

# TOWN AND VILLAGE HISTORIES.

## THE TOWN OF ARCADE.



ARCADE is the southwest corner town of the county, and before the formation of Wyoming belonged to the county of Genesee.

It was known by the name of China till 1866, when its name was changed to Arcade, in accordance with the name of its principal village.

The area of the town is 29,440 acres. The assessed valuation for 1879 was: real estate, \$936,184; personal estate, \$63,700; total valuation, \$999,884. State, county and town tax, \$6,791.15.

The population of the town at the last ten State censuses is given as follows in the Legislative manual: 1830, 2,387; 1835, 1,279; 1840, 1,436; 1845, 1,643; 1850, 1,961; 1855, 2,108; 1860, 2,036; 1865, 1,903; 1870, 1,742; 1875, 2,036.

### RESOURCES.

The leading agricultural interest of Arcade is dairying. There are six cheese factories in the town, which in 1878 made 877,207 pounds. The product sold at an average of nine cents per pound, amounting to \$78,938.63. Quantities of apples, potatoes and hay are annually sold for shipment. There is but little grain raised, as the soil is better adapted to grass, and the dairying business has afforded such profits for a few years past that many farmers are not even trying to raise their own bread.

In the north and east parts of the town apple trees are thrifty and bear well.

Since the completion of the railroad through the town the farmers have had the benefits of as good a market as is to be found for the sale of their produce. Arcade is the headquarters for cheese buyers in all these western counties, and there is probably more cheese shipped from this station than from any other west of Herkimer and Oneida counties; while butter, apples, potatoes, hay and all other articles of produce find a market at good prices.

### SETTLEMENT AND EARLY EVENTS.

The records of the Holland Company contain the following notes of early purchases and purchasers of land in the town:

Range 4.—Abner Bump, 1809, lot 39; Silas Parker, 1809, lot 15; Leonard Parker, 1809, lot 14; Jacob Jackson, 1809, lot 3; Simeon Walls, 1809, lot 7; Samuel Nichols, 1810, lot 22; Bartholomew Armstrong, 1810, lot 11; Abraham Jackson and Abraham Jackson, Jr., 1810, part of lot 12, lots 4, 6, 21, 22, 24, 25, 42 and 43; Israel Kibbe, 1810, lot 25; Aliba Carpenter, 1810, part of lot 18; Simon Carpenter, 1810, part of lot 18; Charles Jackson, 1809, lot 5; James W. Stevens, 1810, lot 1; Abner Bump, 1810, lot 40; Joseph Doane, 1809, part of lot 30; Andrew A. Ellicott, 1810, part of lot 13; Moses Smith, 1810, lot 8.

Range 3.—John Nichols, 1808, part of lot 20; Silas Meach, 1807, lot 23; Amasa Kilborn, 1808, part of lot 36; Samuel Nichols, 1809, part of lot 35; Abraham Jackson, Jr., 1810, part of lot 34; Alfred Kilborn, 1809, part of lot 39; Peter Belknap, 1810, part of lot 35.

Abraham Jackson, of Mount Holly, Vt., explored this part of the Holland Purchase in 1807. He came by way of Batavia; made arrangements with Joseph Ellicott to make a settlement, and was directed to Cattaraugus lake (now called Java lake). He went through to Lodi (now Gowanda), but finally concluded to commence a settlement in this town, which was called Jackson settlement, and located ten sections of land. He then went back to Vermont, and early in the spring of 1809 returned to this town with his son, Jacob Jackson, and Silas Parker, and their families. The next year he built and moved his family into a log house on what is known as the Burdett Jackson farm.

In 1810 Israel Kibbe came and settled at Kibbe's Corners.

Silas Meach took an article of the first land that was articulated in the town, in 1808, but went away and did not return till 1810.

Prominent among the early influences for good in the town were the self-sacrificing labors of Deacon Walter Hinckley, who came, together with D. Rowley, in 1810. We are told by some of the early settlers that it was his custom, especially in the winter, to rise early Sunday morning, build a fire at the log school-house, do his chores, get out his horses and sleigh, and gather in the people. He would then read a sermon, pray with them fervently, and exhort them, often with tears, superintend the Sabbath-school and teach an evening singing school; all without fee or reward, except the reward that proceeds from a consciousness of having done his duty to his fellow man in regard to the present and the long hereafter. But, what would seem paradoxical or very peculiar at the present writing, the deacon at that time kept a hotel and sold liquor. The sentiment of that day did not condemn him as a hypocrite or brand him as a sinner for



this dereliction, and doubtless his own conscience did not, so much is conscience the creature of education.

Moses Smith and Simeon Wells came on and settled with their families in 1811. Isaac Saunders and others settled in the east part of the town in 1812.

The northwest part of the town was first settled by William Bennett, Aaron Sillaway and Peter and David Salter, with Isaac H. Salter, a son of Peter Salter, and Asa Fisher. Jonathan Hadley came in 1816, and his family in 1817.

