

CHAPTER XLVI.
KEARNY TOWNSHIP.

By Prof. John Dwyer.

Organization.— The present township of Kearny was included in Harrison until 1867. The people residing in this territory were by a large majority Republican in politics, but their vote was regularly entirely negated by the overwhelming Democratic vote of the southern part of Harrison, and they therefore sought to bring about the division that they might secure independence and a greater influence in local affairs.

The late Gen. N.N. Halstead, who was killed in May, 1884, at the Market Street Station of the Pennsylvania Railroad, in Newark, while getting off a train, was untiring in his efforts to separate the northern part from the southern part of Harrison. He succeeded in getting the necessary laws passed in Trenton, and in March, 1867, Kearny became a separate township. It was named in honor of the late Gen. Philip Kearny, major-general United States Volunteers, who was born June 2, 1815, and killed at the battle of Chantilly, Va., Sept. 1, 1862. Gen. Kearny's son and family are at present living at Kearny Castle, in Kearny township. As Gen. Kearny's history is a part of the nation's history,— "he died that she might live,"— it is unnecessary to make any extended remarks of "Fighting Phil Kearny's" career at this place.

The line separating Harrison and Kearny may be described as follows: It commences at the Morris and Essex bridge on Passaic Avenue; thence runs along Passaic Avenue to Reynolds Avenue; up the centre of Reynolds Avenue to a house formerly owned by Frank Allen; thence north, along the line of the Muloch property, crossing Bishop Street, to John Williams; thence east to a little above Professor Noble's residence; thence across the railroad and through the woods surrounding the vegetable farm of Mr. Grubb to the Copper-Mine road. The line thence proceeds south to the Lodi Hotel, along Harrison Avenue, west to Ogden's Lane, along Ogden's Lane straight to the gravel dock, and into the Passaic. Probably not a dozen persons in either Harrison or Kearny could locate this line without map assistance. It is generally condemned as a most arbitrary and unmeaning line, as it is truly said that houses and premises are so indiscriminately cut up by it that persons sometimes sleep with their feet in Kearny and their head in Harrison. This is the case with William H. Loughman, whose house is bisected by the separating line, and the bed so situated that his feet, while sleeping, are in Kearny township and the upper part of the body in Harrison. As Mr. Loughman humorously says, he can, by assuming the conventional winter curve in cold weather, at any moment during the night become a full, citizen of Harrison. Mr. Loughman pays taxes to both governments alternately, and hopes that his location as a full citizen may at some future time be definitely settled. There are other

examples as vexatious and unaccountable as this, so that it would appear as if a dynamite explosion located the line of separation. However, although this may appear to be the offspring and irregularity of madness, yet, upon a closer insight into motive, we find consistent method in this madness, being simply the result of trying to take into Kearny certain persons and properties and exclude other certain persons and properties. It is hoped that this line will be straightened at no distant day, and that if the towns are to continue apart, the Erie Railroad may be determined upon as the best separating boundary.

Roster of Officers.— Following is a list of the officers of Kearny township since it was organized, in 1867, up to July, 1884: Town Committee, John Boyd, John Van Emburgh, Jr., Gen. N. Norris Halstead, Joseph L. Hewes, Francis Newbold; Clerk, Henry Kenton; Assessor, Stephen K. Jerolaman; Collector, William L. Ogden.

The town committee for 1868 was the same as that for 1867.

Town Committee for 1869, Simon R. Van Emburgh, John Boyd, Jr., John Van Emburgh, Jr., Gen. N. Norris Halstead and Joseph L. Hewes; Clerk, Henry Kenton; Assessor, Stephen K. Jerolaman; Collector, John F. Fullager.

Officers for 1870: Town Committee, John Boyd, Jr., Gen. N.N. Halstead, Joseph L. Hewes, Francis Newbold and Simon R. Van Emburgh; Town Clerk, Henry Kenton; Assessor, John Boyd, Jr.; Collector, Henry K. Schuyler.

