

Prohibition Party Candidates Elected to Local Offices in New York, 1886-1888

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Throughout its history, the Prohibition Party has run numerous candidates for local offices in New York State. Some of these candidates were able to win elections and shape governance on a local level. Access to digitized historical records and additional research has helped to unearth information on the Prohibition Party candidates that were elected to local offices in New York from 1886 to 1888. The Prohibition Party elected over 60 people to local offices in dozens of communities across New York. These local elected officials were members of their communities, whose elections were the product of local Prohibition Party activism. This document provides a list of the Prohibition Party candidates who were known to have been elected in that period, includes biographical descriptions of the lives of 13 of these men, and includes additional descriptions and analyses of these elected prohibition party officials.

Prohibition Party Candidates Elected in Each Year, 1886-1888

1886

Three Prohibition Party candidates were elected town supervisors in Allegany County. Geo. E Shaw was elected supervisor of West Almond, S.E. Hurd was elected supervisor of Ward, and Wm. J. Richardson was elected supervisor of Wirt.¹

In Hamilton County, Robert Shaw was elected supervisor of Long Lake. In Columbia County, a Prohibition candidate, whose name is unknown, was elected supervisor of Germantown.²

In addition to electing a supervisor in Wirt, it is reported that the local Prohibition Party ticket also won most of the other offices that were voted in the town elections, with the exception of town assessor.³

In Cattaraugus County, Fred C. Schmail elected an excise commissioner in the town of New Albion. In Genesee County, Webber Stevens was elected an excise commissioner in Oakfield. And in Wayne County, a Prohibition candidate was elected as a Collector in Williamson.⁴

¹ "Steady New York Lines", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 10, 1887, Accessed, June 4, 2021, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/557387887/?terms=prohibition%20party%20elected&match=1>; "3 Supervisors Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 18, 1886, Accessed, June 4, 2021, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/556676202/?terms=prohibition%20party%20elected&match=1>

² "Steady New York Lines", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 10, 1887; "More New York Town Meetings", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), April 15, 1886, Accessed, June 4, 2021, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/556676235/?terms=prohibition%20party%20elected&match=1>; "It is Simply Immense", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 11, 1886, Accessed, June 4, 2021, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/556676200/?terms=prohibition%20party%20elected&match=1>

³ "3 Supervisors Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 18, 1886

⁴ "It is Simply Immense", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 11, 1886; "Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 3, 1886, Accessed, June 8, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1886-03-03/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1886&index=0&date2=03%2F31%2F1886&words=Commissioner+Excise&to_year2=1886&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1886&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=excise+commissioner&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

1887

In Cayuga County, the Prohibition Party elected a town supervisor in Summer Hill, a Town Clerk in Moravia, a Town Contactable in Mentz, and a town contactable in Conquest.⁵

In Cortland County, Jerome Angel was elected town supervisor of Taylor.⁶

In Schuyler County, Charles T. Potter was elected town supervisor of Hector.⁷

Ebenezer B. Farnsworth was elected as an excise commissioner in Oakfield (Genesee County).⁸ The party also elected an excise commissioner in the town of Houghton (Allegany County), an excise commissioner in the town of Pomfret (Chautauqua County), an excise commissioner in the town of Wales (Erie County), and an excise commissioner in the town of Otisco (Onondaga County).⁹

In the town of Rose (Wayne County), the party elected two Inspectors of Elections and one Constable.¹⁰

In the town of Erwin (Steuben County), the party elected a Highway Commissioner.¹¹

In Newark Valley (Tioga County), the party elected an Assessor.¹²

In Jefferson County, F.C. Carter was elected as an Assessor of Champion.¹³

And a Prohibitionist was elected Overseer of the Poor in Waddington (St. Lawrence County).¹⁴

1888

The Prohibition Party elected Town Supervisors in the towns of Hector (Schuyler County), Taylor (Cortland County), Summer Hill (Cayuga County), Villanova (Chautauqua County), and Mina (Chautauqua County).¹⁵

The party elected town clerks in Moravia (Cayuga County) and Fairport (Monroe County).¹⁶

The party elected excise commissioners in towns of Caneadea (Allegany County), Conkling (Broome County), Fredonia (Chautauqua County), Mina (Chautauqua County), Westfield (Chautauqua County), Wales (Erie County), Oakfield (Genesee County), Wheatfield (Niagara County), and Otisco (Onondaga

⁵ "Steady New York Lines", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 10, 1887; "Two More Prohibition Supervisors", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887, Accessed, June 4, 2021, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/557387869/?terms=prohibition%20party%20elected&match=1>

⁶ "Two More Prohibition Supervisors", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887

⁷ "Election Miscellany", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887, Accessed, June 4, 2021, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/557387869/?terms=prohibition%20party%20elected&match=1>

⁸ "Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 17, 1887, Accessed, June 4, 2021, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/557387863/?terms=prohibition%20party%20elected&match=1>; "Charles T. Potter", *Schuyler County Chronicle*, (Watkins, New York), July 3, 1913, Accessed, June 8, 2021. https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/ccn/sn84031321/1913-07-03/ed-1/seq-1/#date=01%2F01%2F1869&index=0&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Potter+T&to_year=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year=1869&proxidistance=5&page=1&county=Schuyler&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=t.+potter&phrasetext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

⁹ "Steady New York Lines", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 10, 1887

¹⁰ "Steady New York Lines", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 10, 1887; "Election Miscellany", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "Local Option Victories", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 3, 1887, Accessed, June 4, 2021, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/557387879/?terms=prohibition%20party%20elected&match=1>

¹¹ "Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 17, 1887

¹² "Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 17, 1887

¹³ "Old Parties Fuse, but Are Beaten", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887, Accessed, June 4, 2021, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/557387869/?terms=prohibition%20party%20elected&match=1>

¹⁴ "Election Miscellany", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887

¹⁵ "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888, Accessed, June 4, 2021, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/557388557/?terms=prohibition%20party%20elected&match=1>

¹⁶ Hamilton Wilcox, "Hamilton Wilcox, New York City- The Prohibition party elected town officers in the spring elections as follows", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), January 12, 1888, Accessed, June 4, 2021, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/557388361/?terms=prohibition%20party%20elected&match=1>

¹⁶ Wilcox, "Hamilton Wilcox, New York City- The Prohibition party elected town officers in the spring elections as follows", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), January 12, 1888

County).¹⁷ The excise commissioner in Westfield was named Silas W. Mason and the one in Wheatfield was named James H. Rand.¹⁸

Prohibitionists were elected as highway Commissioners in Cuba (Allegany County) and Painted Post (Steuben County).¹⁹

Inspectors of Election were elected in Cuba (Allegany County), Van Etna (Chemung County), and Rose (Wayne County).²⁰

Prohibition Party candidates were elected Overseers of the Poor in Cuba (Allegany County), Fairport (Monroe County), and Waddington (St. Lawrence County).²¹

Assessors were elected in Clarksville (Allegany County), Felt Mills (Jefferson County), and Newark Valley (Tioga County).²²

A Town Justice was elected in Norway (Herkimer County). Justices of the Peace were elected in Fairport (Monroe County) and Clarksville (Allegany County).²³

Constables were elected in Mentz (Cayuga County), Conquest (Cayuga County), and Rose (Wayne County).²⁴

The Party elected a road commissioner in Van Etna (Chemung County) and a tax collector in Mina (Chautauqua County).²⁵

In the village of Sea Cliff (Town of Oyster Bay, Nassau County), the entire Prohibition Party ticket was elected. F.W. Geissenhainer was chosen as village president.²⁶

And several candidates were elected to local offices in the town of Friendship (Allegany County).²⁷

¹⁷ "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888; Hamilton Wilcox, "Hamilton Wilcox, New York City- The Prohibition party elected town officers in the spring elections as follows", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), January 12, 1888; "A Prohibition Excise Commissioner", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), May 17, 1888, Accessed, June 4, 2021, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/557388632/?terms=prohibition%20party%20elected&match=1>

¹⁸ "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888; "A Prohibition Excise Commissioner", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), May 17, 1888

¹⁹ "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888; Hamilton Wilcox, "Hamilton Wilcox, New York City- The Prohibition party elected town officers in the spring elections as follows", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), January 12, 1888

²⁰ "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888; Hamilton Wilcox, "Hamilton Wilcox, New York City- The Prohibition party elected town officers in the spring elections as follows", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), January 12, 1888

²¹ "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888; Hamilton Wilcox, "Hamilton Wilcox, New York City- The Prohibition party elected town officers in the spring elections as follows", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), January 12, 1888

²² "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888; Hamilton Wilcox, "Hamilton Wilcox, New York City- The Prohibition party elected town officers in the spring elections as follows", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), January 12, 1888

²³ "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888; Hamilton Wilcox, "Hamilton Wilcox, New York City- The Prohibition party elected town officers in the spring elections as follows", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), January 12, 1888

²⁴ Hamilton Wilcox, "Hamilton Wilcox, New York City- The Prohibition party elected town officers in the spring elections as follows", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), January 12, 1888

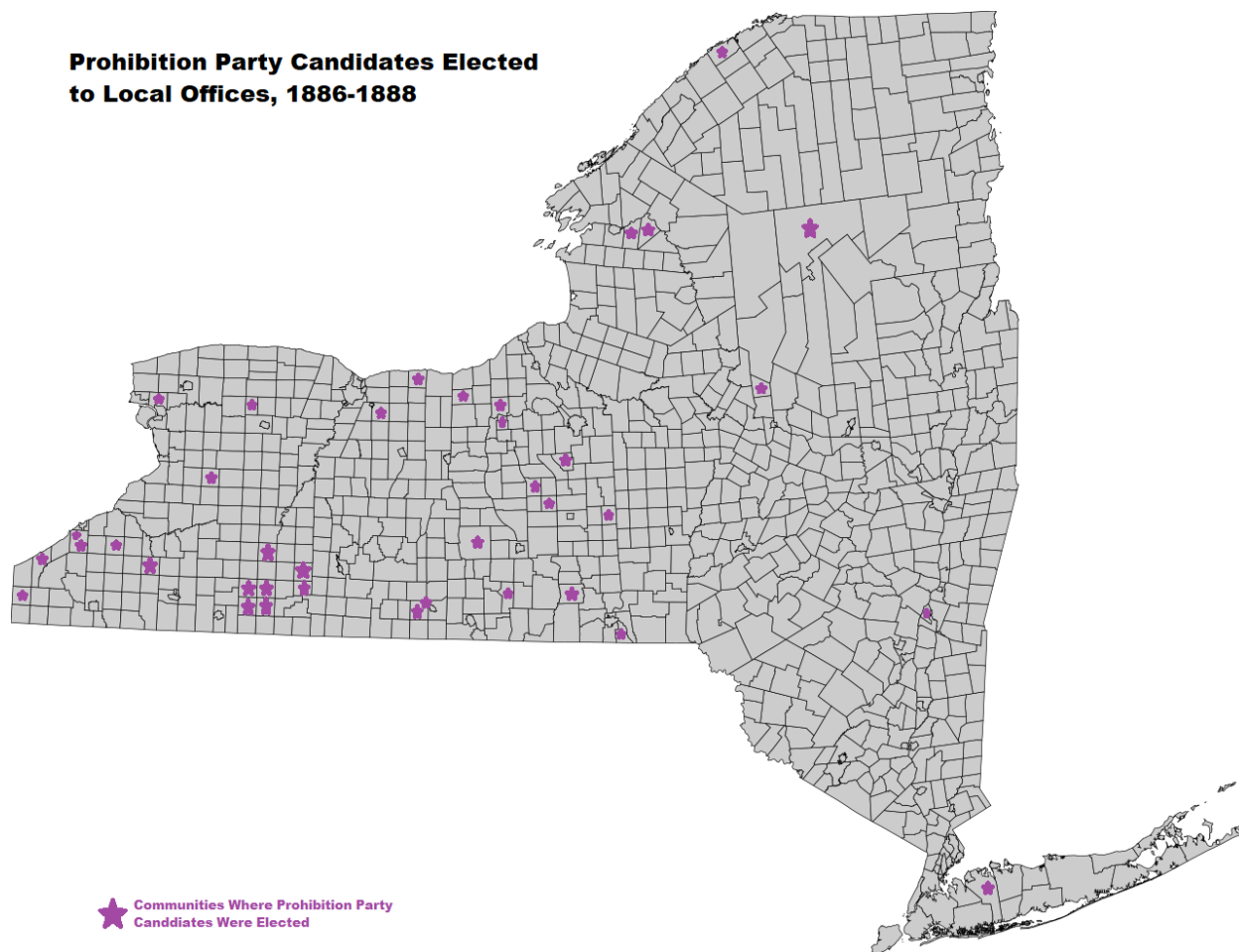
²⁵ "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888

²⁶ "The Whole Ticket Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), April 5, 1888, Accessed, June 4, 2021, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/557388584/?terms=prohibition%20party%20elected&match=1>; Sara Reres, "Birth of A Village: Sea Cliff's First President", Village Bulletin, (Sea Cliff, New York), June 2017, <https://www.seacliff-ny.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif3786/f/uploads/doc286.pdf>

²⁷ "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888

Summation of Those Elected in 1886-1888

From these details, it can be seen that the Prohibition Party elected over 60 candidates just in this 3-year period alone. The enumerated list adds up to at least 62 known cases of candidates being elected to local offices.²⁸ In addition, there are reports of multiple candidates being elected in Wirt, Sea Cliff, and Friendship, which don't specify the title and number of offices that were won by Prohibition Party candidates.²⁹ Given the language used to describe victories in those towns, it implies the possibility that the total number of offices won in this period could be in the 70s or 80s. These Prohibitionists won offices in at least 37 different communities, in 21 different counties.³⁰



²⁸ "Steady New York Lines", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 10, 1887; "3 Supervisors Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 18, 1886; "More New York Town Meetings", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), April 15, 1886; "It is Simply Immense", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 11, 1886; "Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 3, 1886; "Two More Prohibition Supervisors", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "Election Miscellany", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 17, 1887; "Charles T. Potter", *Schuyler County Chronicle*, (Watkins, New York), July 3, 1913; "Local Option Victories", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 3, 1887; "Old Parties Fuse, but Are Beaten", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888; Wilcox, "Hamilton Wilcox, New York City- The Prohibition party elected town officers in the spring elections as follows", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), January 12, 1888; "A Prohibition Excise Commissioner", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), May 17, 1888; "The Whole Ticket Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), April 5, 1888; Reres, "Birth of A Village: Sea Cliff's First President", *Village Bulletin*, (Sea Cliff, New York), June 2017

²⁹ "The Whole Ticket Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), April 5, 1888; "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888

³⁰ "Steady New York Lines", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 10, 1887; "3 Supervisors Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 18, 1886; "More New York Town Meetings", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), April 15, 1886; "It is Simply Immense", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 11, 1886; "Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 3, 1886; "Two More Prohibition Supervisors", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "Election Miscellany", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 17, 1887; "Charles T. Potter", *Schuyler County Chronicle*, (Watkins, New York), July 3, 1913; "Local Option Victories", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 3, 1887; "Old Parties Fuse, but Are Beaten", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888; Wilcox, "Hamilton Wilcox, New York City- The Prohibition party elected town officers in the spring elections as follows", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), January 12, 1888; "A Prohibition Excise Commissioner", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), May 17, 1888; "The Whole Ticket Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), April 5, 1888; Reres, "Birth of A Village: Sea Cliff's First President", *Village Bulletin*, (Sea Cliff, New York), June 2017

These elected officials were mainly concentrated in the western part of the state, especially in Allegany, Chautauqua, and Cayuga counties.³¹ This reflects the general popularity of the Prohibition Party in the western parts of the state in the 1880s. The party's candidates for governor in 1882 and 1885 and the party's candidates for president in 1884 and 1888, had also performed relatively well in the western part of New York state.³² Overall, the election of over 60 local elected officials serves to demonstrate that the Prohibition Party was active in the local politics of many New York Communities at the time and was able to achieve a noticeable number of victories.