Moses Blood came about 1820. This settlement was known for many years as Hadley's Corners; afterward as the brick school-house. Three or four farms dipping down toward what are called the Sardinia flats are some of the best lands in Arcade. The old farm taken up by Peter Salter is now owned and occupied by his grandson, L. C. Salter. Ruth Hadley, the widow of Jonathan Hadley, is still living on the premises taken up by him over sixty years ago, and John Blood, Esq., owns the homestead of his father, Moses Blood, who died many years ago.

There is a cheese factory near these corners; also a school-house. Years ago they established a Baptist church, but were not sufficiently prospered to build a house of worship.

Charles Beebe, of Vermont, and his wife, who was Elizabeth Train, of Cazenovia, N. Y., started in 1815 for Chautauqua county "on a sled, with a nice yoke of four-year-old oxen with brass buttons on their horns." The snow went off and left them in the mud, and they concluded to settle near Kibbe's Corners. Their furniture consisted of one chair, one bed, and such goods as could be packed in a large chest. It was three years before they had another chair. They had eleven children, six of whom still survive, enjoying a well earned competency.

Israel Friend came from Massachusetts in 1821, on a homemade one-horse sleigh, and was eleven weeks on the road. His first house was a log shanty covered with bass-wood bark.

Prominent among the pioneers were Elias and Silas Parker. Elias had nine children—five sons and four daughters. Silas had ten sons and four daughters, all of whom grew to maturity.

Sardis Davis came from Canandaigua to Freedom in 1815, and settled in a small log house on the Beebe farm.

Nearly all of the early settlers participated in the battle of Black Rock. Captain Kilbourn was killed, and report says that six others were neither seen or heard from afterward. Among those who were in that engagement Simeon Wells, Silas Parker, Samuel Nichols and three or four others returned; **Jacob Jackson** was taken prisoner and sent to Halifax, but after a year and a half was exchanged and allowed to return. The war stopped settlement from 1812 to 1815.

The first marriage in the town was that of Silas Meach to Lydia Parker in 1810. Mrs. Meach is still living, the oldest female resident of the town.

The first birth was that of a daughter of **Jacob Jackson**. The first boy born was a son of Samuel Nichols.

The first burial was that of Mrs. Amasa Kilbourn.

The first preacher of the gospel was the Rev. John Spencer, a Congregational missionary from Connecticut.

The first Sunday-school was established in 1812, in the old log school-house near what is now called the Railroad Block. The first lesson was in the xiv. chapter of St. John.

Colonel D. Rowley built a grist-mill on the north side of the creek, half a mile below the village, in 1811.

At an early day Abner Bump erected a grist-mill at a settlement called Hurdville, on the Cattaraugus creek, in the west part of the town, some fifty rods west of the trestle work and bridge of the B., N. Y. and P. R. R.; the same water power has also been since used for a saw-mill and cheese box factory, both of which were destroyed by fire some years ago. There is another saw-mill in the eastern part of the town, owned and operated by James Dealing, who furnishes considerable hard wood and hemlock lumber for the use of the surrounding vicinity.

#### CIVIL HISTORY OF ARCADE.

The first town meeting was held, as the record reads, "on the first Tuesday A. D. 1818, pursuant to the law passed March 6th, 1818, to regulate the meetings of a town."

"The meeting called to order by Elias Parker, Esq., the said Elias Parker requested that Abraham **Jackson**, Walter Hinckley and Salah **Jackson** preside with him to form a board. Passed by a unanimous vote.

"Voted, that Abraham **Jackson** serve as moderator of the day; then voted that Ralph Kilbourn serve as clerk; then proceeded the choice of supervisor. On counting the votes it was ascertained that Silas Parker had a majority."

Then followed the choice of town clerk, Walter Hinckley; assessors—**Jacob Jackson**, Isaac H. Salter and D. H. Wooster; commissioners of schools—Joel Dutton, Lemuel C. Paul and Eliphaz Nicholson; overseers of the poor—Simeon Wells and Thomas W. Colby; commissioners of highways—Samuel Nichols, Moses Wooley and Milo Warren; constable and collector, John Brown; constables—James Francis and John Nichols, jr.; inspectors of common schools—John Brown, David Salter, Joseph Pasco and Silas Parker.

It was voted that pathmasters serve as poundmasters and fence viewers. The following persons were chosen pathmasters: Freedom Lord, Rufus Jewett, Aaron Thomas, Caleb Carpenter, Barney Lockwood, Silas Meach, Talcott Wells, **Jacob Jackson**, Juda Brown, Ezekiel D. Runals, Jared Witherell, Joseph Hall, David Salter, Abraham Smith, D. H. Wooster and Abner Ward.

It was voted that \$75 be raised for common schools; that \$80 be levied to build roads and bridges; that \$10 be raised for the scalp of each wolf caught in the town by an inhabitant of said town; and that the next annual town meeting be "holden at the house of Abraham Smith, jr."

