

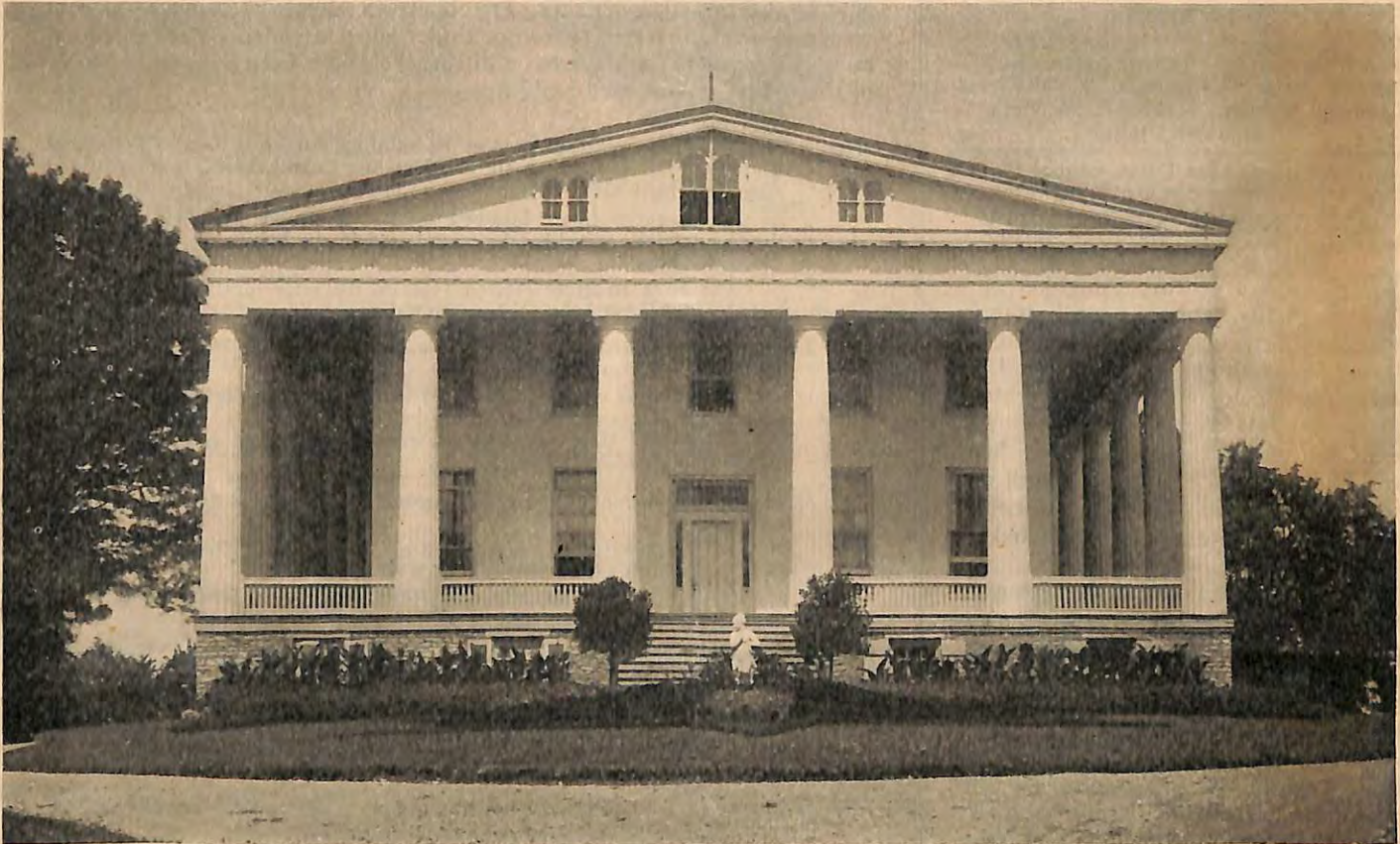


# Thrift Messenger

Published periodically by the Poughkeepsie Savings Bank

Vol. XVI., No. 1

MARCH, 1937



Poughkeepsie Collegiate Institute which crowned College Hill 1836 to 1917.  
The present shelter erected by gift of Guilford H. Dudley follows the architectural form of the old school building.

## A Little Pilgrimage to Old Poughkeepsie Schools

*A century ago Poughkeepsie had already won for itself the title "City of Schools"*

**T**HE EARLY prosperity of the town was closely interwoven with its unusually large number of boarding and day schools, ranging from primary through academy grades, with principals and teachers shifting frequently from one to another. An almost bewildering variety of schools existed from early in 1800 until the public school system became so well organized that private schools were scarcely needed.

What were some of these old-time schools, and where were they located? Supposing we take a little drive around Poughkeepsie and figure out where some of them used to stand.

Starting our drive on Market Street, in front of the Poughkeepsie Savings Bank, we may recall that close by, near Cannon Street, once stood the *Dutchess Seminary* which advertised for pupils back in 1806, under the direction of the Rev. John Phillips.

And here at the corner of Church Street, where the Armory now stands, was once the old building of Christ Church. In the basement of this, from 1845 to 1858 *Christ Church School* was conducted, at first for girls, only, and later for boys and girls.

On the opposite corner, where the Amrita Club now stands, there was once a school building. And this structure probably housed the *Poughkeepsie Boarding School for Young Ladies* which was advertised on Market Street as early as 1801 by M. E. and A. Sketchley and attained much popularity. According to newspaper notices, poor Mr. Sketchley "died of broken heart" at the early age of 29, after difficulties in running his school.

Just below, at the Corner of Market and Pine Streets, and now included in

Tiffany's Garage, is the building which in 1858 was presented to Christ Church by Mr. and Mrs. William A. Davies for *Christ Church School*. The church school was conducted until 1884, when the building was first leased and then, in 1888 sold to Miss Caroline Silloway, who used it for her *Quincy School*. Afterward this was conducted by Miss Mary Alliger. Look sharply and you can still detect the outlines of the old building.

Swinging back on Market Street

(Continued on page 3)

THE THRIFT MESSENGER  
VOL. XVI. NO. 1

Published periodically in the interests of thrift  
by the Poughkeepsie Savings Bank  
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

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POUGHKEEPSIE'S PROSPERITY  
THROUGH ITS SCHOOLS

FOR over a century Poughkeepsie's prosperity has been bound up in its schools. Early in 1800 it was already laying foundations for its fine record. By 1841 the "Telegraph" noted eighteen private schools in addition to the Dutchess County Academy, Lancaster School and High School. This High School was sometimes called Teachers Institute, and was a private school conducted by James Hyatt.

These private schools, attracting pupils from all over the country, were prosperous and helped the town. The "Journal" of September 29, 1841, wrote, "Through boarding schools alone, not less than \$70,000 per year is brought in and distributed among the citizens of Poughkeepsie. To them, more than to anything else may we attribute the fact that Poughkeepsie has suffered less than other places from the depression consequent upon speculation of '36 and '37."

And in present times Poughkeepsie points with pride to Vassar College which brings distinction to our city and impressive financial returns to our merchants.

For their gracious assistance in reviewing and adding items to the material for this "Thrift Messenger", we are, as often before, deeply indebted to Miss Helen Wilkinson Reynolds, Dutchess County's historian, and Mrs. Amy Ver Nooy, in charge of the Poughkeepsie Room, Adriance Memorial Library.

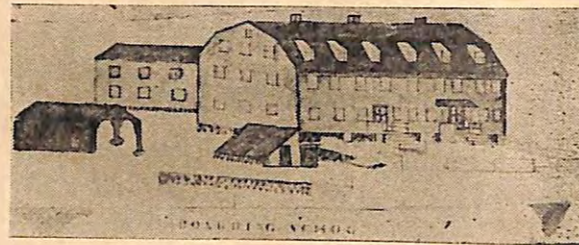


Seal of Lancaster School

Courtesy of Adriance Memorial Library.

Nine Partners Boarding School

From a drawing made about 1812-14 by Elizabeth Jordan, (born 1800). Reproduced from the 1935 Year Book of the Dutchess County Historical Society.



The former plan of calling Poughkeepsie schools by number was conveniently brief but very confusing. Under Superintendent Ward C. Moon each of our present schools has a distinctive name. Let us try to list some of the old-time numbered buildings:—

"No. 1 School"—Space rented in 1844 in the building, corner of North Clinton and Thompson Streets, formerly the first Dutchess County Academy building and moved to this location 1837.

A two-room frame building corner of Bridge and Mill Streets,—the first school erected by the town; used in the beginning as a grammar school for boys.

The brick structure erected 1906 on the same location. This is now called ABRAHAM LINCOLN SCHOOL.

"No. 2 School"—Space rented in 1844 in the theatre building, Market Street near Jay (now William Street).

The building erected 1856 or 1857 for the Lancaster School, 197 Church Street, now Germania Hall.

The school at 100 Pine Street, erected 1911; now called EDWARD ELSWORTH SCHOOL.

"No. 3 School"—Space rented in a coach factory, corner of Mill Street and Dutchess Avenue.

The brick building erected 1858 on lower Church Street, later named CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS SCHOOL.

(Our present COLUMBUS SCHOOL was erected 1929 at 14 South Perry Street.)

"No. 4 School"—Still standing on the east side of Bayeaux Street, now North Perry Street.

The Lafayette Place Annex added for grammar school use to the old High School building (now SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING) corner of Washington Street and Lafayette Place. The addition is at present a Freshman High School Annex.

"No. 5 School"—Built at 30 North Clinton Street, 1860; later named MORSE SCHOOL. Now a High School Freshman Annex.

Hoffman Street Chapel; also used as a grade school during the week.

