for the accommodation of the settlers then passing through into
St. Lawrence County. The town had been early purchased* by
Gen. Lewis R. Morris, of Springfield, Vt, who at one time de-
signed settling at the present village of Ox Bow, where he made
a small clearing and erected a log house. Under his direction
the town began to settle.

In the spring of 1806, Silas Ward commenced the erection of
a saw mill at the present village for Morris, which was the first
improvement here, and the place acquired and long maintained
the name of Indian River, by which name it is still known by
old settlers. It being at the point where the state road crossed
the river, and affording a good water power, the place was
naturally destined to become the centre of business for the sur-
rounding country. In the winter of 1805, a road was opened
from Philadelphia to this place and Ox Bow, and the next year
to Gouverneur, which began to settle at about this time. Ger-
shom Matoon kept the first inn at the village. In Jan. 1807,
John Jenison, was appointed a local agent, under whose direction
a grist mill was built on the site of the present clothing works.
The land books show the following names of settlers, with the
dates of their purchase: 1805, Wm. Lee. 1806, John Bethel,
John Robinson, Peter Vrootman, Edward Foster, Jr., Mary Stir-
ling, Benajah Randall, John Jenison, Peter Raven, Hopestill
Foster and John C. Foster. 1807, Zebulon Rockwell, Samuel
Griswold, David Coffeen, Zopher Holden. 1808, Samuel Ran-
dall, Zebina Bishop, Mary Bishop, Alfred Walker, Daniel Gill,
Wm. Fletcher. 1809, Rich'd McAUaster, Dexter Gibbs, Shere-
biah Gibbs, Jonathan Marbles, Isaac L. Hilchcock, Timothy
Ruggles, Jesse Jackson, Daniel Heald, John Pease. 1810,
Amasa Sartwell, Almond Beecher, Win. Fletcher, Duthan Kings-
bury, Harrison Mosley. 1811, Oliver Howell, Lemuel Hubbard,
Anson Cummings, John White, Levi Wheelock. 1812, Win.
Harris, Wm. McAUaster, Daniel Sterling, Salmon White, War-
ren Streeter, Win. Randall, Elkanah Pattridge, Ira Ward, Asher
Seymour, Roswell Wilder, Bcnj. Goodwin, Lliot Lynce, Daniel
Gill, Caleb Cheney, Henry C. Baldwin, James Briggs, Silas
Brooks, Shailer Beckwith, Silas Ward, Ezra Church. In 1808,
David Parish,* an eminent banker of Hamburgh, made exten-
sive purchases in Northern New York, including 29,033 acres
in this town. Mr. Jenison was continued in the agency until
succeeded by Sylvius Hoard. In April, 1824, the present agent,
Mr. Wm. McAUaster was appointed.

Soon after Mr. Parish had purchased, the greatest alarm was
spread through the settlement of Antwerp and Rossie, by the

* A biographical sketch of Mr. David Parish and his brother George, are
given in the Hist. St. Lawrence and Franklin Co's, p. 600.