

The Quarterly

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



FIRE DESTROYS AN ANCIENT COUNTY LANDMARK

April 1962

The Quarterly

Official Publication of The St. Lawrence County Historical Assn.

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SAVE THE DATE--The annual Spring tour of the St. Lawrence County Historical Society will be held on Saturday June 9, when a visit will be made to the Adirondack Area. Plans are under way for a tour of the Newton Falls Paper Mill and the State Ranger School at Wanakena. A picnic lunch will be enjoyed and no reservations will be necessary. Watch the local papers for announcements.

MEMBERSHIP UP TO DATE?

Mr. David Cleland, Treasurer,
St. Lawrence County Historical Association
Canton, N. Y.

Enclosed find \$2.00 in cash, check or money order to cover my dues for 1961.

Please send The Quarterly to me at this address:

NAME

STREET and NUMBER

or RURAL ROUTE

COVER--Reprinted by permission of Canton's St. Lawrence Plain-dealer, the cover picture shows the Town Hall at the height of the fire which destroyed in February 2, 1962. Shortly after this picture was taken, looking northeast on Main Street, the high tower fell in. The building has since been levelled and the Town is making plans for a new municipal structure.

Town Hall Was Canton Life

from the Canton *St. Lawrence Plaindealer*

By ATWOOD MANLEY

No building in Canton was richer in memories than the old town hall. To a whole generation of Canton families it was, for many years, the "old opera house". To farmers in the area it was a butter and cheese cellerage. It has housed, in its time, a bank and the post office. Graduation exercises took place there for St. Lawrence University and Canton A.T.I. as well as Canton High School before they built their own auditoriums.

Agitation for building a town hall goes back to 1845 and on April 21, 1846, the County Supervisors were directed by an Act of the Legislature to levy a tax on the town of \$335.35 annually for three years, to be paid to Benjamin Squires and Cyrus Abernathy as Commissioners in trust, with power to erect the building.

First Town Hall

The first town hall, a plain but substantial structure, was built opposite the court house on a spacious lot fronting on a public square. The square is still there, an open lot at the corner of Court and Pearl Streets. The building stood about where the Joseph Ellsworth home now is. Control was delegated to the then Supervisor of the town and to his successors in office.

That old building had to be repaired often and, finally, on May 2, 1877, a special meeting was held to determine the propriety of erecting a new and modern town hall for Canton. W. H. Sawyer, M. D. Packard and C. N. Conkey, named as a committee to study the proposal, reported in favor of building a new town hall costing \$20,000, to be paid in four annual installments.

The electors approved the proposal and appointed L. W. Russell, W. H. Kimball and Worth Chamberlain to proceed to build. The Supervisors legalized the town's action.

Move to Midtown

It was then decided to change its location to the corner of Main and Miner Streets and to make it 70 by 110 feet, with a basement opening on Miner Street for butter cellarage and storage, and for a residence for the janitor-custodian. The first floor was to be occupied by the post-office and the Board of Trade rooms, while the second floor was to contain an auditorium and stage, with a seating capacity of 2,500.

The plans specified "blue and white stone similar to the clerk's office", adding "when completed it will be not only an ornament to the village but a secure place for the records of the town and the postoffice".

In the files of The St. Lawrence Plaindealer, of 1877, there was mention of the location in the new town hall of the County Board of Trade "which sets the prices for milk, butter, cheese and other farm products".

It was in those Board of Trade rooms that the citizens of Canton met one evening in 1886 to save St. Lawrence University which then was struggling to keep going due to financial difficulties.

The now honored and traditional college hymn, "The Scarlet and the Brown", was written for that occasion by Dr. Charles Kelsey Gaines and was sung for the first time by the student body as it marched into the room led by Williston Manley, later editor of The Plaindealer, directing the song.

It is a matter of record that Canton people and college students, together, subscribed \$3,500 for St. Lawrence University that evening. That turned the tide. The University was saved. The Theological School was not in difficulty, being strongly entrenched financially. Had that effort failed, that night, Canton most probably would

have had only a theological seminary.

Setting for Politics

The new Town Hall of that era was the center of community gatherings of many kinds. Some red-hot political battles were fought there and many Senatorial and judicial conventions were held there. From its beginning, all village and town voting took place there.

After the Civil War, the Hartwell T. Martin Post G.A.R., wielded great political power in Canton and numbered 300 veterans. It had its quarters in the Town Hall, in the room eventually taken over by the Town Clerk.

Herbert M. Barbour, who was Town Clerk for many years, was among the first to have his offices there. When the first Board of Elections in the county was created with Fred Wheeler and McBratney as its commissioners, it also moved into Town Hall.

Canton's "Opera House"

Long before Canton had a library, a reading room was opened in 1888 in a room next to the Board of Trade. In 1889 when the Canton Savings and Loan Association was organized, it set up an office in the Town Hall, taking over the former reading room, quarters and remained there for 20 years, with Charles J. Perkins as its one-man staff.

From its opening, the upstairs auditorium became the center of Canton's good times. Road shows came in--among them the Marx Brothers--and played for three or four nights during Fair Week, changing their shows each night.

When it was thrown open, the first time, in 1878, the auditorium was considered the finest thing in the North Country elegance and Victorian design. The interior was in walnut or painted to look like walnut. The balcony had a wooden railing.

It had 20-foot-high cathedral windows, and a huge kerosene chandelier hung from the ceiling--later to be changed to electricity. All in all, it was a perfectly designed firetrap but it survived despite all the dire predictions of a holocaust.

Patriotism and Painting

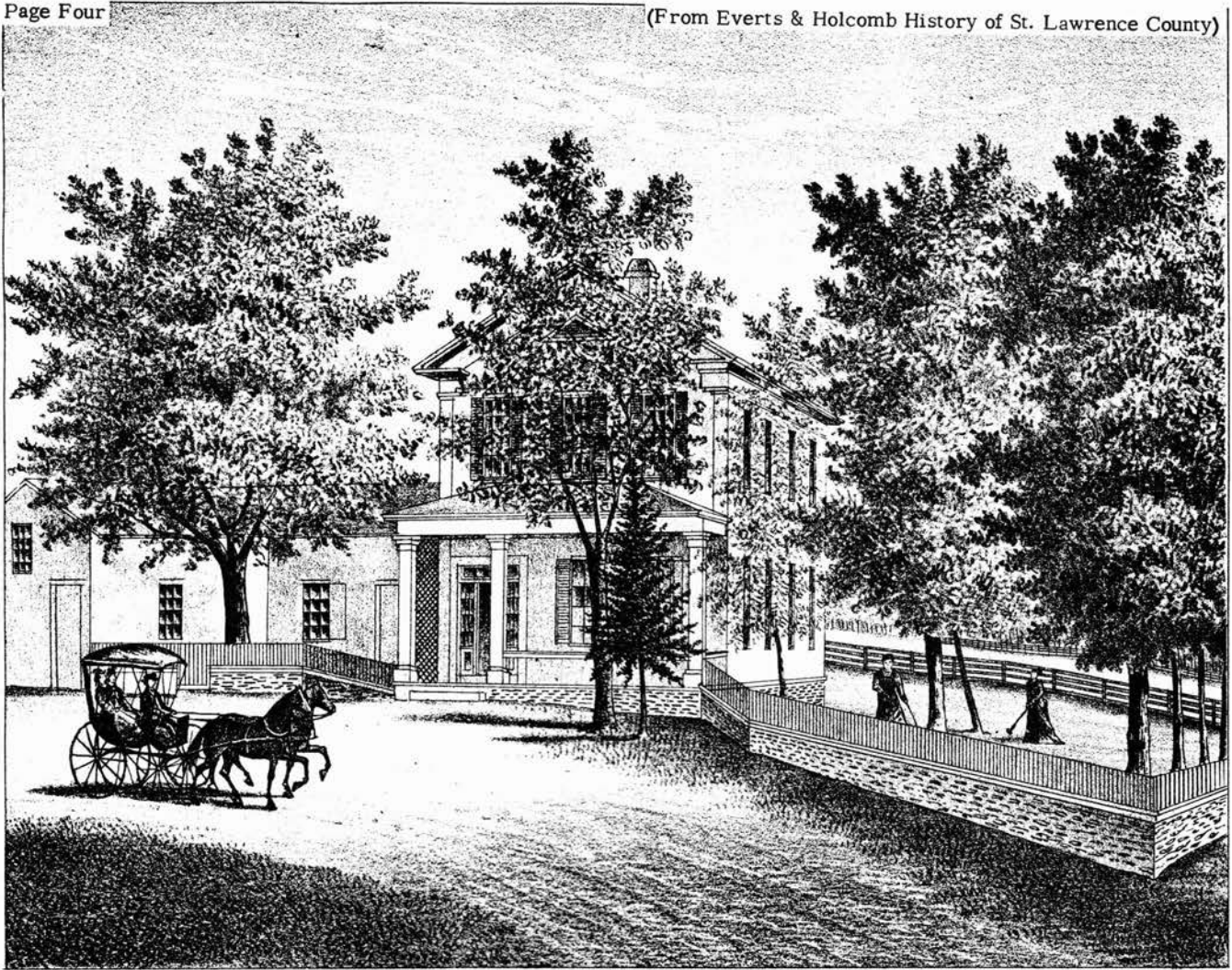
Kip painted most of the scenery--part of which was still in the hall when the building burned down this week--but around 1908 the town fathers imported a city artist to paint a new drop curtain. He was a German and he painted a gorgeous Rhine valley setting with the castle of Heidelberg pictured on a pinnacle above the river.

Later, during World War I, when patriotism took on strange forms, the town authorities heeded hostile village feeling and dropped German from the school curriculum then called in a painter and had him paint out the word "Heidelberg" from a panel beneath the painted castle on the curtain but they left the castle and the Rhine.

Those who bought the highest priced orchestra seats were given movable, straight-backed cane chairs. It was the custom to move them around and form little circles of friends, sitting there in a neighborly circle gossiping until the orchestra filed out and tuned up its instruments.

Robert Dezell and Fred J. Wheeler became Canton's first impresarios and rented the "opera house" for their own show business, bringing in professional road companies.

St. Lawrence University students and classes used the auditorium for many types of plays and it is a matter of record that the students, in 1882, presented there the first play ever acted wholly in Latin in this country. Ten



RESIDENCE OF HENRY HOOKER, MORRISTOWN, ST. LAWRENCE CO., N. Y.

Gallant Soldier

By DORIS PLANTY

When the Civil War veterans of Morristown and surrounding communities met on the evening of October 11, 1883 for the purpose of instituting a post of the Grand Army of the Republic, it was inevitable that they should name it after a gallant soldier of the town, Captain Alfred I. Hooker, who died while defending the flag of his country at the battle of Monocacy Bridge, Maryland, July 9, 1864.

Morristown lies between the St. Lawrence River and Black Lake, a pleasant, beautiful township of many farms and three villages--Morristown, Brier Hill and Edwardsville. The Hooker family was one of the earliest in the community.

The first to arrive was Henry Hooker, born in New Meriden, New Haven county, Connecticut July 7, 1799, the son of John Hooker, a Connecticut manufacturer.

Henry was third in a family of five children; at the age of five he moved with his father to Turin, Lewis County, New York where they resided until the fall of 1815. Having purchased the hotel property owned by Arnold Smith in the town of Morristown (then known as the township of Hague), the elder Hooker moved there with his family in that year and kept the hotel until it burned in 1823.

On November 22, 1823, Henry married Miss Melinda Canfield, daughter of John Canfield of Morristown, and shortly after their marriage, the couple located on a farm

near the village. They resided there until 1833, when Henry moved his family into town and went into the mercantile business as a member of the firm Miller, Hooker & Company.

This union was blessed with five children--three sons and two daughters. The eldest son, Horace H. Hooker, died in Morristown village July 16, 1869; the second boy, John L. Hooker, passed away January 4, 1859. Alfred I. Hooker was the youngest, and he gave his life in battle of Monocacy Bridge July 9, 1864. His elder sister, Mary R., was married to George A. Chapman December 23, 1845; the younger girl, Lenora, was unmarried and lived with her parents at Morristown.

Henry continued in the mercantile business for several years, and in 1836, in company with E.W. White, he entered into a contract with George Parish (who at that time owned the blast furnaces at Rossie) for transporting pig-iron to Oswego. Having also secured a contract with Messrs. Moss & Knight for transporting pig-lead from their furnaces in Rossie to Oswego, Hooker and White constructed a small steamer at Pope's Mills. During the following five years they conveyed all of the iron and lead produced at these furnaces to Oswego by boat during the summer season, and by sleigh in winter.

In 1842 Henry Hooker was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace and continued to hold that office until January, 1863. He was elected Supervisor of the town of Morristown in 1860 and served in that capacity for six consecutive years. He was appointed deputy Collector of Customs in

1841, a position which he held during the Tyler Administration. Re-appointed by President Lincoln in his first administration, Mr. Hooker was the only custom house officer in the district appointed during Lincoln's terms of office. In addition, for thirty years he acted as the agent of Horace O. Morse, of New Berlin, Chenango county, New York and his brother, Truman Morse of West Burlington, Oswego county, who were at one time extensive land-owners in the vicinity.

Alfred I. Hooker was born in Morristown in 1837, and as a young boy he helped his father farm. Later moving into the village, he attended the Union Free school there. In those days all families had horses, and Alfred had his own, riding many miles over the country roads. He enjoyed the winters with sleigh rides and skating on the St. Lawrence river. He fished in the summer, and worked with his father in his various business enterprises.

