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## Some Former Rochesterians of National Distinction

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A recent request for a list of Rochester women whose careers merit recognition in a projected Biographical Dictionary of American Women prompts a fresh review of the field. At least a dozen women and over one hundred men, who were identified more or less closely with this city, appear in the *Dictionary of American Biography* or in the *National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*. *Who's Who in America* included 38 from Rochester in its first issue in 1899-1900 and increased that figure to 120 by 1934-1935 and to 152 in 1952. Most of the last are still with us, and some of the others were so briefly resident in the city that it is scarcely appropriate to claim them as Rochesterians. But in this State Year of History it may prove of interest to assemble an alphabetical list of former residents who did major work here or who acquired their distinctive character and inspiration in this city.

We will not presume to include all of those born in Rochester, nor those educated in its institutions, unless their ties to the city had a longer duration. Thus we exclude Rochester-born Henry H. Haight who left with his parents at an early age and eventually became Governor of California. We can only mention in passing Carl E. Akeley, William T. Hornaday

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and Frederic A. Lucas whose work at Ward's Natural Science Establishment prepared them for distinguished careers elsewhere, but we do include their associate, Grove K. Gilbert who was, in addition, born and reared in the city. Several graduates of the University of Rochester and of its divinity schools and several of their professors, as well as clergymen whose stay in Rochester was brief, must likewise be omitted, though the temptation to mention Lillian D. Wald, the Rev. William H. Channing, the Rev. Frederick W. Holland, Dr. Joshua H. McIlvaine, Henry B. Stanton and Bishop Henry J. Whitehouse is strong. Such men as Leonard W. Jerome and William Morgan, as well as the actresses Jessie Bonstelle and Julia Dean, are also excluded with regret although, with the Rochester-born dramatist, Philip Barry, they deserve a note in passing.

Many Rochesterians had worthy careers that were so local in character that they did not attract national recognition—Dr. George H. Goler, for example. The biographical dictionaries as well as *Who's Who* tend, in addition, to recognize those who achieved prominence in more than one field. A clergyman who was also an author, an inventor who was also a businessman, an industrialist who was also a philanthropist, a politician who was also a reformer or a publisher had a better chance to exert wide influence and secure the fame it brought. It is interesting to see that 18 of the 63 listed below were editors or publishers of newspapers or magazines; 34 wrote more than one book; and all but four of the 31 businessmen had major interests in other fields. Practically every one (all but six) had close and significant associations with other members of the list, some of them with several of their fellow notables.

Four fifths of those listed below appear in the *D.A.B.* and have a \* to indicate that recognition. Many of these and all but two of the others appear in the *N.C.A.B.* We have added Harper Sibley, whose recent death alone accounts for his absence from such compilations, and Claude Bradgon, whose

omission from the national dictionaries appears to have been a mistake.



*Adams, Samuel Hopkins* (1871-1958). Born in Dunkirk, N. Y., Adams was the son of the Rev. Myron Adams who came to Plymouth Church in Rochester in the 1870's. A practicing writer for more than 70 years, he recaptured local scenes in his "Grandfather Stories" and in *The Erie Canal*, one of Random House's Landmark series for children. Several of his novels were best sellers. His *Incredible Era* is perhaps the best biography of President Harding. [See biography in the *Saturday Review of Literature*, Dec. 20, 1958.]

\**Alden, John Ferris* (1852-1917). A descendant of John Alden of Duxbury, Mass., John F. Alden devoted his life to bridge building and to new forms of iron and steel construction. Born in Cohoes, N. Y., he graduated with honors from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and came to Rochester to work for the Leighton Bridge & Iron Works. Alden eventually purchased that firm and reorganized it as the Rochester Bridge & Iron Works. Among the bridges he constructed in this area were the upper Suspension Bridge at Niagara Falls and the Driving Park Avenue Bridge at Rochester.

*Aldridge, George Washington* (1856-1922). Described by Arch Merrill in his *Rochester Sketchbook* as "The Big Fellow," Boss Aldridge also inspired Henry Clune's novel by the same title but spelled Fella (1956). Born in Michigan City, Indiana, Aldridge came to Rochester at an early age and received his education in its public schools. He inherited his father's contracting business in 1877 and his political influence as well. In 1883 he won his first election to the Executive Board, serving four terms. Aldridge became mayor in 1894 but resigned the next year to accept an appointment as state superintendent of public works. He directed the expenditure of huge sums on

the state capitol building and the partial enlargement of the canal. Although successive revolts against his leadership in Rochester cost Aldridge a nomination for governor in 1896 and an election to Congress in 1910, he quickly reestablished his sway in the city and won an appointment as Collector of the New York Port from Harding in 1920.

