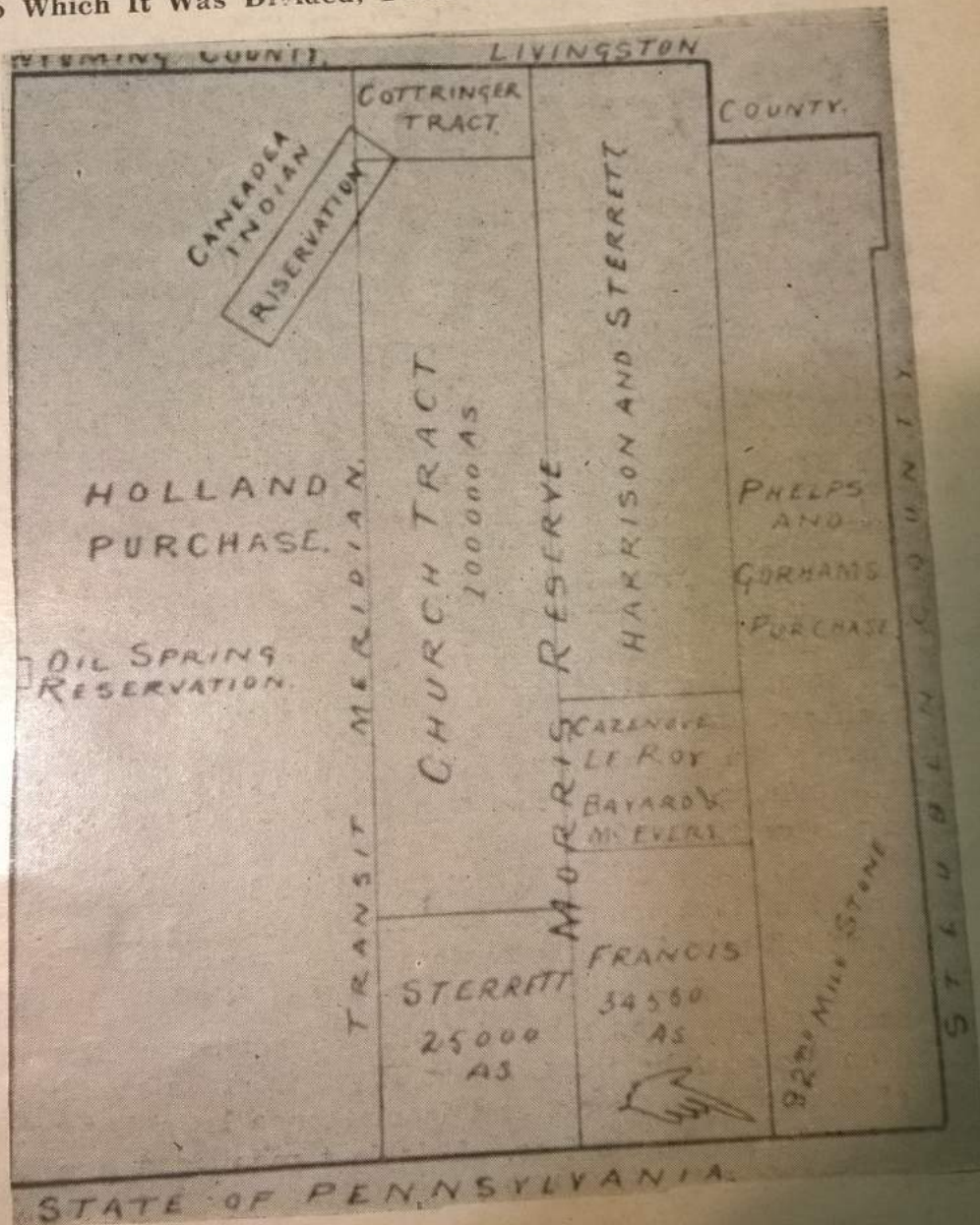


west transit. It involved nothing less than felling a strip of timber three or four rods wide most of the way across the State to give unobstructed range to the miniature telescope of the transit. This required, beside three surveyors, a considerable force of axmen. On most of the line all hands camped where night overtook them in the unbroken wilderness. All the summer and autumn of 1798 was consumed in running the first eighty miles of the transit meridian, there being about thirteen miles remaining undone on the 22nd of November.

**Allegany County Showing the Proprietary Tracts into Which It Was Divided, Prior To Its Formation April 7, 1806**



ship 1; Wirt, township 3; ...  
 ship 4; Caneadea, township 5, ...  
 boundary of all these towns is the east transit line. ...  
 range Genesee is township 1; Clarksville, township 2; Cuba, town-  
 ship 3; New Hudson, town 4; Rushford, township 5; Centerville,  
 township 6.

**THE PULTENEY ESTATE AND CHARLES WILLIAMSON—THE  
 CHURCH TRACT AND JUDGE PHILIP CHURCH**

One of the most famous real estate divisions of Allegany County in former times was the Church tract. Mr. John B. Church (sketches of whom and of other members of the Church family may be found in another part of this book) having loaned \$80,000 to Mr. Morris, took as security a mortgage on 100,000 acres of the Morris Reserve; and on a foreclosure of the mortgage and sale of the property in 1800 he had it bid in by his son Philip. This tract, six miles in width, forms the present towns of Allen, Angelica, Amity, most of Scio, a little of Wellsville, and rather more than half of the town of Granger. From an east and west line crossing the second range of the Morris Reserve, seven miles and a quarter from the Pennsylvania boundary, the original Church tract extended northward twenty-six miles to an east and west line crossing Granger three miles and a quarter from its southern edge. The rest of Granger was part of the Cottringer tract.

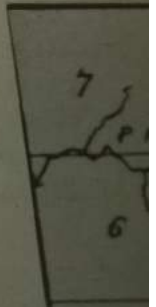
**FORMATION OF ALLEGANY COUNTY**

For ten or twelve years subsequent to 1772, the territory in-

line of the greater towns of Eagle, Pike County, and Portage now defined the frontier to gratify the curiosity thought best to qu

**CHAPTER CLX**

An act to erect county by the north the state of New York all parts of the corner of said miles, along the eight, to the fifth range of forty-two mil



formed), and that all  
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he county of Allegany  
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he first town meeting  
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territory assigned by  
da was set off to Wy-  
fore formed from Gen-  
by the towns of Eagle,  
and by the same act  
l, were added to Liv-  
in the extreme north-  
uced from its original

range 2, of the Morris Reserve and was  
by Major Moses Van Campen in 1810 or 1811.

### CENTURY'S FIRST DECADE

The year 1801 opened quite auspiciously. Capt. Philip Church appeared to make an exploration of the 100,000 acre tract purchased the year previous at the foreclosure sale at Canandaigua. He was met at Almond by Evert Van Wickle, Major Van Campen, John Gibson, John Lewis and Stephen Price. He had stopped a day at Geneva, to supply himself with provisions and camp equipage. The party on their way to the tract, pursued almost identically the route afterward adopted by the Erie Railway, entering the territory near the southeast corner. A most thorough and exhaustive exploration was made, which proved of great service to Van Campen in the sub-division which he afterward's made, and to Capt. Church in establishing prices, and the location of roads, villages, mills, etc.

The reconnoissance completed, Capt. Church and Van Campen determined on a "trip to Niagara Falls" while the others returned to Almond. This trip was the pioneer visit to this wonder from all this section. They encountered hunger, fatigue, hardship and exposure, and before reaching New Amsterdam (Buffalo), they were compelled to resort to whatever sustenance the native forest offered. Capt. Church soon returned to New York, where he assiduously devoted himself to preparations for actual and active settlement.

## ANGELICA COLLECTANEA

14

In 1802 Capt. Church sent Evert Van Wickle to select a site for a village, and begin settlement. The site was determined upon, and also the name for the embryotic village. With filial reverence and affection he named the place, the first village in Allegany County, for his mother, Angelica, the eldest daughter of Gen. Pihillip Schuyler. (Editor's note: While Angelica was Capt. Church's mother's name and of a number of her ancestors it is also an ancient Latin name meaning lovely or angelic; we have always thought the first meaning fits the town best.) The same year a store was established, the first in the county, by Capt. Church, his friend John Gibson conducting it. (The store stood where is now the Presbyterian Church says John Gibson.) Previous to this the nearest store was at Hornellsville. In 1802, at Angelica, was also erected by Capt. Church, the first sawmill. This year John Gibson bought 20 acres of land, bounded north by Main and west by Olean Streets, at one dollar per acre, agreeing to put up within a year, a framed building twelve by sixteen feet "square!" Silas Ferry and John Ayres cut a road from Angelica to Almond, and Joseph Taylor came and opened the first public house in the village and county. A log land-office was this year erected. Bath was the nearest postoffice, over 40 miles distant, and the few settlers had to arrange as best they could to get their mail. Any reliable settler who went to Bath, was commissioned with lots of errands, and to bring in the letters for the settlement. Postage was high money very scarce, and so

The first birth was ascertained, and Moses Van white child to be born winter of 1804-5 by "W" at Bath, and the people trip to carry and for the neighborhood. of Moses Burr, a native Binghamton. He was many of the name near Angelica. John is said there were Asel Hooker, according house in the town tive of Rhode Island ters of a century

The first town "First Tuesday" Riggs, supervisor Sylvanus Russe William Barney John T. Hyde, ney and Ever man, Thomas

vious to this the nearest... Capt. Church, the... Angelica, was also erected by Capt. Church, the... This year John Gibson bought 20 acres of land, bounded north by Main and west by Olean Streets, at one dollar per acre, agreeing to put up within a year, a framed building twelve by sixteen feet "square!" Silas Ferry and John Ayres cut a road from Angelica to Almond, and Joseph Taylor came and opened the first public house in the village and county. A log land-office was this year erected. Bath was the nearest postoffice, over 40 miles distant, and the few settlers had to arrange as best they could to get their mail. Any reliable settler who went to Bath, was commissioned with lots of errands, and to bring in the letters for the whole settlement. Postage was high, money very scarce, and so comparatively few letters were sent or received.

