

THE PRIDE OF WILLIAMSVILLE—NEW VILLAGE HALL HALL AND HOSE HOUSE.

View from the northwest, showing Hutchinson homestead adjoining.

Courtesy Buffalo Express.

WILLIAMSVILLE'S HALL DEDICATED.

Those among the citizens and friends of Williamsville who were privileged to witness the ceremonies incident to the dedication of the new Village Hall and Hose House on Friday afternoon will ever treasure the memory of that inspiring occasion. That our little village of Williamsville, which so often by neighboring towns has been classed as a pleasant, sleepy old village, should rise to the heights of possessing a building so beautiful in architecture and so well adapted to needs of coming generations, is a reality that elates every heart and convinces all that Williamsville is alive and awake to the possibilities of the times. It is a stride and a great one at that, in the march of progress; and out of this worthy beginning, other desirable things will arise.

At three o'clock on Friday afternoon, Dec. 31, 1909, before the assemblage which filled the spacious hall, Chief John M. Wehler of the



PRESIDENT M. J. HOFFMAN.

Hose Company and its members. Mr. Building Committee, we thank you.

The next speaker was Williamsville's benefactor, Mr. E. Howard Hutchinson of Buffalo, his introduction by President Hoffman occasioning prolonged applause, for his attitude towards Williamsville has won him the regard and gratitude of all its residents.

"Altho not a citizen," said Mr. Hutchinson, "my life is wrapped up in this old village, where I have spent many happy days, and I feel as one of you. It is a little over two years ago, when President Hoffman, with another prominent citizen, Mr. L. L. Grove, visited me and showed me the necessity for a new hall. To make a long story short, this present site was offered by me to the village. Today this beautiful building adorns it. To the firemen I wish to say that I esteem it one of the highest honors ever conferred upon me that they adopted the family name of Hutchinson, calling themselves the Hutchinson Hose Co. My grandfather, John Hutchinson, was the first chief of the fire department in Williamsville, while my father, John M. Hutchinson, was one of the founders of the village."

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At twelve o'clock on Friday afternoon, Dec. 31, 1909, before the assemblage which filled the spacious hall, Chief John M. Wehrle of the Hutchinson Hose Co. ushered to the stage the Village Board, President M. J. Hoffman, Franklin S. Huver, G. L. Helfter, Dr. Frank M. Gipple and Henry Hinkley. Following them were E. Howard Hutchinson, Jesse Porter, F. Hyatt Smith, Charles Foley, the Town Board, composed of Supervisor E. P. Ouchie, Town Clerk Lee W. Britting, Highway Commissioner George W. Heim and Justices of the Peace Thomas F. Morley, Gustave Steinecke and Clark E. Eiss, and the Revs. John Naylor, Charles W. Clark and J. F. Bennett. In the silence that then prevailed, a prayer was offered by Rev. John Naylor. Miss Ruth I. Gipple, accompanied by Mrs. G. H. Humphrey, charmingly sang, "Winter Lullaby."



TRUSTEE HENRY HINKLEY.

The formal presentation of the building was then made by Mr. Jesse Porter of the firm, Cyrus K. Porter & Sons, architects, and President M. J. Hoffman, in the name of the village, made the

PRESIDENT M. J. HOFFMAN.

speech of acceptance, which was as follows:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AND PRESENTATION COMMITTEE:

Before I formally accept the building, I believe that it is up to me to give a statement as to our finances, and I will briefly state and place it in condensed form. The total amount of receipts from all sources is \$17,009.00 and the expenditures are \$17,469.00, leaving a deficiency of \$460. The subscription list is still open and in the hands of the clerk, who will receive all contributions, which will be greatly appreciated. I think it also my duty to thank those who so kindly contributed, either by word or deed toward the erection and completion of this building; to the people of the Town of Amherst and of Williamsville, who on those eventful special election days cast affirmative ballots; to the Hutchinson Hose Co., who were the first in the field and were the actual promoters, and who gave their all; and to those who gave so liberally after facing taxation of the town and the bonded indebtedness of the village. All committees, those who have done their duty and those still in force, receive the thanks of the Board of Trustees, also they who gave the site which this building adorns, their monies and their kindly advice, they who took it from a probability in 1907 and 1908 and made it possible in 1909, your friends, the friends of Williamsville, Mr. and Mrs. E. Howard Hutchinson of the city of Buffalo. They not only receive the thanks of this Board, but of all Williamsville.

