

Leete, were married May 1, 1805, and located in Richmond, near his paternal homestead, and carried on the blacksmith business there for several years, but, his health failing, he with his wife and Chester Leete, their first child, removed to Sachem's Head, Conn., where his son, George Anson, 2d, was born, June 14, 1810. The following year, he, with his family, removed to Dutchess Co., N. Y., and permanently located at "Separate," a locality in the town of Stanford, near the old "Separate Meeting House," and but a few rods from the town line of Amenia. Here he built a new blacksmith shop and cultivated his small farm for many years. Here his youngest son, James Hervey, — the subject of this sketch, — was born July 14, 1817.

The schools and other opportunities for reading and amusements were much the same as most country boys at that time were favored with; and, such as the boy had, he improved. When of suitable age he assisted his father in the shop, or on the farm, as occasion required.

When fifteen years of age, his father and family removed to Houk Hill, in the town of Wawarsing, Ulster Co., N. Y., where he had bought quite an extensive farm, but lived to cultivate it less than two years.

After his father's death in 1835, he went to Poughkeepsie, and served an apprenticeship of three years at carpentry.

In 1839, he commenced business for himself, as builder, joiner and architect, which he continued for some fifteen years, during which time he erected or rebuilt nearly one hundred buildings, including two churches and one large freight and passenger barge.

In 1853 he engaged in the lumber and coal trade, which he carried on quite successfully for sixteen years, when he sold out, and bought the "Poughkeepsie foundry and machine plant," which he conducted until 1874, when he again sold out, and of late years has not been engaged in any active mercantile or mechanical business. Jan. 4, 1842, he married Charlotte, youngest daughter of John C. and Lavinia Wiltsi, descendants of old Huguenot families.

The same year he built the house No. 33 Conklin street, Poughkeepsie, and moved into it the following spring, and still resides there. There four of his children were born, and there three of the children died. In the same house his twenty-fifth and fiftieth marriage anniversaries were duly celebrated, and there the parents expect to spend the remainder of their days.

Mr. Dudley was one of the original members of the First Congregational church in the then village of Poughkeepsie, which was organized in 1837, and for more than forty years he has been its stated clerk, and has often been sent as delegate to other bodies.

For more than fifty years he has been director or officer of the "Poughkeepsie Lyceum," one of the very few surviving literary