\**Anderson, Martin Brewer* (1815-1890). The University of Rochester, founded in 1850, chose as its first president (1853-1887) Martin B. Anderson, a former professor of rhetoric at Waterville (Colby) College and an influential Baptist clergyman and editor of the *New York Recorder*. Endowed with an imposing figure and great dignity, Dr. Anderson guided the youthful institution through its early administrative and fiscal struggles. Staunchly orthodox in his Baptist doctrine, he had the intellectual breadth to support courses in natural science and to promote the humanities.

\**Anthony, Susan Brownell* (1820-1906). *Susan B. Anthony; Rebel, Crusader, Humanitarian* is the title Alma Lutz has given her able new biography of this great woman-suffrage leader. Miss Anthony was born in Adams, Mass., and studied to become a teacher. Soon tiring of that work, she joined her family on the outskirts of Rochester in 1850. There she met Frederick Douglass and became interested in the temperance and anti-slavery movements. These causes brought her in contact with Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton who inspired her to take up the battle for woman's rights. Her unfaltering labors as editor, writer, lecturer and campaign strategist took her into all sections of the country and to many cities abroad, and made her the undisputed leader of the world-wide movement.

\**Balestier, Charles Wolcott* (1861-1891). Rochester-born Charles Balestier spent his boyhood in his grandfather's home in the city and during his Free Academy days was a reporter for the *Rochester Post-Express*. He entered Cornell but left to travel and

gather material for *Benefits Forgot*, published posthumously in 1894. Sent to England in 1888 by a publisher to engage the best English writers, Balestier made his London residence a literary center. Association with Kipling spurred his literary ambition, and the two collaborated on *The Naulahka* (1892).

\**Barry, Patrick* (1816-1890). Born in Ireland, Patrick Barry came to Rochester in 1840 to join George Ellwanger in establishing a nursery which was, a decade later, the largest in the country. Under their promotion horticulture became a Rochester specialty and Barry assumed editorial and scholarly leadership. He wrote for the *Genesee Farmer*, edited the *Horticulturist* (1853 and 1854), and authored *The Fruit Garden* (1851), an illustrated booklet which had numerous editions. He helped to prepare the American Pomological Society's classified *Catalogue of Fruits* (1862) and reissued it in frequent revisions as the standard authority in the field. With his partner, Barry played an active role in the business life of Rochester; together they presented in 1887 the 19-acre plot which formed the nucleus of the city's beautiful Highland Park.

*Bragdon, Claude* (1866-1946). *More Lives than One*, Bragdon's title for his autobiography, records his life as an architect, artist, stage designer, author, lecturer and philosopher. Born in Oberlin, Ohio, Bragdon received his architectural training in New York and Buffalo. During an illustrious thirty-five-year career as Rochester architect, he designed the Chamber of Commerce, the New York Central Station, the First Universalist Church and the Bevier Building of the Rochester Institute of Technology. Bragdon was noted for his stage-setting designs for Walter Hampden productions in New York. He wrote and edited several books.

\**Brockway, Zebulon Reed* (1827-1920). Noted penologist, Brockway came to Rochester in 1854 as head of the Monroe County Penitentiary. Here he acquired his inspiration for the

reformation of convicts. He believed that society could best protect itself against crime by reforming amenable criminals and by confining the incorrigibles indefinitely. Some of his ideas were incorporated in the "three-year law," passed by Michigan in 1869. Brockway drafted the organic law for the Elmira Reformatory in 1877 and served as its superintendent for twenty-five years. His desire for a sentence without minimum and maximum inspired the indeterminate-sentence laws. *Fifty Years of Prison Service* (1912) is his autobiography.

\**Butts, Isaac* (1816-1874). Born in Dutchess County, N. Y., Isaac Butts moved as a youth with his parents to Irondequoit and became owner of the *Daily Advertiser* at the age of thirty. His vigorous editorial style and independent policies attracted readers but did not always win followers, and a split in the Democratic party forced him to sell control of his paper and to establish a new one, the *Union*, in 1852. He was a persistent critic of the Lincoln administration during the Civil War but sold his interests and retired from journalism after Lincoln's reelection in 1864.

\**Church, Pharcellus* (1801-1886). Clergyman and journalist, Church served the First Baptists of Rochester between 1835 and 1848. He wrote his most important book, *Antioch, or, Increase of Moral Power in the Church of Christ* at Rochester in 1843 and helped to organize the movement which brought the establishment of the University of Rochester shortly after his departure for Boston where his journalistic career commenced.

\**Crapsey, Adelaide* (1878-1914). Sometimes called Rochester's only true poet, Adelaide Crapsey was born in New York City but spent her girlhood in Rochester. A brilliant student at Vassar, she became instructor in poetics at Smith College from 1911-1913. *Verse*, written during the last year of her short life,

was discovered by Claude Bragdon and published in 1915. Her poems are marked by fastidious concision; many were written in the cinquain, her original five-line verse form.

