

INFORMER

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January 2008



**Putting a Boat In The Black River from the Railroad Bridge
Between Carthage and West Carthage**

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INFORMER JANUARY 2008

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The articles in this newsletter are written purely to stimulate interest in the genealogical history of Jefferson County. If comments are in any way offensive, this was not the intent. All articles, submissions, etc., are the viewpoints and research of various contributors. As such, they do not necessarily reflect the views of the executive committee or members of the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society.

Letters.....

Letters to the editor may be directed to nandixon@gisco.net or to Nan Dixon, 15407 Dixon Road, Clayton, NY 13624.

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the article on poorhouses. I can just hear my grandmother saying those words. I'd like to say also, that I've learned a great deal from the *Informer* over the years. I look forward to each one. Thank you again for all your great information.

David

Dear Editor,

I just received the *Informer* in today's mail. It was a great issue as they all are. I thank you and Bill for doing the great job that you do for the JCNYGS. I wished that I lived closer to Jefferson County so that I could participate more. I have a question about your answer to David Young on page 12. You indicated that the Jefferson County Poor House was where Jefferson Community College is now. That site was the Jefferson County Hospital, or the TB Sanatorium. The Jefferson County Poor House was located on outer West Main Street, St. Route 12E, where the North Country Library System is presently located. My father worked for the Jefferson County Highway Department, which was and still is located just across the road, toward Glen Park. See you at the next meeting, hopefully.

Dick Kemmis

Dear Editor,

I am not a business despite the .com. I am an amateur enthusiast with an interest in Jefferson County due to the Gegoux family ties to the area. My grandfather and father were both born in Jefferson County and my great grandfather painted many thousands of portraits in northern New York. It is my hope that some of your members may have had portraits of their ancestors executed by the artist Theodore Gegoux (1850-1931). In which case we could share information about our two families that neither of us could reasonably hope to uncover in a life time of individual research. If any of your members are interested in on-line searches for old news articles (northern New York) this is my specialty. With a few tips on how to increase the accuracy of Boolean searches, there is little doubt that many interesting bits can be discovered.

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Our thanks to our JCNYGS Membership and Surname Chairmen Clancy and Patti Hopkins for the December *Informer* with our society member information and surnames. Many of us use this directory regularly and we are so very pleased with the very fine job Clancy and Patti have done!

What's Going on with JCNYGS

Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary
October 6, 2007

Our program was by Julia Gosier. She told of her experience in finding boxes of glass plate negatives in an attic from the 1864-1871 era and encouraged all to be on watch for any historical material. Members were given the opportunity to read the index of names for the pictures and then to look through the two notebooks of paper copies. This index and the paper copy will be available at the Lyme Historical Room in Chaumont.



JCNYGS members look over the index and pictures from the glass negatives after Julia Gosier's presentation.



JCNYGS President Jerry Davis and speaker Julia Gosier pose for the picture while Hollis Dorr looks over the index to the glass plate negatives.

What's Going on with JCNYGS

Transcribed for
 Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary
November 10, 2007

After lunch at the Carriage House, there was a discussion on internet sites that members use in their genealogy research. Bill and Nan Dixon started the program with a history of our own Genweb site. We print our site address at the bottom of each odd numbered page of the *Informer*.



Rose and Don Dillenbeck continued the discussion mentioning several sites that they use including:
<http://ssdi.rootsweb.com>

(Social Security Death Index)

<http://ancestry.com>

(Subscription required, free at some libraries)

<http://legacy.com/pressconnects/Obituaries.asp>

(This is the Binghamton Press & Sun Bulletin but other newspapers are also available on line.)

Rose also mentioned the New York State Vital Records stored on microfiche available at the Onondaga County Public Library, Syracuse, NY and now available at the Flower Library here in Watertown. It includes birth, marriage and death records that give you name, date of record, township where birth, marriage or death were recorded. Some years stored alphabetically by surname, others stored by Soundex code for surnames.

Several others mentioned their favorite sites and still others that were not able to attend the meeting have since sent emails contributing their favorite sites. These perhaps will make a good article for a future issue of the *Informer*.

JCNYGS

Minutes for October 6, 2007

Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary

Call To Order—Oct 6th at 1:45 PM by Pres. Jerry Davis at the Lyme Town Office with 22 present. Minutes of the September meeting were read and approved with a motion by 1st Clancy Hopkins and 2nd by Tracy Robertson. Treasurer's report read by Pres. Jerry Davis with savings account \$2063.37 and checking account \$2795.74.

Corresponding Secretary's report: Clancy Hopkins—"light."

Publicity: Phyllis Putnam—advertising as usual
Program: Phyllis Putnam—the Nov and Dec meetings to be held in the Coachman Room of the Best Western at noon with a buffet at \$7.95 to be available. A round table discussion will follow.

Newsletter: Bill Dixon—will be on Glen Park this time but not ready for mailing at present.

Membership: Clancy Hopkins—"pretty good shape" and is presently working on the surname list.

New Business: 4 River Valley Historical society invited the group to their fall membership meeting Sunday Oct. 14 at the Champion Grange Hall.

Pres. Jerry Davis read a letter from the Genealogy Society of Utah, requesting duplication permission for Pedigree book # 2. If granted the right to duplicate the material, it would be digitized and could be posted for sale on the net. After a short discussion it was decided to refuse at the present time.

Motion made by Clancy Hopkins and 2nd by Hollis Dorr to adjourn.



Julia Gosier answers questions after her program.

JCNYGS

Minutes for November 10, 2007

Recorded and Transcribed for
Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary

The November meeting was held at the Best Western Carriage House in Watertown and started at noon in the Coachman's Room with lunch ordered from the menu. The business meeting was sandwiched in during the meal with the minutes being approved by a motion from Clancy Hopkins, 2nd by Tracy Robertson. Likewise the treasurer's report by Sally Washer was approved by a motion from Nan Dixon, 2nd by Maryann Doheny. Correspondence Secretary Clancy Hopkins presented some correspondence including an invitation to the Flower Library renovation reception at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, November 28. No Repository Committee report and Phyllis Putnam was also not present but it was mentioned that our December meeting will also be at the Carriage House with lunch from the menu at noon on Saturday, December 8. It will be round table discussion on a variety of topics from next year's programs to newsletter ideas. Bill Dixon reported that the January newsletter issue is being worked on at the present. Clancy reported that he was "going crazy" with all the changes but the membership and surnames list should be ready by Christmas. Bill Dixon mentioned that on the 17th of May, 2008, we will host the New York State Council Of Genealogical Organizations convention at the North Side Improvement League and everyone is invited. The morning will be the business meeting and the afternoon will have tentatively four local speakers: Larry Corbett will talk about adoptees; Jean Coyne will talk about the Will Book; Julie Gosier will talk about the glass slides and the coroners books; and Dr. Tim Abel will continue on the glass slides and some of the projects that he has been working on. President Jerry adjourned the business meeting and after lunch there was a discussion on internet sites that members use in their genealogy research.



Chronological History of the Town of Champion

Compiled by Suzanne Caukins Wiley
Updated by Lynn M. Thornton - 2006

1797 – General Henry Champion purchased "Howard", Town #4 of the Macomb Purchase. Noadiah Hubbard, his land agent and surveyor Joel Mix rafted together down the Black River and staked out their lands.

1798 – Hubbard and Mix built cabins, along with other single men.

1799 – In April, Mix's family came to West Carthage (the first settler in Jefferson County). In November Hubbard's family rode in on horseback and settled in the center of town. Mix built the first saw mill on the riverbank and Hubbard had a tavern near his cabin.

1800 – January 9th, Joel's daughter, Laura Mix, was born. (The first white birth in Jefferson County.)

March 14 – The New York Legislature passed a bill forming the Town of Champion out of the Town of Mexico, as was the Town of Watertown. Both share the honor of the being the first towns in the later formed Jefferson County.

April 1 – The first town meeting in Jefferson County was held in Justice of the Peace Joel Mix's home. Hubbard was elected the first supervisor. The census numbered 153 people.

1801 – The First Congregational Church Society was formed and a log schoolhouse was put up by Hubbard at the town's expense.

1802 – The first saw was mill built by William Hadsall and John A. Eggleston on Mill Creek near the line of Rutland.

1804 – A post office was opened (the second in the county). The first bridge over the Black River in Jefferson County was constructed at Great Bend.

1806 – David Coffeen built a mill on the west side of the Black River, opposite Carthage and constructed a wing dam to increase water supply.

1807 – A village green was given by General Champion (two acres) for naming the town after him. He also promised a bell for the Reverend Nathaniel Dutton's proposed Congregational Church.

December 3rd, Rev. Dutton, the first minister to settle in Jefferson County, proclaimed a Day of Thanksgiving.

1810 – Captain Noadiah Hubbard and Captain John McNitt formed two militia units and set about training raw recruits.

1812 – A second bridge was completed spanning the Black River at West Carthage.

1813 – Champion militiamen fought at the Battle of Sackets Harbor. (May 29th)

1816 – On Christmas Day the Congregationalists dedicated their church on the village green (the first church in Jefferson County). The bell, having been recast

with silver dollars given by Champion, rang and was heard for miles around the country side.

1826 – The Methodists constructed a wooden church at Francis-Babcock Corners near Great Bend.

1836 – The Masons built a two-storied stone academy.

1841 – The First Congregationalist Church was removed from the village green to the valley below for warmth and easier accessibility by the carriages.

1842 – The Baptists opened a church in Great Bend.

1852 – The Congregationalists opened a second church in West Carthage.

1853 – The Methodists opened a second church in the hamlet of Champion.

1868 – The Episcopalians purchased the Masonic Academy, took it down and using the same stones constructed the one-story church and named it after St. John.

1873 – Champion Grange #18 was organized.

1875 – With the generous donations and help from the New York Deaconess, Mary Bradford Sterling Clark, the First Trinity Chapel at Great Bend was dedicated by the Episcopalians.

1884 – Fire started in West Carthage and jumped Black River. It burned most of the business district of Carthage.

1887 – The Methodists closed their church at Francis-Babcock Corners and opened a new First Methodist Church at Great Bend.

1889 – March 1, the residents of West Carthage voted for the incorporation of the village and elected Marcus P. Mason as their first president.

1896 – The West Carthage Fire Department was organized with David Trembly as the first chief.

1905 – West Carthage High School was built in 1905 and was partially burned in 1954.

1912 – Champion Grange #18 purchased the 1816 First Congregational Church and within it, constructed an upper floor for their meeting room.

1915 – Five hundred people signed the register at the dedication of the brick Methodist Church in Great Bend.

1924 – The Great Bend Fire Department was organized.

1952 – The Twin Village Swimming Pool is constructed; formally dedicated June 6, 1953.

1954 – The Carthage Central School district was formed and the Carthage Junior-Senior High School was built on Martin Street Road in the Town of Champion.

The High School building of West Carthage School burned on April 29.

1958 – The Champion Fire Department was organized and its Ladies Auxiliary was formed the following year.

1962 – The Calvary Assembly of God was dedicated on Martin Street Road.

1975 – The 175th Anniversary of the Town of Champion was celebrated on five different occasions:

April first, a re-enactment of the first town

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board meeting as well as a 1975 meeting was held in the Grange Hall. Commemorative historical envelopes were made for the event.

July 4th, the annual "Old Home Day" parade and festivities heralded the up-coming Bicentennial of the United States and the town's anniversary.

September 15th, the Woolworth Memorial United Methodist Church celebrated its 60th anniversary.

September 21st, the 100th Anniversary of Trinity Chapel was celebrated. Soon afterwards it closed and was deconsecrated.

November 23rd, a Bicentennial Memorial Park was dedicated on the old site of the brick store. This store probably once stood on the village green at the top of the hill in the hamlet of Champion. Trees and shrubs were planted to honor founding pioneers Noadiah Hubbard and Joel Mix. Others honored were Mary Bradford Sterling Clark, Frank W. Woolworth, and Rev. Nathaniel Dutton and the 42 Revolutionary soldiers buried in the Town of Champion.

1977 - The formation of the 4 River Valleys Historical Society took place. It covered all the towns in the Carthage Central School District.

1978 - Trinity Chapel was deeded to the above society for its preservation and use.

1980 - The area of the 4 River Valleys Historical Society was expanded to cover the Indian River School District and Copenhagen Central School District.

1982 - June 6th, Long Falls Baptist Church was organized. The parishioners restored the old 1852 Congregational Church building in West Carthage and services began in 1986.

1984 - June, the West Carthage Housing Authority dedicated and opened its first senior housing unit which it named "Westside Terrace".

1986 - Tamarack Drive, 801 Military Housing dedication was November 13.

August, The West Carthage Housing Authority dedicated its second senior housing building and honoring the former mayor of West Carthage, William Dalton by naming it "Dalton Estates".

1987 - September 17, on Constitution Day, a "Plant a Legacy" ceremony took place to commemorate the Bicentennial of the U. S. Constitution. Two hundred clusters of red, white and blue balloons were released at 4:00 P. M. along with the bell being rung in the old Congregational Church tower. Lilac shrubs and tulip bulbs were planted carrying out the red, white and blue colors as nearly as possible.

1988 - The early 19th century schoolhouse that at one time stood in the hamlet of Champion was returned to the Town of Champion from Black River. It is now being restored on the 4RVHS's property in Great Bend.

Third senior citizen housing complex, Grandview Courts dedicated in January.

1989 - June 8th, a Bicentennial Memorial Monument was unveiled and wreaths placed by seven organiza-

tions honored "all those who served their country in time of need" since 1776 to the present day. This monument stands in the Bicentennial Memorial Park to commemorate the bicentennial of the U. S. Constitution.

June 8th, the 100th Anniversary of the incorporation of the Village of West Carthage was celebrated.

September 15th, the 75th Anniversary of the dedication of the Woolworth Memorial United Church at Great Bend.

1990 - New Village Hall, Municipal Building, and Fire Department dedicated at 10 High Street.

1991 - March 17th, the first phase of the building project on Cole Road of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints was completed and dedicated.

August 3rd, dedication of North Country Fellowship Baptist Church on Sayre Road.

1992 - The new sewage treatment plant was dedicated in June.

1993 - The Christian Heritage School, formerly the Hillside Christian School, opened for its first students in September on the property of the Calvary Assembly of God, Martin Street Road.

1995 - The F. W. Woolworth Memorial United Methodist Church celebrated its 80th Anniversary on September 15th.

1996 - June 13th, the 4 River Valleys Historical Society erected its 2nd historical marker in the hamlet of Champion on the Town of Champion's Village Green.

July 9th, The Town of Champion's Water District #1 received its formation document for Great Bend area.

September 15th The F. W. Woolworth Memorial United Methodist Church celebrated its 81st Anniversary.

1997 - March 24th, The Town of Champion's water district #2 was formed for the hamlet of Champion.

In October, the Parks Committee for the Town of Champion was formed with Nelson Eddy as its first chairman.

Folk artist James Parker of Ilion, NY was commissioned by Suzanne C. Wiley, Town of Champion Historian, to create an original 19th Century historical painting of each of the three settlements in the town. Mrs. Wiley furnished the historical data and pictures of the buildings for Mr. Parker's works. Prints from his paintings now hang in the Town of Champion Municipal Building's Justice Courtroom.

1998 - March 22nd, The Town of Champion Municipal Building at 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage was dedicated.

During month of May, Christopher Dingman earned his Boy Scout rank of Eagle Scout by organizing and leading Fort Drum Boy Scout Troop #361 in the restoration of the South Champion Cemetery, which had been severely damaged by the January ice storm.

July 6th, the Town of Champion was the first
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town to sign up for the Regional Sewer District #1.

October 5th, the Town of Champion Water District #3 was formed to extend the town's water district #2 at Great Bend.

1999 - January 28th, First Day Cover commemorating Women's History month honoring Eleanor Merriam Mix (1770-1813) wife of Joel Mix, the founder of West Carthage, for being the first mother to settle in Jefferson County.

June 4th, the park's committee float won a first place prize in the Jefferson County Dairyland Parade held in Watertown. Ninth generation descendants, dressed in period costumes, represented Joel Mix and his family. A 1934 John Deere tractor owned by Larry W. Eddy pulled the float.

June 10th, a five-foot obelisk engraved with the 28 heads of families listed in the 1800 Census of the Town of Champion, Oneida County, New York was dedicated. This monument was erected on the 200 year-old village green in the hamlet of Champion on Route 126. The two acre green is now being developed into a park with a children's playground and a picnic pavilion. The original sites of the First Congregational Church (1816), the first school (1801), and the old brick store have been located and marked.

2001 - New West Carthage Elementary School opened on the Cole Road section of the Carthage Central Campus. The dedication was held October 25 in the gymnasium of the new building. The Jefferson Street building is being mothballed at present.

2002 - Twin Village Swimming Pool did not open for the season.

2004 - The site of the long closed Super Duper Market, built on the grounds of the former Mason Mansion, 3 Bridge Street is converted to use as a Veteran's Administration Clinic.

2005 - Bicentennial of Jefferson County was celebrated with the dedication of a black granite bench in front of the Town Offices on Broad Street in West Carthage. An historical exhibit and reception followed in the Justice Court room.



West Carthage High 1908

Our West Side Column What Our Friends Over the River Are Doing

March 20, 1889 Carthage Tribune

West Carthage, a Manufacturing town - The Perspective Village Fathers - News of Especial Interest and Personals Gathered by a special reporter of "The Tribune"

Our Industries and Prospects

As we are about to become an incorporated village, we feel justly proud of our people, our industries, and of our prosperity. With a population of one thousand souls which include men filled with push and energy, we feel that with proper management the village of West Carthage will be an alive and forward town. Our industries are all that could be expected. The duster handle factory which is one of the largest of its kind in the U.S. employs many men, and is owned by our enterprising citizen Marcus P. Mason. This alone is a great benefit to our village. We have also the large sash, door and blind factory of Scott M. Gibbs which employs several men. Meyer Ross & Co. have their large furniture factory running in full blast by their enterprise many men find employment. The pail and tub factories of H. D. Farrar & S. E. Rice are another proof of our manufacturing interests. Marcus Diefendorf's pulp mill deserves notice. The lumber interests are looked after by I. S. Normander, who has a fine mill. Mr. Normander also manufactures many thousand shingles. Hutchinson and Clark, the well-known millers, have their large roller located in our midst. These with bright prospects of a large chair factory makes our hamlet look like a village. The Park House is not only an ornament but under the management of M. Hyner has proven a success. Charles A. Beyer's, Dr. Hewett's, and O. T. Green's block together with the many fine residences makes a pleasant and nice appearance.

E. C. & J.G. Lovejoy of West Carthage have perfected a machine for bending cutter runners and fences which works with great simplicity and very rapidly. They intend to manufacture them in an extensive scale in the near future and will supply the wholesale trade.

April 6, 1889

The increased demand for Hutchinson & Clark's roller flour has made it expedient for them to add another run of rollers to their mill making the capacity of the mill 100 barrels of flour per day instead of 50.

The following has been taken from:

Bridges across the Black

Compiled by Lynn Thornton
Town of Champion Historian
2006

In the years 1808-09, New York State cut through a right of way from Utica and Rome to Lyons Falls (then High Falls) along the Black River to Long Falls, Town of Champion, and from there to Oswegatchie, now Ogdensburg and on to Russell.

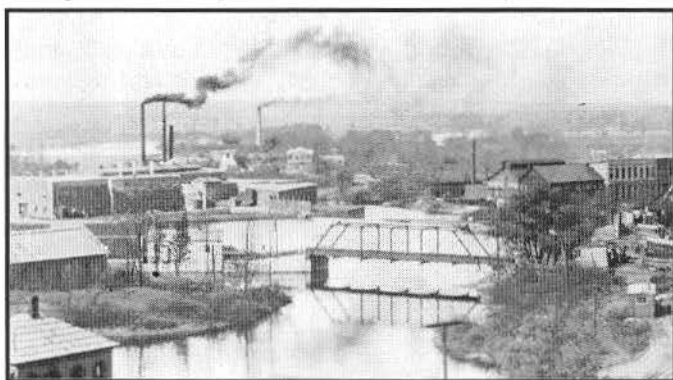
The Turnpike Company constructed the St. Lawrence Turnpike in 1812-13; by adding another avenue to northern settlements. It made a bridge necessary to cross the Black River.

Russell Atwater and his associates, interested in St. Lawrence settlements, were authorized by the Turnpike Company to build a toll bridge over the Black River where the state road leading to Oswegatchie crosses the river at the head of the Long Falls in Champion.

The bridge, to be completed by November 1813, was planned and built for the Turnpike Company by Ezra Church. When the bridge was completed, the privilege of the first crossing was let and the highest bidder was Elijah Fulton of West Carthage, who gave a gallon of rum for the privilege of driving the first team across the bridge. "There was high times while the rum lasted."

The toll bridge was maintained until 1829. On March 28 of that year the structure was found to be decayed, it was necessary to rebuild it. Early in the year an attempt was made to secure by public subscription funds to build a free bridge. A meeting was called and the old piers were purchased for \$500.

About the same time, those interested in factories on islands in the lower part of the village (the most active being Joseph C. Budd) started a project to construct a bridge connecting the islands. Mr. LeRay came to the



There were later bridges—this one goes to Coburn Island from the W. Carthage shore.

assistance and five bridges, going from island to island, secured a crossing. The bridges were damaged by the flood of the next spring, but were repaired. More damage was inflicted the following spring, and the structures soon fell into decay.

Meanwhile, those working for a free bridge above the islands gained influence and money. Dr. Eli West championed the cause and in the summer of 1829 the crossing was effected at a cost of \$1,600. That bridge, built by H. G. Potter, lasted 11 years.

When, in 1840, it was deemed necessary to rebuild the bridge, a meeting of the Towns of Wilna and Champion was called. The outcome was an act passed in May authorizing loans from school funds: \$2,500, Town of Champion; \$2,999, Wilna; \$750, LeRay and \$750, Pamela – for bridges in their areas, including Carthage-West Carthage.

With those funds, a man named Spaulding, at a cost of \$5,000, constructed a covered bridge. It lasted until 1853 when a "substantial bridge was built by the State". In October of 1860 this bridge broke down under the weight of a large herd of cattle. Some of them went down with the broken span and were killed or injured.

"On the morning of Tuesday of last week a drove of cattle passed through our village, and while attempting to cross the bridge over the Black River, the first span of the bridge gave way, and about fifty head of cattle were precipitated into the river. A large number had passed the first span before it fell, and these running furiously over the remaining portion of the bridge, the last span adjoining the Champion side of the river also gave way and fell, with some fifteen or twenty head of cattle. We learned that two of the cattle were so badly injured that they had to be immediately slaughtered. During that {next} day the sidewalk bridge was made passable and it is expected that by Saturday next the bridge will be again passable for teams." (From Carthage Republican Tribune Oct 18, 1860)

The bridge was repaired, but one year later a Mr. Crumb, a well-known teamster, broke through the bridge while crossing with a load of pig iron. The iron slid out of the box and the horses swam ashore with the wagon while the box floated downstream and lodged against one of the islands. Mr. Crumb was rescued unharmed.

"On Wednesday last, two stretches of the bridge over the Black River at Carthage broke, and two teams which were then on the bridge, were precipitated into the river, and Mr. Samuel Chadwick, about thirty-five years old, and a boy about ten years old, named

(Continued on Page 9)

Henry Irwin, son of James Irwin, both of this village, lost their lives." (From CRT April 4, 1865)



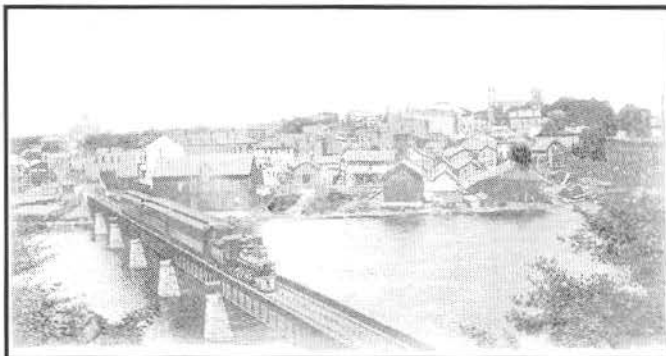
On June 13, 1865 the Republican reported that {State} Commissioner Skinner had taken charge of the bridge and had sent an engineer and contractor to check out the bridge. Although made temporarily safe by H. Rulison, a decision was made to erect a new "iron chord bridge" as soon as the materials could be procured.

On September 26, 1865, *The Republican* indicated that work was progressing on the new iron bridge, with engineer O. L. Wetmore of Booneville supervising construction. Early in October, while placing two of the arches on the new iron bridge the arches with the old timbers for one span fell into the river and Moses La-Rock was "considerably injured in his hands and limbs, by falling into the river at the time of the accident." On November 14 the newspaper reported that the "fine structure is now complete. It is 458 feet long with seven spans of arches. It was built by Messers. Britton & Co., of Cleveland, Ohio. It is a Patent Tubular Arch Wrought Iron Bridge ... of which there are 90 bridges of this style now in use." The paper went on to

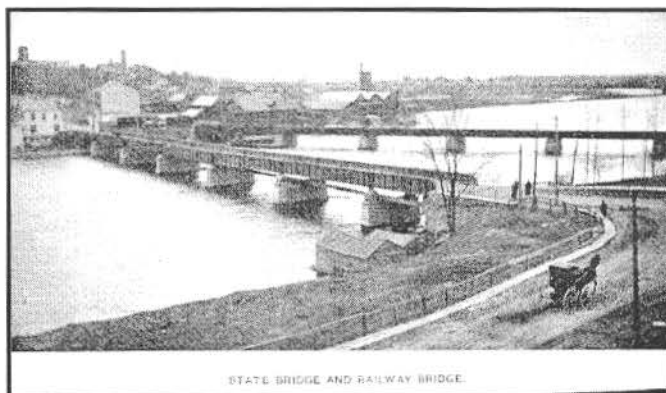


This is the bridge depicted in the sketch of the Carthage Fire of 1884

say there had been a party at Morgan's Hotel in honor of the contractor and the successful completion of the work.



In 1872 the railroad was extended into Carthage and a railroad bridge was built at the time. According to the *Republican Tribune* for March 14, 1873, "the freight train on the Utica and Black River Railroad which left Watertown yesterday morning met with a serious accident just before entering the covered bridge this side of Carthage. Three cars jumped the track and fell into the river. One of the cars was loaded with potatoes owned by John Winslow Jr. {of Carthage}. The covered bridge was seriously damaged and the track was torn up the length of the bridge. About a week will be required to repair the damage. No injuries were reported although the flagman, John H. Wheeler did sustain a minor cut to his forehead." (Reprinted RT March 15, 1973)



In 1896 New York State built the Twin Villages' fifth bridge, wider and stronger, but by 1942 that bridge was in need of replacement; increased traffic and the additional weight of that traffic had caused much wear and tear on the existing structure.

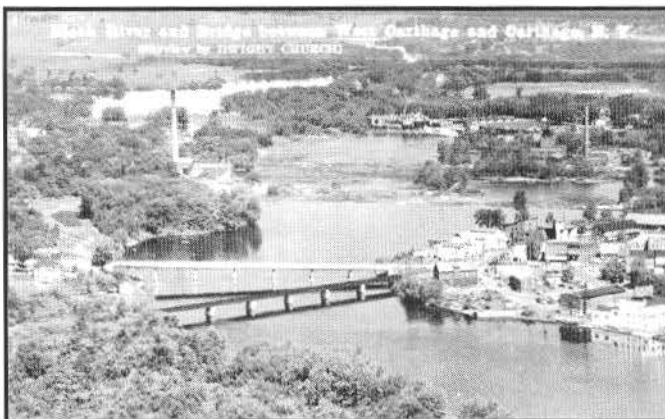
In April of that year there was an article in the CRT that the idea of constructing the new Carthage-West Carthage bridge might have to be put on hold in deference to a state road from the Deer River Corners in W. Carthage to Great Bend and Pine Camp. It was

(Continued on Page 10)

stated that the new road would give Pine Camp a straight road south and would fit in with the "new" De-feriet-Fargo road that gave the camp direct access to the north route. In this way, Pine Camp would become a traffic center with direct routes from that point rather than from Carthage or Watertown.



The next bridge was finished in 1948 at a cost of \$135,000 authorized by the state legislature. Interesting information in the November 1947 CRT describes moving the old state bridge fifty feet upstream onto temporary piers while the new span was being completed. The moving was completed on a Friday morning when Hawes and Farrell, Inc. of Oneida whose engineers were in charge of the project, stated "vehicular traffic on Route 26 will open early next week to light traffic although the detour {via Great Bend} will be maintained until the new bridge is completed". It was further reported that W. Carthage deliveries presented a serious problem for most firms and that this was further complicated by construction on Route 3 near Great Bend and the closing the first week in November of the Castorland-Naumburg bridges to heavy



loads.

The Tuscarora Construction Co, Inc of Pulaski built the next bridge over a period of 18 months, in 1994-95. It was done on contract with the New York DOT at a bid price of \$4,059,689.75

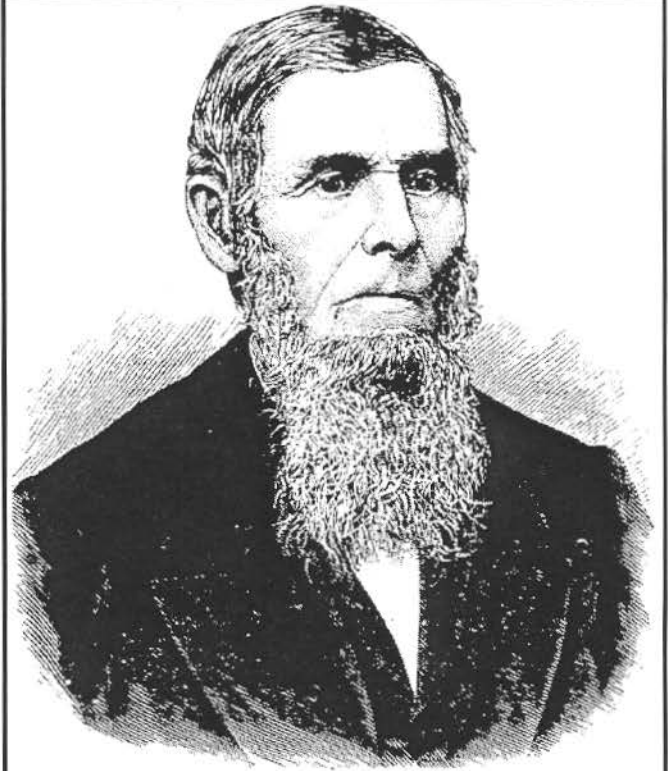


PHOTO. BY LEWIS, CARTHAGE.

HIRAM HUBBARD

Hiram Hubbard, the eldest child of Noadiah Hubbard, was born in the town of Steuben, Oneida county, New York, October 30, 1794. He was one of three sons whom their parents brought part of the way on horseback to Champion in November, 1799. When still a youth, he was sent to Fairfield academy, Herkimer county. It became necessary for Noadiah Hubbard to recall his son from school, young as he was, and place him in the store to conduct the business there. This, then, was the end of Hiram's scholastic education. The firm conducted a large and successful business, and, as was customary in those early days, they ran a large distillery and ashery, in connection with the dry-goods store.

February 13, 1823, Hiram Hubbard married Charille Matilda Sherwood, eldest daughter of Dr. Jonathan Sherwood, then of Champion. Hiram Hubbard died in Watertown, in 1888, aged 93, and his wife April 24, 1893, aged 90.

Noadiah Hubbard, the pioneer settler of Jefferson County, New York, was born in Middletown, Connecticut, October 11, 1765. He was the son of Noadiah Hubbard and Phoebe Fairchild, his wife, of English ancestry; descended from George Hubbard, born in 1616, who emigrated to this country, and in 1640 married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Watts, of Hartford, Connecticut. In early colonial times the family settled

(Continued on Page 11)

in Middletown, and there are descendants still on the old homestead. The ancestral mansion, which is built of brick, is still standing, a land-mark, and so substantial that it is good for a thousand years if kept covered.



Noadiah Hubbard



MRS. NOADIAH HUBBARD

The predilections of Noadiah Hubbard were for the sea, but after making several voyages to the West Indies he gave it up, in compliance with the wishes of his mother, who had lost her first husband and eldest son when on a voyage, and therefore could not endure the thought of another so dear to her being exposed to the same perils. He spent several winters very happily in Guilford. His opportunities for acquiring an education were limited, as were those of most young men of that period.

In May, 1791, he left the paternal roof to seek his fortune in the West. Previous to this he had been solicited by General Wadsworth to accompany his nephews to the Genesee country and aid them in forming a settlement there on the large tract of land he had purchased.

After exploring the country in various directions, he finally settled in the town of Steuben, Oneida county, and not far from the place selected by the Baron Steuben for his residence. They were neighbors for the short time the Baron survived, and he was once called upon when the Baron was seized with apoplexy, which soon proved so fatal, (1794.)

Noadiah Hubbard paid a visit to his native place in the winter, and on January 30, 1794, he married his early love, Eunice Ward, a beautiful maiden, and transported her to his forest home. But previous to this, in 1793, he was offered a contract for the construction of canal locks at Little Falls, which he accepted.

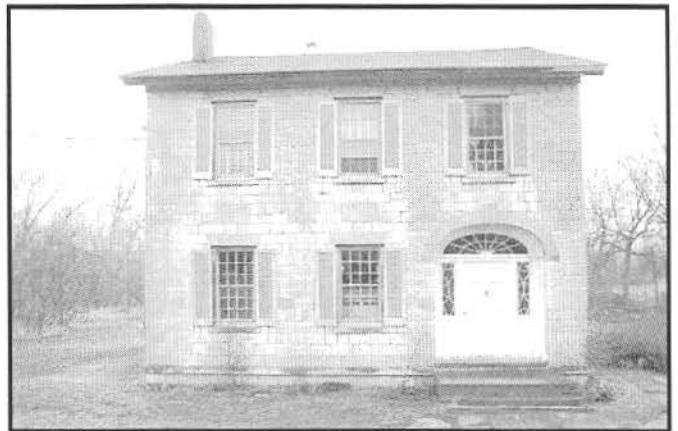
Mr. Hubbard spent several summers on his farm in Steuben, but in the autumn of 1797, Lemuel Storrs, a large landed proprietor, came there, and induced him to accompany him to what is now called the town of Champion, on a tour of exploration to the then unbroken wilderness.

Subsequently to this first visit, as an inducement to come to Champion and lead in the settlement of this new country, Mr. Storrs offered him 2,000 acres of land in any part of the township where he chose to locate, for the sum of \$1.50 an acre, and the agency of all his lands. The common market price was \$3.00, and for that was sold to the settlers. He accepted the offer, paid \$500 down and selected his 2,000 acres in the center of Champion. Reserving enough for himself, he sold the remainder to various individuals. He made improvements and cleared many acres, but, before he moved his family, news came that Mr. Storrs had failed, and this led to a compromise by which he relinquished all the contracts for the land he had sold and what remained unsold, receiving a deed for 100 acres only for the \$500 paid.

Mr. Hubbard continued to act as an agent of various other land-holders through a considerable part of his active business life, and was associated in every project for its improvement until incapacitated by age. An officer in the War of 1812; appointed judge in 1813; many times acting as supervisor; was deeply interested in the formation and subsequent sustenance of the Agricultural Society, the second one in this State.

He erected the first church edifice in the county of Jefferson, and at his own expense, expecting to be reimbursed by the sale of the pews; but he never received the first cost of the same. He also erected several schoolhouses, and built the plank-road from Great Bend to Copenhagen-eleven miles-when 84 years old, showing his indomitable energy and perseverance. His private business was extensive and various. He was one of a mercantile firm almost from the first settlement of the town, and kept a store for many years in company with his sons.

In 1815 he built the stone store, which stood, until within a few years, next to the hotel. In 1820 he erected the stone house where Miss Georgie Hubbard now resides, the only direct descendant of Noadiah Hubbard remaining in the village of Champion. She is the daughter of Henry Ward Hubbard.



The Hubbard House

ASK AUNT JEFF



Dear Aunty Jeff,
My grandfather is buried in the North Watertown Cemetery, Addison Wellington Kellar 1885-1920. Is their someplace where I can get his obituary? Would the Watertown Newspapers keep obit files this long? If so, can you find out how I can reach them. My grandfather died at 35 and I am wondering why. I am trying to establish a medical history for my children and trying to get as many medical histories as I can. Thanks for any help. If anyone has info on the Mitchells, Kellars, or Gardners, they can send me info on my e mail, and we can trade info. ej1552@yahoo.com

Lee Sherwood

Dear Lee:
The regular obit files for the Watertown Daily Times started around 1930, so your grandfather's obit would be early for that. Do contact Lisa Carr, librarian there, however, since she might have something.

The genealogy room of Flower library collects obits, and might have yours. Both institutions are on Washington Street, Watertown, NY.
Aunty Jeff

Dear Aunty Jeff,

"I am curious about the sources for the IGI [Mormon] material. Do you have any understanding of where this material comes from? I have always assumed it represented tidbits of data gleaned from photocopies of old records. (I am specifically looking at birth, christening and marriage records from Germany.)

"Given the frequent use of specific dates, I felt like my assumptions about old records being the source was probably correct. But then I run across a number of dates that are pretty general (i.e., "about 1808") which strikes me more like items taken from user contributed family trees (and all the vagaries of data accuracy that they imply).

Curious

Dear Curious,

Here is a brief answer:
For Extracted records of any small type - I'll use the Extracted Marriage Record - a person is given a film of original records to enter into a file that is sent to Salt Lake City (Mormon headquarters) for review and comparison with another researcher doing the same thing, thus the extracted marriage record for locality listed in the record. The source records are usually arranged chronologically by the marriage date. Source Information:

Letters may be sent snail mail:
Aunty Jeff, c/o Dixon, 15407 Dixon Rd.,
Clayton NY 13624
or E-mail nandixon@Gisco.net

Batch No.: Dates: Source Call No.: Type: Printout Call No.: Type:
M593181 1877 - 1895 1026703 V. 1-3 Film NONE

Sheet:

This is a standard input by an LDS church member for his own family. Thus the dates may be abt. or ca. Records submitted after 1991 are by a member of the LDS Church. No additional information is available. Ancestral File may list the same family and the submitter. Now if there were source information available or included when this was filed it may be like the following. Record submitted by a member of the LDS Church. The record often shows the name of the individual and his or her relationship to a descendant, shown as the heir, family representative, or relative. The original records are not indexed, and you may have to look at the film frame-by-frame to find the information you want. A family group record for this couple may be in the Family Group Record Collection; Archive Section. (See the Family History Library Catalog for the film number.) These records are alphabetical by name of the father or husband.

Source Information: Film Number: 446105

Page Number:

Reference number: 15952

You may find other variances but these are the usual ones. I hope I have been helpful.

Aunty Jeff

Dear Aunty Jeff

I am just wondering this labeling of family members thing. My Great Grandfather's sister is actually my Great Great Aunt, while his son is my Great Uncle, something that just doesn't seem right!

Kelly

Dear Kelly,

Your great grandfather's sister is actually your great grandaunt, a term we don't use in the US. That makes his son your grand uncle, another term we don't use in the US.

Take my brother's children: I'm Tolanda's aunt, which is what she calls me. Her daughter Nikki is my great niece (grand niece, since she's my brother's granddaughter). She still calls me Aunty Jeff. Her triplets, with the impossible names, will STILL call me Aunty Jeff, in due time, but since they are my brother's great grand children, I am actually their great grand aunt. You can just forget about them calling me THAT, however! Hope this helps.

Aunty Jeff

Computer Corner

Public Records and Information Web Sites for Genealogy

By Anne J Lex - Records Editor

(Previously published in the USGenWeb Newsletter,
June 2007, Volume 4, Number 5.)

Public records and Information Websites available on the Internet provide genealogy researchers with several databases to search for information on the World Wide Web. Most databases are free. However, some databases require a fee. Fee based databases typically have a dollar sign next to the database.

One of my favorite websites to search for public records and information website links is OnSight Resources Worldwide Public Records <http://www.onsightresources.com>. OnSight Resources provides access to "search thousands of free online sources of public records and information sites from each of the 50 states, US territories, the Federal government, Canada, Europe, Asia, North and South America and Africa."

OnSight Resources and similar public records websites can be used to find a variety of records that are useful for genealogy. These records include: birth, death, marriage, divorce, property, wills, and court records to name a few. Public records can also be found on government websites and official state, county and municipal websites. "According to BRB Publications' Public Records Online, 5th edition, only 35 percent of public records are available online." <http://www.brbpub.com/pubrecsitesStates.asp>.

Public records become available not only from official resources. Information becomes public when personal information is disclosed online by posting and uploading information on the Internet. Public records and information websites are a good place to find genealogical information on the Internet. Information found on these types of databases should be verified because the information could be scaled down or contain errors. Finally, always remember to cite your sources.

For further research and reading:

Social Security Death Index

<http://ssdi.rootsweb.com>

National Gravesite Locator ~ Bureau of Veterans Affairs

<http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/j2ee/servlet/>

NGL_v1

Killed In Action ~ United States Marine Corps.

http://www.popasmoke.com/kia/all_kias.php?

PHPSES-

SID=c8b4fbb58fb13cbe4f2d998626978e5d#search
Vietnam MIA/POW

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/pow/powhome.html>

Birth/Death/Marriage ~ OnSight Resources

<http://www.onsightresources.com/birth.htm>

Access to Archival Databases ~ National Archives and Records Administration

<http://aad.archives.gov/aad>

Unclaimed Persons

<http://www.unclaimedpersons.com>

Find A Grave

<http://www.findagrave.com>

Genealogy Cemeteries and Obituaries ~ Public Records Finder

<http://www.publicrecordfinder.com/genealogy.html>

Introduction to Public Records Research

http://www.virtualchase.com/topics/introduction_public_records.shtml

Public Records Directory ~ Search Systems

<http://www.searchsystems.net>

Public Information Search Engine ~ Zabasearch

<http://www.zabasearch.com>

(Selected from)

Mail Lists You Might Not Know Exist

by Denise Wells, Managing Editor

(Previously published in the USGenWeb Newsletter,
June 2007, Volume 4, Number 5.)

Byegone Towns

<http://lists.rootsweb.com/index/other/Miscellaneous/BYEGONE-TOWNS.html>

A list for anyone interested in towns, communities, and settlements that are no longer found on maps and seem to have become lost in time.

DEADFREDdotCOM

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DEADFREDdotCOM>

Looking for old family photos? Tell us who you're searching for and maybe we can help.

GenPhoto

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/genphoto>

Everything you want to know about genealogy and family photographs.

More From the Dollinger House Register

Here is more of the 1887-88 Register of the Dollinger House which was in Redwood, NY. This work by Linda Malinich, our JCNYS Past President, was first featured in the July and September 2004 issues of the *Informer* as well as the November 2005, January, March, July, November 2006, January, March, September and November 2007 issues. The following two pages continue after those pages. There is also a summary of Linda's work on page 20 in the November 2004 *Informer* that will be of interest to readers.

Scoless?, F.E. Lowville
July 1

Scott, Ion
July 15

Scott, J.H. Plessis
June 4, June 8

Scott, Wm. W. Watertown
Jun 3, Jun 20 (& wife)
William W. Scott (1852 – 1894, Section V)
(Brookside Cemetery, Watertown)

Scraton, Geo.H. Utica
June 18
Geo. H. Scraton (1887 Utica Dir – letter carrier)

Scribner, E.D. New York
Feb 23

Seambri?, W.M. Theresa
Aug 22

Secor, J.E. East Florence
Sept 1
James E. Secor (1880 Oneida Census, Florence, age 40, basketmaker)

Secor, W. NY
Feb 18

Seeber, _?D. Theresa
July 19

Senecal, Joseph Redwood
Aug 17 (two Josephs)
(Either: 1821-1898 or 1863-1932 – bur. Alexandria)

Sexton, T.M. Albany
Apr 12
Thomas M. Sexton (1899 Albany Dir, salesman)

Seymore, A.R. Popes Mills
Sept 1

Shannon, D. Redwood
Sept 23
Daniel Shannon (Child's – Alexandria, farmer)
Daniel Shannon (1815-1894, Redwood Cemetery)
Daniel Shannon (1847-1911, St. Xavier Cemetery)

Shannon, Jno J. New York
Oct 21, Feb 22

Sharon, David Phila
June 15

Sharp, C.S. Watertown
Feb 22
Charles S. Sharp (1889 Watertown Dir, com. traveler, 77 ½ Washington)

Sharp, Wm. Theresa
Feb 25

William Sharp (Child's – Theresa, butcher, prop. meat market, Stockwell block)
William Sharpe (1837-1925, Oakwood Cemetery)

Shea, John L. (R.W.&O. RR) Carthage
Aug 16, Oct 10, Feb 27, Mar 9, Apr 2
John L. Shea (Child's – Wilna, roadmaster, Utica Division, R.W.&O. RR)

Shear, S.R. Oswego
June 3

Sheley, Geo. Omar
June 23, Oct 19
George Sheley (1833-1920)
(Omar Cemetery – Orleans)

Sheldon, Eugene?
Oct 11

Shepard, W.E. Adams
May 23
William E. Shepard (d. 1902, age 41, Rural Cemetery)

Shepard, Geo. B. Ogdensburg
Aug 2, Aug 9

Sherman?, — New York
Mar 28

Sherman, S.F. Utica
July 25
Sanford F. Sherman (1888 Utica Dir, mfg shirts)

Shields, T.F. NY
Nov 9

Shuler, M.W. Watertown, Utica
Nov 16, Dec 13, Apr 13 (Utica)
Milford W. Shuler (1888-91 Utica Dir, com. traveler)
Shuler & Rector (Point Peninsula, Child's – Lyme, Milford W.S. of Utica & James, farmers)
(from obit: owned & managed Three Mile Bay Hotel, salesman for Scott Jewelry Co. & coal salesman for D.L.&W. RR)
Milford Winfield Shuler (1856 – 1922, Section 1)
(Brookside Cemetery, Watn., d 19 Dec 1922 Texas)

Shute, L.C. Syracuse / NY City
Jun 7 (NYC), Sept 12 (w/wife Syracuse),
Nov 16 (NY)
Ledare C. Shute (1888 Syracuse Dir, com. trav)
LaClare C Shute (1889/90 Syracuse Dir, com. trav)

Siegel, A. New York
Feb 25

Sikes, C.W. NY
Nov 9&10

Simms?, Col. Redwood
Dec 10 (Ck: Limnus?, Cap, Apr 2)

Simmons(y/g)?, F.A. Rochester, NY
Nov 29

Simonds, Dr. E.A. & wife Carthage
Jul 12, Feb 3
Edwin A. Simonds (Child's – Wilna, physician & surgeon)

Sims, Fred Watertown
Mar 8, Apr 17
Frederick Sims (1888-90 Watertown Dir, clerk)

Slater, S.E. Utica
July 4
S.E. Slater (1889 Utica Dir., agent)

Slocum, F?/J.E. Lowville
May 17, Sept 6

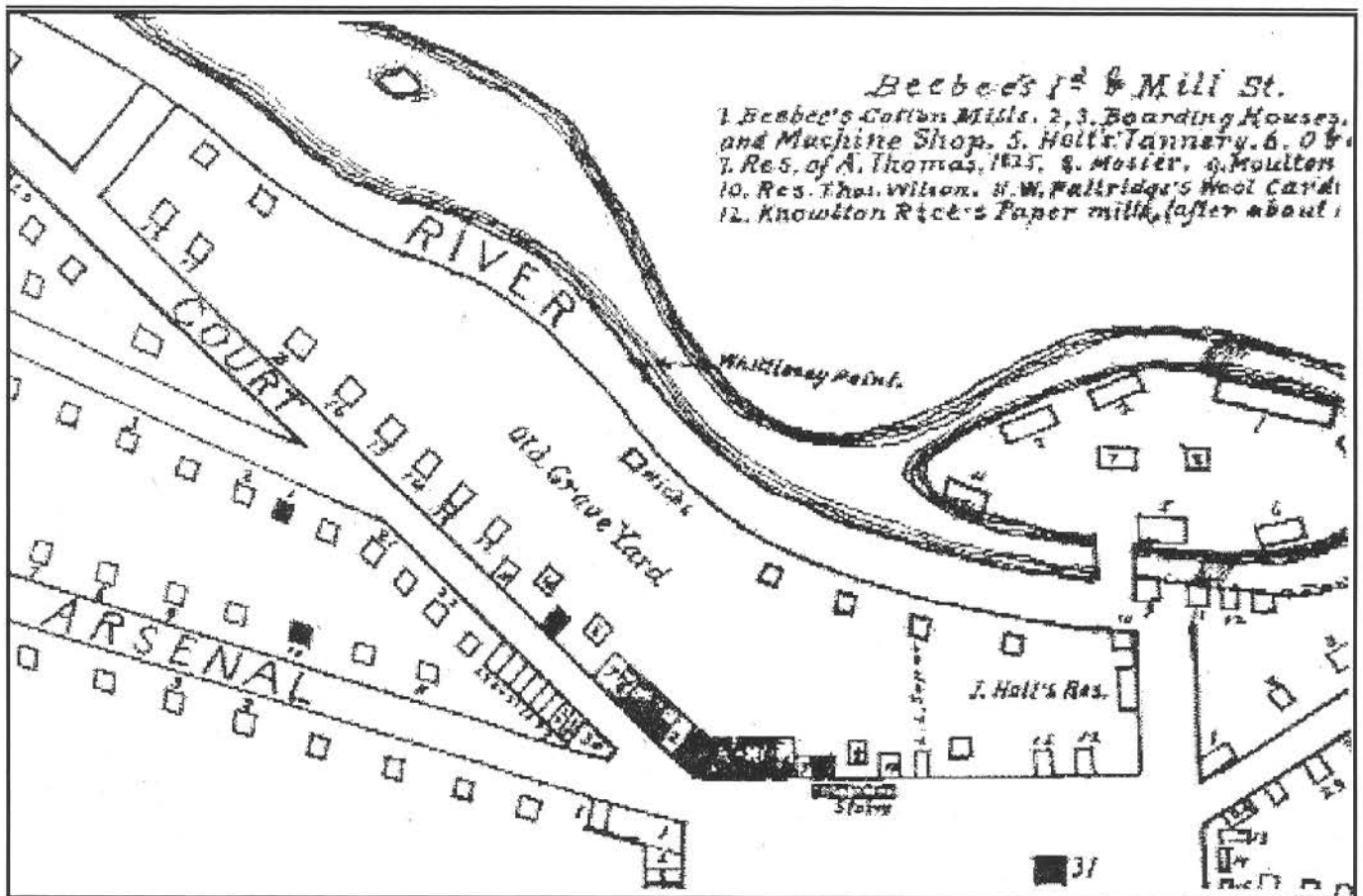
Smartt, Geo Brockville

Oct 10 Smart, Herb	(Ontario, Canada) Brockville	Spicer, C.F.	Macomb
Mar 1	(Ontario, Canada)	Jan 13	
Smith, Arthur J.	Redwood	Springer, _____	Alex Bay
Jan 19, Mar 9		Jan 11	
Arthur J. Smith (Child's – Alexandria, cheesemaker)		Springer, Martin	Alexandria Bay
Smith, A.T. Theresa		Nov 10, Nov 14	
Jan 11		Martin Springer (Child's – Alexandria (Redwood), breeder of grade & pure blood Holstein cattle & Hambletonian horses)	
Almanson T. Smith (Child's – Theresa, dealer in drugs, groceries, confectionery, stationery, paints, oils, tobacco & cigars, bds Getman House)		Martin Springer (1839 – 1922, Plessis Cemetery)	
Almanson T. Smith (1857-1911, Oakwood Cem.)		Springer, Nean	Redwood
Smith, C.B.	Syracuse	May 31, Oct 1, Dec 1	
Sept 15, Sept 16		Nean R. Springer (1867-1952) (Redwood Cemetery – Alexandria)	
Smith, E. Natural Bridge		Springsteen, W.H.	Black River
June 29		Nov 14	
Smith, E.E. Redwood		William H. Springsteen (Child's – Rutland, painter) William Springsteen (d 1893, age 72, Black River Cemetery North, Ruthland)	
July 22		Stark, Joseph	LaFargeville
Smith, Eddie	Redwood, NY	Sept 19, Oct 13	
Feb 25		(Child's – Orleans, Limburger cheesemaker)	
Smith, Elmer	Plessis	Starr, Stanley	Syracuse
Sept 1		Sept 12, Oct 20 (Impersonator En Route)	
Smith, Giles	Alexandria Bay	Starr, Mrs. Stanley	
Sept 29		Oct 20	
(Child's – Alexandria, breeder of Ayrshire cattle)		Starring, Daniel	Alex Bay
Smith, P.G.	Manhattan, Kan	Oct 1	
May 14		Daniel W. Staring (Child's – Alexandria, state game protector)	
Smith, Samuel G.	LaFargeville	Sterus?, Frank Rochester	
Oct 13		Mar 24	
Snell, E. Evans Mills		Stevens, Ed Carthage	
Mar 21		Aug 15	
Edward Snell (Child's – LeRay, Justice of the Peace, farmer)		Stevens, M.N. Cincinnati	
Snow, L. New Haven (apples, RR)		Mar 22	
Oct 28		M.N. Stevens (1890-91 Cincinnati, OH Dir, trav salesman, The Cook Carriage Co.)	
Lewis Snow (1880 Census, New Haven, Oswego County, farmer, age 43)		Stevenson, H. R. (Stenson?)	Hammond
Snyder, Wm. LaFargeville		Nov 7	
Oct 4		Stewart, Daniel	Ottawa, Canada
Southpole?, R.H. New Jarkey?		June 1	
Mar 23		Stewart, Daniel	Harrisville
Spalsbury, A.E. Clayton		Oct 15	
Oct 27		Stewart, Prof. F.E. Carthage	
Spencer, Dr. H.G.P. Watertown		July 12	
June 3		Still, C.B. Theresa	
Henry G.P. Spencer (1889 Watertown Directory) (Physician & Surgeon)		Mar 17	
Dr. Henry Gordon P. Spencer (1820 – 1899) (Section E, Brookside Cemetery, Watertown)		Calvin B. Still (Child's – Theresa, cheesemaker & farmer)	
Spencer, Thos. W. Utica		Stillwell, M.	
Aug 16		Nov 28	
Thomas W. Spencer (1887-1890 Utica Dir., civil engineer & rr inspector)		Stoddard Jr., D.C. Worcester, Mass	
Sprague, Adelbert J.		Dec 6, Feb 14	
Oct 10		Stone, John Buffalo	
Adelbert J. Sprague (Child's – Theresa, laborer)		Mar 24	

**Jefferson County New York Vital Records—Town and Village Clerks
Compiled During the Summer of 2207 by past JCNYS President Linda Malinich**

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>VITAL RECORDS</u>
ADAMS	Town Clerk	John E. Knapp	583-5701	13263 US Rt 11 Adams Center 13606	Birth, Marriage, Death 1883 to Present
	Adams Village Clerk	Darlene Rexford	232-2632	3 South Main Street Adams 13605	Birth & Death 1886 to Present Marriage: 1886 to Early 1900s
ALEXANDRIA	Town Clerk	Ellen Peck	482-9519	46372 County Rt 1 PO Box 130 Alexandria Bay 13607	Birth, Marriage, Death 1883 to Present
	Alexandria Bay Village Clerk	Mary Lou Williams	482-9902	110 Walton St. Alexandria Bay 13607	No Vital Records
ANTWERP	Town Clerk	Marjorie Sands	659-2419	Main St. PO Box 858 Antwerp 13608	Birth, Marriage, Death 1847 -1849 & 1883 to Present
	Antwerp Village Clerk	Amy Cole	659-8661	PO Box 292 Antwerp 13608	No Vital Records
BROWNVILLE	Town Clerk	June McCartin	639-6266	16431 Star School House Rd Dexter 13634	Birth, Marriage, Death 1883 to Present
	Brownville Village Clerk	Michele C. Dailey	782-7650	216 Brown Blvd Brownville 13615	Birth & Death 1880's to Present Marriage: 1898 - 1911
	Dexter Village Clerk	Patricia Lamon	639-6260	PO Box 62 Dexter 13634	Birth: 1893 to Present Death: 1894 to Present Marriage: 1893 to 1907
	Glen Park Village Clerk	Constance Hoard	782-2143	116 East Main St Brownville 13615	Birth & Death 1893 to Present Marriage Records: none
CAPE VINCENT	Town Clerk	Arlene Ingerson	654-3660	Market St, PO Box 680 Cape Vincent 13618	Birth, Marriage, Death 1882 to Present
	Cape Vincent Village Clerk	Nancy Knapp	654-2533	PO Box 337 Cape Vincent 13618	No Vital Records
CHAMPION	Town Clerk	Christina Vargulick	493-3240	10 N. Broad St. West Carthage 13619	Birth, Marriage, Death 1884 to Present
	West Carthage Village Clerk	Debrah Pierce	493-2552	61 High Street Carthage 13619	Births: 1884 to 1960's Deaths: 1883 to Present
CLAYTON	Town Clerk	Kathleen LaClair	686-3512	405 Riverside Dr. Clayton 13624	Birth, Marriage, Death 1882 to Present
	Clayton Village Clerk	Geneva Phelps Miller	686-5552	Mary Street, Clayton 13624	No Vital Records
ELLISBURG	Town Clerk	Debbie Payne	846-5138	Town Hall, PO Box 113 Ellisburg 13636	Birth, Death, Marriage 1883 to Present
	Ellisburg Village Clerk	Debbie Payne	846-5222	PO Box 116 Ellisburg 13636	Few: Birth, Death 1900 to Present
	Mannsville Village Clerk	Cynthia Wood	465-5515	PO Box 153 Mannsville 13661	Births & Deaths: 1901 to Present
HENDERSON	Town Clerk	Charlotte Richmond	938-5542	PO Box 259 Henderson 13650	Birth, Marriage, Death 1882 to Present
	Town Clerk	Diane M. Nier	782-6380	18774 County Rt 66 Watertown 13601	Birth, Marriage, Death 1882 to Present
	Sackets Harbor Village Clerk	Gertrude Karris	646-3548	PO Box 335 Sackets Harbor 13685	Birth, Death: 1882 to Present Marriage: 1882 to 1905
LERAY	Town Clerk	Mary C. Smith	629-4052	8650 LeRay Street Evans Mills 13637	Birth, Marriage, Death 1882 to Present
	Black River Village Clerk	Kathie Montigelli	773-5721	102 S. Main Street Black River 13612	Births: 1891 to Present Deaths: ca 1927 to Present

LERAY (cont.)	Evans Mills Village Clerk	Marilyn Hanson	629-4753	PO Box 176 Evans Mills 13637	Births & Deaths 1922 to Present
LORRAINE	Town Clerk	Amber Roberts	232-4099	18345 County Rt 189 Adams 13605	Birth, Marriage, Death 1882 to Present
LYME	Town Clerk	Kim Wallace	649-2788	PO Box 66 Chaumont 13622	Births, Marriages, Deaths 1883 to Present
	Chaumont Village Clerk	Paula Radley	649-2900	PO Box 297 Chaumont 13622	Births & Deaths 1883 to Present Marriages: none
ORLEANS	Town Clerk	Tammy Donnelley	658-9950	PO Box 103 20558 Sunrise Ave LaFargeville 13656	Birth, Marriage, Death 1882 to Present
PAMELIA	Town Clerk	Paula Schell	785-9793	25859 NYS Rt 37 Watertown 13601	Birth, Marriage, Death 1882 to Present
PHILADELPHIA	Town Clerk	Mary Dimock	642-3421	33019 US Rt 11 Philadelphia 13673	Birth, Marriage, Death 1883 to Present EXCEPT a 1964 fire destroyed some No Vital Records
	Philadelphia Village Clerk	Marina J. Cooke	642-3452	PO Box 70 Philadelphia 13673	
RODMAN	Town Clerk	Kristin A. Benner	232-2522	PO Box 523 Rodman 13682	Birth, Marriage, Death 1885 to Present
RUTLAND	Town Clerk	Liz Berghorn	788-3440	28411 NYS Rt 126 Black River 13612	Birth, Marriage, Death 1883 to Present
THERESA	Town Clerk	Kim A. Delles	628-5046	215 Riverside Ave Theresa 13691 Many Records Destroyed in Fire	Births: 1908 - 1913 & 1938 to Present Marriages: 1908 to Present Deaths: 1938 to Present No Vital Records
	Theresa Village Clerk	Sylvia Bush	628-4425		
WATERTOWN	Town Clerk	Catherine Rich	782-8248	22867 County Rt 67 Watertown 13601	Birth, Marriage, Death 1883 to Present
WILNA	Town Clerk	Mary McMahon	493-2771	414 State Street Carthage 13619	Births: 1873 to Present Deaths: 1883 to Present Marriages: 1881 to Present
	Carthage Village Clerk	Linda M. Weir	493-1060	120 S. Mechanic St Carthage 13619	Birth, Death: 1887 to Present Marriages: 1887 - 1907
	Deferiet Village Clerk	Gail Lapiere	493-1456	PO Box 206 Deferiet 13628	Birth, Death: 1922 to Present Marriages: none
	Herrings Village Clerk	Mona Thomas	493-4002	24519 First Street Carthage 13619	Births: 1922 - 1931 Deaths: 1922 - Present (few) Marriages: none
WORTH	Town Clerk	Laura Macklen	232-4647	6400 County Rt 95 Lorraine 13659	Birth Marriage, Death ca 1887 to Present
CITY OF WATERTOWN	City Clerk	Donna Dutton	785-7780	Municipal Building 245 Washington St Watertown 13601	Birth, Marriage, Death 1882 to Present
JEFFERSON COUNTY	County Clerk	JoAnn Wilder	785-3200	175 Arsenal Street Watertown 13601	
	Records Management	Jim Ranger	785-5149	175 Arsenal Street (Indexed) (Not Available to Public)	Marriage Records 1908 - 1935 Judgements of Divorce 1916 to Present
	Supervisor of Court Records:	Diana King	785-3200	175 Arsenal Street	Judgements of Divorce (Recorded prior to 1916)
<p>Two Types of Earlier Record Books containing Divorce Records & other records: 1) MISC BOOKS: (Book # 3: 1857 - 1870); Indexed; (Not Available to Public) 2) COURT RULE BOOKS: (Book 3 Starts in 1881); Not Indexed; (Available to Public) Please NOTE: Divorce Records are sealed for 100 Years.</p>					



This city of Watertown map provided by Severance Photo owner Paul Beers shows the city's first burial ground off court Street. The area is now a parking lot. Information on the map says it was drawn from memory of Avery Thomas, a citizen from 1822 to 1859.

