

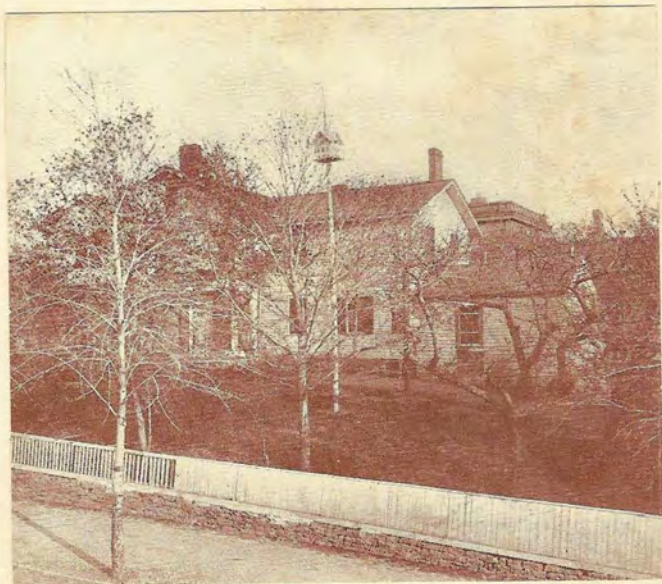
SOUVENIR *of* THE
Andrews House

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

: : : : PRESENTED BY : : : :

ZIMMERLI BUSINESS
FURNITURE CORPORATION

Ye Olde Andrews House



PHOTOGRAPH OF ANDREWS STREET SIDE
TAKEN 1881

*This was the favorite picture of James Sherlock Andrews
It is now in the collection of The Rochester
Historical Society*

Ye Olde House

Published by

JAMES SHERLOCK ANDREWS

1919

It was always supposed that the Andrews house was built in 1818, until one summer evening in June, 1868, I think, when my mother and uncle Sherlock were seated on the north piazza, where my den is now, and I was watering the lawn and shrubbery in front of the house. Mr. Tiffany Hunn, great uncle of my friend, the late Joseph Hunn, bade us good evening as he was walking by and was asked up to join our party. He said, "This is the oldest house now standing in Rochester." "Yes," said my uncle, "it was built in 1818." "You are a year late," said Mr. Hunn. "I came through here in the autumn of 1817 and your father kindly invited me to spend the night, which I gladly did. At that time there was no inn in the place. The house was not entirely finished but the family was living in it and there was a room for me." This would seem to settle the date. Mr. Hunn was doubtless the first guest and so the old house began its hospitalities before it was finished.

The grounds of the house used to extend back to the river where there was a row boat in a grove of trees on the bank. One day shortly after the house was built my father, in attempting to row across the river, lost an oar, and the current being strong, was in danger of being swept over the falls but managed, with a single oar, to land on the island at the brink of the precipice which is now covered by a great factory and united with the mainland of the western shore.

It is impossible to give a list of the many people who have been entertained at the olde house. Of the clergy they may be said to have begun with Bishop Hobart and not to have ended with Dean Hole of Roch-

ester, England. DeLancy, Onderdonk and all the Potters were among them. Of priests the name is legion. Among many public men such names as Seward, Weed and Marcy; of the old navy the Goldsboroughs and Strong (son of my grandfather's old friend, the first Judge of this County); of the army, Generals Gardner, Martindale, Peter B. Porter, Otis and Powers, with many others; Judges who adorned their place when both the bench and the bar were more respected than they are today; men who stood for something in literature and education, all found a welcome where the latch string was always out; and even my boyish school-mates were no less cordially received.

In November, 1917, a joint centennial of the old house and that of the Martin homestead of Willowbrook, on Owasco Lake, was celebrated by a dinner to which few of those invited were able to come. Only Miss C. E. Martin with her brother, Edward Sanford Martin, and his wife, Julia, a niece of my mother, of that family were present with Mr. William Shearman Doolittle and his sister Isabel and his daughter Isabel 2nd, of my grandfather's descendants.

