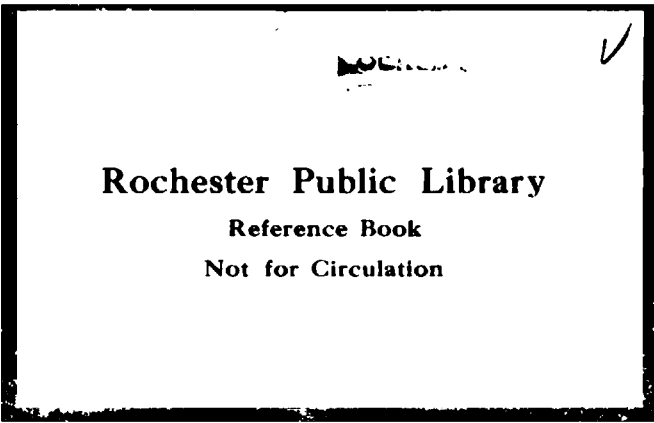


SKETCH OF ROCHESTER, MONROE COUNTY, N.Y.

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FISHER'S NATIONAL MAGAZINE

AND

INDUSTRIAL RECORD

v.3, no.6

Nov. 1846

SKETCH OF ROCHESTER,
" MONROE COUNTY
NEW YORK

Redwood Fisher
New York
1846

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GENERAL TABLE—CONTINUED.

YEARS.	MONIES.		NATIONAL RICHES.		FINANCES.		PUBLIC STRENGTH.			
	Specie.	Bank Bills in Circulation.	Annual Revenue of the United States.	Total value of real and personal property of the United States.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Army.	Militia,	Navy.	
							Number of Regulars.	Number of Men.	Number of Vessels.	Number of Seamen.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.				
1774..	4,000,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1784..	10,000,000	2,000,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1790..	9,000,000	2,500,000	113,900,000	2,587,681,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1791..	16,000,000	9,000,000	117,300,000	2,797,186,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1792..	18,000,000	11,500,000	125,000,000	2,987,686,000	4,771,200	3,797,436	.....	.....	.....	.....
1793..	20,000,000	11,000,000	128,800,000	3,187,186,000	8,771,600	8,962,920	.....	.....	.....	.....
1794..	21,500,000	11,600,000	137,100,000	3,387,168,000	6,450,195	6,479,977	.....	.....	.....	.....
1795..	19,000,000	11,000,000	141,200,000	3,387,168,000	9,041,593	9,041,593	.....	.....	.....	.....
1796..	16,500,000	11,500,000	150,100,000	3,947,816,000	10,151,240	10,151,240	.....	.....	.....	.....
1797..	16,500,000	11,500,000	150,100,000	3,628,316,000	8,367,776	8,367,776	.....	.....	.....	124
1797..	16,140,000	10,000,000	154,600,000	3,758,816,000	8,625,877	8,625,877	.....	555,000	3	350
1798..	14,000,000	9,000,000	164,200,000	3,798,316,000	8,583,618	8,583,618	.....	561,142	13	950
1799..	17,000,000	10,000,000	169,200,000	3,868,613,000	11,004,965	11,004,965	.....	578,000	42	970
1800..	17,500,000	10,500,000	197,068,813	3,583,680,000	11,952,534	11,952,534	.....	578,000	42	600
1801..	17,000,000	11,000,000	207,727,677	3,733,240,000	13,179,792	12,273,376	.....	583,314	20	600
1802..	16,500,000	10,000,000	212,767,924	3,815,100,000	13,690,092	13,270,457	4,569	591,211	20	600
1803..	16,000,000	11,000,000	218,979,504	4,901,875,000	11,775,058	11,258,913	4,569	600,102	18	556
1804..	17,500,000	15,000,000	231,682,870	3,981,957,500	14,569,459	12,640,000	4,569	610,125	20	560
1805..	18,000,000	20,000,000	243,199,241	4,070,937,159	15,513,534	13,000,000	4,569	622,000	29	720

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Reference
Rochester

SKETCH OF ROCHESTER, MONROE COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

The census for 1845, taken by the authorities of the state of New-York, furnishes us with some interesting statistics of the city of Rochester, in the state of New-York, a place which owes its remarkably rapid progress, even in comparison with other flourishing American cities and towns, to its favorable location on the Erie canal, where it crosses the Genesee river, a few miles from the outlet of the latter into Lake Ontario; thus being the principal depot for the agricultural products of the fertile valley of the Genesee; but more than all to the abundant water power furnished by the Genesee river, which has been improved by an enterprising population in the application of the same to various mills and manufactories, particularly in the manufacture of flour, and other products of the farmer, for markets domestic and foreign.

We are indebted to Mr. O'Reilly's valuable work on Rochester and Western New-York, for some of the facts which we now present, illustrating the history and progress of a city, which has been built by the union of agricultural and manufacturing enterprise, and now takes a prominent rank among the cities of the Union, in population, wealth, commercial importance, and the industry and intelligence of its inhabitants.