(Our present S. F. B. MORSE SCHOOL was erected 1928 at 105 Mansion Street).

"No. 6 School"—An older name for LIVINGSTON SCHOOL, built 1901 on Lincoln Avenue; our present TRADE SCHOOL.

"No. 7 School"—Occupying for a time Leslie's brick school building, 50 Academy Street; now housing private families.

WILLIAM W. SMITH SCHOOL, erected 1912 at 400 Church Street, used sometimes to be called No. 7 School.

"No. 8 School"—Built 1875, at 150 Cannon Street. Now used as CONTINUATION SCHOOL.

(GOVERNOR GEORGE CLINTON SCHOOL, built 1925 at 104 Montgomery Street, now replaces old No. 8 School).

"No. 9 School"—Building at 17 South Hamilton Street, later for a time used as ST. MARY'S PAROCHIAL SCHOOL; also as a shoe factory.

The building at 50 Delafield Street erected 1906, and enlarged 1922; now always called BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SCHOOL.

"No. 10 School"—The former Warring Military Academy building, Smith and Mansion Streets.

The modern CHARLES B. WARRING SCHOOL erected 1918, on this same location, enlarged in 1922 and again in 1928; used sometimes to be called No. 10 School.

Southeast Avenue School from 1924 to 1929, occupied a big house on the Driving Park property, Hooker Avenue, then in District 7, Town of Poughkeepsie.

George W. Krieger School on the same location, 265 Hooker Avenue, built in 1929 by the City of Poughkeepsie in the new Eighth Ward, replaces this temporary school..

A LITTLE PILGRIMAGE TO OLD  
POUGHKEEPSIE SCHOOLS

(Continued from page 1)

into Church Street, we pass the famous old Lancaster School, incorporated 1814, with strong guidance from the pastors of the Dutch Church and Christ Church. Like similar schools in other towns, it carried out the latest educational ideas of its day by having the older pupils instruct the younger ones. "But this is Germania Hall," you protest. Yes, indeed. But before this the building was Public School No. 2, and still earlier, about 1859, it was a free academy or high school. Even earlier the Lancaster School building stood on this same site, mentioned as far back as 1791 on old deeds as "the school house lot."

Just glance a couple houses up Academy Street as we round this corner. On the west side here, at Number 50, was John W. Leslie's two-room school for boys, founded just before the Civil War, and continued long afterward by A. H. Bishop. Later it became Public School No. 7. It is now a private house.

Driving down Academy Street we pass the place where Miss Powers' Primary School was conducted. A candy store stands there now. Miss Powers' school building was really the old market house, which had stood before the Court House on Market Street until a new market house with city hall was erected in 1831, whereupon it was moved to Academy Street.

At the corner of Academy and Cannon Streets let us stop a minute. On the north-east corner used to stand the fashionable girls' boarding school of Miss Thomas. And on the south-west corner we now see a gas station. But if we had passed in days soon after the American Revolution we might have seen boys and girls trooping into a substantial building here,—one of Poughkeepsie's very first schools, the Dutchess County Academy, started in Fishkill. Academy Street received its name from this school; it was at first called Ragged Lane, then Charles Street, probably in honor of Dr. Charles Crooke, who once owned this lot. In 1791 the academy was incorporated by the State Board of Regents, and although school deeds of 1792 call this Charles Street, the academy soon gave it its final name. This was an excellent school for its time, serving for three-quarters of a century. Outgrowing its first building in 1837 this was sold to John Forbus who had it moved to the corner of Thompson and North Clinton Streets, where it has stood for years.

A new Dutchess County Academy was then built, quite far out of the village for those times, at the corner of Hamilton



Seal of Dutchess County Academy

Reproduced from Platt's "History of Poughkeepsie" by courtesy of Edmund P. Platt.

and Montgomery Streets. Let's drive over and look at it. Yes, the building is still standing. "The Old Ladies' Home", you say? Surely! The school served until Civil War days when the trustees sold the building and handed the money over to the city Board of Education. With this money a High School and Library building was erected at the corner of Washington Street and Lafayette Place,—our present School Administration Building. We are told that high school boys and girls attended classes for a time on the second floor of the then newly-built Mulrein Building on Market Street until the new High School was ready, April, 1872. Meanwhile, Mr. Jonathan Warner, who bought the old Academy building, founded there the Old Ladies' Home, considerably altered to meet present needs. The lawn used to extend much farther westward and its fence made a decided angle at what we now call Trinity Square.

Farther out, on Hooker Avenue, we pass the ample grounds of Putnam Hall. This was opened as Brooks Institute by Mr. and Mrs. Edward White, not long after the opening of Vassar College. After intervals of use as a Vassar dormitory and as a hotel, it became our well-known Putnam Hall.

Swinging back on Hooker Avenue

into Montgomery Street we pass the site of Pelham Institute, a former boys' day school, conducted by Stewart Pelham, the last principal of the old Dutchess County Academy, who bought this school from Egbert Cary and ran it for twenty years. Next door stood Dr. Bockee's School for Girls. It is not difficult to locate these schools, for Governor Clinton School today is close to their former location. And by the way, for some years there was a boarding school at the north-west corner of Hamilton and Montgomery Streets which catered to Cuban boys. Glance up Montgomery Street toward No. 145 on the south side. For some years the School of Practical Agriculture and Horticulture was located here, with an annex at 23 Forbus Street.

Right here at the corner of Academy and Montgomery Streets stood one of the most important girls' schools in the 1870s and 1880s,—the Home Institute of the Misses Butler, Miss Sarah Victoria Hotchkiss Butler, principal.

Going over to South Hamilton Street again, we pass St. Mary's Parochial School. In 1870, many years before this building was erected, a small house on part of this site contained Mrs. Mary Herrick's Primary School.

Now let us cross Main Street and turn into Mill. Right here at the corner of Hamilton and Mill Streets stood Otis Bisbee's High School for Boys. Mr. Bisbee was first a teacher at the school on College Hill, then conducted this school of his own; later returned to College Hill and in 1869 built Riverview Military Academy.

At Mill and Catherine Streets we find the Hendrick Hudson Hotel. But ninety years' ago the earlier built portion of this was the Poughkeepsie Female Collegiate Institute, founded by Dr. Charles McLellan, a man of high intellectual attainments. Later, as Cook's Collegiate Institute it was bought by Dr. Samuel W. Buck and under his accomplished guidance it flourished for years as Lyndon Hall. Many Poughkeepsie ladies are members of Lyndon Hall Alumnae Association.

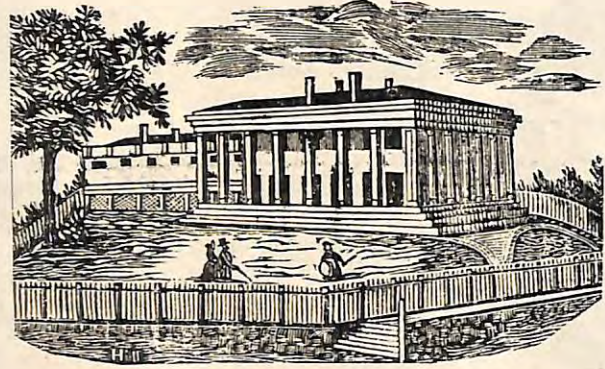
A number of schools have been con-



Cottage Hill

Former home of Levi McKeen. At least six private schools were conducted here between 1835 and 1890.

(From a School Folder).



Mansion Square Female Academy

Dr. W. P. Gibbons was first principal of this school, about 1850.

(From a School Catalogue).

ducted in this vicinity at one time or another. Just glance north of Garden Street a few houses. Here nearly a century ago was a little "dame school" or kindergarten, as we might call it now. And half way down the block toward Main at No. 27 Garden Street, is the building used for some years by Miss Caroline Silloway who came here from Massachusetts to conduct her *Quincy School* and later bought the Christ Church School building at Pine and Market Streets for her school.

Close by, on the north side of Mill Street, once stood the *Poughkeepsie Female Seminary*, incorporated 1834. Apparently this merged later with the *Poughkeepsie Female Academy* which erected a large building on Cannon Street. Since 1885 the Cannon Street building has been the W. C. T. U. building. It opened as a school May, 1836, with Miss Arabella Bosworth as its first principal. Miss Bosworth had a noteworthy record for her teaching in several local schools, including one at Cottage Hill and one that used to stand at the corner of Cannon Street and Wood Lane. Jacob Tooker next ran the school, which later for years was conducted by Dr. D. G. Wright.

Garden Street, by the way, where we are parking a few minutes, was so named because it used to lead to the garden of Levi McKeen, whose big house, "Cottage Hill", was used by at least six different school proprietors. *Miss Lydia Booth's Female Seminary* was started about 1835 in the McKeen house; we remember her as a niece of Matthew Vassar. Soon after, Professor Milo Jewett came to town and conducted a school here, called *Cottage Hill Seminary for Young Ladies*. Mr. Jewett exerted great influence upon Matthew Vassar's plan for establishing Vassar College. Miss Bosworth, first principal of Poughkeepsie Female Academy, had a school here for a time, as did also C. C. Wetsell, Dr. Rider and John Miley, with his *College Preparatory School*. In 1890 the house was torn down to make way for a row of brick buildings.

Now let us go on to Mansion Square. A little way east from the corner of Mansion and North Clinton Streets we can see a large frame building whose grounds used to extend down to Clinton Street. Here was the *Mansion Square Female Academy*. Dr. W. P. Gibbons was its first principal back in 1850. Later it was a hotel for a time, a substantial building as you can see today. Samuel Smith advertised his *Mansion-House Boarding School* at Mansion Square, too, many years ago.

