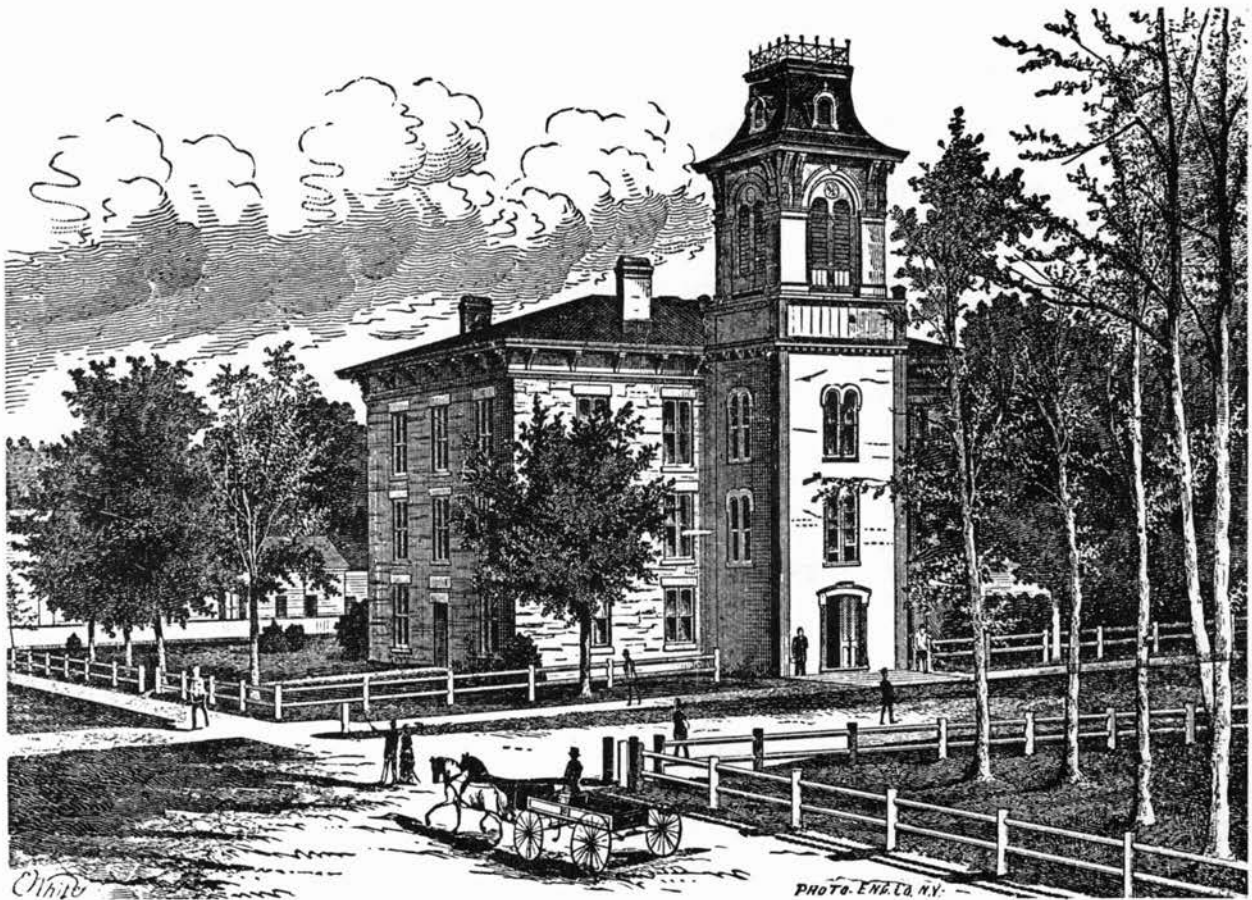


THE QUARTERLY

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



GOUVERNEUR WESLEYAN SEMINARY

1890-91

WINTER ISSUE

THE QUARTERLY

Official Publication Of The St. Lawrence County Historical Association
CONTENTS

VOL. XXII

WINTER

NO. 1

Neil and Joanna Gilbride	3	Daniel Whipple Church
Robert B. Shaw	7	The Man Who Won His Mistress at Cards
Reprint from an early Gouverneur Newspaper	10	The Last Commencement
Submitted by Elizabeth Baxter	15	Ogdensburg's Heritage
Paul F. Jamieson	19	Rushton, Charles Marsh and the Last Moose
	21	Country Cuisine of the North Country
	22	Poetry with Feeling
	23	President's Message et al



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Editor..... Elsie H. Tyler

COVER

GOUVERNEUR WESLEYAN SEMINARY

1890-91

Daniel Whipple Church

Pioneer Builder of St. Lawrence County

By Neil and Joanna Gilbride

In the spring of 1801, a young man of modest stature, wiry build and alert gaze first set foot in the virtually trackless wilderness that was then northern New York, and immediately liked what he saw.

"I am very much pleased with this country," 28-year-old Daniel Whipple Church wrote from the newly founded village of Canton to the wife he had temporarily left behind with their three small children in Middlebury, Vt.

To the young Vermonter, born and bred near the Green Mountains and accustomed to the rocky hills and dark hollows of New England, the open rolling land bordering the St. Lawrence River in upper New York State was a revelation.

"They raise the finest wheat and corn here. The land is soft and easy to work and there is no mountain to be seen. You see the sun when it rises and sets and the water is good and soft and I see nothing to hinder it being a fine country but at present it is a wilderness," he wrote.

But Daniel Church was no farmer, and though he toyed briefly with the notion of buying land and settling down to eventually become a wealthy landowner, he soon forgot it and set about his true task.

For Daniel Church was a master stonemason and millwright with a substantial reputation in New England and he had come to this budding frontier to build.

And, with his younger brother, Ezra, who soon followed him, build he did! First, for pioneer Stillman Foote, then, for wealthy financier and developer David Parish and, later, for many others.

Before the brothers Church died more than half a century later, they erected a remarkable number of solidly built mills, mansions, houses, churches, bridges and dams — many of them in native limestone — throughout St. Lawrence and northern Jefferson Counties.

Most of the stone bridges, primarily built by brother Ezra, have long since been replaced by modern contraptions of steel and concrete. Gone, too, are the numerous mills the two brothers built, and which formed the base for the frontier economy — sawmills to cut the lumber, grist mills to grind the grain, carding mills to comb the wool — victims of modern progress, although a few imposing ruins can still be seen.

But many of the magnificent mansions and substantial homes, documented as their work or bearing the unmistakable imprint of the prolific Church brothers, still remain, still in use, and still beautiful 160 and more years after they were constructed.

There is the brick mansion in Ogdensburg built in 1811 by Daniel Church for David Parish, which now houses the Frederick Remington Memorial art museum with the single largest collection of Remington works.

There is the majestic, columned neo - classic mansion built for the Comte James LeRay de Chaumont, French nobleman who was persuaded by his American friends Benjamin Franklin and Gouverneur Morris to settle there, and the smaller but handsomely elegant dressed - limestone manse of his son, Vincent LeRay, overlooking the mouth of the St. Lawrence River where it meets Lake Ontario. Experts believe both could be the stone work of Daniel and Ezra Church and indeed their chief patron, David Parish, was on excellent terms with the LeRays and it is most logical that he would have recommended the two skilled brothers to his French friends. The LeRay Mansion at LeRaysville is now embraced by Fort Drum Army reservation and serves as an officers' club. The Vincent LeRay House at Cape Vincent is still a private home which recently exchanged hands for a price of \$200,000.

There is the more modestly scaled but equally well proportioned rough-cast limestone house in Antwerp built by Ezra Church in 1816 (with the date carved in a stone windowsill) and clearly bearing the hallmarks the Church brothers learned from the imported European architect of



In 1818 Church went to Morristown to survey the area into lots at the request of Col. Nathan Ford. Among the houses believed to have been built by Church is the John Hooker House built for one of Parish's Great Lakes ship captains.

their wealthy patrons, and which they neatly combined with their earlier skills from New England.

Daniel and Ezra Church were innovative, adaptable and highly talented in stone and brick masonry, interior and exterior carpentry, "fitting up" the furniture for the mansions, and other skills, as well as men of great probity in their dealings, which was recognized and appreciated by their patrons who included many prominent men of New England and New York, including Stephen Van Rensselaer.

"He is a very honest man," David Parish said of Daniel Church in a letter instructing his overseer, Joseph Rosseel, to hire Church in 1808. Parish, who had just purchased several hundred thousand acres of land in Northern New York and was eager to see its development, put Church to work building his mansion and a number of other houses and stores in Ogdensburg with a crew of 40 men under him.

Daniel Church, who learned his trade at the age of 19 from a New England millwright named "Mr. White" and then taught it to his brother, Ezra, had early shown an ability to master new techniques and this talent was to flower as he worked with and learned from the European architects.

But not all his contemporaries were as adaptable. Church tells of the skepticism of one of his workmen and his employer on an early job of building a sawmill and gristmill in Temple, N.H., for a "Mr. Searl."

"Mr. Stickney and Esquire Francis Craggin worked with me, they were old fashioned workmen, besides my brother Ezra, a boy of 14 . . . Mr. Stickney never would agree that the square rule of framing was as good as the old way. . . Mr. Searl was an austear man but on the whole very good. However, when the sawmill was



In 1810 Daniel W. Church went to Rossie to build a saw mill for Parish. Today the runins of Church's work can still be seen rising some four stories above the water.



ANTWERP – Ezra Church house

While Daniel W. Church chose to settle in Morristown (1818), his brother Ezra preferred Antwerp where he had built several mills for Parish and a store. In 1816, he built this stone house overlooking the Indian River. The property consisted of a 32-acre parcel that was deeded to him from David Parish in 1814.

nearly ready to go he came in and saw the pitman as I was putting (it) in, declared at once that it could never go and the expence he had been at would be a total loss. I made no answer, only 'we shall see' — however I finished the work and many years after he told me he had never done Sixpence of repairing and everything seemed just as I left it."

