose Company No.3 in 1887. They kept their new two-wheeled hose carriage, painted bright vermillion and trimmed in black and gold, in Mullin's stable.

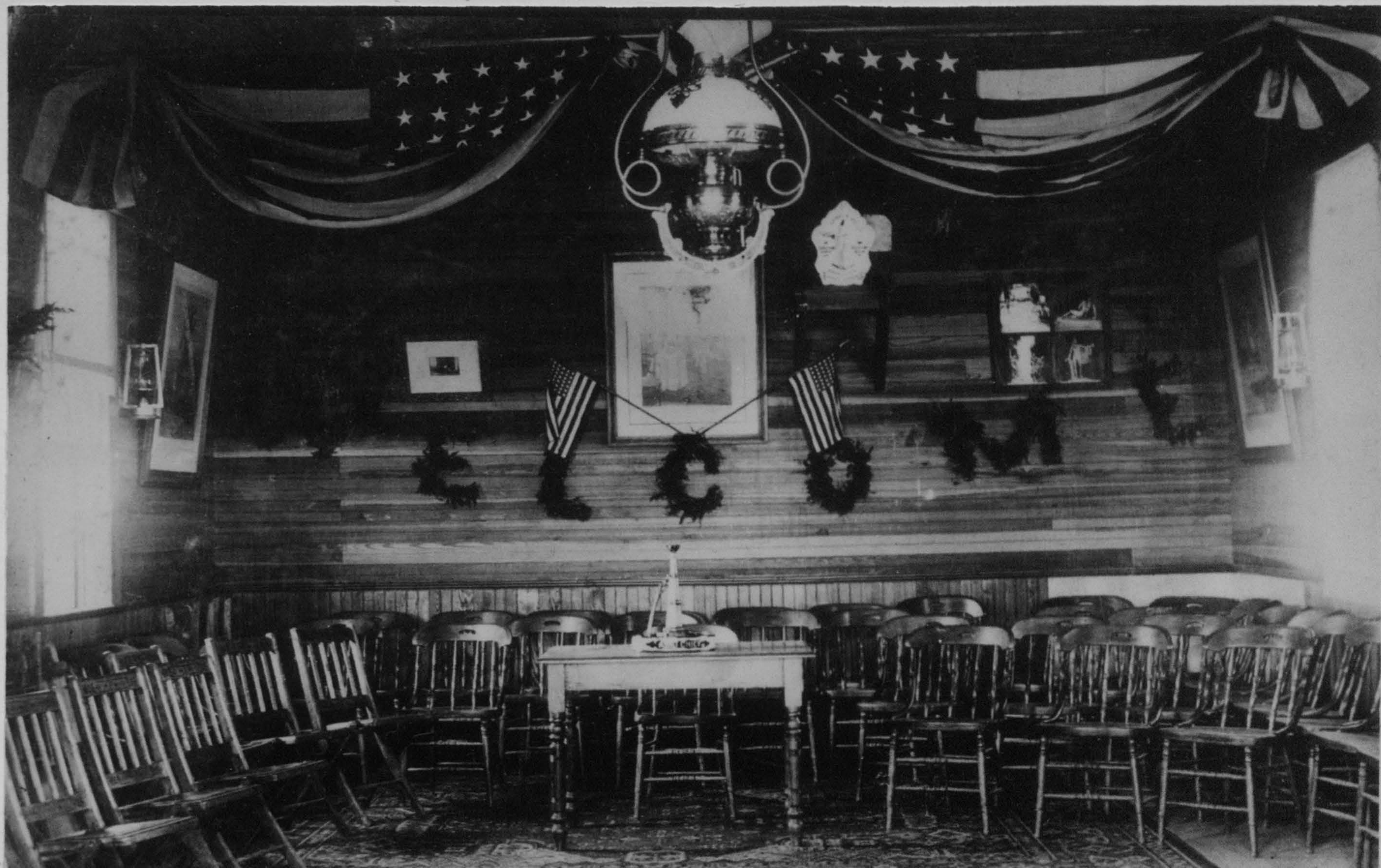
In the late eighties Cliffside Hose Company No.4 organized for the protection of property in the upper end of the town. It first met on the ground floor of Jacobus' carpenter shop near the railroad on Bellevue Avenue. Mr. George Inness, Jr. submitted plans for a "pretty" firehouse

