

**Stowits and  
Gibson Families**

of the  
**Mohawk Valley**

by  
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# STOWITS FAMILY

Early Settlers in the Mohawk Valley.

Together with the Mohawk Branch of the

## GIBSON FAMILY

By RODERICK J. CANT

Early Settlers in Mohawk Valley  
Dutch Origin.

Written for the Enterprise and News  
by Roderick J. Cant.

The earliest known member of the Stowits family, was Philip George (Parier) Stowits who was born at The Hague, Holland and came to this country in 1750.

Little is known of his early history or of the date of his birth.

In Holland, it has been understood the family name was spelled Staubitz, and due to its being in a foreign tongue, many changes are noted in the spelling after his arrival in this country, due no doubt to an effort to translate the name by phonetic spelling into our English.

In various church, vital and legal records, the name is frequently found in the Mohawk Valley and appears as Staubitz, Stubbets, Stubbits, Stubbage, Stouets, Stoits, Stowids, Stouwits and in late years as Stowitts, although many members of the pres-

ent generation spell it as above given, Stowits.

Altho Philip George came to this country after the early emigration of the Palatines, and allied himself with that denomination in the Valley, it has never been noted that he was associated with them in the old country, altho this may have been possible.

### Pioneer Settlers in Town of Root

He was commonly known as "Phil" Stowits and settled on arrival in the Mohawk Valley, at a point just south of the present Currytown, then in Tryon county and now part of the town of Root, in Montgomery county.

Other members of the family purchased land in adjoining tracts and to this day, the three sections then secured are still known as the Stowits Farms.

They were farmers and followed the usual experience of people of the times, raising crops, and in later years were active in dairy products.

Philip George (Parier) Stowits married Mary Ecker a member of a local family in 1757.

He took part in the Revolution, having been a private in the 3rd Battalion of Tryon County Troops in Col. Fred Fisher's Regiment and under General Nicholas Herkimer.

#### Killed at Oriskany

He took part in the Battle of Oriskany, was killed in action and his name is recorded on the monument at that spot.

The early history of his wife, known in the family as Mary Ecker, was similar to other pioneers of the time, she having been a member of the Palatine group who early in the eighteenth century settled in the Mohawk Valley.

The Ecker name has also had its varied experiences in the matter of spelling, it having been a German name, and in the records is found spelled in a variety of ways, viz. Eacker, Ekker, Eccert, Eccertin, Eckker, Eckler, Eker, etc.

#### The Lewis Cross Alliance

In 1713 David Lewis, her father-in-law appears in the Schenectady annals, altho nothing is known of his antecedents previous to that time.

He may have been the David Lewis who served as a soldier "In the Maj'es FFort at Albany, under the command of Capt. Jochim Staats in the years 1689 and 1690."

To this David Lewis, his Executors or Assigns, the quantity of forty ounces, seventeen pennyweight & a half of Plate was granted in an act for paying debts due from the colony, passed by the Colonial Legislature, December 23, 1717.

\* See Colonial Laws of New York in Vol. 1 pp. 965.

Lewis is not a Dutch name. Nearly all of the early ones came to this country from England or Wales.

David Lewis married Maria Phillipse, widow of Jacobus Cromwell about January 20th, 1716, as on that date William Marinus, yeoman of Schenectady sold to David Lewis of Schenectady, victualer, for 5 shillings

6 pence the property willed to Marinus by Cromwell.

When he or his wife died is not known. She was living in 1732.

The baptism of two sons is recorded in Schenectady and it is almost beyond question, that the other two were also their sons, probably older than William.

David Lewis and his wife had these children, William, baptized November 5th, 1720; sponsors, Zweer Marcellus and Trientien Fransen.

Sander baptized October 26th, 1722; sponsors Sander Phillips and Anna Margrieta Phillipse, also Peter and Henry.

Sander, Peter and Henry Lewis and the Cromwell brothers had adjoining farms in the Mohawk country and were closely associated in all church and business records.

Sander Lewis purchased from William and Catharine Curry on December 26th, 1722, 200 acres of land at the southeast corner of Lot No. 3 in the Curry Patent, formerly granted to Peter Lewis.

This land was probably in what is now Currytown, in the Town of Root, Montgomery county.

Sander Lewis probably died soon after 1754.

His wife was Maria Magdalena Eccartin, (known as Mary Ecker) a member of the Stone Arabia Church, where they were married and three of their five children are recorded in the Dutch manner, as follows:

Filipina, baptised May 27th, 1743, Adober 23 1743, Sander Lewis, Filipina.

Next a child, whose name is now unknown, but about whom the record reads, baptised May 27th, 1744, Sander liewis und sein frau Malle (sponsors.)