In expressing astonishment at the career of Rochester, De Witt Clinton remarked, shortly before his death, that when he passed the Genesee on a tour with other commissioners for exploring the route of the Erie canal, in 1810, there was not a house where Rochester now stands. In 1812, there were but two frame dwellings there, small and rude enough, one of which remained in 1838, to remind the visiter of the change since the period when the occupants of those shantees had to contend against wild beasts for the scanty crop of corn first raised on a tract now included in the heart of the city.

It was not till the year 1812, that the "Hundred Acre Tract" was planned as the nucleus of a settlement, under the name of Rochester, after the senior proprietor, Colonel Nathaniel Rochester, a native of Virginia, who resided many years at Hagerstown in Maryland, and emigrated to Western New-York in 1810. He first established himself in Dansville, Steuben county, in 1810, and at that place, where he spent five years, he erected a paper mill and other improvements. He subsequently removed to Bloomfield, Ontario county, where he continued for three years, and in 1818 took up his residence at the village of Rochester, which in the interim had received his name. He died in 1831.

The first allotments for a village were made, as above stated, in 1812, when Nathaniel Rochester, Charles H. Carroll, and William Fitzhugh, surveyed the Hundred Acre Tract for settlement, under the name of "Rochester." This tract was the same land which Phelps and Gorham, the early proprietors of this part of Western New-York, deeded to Allen in 1790, in consideration of having a mill erected, to accommodate the few settlers in the surrounding country. It was part of the large tract of twelve by twenty-four miles, on the west side of the Genesee, which Phelps and Gorham had previously obtained for the purposes of a mill-yard! It had passed from Allen into the hands of Sir William Pulteney, from the agent of whose estate (Charles Williams) it was

purchased in 1802, for \$17 50 per acre, by the persons who thus made arrangement for founding a village upon it. This Hundred Acre Tract lies directly abreast and west of the First Falls, from the dam at which water is now conveyed in races for valuable machinery, on both sides of the river.

Other allotments for settlement were made during the same year. Immediately north of the Hundred Acre or Rochester tract, Matthew and Francis Brown, and Thomas Mumford, bought and laid out the tract directly abreast and west of the Main or Middle Falls, which are ninety-six feet high, and from a dam at which water is now thrown into races on both sides of the river. This tract was previously occupied by Mr. Hanford, who had a couple of log houses, and likewise a small mill. This allotment was called "Frankfort," after the name of Francis Brown. Opposite this Frankfort Tract, and on the east side of the Main Falls, Samuel J. Andrews and Moses Atwater laid out a tract of considerable size during the same year—the mill-race which now derives water from the same dam that supplies the Frankfort tract.

In 1813, there were three houses built and occupied on the west side of the river. The land where the county buildings (court house, &c.) now stand, was cleared, sown with wheat, and afterwards used as pasture.

In 1814, some attempts were made to commence mercantile operations; but little improvement was made during that year, or for some time afterward.

The settlement of Rochester, commenced almost simultaneously with the last war between this country and Great Britain, was almost wholly checked by that event. The hostilities along the Niagara caused a concentration of troops there, which left defenceless this point, then comparatively unimportant. The mouth of the Genesee was therefore not unfrequently visited by the British fleet, under Sir James Yeo, commander of the forces on Lake Ontario. The apprehension of attack prevented many from settling at Rochester, as they had designed, and even caused the removal to more secure places of some who had already located in the vicinity.

The close of the war permitted the checked tide of improvement to roll onward again.

In 1815, Hervey Ely, Josiah Bissell, and Elisha Ely, finished the "Red Mill," afterwards called the Hydraulic building. Samuel Hildreth, of Pittsford, commenced running a stage with a mail twice a week between Rochester and Canandaigua, about 30 miles, and a private weekly mail route was established between Rochester and Lewiston, 78 miles, dependent for support on the income of the post offices on the route.

In 1816, the first religious society (Presbyterian) was formed, consisting of sixteen members; a small paper called the Rochester Gazette was commenced; a mill race was finished by Brown and Mumford, and a cotton factory was commenced on the Frankfort tract; a tavern was opened by Abelaid Reynolds, on the Hundred Acre tract, Buffalo-street; a commencement was made in the business of purchasing produce from the neighboring country. The population, numbering 331 at the beginning of the year 1816, was not ascertained at the close.

Thus have we traced all that we find worthy of notice as illustrative of the condition of the place, previous to the act by which was created the village of *Rochesterville*, in 1817, from which period the commence-

ment of Rochester may be fairly dated; the difficulties interposed by the war having prevented any considerable improvement before the year 1816. The name of the village corporation was changed from "*Rochester-ville*" to "*Rochester*," the original name, by an act of the Legislature, passed in 1819.