Officers for 1871: Town Committee, John Boyd, Jr., J.L. Hewes, Stephen K. Jerolaman, Henry Boan and Francis Newbold; Town Clerk, Henry Kenton; Collector, William S. Ogden; Assessor, Stephen K. Jerolaman..

Officers for 1872: Town Committee, Stephen K. Jerolaman, Henry K. Schuyler, Gen. N. Norris Halstead, J.L. Hewes and Francis Newbold; Town Clerk, Henry Kenton; Assessor, G.K. Van Emburgh; Collector, William S. Ogden.

Township Officers for 1873: Town Committee, Henry Boan, I.M. Stewart, James Johnson, Samuel D. Smith, Henry K. Schuyler; Clerk, Henry Kenton; Collector and Treasurer, William S. Ogden.

Officers for 1874: Town Committee, Richard Hill, James Johnston, Augustine T. Riley, Joseph Randall and William G. Greenfeld; Clerk, Henry Kenton; Assessor, Stephen K. Jerolaman.

Officers for 1875: Town Committee, Richard Hill, Henry Boan, Byron Binninger, R.O. Babbett and George Head; Clerk, Henry Kenton; Collector and Treasurer, Alexander Jacobus.

Officers for 1876: Town Committee, Henry Boan, Richard Hill, David Moon, Byron Binninger and Seldon Goff; Clerk, Henry Kenton; Collector, Alexander Jacobus; Assessor, James Johnston.

Officers for 1877: Town Committee, James C. Johnston, Francis Newbold, G.G. Hardy, Byron Binninger and David Moon; Clerk, Josiah B. Stearns.

Officers for 1878: Town Committee, Richard Hill, James C. Johnston, James A. Bell; Clerk, Patrick J. Cairnes.

Officers for 1879: Town Committee, James A. Bell, Richard Hill, Frederick W. Hortsman, John Quinn and Joseph Randall; Town Clerk, Edward J. Kenny; Assessor, James C. Johnston; Treasurer, Byron Binninger.

Town Officers for 1880: Town Committee, Dr. Clayson, Richard Westlake, John Quinn, Richard Hill, Geo. J. Hardy; Town Clerk, Edward J. Kenny; Assessor, James C. Johnston; and Treasurer, Byron Binnenger.

Town Officers for 1881: Town Committee, S.B. Ferry, Dr. S.W. Clason, John Quinn, Thomas Hood and George C. Hardy; Town Clerk, Edward J. Kenny; Treasurer and Collector, Byron Binninger.

Town Committee for 1882: Town Committee, William Green, Thomas Hood, S.B. Ferry, R.P. Messiter and John Quinn; E.J. Kenny, Clerk.

Township Officers for 1883: Town Committee William Green, Patrick Doran, James McCloskey, John Quinn and Richard P. Messiter; Patrick J. Cairnes, clerk.

Officers for 1884: Town Committee, James McCloskey, William Logan, George B. Read, Patrick Doran and William Green (chairman); Town Clerk, H. Kenton; Treasurer, Joseph Parker, Jr.; Assessor, James C. Johnston; and Counsel for the Board of Town Committee, Ludlow C. McCarter; the School Board was William Robertson, Arthur Greenfield, Charles Hubbard and Charles Hill.

Arlington is a beautifully situated village in the northern part of Kearny township. It was founded about the same time that Kearny township was organized, in 1867, by the Arlington Homestead Association, under the jurisdiction of the North New Jersey Land Company and Fuller Brothers. It was so called after Arlington Heights, Va., being elevated and sloping on both sides, like the heights alluded to in Virginia. The Montclair and Greenwood Lake Railroad runs through Arlington, and has a station which was called "Arlington Depot" before the name was given to the village. Trains run every few minutes to and from New York from the depot, and extra accommodation is afforded on Saturday afternoons. It is a flourishing village, over twenty new houses being in course of erection at the present time (July, 1884).