Watertown's Earliest Cemetery

From the Watertown Daily Times, May 27, 2007
By Chris Brock, Times Staff Writer

Watertown's first cemetery is now a parking lot in back of Severance Photo, 170 Court St.

Cemetery historians Sidney L. and Bonita L. Shafer said the area deserves at least a memorial marker.

The site is the former Trinity Church Cemetery, which was granted to the village in the early 1800s by Jefferson County pioneer Henry Coffeen. There were two Trinity churches on Court Street. The first one burned down in 1849 and a second built in its place. In 1890, the congregation left Court Street for its larger, present home on Sherman Street, made possible with donations from the Flower family.

After the Court Street church was torn down for development of the "Fuess block" building, the old city hall was erected on Court Street between 1895 and 1897. The city hall was torn down during urban renewal in the 1960's.

Watertown resident Rande S. Richardson, who helped write the history of the church for its successful nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, said all the remains at the Trinity cemetery site on Court Street were relocated to a Trinity plot at Brookside Cemetery, which was dedicated in 1854.

According to Times files, however, remains were found at the original Trinity Church Cemetery site in the early 20th century.

"That there are still many bodies under that dust-covered ground is very evident," a Times reporter wrote on Sept. 18, 1923. "Every time an excavation is made there, the remains of bodies are uncovered."

In 1966, there was an aboveground vault still standing at the site. It was torn down that year and its stones used for a new vault at St. Vincent of Paul's Catholic Cemetery in Cape Vincent.

Cape Vincent Historical Museum

By the late Nina O. Comins
Thousand Islands Sun, 1981

The building that houses the Cape Vincent Historical Museum has considerable history in its background. The land for this house was purchased from Vincent LeRay de Chaumont prior to 1823 by the Borland family who presumably built shortly thereafter. Upon John Borland's death, the property was sold to Smith Bartlett of Kingston, Ont. in 1842. George Bartlett, Smith's son, who was supervisor of Cape Vincent in 1865, inherited the property in 1867. In turn, his widow sold the lot and house to David Laird in 1897.

In 1931, Mamie Laird Bates sold to Caruthers Ewing, general counsel for the A&P Company. The same year he sold the property to Stuyvesant Fish who immediately had it deeded to the Village of Cape Vincent. Mr. Fish was the great grandson of Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State under President Grant.

Upon the village's receiving this property, a drive was underway to put the building in good repair so it could be used as a Community House. The Improvement League donated money toward the project as did John L. Johnston and Reginald Newton. With a great deal of volunteer help the work was completed in 1935.

On Feb. 29, 1936 a lending library was opened in one section of the building and later another room became the historian's office. One room was equipped as a kitchen while the main room could be filled with folding tables so luncheons were held by different organizations. The main room was also used for meetings of the Improvement League and Auxiliary clubs, Board of Trade, 4-H clubs, Scouts, Boys Band and political groups.

The library books were moved to the new library on Real Street which was dedicated in June 1968. After that the History Club started a museum in the rooms previously used for the library and historian's office. About 1975, the different organizations started holding their meetings at other places and the museum expanded into the main room. Over the past two years the interior has been painted, courtesy of the Village Board.

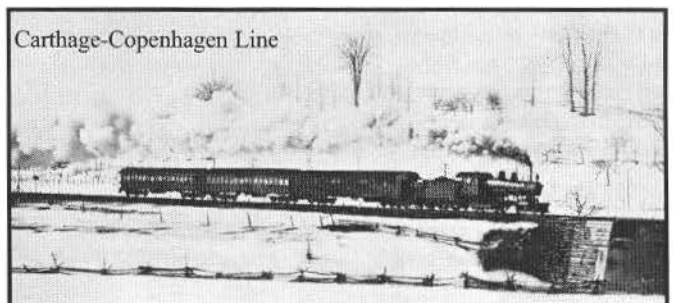
The museum has a collection of scrapbooks that hold a great deal of information for those interested in digging into the past and an obituary file that helps with genealogy research. This museum has been fortunate to receive an exhibit of artifacts retrieved from a ship sunk near Carleton Island during the Revolutionary

War. To bring back memories of one of our oldest families in settlement is an exhibit of some of Richard Merchant's welded art pieces. There is memorabilia of many of the industries that once were the livelihood of Cape Vincent such as an ice cutting plow, wood stove made by Forsythe, willow basket made by Blum, shipping box for Booth Fisheries, spinning wheel, model ice boat, early implements of the dairy business. There are pictures of the schools of the village, hotels of the past, portraits of Ferdinand Hassler and Napoleon and many more interesting items.

Cemetery Names and Maps As listed in past Informers

We often receive queries concerning the location and names of various cemeteries in Jefferson County. With the help of JCNYS member Al Seymour, following is a list of Jefferson County, New York cemetery maps, and the issue date they appeared in the *Informer*, newsletter of the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society.

Adams	March, 2002
Alexandria	May, 2002
Antwerp	July, 2002
Brownville	September, 2002
Cape Vincent	November, 2002
Champion	January, 2003
Clayton	March, 2003
Ellisburg	May, 2003
Henderson	July, 2003
Hounsfield	September, 2003
LeRay	November, 2003
Lorraine	January, 2004
Lyme	March, 2004
Orleans	May, 2004
Pamelia	July, 2004
Philadelphia	September, 2004
Rodman	November, 2004
Rutland	January, 2005
Theresa	March, 2005
Watertown	May, 2005
Wilna	September, 2005
Worth	November, 2005



Graveside Chronicles

by Linda K. Lewis, Chronicles Editor

(Previously published in the USGenWeb Newsletter, June 2007, Volume 4, Number 5.)

The World of the Cemetery Sexton

Sexton n. Church custodian charged with keeping the church and parish buildings prepared for meetings, caring for church equipment, and performing related minor duties such as ringing the bell and digging graves.

Encyclopedia Britannica

Long before the garden-style cemeteries of the 1800s, burial grounds were located on church grounds, and it was the job of the church sexton, or caretaker, to manage the burials in the cemetery. While today most cemeteries are privately owned, either by a corporation or a cemetery association, and graves are no longer dug by hand, the cemetery sexton still plays a vital role in the health of a cemetery.

At a high level, the role of a cemetery sexton is to take charge of, care for, and supervise the cemetery under the direction of the Cemetery Board or other governing party. But what exactly does that entail?

Opening and Closing Graves

One of the main functions of a cemetery sexton is to open and close graves for interments. In order to do that, the sexton must know where the plots are physically located in the cemetery, the dimensions of the plots, and which graves are filled.

It is the sexton's responsibility to open graves without disturbing prior interments. It would not be a happy event for the backhoe to hit another casket. In some cases this means that the sexton must probe the ground to make certain the neighboring graves will not be disturbed.

Selling Plots

Another major function of a cemetery sexton is to be able to show prospective buyers lots that are available for sale. That means that the sexton must not only keep up with what plots are filled, but also what lots are sold. The sale of a cemetery plot is much like the sale of any real estate and usually includes a deed.

Placing Headstones

Similarly, once a headstone is shipped to the cemetery, it is the cemetery sexton's responsibility to know where the monument is to be installed and direct the installation. In many cemeteries, it is also the sexton's responsibility to notify the installers when the stone arrives. In most cases this also includes arranging for free installation of military markers that are shipped to the cemetery for installation.

Grounds Maintenance

The cemetery sexton is also responsible for the grounds, turf, and landscaping maintenance. This in-

cludes mowing, filling holes and sinking graves, the upkeep of trees and plantings, the cemetery fence (if there is one), signage, and any memorial areas in the cemetery.

Rules and Regs

One of the least favorite jobs of a sexton is enforcing the cemetery rules and regulations. This includes when people can visit, appropriate conduct in the cemetery, grave decorations, and litter. Most modern cemeteries have rules about what can be installed at a grave, and what can be placed at a grave. Some cemeteries do not allow plantings at graves, holiday decorations, lighting, or other memorabilia, while other will allow some or all of these things. Many cemeteries have rules about live and even artificial flowers and post signage stating their policy. This helps to keep the cemetery clean and fresh of pots of dead flowers throughout the harsh winter.

It's all about the Map

Modern cemeteries are typically platted out and every square inch is accounted for. The cemetery may be comprised of different lot layouts in different sections of the cemetery. There may be differing sizes of graves and usually some smaller crematory plots. A map is created and each grave is identified by some naming or numbering scheme, usually identifying sections, blocks, lots, and plots, and it is the job of the sexton to maintain this map. This map is essential in the ability to do their job.

Not a Mason

It may seem that the sexton has an obligation with regard to the maintenance of markers and monuments; however this is not the case. The monuments are owned by the purchaser and installed on private property (the purchased lot) and it is really the responsibility of the family to perform any cleaning or repair. However, some cemeteries do step up and try to repair and curate old broken stones which have long been forgotten. This is purely a voluntary action on their part, and if they do it, it's because they love their cemetery.

Not a Genealogist

While many people contact cemetery sextons to find out genealogical information on past interments, answering these types of questions, and doing genealogy is NOT their responsibility, and if they choose to provide this information, it is purely of their own free will.

Your Faithful Caretaker

Always remember: it is not the job of a sexton to know what is inscribed on the stone, or the relationship of any individual to any other individual, or to fix a broken stone; it is the sexton's job to keep up the cemetery and to know which lots are filled, what lots are sold, and what lots are available. They have to deal with the finality of death, eternal resting places of loved ones of the living, and be sensitive to the emotional state of the public, sometimes during their time of great loss.

It's not just a job.

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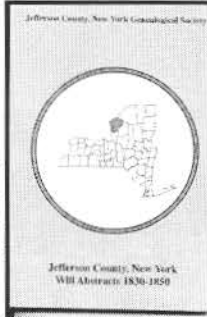
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Collected by JCNYGS Genealogical Resources Committee

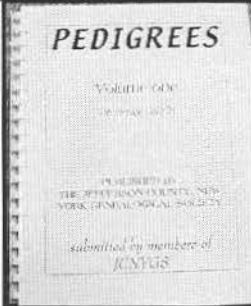
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Jefferson County Queries

Send Queries to: Lis Couch, 24670 County Rt. 159, Watertown, NY 13601; lcouch0624@aol.com

Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

SEXTON, BRITTON

Looking for information on Ebenezer **SEXTON** near Clayton, Jefferson Co., NY, around the War of 1812.

From cemetery monuments in Loyd, Richland County, Wisconsin ---

Ebenezer Maurice(?) **SEXTON** (b 1777 in CT, d 1828 near Clayton, Jeff., NY) and Linda **BRITTON** (b 1786 in NH, d 1859 Loyd, Richland, WI) (ancestors Samuel **BRITTON**, Ebenezer **BRITTON**, Wm **BRITTON**, Wm **BRITTON**, James **BRITTON**, ...)

were the parents of:

Mindwell B **SEXTON** b 13 Jul 1805 Upper Canada d 1883 Buena Vista Twp, Richland Co., WI m Abt 1830 to William **JOHNSON** (b England in 1796)

Lydia **SEXTON** b 09 Feb 1810 Leeds, Canada d 10 Jan 1896 Buena Vista Twp, Richland Co., WI m Abt 1830 to Joseph **RASSETTE** (b Surroc, Pre, Quebec, Canada, in 1807)

Comfort **SEXTON** b 07 May 1812 Rutland, Jefferson, NY d 06 Sep 1889 Barron, Barron County, WI m Abt 1830 to Mr. **RODGERS**, and Abt 1839 to James **BANK** (b 1812 in Devonshire, England)

Ebenezer Morris **SEXTON** b 23 May 1814 Rutland, Jefferson, NY d 01 Mar 1876 Sextonville, Richland Co., WI m 10 Feb 1835 to Caroline E **FELLOWS** near Clayton, Jefferson Co., NY (b 1818 in NY near the Hudson River)

Helen **SEXTON** b 18 Oct 1825 Clayton, Jefferson County, NY d 07 May 1897 Loyd, Richland, WI m 04 Mar 1847 to Robert Bruce **STEWART** (b Stockbridge, Madison Co., NY, in 1821)

The following source mentions Ebenezer **SEXTON** and Linda **BRITTON** (daughter of Samuel **BRITTON**) around Clayton, Jefferson, NY, during the War of 1812.

The Growth of a Century as illustrated in
The History of Jefferson County,
New York, from 1793 to 1894

By John A. Haddock

Philadelphia, PA Printed by Sherman & Com. 1894

During the war of 1812-15, residents along the St. Lawrence River, near the eastern boundary of the town, were not wholly free from British visitation. At this time the great Black River State road, which touched the St. Lawrence at Port Putnam, extended down the river to Ogdensburg; and, instead of taking a comparatively direct course, it followed more or less closely along the shore, touching the river at a point

opposite Linda's Island, and also at a point below, on which a fortified block-house was erected and a small garrison stationed. This point is one of the most picturesque spots on the river, and is now the property of Mr. Alfred D. Percy, whose father, David F. Percy, purchased and settled on the same farm more than 60 years ago. Near the Point stands a thin marble slab, bearing the inscription: "Ebenezer Sexton. Died Oct. 1, 1828, aged 51 years, 7 months and 23 days." Deceased was a sutler for the garrison, as well as a general storekeeper. On the Point above, and opposite Linda's Island, Samuel Britton built a dwelling house, which finally became a tavern, and a very convenient stopping place for people passing to and fro between Cape Vincent and Gananoque, between which places there was considerable trade at that time. He also planted an orchard and had begun to make extensive improvements before the breaking out of the war. His tract embraced all of that lot of land now owned by Alfred D. Percy, and up the river, including the James Linda farm. Mr. Britton had been a Revolutionary soldier, entering the service at the age of 14, with the Vermont troops, and serving throughout the war. He was at the battle of Bennington, and participated in the engagements which finally resulted in the defeat and surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga in 1777. Like thousands of others, at the close of the war he found himself homeless, paid off in Continental scrip, a thousand dollars of which would not purchase a meal of victuals nor a night's lodging; and like thousands of others, he became somewhat embittered toward the government which he had served for seven long years. True, it had promised him a "class-right" or grant of 500 acres of land, but even that was not forthcoming, and the young soldier was left entirely to his own resources. On his first arrival in this vicinity, his home for a time was with Major John B. Esselstyn, who was ever ready to extend a helping hand to new comers, until he finally made his home as already stated. He was a man who looked carefully to his own interests, and in consequence tried to maintain a strict neutrality during the War of 1812, treating both sides with the utmost impartiality. But the plan worked disastrously. As is always the case, a neutral is looked upon with suspicion by both sides, and Mr. Britton was no exception to the rule. The Americans were inclined to regard him as a Tory, although they had no positive proof of the fact, while the British, at first regarding him as a friend, finally came to doubt his loyalty to their cause, and treated him accordingly. For this belief they appear to have had some grounds. The arrival at his house of deserters from Canada was of frequent occurrence, and they were sheltered, fed and sent safely on their way. Often they reached Britton's in the night, with feet badly frozen from traveling on the ice, and many times has Mrs. Britton acted in the capacity of a surgeon, and amputated a frozen toe

with a skill that some young surgeons might envy, and finally sending her patients on their way rejoicing. Deserters from the American army were cared for in like manner. But there was to be an end to all this. One night at midnight, a British gun-boat landed, robbed Sexton's store, burned Britton's tavern and dwelling, cut down and burned his orchard, getting away unharmed. The little garrison, half a mile away, dare not leave their fortifications lest the enemy should take possession; and so the work of destruction went on unchecked.

Linda's Island took its name from a daughter of Britton's who, in a log hut on the island, nursed and cared for a sick officer who had deserted, either from Sackets Harbor or from the troops stationed at Cape Vincent, it is not positively known which. At all events, the episode, with all its consequences, gave the young lady's name to the island, which it still retains. At first it was thought best to fortify the island, and with that end in view a block-house was begun, but wiser counsels prevailed and the work on Cedar Point was erected.

1. Does anyone have additional information about the senior Ebenezer **SEXTON**?
2. Does anyone have information on Caroline E **FELLOWS** who married the junior Ebenezer **SEXTON** near Clayton, NY, on 10 Feb 1835?
3. Linda's Island is in the St. Lawrence River near Clayton, Jefferson County, New York. Can someone pin point it on a map?

Richard E. Clemmons
2020 179th Ct. N.E.
Redmond, WA 908052
ClemmonsRandJ@comcast.net

HELPERICH, SHEPARD

I am looking for information on Philip **HELPERICH** and Sarah **SHEPARD**. They are in Jefferson County in the 1850 census. Several of their children were born in Cape Vincent, including my husband's great-grandfather, George **HELPERICH**. There was a son born in Lyme in 1847, where they are listed as "**HELFRIDGE**". I know quite a bit about the **HELPERICH** family, but I don't know anything about Sarah **SHEPARD/SHEPHERD**.

Libby Saxby
4587 Rolfe Road
San Diego, CA 92117
libby1@san.rr.com

LUKENS

Looking for info on one Charles M. Lukens Dr. Alexandria Bay, N.Y. Was in Alexandria Bay area 1913.

John R. Lukens
jdlukens@clover.net

SAGE, JEWETT, SHEAD, SHED

Martin **SAGE**, son of Elias **SAGE**, married Mary **JEWETT** and their son Lauren **SAGE** was my Great Grandfather. I am looking for documentation (proof) of the birth date and place and the marriage date and place of my Great Grandfather Lauren **SAGE**. Lauren **SAGE** was born about 1809/1810 in Champion, Jefferson county, NY. His wife was Mary **SHEAD** (or **SHED**) and daughter of Orra **SHEAD** from Edwards, St. Lawrence county NY.

Donald Sage
13742 Marigold st. NW #263
Andover, MN 55304
Phone: 763-712-7354
dsage@usfamily.net

(We include the following which is only a portion of the query as we have no way to contact E. Bennett with no postal address, no phone, and an email address that returns to us by mailer demon. This we hope will give E. Bennett a chance to resubmit his/her query in the future.)

PERIGO, PERRIGO

Our Justus J. **PERIGO**, for service in the War of 1812, was given land in what became Adams Co, IL & was the first settler in that county. His service papers say he was born about 1768 in Pownal, VT, but enlisted in Sacket's Harbor, NY, which I find to be in Jefferson Co, NY

E. Bennett
lqs@peak.org

LANINGER, LEININGER, LINAGER, LANAGER

I am investigating my surnames of **LANINGER, LEININGER**. With my search for this name in North America, I found a Johannes **LEININGER** in Cape Vincent. (John **LINAGER, LANAGER, LANIGER**). He emigrated 1838 to North America. He was born 1801 in Clausen, Pfalz, Germany. He is not related to me, I however have gathered a quantity of information. Whoever has interest in this information, I will give them (GEDCOM file). Connected names are: **KNAPP, WETTERHAHN, LINGENFELTER, RINAGLE (REINAGEL), BRUNOT, LYNCH, HAMMOND, REFF**. The family tree of John **LEININGER** goes back up to his GGGfather Johannes **LEININGER**, born around 1680 and deceased 1730 in Germany. I would be glad to help unite family researchers .

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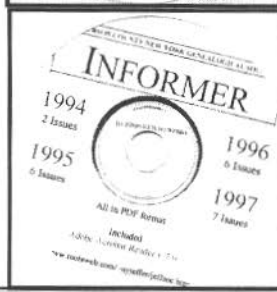
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Volume 15, Issue 2

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March 2008



Photo taken in 1919 shows the Booth House in Limerick. A tavern or hotel business has been conducted on the site since 1820. When it was the Booth House. The family living quarters were at right. The extension at right rear housed the kitchen and the storeroom on the ground level and the ballroom on the second floor.

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INFORMER MARCH 2008

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The *Informer* Committee includes Bill Dixon, chair; Nan Dixon, nandixon@gisco.net, editor; Clancy Hopkins, chopkins@imcnet.net, publisher. Editorial members (alphabetically) are Bonnie Borrello, seborrello@worldnet.att.net; Lis Couch, lcouch30@twcnv.rr.com; Jean Coyne, Dcoyne@twcnv.rr.com; Jerry Davis, maridavis@aol.com; Carol Garnsey, cgarnsey@Gisco.net; Linda Malinich, malinich@attglobal.net; Bob VanBrocklin, Rvan992@aol.com; and Pauline Zach, pinzach@aol.com. Feel free to contact any of the above for suggestions or comments regarding this newsletter, published six times a year - January, March, May, July, September and November. A special Surnames issue has also been published in December.

The articles in this newsletter are written purely to stimulate interest in the genealogical history of Jefferson County. If comments are in any way offensive, this was not the intent. All articles, submissions, etc., are the viewpoints and research of various contributors. As such, they do not necessarily reflect the views of the executive committee or members of the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society.

Letters.....

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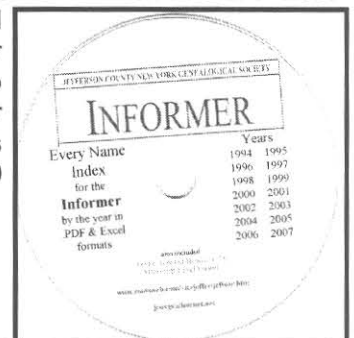
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Dear Editor,
 Thank you for the article on poorhouses. I can just hear my grandmother saying those words. I'd like to say also, that I've learned a great deal from the *Informer* over the years. I look forward to each one. Thank you again for all your great information.

David

JCNYGS member AL Seymour has the new "Every Name Index" CD available. It now includes all of 2007 in BOTH PDF & Excel formats, with viewers for both included. You do not need Excel on your computer, just install this viewer. Over 64,000 entries. See Page 21.



What's Going on with JCNYS

For Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary
December 8, 2007

Minutes:

Like the November meeting, the December meeting was held at the Best Western Carriage House in Wassertown and started at noon in the Coachman's Room with lunch ordered from the menu. The business meeting was sandwiched in during the meal with the only official business being a motion by Clancy Hopkins to renew our CD at the Redwood Bank. It was seconded by MaryAnn Doheny and passed. Everyone was reminded that the society does not meet during the winter months of January and February. Our next regular meeting should be in March and we hope to return to the newly renovated Flower Library.

Program:

We held an informal round table discussion with a variety of subjects including a review of our membership application, the web sites program from November's meeting, a beginner's kit for new genealogists, how to involve more members in committees and leadership opportunities, and also sharing some ideas for future society meeting programs.

JCNYS March Program

Phyllis Putnam, Program Chairperson

Heather Gidney Wagner, archaeologist and historian will do a PowerPoint presentation at the March 10th program for the Jefferson County Genealogical Society. The meeting is at 6:30 at a place yet to be determined. If you're not on our email list and want to attend this meeting, contact any member on Page 2.

With the outbreak of WWII, the United States Army in 1941 took over an additional 75,000 acres in the area then known as Pine Camp, present day Fort Drum. This expansion meant the displacement of 525 families, the abandonment of five villages, Sterlingville, Leraysville, North Wilna, Lewisburg and Woods Mills, as well as the reduction in size of other surrounding villages.

The expansion was a tumultuous event for many of the residents that had to abandon their homes, farms, business and land. For some it was a loss of the sense of 'home', the destruction of a community consciousness, the loss of a business/employment and for some a fresh start.

Recorded history, oral histories and historic photographs, in conjunction with the Fort Drum archeology teams work, has lead to a more complete view of the history of the villages, homes and businesses that once occupied the current day Fort Drum.

A PowerPoint slide presentation will expand on village histories, cemetery records and historic photographs. Also included in the presentation will be tax/property records and fascinating bits of oral histories gathered from families that used to call Fort Drum home.

Ms. Wagner says, "Napoleon is recorded to have said, 'History is the version of past events that people have decided to agree upon.' I am most interested in the personal history that was not agreed upon."

Ms. Wagner has been a part of the national award winning Fort Drum Cultural Resources Management team under Manager, Dr. Laurie Rush for the past 6 years and is currently employed by Colorado State University's Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands, employed at Fort Drum. She works with the Public Works Environmental Division.



**Top Hat Restaurant
 In Limerick**

Available Back Issues of
The Informer 2007

Compiled by Bonnie Borrello, JCNYGS member

JANUARY 2007

Dollinger Hotel of Redwood
 Dollinger Hotel Register 1887-88
 Hay Scow: Unglamorous Workhorse of Yesteryear
 LeRaysville Lone Survivor of Communities Lost in Pine
 Camp
 Our search for "Willy the Scoundrel"
 Photographs, asking for help identifying
 Photograph, Maurice O'Connell family prepares to
 evacuate
 Snowstorm on the trolley line
 Surveyor's Map Books from early 1800's
 Village Cemeteries of Fort Drum
 Village of Leraysville, 1864 map & index

MARCH 2007

Dollinger Hotel register 1887-88
 Glass Plate negatives, 1864-71
 Historical sketches of Northern NY
 Informer 2006 back issues
 Jefferson Co. Resources CD
 Natural Bridge history
 Photographs, asking for help identifying
 Photograph, grist mill falls, Natural Bridge
 Village of Natural Bridge, 1864 map & index

MAY 2007

History of old buildings in Stone Mills
 Life in Stone Mills as a girl
 Old Stone Church to become Agricultural Museum
 Photograph, Stone Mills School ca 1905 named
 Photographs, asking for help identifying
 Stone Mills, 1864 map and information
 Stone Mills Business Directory of 1890
 Today's hamlet of Stone Mills

JULY 2007

Church services in Perch River Fort
 Forgotten post offices - Perch River
 from the Spicer Genealogy Book
 Lonesome church
 Old records of church given
 Once thriving Perch River

Perch River, 1864 map
 Perch River histories
 Perch River school 1929, named
 Perch River postmasters
 Photograph, Perch River Young people 1911, named
 Photograph, Perch River Band
 Photographs, asking for help identifying
 School house #24
 Spicer, Henry, Silas
 Starr family decides to settle in Brownville
 Store's records tell Perch River history
 1899 letter to George Wilder, names

SEPTEMBER 2007

Dollinger Hotel register 1887-88
 Importance of viewing original records
 Oldest home in Smithville, once hotel
 Smithville histories
 Smithville boasts Smiths again
 Town of Adams, history
 Using census records on/off line

NOVEMBER 2007

Cape Vincent Historical Museum, 1981
 Coney Island of the North Country—Glen Park
 Dollinger Hotel register 1887-88
 Getman, Charles
 Glen Park history
 Jim Wood's Falls
 Photograph, Old Ontario Paper Co. employees 1893
 Glen Park, named Promised Land of Castorland
 Warren, John J.
 Watertown & Brownville St. Railway Co.

DECEMBER 2007

Membership & Surname issue

~*~

Back issues are \$4 each including shipping.
 Make check payable to JCNYGS and mail to
 Bill Dixon, 15407 Dixon Rd., Clayton, NY 13624

JCNYGS To Host NYSCOGO Meeting

New York State Council Of Genealogical Organizations

The spring 2008 NYSCOGO meeting will be held in Watertown, NY May 17, 2008 at the Northside Improvement League, 633 Mill St. JCNYGS will host the meeting.

The meeting will begin at 8:30 AM with registration and refreshments. NYSCOGO's portion of the meeting will be 9 AM until about noon with a break in mid-morning. Lunch at noon will be salads and sandwiches served by Northside.

JCNYGS will hold their May meeting beginning immediately after lunch with a short business meeting followed by presentations:

Larry Corbett - Adoption Searches

Jean Coyne - Will Abstracts book

Julia Gosier - Coroner Books and discovery of glass photographic plates

Dr. Tim Abel - Jeff Co Hist Soc activities

If arrangements can be made, a trip to the newly renovated Flower Memorial Library and Genealogy Room will conclude the day. We expect to leave Northside by 4 PM or earlier.

The cost of the meeting including lunch is \$10 per person. Local members of JCNYGS who wish to attend only the afternoon May 2008 meeting without lunch will be welcome without charge.

Out of town attendees may wish rooms at three motels we know of:

Best Western 300 Washington St (315)782-8000

Days Inn adjacent to 1142 Arsenal St (315)782-2700 with connection to a 24/7 Denny's

Ramada Inn Arsenal St Rd just west of I-81 (315)788-0700

To enroll for the entire day's meeting please send \$10 per person to:

Maureen Davis
5360 Wattlesburg Rd
Ripley, NY 14775

To assure lunch reservation, please have it to her by May 5. Please include names and affiliated organizations in your letter

Registration Tear-Off For NYSCOGO Spring Meeting
At the Northside Improvement League
633 Mill Street
Watertown, NY

Make all checks payable to NYSCOGO and mail to:

Maureen Davis
5360 Wattlesburg Road
Ripley NY 14775

If you have any questions please contact me at (716)736-4782 or you may e-mail at lovecats@fairpoint.net

Deadline for reservation is May 5, 2008. Registration fee is \$10

Name (s)

Address

Telephone and email

Organization

Amount Enclosed

Former Pupils Return To Old Limerick School

Men and Women Who Taught There in Last 68 Years Also at Reunion

(From an unidentified and undated newspaper clipping
found at Dexter Historical Society)

Watertown – The little old frame schoolhouse which has stood at Limerick for the past 68 years and which is still doing service, was the scene of a reunion of teachers and pupils Saturday afternoon, many of whom attended or taught in the school many years ago.

Frank A. Dennie, farmer, who resides near Limerick, was in charge of the meeting. He recalled that he started attending the school when it first was built in 1866. He was six years old. In the old days there was an attendance of 50 to 60 students. Now there are 14 pupils at the school, with Miss Madeline C. Meichelbeck, this city, as teacher.

Back in the old days, Mr. Dennie recalled, it was customary to employ a husky man teacher thru the fall and winter. He could cope with the brawny farm lads who delighted in nothing better than to toss the teacher out the door. But as spring and summer brought the approach of the end of the school year, the boys left school to work on the farms and only the girls remained. Consequently there was then hired a woman school teacher. School attendance in those days was not compulsory and the older pupils, especially the boys, could go a few weeks, and then quit for farm work.

Mr. Dennie recalled how in his school days the gulf back of the school was a pleasant place to play. At the reunion those present once again went to the gulf and enjoyed reminiscences and talked over old days.

Mr. Dennie told how Rev. John Calkins, relative of Dr. F.R. Calkins of Watertown, was the first teacher of the school. The late Supreme Court Justice E.C. Emerson also taught there as did former County Treasurer Fred W. Mayhew, the late Attorney Fred A. Baldwin and many others who achieve prominence later in life. Dr. Charles E. Pierce went to school there as did George W. Pierce, Rochester, and the late J.E. Reeves, local shoe merchant, as well as Hurd Reeves, Blanche Sargent, Frank Phelps, Burt Phelps, Davis Phelps, Mrs. Carrie Phelps Peck, Mrs. Mary D. Elliott, Burt Dennie, Frank Dennie, Arthur Dennie, Eva, Bertha and Lydia Countryman, Flora Lindley, Ernest D. Lindley and many others.

**NYSCOGO
Meeting
Tear-Off**

About Limerick from:

(*Child's Gazetteer*, pub. 1890, pp. 282-293)

LIMERICK is a postoffice and station on the R., W. & O. Railroad, eight miles from Watertown. It is located on Perch River, has telephone, telegraph, and American Express offices, a hotel, store, a few shops, and about 75 inhabitants.

(From *Our County And Its People
A Descriptive Work On Jefferson County New York
Edited By: Edgar C. Emerson 1898*)

Limerick.- Various traditions are extant regarding the naming of this hamlet, one of which was to the effect that it was so called from the abundance of lime rock found in the vicinity, and that the present name of Limerick was an abbreviation of it; the other, and the most probable story, was that when the settlement was founded the honor of naming it was accorded to the oldest resident, and he being an Irishman from Limerick, Ireland (whose name is recalled as Crawford), called it for his native place. However this may have been we cannot determine at this time, but in the early history of the town this was an important region, especially before the construction of the railroad in 1851-2. The hamlet was built upon the line of the highway leading from Watertown to Chaumont bay and Cape Vincent, from which points great quantities of local products were shipped to market at Kingston. Potash and whiskey were the chief productions, and if local tradition be true the settlers had little respect or fear for the restrictions of the embargo laws. On the turnpike which Mr. Le Ray caused to be built Limerick was the first stopping place after leaving Brownville, and so great was traffic that at least three taverns carried on a successful business for many years, while the principal product of the region (whiskey) made this an exceedingly lively place. For manufacturing purposes a dam was built across Perch river, and a number of mills were in operation at an early day, but on account of the sluggish current of the stream a considerable area was flooded, causing much sickness in the vicinity. So great indeed was the annoyance occasioned by this condition that an act of the legislature, passed March 30, 1827, directed John Baxter, Abner Smith and Isaac Moffatt to remove the nuisance; and in March, 1828, the court declared the dam to be a nuisance. Within the last ten years, however, the objectionable character of the river bottom has been removed by the liberal use of blasting powder. The work

was begun soon after 1800, and was continued at intervals for about three or four years. The expense, amounting to about \$3,200, was paid by interested property owners along the river whose lands were benefited by the work. One of the first industries was a carding mill, built at a now unknown date. Samuel Shelley settled at this place about 1804 and took up a farm of 160 acres where the store and residence of W. H. Everett now stands. He built a grist mill on the east side of the river where a bridge then stood and about thirty rods below the present bridge. This industry was afterward known as "Gillingham's old mill." However, when the dam was declared a nuisance the mill ceased operation and was afterwards moved across the road and utilized as a barn. Pioneer Shelly was a very worthy man and raised a large family. He is said to have been the first man to carry the news to Kingston that peace had been declared after the war of 1812. He was grandfather of the present county clerk, Frank D. Pierce.

About 1836 Jenks and Jonathan Gillingham erected saw and grist mills below the site of the old carding mill. These mills were afterwards carried on by Jonathan Moffatt and Henry C. Dorchester respectively. They were in operation until 1885, when the power became insufficient, after which the buildings remained until the spring of 1897 when they were torn down. After the railroad was put in operation Limerick began to lose prestige as a business hamlet, and gradually subsided into a convenient trading center for an agricultural region. A store and hotel have ever since been maintained here. Frank D. Pierce, the present county clerk, was for several years a merchant of the village, and was succeeded by W.H. Everett & Son. Earlier merchants at this place were Levi Smith, Ely Smith, C.P. & N. Gould, S.S.B. Peck, Aaron Hubbell, Reuben and Rufus Day and J.E. Reeves. The hotel is kept by C.O. F. Booth. It was conducted many years by James Smith and was a very popular hostelry in its day. The town clerk's office is also in the village.

(Transcribed by Holic B. Young from *Jefferson Co. History* by L. H. Everts 1878)

Limerick

On Perch river, where the R.W. & O. railroad crosses the stream, one and a half miles from Dexter, and on the direct road from Brownville to Cape Vincent, is a small village, consisting of a store, tavern, depot, and about a dozen dwellings. Mills were built here at an early day. The dam was found to flow the flats above and render them sickly, when it was removed, and afterwards built below. This place has been selected for holding town-meetings for the last half-century.

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued from Page 7)

The stream known as Perch River, as it passes through the town of Brownville, and all along from Perch Lake to Limerick, is a dull, sluggish stream. The lay of the land along its course is flat, and in many places marshy. At the time of the spring freshets it largely overflows its banks, and wide stretches of country are inundated. A dam at Limerick increased the trouble, and an act was passed March 30, 1827, authorizing John Baxter, Abner Smith, and Isaac Moffatt to remove obstructions for the purpose of improving the current of the river. In March, 1828, the circuit court declared the dam a nuisance, and directed it to be removed.

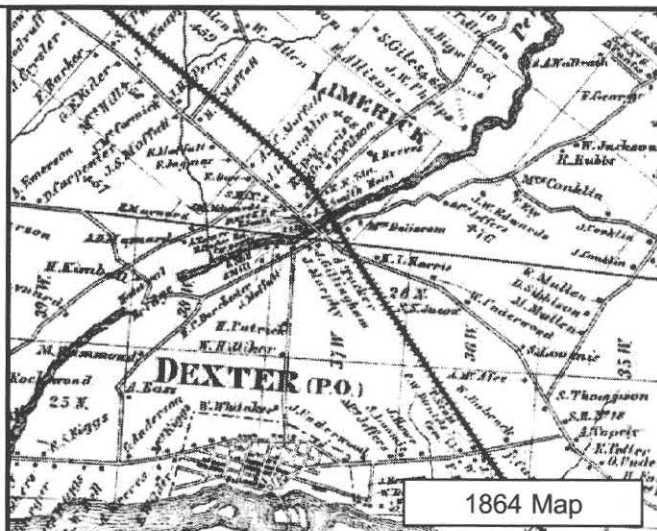
The summer of 1828 was a sickly one. Fever and ague, and a more severe form of malarial fever, prevailed to such an extent that there were hardly well ones enough to take care of the sick. On May 26, 1841, an act was passed in pursuance of the same object, and to provide for reclaiming drowned lands, by which parties benefited along the river were to be taxed for defraying expenses incurred. Nicholas Lawyer, John Cole, Jr., Paul Anthony, Daniel Allen, and Jonathan Webb were appointed commissioners for carrying the act into effect. Several thousand acres were taxed, at first at fourteen and afterwards twenty cents an acre.

**(Gazetteer Of The State Of New York,
by J. H. French 1860)**

Limerick, (p.o.) and Moffatville, (Perch River p.o.) contain a dozen houses each.

**(History Of Jefferson County In The State Of
New York by Franklin B. Hough, A. M., M.D.
1854)**

Limerick, on Perch River, 1½ miles from Dexter, where the W. & R. railroad crosses the stream, and on the old turnpike, is a small village, of a store, tavern, depot, and about a dozen dwellings; mills were built here at an early day, by Nelson, and afterwards owned by Shelley. The dam was found to flow the flats above, and render them sickly, when it was presented by the grand jury as a nuisance, and removed by order of the court. It was afterwards built below. From its central position, this place has been selected for holding town meetings for the last thirty years.



BUSINESSES IN LIMERICK 1867-1868

**NORTHERN NEW YORK BUSINESS DIRECTORY
1867-68**

WAITE BROTHERS & CO. WATERTOWN, New York,
Compilers

Lytle, Hanford & Company. Printers, Book Binders,
and Blank Book Manufacturers.
Price, \$2.00

LIMERICK
(Jefferson County)

A station on the Cape Vincent branch of the R.W. &
O.R.R. 1 1/2 miles from Dexter.

Day Reuben, deputy post master.
Dorchester, H.C., grist mill.
Edwards, John W., lumber dealer.
Everett, W.H., agent R.W. & O.R.R. and
Merchants Union Express.
Fredenburgh, H., blacksmith.
Gould & Peck, dry goods, groceries,
boots, shoes, & c.
Hubbell Aaron, brick maker.
Moffatt, J., saw mill, shingle mill and
lumber dealer.
Rawson, E.G., boot and shoe maker.
Savage, Wm., blacksmith.
Smith, James, Hotel.
Tower Ackley, carpenter.

Limerick Grist Mill Is Destroyed By Fire (Friday, Apr. 22, 1932)

Structure Owned By Brayton Peck, Leveled;
Loss Is \$12,000.

(Special To The Times)

Limerick, April 23, -- The old grist mill, owned by Brayton Peck, supervisor from the town of Brownville, and located just off the main highway on the Perch River road, was completely destroyed by fire about 6 Friday night. The loss is estimated in excess of \$12,000 and there was only a small amount of insurance on the structure.

The fire started about 6 Friday night, a half hour after Mr. Peck and his helper, Ross Dietrich, had left the mill. They noticed smoke coming from the basement, and by the time they had unlocked the door flames were beginning to sweep through the whole building.

The Dexter and Chaumont fire departments were summoned but by the time they arrived the fire had made such headway that there was no hope of saving the building. The firemen confined their attention to a saw-mill owned by Mr. Peck, located about 200 feet from the grist mill. The fact that there was little wind prevented sparks from igniting this building.

In the mill, there was about a carload of feed, valued at \$2,000, grains and clover seed valued at a similar amount, and about \$5,000 worth of machinery, most of which was new. The building itself was valued at about \$3,000.

The origin of the fire is a mystery and Mr. Peck said today that he had no idea how it might have started. He said that he was considering rebuilding the structure.

In 1929 the mill was almost entirely rebuilt and new machinery installed by Mr. Peck. He purchased the mill from Handley Case of Dexter, and had conducted it for many years.

The structure which burned was built on the site of an old mill which was operated for many years by Henry C. Dorchester, father of Mrs. N.H. Lee, 252 West Main street, Watertown, and grandfather of Edwin H. Lee, of the same address. Some of the material used in the original building, estimated to be 150 years old, is still on the site.

Mr. Dorchester was a supervisor from the town of

Brownville about 100 years ago and he conducted the original mill, having built the dam and water wheel himself. The old water wheel can still be seen at the location together with the Dorchester and Lee family homestead.

The mill was a congregating place for farmers from Pillar Point and other sections for many years when they came to have their grist ground. Miss Kate Dorchester, who died here about a year ago at the age of 85 was born at the homestead. The original builder of the mill is not known.

The firemen remained at the scene until 11 p.m. Friday and this morning the ruins were still smoldering. The feed was burning slowly and a close watch was being kept to see that the fire did not break out again and endanger other buildings.

Limerick Postmasters

LIMERICK 13657

Jonathan	Gillingham	21 May 1824
Ely	Smith	12 September 1829
John W	Edwards NB	9 September 1842
John W	Edwards	10 May 1854
Reuben	Day	1 March 1872
Henry	Reeves	11 May 1874
William H	Underwood	25 March 1875
Frank D	Pierce	6 September 1877
Frank D	Pierce NB	6 February 1886
William H	Everett C	15 August 1882
(MO 4 April	1892)	
Edwin	Moffatt C	15 April 1905
	NB	28 March 1898
Luke E	Wells	14 January 1914
Luke E	Wells NB	30 April 1902
Harold E	King	31 December 1946



The trains stopped on the bridge over Perch River and took water from the standpipe there before continuing to the station on the road to Perch River, near the milk plant and across from Roe Feed Mill.

Early Limerick Days Are Recalled at Old Home Day

Burton W. Alverson Lists Prominent Men Who Received Their Schooling There

Limerick, June 28,—Burton W. Alverson, long on the teaching staff at Dexter as principal and on the St. Lawrence University faculty as instructor, was the speaker at the Old Home Day celebration here Sunday. He mentioned some of the men who came from Limerick, naming among others, Roy Shaver, who is now in Quebec 50 miles from the nearest railroad, in full charge of a paper mill village of 5,000.

"In my childhood I recall going on trading trips to Watertown with my father," said Mr. Alverson, "and being told, when we reached East Hounsfield, that a man by the name of Ely Smith lived there. When I began teaching at Dexter there was in charge of the Dexter school, Charles W. Pierce, later Thomas B. Stoel, and following him, Percy Lance and Frank E. Smith. I remember that when the class of 1913 was graduated Limerick had four pupils in that rather outstanding group.

Harry Potter, who taught in Limerick in 1887 and 1888, told of happy times with the people here. Mr. Potter's grandfather cleared 1,000 acres in Hounsfield, near Sackets Harbor. Mrs. Potter also spoke, along with Frank Dennie, who went to school the year the present school was built in 1866, Julius Maynard of Brewertown and Beatrice A. Smith, Mrs. Alverson and Mrs. Gertrude Alverson.

The young people presented a program including "The Latest Thing in Hats," a comedy. Those participating were Pauline Norton, Mabel Lampson, Curtis Brown, Barbara Johnson, Jack Chamberlain, Frances Brown, Hazel Chrisman, Eunice Chamberlain, Jean, Beverley, and Isabel Shoemaker, Dorothy Ransom, Evelyn Allison, Beatrice Chamberlain, and Helen Richmond.

Clarence Brown, trustee of the district, presided at the afternoon meeting and turned the meeting over to Mrs. Doris Brown who led community singing. The audience was silent for 30 seconds in memory of members who had died since the last meeting. The officers for the coming year are Walter Allen, president; Earl Booth, vice president; and Lillian Heath secretary and treasurer. It was voted to continue the old home days.

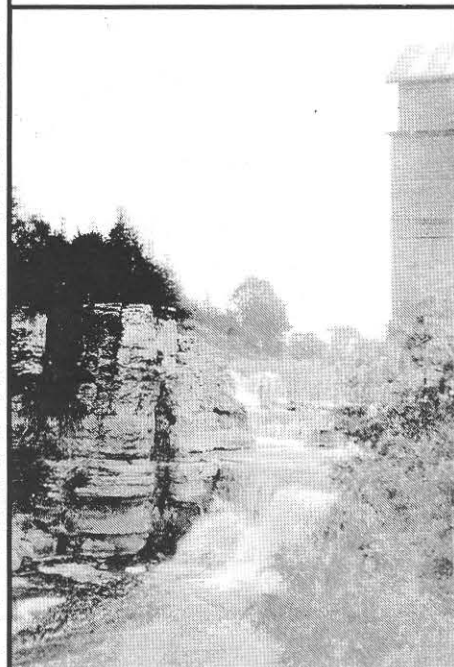
As the committee completed putting up tables in the school yard for dinner, it began to rain and the dinner was served in the building. About 60 were served. The meeting was held in the school house. Mr. Maynard told of going to select school, doing chores night and morning and walking four miles

each way. John Calkins was the teacher. He recalled the ashery at Limerick and the man who gathered the ashes, exchanging Yankee notions for the ashes the housewife might have.

It was told that the village received its name from James Crawford, an Irishman from Limerick who resided on the road in the cedars. William Collins, Chaumont, is a great grandson of Crawford. Some thought that a Samuel Shelley was the first settler of Limerick village. He came in 1804 and was the first to carry news of peace to Kingston after the War of 1812. Limerick figures large in pioneer days as the first stop out of Brownville on the old turnpike that

LeRay caused to be built from Brownville to Chaumont and Cape Vincent to obtain an outlet for the Kingston market. In its pioneer prosperity it had three taverns. Mr Shelley is thought to have built the first mill and soon a carding mill was located by the old dam that was later torn out because of sickness thought to come from the flooded lands.

Falls in Limerick Behind The Old Mill

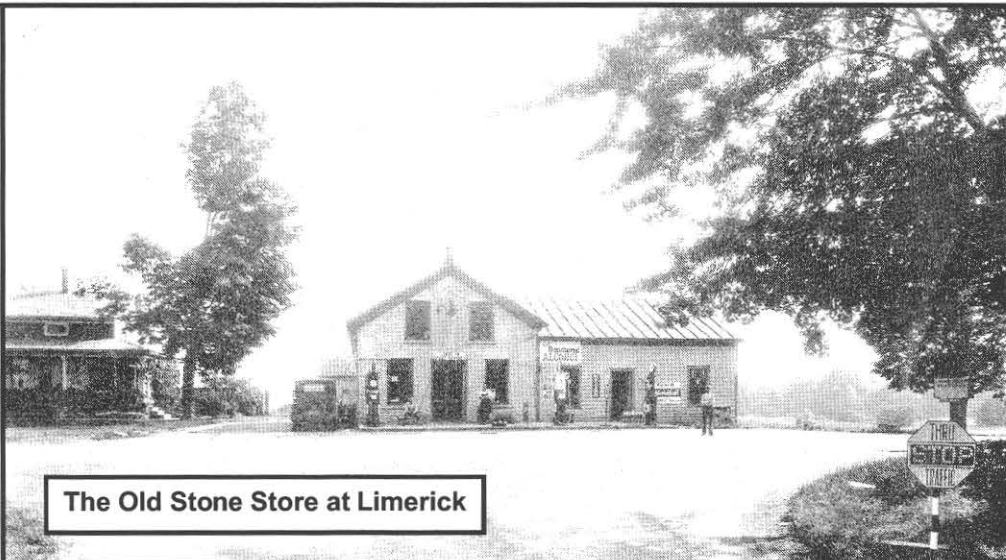


Those who registered included Julia McCormick, Chaumont; Julius Maynard, Brewertown; Stella M. Allen, Marjorie L. Allen, Watertown; Harry A.L. Potter, Maggie L. Potter, Sackets Harbor; Alice Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Burt Alverson, Mabel Gotham, Ralph Gotham, Mrs. Lillian Heath, Dexter; Wallace Chamberlain, Hazel Chamberlain, Beatrice Smith, A.B. Smith, Hazel Chrisman, Virginia H. Allen, Evelyn Allison, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dennie, Doris D. Brown, Clarence W. Brown, Mrs. William Arno, Barbara Johnson, Pauline Norton, William Richmond, Dorothy Ransom, Curtis Brown, Mabel Lampson, Beverly Jean Shoemaker, Frances Brown, Helen Richmond, Beatrice Chamberlain, Hazel M. Ransom, Mr and Mrs Frank Allison, Mrs Frances Moffatt, M. Lloyd Johnson, Barbara Johnson, Mr and Mrs H.J. Norton, Pauline Norton, Mr and Mrs Earl Booth, Mr and Mrs C.T. Dickson, Mr and Mrs Frank Dennie, Edward Ransom, Isabelle Shoemaker, Limerick; Mr and Mrs Ernest G. Cook and Dessie M. Cook, Theresa.

Limerick Grows in 3d Cycle Of Its Commercial History

**Fish and Hay Sale
Ended, Community
Now Center of Distribu-
tion for Incoming Ship-
ments**

(From an undated newspa-
per clipping at the Dexter
Historical Society)



The Old Stone Store at Limerick

Limerick—Three commercial cycles, representing three epochs of its rural history, have marked railroad shipments from Limerick.

First came an overflow from the Chaumont herring catches, when farmers became fishermen and Chaumont ciscoes, as the fish were called, were known on every market. Then the era of the hay buyers, when meadows bloomed with timothy and clover and carloads of bales went out for the New York and Boston markets. The direction of shipment is reversed now. Limerick feeds the countryside, an incoming rather than an outgoing depot.

No resident recalls the barrels of ciscoes, overflow from the Chaumont shipments, piled high about the sidings when the lake was yielding its herring by millions. Histories record that from 1816 until the late forties, 10,000 barrels of ciscoes were taken each year from Chaumont Bay and environs.

Early Fishing With Seines

Early fishing was with seines, as many as 5,000 fish being taken at a haul. Chaumont was the principal shipping point, but many Guffins Bay fishermen made Limerick their base and the local station received also some consignments from its neighbor when congestion at the station became particularly acute.

Henry Spicer of Perch River was a prominent hay shipper from this station. Chaumont also surpassed in this activity, but Limerick was a close second. The mechanical age, particularly replacement of horses in the metropolis, removing the market, put an end to this important industry, forcing hay growers to become dairymen.

Like most of the smaller North Country villages, Limerick was conceived as an industrial center. Perch River

drops over a falls on the southern edge of the community, disappearing underground a half-mile beyond to reappear a mile above its outlet into Black River Bay.

A dam was erected above the falls, providing power for saw and grist mills.

Fire Destroys Grist Mill

The saw mill remains. Four years ago the grist mill was burned. It was owned at the time by Brayton Peck, present sheriff of Jefferson county. A potashery thrived in early days.

A quarter century ago hay shipments reached seven cars a day. Besides Mr. Spicer, who engaged actively in the business for 35 years, T.T. Tallman of Lafargeville and Alonzo Devendorf of Chaumont made shipments here. Some hay still goes to down-state market from Limerick. R.J. Allison shipped this year.

Despite stagnation of its industrialism, loss of the hay market and withdrawal of passenger service from its railroad, Limerick is growing, an exception to the rule that customarily applies to rural hamlets. For 10 years its population has been on the upturn.

Its hotel, long closed as such, has been reopened. Instead of hay warehouses, it has a feed plant that probably is the busiest rural store in a place of Limerick's size, in Northern New York. Its milk plant draws from Pillar Point, Depauville, Stone Mills, Point Peninsula and the Perch Lake region.

Limerick has had a postoffice 70 years and seems likely to retain it, although the surrounding region is served by rural carrier. Its central location in Brownville township long gave it a certain importance as the scene of town meetings.

ASK AUNTY JEFF



Dear Aunty Jeff,

After searching for him for years, I found a census record had called my g-g-g-grandfather "Rufus Smith", when his real name was Roland Smith. When his wives' names and his children's names and dates coincide with my Roland, the census has to be wrong. How can I correct this?

Rhoda Smith

Dear Rhoda,

If we alter any records, census, obituary, cemetery, marriage...ANY records at all...they are then OUR interpretation, and not the original records. In your own writing, you may flag a false record and footnote the correction. Please understand there are all sorts of mistakes in all sorts of records which is why it's vital that you see the originals, whenever possible. Believe me, the officials who keep the original records are NOT going to let you change them, and rightly so.

Sometimes the record keeper is at fault, and sometimes the name changes are just a whim. Aunty Jeff had a cousin with a misdirected sense of mischief and too much time on his hands who decided it would be interesting to change his name. After a long life of hard work, Karl Eugene had accumulated a comfortable competence, and proceeded to change his name, though not legally, on different bank accounts and deeds to: K.E. Jones, K. Eugene Jones, Karl E. Jones, and then, thinking that wasn't confusing enough, he dropped the K and began calling himself (on legal documents) E. Jones, E. Karl Jones, and E. K. Jones, snickering over the difficulty lawyers, whom he despised sight unseen, would have untangling the mess. He had no direct heirs, just cousins.

As if 19th century census takers had not made our task onerous enough!

Aunty Jeff

This is a non query of the sort that many people in Aunty Jeff's position get several times a year. Please don't consider it a model for getting any information:

Letter 1:

Hi I was talking with my grandmother and her maiden name is Wagner she told me it was in relation to the farm so I was interested and have been doing re-

Letters may be sent snail mail:
Aunty Jeff, c/o Dixon, 15407 Dixon Rd.,
Clayton NY 13624
or E-mail nandixon@Gisco.net

search on the farm and came across your letter.

Chris

Aunty Jeff replied:

I'm not sure how I can help you. I need more information as to name, date, and place. You didn't identify the letter.

This is the answer: Letter 2

My grandmother's maiden name is Norma Wagner she grew up in Chicago I am not sure of her birth date I would have to ask her

Chris

Please, dear readers, remember before your researcher can answer your question, first you have to ask it. Give her some detail: WHAT do you want to know, about WHOM, (birth and death dates, as well as marriage, if any) who lived WHERE, and WHEN. These are the basic facts.

The letters are as Aunty Jeff received them. No editing, no deleting. Consider how YOU would answer.

Aunty Jeff is stepping aside and letting others attack a question which appeared on the Jefferson County Mailing list. All of the replies are valid, and may give you some ideas for other problems.

Dear Aunty Jeff,

I am researching two people, Edith (Sprague) Soles, wife of Nelson Soles, and Adelia (Sprague) Coyer, wife of David Coyer, who both -- according to their obituaries (excerpts below) -- died in Adams, Jefferson, NY in the 1940s. I have written to both the Town and Village clerks in Adams requesting death certificates for both women. In all cases, replies have come back stating that there is no certificate on file for either woman. What do you think would explain this? Where would you look next? I suppose I can try to obtain the certificates from Albany. I don't know how long it takes these days, since I haven't done it for a few years now, but as I recall, it used to take the better part of a year to get a reply. Here are the excerpts from the Watertown Daily Times obits:

"Adams, July 20 [1944] -- Mrs. Edith Soles, 73, died this morning at 5:15 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Lewis Phillips, Prospect Street, [Adams], with whom she resided..."

(Continued on Page 13)

(Continued from Page 12)

"Adams, June 23 [1941] -- Mrs. Adelia Adelaide Coyer, 78, widow of David Coyer, died at the home of Mrs. Eva Fee, Park St., [Adams, NY], where she had been living, early Saturday morning...."

I'd be interested in speculations as to what is going on here, and also suggestions as to how to track down these death certs.

Dave Simonds

Here are the answers, all of which have merit, in Aunt Jeff's opinion:

Dave

From what you stated I am assuming that you personally took these segments of the obits from the complete Obituaries that appeared in the Watertown Daily Times. Have you contacted the Librarian at the Watertown Daily Times to see if perhaps a correction was issued on the Obit stating another place of death? If not I would suggest your try that. Lisa Carr, Chief Librarian 315-661-2445 The URL is: http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/contact_info.php.

Since it is required by New York State Law that a Death has to be recorded in the Village, Town or City where a Death occurs (not the place of residence), it surprises me that a death record is not available for either of them. I have never had that problem from either the Village or Town of Adams. The information you furnished says the Deaths were in the Village of Adams for both Adele Coyer and Edith Soles. If that is the case then the record should be at the Village Clerks Office.

Pat R

I too, ran into the same type of situation as you've mentioned. My GG grandfather's obit indicated he died at his son's home in Adams, when in fact he died in Antwerp. If you have the time, I suggest calling each and every village and town clerk in the surrounding areas near Adams, working your way outwards from that town to any nearby town or village within an hour's drive. The Jefferson County website lists the names and phone numbers for most of the clerks. That's what I did, and within about the 8th call, I found his actual place of death and was able to obtain a copy of his death record (and didn't have to pay the "robbery" fees or wait for the state to get "around to" accomplishing the request).

Kem

Dave,

I KNOW the obits say "died at the home of." I have a similar case, a generation or so earlier, where the obit said specifically he died at the home of his son. The death certificate painted a different picture. The old man, and he was old, actually died in the County Home, or poorhouse, as his family evidently didn't want to be bothered, or he might have been too much

to handle. In any case, the family didn't want the stigma of the poor house, so they simply said he died at his son's house, and unless you have a real snoop (me), no one would know the difference. This may not be the case at all, but you did say speculation. Try the state hospital at Ogdensburg, the county home if it was still in operation then, or any other such institution. Or, a long shot, one of them might have been in one of the Watertown hospitals. Also, this being Jefferson County, perhaps the doctor simply didn't file a certificate.

