

as it has also been related, was appointed an ensign on May 20, 1812, and, on March 2, 1814, was made a lieutenant of a company in the One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Regiment of Rensselaer County militia, at that time under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Davis.

If a traditionary declaration be true, Henry Swartwout was a member of the noted local military body of volunteer soldiery, called the Trojan Greens, organized in 1806, of which Thomas Davis was then captain; William S. Parker, lieutenant; and Stephen Warren, ensign. In August, 1814, the company, commanded then by Captain Sidney Dole, having tendered their services for the defence of the city of New York, were sent there with other state troops. In September, the two other local military organizations, the Troy Fusileers and the Troy Invincibles, were likewise accepted for the same service and transported to the metropolis. In the latter part of November the three companies returned to Troy, having received high commendations "for their patriotic and faithful services."

By the act incorporating the city of Troy, on April 12, 1816, its territory was divided into six wards, in each of which, as the act provided, were to be elected, on the second Tuesday in May, in each year, an alderman and an assistant alderman, except in the fifth and sixth wards, where no assistant aldermen were to be chosen. At that time, the first ward lay between a line drawn through the middle of Ferry Street and the south bounds of the city. The favorable estimation in which Henry Swartwout was held by the people of the first ward, in which he had resided a number of years, led to his election to the office of assistant alderman in 1817, and in the four following years to that of alderman. As named in the first directory of the city, published in 1829, and in the directories of the twelve succeeding years, his residence, as numbered, was 155 Third Street, west side, between Ferry and Division streets.

His first wife bore him one son and three daughters. She died on May 14, 1811, five days after the birth of the third daughter. The eldest, a daughter, was then in her eighth year, and the sudden bereavement was a heavy affliction to the distressed father. The loss of a devoted mother, as is well known, is always grievous and one that is commonly felt with particular poignancy by a household in which all the children are of infantile years. Henry, their only son, was then two years and four months old. On April 11, 1812, the father married Mary Wheeler van der Heyden, widow of John I. van der Heyden.

In June, that year, the war of 1812-15 was filling the country with uncertainty regarding the issues of the conflict with Great Britain. The military cantonments at Greenbush and Plattsburg, established during the summer, were in great part supplied with provisions purchased from Troy merchants and meat-packers. One firm, it is known, paid thirty thousand dollars in Sep-