ARLINGTON CATHOLIC PROTECTORY.— The mansion known at present as the Arlington Catholic Protectory was built by Knapp, the great gun manufacturer, during the civil war. It was sold recently to Bishop Wigger for sixteen thousand dollars. Ten acres of ground are attached to the building. It is estimated that the building itself cost Mr. Knapp not less than one hundred thousand dollars.

The Protectory is at present in charge of Rev. Father Curran, assisted by Rev. Father John J. Tighe, of Harrison, who was recently (1884) ordained at Seton Hall College. Some fifty boys are at present cared for here, and taught printing and other useful trades. The type-setting and printing of the *Sacred Heart Union*,

Catholic Review and other publications are done here, and the institution is destined to play a prominent part in the history of Hudson County.

BECKETT & MCDOWELL'S MANUFACTORY of all kinds of heavy machinery, is the largest institution of its kind in Kearny. The machinery for the great refrigerator used to supersede ice at the brewery of Peter Hauck & Co. was made by this firm. Another of a similar kind is now in operation for the great Kruger Brewery, in Newark. This firm, on account of the great strength and artistic beauty of its work, is always overstocked with orders.

In the rear of Beckett & McDowell's is a large building once used as a gold refinery, but now dismantled by fire and not occupied. There was once a famous watch-factory here, but that, too, was burned. Across the railroad from the depot is Butler & Goulding's machine-shop.

Arlington is not yet rich in manufactures, nor in many other of the accompaniments of modern civilization and improvement, but from its healthy location and beautiful surroundings, and also from its refined and cultured society, it is destined to make rapid progress, and become the principal and most interesting part of Kearny township. It is safe to say that Arlington will in the future agitate a breaking up of Kearny township, giving the lower part to Harrison, and organizing herself into the town of Arlington.

SCHOOLS.— A large new brick building is called the Public School. It is a fine structure, of which Arlingtonians are proud. Professors Le Cato, Pierce, Fiedler and Hubbard have consecutively filled the principal's chair in the school, aided by a staff of lady assistants. Mr. Le Cato, a gentleman of dignity and fine culture, has, in, addition to his public-school duties, figured as a journalist and novelist while in Arlington, being once editor of a paper there and having also written a popular novel.

Churches.— On the Main Street of Arlington stands the newly-built First Presbyterian Church. It looks to be a very solid piece of masonry. The pastor, Dr. George Sluter, is an eloquent preacher. Right across, on a side-street, stands the Methodist Church, presided over by Dr. Gorten, another preacher of ability and force.

The *Knox Presbyterian Church*, recently erected on Kearny Avenue, is a beautiful structure, and reflects credit upon the taste and religious zeal of the Presbyterians of Harrison and the lower end of Kearny. Its pastor is Dr. J. Kerby Smith, an eloquent preacher and popular Christian gentleman.

Within Arlington no saloon nor rum-shop can be found, and this, perhaps, accounts for its solid prosperity, and also for the tone and respectability of its residents.

The house of Mr. James A. Bell, formerly a State Senator from New York State, occupies the most prominent and elevated land in Arlington or in Kearny township.

The population of Arlington is of a very cosmopolitan character, composed of

retired millionaires, State Senators and legislators, merchants, clerks and business men of all kinds, who are employed in New York, and find congenial rest in their country homes at Arlington after business hours.

Clark Thread-Works.— The southern section of Kearny, touching Harrison, is ornamented with the great thread manufactories of the Clark Brothers. Next to Harrison is the Clark Mile-End Spool-Cotton Company, organized in 1883, with Thomas Russell, Robert W. Ferguson and William Russell & Co. as incorporators. George S. Lings is superintendent of the spinning-mill, and Richard Hill of the spooling-mill. The spooling-mill was built in 1874, and the spinning-mill in 1882. The firm employs from seven hundred to eight hundred hands. The officers are William Clark, president; W.R. Ferguson, vice-president; and Thomas Russell, secretary and treasurer. This firm has agencies in New York, Philadelphia, Boston and San Francisco.