An even stronger testimonial to Daniel Church's skill are the shells of the old mills at Rossie, built before the War of 1812. Although long in disuse and wooden roofs, floors and sills long since rotted away or scavenged for firewood, the limestone masonry of one building is virtually intact after 165 years.

The Church brothers were to learn much more working under the direction of Joseph - Jacques Ramee, the French architect brought from Europe to design David Parish's Ogdensburg mansion and other buildings.

Among these European hallmarks are the "stringer" construction that requires no supporting upright posts between cellar and first floor, Germanic townhouse floor plans, Bavarian tile stoves for heating and shallow fireplaces for better heat reflection.

A fireplace in the Antwerp house built by Ezra Church has a mouth $4\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide and is 17 inches deep at the bottom, 11 inches deep at the top. It still adequately heats a 16 by 18 foot room when outside temperatures are below zero and works as well as the day it was built 160 years ago.

Houses that were built by the Churches long after Ramee returned to Europe about 1816

clearly show that the brothers were not just routine mechanics following someone else's directions, but participants, interpreters and innovators in their own right.

Bruce Sherwood, who gave the authors invaluable assistance in researching the 1816 Ezra Church house in Antwerp both before and during Mr. Sherwood's recent tenure as Director of National Register Field Services for the New York State Division of Historic Preservation, deftly noted this characteristic of the Churches' work in a letter to us:

"Daniel Whipple Church constructed every structure designed by Ramee in the North Country. . . Your house (the authors own and are restoring the Ezra Church house) is critical because of its Ezra Church connections, because it is a microcosm of the stonework, interior finish, and structural systems of the work of Ramee, though, it is beyond doubt not his work. .

The visual evidence strengthens my belief that Daniel Church was indeed partly responsible for the character of Ramee's North Country work."

In other words, if Daniel Church, or his brother Ezra, wanted a home just like the mansions they were building for the wealthy land barons, if on a considerably smaller scale, they had only to use their own talents to build it.

And Ezra Church did just that in constructing the ten-room limestone house in Antwerp for his large family, although he sold it to a local innkeeper three years later in 1819, probably to raise cash for more mill building. As a later account put it (Evert's History of Jefferson County) in 1878, Ezra Church, like his brother Daniel, "was a man of great enterprise."

The stone house Ezra built in Antwerp, combining the American Federal and European townhouse styles, was all the more remarkable in that most other housing in the area, except for the few great early mansions, had hardly progressed past the log cabin stage.

We don't know, and Daniel doesn't say, whether he built himself an equally petentious home when he constructed his first permanent residence in Ogdensburg in 1811. It was destroyed by British raiders from Canada in the War of 1812.

Ezra, who settled in Antwerp in 1809 and built the first mills and other buildings, remained there the rest of his long life until he died in 1859 at the age of 81. He is buried in Hillside Cemetery not far from the stone house.

Daniel, on the other hand, was more the adventurer and wanderer in his early years in northern New York, finally making his home at Morristown, named for Declaration of Independence signer Gouverneur Morris, where he worked for an early developer, Col. Nathan Ford. One limestone house in Morristown, built for Great Lakes ship captain John Hooker, is believed to be Daniel Church's work, and two fine stone mansions built for Col. Ford there are,



Daniel W. Church served as foreman for all of David Parish's building projects. Most notable among these was Parish's brick mansion in Ogdensburg that was designed by European architect Joseph - Jacques Ramee. Today what was once the back of the house serves as the entry to the Remington Memorial Art Museum.

also, virtually certain to have been his work. All three are today private homes.

Daniel suffered many misfortunes and hardships, none of which seemed to daunt him but rather left a fatalistic cast to his generally direct, God-fearing and frequently humorous view of life.

Born in Brattleboro, Vt., May 10, 1772, of a family of remarkable longevity and physical and mental stamina (his grandmother as a girl could leapfrog over a horse), Daniel was first put on a horse at the age of four to help his father farm the rugged hillsides. He remembered "living very much in fear of the Indians" and remarked on the "hard work and hard fare" of the Revolutionary War years when his father, Jonathan, and most other men went off to fight the British.

He witnessed his uncle taken prisoner in 1779 by Ethan Allen and his "Green Mountain Boys" during the Vermont Troubles and personally misdirected Col. Allen so his father could escape into the woods.

He later bailed his father out of a disastrous business failure (a cardinal sin to early New Englanders) and took care of both his parents in their old age, thus delaying the development of his own promising career and the welfare of his large family. He saw two of his 12 children die of disease in early childhood and several others in early adulthood. His wife, Dolly, who he frequently left behind in meager circumstances living in a rude "chaunty," died in 1822 after first going out and fatalistically buying the linen to sew up her own graveclothes.

Daniel, after suffering the destruction of his home by British raiders and the confiscation of his horses by American troops in the War of 1812, was hard put to tell which he detested most.

He was a leader in the local militia, which was



History Center Museum

Ground Floor

Research Center

Second Floor

To Rear of

Silas Wright House

Daily 9-4

Anne Piskor of Canton officially opens the County Historical Society's Christmas season by fastening a wreath on the front door of the Silas Wright House Museum, Main Street. The new entrance and leaded glass panels were made possible by a monetary gift from Dr. Virginia Haley of Madrid.

Photo courtesy of St. Lawrence Plaindealer

largely left to defend this northern frontier against attacks from Canada. In one of numerous firefights with the British, he suffered a hip wound that caused him pain for the rest of his days.

But he had no use for the regular troops of the young American army — "a scaly lot," he called them.

A paragraph in one of his letters after first coming to the North Country of New York gives an inkling of the continual hardships of those early years.

"... All the hardships I ever see in my life would be nothing compared with my journey. I had a hard voyage through the lake (Champlain). We had between 50 and 40 passengers and most of them women and children. The wind blew a hurricane and such sickness, such rocking I never saw. . . it was all hardship from there to here."

Actually, the experience was somewhat tepid compared with some of his later adventures, difficulties and near-fatal illnesses, but through it all he never ceased to build except from the period in 1812-13 when he was busy leading the Ogdensburg militia against the British raids and conducting counter-raids across the frozen St. Lawrence into Canada.

Daniel Whipple Church died on Jan. 7, 1857 at the age of 85 and is buried at Morristown.

Much of this remarkable life would no doubt have been lost to history but for his youngest son, Artemus Maynard Church, who compiled a rude but graphic family history, largely through a series of letters he asked his father to write to him in 1849-50. Artemus Maynard, sadly, also, died before his father, at the age of 34 in 1855.

The letters, genealogical lists and accounts written by Daniel Whipple Church and Artemus Maynard Church were later incorporated in a family genealogy of the ancestors of Benjamin Ferris Blakeney and his wife, Stella Perrone Sabin (named for Daniel's mother, Perrone Whipple Church), compiled by Josephine C. Frost and published in 1926. Only 80 copies were printed, of which few are now known to exist. One is in the rare books room at St. Lawrence University in Canton, and at least one other copy is known to be in the area.

But the real monuments to Daniel Whipple Church and his brother Ezra are the solidly built, stately homes, mansions and churches of limestone and brick which dot the North Country landscape after more than a century and a half, and likely to stand centuries longer.

The Man Who Won His Mistress at Cards

By Robert B. Shaw

Really, it is unfair to remember a man who contributed as much to the development of the North Country as George Parish the second by a single odd caprice. It would be more accurate to describe his many important accomplishments, such as his promotion of the Northern Railroad, of which he was the first president. And it is a much more significant historical fact that he was the American representative of a family of international merchant bankers, close associates of many of the leading statesmen of Europe. The real mystery about George Parish is why, with so many opportunities in the great commercial centers of the world, he chose to bury himself in the wilderness of northern New York for most of his active lifetime. But popular interest always concentrates upon the sensational rather than the significant and so, accepting this, let's see how George Parish came to win his mistress at cards.

But first, who were the Parishes, and how did certain members of this cosmopolitan family penetrate the wilderness of St. Lawrence County?

—The American Career of David Parish, in the *Journal of Economic History*, V. 4, 1944.

According to Philip and Raymond Walters — the Parish family originally belonged to the English landed gentry, but was obliged by the vicissitudes of the English Civil War to settle in Scotland. From thence David Parish's grandfather migrated to Hamburg about the middle of the Eighteenth Century, and there established a business which his son John (1742-1829) inherited upon his death, in 1781. Apparently this John was the real founder of the family's fortune. He himself acquired a lavish estate at Nienstedten, just outside of Hamburg.

In the manner of other merchant princes, John senior managed to raise a large family of sons, and to distribute them among the other commercial centers of Europe. John and Richard, the two older boys, succeeded to the business in Hamburg, where they were able to remain during the French occupation of 1793-1806, although their father had to flee back to England. Later, John transferred the center of his activities to Vienna where he was rewarded by the Emperor in 1817 with a grant of nobility under the title of Baron von Senftenberg. David, the third brother, initially founded an affiliated firm in Antwerp, but in 1805 came to America as an agent for Hope & Co. of Amsterdam and Baring Brothers of London to handle the American end of the Spanish bullion trade, a subterfuge for circumventing Britain's continental blockade. During his stay, in New York



Amerigo Vespucci

City and Philadelphia, Parish became acquainted with some of the large land purchasers in northern New York State, and in 1808 he acquired more than 200,000 acres — at that time in behalf of his syndicate, but the tract was later assigned to him as his share of the profits. Unlike many of the others whose names are associated with this area, David Parish was no mere speculator but was personally interested in the commercial development of his property. He moved to Ogdensburg in 1809 where he superintended the construction of the large brick house subsequently known as the Parish mansion.

