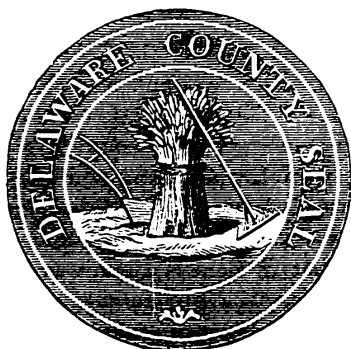


DELAWARE COUNTY.



THIS county was formed from Ulster and Otsego, March 10, 1797.¹ It lies upon the headwaters of Delaware River, from which it derives its name. It contains an area of 1,580 sq. mi., and is centrally distant 70 mi. from Albany. Its surface is a hilly and mountainous upland, divided into 3 general ridges by the valleys of the 2 principal branches of Delaware River. This upland region is a connecting link between the Blue Ridge upon the s. and the Catskill and Helderbergh Mts. on the n. In the s. part of the co. these ridges form a mountainous region, with lofty, rocky peaks and precipitous declivities broken by wild and narrow ravines. In the n. the highlands are less wild and precipitous, and the whole region assumes the character of a rugged, hilly upland.² The main or w.

branch of the Delaware³ River takes its rise in Utsyanthia Lake,⁴ a small sheet of water upon the n.e. line of the co. It flows 60 mi. in a s.w. direction to the w. border of the co., thence turns abruptly to the s. and forms the s.e. boundary of Tompkins and Hancock. In its course in the co. it descends about 1000 feet. Pepacton River,⁵ the e. branch of the Delaware, rises in Roxbury and flows 60 mi. s.w., uniting with the Delaware at Hancock. The Susquehanna forms a portion of the n. boundary of the co. Charlotte River and Ouleout Creek are tributaries of the Susquehanna. The other streams are creeks and brooks, principally tributaries to the 2 branches of the Delaware. The valleys of these streams are usually narrow, and bordered by steep hills which often rise into mountains. The rocks of the co. mostly belong to the old red sandstones of the Catskill division.

The mineral wealth of the co. is limited to stone useful for building and flagging, of which large quantities of a fine quality are found. Vague traditions of silver and lead mines have here, as in other counties, haunted the brains of dreaming adventurers. A brine spring is reported 4 mi. n.w. of Delhi Village, and 1384 feet above tide, another 3½ mi. from Colchester, and several chalybeate springs in various parts of the co.; but none of them are important.⁶ The soil is generally of a dark reddish color, composed of the disintegrated sandstone and shale. In the valleys are occasionally narrow strips of fertile alluvium. Dairying is at present the leading occupation of the people. The numerous fresh springs of water issuing from its hillsides,⁷ the fresh herbage, and bracing mountain air, seem peculiarly adapted to this business.⁸ Lumber was formerly rafted in large quantities to Philadelphia; but, although still extensively exported by R. R., the quantity is diminishing.⁹ Since the completion of the R. R., tanneries have sprung up in favored localities, and will continue until the supply of bark is exhausted. The other manufactures are chiefly limited to the local wants of the inhabitants. The immense amount of water power in the co. will greatly facilitate the establishment of manufactories whenever the exigencies of the co. may demand them.

¹ The w. branch of the Delaware was formerly the boundary line between Otsego and Ulster cos. The line between this co. and Broome was run according to the treaty of Fort Stanwix of Nov. 5, 1768, and was known for a long period as the "*Line of Property*."

² The following is a list of elevations above tide, principally derived from the State Road Survey in 1825, and various R. R. surveys of more recent date:—

Delaware River, e. border (estimated).....	830 feet.
Junction of the two branches of Delaware.....	922 "
Hancock Station.....	943 "
Delaware River at Hales Eddy.....	950 "
Dickinsons Station.....	953 "
Deposit (State Road Survey).....	1004 "
Sidney Village.....	1010 "
Mouth of Beaver Kil.....	1018 "
Franklin Village.....	1240 "
Arkville, near Margaretville.....	1345 "
Courthouse Square.....	1453 "
West Meredith (John Stittson).....	1726 "
Perch Pond.....	1765 "
Stamford Village (Newburgh & Syracuse R. R. Survey).....	1765 "

Fish Lake, near Delhi.....	1770 feet.
Elk Creek Summit (3 or 4 mi. from Delhi).....	1859 "
Warner Pass (3 mi. w. of Stamford Village).....	1887 "
Head of Delaware, Stamford.....	1888 "
Davenport Center.....	1898 "
Lowest summit between Ouleout Creek and Delhi.....	2143 "
Mt. Pisgah, Andes (estimated).....	3400 "

³ Otherwise called the "Mohawk Branch of the Delaware," and by the Indians "*Cookquago*" or "*Cacquago*."

⁴ This lake is often mentioned in early documents. In colonial times it was at one of the angles of Albany co.

⁵ Sometimes written Popacton, Papotunk. In the Government returns the p.o. named from the river is written Pepacton.

⁶ *Beck's Mineralogy N. Y.*, p. 160.

⁷ The first court held in the co. adopted as its seal the device of a "stream of water issuing from a high mountain."

⁸ In amount of butter this co. ranks second only to St. Lawrence.

⁹ In number of sawmills this co. is now surpassed by none but Steuben and Oneida.

The co. seat is located at Delhi.¹ The present courthouse was erected in 1820.² The co. clerk's office and jail³ are in separate buildings, adjacent to the courthouse. The poorhouse is an old, two story wood building, situated upon a farm of 175 acres about 2 mi. s. of Delhi Village. The average number of inmates is 65, supported at a cost of \$1.00 per week each. The farm yields an income of \$250. The N. Y. & Erie R. R. extends along the Delaware, and the Albany & Susquehanna R. R. through the n. w. corner. Soon after the completion of the N. Y. & E. R. R., in 1849, plank roads were built, extending from several of the stations into the interior of the co.⁴

The co. has 7 weekly newspapers.⁵

The Hardenburgh Patent,⁶ embracing 10 mi. square, lying s. of the E. branch of the Delaware, was granted April 10, 1708, to Johannes Hardenburgh, of Kingston, Ulster co., and associates, who had previously purchased the lands of the Indians. A tract of 250,000 acres, between the w. branch of the Delaware and a line a mi. E. from the Susquehanna, was bought from the Indians at "Johnson Hall," Montgomery co., June 14, 1768, by John Harper, Sen., and Gen. Wm., Joseph, and Alex. Harper and others. On the s. e. side it extended from Utsyanthia Lake down the Delaware to the mouth of a small stream called Camskutty. Within this tract 5 towns, with full privileges of townships, were created by patent in 1770; but in none of them was an organization ever effected under this authority.⁷

Under their grant of 10 mi. square the proprietors of the Hardenburgh Patent claimed all the land between the branches of the Delaware, and leased it to actual settlers.⁸ In 1844, the settlers, who had previously paid annual rents, refused longer to submit to what they believed to be a wrong and fraud, and they called for legislative and judicial aid. In the mean time, the lessors prosecuted for rent. In 1845, associations were formed to prevent the collection of rent; and when the sheriff attempted to make a levy, or to sell property for rent, men disguised as Indians appeared to prevent the sale, determined thus to stay proceedings until the question of title should be legally settled.

¹ The courthouse was located by the judges, justices, and supervisors; and the sum of \$1200 was granted April 4, 1798, for the erection of the co. buildings, on a lot given by Levi Baxter and George Fish. Under an act of March 28, 1806, the sheriff's mileage was reckoned from the courthouse; and under an act of June 18, 1812, a tavern was allowed to be kept in the courthouse. The courthouse and jail was burned April 17, 1820, and a prisoner confined for some trifling offence perished in the flames. An act passed April 11, 1820, authorized a loan of \$8000 for rebuilding, and the present edifice was erected in the summer of that year. About a dozen prisoners, on "the limits" at the time the jail was burned, were released upon bail; and it happened that while the co. was without a jail there was no occasion for its use; but within a few hours after a prison room was so far completed as to hold a prisoner, it was needed and occupied.

² Supervisors' meetings and courts were held at the house of Gideon Frisbie until the courthouse was completed. The first co. officers were Joshua H. Brett, *First Judge*; Patrick Lamb, Wm. Horton, and Gabriel North, *Judges*; Isaac Hardenburgh and Alex. Leal, *Asst. Justices*; Ebenezer Foote, *Clerk*; Elias Butler, *Sheriff*; and Anthony Marvin, *Surrogate*.