Adam, baptised December 18th, 1751, Hermanus van Alstyne, Gertrude Accert (Sponsors).

David always called David Lewis Jr. in Montgomery County records. Gertrude probably.

**Married Grandson of Hendrik Hudson**

Philip George (Parier) Stowits in 1757 married the widow of Sander Lewis, known at that time as Mary Ecker Lewis, and by her had three children as follows: Sophia born in 1758, who married Edward Hudson, a grandson of the famous Hendrik Hudson; Michael born in 1763, and George born in 1765.

**Son Also a Revolutionary Soldier**

Michael Stowits, the son of Philip George (Parier) Stowits was born on a farm as recorded in Currytown in 1763, and as a young man enlisted for service in the Revolution, being a member of Capt. Yates' Company, Col. Fred Fisher's Regiment, 3rd Battalion of Tryon County Troops, commanded by Gen. Nicholas Herkimer.

He was but 18 years of age, when it is recorded he was taken a prisoner at Curr's farm, while attending a funeral at Sprakers, October 24th, 1781, taken to Fort Niagara and later removed to Montreal, where he was held a prisoner until the close of the war, after which all prisoners were transported to Boston, from which place they were left with no choice, but to proceed home on foot.

**The Bellinger Alliance**

Michael Stowits married Mary Elizabeth Bellinger, whose given name appears to have been known to members of her family, and handed down in unpublished records as Amaryllis, or as it was spelled in the register at the time of her marriage as Marillis.

The marriage was recorded at Fonda in the Dutch manner as follows:

**A Dutch Marriage Entry**

Michael Stowitz, ehel sohn (lawful son) of Philip Stowitz in 16 February 1789 Fort Plain Maria Elisabeth (Marillis Bellinger (Pellingier). It was also recorded in the Dutch Reform Church at Fort Plain, in Dutch

as follows, "wurden ehel verbund, Michael Stowitz ehel sohn von Philipp Stowitz mit Maria Elisabeth Bellinger, ehel tochter von weyl (left behind) John Bellinger."

This probably refers to the fact that her father Lt. John Bellinger killed at Oriskany was dead.

**Buried at Currytown**

Michael Stowits spent his life on a farm in the southern area of Currytown where he died October 16th 1835 at the age of 72 and lies buried in a small burial plot alongside the road at the eastern end of his property.

His wife Maria Elizabeth or as she was later known to members of her family, Amaryllis, spent her early years in the valley and during the Revolution experienced the terrors of Indian invasions, and during the Battle of Oriskany, while the men were away, she with others in the fort at Fort Plain, assisted in holding the fort against attack by Indians, who prowled about, the women wearing the men's hats, indicating that the place was fully garrisoned.

She frequently informed members of the family of her early experiences, and record has been kept of her statements relating to her assisting in holding the fort, her grandson, making an attested statement of what she had said to him in person about the incident.

After the death of her husband, she removed to Pittsford, New York, where she spent the latter days of her life with her granddaughter, Charlotte, the wife of Barzilla Millard and when she died in 1835 she was buried in their plot in the local cemetery.

He and his wife had eleven children as follows:

Philip, born November 22nd, 1790, married Nancy Parks May 21st, 1818. She was born in 1792 and died 1872.

John Born January 1st, 1793 married Elizabeth Voorhees.

George M. born September 2nd, 1795, died August 11th, 1839, married

Mary McCartney, daughter of Jeremiah McCartney, Nov., 1820.

Frederick B. born March 30, 1798, and died February 12th, 1852.

Hannah, born April 4th, 1800 and died September, 1843.

Elizabeth born July 12th, 1802, married George McKinstrey, she died April 23rd, 1844 and is buried beside her father in Currytown.

Jacob, born November 4th, 1804.

William, born December 31st, 1806 and died December 29th, 1893.

Maria born January 24th, 1809.

Michael born December 20th, 1812.

Henry B. born June 15th, 1814, married Caroline Huff, December 15, 1847 and he died August 27th, 1888.

#### Were Devoted Church Men

Michael Stowits appears to have been active in matters pertaining to the church, as his name is frequently found in the records, as well as sponsor for the baptism of several children, in and around Fort Plain, Stone Arabia and Caughnawauga Churches.

His father Phillip George was also very religious and it is a tradition in the family that when he left home for the engagement with his regiment for the meeting with the British and Indians at the Battle of Oriskany he read the 18th Psalm for strength and guidance.

The identical Bible, from which he read, is still in the hands of a member of the family, Mr. Elijah F. Stowits, of Midland, Michigan, and is a prized possession.