\**Crapsey, Algernon Sidney* (1847-1927). Father of Adelaide the poet, Algernon Crapsey came to Rochester in 1879 as rector of St. Andrew's Church. A dynamic, scholarly man, he attracted support from all classes and made his parish a model of social service. In a series of forthright "lecture sermons" he surveyed the growth and functions of Christianity over the ages. A few scattered remarks about the Virgin Birth attracted censure from orthodox believers and resulted in a celebrated church trial at Batavia which led ultimately to his dismissal in 1906 by his Episcopal bishop. Numerous Rochester friends rallied to support a series of Sunday evening lectures in a downtown theater where he continued for several years to preach a social and liberal gospel. The most important of his several books was his autobiography, *The Last of the Heretics* (1924).

\**Cutler, James Goold* (1848-1927). Architect, inventor, banker and mayor, James G. Cutler came to Rochester in 1872. Trained as an architect at Albany, he practiced that profession for two decades in Rochester, erecting numerous homes, factories and business structures. He developed his mail chute to carry letters down from the upper floors of the Wilder Building which he erected in the early eighties. He secured a patent on this device in 1883 and formed a company to build mail chutes for installation in the many tall office buildings going up throughout the country and aboard. His wide travels to supervise the installation of his product kindled an interest in civic affairs and prepared him for useful service as one of Rochester's ablest mayors, 1905-1908. He became a leader in many phases of municipal reform and city planning and a trustee of the University of Rochester.

\**Dalzell, Robert M.* (1793-1873). Many of the substantial flour mills of Rochester were designed and built under the supervision of Robert Dalzell. The Irish-born, American-trained millwright came to the "Flour City" in 1826 and spent the next twenty-five years applying his mechanical ingenuity and skill in mill construction. Dalzell arrived at a time when the potential power of the Genesee River had attracted the enterprise of numerous millers who demanded increased efficiency both in the utilization of their water power and in the interior arrangement of grinding stones, fans, sifters and chutes. His later mills were ingenious mechanical models.

\**Dewey, Chester* (1784-1867). At the founding of the University of Rochester in 1850, Chester Dewey was elected the first professor of chemistry and natural sciences. A pioneer scientist, he made daily observations of local weather conditions from 1837 until his death. A graduate of William College, Dewey taught there for a few years prior to coming to Rochester as director of its Collegiate Institute in 1836. A licensed Congregational minister, he took an active part in the intellectual life of the emerging city.

\**Douglass, Frederick* (1817-1895). Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey, who took the name of Douglass after his escape from slavery, won nationwide fame by his autobiography in 1845. Douglass chose Rochester as the site for a newspaper to be addressed to the members and friends of his race throughout the country. The *North Star*, later renamed *Frederick Douglass' Paper*, made the city a center for anti-slavery agitation and a haven for fugitive slaves. When the Civil War came, Douglass pressed Lincoln to emancipate the slaves and to enlist Negroes in the Union armies. After the war he removed to Washington where he was a respected adviser of President Grant and a useful public servant. [See Benjamin Quarles, *Frederick Douglass* (1948); Shirley Graham, *There Was Once*



*a Slave* (1947); Edmund Fuller, *A Star Pointed North* (1946).]

\**Eastman, George* (1854-1932). Inventor-industrialist, George Eastman pioneered in the development of photographic film and cameras. Born in Waterville, N. Y., he came to Rochester as a lad with his parents and attended its public schools. Forced by the death of his father to seek a job, he acquired a keen appreciation of the value of money and quickly saw the commercial possibilities in his photographic hobby. His success in perfecting a practicable "dry plate" led to patents on its formula, on a coating machine, on a Kodak and progressively on a flexible film for still and motion and color pictures. The vigorous leadership he gave to the development of his company prepared him for similar service in educational and other community fields. His philanthropy began with the support of schools of practical technology and expanded rapidly after 1910 to include hospitals and dental clinics, musical instruction and performance, and finally all the liberal and fine arts of a rounded university. Always interested in efficiency, he helped to establish bureaus and research centers to promote high civic and economic standards.

\**Fenner, Burt Leslie* (1869-1926). Born and reared in Rochester and a graduate of its University, Burt Fenner commenced his architectural career in this city but soon left to continue his studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He later won distinction as a member and finally an executive of the McKim, Mead & White firm in New York where his interests in city planning likewise found scope.

\**Fox, Margaret* (1833-1893). The Fox sisters, Margaret and Kate, became the founders of modern spiritualism. Born in Canada the girls heard their strange rappings in Hydesville, N. Y. An elder sister, Leah, brought Kate to her home in Rochester where the demand for a public demonstration led to a series of crowded sessions in Corinthian Hall in November 1849

which baffled local critics. The fame of the "Rochester Rappings" spread, and Leah took the girls to New York, where they began seances. Although Margaret confessed forty years later to the trickery by which the rappings were obtained, she soon retracted her confession. Most of her followers rejected any material explanation and made the supposed contact with the spirits of deceased friends the basis for the development of modern spiritualism. [See Marian B. Pond, *Time is Kind* (1947).]