In 1803 four brothers, Benjamin, Elisha, Calvin and David Chamberlain, coming from Pennsylvania, located on the river near the "Transit," in Belfast. This made quite a little settlement, and a road was soon opened from the mouth of Dike's Creek (Wellsville) through Scio and Belmont, and very soon after, as far down as Caneadea. A road was opened from Angelica to Belvidere in 1803.

In this year Capt. Church erected for a temporary residence at Belvidere, a framed structure of liberal dimensions, which, from its being painted white, came to be known all over Western New York as "The White House". This was said to be the first painted dwelling in New York west of Canandaigua. The nails used in its construction were all wrought by hand.

As the oldest, and for a time the only town in the county, for a half century and more the sole county seat, and about whose early history cluster so many interesting associations and pleasant memories, Angelica is entitled to a prominent place in history. The town was formed by an act of the Legislature,

tive of Rhode Island, came  
ters of a century lived a

The first town meet  
"First Tuesday in April  
Riggs, supervisor; Jose  
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whose early history cluster so many interesting associations and  
pleasant memories, Angelica is entitled to a prominent place  
in history. The town was formed by an act of the Legislature,  
passed February 25, 1805, and described as "being in width  
twelve miles," just that of the Morris Reserve, and in length  
"from south to north extending thirty-four miles from the Penn-  
sylvania line," taking in about two-thirds of the towns of Gran-  
ger and Grove. It was taken from Leicester, and when erected  
was a part of Genesee County.

In 1803 Capt. Church put up a grist mill, the site being iden-  
tical with the Joney mill of today. The first death was of Ira  
Stephens, who, on the authority of Mr. Gibson, was killed in a  
quarrel over cards at Joseph Wilson's inn, and he was the first  
one buried in the Angelica village cemetery.

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(From the Allegany County Republican of October 1, 1886)

The discrepancy of 66 vo  
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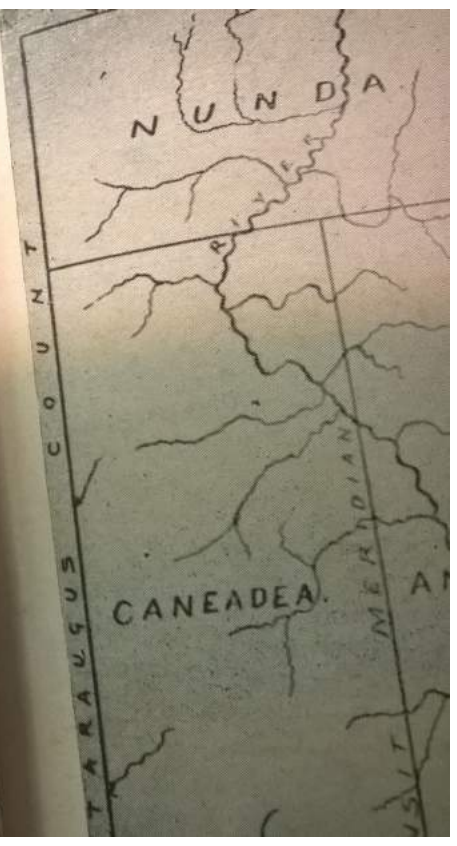
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Angelica to Indian li  
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near Angelica. John Hooker came from Vermont in 1804, as is said there were but 3 houses in the village, and his brother Asel Hooker, according to family tradition, built the first house in the town. Vial Thomas, the worthy centenarian, native of Rhode Island, came in February, 1810, and for three-tenths of a century lived a good life here.

The first town meeting was held at Joseph Taylor's on "First Tuesday in April," 1805, where they elected Benjamin Riggs, supervisor; Joseph S. Hall, town clerk; Luke Goodrich, Sylvanus Russell and Elijah Church, assessors; John T. Vail, William Barney and Jacob S. Holt, commissioners of highways; John T. Hyde, collector; David Church, constable; William Vail and Evert Van Wickle, overseers of poor; Stephen Vail, man, Thomas Call, John Bennett, Ezra Bacon and George Vail, overseers of highways; Joseph Taylor, Abisha Cole and William S. Heydon, fence viewers. At the election held there April 1805, John Nicholas received 16 votes for senator, Nathaniel Alexander Rhea for member of assembly received 30 votes, Ezra Potter 25, Daniel W. Lewis 16 and Jeremiah Munson 1. The discrepancy of 66 votes in the number cast for the two members of assembly was probably owing to the fact that different and higher property qualifications were required of those who voted for senator. When it is remembered that the town was then thirty-four miles in extent from north to south, its sparse population is vividly

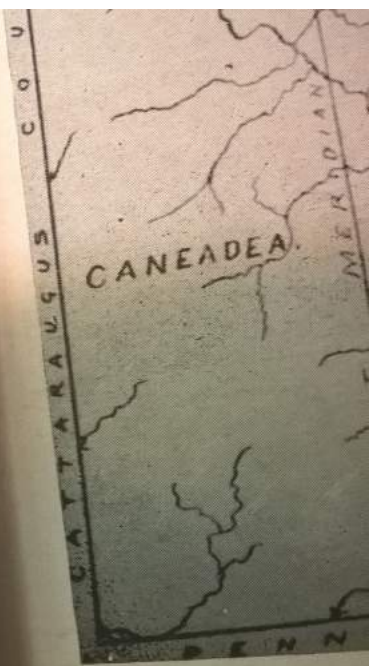


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John T. Hyde, collector; David Church, constable; William  
ney and Evert Van Wickle, overseers of poor; Stephen  
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was then thirty-four miles in extent from north to south  
twelve miles east to west, its sparse population is vividly  
pressed upon the mind, and still more, when it is considered  
Angelica village furnished a majority of the votes.

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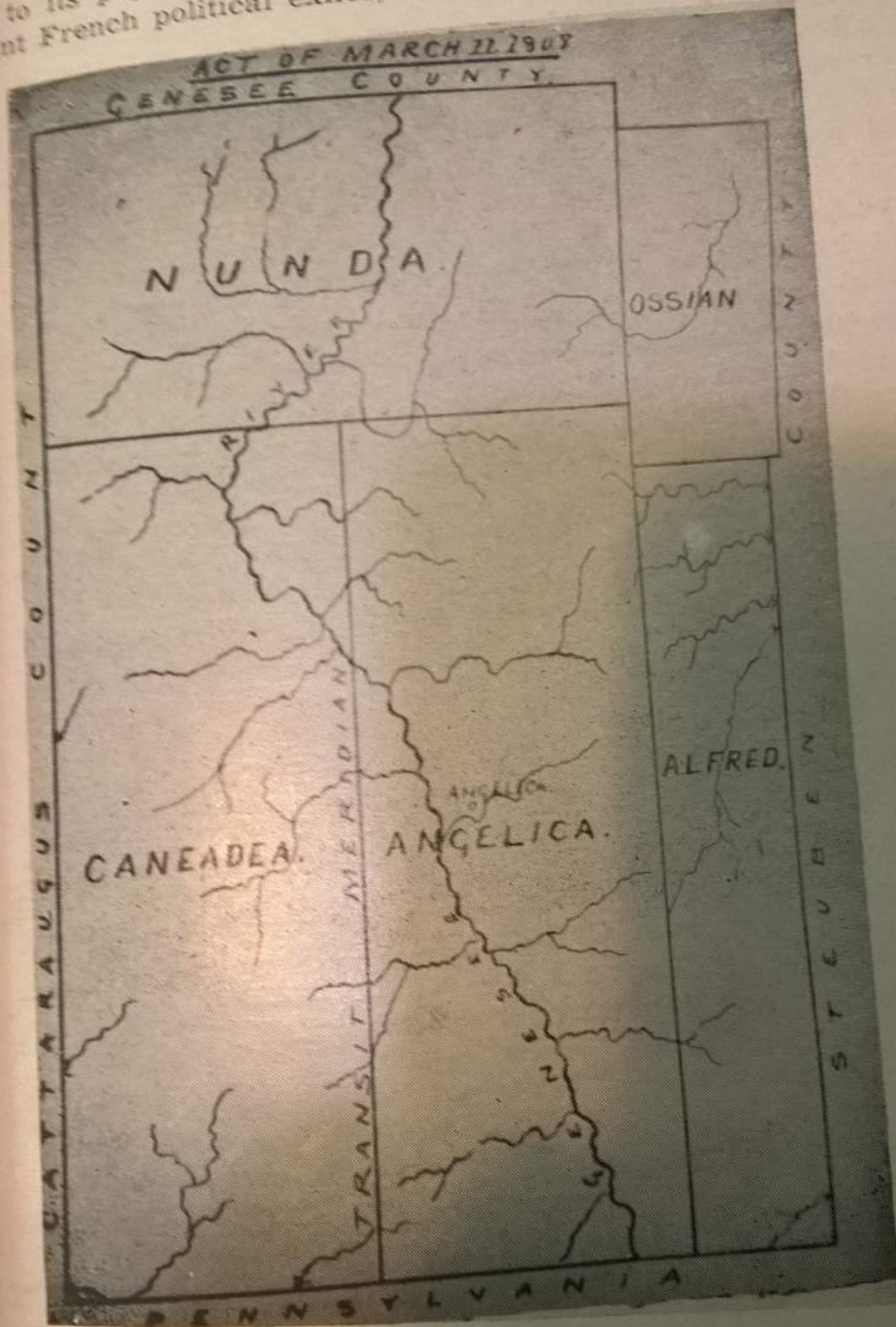
Roads were surveyed and recorded the first year,  
Angelica to Indian line, or Caneadea; from Angelica to the  
line of Van Campen's farm; from Angelica to Phillipsburg  
to Phillips Creek; to Vandermark's Creek; to Dike's Settlement



