"The buildings are chiefly on River, Second, and Third streets. The lots in those streets are taken up, and, with some exceptions, occupied by buildings; and many lots, especially in River Street, have two and some three buildings in front. Fourth Street contains already several buildings and many inhabitants; and several new and good buildings will soon be erected on it, as the lots are taken up and considered very valuable. Fifth Street has as yet but few houses on it. Six hundred and eight lots are already laid out on the estate of Jacob D. van der Heyden. * * * *

"By a census taken in each ward separately in February last, the village was found to contain five hundred and fourteen buildings, exclusive of mechanics' shops, stables, and outhouses. Of these, ninety-seven were merchants' stores, and four hundred and seventeen dwelling-houses, and there are eight or ten of the stores, in each of which two mercantile companies transact business. The number of inhabitants was 2,955, of whom eighty-nine were free blacks and seventy-nine slaves."

Henry, the eldest of the nine sons and three daughters of Cornelius and Sarah Bedell Swartwout, was given the Christian name of his great-grandfather, Henry Ter Bos. By the family's change of residence from Dutchess to Rensselaer County, he became acquainted with Sarah, daughter of Ebenezer and Sarah Hart Merrill, natives of Connecticut, who had settled in the town of Addison, Vermont, where, on December 5, 1802, the marriage of their daughter and Henry Swartwout was consummated.

It is said that the ancestors of Ebenezer Merrill were Huguenots, and bore the patrial title de Merle. Certain members of the family de Merle fled from their estates, near Puy-de-Dôme, in the province of Auvergne, France, to England, shortly after the massacre of St. Bartholomew's eve, on August 23, 1572.

The *fleurs-de-lis*, or lilies, known as the royal insignia of France, and the engrailed or curved lines along the voided or vacant part of the Merrill escutcheon being red (*gules*), denote that a special or courageous service was performed for the king of that country by a member of the family.[1]

Two of the descendants of the French refugees, John and Nathaniel Merrill, brothers, sailed from England to America in 1633, and on their disembarkation went to Ipswich, in Massachusetts.

They were recorded, in 1635, among the original settlers of Newbury, in the same province, where they founded homes and resided until they died. John, Nathaniel's son, settled at Hartford, now the capital of Connecticut, where, in 1657, he was the owner of a lot on Elm Street, and in the following

[1] Or, a pale engrailed, gules, voided of the field, between two fleurs-de-lis azure. Crest: A peacock's head erased proper. *Vide:* Burke's General Armory.