mill, clothing works, cotton factory, two extensive foundries and machine shops, saleratus factory cabinet shop &c.

In many respects this village presents superior advantages for manufacturing establishments, as it has a direct communication by rail road with the markets, real estate is cheap, and the surrounding country affords in abundance, the means for supporting a large population. At several points between this village and Watertown, fine opportunities for water power exist, which are at present entirely unimproved. At one of these, 1£ miles above this village, Mr. James Wood, originally from New Hampshire, about 1830, began the erection of a dam and woolen factory, which had been nearly completed, and partly stocked with machinery, when it was swept off by the spring flood of 1833, proving a total loss to the owner.

At the head of Black River Bay, and favored by the double advantages of a fine water power and convenient harbor, is the village of Dexter, named in compliment to S. Newton Dexter of Whitesboro, who has been extensively interested in the business of the place, which formerly bore the name of Fish Island. The lands in this vicinity were early purchased by John and Jacob Brown, who in 1811, commenced a dam, that was swept off, but rebuilt, and a saw mill was got in operation in February 1813. A large amount of lumber was made here during the war, for use at Sackets Harbor, and in 1815-16, wooden locks were built of sufficient size to admit boats 60 feet long and 13 feet wide to pass. About 1826, a grist mill was built by Joel Brown, and in 1837, the place contained a dozen houses.

A joint stock company styled the Dexter Village Company, was formed March 1, 1837, for the purpose of laying out a village on a tract of 249 acres south, and 800 acres north of the river. The original members of the company, were, Edmund Kirby, S. N. Dexter, John Williams, John Bradley, and J. Brown. In 1840, the company commenced making dividends of the property, and on the 6th of Jan. 1846, it was finally dissolved.

On the 7th of November 1836, the Jefferson Woolen Company was formed with $100,000 capital, in shares of $100. It originally consisted of S. N. Dexter, of Whitesboro, Jahri Williams of Ijigga, Edmund Kirby, and John Bradley, of Brownville, Kodney Burt, and O. V. Brainard, of Watertown. The number of stockholders was 59. In 1837 this company built the present extensive woolen factory, at a cost, including appendages and machinery, of $140,000, capital paid in $96,000. This enormous expenditure, with the low prices which followed, could not be sustained, and in January 1842, the company failed, with liabilities exceeding assets of $33,000. The property was sold, and bid off by a new company, styled the Jefferson Manufacturing Company