Now we go on and drive to the top of College Hill Park, with its wonderful view. But why should we drive up here? Because a famous boys' school once stood here, called "the best of its kind in America" in its day. This lovely hill-top, 365 feet above the river level, was once the scene of public receptions to President Van Buren, Henry Clay, Daniel Webster; in days when Poughkeepsie was a mere village. In the 1830s the Improvement Party, composed of a group of alert citizens, developed many new enterprises in town and this school was one of them. *Poughkeepsie Collegiate Institute* was incorporated May 26, 1836 to give boys a classical and commercial training. Dr. Charles Bartlett, a graduate of Union College, with considerable teaching experience, walked up this hill one day with friends. "What an admirable location for a school!" he exclaimed. And soon his plans took form and Dr. Bartlett himself was the school's first principal.

From the very first the College Hill School prospered. Its huge \$75,000 building looked exactly like the Greek Parthenon. It was planned to erect a twin building east of this for a girls' school and also to lay out residential streets on the hillside, but this never happened. Every boy had his own bedroom, with a dressing room for every two boys, and each pupil in early days, brought a Bible, an English dictionary, half a dozen table napkins, a toothbrush and dust and shoe brushes. Twice the roof blew off in gales, leaving the open sky above the boys' heads.

Dr. Bartlett was succeeded by Dr. Charles Warring, who withdrew in 1863 to establish his own military school and by Otis Bisbee, who conducted his *High School for Boys* for a time, returned to College Hill, and in 1869 founded Riverview Academy. Later on the building was used for a time as a hotel. Then John Guy Vassar, nephew of Matthew Vassar, founder of Vassar College, conceived the idea of founding an orphan home here, but although he left ample funds for it, this fell through because he had not incorporated it during his lifetime. The hill was then purchased by William W. Smith, who presented it to the city for a public park. The big building burned to the ground on February 2, 1917.

Returning down the North Road we pass the unused buildings which were once *St. Faith's School* and later flourished as Dr. Townsend's *Glen Eden School* until about the close of the World War. Crossing Mill at Washington Street we find a parking space on the southwest corner. It seems hard to believe that not many years ago a large building here housed the concentrated activities of *Eastman College*.

We can glance down toward the corner of Smith and Mansion Streets, to the location of *Doctor Warring's Poughkeepsie Military Institute*. How fitting that our present public school on that site should be called the *Warring School*.

Now shall we drive up the North Road a little way to the old Bech place, now St. Ann's Hermitage? In 1859 David Bartlett opened there a school with two departments, one for boys and girls who were deaf mutes and the other for their little brothers and sisters. Going by way of Mansion Street we pass the corner of Catharine, where Mrs. H. W. Bliven was conducting *Mansion Square Female Institute* in the 1850s, adjoining the present site of *S. F. B. Morse School*.

And farther west on Mansion Street we recall that one of those houses soon to be demolished for the new post office used to contain a girls' school kept by *Miss Hyde*. If we should drive down to Davies Place we might still pass the house at No. 12, where *Miss Sarah Woodcock* conducted a school for some years.

On southward we drive to *Riverview Military Academy*. Going by way of Washington, Main and Market, we pass 233-235 Main Street which housed for a time both the State and National Law School and the beginning of Eastman College. And here is Riverview! "Why, this is Lincoln Center", you exclaim. Yes, but when it was built in 1869 by Otis J. Bisbee who brought to it great ability and wide experience, it was a boys' military academy of the first magnitude. Many prominent Poughkeepsie citizens owe their erect military carriage and their sound education to Riverview. Under Dr. Bisbee and his son, Major Joseph Bartlett Bisbee the school flourished for years. In 1925 the City of Poughkeepsie granted the use of it to Lincoln Center, and a busy place it is today!

Now do you wonder that when John Fowler brought his *State and National Law School* here in 1852 from Ballston, he mentioned in his circular the many prosperous academies of Poughkeepsie? This law school occupied quarters in the Library Building, which we passed on Main Street. It expanded greatly before the Civil War with many prominent graduates, a large number coming from the southern states.

Or do you wonder that Harvey G. Eastman, born at Marshall, Oneida County in 1832, and experienced in school management, heard of the town's reputation for schools? Just as the Law School was waning Mr. Eastman came to Poughkeepsie and established a flourishing commercial college, foremost in the country and attracting students from all over the world. Eastman's arrival was preceded by such huge piles of mail in answer to advertising done elsewhere, that our local postmaster was bewildered. In October, 1859, he advertised his school locally. He started with a single room in the Library Building renting at 75c a week. His first pupil failed to locate the school after careful search until he chanced upon Mr. Eastman himself in a

Poughkeepsie Female Academy

Erected on Cannon Street, 1836. Do you recognize the present W. C. T. U. Building?

(From a School Catalogue).



hotel dining room. But within a month there were twenty students and soon *Eastman College* was a noted business school, with many hundreds of students, attracted by his ability and energy and clever advertising. Actual business operations were carried through to the smallest details. "Learning by doing" was the school's motto.

During the Civil War Eastman College had a tremendous boom. There was a large influx of soldiers whose army terms had expired. Famous lecturers were brought to the college continually. A brigade of 1,500 men was formed. Eastman's band was so famous that it had the distinction of preceding President Lincoln's carriage down Pennsylvania Avenue at his second inaugural. And after his assassination the band formed an escort to the funeral procession up Broadway in New York City and also at the Capitol in Albany. At one anniversary celebration there was a banquet for 2,500 students and guests.

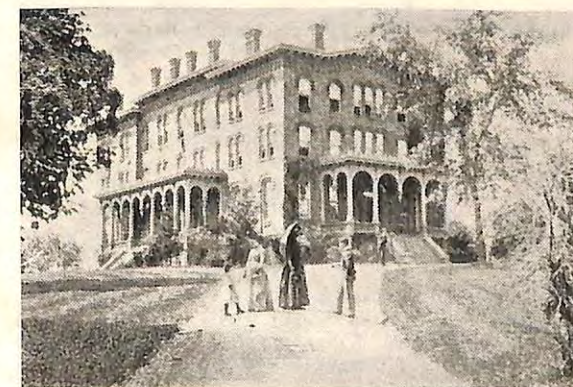
By 1865 Eastman College was at the zenith of its popularity with over 1,700 students. It is easy to see what a boon this was to local merchants and householders. In its early years many students were disappointed on arriving to find no impressive college buildings. Students were housed in rented rooms all over town. Classrooms were scattered, too, including the upper floor of our City Hall, three church buildings and office building space. Much later, in 1883, the school concentrated its work in a large building at the corner of Mill and Washington Streets, demolished three years ago.

Mr. Eastman bought and laid out Eastman Park in 1865, much of it on swampy ground bordering a brook. But elaborate drainage carried the brook underground to a pond with an island in the center, and on the island was a band stand. The brook was also used to flood the big athletic field in winter for skating. It is still so used, but the pond is gone. The big Eastman mansion



Dutchess County Academy

Second Building, corner of South Hamilton and Montgomery Streets. Now incorporated in the Old Ladies' Home. (From old Photograph).



Riverview Military Academy

Opened in 1869 by Dr. Otis J. Bisbee. Can you find the Lincoln Center of today?

(From an early photograph).

# HONOR ROLL

In the period between October 24, 1936, and February 25, 1937, the following boys and girls deposited their first dollar or more in their school banks, thus entitling them to Poughkeepsie Savings Bank passbooks, with the regular rate of interest, compounded quarterly.

### POUGHKEEPSIE HIGH SCHOOL

Russell Campitelli, Marie Betros, Pauline Abramsky, Patricia Lassi, Mary Rossi, Rita Barone, Lucy Staropoli, William Schultz, Jr., Robert Lillis, Cecilia Petito, Irene Lis, Ernest Parisi, Paul Hickey, Jr., Bertha Lucas, John Meyer, Josephine Mador, Bernice Abramsky, Irene O'Dell, William Kedzielawa, Doris Conklin, Elizabeth Cacchio, Anthony Cataldi, Margaret Costello, Salvatore Bonasera. Rosella Rock, Thomas McCormack, Doris Small, John Najwert, Helen Sudol, Peona Campion, Rose Britt, Robert Davis, Jr. Carolyn Turner, Milton Branch, Frederick Minholz, Raymond Bilyou, Doris Disbrow, Mary Tishler, Raymond Hutton, Dorothea Daley.

Eleanor Taylor, Robert Gillen, Mary Sisco, Fred Feola, Robert Fenner, LeRoy Stoothof, Jr., Dorothy Stevenson, Kay Lipinski, Casimir Osika, William Galbraith.

### ABRAHAM LINCOLN SCHOOL

Adeline DelForno, Attilio Troiano, Ethel Hanaburgh, Robert Branham, John Caputo, Charles Schleiger, Serafina Scerra, Leonard Graziano, Alfonso Federico.

### EDWARD ELSWORTH SCHOOL 6

Barbara Davis, Barnard Barnhart, Floyd Davis, Robert Kuhn, Frances Adams, Patricia McCormack. Frank Gusmano, Howard Terbush, Andrew Mihans, Howard Beaton, Henry Barton, Roger Hunt.

Alice Flanagan, William Bolis, Dolores Kniffin, Willard Davis, Edgar Scott, Richard Yorgensen, Doris Losee, Ronald Opdenbrouw.

Robert Van Vlack, William Ogden, Salvatore Cerniglia, Anna Cerniglia, Robert Lowe, Julia Rinaldi, Jean Sickler, Charles Abbate.

### CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS SCHOOL

Shirley Marcus, Barbara Sherman, Patricia Perrotta, Catherine DeAngelis, Rose Tornatore, Shirley Green, Virginia Francese, William Dubinski, Patricia Kihlmire.