After several applications made to the Legislature, and after controversies respecting the mode of appointing justices of the peace, had defeated the passage of an act for the purpose at the previous session, the *City of Rochester* was chartered in the Spring of 1834.

On the incorporation of the village, in 1817, about 750 acres were included within its limits. The city charter, in 1834, extended the bounds so as to embrace upwards of four thousand acres. For a considerable distance in the northern part, the city includes a comparatively narrow strip on both sides of the river, being thus extended northward, so as to comprehend the Lower Falls and landing for steamboats from Lake Ontario. At this landing, the waters of the Genesee river are on a level with Lake Ontario. The river is at this point 330 feet below Lake Erie; 266 feet below the Erie canal in Rochester, and 240 feet above the tide water of the Hudson.

As a fact singularly illustrative of the vast changes which the country has undergone, it may be mentioned, that the "*Hundred Acre Tract*," which Phelps and Gorham bestowed on Allen, for building the rude and frail mills before mentioned, was part of a tract twelve by twenty-four miles in extent, which they had previously obtained from the Indians for the purposes of a "*mill yard*." Some of the land on the east side of the Genesee, in Rochester, (the *Hundred Acre Tract* being on the west side,) was sold by Phelps and Gorham, in 1790, for eighteen pence an acre.

In 1820, while the construction of the Erie canal was in progress, Rochester begun to show signs of a rapid increase, and the prospect of soon ranking among the most flourishing villages in the state. The population, which was only 331 in 1816, had swollen to 1,500 in 1820. Five years afterward, 1825, the census showed a total of 4,274. In October of the latter year, the Erie canal was completed, and boats passed from Lake Erie to the Hudson river. The United States census, in 1830, gave Rochester a population of 9,269; the state census of 1835 showed that the number of inhabitants had increased to 14,404; in 1840, by the United States census, the population was 20,191, and by the state census of 1845, the amount was 25,265.

At the conclusion of some statistical notices, published in June, 1836, Henry O'Reilly, Esq., (for a long time a prominent editor of one of the public journals of Rochester, and author of the work from which we derive much of our information respecting the place,) remarked as follows:

"In the extension of the manufacturing, milling and forwarding business, more has been done within the last two years than in the previous six years; and from the impetus given by the immensely valuable internal improvements, in progress or authorized by the state, as well as those projected by individual enterprise, it cannot be doubted that the prosperity of the city will for the next five years, increase in a ratio surpassing the most rapid strides which Rochester has made from its foundation to the present day.

Sketch of Rochester, Monroe County, New-York.

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“ This prediction is more confidently made, from the facts :—

“ That the additions to the population are chiefly mechanics and artizans, characterized by the ingenuity, perseverance and moral worth, which constitute the true riches of New England :

“ That the hydraulic privileges, with the facilities of trade by lake, canal and rail-road, and the proverbial fertility of the Genesee Valley, offer to such a population strong inducements and inexhaustible means for developing our great resources :

“ That the prosperity of the city has been occasioned chiefly by the toil and enterprise of hard working artizans and practical business men, instead of being bloated into notoriety by the forced or fraudulent exertions of speculating capitalists ;

“ And last, but not least, from the important fact, that notwithstanding the great efforts which have been used to direct attention farther west, Rochester has quietly pursued its prosperous course, almost wholly uninfluenced by the mad spirit of speculation which must, as certainly as effect follows cause, react ruinously and speedily upon some of the paper cities that have been rendered most notorious in that way. The lesson on this subject which Rochester experienced in 1829, was a moderate lesson compared with that which certain other cities and towns are shortly to undergo. The temporary reverse which our citizens then felt has warned them, amid all their subsequent prosperity, against extravagant and gambling speculations.”

The comparative tranquillity and continued prosperity of Rochester, during the revolutions which distracted business so essentially elsewhere, from 1836 to 1842, abundantly verify the predictions hazarded as above by the writer referred to. It will be observed, that the population of the city has nearly doubled in amount since 1835, and that there has been a proportionate increase of business and wealth, we may infer from a variety of circumstances, even in the absence of exact data to prove this increase.

The city of Rochester and the Valley of the Genesee are so intimately connected in their resources and interests, that an account of the town would be essentially defective, without ample reference to the rich country of which it may be termed the capital.

The Genesee Valley, by which is understood the whole territory drained by the Genesee River, is one of the most important sections of the state of New-York, whether considered with reference to position, extent, fertility, or variety of production.

Rising in the heart of Potter County, Pennsylvania, the Genesee river flows north into the state of New-York, and crossing its entire breadth is discharged into Lake Ontario. Its course, in a direct line, is nearly ninety miles ; its whole course, perhaps, one hundred and thirty miles. In this state its course is winding, through the counties of Allegany, Livingston and Monroe ; its general direction from south to north. The average width of the country drained by the Genesee river may be about twenty-five miles, and the territory in this state about 2,300 square miles.