The Hooker family were religious people and attended the Episcopal church, which had been built in the village in 1834. Alfred was a regular member of the Sunday school and attended all the church meetings.

Then the War that long had threatened became a reality, and the North and South began to fight. Enlistment meetings and rallies were held at different places in the town of Morristown to encourage the young men to join the Union Army. Company B was Morristown's, and many of our young men answered the call.

Men were trained for army service at Ogdensburg at the Army barracks where large building and grounds served for several hundred men. It was located in the eastern part of the city--the old building can still be seen from Proctor Avenue.

In those days a private soldier was paid \$13.50 per month, and it was legal for a man to pay another man \$300 to go in his place. Many young men came over from Canada, accepted such "bounties" and went into battle.

At the age of twenty-five years, Alfred I. Hooker enrolled July 28, 1862 at Morristown, to serve three years. He was mustered in as a First Sergeant in Company B August 27, 1862. Less than six months later he had become a second lieutenant in Company A, January 13, 1863, and by March 1 of the same year he was a first lieutenant. He became captain of Company B, 106th Infantry Regiment, August 4, 1863.

He was a brave soldier and advanced in rank. Starting out one morning for Harpers Ferry, he was warned on striking the canal at the Monocacy, that it would be dangerous to go further in that direction. It was here that he was killed in action July 9, 1864 at Monocacy Bridge, Maryland. It was sad news when word was received of his death--a great shock to our town for so young a soldier to give his life. His body and his belongings were returned to Morristown, and he was buried in the Hooker family plot in Pine Hill cemetery.

Meanwhile the women of our community were trying to do their bit. They knitted socks of homespun yarn for the soldiers, scraped linen to make sacks for lint for bandages to stop the flow of blood. Alfred's sister, Lenora, was a public-spirited person and encouraged the women to do all they could. Meetings were held at the Hooker home, to pack the articles that had been completed for shipment to the front. She helped raise money to provide many things for the soldiers.

News constantly flowed home from other local boys, that some were in Andersonville prison--among them John LaVigne and Joseph Bolton; that others were wounded and discharged for disability.

The names of over two hundred young men who answered their country's call from the town of Morristown are inscribed on the Honor Roll of the Civil War, located on the church lawn at Brier Hill.

And so it was that the ex-soldiers of Morristown and other towns held a meeting at Centennial Hall, Brier Hill on the evening of October 11, 1883 to establish a post of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.). It was there unanimously agreed that its name be the Alfred I. Hooker Post "in memory of Captain Alfred I. Hooker, a most worthy, brave and patriotic officer of our town, who was killed while defending the flag of his country at the battle of Monocacy, Maryland July 9, 1864."

The Post meetings were held in Brier Hill for about three years, then the G.A.R. moved its place of meetings to Morristown village. Meetings were held at Chapman's Hall on the evenings of the first and third Saturdays of each month. Frank Gilday was Commander, and John Canfield Adjutant. Miss Lenora Hooker presented a beautiful National flag and also a banner to the post.

Decoration Day was first observed at Morristown May 31, 1886, under the auspices of the Alfred I. Hooker post, G.A.R., with Commander Gilday as master of ceremonies. A large number of people were present; at one o'clock the procession was formed and marched to the cemetery in the following order: The national flag draped in mourning, the Morristown brass band, the orator, chaplain of the post and other clergymen, the members of the post and soldiers not members of the G.A.R. A horse owned by Captain Hooker while he was in the army, complete with military saddle and holsters and draped in mourning was led by Adam F. Carpenter, the town's oldest veteran, to bring up the rear of the procession.

The grave of Captain Hooker was first visited, where impressive services in accordance with the ritual of the G.A.R. were observed. Red geraniums were placed there, this being the flower used for Civil War graves. The following poem was read:

And who is he for whom to-day
We group ourselves in grand array,
And on whose tomb these honors lay?
What name incites this love of all?
What deeds these sympathies enthral?
Why does his grave these tributes claim?
Whom has he linked himself to fame?
What did he do? How did he die?
List to the question and reply.

Fell he in the front of battle,
Pressing through the deadly fight,
Breasting bold the Musket's rattle,
Dashing on the bayonet bright?
Died he on the instant stricken,
Act and thought at once suppressed,
Leaving neither word nor token
As he sank to sudden rest?

Dropped he on his hidden picket,
Smitten by a random ball?
Crept he to the quiet thicket
Far from reach of comrades call?
Died he then so lonely, aching,
Wrestling with his fearful pain,
Moans alone the silence breaking,
Until all was still again.

Lay he like so many others,
Nursed by gentle woman's hand,
Where the wounded were as brothers
To the daughters of the land?
Sick and weary, though befriended,
Slowly sinking day by day;
Vain all skill, his sorrow ended,
Did his soul thus pass away?

Friend, I know not and I care not;
Light I view the shrine of fame;
He is crowned as Monarcha are not,
Union Soldier was his name.
All this world contains of merit
This young hero died to save;
All our children may inherit
Takes its title from his grave.

The graves of Daniel W. Church, one of our national defenders of 1812, Robert Johnson, Duncan C. Ross, Wm. Wilson, Lewis Thomas and Benjamin Woolen were also decorated.

The G.A.R. had about seventy-five active members. They visited other posts, marched in many parades, and an annual event was an excursion. On August 23, 1887 they

Continued on Page 17



CIGAR MAKING IN OGDENSBURG

By LAWRENCE G. BOVARD

In 1835, a nineteen year old boy named Chauncey P. Clark came to Ogdensburg from Connecticut to work as a carpenter on the flour mills then under construction on the west bank of the Oswegatchie River. But Chauncey was more than just a carpenter.

Combining his skill in carpentry with the knowledge of tobacco he had gained as a youth on tobacco farms in Connecticut, he made some wooden moulds and began the manufacture of cigars. This was about eight years after he had first come to Ogdensburg, and his store and factory was located at 22 Ford Street. Chauncey's son Stanley followed him in the business of manufacturing and wholesaling tobacco.

Interestingly enough, it was from this first attempt at North Country cigar making that a flourishing local industry got its start. Many successful cigar makers learned the trade in the Clark shop and later opened their own shops in various locations throughout the city.

For instance, there was John Hannan. Born in Ireland June 24, 1844, he came to this country with his parents in the Fall of 1849. At a very young age, he started as a "stripper" (removing the backbone or spine from broad tobacco leaves), later became a journeyman cigar roller. After a few years he established his own factory on State Street near Ford, next to the American Express office. Mr. Hannan's two brothers, Patrick and Richard, also became cigar makers and together the trio established Hannan Bros. shop in 1863, manufacturing fine cigars "LaRosa", "LaBurgo", "Yara" (named after the district of Cuba Mr. Hannan visited personally to select choice tobacco leaves), "Amos Judd", "Double Standard", "Our Favorite", "H.B." and "Lone Jack" cigars. They used Havana broadleaf for the more expensive cigars and Connecticut wrappers and Pennsylvania fillers for the other grades.

John Landry opened another factory at 29 Ford Street making "Little Fidelity", which sold for five cents; "High Grade" and "Monterey" for ten cents. He later produced the "Knob" which became one of the most popular local cigars. In fact, the "Knob" is still manufactured in Ogdensburg by Charles Mulcahey and has a wide acceptance among those who like a robust broadleaf cigar.

John Glennan, John Bradish and John L. O'Connor had a cigar factory at the corner of Ford and Patterson streets, making a cigar called "Three Jacks". Mr. O'Con-

PUNCH, at left, stood for many years on State Street in front of the Hannan Brothers store, in time disappeared, was finally traced by Arthur S. O'Neil to the home of Mrs. Gales Holcomb at Paul Smiths'. Somewhat weathered and with a broken arm, he was brought back to Ogdensburg where Dr. Don Charlebois reset the arm and restored his color. At age 88 -- since he appeared in the Ogdensburg directory for 1872 -- he is now a permanent guest in the O'Neil home.

nor travelled throughout Northern New York selling their product. Later the Glennan, Bradish, O'Connor partnership dissolved and Mr. O'Connor hired the most efficient makers and established a business upstairs in the Dennis Lynch building, now Bruyere's furniture store.

Stanley Clark continued his father's business, producing "Clark's Pet", and later sold out to the Ward Brothers, father and five cigar making sons, who were financed by Attorneys Wells and Donavin. When the operation closed, the stock of cigars on hand--several thousand--were sold to Allen Welt.

John H. McColl made the "Little Tycoon" at 90 Ford street, while Lawrence A. Powers, at 139 Caroline Street, made a black, strong thin cigar nicknamed "Pig Tail Cheroot" which was a favorite of many.

The Ogdensburg Directory of 1905 lists the following cigar makers:

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Eugene Bordine | | 107 N.Y. Avenue |
| Charles E. Bradish | | 51/2 Hasbrouck St |
| John Bradish | | 51/2 Hasbrouck St |
| Stanley P. Clark | Manufacturer | 22 Ford Street |
| Duff Corrice | | 8 Caroline Street |
| Eugene Cummisky | | 123 Franklin St |
| William Dineen | Comm. Travlr | 32 Knox Street |
| Thos J. Doyle | | 7 Hamilton Street |
| Eugene Dubrule | Mfr Winter | 226 Washington St |
| Edward L. Emmert | | 121 Morris Street |
| John Glennan | | Windsor Hotel |
| John Hannan | Manufacturer | 92 Washington St |
| Wm. Kernan | | 146 S Water St. |
| Prosper Lago | | 11 Pero Lane |
| Arthur C. Landry | | 237 State Street |
| John C. Landry | Manufacturer | 29 Ford Street |
| Peter Landry | | 237 State Street |
| Joseph LaPointe | | 23 Patterson St |
| Michael Lundy | | 123 N.Y. Avenue |
| Eugene Lupine | | 45 Pickering St |
| John H. McColl | Manufacturer | 90 Ford Street |
| George McGlynn | | 241 State Street |
| Edward Monnette | | 7 Mechanic St |
| Edward O'Connor | Comm Travlr | 38 Patterson St |
| John L. O'Connor | Comm Travlr | 6 Congress St |
| Fred Parker | Confectioner | 254 Ford Street |
| Wm. B. Payne | | 218 Ford Steet |
| John W. Quille | Comm Travlr | 38 Albany Ave |
| W. Ritchie | | 21 Grove Street |
| Charles Ross | Confectionery | Ford & State St |

Cigar dealers - wholesale and retail - 1905 Directory

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Algie, R. B. | Dealer | 76 Ford Street |
| Briggs Bros | | 89 Main Street |
| Bisons, George | | 57 State Street |
| Clark, Stanley P. | Manufactr | 22 Ford Street |
| Clutterbuck, W.H. | | Seymour House |
| Hannan Brothers | Mfg & Dealer | 65 State Street |
| John P. Landry | Mfg & Dealer | 29 Ford Street |
| Lang, Patrick | Dealer | 87 State Street |
| Markham, F. How. | Dealer | 56 Ford Street |
| McCull, John H. | Manufactr | 90 Ford Street |
| Mitchell, Thomas | Dealer | 85 State Street |
| Parker, Fred | Dealer | 254 Ford Street |
| Powers, Law. A. | Manufactr | 139 Caroline St. |
| Reuter, J.E. | Dealer | 7 No Water Street |
| Rose, W.H. | Dealer | 28 Ford Street |
| Ross, Charles | Dealer | Ford & State Sts |
| Story, Bernard | Dealer | 8 Ford Street |

Patrick Kennedy was another cigar maker, his cigar the "P.K." This name annoyed the Picquet Cigar Company located at the corner of Ford and Isabella streets, but the matter was amicably adjusted. Abe Kopita, father of the late Frank Kopita, came to Ogdensburg from New York and worked as a journeyman cigar maker in Hannan's. William Singleton of Watertown--who played the French horn in the Ogdensburg band--was another popular local cigar maker. The Ward Brothers firm consisted of John Ward, father, and sons "Bill", "By", "Freddie", "Eph" and "Ned".

Early cigar making required rather careful, complicated processing. The tobacco leaves arrived at the factory in boxes containing several "hands" of tobacco--a hand consisting of a 3 or 4 inch stack of selected leaves of same grade fastened together, sun cured and ready for processing. After being gently moistened under damp clothes, the hands were separated into individual leaves. The "stripper" carefully removed the main vein stem so as not to tear or otherwise damage the leaf. Then the leaves were "bunched"--enough is gathered to form the inside of the cigar, using long or short peices depending on the quality of the cigar. A handful of tobacco was approximately the required amount, and the skill of the

buncher determined the quantity of the burning--too much tobacco, while being more costly, is no better than too little, which makes a quick-burning cigar.