Now on behalf of the village of Williamsville and by action and resolution of the Board of Trustees of Dec. 29th, 1909, and as a member of the Board and as its Chairman thereof, with full power to receive, I hereby accept this building, this Village Hall and Hose House, and from now on, hereafter, and for all time, it is, and shall be the property of the village of Williamsville, and it is dedicated to the people of Williamsville for their use and purposes, with privileged rights to the Town of Amherst, its Board, its schools and its people, and we accord similar rights to the Hutchinson

father, John Hutchinson, was the first chief of the fire department in Williamsville, while my father, John M. Hutchinson, was one of the first fire commissioners of the paid fire department in Buffalo. His son, too, followed the calling.

I have heard that a library project has been originated and it would



TRUSTEE GEORGE L. HELFTER.

give me great pleasure to further this work by offering two hundred volumes, touching on art, travel, history, etc., for this library. (Great applause.) In conclusion, I wish to say that I shall always take a great interest in Williamsville."

Hon. Charles F. Foley, secretary of the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association, next addressed the firemen and their friends. Mr. Foley said it was a proud moment for him to be here at the dedication of this beautiful edifice. "In respect to Brother Hutchinson," he said, "I regret there are not more fairy god-fathers, who show their appreciation of the fireman. (Applause). Always support your local firemen. The firemen of the Hutchinson Hose Co. should strive to make their name an

honored one in respect to their friend whose name they bear."

Mr. Foley concluding his remarks, Rev. Charles W. Clark offered prayer.

The principal address of the day was given by Prof. F. Hyatt Smith of Buffalo, whose discourses have always been highly appreciated by Williamsville hearers. His talk was made up of good thoughts, gleanings of which follow:

"This splendid building is a monument to the donor of the site, the Village Board, the Firemen, the village and the town, and to all those who in their public spirit and generosity contributed to its erection. I congratulate you on achieving what many cities might emulate, what all towns may accomplish, the possession of a public structure that shall serve for municipal, educational, administrative and protective purposes.

The New England town meeting, with its free discussion of all important questions, its generous debates and its open library was the basis of American liberty. Use this



MR. E. HOWARD HUTCHINSON OF BUFFALO.

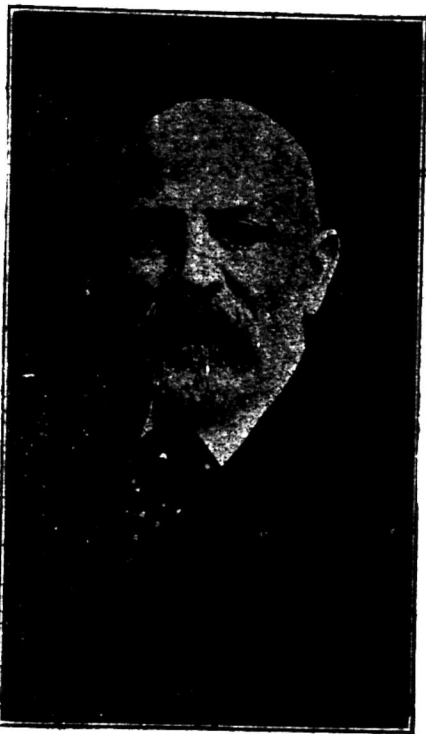
tombstone:

All I kept, I lost;
All I gave, I have;
All I was, I am.

Miss Ruth I. Gipple rendered with pleasing effect "The Nightingale Song." Supervisor Ouchie followed with remarks in behalf of the town, stating that it was the pioneer spirit that moves in the breast of every true American which made the new structure possible. He spoke of the rights and privileges of the Town of Amherst to the new building.

The audiences then arose, while Rev. J. F. Bennett solemnly gave the benediction. Then greetings and handshakings followed. Friends discussed olden days while others enjoyed making a tour of inspection through the building.

stone, supplied from the Carroll Bros. quarry west of the village, with trimmings of Ohio sandstone. The wide terrace with concrete walks leads to the main entrance of the building. The vestibule, with high wainscoting of solid oak where is imbedded a tablet bearing the names of the trustees, enters into the hall. To the left, a solid oak staircase with a balustrade of handsome iron filigree scoll surmounted by a heavy brass rail, leads to the auditorium above. To the right of the hall is the general meeting room, 24 by 28 feet, finished with a 5 ft. wainscoting of solid oak, terrazzo floor and a large Pompeian brick fire place. This room opens into a large reception room, the wood here being birch. Large folding doors connect these two rooms and enable them to be made one vast meeting room. The library, ideal in its location, adjoins the reception room, the wood here also being birch. It is spacious and bright, with windows at the west and south, the latter giving a beautiful aspect of the winding Ellicott creek with its



TRUSTEE FRANKLIN S. HUVER.

building also to discuss the public good. A man to be well-rounded in this country should know something of everything and everything of some things. Each project for the good of the town will here be discussed and given a hearing, here the



Buffalo Express.