He never returned and his remains with those of the others who were slain on that August day in 1777 were not buried, due to the war conditions until long after the fight.

While his grave can never be known, it is true, that he lies on the field where he assisted in securing for posterity the blessings of our great American Republic.

#### Neglected Grave of a Revolutionary Soldier

His wife lies buried in a lonely grave in the Continental burial

ground in the center of a large field just west of Currytown, a spot which today has been much neglected.

Currytown, with the three farms of the Stowits family was the scene of a raid by Indians on July 9th, 1781, when 500 of them, together with some Tories under command of John Dockstader, laid waste this spot and carried off nine of the settlers as prisoners, including a Bellinger, Dievendorf, Keller, Moyer, Stowits, Myers and others which later were put to death by tomahawks.

Later they were buried, but Jacob Dievendorf tho scalped and supposed to be dead, had enough vitality left to work himself out of the trench grave, and lived for many years.

History does not indicate what member of the family was the Stowits here referred to.

Currytown was again invaded on October 24th, 1781. The British were under Ross and Butler. And at Fort Hunter the British Regulars joined them, Col. Willett with his Americans pursued them and at Johnstown engaged them in battle October 25th, 1781, the last battle of the Revolution.

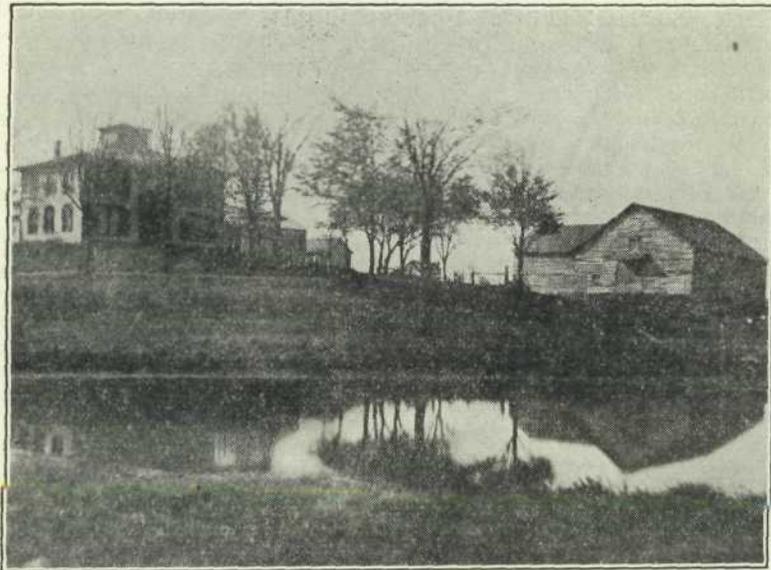
For thirty miles he pursued them as they retreated, until he had driven the remnant into the wilderness.

All of the family records that have been discovered up to the close of the Revolution, were in the Churches in and around a section in the Valley from St. Johnsville to Schenectady, and in those only of the Dutch Reform Branches, such as are recorded in the Classis, a Judicatory in certain churches, as the Dutch of Europe and America, intermediate between the consistory and the Synod.

A complete list of the births of the children of Lt. Johannes Bellinger and Maria Lena (Klock) Bellinger, his wife, are to be found in the Stone Arabia Church records, where they read as follows:

January 3, 1751, born a daughter named Margretha, with Adam Glock and Amargaretha Glock, as Sponsors.

January 25th, 1760; born a daughter Elizabeth, also known as Maria Eliza-



Present Appearance of the Stowits Farm at Currytown.

beth and sometimes recorded in early times as Marillis, and to the later members of the family as Amaryllis, with Elizabeth and Jacob Klock Ehle, as Sponsors.

March 17, 1762; born a daughter Magdalena, with Anna Margaretha and Johannes Glocks as sponsors.

January 30th 1764; born a son Henrich (Henry), with Henrich Klok und Anna as Sponsors.

January 22, 1768; born a son Pieter, with Pieter Bellinger and Catharine Tenghart, sponsors.

In 1770; born a daughter Maria Catharine, with Maria und Joh Nicol Hergheimer Esq. sponsors. The latter is believed to have been the noted Gen. Nicholas Herkimer.

December 20th 1769; born a daughter Delia baptised Jan. 20, 1770, with Anna und Johannes Hess as Sponsors.

It has been claimed there were six daughters and three sons, one of the latter being John Frederick Bellinger, but the above record of five daughters and two sons are all to be found in Stone Arabia records.

Lieutenant Johannes Bellinger was born about 1725. He lived at the time of the Revolution and for some years before that event in a stone house on the north bank of the Mohawk river, near St. Johnsville in what is now Montgomery county.

