

years. They also found silver brooches and silver bracelets, of which we have a number. When found, they looked like iron. There are also two large pear trees on the place, the seed of which was brought from France. They are over one hundred years old; the fruit is delicious; and they bear quite abundantly every year.

In those days, gentlemen wore knee breeches, made of black satin, silk stockings, brilliant buckles at the side, buckles of steel or silver on their shoes, and swallow-tail coats. No gentleman was admitted at a reception, unless he had slippers or pumps, gloves, and a swallow-tail coat. Some had breeches of white dimity, white ribbed goods; ladies made underskirts of the same. They wore white straw, home-made hats, with wide rims, lined with green satin, and a wide ribbon round the crown to match. Whoever had those were considered *distingué*. The waists of ladies' dresses were made like infants' dresses, very short, gathered at the top, and a band under the arms, skirts very narrow, cut goring, and trails very long, made of elegant silks. Wedding and ball dresses were made of white satin, overskirts of white lace or crape, covered with gold or silver spangles, lace and fringe to match. Some were trimmed with pearls, which were very fashionable at that time, strings of pearls, five or six strings, hanging below the knees—some were quite large; with ear-rings, brooches, and comb, all of pearls.

My father's ancestors came from Holland to New Amsterdam, now New York, as early as the year 1683, and purchased lands. Mynheer Brevoort owned a farm on the corner of Broadway and Eleventh street, also where the St. Denis hotel now stands. My father, Maj. Henry B. Brevoort, was born on Long Island, Jan. 13, 1775, nearly a year and six months before the declaration of independence.

My great-grandfather, on my mother's side, came from France, in the year 1682. He was of a noble family, and a man of great learning, was appointed, under the French Government, *Sub Délégué Notaire Royal*, at Detroit, on the first establishment of the colony. He married Madame Bourroir, by whom he had Catharine, who married Alexander Macomb, father of General Alexan-