Richard Dell'olio, Irene Knickerbocker, Charles De Angelis, James Francese, Jean Nameth, Douglas Freal.

Emanuel Gish, Catherine McLain, Robert Scott, Doris Beaton, Mary De Costa.

Beatrice Croshier, John De Costa, Sterling Moore, Richard Escott, Mary Francese, Lillian Beaton.

Joseph Perrotta, Walter Brandt, Jean Noll, Barnard Steingone, Dolores Faella, Harry G. Gohl, Frank Connors, Jr.

Robert Hutter, William Wood, Edward Wood, Jr., Edward Dietrich, Jr., Margaret Brink, Marian Hutter, Lawrence Stamm, William Turner, Olive Heiser.

### SAMUEL F. B. MORSE SCHOOL

Carolyn Eckert, Frederick Wohlfahrt, Jr., F. Sudeen Ward, Audrey LeFevre. Rita Sabo, Kenneth Dean, Kenneth Hartung, Joan Idema, Dolores Stout. James Wilkinson, Charles Haight, Shirley Wilkinson, Dorothy Mann, Mary Daley. Gerald Voerman, Janet Traudt, Alvin Dropkin, Stewart Bowles, Gordon Kimlin. Robert Haggerty, Antoinette Trocher, Constance Manos, Robert Lindell, Anne Van Wagner, Jean Burger.

### WILLIAM W. SMITH SCHOOL

Gerson Wolpe, M. Joseph Durkin, III., Nancy Goebler, William Ollivett, Jr., Harvey Rothstein.

Edward Batey, Gordon Mergendahl, Jr., Costance Reid, Stephen Connolly, Wilma Dedicato, James Franklin, Jr., John Twyman. Audrey Hadden, Carol Landis, William Hoover, Bernard Goodkin, Florence Ratka, Barbara Burchell, Doris Ganoung.

Joyce Rose, Patricia White, Joyce Mosher, George Cromwell, Jr., John Larkin, Geraldine Grimm, Richard Shafrau, Jacqueline Krakower, Kathleen Cook, Frederick Devan, Robert Campitelli.

### GOV. GEORGE CLINTON SCHOOL

Laurence Bittman, June Dingee, Barbara Burnett, Harold Cain, Jr., Carlton Hadden, L. Edgar Lee, Jr., Janice Rose.

Elizabeth Fish, Bradley Halvorsen, Joseph Deley, Marguerite Burns, Raymond Wheeler, Jean Walters, Satiro Kazolias.

Lorraine Kilmer, John Ruggiero, Edwin Dangerfield, Paul Hadden, Joyce Kilmer, Melvin Weiss.

Robert Kelley, William Porter, Wesley Kelley, William Croft, Albert Kelley, Betty Jean Wyant, Russell Parks, Robert Coon.

George Hennessy, Harold Van Nosedale, Philip Pomerantz, Elizabeth Johns, Edith Disbrow.

Walter Bundy, Charlotte Ballien, Barbara Benedict, Thelma Colen, James Whiteley, Gladys Stein, Robert Way, Dorothy Convery, Joseph Feinberg.

### BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SCHOOL

Samuel Germano, Jr., Salvatore Sucato, Lillian Beni, Babbato Ricci, Andrew Habinowski, Rosemarie Becchetti, Barbara Ann Saltford.

John Baratta, Frederick Nowall, Gennaro Scoricelli, Anita Falconi, Joan Sprow, Lena Pasco, Vincent Gaudio, Leona Pasco, Grace Belluardo, Louise Splain, Patrick Casale, Nellie Kyte, Frances Ofca.

Lester Collins, Jr., Regina Dubrosky, Edward Dietrich, Jr., Shirley Blydenburgh, Beverly Soper, June Soper.

### CHARLES B. WARRING SCHOOL

Marenes Robert Tripp, Margaret Oakley, Ann Bolin, William Christopher, Edward Van Etten, Robert Burnett, George Andrews, Jr., Alfred Cirillo, Margaret Lane, Shirley McCarty, Thomas Murphy, Lloyd Hunt, Alfred Doscher, Jr.

Earl Hill, Jr., Evelyn Nelson, Catherine Myers, Gerald Fay, Lucille Billen, Evelyn McNair, Chauncey Munn.

Antoinette Cirillo, Frank Vacca, Leonard Phillips, Morton Seiden, Jean Dolfinger, Raymond Bodner, George Mintz, Jr.

Lillian Spencer, Anna Ferrari, Frank Surico, Gordon Cutten, Lois Spencer, Lillian Parker.

Tony Coluccio, Tony Pacio, Harriet Lown, Jacqueline Benjamin, Samuel Christopher, Jr. Lillian Ladensack, Gene Hansen, Alice Sherow, William Doughty, Ruth Conte, Earl Pizzarelli, Nelson Simmons, Agnes Benjamin, Jesse Cherry, Doris Jones.

Catherine Cables, Marion Perkins, Ruth Adams, Frances Ackert, Florence Bilyou, Eileen Slater.

William Benjamin, Carol Ladensack, Edward Plog, Mary Vinal, Byron Velie, Donald Thompson, Betty Middleton, Stanley Silber, Mary Jane Dooris, Robert DuBois.

### WILLIAM KRIEGER SCHOOL

Margaret Ann Gardner, Jane Spross, Anita Smith, Robert Kirchner, Robert Ackerman, Harold Alberts, Richard Beneway.

Donald Shaffer, David Sauter, William Feldsine, Sally Harcourt, James Fluckiger.

James Carlon, John Heney, Paul Nash, Hamilton Scheer, James Morgan, Robert Jackson.

Dorothy Crippen, Henry Graham, Richard Pearce, Joan Crippen, Rita Sellers, David Knapp, Patricia McManus, Glenn Lockwood.

Betty Marie Kalloch, Robert Martell, Joseph Gabel, Marleen Hanlon, Lola Drew, Barbara Miller, Joseph Gabel, Beverly Levine, Helen Travis, Arline Beebe, Richard Meredith.

### ARLINGTON UNION SCHOOLS

District 1, Town of Poughkeepsie

Spencer Hall, Estelle Rugar, Jane Freeman, Edwin Banham, Beatrice Morello, Louis Velletri, Mildred Weber, Marjorie Ollivett, Barbara Fay, Ura Bishop, Robert Meisner, Richard Rose, Catherine White.

Helen Tokash, Betty Warren, James White, Robert Guilder, Vera Wildig, John Browne, Jr., Sheila Whalen.

Richard Wiest, Ronald Brown, Donald Russell, Arlene Beal, Helen Zimmer, Dolores Dalton.

Lawrence Ostrander, James Inouye, Philip Fischer, Violet Sobienski, Gordon Doyle, John McCormack, Barbara Carpenter, George Silkworth, G. Caroline Miller.

Doris Hengst, Joseph Coutant, Wanda Robison, Robert Clausung, Dorothy Rose, Donald Cary, Ann Monroe.

Margaret Miller, Earl Robinson, Jean O'Halloran, Annamae Smith.

Dorothy Haverkamp, William Monroe, Vincent Tancredi, Mildred Jones, Katherine Simpson, Charles Martin, Ann O'Brien, John Sutton, Warren Ollivet, G. Donald Williamson, Joan Witherwax, John Haverkamp, Frances Lusito.

Lois Wilber, Louis Reader, June Williamson, Leonard Satz, Harry Hanlon, Richard Ackert, Beverly Wilber, Betty Mason, George Boshart.

Vincent Buffone, Eugene Pultz, Aletha Boone, Janet Lambdin, Teddy Masten, Harry

Gerth, Mary Ollivett, Virginia Russell, James Hauver.

Virginia Rosssbach, Janet Kugler, John Hubbard, Jr., Vernon Christiana, III., Viola Avery.

Wesley Bradley, Patricia Mackey, Nancy Moore, Jean Kamper, Margaret Hepburn, Bary Brady, Marie White.

Joseph Elton, Patricia Convery, Willard Moore, Edna May Plass, Donald Light, George Smith, Richard Zuniga, Donald DeWitt, Henry Rogers Zuniga, Irene Miller, Thomas Murray.

### ST. MARY'S PAROCHIAL SCHOOL

Dolores Ruscher, Rose Huto, Doris Dahlem, William Brown, Peter Gilman, Cornelius Freer, Louise Morgan, Barbara Christy, Jane Hayden, Catherine Fitch, Rigney Kearney, Andrew George, Jr.

### CLINTON CORNERS SCHOOL

John Noel, Jr.

### SALT POINT SCHOOL

Marjorie Buck, Bernice Braddock.

### OVERLOOK SCHOOL

Henry Perez, David Heller.

### FREEDOM PLAINS SCHOOL

Harry Burdick.

### OLD HOPEWELL SCHOOL

Robert Wilson, Georgia Ann Wilson.

### OAK GROVE SCHOOL (South)

Evangeline Mallory, Joyce Wacker, Rudolph Wacker, Garrett Mallory, Louis Kerr, Robert Brown, LeRoy Van Kirk.

### HILLTOP SCHOOL

LaGrange District 9

### HOPE FARM SCHOOL

Samuel Babcock, Barbara Blake.

### HOPE FARM SCHOOL

Hays Blessing, William Gilmer, Arthur Graves, Robert McClellan, John Rogers, Paul Zabrowski.

### UNION VALE SCHOOL

District 6

Florence Carnes, Radcliffe Carnes, William DeForest, Jr., James DeForest, Mary DeForest, Raymond Vail, Carl Bruzugul, Robert Adams.

