

honor to know that our ancestors aided Washington in his great work even in an humble way; that perhaps they knew him personally, that at least he was to them a well-known and commanding figure.

Ephraim (5) removed from Wellsburg about 1805. Green Bently being born there in 1797, has told the writer that to see Lebbens Hammond, who escaped from Queen Esther at Bloody Rock, at his father's house was a frequent occurrence.

Research in the old Tioga county records shows a deed made 1802, by Charles Wilkes and Lewis Simond, by their attorney, Robert C. Johnson, of New York city, to Ephraim Bennett, of Catharinstown, Tioga county, N. Y., conveying eighty-one and one-half acres of land in southwest quarter of township No. 3, situate on the road leading from the Seneca Lake to Newtown or Elmira. This was unquestionably the Millport property where he built a saw mill. Here his family grew up, were married, going out to homes of their own, but frequently returning to the paternal roof. My father has often pictured the scene about the great open fire-place of a winter night, when the old men alternately awed and thrilled the young people by tales of the times that "tried men's souls." At their social entertainments dancing began mid-afternoon and continued until the following morning, when tired but happy, young and old wended homeward, some on sleds drawn by oxen, the better circumstanced upon horseback with their ladies snugly bestowed behind them on a "pillion" (a stuffed blanket) attached to the saddle. *They could dance*—when nearly sixty years old. Col. Green could cut the pigeon wing with skill and lightly as a boy. While not an engineer, Ephraim (5) was out much with surveyors who established land lines for the great proprietors who had obtained large tracts by patents from the government. When so engaged, where the city of Corning now is, he was offered as much land on the opposite flats above Gibson as he wanted for two cows. He used to tell this story with a smile, and explain that the cows were esteemed of more value than all the flat land there, covered as it was with stunted pines and subject to yearly overflow.

From Millport he removed to the town of Dix, where he owned and occupied a farm adjoining his son's which, in later years, we called the "lower place." There was included a grist mill upon Bower's creek, passing through the farm. The mill was aban-