³¹ "Steady New York Lines", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 10, 1887; "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888; Hamilton Wilcox, "Hamilton Wilcox, New York City- The Prohibition party elected town officers in the spring elections as follows", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), January 12, 1888; "Two More Prohibition Supervisors", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "3 Supervisors Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 18, 1886

³² *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1883*, (New York: Greeley & McElrath, 1883) <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=umn.319510022717371;view=1up;seq=85>, 79; *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1885*, (New York: Greeley & McElrath, 1885), <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=osu.32435054392535;view=1up;seq=5>, 87; *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1886*, (New York: Greeley & McElrath, 1886), <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=iau.31858046125617;view=1up;seq=746>, 75; *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1889*, (New York: Greeley & McElrath, 1889), <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=umn.319510022717425;view=1up;seq=257>, 97

Biographies of Known Individuals

From these past reports, the names of multiple locally elected Prohibition Party candidates have been identified. These include the following people: Geo. E. Shaw, S.E. Hurd, Wm. Richardson, Robert Shaw, Fred C. Schmail, Webber Stevens, Jerome Angel, Charles T. Potter, Ebenezer B. Farnsworth, F.C. Carter, Silas W. Mason, James H. Rand, and F.W. Geissenhainer.³³ The following sections provide short biographies for each of these men.

Geo. E. Shaw

George E. Shaw was born on February 19, 1859, in Conneaut, Crawford County, Pennsylvania. He was the son of Moses Sarah (Harold) Shaw. He had two brothers, Frank H. and Fred Shaw.³⁴ He was educated in common schools and at Northeast Seminary. In 1879, he married Emma E. Hills (b. 1861), daughter of Burrows and Mary (Nichols) Hills. In 1880, George and Emma moved to West Almond, New York, and lived on a piece of land that had been owned by Emma's father and grandfather.³⁵ George became a farmer and was at some points also a school teacher.³⁶ George and Emma had three sons: Leroy "Ray" E. Shaw (b. 1880/1881), Frank C. Shaw (b. 1882/1883), and Glenn H. Shaw (b. 1884).³⁷

George was a Prohibitionist in politics. In 1882, he was elected Justice of the Peace for West Almond.³⁸ In 1886, he was elected Town Supervisor of West Almond, as part of a wave of Prohibition Party candidates that were being elected in Allegany County in 1886.³⁹ As Supervisor of West Almond, he was part of the Allegany County Board of Supervisors, which at the time functioned as the county legislature. During the 1886 session of the Board of Supervisors, he served as a member of the committee for valuations (which handled matters of estimating the wealth of towns in the county) and the Committee to Apportion Grand Jurors. He presented and passed a resolution for the county superintendent of the poor to provide a tabulated report of the expenses incurred by the Allegany County Poor House. This was in response to questions from some board members about expenditures. The superintendent of the poor later provided said report to the board. He supported the passage of resolutions to fund renovations to the county courthouse in Belmont, raise the salary of the county district attorney, and set the starting date of future sessions of the board of legislators on the second Tuesday of November. These appear to have been his main accomplishments while serving as Town Supervisor of West Almond.⁴⁰

³³ "Steady New York Lines", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 10, 1887; "The Whole Ticket Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), April 5, 1888; "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888; "Two More Prohibition Supervisors", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "Election Miscellany", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "3 Supervisors Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 18, 1886; "More New York Town Meetings", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), April 15, 1886; "Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 3, 1886; "Charles T. Potter", *Schuyler County Chronicle*, (Watkins, New York), July 3, 1913; "Old Parties Fuse, but Are Beaten", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; Reres, "Birth of A Village: Sea Cliff's First President", *Village Bulletin*, (Sea Cliff, New York), June 2017

³⁴ John Stearns Minard, *Allegany County and its People: A Centennial Memorial History of Allegany County, New York*, Ed. Georgia Drew Merrill, (Alfred, New York: W.A. Fergusson & Co), <https://archive.org/details/alleganycountyit00mina/page/514/mode/2up>, 514; "George E Shaw (1859-1916) - Find A Grave Memorial.", Find a Grave, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/70400782/george-e-shaw>.

³⁵ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 514; "George Shaw: United States Census, 1910", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M5Q9-51Q>.

³⁶ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 514; "George E Shaw: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MZZM-DV9>.

³⁷ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 514; "George E Shaw (1859-1916) - Find A Grave Memorial.", Find a Grave; "George E Shaw: New York State Census, 1892", Find a Grave, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MQS4-FPW>; "George E Shaw: New York State Census, 1905", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MVBC-1ND>.

³⁸ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 514

³⁹ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 514; "3 Supervisors Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 18, 1886

⁴⁰ Charles Stillman, *Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of Allegany County, 1886*, (Belmont, New York: Allegany County Board of Legislators, 1886), <https://books.google.com/books?id=sCYtAQAAIAAJ&pg=RA1-PA149-IA1&lpg=RA1-PA149-IA1&dq=sherman+e.+hurd+ward+ny&source=bl&ots=1PxSBler7r&sig=ACfU3U1bwkqRtZlQsAd46HSlPtWx8Gow&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj715K-m4DxAhWOGs0KHcAUdvgQ6AEwA3oECAIQAw#v=onepage&q=sherman%20e.%20hurd&f=false>, 6-105

After his time as town supervisor, George continued working as a farmer and raising his children.⁴¹ Two of his sons, Leroy and Frank would go on to become professors.⁴² He continued to be involved in local Prohibition Party activities, with him serving on the Allegany County Committee of Prohibition Party for West Almond in 1906.⁴³ At some point in 1906, George and Emma moved to Angelica, New York.⁴⁴ In 1909, George sold their 300-acre dairy farm in West Almond.⁴⁵ George E. Shaw died on December 25th, 1916, and was buried in the Until the Day Dawn Cemetery, in Angelica, New York.⁴⁶

⁴¹ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 514

⁴² "George E Shaw (1859-1916) - Find A Grave Memorial.", Find a Grave

⁴³ *Prohibition Party hand-book, State of New York, 1906*, (Elmira, N.Y.: Chemung Print. Co., 1906), <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015071647940&view=1up&seq=3>, 10-11

⁴⁴ "George Shaw: United States Census, 1910", FamilySearch.org; "In Old Allegany", *Bolivar Breeze*, (Bolivar, New York), July 5, 1906, Accessed, June 5, 2021,

https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84031157/1906-07-05/ed-1/seq-5/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=1&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=George+Shaw&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Allegany&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=george+shaw&phrasetxt=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "In Old Allegany". *Bolivar Breeze*, (Bolivar, New York), September 2, 1909, Accessed, June 5, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84031157/1909-09-02/ed-1/seq-17/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=2&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=George+Shaw&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Allegany&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=george+shaw&phrasetxt=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

⁴⁵ "In Old Allegany", *Bolivar Breeze*, (Bolivar, New York), December 2, 1909, Accessed, June 5, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84031157/1909-12-02/ed-1/seq-11/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=3&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=George+Shaw&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Allegany&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=george+shaw&phrasetxt=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

⁴⁶ "George E Shaw (1859-1916) - Find A Grave Memorial.", Find a Grave

S.E. Hurd

There is some difficulty in determining the details of the life of S.E. Hurd. Records of the 1886 Session of the Allegany County Board of Supervisors and the writings of John S. Minard on the history of Allegany County identify S.E. Hurd as Sherman E. Hurd.⁴⁷ Though census records show that there were two Sherman E. Hurds living in Ward at this time: Sherman E. Hurd Sr. and Sherman E. Hurd Jr.⁴⁸ Available records do not indicate which of the two was the one elected Supervisor of Ward. So, this section will cover details about the lives of both men, as well as details about the activities of the Sherman E. Hurd that served as town Supervisor.

Sherman Ekron Hurd Sr. was born on December 11, 1838. He was the son of Elijah Hurd and Anna Babbitt Hurd, and was the second youngest of 8 children. He grew up in Gorham, Ontario County, New York.⁴⁹ By 1960, he moved to Ward, New York, with his mother.⁵⁰ He married his wife Mary Jane Hurd, and had 3 children: Jenette Hurd (b. 1864), Sherman Elijah Hurd (b. 1886/1867), and Lucy Hurd (b. 1869).⁵¹ Sherman Sr. was a farmer.⁵² He lived in Ward until at least 1900 and had moved to Scio, New York by 1905.⁵³ He died on March 20, 1914, in Scio, and was possibly buried in Fairlawn Cemetery in Scio.⁵⁴

Sherman Elijah Hurd Jr. was born in 1866/1867 and grew up in Ward. He was a farmer while he lived in Ward.⁵⁵ Between 1900 and 1905, he married Blanche M. Baker Hurd and moved to the town of Wellsville, New York.⁵⁶ While living in Wellsville, he worked as a carpenter and was involved with building houses.⁵⁷ He died on August 8th, 1955, and was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in Wellsville.⁵⁸

The Sherman E. Hurd that was elected town supervisor, was elected to the position in 1886 and served for that year.⁵⁹ During their time as Town Supervisor of Ward, they were part of the Allegany County Board of Supervisors. He was on the Ways and Means and County Expenses Committee (which oversaw overall revenues and expenses for the county), the County House and Farm Committee (which oversaw and reported on the finances of the Allegany County Poor House), and the Highway Returns Committee (which oversaw and reported on revenues generated by roads). He supported the passage of resolutions to fund renovations to the county courthouse in Belmont, raise the salary of the county district attorney, and set the starting date of future sessions of the board of legislators on the second

⁴⁷ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 585; Stillman, *Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of Allegany County*, 1886, 6-7

⁴⁸ "Sherman Hurd: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MZZM-4P2>; "Sherman Ekron Hurd", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/KCFP-NV4>; "Sherman E Hurd: New York State Census, 1892", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MQS4-Q6W>

⁴⁹ "Sherman Ekron Hurd", FamilySearch.org; "Sherman Hurd: United States Census, 1860", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MC7V-6H6>

⁵⁰ "Sherman Ekron Hurd", FamilySearch.org; "Sherman Hurd: United States Census, 1860", FamilySearch.org

⁵¹ "Sherman Ekron Hurd", FamilySearch.org; "Sherman E Hurd: New York State Census, 1892", FamilySearch.org

⁵² "Sherman Hurd: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org

⁵³ "Sherman Ekron Hurd", FamilySearch.org; "S Eckron Hurd: New York State Census, 1905", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MVBC-TLS>

⁵⁴ "Sherman E Hurd (1938-1914) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/42904825/sherman-e-hurd#source>; "Sherman E Hurd: Death: New York, State Death Index, 1880-1956", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QGTV-SLT9>

⁵⁵ "Sherman E Hurd: New York State Census, 1875", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VNVN-DL9>; "Sherman Elijah Hurd"

FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/L1PT-J61>; "Shurman E Hurd: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M56W-32R?from=lynx1UIV8&treeref=L1PT-J61>

⁵⁶ Sherman Elijah Hurd" FamilySearch.org; "Shurman E Hurd: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org; "Sherman Hurd: New York State Census, 1905", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MV8Z-MTT>; "Little Genesee", *Bolivar Breeze*, (Bolivar, New York), August 19, 1909, Accessed, June 6, 2021, https://nyshistoricalnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84031157/1909-08-19/ed-1/seq-8/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=0&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=E+Hurd+S&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxidistance=5&page=1&count=y&Allegany&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=s.e.+hurd&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox; "Sherman E Hurd (1966-1955) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave.

Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/134884527/sherman-e-hurd>

⁵⁷ "Sherman C Hurd: United States Census, 1910", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M5CQ-RK5>; "Sherman E Hurd: United States Census, 1920", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MJXX-684>; "Sherman E Hurd: United States Census, 1930", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:X7H7-WJP>

⁵⁸ "Sherman E Hurd: New York, State Death Index, 1880-1956", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QGRN-SKQL>; "Sherman E Hurd (1966-1955) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave

⁵⁹ "3 Supervisors Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 18, 1886; Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 585; Stillman, *Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of Allegany County*, 1886, 6-7

Tuesday of November. As a member of the County House and Home Committee, he helped produce the committee's annual report, which reported that the Allegany County Poor House was generally doing well, recommend having the house repainted next year, and recommended the purchase of a land roller for the facility. These appear to have been his main accomplishments while serving as Town Supervisor of Ward.⁶⁰

Sherman E. Hurd's involvement in local politics might have continued after their time as supervisor. John S. Minard's *Allegany County and its People* lists S.E. Hurd as the highway commissioner in Ward in 1895.⁶¹ It is uncertain whether this is the same Sherman E. Hurd that was a town supervisor or whether it was the other one. If it is the same one, then it would show that S.E. Hurd had continued their involvement in local politics.

⁶⁰ Stillman, *Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of Allegany County, 1886*, 6-105

⁶¹ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 585

Wm. Richardson

William John Richardson was born on March 31, 1848, in Richburg, New York. He was the second youngest child of Alvan Richardson Jr. and Rebecca H. (Gray) Richardson.⁶² William J. Richardson came from a locally prominent family. His grandfather Alvan Richardson Sr. was an early settler of both Richburg and Wirt. He came to Wirt in 1819, built a farm, and established several businesses, including a sawmill in Wirt, the first inn in Wirt, and a gristmill at Little Genesee creek. He established the first post office in Richburg (which was named after him) and was its first postmaster. He had 7 children, including Alvan Jr.⁶³ Alvan Richardson Jr. was a farmer and landlord, who had a 300-acre farm in Wirt. He married Rebecca H. Gray of Franklin County and had 6 children: Alvan III (B.1840-d.1841), Marian A. (b.1843), Frances Caroline (b.1844-d. 1917), James Wallace (b.1846/1847), William John, and Walter Gray (b.1850-d.1920).⁶⁴ He was a Baptist and was spent a significant part of his life as a deacon for Richburg's Baptist Church. He served in multiple local offices, including town assessor, commissioner of schools, and several terms as overseer of the poor. The discovery of oil on his land during the 1881 Oil Boom in Allegany County made him fairly wealthy, and he spent the final years of life (1882-1894) living in Friendship, New York.⁶⁵

William J. Richardson grew up in the town of Wirt. He spent his early adult years working as a farmer on his father's farm and as a teacher.⁶⁶ In 1871, he married his wife Helen A. (Jordan) Richardson. They had a son, Frederick B. Richardson (b.1875-d. 1905). They also reportedly had two other children who died at an early age.⁶⁷ In 1880, was a U.S. Census enumerator. In 1882, Richardson started a career in banking. He became cashier of the First National Bank of Richburg. In the same year, he was elected and served as Town Clerk of Wirt. In 1884, Richardson was elected to his first term as Town Supervisor of Wirt.⁶⁸

In 1886, Richardson was elected Town Supervisor of Wirt as a part of a wave of Prohibition Party candidates elected to offices in Allegany County. This wave resulted in the Prohibition Party winning most of the town offices in Wirt that were voted on in 1886.⁶⁹ During his time as Town Supervisor of Wirt, he was part of the Allegany County Board of Supervisors. He was on the committee on County Treasurer's Accounts (which oversaw the accounts of the county treasurer) and the committee on County House and Farm (which oversaw the finances of the Allegany County Poor House). He proposed and passed a resolution to raise the salary of the county district attorney. He supported the passage of a resolution to renovate the county courthouse and grounds in Belmont. He introduced a bill known as "An act to prevent the spread and procure the destruction of what is known as Canada Thistles, in Allegany County".⁷⁰ Canada Thistles being a type of invasive plant that causes problems for farmers.⁷¹

⁶² Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 866-867; "William John Richardson (1848-1929) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave, Accessed June 7, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/116956379/william-john-richardson>.

⁶³ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 853-867; "Alvan Richardson Jr. (1815-1894) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave, Accessed June 7, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/91956960/alvan-richardson>.

⁶⁴ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 853-867; "William John Richardson (1848-1929) - Find A Grave Memorial"; "William Richardson: United States Census, 1850", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 7, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MCTN-7CP>; "William J Richardson: New York State Census, 1855", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 7, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:K6ST-FS9>; "Wm Richardson: United States Census, 1860", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 7, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MC7K-GC2>.

⁶⁵ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 866-867; "History", Pioneer Oil Museum of New York, Accessed June 7, 2021, <https://www.pioneeroilmuseum.com/history.php>; "Alvan Richardson Jr. (1815-1894) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave.

⁶⁶ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 471; "William J Richardson: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 7, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M8J2-GXP>.

⁶⁷ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 202-209; 471; "William John Richardson (1848-1929) - Find A Grave Memorial"; "Frederick B Richardson (1875-1905) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave, Accessed June 7, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/116802484/frederick-b-richardson>; William J Richardson: New York State Census, 1875, FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 7, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VNJ1-P3L>.

⁶⁸ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 471.

⁶⁹ "3 Supervisors Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 18, 1886.

⁷⁰ Stillman, *Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of Allegany County, 1886*, 6-105.