³ The jail is of wood, warmed by furnaces. It contains 4 rooms, and generally has 1 or 2 inmates.

⁴ During the first 10 years of this century several turnpikes were built through this co., and these tended greatly to promote settlement, by opening routes to market.

⁵ **The Delaware Gazette** was established at Delhi, Nov. 18, 1819, by John Jas. Lappan. In 1833 it was sold to A. M. Paine, by whom it is now published.

The Delaware Republican was started at Delhi, July 4, 1822, by Elijah J. Roberts, and was continued about 2 years.

The Delaware Journal was started at Delhi in 1834, by Geo. Marvine, and was continued 1 year. It was revived by Bonne & McDonald, but was again discontinued.

The Delaware Express was started at Delhi, in Jan. 1839, by Norwood Bowne, the present publisher.

Voice of the People, an anti-rent paper established at Delhi in 1845, by Wm. S. Hawley, was continued about 4 years.

The Deposit Courier was started in March, 1849, by C. E. Wright, and was continued till May, 1853. From the same office, in Sept. 1853, Sylvester D. Hulse issued

The Deposit Union Democrat, and still continues to publish it.

The Bloomville Mirror was begun May 28, 1851, by S. B. Champion. The first number contained but 101 words, and till July no price was fixed. The "office," located in the corner of a mill, consisted of 10 lbs. of type without a press; and the paper was "printed" by striking with a mallet on a block laid over the type. It has grown into respectable size, and has an unusually large patronage for a country newspaper. It is now printed on a power press.

The Hobart Free Press was started Jan. 1855, by E. B. Fenn.

The Weekly Visitor was commenced April 14, 1855, at Franklin, by Geo. W. Reynolds. It has been changed to

The Franklin Visitor, and is still published.

The Walton Journal, commenced in 1856 by E. P. Berray, was continued 2 years.

The Village Record was established at Hobart in 1856, by G. W. Albright.

The Walton Blade was commenced in 1856 by E. P. Berray, but was soon after discontinued.

⁶ Most of the Hardenburgh Patent was surveyed by Ebenezer Wooster, in 1749; and in that year the proprietors released to each other certain lots, bounded by monuments on the Delaware and Papakunk Rivers. After the Revolution it was found that the monuments were lost, and an act, passed March 24, 1790, appointed Charles Tappen and Jas. Cockburn commissioners to make a survey of certain lines, to be properly marked by stone heaps every 2 mi. along the division lines. The tract was divided into great tracts, numbered from 1 to 42. Of these 35 to 42 lay between the branches of the Delaware, and parts of 2 to 3 s. of the E. branch.

⁷ These towns were as follows:

Names of Townships.	Date of Patent.	Acres.	Patentees.
Bedlington,	May 24, 1770,	27,000	John Lake and associates.
Franklin,	Feb. 26, 1770,	30,000	Thomas Wharton and Reese Meredith.
Goldsborough,	June 15, 1770,	6,000	Edward Tudor, Bernard Ratzler, and John Clark.
Strasburgh,	Dec. 4, 1770,	37,000	John Butler and associates.
Whiteborough,	March 10, 1770,	38,000	Henry White and associates.

The quitrents of these lands were fixed at 2 shillings sixpence per 100 acres, payable annually on the Feast of the Annunciation of B. V. M. There was generally in the patent 1 name to each 1000 acres of the grant, although the *bona fide* owners were usually few in numbers.

⁸ A select committee of the Assembly, in 1846, reported the following tracts under lease in this co.: *Kortright Patent*, 20,000 acres, mostly leased in fee, at sixpence sterling per acre. It was offered for sale at \$2 per acre. *Desbrosses Tract*, (Hardenburgh Patent,) 60,000 acres, mostly leased in fee between 1790 and 1807, at 1 shilling per acre after the first 7 years. Farms from 100 to 200 acres. *Morgan Lewis Estate*, 20,000 acres, about 15,000 under perpetual lease, at 20 bush. of wheat per 100 acres after 15 years: for the first 5 of the 15 years it was rent free, 5 years for one-half rent, and 5 for three-quarters. *G. and S. Verplanck*, 3 tracts, originally 50,000 acres, of which less than 20,000 were under lease. *R. R. Livingston and Mrs. Montgomery*, 20,000 acres, under perpetual lease, on a rent of 20 bush. of wheat per 100 acres. *Gen. Armstrong*, 8,000 acres, under lease for 3 lives, at 20 bush. of wheat per 100 acres. *Hunter's and Oving's* large tracts in this co., Sullivan, and Greene, in fee, with a rent of 12½ to 15 or 18 cents per acre.

An act was passed, Jan. 25, 1845, forbidding persons from appearing disguised and armed, under a penalty of imprisonment in the co. jail for a term not exceeding 6 months. Persons thus armed and disguised might be prosecuted under the fictitious names they assumed, if their real names could not be discovered; and such persons assembling in public houses or other places to the number of three or more might, upon conviction, be imprisoned 1 year in the co. jail. If convicted upon an indictment for a conspiracy or riot or other misdemeanor, in which offense they were armed with deadly weapons, they were further liable to a fine not exceeding \$250, with or without a year's imprisonment. In a few cases these laws were disregarded; several arrests were made, and the co. was declared in a state of rebellion. Aug. 7, 1845, Sheriff Moore, accompanied by P. P. Wright, went to the town of Andes to sell the property of Moses Earl upon execution for rent. There he found 176 men armed and disguised, who told him to do his duty, and they would protect him: "but," said they, "let bidders beware." The sheriff and Indians drove the cattle near the road, the Indians forming a semicircle about the property. At this crisis Dept. Sheriffs Osman N. Steele and R. Edgerton (whom Sheriff Moore had requested not to come to the sale) appeared on horseback, jumped their horses over the fence, were joined by Wright, and rode into the midst of the Indians, flourishing their revolvers and firing several shots. The Indians gave ground; but the chief ordered them to shoot the horses. Several shots were made, killing the horses of Steele and Edgerton, and mortally wounding Steele, who survived but a few hours.¹ The Governor immediately issued a proclamation declaring the co. to be in a state of insurrection, and placing it under martial law. A battalion of 300 militia, one-half of whom were mounted, were called out and placed at the disposal of the local officers.² They continued in service several months. The mounted men were actively employed the first 2 or 3 months in small detachments, aiding the civil authorities in making arrests, and in patrolling day and night such districts as the exigency of the service required. The residue was employed in guarding the jail, and as foot patrols in the vicinity of Delhi on the occasion. On two occasions detachments of troops attended the sheriff to State prison with prisoners.³

ANDES⁴—was formed from Middletown, April 13, 1819. It lies on the s. e. border of the co., e. of the center. Its surface is a broken and hilly upland, intersected by the deep, narrow ravines of the e. branch of the Delaware and its branches. The hills are high, rocky, and irregular, and are bordered by steep declivities.⁵ The Delaware flows s. w. through near the center of the town. Trempers Kil, Little Bush Kil, and Shaw Brook are the other principal streams. The valleys of these streams are all narrow and tortuous and are bordered by rocky hillsides. A considerable portion of the town is still covered with forests. The soil is a clayey and shaly loam underlaid by hardpan upon the hills, and a gravelly loam of good quality in the valleys. **Andes**, (p. v.,) on Trempers Kil, in the n. part of the town, contains an academy,⁶ 3 churches, a flouring mill, and 2 tanneries. Pop. 350. **Cabin Hill**, (p. o.,) in the n. w., is a hamlet. **Shavertown** and **Trempers Kil** are p. offices. Permanent settlement commenced in 1784. A few farms were taken up prior to the Revolution, but were abandoned. The w. part of the town began to be settled in 1794-96.⁷ Rev. Mr. House, of Colchester, held the first religious meetings, in 1797.⁸

BOVINA⁹—was formed from Delhi, Stamford, and Middletown, Feb. 25, 1820. It is an interior town, lying directly e. of the center of the co. Its surface is a hilly upland, broken by the deep valleys of small streams. The highest summits are 1500 to 2500 ft. above tide. The streams are Little Delaware River, flowing w. through the center of the town, Bush Creek, the outlet of Teunis Lake, and Coulter, Maynard, Mountain, and Grants Brooks. The valleys of these streams

¹ For full particulars see *Governor's Message in 1846*, and *Gould's Hist. Del. Co.*, Chap. xii. About 90 persons were indicted for the murder, of whom one-third were arrested. Two (O'Connor and Van Steenburgh) were convicted and sentenced to be executed, but their punishment was commuted to State prison for life by Gov. Wright, and they were fully pardoned by Gov. Young. The co. remained under martial law from Aug. 18 to Dec. 22, 1845. The murder of Steele led to the speedy abandonment of secret organizations and Indian costumes.

