Preface

In writing these memoirs I have confined myself as closely as possible to the year 1860 in order to give this younger generation an idea of the location of the buildings, their owner and the residents of Canastota at that time.

Many of these buildings are still in existence and these I have mentioned, and some still stand on their original locations and others have been moved. There are many buildings and streets now which were not in existence in 1860 and for that reason I have not mentioned them.

This narrative has been compiled entirely from memory so there may possibly be omissions and a few errors as one's memory some times plays tricks on them. If there are any such errors or omissions I should be pleased to have them called to my attention and I will endeavor to correct them.

I wish to thank Mr. John Wilson, Mr. Willis Phelps, Mr. A. E. Dew and Mr. Frank Souter for their assistance in helping me recall certain persons and places which I have either forgotten or overlooked.

At the time my parents arrived in Canastota, in the year 1849, the population was about 1600 and I have lived to see the village grow to its present population and today I cannot recall but 9 of my school chums that are living in the village. The population of the village according to the census of 1934, being 4,235.

1934. Edwin Farr
This takes me to the north side of the canal, Northeast Canal Street. The building on this corner of North Peterboro and Northeast Canal Street was occupied as a general store. On the east end of this lot was a dwelling occupied by two families and several years later the building was moved to North Peterboro Street and occupied by the family of Mr. Timothy Cook and later occupied by Mrs. Charles Lewis until her death. Mrs. Lewis was a daughter of Timothy Cook. The next house was owned by William Ingraham who carried on a blacksmith business and resided in a house in the rear. The house is now owned and occupied by Andrew Farnish. His son has since built a bungalow on this lot. Across Mechanic Street, on the corner was a large barn that was used for canal horses to navigate boats. Augustus Marsh's dwelling was east of this barn. Mr. March had charge of this barn and horses. Some distance east a family by the name of Lappin owned the next house; there was a large family of boys and girls. The next residence was occupied by a family by the name of Shaw; he was a shoemaker and worked for Hamilton Beecher.

**NORTH DIAMOND STREET**

At the corner of North and East Canal Street was a building which I think was occupied by some member of the Travis families as a wagon shop. The first house going north on the east side of Diamond Street a Mr. Durgee resided in; next was a double house owned by Richard Olds, occupied by Mr. Olds and Mr. Ford. Mr. Olds owned the next house, Mr. Smith occupied this residence I think. He operated a line of stage coaches from Canastota to Hamilton. In the next house Gould Lewis resided and it was in this house that his daughter met a tragic death. On the west side of Diamond Street going north were two dwellings erected by Mr. Cornell. John Sellers purchased one and moved it to Mechanic Street and remodeled it for a home. The other house was moved to North Peterboro Street and now is owned by D. F. Wallace. There were no more buildings except the wooden wagon shop, buildings of Phillips, Madison & Ford. They occupied
the space from Diamond Street to North Peterboro Street. The small residence in the triangle of North Peterboro and Diamond Street is one of the oldest residences in the village, and at the present time I think is over 100 years old.

**EAST CHAPPEL STREET**

The first house on the south side was occupied by Oscar Travis. Eliphalet Sweet, father of Royal Sweet occupied the next house. On the corner of East Chappel and Mechanic Street David Kimball resided, he is the only police officer that there was in the village for some years. He was a fearless officer. There were no other buildings on the north side of the street. East Chappel Street only extended to Mechanic Street. Perkins Clark, who was a dealer in all kinds of stock, owned a large tract of land east of Chappel Street. There were three large barns at the end of East Chappel Street. The first circus that I can recall was on this lot. Daniel Rice was the owner of the circus and the entrance fee was $.10 for children. Dan Rice gave a street parade riding a beautiful white horse.

**NORTH PETERBORO STREET - EAST SIDE**

The first buildings were the wagon shops of Phillips, Madison & Ford. They were destroyed by fire and the present brick buildings were built by this firm. After Mr. Phillips' death the business gradually declined and finally closed up. All the property from Chappel Street to the Powers south line was owned by the Smith family who built the residence which they occupied. The first one to occupy this property after the Smith family was a Mr. Baker. He operated a store on South Canal Street. Several years later Caleb Teller purchased this property. After his death his wife and son, Frank Teller came in possession of it and occupied it until sold to Clarence Farr. The first public fair in this section was held on this lot. There was a large orchard on this lot. Mrs. Teller sold the corner lot to R. D. Robinson who built the brick
house on the corner. She then sold to George Robinson, who married Ray Hitchcock, another lot and built a residence, now owned by Mrs. S. M. Wing. John Garlock also purchased a lot and built a fine residence.