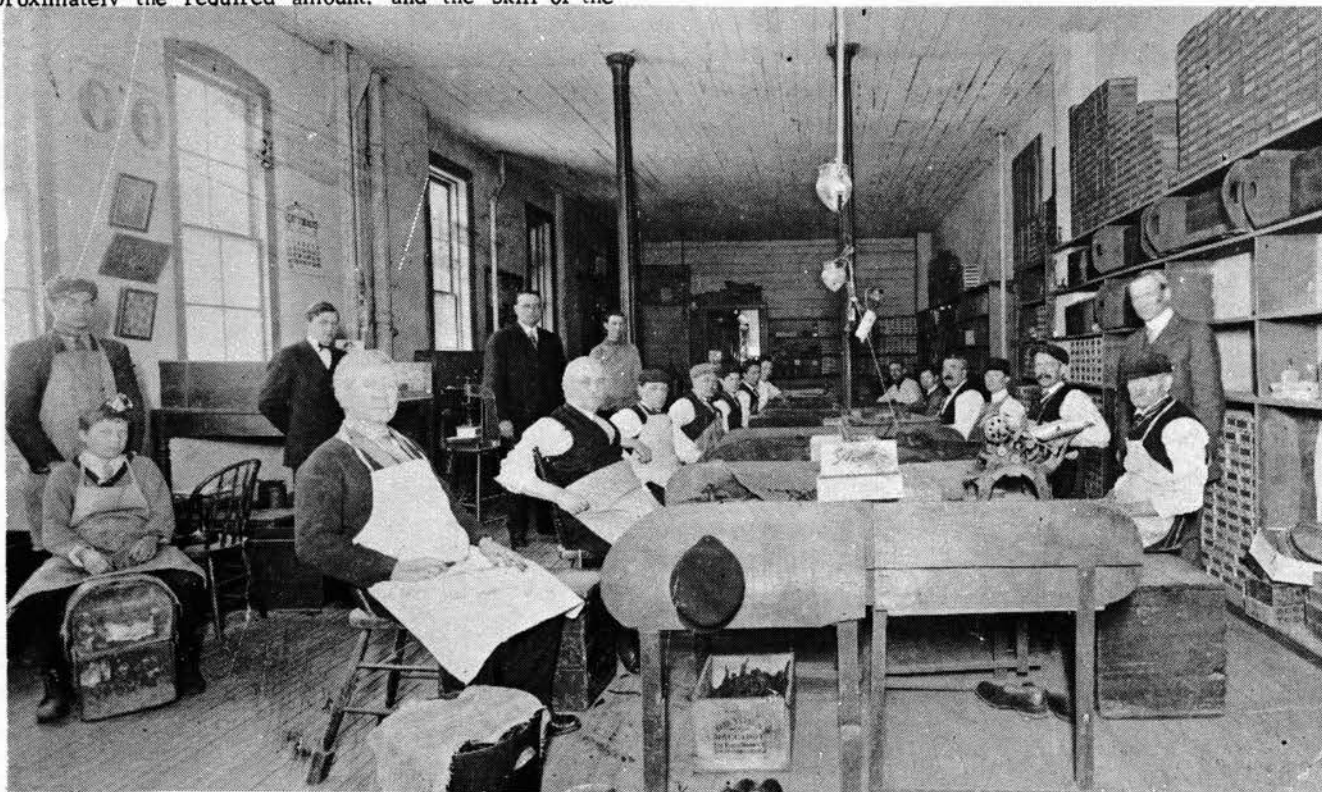
The cigar having been shaped to approximate size, it was placed in a mould to dry. Moulds were of wood, about two inches thick, a little longer than the length of the cigar and about 18 inches long. They came in pairs; each section completed the other. The bottom section had twelve pockets of the size and elongated cylinder shape of the cigar, and half as deep as the thickness of the cigar. The top section had corresponding pockets similarly spaced, so that when the top section was placed on the bottom section, the moist tobacco leaves assumed the shape of the finished product. These moulds were filled and stacked and allowed to dry awaiting further action.

In oldtime or modern cigar manufacture, the next step--the application of the wrapper--is most important and requires considerable skill, for the wrapper must cover all the air spaces on the outside of the moulded center filler, to present an attractive, smooth, neat appearance. To accomplish this, the cigar roller takes a suitable leaf, free from holes, veins and imperfections and lays it out on his table. With a deft cut of his knife, he shapes a tissue of tobacco leaf just the proper size to completely wrap the filler without wrinkles or breaks. The ability to get one or more binders from a leaf without waste is the pride of good cigar makers, for the final leaf is the most expensive. To insure that the wrapper retains its shape, the maker applies a small wipe of gum tragacanth (gum is from a shrub grown in Western Asia, odorless and tasteless). This additive insures that the cigar will not unwind.

The tobacco leaves have to be moistened to be shaped, moulded and finally wrapped and boxed. An interval of four years often passes between the cutting of the tobacco plant and the dealers' showcase.

John Hannan made his own cigar boxes of cedar in the Tower Building on Riverside Avenue, now used by George Hall Corporation as accounting offices. He also spent considerable time and money trying to grow suitable cigar

Continued on Page 17



HANNAN BROTHERS' SHOP -- left side, seated, two strippers (unknown), John Bradish, John Glennon, Eph Ward, Bill Ward, Eddie Lovely, William Singleton, (?) Schofield; standing, Frank McLean, William Dineen (later

New York State Motor Vehicle Commissioner), William Murphy; right side, seated, Charles Ward, George McGlynn (later Ogdensburg police chief), Billy LaFountain, Pat Hendrix, P. Thibert, By Ward, standing Frank Mullin, mgr.



Possible home made by
Asa Brayton - on Pork Creek - in 1812.

Shortly after the Revolution there were rumors abroad in the Colonies, particularly in New York, that England was going to compel the colonists to become English subjects.

Because English troops had invaded northern New York previously by the way of the St. Lawrence river, efforts were made to strengthen this section. One way was to encourage colonists to settle here and to keep a watchful eye for uninvited strangers. Unrest in the New England colonies following the Revolution caused a westward trek, and among the pioneers were veterans coming into northern New York to claim land as payment for military services. The waterways in eastern New York afforded an easier method of travel to Lake Ontario and western New York.

Roads were very poor, or only trails through the woods, so a road was built, to expedite army materials from

EDWARDS PIONEERS

northern New York to the Lakes and Mohawk valley. This was the Russell Turnpike, a military road of logs and stones to connect Ogdensburg, Lake Champlain, Lake Ontario and central New York.

It was over this road, that Asa Brayton, the first settler in Edwards, came with his wife Eunice, here in January 1812. It is thought he was not only seeking a new home but was sight-seeing, too. Frozen streams were more easily forded and less hazardous in the winter and often the straw-filled and buffalo-robe-covered sled was the bed for the night, if that was his mode of travel. Hemlock and pine groves gave shelter to the sled and occupants.

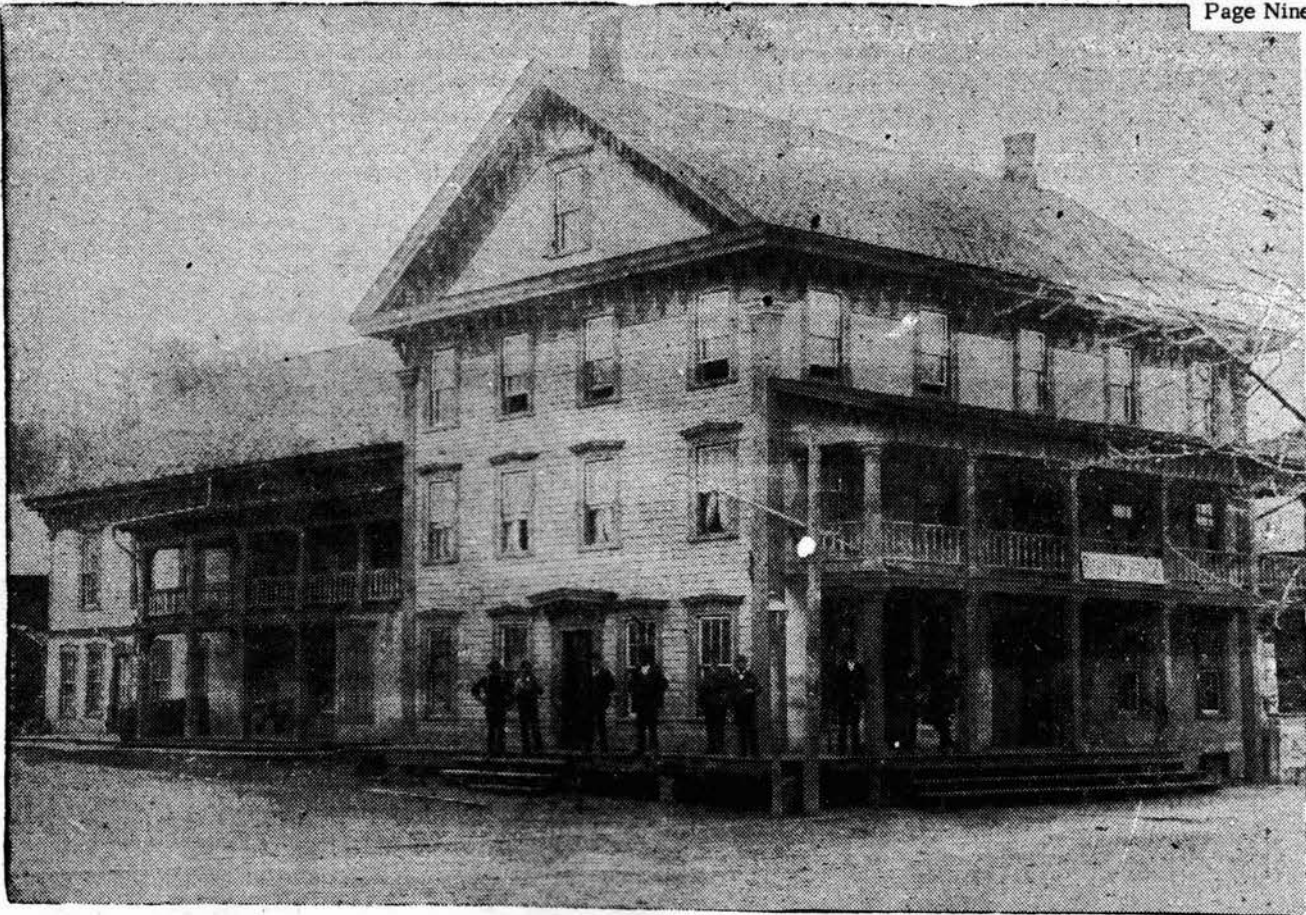
On and on, trudged Asa and his wife-crossing the Oswegatchie twice-through what is now called the village of Edwards, past very desirable waterfalls and farm land and about four miles westward to a smaller body of water-now called Pork Creek, where he stopped. On the southwest bank he carved out his destiny by clearing the land to erect a one room log cabin, and a leanto for the livestock. This is the farm now owned and operated by Warren McGill. Eventually Asa added a sawmill housing a vertical saw.

This was to be his wilderness home for many years to come, and it is unfortunate that much of the dourly Vermonter's early life in the Edwards community lies in



Front Row-Harrison Lumley, Ralph Balcom, Winifred McKinney, Don Todd, Abner Clark, Edward Brayton.
Back Row-Bower Brown, Everett Beach, Henry Grant,

Lloyd Hall, Leon Hall, Emory Maybee, Daniel Marco, Lawrence Woodcock, Harold Brown, Eddie Rice, Harry Lashway. Edwards Citizen Band-about 1908



Familiar and popular hostelry at Edwards, St. Lawrence county over a half century ago was the Rushton house, which was destroyed by fire during the Fourth of July celebration of 1893. That fire was a disastrous one and wiped out about 50 other buildings in that village. The present Hotel Edwards stands on the identical site of the old Rushton house, today's picture of which is

owned by Leon Hall.

In the picture, left to right, are: Hartford Brisbane, Henry Grant, deceased; James Nobles, deceased; Proprietor Dave Nobles, John Genzel, deceased; Charles Stephenson, traveling salesman; unknown, and George Morrow retired section foreman now residing in Edwards. The man leaning against the post is unknown.

forgotten mystery except for active participation in local affairs five or six years later.

Mrs. Brayton, it was said, often brought homemade bread to the soldiers who were passing through or were encamped in a nearby grove of beautiful pine trees. To meet and greet fellow Americans must have cheered, immeasurably, the couple, who, no doubt, experienced many lonely and homesick hours that year. In the fall, little John's arrival brought great joy and comfort to the proud parents.

Meanwhile unrest in Europe spurred and urged people to leave England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland. America offered them freedom and better living.

For several years two Indian families--Pete Philips and Fred Tarbell lived here. Besides helping on the Jim Bullock farm they made and sold baskets, and it was a very common sight to see a milk wagon load of baskets being sold to the housewives around here.

In the fall of 1812, young John Brayton was added to the Brayton family. Later that year, Joseph Bonner, Samuel Jones, Elijah, Guy Earl and John Britton came to Edwards with their families and built a little hamlet of log cabins around the river, the nucleus of the future village of Edwards.

In 1813, Job Winslow migrated from the Mohawk Valley and built a log cabin. He returned to his former home to get his family and bring them to the new home, called Shawville or, later South Edwards. The next year, in 1814, Ora Shead arrived, attracted by the potential power of the two falls located on our island. This enterprising individual built a saw mill, preparing the way for other business which operated for nearly one hundred years. Later, Shead became the first postmaster in Sheads Corners or Edwards -- about this time a few settlers

made their homes a little farther south at Pond Settlement.