In 1816, after the conclusion of the Napoleonic wars David Parish was obliged, however, to return "temporarily" to Europe — and he never came back again. Attracted by new opportunities, in Vienna, he became associated with a newly founded banking house, closely connected with Prince Metternich, but unfortunately this firm collapsed and, unable to bear the loss of a major part of his fortune — excepting his American holdings — David Parish plunged to his death in the Danube, on April 27, 1826.

Meanwhile his interests in upper New York State had been taken over, first by his brother George (1781-1834) and, following the latter's return to Europe, by his nephew, George 2nd, the son of John. It was this George who was most closely identified with Ogdensburg, residing there some thirty years, and who won the mistress at cards.

Now enter the party of the second part. This



George Parish

was none other than the charming Italian heiress, Miss Ameriga Vespucci, a lineal descendant of the explorer for whom this continent is named. Miss Vespucci came to this country as a political exile from her homeland in 1839, seeking an award of American citizenship and a grant of public land as a token of recognition for her ancestor's services.

Miss, or Madame Vespucci — both titles were used although neither was strictly correct — must have been a genuine beauty, and soon won influential champions, among them Senators Benton and Webster. A bill to comply with her petition was actually introduced into the Senate. But unfortunately for her, more careful investigation revealed certain less creditable items in her background. Miss Vespucci was indeed, the Senate agreed following an investigation by the American consul in Genoa, a genuine descendant of the great explorer. And although sometimes claiming membership among the nobility the family was quite impoverished — but still respectable. That is, all of its members but Ameriga. The remainder of the family were represented as being deeply embarrassed by her conduct, although whether they were more affronted by her career as the mistress of some dozen men or by her representing herself as the sole descendant of the Vespucci family, to the disregard of one brother and four other sisters, is not clear.

But it was obvious enough that this claimant for public gratitude from the United States government was simply an adventurer — although a rather charming and appealing adventurer she does appear from this distance. According to former Professor William E. Sawyer of Clarkson, who investigated this story thoroughly, her given name was not even Ameriga; it was Elena, but she appropriated

the first name of one of her sisters when she came to this country, to enhance her prospects. She had also been married in her youth, until her husband was killed in one of Italy's incessant revolutions, after which she found it expedient to resume her maiden name. Going to Paris she soon became the mistress of Prince Ferdinand, a son of King Louis Philippe. This association later contributed to her undoing, as in 1841 when she was being feted by society in America, she was dramatically recognized by the Prince de Joinville at a ball in Boston as his brother's former mistress.

In any case Miss Vespucci's claim was rejected by Congress and, without other means of sustaining her rather refined tastes, she was obliged to resume her normal way of life. And after passing through several hands she became attached to "Prince" John Van Buren, the faintly ludicrous son of the president.

The story of her transfer to George Parish is told in fictionalized form in Walter Kellogg's "Parish's Fancy." According to this version John Van Buren with Ameriga and George Parish both happened to stop at the same inn — Hoover's at Evans Mills — one cold night in the winter of 1841-42 — and Van Buren goaded Parish into playing poker. After losing \$5,000 — of a client's money — Van Buren, in desperation, offered to wager Ameriga, whom he realized Parish had taken a fancy to. And Parish won the girl — actually, at this time a woman of 37 — but let Van Buren keep his money.

Is this story — that is, winning a mistress at poker — really true, or merely a persistent legend? The historian must always be cautious of any account, especially one with such juicy elements, which lacks adequate documentation. And yet this tale seems so preposterous that it could hardly have been completely fabricated. In any case it traces back to a period within the lifetime of the principals involved, when strong denials could have put it to rest. And while Mr. Kellogg's book was, in a strict sense, fiction, he conducted very thorough research before writing it, even visiting the heirs of Baron Parish von Senftenberg, in Bohemia.

Of course, opinions will always differ — and a story which some are prompt to credit, others will prefer to reject. Thus in his **History of Ogdensburg** the Rev. Fr. P. S. Garand understandably discredits this story and states:

"Mr. Walter G. Kellogg, during a visit to Europe in 1926, found out for certain that this story was a pure invention."

But this is not at all what Mr. Kellogg said. Let him speak for himself. In his foreward to "Parish's Fancy," published in 1929, he stated:

"What follows is an attempt to piece together the life of Ameriga Vespucci, who dazzled America for a brief time . . . here, it is thought, for the first time she is treated with some regard to historical accuracy . . . The story of the poker game is too firmly rooted to be ignored."

And Kellogg credits the late Oscar, Baron von Senftenberg (died in 1925) with having cleared up mooted points. Clearly this heir did not, on the basis of family tradition, attempt to throw out the poker game story.

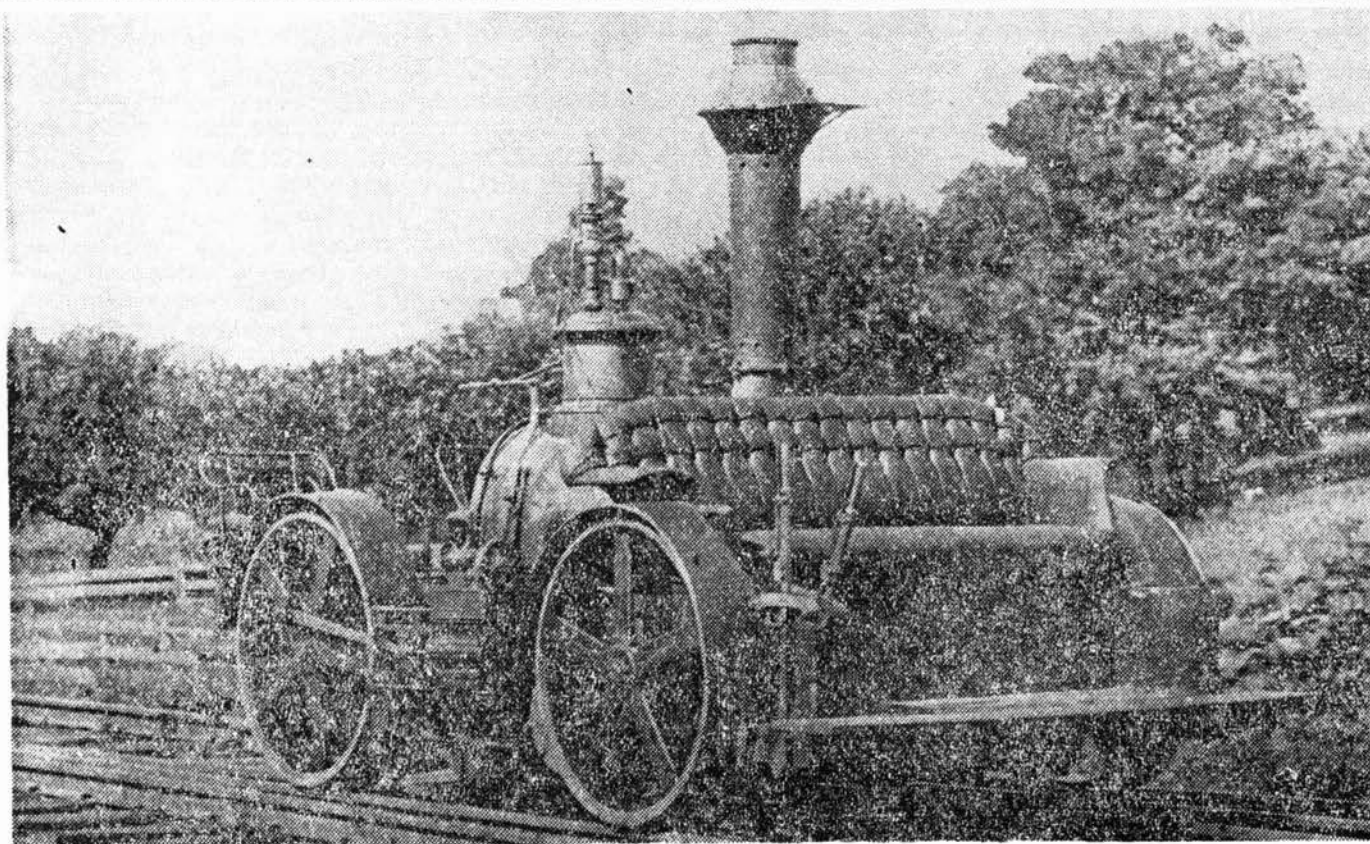
What was the subsequent history of Ameriga? Well, by this time edging into middle age her adventuring days were over, and apparently she was willing to endure the cold climate of northern New York, and the still colder hearts of her neighbors, in return for the comforts and stability that George Parish was able to provide. But her life, so far from the glittering courts of Rome, Paris and Washington, and facing the thinly veiled hostility of the local frontier society, must have closely approximated an exile. Nevertheless, Madame Vespucci remained in Ogdensburg, in the brick mansion still standing, until George, after succeeding to the title in 1858, left Ogdensburg early in 1860 to take up life on his Austrian estate. Ameriga then returned to Paris, where George settled a house and a modest income upon her; known there as the Countess Vespucci, she died on October 22, 1866. During the last few years of her life she still corresponded occasionally with John Rosseel, long-time factor for the Parishes in Ogdensburg, and her letters display a frank and engaging character.

George, now a member of the Austrian nobility, still apparently found life without

feminine companionship a bit austere — for he later took a second mistress, an American widow. However, public opinion proved stronger in Bohemia than it had in Ogdensburg, for he eventually felt obliged to marry her — and died on his wedding trip in Venice, on April 13, 1881.

The subsequent Barons von Senftenberg were descended from George's Uncle, Richard. The family retained its estate — in what then became Czechoslovakia — after World War I, but following the country's shift to the Communist bloc in 1948 they had to flee suddenly, without even the opportunity to take family archives. The present baron is now living in Toronto; ironically, no member of this family which was so closely identified with this country's early history has lived here for over a century.

