

Cattaraugus Republican has been under the editorial management of Comrade Ferrin since its first issue in 1867, with the exception of periods when he has been incapacitated by illness resulting from diseases contracted in the army. It has been the leading Republican newspaper in the county, and is conceded to be one of the best weekly newspapers in the State. Comrade Ferrin was United States Agent for the New York Indians under President Harrison, and was reappointed to the position by President McKinley. He was united in marriage in September, 1868 with Miss Anna E. Weber of Springville, who died Feb. 14, 1872. His present companion was Miss Flaville J. VanHoesen of Preble, Cortland county, N. Y. This union has been blessed with two children, A. W. Ferrin, Jr., and Miss Susie L. The former is a graduate of Yale University and is at present night news editor in the office of the American Press Association in New York City. The latter has not yet completed her studies.

#### JOHN (DE) GROAT

The only man of the 154th N. Y. V. I. to re-enlist, is the son of Jasper and Maria Maybec Groat. He was born Mar. 2, 1838 at Ashford, N. Y., and was a farmer when the flag of the Nation was trailed in the dust of the South. He donned the blue in defence of that sacred flag on Aug. 8, 1862 at Ellicottville, N. Y. in Co. G, 154th N. Y. V. I., 2d Brig., 2d Div., 11th, and later called the 20th A. C. Among his many battles we mention the following, Chancellorsville, Chattanooga, Peach Tree Creek, Rocky Face Ridge, Lookout Mt., Missionary Ridge, New Hope Church, Before Atlanta, March to the Sea, Campaign in the Carolinas, ending with Bentonville. Dec. 10, 1862 he was sick in Carver Hospital, Washington, for five days, sent to Ft. Schuyler, N. Y. for six weeks, and was given his discharge, but as soon as able to get around, re-enlisted Sept., 1863 at Avon, N. Y. in Co. G, 154th N. Y. V. I., rejoining his old command at Chattanooga. A little before battle of Gettysburg he was in a cellar drinking milk, when the rebels came up and captured him, and he endured the horrors of Bell Island. Comrade Groat recalls the following stories: When Commodore Vede was recruiting his company he offered ten dollars to first man who would sign the enlistment roll, and Groat signed it. At one time he was cook for the officers; this was distasteful to him as he wanted to be with the boys at the front. One night after the officers had dined heartily on warm biscuits, which Groat had made, the next morning no bugle sounded or morning call, for there was no need of it. Each looked at the other in dismay, and on investigation it was found that, by mistake (?), Groat had put in Epsom salts instead of baking powder. At Rocky Face Ridge as they were charging up the mountain, Nicholas Cook, of Co. G, 154th N. Y. V. I., one of those good natured

fellows, always full of jokes, was struck in the mouth by a ball, and he said lispingly, "Boys, they've spoilt my cracker machine." After serving faithfully and peace had at last dawned upon our Nation, he was honorably discharged June 11, 1865 at Bladensburg, Md. While at home between his enlistments, Private Groat was happily united in marriage to Margaret Nelligan, daughter of John and Nora Conell Nelligan, April 5, 1863 at Ashford, N. Y. She was born June 9, 1848 in Canada. Four children have crowned this union, Charles E., Jasper C., Jennie B., dec., and Earl. He had been previously married to Emily Draper, by whom he had two children, Frank S. and Mary. Comrade Groat had four brothers and three brothers-in-law in the service. Jeremiah and Uriah D. in 13th N. Y. H. A., and Estleor "Erb" and Richard McCadden in 154th N. Y. V. I., the latter captured at Gettysburg; brother-in-law George G. Hopkins in Co. G, 154th N. Y. V. I., and John L. Smith in Co. I, 13th N. Y. H. A. His grandfather Maybec was in the Revolution. Comrade Groat was assessor, postmaster at Bird, N. Y., two terms, and local assessor for 6 years. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and of Sherwood Post, 380, in which he is J. V. C. He is employed in the Catt. Roofing Co.'s work, and is one of the esteemed citizens of Salamanca, N. Y.

#### GEORGE S. HACKETT

In the town of Ischua, N. Y., Feb. 20, 1844, a son of Stephen K. and Mary E. (Williams) Hackett was born. His mother died when he was very young and he went to live with a farmer, Daniel H. Woods, near Rushford, N. Y. He was working on the farm when the great Rebellion began to assume its threatening proportions, and he enlisted Dec. 22, 1863, at Rushford, in Co. B, 2d N. Y. Mtd. Rifles, and was sworn into the U. S. service at Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 12, 1864. Mar. 19 witnessed the departure of the command to Camp Stoneman, near Washington. The command was assigned to 2d Brig., 2d Div., 9th A. C., and proceeded to Bell Plain Landing, and from thence to Fredericksburg. We proudly write his long list of battles, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Tolapotomy Creek, North Anna River, Bethesda Church, Cold Harbor, Pagram's Farm, where 99 out of the 200 fell, and only 5 out of the 17 in his company were left, before Petersburg, Fort Rice, Boynton Plank Road, Hatcher Run, and Stony Creek Station. June 29, 1864 he was taken to the field hospital of 2d Div., 9th A. C., transferred to the Gen. Corps Hospital, City Point; entered general hospital at David's Island, N. Y. H., July 6, 1864, and remained here suffering with sunstroke, fever and diarrhea, returning for duty Aug. 4, 1864. He was confined in Convalescent Barracks, Fort Wood, from Aug. 29 to Oct. 13, and was then removed to general field hospital, City Point, where he remained until Oct. 20, 1864; at last sent to the