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cussed and given a hearing, here the
intellectual needs of your youth will
in time be supplied, for books are
the defense of the nations. The
possibilities of a library and what it
may develop cannot be estimated.
If this building does nothing more
than to enlarge inspiration for bet-
ter things, it has done much.

Village life under proper con-
ditions is ideal. There the neigh-
borly instincts, the intimate ac-
quaintance, the communion of na-
ture, the freedom from convention-
ality, the elemental virtues, are
possible to an extent unknown in the
crowded streets and sordid competi-
tions of great populations. A village
may be made anything that its citi-
zens try to make it. There are four
fires every village has to fight—im-
temperance, jealousy, evil habits
and hate. Mothers and fathers,
keep your children at home. Give
them amusements. Look after your
boys or in a few years you will not
have boys to look after. The home
newspaper, the churches, the wo-
men's club and the village hall are
all elements working for the general
good."

LFTER.

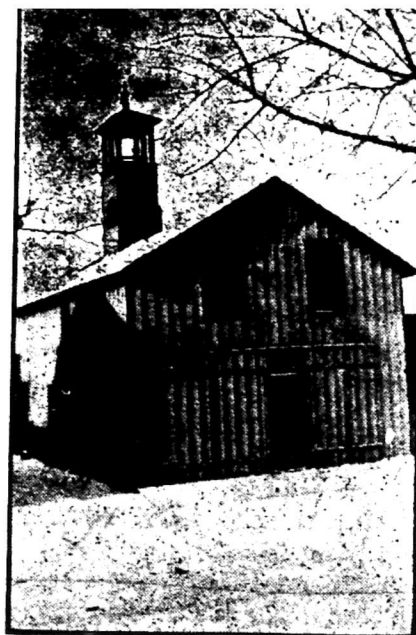
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TRUSTEE FRANK M. GIPPLE.

In conclusion Prof. Smith stated
that a man should live to help others
and to support this thought gave the
following inscription taken from a



Old Village Hall on North Cayuga Street.

It is many years ago since the
realization of the pressing need of a
village hall was felt. That the old
one was no fit meeting place is
obvious when one only glances at its
portrait. But it was the firemen
who with undaunted energy pushed
the project and offered substantial
aid. On Tuesday, Oct. 29, 1907, at
a special village election, it was de-
cided that the village of Williams-
ville would expend \$5000 for a new
hall, and on Thursday, Nov. 14, 1907,
came the good news that an un-
equaled site had been donated for
the new hall by E. Howard Hutchin-
son of Buffalo. Seldom has a public
gift brought forth more gratitude
than this. A section of the old
homestead property on Main street
in the central part of the village
was offered by Mr. Hutchinson as a
building site, and, in addition, he
also contributed \$3000 to the build-
ing fund. The Hutchinson Hose
Co. liberally pledged \$2000, the
Town of Amherst \$5000, and ener-
getic residents and friends individu-
ally over \$2000. To those who con-
tributed, what a source of satisfac-
tion and pleasure the finished build-
ing now is!

The new hall rises majestically on
its site, being 44 by 80 ft., with an
imposing tower of 72 ft. on the east
side, where the old fire bell hangs.
The structure is built of native

It is spacious and bright, with
windows at the west and south, the
latter giving a beautiful aspect of
the winding Ellicott creek with its
surrounding meadows.

The room of the Hutchinson Hose
Co., also on the first floor, is a
source of pride to every member
and rightly so. It has already been
completely and tastefully furnished
and the beautiful mission furniture,
rich draperies and tasteful decora-
tions are in harmony with the 8 ft.
wainscoting of chestnut finished in
mission and the roomy fireplace.
Cloakrooms, lavatories and a pantry,
connected by a dumb-waiter with
the kitchen below, are also on this
floor.



CHIEF JOHN M. WEHRLE.

The large auditorium on the
second floor, seating 600, is 44 by 80
ft., finished in Georgia pine with
rafter effect. A gallery, accomodat-
ing 100, is at the rear of the hall.

The basement comprises the large
apartment designated for the hose
cart, ladders, etc., and permanent
election booths. From here is a fine
cement run to the street for the
hose cart. In the rear are the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5.

WILLIAMSVILLE'S HALL DEDICATED

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

kitchen, lavatory, and the jail with its two steel cells. The building, while lighted now with gas, is wired throughout for electricity.

Subsequent to the dedication services, from 6 to 8 p. m., the ladies of the village served a delicious hot dinner in the basement to nearly 200 guests. Many remained from the dinner for the Dedication ball, given in the evening under the auspices of the Hose Co., and at 8.30, the ball room was fully occupied by the dancers. The afternoon's decorations of American flags and bunting remained for the evening's festivities. The music, rendered by the orchestra of the afternoon, was delightful. An enjoyable rest place was the Hutchinson Hose Co. room on the first floor, where its coziness lured the guests between the dances. Here on the tables two exquisite baskets of poinsettias, the gift of Miss Rachel M. Rebstock of Buffalo, brightened the room. There were many handsome gowns among the dancers.

