

T H E Q U A R T E R L Y

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HOLLYWOOD -- THE RACQUETTE RIVER -- AND ONE OF AMERICA'S

FIRST FIFTH COLUMNISTS

By Albert Jakobson, Attorney and Title Specialist,
as told to THE QUARTERLY'S Reporter

(The following article is the outgrowth of a talk recently given before the Canton Rotary Club by Mr. Jakobson.)

On, or about, 1938 the Niagara-Hudson Power Corporation, then known as the Central New York Power Corporation, set out to purchase the water rights, property titles and easements necessary to developing that stretch of the Racquette River from South Colton upstream toward Piercefield for the largest hydro-electric installation ever affected on any of the State's inland streams -- the St. Lawrence and Niagara, of course, being excluded as they are boundary streams. So far as the development, itself, is concerned that is now history, the thirty to forty million dollars five-stage Racquette River Power Project beginning with the Cary Fall's Reservoir, having been but recently completed. To undertake this vast project, from which 100,000 kilowatts of electric energy is now being fed into the utility's state-wide system, it was first necessary for the Power Corporation to acquire the title to the bed of the Racquette, and the land back from its shoreline for at least 100 feet on each side. This involved an area extending from South Colton almost to Piercefield. That part of this property which today embraces the Cary Falls Reservoir, lies in what the original land maps designated as the southern half of the Town of Hollywood, now part of the Town of Colton. The Power Corporation opened negotiations with the Racquette River Paper Company, owned by the Sisson family of Potsdam, for this particular tract. Under the contract drawn to cover this sale the buyer, that is the Power Corporation, stipulated that the owner, the Paper Company, must furnish an opinion (legally speaking) showing good and marketable title thereto. I was retained by the attorney of record for the Paper Company to provide this opinion. That is where I found myself soon following a fascinating bit of American Colonial and Revolutionary history.

In examining the title-evidence submitted in the form of thirty abstracts, it was found that in the partition of Hollywood in the year 1856, the title was based on a deed from one Lorena Bacon Tomlinson, daughter of a Jabez Bacon, late of Woodbury, Connecticut. I examined the deed by which Jabez Bacon had acquired the entire southern half of Hollywood, approximately 15,154½ acres. By his Will, Bacon had then later bequeathed to his daughter, Lorena, a 9/56th interest. The partition of 1856 in turn divided up the south half of Hollywood to the extent of 47/56th still being outstanding in the heirs of said Jabez Bacon. In other words, the title was "cloudy." Naturally the Power Corporation would not accept the contract until this 47/56th outstanding interest was cleared, and thus provide a complete and acceptable title. By coincidence the Racquette River Paper Company owned the adjoining lands, all of which stemmed from this same defective deed. So both parties, the Paper Company and the Power Corporation, "joined hands" in a friendly action to clear the title, and I was assigned to do this.

It immediately became necessary to set up the genealogy of the family of the said Jabez Bacon in order to establish those 47/56th other interests. To do this, it was necessary to reconstruct the Bacon family tree down through seven generations. In doing so it was discovered that 135 surviving heirs were living, scattered all over the globe, in Ireland, Australia, the West Indies, as well as in ten of our states and the District of Columbia. To run down and ferret out all of the necessary data and records required eighteen months of intense research, hundreds of miles of travel, countless interviews and investigations, and quite a refresher course for me, personally, in certain aspects of the American history. Fortunately, early in my search, I contacted Selden Bacon, an 81-year-old member of the New York law firm of Duer, White & Stronghead, who loaned me a Bacon family genealogy in which it was possible to trace the Bacons from the date of the death of Jabez in 1806, down to 1893. From there to 1938 it was necessary for me to fill in the remainder.

Although the surviving heirs were widely scattered, the main trail of this branch of the Bacon family led straight back to Connecticut where twenty-three members still resided in 1938. The original Connecticut Bacons had settled there prior to the American Revolution. They were a group of staunch, blue-blooded Presbyterians for the most part, and by tradition loyal supporters of Yale University, it being said that up until 1930 there were always no less than five members of the family on Old Eli's contemporary faculty. My search brought to light not only the bare genealogical aspects of this line, but also much interesting Bacon family history and legends. This all became tremendously interesting as there was this direct connection with our own North Country background, as well as other relating information.

Jabez Bacon was a descendant of Sir Francis Bacon, 1561-1626, the celebrated English philosopher, jurist and statesman, often incorrectly referred to as Lord Bacon, the arch-enemy of England's equally famous Sir Edward Coke. Shortly after the turn of the 17th century Sir Francis was forced to aid in the trial and conviction of his former intimate, the Earl of Essex on a charge of treason. At the height of his career Sir Francis, himself, was tried, in 1621, on a charge of bribery, fined and removed from his office as attorney-general. Others of this family are said to have suffered other indignities at the hand of royalty. Thus it came about that Nathaniel Bacon, the father of Jabez, was born in The Barbados, West Indies, where his branch of the family was living in exile. Nathaniel emigrated to America and located in Connecticut. Of Jabez Bacon the following is taken from Woodruff's biography of this family:

"Had Jabez Bacon lived a century later, he would have been famous as a Captain of Industry. As it was he was merely a shrewd Yankee trader, a poor boy, who at his death was considered 'the richest man in Connecticut.'

"Jabez Bacon was born in Middlefield, a parish of Middletown, Conn., July 16, 1731. He was the son of Nathaniel Bacon. Young Jabez was apprenticed to a tanner. Then he became a peddler, selling notions, pins, needles, tape, etc. He settled at Woodbury, Conn., and opened the Hollow Store, now converted into a residence. Lydia Hungerford and Jabez Bacon were married at Woodbury, June 28, 1760. They had five sons and four daughters.

"William Cothren in his book "Ancient Woodbury" says of Jabez Bacon. 'By his indomitable perserverance and business ability, he became the very first man in business, mercantile credit and wealth in this section of the state and died worth nearly half a million.'

"He built the beautiful old house in the 'Hollow' in Woodbury now owned by Mr. Edward Marvin, a descendant of Mathew Marvin, a pioneer settler of Hartford in 1636. The fireplaces in the Bacon house are made of tiles imported from France, even those on the third floor. The wall paper also came from overseas.