AL  
**Defined And Divided**  
Interesting, as thro  
in Angelica at this



of the  
 D. Tompkins  
 50 was offered for each one killed  
 ted. In 1809, 89 votes were cast at the annual town meeting.  
 6-7 Angelica received a considerable and distinguished ac-  
 to its population by the settlement here of a number of  
 tant French political exiles, the d'Autremonts, DuPonts, etc.



### ALLEGANY IN 1810

Defined And Divided Into Towns By Act Of March 11,

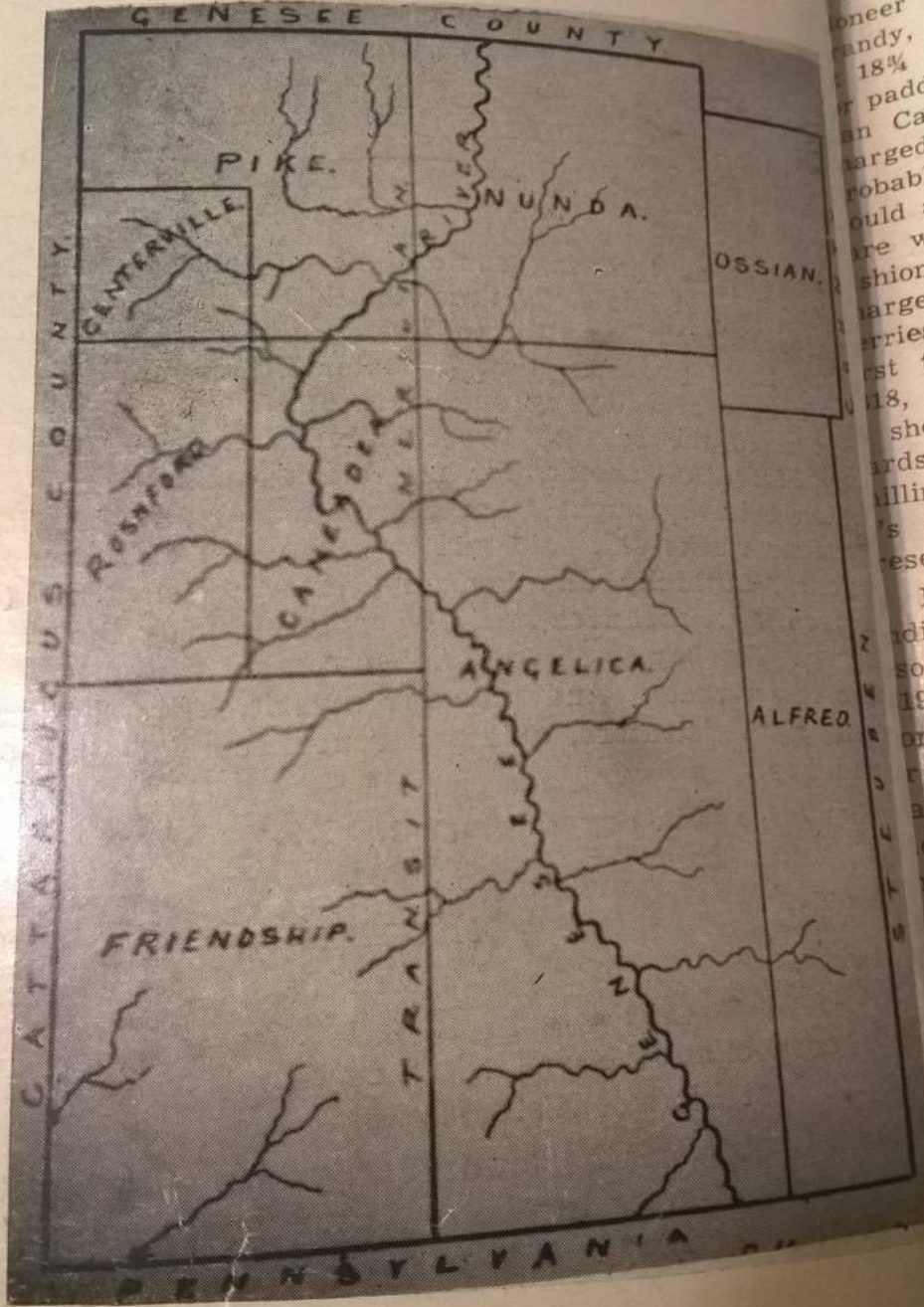
Interesting, as throwing some light on the condition  
 s in Angelica at this early time, this bill of sale is introd  
 Bill of sale for Charlotte, to August d'Autremont." "  
 men by these presents, that I, Victor DuPont of the to

February 8, 1810, the Legislature passed an act incorporating the "Angelica and Allegany Turnpike Company," in which John Mullender and John T. Hyde were named associates.

### SECOND DECADE

From the proceedings of the board of supervisors for the year, which is as far back as the records have been preserved, we learn that the board consisted of six members, the town of Friendship (then very large) in Cattaraugus County being by law represented upon the Allegany board. The following are their names and the towns they represented; John T. Hyde

ALLEGANY IN 1820



July 1810. Deducted \$5. Party is charged, bank, which he had seems the bill was good. Postage was Taylor is charged \$1.00. Cash to pay for a "T. Hunt" is found 10 cents, and a dollar-steel is 10 cents per ounce, charged with 2 cents. The charges were numerous, and would seem the pioneer days of candy, whiskey at 18 1/4 cents. padding (?) an Campen, charged with probably they could answer are with "7" fashioned ones charged at 37 1/2 cents, 25 cents per tannery. 18, he is charged shoes \$61.50. Cards superfluous calling sixpence's name a present school Mr. d'Au charging a school so gives school 19, Seth from Geneva wagon, am \$4.50 and "2 pounds nos Peabodys sills school is charged 50." T. ed fire work, Ge try from August 30 of



Angelica town contains 22,740 acres and the assessed value of real and personal property was \$573,680 in 1894.

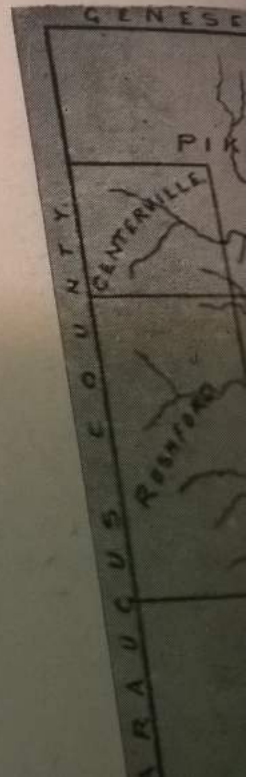
The location of the county seat at Angelica was one of the pet projects of Judge Church. (He has heretofore been called Capt. Church, but having on the 8th of June, 1807, been appointed by Gov. Morgan Lewis "First Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Allegany County," he will hereafter be referred to as judge.) It being, however, so far to one side of the geographical center of the county, it began quite early to excite in his mind, and in the minds of others interested, serious apprehensions of an attempt to remove it to some point farther west, so as to better accommodate the people. Accordingly the aid of the Legislature was again invoked, and, on the 11th of March, 1808, an act was passed restoring the three western ranges of towns to Genesee, and adding the western range of towns from Steuben County, which made the county seat substantially in the center east and west as well as north and south. By other provisions of the act the county was divided into five towns—Angelica, Alfred, Canadea, Nunda, and Ossian.

