Surveys—Incident.

with greater detail the bounds of the tract. The former conveyances made the north and east bank of the river the boundary, but in this the centre of the channel was agreed upon.* On the 6th of March, 1800, Constable deeded to Chassanis, for one dollar, a tract of 30,000 acres in the eastern corner of Tract No. IV, which was afterwards subdivided into twenty-seven lots, and conveyed to James Le Ray.† Cockburn's survey divided the purchase into six very unequal tracts, formed by the intersection of the principal lines and the river. The tract was subdivided by Charles C. Brodhead and assistants, in 1794. John Cantine, Philip R. Freys, Peter Pharoux, and Benoni Newman, were among his surveyors. In dividing the tract, the line running north from the High Falls was assumed as the cardinal line, from which ranges were counted east and west. An east and west line, crossing the other nine miles from the Falls, was fixed as a second cardinal, from which ranges were reckoned north and south. The ranges extended to nineteen east, fifty-one west, twenty-seven north, and about nine south; and the lots included 450 acres each, except those on the margin. These were again subdivided into nine square lots, of fifty acres each, which were numbered from 1 to 4,828. This system of numbering has since been observed in designating the location of lands.

Mr. Brodhead was a native of Pennsylvania, and had held the rank of captain in the Revolution. He was employed by Tillier, through the influence of Edward Livingston and Dr. Oliver, and while performing the survey, encountered many hardships. An obituary notice published soon after his death, which occurred within the last year, at Utica, contains the following:

"In running the great lines of division his party had crossed the Black River several times, the men and instruments being ferried across. On one occasion when they had approached the river, having journeyed through the woods without noting their route by the compass, they arrived at a part of the bank which they recognized, and knew to be a safe place of passing. Making a raft of logs, they started from the bank, and began to pole across. When in the midst of the current their poles failed to reach the bottom, and simultaneous with this discovery, the noise of the waters below them revealed the horrid fact that they had mistaken their ferrying place, and were at the head and rapidly approaching the Great Falls of the river, the passage of which threatened all but certain death. Instantly Mr. B. ordered every man who could swim to make for the shore, and he prepared to swim for his own life. But the piteous appeals of Mr. Pharoux, a young Frenchman, of the party, who could not swim, arrested him, and he determined to remain with him to assist him, if possible in the awful passage of the falls. Hastily directing his men to grasp firmly to the logs of the raft, giving similar directions to Mr. Pharoux, he then laid himself down by the side of his friend. The raft passed the dreadful tails and was dashed to pieces. Mr. Pharoux with

* Oneida Deeds, 4, 279. † Oneida Deeds, Q, p. 524,