The gentlemen named below have served as supervisors of the town in the years given:

In 1818, Silas Parker; 1820, 1821, Walter Hinckley; 1822, Elias Parker; 1823, 1824, D. H. Wooster; 1825, 1826, 1828, Abraham Smith; 1827, 1828, Salah **Jackson**; 1829-33, 1847, 1848, David Oalkins; 1834, 1835, 1837, 1840, 1841, John Smith; 1836, James Steele; 1838, 1839, 1857, Leverett H. Spring; 1842, 1843, 1853, Heman Wilson; 1844, 1845, 1855, 1856, Charles O. Shepard; 1846, John C. Paine; 1848, Horatio Dodge; 1850, 1851, 1864, 1865, Horace S. Parker; 1854, 1856, Joseph Currier; 1858, James C. Hooker; 1860, 1861, Alonzo Steele; 1862, 1863, David Steele; 1865, 1867, Ryder Barnes; 1868, Harvey Arnold; 1869, 1870, William H. Wilson; 1871, Andrew Knight; 1877-79, Lucius Peck.

Politically the town votes sometimes one way and sometimes the other, but on a full vote the Democrats have a majority of 60 or 70. The village is quite largely Republican.

In 1865 or 1866 an act was passed by the Legislature cutting off three tiers of lots from the east side of the town, and attaching them to the town of Eagle. This measure was bitterly opposed by so large a portion of the tax payers and

BUFFALO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HENRY W. HILL, PRESIDENT

CHARLES R. WILSON, VICE-PRESIDENT

FRANK H. SEVERANCE, SECRETARY-TREASURER

Buffalo, N.Y.

May 28, 1923.

Mr. Chester E. Jackson,  
Ovid, Mich.

Dear Sir:

You recently asked us to refer you to a concise history of the battle of Black Rock. I do not find any separate book or pamphlet ~~is~~ devoted to it. A reference book, which is to be found in most libraries, is Lossing's "Field Book of the War of 1812." The account therein contained is the fullest I know of. I think the book can still be bought from the publishers--Harper and Bros, New York. I am enclosing two extracts from a History of Wyoming County, New York, published by Beers & Co., in 1880.

These are the fullest references that I find regarding Jacob Jackson. In the work entitled "Buffalo and the Senecas, by Ketchum, volume 2, page 396, occurs a list of American prisoners taken at Black Rock; among them is the name of Jacob Jackson and the notation "wounded in both thighs." These are all that I am able to give you by way of answer to your inquiries.

Yours very truly,

Frank H. Severance  
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## Battle of Black Rock

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Reference (History of Wyoming Co. N.Y. pub. by Beers & Co. 1880 p. 116)

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Reference (History of Wyoming Co. N.Y. p. 116)

# LIST OF AMERICAN PRISONERS TAKEN AT BLACK ROCK.

Allen H. Millard, aid to Gen. Hopkins, Lieut. Col. Gardiner, wounded in the thigh, Ensign C. Stewart, Rueben Peirce, Eli Shattuck, Jonathan Putnam, S. Towler, John Amsden, Jonathan Alger, Bloomfield; Capt. J. Rowley, Lieut. John Lusk, Hezekiah Parmelee, Ira Smith, Samuel Perkins, Samuel Gillis, Henry Parry, Orris Turner, Luther Hawley, Victor; Lazarus Church, William Miller, (wounded in the cheek), — Whiting, Abram Whitney, John Conant, Samuel Clark, Seth Chappel, Amos Jameson, Anson Murray, Dennis Frost, (wounded in the shoulder), Avon; Dr. Jonathan Cammel, Asa Woodford, Asahel Martin, Jonathan Richardson, Socrates Swift, (wounded in the belly), Benjamin Barrett, (wounded in the body), Livonia; Capt. R. McKay, Levi Broughton, Wm. Martin, Samuel Burgis, Stephen Peabody, (wounded in the head), Thos. Grant, (wounded in the thigh and body), Chester Noramore, Caledonia; Levi Farnham, Willis Buell, Wm. G. Hathaway, Leroy; Wm. Hutchinson, Holden Allen, Black Rock; Friend Johnson, Oliver Stetson, Chautauqua; Ensign Wm. Martin, Ellicott; Heman Willcox, Bethel; Wm. Kickox, Jacob C. Loomis, Canandaigua; Daniel C. Gould, Daniel S. Cole, Pomfret; James Lyon, Joel Allen, Sylvester Blodgett, Apollos Fordham, Levi Wright, David Palmer, Anson Bristol, Lemuel Chipman, Jr., Jacob Jackson, (wounded in both thighs), Sheldon; Lodowick Champion, Mathew Peck, Benjamin Russell, Henry Dorsey, Daniel Vail, Bethany; John Harris, Clarence; Jesse Warner, (wounded in the thigh), Amos Thompson, Wanton Brownell, (wounded in the arm), Phelps; Jabez Smith, (wounded in the thigh), Bristol; Wm. Lyon, Honeyoye; Col. C. Chapin, John Lay, Charles C. Wells, William Wilbur, Rufus Botsford, Joseph D. Hoyt, Robert Keane, Timothy Strong, Benjamin Hodge, Jr., Daniel Buxton. Captain R. Harmon, George Stow, Daniel Perry, Buffalo.