Nan



This photo is of C. Sumner Booth with his wife Lena Underwood Booth and their daughter Pauline. C. Sumner Booth was a son of Charles Oscar Fitzgerald Booth and Amelia Canfield Booth who operated the Booth House (Limerick Hotel) in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Pauline married Kenneth Foster but later divorced. She later married James Wheeler of Norwich, NY. Pauline was a music teacher in the Norwich school system for years.

COMPUTER CORNER

From the The USGenWeb Project N E W S
Volume 4, Number 7 October 2007

A Bit of Humor:

"Sir: I beg to report that I have been dogbit, goosepecked, cowkicked, briar-sratched, shot at, and called every 'fowel' that can be tho't of. have worked 12 days and made \$2. I have had enough and I beg to resign my position as a census taker for Crittenden Township." So wrote Roger Waite to a marshal of census enumerators for the State of Vermont on August 24, 1790.

Family Histories Going On-Line.

This news release came out in Aug 2007. It's included here because the first of the family histories are on-line at the BYU site.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Thousands of published family histories, city and county histories, historic city directories, and related records are coming to the Internet. The Allen County Public Library (ACPL) in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Brigham Young University Harold B. Lee Library, and FamilySearch's Family History Library in Salt Lake City announced the joint project today. When complete, it will be the most comprehensive collection of city and county histories on the Web-and access will be free.

Check out the news release at
http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Home/News/frameset_news.asp?PAGE=Press/2007-8-15_Local_Histories_Online.asp

The Jefferson County Gen Web site has been thought of as the JCNYGS site, and as such here are some 2008 updates. The coordinators have been working at making more vital statistics available, since Jefferson County has been referred to, in print, as the black hole of genealogical information. While much of the vital information shown in the index has been available on the website all along, the coordinators are trying to make it easier to find by collecting it on one page:
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~nyjeffer/vitals.htm>

When the gift of the text of a will was publicized, several more wills came in, some in .jpg form, which is awkward to handle in the primitive on-line protocol the website uses, so several active volunteers are transcribing the .jpgs into a text that can be more easily read than 19th century handwriting, and easier to ac-

cess for older computers. The wills will be posted as soon as they are ready.

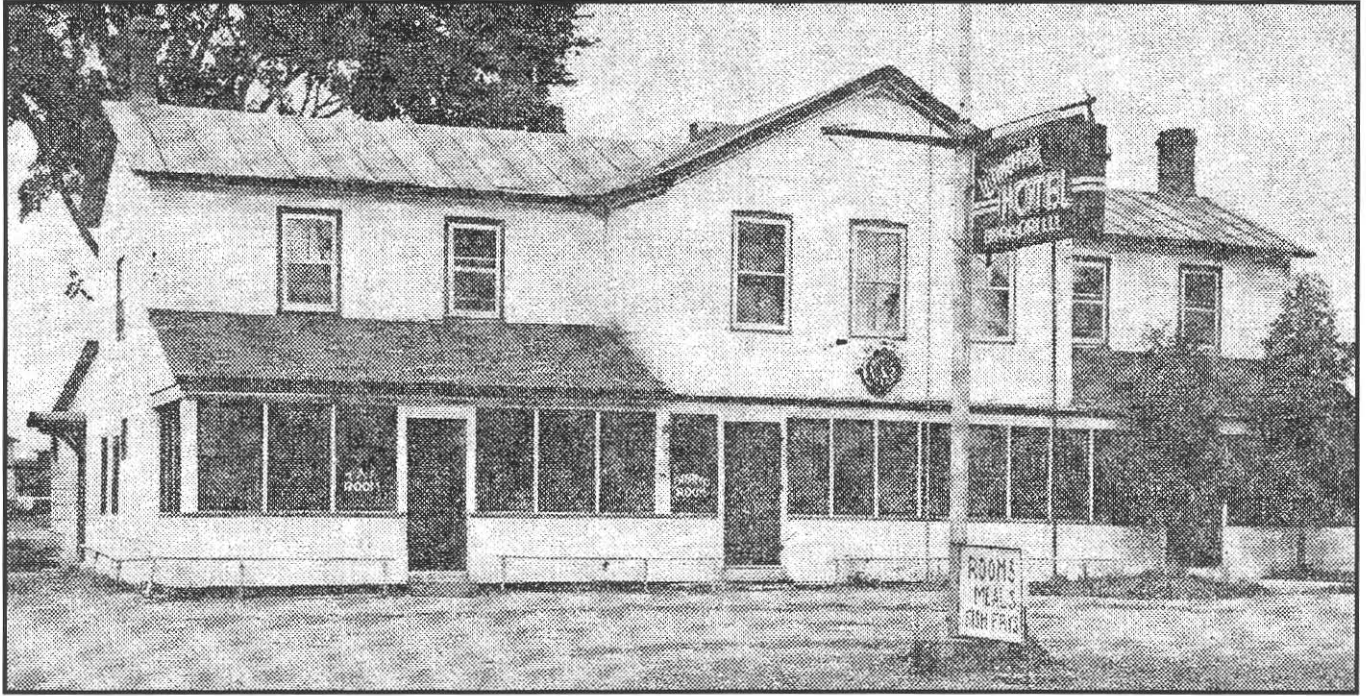
Coordinator's comments have come back to life, and are intended to point out recent improvements in the website, as well as a resident's observations on Jefferson County, for those who wonder what life is like here.

Gus Rogers has sent the appropriate updates for the Bartlett Cemetery files, and they are being put on line as quickly as possible, considering there are other projects going on. The Jacksons' index to the obituaries found in the 2007 *Watertown Daily Times* is also available, as well as their earlier ones. The Rootsweb calendar for genealogical activities in Jefferson County has been reactivated, and the meetings for the Society will be noted there. It's shown on the front, or index page under this month's features for February:
<http://resources.rootsweb.com/USA/NY/Jefferson/#calendar>

Program chairperson Phyllis Putnam announces:

FUTURE JCNYGS MEETINGS

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| March 10 | Heather Wagner - Lost villages and displaced persons on Fort Drum
A PowerPoint presentation on village histories, cemeteries, tax records |
| April 14 | Paul Buell - Early Settlers of Brownville and Jefferson County |
| May 17 | NYSCOGO meeting—4 speakers:
Adoptions, Will Abstracts, Coroner Reports, Old Photographs and JCHS Activies |
| June 9 | Pat Regan - Administrator of Jeff. Co. Message Board - Finding Hidden Ancestors |
| July 14 | Roger Fulton - French and Indian war in this area - Life of the common man at the time of the French and Indian War |
| August 11 | Holly Sammons - Librarian at Onondaga County Library - The resources available for the genealogical researcher |
| Sept 8 | Sheila Byrnes - Genealogy Columnist, Biographical Researcher, Former Genealogy Columnist for STARS Magazine - Getting the better of that brick wall |



LIMERICK HOTEL

Built in 1815-1816 on the LeRay de Chaumont turnpike which connected Cape Vincent and Brownville. James Smith was an early proprietor.

At one time Limerick had 3 hotels, but after the railroad came through, only this one remained.

Charles Oscar Fitzgerald Booth and his wife, Amelia Canfield Booth, with their young daughter, Julia, moved from Stone Mills, NY to Limerick, in 1867 and farmed a short time, then purchased the hotel. They named it the BOOTH HOUSE.

While operating the hotel, four sons were born to the couple: William, Edwin, C. Sumner and Earl Booth. Even though requested by the traveling salesman, Mr. Booth refused to serve liquor because of his maturing sons.

As a bit of extra information, after other occupations, C. Sumner Booth was employed as a clerk in the H.V. Clark Co. store in downtown Dexter and eventually became owner of the business. However, the store was destroyed by fire in 1939. After that he became purchasing agent at the Dexter Sulphite Mill.

Charles O.F. Booth died in 1905. His son, Earl and wife, Flora, took over operation of the hotel for quite a number of years.

After operating the hotel, Earl Booth was employed by the Town of Brownville and became Highway Supt.

after Leslie Gould retired from that position.

To return to information pertaining to the hotel, the Booth House had a fine dance floor and many people came from the surrounding areas to the dances. Many times the dances lasted until 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning. The hotel had two spacious dining rooms on the first floor. Many traveling salesmen took advantage of the hospitality offered at the Booth House; there were 10 sleeping rooms available.

Later information shows that a Mr. Charles Smith sold the Limerick Hotel to Clinton Biche in 1933. It was a popular dining spot, complete with tavern, under his ownership.

In the 1960s or 1970s he sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pecori, the current owners.

(Information furnished to the Dexter Historical Society 2/20/06, by Marjorie Lortie, great-granddaughter of Charles O. F. Booth and Amelia Booth)



Amelia Booth

More From the Dollinger House Register

Here is more of the 1887-88 Register of the Dollinger House which was in Redwood, NY. This work by Linda Malinich, our JCNYS Past President, was first featured in the July and September 2004 issues of the *Informer* as well as the November 2005, January, March, July, November 2006, January, March, September, November 2007, and January 2008 issues. The following two pages continue after those pages. There is also a summary of Linda's work on page 20 in the November 2004 *Informer* that will be of interest to readers.

Storrs, W.G. Syracuse
Mar 7
William Gardner Storrs (1888-89 Syracuse Dir, com. traveler)

Story, Chas. Watertown
Mar 12
Charles Story (1888-92 Watertown Dir, bds Woodruff House)

Stow/Storie, A.M? Sandy Creek
Nov 3

Stowell, T.P. Rochester
July 4
Thomas P. Stowell (1890 Rochester Dir, general agent, Aetna Ins Co of Hartford)

Striker, E.H. Buffalo
Oct 25

Strong, A.M. Syracuse
Jul 19, Sept 22, Oct 27, Dec 1
Amasa M. Strong (1887 Syracuse Dir, com. trav)

Strong, B.M. Evans Mills
Sept 27
Barzelle M. Strong (1841-1910)
(Evans Mills Old Cemetery – LeRay)
(Child's – LeRay, speculator & retired farmer)

Strough, P.A. Orleans Corners, Theresa
Sept 16, Jan 10 & 11, Feb 25 (Theresa)
Perrin A. Strough (1853-1928)
(Grove Cemetery – Orleans)

Sunderland, Mark A. Utica
July 25
Marcus A. Sunderland (1888 Utica Dir, extracts dlr)

Swan, J.D. Antwerp
June 14

Swift, A.D. Syracuse
Oct 27

- T -

Tallman, E.J. Orleans
May 14, May 17, Jun 2, Jun 7, Jun 10, Jun 13, Jun 18, Jul 4, Sept 22, Sept 26&27, Sept 29, Oct 8, Oct 12 & 13, Oct 15, Oct 31, Nov 11, Nov 14, Nov 21, Dec 3, Dec 14, Dec 20, Dec 29, Jan 6, Jan 20, Jan 30, Feb 3, Feb 14, Feb 16, Feb 27, Mar 26, Apr 9
Edwin J. Tallman (1860-1919)
(Grove Cemetery – Orleans)

(General Merchant & Hay Dealer – Child's)
Tanner, G.C. Rossie
Nov 22
George C. Tanner (Child's – Alexandria, dealer in drugs, proprietary medicines, paints, oils, toilet articles & groceries; bds Dollinger House, Redwood)

Tapley, Wm. Utica RRR
Jul 19, Jul 21, Jul 22, Jul 25, Aug 2, Aug 4, Aug 6, Aug 13, Aug 16
William Tapley (1891 Utica Dir, Conductor)

Tasker, Elmer F. Utica
Feb 17
Elmer F. Tasker (1880 Census – Troy, Rensselaer County, age 18)
E.F. Tasker (1886 Utica Dir, manager Cleminshaw Cider Co., r. Clinton, NY)

Tassay, John Dellfonte, PA
Aug 5

Taylor, J.B. Watertown
Sept 8
John B. Taylor (1888 Watn City Dir, com. traveler)
John Byron Taylor (1868 – 1927, Section W)
(Brookside Cemetery, Watertown)

Taylor, G?H. Antwerp
Aug 24

Taylor, T. L. Martinsburgh
May 17, July 13, Aug 2, Aug 24 (& brother), Dec 5
Thomas L. Taylor (1880 Census, Lewis County Martinsburgh, age 51, wholesale & retail)
Thomas L. Taylor (1895-96 Lewis Co Dir, p.o. Martinsburgh, commercial traveler)
Thomas Taylor (d. 1908, age 78, Martinsburgh Cem.)

Tharrett?, Alex (Thorret?) Alex Bay
Jan 11

Thayer, Geo Evans Mills
Dec 8

Thomas, W.J. Troy
Mar 7

Thompson, H.H. Brooklyn, NY
Sept 12
Harry H. Thompson (1888 Brooklyn Dir, piano tch)

Thompson, W.H. Alex Bay
Oct 1, Jan 11
William H. Thompson (1831-1919)
(Plessis Cemetery – Alexandria)
(Child's – Alexandria, W.H. Thompson & Son)

Thomson, Chas Theresa
Nov 28 (dinner), Feb 27 & 28

Thomson, W.L. Syracuse
Dec 17

Thomson, Wm. M. Alex Bay
Jan 11
William M. Thomson (Child's – Alexandria, Fox & Thomson, deputy inspector & collector of customs)
William M. Thomson (1834-1899, Church St. Cem.)

Thorret?, H. (Tharrett?) Alex Bay
Jan 11

Thurmacter?, F.B. Syracuse
Mar 2

Thurston, B. Syracuse
Jul 13, Sept 22
B.G. Thurston (1888 Syracuse Dir, com. trav)

Timmerman, C. Rochester
Jun 8, Jul 22, Sept 8, Oct 25, Dec 6

PIONEER ROGERS FAMILY

1. GIDEON ROGERS was born 19 Oct 1768 in Rhode Island. He moved to Hancock, Massachusetts after the birth of their third child. About 1819 GIDEON, Sr. and the rest of his family followed eldest son GIDEON, Jr. to the Town of Clayton, Jefferson County, arriving in the Clayton Center area. One of the sons, JOHN, went to Watson, Lewis County, while son GEORGE went west. The rest of the family remained in the Clayton area for the rest of their lives. Joshua settled near Three Mile Creek. DORCAS raised her family near Limerick, Town of Brownville, where they are buried. The rest all settled in or near Clayton Center. My great grandfather ALONSON ROGERS bought the place on East Line Road, Town of Clayton, from Fanny Rogers in 1853. FANNY ROGERS was the widow of a JOSHUA ROGERS (no family connection proved, but suspected). JOSHUA ROGERS was murdered in 1827 near Perch Lake, giving rise to the first murder trial in Jefferson County, the details of which can be found in an early "Jefferson County Informer", the newsletter of the Jefferson County Genealogical Society. The majority of GIDEON ROGERS'S family are buried in cemeteries at Clayton Center, Clayton, Three Mile Creek, and Depauville. All are recorded in the Bartlett and Rogers "Town of Clayton Cemetery Inscriptions" or the volume for the Town of Brownville. GIDEON ROGERS died 19 Aug 1856 and was buried in Clayton Center Cemetery, Town of Clayton. He married, some time before 1792, probably in Rhode Island LUCINA CONGDON who was born 1772 and died 1856. She was buried with her husband in Clayton Center Cemetery.

Children:

- i GIDEON ROGERS, Jr. married BETSY ORMSBY
- ii JOSHUA ROGERS married BETSY REED
- iii POLLY A. ROGERS unmarried
- iv JOHN C. ROGERS married ACHSAH BUSH
- v DORCAS ROGERS married CHESTER CURTIS
- vi GEORGE W. ROGERS went west
- vii SARAH ROGERS married GORDON GLOYD, son of AMOS and RUTH (SNOW) GLOYD
- viii LUCINDA ROGERS married JAMES GLOYD, son of AMOS and RUTH (SNOW) GLOYD
- ix MERCY ANN ROGERS married LYMAN FOX
- x ALONSON PORTER ROGERS married (1) BETSY McCLURE, (2) MARGARET HILL

2. GIDEON ROGERS, Jr. (son of GIDEON and LUCINA (CONGDON) ROGERS) was born 25 July 1792, probably in Rhode Island. GIDEON Jr. was a veteran of the War of 1812. He served in Capt. N. Smith's Company, Lt. Col. S.K. Chamberlin's Reg't., from 10 Sep - 30 Oct 1814, This company was raised at Hancock, MA and vicinity and served in Boston. He came to Jefferson County with others who helped build the limestone houses on the Star School House Road in

the Town of Brownville. He settled in the Town of Clayton near Elm Flats, just north of Depauville. He died 6 Jun 1870 and was buried in Three Mile Creek Cemetery in the Town of Clayton. His gravestone states: "One of the first to settle in the Town of Clayton". He married BETSY ORMSBY, who was born 1792, the daughter of ELIAS and JANE (LEWIS) ORMSBY. The ORMSBY family came up to Jefferson County from the Town of Russia, in Herkimer County. She died in 1869 and was buried in Three Mile Creek Cemetery with her husband.

Children:

- i PLINY ROGERS d.y.
- ii GIDEON ROGERS d.y.
- iii LEWIS ROGERS married CAROLYN THOMAS
- iv SOLON C. ROGERS married (1) SARAH LEWIS, (2) SARAH WOOD
- v LUCY JANE ROGERS married DANFORD WEAVER
- vi POLLY A. ROGERS married JOHN W. LEWIS

3. JOSHUA ROGERS (son of GIDEON and LUCINA (CONGDON) ROGERS) was born 1794. Joshua was a private in Capt. Bradford's 21st. Reg't., U.S. Infantry, War of 1812. He served out of Hancock, MA and was at Sackets Harbor. He received a bounty land warrant for 160 acres in Illinois. He came to Jefferson County in 1819 with the rest of his family and settled in the Town of Clayton. If his death notice in the Jefferson County News of Adams (1881) as copied by Leray de Chaumont chapter of DAR is correct, he died 16 Nov 1881 at age 85 years. That would place the year of his birth at about 1795/1796, rather than 1794. Died on 16 Nov 1881 in Watertown/Pamelia, Jefferson, NY. He was probably buried at Clayton Center Cemetery, Town of Clayton. On 21 May 1994 a gravestone was erected on the site in Clayton Center cemetery where the Rogers family believes Joshua was buried in 1881 (the James Gloyd plot). He died in 1881 and was buried in the Clayton Center Cemetery. He married about 1821 in Clayton, NY. BETSY REED who was born 15 Jan 1802, daughter of Rev. AMOS and HANNAH (SLADE) REED. BETSY died 2 Apr 1865. She was buried in Three Mile Creek Cemetery.

Children:

- i BETSEY ROGERS married ALONSON GOULD
- ii ORVILLE ROGERS
- iii ALPHEUS ROGERS
- iv HANNAH ROGERS married ORVILLE ALLEN
- v DEALTON B. ROGERS married (1) SALLY BRIGGS; (2) MAY G. (---)
- vi LUCINA ROGERS married NORMAN LAPRELATE SNOW
- vii DELILAH ROGERS married ALONSON GOULD

5. JOHN C. ROGERS, (son of GIDEON and LUCINA (CONGDON) ROGERS) was born 1800 and died

(Continued on Page 19)

(Continued from Page 18)

1882. He married ACHSAH BUSH who was born 1805 and died in 1871.

Children:

- i HOUSTON ROGERS married SARAH APPLE
- ii CHARLES V. ROGERS married LUCINDA VAN BROCKLIN
- iii CLEMENZA A. ROGERS married MONROE WELLER

6. DORCAS ROGERS (daughter of GIDEON and LUCINA (CONGDON) ROGERS) was born in 1801. She settled in Brownville, not far from her family in the Town of Clayton. She died 14 May 1846, according to her gravestone in Limerick, at the age of 44 years. She married CHESTER CURTIS who was born 1800, the son of MATHEW and RHODA (CULVER) CURTIS from Connecticut. Chester died at the age of 33, 30 May 1833, leaving DORCAS to bring up their family near Limerick, in the Town of Brownville.

Children:

- i THEODOTIA CURTIS married RAYMOND JAMES, son of VARNUM and LENORA (BABCOCK) JAMES
- ii SILAS CURTIS married CAROLINE SMITH
- iii HORATIO O. CURTIS married (1) MARTHA WALKER, (2) ANNA MYERS
- iv MARY ANN CURTIS

8. SARAH ROGERS (daughter of GIDEON and LUCINA (CONGDON) ROGERS) was born 19 Feb 1806, and came to Jefferson County with her parents in 1819. She settled in the Town of Clayton, near other family members. At least some of their children attended Clayton Center School. She died 4 Apr 1883 and was buried in the Clayton Center Cemetery, Town of Clayton. She married GORDON GLOYD, who was born 1803, son of AMOS and RUTH (SNOW) GLOYD. He died 7 March 1860 and was buried in the Clayton Center Cemetery with his wife.

Children:

- i CHARLES GLOYD married ELIZABETH JEFFERS
- ii AVEDENA GLOYD d.y.
- iii ETTIE GLOYD d.y.
- iv MILTON GLOYD d.y.

9. LUCINDA ROGERS (daughter of GIDEON and LUCINA (CONGDON) ROGERS) was born in Aug 1808, and came to Jefferson County with her parents in 1819. She settled in the Town of Clayton, near other family members. At least some of their children attended Clayton Center School. She died 25 Oct 1883 and was buried in the Clayton Center Cemetery, Town of Clayton. She married JAMES D. GLOYD, who was born 1812, son of AMOS and RUTH (SNOW) GLOYD. He died 2 Apr 1887 and was buried with his wife in the Clayton Center Cemetery.

Child:

- i SOPHRONIA GLOYD married ALLEN PATCH

10. MERCY ANN ROGERS (daughter of GIDEON

and LUCINA (CONGDON) ROGERS) was born 18 Aug 1812. She died 18 Nov 1863 and was buried in the Clayton Center Cemetery. She married LYMAN FOX, who was born in 1810, the son of JAMES and NANCY (MANTELL) FOX.

Children:

- i ALTERA FOX married ABNER WEBB
- ii FLORA A. FOX married HENRY SMITH
- iii ELRENA FOX d.y.
- iv LUCIUS T. FOX married ELIZA MILLS

11. ALONSON PORTER ROGERS (son of GIDEON and LUCINA (CONGDON) ROGERS) was born 6 Nov 1814 and came to Jefferson County with his parents. He died 9 Sep 1895 and was buried in the Clayton Center Cemetery, Town of Clayton. His obituary follows, and is printed in full, to show the style:

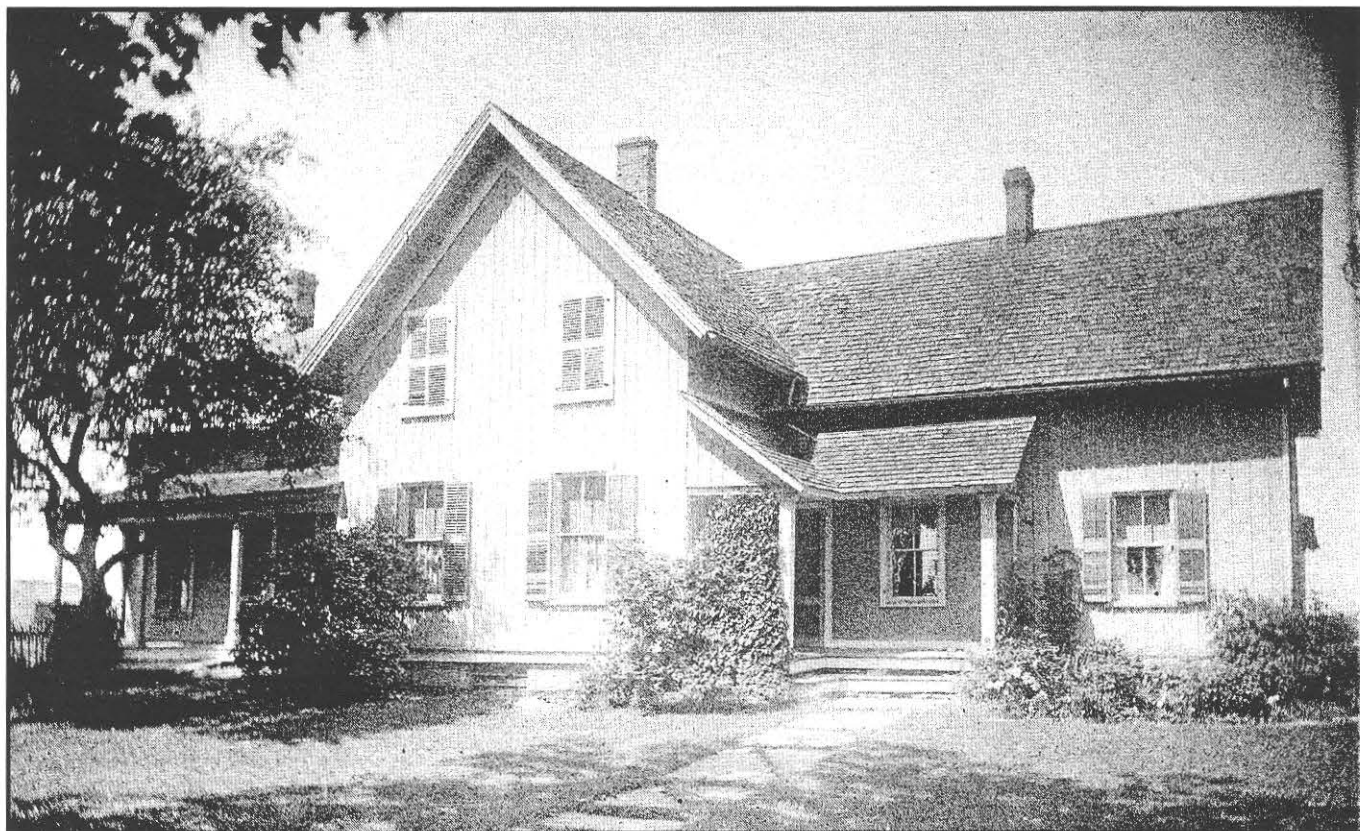
Alonzo/Alanson P. Rogers, the last survivor of a family of ten, died on the 9th inst., aged nearly 81 years. He was born in the town of Hancock, Berkshire Co., MA, at the close of the War of 1812. At the age of five years he moved to Clayton with his parents where he has since lived. January 1, 1846, he married Betsy McClure, who died 2 April 1869. October 10, 1870 he married Margaret Hill, who with two children, Winfield S. Rogers and Mrs. J.A. Buskirk, survive him. He united long years ago with the M.E. Church and ever testified his faithfulness by substantial aid to the cause he loved. Thus close the annals of a simple life, but a life that was set in a frame of oak. Mr. Rogers was one of the pioneers of the town, and acquired a more than liberal competence. He died as he had often expressed a desire to depart -- in the harness. He knew no days of leisure and finished his course at the close of a day at hard labor. He was a man of the best principles, warm-hearted, unobstructive and possessed of keen observation. The beautiful little cemetery at Clayton Center was his pride and its present condition is due more to his effort than to any other one person. Thus like the sturdy oak that falls in the still noontide, another of the founders of our community has lain down life's toils and gone to his final rest and reward. He married (1) BETSY McCLURE, who was born 16 Jun 1820, daughter of LOTT and POLLY (PARMETER) McCLURE. She died 2 Apr 1869 and was buried with her husband in the Clayton Center Cemetery.

Children:

- i EDWIN ROGERS, d.y.
- ii WINFIELD SCOTT ROGERS married ADELIA HILL
- iii ELLA MAY ROGERS married JASPER VAN BUSKIRK

He married (2) MARGARET HILL

(For further information contact David Simonds at dave.simonds@verizon.net or A. Edwin Rogers at staero23@verizon.net)



The DENNIE HOMESTEAD

According to earliest records available, Henry B. Dennie, at age 18, moved from Mayfield, NY, to the Limerick area in 1842 to become a farmer. He married Jane Rogers in 1850. They had four children: Mary, Burt, Frank and Arthur Dennie. In 1866 the family moved to a farm a short distance west of Limerick, on the turnpike (currently Rt. 12-E), thus it became known as the "Dennie Farm".

Henry and Jane Dennie continued to operate the farm until Frank Dennie took over when he married Julia Booth in 1885. Shortly after that the wing on the west-erly end of the house was constructed for Henry and Jane Dennie. Frank and Julia lived all their married life in the original structure. They had two daughters: Stella and Ethel.

Frank raised hay and grain to sell, as well as to feed his team of horses and 3 or 4 cows. The milk was processed thru a "separator", and thus Julia had cream to churn into butter, which she placed in small crocks that held 5 pounds. She had regular customers, as well as taking some to her brother, C. Sumner Booth, to supply his customers in the H.V. Clark Co. store at Dexter. She also raised chickens and sold eggs.

John Rogers, father of Jane Rogers Dennie came to live with Jane and Henry in his late years. John died at

age 104 and is buried in the cemetery at Limerick.

Jane died in 1899 and Henry in 1910. That wing of the house was vacant for quite a number of years. In June 1931, Stella Dennie Allen and her daughter, Marjorie, moved into that west wing, after Stella's husband, Jay Allen died. Frank Dennie died at the farm in 1941, age 81, after a short illness. Marjorie Allen married Paul Lortie in 1942 and they resided with Stella. Paul and Marjorie had twin daughters, Joanne and Suzanne, born in 1947. Then, there were four generations residing in the Dennie Homestead.

Julia Dennie resided there for more than 70 years, until she became ill in March 1956, and entered Farmer's Nursing Home on Pillar Point. She died there in 1959, at age 93.

In late 1956, Stella Allen, Paul and Marjorie Lortie and their daughters moved to Dexter. The Dennie farm was sold in 1957 to Harold Lidster. It had been in the Dennie family over 90 years.

After Mr. Lidster owned the property, the Hogan family occupied the house for a number of years; followed by other families. However, it was unoccupied when it was destroyed by fire in April, 2005.

(Information furnished to the Dexter Historical Society 2/20/06, by Marjorie Lortie, great-granddaughter of Henry Dennie and Jane Rogers Dennie)

JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

JEFFERSON COUNTY NEW YORK WILL ABSTRACTS 1830 – 1850

The Will Book contains will abstracts dating from 1830 to 1850. The book contains 194 pages, two maps, and a chart showing the formation of Jefferson County Towns.

Sale Price \$15.00 + \$5.00 for postage.

Checks made out to **JCNYGS**

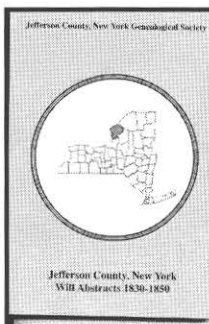
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Attn: **Robert VanBrocklin**

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Watertown, NY 13601

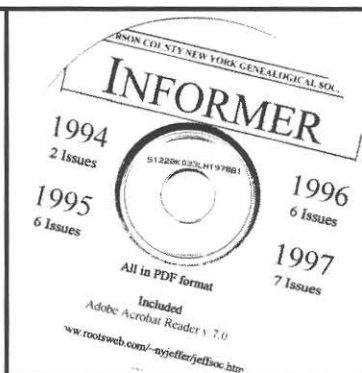
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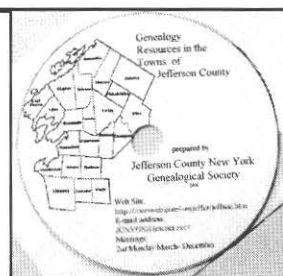
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Genealogical Resources of Jefferson County

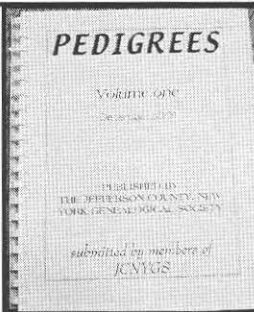
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PEDIGREE BOOK I (See Page 24 for Book 2) \$15.00 plus \$4.05 Shipping

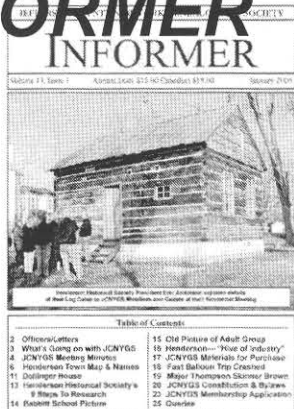
A collection of pedigrees Submitted by members of the JCNYGS with an every name index



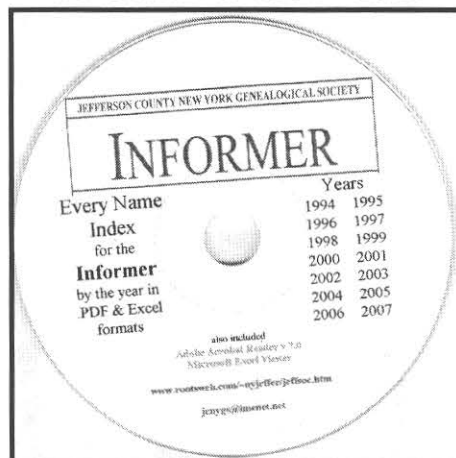
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Jefferson County Queries

Send Queries to: Lis Couch, 24670 County Rt. 159, Watertown, NY 13601; lcouch0624@aol.com

Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

BRITTON

I am researching the **BRITTON** lineage from Jefferson County, New York. Any information on **BRITTON's** between 1800 and 1900 would be of great help to me. Particularly the names of David, Ebenezer, Leonard, Leonard Jr.(1810-1898), Mary Ann Gates **BRITTON**, Calvin E. **BRITTON** (1856-1918), John, Clara, and Jenny would be of interest to me. Any town within Jefferson County which I believe a **BRITTON** was one of the first settlers. Other towns of interest would be LeRay, Orleans, Brownville, etc. I am trying to locate parents, wives, and children of Leonard **BRITTON** Jr. 1810-1898. He migrated to Indiana, Wisconsin and Michigan

Diane Castelli

11431 E. Mendoza Ave.
Mesa, AZ 85209
DiCas2@aol.com

BASS

Would you have any records on a Caroline Porter Santee **BASS**? She was born in 1846 NY and died Oct. 13, 1927, I believe in NY. She is my g-g-grandmother who lived with Santee in Augusta. She was a soldier's widow of **BASS** (his first name not known). She is buried in Knoxboro cemetery. Understand that **BASS** is a big name in Jefferson County. Not much to go on but thought that you might know some avenues to take.

Lainie Williams
Box 94

Wampsville, NY 13163-0094
ainie@a-znet.com

AUCHARD

I would be grateful for any information on Clark **AUCHARD**, a supervisor in Henderson 1857-8. I would like information on him, his family or relatives and any direction to sources of information.

Laurie Grapentine
P. O. Box 161093

Fort Worth, TX 76161
lgrapentine@yahoo.com

HOUGHTON, WHITNEY

We are researching the family of origin of Roland **HOUGHTON**, Jr. He was born in 1842, in either Champion, Jefferson County, or in Denmark, Lewis County, New York. He was the son of Roland **HOUGHTON** and Judith **HULBURT/HURLBURT**. We know he enlisted twice in the civil war. The first time he was not yet of age, and enlisted as Roland **HOUGH**. Both enlistments were at Denmark, Lewis County.

One of his sisters, Ruby **HOUGHTON** married Nathaniel Bradish **WHITNEY**, son of Aaron Sterns **WHITNEY** and Hannah **BRADISH**. In 1880 Nathaniel and Ruby Houghton **WHITNEY** were living in Champion, Jefferson County, New York. I would appreciate advice anyone may have on how to find burial locations of any of these family members. Judith Hulbert **HOUGHTON** died in 1893 so it should be possible to get a copy of her death certificate. Roland **HOUGHTON** Sr. is supposed to have died in 1878. Roland Sr. was born in Vermont.

Arlene Ogie

PO Box 20902

Rochester, NY 14602

aallenogie@hotmail.com

O'CONNOR

I am trying to obtain any available information on my father who claimed to be born in Watertown, NY on July 22, 1878. He used the name of Arthur Joseph **O'CONNOR** from 1918 until his death in 1955. I have been unable to locate any mention of him in census and numerous other records using that name prior to 1918. I suspect he used a different name prior to 1918 for reasons unknown to me. A possible name he might have used in the first half of his adult life is Joseph J. **O'CONNOR** with the same date of birth as above. I have been unable to verify any of the information he gave such as his parents name, first wife's name and children's names from that marriage. He claimed to be a veteran of the Spanish American War, but the National Archives cannot find any records of his service under Arthur Joseph **O'CONNOR**. He is known to have been a patient in the Memphis, TN Veteran's Hospital in the mid 1930's. Any suggestions or leads from records in Watertown or elsewhere would be greatly appreciated.

Lester Guyse

8717 SW 54th. Ave

Portland, OR 97219-3214

macguyse-4@comcast.net

WHITTAKER, WHITAKER, WASHBURN, HUFF

I am researching my g-grandfather Henry **WHITTAKER** b abt 1802, New York. He had a brother, John who also was born in New York, possibly in Alexandria, Jefferson County. Henry married Mabel **WASHBURN** (daughter of Dyer **WASHBURN**, Hounsfield). John married Louisa (?). They had five children: unknown, unknown, Philander, Walter, Charlotte; all were born in New York.

Mabel & Henry had three children: Erza, Ann Janette, Schuyler. Henry remarried Polly/Mivenda/Miranda

(Continued on Page 23)

(Continued from Page 22)

HUFF(?) the children were Henry; William Eli; Warren Russell; Charles. The family moved to Oshkosh, Wisconsin in October 1856 and then on to Portage County, Wisconsin. John and his family also traveled to Wisconsin about the same time.

I have located the Henry **WHITTAKER** family on the 1850 and 1855 Census in New York and 1860 Census in Wisconsin.

I have a copy of Schuyler's obit that states his "near" relatives in the Jefferson County area were: Mrs Elsie **OAKES**, East Hounsfield; Mrs Helen **HOLLOWAY**, Dexter; Frank **WHITTAKER**, Smithville; Mrs Cora **RAMSEY**, Hounsfield; LD **HARRIS**, Watertown. Cousins were listed as Burtis E **WHITTAKER**, Philadelphia; Merton **ANGELL**, Dexter; John R **HARRIS**, Watertown; Burt & Norris **ALVERSON** and Arthur **HOLLOWAY**, Dexter; Mrs Elvie **MCWAYNE**, Sackets Harbor; Perry D **ALVERSON**, Antwerp. Schuyler's obituary also states that his home in which he was born "stood just north of the cheese factory in the Torrey district on the Sackets Harbor-Smithville road."

I would love to find any information on the **WHITTAKERS** in Jefferson County. I have little to go on except the facts that I have stated here. I do know Mabel **WASHBURN** died and was buried before 1850. I understand that the **WASHBURNS** had a family cemetery, Rice Corners Cemetery, Adams, Jefferson County, but it is not known if that is where Mabel is buried.

Doris (Whitaker) Wyss
9755 W Blackpool Court
Star, Idaho 83669
dawyss@q.com

STEBBINS, STRONG, HICKS

I am interested in finding more information on a Thompson P. **STEBBINS** of Brownville, Jefferson County, New York. He was born about 1817, married Martha **STRONG** in 1848, lived in Brownville, NY, and owned land in Sanilac County, Michigan in the 1850's. I am particularly interested in any possible relationship to Joseph and Jemima **STEBBINS**, born about 1791 and 1802, respectively, who were living in LeRay in 1850.

I have also come across a George **HICKS**, born in 1838 in Brownville, Jefferson County, who also was an early settler in Sanilac County, Michigan. I'm not sure yet if there is any relation to the **STEBBINS**, or if this would be of any interest to your readers, but if so, I can pass along what I have found.

Jason Wallace
9333 Huron Park
Brighton, MI 48116
michstory@yahoo.com



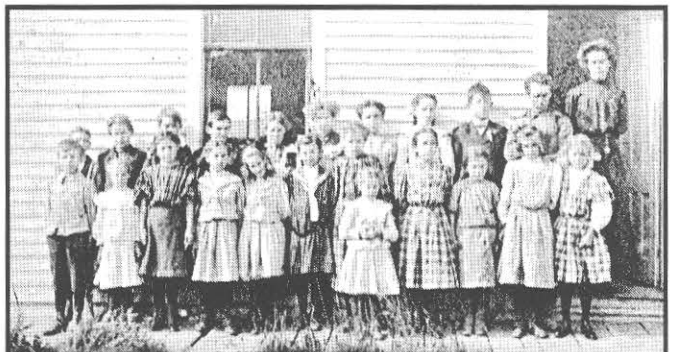
Limerick School House on 12 E

Home of William and Carolyn LaClair who moved into the building in 1963.



LIMERICK SCHOOL PICTURE Nov. 17, 1939

Front Row: Cecil Thompson, Richard Brown, Marjorie Thompson, Madeline Linnell, Carol Emerson, Garland Gonth, Dennis McClean, Eva Staie
Middle Row: Richard Emerson, Ralph Switzer, Eunice Chamberlain, Wilma Thompson, Betty Thompson, Thelma Thompson, Pauline Norton
Back Row: Teacher, Kenneth Christie, Jack Chamberlain, Robert Thompson, Robert Switzer, Curtis Brown



Limerick School from about 1907

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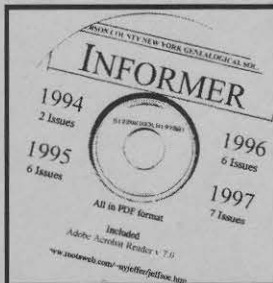
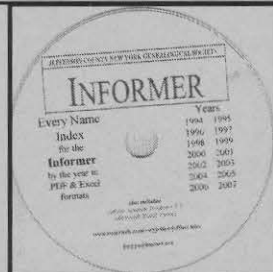
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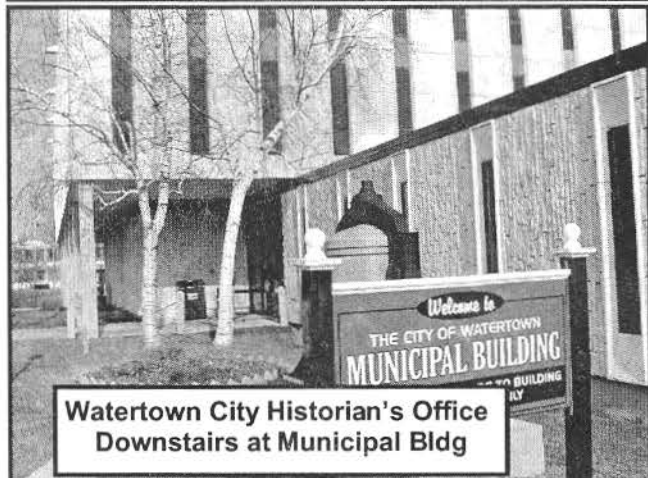
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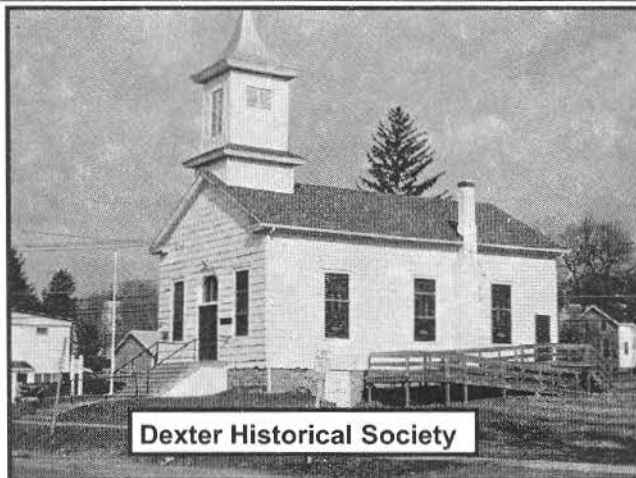
Volume 15, Issue 3

Annual Dues \$15.00 Canadian \$19.00

May 2008



Watertown City Historian's Office
Downstairs at Municipal Bldg



Dexter Historical Society

North Side Improvement League

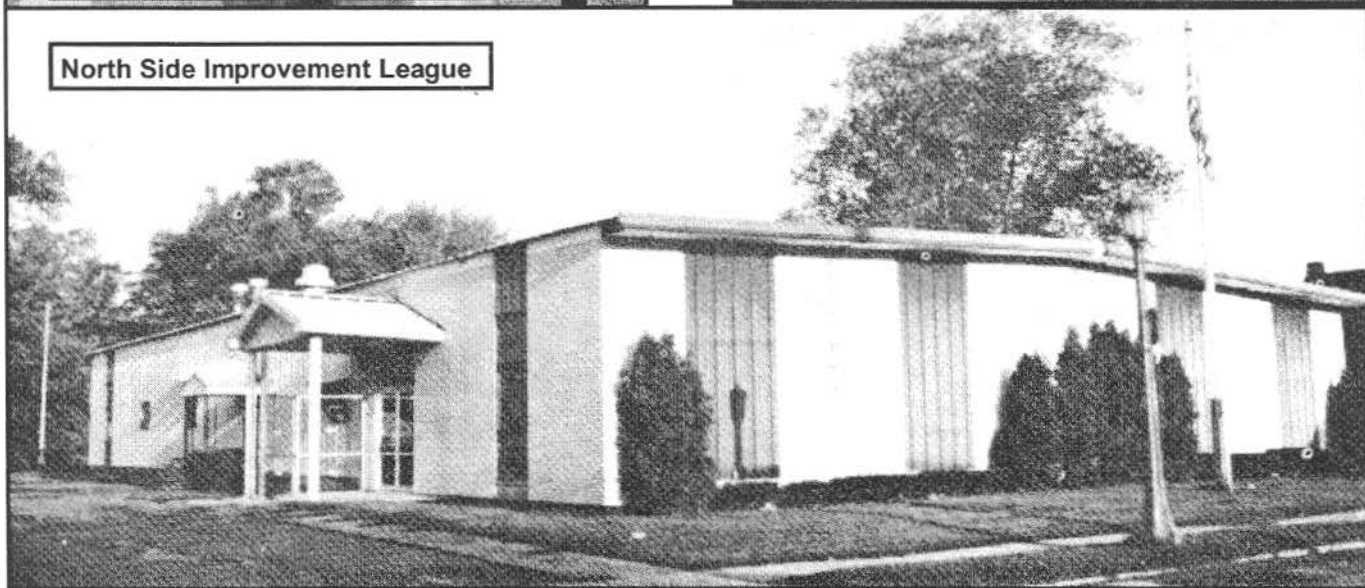


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INFORMER MAY 2008

Correspondence about dues, memberships, and lost *Informers* should be directed to:
 Jefferson County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 6453, Watertown, NY 13601
 E-mail: JCNYGS@imcnet.net Web site: <http://rootsweb.com/~nyjeffer/jeffsoc.htm>

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315-686-3475	607-748-0001	315-686-3463	315-658-2203	315-786-7668	315-788-5151

The *Informer* Committee includes Bill Dixon, chair; Nan Dixon, nandixon@gisco.net, editor; Clancy Hopkins, chopkins@imcnet.net, publisher. Editorial members (alphabetically) are Bonnie Borrello, sebborrello@att.net; Lis Couch, lcouch30@twcny.rr.com; Jean Coyne, Dcoyne@twcny.rr.com; Jerry Davis, maridavis@aol.com; Linda Malinich, malinich@attglobal.net; Bob VanBrocklin, Rvan992@aol.com; and Pauline Zach, pinzach@aol.com. Feel free to contact any of the above for suggestions or comments regarding this newsletter, published six times a year - January, March, May, July, September and November. A special Surnames issue has also been published in December.

The articles in this newsletter are written purely to stimulate interest in the genealogical history of Jefferson County. If comments are in any way offensive, this was not the intent. All articles, submissions, etc., are the viewpoints and research of various contributors. As such, they do not necessarily reflect the views of the executive committee or members of the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society.

Letters.....

Letters to the editor may be directed to nandixon@gisco.net or to Nan Dixon, 15407 Dixon Road, Clayton, NY 13624.

Address Change:

Patricia Burns
 40438 Cross Road
 Theresa, New York 13691
cowpatty55@ridgeviewtel.us

Surnames: DURHAM, KELLESON, KELLISON,
 REED, DAILEY, JONES, POLLOCK,
 FLEMING

As we finish our preparations for sending this issue of the *INFORMER* to our publisher, we learn of the death of Marjorie Lortie of Dexter. Marjorie furnished the Dexter Historical Society with material that was made available to the *INFORMER* such as articles in the March issue on Limerick Hotel and the Dennie Homestead. On page 17 of this issue we include a summary of Marjorie's history of the former Universalist Church in Dexter. She presented the history at a monthly historical society program on November 18, 2004. Marjorie will be missed.



Other Fort Drum References

After our program with Heather Wagner (see page 4) this past March JCNYGS meeting, someone might be interested in some references to Fort Drum in past issues of our *INFORMER*. A quick look back comes up with May and July 1996 issues; March and May 1998 issues; and more recently the July 2006 and January 2007 issues. The 1996 issues include the "lost villages."

The Church of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, having dedicated a new church edifice on West Lynde Street on May 31, 1906, had no further use for its original wooden structure which had been constructed at the corner of Gale and Thompson streets in 1878, and accordingly, League trustees began negotiations for the purchase of the old church. (See Larry Corbett's article on pages 19 and 20.)



JCNYGS

Minutes for March 10, 2008

Recorded by Jean Coyne for
Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary

Tonight's meeting was held in the Ramada Inn, Watertown, NY. The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by President Jerry Davis, with about 25 people in attendance. Jerry read the minutes of the last meeting (December 2007); they were approved following a motion by Corky Doheny and seconded by Lynn Thornton.

Sally Washer gave the treasurer's report, citing the amounts in the CD, savings account and checking account. She mentioned that some activity needs to occur in the savings account to keep it active. She will either deposit to or remove from the account a nominal amount. Redwood Bank is in the process of merging with Watertown Savings Bank. When the merger is completed, we will need to complete paperwork for our accounts there. Her report was accepted, following a motion by Clancy Hopkins & second by Bob VanBrocklin.

Corresponding Secretary Clancy Hopkins reported that it has been quiet, mainly mail from other genealogical societies. Clancy also reported for the membership committee that we have gained a couple of new members and lost a couple of members, so the numbers stay about the same.

Phyllis Putnam reported that all the usual meeting notices were sent out. For the program committee, Phyllis said that the upcoming programs as reported in the *Informer* are correct. She thanked members for suggestions for future programs and said that she has programs set up through October. She also reminded members that the May meeting will be held on Saturday, May 17, at the North Side Improvement League at 1:00 p.m., following the NYSCOGO meeting. The April 14 meeting with Paul Buell (Early Settlers of Brownville and Jefferson County) will be held at the Dexter Historical Society.

Bill Dixon reported for the Publication Committee, thanking those who helped with the last issue of the *Informer*, spotlighting Limerick. The May topic is undecided. Comments from the floor recommended having extra copies of the May *Informer*, as well as other issues, available at the NYSCOGO meeting. It was also suggested that we have copies of the Will book and other publications available for sale at that time. While discussing wills, several points of information were mentioned: 1) the Jefferson County website ([\[rootsweb.com/~nyjeffer/\]\(http://rootsweb.com/~nyjeffer/\)\) now has a section on wills; 2\) Clancy Hopkins has indexed the old will books at the Jefferson County Surrogate's Office, and a hard copy is available there; 3\) the Historians' room at city hall has just completed an index to their obituary scrapbook; 4\) the *Watertown Daily Times* is providing obituaries free on their website.](http://</p>
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Clancy informed us that the room we use at Flower Memorial Library should be ready by next month. He also made a motion that we change our meeting time from 6:30 to 6:00 p.m. so that we can be finished by the time the library closes at 8:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Bob VanBrocklin. A motion to table Clancy's motion was made by Sally Washer and seconded by Tracy Robertson. The Washer motion was carried. We will address Clancy's motion at our next meeting, under Old Business. Clancy Hopkins moved to adjourn, second by Dan Grant. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m. and was followed by a program on the lost villages of Fort Drum, presented by Heather Wagner.



What's Going on with JCNYGS

By Jean Coyne for
Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary

"Lost Villages and Displaced Persons on Fort Drum"

March 10, 2008

Heather Wagner, Presenter

Our March program was a presentation by Mrs. Heather Wagner, assisted by her husband Jason, on five communities displaced by the expansion of Pine Camp. Mrs. Wagner works for Fort Drum as part of the department dedicated to preserving and recording the history of the military base. The five communities she discussed were LeRaysville, Sterlingville, Wood's Mills, Lewisburg, and Alpina. Over 500 families were forced to leave their homes in 1941, when their land was added to the training area at Pine Camp (later, Camp Drum and now known as Fort Drum). Mrs. Wagner has been archiving oral histories and personal photographs of families who were displaced.

Among the handouts available to those in attendance were:

- a CD containing a copy of Mrs. Wagner's presentation, a 1941-1944 Tax Purchase Map and a digital copy of "In the North Country"
- a pamphlet called "The Prehistoric Archeology of Fort Drum, New York"
- a pamphlet called "The LeRay Mansion"
- a map of the Fort Drum military installation
- a booklet on managing archeological sites called "Protecting the Past to Secure the Future"
- a set of maps and cemetery information relating to the 5 lost settlements

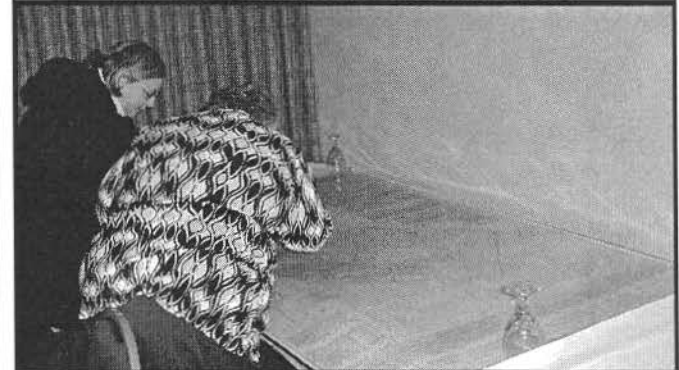
This was a very informative program. Mrs. Wagner did an excellent job of presenting information on the LeRay family, the LeRay mansion, and each of the 5 settlements. The printed materials relating to the cemeteries in each village, listing known burials and headstone inscriptions will be valuable to those who are searching for ancestors who lived in one of these communities. We are grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Wagner for presenting this interesting and instructive program.



Heather Wagner & Program Chairperson Phyllis Putnam



Nan Dixon asks a question of Heather Wagner



Jean Coyne and Tracy Roberson at the Tax Purchase Map



JCNYGS members after Heather's presentation

WATERTOWN CITY HISTORIAN'S OFFICE

The office of the City Historian was created 14 December, 1970. The City Council appointed Ernest C. Gould of Watertown the first city historian on 31 December, 1971. Mr. Gould's term expired 31 December 1973, but he died 14 December 1973.

Mayor Rand appointed Mrs. Junia Fitch Stanton, a name familiar to the Watertown genealogy community of that time, on 14 January 1974. A very active woman, the city historian's office is still continuing with her organization of the office today. Mrs. Stanton arranged the many clippings and folders, which have since been preserved in notebooks covering an entire wall of the office. She was reappointed by Mayor Karl R. Burns on 1 January 1977, and served until she resigned 7 December 1991.

Emerson Laughlin was appointed 6 January 1992. Clancy Hopkins became interested in the office and served as Mr. Laughlin's volunteer assistant. In 1999, the city council directed that the city clerk also serve as the city historian. Under Donna Dutton's supervision, the office was moved to an empty room in the basement of the Municipal Building, and a call went out for volunteers to staff the office. Several people responded, but as in many volunteer situations, the staff was soon reduced to Clancy Hopkins and Doris Monterey.

Over the last few years, Mr. Hopkins and Mrs. Monterey have held the fort, continuing with Mrs. Stanton's work, and filling notebook after notebook (305 at present count) with clippings, articles and pamphlets on the city of Watertown. Genealogy notebooks fill an entire bookcase. See the accompanying list of topics covered. Mr. Hopkins collected city directories from various repositories, and then filled in missing volumes to such places as the genealogy room of Flower Library, which has the most complete collection, the Watertown Daily Times office, Jefferson County Community College, and of course the city historian's office, among others. A current project is photo copying very old obituaries from scrapbooks which are falling apart, and collecting them into a place of their own. These obituaries contain those of Civil War veterans, and many have photos which have been preserved. Interestingly, the copied photos are clearer and cleaner than the originals, which have yellowed with age. There are 185 double sided pages of these obituaries alone.

Meanwhile the two are slowly getting the whole mass

of information on computer, using an excel program so that names and facts are easily accessible. They are indexing as they go along, and each notebook is categorized (besides its general category) into subject, names, page, date, whether it is notebook or scrapbook, and miscellaneous. They report that their work is in use, as they get queries for information about people and events.

They badly need more volunteers, for everything from data input to arranging material in sheet protectors in the notebooks. Anyone interested in working with this fascinating material should contact Mrs. Dutton or Mr. Hopkins or Mrs. Monterey. There are many jobs available. Today the office is only open two afternoons a week and they would like to see it open more hours. Volunteers can set their own hours, and can do as much or as little as they choose. It's a pity to let this wealth of information lay idle!

What You Can Find In The Watertown City Historian's Office

Municipal Building
245 Washington Street
Watertown, New York

We have over 350 notebooks on subjects pertaining to Village and City History as well as information on Jefferson County and surrounding areas.

We have maps, news clippings, photos and postcards as well as books, pamphlets and scrapbooks.

Indexes of City births, deaths and marriages from 1883-1915 are on file.

Village and City Directories from 1840 and books on New York State and Jefferson County history are available for reference.

Copies of family trees and information have been donated to the Office from many families in our community.

The City Historian's Office wants to share all of this material with the community. The office is staffed by volunteers who enjoy history and who will assist with any research you might have.

Hours are 1—4 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Other times can be by appointment.

(An index of notebooks at the Historian's Office follows on the next 3 pages.)

INDEX OF NOTEBOOKS AT THE WATERTOWN HISTORIAN'S OFFICE

GENEALOGY

<u>NAME</u>	<u>NEW #</u>
A-B	1
C	2
D	3
E-F	4
G	5
H	6
I	7
J-K-L	8
M-N	9
O-P-Q	10
R-S-T	11-12
U to Z	13
DAR	14
Duffy	15
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The 'Team' that (Unknowingly) Led to the Founding of the JCNYGS

by Patricia R. James (Pat) of *The Family Tree* and
www.NewYorkAncestry.com

A recent acquaintance made this profound statement:
*Sometimes people choose the Thousand Islands;
sometimes the Islands choose you.*

I feel as if I am one of the latter. When I learned that I was descended from Solomon U. Gotham (son of Henry – the first clerk of the Town of Pamela), I developed an unquenchable thirst to learn everything I could about each of his children and grandchildren, etc. What I write in the following few pages is of my foray into the world of family history and what my role was in the founding of the Jefferson County, NY Genealogy Society. If you will read on, you will find how the two are inseparably connected together.

Preface

In the 1980's, I lived in Ft. Collins, CO. In the summer of 1987, my friend Carolyn and I drove the hour south to spend a day researching in the Denver Public Library. To put that time period in perspective, the use of the internet for genealogy was ten years in the future. Whatever a person discovered during the course of their research had to come by way of libraries, correspondence, or onsite original research. (By today's standards, that is spelled *slow, slow, slow!*) As my father's lineages was from northern New York and Ontario, Canada, I held out little hope for making any major finds in the DPL. *Was I ever wrong!*

On the shelves in the NY section of the DPL, I saw Franklin B. Hough's 1854 "*History of Jefferson County, New York.*" Turning first to the index, I did not find any mention of the GOTHAM surname or the interrelated names of HOWE, FARROW, GUTHRIE, KENDALL, KEYES, KING, LATIMER, and RHINES. This puzzled me because when I leafed through the book, I noticed literally *hundreds and hundreds* of names. I have since learned that following the custom of the 1800's, an index only listed the more famous people, notable places, and significant events.

The GOTHAM clan, I knew, once lived in the Town of Pamela. Skimming through its 2 page history in Hough's, to my surprise I found my ancestor, Henry GOTHAM. He was the first Town Clerk. What a marvelous thrill to see his name in print! My next thought was, "What a thrill it would be for the descendants of the people mentioned in Hough's book to find the them. If only they knew they were here!" I decided in that moment to index Hough's history. That compilation was published in 1988.