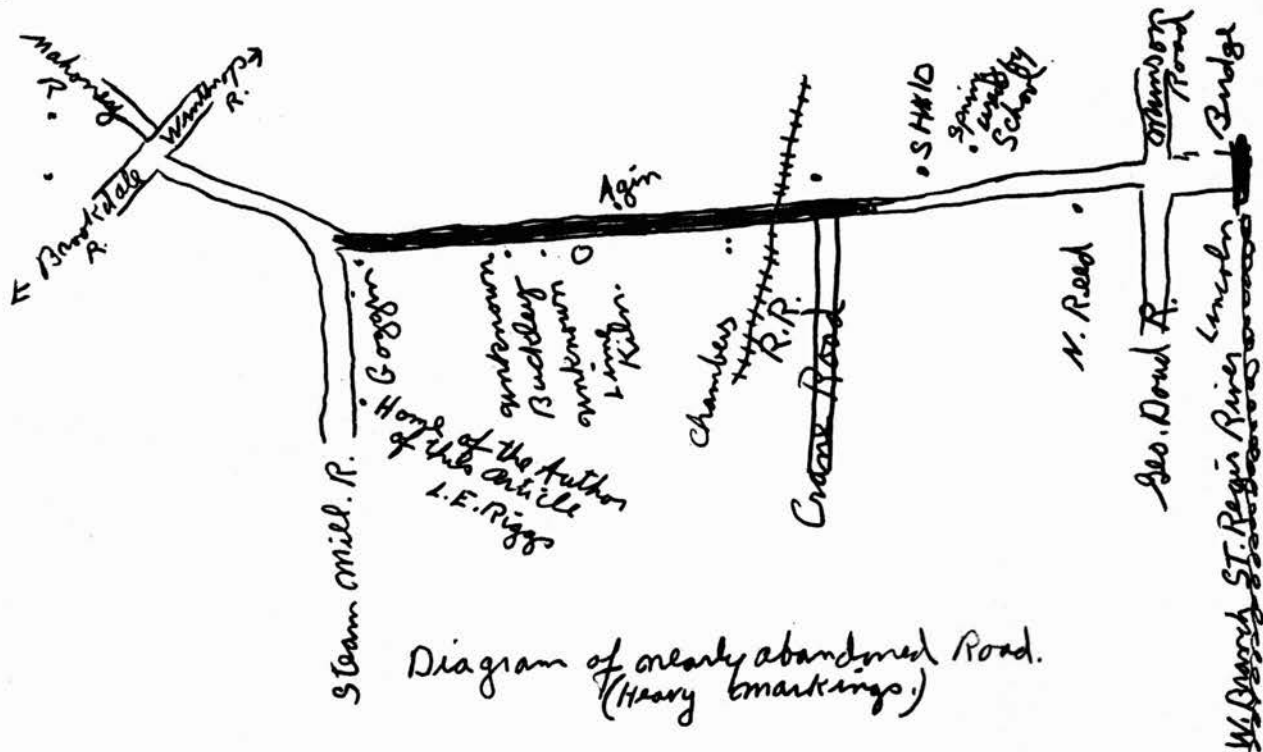
By this time, the enormous Macomb Purchase had been carved into the 10 Townships and the wilderness south of them was patented to various land agents. The sale of hundreds of acres of this land was entrusted to Daniel McCormick, who is responsible for the naming of the community "Edwards" after his brother, Edward. Later Pitcairn became the land agent, succeeded by George Allan. In 1819, Allan decided to make this place his home, so a beautiful three story brick mansion was built overlooking the vigorous and thriving village called Sheads Mills. The residence is now occupied by Floyd Brayton. For several years, the island was the heart of the village, consisting of a half dozen homes, a hotel, store and post office, blacksmith shop, sawmill, and tiny log school house.

Meanwhile in 1819, a large group of Scotch and Irish settlers, who had recently come from Scotland (crossing in the "Renown"--on the ocean 13 weeks), cleared the land in the northern part of the town, along the turnpike. Even today that section is known as "Scotland". Those settlers were John Whitehead, James Green, Robert Watson, Alexander Noble, James Grieve, Robert Brown, Alexander Kerr, John Laidlaw and families.

Along with these settlers came single men--Thomas Cleland, James Wilson and Williams Andrew ready and willing to attack any job of clearing the land or building homes, or to hunt. Some of the farms originally established by these pioneers of 1819 are still owned and operated by their descendants.

These industrious early settlers worked out a sub-

Continued on Page 15



REMINISCENCE

BY LINDON E. RIGGS

It is said that with the coming of spring, a young man's thoughts turn to romance. I, an old man, when the snow has melted and gone, enjoy taking a walk about the old farm, where we have resided for forty-three years, and in nearby vicinity for fifty-nine years, one year having been lived at place of my birth in (Buck's Corners) Buckton, the former home of Capt. Orange Newton, a great-uncle of my father.

After an examination of the meadows, to see how winter's frost has used the new clover seeding, I then carefully walk around the edges of the garden lot, taking care not to get stuck in the mud. I notice several bunches of tulips trying to force their way up in sod near the fence, securing a shovel I move them to a better location and bring to light a quantity of fish worms.

That is what an old man endures a long cold winter for, to once again fish in the old accustomed spots, sometimes with good luck, more often coming home with wet feet and a great hunger. Picking up a can of worms, I back out the car and start off happily on the first expedition of a new season.

Traveling down the road a short distance, I come to a road that branches to the right. This is the beginning of a "semi-abandoned" road that I have traveled for sixty-seven years.

Right here on this corner was the home my father purchased and moved to when I was one year of age. The house was very old and poor, with only two rooms and a lean-to wood shed plus a small attic room. Despite the inconvenience, I believe our family of four (I had a brother five years my senior) were the happiest of our lives.

Back of the house was a stone foundation on which was said to have been a log house, part log and part dug-out, in a side hill. In this log house a Mr. Goggin had his residence.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the large bunch of purple lilacs growing close to the corner, then and now, a silent reminder of a vanished home.

I am writing from memory, as I remember these places in my youth, and as they are today and with what historical items I can dig up about them.

Next we come to a cellar hole; large elm trees are growing in it. No one knows who lived here, perhaps an early squatter.

A short distance beyond, just over a division fence, was a log house and a frame barn, the house was in ruins when I first saw it. The barn was torn down a few years ago. Nothing remains to show that buildings were ever there. I know where the well is--a stranger would have difficulty in finding it, as it is securely covered with stone and sod.

Traveling further we come to another of those forgotten cellar holes and a lime-kiln hidden by brush and rubbish. Why was a lime-kiln constructed and used? As I have it, the early settlers on this road were Irish laborers, who had worked on the Northern Railroad, that was completed in 1850, and had a crossing on this road. They built their cabins of logs and they needed lime for white-wash and for mortar to chink the apertures between the logs. I have been told by a sister-in-law, Mrs. Mary Mullen Chapman of Bronxville, who was born and lived in Ireland until twelve years of age, that it was a common custom there to burn their own lime. Therefore, it is not hard to believe that this is what they did here; as this region abounds in limestone.

We next come to what once may have been a prosperous and picturesque log house and very good frame barns, surrounded by many locust and apple trees, white and purple lilacs, old fashioned and lemon lilies, and a very prolific shrub what overruns the yard and overflowing into the road-side, the name of which I have never been able to find. It grew three or four feet in height, covered at blooming with very sweet white plumes, very attractive to bees and ants. The buildings are all gone, but many of the shrubs and flowers still blossom, in

remembrance to the loving hands who planted them.

In looking over some old school papers of my brother, I came across the following composition, written about this house that we passed each morning on our way to school.

THE OLD HOUSE

"The old house I am about to describe is situated 1/2 a mile from here. There are locust and apple trees in the yard. It is a very old house. One thing that makes it look old is because the windows are boarded up, and the door has wood-bine wreathed about it. The inside is painted dark and light blue. There is a cupboard in one corner with some dishes in it. The chamber is not finished, so that you can see the rafters which are very dirty. There is a chair, a bed, some trunks and a loom up-stairs. The barns are at the right of the house and are filled with hay. The house and barn look like a haunted place which one has read about in a novel. This is the place where Mr. J----- hid when he shot his wife."

I wish to say here that the above shooting did take place and only slightly wounded the woman. Mr. J----- served several years in State Prison for the offense.

The doors were never fastened, and, passing by on our way to and from school, we often paused here to pick a bouquet of flowers and to eat what apples we could and to enter the big barn to see the multitude of doves and their young.

The next place is not far from the railroad crossing, a log house similar in size to the others, with a frame house directly in front of it. Years before the new house was built, a Mr. Chambers, an Irish immigrant lived with his family here. Many from Stockholm, if they read this, will remember Maggie Chambers, born in Ireland in the year 1861. She was the second wife of Oliver Hardy. After the new house was constructed, the old house was used as a wood shed. The new house was occupied by another "Old-Sodder", Jerry Hourihan. All the buildings now are gone, consumed in a grass fire, coming from the railroad.

We now come to a large sign, high over the road, with these words "RAILROAD CROSSING-LOOK OUT FOR THE CARS"--this is the end of the abandoned road. As a child I had to cross the tracks here on my way to school, and there were many express and freight trains to watch out for. What fun it was to place pins or shingle nails on the rails, and after the passing of the train picking them up flattened to paper thinness. It would be unfair to memory not to go a half mile farther to the four corners; a left turn the Munson road, a right turn the George Doud road, and straight ahead over Lincoln bridge and the west branch of the St. Regis river and our destination, the swimming hole and fishing.

Now let's go back to the crossing and retravel this portion of the road. From the crossing most of the way to the school was a "CORD-A-ROY" road, very bumpy in the spring, after the frost had pushed the logs upward. The school where my education began is much the same outwardly, now converted into a house, with electricity and television, also water from a drilled well. Water for the school was obtained from an open spring. Unsanitary? Maybe so, but many of us who drank it have lived to a very good age.

One more house and my story is finished. The old map says a Mr. Munson lived here, but as far back as I can remember, it belonged to Nelson Reed, who lived here some of the time and at other times, renting a more productive farm, meanwhile renting this place to various tenants, some years ago selling to Mr. McGregor.

The present carriage and horse barn was originally constructed by a Mr. Page for a Baptist church, on the George Doud road, not far from the Page school. He intended it for his son to hold services in. But, falling into disuse as a church, it was purchased by Mr. Reed who moved to his farm where it remained until all of the buildings were consumed in a fire.

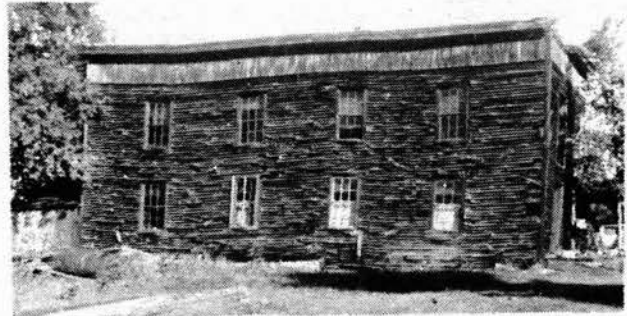
Many years ago, on the side of the house, was a "dog wheel" of the squirrel type (dog running on inside of rim), probably to run a butter churn.

I often heard my mother tell of passing here and

having my brother with her (he was then four or five years of age); he would always say:

"My that's a awful big wheel, I can't lift it, but Mr. Reed can".

No, I did not get any fish this time. . . .only Reu-mitiz.



Office Alone Remains

Brasher Iron Works

By HARLAND R. NORTON
Franklin County Historian

The first sawmill in the Town of Brasher was the Gove mill on the Deer River about a mile south of Brasher Iron Works. It was built in 1815, probably, by Daniel W. Church.

The first dam and sawmill constructed here were built in 1835 by Benjamin Raymond, a millwright of Fort Covington, for Joseph Pitcairn. That same year he induced Stillman Fuller of Fullerville Iron Works to come to Brasher Iron Works to develop the iron ore business for Mr. Pitcairn.

Since there was no housing in the locality, Raymond erected the brick house there and probably all other buildings that were constructed at that time. He was a house builder as well as a mill builder and there are several homes, both brick and wood, which he is known to have built in Fort Covington. They are very similar to the house at Brasher Iron Works.