⁷¹ "Canada Thistle", Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Accessed June 7, 2021, <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants/pestmanagement/weedcontrol/noxiouslist/canadathistle>.

The bill was sent to the Committee on Laws and appears to have died in the committee. As a member of the County House and Home Committee, he helped produce the committee's annual report, which reported that the Allegany County Poor House was generally doing well, recommend having the house repainted next year, and recommended the purchase of a land roller for the facility. These appear to have been the main actions of Richardson during his 1886 term as Town Supervisor.⁷²

In 1887, Richardson moved to Belmont, New York and became a cashier at the First National Bank of Belmont. In 1888, the State Bank of Belmont was established. Richard was part of the original staff as a cashier, and by 1896 had become one of the directors of the bank. In 1890, Richardson was part of a group of investors that started construction on a new hotel in Belmont (after the previous one had burned down in 1888). High construction costs resulted in it being mortgaged before construction was complete and the financier of the mortgage (Isaac Willets) took ownership of the hotel. In spring 1895, the Citizens National Bank is opened in Allegany County, and Richardson was one of its directors. In addition to banking and finance, Richardson was also involved in the area's oil producing business.⁷³

While living in Belmont, William Richardson and his wife were heavily involved in the community. William Richardson had served terms as treasurer and vice-president of the Allegany County Sunday School Association, had served as treasurer of the Allegany County Historical Society, and was a member of the Masonic Lodge in Belmont. Helen A. Richardson was involved with the Allegany County Women's Christian Temperance Union, and was their treasurer from 1889-1895.⁷⁴

By 1900, Richardson had moved to Wellsville, New York.⁷⁵ He continued to be involved in the Prohibition Party. In 1906, he served as treasurer of the Allegany County Prohibition Party and was also on the county executive committee.⁷⁶ He continued to be involved in banking. By 1910, he had become president of a bank.⁷⁷ In 1926, he became president of Citizen's National Bank of Wellsville. His involvement in banking and oil businesses allowed him to become wealthy and amass a relative fortune. He used part of his wealth to make charitable donations (including donating \$100,000 to Keuka College).⁷⁸

In his later years, Richardson was a member of the Masonic lodge in Belmont, the Hornell Commandery, the Corning Consistory, and the Rotary Club. He lived as a widower following his wife's death in 1918. He lived to see the Prohibition Party's goal of establishing national prohibition, following the passage of the 18th amendment and saw the first several years of the National Prohibition era. William J. Richardson died on May 30, 1929. His funeral was held in Wellsville, by Rev. J.G. York of the Baptist Church, and he was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, in Wellsville.⁷⁹

⁷² Stillman, *Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of Allegany County, 1886*, 6-105

⁷³ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 371;449-451; 471; "William John Richardson (1848-1929) - Find A Grave Memorial"; "William J Richardson: New York State Census, 1892", FamilySearch.org. Accessed, June 7, 2021. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MQSW-QX5>

⁷⁴ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 202-209; 471

⁷⁵ "William Richardson: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 7, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MS64-7K2>

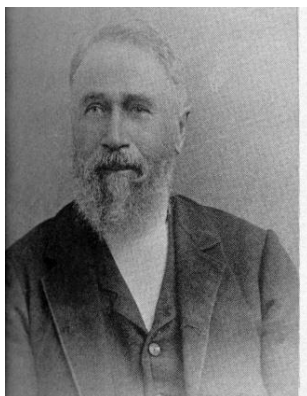
⁷⁶ *Prohibition Party hand-book, State of New York, 1906*, 10-11

⁷⁷ "William J Richardson: United States Census, 1910", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 7, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M5CQ-LY3>; "William J Richardson: United States Census, 1920", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 7, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MJKX-CRQ>; "William J Richardson: New York State Census, 1905", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 7, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MVBZ-322>; "Wm J Richardson: New York State Census, 1915", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 7, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:K9XG-WZD>

⁷⁸ "William John Richardson (1848-1929) - Find A Grave Memorial"

⁷⁹ "William John Richardson (1848-1929) - Find A Grave Memorial"

Robert Shaw



Rev. Robert M. Shaw was born on April 29, 1829, in Kildaragh, County Donegal, Ireland. He was the eldest son of George and Mary (Baskum) Shaw. His parents were Methodists. In 1834, his family immigrated to the United States. They initially settled in Addison, Vermont. Robert Shaw had attended school in the summer and winter until he was 14. In his youth, he was not academically inclined. Accounts describe him as having been a dull scholar, with little interest in studying. When he was 14, the family moved to Long Lake, New York, to seek greater opportunity. As a teenager, he helped to clear land and grow crops on his father's farm. Some years after settling, a barn fire destroyed the family's annual crop. His parents had considered moving back to Vermont, but Robert convinced them to stay in Long Lake and find new ways to make a living.⁸⁰

Robert Shaw began to undertake serious efforts to learn and find opportunities for work. Robert took a job chopping wood for the forge at McIntire iron mine, in order to help support his family. He learned about wood hewing and carpentry from a man who helped reconstruct his father's farm. He took to learning a variety of different trades through observation, practice, and asking questions, and worked a wide variety of jobs. Over the following decades, he at various times worked as a farmer, logger, carpenter, wheelwright, blacksmith, sleigh maker, shoe cobbler, house plasterer, and millwright. At one point, he ran a sawmill. In 1854, when a man attempted to sue his father, Robert taught himself about the relevant laws and went to argue his father's case. He won the case and was praised by the judge for performing so well for his first case. He would act as a local lawyer at various times, sometimes going to other towns or counties to argue cases. He also taught himself basic medicine, and with there being few professional doctors in the Adirondack region at the time, he at times acted as a sort of local doctor. Robert Shaw described himself as a self-made backwoods genius.⁸¹

In 1854, Shaw married Gitty Margaret (Keller) Shaw (b.1832-d.1916). They had one adopted son, Ai Wesley Shaw (b.1866-d.1948). Their son Ai, would later get married to Mary (Goodspeed) Shaw in 1891, and had two children: Robert Shaw Jr. and Alma (Shaw) Stanton.⁸²

⁸⁰George Shaw, Robert Shaw, and John Todd. *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*. Manuscript, (Rexford, New York: 1955), Adirondack Museum, <http://www.seekingmyroots.com/members/files/H008339.pdf> (Accessed, June 7, 2021), 119-157; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church, March 3, 2019, Accessed June 7, 2021, <https://longlakewesleyan.wordpress.com/history-of-llwc/>; Phillip G. Terrie, *Contested Terrain: A New History of Nature and People in the Adirondacks*, 2nd Ed., (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2008), https://books.google.com/books?id=8s0GnuEtmB8C&printsec=frontcover&source=gbg_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false, 21-32; "Robert Shaw: 1829-1907", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 7, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/KCQP-QTS>; "Rev Robert Shaw (1829-1907) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave, Accessed June 8, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/11042129/robert-shaw>.

⁸¹ Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, 119-157; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church; Terrie, *Contested Terrain*, 21-32.

⁸² Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, A.; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church; "Robert Shaw: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 7, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MSFM-HPL>; "Robert Shaw: 1829-1907", FamilySearch.org

In 1856, a religious revival held by Rev. John Todd inspired Robert Shaw to become a preacher. After a few years of study, he was ordained as a minister in the Wesleyan Methodist Church. He served as a pastor for the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Long Lake, and served as a minister for the rest of his life. He was described as having been an influential preacher, who could engage his congregation, but sometimes alienated people with his involvement in politics and law. He also provided significant donations in support of the church's operations, to help it build, maintain, and expand its facilities in the town.⁸³

In 1866, Robert Shaw joined James Keller in opening a general store in Long Lake. In 1865, he bought out Keller's share of the store and became the sole owner. He ran the store for decades, with his son Ai eventually becoming a partner in running the store.⁸⁴

Robert Shaw was significantly involved in politics. He was a supporter of abolition and temperance. He had joined the Republican Party in 1856. He would later join the Prohibition Party at some point before 1886.⁸⁵ Shaw continued to be involved with Prohibition Party towards the end of his life; with him representing Long Lake on the Hamilton County Prohibition Party committee in 1906.⁸⁶ He was elected to local offices many times. He served as town supervisor of Long Lake in the years 1862, 1866, 1867, 1869, 1872, 1875, 1879, 1883, 1884, 1886, and 1887. He was also commissioner of highways in 1885. When there were local votes on whether or not to grant licenses for selling alcohol, Shaw would campaign in favor of not granting licenses, and was in many cases successful in his efforts.⁸⁷

Shaw sought to discourage local businessmen from selling alcohol. In one notable case in the early 1890s, a local hotel owner named Mr. Butler had started selling alcohol and allowing acts of prostitution in his hotel. Shaw confronted him about his actions. Butler made promises of stopping, but instead continued his practices more discreetly. This stopped when his hotel burned down in 1891. Mr. Butler attempted a scheme to try to get the town to pay for building a new hotel. Shaw used his political connections to oppose Butler's scheme, prevent him from getting public funding, and frustrate his attempts to get private investments and permits for the building. Eventually, Shaw agreed to stop blocking his efforts to build a new hotel in exchange for more concrete assurances that the new hotel would be run in a more respectable manner. Mr. Butler would later request Shaw's help in finding an investor to finance the completion of the hotel. Shaw convinced a Mr. Hoe of New York City to finance the hotel's completion. After the Sagamore Hotel was completed, Butler couldn't afford to pay back his investors, Mr. Hoe took ownership of it and turned it into a rental property.⁸⁸

In the last years of his life, Shaw was a minister, businessman, political activist, and influential community member.⁸⁹ He died of paralysis on September 19, 1907. Funeral services were held at the Long Lake Wesleyan Methodist Church and were officiated by Rev. Mr. Allen, with the assistance of Rev. C.E. Fox and Rev. V. Wright. The funeral was attended by a large crowd of people, from in and out of town, and was reportedly the largest group to have ever assembled at the church at that time. Robert Shaw was buried at Long Lake Cemetery.⁹⁰

⁸³ Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, 119-157; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church; "Rev Robert Shaw (1829-1907) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave

⁸⁴ Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, 177-183; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church

⁸⁵ Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, 119-157; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church; "Steady New York Lines", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 10, 1887

⁸⁶ *Prohibition Party hand-book, State of New York, 1906*, 42

⁸⁷ Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, 119-157; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church

⁸⁸ Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, 119-157

⁸⁹ Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, 119-157; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church; "Rev Robert Shaw (1829-1907) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave

⁹⁰ "Robert Shaw: 1829-1907", FamilySearch.org; "Rev Robert Shaw (1829-1907) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave

Fred C. Schmail

Fred C. Schmail was born on June 14, 1833, in Germany.⁹¹ While living in Germany, he married Sophia (Krager) Schmail and had their first son Fred "Fritz" J. Schmail (b.1861). Schmail and his family immigrated to the United States and moved to New Albion, New York on July 14, 1861. He had three more children: Mary (b.1863), Carrie (b.1865), and William F. (b.1869).⁹² He was a farmer and owned Hudson Day Farm. His farming included daily production. He had also worked as a school teacher.⁹³

In 1886, the local Prohibition Party caucus in New Albion nominated Schmail as its candidate for excise commissioner. The town excise commission prior to the election consisted of two no-license excise commissioners and one pro-license excise commissioner. The no-license majority meant that no-licenses for selling alcohol were being issued in the town. The seat for one of the no-license commissioners was open in the 1886 election and the winner of the seat would determine which side would have control of the town excise commission. Pro-alcohol Democrats and Republicans in the town opposed Schmail and resorted to engaging in election fraud to try to stop him. They had created fake ballots to try to trick anti-alcohol voters into mistakenly not voting for Schmail. While they did manage to trick 12 voters, Schmail still managed to get enough votes to win the election. Schmail's election as excise commissioner meant that the town of New Albion remained a no license town in 1886.⁹⁴

In the later part of his life, Schmail continued to work as a farmer. Schmail died on November 11, 1908, and was buried in Little Valley Rural Cemetery, in Little Valley, New York.⁹⁵

⁹¹ William Adams, Ed., *Historical gazetteer and biographical memorial of Cattaraugus County, N.Y.* (Syracuse, New York: Lyman, Horton & Co., 1893), <https://archive.org/details/historicalgazett00adam/850>

⁹² Adams, *Historical gazetteer and biographical memorial of Cattaraugus County, N.Y.* 850; "Fred Schmael: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 8, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/search/ark:/61903/1:1:QVNN-ZMNT>; "Fred Schmale: New York State Census, 1875", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 8, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/search/ark:/61903/1:1:VNV2-WJC>; "Fred Schmail: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 8, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MZZ3-YMX>; "Fred C Smail (1833-1908) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave, Accessed June 8, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/145062599/fred-c-smail>

⁹³ Adams, *Historical gazetteer and biographical memorial of Cattaraugus County, N.Y.* 850; "Fred Schmael: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org; "Fred Schmale: New York State Census, 1875", FamilySearch.org; "Fred Schmail: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; New York State Department of Agriculture, *Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for 1895*, Vol. 1, (Albany, New York: Wynkoop Hallenbeck Crawford Co., 1896), <https://books.google.com/books?id=xPpIAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA322&lpg=PA322&dq=fred+c.+schmail&source=bl&ots=QVndZNobmi&sig=ACfU3U1V6xa6AO4UoK2eGLDS0x1W1FxnAA&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjlYYP1YfxAhWEGVkfH2K2AIQ6AEwEnoECBMQAw#v=onepage&q=fred%20c.%20schmail&f=false>, 322

⁹⁴ "It is Simply Immense", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 11, 1886

⁹⁵ Adams, *Historical gazetteer and biographical memorial of Cattaraugus County, N.Y.* 850; "Fred Schmail: New York State Census, 1892", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 8, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MQ92-GVW>; "Fred C Smail (1833-1908) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave

Webber Stevens

Webber Stevens was born on May 27, 1844, in Stafford, New York.⁹⁶ He was the son of Richard Stevens and Elizabeth Webber Stevens, who were immigrants from England.⁹⁷ His parents moved to Oakfield, when he was 4 months old. He grew up in Oakfield and spent his life living in the town. He was educated at Cary Collegiate Seminary and Lima Seminary. He also took a course at the Eastman Business College in Poughkeepsie.⁹⁸ He married Frances Jane Stevens and had 8 children: Richard F. (b.1872), William W. (b.1873), Ada A. (b.1875), Fanny E. (b.1877), George B. (b.1879/1880), Ralph W. (b.1885), Arthur G. (b.1889), and Clare M. (1891).⁹⁹ He made a living as a farmer and had also spent several years as a Sunday school teacher.¹⁰⁰

Webber Stevens was an active member of the Oakfield Community. He was described in his obituary as a “public-spirited citizen, always taking great interest in the welfare of Oakfield”. He was an active member of the Oakfield Methodist Episcopal Church. He was president of the Oakfield Realty and improvement company, was president of the Cary Cemetery Association, was treasurer and an active member of the Oakfield Grange, and a member of the Oakfield Tent K.O.T.M.¹⁰¹ He served on a Grand Jury in Genesee County in 1882. He again served on a Genesee County Grand Jury in 1888 and acted as the clerk for the Grand Jury.¹⁰²

Webber Stevens was active in local politics. At some point, he served as village president of the village of Oakfield (within the town of Oakfield). In 1892, he was elected as a member of the local school board.¹⁰³

Webber Stevens was an active prohibitionist in politics. In 1886, he was elected as the Prohibition Party candidate for excise commissioner in Oakfield.¹⁰⁴ In 1892, Stevens ran as the Prohibition Party candidate for State Assembly in Genesee County. He received 456 votes (5.69% of total).¹⁰⁵

⁹⁶ “W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield”, *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911, Accessed, June 8, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1911-03-06/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=4&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=STEVENS+WEBBER&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=Webber+Stevens&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

⁹⁷ “W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield”, *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911; “Webber W Stevens: United States Census, 1910”, FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 8, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MPBR-2KY>

⁹⁸ “W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield”, *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911

⁹⁹ “W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield”, *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911; “Webber E Stevens: United States Census, 1900, Oakfield”, FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 8, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M5XB-5ZH>; “Webber Stevens: United States Census, 1880”, FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 8, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M784-L7F>; “Notice to Creditors”, *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), November 11, 1911, Accessed, June 8, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1911-11-11/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=0&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Stevens+Webber&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=Webber+Stevens&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁰⁰ “W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield”, *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911; “Webber E Stevens: United States Census, 1900, Oakfield”, FamilySearch.org; Webber Stevens: United States Census, 1880”, FamilySearch.org

¹⁰¹ “W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield”, *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911

¹⁰² “Grand and Trial Jurors”, *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), May 31, 1888, Accessed, June 8, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1888-05-31/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=2&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Stevens+Webber&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=Webber+Stevens&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; “Circuit Court Convened”, *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), June 18, 1888, Accessed, June 8, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1888-06-18/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=6&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Stevens+Webber&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=Webber+Stevens&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; “The Jurors”, *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), October 30, 1882, Accessed, June 8, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1882-10-30/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=11&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Stevens+Webber&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=Webber+Stevens&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁰³ “W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield”, *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911

¹⁰⁴ “Oakfield”, *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 3, 1886

¹⁰⁵ “To The Voters of Genesee County”, *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), October 31, 1892, Accessed, June 8, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1892-10-31/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=13&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Stevens+Webber&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=Webber+Stevens&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; Edgar L. Murlin, *The Red Book, An Illustrated Legislative Manual of the State, Containing the Portraits and Biographies of its Governors and Members of the Legislature*, (Albany: James B. Lyon, 1893), <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.b4046279&view=1up&seq=673>, 531

Stevens continued to make a living as a farmer until at least 1900.¹⁰⁶ In 1907, suffered from a stroke, and he spent his last few years in declining health. On November 29th, 1910, his health problems caused him to become bedridden. In January 1911, he had his right leg amputated up to the knee, but his health continued to deteriorate. He passed away peacefully on March 5th, 1911. He was survived by his wife and seven of his children. He was buried in Cary Cemetery in Oakfield.¹⁰⁷

¹⁰⁶ "Webber E Stevens: United States Census, 1900, Oakfield", FamilySearch.org; "Webber W Stevens: United States Census, 1910", FamilySearch.org

¹⁰⁷ "W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911; "W. W. Stevens (1844-1911) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave, Accessed June 8, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/66286102/w.-w.-stevens>.