He was a Lieutenant in a Palatine Regiment of Tryon County Militia under Col. Jacob Klock, and was slain in the Battle of Oriskany, as receipts for the payment of seven years half pay to his children Elizabeth and Henry audited accounts of the New York State records indicate.

He married Maria Lena Klock, who was baptised June 9th 1728.

The date of their marriage has not been found, but it was probably in 1750.

George M. Stowits was the third son of Michael Stowits, born September 2nd 1793. He married Mary McCartney, the daughter of Jeremiah McCartney on November 5th 1820.

He was born in Currytown, spent his life there and is buried there.

His wife was known to members of the family as Polly and she was the daughter of another Revolutionary soldier, who served as a private in a North Carolina Regiment where he saw much service under Col. Polk of the 4th Regiment.

There is an interesting history connected with Jeremiah McCartney who was born in Cork, Ireland, the son of Jeremiah McCartney, Sr. of the same place.

The young man came to America, unmarried and prior to the Revolutionary war, had incurred the displeasure of his father, when he enlisted for service as stated above, with the Colonists.

The displeasure was so great that his father disowned him and when he died, he left his whole estate to his daughter Mary, who never married, and when she died, she willed her whole estate to her brother who was still in America.

English Laws are of such a nature, that in spite of many attempts by the heirs since that time, to secure the estate which has since become quite large, the matter is still in the hands of the British courts and may never be distributed to the heirs, of whom here are today upwards of a hundred or more.

One of the heirs, a son of George M. Stowits, Major George H. Stowits made a trip to Ireland in 1856 where he found there was no question about the estate, hired lawyers to try and secure the same, but in the years that have passed since then, little progress has been made, due to the red tape necessary, the large number of heirs to learn of, so the matter of pursuing the case further has been dropped.

After the Revolution Jeremiah McCartney came north to New York state where his name has been found in legal documents, such as Witness to a Will in the town of Florida, dated September 15th, 1799 and another Will dated August 15th, 1809 at Canajoharie.

He was also recorded as having been in Stephentown, Albany county.

He made application for a pension May 26th, 1818, giving Charleston, Montgomery county as his place of residence.

His wife's name was Mary and she was born in 1766.

Jeremiah McCartney or as he was sometimes known as Jeremiah George Emerson McCartney and his wife had a large family, the names of the children being, James, George, Henry, Ann, Sarah, Charlotte, Elizabeth and Mary, three sons and five daughters.

It was Mary, the youngest daughter who married George M. Stowits.

Jeremiah George Emerson McCartney was born December 4th, 1752 in Cork, Ireland and died in Montgomery county, New York December 29th, 1831, aged 79 years.

But little is known of his wife's history.

Their children all married and had many children except Ann and Henry who had but one son.

George M. Stowits was born in Currytown, September 2, 1795, lived there on a farm until his death, which occurred August 11th, 1839, a comparatively young man of but 44 years.

His wife Mary or Polly as she was known, is also buried there.

They had three children Charlotte, who married Barzillia Millard who removed to Pittsford, New York, and it was she who took care of "Amaryllis" Stowits, her grandmother until her death in 1835.

George H. Stowits, born November 10th, 1822, at Fort Plain; he married Adeline Gibson, the daughter of William and Polly (Davis) Gibson of Starkville, New York June 26th, 1845.

And Rhoda Ann, born in 1831 and who lived until 1881.

She married Nathan Seymour Fulam of Rochester, New York.

Nathan S. Fullam and his wife Rhoda Ann (Stowits) Fullam had a son William Freeland Fullam, born October 20th, 1855 who entered the U. S.

Navy and arose thru various grades until he was retired as a rear admiral. He died Sept., 1926 at Washington, D. C.

#### George Henry Stowits

George Henry Stowits was the fourth in line from Philip, the second child of George M. Stowits. He was born in Fort Plain, New York November 10th, 1822 where he remained until he began teaching school, first at Starkville, then at Fort Plain, removing later to Troy and Waterford and just before the Civil War, moved to Buffalo where he continued to teach, becoming Principal of schools No. 2, 10 and 11.

In the early days of the Civil War he joined a regiment at Buffalo, the 100th infantry known as the Board of Trade Regiment, since it was promoted by that organization.

He remained throughout the war, advancing the various grades until at the end he was a major of the regiment.

Returning to Buffalo after the war he continued to teach until compelled to retire by advancing years. He died December 13th, 1906.

During his life he was known as an educator of rare ability also as a writer and historian.

He married Adeline Gibson June 26th, 1845 at Starkville, and she survived him, living to August 20th, 1910, aged 85 years.