Clark Thread Company.— The next factory or mill to be found adjacent to the one already described is the surprise and wonder of residents and visitors, on account of the huge proportions of the buildings and the great area of ground occupied by them. They are the Clark Thread Company O.N.T. Thread-Works. The parent buildings of this company's mills, both of Newark and East Newark, are the Anchor Mills, at Paisley, Scotland where more persons are employed than at Harrison and Newark together, and it must be recollected there are two thousand three hundred persons employed in the Newark works. The company was organized May 2, 1865, and chartered April 17th of same year. The first directors and officers were: President, Henry Sanger; Vice-President, Lewis Coleman; Treasurer, George A. Clark; Secretary, Alexander Clark; Directors, Henry Sanger, Lewis Coleman, George A. Clark, Charles H. Ludington, Isaac T. Burr, William D. Jones, Alexander Clark, Thomas Barbour and Henry J. Davis. The works were built in 1865, 1875 and 1881. They contain engines possessing a total Of three thousand five hundred horse-power, and the number of persons employed is about two thousand. The present directors and officers: President, John Clark; Treasurer, William Clark; Secretary, Robert B. Symington; Director, William Clark; Superintendent, Robert Cumming.

Public Schools.— Kearny Avenue Public School is situated above Fourth Street, adjacent to the Knox Presbyterian Church. Professor Musgrove has been principal since 1873, and conducts the institution to the great satisfaction of the School Board and people, for while other schools in Kearny have had frequent change of principals, not a particle of dissatisfaction has ever been broached against Mr. Musgrove. He is ably assisted by the Misses Greenfield and Kenton. The Schuyler Avenue Public School has been supervised for many years by the able, experienced and accomplished teacher, Miss Alice Morgan. This school has the reputation of turning out scholars of acknowledged merit, many of whom have graduated

creditably from our county examinations as teachers, and are now employed in the schools of Harrison and Kearny.

Patriotism.— The residents of this section were patriotic during the Revolution, as was indicated by the organization of companies of Continentals and also by the expulsion of Archibald Kennedy for his pro-English tendencies. There are many veterans of the late civil war in Harrison, and many others are numbered among the dead on the battle-fields of the war, and many of the surviving veterans have succumbed to the inevitable hand of death since the war.

The Kingsland Family.— Edmund W. Kingsland is the oldest son of Gen. George Kingsland, and was born in Union township, Bergen Co., May 21, 1816. He is descended from one of the oldest families in the State. Mr. Winfield, in his "History of Hudson County," says:

"Isaac Kingsland seems to have been the founder of the family of this name, which settled on the east bank of the Passaic River. He was a nephew of Maj. Nathaniel Kingsland, of the parish of Christ Church, on the Island of Barbadoes. By his uncle's will he received a large tract of land on New Barbadoes Neck, since then the home of the family. He was a man of some note; and for several years a member of the Council. He had a brother, Gustavus, to whom he conveyed a tract of land on the Neck, Dec. 30, 1697. He married Elizabeth, and died in the early part of the year 1698."

Mr. Kingsland traces his genealogy as follows: Isaac had a son Edmund, born about 1670, and died about 1741. Edmund had a son William, born in 1704, and died Oct. 24, 1770; he was appointed judge of the Bergen Common Pleas March 8, 1749. William had a son Edmund William, born Aug. 17, 1741; he was a judge of the Court of Common Pleas in Bergen County in 1789. Edmund William had a son George, born Feb. 9, 1783, and died Oct. 20, 1866; he was the father of the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Kingsland was raised on his father's farm, and early in life followed mercantile pursuits; he settled in Jersey City, and in 1843 he was appointed county collector of Hudson County, and was reappointed every year for forty years, and held the office down to 1883, when his successor was appointed, owing to Mr. Kingsland's ill health. Millions of the public money passed through his hands, and his accounts were settled without a single discrepancy.

