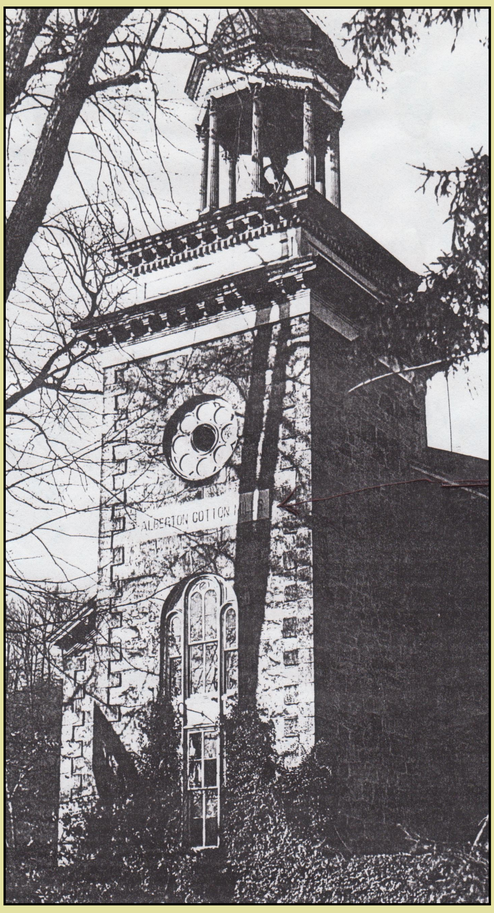
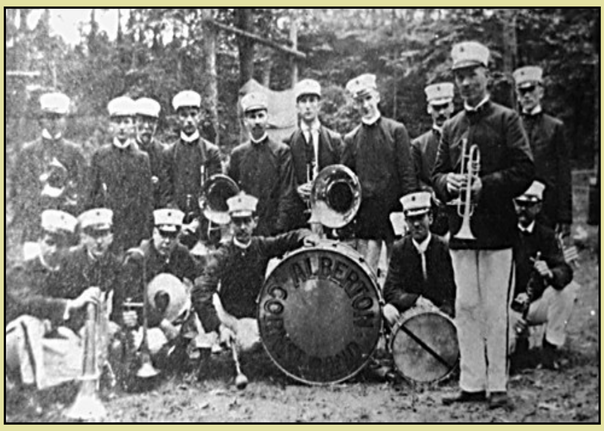
# DANIELS

## A MODEL MILL TOWN

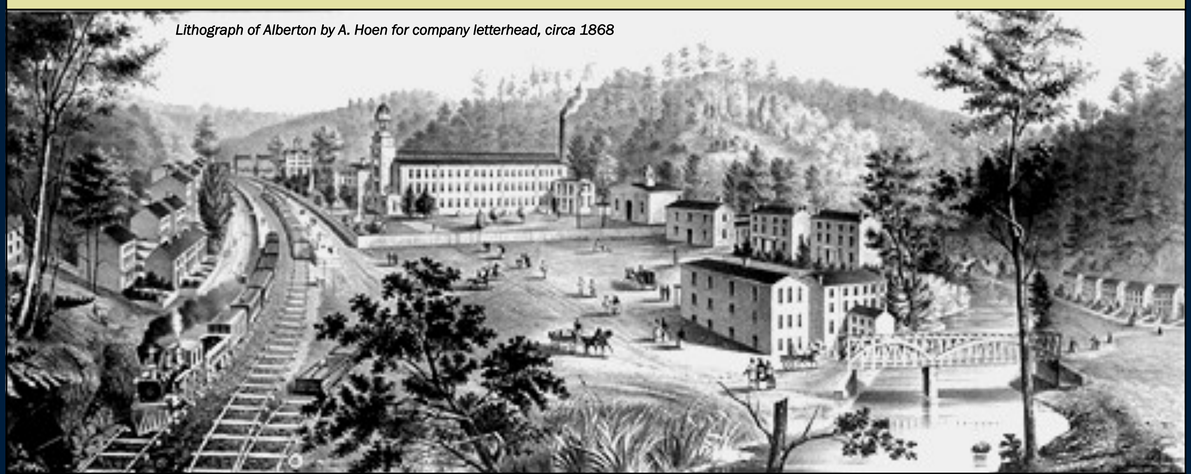



The Alberton Cornet Band was established in 1879. Funds donated by the Gary Manufacturing Company were used to supply the instruments, music and uniforms. The band has survived to outlive the company, and continues to play today more than 40 years after the demolition of the town, as a testament to the strong community that once existed here.

The Gary family owned and managed the town for three generations, building the mill village into a thriving and prosperous model community. Like many paternalistic communities of the late nineteenth century, life was centered on work at the mill, family, religion, community and cultural activities. The Gary family provided funds for the construction of several churches during their ownership, and encouraged the moral growth of the community. In addition to the Alberton Cornet Band, cultural institutions in town included a library, performance hall and a baseball team. A religious organization known as the Rechabites encouraged residents to abstain from the use of alcohol to maintain a healthy and moral lifestyle. In later years a restaurant and bowling alley provided social diversion.

*Saint Stanislas Kostka Roman Catholic Church*



*Lithograph of Alberton by A. Hoen for company letterhead, circa 1868*