The Genesee may be considered as occupying two extensive levels ; the first reaching from Rochester to the falls at Nunda or Portage, upwards of forty miles, and the other from these falls to its source ; and

these levels are not more distinctly marked by the falls that terminate them, than by the difference of the soils that constitute them. The river has its sources among the hills, at the northern extremity of the Pennsylvania coal formation. After entering this state, its course for forty miles in Allegany county is through the sandstone and argillaceous slate that constitute the transition rocks of the Western District, and of course the upper part of the valley is siliceous, or inclining to sand and loam. In the northern part of Allegany county, the river passes through the elevated ridge dividing the waters of the lakes that flow into the Allegany and the Susquehannah. On this elevated range the soil assumes a more compact texture, and begins to exhibit traces of lime. At the falls of the river at Nunda, a new formation may be said to discover itself, of which lime in some form is the basis, exerting a corresponding influence in determining the character and qualities of the soil, and which, with trifling exceptions, continues to the mouth of the river.

Nowhere can there be found soils of more inexhaustible fertility than the far famed Flats of the Genesee river. These extend, with a width varying from one mile to two and a half miles, more than sixty miles in length. They are marked, of course, by the peculiarities of the country through which the river flows, but their general character of fertility is the same.

Wheat is at present, and will probably long remain, the great object of cultivation; and the quantities produced between Lake Ontario and the falls of Nunda, at Portageville, which may be considered the southern limit of the wheat country proper, almost exceed belief, and in quality as well as quantity is generally considered much beyond that of any other section of the country.

In 1835, Messrs. P. and G. Mills, cut from 27 acres on the Genesee Flats, near Mount Morris, 1270 bushels of wheat, or 47 bushels to the acre. In 1834, the same gentlemen cut from 80 acres, three thousand two hundred bushels of wheat, being forty bushels to the acre. The most beautiful field of Indian corn we ever saw, (says Mr. O'Reilly,) was in the summer of 1833, on the farm of W. C. Dwight, Esq., on the flats a few miles above Genesee. There were 170 acres lying in one body, and from it he harvested twelve thousand eight hundred bushels of shelled corn. In 1834, the same gentleman had twenty acres of wheat, which averaged forty eight bushels per acre, and two acres of the best of which produced fifty two bushels per acre. The elevated country on the east and west of the river, is scarcely inferior in the growth of wheat; the greatest amount we believe on record, is the well authenticated product of a single acre, having been raised by Mr. Jireh Blackmore, of Wheatland, being sixty four bushels per acre.

On the river flats above the falls of the Genesee, at Portageville, wheat is cultivated to some extent, but the great object of the farmer is Indian corn, and the crop is usually very heavy. On the elevated lands of the Genesee valley, the attention of the owners of the soil is principally directed to the growth of wool, the raising of cattle for market, and the various products of the dairy. Spring grain, such as spring wheat, barley, oats, &c., can be produced to any desirable amount; no country can exceed it in the production of the grasses; and when the Genesee

valley canal, and the New-York and Erie railroad shall have developed its resources, in connexion with the coal and iron mines of Northern Pennsylvania, the upper portion of this valley will not be found one of the least inviting sections of the country.

The lower Genesee valley is admirably adapted to the various fruits and vegetables raised in our latitudes. The apple, pear, plum, quince, cherry, &c., are of the best varieties, and easily cultivated; and many of the more delicate fruits, such as peaches, apricots, nectarines, grapes, &c., attain a size and richness of flavor rarely equalled in other sections of country in the same latitude. Of these facts, a visit to the Rochester markets at the proper season, will convince any observer, and show that the southern shore of Lake Ontario is emphatically a fruit country. A great variety of ornamental trees and shrubs which are unable to withstand the early frosts and severe cold of the valleys of the Hudson and the Connecticut, succeed without trouble in the vicinity of Rochester and Lake Ontario. The wild mulberry is found on the upper Genesee and its branches, and from the fact that the various kinds of foreign mulberries here withstand the usual cold of the winters without injury, it may be inferred that the region of the Genesee valley is well adapted to the growth of silk.

It may well be questioned, when the known capabilities of this section are considered, whether any section of the United States, of the same number of square miles, can be found capable of supporting a greater population, and supplying them with all the necessaries and many of the luxuries of life than the *valley of the Genesee river*. It has with great truth been denominated *the granary of America*. No element of prosperity or happiness appears to be wanting. In this valley nature appears to have faithfully performed her part; it only remains for the inhabitants to appreciate and improve the advantages she has so prodigally placed in their hands.

The Genesee River.—Besides the particulars of this stream incidentally included in the account of the valley, some further information is necessary to a correct appreciation of the characteristics of the Genesee. As the river runs through the centre of the city, furnishing the hydraulic advantages which form permanent ingredients in the prosperity of Rochester, such particulars may be appropriately introduced here, preliminary to an account of the manufactures and other business of the city.