\**Gally, Merritt* (1858-1916). Gally's financial success was based on his printing-press patents. Born near Rochester, Gally graduated from its University and the Auburn Theological Seminary. After a brief ministry in Marion, N. Y., and for two years in Rochester, Gally turned to the printing trade. In 1869 he patented a platen job-printing press which was manufactured in Rochester until 1873 and sold under the name "Universal." An ingenious man, Gally acquired fifty patents in other fields and became involved in 500 claims arising from them in later years.

*Gannett, Frank Ernest* (1876-1957). Born in Bristol, N. Y., and educated at Cornell University, Frank Gannett commenced his career as a publisher at Elmira in 1906 and came to Rochester a dozen years later to acquire the old *Union & Advertiser* and the *Times* which he combined as the *Times-Union*. As editor and publisher Gannett made it a crusading journal, a champion of civic reform and urban government. The need for wider news-gathering services to freshen its pages quickened Gannett's effort to acquire new papers to use and maintain these services. By 1929 his firm owned a chain of 16 papers most of them in upstate New York, and during the next 15 years he purchased eight more. While he acquired in this process the *Democrat & Chronicle* and all other Rochester dailies, the

*Times-Union* remained his favorite and most clearly reflected his editorial leadership. His political leanings shifted early during the New Deal from ideological support of Roosevelt to vigorous opposition, and he became himself a candidate for the Republican nomination in 1940. When Willkie, another amateur, won that nomination, Gannett gave him full backing and pressed his own attack on the New Deal in various national and local committees and campaigns. [See Samuel T. Williamson, *Imprint of a Publisher* (1948); Kenneth Stewart, "The Gannett Newspapers," PM, Feb. 10, 17, 24, 1946.]

\**Gannett, William Channing* (1840-1923). Minister at the First Unitarian Church in Rochester from 1889 until 1908, Dr. Gannett won respect for his humanitarian principles and for his scholarship. Born in Boston and a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Divinity School, he came to Rochester in mid life and gave it the benefit of his rich experiences elsewhere. He made his parish a creative center of the social gospel and helped to inculcate liberal views on social and economic as well as political and religious questions.

\**Gilbert, Grove Karl* (1843-1918). Born and educated in Rochester and a graduate of its University, Gilbert became an early member of the staff of Ward's Natural Science Establishment. There he began his distinguished career as a geologist which ultimately made him chief of the U. S. Geological Survey.

\**Gleason, Kate* (1865-1933). The Rochester-born daughter of William Gleason, a machine-tool manufacturer, Kate Gleason broke off her studies at Cornell University to rejoin the family business during a crisis and served as secretary-treasurer of the Gleason Works from 1890 to 1913. She was elected in 1914 as the first woman member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. She was also the first woman receiver in bankruptcy in New York State that year and the first woman president of a national bank, an office she held in Rochester during

1917-1919. Among Miss Gleason's projects was the building in East Rochester of fire-proof houses by unskilled labor using standardized designs and assembly methods—for which she became the only woman member of the American Concrete Institute.

\**Goldman, Emma* (1869-1940). Russian-born Emma Goldman came to Rochester as a girl of fifteen. She found employment in a local clothing factory, and soon became interested in a German socialist group. At the age of twenty she joined the anarchist movement and became one of its most dynamic leaders. Traveling extensively throughout the country, she participated in many campaigns until, thirty years later, she was deported to Russia because of her subversive activities in the World War. Labeled "Red Emma," "the Mother of Anarchy in America," and "the most dangerous woman in the world," she was finally disillusioned with the Soviets, too. Her autobiography is called *Living My Life* (1931).

\**Green, Seth* (1817-1888). Green was America's pioneer fish culturist. Born in Carthage, soon to be annexed to the city of Rochester, he dropped out of school to open a fish stall in the old Rochester city market. An avid fisherman himself, he observed their methods of spawning and around 1837 began to experiment with various artificial means of hatching trout and salmon. He developed the first fish hatcheries and stimulated public interest in the restocking of lakes and streams. In 1868 he was appointed to the New York State Fish Commission and later became state superintendent of fisheries. [See *Rochester History*, July 1944.]

\**Greenleaf, Halbert Stevens* (1827-1906). A native of Vermont, Halbert Greenleaf came to Rochester in 1867 to become a partner of James Sargent, inventor of a chronometer type of lock. The company of Sargent & Greenleaf prospered, and Greenleaf

became active in politics. He was elected to Congress in 1882 as a Democrat in a strongly Republican district, and won again in 1890 by a slender majority. He lost his last political campaign when George W. Aldridge defeated him in a mayoralty race in 1894.