#### Children of George H. and Adeline Gibson His Wife

George H. Stowits and his wife Adeline had the following children:

Cola D. R. Stowits, born at Starkville, April 8th, 1846.

Bryant B. Stowits, born August 9th, 1855, married Alice Hero, April 30th, 1879, who is still living. He died at Griffin's Mills, New York, June 5th, 1922. They had one son George A. Stowits, born December 20th, 1881. Still living.

Bertha Cora born August 13th, 1861

married Joseph Whalley November 20th, 1882. She died October 13th 1883. He died March 5th, 1884.

Brougham B. died in infancy.

Sumner Banks also died in infancy.

Cola D. R. Stowits, the fifth in line married A. Maria Booman, December 3rd, 1866 the eldest daughter of John W. Booman and Mary (Woolley) Booman, who was born March 25th, 1846 and died at Buffalo May 14th, 1909 at the age of 63 years.

Cola D. R. has spent much of his life in the coal and railroad business and is still living in 1930.

During the Civil war he served as a private in the 74th regiment of New York State Infantry.

For the past twenty-four years he has been the national quartermaster general of the Grand Army of the Republic.

He had but one child, a daughter Alice M. Stowits, born September 11, 1867. She married Roderick J. Cant May 24th, 1887 and is still living.

#### Alice Stowits Cant

Alice M. Stowits Cant, the 6th in line has had two children, Perry Roderick Cant, born April 9th, 1888 and Florence Alice born April 10th, 1889.

Perry R. Cant married Hazel N. Nichols January 8th, 1913 and Florence A. Cant married Frederick I. Kithcart September 23rd, 1919 and they have two children, Martha Kithcart born September 22, 1920 and Doris born April 17th, 1922.

#### Philip George (Parier) Stowits

Philip George (Parier) Stowits had a son named George who was born September 20th, 1765 and who spent his life as a farmer at Currytown, New York.

He married Margaret Dievendorff March, 1789.

She was born October 3rd, 1767 and died April 14th, 1848 at the age of 80 years, 6 months and 11 days.

#### Children of George and Margaret of Currytown

They had four children as follows:

Philip born November 2, 1789 and he lived until March 1st, 1860. He married Elenore Elizabeth Moschell, February 8th, 1814.

Elenore Elizabeth Moschell was born August 25th, 1790 and died in July, 1851.

Jacob, born November 30th, 1791, married Nancy Lyker, March 19th, 1815.

Mary, born February 25th, 1795 married John Runkle.

Henry born May 27th, 1799 married Maria M. Shunk, June 8, 1828.

#### Currytown Burial Plot

Elenore Elizabeth Stowits lies buried at the side of her husband, Philip Stowits in a modest little burial plot at Currytown, New York, and over his grave is a flat marble stone on which is carved, Philip Stowits died March 1, 1860, aged 70 years and 4 months.

Now I am gone I can't return  
No more of me you will see  
But it is true, that all of you  
Must shortly follow me  
When you unto my grave do go  
Tho' gloomy place to see  
I say to you who stand and view  
Prepare to follow me.

#### Children of Philip and Elenor Elizabeth

They had the following children:

George, born March 23rd, 1815. Died August 31st, 1816.

Jacob Moschell born June 15th, 1817 married Mary A. Shelp, October 24th, 1855. She was born July 22, 1822 and died January 30th, 1894.

Henry P. born September 9th, 1819 married Jane Clement, died Aug. 16, 1881.

Gertrude Margaret, born March 26, 1822 married William Tallmadge. She died March 10th, 1861.

Mary Elizabeth born September 22, 1826, married Nelson Clement. She died September 4, 1871.

Nancy Catharine, born May 17th,

1832, married Lucas Clement. She died December 5, 1902.

Children of Jacob M. Stowits and Mary E.

Jacob Moschell Stowits and Mary A. (Shelp) Stowits, his wife had the following children, four sons:

1. Philip Henry, born January 28th, 1857, married (1) Amelia Pulver and had the following children, Edwin, Pearl, Fred, Howard, when his wife died he married (2) Lillian M. Van Alstine.

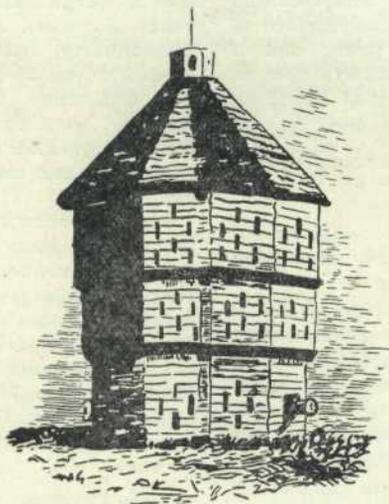
2. Irving Jacob, born February 9, 1858.