Next we come to the Powers house which of late years was owned by John Montross's family and occupied by them. Next was a double house owned by Mr. Arkenburg who occupied one half of the residence, the other half being occupied by Abdrew Menzie. The last two buildings were sold and moved to Clark Street to make room for the new school building. The dwelling on the next corner was owned and occupied by Barney Miller for several years. This building was also sold and moved to make room for the new school. This building was occupied by George Bligh until his death. He was the only ice dealer in town and was a truckman who collected and delivered express freight. Now we cross Roberts Street. On the corner was a small one story house occupied by Mr. Murray. On this corner later a fine residence was built by G. M. Tackabury and now occupied by his nephew N. L. Bauder. Going north to the south side of the greenhouse, W. T. Northrup resided here. Now we go north to the residence occupied by Charles Teller. This residence and farm was the property of George Menzie and about 1862 was purchased by James E. Bauder, father of N. L. Bauder. There were two small houses north of the Menzie residence. One was occupied by Mr. Fowler, a retired minister, and one by Mr. Gillett. No more buildings on this side of the street. Now we cross to the west side. The first residence built by Abe Stoors and now occupied by William Thayer. Next is a Gothic house, owned and occupied by Jesse Ball. It was located on the lot where Dr. Hemstreet lived. On the corner of North Peterboro and Chappel in the residence now owned and occupied by M. E. Davis, George Burlingame resided. This lot extended to the east line of the brick house on Chappel Street, now own by Mrs. Kieber. This brick house was erected by John Miller. Now cross Chappel Street. On the corner of North Peterboro and Chappel Street William Goodell built this
brick residence. Mr. Goodell, who was a lawyer, while on his way home one evening was very nearly assassinated by having a knife thrust in his back. The next residence was the Delano homestead, the home of Milton Delano and Mrs. Irvin Saultsman. This residence was also destroyed by fire. The next residence was the Montross house and was occupied by John Montross, Senior, after he sold the hotel. Later this was purchased by John Cuigman, Senior, and removed to Chappel Street where it was remodeled into a dwelling and occupied until death by John Cuigman, Junior. Now we come to the large hotel, The Montross House, situated on the corner of North Peterboro and North Canal Street. This hotel and large barn occupied all the property to the north line of the knife factory. Several years ago a company was formed to manufacture pocket cutlery; they purchased this lot and constructed a building now occupied by Strough's Garage. In the triangle of Diamond and North Peterboro Street the town pump was located. After the waterworks was installed this pump was put out of commission. Opposite this well the north end of the Peterboro Planck Road started.

DUTCH SETTLEMENT ROAD now called ROBERTS STREET

At this time Owen McCabe occupied the only residence on the south side until you come to the extreme east end of the corporation where there was a residence occupied by Ira Kimball and his family. This residence has recently been remodeled. There were no buildings on the north side of the street. Now we go to Chappel Street, south side, going west. On the Goodell lot, west end, there were two houses. I cannot recall who occupied these houses. On the corner of Sowter Street a Mr. Sowter resided, he was a jeweler. This residence is now occupied by Mrs. Gillett, daughter and grandson. On the east side of the creek a cooper shop was operated by Mr. Coller, who resided on the west side in a small house on the lot where now stands the Pearot residence. At Mr. Coller's death this property came into the hands of G. F. Ballow, a stepson. He erected the house now occupied by Pearot and the one west now occupied by Ballou, who resided there until his death.
The next residence was the Miller property, he also owned the tannery in the rear. This tannery was built by Mr. Cole and was operated by the Miller Brothers, John, Alec, and Ed. John Miller married Miss Anna Hatch, niece of Capt. Daniel Lewis. George Perkins, father of William Perkins married Mr. Cole's daughter. Mr. Cole lived on the southeast corner of New Boston Street and North Main Street. Next is the Cuykman home which was removed from the Montross lot, north of Strough's garage. On the corner of North Main and Chappel Street was a small house occupied by George Green and family. Now we cross the street. On the corner of Chappel and North Main Street, where E. J. Clark resides, was a double house plastered on the outside, and Mr. Burdick lived in the west end, this building was moved to south Park Street. Now we come to the dyke that furnished water to operate the saw mill owned and operated by Mr. Hitchcock. This mill was located in the rear of the Bemis lot. The water to supply this mill came from the Canastota creek and passed down this dyke to the mill. The outlet was a short distance north of Lewis Street bridge. The present residence now owned and occupied by Fred Johnson is where the dyke was located also the Cuykman residence. The next residence was Mr. Beecher's, next the Farr homestead, the home of the writer, who was born in 1851, next Orville Bell, next Trueman Bell. Now we come to the school property. At this time all such property was the lot where the old school building was located. In 1861, I think, the White Building, so called, was built by Daniel Peckham. These buildings were occupied. Several years later, about 1875, the Chappel Street school was erected after a heated debate and G. F. Ballou was the inspector. Next was a brick house which was erected by John Miller. I think after the Chappel Street school was built Capt. Daniel Lewis was the owner of the land on the east side of Spencer Street to Lewis Street and east of the creek. He offered this piece of land to the district for $1,000.
The resolution to purchase this land was carried but three of our enterprising "kickers" claimed that this resolution was not legal and circulated a petition for a new election and this was defeated. If this resolution had been carried the school district would be the owner of all the land west of Spencer Street from Chappel to Lewis Street and west of the Canastota creek which at that time was a large hickory grove. Later the school district paid Mr. Lewis $500 for about one third as much land as he offered for $1,000.

