

(Note: A correction to part IV. Franklin Hawkins, not Jay Hawkins, his cousin, was grandfather to Mrs. Andrew Green, nee Emma Kenworthy, and it was he who helped "chop out" Main Street. J.M.G.)

## ARTICLE VII

Personal incidents such as have been given, were numerous but space forbids recounting many that would prove interesting.

By the year 1840 all the colonists had taken up their residence in the new home, a school started and church organized.

As the years passed, families cleared their land and began to have such comforts as were possible in a pioneer country. Other settlers moved in as a result of the enlarging church, school and social life, unusual in other localities.

The Academy, opened in 1843, added prestige to Vermontville for a recognition of its worth as an educational center was not strictly local but attracted earnest students from a wide area.

Among those enrolled were many who, in later years, won recognition for themselves in various lines of activity and carried the name of Vermontville far beyond its borders.

We might name a few of these: Mr. Frank Davis, a civil engineer, who was connected with the railroad construction which opened the great northwest, and also built the first railroad over the Andes Mountains in South America; Hon. Edward W. Barber who filled many political offices in the county and state, later serving as Reading Clerk of the national house of representatives, 1864, supervisor of Internal Revenue for Michigan and Wisconsin, and in 1873, third assistant postmaster general. In later life he became editor of the Jackson Patriot and a writer of note; Edward Church was head of the School for the Blind at Lansing for a term of years. Dr. Joseph B. Griswold, for years a prominent physician of Grand Rapids, who was elected to a number of offices in connection with medical organizations and an active worker in the Loyal Legion and G. A. R. Frank Kedzie was another who with his father, was associated with Michigan State College at Lansing for many years, and at a recent date was its President for a time. Judge Clement Smith, for many years circuit judge for Eaton and Barry counties, was also an early student. There were others equally prominent. The Academy also attracted fine young people of education and ideals into its teaching faculty and until the late 60's when the Union School was built and opened, its influence was wide and potent.

With the passing of years the young children of the colonists came to maturity and a social group in the late 50's and 60's began to be active in village life. The strict New England ideas which based their training, developed them into fine personalities which exemplified high ideals and worthy aims of living. These were carried into every department of village activity, and, in cooperation