*Hanna, Edward J.* (1860-1944). Born in Rochester, Hanna studied at the Free Academy and was sent by Bishop McQuaid to the North American College at Rome where he won the degree of Doctor of Theology in 1886. Returning to Rochester, he became professor of dogmatic theology (1893-1912) at St. Bernard's Seminary. His scholarship and the fluent Italian he had picked up in Italy made him a friend of both the learned and the meek. In 1912 Pope Pius X appointed Hanna auxiliary bishop of San Francisco and in 1915 he was raised to archbishop.

\**Havens, James Smith* (1859-1927). A graduate of Yale, Havens studied law in a Rochester office and was admitted to the bar in 1886. A Democrat, he accepted that party's nomination in 1910 for the Congressional seat of his former law-partner, James Breck Perkins, and defeated George W. Aldridge, the Republican leader of Monroe County. In 1918 he became associated with the Eastman Kodak Company but retained a limited private practice, and continued to serve as director in various financial, industrial and civic organizations.

\**Hill, David Jayne* (1850-1932). Dr. David J. Hill succeeded Anderson as president of the University of Rochester, in 1888, but resigned eight years later to pursue his interests in politics and international affairs. After two years of study abroad he became professor of European diplomacy in the School of Comparative Jurisprudence and Diplomacy, Washington, D. C., serving as assistant secretary of state (1898-1903) and in various foreign posts in later years.

\**Holley, Myron* (1779-1841). An aging champion of unpopular causes, Myron Holley settled near Rochester in 1835. He first began to take an interest in the slavery question two years later and immediately assumed the lead in its political sphere. The formation of the Liberty party in April 1840 at Albany was in a large measure his achievement. He succeeded in transforming the indignation of the Abolitionists into effective political action. Holley edited the *Rochester Freeman* from 1839 until shortly before his death.

\**Kendrick, Asahel Clark* (1809-1895). Dr. Asahel C. Kendrick was one of the noted Greek scholars of his time. In 1850 he became professor of Greek at the newly established University of Rochester. He also taught Hebrew and New Testament Interpretation at the Rochester Theological Seminary for three years. Dr. Kendrick published many works and was one of the committee on New Testament revision for the American authorized version of the Bible.

*Kimball, William S.* (1837-1895). Kimball studied engineering in Troy Polytechnic Institute and came to Rochester in 1858. After the war he became a partner in a tobacco manufacturing enterprise and backed several inventors of new devices for packaging plug tobacco and for cutting cigarettes. He installed their machines in his factory which was in the mid eighties the largest producer of cigarettes in the country. His control of the patents assured him a place in the American Tobacco Trust. One of the founders and second president of the Rochester Chamber of Commerce, a trustee of several banks, Kimball was also an art patron, and the statue of Mercury he erected on top of his tobacco factory's smokestack was for many decades the city's choice skyline symbol.

\**McQuaid, Bernard John* (1823-1909). Named Bishop of the newly organized Rochester Diocese in 1868, McQuaid was born

in New York City and reared by the Sisters of Charity. He finished his education at St. Joseph's Seminary in Fordham, N. Y. His indebtedness to various Catholic institutions made him a devoted supporter of such organizations in his earlier parishes and at Rochester where he promoted the development of parochial schools, asylums and seminaries as well as churches. He established St. Bernard's Seminary to provide instruction for the priesthood and won national recognition because of the leadership he gave to the movement for free and separate Catholic institutions.

*Montgomery, Helen Barrett* (1861-1934). Helen Barrett came to Rochester with her parents at fifteen and after graduating from Wellesley returned to marry William A. Montgomery. A leader in the Women's Educational and Industrial Union, she made it a champion for social reforms and won election as the first woman on the Board of Education in 1899. In ten years on that board she helped to raise the city school system to the first rank. She later developed a broad interest in mission work and wrote numerous articles and books, notably *The Island World of the Pacific* (1906).

\**Moore, Edward Mott* (1814-1902). Edward Mott Moore came to Rochester with his parents at sixteen and, after completing his medical education in New York and Philadelphia, returned in 1840 to take up the practice of surgery. He taught that subject for brief terms annually during the next two decades in medical colleges in three states but retained his home and practice at Rochester. There he became surgeon-in-chief of St. Mary's Hospital and helped to establish the Infant Summer Hospital in 1887. He took an active part in the city's educational and civic life and was the first president of the Rochester Park Commission.

\**Morgan, Lewis Henry* (1818-1881). Morgan, a graduate of Union College, moved to Rochester in the forties to practice law. He had already developed an interest in Indian customs and soon undertook to defend their land claims before the courts and at Washington. His researches uncovered unsuspected family relationships and led to illuminating books not only on the Iroquois, but also on the strange consanguinity systems of other tribes and distant peoples. The most famous of his many books and articles, *Ancient Society*, first published in 1877, won him the title of father of American anthropology. A leader in the city's intellectual circles, he served several terms in the New York Assembly and one in the State Senate.