**SPENCER STREET**

This extended from Chappel Street to Lewis Street. In 1874 there were only three houses on this street, all on the east side. The residence owned by Mrs. James Acker and the one on the corner of Spencer and Lewis and the residence of Dr. Gormer was constructed by the Griffin Brothers for James Duffy. One of the Griffin Brothers is a prominent citizen of Syracuse. Only three houses on Lewis Street.

**SOWTER STREET**

Not much changed. Two houses on the west side have been constructed.

**NORTH MAIN STREET**

East side going north, the building on the corner of Canal and North Main was occupied by John Conley as a residence, he also had a large barn located where the grocery store operated by Carman Cerio now is. Next to the E. J. Clark house was a small house occupied by Jacob Coon and later sold to Barney Austerman. Next was the Hitchcock residence which was moved to Stocking Street and Edgar Skelton erected the residence now occupied by his daughter Miss Clara Skelton. Next was the residence erected by Prof. Alfred Harrington which during a severe storm was demolished but rebuilt again. Now we go north to the residence of Mrs. Royal Sweet occupied by Mr. Dew. Next Mr. Tompkins, whose wife raised geese and it was the delight of the boys to torment these geese so they would chase the boys. From Lewis Street to Wilson Avenue there were only three houses, Alfred Gleason and two houses south of Wilson Avenue.
Wilson Avenue was not used as a street. All the property north of Lewis Street to the present Wilson Avenue was used for mill storage. From Main Street to the creek there was a saw mill on the west bank of the creek owned and operated by Capt. Daniel Lewis, Mr. Rose and Daniel McPherson. Mr. McPherson was an uncle of William McPherson. All the land that I have mentioned was used for storage for logs and lumber. About 1875 adjoining the south end of the Mt. Pleasant cemetery was a heavy timbered lot which was sold to Walrath Brothers of Chittenango. When they cleaned this piece of land there was no snow until the first week in March. A heavy snow storm made good sleighing and Walrath Bros., had a large force of men and teams and worked night and day and succeeded in drawing the logs to the Lewis saw mill. The last house on the east side of the street was occupied by Mr. Warren. Now the west side of the street, coming south. The first house was occupied by Mr. Leander Brown, father of Frank Brown; next house was occupied by Chester Fancher; next corner of North Main and West Lewis, John Fancher, next residence built by William Pettys, now owned by Homer Chadwick, next Ed. Beckley, now occupied by Charles Hoffman, next Frank Peckham residence, now owned by Preston Campbell estate. Next was Albro Strough residence now owned by Fred Dew. Next residence was Joseph Skelton, corner Lewis and North Main. Mr. Skelton was a builder-contractor and employed quite a force of men. He was the father of Frank Skelton. Now across the street to the opposite corner Daniel Peckham built his residence and occupied it for several years. Next is the Duffy House now occupied by Dr. Germer. Next Ed. Roberts, this house was built by his father; next house was occupied by William Mattison, next was the residence occupied by Mr. Sturdevant and family. I cannot recall who built this residence. Next is William Wiemmer, this house was built by John A. Wilson and he occupied it until he moved to Herkimer. Now we come to the Methodist Church; this has been described several times so I will pass it by.
Crossing New Boston Street the corner of New Boston and North Main, the Rev. Mr. Rogers occupied this house to the best of my memory, next Aaron Brush, grandfather to Frank, Arthur and Miss Aggie Reynolds, next John Corson, this house has been remodeled and later was occupied by Mr. Clough, grandfather to Frank Clough, next corner was occupied by Mr. Roach, he was a blacksmith and had a lot on the west end of the lot.

**STATE STREET**

This is about as it was in 1860. Several houses have been remodeled.

**CATHERINE STREET**

There were four houses on this street.

