

157. ERASTUS CHARLES, b. Feb. 24, 1816; m. Helen Amelia Wemple.
158. MYNDERT WILLIAM, b. Nov. 22, 1818; m. Laura Littlefield Floyd.
159. ELIJAH GAYLORD, b. Nov. 18, 1822; d. Jan. 20, 1841.

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Joseph Starin, son of John (24), was born at Kinderhook Falls, N. Y., on the 29th of April, 1783. He began life as a merchant first at Fonda, N. Y., and then at Johnstown, N. Y., keeping also the first toll-bridge built over the Mohawk river, from which latter enterprise he is said to have derived a considerable revenue. Afterward, he removed to Bennington, Vt., where, until his death, he carried on a farm, and also a successful mercantile business. He was twice married; first to Maria Groat (sometimes written Groot) of Neskayuna,* Schenectady county, N. Y., and from whom he was afterward divorced, solely on the ground of incompatibility; and secondly, February 12, 1814, by the Rev. Mr. Marsh of Bennington, Vt., to

* Niskayuna is derived from the Indian term Nis-ti-gi-oo-ne, or Con-nesti-gu-ne, by which latter name it is known on the old maps. The term was also applied to portions of Watervliet and Half-Moon. It signifies "a field covered with corn." Upon its first settlement by the whites this place was occupied by a tribe of Indians known as the *Connestijune*. Neskayuna was visited in 1687 by a spy from the Adirondack nation — the allies of the French. Hunger drove him to the house of a Dutchman by the name of Van Brakkle, where he devoured a large quantity of pork and peas. On his leaving the house of his entertainer he was waylaid by *Ron-warrigh-wok-go-ua*, a Connestijune chief, and slain. Cutting off the head, the Connestijune chief repaired to the house of Van Brakkle and threw the head into the window, exclaiming to the horrified owner: "Behold the head of your *Pea-eater!*"— *The late Giles F. Yates, in the SCHENECTADY REFLECTOR of 1835.*