"Many are the stories of Jabez Bacon's shrewd bargaining, Cothren tells that he once went to New York with a fine stock of pork for sale. Two large cargoes of pork being expected from Maine he could not get the price he asked. Mr. Bacon took a horse, rode six miles up the East River shore to about Blackwell's Island, boarded the sloops as they came along and purchased their cargoes, staking his entire fortune. This put the whole New York market in his hands and he is said to have cleared \$40,000.

"An attempt to corner the local salt market during the Revolution was less successful. Jabez Bacon was a Tory. Not too popular with his neighbors probably, in patriotic Woodbury, which sent over a thousand men to Washington's army. Mr. Bacon had salt for sale at the Hollow store, when other merchants lacked this needful commodity, and was charging an exorbitant price for it. The Selectmen of the town went to his store, seized the salt, and sold it at a reasonable price, turning the proceeds over to Mr. Bacon. An excellent method of dealing with profiteers.

"At the close of the Revolution, when the country was flooded with depreciated paper money, Jabez filled the saddle-bags of his son Jabez, Jr., with Continental currency and sent him off with the brief command, "Go and buy land." Young Jabez rode far. In the northern part of New York state, he purchased a tract of land in Gouverneur, St. Lawrence County, where a Valuable deposit of talc was afterwards discovered. Another parcel of land was located in Greene County, N.Y. That State wanted the land for a State Park and paid to Jabez Bacon's heirs a small sum to obtain a clear title.

"Though he drove a hard bargain Jabez Bacon was not mean or niggardly. He was most hospitable. Strangers coming to town were bidden to eat at his house. His servants had orders to keep a table always set and refreshments ready for such wayfarers.

"He died September 10, 1806.

Down through those early Bacon generations a deep resentment was nourished against the British crown and what the family considered the rank injustice done their English ancestors. It was this same resentment, so the legend goes, which forms so pertinent a part of this narrative. The year 1776 found Jabez, wealthy, influential, a foremost citizen of Woodbury and the colony of Connecticut, looked upon, as has been noted, by his neighbors and others as a Tory. Most men who were in the money in those times were considered Tories, correctly or incorrectly. However, this was a time in which men had to make momentous personal decisions as to which side they would support, the crown or the colonies. Lexington, Concord, Bunker Hill were already events of the past. Representatives of the colonies had on July 4, 1776, signed The Great Declaration. George III had already strengthened his troops in America and was dispatching thousands more. Lord Howe sought to convince the colonists of their waywardness without success, and soon he and his fellow generals were mapping strategy to put these colonial rebels in their place with dispatch and finality. September found the British troops landing at Gravesend Bay, on the southwest shore of Long Island, the first step toward taking New York, and then the intended decapitation of New England from the colonial body to the south. That was the strategy of Lords Howe, Clinton and Cornwallis. The Battle of Long Island was on, with the new Commander-in-Chief, General George Washington of the Colonial Army, finding himself in a precarious position at the very outset. What followed is time-told history. Washington skillfully extricated his forces from one impossible position after another, Brooklyn Heights, 34th Street, Westchester, and then down through New Jersey into Pennsylvania.

Washington became the super-strategist of streams; the greater crosser of rivers: the East River, the Harlem, the Hudson, the Raritan, the Delaware. Battles, such as they were, were largely delaying actions: Long Island, Throgs Neck, White

Plains. Then disaster followed disaster, Green's bungling procrastination and Lee's perfidy, losing for the colonies both Fort Lee and Fort Washington on the Hudson. Washington stood on the west bank of the Hudson and saw his helpless men run through by Hessian bayonets on the east bank - and wept. Washington extricated the remnants of his underfed, undernourished, unpaid, and under-armed troops from near-catastrophe after near-catastrophe and finally launched that historic Christmas night re-crossing of the Delaware to recapture Trenton, route the Hessians, and turn the tide of the war.

It was in connection with this war-drama that Jabez Bacon is said by family tradition to have played a vital role. This is the story as I received it. Jabez was content, on the surface, to pass as a Tory. This was a good cloak with which to conceal his true purpose. Jabez was in reality a staunch and loyal colonial supporter. This, however, was unknown to the many, including the rector across the street, and to Lords Howe and Clinton, as well. It is said that the two British Lords found the hospitality and the comforts of the palatial Jabez Bacon home in Woodbury much to their liking and comfort. The table was bountiful and the wines of ancient stock. What better could they ask. So there they settled themselves to map out their army strategy, mellowed as they were by fine viands--warming vintage and a crackling fire on the hearth. Diagonally across the way resided Reverend Samuel Seabury, the First Episcopal Bishop in the colonies, a tarter, a tyrant and a Tory. From his Woodbury pulpit he bedevilled and berated his parishioners. The Rector was an unhappy and a bitter man, no lover of Connecticut Yankee yokels, disdainful of colonial crudeness and lack of culture, strict and strenuous in establishing an ecclesiastical yoke upon this benighted citizenry. He hated and was hated. So much so that Woodbury vigilantes warned his reverend never to set foot on the streets on other than Sundays, on that day only would they stack their muskets. Craving company, Samuel Seabury warmed to his so-called Tory neighbor, Bacon. Rather than risk his hide upon the street, Seabury burrowed a tunnel beneath it, and almost nightly crawled through it to dine and wine with Bacon and the British lordships, to join in plotting the British strategy. The British were determined to take Manhattan, then to drive up the Hudson and down from Quebec, thus severing the colonies at the most vital and vulnerable point. Their only obstacle was that frustrating Commander, Washington, "The Old Fox" as they called him.

Seated with his British guests and the Tory Rector, Jabez smiled, pinched snuff, and listened closely. Then under cover of night, so it is said, dispatched messengers to cross into the Colonial lines bearing tidings of what was underfoot in the British camp, giving "The Old Fox" time to plot and plan his historic maneuvers, make those river crossings, snatch his bedraggled troops from one pincer movement after another. In effect, Jabez Bacon, became a member of that first American "underground", that first band of American "fifth columnists." Seabury finally fled Woodbury, made his way into the British lines and volunteered as a guide to their forces.