**CAROLINE STREET**

Michael Wallace, John Feary and two small houses owned by Mosses Chadwick. On the east side of this street corner of South Park and Catherine Street was a large square house owned by Ed. Feary, next south was John Sheldon. On the corner of State and Caroline John Van Derwacker. Corner of West Park and State Harvey Putman resided. On West Park Street there were three houses, I fail recollect who built them. Corner State and Caroline Street George Castle had a blacksmith shop and there was a suite of rooms on the second floor occupied by Theodore Lane who married E. A. Haines sister. She was working around a stove when her clothing caught fire resulting in her death. I was a witness to this tragedy.

**NEW BOSTON STREET**

Now we come to the Capt. Lewis farm residence. The west line of the M. E. Church property was the east line of the Lewis garden in the village. He had an extensive flower garden on the west side of his residence. The vacant lot between the residence of Alonzo Campbell was a fine orchard, the next residence was built by Capt. Lewis west of the Campbell residence about 1845 and the parents of John H. Wilson and his sisters were married in this house and continued to reside here until they built the stone house which has been the home of the Wilson children since. Theodore Wilson was a farmer and owned a hundred
acres situated on both sides of the road. Capt. Lewis owned all the property from Chappel Street North to about 20 rods of the south line called the Ball lot now owned by Arthus Hess. His land extended west to Main Street and south to Chappel Street except a row of village lots on the north side of Chappel Street and as far east as North Peterboro Street. The west side of Main Street his property extended nearly to the M. E. Church. In this section he was the owner of nearly 400 acres of land. The park bounded north by New Boston Street, east by Caroline Street, south by South Park Street and west by West Park Street; Capt. Lewis planted this park to Maple trees and offered it to the village free. But the same element of "kickers" voted against the proposition and it was defeated, claiming the village did not want a park out in the country. Now we come to the south side of New Boston Street: Colonel Lamb and his family occupied this large farm. Orville Lamb peddled milk for several years. Next house was the one occupied by Sylvanus Swart, father of Charles Swart and they occupied this house for several years. The house corner of Caroline and New Boston was occupied by Thomas Wood, next one was the corner of New Boston and Catherine Street, this was occupied by Mr. Walker. Across the street on the corner, as I remember, was occupied by various Methodist Church ministers. West Lewis Street was only a lane used by Peckham and Skelton to their house and also the Dew residence.

NORTH CANAL STREET between the bridge, going west.

Where the building now occupied by Frank Waldo is located there was a store occupied by Delano and Simpson, crockery and groceries. Where the American House is now located was the site of the Sayles Hotel which was destroyed by fire. Between this hotel and the building where Delano and Simpson was located there was a meat market operated by a Mr. Wheeler, the next store was occupied by Herbert Stebbins, next by Mr. Fay, he also had a store on the opposite side of the canal. He had an overhead foot bridge
to cross the canal. There were no more buildings until you come to the large building now owned by the Spadafora estate. One half of the front of this building was occupied by Lewis Sowter as a furniture store and he manufactured furniture in the rear, the other half of this building was occupied by Trueman Bell. There were a number of flats in this building used as tenements. There was a small building on the corner of Sowter Street which was used for a barber shop, next George Hovey had a bakery, next Harry Tryon conducted a shoe store and had a dwelling in the rear, next to Tryon was a drug store, next was a small building, Mr. Hinnaman lived here and manufactured soft drinks, next two buildings which were occupied by several families, Morris Lewis lived next, he was grandfather to Fred Lewis, he had a harness shop on the creek bank and manufactured harness. Now across the creek, John Duigman, Sr., had a blacksmith shop, the next was a large barn, the property of Mr. Conley and was used for canal horses and was called a line barn.