Jerome Angel



Dr. Jerome Angel was born on June 5, 1835, in Union Valley hamlet, Taylor, New York. He was the son of Franklin Angel and Mary Ann (Brooks) Angel. He was educated at the common school in Taylor. He then studied medicine at Geneva Medical College. He practiced medicine in Taylor from 1854 to 1887 and enjoyed an extensive practice.¹⁰⁸ He married Mary Ann (Halbert) Angel on June 10, 1858. They had two kids: Walter H. (b.1864/1865) and Bell (1873).¹⁰⁹

In 1886, Jerome Angel was elected to his first term as Town Supervisor of Taylor, New York. It is uncertain what party he was affiliated with during his first term.¹¹⁰ Later in the year, he was nominated as the Prohibition Party candidate for Congress in the 25th congressional district. The Democratic Party also nominated Angel. Angel went up against incumbent Congressman Frank Hiscock. He received 11498 votes and 41.62% of the total vote.¹¹¹ In 1887, he was elected to his second term as Town Supervisor as a Prohibition Party candidate. He was also reportedly backed by the local Democratic Party.¹¹²

Later on in 1887, Dr. Angel moved to Cortland, New York. He moved his medical practice to Cortland and continued to practice medicine for the rest of his life. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church at Cortland.¹¹³ He was a member of the Cortland County Medical Society and in

¹⁰⁸ "Jerome Angel: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 8, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M8FK-3TJ>; "Jerome Angel: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 8, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MZZV-KTG>; "Dr Jerome W Angell (1835-1896) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave, Accessed June 8, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/123021809/jerome-w-angell>.

¹⁰⁹ "Dr Jerome W Angell (1835-1896) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Jerome Angel: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 8, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVNI-7W48>; "Jerome Angel: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org; "Jerome Angel: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Dr William Jerome Angell", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 8, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/2MBT-BM2>.

¹¹⁰ "Union Valley", *The McGrawville sentinel*, (M'Gawville, New York), November 18, 1886, Accessed, June 8, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn91066308/1886-11-18/ed-1/seq-2/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=3&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Angel+Jerome&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxidistance=5&page=1&county=Cortland&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=Jerome+Angel&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "Taylor", *The McGrawville sentinel*, (M'Gawville, New York), February 18, 1886, Accessed, June 8, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn91066308/1886-02-18/ed-1/seq-2/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Angel+Jerome&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=2&from_year2=1869&proxidistance=5&page=2&county=Cortland&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=Jerome+Angel&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5.

¹¹¹ "Two More Prohibition Supervisors", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "Prohibition Convention Proceedings", *The McGrawville sentinel*, (M'Gawville, New York), August 12, 1886, Accessed, June 8, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn91066308/1886-08-12/ed-1/seq-2/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Angel+Jerome&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=11&from_year2=1869&proxidistance=5&page=3&county=Cortland&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=Jerome+Angel&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "Hiscock Frank: 1834 - 1914", Bioguide Search, Accessed June 8, 2021, <https://bioguide.congress.gov/search/bio/H000643>; *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1887*, (New York: Greeley & McElrath, 1887), <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=nyp.33433081727335&view=1up&seq=333>, 87.

¹¹² "Two More Prohibition Supervisors", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "Board of Supervisors for 1887", *The McGrawville sentinel*, (M'Gawville, New York), February 17, 1887, Accessed, June 8, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn91066308/1887-02-17/ed-1/seq-2/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=1&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Angel+Jerome&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxidistance=5&page=1&county=Cortland&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=Jerome+Angel&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5.

¹¹³ "Dr Jerome W Angell (1835-1896) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave

1893 served on their board of censors. Dr. Jerome Angel died of Apoplexy on September 2, 1896. He was buried in Cortland Rural Cemetery, Cortland, New York.¹¹⁴

¹¹⁴ "Dr Jerome W Angell (1835-1896) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Jerome Angel: New York, State Death Index, 1880-1956", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 8, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QGGC-5K48>; "County Medical Society", *Cortland Standard*, (Cortland, New York), June 13, 1893, Accessed, June 8, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn91066329/1893-06-13/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Angel+Jerome&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=4&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=2&county=Cortland&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=Jerome+Angel&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "Vital Statistics: Record of Cortland Village for Year 1896", *Cortland Standard*, (Cortland, New York), January 15, 1897, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn91066329/1897-01-15/ed-1/seq-8/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Angel+Jerome&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=1&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=3&county=Cortland&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=Jerome+Angel&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

Charles T. Potter



Charles Tripp Potter was born on August 14, 1842, in Hector, New York.¹¹⁵ He was the son of John Avery Potter (b.1805-d.1878) and Rebekah (Tripp) Potter (b.1810-d.1891), who were originally from Massachusetts and had come to live in the town of Hector.¹¹⁶ Charles Potter had grown up in Hector and spent his life living in the town. He worked as a dry goods clerk in his youth and made a living as a farmer for much of his life.¹¹⁷ He married his first wife Eunice Ann (Stillman) Potter on January 30, 1867, and had two children: their adopted son William Henry (Houghtailing) Potter (b.1871-d.1951) and their daughter Jennie Sue (Potter) Updike (b.1876-d.1969).¹¹⁸

Charles T. Potter was an active supporter of the cause of temperance. In 1887, he was nominated as the Prohibition Party candidate for Town Supervisor of Hector. He also received the endorsement of local democrats. He won the election with a majority of the vote.¹¹⁹

After his time as Town Supervisor, Potter continued to make a living as a farmer.¹²⁰ He lost his first wife in 1906. In 1908, he married his second wife, Tirzah L. (Cooper) Potter, who was also entering into her second marriage.¹²¹ On June 28th, 1913, Charles T. Potter died in his home in Mecklenburg hamlet, Hector, New York, as a result of a shock of paralysis. He was buried in Jones Cemetery Hector, Schuyler County, New York.¹²²

¹¹⁵ "Charles T. Potter". *Schuyler County Chronicle*. (Watkins, New York). July 3, 1913; "Charles Tripp Potter (1842-1913) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave, Accessed June 9, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/114901783/charles-tripp-potter>; "Charles Tripp Potter", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 9, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/K2CS-R9H>

¹¹⁶ "Charles Tripp Potter (1842-1913) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Charles Tripp Potter", FamilySearch.org,

¹¹⁷ "Charles T. Potter". *Schuyler County Chronicle*. (Watkins, New York). July 3, 1913; "Charles Potter: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 9, 2021,

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M8KD-MC9?from=lynx1UIV8&treeref=K2CS-R9H>; "Charles T Potter: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 9, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MZFG-16H>; "Charles T Potter: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 9, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MSGC-FCH?from=lynx1UIV8&treeref=K2CS-R9H>

¹¹⁸ "Charles Tripp Potter (1842-1913) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Charles Tripp Potter", FamilySearch.org; "Charles Potter: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org; "Charles T Potter: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Charles T Potter: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org

¹¹⁹ "Charles T. Potter". *Schuyler County Chronicle*. (Watkins, New York). July 3, 1913; "Two More Prohibition Supervisors", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887

¹²⁰ "Charles T Potter: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org

¹²¹ "Charles Tripp Potter (1842-1913) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Charles Tripp Potter", FamilySearch.org

¹²² "Charles T. Potter". *Schuyler County Chronicle*. (Watkins, New York). July 3, 1913; "Charles Tripp Potter (1842-1913) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Valois", *Schuyler County Chronicle*, (Watkins, New York), October 21, 1909, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84031321/1909-10-21/ed-1/seq-8/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=2&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Charles+Potter&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Schuyler&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=charles+potter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

Ebenezer B. Farnsworth

Ebenezer Benjamin Farnsworth was born in September 1842.¹²³ He was the son of Erastus J. Farnsworth and Almira (Seeley) Farnsworth. He grew up in the towns of Nunda and West Sparta, in Livingston County, New York.¹²⁴ He married Sarah Maria (Wescott) Farnsworth (b.1850-d.1926) and had 4 children: Burt Byron Farnsworth (b.1868-d.1956), Rufus Farnsworth (b.1870-d.1907), Carria Farnsworth (b. 1874), and Mabel (Farnsworth) MacDonald (b.1878).¹²⁵ By 1875, he had moved to Oakfield, New York. For decades, he made a living as a farmer in Oakfield.¹²⁶

Ebenezer Farnsworth and his wife were active members of the Oakfield Community. Both were actively involved with the Oakfield Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1886, Ebenezer joined a newly formed local chapter of the Good Templars (A fraternal society for supporters of temperance). His wife was involved with the local W.C.T.U. in Oakfield.¹²⁷ Farnsworth participated in discussions hosted at the Oakfield Grange about agricultural and economic issues.¹²⁸

Ebenezer B. Farnsworth was an active member of the Prohibition Party. In 1886, he ran as the Prohibition Party candidate for highway Commissioner in Oakfield.¹²⁹ In 1887, he ran for and was elected an excise commissioner in Oakfield.¹³⁰ By 1889, the Oakfield excise commission consisted of two pro-license commissioners and Farnsworth, as the lone no-license commissioner. While Farnsworth opposed the granting of liquor licenses, he was outvoted by the other two commissioners, and at least 4 licenses

¹²³ "Ebenezer Benjamin Farnsworth", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 9, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LZ1H-GYR>; "Ebenezer Farnsworth: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 9, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MSXB-JMH>

¹²⁴ "Ebenezer Farnsworth: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 9, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVNF-LB2V>; "Erastus J Farnsworth", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 9, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/L7PV-VVWV>; "Ebeneazar Farnsworth", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 9, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/L5VX-F6N>

¹²⁵ "Ebenezer Benjamin Farnsworth", FamilySearch.org; "Work on Oakfield Roads", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), April 25, 1917. Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1917-04-25/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=19&from_year2=1869&proxidistance=5&page=2&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹²⁶ "Ebenezer Benjamin Farnsworth", FamilySearch.org; "Ebenezer Farnsworth: New York State Census, 1875", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 9, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VNVP-YNS>; "Ebenezer Farnsworth: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org; "Ebenezer B Farnsworth: United States Census, 1910", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 9, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MPBR-W4L>; "Ebenezer B Farnsworth" United States Census, 1920", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 9, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MLJX-67F>

¹²⁷ "Oakfield Festival During Holiday Week", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), December 15, 1914, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1914-12-15/ed-1/seq-6/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=6&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxidistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "Occurrences in Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), December 1, 1885, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1885-12-01/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=11&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxidistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "Oakfield Occurrences", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), January 30, 1886, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1886-01-30/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=12&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxidistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "Batavians at Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), June 9, 1913, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1913-06-09/ed-1/seq-7/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=17&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxidistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "To-Day's Oakfield Budget", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), November 23, 1891, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1891-11-23/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=8&from_year2=1869&proxidistance=5&page=2&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "W.C.T.U. Superintendent Selected", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), September 13, 1912, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1912-09-13/ed-1/seq-5/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=15&from_year2=1869&proxidistance=5&page=2&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; Deets Pickett, *The Cyclopaedia of Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals*, 1917 Edition, (New York City, New York: The Methodist Book Concern, 1917), http://moses.law.umn.edu/darrow/documents/The_Cyclopaedia_of_Temperance_Prohibition_1917.pdf, 170-171

¹²⁸ "Oakfield Grangers Heard Discussions", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), April 7, 1914, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1914-04-07/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=6&from_year2=1869&proxidistance=5&page=2&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹²⁹ "Oakfield Prohibitionists", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), February 27, 1886, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1886-02-27/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=3&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Stevens+Webber&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxidistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=Webber+Stevens&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹³⁰ "Steady New York Lines", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 10, 1887

were granted.¹³¹ In 1890, Farnsworth ran for reelection. He lost to the pro-license candidate, Matthew McGuire.¹³²

After leaving office, Farnsworth continued to be involved with the Prohibition Party. In 1892, Farnsworth attended the Genesee County Convention and was selected as an alternate delegate for the 1892 Prohibition Party state convention.¹³³ In the same year, he attends the Prohibition Party congressional district convention for the 13th congressional district, as a delegate. They selected A.J. Rumsey of Batavia as their congressional candidate.¹³⁴ In 1895, he acted as a district worker for the Genesee County Prohibition Party in Oakfield.¹³⁵ In 1906, he was a member of the Genesee County Prohibition Party Committee, representing Oakfield.¹³⁶ And in 1912, he was a member of the Genesee County Prohibition Party Committee, representing Oakfield.¹³⁷ Overall, he was involved with the Prohibition Party in one way or another over at least 27 years.¹³⁸

After completing his term as excise commissioner, Farnsworth continued to move on with his personal life. He continued to work as a farmer until at least 1920.¹³⁹ By 1899, he had begun making money through owning and renting properties.¹⁴⁰ In 1893, he filed a patent for a cultivator farming tool he had created.¹⁴¹ In 1907, he was appointed by the town highway commissioner to be one of the town's pathmasters.¹⁴² By 1922, he was involved in the real estate business and advertised in newspapers, encouraging people to buy properties in the town of Oakfield.¹⁴³ He raised his 4 children. His son Burt became General Secretary of the 23rd Street YMCA in New York City.¹⁴⁴ His daughter Mabel

¹³¹ "Oakfield has Four Licenses", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 11, 1889, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1889-03-11/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=4&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "Affairs in Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 1, 1890, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1890-03-01/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=13&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Frank+H+Martin&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=frank.h.+martin&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹³² "Affairs in Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 1, 1890; "Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 5, 1890, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1890-03-05/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1890&index=0&date2=12%2F31%2F1890&words=Commissioner+Excise+excise&to_year2=1890&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1890&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=&phrasertext=&andtext=excise+commissioner&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=all

¹³³ "County Prohibitions", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), August 9, 1892, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1892-08-09/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=2&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹³⁴ "Named for Congress: A.J. Rumsey of Batavia the Prohibition Nominee", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), August 12, 1892, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1892-08-12/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=13&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹³⁵ "Though an Inch Board", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), February 23, 1895, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1895-02-23/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=19&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=3&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹³⁶ *Prohibition Party hand-book, State of New York, 1906*, 39-41

¹³⁷ "Prohibition Party Made Designations", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 2, 1912, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1912-03-02/ed-1/seq-7/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=13&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=2&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹³⁸ "Oakfield Prohibitionists", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), February 27, 1886; "Prohibition Party Made Designations", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 2, 1912

¹³⁹ "Ebenezer Farnsworth: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org; "Ebenezer B Farnsworth: United States Census, 1910", FamilySearch.org; "Ebenezer B Farnsworth" United States Census, 1920", FamilySearch.org

¹⁴⁰ "Address to Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), June 3, 1899, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1899-06-03/ed-1/seq-5/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=9&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=2&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁴¹ United States Patent Office, *Official Gazette of the United States Patent Office*, (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1894), https://books.google.com/books?id=4-h8AAAAIAAJ&pg=PA117&dq=Ebenezer+B.+Farnsworth+Oakfield+ny&source=bl&ots=T6pXhVV0-&sig=ACfU3U2267f4MlVlPQDIB_WXnX2Qh1YA&hl=en&sa=s&ved=2ahUKewFkNiy4rxAhVK6J4KHZbfAqYQ6AEwEnoECBUQAw#v=onepage&q=Ebenezer%20B.%20Farnsworth%20Oakfield%20ny&f=false

¹⁴² "Oakfield Pathmasters", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), January 9, 1907, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1907-01-09/ed-1/seq-6/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=10&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=2&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "Batavia Campfire Girls at Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), April 12, 1915, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1915-04-12/ed-1/seq-7/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=4&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=3&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁴³ "This Advertisement is Addressed Particularly to the Residents of Genesee and Adjoining Counties, Outside of Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), May 11, 1922, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1922-05-11/ed-1/seq-5/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=8&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁴⁴ "Dwelling Struck by Lightning", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 23, 1912, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1912-03-23/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=17&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=2&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

became a high school teacher in Olean, New York.¹⁴⁵ In 1914, his son Burt, Burt's wife, and daughter Mabel took a trip to Germany and ended up being there when World War I started. They had walked to Switzerland, made arrangements to get to France, and traveled by ship back to the U.S.¹⁴⁶ Towards the end of his life, Ebenezer B. Farnsworth was a family man, farmer, real estate businessman, and active community member. Farnsworth died in 1924 and was buried in Cary Cemetery, Oakfield, Genesee County, New York.¹⁴⁷

¹⁴⁵ "Music and Elocution", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), April 4, 1898 Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1898-04-04/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=3&from_year2=1869&proxdist=5&page=2&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁴⁶ "Burt B. Farnsworth Embarked for Home", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), August 29, 1914, Accessed, June 9, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83030756/1914-08-29/ed-1/seq-8/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=B+E+Farnsworth&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=0&from_year2=1869&proxdist=5&page=2&county=Genesee&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=e.b.+farnsworth&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁴⁷ "Ebenezer Farnsworth (1842-1924) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave, Accessed June 10, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/66284662/ebenezer-farnsworth>.