² A company of volunteers under Benj. T. Cook, and another under John R. Baldwin, were formed, and organized into a battalion under Thomas Marvin as major. A company of light infantry from Unadilla, under Capt. Bolles, was also called out, and reported themselves to Maj. Marvin.

³ Adjutant General's Report; *Assem. Doc.* 6, 1846. The whole expense of this service was \$63,683 20, which was charged to the co., but has never been repaid. Considerable tracts of land have since been conveyed in fee; and of others, the rent is now paid as formerly, and if in arrears, suits are instituted without difficulty.

⁴ Named from the mountainous character of its surface.

⁵ "Mt. Pisgah" is the highest point between the two branches of the Delaware. By a R. R. survey from Oneonta by way of Elk Creek, Delhi and Fish Lake, the Fish Lake summit is ascertained to be 1640 ft. above tide. By another route, up the Little Delaware and Coulter's Brook, the highest point on the line was almost the same height. Mt. Pisgah measured 1500 ft. above this, or about 3400 feet above tide.

⁶ Erected by Henry Dowie in 1847. It is not incorp.

⁷ Among the first settlers were James Phoenix, — Olmsted, Peter Burgher, Joseph Erskine, Silas Parish, E. Washburn, Eli Sears, Jacob, Adam, and Philip Shaver, and Philip Barnhart. The first birth was that of Philip, son of Adam Shaver, Oct. 9, 1786; the first marriage, that of Henry Myers and Catharine Shaver, June 17, 1789; and the first death, that of Wm. June. Wm. Washburn taught the first school, in 1792-93; Edward Sands kept the first store, Russell Comstock the first inn, and Robt. More built the first mill on Trempers Kil in 1797.

⁸ The census reports 8 churches; 2 Asso. Ref. Prot., and 1 each Bap., O. S. Bap., Cong., M. E., Presb., and Union.

⁹ Name applied by Gen. Erastus Root, from the Latin, in allusion to its fitness for grazing.

are narrow and are bordered by steep, rocky hillsides. Teunis Lake¹ (s.) and Landons Lake (w.) are small bodies of water. The surface is stony, and the soil is generally a clay loam, admirably adapted to grazing. **Brushland**,² (p. v.) on the Little Delaware, contains a tannery, gristmill, and clothing works. Pop. 183. **Bovina**,³ (p. v.) at the junction of Maynard and Mountain Brooks, contains about a dozen houses.

The first settlement was begun in 1792, by Elisha B. Maynard, and during the succeeding 3 years many families from Conn. and Scotland located in the valleys.⁴ Rev. James Richie conducted the first religious services, in 1795. The first church (Un. Presb.) was formed in 1809. The census reports 3 churches; M. E., Asso. Presb., and Ref. Presb.

COLCHESTER⁵—was formed from Middletown, April 10, 1792. A part was annexed to Walton in 1799; Hancock was taken off in 1806, and a part of Walton was annexed in 1827. It occupies a central position upon the s. e. border of the co. Its surface is a mountainous upland, broken by the narrow valleys of the streams. The e. branch of the Delaware flows westward through the n. part of the town, dividing the highlands into two distinct parts. From the n. it receives West Trout, Downs, and Coles Brooks, and from the s. Clearwater and several smaller brooks. Beaver Kil flows through the s. w. corner, receiving Spring Brook as a tributary. The valleys of these streams are all narrow, and many hundred feet below the summits of the hills which rise on either side. The soil is a reddish clay, and is often very stony. A considerable share of the surface is still covered with forests. Lumbering is extensively pursued. **Downsville**,⁶ (p. v.) on the Delaware, at the mouth of Downs Creek, contains 3 churches. Pop. 206. **Pepacton** and **Colchester** are p. offices. The first settlement was begun in May, 1774.⁷ The first religious services (Bap.) were conducted by Elder Haynes, and the first church (Bap.) was formed in 1803. There are now 2 churches in town; M. E. and Presb.

DAVENPORT⁸—was formed from Kortright and Maryland, (Otsego co.,) March 31, 1817. It lies along the n. border of the co., e. of the center. Its surface is a broken upland, divided into two ridges by the valley of Charlotte River, which extends e. and w. through the center of the town. These ridges are subdivided by the narrow, lateral valleys of tributaries of Charlotte River. The soil is a chocolate colored clay loam mixed with slate. **Fergusonville**,⁹ (p. v.) on Charlotte River, on the e. border of the town, contains an academy,¹⁰ a church, and several manufacturing establishments. Pop. 125. **Davenport**, (p. v.,) 3 mi. below, contains a population of 95. **Davenport Center** (p. v.) contains a cradle and rake factory and 5 sawmills. Pop. 125. **West Davenport**¹¹ (p. v.) contains a woolen factory, 3 sawmills, and 90 inhabitants. The first settlers were Daniel Farnsworth and ——— Pross, who located upon the present site of Davenport Center in 1786.¹² At that time an Indian trail, of sufficient width to admit the passage of wagons, extended along Charlotte River. Elder Mudge (M. E.) conducted the first religious services, and commenced regular preaching in 1813.¹³

DELHI¹⁴—was formed from Middletown, Kortright, and Walton, March 23, 1798. A part of Bovina was taken off in 1820, and a part of Hamden in 1825. A part was annexed to Walton in

¹ This lake lies near the foot of Mt. Pisgah, and its shores are muddy, and covered with bushes and coarse grass. It was named from a friendly Indian who saved the early settlers of Middletown from massacre by giving them a timely warning. His hut was near the lake, and he remained several years after the war. Tradition attributes to this region rich lead mines known only to Indians.

² Named from Alex. Brush, first settler and proprietor.

³ Locally known as "*Butt End*."

⁴ Francis Coulter, Levi and Jacob Mabie, Jas. Kidzie, Andrew Chisholm, Jas. Ray, Thos. Liddle, Sam'l Davis, and A. Nichols, were early settlers. The first birth was that of Elisha H., son of Elisha B. Maynard, Aug. 26, 1793; the first marriage, that of Jas. Russell and Nancy Richie, in 1799; and the first death, that of Hezekiah David, in 1798. ——— Edwards taught the first school, in 1808; James Wetmore kept the first inn, at the "*Hook*," Robert Hume the first store, at Brushland; Stephen Palmer built the first mill, in 1796, for Gov. Lewis; and John Jerome the first factory, in 1808.

⁵ Name applied by Joseph Gee, from Colchester, Conn.

⁶ Named from Abel Downs, who erected there extensive tanneries and mills.

⁷ Timothy Russell, Thos. and John Gregory, (from Westchester co.,) Frederick Miller, (still living, 1859, aged 100 years,) Jas. and S. Shaver, Silas Bowker, Peter, Harry, and Nehemiah Avery, Jacob Bramhart, Daniel and Wm. Parish, and Wm. Rose, began settlement before the war, but were driven off by the Indians and Tories. Before leaving they buried their iron implements, to preserve them. After the war several of the families returned, and were joined by Wm. Horton, Abraham Sprague, Thos. Cal-

breth, Nathan Elwood, Nathan Fuller, Joseph Gee, Caleb and Henry Sutton, Jas. Miller, and Dennis, Jared, and John Hitt. The first birth was that of Catharine, a daughter of Wm. Roe, Dec. 24, 1784; and the first death, that of Thomas Gregory. ——— Adam J. Doll opened the first store, and built the first bridge across the river at the place now known as Brooks Bridge. Wm. Rose built a sawmill in 1790. On the farm of Wm. Early, near the mouth of Coles Brook, is the site of an Indian village, with many of the apple trees planted by the natives still standing.