What final appraisal should we make of Madame Vespucci? In her youth, undoubtedly, she was no more than an adventurer, practicing her feminine charms freely to secure her objectives. But at the same time she must have been a person of considerable intelligence and accomplishments; otherwise she would hardly have impressed men like George Parish. In middle age, after she settled down, she made no pretence to being other than what she was, and one feels that it was Ogdensburg's loss that the community failed to seek the friendship of this brilliant, cosmopolitan woman.



—From the Collection of R. Parker Downs, Massena

INSPECTOR—A common sight in the 1870's, this is inspection engine No. 3 of the New York, Ontario & Western. For inspection activities, gasoline cars have replaced the steamroller-like contraption shown above.

Gouverneur Wesleyan Seminary

The Last Commencement

**The Gouverneur Wesleyan Seminary
Closes its Last Year of Labor**

The Lecture by Rev. J. S. Ainslie — Annual Sermon at the Presbyterian Church — Exercises at Union Hall Monday and Tuesday.

The beginning of the closing exercises of our seminary was the lecture before the literary societies, on Friday evening by the Rev. J. S. Ainslie, of Ogdensburg. When the lecturer spoke of the closing exercises of the schools, seminaries, and colleges which were taking place continually during this month throughout our land, we could but hope that it would be but to few of these institutions that the words "closing exercises" would carry the deep significance that they do as applied to the graduating exercises of Gouverneur Wesleyan Seminary. Since the year 1827 this institution has been a benefit to our town. It has placed the advantages of a good education within the reach of thousands of people who would otherwise have been unable to equip themselves so well for the struggle of life, and to fill positions of honor and responsibility with such credit to themselves and benefit to the

communities in which their lot in life has been cast. Our Seminary for more than a score of years was the leading school in Northern New York. It attracted a class of earnest, hard working students. Its faculties were composed of men and women capable of thoroughly instructing its pupils in the curriculum demanded in a school of its grade. The tuition was small, and the cost of living in the place was low, and a pupil's standing in the school and community depended upon scholarship and not upon fashionable clothes, or his allowance of spending money. There are many old students of Gouverneur Wesleyan Seminary who know full well the meaning of "Struggling Up," and who have found the training and knowledge gained within its walls to be a stepping stone to a higher plane than they ever would have reached without its aid. Scattered all over this broad land are men and women, standing well in the professions, in business and social life, who can give the credit of much of their success to the happy days spent in the old seminary and who will hear of its downfall with deep regret.

The last class to leave the old seminary will,

*Records of the
Alumni Association
of
Gouverneur Wesleyan Seminary
Organized
June 26th
1867*

we think, compare favorably in natural abilities, moral standing, and an earnest desire to attain to a high standard of life, with any that have gone before, even though their predecessors of twenty and thirty years ago may have acquired a greater amount of knowledge.

The Class of '87, each and every member, has our best wishes for a successful journey "toward the heights," and whoever among them may be the one to reach the topmost pinnacle we know will gain the place through true merit, and we trust, will not leave any classmate very far beyond.

LECTURE BEFORE THE SOCIETIES

Misses Mary Beardslee and Carrie Crysler favored the audience with a vocal duet, after which Mr. Smith, the president of the class, introduced the speaker of the evening.

Rev. Mr. Ainslie delivered his address without notes; he is a pleasing speaker, and easy in his manner. He set before his hearers the advantages to be gained by having some definite object in view, and training one's energies to its acquirement. "Aim at nothing and you will be pretty sure to hit it." He spoke of the necessity of people selecting a trade or profession to which they were adapted physically and mentally, if they would be successful. It was by having a well defined plan to begin with, and perseveringly adhering to it, even through centuries, that the lives of men or the building of a cathedral would grow into symmetrical and lasting beauty.

The speaker did not think that the acquirement of wealth, when gained by honorable methods, was to be discouraged, but rather considered it as an index to the inner wealth of mind, and as a sign of thrift, energy and capability on the part of its possessor, and that the conscientious, honest and industrious dealer or manufacturer deserved to make money and usually did. By using the spare moments which are scattered through even the busiest days a person can keep from growing rusty and even gain knowledge of new studies.

THE SERMON

Rev. Wm. F. Skinner, the new pastor, preached the sermon in the Presbyterian church, "What lack I yet?" was the text to which he called the attention of those who had completed the work which had thus far been allotted them. As did the lecturer, he urged upon them the careful selection of a definite purpose in life, that the more strictly they conformed to the requirements of social, moral, and spiritual laws the more true liberty they would enjoy. Every advance in life brings higher duties and greater responsibilities. In contrast to the full and complete liberty of the one obeying all just laws is the slavery of the one who has no definite end in view, driven by every passing sentiment, the tool of every impulse, the victim of every passion. He maintained that as is the ideal of a people so is their ambition and the tendency of

their lives. It is an invariable law that there is no worthy end attained in this life except by honest endeavor. The successful business man has reached his success by overcoming reverses and surmounting obstacles, and with many a literary man life has been a struggle with bread and learning. He considered one of the predominant causes of good fortune to be hard work. Hidden treasures must be dug for, and man must eat his bread by the sweat of his brow. At the close of his sermon Mr. Skinner spoke of the motto of Spain when she was the mistress of both sides of the Gibraltar and had "Ne plus ultra," no more beyond, stamped upon her coins; and then, after the discovery of America there was another known land to rule, and Spain then stamped "Plus Ultra," more beyond, upon the coins. He advised the class to take "Plus Ultra" as their motto through life, and when they had reached the summit and its end might they still find Plus Ultra," more beyond.

CLASS DAY

Union Hall was crowded on Monday afternoon by the residents of the village and many old students and friends of the school from out of town to listen to the class day exercises. Messrs. Sudds, Dunten, Reynolds and McCarty, favored the audience with a string quartette, and Rev. M. W. Chase, offered prayer, after which the following program was rendered:

Address
History
Oration
Paper

E. W. Smith
Pearl A. Legate
James A. Storie
Julia E. Foster

Rates of Tuition.

1890-91

SEMINARY,

Per Term, \$8.00.

*GRAMMAR SCHOOL,

Per Term, \$5.00.

INTERMEDIATE AND PRIMARY,

Per Term, \$3.00.

SESSIONS.

9 TO 12 A. M. 1:30 TO 4 P. M.

PRIMARY GRADES.

9 TO 11 A. M. 1:30 TO 3 P. M.

SECOND GRADE.

9 TO 11:15 A. M. 1:30 TO 3:15 P. M.

THIRD GRADE.

9 TO 11:30 A. M. 1:30 TO 3:30 P. M.

*Students pursuing academic subjects in part only, will be charged one dollar in addition to the Grammar School rate for each academic subject, provided that the sum does not exceed eight dollars. All tuition bills are payable to the Treasurer of the Board four weeks after entrance. Bills are not made out for less than tuition of one-half term.

	Music—String Quartette	Leslie Rodger
Poem		Fred F. Drury
Essay		Wm. A. Markwick
	Music—String Quartette	Edwin Dodge Jr.
Advice		
Prophecy		
	Class Song—Double Quartette	

The productions were all good, abounding in wit wherever wit was in good taste, and almost without exception were delivered in a tone of voice to be distinctly heard in every part of the hall. If we were to mention each one who did credit to the class we should simply enumerate them all.

THE ELOCUTIONARY PRIZE CONTEST

The fifth elocutionary prize contest took place at Union Hall, on Monday evening. As in the afternoon, the hall was crowded, many people going an hour before the exercises opened in order to secure good seats. The following was the program:

THE MIKADO—UNION HALL ORCHESTRA

Prayer — Rev. H. S. Schwartz	
Liberty Enlightening the World	Jas. A. Storie
How Tom Sawyer Whitewashed the Fence	Mary Howes
The Eloquence of O'Connell	E. W. Smith
An Old Actor's Story	Nina Thayer
Heroes of the Land of Penn.	Edwin Dodge, Jr.
Tom's Little Star	Julia A. Foster
Waltzes—Union Hall Orchestra	
Justice of Benedict Arnold	Fred F. Drury
Flossie Lane's Marriage	Pearl A. Legate
The Pilgrims in the South	Wm. A. Markwick
Selections from Miles Standish	Leta Kitts
The Meaning of Our Flag	Erwin C. Harmon
The Fall of Pemberton Mill	Gertrude Parker
Galop—Union Hall Orchestra	

The committee of award was composed of Prof. G. C. Shutts, of Potsdam Normal School; Rev. Wm. F. Skinner, Gouverneur; and Prof. H. F. Miner, Skaneateles; all of whom were strangers to those taking part in the contest.

The long program was listened to with much attention by the large audience. The competition was close, as was shown by the length of time taken by the Judges to decide upon the awards. With few exceptions the people waited to hear the decision, and after the orchestra had kept them entertained with half a dozen selections, Prof. Shutts announced that the first prize for gentlemen had been awarded to Fred F. Drury, the second to E. W. Smith; first prize for ladies to Miss Nina Thayer, second to Miss Gertrude Parker, and to Miss Julia Foster an honorable mention. The prizes were ten dollars to first, and five to second.

COMMENCEMENT DAY

On Tuesday afternoon long before the hour appointed for the exercises Union Hall was filled to overflowing. Union Hall orchestra furnished



This photo of the Seminary was loaned to the SLCHA by Mrs. Ruth Jones.

the music for the occasion. After the overture Rev. M. W. Chase offered prayer.

Miss Pearl Legate, the salutatorian, bade the audience welcome in the following appropriate sentences:

Once more, dear friends, you are gathered here in this old accustomed place to listen to the annual commencement exercises of the Gouverneur Wesleyan Seminary.