3. Howard Moschell, born August 1, 1859. He died July 28th, 1930.

4. Arthur D. born December 17th, 1861, he died March 13, 1910.

The second son of George Stowits and Margaret Dievendorff was Jacob Stowits. He married Nancy Lyker. They had the following children, George P. married Charlotte Legg; Elizabeth who married Richard Winne; Gertrude who married Charles Kelley.

THE END



FORT PLAIN BLOCK-HOUSE.<sup>1</sup>

## The Gibson Family

### John Gibson the Scottish Pioneer

The Gibson family from whom we are descended, were Scotch and the earliest known of them begins with John Gibson, who was born about 1695 and lived in Argyleshire on the west coast of Scotland, across the North Channel from Ireland.

He had been married twice, once in Scotland, his first wife being Sarah, the last name unknown, and by her had the following children born in Voluntown, Connecticut and recorded on page 10 of the Original Record of Vital Statistics, of the town, and of which photostatic copies are now on file in the State Library at Hartford, Connecticut.

James Gibson ye son of John and Sarah Gibson was born ye first day of April, 1726.

Elizabeth Gibson ye daughter of John and Sarah Gibson was born May ye 4th day 1728.

There is no record of the death of the first wife Sarah, but about 1731 he married Mary (Campbell) Alexander, the widow of James Alexander and continued to live in Voluntown.

### Children of John Gibson, the Pioneer

On page 51 of the same Record Book of Voluntown, with photostatic copy at the State Library will be found the names of the children of John Gibson and his wife Mary, as follows:

Jeanet Gibson the daughter of John Gibson and Mary his wife was born in Voluntown May the 22nd A. D. 1732.

Mary Gibson ye daughter of John Gibson and Mary his wife was born

in Voluntown October ye 5th day A. D. 1734.

John Gibson ye son of John Gibson and Mary his wife was born in Voluntown, February ye 12th, A. D. 1736.

Susann Gibson ye daughter of John Gibson and Mary his wife was born in Voluntown, April ye 25th, A. D. 1738.

### Joseph Alexander

Unpublished family history states that a Joseph Alexander was but two years old when his father died in Londonderry, Ireland, and it is recorded in Vol. 36, page 324 of the Barber Collection, that John Gibson a widower, went to Londonderry (New Hampshire) and married the widow Alexander, and came to Voluntown to live.

The reference in full reads, "John Gibson and Mary his wife, widow of James Alexander of Londonderry, New Hampshire, and Samuel Dorrance and Agnes his wife, daughter of Alexander, all of Voluntown, Connecticut for six hundred pounds, sold on November 11th, 1745, to John Wallace of Londonderry, N. H. cordwinder. 60 acres, home lot of James Alexander deceased."

### Gibsons Settle at Voluntown

The Gibson family were of the Presbyterian faith, which has been the Church of Scotland, and they have continued in that faith ever since.

They came to America in 1722 to make their home in America, and were among the very earliest settlers in Voluntown.

It is recorded that they came over in the same ship with others, whose names later were associated with them in Church and other public and social affairs and also by intermarriage.

#### Names of Early Settlers at Voluntown

Among the names noted of families who came to Voluntown to live, are that of Campbell, Dixon, Kennedy, Hunter, Douglas, Wylie, Houston and Kasson. They formed so large a proportion of the inhabitants of Voluntown that they organized a Presbyterian Church, and called to be their pastor, the Reverend Samuel Dorrance, himself lately arrived from Ireland, but a graduate of the Glasgow University of Scotland.

This church was the first, and for many years, the only one of that denomination in Connecticut.

The Church was organized October 15th, 1723 and the Reverend Samuel Dorrance was its pastor from that date until his death in 1770.

In a volume "Scotch-Irish Pioneers" on page 144 will be found the names of the signers of the Westminster Confession of Voluntown, where appears the names of John Gibson, Adam Kasson and thirty six others.

#### John Gibson, Sr. in Revolution

John Gibson Sr. served in the Revolutionary War, having been enlisted in Col. Parson's 6th Regiment, 6th Company, Captain Clift, on May 16th, 1775, serving one and one-half months as a Corporal, and was discharged December 15th, 1775.

This regiment was raised on the first call for troops in April and May, 1775, in the towns of Voluntown, Plainfield and Canterbury, he being credited to Voluntown.

The records shows that on account of his age at the time of service he was relieved from the arduous duty of corporal and placed upon a special detail until discharged.

John Gibson Sr. died in 1782.