⁸ Named from John Davenport, an early settler and first supervisor.

⁹ Named from Messrs. Ferguson, who were largely engaged in business here.

¹⁰ Erected by the Fergusons about 1843.

¹¹ Called Ad-a-quigh-tin-gie, or Ad-i-qua-tan-gie, by the Indians. ¹² Among the other first settlers were Humphrey Denio, Geo. Webster, Daniel Olmstead, ——— Van Valkenburgh, Harmon Moore, and Elisha Orr. Dr. Dan'l Fuller came in 1796, and was the first physician. The first marriages were those of Harmon Moore and Mary Orr, and Richard Moore and M. Banks, in 1791, the two marriages taking place at the same time; the first birth was that of a child of Harmon Moore, who died in infancy; this was the first death. The first death of an adult was that of Mrs. Harmon Moore, in 1796. Wid. Hannah Dodge taught the first school; Dan'l Prentice built the first grist and saw mill, in 1792-93, and it is believed he kept the first inn. Ezra Denio kept the first store, in 1800.

¹³ The census reports 5 churches; 3 M. E., F. W. Bap., and Presb.

¹⁴ Named through the influence of Judge Ebenezer Foote. The name of "*Mapleton*" was suggested by several prominent citizens.

1812. It occupies a nearly central position in the co. Its surface is a hilly upland, broken by the deep valleys of the streams. The w. branch of the Delaware flows s. w. through the center of the town, receiving from the n. w. Platners, Peeks, Steels, and Elk Creeks, and from the s. e. Little Delaware River. The valleys are generally narrow and bordered by steep hills. The soil is a clay loam, and the surface is very stony in places. **Delhi**, (p. v.,) the county seat, is finely situated on the n. bank of the w. branch of the Delaware. It was incorp. March 16, 1821. Besides the co. buildings, it contains the Delhi Academy,¹ 4 churches, a bank, 2 printing offices, a woolen factory, an iron foundry, a gristmill, and a sawmill. Pop. 919. The first settlement was commenced by Abel and John Kidder, in 1785.² The first religious meetings were conducted by Elder Kidder Beck, in 1786. The first church (Cong.) was formed in 1798.³

FRANKLIN⁴—was formed from Harpersfield, April 10, 1792. Walton was taken off in 1797, and a part was restored in 1801. A part of Meredith was taken off in 1800, Sidney in 1801, and a part of Otego, (Otsego co.,) as "*Huntsville*," in 1822. It lies upon the n. border of the co., w. of the center. Its surface is a hilly upland, broken by deep and narrow valleys. The principal streams are Ouleout⁵ Creek, flowing w. through the n. part of the town, and its two tributaries from the s., Croton Creek and Handsome Brook. The soil upon the hills is a shaly loam underlaid by hardpan, and in the valleys a gravelly loam and alluvium. **Franklin**, (p. v.,) on the Ouleout, in the n. w. part of the town, contains the Delaware Literary Institute,⁶ printing office, and 4 churches. Pop. 490. **Croton** (p. v.) is situated upon Croton Creek, near the line of Meredith. Pop. 200. **North Franklin** is a p. o. Sluman Wattles, afterward judge, was the first white settler who built his cabin in the valley of the Ouleout. He came in 1784, and was accompanied by his brothers John and Roger and his sisters Sarah and Caroline. The town was surveyed under Judge Wattles, who acquired one of the 4 shares.⁷ The first church (Bap.) was formed at the house of Gad Merrick by Elder Hamilton, in 1798.⁸

HAMDEN—was formed from Walton and Delhi as "*Hampden*," April 4, 1825. Its name was corrected March 17, 1826. It is the central town of the co. Its surface is a mountainous upland, divided into two parts by the valley of the w. branch of the Delaware. The s. part is covered by lofty peaks and ridges scarcely susceptible of cultivation. Bagleys Brook, a tributary of the Delaware, and Clove Brook, in the s. e. part, are the other principal streams. The soil is generally a brownish clay loam underlaid by hardpan. **Hamden**, (p. v.,) upon the Delaware, near the center, contains mills, a woolen and satinet factory, and 2 churches. Pop. 191. **Lansingville**, 1½ mi. above, on the s. side of the river, contains 2 churches and 116 inhabitants. **North Hamden** is a p. o. The first settlers were Daniel Harrower and Benajah McCall, who came in some time previous to 1795.⁹ The census reports 4 churches in town.¹⁰

HANCOCK¹¹—was formed from Colchester, March 28, 1806. It lies upon Delaware River, in the s. w. corner of the co. Its surface is a mountainous upland, ending in high and nearly precipitous bluffs upon the Delaware, and divided into two parts by the e. branch of the Delaware, which flows w. through the n. part. Beaver Kil flows into the e. branch in the e. part of the town. Sands and Cadosia Creeks and Rieds and Baxters Brooks are tributaries of the e. branch of the Delaware, from the n.; and Big Trout, Basket Pond, Giers, Sand Pond, Lords, and Homer Pond

¹ The first academic building was erected in 1820, on the public square, near the courthouse. In 1856-57 a new site was procured, containing 2½ acres, upon the w. bank of Steels Brook, and a new edifice, with two spacious boarding halls, was erected. The site is commanding, and affords a fine view of the village. The institution has been endowed by moneys derived from the sale of escheated lands in the co. to the value of \$5114. Its total property amounts to \$28,820.

² Among the first settlers were Judge Gideon Frisbee, Thos. Farrington, Bartholomew Yandes, Joseph Denio, Geo. Fisher, John Francis, and Levi Baxter. — Preston, and Gideon Rathbone and his sons John, David, and Gideon, jr. The first birth was that of Huldah, daughter of Gideon Frisbee, June 14, 1787; the first marriage, that of Philip Frisbee and Jerusha Harmon, in 1791; and the first death of an adult, that of Dr. Philip Frisbee, in 1797. Thos. Averill taught the first school. The first mills were built in 1788.

The census reports 8 churches; 2 Christian, 2 Presb., and 1 each Prot. E., Bap., M. E., and Asso. Presb.

⁴ The township of Franklin, embracing 30,000 acres, was patented Feb. 26, 1770, with the usual powers of a township, and a quitrent of two and sixpence for every 100 acres annually. The patentees were Thos. Wharton, Reese Meredith, and 28 others. It was named from Temple Franklin, a natural son of Dr. Benj. Franklin.

⁵ In the great Indian purchase of 250,000 acres, June 14, 1768, this stream is named Au-ly-on-let.

⁶ The buildings consist of one large stone edifice, containing recitation rooms, &c., and two large boarding halls. The total property of the institution is valued at \$20,000.

⁷ Among the early settlers were Nathan Edgerton, Jas. Follett, Alex. Smith, Daniel and Chauncey, sons of Enos Parker, Gen. Aaron Chamberlain, Moses Clark, Asa Turner, Gad Merrick, Hugh Thompson, Eph'm McCall, Asa Case, Turner and Daniel Clarke, Sol. Green, John Dewey and sons, Maj. Joel Gillett, — Mix, — Sharp, and — Fitch. The first child born was Thos. Edgerton: the first marriage was that of Judah Bartlett and Caroline Wattles; and the first death, that of Mrs. Alexander Smith, in 1795. Sluman Bartlett taught the first school, and Asa Turner kept the first inn and store.

⁸ The census reports 9 churches; 3 M. E., 2 Bap., 2 Cong., and Union.

⁹ Among the first settlers were Joseph Fisk, Henry Van Waggoner, Jas. Mason, Reuben Ward, Henry Edwards, Henry and John Howard, Sam'l Robinson, Wm. Cornell, and John and Silas Grimes. Jas. Howard kept the first inn, in 1796, and Matthias Sweney built the first gristmill, in 1797. Gen. Elias Butler was the first merchant near the Walton line.

¹⁰ Asso. Presb., Christian Cong., and Presb.

¹¹ Named in honor of John Hancock, President of Continental Congress.