In 1888 officers of the Montclair Fire Department, still a volunteer group, were George F. Westbrook, Chief Engineer; Peter A. Tronson, First Assistant; and Elijah Pearce, Second Assistant. Keys to the fire alarm bell tower were kept at the Mansion House, McChesney's Cigar Store, Marshall's Drug Store, and Van Giesen's Livery Stable.



Interior of meeting room for Cliffside Hose Co. No.4, decorated probably to welcome visiting firemen. Notice "Welcome" done in greens. In 1888 the company met in rooms at Jacobus' carpenter shop on Bellevue Avenue. This is probably an interior view of their new firehouse soon after it was built.

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Cliffside Hose Co. No.4 was organized February 7, 1888. Officers were Irving Cairns, President; Frank Lord, Vice-president; F. P. Anderson, Secretary; A. J. Varno, Treasurer; C. H. Heustis, Foreman; Wm. Jacobus, Assistant Foreman. They probably appear in this photograph. In front row at the right is William H. Littell.



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The fire alarm, carriage, and physicians call service offered below proved rather expensive and for lack of subscribers failed within a year or two. Fire Association Notes. "The Montclair Company is going ahead of us on signal alarms. We understand they have electric alarms in several houses."

## To The Subscribers — THE — MONTCLAIR FIRE ALARM

Enclosing with this the card of instructions, we announce the completion of the line and its being in working order. The enclosed itemized statement of expenses and share of each subscriber, showing a large increase from sum at first estimated upon which was thought would not exceed the sum of eight dollars (\$8<sup>00</sup>) per house, is due to following items. Extra labor, and expense of insulator blocks for trees \$89<sup>16</sup> not counted upon in original estimates, it being found impossible for either of us to spare the necessary time to perform the work together with a shrinkage of from 24 expected, and counted upon subscribers, to the actual number 16. Deducting the item referred to (\$89<sup>16</sup>) from total cost \$290.72, and with the number originally expected (24) the share would have been \$8.88 for each house only a few cents in excess of original estimate. Should there be any further connections made with the line for which we already have inquiries, the pro rata share will be returned to each subscriber and we hope to eventually reduce the subscription to ten dollars each house. The service provides for an alarm of fire, carriage call, and Physicians call. So far as the Alarm is concerned, there are no expenses connected with it, with exception of night calls for your Physician. For this part arrangements have been made with Mr. Mullen to send a messenger with horse and carriage and bring your Physician to your door and for the small sum of one dollar. This can be accomplished within fifteen minutes from receipt of signal and in this the facility is worth many times the whole cost. Carriage calls will be answered by Mr. Mullen's vice at usual rates. There are no charges connected with the Fire Alarm or service of the Fire company and Truck. Negotiations are now in progress with a prominent N. Y. Insurance Company, of which it is expected, that a reduction in the rate of premium for fire insurance, will be offered on residences connected with this service and alarm.

Items of expenses. Main line, wire, insulators, poles etc \$138.80

Receiving instrument, in stable, 14.97

House instruments, connections etc. 43.20

Blocks for insulators on trees. 18.66 } 89.16

Labor. W. A. B. Co. line man & help 70.50 }

Printing 1.50

290.72

Making the share for each house  
1/16 or \$18.17

The house box and connections  
are your personal property as well  
as 1/16 of all material in use and  
the main receiving instruments

The subscribers at this date are Messrs. Crocker, Farmer, Jenkins, Leonard, Allen, Seymour-Schott, St. John, Church, Fox, Redell, Harris, Parsons, Sheldon, Simpson, & Mullen.