CATTARAUGUS  
Rd

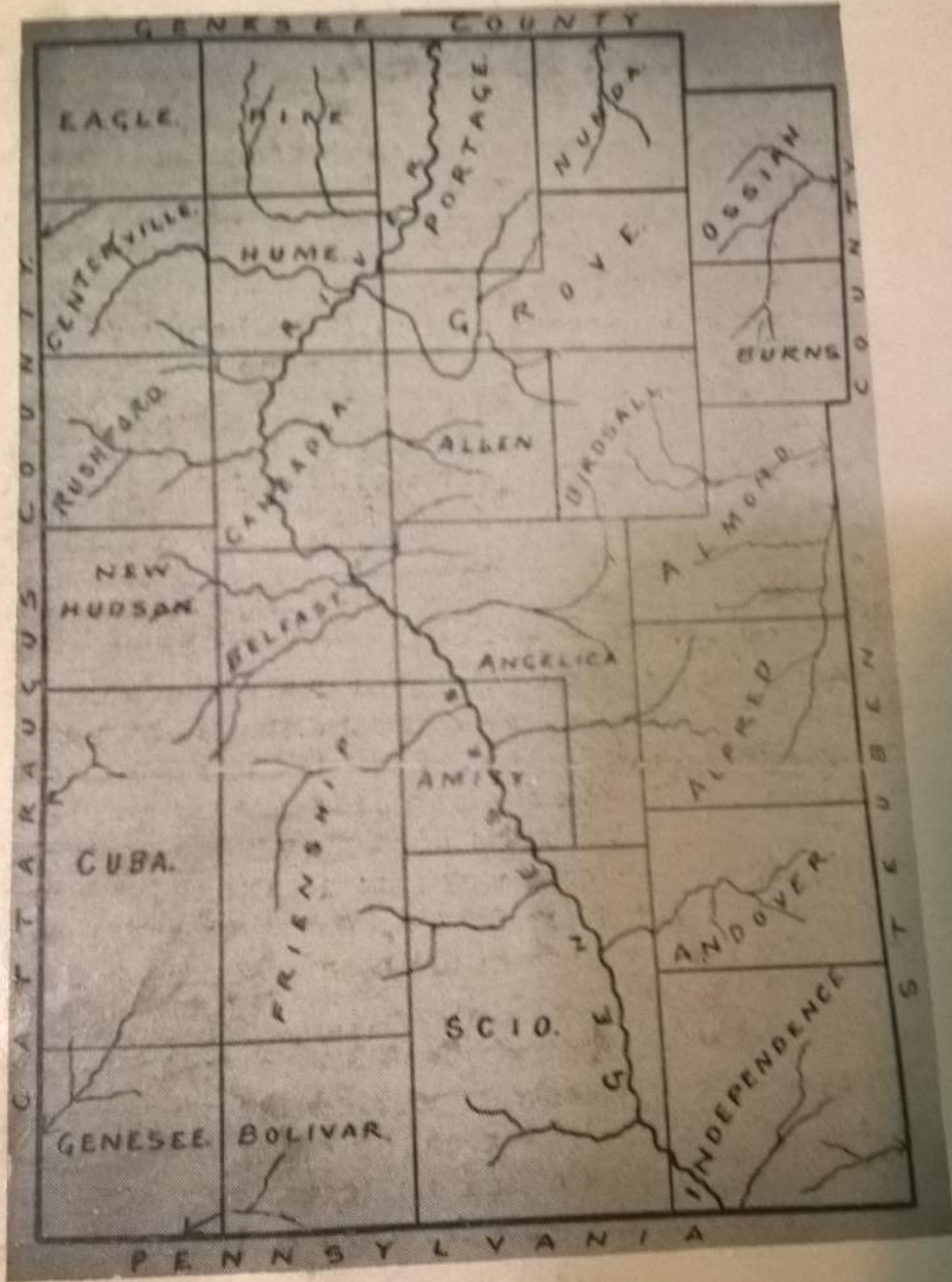
legal... the agitation for a new county... the Legislature, of an act on the 7th of April, 1807, in which the county of Allegany was formed from territory embraced in Genesee County. How the new county came to be named Allegany, or who suggested it, the writer has never been able to learn. The act creating the county, which in territorial extent was seven townships east and west, and seven north and south, named Angelica as the county seat, and it was in fact the only town in county. No courts were held until the fall of 1807, though the act provided for a court to be held in June, 1807.

From 1810 to 1820 Angelica remained unchanged in territorial extent, but soon after the progress of settlement was so rapid as to make the dismemberment of this old mother of towns an imperative necessity, and Allen, Birdsall, Scio and parts of Alfred, Andover, and Independence as then constituted, were set off, reducing it to the area of two standard-sized towns, and leaving it quite irregular in shape. The next decade, 1831-40, saw Angelica reduced to its present size and proportions. It now contains 22,740 acres and the assessed value of real and personal property was \$573,680 in 1894.

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ANGELICA CO



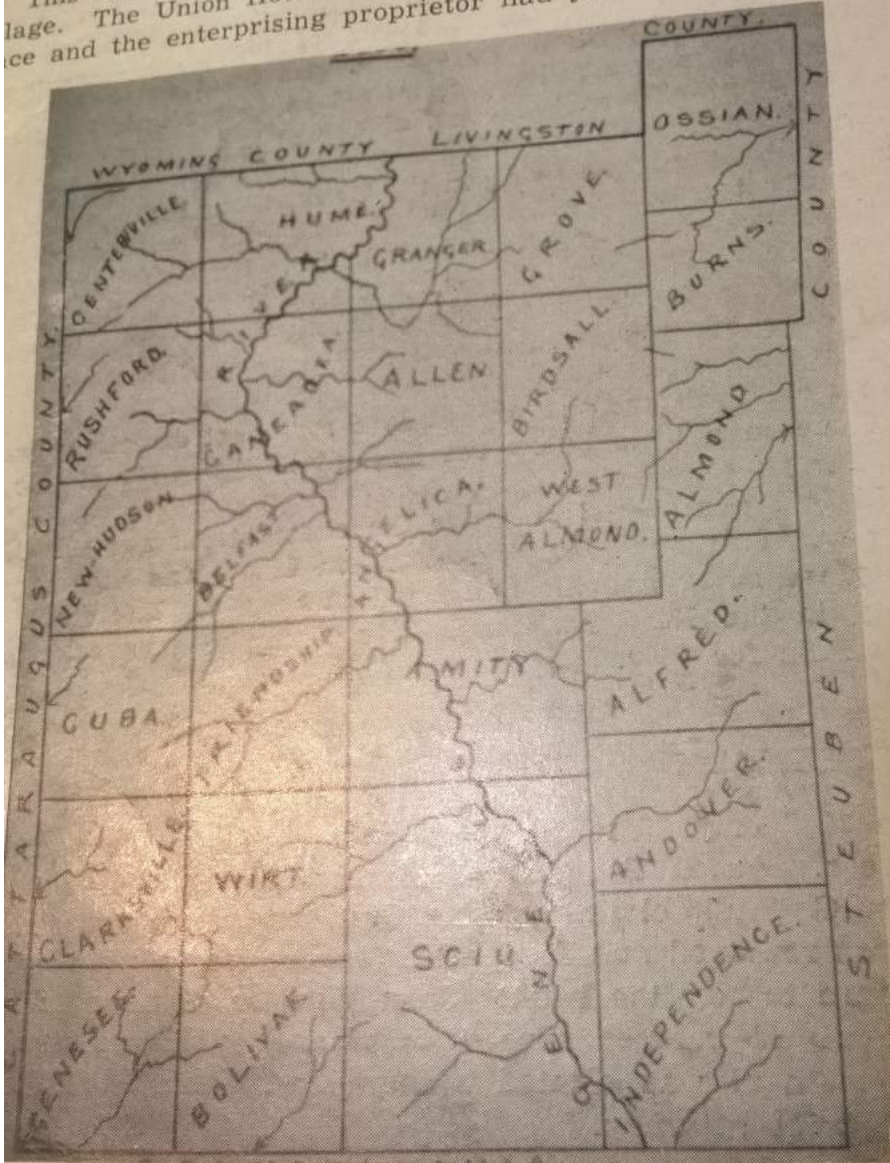
ALLEGANY IN 1830

at distances to witness it. The gallows was erected on the north side of the square near the present Charles Hotel. In early days a distillery stood where the schoolhouse now stands.

Door, ...  
 doing well at a ...  
 Mrs. Charles, occupied a room ...  
 of the House, and who first gave the ...  
 had a very narrow escape, as when she was ...  
 room the fire was falling through the ceiling above in many ...  
 places—she is now at the house of Dr. Charles, and comfortable.

The furniture, regalia, and fixtures of the Old Fellows' Hall, which was located in the third story of the hotel was insured by the Allegany Mutual for \$400. Nothing whatever was saved from it. — Their loss is about \$250.