In June, 1918, a dinner was given to such survivors of the class of 1868 of Rochester University as were able to be present on the fiftieth anniversary of their graduation, to which came the President of the University, Dr. Rhees, and my classmates, Dr. William Carey Morey, William Henry Davis of Cincinnati, Dr. John Love of New York City and William S. Paine.

Three Generations in the Andrews House

Three generations of the Andrews family lived in this house :

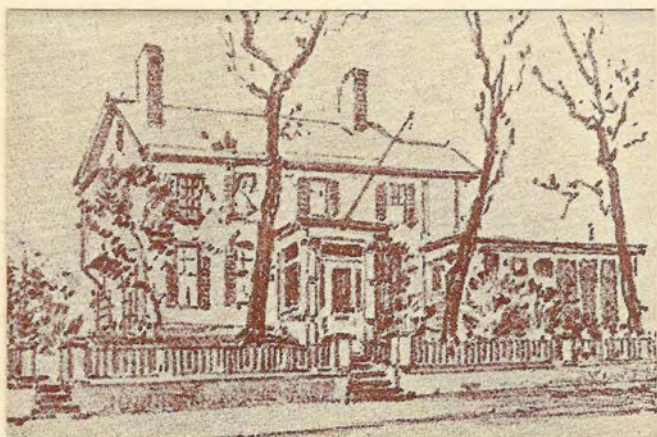
SAMUEL JAMES ANDREWS came to Rochester with his family, December 28, 1815, from Derby, Connecticut. He was born in Wallingford, Connecticut, February 14, 1766, and died in this homestead January 12, 1832. He had been a West India merchant and was practically ruined in the war of 1812 owing to the capture of his ships by the British blockading squadron off New Haven harbor. All he had left was the land in the "Genesee Country" which had been purchased as a speculation, in partnership with Judge Atwater of Canandaigua. When Samuel J. Andrews came to Rochester he was in his 50th year, but he took up his new life with the energy of youth, laying out the Andrews-Atwater Tract; building the first stone structure in Rochester on the site of the present Granite Building; building mills and a bridge across the Genesee at Andrews Street; was one of the founders of St. Luke's Church in 1817 and of St. Paul's in 1827. He built two houses in St. Paul Street before erecting the present homestead in 1817.

SAMUEL GEORGE ANDREWS, son of Samuel James, inherited the homestead and made it a center of the social and literary life of the young community. He was a merchant and a miller. He died June 11, 1863, greatly venerated and beloved by his fellow citizens. He was twice mayor of the city (1840 and 1856); was our representative in Congress (1857 to 1859) and held other positions of public trust (Alderman, Supervisor, School Commissioner and Postmaster) in which he acquitted himself with marked ability. His manners were polished and urbane and his mind well stored and

active. His constant desire was to serve the public and faithfully to discharge his duties as a man and citizen. In his social relations Mr. Andrews was a genial companion and a steadfast friend and his domestic life afforded a rare example of the private virtues. His influence was strong in helping Rochester grow from a straggling hamlet to a highly adorned city.

JAMES SHERLOCK ANDREWS, son of Samuel George, was the last of the family to occupy the homestead, and well he carried on its delightful traditions. He was born in the old house October 5, 1846, and died there March 21, 1921. During the years of his residence the house and grounds were well kept up and always attracted the interest and attention of strangers in the city by its home-like and attractive appearance in the midst of the commercial section that had grown up around it.

On March 21, 1924, the Zimmerli Business Furniture Corporation acquired the property from the heirs of James Sherlock Andrews, and out of respect for the traditions and early associations connected with this home, have given the citizens of Rochester an opportunity to pay the old house a final visit, on May 2 and 3, 1924, before it passes.



ST. PAUL STREET SIDE

Andrews House

OPENED UNDER PATRONAGE OF
THE ROCHESTER HISTORICAL SO-
CIETY; THE ROCHESTER CHAPTER,
EMPIRE STATE SOCIETY, SONS OF
THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION; AND
IRONDEQUOIT CHAPTER, DAUGH-
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