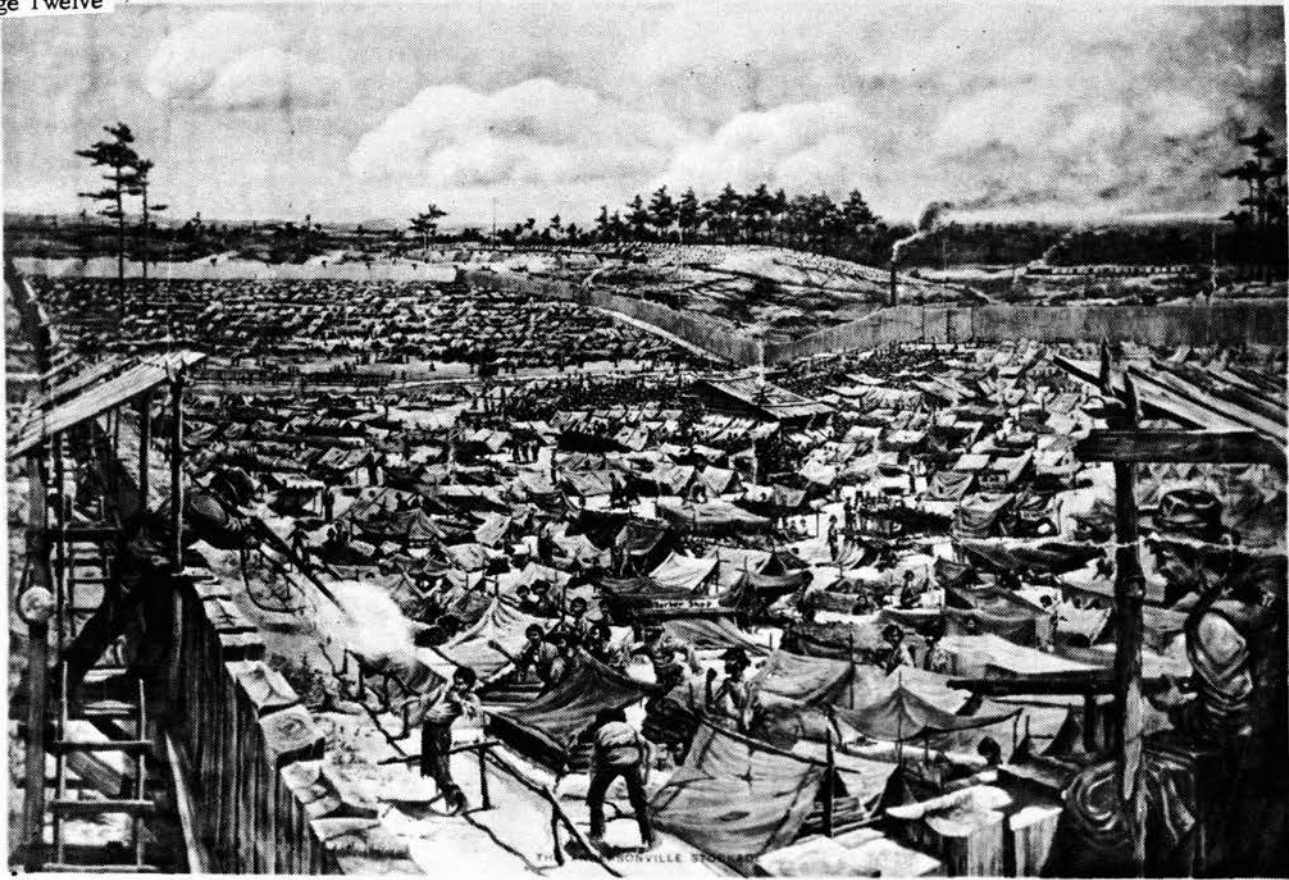
In 1837 Skinner came in and took over the iron works, his superintendent, R.W. Thickens, occupying the brick house. Skinner himself may also have occupied the house for a time.

The foundry had several bad fires. In 1857 one started in Norfolk and burned clear into the Town of Fort Covington. It destroyed all but three of the buildings at the iron works, one of these being the brick house in which Thickens lived. All the buildings at the foundry were burned at this time.

Skinner immediately rebuilt the foundry and ran it himself for several years afterward. His old office building, erected about 1857 or 1858, is the only structure still standing.



Raymond Home



(From the County Historian's Collection)

Andersonville Prison

In the files and records of most every town in the North Country are the names of Civil War soldiers who were in Andersonville Prison. And there may be still more, for many a Union soldier reported missing may have been there.

In 1863, the uneasy course of the Civil War and growing shortage of food in Virginia forced Confederate Brig. General John H. Winder, superintendent of military prisons, to remove the great body of Union prisoners of war from their prison camps to another location.

So a site near Anderson, Ga., was decided upon. The sandy Georgia soil was stripped of its lofty pines which were cut into 20 foot logs. The logs, planted 5 feet in the ground formed a double stockade around the area; first 15 acres, later 26 acres. A stream of water ran through the camp, dividing it roughly in half. General Winder appointed Captain Wirz, a native of Switzerland, superintendent of the prison. He was a physician and had resided in Louisiana before the war.

The first contingent of Union prisoners arrived from Bell Island, Va. February 5, 1864. From that time until April, 1865, nearly 50,000 men were to be confined behind the stout pine walls of Andersonville prison. At one time over 33,000 men were incarcerated there. More than 900 prisoners died every month during the 13 month's existence of the prison. Ninety-seven prisoners died on August 23, 1864.

With the dissolution of Andersonville prison in April, 1865, the area 300 yards north of the prison which had been used as a burial ground for deceased prisoners was likewise appropriated by the United States government. It was established as a National Cemetery on July 26, 1865. By 1868 additional interments including the remains of Union soldiers originally buried elsewhere, had increased the total burials in Andersonville to 13,699 of which 923 are unknown.

The burial trenches wherein rest the remains of so many of those who died at Andersonville Prison are located in sections E, F, H, J and K. The states of Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania have erected large and imposing monuments to honor their Civil War dead buried here.

This National Cemetery is under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Army and within its boundary for many years to come there will be space for men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States who have served their nation well in times of peace and war. (Compiled by Doris Planty)

GREAT GRANDMA'S "RECEET"

'Great Grandmother's Receet' for washing clothes many years ago was given to her daughter when she went housekeeping.

1. bild fire in back yard to het kettle of rain water.
2. set tubs so smoke won't blow in eyes if wind is peart.
3. put 1 hole cup lie sope in biling water.
4. sort things, make 3 piles. 1 pile white, 1 pile cullord. 1 pile werk briches and rags.
5. stur flour in cold water to smooth then thin down with bilin water.
6. rub dirty spots on board, scrub hard then bile rub cullord but don't bile just rench and starch.
7. take white things out of kettle with broom stick handel then rench, blew and starch.
8. spred tee towels on grass.
9. hang old rags on fence.
10. pore rench water in flower bed.
11. scrub porch with hot soapy water.
12. turn tubs upside down.
13. go put on cleen dress-smooth hair with side combs, brew cup of tee-set and rest and rock a spell and count blessins.

This receipt was found in an old scrapbook some time ago.

Submitted by F.F.E. Walrath, DeKalb Historian.

Old Mills

By CARLTON B. OLDS

At the present time when most of the power for small operations is furnished either by gasoline engines or electric motors, we might ask ourselves how our forefathers produced power to do their work. There are many indications that much of what they did was accomplished by plain manpower - back breaking labor. However ingenious Yankees were quick to grasp new ideas and turn them to their advantage.

The "treadmill" and "sweep" were used extensively, the former on farms where portability was important and the latter in operating grinding mills where water power was not available. Treadmills varied in size from the large ones operated by two or three horses or oxen to the smaller ones powered by a dog or a sheep. Some of the smaller ones are still to be found. In some situations where water power was not possible, windmills were used.

From the earliest times, New Englanders made use of waterpower and one has only to follow a creek or river to discover the remains of many long abandoned mill and dam sites. The song "Down by the Old Mill Stream" has a sentimental appeal, and the old mill symbolizes the quiet simplicity of life in the small communities of a hundred and fifty years ago. With many rivers and creeks in the eastern section of the United States, it was only natural that flowing water should be harnessed to operate water wheels. The first of these were very simple in design, differing little from those boys build today. After a period of evolution, turbine type wheels operating in a horizontal plane, came into use.

Landmarks of a century ago are fast disappearing. Old buildings like old methods, serve their day and finally give way to modern structures and methods in keeping with the demands of a rapidly changing world. At one time mills were found in most small settlements but today they have been torn down or are falling down.

Sawmills, whether the original up-and-down type or the modern circular saw, always attract attention. The whirling saw, as it eats into the log advancing steadily on its carriage, gives off a pitch and quality of tone which varies with the speed of the saw and hardness of the wood. Many sawmills are functioning in the North Country today but are generally portable and powered by gasoline or electricity.

Grist mills have all but disappeared, and it is doubtful whether a "run of stone" operated by waterpower, still functions in the northern section of New York state. The century old grist mill makes a special appeal to our imagination. Such mills usually had the appearance of permanency. Both the dam to impound the water and the building itself were often stone structures, as though built for all time, and were imposing monuments to the mason who did the building.

The operation was not entirely visible to the casual onlooker. The water wheel operated within a drum and was deep down in the bowels of the mill. The mill stones were encased in a shell which prevented an observer from seeing just how they functioned. From the time the grain entered the eye of the stone it was not again visible until the conveyors brought it back to the bagger. Since most of the operation was hidden from view the process was not well understood and bordered on the mysterious. One part of the mill whose action was always noticed and which added its music to the muffled tones of the rumbling stone, was the "damself". Beneath the hopper was the shoe, loosely hung so it would vibrate easily as the damself, a sort of trundle wheel, chattered against it to keep the grain dropping evenly into the eye of the stone.

Mill stones were from four to six feet in diameter and twelve to sixteen inches thick. Some were of native granite while others were made from French "buhr" stone. The granite stone was fashioned from one large block while

Page Thirteen

a buhr stone was built up of chunks cut to fit together and cemented. These stones were reinforced with iron bands. From time to time the stones had to be separated for "facing". Nearby was the apparatus for lifting the upper stone and tipping it on its edge. Laying out and fitting the grinding surfaces of mill stones was an art and each miller had his own theory as to how it should be done.

Each of the stones had a hole in the center. The hole through the nether or lower stone was lined with metal which served as a bearing for the perpendicular shaft. The eye of the runner or upper stone, was fitted with an iron socket or "rynd" by means of which the stone was nicely balanced on the spindle. If the stone was to remain in perfect equilibrium, it had to be carefully hung from the start. However, the experienced miller could tell by the hum of the mill whether it was functioning properly, and had ways of making adjustments.

Old time sawmills and grist mills were alike in one respect. Each was powered by a water wheel which was far enough removed so that it received little attention unless it was the early overshot or undershot variety. The screeching saw and the forward and back motion of the carriage as the log was made into lumber, was interesting to watch but unpleasant on the ear drums.

Much of the operation of the grist mill was hidden from view but the muffled rumble of the grinding stones had a soothing and not unpleasant effect.

Each trade had its own language and vocabulary, and so it was with the millwright. By the time he had mastered the terms he had gone a long way toward learning the trade. Grist mills have been out of the picture long enough so it is difficult to find men who can describe their construction and operation. A detailed description may be found only in books published over a hundred years ago. The novel "John Goffes Mill" published a few years ago, did much to stimulate interest in old mills. The author, George Woodbury, describes in detail, and with much humor, his experiences in restoring the old mill which had originally been built by his forebears in New Hampshire over 200 years ago.

Scott's Bridge

By MRS. ROWLAND BROWNELL
Fine Town Historian

The oldest hamlet in the Town of Fine is that little one called Scott's Bridge. It is located about half way between the village of Fine and Oswegatchie on old State Highway Route 3.

The first person to settle here was Charles Scott. He built a frame house on the bank of the Oswegatchie River.

Mr. Scott saw the need of a central place where people could meet and in time his home became the polling or voting place for the Town. In 1860 it was Mr. Scott's home where people walked for miles around to vote for either Abraham Lincoln or Stephen Douglas.

Until this time people had to walk or drive a horse to South Edwards (Shawville) for their mail. As a civic minded person, Mr. Scott decided that he could offer his home where people could come for their mail. It is believed that Mr. Scott was deputized to go to South Edwards once a week and bring the neighbors' mail with him as it is thought that there was no appointed postmaster at this hamlet.

There is only a cobblestone wall left, which was part of the basement, to remind us where this building once stood. Some old lilac bushes, planted no doubt, with loving care stand guard over the old remains.

About 1854 a school was built across the road and north a few rods. That school was in continuous use until the larger central school was built at Star Lake nearly a hundred years later. At the present time the old school building is used as a dwelling place.

In the early days there were no churches in town and the Scott's Bridge School was often used as a meeting place for Church Services.

OPINION

THE LITTLE GREEN TENTS

The little green tents where the soldiers sleep
And the sunbeams play and the woman weep
Are covered with flowers today.
And beneath the tents march the weary few
Who were young and stalwart in '62
When they went to the war away.

The little green tents are made of sod
And they are not long and they are not broad
But the soldiers have plenty of room.
And the sod is part of the land they saved
When the flag of the enemy darkly waved
Its symbol of dole and doom.

The little green tent is a thing divine.
The little green tent is a nation's shrine,
Where patriots kneel and pray.
And the men in blue, so old so few
Were young and stalwart in '62
When they went to the war away.

In this year of '62 all through the North Country,
let's revive the custom of the first Memorial Day by
placing a red geranium on every grave for the brave
of so long ago. Every cemetery would glow in testi-
mony that we did not forget.

Will you place one red geranium?

--Doris Planty

CANTON TOWN HALL

Continued from Page 3

years later they played all in German and in 1897 they again presented "Mostelleria", all in Latin. Henry Devalcourt Kip, a celebrated local artist, painted the scenery for the "opera house".

Actors Began Here

As a St. Lawrence student, Dr. Edson R. Miles, '00, began his career as a Shakespearean actor there. He was a student of both theological school and the college, taking a combined course. From St. Lawrence he became a professional actor and joined the Shakespearean troupe of Southern and Marlowe.

Quitting the stage he returned to Canton and as a professor of homeletics at the theological school he also directed the university and student theatricals. One of his prize pupils, whom he developed here, was Isadore Demsky--better known in Hollywood today as Kirk Douglas. Kirk won his letter as a varsity wrestler and was also president of both the Mummies and Thelomathesian Society.

Another of the stars who made their way on the stage from St. Lawrence and the old "opera house" was Harold Otis Skinner, a cousin of Cornelia Otis Skinner. His outstanding hit here was as "Hardcastle" in "She Stoops To Conquer" before he went into professional dramatics to play in "Kismet" with his uncle, the great Otis Skinner, the father of Cornelia.