\**O'Reilly, Henry* (1806-1886). O'Reilly emigrated from Ireland as a lad of ten and attracted the interest of an enterprising publisher in New York who sent him to Rochester a decade later to establish its first daily, the *Advertiser*. A vigorous promoter, O'Reilly soon had a library and a lyceum series under way and undertook to write and publish his *Sketches of Rochester and Western New York* (1838), the first history of an inland city. A Democrat, he lost his Rochester postmastership after the Whig victory in 1840 and removed to Albany and New York where he became a promoter of the Morse telegraph. His Rochester friends subscribed part of the capital for the numerous lines he built throughout the country, but in the reorganization of the lines a decade later, O'Reilly lost out to the more practical leadership of Hiram Sibley. [See Dexter Perkins, "Henry O'Reilly," *Roch. Hist.*, Jan. 1945.]

\**Osgood, Howard* (1831-1911). Osgood made his record as a teacher at the Rochester Theological Seminary for twenty-five years. Born in Plaquemines Parish, La., he was a Baptist clergyman and author. A professor of Old Testament interpretation, he wrote numerous articles and booklets and served on the



American Commission for the revision of the Old Testament. *Parker, Arthur Caswell* (1881-1955). Of Seneca Indian ancestry, Arthur Parker began his career as archaeologist for the Peabody Museum and served as ethnologist for the New York state library. By 1906 he was state archaeologist. In 1924 he became director of the Rochester Municipal Museum which he reorganized along modern lines. Parker specialized in the ethnology of the Iroquois Indians; he originated American Indian Day (the second Saturday in May) in 1914. He published many books and was editor of "Museum Service." [See W. Stephen Thomas, "Arthur Caswell Parker: 1881-1955," *Roch. Hist.*, July 1955.]

\**Parker, Jane Marsh* (1836-1913). Jane Marsh Parker wrote numerous historical and fictional articles and books on upstate New York. Born in Milan, N. Y., she was educated in Rochester at the Collegiate Institute and the Clover Street Seminary. Her father was a devout Millerite and much of her fictional writing reflects that background. In addition to her many religious activities she engaged in women's clubs and civic movements. [See Marcelle Le M. Lane, "The Life and Work of Jane Marsh Parker," *RHS Pub.*, XXIII: 1-108.]

\**Perkins, James Breck* (1847-1910). James Breck Perkins came as a lad to his grandparents' home in Rochester where he completed his schooling and graduated from the University in 1867. He entered the legal profession and served two terms as city attorney and married Mary Martindale. He began the study of French history in the eighties and after several years in Paris wrote several able volumes on the subject. He returned to Rochester in 1898 to run successfully for the Assembly and then for Congress where he served five terms.

\**Post, Isaac* (1798-1872). Isaac Post moved to Rochester in his 38th year and assumed leadership in successive reform movements. A Quaker and an ardent temperance man, he became

an early friend of Frederick Douglass and made his home a station on the “underground railroad.” An early convert of the Fox Sisters, he became their leading backer in Rochester as well, and his book, *Voices from the Spirit World* (1852), records his work as a writing medium. With his wife, Amy, he was a faithful supporter, too, of Susan B. Anthony.

\**Powers, Daniel William* (1818-1897). Born in nearby Batavia, Daniel Powers came to Rochester as a lad and attracted the interest of a merchant who reared him as a private banker. The success of his early ventures prompted Powers to erect the first large office building at the central four corners. To safeguard it from fire he used the new cast-iron construction and equipped it with the first passenger elevator west of New York. He added a sixth floor in 1875 to house an art collection assembled during a trip to Europe, and he later added two more floors in order to retain the fame of his block as the tallest in the city.

\**Rafter, George W.* (1851-1907). Rafter came to Rochester as a young man and secured employment in the City Surveyor’s office. In 1876 he became assistant engineer of the water works but left after the completion of the job. He returned in 1883 to undertake a survey of the potential water resources of Honeoye Lake. As a consulting engineer he served Rochester and many other cities. In collaboration with M. N. Baker of New York he published *Sewage Disposal in the United States* (1894), which became a standard text in the field. He participated in the writing of many books and papers.

\**Rauschenbusch, Walter* (1861-1918). Born and educated in Rochester and graduated from its University, Rauschenbusch pursued his studies abroad and served a German Baptist parish in New York City before returning in 1897 to accept a chair in the German Department of the Rochester Theological Seminary. In 1902 he became professor of church history in the

Seminary and assumed an increasingly active role in the social work of the community. His book *Christianity and the Social Crisis* (1907) won national recognition, and his later books enhanced his leadership in the development of the "social gospel." [See Vernon P. Bodein, *The Social Gospel of Walter Rauschenbusch and Its Relation to Religious Education* (1944); Dores R. Sharpe, *Walter Rauschenbusch* (1942).]

