

He was an excellent farmer, and understood the manufacture of flour, which was a very important business in those days, as very little flour then came from the West. The brand of "Wappingers Falls Mills" was esteemed among the best that came to the city. When the counties on the Hudson River were projecting a turnpike road from New York to Albany, Uncle Matt was solicited to take some stock in the company; but his friend, Chancellor Livingston, advised him not to do so. The Chancellor gave as his reason therefore, that Robert Fulton was building a steamboat, in which he felt much confidence, and he was convinced that it would be able to carry passengers to Albany with comfort and despatch, which would render the road an unprofitable investment. Subsequent events proved the correctness of his opinion. This fact Uncle Matt told me, and I have remembered it from my boyhood.

After the death of his parents, Uncle Matt occupied the homestead, with one bright spirit, his wife, Aunt Joanna (Joanna Schenck), who shed a lustre upon all around her. I cannot pretend to say all the good that she did while living. "She will ever be remembered by what she had done," by all who came within her influence, because of the Christian ex-