Many Were Stage Struck

There were many in Canton with talent--and many more stage struck--who played on the old stage in the town hall. The Rodenbeaus came here to coach and direct local talents in church and benefit plays, such as "Fantasia", and many Gilbert and Sullivan productions were put on here.

When Dr. Richard Eddy Sykes, later president of St. Lawrence was still a student he took part in "Pinafore". Charles M. Tait, of Gouverneur, who was later to move to Canton and become County Treasurer, directed both Pinafore and Metado which starred both villagers and students.

College dramatics at the "opera house" were directed in the early 1900's by Wriley N. Beard, then head of the First National Bank, and Mrs. H. P. Forbes, mother of Mrs. Phyllis Forbes Clark, retired Canton librarian.

About the turn of the century, Canton had a great rash of minstrel shows, the "Merry Monarch Minstrels", with local performers blacked up, dancing the clog danc-

es of those days, and singing. They were very popular with villagers but one of them failed miserably--in March 1901, when the greatest snowstorm in all of Canton's history paralyzed all of the North Country and not even the actors could reach the opera house.

It was at the town hall that Dr. Sykes was installed as President of St. Lawrence University, a procession of distinguished academicians forming on the campus and marching in colorful robes down to town hall where Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia University, delivered the installation address.

Acrobatic Veteran

One of the most spectacular feats that Canton ever witnessed took place each Fourth of July when old Dave Griswold, an undaunted and patriotic veteran then in his 70's and a Canton painter, planted the Stars and Stripes on top of the clock tower at the town hall.

Grizzled and wrinkled with age but still sinewy and straight as a ramrod, he left his home in Elm street, now the home of the publisher and the editor of The Plaindealer, and each Fourth for several years marched downtown with a small American flag in his hand.

Entering the tower door at the town hall he climbed to the very top of the steeple, opened a small window and lashed his flag to the highest rod. Crowds always gathered in the street, many with eyes averted, fearing the old veteran in his seventies would fall.

Dave did fall, part ways, one time. The Town Board could find no steeplejack willing to paint the metal roof of the upper spire so Dave took the job. He put out his ropes and ladders from one of the tiny windows at the top, crawled out with his brushes and paint.

Two Fire Bells

His rigging slipped and Dave slid down the sharp side of the steeple but was able to catch himself at the edge just before he fell the hundred feet to the ground. Alas, his paint bucket overturned and spilled on the metal roof. Never one to waste anything, Dave climbed back up with his brushes, spread the spilled paint and when he had completed the job pulled himself back into the little window.

The bell tower used to sound Canton's fire alarms. In those days Canton had two fire bells--the "little bell" in the old engine house which is the present site by today's fire station and the "big bell" up in the steeple of town hall.

The "little bell" rang fast, excitedly but without much noise. The "big bell" could be heard all over town. But someone had to run to the town hall, smash the glass in front of a little case, take out the key, unlock the door and mount a few stairs, grab hand the alarm. If there was but one man, the toll was slow. When several went a hand the Big Bell really "talked".

The "big bell" proclaimed the signing of the armistice ending World War I--both armistices, in fact, including the phony armistice on November 7, 1918, and the real one four days later. Canton went wild with joy and Main Street was jammed with people hugging and kissing each other. George and Bill Duskas opened the Sugar Bowl and although they had no liquor license, they opened many bottles and the drinks were on the house which only added to the gayety.

There seems to be some uncertainty as to just when the "opera house" was condemned for public occupancy and the top floor was sealed off. To my knowledge the auditorium was used as late as 1937 because that was the year of the great milk strike and the bloody civil revolt which swept through the North Country and farmers came flocking into Canton every Saturday night for strike meetings.

The "opera house" was the principle meeting place for the strikers and it was there that the angry farmers, jeering and yelling, rejected the offer of the Sheffield Company to settle the strike.

Many celebrated political figures spoke from its stage, among them young Teddy Roosevelt in his unsuccessful gubernatorial campaign and Governor Charles Whitman when he campaigned for re-election.

First Moving Pictures

Many present-day Cantonians can remember, too, when the "opera house" was converted every Saturday

evening into the village's movie theatre with Stanley Southworth as proprietor. That was the era of the silent films but Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks were the popular favorites and early Westerns delighted Canton.

Southworth was an organizer original in his form of advertising. He used to read ads from the Canton newspapers to his theatre audiences and before his show started he used to walk down the aisle to the front of the theatre and tell the audience about the next week's picture show.

"You better keep the children home next week because it's not for them, but come yourself because it's going to be very exciting", he often said in his spiel.

The town hall auditorium was not Canton's first movie because Stan Southworth and his brother Tracy started their first theatre in the old Sherman block, down at the foot of Main Street where Kaplan's store is now located.

When that proved too small they moved up Main Street to the Donihee and Baker block where the Western Auto store is now located. That, too, proved too small for the Saturday night crush so Stanley rented the "opera house" in town hall.

EDWARDS PIONEERS

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stantial living off the fertile land, from the nearby streams, and surrounding forests. Each family was an independent unit being clothed, fed and cared for by the members of the group, mainly by the women folk. Heaps of ashes, accumulated from the burning of the excess trees, greatly added to the store of "real money", through the sale of black salts, pearl ash, or potashes to nearby Canada but this sale was abandoned, when a high tariff was levied on it. Saddles of deer meat were hauled long distances, to trade for other needed things.

Other settlers arrived from the Mohawk Valley way and made their homes about two miles west of Edwards, the hamlet to become known as Freemansburgh after the Freeman family. In 1825, Elijah and Noah Shaw took up land near the Winslow homestead and became such successful farmers and business men that the community was named "Shawville" but after many years the name became South Edwards. Other settlers made a small settlement a few miles south and called it Pond Settlement. Constant Wells was one of the first to build there.

By this time it was thought advisable to form a township-Town of Edwards-incorporating these four villages. So on April 27, 1827, a group of men met in William Martin's hotel and organized the first Town Board with these officers: Supervisor-Ora Shead, Town Clerk-John Hale, Assessors-J.C. Hale, Asa Brayton, Wm. Teall; Highway Comm.-Roswell Lillie, Arba Collister, Peleg Haile; School Comm.-J.C. Haile, Asa Phelps, Wilkes Richardson; Overseers of Poor-Guy Earl, Warren Streeter, School Inspectors-J.C. Haile, George Allan, Wm. Teall.

The vast amount of virgin timber was a challenge to those interested in the cutting and disposition of the lumber. The Woodcock brothers employed large crews of lumberjacks on logging jobs around here and at Skate Creek. Besides this they operated a sawmill-now the Lumley mill-for many years. The demand for wooden wagons, yokes, sleds and other farm implements, as well as household furniture was efficiently met by skilled craftsmen-Henry Rushton, William Grant, and Sam Padgett. The Rushton grist mill ground a fine flour called "The Oswegatchie Queen". The other mills were situated on the east bank of the river.

From 1864 to 1872, a tannery operated by Gilbert and Carr converted the raw hides into leather, which in turn were made into harnesses and shoes by the Cook men. Only a few stones mark the place where the tannery once stood.

For about five years starch, derived from potatoes, was manufactured at South Edwards, until factories nearer the markets, in Central New York were established.

As dairy herds improved, surplus milk was greater than could be consumed at home in milk, cheese, or butter, so cheese factories were run for many years in S. Edwards, Hungry Hollow, and in Edwards. Pigs flourished

on the whey. For years farmers took turns in hauling the seasoned cheeses to DeKalb or to Ogdensburg, from where they were shipped to England. A small limburger factory, on the bank of the creek on the Hale farm, added a bit of variety to the menu. In the spring nearly every farmer made his year's supply of maple sugar, soft sugar, and syrup-all of which were sometimes traded for the more coveted white sugar.

Greater city demands for milk, better prices and more convenient disposal of fluid milk marked the passing of the cheese factories--the Grant cheese factory eventually was converted into the Town Barn for road machinery. Most of the fluid milk is handled by the Queensboro Co. of New York City, which uses tank trucks instead now of the milk train of the past. A considerable amount of pasteurized milk is sold locally by the Sunnyside Dairy owned by the Randall company.

A devastating fire laid in ruins almost the entire business section and left 22 families homeless on July 4, 1894, in Edwards. Likewise in South Edwards and Talcville fire destroyed places of business and without the aid of insurance they never were rebuilt and workers were attracted to other sections. Almost before the ashes were cold, the Edwards villagers began rebuilding. The G. and O. branch of the New York Central railroad from Gouverneur helped in the recovery by bringing in workers and supplies. Little by little, we have had better fire protection and about five years ago an efficient fire company was organized, a new fire house built and an up-to-date fire apparatus purchased. Now we are part of the Mutual Aid Plan.

With the advent of the New York Central railroad in 1893, new life was brought to this busy community and up to the present this has been a popular avenue of trade even though the passenger service was discontinued.

The first station agent was S. E. Bowler, who was succeeded by Mott Meldrim, station agent for 64 years, until his retirement some years ago. But the railroad did more by providing an avenue of closer contacts with other places as well as being much quicker than Old Dobbin. For 40 years this fine public servant came to the village three times a day, carrying passengers, freight and mail to and from Gouverneur. The R.R. greatly helped the hotel business-Henry Rushton House particularly-by bringing "drummers", who came to sell their wares at the village store or rented horses from the liveryies to make trips to neighboring places. Business boomed; mail came twice a day instead of the once from Gouverneur by the stage.

At the turn of the century a new industry sprang up to provide employment for many - talc mining, in Freemansburgh or Talcville and zinc mining in Edwards and Balmat. Both mining projects provide jobs for a number of Edwards residents. In 1924, a very serious cave-in occurred at the Edwards mines, making it necessary to re-route the Trout Lake road.

Just about 35 years before the arrival of the "iron horse" prospecting had begun to take place. On the Freeman farm in Talcville were found rich deposits of talc. With the help of skilled miners from Rossie and other mining areas, Alfred Freeman sank shafts, hauled out the ore--by man and donkey power--and ran a furnace until a fire curtailed all of his operations. The first load of talc left Talcville June 8, 1893. Companies were formed and work was resumed, with more modern methods. The railroad carried the ore to Hailesboro, where, today, it is crushed into powder form and shipped away to be used in the making of paint, ceramics, paper and many other products.

Further mining operations were begun outside the village of Edwards by the Northern Ore company, about 1900, for the mining and milling of zinc ore. Many laborers were imported to work in the mines and the Northern Inn was built nearby to house some of these men. The company suffered losses through fire and poor markets, and eventually the St. Joseph Lead company became the owner. Machines replaced manpower, and consequently the foreign

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laborer had to look elsewhere for jobs and the hotel was razed. Other deposits of zinc were discovered at Balmat 10 miles away and today, most of the mining is done there.

For many years, the zinc concentrates were carted to the railroad by teams, but now it comes across the river in an overhead car to the filter plant where it is loaded onto specially built railroad cars to be shipped away and converted into metal, for galvanizing, batteries, brass, etc. With the appearance of the topless, windshieldless auto in 1900, a whole new pattern of travel was made and the passenger service on the railroad was destined to be concluded in 1930. It is said Urb Webb had the first auto in the village, 1906—a one cylinder Cadillac. The high-wheeled bicycle as well as the horse and buggy were discarded for the speedier vehicle. The doctors—Taylor, Murray, Goodnough, and Drury were especially assisted in attending their patients, scattered over a large area. Muddy and stony roads made way for the modern cement and macadam roads of 1924. The fascinating blacksmith shops were replaced by the filling stations and garages. For quite awhile gasoline was shipped in five gallon, then 500 gallon barrels, for the few consumers. The widened roads in the village pushed back the wooden sidewalks for the present cement ones. By this time the streets were well lighted for in 1910, Urban Webb and sons—Harry and Grant—were generating electricity in the little power house on the west side of the old grist mill on the island. The first indoor lights amazed the public when they illuminated the Cy. Watson store, where the United Bank now stands. It wasn't long until the smelly kerosene lamps backed out for electricity. The Niagara-Mohawk Power corporation purchased the Webb franchise in 1952.

Way back in 1885, the news of Cleveland's election was sent from Gouverneur via telegraph. Twenty-five years later a telephone line was established, switch board installed and run by Charles Brown in his apartment over the present Pearl's Store. Later Ed. Sheffner went into partnership with Mr. Brown and other lines were laid out. When Don Todd purchased the Telephone Co., in 1922, many more lines were hung and out-of-town hookups were installed. The switchboard was moved into a house where the dial office is presently located. When the dial system was installed, the offices were removed to the Campbell building. Dr. Campbell practiced dentistry in Edwards for over 55 years. A few years Dr. Merkeley also served as dentist in Edwards, about 1906. From 1907 to 1951, Dr. Charles Adams practiced medicine, first in the Robert Clark home, then later in the Rushton home, now occupied by Dr. Dodds, who became Dr. Adams' successor.

At first religious services were held in homes or school houses, but today we have the Methodist church (1880), Catholic (1920), and Assembly of God (1955). A Union (1850) church was established in 1850, used by the Universalists, but the pulpit has been unoccupied for several years.

The one-room log school across from Dr. Alexander Dodds was replaced by the two-room, now six-room frame school on the Assembly of God property. The Centralized school came into existence in 1948, including the elementary, high school, cafeteria, guidance, art, shop, music room, clinic and gymnasium, with twenty-eight teachers. In 1919, the A. Barton Hepburn library was presented to the village of Edwards.