F.C. Carter

Frederick Cassander Carter was born on December 22, 1839, in Champion, New York. He was the son of Asa Barnes Carter (b.1806-d.1864) and Sheloma (Thompson) Carter (b.1842-d.1932). He grew up in the town of Champion.¹⁴⁸ During the U.S. Civil War, Carter joined the Union Army. He served from August 15, 1862, to June 23, 1865, and was a private in the 10th New York Heavy Artillery Regiment.¹⁴⁹ After the War, he returned to Champion, New York, and became a farmer. In 1866, he married Eliza E. (Graves) Carter (b.1842-d.1932). They had four sons: Asa B. Carter (b.1868-d.1891), Fred Lee Carter (b.1871-d.1900), Milton Grover Carter (b.1873-d.1965), and Leon Thompson Carter (b.1878-d.1945).¹⁵⁰

F.C. Carter had been involved with the Republican Party in the earlier part of his life, before joining the Prohibition Party in the 1880s.¹⁵¹ In 1886, he became the local chairman of the Prohibition Party in Champion and ran as a Prohibition Party candidate for inspector of elections.¹⁵² In 1887, he ran as the Prohibition Party candidate for Town Assessor. He went up against F.H. McNitt, who was nominated by both the Republican and Democratic Parties. He won with 257 votes against 248 for F.H. McNitt.¹⁵³

Following 1887, F.C. Carter continued to move forward in his professional life and continued being an active member of his community. In 1890, Carter participated in a meeting of farmers in Jefferson County, looking to support the run of a pro-farmer candidate for state assembly in Jefferson County's 1st Assembly District.¹⁵⁴ Carter continued to make a living as a farmer.¹⁵⁵ By 1903, he had also gotten into the business of selling automobiles. In that year, he was in charge of the display for the Conrad Motor Vehicle Company at an event in Buffalo, New York.¹⁵⁶ By 1909, Carter was involved in running a cheese factory in Champion.¹⁵⁷ By 1914, Carter was involved with the E.B. Steele G.A.R. Post in Carthage, New York.¹⁵⁸ The G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic) was a social organization for those who

¹⁴⁸ "Frederick Cassander Carter (1839-1917) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave, Accessed June 13, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/96968291/frederick-cassander-carter>; "Frederick Cassander Carter", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 12, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/KD3K-291>

¹⁴⁹ "Frederick Cassander Carter (1839-1917) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave

¹⁵⁰ "Frederick Cassander Carter (1839-1917) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Frederick Cassander Carter", FamilySearch.org; "F C Carter: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 12, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVNY-4MHR>; "F C Carter: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 12, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M788-YMQ>; "Fred C Carter: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 12, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MSF3-R3F>

¹⁵¹ "The Caucuses: Champion", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), February 9, 1886, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84035539/1886-02-09/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=1&date2=12%2F31%2F1895&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1895&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasetxt=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "Republican Co. Convention", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), August 29, 1872, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84035539/1872-08-29/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1895&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1895&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=1&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=3&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasetxt=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁵² "The Caucuses: Champion", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), February 9, 1886

¹⁵³ "Old Parties Fuse, but Are Beaten", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887

¹⁵⁴ "The Farmer's Convention", *Watertown re-union*, (Watertown, New York), September 10, 1890, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85054450/1890-09-10/ed-1/seq-5/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=4&date2=12%2F31%2F1895&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1895&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasetxt=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁵⁵ "Fred C Carter: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org

¹⁵⁶ "Autos and Music: F.C. Carter of Watertown Entertaining Buffalo Crowds", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), March 14, 1903, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84035541/1903-03-14/ed-1/seq-14/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=10&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasetxt=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "Four Second Hand Rambler", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), October 5, 1904, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84035541/1904-10-05/ed-1/seq-8/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=1&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasetxt=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁵⁷ "Cheese Crumbs", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), May 3, 1909, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84035541/1909-05-03/ed-1/seq-77/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=6&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=2&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasetxt=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁵⁸ "John Varley Heads Carthage Post", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), December 8, 1914, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84035541/1914-12-08/ed-1/seq-2/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=18&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasetxt=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

had served in the Union Army during the Civil War.¹⁵⁹ He was listed as the chaplain of the E.B. Steele Post in 1914 and 1917.¹⁶⁰

Carter was significantly involved as a member of the Grange. The Grange was an organization that sought to promote the interests of farmers through various means including providing social networks for farmers, providing education about farming practices, promoting the development of markets, campaigning to lower the cost of storing and transporting farmers' products, and promoting the passage of pro-farmer legislation.¹⁶¹ Carter was involved with the Grange at least as early as 1893.¹⁶² He was significantly involved in both the local Grange in Champion and the Jefferson County Grange organization. He held a variety of leadership positions in the local and county Granges: such as inspector, fire director, steward, and chairman of the Champion Grange, and assistant steward and steward in the Jefferson County Grange.¹⁶³ He participated in local Grange discussions about farming and economics related topics. For instance, in 1900, he participated in a Grange discussion on what system of taxation would be best for insuring property owners pay their fair share of government expenses.¹⁶⁴ He was a delegate to the annual meetings of the New York State Grange in 1894 and 1902. At the 1902 conference, he was selected to be on the state committee on assessment and taxation.¹⁶⁵ In 1906, he gave a speech at the county Grange, where he talked about the issue of commercially sold bags of grass seeds being contaminated with the seeds of weeds and the need to take action against the matter. During which, he suggested the idea of enlisting help from state agricultural colleges. He was then appointed to be part of a committee to look into the matter.¹⁶⁶ He remained involved with the Grange for the rest of his life.¹⁶⁷

¹⁵⁹ "Grand Army of the Republic", Grand Army of the Republic - Ohio History Central, Accessed June 13, 2021, https://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Grand_Army_of_the_Republic.

¹⁶⁰ "John Varley Heads Carthage Post", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), December 8, 1914; "G.A.R. Installation", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), January 2, 1917, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84035541/1917-01-02/ed-1/seq-9/#date1=01%2F01%2F1917&index=0&date2=12%2F31%2F1917&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1917&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1917&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5.

¹⁶¹ Immanuel Ness, *Encyclopedia of American Social Movements*, (Armonk: Taylor & Francis Group, 2004), Accessed June 11, 2021, ProQuest Ebook Central, 777-782.

¹⁶² "The Pomona", *Watertown Times*, (Watertown, New York), December 13, 1893, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84035540/1893-12-13/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1893&index=3&date2=12%2F31%2F1895&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1895&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1895&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5.

¹⁶³ "Champion Grange", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), December 13, 1902, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84035541/1902-12-13/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=2&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5.

¹⁶⁴ "The Banner Grange County", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), February 6, 1899, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84035541/1899-02-06/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=11&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5.

¹⁶⁵ "The Pomona Grange", *Watertown re-union*, (Watertown, New York), December 9, 1896, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85054450/1896-12-09/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=13&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5.

¹⁶⁶ "Champion Grange", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), December 19, 1908, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84035541/1908-12-19/ed-1/seq-15/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=3&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5.

¹⁶⁷ "Champion: Correspondence of the Union", *Watertown re-union*, (Watertown, New York), December 19, 1894, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85054450/1894-12-19/ed-1/seq-8/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=10&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=2&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5.

¹⁶⁴ "Champion Grange", *Watertown re-union*, (Watertown, New York), February 24, 1900, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85054450/1900-02-24/ed-1/seq-8/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=19&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=2&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5.

¹⁶⁵ "Grangers Delayed", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), February 7, 1902, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84035541/1902-02-07/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=8&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5.

¹⁶⁶ "New Directors Elected", *Watertown re-union*, (Watertown, New York), January 17, 1903, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85054450/1903-01-17/ed-1/seq-7/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=10&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=3&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5.

¹⁶⁷ "The State Grange at Utica", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), February 7, 1894, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84035540/1894-02-07/ed-1/seq-5/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=14&date2=12%2F31%2F1895&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1895&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5.

¹⁶⁶ "June Session of the Pomona", *Watertown re-union*, (Watertown, New York), June 9, 1906, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85054450/1906-06-09/ed-1/seq-8/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=6&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5.

¹⁶⁷ "Champion Grange", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), December 20, 1916, Accessed, June 10, 2021, <https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84035541/1916-12-20/ed-1/seq-1/seq-1>.

F.C. Carter had spent the last years of his life as an active member of his community. He died in 1917 and was buried in Hillside Cemetery, Champion, Jefferson County, New York.¹⁶⁸

[12/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=2&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5](https://www.nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85054447/1917-12-08/ed-1/seq-5/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&sort=relevance&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&index=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=2&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5); "Brevities", *The Watertown Herald*, (Watertown, New York), December 8, 1917, Accessed, June 10, 2021, https://www.nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85054447/1917-12-08/ed-1/seq-5/#date1=01%2F01%2F1917&index=1&date2=12%2F31%2F1917&words=C+Carter+F&to_year2=1917&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1917&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Jefferson&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=f.c.+carter&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁶⁸ "Frederick Cassander Carter (1839-1917) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave

Silas W. Mason



Silas W. Mason and Amanda F. (Persons) Mason.
From *Westfield Republican*, July 28, 1926.

Silas Wright Mason was a lawyer, politician, and Prohibition Party activist. He was born on November 17, 1841, in Ellery, Chautauqua County, New York.¹⁶⁹ He was the son of Luther Martin Mason and Amanda F. (Persons) Mason and was one of twelve children they had.¹⁷⁰ He was of Scotts Irish and English descent. His father was a farmer and Millwright.¹⁷¹ He grew up in the town of Harmony, Chautauqua County, New York.¹⁷²

Silas Mason was educated in public schools until he was 14. He spent a year working as an insurance salesman, then went on to study at Westfield Academy. During his second year, he spent one term teaching schools. He graduated from Westfield Academy in 1859.¹⁷³ He spent some time in 1860 working as a professional musician.¹⁷⁴ He studied at Bryant and Stratton Business College in Ohio and graduated from there in 1861.¹⁷⁵ He then went to Venango County, Pennsylvania, and spend some time being involved in the real estate and oil businesses, before returning to Chautauqua County and coming to live in Westfield, New York by 1863.¹⁷⁶

Silas Mason married Amanda F. (Persons) Mason on March 5, 1863. They had three children (one of whom died in infancy): George P. Mason (b.1863-d.1928), Louie Mason (b.1865-d.1865), and Clara M. (Mason) Sears.¹⁷⁷

¹⁶⁹ "Silas Wright Mason (1841-1927) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave, Accessed June 17, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/65836215/silas-wright-mason>; Obed Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County, New York*, Ed. Butler F. Dilley, (Philadelphia: John M. Gresham & Co., 1891), <https://archive.org/details/biographicalport00dill/630-631>

¹⁷⁰ "Silas Wright Mason (1841-1927) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Silas Wright Mason", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 16, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/L24H-2VC>

¹⁷¹ Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631

¹⁷² "Silas Wright Mason", FamilySearch.org

¹⁷³ Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631; "Local Political Aspirants", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 12, 1887, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1887-10-12/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1887&index=1&date2=12%2F31%2F1893&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1893&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1887&proxdistance=5&SearchType2=prox5&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&page=2

¹⁷⁴ "Sherman Hurd: United States Census, 1860", FamilySearch.org, Accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MC7V-6H6>

¹⁷⁵ Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631

¹⁷⁶ "Silas Wright Mason", FamilySearch.org; Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631

¹⁷⁷ "Silas Wright Mason (1841-1927) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Silas Wright Mason", FamilySearch.org; "Silas W Mason: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 16, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVNF-JCYZ>; Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631; "In Memoriam: Mrs. Silas Mason", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), July 28, 1926, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1926-07-28/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=0&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "S. W. Mason: A Prominent Citizen of this Village for Over 50

By 1865, Silas Mason had a farm in Westfield. He also was working as a clerk and continued to have some involvement in the oil business.¹⁷⁸ Around 1870, he began to read law with attorney Austin Smith. He went to Albany Law School, graduated, and was admitted to the bar in 1872. He then began his career as a lawyer.¹⁷⁹ He was a general practice lawyer and became one of the most prominent lawyers in Westfield. He argued a variety of cases, including ones in the New York State Supreme Court.¹⁸⁰ In 1875, he served as a Justice of the Peace.¹⁸¹

Silas Mason and his wife Amanda were involved in their community. Both were involved members of the Presbyterian Church in Westfield. Silas at some point served as a trustee for the church. Amanda had been involved with the church's missionary and aid society efforts, had been a church organist, and had sung in the church quartet.¹⁸² At some point in his time living in Westfield, Silas had been on the local board of education, had been president of the local YMCA, and was a notary public.¹⁸³ In 1888, he was on the board of trustees of the Westfield Cemetery Association.¹⁸⁴ Amanda was a member of the National Daughters of the American Revolution, the National Society of New England Women, the National Society of the U.S. Daughters of 1812, and the Frances Scott Key Memorial Association.¹⁸⁵ She was a member of the WCTU and was for some time the president of the Chautauqua County WCTU.¹⁸⁶

Silas Mason was a supporter of temperance and prohibition. The Westfield Republican newspaper described him as a pronounced temperance worker, who endorses the sentiment in theory and practice.¹⁸⁷ He delivered speeches at various events in support of prohibitionist policies. He delivered speeches in Westfield, as well as other towns, such as Sherman, New York, and Bradford, Pennsylvania.¹⁸⁸ For instance, in 1884, during a discussion on the merits of continuing local prohibition

Years Passed Away October 20. 1927, in His 87th Year", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 2, 1927, Accessed, June 14, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1927-11-02/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1927&index=0&date2=12%2F31%2F1927&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1927&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1927&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁷⁸ "Silas W Mason: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org; Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631; "S. W. Mason: A Prominent Citizen of this Village for Over 50 Years Passed Away October 20. 1927, in His 87th Year", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 2, 1927

¹⁷⁹ Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631; "S. W. Mason: A Prominent Citizen of this Village for Over 50 Years Passed Away October 20. 1927, in His 87th Year", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 2, 1927