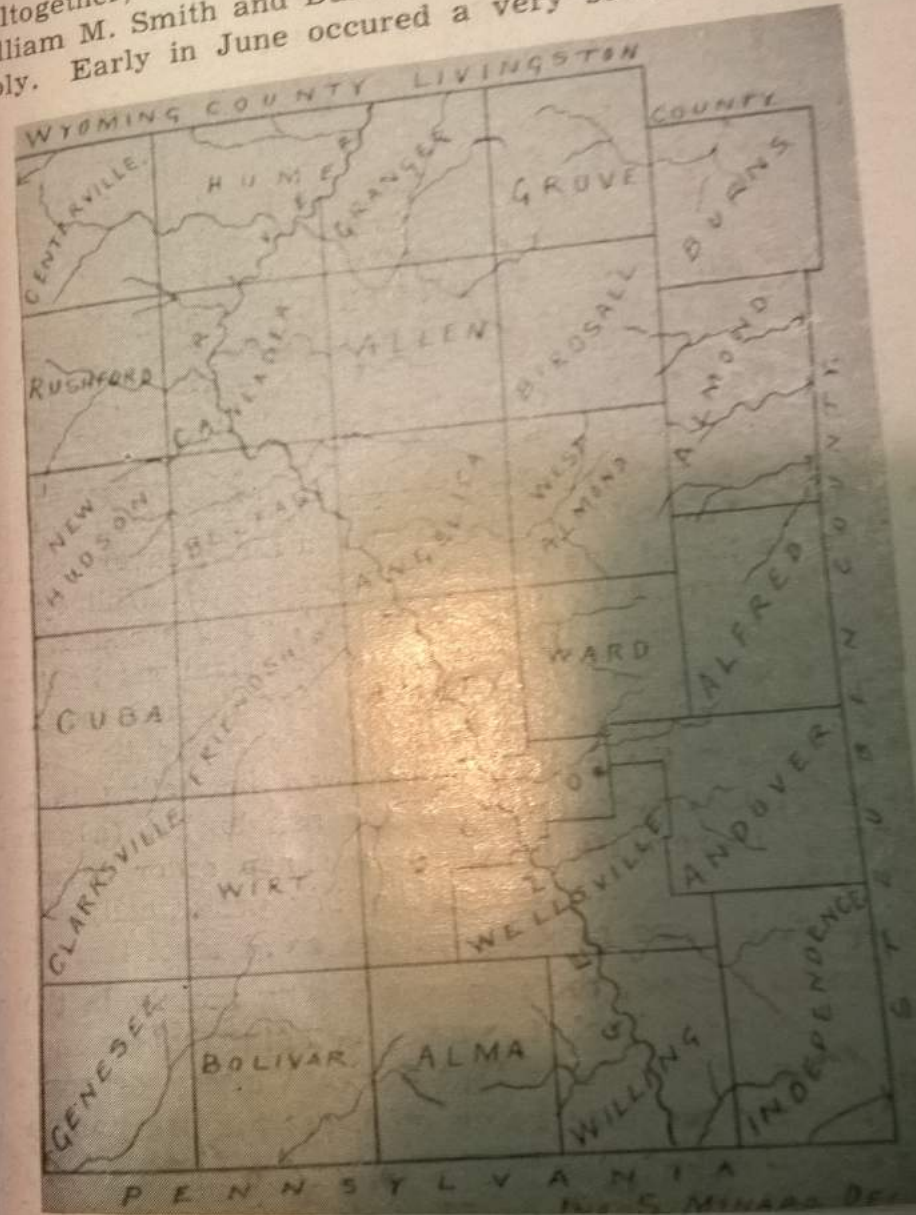
Mr. Collins's house was also insured in the same company for \$400; and the furniture of Mr. Palmer, in the same for \$200. Mr. Palmer estimates his loss, we understand, at \$100. Making this catastrophe has cast a general gloom over our whole village. The Union Hotel was the most splendid building in our place and the enterprising proprietor had just got it to his taste



ALLEGANY IN 1850

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1859. This year was a busy one in Belmont. Buildings were erected by Mr. C. S. Whitney and the county required them to be ready for occupation, the court house at least, by the time of the annual meeting of the board of supervisors. \$20,000 was appropriated for the buildings, and the money loaned on credit of the county. As the annual election approached, it became apparent that Angelica was not going to give up the fight altogether, notwithstanding the new county buildings, and Dr. William M. Smith and Darwin E. Maxson were elected to the assembly. Early in June occurred a very severe frost, and just



**Allegany County in 1860 and as at present.**



...a spray fountain  
...very dwelling wanting

...an of February 12, 1884

### MOUNTAIN LAMP

...alcyon days locally  
...s personality of that  
...en the magnificent  
...l the inhabitants  
...ness was in hand, to  
...pectacle; in those  
...up a fountain at the  
...post above. It rem  
...lamp has been used.



The railroad locomotive... sparks in waste. The building was... We cannot let this occasion pass without again... this community the supreme importance of immediately making... some sensible provision against being burnt up.

(Taken from Allegany County Republican of Oct. 31, 1884)

### MR. BLAINE PUBLICLY DECLARES, AS TO THE PARTY'S BIRTHPLACE; "ALLEGANY IS AHEAD!"

Blaine was nominated—(Tuesday next he will be elected by the largest popular vote ever given to any man—and four years next he will be renominated and overwhelmingly re-elected.)

This greatest living American statesman has honored Angelica with his presence, together with—

- Ex-U. S. Senator Platt; Gen. Carr, Gen. Banks, Gen. Stewart
- L. Woodford, Gen. Merritt, U. S. Senator Warner Miller, Silas B. Dutcher, E. M. Johnson, A. S. Draper, Chester S. Cole, William M. Smith, Dist. Attorney Tenney of Brooklyn, Louis F. Payn, B. Platt Carpenter, C. H. Chickering, Judge Morgan, Senator Lansing, Hon. Millard Brown, Col. Baxter, Hon. S. T. Hoyt, Hon. H. VanAernum, Hon. C. Vedder, Hon. Jeremiah Dwight, Hon. W. L. Sessions, Dr. Mann—and others.

And addresses were made by—Hon. James G. Blaine, Gen. Banks, Hon. August Frank, Hon. Silas B. Dutcher, Dr. Mann, Hon. W. L. Sessions and Hon. A. N. Cole.

you are ahead of us.

I do not make a moral to it—that as a great standard, which a party that has a birth should be the last in membership in that party look to this great old has in former continually repeat their

Now I mention on the face of the who has the Republic the straight line—Allegany County. (App he owes it to his own consistency to principles which he will to follow. (Mr. cannot permit the

After a few his carriage and rounded by enth Angelica's g



... About 1908

This greatest...  
 with his presence, together with  
 Ex-U. S. Senator Platt; Gen. Carr, Gen. Banks, Gen.  
 Woodford, Gen. Merritt, U. S. Senator Warner Miller, Silas B.  
 Dutcher, E. M. Johnson, A. S. Draper, Chester S. Cole, William  
 Smith, Dist. Attorney Tenney of Brooklyn, Louis F. Payn, B.  
 Platt Carpenter, C. H. Chickering, Judge Morgan, Senator Lan-  
 ing, Hon. Millard Brown, Col. Baxter, Hon. S. T. Hoyt, Hon. H.  
 an Aernum, Hon. C. Vedder, Hon. Jeremiah Dwight, Hon. W. L.  
 Sessions, Dr. Mann—and others.

And addresses were made by—Hon. James G. Blaine, Gen.  
 Banks, Hon. August Frank, Hon. Silas B. Dutcher, Dr. Mann,  
 Hon. W. L. Sessions and Hon. A. N. Cole.

We do not overdraw the picture in saying that in a political  
 sense Monday last was the greatest day in the history of this  
 town and county—notwithstanding the fact that the Heavens did  
 not smile upon the occasion; rain falling most of the day, keep-  
 ing thousands away. And yet there were at a close estimate  
 over 6,000 people here, and about 1000 Knights in line, 50 being  
 counted. Besides, a train of 9 coaches from Olean came too  
 late to participate in the parade.

Distinguished guests, Plumed Knights, Bands and people be-  
 gan to pour in on the early trains, while others came in carriages.  
 At 1 o'clock Father Cole began the exercises, as Historian.  
 He was followed by Gen. Banks, and others—from the grand  
 stand built in the center of the park and finely decorated.

