for the encouragement of manufacturers, and availing themselves of this, a company was formed Feb. 9, 1814, of which the following was the instrument of association:

"This may certify that we, the subscribers, have formed ourselves into a company, by the name and style of The Brownville Manufacturing Company, for the purpose of manufacturing cotton and wool, with a capital of $100,000, consisting of 1,000 shares, under the direction of five trustees, viz: John Paddock, John Brown, Thomas Loomis, Jr., Thomas J. Whiteside, and Hoel Lawrence, who shall manage the concerns of said company, for one year, from the date hereof, in the town of Brownville, in the County of Jefferson."


They soon began the erection of a factory, which commenced operations the next year; but after a few months, finding they were losing money, they stopped, and the factory lay idle several years. It was subsequently bought by parties from Cooperstown, who procured an act incorporating the Brownville Cotton Factory, April 6, 1831. Elizur Fairman, John A. Cathcart, Charles Smith, and such as might associate with them were by this constituted a body corporate for the manufacture of cotton and woollen goods, with a capital of $100,000, in shares of $50. The affairs were to be managed by three trustees, elected annually, on the second Monday of April, the first being those named in the act, which was to continue twenty years. In 1842, this company was succeeded by a partnership, consisting of Charles Smith and William H. Averil, of Cooperstown, and F. W. Andrews; styled the Ontario Cotton Factory, which has since continued. It has 3,200 spindles, and 80 looms; and gives employment to about ninety hands.

A company, styled the Jefferson Lead Manufacturing Co. with a capital of $15,000, was formed June 30, 1838, chiefly under the direction of Thomas L. Knapp; and the business of manufacturing white lead and lithic paints continued with varied success about twelve years. Since the death of Mr. Knapp, which occurred from cholera, at Pittsburgh, in 1851, the business has been abandoned. It was found to be extremely injurious to the health of the laborers, both the carbonate of lead, and the carbonic acid generated from charcoal for its manufacture, being directly poisonous to the system.

A woolen factory owned by Bradley and Brown, was burnt in January 1846, with a machine shop, flax mill and other property. The village of Brownville affords a great amount of water power, which is at present but partly improved by two grist mills, a saw