The Colonial Army teetered, not only strategically in maneuver, but equally so for lack of money. Washington's troops had not been paid, munitions were running low, uniforms had turned to tatters, boots to bundles of rags. Washington pledged his personal fortune, as did other of his staff, to try and hold what was left of the army intact. The Continental Congress, in a panic, moved from Philadelphia to Baltimore and too often attempted to direct military strategy itself. The opposing armies began converging on Philadelphia. The cause of the Revolution hung in the balance. It was into this breach of necessity that Robert Morris threw himself, contacting others to join with him to support the cause, men with money, such as Haym Salomon, the rich broker of Philadelphia, and Jabez Bacon, the richest man in Connecticut. Thus did Morris secure the necessary funds with which to provision Washington's faltering army. Washington in turn issued the historic edict of New Jersey, either for the citizenry to be rebels or royalists. Families split on

that one. Samuel Ogden, at Morristown, threw in his lot with Washington and turned his plants to making cannon, munitions and muskets. His brothers fled to Manhattan, and there with Joshua Waddington and others, joined forces with the British Loyalists. Jabez Bacon, so the legend goes, advanced \$250,000 of his personal fortune, a huge sum in those days, to bolster the colonial cause. It was from this act, so it is said, that Jabez Bacon in later years was enabled to acquire title to large tracts of New York land. Whether this was done entirely with "saddle bags" filled with "depreciated paper money," in part or in whole, to repay him for his aid in the hour of need, is not clear. Whether purely by business dealing, or by government largesse, direct or indirect, Jabez Bacon's holdings brought into his strong box title to four separate tracts of land located in New York State. One such tract was situated in what became Greene County, including what is now New York City's main source of water supply, the Ashoken Reservoir. Another such piece, was located in the then Military Tract, now part of our present Clinton County, the land now incorporated in today's Republic Steel's iron ore development at Lyon Mountain. The third tract included that portion of the valley of the Oswegatchie in St. Lawrence County on which the famous talc mines are now located. The fourth tract, that from which this interesting article grew, was the southern half of what was then Hollywood and now is that portion of the Colton section of the Niagara-Hudson hydro-electric development as previously noted.

Exactly how these tracts were actually acquired is not adequately delineated and offers opportunity for interesting research. Woodruff would have Jabez, Jr., sallying forth into almost virgin wilderness directly after the Revolution, armed with cheap money to buy what later became exceedingly rich land holdings. Family tradition suggests that by some means Jabez Bacon may have received these lands in token of his valiant aid during the Revolution. The record proves, at least, that in 1804 Daniel McCormick, the financial sage living in the big blue-stuccoed house at No. One Wall Street, conveyed to Jabez Bacon one-half of the Town of Hollywood, St. Lawrence County. Daniel McCormick was one of that group of princely speculators who took The Great Gamble. In company with such moneyed plungers as Alexander Macomb, as their front, the esteemable William Constable, Gouverneur Morris, Robert H. Morris, Samuel Ogden, the Clarksons, Harisons and Van Rensselaers, about thirteen in number, were associates in the purchase of most of the Ten Towns, so-called, in St. Lawrence County, and the Six Great Tracts of "unappropriated and waste land" best known as 'Macomb's Great Purchase.'

Our attention, therefore, turns briefly to Daniel McCormick, the Scotch Presbyterian youth who came to this country from North Ireland in pre-Revolutionary days a poor boy and who wound up being a man of tremendous influence and immense wealth in New York City; a charter member of the Bank of New York; a shrewd financier; head of the famous St. Patrick's party; treasurer of the Masonic Grand Lodge; the bachelor entrepreneur who took up his residence on that famous Wall Street corner and stuck it out there to his last breath. Pink-cheeked, bewigged, esconced on his front portico, garbed in cockade hat, velvet jacket and knee breeches, silk stockings and silver buckled shoes, puffing contentedly in his long-stalled pipe. Beatific, world-wise Daniel McCormick cut a notable figure in our early North Country land history. He, Constable, the Morrises and others emerged from that land buying spree of the 1790's with whole hides. Macomb did not. In 1804, so the deed reads, Daniel McCormick conveyed to Jabez Bacon, and later Bacon to his daughter, Lorena, and those other heirs those 15,154½ acres along the Racquette, in the Town of Hollywood. The interesting question remains: Did Jabez purchase this property outright, with "depreciated" paper money, or did he come by it entire, or in part, as recompense for helping the colonies in their hour of direst need? Be it one or the other, this all makes an interesting chapter in our North Country lore. Obviously, the title was cleared, and the contract completed, in 1939. This, it seems, is but one of countless other fascinating examples of how those early land title conveyances bring notable names into close association with our North Country beginnings.

JUDGE JONAH SANFORD

By Mrs. Dorothy Squires (Hopkinton Town Historian)



JUDGE JONAH SANFORD.

Much has been written about Silas Wright, Canton resident, United States Senator, and New York State governor. But little or nothing has been written about the man who succeeded him as a member of the House of Representatives.

Wright resigned his seat in Congress in order to remain as New York state comptroller on March 9, 1830, and at a special election on November 3, 1830, Jonah Sanford of Hopkinton was elected to Wright's vacant seat. He took office on December 6, serving until March 3, 1831.

Jonah Sanford was born toward the end of 1790 in Cornwall, Vermont. In March, 1811, he married Abigail Greene, a daughter of Rev. Henry Greene, and soon after in that same year he came to Hopkinton and selected a piece of forest for a farm, made a little clearing, and built a cabin for a future home,

then went back to his bride in Vermont as so many other of our young pioneers did. He enlisted in the army and served in the War of 1812, taking an active part in the Battle of Plattsburgh. After the war he brought his little family to Hopkinton to live, and soon after they arrived here both of the tiny children died, leaving Jonah and Abigail beside themselves in their bereavement. The townspeople recognized Jonah as a man of character and intelligence and he was soon given an office. Every year thereafter during his entire lifetime he continued to hold some town office. In 1818 he was appointed justice of the peace by Governor DeWitt Clinton and the Council of Appointment. He held this position nearly twenty-two consecutive years.