MOUNT CARMEL PAROCHIAL SCHOOL

Elisa Renzo, Gaspar Tornatore, Concettina Miano, Francis Paganelli, Eugene Nicolato, Joseph Sorrentino, Jr., Frank Muccio, Marie Muccio.

Catherine Gasparro, Rigolina Grace, Vincent Sorrentino, Frederick Cipriano, Jr., Virginia Balassone.

### LOCKWOOD DISTRICT SCHOOL

James Holder.

### HILLSIDE SCHOOL

Helen Gill, Andrew James Skidmore.

### ST. PETER'S BOYS' SCHOOL

George Spiegel.

### ST. JOSEPH'S PAROCHIAL SCHOOL

Joseph Wallaczek, Jr., Edward Phillips.

### ST. MICHAEL'S PAROCHIAL SCHOOL

Joan Delaney.

### FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS SCHOOL

Frances Wilbur, George Wilbur, Betty Halpin, Robert Horlacher, Doris Gildersleeve, Alice Ziegler.

Doris Yuhasz, Thomas Daley, Raymond Beesmer, Robert Paquet, Paul Paquet, Sarah Whiten, Jean Cruson, James Carmichael, Marvin Gildersleeve, Paul Lozier, Leona Bumpus.

### STANFORD UNION SCHOOL

Betty Mischko, Irene Morrissey, Norma Morrissey.

### VIOLA SCHOOL

Jack Longley, George Monroe, Mary Cruger, Shirley Monroe, Janet Petty.

Kenneth LeRoy, Elizabeth Whipple, Raymond Joyce, Jr., Virginia Whipple, Catherine Winters.

### PINE PLAINS CENTRAL SCHOOL

Dorothy Mitchell, Jean Peck, William Fletcher, Dorothy Urban, Leland Utter, Carl Utter.

Thomas Digby, Jean Camburn, Frances Utter, Donald Wendover, Louis Remsberger, Cyrus Strever, Dorothy Crowley, Robert Bowman.

### HYDE PARK UNION SCHOOL

Dorothy Russell, Robert Masten, Allen Hicks, Dolores Snedeker, Ralph Overfield, Paul Allison, Albert Keller, Jr., Edson Barton, Jr., Arthur Pourquoy, Susan Monell.

### STAATSBURG UNION SCHOOL

Elizabeth Lane, Eva Dennis, John Keane, Martin Hayes, Jr., Doris Day, Charles Douglas.

### STONECO SCHOOL

John Versace, Anthony Centorani, John Centorani, Harold Anderson, George Lielely, Eugene Anderson.

### SPACKENKILL SCHOOL

Ermione Sterling, Daphne Sterling, Robert Robbins.

### MANCHESTER BRIDGE SCHOOL

Anallie John, Raymond Duncan, Richard Freer.

### NEW HACKENSACK SCHOOL

Elsie White, Joan Crandell, Charles Wendel.

### POUGHQUAG SCHOOL

Raymond Odell

### NETHERWOOD SCHOOL

Joan Swenson, Robert Swenson, Donald Anderson.

### WASSAIC GRADED SCHOOL

Harriet Thompson, Jeanene Sipple, Barry Nelligan, William Nelligan, Earl Selfridge, Mauri Knaab, Elsie Theaume.

### ARTHURSBURG SCHOOL

Dolly Sabellico, Charles Narnbach, Clarence Britton.

### SHENANDOAH SCHOOL

William Cadwallader, Robert Cadwallader.

### HOPEWELL JUNCTION SCHOOL

Anna Caruso, Grace Caruso, Josphine Caruso, Donald Way, Gladys Davis.

### RED OAKS MILL SCHOOL

Dolores Bruzugul, John Heinlen, Joan Skelly, Adolph Heinlen, Patricia Goebel, Jane Skelly.

### BILLINGS SCHOOL

Emily Burkhard, Herbert Burkhard, John Caruso.

### WILLIAM WOODIN, EDWARD HUNT, VIVIAN WOODIN, RICHARD WOODIN, DONALD WOODIN.

### ETHEL KEITSCHE.

### CREAM STREET SCHOOL

Jacob Kaelber, Robert Secor, Joseph Ras-

sga, Alice Kelley, Shirley Staub, Eva Staub, Frederika Noble, Thomas Staub, Diantha Murphy, Fern Loucks, Ardean Secor, Donald Secor.

### ATTLEBURY SCHOOL

William Wendover, John Wendover.

### PROSPECT HILL SCHOOL

Bernice Morton.

### UNION VALE SCHOOL

William Adams.

### NOXON SCHOOL

Francis Bitzko.

### BILLINGS SCHOOL

Kathryn Hunt.

### BOWNE HOSPITAL SCHOOL

Everett Wilson, Euphemia North, Beatrice Emmett.

The "Country Journal and Poughkeepsie Advertiser" of June 6, 1787, carried the following boarding school advertisement:

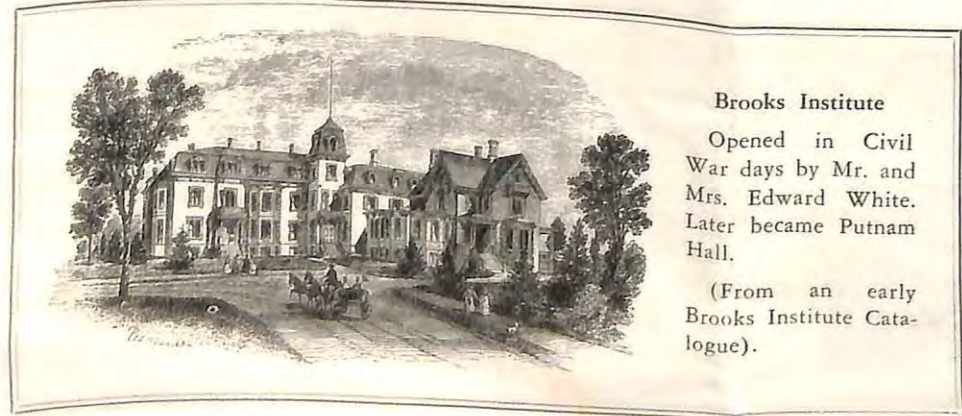
"Maurice Collins, who has been employed as English and Latin teacher at Rhinebeck Flats near two years, and heretofore at the Honorable Zephania Platt's, induced by the approbation he has met with from his different constituents and other gentlemen of note who have been pleased to approve of his conduct as a teacher, is encouraged to inform the public that he is determined to continue at the Flats, where there is a decent schoolhouse provided, and Boarding to be had at a dollar per week.

"Said Maurice Collins professes to teach English, Latin, and French grammar with the classics; writing, arithmetic and book keeping; several branches of the Mathematics such as Euclid's Elementary Algebra, Trigonometry, Surveying &c and the strictest care (excluded from severity) taken of the Students Morals and Education."

The "Poughkeepsie Advertiser" of December 5, 1787, announces:

"The Academy at Sharon, Conn. is now ready for pupils, . . . the building being both elegant and commodious,"

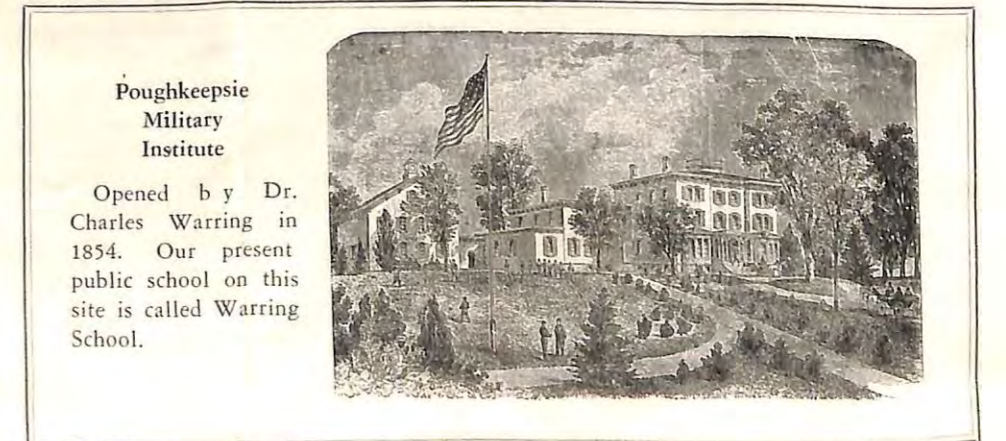
and also advertises this school book: "Just published by M. Gaines in New York and to be sold by the Printer hereof, for cash only, The Young Gentleman and Lady's MONITOR. Being a Collection of Select Pieces from our best Modern Writers: calculated to eradicate vulgar prejudices, and rusticity of manner, improve the understanding, rectify the will, direct the minds of youth and facilitate their reading, writing and speaking the English language with elegance and propriety."



Brooks Institute

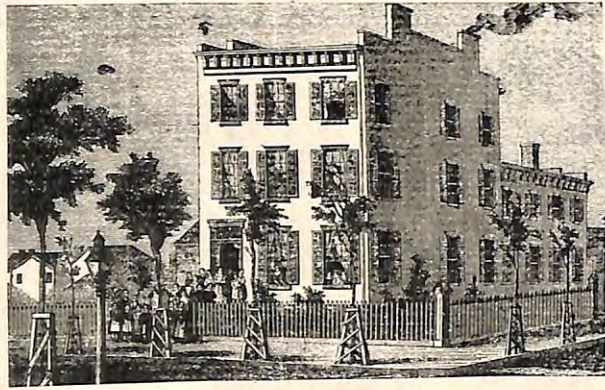
Opened in Civil War days by Mr. and Mrs. Edward White. Later became Putnam Hall.

