

Backus:

Gaines and others spoke of the influence that Backus, ^{Caulon} who was Sheriff at the time Y. and his friends lived in the jail, had on Y. Backus seems to have been an unusual kind of a Sheriff. He believed that men were not so bad if given a chance. His first case, so I am told, was with a young man who had been arrested for thieving. He went to the Judge and said, "Judge, I wish you would put this boy in my charge, let me handle him as I think best. I think I can straighten him out." And that the Judge was wise enough to do. Backus often handled cases in this way and Y. watched his unusual attitude towards so-called criminals. It would be interesting to know what, if any, effect this had on him. I do not remember to have come across anything.

Erastus Backus Ellsworth calls O.D.Y's Godfather. He came later to Brooklyn where he had much to do with the patrol system according to G. This must be verified.

Johnson of the Watertown Times says that Young once talked with him about what he had learned from Eben ^{Gr Chapser} who ^{Chairman of} was the Board of Supervisors in St. Lawrence County in Y's. time in college. If I understood him correctly Y. had some kind of a connection with the office in C's. time. He told Johnson that C's. handling of a case made ^a great impression ^{up} on him, that he ^e would sit apparently half asleep and listen to the various people concerned tell their story, arguing their point. That when they were through he would ^{settle} the entire case by an intelligent putting together of the points that ^{he} had made.

J. thinks that Y. got, at least the gist of the method from C. that he has trained himself to listen to catch the essential points of each person as he talks - to carry on a rapid process of the linking of the essential facts and essential meaning, so that at the end he has sifted what matters and what does not matter and has made a quick decision *cryptically* held - a quick takes place in his mind.