Seeing the need for a "lawgiver" in the settlement of disputes, Jonah purchased a few law books and set to work to learn the fundamental principles of the profession, and was admitted to the bar. From this modest beginning, self-educated, he steadily advanced until he became the ablest, hardest fighting, and most successful practitioner in the eastern part of St. Lawrence County. He was a born debater, logical in reasoning, combative, absolutely fearless, tireless and indomitable. He was a large man, standing six feet tall, weighing fully two hundred and twenty-five pounds, erect and imposing, carrying the courage of his convictions, yet genial and sociable, and vastly interested in people.

Mr. Sanford was a member of the New York State Assembly for the years 1829 and 1830 after having served as supervisor of the town of Hopkinton from 1823 to 1826. In 1831 he was appointed a judge of the Court of Common Pleas, serving until 1837. In 1846 he had the distinguished honor of being a delegate to the state constitutional convention which revised the state's constitutional statutes.

During the earlier part of his life he was the close friend and associate of Governor Wright, Judge Fine, Judge Allen, and later of U.S. Senator Preston King, Judge James, and other prominent men.

Judge Sanford, also known as Colonel Sanford, showed his talent for leadership in a military, as well as political capacity. He took an active part in the state militia, and in 1827 was commissioned a captain of a volunteer company of cavalry.

Later he rose to the rank of colonel, and in 1832 he was commissioned a brigadier general of the state militia as had Silas Wright before him. His troops encamped in a field southwest of Potsdam village. At the outbreak of the Civil War the Judge's enthusiasm for the Union cause knew no bounds. Although now an old man of seventy-one years, he set out with his horse and buggy and rode all over the eastern part of the county, addressing war meetings and enlisting prominent men in the towns to help him raise a regiment. In December, 1861, the Ninety-second Cavalry Regiment was formed. In two months it was ready for battle, and, on February 1, 1862, left Potsdam by train, with the valiant old judge as its leader. As the train pulled out of the station the men's mothers, wives, and sweethearts were all calling out: "Colonel, take care of the boys."

Jonah Sanford accompanied his regiment as far as the James River in Virginia, and then his advanced age and ill health compelled him to abandon the field. He returned to his farm in Hopkinton, but kept up his zeal and work for the cause until the end of the war.

In private life he was a devoted husband and father, a good farmer, so industrious that he seemed to know no such thing as weariness or fatigue. He buried his beloved Abigail back in 1842, and in 1845 married Harriet Barney. He had ten children by his first marriage and four by his second. One son, Jonah, Jr., continued to carry on the home farm. He married Elisha Risdon's daughter, Clarinda. It was their son, Carlton E., who wrote Sanford's "History of Hopkinton." The diaries left by Elisha Risdon form one of the earliest and most authentic sources of information of pioneer days and settlement in this county. As one historian has said, "The old Judge really cut quite a swathe in this North Country during his lifetime."

Judge Sanford was not the last of his family to sit in Congress, for, from 1915 to 1921, Rollin Brewster Sanford, his great-grandson, served in the House of Representatives from Albany County.

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St. Lawrence County Historical Association Committee Appointments

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Membership application cards with the Association's new dues schedule are available from the Secretary at Box 245, Canton, New York. He would like to have all old application cards, with the old dues rates, turned in, so as to prevent confusion. For the sake of economy, the out-dated cards will be used for office records, but for that purpose only.



THE HARISON, OR CLEMENT MOORE, MANSION IN CANTON

This is the original famous Harison Mansion on Upper Judson Street in Canton, one of the three homes the wealthy land-baron family of New York built, maintained and personally used. They had another home in Malone, as well. Of the three in Canton, the present Kappa Kappa Gamma Lodge on East Main Street has incorporated in it one of the original Harison homes. At one side, and toward the rear, connected by a lattice runway was their tiny Land Office. Back of this once stood an imposing Victorian barn housing their fine horses, phaetons and other elegant carriages. The third Harison place in Canton was located at Morley, remodelled and still standing. This was where "Tom" Harison operated his celebrated stock-raising farm.

It is said that Clement Moore, author of "It Was The Night Before Christmas," once visited the Harisons in the Judson Street mansion, now remodelled and known locally as The Clark Apartment. This house, on Upper Judson Street, stands well back from the street. A frame second story was added to it years ago. It was once used as the chapter house of the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity at St. Lawrence University.

THE QUARTERLY desires to run pictures of as many of the old mansions of our original land-barons as can be found; that is their St. Lawrence county homes. It will reprint in a forthcoming issue the former Ogden mansion on The Island at Waddington and Alexander Brodies' home near Gouverneur. It would like a picture of the Parish Mansion and the Roseel mansion on Washington Street in Ogdensburg, better known as the Remington Art Memorial and the Ogdensburg Public Library. THE QUARTERLY is not interested in pictures of these two historic homes as is, but as they once were, one hundred years ago. THE QUARTERLY is also in quest of a picture of the once famous Henry Van Rensselaer mansion which stood west of the City of Ogdensburg on the palisade overlooking the St. Lawrence. This was a beautiful, stately, colonaded colonial-type structure which burned down over a century ago. Can anyone produce an old photograph of it which can be reproduced in THE QUARTERLY?

There are several other of these old land-barons homes which should go to make up this contemplated series. The original Clarkson home in Potsdam; the mansion of Theodosius Fowler at the upper end of Sylvia Lake near Gouverneur; and the home which Joseph Pitcairn is said to have built for himself at Helena or Brasher Falls.

THE QUARTERLY editor would greatly appreciate receiving photographs or clear reprints of any of the above on loan; also, information as to any other fine old homes our land-barons from New York may have built, owned and used in this county.

LAKES AND PONDS IN THE TOWN OF FINE

By Mrs. Catherine Brownell, Town of Fine Historian

STAR LAKE: - The only lake of any size in Fine Township is Star Lake. It first was called Point Lake, then later about 1860 it was known as Big Lake. It wasn't until after 1880 that it was given the picturesque name it now has. The water in Star Lake is exceedingly cold, proving that it is spring fed. There is no known inlet or outlet to this lake. The forests come to the edge of the water and hunting and fishing have always been favorite pastimes here. The first camp on this lake was built by Mr. Soper and it was located about where the old theater is now located. Another cottage, one of the first, was built by the Farmer family of Gouverneur. This cottage is still owned by relatives of the Farmer family. The ice has always been very thick during the winter. Many years ago the best horsemen in the southern part of the county delighted in horse racing during the winter months. A road has been built around the entire lake and there are few cottage lots that have not been sold.