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 principles which he was  
 to follow. (Mr. Bla  
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## Section 2--FAMILIES AND RESIDENCES

### THE CHURCH FAMILY

JUDGE PHILIP CHURCH

By JOHN S. MINARD

John Barker Church was an English gentleman of considerable means and a liberal education. He emigrated to America about the time of the breaking out of the Revolution. Entertaining a profound sympathy for the colonists he resolved to espouse their cause, and, under the name of John Carter, which for some good reason he for awhile assumed, he was commissary to the French arm. Making the acquaintance of Hamilton, Greene, Gates and Schuyler, he became socially interested in the family of the latter, whose eldest daughter, Angelica, he married July 23, 1777. Philip Church, their son, was born in Boston, April 14, 1778. The family during the war resided at Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Albany, as Mr. Church's duties required his presence in these places. While yet an infant Philip was present at the Schuyler mansion near Albany with his mother while on a visit to her father's when the memorable attempt was made by John Waltmeyer, a Tory refugee at the head of a party of Tories, Canadians and Indians, to capture General Schuyler, and destroy the powerful influence he was exerting against the banded Tories and Indians. As the banditti forced an entrance into the house,

when during the Revolution, and as he would sneeringly point to it as the commissary." After leaving Eton Philadelphia and commenced the study of law. He resumed his residence in New York. One of the richest men in the country. He finally and resumed his law studies in New York, Esq., and was admitted to the bar. Morgan Lewis, Justice of the Supreme Court, 1801 he acted as second to Philip Schuyler Eckhard, when young Hamilton was where his father later met his

Previous to his admission to the bar during the war with France made necessary in the Continental Army, Philip was appointed Secretary of War James McHenry declined to approve the appointment of Philip Church, but afterwards, in deference to the wishes of Schuyler and Hamilton, and in recognition of his efficiency and promptitude of service on several occasions, gave his consent. Church was immediately appointed as his aide-de-camp. The appointment of Major Church. Captain Church accompanied General Hamilton during the campaign of 1781.

Section 1  
on Mechanic Street  
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Road—Acres pur-  
Oaks. First home  
built frame house  
aks family.

use opposite Henry  
set.

house Mike Collins  
ast year—west side  
will improve it.

R. H. Charles.  
elling on Center  
reck and rail road.

ouse on Allegany  
ter to Depot.  
d place on Alle-

rented by Mr.  
King's Drug Store.  
of Col. Davis a  
American House,  
fire in 1878.

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on lot presented

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Section 2

... of King's Drug Store,  
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... house from creek on  
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... e near cemetery. Now  
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... house across Mechanic  
... which was on S. E.  
... and Center.  
... Potter once stood on  
... the Bullock Garage.  
... ond purchased a par-  
... from Baptist Church.  
... red brick one room  
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... me on Center Street  
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... Dennison Gardner.  
... son house on West  
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... onson lot sold to A.  
... Hibbard buys two-  
... as Lounsbury build-  
... store on land

ing a pro... their cause, and, under the name of John Carter, which for some  
good reason he for awhile assumed, he was commissary to the  
French arm. Making the acquaintance of Hamilton, Greene,  
Gates and Schuyler, he became socially interested in the family  
of the latter, whose eldest daughter, Angelica, he married July  
23, 1777. Philip Church, their son, was born in Boston, April 14,  
1778. The family during the war resided at Boston, New York,  
Philadelphia and Albany, as Mr. Church's duties required his  
presence in these places. While yet an infant Philip was present  
at the Schuyler mansion near Albany with his mother while on a  
visit to her father's when the memorable attempt was made by  
John Waltmeyer, a Tory refugee at the head of a party of Tories,  
Canadians and Indians, to capture General Schuyler, and destroy  
the powerful influence he was exerting against the banded Tories  
and Indians. As the banditti forced an entrance into the house,  
Margaret Schuyler (afterwards wife of Gen. Stephen Van Rens-  
selaer) discovered that her sister's child had been left asleep in  
the cradle upon the ground floor. Rushing down stairs and pass-  
ing her father against his remonstrances, she seized the child,  
and was passing the beseigers when Waltmeyer, mistaking her  
for a servant maid, demanded, "Wench, where is your master?"  
With remarkable presence of mind she replied, "Gone to call  
the guard," and made a safe retreat with the child. An Indian  
threw his tomahawk at them which fortunately did no further  
harm than to tear Miss Schuyler's dress, slightly graze the in-  
fant's forehead, and spent its force in making a cut in the stair  
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The family of Mr. Church accompanied him to Paris after the Revolution, Colonel Trumbull, the celebrated American artist, then residing in Paris, painted a portrait of the boy Philip, which has always been regarded by the family as a treasure of inestimable value. In Paris Mr. Church renewed his old-time close relations with LaFayette and made the acquaintance of Talleyrand and many other eminent statesmen of France. He later took up residence in London and at "Down Place", his country residence on the Thames, about four miles from Windsor Castle. The London home of Mr. Church, was the frequent resort of Fox and Pitt, and, on the breaking out of the French Revolution, when the refugees fled to London, he had as guests Talleyrand and many of his companions. Having been a decided partisan of the

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... rision that "his party could go to the House of Commons in a  
... hackney coach." His family physician was the physician of  
... George III, and long before it transpired publicly, he informed  
... Mr. and Mrs. Church of the King's aberration, and did not  
... hesitate to attribute to the loss of the American colonies the de-  
... velopment of this hereditary tendency. Philip pursued his stud-  
... ies at Eton, one of the famous schools of England, for six years.  
... Here he formed an acquaintance with many later eminent in Eng-  
... lish history. On one occasion he met the Prince of Wales after-  
... ward George IV. The prince was always friendly to him, but  
... George III could never forget the part the older Church had ta-

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## FAMILIES AND RESIDENCES

ken during the Revolution, and as he rode by "Down Place" he would sneeringly point to it as the residence of the "American commissary." After leaving Eton Philip entered the Middle Temple and commenced the study of law. In 1797 John B. Church resumed his residence in New York. He was then considered one of the richest men in the country. Philip accompanied the family and resumed his law studies in the office of Nathaniel Pendleton, Esq., and was admitted to the bar, receiving his license from Morgan Lewis, Justice of the Supreme Court, July 14, 1804. In 1801 he acted as second to Philip Hamilton in his duel with E. Eckhard, when young Hamilton was killed on the same ground where his father later met his death.

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Previous to his admission to the bar, when the prospects of war with France made necessary the organization of the provisional army, Philip was appointed an infantry captain by secretary of War James McHenry. General Washington at first declined to approve the appointment owing to the youth of Mr. Church, but afterwards, in deference to the wishes of Generals Schuyler and Hamilton, and being favorably impressed by the attitude of the young man, whom he met on the appointment



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Soon after the Revolution John B. Church loaned Mr. Morris a considerable amount of money, and, as he had not yet become a citizen, took security in the name of his brother-in-law, Gen. [unclear] as trustee, on the square between 8th and [unclear] in Philadelphia.

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Alexander Hamilton, as trustee, on the square between 8th and  
9th Streets, and Chestnut and Ransom Streets in Philadelphia.  
In 1795 or 1796 this mortgage was released, and security taken  
on 100,000 acres in the Genesee country. The consideration in  
this last mortgage was \$81,679.44. Mr. Church still being an alien,  
this was also given to General Hamilton. In 1799 Captain  
Church visited Canandaigua to attend the sale under foreclosure  
of the 100,000 acres, bid in the property and took a deed in his  
own name dated May 6, 1800. The property however was really  
purchased on joint account with his father, who offered him a  
half-interest to conduct the subdivision and sale of the tract.

In 1801 Captain Church left the city of New York on an ex-  
ploring expedition. He stopped at Geneva to purchase camp  
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## ANGELICA COLLECTANEA

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of evening came spreading over the grand old woods, they brought a strangely impressive stillness and an awful almost intolerable, sensation of loneliness. The night at length wore away and with the arrival of morning the lost party returned.

The reconnoissance was soon completed and Captain Church set out with Van Campen on a "trip to Niagara Falls". They arrived at New Amsterdam, now Buffalo, after a toilsome tramp of three days, almost famished, with tattered garments, and nearly shoeless feet. They visited the Falls, returned to Buffalo, and resumed their journey by the "white man's trail," a road opened to Batavia, shoeless and moneyless, but with renewed physical powers and full of youthful vigor, for Bath about 100 miles distant. Mr. Ellicott had just got his land-office built at Batavia. At Ganson's (LeRoy) there was a militia training, the first one ever had west of the Genesee. One of the officers supplied Mr. Church with money and they resumed their journey, making a brief halt at Geneseo to visit Mr. Wadsworth, with whom Mr. Church had become acquainted in New York.

Captain Church soon returned to New York from Bath and set earnestly at work in making preparations for the settlement of his lands. In 1802 he sent Evert Van Wickle to select the site for the village, which was named Angelica. A large map was constructed showing a good part of New York and Pennsylvania and the proper location of this tract, with state roads and turnpikes, existing and in prospect, and, in the mar-

remark that "an explanation might be after shots had been exchanged that missable before." The pistols used by Philip Hamilton and Echard, and Colonel Burr, and are now in the ard Church. They are of London make, inches long, hairtrigger with flint with gold, of fine workmanship, and lined with soft green flannel. The to a percussion lock and it has been thing much to be regretted. John London. From him they descended Richard Church.

February 4, 1805, Captain Church's eldest daughter of Gen. Walter Stewart next June the youthful pair came to Genesee. The "white house" was reached it by riding from Bath on horseback, most of the way through the woods. General Stewart was in Philadelphia and when in Philadelphia frequently entertained by Gen. Washington was in the habit of Major Church. Another value of the property was accompanied by this



ment is here introduced, "This tract \* \* \* is situated twenty-two miles south of Williamsburg, 100 miles east of Presque Isle, eight north of the Pennsylvania line, and sixteen west of the navigable waters of the Susquehanna." The terms and conditions upon which he proposed to sell these lands are given in full in Beer's "History of Allegany County," and in the sketch of Judge Church appended to the "Life of Van Campen" by the writer. The curious are referred to those volumes for details.