Almost from the very beginning, the Edwards people were concerned about the education of their youth. Legend tells us that in 1814 Orra Shead taught in the one-room log school on or near the island. A larger stone school was built where the V.F.W. building stands, 1840. To meet the needs of the growing pupil population, twelve schools were constructed in the town from 1840 to 1880.

A fine frame school was built on the Royce Bullock property and in 1887 an addition was made, to make it a two-room school. A similar building was erected at South Edwards and Talcville and in 1897, the latter school was partitioned for two rooms.

Very soon the Edwards school was not adequate, and a

three room building was constructed on what is now the Assembly of God property—costing \$2,429. Clyde Nesbeth was the first principal.

The Union Free School District was organized July 29, 1898. By this time there were students ready for high school and about 1910, a second story was added to the structure. In 1914, there were three graduates—Vivian Beach, Mildred Chapin, Gretchen Todd, with Guy Hall as the professor.

To meet the demands for an extra-curricula and an enriched program a 12-room brick school was erected on the Noble property in 1936. In 1948 the schools became centralized and most of the "country" schools were closed and even sold, Talcville alone remaining open. Once again, 1952, more room was needed and a new wing was added to take care of the elementary groups. The staff now consists of 33 teachers, five cafeteria helpers, three bus drivers and two custodians. On Jan. 16, 1962, the American Field Service Chapter—a foreign exchange student plan—was organized. A. Barton Hepburn, a one time district school superintendent gave the fine library to the Town in 1919, which is now affiliated with the State Regional Libraries.

For many years the villagers found pleasure in spelling "bees" and singing classes held in the little schoolhouses. More and more interest in music was shown and the Edwards Citizen's Band was formed. A bandstand was built in the heart of the Village, where public concerts were held. When the Town Hall was built in 1895, many out-of-town shows as well as home talent were given. Graduation exercises were also held in the Town Hall.

With the arrival of the very first settlers came religious fervor. In 1819 there was no established church, so a circuit rider, Rev. Elijah Morgan made his rounds from Russell, holding meetings in homes, barns and schoolhouses. The first class meetings were organized in the Creek (Barraford) school, with five members, under Rev. Ezra Healey. Other active class meetings were held in Belleville and Trout Lake schools. When the minister's salary was mentioned in the records, it was between \$300 and \$400 annually and "donations" for the minister were frequent. Elder Isaac Bannister organized a Methodist society, with four members in South Edwards in 1827.

On land given by the Parmalee family, an edifice was built and used by the Good Templars. Rev. S. Schwartz and Elder Isaac Bannister were two of the first ministers there. At first this congregation was an independent group but now it is a part of the Edwards charge. There was a need to unite the groups and have a church home, so in 1850 a frame church was built near the location of the Fire House. Then in 1880 the so-called Union Church was enlarged. For a long time ministers came from away to preach to the Baptists, Congregationalists, Presbyterians, Methodists and Universalists. A Rev. Lee was a very frequent preacher for the latter group.

A desire to have their own church spurred the Methodists to build their own building Dec. 16, 1885, a bit farther east on Main street. Rev. L. M. Smith was their first minister in the new church. The following year, the present Union Church was built, the marble coming from Gouverneur. A bell weighing 1,046 lbs. was hung in the belfry, and 200 "store chairs" costing \$250 were installed. During the last few years the membership in the Universalist Society declined and the Union Church was closed. It is rumored that the Firemen are planning to use the building. In 1931, the Methodist was moved nearer to the street and a basement was put under the building, while Rev. Lewry was the pastor.

Because the miners of Talcville were predominately Catholic, the St. Edwards Mission was built in 1894, served by Fr. Laramie and dedicated by Bishop Gabriels. During the next 20 years masses were read by priests from Fine and Harrisville. Upon the appointment of Rev. Thomas Owen, the first resident pastor, 1920, Talcville became attached to the Edwards mission. Mass was said in the Town Hall and in private homes until Fr. Francis Maguire directed the building of the present Sacred Heart church

GALLANT SOLDIER

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travelled to Ogden Island, near Waddington, on the steamer Algona, the round trip fare being fifty cents. The Grand Army of the Republic, for all the years of its existence, was a benefit and joy to the veteran and his family and a great power in politics.

Each summer a G.A.R. encampment was held at Terrace Park, and veterans came from great distances to these reunions, which lasted three days to a week. The local post would march from their lodge rooms, led by the Morrystown Band, to Terrace Park. There were speeches, songs and serious business. The large hotel at Terrace Park and others in the village accommodated the visitors, who sometimes included a boat trip from the local dock in their stay here. These reunions continued until after 1900 when most of the old soldiers had passed on.

The last member was Augustus Cooper--90 when he died--a well-known resident of Cedars, Black Lake. He was born February 6, 1846 on the farm where he died. He had lived there continuously except for the year 1864 when he enlisted in the Union Army and fought in battles of Cedar Creek, Petersburg, Sailors Run and Appomattox, returning to Black Lake after receiving his discharge. Mr. Cooper's father and grandfather were also soldiers: His father, Michael Cooper, served with General Scott from 1818-1823; his grandfather, Augustine Cooper, was enrolled as a French soldier and came across with Lafayette during the American Revolution.

The Women's Relief Corps (W.R.C.) was formed in Morrystown in 1909 by relatives of Grand Army members. Lelia Gilday was its president for many years. They held regular meetings, visited families of sick soldiers, visited the school where patriotism was taught, observed the birthdays of old veterans, decorated the graves of G.A.R. members on Decoration Day and held services from their ritual. They staged various social events to raise money for the Relief Corps Home at Oxford, New York. Quilts, books and canned goods were shipped there as well.

This organization continued to hold meetings in Morrystown until 1932. There was also a St. Lawrence County Relief Corps and eleven towns in the county had Relief Corps organizations. County meetings were held in different places as invited, delegates traveling thence largely by train. Morrystown would usually entertain the county meeting in September, with a morning meeting and lunch, an afternoon session closing early enough so that those who wished could take a ride on the ferry across the St. Lawrence river to Brockville, Canada. On returning a supper was served in the hall, many leaving on the evening train.

Through these years many friends were made and kindnesses were shown to our old soldiers who fought for our country. How better to achieve all of this than by cherishing tenderly the memory of our heroic dead who made their breasts a barricade between our country and its foes? Let no wanton foot tread rudely on such hallowed ground as the graves of our Civil War heroes. Let us raise above them the dear old flag they saved from dishonor.

There is a Civil War observance, the Centennial of the Civil War, for all to remember so much.

There are now the memories of Alfred I. Hooker who was a part of it all, and the soldiers, sailors and marines who united to suppress the late rebellion.

Let no vandalism, or ravages of time testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten the cost of a free and undivided Republic.

CIGAR MAKING

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tobacco locally. On his farm on the Heuvelton road, now occupied by B.J. Leamy, he experimented with various seeds from Cuba. He was the first in this area to install drainage tile. He found that seeds that produced plants bearing 10 to 12 inch tender leaves in the semi-tropical air of Cuba produced tall, long, wide, bitter-tasting leaves in St. Lawrence county. As a result, he made an-

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nual trips to Havana to personally select the tobaccos that went into his "LaRosa" cigars. It has been said that his pet "LaRosa" cigar cost Hannan more to manufacture than he got for it in price.

About the time of World War I, machine made cigars began to come onto the market--especially in the cheaper grades. Bunching machines were purchased from the Colwell Cigar Machine Corporation of Providence, Rhode Island. Robert Landry and Mr. Mullin went to Providence and purchased one each. Mr. Colwell came to Ogdensburg and trained operators, staying here a week. Machines could bunch 3,000 cigars a day, using 20 bunches to a mould. They could be and were operated by girls with little or no training. At one time, Mr. Hannan had 22 girls making cigars. They didn't know whether to wind the wrapper right or left hand, and in many cases didn't care.

Young men were reluctant to spend long years learning the tobacco business when machine made cigars were as acceptable to the average buyer as an expertly rolled, handmade one. Cigarettes increased in popularity and eventually local cigar factories disappeared one by one. Hannan Bros. with its sixteen high grade cigar rollers was eventually taken over by Frank McLean who learned his trade there. McLean made "LaRosa" and his own special "Black Diamond" cigar for years until his death a few years ago.

The wooden figure of "Punch" which once stood in front of Hannan's store was recently discovered by Arthur O'Neil--who had it repaired and repainted at considerably greater cost than the customary \$4 Edward Ruoff, a sign painter located at 17 1/2 South Water Street, used to get until Mr. Hannan had apprentice Joe Mastine paint it. Joe was so proud of his work that he added a gold tooth, making it the only Cigar Store Indian with a gold tooth.

When the Landry cigar business dwindled, an employee, Charles Mulcahy, bought the moulds, buncher and stock of tobacco and still continues to manufacture the "Knob" cigar to the delight of the many smokers who prefer this to any other cigar on the market. His shop is located on Water Street across from Hackett's hardware.

Times change for the better or worse. Wonder what ever became of the sage who said: "A woman's a woman, but a good cigar is an excellent smoke".

EDWARDS PIONEERS

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which was dedicated and blessed by Bishop Conroy of Ogdensburg in September 1928.

Through the years the citizens of Edwards--both young and old--have contributed honorably and faithfully in local and faraway interests in the professional and business world. Many of our youth answered Uncle Sam's call--and some gave the "supreme Sacrifice". Others worked diligently selling and buying War bonds, assisting in the Red Cross and other drives. For several years, the late Ira Miles served as State Assemblyman from Edwards. His home is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Glen Poole.

Societies were organized, such as--Masons, 1861; Eastern Stars, IOOF, Rebekahs, and the Grange. Years ago, some found pleasure in horse racing and ice skating on nearby Trout Lake, foot races, steamboating on the river or the lake. Fine pleasure has been provided by an excellent bowling alley and lately roller skating, in the hotel, has been enjoyed. The Lion's Club, formed in 1961, has provided a great deal of fun by maintaining an ice skating rink for the young at heart. For a long time money was a scarce article and was hidden in the barn or home. The First National Bank was built in the Town Hall June 1914, later moved across the street and more recently reorganized as the United Bank of Star Lake, Edwards, and Harrisville.

Perhaps the most important addition to Edwards was the 300 ft. well in 1961. This provides an adequate supply of drinking water for the villagers--in place of the questional river water.

Cracker Barrel

(Including the names of all Town and Village Historians together with a continuing report of their activities) BRASHER: (Mrs. John Gray) is to be welcomed as a new historian, and we will be looking forward to news of her activities in the July issue. CANTON: (Edward Heim) reports that 'the fire of February 2, 1962 destroyed the Old Town Hall and all of the Historian's Records, covering more than one hundred years of Canton history. Most of this material cannot be replaced. However, we are, with the help of many interested people and organizations in the community, gathering items of Historical value, some of which we might not have inherited for many years. One item of help which has caused much favorable feeling in the community is, that from the girls of the ATI Sorority, Alpha Chi Omicron, who have taken on the project of clipping newspapers for the Historian. They have nearly finished the 1960 papers, in their spare time, and are ready to start on another group. Mr. Ralph Heinzen, editor of Canton's St. Lawrence Plaindealer, has permitted the Historian to sort out and take for clipping copies of all papers on file, and we are grateful for this. Maps on file at the County Clerk's Office are being copied, and many reports on file with Mrs. Nina Smithers, County Historian, will also be copied. The State Historian, Dr. Albert Corey, is also cooperating fully with the Historian in making copies of pertinent material available to him. We are grateful for all of the help given, and when we have a new Town Hall, our records will be better protected'. RENNELLAER FALLS: (Mrs. Nina Wilson) is listing and tracing ownership of buildings standing and gone, and where the former owners are now. CLARE: (Mrs. Leslie Colton) CLIFTON: Mrs. Clara McKenney of Cranberry Lake has been appointed historian beginning in January. A hearty welcome to Mrs. McKenney, and we are looking forward to her first report of her activities in the July issue. COLTON: (Mrs. Lorena Reed). DEKALB: (FFE Walrath) is compiling records on railroads of St. Lawrence County of the New York Central lines and is also searching for records of the early days of DeKalb Junction. DEPEYSTER: (Mrs. Emery Smithers) has been engaged in getting history of three school districts who will hold a joint reunion of teachers and pupils on June 16 at DePeyster. They are East Road, Flat Rock and McNaughton districts. The historian also helped students of Heuvelton Central school with local history. EDWARDS: (Miss Leah Noble) has completed Civil War Veterans' records 150 plus and has nearly finished mounting and filing pictures for use of the school at the village. FINE: (Mrs. Rowland Brownell) I am working on my article "Life in the Town of Fine in 1862". I have answered several letters concerning people who used to live here. FOWLER: (Mrs. Robert Yerdon). GOUVERNEUR: Harold Storie is continuing his work on the Civil War which is a project for Town Historians at this time. GOUVERNEUR VILLAGE: (Julius Bartlett) has just finished work on the Gouverneur streets. This work concerns as far as possible the origin of the names of the streets and some side notes of interest. HAMMOND: (Mrs. Edward Biondi) attended the Association of Towns meeting in Buffalo, with instruction in taping interviews, preserving historic sites, making pictorial maps, etc. She wrote a paper in response to request from Scottish student on the influence of the Scotch in our town. From several interviews got tips on some possible historic sites, was asked to write history of Dark Island and other islands in the St. Lawrence River in the Town of Hammond. She had several articles published, was asked for a copy of my North Country cookbook for Library at Potsdam State Teachers College. The exhibit in the Historian's Center is of Christmas (tree, fireplace, cards, gifts, etc.) of 1874. HERMON: (Mrs. Rebecca Brunet) has been searching for material on the Civil War in Hermon, but as yet has not found anything very worthwhile. We hope soon to read her story on Marshville. HOPKINTON (Mrs. Vaughn Day) is searching old newspapers for items for town scrapbook. LAWRENCE: (Mrs. Gordon Cole) is keeping up the scrapbook and