Brooks, are tributaries of the Delaware. These streams all flow through narrow ravines bordered by steep, rocky hills nearly perpendicular. The valley at the junction of the two branches is 922 feet above tide, and at the mouth of Beaver Kil it is 1018 ft. above tide. The summits are 1000 to 1500 ft. above the valleys. A large portion of the surface is still covered with forests. The soil upon the uplands is a hard clayey loam, scarcely susceptible of cultivation. Lumber, leather, shingles, and staves are largely manufactured. **Hancock**,¹ (p. v.) at the junction of the two branches of the Delaware, is an important trading and R. R. station. Pop. 502. **Stockport Station** and **Lordsville** are R. R. stations and p. offices. **East Branch**, (p. v.) at the mouth of Beaver Kil, contains 2 churches and 20 houses; and **Harvard**, (p. v.) 3 mi. above E. Branch, 15 houses; **Partridge Island**, on the E. branch, at the mouth of Rieds Brook, and **Cadosia Valley**, (p. o.) on Hawks Brook, 3 mi. above Hancock, are hamlets. Before the Revolution two families settled in town; but they soon after left and never returned. The first permanent settlement was made soon after the close of the war by families from Dutchess co.² In 1784, Canope, a friendly Indian, was treacherously killed in this town by Ben Haines.³ The first religious meetings (M. E.) were conducted by Rev. Titus Williams.⁴

HARPERSFIELD⁵—was formed March 7, 1788. Franklin was taken off in 1792, Kortright in 1793, and a part of Stamford in 1834. It is the N. E. corner town of the co. Its surface is a rolling upland, constituting a portion of the high plateau region stretching westward from the Catskill Mts. The principal streams are head branches of the W. branch of the Delaware, in the S.; of Middle Brook, in the center; and of Charlotte River, in the N. The valleys are usually narrow, and bordered by gradually sloping hills arable to their summits. The soil is a shaly and slaty loam of good quality. The quality of the soil, and the great abundance of pure soft water which issues from the hillsides, render this co. one of the finest grazing regions in the State. **Harpersfield**, (p. v.) near the E. line, contains 20 houses. **North Harpersfield** (p. o.) is a hamlet. **Fergusonville** (p. v.) lies on the line of Davenport, **North Kortright** (p. v.) on the line of Kortright, and **Stamford** (p. v.) on the line of Stamford. This town formed part of a large purchase made from the Indians by the Harpers in 1768.⁶ In 1771, Col. John Harper and David Hendry surveyed this town, and a small settlement was made soon after. One of the first settlers was Samuel Claxton, a tory. Several murders were committed by Tories and Indians during the war, and the settlement was abandoned. In 1784, Col. John, Capt. Wm., Col. Alex., and Joseph Harper returned, and began the first permanent settlement.⁷ Rev. John Lindsley conducted the first religious services, at an early period. There are now two churches in town, Bap. and Presb.

KORTRIGHT⁸—was formed from Harpersfield, March 12, 1793. A part of Delhi was taken off in 1798, a part of Meredith in 1800, a part of Davenport in 1817, and a part of Stamford in 1834. It is an interior town, lying N. E. of the center of the co. Its surface is a hilly upland, broken by narrow valleys and ravines. The mean elevation of the town is 1700 ft. above tide, and the highest summits attain an elevation of 2400 ft. The streams are the W. branch of the Delaware, forming its S. boundary, and its tributaries, and several small tributaries of Charlotte River, draining the N. half of the town. The hills are steep, but are generally susceptible of cultivation. The soil is a dark, shaly loam, well adapted to pasturage. **Bloomville** (p. v.) is in the S. W. part of the town. Pop. 184. **Kortright Center** (Kortright p. o.) contains a church and 25 houses. **North Kortright** (p. o.) and **South Kortright** (p. o.) are farming neighborhoods. Set-

¹ Formerly "*Shohakin*," or "*Chehocton*," said to signify the union of streams. A plank road extends from this place to Walton, a distance of 21½ mi.

² Among the first settlers were Dr. Elnathan Gregory and his son Samuel, John Barber, Daniel Bouker, Henry Ruff, Timothy Rine, Chris. Ruff, Dennis Hitt, — Gilbert, — Leonard, (from New England, who settled on Reeds Flat,) John Hitt, John and Richard Biddlecon, Ebr. Wheeler, Wm., Jos., John, and Sam'l Mallory, (near Partridge Island,) Josiah Parker, Geo. Hanks, and — Jones, (at Hancock Village.) The first birth was that of Elisha, son of Dan'l Bouker, May 11, 1792; the first marriage, that of Abm. Sprague and Polly Parish, in 1791; and the first death, that of Lieut. Day. John Gregory taught the first school.

³ *Gould's Hist. Del. Co.*, p. 184.

⁴ The census reports 6 churches; 3 M. E., and 1 each Bap., Cong., and R. C.

⁵ Named in honor of Col. John Harper, a proprietor and pioneer settler. The family consisted of John and his wife Abigail and nine children.—Wm., James, Mary, John, Joseph, Alexander, Abigail, and two others. The brothers were ardent patriots of the Revolution and active defenders of liberty. Their names are intimately associated with our State history.

⁶ On the 2d of April, 1780, a party of 14 persons, under Capt. Alex. Harper, was sent from Schoharie to Harpersfield for the purpose of making maple sugar and watching the disaffected in that quarter. On his return, Capt. H. was taken prisoner by a party of Tories and 43 Indians. Of the party he had left, 3 were killed and the rest taken prisoners. The representation made by Capt. Harper concerning the strength of the Schoharie settlement saved it from destruction at that time.

⁷ Roswell Hotchkiss, and Levi and Jedediah Gaylord, settled with the Harpers near the center of the town. Josiah Seely, Matthew Lindsley, Sam'l and John Knapp, — 2 Hamiltons, — Washburn, Isaac Pierce, Stephen Judd, Sam'l, Eliab, and John Wilcox, Richard and John Bristol, Abijah Baird, Byron McIlvaine, David and John McCullough, Isaac Patchin, Wm. Lamb, Caleb Gibbs, and Wm. McFarland were among the early settlers. Rebecca Harper, born Jan. 8, 1783, was the first birth after the war. Rev. John Lindsley is believed to have taught the first school. A gristmill, erected about 1775 by Col. Harper, was burned by the enemy, and was rebuilt soon after the war.

⁸ Named from Lawrence Kortright, the patentee.

lements commenced before the Revolution, but were broken up by the war.¹ The first permanent settlers after the war were from Conn., Dutchess co., N. Y., and Scotland.² The first church (Presb.) was formed in 1789: Rev. Wm. McAuley settled in town in Sept. 1794, and was installed pastor June 6, 1795. He filled that office until the time of his death, March 21, 1851, a period of 56 years.³

MASONVILLE⁴—was formed from Sidney, April 4, 1811. Its surface is a hilly upland, divided into 2 ridges by the valley of Bennetts Creek, which extends e. and w. through the n. part of the town. These ridges are subdivided by numerous lateral ravines, through which flow small brooks. The highest summits are 600 to 1000 feet above the valleys and 1800 to 2000 feet above tide. The surface is stony, and the soil a shaly loam, difficult of cultivation except in the valleys. **Masonville** (p. v.) is situated on Bennetts Creek, in the w. part of the town. Pop. 234. The first settlement was commenced in 1795, on "*Cockburns Gore*,"⁵ upon the w. border of the town, by immigrants from Mass.⁶ In 1797, the State Road from Cherry Valley to Jericho was opened through the town. The first religious services were conducted by Rev. Joel Chapin, in 1797. The first church (Bap.) was formed Dec. 7, 1811. There are 3 churches in town; Bap., Presb. and M. E.