TWIN LAKES: - Not far away, perhaps a quarter of a mile distant from Star Lake, are two beautiful small lakes much smaller and lower in elevation. In fact they are almost phenomena. Due to the fact that the land around these little lakes has always been privately owned, there are no cottages or camps on the shores. This tract of land is now owned by the Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation. Deposits of magnetic iron ore exist under these lakes and someday may be mined. Few people traveling on Route 3 are aware that directly back of the new bank of Star Lake village are these lovely lakes. There is an outlet to these lakes which flows into Little River about one mile from its source.

SUCKER LAKE: - This lake is third in size and is located on the south end of Vroman Ridge. This is not a deep lake and there is very little wood land around its edge. There are several small streams or brooks flowing into it and its outlet flows south to Little River a mile distant.

STREETER LAKE : - This lake is on a private preserve and is very remote as the preserve is entirely surrounded by state land. This beautiful lake is reached by private roads built over old logging railroad beds. A number of very small ponds lie close by to Street Lake such as Crystal Lake, Pansy Pond and Rock Lake.

DODGE POND: - This pond is located a short distance from the Cracker Box Road. It is located on private land and but one cottage is located hereon. It is also noted for its excellent Bass fishing.

PARTLOW POND: - This pond is about two miles from Fine village on the Folsom Road and named for David Partlow who lived at this pond in 1840. A delightful little body of water surrounded by beautiful forest trees, it is considered a good trout fishing spot in the spring of the year.

LONG POND, GREENFIELD POND AND ROUND POND: - These small ponds are north of Scott's Bridge and are located very close together. Nestled within the surrounding hills and bordered by beautiful woods, these ponds provide very good trout fishing. Long Pond is the headquarters for the Long Pond Hunt Club.

MISCELLANEOUS PONDS:- Namely: Mud, Little Otter, Pine, Rock, Spider, and Deer Ponds. These are very small bodies of water and of less importance.

HISTORICAL OBSERVANCES FOR 1960

General: - 1810: First newspaper, the Palladium, established in county, apparently in Ogdensburg, by John C. Kipp and Timothy C. Strong. 1810: Law passed appointing two commissioners to repair and construct a road from the Northwest Bay to Hopkinton. 1835: Capital stock of Oswegatchie Navigation Company (Natural Canal) increased from \$50,000 to \$100,000. 1810, April 5: St. Lawrence Turnpike Company incorporated. (Russell Tnpk.) 1810, April 15: Raquette River, from mouth to Norfolk and St. Regis River from border to east border of Stockholm, declared public highways.

Ogdensburg: - 1860: H. R. James became sole proprietor of St. Lawrence Republican. 1760: Battle of Chimney Island fought. 1835 or 1836: J. C. Lewis built machine-shop on Lake Street. 1860: Ogdensburg city band organized. 1835, April 20: Ogdensburg Academy incorporated. 1810, Feb. 17: Charles G. Myers born at Madrid. 1860: Charles G. Myers became N.Y.S. attorney-general.

Oswegatchie: 1860, April 12: Oswegatchie Fair-Ground Company incorporated.

Canton: 1810: \$50 raised for securing rights and privileges of fish. 1810: First settlement at Morley; Stillman Foote erects sawmill and builds dam. 1810, March 27: Birth of Barzillai Hodskin at Otselic. 1810: Cemetery started near Methodist Church. 1810: First celebration of 4th of July in Canton.

Potsdam: 1810: Judge Raymond erects building for school and church. 1835: State selects St. Lawrence Academy for training school teachers. 1835, March 23: Trinity Episcopal Church incorporated. 1835-1836: Episcopalian Church built. (Cornerstone laid, 6/3/1835).

Lisbon: 1810 or 1830, July 1: Post-office established, probably at Red Mills, and James Thompson appointed postmaster.

Madrid: 1810: First physician, Dr. Robert McChesney, in town. 1810: Town has largest population of any in county.

Waddington: 1810: Port of entry established. 1835: Construction of Clark House. 1810, June 27: James Redington born.

Norfolk: 1810: First family -- that of Eben Judson -- settled in town. 1935, April 18: Norfolk water and sewer districts incorporated. 1810, Sept.: Timothy W. Osborn builds first sawmill, on Trout Brook. 1810, Aug. 7: First birth, that of Roscius W. Judson. 1810, November: First road built, to Massena.

Rossie: 1810: Road from Rossie to Oxbow laid out. 1835, Dec.: Parish contracts with B.T. Nash to search for lead in Rossie.

Hopkinton: 1810: Law passed appointing two commissioners to repair and construct a road from the Northwest Bay to Hopkinton. 1810: Town votes to give \$500 to St. Lawrence Turnpike Company if road takes certain route.

Parishville: 1859-1860: Parsonage of Methodist Church built.

Gouverneur: 1810, April 5: Town of Gouverneur created from Oswegatchie. 1860 Oct. 1: Charles Anthony establishes banking house.

DeKalb: 1810: Gideon Townsley settles in town as land agent for Daubeny and Waddell. 1810: Gristmill erected by Charles Boreland on Boreland Creek, near Richville. 1810-1811: Settlement of East DeKalb.

Macomb: 1835, Nov. 7: Timothy Pope and Solomon Shaw killed by bursting of defective millstone. 1860: Earthquake, well of Timothy Pope goes dry.

Morristown: 1810: Settlement of Black Lake section.

Fowler: 1810, Aug. 3: Robert Gilchrist sells his share of town to Theodosius Fowler. 1835: William Hurlbut opens hotel at Hailesboro. 1835: Baptists build church at Fullerville.

Louisville: 1810, April 5: Creation of town from town of Massena.

Massena: 1835: Samson Wheeler opened public-house at Massena Centre. 1810: James McDowell, Montreal, purchased upper gristmills. 1810: John Stone opened three-story hotel.

Brasher: 1835, Sept. 10: Beginning of Brasher Iron-Works.