**SOUTH MAIN STREET - South Side**

Where the feed and grist mill now is there were two houses and in the rear of these houses the large building now owned by A. E. Dew & Sons which was a general store occupied by Mr. Hill. A lumber yard owned by T. N. Jarvis was on the same premises now occupied by A. E. Dew & Sons. Henry Wolf owned and occupied the dwelling next to the lumber yard office and Michael Hinchman built a residence on the south side of the street and resided there several years. The dwelling on the corner of South Main and Lumber Street, the first family I can remember occupying this house was a Mr. Hosley, next George Gates, Clinton Colton next. Where the public library is now located was a double house occupied by Mr. Rose and Daniel McPherson, uncle to William McPherson. Next a large and beautiful residence was erected by Clinton Colton, father of LeGrand Colton who occupied it several years and which was later sold to M. D. Woodford, one of the Canastota firebugs. Now we come to the large dwelling of Thomas Barlow;
on the north side of this dwelling was a large room which contained one of the largest museums in Central New York consisting of animals, birds, insects, etc. Now we cross the railroad. Dr. Jarvis was the owner of all the land between the New York Central Railroad and James Street as far west as Stroud Street. He owned the fine residence on the corner of South Main and James Street, there were two large barns in connection with the dwelling. A large orchard west of the barn extended nearly opposite Stroud Street and between the residence and the New York Central Railroad was a fine small fruit orchard and a handsome flower and vegetable garden. On the north end of Stroud and across James Street was a house occupied by a Mr. Thompson who made and peddled molasses candy. Now across James Street was a residence of Sylvanus Swart, now occupied by his son Charles. Coming east is the residence of James McPherson, now occupied by his son and family. William McPherson, next is a residence, if I am correct, built by Garrett Sayles; Charles Cruinow residence was next and later occupied by Dr. Robert Nason. Next John Duigman Senior's residence which was sold to Henry Jarvis. The large dwelling now owned and occupied by the A. E. Cronk estate was built by Garrett Sayles. No more houses until you come to a small house and this was called the Jarvis homestead. Now we come to the large dwelling of Milton Jarvis with his beautiful garden of flowers of all description and kinds, he also had a greenhouse on the south side of one of his buildings. South Main Street only extended to the south side of James Street, at the south end of Main Street was a large barn and the basement was used for a cider mill. The barn was later moved to a distance west on James Street and was used for the same purpose. Where the Lehigh Valley freight house is located Mr. Warrick built a residence and resided there several years. Where the Lchigh Valley tracks are there was quite a raise of ground and this was enclosed by a high fence and was used as a public pound to confine cattle etc., found wandering the streets. Gideon Codner was the sexton and his salary was what funds he collected. All the land between South Main Street and James Street and the
New York Central Railroad to the small stream that crossed James Street was the property of the New York Central Railroad and on the east end of this lot was a cattle yard for the storage of cattle to be loaded in cars.

Perkins Clark was a large dealer in stock and a large shipper by the New York Central Railroad. On the south side of the railroad tracks and quite a distance from South Main Street was a large freight house and it was a busy place in those days. There was a large foundry and machine shop at Eaton and they manufactured engines on trucks. They were all brought here and shipped by New York Central Railroad. This company also drew all their freight from here to Eaton. Peterboro and Munnsville also had a large business to and from this freight house. This building was finally purchased from the New York Central by Harvey Woodford, he moved it to the east side of the village and used it for hay storage. This later was sold to Bridge and Sowter and is now owned by the Smith-Canastota Company.

