

1835

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN DURYEA

Benjamin Franklin Duryea was born in the Town of Blooming Grove and was the son of James Duryea and Mary Heard Duryea and prepared for college at the Montgomery Academy, entered Union College in the Junior class in his eighteenth year and graduated in the class of 1835, with high honors and especial ecomiums from the faculty for having delivered the ablest oration in Hebrew ever heard from an alumnus of the college. After graduation he was Principal of the Montgomery Academy for a short time, then studied medicine for awhile, but, finding it distasteful, took up the study of the law in the office of Van Duzer & Sharpe and was admitted to the bar in the winter of 1839.

He was elected Surrogate of the county and later a County Judge. While Surrogate he established the power of that Court to punish by imprisonment contempt of its decrees, his decision being confirmed by the Court of Appeals.

Mr. Duryea stood high in the estimation of his fellow-lawyers as being well read and grounded in legal principles and a safe adviser. In manners he was always courteous and considerate. At the time of his death, in 1872, in the fifty-seventh year, he was the senior partner in the firm of Duryea & Bacon, having continuously practiced law in Goshen since he began.

Full page portrait.

The above sketch was prepared by Hon. R. C. Coleman.

Sketches of some of the Prominent Members  
of the Orange County Bar.  
Walter C. Anthony  
Class of 1864.

pp.97-8

Duryea, Benj. F.

4/29/1835

"is a modern accession to the class and I may say an honorable one. He is a scholar and a gentleman".

Pearson Diaries V.2,p.104



Benjamin Franklin Duryea <sup>A.B.</sup>  
1835



<sup>1835</sup>  
H.B.  
Benjamin Franklin Duryea