Advertising this index in Everton's *Genealogical Helper* put me in contact with others researching Jefferson County. Soon an idea to do a newsletter that networked the bits and pieces of information family researchers had obtained became a reality. The first issue of *The Genealogical Journal of Jefferson County, New York* was produced in March 1989. Through its query section, I became acquainted with some wonderful people. Affectionate feelings still spill over me when I see their names to this day.

Most Valuable Submitters

The newsletter thrived, based in large part upon the submissions of its readership. As an example, the following list of submitters and their articles appeared in the 1989-1996 issues. They include quarterly contributions that extended over several years. I'm sure some of their names will be recognized:

Persis Reynolds Shook contributed "Declaration of Intentions and Naturalizations."

Ellen & John Bartlett supported the newsletter by sending in "*Jefferson County Natives Buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse, Onondaga County, NY.*"

Gus Rogers, Ellen Bartlett's father, sent in cemetery records beginning with, "*Threemile Creek Cemetery in Clayton.*"

Velma Green poured over microfiche in her local LDS Family History Center to bring us early Mormon members who came from Jefferson County.

Kurt S. Laidlaw who resided near the National Archives in Washington, D.C., extracted sailors' names from rolls of microfilm for "The War of 1812: Ships Muster Rolls."

Evelyn Charlebois covered and informed us of the library holdings of the Historical Association of South Jefferson County located in Adams.

Mary Klopfenstein received a copy of Evelyn Charlebois' scrapbook of newspaper clippings (marriages) dated 1887 – 1915. She extracted for us a long running series titled "Between Friends."

Richard Hungerford bought microfilms of "*The New York Reformer*," a newspaper based in Watertown, NY. He searched out and sent thousands of Jefferson County marriage and death notices.

Shirley Farone dug around in her attic and in 1995, gave us records from her "Old Tin Box."

Karen Dau, archivist for the Universalist Church, sent us marriage and death records she indexed from that church's religious newspapers.

Richard Salisbury, Don Lundry, and Lou Ann Hager extracted microfilms and sent in census records for the 1825 and 1865 New York State Census.

Building Friendships

With the exception of two years, I lived in Idaho during the decade of the 1990's and made five trips to northern New York. Each time I went, I collected information for future newsletters. Among my many treasured memories of the North Country, I will always remember three notable outings. Maurice Herron showed a friend, Lou Anne Hager, and me around Brookside Cemetery. My friend, Wanda Overton, and I were given a personal tour of the Thousand Islands by Helen MacDonald and her husband, Ken. Another year, I was invited on a 'field trip' by Gus Rogers, Ellen and John Bartlett to a cemetery where they described how they went about cleaning up and transcribing the gravestones.

On each trip back East, I arranged a supper where subscribers of *The Genealogical Journal of Jefferson County, New York* who lived in the North Country could get to know one another. My intent was to build friendships and meet the people who may well have been descended from my ancestor's neighbors... I remember chatting with such nice people as Nan and Bill Dixon, Linda Malinich, Gwen Acheson, Dorothy Allen, and Julie Gosier.

My efforts to build a strong network of researchers extended to museums, libraries, and historical societies: Jefferson County Historical Society, the Historical Society of South Jefferson, Lyme Heritage Center, Cape Vincent Museum, Clayton Historical Society and Flower Memorial Library. Each of these organizations was doing a wonderful job separately but the one thing that stood out about the condition of genealogy in Jefferson County was how fragmented it was. The summer of 1994, I decided to do something about that state of affairs.

The Founding of the Society

During my past visits, I had talked with various people about forming a society. There just didn't seem to be a consensus about how to organize it, who would lead it, where it would meet, etc. Too many details, too many questions! People were already so busy, dedicated as they were in their own sphere and chosen work. Still, I had a feeling that wouldn't leave me that it *could* be done.

As usual, I invited several of my newsletter subscribers to dinner. Prior to that evening, I laid the groundwork for the establishment of a society. Only one other person knew what I was up to! On that hot July day in 1994, alone and unaccompanied, I applied for a license for The Jefferson County Family History Association (my chosen name for the fledgling organization). Next, I obtained a Post Office box in Watertown in the new Society's name. Finally, I set up a bank account. Everything was ready. All the new society needed was a set of officers to run it and members!

The Best Western had given us the banquet room. After supper, I stood to introduce the evening's program. This is what I recorded of that memorable evening in my newsletter's September 1994 issue:

"At my request, Julie Gosier and John Bartlett volunteered an unusual family history story. All of us experienced the heart-warming and tender feelings that accompany researching our ancestor's lives.

I continued: 'New York State has not only been farsighted, but a leader in the preservation of history. It is the only state that appoints an historian in each Town to gather records. To my understanding, the intent is to keep the history for future generations.' At this point, I asked that all those present to stand who had Jefferson County heritage and who lived in Jefferson County. Almost 90% did. I drew attention to them by saying, 'These people here – those that you can readily see, hear, and speak with – are the 'people' that Town Historians are called to serve.'

Next, I asked those to stand who had Jefferson County lineages but who did not live in Jefferson County. Only a handful stood. 'These are the people who are lucky enough to be able to travel here and see the Jefferson County records.'

Then I told them that my business, *The Family Tree*, had a database containing fully 1000 names of people who are interested in Jefferson County. I explained, 'There are 900 people that aren't here with us tonight because they can't afford to travel the long distances to see the Jefferson County records.' I pointed to an empty portion of the room to emphasize that large missing group of people.

I continued, 'There are a number of organizations now in place – libraries, museums, historians, societies, etc. – which have acted independently of each other. This fragmentation has greatly affected the 900 researchers that you can't see. They are the ones that have suffered from the lack of (local) cooperation.'

After a significant pause, I added: 'Let us join tonight in forming an association that will have as its primary purpose the establishment of good relationships between all those groups for the good of all involved.... In a few short years, Jefferson County will celebrate its bicentennial. Even now, historians are laying plans for their own Towns' part in the anniversary events. Wouldn't they appreciate hearing 'the rest of the story' from the Jefferson County families that went West?'

After I closed my speech, I went around to several tables. I had it in my mind who those people were that I thought would make good officers. With one exception, all accepted!

I wrote: "Of the 34 people in attendance, 22 joined that night. A membership subscription of \$5 was asked to cover the newsletter costs. Nan Dixon became the Vice President. Ellen and John Bartlett, newsletter editors. Helen McDonald, the program manager. It was decided that all other officers were to be (s)elected at the first meeting. Until otherwise decided, the meetings are to be held on the 2nd Monday of each month at Flower Memorial Library's Dillenbach room.

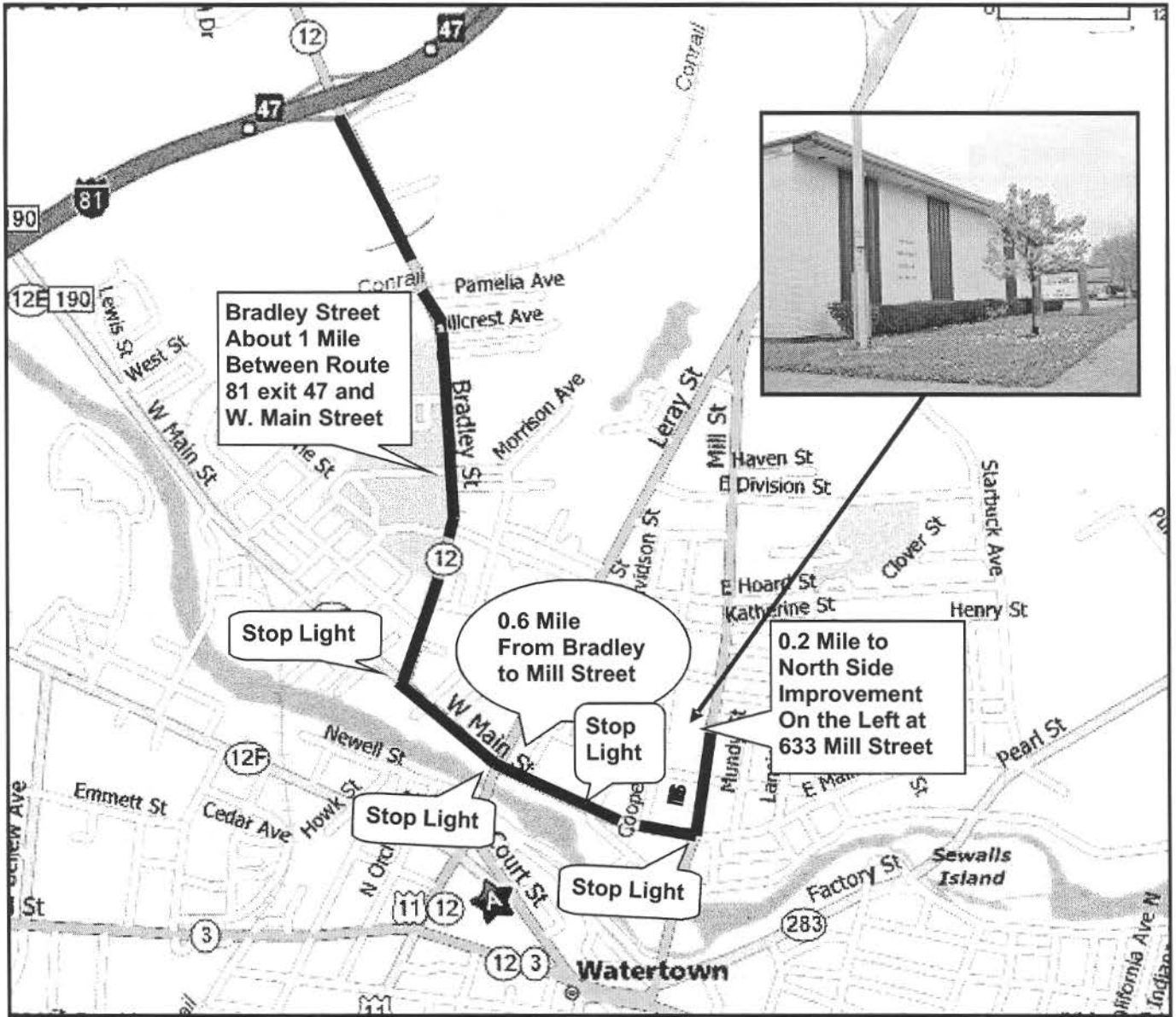
The membership later voted to call the new organization, The Jefferson County, NY Genealogy Society. Their first board meeting was held on July 24th.

In Summary, Thanks to the Team!

The JCNYS has grown beyond my wildest dreams. Organizations and their appointed officials did come together in support of it as I had hoped. Over the next few years, membership increased to almost 400 subscribers. Like a 'mother' watching her 'child' grow, I stayed in close contact with Nan, Ellen and others. When I was certain that the new society was strong enough to stand on its own, would flourish and endure, I felt the time had come for me to discontinue my own newsletter. The responsibility for promoting Jefferson County genealogy for researchers both near and far was safely, soundly in the hands of some good, dedicated people.

The credit, I firmly believe, for the existence of the JCNYS today belongs to those early founding local members. Without the efforts of Nan and Bill Dixon, Ellen and John Bartlett, Helen McDonald, Maurice Herron, Julie Gosier, Phyllis Putnam, and others, the Society would have soon folded. We who live at a distance from Jefferson County have much to thank them for and I do! From the bottom of my heart, I *thank you all for listening* to the plea of 900 absent Jefferson County descendants that warm night in July 1994.

Are you heading for our May NYSCOGO meeting at North Side Improvement League?



JCNYGS To Host NYSCOGO Meeting

New York State Council Of Genealogical Organizations

The spring 2008 NYSCOGO meeting will be held in Watertown, NY May 17, 2008 at the North Side Improvement League, 633 Mill St. JCNYGS will host the meeting.

The meeting will begin at 8:30 AM with registration and refreshments. NYSCOGO's portion of the meeting will

be 9 AM until about noon with a break in mid-morning. Lunch at noon will be salads and sandwiches served by North Side.

JCNYGS will hold their May meeting beginning immediately after lunch with a short business meeting followed by presentations:

- Larry Corbett - Adoption Searches
- Jean Coyne - Will Abstracts Book
- Julia Gosier - Coroner Books and Discovery of Glass Photographic Plates
- Dr. Tim Abel - Jefferson County Historical Society Activities

ASK AUNT JEFF



In answering a query last November, Aunt Jeff was remiss in not mentioning Lyme Heritage Center. The query asked, "My mother was born in the Town of Lyme. Where do I look for any trace of her family?" Lyme Heritage Center has notebooks, scrapbooks and clippings covering the Town of Lyme.

Julia Gosier, Director of Lyme Heritage Center, called to say that they have moved to the Copley House, 12165 NY Rt 12E, Chaumont NY 13622. Their quarters are more cramped, but they are grateful to have a place to store the wealth of information they have accumulated, and where they can serve the public. Since they have no funding from any governmental source whatsoever, donations are needed if they are to provide the service. Expect to pay for copying and mailing costs (it appears I really do need to say that!) and any donation over that will go directly to collecting and maintaining the information they dispense.

Dear Aunt Jeff,

I am doing a family history on my family who immigrated from Canada. Mary Ann McCoy immigrated from Ontario to Alexandria Bay. She married William John Harden. She was born 1878 and died 1934. He was born 1871 and died 1941. They are both buried in Highland Park. What I am trying to find is an obituary, so I can track any children.

Tom

Dear Tom,

The first place to ask is The Watertown Daily Times. It has obituaries and family folders. Write Lisa Carr, <chief@librarian@wdt.net>. Expect to pay copy and postage charges.

The Genealogy Room at Flower Library has a good collection of Jefferson County obituaries. You can email them, but you will probably have to also write and pay the fees (postage and copying) before they will send you the clipping. It would not hurt to give them a small donation.

You might also write Mrs. Greta Slate, the Town of Alexandria Historian, who is very obliging. If she has anything for you, a small donation over and above the copying and mailing costs would not be out of place.

The Website <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~nyjeffer/>> has just begun to collect obits. Put the name you are looking for into the search engine (top of the index or front page, Free Find). Put quotes around the name ("William Harden") and try different versions of the name.

Aunt Jeff

Letters may be sent snail mail:

Aunt Jeff, c/o Dixon, 15407 Dixon Rd.,
Clayton NY 13624

or E-mail nandixon@Gisco.net

Dear Aunt Jeff,

In the last copy of the Informer, I noticed that Aunt Jeff (my favorite part of the whole thing!) had two questions about Child's Gazetteer - several years ago I discovered it on CD from this source: <<http://genealogycds.com/sales/Jefferson.html>>. The CD is only \$19.95 and I felt it was a wonderful value. These are the contents. I can't tell you how many times it has come in handy both at home and at work.

1. *Our County and its People* : a descriptive work on Jefferson County, New York Boston: Boston History Co., 1898, 1293 pgs.
2. *Gazetteer and Directory of Jefferson County, New York, for 1866-7 Watertown, N.Y.*: I Ingalls & Co., Printer and Bookbinders, 1866, Child, Hamilton, 209 pgs.
3. *The North Country : a History Embracing Jefferson, St. Lawrence, Oswego, Lewis and Franklin Counties, New York* Indianapolis, Ind.: Historical Pub. Co., 1932, Landon, Harry F., 1787 pgs.
4. *A history of Jefferson County in the State of New York From the Earliest Period to the Present Time* Albany: J. Munsell ; 1854, Hough, Franklin Benjamin, 603 pgs.
5. *Genealogical and Family History of the County of Jefferson, New York* : a record of the achievements of her people and the phenomenal growth of her agricultural and mechanical industries. New York: Lewis Pub. Co., 1905, 1465 pgs.
6. *History of Jefferson County, New York* : with illustrations and biographical sketches of some of its prominent men and pioneers. Philadelphia: L.H. Everts, 1878, 792 pgs.

Lynn

Aunt Jeff is indebted to Pat Regan, administrator of the Jefferson County Mailing list, <NYJEFFER-L@rootsweb.com> for the following information. In answering a question on line, Pat said:

Cyrus lived in Clayton and Depauville NY. He was a Methodist and perhaps the Methodist Archives would have some information on him. Their records might also include his parents. That area (both Clayton & Depauville) falls under the following Central Northern Methodist Conference and they would have the archives and records for the Northern NY Churches.

Depository: North Central New York Annual Conference, 8422 N. Main Street, P.O. Box 1515, Cicero, NY 13039-1515; 800-699-8715; 315-699-8715; Fax: 315-699-8774; E-mail: NCNYUMC@aol.com; Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. weekdays *by appointment; Depository contact: Raymond Leonard; Research requests: Elton Smith, Jr. or Raymond Leonard.

More of

ASK AUNT JEFF



(This follows Ask Aunt Jeff on page 12.)

Aunt Jeff is here answering Christine's questions, which are marked with **

Christine:

**Are there other cemeteries that have not been transcribed yet?

Certainly, but I think (one is never certain) that the ones in Theresa and Alexandria have been done. Gus certainly made every effort to get each big and little one he could find in those towns. He did the northern towns before he retired.

**Also, I was wondering if he might have been buried in Alexandria but I can't find him there either?

Consider the following hard facts of life...or of cemeteries: Vandals do a horrific job. Hallowe'en brings out the police, but they can't be everywhere at once, and vandals work year around. They smash stones for the sheer fun of it.

Stones weather. Many of the older stones are unreadable by the time we want to get the information.

Some families simply don't have the funds to put up stones. You mention his widow. Widows often lived in poverty, or on the charity of their children. The grieving widower could put up a stone for his wife before he remarried, but the widow would hesitate to ask her new husband, should she be so lucky. And the saints forbend that she should expect a son-in-law to help her out. The facts of life in the good old days were crueller than today, believe it or not.

Private, or farm, or family cemeteries were the choice of some families. Then when the family died out, or the land changed hands, the cemeteries disappeared, or were lost in the woods, or were plowed over and the land used for crops. The marble gravestones made beautiful sidewalks, inscription side down, of course, but not always, and were useful in the foundations of buildings... we hear stories of that all the time. Over the years, cows grazing in cemeteries will knock over

stones until the area is unrecognizable as a graveyard.

Or, Gus simply missed some. At the end of a 90 degree day (he worked only in the summer), with energetic deerflies and horseflies in action, he might not have seen that one fallen and grassed over. He unearthed many, but we know he missed some. We're just thankful for the ones he found! He worked alone, you know, and long after most of us would have gone to Florida (where he is now).

Nearly every older cemetery, especially neglected ones, will have a stone pile down the hill, where the broken and dislocated ones are thrown. Look there, too.

**Do you have any suggestions as to where I could look or who I could talk to?

Not any really optimistic ones. Of course, the only way to be really certain is to do it yourself. Go to the likely cemeteries and go through them stone by stone, the way Gus Rogers did. It's a big job, and you should provide yourself with some trowels, to dig around the ones sunk in the grass, and any tools you can think of to help you read weathered inscriptions. Children, grandchildren, sympathetic spouses and friends are a big help here. We, as a family, made it a fun thing, with the children (how many years ago now!) competing to find the stones we were looking for. We called it graveyarding, and the children considered it a game.

Jefferson County Genealogy Society has made a project over the past couple of years of taking up each town, alphabetically, and printing the 1855 map (not readily available as is the 1864 map), as well as a modern map locating the cemeteries, with a list of contacts, as we could find them, for each cemetery. These were printed in our newsletter, the Informer, six times a year.

Funeral homes occasionally have knowledge that the average citizen does not. Cemetery associations often have intimate knowledge of the cemetery they are taking care of.

Aunt Jeff

Do any of the following ring a bell?

Can a first cousin, once removed, return?

My family tree is a few branches short!

Do I even WANT ancestors?

Cemetery: (n) A marble orchard not to be taken for granite.

Searching for lost relatives? Win the Lottery!

Every family tree has some sap in it.

Crazy, is a relative term in MY family.

COMPUTER CORNER

<http://ny-genes.blogspot.com>. Upstate New York Genealogy Blog. This is a Blog designed to help you with your genealogy research in Upstate, New York. Hints, tips and data are all available for free. Visit our website at www.unyg.com. You may post your comments at the bottom of each Blog message.

From the Jefferson County Message Board.
Message Board Post:

I recently came across some great sources for free online historical and genealogical books:

http://www.digitalbookindex.com/_search/search011t-rev.asp

<http://books.google.com>

Try searching "Full view books" for "jefferson county"

As well as offering several new pioneers, the Jefferson County GenWebSite, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~nyjeffer> is expanding its brief biographies of Civil War soldiers from Jefferson County at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nyjeffer/cwbiondx.htm>.

The information comes from private research, obituaries, newspaper articles, letters, and from the other Civil War sources on the website. I found Charles Herbert Sprague's eyewitness description of Lee's surrender, as printed in a 1927 Jefferson County Journal, <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/!nyjeffer/cwbsprague.htm>, a fascinating story.

Bits and Pieces:

I recently came across some great sources for free online historical and genealogical books:

http://www.digitalbookindex.com/_search/search011t-rev.asp

And

<http://books.google.com>

Try searching "Full view books" for "Jefferson County."

Civil War Information:

Lorraine Orton, PDP of the Woman's Relief Corps, Syracuse, NY mentions a source I had never heard of. I have many NY Department and national journals of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Woman's Relief corps. They contain a lot of information on the veterans that cannot be found on the internet. If anyone had an ancestor in the organizations, I am willing to see they can be found but cannot do in depth research. You may use our name for anything. We can look up names and etc. but need a date. The GAR was form 1866-1956. We have a nearly complete set of WRC journals from NYS and many national journals.

Jerry and Lorraine Orton
Orton50@aol.com

In the event you don't have a computer close to calculate a birth date, from the death date, and age at death....

Remember 8870

Use thusly:

If a person died May 6, 1889, at the age of 71 yrs, 7 months,9 days

Write the year **yyyymmdd** as 18890506

Subtract the age at death 710709

Result is 18179797

Now subtract **8870**

The result is 18170927, that is September 27th,1817

And:

If you know the persons birth date and death date, and want to find the correct age in years, months and days....

Use thusly:

Write the date of death as **yyyymmdd** (20061003) (Oct 3, 2006)

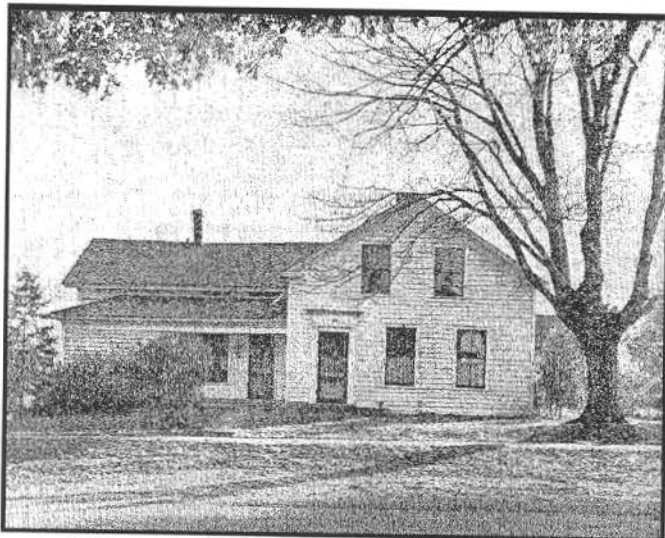
Subtract **8870** (20052133)

Now subtract the date of birth as **yyyymmdd** (19380706) (July 6, 1938)

The result will be **yyymmdd** (671427) or 68yrs, 2 months, 27days

If the months are more than 12, subtract the 12 and add one to the years.

(From Al Seymour some time ago!)



Jesse Babcock House

At the corner of Kirby and Brown streets in the village of Dexter an historic marker announces that the low, white clapboard house with the long wing at 107 Kirby street was built in 1832-3 by Jesse Babcock, one of the prominent early industrialists of Brownville and Dexter and that during the Civil war it was a station of "the Underground Railway" in the clandestine transportation of escaped negro slaves across the international border to a safe haven in Canada.

According to family tradition Dyer Washburn, who resided ten miles south of Dexter between Camps Mills and Rices, brought the fugitive negroes under cover of darkness at night, hid them overnight in the barn of Jesse Babcock who had been a rabid abolitionist and temperance advocate for 50 years, then took them the next night to Levi Smith's at Limerick. Following a night at Smith's they were guided the next night to Smith's brother's at Perch River.

Besides assisting in the escape of the fleeing southern negro slaves, Jesse Babcock had a contract to furnish the Union troops with rations at Sackets Harbor in 1862.

Built in the sturdy old-fashioned manner, the stout framework of the house was put together with wooden pins and old-fashioned square cut-nails were used to fasten on the sheathing and clapboards. The two fireplaces were removed 75 years ago. Also taken off was the summer kitchen. The original front door was solid with brass knocker. The original window sash had 24 panes.

Like Henry Holmes Babcock, founder of the one time flourishing H. H. Babcock Buggy company of this city, Jesse Babcock was descended directly from James Babcock who was born in England in 1612, located at Portsmouth, R.I. in 1642 and removed to Westerly, R.I., where he died in 1679. Where Jesse Babcock

was descended from George, a grandson of James Babcock, Henry Holmes Babcock was descended from Capt. John, brother of George and also grandson of James.

Jesse Babcock was born Oct. 16, 1805 at Marcy, N.Y. son of David and Sarah Beardsley Babcock. Jesse's grandmother, Sarah Perry Babcock, was a sister of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry. Jesse's father was a Revolutionary soldier. Jesse first married Maria Morgan at New Hartford, N.Y., Sept. 26, 1831, and settled in Brownville, where he had charge of the cotton mills. In 1835 he moved to Dexter with Davis and Poole and built and operated a linseed oil mill, which the 1837 depression forced them to abandon and convert the plant and power to a planing and plaster mill, which he operated until 1883 when a falling bridge disabled him and he died Dec. 8, 1885. His first wife, Maria Morgan Babcock, mother of his five children, had died June 14, 1854 and later he married Sarah A. Baker, native of Dexter, woman of superior education, who survived him.

Of the five children of Jesse and Maria Morgan Babcock, their son George born Jan. 3, 1844, was the only one to remain in Dexter. He was associated with his father in the operation of a flour mill, served in the 10th New York Heavy Artillery during the Civil war, later became a customhouse officer and village trustee for several years and died in October, 1879, but on Feb. 21, 1878 his father had deeded to him this and other property including the lot across Kirby street where the grange hall is. George Babcock also successfully operated farms and bred fine horses.

As a young man George Babcock was married to Miss Leonora Fluno, daughter of David Fluno, and she became the mother of his three children. Frederick T. Babcock, Charles D. Babcock and Mrs. Mary Babcock Hicks, widow of William E. Hicks. Mrs. Hicks has been the sole owner of this historic old house since the death of her mother Mrs. Leonora Babcock James, who had become the wife of Varnum A. James of Dexter, some time after the death of Mr. Babcock. Mrs. James died Dec. 30, 1928.

Frederick J. Babcock, a brother of Mrs. Hicks, was for several years superintendent of the Dexter Sulphite Pulp & Paper company. Charles D. Babcock, the other brother, was foreman of the old Hopper-Morgan company which manufactured notebooks and writing tablets at Glen Park. Mrs. Marjorie L. King, daughter of Mrs. Hicks is secretary to the United States Treasury attaché at Montreal, P. Q.

While this house was claimed to have been built in 1832-3 by Jesse Babcock and has never since been out of the Babcock family, title to the site was not actually taken by Babcock until Oct. 7, 1840 when it was deeded to him by S. Newton Dexter and the other members of the Dexter village company.

Pat Regan

Featured Speaker for
June 9 JCNYGS Meeting

Patricia was born in Jefferson County New York and lived her early years in Watertown and Sackets Harbor. Later moving to the Town of Turin in Lewis County New York where she spent a part of her youth. She graduated from General Martin High School in Glenfield, Town of Martinsburg, NY. She then entered SUNY Canton New York receiving an AAS Degree. After graduation from SUNY Canton she moved to Syracuse, NY and began her career in the Insurance Industry while attending University College and working on her BS in Business Administration. Later she worked as an Underwriter and Marketing Representative for 35 years until her retirement from Home Insurance Company. She then owned and operated a Restaurant for a number of years before moving to Florida where she resided 12 years before returning to New York State in 2006.

Pat started her work in Genealogical and Historical research at an early age working with her mother and her stepfather in her teens. She has also attended many Genealogical Seminars including a couple on Researching in Ireland. Her research has taken her throughout NYS, New England and Canada. She is a member of several Historical and Genealogical Societies in the US and Canada, a Life member of the Martin County FL Genealogical Society, where she served as Vice President and on the Board of Directors. While living in Florida she lectured for Genealogical Societies and the LDS Family History Center besides teaching Saturday Genealogical Workshops. She has worked a number of years doing research for people seeking membership in Lineage Organizations.

Pat has been researching her family over 50 years gathering information and documentation on over 100+ Surnames. Among them are several American Revolution Patriots and several Loyalists Ancestors who fled to Canada.

Her research led her into a long time study of the Seventh Day Baptist Church which was founded in 1671 in Newport RI by her ancestors Samuel and Tacy Cooper Hubbard. She also has worked on her Irish Ancestry for over 20 years, one of whom settled in Jefferson County New York during the Potato Famine.

Basic SUMMARY of

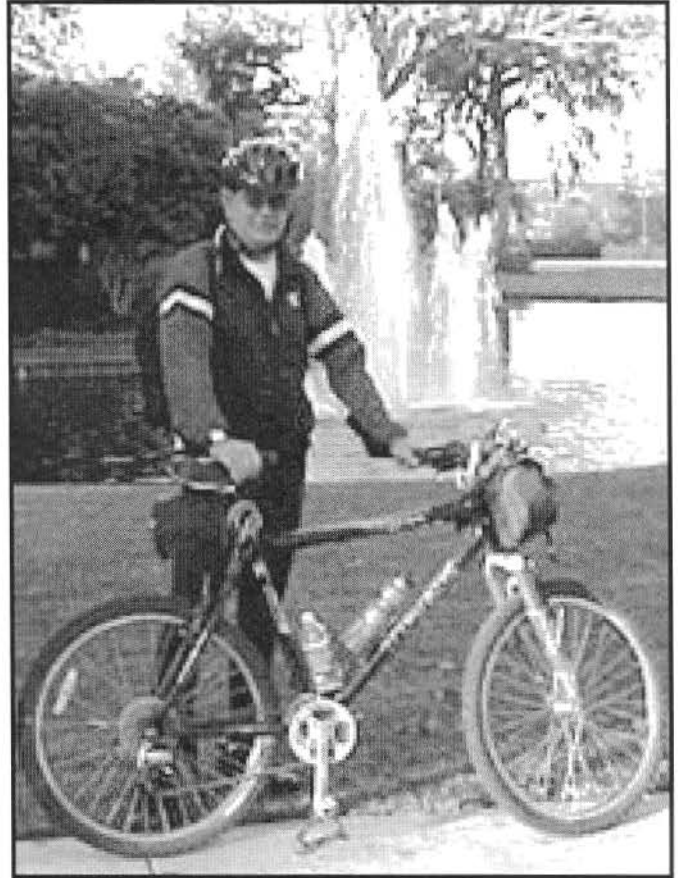
"Finding Hidden Ancestors"

Presented by Pat Regan

The Program will include how one can set their Goal, and use strategy when searching for their Hidden Ancestor. We will discuss the types of Records, helpful and useful Tips and Places that are available where one can find that information.

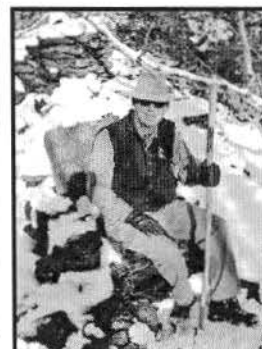
Roger Fulton

Featured Speaker for
June 14 JCNYGS Meeting



300 Miles of History

Roger Fulton is an author and historian. He has studied the basics of the French and Indian War and will present those basics here. And, in 2007 he embarked on a 300 mile canoe trip to retrace the water routes taken by soldiers and civilians during that 1750s era. He will be dressed in 1750s attire and will explain his outfit and what it was like to live in this area during those war torn years. He will also explain what he found in his 300 miles of History.



Formation of the Dexter Historical Society

February 1999 - Dexter Historical Society was first formed, meetings conducted and artifacts were collected. Meetings were held monthly at the Dexter Municipal Building Conference Room. Dexter Mayor Donald J. Grant, Bernard Burke and Edith Foster were instrumental in the formation.

June 2000 - Dexter Historical Society maintained revenues and expenditures and solicited for memberships and contributions.

6/13/2000 - A provisional charter was granted the society and became incorporated as an education corporation under the corporate name of Dexter Historical Society. The Provisional Charter lists the first board of trustees and the purposes for which such corporation was formed.

10/2000 - The society became exempt from Federal Income Tax and treated as a public charity.

2003 - The former Dexter Universalist Church was nominated for inclusion to the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

5/5/2004 - Frontier Housing conveyed the former First Universalist Church of Dexter to the Dexter Historical Society. The members of the church conveyed the property to Frontier Housing Corporation on 6/28/98. A sign was erected on the property at 205 E. Kirby Street which reads: Dexter Historical Society and the former First Universalist Church of Dexter, N.Y.

From the
DEXTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Number 3, Page 1 January 1—December 31, 2008

The purpose of the Dexter Historical Society

To promote and increase interest in the historical background of Dexter and the surrounding area. To locate, collect and preserve any written, pictorial and photographic histories of the area and any local artifacts pertaining to the history and economic development of the area, such as paper making agriculture and transportation. To provide accessibility as far as feasible to the historical information collected for the benefit and education of the general public.

Restorations to the Building

The Dexter Historical Society with a contractor and volunteers have restored, plastered and painted all the walls and ceiling in the former Universalist Church. A new toilet and bathroom faucets, new front double doors, new furnace, new sign and flag pole were installed and front steps and railing were sanded, painted and repaired. A handicapped accessible door and ramp, a stone driveway and handicapped parking was also put in. A new roof was installed and the steeple painted in the Fall of 2006.

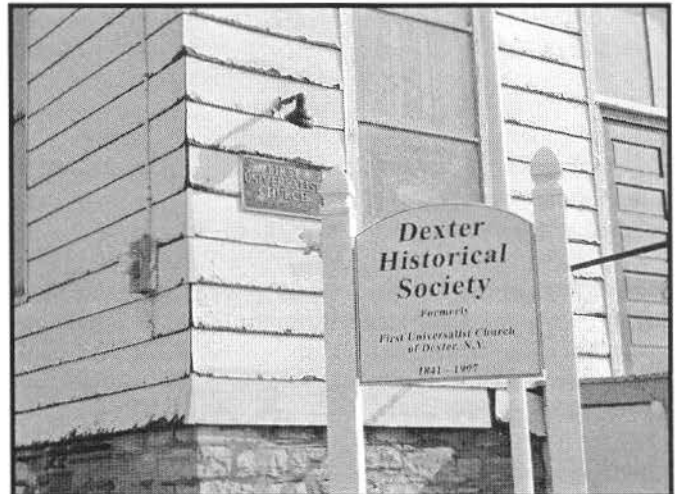
We have purchased heavy duty shelving and acid free boxes to store, protect and preserve our collections, newspapers and textiles.

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers and students to help inventory, arrange and describe our archival collections. Anyone with computer knowledge would be helpful. Other volunteer opportunities are needed to help with fund raising events, programs, greet visitors and help with publicity, please call 639-3043.

Dexter Historical Society Board of Directors

Paul Buell, President	Gordon Timmerman, Vice President
Jane Lawlee, Secretary	Eloise Young
Theta Corless, Treasurer	Willis Haller
Ellen Minor	Richard Spencer
Marjorie Lortie	Gerald Roedel
Audrey Spencer	Robert Banks
Mabel Roedel	
Kathy Timmerman	



History of the Dexter Universalist Church

By Marjorie Lortie

(Marjorie A. Lortie, former church member and present member of the Dexter Historical Society spoke and presented a history of the former Universalist Church which was held at a monthly historical society program on November 18, 2004)

In searching thru church records, newspaper clippings, etc., I find that Universalism in the Dexter area began in 1839, when itinerant preachers of the Black River Assoc. of Universalists began holding services. The regularity of the services increased. So, on August 22, 1841, minister H. Boughton called a meeting. Ralph Lascell and Thomas Broadbent presided. The following six Trustees were elected: Thomas Broadbent, John Maynard, Solon Stone, David Baker, Francis Winn and Eleaser Parker. The trustees proceeded to circulate the subscription for funds, materials or labor for erection and fitting up of a Universalist Church edifice. It was soon found that in order to hold property for religious services, that they must be incorporated. The people met on September 5, 1841, and incorporated "The First Universalist Society of the Village of Dexter, NY." This was recorded at the Jefferson County Clerk's office.

A small lot was chosen at the corner of Brown and E. Kirby St. Edward Maynard was chosen to superintend the building, under the direction of the Trustees. The first stick of timber was cut in the middle of September, by Peter Christie.

1893- THE RE-DEDICATION - I am now quoting from an article in a Universalist publication "The whole interior of the old church building has been remodeled and changed; the pulpit placed in the rear end, the old-fashioned gallery removed, and the space utilized in a large, commodious vestibule, off from which is a cloak and toilet room. There is also a library, to which an entrance is gained from the main auditorium. The entire building was raised and sufficient room made in the cellar for a new hot air furnace; the old-fashioned box wood stoves being discarded. The interior walls and ceilings have been beautifully decorated. A new Brussels carpet adorns the floor. The interior woodwork has been finished in dark cherry color. New folding orchestra chairs arranged in a circular order with a center aisle, have been placed in the church. The platform is low and modern in design. A walnut table and two easy chairs adorn it. The choir occupies the right hand corner from the pulpit. Two large piano lamps, with large shades stand at either side of the rostrum and furnish light for the speaker. A new chandelier in

polished brass, with four large Rochester burners, hangs from the centre of the church, while side lamps of similar style are also used. Exquisite taste has been displayed in all the decorations making it a very beautiful church home."

The re-dedication celebration was held on Friday, Sat. and Sunday, March 31 - Apr. 2. There were several speakers who presented sermons on the first two days. The Easter sermon was delivered by Rev. L. B. Fisher of the Canton Theological School. Nearly 200 persons assembled. The church was beautifully decorated with plants and flowers. The Frontenac Orchestra and the choir presented a pleasing musical program of Easter music. Nine new members were admitted to church fellowship. The regular communion service was also observed.

In the evening, the congregation was as large as could possibly gain admission for the services and the re-dedication of the building. A Historical Address written by Miss Winn was read, as well as an account of the Dedication of Dec. 22, 1841.

As a bit of information, we believe that the beautiful existing stained glass windows were installed at the church during those "substantial improvements", as soon after there is mention in records of the sale of windows for \$1.00.

In 1934 (at the Annual Meeting) it was noted that the following Descendants of three of the original Board of Trustees are in attendance tonight: Bert and Bertha Wood—Grandchildren of F. W. Winn; E. Elison Foster, Grandson and Paul Foster Great-grandson of Thomas Broadbent; Mrs. Mabel Foster, Great-grand daughter; and Misses Janet and Edith Foster, Great great grand-daughters of John Maynard. Also present: Fred Casler and Ethel Casler VandeWalker, Grandchildren; and Gaylord VandeWalker, Great grandson of John T. Wood, one of the early members of the church.

In 1941, THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY—August 9 and 10 — Celebration began on Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Former Pastors, including Burte B. Gibbs, Rev. B. B. Fairchild and Rev. Albert c. Niles spoke. J. Frank Morgan gave a history of the church. In the evening a banquet was served in the Presbyterian Church, with 90 in attendance. On Sunday the Worship Service was led by Rev. Dr. Harold H. Niles. The Sermon was offered by Rev. Fred Leining, State Supt. Of Universalist Churches. At the conclusion of the service, an old custom was revised, a picnic dinner. It was serve don the lawn between the residences of B. B. Fairchild and B. C. Foster. Long tables were set by the women of the church and 107 people dined together.

At annual meeting on May 6, 1943, there is mention that it was a fine supper in spite of rationing—members hurried home at 8:30 because of rumors of a blackout; and it did come at 9:30. Annual meetings with a supper were held in the Odd Fellows Hall for many years.

By 1962, arrangements were made for several student ministers at the Theological School to fill the pulpit. Among these young men was Blaine Hartford who became minister at All Souls Universalist Church in Watertown and Adolph Weidanz who stayed at Dexter and was ordained June 13, 1965. He served Dexter and Henderson for two years. With help from the Watertown church and funds provided by the women's group of our church, a manse on E. grove St. was secured for him and his family. But, there was not growth as he had anticipated and Dexter and Henderson could not afford to keep him. Also, about that time period, the Unitarian movement became stronger and joined the Universalists. Some of our congregation didn't readily accept the newer ways. Rev. Weidanz resigned June 30, 1967. The parsonage was sold to Hilary Doctore.

The Dexter church observed its 125th Anniversary with a celebration held Sunday, September 25, 1966 between 2 and 4 at the church. Rev. Dr. Harold H. Niles, Canton, pastor emeritus of All Souls Universalist Church, Watertown, was our Guest Speaker. Rev. Blaine Hartford, pastor at All Souls and Rev. Adolph Weidanz also participated. Orville Humphrey, Chairman of the Board, gave a resume of church history. He presented Mrs. Flossie Eveleigh, pianist for the church for 65 years and choir director, with a gift in recognition of her service. She had recently retired. Doris Kostyk who had assisted Flossie became our pianist. She served for a number of years, until she developed eye problems. Roger Allison then provided music for our services.

As a bit of church history, for many years a "box" arrangement containing lights, had covered the windows of the altar area because services were held in the evening. This was removed in 1966, when we began holding services in the daytime. Another item to mention, the stained glass windows were repaired and covered by "protective" windows in 1969 to preserve their beauty.

In 1968, Neal Warren, a Math Teacher in the Watertown schools, and a Lay Preacher who was a member of All Souls Universalist Church, came down to conduct our services on Sunday mornings. He was with us for 29 years—(some of the latter ones, we held only two services per month).

The church history would not be complete without giv-

ing recognition to Irene Casler who was Superintendent and teacher of the Sunday School. Her first report was given at the Annual meeting in January, 1926. She devoted herself to the children for about 33 years.

G. Fred Wright was Superintendent of Sunday School from 1961 to 1965.

The women of the church had an organization thru the years, with various titles including: Ladies Aid, Women's Guild, Assn. Of Universalist Women and finally the U. U. W. F. By whatever name, they were active and conducted fund raisers: so they were able to give a good amount of financial support to the church budget. An annual activity for many years was the May Breakfast. Our last breakfast was served at the Municipal Building on Sunday, May 13, 1990. this had been a busy, fun activity but we had to give it up because there just weren't enough available workers.

By mid-October, 1997, with financial problems and only five active members remaining, a meeting was held and a vote taken, with the majority in favor, "to close our doors and disband."

Donald Nutting, Chairman, together with Trustees: Lois Nutting, Paul and Marjorie Lortie, visited Dexter Mayor Donald J. Grant and offered our building to the village. Mr. Grant was receptive and advised that it go to the Frontier Housing Corporation. Thus, thru legal proceedings, the church will be donated for future use by the DEXTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY, with an appropriate sign erected to indicate that it was formerly the FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH of DEXTER, NY 1841-1997.

On June 23, 1998, Donald Nutting, as Chairman, transferred the property to Donald Grant, President of Frontier Housing Corp. Services had been held for 156 years (1841-1997).

(Memo)

In reviewing the Membership Book of the FIRST UNIVESALIST CHURCH, these familiar family names appear from the late 1890s thru the 1960s. They are listed basically in the order of their appearance:

MAYNARD, MORGAN, CASLER, WOOD/REEVES, CRYSLER, FAIRCHILD, PHELAN, FOSTER, BOOTH, COOBE, ALLISON, BELLINGER, ADAMS WELLS, JONES, VANdeWALKER, WYLIE, HALLER, KOSTYK, NUTTING, FARRELL, LORTIE, WRIGHT, GIRARD, HUMHREY

Grandma's Apron

I don't think our kids know what an apron is.

The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, but along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids.

And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove.

Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls.

In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

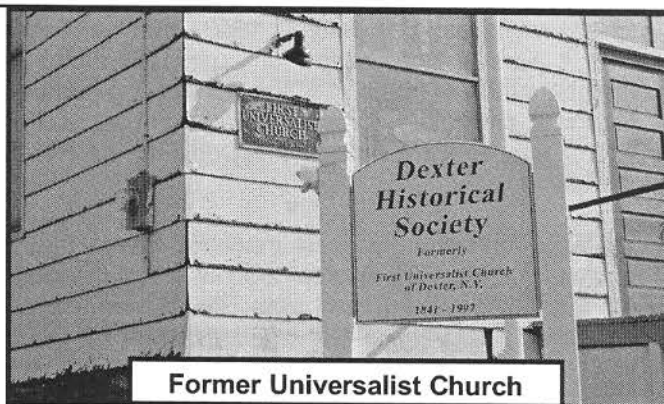
When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that "old-time apron" that served so many purposes.

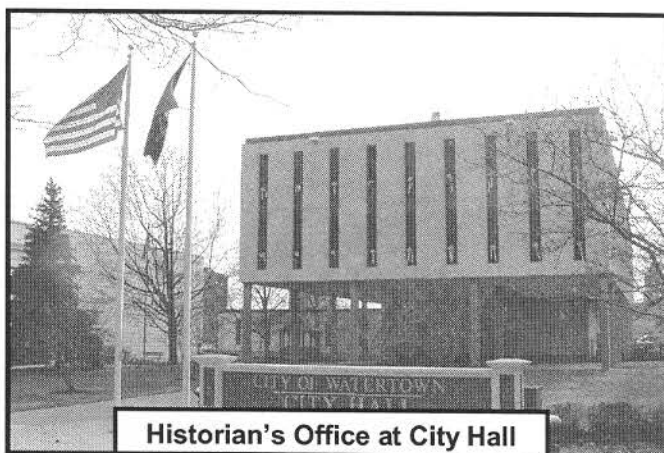
REMEMBER

Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool.

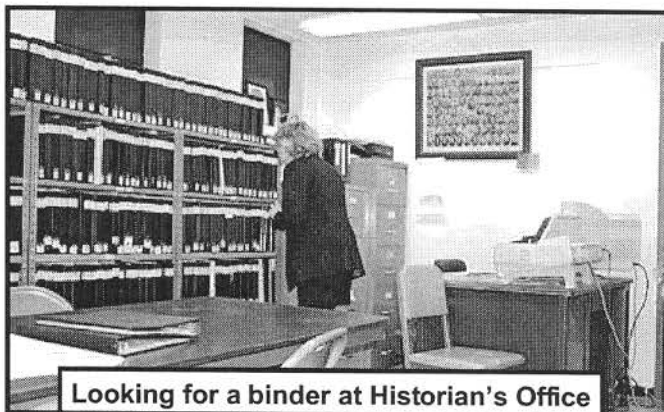
Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw.



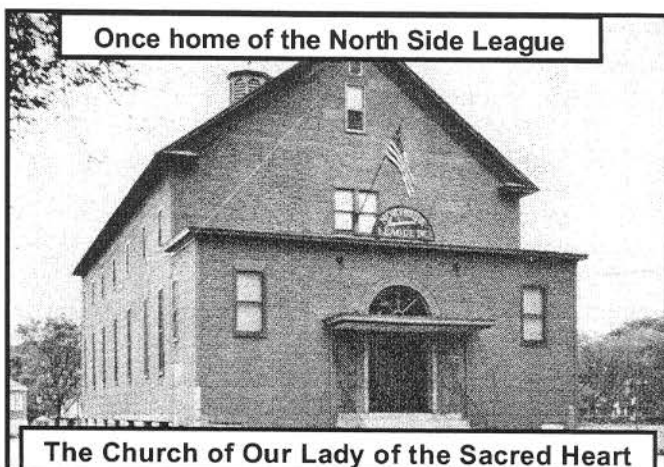
Former Universalist Church



Historian's Office at City Hall



Looking for a binder at Historian's Office



Once home of the North Side League

The Church of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart

A Short History of the North Side Improvement League, Inc.

Paraphrased from the 75th Anniversary Booklet
By Larry Corbett

Prior to 1869, the Village of Watertown, NY was located entirely to the south of the Black River. With its articles of incorporation, however, a considerable amount of land located north of the river became part of the new City of Watertown. With the exception of the main corridors – today's Main and Leray streets – most of the acreage was either farm or forest.

By including the opposite bank of the river into the city, residents effectively doubled the amount of water power available for city industry, but at a cost. The village of Watertown was more than 65 years old and boasted all the improvements of a modern community of its day, but the north side had a lot of catching up to do in those things which today are referred to as infrastructure. With development would come schools and firehouses, sewers and water lines, telegraph and illuminating gas lines, and later telephone and electric lines, all of which were expensive ventures in an area that was largely uninhabited.

A rift developed over real and imagined slights to the north side. Residents of the more populous (and quite wealthy) old village had the combined electoral power to direct more resources to the downtown area and surrounding residential areas. The formation of the Watertown Chamber of Commerce in 1903 did little to improve the situation, since most of its membership came from the downtown area, and advocated strongly for downtown improvements first over all others.

The matter reached its zenith on Monday, May 22, 1911, when the City conducted a special referendum to bond for \$135,000 to build a bridge across the Black River from Jackson street on the south side to West Main street to Davidson street on the north. The new bridge as envisioned by north siders, would replace two badly outdated suspension bridges at Mill street and Leray street.

Robert E. Cahill, William Culbertson and Rev. George H. Nelson headed a group which was campaigning for this bridge. Former Mayor James B. Wise, head of the J. B. Wise Company Inc., was campaigning, apparently more effectively, against it.

The Watertown Daily Times made over its front page late that afternoon to report the result of the election, but "The Bridge Boosters" must have been convinced before the paper went to press that the Jackson Street Bridge proposition would be defeated, for on an inside page of the paper appeared a short item that a group of "boosters" would hold a meeting that same night for the pur-

pose of organizing "The North Side Improvement League," the name having been decided upon some hours before that meeting.

The organizers felt that the defeat of the Jackson Street Bridge project was due in large measure to lack of adequate organization by the bridge's proponents. Still determined to make the Jackson Street Bridge a reality, plans were discussed in that first meeting for raising \$65,000 to \$70,000, which the boosters believed would be sufficient for the construction of a bridge of 24 feet width at Jackson Street.

During the ensuing twelve months the membership was greatly increased and on May 22, 1912, the North Side Improvement League held its first anniversary banquet. President Robert E. Cahill presided as toastmaster and there was an attendance of 80.

The Watertown Times in a two and one-half column report of the affair the next day cited that across one end of the room there was a banner which bore the inscription: "Let the North Side League Unite and Build a Bridge."

In his remarks as toastmaster President Cahill made clear that the League had been formed to improve North Side conditions and to co-operate in having needed things done for the improvement of the entire city.

The first address was "The Black River Canal," discussed by Assemblyman John G. Jones of Carthage. Mayor Francis M. Hugo followed, addressing himself to the subject "Greater Watertown," in which he strongly advocated a united city. "Better Bridge Facilities" was the topic of Rev. George H. Nelson, who was pastor of Bethany Methodist church. The next speaker was Attorney Delos M. Cosgrove, Sr., secretary of The Black River Traction Company, whose subject was "Better Street Car Facilities." Architect David Kieff spoke, strongly urging the adoption of a plan of semi-annual payment of taxes in Watertown to replace the system of paying all taxes at one time. The final address, "Commission Form of Government," was given by William J. Shepard, the so-called father of commission manager government in Watertown.

By the time that first anniversary banquet was held the League had likely begun consideration of two important projects. One was to incorporate. The other was to establish its own building for meetings and other functions. The decision of the League to incorporate was voted at a meeting held June 27, 1912, and the certificate of incorporation was drawn up by Attorney Philip S. Slate, a North Sider. It was attested by Attorney Melvin F. Kinkley on August 7, 1912, and on August 23, 1912, it was recorded in the Jefferson County Clerk's office by the late County Clerk E. B. Johnson.

The Church of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, having dedicated a new church edifice on West Lynde Street on May 31, 1906, had no further use for its original wooden structure which had been constructed at the corner of Gale and Thompson streets in 1878, and accordingly, League trustees began negotiations for the purchase of the old church.

Trustee Barnes was authorized to sell certificates of indebtedness to League members to finance the purchase and rehabilitation of the building as well as cover the cost of the purchase of a lot. These negotiations for the building were successfully carried through and the League's first meeting in it was held in the old church on the evening of October 7, 1912.

On March 20, 1913, the trustees reported they had contracted with Levi Carpenter to move their building to the new location at 617 Davidson Street for \$525 and place it on concrete foundations constructed by Contractors Hodge & Foster for \$1,050.

While the building was in transit some 300 feet through the streets, the League held a meeting in it April 17, 1913, and at that meeting voted to buy a cornerstone. Then on May 15, 1913, the League decided to contract with W. I. Jones to build a concrete basement floor and entrances, and on July 8, 1913 Rev. Z. Peloquin delivered the deed to the building. Ten days later the trustees were authorized to borrow \$2,000 on mortgage to pay off debts, and on September 11 they reported that \$3,976.43 of bills relating to the building had been paid, but that some were still outstanding.

Appropriate ceremonies marked the laying of the cornerstone on October 11, 1913

By 1921 the property was free and clear and the mortgage was burned, and in the summer of 1922, the building saw extensive remodeling, including the creation of an upper floor which enabled the League to transfer its meetings from the basement to the upper floor.

An active Ladies Auxiliary worked alongside the male membership for many of the early years, and after a period of inactivity, a new auxiliary was launched in 1951. The group is autonomous of the main body, maintaining its own funds and choosing its own activities. In 2005, the League approved the application of the first female into the main body.

The League membership continued to utilize the old church on through the organization's 25th and 50th anniversary celebrations. A huge membership surge accompanied the 50th anniversary year and the mem-

bership began discussing the construction of a more modern facility. The result was a new building at the present site, 633 Mill Street. The original League Hall passed through several hands, becoming the headquarters for the Disabled Persons Action Organization, which continues to own and operate the building to this day.

Throughout its long history, the North Side Improvement League has maintained its original commitment to community service. Members and officers have served on the Watertown City Council, in county government, and beyond. League presence at City Council and County Legislature meetings has been continuous for nearly 100 years.

An important part of the League's function has been its support of youth activities, including the sponsorship of Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, numerous youth sports teams, and providing of stipend college scholarships to hundreds of area youth.

The League members have supported many projects for the betterment of not only the North Side but the entire City and surrounding area, seeking better schools, better neighborhoods, and a better community for all.

The interest and enthusiasm of the members are as fresh today as in that beginning 97 years ago. The binding force was wisely determined at the beginning and consists of a number of strong and important ingredients, all whole-heartedly concurred in and zealously and religiously adhered to by 97 years of membership. These ingredients are pride in the North Side and in the city at large and complete and unrestricted commitment to working for improvements, frequent sociability at League meetings and entertainments, and stern prohibition of racial, religious or political bias.



JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

JEFFERSON COUNTY NEW YORK WILL ABSTRACTS 1830 – 1850

The Will Book contains will abstracts dating from 1830 to 1850. The book contains 194 pages, two maps, and a chart showing the formation of Jefferson County Towns.

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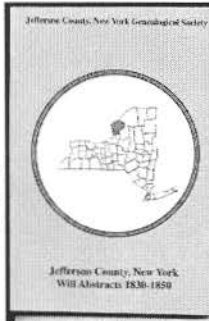
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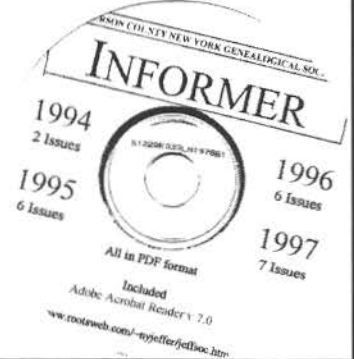
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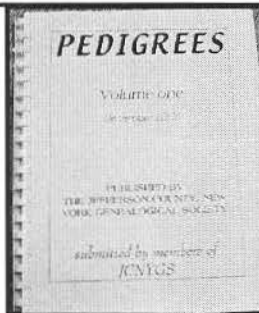
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PEDIGREE BOOK I (See Page 26 for Book 2) \$15.00 plus \$4.05 Shipping

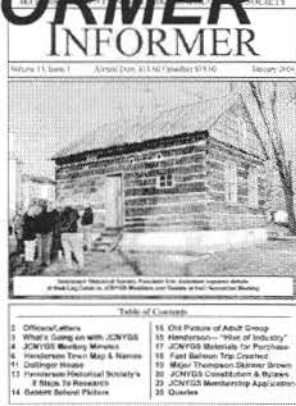
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Jefferson County Queries

Send Queries to: Lis Couch, 24670 County Rt. 159, Watertown, NY 13601; lcouch0624@aol.com

Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

CLARKE, WILSON

Samuel **CLARKE** 1783-1870, wife Martha Waite **CLARKE** 1785-1853. They had 9 children. Looking for their daughter Martha **CLARKE**. Married John **WILSON** in Champion, NY. Also looking for son Joseph **CLARKE**, who moved, I believe, to state of Wisconsin.

*Darlene Cole
18 Colony Road
Harrisville, NY 13648
(315) 562-3351*

HUNTER, BARTHOLOMEW, SMEDLEY, DIMOCK

About 1847 several families left Jefferson County, NY, to settle in Western Michigan, Ottawa County, Crockery Township, which was just opening up to settlement, and they are almost all directly related to my husband (and all buried in the Ottawa Center Cemetery near the Grand River, west of Grand Rapids).

These families were Ebenezer and Charlotte (**PRATT**) **BARTHOLOMEW** (he was a son of "Deacon" Oliver **BARTHOLOMEW**); his son Arza and Isabel (**HUNTER**) **BARTHOLOMEW**; Silas and Sally (**SMEDLEY**) **HUNTER**; Theron **HUNTER**; David **HUNTER**. The **HUNTER** elderly parents William and Rebeckah (no maiden name) also came, and in 1850, also the newly widowed Benjamin **SMEDLEY**, the father of Sally **SMEDLEY HUNTER**. These families all settled near each other in a location dubbed the "**HUNTER** Settlement".

Silas and Theron were brothers, Isabel is presumed their sister. After Isabel's death in childbirth Arza remarried widowed Eliza **HUNTER DIMOCK**, presumed another sister. David **HUNTER**--we don't know. He fits in age wise as an older child of William and Rebeckah **HUNTER**.

Silas and Sally **HUNTER** are my husband's great-great grandparents. Their youngest daughter Josephine, the only child born in Michigan, is his great-grandmother and he remembers her. Her husband was a **BARTHOLOMEW** descendant, Wheeler **HANCOCK**, son of Wheeler **HANCOCK** Sr. and Harriet **BARTHOLOMEW** of Pillar Point. Wheeler and his siblings Betsey, Albert, and Evaline **HANCOCK** (widowed **WOOLSEY**), came to this area of Michigan at a later date.

The **BARTHOLOMEWs** and the **HANCOCKs** are well

documented. The **HUNTERs** are not, and here is my question: Are there any descendants of William **HUNTER**, born Nov.1771 elsewhere in New York State, and his wife Rebeckah, born June 1775 elsewhere in New York State, maiden name unknown, among the JCGS members who have information about the **HUNTERs**? Their children are: (David ? born Oct. 1796,) Silas born January 27, 1808, Isabel born 1813, Theron born July 24 or 25, 1815, Eliza born June 1819.

*William and Erika Paulson
1460 Winchester Dr.
Muskegon, MI 49441
PaulsonEF@aol.com*

LINCOLN, JACKSON

I am seeking information about a Daniel **LINCOLN** who may have resided in or near Alexandria, Jefferson County, New York around 1827. His daughter, Harriet Marie **LINCOLN**, was born on 1 or 18 November, 1827.

There has been conflicting information passed down through the years about whether Harriet was born in Alexandria, Jefferson Co., or Alexander, Genesee Co. Harriet had at least three siblings, Daniel, born about 1831, Sarah, born November 1836, and Helen, born about 1839, all in New York (locality unknown).