Now across the railroad there was a large woodshed, and in those days the engine burned wood. This building was destroyed by fire. T. N. Jarvis, I think, was the owner of all the property west of the west line of the house on the west side of South Main Street. From Lumber Street to Judge Barlow's property, if I am correct, Judge Barlow and Mr. Buck jointly gave Barlow Street to the village. All the Buck property was sold to Mr. T. N. Jarvis and as soon as the glass factory was started building on this street started with a rush. As I remember there were only three houses on this street, the one on the north side was built by William Campbell. On the corner of Buck and Barlow Street was the Buck residence, on the south side farther west Mr. Northrup built his dwelling. Now we will go back to the railroad, east side. First dwelling was the Rowe property. They owned the property to a private road on the south side of this lot, this road was used for benefit of a sash and blind factory located on the creek bank, and owned by Cyrus Chapman, next the dwelling now occupied by Dr. Barton built by Alonzo Campbell. Now comes the school.
house and the blacksmith shop next to the schoolhouse then J. C. Warrick residence and the residence of Cyrus Chapman. Going across the street we come to the Stebbins residence, next was Dr. Hemstreet. Across Mill Street on the corner Douglas Lansing lived, next Dr. Mason, next Oliver Ames, next E. T. Frederick. The first telephone office was located in the east side of the E. T. Frederick building, and Mary Northrup was the operator. Lewis Sowter had a dwelling on the east side of the lot where the McMahon block now stands which was destroyed by fire. Now we go back to South Main from Center Street to the Canal. On the corner of South Main and Center was the Franklin Colton residence, Doctor Knapp purchased the large lot in connection with this residence and constructed the building now occupied by the Canastota Memorial Hospital. Now we go east to the north side of Center, Dr. Adams, next William Planck. Now across the creek E. R. White, the next was the Hoag residence, then the William Stone residence, now we come to a vacant lot between the Stone residence and the church building, now the Grange Hall. This lot was purchased by Herman Taddene, he was a cabinet manufacturer and had a shop on the southwest corner. E. A. Haines purchased this vacant lot and built the block now occupied by William Guest. He sold the vacant lot east to E. G. Childs who erected the block now occupied by Guy & Company. The next vacant lot was purchased by N. D. Robbins, he also built the block and he was the editor of the village paper. At this time we come to the Free Church, Norris Chapman next; the next was a wooden building and in this factory was manufactured the telescope by Charles Spencer. Now we go to East Center Street on the north side. On the corner of Diamond and East Center Street was a large barn owned by Hervey Woodford. Going east was a coal and lumber yard owned by Mott & Roe, this property was later sold to a Mr. Mix from Camden who built the present buildings which are now occupied as a canning factory. Going east, was a brick residence built by M. M. Hess. On the south side coming back west was
the James Carroll residence, George T. Smith next, then the Municipals Building. On the end of this street was a large tract of wild land called the "Goose Pasture" and was a great place for game of all kinds, and also a great resort for sportsmen. Now we go to James Street. On the south side of this street Hamilton Beecher residence, now occupied by Fred Hayes. Mr. Beecher operated a tannery where the fire station and two houses are located. The tannery was partially destroyed by fire and Mr. Beecher abandoned this tannery and erected the two houses. Now we go back to South Main, the house that was on the corner I cannot recall its builder or who resided there. Miss Hannah Palmer was the first one that I can remember residing there. The next is a brick house built by John Rosco, he was a railroad engineer. The next building was used as a carpenter shop, next Samuel Shone, next the Sowter residence, this was sold and removed to West James Street and located the first house west of the McPherson house, next was George Vedder, this residence was moved down the railroad tracks opposite the location where it was to be located and then raised on scaffolding level with the terrace upon which it now stands. It proved to be a great curiosity to folks of the surrounding territory to see this piece of work done. Next a log house on the bank of the creek. Gideon Godner occupied this house. Now we come to the saw mill property. There was a large pond there used for storage to supply this saw mill. Where the West Shore Railroad is about the location of the saw mill. Mr. Sowter was the owner of this saw mill and all the land from James Street nearly to the Lehigh Valley Railroad tracks and east of where the present creek is and this was used for storage for water to supply the saw mill. Mr. Sowter had a shop north a short distance and when the Lehigh Valley Railroad was built this building had to be moved to make room for the Lehigh Valley tracks and Mr. Sowter sold it to Patten & Stafford and moved it to that property. Now we go to Hickory Street. I cannot recall when South Main Street was extended to Seneca Turnpike. Hickory Street I think was opened about the same time
as South Main Street was. I think the first house that was erected on Hickory Street was built by Mr. Shultes and now occupied by two of his daughters. Jerry Eisaman was the first one to live in this house as I remember situated on the corner of Main and Hickory Street. George Mott built the house and occupied it for several years. The two brick houses, I think, were built one by Mr. Booth and one by William McPherson. Samuel Shone built a house on the south side of this street and I cannot locate the present owner but I think it is the first residence west of the Eisaman house. I fail to recall any more houses on this street that were built about 1860 except the house built by Mr. Burdick but I cannot locate which house it is.

STROUD STREET

The house on the north end of this street, west side, the Starr family owned, now owned by the Hesler estate. The residence now occupied by Mr. Decker was built by Daniel Peckham and his family occupied it for several years. Next house was built by Joseph Swart, next house Seward Stroud, next Charles Stroud, father of Seward Stroud. On the corner of Hickory and Stroud Street Seneca Swart built this house and occupied it for several years.