The Indian word Genesee, signifies Pleasant Valley. Few rivers of equal extent have scenery more picturesque—there are none with banks more fertile. From its rise in Pennsylvania, till it mingles its waters with Lake Ontario, near the City of Rochester, the shores of the Genesee present a succession of beauties, such as in other lands would attract crowds of admiring travellers.

The source is not less remarkable than the course of the Genesee. The table land in which it originates, is about 1700 feet above the Atlantic level, and furnishes, within a space of six miles square, streams which flow towards the ocean in opposite directions—through the St. Lawrence, the Chesapeake Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. The bold and romantic features of its shores are strikingly exemplified in a brief portion of its course through Allegany County in the State of New-

York. Within two miles the river is precipitated upwards of three hundred feet. This great descent embraces three perpendicular pitches, the Falls of Nunda presenting much of the sublime and beautiful—the ravine worn through rock by the river, (leaving perpendicular banks of from two to four hundred feet) being scarcely less wonderful than the cataracts of the stream.

Descending from the high lands of Allegany County, and emerging from between rocky banks of great height, the Genesee courses through a region of opposite character, a region unsurpassed in fertility. Rarely does the eye rest upon a lovelier scene than the valley of this stream presents from the villages of Genesee or Mount Morris, which are built on declivities on either side of the flats. Here are the beauties of nature most harmoniously blended with the elements of agricultural wealth. At this portion of the valley of the Genesee, the prospect is bounded by the swelling uplands on either side, and the Allegany hills in the southern distance.

The pleasantness of the valley from Genesee to Rochester, is proverbial. The stream is extremely serpentine in its course for the greater part of this space. Various thriving villages are scattered along its banks, and the thousands who visit the *Avon Springs*, find the country as agreeable as the mineral waters are salutary.

The Falls of the Genesee in Rochester are remarkable for their appearance as well as for their hydraulic power, as may be conjectured from the fact that the river is precipitated about 260 feet within the city limits. Though the mere business man may calculate the hydraulic value of the falls in dollars and cents, they afford a scene valuable beyond price to the geologist and mineralogist.

The water power of the Genesee.—Calculations have been made that the quantity of water generally passing in the Genesee River at Rochester, is about 20,000 cubic feet per minute. The water power has also been estimated as equal to about two thousand steam engines of twenty horse power; and estimating horse power as valued in England, it has been computed that the hydraulic privileges at Rochester may be made worth ten millions per annum. Those who made these calculations more than twenty years ago, did not include more than one half the fall within the city limits—for the *city* includes double the amount of fall which was contained within the *village* limits. But the increased skill with which the water privileges are now improved, the extent of the fall permitting the water to be used over and over again, in some cases three or four times on the same lot if required—renders idle all calculations of specific value; with falls and rapids coursing a descent of about 260 feet within the city limits, the water power of the Genesee at Rochester for all practicable purposes, is deemed by the citizens illimitable. The western section of the Erie canal being principally supplied with water from Lake Erie, it will not in future, after the enlargement of the canal shall have been completed, be necessary to direct the waters of the Genesee from the mills and manufactories to the purposes of the canal.

Genesee River navigation.—The Genesee river is navigable for steamboats and other lake vessels from the *north* line of the city to Lake Ontario, a distance of five miles. From near the *south* line of the city, above the falls, the river is navigable by smaller vessels for about

forty miles, near Geneseo. Between the north and south line of the city of Rochester, the river navigation is interrupted by a succession of falls and rapids, making an aggregate descent in that short distance of 266 feet.

A small steamboat ran for two seasons between Rochester and the villages southward along the river, for the purpose chiefly of towing the freight boats loaded with grain and other products of the valley to Rochester. The river business has principally been transferred to the Genesee valley canal, since the construction of that work. It extends from Rochester where it connects with the Erie canal, in a southerly direction 41 miles, with a branch to Dansville of 11 miles, making the whole distance now in use from Rochester to Dansville, 52 miles.

The whole line of this canal, as projected, extends from Rochester to Olean, on the navigable waters of the Allegany river, (about 250 miles above Pittsburgh) 108½ miles. On the 52 miles completed, there are 19 lift locks, besides a great amount of other masonry; and the whole cost of construction was \$1,399,292. Another portion of the line, 58½ miles in length, with 92 locks thereon, was put under contract, and \$1,717,850 expended, leaving work to be done to the amount of \$1,054,454. Besides the two portions mentioned, one mill has been completed, at a cost of \$53,105, but is not in use. Of the entire line, only 7 miles have not yet been put under contract.

The cost of this canal, when completed, will, probably, not fall much short of \$5,000,000. The total amount expended on all the contracts, in 1844, finished and unfinished, was \$3,207,660. The work was suspended on the contracts in 1842.