Sarah's death certificate indicated that her mother's maiden name was **JACKSON**. The known children and their mother moved on to Wisconsin, and then some went on to Missouri, but Mrs. **LINCOLN** was supposedly widowed by the time they went to Wisconsin.

Thus far, I have been unable to find any information regarding any **LINCOLN** family in Alexandria or Jefferson County. I have been able to locate information in Genesee County regarding a Daniel **LINCOLN**, but so far he appears to have no connection to the children I am researching. Any help with this would be appreciated, as I live too far away to do any local research myself.

*Leah Alread
145 Noble Park Circle
Patterson, CA 95363
leahsleaves@yahoo.com*

SAWYER, WINSLOW

I am looking for information about Clarissa **SAWYER** (1801-1844). She was apparently born in Jefferson County and married Jeremiah **WINSLOW** (1791-1845). They moved to DeWitt County, Illinois. Any information on either one of these individuals or their families would be greatly appreciated. I also have info to share.

Eric S. Hinckley
32 Mohawk Drive
West Haven, CT 06516
203-937-7072
erikhinkley@att.net

BLAIR, COOK, OATMAN, FULLER

My family is researching the **BLAIR** family of Adams and Adams Center, New York. Wayne and Robert **BLAIR** owned farms and are a relative of a Willis J. (we think it is Jackson) **BLAIR**. He was born about 1829 and died about 1900. He was married to a Nancy A. C. **COOK** and was a Civil War Veteran--buried in Adams or nearby Hounsfield--but I see no record. Children: Henderson, Isabell, Andrew, Mary, Missella and Willis, Jr. my great-great grandfather. I connected with a distant relative in a Scottish chat room in 1999 and have been sharing information. All connections stop with Willis J. **BLAIR**'s parents. We have been searching, in vain, for years concerning his parentage. I am also a bit surprised that there is not more information about the history of the Scottish **BLAIRS**--especially Wayne Henderson **BLAIR** and Robert A. **BLAIR** who owned dairy farm plots in Adams Center. Robert was married to a Huldah Jane **OATMAN**. and Wayne to Maybelle **FULLER**.

Donna Weaver
Perfect Image Marketing
21 Westbrook Road
Coram, NY 11727
631-331-8173
dweaver@perfectimagemarketing.com

(This is reprinted from March for a corrected email)

BASS

Would you have any records on a Caroline Porter Santee **BASS**? She was born in 1846 NY and died Oct. 13, 1927, I believe in NY. She is my g-g-grandmother who lived with Santee in Augusta. She was a soldier's widow of **BASS** (his first name not known). She is buried in Knoxboro cemetery. Understand that **BASS** is a big name in Jefferson County. Not much to go on but thought that you might know some avenues to take.

Lainie Williams
Box 94
Wampsville, NY 13163-0094
lainie@a-znet.com

A Mayhew Family That settled in Jefferson Co., NY In the 1820's

I wish to shed some light on a "Mayhew" family that settled in Jefferson County, New York, in the 1820's. Some of your genealogists might have had a hard time finding out about this family and I hope I can give a hand. So please share the info!

There are contradicting explanations on the web about the origins of this "Mayhew" family, some tracing it back to the Martha's Vineyard's Mayhews. Others think it comes from France (see info below). But it actually comes from NEW France, i.e. Québec. If anybody in Jefferson County is interested in tracing the Jefferson County "Mayhews" family back, they should know that this "Mayhew" family actually is an English adaptation of the Québécois (French-Canadian) name "Mailloux". The name of the ancestor who crossed the border to the US was Pierre Vincent Mailloux, later known as Peter V. Mayhew, born in Quebec City in on February 5 1753. He probably joined the Revolutionary army during the invasion of Canada in 1775 and retreated with it. He settled in Rumney, Grafton County, NH, and then went on to Jefferson County, NY, to finally end his days back in New Hampshire.

Peter V. Mayhew is a veteran of the Revolutionary War (New York 2nd Regiment) and is therefore registered in the pension records. One of his daughters, Julienne, William/Guillaume's younger sister, left for Canada at some point, was baptized and got married in Berthierville, QC. The relation with Quebec went on for a longer while still, since a daughter of William Mayhew and Ann Herryman's, Marie Élisabeth Mailloux/ Mary Elisabeth Mayhew, born on August 30 1804 in Lyme, Jefferson Co., NY, moved to Berthierville, QC, and was baptized in this place on August 19 1825.

I hope this will help some in search of their origins or those trying to write Lyme's and Jefferson County's history.

If you happen to have anything regarding the history of the Mailloux/Mayhew family in Jefferson County, please let me know!

Jean-Pierre Gendreau-Héту
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J9H 2A1
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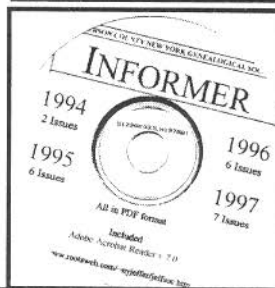
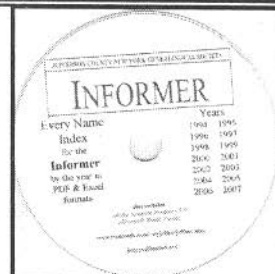
Contact: Phyllis Putnam
P. O. Box 58

Chaumont, NY 13622
phyllis@putnamfamily.com

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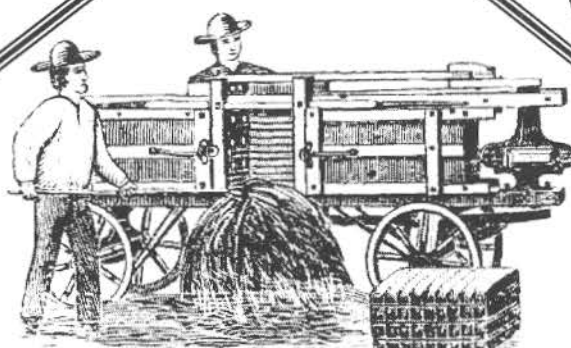
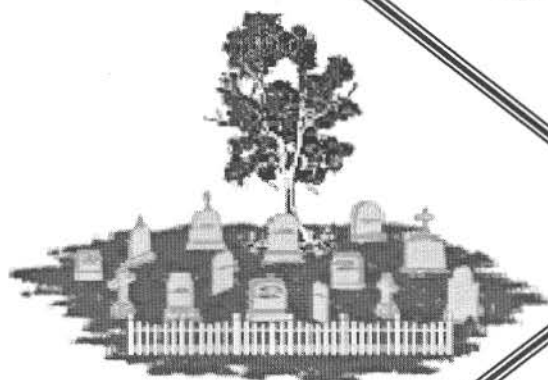
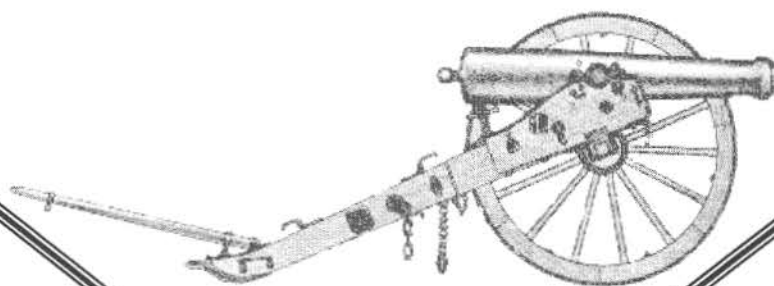


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INFORMER JULY 2008

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 E-mail: JCNYGS@imcnet.net Web site: <http://rootsweb.com/~nyjeffer/jeffsoc.htm>

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The *Informer* Committee includes Bill Dixon, chair; Nan Dixon, nandixon@gisco.net, editor; Clancy Hopkins, chopkins@imcnet.net, publisher. Editorial members (alphabetically) are Bonnie Borrello, sebborrello@att.net; Lis Couch, lcouch30@twcny.rr.com; Jean Coyne, Dcoyne@twcny.rr.com; Jerry Davis, maridavis@aol.com; Linda Malinich, malinich@attglobal.net; Bob VanBrocklin, Rvan992@aol.com; and Pauline Zach, pinzach@aol.com. Feel free to contact any of the above for suggestions or comments regarding this newsletter, published six times a year - January, March, May, July, September and November. A special Surnames issue has also been published in December.

The articles in this newsletter are written purely to stimulate interest in the genealogical history of Jefferson County. If comments are in any way offensive, this was not the intent. All articles, submissions, etc., are the viewpoints and research of various contributors. As such, they do not necessarily reflect the views of the executive committee or members of the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society.

Letters.....

Letters to the editor may be directed to nandixon@gisco.net or to Nan Dixon, 15407 Dixon Road, Clayton, NY 13624.

NEW MEMBERS:

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 916-483-2322
jimsimes@ieee.org
 Surnames: Bosworth, Hall, July, Simpson

Dear Editor,

Aunt Jeff is getting old. We can all see it. Old people tend to repeat the same stories over and over again, and they get boring. How many times has she told us about cemeteries in Jefferson County? Enough already! If she can't find something else to natter on about, she should pick up her knitting and do something useful!

I would appreciate some new information on how to find my ever so great grandmother (I forget her name) who was born in 1750 in the Town of Alexandria. Or where they are hiding all those vital statistics beginning in 1805 when the county was founded. All the other states have them. Or why you won't print adoption records. Or why town clerks are so fussy about their records. I can go to some New England states and handle records back into the 1600s.

Anyways, I'm sure other guys have questions they'd like answered, so let the old know-it-all change her tune.

Disgruntled Reader

Everyone believes in heredity until their children act like fools.

It's hard to believe that someday I'll be an ancestor.

Many a family tree needs trimming.

My ancestors must have been in the government witness protection program.

JCNYGS

Minutes for April 14, 2008

Marilyn Davis for Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary

President Jerry Davis called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm at the Dexter Historical Society building. President Jerry read the minutes from the March meeting done by Jean Coyne. They were approved by a motion from Pauline Zach, 2nd by Bob VanBrocklin. Treasurer Sally Washer reported a checking account balance of \$743.28 with a check dated the first week in January to the Watertown Post Office for \$56.00 that has not yet been turned in. Corresponding Secretary Clancy Hopkins reported that things were very quiet and for the Membership Committee Clancy welcomed back Larry Corbett to full membership and mentioned that 4 or 5 requests for membership application blanks have been received.

Phyllis Putnam reported that the publicity went out as usual and had hand outs for the up coming programs and also a summary from Pat Regan who will be our speaker at the June meeting. Our May meeting will be on Saturday, May 17th at the North Side Improvement League in Watertown. It is being held in conjunction with the New York State Council of Genealogical Organizations meeting. Phyllis also had copies of the recently completed Pedigree Book 2 for those who might be interested.

President Jerry handed Clancy Hopkins the May Informer ready for the publisher. For the Publications Committee, Jerry introduced Al Seymour who has finished his work with the Watertown Herald newspaper from 1886 to 1918 including births, marriages and deaths as well as images of all the pages the information came from. It is on a DVD for \$20 and will most likely be \$25 after being advertised. This has been a 2 year project for Al and we will feature his work in the next Informer.

Under old business President Jerry brought up last March's motion by Clancy Hopkins and 2nd by Bob VanBrocklin to change the meeting time from 6:30 to 6:00. Clancy mentioned that the change would more readily accommodate our meeting at the Flower library which will now close at 8 pm. After only a little discussion the motion was passed.

Under new business Sally Washer mentioned that she was unable to contact the first 4 genealogical researchers on the back page of our newsletter. The newsletter committee will look into verifying those phone numbers and email addresses for the July Informer.

President Jerry encouraged members to attend the May joint NYSCOGO/JCNYGS meeting to be held at the North Side Improvement League. The NYSCOGO meeting will begin at 9 am after coffee and donuts at 8:30 am. You must pre register with \$10 to include a soup and salad lunch provided by North Side. The JCNYGS meeting will begin at 1 pm followed by presentations by Larry Corbett (Adoption Searches), Jean Coyne (Will Abstracts Book), Julia Gosier (Coroner Books & Glass Plate Negatives), and Dr. Tim Abel (Jefferson County Historical Society Activities).

Clancy Hopkins moved to adjourn seconded by Bob VanBrocklin. Bob then mentioned the passing of Marjorie Lortie who was very active in the Dexter Historical Society and who authored several articles that we have recently published in our Informer issues. Bob then introduced Paul Buell for his program on "Early Settlers of the Town of Brownville."



Society members at the Dexter Historical Society for the April meeting



Past president Bob VanBrocklin on the left And Speaker Paul Buell

JCNYGS

Minutes for May 17, 2008

Jean Coyne for Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary

Our May meeting was held at the North Side Improvement League, 633 Mill Street in Watertown. The meeting was held in conjunction with the Spring meeting of NYSCOGO, the New York State Council of Genealogical Organizations. Following coffee and donuts at 8:30 a.m., the business meeting of NYSCOGO was held. After the meeting, all those present had an opportunity to look through some of the publications of our Society and of the Lyme Heritage Center. Several sales were made of our Will Abstract book and our Pedigree Books, as well as issues of our *Informer* newsletter. Al Seymour's CDs were especially popular.

Following a luncheon provided by the workers of the North Side Improvement League, Julia Gosier gave a talk on the Coroners' Reports and the Committal listings that she has compiled from the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors' books (1881-1954).

After Julie's presentation, the JCNYGS had a brief business meeting. The minutes of the April meeting were read and approved, motion by Pauline Zach, second by Larry Corbett, all in favor. Treasurer Sally Washer gave a brief report on our finances. She recommended moving some money from the savings account into the checking account. A motion to do this was made by Bob Van Brocklin, seconded by Phyllis Putnam, all in favor.

Phyllis Putnam provided a list of upcoming programs to be held at 6:00 p.m. at Flower Memorial Library:

June 9 Pat Regan, administrator of the Jefferson County Message Board: The Program will offer research tips on how to find "hidden" ancestors.

July 14 Roger Fulton: Life of the common man at the time of the French and Indian War.

Aug 11 Holly Sammons, Librarian at Onondaga County Library (Syracuse): The resources available for the genealogical researcher

Sept 8 Sheila Byrnes, genealogy columnist: Getting the better of that brick wall

Oct 13 Dick Hillenbrand, web master: How to set up a genealogy website or blog

For the *Informer*, Bill Dixon asked for suggestions for future issues, especially the July issue. Several visitors from NYSCOGO commented on the quality of our

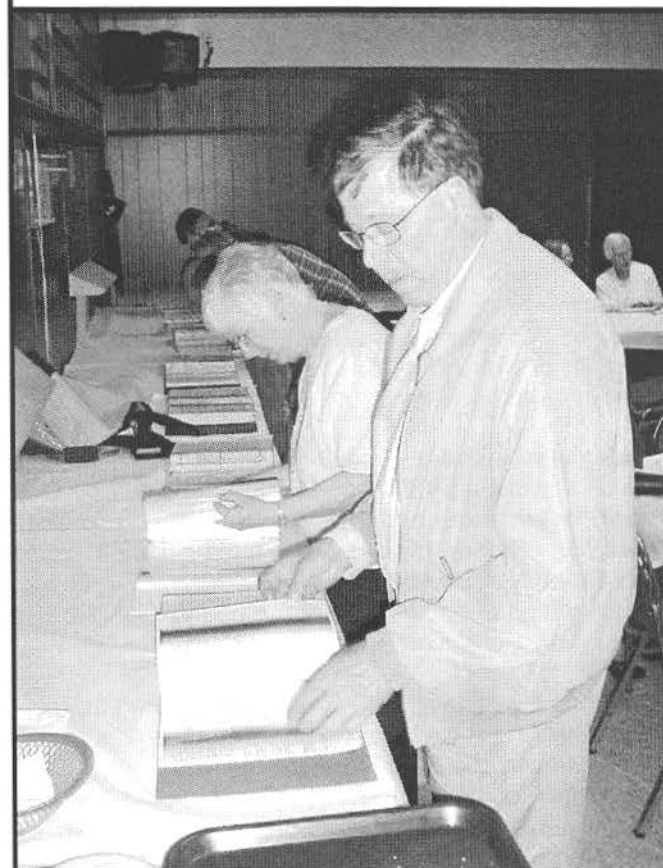
newsletters and the work of our *Informer* staff.

There was no old business. Under new business, Bill Dixon made a motion to send \$50 to the North Side Improvement League for use of their building for today's meeting. Bob Van Brocklin seconded the motion; carried unanimously.

Dick Hillenbrand made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Nan Dixon. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m. and was followed by presentations by Dr. Tim Abel, Jean Coyne and Larry Corbett.



Checking out the materials for sale table

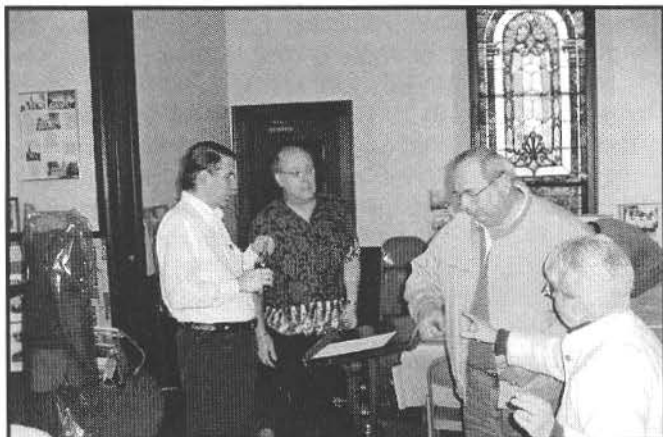


Looking at Julia Gosier's Coroners Records

What's Going on with JCNYS

Marilyn Davis for Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary
April 14, 2008

Our program for the April meeting was presented by Paul Buell, President of the Dexter Historical Society.



Paul Buell speaks with Larry Corbett as Kathie and Phil Compeau study records

Paul grew up on Pillar Point, graduated from General Brown High School, now lives in Gouverneur and is presently the music director at Sackets Harbor Central School. His presentation of "Early Settlers of the Town of Brownville" was very well received and several questions were asked during the presentation. Paul deliberately started with Jacob Brown but presented his remarks on Jacob Brown without reference to his military history for which he is most noted. Paul's presentation included Jacob Brown being born in Bucks County Pennsylvania on May 9, 1775 of Quaker parents, becoming a teacher, then a land surveyor, coming in contact with LeRay De Chaumont, and lobbying for Brownville to be the County seat. Many other names were presented, most of whom now have streets named after them and are common names even today. From Dexter's original name being Fish Island or Fish Island Falls to wooden dams on the Black River that were washed away by spring waters within a year or two, many interesting facts and names made the evening's program most enjoyable.

Members gather before the April meeting



On the Web: <http://rootsweb.com/~nyjeffer/jeffsoc.htm>

What's Going on with JCNYS

Jean Coyne for Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary
May 17, 2008

Coroners' Reports and Committal Records

After lunch, Julia Gosier, director of the Lyme Heritage Center, presented an informative program on the Coroners' Reports, which she has abstracted from the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors' books (1881-1954). She has made a copy of her work available at Lyme Heritage Center and Flower Memorial Library. Al Seymour has indexed this collection, making it easy to search.

Julie has also compiled, from the same Supervisors' books, a listing of committals, mainly to the Rome State Hospital and St. Lawrence State Hospital. This resource has not yet been indexed, but it is an excellent tool when trying to locate people from Jefferson County who seem to have 'dropped off the face of the earth.' While most entries do not give much detail, they are valuable in breaking down some of our brick walls.

Copies of the coroner's report books and the committals book were available for those present to look through.

Julie reminded us that a coroner was obligated to investigate and report on any violent or unexpected and unattended death.

The Lyme Heritage Center is in the process of moving into the former Citizen's Bank in Chaumont. This building provides space on the ground level and is accessible to the handicapped.



Julia Gosier seated at the materials for sale table

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued From Page 5)

The Earl Farmstead Project

After the business meeting concluded, Dr. Tim Abel presented a powerpoint presentation and talk about the steps he followed in gathering information and drawing conclusions about the Earl Farmstead Site. This site is located on Rt. 11 in the Town of LeRay on land Walmart developed for its superstore. Dr. Abel was hired to conduct an archaeological survey of the area to see if there were any artifacts of historical significance on the property. After locating remnants of a homestead, Dr. Abel began his research to discover more information. Most of the tools he used are available to us in our research: maps, census records (especially the agricultural censuses, since this was farmland) and genealogy sites on the internet. From all these sources, Dr. Abel was able to form a picture of the Earl family and their homestead. He concluded that what he had uncovered on the Walmart property was the remains of a house built between 1840 and 1850 and occupied by the George Earl family. No other family ever lived there, and the house burned to the ground between 1870 and 1875. A son, Wright Earl, probably built a second house near the original homestead after it was burned. Dr. Abel cautioned that, while genealogical websites can be extremely helpful, they can also provide inaccurate information. So, use the internet with caution.



**Dr. Tim Abel presents his talk on
The Earl Farmstead Project**

The Will Abstract Project

Jean Coyne gave a brief talk about the steps the JCNYGS went through to create our will abstract book. The project began in January 2001, with a series of meetings to lay the groundwork for abstracting infor-

mation from the early Jefferson County wills. Decisions were made about what information we needed to take from the wills. A work sheet was created for the abstractors to use and a system was set up for doing the actual abstracting. Over a dozen people worked on the project in various capacities: abstracting, typing, proofreading, etc. By the end of 2002, the first 5 will books were finished. We spent about a year waiting for our first volunteer typist to produce any work, then turned everything over to Suzi Howard who typed and formatted the material in an amazingly short time. By the end of 2003, the typing was done and the work had been proofread and edited. There were various delays throughout 2004, but Benjamin Printing in Watertown was very helpful. All the material was given to them in November 2004, and the finished work was available for sale by January of 2005. So, our first book took four years from conception to publication. Sale of the book has been steady, and about two-thirds of our original printing has been sold. Work has come to a standstill on a second volume of will abstracts, but may resume soon.



**Jean Coyne presents her talk on
The Will Abstract Project**

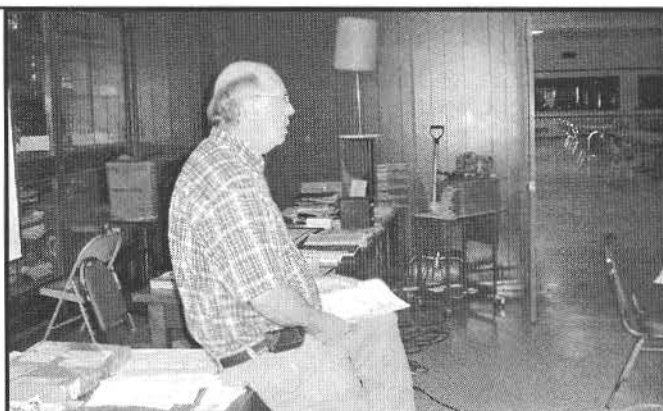
Adoption Searches

Larry Corbett provided excellent information on locating information for adoptees looking for their birth families (or families trying to locate children given up for adoption). As Larry noted, genealogical societies are often contacted by people trying to make connections, and while adoption records are sealed, there are ways to help such people. One way is through online support groups and computer searches (e.g., adoption.com; nyadoption.org, missing in adoption, etc.). He suggests registering with several sites and checking back often to see if there are any matches.

(Continued on Page 7)

(Continued From Page 6)

He also mentioned that New York State has a 'passive' adoption registry. This means that if both the birth parent and the adopted person sign up, the registry will supply them with information on how to contact each other. Other states may handle requests relating to adoption in other ways. He also mentioned that some agencies, such as the Salvation Army and Catholic Charities, now have a more open policy towards those searching for family. Another possibility is to search christening records for clues. In short, although adoption records will usually only be opened in case of medical need, there are other possibilities that might be of help to someone conducting an adoption search.

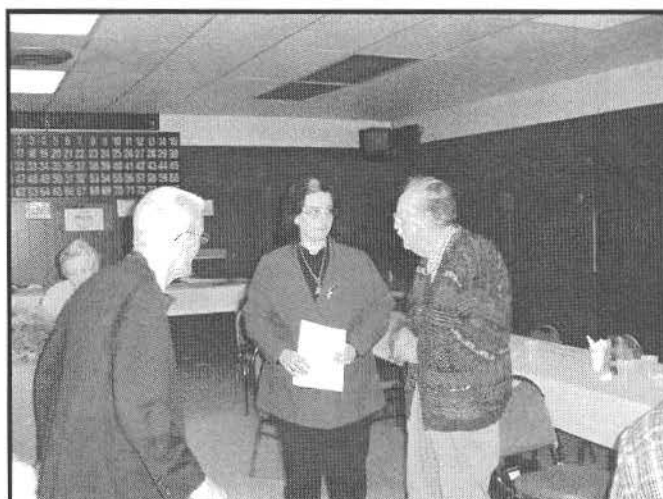


Larry Corbett presents his talk on Adoption Searches

New from Al Seymour!

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NYS COGO President Maureen Davis talks with Bill Dixon of JCNYGS as NYS COGO member Carter Livermore looks on!

NYS COGO Treasurer Clarissa Stallknecht and NYS COGO member Dennis Eickhoff enjoy a moment before the meeting.



Births - Marriages - Deaths

J.C.N.Y.G.S
D V D

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jcnygs@imcnet.net

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF GENEALOGICAL ORGANIZATIONS

At a summer, 1990, genealogical conference in Rochester, several leaders of NYS genealogical and historical societies realized they wanted to know what others were doing in their groups, perhaps create some sort of council that could interact with state government agencies, and even help to educate beginners on how to do genealogy. That fall they met at the Fulton Public Library in Oswego County, NY, to discuss this and see if there was enough interest in forming a viable state-wide organization. There was and they did!

In April 1991, a constitution and bylaws were written and adopted at the next meeting in Fonda, NY. Officers and trustees were elected, appointments were made, and the organization was underway. The purposes of this organization were stated in Article II of the Constitution: "to promote an interest in genealogy; to facilitate communication between researchers and genealogists; to provide a forum for local and state-wide action; to utilize various educational means to further genealogical knowledge."

They quickly realized that a newsletter would be the best way to keep the lines of communication open. *The Lifeline*, the quarterly newsletter, began in 1991. There have been several editors, each one relying on members and delegates from member organizations to contribute information in a timely manner for inclusion in the newsletter. Feature articles, minutes of NYSCOGO's meetings, treasurer's reports, and news of state government agencies are among the subjects covered in this eight-page quarterly.

The council is composed of over thirty organizations and over fifty individuals, most from New York State. Some are public libraries, and many individual members also belong to their local genealogical or historical society, which may or may not be a NYSCOGO member. Each member organization names two delegates to the semi-annual business meetings, usually held in conjunction with an all-day workshop or other genealogy-related activities.

In keeping with their desire to further genealogical research in New York State, they met with offi-

cial from the Department of Health to secure better access to the state's vital records in Albany. Eventually, they were pleased to learn that the DOH was placing indexes to these birth, death, and marriage records at the State Archives, thereby extending their usefulness to researchers. Since then those indexes have been distributed to other locations around the state.

NYSCOGO published *Naturalization Records of New York State* in 1996. This lists the location, by county, of the naturalization records existing in NYS locations. There are still copies for sale, at \$10 each. This publication was the result of teamwork by many members, visiting their local county offices and compiling the information. The fact that this is a statewide organization and has members from all over the state made it possible to carry out this task. Other publications of statewide value are under consideration now.

In 1997, NYSCOGO requested that Governor Pataki recognize October as Family History Month. Due to the efforts of a few dedicated people in this organization, a proclamation was signed by the Governor so stating. He has so designated October in succeeding years.

Also in 1997, NYSCOGO was present with a booth at the Valley Forge, PA, National Genealogical Society conference. People from other states became acquainted with their mission and their activities through handouts about this organization and about research opportunities in NYS.

In 2004, the mission of NYSCOGO was broadened to now provide leadership in facilitating the work of nonprofit organizations with genealogical and/or family history orientations, to encourage the development of genealogical and family history-oriented organizations in areas of NYS not currently served by such organizations, to identify and create resources which have statewide genealogical and/or family history significance, and to represent the interests of NYS genealogists in state and national venues.

A genealogical, historical, or family lineage society can join NYSCOGO for \$25 a year. Public libraries and other organizations are welcome, as well. Individual membership is \$10 per year, which entitles the member to receive the quarterly newsletter and the opportunity to attend interesting and informative presentations.

Finishing the Dollinger House Register

Here are the last 3 pages of the 1887-88 Register of the Dollinger House which was in Redwood, NY. This work by Linda Malinich, our JCNYS Past President, was first featured in the July and September 2004 issues of the *Informer* as well as the November 2005, January, March, July, November 2006, January, March, September, November 2007, and January and March 2008 issues. The following three pages continue after those pages. There is also a summary of Linda's work on page 20 in the November 2004 *Informer* that will be of interest to readers.

- W -

Wagner, S.W. Apr 12	Amsterdam
Wagoner, Henry Mar 19	Albany
Wagoner, J. Feb 14	Pamelia
Wagoner, J.A. & wife May 31 Jacob Abeel Wagoner (1827-1898) (Walton St Cemetery – Alexandria) Jacob's wife: Maria VanCamp (1827-1910)	Alex Bay
Wagoner, D.A. May 31 DeElton A. Wagoner (1863-1928) (Walton St Cemetery – Alexandria)	Alex Bay
Wait, C.D. Aug 19 Carlisle Dean Wait (1817 – 1898) (Hillside Cemetery – Antwerp)	Antwerp
Walcott, W.D. Sept 27	Philadelphia
Walker, H.A. Aug 30, Oct 1, Nov 7, Feb 25, Mar 5 Harold A. Walker (1890 Boston Dir, salesman)	Boston
Walker, _stus? Sept 20	Theresa
Walker, Wm. Aug 25	Utica
Wallace, D. Oct 10	Carthage
Walts, C.H. Dec 8 & 9 Charles H. Walts (1888 Watertown Dir, County Judge, lawyer, 8 Winslow) C.H. Walts (1880 Census, Watertown, County Judge, age 40) Charles H. Walts (1838 – 1907, Section J) (North Watertown Cemetery)	Watertown
Walts, Nelson Sept 16, Feb 22 Nelson Walts (1831-1906, Grove Cemetery) Nelson E. Walts (1864-1951, Grove Cemetery) (Child's – Orleans, breeder of Ayrshire cattle)	Orleans Four Corners
Warner, D.V. Aug 27	Lowville

Warner, J.P. Mar 5	Ohio
Walsh, Tom & wife Aug 22	Utica
Ward, A?H. Nov 26	Redwood
Warner, Chas W. May 26	St. Lawr
Wart, Sherman Nov 2 Sherman Wart (1880 Census – Sandy Creek, Oswego County, granite & marble dealer, age 31) Sherman Wart (d. Jan 9, 1893, Sandy Creek (<i>Jefferson County Journal</i> , 1/17/1893))	Sandy Creek
Waterman, Henry Sept 1	East Florence
Watson, J.Y? Jan 19	Redwood
Webb, R.W. (various places) Cape Vincent & Syracuse & Watertown May 18 (Watertown), Oct 6 (Cape Vincent), Nov 2 (Cape Vincent), Dec 1 (Syracuse)	
Webster, W.A. Jan 25 William Webster (Child's – Gazetteer – St. Law- rence County, (Hammond), road commissioner & farmer) William A. Webster (1880 Census – Hammond, (farmer, age 37) William A. Webster (1843 – 1930) (Rarick Cemetery – Hammond)	Hammond
Weeks / (Meeks?), James Dec 2	Utica
Welch, Ed M. Sept 16	Hammond
Welch, Ned June 23	Hammond
Wells, Dwight M. Jan 17, Mar 6, Apr 16 Dwight M. Wells (1888 Syracuse Dir. com. trav)	Syracuse
Wells, E.L. July 14	Utica
Wesie?, Charlie Oct 28, Oct 31	West Bangor (Franklin County)
West, W.L., J.P. Jun 11, Jun 25 W. Lester West (1851-1923) (Redwood Cemetery - Alexandria)	Crooked Creek (Town of Alexandria)
Western, _? C. May 23	Constableville
Wetmore, C.A. Jan 17, Feb 21, Mar 27 C.A. Wetmore (1891 Utica Dir, com. trav)	Utica
Wheeler, C.F. Mar 26	Albany
Whelpley, J.W. Sept 12 James W. Whelpley (1890 Washington, D.C. Dir, assistant treasurer of the United States)	Washington, D.C.
Whil_, ?G. July 2	City
White, Charles H. Mar 7	Jamestown

White, Geo. Mar 18	Theresa	May 31	
White, H.A. June 22	Redwood	Winslow, W.A. July 21	Watertown
White, John Nov 22, Dec 26 (res. Redwood, Child's – Alexandria, laborer)	Redwood	Wm. A. Winslow (1888 Watn Dir, produce dealer) William A. Winslow (1833 – 1915, Section R) (Brookside Cemetery, Watertown)	
Whitford, P.D. Sept 10	Edwards (St. Lawrence County)	Wis___, W.L. June 6	Hammond
Wickesser, F.J. Oct 13	LaFargeville	Wiswell?, J. Mar 23	Alex Bay
John Wickesser (Child's – Orleans, farm laborer)		James A. Wiswell (Child's – Alexandria (Plessis), dealer in drugs & groceries, postmaster) James A. Wiswell (1849-1934, Plessis Cemetery)	
Wickwire, M. Nov 28		Wockesser, F.J. Sept 19	LaFargeville
Wiggins, F.S. Sept 8	Syracuse	Wolfe, Wm P. Jan 5	Watertown
S. Stanley Wiggins (1888 Syracuse Dir, com. trav)		William P. Wolfe (1880 Census – Cape Vincent, clothing merchant, age 32)	
Wilcox, Chas. H. Jul 25, Aug 29, 30 (Jun 29 – caught a 20 pound fish)	Earlville (Chenango County)	Wolten?, J. Mar 23	Alex Bay
Charles H. Wilcox (1902 Chenango Co. Dir, laborer)		Wood, A.H. Sept 6	Redwood
Wilcox, Irving Jan 4		Wood, B. Feb 25	New York
Irving Wilcox (Child's – Alexandria, farmer)		Wood, G.W. June 21	Utica
Wiley, May July 15		Wood, J.H. & one June 8	Lowville
Williams, A.D. Dec 22	Plessis	Julius H. Wood (1895-96 Lewis Co. Dir, res. Lowville, fire insurance & real estate)	
Adelbert D. Williams (Child's – Alexandria, cows, breeder of Clydesdale & Hamletonian horses)		Wood, Jason May 14	Philadelphia
Adelbert D. Williams (1852-1928, Plessis Cemetery)		Jason Wood (1832-1916) (Sandy Hollow Cemetery – Philadelphia)	
Williams?, A. Nov 23	Utica	Wood, John Dec 2	Syracuse
Alfred H. Williams (1894 Utica Dir, A.H. Williams & Co., wholesale druggists)		Wood, S.G. Dec 21	Albany
Willich, F.E. Mar 21	N.Y.	Woodman, J.G? June 24	New York
Willmonth?, Mar___ Oct 16, Oct 26	Canton	Worden, R.C. Nov 22, Dec 14, Jan 25, Feb 21, Mar 20	Syracuse
Wilson, N.J. Mar 21	Evans Mills	Rufus C. Worden (1888 Syracuse Dir, com. trav)	
Nelson J. Wilson (Child's – LeRay, farmer)		Wratten, W.H. Aug 19, 20, 21, Sept 23	Utica
Wilson, R.A. June 13	Theresa	(Sept 23: 2 pickerel, 21 lbs; 30 bass, 70 lbs, J. Dollinger, oarsman)	
Windsor, H.J. (aka Winsor) Aug 22 (with W.K. Loomis), Sept 27, Dec 5, Jan 17, Mar 24	Norwich	William H. Wratten, Jr. (1887 Utica Dir, com. trav) William H. Wratten (1892 Utica Dir, bookkeeper)	
Herrey J. Winsor (probably 'Henry') (1880 Census, Norwich-Chenango Co, cooper, age 33) Henry J. Winsor (1902 Chenango County Dir., Norwich – emp hammer factory)		Wright, A.S. Dec 13	Burlington, VT
Wineburgh, H. & wife Aug 22	Utica	A.S. Wright (1888 Burlington Dir, traveling salesman)	
Hyman Wineburgh (1894 Utica Dir, J. Wineburgh & Sons, dealers in diamonds, watches & fine jew- elry, 32 Genesee)		Wright, E.H. Sept 12	Lowell, Mass
Winslow, B.	Alex Bay	Edward H. Wright (1889 Lowell, Mass Dir., trav. Salesman)	

Wright, H.K. July 14	Wegatchie
Wright, Jno. F/T Feb 10	New York
Wyeth, F.L. June 4 Frank L. Wyeth (1895-96 Lewis Co. Dir, traveling salesman, p.o. Denmark)	Denmark

- X -

- Y -

Young, C.H. Mar 12	Syracuse
Young, James June 7	Rossie
Yost, C.G. June 7, Nov 9 Charles G. Yost (1859-1936) (Oakwood Cemetery - Theresa)	Theresa

- Z -

Zoller, H.H. Jan 11, Feb 18 (Harrison) Harrison H. Zoller (Child's - Alexandria, farmer) Harrison H. Zoller (1843 - 1927, Redwood Cem.) or	Redwood
Zoller, Ruben Jan 31 Ruben C. Zoller (1860 - 1943, Redwood Cem.)	



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HISTORIAN DESCRIBES EARLY HAYPRESSING

by the late Ernest G. Cook, written in the 1930s.
TI Sun, 7 June 2006

Alexandria Bay-- It was 70 years ago that a strange looking outfit was drawn into the little hamlet of Orleans Four Corners and the machine created no little attention. It was called a hay press and it was being fixed up so as to start work in the early fall, pressing hay on some of the farms, the hay going to New York City by the newly-opened railroad that had but recently started operating from Clayton to Theresa Junction.

Adam Klock, a farmer residing on the rich lands of the Honey Flat section, had agreed to sell his hay and the next thing was to find a crew to operate the press. The late R. C. Parker consented to take that position. He was a former school teacher in the Orleans Four Corners school but was a strongly built man and a natural leader.

He was to look up his own crew, or jumpers, as they were soon to be called. He interviewed the late G. C. Timmerman, Orleans, a heavy man, to act as one jumper but he was not so successful in finding the other. It was thought that a jumper must be a heavy man so as to pound the hay hard in the tall, high hay-box.

That tall, high box was the drawback in getting help, for it looked as if a man was in real danger to stand up so high in the air and only on the narrow beam of the press. At last Mr. Parker found Charles Bauter, "Chub" they called him, and he consented to go.

So the first press to operate extensively in the Orleans section started out. Years after, as the sale of hay reached its peak and trainloads of hay were shipped from Orleans, this was the great cash crop of farmers and the cash helped pay for many farms. It is stated that as high as a trainload a day of baled hay went out of the Clayton-Orleans section.

The members of that first crew are all dead. "Chub" Bauter retired to Theresa village and spent many an afternoon visiting with his next door neighbor, A. C. Wilcox, father of supervisor Orin S. Wilcox, a former farmer in the Creek Road district, Alexandria.

In early days as high as 30 pounds of hickory wood was put on each bale of hay to keep it in shape, it was said, but the city buyer paid for the wood at hay prices, for he bought it as it was. The wood was always deducted from the totals when the farmer received his pay. Now the heavy wood has been omitted in fact "Press hay has all but gone on many farms."

JCNYGS

And Other Historical and Genealogical Organizations

By Nan Dixon

Shortly after the meeting described in Pat James's article on pages 8, 9 and 10 in the May *Informer* a group of us met to decide what direction this new organization should take. John and Ellen Bartlett were the instigators. After a long and argumentative discussion, we decided that this would be an historical as well as a genealogical society, and that it would be a society and not just an organization.

The *Informer* supports this historical aspect of JCNYGS in the many articles it publishes on the history of various towns and groups. JCNYGS recognizes the little local historical societies that have sprung up all over the county, such as Redwood Historical Society, Dexter Historical Society, Alexandria Township Historical Society, Lyme Heritage, Historical Association of South Jefferson, Town of Watertown Historical Society, Thousand Islands Museum, and Cape Vincent Museum. The last two mentioned museums are not just rooms of display cases of dusty artifacts. Both the Thousand Islands and the Cape Vincent Museums have active collections of both genealogy and history.

Another Jefferson County museum on a far larger scale is the Northern New York Agriculture and History Museum at Stone Mills, with 50 acres of grounds and buildings and a program that celebrates the farms, farmers, farmers' wives and children of the late 1800s. Marguerite Rainieri, the museum director, has initiated Farmer Boy Days after the popular Laura Ingalls Wilder book. This year Farmer Boy Days attracted the fourth graders from ten districts, most having an all day exposure to farm life through fourteen lessons of twenty minutes each.

This same sort of program is also offered each spring by the Historical Association of South Jefferson in Adams and the Jefferson County Historical Society in Watertown. The children have a taste of every thing from home made bread and freshly churned butter, in which they participate from start to finish, to a taste of lessons in a one room school house, conducted by a real teacher, who makes the blueberry ink they use with their quill pens.

The presenters, all volunteer, of course, learn as much as the children, but not the same subject matter. An effort is made to keep the classes to ten students, to

give them time to ask questions. Those questions have a way of flabbergasting the presenters, all of whom were brought up on farms. The volunteer showing them how their ancestors washed clothes on a scrub board and hung them up to dry was floored by entire classes who didn't know what a clothes pin was, or how to use it. "How do you keep the clothes on the line?" was the question.

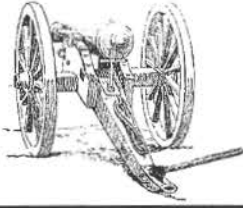
Then there was the entire class who saw a hen lay an egg. They unanimously agreed they'd never eat eggs again...look where they came from! Milking goats brought a fit of giggles, but surprisingly, boys got into quilting and rug hooking. All of the classes tried to give the children hands on experience.

Family history was one of the topics. Despite a lot of propaganda to the contrary, the family history people had no problem with parents. They stayed away from any dogma or morality issues, and instead concentrated on the evolution of costumes in Jefferson County from the earliest days to the present, through a collection of wedding pictures of a single family. Emphasis was on the number of ancestors each child would have in a few generations, with both charts and photographs to bring those vast numbers home. Each child took an abbreviated, simple three generation chart home, so that their parents could help, if anyone was interested.

All during the day the children were shown how hard their ancestors had to work, a revelation for many of the apartment dwelling couch potatoes. They had a chance to pump water from a well, and carry it by means of a neck yoke. They carded wool, and watched it spun. They saw the farm wind mill at work, rode behind oxen and horses, watched the blacksmith, wore sun bonnets (girls) and neckerchiefs (boys), and enthusiastically wore each and every presenter to a frazzle...cheerfully.



CIVIL WAR BIOGRAPHY



GEORGE H. DRYDEN

George H. Dryden, son of John H. Dryden and Lydia M. Clark, was born in 1846 in Lyme, NY and at the age of 15 years enlisted in Company K, 94th New York Volunteer Infantry, in November 22, 1861, and participated in the battles of Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and others, and served to the close of the war. George was mustered out June 28, 1865 in Albany, NY. He married Salina, daughter of Henry White, in 1867, and they had children as follows: Ella L., Burt J., Jennie M., Pearly G., and Lewis G. Mr. Dryden resided in Adams Center village. George died January 2, 1927 in Adams, NY.

He is survived by two daughters and three sons, Mrs. Ella Stevenson of Barnes Corners, Mrs. Addie Wilson of Adams, Bert and Perl George of Rochester and Lewis of Syracuse; also eight grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren; two brothers, Clark of Syracuse and Frank of Adams Center. The funeral was held Tuesday at 2 o'clock at the M. E. church in Adams, Rev. W. A. Gardner, pastor of the church officiating. The remains were placed in the vault in Elmwood cemetery to await burial in the State Road cemetery in the spring. The bearers were Will Jones, Arthur Greene, Dr. Babcock, Chester Williams of Adams Center, D. F. Griggs and Herman Denney of Adams.

Jefferson County Journal, Wednesday, February 9, 1927

Story of George Dryden and his Company

An interesting letter concerning Civil War days in Jefferson county from Charles H. Sprague, of Denver, Colo., was printed in the Watertown Daily Times last week. Mr. Sprague, formerly a well known realtor and clothing merchant in Watertown left this section several years ago, to take up his residence in Colorado. While here he was prominent in the activities of the G. A. R., and the Lincoln League. His communication

follows:

Denver, Colo., Jan. 10, 1927. To the Watertown Daily Times:

I was grieved to read in your issue of the 3d inst. the notice of the death of my old Comrade Geo. H. Dryden of Adams. It recalled to my mind the inspiring spectacle of that 15 year old boy wallowing through the snow fully three feet deep, by the side of his father, John Dryden, both members of my company, K, 94th N. Y. Vols. It was on the 14th day of March, 1862, when the regiment was ordered to leave Madison Barracks for Washington. It had been snowing hard for 24 hours previous, and when we marched out the sally port of the old stone barracks at Sackets Harbor early that morning, bound for Watertown Junction, it was still snowing and blowing hard. It was nearly dark when we arrived at the Junction where we entrained. This was our first battle. While it was a bloodless one, nevertheless, it was a long and tedious one, in which much suffering was endured.

We encountered our second battle the next day. This was with the ice and water of the Hudson River. While our train was crossing a small bay, on a trestlework bridge, the baggage car, the car containing the horses and two coaches filled with men and their equipments, left the track and plunged into the river. In this battle, we lost five killed and several wounded. As I remember it, three of the killed were a father and two sons from the town of Worth. Their names, I cannot recall. The battles of this regiment thus early begun continued throughout the war with increasing casualties.

The regiment was all shot to pieces first year, so during the winter of 1862-63 it was consolidated with the 105th N. Y. Vols., which had served in the brigade with us and was likewise depleted. The 105th lost its identity. The two regiments thus put together, numbered far below the maximum of a full regiment. Many raw recruits were added to the regiment after this. Notwithstanding its heavy losses and hard service, continuously at the front, this old fighting regiment re-enlisted, as a whole, for another three years, or as much of that term as its services would be needed to suppress the rebellion. It had the honor, the glory and the joy of witnessing the surrender of Gen. Robt. E. Lee and the rebel army, to Gen. U. S. Grant at Appomattox court house, Va., Apr. 5, 1865. The happiest day of my life. The regiment was mustered out at Albany, July 31st, 1865. As I was adjutant of the regiment at that time, the muster out rolls all passed thru my hands, thus I know the names of fourteen men were borne on those rolls of the nearly 1000 men that left Sackets Harbor with the regiment in March 1862.

(Continued on Page 14)

(Continued From Page 13)

When I sat down to write this letter, I had but one thought in mind in regard to it. That was to correct an error in the notice of Comrade Dryden's death. These few old reminiscences have crept in. The notice of Georges death stated that he was the last of the 94th. Now I have no desire, or intention of leaving this good old earth for some time yet. I know of three other old bullet proof veterans of the regiment who seem to be of the same opinion. Namely, Joe DeMarse of Mannsville, Delos Tripp and Joseph Fields, both of Watertown. Poor Joe, he failed to dodge all the bullets that came his way in the battle of Bull Run, Aug. 30th, 1862. He caught one of them in his right eye. But Joe never knew he stopped that ball, or whatever became of it, until several years after the war, when one day, while he was working at Sloat & Greenleafs planing mill in Watertown, his throat get so stopped up with dust it put him into a violent cough during which, that bullet flew out of his mouth. Joe can show the identical bullet, and his eye shows for itself where it went in. In looking back to the day of my final discharge, 62 years ago, it is with pride and satisfaction I view the great prosperity and growth this nation has since enjoyed. Today it is the richest, one of the most powerful, the most influential and the best governed nation on the face of this globe. This is a rich reward for the bit which I did, in helping to preserve and perpetuate the legacy our continental forefathers by their sacrifices and suffering transmitted to our care and keeping nearly 100 years before that.

Very respectfully,
Chas. H. Sprague
1512 Steele Street



The following obituary was found in the Vol. 83, Wednesday, January 12, 1927 *Jefferson County Democrat* published in Adams, NY.

CIVIL WAR VETERAN PASSES AWAY

GEORGE H. DRYDEN

George H. Dryden passed away Sunday morning, January 2, at 3:30, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. H. E. Wilson, Adams, at the age of 80 years.

Mr. Dryden was born in the town of Lyme, Jefferson County, in 1846, the son of John and Lydia Dryden. The family moved to Adams Center in 1855. When the civil war broke out he went with his father as a volunteer at the age of 15 years and walked nine miles to Sackets Harbor with his father to enlist on Nov. 22, 1861, in Co. B, 94th Regt. N. Y. Vol. Infantry, and served through to June 26, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. He was a member of De-Allen Cooper Post, G. A. R. of Adams, in which he took an active part. He has been officer of the day a great many years and held that office at the time of his death.

He married Salina White of Watertown, August 15, 1867, and lived at Adams Center where he ran a barber shop for 40 years and also carried the W. S. mail for 28 years.

His wife died Feb. 17, 1921, and at that time he came to live with his daughter in Adams where he resided until his death.

He is survived by two daughters and three sons, Mrs. Ella Stevenson of Barnes Corners, Mrs. Addie Wilson of Adams, Bart and Perl George of Rochester and Lewis of Syracuse; also eight grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren; two brothers, Clark of Syracuse and Frank of Adams Center.

The funeral was held Tuesday at 2 o'clock at the M. E. church in Adams, Rev. W. A. Gardner, pastor of the church officiating. The remains were placed in the vault in Elmwood cemetery to await burial in the State Road cemetery in the spring. The bearers were Will Jones, Arthur Greene, Dr. Babcock, Chester Williams of Adams Center, D. F. Griggs and Herman Denney of Adams.

North Country Visits

Operations of Underground Railroad for Transportation of Slaves to Canada is Recalled – Hugh Smith, Member of Quaker Family and Perch River Merchant, Was Generally Thought to Be One of the Northern New York Persons Aiding in the Operation of the Underground Railroad.

By Ernest G. Cook
Undated, unidentified news clip

The Underground Railway

Around 85 years ago one could hear much about the "underground railway" in northern New York and those well versed in local events knew full well that it was in operation for by its workings runaway slaves were being taken from the southland and put across the St. Lawrence River into Canada and freedom.

Today the workings of that railroad are well nigh forgotten, yet one hears references to it in travels about the section, especially when near the St. Lawrence River. The railway had to have stations, for it was in these stations that the slaves were hidden and cared for over rest periods and as often as not this rest period would be in the day time so travel could be at night. One gentleman in northern New York told that when he was a small boy he could recall one room in the house and one place in the barn where his father told him not to enter. And he could recall that sometimes in the night he would hear a rig drive in and, after a whispered conversation, drive out and away in the night. There would be nights when his father would disappear and the next day, the light wagon might be in the barn, covered with wet mud and the horses resting in the barn. It became known to the boy that the rigs coming in during the night were those of some kindly man far below to the south and that in that rig would be one or more runaway slaves. Maybe a husband and wife who would be lucky enough to unite upon their flight towards the north. After these runaways were cared for during the day by his father in the secret rooms, he, in turn, would take the light wagon, his fast team, and spirit the runaways on toward freedom.

As one travels about Perch River looking for historical events of former years, there is suggestions of the underground railway and the opinion is expressed that the village of Perch River was once a station on this important line.

In the early days of Jefferson County there came a Quaker family from Bucks County, in Pennsylvania, to the region where General Jacob Brown had settled and spoken of so highly, Brownville, and there the father and mother and several children located. They

were of the true Quaker stock, abhorred slavery and were of very philanthropical nature. They were the kind of people that General Brown liked to have settle in his new land. But the father died not long after the coming to Brownville and one of the sons of Hugh Smith, then only a boy entering his teens, began to care for the family. The family was in debt for the lands they had purchased and there were expenses in the sickness of the father, but little by little the mother, with the devotion of her children, was able to clear those debts.

Hugh Smith worked on the farm summers and attended school what time he could spare in the winter. Later he taught school winters. In 1836 he married Charlotte Spicer of Perch River and it was at that time that he started upon his business venture at Perch River for he bought land and took over the business of a country store keeper. He was successful and naturally forged ahead. He served as Postmaster for Perch River for 21 years, or from 1836 until his election as a member of the New York State assembly. He was nominated as candidate to congress on the Abolition ticket and made his campaign with vigor although knowing there was not a chance of being elected.

Naturally Mr. Smith's sympathy was for the slave and it is generally thought that he was one who assisted in the work of the underground railway through the north and especially in the Perch River area. And now comes a rather vivid picture of this underground railway. There recently visited the Thousand Islands a Negro who is a graduate of a well known university and who is now a teacher in a southern school. He came north to visit the section where his father and his mother were taken through via the underground railway and sent in Canada. In Canada the people were kind to the family and the little boy, born after their coming to the new land of their freedom, was looked after and educated by this Canadian lady. This well educated Negro said he wanted to express his thanks to the people of northern New York and to the people of Canada who made it possible for his father and mother to obtain a new start and for his own advancements.

Editor Notes:

Some older residents tell us that the LaFarge mansion near LaFargeville was another station on the Railway. The necessary secrecy surrounding the operation of the railway has resulted in a lack of written or oral history in modern times. The escapees, settled in Canada preserved the mystery of silence to protect others in the United States who might be able to use it. What bravery, not only for the conductors, who faced fines and possible imprisonment, but for those families willing to put their very existence into the hands of strangers.

COMPUTER CORNER

I live on the West Coast and need to do some research on surnames born/living in Watertown late 1790's, early 1800's. Would joining the JCNYGS help in my search? What about NYGS?

Thank You

Charlotte
cafreet@verizon.net

Your letter has been given to me to answer, and I'm really at a loss as to advise you.

Researching via internet is now an established method of finding one's forebears. The main advantage to you for joining JCNYGS would be the newsletter, since you certainly would not attend the monthly meetings, which nearly always have speakers on various aspects of family history.

I know nothing of NYGS, unless you are referring to the New York G&B, which again, would not help you long distance.

If you know which township has your surnames, contact the town historian. I can recommend Website <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~nyjeffer/>>, which will provide you with most of the internet addresses you will need. To get the most value from the site, pay attention to <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nyjeffer/hints.htm> and <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nyjeffer/faqs.htm>.

Our largest repository is the Flower Memorial Library Genealogy Room at <wat-genealogy@ncls.org>. The volunteers there are helpful, but you need to remember they are volunteers, not paid employees.

Hope this helps.

Nan Dixon

Civil War Soldiers Buried in the Town of Champion

Aldrich, Jonathan
Arnold, James
Bennett, Frederick
Bossout, James
Bossout, Alanzo
Bossout, John
Brown, John
Buck, Eugene
Buck, Moses
Case, Joseph
Cory, James
Crook, Ambrose



Dunway, Gustavis
Earl, George
Ford, John
Francis, Albert
Happ, John
Jackson, John
Lewis, William
Lovejoy, Russell
Merrill, Erwin
Merrill, Samuel
Merry, George
Olly, James
Parrie, Nelson
Retan, Thomas
Rood, Daniel
Sorrow, Charles
Spencer, John
Spencer, William
Sterling, John
Stowell, Elias,
Tasket, Henry
Vebber, Hirtam (sp?)
Williams, W. R.



Champion Heads of Households 1800 Census



ASK AUNT JEFF



Dear Aunty Jeff,

I'm writing because I'm missing a locality that shows up on marriage info from newspapers and from census notes but does not show up on the page.

Could you either add or just write back and let me know about the locality of Three Mile Bay? I've been told it's in Jefferson County and some of my ancestors lived there.

Jan in Washington

Dear Jan,

Well, it was bigger in the 1800s than in the 1900s but it's still on the map. My mother was born near there, and the headwaters of Three Mile Crick (Creek to the outlanders) is on our farm. It's the northern arm of Chaumont Bay in the Town of Lyme, and the hamlet is at the head of the bay. Try looking on the 1864 map of Jefferson County, which is in the county atlas. That should show both the bay and the hamlet, in the Town of Lyme on Lake Ontario in Jefferson County. It's also visible on modern New York State or Jefferson County maps.

Aunty Jeff

Dear Aunty Jeff,

A friend just gave me an old wooden cream cheese loaf container from the F. X. Baumert Company. In researching the company on the Internet, I read the following on the Child's Gazette site. Would you be able to tell me if this company is still in business? I am always interested in the origins of my "finds". Thank you very much for any help!

Regards, Lisa

"**F. X. Baumert's** cheese factory, at Sanford's Corners, was established in 1853. Previous to this date, there had been several unsuccessful attempts to manufacture Limburger cheese here. In this year **Mr. Baumert** did a small experimental business, which proved unsatisfactory. In 1854 he continued the work with better results. At this time, it is said, this was the only Limburger cheese factory in the United States. His business gradually increased, until during the late war he had three factories in operation in this vicinity. In 1882 **F. X. Baumert** died, leaving his vast business interests in the hands of his widow, at the time of his death having 10 factories in successful operation in

*Letters may be sent snail mail:
Aunty Jeff, c/o Dixon, 15407 Dixon Rd.,
Clayton NY 13624
or E-mail nandixon@Gisco.net*

various localities. After her husband's death **Mrs. Baumert**, with the assistance of her sons, extended the business. She sent her son **Charles** to Europe, in 1883, to be instructed in the various methods of manufacturing European cheese, and he is now master of the art of making 22 kinds of cheese. A large brick factory, 105 by 34 feet, three stories high, has recently been erected at Sanford's Corners, where the greater part of this extensive business is now located. They now manufacture here various kinds of cheese, among which are Limburger, Munster, Fromage de Brie, Fromage D'Isigny, Camembert, Livarot, and double Creme de Suisse. An office for the sale of their cheese is in New York city, where the principal portion of the products of their factories is disposed of, some kinds at the extravagant price of 45 cents per pound. **Mrs. Baumert** has six sons, all of whom have an interest in the business, which is conducted under the name of **F. X. Baumert**, the founder of the first Limburger cheese factory in Jefferson County, and perhaps the first in America.

Dear Lisa,

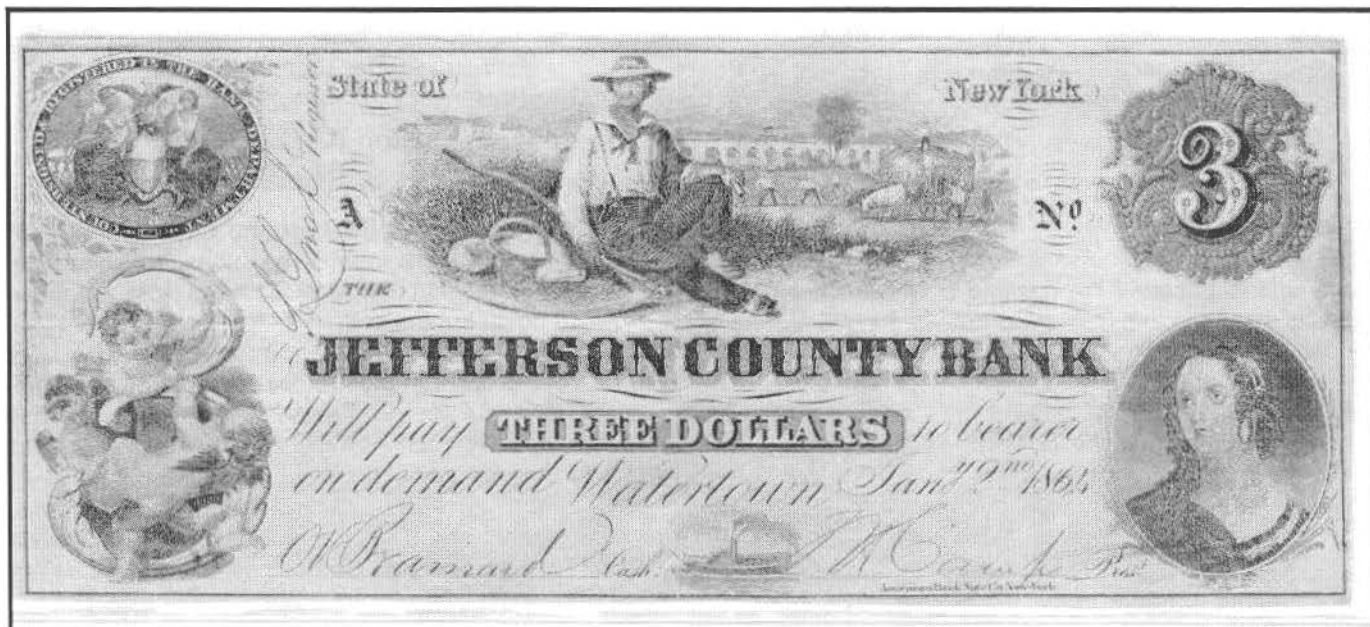
The little cheese factories scattered throughout Jefferson County, so located that a team of plodding farm horses could take the milk to the factory in less than an hour every morning, fulfilled their purpose and went out of business. F. X. Baumert owned several of them. Possibly he was the most influential because of that. Then came the miracle of refrigeration, and milk didn't have to go to the factory every morning, and the further miracle of the railroad enabled the milk to be shipped as milk and did not have to be made up as cheese so that it would not sour.