#### John Gibson, Jr.

The second in line, the fifth child of John Gibson, Sr. and Mary his wife was John Gibson, Jr., born in Voluntown as recorded above, February 12th, 1736, and lived most of his life in Windham, in which place he died in 1803.

In 1758, he married Esther, the daughter of Adam Kasson, and Jane (Hall) Kasson, his wife, the latter's parents having come from Belfast, Ireland in the same ship with the other Scotch-Irish Pioneers already referred to.

John Gibson, Jr., with his wife removed to Corry's Bush, Princeton, Schenectady County, New York in 1803.

#### John Gibson, Jr. Also a Revolutionary Soldier

He also was a soldier in the Revolutionary War having enlisted on May 5th, 1778 in the 4th Regiment Line Troops, under Captain Nathan Strohm and discharged February 5th, 1779, from Voluntown, Connecticut.

#### Children of John and Esther Gibson

John Gibson, Jr. and Esther (Kasson) Gibson, his wife had twelve children, as follows—Jacob; Archibald died in infancy; Alexander, who never married; John married Kats Warren; Archibald (2nd) married three times; William, married Lodema Ransford; James, married Hannah Pierson; Lubrina, married Thomas Kasson; Molly, married Hezekiah Pellett; Nancy, married Edward Waterhouse; Betsy, married John Wasson, and Chauncey married Mary Smith.

#### Jacob Gibson Third in Line

The third in line was Jacob Gibson the oldest son of John Gibson, Jr. and Esther Gibson, was born in 1759 in Voluntown, Connecticut.

In 1777 he married Polly Deming, the only daughter of John Deming, and Abia Bryan Deming, and sister of John Deming.

Polly Deming was a descendant of the settler John Deming, who came to this country about 1630 and in 1635 was one of the very earliest settlers in Wethersfield, Connecticut, she being the sixth in line.

She was born in Wethersfield and lived there until she married, when she removed with her husband Jacob Gibson to Montgomery County, New York.

#### Children of Jacob and Polly Gibson

Jacob Gibson and Polly (Deming) Gibson, his wife, had ten children as follows—John; Alexander; Cornelia, who married a Mr. Jefferson; Nelson; James; Jacob; George; Archibald; Jane, who married a Mr. Lowell; William, who married Polly Davis, in 1817 and lived in Starkville, New York.

#### Jacob was Third Generation To Enter Revolution

Jacob Gibson was also a soldier in the Revolutionary War, as in 1775, when the Brigantine Minerva was fitted out by the Committee of Safety for the defence of the Colony, Jacob Gibson enlisted under date of October 14th, 1776, and was discharged November 25th, 1776.

Immediately after leaving the Minerva, he enlisted under Captain Coit on the Oliver Cromwell, where he served until discharged in February, 1777. He was known at the time as a mariner, and also as a marine.

The Brigantine Minerva was a ship of 16 guns, with a crew of 120 men and was commanded by Captain Dudley Saltonstall.

#### William Gibson, Fourth Generation

The fourth in line was William Gibson, the youngest child of Jacob and Polly (Deming) Gibson was born at Currytown, New York, October 15th, 1792 and lived much of his life in Starkville as a farmer.

In 1817 he married Polly Davis, the youngest daughter of Lieutenant William Davis a soldier of the War of 1812, and Mary (Saunders) Davis of Amsterdam, New York, where she was born January 12th, 1793, and

died in Starkville, January 20th, 1864, at the age of 71.

William Gibson and his wife Polly Davis lie in a small burial plot in the east end of Starkville, New York, and over their remains is a marble monument bearing the record of their lives.

#### Children of William and Polly (Davis) Gibson

They had eight children as follows—Maria, who married Mr. Wentworth; Delos married Lucy Wentworth; Esther married Mr. Beaver; Dewitt, married three times; Adeline, married George Henry Stowits; William, Jr., married three times; Malvana, married Mr. Bassett; Cornelia, married Dan Shall.

One of the three wives of William, Jr. was Janet Swetland, and she lies buried in the family plot with a stone over her remains, which states that she died June 3rd, 1873, aged 38 years.

#### Adam Kasson

Among the other connections of the Gibson Family may be noted, an Adam Kasson, who came to America in 1722 to make his home in Connecticut and he was among the very earliest settlers in Voluntown.

It is recorded that he came from Ulster, Ireland, separated from Scotland by the same narrow North Channel, having lived in Belfast with his wife Jane (Hall) Kasson, and had nine children who came also with him. During the early part of his life, Adam Kasson lived in Carrickfergus, Ireland, at which place he followed the trade of a manufacturer of spinning wheels, a hand machine in general use in those days, and it is said that the first spinning wheels made in this country were made by a Kasson. The trade continued to be carried on by the eldest sons through each generation, down to recent years, when factories did away with the hand spinning.