Lake Ontario Navigation.—The first steamboat that touched at the port of Genesee or Rochester, was the Ontario, in 1817, on her passages between Sackett's Harbor and Niagara Falls. For many years past, the steamboats on Lake Ontario have regularly touched at the port of Rochester, affording eligible and frequent opportunities for intercourse with the various towns on the British and American shores of the lake.

Rail-roads.—A rail-road from the steamboat landing, at the port of Rochester, at the northern line of the city, connects business and travelling with the Erie canal and the Tonawanda, and Auburn and Rochester rail-roads in the southern part of the city. The rail-road running to the landing, is called the Rochester railroad. Its length is about two miles from the east end of the canal aqueduct to the steamboat landing. The road runs close to the east bank of the river, and at some points within a few feet of the edge of the perpendicular banks, about 150 feet high. The Tonawanda road extends from Rochester to Attica, in Wyoming county, 43 miles, and is part of the chain between Albany and Buffalo; cost, \$727,332. The Auburn and Rochester rail-road, also a part of the above chain of rail-roads, extends from Auburn to Rochester, 78 miles, and cost \$1,727,361.

Erie Canal and Genesee Aqueduct.—The Erie canal passes directly through Rochester, crossing the Genesee river on a noble aqueduct, which has been substituted for a similar work erected on the original canal, as first constructed. The new aqueduct forms a part of

the plan for the enlargement of the Erie canal. The trunk of the aqueduct, exclusive of the wings and weigh-lock, is 444 feet long; and including the wings, at the east end, and the weigh-lock, at the west end of the trunk, is 848 feet long. The parapet walls, forming the sides of the trunk, are 10 feet thick at the coping, and 11 feet 10 inches thick at the water table, and are covered with a coping 1 foot thick, and 11 feet wide, which supports the railings. The width of the water way of the trunk, at the top water line, is 45 feet. The aqueduct is supported on seven arches—segments of a circle; the chord of each is 52 feet, and the versed sine is 10 feet. From the base of the piers, to the top of the water-table, is 18 feet six inches, and from the top of the water-table to the top of the coping, is 8 feet 6 inches, making the whole height, from the base of the piers, to the top of the coping, 27 feet. The width of the aqueduct, or length of each pier, on its foundation, is 75 feet 6 inches. The stone of which the aqueduct is composed, is of the best and most durable kind, being compact gray limestone.

Canal Trade at Rochester.—No where west of the Hudson river, except at Buffalo, is the annual receipt of toll on the canals so large as at Rochester. Such is the extent to which the citizens are engaged in the canal navigation, that the Rochester forwarders have a larger proportion of the stock in the transportation lines than the people of any other city in the state. Indeed, it has been asserted that they owned or controlled, a few years since, about one half of the whole amount of stock in these lines.

On the 29th October, 1822, the first canal boat loaded with flour left the basin on the east side of the Genesee, in Rochester, for Little Falls on the Mohawk; the canal being then navigable no farther eastward, and the Rochester Aqueduct being then unfinished. In the first ten days after the opening of navigation, in the spring of 1823, 10,000 barrels of flour were shipped for Albany and New-York. On the 7th of October, 1823, the original canal aqueduct of stone, across the Genesee river, was completed for navigation. The first cargo of wheat brought to Rochester from Ohio was in 1831,—an arrival worthy of notice as connected with the grain trade.

Manufactures, and other business of Rochester.—The first mill built at the falls at this place was erected by Ebenezer Allen in 1789. It was a grist mill, of imperfect construction, but was resorted to by the inhabitants for a distance of eighteen to thirty miles. A small mill was erected by Charles Hanford in 1807, to remedy the inconvenience experienced through a large section of country for want of milling facilities; the "Allen Mill" having fallen into decay.

No flour was manufactured here till 1814, when a few hundred barrels were sent to the troops on the Niagara frontier. The conclusion of the war with England in 1815, opened our trade with Canada, when a few hundred barrels were manufactured and sent from Rochester to Montreal, and other ports on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence.

In 1816, between 7,000 and 8,000 barrels of flour were sent from Rochester to the same markets. Since that time the manufacture of flour in Rochester has increased, with some slight fluctuations, till

Sketch of Rochester, Monroe County, New-York.

we now find the city exporting, chiefly by the Erie canal, about four or five hundred thousand barrels of flour annually, besides the supply manufactured for the city and vicinity.

The following tables, (published in Holley's State Register for 1845,) show the amount of flour manufactured and wheat consumed, in each of the flouring mills in Rochester, in 1843 and 1844.

FLOURING MILLS IN ROCHESTER.

Amount of Flour manufactured and Wheat consumed in each of the Mills in 1843.