(From an early Brooks Institute Catalogue).



Poughkeepsie Military Institute

Opened by Dr. Charles Warring in 1854. Our present public school on this site is called Warring School.



Poughkeepsie Female  
Collegiate  
Institute

Later known as Lyndon Hall, when altered and enlarged.

(From an early School Catalogue).

### A LITTLE SCHOOL GIRL OF LAST CENTURY

YEARS ago a group of little girls in Poughkeepsie asked their grandmothers to write accounts of school days when the grandmothers were little girls themselves. One account which we give here in part, was written by the grandmother of Miss Helen Wilkinson Reynolds, Dutchess County's historian. As little Sophia Cary of Beekman, she attended Dr. Westbrook's boarding school at Fishkill some time between 1825 and 1830.

The story gives to our modern boys and girls a picture of living conditions in one of the best boarding schools of the early nineteenth century.

"So these little girls wish to hear of this grandmother's recollections of her boarding school days. Well, the years have made great changes. . . . My earliest recollection of school is walking a long mile, on a lonely road, away back in the western part of Dutchess County morning and evening, sometimes not meeting a single person, and passing only three houses. That same old "red school house" still stands and calls up many very pleasant days of early childhood.

"I remember we built houses of stones, under a wide-spreading old oak, and made them very gay with bits of glass and broken crockery, sometimes adding wild flowers and apple-blossoms. We were sent to school at eight in the morning with our dinner in a small basket, and were seldom home before six in the afternoon, so you see school was really business. Still, we enjoyed it. We loved our teacher and each other, too, usually.

"But time passed until I was twelve years old and it was thought proper to send me to Boarding School, one having opened in an adjoining town. After what seemed to be great preparation, the eventful day came, and oh, how hard it was to keep back the tears at leaving dear old Home for so long a time as a whole year seemed then, although I was to go home once in three weeks to stay from Saturday until Monday.

"The school was in a small Country Village (Fishkill) on its one street, adjoining an old stone Church, still standing and made famous by figuring in J. Fennimore Cooper's novel, "The Spy." The Principal of our School was the preacher who filled the pulpit.

"Our surroundings were quite different from those little girls of the present day enjoy. The school room was as severely plain as unpainted pine Desks, Board seats and bare floor could make it. We slept in the Room above, the slanting roof so low at the sides that the heads of our cots stood toward the center of the room and so near together there was just room to pass between. It was warmed by a square iron stove about the size of a common wooden soapbox; by the side of this stood a pine wash stand with one Tin Bowl and Pitcher. Here some dozen or more of us washed, completing our Toilette before a Mirror some sixteen inches square, but by keeping good natured, rising early and working industriously, we were usually in the Dining Room at the appointed time, ready for morning prayers, after which our Breakfast was served, consisting of hash, Bread, butter and tea. . . . Our Dinner was usually Beef or Mutton, boiled or roast, with Beans or Potatoes. Dessert was *not* on the bill of fare. Our Supper was usually Tea, with bread and butter, with gingerbread occasionally as a great treat. We spent our evenings in the school room, studying our next day's lessons, until nine o'clock, when we were expected to be in Bed and lights out.

"Week after week went by with little change except when the blessed third Saturday came to go home. Oh, how we waited and watched and longed to see the Bay horses show their pretty heads around the corner, bringing the dear old grandfather, who always came for us himself. . . . and early, too, often driving many miles before sunrise so that he would be there early. We could scarcely wait for him to rest we were in such a hurry to start for home where, we knew, they would be so glad to see

us and have everything we liked for our supper,—no mean consideration after three weeks of such very plain fare.

"Saturday was a holiday after the lessons for Monday were learned; we rested, read, walked, jumped rope, etc. Occasionally, as a grand treat, we were allowed to boil molasses candy in the school room. As there was no "Smith Brothers" in those days, we enjoyed making and eating our own confectionery immensely. . . .

"Once we were invited to join a party going to the top of Beacon Hill, where a lovely view of the Hudson and surrounding country is to be seen. The remembrance has always been a "green spot" just as one of your very happiest days will be to you at 70 . . . . Once we were invited to the home of one of the day scholars and treated to ice cream, a very uncommon luxury in those days . . . . But time would fail me to tell of all the pleasant recollections of my boarding school days. You see, though we had not the many advantages of little girls of the present day we were happy because we were contented."

### HOPEWELL SCHOOL IN 1760

An old document of the Hopewell School in 1760 shows the arrangements made in those days for maintenance of the little one-room schools dotted about Dutchess County. And it also shows the peculiar transition from Dutch to English speech that was taking place in our county at that time.

"DUTCHESS COUNTY, DECEMBER the twenty seventh one thousand seven hundred and Sixty then wee the subscribers agree to hijer a School master to teach the English Schoule to Read wright and sipher for one whole year, that is one quarter night Schoule in the year—for the sum of thirty eight pounds for the year and each Child subscribed for shall pay an Equal Shear and each Child subscribed for shall Draw an Equal Shear of the Benifet of the Night Schoull and Incom Scholle and If any of the Schollers Subscribed for should Dye and the Subscriber could not Mack Up another in the Steed then all the Schollers to bair an Equal Share of the Dec'd Scholler or Schollers and Every Subscriber to Bring an Equal Shear of firewood for the Scholers he Subscribed for to supply the Schoul Convenient with Fire wood Unto which we Enter-chainaby Set Our Hands and the number of Schollers or order to be Set.

Abraham Adriance 2 Schollers  
Henry Wiltse 2 Schollers  
Isaac Adriance 2 Schollers ½  
Peter Jansen 3 Schollers  
Gore Storm 1 Scholler  
Jurrey Enoch Schollers  
Joseph Horton 2 Schollers  
Johannes Wiltse ½"

### HISTORIC NINE PARTNERS SCHOOL

HALF a mile east of the monument at South Millbrook, there used to be quite a little hamlet, surrounding the old Nine Partners Meeting House. As early as 1742 the settlers here, nearly all Quakers, organized the Nine Partners Meeting, so named because it was in the Nine Partners grant of Dutchess County. By 1760 they needed a store and Samuel Mabbett opened one, just east of the meeting house.

In 1793 the Friends of this vicinity raised \$10,000. for a boarding school. Most of the credit for this is due to Joseph Tallcott, publisher of children's books and throughout his lifetime interested in education. He started the fund and in the beginning he and his wife lived in the school building to aid its progress. The school trustees bought the Mabbett store with ten acres of ground and adapted it to school use. Nine Partners School ran from 1796 to 1863, the last ten years under private auspices. In 1853 the Yearly Meeting of Friends had transferred support, and school funds to Friends Academy, Union Springs, Cayuga County. But in 1920 the academy was moved back to the South Road in Poughkeepsie, and we know it now as the excellent Oakwood School, of which Mr. William J. Reagan is principal.

In the course of its 67 years at Millbrook, Nine Partners School had an average attendance of about one hundred boys and girls. The old record book of 1796 states: "For the present Children be admitted at Seven Years of age, Boys allowed to continue in School till fifteen and Girls until Fourteen."

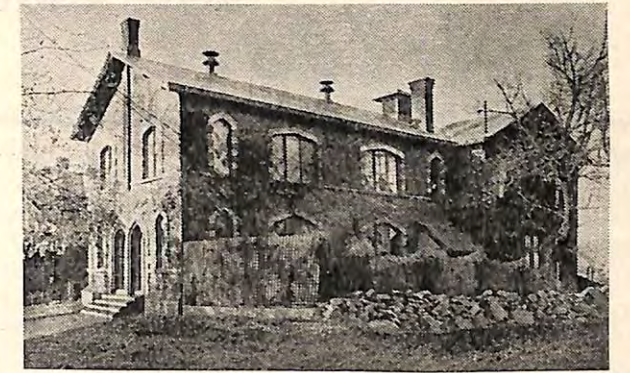
Of the long succession of teachers the most widely known and influential were Jacob Willetts and his wife Deborah. Jacob Willetts was born at Fishkill and entered the school as a pupil at the age of eleven. He continued as teacher and finally was head of the school. Later he taught a few years at Pine Plains and at Nantucket, returning to establish a school of his own west of the meeting house, near the present tennis courts. He was the author of widely used text books in geography and arithmetic. About 1819 Mr. and Mrs. Willetts made their home in a small dwelling near by, which is still standing.

Mrs. Willetts as little Deborah Rogers, also came to Nine Partners' Boarding School as a pupil and remained as a teacher; she and her husband were teachers to the end of their days. Mrs. Willetts, it is said, made little girls who misbehaved, sit on a bench with their faces to the wall. Placing her husband in charge, she would leave the room, whereupon the tender-hearted Mr. Willetts would turn his back on the culprits and allow them as much freedom as pos-

Christ Church Parish  
School

Presented to the church in 1858. Sold to Quincy School in 1888.

(From illustration in "Records of Christ Church", compiled by Miss Helen Wilkinson Reynolds).



sible. The precept and example of this couple, of plain living and high-thinking, made its impress on hundreds of boys and girls of Dutchess County.

Little Lucretia Coffin of Nantucket, also came to Nine Partners School, first as a pupil and then as a teacher, and she, too, married another teacher, Mr. Mott. The Motts lived many years in Philadelphia, and obtained national recognition for their efforts to abolish slavery and also to establish women's rights. Lucretia Mott's interest in abolishment of slavery may have begun while at Nine Partners, since the Friends of this vicinity were deeply interested in the cause and it is said that a house still standing on Mrs. Roswell Miller's estate was once a station of the "underground railway" and sheltered a number of fugitive slaves.