He was surrogate of Hudson County from 1840 to 1855. He was clerk of the township of Van Vorst from 1840 to 1855, and he also served one year on the Board of Aldermen of Jersey City.

When Thomas W. James, Esq., resigned as secretary and treasurer of the Provident Institution for Savings, in 1856, Mr. Kingsland was appointed as his successor, and still holds the office at this time (October, 1884).

When he took charge of the bank the statement of Jan. 1, 1856, showed a deposit of \$170,724.52, and a surplus of \$1414.95 at the July statement, 1856.

The statement of Jan. 1, 1884, shows a deposit of \$5,271,112.17 and a surplus of \$493,369.57. The management of the bank has been so successful that it has always stood all runs made upon it; it has never closed its doors during its advertised business hours, and has always paid on demand, or in accordance with its by-laws, and it has never foreclosed a mortgage where the interest has been promptly paid, and the taxes and assessments paid on the property.

Mr. Kingsland married Sarah Ann, daughter of Thomas E. Steele, M.D., and they have two surviving children,— Edmund W. Kingsland, Jr., who is assistant secretary and treasurer of the Provident Institution for Savings; and Miss Margaret S. Kingsland.

Mr. Kingsland holds to the faith of his fathers, and is a regular attendant at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, in Jersey City.

Early Lease of Copper Lands.— That the minerals of this region early attracted attention is evident from the following lease:

"This Indenture, made this Thirteenth day of November, Anno one Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty-one, & in the Eighteenth Year of ye Reign of our Sovereign Lord, George, by ye Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of ye Faith, &c., by & between John Dod, of Newark, in ye County of Essex and Eastern Division of New Jersey, Weaver, on ye one part, & Cornelius Clopper (signed Cornelius Clopper, Junr.,) of the Citty of New York, Mercht, on the other part, Witnesseth that the said John Dod, for and under ye Covenants, Rents, Conditions and agreements hereinafter Reserved and Contained, Hath Given, Granted and Demised, and by these Presents doth Give, Grant, Demise and to farm, Lett unto the said Cornelius Clopper, and to his heires and assignes, the one equall half of one-fourth part in Certain mines, mineralls or Oare upon my Land at Rattlesnake Plain, in ye Town and County aforesaid (that is to say), one equall half of my fourth part Reserved to myself in Articles of Agreement made between Gideon Van Winkle, Johannes Cowman and my Self, bearing date ffebruary ye fourth, Anno 1720: Reference thereunto had may more fully and at large appear, with full and free Liberty and privilidge with myself of Egress and Regress in any of my Lands to Search, Dig and Carry away his equall proportion of Mines, Minerals or Ore, & Convert the same to his own proper use dureing the full time and Term of Twenty five Years, he, the said Cornelius Clopper, his heires, Executors, Administrators or Assignes, Yeilding and paying therefore unto the said John Dod, his heires or assignes, the full and Just Sum of Six Pounds fifteen Shillings Current money upon his first Entering into the Said work, and to find a man for one Year to work in the Said mines for ye use and benefit of ye Sd John Dod, at ye proper Cost and charge of the sd Cornelius Clopper, & ye Sd man

to Sett in to work when they shall come to ye Body of ye Oare, and the Sd John Dod for himself; his heires, Executors and Administrators, doth Covenant, promise and Grant to and with the Sd Cornelius Clopper, his heires and assignes, that he the said Cornelius Clopper, his heires or assignes, that he or they performing the Covenants which on his part are or ought to be performed, fulfilled, accomplished, paid or kept, shall enjoy the said demised Premises, with the one Equal Eighth part of all the profits ariseing therefrom, without any Lett, Interruption, hinderance, Mollestation, Eviction or Ejection of him the Sd John Dod, his heires or assignes, or any other persons whatsoever, by, from or under me, or by my meanes, Act, Consent, privity or procurement. In Witness whereof we have hereunto Sett our hands and Seals ye day and Year first above written.