Names of Mills.	Occupants.	Run of Stones.	Barrels of Flour.	Bushels of Wheat.*
Etna Mills.....	Thomas Barnard.....	4	9,505	42,773
Aqueduct Mills.....	E. S. Beach.....	10	26,241	163,085
Carthage Mills.....	M. B. Seward.....	4	10,914	49,113
City Mills.....	W. F. Holmes.....	5	16,273	73,229
Crescent Mills.....	L. Cook.....	6	4,500	20,250
do do.....	W. Y. Andrews.....		15,000	67,500
Ely's Mills.....	E. D. Ely.....	9	30,152	135,684
Farmers' Custom Mills...	S. Gorsline.....	3	1,000	4,500
Field's Mills.....	Joseph Field.....	5	28,544	128,448
Frankfort Mills.....	G. W. Burbank & Co..	3	31,749	142,871
Frankfort Custom Mills...	I. F. Mack.....	3	7,000	31,500
Genesee Falls Mills.....	T. Parsons.....	3	18,000	81,000
Hart's Mills.....	W. G. Oatman, Ag't..	10	28,288	127,296
Hoyt Mills.....	Joseph Putman.....	4	13,500	60,750
New-York Mills.....	E. & H. Lyon.....	6	5,500	24,750
do do.....	James Chappel.....		12,303	55,364
Phoenix Mills.....	J. Hallowell.....	4	13,500	68,796
Red Mills.....	James Chappel.....	3	13,700	61,650
Shawmut Mills.....	Smith & Alcott.....	6	26,450	119,025
Smith's Mills.....	F. A. Spalding.....	4	7,950	35,775
do do.....	H. Slater.....	4	4,500	20,250
Union Mills.....	Holmes & Goodman..	4	6,512	29,304
Whitney Mills.....	John Williams.....	5	24,300	109,350
White's Mills.....	William C. Foster....	3	13,513	60,809
Total.....		108	380,682	1,713,072

* Four and a half bushels of wheat to one barrel of flour.

FLOUR.

The following is a statement of the quantity of flour manufactured in the city of Rochester, and shipped east from the Collector's office, during the year 1844:

	Bbls. Flour.		Bbls. Flour
April.....	25,044	August.....	56,228
May.....	36,520	September.....	66,506
June.....	27,741	October.....	80,668
July.....	31,870	November, (26th.).....	76,311
	121,195	Total.....	400,888

WHEAT.

Statement of the quantity of wheat left at Rochester, by canal, during the navigation season of 1844 :

	Erie Canal.	Gen. Valley.
April.....	21,430	3,427
May.....	77,417	9,989
June.....	47,551	26,985
July.....	55,061	9,403
August.....	95,202	37,210
September.....	87,410	82,074
October.....	72,060	76,099
November.....	151,035	32,675
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	507,166	277,862
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Total.....	785,028	

Besides this, a large quantity has been received by rail-road and purchased from wagons; this quantity cannot be ascertained, but will probably amount to 1,000,000 bushels.

STATISTICS OF ROCHESTER BY THE STATE CENSUS, TAKEN IN 1845.

Total population.....	25,265	No. of children attending common schools.....	3,565
Males.....	12,198	No. of children attending academies and other schools.....	1,058
Females.....	13,067	Paupers.....	104
Aliens not Naturalized.....	3,988	Persons of color not taxed.....	290
No. of qualified Voters.....	4,342	do do taxed.....	38
Persons born in State of N. Y.....	13,254	do do voters.....	20
do do in New England.....	2,428	Births the year preceding, males ..	454
do do in other States.....	791	do do do females..	472
do do in Great Britain or its possessions.....	5,822	Deaths, males.....	180
Persons born in Germany.....	1,316	do females.....	153
do do in France.....	148	Marrriages.....	238
do do in other Foreign Countries.....	183	No. of Horses.....	1,347
No. of children between 5 & 16..	5,598		

	Value of Raw Materials.	Manufactures.
17 Flour mills.....	\$1,650,278	\$1,758,722
20 Saw mills.....	35,815	73,230
1 Oil mill.....	10,000	12,500
6 Fulling mills.....	22,532	38,410
7 Carding machines.....	12,300	14,660
7 Woollen factories.....	49,150	74,400
23 Iron works.....	150,685	382,555
3 Trip hammers.....	1,800	6,500
3 Distilleries.....	17,200	34,500
5 Breweries.....	20,000	39,000
1 Ashery.....	1,200	3,700
1 Glass factory.....	1,500	
1 Rope factory.....	600	900
2 Paper mills.....	16,400	61,540
10 Tanneries.....	112,900	186,650
Number of Manufactories incorporated.....		1
do do unincorporated.....		44

Sketch of Rochester, Monroe County, New-York.

CHURCHES.

