

that goes to make up the present prosperity of the city. In company with his brother, Daniel, he went to Elmira in 1842 and purchased a water privilege on Newton Creek (the present site of the Woolen Mill). They established a cloth dressing, wool carding and small woolen manufacturing business company, which they ran until Feb. 1848, when their mill was burned.

In the summer of the same year the business was resumed by an organization known as the Elmira Woolen Manufacturing Co., of which the brothers were the principal stockholders and managers.

The mills soon entered upon a most prosperous existence. Difficulties there were to be surmounted, but the sagacity and thoroughly practical knowledge of the brothers were equal to all emergencies. The foundations were laid deep and strong for a prosperity which in time was more than amply realized, and in later life threw around the homes of the brothers all the luxury and comforts that flow from wealth and cultured tastes.

On the 1st of April, 1868, there was another change in the business organization of the mills. The mill and machinery of the Elmira Woolen Mfg. Co. became the property of a corporation, in which the Pratts and Dundas were the principal stockholders, and the business has since been under the name of the Clinton Woolen Mills. The Messrs. Pratt were the first to introduce the power loom and card condensing machines into this country. At the time of his death Mr. Pratt was President of the Clinton Woolen Mills Co., a director in the 2nd National Bank, and in company with his son-in-law, Alderman Reynolds, largely engaged in the pork trade. Prominent in every public enterprise, having at heart the best interests of the city in which he dwelt, and for whose advancement he did so much, he was also ever solicitous for its moral and commercial progress.

Mrs. Sarah (Alvord) Pratt lived a singularly useful and beautiful life. During her youth the family moved to Schuyler, N. Y., and there she was married to Ransom Pratt. The young couple resided for a brief time in Havana, N. Y., and then came to Elmira, where for more than forty-five years she lived a life that made her known and beloved by a large circle of acquaintances and friends. Early connecting herself with the 1st Presbyterian Church during the pastorate of Rev. Dr. Fowler, she was, so long as she was able, a regular attendant upon its services and a faithful worker in its ranks. Nor did her interest cease with inability to longer attend