Other than perhaps an Amish cheese factory, I don't know of any left here in Jefferson County. In my childhood (70 years ago) there were still a few here and there; farmers could get whey to feed the pigs, and the connoisseur (my father!) could still find decent limburger made locally. No one who knew good Limburg would buy it at store...they went to the cool, damp cheese cellar to find it.

Did you know that Philadelphia Cream Cheese came from Philadelphia NY and not PA? It took a lawsuit to settle the question!

Cherish your treasure. I've never seen one.

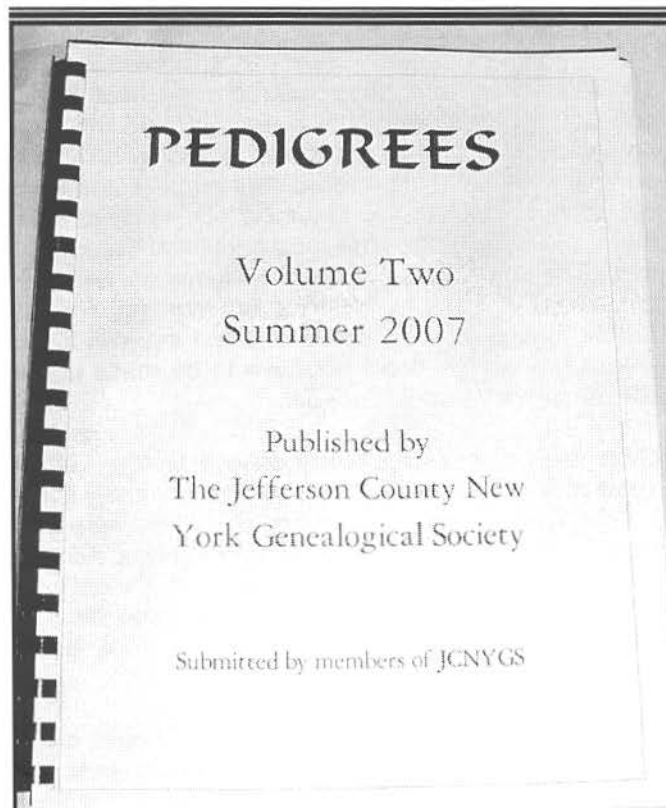
Aunty Jeff



I have acquired a 1864 Jefferson Co. Watertown banknote and was wondering if you can help me. I was wanting a little more history on it. I find it very inspiring but other than that just picked up for my collection of currency. I am enclosing a picture so that it will aid you in helping me. Any info would be greatly appreciated.

Patty Ray

If you can add history of this Watertown banknote, please respond to the *INFORMER* and we will publish the information in a future issue.



This Volume Two of Pedigrees submitted by members of JCNYS is now available. You may purchase one at a cost of \$15 plus \$4.05 shipping from:

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Chaumont, NY 13622
Phyllis@putnamfamily.com

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REMINDER!

Graveside Chronicles

by Linda K Lewis, *Chronicles Editor*

The World of the Cemetery Sexton

Sexton: n. Church custodian charged with keeping the church and parish buildings prepared for meetings, caring for church equipment, and performing related minor duties such as ringing the bell and digging graves.

- Encyclopaedia Britannica

Long before the garden-style cemeteries of the 1800s, burial grounds were located on church grounds, and it was the job of the church sexton, or caretaker, to manage the burials in the cemetery. While today most cemeteries are privately owned, either by a corporation or a cemetery association, and graves are no longer dug by hand, the cemetery sexton still plays a vital role in the health of a cemetery.

At a high level, the role of a cemetery sexton is to take charge of, care for, and supervise the cemetery under the direction of the Cemetery Board or other governing party. But what exactly does that entail?

Opening and Closing Graves

One of the main functions of a cemetery sexton is to open and close graves for interments. In order to do that, the sexton must know where the plots are physically located in the cemetery, the dimensions of the plots, and which graves are filled.

It is the sexton's responsibility to open graves without disturbing prior interments. It would not be a happy event for the backhoe to hit another casket. In some cases this means that the sexton must probe the ground to make certain the neighboring graves will not be disturbed.

Selling Plots

Another major function of a cemetery sexton is to be able to show prospective buyers lots that are available for sale. That means that the sexton must not only keep up with what plots are filled, but also what lots are sold. The sale of a cemetery plot is much like the sale of any real estate and usually includes a deed.

Placing Headstones

Similarly, once a headstone is shipped to the cemetery, it is the cemetery sexton's responsibility to know where the monument is to be installed and direct the installation. In many cemeteries, it is also the sexton's

responsibility to notify the installers when the stone arrives. In most cases this also includes arranging for free installation of military markers that are shipped to the cemetery for installation.

Grounds Maintenance

The cemetery sexton is also responsible for the grounds, turf, and landscaping maintenance. This includes mowing, filling holes and sinking graves, the upkeep of trees and plantings, the cemetery fence (if there is one), signage, and any memorial areas in the cemetery.

Rules and Regs

One of the least favorite jobs of a sexton is enforcing the cemetery rules and regulations. This includes when people can visit, appropriate conduct in the cemetery, grave decorations, and litter. Most modern cemeteries have rules about what can be installed at a grave, and what can be placed at a grave. Some cemeteries do not allow plantings at graves, holiday decorations, lighting, or other memorabilia, while other will allow some or all of these things. Many cemeteries have rules about live and even artificial flowers and post signage stating their policy. This helps to keep the cemetery clean and fresh of pots of dead flowers throughout the harsh winter.

It's all about the Map

Modern cemeteries are typically plotted out and every square inch is accounted for. The cemetery may be comprised of different lot layouts in different sections of the cemetery. There may be differing sizes of graves and usually some smaller crematory plots. A map is created and each grave is identified by some naming or numbering scheme, usually identifying sections, blocks, lots, and plots, and it is the job of the sexton to maintain this map. This map is essential in the ability to do their job.

Not a Mason

It may seem that the sexton has an obligation with regard to the maintenance of markers and monuments; however this is not the case. The monuments are owned by the purchaser and installed on private property (the purchased lot) and it is really the responsibility of the family to perform any cleaning or repair. However, some cemeteries do step up and try to repair and curate old broken stones which have long been forgotten. This is purely a voluntary action on their part, and if they do it, it's because they love their cemetery.

(Continued on Page 20)

Continued from Page 19)

Not a Genealogist

While many people contact cemetery sextons to find out genealogical information on past interments, answering these types of questions, and doing genealogy is NOT their responsibility, and if they choose to provide this information, it is purely of their own free will.

Your Faithful Caretaker

Always remember: it is not the job of a sexton to know what is inscribed on the stone, or the relationship of any individual to any other individual, or to fix a broken stone; it is the sexton's job to keep up the cemetery and to know which lots are filled, what lots are sold, and what lots are available. They have to deal with the finality of death, eternal resting places of loved ones of the living, and be sensitive to the emotional state of the public, sometimes during their time of great loss.

It's not just a job.

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Adopt-a-plot

A GREAT NEW IDEA FOR ORLEANS CEMETERY

Adopt-a-plot...it even has a catchy sound! Richard Barton began the metamorphosis of Orleans Cemetery under the auspices of the American Legion 2 years ago, which wanted to honor veterans' graves there. Overgrown, stones broken or missing, it was a daunting sight. He enlisted the expertise of the Town of Orleans historian, John Merriam, who became an enthusiastic supporter.

Looking at the wilderness, shouting the disrespect many have for our veterans, Richard Barton conceived a scheme with a catchy title: Adopt-a-Plot. For all those forgotten, ignored, desolate graves, Mr. Barton felt that someone, somewhere, could spare a plant or a flower or a pot of flowers to bring some sense of responsibility to that forlorn spot.



This year a group of school boy volunteers helped with the basic clearing, but like washing dishes, this is a job which must be done over and over again to keep ahead of the dismal results of neglect.

So far, this idea pertains to Orleans Cemetery only, but wouldn't it be wonderful to have the idea spread all over the county? How about it, all you good people scattered all over the continent, who regret not being able to DO something? Mr. Barton is concentrating on veterans' graves, but if you have ties to Jefferson County, you almost certainly have graves somewhere here to honor. Ideas, anyone?



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The Will Book contains will abstracts dating from 1830 to 1850. The book contains 194 pages, two maps, and a chart showing the formation of Jefferson County Towns.

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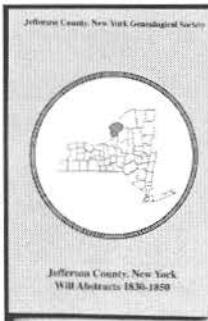
Mail to: **JCNYGS**

Attn: **Robert VanBrocklin**

PO Box 6453

Watertown, NY 13601

If you would like to save on postage, you may pick one up from Pauline Zach (Clayton), or Bob VanBrocklin (Dexter), also at Corbin's River Heritage on Riverside Drive, Clayton.

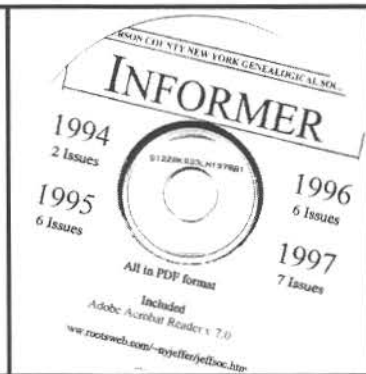


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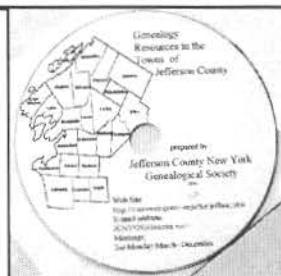


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PEDIGREE BOOK 1

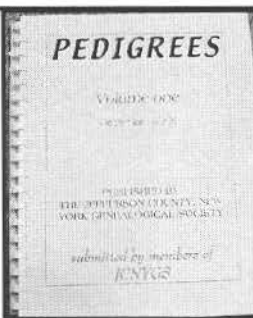
(See Page 18 for Book 2)

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A collection of pedigrees Submitted by members of the JCNYGS

with an every name index



CONTACT: **BILL DIXON**

15407 Dixon Road

Clayton, NY 13624

THE INFORMER

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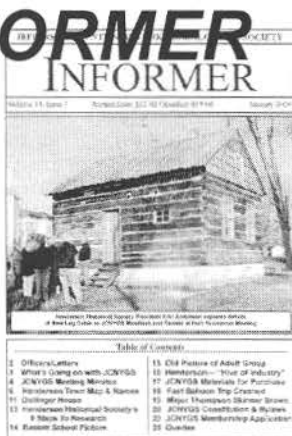
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BILL DIXON

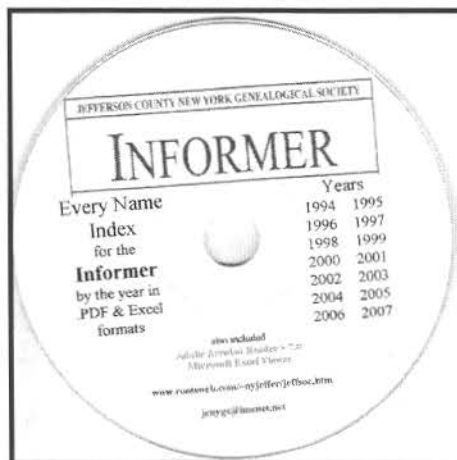
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Jefferson County Queries

Send Queries to: Lis Couch, 24670 County Rt. 159, Watertown, NY 13601; lcouch0624@aol.com

Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

WAGE, WEDGE

Seeking information on **WAGE** or **WEDGE** families, of Jefferson County, New York. Particularly a William **WAGE**, born 1810 NY and wife Annis born 1810-15 NY and son Ezra Bates **WEDGE**. They are in Ashtabula County, Ohio in 1850. Trying to tie him to my enormous files, on Wedge families.

Wanda Wedge Greathouse
4812 Esmar Rd, Space 14
Ceres Ca 95037
WGreath760@aol.com
209-537-8320

HASKIN, BEEKMAN

In researching my gggGrandfather & Mother I have found info stating that they were married in Ellisburg, NY. The year varies but the first child was born in 1780. I am looking for some record of this marriage of Joseph Haskin (1761-1823) & Deborah Beekman (1758-1826) if it is available.

Nancy Haskin
Mineral Point, PA 15942
814-322-1619
nhaskin@atlanticbb.net

BOWLES, EDWARDS, WOOD

This query involves my great-grandfather on my mother's side of the family tree. My mother was Rose (Bowles) Edwards b.1923 d.2000. She was the first child of Carlton Bowles b.1899 d.1967 and Bernice (Wood) Bowles b.1899 d.1975. Both from Evans Mills, New York. Bernice Wood attended Watertown, NY schools as a child until graduation in the 1920s. She married Carlton Bowles in 1923. The children of Carlton & Bernice in order are: Rose, Joanne, Betsy, Lynn and only son John C. Bowles. The two still living are Joanne & Lynn. Rose Mary (Bowles) Edwards b.1923 d.2000 Married William (Bill) Edwards b.1919 d.1967 of Hornell, New York. Note: They met at Camp (Fort) Drum during WWII in 1941 and went on to have 14 children from 1941 to 1967 (seven boys & seven girls). I am Rose & Bill's eleventh child. My name is Kim Robin Edwards (Mr.) (The fifth son). My query involves Bernice Wood Bowles's father who's name was Willard Wood. He was from Jefferson County, and lived somewhere in Watertown, NY in the 20's while Bernice attended Watertown Schools. This query is to try to locate Willard Wood's spouse's name so we can determine who Bernice Wood's mother's name was before she married Carlton Bowles of Evans Mills, NY. Note: Bernice (Wood) Bowles of Evans Mills, NY. Her obituary reads her father's name was in fact Willard Wood.

Kim Robin Edwards (Mr.)
9778 Katella Ave
Anaheim, CA 92804-6460
714-956-5690
jumpstreet22@gmail.com

STEVENS, SPALSBURY, SHELEY

I am trying to find the parents of Almeron H. **STEVENS**. He was born in Jefferson County, NY on 27 Jul 1829. He was an apprentice in the shoemaker trade and worked in the trade for five years before returning to farming (his father's occupation according to Almeron's obituary). He married Matilda **SPALSBURY** in Jefferson County, NY in 1849. She was the daughter of William **SPALSBURY** and Catherine **SHELEY**. Almeron is often listed as A. H. **STEVENS** in records. He and Matilda lived in Jefferson County until 1855, when they moved to Wisconsin.

Stacy Moorhead
205 W Interstate Ave Apt 6
Bismarck, ND 58503
stacyjoomoorhead@hotmail.com

HALL, SMITH

Am searching for any descendents of Lyman **HALL** m. Adelaide Maud **SMITH**, m 6 Jan 1896. We find a Harold **HALL** m. Aledride **SMITH** but not on this particular date. Are they the same persons? Would like to find anyone related to these **HALLS**, my grandmother Elleda Adelaide **HALL** b.1898 Dexter, NY, and her two siblings: Ward Henry **HALL** b. 29 Nov 1900 & Harold **HALL** b.1901. Their father Lyman **HALL** d. soon after birth of last child, he was given away to neighbors who ended up in Vermont.

Jan Johnson
624 151st Pl. NE
Bellevue, WA 98007
jannyj3@comcast.net

CONROY, DRISCOLL, STOTT, HALEY

Stephen **CONROY** and Margaret **HALEY CONROY** from Carthage, Champion owned a milk farm in 1918, RFD 4, Carthage, Champion (H35) on map of 1918 Farms. They had two children: Martin Joseph **CONROY** b. 18 Aug 1879 d. 30 Jul 1971 and Julia **CONROY DRISCOLL** b. 17 Nov 1881 d. 17 Jan 1959. Martin had a wife Nellie **SCOTT**. They took over the **CONROY** farm. I am looking for any information on the family and also the **HALEY** family from Margaret **HALEY CONROY**, daughter of Morris and Johanna **HALEY** (Canada). Her brother Patrick **HALEY** married Mary **CONROY**, Stephen **CONROY**'s sister. They lived in Watertown in 1880.

I am also willing to share my genealogy of the **DEAVENPORTS** from Hounsfield, the **PELOs** from Watertown/Adams and the **HUETTES** from Watertown.

Karen Patruno
15208 N 37th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85032
karenpatruno@cox.net

WAKEFIELD, HOWLAND, CHAPIN, DAVIS, MILLS, ZIMMERMAN

Dear Jefferson County Researchers:

I'm picking up on a thread lost 7 years ago for my ancestors Louisa **WAKEFIELD**, supposed wife of Clark **HOWLAND**, son of Samuel **HOWLAND**.

My Objectives are:

1. Prove Louisa **WAKEFIELD** (b. 1837) was truly descended from Simon **WAKEFIELD**, son of Timothy **WAKEFIELD**/Chloe **CHAPIN**.

2. Prove she married Clark **HOWLAND** (b. 1834).

** Secondary objective, find the ancestors of Clark's father, Samuel **HOWLAND** (b. 1810?) and mother Caroline **DAVIS** (b. 1810?).

Converging Sources:

1. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~nyjeffwe/childada.htm>

Simon **WAKEFIELD**, a native of Vermont, married Mittie **HOWARD**, and about 1810 located in Jefferson County. He served in the War of 1812 and participated in the battle of Sacket's Harbor. He had born to him three sons and five daughters, of whom Emory, Ann (Mrs. Lyman **MILLS**), and Alpheus reside in this town.

2. Email from Lois Morill in 2001:
loisvbrlmrl@erols.com

From Bartlet's/Henderson: **MILLS**, Lyman R. 1820-1908 Smithy N. and **MILLS**, Ann E. (**WAKEFIELD**) Wf Lyman R. 1826-1905.

3. Oral History recited to me by great-grandma Jane **HOWLAND** in 2001:

1. Louisa **WAKEFIELD** (surname was known) married Clark **HOWLAND**. Both were from New York. Clark **HOWLAND** data is elusive because he was supposedly married (5) times and had children by (4) wives.

2. Louisa's son Henry ran a tavern/saloon in Aurora, IL (Kane County) with wife Agnes J. (**ZIMMERMAN**). He died in 1901 due to TB, and his son (Jane's father) Ralph moved here to Mishawaka, IN with remnants of the family. But she doesn't believe Louisa moved with them.

4. Aurora, IL (Kane County) City Directories:

1. Louisa is "Widow of Clark" in years 1904 and 1905, she is listed as "Widow" in 1880-1884, 1890, 1893. Clark didn't die before 1880 so perhaps she didn't

claim he existed (the guy had 4 other wives in total and moved to Nebraska/Colorado).

2. Louisa's son Henry is shown at 116 Main St. (saollon) <1900 (he died in 1901). Louisa is listed at that same address in 1893.

5. Census Records

1870 Federal Census: Elgin, IL (Kane County) confirms Mrs. Louisa **HOWLAND** as head of household. age=33 (therefore born abt. 1837). There are 4 children including Henry (age 5) William (or Wyman) (age 11), Mary (age 14), Ida (age 10)

1850 Fed. Census, Adams NY, (roll 526, P. 153) shows a Ms. Louisa **WAKEFIELD** at the home of Lyman **MILLS** in Adams, NY:

Lyman **MILLS** farmer age 30
Ann **MILLS** wife age 24 (*perhaps this is Louisa's sister?)

Will **MILLS** son age 0.1
Louisa **WAKEFIELD** (no rel. given) age 13 (* This is the only New York entry at the correct age). Implies that it's Ann's sister.

So, summing this all up, the theory is:

Timothy **WAKEFIELD** - Simon **WAKEFIELD** - Louisa **WAKEFIELD**

Louisa **WAKEFIELD** (b. abt 1837 c. unknown) m. Clark **HOWLAND** (d. <1880*)

1. Mary b. abt 1856
2. Wyman or William b. abt 1859
3. Ida b. abt 1860
4. Henry D. **HOWLAND** b. abt 1864 Geneva, IL d. 6/11/1901 Aurora, IL m. Agnes M. **ZIMMERMAN**
1. Harry
2. Elsie
3. Ralph Milton **HOWLAND** b. 7/12/1895 (* my direct ancestor)

From court cases in Aurora (Kane County, IL), we believe Clark's father is Samuel **HOWLAND** b. 1810 NY Further investigation "suggests" Samuel was married to Caroline **DAVIS** who died in 1846 and was buried in Sacket's Harbor.

After her death, 1850 Summit County Ohio federal census shows Samuel and the three kids including Clark (b. 1834), Mary and Martha

Any help would be greatly appreciated.

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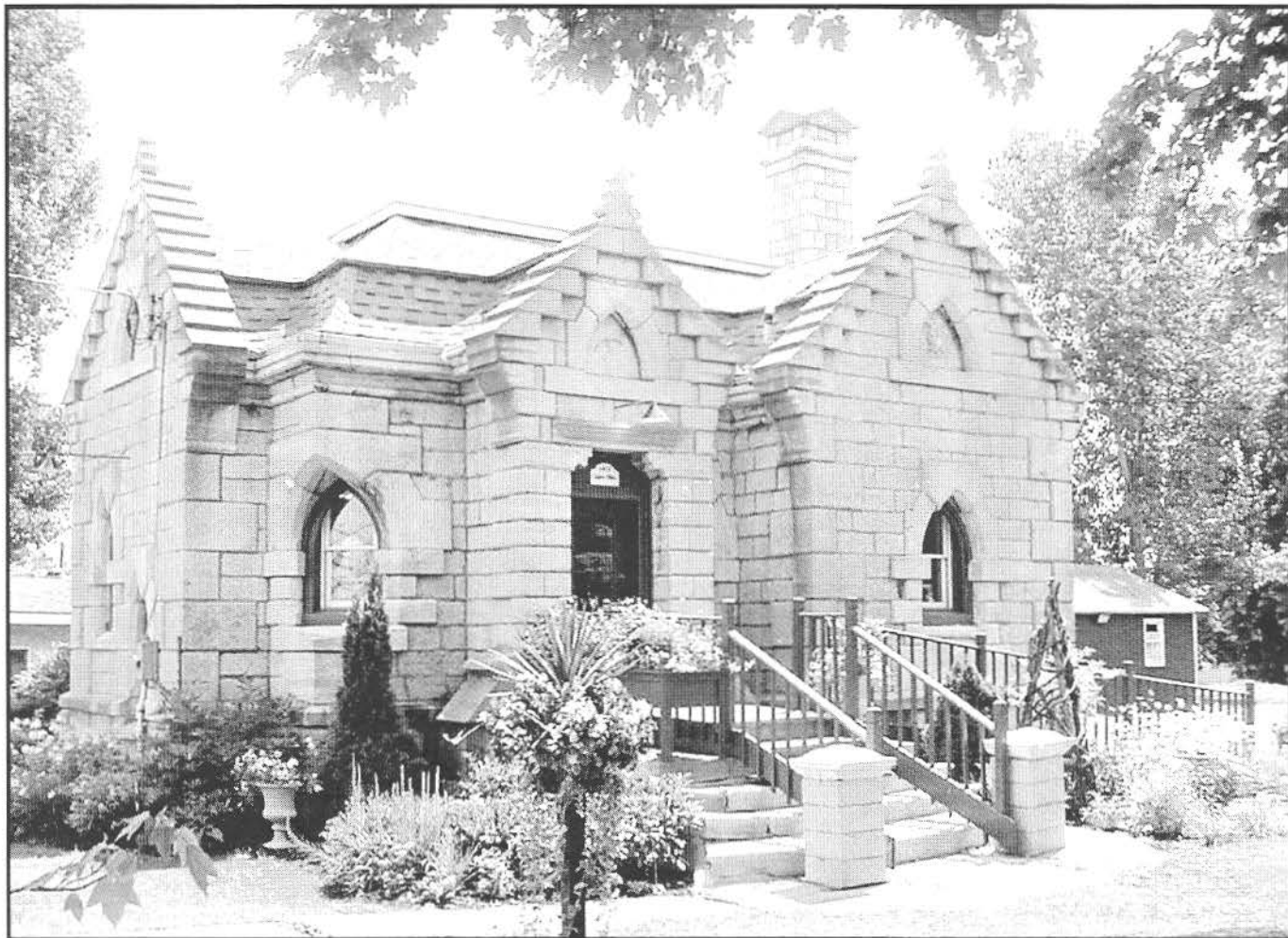
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INFORMER

Volume 15, Issue 5

Annual Dues \$15.00 Canadian \$19.00

September 2008



The Copley, Adams, Duford Stone Office in Chaumont (See Page 5)

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INFORMER SEPTEMBER 2008

Correspondence about dues, memberships, and lost *Informers* should be directed to:
 Jefferson County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 6453, Watertown, NY 13601
 E-mail: JCNYGS@imcnet.net Web site: <http://rootsweb.com/~nyjeffer/jeffsoc.htm>

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The *Informer* Committee includes Bill Dixon, chair; Nan Dixon, nandixon@gisco.net, editor; Clancy Hopkins, chopkins@imcnet.net, publisher. Editorial members (alphabetically) are Bonnie Borrello, sebborrello@att.net; Lis Couch, lcouch30@twcny.rr.com; Jean Coyne, Dcoyne@twcny.rr.com; Jerry Davis, maridavis@aol.com; Linda Malinich, malinich@attglobal.net; Bob VanBrooklin, Ryan992@aol.com; and Pauline Zach, pinzach@aol.com. Feel free to contact any of the above for suggestions or comments regarding this newsletter, published six times a year - January, March, May, July, September and November. A special Surnames issue has also been published in December.

The articles in this newsletter are written purely to stimulate interest in the genealogical history of Jefferson County. If comments are in any way offensive, this was not the intent. All articles, submissions, etc., are the viewpoints and research of various contributors. As such, they do not necessarily reflect the views of the executive committee or members of the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society.

Letters.....

Letters to the editor may be directed to nandixon@gisco.net or to Nan Dixon, 15407 Dixon Road, Clayton, NY 13624.

Pat,

As one of those 900 that are not all that close to Jefferson County NY and one of those persons that have benefited from the many years of your efforts in bringing back to life a great many of our ancestors who were born and raised in the county of Jefferson NY, I want to thank you for your efforts!

That was a very nice article in the May issue of the *INFORMER* giving us outsiders the history of the birth of JCNYGS and the role that you played in making it happen. The name of Sage was one of those early residents of Jefferson County and one of your pedigree charts showing the linkage to the branch of the Sage family that I am a descendant of, was very important in my tracing my ancestors. I have enjoyed your newsletter for several years too, and your cooperative attitude to help all of us to find those family roots. The team effort and cooperation that continues and perpetuates the organization is a tribute to you and all of the 22 founders on the warm night in July of 1994. Thank you Pat James!

Don Sage

(See page 23 for Col. Elias Sage article.)

Genealogist's guide to calorie burning

Activity	Calories
Jumping to conclusions	100
Wading through paperwork	300
Jumping on the bandwagon	350
Opening a can of worms	50
Making mountains out of molehills	350
Dragging your feet	25
Running in circles	200
Pushing your luck	250
Tooting your own horn	25
Adding fuel to the fire	150
Beating around the bush	75
Swallowing your pride	50
Hitting the nail on the head	50
Passing the buck	100
Eating crow	225
Climbing the walls	150
Bending over backward	75
Throwing your weight around (Depending on your weight)	50-300
Getting info from a real Looney	425

JCNYGS

Minutes for June 9, 2008

Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary

The meeting tonight at Flower Memorial Library was called to order by President Jerry Davis at 6:08 with 28 members and 1 guest present. The minutes from the May meeting were read by the secretary and approved by a motion from Clancy Hopkins and seconded by Pauline Zach. The treasurer's report was given by Sally Washer with a motion by Marilyn Davis to accept and seconded by Nan Dixon. It was noted that the Redwood Bank will now become the Watertown Savings Bank. Corresponding Secretary Clancy Hopkins reports that everything is "under control."

Phyllis Putnam, publicity chairman, reported that the usual notices were posted. Next month's program will be Roger Fulton. She handed out posters to be distributed in the area by members.

Bill Dixon, newsletter chairman, reported that the July issue of INFORMER is nearly ready to go and work is starting on the September issue at present.

Membership chairman Clancy Hopkins reports basically the same, with the dues payable July 1st.

For publications: The Vol. 2 pedigree book is now available at \$15 and \$4.05 for postage.

New Business: It was brought to our attention that the Lyme Heritage Center is now at its new location in the old Citizens Bank in Chaumont. President Jerry Davis also gave a special thank you to Julie Gosier, Larry Corbett, Bill Dixon, Dr. Tim Abel, and Jean Coyne for programs and work at the North Side Improvement League for the NYSCOGO meeting. Our guest tonight, Bob Currier from Philadelphia, is interested in the family names Epps, Hodge, Thompson and Giddens in Jefferson County.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by a motion from Clancy Hopkins and seconded by Hollis Dorr.



JCNYGS Members Attending June Meeting

On the Web: <http://rootsweb.com/~nyjeffer/jeffsoc.htm>

JCNYGS

Minutes for July 14, 2008

Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary

There were 27 members and 2 guests welcomed tonight by President Jerry Davis when the meeting was called to order in the Flower Memorial Library. The minutes were read from the June meeting by the secretary and approved by motion from Clancy Hopkins and seconded by Mary Alice Robinson.

Treasurer's report was given by Sally Washer, citing the amounts in the savings, checking and the CD accounts. They were approved by a motion from Lynn Thornton and seconded by Pauline Zach. Sally also reported that the transfer from Redwood Bank to the Watertown Savings Bank was "neatly done".

Corresponding Secretary Clancy Hopkins reported a "quiet month" consisting mainly of membership renewals.

Committee Reports:

Repository: Greg Plantz reported that after several workdays they are nearly organized. It was suggested that some of the local family history information would perhaps be better utilized in the Library genealogy room where they have regular open hours for research. After discussion it was decided to check with them on same. The Genealogical Room is in need of volunteers at their research room if anyone is interested.

Publicity & Programs: Phyllis Putnam reported meeting notices placed as usual. The meeting next month will be Holly Simmons from the Local History and Genealogy Dept. Onondaga Public Library. Posters were given to members to be placed in their local areas.

Newsletter: Bill Dixon reported that work continues on Sept. issue, with villages of Lyme and Three Mile Bay bring highlighted.

Membership: Clancy reported many membership renewed to date. Clancy also reported that the room we are to use at the Library is waiting for the new furniture to arrive, which they hope will be soon.

Nominations: Needed, with slate of officers to be presented at August meeting.

New Business: Phyllis Putnam reported that Lyme Heritage needs financial support after its move and is selling raffle tickets on a collection of Ernest Cook books.

Meeting was adjourned by motion from Clancy Hopkins and seconded by Greg Plantz.

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What's Going on with JCNYGS

Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary
June 9, 2008

The speaker tonight was Pat Regan, administrator of the Jefferson County Message board, and spoke on FINDING HIDDEN ANCESTORS. It was very informative and interesting, giving us several new ideas on places to look for the elusive Grandpa and Grandma.



Doris Monterey listens while speaker Pat Regan addresses the JCNYGS June meeting



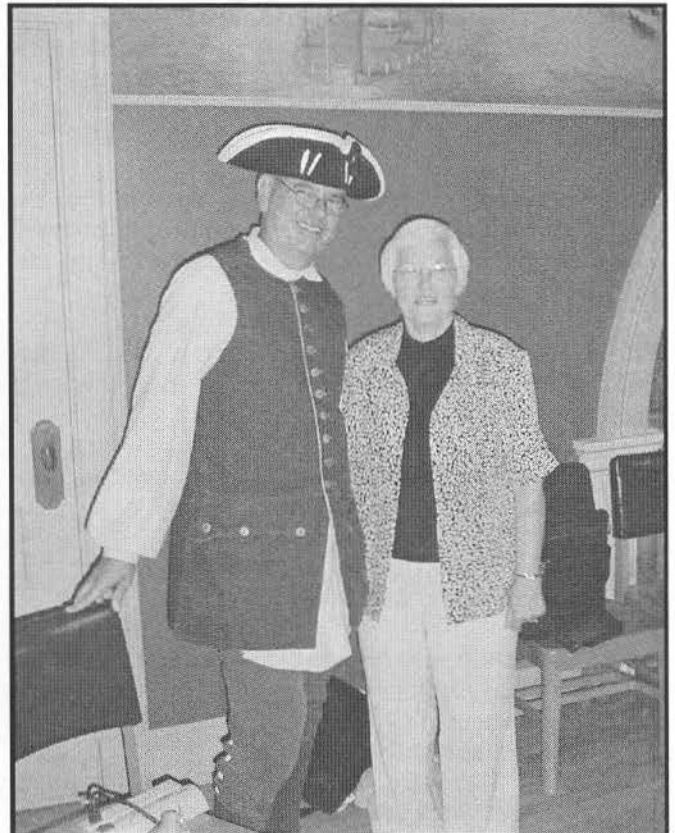
JCNYGS members listening to Pat Regan



What's Going on with JCNYGS

Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary
July 14, 2008

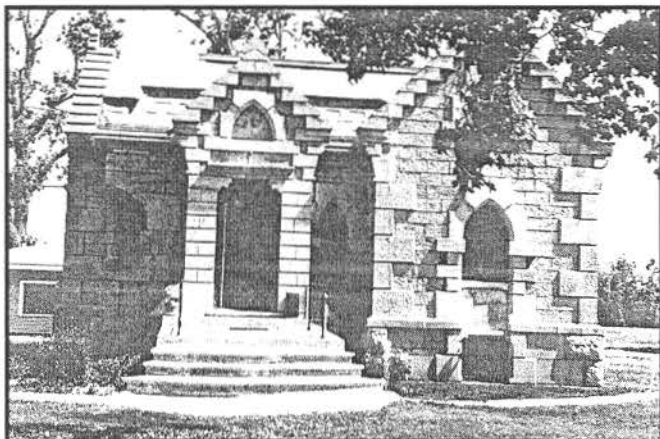
The program tonight was Roger Fulton, historian and author, who presented the Life of the Common Man at the time of the French and Indian War. Roger came dressed in 1790's attire, gave a slide presentation and discussed clothing, weapons, tactics, skirmishes, treaties and the transportation of that era.



In Costume, speaker Roger Fulton poses with JCNYGS Program Chairperson Phyllis Putnam



The Copley, Adams, Duford Stone Office 12046 Route 12E



This Chaumont native limestone Gothic style building built by Hiram Copley in 1872 was an office for the Copley lumber and lime business and in 1902 for the Adams Duford Quarry Company. The stone office has been admired for its craftsmanship and architecture. The windows display a style of cutting and finishing stone. The building which served as a sample for buyers of limestone, features monumentally scaled eclectic Gothic elements and fine limestone ashler. A carriage block and hexagonal limestone posts are located near the street.

The founder of the Copley industries, Alexander Copley, born in Denmark, Lewis County in 1805 married Lucy Kelsey of Antwerp in 1833 and moved to Chaumont where he bought 2562 acres from Vincent LeRay, acquired a house, store, saw and grist mills of William Clark. Three years later, he purchased 16,961 more acres from Gouverneur Morris, engaged in ship building and became a Union Bank director.

Hiram Copley, son of Alexander, born in Chaumont in 1834, graduated from R. P. I. and married Mary Enos of Depauville. In 1871, he assumed possession of his father's Lyme properties operating several lime kilns and stone quarries. He was the Chaumont Village President in 1876, a founder and director of the Alexandria Bay Steamship Company.

In 1891, Hiram sold the properties to his sons Allen E. and George W. Copley for \$150,000. The business was incorporated March 2, 1894 as "The Chaumont Lime and Stone Company" and the name was changed to "The Chaumont Company" June 1, 1896. George W. was the Chaumont Village President in 1886 and Allen E. Copley was President in 1895.

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History of Lyme, NY
From Our County And Its People
A Descriptive Work On Jefferson County
New York
Edited By: Edgar C. Emerson
The Boston History Company, Publishers
1898



The Chaumont House, built by Musgrove Evans, belonged to the LeRay family. It was started in 1806, completed in 1816 and was used as a stage coach tavern.

The region forming the town of Lyme, as originally created was a part of old historic lot number four of the Macomb purchase, and of that part thereof which ultimately passed into the hands of James D. Le Ray, under whose direction it was settled and developed by the pioneers.

In 1801 LeRay engaged Jonas Smith and Henry A. Delamater to undertake the sale and settlement of lands west of Penet's square. In the spring of 1802, they selected a site whereon is now built up the pleasant little village of Chaumont. The same year agents Smith and Delamater built a saw mill on the site of the Copley mill of later years. This was substantially the beginning of civilization in Lyme, and the founding of Chaumont village. A tavern and a store, kept by Henry Thomas, was built, and in that year about a dozen persons came to the settlement, several of whom were mechanics, while still others were deserters from the British post at Kingston. Many maintained themselves by fishing in the bay, and even at that early day this vicinity supplied the less favored regions with fresh and packed fish, and a good share of the product being sent by boat to the villages farther south and east. In 1802 to Point Salubrious came Henry Horton from Delaware county, and about 1805, Daniel and John Tremper came to the locality. Among the other early settlers here were David and Joseph Ryder, Stephen Fisher and Silas Taft.

John M. Tremper came to the point in 1805, and lived in the town until 1873, when he died. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. Henry Horton also served in the war, and died in the town at the age of 84 years. Joseph Ryder died at the age of 90 years. Ralph Rogers came about 1820, and the Johnson family, of whom Levi A. Johnson, of Watertown, is a descendant. Names of still other early settlers include a Mr. Mills, whose Christian name is lost; also William Blodgett, who is said to have originally settled in Watertown, on the site of the Arcade building, where he had a fifteen acre farm; Zimri Dauley, a veteran of 1812; Clark Northrup, from Johnstown; Isaac Wells, from Sackets Harbor; Volkert Getman, from Montgomery county; John Knapp, from Brownville; Frederick Crossehman, whose sons were Richard, Joseph and Frederick; John Wilcox, who came in 1812, and later on removed to Ohio; Nathaniel Warner, a soldier of 1812; Almond Blodgett, a revolutionary survivor; George H. Barnes, from Cooperstown; Clark Northrup, who came in 1819; Capt. Joshua Maine and P. P. Gaige, who built the Gaige mansion. Pomeroy was another substantial surname in Lyme. There were other settlers who came principally during the years following the war of 1812. Indeed, the early settlement of Lyme was peculiar in many respects, and families came and departed almost as regularly as did the seasons.

In addition to those already noted are Roe Minor, who came about 1822; William Mayhew, Isaac Wells, John Knapp, Samuel Fish, James Cooley, Ira Inman, John Mount, Elezer Fenton, William Mayhew, Christopher Fox, Jacob P. Empey (or Empie), James Kingsley, Charles Wilcox, Cornelius Becker and Ransom Watkins, all of whom are believed to have settled in Lyme as early as 1835, and some of them several years previous to that date.

The records show that in 1820, two years after Lyme was set off from Brownville, the town contained more than 1,700 inhabitants. This was the result of hardly more than five years of actual development. As early as 1830 Chaumont had become a place of considerable importance from a business point of view. The fishing interests were then at their height, and important quarries had been opened, and annually thereafter large quantities of building and dimension stone were shipped to market. It is estimated that at least 200 persons were then engaged in these industries.

The name of the town was selected by Eber Kelsey, who was a native of Lyme, in Connecticut, from which state there came many early settlers in this part of Jefferson county. The name Chaumont Bay was given to that body of water in reference to the native place of James D. Le Ray.

(Continued on Page 7)

(Continued from Page 6)

The first town meeting was held at a tavern kept by Luther Britton, March 3, 1818, at which time officers were elected as follows: Supervisor, Richard M. Esselstyn; town clerk, John Dayan; assessors, John B. Esselstyn, Luther Britton, Benj. Estis; school commissioners, Richard M. Esselstyn, James M. Craw, Benj. T. Bliss; overseers of the poor, J. B. Esselstyn, Luther Britton; fence viewers and poundmasters, John M. Tremper, Eber Kelsey, Thaddeus Smith; highway commissioners, Elnathan Judd, John Dayan. Joseph Ryder; constables, Alexander Gage, Daniel Robbins.

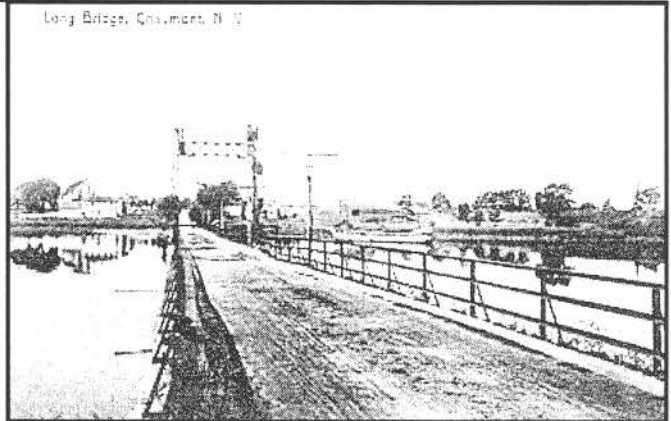
The quarrying interests of the village and vicinity are numerous, and indeed a reasonably good quality of stone can be found on almost any tract of land. This branch of local industry is now represented by the firm of Adams, Duford & Co., and the Chaumont company, both of which also operate two lime kilns. The Chaumont company was incorporated March 2, 1894, as the Chaumont Lime and Stone Company, but on June 1, 1896, the name was changed to Chaumont Company. The incorporators were Allen E., George W. and Hiram Copley.

The growth and production of market garden seed has become an established and profitable industry of the locality. Rogers Brothers are extensive producers in this line, and have a large packing house in the village, furnishing employment to about 50 persons.

The Chaumont dairying company was incorporated March 19, 1807, for the purpose of manufacturing and dealing in cheese, butter, cream, milk and dairy products generally. The incorporators were J. J. Dillenbeck, Charles Combs, Hector Adams, Freeman T. Daniels and W. B. Getman.

The regular mercantile interests are represented about as follows: Eugene Jacquay and Daniels & Haas, general stores; A. James Shepard, grocer and baker; E. J. Seeber, grocery, provisions, flour and feed; Lyman Foster, grocer and clothier; W. N. Van Doren, groceries and boots and shoes; George Bros., hardware; Geo. Wilson and O. P. Read, meats. The hotels are the Peck house, R. J. Saxe, propr., and the National hotel, Geo. Devendorf, propr. The old grist and saw mills, which were owned by Crumb & Benninger, were burned in 1882.

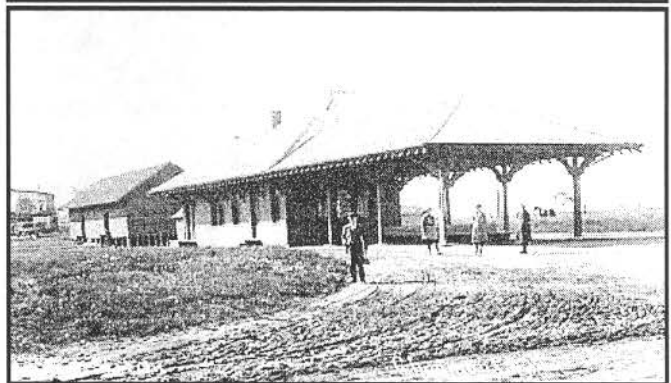
In 1815 the legislature authorized Mr. Le Ray to build a turnpike from Cape Vincent to Perch River, the same to be laid out under the direction of Elisha Camp, Musgrove Evans and Robert McDowell. On April 11, 1849, the commissioners of highways of the town were authorized to borrow \$5,000 for the purpose of rebuilding the bridge.



First Bridge Over The Chaumont River



In 1911 the Scherzer Rolling Lift Bridge company of Chicago built this bridge which was replaced in 1958.



A railroad was completed to Chaumont in 1851

For a period of fifty or more years Chaumont bay was noted as one of the best fishing grounds in the state, and its product in this respect brought comfort to hundreds of early families in its vicinity. One of the first seines used was brought here by Daniel Tremper, and his example was followed by others until seine fishing superseded other occupations and resulted in far more profit. Between the years 1816 and 1855 the annual catch of herring (ciscoes) and white fish (which was packed and shipped to market) amounted to about 10,000 barrels.

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued from Page 7)

This industry, with that of ship building, which was the source of much benefit to Chaumont and its inhabitants, and furnished employment to many persons for a period of about thirty years, began in 1832, and was in a measure the outgrowth of the fishing and quarrying interests of the town.

William Clark seems to have been the pioneer vessel builder, and in that year built and launched the *Stephen Girard*. The *Allegan* was built in 1835, by Robert Masters; the *R. C. Smead*, in 1839 by S. & A. Davis. In 1847 Copley & Main built the *Rip Van Winkle*. Other boats built by the same firm were the *Oxford* and the *Palmyra* both in 1848; the *A. L. Hazelton* in 1851; the *Mary Copley* in 1873, owned by Hiram Copley, Asa Wilcox and J. Gilmore. The *Watertown* was launched in June, 1874, and was built and owned by Mr. Copley, Folger Bros., and W. W. Enos. In October following, Copley, Enos and A. J. Dewey launched the *A. J. Dewey*. In the same year the little steamer *Edith Sewell* was built by Pluche Brothers.

Whatever has been done in this industry during recent years has been the work chiefly of Dyer C. Reed and Eugene Bastian. They built the *Jesse Bain* about 1890, and in 1805 built a small ferry steamer. Mr. Reed now builds skiffs, sailboats and yachts. During the period now passed, W. W. Enos, Hiram Copley and Asa Wilcox were conspicuous in all that appertained to the business progress of the village and were important factors in its building up and growth. Both lived to witness the passing of the old and the accession of a new line of industry in their village.

It is certainly pleasing to note the results achieved by such husbandmen as Rogers Brothers, Isaac Van Doren, Abram Van Doren, Jacob Fox, A. J. Dillenback, J. J. Dillenback, A. L. Pomeroy, James P. Rector, Leonard and Norris Lance, George Barnes, Fred Vincent, Addison Seeley, M. A. Barnes and a host of others. Wm. Dewey's plantation-Ashland farm-was one of the almost historic localities of Lyme, and was developed from a swamp into one of the best farms of the county. It is now owned by J. P. Douglas. John Dingman was one of the characters of the town.

At one time Alexander Copley, who came to the region in 1833, was a very extensive land holder and operator, owning in the county nearly 20,000 acres in scattered parcels. He was an enterprising operator and in all respects an upright and worthy citizen. Of his sons, Alexander and Eugene went to Antwerp, but Hiram always lived in Lyme. George W. and Allen E. Copley are sons of Hiram, and are among the prominent business men of the town.



In 1853 Chaumont contained 50 dwellings, 5 stores, several warehouses and shops, 4 saw mills (two of which used steam power), one grist mill, two schools, a Presbyterian church and a railroad station. As elsewhere stated, the railroad was opened as far as Chaumont, Nov. 20, 1851. In 1870 the people sought to establish an incorporated condition. This was done May 16, 1874, and on June 4, at the first village election the following officers were chosen: J. E. Phelps, president; A. J. Dewey, W. W. Enos and Daniel Fish, trustees; William Dillenbeck, treasurer; William Shall, collector. The officers appointed by the board were O. S. Wilcox, clerk; John W. Horton, street commissioner; William H. Main, police justice.

The village presidents have been as follows: J. E. Phelps, 1874; R. E. Horton, 1875; Hiram Copley, 1876; A. J. Dewey, 1877; W. W. Enos, 1878; R. W. Higgins, 1879; G. P. Swind, 1880; Ira Inman, 1881; F. C. Dewey, 1882; J. F. George, 1883; A. J. Dillenbeck, 1884; Hector Adams, 1885; George W. Copley, 1886; A. E. Copley, 1887 (failed to qualify and John F. Delaney appointed); John F. Delaney, 1888; S. W. Schemerhorn, 1889; J. F. George, 1890; R. E. Horton, 1891; A. J. Shepard, 1892; S. W. Schemerhorn, 1893-94; A. E. Copley, 1895; Daniel W. Fisher, 1896-97.

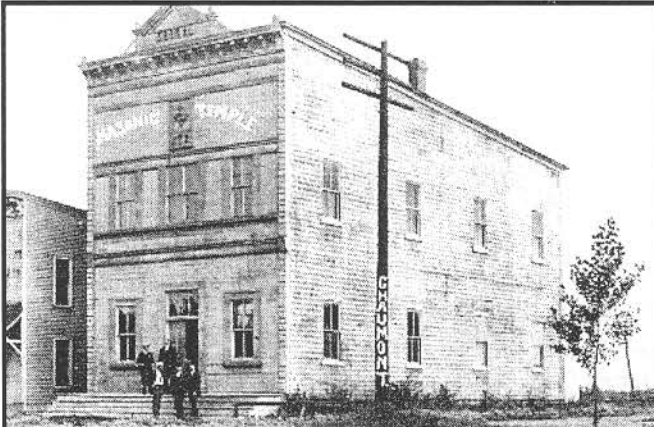
The first school opened in the town was that taught by Nancy Smith in the house of her father, Jonas Smith, the pioneer. After the locality had acquired sufficient population the school commissioners of Brownville exercised authority over the region as a part of that jurisdiction, and maintained a district school; and after Lyme was created a new system was established, and the Chaumont district was provided with a good school under local supervision. From that time a school has been regularly maintained in the village. In 1880 the present comfortable frame schoolhouse was erected.

The union free school district was established November 5, 1897, the board of education comprising Henry L. George, president; R. E. Horton, secretary; Dr. A. A. Getman and W. M. Van Doren. About 130 pupils are on the roll. The principal is C. D. Pitcher.

(Continued on Page 9)



Public School Chaumont NY



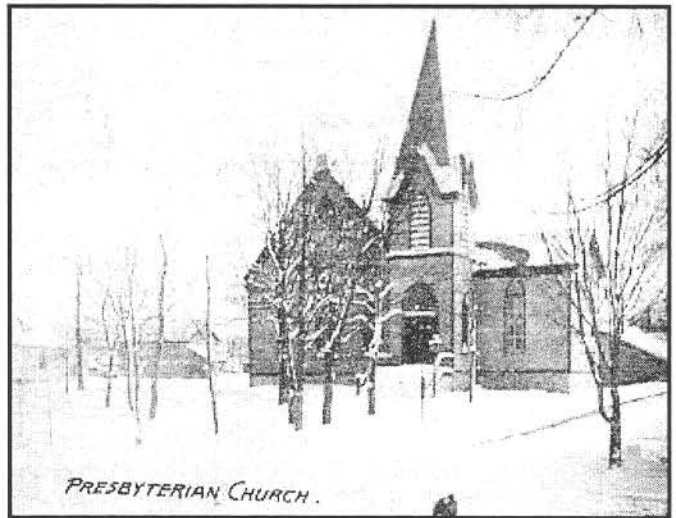
Chaumont Lodge No. 172, F. & A. M.

Editor's note: The former Clayton-Depauville and Cape Vincent Lodges have merged with the Chaumont lodge.

Chaumont Lodge No. 172, F. & A. M., was chartered June 26, 1850, with eleven charter members. From that time the lodge has maintained a healthful existence. The membership is 62; A. James Shepard, master, and J. J. Dillenbeck, secretary. The past masters have been Frederick Bell, P. P. Gaige, George W. Pennock, Joshua Main, James Yoran, Jonathan E. Phelps, William O. Thompson, Solomon M. Byam, Christopher Getman, Henry Haas, William H. Main, Riley B. Horton, Dyer D. Reed and A. James Shepard.

During the summer of 1831 missionary clergymen visited the locality with a view to organizing a Presbyterian church, and on September 22, of the same year, at the village school house, the society was formed with eighteen members, of whom eleven bore the name of McPherson. Wm. McPherson was chosen ruling elder, and afterward Solon Massey was appointed second elder. The first regular pastor was Rev. Joseph A. Canfield, who came to live in Chaumont in 1843. The first trustees were Philip Beasom, Ozias Bandon and Jeremiah Bennett. Mr. Canfield

was succeeded by Rev. Wm. Campbell. The present members number about 80 persons. The pastor is Rev. G. E. Jackson.



Supervisors:

Richard M. Esselstyn, 1818-22; John B. Esselstyn, 1823; Willard Ainsworth, 1824; Jno. B. Esselstyn, elected at special town meeting, Sept, 1824; Willard Ainsworth, 1825-32; Otis P. Starkey, 1833; Jerre Carrier, 1834-35; Wilmot Ingalls, 1836; Isaac Wells, 1837; Philip P. Gaige, 1838; Roswell T. Lee, 1839; P. P. Gaige, 1840; Timothy Dewey, 1841; William Carlisle, 1842; Alexander Copley, 1843; W. O. Howard, 1844; Theophilus Peugnet, 1845; Isaac Wells, 1846-47; Alex. Copley, 1848; P. P. Gaige, 1849; Henry Cline, 1850; Alex. Copley, 1851; Richard Ryder, 1852; Wm. Carlisle, 1853-54; Jacob Putnam, 1855; Nelson Burdick, 1856; Wm. Dewey, 1857; Jacob Putnam, 1858-60; Francis C. Cline, 1861; Remos Wells, 1862-65; Wm. H. Main, 1866-67; Andrew J. Dewey, 1868-73; Charles M. Enipie, 1874-76; Adelbert A. Getman, 1877-78; Waitstill Crumb, 1879-81; David M. Mount, 1882-83; W. W. Enos, 1884-85; John F. Delaney, 1886; Thaddeus O. Peck, 1887; Waitsill Crumb, 1888; Jno. F. Delaney, 1889; Eli B. Johnson, 1890-95; A. James Shepard, 1896-99.

Cemeteries:

The earliest cemetery in the Village of Chaumont is the McPherson cemetery which is west of the bridge over the Chaumont River. The first burial there was in 1828. There are about 50 recorded burials there. A few of the bodies were moved to the Cedar Grove Cemetery, at the end of Madison Street, when that cemetery was opened in 1873. A third cemetery is located on the north side of route 12E west of the village.

INVENTORY FOR THE LYME HERITAGE CENTER

1. News notes and scrapbooks for Lyme and surrounding areas from 1890s to present.
2. Newly started properties file of home, businesses, farms, etc.
3. Notebooks of shipping and sailing industries. Some are indexed with names of ships and/or people involved in shipping.
4. David Lane's "Old Houses of the North Country" collection with index.
5. Jefferson County Atlases of 1864 and 1888.
6. Approximately 70 family genealogies.
7. Cemetery books from 18 Jefferson County Towns and Harrisville.
8. 1847 - 1849 Vital records for Jefferson County.
9. Failing/Van Ness family journal of births, deaths, marriages and more.
10. Partial book of Jefferson County early naturalizations.
11. New York Reformer marriages and deaths, 1850 - 1861.
12. Records from the Jefferson County Journal including Edwin L. Kesters undertaking records.
13. List of Dr. Coe's dental patients 1848 - 1870.
14. "Links in the Chain" by Solon Massey.
15. Moore's Funeral Home index.
16. Marriage records by Evelyn Charlebois.
17. Johnson's Funeral Home records (Chaumont) 1941 - 1949.
18. Church Records for:
 - Cape Vincent Catholic Church.
 - Rosiere Catholic Church.
 - Three Mile Bay Methodist and Baptist Churches.
 - Chaumont Presbyterian Church.
 - Clayton's St. Mary's Church.
 - Pillar Point Methodist Church.
 - Point Peninsula Methodist Church.
19. Miscellaneous marriage records 1821 - 1846.
20. Miscellaneous deaths 1821 - 1916.
21. 1905 Roster of Absent Sons and Daughters of Jefferson county.
22. Jefferson County Wills Index 1830 - 1900.
23. Miscellaneous Watertown City Directories.
24. County histories: Everts, Hough, Emerson, Childs, French & Haddock.
25. 1905 Jefferson County Centennial History.
26. Oakes 2 volume genealogical history of the North Country.
27. 1918 Farm Directory.
28. Collection of David Shampine's Articles.
29. Jefferson County 1866 - 67 Directory.
30. Federal Census on microfilm from 1810 - 1920 @ good reader.
31. Lyme Central School yearbooks 1950 - 1997 and miscellaneous early yearbooks.
32. 10 Albums of pictures, people & places.
33. Many miscellaneous maps.
34. Miscellaneous publications such as Palatine roots, Emigrés of the North County, etc.
35. Books of the Patriot War, Revolution, War of 1812 and World Wars.
36. Local Records on Civil War Soldiers.
37. A complete collection of the JCNYS Informers.
38. Collection of Pat James' Jefferson County Journal.
39. Four volumes of Tree Talks for all of New York State.
40. Dr. Jewett's daybooks from 1859 - 1898.
41. Miscellaneous early business ledgers.
42. 1865 Index to census for all of Jefferson County.
43. Other miscellaneous census records.
44. Index to 1810 - 1820 census for Jefferson and St. Lawrence Counties.
45. Miscellaneous histories and notebooks from several other towns.
46. Jefferson County Coroner's reports from 1881 - 1954, indexed.
47. Minutes book for the Three Mile Bay, E. V. Mayhew Post of the GAR.
48. Five logbooks from the Polly Rogers circa 1881.
49. Miscellaneous diaries.
50. Misc. subject files.
51. Approximately 3400 family files.

BOOKS FOR SALE

**Lyme Heritage Center
P. O. Box 369
Chaumont, NY 13622**

1. Roster of Jefferson Country's Absent Sons and Daughters. An alphabetized list of about 4,000 people who left the county before 1905, the town they moved from and town to which they moved
..... \$10.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.
2. Ernest Cook Vol. 1. Compilation of Ernest Cook's interviews with Jefferson County's elders. Series such as: "Talks with Men of the North Country," "The famed Goodenough School," and "Forgotten Post Offices." This last series is especially useful for the genealogist because Cook names all the families who received mail at these remote locations. One hundred and twenty articles, 118 pages, with index
..... \$19.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.
3. Ernest Cook, Vol. II In this volume there are a total of 100 articles; 42 on Theresa, 10 on the French nobility in the North Country, 5 on the Edus emigration which tells why and how the non-noble left Europe, 15 articles on the Champion area, 28 on the Scotch Pioneers. There are 113 pages, many of them retyped for easier reading. With index
.....\$19.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.
4. Ernest Cook, Vol. III. One hundred nineteen pages, completely retyped for easy reading, with 30 articles from March 1910 to July 1929, many on Chippewa Bay area. Cook's technique was to interview the elders of a community. If he were interviewing an 80 year old in 1920, the man would have been born in 1840 and could give an oral history of the area from those early days. With index
.....\$19.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.

