

BERGEN

Hamilton Wilcox (1786-1814) came to Bergen in 1808 from East Guilford, Connecticut. He taught school at the age of 16, and was a successful teacher. During the War of 1812, when the call for troops was made in the winter of 1813, he left his school to take command of a company. He reported to Buffalo and was there when that “village” was burned. He was ordered to Black Rock in the night of December 30, 1813, as the enemy was crossing the river. In the affray he received a bullet through his chest, lodging in his arm. Several days after, he was brought back to Bergen. It was soon necessary to amputate his arm, from which he died at the age of 28 years old.

Taken from Gazetteer and Biographical Record of Genesee County – 1788-1890 by Beers / page 326

Walter Way Sage (1892-1966) was a former Rochester dental surgeon and the personal dentist for Germany’s Kaiser Wilhelm and the royal family. Dr. Sage was a native of Churchville and graduated from the University of Buffalo - School of Dentistry in 1913. A year later he went to Berlin with the late Dr. Arthur Davis of Rochester as his assistant. Dr. Davis was appointed personal dentist for Kaiser Wilhelm and was succeeded by Dr. Sage after Dr. Davis’ return to Rochester because of an illness. Dr. Sage returned to Rochester before Germany became involved in World War I. He retired and moved to Bergen in 1961. He is buried in Cambria, Pennsylvania.

Taken from: Daily News January 3, 1967 page 4 col.4

Frank J. Tone (1868-1944) was a physical chemist and President of the Carborundum Company of Niagara Falls. Dr. Tone was born in Bergen and graduated from Cornell University. He was the holder of approximately 150 patents and he originated the first commercial process for the reproduction of silican monoxide and fibrous silican oxy-carbide. He invented electric heating elements of silican carbide which was used in industrial furnaces. Dr. Tone was awarded four medals in recognition of his outstanding contribution to science and industry. His first award was at the Paris Exposition of 1901, the second at the Buffalo Pan-American Exposition; the third at the St. Louis Exposition in 1904 and the fourth, he was the first recipient of the Jacob F. Schoellkopf medal. In 1933, Dr. Tone received the Perkin Medal of the American Section of the Society of Chemical Industry. Dr. Tone died in 1944 at the age of 75.

Taken from: The Town of Bergen – A History / page 40-41