	No.	Cost of Churches.	Cost of other improvements.	Cost of Real Estate.
Baptist.....	4.....	\$26,200.....	\$600.....	\$4,700
Episcopal.....	2.....	40,000.....	5,700.....	1,500
Presbyterian.....	7.....	48,400.....	7,862.....	7,975
Congregational.....	1.....	—.....	—.....	—
Methodist.....	5.....	35,700.....	1,800.....	11,550
Roman Catholic.....	3.....	13,500.....	6,000.....	4,500
Universalist.....	1.....	2,000.....	—.....	100
Unitarian.....	1.....	5,000.....	1,200.....	2,800
Quakers.....	2.....	700.....	75.....	1,300
Total.....	26.....	171,500.....	23,237.....	34,425

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

	No.	Cost of Buildings.	Cost of other improvements.	Cost of Real Estate.
Academy.....	1.....	\$5,000.....	—.....	\$2,000
Female Seminaries.....	2.....	7,661.....	1,935.....	3,350
Orphan Asylum.....	1.....	6,000.....	500.....	—
Common Schools.....	17.....	33,870.....	1,267.....	9,345
No. of pupils in Common Schools..... 5,228				
Private & Select Schools.....	19.....	3,150.....	—.....	2,350
No. of pupils..... 622				

MISCELLANEOUS.

Inns and Taverns.....	45	Merchants.....	329
Wholesale Stores.....	16	Mechanics.....	2,352
Retail Stores.....	215	Manufacturers.....	238
Groceries.....	120	Attorneys.....	69
Agriculturists.....	154	Physicians and Surgeons.....	48
36 Clergymen, salaries.....			\$20,555
Average.....			\$571
Amount of salaries or compensation, including perquisites and use of Real Estate by them (as above,).....\$20,555			

The celebrity of the Genesee wheat is increased by the skill with which it is prepared for market. Which Rochester is not only one of the best, but probably the largest flour manufactory in the world.

In various departments of manufactures, such as edge tools, carpeting, fire engines, fire arms, cloths, leather, paper, pianos, cabinet ware, &c., considerable energy is manifested, and in the hundred or more other branches of business named in the Rochester Directory, the citizens have distinguished themselves for their assiduity and skill.

The style of the structures, public and private, is indicative of the correct taste of the inhabitants. A degree of architectural beauty and solid construction has been strikingly evinced in most of the large dwellings erected within ten or twelve years past.

The public edifices, and most of the manufactories and stores, are erected of stone or brick. The law has for some years forbidden the construction of wooden buildings within certain limits, and care has been used to render fire-proof some of the most valuable structures.

GLANCE AT THE OLD WORLD.

By the last steamer we received our periodicals for October. We resume our monthly notices accordingly.

SCIENTIFICO.

The Royal Scottish Society of Arts has issued a proposal to award prizes, not exceeding 30 sovereigns, each for communications it may approve on the subjects of the mechanical and chemical arts, principally embracing inventions, discoveries and improvements. The programme is as follows :

1. Mechanical Arts. Method of obtaining large supplies of water to extinguish fires, and the best application and form of power in working engines. Filtration of water; economy of fuel, gas, &c.; preparing fuel for peat, for preventing smoke and vapor in factories; heating and ventilating public buildings and private residences; construction of dwellings for the poor; making wholesome bread from Indian corn, or buckwheat, &c., &c.

2. Inventions or improvements in the manufacture of iron and other metals; in writing or printing; tuyeres for blast furnaces; making and tempering steel; gilding brass; artificial pavements; in time pieces, electro-magnetic included; screw cutting; printing presses; stereotyping and cleaning the plaster from types; type founding; composition of printer's rollers; ship building with regard to ventilation; currying and tanning of leather; preparing polished leather; in locomotive engines; railway wheels and axles; smith work and carpentry; in the various implements of the trades, and in electric, magnetic and voltaic apparatus.

3. In the Chemical Arts. Inventions for obtaining pure glass for optical purposes; in fusible glass for chemical use; in annealing glass; preparing writing inks, and in dissolving caoutchouc.

4. In the Fine Arts. Improvements in patterns for porcelain, clay, or metal, to be adapted to domestic use; in the preparation of lime for fresco painting, and tools for laying on the plaster with precision; in calotype, daguerreotype, and electrotype; in the production of artificial light, as near sunlight as possible; in stone engraving; in the application of daguerreotype and calotype to stone for lithographic printing; in die sinking, wood cutting, and illustrating books, so that the illustration may be printed with the letter press; printing from wood cuts; ornamental metallic casting; construction of buildings on the acoustic principle. . . .

Our readers will perceive by this enumeration, that there are yet many desirable things to be effected in the arts. We believe the offer of the prizes is not restricted to domestic authors.

Mr. John Davy proposes to use the charcoal of Indian corn (which may be said to be almost incombustible from the large quantity of the phosphate of magnesia it contains,) as a sort of varnish for pottery. He thinks it will equal that of Ancient Greece and Etruria. We hope some American chemist will pursue the subject. It is important.



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