Once more and for the last time have we assembled in the character of a class. A joyful event which we have anxiously awaited.

We thank you for your presence and the interest which you have shown toward us, both now and while in school.

As we look into your familiar faces we see visions of classes that have preceded us, which carry us back to the youth of our parents and grandparents.

As we turn the pages of a book o'er and o'er, pause and read one, then pass it by for the next, so each class appears and passes away.

But now as we reach the last page, we see written at the top, in large gilt letters, "The Class of '87," while at the bottom written in still larger letters, the word "Finis."

The book is completed, the final page is read, and we appear as the last representatives of that old institution, which hereafter will be known only in history.

instance she spoke of the help rendered to the abolitionists by "Uncle Tom's Cabin;" of the vivid impressions of ancient history in the "Last Days of Pompeii;" and of Dicken's wonderful pictures of the French Revolution. We trust it will be long before Wm. A. Markwick sees the fulfillment of his desires as expressed in his views of "The Third Party Question" and has an opportunity to attend the funeral of the republican party. "The Influence of Music," by Leslie Rodger, was a pleasing turn from the heights of statesmanship toward which the other young men had been leading us. Elmer W. Smith followed with another oration, "The Origin and Purpose of Reform," which showed careful preparation and study. Miss Legate's essay, "He Builded Better than He Thought," was, as its name implies, a review of instances in which by doing the best for the present the results had been more beneficial than could have been foreseen. James A. Storie delivered the last oration on the programme, "The Uses of Revolution," which have been the cause of misery and bloodshed, and through which so much of the present freedom and progress have come.

Mr. E. C. Harmon, the valedictorian, bade farewell to the school life of the class in the following well chosen words:

And now, only "farewell" remains to be said and the class of '87 will step from the doors of the "old Seminary," which has so kindly sheltered it, into another plane of life. We shall leave many pleasant associations and connections formed here. The past calls to mind joys and pleasures which will always cast a halo around the days of our school life. The present offers kind wishes, fair prospects, due rewards. The future lies before us. It is ours to fashion, ours to direct. Did the advantages acquired end here, we might well question the utility of education. Not so. By education's ladder we mount "toward the heights" of nobler living, of greater usefulness.

"Old Seminary!" nearly half a century has passed since first thy walls re-echoed the sounds of busy school life. Thou hast noted the departure of many a class from thy maternal halls. But perhaps as a seminary thou will never again listen to the farewells of a class. Under a new administration thou wilt still exist but not as an independent seminary. May thy future compare favorably with thy past. May thy halls still foster the cause of education, thy influence still be a beacon to warn the youth of shoals and quicksands. "Old Seminary," the class of '87, thy last class, bids thee farewell!

For the teachers who have guided our steps among the deductions of logic, over the checkered pages of history, through the mysteries of equation and theorem, through the dark mazes of the Greek root and the Latin subjunctive, we have only kind words, pleasant recollections. We shall remember the interest you have taken in us as a class and as individuals. May it ever be a pleasant thought that

The years have passed with great rapidity; summer has followed winter, sunshine has followed shadow, and now our happiest days are over and all the good old times are at an end.

To-day as we stand upon the threshold of real life, looking forward into the untried future, nothing but pleasant remembrances remain.

Although we have had many trials, cares and perplexities, yet each of us can look back upon our course in the Seminary as "Time well spent."

We are moving "Toward the Heights," and should the future deal with us as leniently as has the past we shall soon be able to arrive at the pinnacle of fame.

To-day we have invited you to partake of our pleasure, — again we thank you for your presence and bid you one and all a most hearty welcome.

Edwin Dodge, Jr., had for the subject of his oration "The American Scholar in Politics." His subject was well handled and his delivery especially good. Fred F. Drury's oration, "The Mission of America," and Erwin C. Harmon's, "The Puritan in America," were both specimens of historical, patriotic eloquence, without which no American commencement would be complete. In her essay on "Fiction" Miss Julia E. Foster set forth the novelist's power to wield an immeasurable influence over the masses. As an

you have aided many in their search after knowledge and truth. As the old relations of teacher and pupil are about to be served, we all unite in wishing you "God speed" in whatever occupations you may hereafter be employed.

Classmates, as memory recalls the pleasant associations of the past few years, we can but regret that they are so soon ended. We have labored side by side. We have encountered difficulties, have overcome hindrances. True friendships have been formed. Ties, not easily severed, have been created. Today, our relations as students with cease. The river of time is steadily bearing us on, on toward the great sea of life. There, perhaps widely separated, we shall ever recall with pleasure the memory of the happy hours passed together as classmates; and should it be our lot to never again meet together here, we hope and trust that, when life's voyage is ended, we, a united band, shall anchor our storm tossed barks in a safe haven. Classmates, farewell!

Friends, students, teachers, classmates, one and all, "Farewell!"

THE PRIZES

After the programme the following prizes were awarded: — Essay prize, first, \$10 to Miss Julia Foster; second, \$5, Elmer Smith. Scholarship prize, \$10, divided between Edwin Dodge, Jr., and Leslie Rodger, who both stood equally well. Historical prize, books, first, Edwin Dodge, Jr., second, Miss Hattie Marshall. Declamation prize, first to gentlemen, \$10, Fred F. Drury, second, \$5, Elmer Smith; ladies, first, \$10, Miss Nina Thayer, second, \$5, Miss Gertrude Parker. The diplomas were then awarded.

GRADUATES BY COURSES

Academic Course — Edwin Dodge, Jr., Gouverneur, N.Y.

Modern Course — Julia E. Foster, Gouverneur, N.Y., Fred F. Drury, Gouverneur, N.Y., Edwin Dodge, Jr., Pearl A. Legate, Fowler, N.Y., Leslie Rodger, Hammond, N.Y., James A. Storie, Gouverneur, N.Y.

Latin and Scientific Course — Julia E. Foster, Erwin C. Harmon, Edwards, N.Y., William A. Markwick, Gouverneur, N.Y.

Classical Course — Erwin C. Harmon, Elmer W. Smith, Gouverneur, N.Y.

THE COSTUMES

On class day Miss Legate wore a dress of dark blue satin rhadma, trimmed with blue jets and facings of cream colored satin. The basque was cut high in the neck and the sleeves were long. Miss Legate wore tan colored gloves and carried cream colored roses.

Miss Foster's dress was of wine colored satin rhadma, the skirt kilted, with fan draperies on the right side and a sash finished with jet ornaments on the left. The neck of the basque was V shaped in front with a filling of jets; the sleeves were long. Miss Foster also wore tan

colored gloves and carried cream colored roses.

Miss Legate's commencement dress was pale pink cashmere. The bodice cut square in the neck with a filling of white lace and trimming of pearl galoon. Pearl colored gloves reached to the short lace sleeves. The front of the skirt was of corded silk and plush stripe; the right side of double box pleats of cashmere fastened with bands and bows of satin ribbon; the left side, fan pleating and loops of the satin ribbon; the back drapery of cashmere. Ostrich tips were worn in place of flowers.

Miss Foster's dress was a dainty combination of India mull and Oriental lace. The kilted skirt had a front drapery of lace with a cascade of lace on the right side. The bodice was made with a V shaped neck and short sleeves. White kid golves, shoulder length, and a bouquet of yellow tea roses, completed the costume.

THE RE-UNION

Tuesday evening at about half-past eight o'clock, the alumni, members of the societies, faculty, and invited guests began to assemble at the seminary chapel for the annual re-union, and with social intercourse, refreshments, and toasts prolonged the last Old Seminary re-union until the "wee sma' hours." Leslie Rodger was toastmaster, and toasts were responded to by Judge Neary, Hon. Newton Aldrich, Hon. Geo. M. Gleason, Judge Conger, Revs. Chase, Schwartz and Skinner, Profs. Bassett and Sackett, and representing the alumni were Misses Foster, Murray, and Eva Parker, and Messrs. Fowler, Whitney, and Abbott, and the societies were represented by Miss Legate, and Messrs. Storie and Drury.

RENOVATIONS

Renovation of the Silas Wright House Museum goes ahead apace. John Baule, new director of the St. Lawrence County Historical Association, discussed the restoration recently at a workshop for Area II historians, held in Winthrop.

Baule noted that the front entranceway has been restored, the exterior scraped and painted a blue-green, a color popular in the 1800's, the Victorian porch removed, bulbs planted, and a new sign erected.

Work will begin soon on the study and dining room.

The house, which will be furnished with furniture from the 1800's, will have its first floor available for groups to use as an exhibit space. A garden planted with old-fashioned flowers and shrubs will be part of the museum's summer attractions.

Ogdensburg's Heritage

from 1749

EARLY OGDENSBURG HISTORY

Before the advent of the white man, this area was the hunting ground of the Indians.

Here they hunted, fished and trapped, grew corn and built palisaded villages, with houses and tents of bark and skins.

During the French period, in the second century after explorer Samuel de Champlain traveled through the land, came priests, traders and soldiers, to establish forts and trading posts under the Cross and the sword.

Such a mission was Fort La Presentation (1749-1760), now Ogdensburg. Its cornerstone is in the Ogdensburg City Hall.

French Fort Levis (1759-1760) on Isle Royale, now Chimney Island, was the prize in the last real battle between the French and the English in the French and Indian Wars and fell to the English on Aug. 25, 1760.

The successor to Fort La Presentation, on the same site, was British Fort Oswegatchie (1760-1796) across the St. Lawrence River from "Old Upper Canada."

During the American Colonial period, Nathan Ford, an extraordinarily shrewd businessman, was the great developer of Ogdensburg (spelled in Ford's time with an -h).

Nathan Ford arrived here Aug. 11, 1796, with a small staff and some mercantile supplies. His direction enabled the community to expand from an outpost to a city, the 17th, in age, of the 62 cities of the State of New York.

