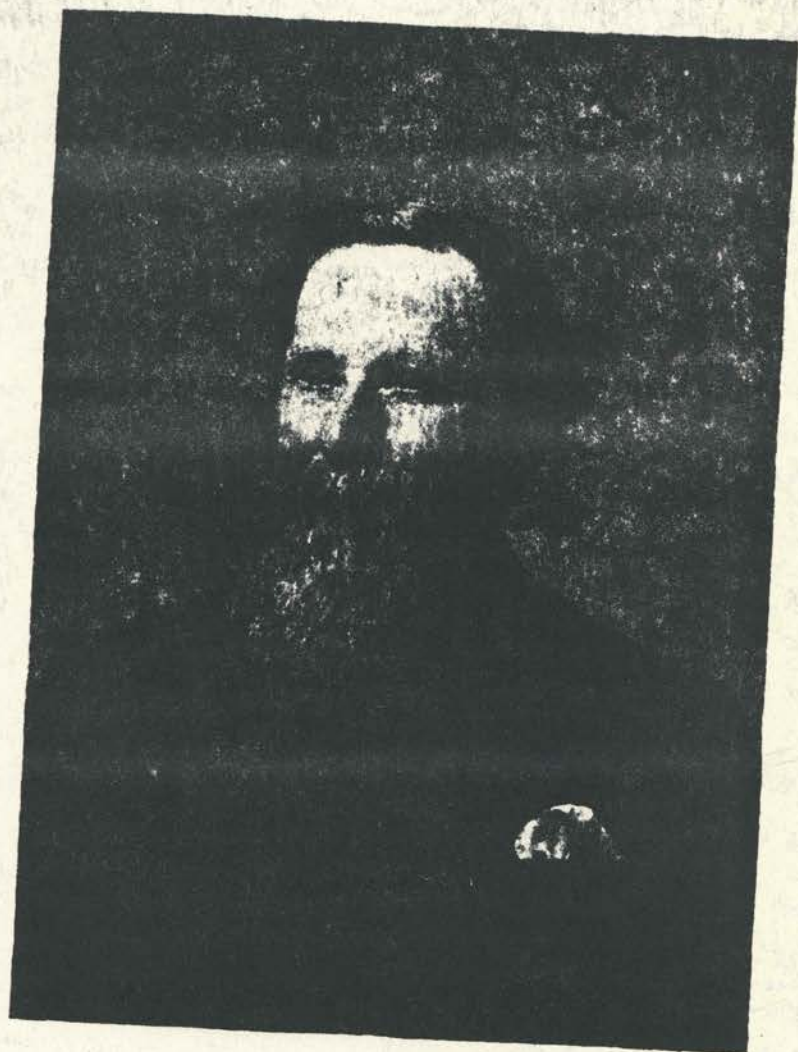


[1893?]



L & Warner

by the same dam. Mr. Warner died in Pittsburg, Pa., April 21, 1826, on one of his trips to that place to market his lumber. He was an active and prominent young man of pleasing address, and served the town of Olean efficiently in town offices. After Mr. Warner's death Mrs. Warner fought the battle of life for herself and three children for many years until her children were of an age to lend her a helping hand. She died in 1850 at the home of her daughter in Gloversville, N. Y.