A stone was erected to the memory of Deacon Adam Kasson, who "Died much lamented by his friends and neighbors, being a tender father, loving husband, charitable to the poor, and an upright Member of Society, leaving behind an honest, fair character, and with the full surety of Christ, November 1st, 1752, in the 71st year of his age."

This stone was erected in 1780, in Coventry, Rhode Island, where Adam Kasson was buried.

Adam Kasson was chosen Deacon of the Voluntown Church, August 4th, 1731, and he with his sons John and William were members of the church from the time of its foundation.

His wife and other members of the family united with the church later.

#### Scotch-Irish Pioneers

These early pioneers were known as and called themselves Scotch-Irish, although they had some English blood, and some of their descendants claim to be of French descent, who left France at the time of the persecution of the Hugonots.

James Gibson, born April 1st, 1726,

the son of John and Mary Gibson married Martha Campbell, who was born in 1732, and they had eight children as follows—John; Allen; Jas.; Moses; Campbell; Samuel; Sarah and Elizabeth.

#### Gibsons of the Mohawk. Information Wanted

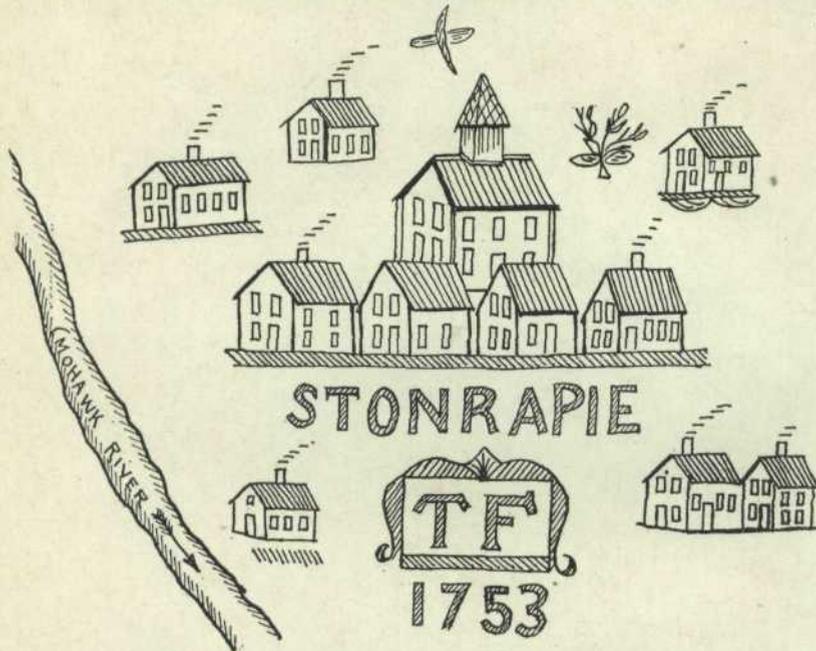
There are many members of the Gibson family remaining in the Mohawk Valley, and there is still much material to work on in connection with this name, and it is hoped that others will be sufficiently interested in recording further connections of the family to inform the editor of the Enterprise and News.

It was only the intention of the writer to secure accurate records of only such members of this extensive family as would be required to establish a direct connection with the first Gibson to reach America, down to the point where this family is merged into the Stowits family as published in the Enterprise and News in the fall of 1930.

RODERICK J. CANT.

Buffalo, N. Y.  
March 1st, 1931.

ONLY KNOWN PICTURE OF THE OLD STONE ARABIA CHURCH  
(Destroyed by Sir John Johnson October 19, 1780).



The above drawing was executed on a powder horn by the artist T. F. which stands for Timothy Frank. The horn is in possession of Frank D. Deuel, genealogist of Schenectady who kindly made the sketch from the horn. While dated 1753 Mr. Deuel thinks it was carved a few years later as on one side is shown Fort Stanwix which was built 1758. The view of "Stonrapie" includes the church which was destroyed in 1789 by Sir John Johnson and is the only known picture of that early edifice. The sketch is allegorical in that it implies distance without regard to actual distances. The bird over the church indicated north and south by its wings. The bush indicates a trail and the lower house near the river may be the Frey house and the upper house near the river the Ehle house. The house to the north east may be Johnson Hall or Johnstown and the bush indicates a trail between the two. Mr. Deuel says: My great grandmother Catharine Folts Dygert born 1778 was a step daughter of Timothy Frank who married her mother Anna Dygert Folts, widow of Conrad J. Folts as his second wife.