In 1802 Captain Church again visited the tract, and selected the lands for his farm and the site of his future residence on the banks of the beautiful Genesee at Belvidere. In making this selection he exercised sound judgment and a high order of taste. The 2,000 acres which he set apart is the finest land in the whole tract, and the situation of the house is incomparably the finest in the country. In 1803 and 1804 he built his temporary residence called the "White House" by early explorers, from its being the only painted structure in Western New York. The building is still standing in a fair state of preservation. During this year Captain Church received a severe shock by the intelligence of the duel between his uncle General Alexander Hamilton and Col. Aaron Burr. He immediately started for New York, and on his arrival found that the remains had been taken to his father's house, and from thence to their last resting place in Trinity churchyard. John B. Church was appointed one of Hamilton's executors. Two letters from William Stewart to Captain Church, the first announcing the meeting and probable fatal effect on Gen. Hamilton, the second, penned the following day, communicating the particulars of the "affair" and his death, are preserved.

senting the enclosed, with her acceptance of it.

Captain Church lived in the stone mansion still completed. In this the stones used in this edition of Campen Creek just what is.

On the 8th of June Gov. Morgan Lewis, "for Allegany County", was the only one he

Judge Church visited Russell the American mouth was tendered a He visited Mr. Coke, Hall, where he met with try. By invitation of John Russell, he visited the time of the duke Sir Philip Francis, then sent him a letter of

During the absence of the annual festival to its feast out of her sports and pagan

only painted in a fair state of preservation. Captain Church received a severe shock by the intelligence of the duel between his uncle General Alexander Hamilton and Col. Aaron Burr. He immediately started for New York, and on his arrival found that the remains had been taken to his father's house, and from thence to their last resting place in Trinity churchyard. John B. Church was appointed one of Hamilton's executors. Two letters from William Stewart to Captain Church, the first announcing the meeting and probable fatal effect on Gen. Hamilton, the second, penned the following day, communicating the particulars of the "affair" and his death, are preserved by Major Richard Church. They are directed to "Philip Church Esq., Angelica near Bath."

Colonel Burr had in the summer of 1799 fought a duel with John B. Church on the same ground where Hamilton fell. At a dinner given by Chancellor Livingston, Mr. Church remarked that he had heard that the Holland Land Company had cancelled a bond for \$20,000 against Burr for services rendered in the legislature. This reaching the ears of Colonel Burr, he demanded an apology. Mr. Church declined this, further than to say that perhaps he had been indiscreet in repeating the accusation without fuller authority. This was not accepted. A challenge sent, accepted, and they met, exchanging shots without effect, the ball from Mr. Church's pistol striking a button from Colonel Burr's coat and passing through his vest. Colonel Burr then received the explanation which Mr. Church had previously made, with the

John Russell, he visited the time of the duel. Sir Philip Francis, sent him a letter of

During the absence of the annual festival to its feast out of sports and pagan kindly and were met by their giving her a woman that has of Caneadea Indian went to Belvidere house to protect them kindly, and

While in England approved methods these studies continued. The country is, he to him for the lost sheep. The difficult frontier settlements sorted to in transition engaged to make



## ANGELICA COLLECTANEA

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used by Philip Hamilton and Echard, and by General Hamilton  
and Colonel Burr, and are now in the possession of Major Ham-  
ard Church. They are of London make, the barrels about two  
inches long, hairtrigger with flint set-locks, the vents bushed  
with gold, of fine workmanship, and kept in a fine wooden case  
lined with soft green flannel. The lock of one has been changed  
to a percussion lock and it has been used in shooting squirrels  
thing much to be regretted. John B. Church brought them from  
London. From him they descended to Philip Church, and to  
Richard Church.

February 4, 1805, Captain Church married Anna Madison,  
eldest daughter of Gen. Walter Stewart of Philadelphia, and  
next June the youthful pair came to their home in the winter  
ness. The "white house" was ready for their reception, and  
reached it by riding from Bath to Belvidere forty-four miles  
horseback, most of the way following a bridle path cut through  
the woods. General Stewart was an intimate friend of General  
Washington, and when in Philadelphia General Washington

Section 1

Section 2

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...with gold, of fine workmanship, and kept in a fine wooden  
lined with soft green flannel. The lock of one has been changed  
to a percussion lock and it has been used in shooting squirrels  
thing much to be regretted. John B. Church brought them from  
London. From him they descended to Philip Church, and to  
Richard Church.

February 4, 1805, Captain Church married Anna Mathews,  
eldest daughter of Gen. Walter Stewart of Philadelphia, and  
next June the youthful pair came to their home in the wilder-  
ness. The "white house" was ready for their reception, and they  
reached it by riding from Bath to Belvidere forty-four miles  
horseback, most of the way following a bridle path cut through  
the woods. General Stewart was an intimate friend of General  
Washington and when in Philadelphia General Washington was  
frequently entertained by General Stewart. A desk at which  
Washington was in the habit of writing while there is owned by  
Major Church. Another valued treasure is a miniature of Wash-  
ington accompanied by this note in Washington's hand writing.

Wednesday, March 16, 1805

Not for the representation or the value, but because it is the  
production of a fair lady, the President takes the liberty of pre-  
sents the enclosed, with his best regards to Mrs. Stewart pre-  
sents her acceptance of it.

Captain Church lived in the "white house" until 1810, when he  
moved to the banks of the Genesee river.

...ported to Belvidere 27  
to Belvidere 27  
folded close by the house.  
lying dead. The wolves had  
Such were some of the ha-  
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resemblance. This appe-  
1824 LaFayette visited the  
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and when a daughter was  
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In a letter to Judge C-  
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"Happy am I in  
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doubly dear to my m-  
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from Bath and the settle- ble to select a. A large York and with state in the mar- as to sales, e advertise- ted twenty- esque Isle, est of the conditions in full in

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Wednesday, March 16, 1796.

Not for the representation or the value, but because it is the production of a fair lady, the President takes the liberty of presenting the enclosed, with his best regards to Mrs. Stewart praying her acceptance of it.

Captain Church lived in the "white house" until 1810, when the stone mansion still standing on the banks of the Genesee was

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Captain Church lived in the "white house" until 1810, when the stone mansion still standing on the banks of the Genesee was completed. In this they spent the remainder of their lives. The stones used in this edifice were quarried from the bank of Van Campen Creek just where the railroad bridge at Belvidere now is.

On the 8th of June, 1807, Captain Church was appointed by Gov. Morgan Lewis, "First Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Allegany County". This office he retained until 1821, and it was the only one he ever held.

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for Allegany County". This office he retained until 1821, and it  
was the only one he ever held.

Judge Church visited England in 1811. In company with Mr.  
Russell the American minister, he went to Norfolk, and at Yar-  
mouth was tendered a public dinner by old friends of his father.  
He visited Mr. Coke, afterward the Earl of Leicester, at Holkham  
Hall, where he met with four or five hundred of the landed gen-  
try. By invitation of the Duke of Bedford, the father of Lord  
John Russell, he visited Woburn Abbey, the duke's mansion, at  
the time of the duke's annual "sheepshearing" and cattle show.  
Sir Philip Francis, the reputed author of the letters of "Junius,"  
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During the absence of her husband, Mrs. Church attended one  
of the annual festivals of the Indians at Caneadea, contributing

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During the absence of her husband, Mrs. Church attended one  
of the annual festivals of the Indians at Caneadea, contributing  
to its feast out of her stores, and enjoyed very much their rustic  
sports and pagan rites and dances. They received her very  
kindly and were much pleased with her visit, which was evinced  
by their giving her a name, "Ye-nen-ke-a-wa," "the first white  
woman that has come." In gratitude for her kindness a party  
of Caneadea Indians, upon the breaking out of hostilities in 1812,  
went to Belvidere and offered to place a guard around her  
house to protect her from the British Indians, but she thanked  
them kindly, and declined their proffered gallantry.

While in England Judge Church studied carefully the most  
approved methods of husbandry, yet it is questionable whether  
these studies contributed very much to his success as a farmer.  
The country is, however, placed under a lasting debt of gratitude  
to him for the introduction of a very superior stock of cattle and  
sheep. The difficulties encountered in doing this into an isolated  
frontier settlement, are forcibly portrayed by the expedient re-  
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engaged to make an ingenious arrangement whereby a crate was

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## ANGELICA COLLECTANEA

### Section 2

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Anna Matilda, elphia, and the in the wilder- ption, and they -four miles on h cut through nd of General ashington was esk at which owned by

### Section 2

suspended beneath the Judge's "gig" which was of the style peculiar to those days, with extremely large wheels, and the buck was carried thus suspended from Albany to Belvidere. This buck was purchased for \$80 of Cancellor Livingston who im- ported it from Spain. In 1805 Judge Church purchased and drove to Belvidere 24 sheep. Arriving late in the evening they were folded close by the house. In the morning 19 of the number were lying dead. The wolves had tracked them and made the havoc. Such were some of the hardships and discouragements attending the introduction of sheep into Allegany.