\**Rhees, Rush* (1860-1939). Born in Chicago, a graduate of Amherst College and of Hartford Theological Seminary, Dr. Rhees taught at the Newton Theological School before coming to Rochester as third president of its University in 1900. In 35 years he transformed the small denominational college into a leading university. He enlisted George Eastman's interest by establishing an engineering department and gradually won his support for an expansion of the liberal arts program and for the establishment of a School of Medicine and a Music School. He increased student enrollment eight fold and dedicated a new River Campus before his retirement in 1935.

\**Robinson, Charles Mulford* (1869-1917). Born in Ramapo, N. Y., Robinson came to Rochester as a lad and attended its schools and the University from which he graduated in 1899. A trip abroad attracted his attention to city planning and inspired a series of articles on municipal improvements. Their acceptance by the *Atlantic Monthly* spurred his interest in the subject and gave rise to a number of books that made him a leader of the city-beautiful movement in America. As associate editor of the Rochester *Post-Express* and as contributor to other journals, he pressed the campaign for city planning. He served as a consulting landscape architect in several cities and became the first professor of civic design at the University of Illinois in 1913.

\**Robinson, Ezekiel Gilman* (1815-1894). Dr. Robinson resigned from the leading Baptist church in Cincinnati to become pro-

fessor of Bible at the Rochester Theological Seminary in 1853. He later served as its president for a dozen years, resigning in 1872 to accept that post in his alma mater, Brown University. He was editor of the *Christian Review* (1859-1864) and wrote numerous articles and several books, most of which appeared after his removal to Brown and later to the University of Chicago.

\**Rochester, Nathaniel* (1752-1831). Born in Westmoreland County, Va., Colonel Rochester was 48 at the time of his first visit to western New York. He bought a third interest in the 100-acre tract at the Genesee falls in 1803 but did not develop it further until 1811 when he moved with his family to Dansville up the valley. He assumed active leadership in promoting the milltown, which took his name at the time of its incorporation in 1817, and he settled there permanently the next year when the state finally announced its decision to build the Erie Canal with its Genesee crossing at his townsite. He secured the creation of Monroe County and helped to establish the Bank of Rochester and many other village institutions. [See Henry O'Reilly, *Sketches of Rochester* (1838); "*Autobiography of Nathaniel Rochester*," *RHS Pub.*, III: 305-313.]

\**Selden, George Baldwin* (1846-1922). Born in nearby Clarkson, Selden was admitted to the bar at Rochester in 1871 and specialized in patent law. He equipped a shop for experimental work and secured his first patent in 1875. Two years later he began work on the design of a good road machine adapting the Brayton type internal-combustion engine to drive the first horseless carriage. He repeatedly revised his first application for a patent (1879), deferring its date of issue until 1895, which enabled him to collect royalties from most of the pioneer automobile manufacturers in the United States. His royalties stopped in 1911 following an unfavorable decision from the U. S. Circuit Court in a suit involving the Ford Motor Company.

*Sibley, Harper* (1885-1959). Born in Rochester, grandson of Hiram Sibley, Harper Sibley became a director, in his turn, of Western Union and of many banks and corporations in Rochester and elsewhere. As president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce he played an active role in the business life of the country during the early New Deal period. But his chief contributions were made in other fields— as a member of the commission to investigate Protestant missions throughout the world, as first full-time president of the USO, as chairman of the Committee for the World Refugee Year, and as chairman of the Episcopal Church Committee for China Relief, and as a director of numerous other movements of that sort. [See biography in *Democrat & Chronicle*, Apr. 25, 1, 1-3, 1959; *Times-Union*, Apr. 25, 3, 1-3, 1959.]

\**Sibley, Hiram* (1807-1888). Hiram Sibley was an enterprising resident of nearby Mendon when his election as sheriff of Monroe County in 1843 brought him into Rochester. He soon became associated with a group of business men interested in promoting the telegraph and was chosen president of Western Union which successfully won control of the many short telegraph lines built throughout the West by O'Reilly and others. The consolidation, achieved with the aid of Ezra Cornell, rendered efficient service to the North during the Civil War and brought a rich flow of profits to Rochester. After building a transcontinental line following the war, Sibley retired to engage in the seed and nursery business and to become a patron of higher education.

*Smith, Arthur Caslett* (1852-1926). Author of two slender volumes of short stories, *The Monk and the Dancer* (1900) and *The Turquoise Cup* (1903), Smith was recognized as one of the most talented writers of his day. Unfortunately he regarded this activity as little more than a form of relaxation from his activities as a lawyer in Rochester and a world traveler.

\**Smith, Erasmus Darwin* (1806-1883). Generally known as E. Darwin (in order to distinguish him from Erasmus D., no relation), Smith came to Rochester at 18; he studied law in various offices and became a partner successively of Henry E. Rochester and Judge Samuel L. Selden. A Democrat for a time, he wrote political editorials for the *Advertiser*, but became a Republican in 1855 and was elected to the state supreme court, serving successive terms until 1876.