Lawrence: 1810: Miss S. Tyler taught first school. 1835: Luther Whitney built grist-mill at Lawrenceville. 1860, July 3: Deer River lodge, F.&A.M., chartered at Nicholville, later moved to North Lawrence and finally to Lawrenceville. 1860, March 6: Lawrenceville Academy association formed.

Russell: 1810: Pound-master elected; John Knox's "hovel" to be improved for a pound. 1810: State began appropriating funds for the Lake George Road. 1810: Russell Attwater erects grist-mill at Russell.

Hermon: 1860: Hermon Lodge, F. & A.M., organized.

Edwards: 1860: Hotel, Rushton house, built.

Colton: 1860, Feb. 25: Baptist Church organized.

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Elections Held By Our St. Lawrence County Historical Association

Bert J. Rogers of Canton was re-elected to his second term as President of the St. Lawrence County Historical Association at the Annual Meeting held at the Canton Masonic Temple on October 24.

Other officers elected at that time were: First Vice-President: Mrs. Ethel C. Olds, Waddington; Second Vice-President: Harold A. Storie, Gouverneur; Secretary: Malcolm A. Booth, Hammond; Treasurer: Carl E. Burns, Lisbon; Trustees: Mrs. Marguerite G. Chapman, Potsdam; Fred J. Johnson, Potsdam; Lawrence G. Bovard, Ogdensburg; Trustees who continued in office are: Terms Expiring 1961: Mrs. Virgie B. Simons, Hammond; Mrs. Ella R. Lahey, Massena; Mrs. Doris B. Planty, Ogdensburg. Terms Expiring 1960: Miles Greene, Massena; Dr. William R. Willoughby, Canton; Millard L. Hundley, Canton. County Historian: Mrs. Nina W. Smithers, DePeyster.

Chairmen of the Association's committees, appointed at a meeting of the Board of Trustees held at Hermon on November 21, 1959 are: Program: Mrs. Ella R. Lahey, Massena; Historic Sites: Lawrence G. Bovard, Ogdensburg; Museums: Frank Crary, Canton; Nominations: William C. Guyett, Canton; Membership: Eugene P. Hatch, Gouverneur; Yorker Clubs: Mrs. Marguerite G. Chapman, Potsdam; Boy Scout Activities: Malcolm A. Booth, Hammond.

THE LEGEND OF THE WATER LILY

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The following is a St. Regis Indian legend concerning the origin of the water lily, yellow and white, taken from "Woods and Waters, or, The Saranac and Racket" by Alfred B. Street, Pub. by M. Doolady, New York City, 1860.

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"The eagle is screaming, hark! Soaring and screaming on high! See! the red war-path is bright! See! the great warrior comes! He The Brave of his people, Wa-yo-tah the Chief of the Saranacs! He The Blazing Sun. He comes from the trembling Ta-ha-wi---kooh! The quaking Ta-ha-wi. The Blazing Sun has changed them to women! Hooh, hooh, The Blazing Sun! Way-yo-tah, the Chief of his Tribe! Wa-yo-tah, The Blazing Sun!"

Such were the sounds that pealed from the Isle of the Eagle in the Lake of the Clustered Stars. Beautiful Lake of islands, that are strewn on its bosom of crystal as spots on the back of the loon!

Wa-yo-tah, Chief of the Lower Saranacs, has come from the war-path laden with scalps of the Ta-ha-wi--- the foes of his people and race. Therefore the song goes up in the sunset from a hundred voices; from the boy whose plume is the red rose of the dingle to the sire on whose head fourscore winters have frozen. And the matrons and maidens of the Tribe, they too, raise the song.

And as all sing, all dance the dance of victory. The warriors circle the war-post, whirling their hatchets and knives that glance round their forms as lightnings glance round the trees. And the women in their ring apart, sing their sweet-voiced songs and toss their arms in triumph.

But who is that pale and silent maiden hovering near the ring of women? Pale is she as the first little flower that Spring opens with her timid touch, save when the red tints glance across her face, as sunset glances on the rippling waters.

Now her eyes flash in triumph and now their sparkle is quenched in tears. Who is this lovely maid of the Saranacs? Why does she stand apart, changeful in her mood as the month of the dawning blossoms -- the month of the sun and rain. Ah, O-see-tah, sweet Bird of the Tribe! she loves and she suffers! She loves the Chief and her people, Wa-yo-tah, The Blazing Sun. She loves and she suffers. Hah-wen-ne-yo has given a mate to the lodge of the Sun; not O-see-tah the Bird; but To-scen-do the Morning. Still, Wa-yo-tah is young and has seen that O-see-tah loves him, and his own heart is wild with love for O-see-tah. And therefore has he whispered in her ear, "Let the beautiful Bird of the Saranacs warble to The Sun her melody of love." And she has answered, "Go! Wa-yo-tah does not well! Hah-wen-he-yo has said, 'Let the glance of The Sun shine only on the cheek of The Morning! Go, leave the Bird of the Saranacs to pour her note in loneliness!'"

But Wa-yo-tah has despaired not; he has trusted that the music of The Bird might still be waked to the kindling glance of The Sun. And now in this hour of his triumph, he has watched her as she smiled and wept, blushed and grew pale, to his praises from the Tribe.

And at last the sorrowful maid, she, the lonely O-see-tah---pure as the fountain under the rock---has unbound her fleet canoe and fled through the starry darkness to an island of the lake---fled to moan her sorrow to the water and the wind.

Wa-yo-tah has watched her and followed. "Bird of the Saranacs, let thy warble cheer the heart of Wa-yo-tah. Behold, he has come from the trail of the proud Ta-ha-wi, and his belt is heavy with the scalps of the foe! Hooh, The Blazing Sun!"

These are the songs that peel in the ear of O-see-tah and Wa-yo-tah, but all would Wa-yo-tah give for one note of love from the bright Bird of his Tribe."

"Away! Sun of the Saranacs! Shall the Blaze that scorched the fierce Ta-ha-wi burn the little Bird that has piped to her harm to the Fiery Light? Away! O-see-tah's heart is weak, but her ear shall not listen to the words of Wa-yo-tah!"

"O-see-tah must listen!"