A distinguishing characteristic of General Schuyler's de- scendants is the more or less strongly marked Judge's family resemblance. This appeared in some of the Judge's family. In 1824 LaFayette visited this country, and his progress was marked by a continuous series of ovations. His visit to Rochester was no exception. Judge Church and some of his family were there, and when a daughter was presented, before her name could be spoken, LaFayette exclaimed, "There comes a Schuyler" or "There is Schuyler blood in her veins," or words to that effect. In a letter to Judge Church dated at LaGrange in 1826, LaFay- ette alludes to this incident:

"Happy am I in the opportunity to remind you of the old friend of your parents to present my respects to Mrs. Church, and to your am-

pleasant valley of Van Campen Creek, re- distance, while the grand old hills on ei- river presented a beautiful background, as they were with much of the primitive and attractive picture. The eastern pa- land office, equipped with desks, draftin- furniture, and has been preserved inta- 1810. It was the writer's privilege to- old office one day in the winter of- cheerful fire blazed upon the old hea- the portrait of the Judge, by the ce- those historic duelling pistols. The- tures, some illustrating English spo- sheep and blooded cattle. The she- able law books, ancient books of- sales. There were also letters- General Greene, the English states- with official papers bearing the s- Adams, Livingston and others. handed pioneers were wont to- to having their boundaries adjus-

At the close of 1859 the ju- ness, and devoted much time t- he was enfeebled in health an- the fall and winter. His las- Thursday.



...died Anna Matilda,  
Philadelphia, and the  
...ome in the wilder-  
reception, and they  
...forty-four miles on  
...path cut through  
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iable daughter, whom a friendly image engraved on my heart  
made me recognize before she was named to me. Your affec-  
tionate friend, LaFayette."

One great advantage derived from Judge Church's visit to  
England, proved to be one of the initial forces which started the  
wheels of progress and development in Western New York, is  
found in the light obtained and the impulse given to his mind  
by the study of internal improvements, especially that of the  
railway system, just then beginning to attract attention. If not  
the first to conceive the idea he was certainly among the very  
first to espouse the project of the construction of the Genesee  
Valley Canal, and he exerted no slight influence in hastening its  
completion. It was however his freely expressed opinion at the  
time that a railroad would better serve the purpose to be ac-  
complished. In this preference he was overruled, but the wisdom  
of his opinion is now clearly established. But the great work to  
...above all other things

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who died in 1891; Walter  
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complished. In this preference he was overruled, but the wisdom  
of his opinion is now clearly established. But the great work to  
which, for a number of years, over and above all other things  
he devoted his time and applied his energies, was the New York  
& Erie Railroad. He left letters, notices, petitions, memorials,  
papers and memoranda proving that he was one of the chief  
and earliest of the originators and advocates of that immense  
undertaking.  
Judge Church had a vigorous constitution, which he retained  
in a remarkable degree to more than foreshore years. He was  
accustomed to athletic sports, he excelled in fleetness, and has  
been known to outrun some of the swiftest of the Indians. He  
was passionately fond of and an expert in cricket, and in ad-  
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a man, fastening a little piece of white paper on a tree with a  
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office in the U. S. Custom  
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(From the Allegany C  
**DEATH OF**

Major Church called  
the last surviving mem  
Church, Esq., who died  
1st in his 92nd year.  
Church, Esq.

(Taken from the

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a man, fastening a little piece of white paper on a tree with a  
pin, paced off a reasonable distance, and turning, took delib-  
erate aim and fired, driving the pin into the tree, the paper still  
withering. Handing the gun to the other, he requested him to  
beat it, which was of course impossible. The gun however was  
taken, loaded and fired when, upon examination, no new ball hole  
could be discovered. It was claimed by some that Church did  
not hit the tree. The controversy was settled by chopping into  
the tree, when it was found that both balls had entered the same  
hole.

The Villa ... the seat of the kindest hos-

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hole.

The Villa Belvidere was for years the seat of the kindest hos-  
pitality where many distinguished men were entertained. From  
its stately southern porch the beautiful valley of the Genesee  
could be seen for a long distance. Only a few rods away the  
river bank was gently laved by its waters as they passed on  
their "winding way to the sea," to the southwest reclined the

## DEATH

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of the old

pleasant valley of Van Campen Creek, reposing in the receding distance, while the grand old hills on either side of creek and river presented a beautiful background, their summits crowned as they were with much of the primitive forest made a beautiful and attractive picture. The eastern part of this mansion was a land office, equipped with desks, drafting tables and other proper furniture, and has been preserved intact as when first opened in 1810. It was the writer's privilege to meet Major Church in this old office one day in the winter of 1891-1892. As of yore a cheerful fire blazed upon the old hearth. Over the mantle hung the portrait of the Judge, by the celebrated artist Fagnam, and those historic duelling pistols. The walls were hung with pictures, some illustrating English sports and pastimes, others fine sheep and blooded cattle. The shelves were loaded with venerable law books, ancient books of surveys and records of land sales. There were also letters from Washington, LaFayette, General Greene, the English statesman Fox and Sir Philip Francis, with official papers bearing the signature of Jefferson, Hamilton, Adams, Livingston and others. Here the bronze-faced, horny-handed pioneers were wont to come to get their "articles", see to having their boundaries adjusted, make their payments, etc.

At the close of 1859 the judge practically relinquished business, and devoted much time to reading. In the summer of 1860

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placed upon the old hearth. Over the mantle hung  
the portrait of the Judge, by the celebrated artist Fagnant, and  
those historic duelling pistols. The walls were hung with pic-  
tures, some illustrating English sports and pastimes, others fine  
sheep and blooded cattle. The shelves were loaded with vener-  
able law books, ancient books of surveys and records of land  
sales. There were also letters from Washington, LaFayette,  
General Greene, the English statesman Fox and Sir Philip Francis,  
with official papers bearing the signature of Jefferson, Hamilton,  
Adams, Livingston and others. Here the bronze-faced, horny-  
handed pioneers were wont to come to get their "articles", see  
to having their boundaries adjusted, make their payments, etc.

At the close of 1859 the judge practically relinquished busi-  
ness, and devoted much time to reading. In the summer of 1860  
he was enfeebled in health and was confined to the house during  
the fall and winter. His last illness was brief, continuing only  
from Monday to Thursday. On Saturday a public meeting of the  
citizens of Angelica was held and resolutions of respect, esteem  
and sorrow for his loss were adopted. On Sunday, the 10th of  
January, 1861, his funeral was largely attended at St. Paul's  
Church, Angelica. The public journals made honorable and be-  
coming mention of his death and recounted his public services.

Mrs. Church was as near the ideal mother as was possible.  
Her kindness to the poor was such as to excite comment, and  
her benevolent deeds are remembered with pleasure by elderly,  
long resident people of the neighborhood. Her benefactions were  
many and were judiciously bestowed.

The children of this estimable couple were, Angelica (Mrs.  
John Warren) who died in March, 1895 in New York City; John  
Earker, who died in 1875; Sophia Harrison (Mrs. N. P. Hoosack),  
died in 1891; Walter Stewart, died in 1890; Philip, died in  
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(From the Allegany County Republican of April 26, 1889)

**DEATH OF MAJOR CHURCH'S UNCLE**

Major Church called on Friday to inform us of the death of the last surviving member of his father's family—Richard S. Church, Esq., who died at his home in Uxbridge, England, April 1st in his 92nd year. He was the youngest brother of Philip Church, Esq.

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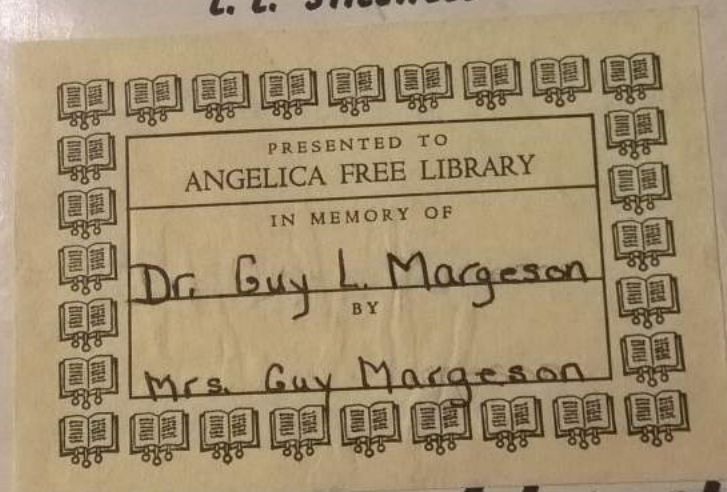
(Taken from the Angelica Advocate of May 11, 1911)

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**The Angelica Advocate**  
Angelica, N. Y.

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