doing routine work. LISBON: (Lee Martin) enjoyed the recent Annual Meeting of the Association of Towns in Buffalo. Together with our County Historian and others I particularly enjoyed the visit to the Buffalo Museum of History where we saw a perfectly wonderful clock which took twenty years to build, and when it strikes, shows the twelve Apostles coming out from one side, saluting Christ in the middle, then entering a door in the opposite side. LOUISVILLE: (Mrs. Lorraine Bandy) has done mostly map and geneology work this winter. She has helped several students with local history and had many requests for the "Town Calendar" from Utah, Kentucky and other states. MACOMB: (Willis Kittle). MADRID: (Mrs. Arthur Thompson) reports the state road completed from Madrid to Waddington, new Democratic town clerk elected, old, unsafe dry bridge replaced with grade crossing on Madrid-Canton road. Kitchen in Library Hall has been redecorated, generally fixed up; presently working on a history of Scotch Church of Chipman. MASSENA: (Anthony J. Romeo) continuing our work to educate folks and interest them in the history of our section. We are completing work on the Newton House at this time and will have a display before long. MORRISTOWN: (Mrs. Doris Planty) is making extra copies of Cemetery records for County Historian to be placed in Co. History Center, and is working on programs for the coming summer. NORFOLK: (Mrs. Ralph Wing) is still working on Civil War Veterans, added more family histories of earliest settlers to the list previously prepared and is arranging record book for reference for future historians-the various historical activities for each year, also the doings of the County Association. OSWEGATCHIE: (Mrs. Orma Smithers) has written an article entitled "Agricultural Vitality". HEUVELTON VILLAGE: (Mrs. Ida Downing) PARISHVILLE: (Miss Doris Rowland) For some years no one has been able to open a large safe belonging to the town. Recently a way was found. Some rare historical material was discovered. I copied a complete list of all the men who went from here to the Civil War, and am now mailing typed copies for interested persons. A milestone in my career was the arrival of my Certificate as Town Historian from the Office of the State Historian. PIERCEFIELD: (Mrs. Beulah Dorothy). PIERREPONT: (Frank E. Olmstead) is keeping up the scrapbook of current town events. PITCAIRN: has no historian. POTSDAM: (Dr. Charles Lahey) is developing a series of articles, twenty five or more, on Potsdam plus the North Country which will run in local newspapers-no starting date has been set. ROSSIE: (Mrs. Virgie Simons) is doing research on extinct Lodge 500 (Masonic) in Scotch Settlement. Also looked up material on the Scots who settled in Rossie 1818, for a St. Lawrence University student. RUSSELL: (Mrs. Jeanette Barnes) STOCKHOLM: (Lindon E. Riggs) We are saddened to record the death of two Stockholm residents, Mrs. Charles (Westurn) Young, the wife of a former assessor and William Fisher, a veteran of World War II. WADDINGTON: (Mrs. Ethel Olds) In an early Sunday fire, Feb. 25, Waddington lost its new town garage. Built in 1960, the building of steel and concrete was 140 ft. by 54. Probably the fire originated in the Walters snow fighter truck which had been in use steadily for hours to clear away a heavy snowfall. Mrs. Olds is checking old Plaindealers for items of Waddington.

Yorker Cracker Barrel

CANTON: Foote's Followers three groups of 7th and 8th graders continue with their projects and hoped to send delegates to the Adirondack District Jamboree on March 10 in Gouverneur. From sponsor Mrs. Carl Ayers--Due to illness, assemblies and rallies we have accomplished very little the past six weeks. All the activities seemed to have come the 7th period on Friday when we are supposed to have our meetings. We did make a study of the history of the Town Hall at the time of the fire and answered a letter from a member of another Yorker Club. We do hope we can finish our history of the village in the near future and answer another letter which requested so much information that it has taken quite a long time to compile. Sponsor Mrs. Mary Doucet writes that several members are doing a "Family Tree". Other students are gathering

information concerning histories of their churches. GOUVERNEUR: Marble City Chapter was host to the Adirondack District Jamboree March 10, according to Sponsor, Mrs. Georgianna Wranish. A large turnout came to hear Milo V. Stewart, Associate in Education of the New York State Historical Association and Miss Blanche Hodgkin from Gouverneur. A tour of historical places was made which included Oxbow, Pulpit Rock and Gouverneur Morris Mansion. LISBON: The Yorkers from Lisbon attended the Adirondack Jamboree at Gouverneur. Janice Higgins and Calvin Tyler were chosen outstanding Yorkers in the eighth grade chapter.--Rachel Dandy, Sponsor. MADRID-WASHINGTON: sent in no report from the Grasse River Chapter. MASSENA: The Andre Massena Chapter had a candy sale in March and had a very successful "Roaring Twenties" dance with live music and earned \$75 with the latter. Projects are continuing.--Miss Barbara Calipari, Sponsor. POTSDAM: Welcome to the new Benjamin Raymond Yorker Club with Mrs. Eleanor McGill, a new member of the St. Lawrence County Historical Association, as sponsor. On January 9 the Benjamin Raymond Yorker Club accompanied by Mrs. McGill and cadet teacher, Mr. Dunn visited the Potsdam Museum. Mrs. McGill is the teacher of the 7th grade (Junior High) in Potsdam Central school on Leroy Street.--Mrs. Marguerite Gurley Chapman.

POTSDAM PUBLIC MUSEUM

The P.P. Museum held its annual meeting January 8. Mrs. Keller, the curator, showed the acquisitions made to the Museum during 1961 and also stressed the Civil War Exhibit which is still on display at the Museum. Miss Nell Brumelle and Miss Anna Fairbairn were elected trustees for two years to succeed themselves. Mrs. W.J. Chapman continues as president; Mrs. Rufus L. Sisson is secretary-treasurer, and Mrs. Helen Keller, Curator. On Tuesday, January 9, the newly formed Benjamin Raymond Yorker Club accompanied by its sponsor, Mrs. Eleanor McGill and cadet teacher, Mr. Dunn, visited the Museum.--Mrs. William Chapman.

LOCAL HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

CANTON: The Grasse River Historical Association has Dr. Edward Blankman as its president with Phillip McMasters, vice president and Dr. Rutherford Delmage, secretary-treasurer. Serving on the executive committee with these officers are Atwood Manley, Edward Heim, Andrew Peters and Frank Crary. In February Frank Crary's talk on Early Charcoal Industry was put on tape; the double feature included Junior Members and their Hobbies with James Blankman speaking on and showing Civil War objects; Peter Menard-stamps and Pakistan; David Shannon-Saudi Arabia Flags and Stamps; Paul Patterson-Baseball Players and Hockey Teams and their autographs; Billy Romer-Model Soldiers, Scottish and German and German Currency of the Inflationary Period; Andy Brackett showed stamps of France, etc. Young guests were Eddie Gauthier and Russell Lawrence. EDWARDS: Miss Leah Noble is mounting and filing pictures in the library. GOUVERNEUR had a display commemorating American History month. This was sponsored by the D.A.R. NORWOOD sent no report. PARISHVILLE sent no report.

COUNTY CEMETERIES

Readers of the January issue of the Quarterly may have read the census of the Silas Wright cemetery in Canton.

Since 1950, historians of St. Lawrence county, under the leadership of the county historian, have been collecting such data in the several towns of the area. It is a "Monumental" task in many ways and it is not yet complete.

For the benefit of readers of the Quarterly a listing of these completed cemetery records follows:

BRASHER-A listing of known burials on Dr. Newton farm.
CANTON-Jerusalem Cemetery; Norton Cemetery;

Bridges; Silas Wright and St. Mary s. All with maps.
Cemetery at Rensselaer Falls with map.
CLIFTON-St. Hubert's, Benson Mines.
DEPEYSTER-East Road, Purmont with maps; Humphrey Cemetery on Old State road.
DEKALB-Risley, Old DeKalb, Osborneville, East DeKalb, Kendrew, Maple Grove and the abandoned cemetery at Old DeKalb.
EDWARDS-Pinney, Gates, Winslow, S. Edwards, Payne, Riverview, Fairview.
FINE-St. Michael's, Woodland.
FOWLER-Rice, Hailesboro, Fowler, West Fowler, Gulf, Fullerville.
GOUVERNEUR-North Gouverneur, Little Bow.
HAMMOND-Fine View, Oak Point, Old Hammond, Sigourney, Rarick.
HERMON-Two Hermon Village, Thomas Bean, Marshville and Porter Hill.
HOPKINTON-Castle, Catholic Cemetery on Ozonia road, Fort Jackson.
LAWRENCE-Maple Grove, St. Lawrence Cemetery, Mound Hill, Hillcrest, Lawrence Center.
LOUISVILLE-Louisville village, St. Lawrence, Bradford, Bradford, Louisville Landing, Geo. Lawrence.
MACOMB-Pine Hill, Woodworth, Oldsville, Pleasant Lake, abandoned cemetery at Pope Mills, Pierces Corners, Stark.
MADRID-Dixon, Doren.
MASSENA-Sec. Cong. church cemetery, Barnhart Island.
MORRISTOWN-Greenwood.
NORFOLK-Raymondville, Baxter, Hale, Kyle, High St., Bixby, Catholic cemetery, Pine Grove.
OSWEGATCHIE-Davies, Northroups Corners, Sand road, Mt. Alone.
PARISHVILLE-Chapel Hill, Parishville Center, Hillcrest.
PIERREPONT-Cooks Corners, Martin's Ridge or White Church, Pierrepont Hill, Riverside at Hanawa Falls.
PIERCEFIELD-Gale Cemetery.
POTSDAM-Union Cemetery.
ROSSIE-Riverside, Wegatchie.
RUSSELL-Village Cemetery, Palmerville, S. Russell, N. Russell.
STOCKHOLM-Southville, East Part, Ellis, Holmes Hill, Willis, Brookdale, Jenkins, Buckton, Winthrop, West Stockholm, Sanfordville.
WASHINGTON-Scotch, Catholic, Chamberlain's Corners.
It is expected that work will be continued in the summer of 1962.

Frederick Remington In the Land of His Youth

It started out, the author recalls, as copy for a four-page pamphlet to serve as a thumbnail sketch of Frederic Remington for Canton's Centennial Observance last fall.

It became a sizable and intensely interesting booklet, because as Author G. Atwood Manley began his search for facts, he ran onto information about the famous artist which no one had taken the time or trouble to dig out before.

This is what some of the reviewers have had to say about this new work:

"An absorbing historical booklet."-----Ogdensburg Journal.

"Mr. Manley has unearthed much new information about the artist in northern New York, the kind of information that is not only valuable locally, but should be a part of the national record."---Watertown Daily Times.

"History, like politics, begins at the grass roots. National reputation grows out of local reputation. In the biography of a man who attains national eminence, the local is important. This is what lies behind the booklet published by Atwood Manley, FREDERIC REMINGTON, IN THE LAND OF HIS YOUTH."---From a review by Edward J. Blankman, Associate Professor of English, St. Lawrence University.

Copies are available at \$2 each from Mr. Manley at Canton, N. Y.

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

Compute Social Security benefits you can expect on retirement. This information is available without charge, by writing the Social Security Administration, Baltimore 35, Maryland. Give your name and Social Security number as it appears on your card, your address and date of birth.

The chart below gives examples of monthly payments under changes in the law effective August 1, 1961. A husband and wife will seldom receive more than \$2.50 each a day.

EXAMPLES OF MONTHLY PAYMENTS BEGINNING AUGUST 1961

Average yearly earnings after 1950

| | \$800 or less | \$1800 | \$3000 | \$4200 | \$4800 |
|---|------------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Retirement at 62 | \$32.00 | \$58.40 | \$76.00 | \$92.80 | \$101.60 |
| Retirement at 63 | 34.70 | 63.30 | 82.40 | 100.60 | 110.10 |
| Retirement at 64 | 37.40 | 68.20 | 88.70 | 108.30 | 118.60 |
| Retirement at 65 | 40.00 | 73.00 | 95.00 | 116.00 | 127.00 |
| Wife's benefit at 62 | 15.00 | 27.40 | 35.70 | 43.50 | 47.70 |
| Wife's benefit at 63 | 16.70 | 30.50 | 39.80 | 48.40 | 53.00 |
| Wife's benefit at 64 | 18.40 | 33.50 | 43.60 | 53.20 | 58.30 |
| Wife's benefit at 65 or with child in her care, or child of living worker | 20.00 | 36.50 | 47.50 | 58.00 | 63.50 |
| Maximum for one family | 60.00 | 120.00 | 202.40 | 254.00 | 254.00 |

For travel, sickness and emergencies, an occasional new car, household furnishings, gift-giving and other things that make life more comfortable OPEN A SAVINGS ACCOUNT and receive 3 1/2% interest on your deposits. Be sure that your savings will be large enough before retirement, we solicit your savings account today at

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