MEREDITH⁷—was formed from Franklin and Kortright, March 14, 1800. It is an interior town, lying n. e. of the center of the co. Its surface is a hilly upland, less broken than most of the towns in the co. The s. and e. parts of the town are occupied by the high ridges forming the watershed between Susquehanna and Delaware Rivers. The streams are small brooks and creeks. The soil is a reddish clay and shaly loam. **Ouleout** (p. v.) contains 25 houses. **Meredith Square** (Meredith p. o.) contains 2 churches and 20 houses. **West Meredith** (p. o.) is a hamlet. These last two places are on the old Catskill Turnpike. Settlement was begun in 1787, by Joseph Bramhall, whose family were sole inhabitants till 1793.⁸ Elder Nathan Stilson (Bap.) held the first meetings. He was not a regular preacher, but a zealous promoter of education and religion.⁹

MIDDLETOWN—was formed from Rochester and Woodstock, (Ulster co.,) March 3, 1789. Colchester was taken off in 1792, a part of Delhi in 1798, Andes in 1819, and a part of Bovina in 1820. It is the s. e. corner town of the co. Its surface is a mountainous upland, bisected by the deep, narrow valley of the e. branch of the Delaware. The principal streams are Delaware River, Platte Kil, Batavia Kil, Red Kil, Bush Kil, and Mill Creek. The valleys of these streams are bordered by steep, rocky hillsides often rising into mountains. The soil is a shaly and gravelly loam. **Margaretville**,¹⁰ (p. v.), on the n. bank of the Delaware, near the center of the town, contains 40 houses. **Griffins Corners**,¹¹ (p. v.), on the Bush Kil, in the s. e. part, contains 20 houses. **Clovesville**, (p. o.), **Solitude**, and **Arkville** are hamlets on the Bush Kil, below Griffins Corners. **Dry Brook Settlement** is a lumber station on the s. branch of the Bush Kil. **Halcottsville**,¹² (p. o.), on the Delaware, near the e. border of the town, is a hamlet of a dozen houses. **Spruceville** is a little settlement between Halcottsville and Margaretville. **New Kingston**¹³ (p. o.) is a hamlet upon the Platte Kil, in the n. part of the town. **Clarks Factory**¹⁴ (p. o.) is a little settlement on the Platte Kil, near its mouth. **Lumberville** (p. o.)

¹ Among these early settlers were Alex. Mills, agent for the proprietor, Alex. Leal, Daniel McGilivrae, and Hugh Clark. The township was surveyed by Wm. Cockburn in 1770, and the first improvement began soon after.

² By an advertisement dated Jan. 1785, it appears that 30 families were then settled in town. The proprietor offered 150 farms, more or less improved, free of rent 5 years, and sixpence sterling per acre annually after forever. The first school was taught by Jared Blakeley, in 1795. Thos. McAuley, brother of the minister, and afterward Prof. in Union College, taught here in 1799. Judge Keeler was the next teacher. A Mr. Alexander built a mill before the war, and the irons concealed then have never been found. The first birth was that of Dan'l McGilivrae: the first marriage, that of Michael Sexsmith and Mary Ann Riggs; and the first death, that of a son of Isaac Randell. By an act of April 5, 1810, fairs were established in the village of "Health," in this town, for the sale of live stock, agricultural produce, and domestic manufactures. It was to be supported by a tax of 1 per cent. on all sales.

³ The census reports 6 churches; 3 Asso. Ref. Presb., 2 M. E., and 1 Ref. Presb.

⁴ Named from the Rev. John M. Mason, of N. Y., principal owner of the Evans Patent in this town.

⁵ A narrow strip of land between Evans Patent and the "Line of Property."

⁶ Among the early settlers were Wm. and Aden Wait, Danl. Scranton, Enos Goodman, Justin Nash, Peres Moody and son Moses, Asa Terry, and Caleb Monson. The first birth was that of Sally, daughter of Daniel Wait. Aug. 10, 1797, and the first death was that of Wm. Wait, the same summer. Dr. Eli Em-

mons taught the first school; Simeon Wells kept the first inn; Fitch & Phelps the first store, in 1808; and Joseph Bicknell built the first saw and grist mill, in 1802.

⁷ Named from Sam'l Meredith, of Philadelphia, who owned a part of Franklin Patent. Hon. Saml. A. Law came into this town in 1796, as agent and part owner of the Franklin Patent. Being a New England man he influenced a large immigration of New Englanders to this place, giving to it the peculiar characteristics of a Connecticut town.

⁸ Among the early settlers who came in 1793 were Nathan Stilson, Caleb Strong, Nath'l Stewart, Oliver Dutton, Dan'l North, and Truman Stilson. Lucy Austin taught the first school; Jos. Bramhall kept the first inn, and the first birth and death occurred in his family. Rufus Bunnell kept the first store, at the Square, in 1799; David Spoor built the first gristmill, in 1802. The first marriage of settlers was that of Elijah Georgia and Keziah Stewart, who eloped and were married in the fall of 1796.

⁹ The census reports 4 churches; 2 Bap., 1 F. W. Bap., and 1 Cong.

¹⁰ The old Indian village of "*Pa-ka-tagh-kan*" was situated about 1 mi. E. of this village, at the mouth of the Bush Kil.

¹¹ Named from the Griffin family, early proprietors and residents.

¹² A woolen factory is located at this place.

¹³ This village is situated in the center of a tract of land given by Wm. Livingston to 100 sufferers of the Kingston fire in 1777. Each family received 50 acres.

¹⁴ Named from the Messrs. Clarks, who have an extensive tannery at this place.

is a lumber station at the mouth of Mill Creek, in the w. part of the town. A vague tradition exists of an early settlement of this town by French traders, but no positive proof. In 1762-63 a party from Hurley, Ulster co., commenced a settlement, which increased rapidly and in a few years spread over the Delaware bottom lands.¹ The settlers were driven out in 1778,² but returned soon after the war. The first church (Ref. Prot. D.) was formed in 1794. There are 3 churches in town; 2 M. E. and 1 Asso. Ref. Presb.

ROXBURY³—was formed from Stamford, March 23, 1799. It occupies the extreme e. portion of the co. Its surface is a mountainous upland, forming a portion of the great plateau extending w. from the Catskill Mts. The declivities of the hills are steep and rocky and are mostly unfit for cultivation. The highest points on the n. and w. borders of the town are estimated to be 2800 feet above tide. The principal streams are the e. branch of the Delaware, flowing s. w. through the center of the town, Bear Kil in the e., Batavia Kil and Red Kil in the s., and numerous smaller creeks. The soil is a reddish clay loam. **Roxbury** (p. v.) lies on the Delaware, near the center of the town. Pop. 232. **Moresville**,⁴ (p. o.) near the n. e. border, **Strattons Fall**,⁵ (p. o.) in the s., **Little Falls**, upon the e. border, and **Batavia Kil** are hamlets. The first settlement was made by John More, a Scotchman, on the site of Moresville, in 1786.⁶ The first religious meetings were conducted by Rev. H. Myres.⁷

SIDNEY⁸—was formed from Franklin, April 7, 1801. Masonville was taken off in 1811. It lies upon Susquehanna River, in the n. w. corner of the co. Its surface is a hilly upland, ending in high bluffs upon the valley of the river. The highest summits are 800 to 1200 ft. above the valley. Ouleout and Carrs Creeks⁹ flow w. through the town and empty into the Susquehanna. The valleys of these streams are deep and narrow, and are bordered by steep, rocky hills. The soil in the valleys is a fine fertile alluvium, and upon the hills a dark, shaly loam. **Sidney**, (p. v.), on the s. bank of the Susquehanna opposite Unadilla, contains about 25 houses, **Sidney Center**, (p. v.) on Carrs Creek, 3 churches and 20 houses, and **Sidney Plains**, (p. v.) upon the Susquehanna, in the n. w. corner of the town, 2 churches and about 20 houses. In May, 1772, Rev. Wm. Johnston, with an Indian guide, explored this region of country, and finally selected the present site of Sidney Plains as a place of settlement.¹⁰ Early in 1773 he moved in with his family, being the first settler in the Susquehanna Valley within the limits of the State. Several others soon followed. Just before the war, Gen. Herkimer held an interview with Brant at this place; and the menacing attitude assumed by the Indians led Johnston and others who sympathized with the Continental cause to leave their new home for a less exposed situation. A few inhabitants remained during the war, and many returned immediately after its close.¹¹ By an act of April 6, 1790, £800 was granted for the construction of a road from "*Olehoudt*" Creek to Catskill on the Hudson.¹² The census reports 5 churches; 2 M. E., 2 Cong., and 1 Bap.

STAMFORD¹³—was formed April 10, 1792. Roxbury was taken off in 1799, and a part of Bovina in 1820. A part was annexed from Harpersfield and Kortright, April 22, 1834. It lies n. of Roxbury, on the n. e. border of the co. Its surface is a mountainous upland. Mt. Prospect, e. of Stamford Village, is estimated to be 1500 ft. higher than the valleys. From its summit Albany City is visible in a clear day. The streams are the w. branch of the Delaware, forming a portion of its n. boundary, and Town and Rose Brooks. The soil is principally a reddish clay

¹ The first settlers were Harmanus and Peter Dumond, Johannes Van Waggoner, and — Hendricks, who located near the old Indian village. Among those who came soon after were families named Kittle, Yapple, Brugher, Slyter, Minebaugh, Green, and Bieurch.

