

[Fox, Alfred]

Biographical Sketches

From *Genealogical and Family History of the County of Jefferson*  
compiled under the supervision of the late R. A. Oakes in (1907?)

BYRON FOX [excerpt]

Alfred Fox, father of Byron, was born at Pompey Hill, Onondaga County, New York, January 30, 1807. He spent his early years in Cortland county, where he attended school, and where he was for a time a teacher. In 1832 he moved to Clayton and began farming. He became a large landholder, and besides the management of a farm of eight hundred acres, dealt in livestock. He was an authority on horses, and often [had] as many as fifty on hand. He was a man of large capacity, a wide reader, and an intelligent observer of events. He had strong opinions and the ability to sustain them in argument. He attended the Universalist church, was a Democrat, and an opponent of secret societies. He was prominent in local politics, having served ten years as supervisor and fifteen years as justice of the peace, besides being elected member of the Assembly in 1851 and serving four years as customs officer at Cape Vincent, and was also school commissioner for a number of years. In 1852 he was a delegate to the national Democratic convention at Baltimore, Md.

His first wife was Lucy Harris of Cortland county, who was born in Fabius, and died at twenty-six; she was the mother of four children, namely, James H., now of Depauville; Mary J., now in Buffalo, N.Y.; George, deceased, and Byron [of Depauville], already mentioned. The second wife of Alfred Fox was Olive C. Bent, of Watertown, who became the mother of five children, Charles A., Hattie, Nellie, Frank C., and Alfred Jr. The father died March 13, 1880, at the age of seventy-three years, and his wife two weeks later, both from pneumonia.

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