The Village of Ogdensburgh was incorporated April 5, 1817.

The City of Ogdensburg was chartered April 27, 1868.

FOUNDED 1749
VILLAGE 1817
CITY 1868

CENTENNIAL 1968

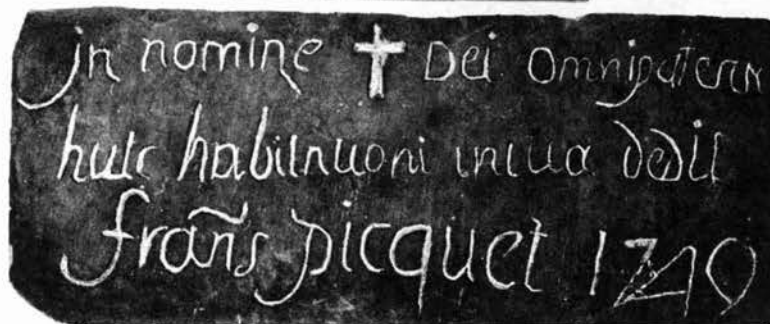
Ogdensburg has a rare, rich heritage from its centuries of history under three flags, the banners of France, Great Britain, and the United States.

It is a city filled with the enchantment of the past, bearing the marks of wars and battles fought long, long ago.

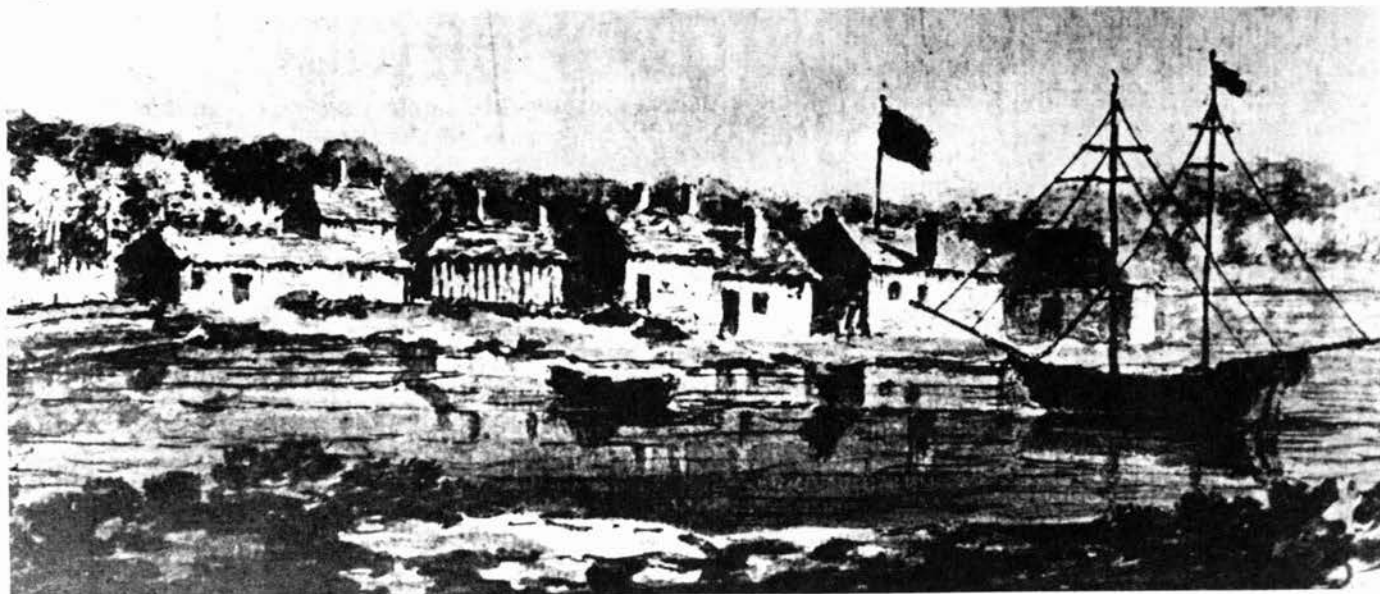
OGDENSBURG'S FRENCH PERIOD

In 1749, Abbe Francois Picquet, Sulpician missionary from Canada, founded the first white settlement where now stands the city of Ogdensburg, to teach and convert the Indians and protect the land for his native France.

The site he chose for his mission and fort, guarded by French soldiers, was at the confluence of the St. Lawrence and Oswegatchie Rivers. Fort La Presentation was a combined church, school, trading post, Indian village, and citadel. It was named for the day he was first here, Nov. 21, 1748, feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin in the temple. He returned May 30, 1749, to build it. The first mass at the site — and the first in northern New York — was



CORNERSTONE OF FORT LA PRESENTATION. Moved from the original site, at the confluence of the St. Lawrence and Oswegatchie Rivers, to the main corridor of the Ogdensburg City Hall.



VIEW OF OSWEGATCHEE on the RIVER ST. LAURENCE, July 1765

FORT OSWEGATCHEE — “View of Oswegatchie on the River St. Lawrence, July 1765” is among the treasures of history at the Remington Art Museum, Ogdensburg. The artist is unknown. The fort was garrisoned by the British from 1760 until 1796. Dr. Jonathan G. Rossie, chairman of the St. Lawrence University History Department, says this fort was east of the Oswegatchie River, where it joins the St. Lawrence River. William G. Walker, former

chairman of the Ogdensburg American Revolution Bicentennial Commission and member and past president of the Board of Education of the Greater Ogdensburg School District, agrees with Dr. Rossie. Elizabeth Baxter, Ogdensburg city historian, contends that Fort Oswegatchie was west of the Oswegatchie. What do the members of the St. Lawrence County Historical Association say?

— Photo by Betty Steele

celebrated by Abbe Picquet on June 1, 1749.

Ogdensburg's French period came to an end in the summer of 1760, when Fort La Presentation was destroyed by the French as the British advanced.

Sir Jeffrey Amherst's troops took possession of Fort La Presentation on Aug. 17.

Downstream in the St. Lawrence, Fort Levis, built in 1759 on Isle Royale, was the site in August, 1760, of the last real battle between the French and the English in the French and Indian War. It was captured by Amherst's troops Aug. 25, 1760. The island, known as Chimney Island, was reduced in size in 1957 by earth-movers digging the St. Lawrence Seaway. It is east of the Seaway Skyway Bridge between Ogdensburg and Johnstown, Ontario, Canada. Montreal, after siege, capitulated to Amherst on Sept. 8, 1760, and St. John's Fort, Newfoundland, surrendered to him Sept. 18, 1762, without battle.

Francois Picquet was born Dec. 4, 1708, at Bourg en Bresse, France, son of humble parents. He joined the Sulpicians in 1727. Sent to Canada in 1734 as a missionary, he served in Montreal and at Le Lac des Deux Montagnes (the Lake of the Two Mountains), Oka, before he established Fort La Presentation. He escaped from the fort in 1760 and eluded arrest by the British until 1763, when he returned to France. He died at Verjon, France, on July 15, 1781.

OGDENBURGH'S ENGLISH PERIOD

A new fort built by the British at the site of the ruins of Fort La Presentation was occupied from 1760 until 1796, when it was evacuated under provisions of Jay's Treaty.

Fort Oswegatchie was turned over in 1796 by the British to Judge Nathan Ford, agent for the landowner, Col. Samuel Ogden, for whom the village of Ogdensburgh and the city of Ogdensburg were named.

It was maintained for the protection of British fur and lumber interests and to serve as a stopping place for English soldiers traveling on the St. Lawrence River.

During the Revolutionary War, Fort Oswegatchie was a rendezvous of scalping parties of Tories and Indians.

OGDENBURGH'S AMERICAN COLONIAL PERIOD

The growth of Ogdensburgh — or Oswegatchie, as the place often was called — was rapid from 1796.

The hamlet became a thriving village in two decades. Settlers came from Europe, Canada, the New England States and many sections of New York State.

The War of 1812, in which Ogdensburgh was a battleground, had no serious effect on the

community, where many grumbled about "Mr. Madison's War."

On Feb. 22, 1813, about 480 British regulars and Canadian militia set out from Prescott, Ontario, marched across the St. Lawrence River ice and captured the strong United States military post at Ogdensburgh, in retaliation for an American raid on Brockville, Ontario. The American garrison of 500 men was routed and Ogdensburgh fell. During the rest of the war, Ogdensburgh was a "no man's land" without military forces.



THE FORD VAULT



THE LIGHTHOUSE

THE VILLAGE OF OGDENSBURGH

Ogdensburgh, on April 5, 1817, became the first incorporated village in St. Lawrence County.

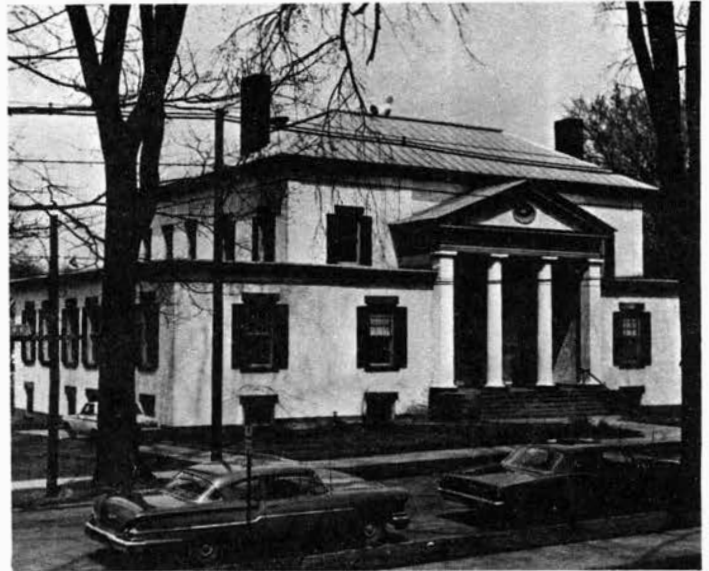
In that year, the Ontario, the first steamboat on the Great Lakes, made her first stop at the port of Ogdensburgh, amid tumultuous celebration.