Two centuries ago the ministers of Dutchess County were frequently expected to preach Sundays and teach week days. The Rev. Samuel Bell and Rev. Robert Scott both taught classical schools on the Rhinebeck Flats after this fashion. The earliest mention of a school of this type in Rhinebeck replacing the tutoring of children by teachers from Esopus, seems to be that of August 26, 1730. Here are the rules of a school of this type formulated 1760:—

1. School shall open and close with prayer.
2. The hours shall be from eight-thirty to eleven-thirty o'clock in the morning, and from two to four o'clock in the afternoon.
3. The schoolmaster shall be paid for instruction for three months for every scholar in high Dutch spelling, reading and writing, five shillings; and in English spelling, reading and writing, six shillings. A load of firewood shall be brought by those who send Scholars to the school; for each Scholar for use in the school every nine months. The schoolmaster shall keep school five days every week."

### COUNTY ACADEMIES

There were some notable private schools in Dutchess County in the last century. Amenia Seminary for girls, for instance, opened in 1835 with Rev. Charles K. Towne as principal. This school continued at least forty years.

Rhinebeck Academy, incorporated 1840, was open for years. Its name was changed later to Degarmo Institute and in 1890, under this name, it was removed to Fishkill.

Seymour Smith Academy at Pine Plains was bequeathed the entire estate of Seymour Smith, a prosperous farmer of the vicinity who died a bachelor. The academy opened April 1879. In 1894 it became the Pine Plains Union Free School, which is now replaced by a fine consolidated school building.

Oswego Boarding School, which was opened by the Friends after Nine Partners School closed in Millbrook, was another private school which flourished first under the guidance of Friends and later as a private school. This was close by Oswego Meeting House at Moore's Mills.

The first commissioners of schools for the town of Poughkeepsie were Jacob Radcliff, Archibald Stuart and Samuel Luckey, elected 1796. Not until 1877 was the supervision of public schools shifted to a school superintendent, in place of commissioners.

### "THE POUGHKEEPSIE PLAN"

St. Peter's Church, under the Rev. Michael Riordan, built a rectory and two parochial schools in the period between 1844 and 1870. In 1873 the parish, now in charge of Rev. Dr. P. F. McSweeney, entered into a unique arrangement with the town school authorities, known as the "Poughkeepsie Plan," whereby a public school system was set up in both parochial schools. This was a decided financial gain for both church and town for a time, but was naturally abandoned later with the growth of St. Peter's parish and the enlargement of public school funds.

**SMILE A WHILE FOR WHEN YOU SMILE ANOTHER SMILES AND SOON THERE WILL BE MILES AND MILES OF SMILES**

*Smiles...*

Mother:—"Did you water the rubber plant, dear?"

Little Mary:—"Why no, Mother, I thought it was water-proof."

Little Lucy (marketing for her mother):—"What is the price of your eggs?"

Grocer:—"Fifty cents a dozen; cracked, thirty cents."

Little Lucy:—"Please crack half a dozen for me."

"Tomorrow is my birthday," announced little Junior to his kindergarten teacher.

"And mine, too," said his teacher. Junior looked puzzled. "How did you get so much bigger than me?" he asked.

"What kind of music do you like best?"

"I like it either well done, or else very rare."

Mother:—"Yes, you may help serve the refreshments at your sister's party, but be sure you don't spill anything."

Small Brother:—"OK, Ma, I won't say a word."

Mr.:—"What! No supper ready? Well, I'm hungry. I'm going to a restaurant."

Mrs.:—"Will you wait just five minutes?"

Mr.:—"Will a meal be ready then?"

Mrs.:—"No, but then I'll be ready to go with you."

"Is your new housemaid a hard worker?"

"Well, I don't know anyone that work seems to go harder with, than it does with her."

He:—"Dearest, I'll go to your father at once and ask his consent to our marriage."

She:—"Wait until the first of the month when my store bills reach him. He will be more ready to part with me then."

The traffic officer stopped the lady motorist. Drawing out his little book he remarked: "As soon as I saw you coming around the bend I said to myself 'sixty-five at least.'"

"Officer," said the indignant lady, "you are very much mistaken. This hat makes me look very much older than I am."

"Peggy would make a wonderful wife. Every time I call at her house I find her darning her father's socks."

"Yes, that impressed me too, until I noticed that it was always the same sock."

Little Harry was told by his mother just what to do and what not to do at the birthday party.

Returning home from the party with little Harry, his sister said with disgust, "Mama, Harry did all the don'ts you told him,—every single one!"

"Father:—"Isn't it about time you were beginning to entertain some prospect of matrimony?"

Daughter:—"Not yet, Father. He doesn't call until eight."

Father:—"I hear you are always at the bottom of your class. Can't you get a better place?"

Son:—"No, father. All the other places are taken."

Betty:—"Was that great big policeman ever a little baby, Mother?"

Mother:—"Why yes, of course."

Betty:—"Oh, Mother, how I should love to see a little baby policeman!"

Teacher:—"What is your father's occupation?"

Tommy:—"I cant tell. Father wouldn't like it."

Teacher:—"But you must tell! I ask every child that question."

Tommy:—"Well,—he—he's a bearded lady in a circus."

Two little brothers went to the movies,—a new experience and very thrilling.

"Bobby," asked the younger, "what does that word 'asbestos' across the curtain mean?"

"Keep quiet," answered Bobby. "Don't show your ignorance. That's the Latin word for welcome."

Little Molly was crying. Her mother, to distract her thoughts called:—"Come here, darling, and see the airplane. Molly ran to the window and stared up at the plane until it was out of sight. Then she got out her wet little handkerchief again.

"Mother," she asked, "what was I crying about?"

"Iceland," said the teacher, "is about as large as Siam."

"Iceland," wrote little Billy in his test later, "is about as large as Teacher."

Teacher:—"The art in telling a story lies not only in what is said but what is left unsaid."

Billy:—"Oh, that doesn't make any difference with my mother. She finds out anyway."

The constable rang the bell. Inside the piano playing ceased and a startled young woman appeared at the door. "What do you want?" she asked.

"Well, miss," said the constable, "we've just had a telephone call to say there's a fellow named Mozart being murdered in this house."

Small Boy, (just chided by a policeman):—"Huh, who wouldn't be a policeman! Nothing to do but stand still doing nothing, while he walks around listening for anything he can see!"

Hostess, (showing photograph of herself in her mother's arms):—"This is how I looked twenty years ago."

Guest:—"Wonderful! And who is the baby on your arm?"

"Do you refund money if purchases are not satisfactory?"

"Certainly."

"Well, here is this book."

"What is wrong with it?"

"I don't like the ending."

Little Mary was visiting her grandparents and found the old grand-father clock in the hall fascinating. "Is it running, dear?" asked her mother.

"No," said Mary. "It's just standing still and wagging its tail."

Teacher:—"What is the meaning of this lump on your head?"

Tommy:—"Oh, that's where Father helped me with my arithmetic."

Teacher:—"You know it is against the rules to eat during school hours. Now what is that huge lump bulging out your cheek?"

Billy (with difficulty):—"I'm just soaking this prune so as to eat it at recess."

Betty had such a fever that Mother put a thermometer in her little mouth to take her temperature. When the doctor came he asked, "Has the child taken any nourishment?"

"Well," volunteered little Betty, "Mother gave me a piece of glass to suck on but I'm just as hungry as ever."

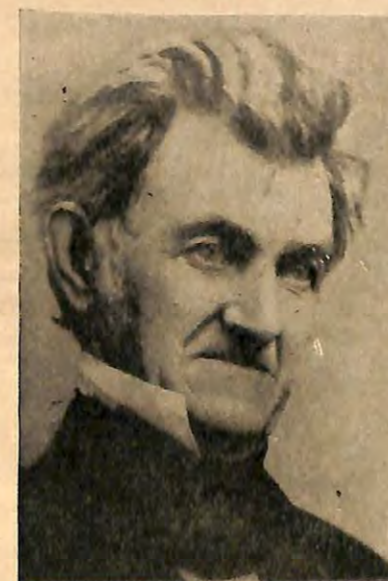
**POUGHKEEPSIE'S FIRST FREE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

POUGHKEEPSIE'S early academies were "public schools," in that they received a share of the state school funds and were under regents' supervision. But until 1844 there were no free schools, supported entirely by taxation. Ever since the Act of 1795 free tuition had been furnished to some children in the academies who could not afford school fees. But many children had little or no schooling.

In 1841 a committee reported at a town education meeting that they had made a census of school attendance of all children from 5 to 16 years, west of Washington and Market Streets, estimating the remainder. This showed 1,641 children in town, of whom 382 were not attending any school.

In 1843 Senator Bockee introduced a special act, creating for Poughkeepsie a village board of education of twelve members, with authority to borrow \$12,000 for new buildings and to raise \$7,000 by taxation. Village elections that year provided for "a good and substantial school house, containing two rooms of sufficient capacity to accommodate not less than 125 pupils each, and to rent five other rooms for primary schools". Those opposed to this claimed that "that which costs nothing is lightly prized". There seemed to be much truth in this until compulsory education was enforced.

So on January 29, 1844 "the first grammar school for boys under the free school act" was opened with 119 boys attending in charge of Josiah I. Under-



Josiah Underhill

First principal of the first public school erected by the Town of Poughkeepsie, 1843. Mr. Underhill served as Treasurer of the Poughkeepsie Savings Bank from 1856-1867.

Eastman Business College

Most popular business college in this country for many years. Classroom work was concentrated in this building beginning 1883.

(From an Eastman College Catalogue).

hill, whose granddaughter, Miss Julia Underhill, resides on Washington Street. "And he made those boys mind, too," said Miss Underhill, in reviewing the event. Mr. Underhill was later treasurer of the Poughkeepsie Savings Bank, from 1856 to 1867. This school was on the site of our present Abraham Lincoln School which will shortly become the new Trade School.