The proceeds of the ball were in the neighborhood of two hundred dollars, which the Hutchinson Hose Co. will contribute for the furnishing of the new hall. The fire company were the recipients of a \$100 check, presented to them by Mr. Hutchinson to be expended for the embellishing of their room.

There were many out-of-town people present at the Dedication services, among them being Mr. E. H. Hutchinson, his daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John Baker, Mr. Francis F. Baker, Miss Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Edward C. Roth, Mr. Frank Loomis, Mr. Jasper Youngs, Messrs. Jesse and Cyrus Porter, Dr. Horace P. Hopkins, Mrs. T. B. Staley, Mrs. E. W. Beach, Miss Louise Dodge, Miss Sue L. Coe, Mrs. Henry Brock and Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Klein of Buffalo, Mr. O. R. Sackett, Police Commissioner of Niagara Falls, Miss Hazeltine Coe of Lancaster, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bowen of Wilhelm and Mrs. Charles Dye of Akron.

PERSONALS.

—Mrs. C. H. Lancott of Buffalo called on friends here Monday.

—Mrs. Wayne Zent of Schenectady is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Summers.

—Miss Alice Dodge of Pratt Institute spent the holidays at her home in Buffalo.

—Mr. and Mrs. George Toulson of Buffalo spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Klute.

—Miss Florence Kelsch spent last week with her sister, Mrs. Edward Burkard of Martinsville.

—Misses Ella and Mabel Higgins of Akron were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Gotwalt.

—Mr. and Mrs. Edward Diehl of Buffalo spent New Year's Day with Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Diehl.

—Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Geiger returned to Rochester Sunday after spending the holidays here.

—Misses Harriet Dodge and Ruth Wippert of Buffalo called on friends here Tuesday afternoon.

—Miss Clara Golz of Buffalo spent Saturday and Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Golz.

—Mrs. E. W. Beach of Buffalo spent from Friday until Monday with her mother, Mrs. N. E. Zent.

—Mrs. Henry Brock and daughter of Buffalo were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Klute from Friday to Sunday.

—Miss Viola Schmitz and Misses Emma and Rose Beck of Buffalo spent New Year's with Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Spalding and Mrs. L. Spalding.

—Mrs. Cora Scott of Springville, Mr. and Mrs. Will Braun and Mr. and Mrs. Byron Braun of Buffalo visited J. F. Braun and family this week.

—Mrs. E. A. Bates and Miss Fannie I. Bates, with Mrs. Mary J. Reist and son Harold of Lancaster, were guests New Year's Day of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Snyder of Snyder.

—Mrs. H. P. Trull spent Friday and Saturday at Clifton Sanitarium, Clifton, N. Y., with Dr. H. P. Trull, who is undergoing treatment there

—Miss Edna Snyder of S spent last week at Rochester Batavia.

—Mr. Alvin Bauer of B visited his mother, Mrs. L. F. B Sunday.

—Mrs. C. F. Witmer is visiting her daughter, Mrs. A. Warren at Low Banks, Ont.

—Miss Katherine and Mr. J. Hucker of Elma visited friends during the holidays.

—Mr. Henry Bolt of Detroit, spent the holidays with mother, Mrs. Amelia Bolt.

—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reist of Niagara Falls are visiting Mr. H. Reist and Miss Ethel Reist.

—Mr. Wm. Steinbrenner of Buffalo was a guest at Mr. H. Steinbrenner's last Friday.

—Miss Ida E. Schwartz of Rochester was a week end guest of and Mrs. George J. Measer.

—Miss Rose Broker of Buffalo was the guest of Miss Minnie Steinbrenner from Friday until Sunday.

—Mr. E. I. Treichler of San Francisco spent last Friday night with his father, Mrs. J. S. Snearly, and family.

—Mrs. Frank Zent of Gasport spent from Friday to Monday with her daughter, Mrs. Elias Shiesley.

—Messrs. Oscar Klute, Howard Burkhardt and William Wohl were home from Rochester for the holidays.

—Mrs. Jacob Thompson returned Tuesday from New Market, Canada where she spent the holidays with Mrs. Milo Minar.

—Messrs. George and Theodor Brunner spent from Friday to Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Ph. Brunner of Gowanda.

—Mr. Simon Herberger and brother of Grand Island, N. Y., were guests over New Year's of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Herberger.

—Mr. and Mrs. Albert Koss entertained as their guests during the holidays Mr. and Mrs. Frank K. of Rochester, Mr. Charles and Mrs. Anna Miller of Buffalo, Mr. Frederic Miller and Mr. John Kelso of Ha