² Most of the settlers became tories, and in 1779 the Governor was empowered to cause the removal or destruction of grain in the back settlements of Ulster co. to prevent it from being serviceable to the enemy. Soon after the war, the settlers of "*Ta-kataghkan*" came before the legislature for redress; but no act was passed in their favor.—*Legislative Papers, St. Lib.*

³ Named from Roxbury, Conn., from which place many of the early settlers came.

⁴ Named from the first settler.

⁵ Named from an early settler. Strattons Brook falls about 40 feet at this place, furnishing a good water power.

⁶ John More, Israel Inman, Alm. Gould, Geo. Squiers, Josiah Patchin, Nehemiah Hayes, David Squiers, (most of them from Fairfield, Conn.) settled along the valley near the present village of Roxbury, in 1789.—*Gould's Hist. Del. Co.*, 197-98-99. The first child born was Charlotte, daughter of Nath'l Tiffany, in March, 1792; and the first male child born was John Gould, in Oct. of the same year. David Smith taught the first school, in the winter of 1794-95; Isaac Hardenburgh owned the first store, John More kept the first inn, and John Pierson built the first gristmill.

⁷ The census reports 8 churches; 3 M. E., 2 O. S. Bap., 2 Ref. Prot. D., and 1 Christian.

⁸ Named from Sir Sidney Smith, the British Admiral. The name was first applied by John Mandeville, an English schoolmaster, then living on Sidney Plains.

⁹ Named in memory of John Carr, a tory, who built a sawmill upon this stream at an early period.

¹⁰ At this place was the site of an old Indian fort. Three acres of ground were enclosed by mounds of earth surrounded by a ditch. From early times the place has been called "*The Fort Grounds*."

¹¹ The first gristmill w. of Harpersfield was built, in 1778, by Alm. Fuller, on the Ouleout, near Wattles Ferry. An inn was opened at the ferry in 1785, by Nathaniel Wattles. The first raft was sent down to Harrisburgh in 1795, by Capt. David McMasters. In 1787 a great scarcity of provisions occasioned much distress in this valley, and the settlers were saved from starvation by a boat load of flour from Northumberland, Penn., got to them through the exertions of Gen. Daniel Bates.

¹² The contract for building this road was awarded to Nathaniel Wattles and Medad Hunt; but, proving ruinous, the parties were relieved, in 1793, by a further grant of £120.

¹³ Originally named "*New Stamford*," from Stamford in Conn. It is situated on Great Lot No. 42 of Hardensburghs Patent.

and shaly loam. **Stamford**, (p. v.) upon the Delaware, in the s. e. part of the town, on the line of Harpersfield, contains a seminary,¹ 2 churches, and 2 woolen factories. Pop. 185. **Hobart** (p. v.) is situated on the Delaware, 4 mi. below Stamford. Pop. 391. The first settlement was made in 1773, by Dr. Stewart and John and Alex. More, from Scotland.² The first church (St. Peters Prot. E.) was formed at Hobart, Dec. 8, 1799. Rev. Philander Chase, afterward Bishop of Ohio and Ill., the first pastor, was installed Aug. 1799.³

TOMPKINS⁴—was formed from Walton, Feb. 28, 1806, as "*Pinefield*," and its name was changed March 11, 1808. It is the central town on the w. border of the co. Delaware River flows westward through near the center of the town to the w. border, where it turns s. and forms a portion of the w. boundary. The portion of the town s. of the river is composed of broken and rocky mountain masses too steep and rough for cultivation. The n. part is broken and hilly and but partially cultivated. The soil is a clay, slate, and gravelly loam. **Deposit**⁵ (p. v.) is situated on Delaware River, at the mouth of Oquaga Creek, on the line of Sanford, Broome co. It was incorp. April 5, 1811.⁶ It is the center of a large lumber business, and is an important trading station and wood depôt upon the N. Y. & Erie R. R. It contains a seminary,⁷ printing office, sawmill, a large tannery, and 4 churches. Pop. 1249,—of which 593 are in Tompkins and 656 are in Sanford, Broome co.: the depôt and r. r. buildings are in the latter town. **Cannonsville**,⁸ (p. v.) at the mouth of Trout Brook, on the Delaware, 7 mi. above Deposit, contains a sawmill, flouring mill, a large tannery, and 2 churches. Pop. 325. **Hales Eddy**,⁹ (p. o.), on the Delaware, 5 mi. below Deposit, **Barbourville**, (p. o.) on Cold Spring Brook, near the n. border, and **Trout Creek**, (p. o.) in the n. e., are hamlets. **Dickinsons Station** is near the s. line. The first settler was Squire Whittaker, from Wyoming,¹⁰ Penn., who came in 1787; John Hulse,¹¹ from Neversink, (Sullivan co.,) came in April, 1789, and Philip Pine and Conrad Ediet in 1791.¹² The first religious meetings were held at the house of John Hulse, by Rev. Hugh Compton, in 1794.¹³

WALTON¹⁴—was formed from Franklin, March 17, 1797. A part of Delhi was taken off in 1798, Tompkins in 1806, a part of Hamden in 1825, and a part of Colchester April 14, 1827. A part of Colchester was set off Feb. 1, 1799, a part of Franklin March 13, 1801, and a part of Delhi was annexed June 17, 1812. It is an interior town, lying w. of the center of the co. The deep valley of the Delaware divides the town into two nearly equal parts. The s. half is a broad, rocky, mountainous region with abrupt declivities and a surface too rough for cultivation; the n. half is broken and hilly, but generally well adapted to pasturage. The principal streams are East, West, and Hydes Brooks. The soil is a shaly loam upon the hills and a fertile alluvium in the valley. Tanning and lumbering are extensively carried on. **Walton**, (p. v.) upon the n. bank of the Delaware, near the center of the town, contains the Walton Academy¹⁵ and 3 churches. Pop. 430. **New Road**, a p. o. in the extreme n. part, has 1 church. **West Brook** is a p. office. Dr. Platt Townsend,¹⁶ of Dutchess co., purchased a tract of 1740 acres in this town in 1784. He surveyed it the same year, and in 1785 he located upon the present site of Walton Village. He was accompanied by 5 families, of 20 persons, mostly from Long Island. A large number of immigrants

¹ The Stamford Collegiate Institute, established in 1851.

² Jas. Stewart, Wm. Frazer and son Simon, from Scotland, came in 1775. During the war most of the settlers left, but returned in March, 1786. In 1789, a company consisting of 20 heads of families and 2 single men (principally from Fairfield co. Conn.) came into Delaware co. to examine the country and select locations. Several of them located in this town, and others soon followed. Dea. John Grant taught the first school, in the winter of 1788-89. Lieut. Paine kept the first inn and store, and — Calden built the first mill, near Bloomville, before 1780. Andrew Beers, the almanac maker, resided in this town. The first marriage was that of Simon Frazier and Abiah Potter, Jan. 1787; the first birth, that of Wm. Stewart, Sept. 1, 1776; and the first death, that of Margaret Frazier, in 1791.

³ There are 8 churches in town; 4 M. E., 2 Asso. Ref. P., Prot. E., and Union.

⁴ Named from Daniel D. Tompkins, soon afterward Governor.

⁵ Named from having formerly been an important station, or place of "deposit," for lumber preparatory to rafting in "the spring freshets." It was called by the Indians "*Coke-ose*," (Owls Nest,) a name corrupted by the English into "Cookhouse," by which it is still designated by the old inhabitants.

⁶ The original corporate limits of the village were entirely within the town of Tompkins. A part of Sanford, Broome co., was annexed in 1852. The charter was amended in 1858.

⁷ Laurel Bank Seminary was opened Dec. 14, 1853. It is a fine building, situated s. of the river, on a commanding site overlooking the village and valley. It has accommodations for 200

boarding students. The recent death of the principal has caused a temporary suspension of the school.