SOUTH MAIN STREET from JAMES STREET SOUTH

South Main Street, west side, Byron Clough occupied this residence. Corner of Pleasant and Main Street across the street on the opposite corner Cyrus Bolster built this residence and occupied it and the next I think was built by E. A. Ball. I don't think there were any more houses until you come to the house that Byron Gleason built and owned and later occupied by John Phleiger. No more houses on the west side of this street. Crossing over to the east side of this street, corner of Main and Rasbach, was a brick house built and occupied by William Rosco. Now we will go to South Peterboro Street, west side going south from the railroad. The first building was the Dutch Reformed Church, the railroad encroached upon this property so that they were compelled to dispose of it, the building was purchased by Dr. Jar-
vis and removed to North Main Street south of the State Ditch on the west side of the street. Several years after this building was demolished by a severe hurricane, the old willow tree is now standing which was located near the southeast corner of the church building. Next house was occupied by Loren Fowler, the next house, if I remember, was occupied by Mr. Smith. Now we come to the building on the corner of James and South Peterboro Street occupied by Miss Hannah Palmer. This I have located as being on James Street. Across the street is the residence of Elijah Prout, this residence was located in the southwest corner. The lot from his residence to James Street was a fine vineyard and the boys were very much acquainted with this vineyard. Edgar was one of the boys. The next residence was N. H. Avery. Mr. Avery was the revenue collector and had his office over the store now owned by Clarence Farr. The next house now occupied by Mr. Schirmer, I think was called the Palmer house and later was bought by John Allen. Where William Fowler resides was occupied by George Nair. The property extended west of the Canastota creek. The opposite corner, Mr. Recder built this house if I remember correctly. Mr. Seeder moved a large building from Morrisville and constructed a grist mill having purchased the saw mill property which was operated by Mr. Palmer. The storage of water to operate this saw mill above the A. J. Warner residence come to Peterboro Street, south of Rasbach Street nearly to the Lehigh Valley east line. George Cates the next south, he was a shoemaker by trade and erected a shop a short distance west of his residence. Seward Stroud purchased this property and lived there until his death. Recder reconstruted the building he brought from Morrisville and converted it into a grist mill using the same water power that was used for the saw mill. On the east bank of this mill pond was a large double house. The Warner residence, so called, built by William Pettys who sold his residence to Judson Fields on North Main Street purchased all the land on the west side of South Peterboro Street to Rasbach Street. Mr. Pettys
raised these lots with earth from the saw mill pond, these lots sold quick and had fine residences built on them. The house now owned by Mr. Newbury was built by E. A. Haines, the house occupied by Dr. Olcott was built by Delos Ellis, the balance of the residences were built considerably later. The fine residence now owned by A. E. Dew; the first family to live in this residence, as I remember, was a Mr. Woodruff. I cannot remember who built this residence. Now across Peterboro Street to the east side coming North from Rasbach Street. I cannot recall only four houses, the house now occupied by Mrs. McMahon was built for the Rev. Mr. Winnie, an Episcopal minister. Where the Ingraham sisters live was built by Mr. Green. The residence now owned by Mrs. Ed. Brown was built by Nelson Beebe and sold to H. C. Brown, the brick house south of the Baptist Church was built by Mr. Booth. Now we come to east Hickory Street, south side; the house on the corner of Hickory and South Peterboro now owned by Howard Gleason was built by James Morrison, he was the New York Central ticket agent and telegraph operator. At that time the ticket office of the New York Central was located in the west end of the Tobey House. Going east on Hickory Street the next house was on the corner of East Hickory and Prospect Street built by Daniel Peckham, on the opposite corner was the residence of Watkins Steel. Now we will cross the street and around the corner on Hickory Street was a double house which was erected by Charles Crouse. The house on the corner now occupied by Mr. Yarnell was built by Daniel Peckham for William Anderson. Now coming west on the north side, Mr. Anderson built this house west of the Yarnell house. Now we come to the brick house built by Mr. Booth. Now to Prospect Street on the east side going south; the two houses south of the Watkins Steel house were built by Mr. Rasbach. The next house, as I remember, formerly the residence of Milton Delano was the Deacon Green residence. On the west side of this street I cannot recall a single residence. East of Prospect Street including the Homestead Edition was all farm property. The last house
on the east side of Prospect Street was built by D. H. Rasbach. Now we will go to the canal on the east side of Peterboro Street going south to Hickory Street. The brick store now owned by Clarence E. Farr was built by John A. Wilson and occupied at that time by Wilson & Woodford. They did a large business and dealt in wool, this business carried them into bankruptcy. South of this block there was a vacant lot on which was a residence occupied by John A. Wilson. After he built the house on North Main Street he moved to this new home and sold this house and lot to Aaron Brush. Brush raised the house to the street level and remodeled it into a store and it was occupied by Brush & Bell as a clothing store, next was Orville Bell as a boot and shoe store, the next was a large two story wooden building and occupied I think by William Anderson as a commission merchant. Next was the residence of William Fisk. Mr. Fisk and son were bankers and insurance agents. The next two houses were owned by Mr. Gay, he occupied the north one and Mr. Eastman the south one. Mr. Gay was a cabinet manufacturer and had a store on South Canal Street. Mr. Eastman was a locksmith. Next was the Harvey Woodford residence, the next was owned and occupied by Perkins Clark, this house was moved to East Center Street near the New York Central freight house and is in use now. When the 157th Regiment left Canastota the train which was to carry the boys was switched along the south side of the Clark property. The Clark premises and the house were elaborately decorated. It was a great day for the residents of this village and the surrounding country. The boys came in wagons from Hamilton and when they arrived a great supper was ready for them. The tables were located on the land where the West Shore Railroad is now located, east of Peterboro Street. I also can remember the passing of the Lincoln Funeral Train. There were two large fires made out of boxes on the south side of the track and everything that would burn. It was early evening. Now crossing the New York Central Railroad; there were only two tracks at this time. Daniel Crouse was the owner of all the land from the Railroad Company
to the Anderson house. Mr. Crouse erected this fine residence and lived here for several years until he moved to Utica. He had fine stables and horses and kept the grounds beautiful. Mr. Anderson was next. Now we come to the corner of Hickory and South Peterboro. Ephram Richardson resided here.