¹⁸⁰ "Silas W Mason: New York State Census, 1875", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 16, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VNIJ-W9R>; "Silas Mason: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 16, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MZZ-M8F>; "Silas W Mason: United States Census, 1910", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 16, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M59K-Z9N>; Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631; "In Memoriam: Mrs. Silas Mason", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), July 28, 1926; "S. W. Mason: A Prominent Citizen of this Village for Over 50 Years Passed Away October 20. 1927, in His 87th Year", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 2, 1927

¹⁸¹ "Silas W Mason: New York State Census, 1875", FamilySearch.org

¹⁸² "In Memoriam: Mrs. Silas Mason", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), July 28, 1926; "Presbyterian Notes", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 8, 1924, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1924-10-08/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=9&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "S. W. Mason: A Prominent Citizen of this Village for Over 50 Years Passed Away October 20. 1927, in His 87th Year", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 2, 1927

¹⁸³ "Notaries Public", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), April 1, 1889, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1891-04-01/ed-1/seq-8/#date1=01%2F01%2F1887&index=10&date2=12%2F31%2F1893&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1893&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1887&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "S. W. Mason: A Prominent Citizen of this Village for Over 50 Years Passed Away October 20. 1927, in His 87th Year", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 2, 1927

¹⁸⁴ "Local Brevities", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), August 15, 1888, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1888-08-15/ed-1/seq-5/#date1=01%2F01%2F1887&index=8&date2=12%2F31%2F1893&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1893&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1887&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁸⁵ "In Memoriam: Mrs. Silas Mason", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), July 28, 1926

¹⁸⁶ "In Memoriam: Mrs. Silas Mason", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), July 28, 1926

¹⁸⁷ "It will be noticed that the Prohibition ticket has upon it the name of S.W. Mason of this place, for County Judge", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 11, 1882, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1882-10-11/ed-1/seq-2/#date1=01%2F01%2F1881&index=14&date2=12%2F31%2F1886&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1886&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1881&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁸⁸ "Social and Personal", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), July 13, 1892, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1892-07-13/ed-1/seq-5/#date1=01%2F01%2F1887&index=16&date2=12%2F31%2F1893&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1893&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1887&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "Good Temperance Rally", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), June 5, 1888, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn84031578/1888-06-05/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=01%2F01%2F1887&index=7&date2=12%2F31%2F1893&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1893&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1887&proxdistance=5&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁸⁹ "Local Political Notes", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 8, 1884, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1884-10-08/ed-1/seq-2/#date1=01%2F01%2F1881&index=5&date2=12%2F31%2F1886&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1886&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1881&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "Of Local Interest", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 28, 1885, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1885-10-28/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1881&index=5&date2=12%2F31%2F1886&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1886&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1881&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

policies in Westfield, Mason spoke in favor of local no license policies, contended that allowing such policies to lapse would make things worse for the community, and spoke in favor of national prohibition.¹⁸⁹

“I do not believe in legalizing a wrong. If it is wrong to sell intoxicating liquors as a beverage, then I say refrain from selling it at all”.¹⁹⁰

“I believe that the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors should be prohibited by Congress”.¹⁹¹

While delivering a speech in Bradford, in 1892, Mason argued in favor of prohibitionist policies and for people to vote for the Prohibition Party. He stated that the Prohibition Party was the only national party that supported prohibition. He spoke against those who voted in favor of legalized alcohol; contending that a man who votes to continue legalized crime shares in the responsibility of those evils.¹⁹²

When it came to politics, Silas Mason was a Democrat, before joining the Prohibition Party.¹⁹³ In 1879, he was the Democratic candidate for Chautauqua County Judge. He reportedly received a relatively large number of votes, but was not elected.¹⁹⁴ In 1883, the local Democratic Party nominated him as a candidate for Justice of the Peace. He came in second place with 312 votes (49.05%).¹⁹⁵ Mason’s support for prohibition led him to join the Prohibition Party in 1881.¹⁹⁶

Silas Mason ran as a Prohibition Party candidate for a variety of state local and state offices. In 1882, he was the Prohibition Party candidate for Chautauqua County Judge.¹⁹⁷ In 1884, he was elected Village President of Westfield (though it is uncertain if it was under the Prohibition Party ballot line).¹⁹⁸ In 1884, he ran as a Prohibition Party candidate for State Assembly in Chautauqua’s 1st Assembly District. He received 286 votes and 4.43% of the total vote.¹⁹⁹ In 1885, he ran the Prohibition Party candidate for town supervisor. He received 70 votes and 12.8% of the total vote.²⁰⁰ In the same year, he was a

https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1884-02-13/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1884&index=7&date2=12%2F31%2F1884&words=Mason+President+prohibited+Prohibition&to_year2=1884&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1884&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=all

¹⁸⁹ “License or No License”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 13, 1884, Accessed, June 14, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1884-02-13/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1884&index=7&date2=12%2F31%2F1884&words=Mason+President+prohibited+Prohibition&to_year2=1884&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1884&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=all

¹⁹⁰ “License or No License”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 13, 1884

¹⁹¹ “License or No License”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 13, 1884

¹⁹² “Social and Personal”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), July 13, 1892

¹⁹³ “It will be noticed that the Prohibition ticket has upon it the name of S.W. Mason of this place, for County Judge”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 11, 1882; “Local Political Aspirants”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 12, 1887

¹⁹⁴ “It will be noticed that the Prohibition ticket has upon it the name of S.W. Mason of this place, for County Judge”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 11, 1882

¹⁹⁵ “The Vote in Westfield”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 21, 1883, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1883-02-21/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1883&index=1&date2=12%2F31%2F1886&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1886&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1881&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

¹⁹⁶ “Local Political Aspirants”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 12, 1887

¹⁹⁷ “Local Political Aspirants”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 12, 1887; “It will be noticed that the Prohibition ticket has upon it the name of S.W. Mason of this place, for County Judge”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 11, 1882

¹⁹⁸ “S. W. Mason: A Prominent Citizen of this Village for Over 50 Years Passed Away October 20. 1927, in His 87th Year”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 2, 1927;

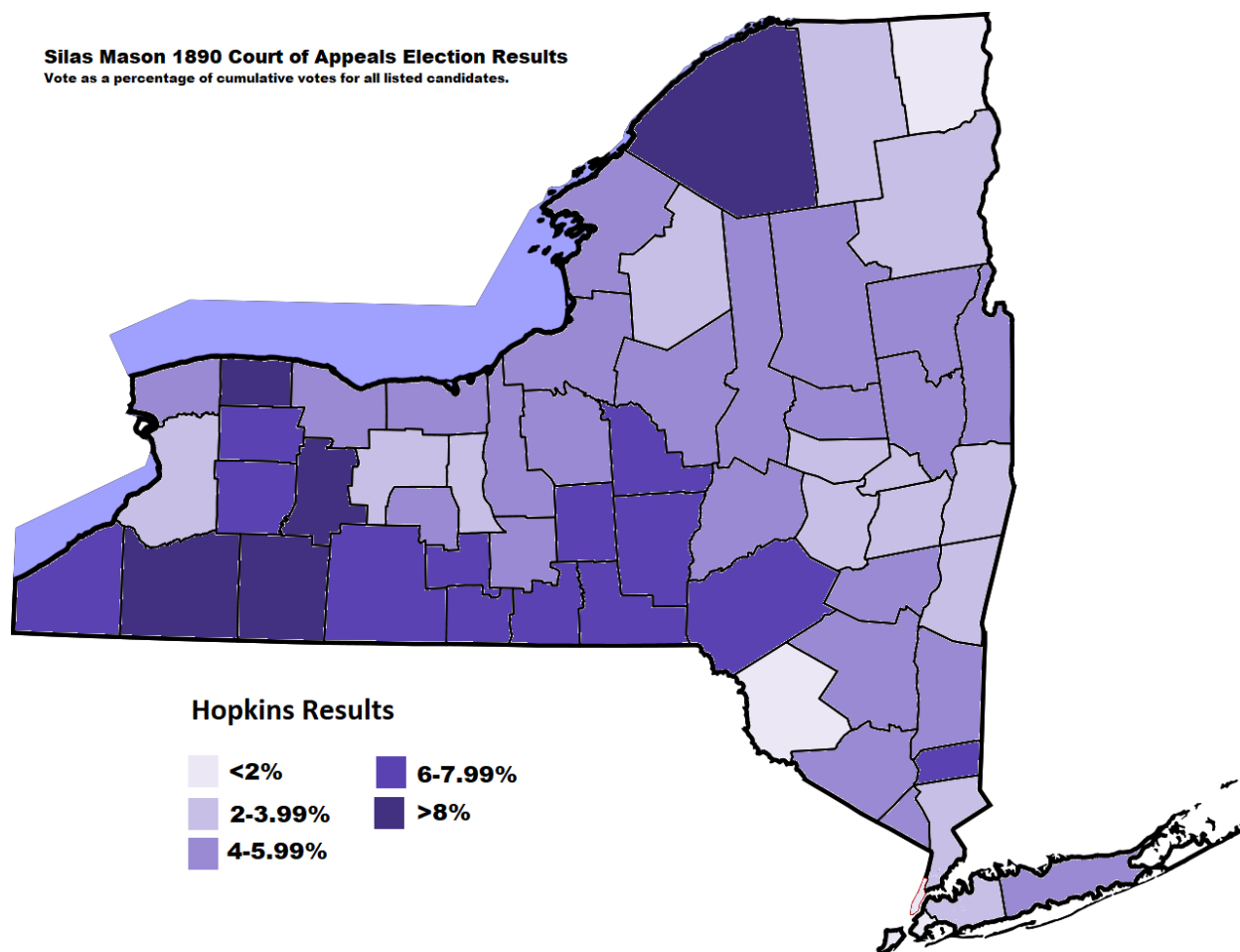
¹⁹⁹ “Westfield, Wednesday, Mar 12, 1884”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), March 12, 1884, Accessed, June 14, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1884-03-12/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1889&index=1&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Mason+President+President%E2%80%94Silas&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

²⁰⁰ “Prohibition Ticket”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 11, 1885, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1885-02-11/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1881&index=3&date2=12%2F31%2F1886&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1886&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1881&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

²⁰⁰ “Town Meetings”, *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 18, 1885, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1885-02-18/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=01%2F01%2F1881&index=4&date2=12%2F31%2F1886&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1886&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1881&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

(13.51% of the vote).²⁰⁴ In the state Attorney General election, Mason received 40,286 Votes and 3.86% of the total vote.²⁰⁵

In 1888, Mason was elected excise commissioner in Westfield. He received 318 votes, while his opponent Hugh C. Stephens received 306 votes.²⁰⁶ In 1889, Mason ran as the Prohibition Party candidate for Justice in the 8th District of the New York State Court of Appeals.²⁰⁷ In 1890, Mason was the Prohibition Party candidate for Justice on the New York State Court of Appeals. Mason received 33,621 Votes: 3.35% of the total vote and 3.45% of the cumulative vote of listed candidates.²⁰⁸



In 1892, Mason ran as a Prohibition Party candidate for three different offices at different points in the year.²⁰⁹ In February, he ran as one of the Prohibition Party candidates for Inspectors of Elections in

²⁰⁴ Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631; *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1888*, 82; 91

²⁰⁵ *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1888*, 82

²⁰⁶ Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888; "No License: The Result of Town Meetings Here and Elsewhere", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 22, 1888, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1888-02-22/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1887&index=7&date2=12%2F31%2F1893&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1893&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1887&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

²⁰⁷ Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631; "Local Brevities", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 6, 1889, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1889-10-06/ed-1/seq-5/#date1=01%2F01%2F1887&index=5&date2=12%2F31%2F1893&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1893&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1887&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

²⁰⁸ Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631; *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1891*, (New York: Greeley & McElrath, 1891), <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=umn.31951002271744o&view=1up&seq=324>, 380

²⁰⁹ "Prohibition Nominations", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 10, 1892, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1892-02-10/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1887&index=13&date2=12%2F31%2F1893&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1893&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1887&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5; "It's A 'Wet' Town", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 10, 1892, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1892-02-10/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1887&index=13&date2=12%2F31%2F1893&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1893&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1887&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

Westfield's 2nd Election District. Mason and the Prohibition Party Candidate John R. Fay, ran against two Republican and two Democratic candidates for two Inspector of elections positions. They both received 66 votes, came in 5th and 6th place, and the seats were won by the two Republican candidates.²¹⁰ In March, Mason ran for Village President of the village of Westfield. He received 147 votes, while the winning candidate E.H. Dickerman received 217.²¹¹ In August, Mason was nominated as the Prohibition Party candidate for Chautauqua County District Attorney. The election was held in November. Republican candidate John Woodward won the election, and Mason appears to have come in third place.²¹² In 1893, was the Prohibition Party candidate for Justice on the State Court of Appeals. He received 32,849 votes and 2.90% of the total vote.²¹³

After running as Prohibition Party candidate for various offices, Mason continued with his career as a lawyer in Westfield for the remainder of his life.²¹⁴ In 1896, Democratic Presidential Candidate and prohibition supporter, William Jennings Bryan, delivered a short speech while visiting Westfield. After another resident called for three cheers for Bryan, Mason called for three cheers for Bryan's wife.²¹⁵ Mason's son George and daughter Clara grew up and ended up moving to Florida. His daughter married Harry L. Sears and had two children: Mason O. Sears and George B. Sears.²¹⁶ In 1917, his wife Amanda was involved with the campaign to establish Women's Suffrage in New York State.²¹⁷ His wife Amanda died on May 30, 1926.²¹⁸ On October 28, 1927, Silas Mason died while at the home of his daughter in Jacksonville, Florida. His son George brought his body back to Westfield, New York and he was buried in the Mason family vault in Westfield Cemetery.²¹⁹

York), February 17, 1892, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1892-02-17/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1887&index=14&date2=12%2F31%2F1893&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1893&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1887&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

²¹⁰ "Prohibition Nominations", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 10, 1892; "It's A 'Wet' Town". *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 17, 1892

²¹¹ "Village Election", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), March 9, 1892, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1892-03-09/ed-1/seq-8/#date1=01%2F01%2F1887&index=3&date2=12%2F31%2F1893&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1893&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1887&proxdistance=5&SearchType2=prox5&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&page=2

²¹² "Wednesday, Aug. 24, 1892.", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), August 24, 1892, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1892-08-24/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=01%2F01%2F1887&index=17&date2=12%2F31%2F1893&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1893&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1887&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

²¹³ "To The Voters Of The County Of Chautauqua", *Dunkirk Evening Observer*, (Dunkirk, New York), November 4, 1892, Accessed, June 15, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn93063775/1892-11-04/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=11%2F01%2F1892&index=5&date2=12%2F31%2F1892&words=ATTORNEY+DISTRICT+Mason&to_year2=1892&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1892&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=mason+district+attorney&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=all

²¹⁴ "Election Statistics", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 23, 1892, Accessed, June 15, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1892-11-23/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=11%2F01%2F1892&index=0&date2=12%2F31%2F1892&words=attorney+Attorney+district+District+Woodward&to_year2=1892&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1892&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=woodward+district+attorney&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=all

²¹⁵ *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1894*, (New York: Greeley & McElrath, 1894), <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015065248570&view=1up&seq=360>

²¹⁶ "Silas W Mason: United States Census, 1910". FamilySearch.org

²¹⁷ "Hon. W.J. Bryan: The Democratic Nominee Stopped Here Ten Minutes", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), August 26, 1896, Accessed, June 13, 2021,

https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1896-08-26/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=4&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

²¹⁸ "In Memoriam: Mrs. Silas Mason", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), July 28, 1926

²¹⁹ "Equal Suffrage Campaign", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), September 5, 1917, Accessed, June 13, 2021, https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031732/1917-09-05/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=01%2F01%2F1869&index=2&date2=12%2F31%2F1940&words=Mason+Silas&to_year2=1940&searchType=advanced&sequence=0&from_year2=1869&proxdistance=5&page=1&county=Chautauqua&rows=20&ortext=&proxtext=silas+mason&phrasertext=&andtext=&dateFilterType=range&SearchType2=prox5

²²⁰ "In Memoriam: Mrs. Silas Mason", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), July 28, 1926

²²¹ "Silas Wright Mason (1841-1927) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Silas Wright Mason", FamilySearch.org; "S. W. Mason: A Prominent Citizen of this Village for Over 50 Years Passed Away October 20. 1927, in His 87th Year", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 2, 1927