Steamboats, propellers, schooners and barges plied the Lakes and the St. Lawrence River, making regular stops at Ogdensburgh.

The village in 1850 became the western terminus of the great Northern Railroad. The first train arrived at Ogdensburgh on Sept. 26, 1850.

By 1860, Ogdensburgh was known as "the Maple City" and "the New York of the North".

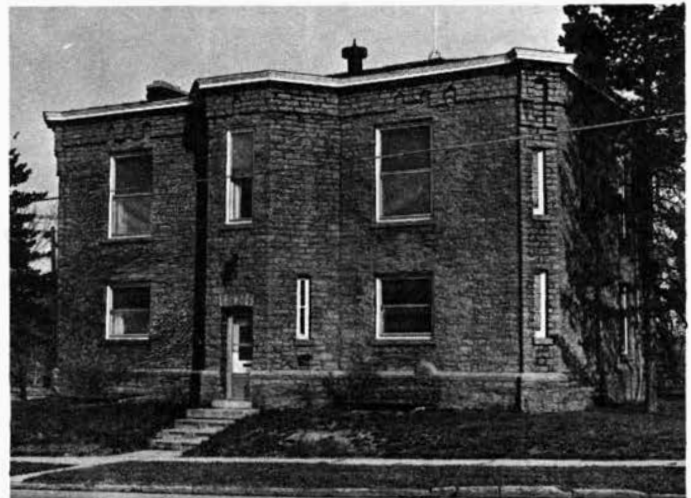
Ogdensburgh men fought for the Union in the Civil War. The return of the veterans was followed by planning for change from village to city.



PUBLIC LIBRARY



CUSTOM HOUSE



OLD ARSENAL



Frederic Remington in his New Rochelle studio
—Photo courtesy of the Remington Art Museum

THE CITY OF OGDENSBURG

Ogdensburg became the only city in St. Lawrence County on April 27, 1868, when it lost the town. Its progress has been steady, and throughout the city the old and the new are mingled.

Ogdensburg men went forth to fight for freedom in the Spanish - American War, World War I, World War II, the Korean War and in Vietnam.

The city has had cordial relations with its northern neighbor, Canada, since the Patriot War of 1837-40. The battle of the Windmill was fought Nov. 12-16, 1838, at Windmill Point, Ontario, across the St. Lawrence River from Ogdensburg.

Here was made Aug. 17-18, 1940, the Ogdensburg Agreement between the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and the late William Lyon Mackenzie King, prime minister of Canada, setting forth the intentions of the United States and Canada to cooperate in the defense of the North American continent.

The community has been a seaport since the early 19th century, and the St. Lawrence Seaway, completed in 1959, opened the Ogdensburg area to unprecedented industrial expansion.

Ogdensburg is noted the world over for its Remington Art Museum, home of the paintings and bronzes of Frederic Remington, foremost artist of the old West.

The Ogdensburg District Custom House, 127 North Water St., built in 1809-10, was designated by the General Services Administration, Washington, D.C., as the oldest federal government building in the United States.

The \$20,000,000 Seaway Skyway Bridge between Ogdensburg and Johnstown, Ontario, was dedicated Sept. 27, 1960, by Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller. Ferry service between Ogdensburg and Prescott, Ontario, ceased Sept. 21, 1960.

The city is the see of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg, erected by Pope Pius IX on Feb. 15, 1872.

Ogdensburg adopted the city manager type of government Jan. 1, 1970.



The holiday table at the Canton Museum. Mrs. Ann Piskor and her committee were in charge of arrangements.

Photo courtesy of St. Lawrence Plaindealer

Rushton, Charles Marsh and the Last Moose

By Paul F. Jamieson

Looking through old files recently, I found photocopies of two letters - to - the - editor from that mine of woods lore, the old **Forest and Stream** magazine. Warder Cadbury or A. T. Shorey sent them to me many years ago. At that time the initials "J.H.R." meant nothing to me. Now they do. This is the way J. Henry Rushton signed his contributions to that periodical, in which he also advertized and which regularly carried praise of the products of his Boat Shop in Canton.

Both letters are interesting for their subject. The first one is even more interesting for its writer. It adds a footnote to Atwood Manley's **Rushton and His Times in American Canoeing**. Rushton was fifty-six at the time he wrote the letter on May 14, 1900; he was fourteen or fifteen on the day that a recess was called in his district school so that the pupils could see the carcass of "the last moose" drawn about the Town of Fine in a sleigh. Rushton's letter follows:

"Canton, N.Y., May 14. — Editor **Forest and Stream**: 'The last moose killed in New York State' has been killed so many times that he ought to be very much dead by now. I do not know when he was killed, but I know this: in December, 1858 or '59, and I think the latter year, Charles Marsh, a resident of the township of Fine, St. Lawrence county, killed a bull moose. Marsh was one of the old-time woodsmen, though a man in those days hardly more than thirty-five. He hunted, fished, trapped, both for fur and for wolves and panthers; made maple sugar in spring, farmed a little, and made cedar sap buckets, tinkered guns and watches, etc. He was a quiet, sober, industrious man, knew the woods as an open book, full of resources in a tight place and afraid of nothing if his right hand grasped his rifle. He was the quickest shot I ever saw outside the professionals, and thought it an unpardonable sin to make more than one hole in a tree when he fired both barrels of his rifle, bang, bang! from his shoulder at some little knot a dozen rods away.

"At the time I speak of he had a winter hunting shanty near the head of Bossout Pond on the headwaters of the Oswegatchie River, and perhaps a couple of miles within the south line of St. Lawrence county, and perhaps three miles from the head of Mud Lake, the head of Bog River (distances estimated, but I have been over the ground in bygone years). One day in deer hunting he struck a moose track and followed it a while, then returned to his shanty and started out next day with provisions and a determination to bag that moose. He got a shot before night, as I remember, but only wounded the moose. However, he stuck to him and slept on the trail one night (I'm not sure but two), and got him. As near as I can remember, the finish was in the



Moose

vicinity of Bog Lake. I was a youngster attending district school in Fine. One day the venison buyer came along with the moose on a sleigh and the pupils were given a recess to take a look at what they were told was probably 'the last moose in the woods.'

"We were told later that the moose weighed 1,000 pounds. Later on I became well acquainted with Marsh and heard the details of the hunt from him. He was my ideal woodman, and I have followed him through the trackless forest when I wondered if we wouldn't get lost, but never knew him to miss the place he was looking for by an inch. He has now gone over the Divide, as I am told, for he went West in the sixties, and I have not seen him since. J.H.R."

This letter, which appeared in the issue of May 26, 1900, shows that Rushton in youth was a hero-worshipper. Charles Marsh was his ideal woodsman. In the following years he became a companion of Marsh in roaming the woods in the southern part of the county. In the 1860s the area around Bassout Pond ("Bossout" is probably a printer's error) was then virgin forest, untouched by loggers. The headwaters of the Oswegatchie and the Bog were certainly likely places for the moose to make its last stand in the Adirondacks. The letter bears out Atwood Manley's statement that Rushton became a skilled woodsman himself. Writing from memory of his youthful tramps in the vicinity, about seventeen miles from his home on the Ridge in Fine, Rushton pinpoints the location of Bassout Pond quite accurately as two miles from the south line of the county and three miles from the head of Mud Lake (now known as Lows Lake).

The reply to Rushton's letter, which appeared over a year later in the July 20, 1901 issue, is

typical of the sort of dialogue that **Forest and Stream** readers carried on across the country. The mythic elements of the first letter — the last moose, the huntsman as hero, the older woodsman's initiation of the young — reach their fitting climax in the second letter's story of the old woodsman trekking westward and northward as civilization crowded him. The second letter follows in part:

“Seymour, Wis., July 2. — Editor **Forest and Stream**: In your issue of May 26, 1900, on page 405, I read, ‘The Last Adirondack Moose,’ from the pen of J. H. R. . . . I will tell you of the last years and days and deeds of Charles Marsh. About thirty years ago he stuck our then wilderness town of Seymour, Outagamie county, Wis., about seventeen miles west of Green Bay. He was accompanied by Rube Irish, another old Adirondack hunter and guide. They had a lot of steel traps, guns, deer hides and camp equipment. He soon found too many settlers in our small hole in the woods here and moved eight miles north, stuck up a shack, got a piece of land and tried to till the soil. We were many of us hunters here at that time of necessity, and soon found that Uncle Charlie (as we called him) could do some tall shooting at the many deer that were all around these parts at that time. If a deer was foolish enough to make more than one jump in his sight Uncle Charlie owned him. . .

“About ten years ago I wanted to build a new frame barn — we had outgrown our old log barns of pioneer times — so I hired Uncle Charlie to do the job. He came, looked the timbers and all over and took the contract. He was as particular in building that barn as if it had been a fine dwelling house. I said, ‘Uncle Charlie, you will not make your salt if you take so much pains.’ ‘Well,’ he said, ‘this may be the last barn I shall build, and I want it done right.’ . . .