"Away!"

"The Bird must fold her wing to the warmth of the loving Sun!"

"Away!"

"O-see-tah shall listen to the Chief of her people!"

He darted forward and she bounded away. Away her light form flew, to a rock overhanging the lake. She stood upon the edge and waved him back.

But he came onward.

She balanced on the edge and waved him back.

But he came onward.

She waved her arms upward to Hah-wen-ne-yo and sprang. Wa-yo-tah darted to the brink and sprang also. He rose---the water was black in a crossing cloud; the water alone met his yearning sight. "O-see-tah! O-see-tah!" as with maddened strength he cleaved the wave, "where art thou? Bird of the Saranacs! ah, beautiful Bird of my Tribe, speak! let Wa-yo-tah rescue thee and no more will he molest thee with his love. O-see-tah! O-see-tah!" but no voice answered.

And the East opened her eye over the Lake of Clustered Stars, but where was the Bird of the Saranacs? "Where is my little Bird, the little sad warbler of my lodge?" asked the old father---a Brave of many Battles. "Oh, where is my bird, my Bird?" moaned the mother---she the most honored of all the matrons that bore the totem of the Panther. "Where is O-see-tah?" asked the young warriors, and "Alas, where is O-see-tah?" asked the blooming maidens.

The Chief heard, and as he heard, his head sank lower and lower. The day passed and the night, and again the East opened her brightness, and his head drooped lower still, and his step was slow, for his heart was heavy. And the sorrowful To-scen-do told her sire that Wa-yo-tah moaned in his sleep like the pine in the low breeze of the evening.

Well might Wa-yo-tah moan, and name himself Ne-so. Truly had the Sun become the Night; Night with the wail of the whippoorwill, instead of the Sun with the scream of the eagle. Night with eternal wail; wail for the love that Hah-wen-ne-yo frowned on; wail for the love that should have been all To-scen-do's; wail for the love that had destroyed The Bird; wail, wail for the fate of the beautiful Bird of the Saranacs.

And the Night sought in his sorrow the lonely lodge of the Great Medecine of the Tribe.

As the noon gleamed on the village, a fisherman came with the tidings of a strange sight. In a hidden cove of the Isle of Elms, was a robe of flowers on the breast of the water, some white as the feather of winter and others yellow as the lake at sunset. The Tribe all hurried to the scene, and there indeed was the sheet

of blossoms.

And "See!" said the old Medecine, the pine ringed with a hundred winters, "there lies O-see-tah! the white her purity, the yellow her burning love! And see!" said he, after they had gazed again and again, of the beautiful blossoms, "holy in her purity, the love still sways her. She closes her bright heart in sorrow at the going of the sun, to open it in joy at his coming."

"And," continued the old Indian narrator, "Hah-wen-ne-yo, to mark between the love and the purity, placed a moon between the blossoming of the two, and made the broad lake cherish the purity, and the narrow stream the love."

The Quarterly editor is indebted to Field Midgley of Morley, N.Y., for loan of the copy of this old and rare book, "Woods and Waters," from which the above is copied.

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The Quarterly gradually emerges from its cocoon stage of growth. Henceforth its subscribers will receive copies addressed from our own plates. Secretary Malcolm Booth has recently received a full set of Addressograph plates, and a fine metal file to contain them. The addressing is being done in the Canton Town Clerk's Office, where corrections and additions to the subscription lists will also be made. The Association is greatly indebted to Canton's Town Board and Clerk for this service.

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GOUVERNEUR'S "DUKEY'S" BRIDGE

A truss iron structure, nearly 200 feet long, across the Oswegatchie river two miles above Gouverneur, on what is known as the back road to Hailesboro and familiarly known as "Dukie's Bridge," has more oddities than any similar structure in a large area. It crosses the main branch of the Oswegatchie river and a road leads to it from Highway Route 58, just as one is about to enter Hailesboro village from Gouverneur. Rufus Blackburn, a well-to-do French Canadian, (Canuck), lived at the north end of the bridge for several years. He was known as "Dukey" Blackburn, from which originated the title "Dukie's Bridge".

For years the most pronounced oddity of this bridge were the entrance warnings at each approach. On the southern end toward Hailesboro, the load limit was posted as four tons, on the opposite end, five tons. The town line between Gouverneur and Fowler bisects the bridge diagonally almost in its center. This makes Gouverneur township responsible for the northern end to the middle; and Fowler township for the southern half. Gouverneur established the five tons limit, and Fowler the four tons limit. Recently the town of Fowler raised its limit to five tons. The bridge is a one-lane affair, put up about 70 years ago. No road existed to require building this bridge until after the construction of a talc mill near the northern approach to Hailesboro.

In the center of the bridge are signs pointing out that the town lines pass diagonally across the bridge. Once the northern end of the bridge was painted with aluminum paint, while the southern end had red paint.

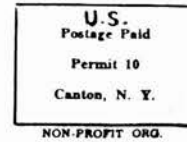
Some tales are told of teamsters arriving at the "five ton" end, having to unload part of their consignment in order to avoid a penalty at the south end. There may be a suggestion of the wag in this part of the bridge history.

Contributed by Julius Bartlett, Village Historian

FROM THE COUNTY CRACKER BARRELS

(Including the names of all Town and Village Historians together with a continuing report of their activities.)