James H. Rand

James Henry Rand I was born on May 29, 1859, in North Tonawanda, New York. He was the son of Calvin Gordon Rand (b.1832-d.1872) and Almira Hershe (Long) Rand. He was the 3rd of 9 children.²²⁰ He spent the early part of his life growing up in Wheatfield, New York, and had attended the local public school.²²¹ His father died in 1872. His mother married her second husband, Henry W. Kimball, and they moved to Sweden, New York.²²² Rand studied at the State Normal School in Brockport. At the age of 18, he started his first job as a railroad telegraph operator. In 1880, he moved in with his brother Benjamin in Tonawanda, New York.²²³

After moving to Tonawanda, Rand started a career in banking. He became a clerk at the banking house of Evans, Schwinger & Co. He then worked for the State Bank of North Tonawanda, as a clerk and later a teller. In 1882, Rand had served as the clerk for the North Tonawanda Board of Education.²²⁴ Rand married Mary Jameson (Scribner) Rand (b.1863-d.1934) in 1884. They had five children: Adelaide Almira Rand (b.1884-d.1963), James Henry Rand II (b.1886-d.1968), Mary Scribner (Rand) Rich (b.1889), Mabel Scribner Rand (b.1893-d.1971), and Phillip Scribner Rand (b. 1906).²²⁵

In 1886, Rand had become a cashier at the Lumber Exchange Bank in North Tonawanda.²²⁶ By 1888, he had moved to the neighboring town of Wheatfield. In 1888, he became an excise commissioner in Wheatfield.²²⁷ He lived in Wheatfield, until at least 1892 and had moved to North Tonawanda sometime between 1892 and 1900.²²⁸ In 1894, he left his position at the Lumber Exchange Bank in North Tonawanda, to open his own private banking business. He also became president of the Buffalo, Niagara Falls, and Tonawanda Electric Railroad Company.²²⁹ In 1897, William Pool described Rand as having been eminently successful as a banker and as one of the most prominent businessmen in North Tonawanda.²³⁰

During his time as a Banker in the 1880s and 1890s, Rand had turned his attention to organizing and innovating the banking process. In the 1880s, American banking was expanding and many people had begun opening bank accounts. This expansion of banking made it difficult for banks to keep track of a larger number of accounts and records. While working as a banker, Rand looked for ways to better organize bank records. He created a system of folders, tabs, and index cards, to keep track of records for each account. This system improved the efficiency of the banks he worked at. He came to recognize that the system he created could be commercially valuable. By 1897, he had founded the Rand Ledger company.²³¹

²²⁰ "James Henry Rand", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 18, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LHXY-ZYT>; "James Rand: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 18, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M8VQ-1Y3>; "James H Rand: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 18, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MS2N-S4T?from=lynx1UIV8&treeref=LHXY-ZYT>; William Pool, *Landmarks of Niagara County*, (New York. Syracuse: D. Mason & Company, 1897), https://www.google.com/books/edition/Landmarks_of_Niagara_County_New_York/FvYpAQAAAMAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&bsq=james%20rand, 160; John N. Ingham, *Biographical Dictionary of American Business Leaders*, (Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1983), <https://archive.org/details/biographicaldict0003ingh>, 1139-1142

²²¹ "James Henry Rand", FamilySearch.org; "James Rand: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org

²²² "James Henry Rand", FamilySearch.org; "James H Rand: Census: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 18, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MZDF-QYS?from=lynx1UIV8&treeref=LHXY-ZYT>; Ingham, *Biographical Dictionary of American Business Leaders*, 1139-1142

²²³ "James Henry Rand", FamilySearch.org; "James H Rand: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 18, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MZ7R-1LW?from=lynx1UIV8&treeref=LHXY-ZYT>; Pool, *Landmarks of Niagara County*, 160; Ingham, *Biographical Dictionary of American Business Leaders*, 1139-1142

²²⁴ "James Henry Rand", FamilySearch.org; "James H Rand: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; Pool, *Landmarks of Niagara County*, 160; Ingham, *Biographical Dictionary of American Business Leaders*, 1139-1142

²²⁵ "James Henry Rand", FamilySearch.org

²²⁶ Pool, *Landmarks of Niagara County*, 160; 341-354

²²⁷ "A Prohibition Excise Commissioner", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), May 17, 1888

²²⁸ "James Rand: New York State Census, 1892", FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 18, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MQ34-NLG>; "James H Rand: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org

²²⁹ Pool, *Landmarks of Niagara County*, 160; 341-354

²³⁰ Pool, *Landmarks of Niagara County*, 160

²³¹ "James Henry Rand Dead At 81", *New York Times*, (New York City, New York), June 4, 1968; Ingham, *Biographical Dictionary of American Business Leaders*, 1139-1142; "Kardex Systems Inc. Company Profile on AECinfo.com", AECinfo.com, Accessed June 17, 2021, https://www.aecinfo.com/1/company/05/47/32/company_1.html.

Rand had founded the Rand Ledger Company, as a company that would sell his systems of records organization and office supplies that would be involved. He acted as president of the company and headed up efforts to invent and develop new products, while he brought in his brother Benjamin as vice-president and head of manufacturing. Rand continued to produce a variety of new products for the company, including bank index files for deposits, tickets, and checks, stop payment registers, and sorters. The company would eventually expand to produce office products for a variety of businesses. In the process, Rand helped to revolutionize the organization and equipment of American banks and business offices.²³²

By 1910, Rand had moved to the state of Massachusetts, where he appears to have lived for the remainder of his life.²³³

James H. Rand I's business continued to develop over time. In 1908, his son James H. Rand II had graduated from Harvard and joined his company. His son quickly rose through the ranks of management. In 1910, a period of illness caused James H. Rand I to temporarily step down as head of the Rand Ledger Company. His son took acted as head of the company, until he recovered and returned in 1914. There was some tension between Rand and his son, due to differing views on how to expand the company, and Rand's tendency to overrule his son eventually led his son to leave the company.²³⁴

In 1915, James H. Rand II, created his own office supply company, American Kardex. Within five years, the company had grown into a major office supply company, which could compete with Rand Ledger. The two companies continued to compete with each other until Mary Jameson Rand convinced James Rand I and James Rand II to end their competition with each other. The companies were merged to form Rand Kardex Bureau.²³⁵ While his son headed the new company, James H. Rand I remained involved in the company for the next two years. He worked to develop products and expand the company.²³⁶ In 1927, the company merged with Remington Typewriter to form the Remington Rand Company. His son, James H. Rand II would continue to head the company until 1958.²³⁷

James H. Rand I died on September 15, 1944, in Boston, Massachusetts. He was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Falmouth, Barnstable County, Massachusetts.²³⁸

²³² "James Henry Rand Dead At 81", *New York Times*, (New York City, New York), June 4, 1968; Ingham, *Biographical Dictionary of American Business Leaders*, 1139-1142; "Kardex Systems Inc. Company Profile on AECInfo.com", AECInfo.com

²³³ "James Henry Rand", FamilySearch.org

²³⁴ "James Henry Rand Dead At 81", *New York Times*, (New York City, New York), June 4, 1968; Ingham, *Biographical Dictionary of American Business Leaders*, 1139-1142; "Rand in Command", *Time*, (New York City, New York), July 27, 1931

²³⁵ Ingham, *Biographical Dictionary of American Business Leaders*, 1139-1142; "Rand in Command", *Time*, (New York City, New York), July 27, 1931

²³⁶ Ingham, *Biographical Dictionary of American Business Leaders*, 1139-1142; "Rand in Command", *Time*, (New York City, New York), July 27, 1931

²³⁷ "Rand Yields the Helm at Remington", *New York Times*, (New York City, New York), April 16, 1958; Ingham, *Biographical Dictionary of American Business Leaders*, 1139-1142

²³⁸ "James Henry Rand", FamilySearch.org; "James H Rand (1859-1944) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave, Accessed June 18, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/158634741/james-h-rand>.

F.W. Geissenhainer



F. W. Geissenhainer – “Father of Sea Cliff”

Frederick William Geissenhainer III was born on Birth 20 March 1825 in East Vincent Township, Chester, Pennsylvania, and Christened on 26 May 1825 in East Pikeland Township, Chester, Pennsylvania, United States.²³⁹ He was the son of Rev. Dr. Frederick W. Geissenhainer II (b.1797-d. 1879) and Mary (Moore) Geissenhainer (b.1801-d.1972).²⁴⁰ His grandfather, Frederick W. Geissenhainer I was a German immigrant and Lutheran minister, who settled and started a family in Pennsylvania. His father had likewise had become a Lutheran Minister.²⁴¹ In 1827, Frederick W. Geissenhainer II moved the family to New York City, where he was an assistant pastor at St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church, from 1827-1840, and pastor at the United German Evangelical Lutheran Church (later named St. Paul’s) until his death in 1879.²⁴²

Frederick W. Geissenhainer III grew up in New York City. By 1850, he had begun a career as a lawyer. Over the next few decades, he had become a prominent and wealthy attorney in New York City.²⁴³ He married Lucia (Whitman) Geissenhainer (b.1845) sometime between 1870 and 1880.²⁴⁴ By 1880, Geissenhainer had moved to the then unincorporated community of Sea Cliff, Oyster Bay, New York.²⁴⁵ He became a prominent figure in the community. He helped lead the effort to have Sea Cliff incorporated as a village in 1883 and became the first village president. He constructed a railroad line and depot in Sea Cliff. He helped to establish a church in the village. He was part of a group that established a school for the children in Sea Cliff and established a school district for the village. In 1884,

²³⁹ “Frederick W. Geissenhainer”, FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 19, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LYBK-3B6>; “F W Geissenhainer: United States Census, 1900”, FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 19, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MSJX-LR4>; “Frederick William Geissenhainer (1825-1906) - Find A Grave Memorial”, Find a Grave, Accessed June 19, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/156318388/frederick-william-geissenhainer>.

²⁴⁰ “Frederick W. Geissenhainer”, FamilySearch.org; “Rev Frederick William Geissenhainer Jr. (1797-1875), Find A Grave Memorial”, Find a Grave, Accessed June 19, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/129549412/frederick-william-geissenhainer>.

²⁴¹ “Rev Frederick William Geissenhainer Sr. (1771-1838)- Find A Grave Memorial”, Find a Grave, Accessed June 19, 2021, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/130452812/frederick-william-geissenhainer>; Maurita, “The Pastoral Records of Frederick W. Geissenhainer”, New-York Historical Society, July 7, 2015, <https://blog.nyhistory.org/the-pastoral-records-of-frederick-w-geissenhainer/>.

²⁴² “Rev Frederick William Geissenhainer Jr. (1797-1875), Find A Grave Memorial”, Find a Grave; Maurita, “The Pastoral Records of Frederick W. Geissenhainer”

²⁴³ “Frederick W. Geissenhainer”, FamilySearch.org; “Frederick W Geissenhainer: United States Census, 1850”, FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 19, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MCBF-437?from=lynx1UIV8&treeref=LYBK-3B6>; “Fred’R W Gussenhainer: United States Census, 1880”, FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 19, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MZFH-9HC?from=lynx1UIV8&treeref=LYBK-3B6>; Reres, “Birth of A Village: Sea Cliff’s First President”, Village Bulletin, (Sea Cliff, New York), June 2017

²⁴⁴ “Frederick W. Geissenhainer”, FamilySearch.org; “Fred W Gessenheim: United States Census, 1870”, FamilySearch.org, Accessed, June 19, 2021, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M8FZ-ND3?from=lynx1UIV8&treeref=LYBK-3B6>

²⁴⁵ “Frederick W. Geissenhainer”, FamilySearch.org; “Fred’R W Gussenhainer: United States Census, 1880”, FamilySearch.org; Kathleen Diresta, “With much fanfare, Sea Cliff celebrates 135th birthday”, liherald.com, October 18, 2018, Accessed, June 18, 2021, <https://www.liherald.com/stories/with-much-fanfare-sea-cliff-celebrates-135th-birthday,108260>; Reres, “Birth of A Village: Sea Cliff’s First President”, Village Bulletin, (Sea Cliff, New York), June 2017

he was part of a group that created the village's fire company, provided much of the funding used to acquire its equipment and vehicles, and supplied the company with water from his private reservoir. The company named the F. W. Geissenhainer fire engine company in his honor.²⁴⁶ In 1888, the Prohibition Party slate of candidates for the village election were elected, with Geissenhainer being selected as village president.²⁴⁷

After his time as village president, Geissenhainer continued to live in Sea Cliff. By 1900, Geissenhainer appears to have retired from being a lawyer and had moved to making money as a landlord.²⁴⁸ Frederick William Geissenhainer III had died on March 10, 1906, in Sea Cliff, Oyster Bay, Nassau County, New York. He was buried in the Geissenhainer family vault in the All Faiths Cemetery, Middle Village, Queens, New York.²⁴⁹

²⁴⁶ Reres, "Birth of A Village: Sea Cliff's First President", Village Bulletin, (Sea Cliff, New York), June 2017; Diresta, "With much fanfare, Sea Cliff celebrates 135th birthday"; "SEA CLIFF, (L. I.) N. Y., WELL PROTECTED", Fire Engineering, September 3, 2019, <https://www.fireengineering.com/leadership/sea-cliff-l-i-n-y-well-protected/#gref>.

²⁴⁷ "The Whole Ticket Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), April 5, 1888, Accessed, June 4

²⁴⁸ "Frederick W. Geissenhainer", FamilySearch.org; "F W Geissenhainer: United States Census, 1900"

²⁴⁹ "Frederick W. Geissenhainer", FamilySearch.org; "Frederick William Geissenhainer (1825-1906) -Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave

Insights from the Biographies

These biographies help to provide some insights as to some of the people who were elected as Prohibition Party candidates to local offices in this period. These men held a variety of occupations. Farming was a common occupation. Ten of the thirteen men were farmers at some point in their lives.²⁵⁰ Five of them were teachers at some point in their lives.²⁵¹ Three of them had been lawyers, two of them had practiced medicine, two had been bankers, two of them had been involved in the oil business, and two had been involved in the real estate businesses.²⁵² Some of them became fairly prominent in their professional field. For instance, Dr. Jerome Angel in the field of medicine, F.W. Geissenhainer in the field of law, and James H. Rand I in the field of banking and the office supply business.²⁵³ Overall, there were about 20 different types of work that had been done by at least one of them.²⁵⁴ Some of these men had spent their lives living in the communities they were elected in (such as Webber Stevens and F.C. Carter), while some moved between different communities throughout their lives (such as James H. Rand I).²⁵⁵ Some were immigrants to the United States, such as Fred C. Schmail and Robert Shaw.²⁵⁶ These men came from a variety of different religious backgrounds. This included three who were Methodists, two Presbyterians, one Baptist, one Lutheran, and 6 whose religious affiliations are unknown.²⁵⁷ All thirteen of these men were married. For some of these men, their wives were also notable for their social and political activism, such as Helen A. (Jordan) Richardson and Amanda F. (Persons) Mason. Most of these men had children. Some of them had adopted children, such as Robert

²⁵⁰ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 471; 514; "George E Shaw: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Sherman Hurd: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Sherman E Hurd: New York State Census, 1875", FamilySearch.org; "Sherman Elijah Hurd" FamilySearch.org; "Shurman E Hurd: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org; William J Richardson: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org; Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, 119-157; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church; Terrie, *Contested Terrain*, 21-32; Adams, *Historical gazetteer and biographical memorial of Cattaraugus County*, N.Y., 850; "Fred Schmael: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org; "Fred Schmale: New York State Census, 1875", FamilySearch.org; "Fred Schmail: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; New York State Department of Agriculture, *Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for 1895*, Vol. 1, 322; "W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911; "Webber E Stevens: United States Census, 1900, Oakfield", FamilySearch.org; Webber Stevens: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Charles T. Potter", *Schuyler County Chronicle*, (Watkins, New York), July 3, 1913; "Charles Potter: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org; "Charles T Potter: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Charles T Potter: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org; "Ebenezer Benjamin Farnsworth", FamilySearch.org; "Ebenezer Farnsworth: New York State Census, 1875", FamilySearch.org; "Ebenezer Farnsworth: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org; "Ebenezer B Farnsworth: United States Census, 1910", FamilySearch.org; "Ebenezer B Farnsworth" United States Census, 1920", FamilySearch.org; "Fred C Carter: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org; "Silas W Mason: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org; Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631