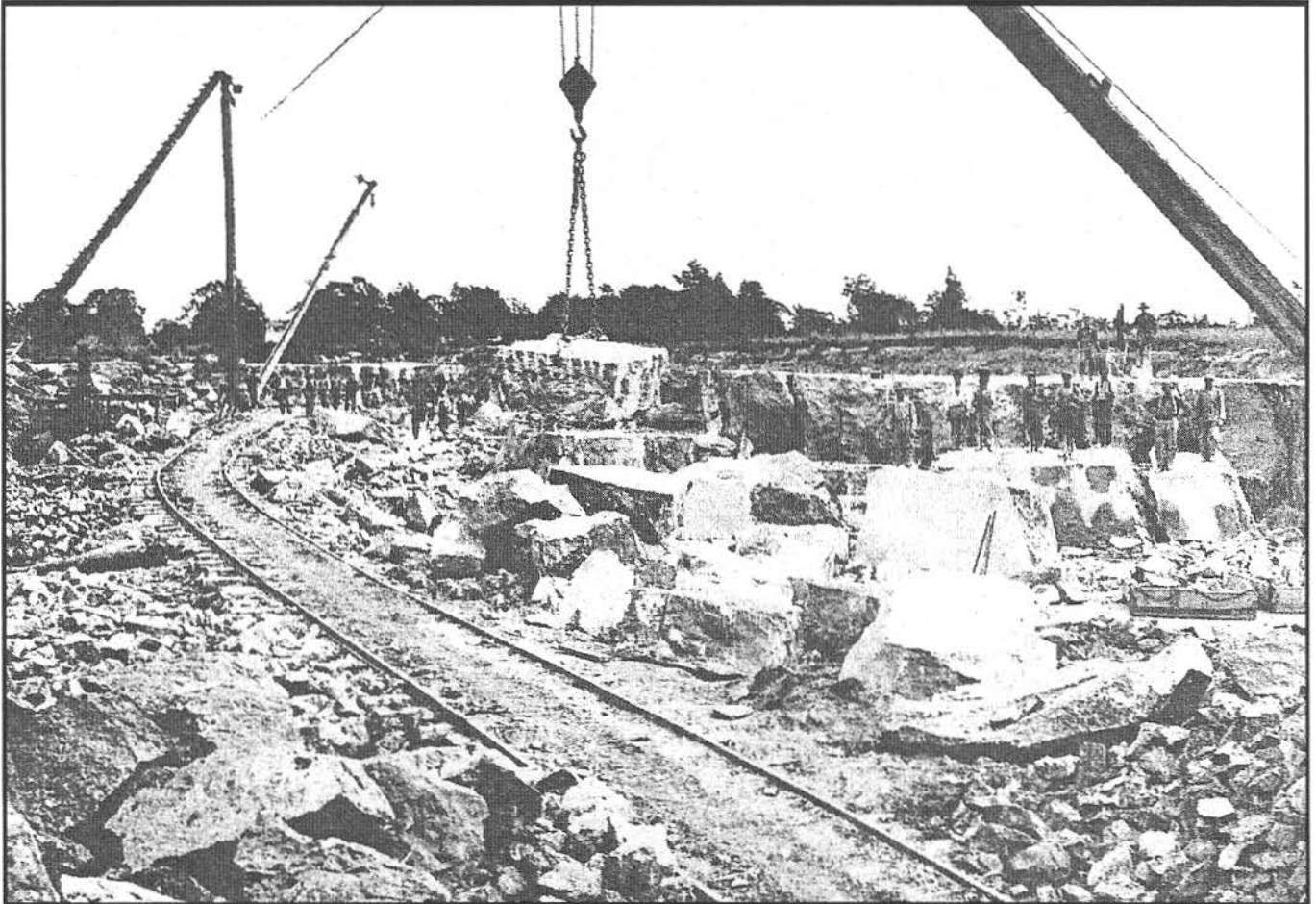
5. Point Salubrious 1802 - 2006 by Clara Van Doren
..... \$ 8.00 + \$2.00 S. & H.
6. Ernest Cook, Vol. IV. Thirty three articles, 117 pages, completely retyped for easy reading. There are articles on some of the famous names in the North Country; Bonaparte, Coffeen, Cooper, Flower, Irving, LaFarge, LeRay and Remington. The book also includes 20 articles on the diary of a Scot immigrant relating the hardships that the early pioneer encountered in this uninhabited region. With Index
..... \$19.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.
7. Ernest Cook, Vol. V. Forty articles, 128 completely retyped pages, from August 1929 to November 1929, mostly on the Rossie, Hammond, Theresa areas
..... \$ 19.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.
8. Ernest Cook, Vol. VI. Forty one articles, 121 completely retyped pages, including a 13 article series on the Copley's of Chaumont and Antwerp, a 17 article series on the Town of Lyme and an 11 article series on Point Peninsula.
..... \$19.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.
9. The Historical Journal of John Bedford. A gripping saga of the difficult life of the pioneer in what was a nearly uninhabited Northern New York State. This is the story of Bedford's life between 1810 and 1844
.....\$25.00 + \$4.50 S. & H.
10. The Founding of the Schools in Lyme and the Pioneers who Built Them, by Joyce Lance. Includes a 3,000 + item index
..... \$22.00 + \$4.50 S. & H.
11. Follow the North Shore by Joyce Lance. Stories of the Early Settlers of Point Peninsula
..... \$18.00 + \$2.00 S. & H.
12. Schermerhorn Park Memories by Frank Schermerhorn
..... \$22.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.



Lyme Heritage Center New Location



Lyme Heritage Center New Sign



Town Of Lyme Limestone Quarries

In the Town of Lyme there were seven limestone quarries employing two hundred men. Two quarries were located on Point Salubrious. Opened in 1825, the Silas Davis quarry was located to the left of the road on County Route 125's right branch. The remains may be seen from the first curve through the Chaumont Yacht Club storage area to the of George VanAlstyne.

The second quarry on Sawmill Bay was marked No.5 on the map owned by the late Roswell Wallace. It extended from the Chaumont Yacht Club to property owned by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Alheim.

The map shows that Samuel Lockwood, Silas Davis, John and McRea Horton, and Selim Lince owned land where quarrying was extensive.

The quarries were owned by Adams-Duford Company and were sold in 1929 to Solvay Process, Syracuse, NY.

The quarries furnished cut stone of heavy dimensions - 16 inches thick, 4 feet wide and 10 feet long - for canal locks, bridge abutments, and building stone.

Crushed stone and carbide was sold. Before cranes were used to lift the stone, Francis Du-

ford had an old stump puller to lift the blocks of stone. It was a well-greased four-inch screw, mounted on a tripod of poles from which hung a heavy chain and tongs. The screw was motivated in a circle by a pole turned by manpower, or a mule or a horse.

The last stone shipped from Sawmill Bay in 1933 was for a Federal Contract for 55,000 tons of large stones and blocks to build a huge sea wall at Oswego Harbor. Two rubber tired flat trucks and two cranes with heavy chains and tongs were used to move the stone.

The water was deep enough so that a 1,000 ton steel boat could be loaded by the crane. It made fifteen trips to Oswego to complete the contract. During the noon hour, school students could watch the stone being loaded.

Known stone cutters: John Barron, George Lynch, Francis Duford, Roy Cole, Edgar Hayes

Known dynamiters: Frank Cellini, Tony Mastrogiacomo

Other men who worked in the quarries were: John McPherson, Amellius LaTempa, Art Cool, Harry Miller, Ora Adams, Amos Grooms, Clark Giles, Harry Fredenburg, and Dave Yerdon

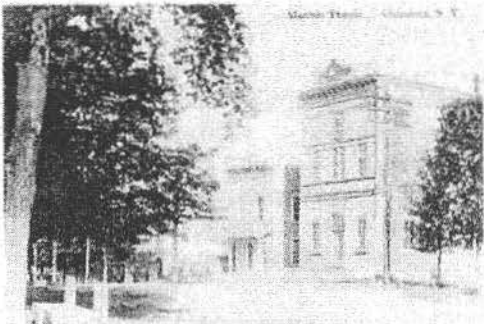
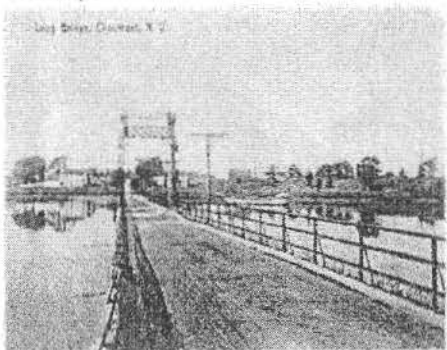
LYME HERITAGE CENTER MISSION STATEMENT

The Lyme Heritage Center was established in 1989 to accumulate, preserve and make available to the public all possible historic records and news items concerning the Town of Lyme and its people. The Center will also accumulate the vital records for the surrounding towns.

We will commit the Heritage Center to assisting researchers, genealogists, and scholars, either in person or by mail, in the usage of the contents of our repository.

We will collect all written, photographed, taped or microfilmed records deemed historically important to our locale by the Heritage Center Board of Trustees.

We will commit our resources to furthering interest in local and family history.



Main Street Chaumont

Contact the
Lyme Heritage Center

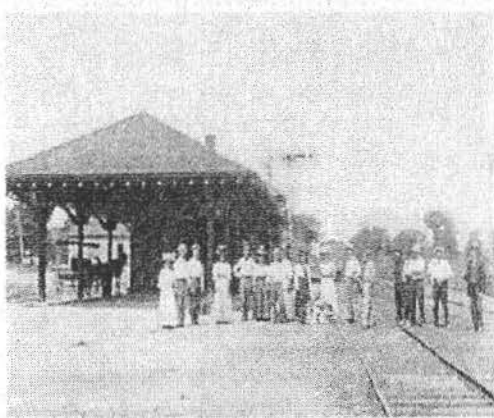
12069 Route 12E

PO Box 285

Chaumont, New York

13622

315-649-5452



LYME
HERITAGE
CENTER

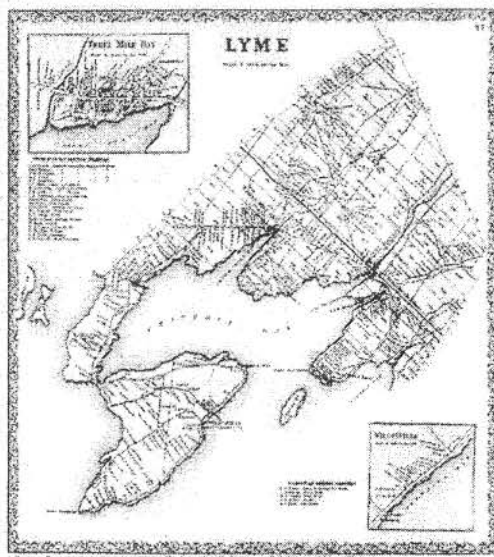


LOCAL
HISTORY
AND
GENEALOGY
CENTER



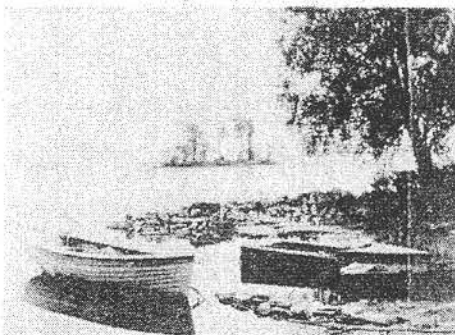
We will gladly provide presentations on local history to your group or organization.

Please call 649-5452 to schedule your event



Lyme Heritage Center Resources

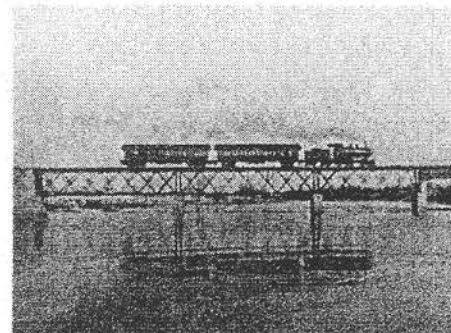
- ◆ ~3500 Family's historical records
- ◆ Jefferson County federal census (1810-1920)
- ◆ 1865 Index of Jefferson County
- ◆ Miscellaneous county records
- ◆ Antwerp Gazette 1875-1900's on microfilm
- ◆ Maps and atlases
- ◆ Updated cemetery records
- ◆ Shipping and ship building records



- ◆ Church and funeral records
- ◆ Indexed picture albums
- ◆ Genealogies, miscellaneous notebooks, journals, ledgers, diaries, published histories
- ◆ John Bedford's Journal
- ◆ 700 pictures from glass plate negatives 1860's era by the Johnson Photography Studio
- ◆ Local Civil War and Grand Army of the Republic records

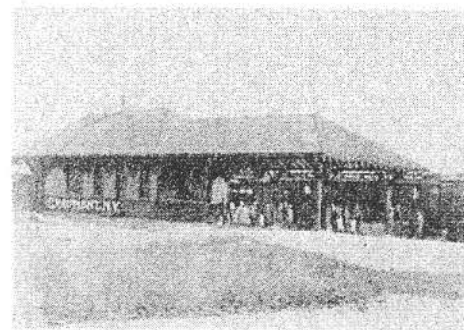
LYME HERITAGE CENTER HOURS

Monday 10:30—12:30
 Tuesday 1:00-3:00
 Wednesday & Friday 1:00-3:00
 or by appointment



LYME HERITAGE CENTER

Director
 Julia E. Gosier





Alexander Copley (1805-1891)



Lucy Kelsey Copley (1815-1883)

Phyllis Putnam of the Lyme Historical Society, and a most active JCNYS member, has supplied the *INFORMER* with an abundance of material for this issue including these pictures and the genealogy of the Copley family that follows. The *INFORMER* staff wishes to thank Phyllis for all her help.

(son) Dewitt Copley (1837-1925)



(son) Alexander Copley (1844-1931)



Alexander Copley (1805-1891) m. (1833) Lucy Kelsey (1815-1895)

(In the 1830s 16 new families had settled in Chaumont, among them was Alexander Copley. He became the wealthiest and best known of the northern New York Copleys. In the early 1830s he traveled to New York City to make land purchases and before long he owned about 40,000 acres in northern New York. In 1857 his fortune was estimated at between \$200,000 and \$300, 000.)

Hiram (1835-1924) m. (1858) Mary Enos (1834-1923)

(Hiram was born and lived all of his life in Chaumont. In addition to being in business with his father he built three steamboats, he was a president of the village, a director of the Alexandria Bay Steamboat Company and he also paid for the building of a Presbyterian chapel in Chaumont.)

Allen E. Copley (1859-1902) m. (1885) Fanny Reed (1860-1915) dau. of Delos Reed and Mary Cline

Grace Copley (1887-1922)

Alexander S. Copley (1891 -) m. (1936) Ellen Fleming Nelson (1902 -)

Allen Cline Copley (1892 -)

Caroline Matilda Copley (1863-1913) m. (1884) Edwin C. Wimple (1860-1900)

Edwin C. Wemple (1885-1935) Died in Panama City, left a wife and child there

Alene Wemple (1885 -)

John Wemple (1894-1950) m. Ruth A. Copley (dau. of George, first cousins)

Caroline married second Dr. Wesley Bovee (1861-1927)

George W. Copley (1865-1950) m. (1890) Antoinette Gulich (1869 -)

Ruth S. Copley (1891 -) m. John Wemple

George W. Copley, Jr.

Ann Virginia Copley (1901 -) m. Chester Travis

George married second (1910) Anna Lane (- 1957)

Lucille Copley (1867 -) m. (1884) John Clarke (1859-1904)

(After the death of her husband she took over management of his business, LeValley Carbon Brush Co.)

Victor Clarke

Copley Clarke

Carrie Clarke m. Edward Shank

Lucille married second Dr. Adelbert Becker

Marjorie (Mayme) Roselyn Copley (1870-1906) m. James O'Connor (1853-1900)

(She had a 'baby' buried in Cedar Grove Cemetery.)

Mayme married second ? McBride

Grace Francis Copley (1874-1876)

Dewitt Copley (1838-1925) m. (1859) Rosalinda Klock (1841-1905)

(He was a successful business man in Antwerp)

Jeannie Copley (1861-1865)

Emily Copley (1862 -) m. (1885) Dr. J. W. Candee

Helen Copley (1866 -) m. E. J. Herbert

Edward Copley (1870 - 1930)

Charles Copley (1871 -) m. Georgianna ? (1869 -)

Hayden Copley (1894 -)

William Copley (1895 -)

Anna Rosalinda Copley (1898 -)

Georgianna Copley (1899 -)

Benjamin Copley (1873 -) Julia Copley (1876-1876)

Maria (1840-1841) (Drowned in a rain barrel)

Alexander (1844-1931) m. (1863) Evaline Shepherd (1847-1873)

(Alexander was a successful businessman in Antwerp where he owned several dairy farms and a sawmill.)

Alexander Copley (1865 - died young)

Harriet Eva Copley (1866-1940) (Committed to the St. Lawrence State Hospital on 1 August

by Drs . Perrigo and Rodenhurst. The order says that "she has no property even though her father has considerable property")

Alexander married second (1874) Celestine (Lettie) Shepherd (1850-1926) Eva's sister.

Ida Maude Copley (1879-1881)

Irene Shepherd Copley (1883 -) m. (1910) Robert Albright

Eugene Copley (1847-1889) m. Herriet B. Summer (1847-1924)

We are very grateful for the help and material made available to us by Phyllis Putnam of the Lyme Historical Center and a very active JCNYS member. Phyllis has done the research for this Copley family genealogy and would be especially pleased to hear from anyone with additional information.

Phyllis Putnam

P. O. Box 58

Chaumont, NY 13622

315-649-2613

phyllis@putnamfamily.com

LYME MURDER MYSTERY AFTER 80 YEARS, PUZZLE IS STILL MISSING PIECES

Watertown Daily Times, January 3, 1991
By David C. Shampine, Times Staff Writer

A mystery that had baffled Jefferson County officials for two years, and had caused a few red faces along the way, was about to be solved. Or so it seemed.

It was a mild Monday in mid January 1913, with not an inch of snow to hide the burial spot. Clara Hicks of Glen Park and her father, John Dockstater, stood in anticipation in the Chaumont Cemetery while Jacob J. Dillenbeck, the cemetery sexton, carried out the exhumation of a man's body.

When the remains were finally revealed, Mrs. Hicks was convinced. The second toe on the right foot was missing. The corpse, she determined, was that of her missing husband, Leonard Hicks. Mrs. Hicks' pronouncement on Jan. 20, 1913, would indirectly solve her personal mystery, but through an unexpected development. Meanwhile, the eight inches of snow which fell that night only served to bury deeper the puzzle about John Doe, found dead in a tree on William Arnold's farmland, Whitefish Point (now called Dutch Harbor) at Three Mile Point, Chaumont Bay.

The John Doe mystery had proven to be a thorn in the side of the county coroner, the district attorney, and a Watertown Police detective. To the sheriff, it was compounding embarrassment.

Sheriff John H. Bogart, a town of Alexandria native, farmer, feed store owner and town supervisor, had taken office in 1909. A year later, in August, the county's new, \$90,000 jail at Coffeen and Massey Street was entrusted to his care. The county was proud of its jail. It was, that is, until Sunday night, July 9, 1911, when five of the facility's inmates ruined any plans for a first anniversary party by staging a daring escape. Returning from a carriage ride, Sheriff Bogart discovered shortly after 9 that night that inmates W. B. Sheldon (alias James F. Allen), Harry L. Newton (alias H. C. Williams), Fred Bartell, Charles Pratt and Frank E. Clark were nowhere to be found. A countywide search was launched.

The roundup of most of the desperados was accomplished in short order, but not without a spraying of gunfire at Depauville. And then, only one fugitive was at large: Harry Newton.

Newton, an ex-convict who was charged with a Water-

town burglary, was still listed as missing late that September when, on a Sunday afternoon, two boys came upon a gruesome scene.

The youths saw a black shoe protruding from a tree near the shore of a creek, and when they looked closer, they saw a man's body hanging from the top of the tree.

The frightened boys took flight, and told some half believers in Chaumont of their discovery. "Half of the village" started for the woods, it was reported in The Watertown Daily Times, and "there was the body, hanging limply from the crotch high up, and it swayed a bit in the slight breeze."

As evening closed in, Dr. Herbert L. Smith, the county coroner, arrived. At his request, one of the villagers, Roy Giles, used a rope to lower the body.

No identifying papers were found in the victim's clothing. There was an empty envelope, similar to payroll envelopes used by the railroads. The number 261 was written on the paper, but that clue would lead nowhere.

The body had been in the tree at least two months, estimated Dr. Smith, who, at 48, was in his 23rd year of medical practice, his second as coroner. The physician, like other witnesses to the day's event, had his suspicion about the identity. The corpse's slim build, about 145 to 150 pounds, and five feet, 10 inches in height matched the description of the missing 35 year old jail escapee, Harry Newton.

The dead man's suit of clothes was different from what Harry Newton was wearing on his day of flight, but wouldn't a fugitive change his clothes to avoid detection?

Sheriff Bogart and his jail turnkey and son-in-law Clark Schell took a look at the body. They concurred: It was Harry Newton. One of the captured escapees, Sheldon, was asked to confirm their determination. "I am almost sure" that it is Newton's body," Sheldon said after examining the mouth. "Harry had an exceptionally fine set of teeth, free from fillings. His head was almost exactly the same shape as the head of the corpse." The one identifying feature which Sheldon hoped to find was not there, due to decomposition. "You know Harry was an electrician, and his fingers had thickened so that they were much different from those of the average man," he explained. Watertown Police arrived at the coroner's morgue a day later to render their verdict.

(Continued on Page 19)

(Continued from Page 18)

Captain Edward J. Singleton, not one of Mr. Newton's favorite law officers, and Chief Gaylord L. Baxter were likewise convinced. "We believe that it is Newton," said Chief Baxter. "We based our conclusion on the high cheek bones, one ear protruding more than the other and the scar on the chin, all these features being almost identical with those of Newton."

Dr. Smith concluded that the death was a suicide, and asserted "I am as certain as it is possible to be that the man was Newton." He noted that the dead man's hair was lighter than Newton's, but rationalized that was caused by constant exposure to the sun following death.

District Attorney Claude B. Alverson, in the first of his six years as county prosecutor, said he was "as certain as a man could be" that it was Newton's body, but he was not taking any chances. He said he would still present evidence from the burglary case to the grand jury to secure an indictment against Newton, just in case the unthinkable should occur.

A telegram was sent by Sheriff Bogart and Dr. Smith to the police department in Pemberton Square, Mass., advising that "Harry L. Newton, alias H. C. Williams, alias H. C. Spaulding," had been found dead. "Please notify the mother or brother of Newton, residing at Fields Corners, a suburb of Boston, as to what disposition to make of the remains."

Following burial in a pauper's grave at Chaumont, flowers were placed by a woman for "the man who had gone wrong."

The case was closed to everybody's satisfaction, until nearly four weeks later, Oct. 17, 1911. A telegram to Sheriff Bogart disclosed that Harry L. Newton, fugitive from Watertown, had been captured in Erie, Pa.

Headlines screamed. "Officials Puzzled Over Man in Tree."

"Who Was The Man Buried?" And Dr. Smith was now wavering on his suicide ruling. He began talking as if he suspected the body had been placed in the tree. It would have taken at least two men to accomplish the ghastly deed, he said, "and they had their hands full."

If that were the case, had John Doe been a victim of murder? Chaumont undertaker R. S. Clark thought so. When he removed clothing from the body, he found "clean cut" holes in both the under and outer shirts, on both the front and back sides, suggesting that a bullet had passed through the victim's upper torso. The portion of the body corresponding to the holes in the shirts was most severely decomposed, and inflammation from a wound would cause the most rapid decom-

position, he said.

Then word came from former Watertown Judge George W. Reeves, soon to be the county judge, who recalled being awakened one mid summer's night in his summer home at Independence Point, Chaumont, by two gunshots and a scream. The shots, in rapid succession, had come from the general direction of where the body was found, he thought.

The property owner, Mr. Arnold, recalled another summer incident possibly tied to this apparent homicide. Three men, speaking little English and presumed to be either Italian or Polish, had come to the Arnold farmhouse at dusk seeking food. Mr. Arnold sold them bread and milk, then sat with them while they refreshed themselves behind his barn.

They had come from New York to work on a road job, they told him, and were now looking for new work. They were lost, they said, and wanted to go to Cape Vincent. Curiously, when the trio departed, each went in a separate direction. One, wearing a black derby hat, took a direction which would have brought him to the tree. A derby was found at the foot of the tree. The frame of John Doe was similar to that of the man in the black derby, Mr. Arnold told the authorities.

Following the possibility that the victim and his killers were European, authorities found a unique coincidence: placing a body in the branches of a tree was often the means by which murderers in Italy, Romania and Hungary disposed of their victims.

With those leads and theories compiled, Dr. Smith ruled in his inquest that the unidentified man was the victim of "murder in the first degree." But the doctor, the sheriff and the district attorney were no closer to knowing who had been murdered. The mystery went unsolved, until finally, 15 months later, Clara Hicks gave hope that she had the answer.

Mrs. Hicks, employed at the Hungerford & Holbrook Co. in Watertown, asked Dr. Smith in 1912 for permission to have Chaumont's John Doe exhumed. She told him she believed the dead man was her husband, Leonard, who was 31 when he disappeared May 11, 1911. On that day, her husband, described by her as a heavy drinker, had gone to Evans Mills, where they were storing some furniture.

The coroner initially declined, sending her to Sheriff Bogart to view the clothing found on John Doe. From the sheriff she learned the clothing had been lost.

After Undertaker Clark agreed that the body might have been that of Leonard Hicks, Dr. Smith granted the woman's request, but under the condition that if

(Continued on Page 20)

(Continued from Page 19)

she could not identify the body, she would pay the cost for opening the grave. If she determined it to be her husband, the county would be billed, the doctor agreed.

Seeing a toe missing from the skeleton's right foot, Mrs. Hicks declared not only that it was her husband, but that he had been murdered. She was unable to explain her latter conviction, since she said her husband had no money and no enemies. Also viewing the body that day was Dr. Oliver J. LaFontaine of Chaumont. A missing limb was the only possible means of making an identification at this stage of decomposition, he said, but he was doubtful. The toe could simply have fallen away with decay, he said.

Mrs. Hicks's declaration had the mystery solved for one day. Mr. and Mrs. J. Gordon, 244 High St., disclosed they saw Leonard Hicks alive and talked to him during the summer of 1912 in Kingston, Ont. A few days later, Mr. Hicks was found in Syracuse. His wife sued for divorce. The question of "who was the man buried" was never answered. Adding to this person's anonymity is that today the whereabouts of his unmarked burial site is unknown.

And Dr. Smith's report is apparently lost. None of his coroner's files are to be found in the Jefferson County clerk's office. Added to that loss is the sad discovery that old records at the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department were destroyed during the tenure of Sheriff Irving P. Angel.

Dr. Smith remained the coroner until the end of 1915. A native of South Rutland, he continued his Watertown medical practice beyond his 90th birthday, and died in 1957 at 93.

Detective Singleton, who made an unsuccessful bid to be elected sheriff in 1911, became Chief Singleton two years later, succeeding Chief Baxter upon his death.

Sheriff Bogart did not seek re-election in November 1911. He died in August 1929. District Attorney Alverson was elected county judge in 1918, advanced to State Supreme court judge in 1921, but died Dec. 23, 1922, at age 44, after a 3 week illness.

Mr. Arnold met an accidental death on the Chaumont Three Mile Bay Road which crossed his property. The 61 year old farmer was walking a team of horses back to his barn the night of Nov. 18, 1930, when he was struck by a car, the driver having been blinded by another motorist's headlights.

Harry Newton was convicted of escape and was sentenced in December 1911 to three years and six months in prison. When last heard from in April 1916, he was accused of planting a bomb in the offices of J. P. Morgan & Co., New York City. The charge was dropped when it was determined he possessed an empty shell case which was allegedly stolen from a munitions plant in St. Catherines, Ont. Federal officers tried to extradite him to Canada until investigation re-

vealed that "the larceny charge was baseless."

He thereafter announced "I am going back (to Canada) of my own free will. I have nothing to fear in Canada."

Dear Genealogists:

Knowing what a valuable tool obituaries can be for genealogists, I have been clipping obituaries from the Los Angeles Times and the Orange County Register. As I clip them, I sort them by counties and send them to the genealogical society that has a connection with the person in the obituaries. I am enclosing the ones I have collected for you county and I hope these will be of some use to your members. I am more than happy to continue sending them to you, if you would like to receive more.

Mrs. Eleanor Evans Borkenhagen
623-13th Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648-4039

March 7, 2008 Orange County Register, CA

Barker, Malcolm Britton, was born August 15, 1932, in Theresa, New York, to Harry Barker and Edna West Barker. After a long battle with several strokes and complications of diabetes, he passed away at the West Anaheim Medical Center Hospital in Anaheim, California, on March 1, 2008. He was preceded in death by his parents and his uncle Julius Siewertsen.

He graduated from Theresa High School. He joined the U.S. Army and served in Korea where he was wounded and received the Purple Heart. He also served in the German Occupation and was Honorably Discharged in Dec. 8, 1953.

He came to California where he married Elaine Chapman. She died of cancer. He worked as a welder at the Long Beach Shipyards and there was where he injured his right arm. He met his second wife, Marilyn Mumm Burr, at the Church of Reflections when it was located inside Knott's Berry Farm and he was an Elder of the church. They built a home in Bear Valley Springs, Tehachapi, CA. After many years they moved to Leisure Woods, CA and then to Sun City, CA. In November 2005, he suffered a major stroke and they immediately moved back to Orange County for the medical facilities and also the fact that all the family lived there.

He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; his stepsons, Terry Syndergaard (Bonnie) of Garden Grove, CA, Robert Syndergaard (Barbara) of Pasadena, CA, and his stepdaughter, Susan Tryon who cared for him in his last years. He is also survived by his sister, M. Ella Barker of Newark, NY; his uncle, Kent West (Grace) of Theresa, NY, his aunt, Dorothy West Siewertsen of Alexandria Bay, NY, and his sister-in-law, Jean Mumm of Fullerton, CA.; also 9 step-grandchildren, 6 step-great-grandchildren, and a host of friends.

Burial was March 6, 2008, at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier, CA.

JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

JEFFERSON COUNTY NEW YORK WILL ABSTRACTS 1830 – 1850

The Will Book contains will abstracts dating from 1830 to 1850. The book contains 194 pages, two maps, and a chart showing the formation of Jefferson County Towns.

Sale Price \$15.00 + \$5.00 for postage. Checks made out to **JCNYGS**

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PO Box 6453

Watertown, NY 13601



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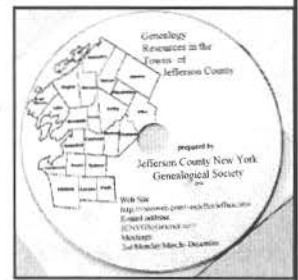


Genealogical Resources of Jefferson County

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A collection of pedigrees Submitted by members of the JCNYGS with an every name index

CONTACT: **Greg Plantz**
21787 Reed Road
Watertown, NY 13601
tplantz1@twcny.rr.com

Or for Book II: **Phyllis Putnam**
P. O. Box 58
Chaumont, NY 13622
Phyllis@putnamfamily.com



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THE INFORMER

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21787 Reed Road

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tplantz1@twcny.rr.com

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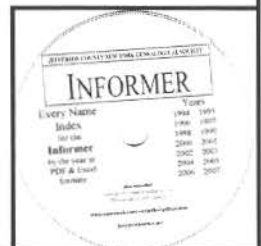


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EVERY NAME INDEX INFORMERS 1994—2007

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Jefferson County Queries

Send Queries to: Lis Couch, 24670 County Rt. 159, Watertown, NY 13601; lcouch0624@aol.com

Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

MALLET, HUTCHEON, HUTCHINS, YOUNG

Three names from the Orleans (Oleans Four Corners) Cemetery need verification as soldiers. The American Legion has recognized these graves at Memorial Day, but would like more information about their service. George **MALLET** is not listed in the Bartlett records. Philo **HUTCHEON** is not in the records, but Philo D. **HUTCHINS** is, as "son of Noah and Achsah 29 May 1852 25Y7M." David **YOUNG**, d 17 Jan 1873, is noted as a War of 1812 vet. Can anyone furnish more information as to their service?

*Nan Dixon
15407 Dixon Road
Clayton, NY 13624
nandixon@gisco.net*

HASKIN, HASKINS, BEEKMAN

I am searching for a record of the possible marriage of Joseph **HASKIN(S)** b. Mar. 24, 1761 and Deborah **BEEKMAN** b. Apr. 16, 1758 in Ellisburgh, NY. The possible date is May 12, 1781.

*Nancy Haskin
120 Glenn Street
Mineral Point, PA 15942
nhaskin@atlanticbb.net*

WATKINS, FRAZIER, MASON

My grandmother was Myrtle Arlene **WATKINS** born January 22, 1893-4, Watertown, Jefferson County, NY. She was the daughter of Flora Spencer **WATKINS** and Joseph **WATKINS** who was her second husband. Her first husband was Fred **FRAZIER**.

Family lore has my Grandmother and my Grandfather Burt King **MASON** married approximately 1915-1919, but it appears that she was single and living at home in 1920. There may be a marriage record or birth record of Burt King **MASON** born either in Addison Count, VT or LeMars, Iowa and who supposedly worked for the Railroad at the time of their marriage. I would appreciate knowing anything you find. I cannot find him on any Iowa census records but can find a Burt **MASON** on the 1890 VT census. Burt does not appear anywhere prior to the 1930 Federal census living in Franklin County, PA.

*Rebecca A. Burns
2412 Abbey Lane
Harrisburg, PA 17112
RACB1228@aol.com*

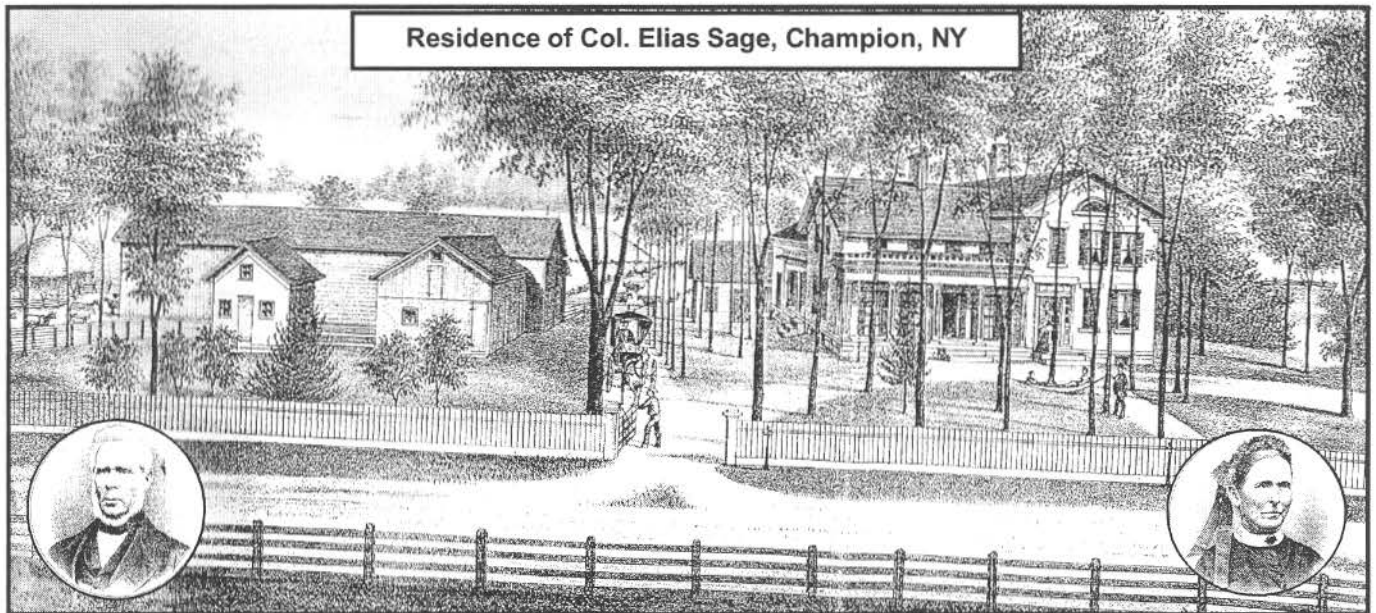
Notice that only 3 queries are included in this issue of the **INFORMER**. If your query has not been published and you still wish to have it published, please re-submit it again. Thank you!

Pastors of the Presbyterian Church of Chaumont, NY

No Pastor 1831-1842; Joseph A. Canfield 1842-1864; William Campbell 1864-1866; William Hoyt 1866-1868; No Pastor 1868-1872; E. G. Bickford 1872-1874; P. Barbour 1874-1878; J. V. Shurts 1878-1884; F. W. Johnson 1885-1889; William N. Cleveland 1890-1896; George E. Jackson 1896-1898; F. A. Ingraham 1899-1907; Emory L. Evans 1908-1916; J. Manley Spencer 1917-1922; J. H. Stewart (Stated Supply) 1923-1924; Ralph DeKay 1925; Robert C. Dunn 1926-1931; Kenneth Huggins 1931-1934; Rogers Williams (United Church) 1935-1937; William H. Pullen (Untied Church) 1937-1940; A. R. Ehman (Stated Supply) 1940-1942; Lowell Hine 1942-1944; J. Canfield Van Doren (State Supply) 1944-1945; William H. Seyfert 1945-1953; Paul Altaner 1953-1956; David J. Broad 1956-1960; William Albert Smith 1961 (June)-1963 (Sept.); Edward F. Eskra 1964 (Oct.)-1976; Ernest Wright (Supply) 1976-1977; William Smythe 1977-1982; Steven Jellensperger 1984-1998; Debra DeBoer 2000-2002; Rachel Roberts (Lay Preacher) 2005-

Notes about different Pastors:

- 1) Dunn – 1926-1931 Educated as Episcopalian – crippled, unmarried, went to Pulaski
- 2) DeKay – disappeared (went to Bethlehem Church, Newburg, NY)
- 3) Stewart – supply 1923-1924 long-winded, one track – his own experiences
- 4) Spencer – 1917-1922 went to Canton
- 5) Evans – 1908-1916 heavy-set, sweated profusely
- 6) Ingraham – 1899-1907 Horseman. Men's class gave him two strings of bells. Ended with a Seed Co. in Michigan
- 7) Jackson – 1896-1898 many new members
- 8) Shurts – 1878-1884 filled the church



(From Watertown Daily Times, 9/29/1951 David Lane) Col. Elias Sage, who, under the tutelage of Deacon David Granger, became one of the most skilled carpenters in Northern New York, is distinguished in North Country history for having been chosen to work on James D. Le Ray's beautiful mansion which it was constructed 1825-7 near LeRaysville.

Born at Sandisfield, Mass., Feb. 27, 1799, son of Elias and Elizabeth Sage, he removed with his parents to Lewis County in 1800, attended district school and when 15 removed to South Champion. The next year he was apprenticed to Deacon Granger and at 21 was a full-fledged journeyman carpenter.

From then on he pursued his trade "with gratifying success," and when Deacon Granger was made master builder of the Le Ray mansion, young Sage was selected to work with him. Many houses, and other buildings were erected by him in the ensuing years, and it is said that as fast as his earnings accumulated he bought land. Also it is said that he was the first to raise a building in the town of Champion without the use of liquor.

Colonel Sage's first land purchase was approximately four acres from David and Lucy Granger for \$100 on March 8, 1824. On July 2, 1824, he bought 85.1 acres in the same locale from Willard and Lois Knowles for \$800. Undoubtedly he shortly began construction upon his brick house, for the Oakes history of 1905 comments as follows regarding the Sage home: "Built over 80 years ago was one of the handsomest in location and general character to be found in the county. It is now occupied by his daughter, Mrs. Seymour A. Woolworth, and retains its desirability in every way, being the abode of cultivated taste and hospitality. Mr. Sage himself did most of the interior work on the house."

In early manhood Elias Sage, Jr., became a corporal in the 14th New York Cavalry. Promotions were steady

until his colonelcy. On Jan. 7, 1827, he married Hannah White of Rutland. She died Oct. 25, 1844. On Jan. 18, 1847, he married Emily O. Randall of Troy. Of their two daughters, Martha J. married Seymour A. Woolworth and Emily G. married Chauncey Loomis. Colonel Sage died Aug. 25, 1884 and Mrs. Sage Dec. 28, 1896. The name Sage, typifying wise man, was first found in the Battle Abbey Roll of William the Conqueror after the battle of Hastings in 1066. The family line in America was established by David Sage who settled in Middletown, Conn., 1650 or 1652, having come from Wales with his mother, the former Elizabeth Randall.

On Sept. 27, 1884, Emily O. Sage, widow, and Martha Woolworth, daughter of Colonel Sage, quitclaimed, their interest in this house and 259.69 acres to Mrs. Emily, G. Loomis, wife of Chauncey A. Loomis, and he with Otis C. Loomis on Dec. 24, 1902, conveyed the property to Mrs. Matilda Edghill of Copenhagen.

Widow of Robinson Edghill, Mrs. Matilda R. Edghill transferred the place on Aug. 5, 1910 to John and Mary Wallace Edghill, William D. Edghill and Lena E. Hall all of Watertown; Edith E. Wolf of Rochester and Mabel E. Gray of Clayton. Then on April 9, 1936, former local Police Capt. William D. and Sarah H. Edghill, city; Lena Hall Weller and Edith M. Wolf Power, Rochester; Mabel A. Gray, Carthage, sold to Nelson J. and Bertha L. Hastings of the town of Denmark, the present owners.

Mr. Hastings is descended from Emerel Hastings, who was one of the earliest settlers of the town of Champion and Jefferson County, and he keeps the old Colonel Sage house looking practically identically today as it did when Colonel Sage resided there three-quarters of a century ago. It is one of the historic landmarks of the county. Elias Sage, Sr., father of Colonel Sage, died in the town of Champion Feb. 29, 1852, at the age of 93. He was a Revolutionary war veteran drawing a pension of \$60 per annum.

**JEFFERSON COUNTY NY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

P. O. Box 6453
Watertown, NY 13601

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The Genealogy Department at Flower Memorial Library is looking for volunteers with an interest and experience in genealogy research.

We are looking for people who would enjoy assisting patrons and visitors with locating items and using department resources.

Some Qualifications :

Willingness and ability to work directly with the public

Excellent writing, reading and language skills

Experience with New York Genealogy Research

Online Genealogy research experience

Must be able to lift large books and bend to reach materials

Please contact:

Barbara Wheeler at 785-7701

E-mail bwheeler@ncls.org

Or

Yvonne Reff at 788-2352

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INFORMER

Volume 15, Issue 6

Annual Dues \$15.00 Canadian \$19.00

November 2008



Three Mile Bay School About 1923—bottom left corner, Victor Ryan*, Clifford Bongard. Next row up, Frances Fleury, Mary Northrop, Thelma Ross, Elta Northrop Chambers, Russell Conway, George Hayes, Cecil Angell. Third Row, Irene Wells, Doris Graves, Gladys Cummings, Doris Cranston, Georgia Crouse, Clarence Rickett, Agatha Ryan (standing), Ray Failing, Charles Hayes, Gardner Northrop. Fourth row, Helen Favret, Iva Cross, Amanda Wilcox, De Etta Northrop, Amelia Gosier, Claude Rickett, E. J. Bennett, Martin Bisnett.

* Victor Ryan is on the far left and is cut out of the picture.

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INFORMER NOVEMBER 2008

Correspondence about dues, memberships, and lost *Informers* should be directed to:
 Jefferson County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 6453, Watertown, NY 13601
 E-mail: JCNYGS@imcnet.net Web site: <http://jefferson.nygenweb.net>

President: Terry Baker 493 Bugbee Drive Watertown, NY 13601 tbaker.H2Otown@yahoo.com 315-788-0170	Vice President: Sally Washer 23896 NYS Route 37 Watertown, NY 13601 swasher@twcny.rr.com 315-788-5151	2nd Vice President: Rose Dillenbeck 177 Haskins Road Johnson City, NY 13790 dillenbeck177@att.net 607-748-0001	Recording Secretary: Elaine Jobson 22760 NYS Rt. 411 LaFargeville, NY 13656 jobson@yahoo.com 315-658-2203	Corresponding Secretary: Larry Corbett 520 Binsse St Watertown, NY 13601 lrcorbet@gisco.net 315-788-3044	Treasurer: Hollis Dorr 23896 Route 37 Watertown, NY 13601 No Email 315-788-0959
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The *Informer* Committee includes Bill Dixon, chair; Nan Dixon, nandixon@gisco.net, editor; Clancy Hopkins, chopkins@imcnet.net, publisher. Editorial members (alphabetically) are Bonnie Borrello, sebborrello@att.net; Lis Couch, lcouch30@twcny.rr.com; Jean Coyne, Dcoyne@twcny.rr.com; Jerry Davis, maridavis@aol.com; Linda Malinich, malinich@attglobal.net; Bob VanBrocklin, Rvan992@aol.com; and Pauline Zach, pinzach@aol.com. Feel free to contact any of the above for suggestions or comments regarding this newsletter, published six times a year - January, March, May, July, September and November. A special Surnames issue has also been published in December.

The articles in this newsletter are written purely to stimulate interest in the genealogical history of Jefferson County. If comments are in any way offensive, this was not the intent. All articles, submissions, etc., are the viewpoints and research of various contributors. As such, they do not necessarily reflect the views of the executive committee or members of the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society.

Letters.....

Letters to the editor may be directed to nandixon@gisco.net or to Nan Dixon, 15407 Dixon Road, Clayton, NY 13624.

NEW MEMBERS:

Ann Munsey

19360 Magnolia Grove Sq.
 Apartment 105
 Leesburg, VA 20176-6894
 703-726-6498
bannmunsey@yahoo.com
 Surnames: Bailey/Baily, Hoar/Hoard,
 Kingsbury, Nott, Parrish/Parish

James F. Blackwell

21320 Co. Rt. 47
 Carthage, NY 13619
 315-493-4614
jfbwell@aol.com
 Surnames: Blackwell, Petrie

Kathryn W. Dobbin

10545 US Rt 11
 Adams, NY 13605
 315-232-2097
kathryndobbin@yahoo.co
 Surnames: Babcock, Carter, Cool, Gaylord,
 Lloyd, Murray, Wright

Doris A. Wyss

9755 W. Blackpool Court
 Star, ID 83669
 208-898-4049
dawyss@q.com
 Surnames: Arnold, Bowles, Chamberlain,
 Emerson, Gillispie, Huff, McWayne,
 Ramsey, Washburn,
 Whitaker/Whittaker

PLEASE NOTE!

<http://jefferson.nygenweb.net>

OUR NEW WEB ADDRESS!

Note: Do not use www.

Dear Editor,

In the beginning I joined JCNYGS because I was searching for Amos Davis ancestors who moved from MA to Jefferson County in the late 1840's. I have never located them but I look around for them once in a while. In the meantime I enjoy the *INFORMER*, every single issue. This is one of the best society publications I have ever seen. It really touches the spirit and culture of the county and I appreciate every issue.

Just felt I had to tell someone and say "thanks."

Joyce Everingham
 Lakeland, TN

JCNYGS Minutes for August 11, 2008

Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary

Call to Order; the meeting was called to order in the Flower Memorial Library by President Jerry Davis with 30 members and guests present. Secretary's minutes were read and approved by a motion from Doris Monterey and 2nd by Corky Doheny. Treasurer's Report; read and approved by a motion from Larry Corbett and 2nd by Mary Ann Doheny. Corresponding Secretary's Report; Clancy absent tonight.

Committee Reports by chair;

Repository Co.: Committee members are now Tammy & Greg Plantz, & Bonnie Borello. Reorganization completed with some material donated to Genealogy room. Tammy & Greg are receptive to receiving new material; family files, pedigrees etc. Note that anything we publish stays in the files. After discussion on tapes and older material, it was decided to keep same for the present time. It was also discussed and decided to prepare a list of material in files, publish in the informer, so members were aware of the contents.

Publicity Co.: Phyllis Putnam reports usual notices in papers Next Meeting will be Sheila Byrnes, "Getting the better of that brick wall". Sheila is a genealogy researcher, lecturer, teacher and writer of the genealogy column for the Syracuse Post Standard Stars. Posters were distributed to members to post. She also noted that the library would be closed the day of Oct. meeting. Several suggestions were made, North Side Improvement League, Watertown Historical Room, & or the restaurant. Also noted that the Nov. & Dec. meetings are open.

Newsletter Co.: Jerry reports that the informer is done, next time will be on Three Mile Bay. Researchers on back cover of informer were contacted and only one responded, therefore names were dropped.

Genealogy Collection Co.: Nan Dixon nothing new

Membership & Surname: Clancy absent

Publications Co.: Jean Coyne reports wills research on hold for present

Resource Co.: nothing new

Old Business: Nominations Co. Bob VanBrocklin reports he has no volunteers. Discussion followed that there may be the need to change the by-laws.

New Business: Sally Washer reported that the postage has increased dramatically and suggested an increase in dues. After discussion it was decided leave dues at present rate.

JCNYGS Minutes for September 8, 2008

Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary

Call to Order at 6:10 by President Jerry Davis with a welcome to members and guests. Minutes were read and approved with a motion from Pauline Zach and 2nd by Hollis Dorr. Treasurer's Report read by Sally Washer and approved by a motion from Hollis Dorr and 2nd by Greg Plantz. Corresponding Secretary, Clancy Hopkins, says he has received and answered several inquires.

Committee Reports by chair;

Publicity: Phyllis Putnam reports notices of meetings placed in usual papers, with posters being placed by members in several areas.

Program: Phyllis reports Richard Hillenbrand, an avid historical and genealogical researcher, lecturer, a member of the Onondaga Historical the Central New York Genealogical Society, and the Association of Professional Genealogists will be our guest speaker for Oct. He will speak on "How to Easily set up a Genealogy Website or Blog". The meeting will take place at 6pm in the Coachman Room at the Best Western Carriage House on Oct. 13th, since the library will be closed for Columbus Day.

Newsletter: Jerry tells us the next "Informer" is on Three Mile Bay, and anyone with information or pictures please inform staff.

Membership and Surnames: Clancy reports he likes the membership blank on back of informer and has received several new members.

Publication: Pedigree Vol. II available.

New Business: Election of Officers - Bob VanBrocklin, Nominating Co., was unable to attend but sent a partial list of nominees for offices which President Davis read. After some discussion urging membership to consider taking an office for ensuing year, nominations from the floor completed the slate of officers. The slate was presented and accepted with by a majority of the vote and is as follows:

President: Terry Baker

1st Vice President: Sally Washer

2nd Vice President: Rose Dillenbeck

Treasurer: Hollis Dorr

Recording Secretary: Elaine Jobson

Corresponding Secretary: Larry Corbett

Elaine Jobson expressed the desire to have all the old minutes books moved to the repository room with all in agreement.

There being no more further business the meeting was adjourned by a motion from Clancy and 2nd by Hollis Dorr.

What's Going on with JCNYGS

Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary
August 11, 2008

Phyllis Putnam introduced the guest speaker tonight, Holly Sammons, from the Local History and Genealogy Department of the Onondaga Public Library. She gave a very interesting presentation of the resources available at the library for genealogists.



Holly Sammons receives a question while JCNYGS members Phyllis Putnam and Pauline Zach look on.



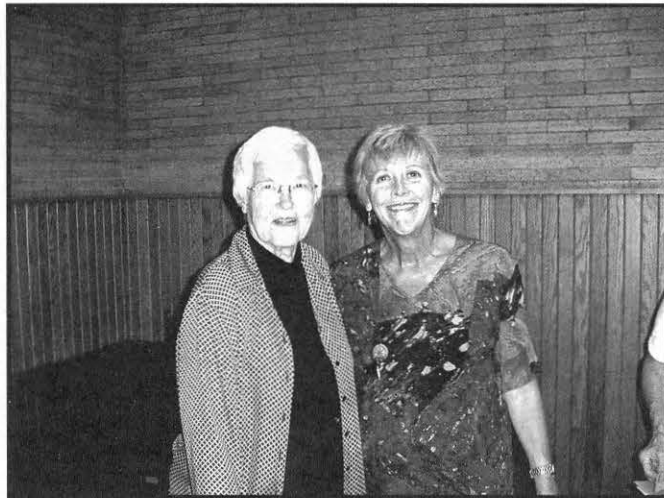
JCNYGS members listen as Holly Sammons makes her presentation.

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OUR NEW WEB ADDRESS!
Also note: Do not use www.

What's Going on with JCNYGS

Elaine Jobson, Recording Secretary
September 8, 2008

Phyllis Putnam introduced our guest tonight, Sheila Byrnes, who will speak on "Getting the better of that Brick Wall." Sheila is a genealogy researcher, lecturer, teacher and writer of the genealogy column for the Syracuse Post Standard Stars.



Our JCNYGS program chairperson Phyllis Putnam And Sheila Byrnes pose for our picture.



Sheila Byrnes reaches material for our JCNYGS Secretary Elaine Jobson.

Upcoming JCNYGS Meetings!
Saturday, November 8th from 1 to 3 at the Flower Memorial Library—"Tour of the Genealogy Room" - after the new renovations.
Saturday, December 6th from 1 to 3 at the Flower Memorial Library—"Where the society goes from here?" - a round table discussion.

FROM HISTORY of LYME, NY

FROM OUR COUNTY AND ITS PEOPLE

A DESCRIPTIVE WORK ON
JEFFERSON COUNTY NEW YORK
EDITED BY: EDGAR C. EMERSON
1898

Three Mile Bay

Three Mile Bay is a village of about 250 population, situated at the head of the bay so called, and was named from the fact of its distance west of the principal settlement at Chaumont. Previous to 1835 the place did not attract any special attention, yet was a productive fishing locality even from the early history of the town. It was on the line of the old turnpike, and nearly a mile south of the railroad built in 1851-2. Asa Wilcox founded the village when in 1835 he built the schooners *Florida* and *Elon Bronson*. At his shipyard were also built the *Pennsylvania* and *Kentucky*, in 1836; the *Missouri*, in 1837; the *Patriot*, in 1838; the *Asa Wilcox* and *Havana*, in 1841; the *D. D. Calvin* and *Rocky Mountain*, in 1849; the *Cambridge*, *Neptune* and brig *Empire*, in 1843; the *Cuba*, *Oregon* and brig *Ontario*, in 1844; the *Milan* and brig *Hampton*, in 1845; the *Champion*, *Rio Grande*, propeller *Clifton* and brig *Iroquois*, in 1846; the *Palmetto*, *Seminole*, *Portland*, *Arcadia* and brig *H. R. Seymour*, 1847; the brigs *Saxton* and *Ocean*, in 1848; the *D. J. Schuyler*, in 1849; the *Melrose*, in 1852; the three-master *Hungarian*, in 1853.

About this time the shipping industry began to decline, as the railroad was then in full operation, but during his active career Mr. Wilcox built a total of forty-eight vessels of all classes, at Three Mile Bay, Wilcoxville and elsewhere. Among the other ship builders at the bay were Schuyler & Powers, who in 1843 built the *Col. Powers*. In the same year William Combs built the *Bogart*. In 1845 E. Cline built *Tile Rush*, and Peter Estes built the *Breeze*. These were the principal operators, though throughout the period of boat building, and extending almost to the present time (1898), small craft and skiffs have been constructed annually. Yet the industry as an element of business life at the village has passed out of existence.

One of the earliest merchants at the Bay was Lewis Parker, who opened a store about the time ship building began. Other early store keepers, about in the order of succession, were Lewis Lanfear, Farnham S. Corey, Corey & Putnam, Daniel J. Schuyler, G. R. Wilcox (son of Asa, who was in trade until about ten years ago), Reuben and Russel Day, Tay, Cline & Wilcox, Charles W. McKinstry (the oldest present business

man of the village), John L. Schuyler, Wheeler & Main, Lucas Bros., George W. Ricketts and Wheeler & Hayes. The present mercantile interests are represented in the general stores of C. W. McKinstry, Herbert H. Shaw and Dr. Vincent; A. D. Curtis' furniture store; Empie's hardware store, and the Hopkins seed house. The quarriers are Adams & Fish and John J. Barron.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at the bay is one of the oldest religious organizations, having been in existence since 1838, when the class was formed. In 1846 the Three Mile Bay circuit was organized. The house of worship which was occupied for a time both by the Methodist and Free Will Baptist societies was built in 1845. The society has never been strong in point of numbers, the present membership being 37, with 6 probationers and Pastor, Rev. S. M. Fiske.

The Free Will Baptist society referred to in the preceding paragraph, was formed about 1827 as a Free Communion society, and was changed to Free Will government in 1841. The society under the latter name was regularly organized in 1843, and Charles Leonard, R. H. Bartlett, Henry Leonard, William Northrup and Charles Caswell were chosen trustees. The meeting house was built in 1844. The society is not now in existence.

The First Baptist church of Lyme, as now known, was, in fact, the third society of that denomination in the town. The mother church was formed on Point Salubrious in 1816, from which a branch society was formed in the same part of the town in July, 1824, and meetings were held thereafter on the point, and also at Chaumont, Point Peninsula, North Shore and Three Mile Bay. In 1833 the various societies or branches took the general name of the United Church of Lyme. In 1834 eighteen members were dismissed to the branch on Point Peninsula, which then became an independent organization. In the fall of same year, Nathan M. Kendall, Nathaniel Wells, Martha Woodruff, Ada Shaw, Anna Pratt and Ahitabel Wells withdrew from the mother church and formed a new society at Three Mile Bay. This has been the survivor of churches of this denomination in Lyme, and the only one to maintain a continued existence. Its present members number 113 persons, but the church is at present without a pastor. The church edifice was erected in 1840, and was rebuilt in 1874.

The Universalist church at Three Mile Bay was formed in 1850, and has since maintained a continuous existence. The members are few and meetings have not been held regularly, as much of the time the society has been without a pastoral head.

NORTHERN NEW YORK BUSINESS DIRECTORY 1867-68

WAITE BROTHERS & CO. WATERTOWN, New York,
Compilers

Lytle, Hanford & Company. Printers, Book Binders,
and Blank Book Manufacturers.
Price, \$2.00

THREE MILE BAY (Jefferson County)

A station on the Cape Vincent branch of the R. 2. &
O.R.R. 16 miles from Watertown.

Allen John, stoves and tinware.
Barber Mark, carriage maker.
Barber Wm., cabinet maker.
Bellinger Peter, grocer.
Blanden Rev. J. S., Baptist clergyman.
Central House, Favret & Benway, proprietors.
Dick Hugh, blacksmith.
Farr Zimri, blacksmith.
Favret & Benway, Central House.
Francis A. H., attorney and counselor at law.
Frame S. V., physician.
Hayes C. D., post master.
Lake Mrs. W., milliner.
Loucks John, physician.
Lucas A. J., billiard saloon.
McMullen John, merchant tailor.
Parker Charles, physician.
Parker Lewis, fish and commission merchant.
Phelps L. P., grist mill.
Polley Wm. H., shoe maker.
Schuyler, McKinstry & Co., dry goods, groceries, &c.
Taylor John L., harness maker.
Vincent Mrs. E., music teacher.
Wheeler & Hayes, dry goods, groceries, &c.
Whitney John, saw mill.
Wilcox Asa, blacksmith and boat builder.
Wilcox A. & G. R., dry goods, groceries, &c.

**If you can't get rid of the
skeleton in your closet,
you'd best teach it
to dance.**

-George Bernard Shaw

IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR MY MOM'S STORIES

I got started when I was 10 years old. Before that age I remember my Mom always telling me how I was her grandfather's "namesake" by virtue that she had given me my middle name of "Avery" after his middle name. When I was 10, I remember we were out to my grandparents house and she sat me down at a picnic table on the porch to show me a stack of notes she had just found that her grandmother had made during the 1920's in preparation for applying for membership to the DAR. I remember going home that night and drawing my first pedigree chart (though I didn't even know that's what it was!).

Not only did that experience get me started in genealogy but it also solidified for me what was already an affection for libraries. I spent lots of spare time as a teenager in local libraries and historical societies trying to expand the family tree and things really took off when I moved to DC after college and had access to the DAR library and the National Archives. By the time the internet reached it's heyday I was ready to start putting what I found online.

Today I have several websites for my own genealogy and to help others with their research:

LEGENDS: Mark's Complete Ancestry on the Web –
<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~legends/welcome.html>

HounsfeldHistory.net (history of the Town of Hounsfeld Jefferson County) –
<http://http://www.usgennet.org/uss/ny/county/jefferson/hounsfeld/>

Jefferson County NY Local History Network –
<http://www.usgennet.org/>

usa/ny/county/jefferson/Jefferson County NY Pioneer Portraits Project –
<http://www.usgennet.org/usa/ny/county/jefferson/ppp/>

Rock Island Lighthouse Historical & Memorial Association --
<http://rockislandlighthouse.org>

If it hadn't been for my Mom's stories and attention when I was a little boy I'm sure I wouldn't have enjoyed this life-long genealogy hobby nor be in the library career I am in today.