Rooms for primary grades were rented. The old Dutchess Academy building, moved seven years earlier to the corner of North Clinton and Thompson Streets, now became School No. 1. Space rented in "the building occupied as a theater situated at Market Street near Jay (William) Street" became School No. 2. Rental for each was \$80 a year. No. 3 School was opened in a "coach factory at the junction of Mill Street and Dutchess Avenue." But there were still many private schools, reducing the need for public school facilities, and at the close of the Civil War \$7,000 was sufficient to run Poughkeepsie's public schools a whole year.

**"AN ACT FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF SCHOOLS"**

Poughkeepsie may well be proud of its consistent interest in schools. In fact, the first state legislation, "an Act for the Encouragement of Schools" was proposed in this city by Governor George Clinton at the time the legislature returned to Poughkeepsie for a final and very brief session, January 6 to 14, 1795. It then adjourned to New York and toward the close of its session there, in accordance with the governor's recommendation, passed the act which was the foundation of state aid for schools.

Under this act, the following apportionment of school money was made in Dutchess County, as recorded in the Town Book, with the towns listed, to make reading easier:

"WHEREAS, By an Act of the Legislature of this State entitled an Act for the Encouragement of Schools,

Passed the ninth day of April, 1795, among other things Therein contained the sum of £2,100, is distributed to the County of Dutchess to be apportioned among the Several Towns of said County. In pursuance then of the Act aforesaid the Board of Supervisors . . . certify that the Town of Rhinebeck is allotted the sum of £216, 5s, 3d.

Rhinebeck	£216	s 5	d3
North East	154	1	0
Amenia	117	10	3
Clinton	181	14	0
Frankling	81	19	3
Pawling	192	11	3
Phillips	116	10	6
North East	115	10	9
Stanford	97	15	3
Poughkeepsie	152	1	6
Washington	120	9	6
Fishkill	267	12	3
Carmell	109	12	3
Frederick	80	19	6
Beekmans	167	17	6

After the Treasurer's fees are deducted. Given under our hands and seals the 30th Day of May, 1795.

Tahna Morton	Samuel Towner
Richard D. Conklin	E. V. Bunschoten
Aaron Stockholm	Ebenezer Mott
Jesse Oakley	Edmd. Per Lee
Joseph Crane, Jr.	Joseph Nolly
Ezra Thompson	William Taber

Attests, Richard Everett,  
Town Clerk."

**TO TEACH**

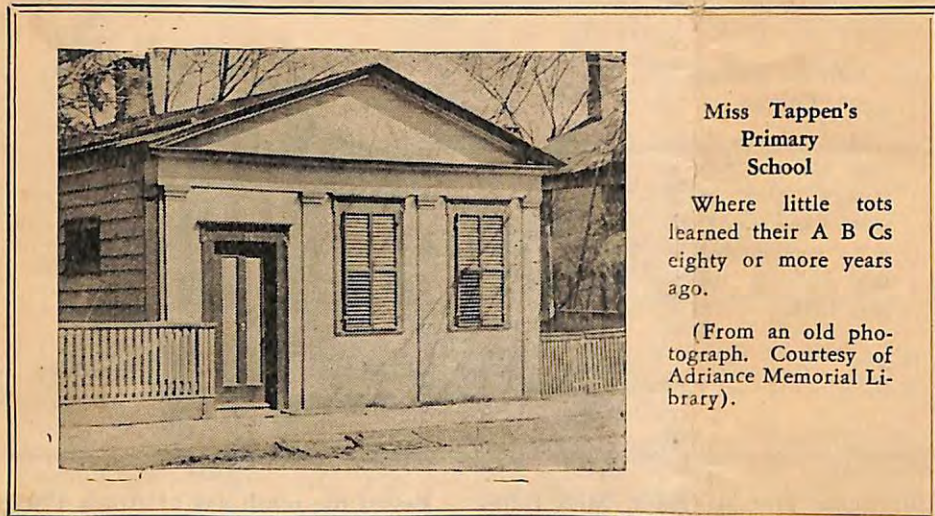
To teach

Is not alone to curb  
Unruly youths who school disturb  
And make reports and hand out grades  
And deal with pupils as with shades.

To Teach?

It is to reach, to find,  
The hidden laws of growing mind;  
In boy to see the coming man,  
Then shape him to a splendid plan—  
This is to teach.

WJ  
2



Miss Tappen's  
Primary  
School

Where little tots  
learned their A B Cs  
eighty or more years  
ago.

(From an old photo-  
graph. Courtesy of  
Adriance Memorial Li-  
brary).

**EARLY RURAL SCHOOLS OF  
DUTCHESS COUNTY**

**T**HE early rural district schools of Dutchess County form a separate story. Many have been replaced by modern consolidated schools; some are still in active use. All honor to the legion of instructors in these schools who have educated, by precept and example, a sturdy stock!

A century and more ago, in these one-room buildings, heated by big stoves, the "A B Cs" formed the first lesson, followed by the "A, B, abs," and then sentences, often from the old standard New England primer. "Hooks and tram-mels", loops and straight lines,—were the first effort in writing. Then came letters, words, sentences. The quill pens used for writing were made and mended by the teacher. Counting on the fingers was the first arithmetic, followed in time by addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Usually little history, geography or grammar was taught, the chief aim being to teach the children to reckon in Dutch and English money; to write neatly and express their thoughts intelligently. And before we smile at this, in superior fashion, let us take inventory of our own ability to write legibly, make neat figures, reckon swiftly and express our thoughts clearly.

A complete school outfit consisted of tablet and quill pen, slate and slate pencil, primer, arithmetic and speller. There were summer and winter terms of school, summer terms being chiefly for the little folk and winter terms including also the older boys released from farm work at that season. The teachers "boarded round" the length of their stay in each household being determined by the number of children instructed. For an amusing description of an old-time county school in the Hudson Valley, turn to your "Legend of Sleepy Hollow" by Washington Irving and read about Ichabod Crane and his pupils.

**A PILGRIMAGE TO OLD  
POUGHKEEPSIE SCHOOLS**

(Continued from page 5)

which was the scene of weekly festivities during the college days, is now the office building of our Board of Public Works.

Mr. Eastman's personal history for years was intertwined with the progress of Poughkeepsie. He served as Poughkeepsie's mayor and led efforts for a city water supply, sewers, street railway system, railroad lines into Poughkeepsie, a railroad bridge across the Hudson, a race track and fair grounds, and a real estate boom. In connection with this the row of houses called Eastman Terrace was erected.

Well, this is the end of our tour of schools of early Poughkeepsie.

Each of these schools, great and small, served its generation and helped to train sturdy citizens. Now, with our thoroughly developed public and parochial school system, the need for private schools is practically gone.

*The Modern School Teaches - -*

- How to live . . . Hygiene.
- Where we live . . . Geography.
- How we think . . . Psychology.
- How we reckon . . . Arithmetic.
- How we communicate . . . Language.
- How things act . . . Science.
- How others have lived . . . History.
- How others have thought . . . Literature.
- How to do things . . . Manual training, home economics.
- How to express beauty . . . Music and drawing.
- How to co-operate . . . Group work and play.
- How to use money . . . School Bank.

And So Shows the Relation of School Work to Life.

**TEACHERS MAKE THE SCHOOL**

Brick and stone do not make a school; the personality of the teachers counts most. Poughkeepsie has been fortunate in having men and women teachers who have left lasting impress on the boys and girls whose minds and characters they helped to mould. Ask your parents to tell you of such popular and well-known instructors as these below. Many more could be added to this brief list:—

Harvey G. Eastman, founder of Eastman College, and Professors L. F. Gardner, C. C. Gaines, George Davis, George A. Rockwood, William Hamill, George Deel and the Misses Blanchard and Wood of Eastman faculty; Superintendent of Schools S. R. Shear; Professor Winne of Poughkeepsie High School; Mr. Doty, principal in the old days of College Avenue School, Town of Poughkeepsie, and Miss Flagler, teacher of the lower grades; Dr. Charles Warring and his son, Major Warring of Poughkeepsie Military Institute; Dr. Otis J. Bisbee, his son, Major Bisbee, and Dr. Harlan P. Amen of River-view; Professor Buck of Lyndon Hall; Dr. Wright of Poughkeepsie Female Academy; Stewart Pelham and J. W. Leslie, who conducted boys' schools; Miss Silloway and Miss Alliger of Quincy School; Miss Elizabeth Maher of Clinton School; and coming down to the present, Miss Ellen C. Bartlett, Miss Ella Shanahan, Miss Margaret O'Hare, Miss Anna Mitchell, Miss Lida Stuart, Miss Ella Cunley, Miss Helen Ward, Miss Blanche Decker, all now retired from active teaching.

**SCHOOL DISTRICT 7's  
CONSOLIDATION**

School District 7, Town of Poughkeepsie, with which Mr. George Schiavone has been identified for eleven years, first as principal of Arlington High School and now as superintendent, has gradually abandoned older buildings in favor of consolidated schools. Gothic School was consolidated 1935; Washington Hollow in 1936; Sunnyside is closed; Gretna School is torn down; Davis Avenue School, built in 1903, is closed; College Avenue School, built 80 years ago, with later additions, is converted to other uses; Pleasant Valley School, built about 1830, was torn down about 1904 and replaced by a four room building which in turn gave way to a fine, modern school in 1933. Raymond Avenue School, erected 1924, at first housed Arlington High School as well as grades. Arlington High now occupies its fine, new building erected 1933-4.