Col. Lewis D. Warner, oldest son of Dennis Warner, was born in the home on the Allegany in 1822. He was early accustomed to labor and deprivations, and when old enough was bound out as an apprentice to learn the tanning and currying business, in which he endured so hard a life of service that even now he regrets he did not run away. At the close of his apprenticeship, and at the age of twenty-one, he received a decent suit of clothes, his first pair of boots, and \$6 in cash. In the fall of 1845 he returned to Portville, where he has since resided. He was several years in the employ of Smith Parish and made an annual trip down the river. About 1854 he began business as a carpenter and joiner, which trade, with rafting, he carried on until 1862. His patriotism then impelled him to serve his country as a soldier. Accordingly he recruited a company and went to the seat of war as captain of Co. C, 154th N. Y. Vols. This regiment was organized in Jamestown, N. Y., and transferred to Virginia in October of that year. "From that time until the first of May," Colonel Warner says, "we did a large amount of marching and counter-marching, but were in no engagement. May 2d, at Chancellorsville, we were a part of the Eleventh Corps, the record of which is well understood by readers of war history. The most unfortunate thing about the 154th was that we had not learned to run when we ought to have done so. The regimental loss on that day was over 200 in killed and wounded. Our next engagement was at Gettysburg, where the losses were heavy. The remainder of the summer we were with the Army of the Potomac. The following autumn the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps were transferred to the west. Our first work was relieving the army shut up in Chattanooga. We took an active part in the battles of Chattanooga and Mission Ridge and then marched to the relief of Knoxville. Returning to Lookout Valley we remained in winter quarters until the commencement of the Atlanta campaign of 1864, and participated in nearly all the battles and skirmishes incident to that campaign, which closed with the occupation of Atlanta. In the organization of the march to Savannah our corps (the Twentieth) formed a part of the left wing of the army. In that and the march northeast through the Carolinas and until the close of the war we were ever present for duty. After Johnston's surrender we started home, marching all the way to Washington, where we were mustered out and sent home, arriving there about the 1st of July, 1865." Colonel Warner was commissioned captain in Aug., 1862; major in May, 1863; lieutenant-colonel in Sept., 1864; and colonel in Jan., 1865. With the exception of two short periods, when the regiment was in winter quarters, he was with his command continuously during its term of service; except sixteen months, during which he held the rank of major, he was in command of, and responsible for the regiment, and was never accused of cowardice. He was always ready and present to lead his command, never flinched from any duty, and a truer, braver, soldier never drew a sword, and it is the unanimous testimony of his comrades that he never knew fear. Since his return he has followed his trade with the exception of a six years' clerkship in the office of Weston, Mersereau & Co.

and a year and a half in the county clerk's office. He has also had political honors. He has served as supervisor of Portville ten terms, has filled the office of justice of the peace nearly twenty years, and has been inspector of elections about fifteen years. Colonel Warner is modest and extremely unassuming, a true patriot devoted to his country, is one of Portville's most honored citizens, and a leading representative war hero of Cattaraugus county. In July, 1893, at the unveiling of the statue erected by the State of New York at Gettysburg to the memory of the New York soldiers who participated in the battle, Colonel Warner was marshal of the Second Division, Eleventh Army Corps. In Dec., 1857, he married Miss Mary M. Cossitt, of Pompey, N. Y., and their surviving children are three sons and a daughter, all married.

William Wallace Weston.—The student of early American history can not have failed to notice the connection of the English Westons with the early settlement of this country. Thomas Weston, of Bristol, Eng., was one of the London "merchant adventurers" who fitted out the *Mayflower* in 1620. He and others of the name were prominent in Virginia settlements and in that of Massachusetts Colony. The Westons of this county, however, come not of this stock, but descend from the Scotch branch of the family, the paternal grandfather of William Wallace Weston coming to Warren county in this State from Edinburgh, Scotland, when a lad, with one John Ferguson. He passed his life in Warren county, marrying and having a family of six children, of whom James D. was one of the younger. James D. Weston became an extensive lumberman on the upper Hudson and its tributaries, and brought his sons up to be fully acquainted with all departments of lumbering. He married Lela Adams, a descendant of the early Massachusetts Warrens and Adamses so conspicuous in Revolutionary days. Her father, Abijah Adams, was a native of Connecticut and one of a family of twelve children, each measuring six feet and upwards in height. He was an ensign in the Revolution, and was once sick for six weeks with the measles in the forests of Long Island encompassed by British soldiers. After his recovery, as he was an expert swimmer, he escaped from captivity by swimming the Sound and dodging the cannon shot of the English squadron by diving. After the Revolution he conducted a pottery of the red-clay ware then in use for some years, but later removed to Luzerne in Warren county, this State, where he engaged in lumbering during his active life. He died aged eighty-two years.

William Wallace Weston, son of James D. and Lela (Adams) Weston, was born in Warren county, March 4, 1830, received an academic education, and like his immediate ancestors became a lumberman. In 1849 he was connected with the lumber company (Fox, Weston & Bronson) at Painted Post, Steuben county, of which his older brother, Abijah, was a member. In 1850 he came to the Allegany valley the junior member of the firm of Weston Brothers (A., O., and W. W. Weston), who, in company with John G. Mersereau, purchased a small mill at the mouth of the Oswayo, remodeled it, and brought eastern methods and the gang-saw to the complete revolution of lumbering methods in this section. This was the commencement of their operations here and the next year they began to build a mill at Weston's Mills, where a small village has been evolved by their operations. From 1850 to the present writing (1893) Mr. Weston has actively devoted himself to the interests of Weston Brothers located in this vicinity, and today is as energetic and vigorous as many a younger man. His brother Orren has been connected with him for many years until the enormous growth of their western business de-