who had adhered to the fortunes of Napoleon, and fled from the
disasters which overtook that dynasty, among whom were Count
Real, and others who had made this country their home. At
about the same time, Mr. F. R. Hasler, the eminent philosopher
and engineer, having become interested in real estate in this
place, came here to reside with his family, and planned the es­
tablishment of a normal school, which he never perfected. The
village was a favorite resort with Mr. Le Ray, and he was often
accompanied by eminent foreigners, who never visited the county
without becoming his guests, and sharing that refined hospitality
which he knew so well how to bestow. The first visit of Le Ray
to this place was in 1803, and was attended with the following
incident:

He was accompanied by Gouverneur Morris, and after visiting
Brownville, they took an open boat to continue their journey, as
Mr. Morris had a wooden leg, and could not conveniently travel
in the woods by the rude means of communication which the
country then afforded, and he was moreover very partial to sail­
ing, and claimed to be especially skillful in managing water
craft. On passing Cherry Island, Mr. Morris observed that there
must be fine fishing there, and as he had with him his French
cook, and culinary apparatus, he declared he would serve his
friend a better fish dinner than he had ever tasted. Mr Le Ray
objected that it was getting late and cloudy, and they had a great
ways to run before reaching Putnam’s, the first settlement on the
shore. Nothing would do; Mr. Morris was as fond of good cheer
as of sailing, and they stopped. They had good fishing, and
a capital dinner; but it was late before they set sail again,
and dark before they reached the St. Lawrence, and they were
obliged to stop at Gravelly Point, two miles above Putnam’s,
where they pitched their tent and went to bed, for they had all
the necessary implements. In the middle of the night, a fire
built before the tent set it in flames; Mr Morris, thus unseason­
ably disturbed, felt all around for his wooden leg, but was
obliged to flee without it. The exposure to wind and rain pro­
duced in Mr. Le Ray a violent illness and he with difficulty
returned to Brownville. Dr. Kirkpatrick was procured from
Rome, and he was long confined with a dangerous fever.

A custom house was established here, and Cape Vincent dis­
trict organized in 1818. The greatest amount of business was
formerly done in winter, but since the completion of the Watertown
and Rome Rail Road the business has very greatly in­
creased. The collectors have been John B. Esselstyn, Jerre
Carrier, Judah T. Ainsworth, Peleg Burchard, Gideon S. Sacket,
and Alfred Fox. The ports of Alexandria Bay, Clayton, Mil’
len’s Bay, Grenadier Island, Three Mile Bay, Chaumont Bay