BRASHER: (Mrs. Joseph O'Brien). **CANTON:** Has had two Historians since the law was passed in 1939. Miss Bessie Barbour was appointed in 1944 and served until Mrs. Karl M. Mayhew, Jr., was appointed April 12, 1947. Mrs. Mayhew resigned as of December 31, 1959 and regrets leaving the charmed circle of St. Lawrence County Historians. It was her good fortune to have served under all three St. Lawrence County Historians. Three children did not bring about her resignation but with number four due in April, she did not feel she could do full credit to the position of Town and Village Historian. She prizes the letters of appreciation received from the Town and Village Boards. **RENSSELAER FALLS VILLAGE:** (Mrs. Nina Wilson). Continues to collect pictures and stories and to tell the children and other visitors who constantly come to see her the story of her village. **CLARE:** (Mrs. Leslie Colton). **CLIFTON:** (Mrs. George Reynolds). "I have two paintings of historical interest -- an oil of Brick Chapel and a water color of the little red brick school on the Canton-West Pierrepont Road." **COLTON:** (Mrs. Lorena Reed). **DEKALB:** (Mrs. F.F.E. Walrath). "We have just noticed the death of Mrs. Susan Blount of Eddy, age 81, a member of the M.E. Church of DeKalb Junction, also a Sunday School teacher, who with her father, George Spooner, organized a singing school nearly 60 years ago in this church. There were a good many singers who came from this old fashioned singing school. **DEPEYSTER:** (Mrs. Emery Smithers). "I have had my story of the old Wilson store, first built in 1858, published in the Ogdensburg Advance News and the Tribune Press of Gouverneur. I searched county records, old newspapers and diaries and had personal interviews." **EDWARDS:** (Miss Leah Noble). "I continue to collect photos and other historical items for the museum and records. I had a display of coins and pocketbooks in the museum. Last year at Christmas I had all the TB Christmas seals on display; may have foreign seals (Japanese) this year." **FINE:** (Mrs. Roland Brownell). Has prepared an article appearing in this issue of **THE QUARTERLY** on "Lakes and Ponds in the Town of Fine." **FOWLER:** (Mrs. Robert Yerdon). **GOUVERNEUR:** (Miss Helena Johnston). **GOUVERNEUR VILLAGE:** (Julius Bartlett). Closing of the Maple Producers Cooperative sugar plant on the Somerville Road is regretted by local people. It has been in operation 32 years. Maple sugar making has become too costly, younger farmers say, to permit operating sugar bushes profitably, and an increasing number, have ceased production. **HAMMOND:** (Harold Hibbs). Is continuing research on information as to when and where defunct businesses existed, who were the prime movers in establishing them and the causes for their demise. **HERMON:** (Mrs. Kellogg Morgan). "I have completed my reports and turned them to their proper committees." **HOPKINTON:** (Mrs. Dorothy Squires). **LAWRENCE:** (Mrs. Gordon Cole). **LISBON:** (Lee Martin) Mr. Martin's return to the Town Historian fold is welcome news. "With the help of Lisbon Grange did a good job of improving the oldest cemetery in Lisbon located at the Red Mills, about 20 loads of top soil to level the ground and straightened the stones, many of which had fallen down. Also copied data from them. Helped to answer query from California concerning descendants of McCrea family." **LOUISVILLE:** (Mrs. Lorraine Bandy). "Have put out 500 more copies of our Town Calendar. The school students are requesting more each year. I spoke to the 4th grade on the History of Louisville. Have been before my town board with my annual report. I'm now on a project of 'Historical Markers' in which my town board is very much interested. Collected 63 old books, most are at least 125 years old." **MACOMB:** (Mrs. India Murton) Is working in Florida on her historical projects. **MADRID:** (Mrs. Margaret Thompson). **MASSENA:** It is regrettable that due to politics a fine, hard-working historian is removed as Town Historian. **MORRISTOWN:** (Mrs. Doris Planty) Is working in sunny Florida on her historical projects. **NORFOLK:** (Mrs. Ralph Wing). **OSWEGATCHIE:** (Mrs. Monna Mayne). **HEUVELTON VILLAGE:** (Mrs. Ida Downing). **PARISHVILLE:** (Miss Doris Rowland). **PIERCEFIELD:** (Mrs. Beulah Dorothy). "I completed my calendar of events and handed it in to the County Historian." **PIERREPONT:** (Millard Huntley). "Have in progress a small scrap book



dealing with the schools of Pierrepont, also included will be stone and brick houses of the town." PITCAIRN: (No historian). POTSDAM: (Dr. Charles Lahey). ROSSIE: (Mrs. Virgie Simons). "I finally finished my story of the Rossie Hotel since 1811, and it was published in five newspapers and two magazines." RUSSELL: (Mrs. Dorothy Manning). STOCKHOLM: (Lindon Riggs). "I am sorry to record the death of a good friend, long a member of the St. Lawrence County Historical Assn., Nov. 18, 1959, Mrs. Daisy Armstrong Robinson of Sanfordville." WADDINGTON: (Mrs. Ethel Olds). "The Festival of History in Waddington July 30 through August 2 was a financial success, the net proceeds amounting to almost \$1150. This was contributed to redecorate the Town Hall, a long needed renovation. Two major projects were undertaken to raise money to forestall financial disaster for the celebration - an auction and a sale of chances on a boat. The auction was given generous support by people of the town and by merchants in neighboring Massena and Ogdensburg. The sale of tickets for the boat was very successful. The newly opened waterways of Waddington have made everyone boat conscious and the boat outfit, complete with aluminum boat, motor and trailer was an alluring prize. Cash contributions were made by the town, the village and concessions."

FROM THE YORKER CRACKER BARREL

CANTON: Foote's Followers. There are over 90 members in the group this year, divided into four sections. Mrs. Charles Needham is the overall sponsor and leads two divisions of 7th and 8th graders who meet on Mondays and Thursdays. Two sections meet on Friday; one with Mr. Robert Houston and the other with Mr. Peter Vander Water. Most Yorkers this year are carrying out individual projects. The officers for the overall group are President, Ronald O'Neill; Vice President, Robert Murphy; Corresponding Secretary, Scott Longshore; Recording Secretary, Kay Hall; Treasurer, Mary Poole; and Publicity, Mary Lou LaPierre and Patricia Lewkowitz. Mrs. Marguerite Chapman of Potsdam has contacted the group about the Prize given by the St. Lawrence County Historical Association to the Yorker Chapter doing the most extensive project on local history. Mr. Atwood Manley and Mr. Bert Rogers spoke to the group recently about the Historical Association. GOUVERNEUR: Marble Village Chapter. LISBON: Lisbon Chapter planned to visit Remington Memorial and the Public Library in Ogdensburg on December 17th. The St. Lawrence and Seaway Chapters have been practicing a play "A Visit to Hepburn Library" written by a former Yorker group. They hope to collect some folklore and plan to change the exhibit in Hepburn Library. MADRID-WADDINGTON: Grasse River Chapter. MASSENA: Andre Massena Chapter.