In sending your remittances please favor with the name of your Physician for registry at main office.

Respectfully Submitted -

G. M. Schott Jr.

E. W. Seymour

Montclair, N. J.  
Feby 12 1884 }

While firemen were enjoying their dinners on Sunday last, the fire bell rang an alarm for District 4. It was caused by a slight fire in the house of Thomas Farrell, on Bloomfield avenue, but the services of the firemen, who turned out in good force, were not needed. ---Montclair Times, October 10, 1885.



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Montclair's latitude is 40 49' North; longitude, 70 13' West. Average altitude 240 feet. It has an average of 126 rainy days per year, yielding an average annual total of 46.46 inches rainfall. Average mean temperature in January, 29.2°; in July, 73.3°. August 26, 1885 was an unseasonably cold day, highest temperature being 46°.



Among those who boarded the out-going train at Montclair was a chicken farmer who was carrying eggs to customers in the city. The hungry passengers, while awaiting rescue, purloined the eggs and cooked them on a stove which heated one of the cars.

The D. L. & W. train which left Montclair at 6:30 Monday morning reached Hoboken. On the return trip it was soon halted by a derailed engine which had been sent out from Newark in an attempt to keep the track clear. Within five minutes after the train stopped it was snow blocked and could not move a foot either way. Other trains came along and became stalled and remained so until Wednesday afternoon when at 4:50 P.M. one train reached Montclair with four locomotives which had all they could do to get it here.

The first mail of the week arrived at 7:45 A.M. on Thursday morning. Village supplies of groceries and meat had run out, and people were eating anything they could find.

Dr. Morgan W. Ayers ventured forth in a sleigh on Thursday afternoon to visit some patients, but was stopped by opposing teams cutting their way through a tunnel. Snow drifts had piled up two hundred feet long and twelve or fifteen feet deep. South Fullerton Avenue was impassable for a week. A west wind packed the street solidly with snow to the tops of porches which lined the street. During the storm T. Russell Brown was born at 43 South Fullerton Avenue. His father, Dr. James S. Brown, and their neighbor Dr. J. H. Love walked out of the second story window on snowshoes to get some milk for the new baby. In Upper Montclair Clarence Howe coasted from an upstairs window on a sled. All children enjoyed a week's vacation from school.

The great blizzard in March 1888 isolated Montclair for three days and put all business at a standstill. The unlooked-for event began quietly on Sunday evening, but reached formidable proportions as the day advanced. By Monday night furious wind charged with blinding snow and stinging frost made the trip by local business men from shop to home almost insurmountable. The mercury stood at 4 degrees, the wind blew sixty miles an hour. Fine snow rushed through every crevice in the houses, and cut the skin of anyone who had to venture outside.

The 7:52 morning train on the Greenwood line usually carried more passengers than any other two trains. That Monday morning there was only one woman passenger. The train got through to Jersey City but there it was snowbound for three days and two nights. Some passengers deserted the trains for the Arlington Hotel where they tried to sleep five in a bed; while two coaches remained full of passengers sleeping within. Twenty-five commuters hitched themselves together with a rope, like mountain climbers, and so reached Newark on foot. Some secured passage in sleighs at \$5.00 a head.

Tuesday night fifty passengers still remained marooned on the train. Some tried to walk to other shelter and some tried to obtain conveyances to get them home, as it was useless to try to proceed to New York, where everything was as tied up as it was in New Jersey. E. A. Bradley hired a four horse covered vehicle and four men with snow shovels, and finally managed to reach home at the expense of fifty dollars.



Left: South Fullerton Avenue looking toward Bloomfield Avenue, late in the decade, as indicated by the water hydrant, yet before Doremus' frame store was replaced by a brick building. The low white structure was Thomas' Photographic Studio. Right: Looking across Bloomfield Avenue up Midland, 1888.



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Montclair the evolution of a  
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Bloomfield, Montclair, Orange  
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