- Mark Wentling

The following undated document is from information provided by Mrs. John Schuyler of Three Mile Bay and apparently transcribed by her daughter.

Memorandum of People Living in old Houses in Three Mile Bay

Joseph Fellows came here from New Hampshire and built his house known as the Van Wert House and store, next to it on the corner now known as the Martin Hamilton House. He built the house in the rear of the store on the street to the bay for his daughter, Elizabeth who married William H. Mains. Directly across the street from the William Mains house was Lewis Parker's house, brother of Dr. Parker. Deacon Allen house is on William, the Dick house built as long ago as mother can remember. Next to the Allen house was Harry and Sally Duell's house, later converted into the Methodist parsonage. Charlie Kingsley's father's house was the next house. Next to Van Wert house, Francis Dwyer and wife Catherine. Asa Wilcox's house was across from the Central Hotel. Russell Day, whose wife was a Cline, lived directly across from the Schuyler house. He was a merchant and later sold the store and house to G. R. Wilcox. Farnam Corey lived in the B. W. Hentze house. Squire Snell's house on the back street was moved from the present house location of Mrs. Vincent. Jake Putnam, who later moved to Clayton built the house where Mrs. Vincent now lives in. Dr. Wm. Carlisle lived in the Chan. Fox house. David McComber was next to Mrs. Vincent and David Mount next to McComber. The stone building owned by D. J. Schuyler, the old Tavern stood were Leonard Lance house now stands and Phillip Shay next and Hart Knowlton next. Orié Wilson's daughter married Captain Dells Ryder. Amanzo Hayes married a daughter of Alexander Hamilton. Isaac Miller came from Canada and married the Grant girl. John McMullin lived next to Captain Reed. Mrs. Patterson was a sister of Mrs. Mark Wells who was a Fenton. Will Austin was the son of R. F. Austin and Ann Schuyler Austin and lived on State St. next to the Wheeler house. George Lucas lived in the Armstrong house. Dr. William Carlisle was the grandfather of the late John Carlisle who's brother, Floyd, married the daughter of Dr. Parker.

"Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important."

- Janet Lane



The Barron Block Three Mile Bay

Thanks to the Lyme Heritage Center

In the early days in Three Mile Bay there was a store on Main St. run by Day, Cline and Wilcox. Later it was owned by Wheeler and Hayes. Mr. Ed. Lewis, a son-in-law of Mr. Hayes ran the store for awhile. In 1904 Mr. John Barron purchased the block from the Hayes estate. It was torn down in 1958.

In the early days the block was remodeled and two apartments were made upstairs. On the ground floor was the large store, a store room and a small side room. About 1890 A. D. Curtis had a furniture store here and the side room was used as a barbershop, run by a black man, named Thomas Smith. In the early 1900's Mr. S. Countryman had a tailor shop here. F. M. Lott had a store and was Post Master. A telephone office was in the small side room.

The store room was used by Mr. Barron for his monuments and stone work. He cut many monuments and lettered them, some of which are in the Three Mile Bay and Chaumont cemeteries today. Later George Mount and his brother Fred had a store and occupied the entire building, after the phone office moved to the old seed house which had become a grist mill and a furniture store.

After Mr. Mount's death the store was run by Ray Northrup and DeAlton Weaver. Later Mr. and Mrs. Walrath had a restaurant here. It was last used by W. Utess as a television store and also as a Red Cross works hop during the war.

Postmasters THREE MILE BAY

Jacob A. Williams	30 Mar 1830
James VanEps	2 Aug 1832
Daniel Borden	6 Apr 1836
William Carlisle	4 Jan 1840
Seth C. P. Powers	29 Jul 1841
Henry Cline	12 Dec 1844
Russel Day	1 Jun 1849
Robert F. Austin	22 Apr 1853
Thomas L. Raymond	21 Oct 1854
Menzo Wheeler	27 Nov 1855
William H. Main	13 Apr 1861
Chauncey D. Hayes	29 Aug 1866
James A. Austin	11 Apr 1867
Charles W. McKinstry	2 Feb 1872
Chauncey D. Hayes	8 Feb 1886
Charles W. McKinstry	10 Jun 1889
(M O)	4 Apr 1892

Charles Parker	C	15 Aug 1893
Charles W. McKinstry	C	16 Jul 1897
N B		22 Nov 1894
George Combs	C	17 Jan 1903
N B		9 Dec 1901
Furman M. Lott		15 Dec 1908
N B		18 Feb 1907
George W. Dick		6 Aug 1906
Ward W. Mount		1 Nov 1919
Clude W. Mount		1 Feb 1949
Clude S. Mount		31 May 1964

(M O) - Money order: the date when the office was authorized to issue money orders is often given
 N B—(notice in bulletin) Some mention of the office was made in the postal bulletin, a publication of the Post Office Departments. These are not in the National Archives.

C—Post master was later commissioned



Three Mile Bay Union Classes of 1911-12—Row one, from the left: Ella Salisbury, Martha Miller, Agnes Gosier, Nona Wells, Ruth Constance, Gretta Putnam, Hazel Farret, Florence Muckian; Row two, Hazel Cranston, Florence Beadle, Anna Sponable, Ruth Cornaire, Florence Wells, Christine Young, Amelia Gosier, Bessie Shaw, Vannessa Hill, Mamie Bardol; Row three, Arch Branch, Edna Rickett, Barbara Sullivan, Mabel Wells, teacher, Martin Eselin, Clay Dick, Leonard Huck, Sherman Turcker, Hugh Muckian, Carl Hubbard, Jessie Van Doren, Mary Failing; Row four, Schyler Doolittle, Charles Van Ostrand, Hiram Crouse, George Pettit, Elmer Chauvoustie, Alfred Reinagle. Three others not identifiable.



Three Mile Bay School, 1924—Front row, from the left: Hilda Johnson, Frances Fleury, Doris Graves, Thelma Ross, Gertrude (Bolton) Heasley, Grace Richards, Blanche (Klock) Rickett, De Etta Northrop, Amanda Wilcox, Emma Flanders, Winifred Bolton. Second row: Ruth Failing, Mary (Northrop) Klock, Iva Bartes, Nina Mayhew, Florence Branche, Etta Northrop, Marion Stump, Mrytle Wilcox, Katherine Walker, Lidia Clark. Middle row: Schuyler Lobdell, Harold Warner, Kent Northrop, Claude Bates, Gerald Gordon, Morris Peters. Back row: Robert Belling, Clarence Gordon, Mr. Leo P. Noonan, Mr. E. J. Bennett, Elmer Frye, Claude Rickett, Clifford Bongard, John Richards, Noah Pryor, Harold Huck.

Lyme Heritage Center

All of the school house pictures were taken from the book, *"The founding of the Schools in Lyme and the Pioneers who Built Them,"* by Joyce Lance. The book is \$22.00 + \$4.50 S & H.

Mrs. Lance also wrote, *"Follow the North Shore,"* for \$18.00 + \$3.50 S & H.

"The History of the Town of Lyme" by Charles and Harriet Knapp for \$5.00 + \$1.50 S & H

All of the above books are available from the Lyme Heritage Center, PO Box 285, Chaumont, NY 13622.

"Point Salubrious 1802-2006" by Clara Van Doren was listed as costing \$8 in the September *INFORMER* but should have been \$18. It has now been reprinted and now costs \$29 + \$3.50 S & H.

Three Mile Bay Fire Dept. and Ladies Auxiliary

From the Jefferson County Bicentennial Committee
Anniversary Booklet 1976

The Three Mile Bay Fire Department was organized in April 1947 with the old J. B. Taylor block becoming the first Three Mile Bay Fire Hall.

In 1952 an ambulance service was started. This service continues to this day with a modern van type equipped ambulance, serving the town of Lyme residents. The Firemen's Ladies Auxiliary of Three Mile Bay was organized in 1950. In 1970-71 all members of the Fire Department, Ladies Auxiliary and members of the community helped with building the new Fire Hall.

GRANGE # 126 of Three Mile Bay in 1905

Master

Bates, Will

Overseer

King, A. J.

Lecturer

King, Mrs. Harriett

Steward

Hayes, E. J.

Asst. Steward

Dick, Geo. W.

Chaplain

Montana, D. H.

Treasurer

Hentze, O. F.

Secretary

Herrick, G. H.

Gatekeeper

Chavoustie, Henry

Flora

Roats, Gertrude

Ceres

Hewitt, Beulah

Pomona

Huck, Gladys

Lady Asst. Steward

Bates, Sena

Angell, L. C.

Angell, Mrs. L. C.

Barnes, Geo. A.

Barnes, Lansing

Barnes, Mrs. Emma

Barnes, Myron A.

Barron, Anna S.

Barron, John J.

Barron, Mrs. John J.

Bates, Alberta

Bates, Frank

Bates, George G.

Bates, Mrs. Geo. G.

Bates, Mrs. Sena

Bates, Walter E.

Bates, William

Becker, Miss Mabel

Bourcey, Eugene

Bourcey, Stephen

Bridgen, Miss Marie H.

Brown, M. J.

Brown, Mrs. M. J.

Buchanan, James

Calhoun, D. J.

Carey, M. J.

Cean, Chas.

Chapman, Florence E.

Chapman, Gilbert

Chavoustie, Henry

Chavoustie, Mrs. Henry

Chavoustie, Mrs. Lottie

Chavoustie, Vincent E.

Clark, R. S.

Clemens, J. H.

Clemens, Miss Addie

Clemens, Mrs. J. H.

Collins, Emmet T.

Collins, Mrs. Amelia

Combs, Charles

Combs, Mrs. Charles

Comerford, Marion

Constance, Mrs. Addie

Constance, William C.

Cornaire, James

Cornaire, Mrs. James

Cranson, Earl B.

Cranson, Miss Emma D.

Cranson, Mrs. Martha E.

Crouse, Mrs. Philip

Crouse, Philip

Crusot, Alex.

Curtis, Miss Hazel

Dick, Geo. W.

Dingman, Mrs. Alice

Dingman, Mrs. Porter H.

Dingman, Porter H.

Empie, F. B.

Empie, Miss Emma

Empie, Mrs. C. M.

Eselin, Henry

Eselin, Mrs. Rose

Failing, Alex

Failing, John A.

Failing, Mrs. John A.

Failing, Mrs. Simeon

Failing, Simeon

Favret, Fred

Favret, J. Wells

Favret, Mrs. Fannie

Favret, Mrs. Peter

Favret, Peter

FitzGerald, M. J.

FitzGerald, Miss Estella

Flander, John H.

Forton, Alfred

Fox, Chauncey D.

Fox, Mrs. Adeline

Fox, Mrs. Estella

Fox, Mrs. Jane E.

Frye, Eugene

Frye, Mrs. Eugene

Gibbons, Edward

Gilchrist, Mrs. Mabel

Gosier, Antonie

Halladay, Mrs. J. B.

Hamilton, Ray

Harder, Byron

Harris, L. D.

Hayes, A. C.

Hayes, E. J.

Hayes, F. B.

Hayes, H. L.

Hayes, J. S.

Hayes, Mrs. A. C.

Hayes, Mrs. E. J.

Hayes, Mrs. F. B.

Hayes, Perley D.

Hentze, B. W.

Hentze, Mrs. Nina

Hentze, Mrs. O. F.

Hentze, O. F.

Herrick, Arthur C.

Herrick, Clarence

Herrick, G. H.

Herrick, Geo. E.

Herrick, L. W.

Herrick, Mrs. Clarence

Herrick, Mrs. G. H.

Herrick, Mrs. Geo. E.

Herrick, Mrs. L. W.

Hewitt, Miss Beulah F.

Hewitt, Mrs. Cora

Huck, A. J.

Huck, Miss Gladys

Huff, A.

Hyatt, Geo. W.

Johnson, Geo. E.

King, Augustus

King, Frederick

King, Mrs. Harriett

Klock, Frank E.

Klock, Mrs. Everett

Lance, L. A.

Lance, Milton

Lance, Mrs. Milton

Lance, Norris M.

Lindsley, Chas. A.

Lindsley, Mrs. Mary

Lott, C. J.

Lott, Miss Mary H.

Lott, Mrs. Harriett

Mance, Francis

Mayo, L. D.

Mayo, Mrs. L. D.

McPherson, Mrs. Emma

McWayne, Miss Edna

McWayne, Miss Estella

McWayne, Neil

Missouit, A.

Montana, D. H.

Mount, Joseph

Mount, Mrs. Joseph

Mullen, Mrs. Daniel

Northrop, Fred

Northrop, J. B.

Northrop, Mrs. Fred

Northrop, O. S.

Parker, Miss Anna

Pennock, Alvah

Pennock, Mrs. Alvah

Peo, Ramey

Perney, Daisy Jane

Perney, Miss Georgia

Phelps, Mrs. L. P.

Putnam, Walter

Reasoner, G. H.

Reasoner, Miss Ethel

Reasoner, Mrs. G. H.

Reed, John H.

Reff, M. F.

Riley, Berney

Riley, Mrs. Berney

Roats, Miss Gertrude

Rogers, A. B.

Rogers, Mrs. A. B.

Rogers, Mrs. Solon L.

Rogers, Ralph W. E.

Rogers, Solon L.

Salesbury, Mrs. Seymour

Salesbury, Seymour

Salsbury, Luke A.

Selter, Aaron

Selter, John

Selter, Mrs. Aaron

Sheldon, Fred

Sheldon, Lester

Sheldon, Mrs. Fred

Sheldon, Mrs. Lester

Snyder, Eveston S.

Snyder, Mrs. Mary

Southwell, L. W.

Southwell, Mrs. L. W.

Spanable, Albert B.

Spanable, John

Spanable, Miss Hattie

Spanable, Mrs. John

Spanable, Mrs. Sarah

Storm, John

Stumpf, Peter

Taft, J. Wells

Taft, Mrs. J. Wells

Valley, Jerry

VanDoren, A.

VanDoren, J. I.

VanDoren, Mrs. J. I.

VanNess, M.

VanNess, Mrs. M.

VanOstrand, Geo.

VanOstrand, Mrs. Geo.

VanOstrand, Mrs. Oley

VanOstrand, Oley

VanWert, John

Vincent, F. E.

Vincent, Mrs. Ella

Vincent, Mrs. F. E.

Vosler, Pearl

Wadley, Mrs. Lydia

Walrad, Alonzo

Warner, A. B.

Warner, Horatio

Warner, Miss Lottie

Warner, Mrs. A. B.

Warner, Mrs. Belle

Warner, Mrs. Bertha

Warner, Mrs. Ida

Warner, Nelson

Watkins, Hugh E.

Watkins, Mrs. Agnes

Wells, Geo. W.

Wells, J. M.

Wells, Jerry C.

Wells, Miss Libbie

Wells, Mrs. M. L.

Wells, Will

Whitmore, Miss Myrtle

Wilcox, Chas.

Wilcox, Claud Van

Wilcox, John M.

Wilcox, John T.

Wilcox, Mrs. C. G.

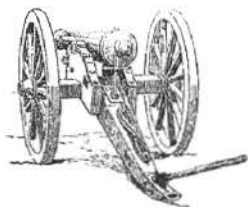
Wilcox, Mrs. John M.

Wiley, Frank

Wiley, Peter

Wood, Mrs. A.

CIVIL WAR BIOGRAPHY



LUTHER KIEFFER

Union Soldier - Distinguished Service

Anthony Kieffer brought his family from Germany around 1832 to settle eventually in what is now the Town of Clayton next to the present Town of Orleans border with their children, including their son Luther, "a lad of twelve." The 1850 census finds the Kieffer family with son Luther already married to Polly Rouse, and away from home. Luther's career as a forty niner, land speculator and finally an army officer in the Civil War shows us an intelligent, capable, active young man. The diary which he kept during his war service shows him as a loving husband and father. The use of English in the diary proves that the German immigrant boy who learned English at twelve became a fluent writer of the language at maturity.

In 1861 handsome Captain Kieffer and his two sons went off to the war. Neither he nor his eldest son ever returned, and the second son, Theodore, only came home to die. His wife's parents sorrowed with their sorrowing daughter, Polly (Rouse) Kieffer.

According to a brief biography of Luther, pension records in the National Archives show that he participated in the Mexican War of 1845 as a company grade officer. In 1848, always adventurous, he succumbed to gold fever and went with his brother John and his wife's relatives to the gold fields of California. Luther Kieffer answered the call to arms 31 Aug 1861 and recruited a company (Battery D Company) of the First New York Volunteer Artillery, also known as the 1st New York Light Artillery, or 1st NYLA. Many young men of Jefferson County belonged to that unit. In 1863 Luther came home to raise another company, this time in the 14th NYHA, another outfit largely from Jefferson County. This time sons William and Theodore joined him. Capt. Kieffer was busy raising his company in Watertown, and then went down to Binghampton to see to the mustering in. At the Battle of Cold Harbor, he and their son William were killed, and Theodore so badly wounded that he came home to die

about a year later. Gramma Joles told the story from the perspective of Stone Mills.

Laura Baltz, known better by her married name, Gramma Joles, told more of the story of Captain Kieffer. Gramma Joles's half sister, Elizabeth, lived with the Luther Kieffer family, and in that tight knit community, Mrs. Joles heard all that went on. She reminisced: "When the Civil War broke out, [Elizabeth's] husband enlisted for 3 years. Then Uncle Luther, as we all called him enlisted and got the two boys to enlist. Aunt Polly (Luther's wife) felt very bad when 3 of them went to the war. The reports that came back to us at that time were that Luther and William were captured as prisoners and were in some Rebel prison. Mrs. Kieffer expected that when the war was over they would be sent home and anxiously awaited their coming with great hope. But time went on after the war and no return of father and son. The truth came at last that they were killed in battle. Discouraged and very sorrowful Mrs. Kieffer, having a hard time managing the farm, decided to go to the lands in the West that her husband had purchased and this accounts for the trip of the family to the Middle West."

Long after the war, another version reached the Kieffer family. This time an eye witness who had known Luther Kieffer and his family in Stone Mills took the time to write Dr. Alonzo Kieffer, Luther's son. In 1904 D. A. Phelps was the pastor of the Methodist church at St. Lawrence Corners, some eleven or twelve miles from Stone Mills as the crow flies. He wrote Dr. Kieffer that he had known the Kieffers before the war, all of them coming from the Town of Clayton.

"We were placed on picket about noon of June 1st 1864 between Totopotomy Creek and Bethesda Church, near Cold Harbor, in fact we always spoke of that day as our Cold Harbor fight. About dark our picket line was attacked and a few men killed and wounded, we lost at that time two killed and one badly wounded out of our company. The line was driven back and after it became quite dark was rearranged.

"At daylight next morning June 2nd, we saw in the edge of the woods about fifty rods in our front the rebel works that had been thrown up during the night, the day was extremely hot and we waited patiently until noon expecting to be relieved at that time, but no relief came. About three P.M. we received notice that the main line had withdrawn and also to hold the line until dark before falling back to the main line, soon after receiving these instructions we heard a bugle sound in our front and at once the rebel line of battle swarmed over their works and advanced upon us, your father who was in command of the pickets at this point gathered up all the men on that part of the line and hurried us back toward our own works, only one

(Continued on Page 13)

(Continued From Page 12)

man was wounded while we were falling back to the works, Chas. D. Miller of Co. I; he was wounded in the fleshy part of the leg above the knee, when hit he jumped out of the ranks and cried Oh. Oh. Your father said to him that is nothing, perhaps more to encourage the men than the thought that it was a slight wound, Miller kept along and was saved from the fate of a rebel prison.

"We were soon in the works; your father halted the men to learn how much of a force was coming upon us, and to learn the condition of things in general. As we entered the works I passed your father and took my place three or four rods to his right, a volley or two was fired and by that time, not three or four minutes having elapsed after we entered the works before your father saw that a heavy force was advancing and very near us, upon this discovery he called out, "boys, take care of yourselves," and we started from the works on the run, in the mean time the enemy had been swinging well around toward our left, and when we left the works they poured in upon us a most terrific and deadly cross fire, the air seemed literally filled with bullets, twice or three times while I was running I put my foot down on the very spot where a bullet had thrown up the dirt in front of me, I must have had a charmed life at that time for I was the hindmost man at that point and no one near me, and no doubt many muskets were leveled at me and fired, I have often made the remark that I did not see how even a butterfly could have escaped from that place without being winged. It was at this time and place just after he had left the works with his men that Captain Kieffer fell but was not killed. Comrade Tufford of Co. M said as he passed him the Capt. held up his gold watch for him to take with him, but Tufford was hard pressed to stop even for a moment to take the watch, your father probably understood that he would fall into the rebels hands and that they would take everything from him, perhaps he understood the seriousness of his wound.

"Your brother William was hurrying off by the side of Sgt. Cratzenburg, and he said to Sgt. C. "I am going back to see if I can help father." Cratzenburg said "Do not go you can do nothing for him," but William turned back and probably was killed near where your father fell. He sacrificed his life at that time to give assistance to his wounded father, a loyal affectionate son. William was about my own age and we had formed a close and warm friendship.

"I learned that your father was cared for as a prisoner and died the next day not far from the place where he was wounded. I believe this is a very correct account of the death of Capt. and Sgt. Kieffer.

Sgt. Cratzenburg lost an arm and was taken prisoner in this fight, out of 119 men our Co. took on picket the night before we lost all but 37 in a very few minutes of time. Co. M no doubt suffered equally as severely. Sometime after I returned from the war I heard your mother received from some one in the south the pocket diary that had been your father's but never learned whether the report was true or not. I have always been anxious to learn as much of every incident connected with your father's and your brother's death as possible for I missed them and have always mourned their sad death in the enemy's hands.

"When I enlisted I supposed I was going with Capt. Kieffer, as he had my enlistment papers, but was with some others assigned to Co. I. I became quite well acquainted with the Capt. and William at Rochester and later had frequent little visits and conversations with the Capt. while on the march from the Wilderness to Cold Harbor.

"At the Wilderness he said to me "you will always remember this first breastwork you are helping to build," and I have not forgotten it. He also told me how to care for my feet on the long hard marches so that they would become toughened and not so badly blistered by marching, this last as we sat resting late one afternoon after a long and weary march. I have never forgotten these comrades for a single day, so it seems, since last I saw them at Cold Harbor."

Luther Kieffer's wartime diary survives in the hands of some of his descendants. From it we learn of the often boring life in the camps protecting Washington, D.C. Started in January 1862, it was probably a Christmas present from home. He served on a court martial, read news and artillery tactics, wrote letters home and to the editor of the American Stock Journal, keeping up with the latest in agricultural affairs he hoped to go back to after the war. He attended to paying his troops. Since he mentioned studying and recitation, it would seem that there were regular classes he attended.



Luther Kieffer (1845)



Polly Rouse Kieffer (1845)



next, is Adjutant Rumsey, who by firing his guns so continuously helped save the wing of the Second Army Corps. He was wounded but recovered. Next to him, looking straight at the camera, is Lieut.-Colonel Henry E. Turner; and standing nearest to the tent is Major C. S. Wainwright, who won his spurs at Williamsburg, and again proved the metal he was made of at Fair Oaks. Seated in the camp chair is Colonel Guilford T. Bailey, who later died beside his guns. It rained during the days that preceded Fair Oaks. It was the treacherous River Chickahominy that helped to baffle the well-laid plans of the Federal commander. Well did the Confederate leaders know that with the downpour then falling the stream would rise. Not immediately, but within the next few hours it would gain strength until at last it became a sweeping torrent. All this proved true; only a part of

New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs:
Military History

Last modified: March 14, 2006

URL: <http://www.dmna.state.ny.us/historic/reghist/civilartillery/1stArtLt/1stArtLtAllPhotoOfficers.htm>

OFFICERS OF THE BANNER BATTERY

Not long after this picture was taken, the names of most of these men were mentioned in despatches [sic]. Against Major D. H. Van Valkenburgh, the gallant soldier leaning on his saber, his arm thrust into his coat, was written, "killed in action at Fair Oaks." He helped to make the name of the First New York Light Artillery a proud one; and next to him stands Major Luther Kieffer. Perhaps the youngest, who is standing

McClellan's army had crossed the river when the Confederates moved to attack, May 31st. Let the Prince de Joinville, who was a spectator, describe the guns that helped to save the day. "They are not those rifled cannon, the objects of extravagant admiration of late, good for cool firing and long range; these are the true guns for a fight—12-pound howitzers (Napoleons), the old pattern, throwing round projectiles or heavy charges of grape and canister. The simple and rapid discharging of these pieces makes terrible havoc in the opposing ranks. In vain Johnston sends against this battery his best troops—those of South Carolina, the Hampton legion among others, in vain he rushes on it himself; nothing can shake the line!"

Taken from *Photographic History of the Civil War Volume I The Opening Battles*, Francis Trevelyan Miller, editor-in-chief. New York: the Trow Press, 1911, page 295.

Big Three Mile Bay Fire Just 50 Years Ago Today (1937)

Blaze Which Causes Loss of \$40,000 March 2, 1887,
Recalled

Fifty years ago this morning, March 2, 1887, a fire, started from a defective stove pipe, swept the business section of Three Mile Bay leveling store buildings and homes valued at over \$40,000.

Breaking out at about 5 in the morning, the flames gained rapid headway and before they were finally checked every new block in the village had been destroyed and only four business places remained unharmed.

The Watertown fire department was summoned by telephone and the steam gong here was sounded to call firemen to duty.

Daniel B. Schuyler, president of the Jefferson County National bank, who was a boy residing in the village at that time, recalled the incident vividly today. His mother, Mrs. John Lansing Schuyler, still resided in Three Mile Bay on the same site where her home was destroyed by that fire. Mrs. W. A. Vincent, whose husband, Dr. W. A. Vincent, operated a drug store in another of the buildings, which was destroyed at that time, lives there now also.

"Heat from the burning building was so intense that it melted the snow and the street had the appearance of a canal," said Mr. Schuyler today in recalling the fire.

All of Watertown's fire fighting equipment, including the hook and ladder company, was mobilized to give Three Mile Bay assistance. Chief McCarthy was in charge. The steamer and two hose carts were loaded onto a flat railroad car here and left at 8:25 a.m. Twenty-six minutes later, at 8:51, the department arrived at the Three Mile Bay depot which was located a mile from the village. A team was hitched to the steamer there and the firemen hurried to the burning structures. The steamer was placed on the ice in the bay and water was drawn from there to supply the hoses.

By the time the Watertown firemen arrived the flames had already destroyed the block owned by John Lansing Schuyler, Dr. Vincent's block, the G. R. Wilcox

block and residence and the home of C. W. McKinstry.

The fire started in an upstairs floor of the Schuyler block and was caused by a defective stovepipe, it was said at that time. By the time it was discovered the entire upper portion of the Schuyler structure was in flames. Mr. Schuyler operated a boot and shoe store and a Mr. McKinstry operated a general store on the first floor. The Curtis & Storm furniture store and J. L. McMullin, merchant tailor, were located on the second floor. The loss in this block alone amounted to several thousands of dollars. Most of the loss was insured, however.

After the fire had consumed the Schuyler block and residence, the flames spread to the Dr. Vincent block and that too was burned to the ground. Other buildings soon fell prey to the flames. They were the large block owned and occupied by G. R. Wilcox, Mr. McKinstry's residence, the Wilcox home and a tenement building, also owned by Mr. Wilcox. Business establishments which suffered heavy losses included the Flanders & Warner furniture store in the Wilcox block.

Residents were forced to leave their homes attired in only scant clothing and women aided the men in removing furniture and stock from the business places. An account in The Times 50 years ago stated that the center of the village had the appearance of a camp site.

Watertown firemen were credited for saving the entire village from destruction. About 1:30 in the afternoon the Central House, the hotel there at that time, was thrown open to the firemen and dinner was served to them.

C. D. Hayes, while aiding in fighting the fire, was struck on the head by a falling glass bottle fire extinguisher and although he was knocked down and hurt severely, after some little time he was able to continue helping the firemen.

The Central house, which was near the Schuyler residence, caught fire but the blaze there was soon put out.

When the fire was finally under control the only establishments remaining were those of Wheeler & Hayes, general merchandise; the grocery and saloon owned by A. J. Lucas; J. L. Taylor's harness store and the saloon owned by George Crouse.

Thirteen years later, in 1900, Three Mile Bay was again the scene of a fire and the Schuyler residence was destroyed for the second time.

COMPUTER CORNER

New Domain for Jefferson County GenWebSite

Bill and Nan Dixon have decided to join the majority of New York State GenWebSites, and remove their pages from Ancestry.com, which took over Rootsweb this spring. The new URL is <http://jefferson.nygenweb.net>. Note that you do not use the www. Nothing about the site is changed, other than the address, and it will look exactly the same and have the same information. Please change your URL for access. The old site will stay up for a few weeks, but it will not be updated. Any new stuff will go to the new site, and the old one will come down eventually.

From the Herkimer County Crier

Here are some search tips taken from the Herkimer County Historical Society's newsletter, the *Herkimer County Historical Crier* for September-October 2008.

Don't count solely on soundex. While the soundex search option, when available, is a great way to pick up alternate spellings, it may not get them all. OWENS and OWEN, for example, are commonly seen variations of the same name...yet they have different soundex codes. Therefore, a search for OWENS will not pick up OWEN, and vice versa.

Try a wildcard search. If you aren't sure how to spell a name, some census search engines allow you to use special symbols called wildcards to represent some unknown letter or letters in a word. Check with the specific census index for census index for specific wildcard rules and symbols, but most, (including Ancestry.com) allow you to use * to represent an unknown number of characters at the end of a word. A search for john* might return john, johns, johnson, johnsen, johnathon, etc. Usually you need to have at least three characters preceding the *.

Familiarize yourself with nicknames. It's not uncommon to find families providing census takers with their formal birth names on one census, and then using the names their friends and families called them on another. Mary might be listed as Polly, Alexander as Alex or Al and Elizabeth as Betsy, Bessie, Beth or Eliza. Check the middle names, too.

Search by surname and location. When you're pretty sure you know where an ancestor was living but traditional searches just aren't turning him up, try searching

by surname only, restricting by state, county, district, or town as necessary to bring the number of results down to a reasonable number for browsing.

Search for initials. When you can't narrow down the location enough to use surname only search, and you can't find the person listed under their first name, check for initials.

Search for siblings, children or other family members. When an every name index is available, don't forget about the rest of the family. Your ancestor's first name may have been hard to read, but her brother's may have been a bit easier.

Search for neighbors. If your ancestors have been living in the same place for a while, search for people who were listed nearby in the neighboring census years. If you find a neighbor in this index, then head to his page and check a few pages on either side for your ancestor.

Leave out the name entirely. When all else fails, and the search engine offers enough other options, forego the name and search by other known facts. Searching for someone living in Wilson County, NC, in 1850 who was born in Virginia in 1789 will narrow the field down considerably. Sometimes this is the only way you'll find those people whose names were seriously mangled during the indexing process.

Searching by first name only, along with other identifying information such as date and place of birth, can also turn up possible matches for women who have married.

USGenweb Archives

Formerly housed at RootsWeb, the Archives has found a new home. Please come visit: <http://www.usgwarchives.org/>.

Look for Jefferson County under the New York State listing. The specific address is <http://www.usgwarchives.org/ny/jefferson/jefferson.htm>

Some of these items may be duplicates of records found on <http://jefferson.nygenweb.net/> but others may be unique to the archives site, since we are not allowed to copy from the site.

WE ARE NOW

<http://jefferson.nygenweb.net>

Please note: You do not use the www.

Great Lakes Marine Accident Database

Great Lakes Shipwreck Research announces a substantial addition to the Great Lakes Marine Accident Database. Through the efforts of transcriptionist Dean Adams, the database has now been enlarged to include nearly 10,000 additional Great Lakes marine accidents for the period 1871 - 1883. The data was transcribed from the Annual Reports of the Chief Signal Officer (the predecessor to the US Weather Bureau) and includes detailed accounts of nearly every accident of any severity occurring on the Lakes during the given period.

The database now includes nearly 20,000 accidents from 1840 - 1883 and is searchable by vessel name, port, year, month and other field combinations. The Chief Signal Officer accident lists have long been known as an excellent source of information for career data on 19th century Great Lakes vessels, but they have always been extremely time consuming and difficult to use due to their scarcity, small print and tremendous volume of data. These reports can now be quickly and accurately searched for all accidents to a given vessel, in a given time or at a given port.

Feel free to check it out at:

<http://www.ship-wreck.com/shipwreck/wreckdb/>

Thanks to Jeannie and Bob Brennan for this information.

INTERNET GENEALOGY

We will report on Dick Hillenbrand's visit in our January *INFORMER* as he is our October meeting speaker.

Richard "Dick" Hillenbrand of Syracuse has been an avid historical and genealogical researcher since the 1960's. He served on the Board of Directors of the Onondaga Historical Association for twenty years and also has served on the Board of the Central New York Genealogical Society. He has lectured and given genealogical programs for several New York State based genealogical and historical societies, church groups, community service clubs and has taught Basic Genealogical Research courses for the Adult Continuing Education system.

Dick has been using computers for genealogical purposes since 1979 and has a background in the use of computers for industrial automation systems. He will inform attendees of some of his useful hints and aids in the use of the Internet for genealogical research.

JCNYGS REPOSITORY REORGANIZED

The newly designated Repository Committee (Gregg Plantz, Tammy Plantz and Bonnie Borrello) devoted several hours this summer towards reorganizing the many publications, subscriptions and personal submissions of the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society. During this process the committee discussed how much more valuable these sources could be if they were more accessible to the public as well as members of its association. The committee determined that such a wealth of information should be made available to more researchers than it now serves. Consequently, the committee sought and received the approval of the JCNYGS to donate relevant resources to the Genealogy Department of the Flower Memorial Library. These additions to the Genealogy Department now enhance and service the efforts of more people studying North County history and genealogy.

Included in these donations are over 125 folders of North Country surnames, nearly 50 New York State, County and local historical association newsletters and publications, as well as a variety of other genealogy endeavors.

JCNYGS publications continue on file in the Association's repository and are available for purchase. Such sources include but are not limited to past issues of the "JCNYGS Informer" and JCNYGS Pedigrees.

A Genealogy Poem by Grandpa Tucker

I saw a duck the other day.
It had the feet of my Aunt Faye.
Then it walked, was heading South.
It waddled like my Unde Ralph.

And when it turned, I must propose,
Its bill was formed like Aunt Jane's
nose.

I thought, "Oh, no! It's just my luck,
Someday I'll look just like a duck!"

I sobbed to Mom about my fears,
And she said, "Honey, dry your tears.
You look like me, so walk with pride.
Those folks are all from Daddy's side."

Georgia Lott Selter

July 16, 1955, *Watertown Daily Times*

Three Mile Bay Author of "A Country Calendar" for the Times Expires Unexpectedly.

Three Mile Bay, July 16 -- Mrs. Georgia Lott Selter, 77, wife of Leon D. Selter of the Three Mile Point road and author of the column, "A Country Calendar" appearing in the *Watertown Daily Times*, died suddenly of an embolism at the House of the Good Samaritan.

Mrs. Selter, whose newspaper writings and daily columns in the *Times* were known for the rare home-spun rural philosophy she expressed, had been in poor health for an extended period of time, but she continued to contribute regularly to the columns of the newspaper until she became seriously ill in April. She wrote from her ancestral home, the Lott homestead, located a half mile from Three Mile Bay on the Three Mile Point road. Mrs. Selter had written her daily column continuously for a period of more than 20 years. She never missed a week and at one period when she was too ill to write she dictated her column every day to a neighbor for delivery to the newspaper offices.

In addition to her daily column, Mrs. Selter also contributed regularly to the weekly supplement, "Farm and Garden". She was one of the original contributors to the weekly Saturday supplement, the first issue of which appeared April 12, 1947. Her writing, dwelling basically on life on the farm, appeared always under the byline "Georgia Lott Selter."

She was born April 30, 1878 at Three Mile Bay, the only child of the late Furman M. and Alice Northrop Lott. She taught school, until her marriage, in various rural schools in the Three Mile Bay area.

About 13 years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Selter moved to the Lott homestead, which had been first settled by her great-grandfather, Peter Lott, in 1838, 117 years ago.

(See Page 23 for 3 "A Country Calendar"
Articles by Georgia Lott Selter)



WED FIFTY YEARS
Mr. & Mrs. Leon D. Selter
m. Sept. 7, 1904

Descendants of Henry Selter

(Thanks to the Genealogy work of Phyllis Putnam)

1 Henry Selter

... 2 Jonathan Selter 1781 - 1858

.....+Nancy Bellinger 1790 - 1872

.....3 Jeremiah Selter 1812 - 1898

.....+Sarah Ann Putnam 1808 - 1886

.....4 Zeviah Selter 1833 - 1922

.....+Hayes

.....*2nd Husband of Zeviah Selter

.....+David Shaw 1816 - 1880

.....5 Adah Shaw 1860 - 1944

.....+Browning Asa Wilcox 1856 - 1914

.....6 Howard Wilcox

.....+Clara

.....6 Forrest Wilcox

.....+Jeanette VanAlstyne

.....6 Adah Geraldine Wilcox 1906

.....5 Herbert Handley Shaw 1862 - 1929

.....+Alice Mary Carroll 1867 - 1956

.....6 Raymond David Shaw 1888 - 1958

.....6 Carl Browning Shaw 1895 - 1970

.....6 Bessie Evelyn Shaw 1897

.....+Reginald Dorian Coppernoll 1891 - 1970

.....6 Marjorie Alice Shaw 1905 - 1946

.....5 Frederick Cleon Shaw 1866 - 1933

.....+Jessie Pearson 1876 - 1968

.....6 Alvine Zeviah Shaw 1895 - 1976

.....+John Edward Jr. Warne 1893 - 1957

.....6 Adah Geraldine Shaw 1906 - 1989

.....4 Jonathan Selter 1836 - 1919

.....+Mary Jane Bennett 1837 - 1900

.....5 Austin H. Selter 1862 - 1941

.....4 Aaron Selter 1838 - 1926

.....+Ellen Klock Warner 1852 - 1937

.....5 Leon DeMoin Selter 1871 - 1956

.....+Georgia Naomi Lott 1878 - 1955

.....5 Lulu Gertrude Selter 1874

.....+John Gordon Guthrie 1874 - 1961

.....6 Hilda Blythe Guthrie 1906 - 2002

.....+Eric I. Bolton

.....5 Beulah May Selter 1877 - 1967

.....+James Griswold Parker 1876 - 1941

.....6 Lyndon Selter Parker 1915 - 2003

.....+Florence Davis

.....4 Mary Elizabeth Selter 1849 - 1934

.....+Thomas Jr. MD Masson 1851 - 1916

.....5 Jeremiah Selter Masson 1881 - 1927

.....4 Josiah C. Selter 1842 - 1894

.....+Helen M. Corey 1844 - 1920

.....5 Maude Selter 1876 - 1962

.....5 Grace Selter 1880 - 1967

.....+George Humphrey 1874 - 1933

.....6 Helen Humphrey 1906 - 1963

.....+Rongvold Tewson Hansen 1899 - 1982

.....6 Howard Humphrey 1910

.....+Inez (Nellie) Brown 1920 - 1988

.....4 Henry M. Cline Selter 1845 - 1921


.....+Caroline Manila Fish 1846 - 1931

.....5 Charles L. Selter 1868 - 1940

.....+Anna Wilson 1875 - 1936

.....5 Lloyd Hanley Selter 1884 - 1904

From the Bicentennial Edition of the Jefferson County Historical Calendar
Published to Benefit the Lyme Central School Scholarship Fund (March 2005)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>OFFICE SUPPLY CENTER Inc.</p> <p>150 Factory St. Watertown, New York 13601 E-mail: lyngsoc@imcnet.net</p>	<p>Since 1949</p> <p>Tel: 315.782.1974 Fax: 315.788.5721 1.800.339.1444</p>	<p>1</p> <p>ADAMS & BROWN-VILLE: On this date in 1803 the towns of Adams and Brownville had their first town meeting. Jefferson Co. was not yet organized. This area was Oneida County.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>WATERTOWN: As in most towns, potash was the first means of producing cash. Many paid in part or for the whole of their lands with potash sales in the early 1800's.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>RODMAN: Thomas White settled in Whitesville (East Rodman) in 1802 from Litchfield, NY. In 1803 he built the first grist mill in the town.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>ELLISBURG: In 1797 Lyman Ellis was the first of the new settlers to the area to raise corn and potatoes. In 1798 he was probably the first to raise winter wheat.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>ELLISBURG: The 1798-99 winter was of remarkable severity. Snow fell 10/29 & lasted until 4/20. Gideon Howard was walking home from Rome when the first snow fell. W/in 5 mi. of home 4' of snow delayed him 3 days. He was exhausted from fatigue and hunger upon reaching home.</p>
<p>6</p> <p>WATERTOWN: In March of 1800 Henry Coffeen, a native of VT, and Zachariah Butterfield both moved to their recently purchased sites in the "village" of Watertown from Schuyler in Oneida Co.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>CAPE VINCENT: During colonial times in 1774 a stockaded camp was erected on Carlton Island at the direction of Sir Frederick Haldimand, the commander of the British forces in America.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>CAPE VINCENT: During the Revolutionary War in 1778 the British made the stockaded camp on Carlton Island a permanent fort known as Fort Haldimand.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>JEFFERSON CO.: Until 1797 the region now known as Jefferson Co. was covered w/ primeval forest. The area played no role during the American Revolution because there were no residents in the territory. The area was flanked by quiet military posts at Oswego & Ogdensburg.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>CHAMPION: In 1801 Joel Mix built a grist mill here and in the same year the first town meeting for the town was held in his house. Champion became a town in 1800, prior to the formation of Jefferson County.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>JEFFERSON CO.: The first white men to "set foot on the soil of what is today Jefferson Co." were members of Samuel deChamplain's exploration party in October of 1615. This was undoubtedly Galoup or Stony Island near Henderson.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>RODMAN: The first religious services in town were in the summer of 1802 held in the cabin of Anson Moody by a Rev. Mr. Woodward, a missionary, who one week day preached to a small audience.</p>
<p>13</p> <p>ELLISBURG: In 1798 Marvel Ellis wrote "we have a good dam across the creek", "a good saw mill well finished and running", "a fine crop of wheat and have very fine corn", "have done considerable toward a grist mill".</p>	<p>14</p> <p>CHAMPION and WATERTOWN: On this date in 1800 both of these places were established as towns being erected from the town of Mexico. They were to be the first towns in what is now Jefferson County.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>WATERTOWN: The name recognizes the extraordinary amount and convenience of water power. This attributed "to its early and rapid growth and superiority in wealth and business beyond other places in the county".</p>	<p>16</p> <p>ADAMS: The first tannery of the area was built here in 1802.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>WORTH: Land with the highest elevation in Jefferson County is in the Town of Worth at approximately 1200' above lake level. This accounts for the heavy snowfalls the town and surrounding area are well noted for.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>JEFFERSON CO.: The area that is now Jefferson Co. contains 20 small lakes with 10 in what became the towns of Alexandria and Theresa, 4 in Ellisburg, 2 each in Henderson and Antwerp, and 1 in Orleans, Champion, Pamela, and Rutland.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>JEFFERSON CO.: Streams in county include Black River, Chaumont River, Perch River, 2 branches of Sandy Creek (N&S), Stony Creek, Mill Creek, and the Indian River, a branch of the Oswegatchie. There are also numerous tributaries.</p>
<p>20</p> <p>CHAMPION: The First Congregational Church of Champion was organized in 1801 and in 1819 its membership was nearly 400. Two or more churches were organized from this one. By 1876 there were only 14 members.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>ADAMS: On this date in 1801 the first death was that of Alexander Salisbury who drowned while attempting to cross Sandy Creek above the dam in a scow.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>RUTLAND: Rev. James W. Woodward visited the area in 1802. He collected \$1.00 in Adams, 50 cents in Watertown, 25 cents in Brownville, \$1.50 in Champion, and \$3.47 in Rutland (more than all the other towns combined).</p>	<p>23</p> <p>LORRAINE: The first house erected in the Lorraine "village" or Huddle as it was known, was in 1803 by John Alger, who later had a stopping place on the Watertown to Rome stage route.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>MALTA and HARRISON: On this date in 1804 Malta (Lorraine) and Harrison (Rodman) both became towns. Lorraine was erected from Mexico and Rodman from Adams. The Malta and Harrison names were changed at a later date.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>LEYDEN and MEXICO: As the area was beginning to settle all lands of what would be Jefferson Co. were in two towns in the County of Oneida. Leyden was north of the Black River and Mexico was south of the same.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8 TOWNS: On this date in 1805 there were eight towns that would constitute the first townships of Jefferson Co. when it is formed on March 28, 1805. The towns are: Champion & Watertown (1800), Adams, Brownville & Rutland (1802), Ellisburgh (1803), Lorraine & Rodman (1804).</p>
<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>JEFFERSON CO.: ON THIS DATE IN 1805 JEFFERSON COUNTY WAS SET OFF FROM ONEIDA COUNTY BEING NAMED IN HONOR OF THOMAS JEFFERSON WHO HAD JUST BEEN ELECTED TO A SECOND TERM. HAPPY 200th BIRTHDAY, JEFFERSON CO.</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>JEFFERSON CO.: By the act that created the county a Court of Common Pleas & General Sessions of the Peace, to have two terms annually (one in June & December) was established. This continued until 1823 when Circuit Courts were enacted.</p>	<p>31</p> <p>RUTLAND: The first woolen mill was established here in 1812 in Tylerville. It operated until 1849.</p>	<p>SINCE 1910</p> <p>SEVERANCE PHOTO, INC.</p> <p>170 COURT STREET WATERTOWN, NY 13601 315-788-3870</p>	

John C. Hewitt Homestead

February 20, 1976

From Lyme Heritage Center

As this is the bicentennial of our country I am thinking of some of our history as it has been handed down to me. As a farmer I wonder where we are headed.

I can remember when there were fifty farms on Point Peninsula at the time my father lived there about 1860 to about 1885. This was the same in all towns at this time. Farms were from 40 or 50 acres up to 200 or more. These farms were self-sufficient. They grew all their vegetables, and raised all their meat and poultry for eggs.

For extra money, for taxes and clothing, shoes, boots, etc., they sold some milk to cheese factories in summer time, eggs to local stores, usually in trade for groceries. They also made butter in the spring and fall before and after the cheese factories opened and closed. The cows were dried off for the winter to have a rest.

At about this time there was a good market for hay, being shipped by railroad to New York City for horses. Many tons of hay and grain came across the ice from Point Peninsula to the depot at Three Mile Bay. The farmers from the Point tried to move all their hay in the winter on the ice as there were no hard roads at this time. Many tons of hay were shipped on scows by water later in the year to Sackets Harbor, Chaumont and other places.

I would like to reflect at this time from my grandmother's stories about the railroad to Cape Vincent. It was a big thing at that time for these towns. This railroad came here in 1850 and was taken out in 1950, one hundred years. The automobile and big trucks put the railroad out of business.

Hay was a good paying crop back in those days and most of it was handled by hand and baled in old fashioned upright hay presses. I worked on these for 20 years. They tried to make the bales weigh about 200 pounds as shipping cost entered into this. The dealers had to pay for 10 tons shipping charges to New York City. You could get 100 bales in the small cars at that time, which came to 10 tons. Later the railroad made larger cars to hold 120 or 140 bales.

You may wonder why the farmers in the early 1900s built such large houses. They were built with hay money trying to outdo each other. At that time a large house could be built for \$8,000. A carpenter made around \$.75 to \$1.00 per hour. Lumber was \$10 per 1000 feet. Farm labor was very cheap; \$20 to \$40 per

month plus board and some worked for their board the year around plus tobacco and clothes.

In the early years the fishing industry was a large business in this town. Some farmers had this for a side line for extra cash. Also large netters used fishing for a full time occupation. Their fish were shipped to New York on the railroad. A special train came through at 4 o'clock to pick up fish which arrived in New York the next morning. They had to be iced and boxed for shipping. The fishermen and farmers had to cut their own ice and store it in special ice houses. They packed it in sawdust to keep the air away.

When my grandfather first came to Three Mile Point, about 1836 or 1837, Chaumont Bay was full of white fish and ciscoes which they caught in large seines at that time. Later gillnets were used. These fish were cleaned and salted, packed in kegs and barrels for shipping. Nearly everyone put up a keg of ciscoes for winter use. This was such a large business that people from the town of Lyme got to be called cisco chasers. Ciscoes were a very tasty fish for frying. When taken out of the salt it was easy to fillet them out and clear meat which had to be freshened in clear water for 12 to 20 hours before cooking.

In the early days there was a cooper shop on what used to be my great grandfathers farm, the Fox farm. This is where they made kegs and barrels for the fish and other things.

When my grandfather first came from the Mohawk Valley in 1836 there were no grist mills or sawmills near here. They used take their wheat and grain back 'down east' they called it, to have flour ground. This was a yearly trip in the winter and was also for a visit to old friends and relatives.

Around 1920 there were five or six blacksmith shops in the town of Lyme. All farm work was done with horses. The horses had to have iron shoes fitted and nailed to their hoofs. There were at least three doctors in this town at about 1920. Our four children were born here at home by two trips to the house with Dr. Vincent, \$25 for each child. Compare this with prices today. Sometimes I wonder, are the times getting better? You cannot get a doctor to come to the country at this time.

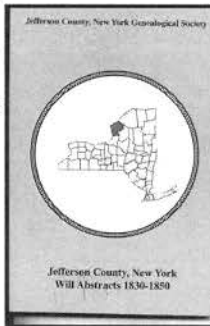
Dr. Vincent would row a boat to Point Peninsula for a sick person. He would also walk on snow shoes and many times drove a horse and buggy or cutter all around the country. Dr. La Fontaine, from Chaumont, also did these same services for about \$3.00. When traveling over the ice in the winter, sometimes they would lose their horse thru the ice. I remember one big white horse that Dr. LaFontaine lost near Three Mile Point.

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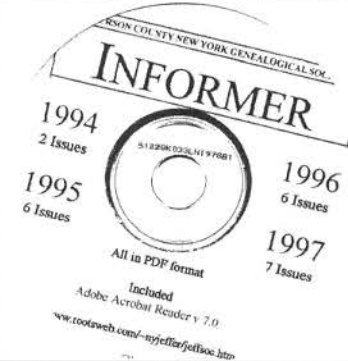
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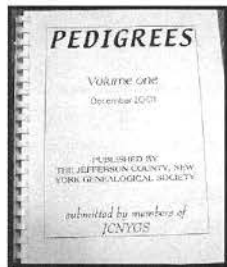


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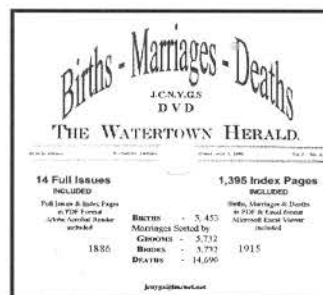
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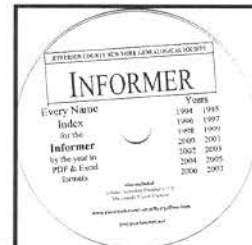
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Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

GUILLES/GUILE/GILES, O'RILEY, HAMMON, RICHARDSON

I'm looking for information on my ggggrandfather James Thomas **GUILLES** also known as Thomas **GUILLES** born approximately 1837. First located in the 1850 Census for Ellisburg, Jefferson, NY along with Angeline **GUILLES** born 1816 (assumed mother?). In the 1860 Census same place, Thomas **GUILLES** is spelled **GILES**, his mother Angeline has since married Wm **HAMMON** and living with them is a Madora **RICHARDSON** who appears as Madora **GUILE** in the 1850 Census for Ellisburg. By the 1870 Census for Ellisburg, Thomas **GUILLES** is now married to Mary? working in a paper mill and has three children, Wilber, Edith, and Charles all born in Ellisburg. In the 1880 Census for Ellisburg, my ggggrandfather is now going by James I. **GUILLES** still married, wife Mary Ann with three children and working in a paper mill. In the 1900 Census for Ellisburg at 66 years of age, Thomas **GUILLES** is living with his wife Mary Ann and by the 1910 and 1920 Census for Watertown Ward 3, Jefferson, NY James T. **GUILLES** now a widower and is living with his daughter Edith (**GUILLES**) **O'RILEY**. I can find no information on James/Thomas **GUILLES** or Angeline **GUILLES** prior to the 1850 Census. In the 1860, 1870, and 1920 Census it's indicated that he was born in Michigan? All others indicate New York? Also, Madora **GUILE** who I found in the 1850 Census for Ellisburg also indicates Michigan as the birthplace? I am trying to discover who was the father of James/Thomas **GUILLES**?

Steven Kenczyk
4290 Timberline Drive
Canton, MI 48188
734-495-0837
A2STEVE@aol.com

RICH

I have been researching my family back through New York and have found them living in Niagara County, NY. In getting more information from the New York State censuses, my ggg-grandfather James **RICH** is listed as born in Jefferson County, NY abt 1820. I have searched through the online records and I think he was living in Watertown in 1840. In the 1840 Business Directory - Jefferson County, New York: **RICH** J. B. - tinsmith works Woodruff & Cooper boards Mrs. **RICH** Watertown. **RICH** L. Mrs. keeps Inn west side State ST Watertown. The Mrs. **RICH** listed is Lucy **RICH**, widow of Jairus **RICH**. Jairus died in 1838 and Lucy died in 1872. In looking at the 1820 census, they had 2 male children listed that would have been about the correct age. By 1850, James **RICH** was living in Lewiston, New York. I would like information on James, Jairus or Lucy **RICH**.

Chuck Rich
4515 N. County RD 100 E.
Frankfort, IN 46041
aarrowheadhunter@yahoo.com

HAIG/HAUGE/HAGUE, GILL

HAIG- HAUGE- HAGUE- Thomas and George. The two boys ages 6 and 7 years were living with Thomas and Mary **GILL** family shown on 1845 New York Jefferson County, town of Lyme census. The **GILL** family came from England. Trying to find Thomas and George H.

Harry Hague
7896 Meadow Dr.
Waterford, Mi 48329
hhague01@comcast.net

ST. JAMES, VAN HOOSER

I am seeking information on the family of Peter **ST JAMES** (1843/44 - 1927 born in Jefferson County, NY), Henry I. **VAN HOOSER** (1801-11/4/1860 born at Montgomery, NY to John and Hannah **VAN HOOSER**), and Catherine M. Pettit **VAN HOOSER** (2/1809 - 6-15-1901 born at Jewettsville, NY) before 1860.

Jo Ann Staples
24740 Pealiquor Rd.
Denton, MD 21629
jstaples@dmv.com

DANO, LONGWAY

My great grand parents and grand mother lived in Watertown, Jefferson County, NY. Their names were: Frank E. **DANO**, Adaline (**LONGWAY**) **DANO**, Frank **DANO** Jr., Cora **DANO**, Maybelle **DANO**. Frank's parents were possibly Charles and Mary Ann **DANO**. His siblings were : Charles, Joseph, Philomen, William, Alonso, Lislie N., Clifton F. and Calista. I would appreciate hearing from anyone who knew of them or were related.

Dale V Pence
2019 W. Morning Vista Ln.
Phoenix, AZ 85085
623-879-9351 or 623-640-1141
dvpence@hotmail.com

BROWN NURSING HOME IN ADAMS

I was born at the Brown Nursing Home in Adams Center. I am seeking information about the facility, house, etc. How long was it use for maternity? Was it used for other things? Where was the building located and does it still exist today? I want to know it's history.

Sheila Byrnes
3622 Whispering Woods Terrace
Baldwinsville, NY 13027-8306
smbyrnes@hotmail.com

By Georgia Lott Selter A Country Calendar

From the Watertown Daily Times

“Sure as Town Meeting”

February 21, 1950

The third Tuesday in February used to be town meeting day in our part of the north country. Government “for the people and by the people” in the form of a town meeting was the first form of government in America. “Sure as town meeting” is a characteristic New England saying relative to security and justice, which reflects their pride in the rock-bottom form of self government which has endured in their section for over three centuries. “We’ll never have real government ‘by the people’ until we go back to the old-time town meeting when everybody spoke freely and voted according,” many people still believe.

But the truth is that even in our land of vaunted freedom there never has been true government by the people—all the people.” Recall the long decades when people of the feminine gender could not vote. In early days, church membership figured in the question of franchise in New England. Ownership of land was essential in many sections. Even today, racial prejudice influences the elections in some sections of our country, and party affiliation in others. The town meeting is not, and never was, perfect; just as no earthly government will be perfect.

Yet, what glorious freedom is ours in America—saying what we think, voting as we choose. Points out the dictator: “The rank and file of people are too ignorant and lacking in judgment to govern wisely.” To which James A. Garfield has replied from the experience gained in his high position of heading a successful republic: “All free governments are managed by the combined wisdom and folly of the people.” Based upon the truth about our country, freedom hasn’t done so badly. “Sure as town meeting” has a reassuring sound to the ears of a true American.
Lott Homestead, Three Mile Bay, N. Y.

“Wood For The Fire”

February 4, 1950

No nicer place is there on a winter day than a woodlot of mixed trees; evergreens enough to afford shelter; work enough with axe and saw to make the blood course brisk and warm. Lacy black tree shadows on the pure whiteness of new snow. Unconscious map makers have been here before you, leaving telltale records of interesting activities. In your childhood you felt pity for anyone living with no woods to shelter them from summer’s heat and winter’s cold and no woodlot providing them with fuel. The cutting and preparing of fuel wood has always seemed the work best suited to mid-winter in our north country.

Wood undoubtedly was the first fuel used by mankind for the cooking of food and for comfort from the cold. Fire also was, next to clubs and stones, man’s first weapon against wild beasts. In times of trouble, in any generation, the nearer home any necessity can be produced the surer it is. Fuel that depends not upon mines, transportation facilities or labor difficulties, can be considered a blessing. As never before in the history of this natural forest land, we are learning to appreciate the value of our home-grown wood. And it is reassuring to note that woodlands are receiving some of the attention they deserve.

New types of wood-burning stoves and furnaces can be bought which eliminate much of the constant refueling necessary in earlier types. We are learning in our own time the truth that: “Wood you cut from your own land warms you thrice: first when you prepare it for fuel; second when you place a log on your fire and hear the cheery crackle and feel the grateful glow of the flames; and last when it comforts your heart with memories that you never forget.”

“The Old Village Store”

January 13, 1950

In the horse-and-sleigh days of an old-time January, Saturday afternoon and evening marked the high spot of the week in the country general store. For Saturday was the day when farm folks habitually planned to go to the store and “trade,” gather up the week’s accumulation of mail which might consist of little more than a small weekly newspaper and occasional letter, and hear the interesting items of local news. Very few of the old style country stores remain today; and those that can be found have undergone a modern face-lifting that renders them scarcely recognizable.

Many things, once commonplace we now search for in vain. On the drygoods side, the many shelves filled with yard goods of gay colored prints, unbleached muslin, fine white cloth, and serviceable gingham. The top shelf where was modestly displayed the toilet crockery essential to every home in pre-bathroom days. The long row of kerosene lamps and lanterns with their accompanying liberal supply of chimneys and globes. Tubs and jars suitable for storing food commodities. Jugs were necessary equipment for the household for the storing of molasses, vinegar, and for carrying drinking water to the harvest field.

Where could one find today a store with a big hand-propelled coffee mill predominating a counter on the grocery side. Not often do we still find use of the glowing pot-bellied stoves around which the menfolks used to enjoy lingering for comfortable midwinter discussions. How dim now appear the kerosene store lamps that once seemed so bright and cheerful. How impossible to find staple commodities in bulk—crackers, sugar, pickles, molasses, flour by the barrel. Codfish by the huge salty slab. Raisins by the stem. Only a memory can furnish them.
Lott Homestead, Three Mile Bay, N. Y.

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