⁸ In 1786 Jesse Dickinson, of Philadelphia, made a purchase of an extensive tract of land in this vicinity, and made preparations for the building of a city, to be called "*Dickinsons City*." He built a gristmill upon Trout Creek, and a large hotel, which he called the "*City Hall*." The town meetings were held in this building for several years. Dickinson run the first raft that went from the w. branch of the Delaware. Upon his failure, Benjamin Cannon purchased the property, and from him the village derived its name.

⁹ Named from the Hale family, who were early settlers.

¹⁰ Mr. W. was one of the survivors of the massacre of Wyoming; and his sons John and Benjamin, then children, remember many incidents of that event and the subsequent escape. He stated that Brandt was at Cherry Valley at the time of the massacre, and, of course, was not a participant in its atrocities.

¹¹ The place where he settled is now (1859) occupied by his grandson, Martial R. Hulse.

¹² Mr. Ediet was a soldier of the Revolution. The first birth was that of Polly Hulse, in 1789 or '90; and the first death, that of Dorcas, wife of Oliver Hale, about 1790.

¹³ The census reports 7 churches: 3 Bap., 2 M. E., and 2 Presb.

¹⁴ Named from Wm. Walton, a large land proprietor in this vicinity. Walton's Patent (20,000 acres) was granted in 1770.

¹⁵ The academy building was erected in 1853. The institution has a good library and is in a flourishing condition.

¹⁶ Dr. Townsend received 1700 acres for surveying, and paid 50 cts. per acre for the remainder, receiving his deed in 1786.

from New Canaan, Conn., came in within a few years.¹ The first church (Cong.) was formed in 1793.²

Acres of Land, Valuation, Population, Dwellings, Families, Freeholders, Schools, Live Stock, Agricultural Products, and Domestic Manufactures, of Delaware County.

NAMES OF TOWNS.	ACRES OF LAND.		VALUATION OF 1858.			POPULATION.		No. of Dwellings.	No. of Families.	Freeholders.	SCHOOLS.	
	Improved.	Unimproved.	Real Estate.	Personal Property.	Total.	Males.	Females.				No. of Districts.	Children taught.
Andes.....	22,853	21,629	\$407,233	\$51,348	\$458,581	1,337	1,199	432	441	365	20	1,107
Bovina.....	16,682½	8,217	240,753	57,926	298,679	633	586	208	220	183	11	516
Colchester.....	14,189½	72,626	242,931	18,450	261,381	1,237	1,123	411	427	376	21	1,039
Davenport.....	19,220½	14,844	376,533	40,154	416,687	1,113	1,120	399	422	279	19	979
Delhi.....	22,020½	16,273½	668,490	237,467	905,957	1,335	1,376	465	489	409	18	1,022
Franklin.....	34,514	14,499	728,725	92,710	821,435	1,581	1,605	618	651	557	27	1,091
Hamden.....	17,310	13,783	349,910	28,044	377,954	957	924	339	360	307	16	818
Hancock.....	6,329	95,648	373,640	7,900	381,540	1,335	1,177	430	456	204	19	858
Harpersfield.....	16,002½	6,711	338,650	69,375	408,025	722	758	285	298	283	15	461
Kortright.....	24,307½	9,339½	435,515	73,252	508,767	958	1,055	380	389	330	20	666
Masonville.....	13,519½	17,442½	259,292	14,207	273,499	801	742	285	294	307	15	675
Meredith.....	21,194	10,840½	339,470	45,900	385,370	738	765	303	316	273	16	597
Middletown.....	26,213½	24,381½	364,512	61,500	426,012	1,490	1,456	534	575	370	22	1,346
Roxbury.....	34,635½	15,043½	548,503	102,554	651,057	1,276	1,257	460	473	277	18	1,003
Sidney.....	19,051	11,478	405,210	14,000	419,210	920	877	345	373	299	14	710
Stamford.....	19,055½	9,522	378,488	119,313	497,801	780	817	295	322	249	13	622
Tompkins.....	18,721½	40,314½	500,629	127,100	627,729	1,671	1,619	592	653	539	33	1,405
Walton.....	18,581	35,559½	478,635	74,534	553,169	1,202	1,202	457	491	398	19	885
Total.....	364,400½	438,452½	\$7,437,119	\$1,235,734	\$8,672,853	20,091	19,558	7,238	7,650	6,005	336	15,800

NAMES OF TOWNS.	LIVE STOCK.					AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.						
	Horses.	Working Oxen and Cattle.	Cows.	Sheep.	Swine.	BUSH. OF GRAIN.		Tons of Hay.	Bushels of Potatoes.	Bushels of Apples.	Pounds of Butter.	Pounds of Cheese.
Andes.....	598	1,895	2,175	6,710	933	4,001	44,776½	6,707	7,774	9,737	269,052	480
Bovina.....	414	1,144	1,774	3,673	706	4,029	24,324½	4,924	6,109	6,966	223,490	2,998
Colchester.....	349	1,725	1,035	3,201	736	3,096½	24,519½	4,805½	7,168½	16,165	97,572	390
Davenport.....	563	1,382	1,749	3,445	973	4,088	43,109	4,452	13,926	9,984	192,860	1,955
Delhi.....	526	1,441	2,051	4,544	870	2,065	30,731½	6,002	7,847	9,676	216,202	1,080
Franklin.....	871	2,545	3,195	6,930	1,502	6,394	66,666	9,476½	26,599	29,156	393,332	12,249
Hamden.....	440	1,809	1,682	5,926	693	3,432	26,691½	4,898	7,146	7,526	170,785	1,146
Hancock.....	192	695	494	816	408	1,619	16,839	1,946	7,489	5,835	45,608	454
Harpersfield.....	439	1,583	1,775	2,614	764	1,987	31,715½	5,455½	13,180	20,635	240,010	3,364
Kortright.....	613	1,855	2,385	3,975	1,054	2,556½	36,572	6,629	9,561	20,645	326,740	1,310
Masonville.....	370	1,703	1,291	3,599	567	2,396	36,314½	4,531½	14,310½	13,700	124,252	6,171
Meredith.....	474	1,336	1,763	2,826	823	1,509	34,741	4,434½	13,063	11,722	221,217	3,777
Middletown.....	752	2,610	2,441	4,138	1,118	4,259	39,965	7,069	14,506½	21,275	261,611	520
Roxbury.....	677	2,139	3,817	3,246	1,595	5,495	30,616½	9,078	9,786½	21,379	472,090	2,115
Sidney.....	502	1,622	1,756	4,449	907	2,888	54,517½	5,342½	17,441	17,471	204,329	7,880
Stamford.....	434	1,205	1,867	3,809	791	1,997	23,596	5,103½	8,887	11,460	245,658	2,980
Tompkins.....	490	2,017	1,616	3,583	736	1,588	45,041½	6,851	14,526	13,205	166,262	11,500
Walton.....	436	1,991	1,618	3,731	724	4,083	26,750½	6,190½	10,247	12,623	155,505	1,27
Total.....	9,140	30,697	34,484	71,315	15,870	57,483	637,488	103,896½	209,567½	259,160	4,026,575	61,185

¹ Among the early settlers were Gabriel and Robert North, Isaac and Wm., sons of Platt Townsend, Wm. Farnum, Joshua Pine and sons, Daniel and Joshua, Michael Goodrich, Eph. Beers, Jos. Cable, Thaddeus Hoyt, Chas. W. Stockton, Matthew Benedict, John Eells, Alan Mead, Lindal Fitch, Jas. Weed, Nathan Kellogg, Cephas Beech Eph'm Waring, Sam'l Hanford, jr., Seth Berray, David and Sellick St. John, and Seymour Fitch. The proprietor offered a lot of land to the first male child born in town who should be named Wm. Walton; and the prize was within reach of a son of Mrs. Robert North, the first woman who came

into town, but she had set her heart upon the name of Samuel, and a lot of land could not induce her to change her mind. The first marriage was that of Seth Berray and Ann Goodrich. Lewis Seymour and Judd Raymond kept the first store, in 1791; M. Goodrich built the first saw and grist mill, and Robt. North the first framed house.—*Hist. of Walton, in Nos. 6 to 22, Vol. II of "The Walton Jour."* Hon. Jori T. Headley, late Secretary of State, was a native of this town.

² There are reported 6 churches; 2 Cong., 2 Eap., and 1 each M. E. and Prot. E.