"Jo COOPER.

"J. HYBENTS.

"CORNELIUS CLOPPER."

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

ARENT HENRY SCHUYLER.

The progenitor of the Schuyler family in America was Philip Pietersie Von Schuyler, who emigrated from Amsterdam, Holland, in 1650, and settled in Albany, N.Y., having married Margritta Von Slechtenhorst. To this marriage were born ten children, among whom was Arent, a native of Albany, where his birth occurred June 25, 1662. He was the pioneer of the family in New Jersey, having settled at Pompton in 1697, and removed to New Barbadoes, in the same State, in 1710. Here he purchased a tract of land, upon which the Schuyler copper-mines were discovered. Among his eight children was Col. John, who was twice married, first to Ann Van Rensselaer, of Albany, and second to Sarah Waters, of New Jersey. His son Arent J. was united in marriage to his cousin, Swan Schuyler, daughter of Adonijah Schuyler. Their children were a son, John Arent, and a daughter Ann, who died in infancy. Arent J. resided in Bergen (now Hudson) County, N.J., on the original Schuyler estate situated on the banks of the Passaic River. John Arent married Eliza Kip, a daughter of James H. Kip, a merchant of the city of New York, to whom were born children,— Arent Henry and Harriet Ann (Mrs. Smith W. Anderson, of New York). By a second marriage, to Catherine Van Rensselaer, of Albany, N.Y., were children,— Angelica Van Rensselaer, John Arent, Robert Van Rensselaer, Jacob Rutson and Catherine Gertude. The death of Mr. Schuyler occurred at the ancestral home in October, 1817. His son, Arent Henry, the subject of this biographical sketch, was born in the Schuyler mansion, on the banks of the Passaic, where much of his early life was spent. When a lad he became a resident of Jamaica, Long Island, for the purpose of pursuing his studies, and subsequently completed his education under the direction of Rev. Mr. Eigenbrodt. Returning again to the home of his parents, he determined upon the life of an agriculturist as the most congenial to his tastes, and at once became interested in the varied employments of the farm. The early death of his father threw upon him much responsibility, and made his assistance and knowledge especially valuable at this juncture. In the division of the paternal estate he chose that portion now the residence of his widow, located in Kearny township, Hudson Co. Here he erected, in 1827, a commodious dwelling, which was destroyed by fire in 1870, and at once rebuilt. The healthful pursuits of a farmer engaged his attention for the remainder of his life.

Mr. Schuyler was, on the 24th of April, 1828, married to Mary Caroline Kingsland, daughter of Judge Henry W. Kingsland, of New Barbadoes, Bergen Co., and

granddaughter of Edmund William Kingsland. Their children are Henry Kingsland, married in 1859 to Ellen P. daughter of Anthony P. Valentine, of Spottswood, N.J., who has three children,— John Arent (deceased), Smith Anderson (deceased), Edwin Nesbitt (deceased); Harriet Anderson (Mrs. Sidney A. Schieffelin (deceased); Sarah Jauncey (Mrs. Van Courtland Van Rensselaer); Arent Henry (deceased); Richards Kingsland; Mary Caroline (deceased); and Catherine Gertude (deceased).

Mr. Schuyler as an Old-Line Whig, and later as a Republican, manifested much interest in the local issues of the day. He served as justice of the peace, filled the office of chosen freeholder of his township and held various minor positions. He found, however, little pleasure in the exciting scenes of a political career, and seldom abandoned, even temporarily, the congenial labor of the husbandman for the busy arena of politics. He was in his religious belief a firm Episcopalian, and both vestryman and warden in that church, to which he was zealously attached. The death of Mr. Schuyler occurred on the 19th of May, 1878, shortly after the interesting occasion of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of his marriage with Mrs. Schuyler, who survives him.