The installing of the electric lights in the village in order to get them in operation so that the tax payers could see how they would work out. Barney Austerman, who was the Mayor and one of five tax payers signed a note for $500 to make good to Patten & Stafford in case the proposition was defeated. After thirty days trial the vote was carried and the note was cancelled.

Now we will start on the west side of Peterboro Street from the canal and go south. Where the Austerman residence is now was a vacant lot and used by Crouse Brothers as a feeding space for farmer's teams that brought produce for the Crouse Brothers, they had a large wooden storehouse on the canal west of the vacant lot. They occupied the stores where Kieber and Auquino now stand, next south the first to occupy this store, now the Wilson Block, was Delano & Simpson, as I remember. They moved from across the canal. Now we come to the Youngs property, Mr. Young had a drug store in the north store. The next store in this block was occupied by Mr. Hessler who manufactured hoop skirts. The next was a vacant lot. Now we come to a double store which was occupied on the north side by Richard Olds as a men's furnishing and custom tailoring. Mr. Richardson occupied the south half for a boot and shoe store. This building was about four feet from the ground and the basement was divided into two compartments, one side by E. A. Haines and G. F. Bellou the other side. Now we come to the Nair building and was occupied by Norris Chapman as a jewelery store, Charles Spencer was his assistant. In the rear of this building was a family flat where the writer was born Sept. 6, 1851. Now we come to the large Spencer residence which occupied nearly all the lot; across the street was the Canastota National Bank Building, this building was not as large as the present one, next was the Sowter property, it extended from
the bank building to the Spanner restaurant. The first store was occupied
by W. H. Plank stoves and hardware, Ephriam Richardson had a furniture
and undertaking establishment in the other part of this building, next Cyrus
Hoag had a harness shop, the two next stores were owned by Thomas Barlow.
I cannot recall who occupied them. Now we come to the Tobey House operated
by Charles Tobey. In these days it was headquarters for the stage coaches
that operated from Canastota to Peterboro and Hamilton.

**SOUTH CANAL STREET**

Located between South Main and South Peterboro Street. The large
building located on the corner of South Main and South Canal Street was owned
and occupied by J. W. Conley and was operated as a canal grocery store
and several years later the Lawrence Brothers established a malt house and
did an immense business there. November 18, 1860 or thereabouts the canal
froze over solid and there was an immense fleet of boats frozen in extending
from the cider mill to the Lehigh Valley trestle, and several boatloads of
barley was unloaded in the Lawrence Brothers malthouse. A large portion of
these boats were unloaded and the grain was drawn to the New York Central
freight house and Judson Fields and Jay Conley had charge of the unloading.
Now we will cross the creek and the building located here was owned by C. O.
Chesley in which he carried a large stock of groceries and dry goods. His
residence was on the opposite side of the street. He also had a large store-
house on the canal bank. On the east side of the canal basin Mr. James lived.
He was a farmer. Now we come to the grocery stores, E. A. Haines, Mr.
Baker and Mr. Gray, next was the largest storehouse owned by Crouse Brothers.
September 17, 1871

There were three weddings on this day, Mr. J. C. Rasbach to Miss Belle Moot of Clockville; Mr. Ernest Lansing to Miss Emma Clow and Mr. Darwin Peckham to Miss Gertrude Hubbard.

I think I have located the first family of Italians that first came to Canastota. It was a family named DeBarber. They sold their business to Casper Cevasco.

I will close by mentioning a story about two of our young men, both have since passed away. Soon before the Federal Hill School was consolidated with School District No. 9 these two young men attended the Federal Hill School. One day a rap came to the door and the teacher answered the call. One of the boys who was on the platform took his seat until the teacher returned. The teacher had asked him what the Capitol of the United States was; so he whispered to his chum and asked what to say, the chum whispered back, say Atlantic Ocean. The scholar was again called to the platform, Mr. ---, the trustee Mr. Eisaman is here and I wish you would inform him and the scholars what is the Capitol of the United States --- he yelled the Atlantic Ocean. The two boys were W. H. Fancher and Isaac Steel, and this is a Fancher story.

THE END