*Smith, Erasmus Peshine* (1814-1882). Born in New York City, Smith came to Rochester as a lad with his father, Erasmus Darwin Smith in 1822. He attended Rochester schools, Columbia College and Harvard Law School and returned to practice law in Rochester as the partner for a time of E. Darwin Smith (no relation). He wrote editorials for the *Democrat*, a Whig paper, served briefly as city attorney, as reporter for the New York Court of Appeals, and as instructor in political economy at the newly established University of Rochester. He became an assistant Secretary under Seward in the State Department in 1865 and was appointed legal advisor to the Japanese minister of Foreign Affairs in 1871, continuing there until 1876 when he returned to Rochester. He spent his remaining years as an active participant in the city's intellectual affairs and helped to rear his four grandchildren among whom were Wolcott and Caroline Balestier, friend and wife, respectively, of Rudyard Kipling.

\**Strong, Augustus Hopkins* (1836-1921). Son of Alvah Strong, publisher of the *Rochester Democrat*, Augustus was ordained to the Baptist ministry in 1861. In 1872 he was chosen president of the Rochester Theological Seminary and professor of Biblical theology, succeeding Ezekiel G. Robinson in both positions. He served until 1912, when he retired and soon undertook a tour of Baptist missions throughout the world. Strong had a wide influence through his books and as an administrator who

helped to interest John D. Rockefeller in the support of higher education.

\**Swift, Lewis* (1820-1913). Lewis Swift, self-trained astronomer, entered the hardware business at Rochester in 1872 and promptly mounted a small telescope on the flat roof of a cider mill in order to pursue his search for comets. He is credited with discovering twelve comets and in later years over twelve hundred nebulae. Public interest in his work prompted the press to raise a fund for a larger telescope, and H. H. Warner, the Rochester patent medicine king, built an observatory for him on East Avenue. Warner's failure during the depression of 1893 freed Swift to take his telescope to Southern California where Thaddeus S. C. Lowe had offered to erect another observatory for him. Swift continued his observations there under cloudless skies until 1901, planting the seed for the great observatories at Mt. Wilson and Palomar.

\**Tucker, Luther* (1802-1873). One of O'Reilly's New York backers in the establishment of the *Daily Advertiser* at Rochester in 1827, Tucker moved to the city two years later and launched the *Genesee Farmer* in 1831. He sold the *Advertiser* in 1839 in order to purchase the *Albany Cultivator* and merge it with the *Genesee Farmer*. When he moved the *Farmer & Cultivator* the next year to Albany (later the headquarters successively of his *Horticulturist* and *Country Gentleman*), some of his former contributors established the *New Genesee Farmer* at Rochester.

\**Vick, James* (1818-1882). Vick emigrated from England as a lad in 1833 and after learning the printing trade in New York located at Rochester in the late thirties. He printed the *North Star* for Frederick Douglass and became editor of the [New] *Genesee Farmer* in 1850. Three years later he bought the *Horticulturist* from Luther Tucker and, with Patrick Barry as

editor, published it at Rochester for two years. Later he edited the *Rural New Yorker* for five years. He started a seed business in the late fifties which expanded rapidly and absorbed all of his time after 1862 and helped to establish Rochester's reputation as the "Flower City."

\**Ward, Henry Augustus* (1834-1906). Born in Rochester, grandson of Dr. Levi Ward, one of its pioneers, Henry A. Ward early became a collector of geological and other artifacts. After wide travels on prospecting trips abroad, he accepted a professorship in natural science at the University of Rochester in 1861. But his interest in expanding and classifying his collections soon prompted him to resign in order to develop, with his uncle's backing, the Ward Natural Science Establishment.

\**Weed, Thurlow* (1797-1882). Thurlow Weed came to Rochester in 1822 and secured employment on the *Rochester Telegraph*. His political talents enabled him to assume a lead in the city's application for a bank charter. He seized on the abduction and disappearance of William Morgan to organize the Anti-Masonic party and established the *Anti-Masonic Enquirer* to promote it. Elected to the assembly by local Clintonians in 1825, he was reelected as an Anti-Mason two years later and then moved permanently to Albany to make it the seat of his later career as political leader of the Whigs and Republicans. [See Glyndon Van Deusen, *Thurlow Weed: Wizard of the Lobby* (1947).]

*West, Jonathan Burns* (1833-1900). Born in nearby Livingston County, Jonathan West made and lost a fortune from an early invention of a wagon wheel tire setter before he came to Rochester in 1873. Here he invented a water meter, securing a patent which he sold in France. He obtained patents on several other inventions, including a hydraulic tire setter in 1889, and spent the remainder of his life at Rochester supervising the worldwide contracts under which they were manufactured.