

of Gershom R. and Adelia S. Cady, by whom he has had two children: Herbert J., now in business with his father, and Frank Hamilton, who died August, 1868.

Barker, James Madison, was born in Providence, Saratoga county, N. Y., March 18, 1809. His parents, and indeed all his relatives, were Friends, and he was reared among these estimable people. In his early business life he was actively engaged in manufacturing scythe snaths, and also had partnership interest in a tannery. For a number of years he superintended the work of a large farm. In June, 1837, he married Emily, youngest daughter of Hon. Isaac Gere, of Galway, Saratoga county, and in the Gere homestead were born his four children, Jennie B., widow of the late Francis Larned of Chicago; Harriet G., widow of the late Henry H. Hewitt of Bloomington, Ill.; William E. and Julia E., both of Albion, N. Y. In 1868 Mr. Barker and family removed from Galway to Albion and for a time was in the coal business with Smith D. Shourds, but devoted his attention mostly to investments in other localities. After years of failing health and a few weeks of acute suffering he died November 8, 1877, aged sixty-eight. Mr. Barker was a man of unusually fine presence, and possessed great natural excellences of character. Although a resident of Albion only nine years, he had in that short time endeared himself to all who came within the circle of his acquaintance, and in the words of his pastor "was as near the model man as we often meet in our journey through life." At the time of his death he was senior deacon of the Baptist Church, and very few could pass out of church and home and be more sadly missed than was this most honorable citizen, and true servant of God.

Blake, Ashley, was born in Clarkson, Monroe county, January 22, 1846, the youngest of five children of Amaziah and Ann (Thomas) Blake. When thirteen years old Ashley went to Carlton and for the next seven years lived in the family of his sister, Mrs. Captain Murray. He became interested in the lake and the possible revenues he might receive from carrying picnic parties along the south shore, and bought a yacht and did a successful business. Through this means he became acquainted with business men of Albion, and when the pleasure seasons were at an end he found ready employment in the village. He worked for a time with Battles & Bennett, but during his employment with that firm he had for a time command of a sailing vessel on the lake. Later on he was interested in business with Mr. Goodman. The firm were dealers in liquors and cigars. During their continuance in business, a period of about seven years, the firm was abundantly successful, much of the credit being due to the energetic efforts of Mr. Blake. After the death of Mr. Goodman, subject was out of business for a time, but eventually returned to trade and continued ten years without a partner. He retired in May, 1886, and after three years began dealing in apples, and was a large operator. Mr. Blake has been for many years the owner of fine bred horses, and to-day he possesses the best animals in the county, some being very fast. He is the owner of a good farm, which is carried on his personal direction. He is a Democrat, has been village trustee and assessor, and is now serving his third term on the Board of Excise. June 28, 1876, he married Mary, daughter of Capt. David and Catharine Hardie, and they have had five sons, three of whom are living.

Behnke, William H., Kendall, was born in Prussia, Germany, January 30, 1850. He came to America in 1871 and settled in Rochester, where he married, April 27, 1872,

Henrietta Tarraschke. In February, 1877, they moved to Kendall, and have resided in their present home since 1881. Mr. Behnke has been prominently identified with the German element of the town, taking an active interest in civil, educational and religious affairs, and being with two others largely influential in establishing the German Lutheran Church and parochial school at Kendall village. His children are: Frederick W., Louisa H., William H., Edward H., Martha M., Richard W., Ella C. (who died in infancy), and Paul C.

Blott, Jonathan, was a native of London, England, born June 4, 1813, and came to this country when about nineteen years of age in company with Robert Lewis, the latter going subsequently west where he died. Jonathan Blott was a butcher by trade and for a time sought work in New York and Albany. He finally found his way to Albion where he worked at odd jobs until a position was offered at his trade. After many discouragements Mr. Blott finally got into business. Five years from the time he came to Albion he returned to England, and there, on November 24, 1839, married Sarah Harris, daughter of Thomas Harris of London. In 1840 Mr. Blott and wife came to Albion, and in after years this persevering and industrious man became identified with some of the best interests of the village. The close of his life found him possessed of a competency, while personally he was regarded as one of the most prominent merchants of the county seat. Mr. Blott died February 28, 1873. Four times during his residence here he returned to his native country. His children were: Jonathan, Sidney (dead), Rosa (dead), Emma (dead), James and Alfred. The Blott Building on Main Street was erected in 1866.

Bishop, Francis M., born in Oakfield, Genesee county, March 22, 1851, is a son of Dr. John E. Bishop. Dr. Bishop conducted a drug store for a time at Akron, Erie county, but in 1858 he settled in Holley, purchasing the drug business of D. W. Frye. Dr. Bishop married a Miss Hackley of Batavia, and they had four children: Kate A. John E., Jennie E., and Francis M. Mr. Bishop was a Republican, but never aspired to public office. He was a prominent member of the Baptist Church of Holley. His death occurred in February, 1864, since which date the business has been carried on by his widow and son, Francis M. F. M. Bishop married in 1879, Kate H. Knickerbocker, and they have two sons, Oscar H., and Frank, and one daughter, Irene S. Mr. Bishop is a member of the Baptist Church, the State Pharmaceutical Association, and the American Pharmaceutical Association. John E. Bishop settled in Syracuse, where he is a practicing physician.

Bennett, Charles, was born in Devonshire, England, November, 25, 1833, and was the youngest of eleven children born to James and Mary Q. C. (Godfrey) Bennett. His father was a fuller and cloth dresser, and all of the sons were brought up in the same occupation. At the age of twenty Charles and his brother James came in a sailing vessel from Plymouth to this country, being five weeks on the voyage. They landed at Quebec and went to Bowmanble and there found work, Charles found work tending mason; from there he came to Charlotte, thence to Gaines, where his brother, William H. Bennett, then lived, and where Charles found work as a day laborer. He worked at various occupations for several months, and in the next spring was employed on the