“While building the barn, and at other times, he gave me much of his past history. He had been a hunter and guide for twenty-eight years in the Adirondacks before coming here, and I have heard him tell all about that moose, which is mainly as J.H. R. states, only more so. He said it was his first and last one. The first shot struck the moose square between the eyes, but instead of going down, as he should, he charged Uncle Charlie, who sprang behind a large spruce. ‘The old bull made the liveliest time of my life for me,’ he said, ‘for the next few minutes. Around and around that spruce we went, his horns clattering against the old spruce. I had about made up my mind I was a goner, when he moved away and looked me over, and before I could reload was off. We didn't have the pump gun in those days or I would not have needed to follow the old fellow nearly two days longer before I got him. I have killed lots of painters, and one time I shot one, and he was so near me that when he made his last jump his tail switched me. But that old bull moose gave me a hard racket, when we were going lickity switch around that old spruce; and I just made up my mind that that was hardly the right end to shoot a bull moose.’

“About eight years ago Uncle Charlie moved forty miles northward again; civilization was crowding him as it did Daniel Boone. Then the news came that he was sick, and then the news of his death. His last request was that the writer should preach his funeral sermon. They brought him down to his old home eight miles north of here, and I buried him in the little churchyard, there to wait for the last trump of First Corinthians 15:51-53. Peace to his ashes. I hope to meet him again in peace. M. Reed.”

Can the people in Fine tell us anything more about Charles Marsh and his companion Rube Irish?

Invite a Friend to Join Our Association! Give a membership as a gift that keeps on giving!

Give a membership to your local school!

Annual membership dues \$10

Sustaining membership \$25

Life membership \$250

Library membership \$10

Corporate Membership Available Upon Request

Your membership supports the Gov. Silas Wright house renovations, museum exhibits, educational field trips, and public social functions. Send your memberships today to:

Mrs. Grace Riley, Membership Chairman P.O. Box Eight Canton, N.Y. 13617

Country Cuisine

of the North Country



VENISON STEW

Venison
Carrots
Potatoes
Onions or onion salt
Peas
Salt
Pepper

Cube venison and brown in open fry pan. Place meat and diced vegetables in a large pan. Add enough water to keep from sticking and to make a gravy with. Season to taste. Cook over a medium heat. This turns into a very delicious meal when served with hot (baking powder) biscuits or dumplings.

Venison tip: When frying venison, use a teaspoon or two of vinegar to take out the wild taste.

MAPLE SHORTCAKE

1 c. flour, sifted
2 tsp. baking powder
1-3rd c. milk plus 2 Tbsp.
1½ c. maple syrup
¼ tsp. salt
4 tsp. shortening
1 egg

Bring syrup to a boil, then pour into a shallow baking dish. Sift flour, baking powder together in a bowl. Add shortening and blend. Finally add egg and milk; beat. Drop from spoon on top of boiling syrup and bake at 350 degrees for 25 or 30 minutes. Serve with whipped cream or ice cream.

FRIED RABBIT

1 rabbit
Flour
Salt and pepper

3 Tbsp. butter
1 small onion, sliced

Clean rabbit; soak in salted water overnight. Cut into serving pieces. Shake rabbit in flour with salt and pepper; cook in hot oil in heavy skillet until browned. Cover with onion; add ½ cup water. Steam until tender. Yield: 4 servings.



HOT CROSS BUNS

1 yeast cake
3½ c. sifted flour
½ c. melted Crisco
¾ tsp. salt
1 tsp. cinnamon
2-3rd c. raisins
1-3rd c. sugar
2-3rd c. warm milk

3 eggs (2 eggs and 1 yolk may be used, saving 1 egg white for icing)
¾ c. confectioners sugar and
1 egg white

Dissolve yeast and sugar in warm milk. Add 1 cup flour and beat until smooth. Add Crisco, beaten eggs and dry ingredients. Beat and stir in raisins. Let rise until doubled in bulk. Punch down; roll ½ inch thick on lightly floured board. Cut with floured cutter and let rise until double in bulk (about 1½ hours). Bake 15 to 20 minutes at 350 degrees. Beat egg white and confectioners sugar; ice hot buns.

MOTHER'S MOLASSES COOKIES

2 eggs
1 c. white sugar
1 Tbsp. ginger
2 Tbsp. soda
½ tsp. salt
1 Tbsp. vinegar
2 c. molasses
Flour

Bring molasses to a boil. Cool. Cream well eggs, sugar, salt, then add soda, ginger and vinegar. Pour cooled molasses into mixture and stir well. This mixture will be real foamy. Add flour to make a real stiff dough. Roll out or roll into small balls; crease on top with a fork (wet in cold water). Sprinkle sugar on top and bake in 350 degree oven. Watch carefully as they burn easily. Chopped raisins and nuts may be added.

Poetry With Feeling

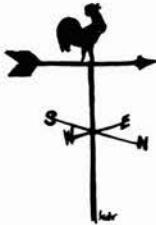
The Ax Has Cut The Forest Down

Elizabeth Coatsworth

The ax has cut the forest down,
The laboring ox has smoothed all clear,
Apples now grow where pine trees stood,
And slow cows graze instead of deer.

Where Indian fires once raised their smoke
The chimneys of a farmhouse stand,
And cocks crow barnyard challenges
To dawns that once saw savage land.

The ax, the plow, the blinding wall,
By these the wilderness is tamed,
By these the white man's will is wrought,
The rivers bridged, the new towns named.



The World Is Too Much With Us:

Late and Soon

William Wordsworth

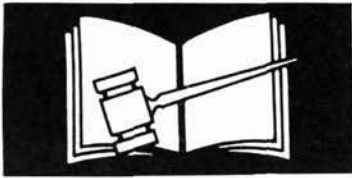
A Birthday

Christina Rossetti

My heart is like a singing bird
Whose nest is in a watered shoot;
My heart is like an apple-tree
Whose boughs are bent with thickset fruit;
My heart is like a rainbow shell
That paddles in a halcyon sea;
My heart is gladder than all these
Because my love is come to me.

Raise me a dais of silk and down;
Hang it with vair and purple dyes;
Carve it in doves and pomegranates,
And peacocks with a hundred eyes;
Work it in gold and silver grapes,
In leaves and silver fleurs-de-lis;
Because the birthday of my life
Is come, my love is come to me.

The world is too much with us; late and soon,
Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers:
Little we see in Nature that is ours;
We have given our hearts away, a sordid boon!
The Sea that bares her bosom to the moon;
The winds that will be howling at all hours,
And are up-gathered now like sleeping flowers;
For this, for everything, we are out of tune;
It moves us not. — Great God! I'd rather be
A Pagan suckled in a creed outworn;
So might I, standing on this pleasant lea,
Have glimpses that would make me less forlorn;
Have sight of Proteus rising from the sea;
Or hear old Triton blow his wreathed horn.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is my first President's message for the St. Lawrence County Historical Association.

Last year I was Vice-President with the very capable leadership of Dr. Kelsey Harder, and I enjoyed working with him throughout the year of our Bicentennial.

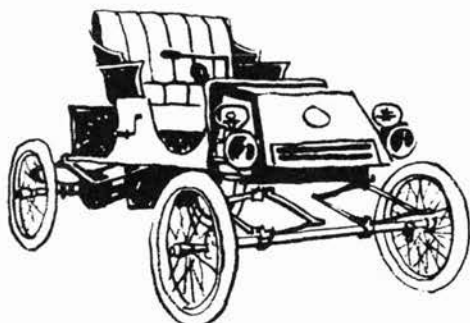
Mother and I went to the annual meeting of the Association held in Gouverneur in October. Both of us renewed old memories and acquaintances. At that meeting I accepted the presidency for 1977. After the meeting we were treated to a delicious lunch at the United Methodist Church. Following lunch we were privileged to hear an exciting informational address by David Dill on the life and times of Gouverneur's namesake, Gouverneur Morris. The final part of an exciting day was the guided tour of the Gouverneur Museum. Eugenia Huntress and her able staff were our guides. (Many of the guides were people with whom I taught school at the Gouverneur East Side School.) Eugenia has a right to be proud of the accomplishments of the Gouverneur Museum. Of course, the Gouverneur marble display caught my eye because Dad started out as an apprentice stonecutter in Gouverneur.

I hope you came to the Association's Christmas open house at the Museum in Canton. If you didn't, you missed something special. The display for the holiday season was titled, "A Child's World," and was John Baule's first exhibit. Many people all over the country were gracious enough to lend their old fashioned toys for this marvellous display. Mrs. Piskor and her committee did a fabulous job both Saturday and Sunday.

The Association has many projects planned for this new year. I know that with your interest all these projects will be fulfilled.

Happy New Year.

Mary J. Tohalen
President



OBITUARIES

Dorothy Kendall Cleaveland Salisbury

The St. Lawrence County Historical Association lost a long time supporter in the death of Dorothy Cleaveland Salisbury during 1976. Many of the historical items in the collections being used for displays recently — from tailored dresses and hats to delicately fashioned childrens' toys — were gifts from Dorothy.

Dorothy also followed in her mother's footsteps in chronicling the past history of Canton and some of its illustrious people. Her mother will be remembered for her History of Canton. Dorothy wrote of her father's early life in the Quarterly for October 1968. Attorney Frank Nash Cleaveland, a descendant of a Revolutionary War veteran, was born here in this county. A member of the DAR, Dorothy has two Revolutionary War ancestors in Brick Chapel Cemetery marked for all to see.

The Association is the richer for Dorothy's interest and membership and kindness. We shall miss her newsy contributions.

F.F.E. Walrath

An enthusiastic official historian for two decades, F.F.E. Walrath of DeKalb Junction died on Dec. 28, 1976. Always ready to accomplish requested tasks, Floyd made numerous censuses of cemeteries in his town in 1960 and refurbished and recorded abandoned cemeteries in other towns during the following years. A kind gentle man, he cared for his maiden sister during many years, until her death a short while ago. Of sister Grace, Floyd said, "Not many men have the privilege of living with the same woman for 74 years."

Besides his own Walrath family history, Floyd amassed many records on other families during his 82 years of living. He was an enthusiastic early Association member. We will truly miss this quiet man.

Sept. 3, 1894 - Dec. 28, 1976

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