²⁵¹ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 471; 514; "George E Shaw: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "William J Richardson: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org; Adams, *Historical gazetteer and biographical memorial of Cattaraugus County*, N.Y., 850; "Fred Schmael: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org; "Fred Schmale: New York State Census, 1875", FamilySearch.org; "Fred Schmail: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911; "Webber E Stevens: United States Census, 1900, Oakfield", FamilySearch.org; Webber Stevens: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; ²⁵¹ Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631; "Local Political Aspirants", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 12, 1887

²⁵² Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, 119-157; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church; Terrie, *Contested Terrain*, 21-32; "Silas W Mason: New York State Census, 1875", FamilySearch.org; "Silas Mason: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Silas W Mason: United States Census, 1910", FamilySearch.org; Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631; "In Memoriam: Mrs. Silas Mason", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), July 28, 1926; "S. W. Mason: A Prominent Citizen of this Village for Over 50 Years Passed Away October 20, 1927, in His 87th Year", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 2, 1927; "Frederick W. Geissenhainer", FamilySearch.org; "Frederick W Gepehainer: United States Census, 1850", FamilySearch.org; "Fred R W Gussenhainer: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Jerome Angel: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org; "Jerome Angel: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Dr Jerome W Angell (1835-1896) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 371; 449-451; 471; "William John Richardson (1848-1929) - Find A Grave Memorial"; "William J Richardson: New York State Census, 1892", FamilySearch.org; Pool, *Landmarks of Niagara County*, 160; 341-354; Reres, "Birth of A Village: Sea Cliff's First President", Village Bulletin, (Sea Cliff, New York), June 2017

²⁵³ Pool, *Landmarks of Niagara County*, 160; 341-354; "Jerome Angel: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org; "Jerome Angel: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Dr Jerome W Angell (1835-1896) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; Reres, "Birth of A Village: Sea Cliff's First President", Village Bulletin, (Sea Cliff, New York), June 2017; "James Henry Rand Dead At 81", *New York Times*, (New York City, New York), June 4, 1968; Ingham, *Biographical Dictionary of American Business Leaders*, 1139-1142; "Kardex Systems Inc. Company Profile on AECinfo.com", AECinfo.com

²⁵⁴ Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, 119-157; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church; Terrie, *Contested Terrain*, 21-32; Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 514; "George E Shaw: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Charles T. Potter", *Schuyler County Chronicle*, (Watkins, New York), July 3, 1913; "Charles Potter: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org; "Charles T Potter: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Charles T Potter: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org; "Autos and Music: F.C. Carter of Watertown Entertaining Buffalo Crowds", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), March 14, 1903; "Four Second Hand Rambler", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), October 5, 1904; Pool, *Landmarks of Niagara County*, 160; Ingham, *Biographical Dictionary of American Business Leaders*, 1139-1142

²⁵⁵ "James Henry Rand", FamilySearch.org; "James H Rand: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; Pool, *Landmarks of Niagara County*, 160; Ingham, *Biographical Dictionary of American Business Leaders*, 1139-1142; "Frederick Cassander Carter", FamilySearch.org; "W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911

²⁵⁶ Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*. Manuscript, 119-157; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church; Terrie, *Contested Terrain: A New History of Nature and People in the Adirondacks*, 2nd Ed., 21-32; "Robert Shaw: 1829-1907", FamilySearch.org; "Rev Robert Shaw (1829-1907) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; Adams, *Historical gazetteer and biographical memorial of Cattaraugus County*, N.Y., 850; "Fred Schmael: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org

²⁵⁷ "William John Richardson (1848-1929) - Find A Grave Memorial"; Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, 119-157; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church; "Rev Robert Shaw (1829-1907) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911; "Dr Jerome W Angell (1835-1896) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Oakfield Festival During Holiday Week", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), December 15, 1914; "Occurrences in Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), December 1, 1885; "Oakfield Occurrences", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), January 30, 1886; "Batavians at Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), June 9, 1913; "To-Day's Oakfield Budget", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), November 23, 1891; "W.C.T.U. Superintendent Selected", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), September 13, 1912; "In Memoriam: Mrs. Silas Mason", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), July 28, 1926; "Presbyterian Notes", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 8, 1924; "S. W. Mason: A Prominent Citizen of this Village for Over 50 Years Passed Away October 20, 1927, in His 87th Year", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 2, 1927; "Rev Frederick William Geissenhainer Jr. (1797-1875), Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; Maurita, "The Pastoral Records of Frederick W. Geissenhainer"; "Frederick W. Geissenhainer", FamilySearch.org

Shaw's son Ai Wesley and Charles T. Potter's son William.²⁵⁸ It can be seen that each of these men had full personal lives, with both similarities and differences in their backgrounds.

These men were often active members of their communities. Some of them are known to have been significantly involved in temperance activism, such as Robert Shaw and Silas W. Mason.²⁵⁹ Some of them were involved with their local churches, such as Robert Shaw, Webber Stevens, and Silas S. Mason.²⁶⁰ Some of them were involved with their local school boards, such as Webber Stevens, Silas Mason, and James Rand.²⁶¹ Some of them were involved in their communities in other ways, such as William Richardson's involvement with the Allegany County Historical Society and F.C. Carter's involvement with the Grange.²⁶² Some were major figures in their communities, such as Robert Shaw and F.W. Geissenhainer.²⁶³ Available information indicates that these men were often active members of their communities. This active engagement with their communities presumably played a part in their ability to attract the support needed to get elected.

These men had varying periods of involvement with the Prohibition Party. Some of them, such as Fred C. Schmail and Charles T. Potter, were mainly notable for the elections where they gained local office.²⁶⁴ While others, such as George Shaw and Ebenezer Farnsworth were known to have been involved in their local and state Prohibition Party organizations for decades, and some men, such as Silas W. Mason, Webber Stevens, and Ebenezer Farnsworth, had ran as Prohibition Party candidates for multiple different offices throughout their lives.²⁶⁵ Though with each of them, they were involved with

²⁵⁸ Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 202-209; 471; 514; "George E Shaw (1859-1916) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "George E Shaw: New York State Census, 1892", Find a Grave; "Sherman Ekron Hurd", FamilySearch.org; "Sherman E Hurd: New York State Census, 1892", FamilySearch.org; "Sherman Elijah Hurd" FamilySearch.org; "Shurman E Hurd: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org; "Sherman Hurd: New York State Census, 1905", FamilySearch.org; "Little Genesee", *Bolivar Breeze*, (Bolivar, New York), August 19, 1909; "Sherman E Hurd (1866-1955) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "William John Richardson (1848-1929) - Find A Grave Memorial"; "Frederick B Richardson (1875-1905) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; William J Richardson: New York State Census, 1875, FamilySearch.org; Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, A.; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church; "Robert Shaw: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org; "Robert Shaw: 1829-1907", FamilySearch.org; Adams, *Historical gazetteer and biographical memorial of Cattaraugus County, N.Y.*, 850; "Fred Schmael: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org; "Fred Schmale: New York State Census, 1875", FamilySearch.org; "Fred Schmail: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Fred C Smail (1833-1908) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911; "Webber E Stevens: United States Census, 1900, Oakfield", FamilySearch.org; "Webber Stevens: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Notice to Creditors", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), November 11, 1911; "Dr Jerome W Angell (1835-1896) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Jerome Angel: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org; "Jerome Angel: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org; "Jerome Angel: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Dr William Jerome Angell", FamilySearch.org; "Charles Tripp Potter (1842-1913) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Charles Tripp Potter", FamilySearch.org; "Charles Potter: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org; "Charles T Potter: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Charles T Potter: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org; "Ebenezer Benjamin Farnsworth", FamilySearch.org; "Work on Oakfield Roads", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), April 25, 1917; "Frederick Cassander Carter (1839-1917) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Frederick Cassander Carter", FamilySearch.org; "F C Carter: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org; "F C Carter: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; "Fred C Carter: United States Census, 1900", FamilySearch.org; "Silas Wright Mason (1841-1927) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "Silas Wright Mason", FamilySearch.org; "Silas W Mason: New York State Census, 1865", FamilySearch.org; Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631; "In Memoriam: Mrs. Silas Mason", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), July 28, 1926; "S. W. Mason: A Prominent Citizen of this Village for Over 50 Years Passed Away October 20. 1927, in His 87th Year", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 2, 1927; "James Henry Rand", FamilySearch.org; "Frederick W. Geissenhainer", FamilySearch.org; "Fred W Gessunheim: United States Census, 1870", FamilySearch.org

²⁵⁹ Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, 119-157; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church; "It will be noticed that the Prohibition ticket has upon it the name of S.W. Mason of this place, for County Judge", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 11, 1882; "Social and Personal", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), July 13, 1892; "Good Temperance Rally", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), June 5, 1888; "Local Political Notes", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 8, 1884; "Of Local Interest", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 28, 1885; "License or No License", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 13, 1884

²⁶⁰ Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, 119-157; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church; "Rev Robert Shaw (1829-1907) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave; "W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911; "Presbyterian Notes", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 8, 1924; "S. W. Mason: A Prominent Citizen of this Village for Over 50 Years Passed Away October 20. 1927, in His 87th Year", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 2, 1927

²⁶¹ "W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911; "S. W. Mason: A Prominent Citizen of this Village for Over 50 Years Passed Away October 20. 1927, in His 87th Year", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 2, 1927; "James Henry Rand", FamilySearch.org; "James H Rand: United States Census, 1880", FamilySearch.org; Pool, *Landmarks of Niagara County*, 160; Ingham, *Biographical Dictionary of American Business Leaders*, 1139-1142

²⁶² Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 202-209; 471; "Champion Grange", *Watertown Daily Times*, (Watertown, New York), December 20, 1916

²⁶³ Reres, "Birth of A Village: Sea Cliff's First President", *Village Bulletin*, (Sea Cliff, New York), June 2017; Diresta, "With much fanfare, Sea Cliff celebrates 135th birthday"; "SEA CLIFF, (L. I.) N. Y., WELL PROTECTED", *Fire Engineering*; Shaw, Shaw, and Todd, *Tahawus, Newcomb, and Long Lake*, 119-157; "History", Long Lake Wesleyan Church; "Rev Robert Shaw (1829-1907) - Find A Grave Memorial", Find a Grave

²⁶⁴ "It is Simply Immense", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 11, 1886; "Charles T. Potter". *Schuyler County Chronicle*, (Watkins, New York), July 3, 1913; "Two More Prohibition Supervisors", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887

²⁶⁵ Oakfield Prohibitionists", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), February 27, 1886; Steady New York Lines", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 10, 1887; "Affairs in Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 1, 1890; "Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 5, 1890; *Prohibition Party hand-book, State of New York, 1906*, 39-41; "Prohibition Party Made Designations", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 2, 1912; Minard, *Allegany County and its People*, 514; "3 Supervisors Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 18, 1886; *Prohibition Party hand-book, State of New York, 1906*, 10-11; "W. Webber Stevens Dead at Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, News), March 6, 1911; "Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 3, 1886; "To The Voters of Genesee County", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), October 31, 1892; "Local Political Aspirants", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 12, 1887; "It will be noticed that the Prohibition ticket has upon it the name of S.W. Mason of this place, for County Judge", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 11, 1882; "S. W. Mason: A Prominent Citizen of this Village for Over 50 Years Passed Away October 20. 1927, in His 87th Year", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 2, 1927; "Westfield, Wednesday, Mar 12, 1884", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), March 12; *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1885*, 93; "Prohibition Ticket", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 11, 1885; "Statement of the Board of Canvassers of the County of Chautauqua", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), January 27, 1886; "County Prohibitionists", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), September 2, 1885; *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1888*, 82; 91; Edson, *Biographical and portrait cyclopedia of Chautauqua County*, 630-631; Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888; "No License: The Result of Town Meetings Here and Elsewhere", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 22, 1888; Local Brevities", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), October 6, 1889; "Prohibition Nominations",

the Prohibition Party, devoted part of their lives advancing the cause of the party, and devoted part of their lives to serving their communities in elected office.

From looking at the activities of these men in their elected offices, it can be seen that these elected officials had an impact on their communities. Some of them were able to advance anti-alcohol efforts on a local level. Schmail's election as excise commissioner meant that the town of New Albion remained a no license town in 1886. Despite lacking a majority on the town excise commission, Ebenezer Farnsworth was able to use his position to provide some resistance to those trying to license alcohol sales in the town of Oakfield.²⁶⁶ These men also engaged with other issues affecting their communities. George Shaw, Sherman Hurd, and William Richardson used their positions on the Allegany County Board of Supervisors to address issues, including managing the county's finances, raising the salary of the district attorney, renovating a county courthouse, managing the county's services for the poor, and attempting to aid farmers against invasive weeds. Through their work, they helped to manage services that affected economic fortunes and the administration of justice.²⁶⁷ Through their work, these 13 men were able to make use of their elected offices to help shape the conditions of their communities. Given that each elected official would have certain government powers, certain responsibilities, and issues, facing their communities, it can be inferred that each of the over 60 people who were elected as Prohibition Party candidates to local offices likely used their positions to have some sort of impact on their communities; whether it be through affecting local policies regarding alcohol or other issues facing their communities.

Westfield Republican, (Westfield, New York), February 10, 1892; "It's A 'Wet' Town". *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), February 17, 1892; "Village Election", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), March 9, 1892; Wednesday, Aug. 24, 1892." *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), August 24, 1892; "To The Voters Of The County Of Chautauqua", *Dunkirk Evening Observer*, (Dunkirk, New York), November 4, 1892; "Election Statistics", *Westfield Republican*, (Westfield, New York), November 23, 1892; *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1894*, 360

²⁶⁶ "It is Simply Immense", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 11, 1886; Steady New York Lines", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 10, 1887; "Oakfield has Four Licenses", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 11, 1889; "Affairs in Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 1, 1890; "Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 5, 1890

²⁶⁷ Stillman, *Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of Allegany County, 1886*, 6-105; "Canada Thistle", Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Conclusion

The Prohibition Party was actively involved in the local politics of late 19th century New York. In the period of 1886-1888, over 60 Prohibition Party candidates to local offices in New York State. They were elected in dozens of different communities. The fact that most of these elected officials were in the western part of New York State is consistent with the relative popularity of the Prohibition Party in the western part of New York State at the time.²⁶⁸ This correlation may imply that areas where the Prohibition Party performed relatively well in state and presidential elections over a period of time, might also have had a fair number of local Prohibition Party candidates, who may have been elected to local offices. If this is the case, then it may aid in identifying more Prohibition Party candidates elected to local offices in different areas and time periods.

The biographies of thirteen of the Prohibition Party candidates elected to local offices help to illuminate their lives and actions. Each of these men had full lives, with families, occupations, associations, and communal ties. They were members of their communities, who managed to attract enough support to get elected to local offices. Through their work, they were able to use their offices to impact local policies and the conditions of their communities. It can be inferred that each of the over 60 Prohibitionists that held local offices in this period had some impact on the conditions of their local communities. Further research into the lives of these officials, their communities, their elections, and their actions in office could help to provide great insight into how the Prohibition Party operated on the local level, how it managed to get candidates elected, and how the successful election of Prohibition Party candidates impacted the communities they served.

The research presented in this paper provides a step forward in understanding the Prohibition Party's activities in late 19th and early 20th century New York State and a step forward in producing a fuller account of the various Prohibition Party candidates that have been elected to local offices throughout our country's history. Hopefully, this paper will provide a starting point for future research into the election of Prohibition Party candidates to local offices and how the Prohibition Party operated on a state and local level.

²⁶⁸ *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1883*, 79; *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1885*, 87; *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1886*, 75; *The Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1889*, 97; "Steady New York Lines", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 10, 1887; "3 Supervisors Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 18, 1886; "More New York Town Meetings", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), April 15, 1886; "It is Simply Immense", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 11, 1886; "Oakfield", *The Daily News*, (Batavia, New York), March 3, 1886; "Two More Prohibition Supervisors", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "Election Miscellany", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 17, 1887; "Charles T. Potter", *Schuyler County Chronicle*, (Watkins, New York), July 3, 1913; "Local Option Victories", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 3, 1887; "Old Parties Fuse, but Are Beaten", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), February 24, 1887; "Party Prohibitionists Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), March 15, 1888; Wilcox, "Hamilton Wilcox, New York City- The Prohibition party elected town officers in the spring elections as follows", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), January 12, 1888; "A Prohibition Excise Commissioner", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), May 17, 1888; "The Whole Ticket Elected", *The Voice*, (New York City, New York), April 5, 1888; Reres, "Birth of A Village: Sea Cliff's First President", *Village Bulletin*, (Sea Cliff, New York), June 2017

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